The pregnancy rate, the fertility rate, and the abortion rate all declined in 2001 to the lowest level since 1991. There were 94,142 pregnancies in Arizona in 2001 compared to 95,268 in 2000, a decrease of 1.2 percent. The decrease in the number of pregnancies was entirely due to a 14.6 percent decrease in the number of reported abortions from 9,631 in 2000 to 8,226 in 2001. In contrast, the number of resident live births increased by a mere 0.3 percent from 84,985 in 2000 to 85,213 in 2001. (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1). Since the number of females of childbearing age (15-44 years old) was up 3.7 percent, the fertility rate, which relates births to the number of women of childbearing age, fell 3.2 percent.

Among White non-Hispanic females, the 2001 pregnancy rate was 66.8/1,000. The pregnancy rate for Hispanic female residents of Arizona was 124.4/1,000 or 86 percent greater than the rate for White non-Hispanics (Figure 1A-2, Table 1A-1). American Indian females had the second highest rate among ethnic groups (92.6), followed by Arizona's Black females (89.6). Approximately one in every fifteen White non-Hispanic females ages 15-44 became pregnant in 2001 compared to one in every eight Hispanic females.
The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2001 was 72 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-3), 9 percent lower than in 2000 and 29.4 percent lower than in 1994 when it reached the decade’s peak of 102.0/1,000. The pregnancy rate for younger teenagers 15-17 years also reached a record low in 2001, dropping to 43.2/1,000, down 10.2 percent from 2000, and 33.9 percent from 1994. Similarly, the pregnancy rate for older teenagers declined in 2001 to 113.2/1,000, down 8.4 percent from 2000, and 22.4 percent from the rate of 145.9/1,000 in 1994 (Figure 1A-3). The declining teenage pregnancy rate has not been accompanied by a similar decrease in the number of pregnancies. Compared to 1991, there were no fewer teen pregnancies in the year 2001 (13,037 and 13,429 respectively; Table 1A-5), but fewer pregnancies per 1,000 teenage females.

The pregnancy rates of Hispanic, Black, and American Indian teenagers exceeded the corresponding rates of Asian and White non-Hispanic females in every age group in 2001. Hispanic teenage females continued to have the highest age-specific pregnancy rates among all ethnic groups, followed by Blacks, and American Indians. Among girls aged 15-17 years, the 2001 pregnancy rate was 3.8 times greater for Hispanics (79.7/1,000) than White non-Hispanics (20.8/1,000, Figure 1A-4, Table 1A-3).
Among females 18-19 years old, the Hispanic to Asian differential in pregnancy rates was 3.1 times (176.0 vs. 57.1, Figure 1A-5, Table 1A-4) in 2001.

Between 1980 and 2001, pregnancy rates declined for Asian, American Indian, Black, and White non-Hispanic populations (Figure 1A-6), with the steepest decline recorded for White non-Hispanic teens. In contrast, Hispanic females aged 19 and younger were the only group for whom the 2001 pregnancy rate was identical with the 1980 rate of 59.1/1,000.

* Number of pregnancies per 1,000 females 10-19 years old in specified group.
Hispanics, who accounted for 32.8 percent of all females 19 or younger in Arizona in 2001, made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (53.9 percent) and live births (56.4 percent). In contrast, White non-Hispanic females who accounted for 52.9 percent of all teens in Arizona had a much lower proportional representation among teen pregnancies (31.1 percent) and live births (28.8 percent, Figure 1A-7).

In 2001, the pregnancy rate of 43.2 per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 72.8 percent greater than the Healthy Arizona 2010 objective of 25.0/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). The 2001 pregnancy rate among Asian females ages 15-17 years was 10 percent lower, and among White non-Hispanic females 16.8 percent lower than the objective. In contrast the 2001 pregnancy rate among Hispanic females 15-17 years old exceeded the target rate by 218.8 percent, or 3.2 times.