

Mexico ranks first in teenage pregnancies: OECD

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Mexico ranks first in teenage pregnancy rates globally among the member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), due to a fertility rate of 77 deliveries by every thousand teenagers between 15 and 19 years old.

Statistics reveal that each 24 hours more than one thousand babies are delivered by girls and teenagers. In 2020, there were 373

thousand 661 babies delivered by mothers under age 18, and 8 thousand 876 of them were delivered by girls between 12 and 14 years old.

It is important to mention that in our country 23 percent of teenagers become sexually active when they are between 12 and 19 years old. Most of them do not use contraceptive methods or if they do so, they do not use them properly, according to data provided by the National Council of Population (CONAPO).



SUMARY

Since the COVID-19 pandemic started, teenage pregnancies increased by 2.5 percent compared to data from the last years because the lockdown triggered domestic abuse and violence. Some girls became mothers not only once, but twice during the pandemic; as reported by the Interinstitutional Group to Prevent Teenage Pregnancies.

In numbers

Over the last nine years, more than one million 355 thousand babies were delivered by under-age mothers. In 70 thousand cases, the mothers were from nine to fourteen years old, as mentioned in the report developed in 2020 as part of the Strategy to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy (ENAPEA).

Regarding the previous data, we are able to observe that 4 out of each 100 babies are being delivered by girls under age 17. In that period, the probabilities of maternal death increase due to complications during the pregnancy, delivery and puerperium. Because of that number, Mexico is currently ranked in the sixth position in deaths of people who belong to that sector.

4 out of each 100 babies were delivered by mothers younger than 17 years old. That fact has an impact on deaths due to complications during pregnancy, delivery, and puerperium.



It is important to highlight the fact that most women who become mothers at an early age barely completed their primary or secondary studies, besides they usually get low salaries or they are unemployed.

Considering that, we are able to find out another gap: low access to social security and formal employment.



Pregnancy not only impacts women on their economic incomes, but also in their quality of life and health. For example, teenagers may suffer from spontaneous miscarriages or clandestine abortions, which implies a high risk of maternal death.

Support to women in pregnancy

Women in pregnancy or after delivery are considered as a vulnerable group of our society so, Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT) through its Welfare Ecosystem Model, develops strategies and solutions to contribute to the welfare of all the people.

CMT uses its Network of Health and the partnerships with the different levels in the government to improve the infrastructure of Health Centers located in rural areas in

the country. This way, people are able to have equipment and qualified professionals to assist them as it is difficult to get to most of those areas due to their location.

This is the way Congregación Mariana Trinitaria collaborates with authorities and civil society to allow people in vulnerable situations to have access to health in order to improve their quality of life.



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