Why This Matters:
Pregnancies are the sum of the number of live births, reported induced terminations of pregnancies and reported fetal deaths of all gestations. The adolescent pregnancy rate is the number of pregnancies per 1,000 females in the stated age group. The adolescent live birth rate is the number of live births in an age group per 1,000 female population in the same age group.

Assuming the responsibilities of parenting before one is financially, socially or emotionally prepared carries increased risks of later difficulties for the parent, the child, and the community. Adolescent mothers are less likely than their non-parenting peers to complete high school and marry. They are more likely to have large families and live in poverty. Their children are at greater risk of infant mortality, poor health, lower cognitive development, worse educational outcomes, higher rates of behavior problems, and higher rates of adolescent childbearing themselves. Adolescent childbearing also places a greater financial burden on society in terms of the increased supports required to assist these families (Kirby, 1997).

Data Provider:
NYS Department of Health

Data Source:
NYS Department of Health; Bureau of Biometrics - birth certificates
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