

Scary Stats Parents Need to Know

Did you know that by the time a teenager reaches 12th grade, nearly 50% have had sexual intercourse? Did you know that sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among teens and young adults in Georgia are higher than ever? This age group, 15-24 years old, makes up nearly two thirds of all the new cases in Georgia, year after year. One out of four teens becomes infected with an STI. By the age of 25, half of all sexually active young adults will get an STI. Here's how Georgia ranks:

- National rank for chlamydia: 5
- Number of chlamydia cases: 62,776
- National rank for gonorrhea: 3
- Number of gonorrhea cases: 20,553

What Parents Can Do: Talking Protects!

- Youth with the least accurate information about sexuality and other risky behaviors may experiment more
- When teens are able to talk to a trusted adult they are less likely to engage in risky behaviors
- Trusted adults are a young person's preferred source of information about sex, relationships and love
- Let your child know they can come to you about anything
- Find a good time to talk
- Ask them if they are aware of the risks and harm of STIs
- Listen and don't judge

