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).
There were 106,252 pregnancies in Arizona in 2004 compared to 101,476 in 2003, an increase of 4.7 percent. Among the three pregnancy outcomes, the number of resident live births increased by 2.9 percent from 90,783 in 2003 to 93,396 in 2004. (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1), the number of abortions increased by 21.1 percent from 10,154 to 12,301, and the number of reportable spontaneous fetal losses changed very little from 539 reported in 2003 to 555 in 2004. From 2003 to 2004, the number of females aged 15-44 years increased by 3.7 percent. The increase in the number of live births over the same period was smaller but the increase in the number of abortions was substantially greater and the pregnancy rate, which relates pregnancies to the number of women of childbearing age, also increased by 0.9 percent.

In 2004, the pregnancy rate for Hispanic female residents of Arizona was 130.9 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-44 years (Figure 1A-2, Table 1A-1). This rate was 2.2 times greater than the rate of 60.5/1,000 for White non-Hispanics. Asian females had the second highest rate among ethnic groups (102.1/1,000). The pregnancy rates for Arizona's Black (97.1/1,000) and American Indian females (96.6/1,000) also were higher than the average for all groups.
1A. PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME, ETHNICITY AND AGE GROUP

The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2004 was 69.4 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-3, Table 5A-2), 0.7 percent greater than in 2003. The pregnancy rate for younger teenagers 15-17 years also slightly increased in 2004 to 42.0/1,000. Similarly, the pregnancy rate for older teenagers increased from 108.2 in 2003 to 108.7 in 2004 (Figure 1A-3).

The number of pregnancies among all females aged 19 years and younger increased for the 3rd consecutive year from 13,429 in 2001 to 14,163 in 2004 (Table 1A-5). Compared to 1994, when the teen pregnancy rates in Arizona reached their latest peak, there were no fewer teen pregnancies in 2004, 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 American Indians and Blacks. The 2004 pregnancy rate of 79.7/1,000 among Hispanic girls was 4.7 times greater than the rate of 16.9/1,000 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 2004, the Hispanic to Asian differential in pregnancy rates was 3.2 times (177.4/1,000 vs. 55.0/1,000).

Between 2000 and 2002, pregnancy rates among females aged 19 years and younger declined for all ethnic populations (Figure 1A-6). After 2002, the rates continued to decline only for White non-Hispanics. The pregnancy rate for White non-Hispanic females 19 years and younger decreased by 29.8 percent from 25.2 in 2000 to 17.7 in 2004.

In contrast, the 2004 pregnancy rates for Hispanic, Black, American Indian and Asian females aged 19 and younger were greater than their respective rates in 2002.
Hispanic females, who accounted for 32.9 percent of all females 19 or younger in Arizona in 2004, made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (56.2 percent) and live births (60.2 percent; Figure 1A-7). In contrast, White non-Hispanic females who accounted for 54.1 percent of all teens in Arizona had a much lower proportional representation among teen pregnancies (27.7 percent) and live births (23.7 percent; percentages based on the number of pregnancies and births in Table 1A-5).

In 2004, the pregnancy rate of 42.0 per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 68 percent greater than the Healthy Arizona 2010 objective of 25.0/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). The 2004 pregnancy rate among Asian females ages 15-17 years was 19.2 percent lower, and among White non-Hispanic females 32.4 percent lower than the objective. In contrast, the 2004 pregnancy rate among Hispanic females 15-17 years old exceeded the target rate by 218.8 percent (or 3.2 times).