

# Fast Facts

## Summary of 2010 Preliminary Birth Data from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

### Overall Teen Birth Rates

- The teen birth rate for girls aged 15-19 decreased 9% between 2009 and 2010, from 37.9 births per 1,000 to 34.3 per 1,000. This is the largest decline recorded in a single year since 1946-47, and teen birth rates are now at their lowest levels since NCHS began tracking teenage childbearing.
- The teen birth rate for this age group declined 44% between 1991 and 2010.

### Rates by Age

- The birth rate for girls aged 10-14 decreased 20% between 2009 and 2010 (from 0.5 per 1,000 to 0.4 per 1,000), and now stands at a new historic low. The birth rate for girls aged 10-14 has declined 71% between 1991 and 2010.
- The birth rate for girls aged 15-17 decreased 12% between 2009 and 2010 (from 19.6 per 1,000 to 17.3 per 1,000). The birth rate for this age group declined 55% between 1991 and 2010.
- The teen birth rate for girls aged 18-19 decreased 9% between 2009 and 2010 (from 64 per 1,000 to 58.3 per 1,000). The birth rate for this age group declined 38% between 1991 and 2010.

### Rates by Race/Ethnicity

- Teen birth rates for those aged 15-19, 15-17, and 18-19 decreased from 2009 to 2010 for all racial/ethnic groups. Birth rates for every racial/ethnic group reached a new historic low in 2010.
- The birth rate for non-Hispanic white teens aged 15-19 decreased 9% between 2009 and 2010 (from 25.7 per 1,000 to 23.5 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for non-Hispanic black teens aged 15-19 decreased 9% between 2009 and 2010 (from 56.7 per 1,000 to 51.5 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for Hispanic teens aged 15-19 decreased 12% between 2009 and 2010 (from 63.6 per 1,000 to 55.7 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for American Indian or Alaska Native teens aged 15-19 decreased 12% between 2009 and 2010 (from 43.8 per 1,000 to 38.7 per 1,000).
- The birth rate for Asian/Pacific Islander teens aged 15-19 decreased 13% between 2009 and 2010 (from 12.6 per 1,000 to 10.9 per 1,000).

### Nonmarital Births

- In 2010, the proportion of births among teens that are nonmarital rose again—88.1% of births to teens aged 15-19 are nonmarital, up from 87.2% in 2009. This is a total of 323,922 nonmarital births to teens. Among teens under age 15 the proportion is 99.3%; among those 15-17 it is 95%; and among those 18-19 it is 85.1%.