

**Title of Article:** Prevalence of early child birth and its implication on safe child delivery in Osun State, South-Western Nigeria.

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**Abstract:** This paper examines frequency and predictors of early childbirth and its effects on safe child delivery. The data were derived from a study conducted in 2006 among 355 randomly selected women of reproductive ages in Iwo and Ife-north local government Areas of Osun State, Nigeria. Mean age of the total respondents was 29.1 years. With 16.8 years as age at sexual debut, the study confirmed a high rate of teenage pregnancy and revealed a high prevalence rate of early childbirth (59.7%) (52.2% in Iwo and 67.4% in Ife-north). Early childbirth was significantly determined by age at first sex, those that ever exchange sex for gift ( $p < 0.01$ ) and those who came from polygamous home ( $p < 0.05$ ). The study also discovered a high rate of unsuccessful/unsafe child delivery (stillbirth, wasted pregnancy and other complications) among in the study areas (63.6%). It was equally shown that unsafe delivery among teenage mothers was significantly common among those (teenage mothers) that gave birth in non-medical centres: those with longer hours of delivery labour ( $p < 0.01$ ) with low education and those with low age of sexual debut. Base on the study findings, it is concluded that more efforts should be geared towards reproductive health and tract of young women in the study areas.