

## Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths: Provisional Data for January–March 2002

NOTE: This is the last NVSR of provisional data that will be printed and mailed. All future NVSRs of provisional data will be released on the Internet only. Future reports will be available at [www.cdc.gov/nchs](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs).

**Table 1. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, January 2002**

[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	January				12 months ending with January				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2000
Live births . . . . .	331,000	335,000	13.6	13.9	4,024,000	4,067,000	14.1	14.4	14.3
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	63.2	64.0	...	...	65.2	66.0	64.7
Deaths . . . . .	227,000	227,000	9.3	9.4	2,419,000	2,392,000	8.5	8.5	8.6
Infant deaths . . . . .	2,400	2,400	7.2	7.1	27,600	27,300	6.9	6.7	7.0
Natural increase . . . . .	104,000	108,000	4.3	4.5	1,605,000	1,675,000	5.6	5.9	5.7
Marriages <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	120,000	143,000	4.9	6.0	2,322,000	2,321,000	8.1	8.2	8.5
Divorces <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.9	4.0	4.0
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	286.2	283.5	...	...	285.1	282.4	279.3

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

<sup>2</sup>Divorce rates exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTE: 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.

### Technical Notes

Data shown here are provisional and include only events occurring within the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia). Mortality data exclude fetal deaths. Delay in the receipt of certificates in a registration office may result in a low figure for a given month followed by a high figure for the month(s) in which the delayed records were received. 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. The effect of excluding events to nonresidents from the U.S. totals is small. Events to nonresidents of the United States are

included in all marriage and divorce figures. Divorce figures include reported annulments.

Until 1998, provisional totals for births, marriages, and divorces for the entire United States included corrections for observed differences between provisional and final figures. These corrections served to compensate for delays in reporting. Beginning with data for January 1998, these monthly corrections for births, marriages, and divorces have been dropped. Further information on these changes has been provided in the NVSRs presenting provisional data for January, February, and March 1999 (Volume 48, Nos. 1, 2, and 4, respectively) available at [www.cdc.gov/nchs](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs).

Moreover, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) ceased publishing divorce counts and rates based on provisional data from the combined 50 States because it is no longer statistically feasible to calculate estimates of monthly divorce counts for non-reporting States (California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma). Instead, NCHS publishes only the 12-month divorce rates shown in tables 1–3, based solely on the combined counts and populations for reporting States and the District of Columbia. Aggregate 1-month, cumulative counts and rates, and 12-month counts for divorces have been dropped due to their very limited usefulness when based on less than the full complement of States. Monthly marriage and divorce counts as reported by each State will continue to be provided in the “Data Warehouse” on the NCHS Web site.

Marriage and divorce counts for Oklahoma are not included in tables showing provisional data by State due to incomplete reporting. For the purpose of calculating 12-month divorce rates shown in

tables 1–3, Oklahoma is treated as a nonreporting State (see earlier discussion). Since all other States report marriages, marriage rates shown in tables 1–4 include Oklahoma data. The impact of the missing marriages on the national rate is negligible (estimated at less than 1 percent).

Population estimates used for computing rates originate from the U.S. Census Bureau and are based on the 2000 Census. 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. Populations have been estimated by NCHS for the 12-month divorce rates based on the 46 reporting States and the District of Columbia. Because monthly infant mortality rates are based on relatively few events, they are highly variable, and comparisons of monthly infant mortality rates should be interpreted cautiously.

**Table 2. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, February 2002**

[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	February				January–February				12 months ending with February				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2000
Live births . . . . .	304,000	304,000	13.9	14.0	635,000	639,000	13.7	13.9	4,024,000	4,052,000	14.1	14.3	14.3
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	64.3	64.2	...	...	63.7	64.1	...	...	65.2	65.8	65.1
Deaths . . . . .	207,000	199,000	9.4	9.1	434,000	425,000	9.4	9.3	2,427,000	2,372,000	8.5	8.4	8.6
Infant deaths . . . . .	2,200	2,300	7.3	7.4	4,600	4,700	7.2	7.3	27,500	27,300	6.8	6.7	7.0
Natural increase . . . . .	97,000	105,000	4.5	4.9	201,000	214,000	4.3	4.6	1,597,000	1,680,000	5.6	5.9	5.7
Marriages <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	154,000	141,000	7.0	6.5	274,000	284,000	5.9	6.2	2,335,000	2,310,000	8.2	8.2	8.5
Divorces <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.9	4.0	4.0
Population base (in millions). . . . .	...	...	286.4	283.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	285.3	282.7	279.7

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

<sup>2</sup>Divorce rates exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTE: 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.

**Table 3. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States, March 2002**

[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		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2000
Live births . . . . .	332,000	339,000	13.6	14.1	967,000	978,000	13.7	14.0	4,017,000	4,052,000	14.1	14.3	14.3
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	63.3	64.7	...	...	63.6	64.3	...	...	65.1	65.7	65.2
Deaths . . . . .	224,000	216,000	9.2	8.9	658,000	641,000	9.3	9.2	2,436,000	2,380,000	8.5	8.4	8.6
Infant deaths . . . . .	2,400	2,400	7.1	7.0	7,000	7,100	7.2	7.2	27,500	27,300	6.8	6.7	7.0
Natural increase . . . . .	108,000	123,000	4.4	5.2	309,000	337,000	4.4	4.8	1,581,000	1,672,000	5.6	5.9	5.7
Marriages <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	159,000	170,000	6.5	7.1	433,000	455,000	6.1	6.5	2,324,000	2,321,000	8.1	8.2	8.5
Divorces <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.9	4.0	4.0
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	286.5	283.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	285.6	282.9	280.0

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

<sup>2</sup>Divorce rates exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTE: 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.

**Table 4. Provisional number of live births, marriages, deaths, and infant deaths and rates, by month: United States, January 2001–March 2002**

[Data are provisional and are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical Notes]

Period	Live births				Marriages		Deaths		Infant deaths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years		Number	Rate per 1,000 population <sup>2</sup>	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
			Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>						
2001:										
January . . . . .	335,000	13.9	64.0	66.9	143,000	6.0	227,000	9.4	2,400	7.1
February . . . . .	304,000	14.0	64.2	65.3	141,000	6.5	199,000	9.1	2,300	7.4
March . . . . .	339,000	14.1	64.7	66.2	170,000	7.1	216,000	8.9	2,400	7.0
April . . . . .	324,000	13.9	63.9	64.6	208,000	8.9	203,000	8.7	2,300	6.9
May . . . . .	344,000	14.3	65.7	66.1	214,000	8.9	201,000	8.3	2,400	6.9
June . . . . .	331,000	14.2	65.3	64.5	229,000	9.8	191,000	8.2	2,100	6.5
July . . . . .	351,000	14.5	67.1	64.2	235,000	9.7	191,000	7.9	2,200	6.4
August . . . . .	362,000	15.0	69.1	66.6	235,000	9.7	191,000	7.9	2,300	6.5
September . . . . .	343,000	14.6	67.6	64.0	221,000	9.4	192,000	8.2	2,200	6.5
October . . . . .	344,000	14.2	65.7	66.3	226,000	9.3	202,000	8.3	2,300	6.8
November . . . . .	324,000	13.8	63.9	66.3	168,000	7.2	197,000	8.4	2,300	6.9
December . . . . .	327,000	13.4	62.3	62.9	155,000	6.4	210,000	8.7	2,400	7.1
2002:										
January . . . . .	331,000	13.6	63.2	66.0	120,000	4.9	227,000	9.3	2,400	7.2
February . . . . .	304,000	13.9	64.3	65.4	154,000	7.0	207,000	9.4	2,200	7.3
March . . . . .	332,000	13.6	63.3	64.8	159,000	6.5	224,000	9.2	2,400	7.1

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

<sup>2</sup>Marriage rates may be underestimated due to incomplete reporting in Oklahoma; see Technical Notes.

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

**Suggested citation**

Sutton PD. Births, marriages, divorces, and deaths: Provisional data for January–March 2002. National vital statistics reports; vol. 51, no. 6. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 2003.

**Copyright information**

All material appearing in this report is in the public domain and may be reproduced or copied without permission; citation as to source, however, is appreciated.

**National Center for Health Statistics**

Director, Edward J. Sondik, Ph.D.  
Deputy Director, Jack R. Anderson

**Division of Vital Statistics**

Acting Director, James A. Weed

---

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Health Statistics  
3311 Toledo Road  
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782

---

DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 2003–1120  
PRS 03-0250 (4/2003)

---

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
CDC/NCHS  
PERMIT NO. G-284