

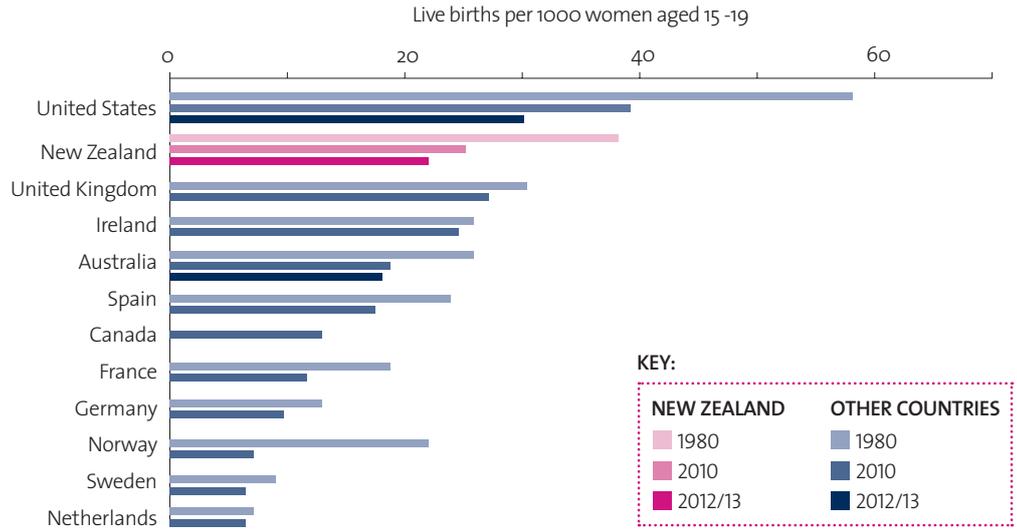
# Teen births: Current trends in New Zealand

## GLOBALLY



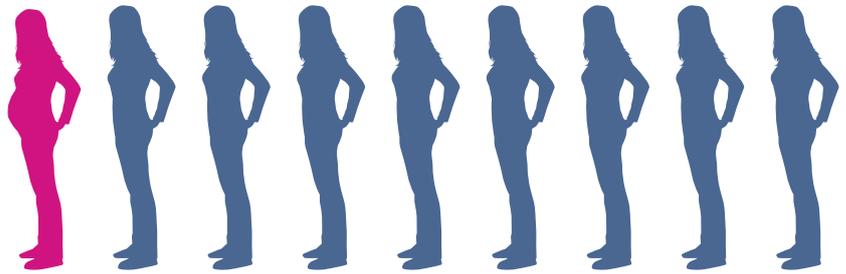
New Zealand's teen birth rates are **high** internationally

Source: Statistics New Zealand; OECD Family database  
Chart SF2.4.D: Adolescent fertility rates, supplemented by US and Australian Statistics Bureaus data



## IN NEW ZEALAND

**11%** of women give birth as a teenager. That's **1 in 9**



**BUT** teen births are down:



TEEN BIRTHS MADE UP ONLY

THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE EVER RECORDED

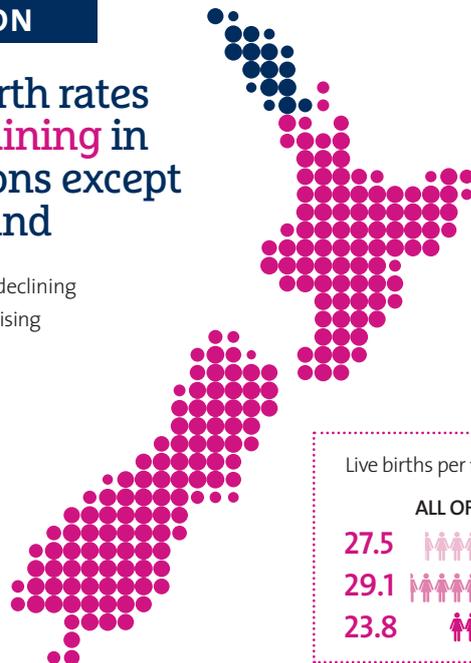
**5.9%**

OF ALL BIRTHS IN NZ IN 2013

## BY REGION

Teen birth rates are **declining** in all regions except Northland

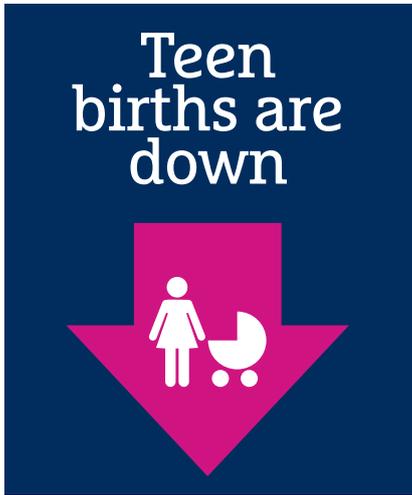
■ Teen births declining  
■ Teen births rising



Live births per 1000 women aged 15-19

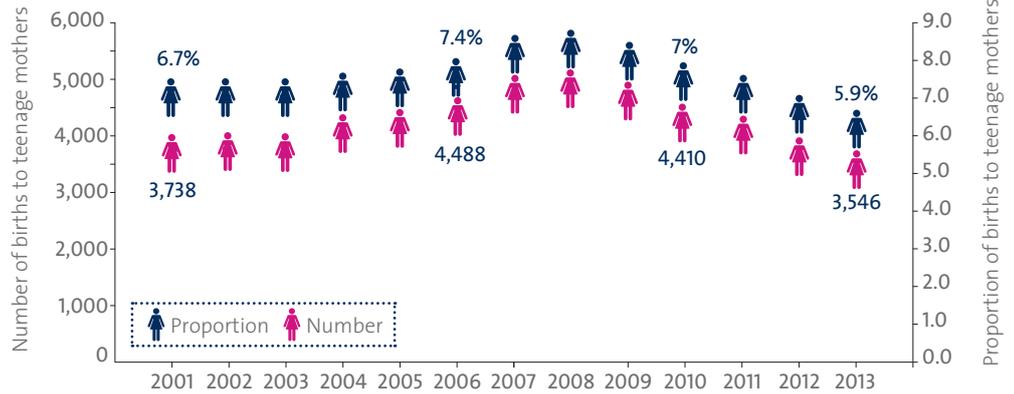
ALL OF NEW ZEALAND





### Number and proportion of registered births to teenagers 2001-2013

Source: Statistics New Zealand Vital Statistics annual data online through Infoshare



### More teenagers are delaying sex

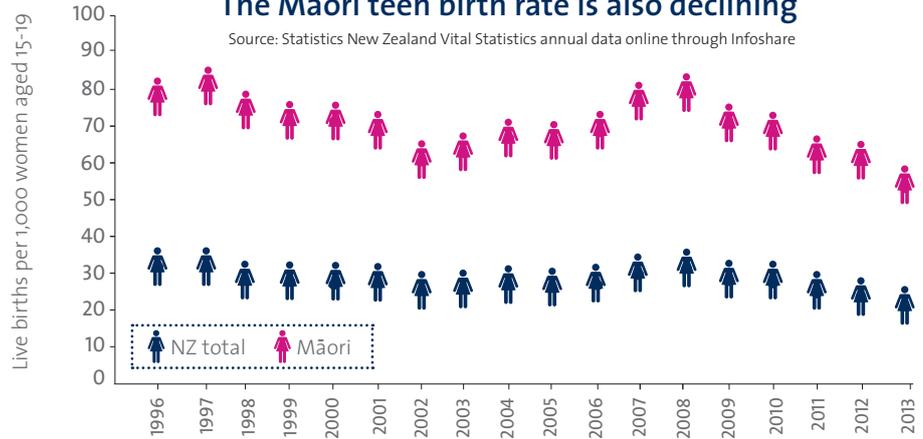
The proportion of students who reported ever having had sex was similar in 2001 and 2007 (approximately a third), but was lower in 2012

**24%**

(Youth 2012 survey)

### The Māori teen birth rate is also declining

Source: Statistics New Zealand Vital Statistics annual data online through Infoshare



### Contraception use has not improved over the last ten years

The percentage of sexually active students who always use contraception (to prevent pregnancy) has remained unchanged at about

**60%**

across the three surveys (2001, 2007 and 2012, Youth survey)



### The abortion rate has halved

Abortion rates, 15 - 19 year olds by ethnic group: 2001, 2006 and 2013

Source: Statistics New Zealand/Infoshare/abortions by ethnicity and age of woman, annual Dec

Approximately

**88%**

of teen pregnancies are unplanned

(of the 328 teen births in the Growing up in New Zealand Study, 2010)

### Teen mothers are older

17 and under  
28.4%

18 - 19  
71.6%

Births to younger teens have fallen the most, with almost three quarters of teen mothers aged 18 - 19 when they give birth (up from two-thirds in 2006)