

Briefly...

Teen Pregnancy Rates in the United States, 1988-2006

Teen pregnancy statistics reported by The National Campaign are derived from published sources. There are currently two similar but distinct time series for teen pregnancy, one reported by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the other reported by the Guttmacher Institute. In both series, teen pregnancy is calculated using data from: the NCHS (number of births); the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (CCDPHP) within CDC (age and race/ethnicity distribution of women obtaining abortions); and the Guttmacher Institute (total number of abortions). Teen pregnancy statistics also include estimates of fetal loss, for which NCHS relies on data from the National Survey of Family Growth, while Guttmacher estimates fetal loss to be 20% of births plus 10% of abortions.^{1,2}

The chart and table below reflect teen pregnancy rates (per 1,000 girls aged 15-19) in the United States between 1988 to the most recent year available, both as reported by NCHS and by the Guttmacher Institute.^{2,3} There is a slight difference in the reported rates between the two sources of data due to differences in the methods used to estimate the number fetal losses.

The teen pregnancy rate for girls aged 15-19 decreased 37 percent between 1988 and 2005.⁴ After reaching 117 pregnancies per 1,000 girls aged 15-19 in 1990, the pregnancy rate has decreased to approximately 70 pregnancies per 1,000 girls aged 15-19 in 2005.² However, the teen pregnancy rate between 2005 and 2006 increased 3 percent.⁴

FIGURE 1. Teen Pregnancy Rate (per 1,000 teen girls age 15-19) by Data Source

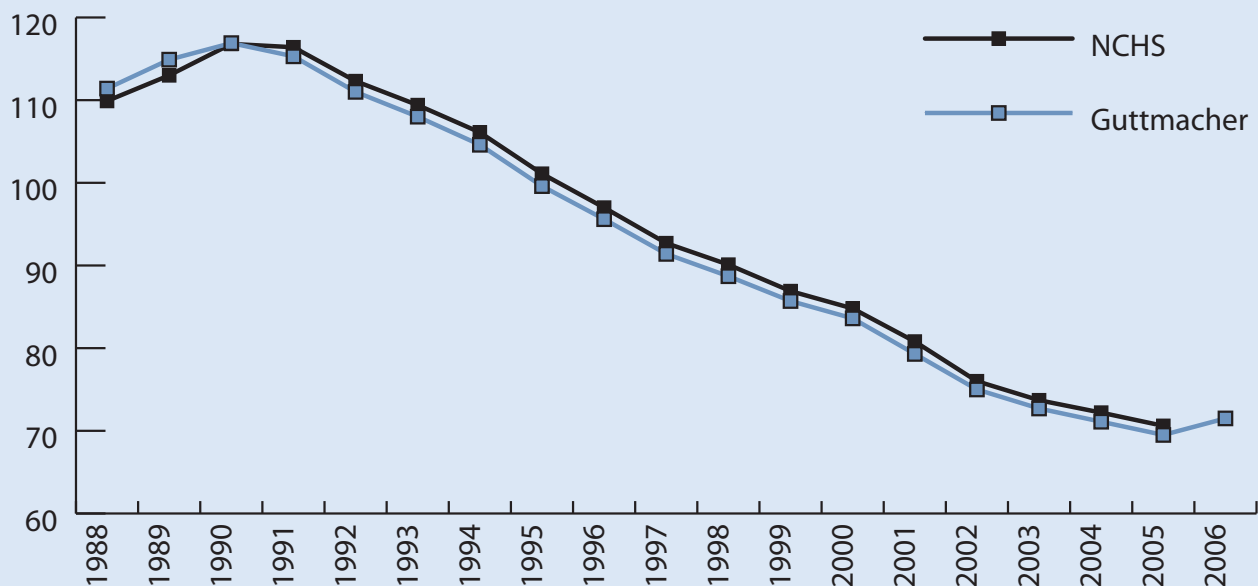


FIGURE 2. Teen Pregnancy Rate (per 1,000 teen girls age 15-19) by Data Source

Year	The Guttmacher Institute	The National Center for Health Statistics
1988	111.4	109.9
1989	114.9	113.0
1990	116.9	116.8
1991	115.3	116.4
1992	111.0	112.3
1993	108.0	109.4
1994	104.6	106.1
1995	99.6	101.1
1996	95.6	97.0
1997	91.4	92.7
1998	88.7	90.1
1999	85.7	86.9
2000	83.6	84.8
2001	79.3	80.4
2002	75.0	76.0
2003	72.7	73.7
2004	71.1	72.2
2005	69.5	70.6
2006	71.5	N/A

SOURCES

1. Ventura, SJ, Abma, JC, Mosher, WD, and Henshaw SK (2009). Estimated Pregnancy Rates for the United States, 1990-2005: An Update. *National Vital Statistics Reports*, 58(4).
2. Kost, K., Henshaw, S., & Carlin, L. (2010). *U.S. Teenage Pregnancies, Births and Abortions: National and State Trends and Trends by Race and Ethnicity*. Retrieved January 2010, from <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/USTPtrends.pdf>.
3. Ventura SJ, Mosher WD, Curtin SC, Abma JC, Henshaw S. (2000). Trends in pregnancies and pregnancy rates by outcome: Estimates for the United States, 1976-96 . *National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat* 21(56). Retrieved January 2010 from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_21/sr21_056.pdf. and Ventura, SJ, Abma, JC, Mosher, WD, and Henshaw SK (2009). Estimated Pregnancy Rates for the United States, 1990-2005: An Update. *National Vital Statistics Reports*, 58(4). Retrieved January 2010 from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_04.pdf.
4. Kost, K., Henshaw, S., & Carlin, L. (2010). *U.S. Teenage Pregnancies, Births and Abortions: National and State Trends and Trends by Race and Ethnicity*. Retrieved January 2010, from <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/USTPtrends.pdf>. Percent change in rates calculated by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.