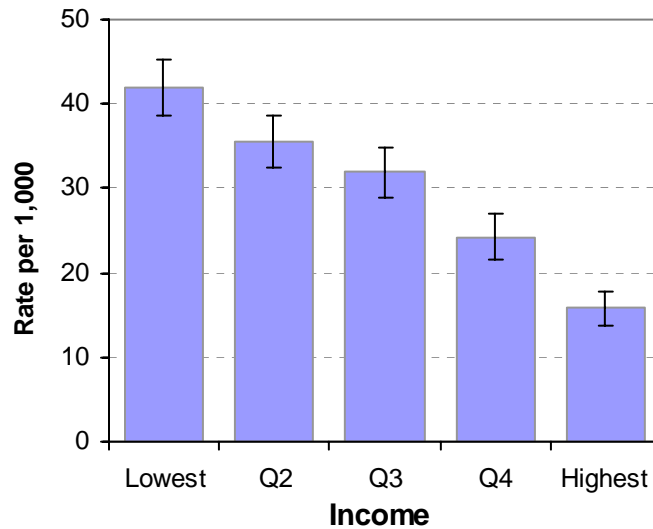


# Teen Pregnancy

**Figure 7: Teen Pregnancy<sup>1</sup> Rate<sup>2</sup>, by Income<sup>3</sup>, Toronto, 2004-2006**



<sup>1</sup> Teen pregnancy includes hospital deliveries (live and still born) plus therapeutic abortions.

<sup>2</sup> Rate is per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 years per year.

<sup>3</sup> Income is the population quintile by proportion of the population below the LICO in census tracts.

Error bars (I) denote 95% confidence intervals.

Source: Teen deliveries (live and stillbirth) Hospital In-Patient Data, and Therapeutic abortions Hospital In-Patient Data, Ambulatory Visits, Day Procedures, 2004-2006, Provincial Health Planning Database (PHPDB) Ver. 18.01, Health Planning Branch, Ontario MOHLTC.

Teen pregnancy represents the number of women aged 15 to 19 years who gave birth (live or stillborn) or had a therapeutic abortion. Teen pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of low birth weight, preterm birth, and postpartum depression.<sup>24,25</sup> Pregnant teens are more likely to have delays in accessing prenatal care, are less likely to continue their education and may be exposed to increased rates of violence. Their children are at increased risk of health problems.<sup>24</sup> In 2004-2006 the annual teen pregnancy rate was 30 per 1,000 in Toronto.

There was a significant gradient in teen pregnancy rates across income quintiles in Toronto. Teens in the lowest income quintile (Q1) had a rate significantly higher than all other income quintiles. The gradient was steep with the highest teen pregnancy rate (42 per 1,000) in the lowest income quintile and a step-wise decrease in rates to 16 per 1,000 in the highest income quintile (Q5).

The absolute difference in teen pregnancy rates was 26 pregnancies per 1,000 in quintile 1 compared to quintile 5. In relative terms, the teen pregnancy rate in quintile 1 was 2.6 times the rate in quintile 5.

If all women aged 15-19 years had the pregnancy rate of the highest income quintile (Q5) there would be 996 or 46% fewer teen pregnancies per year in Toronto.

Toronto's teen pregnancy rates in income quintiles 1, 2, and 3 were higher than the overall rate for the rest of Ontario. The rate in quintile 1 was 64% higher than the rate for the rest of the province.