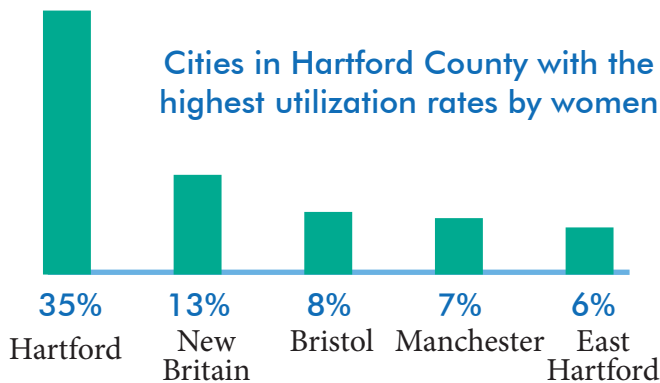


## HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Health disparities, while they can be the result of biological differences, are as likely to be a result of societal or cultural norms and behaviors. Health is influenced by a number of factors. Some of these include the availability of resources to meet daily needs, exposure to social disorder, diet, access to recreational settings, substance use, age, and genetic pre-disposition.

- Exposure to social disorder
- Diet
- Access to recreational settings
- Substance use
- Age
- Genetic pre-disposition

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE UTILIZATION



Hartford County had the second highest utilization of substance abuse services through the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS).

**37 yrs**

Average age of women from Hartford County receiving services

**59**

Percentage of service users who are Caucasian

## HARTFORD & NEW BRITAIN

highest % of births to young females

that's **2x** higher than the next highest town

## TEEN PREGNANCY

In 2010, Hartford County had the highest percentage of births (7.6%) to women under the age of 20 in CT. Teen birth rates in Hartford County mirror the national trends, with higher rates among African American and Latina young women compared to Caucasian.

The cities/towns in Hartford County with the highest births to young females under the age of 20 are Hartford and New Britain. Both cities have a rate that is two times higher than the next highest town.

Teen girls who have babies are more likely to:

- rely on public assistance
- be poor as adults
- have children who have poor educational, behavioral and health outcomes.



## Birth to mothers under 20 years old

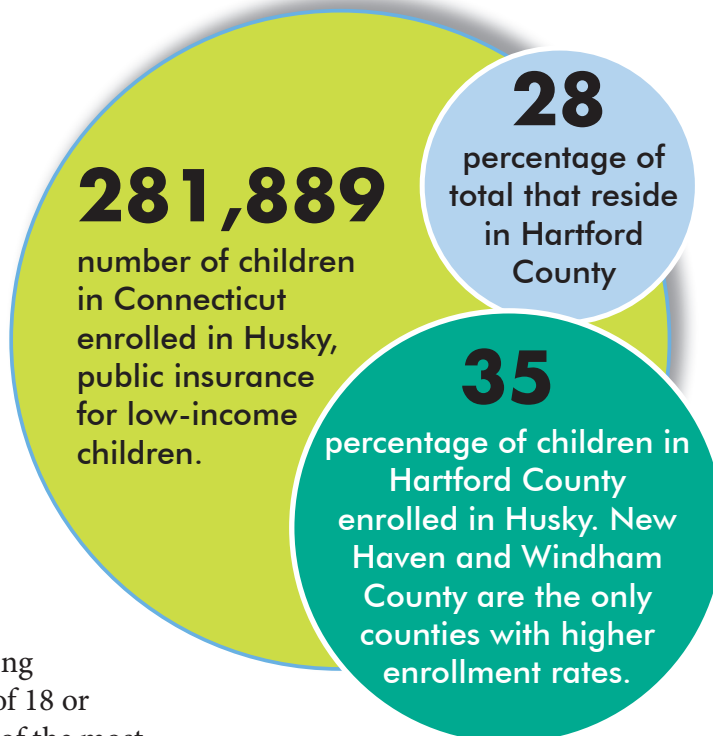
Town	% Births Overall	% Birth to Latinas	% Birth to African Americans	% Birth to Caucasians
Hartford	15.3	18.9	12.9	5.8
New Britain	14.4	22.2	7.2	5.1
East Hartford	7.6	13.2	5.7	3.9
Manchester	6.2	18	8.4	4.5
Bristol	6.0	14.3	<1	4.3
Windsor	5.7	<1	11.2	<1

Access to reproductive health care and sex education are critical to reducing teen pregnancy. **Early parenthood is highly correlated with mothers and children living in poverty.** As well as a direct impact on the economic security of the mother and child, early parenthood also has implications for child health and well-being and educational outcomes. Access to reproductive health care also ensures the health and well-being of the mother and child to ensure healthy delivery.

## HEALTH INSURANCE

Females in Connecticut and Hartford County have a high rate of insurance coverage; **Connecticut, 92% and Hartford County, 93%.**

Males are slightly more likely to have employer-based health insurance than females, with the disparities highest among females under the age of 18 or over the age of 65, two of the most vulnerable age groups.



## WHAT YOU CAN DO

**Ensure that** reproductive health care and sex education are available and accessible.

**Mobilize political will** and commitment to female health

**Support females' health** and development throughout a woman's life

**Ensure** that the appropriate offices and commissions address female health issues.

**Consider supporting** institutions and studies that focus on females' health research.

**Explore ways to use existing state and federal resources** aimed at improving females' health.