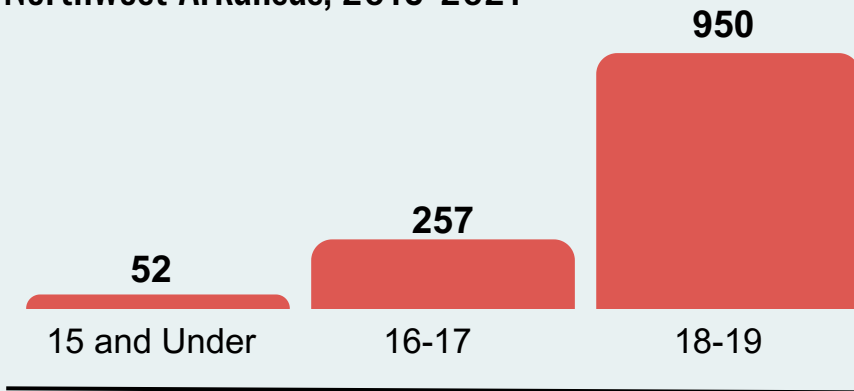
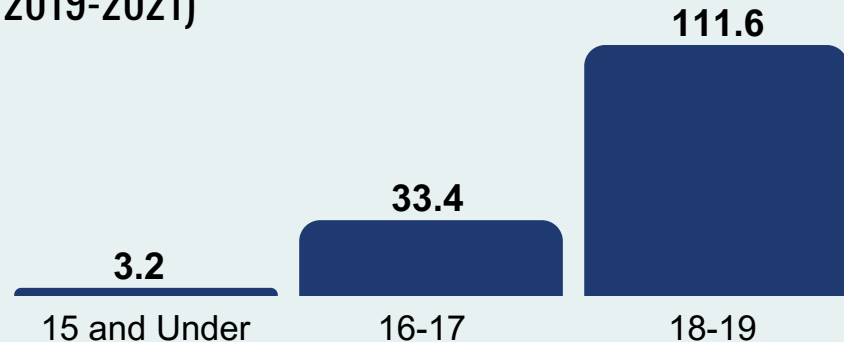


Despite declines over the past three decades, Arkansas continues to have one of the highest birth rates among 15-to-19-year-olds in the U.S. with 26.5 births per 1,000 teens in 2021, compared to 14 births per 1,000 teens nationally, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.<sup>1</sup> ACHI used data from 2019 through 2021 to determine the numbers of teen births among different age groups and the rate of teen births per 1,000 females in each county in Northwest Arkansas.

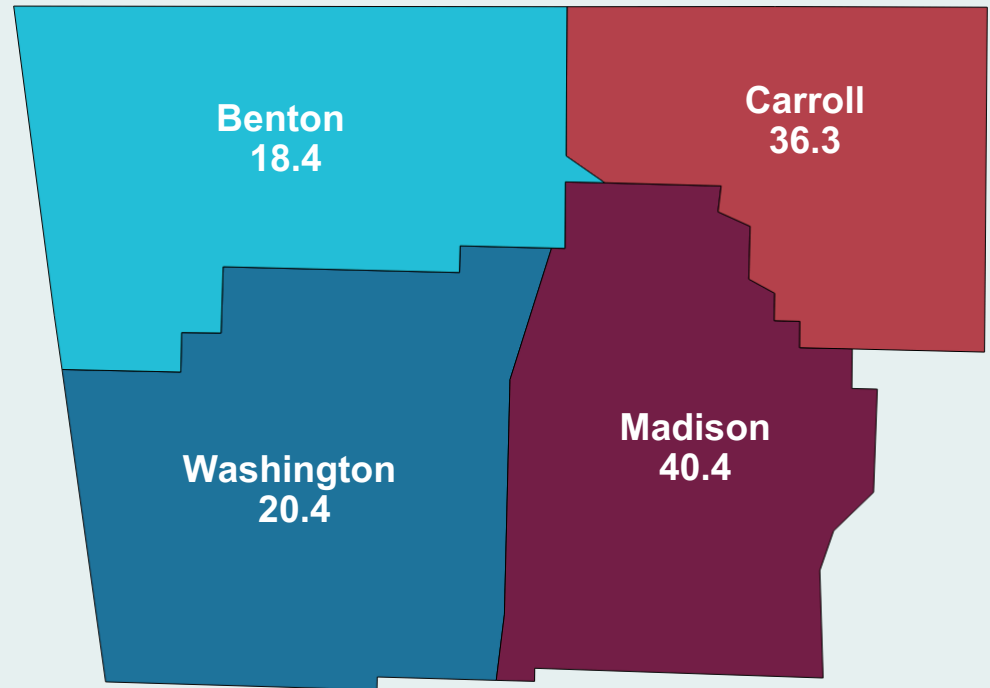
### Births<sup>a</sup> Among Females Age 19 and Under in Northwest Arkansas, 2019-2021



### Births<sup>a</sup> per 1,000 Females Age 19 and Under in Northwest Arkansas (Annualized Three-Year Average, 2019-2021)



### Teen Births per 1,000 Females Ages 15-19 in Northwest Arkansas (Annualized Three-Year Average, 2019-2021)



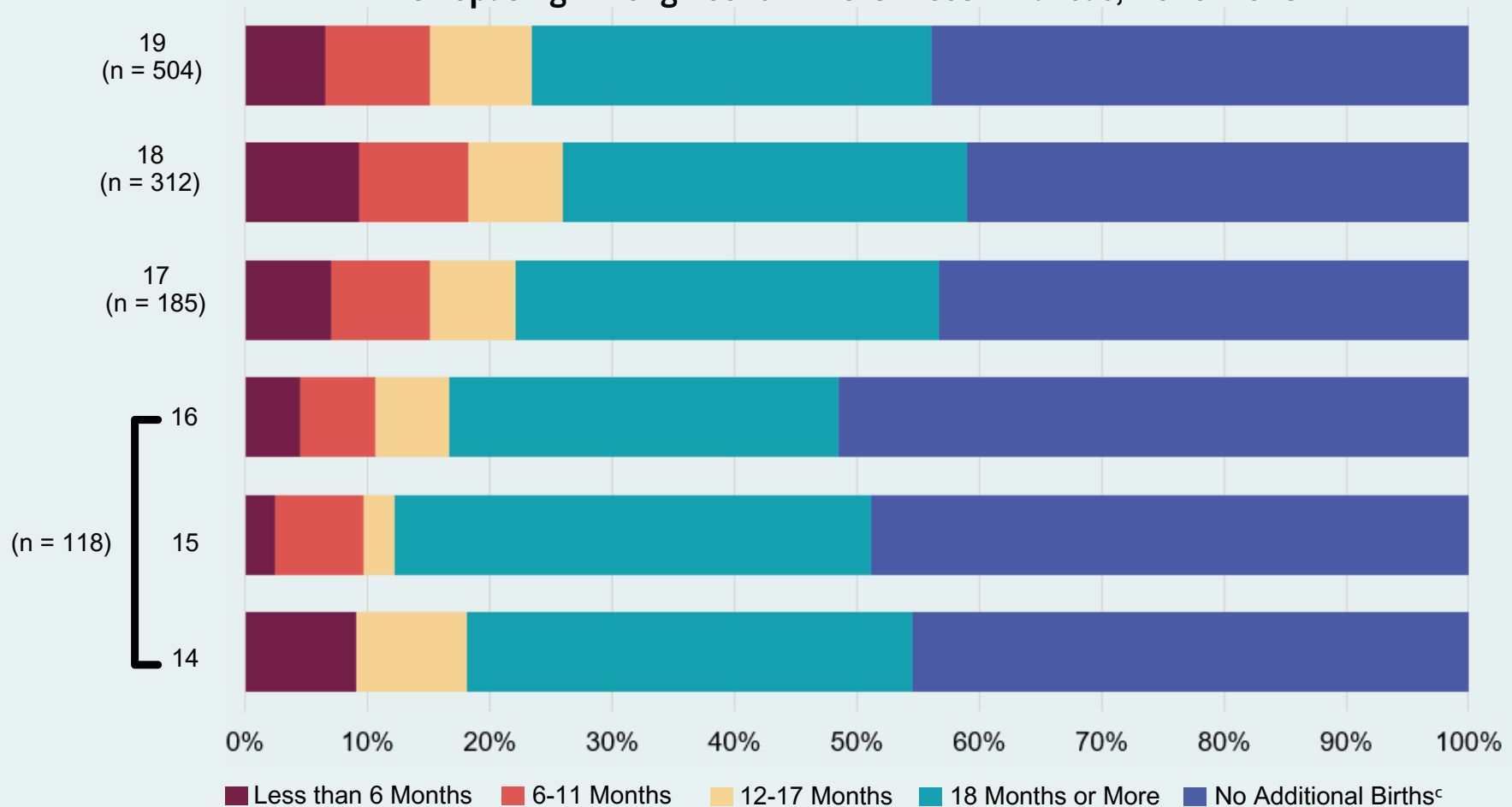
<sup>1</sup> For references: [achi.net/library/teen-births-and-teen-birth-spacing-in-arkansas](https://achi.net/library/teen-births-and-teen-birth-spacing-in-arkansas)

<sup>a</sup> This analysis includes live births to females ages 12 to 19.

Data sources: Arkansas Department of Health birth records, Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative's All-Payer Claims Database, and National Center for Health Statistics 2020 population estimates.

Birth spacing (also known as interpregnancy interval) refers to how soon after a prior pregnancy a subsequent pregnancy is conceived. The recommended spacing from giving birth to conceiving another pregnancy is at least 18 months. Shorter intervals have been associated with increased risk of preterm labor and low birthweight.<sup>2-8</sup> The graph below shows how soon a second pregnancy was conceived among teen mothers in Northwest Arkansas based on their age at the time of their first birth.<sup>b</sup>

## Birth Spacing Among Teens in Northwest Arkansas, 2016-2018



<sup>2-8</sup> For references: [achi.net/library/teen-births-and-teen-birth-spacing-in-arkansas](https://achi.net/library/teen-births-and-teen-birth-spacing-in-arkansas)

<sup>b</sup> This analysis includes in-state live births to Arkansas females ages 14 to 19.

<sup>c</sup> No additional births recorded through 2022.

Data source: Arkansas Department of Health birth records.