



**Louisville Sex Education Now**  
**Providing Opportunity over Poverty: Teen Pregnancy Prevention in Kentucky**  
**Updated: 3/9/2016**

- In 2014, the Kentucky teen birth rate was 35.3 births per 1,000 teen girls aged 15-19. This is higher than the U.S. average teen birth rate of 24.2 births per 1,000 teen girls aged 15-19.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2013, there were 5,298 births in Kentucky for girls aged 15-19.<sup>3</sup>
- In Kentucky, 17% of teen births were repeat births, 2014.<sup>1</sup>
- Nearly half of pregnancies among Kentucky women aged 15-44 were described as unplanned.<sup>1</sup>
- 67% of births from unintended pregnancies in Kentucky are publically funded. Each publically funded birth cost the tax payers of the Commonwealth \$14,887 for maternity care and infant care through the first year.<sup>8</sup>
- Kentucky was ranked the 7<sup>th</sup> highest (ranked 43<sup>rd</sup> overall) for Teen Birth Rate in 2014.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2014 in KY 25% of teen births were to women ages 15-17.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2010, public spending on teen pregnancy in Kentucky totaled \$158 million and unplanned pregnancy totaled \$378 million.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2013, 44.7% of Kentucky high school students, grades 9-12, report ever having sexual intercourse and 21% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders identified as having four or more partners.<sup>4</sup>
- In Kentucky, 53.1% of high school students who were sexually active used a condom during their last sexual intercourse; this lowered from 59.9% in 2009. The national average for grades 9-12 was 59.1%.<sup>4</sup>
- 27.3% of Kentucky high school students who were sexually active reported using a medical contraception method (pill, patch, shot, LARC) before their last sexual intercourse.<sup>4</sup>
- 50% of teen mothers receive a high school diploma by age 22, versus approximately 90% of women who had not given birth during adolescence.<sup>7</sup>
- The children of teenage mothers are more likely to have lower school achievement and drop out of high school, have more health problems, be incarcerated at some time during adolescence, give birth as a teenager, and face unemployment as a young adult.<sup>6</sup>

## References

- <sup>1</sup>The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. *National and State Data: Kentucky (2015)*. Data Retrieved from <https://thenationalcampaign.org/data/state/kentucky>. Accessed March 9, 2016.
- <sup>2</sup> Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Osterman MJK, et al. *Births: Preliminary data for 2014*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National vital statistics reports; vol 64 no 6. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Data Retrieved from <http://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/31698>. Accessed March 9, 2016.
- <sup>3</sup> KY Vital Statistics as provided by the KY Cabinet of Health and Family Services.
- <sup>4</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [2013] Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Data Retrieved from [www.cdc.gov/yrb](http://www.cdc.gov/yrb). Accessed on May 26,2015.
- <sup>5</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Prevention Status Reports 2013: Teen Pregnancy— Kentucky*. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services. Accessed on May 20,2015.
- <sup>6</sup> Hoffman S., Maynard R. *Kids Having Kids: Economic Costs and Social Consequences of Teen Pregnancy*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute Press; 2008. Accessed on May 26, 2015.
- <sup>7</sup> Perper K, Peterson K, Manlove J. *Diploma Attainment Among Teen Mothers. Child Trends, Fact Sheet Publication#2010-01*: Washington, DC:Child Trends; 2010.