

## Births: Preliminary Data for 2011

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### Abstract

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

**Methods**—Data in this report are based on approximately 100% of 2011 births. Records for the few states with less than 100% of records

received are weighted to independent control counts of all births received in state vital statistics offices in 2011. Comparisons are made with final 2010 data.

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

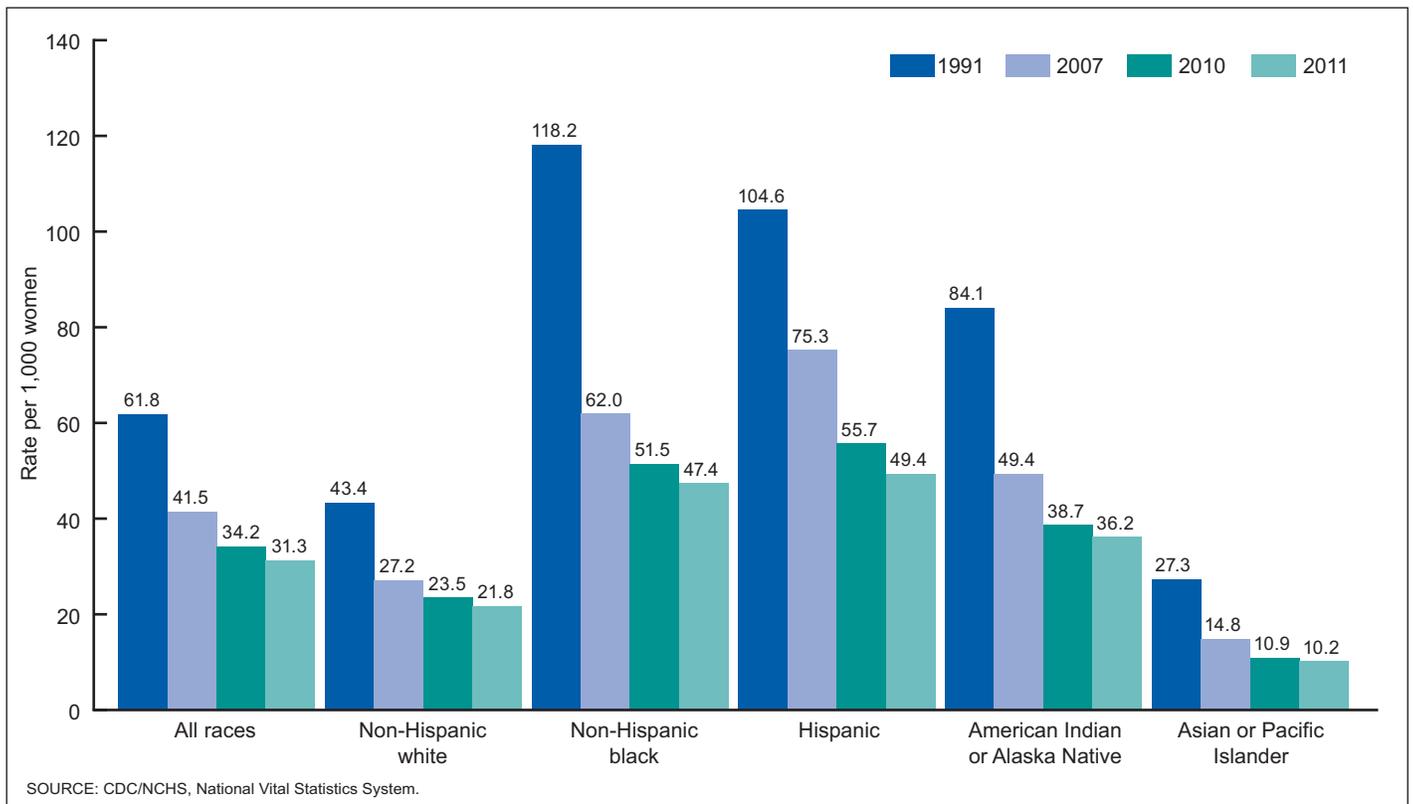


Figure 1. Birth rates for teenagers aged 15–19, by race and Hispanic origin: United States, selected years final 1991, 2007, and 2010, and preliminary 2011

8% in 2011 (to 31.3 births per 1,000 teenagers aged 15–19), another record low, with rates declining for younger and older teenagers and for all race and Hispanic origin groups. • The birth rates for women in their 20s declined as well, to a historic low for women aged 20–24 (85.3 births per 1,000). • The birth rate for women in their early 30s was unchanged in 2011 but rose for women aged 35–39 and 40–44. • The birth rate for women in their late 40s was unchanged in 2011. • The first birth rate in 2011 (25.4 births per 1,000) was the lowest ever recorded for the United States. • The birth rate, the number of births, and the percentage of births to unmarried women declined each for the third consecutive year. The birth rate was 46.1 births per 1,000 unmarried women aged 15–44 and the percentage of births to unmarried women was 40.7. • The cesarean delivery rate was 32.8%, unchanged from 2010. • The preterm birth rate fell for the fifth straight year in 2011 to 11.72; declines were reported for each of the largest race and Hispanic origin groups. • The 2011 low birthweight rate was 8.10%, down slightly from 8.15% in 2010.

**Keywords:** births • birth rates • maternal and infant health • vital statistics

## Introduction

This report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) presents preliminary data on births and birth rates [including births to teens (Figure 1)] and selected maternal and infant health characteristics for the United States in 2011. The findings are based on approximately 100% of registered vital records occurring in calendar year 2011, which were received and processed by NCHS as of June 28, 2012. Trends in the preliminary reports for 1995–2010 births were confirmed by the final vital statistics for each year (1,2). Comparisons are based on the final data for 2010 and earlier years (2). Changes and differences presented in this report are statistically significant at the 0.05 level, unless noted otherwise.

State-specific detailed tables for 2011 births, based on preliminary data—showing the percentages of births to unmarried women, the percentages delivered by cesarean, the percentages born preterm, and the percentages of low birthweight—are available on the NCHS website (see Internet Tables I-1 through I-5 at [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61\\_05\\_tables.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61_05_tables.pdf)).

## Results

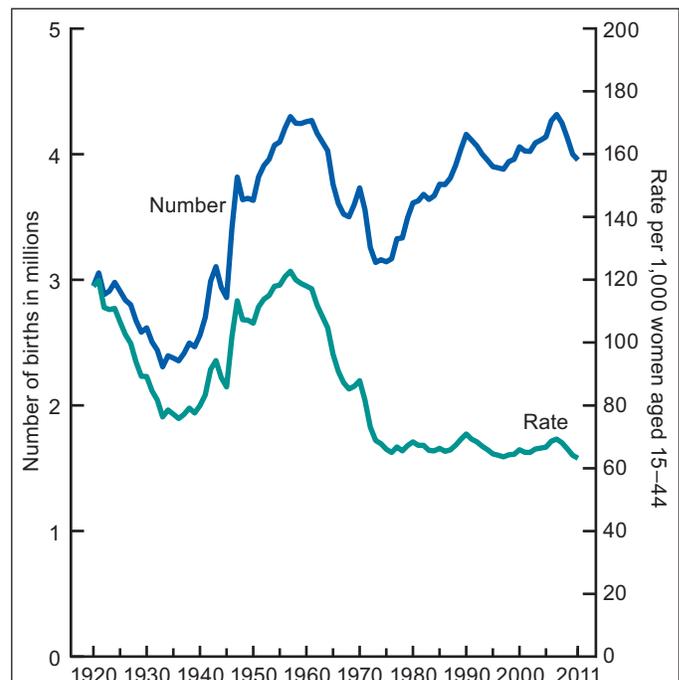
### Births and birth rates

Key findings are listed below:

- The preliminary number of **births** for the United States in 2011 was 3,953,593, 1% less (or 45,793 fewer) than in 2010 (3,999,386) (Tables 1–3 and Figure 2) (2). Births declined for the three largest race and Hispanic origin groups (down 3% for Hispanic women and 1% for non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black women), but rose (3%) for Asian or Pacific Islander (API) women. The number of births was essentially unchanged for American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN) women.
- The preliminary **general fertility rate** (GFR) for 2011 was 63.2 births per 1,000 women aged 15–44, the lowest rate ever reported

for the United States (Tables 1 and 2 and Figure 2) (2). The 2011 rate decreased 1% from the 2010 rate. Rates for two of the three largest race and Hispanic origin groups declined, down 6% for Hispanic women and 2% for non-Hispanic black women, whereas the rate for non-Hispanic white women was essentially unchanged. The GFR for AIAN women decreased 2% in 2011, whereas the rate for API women rose 1%. The 2011 rates for non-Hispanic black and Hispanic women in 2011 were the lowest ever reported for the United States.

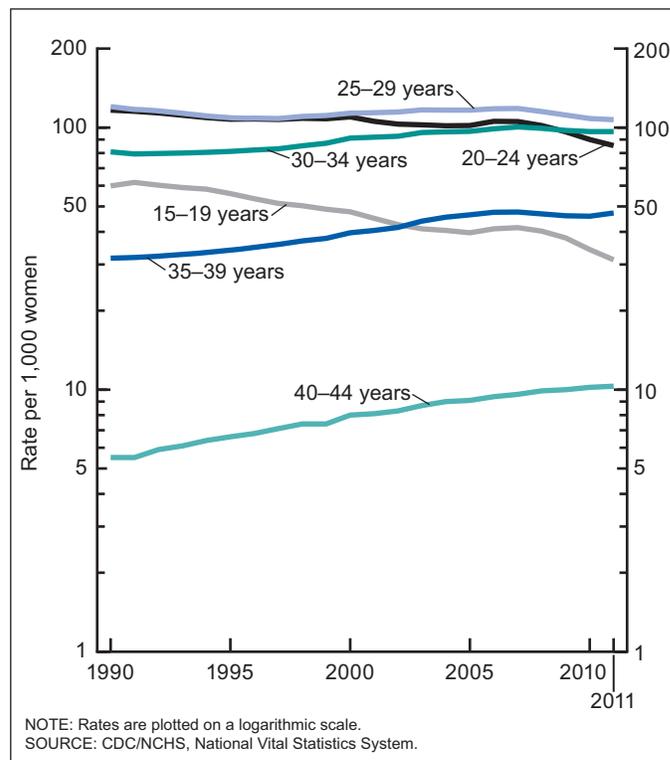
- Birth rates declined for women aged 15–29 from 2010 to 2011. The birth rates rose for women aged 35–39 and 40–44 and were unchanged for women aged 30–34 and 45–49.
- The **birth rate for teenagers aged 15–19** fell to another historic low in 2011, to 31.3 births per 1,000, down 8% from 2010 (34.2). The rate in 2011 was the lowest ever recorded in more than seven decades (see Tables 2 and 5 and Figures 1 and 2 for selected years) (2,3). The teenage birth rate has declined more than 3% per year since the recent peak in 1991 (61.8), and the pace of decline has accelerated since 2007. The rate has dropped 25% from 2007 (41.5) and dropped 49% in the two decades from 1991 to 2011.
  - The *number of births to teenagers aged 15–19* dropped 10% from 2010 to 2011, to 329,797, the fewest since 1946. The number of births to teenagers has fallen considerably from 2007—by 26% (from 444,899), and by 38% since 1991.
  - The *birth rate for the youngest teenagers, those aged 10–14*, was unchanged at 0.4 births per 1,000 in 2011. Reflecting the declining female population in this age group, the *number of births to mothers under age 15* fell to 3,974, the fewest since 1946.



NOTES: Beginning with 1959, trend lines are based on registered live births; trend lines for 1920–1958 are based on live births adjusted for under-registration.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

**Figure 2. Live births and general fertility rates: United States, final 1920–2010 and preliminary 2011**

- Birth rates for teenagers aged 15–17 declined more from 2010 to 2011 than for older teenagers (down 11% and 7%, respectively). The rate for ages 15–17 in 2011 was 15.4 per 1,000, 29% lower than in 2007, while the rate for ages 18–19 fell to 54.1 per 1,000, 25% lower than in 2007.
- Among racial and ethnic groups, declines from 2010 to 2011 for teenagers aged 15–19 ranged from 6% to 8% for non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, AIAN, and API teenagers. The birth rate for Hispanic teenagers fell 11% from 2010 to 2011 and dropped 34% from 2007 to 2011, the largest decline of any population group. Birth rates for teenagers aged 15–17 and 18–19 fell significantly from 2010 to 2011 in all racial and ethnic groups except for API teenagers aged 18–19, which were essentially unchanged.
- According to a recent analysis of state-specific teenage birth rates, the recent national declines through 2010 were reflected in all but three states (4).
- In 2011, the **birth rate for women aged 20–24** was 85.3 births per 1,000 women, the lowest rate ever recorded for the United States, 5% lower than in 2010 (Tables 2–4 and Figure 3) (5). The *number of births* to women in this group declined 3% between 2010 and 2011 (Tables 2–4). The **rate for women aged 25–29** was 107.2 births per 1,000 women, 1% below the rate in 2010 (108.3) and the lowest birth rate for women in this age group since 1976 (2). The number of births to women aged 25–29 declined less than 1% in 2011.
- The **birth rate for women aged 30–34** was unchanged in 2011 at 96.5 births per 1,000 women (Tables 2 and 4 and Figure 3). The number of births to women in this age group increased 3%. Following 3 straight years of decline, the **rate for women aged 35–39** rose 3% in 2011 to 47.2 births per 1,000 women, from 45.9 in 2010 (2). The number of births to women in this age group decreased slightly in 2011.
- The **birth rate for women aged 40–44** was 10.3 births per 1,000 women in 2011, 1% above the rate in 2010 (10.2) and the highest rate for women in this age group since 1967 (10.6) (2,5). The number of births to women in this age group increased 2% in 2011. The **rate for women aged 45–49** (which includes births to women aged 50 and over) remained at 0.7 births per 1,000 women; the number of births to these women decreased 1% (Tables 2–4).
- In 2011, the preliminary **total fertility rate (TFR)** was 1,894.5 births per 1,000 women, down 2% from 2010 (1,931.0), marking the fourth straight year of decline (2). The TFR estimates the number of births that a hypothetical group of 1,000 women would have over their lifetimes, based on the age-specific birth rates in a given year.
  - The TFR for the United States in 2011 was below replacement, the level (2,100 births per 1,000 women) at which a given generation can exactly replace itself. The rate had been above replacement in 2006 and 2007, but has dropped below since, and was also below replacement from 1972 through 2005 (2).
  - The TFRs declined for nearly all race and Hispanic origin groups, down 5% for Hispanic women, 2% for non-Hispanic black and AIAN women, and 1% for non-Hispanic white women. The TFR rose 1% for API women.



**Figure 3. Birth rates, by selected age of mother: United States, final 1990–2010 and preliminary 2011**

- The preliminary **first birth rate** in 2011 was 25.4 births per 1,000 women aged 15–44, a 2% decline from 2010 (25.9) (Table 4) (2). The first birth rate in 2011 was the lowest ever recorded for the United States (2,5). First-birth rates declined for women aged 15–24, rose for women 30–39, and were essentially unchanged for women in all other age groups. Second- and third-order birth rates for women aged 15–44 also declined (down 1% to 2%); the 2011 second-order birth rate was at the lowest level since 1940 (20.0) (2,5). The rate for fourth- and higher-order births was unchanged in 2011.
- The **GFR** decreased for 19 states in 2011 (Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah). Declines among states ranged from 1% (New York) to 4% (Idaho, Texas, and Utah) (2). GFRs for the remaining 31 states, the District of Columbia, and all territories were essentially unchanged. Rates by state varied considerably, ranging from 51.5 births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 in Rhode Island, to 83.6 births in Utah (Table 6).
- The **nonmarital birth rate** declined 3% in 2011 to 46.1 births per 1,000 unmarried women aged 15–44. The drop from 2010 to 2011 was the third consecutive decline, totaling 11% since 2008 (51.8 per 1,000), according to preliminary data. The rate had risen steadily in recent years, increasing 19% from 2002 (43.6) to 2007 (51.8).
  - The total *number of births to unmarried women* declined about 2% in 2011 to 1,608,087, down from 1,633,471 in 2010. The number has now fallen for 3 consecutive years, down

7% overall. Nonmarital births dropped for teenagers and women in their early 20s, and increased for women in age groups 25 and over.

- The *proportion of all births to unmarried women* was 40.7% in 2011, slightly lower than in 2010 (40.8%). There was a decline in non-Hispanic black births and a small increase in non-Hispanic white births; changes for other races and Hispanic origin groups were not significant (Tables 1 and 7).
- Unmarried teenagers accounted for 18% of all nonmarital births in 2011, the lowest percentage ever reported. In 1970, teenagers accounted for 50% of births to unmarried women (6).
- The percentage of births to unmarried women increased in 4 states and declined in 10 states. Changes in the other 36 states and the District of Columbia were not significant (Internet Table I-1).

## Maternal and infant health birth characteristics

Key findings are listed below:

- The percentage of births through cesarean deliveries rose nearly 60% from 1996 through 2009 (2), but this upward trend may be at an end. Following a small decline in the rate from 2009 to 2010 (32.9% to 32.8%), the **cesarean delivery rate** was unchanged for 2010–2011 (Table 8).
- The rate of cesarean delivery declined from 2010 to 2011 among non-Hispanic white women; the rate was not significantly changed for non-Hispanic black, AIAN, and API mothers, but rose among Hispanic mothers.
- The **preterm birth rate** fell for the fifth straight year in 2011 to 11.72%, 2% lower than the 2010 rate (11.99%), and 8% lower than the 2006 peak. The preterm birth rate (the percentage of births delivered at less than 37 completed weeks of gestation) rose by more than one-third from 1981 to 2006 (see Tables 8 and 9 and Figure 4 for 1990–2011 trends) (2). Although the lowest level in more than a decade, the 2011 rate of preterm birth is still higher than rates reported during the 1980s and most of the 1990s.
  - Declines between 2010 and 2011 were observed among infants delivered early (less than 34 weeks) and late preterm (34–36 weeks). The early preterm percentage declined from 3.50% in 2010 to 3.44% in 2011, and is down from 3.66% in 2006. The late preterm birth rate declined from 8.49% in 2010 to 8.28% in 2011, and is down 10% from the 2006 high (Table 9).
  - Preterm births declined among each of the largest race and Hispanic origin groups from 2010 to 2011: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and Hispanic infants (Table 8). Since 2006, the preterm rate has declined between 8% and 9% for non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black infants, and 5% for Hispanic infants (2). Although still substantially higher than that of other groups, the 2010 and 2011 preterm rates for non-Hispanic black infants are the lowest reported in the three decades for which comparable data have been available.
  - The downward trend in preterm births for the recent 5-year period is observed across most of the United States; rates

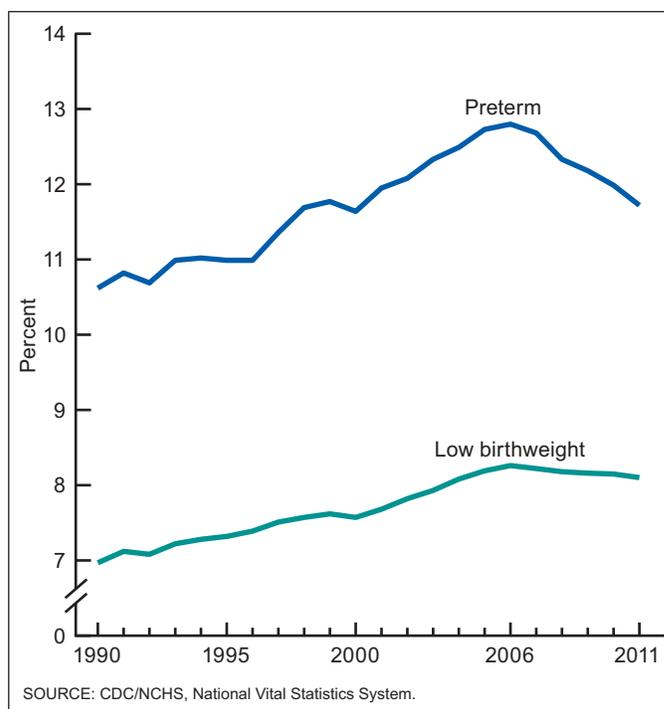


Figure 4. Preterm and low birthweight rates: United States, final 1990–2010 and preliminary 2011

declined in 47 states and the District of Columbia from 2006 to 2011 (see Tables 10 and I-3). Rates in the remaining 3 states were essentially unchanged.

- The 2011 **low birthweight** (LBW) rate was 8.10, down slightly from 8.15% in 2010 (Table 8 and Figure 4). The LBW rate (the percentage of infants born at less than 2,500 grams or 5 lb., 8 oz.) increased more than 20% from the mid-1980s through 2006, but has declined slowly, by 2%, from 2006 to 2011 (2). The rate of **very low birthweight** (less than 1,500 grams or 3 lb., 4 oz.) was essentially stable at 1.44% in 2011 (Table 8), but is down from the high of 1.49% for 2004 to 2007 (1). The percentage of infants born moderately low birthweight (1,500–2,499 grams) declined to 6.66% in 2011, and is down from 6.77% in 2006.
  - LBW declined slightly between 2010 and 2011 among non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black infants, but was not significantly changed among Hispanic infants. Since 2006, LBW rates were down 3% for non-Hispanic white births and down 5% for non-Hispanic black births; no consistent trend was observed for Hispanic births (Table 8) (1).

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Available from:

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**Table 1. Selected demographic characteristics, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, final 2010 and preliminary 2011**

[Data for 2011 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures for 2011 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual. Birth rates are the total number of births per 1,000 population in specified group. Fertility rates are the total number of births (regardless of the age of the mother) per 1,000 women aged 15–44 in specified group. Total fertility rates are sums of birth rates for 5-year age groups in specified group multiplied by 5. Population estimated as of July 1 for 2011 and based on counts enumerated as of April 1 for 2010]

Race and Hispanic origin of mother	Number		Birth rate		Fertility rate		Total fertility rate		Percent of births to unmarried women	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
All races and origins <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	3,953,593	3,999,386	12.7	13.0	63.2	64.1	1,894.5	1,931.0	40.7	40.8
Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	2,150,926	2,162,406	10.8	10.9	58.8	58.7	1,778.0	1,791.0	29.1	29.0
Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	583,079	589,808	14.7	15.1	65.5	66.6	1,922.5	1,971.5	72.3	72.5
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup> . . . . .	46,536	46,760	10.7	11.0	47.8	48.6	1,377.0	1,404.0	66.2	65.6
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup> . . . . .	253,864	246,886	14.5	14.5	59.9	59.2	1,705.5	1,689.0	17.2	17.0
Hispanic <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	912,290	945,180	17.5	18.7	75.7	80.2	2,225.0	2,350.0	53.3	53.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes. Multiple-race reporting areas vary for 2010–2011; see Technical Notes.

<sup>3</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.

<sup>4</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

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

**Table 2. Births by age, race, and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, final 2010 and preliminary 2011**

[Data for 2011 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures for 2011 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals. Rates are per 1,000 women in specified age and race and Hispanic origin group. Population estimated as of July 1 for 2011 and based on counts enumerated as of April 1 for 2010]

Age and race and Hispanic origin of mother	2011		2010	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
<b>All races and origins<sup>1</sup></b>				
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	3,953,593	63.2	3,999,386	64.1
10–14 years . . . . .	3,974	0.4	4,497	0.4
15–19 years . . . . .	329,797	31.3	367,678	34.2
15–17 years . . . . .	95,554	15.4	109,173	17.3
18–19 years . . . . .	234,242	54.1	258,505	58.2
20–24 years . . . . .	925,213	85.3	951,688	90.0
25–29 years . . . . .	1,127,592	107.2	1,133,713	108.3
30–34 years . . . . .	986,661	96.5	962,170	96.5
35–39 years . . . . .	463,815	47.2	464,870	45.9
40–44 years . . . . .	108,891	10.3	107,045	10.2
45–54 years <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	7,651	0.7	7,725	0.7
<b>Non-Hispanic white<sup>4</sup></b>				
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	2,150,926	58.8	2,162,406	58.7
10–14 years . . . . .	875	0.2	968	0.2
15–19 years . . . . .	129,693	21.8	144,102	23.5
15–17 years . . . . .	31,588	9.0	35,469	10.0
18–19 years . . . . .	98,105	40.0	108,633	42.5
20–24 years . . . . .	453,006	72.0	464,849	74.9
25–29 years . . . . .	648,883	105.4	648,610	105.8
30–34 years . . . . .	592,239	100.3	574,627	99.9
35–39 years . . . . .	261,098	46.0	264,126	44.1
40–44 years . . . . .	60,807	9.3	60,619	9.2
45–54 years <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	4,325	0.6	4,505	0.6
<b>Non-Hispanic black<sup>4</sup></b>				
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	583,079	65.5	589,808	66.6
10–14 years . . . . .	1,379	0.9	1,573	1.0
15–19 years . . . . .	78,637	47.4	88,329	51.5
15–17 years . . . . .	23,686	24.6	27,519	27.4
18–19 years . . . . .	54,951	78.9	60,810	85.6
20–24 years . . . . .	186,443	112.4	187,981	119.4
25–29 years . . . . .	147,886	101.8	147,684	102.5
30–34 years . . . . .	104,460	74.1	100,765	73.6
35–39 years . . . . .	50,305	37.9	49,742	36.4
40–44 years . . . . .	12,960	9.3	12,757	9.2
45–54 years <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	1,008	0.7	977	0.7
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native total<sup>4,5</sup></b>				
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	46,536	47.8	46,760	48.6
10–14 years . . . . .	95	0.5	100	0.5
15–19 years . . . . .	6,818	36.2	7,408	38.7
15–17 years . . . . .	2,021	18.3	2,282	20.1
18–19 years . . . . .	4,797	61.7	5,126	66.1
20–24 years . . . . .	15,610	86.8	15,743	91.0
25–29 years . . . . .	12,500	75.5	12,225	74.4
30–34 years . . . . .	7,401	47.5	7,311	48.4
35–39 years . . . . .	3,305	23.2	3,212	22.3
40–44 years . . . . .	774	5.5	723	5.2
45–54 years <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	32	0.2	38	0.3

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Births by age, race, and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, final 2010 and preliminary 2011—Con.**

[Data for 2011 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures for 2011 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals. Rates are per 1,000 women in specified age and race and Hispanic origin group. Population estimated as of July 1 for 2011 and based on counts enumerated as of April 1 for 2010]

Age and race and Hispanic origin of mother	2011		2010	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
<b>Asian or Pacific Islander total<sup>4,5</sup></b>				
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	253,864	59.9	246,886	59.2
10–14 years . . . . .	66	0.1	49	0.1
15–19 years . . . . .	5,721	10.2	6,262	10.9
15–17 years . . . . .	1,526	4.6	1,683	5.1
18–19 years . . . . .	4,195	18.2	4,579	18.7
20–24 years . . . . .	27,796	41.9	27,733	42.6
25–29 years . . . . .	70,404	93.6	68,378	91.5
30–34 years . . . . .	88,621	114.8	85,293	113.6
35–39 years . . . . .	49,495	64.1	48,089	62.8
40–44 years . . . . .	10,950	15.2	10,315	15.1
45–54 years <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	812	1.2	767	1.2
<b>Hispanic<sup>6</sup></b>				
Total <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	912,290	75.7	945,180	80.2
10–14 years . . . . .	1,570	0.7	1,811	0.8
15–19 years . . . . .	109,218	49.4	121,798	55.7
15–17 years . . . . .	36,839	27.9	42,295	32.3
18–19 years . . . . .	72,378	81.2	79,503	90.7
20–24 years . . . . .	242,411	115.3	254,723	126.1
25–29 years . . . . .	246,635	120.5	254,982	125.3
30–34 years . . . . .	191,047	94.4	191,334	96.6
35–39 years . . . . .	97,538	50.9	97,554	51.7
40–44 years . . . . .	22,635	13.0	21,783	13.0
45–54 years <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	1,236	0.8	1,195	0.8

<sup>1</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.

<sup>2</sup>The total number includes births to women of all ages. The rate shown for all ages is the fertility rate, which is defined as the total number of births (regardless of the age of the mother) per 1,000 women aged 15–44.

<sup>3</sup>The birth rate for women aged 45–49 is computed by relating the number of births to women aged 45 and over to women aged 45–49 because most of the births in this group are to women aged 45–49.

<sup>4</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes. Multiple-race reporting areas vary for 2010–2011; see Technical Notes.

<sup>5</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.

<sup>6</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

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

**Table 3. Births by age of mother, live-birth order, and race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, preliminary 2011**

[Data are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals]

Live-birth order and race and Hispanic origin of mother	All ages	Age of mother							
		Under 15 years	15–19 years	20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years	45–54 years
All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	3,953,593	3,974	329,797	925,213	1,127,592	986,661	463,815	108,891	7,651
1st child	1,577,344	3,875	269,075	463,161	423,123	287,506	104,337	24,204	2,063
2nd child	1,239,136	64	50,343	300,390	369,740	337,124	149,135	30,420	1,920
3rd child	648,124	8	7,234	113,409	201,235	198,407	103,940	22,592	1,298
4th child and over	458,777	2	885	41,647	125,114	155,799	102,437	30,633	2,260
Not stated	30,211	25	2,259	6,606	8,380	7,825	3,966	1,041	109
Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	2,150,926	875	129,693	453,006	648,883	592,239	261,098	60,807	4,325
1st child	905,847	861	110,441	246,932	275,367	190,400	65,074	15,450	1,321
2nd child	699,455	10	16,576	142,929	216,357	214,354	89,747	18,312	1,170
3rd child	329,989	–	1,862	46,879	101,207	110,737	56,696	11,928	680
4th child and over	203,075	1	192	13,977	52,210	73,134	47,799	14,652	1,110
Not stated	12,560	3	621	2,289	3,743	3,614	1,782	464	44
Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	583,079	1,379	78,637	186,443	147,886	104,460	50,305	12,960	1,008
1st child	225,254	1,331	62,188	85,411	41,226	22,926	9,539	2,389	243
2nd child	162,896	27	12,754	58,593	45,170	29,748	13,217	3,165	223
3rd child	97,485	5	2,282	26,661	31,189	23,113	11,336	2,721	178
4th child and over	88,510	1	328	13,061	28,069	26,900	15,336	4,470	344
Not stated	8,933	15	1,085	2,717	2,232	1,772	878	214	20
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	46,536	95	6,818	15,610	12,500	7,401	3,305	774	32
1st child	16,575	92	5,485	6,418	2,814	1,227	436	96	7
2nd child	12,474	3	1,112	5,212	3,617	1,726	655	141	8
3rd child	8,217	–	172	2,682	2,851	1,691	681	136	4
4th child and over	9,043	–	28	1,241	3,149	2,711	1,510	392	12
Not stated	226	–	21	57	69	46	23	9	1
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	253,864	66	5,721	27,796	70,404	88,621	49,495	10,950	812
1st child	113,759	63	4,724	16,794	38,650	36,094	14,293	2,880	261
2nd child	90,154	3	834	7,548	21,019	35,770	20,862	3,886	231
3rd child	31,439	–	117	2,401	6,642	10,655	9,130	2,345	148
4th child and over	16,819	–	15	864	3,637	5,496	4,884	1,757	165
Not stated	1,693	–	31	189	455	605	325	81	7
Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	912,290	1,570	109,218	242,411	246,635	191,047	97,538	22,635	1,236
1st child	313,032	1,536	86,471	107,553	64,146	35,644	14,322	3,166	194
2nd child	272,840	24	19,182	86,358	83,621	54,700	23,980	4,727	248
3rd child	180,818	3	2,823	34,931	59,467	52,094	25,904	5,350	246
4th child and over	140,921	–	327	12,517	38,106	47,445	32,749	9,243	533
Not stated	4,678	7	415	1,051	1,295	1,163	584	148	15

– Quantity zero.

<sup>1</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.<sup>2</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes.<sup>3</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin of any race according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.<sup>4</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

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

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

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

Live-birth order and race and Hispanic origin of mother	Age of mother								
	15-44 years <sup>1</sup>	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years <sup>2</sup>
All races and origins <sup>3</sup>	63.2	0.4	31.3	85.3	107.2	96.5	47.2	10.3	0.7
1st child	25.4	0.4	25.7	43.0	40.5	28.3	10.7	2.3	0.2
2nd child	20.0	0.0	4.8	27.9	35.4	33.2	15.3	2.9	0.2
3rd child	10.4	*	0.7	10.5	19.3	19.6	10.7	2.2	0.1
4th child and over	7.4	*	0.1	3.9	12.0	15.4	10.5	2.9	0.2
Non-Hispanic white <sup>4</sup>	58.8	0.2	21.8	72.0	105.4	100.3	46.0	9.3	0.6
1st child	24.9	0.2	18.6	39.4	45.0	32.5	11.6	2.4	0.2
2nd child	19.2	*	2.8	22.8	35.3	36.5	15.9	2.8	0.2
3rd child	9.1	*	0.3	7.5	16.5	18.9	10.0	1.8	0.1
4th child and over	5.6	*	0.0	2.2	8.6	12.5	8.5	2.3	0.2
Non-Hispanic black <sup>4</sup>	65.5	0.9	47.4	112.4	101.8	74.1	37.9	9.3	0.7
1st child	25.7	0.9	38.0	52.3	28.8	16.6	7.3	1.8	0.2
2nd child	18.6	0.0	7.8	35.8	31.6	21.4	10.1	2.3	0.2
3rd child	11.1	*	1.4	16.3	21.8	16.7	8.7	2.0	0.1
4th child and over	10.1	*	0.2	8.0	19.6	19.4	11.7	3.3	0.2
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>4,5</sup>	47.8	0.5	36.2	86.8	75.5	47.5	23.2	5.5	0.2
1st child	17.1	0.5	29.2	35.8	17.1	7.9	3.1	0.7	*
2nd child	12.9	*	5.9	29.1	22.0	11.1	4.6	1.0	*
3rd child	8.5	*	0.9	15.0	17.3	10.9	4.8	1.0	*
4th child and over	9.3	*	0.1	6.9	19.1	17.5	10.7	2.8	*
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>4,5</sup>	59.9	0.1	10.2	41.9	93.6	114.8	64.1	15.2	1.2
1st child	27.0	0.1	8.4	25.5	51.7	47.1	18.6	4.0	0.4
2nd child	21.4	*	1.5	11.5	28.1	46.7	27.2	5.4	0.4
3rd child	7.5	*	0.2	3.6	8.9	13.9	11.9	3.3	0.2
4th child and over	4.0	*	*	1.3	4.9	7.2	6.4	2.5	0.3
Hispanic <sup>6</sup>	75.7	0.7	49.4	115.3	120.5	94.4	50.9	13.0	0.8
1st child	26.1	0.7	39.2	51.4	31.5	17.7	7.5	1.8	0.1
2nd child	22.8	0.0	8.7	41.3	41.1	27.2	12.6	2.7	0.2
3rd child	15.1	*	1.3	16.7	29.2	25.9	13.6	3.1	0.2
4th child and over	11.8	*	0.1	6.0	18.7	23.6	17.2	5.3	0.3

0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05.

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

<sup>1</sup>The rate shown is the fertility rate, which is defined as the total number of births, regardless of age of mother, per 1,000 women aged 15-44.<sup>2</sup>The birth rate for ages 45-49 is computed by relating births to women aged 45 and over to women aged 45-49 because most of the births in this group are to women aged 45-49.<sup>3</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.<sup>4</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes.<sup>5</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.<sup>6</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

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

**Table 5. Birth rates for women aged 10–19 years, by age and race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, final 1991, 2005, 2007, and 2009–2010, and preliminary 2011**

[Rates per 1,000 women in specified age and race and Hispanic origin group. Population based on counts enumerated as of April 1 for 2010 and estimated as of July 1 for all other years. Rates for 2005, 2007, and 2009 have been revised using population estimates based on the 2010 census, and may differ from rates previously published; see references 1 and 2]

Age and race and Hispanic origin of mother	Year						Percent change			
	2011	2010	2009	2007	2005	1991	2010–2011	2007–2011	2005–2007	1991–2011
<b>10–14 years</b>										
All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.4	†	-33	†	-71
Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	†	†	†	-60
Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.6	4.9	-10	-36	-13	-82
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.6	†	-29	†	-69
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.8	†	-50	†	-88
Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	2.4	-13	-42	-8	-71
<b>15–19 years</b>										
All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	31.3	34.2	37.9	41.5	39.7	61.8	-8	-25	5	-49
Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	21.8	23.5	25.7	27.2	26.0	43.4	-7	-20	5	-50
Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	47.4	51.5	56.7	62.0	59.4	118.2	-8	-24	4	-60
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	36.2	38.7	43.8	49.4	46.0	84.1	-6	-27	7	-57
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	10.2	10.9	12.6	14.8	15.4	27.3	-6	-31	-4	-63
Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	49.4	55.7	63.6	75.3	76.5	104.6	-11	-34	-2	-53
<b>15–17 years</b>										
All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	15.4	17.3	19.6	21.7	21.1	38.6	-11	-29	3	-60
Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	9.0	10.0	11.0	11.9	11.5	23.6	-10	-24	3	-62
Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	24.6	27.4	31.0	34.6	34.1	86.1	-10	-29	†	-71
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	18.3	20.1	23.7	26.2	26.3	51.9	-9	-30	†	-65
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	4.6	5.1	6.3	7.4	7.7	16.3	-10	-38	†	-72
Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	27.9	32.3	37.3	44.4	45.8	69.2	-14	-37	-3	-60
<b>18–19 years</b>										
All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	54.1	58.2	64.0	71.7	68.4	94.0	-7	-25	5	-42
Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	40.0	42.5	46.2	50.4	48.0	70.6	-6	-21	5	-43
Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	78.9	85.6	93.5	105.2	100.2	162.2	-8	-25	5	-51
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	61.7	66.1	73.6	86.4	78.1	134.2	-7	-29	11	-54
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	18.2	18.7	20.9	24.9	26.4	42.2	†	-27	-6	-57
Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	81.2	90.7	103.3	124.7	124.4	155.5	-10	-35	†	-48

† Difference not statistically significant.

<sup>1</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data that were bridged to the single-race categories for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes. Multiple-race reporting areas vary for 2005–2011; see Technical Notes.

<sup>3</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.

<sup>4</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

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

**Table 6. Births by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States and each state and territory, preliminary 2011**

[By place of residence. Data are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals. Birth rates are total births per 1,000 total population; fertility rates are total births per 1,000 women aged 15–44. Population estimated as of July 1]

Area	Number of births						All races	
	All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	Birth rate	Fertility rate
United States <sup>5</sup>	3,953,593	2,150,926	583,079	46,536	253,864	912,290	12.7	63.2
Alabama	59,347	35,687	17,983	196	1,016	4,474	12.4	61.8
Alaska	11,455	6,081	437	2,842	1,040	757	15.8	78.5
Arizona	85,543	38,987	4,083	5,989	3,553	33,255	13.2	67.3
Arkansas	38,713	26,407	7,231	280	755	3,957	13.2	67.8
California	502,118	144,583	29,901	3,461	70,418	250,031	13.3	63.4
Colorado	65,055	40,439	3,054	675	2,546	18,077	12.7	62.7
Connecticut	37,280	21,541	4,777	255	2,289	8,388	10.4	54.3
Delaware	11,257	6,221	3,031	23	552	1,416	12.4	62.9
District of Columbia	9,314	2,637	4,817	20	560	1,373	15.1	56.1
Florida	213,344	97,250	49,070	435	7,291	58,735	11.2	59.6
Georgia	132,488	60,672	44,667	339	6,200	18,671	13.5	63.8
Hawaii	18,957	4,861	508	80	12,247	3,038	13.8	71.9
Idaho	22,305	17,869	192	414	440	3,475	14.1	72.3
Illinois	161,312	87,952	27,183	218	9,727	35,765	12.5	61.5
Indiana	83,702	64,490	9,831	157	2,021	7,180	12.8	65.0
Iowa	38,213	31,927	1,844	266	1,208	3,114	12.5	66.1
Kansas	39,642	28,814	2,934	380	1,342	6,294	13.8	71.2
Kentucky	55,377	46,200	5,202	86	1,195	2,781	12.7	64.7
Louisiana	61,889	33,114	23,607	381	1,340	3,607	13.5	66.4
Maine	12,704	11,746	395	112	212	207	9.6	53.1
Maryland	73,086	33,261	23,844	205	5,722	10,330	12.5	61.3
Massachusetts	73,225	50,918	7,887	279	6,211	6,764	11.1	54.4
Michigan	114,004	79,604	21,774	793	3,991	7,628	11.5	59.9
Minnesota	68,411	50,296	6,473	1,540	5,115	4,629	12.8	65.5
Mississippi	39,856	20,499	17,302	282	427	1,319	13.4	66.0
Missouri	76,117	57,811	11,435	395	2,007	4,114	12.7	64.8
Montana	12,069	9,934	75	1,486	143	449	12.1	66.7
Nebraska	25,720	19,301	1,708	514	723	3,646	14.0	72.0
Nevada	35,295	15,259	3,695	468	2,980	13,049	13.0	64.2
New Hampshire	12,852	11,403	235	23	515	524	9.7	51.9
New Jersey	105,886	49,664	16,049	182	11,853	28,010	12.0	61.3
New Mexico	27,289	7,719	473	3,615	525	15,061	13.1	68.2
New York	241,290	117,198	39,158	1,183	24,794	56,698	12.4	59.8
North Carolina	120,385	67,685	28,598	1,982	5,164	18,219	12.5	61.5
North Dakota	9,527	7,759	218	1,036	172	307	13.9	72.4
Ohio	137,916	104,505	22,836	273	3,509	6,337	11.9	62.1
Oklahoma	52,274	33,361	4,815	6,186	1,474	6,684	13.8	70.4
Oregon	45,157	31,768	1,170	873	2,687	8,742	11.7	59.4
Pennsylvania	143,148	100,767	21,024	383	6,290	14,180	11.2	58.8
Rhode Island	10,960	6,758	961	149	597	2,417	10.4	51.5
South Carolina	57,368	32,960	18,283	241	1,205	4,747	12.3	61.8
South Dakota	11,849	8,862	266	2,094	230	505	14.4	77.1
Tennessee	79,588	54,131	16,557	234	1,933	7,022	12.4	62.3
Texas	377,449	133,890	43,211	1,106	17,289	182,510	14.7	69.8
Utah	51,223	40,860	568	770	1,683	7,686	18.2	83.6
Vermont	6,078	5,728	89	17	158	71	9.7	51.8
Virginia	102,648	60,369	21,942	121	7,643	12,473	12.7	61.9
Washington	86,976	55,084	4,303	2,234	9,444	15,976	12.7	63.7
West Virginia	20,720	19,521	724	19	185	207	11.2	60.7
Wisconsin	67,811	50,500	6,593	975	3,141	6,525	11.9	62.0
Wyoming	7,398	6,071	65	268	102	864	13.0	69.1

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 6. Births by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States and each state and territory, preliminary 2011—Con.**

[By place of residence. Data are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals. Birth rates are total births per 1,000 total population; fertility rates are total births per 1,000 women aged 15–44. Population estimated as of July 1]

Area	Number of births						All races	
	All races and origins <sup>1</sup>	Non-Hispanic white <sup>2</sup>	Non-Hispanic black <sup>2</sup>	American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>2,3</sup>	Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>2,3</sup>	Hispanic <sup>4</sup>	Birth rate	Fertility rate
Puerto Rico . . . . .	41,065	1,148	133	---	---	39,765	11.1	53.6
Virgin Islands . . . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Guam . . . . .	3,294	198	25	6	3,031	52	20.6	95.9
American Samoa . . . . .	1,216	---	---	---	1,212	---	22.0	92.2
Northern Marianas . . . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- Data not available.

— Quantity zero.

<sup>1</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.

<sup>2</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes.

<sup>3</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.

<sup>4</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

<sup>5</sup>Excludes data for the territories.

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

**Table 7. Births to unmarried women, by age: United States, final 2010 and preliminary 2011**

[Data for 2011 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures for 2011 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to total]

Age of mother	Number		Percent	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
All ages . . . . .	1,608,087	1,633,471	40.7	40.8
Under 20 years . . . . .	295,718	328,327	88.6	88.2
Under 15 years . . . . .	3,940	4,465	99.1	99.3
15–19 years . . . . .	291,778	323,862	88.5	88.1
15–17 years . . . . .	91,073	103,755	95.3	95.0
18–19 years . . . . .	200,705	220,107	85.7	85.1
20–24 years . . . . .	592,647	600,833	64.1	63.1
25–29 years . . . . .	387,452	384,865	34.4	33.9
30–34 years . . . . .	213,032	203,479	21.6	21.1
35–39 years . . . . .	93,167	91,089	20.1	19.6
40 years and over . . . . .	26,072	24,878	22.4	21.7

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

**Table 8. Selected characteristics of births, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, final 2010 and preliminary 2011**

[Data for 2011 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states. Figures for 2011 are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual]

Race and Hispanic origin of mother	Number		Cesarean rate <sup>1</sup>		Preterm				Low birthweight			
					Total <sup>2</sup>		Late <sup>3</sup>		Total <sup>4</sup>		Very low birthweight <sup>5</sup>	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
All races and origins <sup>6</sup> . . . . .	3,953,593	3,999,386	32.8	32.8	11.72	11.99	8.28	8.49	8.10	8.15	1.44	1.45
Non-Hispanic white <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	2,150,926	2,162,406	32.4	32.6	10.49	10.77	7.62	7.84	7.09	7.14	1.14	1.16
Non-Hispanic black <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	583,079	589,808	35.5	35.5	16.75	17.12	10.74	10.99	13.33	13.53	2.99	2.98
American Indian or Alaska Native total <sup>7,8</sup> . . . . .	46,536	46,760	28.4	28.4	13.50	13.60	9.64	9.62	7.55	7.61	1.31	1.28
Asian or Pacific Islander total <sup>7,8</sup> . . . . .	253,864	246,886	33.2	33.1	10.40	10.69	7.62	7.84	8.35	8.49	1.18	1.17
Hispanic <sup>9</sup> . . . . .	912,290	945,180	32.0	31.8	11.66	11.79	8.40	8.53	7.02	6.97	1.20	1.20

<sup>1</sup>All births by cesarean delivery are per 100 live births.<sup>2</sup>Born prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.<sup>3</sup>Born between 34 and 36 completed weeks of gestation.<sup>4</sup>Birthweight of less than 2,500 grams (5 lb. 8 oz.).<sup>5</sup>Birthweight of less than 1,500 grams (3 lb. 4 oz.).<sup>6</sup>Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as white Hispanic and black Hispanic women, and births with origin not stated.<sup>7</sup>Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards. In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states; see Technical Notes. Multiple-race reporting areas vary for 2010–2011; see Technical Notes.<sup>8</sup>Includes persons of Hispanic origin according to the mother's reported race; see Technical Notes.<sup>9</sup>Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race; see Technical Notes.

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

**Table 9. Distribution of births born preterm (prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation): United States, final 1990, 2006, and 2010 and preliminary 2011**

[Data for 2011 are based on a continuous file of records received from the states]

Gestational age	2011	2010	2006	1990
			Percent	
Under 32 weeks . . . . .	1.92	1.96	2.04	1.92
32–33 weeks . . . . .	1.51	1.53	1.62	1.40
Total under 34 weeks . . . . .	3.44	3.50	3.66	3.32
34–36 weeks . . . . .	8.28	8.49	9.15	7.30
Total under 37 weeks . . . . .	11.72	11.99	12.80	10.62

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

**Table 10. Total count of records and completeness of preliminary file of live births: United States, each state and territory, preliminary 2011**

[By place of occurrence]

Area	Live births	
	Counts of records	Percent completeness
United States <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	3,960,982	100.000
Alabama . . . . .	57,891	100.000
Alaska . . . . .	11,338	100.000
Arizona . . . . .	86,103	100.000
Arkansas . . . . .	37,857	99.995
California . . . . .	503,018	100.000
Colorado . . . . .	65,513	100.000
Connecticut . . . . .	37,988	100.000
Delaware . . . . .	11,631	100.000
District of Columbia . . . . .	13,836	100.000
Florida . . . . .	213,716	100.000
Georgia . . . . .	133,830	100.000
Hawaii . . . . .	18,972	100.000
Idaho . . . . .	21,859	100.000
Illinois . . . . .	157,737	100.000
Indiana . . . . .	84,540	100.000
Iowa . . . . .	38,040	100.000
Kansas . . . . .	40,472	100.000
Kentucky . . . . .	53,333	100.000
Louisiana . . . . .	61,982	100.000
Maine . . . . .	12,564	100.000
Maryland . . . . .	70,958	100.000
Massachusetts . . . . .	73,465	100.000
Michigan . . . . .	113,051	100.000
Minnesota . . . . .	68,113	100.000
Mississippi . . . . .	38,938	100.000
Missouri . . . . .	77,108	100.000
Montana . . . . .	12,018	100.000
Nebraska . . . . .	26,095	100.000
Nevada . . . . .	35,008	100.000
New Hampshire . . . . .	13,080	100.000
New Jersey . . . . .	103,033	100.000
New Mexico . . . . .	26,414	100.000
New York . . . . .	242,833	100.000
New York (excluding New York City) . . . . .	119,804	100.000
New York City . . . . .	123,029	100.000
North Carolina . . . . .	121,554	100.000
North Dakota . . . . .	10,772	100.000
Ohio . . . . .	138,585	99.999
Oklahoma . . . . .	51,318	99.998
Oregon . . . . .	45,480	100.000
Pennsylvania . . . . .	142,437	100.000
Rhode Island . . . . .	11,729	100.000
South Carolina . . . . .	54,836	100.000
South Dakota . . . . .	12,470	100.000
Tennessee . . . . .	84,412	100.000
Texas . . . . .	384,116	100.000
Utah . . . . .	52,326	100.000
Vermont . . . . .	5,701	100.000
Virginia . . . . .	101,032	100.000
Washington . . . . .	86,954	100.000
West Virginia . . . . .	20,959	100.000
Wisconsin . . . . .	67,255	100.000
Wyoming . . . . .	6,712	100.000
Puerto Rico . . . . .	41,095	100.000
Virgin Islands . . . . .	---	---
Guam . . . . .	2,349	100.000
American Samoa . . . . .	1,216	100.000
Northern Marianas . . . . .	---	---

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes data for Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Northern Marianas.

NOTE: Percent completeness equals the number of records in the preliminary file times 100 divided by the count of records.

## Technical Notes

### Nature and sources of data

Preliminary data for 2011 are based on all births for that year (approximately 100%, see [Table 10](#)), with levels for 47 states and the District of Columbia at 100% and levels for the remaining 3 states just under 100%. Preliminary 2011 data are based on a continuous receipt and processing of statistical records through June 28, 2012 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). NCHS receives the data from the states' vital registration systems through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. In this report, U.S. totals include only events occurring within the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data for Puerto Rico, Guam, and American Samoa are included in tables showing data by state, but are not included in U.S. totals (see [Tables 6 and 10](#)) and state-specific Internet tables at [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61\\_05\\_tables.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61_05_tables.pdf). Data for Northern Marianas and the Virgin Islands were not available as of the release of the 2011 preliminary file and are not included in this report. Detailed information on reporting completeness and imputation procedures may be found in the "User Guide to the 2010 Natality Public Use File" (7).

To produce the preliminary estimates shown in this report, records in the file were weighted using independent control counts of all 2011 births by state of occurrence. Detailed information on weighting and the reliability of estimates also may be found elsewhere (8).

### The 1989 and 2003 U.S. Standard Certificates of Live Birth

This report includes selected 2011 data on items that are collected on both the 1989 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth (unrevised) and the 2003 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth (revised). The 2003 revision is described in detail elsewhere (2,7,9,10). Thirty-six states (California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming), the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Northern Marianas had implemented the revised birth certificate as of January 1, 2011. Two additional states, Massachusetts and Minnesota, and one territory, Guam, implemented the revised birth certificate in 2011, but after January 1. The 36 revised states and the District of Columbia that implemented the certificate as of January 1, 2011, represent 83% of all 2011 births.

Data items exclusive to either the 1989 or the 2003 birth certificate revision are not shown in this report. A forthcoming report or data release based on 2011 final data will present selected data exclusive to the 2003 revised certificate.

### Age of mother

For information and discussion of age of mother, see "User Guide to the 2010 Natality Public Use File" (7).

## Hispanic origin and race

### Hispanic origin

Hispanic origin and race are reported separately on the birth certificate. Data shown by race (i.e., American Indian or Alaska Native and Asian or Pacific Islander) include persons of Hispanic or non-Hispanic origin, and data for Hispanic origin include all persons of Hispanic origin of any race. Data for non-Hispanic persons are shown separately according to the race of the mother because there are substantial differences in fertility and maternal and infant health characteristics between Hispanic and non-Hispanic white women. Items asking for the Hispanic origin of the mother have been included on the birth certificates of all states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Guam since 1993, on the birth certificate of Puerto Rico starting in 2005, and on the birth certificate of Northern Marianas starting in 2010 (7). American Samoa does not collect this information.

### Single, multiple, and "bridged" race

The 2003 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth allows the reporting of more than one race (multiple races) for each parent (9) in accordance with the revised standards issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in 1997 (11). Information on this change is presented elsewhere (7,12–15).

In 2011, 40 states and the District of Columbia reported multiple races. Multiple-race reporting areas include: California, Colorado, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Guam (in June), Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts (in February–March), Michigan, Minnesota (in March), Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Marianas, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, which used the 2003 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth, as well as Hawaii, Minnesota (through February), and Rhode Island, which used the 1989 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth. Puerto Rico, which revised its birth certificate in 2005, continued to report race according to the 1989 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth (that is, as an open-ended question in which only one response is accepted). The 40 states and the District of Columbia accounted for 87% of U.S. births in 2011. Data from the vital records of the remaining 10 states are based on the 1989 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth that follows the 1977 OMB standard, allowing only a single race to be reported (12,13).

To provide uniformity and comparability of the data during the transition period, before all or most of the data are available in the new multiple-race format, it was necessary to "bridge" the responses of those who reported more than one race (multiple-race) to one, single race. The bridging procedure for multiple-race mothers and fathers is based on the procedure used to bridge the multiple-race population estimates (see "Population denominators") (13–15). Information detailing the processing and tabulation of data by race is presented elsewhere (7). A previous report describes multiple-race birth data for 2003 (16).

## **Marital status**

For information and discussion of marital status, see "User Guide to the 2010 Natality Public Use File" (7).

## **Method of delivery, gestation, and birthweight**

For information and discussion of method of delivery, gestational age, and birthweight, see "User Guide to the 2010 Natality Public Use File" (7).

## **Population denominators**

U.S. national and state level birth and fertility rates for 2011 shown in this report are based on population estimates derived from the 2010 Census, as of July 1, 2011. These population estimates are available on the NCHS website (17). The production of these population estimates is described in detail elsewhere (13).

Birth and fertility rates for the territories shown in this report are based on population estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau (18,19).

Rates by state and territory shown in this report may differ from rates computed on the basis of other population estimates. Rates for states and territories with smaller populations, or groups with smaller populations, are more likely to be affected by differences in population base.

Information on the national estimates of births to unmarried women (i.e., methods of determining marital status) and the computation of the preliminary birth rates for unmarried women is presented elsewhere (2,7,20). The birth rate for unmarried women for 2011 is estimated on the basis of the population distributions by marital status provided by the U.S. Census Bureau as of March 2011 and applied to the national population estimates as of July 1, 2011, which are derived from the 2010 census (17,20,21).

The U.S. population estimates used in this report were produced under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census Bureau and are consistent with the 2010 census counts by age, race, and sex. Reflecting the guidelines issued in 1997 by OMB, the 2010 census included an option for persons to report more than one race as appropriate for themselves and household members (11). Beginning with births occurring in 2003, several states began reporting multiple-race data. This number has increased to 40 states and the District of Columbia in 2011 (see "Single, multiple, and 'bridged' race"). To produce birth and fertility rates by race during the transition period, the bridging of population data for multiple-race persons back to single-race categories was necessary. Once all states revise their birth certificates to be compliant with the 1997 OMB standards, the use of "bridged" populations can be discontinued. For detailed information on the revised OMB standards on race reporting and procedures used to produce the "bridged" populations, see "United States Census 2000 with Bridged Race Categories" (13).

## **Computing rates and percentages and reliability of estimates**

For information and further discussion on computing rates and percentages and the relative standard errors of the data, see "Births: Preliminary Data for 2005" (8).



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