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## Teens and sleep Henry Buscher Nebraska College Preparatory Academy Grand Island Senior High School 2019 University of Nebraska-Lincoln

## Abstract

Sleep is a very important part of the day for everyone. There are many reasons why people should be striving to get the sleep they need. However, many people are skipping out on an hour or two of the recommended time. This presentation is focused on teenage students, how their loss of sleep affects them and why they aren't getting the amount of sleep they need.

## Key Points

- Teens aged 13-18 should sleep 8-10 hours per day, and $72.7 \%$ of high school students don't get this amount.
- Many negative effects of sleep deprivation.
- Having a normal sleep schedule is just as important as getting enough sleep.
- Light plays a big role in resetting our sleep rhythm.
- Final hours of REM sleep are most important for retaining information.
- On average as children get older they begin to go to sleep later, with the same wake up time.
- Students don't go to sleep earlier for earlier wake up times.


## Conclusions \& Discussion

While it is not very noticable, with over $50 \%$ of teens being affected by sleep deprivation it is definitely a huge problem that needs a solution. While it is mostly up to the individual and how they prioritize their own sleep, schools should try different schedules that allow for students to get more sleep. Further research should be done to compare just how differently adults react to sleep deprivation compared to teenagers.

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