

Data Brief 258: Births in the United States, 2015

Data table for Figure 1. Live births and general fertility rates, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2007 and 2013–2015

[Fertility rates are births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 in a specified group. Populations estimated as of July 1]

Year	Number				Rate			
	All races and origins ¹	Non-Hispanic white ²	Non-Hispanic black ²	Hispanic ³	All races and origins ¹	Non-Hispanic white ²	Non-Hispanic black ²	Hispanic ³
2015	3,978,497	2,130,279	589,047	924,048	62.5	59.3	64.1	71.7
2014	3,988,076	2,149,302	588,891	914,065	62.9	59.5	64.5	72.1
2013	3,932,181	2,129,196	583,834	901,033	62.5	58.7	64.6	72.9
2007	4,316,233	2,310,333	627,191	1,062,779	69.3	61.0	71.4	97.4

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

²Race 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. Forty-nine states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data in 2015. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states. Multiple-race reporting areas vary for 2007 and 2013–2015.

³Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

Data table for Figure 2. Birth rates, by age of mother: United States, 2007–2015

[Birth rates are births per 1,000 women in specified age group. Populations are based on counts enumerated as of April 1 for census years and estimated as of July 1 for all other years]

Year	Age of mother					
	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44
2015	22.3	76.8	104.3	101.5	51.8	11.0
2014	24.2	79.0	105.8	100.8	51.0	10.6
2013	26.5	80.7	105.5	98.0	49.3	10.4
2012	29.4	83.1	106.5	97.3	48.3	10.4
2011	31.3	85.3	107.2	96.5	47.2	10.3
2010	34.2	90.0	108.3	96.5	45.9	10.2
2009	37.9	96.2	111.5	97.5	46.1	10.0
2008	40.2	101.8	115.0	99.4	46.8	9.9
2007	41.5	105.4	118.1	100.6	47.6	9.6

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

**Data table for Figure 3. Cesarean delivery and low-risk cesarean delivery rates:
United States, 2009, 2014, and 2015**

Year	Number		Percent	
	Overall cesarean	Low-risk cesarean ¹	Overall cesarean	Low-risk cesarean ¹
2015	1,272,503	331,982	32.0	25.8
2014	1,284,551	337,086	32.2	26.0
2009	1,353,572	388,887	32.9	28.0

¹The low-risk cesarean delivery rate is defined as singleton, term (37 or more weeks of gestation based on the obstetric estimate), vertex (not breech) cesarean deliveries to women having a first birth per 100 women delivering singleton, term, and vertex first births.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

Data table for Figure 4. Preterm birth rates, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 2007, 2014, and 2015

Gestational age	2007	2014	2015
Race and Hispanic origin ¹			
Total preterm ²	10.44	9.57	9.63
Late preterm ³	7.51	6.82	6.87
Early preterm ⁴	2.93	2.75	2.76
Non-Hispanic white ⁵			
Total preterm ²	9.90	8.91	8.88
Late preterm ³	7.37	6.55	6.54
Early preterm ⁴	2.53	2.36	2.34
Non-Hispanic black ⁵			
Total preterm ²	14.71	13.23	13.41
Late preterm ³	9.40	8.47	8.58
Early preterm ⁴	5.31	4.76	4.83
Hispanic ⁶			
Total preterm ²	9.35	9.03	9.14
Late preterm ³	6.83	6.53	6.62
Early preterm ⁴	2.52	2.50	2.52

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

²Less than 37 completed weeks of gestation.

³Births at 34–36 weeks of gestation.

⁴Less than 34 weeks of gestation.

⁵Race 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. Forty-nine states and the District of Columbia reported multiple-race data in 2015. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 OMB standards for comparability with other states. Multiple-race reporting areas vary for 2007, 2014, and 2015.

⁶Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.

NOTE: Gestational age is based on the obstetric estimate of gestation.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.