LOUISIANA DATA

The Story

Teen pregnancy and childbearing are at historic lows and there has been impressive progress on both fronts in all 50 states.

The teen birth rate in Louisiana declined 60% between 1991 and 2016. Even so, in 2015 there were 5,055 births to teens. Most teen births in Louisiana (78%) are to older teens (age 18-19). It is also the case that 17% of all teen births were to teens who already had a child. The public savings in 2015 due to declines in the teen birth rate totaled $69 million. Teen birth rates have fallen for all racial and ethnic groups, and in some cases the gap in teen birth rates by race/ethnicity has narrowed, but disparities remain.

The teen pregnancy rate, which includes all pregnancies rather than just those that resulted in a birth, has also fallen steeply, by 50% between 1988 and 2013 (the most recent data available). As of 2013 there were 8,070 pregnancies among teens age 15 to 19 in Louisiana.

When looking at women in Louisiana overall, not just teens, 60% of all pregnancies are described by women themselves as unplanned. In 2010, public spending for unplanned pregnancies in Louisiana totaled an estimated $651 million.

Notes: the data here represents the most recently available from a variety of sources. The most recent year available varies by indicator. For more detail on the incidence of teen and unplanned pregnancy and childbearing, sexual activity and contraception, as well as data sources and methods, please see https://powertodecide.org/data