

Revised Pregnancy Rates, 1990–97, and New Rates for 1998–99: United States

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Abstract

Objectives—This report presents detailed pregnancy rates for 1990–99. Rates for 1991–97 are revised using populations consistent with the April 1, 2000, census; the revised populations are also used for the new 1998–99 rates.

Methods—Tabular and graphic data on pregnancy rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin, and by marital status are presented and described.

Results—In 1999, an estimated 6.23 million pregnancies resulted in 3.96 million live births, 1.31 million induced abortions, and 1.0 million fetal losses. The pregnancy rate in 1999 was 102.1 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years. The 1999 rate was similar to the rates since the mid 1990s, but it was 12 percent below the peak rate in 1990 (115.6). These data extend a consistent series of pregnancy rates from 1976 through 1999.

The teenage pregnancy rate dropped steadily through the 1990s, reaching a record low of 86.7 per 1,000 aged 15–19 years in 1999, 25 percent lower than the 1990 peak (116.3). Rates fell more for younger than for older teenagers. The declines reflect reductions in births and abortions.

Keywords: pregnancy rates • teenage pregnancy • birth

Introduction

An estimated 6,277,000 pregnancies ended in 1999, down 7 percent from the 1990 peak (6,778,000). The 1999 total included 3.96 million live births, 1.31 million induced abortions, and 1.0 million fetal losses. The estimated pregnancy rate for U.S. women was 102.1 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years, nearly matching the lowest level ever reached during the 1976–99 period (101.6 in 1997) ([table 1](#)) (1).

This report presents revised pregnancy rates for 1990–97 and new rates for 1998–99. Rates have been revised using populations that are consistent with the April 1, 2000, census (2). Previously published rates were based on populations projected from the 1990 census. Rates are

presented by pregnancy outcome; by age, race, and Hispanic origin; and by marital status, race, and Hispanic origin. The data in this report for 1990–99, together with previously published pregnancy rates for earlier years, provide a consistent series of rates for the United States for 1976–99 (1,3).

Details of sources and methods of estimation are presented in the earlier report (3). Briefly, the statistics for live births are based on complete counts of births provided by every State to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program of the National Vital Statistics System (4). Estimates of induced abortions are from abortion surveillance information collected from most States by CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP); these estimates are adjusted to national totals by the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) (5,6). The CDC's NCCDPHP collects information on the characteristics of women who obtain abortions; the AGI national totals are distributed by these characteristics, including age, race, Hispanic origin, and marital status according to CDC/NCCDPHP's tabulations. The estimates of abortions for 1990–97 shown in this report have been revised slightly from those previously published; see "[Technical Notes](#)." Estimates of fetal losses are derived from the pregnancy history data collected by the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), conducted by CDC/NCHS (1,3). The most recent NSFG data are from the survey conducted in 1995, and the fetal loss data are based on the proportions of pregnancies during the previous 5 years that ended in fetal loss. These proportions are applied to the actual numbers of live births in each population subgroup (by age and race) for each year to yield estimates of fetal losses that are summed to a national total.

Acknowledgments

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The population denominators used for the revised rates in this report are consistent with the 2000 census (2). In general, the revised rates are lower than the rates previously published based on populations that were estimated from the 1990 census. The populations estimated from the 1990 census underestimated the growth of the Hispanic population, in particular, during the 1990s.

Results and Discussion

Pregnancy rates remained highest for women in their twenties

- Women aged 20–24 years had the highest pregnancy rate, at 176 per 1,000 in 1999, followed by women aged 25–29 years, 167 per 1,000 (figure 1 and table 1). About one in six women in their twenties were pregnant in 1999.
- Pregnancy rates for older teenagers 18–19 years and women aged 30–34 were similar, 132 and 127 per 1,000, respectively.
- The pregnancy rate for young teenagers 15–17 years was 56 per 1,000 while the rate for women aged 35–39 years was 64.

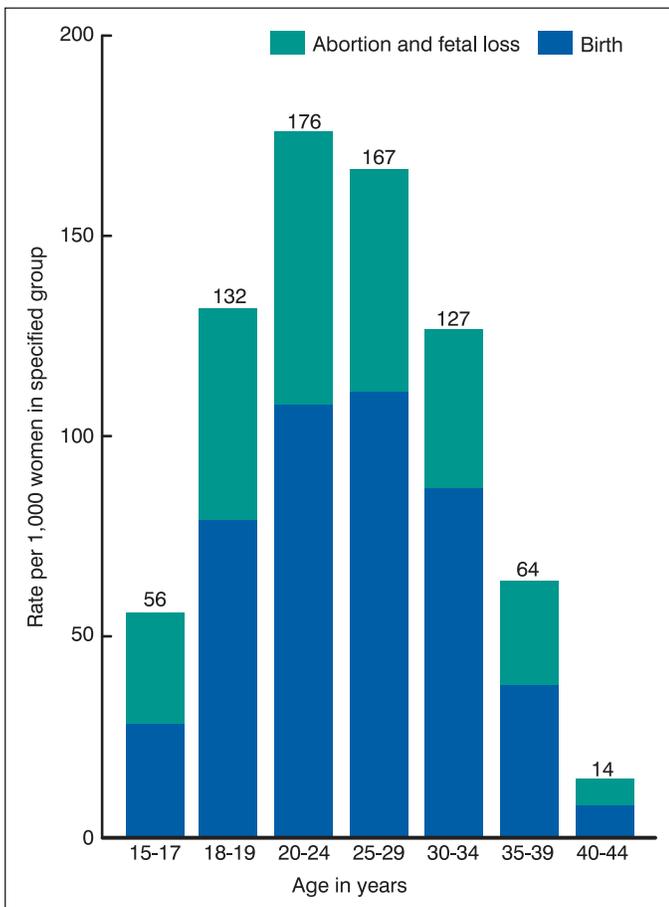


Figure 1. Pregnancy and birth rates by age: United States, 1999

Pregnancy rates fell steadily for teenagers; rates for women in their twenties stabilized, and rates for older women rose in recent years

- The overall pregnancy rate for U.S. women fell fairly steadily from 1990 until 1997 and has been stable since (table 1).
- Pregnancy rates for teenagers fell steadily through the decade. Rates for women in their twenties declined through the mid 1990s and have since stabilized or risen slightly. Rates for women in their thirties and older have been increasing modestly since the mid 1990s (figure 2).

Fertility rates remained stable since the mid 1990s while abortion rates declined steadily through the decade

- The fertility rate for U.S. women declined 10 percent from 70.9 live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years in 1990 to 63.6 in 1997; the rate has changed little since 1997 (table 1) (2,7).
- The induced abortion rate fell from 27.4 per 1,000 women in 1990 to 21.4 in 1999, a 22-percent decline.
- The fetal loss rate has changed little. The rate in 1999 was 16.3 per 1,000.

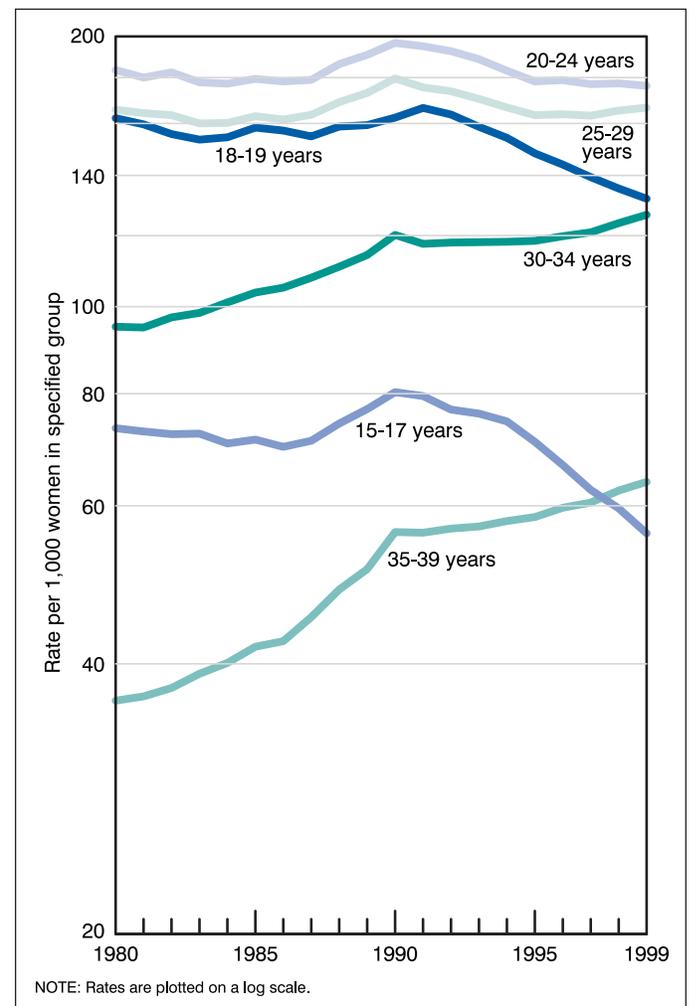


Figure 2. Pregnancy rates by age: United States, 1980–99

- Pregnancy outcomes changed relatively little during the 1990s although the percent of pregnancies ending in induced abortion declined from 24 percent to 21 percent (1,3). Just over six in ten pregnancies in 1999 ended in a live birth, one in five in an induced abortion, and about one in six in a fetal death (table 2).

Large differences exist in pregnancy rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin

- Pregnancy rates by race and Hispanic origin differ most for women under age 25 years (figure 3 and table 1).
- The rates for women aged 18–19 years ranged from 95.3 per 1,000 for non-Hispanic white women to 200.4 for Hispanic women and 227.8 for non-Hispanic black women.
- The rates for women in their early twenties ranged from 135.8 per 1,000 for non-Hispanic white women to 234.0 for Hispanic women and 300.9 for black women.

Pregnancy rates declined for teenagers through the 1990s reaching historic lows

- Pregnancy rates declined steadily for teenagers, by 25 percent overall; the rate fell from its peak in 1990, 116.3 per 1,000 aged

15–19 years, to 86.7 in 1999 (table 1 and figures 4,5). The 1999 rate for teenagers was the lowest ever reported since this series of pregnancy estimates began in 1976.

- The rate for young teenagers 15–17 years dropped steeply, by 30 percent, from 80.3 per 1,000 in 1990 to 55.9 in 1999. The rate for older teenagers fell as well, by 19 percent, from 162.4 to 131.9. The 1999 rates were also lower than for any year during the 1976–99 period (figures 4 and 5).
- Rates dropped for teenagers in all population subgroups. Overall rates for white and black non-Hispanic teenagers declined nearly a third, with larger declines for younger than for older teenagers. The rates for Hispanic teenagers began to decline after 1992; the overall rate fell about 18 percent during 1992–99.

Declines in teenage pregnancy rates reflect reductions in births and abortions

- Teenage birth rates fell 19 percent from 1990 through 1999 (table 1) and have fallen 28 percent from 1990 (59.9 per 1,000 aged 15–19) through 2002 (42.9) (data not shown) (2,7).
- Abortion rates for teenagers dropped 39 percent from 1990 through 1999, from 40.3 to 24.7 per 1,000.

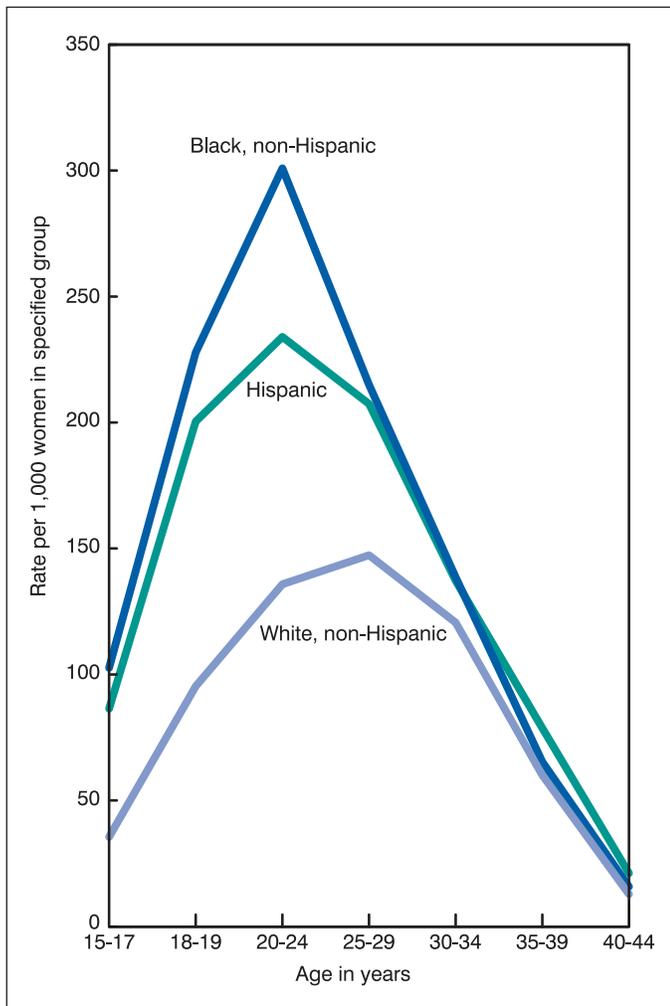


Figure 3. Pregnancy rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1999

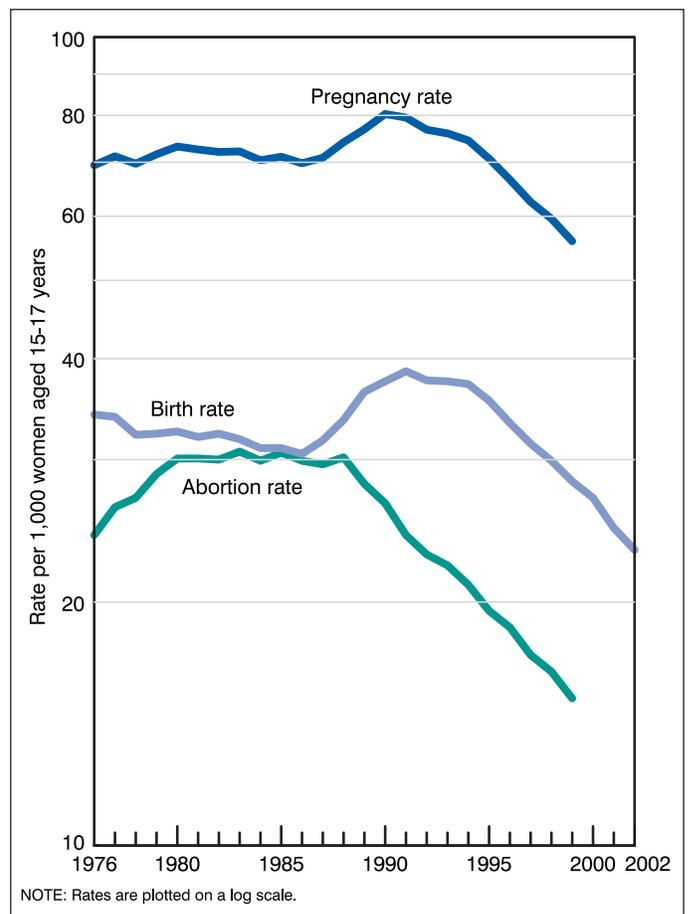


Figure 4. Pregnancy, birth, and abortion rates for teenagers 15–17 years

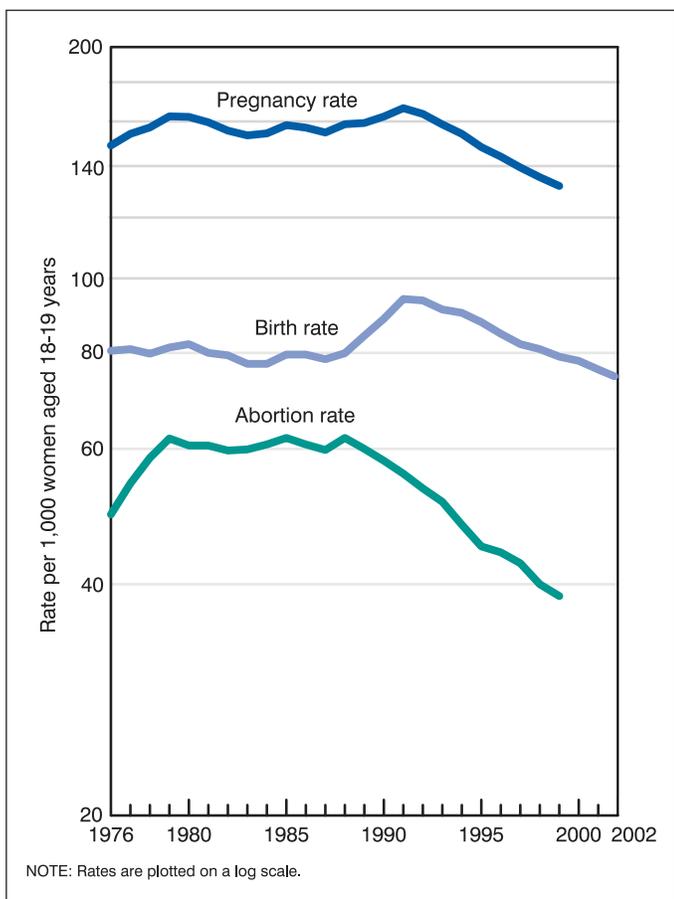


Figure 5. Pregnancy, birth, and abortion rates for teenagers 18-19 years

- Birth and abortion rates fell for non-Hispanic white and black teenagers and for Hispanic teenagers through the decade. The declines in birth and abortion rates during 1990-99 were 20 and 52 percent, respectively, for white teenagers, 30 percent for each measure for black teenagers, and 13 and 18 percent for Hispanic teenagers.

Lifetime pregnancies differ among groups with declines for all groups during the 1990s

- Non-Hispanic white women now average about 2.7 lifetime pregnancies per woman, compared with 4.5 pregnancies per woman for non-Hispanic black women and 4.1 for Hispanic women (table 3 and figure 6 for 1990 and 1999 data).
- The decline in lifetime pregnancies by race and Hispanic origin between 1990 and 1999 ranged from 7 to 13 percent. These declines generally reflect reductions in both live birth and induced abortion rates.
- Declines in lifetime pregnancies reflect, in part, large changes in pregnancy rates for women in age groups 15-24 years (table 1).
- Black and white non-Hispanic teenagers experienced steep declines in pregnancy rates in the 1990s: The rates for teenagers 15-17 years fell 37 to 38 percent, and the rates for women aged 18-19 years dropped 23 to 25 percent. Black and white women in their early twenties recorded declines of 12 to 15 percent (table 1).

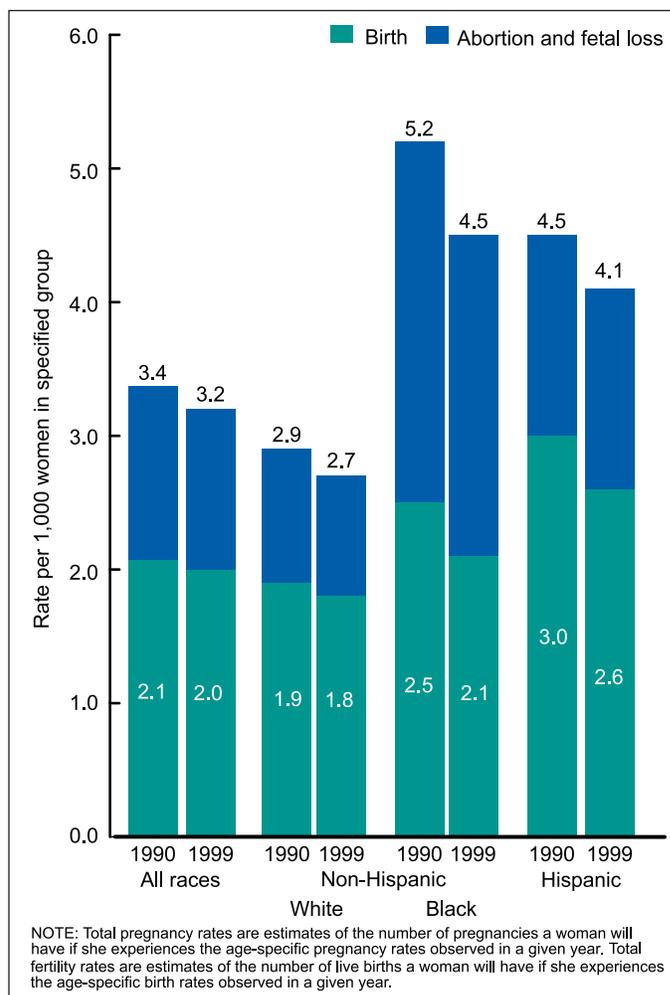


Figure 6. Total pregnancy and fertility rates by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1990 and 1999

- Hispanic teenagers experienced important declines as well: The rate for ages 15-17 years fell 19 percent from its 1992 peak to 1999. The rate for teenagers 18-19 years dropped 17 percent while the rate for women aged 20-24 years declined 16 percent.

Pregnancy rates for married and unmarried women declined during the 1990s

- The pregnancy rate for *married* women declined 12 percent from 1990 through 1996-97. Since 1997 the rate has increased slightly; it was 113.9 pregnancies per 1,000 married women in 1999 (table 4) (figure 7 for 1999 data).
- The pregnancy rate for *unmarried* women declined continuously from 1990 to 1999, falling 13 percent, to 89.2 per 1,000 in 1999.
- The birth rate for married women declined 12 percent from 1990 to 1996, and has since risen about 3 percent (84.8 in 1999). The abortion rate for married women declined 24 percent between 1990 and 1999.
- Among unmarried women, the birth rate has varied little since 1990 except for an upward tick in 1994; the rate in 1999 was 43.3 per 1,000. The abortion rate for unmarried women has dropped 26 percent during the 1990s. The rate in 1999 was 35.1.

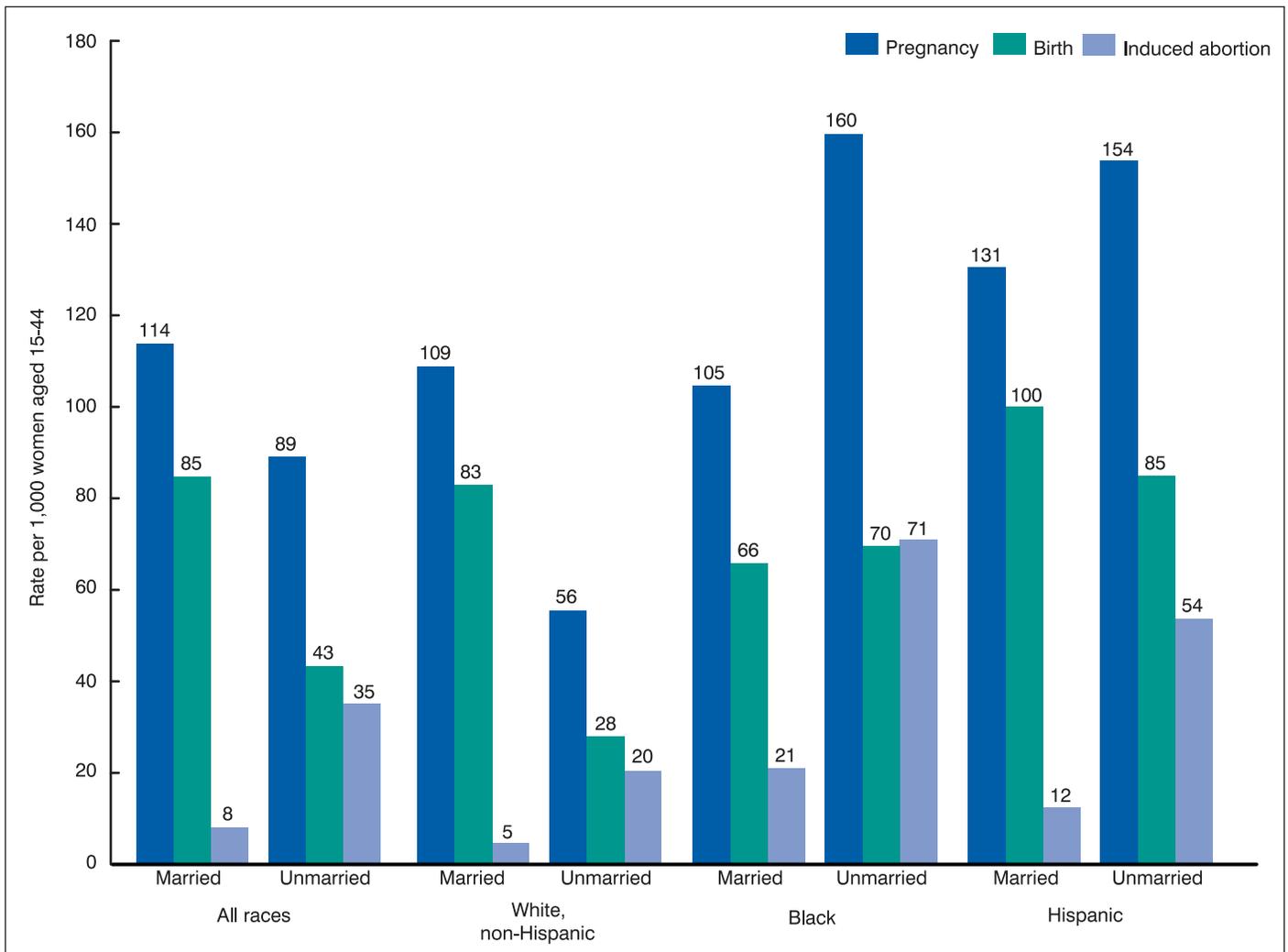


Figure 7. Pregnancy, birth, and abortion rates by marital status, race, and Hispanic origin: United States, 1999

- During the 1990s, the birth rate for unmarried non-Hispanic white women changed little, while the rates for unmarried black and Hispanic women fell considerably.

Pregnancy outcomes differ substantially by marital status

- Among married women, 74 percent of pregnancies ended in live birth in 1999, and just 7 percent in abortion. This pattern was stable through the 1990s.
- Among unmarried women, 49 percent of pregnancies ended in live birth while 39 percent ended in abortion. In 1990, nonmarital pregnancies were more likely to end in abortion than live birth (47 percent compared with 43 percent).
- Of the 6.3 million pregnancies that ended in 1999, 3.6 million were among married women and 2.7 million were among unmarried women (data not shown).

Conclusion

Factors accounting for trends in pregnancy rates were reviewed in our earlier report (3). They may include a number of factors. One

is changes in patterns of marriage, divorce, and cohabitation. A second factor is the introduction of new contraceptive methods, including new hormonal methods introduced in the 1990s (injectables, a patch, and implants). A third possible factor is changes in the use of existing methods or in the consistency with which methods are used. A fourth factor is changes in sexual activity such as the age at first intercourse and frequency of intercourse. For example, a report of the most recent Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) conducted by CDC in 2001 cites findings of decreases in the proportions of teenagers who have ever had sex and who have had multiple partners, along with increases in condom use among sexually active teenagers (8). Over the last decade, many public and private efforts have focused teenagers' attention on the importance of pregnancy prevention through abstinence and responsible behavior (9,10). These behavior patterns in turn may be affected by factors such as the economic and social environments in which people live (11), changes in access to health care and health insurance, and other changes in the health care system. Findings from Cycle 6 of the National Survey of Family Growth (available in 2004) are expected to help explain the trends and variations in pregnancy rates and the factors that account for them.

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List of Detailed Tables

1. Pregnancy, live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1990–99.	7
2. Number and percent distribution of pregnancies by outcome of pregnancy by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1999	11
3. Estimates of lifetime pregnancy, live birth, and induced abortion rates by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1990 and 1999	12
4. Pregnancy, live birth, and induced abortion rates by marital status and race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1990–99	13

Table 1. Pregnancy, live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1990–99

[Rates are pregnancy outcomes per 1,000 women in specified group, estimated as of April 1 for 1990 and as of July 1 for all other years]

Pregnancy outcome, race, and Hispanic origin and year	Age of woman									
	Total ¹	Under 15 years ²	15–19 years			20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years ³
			Total	15–17 years	18–19 years					
All races ⁴										
All pregnancies:										
1999	102.1	2.2	86.7	55.9	131.9	176.2	166.6	126.6	63.8	14.4
1998	102.1	2.3	89.9	59.6	135.4	177.3	165.4	123.9	62.4	14.2
1997	101.6	2.5	92.6	62.5	139.4	177.0	163.2	121.0	60.5	13.7
1996	102.7	2.7	97.0	66.6	144.0	178.8	163.8	119.8	59.7	13.4
1995	103.4	3.0	101.1	70.7	148.2	178.2	163.4	118.4	58.3	12.9
1994	106.1	3.2	106.1	74.5	154.2	183.2	166.7	118.1	57.7	12.7
1993	108.7	3.3	109.2	76.0	158.6	188.7	170.4	118.0	56.9	12.2
1992	111.0	3.4	112.0	76.8	163.7	192.6	173.8	117.9	56.6	11.9
1991	112.5	3.3	116.0	79.5	166.5	195.0	175.5	117.5	56.0	11.1
1990	115.6	3.5	116.3	80.3	162.4	196.7	179.6	120.2	56.1	11.3
Live births:										
1999	64.4	0.9	48.8	28.2	79.1	107.9	111.2	87.1	37.8	7.8
1998	64.3	1.0	50.3	29.9	80.9	108.4	110.2	85.2	36.9	7.7
1997	63.6	1.1	51.3	31.4	82.1	107.3	108.3	83.0	35.7	7.4
1996	64.1	1.2	53.5	33.3	84.7	107.8	108.6	82.1	34.9	7.1
1995	64.6	1.3	56.0	35.5	87.7	107.5	108.8	81.1	34.0	6.8
1994	65.9	1.4	58.2	37.2	90.2	109.2	111.0	80.4	33.4	6.6
1993	67.0	1.4	59.0	37.5	91.1	111.3	113.2	79.9	32.7	6.3
1992	68.4	1.4	60.3	37.6	93.6	113.7	115.7	79.6	32.3	6.1
1991	69.3	1.4	61.8	38.6	94.0	115.3	117.2	79.2	31.9	5.7
1990	70.9	1.4	59.9	37.5	88.6	116.5	120.2	80.8	31.7	5.6
Induced abortions:										
1999	21.4	0.9	24.7	15.2	38.6	46.4	31.7	18.3	9.7	3.2
1998	21.5	1.0	25.8	16.4	40.0	47.0	31.7	17.9	9.5	3.2
1997	21.9	1.0	27.1	17.2	42.6	48.1	31.9	17.7	9.5	3.1
1996	22.4	1.1	28.6	18.6	44.0	49.3	32.1	17.7	9.7	3.2
1995	22.5	1.2	29.4	19.5	44.8	49.1	31.5	17.5	9.7	3.2
1994	23.7	1.3	31.6	21.0	47.8	51.9	32.1	18.1	9.9	3.2
1993	25.0	1.4	33.9	22.2	51.2	54.9	33.2	18.6	10.2	3.2
1992	25.7	1.4	35.2	22.9	53.3	55.9	33.5	18.9	10.3	3.2
1991	26.2	1.4	37.4	24.2	55.7	56.4	33.4	19.0	10.4	3.0
1990	27.4	1.5	40.3	26.5	57.9	56.7	33.9	19.7	10.8	3.2
Fetal losses: ⁵										
1999	16.3	0.4	13.2	12.6	14.2	21.8	23.7	21.3	16.3	3.3
1998	16.3	0.4	13.8	13.3	14.5	21.9	23.5	20.8	15.9	3.3
1997	16.1	0.4	14.2	13.9	14.7	21.7	23.0	20.3	15.3	3.2
1996	16.2	0.5	14.9	14.7	15.2	21.7	23.1	20.0	15.0	3.1
1995	16.3	0.5	15.7	15.7	15.8	21.7	23.1	19.8	14.6	2.9
1994	16.5	0.5	16.3	16.3	16.2	22.1	23.6	19.6	14.4	2.8
1993	16.6	0.5	16.3	16.3	16.3	22.5	24.1	19.5	14.0	2.7
1992	16.9	0.5	16.5	16.3	16.7	23.0	24.6	19.4	13.9	2.6
1991	17.0	0.5	16.8	16.8	16.8	23.3	24.9	19.3	13.7	2.4
1990	17.2	0.5	16.1	16.2	15.9	23.5	25.5	19.7	13.6	2.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Pregnancy, live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1990–99—Con.

[Rates are pregnancy outcomes per 1,000 women in specified group, estimated as of April 1 for 1990 and as of July 1 for all other years]

Pregnancy outcome, race, and Hispanic origin and year	Age of woman									
	Total ¹	Under 15 years ²	15–19 years			20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years ³
			Total	15–17 years	18–19 years					
White non-Hispanic										
All pregnancies:										
1999	84.5	0.9	59.7	35.5	95.3	135.8	147.3	120.6	60.0	12.8
1998	84.9	1.0	62.6	38.6	98.8	137.8	146.8	117.9	58.8	12.5
1997	84.5	1.1	65.4	41.3	103.0	138.1	144.5	114.6	56.7	12.0
1996	85.3	1.1	68.3	44.0	105.9	139.2	145.1	112.9	55.7	11.6
1995	86.3	1.2	71.8	46.9	110.3	140.4	145.8	111.5	54.1	11.2
1994	87.7	1.3	74.6	48.8	114.0	142.9	147.7	110.3	53.1	10.9
1993	89.7	1.3	77.1	50.0	117.5	147.5	150.7	109.3	51.9	10.4
1992	91.6	1.4	79.4	50.6	121.9	150.8	154.0	108.8	51.2	10.0
1991	94.0	1.4	84.9	54.2	127.2	155.6	157.2	108.8	51.1	9.2
1990	97.9	1.5	87.7	56.5	126.8	160.1	162.3	111.5	51.1	9.4
Live births:										
1999	57.7	0.3	34.1	17.1	59.3	90.6	108.6	89.5	37.3	7.3
1998	57.6	0.3	35.3	18.4	60.8	91.2	107.4	87.2	36.4	7.1
1997	56.8	0.4	36.0	19.4	61.9	90.0	104.8	84.3	34.8	6.8
1996	57.1	0.4	37.6	20.6	63.8	90.1	104.9	82.8	33.9	6.5
1995	57.5	0.4	39.3	22.0	65.9	90.2	105.1	81.5	32.8	6.1
1994	58.2	0.5	40.4	22.8	67.3	90.9	106.6	80.2	32.0	5.9
1993	58.9	0.5	40.7	22.7	67.5	92.2	108.2	79.0	31.0	5.6
1992	60.0	0.5	41.6	22.7	69.6	93.8	110.7	78.3	30.4	5.3
1991	60.9	0.5	43.3	23.6	70.5	95.7	112.2	77.7	30.2	4.8
1990	62.8	0.5	42.6	23.3	66.9	97.9	115.3	79.2	29.9	4.8
Induced abortions:										
1999	11.9	0.4	15.5	9.5	24.5	26.3	16.6	10.2	6.1	2.2
1998	12.5	0.4	16.9	10.7	26.2	27.7	17.5	10.4	6.3	2.2
1997	13.2	0.5	18.6	11.9	29.0	29.4	18.3	10.7	6.4	2.2
1996	13.6	0.5	19.3	12.6	29.7	30.3	18.8	10.8	6.7	2.3
1995	14.2	0.6	20.5	13.4	31.5	31.6	19.3	11.1	6.7	2.3
1994	14.8	0.6	21.8	14.1	33.6	33.2	19.2	11.4	6.7	2.3
1993	16.1	0.6	24.0	15.5	36.8	36.2	20.4	11.9	7.1	2.3
1992	16.7	0.7	25.3	16.1	38.8	37.5	20.8	12.2	7.2	2.3
1991	18.1	0.7	28.7	18.3	43.0	40.0	22.2	13.0	7.5	2.2
1990	19.7	0.8	32.5	21.1	46.8	41.9	23.4	13.8	7.9	2.4
Fetal losses: ⁵										
1999	14.8	0.2	10.0	8.9	11.5	18.8	22.2	20.9	16.6	3.3
1998	14.8	0.2	10.5	9.6	11.8	18.9	21.9	20.3	16.2	3.2
1997	14.5	0.2	10.9	10.1	12.1	18.7	21.4	19.6	15.5	3.0
1996	14.6	0.2	11.4	10.8	12.4	18.7	21.4	19.3	15.1	2.9
1995	14.6	0.2	12.0	11.5	12.8	18.7	21.4	19.0	14.6	2.7
1994	14.7	0.2	12.4	11.9	13.1	18.9	21.8	18.7	14.3	2.6
1993	14.7	0.2	12.4	11.8	13.2	19.1	22.1	18.4	13.8	2.5
1992	14.9	0.2	12.5	11.8	13.6	19.5	22.6	18.2	13.6	2.4
1991	15.0	0.2	12.9	12.3	13.7	19.9	22.9	18.1	13.5	2.2
1990	15.3	0.2	12.5	12.1	13.0	20.3	23.5	18.5	13.3	2.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Pregnancy, live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1990–99—Con.

[Rates are pregnancy outcomes per 1,000 women in specified group, estimated as of April 1 for 1990 and as of July 1 for all other years]

Pregnancy outcome, race, and Hispanic origin and year	Age of woman										
	Total ¹	Under 15 years ²	15–19 years							35–39 years	40–44 years ³
			Total	15–17 years	18–19 years	20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years			
Black non-Hispanic											
All pregnancies:											
1999	146.5	6.2	153.8	102.6	227.8	300.9	215.0	138.6	65.3	15.8	
1998	147.1	6.8	159.9	110.3	232.4	301.0	213.8	137.4	64.2	15.9	
1997	147.4	7.3	166.0	116.6	241.9	298.6	210.6	135.8	63.2	15.6	
1996	148.9	8.3	173.2	124.7	248.1	299.0	209.7	134.7	62.4	15.2	
1995	149.7	9.2	180.1	134.0	251.9	293.6	205.8	134.6	61.6	14.8	
1994	160.1	10.5	197.0	146.9	274.6	315.2	215.9	138.6	62.8	14.8	
1993	169.0	10.7	208.3	155.5	287.3	333.6	225.2	143.3	64.1	14.8	
1992	173.6	11.2	214.8	158.6	296.6	341.5	229.3	143.6	63.9	14.3	
1991	176.2	11.3	220.2	163.6	297.9	344.3	229.3	143.3	62.9	14.2	
1990	180.2	11.8	221.3	165.0	295.3	342.5	233.2	145.9	63.3	14.4	
Live births:											
1999	69.9	2.6	81.0	52.0	123.1	142.1	99.8	63.9	30.6	6.8	
1998	70.9	2.9	85.7	57.0	127.4	142.5	99.9	64.4	30.4	6.9	
1997	70.3	3.2	88.3	60.9	130.4	138.8	97.2	63.6	29.6	6.8	
1996	70.7	3.6	91.9	65.0	133.4	137.0	96.7	63.2	29.1	6.4	
1995	72.8	4.2	97.2	70.6	138.5	137.8	98.5	64.4	28.8	6.3	
1994	77.5	4.6	105.7	77.2	149.8	146.8	104.1	66.3	29.1	6.2	
1993	81.5	4.6	110.5	81.3	154.2	154.5	109.2	68.1	29.4	6.1	
1992	84.5	4.8	114.7	83.0	160.8	160.8	112.8	68.4	29.1	5.8	
1991	87.0	4.9	118.2	86.2	162.0	164.8	115.1	68.9	28.7	5.7	
1990	89.0	5.0	116.2	84.9	157.5	165.2	118.3	70.2	28.6	5.8	
Induced abortions:											
1999	57.2	3.0	58.1	36.9	88.9	120.8	90.3	49.0	22.7	6.3	
1998	56.5	3.2	58.6	38.1	88.5	120.3	89.0	47.0	21.9	6.2	
1997	57.5	3.2	61.3	39.6	94.6	122.7	89.3	46.6	22.0	6.2	
1996	58.6	3.8	64.1	42.5	97.4	125.3	88.9	46.1	21.9	6.4	
1995	56.7	3.9	64.6	44.7	95.5	118.9	82.8	44.3	21.4	6.1	
1994	61.1	4.6	71.2	49.2	105.4	129.2	85.9	45.7	22.3	6.2	
1993	65.0	4.8	76.9	52.7	113.2	137.7	88.8	47.9	23.1	6.3	
1992	65.9	5.1	78.6	53.6	115.0	137.6	88.4	47.7	23.4	6.2	
1991	65.5	5.1	80.0	54.5	114.9	135.4	85.4	46.8	22.9	6.2	
1990	67.0	5.4	83.5	57.7	117.4	133.1	85.4	47.5	23.5	6.4	
Fetal losses: ⁵											
1999	19.4	0.7	14.7	13.8	15.9	38.0	24.9	25.7	12.0	2.7	
1998	19.7	0.8	15.7	15.1	16.5	38.2	24.9	25.9	11.9	2.7	
1997	19.6	0.9	16.4	16.2	16.9	37.2	24.2	25.6	11.6	2.7	
1996	19.7	1.0	17.3	17.2	17.3	36.7	24.1	25.4	11.4	2.5	
1995	20.2	1.1	18.4	18.7	17.9	36.9	24.5	25.9	11.3	2.5	
1994	21.5	1.2	20.1	20.5	19.4	39.3	25.9	26.7	11.4	2.4	
1993	22.5	1.2	20.9	21.6	19.9	41.4	27.2	27.4	11.6	2.4	
1992	23.2	1.3	21.5	22.0	20.8	43.1	28.1	27.5	11.4	2.3	
1991	23.7	1.3	22.1	22.9	20.9	44.1	28.7	27.7	11.3	2.3	
1990	24.2	1.3	21.6	22.5	20.4	44.2	29.5	28.2	11.2	2.3	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Pregnancy, live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss rates by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1990–99—Con.

[Rates are pregnancy outcomes per 1,000 women in specified group, estimated as of April 1 for 1990 and as of July 1 for all other years]

Pregnancy outcome, race, and Hispanic origin and year	Age of woman									
	Total ¹	Under 15 years ²	15–19 years			20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years ³
			Total	15–17 years	18–19 years					
Hispanic ⁶										
All pregnancies:										
1999	142.7	3.2	133.1	86.4	200.4	234.0	207.4	137.2	78.7	21.1
1998	143.0	3.4	136.0	89.5	205.1	236.1	207.9	134.5	77.0	21.3
1997	143.3	3.6	137.0	91.2	206.3	238.5	208.8	132.5	76.4	21.2
1996	148.4	4.0	145.9	97.4	218.7	248.8	213.5	134.9	77.7	21.0
1995	150.1	4.2	151.4	102.4	225.3	251.9	212.3	134.3	77.6	21.2
1994	155.4	4.4	156.2	106.6	229.9	261.0	217.3	136.9	78.3	21.7
1993	159.4	4.4	158.2	105.0	237.3	269.1	223.3	140.8	79.4	21.5
1992	165.1	4.4	161.9	107.1	242.5	278.3	228.9	145.0	83.0	22.5
1991	163.0	4.2	161.4	104.9	242.1	271.2	226.7	142.2	80.2	21.3
1990	163.2	4.0	155.8	101.0	231.4	263.0	229.2	146.4	81.0	21.7
Live births:										
1999	93.0	1.9	86.8	56.9	129.8	157.3	135.8	92.3	44.5	11.1
1998	93.2	1.9	87.9	58.4	131.7	159.3	136.1	90.5	43.4	11.3
1997	94.2	2.1	89.6	61.0	132.9	162.6	137.5	89.6	43.4	11.2
1996	97.5	2.4	94.6	64.1	140.5	170.2	140.7	91.3	43.9	11.2
1995	98.8	2.6	99.3	67.9	146.7	171.9	140.4	90.5	43.7	11.2
1994	100.7	2.6	101.3	69.6	148.3	175.7	142.4	91.1	43.4	11.1
1993	103.3	2.6	101.8	68.4	151.5	180.0	146.0	93.2	44.1	11.1
1992	106.1	2.5	103.3	68.9	153.8	185.1	148.7	94.7	45.3	11.4
1991	106.9	2.4	104.6	69.3	155.0	184.6	149.9	95.0	44.7	11.1
1990	107.6	2.4	100.2	65.8	147.6	180.8	152.8	98.1	45.2	11.4
Induced abortions:										
1999	31.4	1.0	32.1	20.2	49.2	60.3	41.5	25.2	14.1	5.0
1998	31.6	1.1	33.7	21.5	51.7	60.1	41.6	24.6	14.0	5.0
1997	30.7	1.1	32.7	20.2	51.6	58.8	40.8	23.7	13.4	4.9
1996	31.9	1.2	35.7	22.8	55.1	60.9	41.6	24.1	14.0	4.8
1995	32.2	1.2	35.8	23.3	54.5	62.1	40.8	24.4	14.3	5.0
1994	35.4	1.3	38.3	25.5	57.2	66.9	43.3	26.3	15.3	5.6
1993	36.4	1.4	39.7	25.4	60.8	70.4	45.0	27.6	15.4	5.4
1992	38.8	1.5	41.6	26.8	63.3	73.9	47.3	29.9	17.2	5.9
1991	35.8	1.4	39.6	24.3	61.6	67.4	43.6	26.8	15.4	5.2
1990	35.1	1.1	39.1	24.3	59.5	63.4	42.6	27.2	15.4	5.2
Fetal losses: ⁵										
1999	18.3	0.3	14.3	9.3	21.3	16.4	30.1	19.8	20.1	5.0
1998	18.2	0.3	14.4	9.6	21.7	16.6	30.2	19.4	19.6	5.1
1997	18.4	0.3	14.7	10.0	21.8	17.0	30.5	19.2	19.6	5.0
1996	18.9	0.4	15.6	10.5	23.1	17.8	31.2	19.6	19.8	5.0
1995	19.1	0.4	16.3	11.2	24.1	17.9	31.1	19.4	19.7	5.0
1994	19.4	0.4	16.7	11.4	24.4	18.3	31.6	19.5	19.5	5.0
1993	19.8	0.4	16.7	11.2	24.9	18.8	32.4	20.0	19.9	5.0
1992	20.3	0.4	17.0	11.3	25.3	19.3	33.0	20.3	20.4	5.1
1991	20.3	0.4	17.2	11.4	25.5	19.3	33.2	20.4	20.1	5.0
1990	20.5	0.4	16.5	10.8	24.3	18.9	33.9	21.0	20.4	5.1

¹Rates computed by relating the number of events to women of all ages to women aged 15–44 years.²Rates computed by relating the number of events to women under age 15 years to women aged 10–14 years.³Rates computed by relating the number of events to women aged 40 years and over to women aged 40–44 years.⁴Includes races other than white and black and origin not stated.⁵Spontaneous fetal losses from recognized pregnancies of all gestational periods as reported by women in the 1995 National Survey of Family Growth conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. The rate of fetal loss depends on the degree to which losses at very early gestations are detected. See text and reference 3 for more information.⁶Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

NOTE: Rates for 1990–97 have been revised and may differ from rates previously published. See text and “Technical Notes.”

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of pregnancies by outcome of pregnancy by age, race, and Hispanic origin of woman: United States, 1999

[Numbers in thousands]

Pregnancy outcome and race and Hispanic origin	Total	Under 15 years	15-19 years							40 years and over
			Total	15-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	
All races ¹										
Number of pregnancies										
All pregnancies	6,277	21	846	325	521	1,603	1,616	1,298	732	161
Live births	3,959	9	476	164	312	982	1,078	892	434	87
Induced abortions	1,315	9	241	88	153	423	308	188	111	36
Fetal losses ²	1,003	4	129	73	56	198	230	218	187	37
White non-Hispanic										
All pregnancies	3,494	6	379	134	244	783	915	824	484	104
Live births	2,388	2	217	65	152	523	675	612	300	59
Induced abortions	493	2	99	36	63	152	103	69	49	18
Fetal losses ²	614	1	63	34	30	109	138	143	134	26
Black non-Hispanic										
All pregnancies	1,242	10	226	89	137	401	292	193	98	22
Live births	592	4	119	45	74	189	136	89	46	10
Induced abortions	485	5	85	32	53	161	123	68	34	9
Fetal losses ²	165	1	22	12	10	51	34	36	18	4
Hispanic ³										
All pregnancies	1,173	5	191	73	118	344	312	195	103	23
Live births	764	3	125	48	76	231	204	131	58	12
Induced abortions	258	2	46	17	29	89	62	36	18	5
Fetal losses ²	150	-	20	8	13	24	45	28	26	5
All races ¹										
Percent distribution										
All pregnancies	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live births	63.1	42.2	56.3	50.3	60.0	61.3	66.7	68.8	59.3	54.2
Induced abortions	20.9	40.6	28.5	27.2	29.3	26.4	19.1	14.4	15.2	22.5
Fetal losses ²	16.0	17.2	15.3	22.5	10.8	12.4	14.2	16.8	25.5	23.3
White non-Hispanic										
All pregnancies	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live births	68.3	37.4	57.2	48.2	62.2	66.8	73.7	74.3	62.1	57.0
Induced abortions	14.1	43.1	26.1	26.7	25.7	19.4	11.3	8.4	10.2	17.5
Fetal losses ²	17.6	19.5	16.7	25.1	12.1	13.9	15.0	17.3	27.7	25.4
Black non-Hispanic										
All pregnancies	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live births	47.7	41.2	52.7	50.6	54.0	47.2	46.4	46.1	46.8	43.2
Induced abortions	39.0	47.9	37.8	35.9	39.0	40.1	42.0	35.4	34.8	39.9
Fetal losses ²	13.3	10.9	9.5	13.4	7.0	12.6	11.6	18.5	18.4	16.9
Hispanic ³										
All pregnancies	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live births	65.2	58.3	65.2	65.8	64.8	67.2	65.5	67.3	56.6	52.6
Induced abortions	22.0	32.1	24.1	23.4	24.6	25.8	20.0	18.3	18.0	23.7
Fetal losses ²	12.8	9.6	10.7	10.8	10.7	7.0	14.5	14.4	25.5	23.7

- Quantity less than 500.

¹Includes races other than white and black and origin not stated.²Spontaneous fetal losses from recognized pregnancies of all gestational periods as reported by women in the 1995 National Survey of Family Growth conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. The rate of fetal loss depends on the degree to which losses at very early gestations are detected. See text and reference 3 for more information.³Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

NOTE: Due to rounding, figures may not add to totals. Percent distributions based on unrounded frequencies.

Table 3. Estimates of lifetime pregnancy, live birth, and induced abortion rates by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1990 and 1999

[Rates are sums of rates for 5-year age groups (in table 1) multiplied by 5 and divided by 1,000]

Race and Hispanic origin	Pregnancies ¹		Live births		Induced abortions	
	1999	1990	1999	1990	1999	1990
Total ²	3.2	3.4	2.0	2.1	0.7	0.8
Non-Hispanic white	2.7	2.9	1.8	1.9	0.4	0.6
Non-Hispanic black	4.5	5.2	2.1	2.5	1.8	1.9
Hispanic ³	4.1	4.5	2.6	3.0	0.9	1.0

¹Includes estimates of fetal losses not shown separately.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

NOTE: Total pregnancy rates are estimates of the number of pregnancies a woman would have if she experiences the age-specific pregnancy rates observed in a given year.

Table 4. Pregnancy, live birth, and induced abortion rates by marital status and race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1990–99

[Rates per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years in specified group]

Race and Hispanic origin and year	Married			Unmarried		
	All pregnancies ¹	Live birth	Induced abortion	All pregnancies ¹	Live birth	Induced abortion
All races						
1999	113.9	84.8	8.1	89.2	43.3	35.1
1998	113.0	84.2	7.9	90.0	43.3	35.8
1997	111.6	82.7	8.0	90.7	42.9	36.8
1996	111.6	82.3	8.5	92.9	43.8	37.9
1995	111.7	82.6	8.4	94.0	44.3	38.5
1994	112.5	82.9	8.9	98.7	46.2	40.8
1993	116.9	86.1	9.5	99.2	44.8	43.1
1992	119.8	88.5	9.7	100.6	44.9	44.6
1991	121.6	89.6	10.1	101.7	45.0	45.6
1990	126.3	93.2	10.6	102.3	43.8	47.7
White, total						
1999	113.7	86.4	6.0	72.7	37.4	26.0
1998	113.1	85.8	6.0	73.2	36.9	27.1
1997	111.5	84.2	6.1	73.4	36.3	28.0
1996	111.5	84.1	6.4	75.2	37.0	28.9
1995	111.7	84.2	6.5	76.3	37.0	30.0
1994	112.0	84.3	6.8	79.0	37.8	31.8
1993	115.6	87.0	7.3	78.3	35.6	33.9
1992	118.4	89.1	7.5	79.1	35.0	35.6
1991	120.0	90.3	7.9	80.0	34.5	37.1
1990	125.1	94.1	8.5	80.2	32.9	39.4
White, non-Hispanic						
1999	108.9	82.9	4.7	55.5	27.9	20.4
1998	108.0	82.1	4.8	56.9	27.9	21.8
1997	105.7	80.2	5.0	58.0	27.5	23.5
1996	105.2	79.6	5.3	59.8	28.2	24.4
1995	105.5	79.8	5.4	61.1	28.1	25.8
1994	106.3	80.5	5.5	63.1	28.4	27.5
Black, total						
1999	104.7	65.8	21.0	159.6	69.7	70.9
1998	102.8	65.0	20.4	161.6	71.6	70.8
1997	102.1	63.9	20.7	163.6	71.6	72.3
1996	101.8	62.2	22.5	166.0	72.8	73.2
1995	102.8	64.1	21.1	166.0	74.5	71.1
1994	107.7	66.1	23.5	179.6	80.9	76.6
1993	119.1	73.0	26.2	186.8	82.9	81.5
Hispanic²						
1999	130.5	100.0	12.4	153.8	84.9	53.6
1998	133.8	102.3	12.4	151.5	82.8	53.4
1997	136.6	103.7	12.6	151.2	83.2	51.8
1996	141.4	107.3	13.3	156.6	86.1	53.8
1995	141.6	107.1	13.8	160.3	88.7	54.4
1994	140.8	104.7	15.9	171.7	95.8	57.5
1993	151.1	113.0	16.4	169.6	91.4	60.6

¹Includes pregnancies ending in fetal loss, not shown separately.²Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

NOTE: Marital status is the woman's marital status as of the date the pregnancy ended, rather than at the time of conception. Figures for married women include pregnancies for separated women. Rates for 1990–97 have been revised and may differ from rates previously published; see text and "Technical Notes."

Technical Notes

Sources of data

Live births—Data presented in this report are based on information reported on birth certificates filed for all births in the United States. Data are provided to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program (VSCP). Details on the data elements collected in the birth certificate file are discussed in previous reports (4,12).

Induced abortions—Abortion data in this report are national estimates based on abortion surveillance information collected from most States by CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP), which are adjusted to national totals compiled by the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) from their surveys of all known abortion providers. In 1999, the NCCDPHP abortion surveillance system collected data on abortions by age for 45 States, the District of Columbia, and New York City. Data by age were not available for Alaska, California, Florida, New Hampshire, and Oklahoma. The numbers of abortions published by NCCDPHP tend to be lower than the numbers published by AGI (5,6). For example, the total number of abortions reported by NCCDPHP was about 12 percent lower in 1997 than reported by AGI (5). The numbers of abortions from 1993 through 1997 have been slightly revised by AGI on the basis of new data for 1999 and a correction in earlier survey results. Abortion numbers and rates for non-Hispanic white women have been re-estimated using a more refined procedure. As a result of these revisions, the rates shown in this report may differ from rates previously published (1,3).

Fetal losses—Information on fetal losses is based on the 1995 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), conducted by NCHS (13,14). In this report, the proportion of pregnancies (excluding induced abortions) ending in fetal loss in the 5 years preceding the survey are used. Because the fetal loss data in this report are based only on the 1995 NSFG, the estimates for the 1990s are essentially stable and do not reflect actual changes in the likelihood of a pregnancy ending in fetal loss. Despite this, the NSFG data are preferable to vital statistics reports of fetal losses, because vital statistics data are generally limited to losses occurring at gestations of 20 weeks or more, whereas NSFG data include all gestations. The vast majority of fetal losses occur early in pregnancy before the reporting requirements for fetal losses are in effect. Even fetal losses of 20 weeks or more are underreported in vital statistics data. Future reports will use NSFG data collected in 2002.

Race and Hispanic origin

Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Data in this report are tabulated by the race and Hispanic origin of the woman for all years. Data for most tables are shown for these categories: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and Hispanic. Pregnancy estimates cannot be prepared for other races because abortion data are not collected in the necessary detail.

Population denominators

Pregnancy, live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss rates for 1991–97 shown in this report have been revised and may differ from those published in “Trends in Pregnancies and Pregnancy Rates by Outcome: Estimates for the United States, 1976–96,” and “Trends in Pregnancy Rates for the United States, 1976–97: An Update” (1,3).

The rates in this report are based on revised population estimates consistent with the 2000 census. These estimates were produced by the U.S. Census Bureau with support from the National Cancer Institute (2, 15–23).

The 1991–99 population estimates for women aged 15–17 and 18–19 years by race and Hispanic origin were prepared by NCHS. Revised population estimates for these groups based on the 2000 census were not available when this report was prepared. The population estimates were prepared by applying proportions derived from the 1990-based population estimates (according to data year, race, and Hispanic origin for the female population) to the 2000-based population of women aged 15–19 years, and adjusting the sum of the population estimates to be consistent with the total population of women aged 15–19 years for each race/origin group (2). Rates for teenagers will be revised again when the necessary population estimates based on the 2000 census become available from the U.S. Census Bureau. More information on the revised population estimates is included in a recent report (2).

Births rates for unmarried women for 1991–99 are based on distributions of the population by marital status as of March 1 of each year as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau in the March Current Population Survey (CPS) (24), which have been adjusted to the July population in each year by the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS (25). The 1991–99 population levels are consistent with the 2000 census. Unmarried women include never married, widowed, and divorced women.

Computation of rates

In computing birth rates for the Hispanic population, births with origin of mother not stated are included with non-Hispanic births rather than being distributed. Thus, rates for the U.S. Hispanic population are underestimates of the true rates to the extent that the births with origin of mother not stated (0.6 percent) were actually to Hispanic mothers. In computing the rates, the census-based populations with origin not stated are imputed. The effect on the rates is believed to be small.

Contents

Abstract	1
Introduction	1
Results and Discussion	2
References	5
List of Detailed Tables	6
Technical Notes	14

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