The National Campaign
to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

Fast Facts

Teen Childbearing in the United States, 2014 Birth Data

Since the early 1990s, the United States has made extraordinary progress in reducing teen pregnancy and birth rates. In 2014, the teen birth rate reached a new record low—the lowest level reported in more than six decades. This *Fast Facts* provides information on 2014 final birth data along with some trend information.

The Data

Overall

Between 2013 and 2014, the overall teen birth rate decreased 9% (from 26.5 per 1,000 to 24.2 per 1,000) and has fallen by 61% since peaking in 1991.[1]

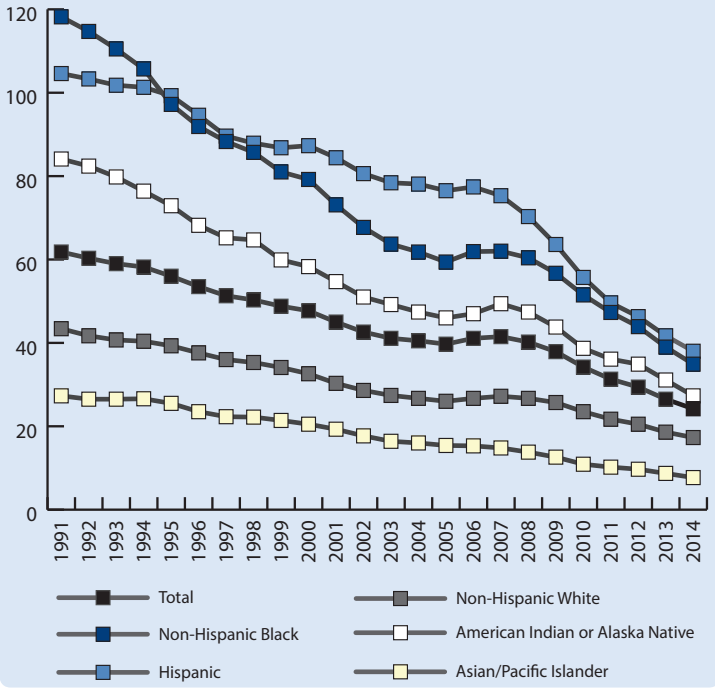
Despite recent fluctuations, the teen birth rate has decreased 42% between 2007 and 2014 alone. These trends generally held true for both older teens and younger teens. There have been decreases in the teen birth rate across all racial/ethnic groups, although the rates have declined more sharply in some groups compared to others (continue reading for more details).

By Race/Ethnicity

In 2014, the birth rates among Hispanic and non-Hispanic black teen girls age 15-19 were at least twice the birth rate among non-Hispanic white teen girls age 15-19, although the rates for Hispanic and non-Hispanic black teens have been falling more sharply and the gap is narrowing (Figure 1). [1]

- The teen birth rate was 17.3 per 1,000 among non-Hispanic white teen girls in 2014. Their birth rate has fallen by 7% since 2013 and by a full 60% since 1991.
- The teen birth rate was 34.9 per 1,000 among non-Hispanic black teen girls in 2014. Their birth rate has fallen by 11% since 2013 and by a full 70% since 1991.

FIGURE 1. Teen Birth Rate (Per 1,000 Girls Age 15-19) 1991-2014, by Race/Ethnicity



- The teen birth rate was 38.0 per 1,000 among Hispanic teen girls in 2014. Their birth rate has fallen by 9% since 2013 and by a full 64% since 1991.
- The teen birth rate was 27.3 per 1,000 among American Indian or Alaska Native teen girls in 2014. Their birth rate has fallen by 12% since 2013 and by a full 68% since 1991.
- The teen birth rate was 7.7 per 1,000 among Asian or Pacific Islander teen girls in 2014. Their birth rate has fallen by 11% since 2013 and by a full 72% since 1991.

By Age Group

In 2014, births to teens age 18-19 accounted for the majority of all teen births. In fact, 72% of all births to women under 20 were to teens age 18-19.[1]

- The teen birth rate for girls age 10-14 was 0.3 per 1,000 girls in 2014. There was no change between 2013 and 2014, and an overall decrease of 79% since 1991. There were 2,769 births to girls age 10-14 in 2014.
- The teen birth rate for girls age 15-17 was 10.9 per 1,000 girls in 2014. There was a decrease of 11% between 2013 and 2014, and an overall decrease of 72% since 1991. There were 66,791 births to girls age 15-17 in 2014.
- The teen birth rate for girls age 18-19 was 43.8 per 1,000 girls in 2014. There was a decrease of 7% between 2013 and 2014, and an overall decrease of 53% since 1991. There were 182,287 births to girls age 18-19 in 2014.

By Parity

- In 2014, most births to teens were first births. In fact, 83% of all births to teens were first births—15% were second births and the remainder were births to teens who had two or more previous births.[1]
- Most births to teens were first births regardless of race/ethnicity. However, relatively fewer births to non-Hispanic white teens were subsequent births (14%), while relatively more births to non-Hispanic black or Hispanic teens were subsequent births (19%).
- Among American Indian and Alaska Native teens, 18% of births were subsequent births, while 17% of births to Asian/Pacific Islander teens were subsequent births.
- Additional analyses that take account of a teen's experiences over time suggest that, among all teen mothers, 17% will have at least one more birth by the time they reach age 20.[2]

By Marital Status

- The vast majority of births to teens are to unmarried teens. In 2014, 89% of births to teens were to an unmarried mother.[1]

About the Data Sources

Teen birth statistics reported by The National Campaign are derived from published sources. Birth data are published by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). More information about NCHS birth data is available at: *http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/vitalstats/VitalStats_Births.htm.*

Sources:

1. Hamilton, B.E., Martin, J.A., Osterman, M.J.K., Curtin, S.C., & Matthews, T. J. (2015). Births: Final Data for 2014. *National Vital Statistics Reports*, 64(12), 1-64. Retrieved from*http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ data/nvsr/nvsr64/nvsr64_12.pdf*
2. Author tabulations based on data in Centers for Disease Control (CDC). (2014). Vital-Stats—Births [Data file]. Available from *http://www.cdc.gov nchs/vitalstats.html.*

TABLE 1. Teen Birth Rate (Per 1,000 Girls Age 15-19) 1991-2014, by Race/Ethnicity

Year	Total	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander
1991	61.8	43.4	118.2	104.6	84.1	27.3
1992	60.3	41.7	114.7	103.3	82.4	26.5
1993	59	40.7	110.5	101.8	79.8	26.5
1994	58.2	40.4	105.7	101.3	76.4	26.6
1995	56	39.3	97.2	99.3	72.9	25.5
1996	53.5	37.6	91.9	94.6	68.2	23.5
1997	51.3	36	88.3	89.6	65.2	22.3
1998	50.3	35.3	85.7	87.9	64.7	22.2
1999	48.8	34.1	81	86.8	59.9	21.4
2000	47.7	32.6	79.2	87.3	58.3	20.5
2001	45	30.3	73.1	84.4	54.7	19.3
2002	42.6	28.6	67.7	80.6	51	17.7
2003	41.1	27.4	63.7	78.4	49.2	16.4
2004	40.5	26.7	61.8	78.1	47.4	16
2005	39.7	26	59.4	76.5	46	15.4
2006	41.1	26.7	61.9	77.4	47	15.3
2007	41.5	27.2	62	75.3	49.4	14.8
2008	40.2	26.7	60.4	70.3	47.4	13.8
2009	37.9	25.7	56.7	63.6	43.8	12.6
2010	34.2	23.5	51.5	55.7	38.7	10.9
2011	31.3	21.7	47.3	49.6	36.1	10.2
2012	29.4	20.5	43.9	46.3	34.9	9.7
2013	26.5	18.6	39	41.7	31.1	8.7
2014	24.2	17.3	34.9	38	27.3	7.7