Maternal and Child Health

Teen pregnancy and birth

Teen pregnancies and births are linked to poverty, income disparity, high school dropout, access to care, and overall child and family well-being.

In Oregon, the teen pregnancy rate among females age 15 to 17 years continues to decline, from 32.1 per 1,000 in 2001 to 12.4 per 1,000 in 2014 (Figure 1). Similarly, the teen birth rate declined from 20.6 per 1,000 in 2001 to 8.5 per 1,000 in 2014.

While decreases continue to be observed across all racial and ethnic categories, disparities still exist (Figure 2). Hispanic teens continue to experience the highest pregnancy rate (25.8 per 1,000) followed by African American teens (22.4 per
1,000), and American Indian/Alaska Native teens (20.2 per 1,000). Hispanic teens also experienced the highest birth rate (22.2 per 1,000).

**Additional Resources:** Oregon Vital Statistics; Office of Equity and Inclusion

**About the Data:** Data sources for births and induced terminations are Oregon Birth Certificate Data and Induced Termination of Pregnancy Database, respectively. Population estimates used in calculating rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). Pregnancy rates are calculated by combining the numbers of live births and induced terminations in females aged 15-17 years. Teen birth rates count live births only.

**For More Information Contact:** LaShanda Eller, lashanda.n.eller@state.or.us

**Date Updated:** August 15, 2016

Oregon State Health Profile