**Maternal and Child Health**

**Teen pregnancy and birth**

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

The teen pregnancy rate continues to decline, down from 17.1 per 1,000 females in 2011 to 15.6 per 1,000 females in 2012.

![FIGURE 1]

**Teen pregnancy (age 15–17 years), Oregon, 2001–2012**

Source: Oregon Birth Certificate Data; Induced Termination of Pregnancy Database

While decreases continue to be observed across all racial and ethnic categories, disparities still exist. Hispanic females continue to experience the highest teen pregnancy rate (29.3), followed by non-Hispanic African American females (28.6), and non-Hispanic American Indian females (23.5).

This pattern is observed in the teen birth rate as well. The overall rate declined from 11.9 per 1,000 females in 2011 to 11.1 per 1,000 females in 2012. Hispanic females experienced the highest birth rate (24.9) followed by non-Hispanic Pacific Islanders (20.5), and non-Hispanic American Indians (19.4).
Teen pregnancy and birth remain key social determinants of health for African American and Hispanic/Latino teen females.

**Additional Resources:** [Oregon Vital Statistics](#); [Oregon Racial and Ethnic Data](#)

**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

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