

ADOLESCENT & YOUNG ADULT SEXUAL HEALTH

Teen births are on the rise.

- ▶ After declining each year from 1991 through 2005, the U.S. teen birth rate increased 3 percent from 2005 to 2006.¹
- ▶ The number of teen births increased in 26 states during this time period.¹
- ▶ Teen birth rates were highest in the South and Southwest. The highest rates are in Mississippi with 68.4 per 1,000, followed by New Mexico with 64.1 per 1,000 and Texas with 63.1 per 1,000.¹
- ▶ The lowest rates for teen births were in New Hampshire with 18.7 per 1,000, followed by Vermont with 20.8 per 1,000 and Massachusetts with 21.3 per 1,000.¹
- ▶ The only states reporting a decline in teen births between 2005 and 2006 were North Dakota, Rhode Island and New York.¹



Rates for sexually transmitted diseases among adolescents and young adults are alarming.

- ▶ While representing only 25 percent of the sexually active population, 15- to 24-year-olds acquire nearly half of all new STDs.²
- ▶ Chlamydia rates for people ages 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 continue to increase. Between 2006 and 2007, rates increased by nearly 8 percent among 15- to 19-year-olds and by nearly 7 percent among 20- to 24-year-olds. Increases in chlamydia rates are more likely a reflection of expanding screening and using more sensitive tests, rather than an increase in the incidence of disease.³
- ▶ Nearly half of women ages 20 to 24 and a quarter of females ages 14 to 19 are infected with human papillomavirus, also known as HPV.⁴
- ▶ Only 13 percent of high school students nationwide have been tested for HIV.⁵
- ▶ Sexual risks behaviors among high school students remained stable between 1991 and 2007.
- ▶ Between 1991 and 2007, the percentage of students who had ever had sexual intercourse decreased from 54 percent to 48 percent.⁶
- ▶ The percentage of sexually active students reporting condom use increased from 46 percent in 1991 to 63 percent in 2003, but has not changed since 2003.⁶

Most states require public schools to provide some form of sex or STD/HIV education.

- ▶ Currently, 35 states and Washington, D.C., mandate either sex education or education about HIV/AIDS and other STDs, but the laws tend to be very general. Policies specifying the content of sex education are typically set at the local level.⁷
- ▶ More than half of the districts in the South with a policy to teach sex education have an abstinence-only policy, compared with only 20 percent of such districts in the Northeast.
- ▶ Currently, 39 states and Washington, D.C., require school districts to allow parental involvement in sexuality and STD/HIV education.⁷

¹ Table B of the National Vital Statistics Report, "Births: Final Data for 2006," Volume 57, Number 7.

² Weinstock, H., et al. "Sexually transmitted diseases among American youth: Incidence and prevalence estimates, 2000." *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 2004;36(1):6-10.

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2007."

⁴ Dunne, et al. "Prevalence of HPV Infection among Females in the United States." *JAMA*. 2007;297:813-819.

⁵ "HIV Testing Among High School Students—United States, 2007." Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a3.htm> August 11, 2009.

⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/pdf/yrbs07_mmwr.pdf

⁷ Guttmacher Institute, "Sex and STI/HIV Education," http://www.guttmacher.org/statecenter/spibs/spib_SE.pdf

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	Birth rate per 1,000 women, ages 15–19 (2005)	Birth Rate per 1,000 women, ages 15–19 (2006)	Rank	Sexually Transmitted Disease Rates per 100,000 (2007)			Sexual Risk Behaviors (2007)		Sex Education Policy Mandate	STD/HIV Education Mandate
				Chlamydia	Gonorrhea	Syphilis	Students who have had sex	Students who used condom		
Alabama	49.7	53.5	12	547	237	8.3			X	
Alaska	37.3	44.3	19	733	86	1				
Arizona	58.2	62	5	403	82	4.8	46.1	55.5		
Arkansas	59.1	62.3	4	354	148	4.3	54.9	59		
California	38.8	39.9	27	389	86	5.6			X	
Colorado	42.6	43.8	20	362	71	1.2				
Connecticut	23.3	23.5	47	327	66	1.1	42.4		X	
Delaware	44	41.9	23	408	152	2.1	59.3	69.2	X	
Florida	42.4	45.2	17	318	129	5	49.5	66.4	X	
Georgia	52.7	54.2	10	458	191	7.3			X	
Hawaii	36.2	40.5	24	440	51	0.7	36.2	54.2	X	
Idaho	37.7	39.2	30	254	18	0.1	42.1			
Illinois	38.6	39.5	29	432	162	3.6				
Indiana	43.2	43.5	21	328	139	0.9	49.1	57.1	X	
Iowa	32.6	32.9	38	290	65	0.7	43.3	66.1	X	
Kansas	41.4	42	22	296	83	1	45	65.8	X	
Kentucky	49.1	54.6	9	209	82	1.3	50.3	59	X	
Louisiana	49.1	53.9	11	452	260	12.4				
Maine	24.4	25.8	44	192	9	0.7	45.4	58.9	X	
Maryland	31.8	33.6	35	412	121	6.1			X	
Massachusetts	21.8	21.3	48	251	42	2.4	44.4	61.1		
Michigan	32.5	33.8	34	370	153	1.2	42.4	65	X	
Minnesota	26.1	27.9	41	260	67	1.1			X	
Mississippi	60.5	68.4	1	745	286	4.6				
Missouri	42.5	45.7	16	399	169	4.1	52.1	59.3	X	
Montana	35.2	39.6	28	291	13	0.8	45.7	63.3	X	
Nebraska	34.2	33.4	36	290	81	0.2				
Nevada	50.1	55.8	7	381	94	4.4	42.8	69.1	X	
New Hampshire	17.9	18.7	50	156	11	2.3	44.7	64.2	X	
New Jersey	23.4	24.9	46	247	70	2.6			X	
New Mexico	61.6	64.1	2	418	92	2.4		55.2	X	
New York	26.5	25.7	45	257	92	5.5	43.6	66.7	X	
North Carolina	48.5	49.7	14	346	188	3.6	52.1	61.5	X	
North Dakota	29.7	26.5	43	281	18	0.2	42.6	63.6		
Ohio	38.9	40	26	413	184	1.7	44.5	60.1	X	
Oklahoma	54.2	59.6	6	350	135	1.8	50.9	59.6	X	
Oregon	33	35.7	31	266	33	0.5			X	
Pennsylvania	30.4	31	39	341	102	2.1			X	
Rhode Island	31.4	27.8	42	298	38	3.4	45.5	66	X	
South Carolina	51	53	13	612	239	2.1	51.5	62.4	X	
South Dakota	37.5	40.2	25	335	33	0.9	46.5	58.3		
Tennessee	54.9	54.7	8	445	158	6.1	54.4	60.9	X	
Texas	61.6	63.1	3	365	136	4.9	52.9	56.4		
Utah	33.4	34	33	224	32	0.8			X	
Vermont	18.6	20.8	49	169	10	1.6		62.8	X	
Virginia	34.4	35.2	32	322	82	3		61		
Washington	31.1	33.4	37	294	57	2.4			X	
West Virginia	43.4	44.9	18	174	51	0.3	53.7		X	
Wisconsin	30.3	30.9	40	352	122	1.2	44.6	61.4	X	
Wyoming	43.2	47.3	15	232	16	0.8	47.2	63.1		
Puerto Rico	61.2	60		201	64	4.3				
U.S.		42		370	119	3.8	47.8	61.5	22	