

Of Mississippi high school students...

48%
say they have had sex.¹

18%
did not use any method to prevent pregnancy.¹

44%
did not use condoms.¹

83%
were never tested for HIV.¹

Ranks 3rd in the nation in teen birth rate.²

FORREST COUNTY IN 2017

Rank among 82 counties in Mississippi:

12th in Chlamydia infection rates³

9th in Gonorrhea infection rates⁴

3rd in HIV rates⁵

3RD in Syphilis rates⁶

ENGAGE IN THE PROCESS

Adopt CHART Policy

Sign Memorandum of Understanding with MS State Department of Health

Train Teachers on Sex Education Curricula

Conduct Implementation and Evaluation

For more information, go to teenhealthms.org or contact Josh McCawley at josh@teenhealthms.org.

REDUCING TEEN BIRTH AND STI/HIV

in Forrest County



CHART

Creating Healthy and Responsible Teens

THE LAW: HB494

Requires sex education in MS public schools. Each school district must adopt an "abstinence-only" or "abstinence-plus" policy as well as a curriculum approved by the MS Department of Education.

THE EVIDENCE:⁷

Evidence-based, "abstinence-plus" curricula meet the needs of ALL students and are shown to:

- Delay sexual activity
- Reduce # of partners
- Reduce frequency of sex
- Increase proper use of contraceptives

CHART, an "abstinence-plus" initiative, HAS BEEN ADOPTED IN **21 COUNTIES** statewide.



WHAT IS CHART?

- Abstinence-plus sex education
- Evidence-based, age-appropriate, and medically accurate
- A partnership with the Mississippi State Department of Health and approved by Mississippi Department of Education
- **FREE** training and technical assistance to school districts

1. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States, 2011. MMWR; 61(4)Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/pdf/2015/ss6506_updated.pdf. 2. Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Osterman MJK, et al. Births: Final data for 2017. National vital statistics report; vol 67, no 8. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2018. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_08-508.pdf. 3. Mississippi State Department of Health, Reported Cases and Rates of Chlamydia Infections by District and County: https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/5998.pdf. 4. Mississippi State Department of Health, Reported Cases and Rates of Gonorrhea Infections by District and County: https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/6000.pdf. 5. Mississippi State Department of Health, Reported Cases and Rates of HIV Disease by District and County: https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/6001.pdf. 6. Mississippi State Department of Health, Reported Cases and Rates of Primary and Secondary Syphilis by District and County: https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/6003.pdf. 7. K. Underhill, et al. (2007). Systematic Review of Abstinence-Plus HIV Prevention Programs in High-Income Countries. PLOS Med 4.9 (2007): 3275.

