

# Teenage pregnancies, 1974 to 1994

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## Abstract

### Objectives

This article provides an overview of trends from 1974 to 1994 in pregnancies among women aged 15 to 19.

### Data sources

Vital statistics, abortion data, and hospital morbidity files maintained by Statistics Canada were used to develop estimates of pregnancies, live births, abortions, and stillbirths/miscarriages.

### Analytical techniques

Rates of pregnancy, live birth, abortion and stillbirth/miscarriage are based on the female population aged 15 to 19.

### Main results

In 1994, there were an estimated 46,800 teenage pregnancies. This marked the continuation of an almost steady rise from 1987, when the number was 39,300. As well, there has been an increase in the percentage of teenage pregnancies ending in an abortion.

### Key words

pregnancy in adolescence, pregnancy outcome, abortion, miscarriage

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In 1994, close to 24,700 babies were born to teenage women aged 15 to 19. However, these births represented only about half the 47,800 teenage pregnancies that ended that year, as an estimated 21,000 women in this age range had an abortion, while about 2,000 had a stillbirth or a miscarriage that required hospitalization. Although the 1994 teenage pregnancy rate was lower than it was two decades earlier, the rate has been increasing since 1987.

Pregnancy before age 20 entails a number of medical risks for both the mother and her child. Teenage mothers have a greater risk of having a preterm baby or a baby with an immediately identifiable congenital abnormality.<sup>1</sup> Teenagers also have a slightly higher risk of having low birthweight infants<sup>2</sup> (see **Infant mortality and low birthweight, 1975 to 1995** in this issue).

It could be argued that the social and economic consequences of teenage births are as important as the health implications. Previous studies have suggested that teenage motherhood may result in a loss of educational

## Methods

### Data source

The data used to estimate teenage pregnancies come from Statistics Canada's published reports<sup>3-7</sup> and data files on birth registrations (live births and stillbirths), abortions, and inpatients treated in general and allied hospitals. The live birth and stillbirth data are from the Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base, which is compiled from information collected from the vital statistics registries in the ten provinces and two territories. Because of legal reporting requirements, the registration of live births and stillbirths is considered to be virtually complete. As well, the existence of provincial and territorial health insurance commissions to pay for medical services provided by doctors and hospitals leads to nearly complete reporting of the number of abortions performed in hospitals and abortion clinics, as well as spontaneous abortions (referred to as miscarriages in this article) and other abortion cases treated in inpatient departments of hospitals. Data on abortions obtained by Canadian residents in the United States are reported by the states where they occurred.

### Analytical techniques

Rates of pregnancy, live birth, abortion, and stillbirth/miscarriage are based on the female population aged 15 to 19 during the years 1974 to 1994.

Complete information on residence, age, and other demographic characteristics of women who obtained clinic abortions in Canada and abortions in the United States was not available. The age distribution of these cases was assumed to approximate the age distribution of women obtaining hospital abortions. Canadian clinic abortions and all abortions obtained in the United States were included in the Canada totals only. Provincial data on therapeutic abortions, and thus, the corresponding pregnancies, include only hospital abortions.

Teenage pregnancy rates were derived for selected countries by adding the teenage fertility rates to legal abortion rates. The countries selected have a level of economic development similar to Canada's and reliable birth and abortion statistics. The most recent year for which comparable data were available was 1988.

### Limitations

Clinic abortions had to be excluded from the calculations of provincial abortion and pregnancy rates because of incomplete data on place

of residence. By 1994, clinics accounted for about one-third of all abortions performed in Canada. The omission of these abortions from the provincial calculations means that provincial pregnancy rates are underestimated, and that provincial comparisons must be made with caution. The rates are presented to indicate the relative ranking of the provinces rather than specific values.

Legal abortions obtained in the United States were also excluded from provincial rates. However, since abortions outside Canada have constituted a progressively smaller proportion of all abortions, the effect of their omission, particularly in recent years, is likely to be minimal.

A number of miscarriages occur without the need for hospitalization, and therefore, are not included in the data. As well, no information is available on illegal abortions. Estimates of non-hospitalized miscarriages and illegal abortions range widely from 3% to 30% of pregnancies in western industrialized countries.<sup>8-11</sup> For Canada, the figure has been estimated to be as high as 17%, well above the annual rate of 3% to 7% used for the calculations in this article. Therefore, the figures reported here may underestimate the total number of teenage pregnancies that actually occur. Moreover, the calculations are based on the year in which pregnancies ended, and so do not take into account women who became pregnant at age 19 and ended their pregnancy at age 20.

Information on hospitalized cases of miscarriages/stillbirths and other and unspecified abortions was not available for Yukon. For the Northwest Territories, this information was unavailable, except for 1994.

For live births in Newfoundland, the age of the mother was missing from vital registration data for 1974 to 1985. However, Newfoundland hospital data provide information on the age of women who gave birth. For this analysis, it was assumed that the age distribution of all Newfoundland women who gave birth closely matched that of women who had given birth in Newfoundland hospitals.

The most recent year for which comparable international teenage pregnancy rates were available, 1988, was near the low point for Canada's rate; since then, teenage pregnancy rates have risen substantially. Likewise, the situation in the other countries may now differ considerably from what it was in 1988. Consequently, as with provincial comparisons, the importance of the international figures lies more in the ranking than in the specific rates.

and occupational opportunities and increase the likelihood of diminished socioeconomic status.<sup>12</sup> Compared with older women who give birth, teenagers are more likely to be single, and therefore, to be financially dependent on family support and social assistance.<sup>13</sup>

Drawing upon data from a number of sources, this article reviews teenage pregnancy in Canada for the period 1974 to 1994 (see *Methods* and *Definitions*).

### Long-term trends

The 46,800 teenage pregnancies that ended in 1994 were up from 39,300 in 1987, but well short of the total of 61,200 that ended in 1974 (Table 1).

Compared with women in their twenties or early thirties, teenagers have a low pregnancy rate (Chart 1). But while the 1974 to 1994 period saw an overall drop in the rate from 53.7 to 48.8 per 1,000, since 1987, it increased almost every year (Chart 2).

Table 1  
Estimated number of pregnancies and pregnancy rates, women aged 15 to 19 at end of pregnancy, Canada, 1974 to 1994

	Pregnancies Number	Pregnancy rate			Female population aged 15-19 '000
		Total 15-19	15-17	18-19	
		Pregnancies per 1,000			
1974	61,242	53.7	33.8	83.7	1,141
1975	61,964	53.6	34.3	82.9	1,156
1976	61,267	52.2	33.1	81.4	1,175
1977	59,923	50.6	32.2	78.5	1,184
1978	59,210	49.6	31.4	76.8	1,194
1979	57,423	48.0	30.6	73.4	1,196
1980	56,784	47.7	30.5	72.6	1,189
1981	53,782	46.2	29.4	69.6	1,163
1982	52,163	46.4	29.6	68.5	1,123
1983	46,190	43.1	27.2	63.1	1,073
1984	43,233	42.2	27.0	61.8	1,024
1985	40,892	41.5	26.3	62.3	986
1986	40,000	41.2	25.8	63.7	970
1987	39,340	41.1	25.3	64.3	958
1988	39,636	41.6	25.7	64.4	952
1989	42,133	44.4	26.9	68.3	949
1990	44,750	47.3	29.6	72.1	947
1991	44,745	47.6	29.8	73.8	941
1992	45,323	48.1	30.2	74.9	943
1993	45,412	47.8	29.9	74.4	950
1994	46,753	48.8	30.2	76.2	957

**Data sources:** Statistics Canada (reference 7), Health Statistics Division, and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base

## Definitions

*Teenage pregnancy* is defined in this article as a pregnancy of a woman who was aged 15 to 19 when her pregnancy ended. Pregnancies equal the sum of live births, therapeutic abortions, and miscarriages/stillbirths. The *teenage pregnancy rate* is the number of pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

A *live birth* is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any sign of life. The *teenage live birth rate* is the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

*Therapeutic (induced) abortions* include:

- Abortions authorized under the 1969 Abortion Law and performed in accredited and/or approved hospitals from 1974 to 1987. A hospital abortion committee could authorize a pregnancy termination, if, in its opinion, continuation of the pregnancy would endanger the life or health of the woman.
- Abortions performed in hospitals between 1988 and 1993, classified as "legally induced abortions" (ICD-9 635).<sup>14</sup>
- Abortions performed in abortion clinics between 1978 and 1994.
- Legal abortions obtained by Canadian women in the United States.

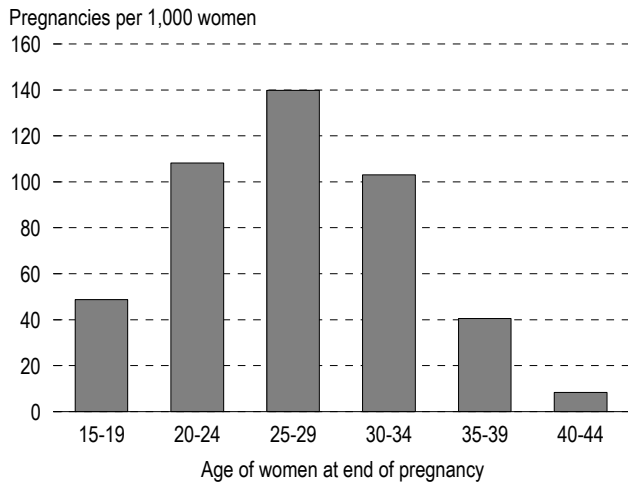
Unless otherwise indicated, the term "abortion" is used in this article to refer to therapeutic abortions. The *teenage abortion rate* is the number of therapeutic abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

A *stillbirth* is a product of conception of 20 or more weeks' gestation or fetal weight of 500 grams or more, which has issued from its mother, but did not breathe or show other signs of life. The stillbirth/miscarriage category includes stillbirths registered under the vital registration system and hospitalized cases of spontaneous abortions, illegal abortions, and unspecified abortions. The ICD codes are spontaneous abortion (ICD-9 634, ICD-8 643), illegally induced abortion (ICD-9 636, ICD-8 642), and unspecified abortion (ICD-9 637, ICD-8 644).<sup>14</sup> The *stillbirth/miscarriage rate* is the number of stillbirths, plus spontaneous and other abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

In this analysis, the expression to "end" a pregnancy covers the three outcomes: live birth, abortion, or stillbirth/hospitalized miscarriage.

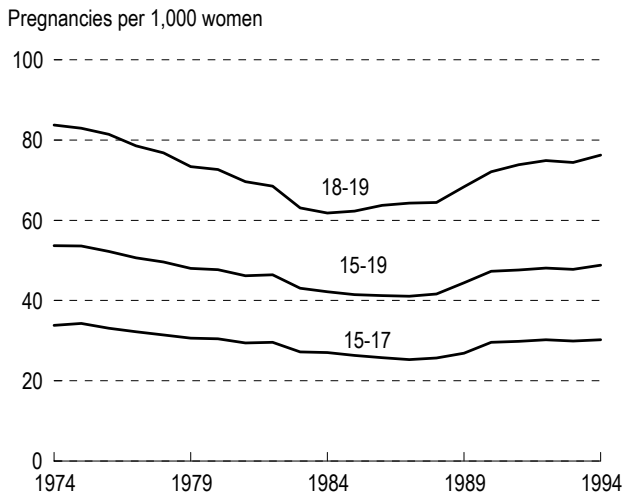
There has also been a major shift in the outcomes of teenage pregnancies. In 1974, 66% of such pregnancies had ended in a live birth, 26% in a therapeutic abortion, and 8% in a stillbirth/miscarriage (Chart 3 and Appendix, Table A). By 1994, while the majority (51%) of teenage pregnancies ended in a live birth, almost as many (45%) ended in an abortion.

Chart 1  
**Pregnancy rate, by age of women at end of pregnancy, Canada, 1994**



**Data source:** Health Statistics Division and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base

Chart 2  
**Teenage pregnancy rates, by age of women at end of pregnancy, Canada, 1974-1994**



**Data source:** Statistics Canada (reference 7), Health Statistics Division, and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base

### Births slightly exceed abortions

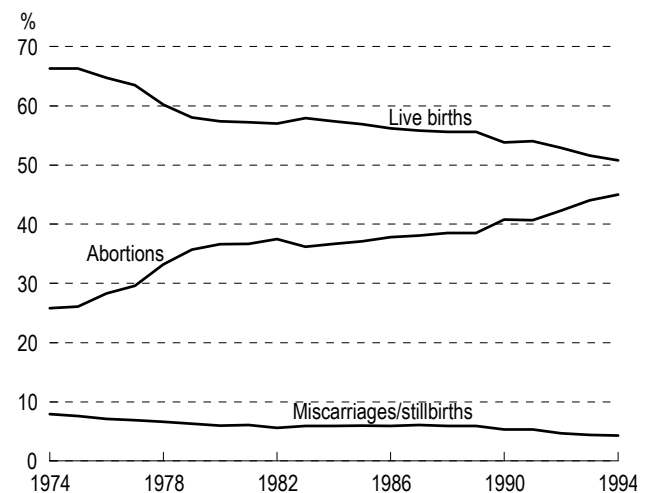
The total of 23,700 live births to teenage mothers in 1994 was down sharply from 40,600 in 1974. However, after falling to about 22,000 in the late 1980s, the annual number of births levelled out at about 24,000 (see *International*). The absolute decline in births is attributable to the lower pregnancy rate, a decrease in the size of the teenage population, and the growing share of teenage pregnancies that end in abortion.

In 1994, 21,000 teenagers had abortions, the highest annual number during the previous two decades. The teenage abortion rate in 1994 was 22.0 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19, continuing the upturn that began in the mid-1980s. Teenagers accounted for almost 20% of all abortions performed in 1994, compared with just 6% of live births.

### Mid-teens

In 1994, the pregnancy rate among 15- to 17-year-olds was 30.2 per 1,000. While this was lower than in 1974 (33.8), the rate has been rising since 1987. These rates mirrored the annual number of pregnancies among mid-teens. In 1994, almost

Chart 3  
**Percentage distribution of outcomes of teenage pregnancy, Canada, 1974 to 1994**



**Data sources:** Statistics Canada (reference 7), Health Statistics Division, and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base

17,200 women aged 15 to 17 ended a pregnancy, down substantially from 23,200 in 1974, but a considerable rise from the low of 14,400 in 1988.

By 1994, more pregnancies among women aged 15 to 17 ended in an abortion than in a live birth, whereas in 1974, the majority had ended in a live birth (Table 2). This shift is reflected in the abortion rate for 15- to 17-year-olds, which now exceeds their live birth rate: 14.9 abortions versus 13.9 live births per 1,000.

Nonetheless, close to 8,000 women aged 15 to 17 gave birth in 1994, and for about 700 of them, it was at least the second time.<sup>3</sup>

### Older teens

Pregnancy rates at ages 18 to 19 were more than double those for younger teens, although trends were similar. The pregnancy rate of 18 to 19-year-olds fell from 83.7 per 1,000 in 1974 to 61.8 in 1984 and then rose to 76.2 in 1994. The annual number of pregnancies declined from around 38,000 at the beginning of the period to about 25,000 in the mid-1980s. A subsequent upturn brought the 1994 total to 29,600.

The abortion rate among 18- to 19-year-olds was the highest of any age group: 32.3 abortions per 1,000 in 1994. Since 1974, the share of pregnancies at ages 18 to 19 that ended in an abortion had doubled from 21% to 42%.

The annual number of live births to women aged 18 to 19 now fluctuates around 16,000, a considerable drop from 27,100 in 1974. Even so, in 1994, approximately one in five births to women in this age range was a second or later birth.<sup>3</sup>

Table 2  
Percentage distribution of outcomes of teenage pregnancy, by age, Canada, 1974 and 1994

Age group	Year	Pregnancies	Outcome			
			Total	Live birth	Abortion	Miscarriage/stillbirth
		Number		% distribution		
Total						
15-19	1974	61,242	100.0	66.3	25.8	7.9
	1994	46,753	100.0	50.7	45.0	4.3
15-17	1974	23,180	100.0	58.3	34.2	7.5
	1994	17,153	100.0	46.1	49.5	4.4
18-19	1974	38,062	100.0	71.2	20.7	8.1
	1994	29,600	100.0	53.4	42.4	4.2

Data sources: Statistics Canada (reference 7), Health Statistics Division, and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base

Table 3  
Teenage pregnancy rate and component rates, provinces and territories, 1974 and 1994

	Pregnancy rate†		Birth rate		Hospital abortion rate‡		Miscarriage/stillbirth rate	
	1974	1994	1974	1994	1974	1994	1974	1994
	Pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15-19		Live births per 1,000 women aged 15-19		Abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-19		Miscarriages/stillbirths per 1,000 women aged 15-19	
Newfoundland	85.3	32.1	76.6	25.8	1.4	4.0	7.3	2.3
Prince Edward Island	59.0	31.5	51.0	29.1	2.7	0.2	5.3	2.2
Nova Scotia	69.2	44.1	54.7	30.2	9.0	12.8	5.5	1.1
New Brunswick	63.6	40.3	54.6	32.7	4.4	4.9	4.6	2.7
Quebec	21.2	33.1	16.2	17.4	2.8	14.1	2.2	1.7
Ontario	60.4	39.6	37.2	22.4	18.6	15.7	4.6	1.5
Manitoba	66.9	64.4	51.6	43.0	9.9	17.1	5.4	4.3
Saskatchewan	69.4	63.0	52.8	46.3	11.1	12.9	5.5	3.8
Alberta	68.4	54.2	45.0	33.0	17.6	17.4	5.8	3.8
British Columbia	70.3	40.7	38.8	22.2	26.7	16.6	4.8	1.9
Yukon	113.7	88.0	88.0	44.0	22.5	44.0	3.2	0.0
Northwest Territories	130.4	136.7	114.6	104.5	13.7	22.6	2.1	9.6

Data sources: Statistics Canada (reference 7), Health Statistics Division, and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base

† Total of live birth, abortion, and miscarriage/stillbirth rates

‡ Excludes clinic abortions.

### Few stillbirths/miscarriages

Few teenagers have stillbirths or hospitalized miscarriages. As a proportion of all teenage pregnancies, stillbirths and miscarriages declined from 8% to 4% between 1974 and 1994, reflecting a drop in both the annual number and the rate per 1,000. In 1994, 2,000 teenage pregnancies ended in stillbirth/miscarriage, less than half the number (4,800) in 1974. During this period, the stillbirth/miscarriage rate fell from 4.2 to 2.1 per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

### Marital status

The vast majority (81%) of the teenage women who had a baby in 1994 were single. This was a change from 1974, when just 25% of teenagers giving birth were single.<sup>a</sup> The shift in the marital status of teenage mothers likely reflects changing societal values. Single motherhood may now be perceived as preferable to a marriage based solely on a pregnancy.

Throughout the period, virtually all teenagers who had an abortion were single (96% in 1994, 95% in 1974).

### Provincial variations

Teenage pregnancy rates varied substantially by province and territory (Table 3). In 1994, the rate was highest in the Northwest Territories at 137 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19, followed by Yukon, at 88 pregnancies per 1,000. Provincial pregnancy rates ranged from over 60 per 1,000 in Manitoba and Saskatchewan to just over 30 in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec.

These rates must be interpreted with considerable caution, as they exclude clinic abortions. Clinic abortion data were omitted because the client's age was not always reported. As well, her home province may not have been reported. (Residents of provinces where few abortions, hospital or clinic, are performed may travel to other provinces to obtain one.)

<sup>a</sup> Excludes Newfoundland.

## International

In 1988, the most recent year for which comparable international figures are available, Canada's teenage pregnancy rate<sup>b</sup> was 40 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19. This was higher than in Sweden, Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Japan, but fell short of rates in the United States, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, New Zealand, England and Wales, and Iceland.<sup>15</sup>

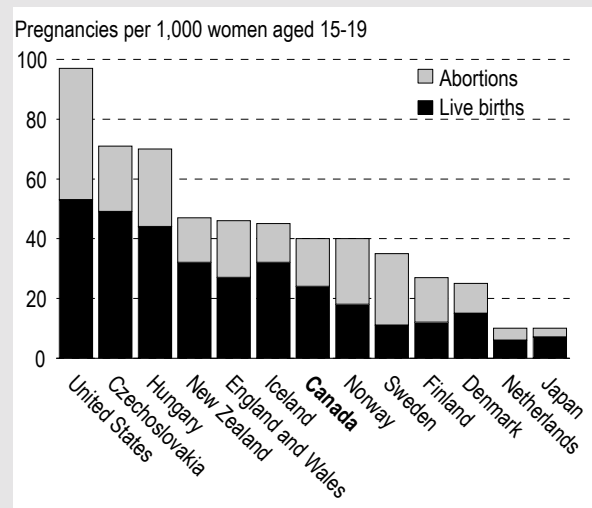
Canada's teenage pregnancy rate was the same as Norway's, but the outcomes differed: abortions accounted for a larger percentage of Norway's teenage pregnancies than was the case in Canada. Abortions also exceeded births among teenagers in Sweden and Finland. However, of the countries examined, the United States had the highest teenage abortion rate: 44 legal abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

Canada's 1988 teenage birth rate (24 live births per 1,000) was much lower than those of the United States (53 per 1,000), Czechoslovakia (49), and Hungary (44). On the other hand, Norway, Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Japan had lower teenage birth rates than did Canada.<sup>14</sup>

More recent data for the United States show a slow but steady decline in teenage pregnancy, birth, and abortion rates in the early 1990s. This contrasts with appreciable increases in Canada during the same period.<sup>16,17</sup>

<sup>b</sup> In contrast to the teenage pregnancy rates presented in this article, calculations of international pregnancy rates shown here exclude stillbirth/miscarriages.

### Teenage pregnancy rates,<sup>†</sup> by outcome, selected countries, 1988



Source: Reference 15

<sup>†</sup> Pregnancy rates exclude miscarriages/stillbirths.

Birth rates, which are based on more complete data than are pregnancy rates, yield more reliable provincial comparisons. Since 1974, live birth rates among teenagers have fallen substantially in all provinces and territories except Quebec, where there was a slight rise. Nonetheless, Quebec's teenage birth rate remains the lowest in the country (17 per 1,000 in 1994). The highest teenage birth rate was 105 per 1,000 in the Northwest Territories. Rates in Yukon, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba were also relatively high (over 40 births per 1,000).

### Concluding remarks

The decline since 1974 in Canada's teenage pregnancy rate reversed after 1987. Thereafter, the rate rose, although a growing share of teenage pregnancies ended in an abortion. Moreover, recent data suggest that teenagers have not only a high abortion rate, but also a high repeat abortion rate.<sup>18</sup>

To reduce teenage pregnancies, public health efforts in some jurisdictions have attempted to address the issue of the early onset of sexual activity and prevent pregnancy among those teenagers who are sexually active. Based on the experience of the Netherlands (one of the countries with the lowest teenage pregnancy rates), strategies that have effected a reduction of teenage pregnancies include sex education, open discussion of human sexuality in the mass media, easier access to contraceptives, education programs, and active participation of parents and teenagers in such programs.<sup>19</sup>

In Canada, too, family planning services and sex education have become more available to teenagers through the mass media, drop-in clinics, and youth-oriented agencies. And in reaction to the AIDS epidemic, awareness of and communication about human sexuality have increased. The rise in the teenage pregnancy rate, despite the availability of family planning information and an array of contraceptives, suggests that teenagers have not fully benefited from these improvements in services.

National and provincial surveys of teenage sexual health and behaviour also indicate that this may have been the case. The 1987 *Canada Youth and AIDS Study*<sup>20</sup> surveyed 38,000 students in Grades 7, 9, and 11 and in first-year college and university. According

to that study, by Grade 9, 31% of boys and 21% of girls had had sexual intercourse; by Grade 11, the figures were 49% and 46%, respectively.

A 1992 British Columbia survey of 15,549 students in Grades 7 through 12 reported similar results.<sup>21</sup> Overall, approximately 33% of male students and 28% of female students had had sexual intercourse at least once. By Grade 12, 55% of boys and 52% of girls reported that they were sexually active.

Contraceptive use is a special concern for teenagers.<sup>15,22,23</sup> About one-quarter of sexually active students in the B.C. survey did not use any form of birth control. Not surprisingly, 10% of sexually active boys had caused at least one pregnancy, and 11% of sexually active girls had been pregnant at least once.

To some extent, the contrast in teenage pregnancy rates between Canada and countries with substantially lower rates may reflect differences in the availability of educational programs and the adoption of health practices by teenagers.

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## Appendix

Table A

## Outcomes of teenage pregnancy, by age at end of pregnancy, Canada, 1974 to 1994

	Total			Total				Total			Total		
	15-19	15-17	18-19	15-19	15-17	18-19		15-19	15-17	18-19	15-19	15-17	18-19
	Number			Per 1,000 women				Number			Per 1,000 women		
<b>Total pregnancies</b>							<b>Abortions</b>						
1974	61,242	23,180	38,062	53.7	33.8	83.7	1974	15,805	7,937	7,868	13.9	11.6	17.3
1975	61,964	23,899	38,065	53.6	34.3	82.9	1975	16,173	8,135	8,038	14.0	11.7	17.5
1976	61,267	23,467	37,800	52.2	33.1	81.4	1976	17,315	8,551	8,764	14.7	12.0	18.9
1977	59,923	22,985	36,938	50.6	32.2	78.5	1977	17,735	8,684	9,051	15.0	12.2	19.2
1978	59,210	22,417	36,793	49.6	31.4	76.8	1978	19,681	9,228	10,453	16.5	12.9	21.8
1979	57,423	21,629	35,794	48.0	30.6	73.4	1979	20,488	9,661	10,827	17.1	13.7	22.2
1980	56,784	21,374	35,410	47.7	30.5	72.6	1980	20,765	9,650	11,115	17.5	13.8	22.8
1981	53,782	19,865	33,917	46.2	29.4	69.6	1981	19,739	8,954	10,785	17.0	13.3	22.1
1982	52,163	18,874	33,289	46.4	29.6	68.5	1982	19,536	8,463	11,073	17.4	13.3	22.8
1983	46,190	16,251	29,939	43.1	27.2	63.1	1983	16,718	7,150	9,568	15.6	11.9	20.2
1984	43,233	15,553	27,680	42.2	27.0	61.8	1984	15,883	6,887	8,996	15.5	12.0	20.1
1985	40,892	15,020	25,872	41.5	26.3	62.3	1985	15,183	6,658	8,525	15.4	11.7	20.5
1986	40,000	14,813	25,187	41.2	25.8	63.7	1986	15,133	6,636	8,497	15.6	11.5	21.5
1987	39,340	14,449	24,891	41.1	25.3	64.3	1987	14,998	6,411	8,587	15.7	11.2	22.2
1988	39,636	14,368	25,268	41.6	25.7	64.4	1988	15,277	6,361	8,916	16.0	11.4	22.7
1989	42,133	14,744	27,389	44.4	26.9	68.3	1989	16,201	6,446	9,755	17.1	11.8	24.3
1990	44,750	16,354	28,396	47.3	29.6	72.1	1990	18,274	7,635	10,639	19.3	13.8	27.0
1991	44,745	16,725	28,020	47.6	29.8	73.8	1991	18,214	7,722	10,492	19.4	13.8	27.6
1992	45,323	17,154	28,169	48.1	30.2	74.9	1992	19,190	8,153	11,037	20.3	14.4	29.4
1993	45,412	16,986	28,426	47.8	29.9	74.4	1993	19,989	8,249	11,740	21.1	14.5	30.7
1994	46,753	17,153	29,600	48.8	30.2	76.2	1994	21,026	8,486	12,540	22.0	14.9	32.3
<b>Live births</b>							<b>Miscarriages/stillbirths</b>						
1974	40,623	13,513	27,110	35.6	19.7	59.6	1974	4,814	1,730	3,084	4.2	2.5	6.8
1975	41,074	13,999	27,075	35.5	20.1	58.9	1975	4,717	1,765	2,952	4.1	2.5	6.4
1976	39,612	13,323	26,289	33.7	18.8	56.6	1976	4,340	1,593	2,747	3.7	2.2	5.9
1977	38,048	12,805	25,243	32.1	17.9	53.7	1977	4,140	1,496	2,644	3.5	2.1	5.6
1978	35,630	11,756	23,874	29.9	16.5	49.8	1978	3,899	1,433	2,466	3.3	2.0	5.1
1979	33,324	10,643	22,681	27.9	15.0	46.5	1979	3,611	1,325	2,286	3.0	1.9	4.7
1980	32,596	10,546	22,050	27.4	15.0	45.2	1980	3,423	1,178	2,245	2.9	1.7	4.6
1981	30,745	9,760	20,985	26.4	14.4	43.1	1981	3,298	1,151	2,147	2.8	1.7	4.4
1982	29,708	9,414	20,294	26.5	14.8	41.7	1982	2,919	997	1,922	2.6	1.5	4.0
1983	26,747	8,186	18,561	24.9	13.7	39.2	1983	2,725	915	1,810	2.5	1.5	3.8
1984	24,802	7,759	17,043	24.2	13.5	38.1	1984	2,548	907	1,641	2.5	1.6	3.7
1985	23,263	7,493	15,770	23.6	13.1	37.9	1985	2,446	869	1,577	2.5	1.5	3.8
1986	22,498	7,317	15,181	23.2	12.7	38.4	1986	2,369	860	1,509	2.4	1.5	3.8
1987	21,956	7,152	14,808	22.9	12.5	38.2	1987	2,386	886	1,500	2.5	1.6	3.9
1988	22,019	7,151	14,868	23.1	12.8	37.9	1988	2,340	856	1,484	2.5	1.5	3.8
1989	23,427	7,362	16,065	24.7	13.4	40.1	1989	2,505	936	1,569	2.6	1.7	3.9
1990	24,083	7,807	16,276	25.4	14.1	41.3	1990	2,393	912	1,481	2.5	1.7	3.8
1991	24,180	8,064	16,116	25.7	14.4	42.4	1991	2,351	939	1,412	2.5	1.7	3.7
1992	23,985	8,202	15,783	25.4	14.5	42.0	1992	2,148	799	1,349	2.3	1.4	3.6
1993	23,437	7,975	15,462	24.7	14.1	40.4	1993	1,986	762	1,224	2.1	1.3	3.2
1994	23,728	7,904	15,824	24.8	13.9	40.7	1994	1,999	763	1,236	2.1	1.3	3.2

Data sources: Statistics Canada (reference 7), Health Statistics Division, and Canadian Vital Statistics Data Base