



# State Spotlight: Washington



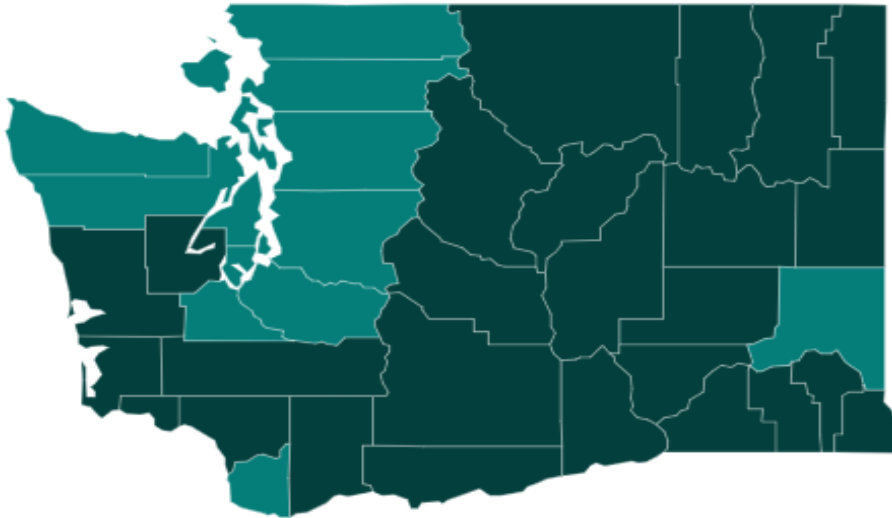
## 2020 Washington Referendum 90 – Require Sex Education Election Results

57.8% of voters approved

County-By-County Results Map

- Approved
- Rejected
- Tied / Runoff
- No Election
- No Results

Mail-in and early votes may not be included.



Full results [here](#). Photo Credit: USA Today

## Comprehensive Sexual Health Education (CSHE) Requirement

The Washington Legislature passed the updated Healthy Youth Act-Bill 5395- in 2020 to require all schools provide CSHE (later affirmed with voter approval- Referendum 90). The CSHE must be:

- medically/scientifically accurate
- inclusive of all students
- consistent with Washington Health Education K-12 Learning Standards
- offered multiple times in grades 4-12

Washington Health Education Standards were updated by teacher leaders in 2016 to include CSHE for the first time, laying the groundwork for this new requirement.

### Key WSCC Components: Health Education



For more information, contact Laurie Dils at [laurie.dils@k12.wa.us](mailto:laurie.dils@k12.wa.us)



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The teaching of science-based, age-appropriate, sexual health education would be expanded to more school districts and grade levels, under the legislation passed today by the Senate.

This is Senator Claire Wilson, Vice Chair Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee, sponsor of SB 5395. [Full Article](#)  
Photo Credit: Washington Senate Democrats

*“The provision of comprehensive, age appropriate, evidence-informed sexual health education is a vital component of K-12 education. When incorporated as part of an ongoing health education program, it helps address the needs of the whole child.”*

– Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Key Partners:** Washington Department of Health

**Funding Source:** State Proviso Funding

**Results/Impact:**

- Expands access to an additional 25% of students in the state, now reaching all students in grades 4-12
- Increases CSHE exposure by requiring at least 5 units of instruction
- Focuses heavily on healthy relationships and affirmative consent
- Strengthens expectations for inclusive instruction by requiring that educators use “language and strategies that recognize all protected classes”

**Website:** [WA CSHE Implementation](#)

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