



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS: Fact Sheet

Youth Reproductive Health and Education

- Comprehensive sex education is associated with a 50% lower risk of teen pregnancy (Kohler, Manhart, & Lafferty, 2008).
- 15-24 year olds represent ¼ of the sexually active population, but represent nearly ½ of the new cases of STIs each year (Weinstock, Berman, & Cates, W, 2004).
- Nearly 7% of 15-19 year olds become pregnant each year (Kost & Henshaw, 2012).
- The teen pregnancy rate in the U.S. is one of the highest in the developed world – for example, it is more than twice as high as the teen pregnancy rate in Canada (McKay & Barrett, 2010).
- Compared to teens in Western European countries, teens in the U.S. have a similar level of sexual activity, but are less likely to use contraceptives (Santelli, Sandfort, & Orr, 2008).
- 55% of 7th-12th graders say that they've looked up health information online (Rideout, Foehr, & Roberts, 2010). But that information is often inaccurate: a study of 177 sexual health websites found that 46% contained inaccurate information about contraceptives and 35% contained inaccurate information about abortion (Buhi et al., 2010).

Family and Pregnancy Planning

- 51% of all pregnancies in the United States were unintended in 2008 (Finer, & Zolna, 2014).
- The 2006-2010 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) found that 11% of women of child-bearing age and at-risk for unintended pregnancy were not currently using contraception (Jones, Mosher, & Daniels, 2012).
- A woman's ability to effectively delay and plan pregnancies can positively affect many elements of well-being, including education, employment and income, family stability, and mental health (Guttmacher Institute, 2014a).
- In 2012, 20 million women needed publicly-funded contraception. There were 8,400 safety net providers to help meet this need, but 57% of these providers were unable to stock certain methods of contraception due to cost (Guttmacher Institute, 2014b).
- 89% of all U.S. Counties have no identifiable abortion clinic (Guttmacher Institute, 2014c).
- 58% of abortion patients say they would have liked to have had their abortion earlier. 26% of women who experienced a delay in obtaining an abortion cite the time it took to raise money as the reason for the delay (Finer, Frohwirth, Dauphinee, Singh, & Moore, 2006).



-
- Buhi, E., Daley, E., Oberne, A., Smith, S., Schneider, T., & Fuhrmann, H. (2010). Quality and accuracy of sexual health information Web sites visited by young people. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 47*(2), 206-208. doi:10.1016/j.jadohealth.2010.01.002
- Finer, L., Frohvirth, L., Dauphinee, L., Singh, S., & Moore, A. (2006). Timing of steps and reasons for delays in obtaining abortions in the United States. *Contraception, 74*(4), 334-344.
- Finer, L. B., & Zolna, M. R. (2014). Shifts in intended and unintended pregnancies in the United States, 2001-2008. *American Journal of Public Health, 104* Suppl 1S43-S48. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2013.301416
- Guttmacher Institute (2014a). *Contraceptive Use in the United States*. Retrieved from http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_contr_use.html
- Guttmacher Institute (2014b). *Publicly Funded Family Planning Services in the United States*. Retrieved from http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_contraceptive_serv.html
- Guttmacher Institute (2014c). *Induced Abortion in the United State*. Retrieved from http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_induced_abortion.html
- Jones, J., Mosher, W., & Daniels, K. (2012). Current Contraceptive Use in the United States, 2006–2010, and Changes in Patterns of Use Since 1995. *National Health Statistics Report, 60*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr060.pdf>
- Kohler, P., Manhart, L., & Lafferty, W. (2008). Abstinence-only and comprehensive sex education and the initiation of sexual activity and teen pregnancy. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 42*(4), 344-351.
- Kost, K. & Henshaw, S. (2012). *U.S. Teenage Pregnancies, Births and Abortions, 2008: National Trends by Age, Race and Ethnicity*. Retrieved from <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/USTPtrends08.pdf>.
- McKay, A., & Barrett, M. (2010). Trends in teen pregnancy rates from 1996-2006: A comparison of Canada, Sweden, U.S.A., and England/Wales. *Canadian Journal Of Human Sexuality, 19*(1/2), 43-52.
- Rideout, V.J., Foehr, U.G., & Roberts, D.F. (2010). *GENERATION M2 Media in the Lives of 8- to 18-Year-Olds*. Retrieved from: <http://kaiserfamilyfoundation.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/8010.pdf>
- Santelli, J., Sandfort, T., & Orr, M. (2008). Transnational comparisons of adolescent contraceptive use – What can we learn from these comparisons? *Archives Of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, 162*(1), 92-94.
- Weinstock, H., Berman, S., & Cates, W. (2004). Sexually Transmitted Diseases among American Youth: Incidence and Prevalence Estimates, 2000. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 36*(1):6–10.