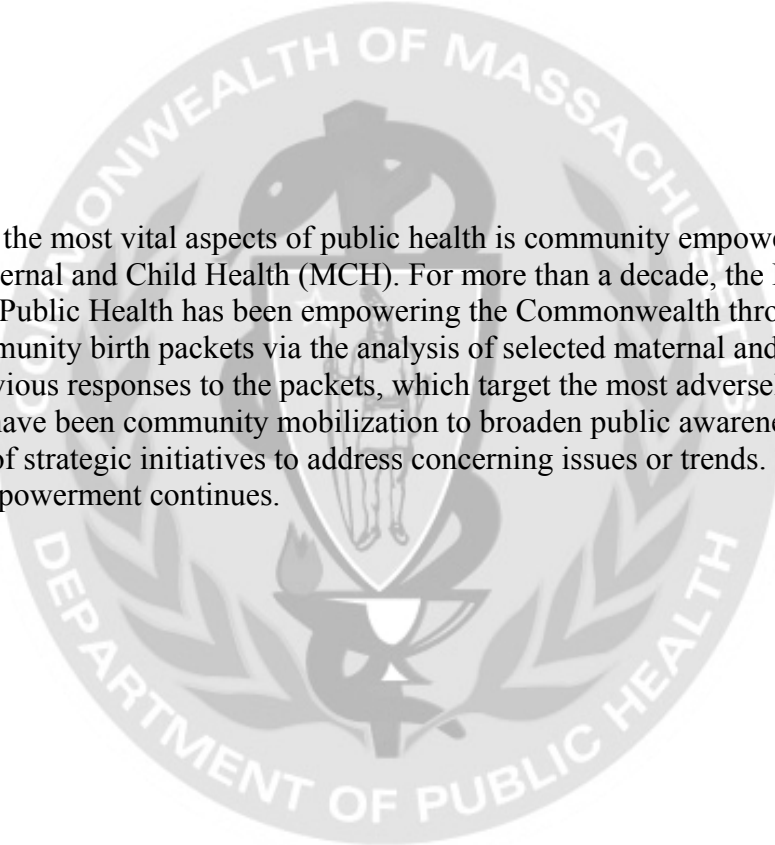


**Community Information Packet:  
Teen Births  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts  
2009**



**Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition  
Released July 2011**



The seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a figure holding a staff and a bowl, surrounded by a laurel wreath. The text "COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS" is arched across the top, and "DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH" is arched across the bottom.

Perhaps one of the most vital aspects of public health is community empowerment especially in the area of Maternal and Child Health (MCH). For more than a decade, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has been empowering the Commonwealth through the annual release of community birth packets via the analysis of selected maternal and child health indicators. Previous responses to the packets, which target the most adversely affected communities, have been community mobilization to broaden public awareness as well as the establishment of strategic initiatives to address concerning issues or trends. This July 2011 the community empowerment continues.



## TEEN BIRTHS FACT SHEET 2009: PITTSFIELD

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- In 2009, there were a total of 70 births to Pittsfield resident teens aged 15-19 years, representing 13.5% of the city's total births (517).
- There were 10 more births to Pittsfield resident teens aged 15-19 years in 2009 than in the previous year.
- The 2009 Pittsfield teen birth rate was 55.1<sup>1</sup> births per 1,000 teens aged 15-19 years (95% CI<sup>2</sup>, 42.6-67.7), compared with a rate of 47.2 in 2008 and the Massachusetts 2009 rate of 19.6 (95% CI, 19.0-20.1).
- The teen birth rate in Pittsfield increased by 41.3% between 1996 and 2009 from 39.0 to 55.1 births per 1,000 teens aged 15-19 years, with an annual percent change (APC)<sup>3</sup> of 2.6% (Figure 1). There was a 31.2% decrease in the Massachusetts teen birth rate during the same period from 28.5 to 19.6 (Figure 2).
- Among all live births to Pittsfield residents aged 15–19 years in 2009, 77.1% were to White non-Hispanic mothers (compared to 80.4% in 1996); 11.4% were to Black non-Hispanic mothers (compared to 14.3% in 1996); and 8.6% were to Hispanic mothers (Figure 3).
- Among births to Pittsfield resident teens aged 15-19 years in 2009, 71.4% were to older teens aged 18-19 years and 28.6% were to teens aged 15-17 years.

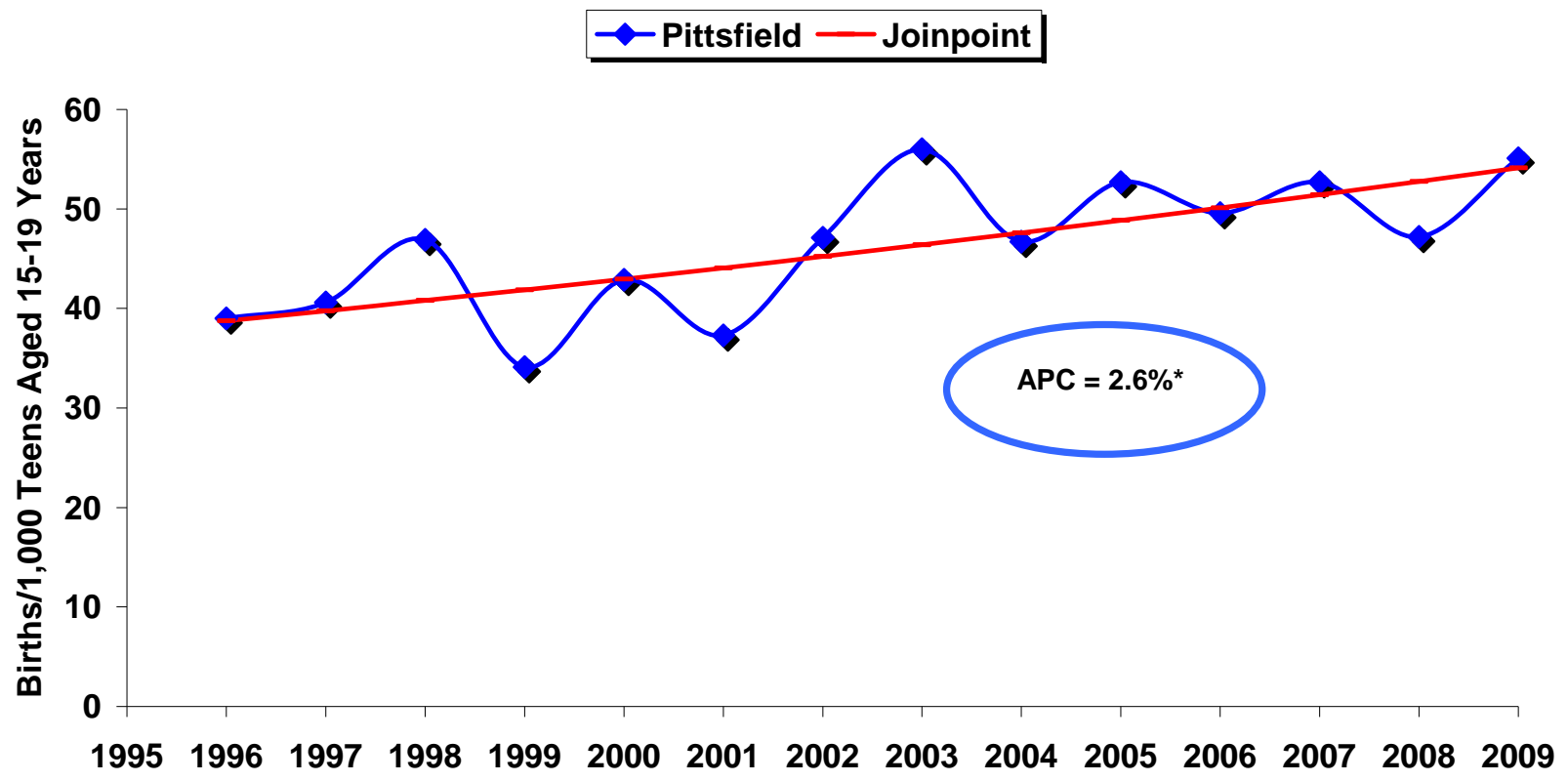
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<sup>1</sup> The Pittsfield 2009 teen birth rate is based on 2005 population estimates. See Technical Notes for further detail.

<sup>2</sup> CI-Confidence Interval

<sup>3</sup> APC indicates a statistically significant increase from 1996-2009

**Figure 1. Trends in Teen Birth Rates Using Joinpoint Analysis<sup>1</sup>:  
Pittsfield, 1996-2009**

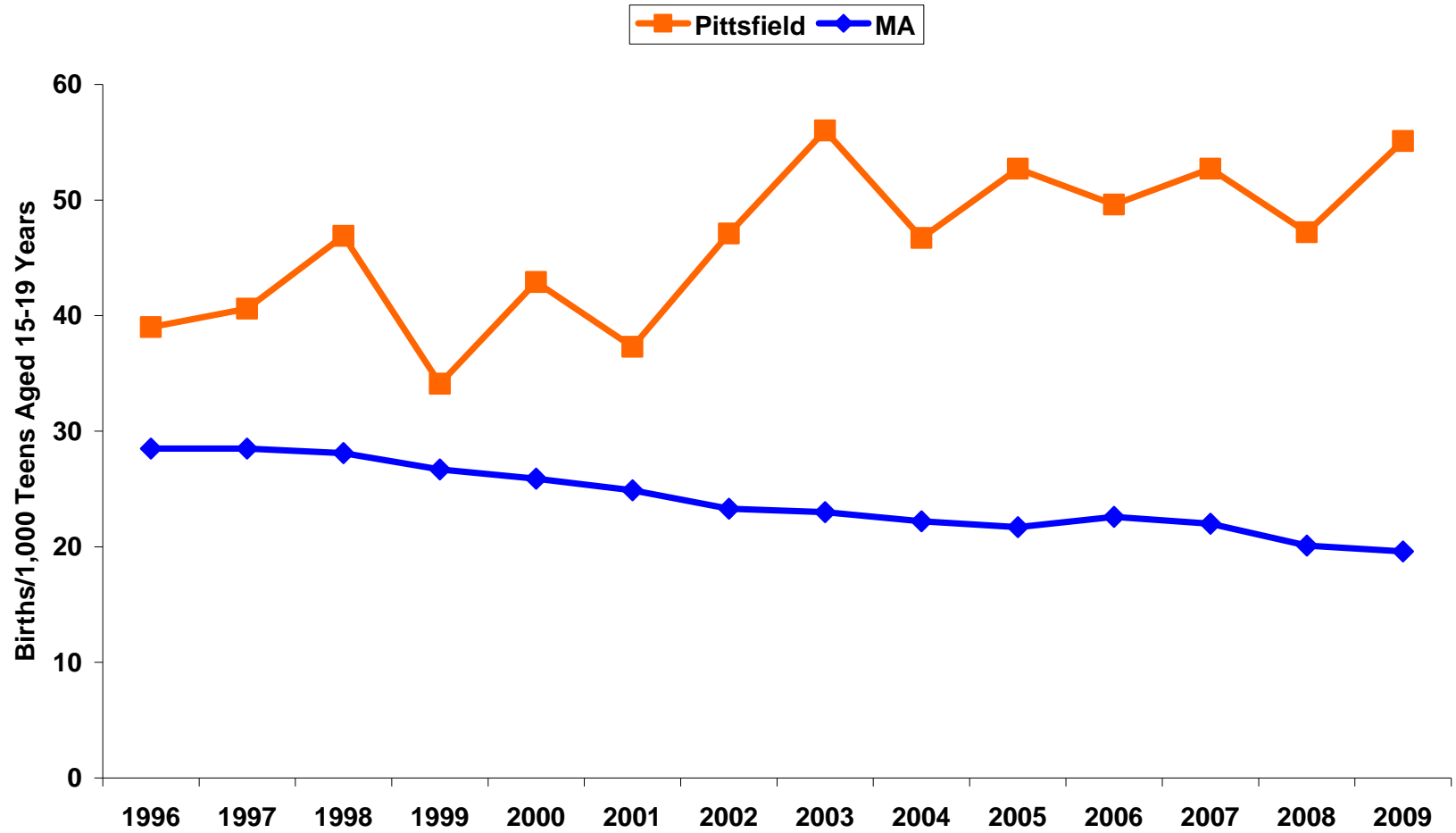


Source: Natality, Massachusetts Community Health Information Profile (MassCHIP), Massachusetts Department of Public Health, v3.00 r325, July 2011, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition and Bureau of Health Information, Statistics, Research, and Evaluation

<sup>1</sup>The 2009 teen birth rate for Pittsfield is based on the 2005 population estimates. See Technical Notes page for further detail

\* Statistically significant ( $p \leq .05$ ). APC = Annual Percentage Change using Joinpoint Analysis. See Technical Notes for further detail

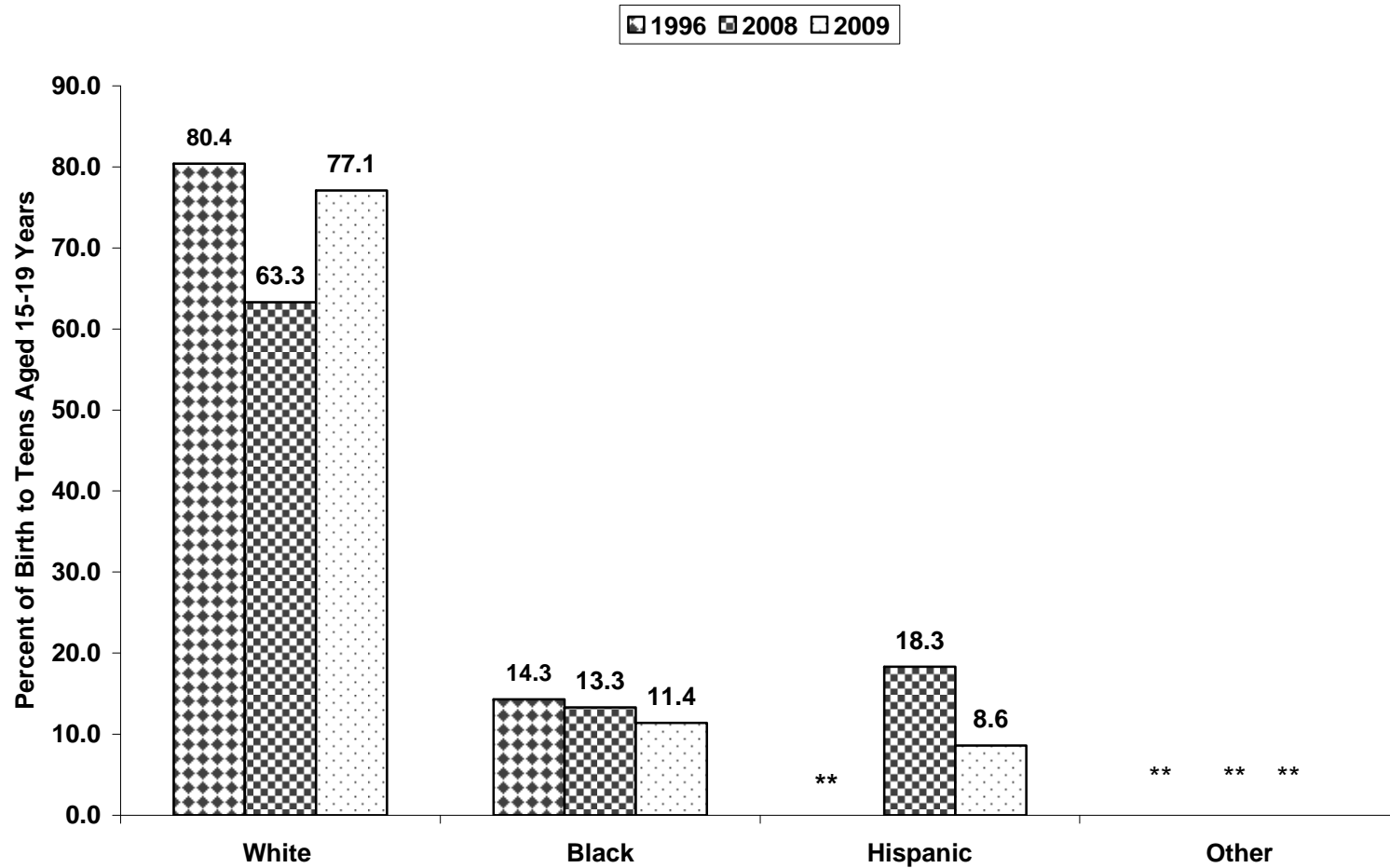
**Figure 2. Birth Rates Among Teens Aged 15-19 Years:  
Pittsfield and Massachusetts, 1996-2009<sup>1</sup>**



Source: Natality, Massachusetts Community Health Information Profile (MassCHIP), Massachusetts Department of Public Health, v3.00 r325, July 2011, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition and Bureau of Health Information, Statistics, Research, and Evaluation

<sup>1</sup>The 2009 teen birth rate for Pittsfield is based on the 2005 population estimates. See Technical Notes page for further detail

**Figure 3. Percent of Births to Teens Aged 15-19 Years  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity: Pittsfield**



Source: Natality, Massachusetts Community Health Information Profile (MassCHIP), Massachusetts Department of Public Health, v3.00 r325, July 2011, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition and Bureau of Health Information, Statistics, Research, and Evaluation

\*\* Calculations based on 1-4 events were excluded.