

Indicator 7. Births to Unmarried Women, by Age and Race

Birth rates for unmarried women 15 to 44 years old, by age and race: 1950 to 1992

Year	Number of live births to unmarried women ¹ per 1,000 unmarried women, by age						
	Total 15 to 44	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44
All races							
1950	14.1	12.6	21.3	19.9	13.3	7.2	2.0
1955	—	15.1	33.5	33.5	22.0	10.5	—
1960	21.6	15.3	39.7	45.1	27.8	14.1	3.6
1965	23.5	16.7	39.9	49.3	37.5	17.4	4.5
1970	26.4	22.4	38.4	37.0	27.1	13.6	3.5
1975	24.5	23.9	31.2	27.5	17.9	9.1	2.6
1980	29.4	27.6	40.9	34.0	21.1	9.7	2.6
1985	32.8	31.6	46.8	39.8	25.0	11.6	2.5
1990	43.8	42.5	65.1	56.0	37.6	17.3	3.6
1991	45.2	44.8	68.0	56.5	38.1	18.0	3.8
1992	45.2	44.6	68.5	56.5	37.9	18.8	4.1
White³							
1950	6.1	5.1	10.0	8.7	5.9	—	0.9
1955	—	6.0	15.0	13.3	8.6	—	—
1960	9.2	6.6	18.2	18.2	10.8	—	3.9
1965	11.6	7.9	22.1	24.3	16.6	—	4.9
1970	13.9	10.9	22.5	21.1	14.2	7.6	2.0
1980	18.1	16.5	25.1	21.5	14.1	7.1	1.8
1985	22.5	21.8	31.7	28.5	18.4	9.0	2.0
1988	27.4	25.3	39.2	35.4	24.2	12.1	2.7
1989	30.2	28.0	43.8	39.1	26.8	13.1	2.9
1990	32.9	30.6	48.2	43.0	29.9	14.5	3.2
1991	34.6	32.8	51.5	44.6	31.1	15.2	3.2
1992	35.2	33.0	52.7	45.4	31.5	16.2	3.6
Black³							
1950 ²	71.2	68.5	105.4	94.2	63.5	—	8.7
1955 ²	—	77.6	133.0	125.2	100.9	—	—
1960 ²	98.3	76.5	166.5	171.8	104.0	—	—
1965 ²	97.6	75.8	152.6	164.7	137.8	—	—
1970	95.5	96.9	131.5	100.9	71.8	32.9	10.4
1980	81.1	87.9	112.3	81.4	46.7	19.0	5.5
1985	77.0	87.6	113.1	79.3	47.5	20.4	4.3
1988	86.5	96.1	133.6	97.2	57.4	24.1	5.0
1989	90.7	104.5	142.4	102.9	60.5	24.9	5.0
1990	90.5	106.0	144.8	105.3	61.5	25.5	5.1
1991	89.5	108.5	147.5	100.9	60.1	25.6	5.4
1992	86.5	105.9	144.3	98.2	57.7	25.8	5.4

—Data not available.

¹ Includes never married, divorced, and widowed women.

² For years 1950 through 1965, includes "other races."

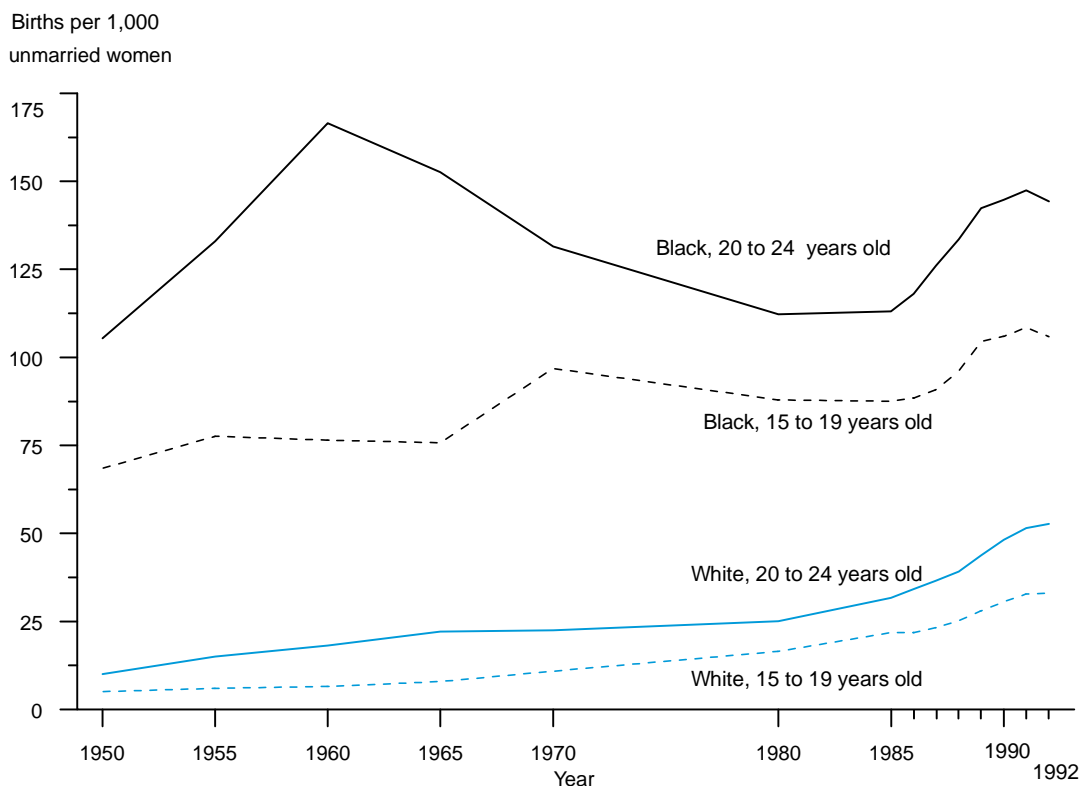
³ Hispanics are included in the "white" or in the "black" categories.

NOTE: Data for 1980 and after are based on race of mother; data for other years are based on race of child. Some data have been revised from previously published figures.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States to 1975*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, various years; *Trends in Illegitimacy, United States 1940–68*.

Indicator 7. Births to Unmarried Women, by Age and Race

Number of births per 1,000 unmarried women, by age and race: 1950 to 1992



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States to 1975*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, various years; and *Trends in Illegitimacy, United States 1940-68*.

Between 1960 and 1980, birth rates for unmarried black women 20 to 24 years old dropped significantly. During that time, rates for unmarried white women at that age range rose slowly. Trends changed after 1980, when birth rates to unmarried white women of all ages began to rise more rapidly. For unmarried black women of all ages, birth rates rose after 1985, but declined slightly or remained stable in 1991 and 1992.