

**EVIDENCE CENTRE**  
TE POKAPŪ TAUNAKITANGA

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**Valmai Copeland (Oranga Tamariki)**

***Teen Parents***

# IDI Disclaimer

- The results are not official statistics, they have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) managed by Statistics New Zealand.
- Access to the anonymised data used in this study was provided by Statistics NZ in accordance with security and confidentiality provisions of the Statistics Act 1975. Only people authorised by the Statistics Act 1975 are allowed to see data about a particular person, household, business or organisation and the results have been confidentialised to protect these groups from identification.
- Careful consideration has been given to the privacy, security and confidentiality issues associated with using administrative and survey data in the IDI. Further detail can be found in the Privacy impact assessment for the Integrated Data Infrastructure available from [www.stats.govt.nz](http://www.stats.govt.nz).
- The results are based in part on tax data supplied by Inland Revenue to Statistics NZ under the Tax Administration Act 1994. This tax data must be used only for statistical purposes, and no individual information may be published or disclosed in any other form, or provided to Inland Revenue for administrative or regulatory purposes.
- Any person who has had access to the unit-record data has certified that they have been shown, have read, and have understood section 81 of the Tax Administration Act 1994, which relates to secrecy. Any discussion of data limitations or weaknesses is in the context of using the IDI for statistical purposes, and is not related to the data's ability to support Inland Revenue's core operational requirements.

# Purpose

- To understand the context and incidence of teen parenthood
- To provide up-to-date evidence from Aotearoa and overseas about effective support for teenage parents, their children and whānau
- To identify protective factors and risks for poor outcomes for teenage parents and their children

# Context

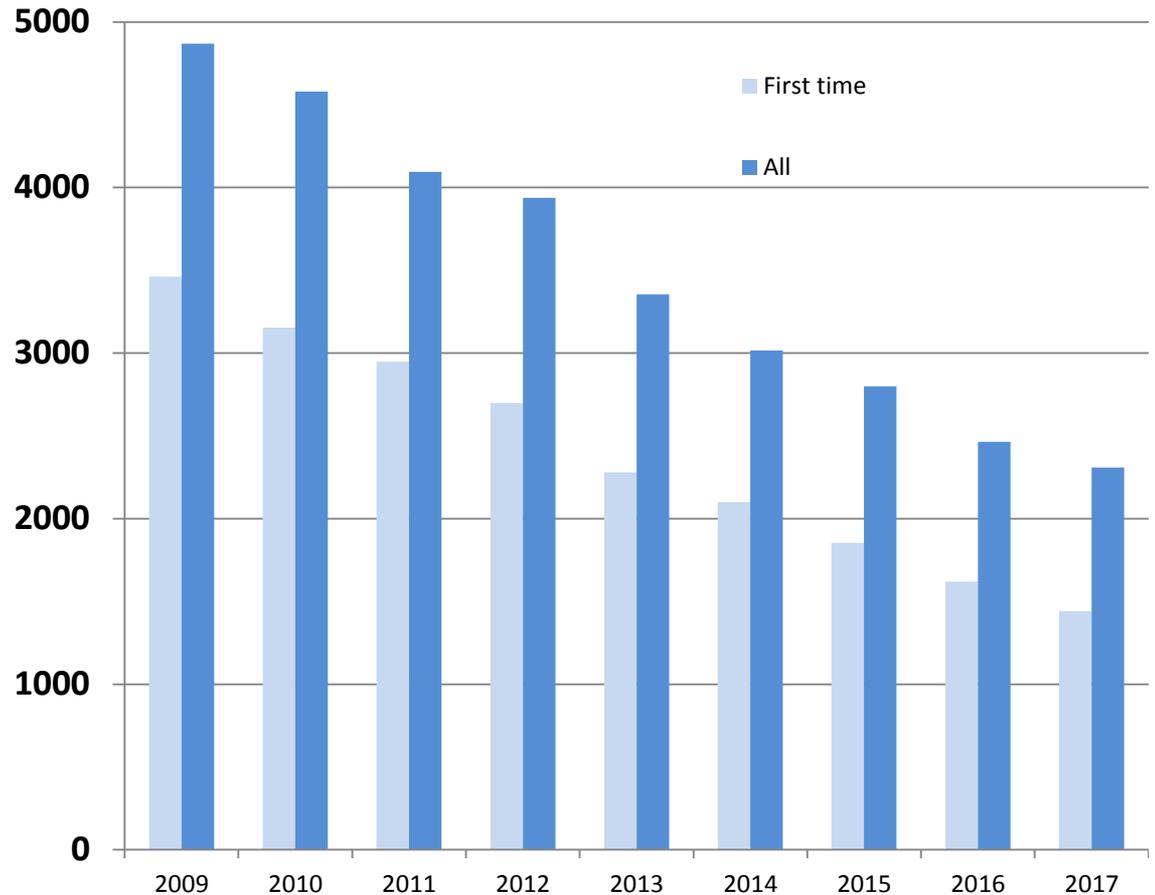
Oranga Tamariki has a duty to:

- Care for young mothers under 16 and their child/ren
- To care for all children at risk of not thriving

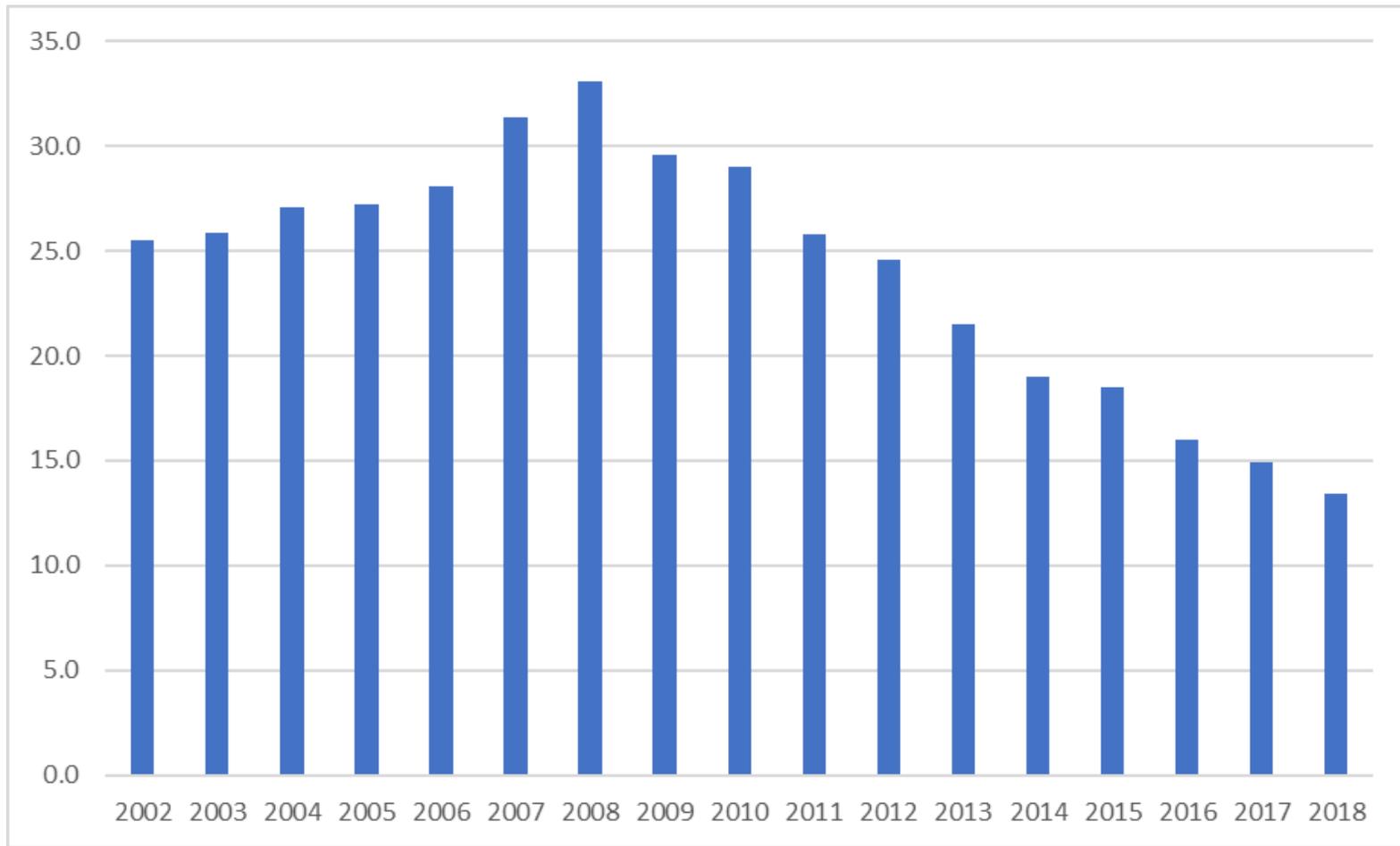


# Teen Births

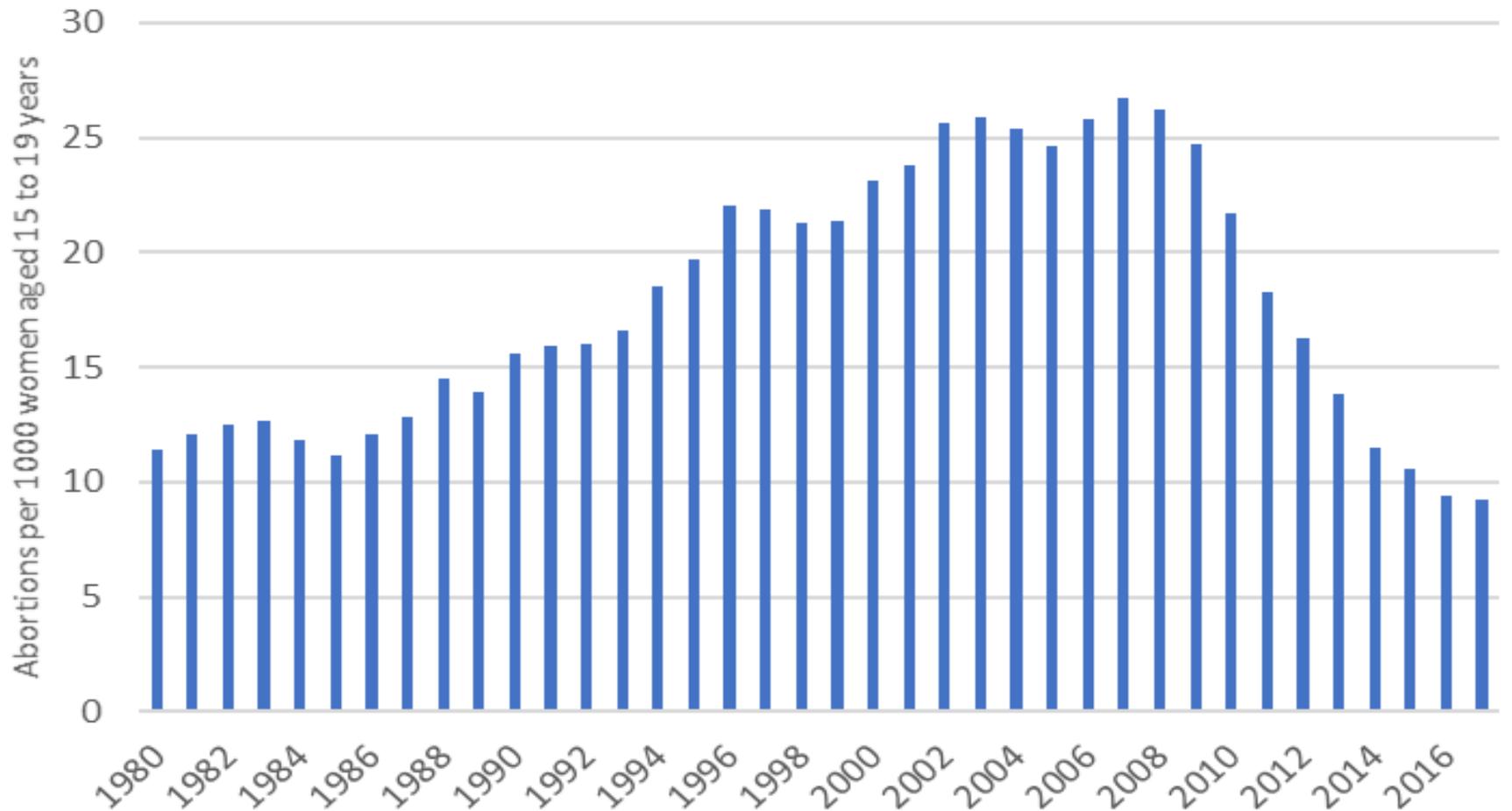
	First time	All
2009	3,462	4,869
2010	3,153	4,580
2011	2,949	4,095
2012	2,697	3,937
2013	2,280	3,355
2014	2,100	3,016
2015	1,854	2,800
2016	1,620	2,464
2017	1,443	2,309



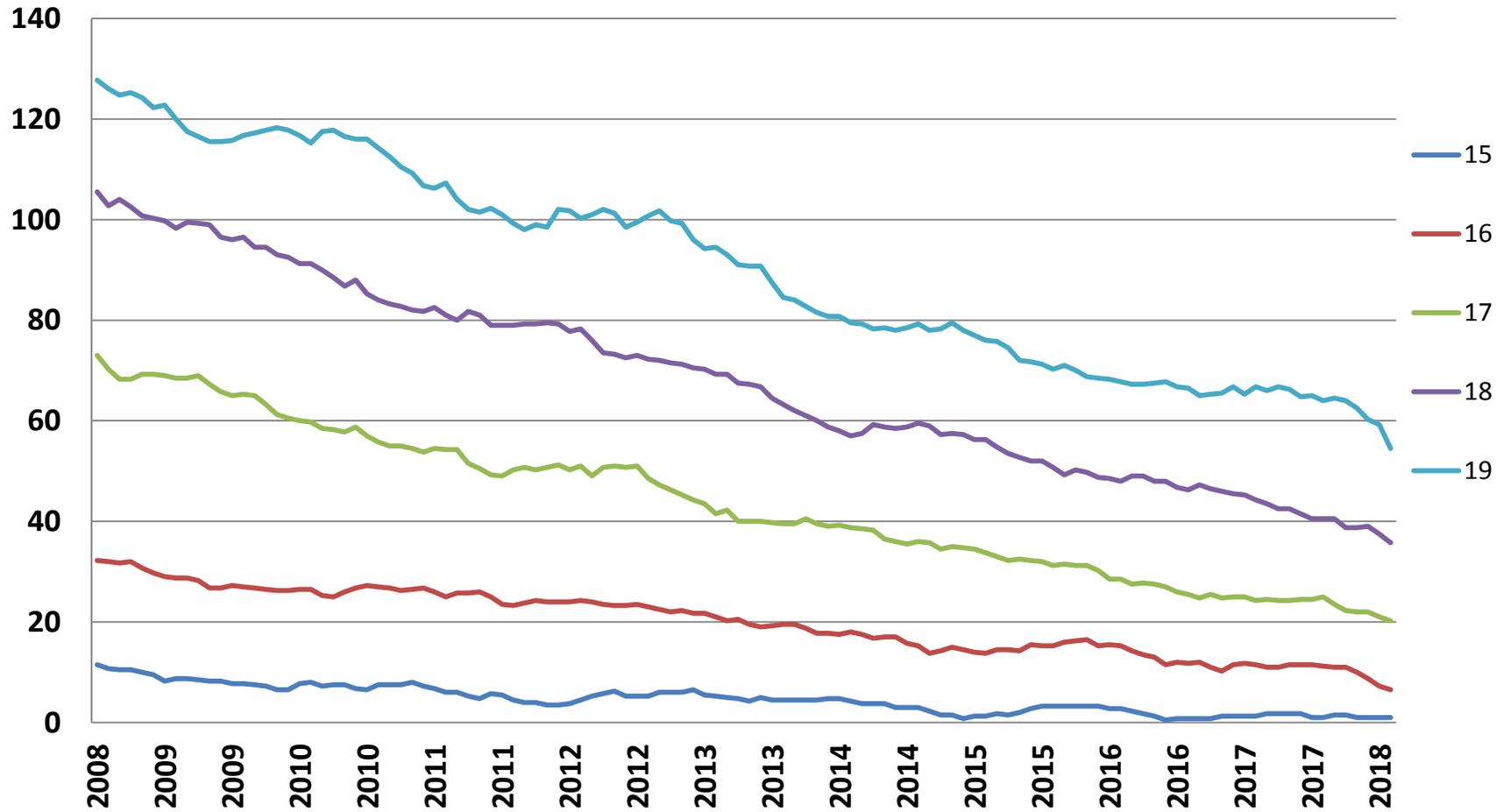
# Fertility Rate per 1000 Women (15-19)



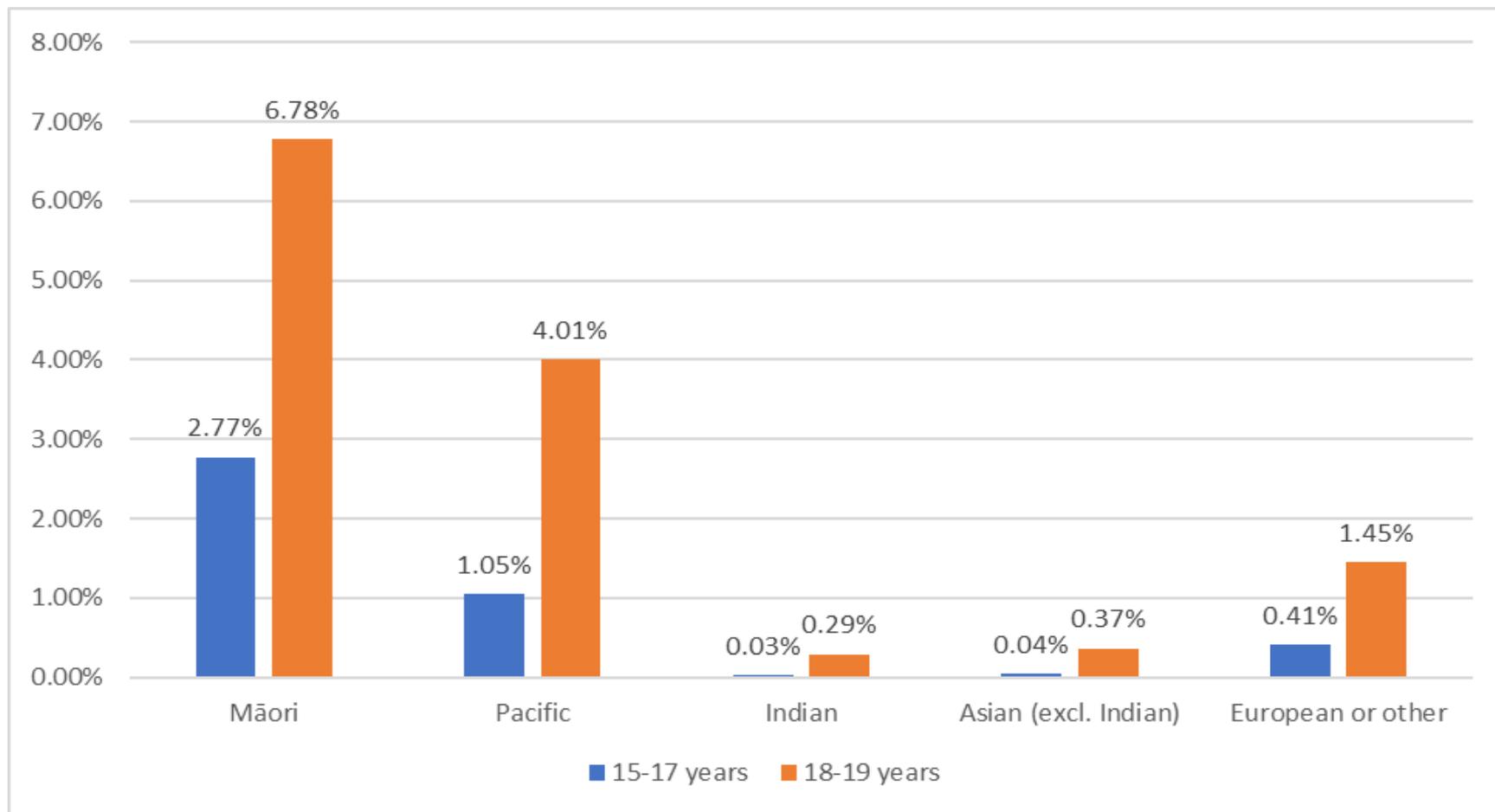
# Abortion rate (15-19)



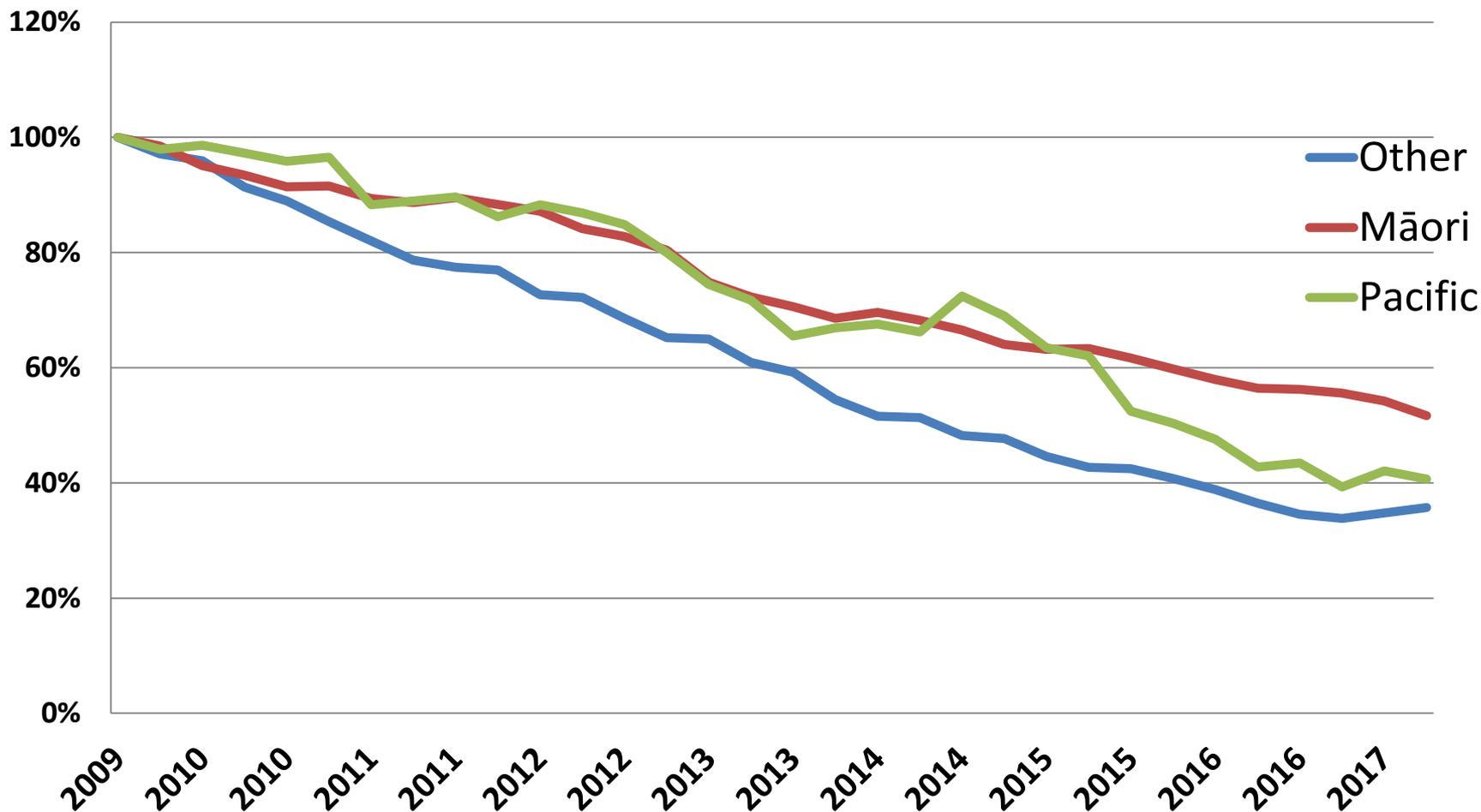
# Age of mother at birth



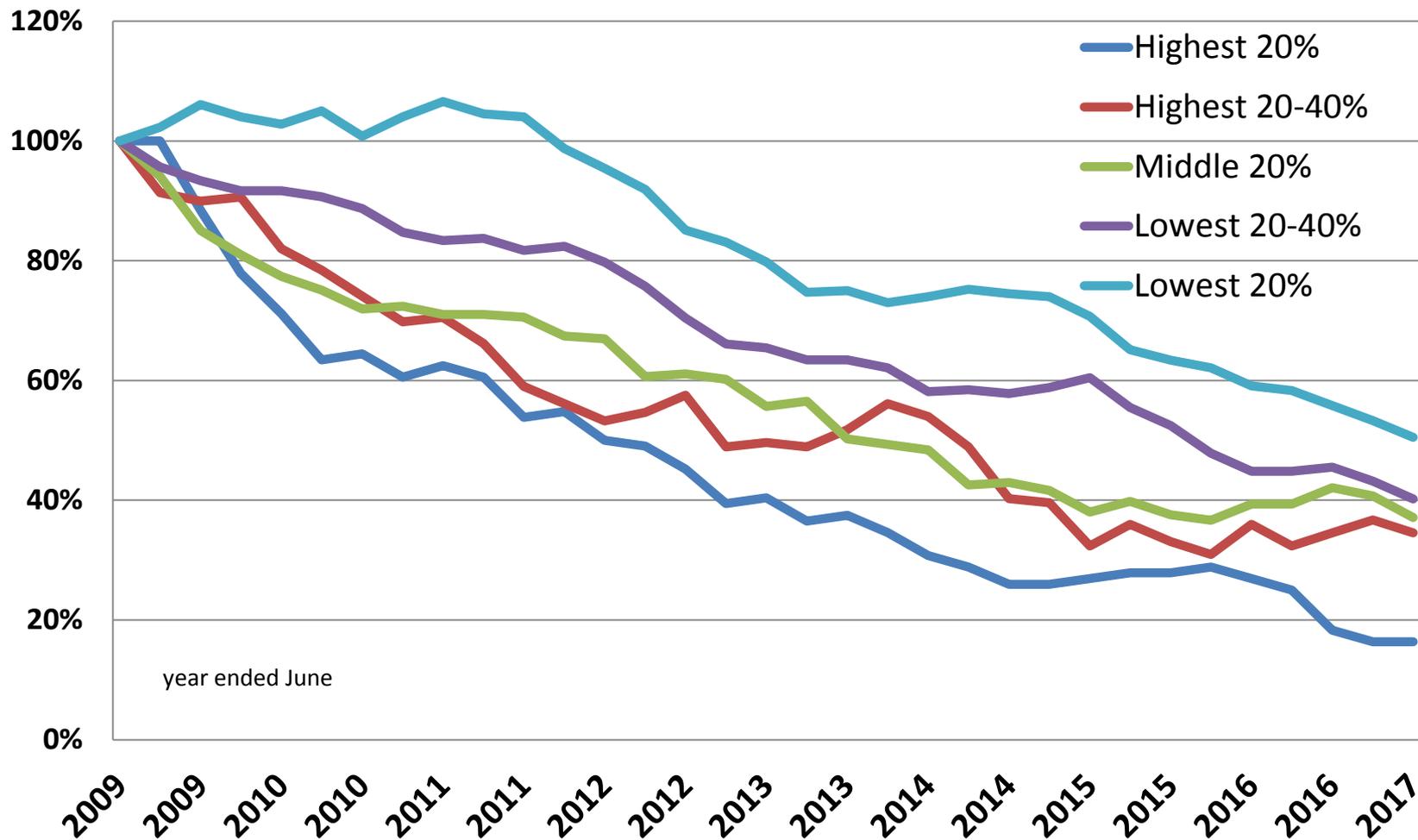
# % of births by ethnicity & age cohort (2017)



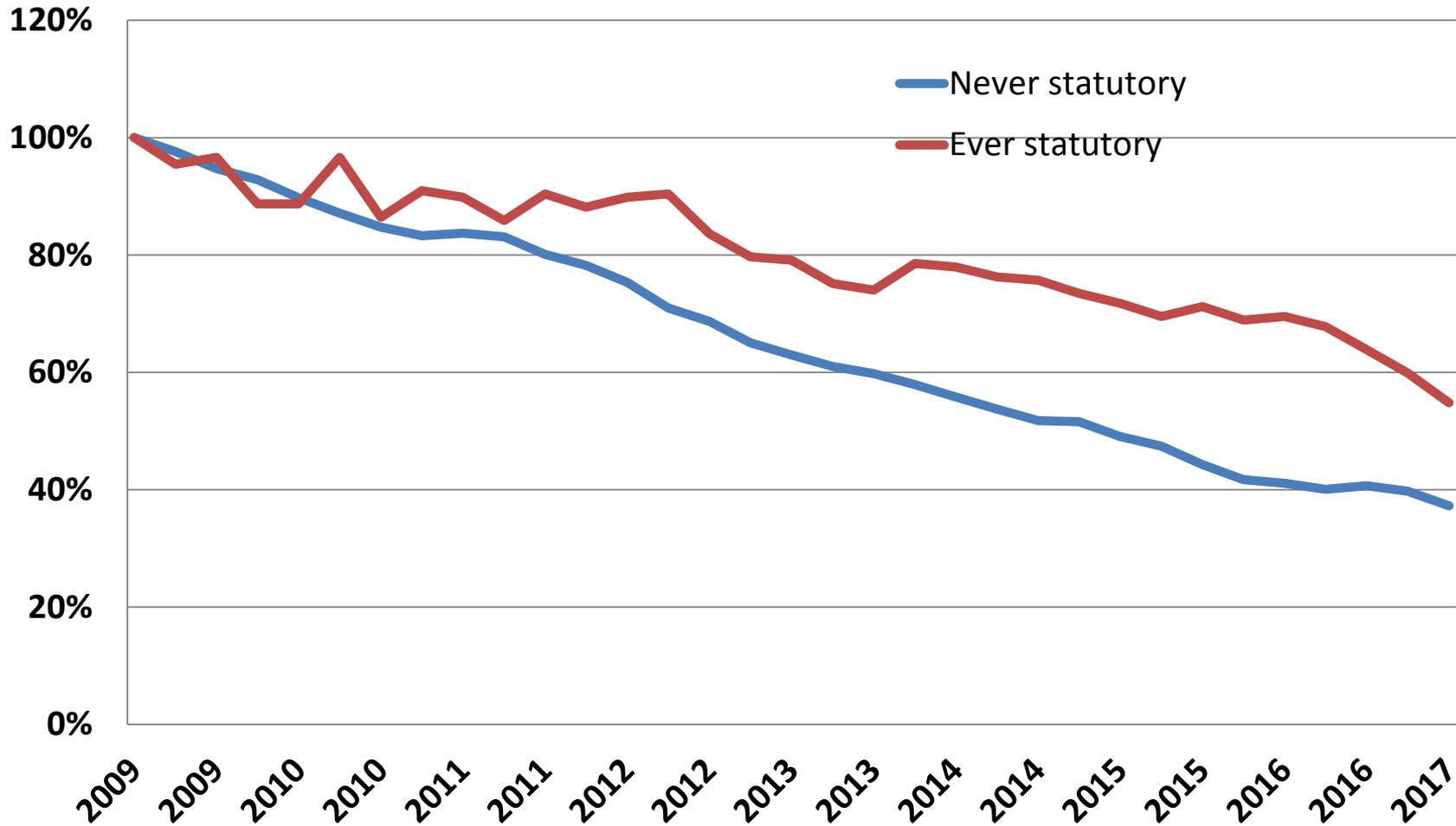
# Number of teen births by ethnicity compared to 2009



# Financial security – change over time



# First births by statutory history



# Teen parents support programmes in Aotearoa

Only four evaluations were found - all education based

Teen parent units – 23 units, 400-500 young parents enrolled

Young Parent Payment (YPP)

Lack of traditional support structures for Māori

# Findings from the literature

## Challenges for Teen Parents

- Stigmatisation and discrimination, negative societal attitudes
- Limited opportunity to build education or vocations
- Developmental issues for their children

## Protective factors for teen parents and their children

- Social support
- Whānau support
- Positive involvement of the father
- Strengths-based approach

## Advantages of teen parenthood

- Relate more easily to baby as closer in age
- Having time after baby becomes an adult for fun and work
- Motivates positive change in teen parent

# Findings from the literature

## Ways to provide better support to teens

- Normalise adolescent sex and contraception
- Provide appropriate contraception options
- Timely and low cost/free access to culturally responsive sexual and reproductive health services
- Include young men in the dialogue
- Support young people who are co-parenting

# Acknowledgements

## Literature review

Allen & Clarke [www.allenandclarke.co.nz](http://www.allenandclarke.co.nz)

## Data providers

Oranga Tamariki Actuarial Team

Stats NZ

Ministry of Health

NZ Family Planning