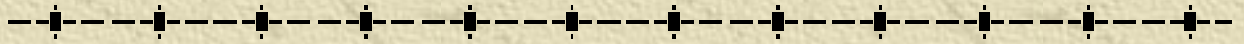


Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Facts About Oklahoma



2003



Oklahoma State Department of Health
Child and Adolescent Health Division

(405) 271-4471

Early Pregnancy Limits Opportunities

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- ✧ 7,572 babies were born to females under age 20 in Oklahoma during 2001.
 - ◆ 2,427 babies (32%) were born to school-age teens 17 years old and younger.
 - ◆ 5,145 babies (68%) were born to 18 and 19 year olds.

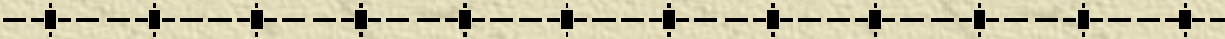
 - ✧ 105 females 14-years-old and younger gave birth in Oklahoma during 2001.

 - ✧ Oklahoma ranked 9th highest in the nation in teen birth rates to females age 15-19 in 2001. (*National Vital Statistics Reports*)

 - ✧ Eight to 12 years after birth, a child born to a teen who is unmarried and has dropped out of high school is 10 times more likely to be living in poverty than a child born to a mother having none of these characteristics. (*Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2002*).

 - ✧ Repeat teen mothers are three times more likely to report physical abuse from the husband or partner than adults. (*Oklahoma PRAMSGram, 1997*)

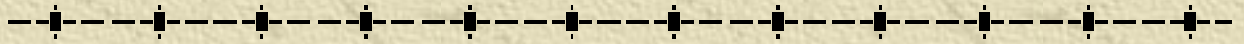
Key Points in Reviewing This Data

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- ✦ Oklahoma data are based on 2001 Oklahoma Vital Statistics which counts **births**, not **pregnancies**.
 - ✦ Since 1991, an 18.2% decrease in the birth rates (age 15-19) has been observed with the rate at 58.6 per 1,000 population in calendar year 2001 compared to 71.6 in 1991.
 - ✦ Approximately **two-thirds** of teen births are to 18-19 year olds.

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, Adair county has the highest three year average teen birth rate at 96.4 per 1,000 females age 15-19, which relates to 84 actual births in 2001. Compare this to Tulsa County with a lower three year average birth rate of 62.2 per 1,000 females age 15-19, but with a higher number of actual teen births at 1,222 births to women age 15-19 for 2001.)

Methods of Comparing Teen Births



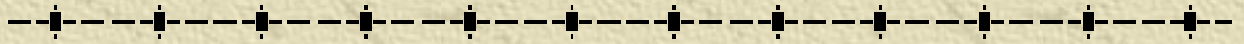
Teen births are commonly compared by three different methods, each giving different information:

- ✧ Actual Births counts the number of babies born to females of a specified age group.
 - ◆ Year 2001 total births for the Oklahoma school age population (age 17 and under) was 2,427.
 - ◆ Year 2001 total births for the Oklahoma young adult population (age 18 – 19) was 5,145.

- ✧ Percentage of Teen Births compares the proportion of teen births to all births.
 - ◆ In 2001, 15.1% of all Oklahoma births were to teens.
 - ◆ In 2001, 11.3% of all U.S. births were to teens.

- ✧ Teen Birth Rate compares the number of teen births per 1000 females of the same age group.
 - ◆ Oklahoma's teen birth rate for females age 15-19 per 1000 in the year 2001 was 58.6.
 - ◆ The U.S. birth rate for this same age group in the year 2001 was 45.8.

Teen Birth Statistics



U.S. Teen Birth Statistics:

- ✦ The total number of births to females under age 20 in the U.S. during 2001 was 453,725.
- ✦ The teen birth rate (ages 15-19) dropped by 27.1% from 1991 to 2001.
- ✦ 79% of teen births were to unmarried women (ages 15-19).
(*National Vital Statistics Report, 51(4), 2003*)

Oklahoma Teen Birth Statistics:

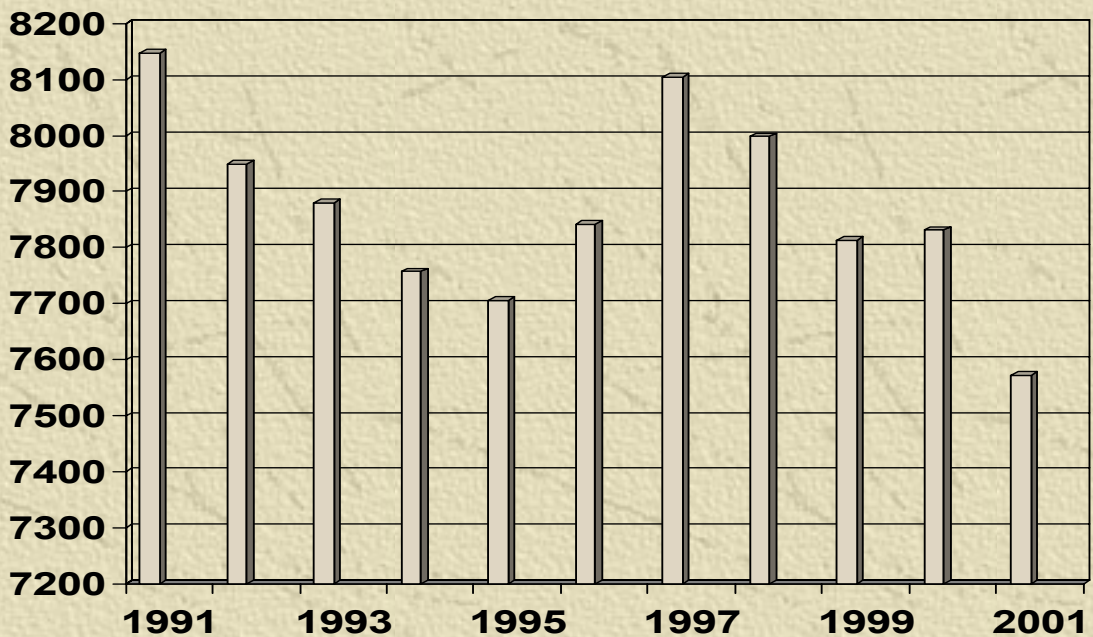
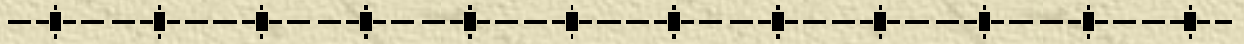
- ✦ Among teens (age 19 and under), the percentage of births to unmarried teens has more than doubled from 29% in 1975 to 72% in 2001.
- ✦ The teen birth rate (ages 15-19) dropped by 16.5% from 1991 to 2001.
- ✦ The teen birth rate (ages 15-17) dropped by 10.2% from 1991 to 2001.
(*Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2002*)

Repeat Births to Teens

- ✦ Year 2001 data show that 17% of births to teens age 19 and under are repeat births.
- ✦ Of the births to adolescent females age 15-19, where parity* is known, 1,458 were to moms who had a previous live birth.
- ✦ Of the repeat births to adolescent females:
 - ◆ 1,204 were giving birth to their second child.
 - ◆ 256 were giving birth to at least their third child.

*Previous Births

Number of Births to Mothers Under Age 20

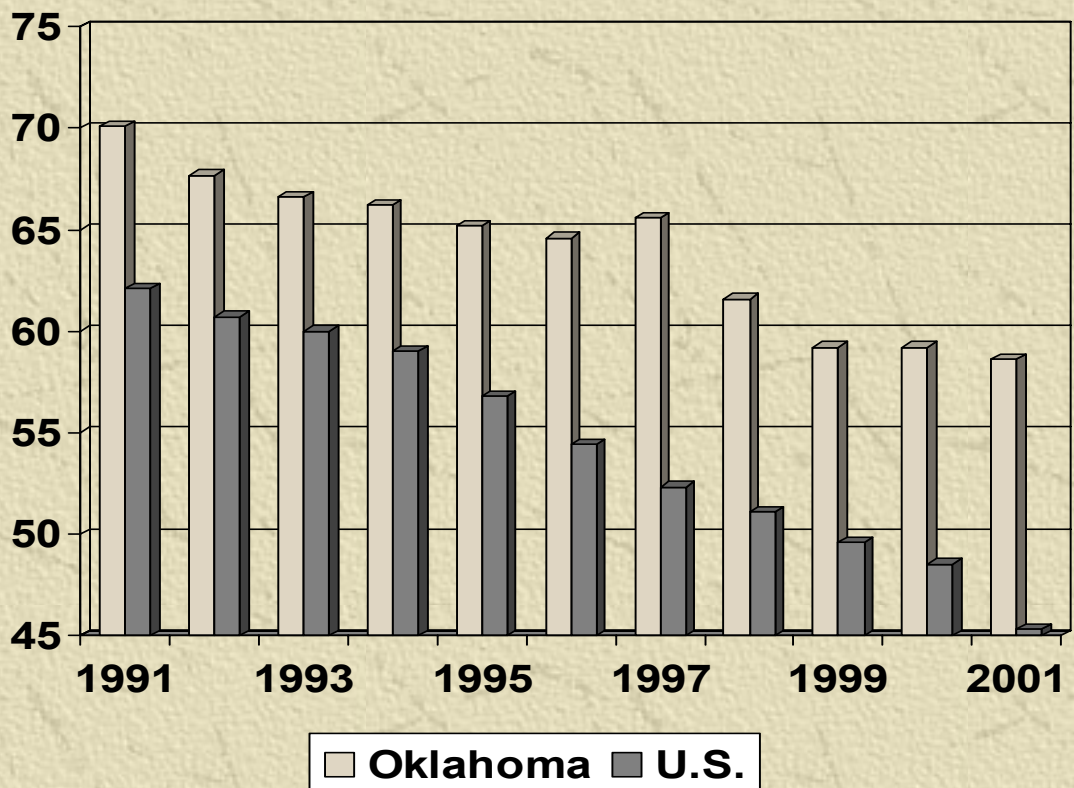
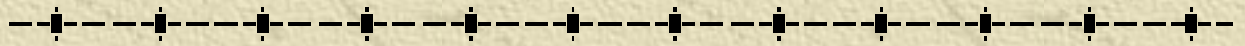


✦ There were 7,572 births to women under age 20 in Oklahoma during the year 2001.

- ◆ 72% were unmarried
- ◆ 17% were repeat births

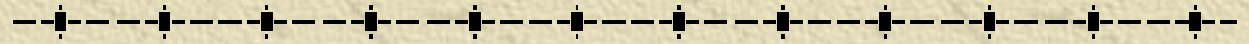
(Oklahoma Vital Statistics)

Number of Births per 1000 Females age 15-19



- ✦ Oklahoma is currently ranked 9th highest in the nation for the birth rate to females age 15-19. *(Year 2001 data)*
 - ✦ Oklahoma is currently ranked 12th highest in the nation for the birth rate to females age 15-17. *(Year 2001 data)*
- (Oklahoma Vital Statistics)

Consequences of Early Childbearing on Health and Education



National Health Issues

- ✦ 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*)
- ✦ The United States leads the fully industrialized world in teen pregnancy and birth rates – by a wide margin.
 - ◆ United States birth rates to teens are nearly double that of Great Britain, at least four times those of France and Germany, and more than 10 times that of Japan. (*Family Planning Perspectives, 32(1), 14-23, 2000*)
- ✦ Teen childbearing costs taxpayers at least \$7 billion each year in direct costs associated with health care, foster care, criminal justice, public assistance and lost tax revenues.
(Halfway There: A Prescription for Continued Progress in Preventing Teen Pregnancy, National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2001)
- ✦ Between 1995 and 2010, the number of girls aged 15-19 is projected to increase by 2.2 million. Thus, prevention efforts must be continually renewed and reinvented.
(Whatever Happened to Childhood? The Problem of Teen Pregnancy in the United States, National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 1997)

Educational Implications

- ✦ Less than four in ten teen mothers who began their families before age 18 ever complete high school. (*Urban Institute Press, Washington DC, 1997*)
- ✦ 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*)
- ✦ Fully half of teen mothers drop out of school *before* becoming pregnant. (*Journal of Research on Adolescence, 8(2), 187-220, 1998*)

Sexual Abuse and 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)*

Additional Teen Pregnancy Statistics

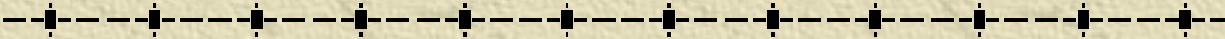
Nationally:

- ✦ Nearly eight in ten pregnancies among teens are not planned or intended. *(Henshaw, S.K., Special report: U.S. teenage pregnancy statistics with comparative statistics for women aged 20-24, 1999)*
- ✦ Many of the fathers of children born to teen mothers are older; almost half of young men who impregnate a minor teen (under age 18) are three or more years older. *(Family Planning Perspectives, 31(4), 160-167, 1999)*
- ✦ Nationally, each hour nearly 100 teen girls become pregnant and 55 give birth. *(National Vital Statistics Reports, 49(10), 2001)*
- ✦ Cost benefit analysis suggests that the federal government could spend up to eight times more than is currently being spent on teen pregnancy prevention and still break even. *(Sawhill, I.V. (2001) What can be done to reduce teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock births? Brookings Policy Brief, 8.)*

In Oklahoma:

- ✦ Comparing the birth rates to females age 15-17 (number of births per 1000) for two three-year averages (1998-2000 vs. 1999-2001), the state of Oklahoma reduced its birth rate to this age group by 4.8%.
- ✦ For this same age group for the same time period, those counties which receive state funding for teen pregnancy prevention have reduced their rates by an average of 6.2%
(Oklahoma Vital Statistics, 2002)
- ✦ Although the state's birth rates are at historical lows, our national ranking is increasing because the majority of other states are decreasing their rates more quickly.
(National Center for Health Statistics, 2001)

Children of Adolescent Females

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- ✦ Children of adolescent females are more likely to be born prematurely and 50% more likely to be low-birthweight babies. Inadequate prenatal and medical care – not biological immaturity – is the reason for the below average health of children born to most adolescent females.
 - ✦ Daughters of adolescent females are 83% more likely themselves to become mothers before age 18.
 - ✦ Sons of adolescent females are 2.7 times more likely to be incarcerated sometime during their lifetime than sons of mothers who delayed childbearing until their early twenties.
 - ✦ Children of adolescent females are two to three times more likely to run away from home than are their counterparts born to mothers in their 20's.
 - ✦ Children of adolescent females are more than twice as likely to be the victims of abuse and neglect than are the offspring of 20-21 year old moms.

(All information on this page from Kids Having Kids, the Robin Hood Foundation, 1996)