

Changes in Home Births by Race and Hispanic Origin and State of Residence of Mother: United States, 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

Elizabeth C.W. Gregory, M.P.H., Michelle J.K. Osterman, M.H.S., and Claudia P. Valenzuela, M.P.H.

Abstract

Objectives—This report describes changes between 2019 and 2020 in the percentage of U.S. home births by month, race and Hispanic origin, and state of residence of the mother and makes comparisons with changes occurring between 2018 and 2019.

Methods—Data are from birth certificates and are based on 100% of births registered in the United States for 2018, 2019, and 2020. Changes in the percentage of home births in the United States from 2018 to 2019 and from 2019 to 2020 are compared by month, race and Hispanic origin, and state of residence.

Results—The percentage of home births in the United States rose from 1.03% (38,506) in 2019 to 1.26% (45,646) in 2020, an increase of 22% and the highest level since at least 1990. Increases ranging from 21% to 36% were seen for the three largest race and Hispanic-origin groups. The percentage of home births for all women increased between 2019 and 2020 for each month from March through December, peaking in May at 1.49%. This pattern in home births by month was also generally observed for each of the three largest race and Hispanic-origin groups. Home births increased for 40 states with nonsignificant increases seen for nine additional states and the District of Columbia (D.C.). In comparison, from 2018 to 2019, the percentage of home births increased by 1%, with increases by maternal race and Hispanic origin ranging from 1% to 6%. The percentage of home births rose in only 2 months and in six states and D.C. from 2018 to 2019.

Keywords: home births • race and Hispanic origin • state of residence • National Vital Statistics System

Introduction

Home births in the United States have accounted for approximately 1% of all births since 1990 (comparable data are not available on home births prior to the 1989 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth) (1–3). After a decline from 1990 (0.67%) to 2004 (0.56%), home births increased from 2004 through 2019 (1.03%) (1–3).

In January 2020, the first case of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was confirmed in the United States (4). In mid-March, COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, and by the end of the month, the United States had become the epicenter of the outbreak, with more reported cases of COVID-19 than any other country (4,5). With the increasing number of cases in the United States, concerns about contracting COVID-19 while in the hospital, limitations or bans on support people in the hospital, and the separation of infants from mothers suspected to have COVID-19, interest in giving birth at home increased (6–11). This report presents changes in home births by month, race and Hispanic origin, and state of residence of the mother from 2019 to 2020. Comparisons are also made with changes occurring from 2018 to 2019.

Methods

Birth certificate data shown in this report are collected via the National Vital Statistics System and are based on final data including 100% of births registered in the United States for 2018, 2019, and 2020.

The 2003 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth includes a checkbox item on the place of birth with five options: hospital, freestanding birth center, home birth, clinic/doctor's office, and other (12–13). If the item is not completed, it is classified as "Not stated" (0.005% of all records in 2020). Levels of "Not stated" ranged from 0.004% to 0.006%



by race and Hispanic origin and 0.0% to 0.1% by state of residence for 2020. Home birth is defined as a birth occurring at a private residence (14).

Hispanic origin and race are reported separately on the birth certificate. Data shown by Hispanic origin include all people of Hispanic origin of any race. Data for non-Hispanic people are shown separately for each single-race group. Data by race are based on the revised standards issued by the Office of Management and Budget in 1997 (15). The race and Hispanic-origin groups shown are non-Hispanic single-race White, non-Hispanic single-race Black, and Hispanic. For brevity, text references to non-Hispanic White or non-Hispanic Black women omit the term “single-race.”

Relative change is presented in the text and both relative and absolute change are presented in the tables. Changes and differences presented in this report are statistically significant at the 0.05 level based on a two-tailed z test, unless noted otherwise (16).

Results

Changes in the number and percentage of home births 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

- There were 45,646 home births in 2020, an increase of 19% from 2019 (38,506). The number of home births was stable from 2018 (38,512) to 2019 (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- The percentage of home births among all women increased from 1.03% in 2019 to 1.26% in 2020 (a 22% increase), the highest level since at least 1990. In comparison, from 2018 to 2019, the percentage of home births increased by 1%, from 1.02% to 1.03%.

Changes in the percentage of home births by race and Hispanic origin 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

- For non-Hispanic White women, the percentage of home births increased 21%, from 1.55% in 2019 to 1.87% in 2020. In comparison, the percentage of home births increased 1% from 2018 (1.53%) to 2019 (Table 1).
- Home births among non-Hispanic Black women increased 36%, from 0.50% to 0.68% from 2019 to 2020. The increase from 2018 (0.48%) to 2019 was not significant.
- For Hispanic women, home births increased from 0.37% in 2019 to 0.48% in 2020, an increase of 30%, following a 6% increase from 2018 (0.35%) to 2019.

Changes in the percentage of home births by month and by race and Hispanic origin 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

All women

- For all women, the percentage of home births for January and February 2020 was essentially unchanged from the same months in 2019. Home births then increased in March (from 1.09% to 1.14%, a 5% increase) and April (from 1.06% to 1.30%, a 23% increase) and peaked in May at 1.49%, up from 1.03% (a 45% increase). The percentage of home births in June through December 2020 continued to exceed 2019 levels with increases ranging from 26% to 39% (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- In comparison, from 2018 to 2019, home births increased in only February (1.01% to 1.09%) and August (0.95% to 1.02%) and decreased in December (0.97% to 0.92%).

Non-Hispanic White women

- From 2019 to 2020, the percentage of home births by month for non-Hispanic White women was not significantly different for January through March. In April, home births increased from 1.56% to 1.89% (21%). The percentage of home births peaked in May, increasing 42% from 1.54% in 2019 to 2.18% in 2020. Home births in 2020 continued to exceed 2019 levels for the remainder of the year with increases ranging from 23% to 31% (Table 1).
- In comparison, from 2018 to 2019, the percentage of home births to non-Hispanic White women increased only in February (1.52% to 1.63%) and August (1.44% to 1.56%).

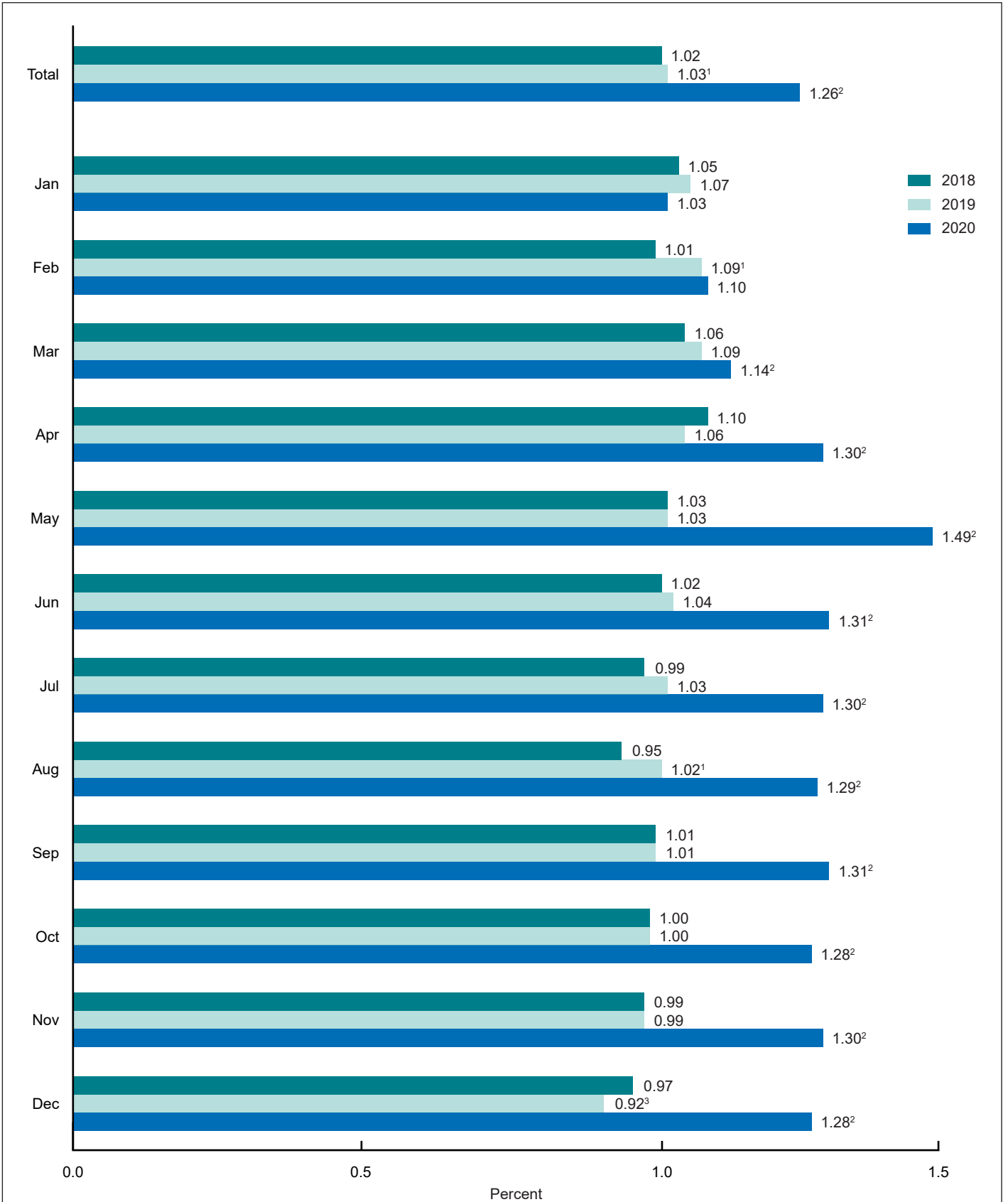
Non-Hispanic Black women

- The percentage of home births for non-Hispanic Black women increased, but not significantly, for January through March 2020 compared with the same months in 2019. In April, home births increased 30%, from 0.54% to 0.70%. Home births in 2020 continued to exceed 2019 levels for May through December with increases ranging from 20% to 63%. The percentage of home births peaked in December, increasing from 0.49% in 2019 to 0.80% in 2020 (63%) (Table 1).
- The percentage of home births for non-Hispanic Black women did not change significantly for all months for 2018 to 2019.

Hispanic women

- From 2019 to 2020, the percentage of home births for Hispanic women was not significantly different for January and February. Home births then increased in March from 0.36% to 0.46%, an increase of 28%. Levels of home births in April through December 2020 continued to exceed those for 2019, with increases ranging from 25% to 67%. The percentage of home births peaked in May (0.55%, up from

Figure 1. Percentage of home births, by month of birth: United States, 2018–2020



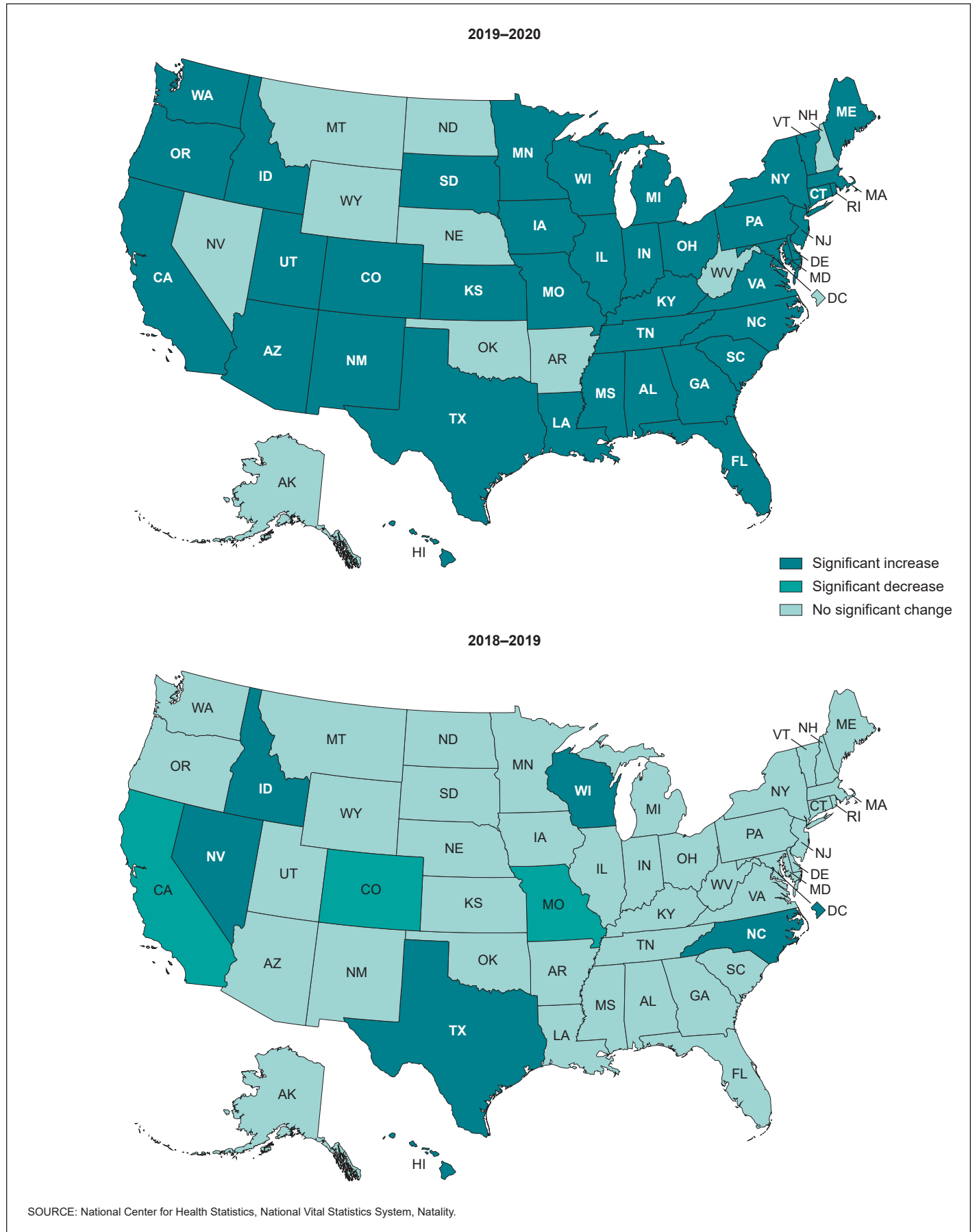
¹Significant increase from 2018 ($p < 0.05$).

²Significant increase from 2019 ($p < 0.05$).

³Significant decrease from 2018 ($p < 0.05$).

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

Figure 2. Changes in home births, by state of residence: United States, 2018–2019 and 2019–2020



SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

0.35% [57%]) and again in November (0.55%, up from 0.33% [67%]) (Table 1).

- In comparison, from 2018 to 2019, the percentage of home births to Hispanic women increased only in January, from 0.35% to 0.41%. Changes for all other months were not significant.

Changes in the percentage of home births by state of residence 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

- From 2019 to 2020, the percentage of home births increased in 40 states. Increases ranged from 11% for Wisconsin to 68% for South Dakota (Table 2 and Figure 2). Increases in an additional nine states and District of Columbia (D.C.) were not significant.
- In comparison, from 2018 to 2019, the percentage of home births increased in six states and D.C. and decreased in three states. There were nonsignificant increases in 17 additional states.

Summary

The percentage of home births in the United States reached 1.26% of all births in 2020, a 22% increase from 2019 and the highest level since at least 1990. The percentage of home births rose for each month from March through December 2020 compared with the same month in 2019 and peaked in May at 1.49% of all births. The timing of increases in home births generally corresponds with the initial surge of COVID-19 cases in the United States in late March and early April (17). Increases in home births from 2019 to 2020 were seen for each of the three largest race and Hispanic-origin groups overall and generally for each month from March through December, although peak months differed somewhat by group. The percentage of home births increased for nearly all states and D.C. from 2019 to 2020, though not all increases were significant. In contrast, between 2018 and 2019, before the pandemic, the percentage of home births showed little change.

References

1. MacDorman MF, Mathews TJ, Declercq E. Home births in the United States, 1990–2009. NCHS Data Brief, no 84. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2012. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db84.pdf>.
2. MacDorman MF, Declercq E. Trends and state variations in out-of-hospital births in the United States, 2004–2017. *Birth*. 46(2): 279–88. 2019.
3. CDC. CDC WONDER: Natality information, live births. Available from: <https://wonder.cdc.gov/Natality.html>.
4. Taylor DB. A timeline of the coronavirus pandemic. *The New York Times*. Mar 17 2021. Available from: <https://www.nytimes.com/article/coronavirus-timeline.html>.
5. A timeline of COVID-19 developments in 2020. *Am J Manag Care*. 2021. Available from: <https://www.ajmc.com/view/a-timeline-of-covid19-developments-in-2020>.

6. De Freytas-Tamura K. Pregnant and scared of 'covid hospitals,' they're giving birth at home. *The New York Times*. Apr 21 2020. Available from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/21/nyregion/coronavirus-home-births.html>.
7. Kusisto L, West MG. New York Hospital Systems ban partners from delivery room. *The Wall Street Journal*. Mar 24 2020. Available from: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/new-york-hospital-system-bans-partners-from-delivery-room-11585004655>.
8. Hubbard K. Pandemic propels interest in out-of-hospital births. *U.S. News and World Report*. Mar 4 2021. Available from: <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2021-03-04/pandemic-propels-interest-in-home-out-of-hospital-births>.
9. Rogers K. What you need to have a safe home birth. *CNN*. Apr 20 2020. Available from: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/20/health/home-birth-guidelines-coronavirus-wellness/index.html>.
10. Ayres-Brown A. Illinois midwives face surge of interest in home birth during coronavirus pandemic. *Chicago Tribune*. Apr 22 2020. Available from: <https://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/ct-coronavirus-midwives-pregnancy-home-birth-20200422-bi3wxbdgufgdhjlhv6bj2rgk6i-story.html>.
11. Scheier R. Black women turn to midwives to avoid COVID and 'feel cared for.' *California Healthline*. Sept 16 2020. Available from: <https://californiahealthline.org/news/black-women-turn-to-midwives-to-avoid-covid-and-feel-cared-for/>.
12. Facility Worksheet for the Live Birth Certificate. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/facility-worksheet-2016-508.pdf>.
13. National Center for Health Statistics. User guide to the 2019 natality public use file. 2021. Available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/DVS/natality/UserGuide2019-508.pdf.
14. National Center for Health Statistics. Guide to completing the facility worksheets for the certificate of live birth and report of fetal death (2003 revision). 2019 update. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/GuidetoCompleteFacilityWks.pdf>.
15. Office of Management and Budget. Revisions to the standards for the classification of federal data on race and ethnicity. *Fed Regist* 62(210):58781–90. 1997.
16. National Center for Health Statistics. User guide to the 2010 natality public use file. Hyattsville, MD. 2012. Available from: https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentation/DVS/natality/UserGuide2010.pdf.
17. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Trends in number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the US reported to CDC, by state/territory. Available from: https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_dailytrendscases.

List of Detailed Tables

1. Home births, by month and race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2018–2020, and percentage change in home births for 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 6
2. Home births, by state of residence: United States and each state, 2018–2020, and percentage change in home births for 2018–2019 and 2019–2020. 8

Table 1. Home births, by month and race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2018–2020, and percentage change in home births for 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

Month and race and Hispanic origin of mother	Number of home births			Number of births ¹			Percent of home births			Absolute percent change		Relative percent change	
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018–2019	2019–2020	2018–2019	2019–2020
All races and origins²													
Total	38,512	38,506	45,646	3,791,465	3,747,422	3,613,482	1.02	1.03	1.26	0.01	0.23	†1	†22
January	3,312	3,331	3,152	314,786	310,863	304,703	1.05	1.07	1.03	0.02	-0.04	2	-4
February	2,874	3,047	3,121	284,230	279,949	282,646	1.01	1.09	1.10	0.08	0.01	†8	1
March	3,349	3,307	3,453	316,026	304,229	301,616	1.06	1.09	1.14	0.03	0.05	3	†5
April	3,287	3,157	3,775	298,384	298,935	290,461	1.10	1.06	1.30	-0.04	0.24	-4	†23
May	3,309	3,249	4,480	320,591	316,381	301,471	1.03	1.03	1.49	–	0.46	–	†45
June	3,217	3,169	3,969	314,803	304,080	302,146	1.02	1.04	1.31	0.02	0.27	2	†26
July	3,261	3,420	4,197	328,982	333,636	321,619	0.99	1.03	1.30	0.04	0.27	4	†26
August	3,285	3,495	4,113	344,724	341,677	319,603	0.95	1.02	1.29	0.07	0.27	†7	†26
September	3,256	3,285	4,089	322,751	325,772	311,695	1.01	1.01	1.31	–	0.30	–	†30
October	3,268	3,239	3,906	326,760	325,035	305,072	1.00	1.00	1.28	–	0.28	–	†28
November	3,071	2,954	3,670	308,683	298,075	282,584	0.99	0.99	1.30	–	0.31	–	†31
December	3,023	2,853	3,721	310,745	308,790	289,866	0.97	0.92	1.28	-0.05	0.36	†-5	†39
Non-Hispanic, single race³													
White:													
Total	29,994	29,768	34,536	1,956,307	1,915,856	1,843,356	1.53	1.55	1.87	0.02	0.32	†1	†21
January	2,564	2,558	2,398	159,316	156,814	152,511	1.61	1.63	1.57	0.02	-0.06	1	-4
February	2,223	2,327	2,385	145,894	142,986	143,706	1.52	1.63	1.66	0.11	0.03	†7	2
March	2,700	2,619	2,652	164,881	157,498	155,977	1.64	1.66	1.70	0.02	0.04	1	2
April	2,570	2,435	2,848	157,301	156,511	150,949	1.63	1.56	1.89	-0.07	0.33	-4	†21
May	2,612	2,550	3,419	168,958	165,583	156,885	1.55	1.54	2.18	-0.01	0.64	-1	†42
June	2,482	2,465	3,030	164,849	158,318	156,925	1.51	1.56	1.93	0.05	0.37	3	†24
July	2,518	2,650	3,206	170,612	172,125	165,193	1.48	1.54	1.94	0.06	0.40	4	†26
August	2,569	2,715	3,129	178,359	174,279	162,587	1.44	1.56	1.92	0.12	0.36	†8	†23
September	2,524	2,522	3,068	165,491	165,361	158,147	1.53	1.53	1.94	–	0.41	–	†27
October	2,559	2,486	2,967	168,327	165,033	154,392	1.52	1.51	1.92	-0.01	0.41	-1	†27
November	2,364	2,270	2,722	156,402	148,644	140,433	1.51	1.53	1.94	0.02	0.41	1	†27
December	2,309	2,171	2,712	155,917	152,704	145,651	1.48	1.42	1.86	-0.06	0.44	-4	†31
Black:													
Total	2,652	2,724	3,590	552,000	548,047	529,777	0.48	0.50	0.68	0.02	0.18	4	†36
January	261	233	257	47,755	47,484	46,353	0.55	0.49	0.55	-0.06	0.06	-11	12
February	209	200	238	42,563	41,494	42,036	0.49	0.48	0.57	-0.01	0.09	-2	19
March	193	204	232	45,917	43,583	43,589	0.42	0.47	0.53	0.05	0.06	12	13
April	223	227	288	42,399	42,149	41,390	0.53	0.54	0.70	0.01	0.16	2	†30
May	213	216	318	45,093	44,584	42,997	0.47	0.48	0.74	0.01	0.26	2	†54
June	224	235	287	45,037	42,810	43,377	0.50	0.55	0.66	0.05	0.11	10	†20
July	214	231	318	46,943	48,125	46,432	0.46	0.48	0.68	0.02	0.20	4	†42
August	225	229	321	49,705	50,074	46,789	0.45	0.46	0.69	0.01	0.23	2	†50
September	218	245	330	46,738	47,646	45,248	0.47	0.51	0.73	0.04	0.22	9	†43
October	233	236	330	47,013	47,112	44,213	0.50	0.50	0.75	–	0.25	–	†50
November	210	232	313	45,702	45,303	42,600	0.46	0.51	0.73	0.05	0.22	11	†43
December	229	236	358	47,135	47,683	44,753	0.49	0.49	0.80	–	0.31	–	†63

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Home births, by month and race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2018–2020, and percentage change in home births for 2018–2019 and 2019–2020—Con.

Month and race and Hispanic origin of mother	Number of home births			Number of births ¹			Percent			Absolute percent change		Relative percent change	
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018–2019	2019–2020	2018–2019	2019–2020
Hispanic ⁴													
Total	3,142	3,280	4,192	886,159	886,454	866,679	0.35	0.37	0.48	0.02	0.11	†6	†30
January	263	302	264	74,241	73,742	73,596	0.35	0.41	0.36	0.06	-0.05	†17	-12
February	253	273	282	66,036	65,666	67,466	0.38	0.42	0.42	0.04	–	11	–
March	234	252	324	72,083	70,441	70,358	0.32	0.36	0.46	0.04	0.10	13	†28
April	259	276	337	67,273	68,517	67,996	0.38	0.40	0.50	0.02	0.10	5	†25
May	255	257	386	72,739	72,746	70,082	0.35	0.35	0.55	–	0.20	–	†57
June	258	263	339	72,003	70,875	71,045	0.36	0.37	0.48	0.01	0.11	3	†30
July	277	292	366	77,440	78,805	77,001	0.36	0.37	0.48	0.01	0.11	3	†30
August	271	309	372	81,463	81,983	77,446	0.33	0.38	0.48	0.05	0.10	15	†26
September	273	281	414	77,290	79,239	76,819	0.35	0.35	0.54	–	0.19	–	†54
October	261	288	353	77,413	78,073	74,716	0.34	0.37	0.47	0.03	0.10	9	†27
November	276	237	381	73,575	71,527	69,850	0.38	0.33	0.55	-0.05	0.22	-13	†67
December	262	250	374	74,603	74,840	70,304	0.35	0.33	0.53	-0.02	0.20	-6	†61

† Significant change ($p < 0.05$).

– Quantity zero.

¹Excludes births where place of birth is not stated.

²Includes births to race and origin groups not shown separately, such as Hispanic, single-race White; Hispanic, single-race Black; and non-Hispanic, multiple-race women, and births with origin not stated.

³Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates; persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. In this table, non-Hispanic women are classified by race. Race categories are consistent with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget standards (10). Single-race is defined as only one race reported on the birth certificate.

⁴Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System.

Table 2. Home births, by state of residence: United States and each state, 2018–2020, and percentage change in home births for 2018–2019 and 2019–2020

Area	Number of home births			Number of births ¹			Percent			Absolute percent change		Relative percent change	
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018–2019	2019–2020	2018–2019	2019–2020
United States	38,512	38,506	45,646	3,791,465	3,747,422	3,613,482	1.02	1.03	1.26	0.01	0.23	†1	†22
Alabama	218	243	321	57,761	58,614	57,646	0.38	0.41	0.56	0.03	0.15	8	†37
Alaska	194	195	213	10,083	9,822	9,466	1.92	1.99	2.25	0.07	0.26	4	13
Arizona	667	706	931	80,722	79,371	76,947	0.83	0.89	1.21	0.06	0.32	7	†36
Arkansas	326	326	353	37,018	36,564	35,250	0.88	0.89	1.00	0.01	0.11	1	12
California	3,269	3,081	3,591	454,904	446,477	420,258	0.72	0.69	0.85	-0.03	0.16	†-4	†23
Colorado	1,001	899	1,065	62,881	62,862	61,488	1.59	1.43	1.73	-0.16	0.30	†-10	†21
Connecticut	222	217	271	34,725	34,258	33,460	0.64	0.63	0.81	-0.01	0.18	-2	†29
Delaware	78	66	98	10,621	10,560	10,392	0.73	0.63	0.94	-0.10	0.31	-14	†49
District of Columbia	41	72	91	9,212	9,079	8,873	0.45	0.79	1.03	0.34	0.24	†76	30
Florida	2,081	2,052	2,431	221,540	219,999	209,662	0.94	0.93	1.16	-0.01	0.23	-1	†25
Georgia	792	744	930	126,130	126,328	122,434	0.63	0.59	0.76	-0.04	0.17	-6	†29
Hawaii	256	319	383	16,903	16,797	15,784	1.51	1.90	2.43	0.39	0.53	†26	†28
Idaho	475	619	685	21,402	22,063	21,531	2.22	2.81	3.18	0.59	0.37	†27	†13
Illinois	855	819	998	144,814	140,127	133,296	0.59	0.58	0.75	-0.01	0.17	-2	†29
Indiana	1,255	1,160	1,322	81,638	80,853	78,606	1.54	1.43	1.68	-0.11	0.25	-7	†17
Iowa	557	507	578	37,785	37,649	36,113	1.47	1.35	1.60	-0.12	0.25	-8	†19
Kansas	530	494	545	36,261	35,395	34,376	1.46	1.40	1.59	-0.06	0.19	-4	†14
Kentucky	721	680	802	53,918	53,066	51,668	1.34	1.28	1.55	-0.06	0.27	-4	†21
Louisiana	164	153	191	59,614	58,941	57,328	0.28	0.26	0.33	-0.02	0.07	-7	†27
Maine	228	222	268	12,311	11,779	11,539	1.85	1.88	2.32	0.03	0.44	2	†23
Maryland	521	533	720	71,079	70,176	68,553	0.73	0.76	1.05	0.03	0.29	4	†38
Massachusetts	379	395	561	69,109	69,117	66,425	0.55	0.57	0.84	0.02	0.27	4	†47
Michigan	1,487	1,534	1,972	110,031	107,886	104,074	1.35	1.42	1.89	0.07	0.47	5	†33
Minnesota	826	800	926	67,344	66,027	63,442	1.23	1.21	1.46	-0.02	0.25	-2	†21
Mississippi	184	169	204	36,999	36,636	35,473	0.50	0.46	0.58	-0.04	0.12	-8	†26
Missouri	1,183	1,071	1,309	73,268	72,125	69,284	1.61	1.48	1.89	-0.13	0.41	†-8	†28
Montana	275	263	280	11,513	11,079	10,790	2.39	2.37	2.59	-0.02	0.22	-1	9
Nebraska	81	93	108	25,487	24,755	24,288	0.32	0.38	0.44	0.06	0.06	19	16
Nevada	480	573	593	35,682	35,068	33,610	1.35	1.63	1.76	0.28	0.13	†21	8
New Hampshire	166	163	161	11,995	11,839	11,791	1.38	1.38	1.37	-	-0.01	-	-1
New Jersey	443	415	562	101,223	99,585	97,954	0.44	0.42	0.57	-0.02	0.15	-5	†36
New Mexico	291	274	350	23,038	22,960	21,902	1.26	1.19	1.60	-0.07	0.41	-6	†34
New York	2,477	2,458	3,030	226,232	221,537	209,336	1.09	1.11	1.45	0.02	0.34	2	†31
North Carolina	624	716	852	118,953	118,724	116,728	0.52	0.60	0.73	0.08	0.13	†15	†22
North Dakota	107	120	133	10,631	10,448	10,053	1.01	1.15	1.32	0.14	0.17	14	15
Ohio	1,529	1,599	1,854	135,134	134,461	129,191	1.13	1.19	1.44	0.06	0.25	5	†21
Oklahoma	516	505	540	49,800	49,143	47,623	1.04	1.03	1.13	-0.01	0.10	-1	10
Oregon	845	865	957	42,188	41,858	39,820	2.00	2.07	2.40	0.07	0.33	3	†16
Pennsylvania	2,638	2,606	2,873	135,670	134,227	130,692	1.94	1.94	2.20	-	0.26	-	†13
Rhode Island	59	48	71	10,506	10,174	10,095	0.56	0.47	0.70	-0.09	0.23	-16	†49

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Home births, by state of residence: United States and each state, 2018–2020, and percentage change in home births for 2018–2019 and 2019–2020—Con.

Area	Number of home births			Number of births ¹			Percent			Absolute percent change		Relative percent change	
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018–2019	2019–2020	2018–2019	2019–2020
South Carolina	393	361	577	56,669	57,038	55,703	0.69	0.63	1.04	-0.06	0.41	-9	†65
South Dakota	98	89	144	11,893	11,449	10,960	0.82	0.78	1.31	-0.04	0.53	-5	†68
Tennessee	896	956	1,126	80,720	80,446	78,689	1.11	1.19	1.43	0.08	0.24	7	†20
Texas	2,428	2,618	3,064	378,603	377,591	368,182	0.64	0.69	0.83	0.05	0.14	†8	†20
Utah	1,043	1,027	1,204	47,209	46,826	45,702	2.21	2.19	2.63	-0.02	0.44	-1	†20
Vermont	109	125	155	5,426	5,355	5,130	2.01	2.33	3.02	0.32	0.69	16	†30
Virginia	968	941	1,133	99,828	97,426	94,749	0.97	0.97	1.20	–	0.23	–	†24
Washington	1,822	1,745	2,140	86,084	84,893	83,082	2.12	2.06	2.58	-0.06	0.52	-3	†25
West Virginia	130	136	136	18,248	18,135	17,322	0.71	0.75	0.79	0.04	0.04	6	5
Wisconsin	1,458	1,604	1,706	64,098	63,269	60,594	2.27	2.54	2.82	0.27	0.28	†12	†11
Wyoming	126	130	138	6,562	6,565	6,128	1.92	1.98	2.25	0.06	0.27	3	14

† Significant change ($p < 0.05$).

– Quantity zero.

¹Excludes births where place of birth is not stated.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics
3311 Toledo Road, Room 4551
Hyattsville, MD 20782–2064

FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
CDC/NCHS
PERMIT NO. G-284

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

For more NCHS NVSRs, visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>.



National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 70, No. 15, December 9, 2021

Contents

Abstract 1
Introduction 1
Methods 1
Results 2
 Changes in the number and percentage of home births
 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 2
 Changes in the percentage of home births by race and
 Hispanic origin 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 2
 Changes in the percentage of home births by month and
 by race and Hispanic origin 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 2
 Changes in the percentage of home births by state of
 residence 2018–2019 and 2019–2020 5
Summary 5
References 5
List of Detailed Tables 5

Acknowledgments

This report was prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics (DVS) under the general direction of Steven Schwartz, Director, DVS; Isabelle Horon, Branch Chief, Reproductive Statistics Branch (RSB); and Joyce A. Martin, Team Leader, RSB Birth Team.

Suggested citation

Gregory ECW, Osterman MJK, Valenzuela CP. Changes in home births by race and Hispanic origin and state of residence of mother: United States, 2018–2019 and 2019–2020. National Vital Statistics Reports; vol 70 no 15. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2021.
DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.15620/cdc:110853>.

Copyright information

All material appearing in this report is in the public domain and may be reproduced or copied without permission; citation as to source, however, is appreciated.

National Center for Health Statistics

Brian C. Moyer, Ph.D., *Director*
Amy M. Branum, Ph.D., *Associate
Director for Science*

Division of Vital Statistics

Steven Schwartz, Ph.D., *Director*
Isabelle Horon, Dr.P.H., *Acting Associate
Director for Science*