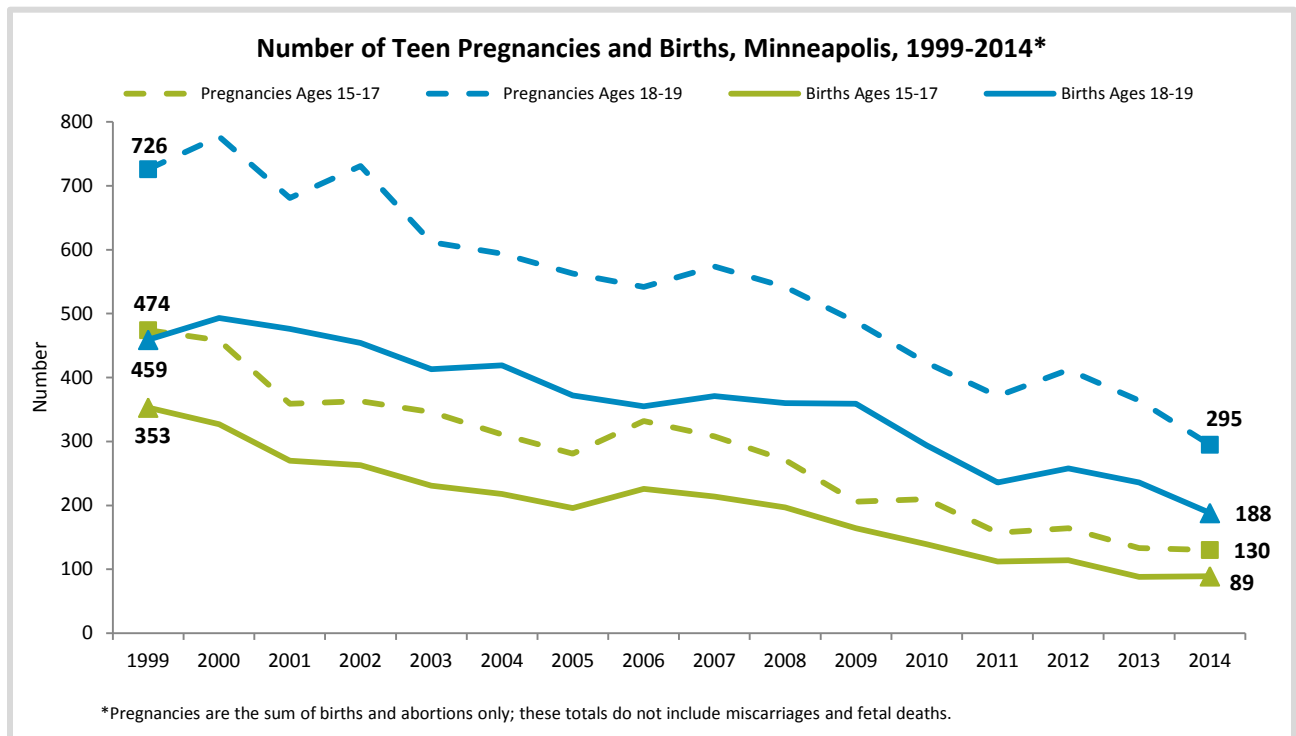


Healthy People 2020 and Minneapolis Health Department goals include improving the healthy development, health, safety, and well-being of adolescents and young adults. Improving adolescent health includes preventing teen pregnancies, most of which are unplanned. Teen births are a costly public health issue. Compared with older women, teens have higher rates of preterm births and low birth weight; they are less likely to initiate prenatal care in the first trimester and less likely to adhere to prenatal care visit guidelines. While there have been substantial declines since the 1990s across the nation and among all racial and ethnic groups, racial and ethnic disparities in teen pregnancies persist.

The decrease in teen pregnancies results from a decrease in sexual activity, especially among younger teens, along with the use of improved contraceptive methods. This report highlights teen pregnancy and teen birth trends among Minneapolis teens.

### Teen pregnancies and births are steadily declining in Minneapolis

In 2014, there were **425 pregnancies** and **277 births** to Minneapolis teens ages 15-19. The decline in teen pregnancies and births in Minneapolis is similar to national trends, decreasing by approximately two-thirds in the last 15 years. The declines in both pregnancies and births were greater in the age 15-17 subgroup than in the age 18-19 subgroup (approximately 75 percent versus 60 percent).

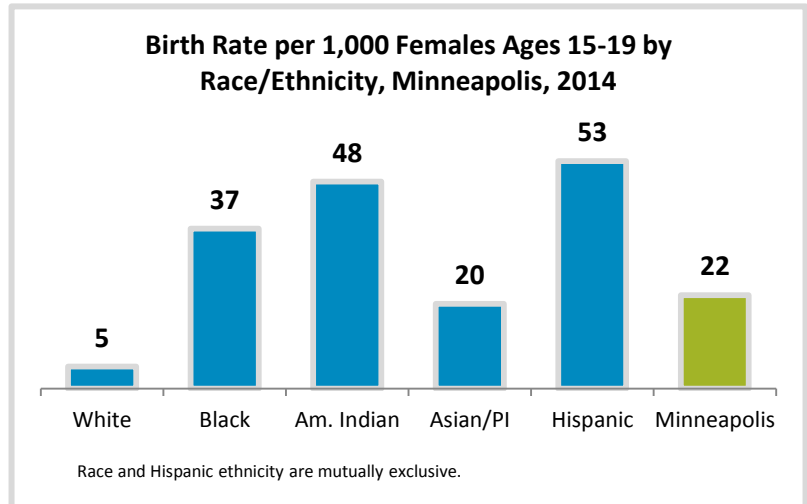


Since 1999, approximately one-third of Minneapolis teen pregnancies each year have ended in abortion. Therefore, the decline in the number of abortions parallels the decline in the number of pregnancies; this is consistent with trends seen nationwide.

## Disparities affect racial and ethnic communities in Minneapolis

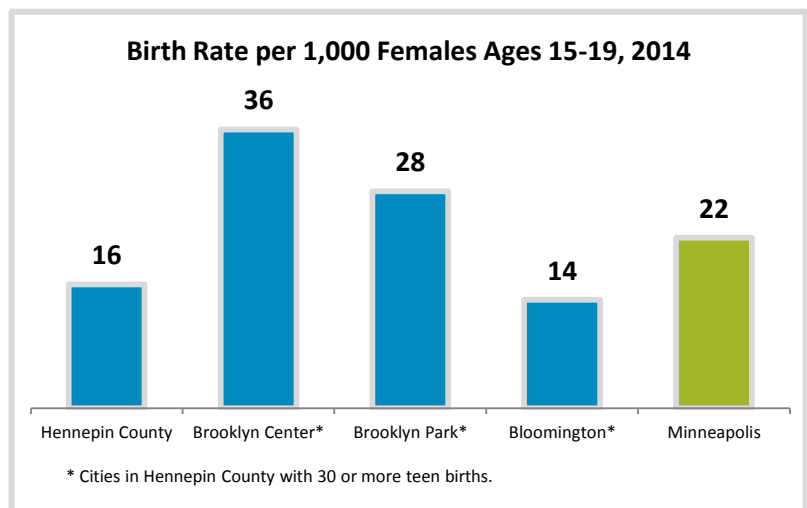
Although teen pregnancies and births have reached historic lows, this issue continues to disproportionately affect racial and ethnic communities in Minneapolis. Hispanic, Black, American Indian, and Asian adolescents in Minneapolis have higher pregnancy and birth rates than their white non-Hispanic counterparts.

Addressing the social determinants of health as well as the cultural, linguistic, and faith-based needs of individual teens are key components to reducing racial/ethnic disparities in teen pregnancy.



## The teen birth rate in Minneapolis is lower than in some first-ring suburbs

Although the city's rates for teen pregnancy and teen birth have declined significantly in the last 15 years, the city's 2014 teen birth rate is higher than the rate for Hennepin County as a whole. However, Minneapolis' teen birth rate is lower than some other cities within the County. The graph to the right illustrates comparisons among cities that had at least 30 births to teens in 2014. Teen birth rates in Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center were much higher than in Minneapolis.



## Conclusion

Minneapolis continues to make progress in reducing the overall number of teen pregnancies and teen births but racial and ethnic disparities persist. The Minneapolis Health Department collaborates with the broader community of stakeholders, including clinical providers, families, teachers, and school staff to reduce teen pregnancies. The Minneapolis School Based Clinics provide teens with easy access to contraception and sexual health education.

If you need this material in an alternative format, please call the Minneapolis Health Department at (612) 673-2301 or email [health@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:health@minneapolismn.gov). Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may use a relay service to call 311 agents at (612) 673-3000. TTY users may call (612) 673-2157 or (612) 673-2626. Attention: If you have any questions regarding this material please call 311 or (612) 673-2301; Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu (612) 673-2800; Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame al teléfono (612) 673-2700; Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac (612) 673-3500.