

Children Birth To Five In Chesterfield County

A Demographic Profile
Dr. Kathleen Robinson



- Who are we?
- Where do we live?
- How many are there of us?
- What kinds of family situations do we live in?
- How many of us are born to mothers 20 years and below?

Date: January, 2008

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Race and Gender of Children Under the Age of Five	4
3. Living Arrangements and Family Types of Children Five And Under	7
4. Number and Locations of Children Birth Through Five	9
5. Births to Mothers Less Than 20 Years Old and Less Than 18 Years Old	11



Introduction

Knowing the basic demographic information about children ages birth through five and their families is important to social policy and program planning. Often hard choices have to be made, given limited resources. Knowing more about who early childhood children are and where they live helps leaders determine where to target energy and resources.

We start by asking basic questions decision-makers need to know in order to adequately plan for financial and service resources.

- How many children birth through five live in Chesterfield County?
- What trend in birth rates is present and informs how we should think about resource levels for the next five years?
- Where do these children live?
- Are there geographic patterns to where they live?
- What kinds of family situations do they live in?
- How many are living in situations other than with their own parents?
- How many are born at risk because of having mothers who are 18 years of less of age or less than 20 years of age?

This report, like the other four in the indicator series, is structured by addressing the significance of the indicator, what is needed based on evidence-based practice, what goals others have adopted to work on improvements, and what possible goals Chesterfield County may want. The indicator series is intended to serve as an organized discussion starter and to save community leaders hundreds of hours of searching for the latest information available. The indicator reports can be used as a based from which to develop a vision, outcomes statements, strategic actions thought best to achieve the outcomes desired, an organizational plan to address the community partnerships to work on the actions identified, and the budget and timeline it would take to carry out the actions.



Chesterfield County First Steps

Race And Gender of Children Under the Age of Five

Description and Significance

In 2000, 2,893 children were under the age of 5 in Chesterfield County. Fifty-six percent were white and 39% were black or African American. While there is some growth in other races, the majority of the population was of two races. The fastest growing minority population is Hispanics.

The rate of births per year, according to the U.S. Census, is 555 and this rate has not changed much from year to year. There is also roughly the same number of males born yearly as females (U.S. Census, Population Bureau) and the entire early childhood population is divided into 50% male and 50% female.

Knowing the number of births and the trend over the years is essential for social planning. Knowing the number is essential for estimating demand for health, education and social services in an area, and planning for adequate resources to meet these demands in the future.

What Is the Trend?

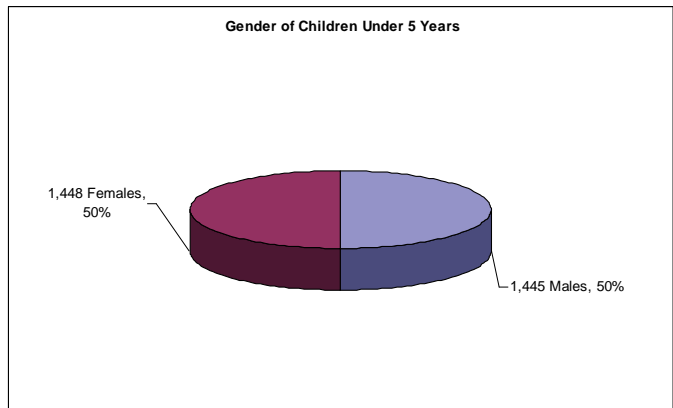
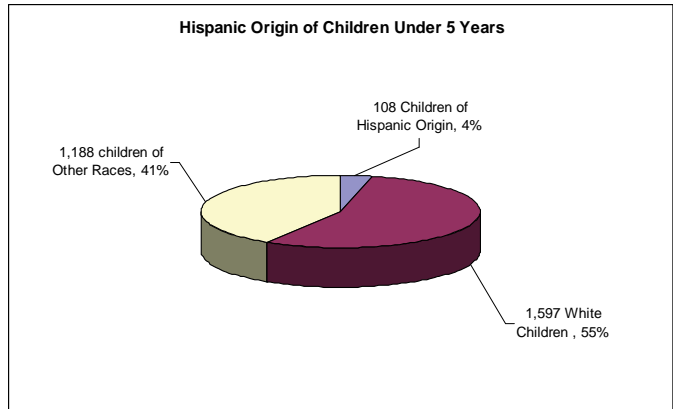
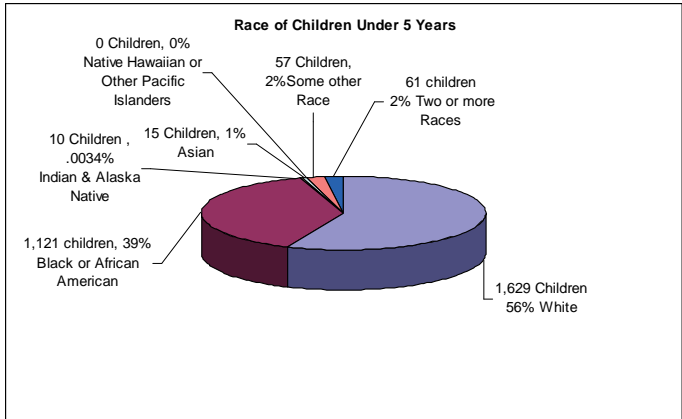
The number of births per year has remained rather steady over the past fifteen years at approximately 550-560 per year. On average, the early childhood population (i.e. birth through five) in Chesterfield County has remained at 6.2% of the total population.

Data Sources

Race statistics: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Table P12A-P12G).

Hispanic Origin: Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Tables P12, P12H, & P12I).

Birth rate estimates: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Estimates of Population Change for Counties in South Carolina (CO-EST2006-05)



Chesterfield County First Steps

Race And Gender of Children Under the Age of Five (Cont.)

Description and Significance

Minorities are significantly associated with higher levels of poverty, struggle with school achievement, tend to be covered less by health insurance, and are more at risk of engaging in socially risky behaviors, among other issues. Even when a minority is a majority in an area, if the dominant culture is oriented around the cultural traditions of the dominant race, then the minority population still tends to be disadvantaged unless they have empowered themselves by building social capital resulting in strong civic engagement which affects the institutions and how they related to them.

In addition, populations tend to settle according to ethnicity, as is the case in Chesterfield County. The population is primarily African American or Black, White and Hispanic in Chesterfield County. As with the rest of America, Hispanics are the fastest growing population, even though the numbers in Chesterfield County are still modest. The percentage of children in the United States who are Hispanic more than doubled between 1980 and 2004, from 9 percent to 19 percent, and is projected to increase to nearly one-quarter (24 percent) of the child population by 2020.

The largest settlement of Blacks is north of Cheraw, while the largest settlement of Whites is in the block group just east of Jefferson and Northwest of Pageland. The largest settlement of Hispanics is in the block group northwest of McBee and in the Northwest section of the block group surrounding Pageland.

Race and Ethnic Percent Distribution in Chesterfield County 2000

Race and Ethnic Percent Distribution in Chesterfield County 2000	SC	USA	Chesterfield County
White persons, percent, 2005 (a)	68.40%	80.20%	64.3%
Black persons, percent, 2005 (a)	29.20%	12.80%	33.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2005 (a)	0.40%	1.00%	.03%
Asian persons, percent, 2005 (a)	1.10%	4.30%	.03%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, percent, 2005 (a)	0.10%	0.20%	0%
Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2005	0.80%	1.50%	.08%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2005 (b)	3.30%	14.40%	2.3%
White persons not Hispanic, percent, 2005	65.50%	66.90%	64.3%

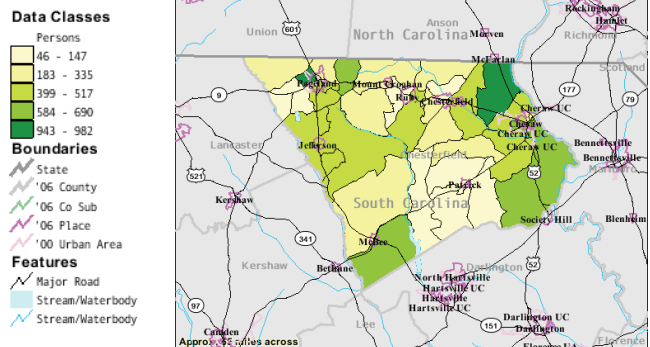
Source: U.S. Census Bureau American FactFinder

Children under the age of five in Chesterfield County are primarily White and Black or African American with approximately 300 children being of another ethnicity or race.

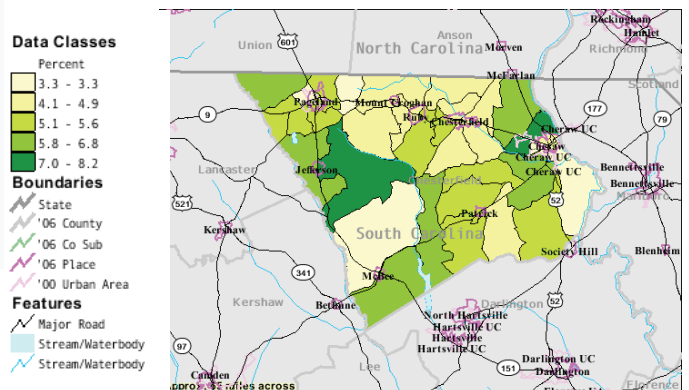
Age Group	One Race							Two or more races
	Total	White	Black or African American	American Indian & Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	Some other race	
Population under age 18	11,391	6,419	4,587	40	43	1	137	164
Under 5 years	2,893	1,629	1,121	10	15	0	57	61
5 to 9 years	3,291	1,813	1,367	12	11	1	33	54

* Hispanics, who can be of any race, are included in the racial figures shown here. Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Table P12A-P12G).

Location of Black Population at block group level in Chesterfield County



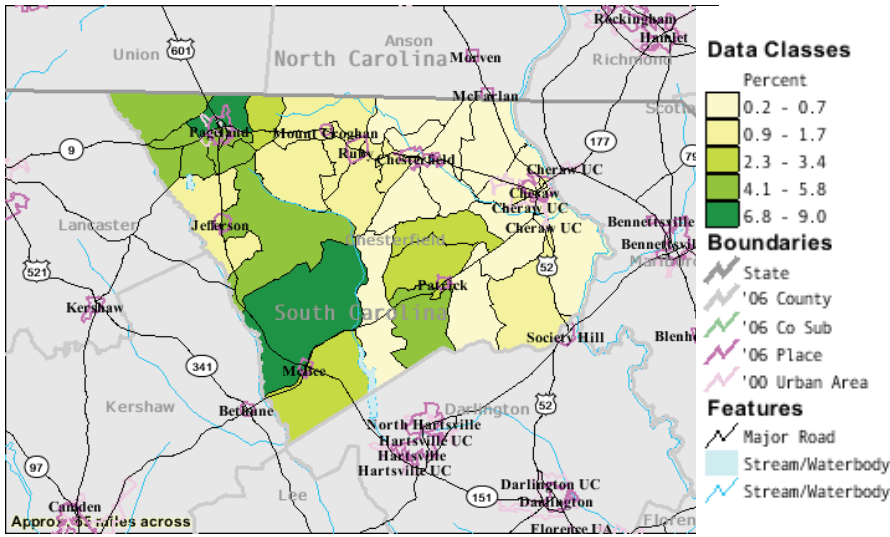
Location of White Population at Block Group Level in Chesterfield County



Chesterfield County First Steps

Race and Gender (Cont.)

Location of Hispanic and Other races in Chesterfield County



Living Arrangements and Family Type of Children 5 Years And Under

Description

In 2000, of the total of 3,522 children ages five or under in Chesterfield County in 2000, 3,517 of these children were living in household situations. These household situations vary ranging from 1,894 children living in married couple situations in which the children are their own to 965 children being in single-parent situations in which the children are the single parent's own child. Of the 965 children living with a single parent, most (767) live with their single mother, while 198 live with their single father. A significant group of children (604) are living with relatives.

Significance

Mothers and fathers play important roles in growth and development. Both the number and the type of adult guidance a child receives plays an important role in guidance and development. Single parent households have a negative effect not only because there is less income, but equally as important, having two parents also is significantly associated with better health, higher educational achievement, and more social and psychological adjustment(1). Two-parent families with high conflict, however also are shown to play a negative role in psychological adjustment and in academic performance, among other things.

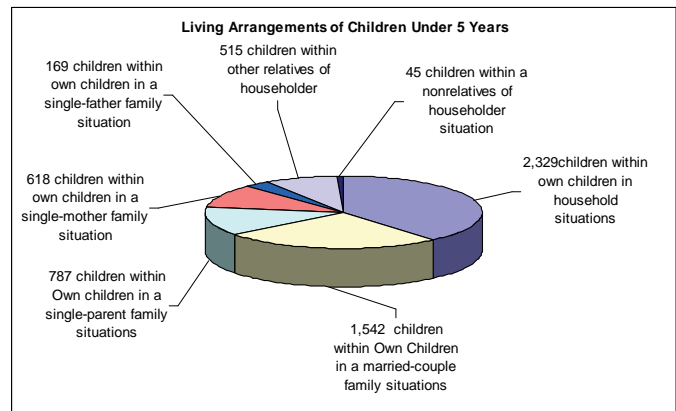
Trend

The number of children of all ages living in single parent families has increased by 87.9% since 1980 in Chesterfield County. In 1980, 18.1% lived in single parent families. By 1990 that figure had increased to 28% and, by 2000, there were 34% of children living in single parent families. While in 1980, Chesterfield County was slightly below the state average (18.9%), by 1990 it was 3% above state average (25.1%) and by 2000 it remained almost 3% above state average (31.3%).(2)

In the USA, the trend is also towards more children living in single parent households. In 2000, South Carolina ranked 35 (out of 48) and, by 2005, it ranked 38. South Carolina has continued to move more rapidly than the rest of the nation towards single parent households. In the 2007 Kids Count report, South Carolina ranked 47 out of 48, which is the worst rank possible.

In South Carolina as well as Chesterfield County, African American children are more likely to be in single parent families than white children, but other indicators show that births to mothers below the age of 20 has the highest increase among white mothers. In 2000, of the 34% of children in single parent families, 54.7% were African Ameri-

can or Other race single parent families and 20.4% were white single parent families.



Data Sources

Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Table P29 and P36), Kids Count Trend Data, Child Trends.

What is needed?

ChildTrends indicates that strategies aimed at 1) reducing unintended pregnancies; 2) reducing teen pregnancies; 3) increasing financial support from nonresident parents; 4) focusing on improvement and enhancement of parent child relationships are the 'Best Bets' for handling situations where children are raised by one parent or a relative. Providing support and services to the significant group of grandparents in Chesterfield County who are parenting grandchildren would be important. Other strategies that research shows work include 1) providing counseling to parents that are not living together on how to be involved in their child's life in effective ways and 2) providing home visitations by a nurse (not a paraprofessional or other professional which show mixed success) which includes coaching on parenting within a comprehensive framework of discussion over an extended period of time.(3)

National Goals

Federal welfare reform under the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," specifically encourages the promotion of marriage and two-parent families as a means of reducing welfare dependence. For additional information see: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/welfare/index.htm>. Several recent social policies promote prevention and intervention strategies for marriage promotion. These promotions need to be bal-

Chesterfield County First Steps

Living Arrangements and Family Type (Cont.)

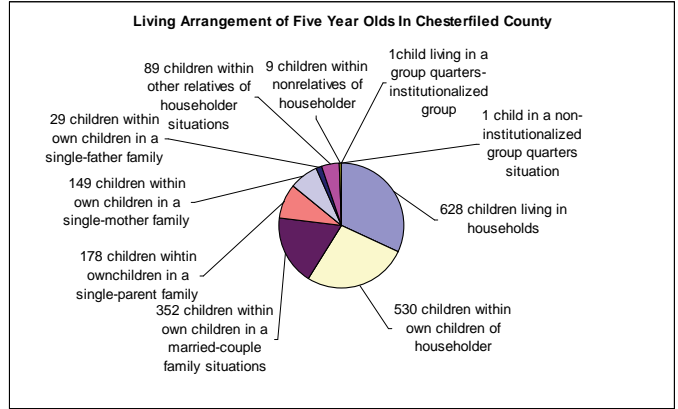
anced with effective supports to those who are currently single or caring for children that are not their own. Counseling and respite services, as well as having ample child care and education opportunities are encouraged.

Possible Goal for Chesterfield County

By 2010, Chesterfield County will reverse the trend of the number of single parent families and reduce its figure by 10% (i.e. 21.3% rather than the current 31.3%).

References

- (1) Child Trends. (2002). *Charting Parenthood: A Statistical Portrait of Fathers and Mothers in America*. Washington, D.C.: Child Trends. <http://www.childtrends.org/files/ParenthoodRp12002.pdf>; Brown, Susan L. (2004). Family Structure and Child Well-Being: The Significance of Parental Cohabitation. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 66(2): 351-67 and The Urban Institute. (2006). Parents and Children Facing a World of Risk: Next Steps Towards a Working Families Agenda. http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/311288_parents_and_children.pdf
- (2) Kids Count Trend Data at http://www.kidscount.org/cgi-bin/cliiks.cgi?action=profile_results&subset=SC&areaid=13
- (3) See ChildTrends at <http://www.childtrends.org/schoolreadiness/tables.asp?category=familyfactors>



Living Arrangements of Children by Race in the 2000 Census							
Family Type	One Race						
	White	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Some other race	Two or more races
Children living in households	6,397	4,553	38	43	1	137	162
Own children of householder	5,812	3,540	27	41	1	100	109
Own children in a married-couple family	4,627	1,530	23	36	1	74	64
Own children in a single-parent family	1,185	2,010	4	5	0	26	45
Single mother family	841	1,794	3	3	0	16	37
Single father family	344	216	1	2	0	10	8
Other relatives of householder	455	955	10	0	0	26	41
Nonrelatives of householder	113	57	1	1	0	10	11
Householder or spouse	17	1	0	1	0	1	1
Children living in group quarters	22	34	2	0	0	0	2
Institutionalized group quarters population	22	23	2	0	0	0	2
Noninstitutionalized group quarters population	0	11	0	0	0	0	0

Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Tables P28A-P28G).

Number And Locations of Children Birth Through Five Years

Age Group	Total For 2000 and 2003		Percent of Population 2000
	Number 2000	Number 2003	
Total population under age 18	11,391		100.0
Under 5 years	2,893		25.4
5 years	629		5.5
Under age 6	3522	3520	30.9
6 to 9 years	2,662		23.4
10 to 14 years	3,314		29.1
15 to 17 years	1,893		16.6

Description and Significance

Knowing the number of children of pre-school age is essential to adequate and effective social planning. Adequate resources can be figured on per person costs for health, education and social services in an area and a strategy for acquiring resources developed which is conservative but effective. South Carolina makes a substantial investment in children in all areas including health, safety, education and training, recreation, and social development. By tracking and predicting the total number of children, Chesterfield County First Steps and its partners will be able to more adequately and effectively plan to secure investments and target them more effectively.

U.S. Census Bureau indicated that in 2000 there were 2,893 children under the age of five and an additional 629 who were five years old. The total number of children under the age of six was 3522 in 2000 and 3520 in 2003. The rate of births per year in Chesterfield County has had only slight fluctuation from one year to another over the past 15 years. Thus, it is reasonable to plan for the next five years with approximately 3525 early childhood children being present at any one given time in Chesterfield County.

Analysis

Since the early 1960s, however, children have formed an ever-smaller proportion of our total national population, declining from 36 percent in 1960 to 26 percent in 1990 and remaining stable through 2000. Since 2001, children have made up 25 percent of the total population. This percentage is expected to decline slightly to 24 percent by 2030.(1) However, the U.S. is currently letting in 1 million new immigrants per year into the USA and how this unparalleled rate of immigration will affect the birth rates is unknown.(2) In addition, the Atlanta through Charlotte corridor is the fastest growing region in the South. Therefore as sprawl occurs,

Chesterfield County is apt to be seen as an attractive place to live and may increase the number of births per year and the number of early childhood children to serve. The US Census is estimating a 6% increase in the estimated population growth for the early childhood years in South Carolina. This figure may be a good number to use to plan by for Chesterfield County as well.

Using the average costs per child to provide quality care and education for all 3520 children in Chesterfield County, it would cost \$19,360,000 per year. This figure includes teacher and assistant teacher salaries, a portion of salaries for kitchen and secretarial/bookkeeping staff, curriculum, operations expenses and is figured at \$5,500 per child per year.

The 2000 Census indicated there were 2,893 children under the age of five in Chesterfield County. (U.S. Census did not allow for mapping those children age five.) The largest settlement of children under the age of five is in areas surrounding Pageland, Mount Croghan, Ruby, and Cheraw. Knowing where the higher number of children are of the targeted age range provides important clues as to where resources need to be targeted and where needs may be the greatest.

What is Needed?

While providing services and supports to all early childhood children seems attractive, given limited resources, Chesterfield County leaders may find more impact is achieved by deciding who to target and where they are located. Targeting Ruby, Mount Croghan, Pageland, and Cheraw would locate development energies in places where there are high numbers of early childhood children. Fortifying existing services, conducting expansion discussions, and encouraging Head Start Program start ups may be three ways to work to expand care and education opportunities. To trace the effects of rapid immigration and

Chesterfield County First Steps

Number And Locations of Children Birth Through Five Years (Cont.)

growth in surrounding areas, it may be prudent to make agreements with area hospitals to provide yearly birth numbers and locations of families to determine if the rather steady trend of approximately 550 births per year begins to increase substantially.

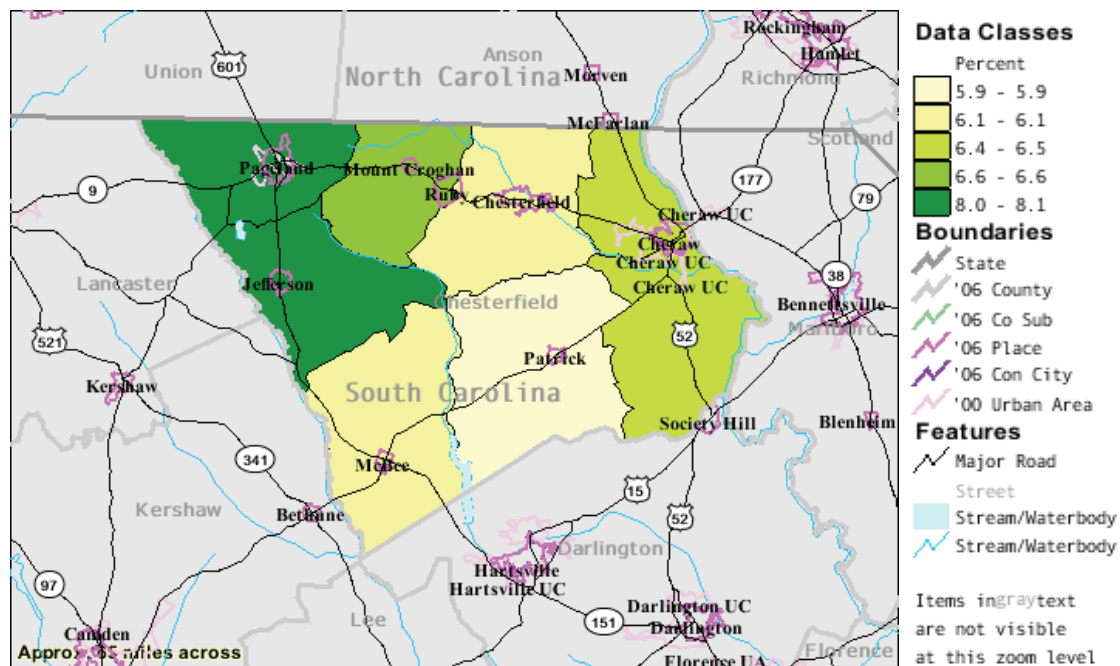
Data Source

Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Table P14) and 2003 figures from First Steps Data.

References

- (1) ChildTrends Data Bank <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/53NumberofChildren.cfm> (2) NumbersUSA.org; (3) U.S. Census at http://factfinder.census.gov/jsp/saff/SAFFInfo.jsp?_pageId=thematicmaps&_submenuId=maps_0&geoID=0500OUS51041

Distribution of Children Under Five In Chesterfield County



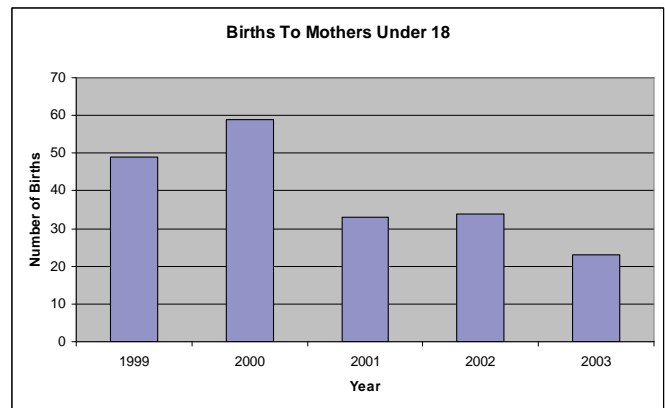
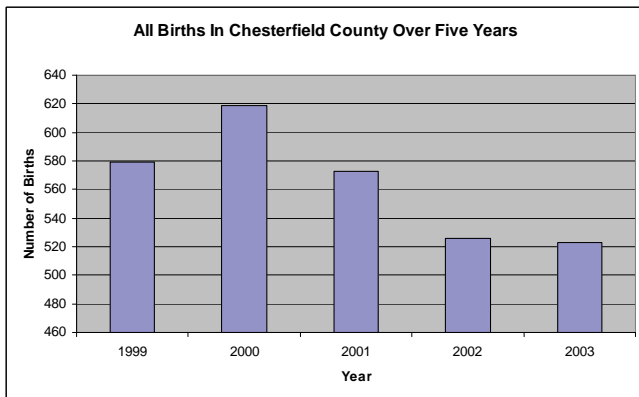
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Map Division(3)

Births to Mothers Less Than 20 Years Old and Less Than 18 Years Old

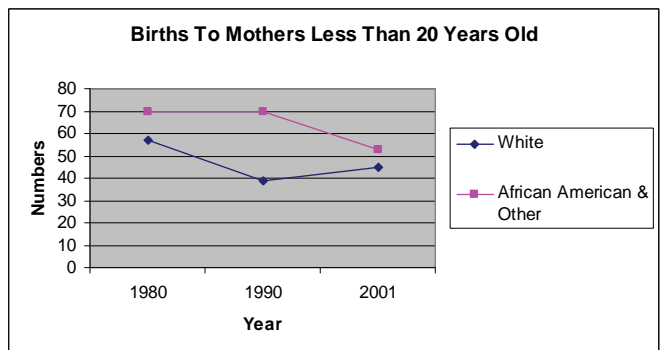
Description

Chesterfield County is showing a decline in the number of teen mothers. While figures are still above national averages, Chesterfield County has gone from being beyond the state average to being the same as or below state average. However, South Carolina ranked 40th in the nation (out of 50 which is the lowest) in the 2007 Kids Count report on this indicator. This ranking was based on data available on births from 2000-2004. South Carolina's situation appears to be getting better rather than worse on this indicator, fortunately. But both the county and state still need to make improvements.

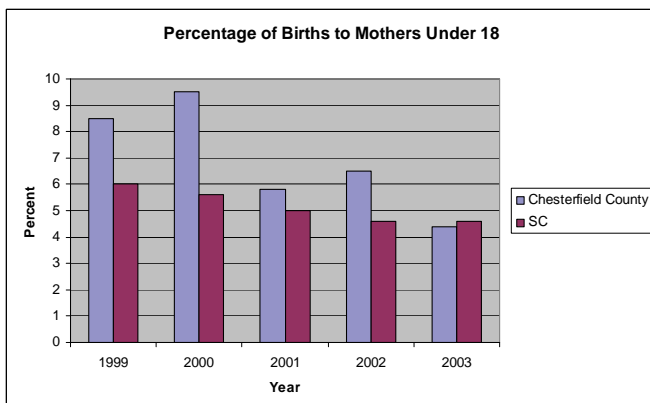
births. From 1990 to 2001 there has been a 15.4% drop in white adolescent births and a 24.3% decrease in African American and Other births. While the statistics indicate that births for all races have declined for mothers less than 18 years olds, for the same periods, the picture looks a bit different when 18 and 19 year olds are factored in. When this age group is factored in, white teens are showing an increase in birth rates from 1990 to 2001.



Chesterfield County has averaged 564 births per year from 1999 to 2003. Of these births, on average, 39.6 births per year are births to mothers under 18. Chesterfield County dropped below the state's average for the first time in 2003.



The trend shows that since 1980 there has been a 21.10% drop in White adolescent births and a 24.30% drop in African American and Other



Significance of Teen Births

Teen parents are at a disadvantage on several fronts. They tend to be unprepared financially, emotionally and psychologically to handle the issues surround childbearing. Teen mothers are more likely to be high school dropouts, have limited earnings, are more likely to rely on public assistance, have children outside marriage, be single mothers later in life, and face the primary responsibilities of parenthood alone.(1) The consequences on children are that they are more likely to be born prematurely, born at low birth weight, and to die as infants, have a less stimulating home environment, and have poorer academic and behavioral outcomes than those born to older mothers.(2) Children of

Births to Mothers Less Than 20 Years Old and Less Than 18 Years Old (Cont.)

teen mothers are also more likely to initiate sex at an earlier age and have a teen birth than their counterparts.(3)

Data Sources

Kids Count trend data; U.S. Census Bureau, ChildTrends

What is Needed?

Chesterfield County still needs to continue getting word out to teens on the consequences of pregnancy while a teen, and promote abstinence and safe sexual practices. Teen mothers need to continue to be specifically targeted for support services so that the affects mentioned above are reduced as much as possible.

Numerous prevention and intervention strategies are being employed nationally with varying effects. Readers are encouraged to review what works, based on research evidence, as presented by ChildTrends.(4) Strategies have been developed for schools, workplaces, faith-based institutions and community organizations. All agree that the first line of defense is to equip parents with the tools and knowledge needed so that they discuss sexual practices with their children and at a fairly early age.

National Goal

Healthy People 2010, a federal initiative to improve health in the United States, has “responsible sexual behavior” as one of the ten leading health indicators. There is growing research evidence indicating that promoting responsible sexual behavior reduces unintended pregnancies and the number of births to teens.

- Reduce pregnancies among adolescent females ages 15-17 from 68 per 1,000 in 1996 to 43 per 1,000 in 2010.
- Increase the proportion of adolescents who abstain from sexual intercourse or use condoms, if currently sexually active (no rate set in Healthy People 2010 guidelines).

Possible Goal for Chesterfield County

By 2010 no more than 25 teens under age 18 will give birth each year. By 2015 no more than 10 teens under age 18 will give birth each year.

References

- (1) Child Trends. (2002). “Ten Reasons to Keep the Focus on Teen Childbearing”. Special Report, #2002-52.
- (2) Maynard, R.A. (1997). Kids Having Kids: Economic costs and Social Consequences of Teen Pregnancy. Washington,

DC: The Urban Institute; Ventura, S.J., Martin, J.A., Curtin, S.C., Menacker, F. Hamilton, B.E. (1999). Births: Final data for 1999. National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 49, (1). Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics and Moore, K.A., Morrison, D.R., and Greene, A.D. (1997). Effects on the children born to adolescent mothers.

(3) Manlove, J, Terry-Humen, E. Papillo, A.R. , Franzetta, K. Williams, S. and Rayan, S. (2001) Background for Community-Level Work on Positive Reproductive Health in Adolescence: Reviewing the Literature on Contributing Factors. Washington, DC: Child Trends.

(4) Child Trends What Works on Teen Birth Indicator at <http://www.childtrendsdatbank.org/WhatWorks/13TeenBirthww.cfm>

