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 103,172 pregnancies in Arizona in 2009 compared to 113,756 in 2007, a decrease of 9.3 percent. Among the three pregnancy outcomes, the number of resident live births decreased by 9.8 percent from 102,687 in 2007 to 92,616 in 2009 (Table 1A-1). The number of reported abortions declined by 4.2 percent from 10,486 in 2007 to 10,045 in 2009. The number of reportable spontaneous fetal losses decreased by 12.4 percent from 583 reported in 2007 to 511 in 2009.
1A. PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME, ETHNICITY, AND AGE GROUP

Figure 1A-1
Pregnancy Rates by Outcome and Year among Females of all Ages, Arizona, 1999-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Abortion Rate</th>
<th>Fertility Rate</th>
<th>Pregnancy Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>77.0</td>
<td>87.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>87.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>75.9</td>
<td>83.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>85.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>86.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>83.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>74.8</td>
<td>76.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>76.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

The pregnancy rates declined for the third consecutive year from 88.7 pregnancies per 1,000 females 15-44 years old in 2006 to 76.7/1,000 in 2009 (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1).

The fertility rate (the number of births per 1,000 women of childbearing age) also declined by 13.9 percent from 80.0/1,000 in 2006 to 68.9/1,000 in 2009.

The abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age) decreased by 8.5 percent from 8.2 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years in 2006 to 7.5/1,000 in 2009.

The changes in pregnancy rates from 2007 to 2009 varied by woman’s race/ethnicity. The pregnancy rate rose by 5.8 percent for Black or African American women (Figure 1A-2). The pregnancy rates for non-Hispanics (other than Blacks) declined by 5.1 percent. In contrast, Hispanic or Latino women experienced a substantial decrease of 15.8 percent, 3.1 times greater than the overall decline for non-Hispanic Arizona resident women.

Figure 1A-2
Percent Change from 2007 to 2009 in Pregnancy Rates by Woman’s Race/Ethnicity, Arizona

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.

Rate is a measure of the frequency of some event (such as pregnancy, or live birth) in relation to a unit of population during a specified time period such as a year; events in the numerator of the year occur to individuals in the denominator. The pregnancy rates declined for the third consecutive year from 88.7 pregnancies per 1,000 females 15-44 years old in 2006 to 76.7/1,000 in 2009 (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1).

The fertility rate (the number of births per 1,000 women of childbearing age) also declined by 13.9 percent from 80.0/1,000 in 2006 to 68.9/1,000 in 2009.

The abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age) decreased by 8.5 percent from 8.2 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years in 2006 to 7.5/1,000 in 2009.

The reader is strongly encouraged to read a paragraph in the “Introduction” about counts of vital events since 2007 ‘How the recession and changes in the law impacted the frequency counts of vital events since 2007’. While the decrease in the frequency counts reflects a reality, all the rates in this section are based on the assumption that the population denominators continued to increase after 2007. This assumption most likely is wrong.

In fact, the American Community Survey (a product of the U.S. Bureau of the Census) is expected to release in October, 2010 the revised estimates. The average annual estimated population of Arizona in 2006-2008 is likely to be 6.25 million, approximately 345,000 less than the U.S Census Bureau number of 6,596 million we are using in this report.

If the population in the denominator declined in 2007-2009 proportionately to the decline in the numerator, the rates would not have changed.

The changes in the pregnancy rates from 2007 to 2009 varied by woman’s race/ethnicity. The pregnancy rate rose by 5.8 percent for Black or African American women (Figure 1A-2). The pregnancy rates for non-Hispanics (other than Blacks) declined by 5.1 percent. In contrast, Hispanic or Latino women experienced a substantial decrease of 15.8 percent, 3.1 times greater than the overall decline for non-Hispanic Arizona resident women.
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 decreased by 16.6 percent from 15,038 in 2007 to 12,537 in 2009 (Figure 1A-3), the lowest number since 1993. The teen pregnancy rate declined even more, by 18.6 percent, from 34.4 pregnancies per 1,000 females 10-19 years in 2007 to 28.0/1,000 in 2009, the lowest rate since at least 1980. The drop in the rate has been enough to offset the estimated growth in the female teenage population by 2.5 percent from 2007 to 2009.

The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2009 was 56.1 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-4, Table 5A-2), 18.3 percent lower than in 2006. The pregnancy rate for younger teenagers 15-17 years old declined by 26.9 percent (Table 1A-3) from 39.0/1,000 in 2006 to 28.5/1,000 in 2009. The pregnancy rate for older teenagers 18-19 years old declined by 15.6 percent from 121.4/1,000 in 2007 to 102.5/1,000 in 2009 (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.

Note: All rates are per 1,000 females in specified age group.
Teen pregnancy rates differ sharply by race/ethnicity.

Between 1989 and 1999, 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 50.4 percent from 92.4 in 1989 to 45.8 in 1999.

The changes in annual teen pregnancy rates from 1999 to 2009 are shown in detail below.

The teen pregnancy rates for all race and ethnic groups were lower in 2009 than in 1999 (Figure 1A-6).

After a substantial decrease of 38.3 percent between 1999 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. The pregnancy rate for this group declined again in 2009 to 15.6/1,000. The pregnancy rate for Blacks or African Americans decreased by 37.2 percent from 2000 to 2006. The pregnancy rate for this group then increased both in 2007 and 2008. In 2009 the pregnancy rate for Black or African American teens declined by 11.7 percent to 33.3/1,000.

The pregnancy rate for Hispanic or Latino females 19 years old or younger decreased from 56.0/1,000 in 2006 to 49.4/1,000 in 2008, and 43.5/1000 in 2009. The 2009 pregnancy rate for Hispanic or Latino teens was 31 percent lower than their 1999 rate of 63/1,000.
In 2009, Hispanic females accounted for approximately 35.3 percent of all females 10-19 years old in Arizona. As in the past, they made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (55.0 percent) and live births (57.9 percent; Figure 1A-7). In contrast, White non-Hispanic females had a lower proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (27.6 percent) and live births (24.8 percent). Note: percentages are based on the number of pregnancies and births in Table 1A-5.

In 2009, the pregnancy rate of 28.5 pregnancies per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 14.0 percent greater than the Healthy Arizona 2010 objective of 25.0/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). The 2009 pregnancy rate among Asians ages 15-17 was 67.2 percent lower, and among White non-Hispanics 50.8 percent lower than the objective. In contrast, the 2009 pregnancy rate among Hispanics 15-17 years old exceeded the target rate by 105.2 percent, or 2.1 times.