Adolescent Sexual Health in Spokane County

Adolescents Who Have Had Sexual Intercourse

- **8th Graders**: 1 in 13 (8%)
- **10th Graders**: 1 in 4 (26%)
- **12th Graders**: 1 in 2 (48%)

**AGE OF FIRST SEXUAL INTERCOURSE**

- 8th Graders:
  - 11: 4%
  - 12: 1%
  - 13: 3%
  - 14: 8%
  - 15: 11%
  - 16: 14%
  - 17: 7%

**NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS**

- **12th Graders**
  - 53% have not had sexual intercourse
  - 18% had 1 partner
  - 12% had 2-3 partners
  - 6% had 4-5 partners
  - 10% had 6+ partners

**Who used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse**

- **8th, 10th & 12th Graders**
  - 56% used
  - 44% did not use

Data Sources:
- Washington State Department of Health, Healthy Youth Survey; Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics: STD, birth certificate, and abortion data. Calculations performed by Spokane Regional Health District, Data Center 11/28/2017
WHY INVEST IN PREVENTION?

Many Spokane County youth are becoming sexually active before or while in high school and are engaging in risky sexual behaviors including: early sexual initiation, before age 16; low condom-usage; and high numbers of sexual partners. Comprehensive, evidence-based sexual health education in Spokane County beginning before and continuing into high school is needed to prevent teen pregnancy and STDs and support positive youth development.

Adolescent childrearing costs taxpayers in the U.S. between $9.4 and $28 billion a year. It is important to continue to invest to improve the following:

- Educational outcomes for adolescents;
- Cognitive and behavioral outcomes for children;
- Income for adolescent parents;
- Reliance on public assistance by adolescent parents.

WHERE IS IT MOST CONCERNING?

Spokane County does not exhibit adolescent birth or pregnancy rates higher than the state average, however, when you compare rates across the county, areas of need are easy to identify. Adolescent birth and pregnancy rates in the city of Spokane are most concerning and are considerably higher than those of Spokane County and Washington state. Airway Heights, Hillyard, and downtown Spokane exhibit the highest rates.