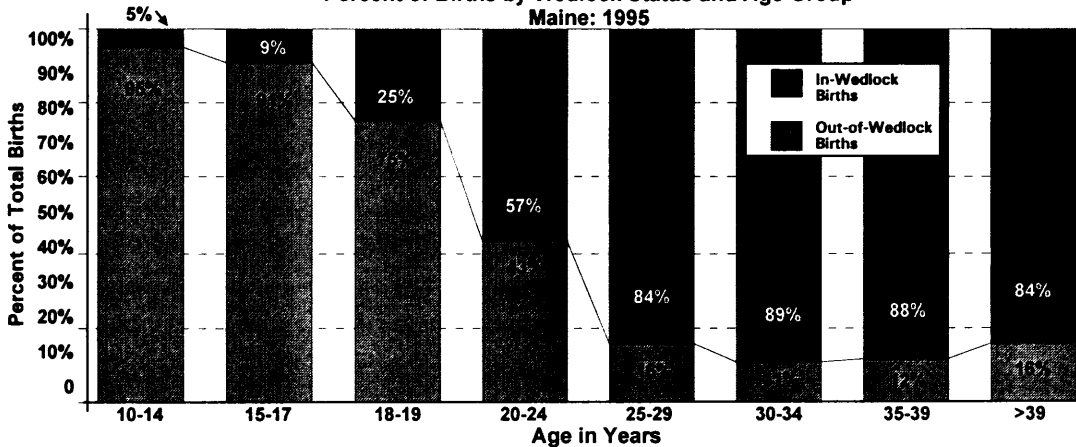


BIRTHS TO ADOLESCENT MOTHERS

Maine: 1995

- ➔ 1,424 babies were born to adolescent women in Maine in 1995, slightly more than 10% of all live births in Maine for that year (13,875).
- ➔ 28% of the babies born to Maine women were born out-of-wedlock; however, 81% of the babies born to Maine's adolescent women were out-of-wedlock compared to 22% for women 20 years old or older.

Percent of Births by Wedlock Status and Age Group
Maine: 1995



- ➔ Adolescent mothers were less likely to have adequate prenatal care during their pregnancy. In 1995, 71% of all mothers younger than 20 reported having adequate prenatal care, compared to 86% of their older counterparts.

- ➔ Wedlock status and age were strongly correlated with the adequacy of prenatal care received by Maine women who had babies in 1995; although

Adequacy of Prenatal Care	Adolescent Mother		Mother Older than 19 Years Old	
	In-Wedlock	Out-of-Wedlock	In-Wedlock	Out-of-Wedlock
Adequate Prenatal Care	77%	70%	89%	75%
Intermediate Prenatal Care	20%	23%	9%	20%
Inadequate Prenatal Care	3%	6%	1%	4%
Unknown Prenatal Care	1%	1%	0	1%

both adolescent mothers and older mothers were more likely to obtain adequate prenatal care if they were married, older mothers were *significantly more likely* to do so.

- ➔ Low birth weight is a leading indicator of infant distress and disease. Adolescent mothers accounted for 12% (101) of the low-birth-weight babies born in 1995 (841), and 28% (82) of the low-birth-weight babies born out-of-wedlock (292).

Notes: Adolescents are individuals under the age of 20 years. Unless noted, differences in rates are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone. Adequacy of prenatal care is measured through the Kessner Index. A full citation is available upon request.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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