



Family Health Clinic
(423) 209-8050

<http://health.hamiltontn.org/ClinicalServices/mchs/FamilyHlt.htm>

At a Glance

2006 Teen Birth Rate:

- 14.7 Hamilton
- 11.1 TN

Sources:

Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics.

Report of Tennessee Births, 2005 (published in 2007) by the Tennessee Department of Health.

Births: Preliminary Data for 2006. National Vital Statistics Reports, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. December 5, 2007.

2002 Hamilton County Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

Teen Pregnancy in Hamilton County

MAY 2008

Teen Births & Trends

In Hamilton County, there are on average 200 teens (ages 10-17 years) who give birth each year. In 2006, the teen birth rate for Hamilton County was 14.7 per 1,000 females age 10-17 years and 11.1 for Tennessee. In Hamilton County, births to teens ages 10-17 years were approximately 10% of all African American births and 3% of white births, with almost 5% of all Hispanic ethnicity births.

In Tennessee, the total birth rate for teens ages 10-17 years declined 33.7% from 1996 to 2005. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that the overall teen birth rate in the United States rose in 2006 for the first time since 1991, including a significant rise in unmarried childbearing.

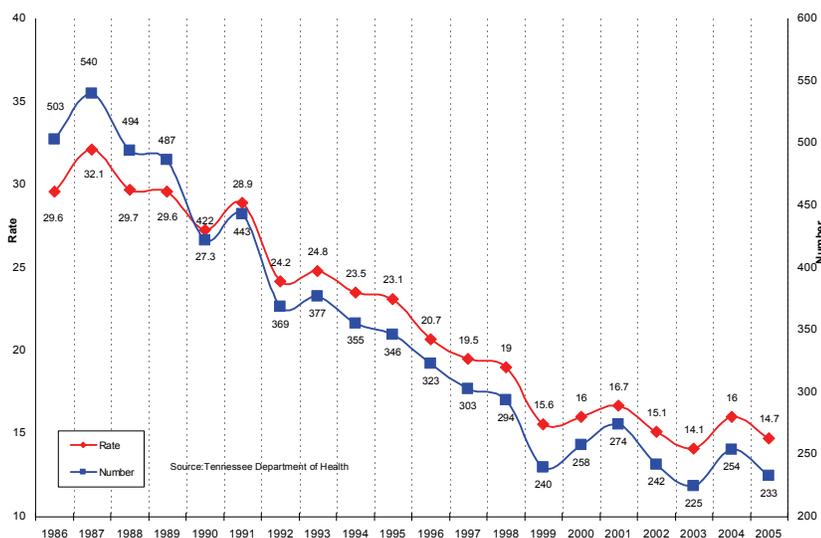
Babies born to teenage mothers are at a higher risk of dying before their first birthday, and these young moms have a much higher likelihood of dropping out of high school than their peers. According to the Tennessee Department of Health, low self-esteem, lack of community and family support, lack of involvement in school and recreational activities, limited knowledge about sex and sexuality, lack of access to or no knowledge of contraceptives, and peer pressure all contribute to adolescent pregnancy.

Tracking Teen Pregnancies

Teen pregnancy rates for teens ages 10-17 years are the sum of live births, reported fetal deaths, and induced abortions per 1,000 female population.

In Hamilton County, teen pregnancy rates have dropped 50% since 1985.

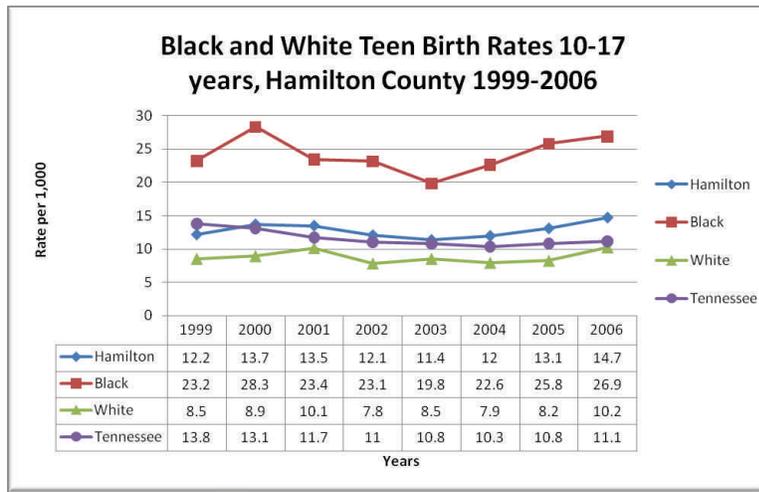
Pregnancy Rates per 1000 Females Aged 10-17 and Total Numbers of Pregnancies Hamilton County, Tennessee, 1985-2005



Teen Births and Pregnancies by Race

Contributing Factors for Adolescent Pregnancy:

- ◆ Low self-esteem
- ◆ Lack of community and family support
- ◆ Lack of involvement in school and recreational activities
- ◆ Limited knowledge about sex and sexuality
- ◆ Lack of access to or knowledge about contraceptives
- ◆ Peer Pressure
Source: TDOH



Births

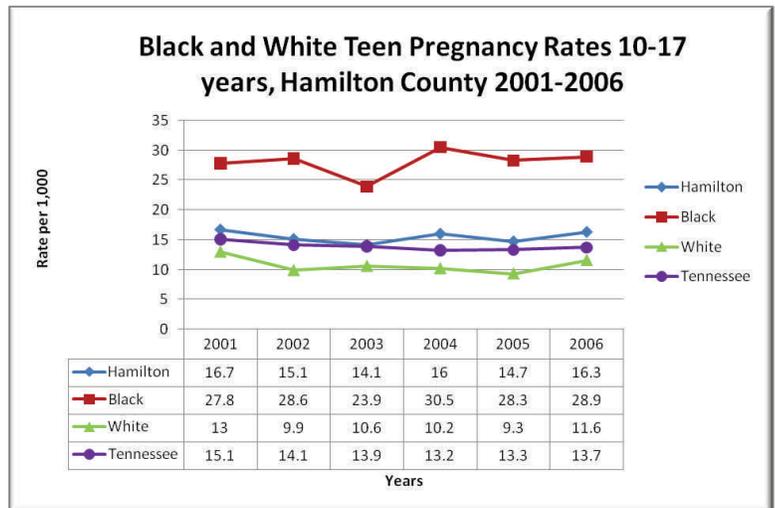
African American teens are approximately 30% of the population of females ages 10-17 years in Hamilton County.

In Hamilton County, the live birth rate for African American teens is more than double the rate than their white peers.

Pregnancies

Since 1985, the overall teen pregnancy rate in Hamilton County has fallen dramatically.

However, the pregnancy rate for African American teens (ages 10-17 years) in Hamilton County is still more than double the rate than their white peers.



Importance of Folic Acid Everyday

The Health Department recommends that every woman who could become pregnant to take 400 micrograms (400 mcg) of synthetic folic acid every day.

Folic acid is a B vitamin used in our bodies to make new cells. Think about parts of your body like your skin, hair and nails. Parts like these and other parts of your body

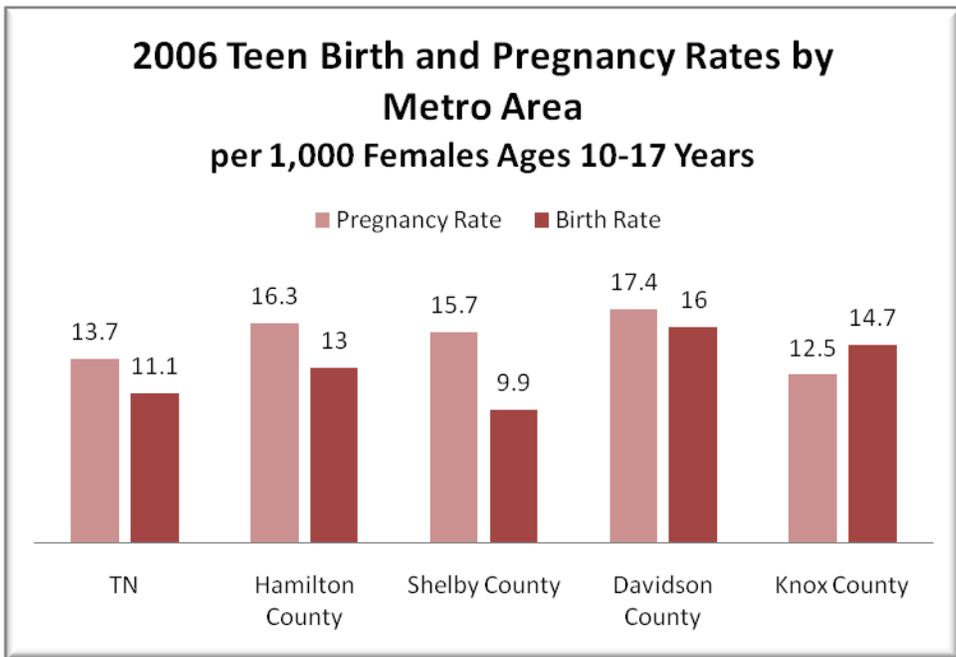
make new cells everyday, and we all need folic acid to make healthy new cells. If a woman takes enough folic acid before she is pregnant, folic acid can help prevent major birth defects of her baby's brain and spine.

One easy way a woman can be sure she is getting enough folic acid is to take a daily vitamin that has folic acid. Folic acid

pills and most multivitamins sold in the U.S. have 100% of the daily value (DV) of folic acid, but check the label to be sure.

Supplement Facts		
	Amount Per Serving	% Daily Value
Folic Acid	400 mcg	100%
Vitamin B12	6 mcg	100%
Pantothenic Acid	5 mg	50%
Calcium	450 mg	45%
Iron	18 mg	100%
Magnesium	50 mg	12%
Zinc	15 mg	100%

Teen Births and Pregnancies in Tennessee Metro Areas



Teen birth and pregnancy rates (ages 10-17 years) were compared to other metropolitan areas in Tennessee.

In 2006, Davidson County had the highest teen pregnancy rate and birth rate. Hamilton County had the next highest teen pregnancy rate and Knox County had the next highest teen birth rate.

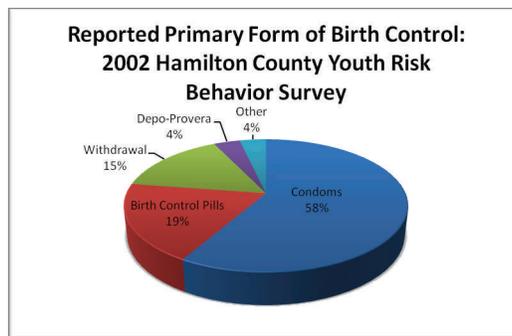
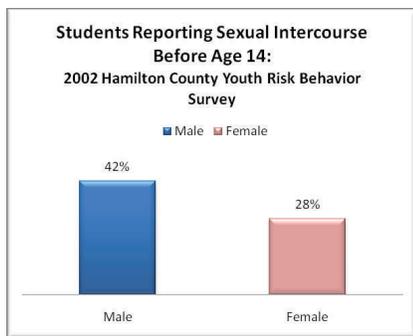
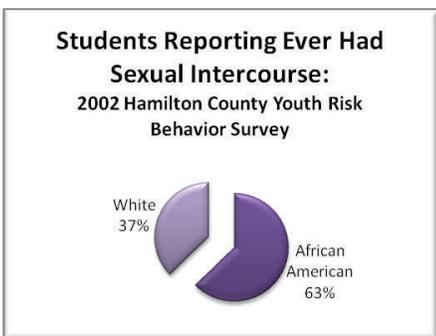
In Tennessee, the average annual cost associated with a child born to a mother age 17 or younger is \$3,404.

-The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

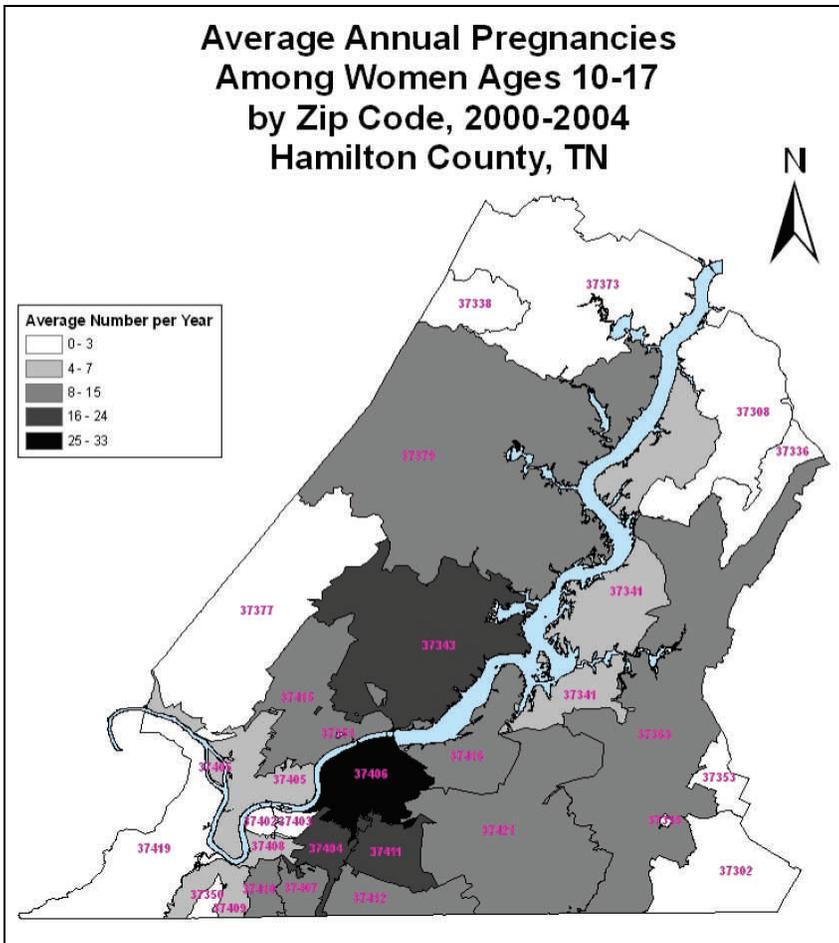
Risky Sexual Behavior

In 2002, approximately 2,700 high school students in Hamilton County participated in a Youth Risk Behavior Survey in 16 public and 3 private schools. The report identified the following risky sexual behaviors:

- Overall, 44% of students reported ever having sexual intercourse, with 30% saying they had sexual intercourse in the past 3 months. Forty-five percent reported ever having oral sex.
- Students from two-parent homes were less likely than students from single-parent or parent/stepparent homes to have engaged in sexual activity. Better performing students were less likely to be sexually active than poorer performing students.
- Of all students surveyed, 5% reported that they had been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant. Among students who did not use any birth control last time they had sex, the percentage of those reporting pregnancies increased 29%.



Where are Teen Pregnancies Occurring?



This map shows average annual teen pregnancies from 2000-2004 by zip code.

The zip codes with the highest average of annual teen pregnancies were:

- 37406 (East Chattanooga)
- 37404 (Highland Park)
- 37411 (Brainerd)
- 37343 (Hixson)

Resources for Help

Resources at the Health Department:

Family Planning at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department provides education and counseling, medical examinations, laboratory tests, and contraceptive supplies for any person of reproductive age. All services are confidential. Family planning services require an appointment with the exception of pregnancy testing. Service charges are based on a sliding scale fee system and are offered at the following locations:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Birchwood Health Center
(423) 961-0446 | • Ooltewah Health Center
(423) 238-4269 |
| • Family Health (3rd St)
(423) 209-8050 | • Sequoyah Health Center
(423) 842-3031 |

Help Us Grow Successfully (HUGS) is a home-based prevention and intervention program at the Health Department targeting first-time pregnant girls/women. HUGS services focus on achieving a healthy pregnancy and reducing newborn complications, as well as concentrating on parenting skills and utilization of health care and social services. Call (423) 209-8080.

Harriet Tubman Express is a teen pregnancy and prevention and life skills program for youth living in the Harriet Tubman development. Call (423) 493-5138.

Resources in the Community:

United Way's 2-1-1 is an information and referral service where you can get or give help just by dialing 2-1-1. This free information line can help connect you to human service resources, including pregnancy services, counseling, and other prevention programs.



Are you a victim of sexual assault or rape? Call the **Rape Crisis Center** at: (423) 755-2700.