Births: Preliminary Data for 2015

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Abstract

Objectives—This report presents preliminary 2015 data on U.S. births. Births are shown by age and race and Hispanic origin of mother. Data on marital status, cesarean delivery, preterm births, and low birthweight are also presented.

Methods—Data are based on 99.53% of 2015 births. Records for the few states with less than 100% of records received are weighted to independent control counts of all births received in state vital statistics offices in 2015. Comparisons are made with final 2014 data and earlier years.
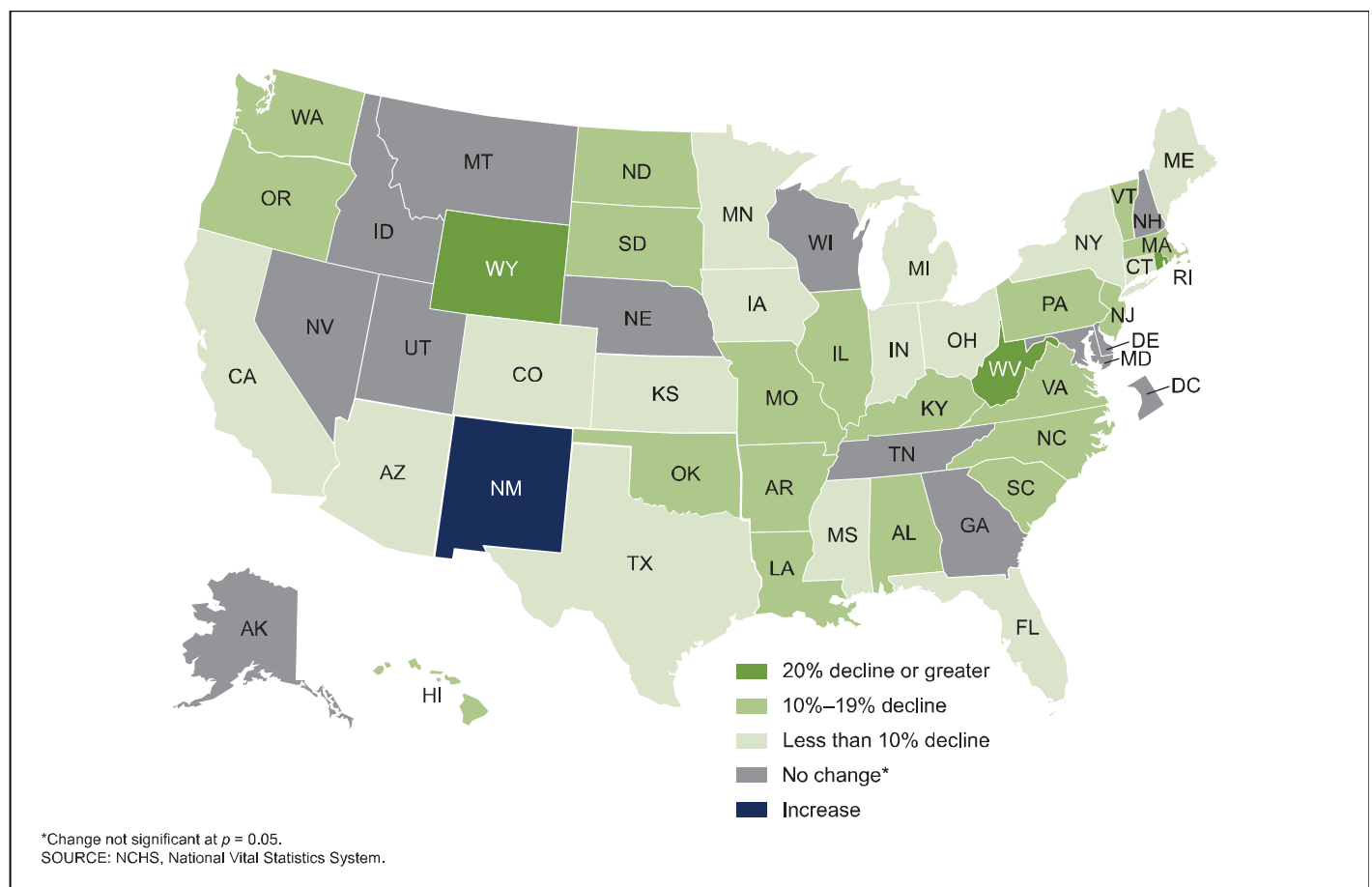
Figure 1. **Percent change in low-risk cesarean delivery rates, by state: United States, final 2009 and preliminary 2015**

Table 1. Births and birth rates, by age of mother: United States, final 2014 and preliminary 2015

[Data for 2015 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures for 2015 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals. Rates are per 1,000 women in specified age group. Rates for all ages are the total number of births (regardless of the age of the mother) per 1,000 women aged 15–44]

Age of mother	2015		2014	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
All ages.	3,977,745	62.5	3,988,076	62.9
10–14.	2,503	0.2	2,769	0.3
15–19.	229,888	22.3	249,078	24.2
15–17	61,223	9.9	66,791	10.9
18–19	168,665	40.7	182,287	43.8
20–24	851,142	76.9	882,567	79.0
25–29.	1,152,660	104.3	1,145,392	105.8
30–34.	1,093,898	101.4	1,081,058	100.8
35–39.	527,168	51.7	508,748	51.0
40–44	111,611	11.0	110,021	10.6
45–54[1]	8,876	0.8	8,443	0.8

[1]The birth rate for women in this age group is computed by relating the number of births to women aged 45 and over to women aged 45–49, because most of the births in this group are to women aged 45–49.

NOTE: For information on the relative standard errors of the data and further discussion of random variation, see reference 6.