

Northeast Louisiana Parents Support Sex Education in Schools



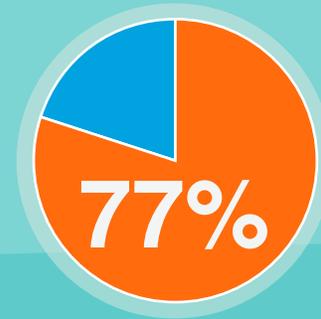
Survey Findings From Region 8

A recent survey revealed that **82% of parents in Northeast Louisiana think sex education is an important part of the school curriculum**, yet it is **NOT** required by Louisiana law and varies greatly from school to school.

Parents across the state agree today's youth face many complicated issues and should be educated so they can make informed decisions when exposed to these issues in the real world.



At least 90% of Northeast Louisiana parents believe young people in their community face problems such as: domestic violence, emotional abuse/neglect, sexting, STDs, and unplanned pregnancy.

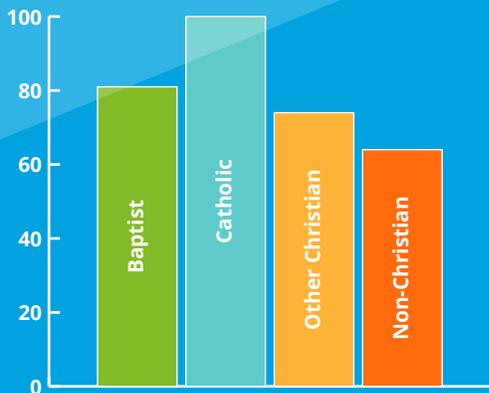


77% of Northeast Louisiana parents agree sex education that includes information about abstinence, birth control, and condoms should be taught in schools.

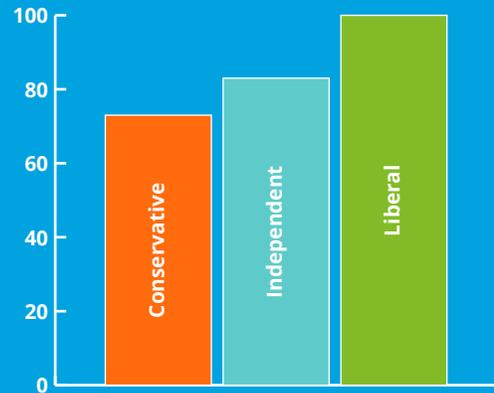
Sex education provides extra support for the primary role parents have in educating their children about sex and personal values.

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

Parents across Northeast Louisiana, regardless of religious and political beliefs, recognize the value of sex education to address the challenges young people are facing.



% of parents that believe schools should be required to offer sex education by religion.



% of parents that believe schools should be required to offer sex education by political identity

Information on the survey: To find out what parents across Louisiana think about sex education, the Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI) fielded a representative, statewide survey in 2018. Survey participants included parents and caregivers of children and young people enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade. The survey is representative of the state of Louisiana in terms of race, income and religion. For more information or to view the full report go to www.geauxtalk.org.



Sex Education in Louisiana

WHAT IS COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION?

Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) is an evidence-based approach that includes age-appropriate, medically accurate information on a broad set of topics related to sexuality including: human development, healthy relationships, decision making, abstinence, contraception, cyber safety, sexual assault, and disease prevention.

CSE prepares children with facts on topics they will likely encounter and reinforces the conversations families may already be having at home.

WHAT CSE DOES AND DOES NOT DO

Sex education...

- does **lower** the risk of pregnancy
- does **delay** sexual activity
- does **reduce** the number of sexual partners
- does **increase** condom and contraceptive use
- does **NOT** increase sexual activity

Keeping Louisiana's youth healthy through lower STD rates and reduced unplanned pregnancies is a community issue.

The conversation must start at home and continue in schools across Louisiana.

WHAT IS THE LAW?

Sex education is currently allowed in Louisiana schools for grades 7-12. But, it is not required. Some students receive sex education in school, but there is no way to track the quality of instruction. A state-wide comprehensive sex education law would make sure all students receive quality sex education to help make informed decisions about their health.

When teens have accurate information, they can make good decisions to help them be successful in school.