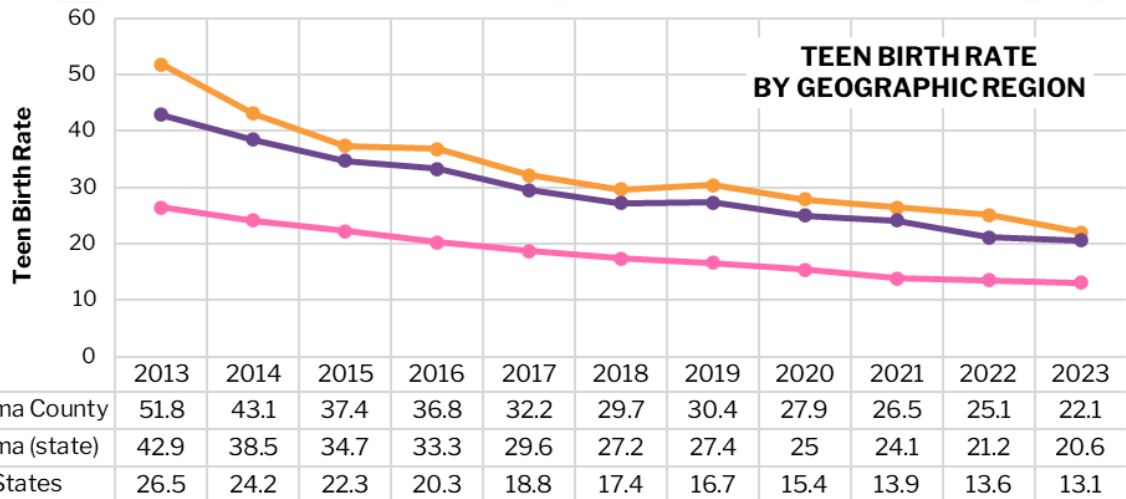


# 2023 OKLAHOMA COUNTY TEEN BIRTH RATE QUICK STATS



**honestly** is the backbone of the Central Oklahoma Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration - a county-wide public/private network dedicated to reducing teen pregnancy. Our mission is to build a movement to improve sexual health outcomes for youth. We are committed to an inclusive and judgment-free approach to adolescent health and are guided by data, research, and outcomes.

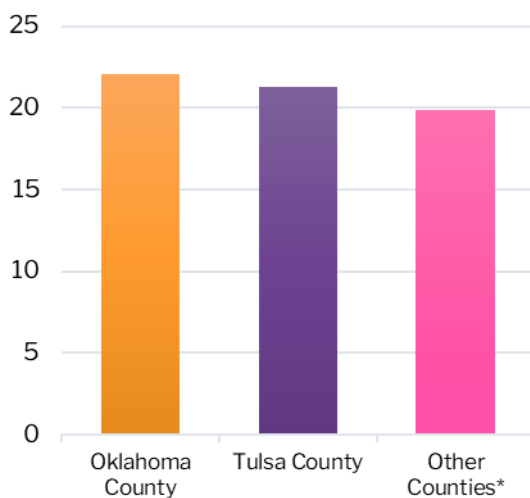


**GOOD NEWS:** Oklahoma County's teen birth rate has decreased by 57% since 2013! And the teen birth rate has been trending downward since 2008.

**MORE WORK TO BE DONE:** Oklahoma has the 5th highest teen birth rate in the United States and Oklahoma County has the highest number of teen births in the state.



**TEEN BIRTH RATES BY COUNTY**  
2023



## SO WHAT?

- There is causal evidence that funding for more comprehensive sex education leads to an overall reduction in the teen birth rate at the county level.<sup>1</sup>
- While the American Academy of Pediatrics<sup>2</sup> and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists<sup>3</sup> agree that contraceptive access is a key component of adolescent health care, most young people around the country face barriers to accessing it.<sup>4</sup>

So, we have lots of work to do. That's why **honestly** is working towards a culture in which opportunities for youth to pursue education, careers, and well-being are not limited by teen pregnancy.

\*All Oklahoma counties (excluding Oklahoma and Tulsa) averaged

**LEARN MORE AND JOIN OUR MOVEMENT!**

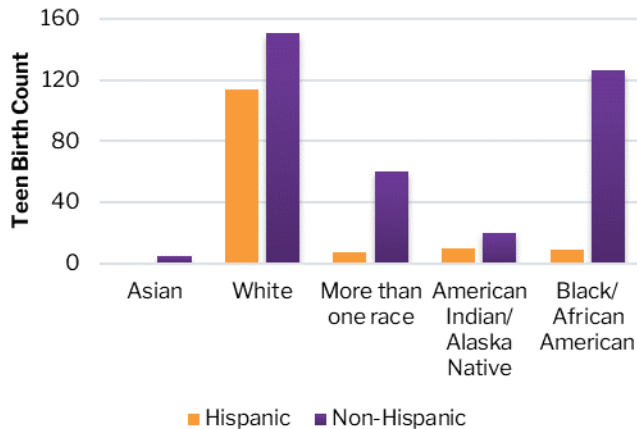
[honestlyokc.org](http://honestlyokc.org)



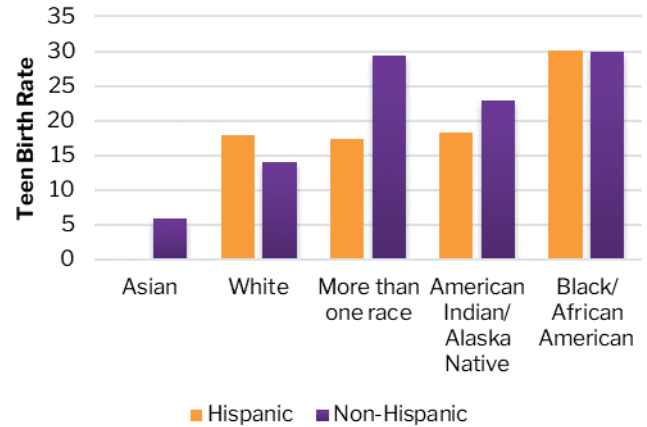
# We aim to reduce systemic inequities and community-level barriers in Oklahoma County that perpetuate disparate health outcomes.

Our guiding principles compel us to anchor our work in equity, acknowledge the diverse needs of all young people, and guide our efforts based on data, research, and outcomes. This means recognizing that systemic issues, historic inequities, and community-level barriers cause disparities in teen birth rates.

**TEEN BIRTH COUNTS BY RACE AND ETHNICITY**  
2021 - 2023 AVERAGE



**TEEN BIRTH RATES BY RACE AND ETHNICITY**  
2021 - 2023 AVERAGE

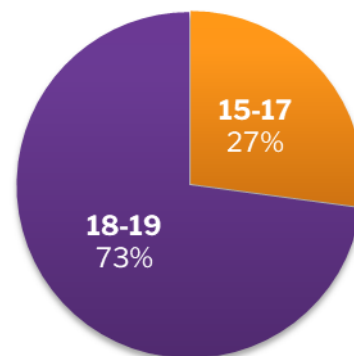


**DIVERSE NEEDS:** While white non-Hispanic teens in Oklahoma account for the highest number of teen births, they do not have the highest teen birth rate. Black, multiracial, and white Hispanic teens experience higher teen birth rates than other race and ethnicity groups, which reflects historic and systemic disparities.

**"THE COUNT"** = The teen birth count tells us the *number of births* to females aged 15-19

**"THE RATE"** = The teen birth rate tells us the number of births *per 1,000* females aged 15-19

**TEEN BIRTH COUNT BY AGE GROUP**  
2023



**OLDER TEENS:** Older teens consistently have higher birth rates. In 2022, 73% (n=439) of Oklahoma County's teen births were from 18- and 19-year-old teens.

*honestly does not own this data.*

**State/county data:** Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Center for Health Statistics, Health Care Information, Vital Statistics 2022, on Oklahoma Statistics on Health Available for Everyone (OK2SHARE). Accessed at <http://www.health.ok.gov/ok2share>

**National data:** Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Osterman MJK. Births in the United States, 2023. NCHS Data Brief, no 507. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2024. DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc/158789>.

### References

- 1) Mark NDE, Wu LL. More comprehensive sex education reduced teen births: Quasi-experimental evidence. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2022;119(8):e2113144119. doi:10.1073/pnas.2113144119
- 2) American Academy of Pediatrics. The importance of access to contraception. Home. July 14, 2023. Accessed December 15, 2023. <https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/adolescent-sexual-health/equitable-access-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-care-for-all-youth/the-importance-of-access-to-contraception/>.
- 3) American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Committee on Adolescent Health Care. Counseling adolescents about contraception. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. 2021. Accessed December 15, 2023. <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2017/08/counseling-adolescents-about-contraception>.
- 4) Advocates for Youth. Behind the Counter: Findings from the 2022 Oral Contraceptives Access Survey. <https://www.advocatesforyouth.org/freethepill/>