

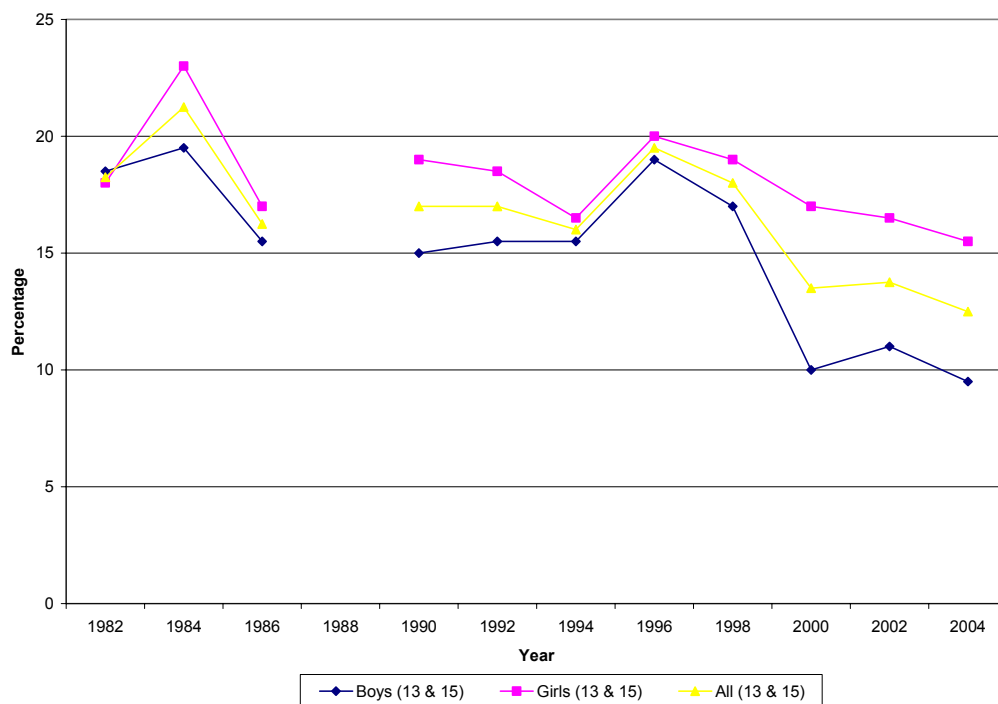
## Milestone 11: Improving the health of young people through reductions in smoking by 12-15 year olds, teenage pregnancies among 13-15 year olds and the rate of suicides among young people

This milestone is measured by three indicators. The information on smoking by 13 and 15 year olds is taken from the biennial series of national surveys on smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland. Information Services NHS National Services Scotland provides the data on teenage pregnancies (13-15 year olds). The General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) provide the information on suicides (10-24 year olds).

### (a) Smoking among 13 and 15 year olds

Chart 11a shows that the percentage of all 13 and 15 year olds who reported regularly smoking has fluctuated between 13 and 21 per cent between 1982 and 2004. In general, girls appear to be more likely to smoke than boys of the same age. Compared to the baseline figure in 1998, there has been a drop in the levels of smoking, with the biggest decrease in the level of boys smoking. Information for 1982-1998, 2000 and 2002 has been derived from 3 different national surveys, so conclusions about these trends should be considered carefully.

**Chart 11a: Percentage of 13 and 15 year olds who are regular smokers**



Source: Office of National Statistics (1982 – 1998); National Centre for Social Research (2000); Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and substance use Survey, Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit, Edinburgh University (2002-2004).

***(b) Teenage Pregnancies (13-15 year olds)***

Since 1997-99, the trend shows a fall in the number of pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 13 to 15. In 1997-99 the average (over 1997, 1998 and 1999) number of pregnancies per 1,000 females was 9.2 pregnancies, and the comparable rate for 2001-03 was 7.6. Between the mid 1980s and the mid 1990s, the rate of teenage pregnancies increased relatively steadily with a peak during the late 1990's. However, the rate has been falling ever since.

**Table 11b: Teenage Pregnancies: Females aged 13-15 years old : Three year average; rate per 1,000, 1985 - 2002**

	1984-86	1985-87	1986-88	1987-89	1988-90	1989-91	1990-92	1991-93	1992-94	1993-95	1994-96	1995-97	1996-98	1997-99	1998-00	1999-01	2000-02	2001-03
Pregnancy rate per 1,000 females aged 13 -15 years	6.7	7.1	7.4	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.4	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.5	9.1	9.0	9.2	8.5	8.3	7.7	7.6

Source: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland

***Carstairs Deprivation Quintiles***

There is an association between teenage pregnancies and deprivation, with pregnancies in teenagers aged between 13 and 15 years of age being more likely in the most deprived quintile of postcode sectors. In 2001-03, the three year average was 12.1 pregnancies per 1,000 females living in the most deprived quintile, and the comparable rate for teenagers in the least deprived quintile was 4.3 pregnancies per 1,000 females. There is some evidence that the rate of teenage pregnancies in most deprived areas has decreased since 1997-99.

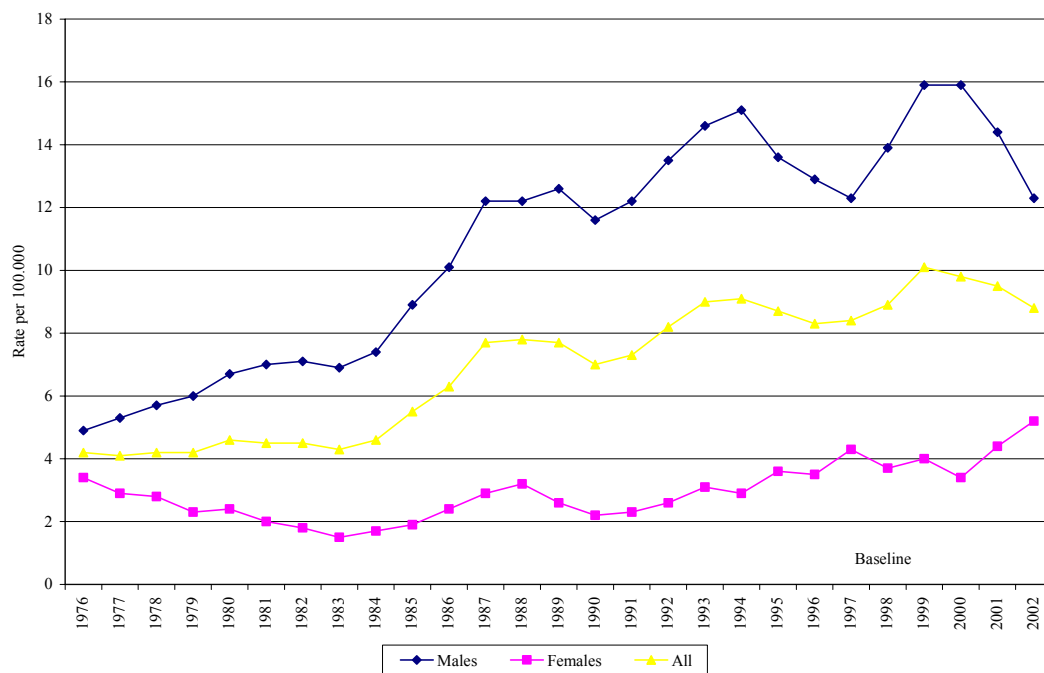
***Urban Rural analysis***

There are differences in the rate of teenage pregnancies between urban and rural areas. In 2001-03, the rate in urban areas was 8.3 per 1,000 females aged between 13 and 15, and the comparable rate in rural areas was 4.7 per 1,000.

**(c) Suicides among 10-24 year olds**

The rate of suicides in the three year period 2001-2003 was 8.8 per 100,000 population. This compares with 8.9 in the base year 1997-1999. Since, a rise in 1998-2000 the rate has dropped in the three periods since. There are clear differences in the trends for males and females. Young male suicides are now occurring at around 2 - 3 times the level of that for young females. In 1976 the suicide rate was much closer between the sexes. Young male suicides have generally increased year on year since 1976 with a temporary reversal of this upward trend between 1995 and 1997. Suicides by young females have fluctuated over the years but have remained at a much lower level than for males. However, since 1999-01 the male rate has decreased while the female rate has increased.

**Chart 11c: Rate of suicides per 100,000 people aged 10 to 24 years old : Three year average, 1976 – 2002**



Sources: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland and General Registrar Office for Scotland

**Carstairs Deprivation Quintiles**

Males from deprived areas are more likely to commit suicide than those from the least deprived areas. For females, the rates are substantially lower and there does not appear to be such a strong association with deprivation.

**Urban Rural analysis**

During 2001-2003 suicide rates per 100,000 10-24 year olds were 8.7 in urban areas as compared to 7.1 in rural areas.

## Background Data

**Table 11d: Percentage of 13 and 15 year olds who are regular smokers**

Year	Boys	Girls	All
1982	19	18	18
1984	20	23	21
1986	16	17	16
No data for 1988	-	-	-
1990	15	19	17
1992	16	19	17
1994	16	17	16
1996	19	20	20
1998 Baseline	17	19	18
2000	10	17	14
2002	11	17	14
2004	10	16	13

Source:

1982-1998 : *Smoking, drinking and drug use among teenagers* (Office for National Statistics);

2000 : *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in Scotland* (National Centre for Social research & National Foundation for Educational Research) ;

2002-2004 : *Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey* (Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit, University of Edinburgh)

**Table 11e: Rate of pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 13 to 15 by Carstairs deprivation quintile  
Three year average (of financial years),**

	1991-93	1992-94	1993-95	1994-96	1995-97	1996-98	1997-99	1998-00	1999-01	2000-02	2001-03 <sup>P</sup>
Rate per 1,000											
Least Deprived - 1	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3
2	6.9	6.5	6.9	6.9	7.8	7.6	7.2	6.3	5.8	5.8	5.6
3	8.4	9.0	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.3	9.6	8.9	9.2	8.2	8.5
4	11.3	11.1	11.7	11.5	12.2	12.2	12.1	11.4	11.7	11.4	11.4
Most Deprived - 5	13.0	11.9	12.7	13.6	15.5	15.4	15.6	14.2	13.8	12.4	12.1

Source: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland

**Table 11f: Rate of pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 13 to 15 by urban rural  
Three year average (of financial years), 2001-2003**

	Rate per 1,000
Large Urban Areas	8.6
Other Urban Areas	8.2
Accessible Small Towns	7.7
Remote Small Towns	7.6
Accessible Rural Areas	5.6
Remote Rural Areas	2.7

Source: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland

**Table 11g: Suicides among 10 to 24 year olds: Three year averages, 1976 - 2002**

Mid year of three year period	Rates per 100,000 population (10 – 24 year olds)		
	Male	Female	All
1976	4.9	3.4	4.2
1977	5.3	2.9	4.1
1978	5.7	2.8	4.2
1979	6.0	2.3	4.2
1980	6.7	2.4	4.6
1981	7.0	2.0	4.5
1982	7.1	1.8	4.5
1983	6.9	1.5	4.3
1984	7.4	1.7	4.6
1985	8.9	1.9	5.5
1986	10.1	2.4	6.3
1987	12.2	2.9	7.7
1988	12.2	3.2	7.8
1989	12.6	2.6	7.7
1990	11.6	2.2	7.0
1991	12.2	2.3	7.3
1992	13.5	2.6	8.2
1993	14.6	3.1	9.0
1994	15.1	2.9	9.1
1995	13.6	3.6	8.7
1996	12.9	3.5	8.3
1997	12.3	4.3	8.4
1998	13.9	3.7	8.9
1999	15.9	4.0	10.1
2000	15.9	3.4	9.8
2001	14.4	4.4	9.5
2002	12.3	5.2	8.8

Sources: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland and General Register Office for Scotland

**Table 11h: Suicides among 10 to 24 year olds by Carstairs deprivation quintile: Three year averages, for 2001-2003**

	Rates per 100,000 population (10 – 24 year olds)		
	Male	Female	All
Least Deprived - 1	5.9	2.3	4.2
2	9.9	3.4	6.8
3	13.9	6.3	10.2
4	12.1	8.5	10.3
Most Deprived - 5	15.0	5.2	10.1

Sources: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland and General Register Office for Scotland

**Table 11i: Suicides among 10 to 24 year olds by urban rural: Three year averages, for 2000-2002**

	Male	Female	All
Urban	11.8	5.6	8.7
Rural	10.3	3.6	7.1

Sources: Information Services NHS National Services Scotland and General Register Office for Scotland

### **Availability of data and references**

Information on smoking among 13 and 15 year olds is available by gender at a national level every two years between 1982 and 2002 (excluding 1988). The Child and Adolescent Health

Research Unit (CAHRU) of the University of Edinburgh published the interim results of the 2004 national survey in October 2004.

Data on teenage pregnancies is available by financial year from 1984 to 2003 at a national level. Due to small numbers, information on teenage pregnancies is presented as three-year averages.

Due to small numbers, information on suicides are presented as three-year averages.

*Scottish schools adolescent lifestyle and substance use survey 2004, interim report*  
<http://www.drugmisuse.isdscotland.org/publications/abstracts/salsus.htm>

*Scottish Health Statistics Teenage Pregnancy*  
[http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/info3.jsp?pContentID=2092&p\\_applic=CCC&p\\_service=Content.show&](http://www.isdscotland.org/isd/info3.jsp?pContentID=2092&p_applic=CCC&p_service=Content.show&)

*Vital Events Reference Tables 2003, Section 6: Deaths – causes*  
<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/grosweb/grosweb.nsf/pages/03reference-table6>