

# Summary of 2008 Preliminary Birth Data from the National Center for Health Statistics

## Overall teen birth rates

- The teen birth rate for girls aged 15-19 decreased 2% between 2007 and 2008 (from 42.5 births per 1,000 to 41.5 per 1,000).
- The teen birth rate for this age group declined 33% between 1991 and 2008.

## Rates by Age

- The birth rate for girls aged 10-14 remained unchanged between 2007 and 2008 (at 0.6 per 1,000). The birth rate for girls aged 10-14 has declined 57% between 1991 and 2008.
- The birth rate for girls aged 15-17 decreased 2% between 2007 and 2008 (from 22.2 per 1,000 to 21.7 per 1,000). The birth rate for this age group declined 44% between 1991 and 2008.
- The teen birth rate for girls aged 18-19 decreased 4% between 2007 and 2008 (from 73.9 per 1,000 to 70.7 per 1,000). The birth rate for this age group declined 25% between 1991 and 2008.

## Rates by Race/Ethnicity

- Teen birth rates for those aged 15-19 decreased from 2007 to 2008 for all racial/ethnic groups.
- Among those aged 15-17, birth rates decreased for all racial/ethnic groups except for American Indian or Alaska Native teens between 2007 and 2008.
- Among teens aged 18-19, birth rates decreased for all racial/ethnic groups.
- The birth rate for non-Hispanic white teens aged 15-19 decreased 2% between 2007 and 2008 (from 27.2 per 1,000 to 26.7 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for non-Hispanic black teens aged 15-19 decreased 2% between 2007 and 2008 (from 64.3 per 1,000 to 62.9 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for Hispanic teens aged 15-19 decreased 5% between 2007 and 2008 (from 81.7 per 1,000 to 77.4 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for American Indian or Alaska Native teens aged 15-19 decreased 1% between 2007 and 2008 (from 59.0 per 1,000 to 58.4 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for Asian/Pacific Islander teens aged 15-19 decreased 6% between 2007 and 2008 (from 17.3 per 1,000 to 16.2 per 1,000).

## Nonmarital Births

In 2008, the proportion of nonmarital births to teens increased again—86.7% of births to teens aged 15-19 are nonmarital, up from 85.5% in 2007. This is a total of 377,058 nonmarital births to teens. Among teens under age 15 the proportion is 99.1%; to those 15-17 it is 93.7%; and to those 18-19 it is 83.5%.