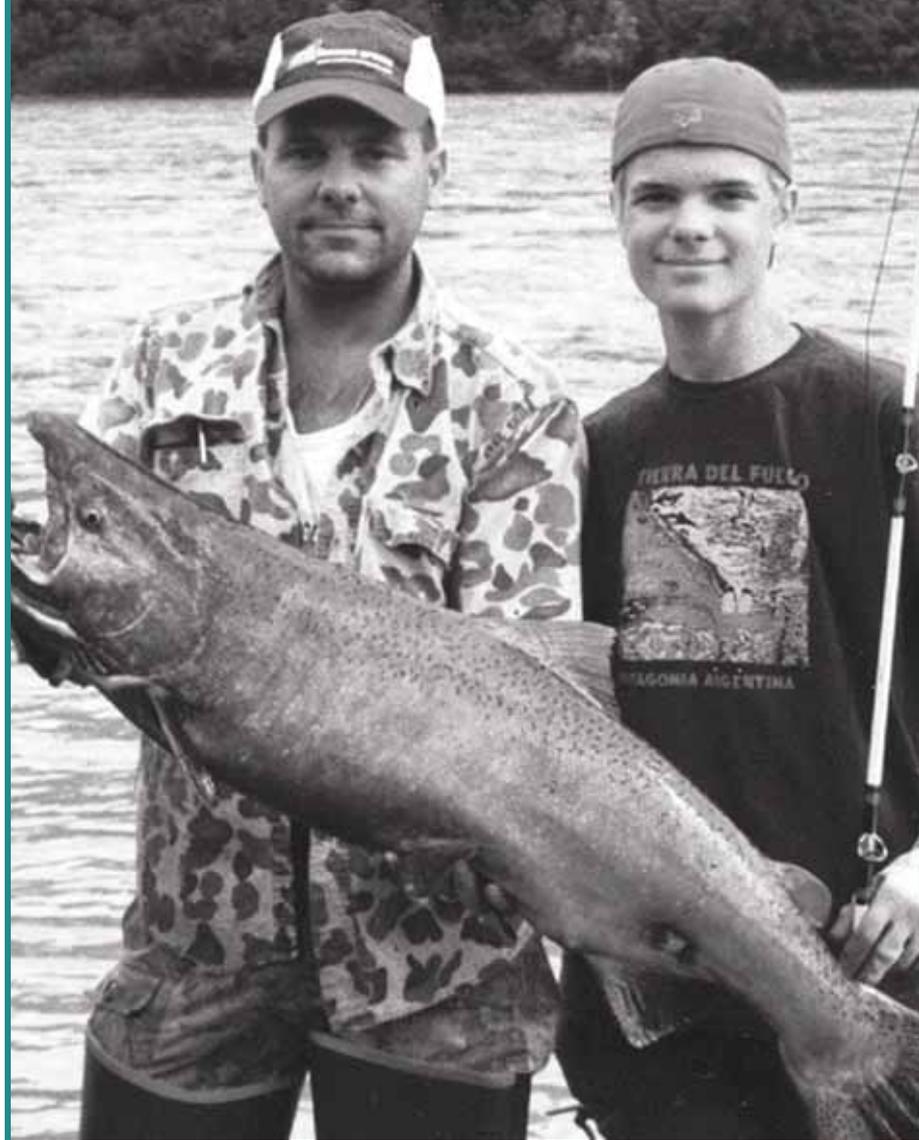


Adolescent and Teen Health



Adolescent Mortality

Nationally, unintentional injury, assault and suicide account for 51% of deaths among adolescents ages 10 - 14 years in 2000. Over the last decade, 67% of deaths among Alaskan adolescents were in these three categories. Unfortunately, there has been no statistically significant decline in the mortality rate among Alaskan adolescents over the last decade.

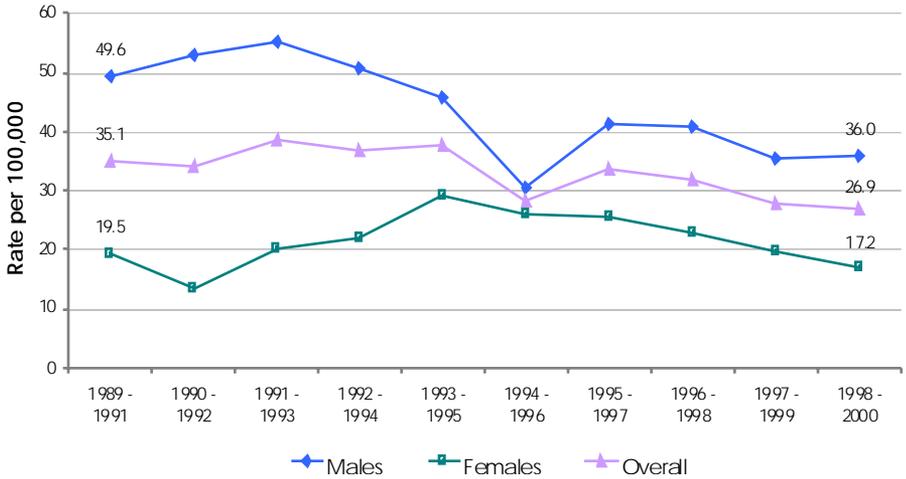
- ◆ In 1998 - 2000, Alaska's adolescent mortality rate (ages 10 - 14 years) was 36.0 and 17.2 per 100,000 population for males and females, respectively. Nationally, the rate was 25.0 and 16.6 per 100,000 for males and females, respectively, in 2000.
- ◆ Alaska's adolescent mortality rate is 29% higher than the national rate and almost 1.6 times the Healthy People 2010 target.
- ◆ The leading manner of death among Alaskan adolescents over the last decade was unintentional injury, accounting for 53% of adolescent deaths. Unintentional injuries to male and female adolescents account for 38% and 15%, respectively, of total adolescent mortality.
- ◆ Male adolescents are almost 2.5 times more likely to die from unintentional injuries than females.
- ◆ The second leading manner of death among Alaskan adolescents over the last decade was suicide, which accounted for nearly 8% of adolescent mortality.
- ◆ The suicide rate for adolescent males in Alaska is more than twice that of adolescent females.

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

The Healthy People 2010 target for adolescent mortality (ages 10 - 14 years) is 16.8 per 100,000.

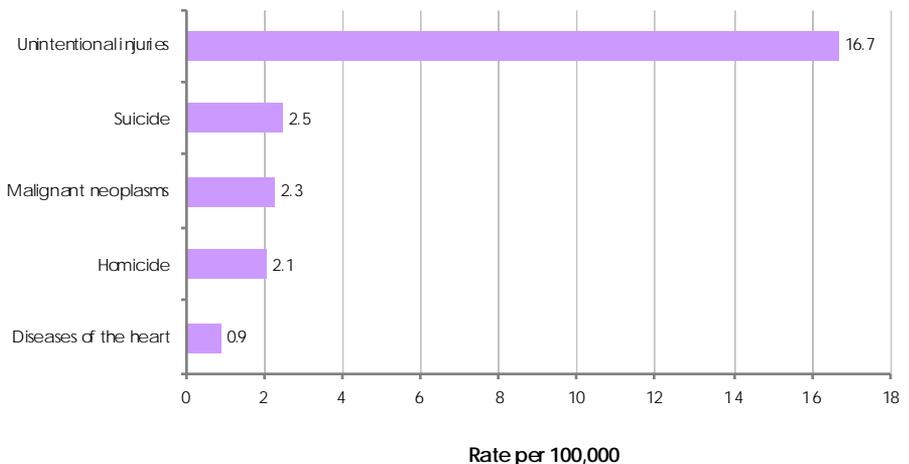
Adolescent and Teen Health

Adolescent Mortality Trends for Males and Females Ages 10-14, Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Most Common Causes of Adolescent Mortality Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Injury Mortality, Adolescents

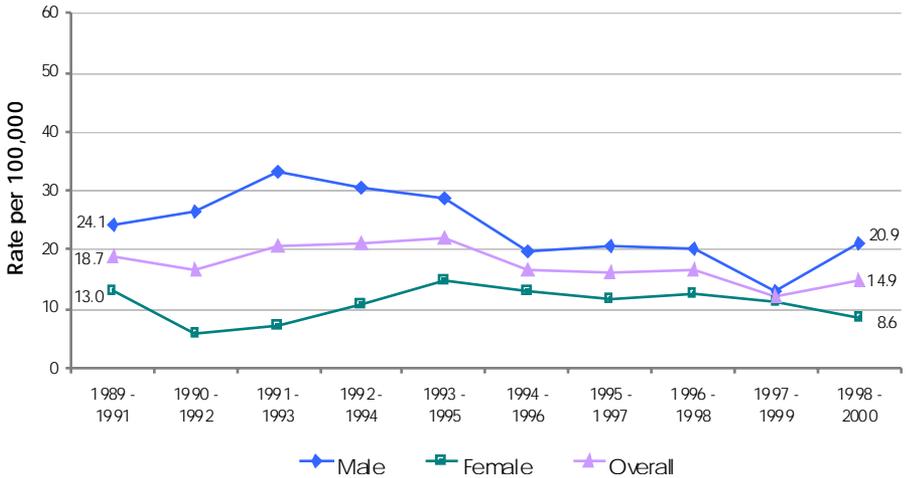
Unintentional injury is the leading manner of death among adolescents (ages 10 - 14 years) in both Alaska and the nation. Over the last decade, 53% of all Alaskan adolescent deaths were due to unintentional injury. Unfortunately, there has been no decline in the Alaskan adolescent mortality rate due to unintentional injury over the last decade.

- ◆ In 1998 - 2000, Alaska's unintentional injury mortality rates for adolescents were 20.9 and 8.6 per 100,000 for males and females, respectively. Nationally, unintentional injury deaths among adolescent males and females were 10.2 and 5.7 per 100,000 in 2000.
- ◆ Adolescent mortality due to unintentional injury is 46% higher in Alaska than in the nation as a whole.
- ◆ Unintentional injuries account for 56% of deaths among males ages 10 - 14 years and 46% of deaths among females of the same age group.
- ◆ The leading cause of unintentional injury deaths to Alaskan adolescents over the last decade was motor vehicle crashes, accounting for 48% of unintentional injury deaths among adolescents.
- ◆ Adolescent males are almost 2.5 times more likely to die from motor vehicle crashes than females.
- ◆ Over the last decade, the second leading cause of adolescent mortality due to unintentional injury was drowning, which accounts for nearly 13% of deaths among Alaskan adolescents.

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics.

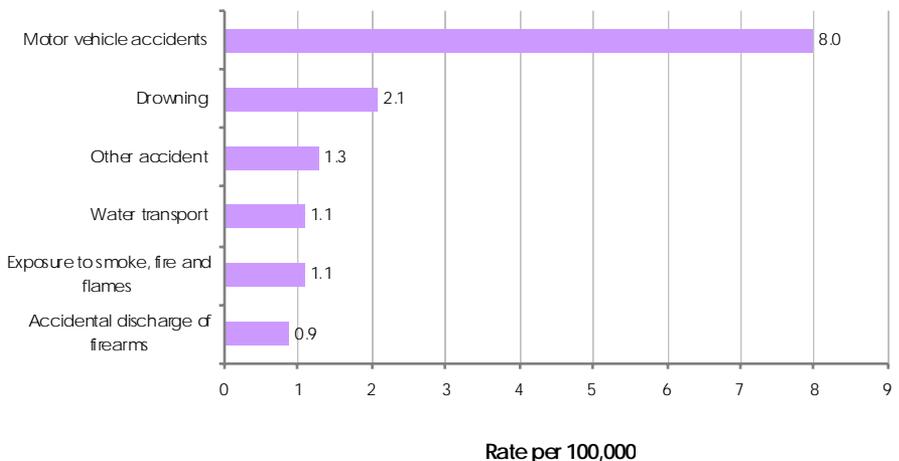
Adolescent and Teen Health

Unintentional Injury Mortality Trends by Sex, Ages 10-14 Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Most Common Causes of Adolescent Mortality Due to Unintentional Injuries, Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Teen Mortality

Nationally, unintentional injury, assault, and suicide account for 76% of deaths among teens ages 15 - 19 in 2000. Over the last decade, 87% of deaths among Alaskan teens resulted from these three manners of death. Although largely preventable, there has been no statistically significant decline in the overall mortality rate among Alaskan teens over the last decade.

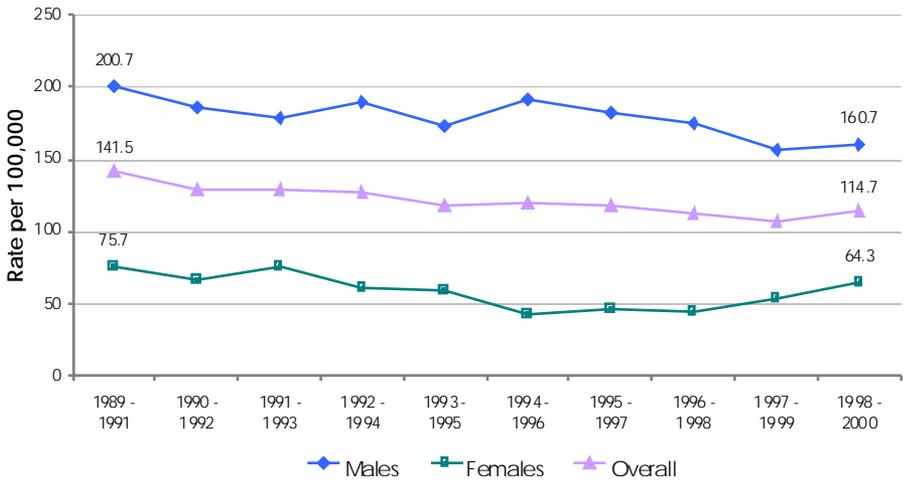
- ◆ In 1998 - 2000, Alaska's teen (ages 15 - 19 years) mortality rates were 160.7 and 64.3 per 100,000 for males and females, respectively. Nationally, the teen death rates for males and females were 94.9 and 40.0 per 100,000 population, respectively, in 2000.
- ◆ Alaska's teen mortality is 68% higher than the national rate and almost 3 times the Healthy People 2010 target.
- ◆ Unintentional injuries accounted for 44% of teen mortality over the last decade. Unintentional injury accounted for 43% of male and 47% of female mortality among Alaskans ages 15 - 19 years.
- ◆ Males in the 15 - 19 year-old age group are almost 2.7 times more likely to die from unintentional injuries than females.
- ◆ The second leading manner of death among Alaskan teens over the last decade was suicide, which accounted for 33% of deaths to teens ages 15 - 19 years.
- ◆ Male teens in Alaska are almost 4.5 times more likely to commit suicide and 3.2 times more likely to be a victim of homicide than females in the same age group.

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics.

The Healthy People 2010 target for teen deaths ages 15 - 19 years is 39.8 per 100,000.

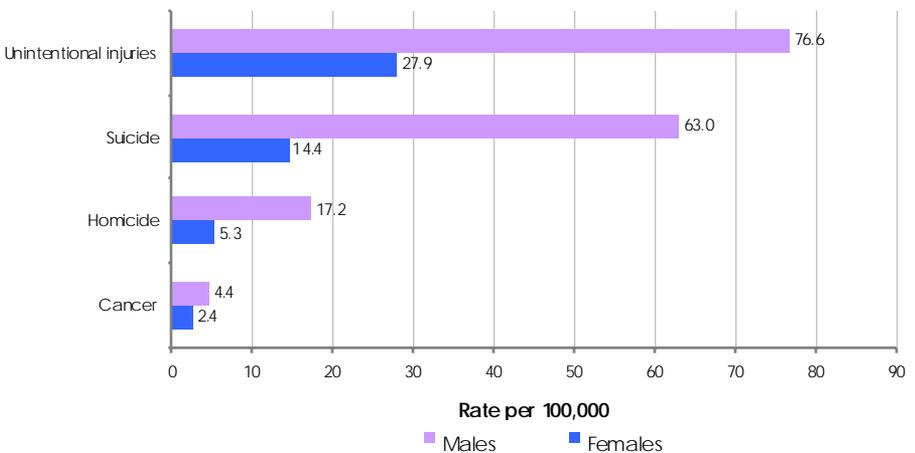
Adolescent and Teen Health

Teen Mortality Trends by Sex, Ages 15 -19 Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Most Common Causes of Teen Mortality Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

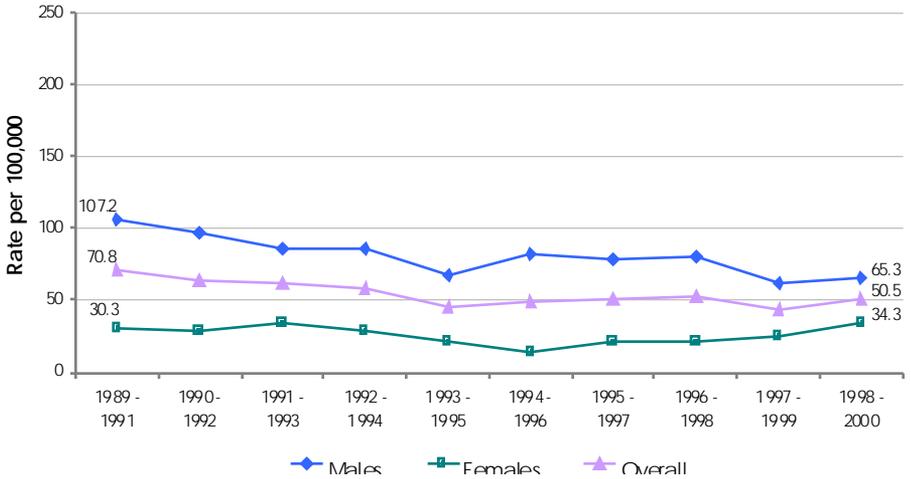
Injury Mortality, Teens

Teenagers in Alaska and the nation have higher unintentional injury mortality rates than any other age group. Nationally, unintentional injury accounts for 50% of deaths among teens ages 15 - 19 years with the leading cause of death being motor vehicle crashes. Over the last decade, 44% of deaths among Alaskan teens were caused by unintentional injury, with more than half of them due to motor vehicle crashes.

- ◆ In 1998 - 2000, Alaska's unintentional injury mortality rates were 65.3 and 34.3 per 100,000 population for males and females in the 15 - 19 age group, respectively. Nationally, unintentional injury deaths among teens ages 15 - 19 years were 46.6 and 20.7 per 100,000 for males and females, respectively, in 2000.
- ◆ Alaska's teen unintentional injury mortality rate among 15 - 19 year-olds is almost 50% higher than the national rate (40% and 66% higher for Alaskan males and females, respectively).
- ◆ The leading cause of unintentional injury deaths to Alaskan teens over the last decade was motor vehicle crashes, accounting for more than one-half of all unintentional injury deaths and one-fourth of overall deaths among teens ages 15 - 19 years.
- ◆ Motor vehicle crashes are the cause of 21% of male and 28% of female deaths among 15 - 19 year-olds. Although motor vehicle crashes account for a higher proportion of female mortality, Alaskan males in this age group have a much higher death rate and are 2.3 times more likely to die from motor vehicle crashes than females.
- ◆ The second leading cause of unintentional injury deaths to Alaskan teens over the last decade was drowning. Male teens in Alaska are more than 9 times more likely to die as a result of drowning than females in the same age group.

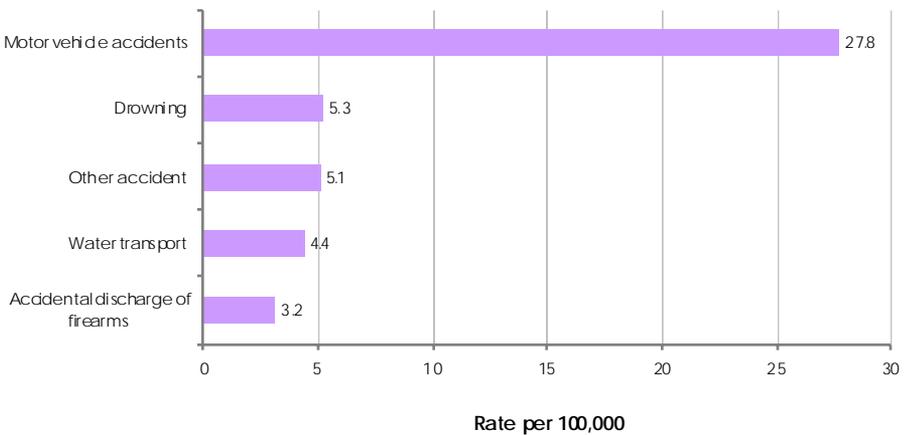
Adolescent and Teen Health

Unintentional Injury Mortality Trends by Sex Ages 15 -19, Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Most Common Causes of Teen Mortality Due to Unintentional Injuries, Ages 15 -19, Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Suicide and Homicide

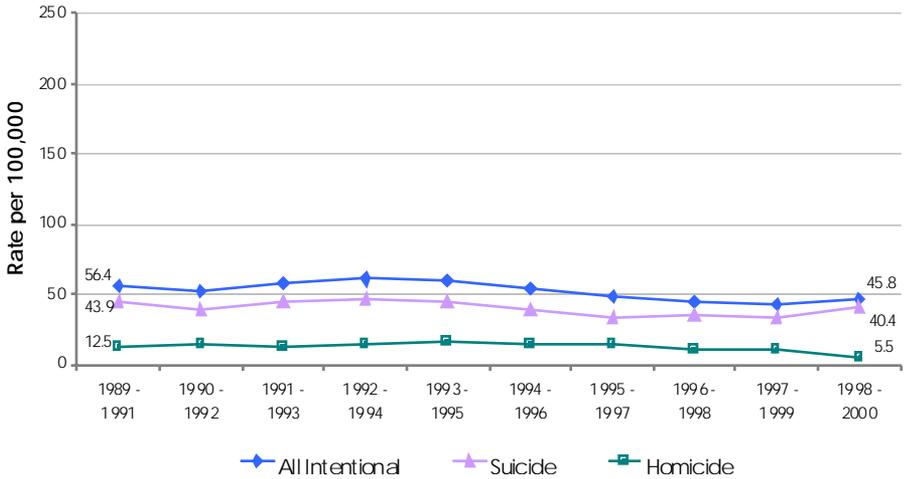
After unintentional injury, suicide and homicide are the most frequent manner of death for Alaskans ages 15 - 19 years. Alaska's suicide rate among teenagers is the highest in the nation and has remained unchanged over the last decade. Suicide and homicide mortality are strongly associated with sex and race.

- ◆ During 1998 - 2000, intentional injury mortality among teens ages 15 - 19 years in Alaska (45.8 per 100,000 population) was almost 3 times higher than the 2000 national rate (17.8 per 100,000).
- ◆ Teen homicide rates declined by over 50% over the last decade in Alaska. In 1998 - 2000, Alaska's homicide rate for ages 15 - 19 years was 1.7 times lower than the national rate for 2000.
- ◆ Teen males are significantly more likely to die from homicide than females in Alaska and Alaska Native males are at greatest risk.
- ◆ While homicide rates for Alaska teens declined over the last decade, there has been no decline in the suicide rate for Alaskans ages 15 - 19 years. The Alaska teen suicide rate (1998 - 2000) is almost 5 times the national rate for 2000.
- ◆ Alaska Native teens are far more likely to commit suicide than non-Natives. The suicide rate for Alaska Native males ages 15 - 19 years during the period 1991 - 1999 (187 per 100,000) was 6 times higher than the suicide rate for non-Native males.

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics.

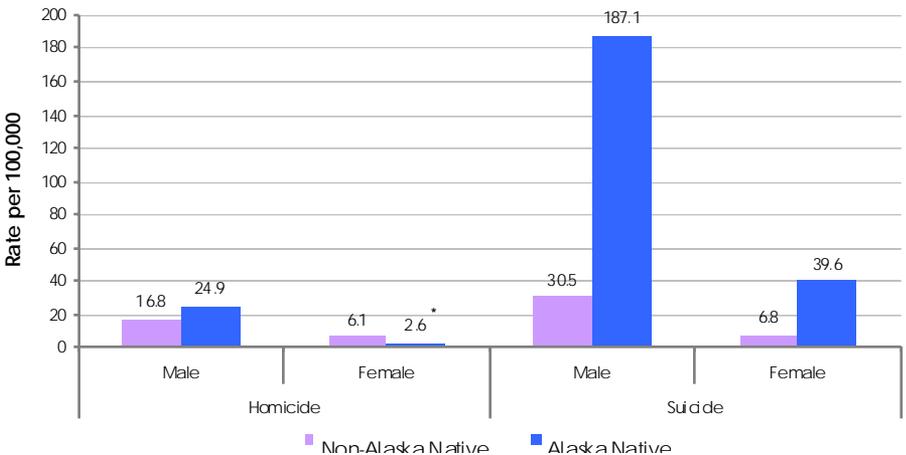
Adolescent and Teen Health

Homicide and Suicide Trends, Ages 15-19 Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Homicide and Suicide by Sex and Race, Ages 15-19 Alaska, 1991-1999



* Use with caution. This rate was calculated based on one event.

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Teen Births

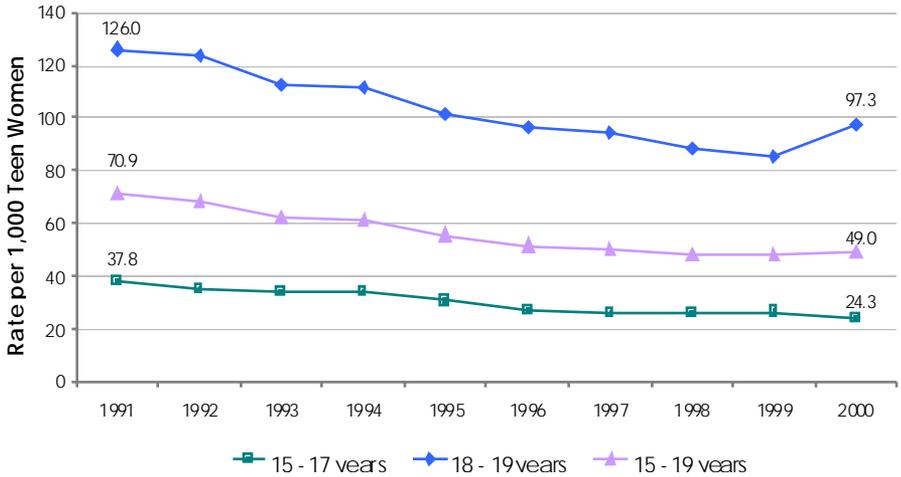
Teenage mothers are less likely to receive adequate prenatal and postnatal care, and more likely to experience labor and delivery complications. Babies born to teen mothers are at a higher risk of low birth weight and infant mortality.

- ◆ Over the last decade, the birth rates for Alaska teens ages 15 - 17 years and 18 - 19 years have declined significantly, with average annual decreases of approximately 5% and 4%, respectively.
- ◆ The birth rate among Alaska teenagers ages 15 - 19 years declined 31% during 1991 - 2000. The teen birth rate among younger teens (15 - 17 years) declined 36%, from 37.8 per 1,000 population in 1991 to 24.3 in 2000.
- ◆ Although there was also a statistically significant decline in the birth rate for 18 - 19 year-olds over the decade, there was a sharp increase in the birth rate for older teens between 1999 - 2000, from 85 to 97.3 per 1,000.
- ◆ Older teens have much higher birth rates than younger teens. Two-thirds of babies born to teen mothers are among teenagers ages 18 - 19 years.
- ◆ Since 1991, the national birth rate among teenagers ages 15 - 17 years and 18 - 19 years has been declining and, in 2000, reached record lows of 27.4 and 79.2 births per 1,000, respectively. Alaska has consistently exceeded the nation in the decline of teen births among 15 - 17 year-olds; but in spite of significant declines among older teens, the birth rate for 18 - 19 year-olds has remained higher than the national rate.
- ◆ Both the Alaska Native and white teen birth rates have significantly declined over the last decade (29% and 41%, respectively), but there is still a large racial disparity. In 1999, the Alaska Native teen birth rate was 2.5 times that of white teens.

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics.

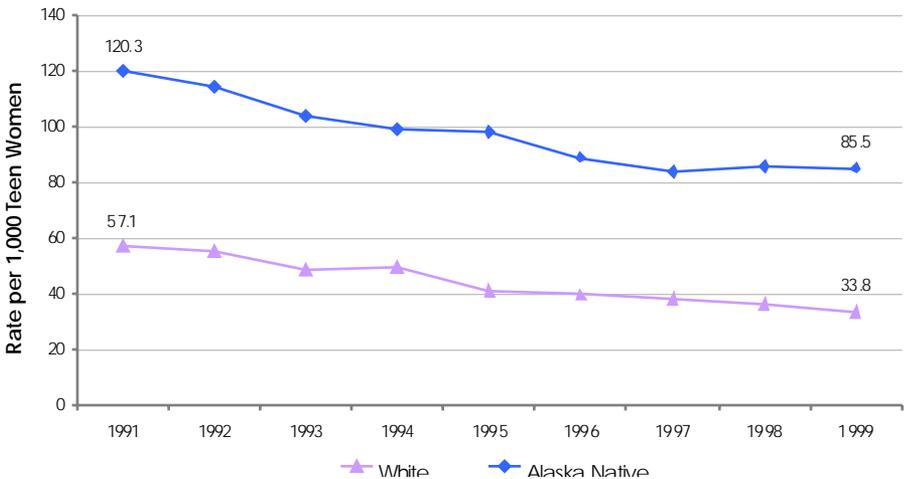
Adolescent and Teen Health

Teen Birth Rate by Age Group and Year Alaska, 1991-2000



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Teen Birth Rate by Race and Year, Ages 15 - 19 Alaska, 1991-1999



Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics. Prepared by MCH Epidemiology Unit.

Adolescent and Teen Health Issues

In January 2002, the Section of Maternal, Child and Family Health Adolescent Health Program conducted an “Anchorage Adult Opinion about Youth” telephone survey.

Ninety-one percent of Anchorage adults reported that they believed it was **important for schools** to teach social skills related to self-discipline, self-control, managing behavior, getting along with others, and respecting other cultures.

More than 80% supported increasing **funding for after-school** programs for children and youth.

Nearly 90% of Anchorage adults believe today’s youth will make Alaska a better place and 80% believe that most Anchorage youth generally **act responsibly**.

Data Source: January 2002 Anchorage Adult Opinion about Youth Telephone Survey (MCFH Adolescent Health Program).

Adolescent and Teen Health

Currently, Alaska does not have statewide instruments that collect data on positive measures of adolescent health and well-being. Factors indicative of youth becoming fully prepared to take on the **responsibilities of adulthood** are important in evaluating the health status of Alaska's youth. In the spring of 2003 statewide surveys are being implemented to collect this type of data.

A series of protective factor (**assets**) questions have been added to the 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Survey to measure how much youth feel supported, cared for, and connected to others.

A statewide phone survey is being conducted to identify **adult perceptions**, attitudes and actions related to providing support, nurturance and guidance for children and youth.

Individual communities are surveying their youth to assess how many assets and **protective factors** are present.

Data Source: January 2002 Anchorage Adult Opinion about Youth Telephone Survey (MCFH Adolescent Health Program).