

Table 1-6. Mean Age of Mother by Live-birth Order, According to Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother: United States, Selected Years, 1968-98

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Beginning in 1970 data exclude births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	Live-birth order								Unknown or not stated
		1	2	3	4	5	6 and 7	8 and over		
ALL RACES										
Registered births										
1998	27.1	24.7	27.6	29.1	30.2	31.3	32.8	35.6	26.4	
1997	27.0	24.7	27.6	29.1	30.2	31.3	32.7	35.6	27.0	
1996	27.0	24.6	27.6	29.1	30.2	31.2	32.6	35.5	27.5	
1995	26.9	24.5	27.5	29.1	30.2	31.2	32.6	35.4	27.1	
1994	26.8	24.4	27.4	28.9	29.9	30.9	32.4	35.3	26.7	
1993	26.7	24.4	27.2	28.7	29.7	30.7	32.1	35.1	27.4	
1992	26.6	24.4	27.1	28.5	29.5	30.6	32.1	35.1	27.1	
1991	26.4	24.2	27.0	28.4	29.5	30.5	32.1	35.2	27.0	
1990	26.4	24.2	26.9	28.3	29.4	30.6	32.1	35.1	27.4	
1989	26.3	24.2	26.8	28.3	29.4	30.5	32.2	35.2	27.2	
1988	26.3	24.1	26.7	28.2	29.4	30.6	32.3	35.3	27.0	
1987	26.1	24.0	26.6	28.1	29.4	30.6	32.4	35.5	26.3	
1986	26.0	23.8	26.4	28.0	29.3	30.6	32.4	35.6	26.2	
1985	25.8	23.7	26.3	27.9	29.3	30.6	32.5	35.7	26.1	
1984 (1)	25.7	23.5	26.1	27.8	29.2	30.6	32.5	35.6	26.0	
1983 (1)	25.5	23.3	25.9	27.6	29.2	30.6	32.5	35.7	25.0	
1982 (1)	25.3	23.1	25.7	27.5	29.1	30.6	32.6	35.8	24.4	
1981 (1)	25.2	22.9	25.5	27.4	29.0	30.6	32.6	35.8	24.4	
1980 (1)	25.0	22.7	25.4	27.3	29.0	30.6	32.7	36.0	23.9	
1979 (1)	24.9	22.6	25.3	27.2	29.0	30.7	32.8	36.0	24.1	
1978 (1)	24.8	22.4	25.1	27.2	28.9	30.7	32.8	36.0	24.2	
1977 (1)	24.7	22.2	25.0	27.1	29.0	30.8	32.8	36.1	23.4	
1976 (1)	24.6	22.0	24.9	27.0	28.9	30.7	32.8	36.1	23.4	
1975 (1)	24.5	21.8	24.7	26.9	28.9	30.8	32.8	36.0	23.2	
1974 (1)	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.8	28.9	30.6	32.7	35.9	23.3	
1973 (1)	24.4	21.5	24.5	26.8	28.9	30.6	32.6	35.9	23.4	
1972 (1)	24.5	21.4	24.4	26.7	28.8	30.6	32.5	35.7	23.4	
1971 (2)	24.6	21.4	24.2	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.3	35.4	23.4	
1970 (2)	24.6	21.4	24.1	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.2	35.3	23.1	
1969 (2)	24.7	21.4	24.1	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.1	35.2	23.1	
1968 (2)	24.9	21.4	24.0	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.1	35.2	25.1	

WHITE, TOTAL

1998	27.4	25.1	27.9	29.5	30.7	32.0	33.6	36.5	26.6
1997	27.3	25.0	27.9	29.5	30.7	31.9	33.5	36.5	27.3
1996	27.3	24.9	27.8	29.5	30.7	31.9	33.4	36.4	27.8
1995	27.2	24.8	27.8	29.4	30.7	31.9	33.5	36.3	27.3
1994	27.1	24.8	27.7	29.3	30.5	31.6	33.2	36.1	26.9
1993	27.0	24.8	27.6	29.1	30.3	31.5	33.0	36.1	27.8
1992	26.9	24.7	27.4	28.9	30.2	31.4	33.0	36.0	27.6
1991	26.8	24.6	27.3	28.8	30.1	31.2	32.9	35.9	27.5
1990	26.7	24.6	27.2	28.8	30.0	31.2	32.9	35.8	27.8
1989	26.7	24.6	27.2	28.7	29.9	31.2	32.9	35.9	27.6
1988	26.6	24.5	27.1	28.6	29.9	31.3	32.9	36.0	27.4
1987	26.4	24.4	26.9	28.5	29.9	31.2	33.0	36.1	26.4
1986	26.3	24.2	26.7	28.3	29.8	31.2	33.0	36.1	26.3
1985	26.1	24.0	26.5	28.2	29.7	31.2	33.1	36.2	26.0
1984 (1)	25.9	23.9	26.4	28.1	29.7	31.3	33.1	36.0	26.0
1983 (1)	25.7	23.7	26.1	28.0	29.6	31.3	33.1	36.1	25.2
1982 (1)	25.6	23.4	25.9	27.9	29.6	31.2	33.2	36.1	24.9
1981 (1)	25.4	23.2	25.8	27.8	29.5	31.2	33.3	36.2	24.9
1980 (1)	25.2	23.0	25.6	27.7	29.5	31.2	33.3	36.3	24.4
1979 (1)	25.2	22.9	25.5	27.6	29.5	31.3	33.4	36.3	24.9
1978 (1)	25.1	22.7	25.4	27.5	29.5	31.3	33.4	36.3	24.8
1977 (1)	25.0	22.6	25.2	27.5	29.5	31.4	33.4	36.4	24.0
1976 (1)	24.9	22.4	25.1	27.4	29.4	31.3	33.3	36.4	23.9
1975 (1)	24.7	22.2	25.0	27.3	29.4	31.4	33.3	36.4	23.6
1974 (1)	24.7	22.0	24.9	27.2	29.4	31.2	33.3	36.3	23.5
1973 (1)	24.7	21.9	24.8	27.2	29.4	31.2	33.2	36.3	23.8
1972 (1)	24.7	21.8	24.7	27.1	29.3	31.1	33.1	36.1	23.7
1971 (2)	24.8	21.8	24.5	27.0	29.1	30.9	32.9	35.9	23.6
1970 (2)	24.8	21.7	24.4	27.0	29.1	30.9	32.8	35.7	23.2
1969 (2)	25.0	21.7	24.4	27.0	29.2	31.0	32.7	35.7	22.9
1968 (2)	25.1	21.7	24.3	27.0	29.2	31.0	32.8	35.8	25.3

WHITE, NON-HISPANIC

1998	27.9	25.7	28.5	30.0	31.2	32.4	34.0	36.9	27.2
1997	27.8	25.6	28.4	30.0	31.2	32.4	34.0	36.9	28.2
1996	27.7	25.6	28.4	30.0	31.2	32.3	33.8	36.7	28.8
1995	27.6	25.4	28.3	29.9	31.2	32.4	33.9	36.7	28.5
1994	27.5	25.4	28.2	29.8	31.0	32.1	33.7	36.5	28.2
1993	27.4	25.3	28.0	29.6	30.7	31.9	33.4	36.5	28.4
1992 (3)	27.3	25.2	27.9	29.3	30.5	31.7	33.3	36.3	28.0
1991 (3)	27.2	25.1	27.7	29.2	30.5	31.6	33.3	36.2	28.1
1990 (4)	27.1	25.0	27.6	29.1	30.3	31.6	33.2	36.2	28.5
1989 (5)	27.0	25.0	27.5	29.0	30.3	31.5	33.2	36.1	28.1

BLACK, TOTAL

1998	25.0	22.2	25.4	27.1	28.2	29.4	30.9	33.5	25.2
1997	25.0	22.1	25.4	27.1	28.2	29.4	30.8	33.6	25.5
1996	24.9	22.0	25.4	27.0	28.1	29.3	30.7	33.5	26.0
1995	24.8	21.9	25.3	27.0	28.1	29.3	30.8	33.2	25.6
1994	24.7	21.9	25.2	26.8	27.8	28.9	30.6	33.3	25.5
1993	24.6	21.8	25.0	26.6	27.6	28.7	30.2	33.0	25.4
1992	24.5	21.8	24.8	26.3	27.5	28.7	30.2	33.0	25.2
1991	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.2	27.4	28.6	30.2	33.2	25.3
1990	24.4	21.7	24.7	26.3	27.5	28.8	30.3	33.3	26.1
1989	24.3	21.6	24.6	26.3	27.5	28.8	30.5	33.5	26.2
1988	24.3	21.6	24.6	26.3	27.5	28.9	30.6	33.6	26.0
1987	24.2	21.5	24.5	26.3	27.6	29.0	30.8	33.7	24.0
1986	24.1	21.4	24.5	26.2	27.6	29.0	30.9	34.0	23.3
1985	24.0	21.3	24.4	26.1	27.5	29.0	30.9	34.2	23.5
1984 (1)	23.9	21.1	24.2	26.0	27.4	28.9	31.0	34.2	23.4
1983 (1)	23.8	21.0	24.1	25.9	27.4	28.9	30.9	34.5	21.9
1982 (1)	23.7	20.9	23.9	25.8	27.4	28.9	31.1	34.8	21.3
1981 (1)	23.6	20.8	23.8	25.7	27.2	28.9	31.1	34.9	21.6
1980 (1)	23.5	20.6	23.6	25.6	27.2	28.8	31.1	35.1	21.0
1979 (1)	23.3	20.4	23.5	25.4	27.1	28.9	31.3	35.4	21.1
1978 (1)	23.2	20.2	23.3	25.2	27.0	28.9	31.3	35.3	21.6
1977 (1)	23.1	20.0	23.1	25.2	27.0	29.0	31.4	35.5	21.2
1976 (1)	23.0	19.9	22.9	25.0	26.9	28.8	31.4	35.4	21.4
1975 (1)	22.8	19.7	22.7	24.8	26.8	28.8	31.4	35.3	21.3
1974 (1)	22.7	19.6	22.5	24.6	26.7	28.6	31.1	35.3	21.5
1973 (1)	22.7	19.4	22.3	24.5	26.6	28.6	31.0	35.1	22.3
1972 (1)	22.9	19.4	22.3	24.5	26.5	28.5	30.8	34.9	22.3
1971 (2)	23.2	19.4	22.2	24.4	26.4	28.3	30.6	34.7	22.1
1970 (2)	23.3	19.5	22.1	24.3	26.4	28.2	30.4	34.5	21.7
1969 (2)	23.4	19.5	22.1	24.3	26.3	28.1	30.3	34.4	21.8
1968 (2)	23.6	19.5	21.9	24.2	26.2	28.0	30.3	34.3	23.7

BLACK, NON-HISPANIC

1998	25.0	22.2	25.4	27.0	28.2	29.3	30.9	33.6	25.0
1997	25.0	22.1	25.4	27.0	28.2	29.3	30.8	33.6	25.3
1996	24.9	22.0	25.4	27.0	28.1	29.2	30.7	33.5	25.8
1995	24.8	21.9	25.3	27.0	28.0	29.3	30.8	33.2	25.4
1994	24.7	21.8	25.1	26.7	27.8	28.9	30.6	33.3	25.4
1993	24.6	21.8	24.9	26.5	27.6	28.6	30.2	32.9	25.3
1992 (3)	24.5	21.8	24.7	26.2	27.4	28.6	30.2	33.0	25.1
1991 (3)	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.2	27.4	28.6	30.2	33.1	25.3
1990 (4)	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.3	27.4	28.7	30.3	33.3	26.0
1989 (5)	24.3	21.6	24.6	26.3	27.5	28.7	30.5	33.5	26.2

HISPANIC (6)

1998		25.6		22.6		25.7		28.0		29.6		31.2		32.9		35.5		24.3
1997		25.6		22.5		25.6		27.9		29.7		31.1		32.8		35.6		24.3
1996		25.5		22.5		25.6		27.9		29.6		31.1		32.7		35.8		24.8
1995		25.4		22.4		25.5		27.8		29.6		31.1		32.8		35.5		24.2
1994		25.4		22.4		25.5		27.7		29.5		30.8		32.5		35.3		23.6
1993		25.4		22.4		25.4		27.6		29.3		30.8		32.5		35.4		24.9
1992(3)		25.3		22.4		25.2		27.5		29.2		30.6		32.4		35.5		25.4
1991(3)		25.3		22.4		25.2		27.4		29.1		30.5		32.4		35.5		25.4
1990(4)		25.3		22.4		25.2		27.4		29.1		30.6		32.3		35.3		26.1
1989(5)		25.3		22.4		25.2		27.4		29.0		30.5		32.3		35.5		26.1

1/ Based on 100 percent of births in selected States and on 50-percent sample of births in all other States; see Technical Appendix.

2/ Based on 50-percent sample of births.

3/ Based on data for 49 States and the District of Columbia which reported Hispanic origin on the birth certificate.

4/ Based on data for 48 States and the District of Columbia which reported Hispanic origin on the birth certificate.

5/ Based on data for 47 States and the District of Columbia which reported Hispanic origin on the birth certificate.

6/ Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

NOTE: The median age in table 1-5 is the value that divides the birth rate distributions into two equal parts, one-half of the values being less and one-half being greater. It is computed from birth rates in 5-year age groups which eliminates the effects of changes in the age composition of the childbearing population over time. The mean age in table 1-6 is the numeric average. Thus, due to the different ways in which the median and mean ages are computed as well as the adjustment of the median, the numbers in tables 1-5 and 1-6 would be expected to differ.