Information Services Division
Publication Summary

Teenage Pregnancy
Year of conception ending 31 December 2015

Publication Date – 04 July 2017

About this release
This release from the Information Services Division provides an annual update of teenage pregnancy statistics in Scotland up to December 2015. The information presented in this publication is based on year of conception and age at conception and is presented for the age groups: under 16, under 18 and under 20.

Main Points
• Teenage pregnancies continue to decline: rates in the under 20s have dropped from the most recent peak of 57.7 per 1,000 women in 2007 to 32.4 in 2015, a decrease of 43.8%.

Teenage pregnancy by age group at conception, 1994-2015

Source: NRS birth registrations & Notifications of abortions performed under the Abortion Act 1967.

• Teenagers from deprived areas are more likely to get pregnant: women aged under 20 and living in the most deprived areas had pregnancy rates five times higher than those in the least deprived (62.1 compared to 11.6 per 1,000 women).

• Teenagers from deprived areas are more likely to deliver, while those in the least deprived areas are more likely to terminate their pregnancy.
Younger teenagers (under 16s) are more likely to have a termination than a delivery, while older teenagers (under 18s and under 20s) are more likely to have a delivery than a termination.

Background
The source data are registrations of live and stillbirths from the National Records of Scotland 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 Teenage Pregnancy Publication Report. For the first time in this publication we have included some new interactive visual content in the Teenage Pregnancy Dashboard. Information is presented over time, by deprivation area, maternal age group and outcome of pregnancy.

The Information Services Division publishes a wide range of information on birth, pregnancy and sexual health, including teenage pregnancies and terminations of pregnancy in Scotland. Further information can be found on our Maternity and Births and Sexual Health pages.

This report will be updated in July 2018.

ISD and 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. Further information about our statistics.