



FACT SHEET:

“Where to Find the Facts About Teen Pregnancy”

MAY 2004

Statistics can be a powerful tool for organizations working to prevent teen pregnancy. For example, if your state’s teen pregnancy rate compares poorly to the U.S. average, that fact can motivate your community to focus on this issue. By tracking your state’s (or community’s) teen pregnancy rate over time, you can measure your group’s success.

However, it’s not always easy to find the latest teen pregnancy and birth statistics. A good place to start is the Campaign’s website: www.teenpregnancy.org. The most recent national and state teen birth and teen pregnancy statistics are available on the Campaign’s website at www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/national.asp. In addition, there are many other governmental and private sources of information, some of which are listed below. Contact information for ordering publications listed below is located on page 5.

National Data

For the most recent national teen *pregnancy statistics*, including the number of legal abortions and miscarriages from 1972 to 2000, see *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics with Comparative Statistics for Women Aged 20-24*, (February 2004). Available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/teen_stats.pdf.

For additional national teen *pregnancy statistics* such as rates by race/ethnicity, see *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information*, (February 2004). Available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/state_pregnancy_trends.pdf

For alternate national teen *pregnancy rates* calculated using a different methodology, see “**Revised Pregnancy Rates, 1990-97, and New Rates for 1998-99: United States,**” *National Vital Statistics Reports (NVSR)*, 52(7), (October 2003). Available online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr52/nvsr52_07.pdf.

For national teen *pregnancy statistics* using a third calculation method, see “**National and State-Specific Pregnancy Rates Among Adolescents—United States, 1995-1997,**” *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, 49(27), (July 2000). An errata was published in *MMWR*, 49(29), (July 2000). The report is available online at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm4927.pdf. The errata is available online at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm4929.pdf.

For the most recent recent national *birth statistics*, see “**Births: Final Data for 2002,**” *NVSR*, 52(10), (December 2004). Includes data by age, race/ethnicity, and marital status. Available online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr51/nvsr51_02.pdf.

For additional detailed national *birth statistics*, see “**Revised Birth and Fertility Rates for the 1990s and New Rates for Hispanic Populations, 2000 and 2001: United States,**” *NVSR*, 51(12), (August 2003). Includes rates from

1991 to preliminary 2002 by age, marital status, and race/ethnicity. These rates were calculated using new population estimates based on the 2000 Census (instead of estimates from the 1990 Census, as had been used previously). Available online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr51/nvsr51_12.pdf.

For additional national teen *birth statistics* from 1940 to 2000 (using population estimates based on the 1990 Census), such as first and second birth rates, see **“Births to Teenagers in the United States, 1940-2000,”** *NVSR*, 49(10), (September 2001). Available online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr49/nvsr49_10.pdf.

For an overview of national teen *birth statistics*, including married and unmarried birth rates and data on subsequent teen births, see ***Facts at a Glance***, (November 2003). Available online at www.childtrends.org/factlink.asp.

For the current national *rates of sexual activity* and *contraceptive use* among teen boys and girls, see ***A Statistical Portrait of Adolescent Sex, Contraception, and Childbearing***, (March 1998). Includes some trend data from as far back as 1970, although majority of statistics are from 1995. Single copies are \$15 from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, and can be ordered online at <https://www.teenpregnancy.org/store/item.asp?productId=193>.

For national *sexual activity* and *contraceptive use statistics* for high school students in 2001, see **“Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2001,”** *MMWR (CDC Surveillance Summaries)*, 51(SS04), (June 2002). Available online at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/ss/ss5104.pdf.

For information on the changes over time in national *sexual activity* and *contraceptive use statistics* for high school students, see ***Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System: Youth 2001 Online***. Includes data from the ‘91, ‘93, ‘95, ‘97, ‘99, and ‘01 Youth Risk Behavior Surveys. Available online at www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrb/youth01online.htm.

For information on the *consequences* of teen pregnancy and national *trends* in teen pregnancy and *births, sexual activity, and contraceptive use*, see ***Halfway There: A Prescription for Continued Progress in Preventing Teen Pregnancy***, (2001). Single copies are \$10 from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, and can be ordered online at <https://www.teenpregnancy.org/store/item.asp?productId=136>. Some key statistics from the report are available online under “Facts and Stats” at www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/genlfact.asp.

For a variety of national *child well-being statistics*, including teen birth rates, see ***Kids Count 2003 Data Book***, (June 2003). Available online at www.aecf.org/kidscount/databook/.

For *general national statistics* from 2000 and 2001, including population, vital statistics, crime, education, employment and earnings, and social programs, see ***Statistical Abstract of the United States***, (2002). Available online at www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical-abstract-02.html.

For the most current estimate of the average *cost of raising a child* in the United States, see ***Expenditures on Children by Families, 2002***, (May 2003). Available online at www.usda.gov/cnpp/using2.html.

State Data

For the most recent state teen *pregnancy statistics*, including breakdowns by race, see *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information*, (February 2004). Refer to the National Data section for details.

For state teen *pregnancy statistics*, including the only recent state-level statistics available for girls under 15 and by race/ethnicity, see “**National and State-Specific Pregnancy Rates Among Adolescents—United States, 1995-1997.**” Refer to the National Data section for details.

For the most recent state teen *birth statistics*, see “**Births: Final Data for 2002.**” Refer to the National Data section for details.

For state teen *birth statistics* for 1990-2001, see “**Revised Birth and Fertility Rates for the 1990s and New Rates for Hispanic Populations, 2000 and 2001: United States,**” *NVSR*, 51(12), (August 2003). These rates were calculated using new population estimates based on the 2000 Census (instead of estimates from the 1990 Census, as had been used previously). Refer to the National Data section for details.

For the most recent state teen *birth statistics*, by race/ethnicity, see “**Trends in Characteristics of Births by State: United States, 1990, 1995, and 2000-2002,**” *NVSR*, 52(19), (May 2004). Available online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr52/nvsr52_19.pdf

For state teen *birth* and *sexual activity statistics*, including percent subsequent and percent nonmarital, see *Facts at a Glance*. Refer to the National Data section for details.

For state *statistics* and *trends in sexual activity* and *contraceptive use* among high school students, see *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System: Youth 2001 Online*. Refer to the National Data section for details.

For an account of the most recent *legislative, administrative, and judicial actions* regarding key issues affecting reproductive health in each state, see *State Policies in Brief* (June 2002, updated monthly). Available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/spib.html.

For information regarding the *availability of contraceptive services* in each state, see *Contraception Counts* (May 2002). Available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/state_data/index.html.

For a variety of state *child well-being statistics*, including teen birth rates, see *Kids Count 2003 Data Book*. Refer to the National Data section for details. State-specific data books with local information are also available from each state’s KIDS COUNT project office. Contact information for the state projects is available from the national office and online at www.aecf.org/kidscount/contacts.htm.

For *general state statistics*, including population, vital statistics, crime, education, employment and earnings, and social programs, from 2000 and 2001, see *Statistical Abstract of the United States*. Refer to the National Data section for details.

Local Data

For the availability of city and county *teen birth statistics*, see the Campaign's fact sheet on this topic, available online at www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/countycitydata.asp.

For some local *statistics and trends in sexual activity and contraceptive use* among high school

students, see *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System: Youth 2001 Online*. Refer to the National Data section for details.

For information regarding the *availability of contraceptive services* in each congressional district, see *Contraception Counts*. Refer to the State Data section for details.

International Data

The data sources above contain statistics about the United States. If you are interested in comparing the United States to other countries, either developed or developing, the following documents may be helpful.

For information on teen birth and abortion rates in developed countries, see *A League Table of Teenage Births in Rich Nations* (2001). Available online at www.unicef-icdc.org/publications/.

For an analysis of teen *birth, pregnancy, and abortion levels* in developed countries, see "Adolescent Pregnancy and Childbearing Levels and Trends in Developed Countries," *Family Planning Perspectives*, 32(1), (January/February 2000). Available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/journals/3201400.html.

For a comparison of teen *birth, sexual activity, and contraceptive use* in 53 countries, see *Into a New World: Young Women's Sexual and Reproductive Lives*, (May 1998). Summary available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/new_world_engl.html.

For information on men's reproductive health-

related behavior in 45 countries, see *In Their Own Right: Addressing the Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs of Men Worldwide*, (October 2003). Report available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/itor_intl.pdf

For teen *birth rates* in over 100 countries, see *The Progress of Nations 1998: Women's League Table*. Available online at www.unicef.org/pon98/women4.htm

For a study of teen *reproductive health* in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, France, and Sweden, see *Teenage Sexual and Reproductive Health in Developed Countries: Can More Progress be Made*, available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/progress_slides.html.

For basic demographic and economic statistics by country, see *The World Factbook 2003*. Available online at www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html.