Adolescent and Teen Pregnancies in Kansas 2016

Maintaining and improving family health is an essential component of the public health mission of KDHE. Healthy pregnancies and positive birth outcomes reduce maternal and infant mortality and results in children capable of learning and growing into productive adults.

Adolescent and teenage pregnancy accounts for more than $9 billion per year in costs to U.S. taxpayers [1]. The nation’s Healthy People 2020 objective is to reduce pregnancies among adolescent females aged 15-17 to 36.2 and females aged 18-19 to 105.9 per 1,000 female age specific populations, respectively [2].

Pregnancy rates among Kansas resident females aged 10-19 dropped from 14.8 to 12.9 per 1,000 age-group population from 2015 to 2016. Kansas pregnancy rates among females in age groups 15-17 and 18-19 years of age (11.2 per 1,000 and 47.4 per 1,000, respectively) compare favorably with the Healthy People 2020 national targets.

Kansas Highlights

Three out of four pregnant adolescents and teens were 18-19 years of age, while 1.2 percent were aged 10-14 years and 25.7 percent were 15-17 years of age (Figure 1).

The pregnancy rate for females aged 10-17 dropped 2.2 percent to 4.4 per 1,000 age specific female population in 2016 from 4.5 in 2015.

The 2016 rate for females aged 15-19, 25.7 per 1,000, dropped 12.3 percent from the 2015 rate of 29.3 per 1,000 age specific population.

Pregnancies include: Live births, stillbirths and abortions.

Trends

Pregnancy rates among Kansas resident females aged 10-19 years declined by 51.7 percent per 1,000 age specific population from 2005 through 2016 (Table 1) [4].

Population-based pregnancy rates have declined for all age groups from 2015 to 2016, except 10-14 years.

The pregnancy rate increased slightly from 0.2 to 0.3 among teens 10-14, decreased 2.6 percent among teens 15-17 and 15.2 percent among teens 18-19 years of age from 2015 to 2016.

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>10-19</th>
<th>10-14</th>
<th>15-17</th>
<th>18-19</th>
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<td>27.1</td>
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More Kansas Health Statistics and Publications

- For a list of all publications issued by KDHE go to [http://www.kdheks.gov/data_reports_stats.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/data_reports_stats.htm).
- Visit Kansas Information for Communities (KIC) the department’s online data query tool at: [http://kic.kdheks.gov](http://kic.kdheks.gov).
Three year rolling averages of pregnancy rates among younger teens from selected population groups have declined in the long-term from 2000-2002 through 2014-2016 (Figure 2).

Hispanic teens had the highest pregnancy rates since 2000-2002 on average followed by Black non-Hispanics and White non-Hispanics.

Black non-Hispanics have had the strongest decline on average since 2000-2002 through 2014-2016.

**State and National Comparisons**

In 2016, the birth rate for Kansas females aged 15-19 dropped by 14.1 percent from 2015 (Figure 3).

During the 20-year period from 1997 to 2016, birth rates of Kansas females 15-19 years of age decreased by 54.7 percent.

For eight years (1997 – 2004) the Kansas rate was lower than the U.S. rate for births to teens aged 15-19.

Since 2005, the U.S. rate has dropped faster than the Kansas rate. The Kansas rate in 2016 is higher than the U.S. rate by a difference of 1.6 percentage points [3].

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**Figure 2. Three Year Rolling Average Frequency Rates among Females Aged 15-17 Years by Selected Population Groups, Kansas, 2000-2016**

**Figure 3. Birth Rates for Mothers 15-19 Years of Age, Kansas and the U.S., 1997-2016**

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Related References:

