

10/28/2016

City of Milwaukee 2015 Teen Birth Rate (TBR) Data Brief

A: Facts – Teen Births (15-17 year olds)

1. City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) figures indicate that **in 2015 there were 233 babies born alive to city of Milwaukee females aged 15 to 17 years old.** This represents the lowest number of births on record for Milwaukee females in this age group. In comparison, there were 279 births in 2014 and 293 births in 2013. Both were previous lows for the city.
2. The 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates that there were 12,880 females aged 15 to 17 living in the city of Milwaukee in 2015. This compares to 11,689 in 2014.
3. The Teen Birth Rate (TBR) is defined as the number of babies born to females aged 15 to 17 for every 1,000 females aged 15 to 17 living in the population during the same year.
4. Preliminary TBR data released last year for 2014 have been verified by the State. This resulted in a slight modification to our 2014 overall rate from 23.7 as reported last year to 23.9. There were also slight changes to the city's non-Hispanic White rate (changing from 9.2 to 9.8) and Hispanic rate (changing from 25.5 to 25.1).
5. Teen Birth Rate data for 2015 have also been verified by the State and are unlikely to undergo future revision.
6. Milwaukee's TBR in 2015 was 18.1, meaning that 18 babies were born to females aged 15 to 17 for every 1,000 females aged 15 to 17 living in Milwaukee during the same year. This TBR is the lowest on record for the city of Milwaukee, beating our previous low of 22.9 in 2013. Rates for the non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic populations also reached historic lows, and the non-Hispanic White rate for 2015 is the second lowest rate on record for this population.
7. Milwaukee's TBRs by race and ethnicity are as follows for 2015: 22.3 births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17 for Milwaukee's non-Hispanic Blacks, 6.7 for Milwaukee's non-Hispanic Whites, and 19.4 for Milwaukee's Hispanic females.
8. Based on MHD's Final TBR figures, **the TBRs for each of the last 3 years for Milwaukee are as follows:** (NH = Non-Hispanic)

| | <u>Overall</u> | <u>NH Black</u> | <u>NH White</u> | <u>Hispanic</u> |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2015 | 18.1 | 22.3 | 6.7 | 19.4 |
| 2014 | 23.9 | 27.0 | 9.8 | 25.1 |
| 2013 | 22.9 | 30.8 | 3.5 | 23.9 |

B: Interpretation, and comparison to prior years

9. **Milwaukee's goals are to reduce the TBRs to less than 11.4 for the city overall, to less than 15 for non-Hispanic Blacks, and to less than 11.9 for Hispanics by 2023.** These goals, which were set in the fall of 2013, reflect a 50% decrease in the TBRs for the city overall and for the non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic populations as compared to their respective 2013 rates.
10. Milwaukee's **overall** TBR of 18.1 in 2015 reflects a 24% **reduction** from the 2014 rate of 23.9, and a 21% reduction (from 22.9 to 18.1) since the latest TBR goal was set in 2013. **Since 2006, when Milwaukee's TBR was 52 per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17, the rate has dropped 65%.**
11. Milwaukee's **non-Hispanic White** TBR, which increased from 3.5 to 9.8 in 2014, **decreased** to 6.7 in 2015. The 2015 rate is the second lowest on record for this population. The 2013 rate of 3.5 is the lowest on record. The non-Hispanic White rate has declined nearly 61% since 2006 (from 16.9 to 6.7).
12. Milwaukee's **Hispanic** TBR in 2015 was 19.4. This reflects almost a 23% **decrease** when compared to a rate of 25.1 in 2014. The Hispanic rate has fallen roughly 73% since 2006 (from 71.3 to 19.4) and about 19% (from 23.9 to 19.4) since the TBR goal was set in 2013.
13. Milwaukee's **non-Hispanic Black** TBR **decreased** 17% compared to our 2014 report. The non-Hispanic Black TBR for 2015 was 22.3 compared to 27.0 in 2014. The non-Hispanic Black TBR has declined 64% since 2006 (from 62.0 to 22.3), and nearly 28% (from 30.8 to 22.3) since the 2013 TBR goal was set.
14. Although there have been declines in TBRs in all racial and ethnic groups, disparities continue to exist. The TBR ratio for Hispanic females aged 15 to 17 and Black females aged 15 to 17 compared with White females of the same age group increased from 2.6 to 2.9 and from 2.8 to 3.3, respectively, when comparing 2014 to 2015. This means that as of 2015, **Hispanic and Black females aged 15 to 17 in Milwaukee are 2.9 and 3.3 times (respectively) more likely to experience a birth than White females aged 15 to 17.** Although the disparities increased in 2015, they are the second lowest TBR ratios between Hispanics and Whites and Blacks and Whites on record for the city.