

Limited information is available on the impact of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) and the pandemic in general on pregnant women and their newborns. Using data collected on birth records, NCHS is monitoring a number of factors, including prenatal care, that could potentially be affected by COVID-19 and will report on these data as they become available. Anecdotal information suggests that pregnant women and/or healthcare providers may have cancelled or postponed prenatal care visits, thereby impacting the timing of initiation of care and the adequacy of care. The table below provides baseline data for selected prenatal care characteristics for January-April 2020, which includes the early months of the pandemic, and compares these data with corresponding data for 2019. NCHS will continue to track these, and other pregnancy-related factors over the coming months to identify changes that may be associated, either directly or indirectly, with the pandemic.

Number of births and selected prenatal care characteristics, by month of birth: United States, January through April, provisional 2019 and 2020

Characteristic	Month of birth			
	January	February	March	April
Births	Number			
2020 <sup>1</sup>	304,262	281,909	300,005	287,949
2019 <sup>2</sup>	310,864	279,952	304,170	298,899
Mother	Percent			
Prenatal care beginning in the 1st trimester				
2020 <sup>1</sup>	76.7 *	77.1 *	77.8 *	78.6 *
2019 <sup>2</sup>	76.5	76.9	77.4	78.4
Late or no prenatal care <sup>3</sup>				
2020 <sup>1</sup>	6.2 *	6.2 *	6.3 *	6.3
2019 <sup>2</sup>	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3

\*Significant difference from same month in 2019,  $p < 0.05$ .

<sup>1</sup>Provisional 2020 data; based on 99.94% of births.

<sup>2</sup>Provisional 2019 data; based on 100% of births.

<sup>3</sup>Prenatal care that began in the third trimester of pregnancy and no prenatal care.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

NOTE: This table was revised on 8/6/2020 to correct provisional 2020 counts and rates.