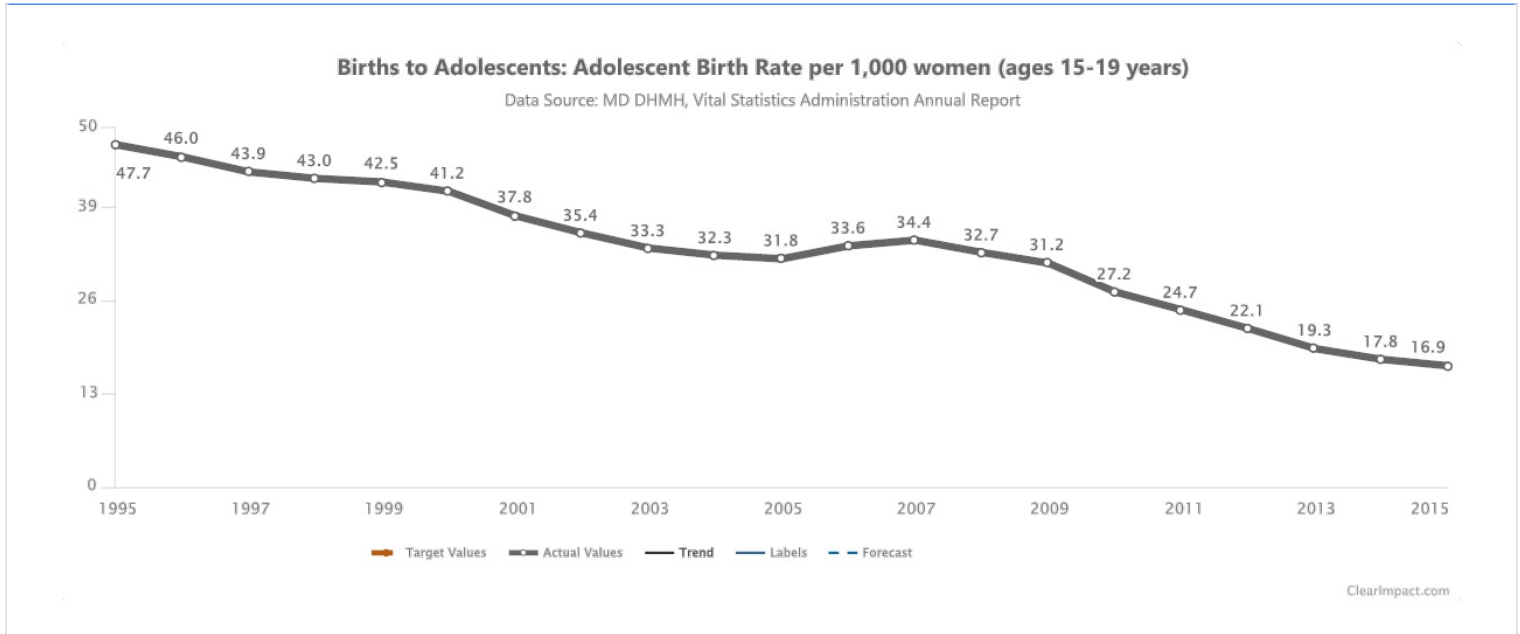


R Babies Born Healthy (Statewide)

I Births to Adolescents: Adolescent Birth Rate per 1,000 women (ages 15-19 years)



Story Behind the Curve

Maryland's teen birth rate has declined by 55% since 2001. In 2015, the birth rate to adolescents ages 15 to 19 fell to 16.9 per 1,000 population. Maryland's adolescent birth rate has been consistently lower than the national rate for more than ten years, with both rates showing a significant decline.

What Works

Maryland's teen pregnancy prevention efforts focus on clinical and educational programming. Adolescents are served in family-planning clinics and school-based health centers Statewide. Services include family planning and reproductive health services and counseling. The State Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) and abstinence education programs provide curriculum-based programs in school, after school, and in community settings for adolescents and their parents/caregivers. The target population for educational programs ranges from age 10 through the early 20s.

More information about Maryland's efforts to reduce teen pregnancy can be found on DHMH's [Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program website](#), with additional information about the [federal PREP program](#) available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Local Highlight

The federal Office of Adolescent Health recently released evaluation data that highlights the successes of Maryland's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Efforts. The report outlines interim findings from a large-scale demonstration project and evaluation of POWER Through Choices, a comprehensive sexual health education curriculum designed specifically for youth in foster care and other out-of-home care settings. For more information, go to:

https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/evaluation/Evaluation%20Reports/ptc_short_term_impact.pdf

Data Discussion

The rate of births to adolescent females ages 15 through 19 years per 1,000 in the age-specific population.