

## Information Update - February 2005 (part 2)

This update provides:

- Under 18 conception data for England for 2003
- Under 18 conception data for top-tier local authorities for 2003 which is being sent to you with this note
- An order form for 2000-02 ward level under 18 conception data

### 1. Conception Statistics for England: 2003

In 2003, the England under 18 conception rate was 42.1 per 1000 girls aged 15-17. This rate represents an overall decline of 9.8% since 1998<sup>1</sup> - and compares with a decline of 8.6% between 1998 and 2002.

#### Under 18 Conceptions for England, 1998-2003:

Year	Under 18 conceptions	Under 18 conception rate*	Percent leading to legal abortion
1998	41,589	46.6	42.4
1999	39,247	44.8	43.5
2000	38,699	43.6	44.8
2001	38,461	42.5	46.1
2002	39,350	42.6	45.8
2003	39,560	42.1	46.0

Source: Office for National Statistics and Family Planning Unit, 2003  
\*per thousand females aged 15-17

Please note that ONS is publishing the 2003 under 18 conception data for England and Wales combined in table 4.1 of Health Statistics Quarterly on 24<sup>th</sup> February.

*Please quote the England only data (above) when giving a national figure, and be careful when interpreting 'national' data to be clear whether these relate to England only or to England and Wales.*

### 2. Data for top-tier (LAD1) Local Authorities

Attached with this note is an Excel file with under 18 conception numbers and rates for top-tier local authorities for 1998-2003. These 2003 data provide the latest position on progress towards 2004 and 2010 reduction targets.

<sup>1</sup> Change in rate calculated from un-rounded conception rates for 1998 and 2003.

The Excel file also includes the following data for 2002 which ONS has made available recently:

- District level (LAD2) under 18 data for single years 1998-2002
- Under 16 conception data for single years 1998-2002.

The Excel file sent to local co-ordinators on 14<sup>th</sup> January (Local\_authority\_Jan05), which included an analysis of rates for 1998-2002, will be updated by TPU to include the latest 2003 data and sent to local co-ordinators in the first week of March.

For the 2003 under 18 conception data for top-tier local authorities please note the following points:

- The proportion of under 18 conceptions leading to abortion for 2003 will *not* be available due to the legal review in DH concerning the publication of abortion data. However, the proportion of conceptions leading to abortion for 1998-2002 is included in the local authority data sent with this Information Update.
- Only under 18 conception statistics are being released on February 24<sup>th</sup>. ONS plan to release conception statistics for other age groups, including the under 16 rate, in May 2005 at the earliest.

### **3. Aggregated ward level conception statistics**

Under 18 conception numbers for wards, aggregated for the years 2000-02, are being made available by ONS. These data will provide an updated and more robust picture of teenage pregnancy at a local level, and will be important for informing targeted work within local authority areas.

As with the release of previous ward level data, ONS require a 'conditions of supply' form to be completed before receiving the data. This form has been sent with this Information Update. To receive the ward data please complete and return the 'conditions of supply' form to TPU. On receipt of the form, TPU will email the ward data for your region.

If you have any queries relating to the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

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