The United States: Whoopsie-Baby Capital of the World

Molly Lloyd, 2012

Highest Teen Preg (2009):
1. Mississippi 64.2
2. New Mexico 63.9
3. Texas 60.7
4. Oklahoma 60.1
5. Arkansas 59.2
6. Louisiana 52.7
7. Kentucky 51.3
8. Alabama 50.7
9. Tennessee 50.6
10. Arizona 50.6

Highest Uninsured (2009):
1. Texas 26.9%
2. New Mexico 25.6%
3. Mississippi 24%
4. Louisiana 23.4%
5. Nevada 22.2%
6. California 21.0%
7. Wyoming 20.7%
8. Florida 20.7%
9. Georgia 20.7%
10. Arizona 20.6%

Highest Inequality (Gini Index):
1. District of Columbia 0.532
2. New York 0.499
3. Massachusetts 0.475
4. Louisiana 0.475
5. Florida 0.471
6. Alabama 0.472
7. California 0.471
8. Texas 0.466
9. Georgia 0.468
10. Mississippi 0.468

Millions of Americans are uninsured, and not having access to healthcare is both an indicator of future poverty and of inequality. The Gini Index is a statistical measure of income inequality; a zero coefficient represents perfect equality, while a 1 indicates highest inequality.

Between 2007 and 2010, all but 3 states saw a decrease in teen birth rates for an average 17% decrease across the US.

The teen birth rate in the United States is extremely high. Research shows that lack of education about sex and high economic inequality have a positive effect on teen pregnancy and birth rates.

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States plus DC mandate sex-education in public schools.

Of those states require information about contraception to be provided.

States require information provided in sex-ed classes be medically accurate.

Research has shown that teens who are taught abstinence-only sex-ed are more likely to have sex without the use of contraceptives and to engage in otherwise engage in risky behaviors at a younger age than those who have comprehensive sex-ed.

Data: The Guttmacher Institute (Sex Ed Laws), The Center for Disease Control (Teen Pregnancy Data), Gallup (Rates of Uninsured), US Census Bureau (Gini Index)