



Who we are

Established in 2009, the Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is a non-partisan, non-profit education and advocacy organization dedicated to reducing the rate of teen pregnancy in Texas. We work to create constructive dialogue around teen pregnancy, adolescent sexual health and effective prevention strategies.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for children, families, and communities across Texas by preventing unintended teen pregnancies.

What we do

We build the capacity of community members to address this complex issue by focusing on four key pillars:

- *Strengthen:* We coordinate statewide activities to improve impact.
- *Connect:* We connect communities to customized approaches.
- *Provide:* We provide research and best practices to organizations across Texas.
- *Engage:* We raise awareness and advocate for effective prevention programs and policies.

Why it matters

Teen childbearing in Texas costs taxpayers at least \$1.1 billion per year. Taking steps to address this issue benefits our youth and community by improving educational attainment and by decreasing demands on Medicaid and the public health system. Children born to parents just a few years older have better overall outcomes and are more likely to be born to those ready for the lifelong responsibility of being a parent.

connect with us



www.txcampaign.org

Texas: A Snapshot

A teenage girl in Texas is more likely to become pregnant than a girl in almost any other state. Though there have been historic declines in teen pregnancy across the nation, our state has not seen the same kind of progress as almost every other state in the union. Texas ranks #5 for the rate of teen births and holds the #1 spot for the rate of repeat teen births. In fact, 1 in 4 births to girls aged 15-19 is not the teen's first.



Cycle of Poverty

Teen childbearing is both a cause and a consequence of poverty. Children of teen moms are three times more likely to become teen parents themselves.



Economics

Taxpayers shoulder a significant financial burden for teen childbearing through increased public health care, child welfare, and criminal justice costs. Between 1991 and 2010, there were 1,063,399 teen births in Texas, costing taxpayers a total of \$24.3 billion over that period.



Education

Teen parents face additional challenges in educational attainment. More than 60% of teen moms drop out of high school when they become parents and fewer than 2% earn a college degree by their 30th birthday.



Race

Teen pregnancy does not discriminate. Though it differs substantially by racial and ethnic group, Texas teen pregnancy rates are higher than the national average among all backgrounds.

Meet Anna Marie



In my family, we don't talk about sex. Honestly, I can't even imagine talking to my mom about it. So when my boyfriend and I started having sex, we wanted to be careful. We decided to go to a clinic in our neighborhood to learn about birth control but they wouldn't talk to us because we didn't have our parents with us.

Meet Emma & Noah

We thought we were being safe. I was on the birth control pill and sometimes we used condoms, but I got pregnant anyway. We were both 17 and heading into our senior year of high school. It wasn't until after we had our daughter that I learned there were more effective forms of birth control like IUDs.



Texas: By the Numbers

#1

National Rank:
Number of
Repeat Teen
Births, 2014

#5

National Rank:
Number of Teen
Births, 2014

35,063

Total Number of
Teen Births in
Texas, 2014

46%

High School
Students who
Reported
Having Sex

53%

High School
Students who
Used a Condom
at Last Sex

84%

School Districts
Providing
Abstinence-Only
or No Sex Ed

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Citations represent the most recently available. The most recent year available will vary by indicator. Data references available upon request.