

PROFILE OF NEW FATHERS IN OKLAHOMA

Introduction

This profile focuses on the demographics and select behaviors of fathers who recently had a newborn.

Highlights

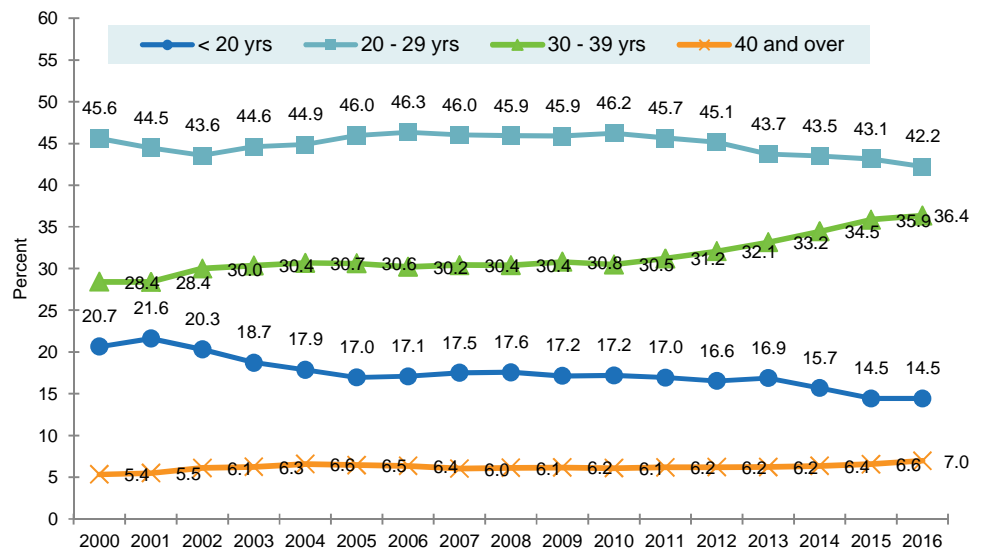
- In 2016, over 14% of all fathers were less than 20 years of age.
- For years 2012-2016, nearly 33% of all fathers less than 20 years had a child with a mother less than 20 years old.
- 51% of all new fathers were non-Hispanic Whites and 27% were Hispanics.
- Over 43% of Hispanic fathers were less than 20 years old.
- In PRAMS 2012-2015, 7% of fathers did not want the pregnancy and 20% did not use birth control prior to pregnancy



Trends in Age of Fathers

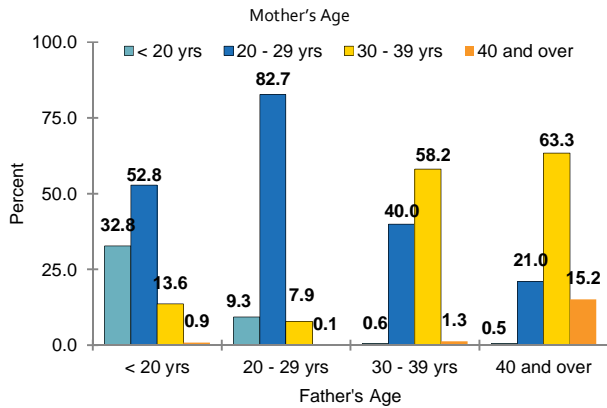
- The average age of fathers is 29.8 years, while women become mothers at the average age of 27.1 years. The average age gap of 3 years between fathers and mothers has remained steady since 2000.
- Ages of fathers have continually increased since 2000. Births among teen fathers have decreased by 30% from 20.7% in 2000 to 14.5% in 2016, while births to men over 40 years have increased at the same rate. Births among men 30-39 years have also increased by 28% from 28.4% in 2000 to 36.4% in 2016.

Trends in Father's Age as Percent of Live Births Oklahoma Births 2000 - 2016

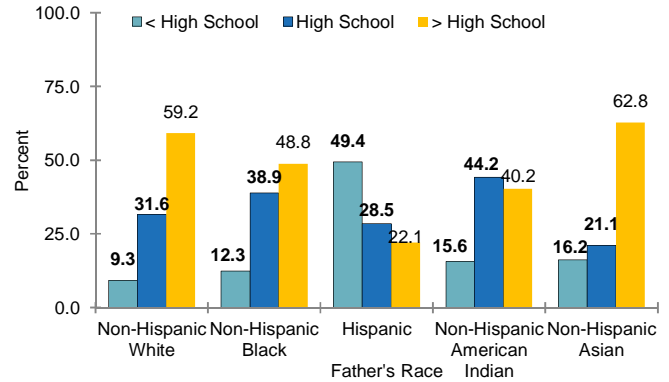


PROFILE OF NEW FATHERS IN OKLAHOMA – MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Percent of live births by father's and mother's age at birth - Oklahoma Births 2012 - 2016



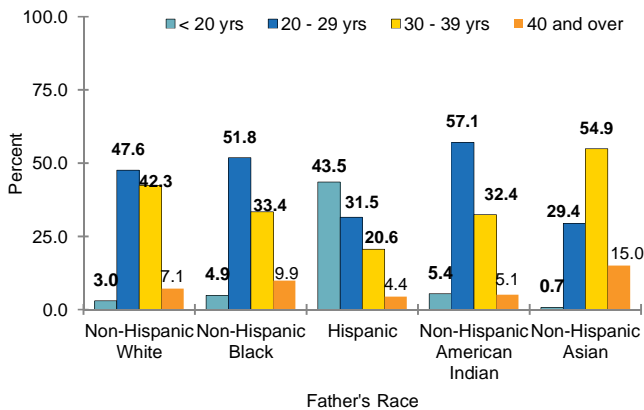
Education of Fathers by Race and Ethnicity - Oklahoma Births 2012 - 2016



Race and Ethnicity of Fathers

- 51% of all births for 2012-2016 were to non-Hispanic White fathers' and 27% to Hispanic fathers.
- Non-Hispanic White, Black, and American Indian fathers were mostly in the younger age group of 20 – 39 years, while over 43% of Hispanic fathers were less than 20 years old. Non-Hispanic Asian men seem to be older fathers.

Age of Fathers by Race and Ethnicity, Oklahoma Births 2012 -2016



Father's Education

- For births 2012-2016, 17% of fathers over 17 years had less than high school education and 33% had a high school diploma.
- Nearly half of all Hispanic fathers over 17 years had less than high school education.
- Non-Hispanic Asian fathers were more educated than other races with 63% having education higher than a high school.

Note: 15% of Oklahoma birth records did not indicate father's education.

Pregnancy Intention and Birth Control Use among Fathers

- In PRAMS 2012-2015, 7% of mothers reported that the father did not want the pregnancy of the current live birth. This rate was 21% among fathers less than 20 years of age.
- 20% of mothers reported that the father did not want to use birth control prior to pregnancy. This rate was 26% among fathers less than 20 years.

Father's Involvement in Raising Toddlers

- 81% of fathers shared responsibility for raising their toddler (Oklahoma Toddler Survey 2014-2016).
- 76% of the fathers lived with the toddler most of the time.
- 60% of mothers were married to the toddler's father.

References:

1. Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Center for Health Statistics, Health Care Information, Vital Statistics 2000 to 2016.
2. Pregnancy Risk Assessment Surveillance System (PRAMS), Maternal and Child Health Assessment 2012- 2015.
3. Oklahoma Toddler Survey (TOTS), Maternal and Child Health Assessment 2014- 2016.

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