About this Release
Teenage pregnancy Statistics are published annually and are compiled from registrations of live and still births from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) with multiple births counted as one event, and number of legal abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967.

The data presented are based on year of conception and age at conception and are shown from 1994 onwards for the following three age groups: <16, <18 and <20.

Key Points
The teenage pregnancy rate has been fairly steady for the past decade with a small drop over the last 3 years. In 2009, in the under 16 age group there were 7.1 pregnancies per 1,000, down from 7.8 in 2008.

In mainland NHS boards in 2009, NHS Borders recorded the lowest rate of teenage pregnancy in all three age groups (under 16 age group – 5.0 per 1,000). NHS Fife has the highest teenage pregnancy rate in 2009 for the under 16 age group (10.5 per 1,000). In the under 18 and 20 age groups the highest rates were in NHS Tayside.

Over the years there has been a change in the balance between teenage conceptions which are aborted and those which continue to delivery. In the under 18 and under 20 age groups the rate of abortion has fallen slightly but still remains considerably lower than the delivery rate.

There is a strong deprivation gradient. In the under 20 age group, the most deprived areas have approximately ten times the rate of delivery as the least deprived (65.3 per 1,000 and 7.6 per 1,000).
Teenage Pregnancy Rates, 1994-2009, by Age Group at Conception

![Graph showing teenage pregnancy rates from 1994 to 2009 by age group (under 16, under 18, under 20) with a slight increase in all groups over the years.]

**Background**

The source data are registrations of live and still births from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) with multiple births counted as one event, and number of legal abortions notified in accordance with the Abortion Act 1967.

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**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

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**Official Statistics**

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

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