

Important Teen Birth Facts to Know

1) Oklahoma's teen birth numbers and rates have shown a **major decline in the last 10 years:**

- The annual number of teen births has **decreased by half (53%)** between 2009 (7,537 births) and 2018 (3,512 births).
- The teen birth rate (ages 15-19) **decreased by 51%**, from 57 to 28. *(Rates are the number of births per 1,000 females of the same age range.)*

2) Oklahoma communities and tribes have secured over **\$8 million in federal funding per year since 2010** to provide effective prevention programs for youth at higher risk of STIs, teen pregnancy and victimization. Oklahoma has provided **no state funding**.

- Groups offering programs through federal funding have included the Choctaw Nation, Community Service Council of Tulsa, Iowa Tribe, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma City-County Health Department, Thrive (OK County), Tulsa Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, Tulsa Health Department and Youth Services of Tulsa.

3) The **results are dramatic**, especially in the two urban counties which have over one-third (35%) of all teen births in the state.

- In the past 5 years alone, births for young teens, aged 15-17, dropped by 31% in Oklahoma County and 41% in Tulsa County, thanks to programs provided in partnership with the metro public school districts.

4) **It IS working!** Oklahoma communities and tribes -- with the help of federal funding, local foundations, and a wide range of public and private sector partnerships -- are *dramatically reducing* teen birth rates and numbers by focusing on relevant, effective, evidence-based programs. **Many things in Oklahoma are broken and need fixing. This effort is not one of them.**