

# HELLO BEAUTIFUL

## Birthrate Among Black and Hispanic Teens Plummets Nearly 50 Percent

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The birthrate among American teenagers has fallen to an all-time low, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The most notable change is among Hispanic and Black teens, whose rates have dropped nearly 50% since 2006, *The Washington Post* reports.

This is a refreshing to hear after the crisis-level pregnancy rate that marked the 90s.

Researchers credit the decline to increased access to contraception and better forms of contraception, says WP.

Also teens, who are often regarded as being overly-hormone driven, are actually having less sex.

“There has been a change in social norms that has happened in the past 20 years, and the idea of not having sex or delaying sex is now something that can be okay,” said Bill Albert, chief program officer for the National Campaign To Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

The news source also credits the popularity of MTV’s *16 and Pregnant* for being a cautionary tale for would-be teen moms. Studies show teen births dropped 6% just 18 months following the show’s first air.

Other studies credit the internet for giving teens a new space to cultivate relationships, and the development of more effective sexual education classes.

Although the decline can be linked to various causes, one thing is for sure—this is a good thing for women of color.