

# Section B

## UNPLANNED PREGNANCY AMONG UNMARRIED WOMEN AGE 20–29

### KEY DATA FROM SECTION B

- ▲ **71% of all pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29 are unplanned (refer to B-1).**
- ▲ **A majority of all pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are unplanned regardless of pregnancy number, income level, education level, or race/ethnicity (refer to B-2 through B-5).**
- ▲ **Four in ten unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are to women with some college education or more (refer to B-8).**
- ▲ **The rate of unplanned pregnancy among unmarried women age 20–29 increased slightly between 1994 and 2001 (refer to B-11).**

The previous section indicated that a large portion of unplanned pregnancies occur to women under age 30 who are unmarried. This section focuses in detail on unplanned pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29. As in the previous section, unplanned pregnancies in this report include those pregnancies reported by women to be unwanted or mistimed (also known as “unintended”).

This section presents four types of key data tables (including numbers and proportions), bullet points, and descriptive charts.

- ▲ Page B-1 provides an overview of all pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29 in the United States, showing the number and proportion of planned and unplanned pregnancies by pregnancy outcome.
- ▲ Pages B-2 through B-5 also focus on all pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29, and present the proportion of those pregnancies that are unplanned vs. planned among specific subpopulations of women in this group. These charts allow one to answer questions along the lines of: among all pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings who have attended some college, what proportion of their pregnancies are unplanned?
- ▲ Pages B-6 through B-9 focus only on unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings, and describe the characteristics of unmarried 20-somethings who have an unplanned pregnancy, by mothers’ pregnancy history, marital status, income, education and race/ethnicity. These charts allow one to answer questions such as: among all unplanned pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29, what proportion occur to women who have attended some college or more?
- ▲ Finally, pages B-10 through B-11 focus on all unmarried women age 20–29, and show the rate of unplanned pregnancy by race/ethnicity. That is, the number of unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings that occur per 1,000 unmarried women age 20–29 in that population. For example, among unmarried women age 20–29 who are Hispanic, how many of them per 1,000 will have an unplanned pregnancy? In addition, page B-11 provides data from 1994 and 2001. Because rates are measured per 1,000 people, they are not influenced by mere population growth and thus are particularly useful for examining changes in how common unplanned pregnancy is over time.

Each of these statistics tells a different story. For example, while the majority of first pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29 are unplanned, first pregnancies to unmarried women age 20–29 do not account for the majority of unplanned pregnancies.