

Indicator 6. Births

Birth rates for all women 15 to 44 years old, by age and race: 1950 to 1992

Year	Number of live births per 1,000 women, by age						
	Total 15 to 44	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44
All races							
1950	106.2	81.6	196.6	166.1	103.7	52.9	15.1
1960	118.0	89.1	258.1	197.4	112.7	56.2	15.5
1970	87.9	68.3	167.8	145.1	73.3	31.7	8.1
1980	68.4	53.0	115.1	112.9	61.9	19.8	3.9
1985	66.3	51.3	108.9	110.5	68.5	23.9	4.0
1990	70.9	59.9	116.5	120.2	80.8	31.7	5.5
1991	69.6	62.1	115.7	118.2	79.5	32.0	5.5
1992	68.9	60.7	114.6	117.4	80.2	32.5	5.9
White²							
1950	102.3	70.0	190.4	165.1	102.6	51.4	14.5
1960	113.2	79.4	252.8	194.9	109.6	54.0	14.7
1970	84.1	57.4	163.4	145.9	71.9	30.0	7.5
1980	64.7	44.7	109.5	112.4	60.4	18.5	3.4
1985	63.0	42.8	102.8	110.0	68.1	22.7	3.6
1990	68.3	50.8	109.8	120.7	81.7	31.5	5.2
1991	67.0	52.8	109.0	118.8	80.5	31.8	5.2
1992	66.5	51.8	108.2	118.4	81.4	32.2	5.7
Black²							
1950 ¹	137.3	163.5	242.6	173.8	112.6	64.3	21.2
1960 ¹	153.6	158.2	294.2	214.6	135.6	74.2	22.0
1970	115.4	140.7	202.7	136.3	79.6	41.9	12.5
1980	84.7	97.8	140.0	103.9	59.9	23.5	5.6
1985	78.8	95.4	135.0	100.2	57.9	23.9	4.6
1990	86.8	112.8	160.2	115.5	68.7	28.1	5.5
1991	85.2	115.5	160.9	113.1	67.7	28.3	5.5
1992	83.2	112.4	158.0	111.2	67.5	28.8	5.6
American Indian²							
1980	82.7	82.2	143.7	106.6	61.8	28.1	8.2
1985	78.6	79.2	139.1	109.6	62.6	27.4	6.0
1990	76.2	81.1	148.7	110.3	61.5	27.5	5.9
1991	75.1	85.0	144.9	106.9	61.9	27.2	5.9
1992	75.4	84.4	145.5	109.4	63.0	28.0	6.1
Asian or Pacific Islander²							
1980	73.2	26.2	93.3	127.4	96.0	38.3	8.5
1985	68.4	23.8	83.6	123.0	93.6	42.7	8.7
1990	69.6	26.4	79.2	126.3	106.5	49.6	10.7
1991	67.6	27.4	75.2	123.2	103.3	49.0	11.2
1992	67.2	26.6	74.6	121.0	103.0	50.6	11.0

¹ Data include "other races".

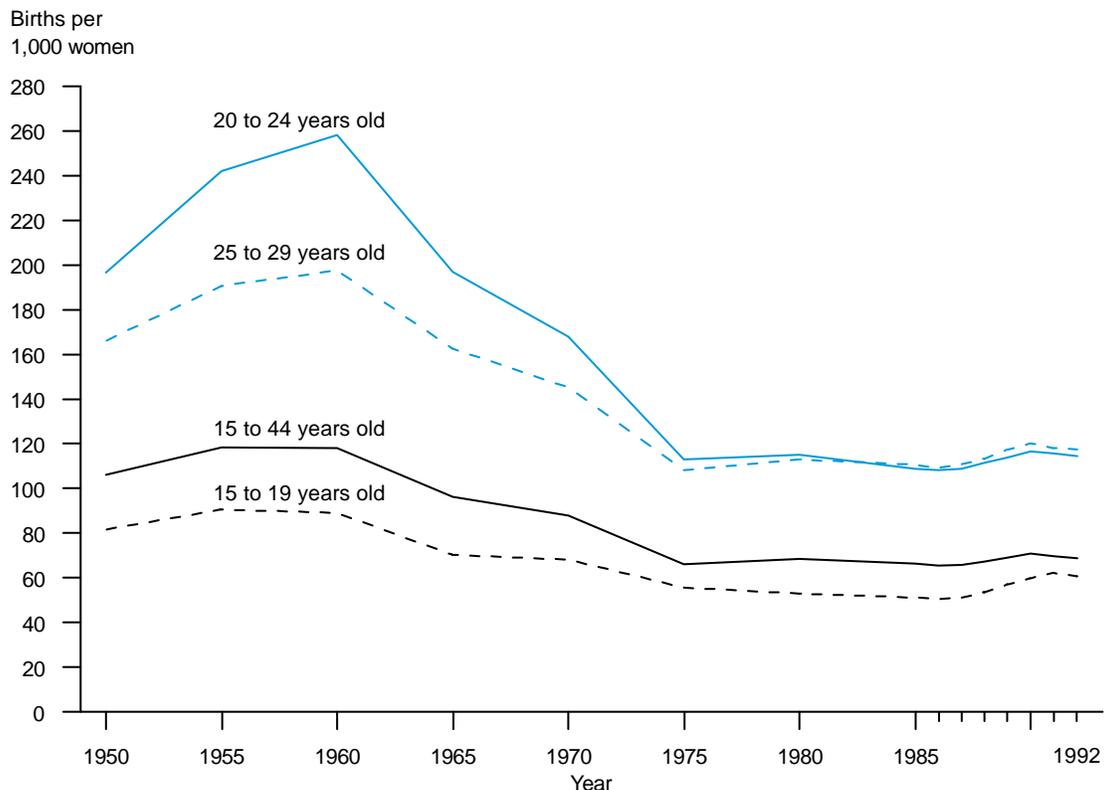
² Includes persons of Hispanic origin.

NOTE: Data before 1980 are based on race of child; data for later years are based on race of mother. Some data have been revised from previously published figures. Data are not available for some racial categories in all years.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States to 1975*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, various years; and *Vital Statistics of the United States, vol. 1, Natality, 1986, and 1992*.

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Number of live births per 1,000 women, by age: 1950 to 1992



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States to 1975*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, various years; and *Vital Statistics of the United States*, vol. 1, *Nativity*, 1986, and 1992.

For all age groups shown above, the rates at which women gave birth declined significantly after 1960. For 20- to 29-year-old women, birth rates peaked in 1960 and then fell sharply until 1975. Rates remained stable between 1975 and 1985. During the late 1980s the birth rates for women in their 20s rose. Until 1985, the highest birth rate for women was for those aged 20 to 24. Since the late 1980s, 25- to 29-year-old women have had the highest birth rate. In contrast, birth rates (per 1,000) for 30- to 34-year-old women have risen 30 percent since 1980.

Birth rates for black and American Indian women are higher than for white women among the younger age groups. In 1992, the number of births per 1,000 women 15 to 19 years old was 52 for whites, 112 for blacks, 84 for American Indians, and 27 for Asian or Pacific Islanders. Minority women, except Asian/Pacific Islanders, continue to bear children more frequently in their early 20s than in their late 20s.