

School-Based HIV/STD Prevention Program Updates



## Exemplary Sexual Health Education

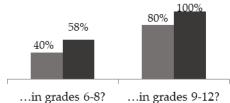
HIV/STD/pregnancy education 

Evidence-based instruction by qualified and trained teachers 

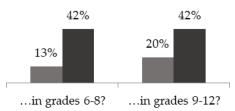
Sequential learning across school levels

# From 2014 to 2018, the percentage of priority districts that...

... **formally adopted** (by vote or consensus decision) sexual health curricula for use...



... included **all 11 key** HIV, STD, and pregnancy prevention topics in sexual health education...



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The Vermont Agency of Education (VT-AOE) implemented a five-year School-Based HIV/STD Prevention program sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The program aimed to improve the delivery of exemplary sexual health education (ESHE), increase adolescent access to sexual health services (SHS), and establish safe and supportive environments (SSE) for students and staff. The grant included 12 priority school districts and supervisory unions across Vermont. Data in this summary are representative of all 12 priority districts and supervisory unions.

### **Sexual Health Services**

HIV, STD and pregnancy testing © STD treatment © Provision of condoms © Provision of contraceptives © HPV vaccine administration

In 2018, of the priority districts...

75%... identified policies that guide SHS-related work, and collaborated with district leadership and staff to **prioritize actions** for addressing identified gaps in SHS policies.

Percentage of sexually active students who reported using during their last sexual intercourse... ... a condom.

#### 62% in 2013 → 56% in 2018

Data from 2013 and 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

...birth control pills; an IUD or implant; or a shot, patch, or birth control ring.

44% in 2013 **→** 50% in 2018

Data from 2013 and 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

#### Safe and Supportive Environments

Brings together schools, community, parents and youth to build supportive and safe school-based environments designed to prevent bullying and violence

In 2018, of the priority districts...

**100%**... have all components to prevent bullying and sexual harassment, such as a designated staff member for confidential reporting or use of parent communication of bullying policies.

**100%...** recommend or require **3 or more school connectedness strategies** such as service learning opportunities, peer tutoring, or clubs that create safe and welcoming school environments.

83%... recommend or require 4 or more parent engagement strategies, such as differing modes of communication or linking families to community health services.

Percentage of students who agree or strongly agree that they matter to people in their community... 44% in 2013 → 50% in 2018 Data from 2013 and 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Priority school districts identified many successes that support programmatic sustainability without the need for external support. These include: 1) adopting new wellness policies and procedures requiring the implementation of comprehensive K-12 Health curricula that includes HIV/STDs, teen pregnancy, risky sexual behavior prevention education; 2) developing and implementing condom availability and counseling programs; 3) developing a Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) district-wide governing teams; 4) attending Out for Safe Schools antibullying workshops; 5) hosting statewide events such as the Outright Vermont Annual Queer and Allied Youth Summit; 6) adopting new evidence-based curricula; or 7) developing Train the Trainer (TOT) teams so that districts can leverage internal expertise to train faculty and staff.



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