

1.2 Live Births and Teen Pregnancy

The Importance

Live births are an important measure of a community's internal growth as well as an important data set for planning educational services. Teen pregnancy is a problem because teenagers are frequently ill prepared to raise children in this society. It is difficult for a teen to continue her education and care for an infant at the same time.

About this indicator

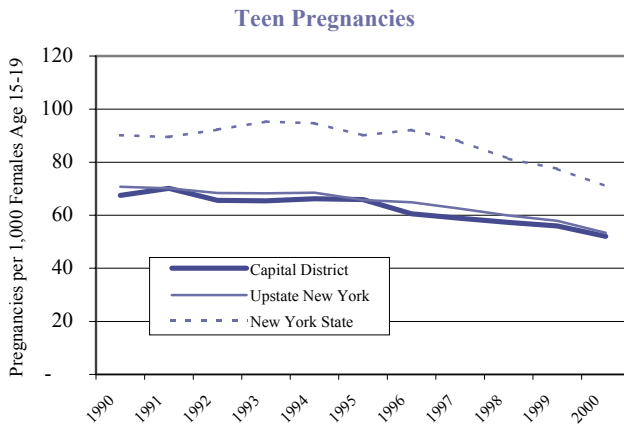
This indicator measures the Capital District's number of live births and teen pregnancy rates based on the New York State Department of Health's Vital Statistics of New York State, published annually.

Sources for this Indicator

- New York State Department of Health: Vital Statistics of New York State

Teen Pregnancy in the Capital District

Live Births are important for maintaining stable populations in regions without strong growth, such as the Capital District. Live births in the Capital District declined by 14% between 1990 and 2000. Over the same period, the Capital District's number of women of child-bearing age (ages 18-44) declined by 10%.



Sexual responsibility is an essential element of a stable community. Signs that teens are more sexually responsible can be identified by decreases in teen pregnancy rates. Overall the Capital District and Upstate New York follow a similar trend with regard to live births and teen pregnancy. These rates are lower than the entire State though the State has experienced significant reductions in teen pregnancies as well. Decreases in teen pregnancy indicate that teens in the Capital District, as well as New York State, became more sexually responsible during the 1990's.

