

## Department of Health Resources in Providence

### Personal Responsibility Education Program (Teen Outreach Program Curriculum)

Combines a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum with a youth development approach in the form of a community service component that has proven effective in both school and community-based settings.

**The Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center** 325 Public Street, Providence • 401-752-2600

**Sojourner House** 386 Smith Street, Providence • 401-861-6191

**Youth in Action** 672 Broad Street, Providence • 401-751-4264

### Title X Family Planning

Provides confidential family planning services at low or no cost based on income. Teens can receive confidential birth control visits or HIV/STD testing without parental notification or consent.

**Planned Parenthood of RI Teen Clinic** 111 Point Street, Providence • 401-421-9620

**Providence Community Health Centers** 375 Allens Avenue, Providence • 401-444-0400

(main office for 5 Providence locations) • [www.health.ri.gov/programs/familyplanning](http://www.health.ri.gov/programs/familyplanning)

### Maternal and Child Home Visiting

Provides short- or long-term home visiting services to pregnant or parenting teens, including fathers. Home visitors help their clients find appropriate prenatal care, engage in preventive health practices, connect with community resources, become more confident parents, and set and achieve personal goals.

**First Connections at Children's Friend** 153 Summer Street, Providence • 401-721-6400 • [www.health.ri.gov/homevisiting](http://www.health.ri.gov/homevisiting)

### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program

Provides services such as healthy food checks, nutrition counseling, and breastfeeding support to low-income pregnant and parenting teens.

**Women & Infants Hospital Outpatient Nutrition Services**

2 Dudley Street, MOC-Suite 565, Providence • 401-274-1122 x 2768 • [www.health.ri.gov/wic](http://www.health.ri.gov/wic)

## Additional resources in your community

### Boys and Girls Club of Providence

Enables and inspires youth, especially those from diverse or difficult circumstances, to reach their full potential as productive, responsible, and healthy members of their community through programs such as character and leadership development, computer training, life skills, and sports recreation.

90 Ives Street #2, Providence • 401-444-0758

### CCAP Providence Skills Center

Year-round program for Rhode Islanders ages 16-21. Provides GED programs and services designed to provide the skills needed to compete in today's job market.

31 Providence Place, Providence • 401-437-8885

### Center for Southeast Asians (Youth Literacy Program)

Provides high-quality after-school programming to enhance the academic skills of Providence youth ages 12-17 who are at risk of dropping out of school and/or joining gangs.

70 Elmwood Avenue, Providence • 401-274-8811 • [info@cseari.org](mailto:info@cseari.org)

### Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island Full Service Community Schools

Provide opportunities to Providence school children and their families to work together in a two-generational plan to enhance literacy, maximize learning, and support academic growth within families.

220 Elmwood Avenue, Providence • 401-461-5940

### Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence

Serves both victims and perpetrators of violent crime and works with juveniles and adults as they prepare to be released from the Training School or Prison.

265 Oxford Street, Providence • 401-785-2320

### Providence After School Alliance

Expands and improves quality after-school, summer, and other expanded learning opportunities for the youth of Providence. Some programs include the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) program which allows youth to work on innovative projects in the outside communities and the HUB, which provides hands-on and real-world skills.

140 Broadway Street, Providence • 401-490-9599

### YMCA

Provides after-school programs, fitness programs, and teen nights. The YMCA also has the Leaders' Club, which provides leadership training, personal growth, service to others, and social development by working closely with peers, counselors, and the community.

371 Pine Street, Providence • 401-456-0604

438 Hope Street, Providence • 401-521-0155

### Youth Build Providence

Provides counseling services, including housing, parenting, financial, and college or employment help. Youth Build also provides opportunities for youth to explore careers and work in various community organizations through the Service Learning Academy.

66 Chaffee Street, Providence • 401-273-7528

### Youth Pride

Provides support, advocacy, and education for RI's LGBTQQ youth and their allies ages 13-23.

743 Westminster Street, Providence • 401-421-5626

### YouthWORKS411

Provides a variety of career readiness and academic enrichment services for youth ages 14-24.

110 Eddy Street, Providence • 401-444-0885



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# Teen Pregnancy PROVIDENCE



Providence has many services in place to help teens—including those who are pregnant and parenting—achieve their education, career, and personal goals. Opportunities exist to build on these strengths to prevent teen pregnancy and enhance individual, family, and community well-being.

## Why we care about teen pregnancy

Teen pregnancy affects the long-term well-being of families and communities. Teen pregnancy is associated with serious health risks for the mother and child. For example, Rhode Island women younger than 20 years old are more likely to use tobacco during pregnancy and have late prenatal care and are less likely to breastfeed.<sup>1</sup> Teen pregnancy and parenting also contribute to higher high school drop-out rates and lower income and educational attainment.<sup>2</sup> For fathers, education statistics are similar; between 2002 and 2006, 40% of infants born to teens had fathers with a high-school diploma or less. Children of teen parents 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 teen, and face unemployment as a young adult.<sup>3</sup> In Rhode Island in 2008, public sector costs associated with teen childbearing were estimated at nearly \$49 million.<sup>2</sup>

## Community strengths

- **The number and rate of teen pregnancies have been decreasing**—and at a sharper rate in Providence (32%) than across Rhode Island (28%) during 2007-2011. (See Figure 1 on the next page.)
- **Most Providence teens want to continue their education.** Slightly more Providence 12th graders had planned to attend college during the 2010-2011 school year (92%) than their peers statewide (90%).
- **Providence has many community-based services for teens**, including programs to help teens prevent pregnancy, continue their education, find employment, prepare for a baby, and improve their parenting skills and confidence. See page four for a partial listing.

### PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY AT A GLANCE

- ALL AGES: 178,042
- WHITE: 88,623 (49.8%)
- BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN: 28,557 (16.0%)
- HISPANIC/LATINO ETHNICITY: 67,835 (38.1%)
- BELOW POVERTY: 27.7%
- FEMALES AGED 15-19: 10,115
- TEEN PREGNANCIES BY YEAR:

595

2009

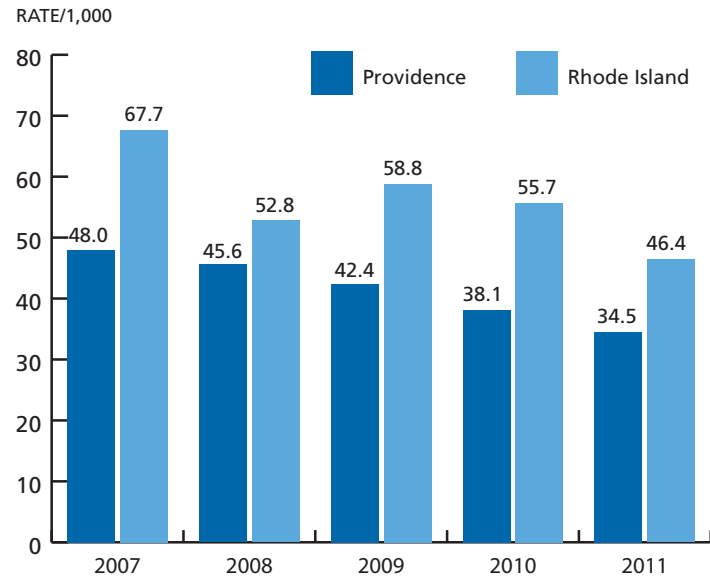
563

2010

469

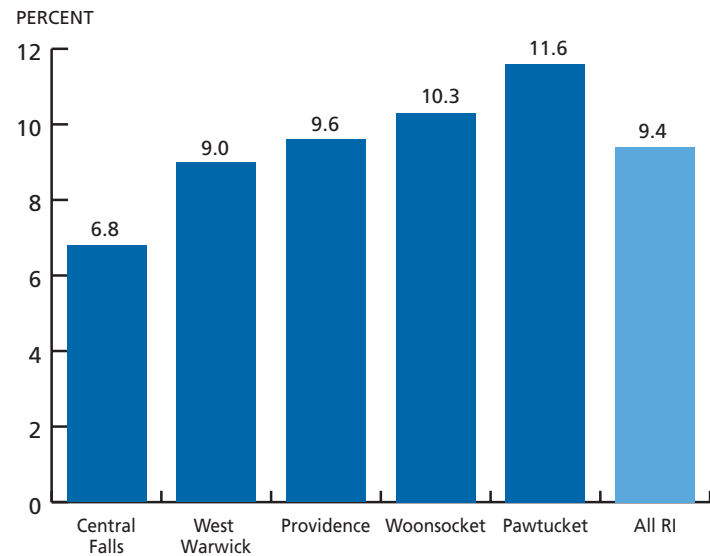
2011

**FIGURE 1**  
TEEN PREGNANCY RATES, PROVIDENCE AND RHODE ISLAND, 2007-2011\*



\*Teen pregnancy rates are defined as the number of births, induced terminations, and spontaneous fetal deaths (e.g., miscarriages) per 1,000 female teens aged 15-19; 2011 data are provisional; rates based on 2010 US Census data  
Source: Maternal and Child Health Database, Rhode Island Department of Health

**FIGURE 3**  
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT AMONG TEEN BIRTHS BY SELECTED CITIES/TOWNS, RHODE ISLAND 2009-2011\*

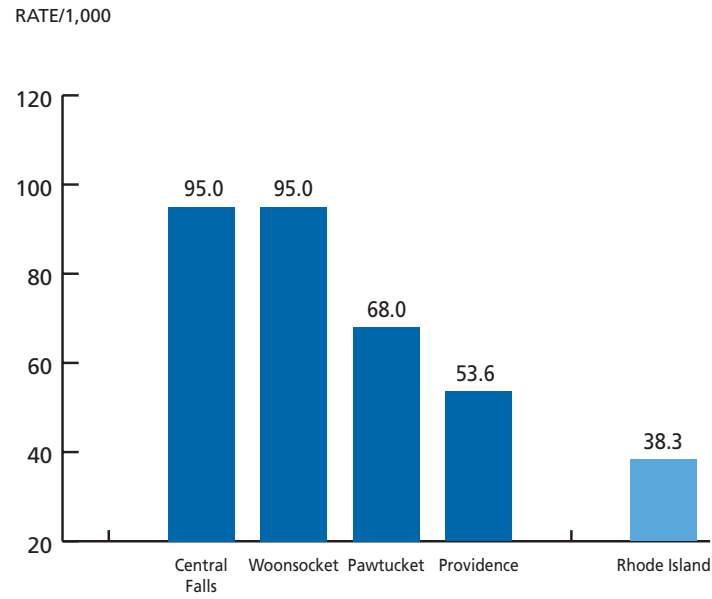


\*Low birth weight = <2500 grams; teens aged 15-19  
Source: Maternal and Child Health Database, Rhode Island Department of Health

## References

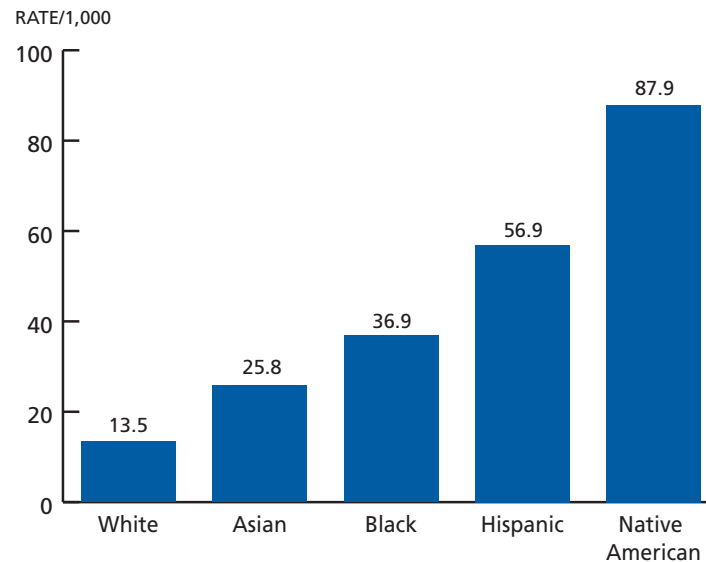
- <sup>1</sup>Rhode Island Department of Health. (2012). 2012 Rhode Island Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System data book. Retrieved from [www.health.ri.gov/publications/databooks/2012PregnancyRiskAssessmentMonitoringSystem.pdf](http://www.health.ri.gov/publications/databooks/2012PregnancyRiskAssessmentMonitoringSystem.pdf)  
<sup>2</sup>Counting It Up: The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing in Rhode Island in 2008. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, June 2011.  
<sup>3</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2012) About teen pregnancy. Retrieved from [www.cdc.gov/TeenPregnancy/AboutTeenPreg.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/TeenPregnancy/AboutTeenPreg.htm)

**FIGURE 2**  
TEEN PREGNANCY RATES BY SELECTED GEOGRAPHIC AREAS, RHODE ISLAND, 2009-2011



Source: Maternal and Child Health Database, Rhode Island Department of Health

**FIGURE 4**  
TEEN BIRTH RATES BY SELECTED RACIAL/ETHNIC GROUPS, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND\* 2009-2011



\*Notes: Rates were calculated using population estimates based on the 2010 US Census  
Source: Maternal and Child Health Database, Rhode Island Department of Health

## Community challenges

- Providence had one of the highest teen pregnancy rates in the state during 2009-2011. The rate in Providence (54 per 1,000 teens) was 1.4 times that for the state (38), with 1,627 teen pregnancies occurring during the three-year period (Figure 2).
- The repeat teen birth rate was slightly higher in Providence than statewide. Among the 1,041 infants born to teens in Providence during 2009-2011, 215 (21%) were born to teens who were already mothers, compared to 16% statewide.
- More than one-quarter (26%) of the Providence teens who gave birth during 2009-2011 received late\* or no prenatal care. This rate is 1.5 times higher than the overall rate among Pawtucket residents (17%). Statewide, the difference between rates of late prenatal care among teens (23%) and those aged 20 and older (12%) was greater, however, nearly twice as high for teens.

- Providence teens had a higher rate of low birth weight births (10%) than teens statewide and in some other Rhode Island cities with high teen birth rates (Figure 3).
- Disparities exist among racial/ethnic groups. During 2009-2011 in Providence, the teen birth rate was about 3 times as high among Black or African Americans, 4 times as high among those of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, and 6.5 times as high among Native Americans as among Whites (Figure 4).
- Providence high school students had higher absenteeism rates during the 2010-2011 school year than their peers statewide. Nearly half (46%) of the 7,064 high school students in Providence were absent 18 or more days compared to the statewide rate of 25%. The overall attendance rate of 85% was lower than the state rate (92%).
- Providence students had lower school achievement than their statewide peers. The Providence class of 2011 had a lower four-year graduation rate (66%) than that in Rhode Island overall (77%). In addition, only 56% of Providence 11th grade students were proficient at reading compared to 77% of all Rhode Island students.

## Worth noting

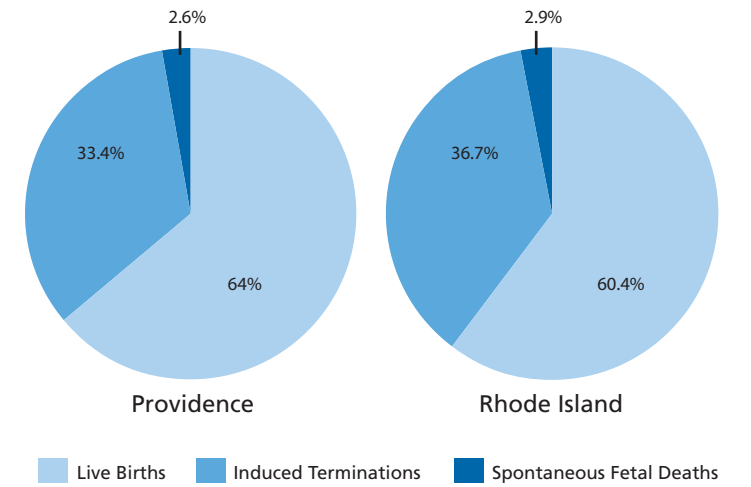
A slightly higher proportion of teen pregnancies result in a live birth in Providence than statewide. Among the 1,627 Providence pregnancies during 2009-2011, 1,041 (64%) resulted in a live birth, and 544 (33%) in an induced termination. Statewide, 60% of teen pregnancies resulted in a live birth and 37% in an induced termination (Figure 5).

## What you can do

- **Make a data-driven action plan** to address teen pregnancy and promote adolescent health in Providence. Take advantage of your community's many strengths and support services to do so.
- **Encourage referrals to community-based programs and services** that can help teens prevent pregnancy and support them if they do get pregnant. Providers should coordinate care for teens and follow up on referrals, as appropriate, to assure access to care.
- **Keep talking with us.** We hope to engage in continuous conversation and collaboration to help you enhance adolescent health in your community. For more information, contact Kim Harris, Adolescent Health Program Manager, at 401-222-4354.
- Visit [www.health.ri.gov/for/pregnantwomen](http://www.health.ri.gov/for/pregnantwomen) for useful information for pregnant women.

\*Prenatal care that begins after the first trimester

**FIGURE 5**  
TEEN PREGNANCY OUTCOMES, PROVIDENCE AND RHODE ISLAND, 2009-2011



Source: Maternal and Child Health Database, Rhode Island Department of Health