

## Births: Final Data for 2007

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### Abstract

**Objectives**—This report presents 2007 data on U.S. births according to a wide variety of characteristics; preliminary 2008 data are also referenced on key measures where available. Final 2007 data are presented for maternal demographic characteristics including age, live-birth order, race and Hispanic origin, marital status, and educational attainment; maternal lifestyle and health characteristics (medical risk factors, weight gain, and tobacco use); medical care utilization by pregnant women (prenatal care, obstetric procedures, characteristics of labor and/or delivery, attendant at birth, and method of delivery); and infant characteristics (period of gestation, birth-weight, Apgar score, congenital anomalies, and multiple births). Birth and fertility rates by age, live-birth order, race and Hispanic origin,

and marital status also are presented. Selected data by mother's state of residence are shown, as well as data on month and day of birth, sex ratio, and age of father. Trends in fertility patterns and maternal and infant characteristics are described and interpreted.

**Methods**—Descriptive tabulations are presented of data reported on the birth certificates of the 4.3 million births that occurred in 2007. Preliminary 2008 data are based on 99.9 percent of births occurring in 2008. Denominators for population-based rates are postcensal estimates derived from the U.S. 2000 census.

**Results**—A total of 4,316,233 births were registered in the United States in 2007, the largest number of births ever reported. The general fertility rate increased 1 percent to 69.5 per 1,000. Birth rates increased for women in nearly all age groups. The rate for teenagers rose

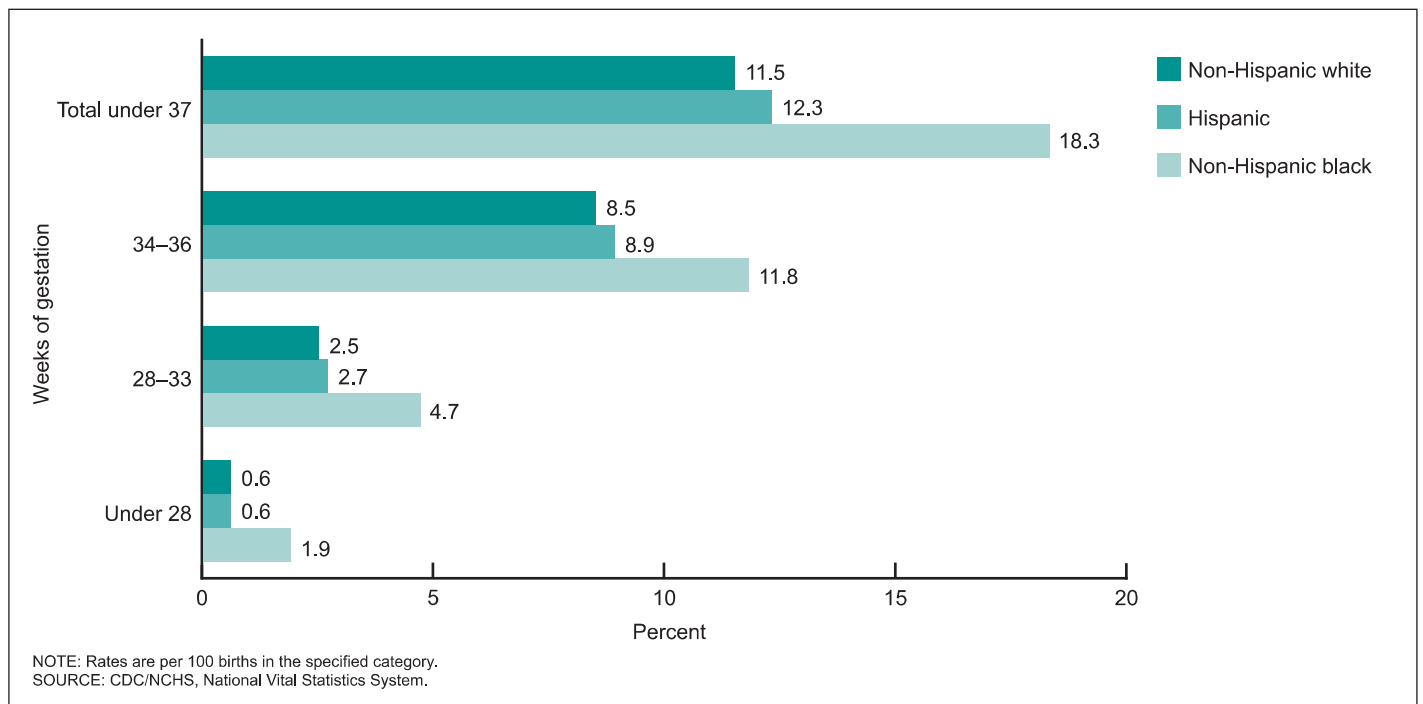


Figure 1. Preterm birth rates, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2007

**Table 3. Fertility rates and birth rates, by age of mother, live-birth order, and race of mother: United States, 2007**

[Rates are live births per 1,000 women in specified age and racial group. Fertility rate computed by relating total births, regardless of age of mother, to women aged 15–44 years. Population estimated as of July 1. Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Figures for live-birth order not stated are distributed]

Live-birth order and race of mother	Age of mother										
	15–44 years	10–14 years	15–19 years			20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years	45–49 years <sup>1</sup>
			Total	15–17 years	18–19 years						
All races . . . . .	69.5	0.6	42.5	22.1	73.9	106.3	117.5	99.9	47.5	9.5	0.6
1st child . . . . .	27.9	0.6	34.2	20.0	56.2	51.7	42.2	28.2	10.8	2.0	0.2
2nd child . . . . .	22.1	0.0	7.1	2.0	14.9	35.5	39.1	34.9	15.7	2.7	0.2
3rd child . . . . .	11.7	*	1.0	0.1	2.4	14.0	22.5	21.0	11.0	2.0	0.1
4th child . . . . .	4.8	*	0.1	0.0	0.3	3.9	9.0	9.4	5.4	1.2	0.1
5th child . . . . .	1.8	*	0.0	*	0.0	0.9	3.1	3.7	2.4	0.6	0.0
6th and 7th child . . . . .	1.0	*	0.0	*	0.0	0.3	1.4	2.2	1.6	0.6	0.0
8th child and over . . . . .	0.3	*	*	*	*	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.0
White . . . . .	68.8	0.5	38.8	19.7	68.1	102.8	119.4	102.7	48.1	9.4	0.6
1st child . . . . .	27.5	0.5	31.5	17.8	52.5	51.1	43.5	28.6	10.9	2.0	0.2
2nd child . . . . .	22.1	0.0	6.3	1.7	13.4	34.7	40.4	36.1	15.7	2.7	0.2
3rd child . . . . .	11.7	*	0.9	0.1	2.0	12.9	22.9	22.2	11.3	2.0	0.1
4th child . . . . .	4.6	*	0.1	0.0	0.2	3.3	8.6	9.7	5.6	1.2	0.1
5th child . . . . .	1.6	*	0.0	*	0.0	0.7	2.7	3.6	2.4	0.6	0.0
6th and 7th child . . . . .	0.9	*	*	*	*	0.2	1.1	2.0	1.6	0.5	0.0
8th child and over . . . . .	0.3	*	*	*	*	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.0
Black . . . . .	72.7	1.5	64.9	36.1	110.7	135.9	109.6	75.4	36.9	8.8	0.6
1st child . . . . .	28.5	1.5	51.2	32.2	81.4	59.2	28.4	15.9	6.9	1.6	0.1
2nd child . . . . .	20.9	0.0	11.4	3.6	23.8	44.7	34.3	22.2	10.3	2.2	0.1
3rd child . . . . .	12.6	*	2.0	0.3	4.7	21.6	24.9	17.5	8.6	1.9	0.1
4th child . . . . .	6.0	*	0.3	0.0	0.7	7.6	12.6	9.9	5.1	1.2	0.1
5th child . . . . .	2.6	*	0.0	*	0.1	2.2	5.5	5.0	2.7	0.7	0.1
6th and 7th child . . . . .	1.7	*	*	*	*	0.7	3.3	3.8	2.2	0.7	0.1
8th child and over . . . . .	0.5	*	*	*	*	0.0	0.5	1.2	1.1	0.4	0.0
American Indian or Alaska Native . . . . .	64.9	0.9	59.3	31.8	101.6	116.8	96.4	64.0	29.5	6.1	0.3
1st child . . . . .	23.3	0.9	45.5	28.6	71.7	45.7	19.9	9.7	3.7	0.7	*
2nd child . . . . .	17.6	*	11.7	3.0	25.1	39.8	27.2	14.8	5.7	0.9	*
3rd child . . . . .	11.6	*	1.8	*	4.3	21.5	23.9	14.6	6.1	1.1	*
4th child . . . . .	6.3	*	0.2	*	0.5	7.1	14.5	11.1	5.0	1.0	*
5th child . . . . .	3.2	*	*	*	*	2.0	7.1	6.6	3.5	0.8	*
6th and 7th child . . . . .	2.3	*	*	*	*	0.7	3.6	5.8	3.9	1.1	*
8th child and over . . . . .	0.6	*	*	*	*	*	0.4	1.4	1.5	0.6	*
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	71.3	0.2	16.9	8.2	29.9	65.5	118.0	125.4	66.3	14.4	1.1
1st child . . . . .	32.7	0.2	13.8	7.5	23.4	39.5	64.8	51.4	19.2	3.8	0.4
2nd child . . . . .	25.2	*	2.6	0.7	5.5	17.9	35.9	50.9	27.7	5.1	0.3
3rd child . . . . .	8.9	*	0.4	0.1	0.9	5.8	11.3	15.6	12.7	3.1	0.2
4th child . . . . .	2.8	*	0.1	*	0.1	1.7	3.8	4.7	4.0	1.2	0.1
5th child . . . . .	1.0	*	*	*	*	0.4	1.4	1.6	1.4	0.6	0.0
6th and 7th child . . . . .	0.6	*	*	*	*	0.1	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.0
8th child and over . . . . .	0.2	*	*	*	*	*	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1

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

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

<sup>1</sup>Birth rates computed by relating births to women aged 45 and over to women aged 45–49; see "Technical Notes."

NOTES: Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Race categories are consistent with 1977 Office of Management and Budget standards. Twenty-seven states reported multiple-race data for 2007, which were bridged to single-race categories for comparability with other states; see "Technical Notes." In this table, all women, including Hispanic women, are classified only according to their race; see "Technical Notes."