



TEEN PREGNANCY

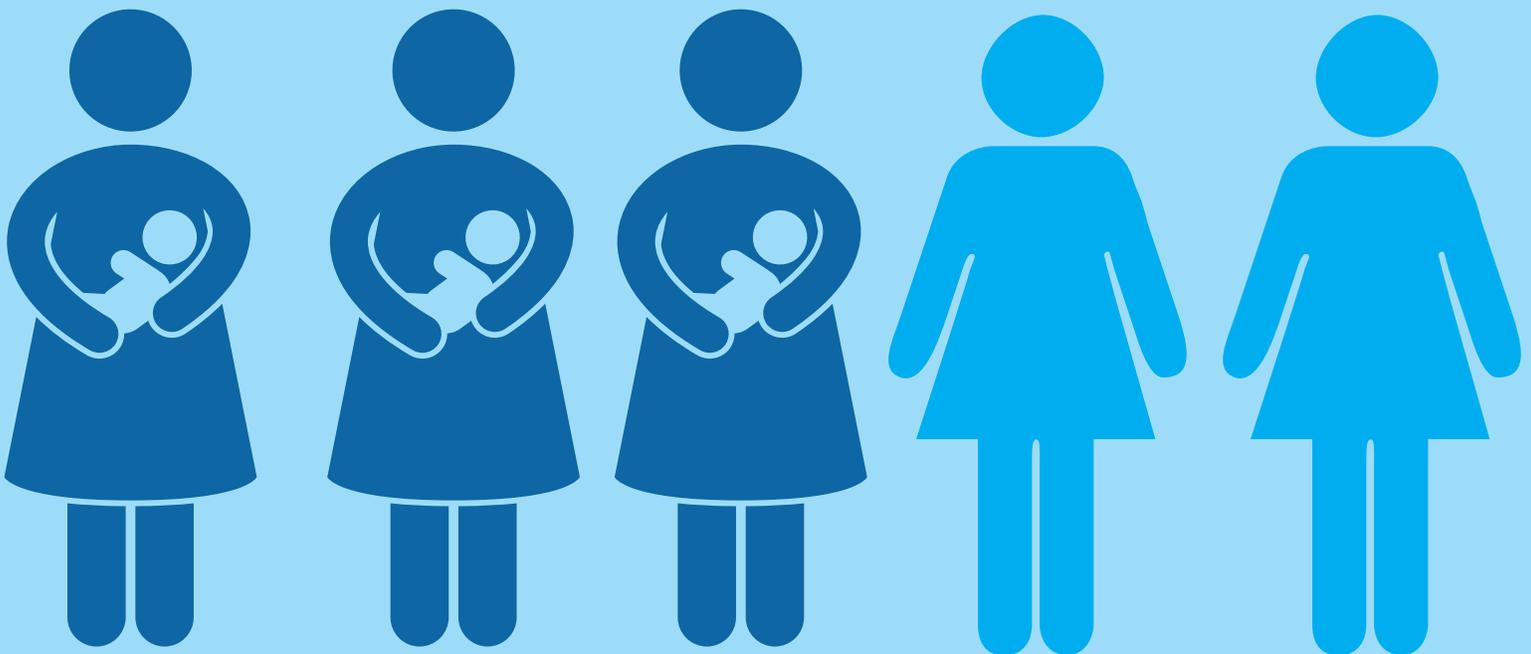
**A DECISION
THAT LASTS FOR
GENERATIONS**

3 in 10

girls in the U.S. will get **pregnant at least once** before age 20.

In 2013, more than 13 teens in Palm Beach County **gave birth every week.**

More than two of these were **repeat births.**



A Decision That Lasts for Generations

While teen births are at a historic low, even one pregnant teen is too many, and the 691 teen births in Palm Beach County in one year influences lives for generations.

Having one or two children as a teen sets the stage for many poor outcomes for both mother and child. The national costs of health care, child welfare and incarceration associated with teen childbearing in the United States is \$9.4 billion.¹

National data shows that compared to children of older mothers, the children of teen mothers are:

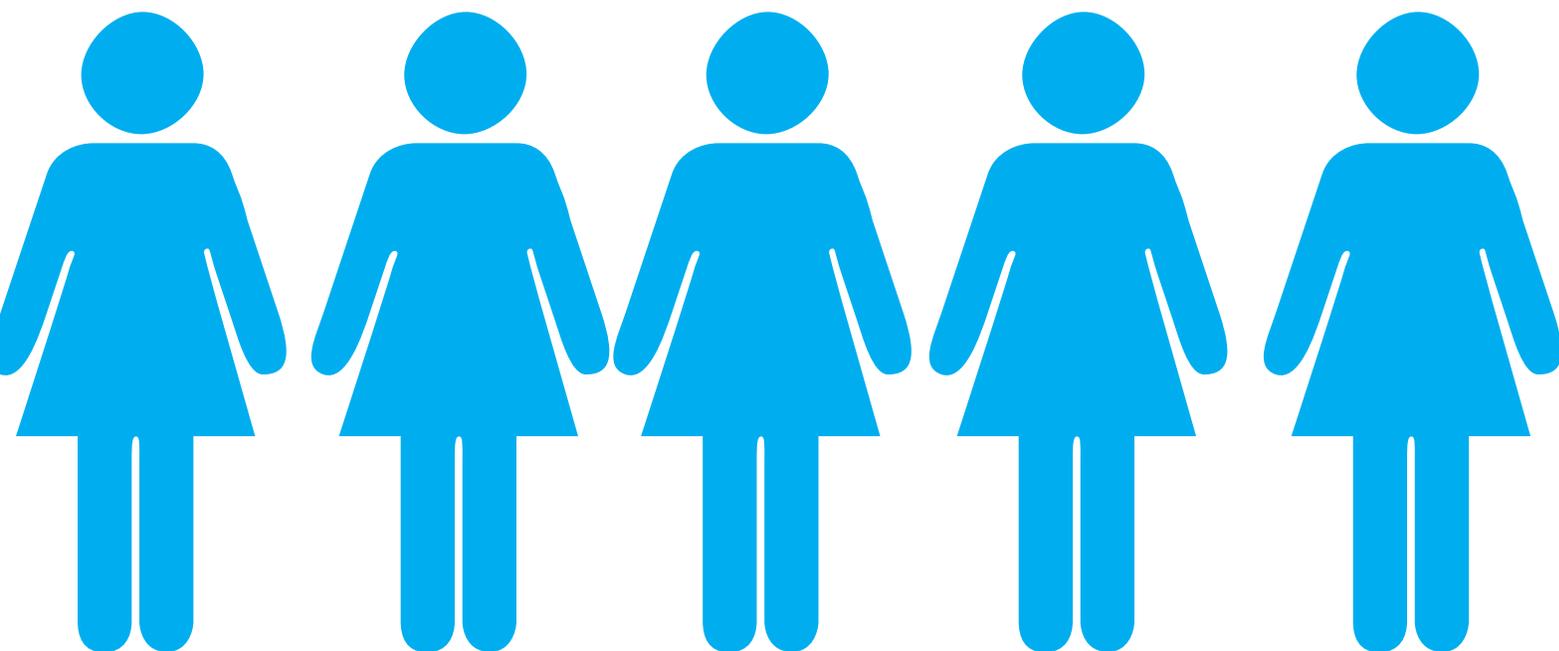
- More likely to be born prematurely and at low birthweight.
- Less prepared to enter the school system and score lower on measures of school readiness.
- Fifty percent more likely to repeat a grade

and less likely to complete high school.

- Two times more likely to be abused and neglected.²
- Twice as likely to end up in prison (for the sons of teen mothers).

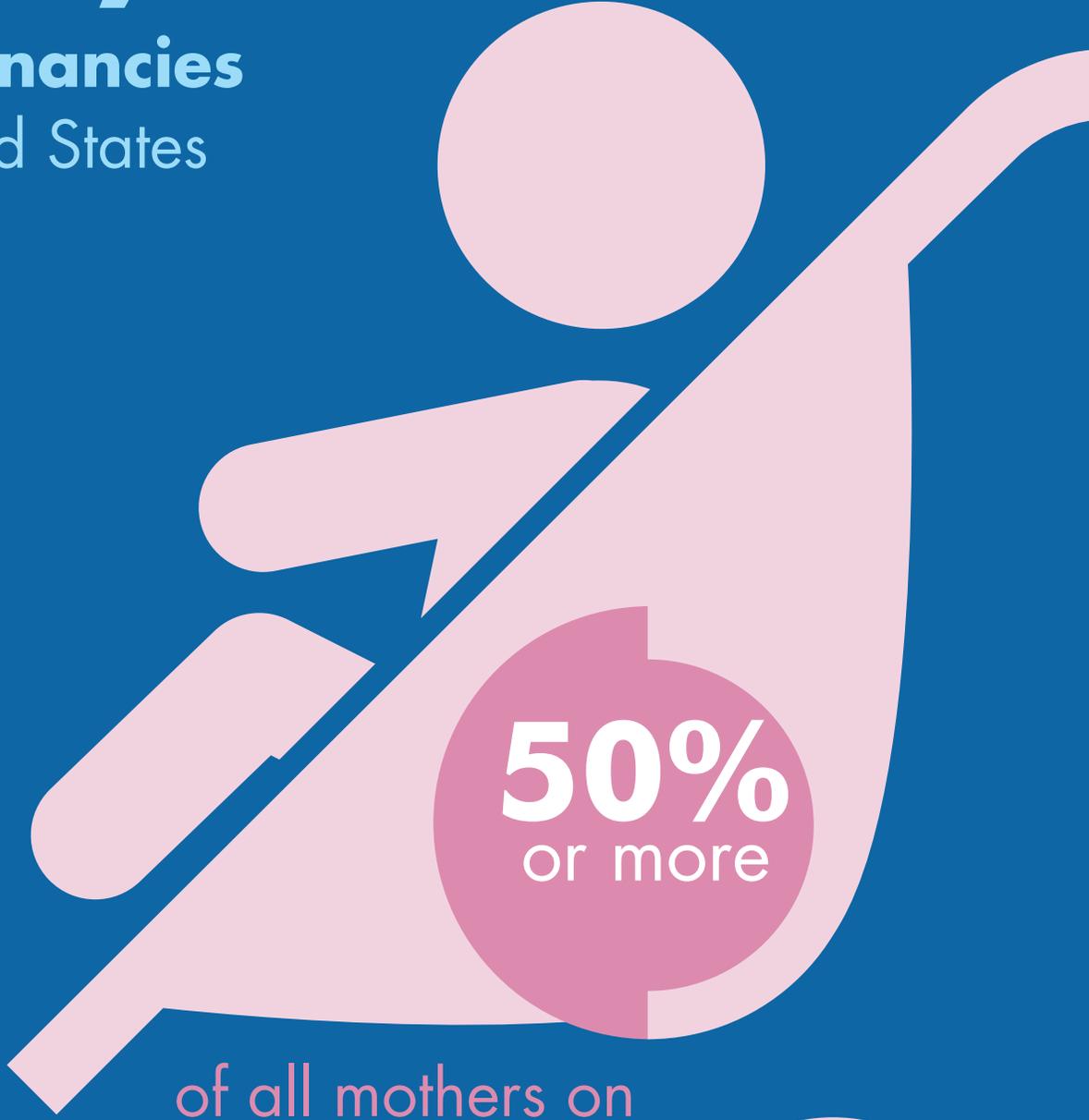
The majority (88%) of teen mothers were unmarried when their child was born—compared to less than two-thirds (63%) of women age 20 to 24 and roughly one-third of women age 25-30 (as of 2010).³

Teen mothers are likely to live in poverty (roughly 48% of all mothers age 15 to 19 lived below the poverty line) and receive public assistance—nearly two-thirds (63%) of teen mothers received some type of public benefits within the first year after their children were born.⁴



305,000

teen pregnancies
in the United States
each year.



50%
or more

of all mothers on
welfare had their
**first child as
a teenager.**

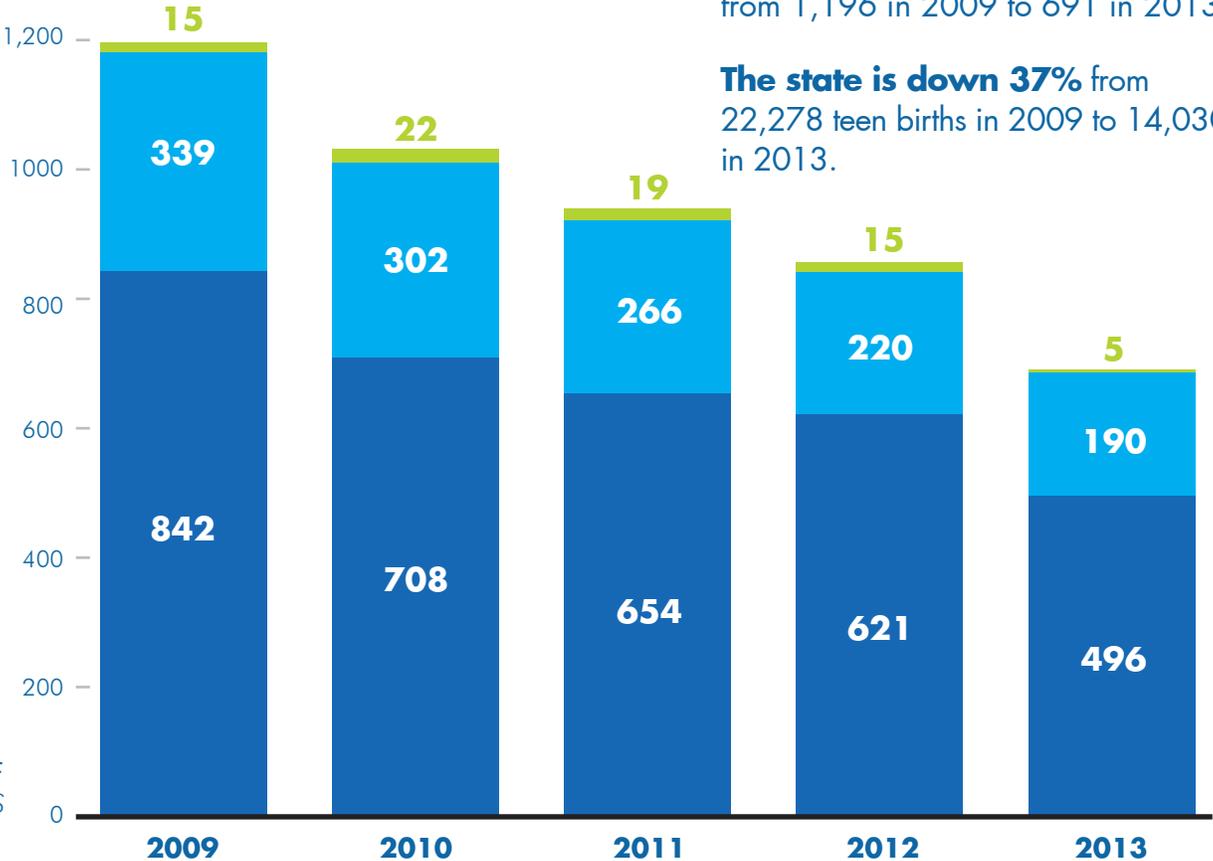
Fewer Pregnant Teens

Great News but More Work to Do

Both repeat and first-time births to teens are down. The number of pregnant teens has dropped for all ages—10 to 14, 15 to 17 and 18 to 19—continuing a historic trend at the local, state and national levels. However, concerns continue about pockets of Palm Beach County that still have high numbers of pregnant teens. Also, 92% (631) of the 686 teens 15-19 who gave birth in 2013 were unwed, 12.4% (77) had late or no prenatal care and 10.6% (73) had low birthweight babies (FL CHARTS).

Number of Teen Births, Palm Beach County

■ Teens 18-19 ■ Teens 15-17 ■ Teens 10-14



Teen births of all ages **dropped 42.2% in Palm Beach County** from 1,196 in 2009 to 691 in 2013.

The state is down 37% from 22,278 teen births in 2009 to 14,030 in 2013.

Source: FL CHARTS

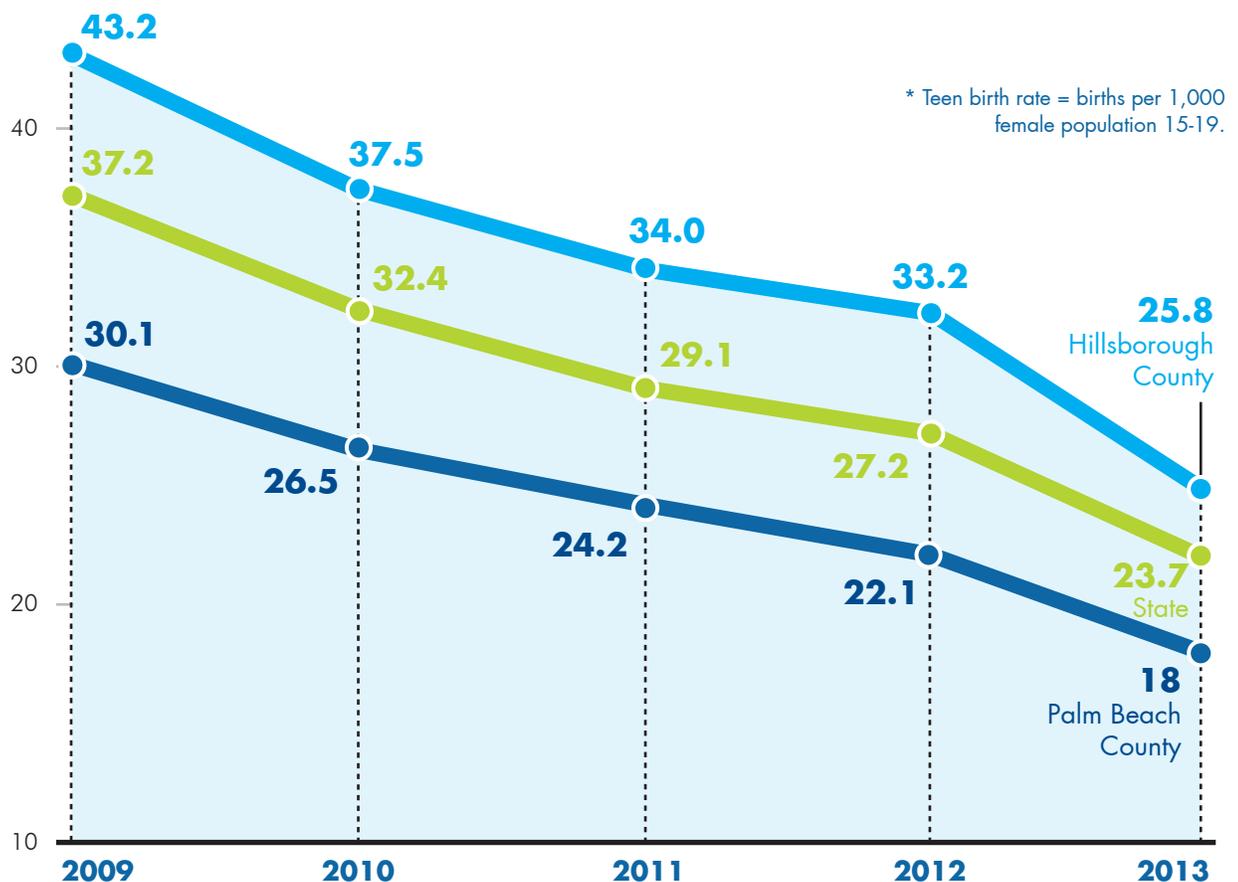
Palm Beach County's Teen Birth Rate Lower than the State and Comparable County

The rate* of teen births (15-19) in Palm Beach County dropped from 30.1 in 2009 to 18 in 2013, the lowest rate ever. While Florida's teen birth rate also dropped, at 23.7, it is still above Palm Beach County's rate. Hillsborough County, which is comparable in size and demographics to Palm Beach County, was higher with a rate of 25.8.

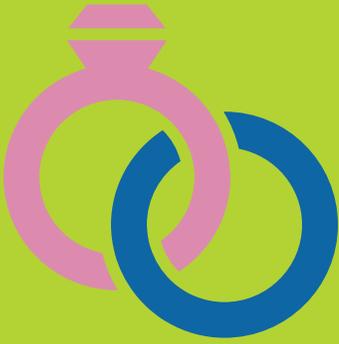
The most recent rate for the United States, 2012, was 29.4, the lowest rate ever reported for the nation.⁵ Even with the overall decline, some ZIP codes in Palm Beach County had a teen birth rate over 50 in 2012, including 33461, 33430, 33460 and 33404.⁶

Teen (15-19) Birth Rate, 2009-2013

■ Palm Beach County ■ Hillsborough County ■ Florida



Source:
FL CHARTS



80%
of **teen fathers**
don't marry the
mother of their child.

Parenthood is the
leading reason why girls
drop out of school.

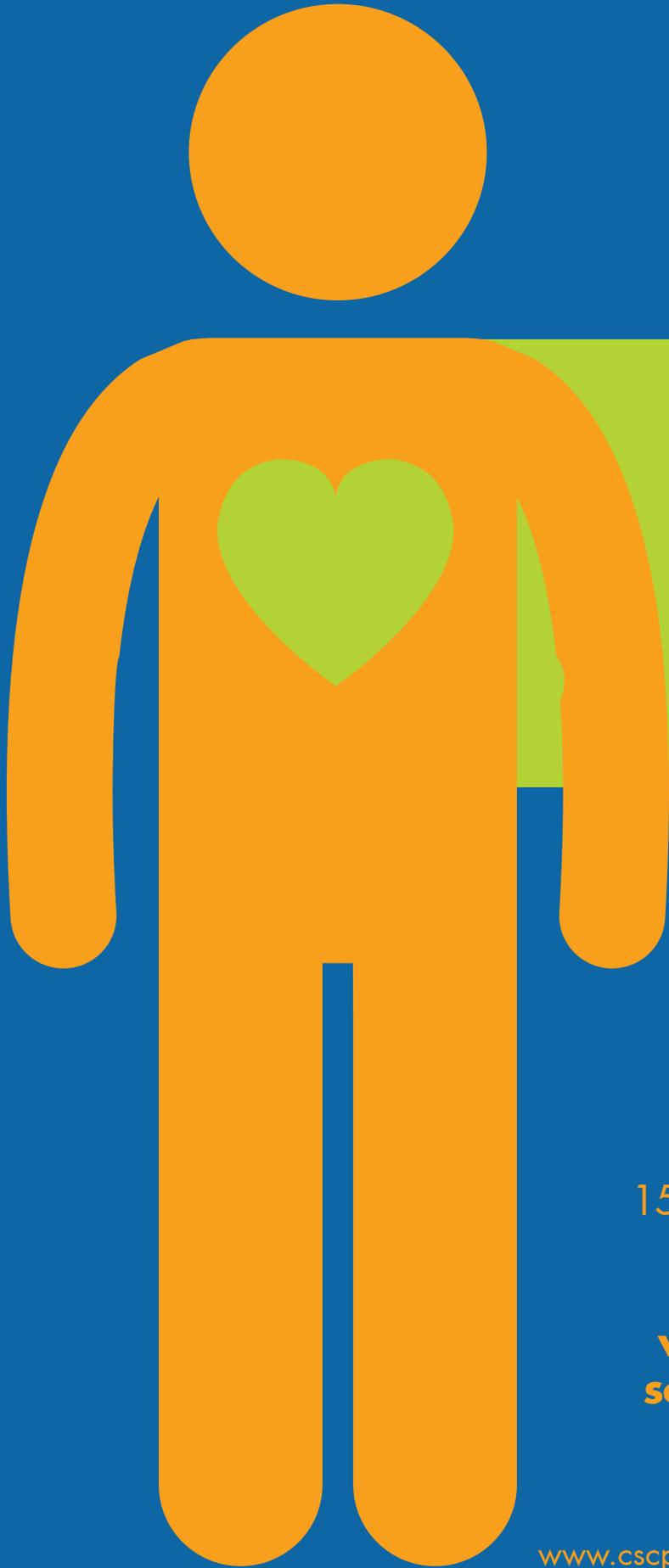


50%
Less than
half of all
teen mothers
ever graduate
high school.



2%
of teen mothers **earn**
a college degree
by age 30.

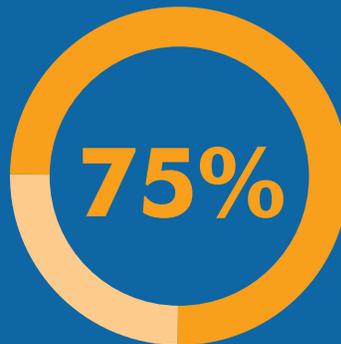




of teens who've had sex **wish they'd waited.**

50%

More than half of all high school students **are virgins.**



of guys age 15-18 said they'd rather **"wait to lose their virginity with someone they love."**



of teen girls who experienced sexual pressure report they **were afraid the relationship would end** if they did not give in.

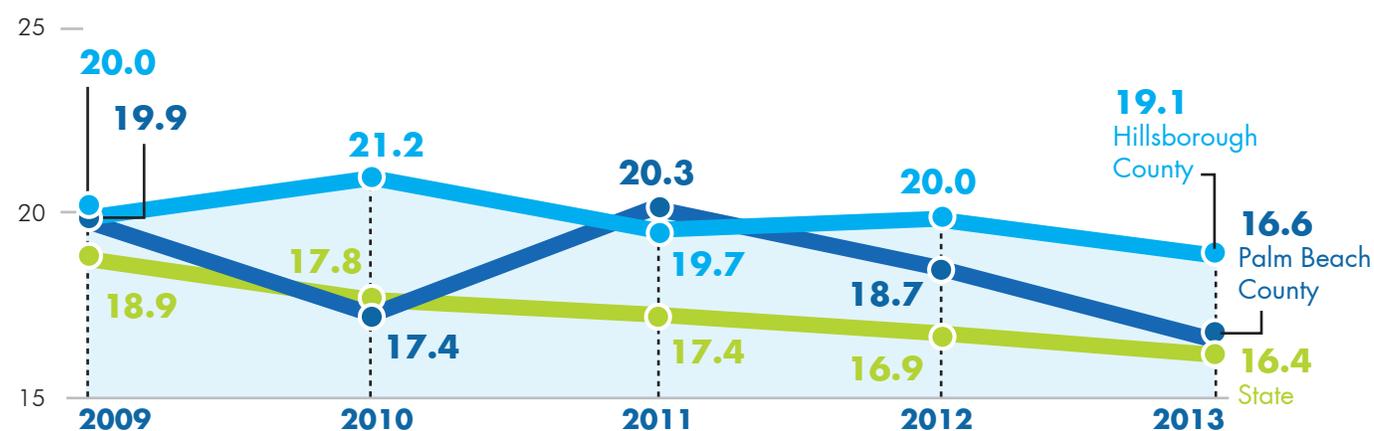
Teen Births

A closer look

Another positive trend is the decline in repeat births to teens, 15-19. Palm Beach County's percent of repeat births to teens has dropped from a high of 20.3 in 2011 to 16.6 in 2013.

Repeat Teen (15-19) Birth Rate 2009 - 2013

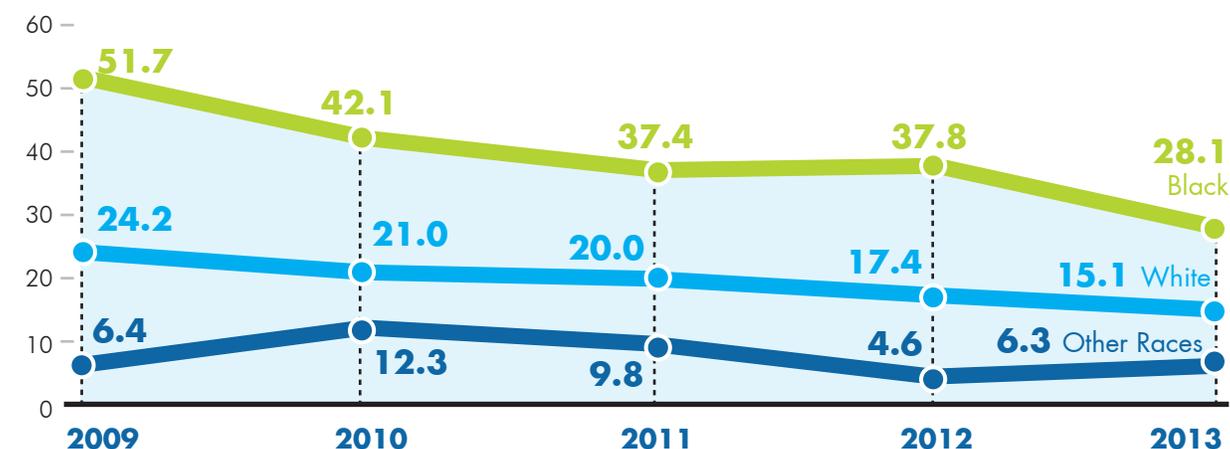
■ Palm Beach County ■ Hillsborough County ■ Florida



While all races have seen a decline in pregnant teens, disparities in the number of pregnant teens by race have existed for decades. The table below shows the decline in the gap in teen pregnancy rates between white, black and other races.

Teen Birth Rate by Race, 2009 - 2013, Palm Beach County

■ Black ■ White ■ Other Races



Source:
FL CHARTS.

Community Efforts to Drive the Numbers Down

The downward trend is good news to Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County and other county agencies that work to prevent teens from becoming pregnant through public awareness efforts and programs. But even one pregnant teen is too many, and 691 teen births in one year still influences lives for generations.

Children's Services Council has joined with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition's Primary Prevention Committee, including the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County, Health Care District of Palm Beach County, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Palm Beach County, Planned Parenthood of South Florida and Treasure Coast, and the School District of Palm Beach County, to raise awareness about preventing teen pregnancy. They have garnered support from a number of governmental entities to bring attention to the issue. Children's Services Council and other organizations remind the public and teens about the seriousness of the problem, and conduct a teen pregnancy prevention awareness campaign each May.

Children's Services Council Strategically Engages Teens

In coordination with the community, Children's Services Council strategically engages teens to prevent teen pregnancy through the following programs:

Teen Outreach Program® (TOP)

To target certain ZIP codes in Palm Beach County with high rates of teen births, Children's Services Council selected The Housing Partnership, Inc., The Urban League of Palm Beach County and The Children's Home Society of Florida to operate the Teen Outreach Program® (TOP®). TOP® is evidence-based and effective at improving teen pregnancy prevention outcomes. TOP® has demonstrated a:

- 53% reduction in teen pregnancy for participating youth
- 52% lower risk of school suspension
- 60% lower risk of course failure, and
- 60% reduction in the risk of school dropout.

The model focuses on adult-facilitated discussions about values and decision-making, goal-setting, health, sexual development and relationships. It has a service learning component where the club members plan and execute a community service project that increases planning skills, empathy and a sense of accomplishment. TOP® seeks to develop healthy problem-solving behaviors and to encourage responsible management of personal conduct. Children's Services Council funds 34 clubs at schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, and community centers in 27 high-risk areas throughout the county.⁷ A total of 496 teens participated in 2013. An additional 18 clubs, located in nine sites, are funded by other community resources.

Nurse-Family Partnership Program

The Nurse-Family Partnership Program is a voluntary nurse-home visiting program that improves the health, well-being and self-sufficiency of low-income, first-time parents and their children. In the past year, the program served 53 teen mothers providing information about keeping themselves and their babies healthy, including providing information on waiting before having another baby.

Community Voice Program

The Community Voice Program trains community volunteers to reach out to residents, including teens, to provide healthy pregnancy and birth information to reduce African-American infant mortality. The training includes positive health education and information about the factors that prevent a mother from having a healthy birth, including encouraging healthy lifestyles and avoiding teen pregnancy.

BRIDGES Programs

Many of the above programs are implemented in conjunction with our BRIDGES Programs, community centers that provide a hub of activities and services for children and families in 10 communities throughout Palm Beach County. BRIDGES engage the community to help identify and solve problems, provide support services to families and pregnant women and parents of young children, and link with local elementary schools.

Significant Contributing Factor

We believe one of the contributing factors to our low teen pregnancy rate, one of the lowest of urban counties in Florida, are the targeted programs Children's Services Council has implemented since 2010 in the nine ZIP codes (33401, 33404, 33403, 33407, 33430, 33435, 33444, 33476, 33493) that account for almost a third of teen births in the County.

- **The Community Voice program was fully implemented in 2010** in these ZIP codes. BRIDGES and TOP began operating in 2011 in these ZIP codes or in a neighboring ZIP code.
- **The teen birth rate decreased** in these nine ZIP codes almost 50% (65.4 per 1,000 females 15-19 to 32.9) since 2009.
- In actual numbers, there were **206 fewer teen births in 2013** than in 2009 in these ZIP codes, although the number of births for all ages were about the same for both years.
- In 1995 these nine ZIP codes accounted for about **half the teen births in Palm Beach County**; by 2013 they accounted for a little less than a third.
- The percent of repeat teen births in Palm Beach County in these nine ZIP codes is the **lowest it has ever been since 1995** and has been in decline since 2011.
- In 1995, 1 out of 3 teens who gave birth from these ZIP codes had a previous birth. In 2013, **less than 1 out of 5 teens who gave birth had a previous birth.** Since these ZIP codes account for a significant percentage of teen births in the county, we feel a drop in the teen birth rate in these ZIP codes contributes to the drop in teen birth rate for the county as a whole.⁷

www.cscpb.org

References:

1. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy Counting It Up The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing: Key Data
2. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, Teen Pregnancy and Overall Child Well-Being
3. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, Teen childbearing, Single Parenthood, and Father Involvement.
4. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, Teen childbearing, Education and Economic Well-Being
5. Martin JA, Hamilton BE, et al. Births: Final data for 2012. National vital statistics reports; vol. 62, no 9. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. December 30, 2013.
6. Wyman Teen Outreach Program® Expansion Opportunities Report, March 2014.
7. Program Division report, May 20, 2014 Children's Services Council meeting.



Who We Are

Children's Services Council, a special district created by Palm Beach County voters, provides leadership, funding, services and research on behalf of the county's children so they grow up healthy, safe and strong.

How We Work

To make the biggest impact possible, we focus on prenatal care and early childhood development so more Palm Beach County children are born healthy, are safe from abuse and neglect, are ready to learn when they enter school and have access to quality after-school programming.

To reach these goals we fund local nonprofit and other agencies, which provide proven, high-quality services to our county's children and their families.

How You Benefit

Because of the wise investment Palm Beach County residents make in Children's Services Council, our children are given the fundamental tools for success early in life, making them much more likely to:

- Reach vital growth and developmental milestones
- Graduate from high school
- Become productive members of society.

This does more than save us all money. It builds the foundation for a strong, safe community we are proud to live in. www.cscpbc.org