

Preface

In 1992, the US Congress passed the Fertility Clinic Success Rate and Certification Act. This law requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to publish pregnancy success rates for assisted reproductive technology (ART) in fertility clinics in the United States. (For more details about the law, see www.cdc.gov/art/nass/policy.html.) Since 1995, CDC has worked in consultation with the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART) and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) to report ART success rates.

This report is based on the latest available data on the type, number, and outcome of ART cycles performed in US clinics.

The 2018 ART report has three major sections:

- **Commonly Asked Questions About the US National ART Surveillance System**

This section provides background information on infertility and ART, an explanation of the data collection, analysis, and publication processes, and links to resources for people experiencing infertility or people interested in ART.

- **Fertility Clinic Tables**

Many factors contribute to the success of ART, including the training and experience of the ART clinic and laboratory professionals, the quality of services, and the characteristics of the patient population. The Fertility Clinic Tables section displays ART results and success rates for individual US fertility clinics as well as the National Summary table, which combines data from all clinics. The report describes ART cycles performed in 2018. However, calculation of cumulative success rates also includes ART cycles started during the previous year.

- **Appendixes**

As a result of travel restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, data validation was not conducted in 2020. Thus, there was no information on validation activities to present in an appendix as in previous reports. (For more details about annual data validation activities that CDC usually conducts, please see page 6.)

Appendix A provides definitions for technical and medical terms used throughout the report.

Appendix B includes the current names and addresses of all reporting clinics along with a list of clinics known to be in operation in 2018 that did not report their data to CDC as required by law.

This report is intended for the general public, and the emphasis is on presenting the information in an easily understandable form. CDC hopes that this report is informative and helpful to people considering an ART procedure. Please contact us with any questions or suggestions at artinfo@cdc.gov.