



SIECUS

State Profile

U.S. OUTER TERRITORIES

The U.S. Outer Territories received no federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2008.¹

American Samoa Sexuality Education Law and Policy

The American Samoa Department of Education health education program includes an HIV/School Health Project, which provides education about HIV infection and AIDS to students.² Students attending secondary school also receive information on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and teen pregnancy through the Teenage Health Teaching Modules (THTM), which addresses issues affecting adolescents. This program teaches students interpersonal communication, refusal skills, self-esteem, decision-making, and role playing.

Guam Sexuality Education Law and Policy

The School Health Education Program of Guam addresses the “prevention of risk behaviors,” including “sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy, HIV infection and other sexually transmitted diseases.”³ Students in the ninth grade receive education on family life and sexuality, which is offered as a curriculum unit in Health class.⁴

Republic of the Marshall Islands Sexuality Education Law and Policy

Sex education is a requirement for all schools in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). Following Marshallese custom, students are separated by gender for sexuality education classes; and male students are taught by a male teacher and female students are taught by a female teacher.⁵ The sexuality education curriculum includes HIV education, which is taught to both primary and secondary school students.⁶

Republic of Palau Sexuality Education Law and Policy

The Comprehensive School Program health curriculum of the Republic of Palau includes information on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.⁷

U.S. Outer Territories Sexuality Education Law and Policy

SIECUS is unaware of any sex education law or policy for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Federated States of Micronesia.

Recent Legislation

SIECUS is not aware of any proposed legislation regarding sexuality education in the U.S. Outer Territories.

American Samoa Youth: Statistical Information of Note⁸

- In 2007, 23% of female high school students and 43% of male high school students in American Samoa reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 4% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in American Samoa reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 5% of female high school students and 19% of male high school students in American Samoa reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 14% of female high school students and 27% of male high school students in American Samoa reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 35% of females and 46% of males in American Samoa reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 4% of females and 3% of males in American Samoa reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 27% of females and 38% of males in American Samoa reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 55% of high school students in American Samoa reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

Guam Youth: Statistical Information of Note⁹

- In 2007, 45% of female high school students and 45% of male high school students in Guam reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 6% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students in Guam reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 10% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in Guam reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.

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- In 2007, 33% of female high school students and 27% of male high school students in Guam reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 27% of females and 45% of males in Guam reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 6% of females and 8% of males in Guam reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 11% of females and 24% of males in Guam reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 85% of high school students in Guam reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

Northern Mariana Islands Youth: Statistical Information of Note¹⁰

- In 2005, 46% of female high school students and 51% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 6% of female high school students and 12% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 9% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 10% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 17% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 34% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 38% of females and 49% of males in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 9% of females and 6% of males in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 28% of males nationwide.

- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 17% of females and 37% of males in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, 81% of high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.

Republic of the Marshall Islands Youth: Statistical Information of Note¹¹

- In 2007, 47% of female high school students and 72% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 50% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 3% of female high school students and 14% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 10% of female high school students and 29% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, 34% of female high school students and 45% of male high school students in the Marshall Islands reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 36% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 48% of females and 53% of males in the Marshall Islands reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 55% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 6% of females and 9% of males in the Marshall Islands reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 26% of females and 41% of males in the Marshall Islands reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 18% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2007, 46% of high school students in the Marshall Islands reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 90% of high school students nationwide.

Republic of Palau Youth: Statistical Information of Note¹²

- In 2003, 29% of female high school students and 58% of male high school students in Palau reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.

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- In 2003, 2% of female high school students and 15% of male high school students in Palau reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 5% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students in Palau reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 11% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 21% of female high school students and 39% of male high school students in Palau reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 45% of high school students who reported being currently sexually active in Palau reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 57% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 7% of high school students who reported being currently sexually active in Palau reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 35% of high school students who reported being currently sexually active in Palau reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 30% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 74% of high school students in Palau reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.

U.S. Outer Territories Youth: Statistical Information of Note

The Federated States of Micronesia did not participate in any recent Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance Survey.

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding

- The Outer U.S. Territories were eligible for a combined \$238,874 in federal Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage funding in Fiscal Year 2008.
 - American Samoa: \$67,638
 - Federated States of Micronesia: \$47,492
 - Guam: \$62,835
 - Northern Marianas Islands: \$26,408
 - Republic of the Marshall Islands: \$13,501
 - Republic of Palau: \$21,000
- The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires territories to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The territory match may be provided in part or in full by local groups.

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- The U.S. Outer Territories, however, chose not to apply for these funds. Therefore, the territories do not match funds nor do they have organizations supported by this type of federal money.

Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees

- There are no CBAE or AFLA grantees in the U.S. Outer Territories.

Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2008

The U.S. Outer Territories did not receive abstinence-only-until-marriage funding in Fiscal Year 2008.

Adolescent Health Contact¹³

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MCH Program Manager
FSM Department of HESA
PO Box PS 70
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941
Phone: (691) 320-2872

U.S. Outer Territories Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA)
PO Box 3029
Apia, Samoa
Phone: (685) 269-2968

U.S. Outer Territories Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education

SIECUS is not aware of any organizations opposed to comprehensive sexuality education in the U.S. Outer Territories.

Newspapers in U.S. Outer Territories¹⁴

Pacific Daily News (Guam)
P.O. Box DN
Hagatna, Guam 96932
(671) 472-1736
www.guampdn.com

Samoa News
P.O. Box 909
Pago Page, AS 96799
(684) 633-5599
www.samoanews.com

¹ This refers to the federal government's fiscal year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2008 began on October 1, 2007 and ended on September 30, 2008.

² "Health Education: Program Overview," American Samoa Department of Education, accessed 7 November 2008, <http://www.doe.as/index_files/instructionalsupport_serv/ocia/CIA/index.htm>.

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- ³ “Health Education Program,” Guam Public School System, accessed 10 November 2008, <http://www.gdoe.net/ci/curr_desc/hlth_ed_curr.htm>.
- ⁴ “Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance,” Guam Public School System, accessed 10 November 2008, <http://www.gdoe.net/ci/high_sch_crse_desc/hlth_phys_desc.pdf>.
- ⁵ “Majuro Chamber of Commerce Holds Forum on Education in the RMI,” YokweOnline (17 June 2006), accessed 31 October 2008, <<http://www.yokwe.com/index.php?name=News&file=article&sid=1399>>.
- ⁶ “UNGASS – National Composite Policy Index (NCPI) 2007: Marshall Islands,” UNAIDS (16 January 2008), accessed 31 October 2008, <http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2008/marshallislands_2008_ncpi_en.pdf>.
- ⁷ “Health Education,” Ministry of Education, Republic of Palau, accessed 31 October 2008, <<http://www.palaumoe.net/?q=node/24>>.
- ⁸ Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 57.SS-4 (6 June 2008), accessed 4 June 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.
- ⁹ Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 57.SS-4 (6 June 2008), accessed 4 June 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.
- ¹⁰ D. K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 55, no. SS-5 (9 June 2006): 1-108, accessed 26 January 2007, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>. Note: the Northern Mariana Islands did not participate in the 2007 YRBS.
- ¹¹ Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2007.”
- ¹² Jo Anne Grunbaum, et al., “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2003,” *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 53, no. SS-2 (21 May 2004): 1-108, accessed 13 December 2008, <<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5302a1.htm>>. Note: the Republic of Palau did not participate in the 2007 YRBS.
- ¹³ SIECUS has identified this person as a state-based contact for information on adolescent health and if applicable, abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.
- ¹⁴ This section is a list of major newspapers in your state with contact information for their newsrooms. This list is by no means exhaustive and does not contain the local level newspapers which are integral to getting your message out to your community. SIECUS strongly urges you to follow stories about the issues that concern you on the national, state, and local level by using an internet news alert service such as [Google alerts](#), becoming an avid reader of your local papers, and establishing relationships with reporters who cover your issues. For more information on how to achieve your media goals visit the SIECUS [Community Action Kit](#).