

Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths: Provisional Data for January–December 2000

Table 1. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, January 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	January				12 months ending with January				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	331,000	322,000	14.3	14.0	3,974,000	3,957,000	14.5	14.6	14.5
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	65.0	63.1	...	...	66.0	66.2	65.1
Deaths	239,000	231,000	10.3	10.0	2,404,000	2,337,000	8.8	8.6	8.6
Infant deaths	2,300	2,400	6.8	7.3	27,900	27,700	7.0	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	92,000	91,000	4.0	4.0	1,570,000	1,620,000	5.7	6.0	5.9
Marriages	147,000	130,000	6.3	6.0	2,376,000	2,251,000	8.7	8.3	9.0
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.1	4.2	4.3
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	274.0	271.6	...	...	273.1	270.3	267.8

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 2. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, February 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	February				January–February				12 months ending with February				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	318,000	298,000	14.7	14.3	649,000	620,000	14.4	14.1	3,994,000	3,944,000	14.7	14.6	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	66.8	64.5	...	...	65.9	63.8	...	...	66.4	66.0	65.4
Deaths	219,000	208,000	10.1	10.0	458,000	440,000	10.2	10.0	2,414,000	2,336,000	8.9	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,300	2,200	7.2	7.2	4,600	4,600	7.0	7.3	28,100	27,500	7.0	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	99,000	90,000	4.6	4.3	191,000	180,000	4.2	4.1	1,580,000	1,608,000	5.8	6.0	5.9
Marriages	159,000	141,000	7.3	7.2	307,000	271,000	6.8	6.6	2,394,000	2,256,000	8.8	8.3	8.9
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.2	4.3
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	274.2	271.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	272.6	270.5	268.0

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 3. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, March 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	March				January–March				12 months ending with March				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	340,000	330,000	14.6	14.3	989,000	950,000	14.5	14.2	4,004,000	3,942,000	14.6	14.6	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	66.7	64.6	...	...	66.2	64.1	...	...	66.5	66.0	65.7
Deaths	210,000	223,000	9.0	9.6	668,000	662,000	9.8	9.9	2,401,000	2,340,000	8.8	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,400	2,400	7.0	7.1	7,000	6,900	7.0	7.2	28,100	27,400	7.0	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	130,000	107,000	5.6	4.7	321,000	288,000	4.7	4.3	1,603,000	1,602,000	5.8	6.0	5.9
Marriages	166,000	159,000	7.1	7.3	472,000	430,000	6.9	6.8	2,401,000	2,260,000	8.8	8.3	8.8
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.2	4.3
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	274.3	272.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	273.6	270.7	268.4

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 4. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, April 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	April				January–April				12 months ending with April				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	318,000	319,000	14.1	14.3	1,307,000	1,268,000	14.4	14.2	4,003,000	3,924,000	14.6	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	64.6	64.5	...	...	65.8	64.2	...	...	66.5	65.7	65.6
Deaths	194,000	199,000	8.6	8.9	862,000	861,000	9.5	9.6	2,397,000	2,347,000	8.8	8.7	8.7
Infant deaths	2,300	2,400	7.0	7.4	9,200	9,300	7.0	7.2	28,000	27,500	7.0	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	124,000	120,000	5.5	5.4	445,000	407,000	4.9	4.6	1,606,000	1,577,000	5.8	5.8	5.9
Marriages	166,000	163,000	7.4	7.8	639,000	593,000	7.0	7.1	2,404,000	2,266,000	8.8	8.4	8.6
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.2	4.2
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	274.5	272.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	273.9	270.9	268.6

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 5. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, May 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	May				January–May				12 months ending with May				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	341,000	332,000	14.7	14.3	1,648,000	1,600,000	14.5	14.2	4,013,000	3,938,000	14.7	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	67.0	64.9	...	...	66.0	64.3	...	...	66.8	65.5	65.8
Deaths	196,000	195,000	8.4	8.4	1,058,000	1,056,000	9.3	9.4	2,397,000	2,354,000	8.8	8.7	8.7
Infant deaths	2,300	2,400	6.6	7.2	11,500	11,700	6.9	7.2	27,900	27,700	6.9	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	145,000	137,000	6.3	5.9	590,000	544,000	5.2	4.8	1,616,000	1,584,000	5.9	5.8	5.9
Marriages	189,000	205,000	8.1	8.8	828,000	798,000	7.3	7.4	2,388,000	2,280,000	8.7	8.4	8.5
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.2	4.2
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	274.7	272.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	273.8	271.5	268.8

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 6. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, June 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	June				January–June				12 months ending with June				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	339,000	328,000	15.0	14.6	1,987,000	1,928,000	14.6	14.3	4,024,000	3,940,000	14.7	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	68.7	66.4	...	...	66.5	64.7	...	...	66.9	65.5	65.8
Deaths	183,000	176,000	8.1	7.9	1,241,000	1,233,000	9.1	9.1	2,404,000	2,346,000	8.8	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,100	2,200	6.3	6.9	13,600	13,900	6.8	7.2	27,800	27,700	6.9	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	156,000	152,000	6.9	6.7	746,000	695,000	5.5	5.2	1,620,000	1,594,000	5.9	5.9	5.9
Marriages	237,000	242,000	10.5	10.8	1,065,000	1,039,000	7.8	8.0	2,384,000	2,293,000	8.7	8.4	8.4
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.2	4.3
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	274.9	272.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	274.0	271.6	268.9

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also excludes these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 7. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, July 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	July				January–July				12 months ending with July				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	349,000	353,000	15.0	15.2	2,336,000	2,281,000	14.6	14.4	4,019,000	3,936,000	14.7	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	68.5	69.1	...	...	66.8	65.3	...	...	66.9	65.5	66.0
Deaths	195,000	190,000	8.4	8.2	1,436,000	1,423,000	9.0	9.0	2,409,000	2,349,000	8.8	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,400	2,400	7.0	6.9	16,000	16,300	6.9	7.1	27,800	27,600	6.9	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	154,000	163,000	6.6	7.0	900,000	858,000	5.6	5.4	1,610,000	1,587,000	5.9	5.9	5.9
Marriages	235,000	219,000	10.1	9.5	1,301,000	1,259,000	8.1	8.2	2,400,000	2,273,000	8.8	8.4	8.5
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.2	4.3
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	275.1	272.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	274.2	271.8	269.1

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 8. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, August 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	August				January–August				12 months ending with August				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	359,000	355,000	15.4	15.3	2,695,000	2,636,000	14.7	14.5	4,024,000	3,953,000	14.7	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	70.5	69.4	...	...	67.2	65.8	...	...	66.9	65.8	65.9
Deaths	187,000	186,000	8.0	8.0	1,622,000	1,608,000	8.9	8.9	2,410,000	2,344,000	8.8	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,300	2,400	6.6	6.8	18,400	18,700	6.8	7.1	27,800	27,700	6.9	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	172,000	169,000	7.4	7.3	1,073,000	1,028,000	5.8	5.6	1,614,000	1,609,000	5.9	5.9	5.9
Marriages	244,000	229,000	10.4	9.9	1,544,000	1,488,000	8.4	8.4	2,414,000	2,277,000	8.8	8.4	8.4
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.1	4.3
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	275.4	273.1	...	...	...	...	...	...	274.3	272.0	269.2

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 9. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, September 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	September				January–September				12 months ending with September				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	346,000	345,000	15.3	15.4	3,041,000	2,981,000	14.8	14.6	4,025,000	3,969,000	14.7	14.6	14.5
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	70.2	69.8	...	...	67.6	66.3	...	...	67.0	66.0	65.5
Deaths	189,000	176,000	8.4	7.9	1,811,000	1,785,000	8.8	8.8	2,423,000	2,345,000	8.8	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,400	2,300	7.0	6.8	20,700	20,900	6.8	7.1	27,800	27,800	6.9	7.0	7.0
Natural increase	157,000	169,000	6.9	7.5	1,230,000	1,196,000	6.0	5.8	1,602,000	1,624,000	5.9	6.0	5.8
Marriages	225,000	242,000	10.0	10.8	1,769,000	1,730,000	8.6	8.7	2,398,000	2,297,000	8.7	8.4	8.3
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.1	4.1	4.3
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	275.6	272.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	274.5	272.2	269.4

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 10. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, October 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	October				January–October				12 months ending with October				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	345,000	336,000	14.8	14.5	3,386,000	3,318,000	14.8	14.6	4,034,000	3,949,000	14.7	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	67.8	65.8	...	...	67.6	66.2	...	...	67.1	65.7	65.9
Deaths	194,000	199,000	8.3	8.6	2,006,000	1,983,000	8.8	8.7	2,418,000	2,356,000	8.8	8.6	8.7
Infant deaths	2,100	2,500	6.1	7.3	22,800	23,400	6.8	7.1	27,500	27,900	6.8	7.1	6.9
Natural increase	151,000	137,000	6.5	5.9	1,380,000	1,335,000	6.0	5.9	1,616,000	1,593,000	5.9	5.9	5.9
Marriages	217,000	230,000	9.3	9.9	1,986,000	1,959,000	8.7	8.8	2,385,000	2,317,000	8.7	8.5	8.2
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.1	4.2
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	275.8	273.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	274.7	272.4	269.6

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 11. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, November 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	November				January–November				12 months ending with November				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	338,000	317,000	14.9	14.1	3,724,000	3,635,000	14.8	14.6	4,054,000	3,956,000	14.7	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	68.5	64.2	...	...	67.7	66.0	...	...	67.4	65.7	66.0
Deaths	190,000	194,000	8.4	8.6	2,196,000	2,178,000	8.7	8.7	2,415,000	2,372,000	8.8	8.7	8.6
Infant deaths	2,200	2,300	6.5	7.1	25,000	25,700	6.7	7.1	27,400	28,100	6.8	7.1	6.9
Natural increase	148,000	123,000	6.5	5.5	1,528,000	1,457,000	6.1	5.9	1,639,000	1,584,000	5.9	5.8	6.0
Marriages	191,000	200,000	8.4	8.9	2,177,000	2,160,000	8.6	8.8	2,375,000	2,332,000	8.6	8.6	8.3
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.2	4.1	4.2
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	276.1	273.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	274.9	272.6	269.8

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 12. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, December 2000

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Item	December				January–December				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	1998
Live births	339,000	330,000	14.5	14.2	4,063,000	3,965,000	14.8	14.5	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	66.5	64.6	...	...	67.6	65.9	66.0
Deaths	208,000	218,000	8.9	9.4	2,404,000	2,396,000	8.7	8.8	8.6
Infant deaths	2,200	2,400	6.4	7.1	27,200	28,100	6.7	7.1	7.0
Natural increase	131,000	112,000	5.6	4.8	1,659,000	1,569,000	6.1	5.7	6.0
Marriages	152,000	198,000	6.5	8.5	2,329,000	2,358,000	8.5	8.6	8.4
Divorces ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.1	4.1	4.2
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	276.2	273.8	...	...	275.1	272.9	270.0

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 13. Provisional number of live births, marriages, deaths, and infant deaths and rates, by month: United States, January 1999–December 2000

[Data are provisional and are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical notes]

Period	Live births				Marriages		Deaths		Infant deaths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years		Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
			Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted ¹						
1999:										
January	322,000	14.0	63.1	66.1	130,000	6.0	231,000	10.0	2,400	7.3
February	298,000	14.3	64.5	65.8	141,000	7.2	208,000	10.0	2,200	7.2
March	330,000	14.3	64.6	65.8	159,000	7.3	223,000	9.6	2,400	7.1
April	319,000	14.3	64.5	65.7	163,000	7.8	199,000	8.9	2,400	7.4
May	332,000	14.3	64.9	65.1	205,000	8.8	195,000	8.4	2,400	7.2
June	328,000	14.6	66.4	65.6	242,000	10.8	176,000	7.9	2,200	6.9
July	353,000	15.2	69.1	66.2	219,000	9.5	190,000	8.2	2,400	6.9
August	355,000	15.3	69.4	66.2	229,000	9.9	186,000	8.0	2,400	6.8
September	345,000	15.4	69.8	66.3	242,000	10.8	176,000	7.9	2,300	6.8
October	336,000	14.5	65.8	65.9	230,000	9.9	199,000	8.6	2,500	7.3
November	317,000	14.1	64.2	66.2	200,000	8.9	194,000	8.6	2,300	7.1
December	330,000	14.2	64.6	66.0	198,000	8.5	218,000	9.4	2,400	7.1
2000:										
January	331,000	14.3	65.0	67.9	147,000	6.3	239,000	10.3	2,300	6.8
February	318,000	14.7	66.8	68.0	159,000	7.3	219,000	10.1	2,300	7.2
March	340,000	14.6	66.7	68.3	166,000	7.1	210,000	9.0	2,400	7.0
April	318,000	14.1	64.6	65.4	166,000	7.4	194,000	8.6	2,300	7.0
May	341,000	14.7	67.0	67.4	189,000	8.1	196,000	8.4	2,300	6.6
June	339,000	15.0	68.7	67.8	237,000	10.5	183,000	8.1	2,100	6.3
July	349,000	15.0	68.5	65.6	235,000	10.1	195,000	8.4	2,400	7.0
August	359,000	15.4	70.5	68.0	244,000	10.4	187,000	8.0	2,300	6.6
September	346,000	15.3	70.2	66.5	225,000	10.0	189,000	8.4	2,400	7.0
October	345,000	14.8	67.8	68.3	217,000	9.3	194,000	8.3	2,100	6.1
November	338,000	14.9	68.5	71.1	191,000	8.4	190,000	8.4	2,200	6.5
December	339,000	14.5	66.5	67.1	152,000	6.5	208,000	8.9	2,200	6.4

¹The method of seasonal adjustment, developed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, is described in *The X-11 Variant of the Census Method II Seasonal Adjustment Program, Technical Paper No. 15* (1967 revision).

NOTE: Figures include all revisions received from the States and therefore, may differ from those previously published.

Technical notes

Effective with Volume 47, Number 1, the *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* (MVSr) has been renamed the *National Vital Statistics Reports* (NVSR). Each monthly issue typically includes **Technical notes** and two tables that show provisional vital statistics for the United States for the given month. Because of resource constraints, production of the monthly reports of provisional data for the year 2000 was delayed. In order to reestablish a more timely publication schedule, provisional data for each month of the year 2000 are included in this single report. Tables previously published in the MVSr that show provisional data by State are now available on the NCHS home page on the Internet at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>.

Data shown here are provisional and include only events occurring within the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia). Mortality data exclude fetal deaths. Delay in the receipt of certificates in a registration office may result in a low figure for a given month followed by a high figure for the month(s) in which the delayed records were received. Totals for births, deaths, and infant deaths are based on the State estimates by State of residence and, therefore, in effect, exclude events to nonresidents of the United States. Events to nonresidents of the United States are included in all marriage and divorce

figures. The effect of excluding events to nonresidents from the U.S. totals is small. Divorce figures include reported annulments.

Until 1998 provisional totals for births, marriages, and divorces for the entire United States included corrections for observed differences between provisional and final figures. These corrections served to compensate for delays in reporting. Beginning with data for January 1998, these monthly corrections for births, marriages, and divorces have been dropped. Further information on these changes has been provided in the NVSRs presenting provisional data for January, February, and March, 1999 (Volume 48, Numbers 1, 2, and 4, respectively; these reports are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>).

Moreover, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), ceased to publish aggregated divorce counts and rates based on provisional data from all 50 States because it was no longer statistically feasible to supply estimates of monthly divorce counts for four nonreporting States (California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana). Instead, NCHS is publishing only the 12-month divorce rates shown in **tables 1–12**, based solely on the combined counts and populations for the 46 reporting States and the District of Columbia. Aggregated 1-month and cumulative divorce numbers and rates as well as the 12-month number have been dropped because of their very limited usefulness when based on less than the

full complement of States. Monthly marriage and divorce counts as reported by the States will continue to be provided on the NCHS Internet home page cited previously.

The populations used for computing rates are furnished by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Monthly rates are based on populations estimated for the specific month. Year-to-date rates are averages of monthly rates that have been weighted by the number of days in the corresponding months. Rates for 12-month periods are the sum of events for the period per population estimated at the midpoint of the period. Populations have been estimated by NCHS for the 12-month divorce rates based on the 46 reporting States and the District of Columbia. Because monthly infant mortality rates are based on relatively few events, they are highly variable, and comparisons of monthly infant mortality rates should be interpreted cautiously.

To receive this publication regularly, contact the National Center for Health Statistics by calling 301-458-4636. E-mail: nchsquery@cdc.gov
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