





## Interpretation

Delware's teen birth rate steadily declined from 2002 to 2012 from 44.1 births per 1,000 teenage females in 2002-2006 to 33.6 births per 1,000 teenage females in 2008-2012. Delaware's teen birth rate is currently less than the U.S. teen birth rate. Delaware's target represents a 10 percent reduction from the 2007-2011 teenage birth rate (32 births per 1,000 teenage females), which it nearly met during the most current five-year time period.

## Addressing the health issue

Multiple initiatives and programs are in place to address teen pregnancy through government, school, and community-based programs and services. Several high schools have pregnancy prevention programs offered through their School Based Health Centers. The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (APP) program provides support by coordinating prevention initiatives through overseeing media campaigns, offering educational workshops, technical support, and linking programs and resources.

<sup>1</sup> Teen birth rate= the number of births per 1,000 females age 15 - 19 years.
<sup>2</sup> Statistics are presented in five-year intervals with four-year overlapping intervals (moving average) to stablize estimates resulting from small numbers of births to females aged 15 - 19 years.
<sup>3</sup> The Delaware target was established in DPH's Strategic Plan to be met by 2020 to reflect a 10% decrease in the 2007-2011 estimate. The Delaware target spans prior years as an arbitrary comparison of previous years' statistics with the current target.
<sup>4</sup> Source(s): Delaware Health Statistics Center; National Center for Health Statistics.