

INTRODUCTION TO

SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION (SRAE)

MI-SRA MICHIGAN SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE COUNCIL

The Michigan Sexual Risk Avoidance Council (MI-SRA Council) Promotes positive youth development by empowering adolescents to achieve optimal health by partnering with parents and advocating for sexual risk avoidance through education, community partnership, and public policy.

- Coalition of SRA Educators and Stakeholders from across the state of Michigan
- Currently reaching 17,000+ students
- Meet quarterly to pursue 6 focus areas (Increasing SRAE knowledge, increase parent engagement, increase awareness of benefits of SRA to the community, advocacy, unity among SRA providers, and fair and accurate representation of SRA in gov't agencies)

What is Sexual Risk Avoidance?

“An approach to sex education based on primary prevention, an established public health model used to promote wellness and eliminate risk” -Ascend*

**Ascend is a national organization that lobbies for SRA, equips and unites SRA educators).*

Primary Prevention

Promote Wellness, Eliminate Risk

For some reason, sexual activity is a risk behavior in which some groups aim to *reduce* risk (“safe sex”) rather than *avoid* risk all together.

We don’t see these same principals applied to other risk behaviors such as substance abuse.



The SRA Approach

- Center for Disease Control (CDC) Considers teen sexual activity to be a health risk.
- SRA believes every student deserves what is best for their optimal health.
- According to the CDC, abstinence is the only 100% effective way to avoid all risks associated with sex.



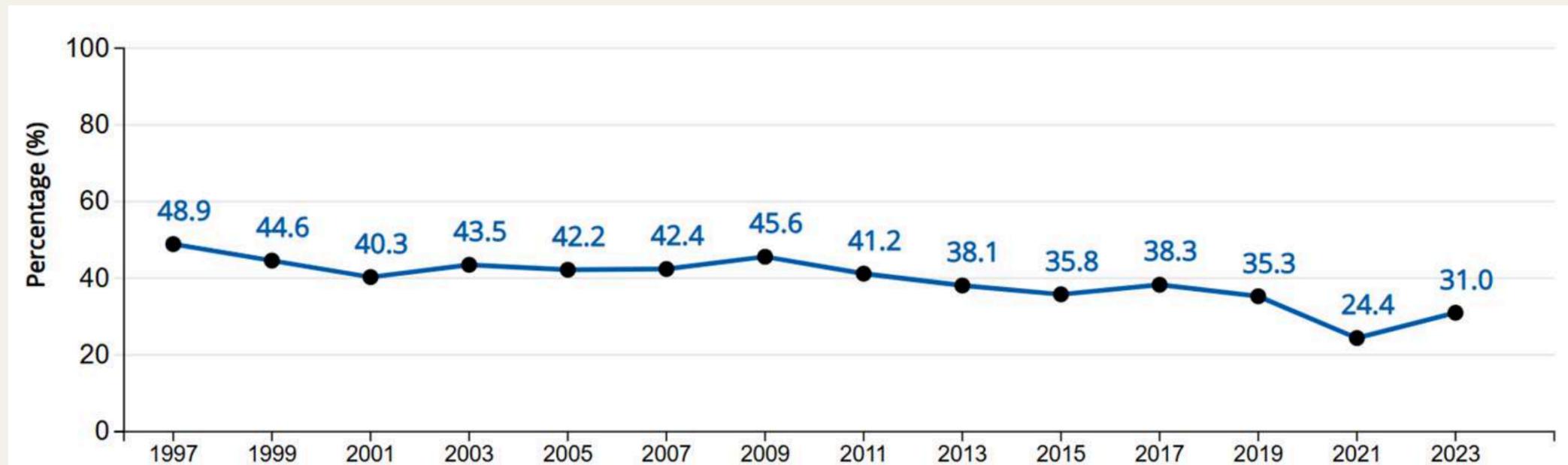
A Winning Approach with Youth

Michigan High School Students (9th-12th)

Patterns Over Time

We are tracking the prevalence of lifetime sexual intercourse over time. We observed a **decrease** from 2003 to 2023.[†]

When it comes to drinking alcohol, smoking, and doing drugs, today's teens are making healthier choices than previous generations, going back to 1991. **The same trend is true for sexual risk behavior.**



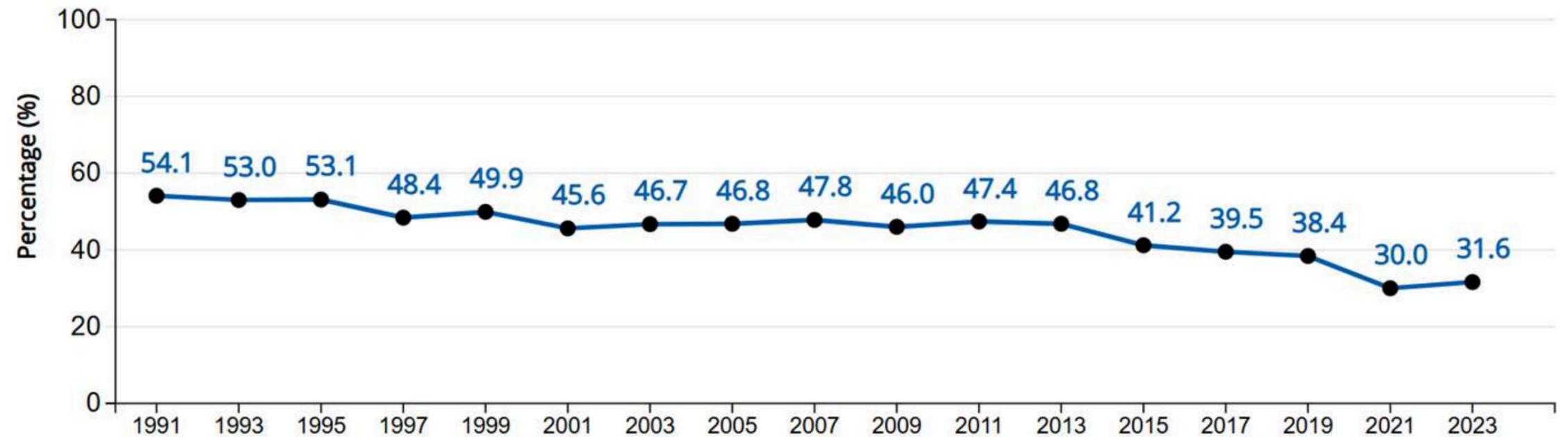
[†] Overall, the percentage of students reporting this behavior decreased from 2003 to 2023. The direction of the trend line changed in 2009. There was no change, from 2003 to 2009. There was a decrease from 2009 to 2023. Any indicated increase or decrease is statistically significant.

A Winning Approach with Youth

U.S.A. High School Students (9th-12th)

Patterns Over Time

We are tracking the prevalence of lifetime sexual intercourse over time. We observed a **decrease** from 2003 to 2023.[†]



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Studies show SRA Works

TWENTY-FIVE SRA EDUCATION PROGRAMS HAVE UNDERGONE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND FOUND SIGNIFICANT RESULTS IN REDUCING TEEN SEX OR AFFECTING OTHER IMPORTANT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INDICATORS IN TEEN SEXUAL DECISION MAKING.

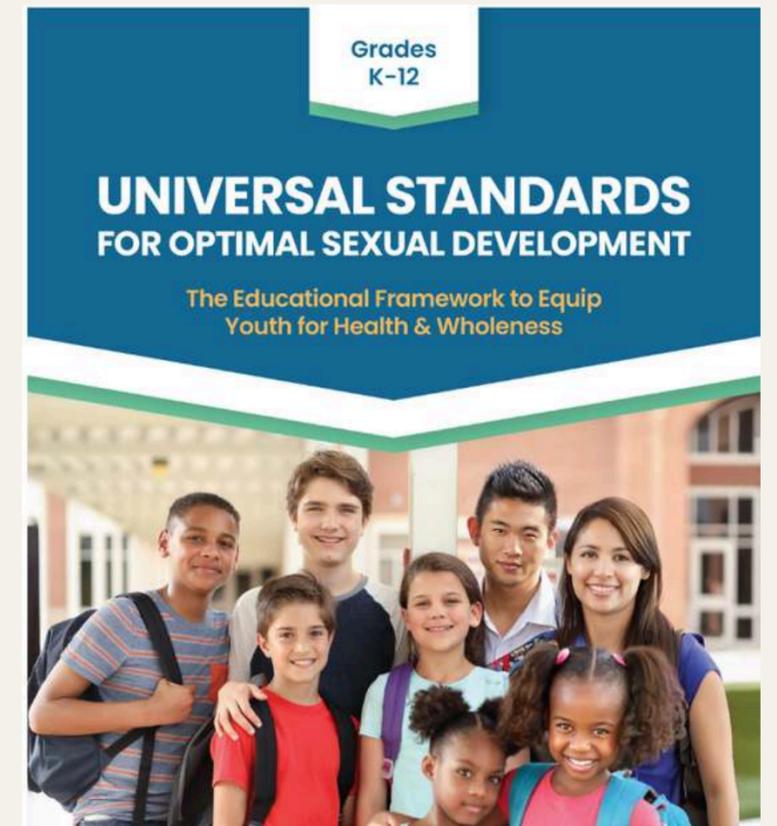


Sexual Risk Avoidance Works

Twenty-five SRA education programs demonstrate statistically significant results in reducing teen sex or affecting other important behavioral health indicators in te...

SRA IS ...

- INFORMED BY RESEARCH-BASED STANDARDS (K-12 STANDARDS FOR OPTIMAL SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT)
- HOLISTIC (WE ADDRESS THE WHOLE PERSON)
- ALIGNED WITH THE BEHAVIOR OF MAJORITY OF TEENS (BUT STILL RELEVANT FOR THOSE ENGAGING IN RISKY BEHAVIOR)
- PRO PARENT
- PRO TRANSPARENCY
- VALUE-AFFIRMING
- HEALTH FOCUSED (WHAT IS BEST FOR TEEN HEALTH)
- RELEVANT TO ALL STUDENTS (UNIVERSALLY TRANSFERABLE SKILLS)



Term Confusion

- Abstinence Only
- Abstinence-Based
- Abstinence Plus

Sexual Risk Avoidance vs Sexual Risk Reduction

is more helpful because it clearly differentiates what the primary goal is for each model.

SRA as a National Movement

weascend.org

https://weascend.org

ASCEND

SRA CERTIFICATION SITE MEMBER PORTAL DONATE SEARCH...

About SRA Certification Membership Tools & Resources Professional Development

YOUTH THRIVE WITH
**SEX EDUCATION
THAT WORKS**

We equip & unite the national **Sexual Risk Avoidance (SRA)** field to help youth make healthy choices about sex, relationships, and marriage.

LEARN HOW WE CAN SERVE YOU

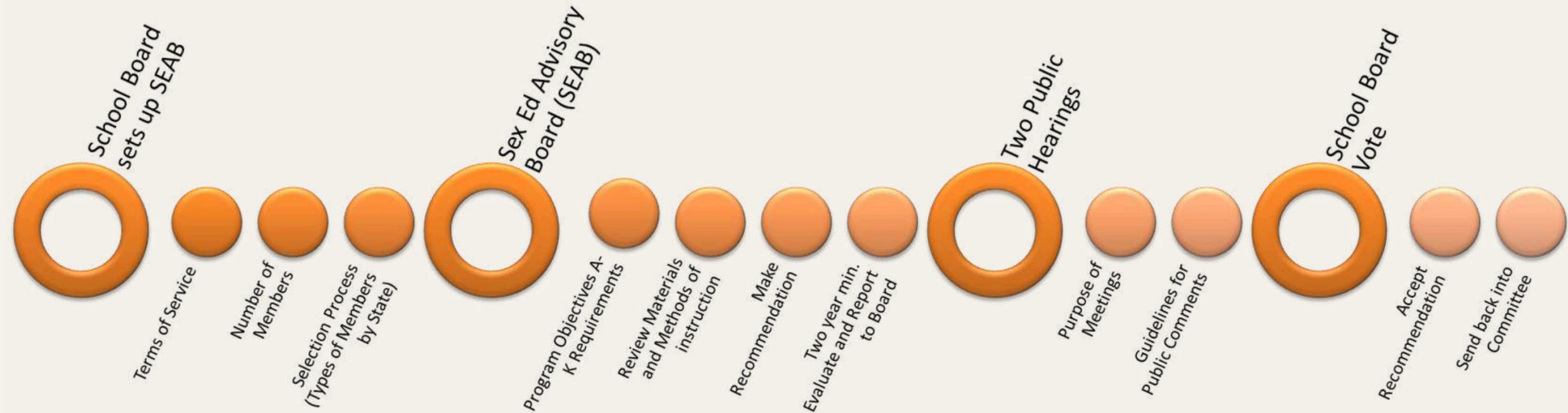
SRA Resources

weascend.org

ASCEND About SRA Certification Membership **Tools & Resources** Professional Development **DONATE**

<p>MOST POPULAR</p>	<p>MOST POPULAR</p>	<p>MOST POPULAR</p>
INFOGRAPHIC	REPORT	ARTICLE
Comparing Types of Sex Education	Sexual Risk Avoidance Works	The Success Sequence: Rethinking Poverty Prevention
VIEW >	VIEW >	VIEW >
<p>MOST POPULAR</p>	<p>MOST POPULAR</p>	<p>MOST POPULAR</p>
ARTICLE	INFOGRAPHIC	GUIDE
Sexual Risk Avoidance Education and The Gay Teen	Five Common Attacks Against Sexual Risk Avoidance & How to Push Back	Optimal Health Model
VIEW >	VIEW >	VIEW >

Sex Ed in Michigan Schools



HIV Prevention Education Is Required in Schools. **Sex Education** is not required in Schools.

However, if a district decides to include sex education, it must fulfill the **A-K laws**.

Districts **do not** have to adopt MDE's Health Education Standards Guidelines for sex education.

Parents should be notified in advance, have the right to review sex ed content, and to opt their child out. of sex ed.

Connect with MI-SRA Council

- Follow MI Sexual Risk Avoidance Council on Facebook & Instagram for additional information
- Email misracouncil@gmail.com
- Learn about SRA curricula options
- Find an SRA Instructor in your area
- Ask questions about Michigan Sex Education Laws



MI-SRA FACEBOOK

Thank you

MISRACOUNCIL@ GMAIL.COM