

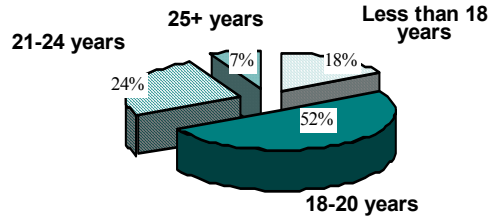
BIRTHS TO MINORS

Data are from the
MAINE VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM: 1996 - 2002 (preliminary)
MAINE PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM: 1996-2002

➔ **95,643 births occurred to Maine residents during the seven-year period 1996-2002. Approximately 2.8% of these births (2,661) were to minors.**

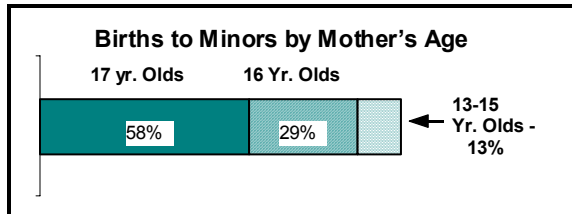
➔ **Only about 5% of infants born to minors were to married women. Unwed minors accounted for 2,530 births. The father's age was known for 62% (1,556) of these 2,530 births. Of these 1,556 births, 82.2% (1,279) had fathers aged 18 or older and 31% (476) had fathers aged 21 or older.**

Percent of Births to Unwed Minors by Father's Age Group—Maine: 1996 - 2002



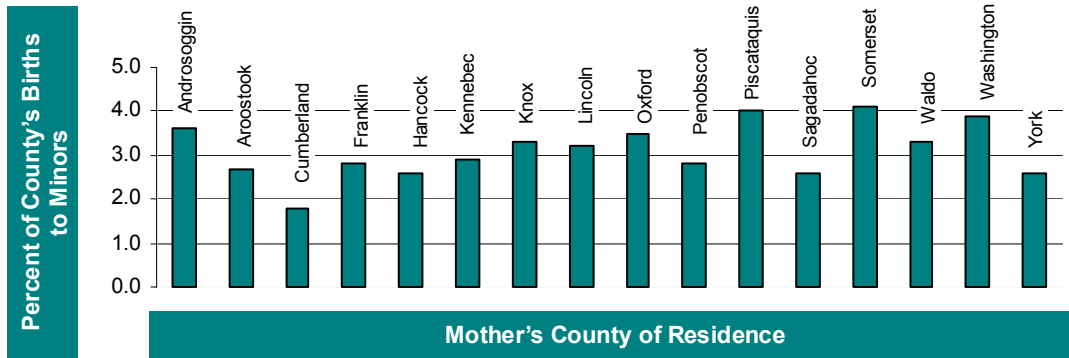
Does not include 974 fathers whose age was unknown

➔ **The majority of births to minors occurred to 17 year olds (58%) and 16 year olds (29%). The remaining 13% were to minors aged 13 to 15 years old.**



➔ **When births to Maine residents were broken down by county, Somerset County had the highest percentage of minor births (4.1%), followed by Piscataquis (4.0%), Washington (3.9%), Androscoggin (3.6%), and Oxford (3.5%) Counties. Cumberland County had the lowest percentage of minor births, 1.8%.**

Percent of County's Births Occurring to Minors by Mother's County of Residence 1996-2002



➔ **Mothers under 18 years old were 2 1/2 times more likely to report their pregnancy as unintended (83%) than were mothers aged 18 – 45 (33%).¹**

Note: Minors are individuals less than 18 years old. 2002 Maine data are preliminary. All data are for resident births only. Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.

¹ Maine Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System: 1996-2002

For further data on this topic, please contact:
the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, BUREAU OF HEALTH, 161 Capitol Street, #11 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011. The contact person is: Brenda Corkum - (207) 287-5500 287-2070 (TTY) or Nancy Berkimer of the Teen and Young Adult Health Program - (207) 287-5361
Visit our website at: <http://www.maine.gov/dhs/bohodr/index.htm>

John Elias Baldacci
 Governor



John R. Nicholas
 Commissioner

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Series 12

BIRTHS: MOTHER'S UNDER 18 YEARS
MAINE: 1996 - 2002

FACT SHEET