



# Preventing Teen Pregnancy

## Oklahoma Facts

### Adolescent Health 2009

Maternal and Child Health Service  
Child and Adolescent Health Division

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Oklahoma State  
Department of Health  
An AA/EEO Employer





# Teenage Birth Statistics

## 2006 Birth Rate of Females 15-17 Years

National Average

22.0

Oklahoma

30.3

Oklahoma was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation

## 2006 Birth Rate of Females 15-19 Years

National Average

41.9

Oklahoma

59.3

Oklahoma was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation

*(National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 57, Number 7, January 2009)*

- In the U.S. in 2006, the total number of births to females aged 19 and younger was 441,832.
- That equates to 50 births every hour to a teenage mother.

*(National Vital Statistics System Interactive Table, 2006)*

\*National data are not finalized for 2007  
Births are live births per 1,000 estimated population





# Teenage Birth Statistics Oklahoma

Oklahoma's teen birth rate was decreasing until  
2006

## Birth Rate

15-17 Years

15-19 Years

2005	27.1	55.3
2006	30.3	59.3
2007	30.3	61.3

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2005-2006)*

Nationally, the teen birth rate had been declining,  
however, the rate rose in 2006\* for the first time  
since 1991.

## Birth Rate

15-17 Years

15-19 Years

2005	21.4	40.5
2006	22.0	41.9

\*National data are not finalized for 2007

*(National Vital Statistics Report, 57 (7), 2009 & Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2005-2006)*





# Methods of Comparing Teen Births

Teen births are commonly compared by three different methods, each giving different information.

**Actual Births** counts the number of babies born to resident females of a specified age group.

- In Oklahoma in 2007, the total number of births to all females: 54,946
- In Oklahoma in 2007, the total number of births to females 19 & younger: 7,616

**Percentage of Teen Births** compares the proportion of teen births to all births.

- In 2006, 13.4% of all Oklahoma births were to females aged 15-19.
- In 2006, 8.6% of all U.S. births were to females aged 15-19.

**Teen Birth Rate** compares the number of teen births per 1,000 females of the same age group.

- In 2006, Oklahoma's birth rate for females aged 15-19 per 1,000 was 59.3.
- In 2006, the U.S. birth rate for females aged 15-19 per 1,000 was 41.9.

National data are not finalized for 2007  
(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2006-2007)

(National Vital Statistics Report, 57 (7), 2009 & Oklahoma Vital Statistics)





# Key Points in Reviewing These Data

- Oklahoma data are based on Oklahoma Vital Statistics which counts *births*, not *pregnancies*.
- When evaluating the data, consider a county's teen birth rate *and* the actual number of births on the county maps to assess a county's profile regarding teen births.

Example: At present, Murray county has the highest three year (2005-2007) average teen birth rate at 96.8 per 1,000 females ages 15-19, which relates to 93 actual live births in 2007.

Compare this to Tulsa county with a lower three year (2005-2007) average birth rate of 61.1 per 1,000 females ages 15-19, but with a higher number of actual teen births at 3,397 births to women ages 15-19 for 2007.

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2005-2007)*

- The most current data on file: year 2007 for Oklahoma and year 2006 for the United States.
- 



# Births Among Females Ages 19 and Younger

- In 2007, Oklahoma females aged 19 and younger gave birth to 7,616 babies.
- This is almost 21 babies being born to Oklahoma teenagers every single day.
- Ninety-three females 14 years of age and younger gave birth in Oklahoma during 2007.
- Over two-thirds of teen births were to 18-19 year olds in 2007.

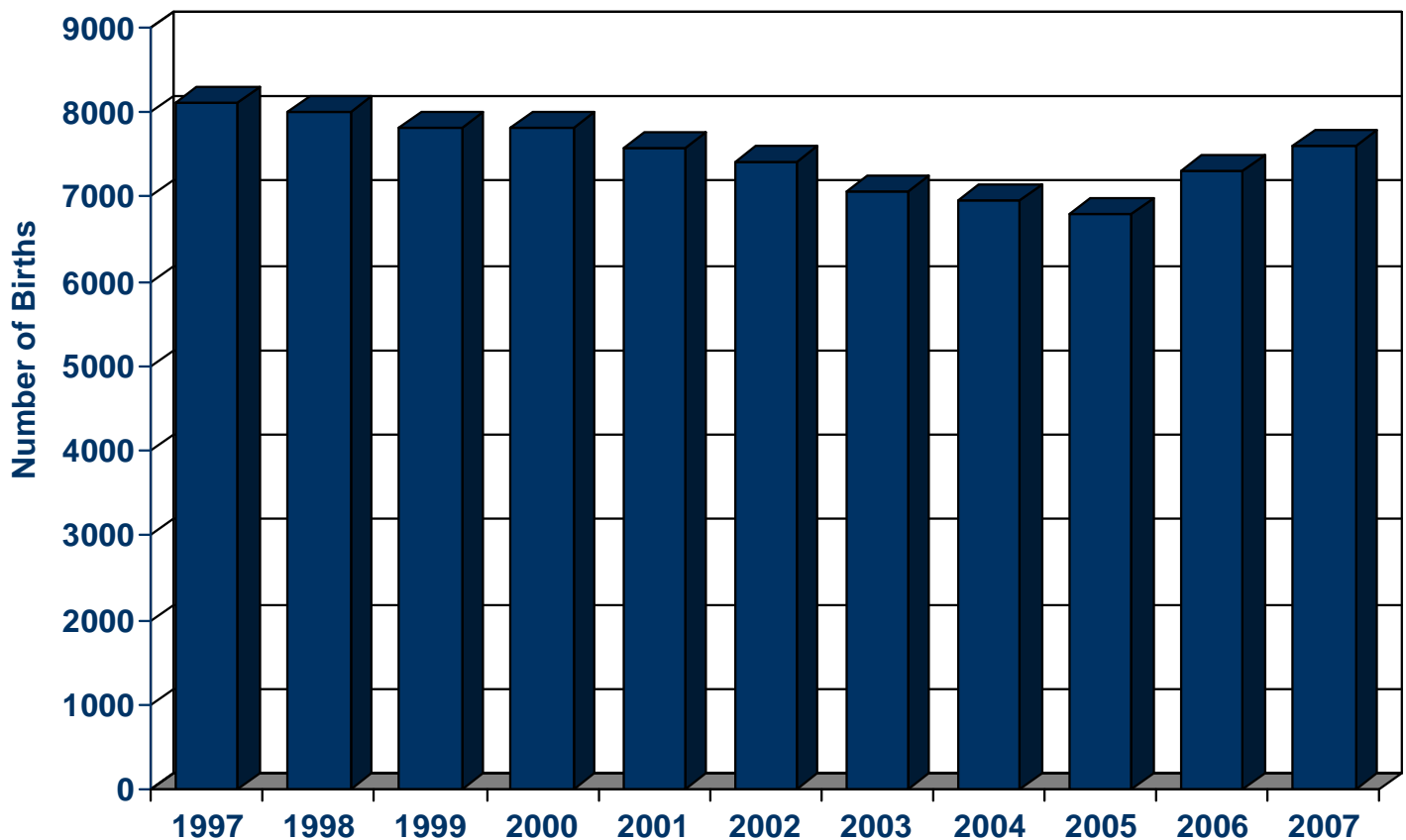
*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2007)*

- 54% of adolescent mothers were not using birth control at the time of conception.
  - Adolescents reported, “*I didn’t mind getting pregnant*” and “*My husband or partner didn’t want to use anything*” as the most common reasons for not using contraceptives.

*(Oklahoma PRAMS data, 2005-2006)*



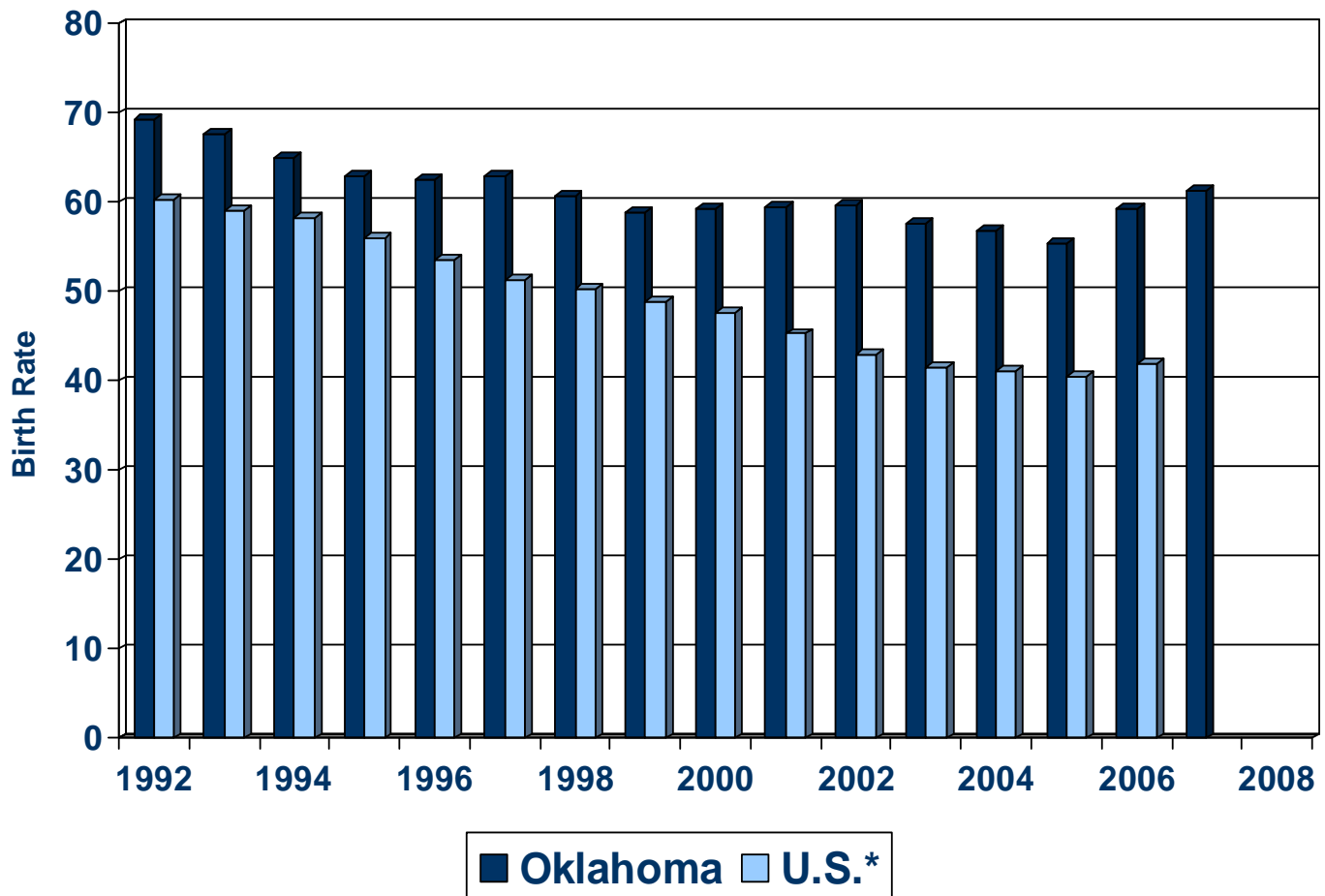
# Number of Actual Births to Mothers Ages 19 & Younger in Oklahoma, 1997-2007



- Of these 7,616 babies born in 2007:
  - 2,386 babies (31.3%) were born to adolescents 17 years of age and younger.
  - 5,230 babies (68.7%) were born to adolescents ages 18 to 19.

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 1997-2007)*

# Birth Rate per 1,000 Females Ages 15-19 Oklahoma vs. U.S. 1992-2007



- The Oklahoma teen birth rate for ages 15-17 stayed the same from 2006 to 2007.
- The Oklahoma teen birth rate for ages 18-19 increased by 4.7% from 2006 to 2007

*(National Vital Statistics System Interactive Table, 1992-2006)*

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 1992-2007)*

*\*National data not available for U.S. 2007.*



# Oklahoma Teen Birth Rate Trends

Oklahoma's teen birth rate  
(births to females ages 15-19)  
across the years compared to national rate:

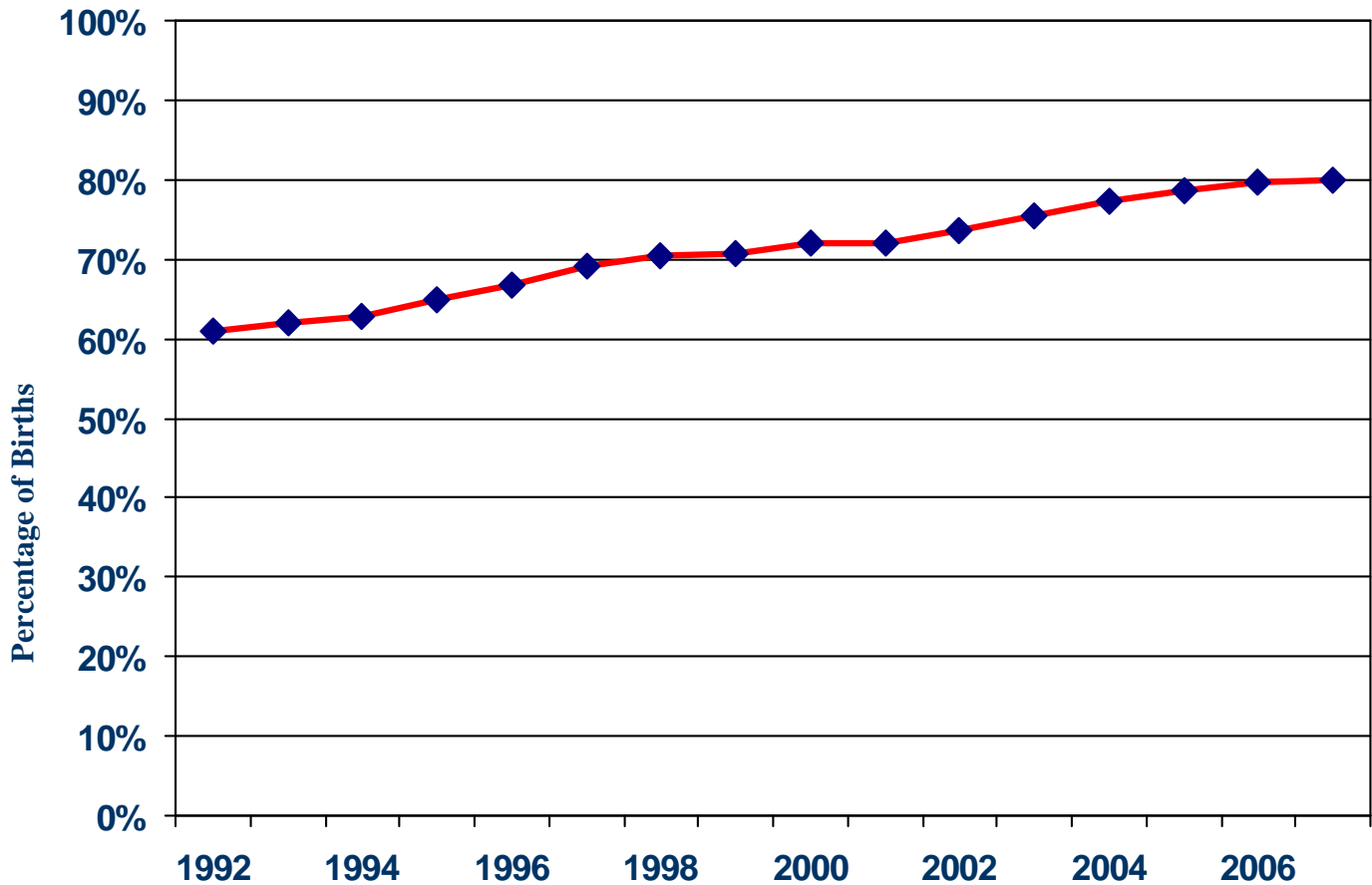
<u>Year</u>	<u>OK Rate</u>	<u>U.S. Rate</u>
1992	69.3	60.3
1993	67.7	59.0
1994	65.0	58.2
1995	63.0	56.0
1996	62.5	53.5
1997	63.0	51.3
1998	60.8	50.3
1999	58.8	48.8
2000	59.2	47.7
2001	59.4	45.3
2002	59.6	43.0
2003	57.6	41.6
2004	56.9	41.1
2005	55.3	40.5
2006	59.3	41.9
2007	61.3	*

*\*Data not final*

*(National Vital Statistics Report, 57 (7), 2009 & Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 1992-2007)*



# Percent of Births to Unmarried Teens Age 19 & Younger In Oklahoma, 1992-2007



- In 2007, 79.9% of births were to unmarried females aged 19 and younger. This percentage has more than doubled from 29.2% in 1976.
- Nationally, 84.2% of teen births in 2006 were to unmarried women (ages 15-19).

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 1992-2007)*

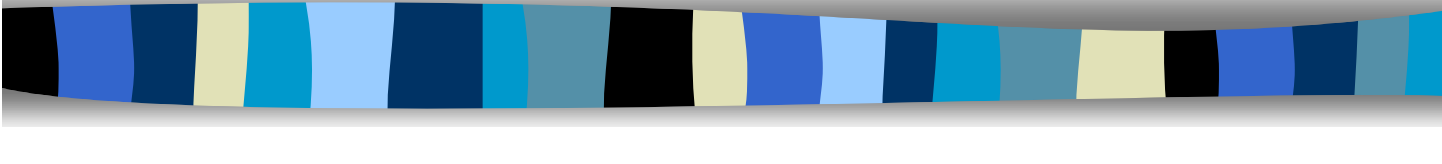
*(National Vital Statistics Report, 57 (7), 2009 & Oklahoma Vital Statistics)*



# Oklahoma Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

- The YRBS is a randomized health survey of Oklahoma high school students in grades 9-12 attending public schools.
- In 2007:
  - 52.5% of males and 49.3% of females had sexual intercourse.
  - 5.8% of students had sexual intercourse before 13 years of age.
  - Of those who have had sex, 16.6% had done so with 4 or more people.
  - Among those who had sex in the past three months, 59.6% of students reported using a condom as a method of protection.

*(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007)*

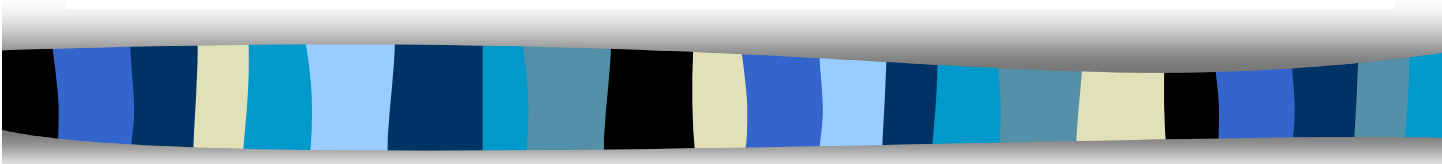
- National Healthy People 2010 identifies 21 critical objectives to improve the health of adolescents and young adults. One of these objectives is to increase the proportion of 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students who abstain from sexual intercourse or use condoms to 95%.
- 




# Sexual Abuse & Early Onset of Sexual Activity

- As many as two-thirds of teens who become pregnant were sexually and/or physically abused at some point in their lives.
- A substantial number (no fewer than one-fourth and as many as 50-80%) of adolescent mothers are in violent, abusive, or coercive relationships just before, during, and after their pregnancy.
- Involuntary sexual activity has been found for 74% of sexually active girls younger than 14 and 60% of those younger than 15.

*(Center for Assessment and Policy Development, National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention, October 2001)*





# Consequences of Early Childbearing

## Health and Financial Implications

- Young adolescents (particularly those under age 15) experience a maternal death rate 2.5 times greater than that of mothers aged 20-24.

*(National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2002)*

- Teen childbearing in the United States cost taxpayers (federal, state, and local) at least \$9.1 billion in 2004.

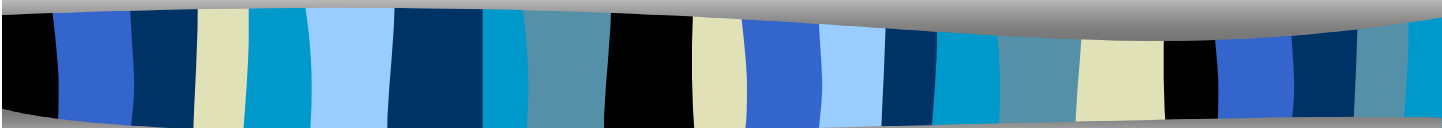
*(National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2006)*

## Repeat Births to Oklahoma Teens

- Year 2007 data shows that 21.9% of births to teens ages 19 and younger are repeat births.
- Of the repeat births to adolescent females:
  - 1,380 were giving birth to their second child.
  - 285 were giving birth to at least their third child.

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2007)*





# Consequences of Early Childbearing Cont.

According to The National Campaign to Prevent  
Teen Pregnancy's **By the Numbers:**  
**The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing in**  
**Oklahoma November 2006:**

## **Teen Mothers Are**

- More likely to drop out of school
- Remain unmarried
- Live in poverty

## **Children of Teenage Mothers Are**

- More likely to be born at a low birth weight
- Grow up in poverty
- Live in a single-parent household
- Experience abuse and neglect
- Enter the child welfare system
- Daughters of teen moms are more likely to become teen mothers themselves and sons are more likely to become incarcerated

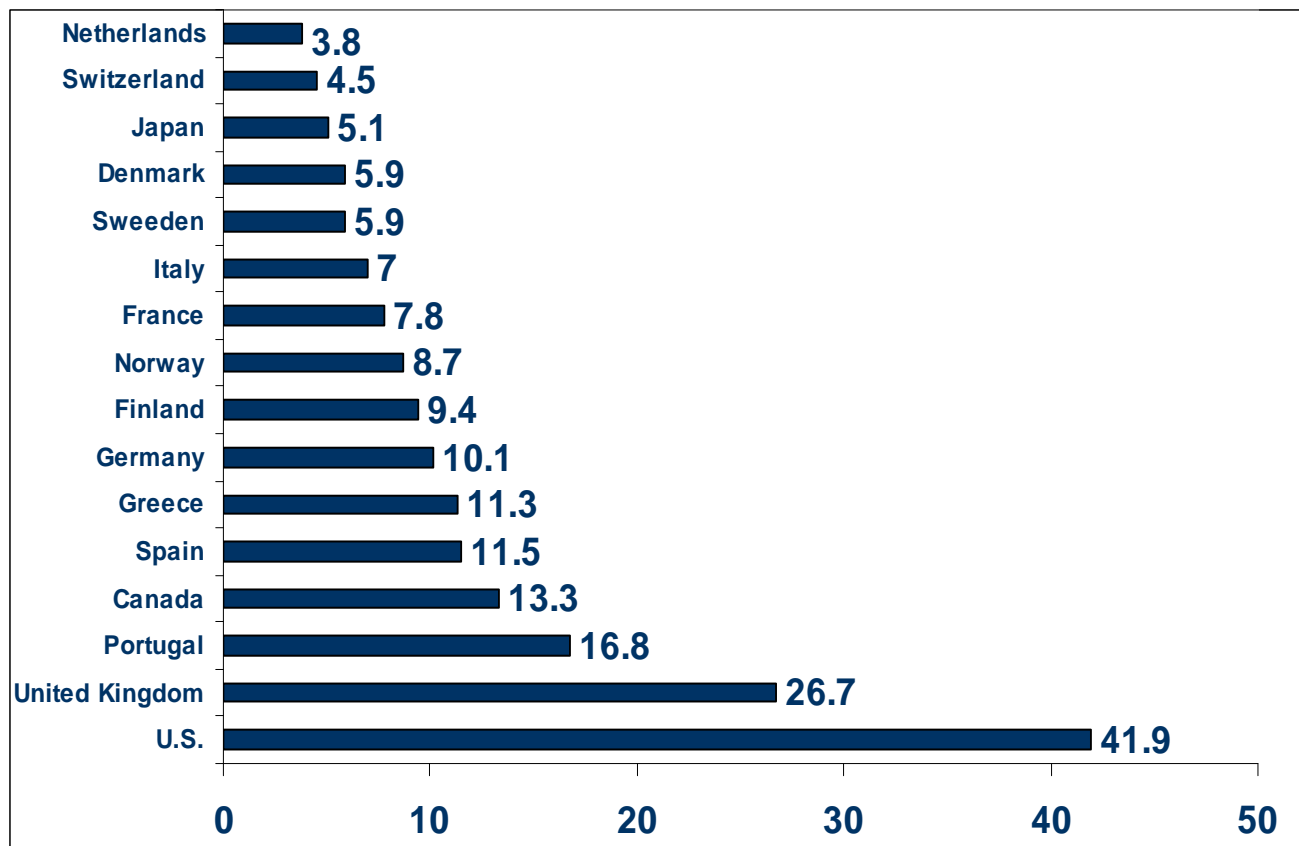
(<http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/costs/pdf/states/oklahoma/fact-sheet.pdf>)



# Comparing the U.S. Teen Pregnancy Rate (ages 15-19) to the Industrialized World

## The US rate is:

- One and a half times higher than the United Kingdom
- More than three times higher than Canada
- More than eight times higher than Japan
- Seven times higher than Denmark or Sweden



(National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2006)