1A.

PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME,
ETHNICITY AND AGE GROUP

The expression “reproductive and perinatal health” refers to a variety of health and sociodemographic characteristics of women who became pregnant, factors related to the course of their pregnancies, and the status of pregnancy outcomes. In this report, pregnancies are measured as the sum of three components: **live births**, **spontaneous terminations of pregnancy** (fetal deaths or stillbirths) and **induced terminations of pregnancy** (or abortions).
1A. PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME, ETHNICITY AND AGE GROUP

Figure 1A-1
Pregnancy Rates by Outcome and Year Among Females of All Ages, Arizona, 1993-2003

Note: all rates are per 1,000 females 15-44 years old. The fertility rate is the number of births per 1,000 females aged 15-44 years.

Figure 1A-2
Pregnancy Rates by Race/Ethnicity for Females of All Ages, Arizona, 2003

Pregnancy rate = the number of pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-44 years in specified race/ethnic group.

There were 101,476 pregnancies in Arizona in 2003 compared to 98,548 in 2002, an increase of 3.0 percent. Among the three pregnancy outcomes, the number of resident live births increased from 87,379 in 2002 to 90,783 in 2003. (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1), the number of abortions slightly decreased from 10,397 to 10,154, and the number of reportable spontaneous fetal losses changed very little from 556 reported in 2002 to 539 in 2003. From 2002 to 2003, the number of females aged 15-44 years increased by 2.9 percent. The increase of 3.9 percent in the number of births over the same period was greater and the fertility rate, which relates births to the number of women of childbearing age, increased by 1.1 percent.

In 2003, the pregnancy rate for Hispanic female residents of Arizona was 127.1 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-44 years (Figure 1A-2, Table 1A-1). This rate was 2.1 times greater than the rate of 61.9/1,000 for White non-Hispanics. American Indian females had the second highest rate among ethnic groups (90.4/1,000). The pregnancy rates for Arizona’s Asian (85.0/1,000), Black (84.7/1,000) and White-non-Hispanic (61.9/1,000) females were lower than the average for all groups.
The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2003 was 68.9 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-3, Table 5A-2), 2.4 percent lower than in 2002 and 32.5 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 2003, dropping to 41.6/1,000, a 36.4 percent lower rate than in 1994. Similarly, the pregnancy rate for older teenagers declined in 2003 to 108.2/1,000, down 2.7 percent from 2002, and 25.8 percent from a 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 1993, there were no fewer teen pregnancies in 2003 (12,890 and 13,654 respectively) (Table 1A-5), but fewer pregnancies per 1,000 teenage females.

Among teenage females aged 15-17 years, Hispanic girls continued to have the highest pregnancy rates followed by Blacks, and American Indians. The 2003 pregnancy rate of 76.5/1,000 among Hispanic girls was 4.4 times greater than the rate of 17.5/1,000 for White non-Hispanic girls 15-17 years old (Figure 1A-4, Table 1A-3).
The pregnancy rates for females 18-19 years old also varied considerably by race and Hispanic origin (Figure 1A-5, Table 1A-4). In 2003, the Hispanic to Asian differential in pregnancy rates was 3.3 times (172.7/1,000 vs. 52.1/1,000).

Between 1980 and 2003, pregnancy rates declined for all ethnic populations (Figure 1A-6), with the steepest decline of 61.7 percent for White non-Hispanic teens, followed by Asian (42.0 percent), Black (39.1 percent), and American Indian teens (30.6 percent). In contrast, Hispanic females aged 19 and younger were the only group for whom the 2003 pregnancy rate differed from the 1980 rate by a mere 2.7 percent (57.5/1,000 and 59.1/1,000 respectively).
Hispanic females, who accounted for 32.8 percent of all females 19 or younger in Arizona in 2003, made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (54.8 percent) and live births (58.1 percent; Figure 1A-7). 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 (28.6 percent) and live births (25.3 percent; percentages based on the number of pregnancies and births in Table 1A-5).

In 2003, the pregnancy rate of 41.6 per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 66.4 percent greater than the Healthy Arizona 2010 objective of 25.0/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). The 2003 pregnancy rate among Asian females ages 15-17 years was 12 percent lower, and among White non-Hispanic females 30 percent lower than the objective. In contrast, the 2003 pregnancy rate among Hispanic females 15-17 years old exceeded the target rate by 206 percent (or 3.1 times).