



TOTS Brief

The Oklahoma Toddler Survey

Subsequent Pregnancy Among Teen Mothers

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Oklahoma's 2009 teen birth rate was 60.1 births per 1,000 females (ages 15-19) compared to the national rate of 39.1, placing the state among the top five states with the highest teen birth rates in the country.¹ Teen pregnancy is associated with challenges throughout the life course, for both the mother and the child. These challenges correspond to an estimated \$190 million in costs to the Oklahoma taxpayer.² These costs include public health care, child welfare, incarceration, and lost tax revenue due to decreased earn-

ings and spending.² This study will look at teen mothers at two years postpartum and their subsequent pregnancy rates as compared to older mothers.

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) survey respondents who were less than 20 years old when they had their infant were followed at two years postpartum in The Oklahoma Toddler Survey (TOTS). Data from 2006-2010 TOTS were used to identify if the teen mother had a subsequent pregnancy, and to ascertain certain maternal and

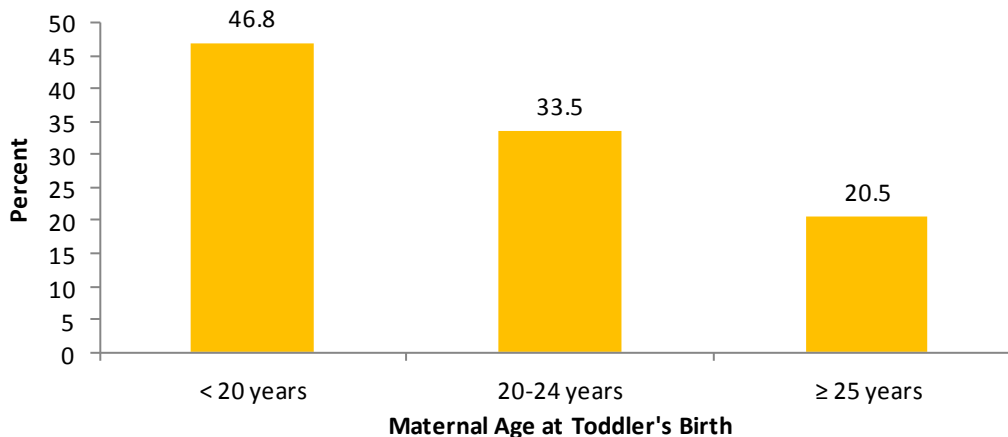
household characteristics of these young mothers at two years postpartum. Almost thirteen percent of the TOTS sample was a teen mother at the time of PRAMS.

Figure 1 highlights the percent of mothers who had had another pregnancy by the time they answered the TOTS survey. Mothers who were teens when they delivered their infant were significantly more likely to have had another pregnancy by their child's second birthday compared to mothers who were 20 or older.

In Oklahoma:

- 46.8% of teen mothers had another pregnancy by their babies' second birthday.
- 46.8% of teen mothers reported they "didn't mind" if they became pregnant with the subsequent pregnancy.
- Teen mothers with subsequent pregnancies were more likely to:
 - Live with their child's grandparents (20.2%)
 - Have moved 2 or more times in the past 2 years (49.4%)
 - Be Unmarried (56.2%)
 - Less likely to begin breastfeeding (55.0%)
 - Smoke (44.1%)

Figure 1: Percent of Mothers with a Subsequent Pregnancy at Two-years Postpartum, by Age at Toddler's Birth, TOTS 2006-2010



Intention status for the subsequent pregnancy also differed by maternal age. Figure 2 highlights the differences between the three groups of mothers. Teen mothers were significantly less likely to have an intended subsequent pregnancy than either group of older mothers. Unintended and "didn't mind" rates were higher for teens, but the differences were not statistically significant, likely due to small cell sizes.

Teen mothers with subsequent pregnancies were more likely to live with their toddler's grandparents at age two (20.2%) when compared to mothers 20-24 years old (10.6%) and 25 and older (6.7%) with subsequent pregnancies. In contrast, only 54.7% lived with their toddler's father compared to 72.2% for mothers 20-24 and 83.1% of mothers ≥ 25 years. Teen mothers with subsequent pregnancies were less likely to be married at their baby's second birthday (43.8%) compared to 63.6% of mothers 20-24 and 80.9% of mothers ≥ 25 years with subsequent pregnancies.

Related, almost half of these teen mothers had moved two or more times since the toddler's birth, compared to 36.3% among mothers 20-24 years old and 17.3% among mothers ≥ 25 years old.

Differences in the breastfeeding initiation rates were statistically significant among

the groups of mothers with subsequent pregnancies:

- 55.0% of teen mothers
- 71.5% of mothers 20-24 years
- 82.1% of mothers ≥ 25 years

Toddlers of teen mothers with subsequent pregnancies were more likely to potentially be exposed to secondhand smoke due to their mother's current smoking status and less likely to have a medical home when compared to toddlers with older mothers. Smoking rates for mothers with subsequent pregnancies were:

- 44.1% among teen mothers
- 26.3% among mothers 20-24 years
- 16.1% among mothers ≥ 25 years

Eighty-five percent of mothers with subsequent pregnancies aged 25 years or older at the toddler's birth reported having a medical home for their toddler compared to 78.4% of mothers 20-24 years and 67.7% of teen mothers.

References:

1. Office of Adolescent Health. Oklahoma Adolescent Reproductive Health Facts. Obtained from <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/adolescent-health-topics/reproductive-health/states/ok.html>. Accessed 8/2/2012.
2. Counting it Up. June 2011. National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Obtained from <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/costs/pdf/counting-it-up/fact-sheet-oklahoma.pdf>. Accessed 8/8/2012.

The Oklahoma Toddler Survey (TOTS) is a two-year follow-back survey to the Oklahoma Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) survey. Mothers with live infants who respond to the PRAMS survey are sent a TOTS survey the month their children turn two-years-old. TOTS is a mixed-mode surveillance system. Two mail surveys are sent in an effort to gain participation followed by telephone surveillance for non-respondents. The unweighted response rate for 2006-2010 data was 73.8% (n=667). Data were weighted to represent the two-year-old's birth cohort for those years. Prevalence rates were calculated and the potential risk factors were identified using the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Chi-Square (χ²) Test.

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Figure 2: Subsequent Pregnancy Intention by Maternal Age at Toddler's Birth, TOTS 2006-2010

