Teen Births in Delaware: Context, Correlates, Consequences and Costs

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Discussion Points

- Context of Teen Births in Delaware
  - Income and resources
  - Stressors
- Correlates
  - Health risks
  - Prenatal Care
- Consequences
  - Post partum behaviors
- Costs of Teen Births
  - Prenatal Care, Delivery, Newborn Care
- Potential Intervention Points
  - Education and Access
Teen Birth Rates in Developed Nations, 1950-2005

Source: Santelli & Melnikas, 2010 Annual Reviews of Public Health
Delaware Trends in Teen Births

Delaware Births by Age

Source: 2008 Delaware Office of Vital Statistics
Percent of Live Births by County

Delaware Percent of Live Births to Mothers Age 19 and Under by County

New Castle SPA [State Planning Area] includes all of New Castle County except the City of Wilmington

Source: 2008 Delaware Office of Vital Statistics
Delaware PRAMS Data

- PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) is a surveillance project conducted by the CDC and the Delaware Division of Public Health. The first year available in Delaware is 2008. The project interviewed 1,238 of the selected sample of 1,576 mothers with live births in the year (79%).
Younger mothers are **significantly** more likely to report that they did **not** want to be pregnant at this time.

*Wanted to be pregnant at this time

* Indicates p<=.05

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
## Context:
### Income and Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income and Resources</th>
<th>Teens (&lt;20) 10.9%</th>
<th>Young mothers (20-24) 25.4%</th>
<th>Older mothers (25 and older) 63.7%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household income &lt; $15,000</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household income $50,000+</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid Coverage</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>35.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIC Enrolled</td>
<td>85.3</td>
<td>66.0</td>
<td>34.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
## Context: Stressors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stressors</th>
<th>Teens (&lt;20) 10.9%</th>
<th>Young mothers (20-24) 25.4%</th>
<th>Older mothers (25 and older) 63.7%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argue lots*</td>
<td>42.6</td>
<td>42.1</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn’t pay bills*</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>24.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family member ill*</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical fights*</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless*</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moved*</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>30.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Indicates p<0.001

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
Context: Contraception Use

- Of Delaware teens 17 years old and younger who were not trying to get pregnant, only 43% were using birth control.

- For 18-20 year olds not trying to get pregnant, only 49% were using birth control.

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
Reasons for Not Using Birth Control Among Women Not Trying to Conceive*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not minding if you get pregnant</th>
<th>Thought couldn't get pregnant</th>
<th>Side effect of birth control</th>
<th>Couldn't get birth control</th>
<th>Thought partner was sterile</th>
<th>Partner didn't want to use birth control</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 or Under</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-24</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates p=<.001

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
Correlates

- Teen mothers were less likely to be obese than older mothers, however they were more likely to report other health issues such as asthma and anemia.

- Only 63% of teen mothers reporting prenatal care in their first trimester, compared to 80% of older moms.

- Teens more likely to have certain risks during pregnancy such as sexually transmitted diseases and infections.

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
**Correlates: Risks During Pregnancy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Urinary Tract Infections, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, or other Vaginal Infections During Pregnancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 17 or Under</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 18-20</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 21-24</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 25-34</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 35-44</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
Consequences: Postpartum Behaviors

- Using birth control postpartum
  - 92% (Age 17 and younger)
  - 82% (Age 20 and younger)

- Baby most often sleeps on back
  - 58% (Age 20 and younger)
  - >70% (21 and older)

- Baby often or always sleeps with someone in bed
  - 26% (Age 20 and younger)
  - <20% (21 and older)

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
Consequences: Postpartum behaviors (cont.)

- Baby not seen by a doctor/nurse within one week of leaving the hospital
  - 11% (Age 17 and younger)
  - 12% (Age 18-20)
  - 9% (Age 21 and up)

- Baby has received no vaccinations within three months of birth
  - 12% (Age 17 and younger)
  - 8% (Age 18-20)
  - 5% (Age 21 and older)

Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data
Costs:

Teen Births in Delaware

- Data from the Delaware Office of Vital Statistics
  - Data include all births to Delaware residents in 2008 (N=12,016).

- Costs from the Healthcare Cost & Utilization Project (HCUP).
  - Used estimates of prenatal care, delivery and newborn care costs to calculate the annual cost of pregnancy.
  - Cost data was stratified by mother’s age, insurance type, method of delivery, and complicated vs. uncomplicated pregnancies.

- Total Costs of pregnancy related care for non-adult teens in Delaware calculated using Delaware Vital Statistic numbers and HCUP costs together.
Costs:
Teen Births in Delaware

Source: 2008 Delaware Office of Vital Statistics

Percentage of Deliveries Covered by Medicaid, by Age at Delivery
Estimated Costs: Teen Births in Delaware

- Total pregnancy related and newborn care costs to teens 19 years and younger giving birth in Delaware in 2008
  - Just over 12 million dollars in total costs (12,030,942)
  - Of that, 10.1 million was paid by Medicaid (10,198,494)

- Teens 17 and younger
  - Just over 4 million dollars in total costs ($4,091,775.00)
  - Of that, 3.3 million dollars was paid by Medicaid ($3,355,368.00)
## Estimated Costs to Medicaid for an Unwanted Pregnancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age at Delivery</th>
<th>Percent Unwanted &amp; Medicaid</th>
<th>Total Unwanted &amp; Medicaid Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 or Younger</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>$2,946,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>$6,617,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>$14,202,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$11,256,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$2,281,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 or Older</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**An estimated 9.5 million dollars were spent in 2008 by Medicaid to pay for the perinatal care of unwanted pregnancies to teens age 19 years and younger.**

Source: 2008 Delaware Office of Vital Statistics and Healthcare Utilization Project
**Intervention Points**

- **Education**
  - 46% of teens under 17 years of age and younger reported they believed they could not get pregnant

- **Increased access to family planning services**
  - 34% of teen 17 years and younger reported they could not get contraception

- **Increased support for teens and new mothers**
  - Stress, poverty, homelessness
  - Child care practices less optimal than older mothers

*Source: 2008 Delaware Pregnancy Risk and Monitoring Survey Data*
Teens bearing children in Delaware most often live in poverty settings with high levels of stress and little social support.

The cost of prenatal care, delivery, and newborn care of unwanted at the time pregnancies in 2008 was approximately $12 million. An estimated $9.2 million funded by Medicaid.

An estimated $14 million was paid for by Medicaid to cover the health care costs of unwanted pregnancies of young adults between 20 and 24.

There is a need for more education and access to family planning services for teens, especially those in middle and high school, so they can institute a reproductive and life plan.

Support for new teen moms is needed to help achieve favorable outcomes for their children.
THANK YOU