

Table 1-17. Number and Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, by Race and Hispanic Origin: United States, 1940-2001

(Prior to 1980, due to rounding estimates to the nearest hundred, figures by race may not add to totals. Percents per 100 live births in specified group. Beginning in 1970, excludes births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

| Year | Number | | | | | | Percent | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | All races (1) | White | | Black | | Hispanic (2,3) | All races (1) | White | | Black | | Hispanic (2,3) |
| | | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | | | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | |
| Race of Mother | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marital status reported/inferred (4) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2001..... | 1,349,249 | 879,848 | 524,371 | 414,533 | 404,503 | 361,689 | 33.5 | 27.7 | 22.5 | 68.4 | 68.6 | 42.5 |
| 2000..... | 1,347,043 | 866,355 | 521,686 | 426,649 | 415,152 | 348,173 | 33.2 | 27.1 | 22.1 | 68.5 | 68.7 | 42.7 |
| 1999..... | 1,308,560 | 839,552 | 518,291 | 417,476 | 406,802 | 322,311 | 33.0 | 26.8 | 22.1 | 68.9 | 69.1 | 42.2 |
| 1998..... | 1,293,567 | 821,441 | 517,153 | 421,383 | 410,977 | 305,442 | 32.8 | 26.3 | 21.9 | 69.1 | 69.3 | 41.6 |
| 1997..... | 1,257,444 | 793,202 | 502,620 | 415,054 | 403,536 | 290,437 | 32.4 | 25.8 | 21.5 | 69.2 | 69.4 | 40.9 |
| 1996..... | 1,260,306 | 795,432 | 508,157 | 415,213 | 404,575 | 285,501 | 32.4 | 25.7 | 21.5 | 69.8 | 70.0 | 40.7 |
| 1995..... | 1,253,976 | 784,992 | 503,928 | 421,489 | 411,669 | 277,602 | 32.2 | 25.3 | 21.2 | 69.9 | 70.0 | 40.8 |
| 1994..... | 1,289,592 | 794,261 | 508,000 | 448,315 | 437,532 | 286,469 | 32.6 | 25.4 | 20.8 | 70.4 | 70.7 | 43.1 |
| 1993..... | 1,240,172 | 742,129 | 481,503 | 452,476 | 441,811 | 261,586 | 31.0 | 23.6 | 19.5 | 68.7 | 68.9 | 40.0 |
| 1992..... | 1,224,876 | 721,986 | 468,739 | 458,969 | 449,351 | 251,737 | 30.1 | 22.6 | 18.5 | 68.1 | 68.3 | 39.1 |
| 1991..... | 1,213,769 | 707,502 | 466,500 | 463,750 | 454,687 | 239,881 | 29.5 | 21.8 | 18.0 | 67.9 | 68.2 | 38.5 |
| 1990..... | 1,165,384 | 669,698 | 443,012 | 455,304 | 441,634 | 218,515 | 28.0 | 20.4 | 16.9 | 66.5 | 66.7 | 36.7 |
| 1989..... | 1,094,169 | 613,543 | --- | 442,395 | --- | --- | 27.1 | 19.2 | --- | 65.7 | --- | --- |
| 1988..... | 1,005,299 | 557,394 | --- | 413,157 | --- | --- | 25.7 | 18.0 | --- | 64.7 | --- | --- |
| 1987..... | 933,013 | 513,984 | --- | 387,468 | --- | --- | 24.5 | 16.9 | --- | 63.4 | --- | --- |
| 1986..... | 878,477 | 480,533 | --- | 369,786 | --- | --- | 23.4 | 15.9 | --- | 62.4 | --- | --- |
| 1985..... | 828,174 | 445,595 | --- | 356,205 | --- | --- | 22.0 | 14.7 | --- | 61.2 | --- | --- |
| 1984(5)..... | 770,355 | 403,022 | --- | 342,524 | --- | --- | 21.0 | 13.6 | --- | 60.3 | --- | --- |
| 1983(5)..... | 737,893 | 381,276 | --- | 333,183 | --- | --- | 20.3 | 12.9 | --- | 59.2 | --- | --- |
| 1982(5)..... | 715,227 | 365,647 | --- | 327,998 | --- | --- | 19.4 | 12.3 | --- | 57.7 | --- | --- |
| 1981(5)..... | 686,605 | 346,541 | --- | 321,383 | --- | --- | 18.9 | 11.8 | --- | 56.9 | --- | --- |
| 1980(5)..... | 665,747 | 328,984 | --- | 318,799 | --- | --- | 18.4 | 11.2 | --- | 56.1 | --- | --- |
| Race of Child | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marital status estimated (6) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1980(5)..... | 643,400 | 294,200 | --- | 327,000 | --- | --- | 17.8 | 10.2 | --- | 55.5 | --- | --- |
| 1979(5)..... | 597,800 | 263,000 | --- | 315,800 | --- | --- | 17.1 | 9.4 | --- | 54.7 | --- | --- |
| 1978(5)..... | 543,900 | 233,600 | --- | 293,400 | --- | --- | 16.3 | 8.7 | --- | 53.2 | --- | --- |

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| Year | Number | | | | | | Percent | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|
| | All races (1) | White | | Black | | Hispanic (2,3) | All races (1) | White | | Black | | Hispanic (2,3) |
| | | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | | | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | | | |
| 1977(5)..... | 515,700 | 220,100 | --- | 281,600 | --- | --- | 15.5 | 8.2 | --- | 51.7 | --- | --- |
| 1976(5)..... | 468,100 | 197,100 | --- | 258,800 | --- | --- | 14.8 | 7.7 | --- | 50.3 | --- | --- |
| 1975(5)..... | 447,900 | 186,400 | --- | 249,600 | --- | --- | 14.3 | 7.3 | --- | 48.8 | --- | --- |
| 1974(5)..... | 418,100 | 168,500 | --- | 238,800 | --- | --- | 13.2 | 6.5 | --- | 47.1 | --- | --- |
| 1973(5)..... | 407,300 | 163,000 | --- | 234,500 | --- | --- | 13.0 | 6.4 | --- | 45.8 | --- | --- |
| 1972(5)..... | 403,200 | 160,500 | --- | 233,300 | --- | --- | 12.4 | 6.0 | --- | 43.9 | --- | --- |
| 1971(7)..... | 401,400 | 163,800 | --- | 229,000 | --- | --- | 11.3 | 5.6 | --- | 40.5 | --- | --- |
| 1970(7)..... | 398,700 | 175,100 | --- | 215,100 | --- | --- | 10.7 | 5.7 | --- | 37.6 | --- | --- |
| 1969(7)..... | 360,800 | 163,700 | --- | 189,400 | --- | --- | 10.0 | 5.5 | --- | 34.9 | --- | --- |
| 1968(7)..... | 339,200 | 155,200 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 9.7 | 5.3 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1967(8)..... | 318,100 | 142,200 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 9.0 | 4.9 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1966(7)..... | 302,400 | 132,900 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 8.4 | 4.4 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1965(7)..... | 291,200 | 123,700 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 7.7 | 4.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1964(7)..... | 275,700 | 114,300 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 6.9 | 3.4 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1963(7)..... | 259,400 | 104,600 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 6.3 | 3.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1962(7)..... | 245,100 | 94,700 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5.9 | 2.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1961(7)..... | 240,200 | 91,100 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5.6 | 2.5 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1960(7)..... | 224,300 | 82,500 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5.3 | 2.3 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1959(7)..... | 220,600 | 79,600 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5.2 | 2.2 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1958(7)..... | 208,700 | 74,600 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5.0 | 2.1 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1957(7)..... | 201,700 | 70,800 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.7 | 2.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1956(7)..... | 193,500 | 67,500 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.7 | 1.9 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1955..... | 183,300 | 64,200 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.5 | 1.9 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1954(7)..... | 176,600 | 62,700 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.4 | 1.8 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1953(7)..... | 160,800 | 56,600 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.1 | 1.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1952(7)..... | 150,300 | 54,100 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.9 | 1.6 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1951(7)..... | 146,500 | 52,600 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.9 | 1.6 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1950..... | 141,600 | 53,500 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.0 | 1.8 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1949..... | 133,200 | 53,500 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.7 | 1.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1948..... | 129,700 | 54,800 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.7 | 1.8 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1947..... | 131,900 | 60,500 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.6 | 1.9 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1946..... | 125,200 | 61,400 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.8 | 2.1 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1945..... | 117,400 | 56,400 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.3 | 2.4 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1944..... | 105,200 | 49,600 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.8 | 2.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- |

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| Year | Number | | | | | | Percent | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|--------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|
| | All races (1) | White | | Black | | Hispanic (2,3) | All races (1) | White | | Black | | Hispanic (2,3) |
| | | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | | | Total | Non-Hispanic (2) | | | |
| 1943..... | 98,100 | 42,800 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.3 | 1.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1942..... | 95,500 | 42,000 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.4 | 1.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1941..... | 95,700 | 41,900 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.8 | 1.9 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1940..... | 89,500 | 40,300 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 3.8 | 2.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- |

--- Data not available.

(1) Includes races other than white and black and origin not stated.

(2) The number of States reporting Hispanic origin on the birth certificate was 48 and DC in 1990, 49 and DC in 1991-92, and 50 and DC in 1993 and later years; see Technical Appendix.

(3) Includes persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

(4) Data for States in which marital status was not reported have been inferred from other items on the birth certificate and included with data from the reporting States; see Technical Appendix.

(5) Based on 100 percent of births in selected States and on a 50-percent sample of births in all other States; see Technical Appendix.

(6) Births to unmarried women are estimated for the United States from data for registration areas in which marital status of mother was reported; see Technical Appendix.

(7) Based on a 50-percent sample of births.

(8) Based on a 20- to 50-percent sample of births.

NOTES: Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget standards. See Technical Appendix.