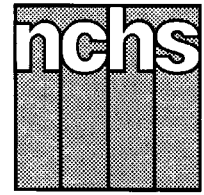


Monthly Vital Statistics Report



Provisional Data From the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION/National Center for Health Statistics

Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths for March 1997

Births

According to provisional reports, an estimated 307,000 births occurred in the United States during March 1997. This was a decrease of 8 percent from the provisional number of births reported for March 1996 (334,000). The birth rate, 13.6 live births per 1,000 population, was 9 percent lower than the rate of 14.9 for March 1996. The fertility rate, 60.7 live births per 1,000 women ages 15–44 years, was 8 percent lower than the comparable rate for March 1996 (66.3). The seasonally adjusted fertility rate (61.5) was 9 percent lower than the comparable rate for March 1996 (67.3).

During the first quarter of 1997, an estimated 891,000 births occurred, 5 percent lower than the 939,000 reported for the first quarter of 1996. The birth rate for this period decreased by 5 percent, from 14.3 in 1996 to 13.6 in 1997. The fertility rate for the first quarter of 1997 was 60.6, also 5 percent lower than the rate for the first quarter of 1996 (63.5).

An estimated 3,851,000 live births occurred in the 12-month period ending with March 1997, a slight decline from the 3,856,000 births reported for the same period a year earlier. The birth rate of 14.5 was 1 percent lower than the rate of 14.6 for the preceding 12 months. The fertility rate for the most recent 12-month period

was 64.6, slightly lower than the rate for the 12 months ending with March 1996 (64.8). These lower rates continue the generally downward trend observed since early 1991.

Natural increase

As a result of natural increase, the excess of births over deaths, an estimated 110,000 people, or 4.9 persons per 1,000 population, were added to the population during March 1997.

For the 12-month period ending with March 1997, 1,552,000 persons were added to the population. This represented a rate of natural increase of 5.9, 2 percent

Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see [Technical notes](#)]

Item	March				January–March				12 months ending with March				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1995
Live births	307,000	334,000	13.6	14.9	891,000	939,000	13.6	14.3	3,851,000	3,856,000	14.5	14.6	15.1
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	60.7	66.3	...	...	60.6	63.5	...	...	64.6	64.8	66.6
Deaths	197,000	206,000	8.7	9.2	607,000	619,000	9.2	9.4	2,299,000	2,306,000	8.6	8.8	8.7
Infant deaths	2,400	2,600	7.9	7.9	6,600	7,100	7.3	7.5	27,600	28,600	7.2	7.4	7.9
Natural increase	110,000	128,000	4.9	5.7	284,000	320,000	4.4	4.9	1,552,000	1,550,000	5.9	5.8	6.4
Marriages	173,000	147,000	8.0	6.8	447,000	402,000	7.1	6.3	2,389,000	2,332,000	9.0	8.9	9.0
Divorces	95,000	93,000	4.2	4.2	264,000	273,000	4.0	4.2	1,142,000	1,158,000	4.3	4.4	4.5
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	266.8	264.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	265.8	263.5	261.4

... Category not applicable.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics



higher than the rate of 5.8 for the preceding 12-month period. The rise in the rate of natural increase was due to a smaller decrease in the birth rate than the decrease in the death rate.

Marriages

An estimated 173,000 marriages were reported for March 1997, yielding a current monthly marriage rate of 8.0 per 1,000 population.

The number of marriages reported in the first quarter of 1997 was 447,000, 11 percent higher than in the comparable period for 1996 (402,000). The marriage rate (7.1) for the 3-month period in 1997 was 13 percent higher than the rate in 1996 (6.3).

Approximately 2,389,000 marriages were performed during the 12-month period ending with March 1997, 2 percent higher than the number performed during the same period a year earlier (2,332,000). The marriage rate for the current 12-month period (9.0) was 1 percent higher than the rate for the period ending with March 1996 (8.9).

Divorces

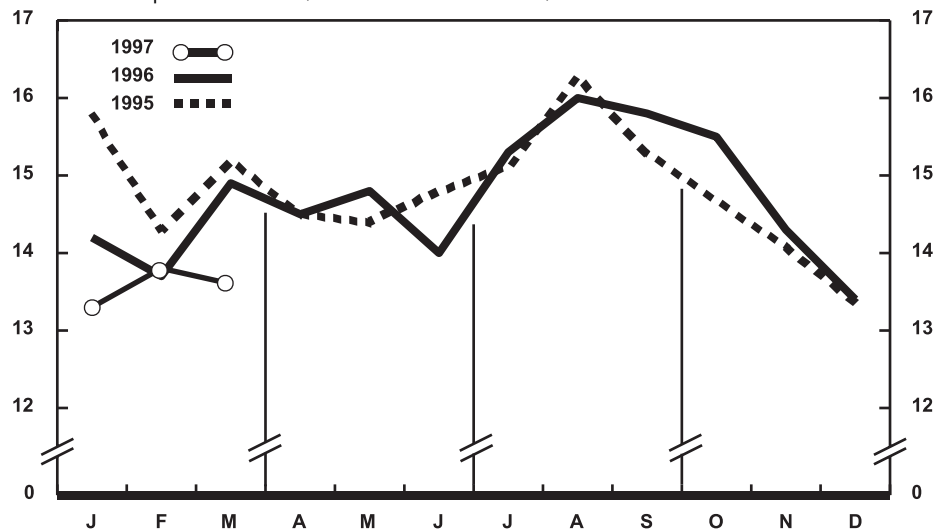
An estimated 95,000 couples divorced in March 1997, 2 percent more than in March 1996 (93,000). The divorce rate was 4.2 per 1,000 population for March 1997, the same as the rate for March 1996.

The number of divorces granted in the first quarter of 1997 was 264,000, 3 percent fewer than the number granted for the same period in 1996 (273,000). The divorce rate (4.0) for the 3-month period in 1997 was 5 percent lower than the rate for the same period in 1996 (4.2).

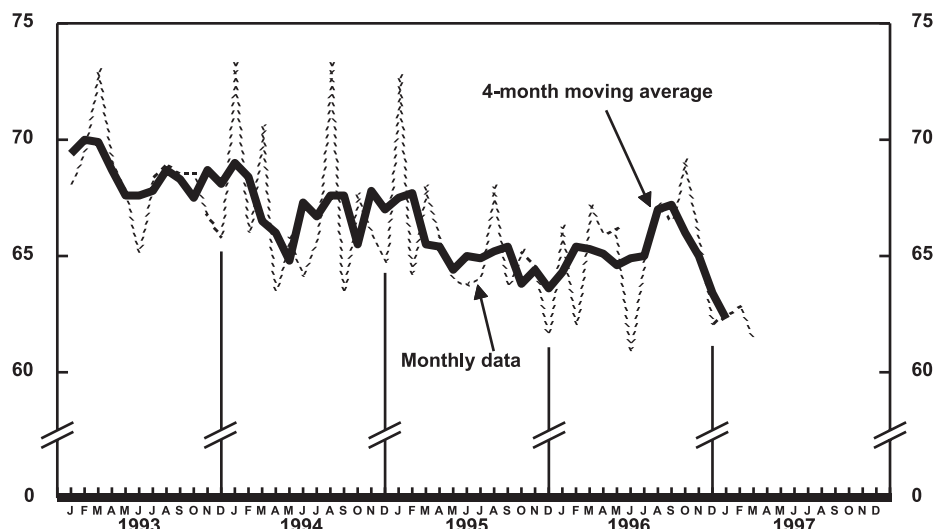
Approximately 1,142,000 couples divorced during the 12-month period ending with March 1997, 1 percent fewer than the number divorced during the comparable period ending with March 1996 (1,158,000). The decline in the number contributed to a 2-percent decrease in the divorce rate—from 4.4 for the 12-month period ending with March 1996 to 4.3 for the current period.

Deaths

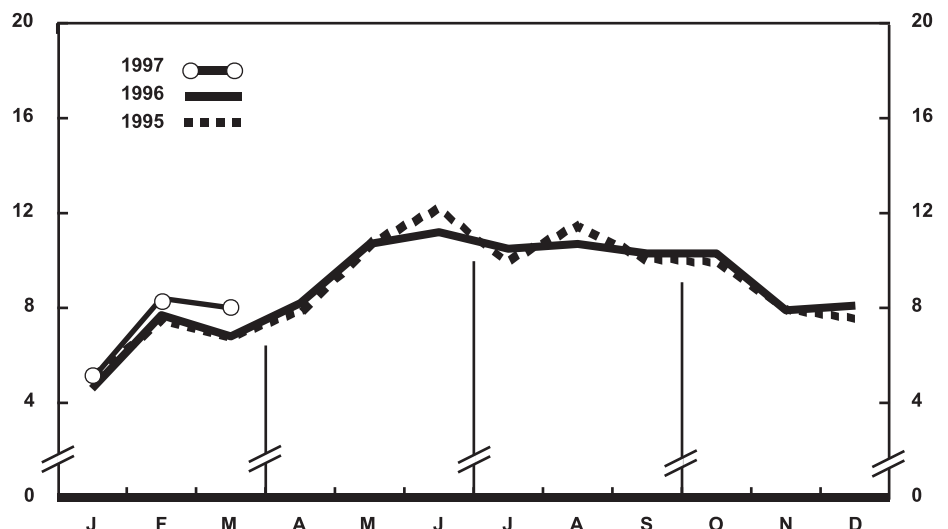
For March 1997 there were an estimated 197,000 deaths in the United



Provisional birth rates per 1,000 population by month: United States, 1995-97



Provisional seasonally adjusted fertility rates per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years: United States, 1993-97



Provisional marriage rates per 1,000 population by month: United States, 1995-97

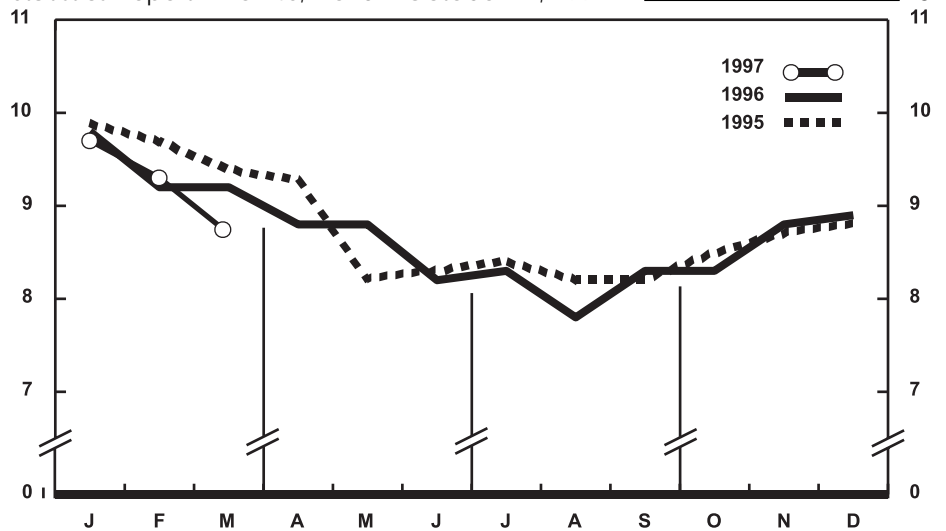
States. The death rate was 8.7 deaths per 1,000 population, 5 percent lower than the rate of 9.2 for March a year earlier. Among the 197,000 deaths for March 1997 were 2,400 deaths at ages under 1 year.

According to provisional statistics, there were 607,000 deaths during the first quarter of 1997, 2 percent fewer deaths than estimated for the first quarter of 1996 (619,000). The death rate, 9.2 per 1,000 population, was 2 percent lower than the rate of 9.4 for the first quarter of 1996. Among the 607,000 deaths for the first quarter of 1997 were 6,600 deaths at ages under 1 year, yielding an infant mortality rate of 7.3 per 1,000 live births, 3 percent lower than the rate of 7.5 for the comparable 3-month period in 1996.

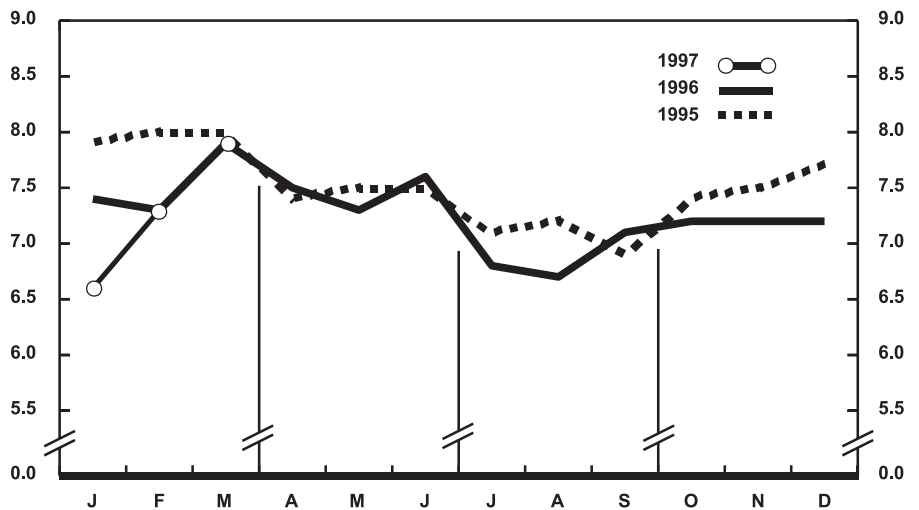
The death rate for the 12 months ending with March 1997 was 8.6 deaths per 1,000 population, 2 percent lower than the rate of 8.8 for the comparable 12-month period a year earlier. The infant mortality rate for this 12-month period was 7.2 per 1,000 live births, 3 percent lower than the rate of 7.4 for the 12 months ending with March 1996.

Current Mortality Sample, 12 months ending with February 1997—The provisional death rate for the 12 months ending with February 1997 was 868.8 per 100,000 population, 1 percent lower than the rate of 876.8 for the 12-month period ending February 1996. The provisional age-adjusted death rate for the 12-month period ending with February 1997 was 488.8 per 100,000 U.S. standard population, 2 percent below the rate of 500.4 for the 12-month period ending with February 1996. Age-adjusted death rates control for changes and variations in the age composition of the population; therefore, they are better indicators than crude rates for showing changes in mortality risk over time and for showing differences between race-sex groups within the population. Among the race-sex groups, the estimated age-adjusted death rate decreased for white males, black males, and black females. By age the death rate for the total population decreased for the age groups: 1–4 years, 25–34 years, 35–44 years, 45–54 years, and 75–84 years of age.

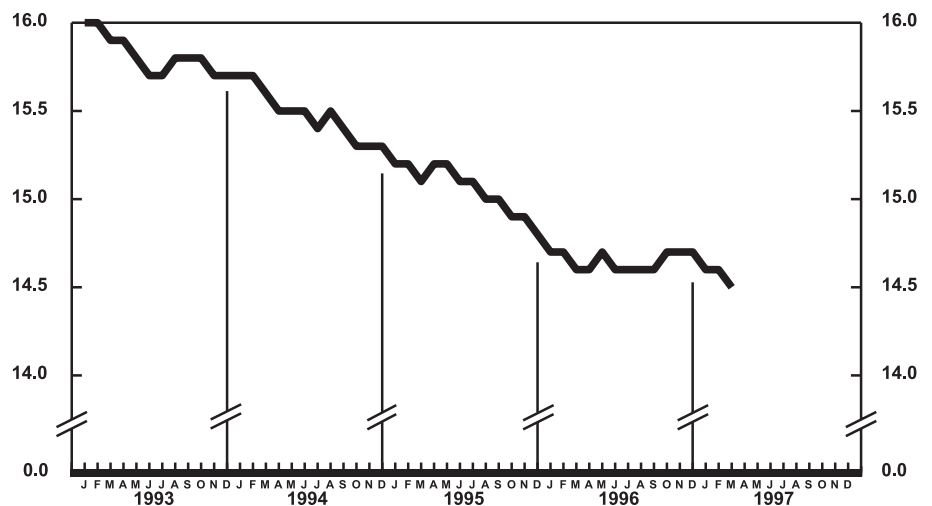
Among the major causes of death, the estimated death rate decreased between



Provisional death rates per 1,000 population by month: United States, 1995-97



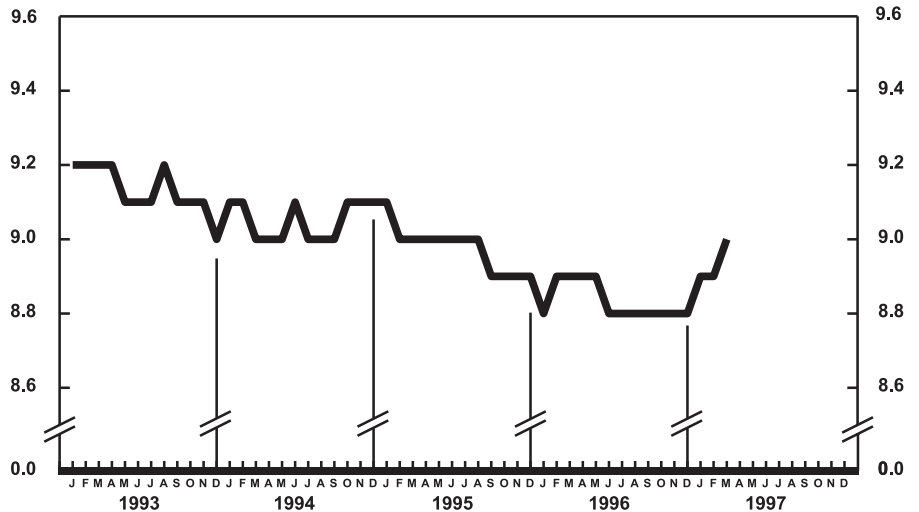
Provisional infant mortality rates per 1,000 live births by month: United States, 1995-97



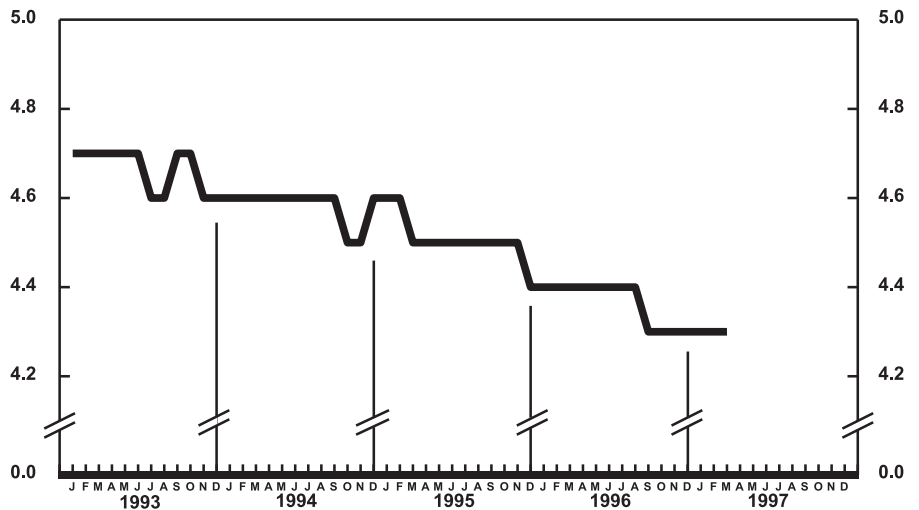
Provisional birth rates per 1,000 population for successive 12-month periods ending with month indicated: United States, 1993-97

the two successive 12-month periods for Diseases of heart, Homicide and legal intervention, and Human immunodeficiency virus infection. The decrease for Homicide and legal intervention was largely due to the decline in the rate for homicide by firearms. The death rate increased between the two successive 12-month periods for Diabetes mellitus.

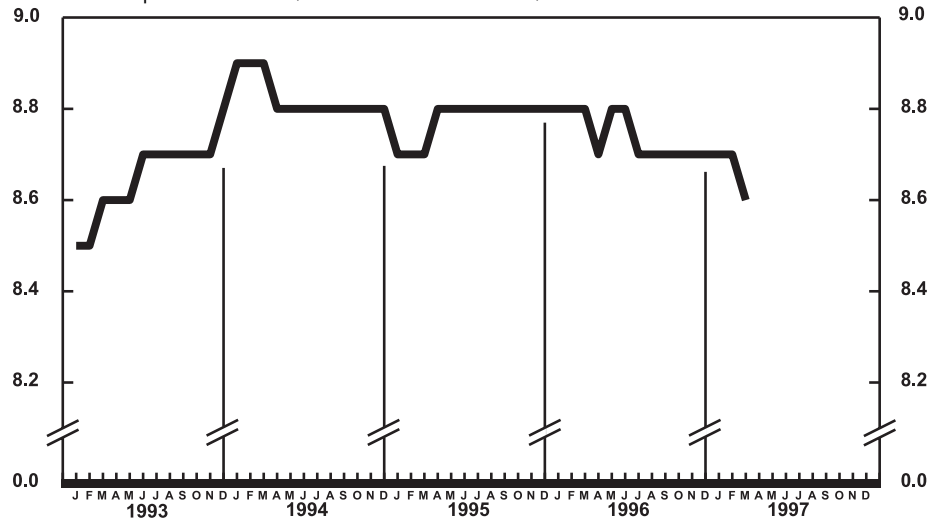
The infant mortality rate for the 12 months ending with February 1997 was 717.6 per 100,000 live births, 4 percent lower than the rate of 747.0 for the same 12-month period a year earlier. For infants under 28 days of age, the 12-month rate ending February 1997 was 469.7 compared with the rate of 472.0 for the 12-month period a year earlier. The infant mortality rate for infants aged 28 days–11 months was 247.8, 10 percent lower than the rate of 273.9 for the 12-month period a year earlier. The change in the mortality rate for infants under 28 days of age was not statistically significant. Among causes of infant death, the changes in the infant mortality rates between the two successive 12-month periods were not statistically significant.



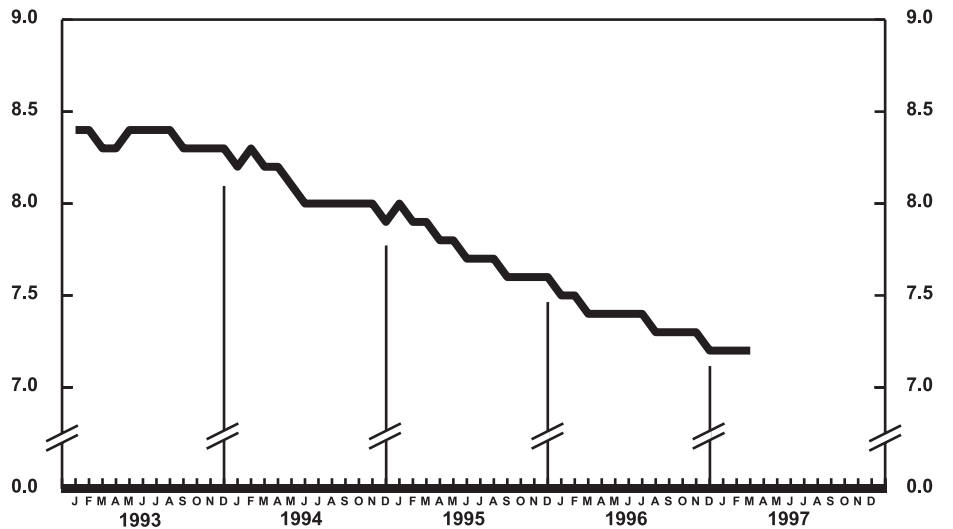
Provisional marriage rates per 1,000 population for successive 12-month periods ending with month indicated: United States, 1993–97



Provisional divorce rates per 1,000 population for successive 12-month periods ending with month indicated: United States, 1993–97



Provisional death rates per 1,000 population for successive 12-month periods ending with month indicated: United States, 1993-97



Provisional infant mortality rates per 1,000 live births for successive 12-month periods ending with month indicated: United States, 1993-97

Table 1. Provisional number of live births, marriages, divorces, deaths, and infant deaths and rates, by month: United States, January 1996–March 1997

[Data are provisional and are subject to monthly reporting variation; see [Technical notes](#)]

Period	Live births				Marriages		Divorces		Deaths		Infant deaths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years		Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
			Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted ¹								
1996:												
January	318,000	14.2	63.2	66.3	100,000	4.6	94,000	4.2	220,000	9.8	2,400	7.4
February	286,000	13.7	60.7	62.0	155,000	7.7	85,000	4.1	193,000	9.2	2,200	7.3
March	334,000	14.9	66.3	67.3	147,000	6.8	93,000	4.2	206,000	9.2	2,600	7.9
April	314,000	14.5	64.3	65.9	172,000	8.2	95,000	4.4	192,000	8.8	2,300	7.5
May	332,000	14.8	65.7	66.2	241,000	10.7	103,000	4.6	198,000	8.8	2,400	7.3
June	304,000	14.0	62.2	61.0	242,000	11.2	103,000	4.8	179,000	8.2	2,300	7.6
July	343,000	15.3	67.9	65.2	235,000	10.5	96,000	4.3	187,000	8.3	2,300	6.8
August	360,000	16.0	71.3	67.3	239,000	10.7	101,000	4.5	176,000	7.8	2,200	6.7
September	345,000	15.8	70.6	66.5	225,000	10.3	92,000	4.2	182,000	8.3	2,400	7.1
October	348,000	15.5	68.9	69.2	231,000	10.3	99,000	4.4	188,000	8.3	2,500	7.2
November	313,000	14.3	63.9	66.0	171,000	7.9	94,000	4.3	191,000	8.8	2,300	7.2
December	302,000	13.4	59.8	62.1	184,000	8.1	94,000	4.2	200,000	8.9	2,300	7.2
1997:												
January	302,000	13.3	59.6	62.5	109,000	5.0	83,000	3.7	219,000	9.7	2,100	6.6
February	282,000	13.8	61.6	62.9	165,000	8.4	87,000	4.2	191,000	9.3	2,100	7.3
March	307,000	13.6	60.7	61.5	173,000	8.0	95,000	4.2	197,000	8.7	2,400	7.9

¹The method of seasonal adjustment, developed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, is described in *The X-11 Variant of the Census Method II Seasonal Adjustment Program*, Technical Paper No. 15 (1967 revision).

NOTE: Figures include all revisions received from the States and, therefore, may differ from those previously published.

Table 2. Provisional number of live births and deaths: Each division and State, March 1996 and 1997, and cumulative figures, 1995–97

[Data are estimates by State of residence; see [Technical notes](#)]

Area	Live births					Deaths				
	March		January–March			March		January–March		
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1995	1997	1996	1997	1996	1995
New England	14,953	14,204	44,436	41,875	47,220	10,697	8,724	31,566	29,067	32,313
Maine	1,126	1,129	3,249	3,108	3,107	1,186	851	2,718	2,988	2,859
New Hampshire	1,172	1,250	3,485	2,945	3,754	834	848	2,686	2,355	2,559
Vermont	417	514	1,452	1,563	1,648	462	423	1,467	1,361	1,427
Massachusetts	7,515	6,982	24,851	22,349	22,101	4,688	3,341	14,429	12,817	15,886
Rhode Island	1,056	1,024	2,788	2,844	2,742	871	810	2,700	2,406	2,553
Connecticut	3,667	3,305	8,611	9,066	13,868	2,656	2,451	7,566	7,140	7,029
Middle Atlantic	40,139	44,770	120,693	121,415	123,321	30,883	30,992	98,630	97,081	101,419
New York	21,404	21,249	62,221	64,244	59,929	13,639	13,540	45,341	43,444	45,780
New Jersey	7,892	10,482	21,665	19,284	25,306	5,835	6,419	18,596	19,196	20,934
Pennsylvania	10,843	13,039	36,807	37,887	38,086	11,409	11,033	34,693	34,441	34,705
East North Central	51,288	51,463	142,104	152,952	146,716	32,028	34,263	101,395	104,516	103,164
Ohio	11,930	11,575	33,958	35,947	35,588	8,936	9,939	28,540	28,002	26,961
Indiana	7,704	7,202	18,417	20,625	15,885	3,591	4,459	11,819	14,470	13,135
Illinois	15,541	15,311	41,938	44,740	44,627	9,014	9,144	26,667	27,760	29,117
Michigan	10,689	11,890	31,753	35,408	34,232	6,741	6,961	21,949	21,977	22,155
Wisconsin	5,424	5,485	16,038	16,232	16,384	3,746	3,760	12,420	12,307	11,796
West North Central	21,240	23,139	62,842	63,459	60,757	14,772	15,696	47,636	45,137	44,672
Minnesota	5,311	5,376	15,474	15,403	14,895	3,036	3,140	10,086	9,739	9,736
Iowa	2,635	3,331	8,596	7,561	8,001	1,966	2,410	7,373	6,812	6,450
Missouri	7,044	6,996	19,903	19,734	19,184	5,398	5,751	15,457	15,024	14,768
North Dakota	705	719	2,032	2,014	2,141	476	516	1,693	1,499	1,610
South Dakota	931	942	2,599	2,150	2,696	533	560	1,939	1,456	1,805
Nebraska	1,635	1,889	5,092	5,844	5,607	1,301	1,351	4,152	4,040	3,986
Kansas	2,979	3,886	9,146	10,753	8,233	2,062	1,968	6,936	6,567	6,317
South Atlantic	54,157	51,997	158,891	158,300	167,053	38,358	38,177	119,045	121,724	121,189
Delaware	972	839	2,481	2,540	2,393	564	541	1,726	1,697	1,606
Maryland	5,101	5,249	13,867	16,919	18,442	3,617	3,646	9,759	10,968	10,791
District of Columbia	550	671	1,818	2,039	2,272	192	553	1,280	1,659	1,714
Virginia	8,655	7,773	19,942	19,361	25,215	4,857	4,668	14,023	13,825	14,045
West Virginia	3,020	1,484	5,634	4,698	5,379	1,825	1,754	5,986	4,549	5,420
North Carolina	8,198	8,371	26,306	25,407	24,879	5,641	5,729	18,062	18,082	17,841
South Carolina	3,687	3,604	12,577	12,999	12,278	2,678	2,675	8,147	9,569	8,645
Georgia	9,496	8,512	29,643	29,218	30,891	5,075	5,193	16,561	16,990	16,424
Florida	14,478	15,494	46,623	45,119	45,304	13,909	13,418	43,501	44,385	44,703
East South Central	18,211	19,238	52,296	51,816	55,174	13,534	15,216	42,436	42,569	43,384
Kentucky	4,218	4,138	13,026	13,038	12,257	3,242	3,131	10,749	10,335	11,267
Tennessee	5,351	6,548	15,998	14,177	17,993	4,233	5,577	12,867	12,605	13,388
Alabama	4,876	5,535	14,722	15,703	14,834	3,747	4,242	11,772	12,196	11,608
Mississippi	3,766	3,017	8,550	8,898	10,090	2,312	2,266	7,048	7,433	7,121
West South Central	44,144	39,240	106,338	107,831	130,871	24,149	23,852	58,305	64,762	65,880
Arkansas	3,263	2,923	8,575	8,578	7,929	1,513	2,076	6,069	6,854	6,330
Louisiana	5,869	5,571	16,114	17,262	18,733	3,164	4,234	10,001	11,876	10,899
Oklahoma	3,479	3,273	10,013	11,238	11,184	3,579	3,087	9,561	9,245	8,731
Texas ¹	31,533	27,473	71,636	70,753	93,025	15,893	14,455	32,674	36,787	39,920
Mountain	15,856	19,601	54,155	61,560	62,413	10,280	8,395	30,998	29,695	28,826
Montana	996	925	2,438	2,626	2,672	632	625	1,953	2,009	2,016
Idaho	1,420	1,386	4,274	4,599	4,142	794	651	2,447	2,157	2,172
Wyoming	654	539	1,621	1,464	1,655	359	287	956	854	971
Colorado	1,505	3,836	7,521	12,078	13,169	2,249	2,111	6,982	6,797	6,616
New Mexico	2,301	2,314	6,665	6,908	6,664	1,324	1,034	3,922	3,328	3,156
Arizona	4,801	4,873	16,841	19,911	20,546	2,848	1,876	8,076	8,199	8,073
Utah	3,667	3,617	10,961	9,300	9,016	893	837	3,118	2,822	2,750
Nevada	512	2,111	3,834	4,674	4,549	1,181	974	3,544	3,529	3,072
Pacific	42,383	65,385	142,674	171,365	178,308	22,349	30,710	76,581	84,355	80,564
Washington	6,169	8,597	18,270	20,167	18,276	2,777	3,865	12,264	10,660	8,938
Oregon	3,725	3,695	11,861	11,657	11,146	2,738	2,725	8,224	8,224	7,695
California ¹	30,244	50,630	106,307	132,413	141,889	15,936	23,258	53,508	62,873	61,398
Alaska	803	883	2,264	2,381	2,711	192	165	490	524	515
Hawaii	1,442	1,580	3,972	4,747	4,286	706	697	2,095	2,074	2,018
Puerto Rico ²	4,835	4,843	17,231	15,273	14,955	2,046	2,063	7,078	6,591	7,672

¹Figures include adjustments for varying lengths of reporting periods; see [Technical notes](#).

²Data for Puerto Rico are not included in U.S. total figures.

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 3. Provisional number of marriages and divorces: Each division and State, March 1996 and 1997, and cumulative figures, 1995–97

[By State of occurrence. Number of events reported; see [Technical notes](#). Divorces include reported annulments]

Area	Marriages					Divorces				
	March		January–March			March		January–March		
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1995	1997	1996	1997	1996	1995
New England	15,318	4,269	12,896	11,944	13,493	11,548	2,505	15,330	8,514	8,097
Maine	---	306	---	1,251	1,023	---	192	---	890	1,024
New Hampshire	481	411	1,623	1,281	1,254	452	461	1,482	1,196	1,215
Vermont	253	292	856	837	905	63	138	652	679	893
Massachusetts	2,415	1,628	5,947	5,121	7,343	---	610	---	2,438	1,759
Rhode Island	549	388	1,233	943	757	260	320	766	794	924
Connecticut	1,620	1,244	3,237	2,511	2,211	773	784	2,430	2,517	2,282
Middle Atlantic	19,686	15,530	58,136	36,700	40,805	10,944	9,082	30,291	28,444	28,732
New York ²	14,471	9,505	42,621	22,472	25,008	6,650	3,430	15,623	13,662	12,972
New Jersey	2,384	3,114	6,987	6,589	6,898	2,224	2,182	6,572	6,000	6,043
Pennsylvania	2,831	2,911	8,528	7,639	8,899	2,070	3,470	8,096	8,782	9,717
East North Central	20,075	17,315	53,306	46,415	51,276	11,188	11,767	133,361	133,130	137,279
Ohio	5,130	4,979	13,989	11,516	14,845	3,443	4,248	10,465	10,185	12,372
Indiana	2,608	2,714	6,867	7,101	7,606	---	---	---	---	---
Illinois	7,504	5,162	18,272	13,610	14,303	3,216	3,395	8,967	8,709	9,627
Michigan	3,302	2,989	9,308	9,500	9,774	3,076	2,708	9,521	9,848	10,820
Wisconsin	1,531	1,471	4,870	4,688	4,748	1,453	1,416	4,408	4,388	4,460
West North Central	7,681	8,072	23,727	23,967	24,142	5,193	5,992	16,565	18,318	18,490
Minnesota	1,407	1,635	4,135	4,428	4,074	1,223	1,160	3,361	3,391	3,612
Iowa	949	1,248	3,355	2,823	3,413	665	961	2,314	2,457	2,919
Missouri	2,743	2,544	8,279	9,252	8,631	2,182	2,080	6,036	6,330	7,215
North Dakota	198	196	687	662	566	171	193	492	550	543
South Dakota	350	358	1,033	916	1,184	198	207	650	649	725
Nebraska	697	811	1,986	1,935	1,929	521	452	1,528	1,443	1,530
Kansas	1,337	1,280	4,252	3,951	4,345	233	939	2,184	3,498	1,946
South Atlantic	42,080	31,352	98,067	88,334	90,624	20,021	16,726	54,107	46,529	53,710
Delaware	361	315	891	800	744	169	243	695	797	1,023
Maryland	2,695	2,154	6,619	6,424	6,977	1,575	1,385	3,289	3,118	3,731
District of Columbia	115	63	226	266	270	48	54	291	208	248
Virginia	5,386	4,651	12,901	10,867	12,611	2,414	2,274	6,408	5,815	5,907
West Virginia	503	575	1,453	1,741	1,430	920	575	2,343	1,474	1,768
North Carolina	4,914	3,863	12,032	11,573	11,098	3,245	2,414	8,267	7,352	8,756
South Carolina	3,624	3,425	8,600	9,174	8,762	1,160	1,340	3,454	3,812	3,289
Georgia	7,955	4,083	13,685	12,733	13,089	2,738	2,691	9,100	8,194	8,789
Florida	16,527	12,223	41,660	34,756	35,643	7,752	5,750	20,260	15,759	20,199
East South Central	15,418	12,907	42,658	37,429	41,687	6,409	8,092	20,079	24,896	23,298
Kentucky	2,599	2,699	9,451	7,846	10,034	1,982	1,719	5,415	5,309	5,725
Tennessee	7,947	4,134	17,240	14,978	18,799	1,888	2,761	6,256	9,405	8,257
Alabama	3,179	4,376	10,675	10,123	8,583	1,483	2,542	5,179	6,382	5,527
Mississippi	1,693	1,698	5,292	4,482	4,271	1,056	1,070	3,229	3,800	3,789
West South Central	24,795	22,450	57,544	60,507	71,813	12,958	12,033	16,955	133,417	133,645
Arkansas	2,500	3,048	4,500	5,954	6,630	1,500	1,350	2,700	2,700	3,088
Louisiana	1,059	2,814	1,492	8,337	7,857	---	---	---	---	---
Oklahoma	2,283	2,160	5,920	5,554	5,652	1,458	1,743	4,255	4,962	5,382
Texas ³	18,953	14,428	45,632	40,662	51,674	---	8,940	---	25,755	25,175
Mountain	22,848	19,913	64,597	61,038	57,775	15,236	16,033	14,870	117,949	117,304
Montana	282	303	861	1,001	914	350	325	881	1,020	920
Idaho	874	778	2,892	2,864	3,396	702	615	1,915	1,724	1,704
Wyoming	246	210	881	737	764	242	249	747	715	816
Colorado	2,097	2,163	5,904	6,111	5,881	---	---	---	---	---
New Mexico ^{4,5}	1,411	1,147	3,724	3,621	2,916	1,058	926	2,626	2,873	2,522
Arizona ²	3,783	2,794	10,500	9,104	8,935	2,127	2,292	6,514	6,294	6,018
Utah	2,140	1,430	4,435	4,466	4,448	757	571	2,187	1,973	2,251
Nevada	12,015	11,088	35,400	33,134	30,521	---	1,055	---	3,350	3,073
Pacific	28,827	27,055	68,156	70,386	53,127	13,997	14,474	11,764	113,424	113,245
Washington	3,262	4,030	8,249	8,666	7,542	2,165	2,429	6,523	7,879	7,432
Oregon	1,679	1,716	4,548	4,374	4,805	1,221	1,335	3,468	3,783	3,750
California	21,948	19,409	49,996	52,058	35,580	---	---	---	---	---
Alaska	293	309	878	958	1,044	228	333	703	677	726
Hawaii	1,645	1,591	4,485	4,330	4,156	383	377	1,070	1,085	1,337
Puerto Rico ⁶	2,477	2,333	7,144	6,994	7,395	---	---	---	---	---

--- Data not available.

¹Excludes figures for State(s) shown below as not available.

²Figures for marriages are marriage licenses issued for some counties.

³Figures include adjustments for varying lengths of reporting periods; see [Technical notes](#).

⁴Figures for marriages are marriage licenses issued.

⁵Figures for divorces include estimates for some counties.

⁶Data for Puerto Rico are not included in U.S. total figures.

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 4. Provisional number of deaths under 1 year and infant mortality rates: Each division and State, 12 months ending with March 1996 and 1997

[Data are estimates by State of residence. Figures should be interpreted with caution because of conversion of place of occurrence to place of residence; see [Technical notes](#). Infant mortality rates are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births in specified area]

Area	12 months ending with March			
	1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
New England	954	5.5	883	5.1
Maine	44	3.2	85	6.1
New Hampshire	78	5.3	63	4.4
Vermont	56	8.4	43	6.4
Massachusetts	409	4.9	366	4.3
Rhode Island	79	6.3	80	6.3
Connecticut	288	6.6	246	6.1
Middle Atlantic	3,687	6.9	3,825	7.2
New York	1,817	6.7	1,933	7.2
New Jersey	818	7.0	765	7.0
Pennsylvania	1,052	7.1	1,127	7.4
East North Central	4,766	7.8	5,269	8.3
Ohio	1,147	7.6	1,327	8.5
Indiana	586	7.2	750	8.4
Illinois	1,492	8.2	1,594	8.6
Michigan	1,063	7.9	1,093	8.2
Wisconsin	478	7.2	505	7.5
West North Central	1,863	7.4	1,814	7.1
Minnesota	414	6.5	394	6.2
Iowa	211	5.9	233	6.5
Missouri	604	8.2	594	7.9
North Dakota	52	6.2	41	4.8
South Dakota	59	5.6	82	8.2
Nebraska	196	8.7	181	7.7
Kansas	327	8.5	289	7.3
South Atlantic	5,363	8.1	5,548	8.6
Delaware	72	7.1	74	7.3
Maryland	609	9.0	590	8.3
District of Columbia	109	13.6	154	17.7
Virginia	654	7.3	657	7.8
West Virginia	145	7.1	157	7.7
North Carolina	991	9.2	938	9.1
South Carolina	397	7.9	489	9.7
Georgia	990	8.6	1,054	9.5
Florida	1,396	7.3	1,435	7.6
East South Central	2,044	8.9	2,066	9.4
Kentucky	433	8.2	385	7.4
Tennessee	588	7.8	678	9.7
Alabama	593	9.8	619	10.0
Mississippi	430	10.5	384	10.7
West South Central	2,903	6.2	3,343	7.3
Arkansas	266	7.4	271	7.7
Louisiana	522	8.0	603	9.1
Oklahoma	362	8.2	419	9.1
Texas ¹	1,753	5.5	2,050	6.6
Mountain	1,833	7.4	1,640	6.8
Montana	82	7.7	83	7.4
Idaho	131	7.1	121	6.7
Wyoming	40	6.3	50	8.2
Colorado	389	9.0	336	6.9
New Mexico	168	6.2	173	6.3
Arizona	638	8.3	530	7.8
Utah	244	5.7	209	5.3
Nevada	141	6.2	138	6.4
Pacific	4,012	6.0	4,300	6.1
Washington	434	5.6	371	4.6
Oregon	237	5.4	263	6.1
California ¹	3,177	6.2	3,479	6.3
Alaska	73	7.3	65	6.7
Hawaii	91	5.2	122	6.5
Puerto Rico ²	566	8.8	648	10.7

¹Figures include adjustments for varying lengths of reporting periods; see [Technical notes](#).

²Data for Puerto Rico are not included in U.S. total figures.

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 5. Provisional number of deaths and death rates, by age, race, and sex, and age-adjusted death rates by race and sex: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Age-specific rates on an annual basis per 100,000 population in specified group; age-adjusted rates per 100,000 U.S. standard population; see [Technical notes](#). Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#)]

Age, race, and sex	February				January–February				12 months ending with February			
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
All races, both sexes¹												
All ages	191,000	933.6	193,000	921.1	410,000	950.5	413,000	953.7	2,308,000	868.8	2,308,000	876.8
Under 1 year									27,700	² 723.3	28,700	² 748.3
1–4 years	3,240	73.1	3,260	71.1	6,340	67.9	6,850	72.2	5,730	36.9	6,520	41.5
5–14 years									8,750	22.6	8,240	21.6
15–24 years	2,500	89.6	2,360	82.9	5,400	91.9	5,150	87.6	33,900	94.2	34,330	95.5
25–34 years	3,680	120.0	4,160	129.4	7,590	117.4	9,210	138.3	50,610	125.7	57,490	141.1
35–44 years	7,350	218.7	8,100	237.8	15,170	214.2	17,310	245.8	94,280	217.3	102,650	240.6
45–54 years	11,440	450.5	11,650	461.0	23,690	443.2	23,960	459.0	142,530	437.7	142,360	454.1
55–64 years	18,790	1,132.8	19,200	1,140.9	39,560	1,133.8	40,780	1,171.3	233,210	1,089.9	234,310	1,107.0
65–74 years	38,020	2,670.6	39,200	2,641.4	80,660	2,686.6	84,320	2,745.0	473,450	2,537.5	476,040	2,537.9
75–84 years	54,740	6,149.9	56,460	6,302.0	119,040	6,351.3	119,670	6,460.9	658,110	5,729.7	653,670	5,836.9
85 years and over	51,090	17,439.0	48,340	16,529.0	111,890	18,120.0	105,500	17,448.5	578,480	15,401.5	561,020	15,353.6
Not stated	90	...	80	...	200	...	130	...	1,020	...	960	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	511.9	...	514.6	...	515.4	...	530.8	...	488.8	...	500.4
All races, male¹												
All ages	93,800	936.9	96,890	947.6	202,290	959.2	207,140	979.5	1,160,330	894.2	1,170,870	910.9
Under 1 year									15,460	² 787.6	16,000	² 814.7
1–4 years	1,860	81.9	1,790	76.3	3,720	77.8	3,820	78.5	3,170	39.8	3,670	45.6
5–14 years									5,150	26.0	5,080	26.0
15–24 years	1,720	119.9	1,730	119.1	3,900	129.0	3,890	129.4	25,350	138.0	26,190	142.7
25–34 years	2,560	167.0	2,990	186.2	5,250	162.4	6,520	196.2	35,750	177.7	41,670	204.7
35–44 years	5,010	299.8	5,380	318.3	10,470	297.8	11,690	334.3	64,110	297.8	70,690	334.0
45–54 years	6,880	553.7	7,280	589.6	14,520	555.1	15,310	600.0	89,500	562.6	90,650	591.9
55–64 years	11,340	1,435.6	11,350	1,417.8	23,930	1,440.7	24,310	1,468.8	140,880	1,383.5	140,590	1,397.4
65–74 years	21,690	3,411.9	22,180	3,356.0	45,910	3,425.9	47,740	3,489.8	266,970	3,208.8	272,100	3,263.0
75–84 years	25,950	7,394.0	27,910	7,971.1	57,480	7,780.5	59,090	8,165.6	321,710	7,130.1	320,870	7,371.2
85 years and over	16,730	19,934.9	16,230	19,752.5	36,950	20,894.8	34,710	20,428.1	191,540	18,018.8	182,760	17,882.6
Not stated	70	...	40	...	160	...	60	...	730	...	610	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	639.2	...	652.7	...	649.4	...	676.0	...	620.4	...	642.5
All races, female¹												
All ages	97,160	930.5	95,920	895.8	207,250	942.2	205,740	928.9	1,147,480	844.6	1,135,420	842.9
Under 1 year									12,280	² 656.0	12,690	² 677.2
1–4 years	1,380	63.8	1,470	65.7	2,620	57.5	3,030	65.5	2,550	33.6	2,850	37.1
5–14 years									3,610	19.1	3,170	17.0
15–24 years	780	57.6	630	45.2	1,510	52.9	1,270	44.1	8,540	48.5	8,140	46.3
25–34 years	1,120	73.1	1,170	72.8	2,350	72.4	2,690	80.5	14,860	73.7	15,820	77.6
35–44 years	2,350	139.1	2,720	158.5	4,690	132.1	5,620	158.6	30,170	138.1	31,960	148.6
45–54 years	4,560	351.7	4,370	338.1	9,170	335.6	8,650	323.8	53,030	318.4	51,710	322.5
55–64 years	7,460	858.7	7,860	890.8	15,630	855.4	16,460	902.4	92,330	823.3	93,720	843.9
65–74 years	16,340	2,073.8	17,010	2,066.2	34,740	2,091.4	36,580	2,146.5	206,480	1,997.5	203,940	1,957.4
75–84 years	28,790	5,340.8	28,550	5,231.9	61,560	5,422.1	60,580	5,368.2	336,400	4,824.3	332,800	4,861.2
85 years and over	34,360	16,437.0	32,110	15,275.2	74,950	17,006.5	70,790	16,286.7	386,940	14,357.7	378,270	14,377.4
Not stated	20	...	40	...	40	...	70	...	290	...	350	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	405.8	...	401.7	...	404.0	...	411.2	...	379.1	...	381.8
White												
All ages	165,200	976.2	166,050	956.9	356,380	999.5	356,440	993.0	1,987,380	903.6	1,982,720	907.9
Under 1 year									18,140	² 607.1	18,990	² 632.4
1–4 years	2,340	66.7	2,140	59.0	4,500	60.9	4,480	59.7	3,980	32.5	4,480	36.1
5–14 years									6,290	20.5	6,170	20.3
15–24 years	1,780	80.1	1,640	72.3	3,930	84.0	3,530	75.2	24,050	84.0	24,350	84.9
25–34 years	2,730	109.9	2,930	111.9	5,580	106.4	6,350	117.1	35,800	109.3	39,940	120.0
35–44 years	5,270	188.8	5,920	208.7	11,070	188.3	12,460	212.5	68,430	189.7	73,320	206.4
45–54 years	8,870	410.3	8,680	402.2	18,640	409.5	18,280	410.0	109,040	392.6	109,170	407.4
55–64 years	15,060	1,053.8	15,630	1,075.8	31,880	1,060.8	33,040	1,099.5	189,200	1,025.0	190,230	1,040.5
65–74 years	33,060	2,630.4	33,820	2,572.2	69,970	2,639.9	73,300	2,692.9	409,840	2,483.6	411,830	2,476.3
75–84 years	49,240	6,112.0	50,940	6,270.3	107,470	6,334.4	107,910	6,425.0	590,370	5,669.5	587,810	5,789.0
85 years and over	46,810	17,651.2	44,290	16,645.9	103,220	18,464.0	97,000	17,629.2	531,530	15,546.4	515,700	15,514.4
Not stated	30	...	60	...	120	...	90	...	720	...	720	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	489.7	...	487.4	...	495.4	...	503.5	...	464.3	...	473.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Provisional number of deaths and death rates, by age, race, and sex, and age-adjusted death rates by race and sex: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997—Con.

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Age-specific rates on an annual basis per 100,000 population in specified group; age-adjusted rates per 100,000 U.S. standard population; see [Technical notes](#). Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#)]

Age, race, and sex	February				January–February				12 months ending with February			
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
White male												
All ages	80,470	966.6	82,400	967.6	174,290	993.8	176,560	1,002.3	989,670	916.7	995,600	929.4
Under 1 year	1,320	73.3	1,150	61.8	2,650	69.9	2,510	65.5	10,120	² 659.7	10,670	² 692.9
1–4 years									2,300	36.6	2,630	41.4
5–14 years									3,700	23.5	3,780	24.3
15–24 years	1,180	102.7	1,190	102.3	2,770	114.1	2,570	106.3	17,670	120.2	18,260	124.2
25–34 years	1,930	153.7	2,110	159.6	3,880	146.4	4,580	167.3	25,710	155.6	29,550	175.9
35–44 years	3,580	255.2	3,920	275.6	7,670	259.6	8,460	287.7	47,130	260.4	51,160	287.2
45–54 years	5,330	498.3	5,450	511.3	11,520	511.6	11,730	532.4	69,050	503.3	70,070	529.5
55–64 years	9,290	1,349.5	9,280	1,327.9	19,670	1,359.6	19,740	1,365.7	115,290	1,297.9	115,560	1,314.7
65–74 years	19,120	3,380.0	19,190	3,253.5	40,080	3,360.1	41,760	3,419.2	232,610	3,137.0	236,930	3,181.1
75–84 years	23,500	7,369.2	25,170	7,900.1	52,050	7,752.2	53,340	8,098.9	290,370	7,070.1	290,160	7,325.4
85 years and over	15,180	20,171.5	14,890	20,034.3	33,890	21,365.6	31,810	20,698.4	175,190	18,230.0	166,340	18,041.2
Not stated	30	...	40	...	110	...	60	...	520	...	500	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	610.9	...	614.3	...	622.9	...	637.6	...	588.0	...	607.2
White female												
All ages	84,740	985.5	83,640	946.4	182,090	1,005.2	179,890	984.0	997,710	891.0	987,120	887.3
Under 1 year	1,020	59.7	990	56.0	1,860	51.4	1,960	53.7	8,020	² 551.6	8,320	² 568.7
1–4 years									1,670	28.0	1,850	30.6
5–14 years									2,580	17.3	2,390	16.2
15–24 years	600	55.9	450	40.8	1,160	51.8	960	42.0	6,370	45.7	6,090	43.6
25–34 years	800	65.1	820	63.2	1,700	65.6	1,770	65.9	10,100	62.3	10,390	63.1
35–44 years	1,690	121.8	2,000	141.5	3,400	116.3	4,000	136.8	21,300	118.5	22,170	125.2
45–54 years	3,540	324.1	3,220	294.8	7,120	309.6	6,550	289.6	39,990	284.5	39,110	288.3
55–64 years	5,780	780.4	6,340	840.8	12,210	783.8	13,300	852.2	73,910	771.9	74,680	786.7
65–74 years	13,940	2,016.8	14,630	2,017.9	29,890	2,050.5	31,540	2,102.0	177,230	1,950.4	174,900	1,904.6
75–84 years	25,740	5,288.2	25,770	5,218.8	55,420	5,405.8	54,570	5,345.6	300,000	4,757.4	297,650	4,806.2
85 years and over	31,630	16,652.6	29,390	15,327.3	69,330	17,314.9	65,190	16,439.6	356,340	14,497.2	349,370	14,545.0
Not stated	—	...	20	...	10	...	30	...	200	...	220	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	388.2	...	383.6	...	388.8	...	392.7	...	360.5	...	361.9
Black												
All ages	22,470	867.6	23,680	894.2	46,610	854.4	50,310	918.7	280,550	832.4	285,760	859.7
Under 1 year	830	120.7	1,030	143.8	1,720	119.4	2,170	146.5	8,660	² 1,379.0	8,890	² 1,422.4
1–4 years									1,500	60.9	1,770	71.2
5–14 years									1,990	33.0	1,720	29.1
15–24 years	590	139.1	630	145.4	1,210	135.5	1,410	157.2	8,430	153.6	8,610	157.6
25–34 years	830	200.5	1,070	249.6	1,700	194.8	2,560	287.6	13,070	241.9	15,900	293.7
35–44 years	1,910	461.3	2,010	482.1	3,740	429.1	4,500	521.0	23,360	438.4	26,820	514.9
45–54 years	2,180	809.4	2,620	986.7	4,450	785.5	5,080	926.3	29,380	853.6	29,640	905.3
55–64 years	3,350	2,000.4	3,200	1,883.7	6,870	1,953.4	6,930	1,974.5	39,060	1,806.7	38,900	1,822.9
65–74 years	4,370	3,475.6	4,680	3,632.5	9,360	3,532.9	9,670	3,627.7	55,770	3,411.0	56,390	3,485.2
75–84 years	4,680	7,118.7	4,800	7,237.7	9,920	7,162.6	10,300	7,506.6	58,560	6,922.0	57,230	6,878.6
85 years and over	3,670	16,496.9	3,630	16,361.8	7,570	16,127.4	7,660	16,709.6	40,470	14,250.0	39,680	14,324.9
Not stated	50	...	20	...	70	...	40	...	290	...	220	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	744.8	...	781.1	...	734.2	...	800.9	...	728.9	...	759.8
Black male												
All ages	11,620	945.0	12,760	1,015.5	24,330	939.0	27,160	1,045.3	148,440	928.2	153,850	975.8
Under 1 year	490	140.4	590	162.4	1,000	136.0	1,180	157.1	4,750	² 1,493.7	4,850	² 1,530.0
1–4 years									780	62.5	900	71.4
5–14 years									1,170	38.3	1,100	36.7
15–24 years	470	220.9	500	230.6	940	212.0	1,190	265.2	6,630	241.4	6,880	251.9
25–34 years	560	285.4	770	379.3	1,170	282.8	1,740	414.5	8,900	347.9	10,990	429.1
35–44 years	1,300	670.9	1,350	693.7	2,560	627.7	2,990	743.5	15,310	614.9	17,850	734.3
45–54 years	1,320	1,081.5	1,640	1,362.6	2,650	1,036.0	3,240	1,303.7	18,220	1,167.9	18,540	1,249.3
55–64 years	1,870	2,574.1	1,850	2,505.2	3,820	2,499.5	4,100	2,690.0	22,670	2,411.7	22,130	2,387.3
65–74 years	2,290	4,357.9	2,560	4,765.3	5,090	4,606.0	5,200	4,678.5	30,030	4,390.4	30,520	4,528.2
75–84 years	2,050	8,483.6	2,340	9,619.7	4,520	8,857.4	4,980	9,912.2	26,530	8,558.1	26,390	8,709.6
85 years and over	1,240	19,016.8	1,170	18,229.9	2,520	18,341.0	2,540	19,128.4	13,240	16,146.3	13,600	17,000.0
Not stated	30	...	—	...	40	...	—	...	200	...	100	...
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	958.9	...	1,046.3	...	954.7	...	1,075.4	...	956.0	...	1,007.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Provisional number of deaths and death rates, by age, race, and sex, and age-adjusted death rates by race and sex: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997—Con.

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Age-specific rates on an annual basis per 100,000 population in specified group; age-adjusted rates per 100,000 U.S. standard population; see [Technical notes](#). Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#)]

Age, race, and sex	February				January–February				12 months ending with February											
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996									
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate								
Black female																				
All ages	10,840	796.9	10,920	784.7	22,280	777.6	23,150	804.4	132,100	745.9	131,910	754.9								
Under 1 year	} 330	97.5	450	127.5	720	100.9	1,000	137.0	3,910	² 1,261.3	4,040	² 1,311.7								
1–4 years									720	59.3	870	71.1								
5–14 years									820	27.6	620	21.3								
15–24 years									120	56.8	130	60.0	270	58.4	220	49.1	1,810	66.0	1,720	63.0
25–34 years									270	124.1	300	132.9	530	115.5	820	173.5	4,170	146.5	4,900	171.7
35–44 years	610	277.0	660	296.9	1,170	254.5	1,510	326.4	8,050	283.6	8,970	322.9								
45–54 years	870	590.7	980	675.1	1,800	581.1	1,840	613.6	11,160	593.0	11,100	620.1								
55–64 years	1,480	1,560.9	1,350	1,405.8	3,050	1,529.8	2,830	1,424.3	16,390	1,341.2	16,770	1,389.4								
65–74 years	2,080	2,842.2	2,120	2,822.3	4,270	2,769.0	4,460	2,869.8	25,730	2,705.6	25,880	2,741.5								
75–84 years	2,630	6,325.4	2,460	5,857.9	5,400	6,175.3	5,320	6,116.8	32,030	5,975.7	30,830	5,828.0								
85 years and over	2,430	15,452.1	2,450	15,538.0	5,040	15,239.8	5,120	15,694.5	27,230	13,480.2	26,070	13,233.5								
Not stated	20	...	20	...	30	...	40	...	90	...	120	...								
Age-adjusted rate ³ . . . . .	...	577.7	...	576.4	...	563.6	...	588.8	...	552.4	...	567.5							

... Category not applicable.

– Quantity zero.

¹Includes races other than white and black.

²Death rates under 1 year (based on population estimates) differ from infant mortality rates (based on live births); see [table 9](#) for infant mortality rates.

³For method of computation, see [Technical notes](#).

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative and 12-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 6. Provisional number of deaths and death rates for 72 selected causes, Human immunodeficiency virus infection, and Alzheimer's disease: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Rates on an annual basis per 100,000 estimated population. Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#). For explanation of asterisks preceding cause-of-death categories, see [Technical notes](#)]

Cause of death (Based on the <i>Ninth Revision, International Classification of Diseases, 1975</i>)	February		February		January–February				12 months ending with February			
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
All causes	191,000	933.6	193,000	921.1	410,000	950.5	413,000	953.7	2,308,000	868.8	2,308,000	876.8
Shigellosis and amebiasis	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*
Certain other intestinal infections	80	*	70	*	170	0.4	180	0.4	810	0.3	720	0.3
Tuberculosis	90	*	120	0.6	180	0.4	220	0.5	970	0.4	1,270	0.5
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	60	*	110	0.5	150	0.3	200	0.5	750	0.3	1,030	0.4
Other tuberculosis	30	*	10	*	30	*	20	*	220	0.1	250	0.1
Whooping cough	—	*	—	*	10	*	—	*	20	*	10	*
Streptococcal sore throat, scarlatina, and erysipelas	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	10	*
Meningococcal infection	40	*	30	*	70	*	70	*	260	0.1	310	0.1
Septicemia	1,770	8.6	1,730	8.3	3,930	9.1	3,990	9.2	21,610	8.1	21,040	8.0
Acute poliomyelitis	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*
Measles	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*
Viral hepatitis	280	1.4	290	1.4	600	1.4	590	1.4	3,830	1.4	3,520	1.3
Syphilis	—	*	—	*	—	*	—	*	30	*	80	*
All other infectious and parasitic diseases ¹	2,200	10.8	3,220	15.4	4,330	10.0	7,350	17.0	34,920	13.1	48,080	18.3
Malignant neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and hematopoietic tissues	41,110	201.0	43,480	207.7	86,970	201.8	91,630	211.6	537,670	202.4	537,170	204.1
Malignant neoplasms of lip, oral cavity, and pharynx	570	2.8	600	2.9	1,370	3.2	1,290	3.0	7,930	3.0	7,780	3.0
Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs and peritoneum	9,550	46.7	9,960	47.6	20,390	47.3	21,370	49.4	125,860	47.4	125,830	47.8
Malignant neoplasms of respiratory and intrathoracic organs	12,640	61.8	13,000	62.1	26,220	60.8	26,930	62.2	158,350	59.6	155,400	59.0
Malignant neoplasm of breast	3,110	15.2	3,650	17.4	6,530	15.2	7,450	17.2	42,610	16.0	43,710	16.6
Malignant neoplasms of genital organs	4,720	23.1	4,600	22.0	9,790	22.7	9,750	22.5	60,270	22.7	60,160	22.9
Malignant neoplasms of urinary organs	1,710	8.4	1,670	8.0	3,550	8.2	3,950	9.1	22,640	8.5	23,110	8.8
Malignant neoplasms of all other and unspecified sites	4,850	23.7	5,350	25.6	10,280	23.9	11,130	25.7	65,410	24.6	65,840	25.0
Leukemia	1,340	6.5	1,840	8.8	3,170	7.3	3,700	8.5	19,810	7.5	20,200	7.7
Other malignant neoplasms of lymphatic and hematopoietic tissues	2,620	12.8	2,810	13.4	5,660	13.1	6,060	14.0	34,800	13.1	35,160	13.4
Benign neoplasms, carcinoma in situ, and neoplasms of uncertain behavior and of unspecified nature	570	2.8	650	3.1	1,230	2.9	1,370	3.1	7,510	2.8	8,140	3.1
Diabetes mellitus	5,070	24.8	4,770	22.8	10,930	25.4	10,440	24.1	61,960	23.3	58,090	22.1
Nutritional deficiencies	320	1.6	380	1.8	630	1.5	790	1.8	3,640	1.4	3,980	1.5
Anemias	370	1.8	340	1.6	860	2.0	580	1.3	4,250	1.6	4,020	1.5
Meningitis	40	*	70	*	90	*	140	0.3	540	0.2	700	0.3
Major cardiovascular diseases	78,470	383.7	80,290	383.6	169,970	394.5	171,550	396.2	940,060	353.9	941,740	357.8
Diseases of heart	59,650	291.6	62,210	297.2	130,390	302.6	133,360	308.0	726,170	273.4	731,320	277.8
Rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease	360	1.8	420	2.0	750	1.7	810	1.9	4,800	1.8	4,880	1.9
Hypertensive heart disease	2,250	11.0	2,390	11.4	4,610	10.7	4,750	10.9	25,880	9.7	24,910	9.5
Hypertensive heart and renal disease	270	1.3	250	1.2	490	1.1	490	1.1	2,210	0.8	2,380	0.9
Ischemic heart disease	39,120	191.3	40,550	193.7	84,730	196.7	86,670	200.2	471,070	177.3	476,350	181.0
Acute myocardial infarction	17,930	87.7	18,160	86.8	38,090	88.4	39,590	91.5	212,380	80.0	216,290	82.2
Other acute and subacute forms of ischemic heart disease	220	1.1	210	1.0	500	1.2	440	1.0	2,750	1.0	2,480	0.9
Angina pectoris	70	*	80	*	130	0.3	150	0.3	670	0.3	720	0.3
Old myocardial infarction and other forms of chronic ischemic heart disease	20,890	102.1	22,100	105.6	46,010	106.8	46,490	107.4	255,270	96.1	256,870	97.6
Other diseases of endocardium	1,340	6.5	1,450	6.9	2,900	6.7	2,900	6.7	16,480	6.2	15,600	5.9
All other forms of heart disease	16,320	79.8	17,140	81.9	36,910	85.7	37,750	87.2	205,730	77.5	207,200	78.7
Hypertension with or without renal disease	1,210	5.9	1,070	5.1	2,420	5.6	2,230	5.1	12,380	4.7	12,480	4.7
Cerebrovascular diseases	14,110	69.0	13,560	64.8	29,480	68.4	28,650	66.2	159,380	60.0	156,260	59.4
Intracerebral and other intracranial hemorrhage	2,150	10.5	1,990	9.5	4,480	10.4	4,120	9.5	23,870	9.0	21,810	8.3
Cerebral thrombosis and unspecified occlusion of cerebral arteries	990	4.8	940	4.5	2,220	5.1	2,190	5.1	12,480	4.7	12,970	4.9
Cerebral embolism	50	*	10	*	100	*	80	*	820	0.3	610	0.2
All other and late effects of cerebrovascular diseases	10,910	53.3	10,620	50.7	22,680	52.6	22,260	51.4	122,210	46.0	120,860	45.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Provisional number of deaths and death rates for 72 selected causes, Human immunodeficiency virus infection, and Alzheimer's disease: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997—Con.

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Rates on an annual basis per 100,000 estimated population. Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#). For explanation of asterisks preceding cause-of-death categories, see [Technical notes](#)]

Cause of death (Based on the <i>Ninth Revision, International Classification of Diseases, 1975</i>)	February		January–February		12 months ending with February							
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Cerebrovascular diseases—Con.												
Atherosclerosis	440	1,300	440	6.3	2,980	6.9	2,890	6.7	15,660	5.9	16,080	6.1
Other diseases of arteries, arterioles, and capillaries . . . . .	.441–448	2,180	2,010	10.7	4,700	10.9	4,420	10.2	26,460	10.0	25,610	9.7
Acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis . . . . .	.466	80	50	*	190	0.4	110	0.2	490	0.2	530	0.2
Pneumonia and influenza . . . . .	.480–487	8,860	7,840	43.3	19,780	45.9	17,490	40.4	83,840	31.6	80,440	30.6
Pneumonia . . . . .	.480–486	8,660	7,730	42.3	19,150	44.4	17,170	39.7	82,880	31.2	79,800	30.3
Influenza . . . . .	.487	200	110	1.0	620	1.4	330	0.8	960	0.4	630	0.2
Chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and allied conditions . . . . .	.490–496	9,330	9,270	45.6	21,390	49.7	20,150	46.5	106,720	40.2	102,750	39.0
Bronchitis, chronic and unspecified . . . . .	.490–491	290	330	1.4	760	1.8	800	1.8	2,910	1.1	3,180	1.2
Emphysema . . . . .	.492	1,660	1,540	8.1	3,700	8.6	3,300	7.6	17,190	6.5	16,940	6.4
Asthma . . . . .	.493	530	240	2.6	1,170	2.7	720	1.6	5,610	2.1	5,030	1.9
Other chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and allied conditions . . . . .	.494–496	6,850	7,150	33.5	15,760	36.6	15,320	35.4	81,010	30.5	77,600	29.5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum . . . . .	.531–533	390	410	1.9	900	2.1	960	2.2	4,720	1.8	5,850	2.2
Appendicitis . . . . .	.540–543	10	30	*	40	*	60	*	450	0.2	390	0.1
Hernia of abdominal cavity and intestinal obstruction without mention of hernia . . . . .	.550–553,560	460	550	2.2	830	1.9	1,170	2.7	6,110	2.3	6,040	2.3
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis . . . . .	.571	2,110	1,930	10.3	4,290	10.0	4,120	9.5	24,630	9.3	24,660	9.4
Cholelithiasis and other disorders of gallbladder . . . . .	.574–575	200	240	1.0	430	1.0	450	1.0	2,650	1.0	2,650	1.0
Nephritis and nephrotic syndrome, and nephrosis . . . . .	.580–589	2,330	2,200	11.4	4,860	11.3	4,850	11.2	26,990	10.2	25,710	9.8
Acute glomerulonephritis and nephrotic syndrome . . . . .	.580–581	10	20	*	30	*	30	*	220	0.1	270	0.1
Chronic glomerulonephritis, nephritis and nephropathy, not specified as acute or chronic, and renal sclerosis, unspecified . . . . .	.582–583,587	130	160	0.6	320	0.7	330	0.8	1,780	0.7	1,350	0.5
Renal failure, disorders resulting from impaired renal function, and small kidney of unknown cause . . . . .	.584–586,588–589	2,180	2,020	10.7	4,510	10.5	4,490	10.3	24,990	9.4	24,090	9.2
Infections of kidney . . . . .	.590	100	70	*	160	0.3	170	0.4	890	0.3	750	0.3
Hyperplasia of prostate . . . . .	.600	80	30	*	130	0.3	100	*	450	0.2	480	0.2
Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium . . . . .	.630–676	10	–	*	30	*	30	*	280	0.1	280	0.1
Pregnancy with abortive outcome . . . . .	.630–638	–	–	*	20	*	–	*	40	*	20	*
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium . . . . .	.640–676	10	–	*	10	*	30	*	240	0.1	260	0.1
Congenital anomalies . . . . .	.740–759	940	930	4.6	1,910	4.4	1,760	4.1	11,630	4.4	11,360	4.3
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period . . . . .	.760–779	800	890	3.9	1,670	3.9	1,970	4.6	12,590	4.7	13,140	5.0
Birth trauma, intrauterine hypoxia, birth asphyxia, and respiratory distress syndrome . . . . .	.767–769	220	100	1.1	360	0.8	290	0.7	2,220	0.8	1,950	0.7
Other conditions originating in the perinatal period . . . . .	.760–766,770–779	580	790	2.8	1,310	3.0	1,690	3.9	10,370	3.9	11,190	4.3
Symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions . . . . .	.780–799	3,940	3,460	19.3	7,840	18.2	7,710	17.8	41,900	15.8	42,560	16.2
All other diseases	Residual	20,150	18,810	98.5	42,570	98.8	40,050	92.5	221,550	83.4	215,530	81.9
Accidents and adverse effects	E800–E949	6,720	6,870	32.8	14,250	33.0	14,340	33.1	90,660	34.1	90,320	34.3
Motor vehicle accidents	E810–E825	3,150	3,200	15.4	6,740	15.6	6,560	15.1	43,870	16.5	43,950	16.7
All other accidents and adverse effects	E800–E807,E826–E949	3,570	3,670	17.4	7,500	17.4	7,780	17.9	46,790	17.6	46,370	17.6
Suicide	E950–E959	2,530	2,000	12.4	4,920	11.4	4,430	10.2	30,670	11.5	29,550	11.2
Homicide and legal intervention	E960–E978	1,370	1,580	6.7	3,050	7.1	3,700	8.5	20,240	7.6	22,210	8.4
All other external causes	E980–E999	140	210	0.7	350	0.8	380	0.9	2,290	0.9	2,200	0.8
Human immunodeficiency virus infection ²	*042–*044	1,710	2,730	8.4	3,240	7.5	6,390	14.8	28,090	10.6	41,590	15.8
Alzheimer's disease . . . . .	.331.0	2,300	1,810	11.2	4,830	11.2	4,190	9.7	22,570	8.5	20,850	7.9

– Quantity zero. * Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision; see [Technical notes](#).
¹Includes data for deaths due to Human immunodeficiency virus infection (categories *042–*044) shown separately below; see [Technical notes](#).
²Included in All other infectious and parasitic diseases shown above.

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative and 12-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 7. Provisional number of deaths and death rates for 16 selected subcategories of Malignant neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and hematopoietic tissues: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Rates on an annual basis per 100,000 estimated population. Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#)]

Cause of death (Based on the <i>Ninth Revision, International Classification of Diseases, 1975</i>)	February				January–February				12 months ending with February			
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Malignant neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and hematopoietic tissues ¹140–208	41,110	201.0	43,480	207.7	86,970	201.8	91,630	211.6	537,670	202.4	537,170	204.1
Malignant neoplasm of esophagus150	1,030	5.0	880	4.2	2,050	4.8	1,920	4.4	11,270	4.2	10,470	4.0
Malignant neoplasm of stomach151	890	4.3	980	4.7	1,940	4.5	2,180	5.1	13,150	5.0	13,730	5.2
Malignant neoplasms of colon, rectum, rectosigmoid junction, and anus153,154	4,280	20.9	4,520	21.6	9,060	21.0	9,690	22.4	56,630	21.3	56,050	21.3
Malignant neoplasm of pancreas157	2,010	9.8	2,110	10.1	4,410	10.2	4,310	9.9	27,690	10.4	27,220	10.3
Malignant neoplasms of trachea, bronchus, and lung162	12,260	59.9	12,520	59.8	25,440	59.0	26,050	60.2	153,150	57.7	150,280	57.1
Malignant melanoma of skin172	630	3.1	420	2.0	1,220	2.8	860	2.0	7,400	2.8	6,770	2.6
Malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri180	390	1.9	330	1.6	780	1.8	620	1.4	4,640	1.7	4,860	1.8
Malignant neoplasms of body of uterus and of uterus, part unspecified179,182	470	2.3	430	2.0	900	2.1	850	2.0	5,840	2.2	5,950	2.3
Malignant neoplasm of ovary183.0	1,190	5.8	970	4.6	2,230	5.1	2,320	5.4	13,410	5.0	13,580	5.2
Malignant neoplasm of prostate185	2,580	12.6	2,740	13.1	5,650	13.1	5,610	13.0	34,530	13.0	33,940	12.9
Malignant neoplasm of bladder188	810	3.9	860	4.1	1,740	4.0	2,020	4.7	10,980	4.1	11,450	4.3
Malignant neoplasms of kidney and other and unspecified urinary organs189	900	4.4	810	3.9	1,820	4.2	1,930	4.5	11,660	4.4	11,650	4.4
Malignant neoplasms of brain and other and unspecified parts of nervous system191,192	680	3.3	1,040	5.0	1,630	3.8	2,030	4.7	11,190	4.2	11,670	4.4
Hodgkin's disease201	120	0.6	150	0.7	200	0.5	350	0.8	1,310	0.5	1,700	0.6
Malignant lymphoma other than Hodgkin's disease200,202	1,660	8.1	1,920	9.2	3,690	8.6	3,970	9.2	22,890	8.6	23,150	8.8
Multiple myeloma and other immunoproliferative neoplasms203	840	4.1	750	3.6	1,770	4.1	1,730	4.0	10,600	4.0	10,310	3.9

¹Includes figures for subcategories not shown below.

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative and 12-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 8. Provisional number of deaths and death rates for firearm mortality: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Rates on an annual basis per 100,000 estimated population. Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#)]

Cause of death (Based on the <i>Ninth Revision International Classification of Diseases, 1975</i>)	February				January–February				12 months ending with February			
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Injury by firearmsE922,E955.0–E955.4,E965.0–965.4,E970,E985.0–E985.4	2,670	13.0	2,410	11.5	5,480	12.7	5,750	13.3	34,190	12.9	35,390	13.4
Accident caused by firearm missileE922	100	*	70	*	170	0.4	230	0.5	1,280	0.5	1,290	0.5
Suicide by firearmsE955.0–E955.4	1,500	7.3	1,250	6.0	2,960	6.9	2,860	6.6	18,440	6.9	18,010	6.8
Homicide and legal intervention by firearmsE965.0–E965.4,E970	1,050	5.1	1,080	5.1	2,310	5.4	2,640	6.1	14,250	5.4	15,890	6.0
Injury by firearms, undetermined whether accidentally or purposely inflictedE985.0–E985.4	20	*	10	*	30	*	20	*	220	0.1	200	0.1

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision; see [Technical notes](#).

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative and 12-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Table 9. Provisional number of deaths under 1 year and infant mortality rates, by age and for 10 selected causes: United States, February 1996 and 1997, cumulative figures 1996 and 1997, and 12 months ending with February 1996 and 1997

[Data are provisional, estimated from a 10-percent sample of deaths. Rates on an annual basis per 100,000 live births. Because of rounding of estimates, figures may not add to totals. For method of computation and information on standard errors of the estimates, see [Technical notes](#)]

Age and cause of death (Based on the <i>Ninth Revision International Classification of Diseases, 1975</i>)	February				January–February				12 months ending with February			
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Total, under 1 year	2,100	731.4	2,200	730.8	4,200	695.4	4,500	733.5	27,700	717.6	28,700	747.0
Under 28 days	1,150	396.8	1,330	449.1	2,380	396.6	2,700	438.6	18,160	469.7	18,150	472.0
28 days–11 months	970	334.7	840	283.7	1,790	298.3	1,820	295.7	9,580	247.8	10,530	273.9
Certain gastrointestinal diseases008–009,535,555–558	10	*	20	*	40	*	20	*	240	6.2	170	4.4
Pneumonia and influenza480–487	10	*	60	*	20	*	80	*	260	6.7	360	9.4
Congenital anomalies740–759	480	165.6	490	165.5	1,020	170.0	920	149.5	6,610	171.0	5,980	155.5
Disorders relating to short gestation and unspecified low birthweight765	190	65.6	290	97.9	440	73.3	490	79.6	3,510	90.8	3,370	87.6
Birth trauma767	10	*	20	*	10	*	40	*	140	3.6	220	5.7
Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia768	70	*	30	*	130	21.7	100	*	560	14.5	480	12.5
Respiratory distress syndrome769	120	41.4	40	*	200	33.3	140	22.7	1,460	37.8	1,170	30.4
Other conditions originating in the perinatal period760–764,766,770–779	390	134.6	500	168.8	850	141.7	1,170	190.1	6,780	175.4	7,720	200.8
Sudden infant death syndrome798.0	180	62.1	200	67.5	380	63.3	500	81.2	2,480	64.1	2,890	75.2
All other causesResidual	660	227.7	520	175.6	1,090	181.7	1,050	170.6	5,700	147.4	6,320	164.4

* Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision; see [Technical notes](#).

NOTES: Figures include all revisions received from the States. Cumulative and 12-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

Technical notes

Nature and sources of data

Data in this report are provisional unless otherwise specified and include only events occurring within the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia). Mortality data exclude fetal deaths. Data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are not included in the U.S. totals.

Birth, death, and infant death figures in [tables 2](#) and [4](#) for each State are estimates by State of residence. These estimates are derived by applying adjustment ratios to the actual counts of certificates for all events occurring in the State and received in registration offices during a 1-month period regardless of date of the event. The adjustment ratios for each data year represent the observed relationship between final State occurrence figures and final State residence figures for the three most recent years for which final data were available and are expressed as a single ratio for each State. As in previous years, monthly State marriage and divorce figures represent the actual count of all events occurring in the State (State of occurrence) that were received in the registration offices during the 1-month period. Delay in the receipt of certificates in a registration office may result in a low State figure for a given month followed by a high figure for the month(s) in which the delayed records are received. Data for previous months and cumulative data include revised figures received from the States.

Figures for births, deaths, and infant deaths for California in [tables 2](#) and [4](#) contain adjustments for varying lengths of State reporting periods. Figures for Texas for all events shown in [tables 2–4](#) also are adjusted for varying lengths of State reporting periods. The figures for both States are adjusted by the ratio between the number of days in the data month and the number of days in the State reporting period. The adjusted figures are included in the U.S. totals shown elsewhere in this report.

U.S. totals for births, deaths, and infant deaths are based on the State estimates by State of residence and, therefore, in effect, exclude events to nonresidents of the United States. Events to nonresidents of the United States are included in all

marriage and divorce figures. The effect of excluding events to nonresidents from the U.S. totals is small.

Provisional totals for the United States include estimates for State data shown as not available. Provisional totals for births and marriages for the entire United States include adjustments for observed differences between provisional and final monthly figures.

Divorce figures include reported annulments. The monthly national divorce estimate is obtained by multiplying the total for the reporting areas by the ratio observed between the most recent final annual divorce total for the United States and the provisional total for the reporting areas combined.

Random variation—Although the counts in this report are not subject to sampling variability (except the Current Mortality Sample), they may be affected by random variation. When the number of events is small and the probability of such an event is small, considerable caution must be observed in interpreting the data. Such infrequent events may be assumed to follow a Poisson probability distribution. For this distribution a simple approximation may be used to estimate the random variation as follows:

If N is the number of events in the population and R is the corresponding rate, the chances are 19 in 20 that

$$1. N - 2\sqrt{N} \text{ and } N + 2\sqrt{N}$$

covers the “true” number of events.

$$2. R - 2 \frac{R}{\sqrt{N}} \text{ and } R + 2 \frac{R}{\sqrt{N}}$$

covers the “true” rate.

If the rate R_1 corresponding to N_1 events is compared with the rate R_2 corresponding to N_2 events, the difference between the two rates may be regarded as statistically significant at the 0.05 level if it exceeds

$$2 \sqrt{\frac{R_1^2}{N_1} + \frac{R_2^2}{N_2}}$$

Additional information on random variation in numbers of events, rates, and ratios may be found in the technical appendixes of *Vital Statistics of the United States, 1992, Volumes I and II*.

Rates

Rates are on an annual basis and, except for infant mortality rates, are per 1,000 or 100,000 estimated population residing in the United States. The populations used for computing these rates are furnished by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Rates shown in this report beginning with 1992 were computed using populations based on the 1990 Census enumeration comparable to those used for final data. Monthly rates are based on populations estimated for the specific month. Year-to-date rates are averages of monthly rates that have been weighted by the number of days in the corresponding months. Rates for 12-month periods are the sum of events for the period per population estimated at the midpoint of the period.

Infant mortality rates are deaths under 1 year of age for the specified period (monthly, year-to-date, or 12-month period) per 1,000 or 100,000 live births. Births used for computing monthly and year-to-date infant mortality rates are adjusted for monthly variation in the number of births. Births used to compute 12-month rates do not contain this adjustment. Births used for computing infant mortality rates are not corrected for observed differences between provisional and final monthly figures as described earlier in “[Nature and sources of data.](#)” Because monthly infant mortality rates are based on relatively few events, they are highly variable. Therefore, comparisons of monthly infant mortality rates should be interpreted cautiously; see “[Random variation.](#)”

Age-adjusted death rates are used to compare relative mortality risks across groups and over time. However, they should be viewed as constructs or indexes rather than as direct or actual measures of mortality risk. Statistically, they are weighted averages of the age-specific death rates, where the weights represent the fixed population proportions by age. See chapter 5 of an earlier report (1). The age-adjusted death rates presented in this report were computed by the direct method, that is, by applying age-specific death rates to the U.S. standard million population (2). See also chapter 10 of an earlier report (1). Age groups in [table 5](#) were used to compute the age-adjusted

rates shown in that table. It is important not to compare age-adjusted rates with crude rates.

Current Mortality Sample

The Current Mortality Sample (CMS) is a 10-percent systematic sample of death certificates drawn each month after the certificates are counted in the State registration offices. Deaths and death rates for the United States by age, race, sex, and cause are estimated based on the sample. Because of the additional time required to select and process the certificates, data based on the CMS are published 1 month after publication of the U.S. and State counts. Complete information concerning the underlying cause of death sometimes is not available when the sample is drawn. As a result estimates based on sample counts for certain causes are biased. Correction for bias is not made in this report.

Estimated numbers of deaths based on the sample were proportionately adjusted to be consistent with estimates based on the count of death certificates received in State registration offices.

HIV infection—Beginning with data for 1987, the National Center for Health Statistics introduced categories *042–*044 for classifying and coding Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. The asterisks before the categories indicate that these codes are not part of the

Ninth Revision, International Classification of Diseases. Deaths classified to these categories are included in All other infectious and parasitic diseases in the List of 72 Selected Causes of Death and are also shown separately at the bottom of table 6.

Sampling variability—Because the estimates of deaths and death rates presented in this report with the exception of total deaths and deaths under 1 year are based on a sample of death certificates, they are subject to sampling variability. The estimated relative standard error in the following table is a measure of the

Relative standard errors for estimated numbers of deaths from the Current Mortality Sample expressed as a percent of the estimate

Estimated number of deaths	Relative standard error of estimate (as percent)	
	170,000 estimated deaths each month	2,000,000 estimated deaths each year
10	94.9	94.9
20	67.1	67.1
50	42.4	42.4
100	30.0	30.0
200	21.2	21.2
500	13.4	13.4
1,000	9.5	9.5
2,000	6.7	6.7
5,000	4.2	4.2
10,000	2.9	3.0
20,000	2.0	2.1
50,000	1.1	1.3
100,000	0.6	0.9
200,000 . . . . .	...	0.6
500,000 . . . . .	...	0.4
1,000,000 . . . . .	...	0.2

sampling error of the estimated number of deaths (or of the estimated death rate) expressed as a percent of the estimate. The first column refers to monthly estimates; the second to annual; cumulative year-to-date totals fall between the two.

The chances are about 2 in 3 that the percent difference between an estimate and the result of a complete count is less than the percent shown. The chances are about 19 in 20 that the percent difference is less than twice the percent shown. A figure based on 100 or fewer estimated deaths has a relative standard error of 30 percent or more and is, therefore, considered unreliable. A rate based on 100 or fewer estimated deaths has been replaced by an asterisk.

Unless otherwise specified comparisons made in the text between death rates based on the CMS were statistically significant at the 0.05 level of significance. Lack of comment in the text about any two rates does not mean that the difference was tested and found not to be significant at this level.

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