

Teen Birth and Pregnancy Rates

8/7/2000

Births Per 1,000 Teens (15-19)	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	% change 1991- 1999	% change 1994- 1999	% change 1998- 1999
All teens	62.1	60.7	59.6	58.9	56.8	54.4	52.3	51.1	49.6	-20.1%	-15.8%	-2.9%
Hispanic teens	106.7	107.1	106.8	107.7	106.7	101.8	97.4	93.6	93.1	-12.7%	-13.6%	-0.5%
Black teens	118.9	116.0	112.2	107.7	99.3	94.2	90.8	85.4	81.1	-29.8%	-24.7%	-5.0%
White Teens	43.4	41.7	40.7	40.4	39.3	37.6	36.0	35.2	34.1	-21.4%	-15.6%	-3.1%
American Indian	85.0	84.4	83.1	80.8	78.0	73.9	71.8	72.1	67.7	-20.4%	-16.2%	-6.1%
Asian /Pacific Islander	27.4	26.6	27.0	27.1	26.1	24.6	23.7	23.1	22.6	-17.5%	-16.6%	-2.2%

Source: "Births: Preliminary Data for 1999," National Vital Statistics Reports, August 8, 2000, NCHS, CDC.

Pregnancy Per 1,000 Teens (15-19)	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	% change 1991-1996	% change 1994-1996	% change 1995-1996
All teens	116.5	112.8	110.4	107.6	102.7	98.7	-15.3%	-8.3%	-3.9%
Hispanic teens	164.6	167.8	166.1	167.2	162.8	157.1	-4.6%	-6.1%	-3.5%
Black teens	221.7	217.3	211.7	201.2	184.4	177.8	-4.6%	-11.6%	-3.6%
White teens	84.7	79.3	76.9	74.5	71.6	68.1	-19.6%	-8.6%	-4.9%

Source: "Trends in Pregnancies and Pregnancy Rates by Outcomes," Vital Health and Statistics Reports, February 2000, NCHS, CDC.

Note that there is a lag in reporting pregnancy data because it combines birthrate, abortion and miscarriage data. Pregnancy data for unmarried women is not available for specific age groups.

Number and Percent of Births to Unmarried Teens (15-19)	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	% change 1991- 1999	% change 1994- 1999	% change 1998- 1999
Number (thousands)	357.5	353.9	357.4	381.5	375.7	373.3	376.1	380.9	373.8	+4.6%	-2.0%	-1.9%
Percent of teen births to unmarried teens	68.8%	70.0%	71.3%	75.5%	75.2%	75.9%	78.2%	78.6%	78.6%	+9.8 pctg. pts	+3.1 pctg. pts	No change

Source: "Births: Preliminary Data for 1999," National Vital Statistics Reports, August 8, 2000, NCHS, CDC. "Births: Final Data for 1998," National Vital Statistics Reports, March 28, 2000, NCHS, CDC.

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Births Per 1,000 Teens (15-19) by Race/Ethnicity	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	% change 1991- 1998	% change 1994- 1998	% change 1998- 1999
Unmarried teens	44.8	44.6	44.5	46.4	44.4	42.9	42.2	41.5	N/A	-7.4%	-10.6%	-1.7%
Hispanic unmarried teens	72.4	72.9	74.6	82.6	78.7	74.5	75.2	73.9	N/A	+2.1%	-10.5%	-1.7%
Black unmarried teens	108.5	105.9	102.4	100.9	92.8	89.2	86.4	83.4	N/A	-23.1%	-17.4%	-3.5%
White unmarried teens	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.1	27.7	27.0	25.9	25.7	N/A	N/A	-8.6%	-0.8%

Source: "Births: Final Data for 1998," National Vital Statistics Reports, March 28, 2000, NCHS, CDC.

N/A: Until 1994, data on non-Hispanic white unmarried teens was available only during the decennial census; also birth rates for unmarried teenagers for 1999 are not yet available.

Highlights of trends:

- Teen birth and pregnancy rates for all groups of teens have continued a steady decline since 1991 and have reached historic lows. The birth rate for 15-19 year olds is now the lowest it has been since we began collecting data on teen births 60 years ago.
- Teen birth rates declined more quickly from 1998-1999 than from 1997-1998, showing that the rate of improvement in teen birth rates is not slowing despite prolonged declines.
- The largest declines in teen birth rates since 1991 occurred among black teens. The second largest declines were seen among American Indian teens, who had the largest decrease (6%) in the past year.
- Teen pregnancies are at a record low, declining for all groups (though at a bit slower rate for Hispanic girls) according to our most recent data (1996). Data released by CDC's in Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report (7/14/00) found that this decline continued in 1997 (see endnote below).
- The *absolute number* of births to unmarried teens has increased from 1991, but decreased about 2 percent from 1998 to 1999.
- The *percentage* of all teen births to unmarried teens has risen over the 1990s by almost 10%, driven by a faster decline in married teen births than in unmarried teen births.
- The *rate* of births per 1,000 unmarried teens has declined by more than 7% during the same period.
- Among unmarried teens, the birth rate remains highest for black teens as of 1998.

ⁱ Note: This chart does not include the recently released data from CDC's July 14, 2000 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) including teen pregnancy rates for 1997; because the MMWR report used a different methodology to calculate teen pregnancy, this data is not comparable with the data put out by NCHS. However, this data does indicate that there was a decline of 7.8 percent in pregnancy rates for teen 15-19 from 1995 to 1997.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: Jack Lew
Director, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Bruce Reed
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy & Director, DPC

DATE: August 10, 2000

SUBJECT: Presidential Memorandum on Second Chance Homes

We would like to include the attached Presidential Memorandum directing HHS and HUD to help communities establish more "second chance homes". These homes are supportive, adult-supervised living arrangements for teen parents who cannot live with their own parents or other relatives, and provide parenting skills, job counseling, education, and other referrals to help reduce repeat pregnancies and improve the prospects for young mothers and their children. The President will direct the two departments to issue guidance to communities; provide technical assistance; and use all existing authorities to make unutilized, foreclosed, or surplus properties available at the maximum discount to organizations wishing to establish "second chance homes".

This Executive Memorandum is intended to be released in conjunction with the President's August 12th radio address where he will highlight the historic progress the nation is making on reducing teen births. Therefore, we are requesting the assistance of your staff in expediting clearance with the affected agencies. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

CC: Bob Damus, OMB General Counsel

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: SECOND CHANCE HOMES FOR TEEN PARENTS

My Administration has made it a key priority to promote personal responsibility, prevent teenage pregnancy and births, and provide young people with the educational and employment opportunities to break the cycle of dependency. We know the devastating effects on young people when they become parents too soon – nearly 80 percent of single teen mothers end up on welfare and only one-third receive a high school diploma or GED. Worse, we know the impact that this has on their children, who are 50 percent more likely to have low birth weights, need 20 percent more health care and are at greater risk of abuse and neglect. Moreover, girls of teen mothers are a third more likely to become teen moms themselves and boys are nearly 3 times more likely to be incarcerated than sons of mothers who delayed child bearing. [HHS SHOULD UPDATE/VERIFY]

Under my Administration, I have taken bold steps to promote responsibility and prevent teen pregnancy by taking executive action to require young mothers to stay in school or lose welfare payments, enacting welfare reform in 1996, cracking down on child support enforcement, and launching a National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. We know that these efforts are having an impact: teen birth rates have dropped for the eighth year in a row, falling by 20 percent since their most recent peak in 1991 to the lowest levels since we began collecting this data sixty years ago. But we also know that there are still far too many children having children and we must do more.

To build on this progress and reach out to teen mothers at risk of a repeat pregnancy, my Fiscal Year 2001 budget includes a provision to invest \$25 million in the creation and expansion of “second chance homes.” It is critical that we help teen parents who cannot live with their own parents or other relatives gain access to supportive, adult-supervised living arrangements – second chance homes – that offer parenting skills (including the involvement of fathers, where appropriate), job counseling, education and other referrals to help reduce repeat pregnancies and improve the prospects for young mothers and their children. A preliminary evaluation of the second chance homes program in Massachusetts, called the Teen Living Program, has demonstrated that second chance homes can be effective in dramatically reducing the number of repeat pregnancies, with only 2 percent of participants becoming pregnant again while in a second chance home and 28 percent after leaving, compared to 50 percent of teen mothers overall. Moreover, mothers served by second chance homes were more likely to become self-sufficient, complete high school and to keep their children’s immunizations up to date. We must do all that we can to help improve the prospects for teen parents and their children.

Therefore, I direct the Secretaries of Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development to work together to implement the following actions:

- (1) Within 60 days, issue guidance to nonprofits (both faith-based and other community-based organizations) and State and local governments to create awareness about the second chance home model, educate States about their

responsibility to provide access to adult-supervised living arrangements for minor parents who cannot live at home, provide best practices concerning program design, and provide user-friendly information about existing funding sources for both facilities and services costs, for the creation or expansion of second chance homes;

- (2) Create a joint technical assistance effort to help communities interested in establishing or expanding second chance homes;
- (3) Use all available legal authority to provide organizations interested in establishing second chance homes access to foreclosed, underutilized, and excess real estate or facilities at the maximum allowable discount. HUD should also explore opportunities to increase the availability of Supportive Housing Grants to second chance homes for teen parents; and [HUD TO CLARIFY]
- (4) Clarify that teen parents in second chance homes who meet HUD's income and other qualifying criteria are eligible for low-income housing assistance and that second chance home operators receiving other federal assistance are expected to accept voucher holders. [HUD TO VERIFY]

The swift and collaborative implementation of these actions is vital to achieving our goal of helping teen parents take responsibility for their lives and their children's futures.

Texas Issue — check on it] 62852 650-750 words]

Gore hasn't officially endorsed on the campaign trail

Lieberman has been supportive —

MoCs → Moynihan —
Conrad —

House members — No one in particular
need to double check

12:10pm Map Room — No guests Friday

New stats — Report

Bring nation together — directive to agencies — guidance —

Also use as a budget call → no one has opposed but also no one
has "rolled up their sleeves" to get it done —

↓ don't use same language as SOTU using \$ from SS block grant
↓ can also call on congress to pass fatherhood initiative —

→ call for not only bipartisan support but bipartisan action.

difference b/w talking about it & doing/acting.

* States can use their TANF funds — run into the TANF surplus —

Have

HWD/HHS — need to know → Andrea will notify

want to get something to the president tonight —

Andrea Kane

10/09/2000 1:30 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Loretta M. Ucelli/WHO/EOP@EOP, Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc: Christopher C. Jennings/OPD/EOP@EOP, Julie T. Bosland/OPD/EOP@EOP, Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP
Subject: Teen Births

Loretta, per your request and my conversation w/ Bruce, here are some of the points we could make in a radio address (we're continuing to refine and tighten):

In his radio address, the President could highlight the historic progress we've made in reducing teen birth rates, take executive action to help more communities establish "second chance homes" for teen parents, and press Congress to enact our budget initiatives for second chance homes and responsible fatherhood.

New data released by CDC on Tuesday shows that teen birth rates have reached their lowest level since record keeping began 60 years ago, with improvements for young and older teen, married and unmarried teens, all states, and all racial and ethnic groups. This encouraging news reflects the commitment of the Clinton-Gore Administration, working in partnership with states, communities, families, religious leaders, media and teens themselves to promote innovative teen pregnancy prevention strategies. This encouraging news highlights the success of this Administration's efforts to promote work and responsibility, but we still have more to do – there are still nearly 500,000 babies born to teen parents each year.

The President could also transmit the 3rd annual report to Congress on our National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy – the report details the progress we've made, outlines a wide range of strategies the Administration is implementing, and documents that HHS is now directly funding teen pregnancy initiatives in at least 35% of communities (this shows the Administration has exceeded the goal set in the 1996 welfare reform law of ensuring at least 25 percent of communities have teenage pregnancy prevention programs in place).

In addition, the President could push for the expansion of supportive, adult-supervised living arrangements, often called "second chance homes," where young parents and their children who cannot live at home can receive parenting skills, job counseling, education and other referrals to help reduce repeat births and improve the prospects for young mothers and their children. President Clinton could take executive action to direct the Departments of Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development to provide guidance to communities on how to create more of these programs, while calling on Congress to enact his budget proposal to provide \$25 million to support second chance homes.

He could highlight the Administration's ongoing efforts to promote responsible fatherhood,

with strong leadership provided by Vice President Gore, and ask Congress to act on proposals in his FY 2001 budget, including improvements to the child support program to provide more money to families and \$255 million for Fathers Work/Families Win grants to help low-income fathers and working families support their children.

Finally, the President could focus on responsible parenting, noting positive findings concerning the steady increase of the percentage of women receiving prenatal care – up 10 % over the 1990s – and impressive gains in childhood immunizations [need info].

This Administration has not only sent a clear message to teens to delay parenting by enacting welfare reform in 1996, taking executive action to require young mothers to stay in school or lose welfare payments, cracking down on child support enforcement, and launching a National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, but has also provided more appealing alternatives for young people through education and training, community service, after-school opportunities and record job.

Also, here's 10/96 radio address I mentioned:



teenradioaddress100496.

And, here's statement from yesterday:



Teen birth statement0808.fina

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: SECOND CHANCE HOMES FOR TEEN PARENTS

My Administration has made it a key priority to promote personal responsibility, prevent teenage pregnancy and births, and provide young people with the educational and employment opportunities to break the cycle of dependency. We know the devastating effects on young people when they become parents too soon – nearly 80 percent of single teen mothers end up on welfare and only one-third receive a high school diploma or GED. Worse, we know the impact that this has on their children, who are 40 percent more likely to have low birth weights, need 20 percent more health care and are at greater risk of abuse and neglect. Moreover, girls of teen mothers are a third more likely to become teen moms themselves and boys are nearly 3 times more likely to be incarcerated than sons of mothers who delayed child bearing.

Under my Administration, I have taken bold steps to promote responsibility and prevent teen pregnancy by taking executive action to require young mothers to stay in school or lose welfare payments, enacting welfare reform in 1996, strengthening child support enforcement, and launching a National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. We know that these efforts are having an impact: teen birth rates have dropped for the eighth year in a row, falling by 20 percent since their most recent peak in 1991 to the lowest levels since we began collecting these data sixty years ago. But we also know that there are still far too many children having children and we must do more.

To build on this progress and reach out to teen mothers at risk of a repeat pregnancy, my Fiscal Year 2001 budget includes a provision to invest \$25 million in the creation and expansion of “second chance homes.” It is critical that we help teen parents who cannot live with their own parents or other relatives gain access to supportive, adult-supervised living arrangements – second chance homes – that offer parenting skills, job counseling, education and other referrals to help reduce repeat pregnancies and improve the prospects for young mothers and their children. Where appropriate, these programs also reach out to involve young fathers in responsible parenting, and to help reconnect teens with their own parents. An early evaluation of the second chance homes program in Massachusetts has demonstrated that second chance homes can reduce the number of repeat pregnancies. Moreover, this study showed that mothers served by second chance homes were more likely to become self-sufficient, complete high school and to keep their children’s immunizations up to date. With approximately 100,000 repeat pregnancies each year, we must do all that we can to help improve the prospects for teen parents and their children.

Therefore, I direct the Secretaries of Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development to work together to implement the following actions:

- (1) Within 60 days, issue guidance to nonprofits (both faith-based and other community-based organizations) and state and local governments to create awareness about the second chance home model, highlight states’ responsibility to provide access to adult-supervised living arrangements for minor parents who cannot live at home, provide best practices concerning program design, and

provide user-friendly information about existing funding sources for both facilities and services costs, for the creation or expansion of second chance homes;

- (2) Create a joint technical assistance effort to help communities interested in establishing or expanding second chance homes;
- (3) Use all available legal authority to provide organizations interested in establishing second chance homes access to foreclosed, underutilized, and surplus real estate or facilities at the maximum allowable discount. HUD should also explore opportunities to increase the availability of Supportive Housing Program funds to second chance homes for teen parents; and
- (4) Clarify that teen parents in second chance homes may be eligible for low-income housing vouchers and encourage second chance home operators to accept housing voucher holders into their programs.

The swift and collaborative implementation of these actions is vital to achieving our goal of helping teen parents take responsibility for their lives and their children's futures.

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, August 8, 2000

CDC/NCHS Press Office
(301) 458-4800

New CDC Birth Report Shows Teen Birth Rates Continue to Drop Report Also Covers Key Aspects of Maternal and Infant Health

The birth rate for teenagers declined 3 percent between 1998 and 1999, to reach a rate of 49.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15-19 –the lowest rate in the 60 years data on teen births have been recorded. The teen birth rate is down 20 percent from the most recent high in 1991, according to a new report from CDC's National Center for Health Statistics.

The preliminary report also found a drop in the number of births to unmarried teens, record high levels of women receiving early prenatal care, a rise in the cesarean delivery rate, and no improvement in the percent of infants born at low birthweight. The report presents data for the nation as well as key indicators by state.

During the 1990s, teen birth rates declined among white, black, American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander and Hispanic women aged 15-19, with the largest decline a 30-percent drop among black teens. Hispanic teens reported the smallest decline of 13 percent. Between 1998 and 1999, the sharpest decline (6 percent) was for American Indian teenagers followed closely by a 5 percent drop for black teens.

"In the last few years, we've made remarkable progress in reducing the teen birth rate," said HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala. "Parents, local communities, government and teens themselves have all been part of writing this success story. Everyone benefits when teens postpone pregnancy until they are ready to assume the responsibility and appreciate the wonder of raising children," she said.

The drop in teen births was more pronounced among young teens ages 15-17, who registered a decline of 6 percent between 1998 and 1999. In addition, the number of births for the youngest teenage group, ages 10-14, dropped by 4 percent to the lowest level in 30 years.

The total number of births in the United States rose again in 1999 to about 3,958,000 and the fertility rate for women aged 15-44 also increased slightly. Birth rates for women aged 20-24 declined slightly between 1998 and 1999 while the rate for women aged 25-29 was up slightly. Birth rates for women in their thirties and forties continued to increase, with rates for women in their thirties the highest in three decades.

The report also shows that prenatal care continues to improve, with a slight increase in the percent of women who received early prenatal care, up from 82.8 percent in 1998 to 83.2 percent in 1999. This measure of prenatal care has shown steady progress during the 1990s, rising 10 percent since 1989. The increase in early prenatal care was most notable for black women and Hispanic women, with an increase of approximately 25 percent over the past decade.

"Prenatal care – the earlier, the better – means healthier mothers and babies," said CDC Director Dr. Jeffrey Koplan. "In prenatal visits, women and their health care providers can focus on the healthy habits and preventive services that are so important to mothers and infants," he said.

The percent of infants born at low birth weight (7.6 percent) in 1999 was unchanged from the previous year. There has been a gradual upward trend in the percent of infants born at low birth weight since the mid-1980s.

The birth rate for unmarried women in 1999 was 1 percent lower than the previous year; however, the number of births to unmarried women was up about 1 percent due to the continued increase in the number of unmarried women of childbearing age. The number of births to unmarried teenagers was 2 percent lower in 1999 than in 1998.

The annual report, which also covers trends in health issues related to births, shows that cesarean delivery rates were up for the third year in a row in 1999, reversing a steady decline between 1989 and 1995. The rate of cesarean delivery increased by 4 percent from 1998 and 1999, up from 21.2 per 100 live births in 1998 to a 1999 rate of 22.0, continuing increases first noted in 1997.

The rise in the total cesarean rate was primarily fueled by an increase in cesareans to women who had not previously had one - up 4 percent between 1998 and 1999. Another factor contributing to the rise in the total cesarean rate was the marked decline in the rate of VBAC (vaginal birth after cesarean), down 11 percent in the last year and 17 percent since 1996. The rise in the total cesarean rate was widespread - increases were observed among women of all ages and races and in 45 of the 50 states. However, the preliminary report does not include data on maternal risk factors - which will be available later in the final data for 1999 - to fully evaluate the factors involved in the increase.

ABirths: Preliminary Data for 1999^a is based on birth records filed in state vital statistics offices and reported to CDC through the National Vital Statistics System. The report is available to view or download on the CDC/NCHS website at

www.cdc.gov/nchs.

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