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 99,266 pregnancies in Arizona in 2011 compared to 98,548 in 2010 and 113,756 in 2007. Among the three pregnancy outcomes, the number of resident live births decreased by 17.0 percent from 102,687 in 2007 to 85,190 in 2011 (Table 1A-1). The number of reported abortions increased by 23.0 percent from 11,059 in 2010 to 13,606 in 2011. The number of reportable spontaneous fetal losses increased by 6.0 percent from 443 in 2010 to 470 in 2011.
1A. PREGNANCIES BY PREGNANCY OUTCOME, ETHNICITY, AND AGE GROUP

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 rate slightly increased from 76.7 pregnancies per 1,000 females 15-44 years old in 2009 to 78.0/1,000 in 2011 (Figure 1A-1, Table 1A-1).

The fertility rate (the number of births per 1,000 women of childbearing age) changed from 2010 at 68.9/1,000 to 67.0/1,000 in 2011.

The abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age) increased by 42.7 percent from 7.5 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years in 2009 to 10.7/1,000 in 2011. The increase in abortion rate was attributed to enhanced surveillance as well as changes in law requiring mandatory reporting.

It is important to note that the number of females aged 15-44 years was lower in 2011 (1,271,867), compared to the 2009 estimate of 1,344,836.

The changes in the number of pregnancies from 2007 to 2011 varied by woman’s race/ethnicity.

Hispanic or Latino women experienced an unprecedented decrease of 25.9 percent from 49,717 in 2007 to 36,853 in 2011 (Figure 1A-2, Table 1A-1). White non-Hispanics experienced the second largest decrease.

From 2007 to 2011, White non-Hispanic women experienced a 14.2 percent decrease, American Indian women experienced a 12.4 percent decrease, Asian women experienced a 7.8 percent decrease, and Black women experienced a 7.1 percent decrease in number of pregnancies, respectively.
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 31.7 percent from 15,038 in 2007 to 10,269 in 2011 (Figure 1A-3). The teen pregnancy rate declined even more, by 33.1 percent, from 34.4 pregnancies per 1,000 females 10-19 years in 2007 to 23.0/1,000 in 2011, the lowest rate since at least 1980.

The pregnancy rate for Arizona teenagers 15-19 years old in 2011 was 45.1 pregnancies per 1,000 females (Figure 1A-4, Table 5A-2), 34.1 percent lower than in 2007. The pregnancy rate for younger teenagers 15-17 years old declined by 40.1 percent (Table 1A-3) from 36.9/1,000 in 2007 to 22.1/1,000 in 2011. The pregnancy rate for older teenagers 18-19 years old declined by 36.4 percent from 121.4/1,000 in 2007 to 77.2/1,000 in 2011 (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.

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

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Teen pregnancy rates differ sharply by race/ethnicity.

Between 2001 and 2011, pregnancy rates among females aged 19 and younger declined for all race/ethnicity groups (Figure 1A-5). The steepest decline in pregnancy rates was recorded for Hispanics. The teen pregnancy rate for this group decreased by 48.9 percent from 59.1 in 2001 to 30.2 in 2011. American Indian females also experienced a substantial decline by 48.5 percent, from a rate of 56.7/1,000 in 2001 to 29.2/1,000 in 2011.

The changes in annual teen pregnancy rates from 2001 to 2011 are shown in detail below.

The teen pregnancy rates for all race and ethnic groups were lower in 2011 than in 2001 (Figure 1A-6).

The impact on decline in pregnancy rates is partly attributable to large differences in number of abortions (i.e., a vital component in calculation of pregnancy rates).
In 2011, Hispanic females accounted for approximately 39.2 percent of all females 10-19 years old in Arizona. As in the past, they made a significantly higher proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (51.6 percent) and live births (54.9 percent; Figure 1A-7). In contrast, White non-Hispanic females made up a larger proportion of all females 10-19 years old in Arizona, but had a lower proportional contribution to teen pregnancies (23.3 percent) and live births (24.8 percent). Note: percentages are based on the number of pregnancies and births in Table 1A-5.

In 2011, the pregnancy rate of 22.1 pregnancies per 1,000 adolescent girls 15-17 years old in Arizona was 39.0 percent lower than the Healthy People 2020 objective of 36.2/1,000 (Figure 1A-8, Table 1A-3). For all racial/ethnic groups in Arizona, the pregnancy rates of females age 15-17 years were below the Healthy People 2020 objective. The 2011 pregnancy rate among Asians ages 15-17 was 5.0 times lower, and among White non-Hispanics 3.8 times lower than the objective. While lower than the objective, the pregnancy rates of Hispanics, American Indians, and Blacks were substantially higher than their White non-Hispanic and Asian counterparts.

Note: All rates are per 1,000 females 15-17 years old in specified race/ethnicity group.