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 113,756 pregnancies in Arizona in 2007 compared to 113,091 in 2006, an increase of 0.6 percent. Among the three pregnancy outcomes, the number of resident live births also increased by 0.6 percent from 102,042 in 2006 to 102,687 in 2007. (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1). In contrast, the number of reported abortions slightly declined (10,506 in 2006 vs. 10,486 in 2007). The number of reportable spontaneous fetal losses increased from 543 reported in 2006 to 583 in 2007.
In 2007, the pregnancy rate for Arizona women was 87.5 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years, nearly matching the rates seen in 1997 and 1999, and 1.4 percent lower than the rate of 88.7/1,000 in 2006 (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1).

The fertility rate (the number of births per 1,000 women of childbearing age) also declined from 80.0/1,000 in 2006 to 78.9/1,000 in 2007.

The abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age) decreased by a mere 1.2 percent from 8.2 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years in 2006 to 8.1/1,000 in 2007.

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

From 2006 to 2007, the pregnancy rates declined for Hispanic or Latinos, American Indians and White non-Hispanics. The pregnancy increased for Asians and Blacks or African Americans.

The pregnancy rate for White non-Hispanics of 66.4 per 1,000 was the lowest of all groups. Whereas the highest was for Hispanics at 122.7 (Figure 1A-2, Table 1A-1). In 2007, Black or African American females had the second highest rate among subgroups (92.0/1,000) followed by Arizona’s Asians (88.9/1,000) and American Indians (83.0/1,000).
1A. PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME, ETHNICITY AND AGE GROUP

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 11.9 percent from 13,438 in 1997 to 15,038 in 2007. However, the proportional increase in the number of females 19 years old or younger was 3 times greater at 35.4 percent from 322,868 in 1997 to 437,239 in 2007. While the teen pregnancy rate has fallen in Arizona from 1998 to 2005, the drop in the rate has not been enough to offset the growth in the female teenage population (Figure 1A-3). The teen pregnancy rate increased for the second consecutive year from 32.7 pregnancies per 1,000 females 19 years or younger in 2005 to 34.4/1,000 in 2007. The number of 15,038 pregnancies to females 19 years old or younger in Arizona in 2007 was the highest number ever recorded in the State.

Note: All rates are per 1,000 females aged 19 years or younger.

The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2007 was 68.4 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-4, Table 5A-2), slightly lower than in 2006. The pregnancy rate for younger teenagers 15-17 years old declined by 5.4 percent (Table 1A-3) from 39.0/1,000 in 2006 to 36.9/1,000 in 2007. In contrast, the pregnancy rate for older teenagers 18-19 years old continued to increase from 103.6/1,000 in 2005 to 115.6/1,000 in 2006, and 121.4/1,000 in 2007 (Table 1A-4).

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.
Teen pregnancy rates differ sharply by race/ethnicity.

Between 1987 and 1997, 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 49.6 percent from 90.9 in 1987 to 45.8 in 1997.

The changes in annual teen pregnancy rates from 1997 to 2007 are shown in detail below.

The teen pregnancy rates for all race and ethnic groups were lower in 2007 than in 1997 except American Indians (Figure 1A-6). However, the temporal trends in annual teen pregnancy rates differed considerably by race/ethnicity.

After a substantial decrease of 45.1 percent between 1998 and 2005, the pregnancy rate for White non-Hispanic increased by 20.3 percent from 15.8/1,000 in 2005 to 19.0/1,000 in 2007. Similarly, the pregnancy rates increased in 2007 for Asians, American Indians, and Blacks or African Americans.

The pregnancy rate for Hispanic or Latino females 19 years old or younger slightly decreased from 56 pregnancies per 1,000 females in this age group in 2006 to 55.3/1,000 in 2007.

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

The pregnancy rates for 1997-1999 were revised in 2007 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 2007, Hispanic females accounted for approximately 35.6 percent of all females 10-19 years old in Arizona. As in the past, they made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (56.8 percent) and live births (60.0 percent; Figure 1A-7). In contrast, White non-Hispanic females had a lower proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (27.3 percent) and live births (23.9 percent). Note: percentages are based on the number of pregnancies and births in Table 1A-5.

In 2007, the pregnancy rate of 36.9 pregnancies per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 47.6 percent greater than the Healthy Arizona 2010 objective of 25.0/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). The 2007 pregnancy rate among Asians ages 15-17 was 52 percent lower, and among White non-Hispanics 37.6 percent lower than the objective. In contrast, the 2006 pregnancy rate among Hispanics 15-17 years old exceeded the target rate by 174 percent, or 2.7 times.