

Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths: Provisional Data for October–December 2002

Table A. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, October 2002

[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 resident 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		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2000
Live births	346,000	344,000	14.1	14.2	3,375,000	3,377,000	14.1	14.2	4,025,000	4,054,000	14.0	14.2	14.3
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	65.7	65.5	...	...	65.3	65.6	...	...	64.9	65.6	65.6
Deaths	200,000	202,000	8.2	8.3	2,021,000	2,012,000	8.4	8.5	2,428,000	2,409,000	8.4	8.5	8.6
Infant deaths	2,300	2,300	6.8	6.8	23,200	23,000	6.9	6.8	27,800	27,300	6.9	6.7	6.8
Natural increase	146,000	142,000	5.9	5.9	1,354,000	1,365,000	5.7	5.7	1,597,000	1,645,000	5.6	5.7	5.7
Marriages ¹	214,000	226,000	8.7	9.3	1,932,000	2,022,000	8.1	8.5	2,256,000	2,357,000	7.8	8.3	8.4
Divorces ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.0	3.9	4.1
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	289.2	286.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	287.8	284.8	281.7

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

²Divorce rates exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTE: 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.

Technical Notes

Data shown here are provisional and include only events occurring within the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia). Tables A–D provide monthly, year-to-date, and 12-month ending counts and rates for births, deaths, and marriages, and 12-month ending rates for divorces. Tables 1–3 (available at the “Data Warehouse” at www.cdc.gov/nchs) present monthly and year-to-date counts of births, deaths, marriages, and divorces, and 12-month ending counts and rates of infant deaths as reported by each State. 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 by State of residence and, therefore, in effect, exclude events to nonresidents of the United States. The effect of excluding

events to nonresidents from the U.S. totals is small. Events to nonresidents of the United States are included in all marriage and divorce figures. 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 *National Vital Statistics Reports* presenting provisional data for January, February, and March 1999 (vol. 48, nos. 1, 2, and 4, respectively) available at www.cdc.gov/nchs.

Moreover, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) ceased publishing divorce counts and rates based on provisional data from the combined 50 States because it is no longer statistically feasible to calculate estimates of monthly divorce counts for

nonreporting States (California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma). Instead, NCHS publishes only the 12-month divorce rates shown in tables A–C, based solely on the combined counts and populations for reporting States and the District of Columbia. Aggregate 1-month, cumulative counts and rates, and 12-month counts for divorces have been dropped due to their very limited usefulness when based on less than the full complement of States. Monthly marriage and divorce counts as reported by each State will continue to be shown on table 3, available at the NCHS Web site's "Data Warehouse."

Marriage and divorce counts for Oklahoma are not included in table 3 showing provisional data by State due to incomplete reporting. For the purpose of calculating 12-month divorce rates shown in tables A–C, Oklahoma is treated as a nonreporting State (see earlier discussion). Because all other States report marriages, marriage rates

shown in tables A–D include Oklahoma data. The impact of the missing marriages on the national rate is negligible (estimated at less than 1 percent).

Population estimates used for computing rates originate from the U.S. Census Bureau and are based on the 2000 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.

Table B. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, November 2002

[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 resident 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		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2000
Live births	318,000	324,000	13.4	13.8	3,693,000	3,701,000	14.0	14.2	4,020,000	4,040,000	14.0	14.2	14.4
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	62.3	63.6	...	...	65.1	65.4	...	...	64.8	65.3	65.8
Deaths	201,000	197,000	8.4	8.4	2,222,000	2,209,000	8.4	8.5	2,432,000	2,414,000	8.4	8.5	8.6
Infant deaths	2,200	2,300	6.7	6.9	25,300	25,200	6.9	6.8	27,700	27,400	6.9	6.8	6.8
Natural increase	117,000	127,000	5.0	5.4	1,471,000	1,492,000	5.6	5.7	1,588,000	1,626,000	5.6	5.7	5.8
Marriages ¹	157,000	168,000	6.6	7.1	2,089,000	2,190,000	7.9	8.4	2,244,000	2,338,000	7.8	8.2	8.4
Divorces ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.0	3.9	4.1
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	289.5	286.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	288.1	285.0	281.9

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

²Divorce rates exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

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Table C. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, December 2002

[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 resident population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical Notes]

Item	December				12 months ending with December				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2000
Live births	330,000	327,000	13.4	13.4	4,022,000	4,028,000	13.9	14.1	14.4
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	62.5	62.1	...	...	64.8	65.1	65.9
Deaths	215,000	210,000	8.7	8.6	2,436,000	2,419,000	8.4	8.5	8.5
Infant deaths	2,300	2,400	6.9	7.1	27,600	27,600	6.9	6.9	6.7
Natural increase	115,000	117,000	4.7	4.8	1,586,000	1,609,000	5.5	5.6	5.9
Marriages ¹	165,000	155,000	6.7	6.4	2,254,000	2,345,000	7.8	8.2	8.2
Divorces ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.0	3.9	4.1
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	289.7	286.7	...	...	288.4	285.3	282.2

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

¹Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

²Divorce rates exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTE: 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 D. Provisional number of live births, marriages, deaths, and infant deaths and rates, by month: United States, January 2001–December 2002

[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 ²	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
			Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted ¹						
2001:										
January	335,000	13.9	63.9	66.8	143,000	5.9	227,000	9.4	2,400	7.1
February	304,000	13.9	64.1	65.2	141,000	6.5	199,000	9.1	2,300	7.4
March	339,000	14.0	64.5	66.1	170,000	7.1	216,000	8.9	2,400	7.0
April	324,000	13.8	63.7	64.5	208,000	8.9	203,000	8.7	2,300	6.9
May	344,000	14.2	65.5	65.9	214,000	8.9	201,000	8.3	2,400	6.9
June	331,000	14.1	65.2	64.3	229,000	9.8	191,000	8.2	2,100	6.5
July	351,000	14.5	66.9	64.0	235,000	9.7	191,000	7.9	2,200	6.4
August	362,000	14.9	68.9	66.4	235,000	9.7	191,000	7.9	2,300	6.5
September	343,000	14.6	67.4	63.8	221,000	9.4	192,000	8.2	2,200	6.5
October	344,000	14.2	65.5	66.0	226,000	9.3	202,000	8.3	2,300	6.8
November	324,000	13.8	63.6	66.0	168,000	7.1	197,000	8.4	2,300	6.9
December	327,000	13.4	62.1	62.7	155,000	6.4	210,000	8.6	2,400	7.1
2002:										
January	331,000	13.6	62.9	65.8	113,000	4.6	226,000	9.3	2,400	7.2
February	305,000	13.8	64.1	65.2	152,000	6.9	209,000	9.5	2,200	7.2
March	332,000	13.6	63.1	64.6	156,000	6.4	226,000	9.3	2,500	7.3
April	325,000	13.8	63.8	64.6	172,000	7.3	200,000	8.4	2,400	7.3
May	340,000	13.9	64.5	64.9	211,000	8.6	200,000	8.2	2,400	6.9
June	328,000	13.9	64.4	63.5	227,000	9.6	186,000	7.9	2,300	6.9
July	358,000	14.6	68.0	65.1	237,000	9.7	193,000	7.9	2,300	6.4
August	360,000	14.7	68.3	65.9	235,000	9.6	190,000	7.8	2,200	6.4
September	349,000	14.7	68.5	64.8	216,000	9.1	190,000	8.0	2,200	6.4
October	346,000	14.1	65.7	66.2	214,000	8.7	200,000	8.2	2,300	6.8
November	318,000	13.4	62.3	64.7	157,000	6.6	201,000	8.4	2,200	6.7
December	330,000	13.4	62.5	63.0	165,000	6.7	215,000	8.7	2,300	6.9

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

²Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

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

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