

Table 4. Live births, by plurality and detailed race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, selected years 1970–2008

Updated data when available, Excel, PDF, and more data years: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2011.htm#004>.

[Data are based on birth certificates]

Plurality of birth and maternal race, and Hispanic origin	1970	1971	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2007	2008
All births										
All races	3,731,386	3,555,970	3,144,198	3,612,258	3,760,561	4,158,212	3,899,589	4,058,814	4,316,233	4,247,694
White	3,109,956	2,939,568	2,576,818	2,936,351	3,037,913	3,290,273	3,098,885	3,194,005	3,336,626	3,274,163
Black or African American	561,992	553,750	496,829	568,080	581,824	684,336	603,139	622,598	675,676	670,809
American Indian or Alaska Native	22,264	23,254	22,690	29,389	34,037	39,051	37,278	41,668	49,443	49,537
Asian or Pacific Islander ¹	---	27,004	28,884	74,355	104,606	141,635	160,287	200,543	254,488	253,185
Hispanic or Latina ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	679,768	815,868	1,062,779	1,041,239
Mexican	---	---	---	---	---	---	469,615	581,915	722,055	684,883
Puerto Rican	---	---	---	---	---	---	54,824	58,124	68,488	69,015
Cuban	---	---	---	---	---	---	12,473	13,429	16,981	16,718
Central and South American	---	---	---	---	---	---	94,996	113,344	169,851	155,578
Other and unknown Hispanic or Latina	---	---	---	---	---	---	47,860	49,056	85,404	115,045
Not Hispanic or Latina ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,382,638	2,362,968	2,310,333	2,267,817
White	---	---	---	---	---	---	587,781	604,346	627,191	623,029
Black or African American	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Twin births										
All races	---	63,298	59,192	68,339	77,102	93,865	96,736	118,916	138,961	138,660
White	---	49,972	46,715	53,104	60,351	72,617	76,196	93,235	106,409	105,725
Black or African American	---	12,452	11,375	13,638	14,646	18,164	17,000	20,626	24,432	24,312
American Indian or Alaska Native	---	362	348	491	537	699	769	900	1,186	1,195
Asian or Pacific Islander ¹	---	320	505	1,045	1,536	2,320	2,771	4,155	6,934	7,428
Hispanic or Latina ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	12,685	16,470	23,405	23,266
Mexican	---	---	---	---	---	---	8,341	11,130	14,754	13,977
Puerto Rican	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,248	1,461	2,097	2,071
Cuban	---	---	---	---	---	---	312	371	525	557
Central and South American	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,769	2,361	3,792	3,744
Other and unknown Hispanic or Latina	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,015	1,147	2,237	2,917
Not Hispanic or Latina ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	62,370	76,018	83,632	82,903
White	---	---	---	---	---	---	16,622	20,173	23,101	22,924
Black or African American	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Triplet and higher-order multiple births										
All races	---	1,034	1,066	1,337	1,925	3,028	4,973	7,325	6,427	6,268
White	---	834	909	1,104	1,648	2,639	4,505	6,551	5,404	5,343
Black or African American	---	196	151	211	240	321	352	521	660	613
American Indian or Alaska Native	---	0	2	9	13	4	20	18	39	24
Asian or Pacific Islander ¹	---	0	4	9	23	61	96	235	324	288
Hispanic or Latina ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	355	659	857	834
Mexican	---	---	---	---	---	---	202	391	523	470
Puerto Rican	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	73	69	83
Cuban	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	15	30	30
Central and South American	---	---	---	---	---	---	59	122	176	167
Other and unknown Hispanic or Latina	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	58	59	84
Not Hispanic or Latina ²	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,050	5,821	4,559	4,493
White	---	---	---	---	---	---	340	506	612	569
Black or African American	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- Data not available.

¹Estimates are not available for Asian or Pacific Islander subgroups because not all states have adopted the 2003 revision of the U.S. Certificate of Live Birth. See [Appendix II, Race](#).

²Prior to 1993, data from states lacking an Hispanic-origin item on the birth certificate were excluded. See [Appendix II, Hispanic origin](#).

NOTES: The race groups, white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Asian or Pacific Islander, include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Starting with 2003 data, some states reported multiple-race data. The multiple-race data for these states were bridged to the single-race categories of the 1977 Office of Management and Budget standards for comparability with other states. See [Appendix II, Race](#). Interpretation of trend data should take into consideration expansion of reporting areas and immigration. Prior to 1993, only a portion of the states reported Hispanic origin on birth certificates. Starting in 1993, Hispanic origin of mother was reported by all 50 states and D.C. Therefore, before 1993, the total number of live births reported for Hispanic persons and Hispanic subgroups, as well as non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black persons, does not include live births in many states. Data for additional years are available. See [Appendix III](#).

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Birth File. Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Sutton PD, Ventura SJ, Mathews TJ, Osterman MJK. Births: Final data for 2008. National vital statistics reports; vol 59 no 1. Hyattsville, MD: NCHS. 2010; Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr59/nvsr59_01.pdf. Births: Final data for each data year 1997–2007. National vital statistics reports. Hyattsville, MD; Final natality statistics for each data year 1970–1996. Monthly vital statistics report. Hyattsville, MD. See [Appendix I, National Vital Statistics System \(NVSS\)](#).