

State Profiles **FISCAL YEAR 2017**

The complete FY 2017 State Profiles comprise individual state-specific documents along with four other accompanying documents. The Executive Summary details the current state of sexuality education across the country, highlighting trends observed over the past few decades. Additionally, it is critical to examine the information from each state within the larger context of the laws and federal funding streams across the country. Please reference the following documents to inform and contextualize broader sexuality education trends:

- [Executive Summary](#)
- [Federal Funding Overview](#) – compared to [Mississippi's federal funding](#)
- [Sex/Sexuality and HIV and other STIs Education Laws by State](#) – compared to [Mississippi's education laws](#)
- [Descriptions of Curricula and Programs across the United States](#)

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In Fiscal Year 2017,¹ the state of Mississippi received:

- **Division of Adolescent and School Health funds totaling \$328,197**
- **Personal Responsibility Education Program funds totaling \$469,166**
- **Title V State Abstinence Education Program funds totaling \$912,115**

In Fiscal Year 2017, local entities in Mississippi received:

- **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program funds totaling \$2,249,999**

SEXUALITY EDUCATION LAW AND POLICY

STATE LAW

[Section 37-13-171](#) of the Mississippi Code of 1972 requires each school district to adopt either an “abstinence-only” or an “abstinence-plus” education policy. Under the law, both “abstinence-only” and “abstinence-plus” instruction must include “abstinence-only education.” Such instruction must teach:

- a) the social, psychological and health gains to be realized by abstaining from sexual activity, and the likely negative psychological and physical effects of not abstaining.
- b) the harmful consequences to the child, the child’s parents and society that bearing children out of wedlock is likely to produce, including the health, educational, financial, and other difficulties the child and his or her parents are likely to face, as well as the inappropriateness of the social and economic burden placed on others.
- c) that unwanted sexual advances are irresponsible and teaches how to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances.

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- d) that abstinence from sexual activity before marriage, and fidelity within marriage, is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and related health problems.
- e) the current state law related to sexual conduct, including forcible rape, statutory rape, paternity establishment, child support and homosexual activity.
- f) that a mutually faithful monogamous marriage is the only appropriate setting for sexual intercourse.²

Human sexuality instruction provided in schools need not address every component of “abstinence-only education,” however, no instruction provided under an “abstinence-only” program can contradict any of these components. Instruction may also include a discussion of contraceptives, so long as it includes “a factual presentation of the risks and failure rates.” In addition to teaching abstinence-only concepts, “abstinence-plus” education may discuss broader sexual health topics, such as “the nature, causes and effects of [STDs],” and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and other STD prevention education. However, the education “shall not include instruction and demonstrations on the application and use of condoms.” The Mississippi Department of Education must approve each district’s curriculum as well as establish a protocol for ensuring that provided instruction is “age, grade and developmentally appropriate.”³ Students must be separated by gender at all times when sexuality instruction is taught. In addition, no instruction provided through an “abstinence-only” or “abstinence-plus” curriculum shall teach that “abortion can be used to prevent the birth of a baby.”

The Mississippi Department of Health and the Department of Education must implement a Teen Pregnancy Pilot Program in districts with the highest number of teen pregnancies, given the availability of funding. Such programs must be coordinated through the school nurse and include education on abstinence, reproductive health, teen pregnancy, and STDs.⁴ Mississippi public school nurses may not provide abortion counseling to students, nor may they refer students to abortion services.

Parents or guardians must receive notification at least one week prior to the provision of any human sexuality instruction, and they must give permission for their child to participate in such classes. [This is referred to as an “opt-in” policy.](#)

STATE STANDARDS

Mississippi’s [Contemporary Health Curriculum](#) (K–8) and (9–12) provides standards for health education programs in the state. The standards include essential questions such as “how does abstinence from sexual activity show that you are responsible?” However, the standards also recommend discussing contraception alongside abstinence.

STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION ACTIVITY

SIECUS tracks all state legislative session activity in our state legislative reports. For more information on bills related to school-based sexuality education that were introduced or passed in 2016, please see the most recent analysis of state legislative activity, [SIECUS’ 2016 Sex Ed State Legislative Year-End Report: Top Topics and Takeaways.](#)

YOUTH SEXUAL HEALTH DATA

Young people are more than their health behaviors and outcomes. For those wishing to support the sexual health and wellbeing of young people, it is important to utilize available data in a manner that tracks our progress and pushes policies forward while respecting and supporting the dignity of all young lives.

While data can be a powerful tool to demonstrate the sexuality education and sexual health care needs of young people, it is important to be mindful that these behaviors and outcomes are impacted by systemic inequities present in our society that affect an individual's sexual health and wellbeing. That is, the context in which a young person's health behavior and decision-making happens is not reflected in individual data points. Notably, one example demonstrating such inequities are the limitations as to how and what data are currently collected; please be mindful of populations who may not be included in surveys or who may be misrepresented by the data. The data categories and any associated language are taken directly from the respective surveys and are not a representation of SIECUS' positions or values. For more information regarding SIECUS' use of data, please read the FY 2017 Executive Summary, [*A Portrait of Sexuality Education in the States*](#).

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY (YRBS) DATA⁵

The following sexual health behavior and outcome data represent some of the most recent information available on the health of young people who attend high schools in Mississippi. Though not perfect—for instance, using broad race and ethnicity categories can often distort and aggregate the experiences of a diverse group of respondents—the YRBS is a critical resource for understanding the health behaviors of young people when used carefully and with an awareness of its limitations. Any missing data points indicate either a lack of enough respondents for a subcategory or the state's decision not to administer a question on the survey. SIECUS commends the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for conducting decades' worth of field studies to improve the accuracy and relevancy of the YRBS. Like the CDC, SIECUS underlines that “school and community interventions should focus not only on behaviors but also on the determinants of those behaviors.”⁶

Reported ever having had sexual intercourse

- In 2015, 44% of female high school students and 52.6% of male high school students in Mississippi reported ever having had sexual intercourse, compared to 39.2% of female high school students and 43.2% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 56.2% of black high school students, 40.6% of Hispanic high school students, 41.9% of white high school students, and 46.3% of high school students who identified as multiple races in Mississippi reported ever having had sexual intercourse, compared to 48.5% of black high school students, 42.5% of Hispanic high school students, 39.9% of white high school students, and 49.2% of high school students who identified as multiple races nationwide.

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Reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13

- In 2015, 3.8% of female high school students and 13.3% of male high school students in Mississippi reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13, compared to 2.2% of female high school students and 5.6% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 12.6% of black high school students, 12.7% of Hispanic high school students, 4.6% of white high school students, and 11.2% of high school students who identified as multiple races in Mississippi reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13, compared to 8.3% of black high school students, 5% of Hispanic high school students, 2.5% of white high school students, and 5.8% of high school students who identified as multiple races nationwide.

Reported being currently sexually active

- In 2015, 32.7% of female high school students and 35.2% of male high school students in Mississippi reported being currently sexually active, compared to 29.8% of female high school students and 30.3% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 37.3% of black high school students, 27% of Hispanic high school students, 30.9% of white high school students, and 37% of high school students who identified as multiple races in Mississippi reported being currently sexually active, compared to 33.1% of black high school students, 30.3% of Hispanic high school students, 30.3% of white high school students, and 35.7% of high school students who identified as multiple races nationwide.

Reported not using a condom during last sexual intercourse

- In 2015, 45.9% of female high school students and 42.4% of male high school students in Mississippi reported not using a condom during their last sexual intercourse, compared to 48% of female high school students and 38.5% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 30.5% of black high school students and 54.7% of white high school students in Mississippi reported not using a condom during their last sexual intercourse, compared to 36.3% of black high school students and 43.2% of white high school students nationwide.

Reported not using any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse

- In 2015, 14% of female high school students and 15.7% of male high school students in Mississippi reported not using any method to prevent pregnancy during their last sexual intercourse, compared to 15.2% of female high school students and 12.2% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 17.7% of black high school students and 11.2% of white high school students in Mississippi reported not using any method to prevent pregnancy during their last sexual intercourse, compared to 15.9% of black high school students and 10.4% of white high school students nationwide.

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Reported having had drunk alcohol or used drugs during last sexual intercourse⁷

- In 2015, 13.3% of female high school students and 21.7% of male high school students in Mississippi reported having had drunk alcohol or used drugs during their last sexual intercourse, compared to 16.4% of female high school students and 24.6% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 9.6% of black high school students and 24% of white high school students in Mississippi reported having had drunk alcohol or used drugs during their last sexual intercourse, compared to 21.8% of black high school students and 19.3% of white high school students nationwide.

Reported never having been tested for HIV

- In 2015, 81.6% of female high school students and 83.8% of male high school students in Mississippi reported never having been tested for HIV, compared to 88.9% of female high school students and 90.7% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 77.9% of black high school students, 85.2% of Hispanic high school students, 87.2% of white high school students, and 82.4% of high school students who identified as multiple races in Mississippi reported never having been tested for HIV, compared to 83.4% of black high school students, 88.9% of Hispanic high school students, 92% of white high school students, and 86.6% of high school students who identified as multiple races nationwide.

Reported having been physically forced to have sexual intercourse

- In 2015, 13.9% of female high school students and 8.7% of male high school students in Mississippi reported having been physically forced to have sexual intercourse, compared to 10.3% of female high school students and 3.1% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 11.6% of black high school students, 18% of Hispanic high school students, 10.8% of white high school students, and 13.4% of high school students who identified as multiple races in Mississippi reported having been physically forced to have sexual intercourse, compared to 7.3% of black high school students, 7% of Hispanic high school students, 6% of white high school students, and 12.1% of high school students who identified as multiple races nationwide.

Reported experiencing physical dating violence

- In 2015, 12.3% of female high school students and 8.2% of male high school students in Mississippi reported experiencing physical dating violence in the prior year, compared to 11.7% of female high school students and 7.4% of male high school students nationwide.

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- In 2015, 10.5% of black high school students, 12.9% of Hispanic high school students, and 7.3% of white high school students in Mississippi reported experiencing physical dating violence in the prior year, compared to 10.5% of black high school students, 9.7% of Hispanic high school students, and 9% of white high school students nationwide.

Reported experiencing sexual dating violence

- In 2015, 14.8% of female high school students and 7.7% of male high school students in Mississippi reported experiencing sexual dating violence in the prior year, compared to 15.6% of female high school students and 5.4% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2015, 12.6% of black high school students and 7.7% of white high school students in Mississippi reported experiencing sexual dating violence in the prior year, compared to 10% of black high school students and 10.1% of white high school students nationwide.

Visit the CDC [Youth Online](#) database for additional information on youth risk behaviors.

MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL HEALTH PROFILES DATA⁸

In 2015, the CDC released the School Health Profiles, which measures school health policies and practices and highlights which health topics were taught in schools across the country. Since the data was collected from self-administered questionnaires completed by schools' principals and lead health education teachers, the CDC notes that one limitation of the School Health Profiles is bias toward the reporting of more positive policies and practices.⁹ In the School Health Profiles, the CDC identifies 16 sexual education topics that it believes are critical to a young person's sexual health. Below are key instruction highlights for secondary schools in Mississippi as reported for the 2013–2014 school year.

16 CRITICAL SEXUAL EDUCATION TOPICS IDENTIFIED BY THE CDC

- 1) How to create and sustain healthy and respectful relationships
- 2) Influences of family, peers, media, technology, and other factors on sexual risk behavior
- 3) Benefits of being sexually abstinent
- 4) Efficacy of condoms
- 5) Importance of using condoms consistently and correctly
- 6) Importance of using a condom at the same time as another form of contraception to prevent both STDs and pregnancy
- 7) How to obtain condoms
- 8) How to correctly use a condom
- 9) Communication and negotiation skills
- 10) Goal-setting and decision-making skills
- 11) How HIV and other STDs are transmitted
- 12) Health consequences of HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy
- 13) Influencing and supporting others to avoid or reduce sexual risk behaviors
- 14) Importance of limiting the number of sexual partners
- 15) How to access valid and reliable information, products, and services related to HIV, STDs, and pregnancy
- 16) Preventive care that is necessary to maintain reproductive and sexual health.

Source: School Health Profiles, 2014

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Reported teaching all 16 critical sexual health education topics

- 26.4% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students all 16 critical sexual health education topics in a required course in any of grades 6, 7, or 8.¹⁰
- 40.9% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students all 16 critical sexual health education topics in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.¹¹

Reported teaching about the benefits of being sexually abstinent

- 75.3% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students about the benefits of being sexually abstinent in a required course in any of grades 6, 7, or 8.¹²
- 95.2% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students about the benefits of being sexually abstinent in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.¹³

Reported teaching how to access valid and reliable information, products, and services related to HIV, other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and pregnancy

- 66.3% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students how to access valid and reliable information, products, and services related to HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy in a required course in any of grades 6, 7, or 8.¹⁴
- 89.9% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students how to access valid and reliable information, products, and services related to HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.¹⁵

Reported teaching how to create and sustain healthy and respectful relationships

- 73.8% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students how to create and sustain healthy and respectful relationships in a required course in any of grades 6, 7, or 8.¹⁶
- 92.8% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students how to create and sustain healthy and respectful relationships in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.¹⁷

Reported teaching about preventive care that is necessary to maintain reproductive and sexual health

- 58% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students about preventive care that is necessary to maintain reproductive and sexual health in a required course in any of grades 6, 7, or 8.¹⁸
- 81.8% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students about preventive care that is necessary to maintain reproductive and sexual health in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.¹⁹

Reported teaching how to correctly use a condom

- 30.4% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students how to correctly use a condom in a required course in any of grades 6, 7, or 8.²⁰

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- 46.1% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students how to correctly use a condom in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.²¹

Reported teaching about all seven contraceptives

- 26.3% of Mississippi secondary schools taught students about all seven contraceptives—birth control pill, patch, ring, and shot; implants; intrauterine device; and emergency contraception—in a required course in any of grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.²²

Reported providing curricula or supplementary materials relevant to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth

- 21.5% of Mississippi secondary schools provided students with curricula or supplementary materials that included HIV, STD, or pregnancy prevention information relevant to LGBTQ youth.²³

Visit the CDC's [School Health Profiles](#) report for additional information on school health policies and practices.

MISSISSIPPI TEEN PREGNANCY, HIV/AIDS, AND OTHER STD DATA

The following data from the CDC and the Guttmacher Institute represent the most recent state-specific statistics documenting teen pregnancy, birth, abortion, HIV/AIDS, and other STDs. For those wishing to support the sexual health and wellbeing of young people, it is important to use the data to advance their access to comprehensive education, resources, and services. However, the data is not intended to be used in a manner that is stigmatizing or shaming: Young people have the right to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing, but this right must be accompanied by the ability to access and understand all available choices. Therefore, the following data should be used to advance a young person's right to make informed decisions about their body and health.

Teen Pregnancy, Birth, and Abortion

- In 2013, Mississippi had the 3rd highest reported teen pregnancy rate in the United States, with a rate of 58 pregnancies per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, compared to the national rate of 43 per 1,000.²⁴ There were a total of 5,990 pregnancies among young women ages 15–19 reported in Mississippi in 2013.²⁵
- In 2015, Mississippi had the 2nd highest reported teen birth rate in the United States, with a rate of 34.8 births per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, compared to the national rate of 22.3 per 1,000.²⁶ There were a total of 3,536 live births to young women ages 15–19 reported in Mississippi in 2015.²⁷
- In 2013, Mississippi had the 28th highest reported teen abortion rate²⁸ in the United States, with a rate of 7 abortions per 1,000 young women ages 15–19, compared to the national rate of 11 per 1,000.²⁹ There were a total of 700 abortions among young women ages 15–19 reported in Mississippi in 2013.³⁰

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HIV and AIDS

- In 2015, the reported rate of diagnoses of HIV infection among adolescents ages 13–19 in Mississippi was 16.3 per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 5.8 per 100,000.³¹
- In 2015, the reported rate of AIDS diagnoses among adolescents ages 13–19 in Mississippi was 2.4 per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 0.7 per 100,000.³²
- In 2015, the reported rate of diagnoses of HIV infection among young adults ages 20–24 in Mississippi was 61.1 per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 31.1 per 100,000.³³
- In 2015, the reported rate of AIDS diagnoses among young adults ages 20–24 in Mississippi was 13.6 per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 5.6 per 100,000.³⁴

STDs

- In 2015, Mississippi had the 3rd highest rate of reported cases of chlamydia among young people ages 15–19 in the United States, with an infection rate of 2,793.3 cases per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 1,857.8 per 100,000. In 2015, there were a total of 5,781 cases of chlamydia among young people ages 15–19 reported in Mississippi.³⁵
- In 2015, Mississippi had the 3rd highest rate of reported cases of gonorrhea among young people ages 15–19 in the United States, with an infection rate of 737.4 cases per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 341.8 per 100,000. In 2015, there were a total of 1,526 cases of gonorrhea among young people ages 15–19 reported in Mississippi.³⁶
- In 2015, Mississippi had the 5th highest rate of reported cases of primary and secondary syphilis among young people ages 15–19 in the United States, with an infection rate of 8.7 cases per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 5.4 per 100,000. In 2015, there were a total of 18 cases of syphilis reported among young people ages 15–19 in Mississippi.³⁷

Visit the Office of Adolescent Health's (OAH) [Mississippi Adolescent Health Facts](#) for additional information.

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FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SEXUALITY EDUCATION, UNINTENDED TEEN PREGNANCY, HIV AND OTHER STD PREVENTION, AND ABSTINENCE-ONLY-UNTIL-MARRIAGE (AOUM) PROGRAMS

FISCAL YEAR 2017 FEDERAL FUNDING IN MISSISSIPPI

Grantee	Award
Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH)	
Mississippi Department of Education	\$328,197
TOTAL	\$328,197
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (TPPP)	
TPPP Tier 1A	
My Brother's Keeper, Inc.	\$750,000
TOTAL	\$750,000
TPPP Tier 1B	
Delta Health Alliance, Inc.	\$1,499,999
TOTAL	\$1,499,999
Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)	
PREP State-Grant Program	
Mississippi Department of Health (federal grant)	\$469,166
TOTAL	\$469,166
Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Program (Title V AOUM)	
Mississippi Department of Human Services (federal grant)	\$912,115
TOTAL	\$912,115
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,959,477

DIVISION OF ADOLESCENT AND SCHOOL HEALTH

The CDC's school-based HIV prevention efforts include funding and technical assistance to state and local education agencies through several funding streams to better student health, implement HIV/STD prevention programs, collect and report data on young people's risk behaviors, and expand capacity-building partnerships. In FY 2017, through the CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH), 18 state education agencies and 17 school districts received funding to help the districts and schools strengthen student health through exemplary sexual health education (ESHE) that emphasizes HIV and other STD prevention, increases access to key sexual health services (SHS), and establishes safe and supportive environments (SSE) for students and staff. DASH funded six national, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to help state and local education agencies achieve these goals.

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- In FY 2017, there was one DASH grantee in Mississippi funded to strengthen student health through ESHE, SHS, and SSE (1308 Strategy 2): The Mississippi Department of Education (\$254,317).

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, \$236,067 (FY 2017)

With its 1308 Strategy 2 funds, the Mississippi Department of Education distributes sexual health education state policies and provides training to district staff on a revised health education framework, including sexual health education. The goal is to “garner state-wide support and adoption of sexual health education consistent with community norms.”³⁸ Additionally, to improve access to sexual health services and increase referrals, the Department develops and distributes a resource guide identifying youth-friendly community health services providers statewide. The Department also trains district staff on parent engagement strategies and student-led clubs to expand districts’ efforts to provide an environment where all students and staff feel safe and connected to school.³⁹

In addition, DASH funds local education agencies and NGOs to implement multiple program activities to meet the HIV- and other STD-prevention needs of young men who have sex with men (YMSM) and to develop strategic partnerships and collaborations between schools and community-based, mental health, and social services organizations to accomplish this work.

- In FY 2017, there were no DASH grantees in Mississippi funded to deliver YMSM programming (1308 Strategy 4).

DASH also provides funding for state, territorial, and local education agencies and state health agencies to establish and strengthen systematic procedures to collect and report YRBS and School Health Profiles data for policy and program improvements.

- In FY 2017, there was one DASH grantee in Mississippi funded to collect and report YRBS and School Health Profiles data (1308 Strategy 1): The Mississippi Department of Education (\$92,130).

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAM (TPPP)

The OAH, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), administers TPPP, which funds evidence-based or innovative evidence-informed, medically accurate, and age-appropriate programs to reduce teen pregnancy. In FY 2017, total funding for TPPP was \$101 million, supporting 84 states, cities, non-profit organizations, school districts, universities, community-based organizations, and tribal organizations. These grantees were in year three of five TPPP funding tiers’ five-year cooperative agreements in 33 states, the District of Columbia, and the Marshall Islands. In June 2017, however, 81 of the 84 grantees were notified, without cause or explanation, that their project periods were shortened to just three years, to end on June 30, 2018. Since the other three grantees are on a different grant cycle, they had not yet received notice on the status of their funding at the time of publication. OAH provides program support, implementation evaluation, and technical assistance to grantees and receives an additional \$6.8 million in funding for evaluation purposes. Below is information on the five TPPP funding tiers:

Tier 1A: Capacity building to support replication of evidence-based TPP programs.

- In FY 2017, there was one TPPP Tier 1A grantee in Mississippi: My Brother’s Keeper, Inc. (\$750,000).

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MY BROTHER'S KEEPER, INC., \$750,000 (FY 2017)

My Brother's Keeper, Inc., (MBK) is a private, non-profit, community-based organization that provides services to reduce health disparities in Mississippi. The organization plans to reach their goal by "enhancing the health and wellbeing of minority and marginalized populations through leadership in public and community health practices, collaboration, and partnerships."⁴⁰ With its TPPP Tier 1A funds, MBK will implement the REACH 2.0 CBA Project, which "focuses on improving the capacity of youth-serving organizations to replicate evidence-based TPP programs to scale in order to significantly reduce rates of teen pregnancy and other health disparities" in the Southwest Mississippi River Region, a multi-county area along the Mississippi River.⁴¹ Programming will be offered to young people ages 11–19, and MBK aims to reach 1,500 young people per year.⁴²

Tier 1B: Replicating evidence-based TPP programs to scale in communities with the greatest need.

- In FY 2017, there was one TPPP Tier 1B grantee in Mississippi: Delta Health Alliance, Inc. (\$1,499,999).

DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE, INC., \$1,499,999 (FY 2017)

Delta Health Alliance, Inc., (DHA) is a non-profit organization aimed at changing health care and education in the Mississippi Delta area. The organization uses data-informed and community partner building strategies to fulfill their goals.⁴³ With its TPPP Tier 1B funds, DHA—through its Delta Futures project—will assist in implementation of evidence-based programming in school, clinic, and community settings. The project will support nine public school districts and five local rural health clinics in 10 rural counties in the Mississippi Delta area. Programming will implement the following curricula: [*Draw the Line/Respect the Line*](#), [*Reducing the Risk*](#), [*Promoting Health Among Teens!*](#), and [*Making Proud Choices!*](#). DHA plans to reach more than 7,000 young people a year.⁴⁴

Tier 2A: Supporting and enabling early innovation to advance adolescent health and prevent teen pregnancy.

- In FY 2017, there were no TPPP Tier 2A grantees in Mississippi.

Tier 2B: Rigorous evaluation of new or innovative approaches to prevent teen pregnancy.

- In FY 2017, there were no TPPP Tier 2B grantees in Mississippi.

Tier 2C: Effectiveness of TPP programs designed specifically for young males.

- In FY 2017, there were no TPPP Tier 2C grantees in Mississippi.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

The Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) division of HHS, administers PREP, which was authorized for a total of \$75 million in FY 2017 for the state-grant program; local entities through the competitively awarded Personal Responsibility Education Innovative Strategies (PREIS) program; and the Tribal PREP, which funds tribes and tribal organizations. In addition, provisions within the PREP statute enable a competitive application process for community- and faith-based organizations within states and territories that do not directly seek PREP state grants to apply for funding through the Competitive Personal Responsibility Education Program (CPREP).

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Similar to other programs highlighted in the State Profiles, the grants for the various PREP programs are awarded throughout the year, with several awarded in the final month of the fiscal year for use and implementation throughout the following year. SIECUS reports on funding amounts appropriated in FY 2017 and any programmatic activities that occurred during FY 2017, or October 1, 2016–September 30, 2017. It is important to remember, however, that reported programmatic activities for this period may have utilized FY 2016 funds. Details on the state grants, PREIS, Tribal PREP, and CPREP are included below. More information and clarification surrounding funding announcements are also included below, as well as in the FY 2017 Executive Summary, [*A Portrait of Sexuality Education in the States*](#).

PREP State-Grant Program

State-grant PREP supports evidence-based programs that provide young people with medically accurate and age-appropriate information for the prevention of unintended pregnancy, HIV, and other STDs. In FY 2017, 44 states, the District of Columbia, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Republic of Palau, and the Virgin Islands received PREP state-grant funds. Funded programs must discuss abstinence and contraception and place substantial emphasis on both. Programs must also address at least three of the following adulthood preparation subjects: healthy relationships, positive adolescent development, financial literacy, parent-child communication skills, education and employment skills, and healthy life skills.

- In FY 2017, the Mississippi State Department of Health received \$469,166 in federal PREP funds.⁴⁵
- The Department provides sub-grants to seven local public and private entities. The sub-grantee information is listed below.⁴⁶

Sub-grantee	Serving	Amount
Henley Young Juvenile Detention Center	See narrative below	\$15,000
Mississippi First	See narrative below	\$49,600
Scientific Research (SR1)	See narrative below	\$24,000
Tunica Teens in Actions	See narrative below	\$10,716
Magnolia Medical Foundation	See narrative below	\$7,000
Mississippi Action for Community Education	See narrative below	\$13,000
The Women’s Foundation of Mississippi	See narrative below	\$47,000

The Mississippi PREP state-grant program is implemented by the Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Preventative Health. It provides school- and community-based interventions to school districts that have adopted an “abstinence-plus” education policy, under the stipulations of the state’s sexuality education law, to provide evidence-based sex education to students in grades 6–12, or young people ages 10–19. The Department of Health has completed memoranda of understanding agreements with 33 school districts (Calhoun County, Canton, Clarksdale Municipal, Cleveland, Coahoma County, Coahoma Agricultural, Coffeeville, Columbus Municipal, Covington County, Durant Public, East Tallahatchie, Forest Municipal, Greenville Public, Hinds County, Homes County, Humphreys County, Jackson, Jefferson Davis County, Leflore County, Leland, McComb, MS School for the Deaf, Natchez-Adams, North Bolivar Consolidated, North Panola, Oxford Public, Quitman County, Simpson County, Sunflower Consolidated, Tunica County, Water Valley, West Bolivar Consolidated, and Western Line School Districts) in 25 counties

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(Adams, Bolivar, Calhoun, Covington, Hinds, Holmes, Humphreys, Jefferson Davis, Leflore, Lowndes, Madison, Oxford, Panola, Pike, Quitman, Scott, Simpson, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tunica, Washington, and Yalobusha counties) that have adopted an “abstinence-plus” policy. In addition, the Mississippi PREP grant program has contracted with the Comprehensive Reproductive Health Department, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and the Women’s Foundation of Mississippi to develop a teen- and youth-friendly [website](#) in an effort to “reduce rates of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections [STIs] among Mississippi teenagers.”⁴⁷

PREP will fund the planning, execution, and project management activities related to the development of a website that provides medically accurate, age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health information for teens and their parents. School-based programming uses [Draw the Line/Respect the Line](#) and [Reducing the Risk](#), while community-based programming uses [Becoming a Responsible Teen \(BART\)](#) and [Sexual Health and Adolescent Risk Prevention \(SHARP\)](#). Each curriculum will address different adulthood preparation subjects: [Draw the Line/Respect the Line](#) addresses healthy life skills, healthy relationships, and parent-child communication; [Reducing the Risk](#) addresses adolescent development, healthy relationships, and healthy life skills; and [Becoming a Responsible Teen \(BART\)](#) addresses adolescent development, healthy life skills, and healthy relationships.⁴⁸

Personal Responsibility Education Innovative Strategies (PREIS)

PREIS supports research and demonstration programs to develop, replicate, refine, and test innovative models for preventing unintended teen pregnancy, HIV, and other STDs.

- In FY 2017, there were no PREIS grantees in Mississippi.

Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program (Tribal PREP)

Tribal PREP supports the development and implementation of pregnancy-, HIV-, and other STD-prevention programs among young people within tribes and tribal communities. Tribal PREP programs target young people ages 10–19 who are in or are aging out of foster care, young people experiencing homelessness, young people living with HIV, young people who live in areas with high rates of adolescent births, and young people under age 21 who are pregnant and/or parenting. In FY 2017, eight tribes and tribal organizations from seven states received a total of \$3,271,693.

- In FY 2017, there were no Tribal PREP grantees in Mississippi.

Competitive Personal Responsibility Education Program (CPREP)

CPREP grants support evidence-based programs that provide young people with medically accurate and age-appropriate information for the prevention of unintended pregnancy, HIV, and other STDs. Only organizations and institutions in states and territories that did not apply for PREP state grants are eligible to submit competitive applications for CPREP grants. In FY 2017, 21 CPREP grants, totaling \$10.2 million, were awarded to 21 organizations in Florida, Indiana, North Dakota, Texas, and Virginia, as well as in American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

- In FY 2017, Mississippi received PREP state-grant funding; therefore, entities in Mississippi were not eligible for CPREP.

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TITLE V “ABSTINENCE EDUCATION” STATE GRANT PROGRAM

The Title V “abstinence education” state grant program for AOUM programming, or the Title V AOUM program, is administered by FYSB, within ACF of HHS, and was authorized at \$75 million for FY 2017. The Title V AOUM program requires states to provide three state-raised dollars, or the equivalent in services, for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local groups. All programs funded by Title V AOUM must exclusively promote abstinence from sexual activity and may provide mentoring, counseling, and adult supervision toward this end.⁴⁹

- In FY 2017, the Mississippi Department of Human Services received \$912,115 in federal Title V AOUM funding.⁵⁰
- At the time of publication, information as to Mississippi’s use of FY 2017 Title V AOUM grant funds was unknown. The following information reflects implementation of FY 2015 funds during FY 2016.
- In Mississippi, funds were sub-granted to the Mississippi Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs (\$959,083).⁵¹
- In Mississippi, the match was provided by the sub-grantee through in-kind funds.

The Mississippi Department of Human Services administers the state’s Title V AOUM grant and sub-contracted the funds to the Mississippi Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs. Programming was provided through the Boys & Girls Clubs in school- and community-based settings to young people ages 10–17 and their parents in 26 counties across the state: Alcom, Attala, Coahoma, Covington, Forrest, Grenada, Hancock, Harrison, Hinds, Holmes, Jackson, Lafayette, Lauderdale, Lee, Leflore, Lowndes, Madison, Neshoba, Oktibbeha, Panola, Pike, Tippah, Tunica, Union, Walthall, and Yazoo. Funded programs use the [*Choosing the Best*](#) series, including the parent component, *Parents, Teens, & Sex: The Big Talk Book*.⁵²

“SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION” (SRAE) GRANT PROGRAM

Administered by FYSB within ACF of HHS, the SRAE program—a rebranding of the competitive AOUM grant program—provides funding for public and private entities for programs that “teach young people to voluntarily refrain from non-marital sexual activity and prevent other youth risk behaviors.” These programs are also required by statute to “teach the benefits associated with self-regulation; success sequencing for poverty prevention; healthy relationships; goal setting and resisting sexual coercion; dating violence; and other youth risk behaviors, such as underage drinking or illicit drug use, without normalizing teen sexual activity.” In FY 2017, \$15 million was appropriated for the SRAE grant program, and \$13.5 million was awarded to 27 grantees in 14 states through a competitive application process.

- In FY 2017, there were no SRAE grantees in Mississippi.

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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, FY 2017 began on October 1, 2016, and ended on September 30, 2017.

² Mississippi Legislature, 2011 Regular Session, House Bill 999, final version of bill as sent to the governor, introduced January 17, 2011, <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2011/pdf/HB/0900-0999/HB0999SG.pdf>.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Miss. Code Ann. § 41-79-5.

⁵ “Youth Online,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx>.

⁶ “Methodology of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System – 2013,” pg. 17, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6201.pdf.

⁷ It is critical to examine social determinants when analyzing potentially stigmatizing data. Accounting for differences in people’s lived experiences based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, etc., is a vital part of understanding the context in which the data exist. We encourage readers to exercise caution when using the data and warn readers against using the data in a manner that conflates correlation with causation. Please visit the FY 2017 Executive Summary, [A Portrait of Sexuality Education in the States](#), for more context.

⁸ “School Health Profiles 2014,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx>.

⁹ Ibid., pg. 51.

¹⁰ Ibid., Table 9c.

¹¹ Ibid., Table 11c.

¹² Ibid., Table 9a.

¹³ Ibid., Table 11a.

¹⁴ Ibid., Table 9a.

¹⁵ Ibid., Table 11a.

¹⁶ Ibid., Table 9b.

¹⁷ Ibid., Table 11b.

¹⁸ Ibid., Table 9b.

¹⁹ Ibid., Table 11b.

²⁰ Ibid., Table 9c.

²¹ Ibid., Table 11c.

²² Ibid., Table 13.

²³ Ibid., Table 39.

²⁴ Arpaia, A., Kost, K., and Maddow-Zimet, I., *Pregnancies, Births and Abortions Among Adolescents and Young Women in the United States, 2013: State Trends by Age, Race, and Ethnicity* (New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2017), https://www.guttmacher.org/sites/default/files/report_downloads/us-adolescent-pregnancy-trends-2013_tables.pdf, Table 2.5.

²⁵ Ibid., Table 2.6.

²⁶ “Teen Birth Rate Comparison, 2015 Among Girls Age 15-19,” The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, <https://thenationalcampaign.org/data/compare/1701>.

²⁷ United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2007-2015, on CDC WONDER Online Database, February 2017. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/nativity-current.html>.

²⁸ “Abortion” used in this context refers to legally induced abortions. This rate does not include abortions that occur outside of health care facilities or are unreported. Unfortunately, there is no reliable source of information for actual rates of abortion.

²⁹ Arpaia, A., Kost, K., and Maddow-Zimet, I., *Pregnancies, Births and Abortions Among Adolescents and Young Women in the United States, 2013: State Trends by Age, Race, and Ethnicity* (New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2017), https://www.guttmacher.org/sites/default/files/report_downloads/us-adolescent-pregnancy-trends-2013_tables.pdf, Table 2.5.

³⁰ Ibid., Table 2.6.

³¹ Slide 17: “Rates of Diagnoses of HIV Infection among Adolescents Aged 13–19 Years 2015—United States and 6 Dependent Areas,” *HIV Surveillance in Adolescents and Young Adults* (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/slidesets/cdc-hiv-surveillance-adolescents-young-adults-2015.pdf.

³² Slide 20: “Rates of Diagnosed HIV Infection Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS) among Adolescents Aged 13–19 Years, 2015—United States and 6 Dependent Areas,” *HIV Surveillance in Adolescents and Young Adults* (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/slidesets/cdc-hiv-surveillance-adolescents-young-adults-2015.pdf.

³³ Slide 18: “Rates of Diagnoses of HIV Infection among Young Adults Aged 20–24 Years 2015—United States and 6 Dependent Areas,” *HIV Surveillance in Adolescents and Young Adults* (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/slidesets/cdc-hiv-surveillance-adolescents-young-adults-2015.pdf.

³⁴ Slide 21: “Rates of Diagnosed HIV Infection Classified as Stage 3 (AIDS) among Young Adults Aged 20–24 Years, 2015—

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United States and 6 Dependent Areas,” *HIV Surveillance in Adolescents and Young Adults* (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/slidesets/cdc-hiv-surveillance-adolescents-young-adults-2015.pdf.

³⁵ NCHHSTP Atlas, “STD Surveillance Data” (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), <http://gis.cdc.gov/GRASP/NCHHSTPAtlas/main.html>.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Adolescent and School Health, Funded State Agencies, Atlanta, GA, www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/partners/funded_states.htm#ms.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ “About Us,” My Brother’s Keeper, Inc., www.mbkinc.org/?page_id=8.

⁴¹ “My Brother’s Keeper, Inc.,” Grantees (MS) – TPP Tier 1A, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Adolescent Health, www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grants/grantees/tpp/1a/my-brothers-keeper-inc.html.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ “About DHA,” Delta Health Alliance, Inc., www.deltahealthalliance.org/about-dha/overview/.

⁴⁴ “Delta Health Alliance, Inc.,” Grantees (MS) – TPP Tier 1B, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Adolescent Health, www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grants/grantees/tpp/1b/delta-health-alliance-inc.html.

⁴⁵ “2017 State Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) Awards,” Family and Youth Services Bureau, Administration for Children & Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource/2017-state-prep-awards.

⁴⁶ Information provided by Kenyatta Parker, DrPH, MPH, Deputy Bureau Director, PREP, Mississippi State Department of Health, July 13, 2017.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ 42 U.S.C. 710, Title V, Section 510 of the Social Security Act, the authorization for the Title V AOUM grant program, defines “abstinence education” as “an educational or motivational program which:

(A) has as its exclusive purpose, teaching the social, psychological, and health gains to be realized by abstaining from sexual activity;

(B) teaches abstinence from sexual activity outside marriage as the expected standard for all school-age children;

(C) teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and other associated health problems;

(D) teaches that a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in context of marriage is the expected standard of human sexual activity;

(E) teaches that sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects;

(F) teaches that bearing children out-of-wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child’s parents, and society;

(G) teaches young people how to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances; and

(H) teaches the importance of attaining self-sufficiency before engaging in sexual activity.”

www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title05/0510.htm.

⁵⁰ “2017 Title V State Abstinence Education Program Grant Awards,” Family and Youth Services Bureau, Administration for Children & Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource/2017-aegp-awards.

⁵¹ Information provided through a public records request of the Mississippi Department of Human Services, July 26, 2016.

⁵² Ibid.