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Births to Teenagers in the United States, 1940–2000

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Abstract

Objectives—This report presents trends in national birth rates for teenagers, with particular focus on the decade of the 1990s. The percent change in rates for 1991–2000 is presented for the United States, and the change for 1991–99 is presented for States.

Methods—Tabular and graphical descriptions of the trends in teenage birth rates for the Nation and each State, by age group, race, and Hispanic origin, are discussed.

Results—Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years generally declined in the United States since the late 1950s, except for a brief, but steep, upward climb in the late 1980s until 1991. The 2000 rate (49 births per 1,000) is about half the peak rate recorded in 1957 (96 per 1,000). Still the U.S. rate is considerably higher than rates for other developed countries. During the 1990s rate declines were especially large for black teenagers. State-specific rates fell significantly in all States for ages 15–19 and 15–17 years, and in all but three States for ages 18–19 years. Overall the range of decline in State rates for ages 15–19 years was 11 to 36 percent. For teenagers 15–17 years, the range of decline by State was 13 to 43 percent. Reductions by State were largest for black teenagers 15–19 years, with rates falling 40 percent or more in seven States. The factors accounting for these declines include decreased sexual activity reflecting changing attitudes towards pre-marital sex, increases in condom use, and adoption of newly available hormonal contraception, implants, and injectables.

Keywords: teenage fertility • State-specific birth rates • race and Hispanic origin • teenage pregnancy

Introduction

Teenage childbearing has been on a long-term decline in United States since the late 1950s, except for a brief, but steep, upward climb in the late 1980s through 1991. The declining teenage birth rate has had an impressive impact on the number of babies born to teenagers. If the birth rates by age had remained at 1991 levels throughout the 1990s instead of declining as they there would have been an additional 546,000 births to teenagers over the decade. Despite the rates reaching record lows in 2000, U.S. teenage birth rates remain substantially higher than rates for other developed countries. The recent decline in the 1990s is particularly encouraging, however, because all population groups have shared in the reductions. Moreover, teenage *pregnancy* rates have fallen as well, reflected in declines in rates for all three pregnancy outcomes—live birth, induced abortion, and fetal loss.

The birth rate for U.S. teenagers in 2000 was 48.7 births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years, the lowest level ever reported for the Nation (figure 1 and table 1) (1). Comparable data have been available since 1940 and the rate for that year (54.1) was about 11 percent higher than in 2000. The rate has fluctuated somewhat but has generally trended downward since it reached a peak in 1957 at 96.3 per 1,000, about double its current level (except for an upward spurt 1986–91).

There have also been dramatic variations in the number of births to teenage women. The number reached a high point in 1970, with 644,708 babies born to women aged 15–19 years, 37 percent more than the preliminary number reported for 2000 (470,506).

Over the six decades since 1940, the major shift in teenage childbearing patterns has been the general decline since the late 1950s in the birth rate concurrent with a steep rise in the proportion of teenage births that were to unmarried women (figure 1 and table 1).

Details of recent trends and variations in teenage pregnancy and childbearing, including discussions of the health consequences and the demographic and behavioral factors accounting for the recent patterns, have been published in several reports. This report summarizes the long-term trends in key measures of teenage childbearing and reviews in detail the changes over the last decade through 2000 in teenage

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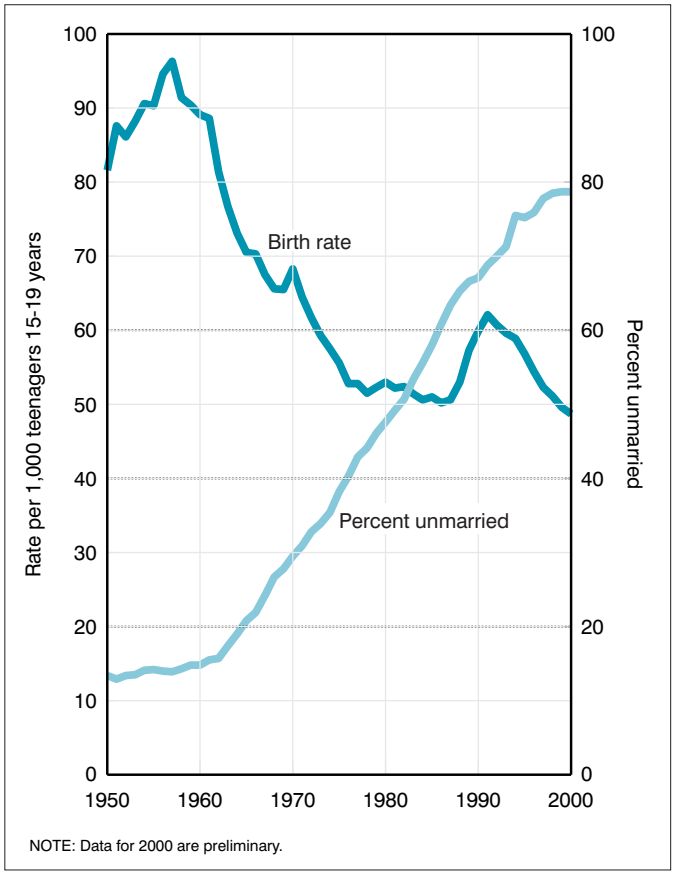


Figure 1. Birth rate for teenagers 15–19 years and percent of teenage births to unmarried teenagers: United States, 1950–2000

childbearing for the United States. Additional trend information on other measures of teenage fertility is presented elsewhere (2). Trends in rates for States for the 1990s are also presented. This is the sixth in a series of reports first published in 1996 tracking national and State-level teenage birth rate trends and variations (3).

Data in this report are drawn from birth certificates filed for all babies born in the United States. The information is transmitted by the States and territories to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program (VSCP). Data for the territories are shown in the State tables but are not included in the totals for the United States. Information on sources and methods is presented in the Technical notes and in other reports (1,4,5).

National data in this report include preliminary statistics for 2000, based on more than 96 percent of births (1). Data by State are shown for 1990–99. Birth rates by State prior to 1990 are available for census years (6,7). Birth data by Hispanic origin for teenage subgroups are available since 1990 (4). In this report, data are shown separately for Hispanic and non-Hispanic white women because there are substantial differences in childbearing patterns between Hispanic and non-Hispanic white women. About one in five births to white women are to Hispanic women. Data for black, American Indian, and Asian or Pacific Islander teenagers are not shown separately by Hispanic origin because the vast majority of these women are not Hispanic.

Teenage birth rate is down 22 percent since 1991; rate for 2000 is lowest ever

The U.S. teenage birth rate in 2000 was 48.7 births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years, 2 percent lower than in 1999 and 22 percent below the recent peak, 62.1 in 1991 (tables 1 and 2 and figures 1–3). The rate fell steadily throughout the 1990s, reversing a brief but steep 24-percent increase in the late 1980s (from 50.2 in 1986 to 62.1 in 1991). The rate was at an all-time high in 1957, the peak "baby boom" year, when it reached 96.3 per 1,000. The previous long-term decline in the teenage birth rate was recorded from 1957 to 1976 (unbroken except for a one-year upward tick in 1970). That decline was quite steep, averaging over 3 percent per year; the decline that began in 1991 has averaged about 2.7 percent per year.

Number of births to teenagers in 2000 is fewest since 1987

The most useful measure for reviewing trends in teenage childbearing is the birth rate, which relates births to teenagers to the population "at risk," that is female teenagers. The number of births to teenagers is also an important measure, indicating for example the extent to which special support services might be required. The number of births to teenagers under 20 years fell to 479,067 in 2000, according to preliminary statistics (table A) (1). The number dropped fairly steadily throughout the 1990s; the 2000 total was more than 50,000 below the 1990 number (533,483), and more than 175,000 below the all-time high in 1970 (656,460) (2). Trends in the birth rate and the number of births to teenagers have been fairly similar since the mid-1980s (figure 2).

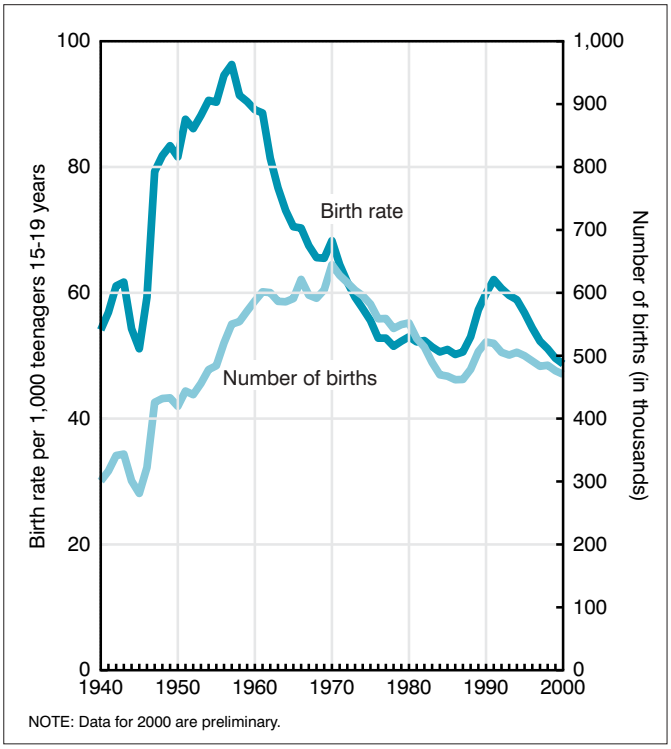


Figure 2. Number of births and birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years: United States, 1940–2000

Table A. Births and birth rates for teenagers by age: United States, 1991–2000

Year	Number of births			Birth rate		
	10–14 years	15–17 years	18–19 years	10–14 years	15–17 years	18–19 years
2000	8,561	157,661	312,845	0.9	27.5	79.5
1999	9,054	163,588	312,462	0.9	28.7	80.3
1998	9,462	173,231	311,664	1.0	30.4	82.0
1997	10,121	180,154	303,066	1.1	32.1	83.6
1996	11,148	185,721	305,856	1.2	33.8	86.0
1995	11,242	192,508	307,365	1.3	36.0	89.1
1994	12,901	195,169	310,319	1.4	37.6	91.5
1993	12,554	190,535	310,558	1.4	37.8	92.1
1992	12,220	187,549	317,866	1.4	37.8	94.5
1991	12,014	188,226	331,351	1.4	38.7	94.4
Percent change 1991–2000	–28.7	–16.2	–5.6	–35.7	–28.9	–15.8

NOTE: Data for 2000 are preliminary.

There are two key factors that determine, demographically, the number of births to teenagers. These are the birth rate, which measures the proportion of teenagers giving birth in a given year, and the number of female teenagers in the population. As noted above, the birth rate was in a long-term decline from the late 1950s through the mid-1970s, followed by stability through the mid-1980s, a steep increase ending in 1991, and the current steady decline (table 1). In contrast, the number of female teenagers (15–19 years) rose without interruption through the late 1970s (from 6.6 million in 1960 to 10.6 million in 1978), reflecting the impact of the "baby boom," and then dropped rapidly through the early 1990s to 8.3 million (1992), a result of the overall decline in U.S. fertility from the late 1950s. In recent years, the number of female teenagers has risen again (up to 9.7 million in 2000), reflecting the upsurge in fertility rates in the late 1980s (8–10).

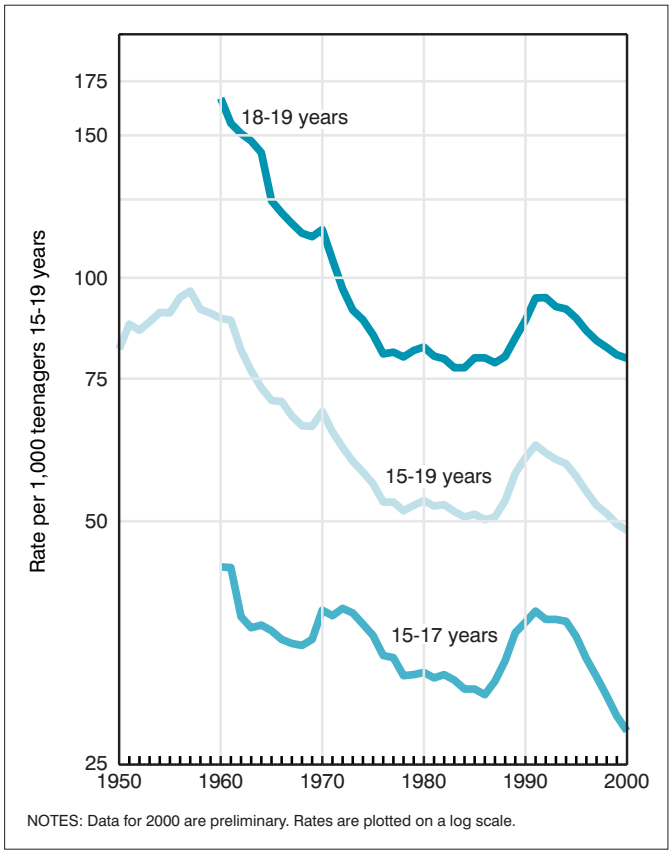


Figure 3. Birth rates for teenagers by age: United States, 1950–2000

The trends in the number of births to teenage women have not always paralleled the birth rate. The increase in the number of births in the late 1980s was fueled exclusively by the rising birth rate (the number of teenage women was in decline). More recently, the number of births has fallen because the drop in the rate has been more than enough to offset the growth in the female teenage population (10).

Teenage birth and pregnancy rates decline

In order to examine trends in *pregnancies* among teenagers, data on live births must be combined with data on induced abortions and fetal losses. Because information on abortion and fetal loss is not as current as information on live births, this report focuses on trends and variations in live births and birth rates. A consistent series of teenage pregnancy rates is available for 1976–97 (11). According to the most recent complete estimates, the teenage *pregnancy* rate fell 19 percent from its peak in 1991 (116.5 pregnancies per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years) to 1997 (94.3) (11). The 1997 rate was the lowest in the 20 years for which a consistent series of estimates is available. The pregnancy rate of 94.3 in 1997 was about 80 percent higher than the birth rate for that year (52.3).

Birth rates fall for teenagers in all age groups

Over the 40-year period beginning 1960 (when rates for teenagers 15–17 and 18–19 years first became available), teenage birth rates by age generally declined through the mid-1980s, increased steeply from 1986 to 1991, and have since fallen steadily. The rate for the youngest teenagers, 10–14 years, dropped from 1.4 births per 1,000 during 1989–94 to 0.9 per 1,000 in 1999 and 2000, the lowest level in more than 30 years. Births to girls under age 15 years dropped to 8,561 in 2000, 34 percent below the recent high of 12,901 in 1994 (table A).

The birth rate for teenagers 15–17 years also reached a record low in 2000, dropping to 27.5, down 4 percent from 1999, and 29

percent from 1991. The number of births to this age group fell to 157,661 in 2000, according to preliminary data (1).

Similarly, the birth rate for older teenagers declined again in 2000, to 79.5, down 1 percent from 1999, and 16 percent from its recent high of 94.5 in 1992. The number of births to older teenagers increased very slightly in 2000, reflecting the growth in the female population aged 18–19 years (9,10).

Most teenage births are to unmarried women

The overall teenage birth rate has fallen steadily since 1991, and the birth rate for *unmarried* teenagers has declined since 1994 (table 1). Nevertheless, the *proportion* of births to teenagers that are to unmarried teenagers has continued to increase, essentially without interruption, rising from 13.9 percent in 1957 to 78.7 percent in 1999 and 2000 (figure 1). These proportions have risen for both younger and older teenagers (12). The steady upward climb in the percent unmarried reflects the fact that very few teenagers are marrying and the birth rate for married teenagers has dropped (table 1). In fact, major changes in marriage and in marital and nonmarital childbearing occurred in the last half of the twentieth century and these changes are not unique to teenagers. Thus, while the proportion of teenage births that are to unmarried women continues to rise, teenagers do not account for the majority of all births to unmarried women (table B). In 2000, 72 percent were to women aged 20 years and over compared with about half in the mid-1970s (1,12).

Birth rates for black teenagers decline most steeply; rates for Hispanic and black teenagers remain highest

Birth rates for black teenagers fell more steeply in the 1990s than rates for other population groups. Overall, the rate for black teenagers declined 31 percent from 115.5 per 1,000 in 1991 to 79.2 in 2000. The rate for 2000 was the lowest ever recorded in the 40 years for which data for black women are available (13). The rate for Hispanic teenagers declined from 1994 through 1999 (by 13 percent), but rose 1 percent in 2000 to 94.4 per 1,000 (the highest rate for any population group).

Birth rates for women of Hispanic origin should be interpreted with caution. The rates in this report are based on estimates projected from the 1990 census. The Hispanic population in the United States has grown dramatically over the 1990s, rising nearly 60 percent, according to the 2000 census results recently published (14,15). This population growth is not reflected in the postcensal estimates (projected from 1990) used in this report (10). Based on a comparison of 2000 census results and unpublished estimates for 2000 projected from 1990, the Hispanic populations used for this report may be about 8 percent lower than 2000 census results would indicate (10,15). Thus, birth rates for Hispanic women in particular are overstated because the population base is too small. When population estimates from the 2000 census and intercensal estimates become available, population-based rates for the 1990s and 2000 will be recalculated and presented in a report. In the meantime, it is recommended that caution be exercised in interpreting the levels and trends in rates for Hispanic women.

Rates for Hispanic and black teenagers continue to be substantially higher than for other groups. The rate for Asian or Pacific Islander teenagers has been the lowest (21.8 births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years in 2000), followed by the rate for non-Hispanic white teenagers (32.8). The rate for American Indian teenagers was intermediate at 67.9 per 1,000 in 2000. Birth rates fell for all population groups during the 1990s.

The birth rate for non-Hispanic white teenagers dropped 24 percent during 1991–2000, while the rates for Asian or Pacific Islander and American Indian teenagers each fell 20 percent (table 2). Rates dropped more steeply for younger (15–17 years) than for older teenagers (18–19 years) in each race and Hispanic origin group (figures 4 and 5 and table 2).

Fewer teenagers have their first baby while second birth rates for teenage mothers stabilize

The declines in teenage birth rates in the last half of the 1990s have reflected steady reductions in the first birth rate, meaning that fewer teenagers are becoming mothers for the first time. The first birth rate for childless teenagers has dropped one-sixth since 1994 when it began to decline (figure 6 and table 3). The rate in 1999 was 41.7 first births per 1,000 childless women aged 15–19 years, compared with 50.0 in 1994. (The most recent year for which birth rates can be computed according to the number of previous births to the mother is 1999.) This decline is particularly significant because teenagers having their first child account for the overwhelming majority of all births to teenagers—about 78 percent in the U.S. since the mid-1990s.

After falling 22 percent between 1991 and 1996, the second birth rate for teenagers who had already had one child stabilized. In 1991

Table B. Number of total births and nonmarital births and percent of births to unmarried women, all ages and women under 20 years: United States, 1999–2000

[Figures for 2000 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual]

Age of mother	Total births		Births to unmarried women		Percent to unmarried women	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
All ages	4,064,948	3,959,417	1,345,917	1,308,560	33.1	33.0
Under 20 years	479,067	485,104	378,585	383,222	79.0	79.0
Under 15 years	8,561	9,054	8,255	8,737	96.4	96.5
15–19 years	470,506	476,050	370,330	374,485	78.7	78.7
15–17 years	157,661	163,588	138,174	143,391	87.6	87.7
18–19 years	312,845	312,462	232,157	231,094	74.2	74.0

NOTE: Data for 2000 are preliminary.

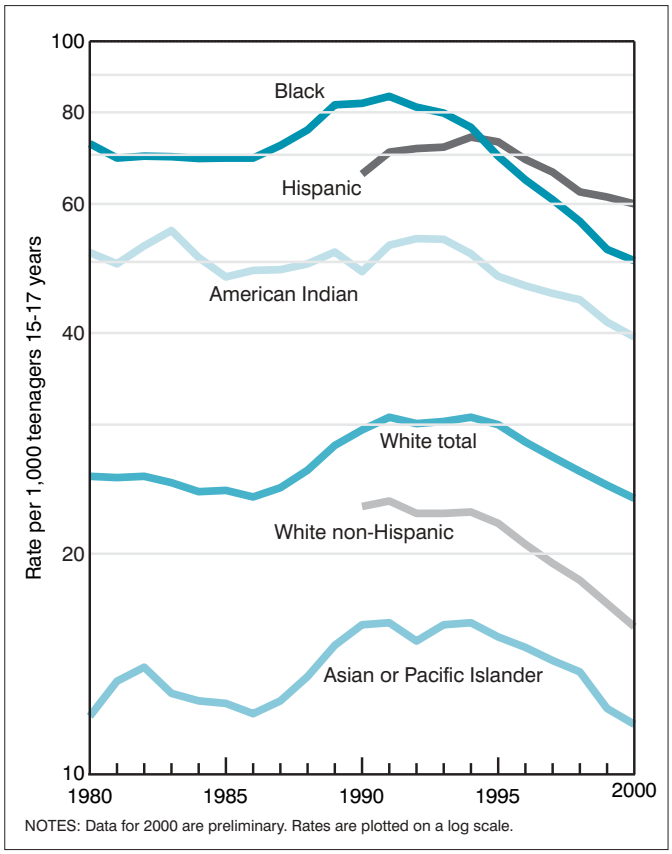


Figure 4. Birth rate for teenagers 15–17 years by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1980–2000

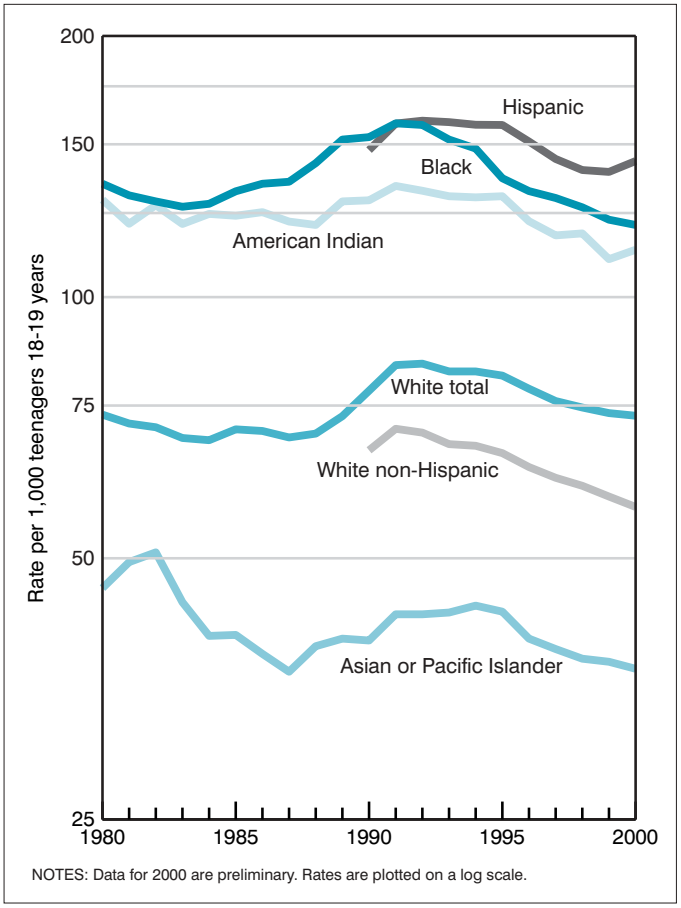


Figure 5. Birth rate for teenagers 18–19 years by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1980–2000

the rate was 220.9 second births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years with one child, and dropped to 173.5 in 1996; the rate has changed little since (174.1 in 1999). To put it another way, 17 percent of teenagers who already had one child gave birth to a second child each year, 1996–99, compared with 22 percent in 1991. Despite the decline over the decade in repeat childbearing, about 100,000 teenagers gave birth to a second or higher order child in 2000.

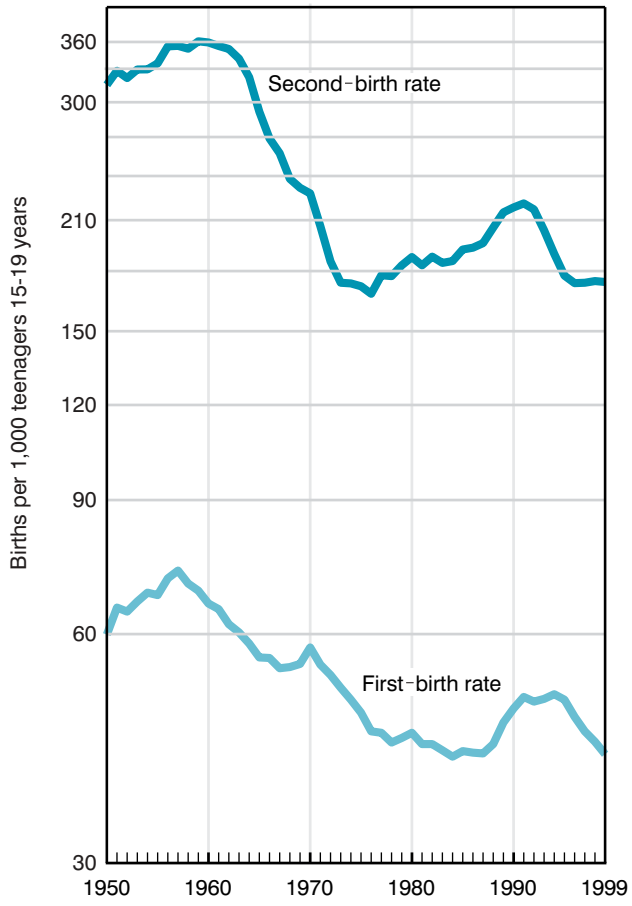
Teenage childbearing has serious health and other consequences

Teenage mothers and their babies are at greater risk of adverse health consequences compared with older mothers. Most teenage mothers (and fathers as well) are not prepared for the emotional, psychological, and financial responsibilities and challenges of parenthood (16). The overwhelming majority of teenage pregnancies are unintended (17). Teenage mothers are much less likely than older women to receive timely prenatal care and more likely to begin care in the third trimester or have no care at all (figure 7). They are also more likely to smoke during pregnancy. A recent report showed that smoking among pregnant teenagers increased during the mid- to late 1990s, while smoking rates for older women dropped (18). As a consequence of these and other factors, babies born to teenagers are more likely to be born preterm (less than 37 completed weeks of gestation) and low birthweight (less than 5 lb 8 oz), and thus are at greater risk of serious and long-term illness, developmental delays, and of dying in the first year of life (4,19).

Teenage birth rates vary greatly by State

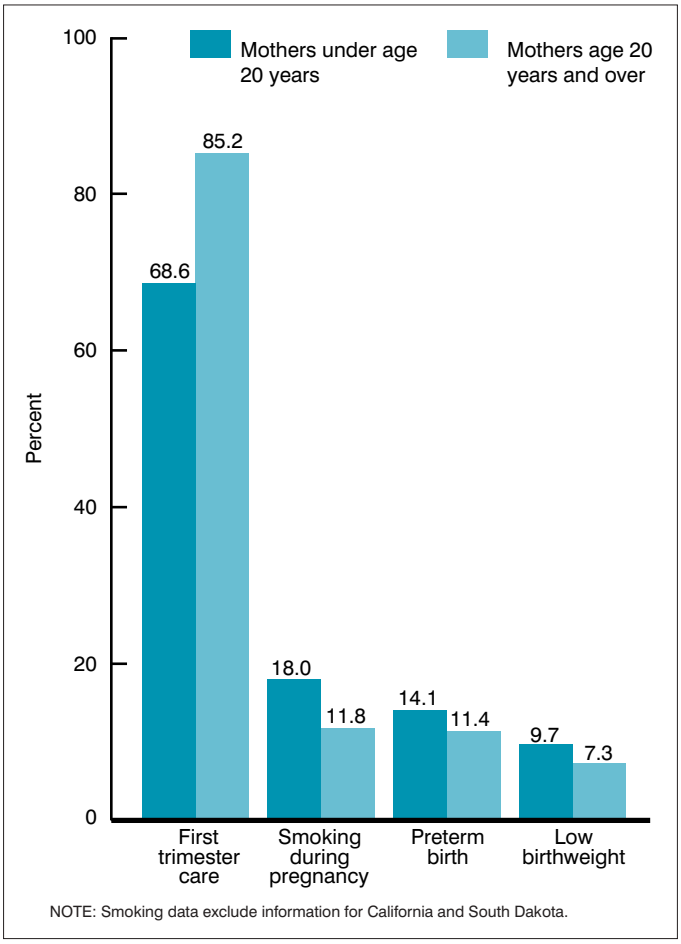
Birth rates for teenagers vary substantially by State (tables 4 and 5 and figure 8). In 1999, the most recent year for which State-specific birth rates are available, the rates for ages 15–19 years ranged from 24.0 for New Hampshire to 72.5 in Mississippi. The rate for the District of Columbia was 83.5. The highest rate was reported for Guam (96.6). The tremendous variation in rates by State reflects in part the differences in the composition of the teenage population by race and Hispanic origin (3). As indicated earlier, teenage birth rates are much higher for Hispanic and black teenagers than for non-Hispanic white teenagers (table 2). Thus, States with relatively high proportions of Hispanic and/or black teenagers would be expected to have higher overall teenage birth rates. It is important to keep these compositional differences in mind when comparing teenage birth rates across States.

Another factor affects the teenage birth rates for some States, especially rates for women of Hispanic origin. As noted earlier, the rates in this report are based on estimates projected from the 1990 census. While the Hispanic population in the United States has grown dramatically over the 1990s, rising nearly 60 percent, according to the 2000 census results recently published (14,15), increases in some States were substantially greater (20). This population growth is not reflected in the postcensal estimates (projected from 1990) used in this report (21). Thus, birth rates for Hispanic women in particular are overstated because the population base is too small. Population-based



NOTE: Rates are first births per 1,000 teenagers who have had no births, and second births per 1,000 teenagers who have had one child. Rates are plotted on a log scale.

Figure 6. Rates of first and second births to teenagers: United States, 1950–99



NOTE: Smoking data exclude information for California and South Dakota.

Figure 7. Selected characteristics for teenage mothers and mothers aged 20 years and over: United States, 1999

rates for the 1990s and 2000 will be recalculated and presented in a report when population estimates from the 2000 census and intercensal estimates become available. In the meantime, it is recommended that special caution be exercised in interpreting the levels and trends in rates by State for Hispanic women.

Rates for teenage subgroups also vary substantially across States. The rate for ages 15–17 years ranged in 1999 from 11 in New Hampshire to 45 in Mississippi. Similarly, the rates for older teenagers 18–19 years ranged from 46 per 1,000 (New Hampshire and Vermont) to 112 (Arkansas). And, as just noted, rates by race and Hispanic origin vary greatly within and across States (table 5).

Rates by State fall for younger and older teenagers

Birth rates for teenagers have been declining in the United States since 1991. Between 1991 and 1999, birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years fell significantly in all States, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands (table 6 and figure 9). The decline in Puerto Rico was not statistically significant. There was a nonsignificant increase in Guam. Declines exceeded 25.0 percent in nine States, the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands, and exceeded 30.0 percent in five States. While States with the largest reductions tend to have initially low rates, there have been sizable reductions in States with high as well as low rates, suggesting that all States can achieve progress in reducing teenage birth rates.

Generally, the rates by State fell steadily through the decade. However, as indicated in table 4, rates occasionally increased in some States. For example, rates in six States and American Samoa were higher in 1999 than in 1998. Year-to-year changes in most cases are not statistically significant.

Birth rates for teenage subgroups also declined over the 1990s (table 4). The rates for ages 15–17 years fell significantly between 1991 and 1999 in all States and the District of Columbia and in the Virgin Islands. Declines in Puerto Rico and Guam were not significant. Declines exceeded 25.0 percent in 26 States and the District of Columbia. Rates dropped 35.0 percent or more in Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Birth rates by State for older teenagers, 18–19 years, also dropped during the 1990s. Statistically significant declines were found for 47 States, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands. Declines in Connecticut, Delaware, Rhode Island, and Puerto Rico were not statistically significant. There was a nonsignificant increase in Guam.

Steep reductions in State-level rates for black and non-Hispanic white teenagers

Rates by State for black and non-Hispanic white teenagers fell substantially in the 1990s, reflecting the national declines in these

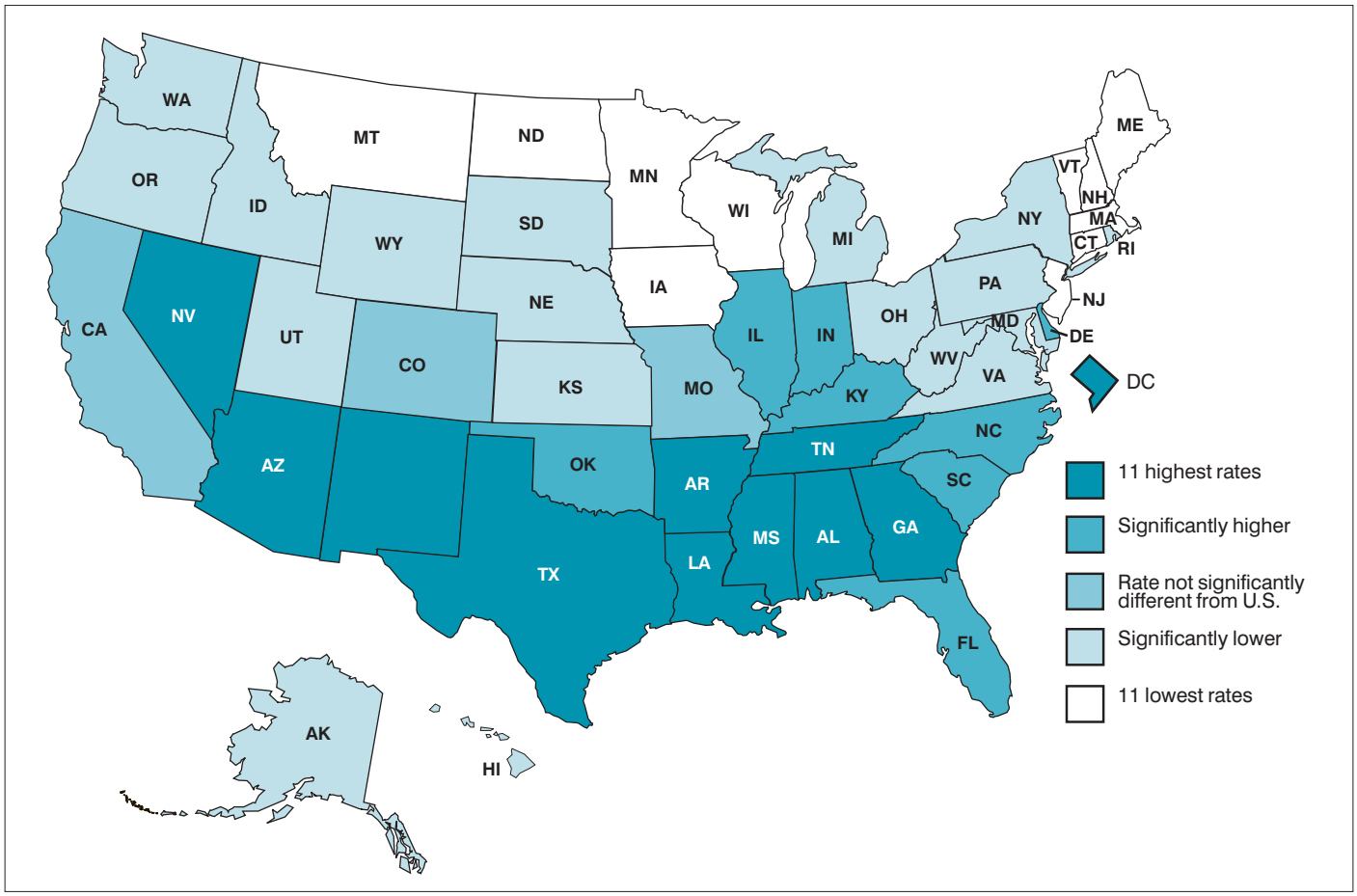


Figure 8. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years by State, 1999

rates (table 6). Trends in the rates for black teenagers could be reliably computed for 39 States and the District of Columbia for both 1991 and 1999. Rates fell in all States and the District of Columbia. The declines were statistically significant in all States except West Virginia; declines in seven States were 40 percent or larger.

Birth rates for non-Hispanic white teenagers declined between 1991 and 1999 in all States. The reductions were statistically significant except for Delaware. (Rates were not available for 1991 for New Hampshire and were not statistically reliable for 1999 for the District of Columbia.)

Statistically reliable birth rates were available for Hispanic teenagers for 37 States for both 1991 and 1999. There were significant reductions in 12 States and increases in 13 States. The changes in 12 States were not significant.

Reflecting in part the substantial geographic concentration of the American Indian and Asian or Pacific Islander (API) populations, statistically reliable rates could not be reliably computed for many States. In addition, the low birth rates for API teenagers reflect small absolute numbers of births in many States.

Birth rates for American Indian teenagers were available for 18 States for both years and for 23 States in 1999. Rates fell significantly in 11 States between 1991 and 1999.

Birth rates for API teenagers were available for 31 States for both years, and for 37 States in 1999. There were significant declines in five States and an increase in North Carolina.

U.S. teenage birth rate is still the highest for developed countries

Teenage birth rates vary substantially across developed countries (table 7). Despite the recent declines, however, the U.S. rate remains the highest among these countries. Rates for recent years have ranged from 4.3 births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years in Japan (1997) to 48.7 in the U.S (2000) (22). According to the latest available data, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland also had rates less than 10 per 1,000. A recent study showed that most developed countries have experienced declines in teenage birth rates (23).

Factors affecting teenage birth rates

Numerous factors may account for the downward trend in teenage birth rates during the 1990s. The steep upward climb in the rates in the late 1980s generated widespread public concern at the beginning of the 1990s. The changing attitudes toward premarital sex possibly reflect the influence of a myriad of public and private efforts to focus teenagers' attention on the importance of pregnancy prevention through abstinence and responsible behavior (24). Some prevention programs have now been rigorously evaluated. While no single effective approach has been identified, a recently published comprehensive review of evaluation research on programs to prevent teen pregnancy found that "more programs to prevent teen

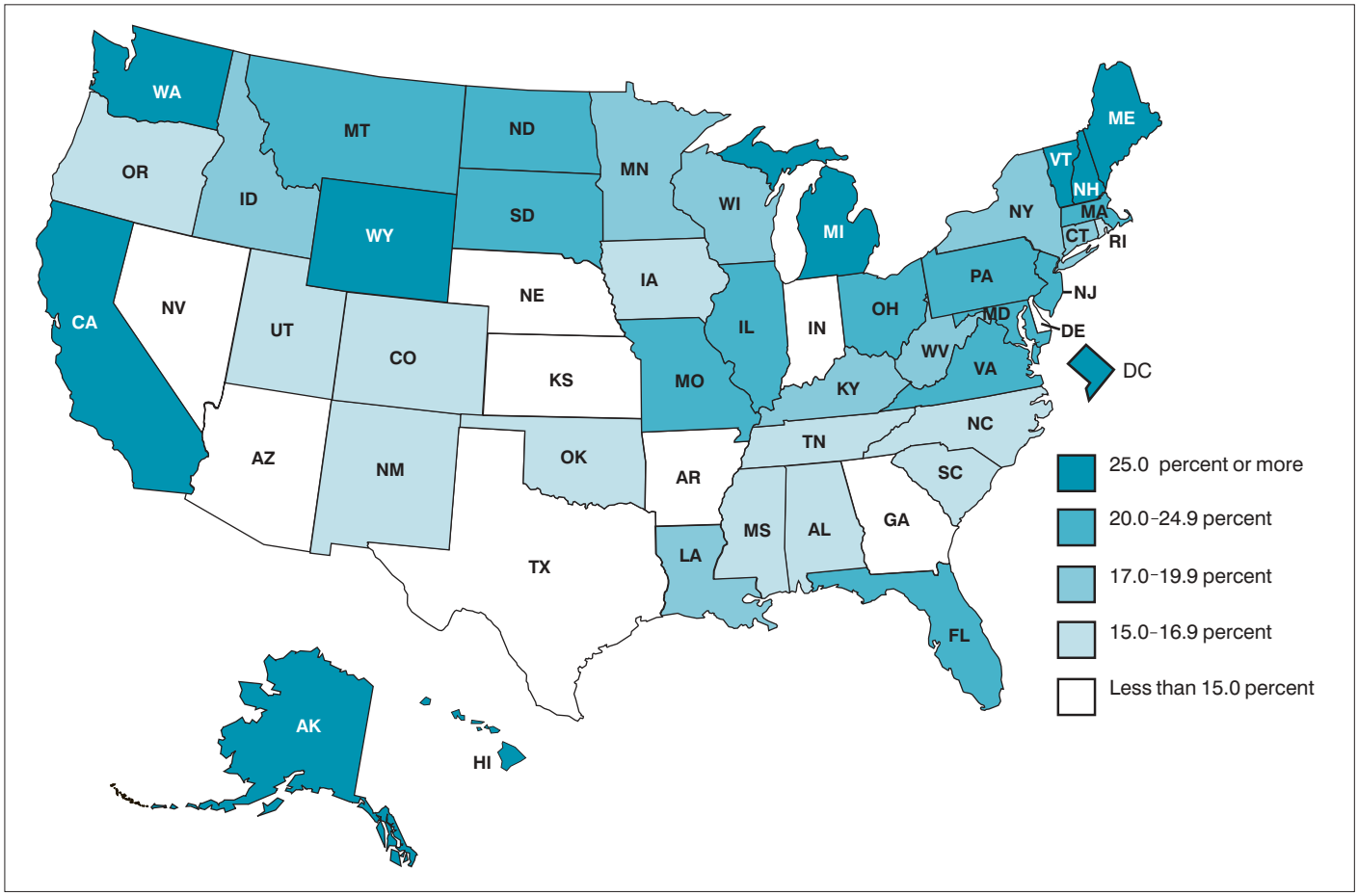


Figure 9. Percent decline in teenage birth rates by State, 1991–1999

pregnancy are making a real difference in encouraging teens to remain abstinent or use contraception when they have sex." (25). Findings from the National Longitudinal Study on Adolescent Health (AddHealth), a large-scale, congressionally mandated survey of students in grades 7 though 12, have suggested that enhancing the connections of teenagers to their family and home, their school, and their community is essential for protecting teenagers from a vast array of risky behaviors, including sexual activity (26,27).

Several national surveys have reported that teenage sexual activity has leveled off (28–30). Also important are higher rates of contraceptive use at first intercourse, and a shift to highly reliable hormonal methods (implant and injectable contraceptives) by some teenagers (30,31). The long economic expansion during the 1990s likely played a role as well, increasing economic opportunity for teenagers as well as older women and men. Enhanced economic opportunity may have encouraged teenagers to strive for greater educational achievement and better career opportunities, while postponing early pregnancy and parenthood.

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Table 1. Selected measures of teenage childbearing: United States, 1940–2000

Year	Total number of births to women 15–19 years	Birth rate per 1,000 women 15–19 years	Birth rate per 1,000 unmarried women 15–19 years	Birth rate per 1,000 married women 15–19 years	Percent of teen births to unmarried women (ages 15–19)
2000	470,506	48.7	---	---	78.7
1999	476,050	49.6	40.4	311.2	78.7
1998	484,895	51.1	41.5	322.1	78.5
1997	483,220	52.3	42.2	323.0	77.8
1996	491,577	54.4	42.9	344.3	75.9
1995	499,873	56.8	44.4	362.4	75.2
1994	505,488	58.9	46.4	350.5	75.5
1993	501,093	59.6	44.5	388.0	71.3
1992	505,415	60.7	44.6	397.8	70.0
1991	519,577	62.1	44.8	410.4	68.8
1990	521,826	59.9	42.5	420.2	67.1
1989	506,503	57.3	40.1	394.5	66.6
1988	478,353	53.0	36.4	371.0	65.3
1987	462,312	50.6	33.8	358.8	63.4
1986	461,905	50.2	32.3	351.8	60.8
1985	467,485	51.0	31.4	357.4	58.0
1984	469,582	50.6	30.0	356.5	55.6
1983	489,286	51.4	29.5	348.1	53.4
1982	513,758	52.4	28.7	354.0	50.7
1981	527,392	52.2	27.9	331.9	49.2
1980	552,161	53.0	27.6	349.5	47.6
1979	549,472	52.3	26.4	331.8	46.1
1978	543,407	51.5	24.9	323.1	44.1
1977	559,154	52.8	25.1	309.2	42.9
1976	558,744	52.8	23.7	307.6	40.3
1975	582,238	55.6	23.9	313.1	38.2
1974	595,449	57.5	23.0	324.1	35.4
1973	604,096	59.3	22.7	340.3	33.9
1972	616,280	61.7	22.8	376.0	32.8
1971	627,942	64.5	22.3	414.3	30.9
1970	644,708	68.3	22.4	443.7	29.5
1969	604,654	65.5	20.4	437.8	27.8
1968	591,312	65.6	19.7	435.9	26.7
1967	596,445	67.5	18.5	439.8	24.2
1966	621,426	70.3	17.5	456.4	21.9
1965	590,894	70.5	16.7	462.7	20.8
1964	585,710	73.1	15.9	480.2	19.0
1963	586,454	76.7	15.3	486.6	17.4
1962	600,298	81.4	14.8	502.1	15.7
1961	601,720	88.6	16.0	521.5	15.5
1960	586,966	89.1	15.3	530.6	14.8
1959	571,048	90.4	15.5	---	14.8
1958	554,184	91.4	15.3	---	14.3
1957	550,212	96.3	15.8	---	13.9
1956	520,422	94.6	15.6	---	14.0
1955	484,097	90.3	15.1	460.2	14.2
1954	477,880	90.6	14.9	---	14.1
1953	455,878	88.2	13.9	---	13.5
1952	438,046	86.1	13.5	---	13.4
1951	443,872	87.6	13.2	---	12.9
1950	419,535	81.6	12.6	410.4	13.4
1949	433,028	83.4	12.0	---	---
1948	431,933	81.8	11.4	---	---
1947	425,845	79.3	11.0	---	12.4
1946	322,381	59.3	9.5	---	---
1945	280,997	51.1	9.5	---	17.5
1944	301,130	54.3	8.8	---	---
1943	343,550	61.7	8.4	---	---
1942	341,315	61.1	8.2	---	---
1941	316,685	56.9	8.0	---	---
1940	300,747	54.1	7.4	---	13.6

--- Data not available.

NOTE: Data for 2000 are preliminary.

Table 2. Births for women under age 20 years, by age, race, and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2000, and birth rates, 1990–2000, and percent change in rates, 1991–2000

[Rates per 1,000 women in specified group]

Age and race and Hispanic origin of mother	Number of births 2000	Birth rates											Percent change in rates 1991–2000
		2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	
10–14 years													
Total	8,561	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	–35.7
White total	4,451	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	–25.0
White non-Hispanic	1,845	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	–40.0
Black	3,833	2.5	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.9	–47.9
American Indian[1]	161	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	–18.8
Asian or Pacific Islander	117	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	–62.5
Hispanic[2]	2,648	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.4	–20.8
15–19 years													
Total	470,506	48.7	49.6	51.1	52.3	54.4	56.8	58.9	59.6	60.7	62.1	59.9	–21.6
White total	334,751	43.9	44.6	45.4	46.3	48.1	50.1	51.1	51.1	51.8	52.8	50.8	–16.9
White non-Hispanic	205,729	32.8	34.0	35.2	36	37.6	39.3	40.4	40.7	41.7	43.4	42.5	–24.4
Black	118,642	79.2	81.0	85.4	88.2	91.4	96.1	104.5	108.6	112.4	115.5	112.8	–31.4
American Indian[1]	8,061	67.9	67.8	72.1	71.8	73.9	78.0	80.8	83.1	84.4	85.0	81.1	–20.1
Asian or Pacific Islander	9,052	21.8	22.3	23.1	23.7	24.6	26.1	27.1	27.0	26.6	27.4	26.4	–20.4
Hispanic[2]	129,398	94.4	93.4	93.6	97.4	101.8	106.7	107.7	106.8	107.1	106.7	100.3	–11.5
15–17 years													
Total	157,661	27.5	28.7	30.4	32.1	33.8	36.0	37.6	37.8	37.8	38.7	37.5	–28.9
White total	107,373	23.8	24.8	25.9	27.1	28.4	30.0	30.7	30.3	30.1	30.7	29.5	–22.5
White non-Hispanic	59,325	15.9	17.1	18.4	19.4	20.6	22.0	22.8	22.7	22.7	23.6	23.2	–32.6
Black	44,453	50.2	52.0	56.8	60.8	64.7	69.7	76.3	79.8	81.3	84.1	82.3	–40.3
American Indian[1]	2,890	39.5	41.4	44.4	45.3	46.4	47.8	51.3	53.7	53.8	52.7	48.5	–25.0
Asian or Pacific Islander	2,945	11.7	12.3	13.8	14.3	14.9	15.4	16.1	16.0	15.2	16.1	16.0	–27.3
Hispanic[2]	48,413	60.0	61.3	62.3	66.3	69.0	72.9	74.0	71.7	71.4	70.6	65.9	–15.0
18–19 years													
Total	312,845	79.5	80.3	82.0	83.6	86.0	89.1	91.5	92.1	94.5	94.4	88.6	–15.8
White total	227,378	73.0	73.5	74.6	75.9	78.4	81.2	82.1	82.1	83.8	83.5	78.0	–12.6
White non-Hispanic	146,404	57.3	58.9	60.6	61.9	63.7	66.1	67.4	67.7	69.8	70.5	66.6	–18.7
Black	74,188	121.1	122.8	126.9	130.1	132.5	137.1	148.3	151.9	157.9	158.6	152.9	–23.6
American Indian[1]	5,171	113.4	110.6	118.4	117.6	122.3	130.7	130.3	130.7	132.6	134.3	129.3	–15.6
Asian or Pacific Islander	6,107	37.3	38.0	38.3	39.3	40.4	43.4	44.1	43.3	43.1	43.1	40.2	–13.5
Hispanic[2]	80,984	143.5	139.4	140.1	144.3	151.1	157.9	158.0	159.1	159.7	158.5	147.7	–9.5

[1]Includes births to Aleuts and Eskimos.

[2]Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

NOTE: Data for 2000 are preliminary.

Table 3. Birth rates for teenagers for first births and for second births: United States, 1950–99

[Rates for first births are births per 1,000 childless women aged 15–19 years; rates for second births are births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years who have had a first birth]

Year	First births	Second births	Year	First births	Second births
1999	41.7	174.1	1974	49.2	173.4
1998	43.3	174.6	1973	51.0	173.7
1997	44.7	173.7	1972	53.0	185.3
1996	46.7	173.5	1971	54.7	206.2
1995	49.2	177.5	1970	57.6	227.7
1994	50.0	189.6	1969	54.8	231.6
1993	49.3	203.6	1968	54.3	237.9
1992	48.9	216.9	1967	54.1	257.1
1991	49.6	220.9	1966	55.8	268.8
1990	47.9	218.2	1965	55.9	291.5
1989	45.9	215.0	1964	58.3	323.5
1988	43.0	205.3	1963	60.3	342.3
1987	41.8	195.8	1962	61.8	352.4
1986	41.9	193.2	1961	64.7	355.7
1985	42.1	192.1	1960	65.8	359.4
1984	41.4	185.5	1959	68.4	360.7
1983	42.2	184.5	1958	69.9	352.8
1982	43.0	188.0	1957	72.7	355.8
1981	43.0	183.1	1956	71.0	355.2
1980	44.5	187.8	1955	67.5	337.4
1979	43.8	183.1	1954	68.0	331.3
1978	43.2	177.2	1953	66.2	331.2
1977	44.5	177.7	1952	64.2	322.7
1976	44.7	168.0	1951	65.0	330.0
1975	47.3	171.9	1950	59.9	316.3

Table 4. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years by age of mother: United States and each State, 1990–1999

State	15–19 years										Percent change 1991–99
	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	
United States	49.6	51.1	52.3	54.4	56.8	58.9	59.6	60.7	62.1	59.9	–20.1
Alabama	62.8	65.5	66.6	69.2	70.3	72.2	70.5	72.5	73.9	71.0	–15.0
Alaska	41.8	42.4	44.6	46.4	50.2	55.2	56.8	63.9	65.4	65.3	–36.1
Arizona	69.6	70.5	69.7	73.9	75.7	78.7	79.8	81.7	80.7	75.5	–13.8
Arkansas	68.1	70.8	72.9	75.4	73.5	76.3	73.9	75.5	79.8	80.1	–14.7
California	50.7	53.5	57.3	62.6	68.2	71.3	72.7	74.0	74.7	70.6	–32.1
Colorado	48.4	48.7	48.2	49.5	51.3	54.3	55.2	58.4	58.2	54.5	–16.8
Connecticut	33.3	35.8	36.1	37.4	39.3	40.3	39.2	39.4	40.4	38.8	–17.6
Delaware	54.3	53.9	55.8	56.9	57.0	60.2	59.7	59.6	61.1	54.5	–11.1
District of Columbia	83.5	86.7	91.0	102.1	106.8	114.7	128.8	116.1	114.4	93.1	–27.0
Florida	53.5	55.5	57.7	58.9	61.7	64.4	64.8	66.3	68.8	69.1	–22.2
Georgia	65.1	65.4	67.2	68.2	71.1	71.7	73.0	74.5	76.3	75.5	–14.7
Hawaii	43.8	45.7	43.8	48.1	47.9	53.5	53.0	53.5	58.7	61.2	–25.4
Idaho	43.7	44.8	43.3	47.2	49.0	46.6	50.7	51.7	53.9	50.6	–18.9
Illinois	51.1	53.2	54.7	57.1	59.9	62.8	63.0	63.6	64.8	62.9	–21.1
Indiana	51.6	53.3	54.2	56.1	57.5	57.9	58.6	58.7	60.5	58.6	–14.7
Iowa	35.8	35.2	35.7	37.8	38.6	39.7	41.1	40.8	42.6	40.5	–16.0
Kansas	47.4	47.0	48.5	49.6	52.2	53.5	55.7	55.7	55.4	56.1	–14.4
Kentucky	56.4	57.0	59.6	61.5	62.5	64.5	64.0	64.7	68.9	67.6	–18.1
Louisiana	62.8	65.4	66.3	66.7	69.9	74.7	76.1	76.5	76.1	74.2	–17.5
Maine	29.8	30.4	32.0	31.4	33.6	35.5	37.1	39.8	43.5	43.0	–31.5
Maryland	42.6	43.1	43.9	46.1	47.7	49.7	50.1	50.7	54.3	53.2	–21.5
Massachusetts	28.7	30.8	31.7	32.2	34.3	37.2	37.9	38.0	37.8	35.1	–24.1
Michigan	40.5	42.6	43.9	46.5	49.2	52.1	53.2	56.5	59.0	59.0	–31.4
Minnesota	30.0	30.6	32.0	32.1	32.4	34.4	35.0	36.0	37.3	36.3	–19.6
Mississippi	72.5	73.0	73.7	75.5	80.6	83.0	83.3	84.2	85.6	81.0	–15.3
Missouri	49.6	51.2	51.5	53.7	55.5	59.0	59.8	63.2	64.5	62.8	–23.1
Montana	35.1	37.1	37.6	38.6	41.8	41.2	45.7	46.2	46.7	48.4	–24.8
Nebraska	37.0	37.0	37.2	38.7	37.6	42.8	40.5	41.1	42.4	42.3	–12.7
Nevada	64.1	65.7	67.7	69.6	73.3	73.6	73.4	71.4	75.3	73.3	–14.9
New Hampshire	24.0	27.1	28.6	28.6	30.5	30.1	30.7	31.3	33.3	33.0	–27.9
New Jersey	32.8	34.6	35.0	35.4	38.0	39.3	38.1	39.2	41.6	40.5	–21.2
New Mexico	67.4	69.0	68.4	70.9	74.5	77.4	81.1	80.3	79.8	78.2	–15.5
New York	37.0	38.5	38.8	41.8	44.0	45.8	45.7	45.3	46.0	43.6	–19.6
North Carolina	59.5	61.0	61.3	63.5	64.1	66.3	66.8	69.5	70.5	67.6	–15.6
North Dakota	27.7	30.4	30.1	32.3	33.5	34.6	36.8	37.3	35.6	35.4	–22.2
Ohio	46.0	48.1	49.8	50.4	53.4	55.0	56.8	58.0	60.5	57.9	–24.0
Oklahoma	60.5	61.6	64.3	63.4	64.0	65.9	68.6	69.9	72.1	66.8	–16.1
Oregon	46.5	47.4	46.9	50.8	50.7	50.7	51.2	53.2	54.9	54.6	–15.3
Pennsylvania	36.2	36.9	37.3	39.3	41.7	43.8	44.3	45.2	46.9	44.9	–22.8
Rhode Island	38.2	41.0	42.7	42.5	43.1	47.7	49.8	47.5	45.4	43.9	–15.9
South Carolina	60.8	60.4	61.4	62.9	65.1	66.5	66.0	70.3	72.9	71.3	–16.6
South Dakota	37.6	38.5	39.7	39.5	40.5	42.8	44.3	48.3	47.5	46.8	–20.8
Tennessee	62.7	64.3	64.5	66.1	67.9	71.0	70.2	71.4	75.2	72.3	–16.6
Texas	70.1	70.9	71.7	73.5	76.1	77.6	78.1	78.9	78.9	75.3	–11.2
Utah	40.2	40.9	42.6	42.8	42.4	42.7	44.5	46.3	48.2	48.5	–16.6
Vermont	25.7	24.4	26.9	30.1	28.6	33.0	35.2	35.6	39.2	34.0	–34.4
Virginia	42.7	43.5	44.2	45.5	48.7	50.7	49.8	51.8	53.5	52.9	–20.2
Washington	40.1	41.7	42.5	45.0	47.6	48.2	50.2	50.9	53.7	53.1	–25.3
West Virginia	47.9	49.2	49.1	50.3	52.7	54.3	55.6	56.0	57.8	57.3	–17.1
Wisconsin	35.7	34.8	35.9	36.8	37.8	38.8	41.1	42.1	43.7	42.6	–18.3
Wyoming	40.4	47.8	43.3	44.0	47.2	48.2	49.6	49.6	54.2	56.3	–25.5
Puerto Rico	72.0	74.3	77.8	74.8	74.3	73.6	74.7	72.7	72.4	75.2	**–0.6
Virgin Islands	55.2	62.0	66.0	54.9	63.0	72.8	80.7	77.8	77.9	79.2	–29.1
Guam	96.6	104.8	106.3	116.8	108.4	108.4	107.9	107.6	95.7	93.4	**0.9
American Samoa	46.4	43.9	43.9	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Northern Marianas	62.0	65.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years by age of mother: United States and each State, 1990–1999—Con.

State	15–17 years										Percent change 1991–99
	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	
United States	28.7	30.4	32.1	33.8	36.0	37.6	37.8	37.8	38.7	37.5	–25.9
Alabama	38.3	40.7	43.4	45.3	47.2	50.8	48.2	46.3	47.7	47.4	–19.7
Alaska	24.5	24.8	25.1	26.5	29.6	32.3	33.4	34.5	35.3	31.2	–30.6
Arizona	41.8	45.2	44.0	48.9	47.7	50.2	49.6	51.2	51.4	47.7	–18.7
Arkansas	37.6	41.4	42.9	44.9	47.9	48.8	45.9	46.8	49.4	50.4	–23.8
California	30.9	33.4	36.2	39.2	43.4	45.5	46.4	46.1	46.9	44.6	–34.1
Colorado	28.7	29.0	29.9	30.2	32.7	34.3	34.9	36.7	35.3	33.1	–18.8
Connecticut	18.7	21.4	22.5	24.4	26.6	28.9	26.4	25.9	26.3	26.4	–28.8
Delaware	33.7	33.9	36.8	41.0	39.2	44.6	39.2	43.8	40.3	38.4	–16.3
District of Columbia	67.0	65.5	65.9	79.0	78.3	87.9	102.1	88.6	102.8	88.4	–34.8
Florida	30.9	33.3	35.1	36.7	40.0	42.4	42.1	42.2	44.0	44.9	–29.8
Georgia	38.1	40.3	44.0	45.4	48.3	48.5	48.9	48.4	50.6	50.1	–24.7
Hawaii	25.6	29.5	25.3	28.0	27.6	31.7	29.7	31.5	34.7	32.5	–26.2
Idaho	25.1	24.5	23.3	26.5	26.7	27.0	29.4	28.5	29.3	26.3	–14.4
Illinois	29.5	32.7	34.4	36.1	38.4	41.1	41.4	40.3	40.6	40.1	–27.3
Indiana	27.5	28.9	32.1	32.9	34.7	34.9	34.4	34.6	35.2	36.3	–21.8
Iowa	18.3	18.6	20.1	21.4	22.1	22.7	23.1	21.0	22.8	20.4	–19.8
Kansas	24.2	24.8	27.5	27.8	29.9	30.3	31.0	30.3	29.4	30.4	–17.6
Kentucky	30.3	31.5	35.4	36.9	38.9	39.7	39.6	38.8	42.6	40.8	–28.9
Louisiana	37.9	40.4	42.1	42.9	45.3	51.3	52.6	52.4	51.1	49.5	–25.8
Maine	13.8	14.9	15.4	16.8	19.2	18.1	20.0	21.2	23.8	23.3	–42.0
Maryland	25.2	26.4	28.2	29.6	32.0	32.5	33.8	32.8	35.2	33.5	–28.4
Massachusetts	16.2	18.2	19.1	19.9	21.7	23.7	23.6	24.7	25.2	23.7	–35.6
Michigan	22.0	23.9	25.4	28.2	30.1	31.6	32.8	33.6	35.5	36.0	–38.1
Minnesota	16.2	16.5	17.8	18.5	19.4	19.8	20.4	20.6	20.7	19.9	–21.7
Mississippi	45.0	47.2	50.2	52.1	57.7	58.2	57.6	59.1	60.1	57.5	–25.1
Missouri	26.9	28.6	29.6	31.0	32.6	35.4	36.6	38.2	38.7	39.3	–30.6
Montana	18.5	19.8	20.1	21.2	22.8	22.1	26.5	25.8	23.6	24.0	–21.6
Nebraska	20.1	20.5	21.3	22.2	22.0	24.2	22.7	22.8	23.6	23.0	–14.8
Nevada	37.0	38.2	42.2	42.1	43.8	46.6	44.9	42.7	43.9	42.5	–15.8
New Hampshire	10.5	13.1	14.0	15.1	14.6	14.5	14.7	14.8	17.1	17.1	–38.4
New Jersey	18.2	20.2	21.3	22.9	24.4	25.6	25.1	24.4	26.3	24.4	–30.9
New Mexico	42.8	44.2	44.4	45.8	48.9	51.7	53.6	51.5	50.0	46.9	–14.4
New York	21.3	22.4	23.4	25.6	27.6	29.8	29.8	29.0	29.1	27.5	–26.7
North Carolina	34.8	36.2	37.7	40.8	41.6	43.5	42.9	43.8	46.2	44.9	–24.8
North Dakota	12.9	16.1	14.3	16.1	17.8	15.4	17.6	17.8	18.1	15.6	–28.7
Ohio	24.7	26.7	28.6	29.5	32.6	33.7	34.8	34.9	36.2	34.3	–31.8
Oklahoma	33.1	35.0	37.3	37.2	38.7	40.5	40.5	41.1	41.7	38.8	–20.7
Oregon	25.3	26.3	27.0	29.4	30.0	30.1	30.2	30.3	31.3	30.7	–19.2
Pennsylvania	20.5	21.8	21.9	24.5	26.2	28.0	28.4	28.7	29.2	28.4	–29.8
Rhode Island	21.6	24.4	27.6	27.3	26.5	32.2	33.5	29.7	30.1	31.6	–28.2
South Carolina	38.1	39.6	40.0	41.3	43.5	45.7	43.6	45.8	48.0	47.0	–20.7
South Dakota	19.3	19.6	21.8	22.4	21.4	23.0	24.9	26.9	26.3	23.9	–26.7
Tennessee	35.0	37.7	38.5	40.2	42.0	43.2	43.4	44.6	47.8	45.0	–26.8
Texas	43.9	45.2	47.1	48.8	50.6	51.8	51.3	51.1	50.4	48.0	–13.0
Utah	22.6	22.2	23.7	24.3	25.2	24.9	25.7	26.1	27.0	26.3	–16.2
Vermont	12.1	11.4	12.1	15.2	10.8	16.5	17.0	17.3	21.3	19.5	–43.1
Virginia	23.0	24.3	26.1	27.7	30.7	31.2	30.6	31.0	31.8	32.1	–27.6
Washington	21.5	23.2	24.5	26.1	28.0	28.5	29.3	30.8	31.0	29.6	–30.5
West Virginia	24.4	26.2	27.5	28.7	30.5	32.5	33.5	32.4	32.4	33.0	–24.7
Wisconsin	20.1	19.6	21.4	21.7	22.6	23.0	23.9	23.9	24.8	24.2	–19.1
Wyoming	22.0	22.8	23.3	24.9	24.6	24.9	26.9	24.8	26.4	29.7	–16.8
Puerto Rico	50.3	54.4	57.6	55.6	53.7	54.4	54.6	51.6	50.8	50.9	**–1.0
Virgin Islands	32.0	40.1	46.6	35.0	38.3	48.9	52.4	51.1	48.6	43.6	–34.2
Guam	54.9	60.4	61.4	69.5	70.3	69.6	70.2	65.8	55.0	50.5	**–0.2
American Samoa	21.6	17.3	20.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Northern Marianas	50.5	50.4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years by age of mother: United States and each State, 1990–1999—Con.

State	18–19 years										Percent change 1991–99
	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	
United States	80.3	82.0	83.6	86.0	89.1	91.5	92.1	94.5	94.4	88.6	–14.9
Alabama	95.9	100.4	100.2	104.1	104.3	103.4	102.3	109.9	109.5	101.4	–12.4
Alaska	67.7	68.6	73.6	75.2	81.2	90.0	91.6	108.6	111.7	120.0	–39.4
Arizona	111.1	108.2	111.2	110.7	121.0	123.5	126.4	128.3	122.6	111.6	–9.4
Arkansas	112.3	114.0	119.2	121.7	112.0	117.1	114.7	117.1	122.8	120.7	–8.5
California	78.5	83.4	90.5	99.1	107.0	110.8	112.3	116.0	113.6	104.3	–30.9
Colorado	78.0	79.0	77.2	79.7	80.3	85.7	86.6	91.5	91.4	82.9	–14.6
Connecticut	57.6	58.6	58.1	58.3	59.7	58.2	58.4	59.3	59.4	53.9	**–3.0
Delaware	82.3	81.7	83.3	79.9	83.4	82.9	89.4	82.0	87.1	71.4	**–5.5
District of Columbia	100.4	110.8	122.4	132.5	145.7	151.0	162.8	148.1	125.5	96.7	–20.0
Florida	88.6	90.8	94.2	94.1	96.4	98.3	98.6	101.6	102.9	100.6	–13.9
Georgia	104.0	102.5	102.8	103.3	106.7	107.4	108.4	111.6	110.9	108.5	–6.3
Hawaii	67.2	67.3	69.6	76.2	76.3	83.6	85.0	83.1	91.5	102.0	–26.5
Idaho	68.9	73.1	72.5	77.7	82.7	76.4	83.2	87.8	90.8	84.8	–24.2
Illinois	83.6	85.0	87.6	90.9	94.0	96.7	96.1	98.7	99.1	93.3	–15.7
Indiana	86.8	89.5	87.6	91.4	92.2	92.4	94.0	93.7	95.2	87.8	–8.8
Iowa	61.4	60.3	60.4	63.6	64.9	66.5	69.3	72.3	71.5	65.7	–14.1
Kansas	81.5	81.1	81.7	84.2	87.6	90.1	94.3	95.6	94.1	89.9	–13.4
Kentucky	93.1	94.2	95.0	97.9	98.2	102.1	100.2	103.0	105.5	103.0	–11.7
Louisiana	96.9	100.6	101.4	102.3	106.8	109.6	110.9	112.2	111.4	106.9	–13.0
Maine	54.8	54.5	58.3	54.5	56.7	62.8	62.8	66.6	70.1	68.8	–21.8
Maryland	69.9	69.2	68.8	72.3	72.6	76.5	74.5	76.6	79.8	78.4	–12.4
Massachusetts	47.2	49.5	50.8	50.6	53.5	57.3	58.1	56.0	52.9	47.0	–10.8
Michigan	68.2	70.9	72.2	75.5	79.3	83.8	83.6	89.8	91.1	88.8	–25.1
Minnesota	51.2	52.7	55.1	54.2	53.8	57.9	57.8	60.0	61.4	57.6	–16.6
Mississippi	111.0	110.3	108.8	110.5	115.2	120.2	121.2	120.6	120.4	111.0	–7.8
Missouri	83.4	85.7	86.3	89.7	91.9	96.2	95.2	100.8	100.7	93.0	–17.2
Montana	60.2	63.3	65.2	65.8	72.1	72.1	76.3	78.3	83.0	85.8	–27.4
Nebraska	61.4	61.6	61.6	63.7	61.4	70.8	66.8	68.5	69.2	68.0	–11.2
Nevada	106.9	109.5	109.1	113.5	121.1	116.2	117.1	113.9	119.1	115.1	–10.3
New Hampshire	46.0	50.0	53.0	50.9	57.1	55.2	55.0	54.4	53.8	51.3	–14.4
New Jersey	55.5	56.9	56.7	55.3	59.6	60.6	57.6	61.0	62.9	62.4	–11.7
New Mexico	104.6	107.5	106.3	110.7	115.2	118.4	123.7	124.1	124.4	124.2	–15.9
New York	59.8	62.4	62.3	66.4	69.1	70.1	69.4	69.3	69.0	63.4	–13.4
North Carolina	96.3	98.5	97.3	97.5	98.1	100.3	101.4	105.6	101.7	94.4	–5.3
North Dakota	50.0	52.5	55.0	58.1	58.5	65.5	67.4	68.3	62.4	62.3	–19.9
Ohio	77.2	80.3	82.6	82.6	85.7	87.4	89.2	91.5	93.8	88.1	–17.7
Oklahoma	101.7	102.6	107.4	104.7	103.4	104.9	111.2	113.3	115.6	104.3	–12.0
Oregon	78.4	80.0	78.2	84.7	83.6	83.5	84.4	89.6	90.7	87.9	–13.6
Pennsylvania	60.1	60.2	61.3	62.5	65.9	68.0	68.0	68.9	70.5	64.9	–14.7
Rhode Island	63.2	65.8	65.6	65.7	68.9	71.5	73.5	72.1	63.6	55.7	**–0.6
South Carolina	91.9	89.8	93.0	94.2	97.1	96.9	97.8	104.6	105.4	101.4	–12.8
South Dakota	63.4	66.0	66.3	66.0	70.1	74.1	74.7	81.9	79.2	78.7	–20.0
Tennessee	102.7	103.4	103.8	105.8	108.1	113.5	109.7	109.5	112.1	107.3	–8.4
Texas	108.1	109.3	110.1	111.3	115.4	116.4	117.8	120.2	119.3	112.2	–9.4
Utah	62.7	65.6	68.3	68.6	67.7	70.4	74.0	78.4	79.8	78.7	–21.4
Vermont	46.3	44.6	51.2	54.1	57.0	58.7	62.8	62.0	62.0	49.6	–25.4
Virginia	70.0	70.7	70.8	71.6	74.8	78.8	76.7	80.1	81.2	77.7	–13.8
Washington	67.6	69.6	70.7	74.5	78.1	78.9	82.2	81.5	86.5	84.4	–21.8
West Virginia	81.0	81.5	80.3	81.9	85.6	87.0	88.2	90.7	93.2	89.9	–13.1
Wisconsin	59.2	58.1	58.8	60.7	62.1	63.6	67.5	70.1	71.2	66.1	–16.8
Wyoming	68.2	86.5	75.8	74.9	84.5	86.4	86.0	89.8	98.6	98.1	–30.9
Puerto Rico	102.7	102.3	106.6	102.7	104.1	102.6	105.4	105.3	105.9	113.3	**–3.0
Virgin Islands	89.9	94.5	96.7	84.9	100.1	108.8	123.4	118.3	124.0	138.0	–27.5
Guam	163.3	176.1	178.2	191.5	167.2	167.5	164.8	170.2	156.1	156.4	**4.6
American Samoa	86.3	86.4	81.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Northern Marianas	76.4	83.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- Data not available.

** Not significant at $p < .05$.

Table 5. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States and each State, 1999

[Rates per 1,000 women in specified group]

State	15–19 years					15–17 years					18–19 years				
		White					White					White			
	All	Total	Non-Hispanic	Black	Hispanic[1]	All	Total	Non-Hispanic	Black	Hispanic[1]	All	Total	Non-Hispanic	Black	Hispanic[1]
United States	49.6	44.6	34.0	81.0	93.4	28.7	24.8	17.1	52.0	61.3	80.3	73.5	58.9	122.8	139.4
Alabama	62.8	52.5	50.8	83.2	136.2	38.3	29.5	28.4	56.3	87.1	95.9	84.9	82.3	117.1	*
Alaska	41.8	29.8	29.0	66.7	57.6	24.5	15.9	15.0	*	*	67.7	50.3	49.9	*	*
Arizona	69.6	69.7	39.6	74.9	125.4	41.8	41.9	19.2	47.3	84.5	111.1	110.7	70.0	116.1	184.9
Arkansas	68.1	59.9	57.4	96.5	121.2	37.6	29.9	28.4	64.3	66.3	112.3	104.1	100.1	140.4	204.8
California	50.7	55.2	25.2	58.4	83.4	30.9	34.1	12.2	35.3	55.3	78.5	84.7	43.7	89.8	121.9
Colorado	48.4	47.6	29.9	67.4	116.3	28.7	28.1	15.0	42.8	79.4	78.0	76.7	52.1	104.4	171.0
Connecticut	33.3	29.1	16.1	67.1	114.4	18.7	16.1	7.2	39.6	73.8	57.6	50.8	30.9	115.1	183.9
Delaware	54.3	40.4	35.7	99.8	116.6	33.7	23.8	20.8	65.8	*	82.3	62.3	55.0	149.7	*
District of Columbia	83.5	23.2	*	127.8	*	67.0	27.0	*	81.2	*	100.4	21.5	*	213.1	*
Florida	53.5	45.3	39.5	83.5	62.5	30.9	24.8	20.3	53.2	39.7	88.6	77.4	70.2	129.2	96.3
Georgia	65.1	55.8	49.3	84.4	154.5	38.1	30.2	26.5	54.2	89.3	104.0	93.4	82.9	126.2	246.8
Hawaii	43.8	16.9	14.7	31.0	98.2	25.6	7.1	5.3	*	59.4	67.2	28.4	25.6	*	150.0
Idaho	43.7	43.4	38.2	*	91.9	25.1	24.6	19.5	*	72.0	68.9	69.0	63.4	*	120.2
Illinois	51.1	40.3	27.5	105.2	102.2	29.5	21.6	13.1	67.9	62.8	83.6	68.3	49.1	160.6	162.4
Indiana	51.6	46.7	44.6	97.2	99.6	27.5	23.8	22.5	60.1	57.2	86.8	80.0	76.7	153.3	163.1
Iowa	35.8	33.9	31.8	95.5	106.6	18.3	16.8	15.2	62.6	71.7	61.4	59.0	56.1	138.5	162.1
Kansas	47.4	44.0	38.3	97.6	108.3	24.2	21.7	17.3	59.1	72.1	81.5	77.1	69.5	152.3	161.7
Kentucky	56.4	53.8	53.2	85.3	112.1	30.3	28.5	28.0	51.2	*	93.1	89.5	88.6	130.3	*
Louisiana	62.8	45.3	45.6	89.7	33.8	37.9	23.5	23.4	60.6	23.8	96.9	76.0	77.0	127.6	46.7
Maine	29.8	29.5	29.4	*	*	13.8	13.6	13.5	*	*	54.8	54.6	54.4	*	*
Maryland	42.6	29.0	26.6	73.0	59.2	25.2	15.2	14.0	47.4	30.7	69.9	50.5	46.4	112.9	99.3
Massachusetts	28.7	25.4	17.9	68.0	101.9	16.2	14.1	8.8	38.5	65.8	47.2	42.1	31.5	116.5	158.7
Michigan	40.5	32.9	30.4	79.8	88.2	22.0	16.7	14.7	49.8	59.6	68.2	57.3	53.9	125.7	130.0
Minnesota	30.0	24.0	21.0	109.9	137.5	16.2	11.6	9.8	70.5	83.0	51.2	42.7	38.1	174.7	219.6
Mississippi	72.5	53.3	53.0	95.0	61.8	45.0	27.5	27.3	65.4	*	111.0	89.7	89.3	135.5	*
Missouri	49.6	43.1	42.0	92.0	87.7	26.9	21.8	21.1	58.8	52.9	83.4	74.5	72.8	142.9	135.3
Montana	35.1	29.7	28.8	*	*	18.5	14.6	14.4	*	*	60.2	51.9	50.2	*	*
Nebraska	37.0	32.9	28.6	97.5	97.2	20.1	16.9	13.2	64.1	69.4	61.4	55.8	50.4	150.8	140.5
Nevada	64.1	63.9	45.3	81.6	112.7	37.0	37.0	23.3	48.8	75.2	106.9	106.0	80.5	132.5	168.1
New Hampshire	24.0	24.3	23.5	*	*	10.5	10.5	10.1	*	*	46.0	46.7	45.5	*	*
New Jersey	32.8	25.3	13.5	72.6	76.6	18.2	13.3	5.7	45.1	47.0	55.5	44.1	25.8	112.2	119.1
New Mexico	67.4	68.6	37.7	50.4	91.8	42.8	43.9	18.2	31.0	63.9	104.6	105.3	67.2	*	132.9
New York	37.0	32.5	20.5	59.3	73.7	21.3	18.2	10.6	36.3	43.9	59.8	52.7	34.3	94.9	117.7
North Carolina	59.5	50.5	43.0	80.2	219.0	34.8	27.2	23.3	52.8	114.7	96.3	85.8	72.8	119.8	380.4
North Dakota	27.7	22.9	22.5	*	*	12.9	10.0	9.8	*	*	50.0	42.1	41.2	*	*
Ohio	46.0	39.6	38.6	88.6	76.0	24.7	19.8	19.1	57.0	49.4	77.2	68.6	67.4	135.2	113.8
Oklahoma	60.5	55.9	52.0	82.9	107.6	33.1	29.5	26.6	52.3	68.2	101.7	95.8	90.2	122.4	168.6
Oregon	46.5	46.2	38.7	64.5	119.3	25.3	24.6	19.1	40.0	78.6	78.4	78.7	68.1	101.5	181.2
Pennsylvania	36.2	29.2	25.5	93.6	114.0	20.5	15.3	12.7	62.2	75.5	60.1	50.3	45.0	143.7	173.3
Rhode Island	38.2	34.2	25.7	66.2	115.4	21.6	18.6	12.1	38.5	76.9	63.2	57.5	45.7	*	*

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States and each State, 1999—Con.

[Rates per 1,000 women in specified group]

State	15–19 years					15–17 years					18–19 years				
		White					White					White			
	All	Total	Non-Hispanic	Black	Hispanic[1]	All	Total	Non-Hispanic	Black	Hispanic[1]	All	Total	Non-Hispanic	Black	Hispanic[1]
South Carolina	60.8	49.2	46.9	80.5	128.8	38.1	27.8	26.3	55.2	84.5	91.9	78.1	75.0	115.4	179.0
South Dakota	37.6	27.5	27.0	*	*	19.3	12.9	12.4	*	*	63.4	47.4	47.0	*	*
Tennessee	62.7	55.4	53.7	90.6	136.1	35.0	28.4	27.3	60.1	83.8	102.7	94.9	92.3	132.0	208.6
Texas	70.1	71.3	41.9	76.0	107.4	43.9	44.7	21.7	48.3	73.3	108.1	109.8	71.2	114.7	157.2
Utah	40.2	39.6	33.0	*	118.8	22.6	22.3	17.0	*	84.6	62.7	61.8	53.4	*	164.0
Vermont	25.7	25.9	26.1	*	*	12.1	12.0	12.1	*	*	46.3	47.1	47.7	*	*
Virginia	42.7	33.7	31.1	73.8	73.6	23.0	16.8	15.1	44.1	43.3	70.0	57.2	53.3	113.8	114.3
Washington	40.1	39.3	32.6	60.7	98.0	21.5	20.8	15.9	33.1	64.9	67.6	66.6	57.3	100.2	146.4
West Virginia	47.9	47.2	47.1	71.7	*	24.4	23.8	23.6	43.9	*	81.0	80.2	80.2	107.5	*
Wisconsin	35.7	27.3	24.2	122.9	110.7	20.1	13.6	11.5	82.4	69.4	59.2	47.6	42.9	190.2	177.3
Wyoming	40.4	39.6	37.4	*	65.0	22.0	21.3	19.2	*	*	68.2	67.1	64.7	*	*

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision (based on fewer than 20 births or fewer than 1,000 women in specified group).

[1]Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

NOTE: Rates by race and Hispanic origin cannot be computed for the territories because populations are not available by race and Hispanic origin for these areas. Rates are based on populations provided by the U.S. Census Bureau and, therefore, may differ from those computed on the basis of other population estimates.

Table 6. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States and each State, 1991 and 1999, and percent change in rates: United States, 1991 to 1999

[Rates are births per 1,000 women in specified group]

State	White non-Hispanic			Black			American Indian			Asian or Pacific Islander			Hispanic		
	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99
United States	43.4	34.0	–21.6	115.5	81.0	–29.9	85.0	67.8	–20.2	27.4	22.3	–18.4	106.7	93.4	–12.5
Alabama	56.4	50.8	–9.9	111.0	83.2	–25.0	*	*	*	*	18.3	*	*	136.2	*
Alaska	50.8	29.0	–42.9	*	66.7	*	115.3	75.5	–34.5	*	43.9	*	*	57.6	*
Arizona	53.5	39.6	–25.9	126.7	74.9	–40.9	103.8	77.7	–25.2	27.8	26.1	**–6.1	131.1	125.4	–4.4
Arkansas	66.8	57.4	–14.1	127.3	96.5	–24.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	121.2	*
California	42.9	25.2	–41.2	98.7	58.4	–40.8	50.9	45.5	**–10.6	27.9	19.1	–31.5	122.4	83.4	–31.9
Colorado	40.2	29.9	–25.7	122.3	67.4	–44.9	76.3	74.5	**–2.3	35.5	27.8	**–21.8	118.7	116.3	**–2.0
Connecticut	20.4	16.1	–21.0	98.4	67.1	–31.9	*	*	*	19.1	13.8	**–27.7	131.9	114.4	–13.3
Delaware	37.5	35.7	**–4.8	134.0	99.8	–25.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	116.6	*
District of Columbia	10.2	*	*	135.3	127.8	**–5.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Florida	50.6	39.5	–21.9	132.4	83.5	–36.9	61.5	52.4	**–14.8	15.8	16.0	**1.5	60.5	62.5	**3.4
Georgia	54.7	49.3	–10.0	118.4	84.4	–28.7	*	*	*	28.1	18.1	–35.5	90.5	154.5	70.8
Hawaii	37.9	14.7	–61.3	*	31.0	*	*	*	*	64.7	56.0	–13.5	116.0	98.2	–15.3
Idaho	48.9	38.2	–21.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	124.9	91.9	–26.4
Illinois	36.9	27.5	–25.4	146.1	105.2	–28.0	*	28.0	*	12.7	10.1	**–20.8	103.4	102.2	**–1.2
Indiana	53.0	44.6	–15.9	126.6	97.2	–23.2	*	*	*	13.9	18.6	**33.6	64.4	99.6	54.7
Iowa	39.5	31.8	–19.6	138.1	95.5	–30.8	*	*	*	32.9	35.0	**6.3	80.9	106.6	31.8
Kansas	46.8	38.3	–18.1	131.4	97.6	–25.7	*	50.9	*	38.6	25.1	**–34.9	98.1	108.3	**10.4
Kentucky	64.8	53.2	–18.0	117.6	85.3	–27.5	*	*	*	*	24.2	*	*	112.1	*
Louisiana	52.7	45.6	–13.5	117.5	89.7	–23.6	*	63.1	*	19.2	22.9	**19.5	24.8	33.8	**36.4
Maine	43.3	29.4	–32.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Maryland	36.2	26.6	–26.5	96.9	73.0	–24.6	*	*	*	12.1	10.9	**–10.1	44.2	59.2	34.0
Massachusetts	25.3	17.9	–29.1	95.7	68.0	–28.9	*	*	*	30.6	23.6	–22.9	129.8	101.9	–21.5
Michigan	41.1	30.4	–26.0	130.1	79.8	–38.7	*	43.1	*	19.4	23.4	**20.6	90.3	88.2	**–2.3
Minnesota	29.2	21.0	–28.0	156.3	109.9	–29.7	144.2	97.0	–32.7	70.7	64.8	**–8.3	100.9	137.5	36.3
Mississippi	59.1	53.0	–10.3	117.6	95.0	–19.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	61.8	*
Missouri	51.3	42.0	–18.2	146.3	92.0	–37.1	*	*	*	19.6	20.7	**5.8	67.4	87.7	30.2
Montana	38.7	28.8	–25.5	*	*	*	131.8	89.8	–31.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nebraska	34.7	28.6	–17.6	130.3	97.5	–25.2	*	*	*	*	23.2	*	99.8	97.2	**–2.7
Nevada	60.4	45.3	–25.1	138.4	81.6	–41.0	*	50.0	*	42.8	40.9	**–4.5	114.1	112.7	**–1.2
New Hampshire	---	23.5	---	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	---	*	---
New Jersey	18.2	13.5	–26.0	103.3	72.6	–29.7	*	*	*	7.3	6.5	**–10.7	85.1	76.6	–10.0
New Mexico	50.9	37.7	–26.0	100.8	50.4	–50.0	91.8	70.0	–23.7	*	*	*	101.0	91.8	–9.1
New York	26.3	20.5	–22.1	76.7	59.3	–22.7	29.9	29.0	**–2.9	10.7	12.3	**15.0	85.4	73.7	–13.7
North Carolina	52.5	43.0	–18.0	110.9	80.2	–27.7	97.5	87.4	**–10.4	33.2	49.1	47.8	104.0	219.0	110.6
North Dakota	28.8	22.5	–22.0	*	*	*	143.2	92.1	–35.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ohio	48.9	38.6	–21.0	134.7	88.6	–34.2	*	*	*	15.2	14.5	**–4.4	83.1	76.0	**–8.5
Oklahoma	61.5	52.0	–15.5	132.0	82.9	–37.2	90.2	79.5	–11.9	36.5	16.3	–55.3	91.7	107.6	17.4
Oregon	49.2	38.7	–21.4	113.1	64.5	–43.0	84.5	76.0	**–10.0	21.5	28.4	**32.3	131.4	119.3	**–9.2
Pennsylvania	33.1	25.5	–22.8	132.5	93.6	–29.4	*	*	*	18.9	15.2	**–19.5	130.1	114.0	–12.4
Rhode Island	33.5	25.7	–23.4	120.6	66.2	–45.1	*	*	*	*	56.8	*	109.2	115.4	**5.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States and each State, 1991 and 1999, and percent change in rates: United States, 1991 to 1999—Con.

[Rates are births per 1,000 women in specified group]

State	White non-Hispanic			Black			American Indian			Asian or Pacific Islander			Hispanic		
	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99	1991	1999	Percent change 1991–99
South Carolina	54.6	46.9	–14.0	102.8	80.5	–21.7	*	*	*	*	23.5	*	65.6	128.8	96.4
South Dakota	35.6	27.0	–24.0	*	*	*	146.3	111.4	–23.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tennessee	61.9	53.7	–13.3	129.3	90.6	–29.9	*	*	*	24.6	31.3	**27.0	44.6	136.1	205.2
Texas	49.6	41.9	–15.5	116.0	76.0	–34.5	49.4	32.4	–34.4	17.8	15.0	**–15.7	110.2	107.4	–2.5
Utah	44.4	33.0	–25.6	*	*	*	86.9	66.5	–23.4	37.0	39.0	**5.3	104.3	118.8	13.9
Vermont	39.5	26.1	–33.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Virginia	40.5	31.1	–23.3	98.3	73.8	–24.9	*	*	*	14.6	13.9	**–4.7	62.0	73.6	18.6
Washington	46.5	32.6	–29.9	97.4	60.7	–37.6	102.1	68.4	–33.1	25.4	26.9	**5.8	125.8	98.0	–22.1
West Virginia	57.4	47.1	–17.9	85.2	71.7	**–15.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wisconsin	30.1	24.2	–19.8	173.7	122.9	–29.3	95.8	93.2	**–2.7	72.4	65.3	**–9.9	93.0	110.7	19.0
Wyoming	50.0	37.4	–25.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	76.3	65.0	**–14.8

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision (rate based on fewer than 20 births or fewer than 1,000 women in specified group).

** Not significant at $p < 0.05$.

- - - Data not available.

NOTES: Birth rates by State shown in this table are based on population estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau and, therefore, the rates shown here may differ from rates computed on the basis of other population estimates. Rates by race and Hispanic origin cannot be computed for the territories because populations by race and Hispanic origin are not available for these areas.

Table 7. Teenage birth rates: Selected countries, most recent available year

Country	Births per 1,000 women 15–19	Year
Australia	20.5	1995
Austria	14.7	1997
Belgium	11.9	1992
Canada	24.5	1995
Denmark	8.3	1996
Finland	9.1	1997
France	7.9	1993
Germany	9.7	1996
Greece	12.1	1997
Ireland	16.1	1996
Israel	16.7	1997
Italy	6.8	1995
Japan	4.3	1997
Netherlands	5.6	1996
New Zealand	34.0	1996
Norway	12.8	1997
Portugal	21.3	1997
Russian Federation	44.7	1995
Spain	7.5	1996
Sweden	7.8	1996
Switzerland	5.7	1996
United Kingdom	30.2	1997
United States	48.7	2000

SOURCE: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistical Office, United Nations. Demographic Yearbook 1998. (See reference 22.)

Technical notes

Sources and methods

Data shown in this report for 2000 are preliminary and are based on more than 96 percent of births in that year (1). The records are weighted to independent control counts of births received in State vital statistics offices in 2000 (1). Data shown in this report for 1985–99 are based on 100 percent of the birth certificates registered in all States and the District of Columbia. The data are provided to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program (VSCP). In 1984 and earlier years, the VSCP included varying numbers of States that provided data based on 100 percent of their birth certificates. Data for States not in the VSCP were based on a 50-percent sample of birth certificates filed in those States. Information on sampling procedures for 1984 and earlier years is provided in the annual report, *Vital Statistics of the United States*, Volume I, Natality, Technical Appendix (5). Missing data for age, race, and marital status of mother are imputed. In 1999 age of mother was imputed for 0.02 percent of the births and race of mother was imputed for 0.4 percent of the births. Marital status of mother was imputed for 0.03 percent of the births in the 48 States and the District of Columbia where this information was obtained by a direct question; when marital status was not reported on the birth certificate, it was imputed as married. More information on the reporting of these items on the birth certificate is presented in other reports (1,5,12).

Tabulations by race and Hispanic origin of mother are based on this information as reported on the birth certificate. Race and Hispanic origin are reported as separate items on the birth certificate. Although the overwhelming majority of Hispanic births (97 percent in 1999) are to white women, there are substantial differences in teenage childbearing patterns between Hispanic and non-Hispanic white women. Therefore, data are shown separately for these groups.

Population data for computing birth rates were provided by the U.S. Census Bureau (8–10,21,32–33). Rates by State shown here may differ from rates computed on the basis of other population estimates. State rates are based on mother's place of residence. The rates in this report are based on estimates projected from the 1990 census. It should be noted that the Hispanic populations in some States have grown dramatically over the 1990s according to the 2000 census results recently announced (14,15). For example, the number of Hispanic persons in North Carolina increased nearly five times between 1990 and 2000 from about 77,000 to 379,000 (20). This population growth is not reflected in the postcensal estimates used in this report. Based on a comparison of 2000 census results and unpublished estimates for 2000 projected from 1990, the Hispanic populations used for this report may be about 8 percent lower than 2000 census results would indicate (10,15). Thus, birth rates for Hispanic women in particular are overstated because the population base is too small. When population estimates from the 2000 census and intercensal estimates become available, population-based rates for the 1990s and 2000 will be recalculated and presented in a report. In the meantime, it is recommended that caution be exercised in interpreting the levels and trends in rates for the U.S. as a whole and by State for Hispanic women. As mentioned, because of differences in projections and counts, it is anticipated that the rates based on the 2000 census will differ from those based on the 1990 census.

Population estimates by race and Hispanic origin are not available for the territories. Birth rates are not available for American Samoa for 1991–96 and the Northern Marianas for 1991–97, because birth data were not collected.

Rates were not computed if there were fewer than 20 births in the numerator or fewer than 1,000 women in the specified group in the denominator. In tables 5 and 6, an asterisk is shown in place of the rate.

Data on birth rates for women who have not had a live birth (i.e., childless women) and for women having a second child are included in this report. Information on the derivation of these rates is provided elsewhere (34). The rate for childless women enables us to measure precisely changes in first-time childbearing among teenagers who have not yet had a child. It is thus a refinement of the first birth rate, which relates first births to all teenagers, regardless of whether they have had any children. To put it another way, the denominator for the first birth rate is all teenagers; the denominator for the first birth rate for childless teenagers is all teenagers who have not had a birth. For teenagers, the differences between the first birth rate and the birth rate for childless women are relatively small and the trends are similar, because most teenagers have not had any children. For example, the *first birth rate* for all teenagers 15–19 years declined from 46.5 in 1991 to 38.9 in 1999, a reduction of 16 percent. The *birth rate for childless teenagers* declined from 49.6 in 1991 to 41.7 in 1999, a reduction of 16 percent.

The second birth rate for women who have had a first child is also a refinement of the second birth rate, which is computed on the basis of all women in a given age group, regardless of whether they have had any children. Thus, while the denominator for the second birth rate is all teenagers, the denominator for the second birth rate for women who have had a first child is all teenagers who have given birth to one child. For teenagers, the differences between these rates are substantial, again because most teenage women have not had any children. However, the trends in the rates have been fairly similar. For example, the *second birth rate* for all teenagers 15–19 years declined from 12.4 per 1,000 in 1991 to 9.0 in 1999, a reduction of 27 percent. The *second birth rate for teenagers with one child* declined from 220.9 per 1,000 in 1991 to 174.1 in 1999, a drop of 21 percent.

Random variation and significance testing

The number of births reported for an area is essentially a complete count, since more than 99 percent of all births are registered. Although this number is not subject to sampling error, it may be affected by nonsampling errors such as mistakes in recording the mother's residence or age during the registration process.

When the birth rate is used for analytic purposes the number of events that actually occurred can be thought of as one in a large series of possible results that could have occurred under the same circumstances. When considered in this way, the number of births is subject to random variation. A probable range of values may be estimated from the rate according to certain statistical assumptions, i.e., these statistical assumptions can be used to estimate the variability in birth rates.

For our purposes, assume that the denominators of these rates (the population estimates) have no error. Although this assumption is technically correct only for denominators based on the census that occurs every 10 years, in general, the error in intercensal population estimates is usually small, difficult to measure, and therefore not considered. (See however, discussion of rates for Hispanic teenagers in previous section.)

Computing confidence intervals for rates

The confidence interval is the range of values for the birth rates that you could expect in 95 out of 100 cases. The confidence limits are the end points of this range of values (the highest and lowest values). Confidence limits tell you how much the rates could vary under similar circumstances.

Confidence limits for rates are estimated from the number of births on which the rates are based. Below are detailed procedures and examples for each type of case.

95-percent confidence limits for rates based on less than 100 events

When the number of events in the numerator is less than 20, an asterisk is shown in place of the rate because there were too few births to compute a statistically reliable rate. When the number of events in the numerator is greater than 20 but less than 100 and the rate is small, the data are assumed to follow a Poisson probability distribution. Confidence limits for a rate can be estimated using the two formulas that follow and the values from a Poisson probability distribution (1):

$$\text{Lower limit} = R \bullet L$$

$$\text{Upper limit} = R \bullet U$$

where

R = the birth rate
L = the value that corresponds to the number of events in the numerator, B, of the rate in a Poisson probability distribution
U = the value that corresponds to the number of events in the numerator, B, of the rate in a Poisson probability distribution

Example

Suppose that the birth rate for Asian or Pacific Islander women 15–19 years of age in State X was 37.3 per 1,000, based on 78 births in the numerator. Using the values from a Poisson probability distribution:

$$\text{Lower limit} = 37.3 \bullet 0.79046 = 29.5$$
$$\text{Upper limit} = 37.3 \bullet 1.24805 = 46.6$$

This means that the chances are 95 out of 100 that the actual birth rate for Asian or Pacific Islander women 15–19 years of age in State X lies between 29.5 and 46.6.

95-percent confidence limits for rates when the numerator is 100 or more

When the number of events in the numerator is greater than 100, the data are assumed to approximate a normal distribution. In this case, the formulas for the birth rate R based on the number of births B are:

$$\text{Lower limit} = R - [1.96 \bullet (R / \sqrt{B})]$$

$$\text{Upper limit} = R + [1.96 \bullet (R / \sqrt{B})]$$

where

R = the birth rate
B = the number of births

Example

Suppose that the birth rate for black women 18–19 years of age in State X was 103.8 per 1,000, based on 22,678 births in the numerator. Therefore, the 95-percent confidence interval would be:

$$\text{Lower limit} = 103.8 - [1.96 \bullet (103.8 / \sqrt{22{,}678})]$$
$$= 103.8 - 1.35$$
$$= 102.45$$

$$\text{Upper limit} = 103.8 + [1.96 \bullet (103.8 / \sqrt{22{,}678})]$$
$$= 103.8 + 1.35$$
$$= 105.15$$

This means that the chances are 95 out of 100 that the actual birth rate for black women 18–19 years of age in State X lies between 102.45 and 105.15.

Significance testing

One of the rates is based on fewer than 100 cases

To compare two rates, when one or both of those rates are based on less than 100 cases, you first compute the confidence intervals for both rates. Then you check to see if those intervals overlap. If they do overlap, the difference is not statistically significant at the 95-percent level. If they do not overlap, the difference is indeed "statistically significant."

Example

Is the birth rate for American Indian women 15–19 years of age in State X significantly lower in 1999 (28.7 per 1,000) than in 1991 (29.2)? The rate for American Indian women is based on 77 events in 1999 and 93 events in 1991. The rate for American Indian women is based on less than 100 events for both time periods; therefore, the first step is to compute the confidence intervals for both rates.

	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
1999	22.65	35.87
1991	23.57	35.77

These two confidence intervals overlap. Therefore, the 1999 birth rate for American Indian women 15–19 years of age in State X is not significantly lower (at the 95-percent confidence level) than the comparable rate in 1991.

Both rates are based on 100 or more events

When both rates are based on 100 or more events, the difference between the two rates is considered statistically significant if it exceeds the statistic in the formula below. This statistic equals 1.96 times the standard error for the difference between two rates.

$$1.96\sqrt{\frac{R_1^2}{N_1} + \frac{R_2^2}{N_2}}$$

where

R_1 = the first rate
R_2 = the second rate

N_1 = the first number of births
N_2 = the second number of births

If the difference is greater than this statistic, then the difference would occur by chance less than 5 times out of 100. If the difference is less than this statistic, the difference might occur by chance more than 5 times out of 100. We say that the difference is not statistically significant at the 95-percent confidence level.

Example

Is the birth rate for non-Hispanic white women 15–19 years of age in State X (32.3 per 1,000) significantly higher than the comparable rate for non-Hispanic white women in State Y (28.7)? Both rates are based on more than 100 births (3,679 for State X and 9,478 for State Y). The difference between the rates is 32.3 – 28.7 = 3.6. The statistic is then calculated as follows:

$$1.96\sqrt{\frac{32.3^2}{3{,}679}+\frac{28.7^2}{9{,}478}}$$

$$= 1.96 \times \sqrt{([1043.29/3{,}679] + [823.69/9{,}479])}$$

$$= 1.96 \times \sqrt{0.2836 + 0.0869}$$

$$= 1.96 \times \sqrt{0.3705}$$

$$= 1.96 \times .61$$

$$= 1.20$$

The difference between the rates (3.6) is greater than this statistic (1.20). Therefore, the difference is statistically significant at the 95-percent confidence level.

Related reports

This is the sixth in a series of reports on national and State-level teenage birth rates. Previous reports covered trends for 1990–94, 1990–96, 1991–97, and 1991–98 (3, 35–38). State-specific teenage birth rates by race and Hispanic origin for 1994–98 are shown in those reports. Comparable rates for 1990 were published elsewhere (39).

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