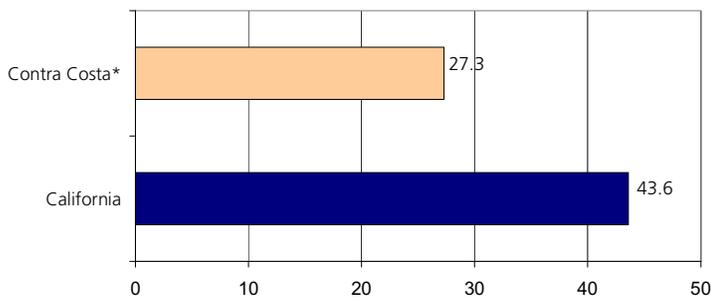


# Births - Teen

**Hispanic and African American girls are more likely to have babies as teenagers.**



Figure 4. Contra Costa and California, Births to Teens, 2000-2002



[ \* ] Indicates that the teen birth rate is significantly lower in Contra Costa than in California (The definition of teen birth rate is described later in this section.)

Hispanic (57.8 per 1,000) and African American girls (49.7 per 1,000) between 15 and 19 years old in Contra Costa have significantly higher birth rates compared to the county overall.

Table 28. Birth rate, percent, and number of births among girls (15-19) by race/ethnicity, Contra Costa, 2000-2002

	Rate	% (Number of births)
Latino	*57.8	50% (1,303)
African American	*49.7	21% (560)
Asian/Pacific Isl.	15.0	7% (189)
White	12.0	22% (574)
<b>Contra Costa</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>100% (2,697)</b>

[ \* ] Indicates that the teen birth rate is significantly higher in groups identified compared to Contra Costa as a whole.

## San Pablo, Richmond and Pittsburg have higher teen birth rates

Some communities have significantly higher rates of births to teens than the county as a whole: San Pablo (81.7), Richmond (67.0), Pittsburg (53.4), Bay Point (50.9), Oakley (36.8) and Antioch (36.7).

Table 29. Birth rate, percent, and number of births among girls (15-19) Selected communities, Contra Costa, 2000-2002

	Rate	Percent (Number of Births)
San Pablo	*81.7	11% (285)
Richmond	*67.0	26% (652)
Pittsburg	*53.4	15% (367)
Bay Point	*50.9	5% (126)
Oakley	*36.8	4% (106)
Antioch	*36.7	16% (404)
Brentwood	32.9	3% (86)
Concord	29.0	14% (342)
Pinole	17.8	1% (36)
Martinez	17.1	2% (59)
Walnut Creek	6.4	1% (27)
<b>Contra Costa</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>100% (2,697)</b>

[ \* ] Indicates that the teen birth rate is significantly higher in these communities compared to Contra Costa as a whole for this same group.

## The five communities with greatest numbers

Richmond has the greatest number of teen births (652), followed by Antioch (404), Pittsburg (367), Concord (342) and San Pablo (285), for the 3-year period 2000-2002.

## Teen pregnancies can lead to other problems

### Infants born to teens are more likely to be born with low birth weight and suffer from related health problems.

Also, when teenagers become parents, it may be more difficult for them to achieve educational goals, find sustainable and productive work and to be self-sufficient.

### A teen age girl is more likely to have a baby if:

- ❖ She is low income and/or she has dropped out of school early
- ❖ She does not have access to or use family planning or medical services
- ❖ She became sexually active at a young age
- ❖ She or a sister has already had a baby or pregnancy as a teenager

## How to calculate the rates

A rate controls for differences in population size and is a good summary statistic for comparing births to teens across groups of different sizes.

The rate is calculated by dividing the number of babies born to girls (ages 15-19) that occur within a specific race/ethnic group, community or countywide, by the total number of girls (ages 15-19) for that population, multiplied by 1,000. (Not by 100,000 like most other rates in this report).

The numbers show the actual number of births to teen girls (15-19) for a three-year period.

Contra Costa residents recorded as Multi-racial or "other" are not included in this analysis due to their small numbers.



### Confidence intervals are available

You may download and view all detailed tables with 95% confidence intervals, at...  
[http://cchealth.org/health\\_data/hospital\\_council/](http://cchealth.org/health_data/hospital_council/)

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## Data Sources

In the analysis above, local data about births to teens is derived from our Contra Costa County's Automated Vital Statistics System or AVSS, using information from birth certificates. Denominator data was derived from Department of Finance estimates.

Statistics prepared by Contra Costa Health Services' Community Health Assessment, Planning & Evaluation Group: 7/04. Any analyses, interpretation, or conclusions of the data, unless specified, have been reached by the author and are not from the CA Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics or the local AVSS registrar.

For more information see Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health in Contra Costa County: 1991-1999 at <http://www.cchealth.org/fmch> or call Contra Costa's Community Health Assessment, Planning & Evaluation (CHAPE) Group at (925) 313-6171.