



## **eNewsletter (Text)**

***July 20, 2010***

### **Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)**

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
& Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

### Comparisons Between State or District and National Results

[http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/state\\_district\\_comparisons.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/state_district_comparisons.htm)

### Trends in the Prevalence of Sexual Behaviors

[http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/pdf/us\\_sexual\\_trend\\_yrbs.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/pdf/us_sexual_trend_yrbs.pdf)

### **HHS Priority: Reducing Teen/Unplanned Pregnancy in Inter-Agency Priority List** *National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy*

US Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has included reducing teen and unplanned pregnancy among her four inter-agency priorities. Secretary Sebelius says:

“Teen mothers and their children are more likely to face a range of challenges and adverse conditions when it comes to the health and economic security of themselves and their children.

More than 60 percent of teen mothers live in poverty at the time of their child’s birth, and there are substantial disparities in the educational attainment of teen mothers compared to young women who delay child-bearing. And children of teen

parents face significant disadvantages as well, including lower school achievement and greater risk of abuse and neglect.”

In addition, she has identified three strategies to reduce teen and unplanned pregnancy:

- Invest in Evidence-Based Teen Pregnancy Reduction Strategies
- Target Populations at Highest Risk for Teen Pregnancy
- Increase Access to Clinical Services

Read more about the strategies on the HHS website.

<http://www.hhs.gov/secretary/about/reduce.html>

## Interaction between Teens Online: The Benefits & The Dangers

### *Healthy Teen Network*

From social networking sites, online blogging, to instant messaging, the channels by which teens communicate "virtually "with each other are numerous. There are plenty of benefits: teenagers gain social skills, hands-on learning of technology, and opportunity to express themselves. Research published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* found that online forums might aid in raising awareness of racism to teenagers who believe that racial tension is over. Due to relative anonymity, people are more likely to express their opinions without social mannerism, and those insensitive remarks are checked by other internet users.

While these internet communities are often beneficial, there can also be a negative side to online interaction. With 93% of kids (aged 12-17) having an exceptional digital proficiency surpassing that of their parents, remaining aware of their child's online activity and ensuring their safety can be a challenge for many parents. Harris Interactive-McAfee reported that 32% of teens clear browser history to hide their online activities from their parents, 16% have a private e-mail addresses or social networking account, and 63% know how to hide their online activities from their parents.

Here are some other interesting statistics from the Rochester Institute related to teen online behaviors:

- 16% of teenagers posted personal interests online
- 15% posted information about their physical activities
- 20% gave out their real name
- 5% posted information about their school
- 6% posted their home address
- 6% posted their phone number
- 9% posted pictures of themselves
- 11% of students reported that they had been asked to talk about sexual things online
- 8% have been exposed to nude pictures

- 7% were asked for nude pictures of themselves

*For more information and resources related to teen online activity, visit these sites:*

- Internet Safety 101 (<http://www.internetsafety101.org/>)
- Wired Kids (<http://www.wiredkids.org/>)
- Science Daily: "Benefits Of Online Interaction For Teens Outweigh Danger, Professor Says" (<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2007/11/071106133103.htm>)
- Pacer Center: "Social Networking Sites: Consider the Benefits, Concerns for your Teenager" (addresses special concerns and benefits involved for teens with disabilities) (<http://www.pacer.org/tatra/pdf/socialNetworking.pdf>)
- *New York Times*: "Teenagers' Internet Socializing Not a Bad Thing" ([http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/20/us/20internet.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/20/us/20internet.html?_r=2))
- PBS: "Finding Balance in Teen Use of Social Media" (<http://www.pbs.org/mediashift/2006/10/finding-balance-in-teen-use-of-social-media293.html>)

## **Essentially Unchanged**

*National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy*

Declines in teen sex and improvements in contraceptive use among sexually experienced teens remained essentially unchanged between 2002 and 2006-08, according to data released today by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics. The new report provides national estimates of sexual activity and contraceptive use among teens aged 15-19 and is based on the latest round of the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG). The report notes that about four in ten never married teens (42% of girls and 43% of boys) have had sex at least once--statistically unchanged from 2002, the last time the NSFG collected these data.

- Read a statement from The National Campaign ([http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/press/PDF/NSFG\\_sexcontra\\_Statement\\_6.2.10.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/press/PDF/NSFG_sexcontra_Statement_6.2.10.pdf))
- Read key findings from the report ([http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/nsfg/NSFG\\_KeyFindings.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/nsfg/NSFG_KeyFindings.pdf))
- Read the full report ([http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr\\_23/sr23\\_030.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_23/sr23_030.pdf))

## **ETR Launches Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative Resource Center**

*ETR Associates*

ETR Associates has launched a new Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative Resource Center to address the recently announced \$114 million federal Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI). This initiative replaces the Community-Based Abstinence Education Program. TPPI will be administered by the newly authorized Office of

Adolescent Health in the Office of the Secretary at the Department of Health and Human Services.

“The success of implementing pregnancy prevention education starts with selecting the right curriculum for the intended audience. ETR’s TPPI Resource Center simplifies the selection process by putting all the information needed to make a curriculum decision in one spot, and by providing the resources to assist educators and organizations in writing a winning grant,” said Matt McDowell, ETR’s Vice President of Marketing and Communications. “With the help of our Research Department and partners, we’ve even been able to broaden the availability of research designed to assist educators in the selection and implementation process.”

The ETR Associates Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative Resource Center includes a handy product comparison grid for choosing ETR’s award-winning, evidence-based sexual health programs; curriculum information pages with evidence summaries, sample lessons and helpful tools for program selection; a useful Q&A on the grant-writing process from ETR’s own successful grant guru; as well as BDI logic models, white papers and much more.

To visit the TPPI Resource Center please go to: <http://www.etr.org/tppi/>.

### **State Data Update**

#### *National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy*

The 2009 YRBS contains a wealth of national *and* state level data on teen sexual activity and contraceptive use. The National Campaign’s online database of state data (<http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/state-data/default.aspx>) is now updated to include state level data on teen sex (<http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/state-data/state-comparisons.asp?ID=10>) and contraceptive use (<http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/state-data/state-comparisons.asp?ID=13>).

### **FOCUS Program Facilitator Training**

#### *The FOCUS Program*

The FOCUS Program Facilitator Training will be held on July 29, 2010 at 9:00am at the Clanton Conference Center! Lunch will be provided.

For more information view the hyperlinked eFlyer (<http://www.thefocusprogram.com/uploadedFiles/File/FOCUSFacilitatorTrainingeFlyer2010.pdf>).

Register now at [www.thefocusprogram.com](http://www.thefocusprogram.com) (<http://www.thefocusprogram.com/facilitator-registration/>)!

*Deadline for registration is July 22, 2010.  
If you register after this date lunch will not be provided.*

### **New and Improved: Talking Back** *National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy*

One of the Campaign's most popular publications, *Talking Back: What Teens Want Adults to Know About Teen Pregnancy*, has gotten a facelift. Redesigned to include new tips on sexting and dating violence, *Talking Back* has a new look and some great new information.

Download a copy here

[http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/pubs/talking\\_back.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/pubs/talking_back.pdf)

Purchase a copy here

[https://secure2.convio.net/thenc/site/Ecommerce/1321951965?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=1170&store\\_id=1181&JServSessionIdr004=jm01bya4a3.app244b](https://secure2.convio.net/thenc/site/Ecommerce/1321951965?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=1170&store_id=1181&JServSessionIdr004=jm01bya4a3.app244b)

### **Young Adults at High Risk for STDs, But Don't Think They Are** *Child Trends*

Fifteen percent of young adults in the U.S. between the ages of 18 and 26 have had a sexually transmitted disease (STD) within the past year, but nearly three-quarters of these young adults with an STD did not believe that they were at risk, according to a new Child Trends brief. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases among Young Adults: Prevalence, Perceived Risk, and Risk-Taking Behaviors* ([http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child\\_Trends-2010\\_05\\_01\\_RB\\_STD.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2010_05_01_RB_STD.pdf)) analyzes recently released data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health to provide estimates on the prevalence of and attitudes toward STDs among young adults, as well as on the behaviors that may put them at risk of contracting an STD.

Among the findings:

- STD prevalence differs by gender and race/ethnicity, with higher rates among women and blacks.
- Young adults who have an STD often aren't aware of it--most didn't think they had any chance of having an STD, few experienced any symptoms, and only one in four said they would call in to get their test results.
- Many young adults, including those who didn't test positive for an STD, were engaging in sexual behaviors that could place them at risk of getting an STD.

### **New Online Evidence-Based Resource Center Launched by Healthy Teen Network** *Healthy Teen Network*

With more than \$100 million federal dollars coming out this fiscal year for communities to implement evidence-based or innovative programs to reduce teen pregnancy, NOW is the time for your organization to prepare to submit a successful application. From our customized trainings and technical assistance to our online resources, Healthy Teen Network can help you prepare for this funding. For more information visit the Evidence-Based Resource Center (With more than \$100 million federal dollars coming out this fiscal year for communities to implement evidence-based or innovative programs to reduce teen pregnancy, NOW is the time for your organization to prepare to submit a successful application. From our customized trainings and technical assistance to our online resources, Healthy Teen Network can help you prepare for this funding. For more information visit the Evidence-Based Resource Center ([http://healthyteennetwork.org/index.asp?Type=B\\_BASIC&SEC=%7B5E80FC23-E52F-4B64-8E81-C752F7FF3DB6%7D](http://healthyteennetwork.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7B5E80FC23-E52F-4B64-8E81-C752F7FF3DB6%7D)) today!

## **2010 Health Outcomes for Alabama** *County Health Rankings*

Health Outcomes are the primary ranking used to rank the overall health of counties (<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/alabama>). The county ranked number 1 is considered the healthiest county in the state. Health outcomes in the *County Health Rankings* represent how healthy a county is. *County Health Rankings* measure two types of health outcomes: how long people live (mortality) and how healthy people feel while alive (morbidity).

## **Evidence-Based Programs Offered For Review by the Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy** *Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy*

The Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy has recently added to their Resource Library and now has over ten evidence-based programs that are available for review! Some of these programs include: Be Proud! Be Responsible!, Reducing the Risk, SiHLE, and Teen Outreach Program (TOP). For more information on evidence-based programs and to view the complete list of programs available for review from the Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy visit us on our website (<http://acptp.org/pages/?pageID=97>).

## **OPA Clearinghouse** *Office of Population Affairs Clearinghouse*

The OPA Clearinghouse is sponsored by the Office of Population Affairs, Office of Public Health and Science, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The OPA Clearinghouse collects, develops, and distributes free publications on family planning,

including information on contraception (abstinence, sterilization, etc.), reproductive health (cervical cancer, pap tests, etc.), and sexual health (sexually transmitted infection and disease, etc.). For more information visit the OPA Clearinghouse website (<http://www.opaclearinghouse.org>).

## Facebook

*Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy*

The Alabama Campaign is now on Facebook! (<http://www.facebook.com/acptp>)  
Become a fan of our page and join us in teen pregnancy prevention!

Have you been to our website recently? Be sure to check it out at [www.acptp.org](http://www.acptp.org)!

*The Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy's eNewsletter provides links to articles and websites with information on current events, research, funding opportunities and other items related to teen pregnancy prevention. The inclusion of this information does not imply endorsement by the Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (ACPTP) and the opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position, policies or views of ACPTP.*