



Factsheet: By the Numbers: Health and Sex Education in Texas

More than 80 percent of Texas school districts in the 2015-16 school year taught abstinence-only or nothing at all when it came to sex education:ⁱ

- Abstinence-only: 58.3%
- No sex education: 25.1%
- Abstinence-plus: 16.6%

Most Texas high school seniors say they have already had sex, and most report they did not use a condom the last time they did.ⁱⁱ

- 62.6% of Texas high school seniors vs. 57.3% of 12th-graders nationally report that they have had sexual intercourse.
- 60.2% of Texas high school seniors vs. 50.1% of 12th-graders nationally report that they did not use a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse.

Texas has consistently ranked among the highest of the states in teen birth and pregnancy rates:

- Texas had the ninth-highest teen birth rate in 2018 and has consistently ranked among the 10 highest in the nation.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Texas in 2018 had the second highest rate of repeat births to teens – that is, births to teens who already had given birth.^{iv}
- Texas had the seventh-highest teen pregnancy rate in 2017 and fourth-highest in 2013.^v

Texas teens have higher rates of HIV and STI infections compared to the rest of the country:

- The HIV infection rate among Texas adolescents is higher than among teens nationally, 8 per 100,000 in Texas versus 5.7 per 100,000 across the country.^{vi}
- Texas has high rates of STI infection among teens ages 15-19: 15th-highest for gonorrhea, 17th-highest among the states for reported cases of syphilis and 21st-highest for chlamydia.^{vii}

More than 1 in 7 female and 1 in 16 male Texas high school students in 2017 reported experiencing sexual violence during the previous 12 months.^{viii}

LGBTQ+ people feel especially vulnerable:

- 59.5% of LGBTQ+ students nationally feel unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation and more than 44.6% because of their gender expression.^{ix}
- 8% of lesbian, gay, and bisexual survey respondents nationally reported that a doctor or other health care provider had refused to treat them because of their sexual orientation.^x
- 29% of transgender survey respondents nationally reported that a doctor or other health care provider had refused to see them because of their gender identity.^{xi}

[Sources on back]

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- ⁱ *Conspiracy of Silence: Sexuality Education in Texas Public Schools*, Texas Freedom Network Education Fund, 2017. Data is from the 2015-16 school year. <http://a.tfn.org/sex-ed/tfn-sex-ed-report-2016-web.pdf>
- ⁱⁱ CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey, <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/QuestionsOrLocations.aspx?CategoryId=C04>
- ⁱⁱⁱ Federal Centers for Disease Control data
- ^{iv} Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy analysis
- ^v World Population Review, <http://worldpopulationreview.com/states/teen-pregnancy-rates-by-state/>
- ^{vi} Texas State Profile for Fiscal Year 2018, SIECUS
- ^{vii} Texas State Profile for Fiscal Year 2018, SIECUS
- ^{viii} "YBRS Data Brief: Dating Violence," Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Texas Health and Human Services, February 2018. <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/yrbs/attachments/February-Data-Brief-2018.pdf>
- ^{ix} "The 2017 National School Climate Survey," GLSEN, <https://www.glsen.org/article/2017-national-school-climate-survey-1>
- ^x "Discrimination Prevents LGBTQ+ People from Access Health Care," Center for American Progress, January 18, 2018, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/lgbt/news/2018/01/18/445130/discrimination-prevents-LGBTQ+-people-accessing-health-care/>
- ^{xi} "Discrimination Prevents LGBTQ+ People from Access Health Care," Center for American Progress, January 18, 2018, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/lgbt/news/2018/01/18/445130/discrimination-prevents-LGBTQ+-people-accessing-health-care/>