

## 2010 Pregnancy Rates Among U.S. Women

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The drop in birth rates from 2007 through 2013 has been well documented ([1](#)). However, it is also important to examine total rates of pregnancy and other pregnancy outcomes (abortion and fetal loss) to provide a comprehensive picture of current reproductive trends. This *NCHS Health E-Stat* uses data from 2010 to update a previous NCHS report on pregnancy rates ([2](#)). Data on pregnancy outcomes by age and race and Hispanic origin are presented.

The pregnancy rate for women in the United States continued to decline in 2010, to 98.7 per 1,000 women aged 15–44 ([Table 1](#)), a record low for the 1976–2010 period. This level was 15% below the 1990 peak (115.8). The decline in the overall pregnancy rate during 1990–2010 included reductions in birth and abortion rates, with the percent decline greater for abortions (35%) than births (10%) over this period. The 2010 abortion rate (17.7) was a record low. Fetal loss rates fluctuated over the period and were 3% lower in 2010 than in 1990. The estimated number of pregnancies dropped to 6.155 million in 2010, the lowest number since 1986. Pregnancies in 2010 included 3.999 million (65.0%) live births, 1.103 million (17.9%) induced abortions, and 1.053 million (17.1%) fetal losses.

Compared with 1990, pregnancy rates were lower in 2010 for women under age 30, with the largest percent decline occurring among teenage subgroups, including a 67% reduction for teenagers aged 14 and under, and a 50% reduction for teenagers aged 15–19 ([Figure 1](#), [Table 2](#)). Pregnancy rates in 2010 were highest for women aged 25–29 (157.1 per 1,000 women) followed by women aged 20–24 (144.6), with declines of 12% and 27%, respectively, since 1990. Rates for women aged 30 and over increased over the 20-year period, with women aged 40 and over having the largest percent increase (70%). However, rates for women in their 30s have declined since 2006–2007.

Pregnancy rates in 2010 were highest for non-Hispanic black women (135.1 per 1,000 women aged 15–44), intermediate for Hispanic women (118.4), and lowest for non-Hispanic white women (84.1) ([Figure 2](#)). Substantial differences were seen by race and ethnicity in rates by pregnancy outcome, with Hispanic women having the highest birth rate in 2010 (80.2) and non-Hispanic black women having the highest abortion rate (47.7). During the 1990–2010 period, pregnancy rates dropped more for non-Hispanic black (26% decline) and Hispanic women (28% decline) than for non-Hispanic white women (14% decline), thus narrowing the differences between the groups ([Figure 2](#)). All groups had larger percent reductions in abortion than birth rates over the 1990–2010 period.

While pregnancy estimates are constrained by the availability of data for all three outcomes, births comprise the majority (almost two-thirds) of all pregnancy outcomes, and birth rates continued to drop during 2011–2013 ([1](#)). The most recent national abortion estimates also show the number and rate of abortions dropped between 2010 and 2011 ([3](#)).



## Data source and methods

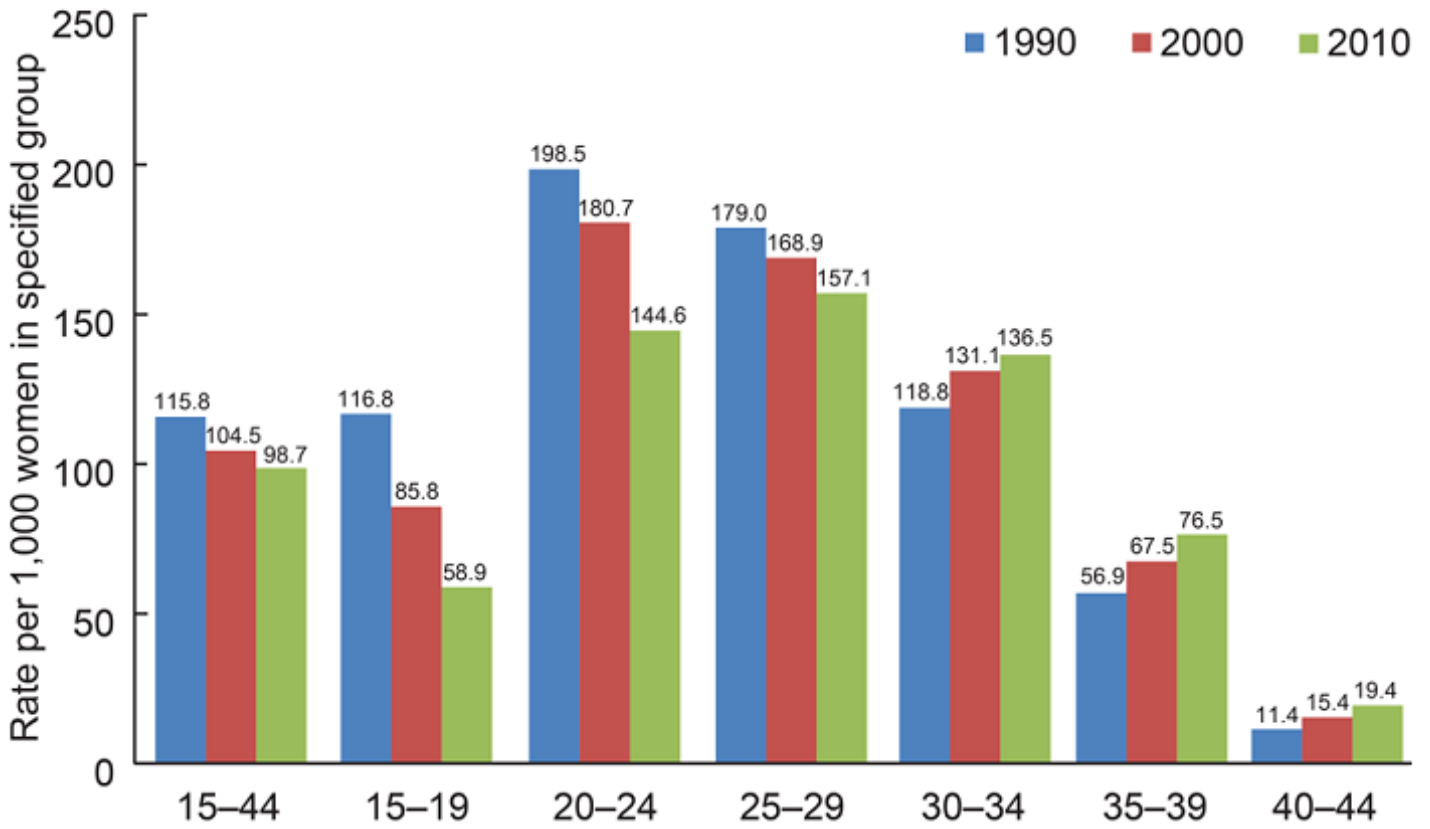
This analysis combines data on births from the National Vital Statistics System, data on abortions from the Abortion Surveillance System and Guttmacher Institute, and data on fetal losses from several cycles of the National Survey of Family Growth. Numbers and rates of these pregnancy outcomes are computed separately and added together to derive total pregnancy numbers and rates. The methodology has been discussed in detail elsewhere (4, 5). Estimates of fetal losses depend on the degree to which losses at very early gestations are detected. Detailed tables with number of pregnancies by outcome for 2010 by age and race and ethnicity, pregnancy rates by outcome for 1990–2010 by age and race and ethnicity, and pregnancy rates by marital status and race and ethnicity are available by request from [Births@cdc.gov](mailto:Births@cdc.gov).

## References

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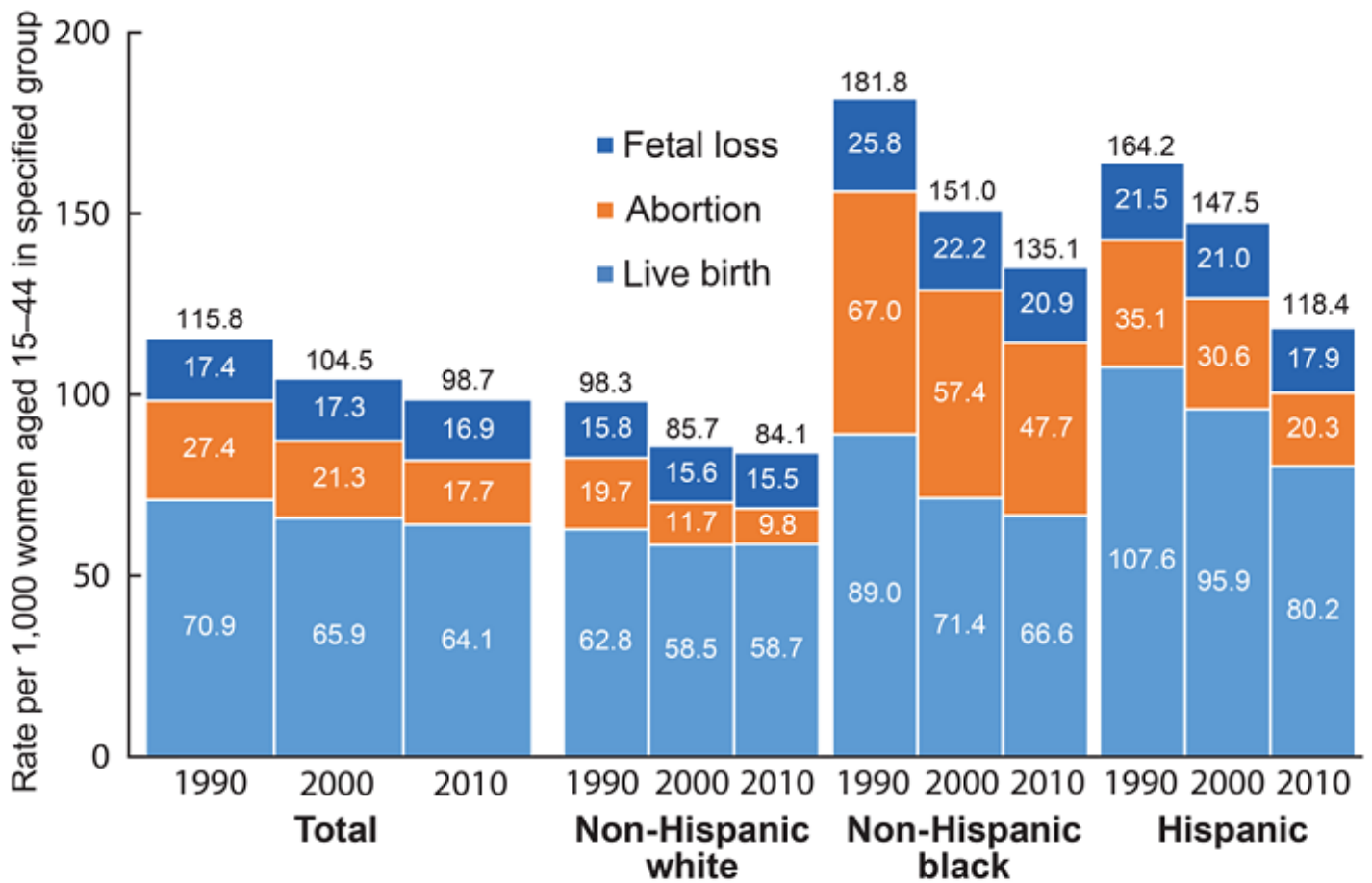
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**Figure 1. Pregnancy rates, by age: United States, 1990, 2000, and 2010**



SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System System and National Survey of Family Growth; CDC, Abortion Surveillance System; and Guttmacher Institute.

**Figure 2. Pregnancy rates for women aged 15–44, by outcome and race and ethnicity: United States, 1990, 2000, and 2010**



SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System System and National Survey of Family Growth; CDC, Abortion Surveillance System; and Guttmacher Institute.

Table 1. Numbers and rates (per 1,000 women aged 15-44) of pregnancies and pregnancy outcomes and number of women: United States, 1976-2010

All pregnancies									
Year	Total	Live births	Induced abortions	<sup>1</sup> Fetal losses	Total	Live births	Induced abortions	<sup>1</sup> Fetal losses	Women aged 15-44
		Number (thousands)			<sup>2</sup> Rate per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years				Number (thousands)
2010	6,155	3,999	1,103	1,053	98.7	64.1	17.7	16.9	62,375
2009	6,369	4,131	1,152	1,087	102.1	66.2	18.5	17.4	62,373
2008	6,578	4,248	1,212	1,118	105.5	68.1	19.4	17.9	62,360
2007	6,663	4,316	1,210	1,137	107.0	69.3	19.4	18.2	62,292
2006	6,632	4,266	1,242	1,124	106.6	68.6	20.0	18.1	62,190
2005	6,435	4,138	1,206	1,091	103.7	66.7	19.4	17.6	62,071
2004	6,424	4,112	1,222	1,090	103.7	66.4	19.7	17.6	61,969
2003	6,415	4,090	1,250	1,075	103.7	66.1	20.2	17.4	61,888
2002	6,347	4,022	1,269	1,056	102.6	65.0	20.5	17.1	61,856
2001	6,374	4,026	1,291	1,057	103.1	65.1	20.9	17.1	61,795
2000	6,438	4,059	1,313	1,066	104.5	65.9	21.3	17.3	61,577
1999	6,286	3,959	1,315	1,011	102.2	64.4	21.4	16.5	61,475
1998	6,266	3,942	1,319	1,006	102.2	64.3	21.5	16.4	61,326
1997	6,205	3,881	1,335	989	101.6	63.6	21.9	16.2	61,041
1996	6,240	3,891	1,360	988	102.8	64.1	22.4	16.3	60,704
1995	6,245	3,900	1,359	986	103.5	64.6	22.5	16.3	60,368
1994	6,370	3,953	1,423	994	106.1	65.9	23.7	16.6	60,020
1993	6,494	4,000	1,495	999	108.8	67.0	25.0	16.7	59,712
1992	6,603	4,065	1,529	1,009	111.1	68.4	25.7	17.0	59,417
1991	6,682	4,111	1,557	1,014	112.7	69.3	26.2	17.1	59,305
1990	6,786	4,158	1,609	1,019	115.8	70.9	27.4	17.4	58,619
1989	6,527	4,041	1,567	919	111.8	69.2	26.8	15.7	58,367
1988	6,393	3,910	1,591	893	110.0	67.3	27.4	15.4	58,120
1987	6,183	3,809	1,559	815	106.8	65.8	26.9	14.1	57,901
1986	6,129	3,757	1,574	798	106.7	65.4	27.4	13.9	57,430
1985	6,144	3,761	1,589	795	108.3	66.3	28.0	14.0	56,716
1984	6,019	3,669	1,577	773	107.4	65.5	28.1	13.8	56,031
1983	5,977	3,639	1,575	763	108.0	65.7	28.5	13.8	55,359
1982	6,024	3,681	1,574	769	110.1	67.3	28.8	14.1	54,700
1981	5,958	3,629	1,577	751	110.5	67.3	29.3	13.9	53,926
1980	5,912	3,612	1,554	746	111.9	68.4	29.4	14.1	52,833
1979	5,714	3,494	1,498	722	109.9	67.2	28.8	13.9	52,016
1978	5,433	3,333	1,410	690	106.7	65.5	27.7	13.5	50,921
1977	5,331	3,327	1,317	687	107.0	66.8	26.4	13.8	49,814
1976	5,002	3,168	1,179	655	102.7	65.0	24.2	13.4	48,721

<sup>1</sup>Spontaneous fetal losses from recognized pregnancies of all gestational periods as reported by women in the 1982, 1988, 1995, 2002, and 2006-2010 National Surveys of Family Growth, conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. The rate of pregnancy loss depends on the degree to which losses at very early gestations are detected.

<sup>2</sup>Computed by relating the number of events to women of all ages to women aged 15-44.

NOTES: Due to rounding, figures may not add to totals. Rates for 2001-2005 have been revised using intercensal population estimates based on the 2000 and 2010 censuses and may differ from rates previously published.

Table 2. Pregnancy rates, by age of woman: United States, 1990-2010  
 [Rates are pregnancy per 1,000 women in specified group, estimated as of April 1 for 1990, 2000, and 2010 and as of July 1 for all other years.]

Year	Age of woman									
	<sup>1</sup> Total	<sup>2</sup> Under 15 years	15-19 years			20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	<sup>3</sup> 40-44 years
			Total	15-17 years	18-19 years					
2010	98.7	1.1	58.9	32.2	96.8	144.6	157.1	136.5	76.5	19.4
2009	102.1	1.2	65.3	36.4	106.3	153.8	162.0	138.0	77.0	19.2
2008	105.5	1.4	69.8	39.5	114.2	163.0	167.9	141.2	78.5	18.8
2007	107.0	1.5	71.9	40.6	119.6	167.5	171.8	142.5	79.5	18.3
2006	106.6	1.5	72.1	40.9	120.2	169.0	172.9	140.8	79.7	18.0
2005	103.7	1.6	70.2	40.2	116.2	163.4	170.5	137.5	77.7	17.5
2004	103.7	1.6	71.9	41.4	117.6	164.8	174.5	135.1	77.2	17.3
2003	103.7	1.6	73.6	42.9	119.9	166.6	172.0	136.6	73.7	16.8
2002	102.6	1.7	76.3	44.5	124.4	168.9	170.0	133.0	70.4	16.2
2001	103.1	1.8	80.8	47.1	130.8	173.7	169.1	131.9	68.8	15.7
2000	104.5	2.0	85.8	51.6	135.8	180.7	168.9	131.1	67.5	15.4
1999	102.2	2.1	86.9	53.1	136.6	177.8	166.0	125.1	64.7	14.6
1998	102.2	2.3	90.1	56.7	140.3	178.9	164.7	122.4	63.3	14.4
1997	101.6	2.4	92.7	59.5	144.3	178.7	162.5	119.5	61.4	13.9
1996	102.8	2.7	97.0	63.4	149.0	180.5	163.2	118.4	60.6	13.5
1995	103.5	2.9	101.1	67.4	153.4	179.8	162.8	117.0	59.1	13.1
1994	106.1	3.2	106.1	71.1	159.6	184.8	166.1	116.7	58.5	12.9
1993	108.8	3.2	109.4	72.7	164.1	190.4	169.8	116.6	57.7	12.4
1992	111.1	3.3	112.3	73.5	169.3	194.3	173.1	116.6	57.4	12.0
1991	112.7	3.3	116.4	76.1	172.1	196.8	174.9	116.2	56.8	11.3
1990	115.8	3.4	116.8	77.1	167.7	198.5	179.0	118.8	56.9	11.4

% change

2010

compared

with 1990

-15	-68	-50	-58	-42	-27	-12	15	34	70
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<sup>1</sup>Rates computed by relating the number of events to women of all ages to women aged 15-44 years.

<sup>2</sup>Rates computed by relating the number of events to women under age 15 years to women aged 10-14 years.

<sup>3</sup>Rates computed by relating the number of events to women aged 40 years and over to women aged 40-44 years.