

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”).

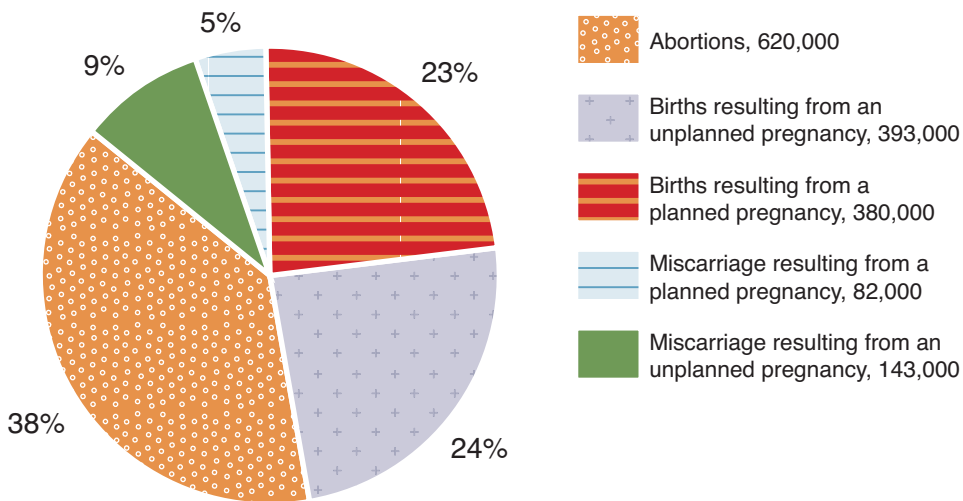
This section presents four types of key data tables (including numbers and proportions), bullet points, and descriptive charts.

- ▲ 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.

B -1. Distribution of Unmarried Women Age 20–29 with a Pregnancy by Planning Status and Pregnancy Resolution, 2001¹

- ▲ There were 1.6 million pregnancies to unmarried women aged 20-29 in 2001, and more than 1.1 million were unplanned.
- ▲ That is, 71 percent of all pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are unplanned.
- ▲ These 1.1 million unplanned pregnancies include nearly 600,000 pregnancies that ended in abortion²; nearly 400,000 live births that women reported were unplanned at the time of conception; and 143,000 miscarriages of unplanned pregnancies.



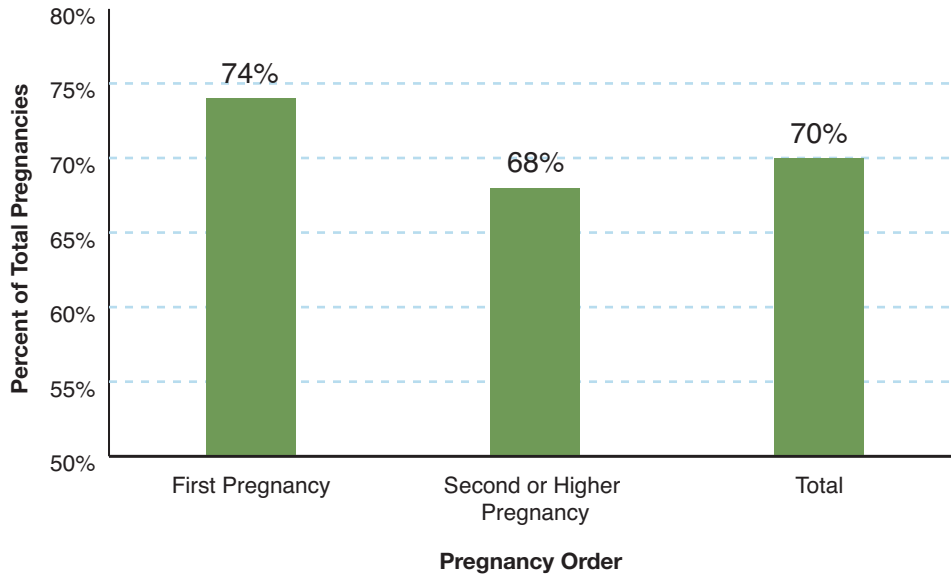
Distribution of Pregnancies in the U.S. Among Unmarried Women Aged 20–29 by Intention and Outcome, 2001						
	Planned			Unplanned		
	Total	Live Birth	Miscarriage	Live Birth	Abortion ²	Miscarriage
Number	1,618,000	380,000	82,000	393,000	620,000	143,000
Percent	100%	23%	5%	24%	38%	9%

1. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

2. A small number of women who plan their pregnancy make the difficult decision to terminate it after learning that it poses a serious maternal health risk or that the fetus has severe abnormalities. Other reasons may arise as well.

B-2. Percent of Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Pregnancy Order Among Unmarried Women Age 20-29, 2001³

- ▲ The vast majority of first pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings are unplanned (74%).
- ▲ In addition, more than two-thirds (68%) of second or higher order pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings are unplanned as well.

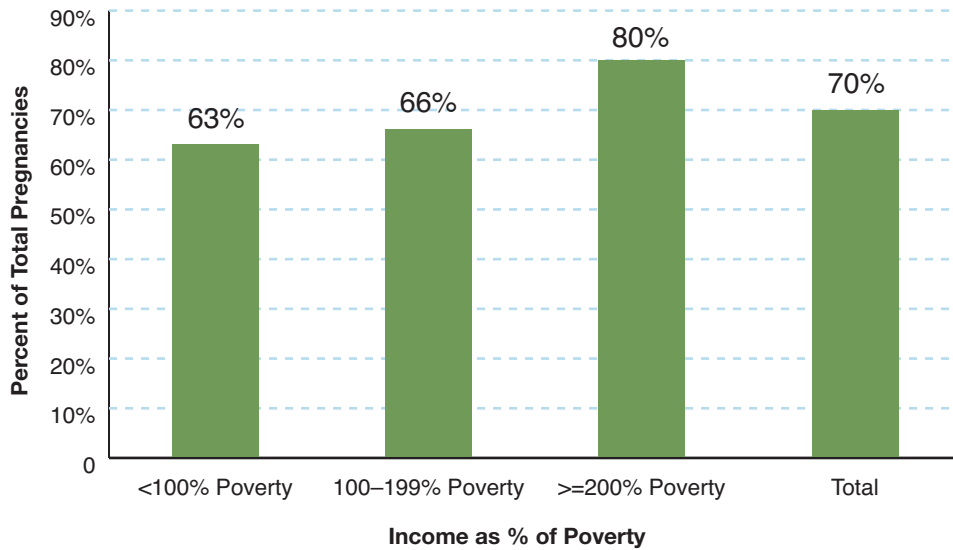


Percent of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Pregnancy Order Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001			
Pregnancy Order	Number of All Pregnancies	Number of Unplanned Pregnancies	Proportion of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned
First Pregnancy	426,000	317,000	74%
Second or Higher Pregnancy	1,199,000	814,000	68%
Total	1,625,000	1,131,00	70%

3. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

B-3. Percent of Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Income (as a % of Poverty) Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001⁴

- ▲ Among unmarried 20-somethings, most pregnancies are unplanned regardless of income level.
- ▲ Among unmarried 20-somethings with incomes equal to or greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold, eight in ten pregnancies (411,000) are unplanned. (Note that in 2007, the federal poverty threshold was defined as \$10,787 for one person under age 65 years⁵).



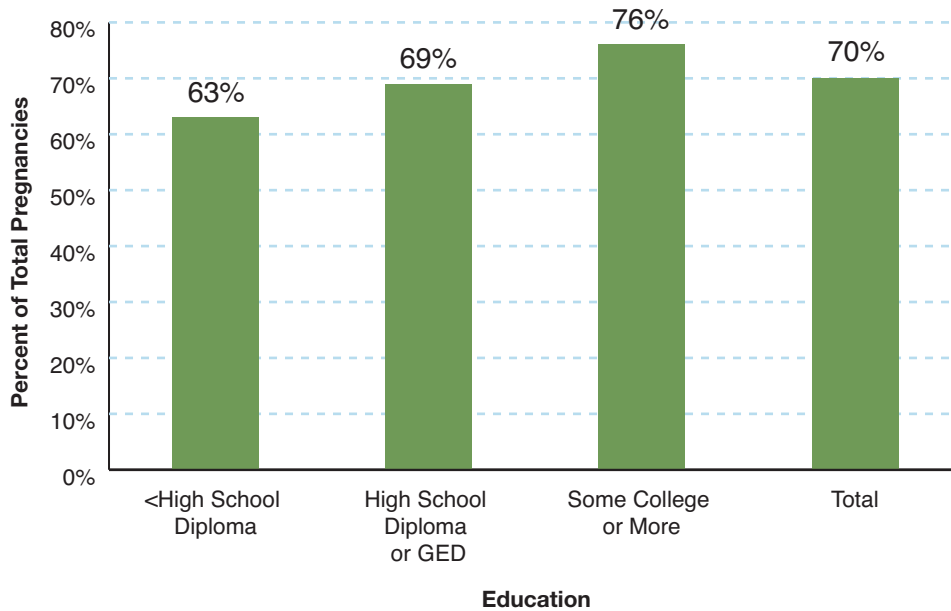
Percent of Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Income (as a % of Poverty), Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001			
Income (as % of Poverty)	Number of All Pregnancies	Number of Unplanned Pregnancies	Proportion of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned
<100% poverty	578,000	368,000	63%
100–199% poverty	530,000	352,000	66%
>=200% poverty	513,000	411,000	80%
Total	1,621,000	1,131,000	70%

4. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

5. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, Poverty Thresholds for 2007 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years. Downloaded May 30, 2008 from <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/threshld/thresh07.html>

B-4. Percent of Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Education Among Unmarried Women Age 20-29, 2001⁶

- ▲ Among unmarried 20-somethings, a majority of pregnancies are unplanned for women of all education levels.
- ▲ More than three-quarters of pregnancies are unplanned among unmarried 20-somethings who have attended college.



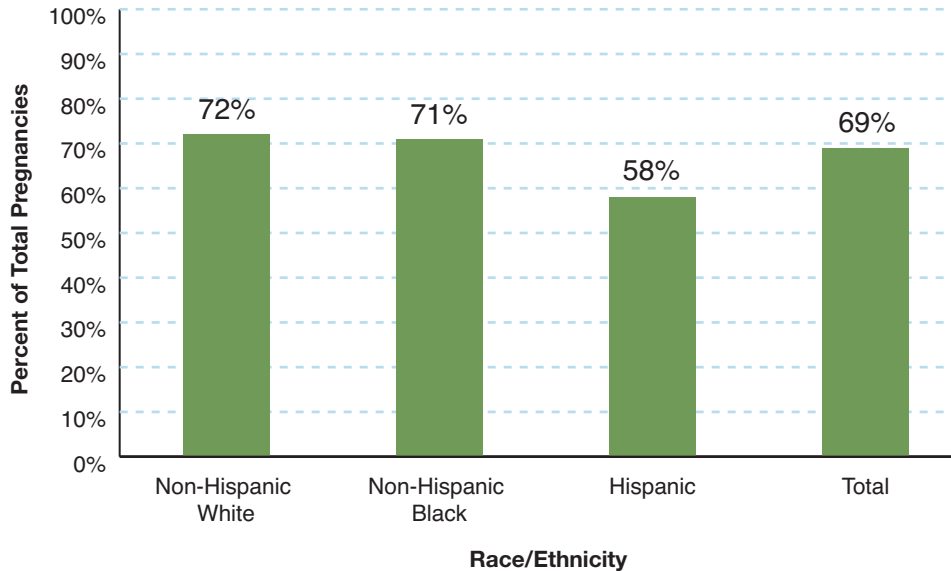
Percent of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Education Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001			
Education Level ⁷	Number of All Pregnancies	Number of Unplanned Pregnancies	Proportion of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned
<High School Diploma	416,000	263,000	63%
High School Diploma or GED	611,000	419,000	69%
Some College or more	591,000	449,000	76%
Total	1,618,000	1,131,000	70%

6. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

7. Please note that due to small sample sizes, it is not possible to show data for college graduates and those with some college education separately.

B-5. Percent of Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001⁸

- ▲ Seven out of ten pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are unplanned among non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black women.
- ▲ More than half of all pregnancies to unmarried Hispanic 20-somethings are unplanned (58%).



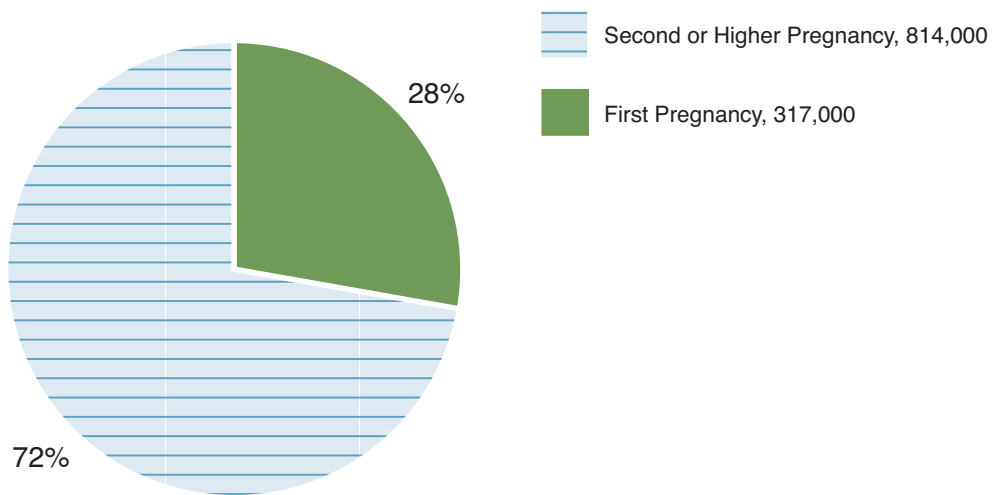
Percent of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001			
Race/Ethnicity	Number of All Pregnancies	Number of Unplanned Pregnancies	Proportion of all Pregnancies that are Unplanned
Non-Hispanic White	716,000	518,000	72%
Non-Hispanic Black	477,000	341,000	71%
Hispanic	315,000	183,000	58%
Total ⁹	1,508,000	1,042,000	69%

8. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

9. Note that for purposes of this chart, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black and Hispanic are defined as mutually exclusive racial/ethnic categories. Women of races/ethnicities other than those indicated above are not included in these figures due to small sample size.

B-6. Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Pregnancy Order Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001¹⁰

- ▲ Unplanned pregnancy is clearly not just an issue for women who have never been pregnant before.
- ▲ Nearly three-quarters (72%) of all unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are second or higher order pregnancies.
- ▲ Put another way, more than 800,000 unmarried women age 20–29 who had an unplanned pregnancy in 2001 had already been pregnant at least once before.

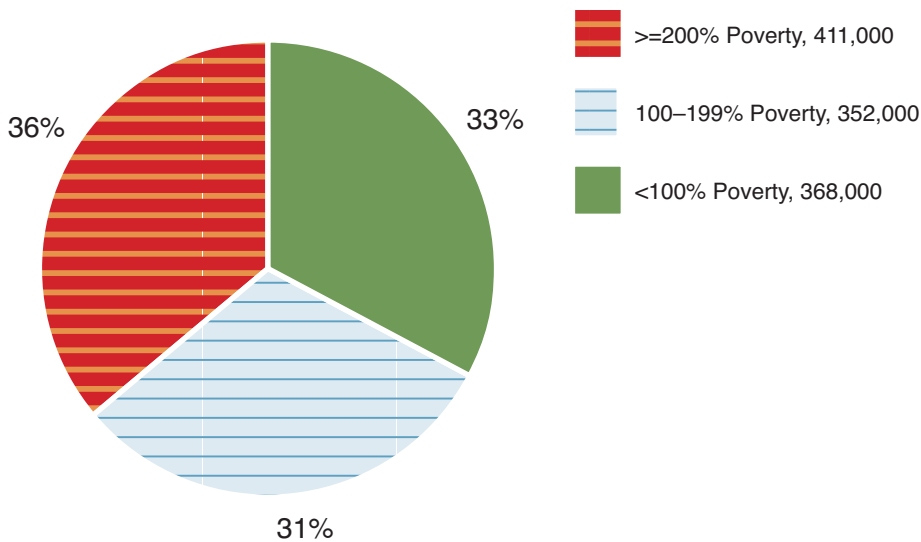


Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Pregnancy Order Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001			
	Total Unplanned Pregnancy	First Pregnancy	Second or Higher Pregnancy
Number	1,131,000	317,000	814,000
Percent	100%	28%	72%

10. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

B-7. Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Income (as a % of Poverty) Among Unmarried Women Age 20-29, 2001¹¹

- ▲ Unplanned pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings are distributed fairly evenly across three different levels of income measured as a percent of the federal poverty threshold.
- ▲ One-third of unplanned pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings occur to women with incomes less than 100 percent of the federal poverty threshold.
- ▲ Nearly four in ten unplanned pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings occur to women with incomes equal to or greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold.

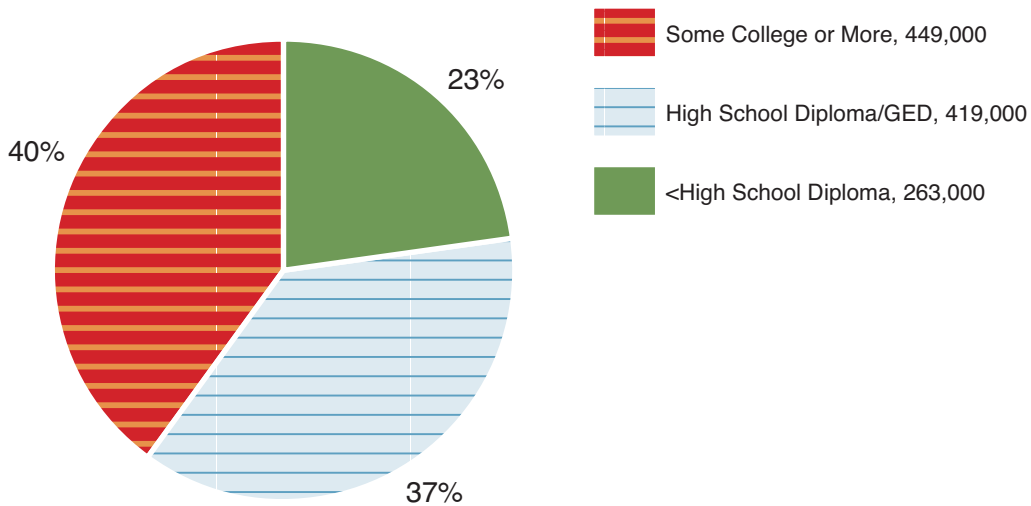


Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Income (as a % of Poverty) Among Unmarried Women Age 20-29, 2001				
	Total	<100% Poverty	100-199% Poverty	>= 200% Poverty
Number	1,131,000	368,000	352,000	411,000
Percent	100%	33%	31%	36%

11. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

B-8. Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Education Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001¹²

- ▲ Four in ten unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings occur to women who have at least some college education.
- ▲ Nearly one-quarter (23%) of unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are to women with less than a high school diploma, and 37% of unplanned pregnancies to unmarried 20-somethings are to women who have either graduated from high school or have a GED.

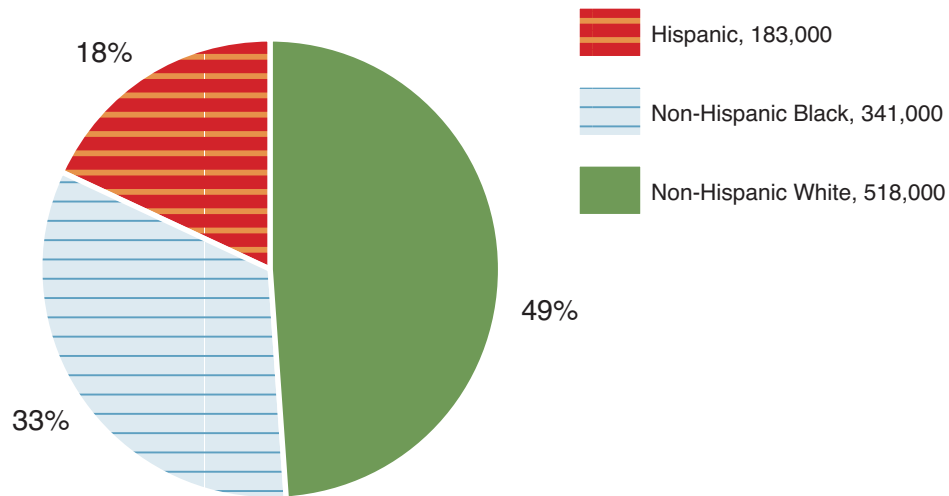


Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Education Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001				
	Total	<High School Diploma	High School Diploma/GED	Some College (or more)
Number	1,131,000	263,000	419,000	449,000
Percent	100%	23%	37%	40%

12. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

B-9. Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001¹³

- ▲ About half of all unplanned pregnancies (49%) among unmarried 20-somethings occur to non-Hispanic white women, accounting for over 500,000 unplanned pregnancies.
- ▲ One-third of all unplanned pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings occur to non-Hispanic black women, and nearly one in five unplanned pregnancies among unmarried 20-somethings are to Hispanic women.



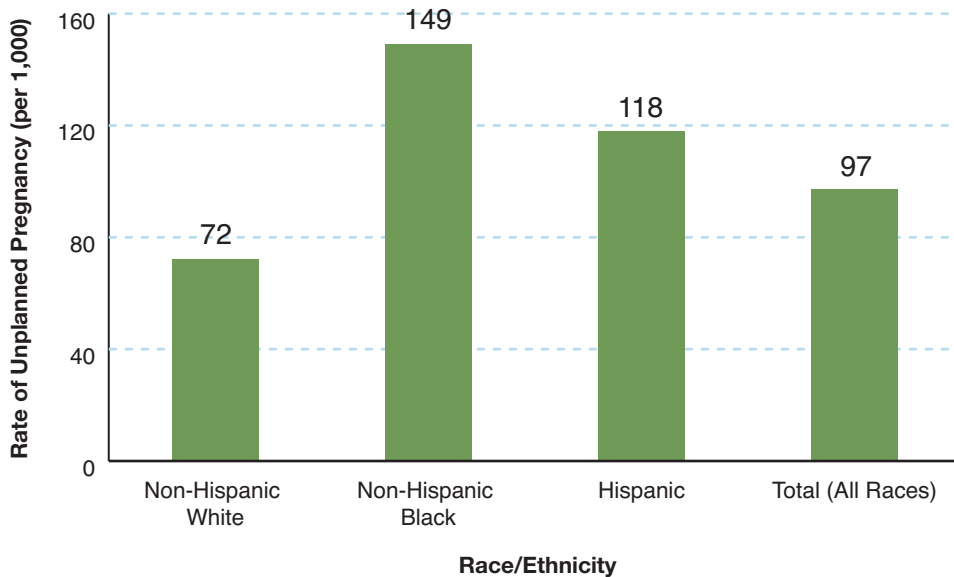
Distribution of Unplanned Pregnancies by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001				
	Total	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic
Number	1,042,000 ¹⁴	518,000	341,000	183,000
Percent	100%	49%	33%	18%

13. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

14. Note that for purposes of this chart, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black and Hispanic are defined as mutually exclusive racial/ethnic categories. Women of races/ethnicities other than those indicated above are not included in these figures due to small sample size.

B-10. Rate of Unplanned Pregnancy by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001¹⁵

- ▲ There are large racial/ethnic disparities in the rate of unplanned pregnancy among unmarried 20-somethings.
- ▲ Unmarried non-Hispanic black women age 20-29 have the highest rate of unplanned pregnancy. The rate of unplanned pregnancy among unmarried non-Hispanic black 20-somethings is twice that of the rate for unmarried non-Hispanic white 20-somethings.



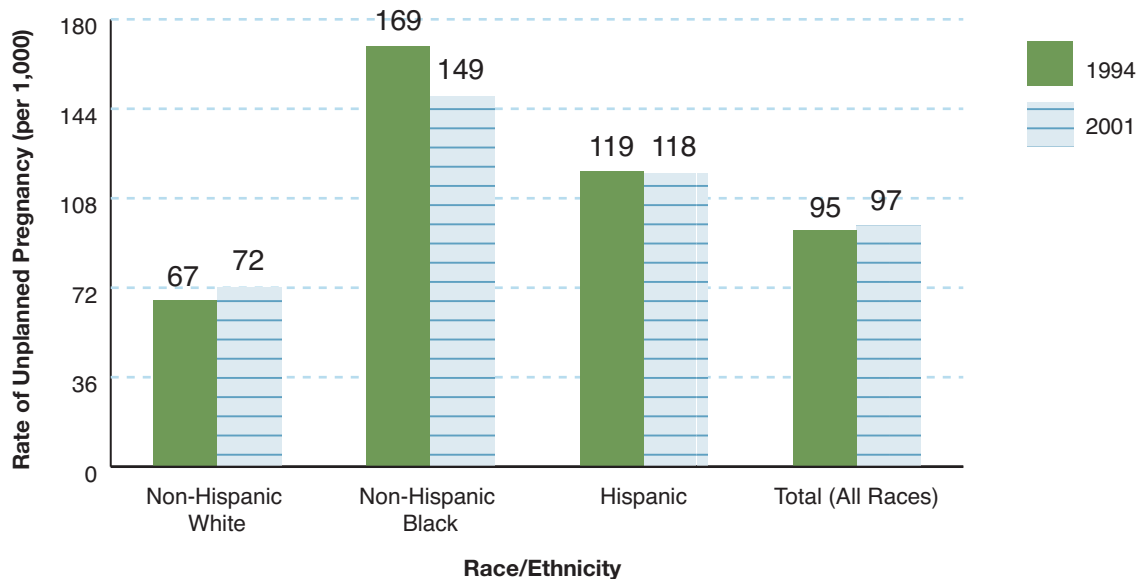
Unplanned Pregnancy Rate by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 2001			
Race/Ethnicity	Number of Unplanned Pregnancies	Population of Unmarried Women Age 20–29	Unplanned Pregnancy Rate
Non-Hispanic White	518,000	7,191,000	72
Non-Hispanic Black	341,000	2,294,000	149
Hispanic	183,000	1,548,000	118
Total (All Races) ¹⁶	1,131,000	11,701,000	97

15. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

16. Note that for purposes of this chart, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black and Hispanic are defined as mutually exclusive racial/ethnic categories. Women of races/ethnicities other than those indicated above are not included in these figures due to small sample size.

B-11. Rate of Unplanned Pregnancy by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 1994 and 2001¹⁷

- ▲ The rate of unplanned pregnancy among unmarried 20-somethings overall increased slightly between 1994 and 2001.
- ▲ Among unmarried non-Hispanic black 20-somethings, the rate of unplanned pregnancy decreased 12% from 1994 to 2001. At the same time, the rate of unplanned pregnancy increased 8%, among non-Hispanic white women age 20–29 and there was little change in the rate of unplanned pregnancy among Hispanic 20-somethings.



Unplanned Pregnancy Rate by Race/Ethnicity Among Unmarried Women Age 20–29, 1994 and 2001					
	1994			2001 ¹⁸	1994–2001
Race/Ethnicity	Number of Unplanned Pregnancies	Population of Unmarried Women Age 20–29	Unplanned Pregnancy Rate	Unplanned Pregnancy Rate	Percent Change in Unplanned Pregnancy Rate
Non-Hispanic White	487,000	7,250,000	67	72	8%
Non-Hispanic Black	370,000	2,183,000	169	149	-12%
Hispanic	147,000	1,241,000	119	118	-1%
Total (All Races) ¹⁹	1,062,000	11,128,000	95	97	2%

17. Source: Special Tabulations, commissioned by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, of data from Finer, LB and Henshaw, SK (2006). Disparities in Rates of Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, 1994 and 2001. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 38 (2):90-96.

18. Note that the numbers of unplanned pregnancies and unmarried women for 2001 are available on p. B-10

19. Note that for purposes of this chart, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black and Hispanic are defined as mutually exclusive racial/ethnic categories. Women of races/ethnicities other than those indicated above are not included in these figures due to small sample size.