

Births: Preliminary Data for 2011

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Abstract

Objectives—This report presents preliminary data for 2011 on births in the United States. U.S. data on births are shown by age, live-birth order, race, and Hispanic origin of mother. Data on marital status, cesarean delivery, preterm births, and low birthweight are also presented.

Methods—Data in this report are based on approximately 100% of 2011 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 2011. Comparisons are made with final 2010 data.

Results—The 2011 preliminary number of U.S. births was 3,953,593, 1% less (or 45,793 fewer) births than in 2010; the general fertility rate (63.2 per 1,000 women aged 15–44) declined to the lowest rate ever reported for the United States. The number of births declined for most race and Hispanic origin groups in 2011, whereas the rate declined only for Hispanic, non-Hispanic black, and American Indian or Alaska Native women. • The birth rate for teenagers aged 15–19 fell

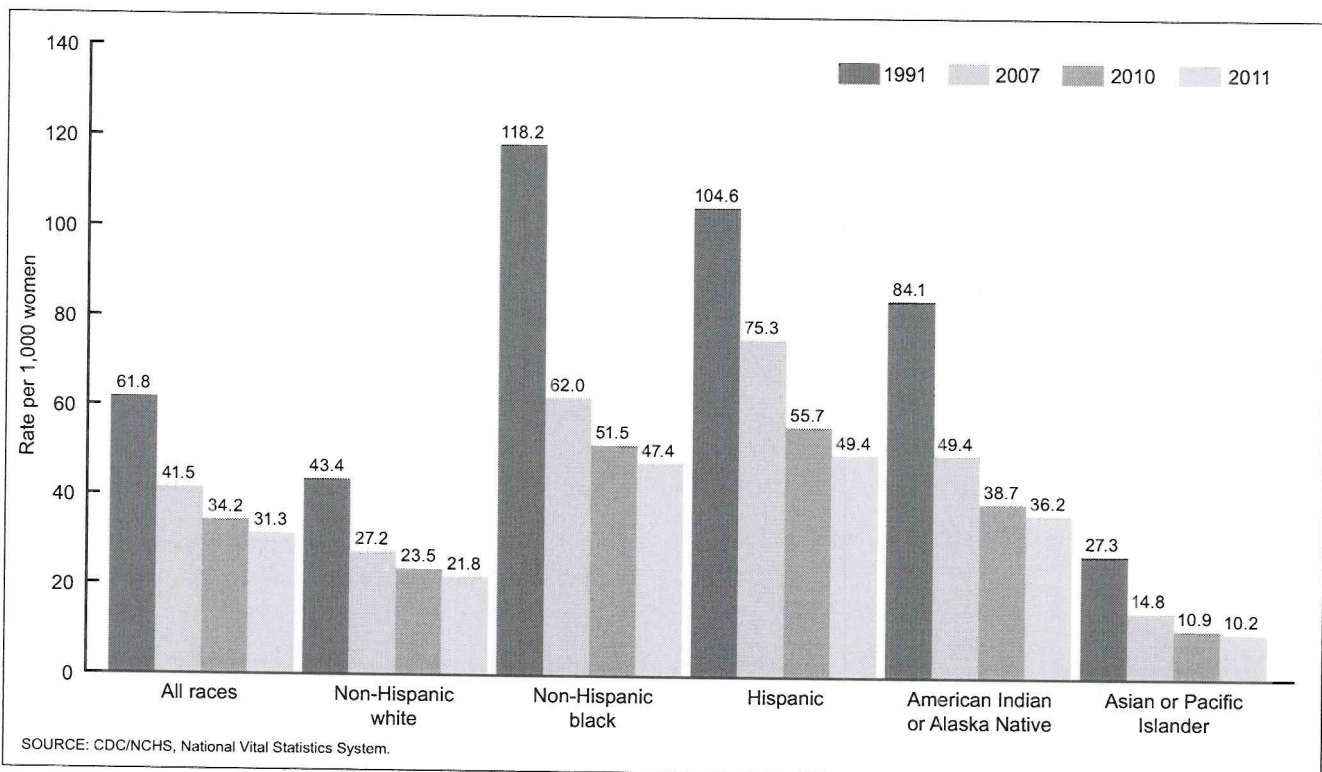


Figure 1. Birth rates for teenagers aged 15–19, by race and Hispanic origin: United States, selected years final 1991, 2007, and 2010, and preliminary 2011



Table 4. Birth rates, by age of mother, live-birth order, and race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, preliminary 2011

[Data are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Rates per 1,000 women in specified age and race and Hispanic origin group. Population estimated as of July 1]

Live-birth order and race and Hispanic origin of mother	15-44 years ¹	Age of mother							
		10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years ²
All races and origins ³	63.2	0.4	31.3	85.3	107.2	96.5	47.2	10.3	0.7
1st child	25.4	0.4	25.7	43.0	40.5	28.3	10.7	2.3	0.2
2nd child	20.0	0.0	4.8	27.9	35.4	33.2	15.3	2.9	0.2
3rd child	10.4	*	0.7	10.5	19.3	19.6	10.7	2.2	0.1
4th child and over	7.4	*	0.1	3.9	12.0	15.4	10.5	2.9	0.2
Non-Hispanic white ⁴	58.8	0.2	21.8	72.0	105.4	100.3	46.0	9.3	0.6
1st child	24.9	0.2	18.6	39.4	45.0	32.5	11.6	2.4	0.2
2nd child	19.2	*	2.8	22.8	35.3	36.5	15.9	2.8	0.2
3rd child	9.1	*	0.3	7.5	16.5	18.9	10.0	1.8	0.1
4th child and over	5.6	*	0.0	2.2	8.6	12.5	8.5	2.3	0.2
Non-Hispanic black ⁴	65.5	0.9	47.4	112.4	101.8	74.1	37.9	9.3	0.7
1st child	25.7	0.9	38.0	52.3	28.8	16.6	7.3	1.8	0.2
2nd child	18.6	0.0	7.8	35.8	31.6	21.4	10.1	2.3	0.2
3rd child	11.1	*	1.4	16.3	21.8	16.7	8.7	2.0	0.1
4th child and over	10.1	*	0.2	8.0	19.6	19.4	11.7	3.3	0.2
American Indian or Alaska Native total ^{4,5}	47.8	0.5	36.2	86.8	75.5	47.5	23.2	5.5	0.2
1st child	17.1	0.5	29.2	35.8	17.1	7.9	3.1	0.7	*
2nd child	12.9	*	5.9	29.1	22.0	11.1	4.6	1.0	*
3rd child	8.5	*	0.9	15.0	17.3	10.9	4.8	1.0	*
4th child and over	9.3	*	0.1	6.9	19.1	17.5	10.7	2.8	*
Asian or Pacific Islander total ^{4,5}	59.9	0.1	10.2	41.9	93.6	114.8	64.1	15.2	1.2
1st child	27.0	0.1	8.4	25.5	51.7	47.1	18.6	4.0	0.4
2nd child	21.4	*	1.5	11.5	28.1	46.7	27.2	5.4	0.4
3rd child	7.5	*	0.2	3.6	8.9	13.9	11.9	3.3	0.2
4th child and over	4.0	*	*	1.3	4.9	7.2	6.4	2.5	0.3
Hispanic ⁵	75.7	0.7	49.4	115.3	120.5	94.4	50.9	13.0	0.8
1st child	26.1	0.7	39.2	51.4	31.5	17.7	7.5	1.8	0.1
2nd child	22.8	0.0	8.7	41.3	41.1	27.2	12.6	2.7	0.2
3rd child	15.1	*	1.3	16.7	29.2	25.9	13.6	3.1	0.2
4th child and over	11.8	*	0.1	6.0	18.7	23.6	17.2	5.3	0.3

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision; based on fewer than 20 births in the numerator.

¹The rate shown is the fertility rate, which is defined as the total number of births, regardless of age of mother, per 1,000 women aged 15-44.²The birth rate for ages 45-49 is computed by relating births to women aged 45 and over to women aged 45-49 because most of the births in this group are to women aged 45-49.³Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.⁴Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes.⁵Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.⁶Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

NOTE: For information on the relative standard errors of the data and further discussion, see reference 8.