

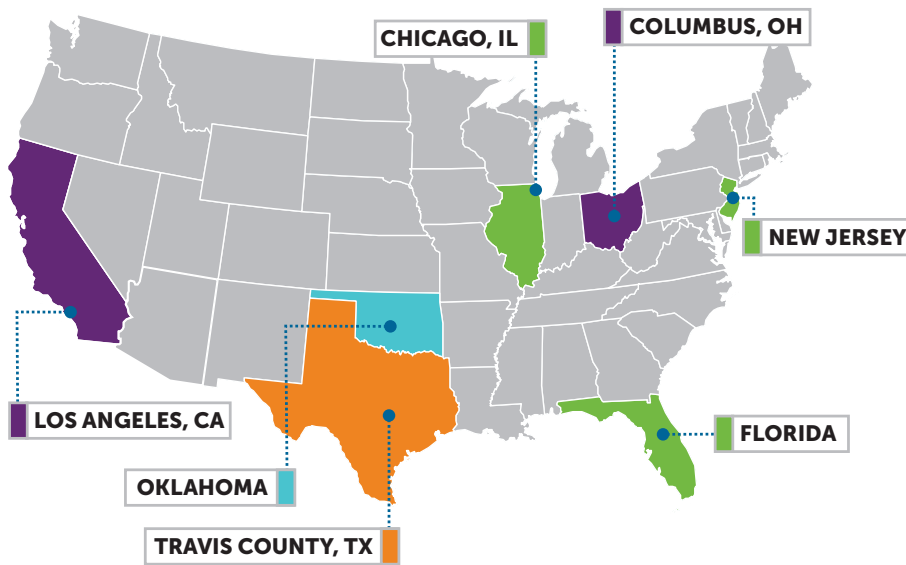


Evaluation of Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Approaches

BACKGROUND

The **Evaluation of Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Approaches (PPA)**, conducted by Mathematica Policy Research, is a major federal effort to expand available evidence on effective ways to prevent pregnancy and reduce related sexual risk behaviors among teens in the United States. The eight-year (2008–2016) evaluation documented and tested new and innovative approaches to teen pregnancy prevention in seven sites across the United States. Six of the seven sites received federal funding from the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) or Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of the federal government’s broader effort to invest in evidence-based approaches to teen pregnancy prevention.

TARGET POPULATIONS AND PROGRAM APPROACHES



- Tested programs intended to reduce rates of rapid repeat pregnancy, in part by providing disadvantaged teen mothers information on long-acting reversible contraception (LARC)
- Tested the effectiveness of POWER Through Choices, a curriculum designed specifically for youth in foster care and other out-of-home care settings
- Tested the effectiveness of Gender Matters, a curriculum that aims to reduce sexual risk behaviors in part by challenging commonly held perceptions of gender roles and promoting healthy, equitable relationships
- Tested innovative or new school-based teen pregnancy prevention programs offered to middle or high school students during the regular school day

THE EVALUATION HAD TWO MAIN COMPONENTS

For all seven sites, the study team conducted an **in-depth process study** to document how the programs were designed and implemented. For six of the seven sites, the study team conducted a **rigorous random assignment impact study** to measure the effectiveness of the programs in changing youth outcomes.

KEY FINDINGS

- ▶ **All six impact study sites had favorable impacts** on at least one of their targeted outcomes.
- ▶ **Three of the six impact study sites met the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services standards** for evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs.
- ▶ **Two of the six impact study sites led to measurable declines** in the ultimate outcome of teen pregnancy.

STUDY FACTS



7,715 youth participated across 9 states



3,000+ hours of programming delivered



19 project reports



2 journal articles