Teen Pregnancy

Prevention

Facts about Oklahoma

September 2010

Adolescent Health

Maternal and Child Health Service
Child and Adolescent Health Division
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National Teen Pregnancy Statistics

- Three out of 10 girls become pregnant at least once before the age of 20.
  
  *(National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2006)*

- Half of all pregnancies in the United States are unplanned.

- More than 7 in 10 pregnancies among unmarried women are unplanned.

- After declining for 14 straight years, the teen birth rate has increased five percent since 2005.
  
  *(National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2008)*

- Nationally, each hour nearly 100 teen girls become pregnant and 55 give birth.
  
  *(National Vital Statistics Reports, 49(10), 2001)*

- The total number of live births to females under age 20 in the U.S. during 2006 was 435,436.
  
  *(National Vital Statistics Reports, 57(7), 2009)*
Oklahoma Teen Birth Statistics

In 2006, Oklahoma was ranked:

- 7th highest teen birth rate in the nation (ages 15-17).
- 6th highest teen birth rate in the nation (ages 15-19).

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

Oklahoma experienced its first teen birth rate increase in 15 years in 2006. The rate increase continued in 2007.

- In 2006, the birth rate for teens aged 15-19 in Oklahoma was 59.7 per 1,000 females aged 15-19.
- In 2007, the birth rate for teens aged 15-19 was 61.8 per 1,000 females aged 15-19.

*(Oklahoma Vital Statistics)*
Measures for Comparing Teen Births

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

**Live Births** count the number of live births to resident females of a specified age-group.
- Oklahoma in 2007:
  - Number of live births to all females: 54,946
  - Number of live births to females 19 & younger: 7,616
    - Ages 17 and younger: 2,386 or 4.3% of all births.
    - Ages 18-19: 5,230 or 9.5% of all births.

**Percentage of Teen Births** displays the proportion of teen births to all births.
- In 2006, 13.4% of all Oklahoma births were to females aged 15-19.
- In 2006, 10.2% of all U.S. births were to females aged 15-19.

**Teen Birth Rate** is 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 was 59.7 births per 1,000 females aged 15-19.
- In 2006, the U.S. birth rate for females aged 15-19 was 41.9 per 1,000 females aged 15-19.

Key Points in Reviewing These Data

Oklahoma data are based on Oklahoma Vital Statistics which counts **live births**, not **pregnancies**.

When evaluating the data, consider a county’s **teen birth rate** and the **number of live births** on the county maps to assess a county’s profile regarding teen births.

*Example*: A given county may have a high or low birth rate relative to other counties or the state average but may be based on a small number of births each year. Please interpret results such as these with caution as small numbers can lead to highly variable rates from year to year.
Births Among Females Ages 19 and Younger

- In 2007, Oklahoma females aged 19 and younger gave birth to 7,616 babies.

- This equates to 20 new babies being born to Oklahoma teenagers every single day.

- More than two-thirds of teen births were to 18-19 year-olds in 2007.

(Oklahoma Vital Statistics)

- Approximately 7 in 10 (71.7%) Oklahoma teen pregnancies that resulted in a live birth were unintended (mistimed or unwanted).
  - 57.5% of females under 20 were not using a contraceptive when they became pregnant.
  - The most common reason teens reported for NOT using contraceptives was “didn’t mind if I got pregnant” (33.3%).
  - 26.5% were TRYING to get pregnant.

(Oklahoma PRAMS 2007)
Number of Live Births to Mothers Aged 19 & Younger, Oklahoma, 1998-2007

Of the 7,616 babies born to teens in 2007:

- 2,386 babies (31.3%) were born to school-aged mothers 17 years of age and younger.
- 5,230 babies (68.7%) were born to teens aged 18-19.

(Oklahoma Vital Statistics)

- Oklahoma’s teen birth rate for females aged 15-17 did not change from 2006 to 2007.
- Oklahoma’s teen birth rate for females aged 18-19 increased 5.6% from 2006 to 2007.

Oklahoma Teen Birth Rate Trends

Oklahoma’s teen birth rate compared to the national rate over time:
(Rates are live births per 1,000 females aged 15-19)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>OK Rate</th>
<th>U.S. Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>59.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>61.8</td>
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<td>69.3</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>67.7</td>
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<td>1994</td>
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<td>41.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>61.7</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data not final
In 2007, 79.9% of teen births were to unmarried females aged 19 and younger. This is a significant increase from 29.2% in 1976.

Nationally, 84% of teen births in 2006 were to unmarried women (aged 15-19).

Oklahoma Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Random health survey of public high school students in Oklahoma (2009)

- 51.2% of males and 50.7% of females have had sexual intercourse.
- 4.7% of students had sexual intercourse before 13 years of age.
- Of those who have had sex, 17.7% had done so with 4 or more people.
- Among those who had sex in the past 3 months, 56.7% of students reported using a condom as a method of protection.

(Oklahoma Youth Risk Behavior Survey)

National Healthy People 2010 Objective: to increase the proportion of adolescents in grades 9-12 who abstain from sexual intercourse, or use condoms if currently sexually active, to 95%.
Sexual Abuse & Early Onset of Sexual Activity

- As many as **two-thirds of young women** who become **pregnant as adolescents** 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

- Repeat Births to Oklahoma Teens
  - In 2007, 21.9% of births to teens aged 19 and younger were repeat births.
    - 1,380 were giving birth to their second child.
    - 285 were giving birth to at least their third child.

- Ninety-three females 14 years of age and younger gave birth in Oklahoma during 2007.
  (Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2007)

- 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.

- In Oklahoma, the average annual cost associated with a child born to a mother 17 and younger is $3,807.
  (National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2006)
Implications of Early Childbearing

- Less than one-third of teens who give birth before age 18 ever complete high school.  
  *(National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2001)*

- In the past 25 years, the median income for college graduates has increased 13%, while the median income for high school dropouts has decreased 30%.  
  *(U.S. Census Bureau, 2000)*

- The U.S. still has the highest teen pregnancy rates and teen birth rates in the industrialized world.  
  - One and a half times higher than the United Kingdom  
  - More than 3 times higher than Canada  
  - More than 8 times higher than Japan  
  - 7 times higher than Denmark or Sweden  

- Rates of teen pregnancy in the United States are 2 to 6 times higher than those in most of Western Europe including France, Holland, Denmark, and Sweden.  
  *(By the Numbers, National Campaign 2006)*
Children of Adolescent Females

- Babies of adolescent females are more likely to be born prematurely (<37 weeks gestation) and 50% more likely to be low-birth weight (<2,500 grams).

- Daughters of adolescent females are 83% more likely themselves to become mothers before the age of 18.

- Sons of adolescent females are 2.7 times more likely to be incarcerated sometime during their lifetime.

- Children of adolescent females are 2 to 3 times more likely to run away from home.

- Children of adolescent females are more than twice as likely to be the victims of abuse and neglect.

(Kids Having Kids, the Robin Hood Foundation, 1996)
65 of Oklahoma’s 77 counties have teen birth rates higher than the 2006 national average of 41.9 per 1,000 females (ages 15-19).
Change in Oklahoma Teen Birth Rate By County


*Note: Increase or decrease does not indicate a statistically significant change.

Source: Oklahoma Vital Statistics
Oklahoma Teens Births By County


Note: For purposes of confidentiality no number will appear for counties with few than five births.

Source: Oklahoma Vital Statistics
2006 National Teen Birth Rate Rankings (Aged 15-19)

Oklahoma Ranked 6th Highest (Worst) in the Nation with a teen birth rate of 59.7 births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 in 2006.

Oklahoma’s birth rate of 59.7 was 42.5% higher than the national average of 41.9 births per 1,000 females aged 15-19.

Ranking was for all 50 states plus Washington, DC. #1 indicates the highest (worst) teen birth rate and #51 indicates the lowest (best) teen birth rate.

Oklahoma Teen Birth Rate By County

Number of births per 1,000 females aged 15-17. (2005 - 2007 average)

59 of Oklahoma’s 77 counties have teen birth rates higher than the national average of 22.0 births per 1,000 females (aged 15-17).
Change in Oklahoma Teen Birth Rate By County


*Note: Increase or decrease does not indicate a statistically significant change.

Source: Oklahoma Vital Statistics
Oklahoma Teens Births By County

Number of live births to females aged 15-17 (2005-2007)

Note: For purposes of confidentiality no number will appear for counties with few than five births.

Source: Oklahoma Vital Statistics
2006 National Teen Birth Rate Rankings (Ages 15-17)

Oklahoma Ranked 7th Highest (Worst) in the Nation with a teen birth rate of 30.4 births per 1,000 females aged 15-17 in 2006.

Oklahoma’s teen birth rate of 30.4 was 38.2% higher than the national average of 22.0 births per 1,000 females aged 15-17.