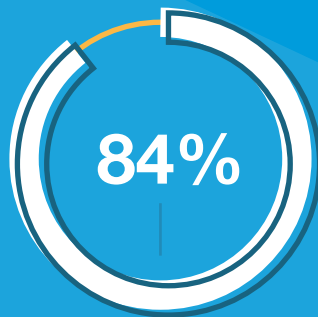


What's Going on in Louisiana Schools?

A recent survey revealed that 61% of Louisiana parents and caregivers think that sex education is being taught in their children's schools. However, sex education is not required by Louisiana state law and access and standards varies from school to school, even within the same community. According to a state-wide study:



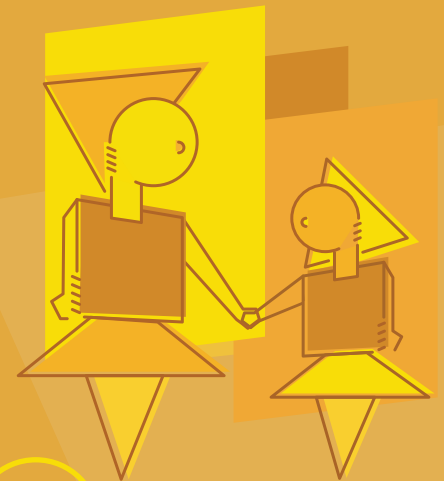
84% of Louisiana parents and caregivers agree the basics of puberty and reproduction should be taught in schools.



80% agree that sex education information which emphasizes abstinence but also provides information on birth control should be taught in schools.

An Ineffective System

It is clear from our state's health statistics that the status quo is not sufficient. Louisiana youth are at high risk for teen pregnancy and HIV/AIDS as well as other sexually transmitted diseases (STD's).



Louisiana ranks 6th in the country for teen pregnancy (2015 data).

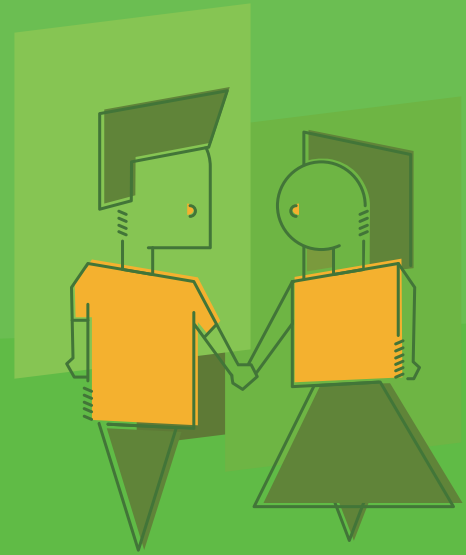


2nd

Louisiana ranks 1st in the nation for adolescent STD rates for syphilis and 2nd for gonorrhea and chlamydia (2015 data).

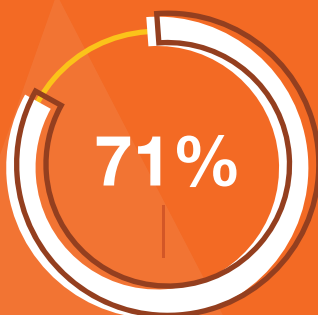
An Approach that works

Comprehensive Sex Education is an evidence-based approach that includes age-appropriate, medically accurate information on a broad set of topics related to sexuality including human development, relationships, decision making, abstinence, contraception, and disease prevention. Some schools are teaching CSE but it's clear we need more.

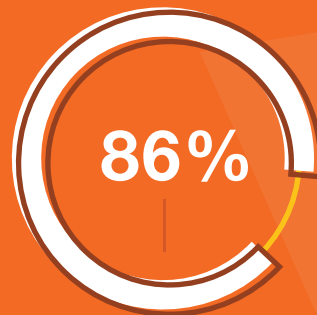


Using a Trauma-Informed Approach

Louisiana parents and caregivers understand that traumatic experiences and other stressful events can affect the way youth think and the decisions they make, including decisions regarding their sexual health.



71% of Louisiana parents and caregivers believe that youth in their community are exposed to high levels of stress and trauma that may have negative effects on their health.



86% of Louisiana parents and caregivers would be interested in a sex education program that has a focus on mental health, emotional wellness and healthy decision making.

Trauma-informed comprehensive sex education programs take this into consideration and provide youth with emotionally safe environments to learn about their health.

To see how you can get involved visit geauxtalk.org

Survey Methodology: This statewide study was conducted by the Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies and the Louisiana Public Health Institute from November-December 2016. The survey sample is representative of Louisiana's population on the basis of race and income at state and regional levels. For more information or to view the full report go to geauxtalk.org.

