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

- Teenage pregnancy rates in the older age groups have continued to decline. The rate per 1,000 population for the under 18 age group has dropped from 30.0 in 2011 to 27.9 in 2012 and from 43.8 to 41.5 in the under 20 age group. The rate for the under 16 age group in 2012 is the same as that recorded in 2011 at 5.6 per 1,000 population.

- In mainland NHS boards, NHS Highland recorded the lowest rate of teenage pregnancy in the under 16 age group with 3.0 per 1,000 population. NHS Borders recorded the lowest rates in both the under 18 and under 20 age groups with rates of 20.7 and 31.2 per 1,000 respectively.

- In mainland NHS boards, NHS Tayside recorded the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in the under 16 age group with 7.8 per 1,000 population. NHS Fife recorded the highest rates in both the under 18 and under 20 age groups with rates of 33.7 and 48.4 per 1,000 respectively.

- There is a strong correlation between deprivation and teenage pregnancy. In the under 20 age group the most deprived areas have nearly 12 times the rate of delivery compared to the least deprived areas (53.8 compared to 4.6 per 1,000 population) and nearly twice the rate of abortion (21.9 compared to 11.8 per 1,000 population).
Teenage Pregnancy Rates, 1994 - 2012, by Age Group at Conception

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.

Contact
Kenny McIntyre
Senior Information Analyst
Nss.isdmaternity@nhs.net 0131 275 6557

Stuart Wrigglesworth
Information Analyst
Nss.isdmaternity@nhs.net 0131 275 7128

Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website

About ISD
Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

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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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