

# Teen Pregnancy Statistics

The **pregnancy rate** among 15-17 year-old girls in Harrisonburg is **DOUBLE** Virginia's state rate.

**1 in 5** area youth have had sex before **age 15**.

**33%** of relationships in which there is a **3+** year age difference include **sex**.

**1 in 4** teens who are sexually active get a **sexually transmitted infection**.

**4 in 10** teenage girls in the United States get pregnant before the age of **20**.

**1 in 5** Americans over the age of **12** has **genital herpes**.

**5 in 10** of all new HIV infections are among young people aged **15-24**. That's **7,000** new people every day.

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Teen Pregnancy Prevention is available to work with youth-serving organizations or other agencies to design creative, individualized presentations that encourage open, healthy discussions addressing preventable situations and problems.



Want more information?



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teen pregnancy   
prevention   
Harrisonburg-Rockingham

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FIND YOUR REASON.

# Harrisonburg-Rockingham Teen Pregnancy Prevention

## Who are we?

**Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP)** is committed to reducing risky behaviors such as premarital sex, the use of violence, alcohol, drugs, and tobacco and fatherlessness. This mission is being addressed through various educational programs and public awareness campaigns established through collaborative efforts between TPP, youth-serving community agencies, public and private school systems, faith communities, colleges and universities, and corporations within the community.

To address teen pregnancy rates, a coalition was formed comprised of local agencies, organizations and citizens concerned about teen pregnancy. The objective of the coalition is to coordinate teen pregnancy prevention programs, utilize services, share resources and gain support from the community. TPP staff also displays and disseminates information at many regional events, and implements a region-wide media campaign.

## What do we do?

TPP serves the Harrisonburg-Rockingham community through three programs. They include: ***Vision of You, Healthy Choices Presentations*** and ***Baby Think It Over***.

### Vision of You (Middle & High School Students)

- A 10-session program that asks students, “Are you who you want to be?”
- Teens improve decision making skills
- Teens are encouraged to make competent decisions about their future

### Healthy Choices Presentations (Middle & High School Students & the community)

- Fast paced presentations that focus on alcohol, drug use and sexual behavior
- Students learn that every choice has a consequence

### Baby Think It Over (Middle School Students)

- A parenting simulation program that provides students with an eight pound infant simulator for 72 hours
- Helps youth better understand the realistic demands of teen parenting

## Why should you care?

**The United States spends 40 billion dollars a year in an attempt to reduce teenage pregnancies.** Teen childbearing in Virginia cost taxpayers at least \$177 million in 2004. In fact, 45% of first births in the U.S. are to women who are teenagers, unmarried or are lacking a high school degree. Teen mothers are less likely to complete high school and more likely to be a single parent. Only 1.5% of these women will earn a college degree by age 30. In addition, teen mothers have serious health risks associated with pregnancy including: higher maternal death rate, lower infant birth weight, insufficient health care, high rates of child abuse and neglect, and poor school performance.

**The 15-17 teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 females in the City of Harrisonburg is 52.9, double Virginia’s rate of 26.**

## What can you do?

- **Speak up. Show teens you care.**
- **Get involved. Talk with your children about abstinence.**
- **Help teens find their reason not to have sex.**
- **Call TPP for more information.**