

ADOLESCENT CHILDBEARING

According to preliminary data, the birth rate among adolescent females aged 15–19 years decreased to 39.1 per 1,000 females in 2009. This continues the general decline in teen birth rates since the most recent peak in 1991, when the rate was 61.8 per 1,000 females, and represents a decline of nearly 37 percent over that period. The birth rate among adolescents aged 10–14 years was 0.5 births per 1,000 females, the lowest rate ever reported. Teenage birth rates were highest among adolescents aged 18–19 years (66.2 per 1,000), and this age group

experienced the smallest decline since 1991 (30 percent; data not shown).

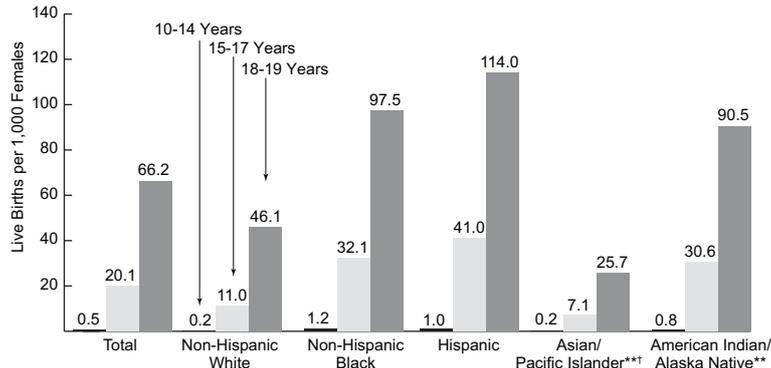
Among adolescents aged 10–14 years, non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic females had the highest birth rates in 2009 (1.2 and 1.0 per 1,000 population, respectively). Non-Hispanic White and Asian/Pacific Islander females had the lowest birth rates among those aged 10–14 years (both 0.2 per 1,000). The birth rate among American Indian/Alaskan Native adolescents aged 10–14 years was 0.8 per 1,000.

Among adolescents aged 15–19 years, Asian/Pacific Islander females had the lowest birth

rate in 2009 (14.6 per 1,000), followed by non-Hispanic White females (25.6 per 1,000). Hispanic females had the highest birth rate in this age group (70.1 per 1,000). However, this estimate represents a 10 percent decline since 2008 and the lowest rate ever reported for this group in the two decades for which rates for Hispanic teenagers are available. Non-Hispanic Black females had the second highest birth rate among those aged 15–19 years (59.0 per 1,000), followed by American Indian/Alaska Native teens (55.5 per 1,000).

Birth Rates Among Adolescent Females Aged 10-19 Years, by Age and Race/Ethnicity, 2009*

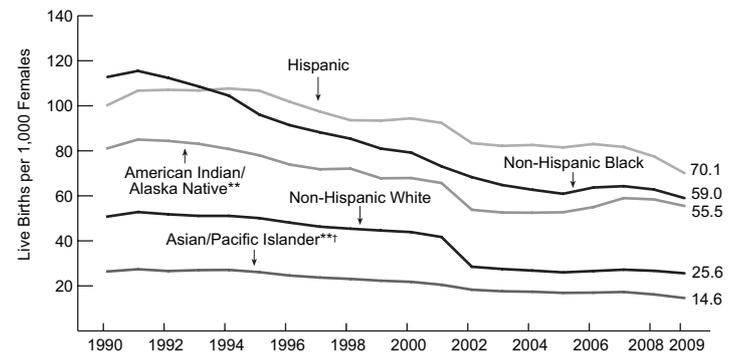
Source (II.1): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System



*Data for 2009 are preliminary. **May include Hispanics. †Separate estimates for Asians and Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders were not available.

Birth Rates Among Adolescent Females Aged 15-19, by Race/Ethnicity, 1990-2009 *

Source (II.1): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System



*Data for 2009 are preliminary. **May include Hispanics. †Separate estimates for Asians and Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders were not available.