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 (see Section 1B), spontaneous terminations of pregnancy (fetal deaths or stillbirths; Section 1C) and induced terminations of pregnancy (or abortions; Section 1D).

There were 113,091 pregnancies in Arizona in 2006 compared to 106,776 in 2005, an increase of 5.9 percent. Among the three pregnancy outcomes, the number of resident live births increased by 6.5 percent from 95,798 in 2005 to 102,042 in 2006. (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1). In contrast, the number of reported abortions remained essentially unchanged (10,446 in 2005 vs. 10,506 in 2006). The number of reportable spontaneous fetal losses also changed very little from 532 reported in 2005 to 543 in 2006.
In 2006, the pregnancy rate for Arizona women was 88.7 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years, nearly matching the rate seen in 1996 (89.0/1,000; Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1) and 6.6 percent greater than the rate of 83.2/1,000 in 2005.

The fertility rate (the number of births per 1,000 women of childbearing age) increased by 7.1 percent from 74.7/1,000 in 2005 to 80.0/1,000 in 2006.

The abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age) increased by a mere 1.2 percent from 8.1 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years in 2005 to 8.2/1,000 in 2006.

County-level information about pregnancies and pregnancy rates by pregnancy outcome is provided in Table 5A-1.

From 2005 to 2006, the pregnancy rates declined for all race/ethnic groups in Arizona except White non-Hispanics.

In spite of the increase for White non-Hispanics, the pregnancy rate for this group of 68.2 per 1,000 was the lowest of all groups. Whereas the highest was for Hispanics at 123.7 (Figure 1A-2, Table 1A-1). American Indian females had the second highest rate among subgroups (86.3/1,000) followed by Arizona’s Asians (83.8/1,000) and Blacks or African Americans (79.3/1,000).
There is a difference between pregnancy rates and the absolute number of pregnancies. The teen pregnancy rate measures the proportion of teenagers becoming pregnant in a given year; in other words, the relative "risk for pregnancy" in a population "at risk". The number of pregnancies is also determined by the size of the population "at risk": or in this case by the number of teenage females in the population.

The number of teen pregnancies increased by 10.3 percent from 13,521 in 1996 to 14,918 in 2006. However, the proportional increase in the number of females 19 years old or younger was 4.5 times greater at 46.8 percent from 297,594 in 1996 to 436,998 in 2006. While the teen pregnancy rate has fallen in Arizona, the drop in the rate has not been enough to offset the growth in the female teenage population (Figure 1A-3). In fact, the number of 14,918 pregnancies to females 19 years old or younger in Arizona in 2006 was the highest number ever recorded in the State.

The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2006 was 68.7 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-4, Table 5A-2), 4.7 percent greater than in 2005. The pregnancy rate for younger teenagers 15-17 years old remained essentially unchanged at 39.0/1,000 (compared to 39.1 in 2005; Table 1A-3). In contrast, the pregnancy rate for older teenagers 18-19 years old increased by 11.6 percent from 103.6/1,000 in 2005 to 115.6/1,000 in 2006 (Table 1A-4).

The number of pregnancies among all females aged 19 years or younger increased by 1,020 from 13,898 in 2005 to 14,918 in 2006 (Table 1A-5).

County-level information about teen pregnancies and pregnancy rates is provided in Table 5A-2, Table 5A-3 and Table 5A-5. Pregnancy statistics for Arizona are not available on a sub-county level and the information in Table 9A is limited to the number of births to mothers 19 years or younger by community.
1A. PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME, ETHNICITY AND AGE GROUP

Figure 1A-5
Comparison of Pregnancy Rates by Race/Ethnic Group and Year

Pregnancy rate*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>1986</th>
<th>1996</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White non-Hispanic</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>60.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>60.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>39.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>29.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Number of pregnancies per 1,000 females 10-19 years old in specified group.

Teen pregnancy rates differ sharply by race/ethnicity.

Between 1986 and 1996, pregnancy rates among females aged 19 and younger declined for all race/ethnicity groups except Hispanics or Latinos. (Figure 1A-6). The steepest decline in pregnancy rates was recorded for Blacks or African Americans. The teen pregnancy rate for this group decreased by 45 percent from 83.6 in 1986 to 46.0 in 1996.

The changes in annual teen pregnancy rates from 1996 to 2006 are shown in detail below.

The teen pregnancy rates for all race and ethnic groups were lower in 2006 than in 1996 (Figure 1A-6). However, the temporal trends in annual teen pregnancy rates differed considerably by race/ethnicity.

After a substantial decrease of 46.3 percent between 1996 and 2005, the pregnancy rate for White non-Hispanic sharply increased by 19.6 percent in 2006. Similarly, the pregnancy rate fell 17.4 percent for Hispanic or Latino females 19 years or younger in 1996-2003 and then increased in 2004 and 2006.

Temporal trends in the pregnancy rates were even more erratic for American Indian or Alaska Native, Black or African American and Asian or Pacific Islander teens.

Note: all rates are per 1,000 females in specified age group.

The pregnancy rates for 1996-1999 were revised using the population denominators that are consistent with the 2000 census. The populations estimated previously from the 1990 census underestimated the growth of the Hispanic population during the 1990s. According to the 2000 census, there were 118,490 Hispanic females 19 years or younger in Arizona, 37.5 percent more than the estimated number of 86,203 in 1999.
In 2006, Hispanic females accounted for approximately 34.3 percent of all females 10-19 years old in Arizona. As in the past, they made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (56.2 percent) and live births (59.9 percent; Figure 1A-7). In contrast, White non-Hispanic females had a lower proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (27.8 percent) and live births (24.8 percent). Note: percentages are based on the number of pregnancies and births in Table 1A-5.

In 2006, the pregnancy rate of 39 pregnancies per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 56 percent greater than the Healthy Arizona 2010 objective of 25.0/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). The 2006 pregnancy rate among Asians ages 15-17 was 48 percent lower, and among White non-Hispanics 31.2 percent lower than the objective. In contrast, the 2006 pregnancy rate among Hispanics 15-17 years old exceeded the target rate by 190.8 percent, or 2.9 times.