

VITAL & HEALTH STATISTICS

Midwife and Out-of-Hospital Deliveries United States

An analysis of the demographic characteristics and pregnancy history of mothers and birth weight of babies delivered in a nonhospital setting or by a midwife in a hospital.

**Data from the National Vital
Statistics System
Series 21, No. 40**

DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 84-1918

U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services
Public Health Service
National Center for Health Statistics
Hyattsville, Md.
February 1984

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Suggested Citation

National Center for Health Statistics, S. Taffel: Midwife and out-of-hospital deliveries, United States, *Vital and Health Statistics*. Series 21, No. 40. DHHS Pub. No. (PHS) 84-1918. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, February 1984.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Taffel, Selma.

Midwife and out-of-hospital deliveries, United States.

(Vital and health statistics. Series 21. Data from the national vital statistics system ; no. 40)

(DHHS publication ; no. (PHS) 84-1918)

Bibliography: p. 15

Supt. of Docs. no.: HE 20.6209:21/40

1. Childbirth—United States—Statistics. 2. Midwives—United States—Statistics. 3. Birth weight—United States—Statistics. 4. Hospitals, Gynecologic and obstetric—United States—Statistics. 5. United States—Statistics, Medical. 6. United States—Statistics, Vital. I. Title. II. Series. III. Series: DHHS publication ; no. (PHS) 84-1918. [DNLM: 1. Birth weight—United States—Statistics. 2. Delivery—United States—Statistics. 3. Midwifery—United States—Statistics. 4. Nurse midwives—United States—Statistics. 5. Pregnancy—United States—Statistics.

W2 A N148vu no. 40]

HA211.A3 no. 40 [RG530.3.U5] 312'.1'73s 83-600276

ISBN 0-8406-0285-5 [362.1'982]

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Symbols

- - - Data not available
 - . . . Category not applicable
 - Quantity zero
 - 0.0 Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05
 - Z Quantity more than zero but less than 500 where numbers are rounded to thousands
 - * Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision
-

Midwife and Out-of-Hospital Deliveries

Selma Taffel, Division of Vital Statistics

Introduction

Almost all national natality data reflect the characteristics of births delivered by physicians in hospitals since this group accounts for 97 percent of all births (table 1). Consequently, there is a paucity of information concerning mothers and birth outcome when delivery is in a nonhospital setting or when delivery is by a midwife in a hospital. The demographic characteristics and pregnancy history of these mothers and the health of their babies as measured by birth weight are described in this report. The information was obtained from entries on live birth certificates filed throughout the United States for 1978 and 1979. Not all States include on their birth certificates all of the items discussed; the reporting States for these items are shown in table I.

In all but two tables in this report, data are presented as an average of the 2-year period 1978-79 to minimize the effect of random year-to-year fluctuations due to the small number of births for some categories. Information on out-of-hospital births attended by persons other than midwives or physicians (probably relatives or friends of the mother) or by unspecified attendants is shown in all tables to present a complete picture of such deliveries. However, the focus of the analysis is on midwife and physician out-of-hospital deliveries.

Information for physician-in-hospital deliveries is shown in only four tables of this report. These tables include basic data on race of the child and age and residence of the mother. It is evident from these data that the distribution of physician-in-hospital deliveries is nearly identical to that of all births. Therefore the information shown in other tables for "all births" can be used as a surrogate for physician-in-hospital deliveries.

Because the data for this report were derived from birth certificates, the figures shown refer to numbers of births rather than to numbers of mothers. However, for simplicity, the terms "mothers" and "women" rather than "births" are often used. The child's racial designation is also used to identify the mother since the race of the mother and child are identical for the majority of births.

Three distinct types of women deliver in a nonhospital setting. Exact numbers are not available, but the largest group is probably composed of women for whom hospital delivery is not feasible for geographic or economic reasons. Women in the second group choose to deliver at home because of the desire for a more natural, family-centered birth experience and the opportunity for immediate bonding between baby and mother. The third group is composed of women who intended to deliver

in a hospital but have an accidental delivery at home, usually as a result of precipitous labor.¹ (The terms "out-of-hospital," "nonhospital," and "home deliveries" are used interchangeably in this report.)

Recently, the development of free-standing birthing centers has provided an alternative to home or hospital birth. These are facilities that are separate from hospitals, where women give birth supervised by nurse-midwives with physician backup. As in a home delivery, the emphasis in this setting is for as natural a birth as possible. Some birthing centers in the United States are considered to be nonhospital facilities because of their limited medical resources but many are licensed and classified as "hospital." The number of births occurring in birthing centers is not known since the centers are usually classified as hospital or nonhospital facilities by individual State health departments and are not separately identified. Consequently, in this report births occurring in birthing centers are included in both the hospital and out-of-hospital categories.

Nurse-midwives are registered nurses who have obtained additional education and training in the care and delivery of essentially healthy and normal mothers. They usually work in association with and under the supervision of a physician, generally an obstetrician. High-risk mothers (those with major medical or obstetrical problems) or mothers who develop complications during pregnancy are referred to physicians for their prenatal care and delivery or are collaboratively managed. According to a 1976-77 survey of nurse-midwives by the American College of Nurse-Midwives,¹ about half of the nurse-midwives who managed deliveries in the United States were employed in hospitals; only about 12 percent practiced in either maternity services operated predominantly by nurse-midwives or in private nurse-midwifery practices. An additional 13 percent were in private practice with a physician. The remaining nurse-midwives were employed by public health agencies, by the U.S. military, or by universities and prepaid health plans. The number of nurse-midwives has almost doubled every decade since the 1950's. In 1978, there were an estimated 2,200 nurse-midwives in the United States,² more than 43 percent of whom managed deliveries.³

The lay or "granny" midwife provides assistance to women during childbirth in the absence of a medical practitioner. She usually has limited formal education and learns midwifery largely through apprenticeship. She commonly serves in low economic or rural areas. According to the latest available infor-

mation, there were approximately 1,800 lay midwives practicing in the United States in 1976, almost half of whom were located in Texas.² The number of lay midwives has declined steeply in the last three decades. In 1948, there were an estimated 20,700 practicing lay midwives.⁴

For this report, it was not possible to differentiate between a nurse-midwife and lay midwife attendant since the entries on many State birth certificates do not make this distinction. However, since only nurse-midwives are permitted to deliver in hospitals, it can be assumed that they constitute all midwife

deliveries in hospitals. It can also be assumed that a very large proportion of home deliveries are managed by lay midwives since the 1976-77 survey found that not more than 5 percent of all nurse-midwife deliveries were in a nonhospital setting. However, there has almost certainly been a substantial increase in out-of-hospital deliveries by nurse-midwives since that time.⁵ According to this survey, nurse-midwives who managed such deliveries practiced mainly in California, Illinois, Kentucky, New York City, Texas, and Washington.¹

Highlights

In recent years, there has been increasing interest in home births and in hospital births attended by midwives. Desire for information about them has been stimulated by an increased preference for natural childbirth and by an interest in differences between these deliveries and the usual deliveries by physicians in hospitals. Data for 1978–79, presented in this report, permit such comparisons by a number of variables.

The number of babies delivered by nurse-midwives in hospitals more than doubled between 1975 and 1979, but even so they remained a very small proportion of all births. The increase was from 19,686 (0.6 percent of all births) in 1975 to 44,496 (1.3 percent of all births) in 1979. Out-of-hospital deliveries remained relatively constant during this period, increasing from 27,297 to 33,914 births (0.9 percent to 1.0 percent of all deliveries).

A number of substantial differences are apparent among hospital births attended by midwives, home births, and total births (predominantly in-hospital births delivered by physicians). About 30 percent of the mothers attended by midwives in hospitals are black—nearly double the proportion of mothers who are black delivering at home with a midwife attending (16 percent) or in a hospital with a physician attending (16 percent). American Indian births (1 percent of all births) accounted for 4 percent of the midwife-in-hospital births. Other races were generally underrepresented in midwife deliveries.

Foreign-born mothers are more likely than mothers born in the United States to be attended by midwives, both in and

out of hospitals. About 10 percent of all women giving birth in 1978–79 were foreign born but 15 percent of women attended by midwives in hospitals and 29 percent of the women attended by midwives at home were of foreign nativity. Almost all of the foreign-born mothers delivering at home (89 percent) were born in Mexico.

Women delivering at home tend to be older than either physician-attended or midwife-attended women delivering in hospitals and are far more likely to be having a third, fourth, or higher order child and less likely to be having their first child.

Mothers having home deliveries or midwife-attended hospital deliveries are less likely to have completed high school than mothers delivered in hospitals by physicians. Additionally, mothers attended by midwives at home are more likely to have completed college than women delivering at home with other attendants or women who deliver in hospitals. White women attended by midwives or “others” at home have the highest median years of schooling (12.8) and black women giving birth at home with a midwife attending have the lowest median years of schooling (11.4).

The percent of infants with low birth weight, less than 2,500 grams or 5½ pounds, is lower for midwife-attended home and hospital births than for other births. This is partially explained by the referral to physicians of high risk mothers and by the large proportion of Mexican women having home births, since Mexican women have fewer low birth weight babies than other Hispanic women or black women.

Trends

Until about 1940, the majority of babies in the United States were born at home. From 1940 to 1970, there was a dramatic decline in the proportion of births delivered outside of a hospital—from 44.2 percent to 0.6 percent. Although there has been a small rise in such deliveries since the low point of 1970, the proportion has not risen above one percent, the level it remained at from 1977 to 1979 (table 1). These overall figures primarily reflect the trend in out-of-hospital deliveries of white births. The proportion of babies of other races delivered in a nonhospital setting continued to decline after 1970,⁴ and by 1979 was lower than that of white births (0.8 percent compared with 1.0 percent) (table 1 and figure 1).

The 33,914 births delivered outside of hospitals in 1979 were attended in about equal numbers by physicians, midwives,

and other or unspecified attendants. This is in sharp contrast to several decades ago. In 1940 about four-fifths of home births were attended by physicians, and about one-fifth by midwives. Only about 1 percent of home births were attended by other or unspecified persons.

Coincident with the recent rise in nonhospital deliveries is the growing number of hospital births attended by midwives. National information on the number of midwife deliveries in hospitals has been available only since 1975. The number of such births has risen from 19,686 (0.6 percent of all births) in 1975 to 44,496 (1.3 percent) in 1979. Some of this increase may reflect the concomitant drop in the number of hospital births when the attendant was not stated on the birth certificate.

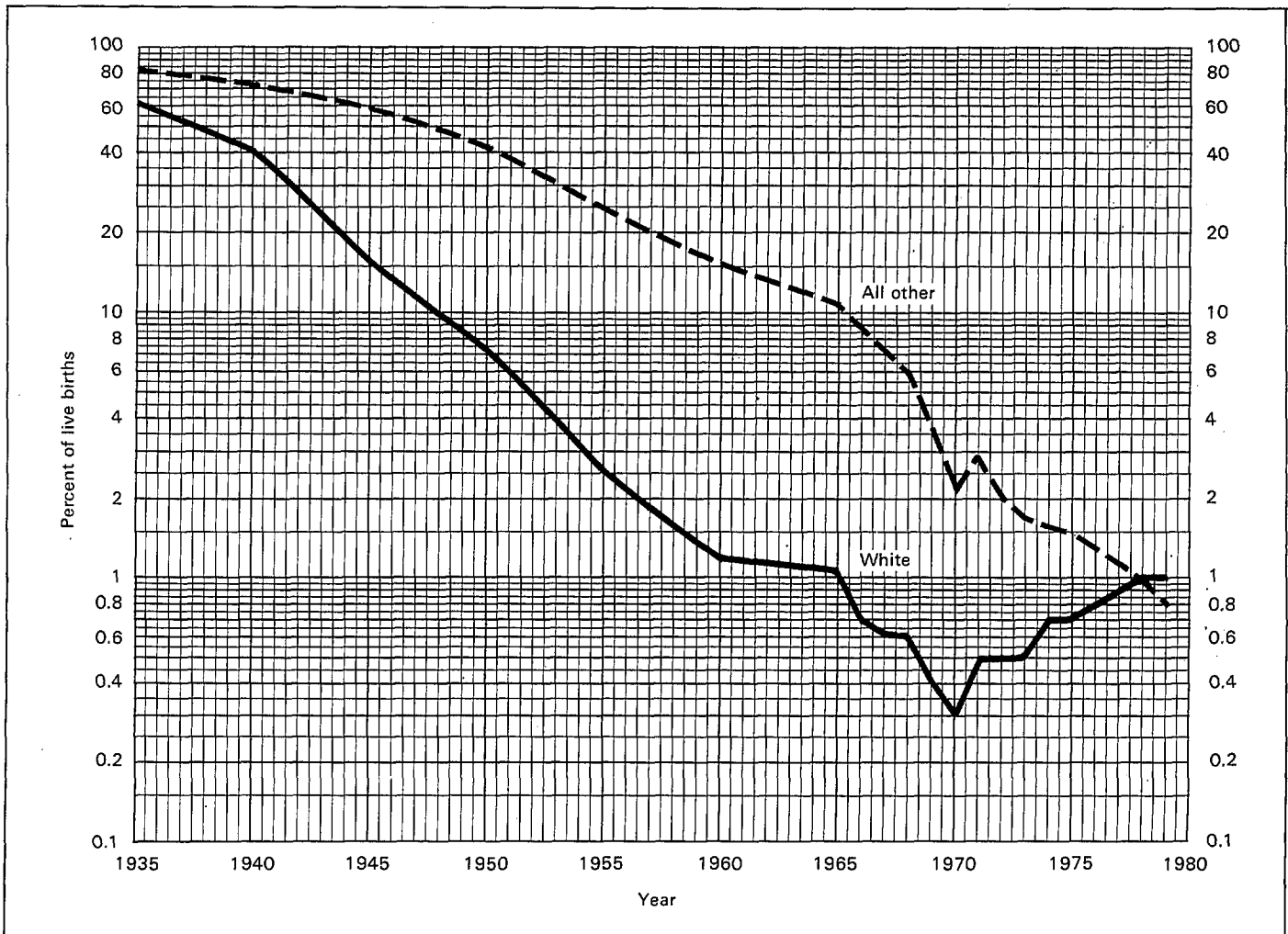


Figure 1. Percent of live births delivered outside of hospitals by race of child: United States, 1935-79

Demographic characteristics of the mother

Race and nativity

In 1978–79, more than 80 percent of the mothers giving birth outside of hospitals were white, and 15 percent were black. This is similar to the racial composition of all women giving birth during this time period (table 2). In sharp contrast, only 64 percent of the mothers attended by midwives in hospitals were white and 30 percent were black, about double the proportion of all women giving birth or those giving birth at home that were black. With the exception of American Indian women, few women of other races had home deliveries or midwife-attended hospital deliveries. American Indian births accounted for 4 percent of the midwife-in-hospital deliveries but they represented only 1 percent of all births during these years.

Foreign-born mothers are more likely than native-born mothers to be attended by midwives, both at home and in a hospital. About 10 percent of all women giving birth in 1978–79 were foreign born: 29 percent of the women attended by midwives at home were of foreign nativity, almost all (89 percent) born in Mexico. Fifteen percent of the mothers attended by midwives in hospitals were foreign born. The proportion of mothers who were native or foreign born, with separate information for those born in Puerto Rico, Cuba, or Mexico, according to the attendant and place of delivery, is shown in table 3. Since the vast majority of all births to mothers of Hispanic nativity are white, the few black births of such nativity are not shown separately.

Residence

There are substantial differences in place of residence for mothers delivering in hospitals compared with mothers delivering at home. Almost half of the women attended by midwives in hospitals (44 percent) resided in the South Region (see the appendix for States in each geographic region). Large numbers also lived in the Northeast Region (23 percent) and in the West Region (24 percent). Over half of those living in the Northeast Region resided in cities of 1,000,000 or more population while those living in the North Central, South, and West Regions resided mainly in rural areas and in small cities (tables 4 and 5).

A far larger proportion of women with home deliveries attended by midwives lived in the South (72 percent), and relatively fewer lived in the West (16 percent), in the Northeast (9 percent), or in the North Central region (3 percent). In all

regions the great majority of these mothers lived in rural areas or in cities with less than 50,000 population.

Among mothers attended at home by physicians, the smallest number lived in the Northeast (15 percent), with the remaining women living in about equal numbers in the North Central, South, and West Regions. These women lived primarily in rural areas or in small cities with less than 50,000 population. Mothers attended at home by “others” lived predominantly in the West, as did those delivering at home with the attendant not stated on the birth certificate.

These data primarily reflect the residence of white mothers and even larger differences in place of residence are apparent for black women (figure 2). Nearly one-third (31 percent) of the black women who gave birth in hospitals with a midwife attendant lived in the Northeast. Three-quarters of these mothers resided in large urban places with populations of 1,000,000 or more.

Almost all black mothers (92 percent) attended at home by midwives lived in the South, appreciably more than the proportion of all black mothers living in this region (53 percent). A greater than average proportion of black women attended by physicians at home (67 percent) and by midwives in hospitals (61 percent) also lived in the South.

The number of inhospital and out-of-hospital deliveries by attendant for individual States are shown in table 6.

Maternal age

A woman's age at time of childbirth is an important determinant of her baby's health and often plays a critical role in her pregnancy experience. Very young girls and women in the oldest years of childbearing have a greater risk of bearing a low-birth-weight baby,⁶ and infants of mothers aged 35 years and older are far more likely to be born with a congenital defect.⁷ Older women are also more likely to start pregnancy with an underlying medical condition, which is associated with a higher incidence of complications during pregnancy.⁸

About one-fifth of the white mothers attended by midwives in hospitals were under 20 years old—about twice the proportion in this age group attended by midwives and physicians at home and nearly 1½ times the proportion of all white mothers under 20 years of age (table 7). During 1978–79, 28 percent of all black births in the United States were to teenage girls. This was double the percentage of white births to teenage girls. An even higher proportion of the black mothers attended by midwives in hospitals and by physicians at home were in their

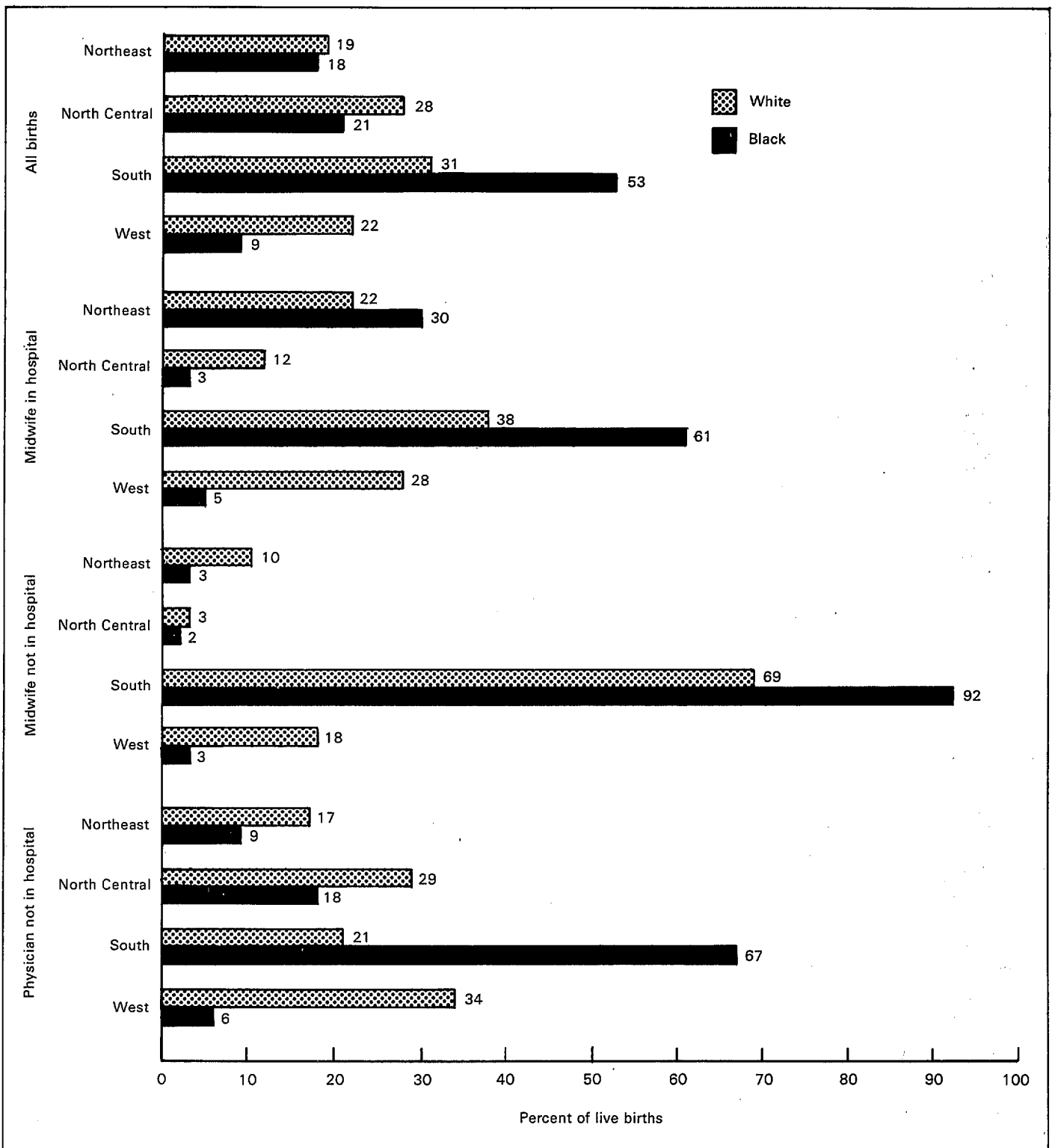


Figure 2. Percent distribution of live births by geographic region for each attendant and place of delivery category according to race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

teens (33 and 30 percent, respectively). Relatively fewer black mothers delivered at home by midwives were under 20 years of age (26 percent of the total).

Women giving birth at home were more likely to be in the older years of childbearing than women delivering in hospitals (figure 3). Between 16 and 18 percent of women with home

deliveries were 30-34 years of age, compared with 11 percent of the mothers delivered by midwives in hospitals. Even larger differences were apparent for women in the oldest years of childbearing. About twice the proportion of women with home deliveries than with midwife-in-hospital deliveries were 35 years of age or more (6 to 7 percent compared with 3 percent).

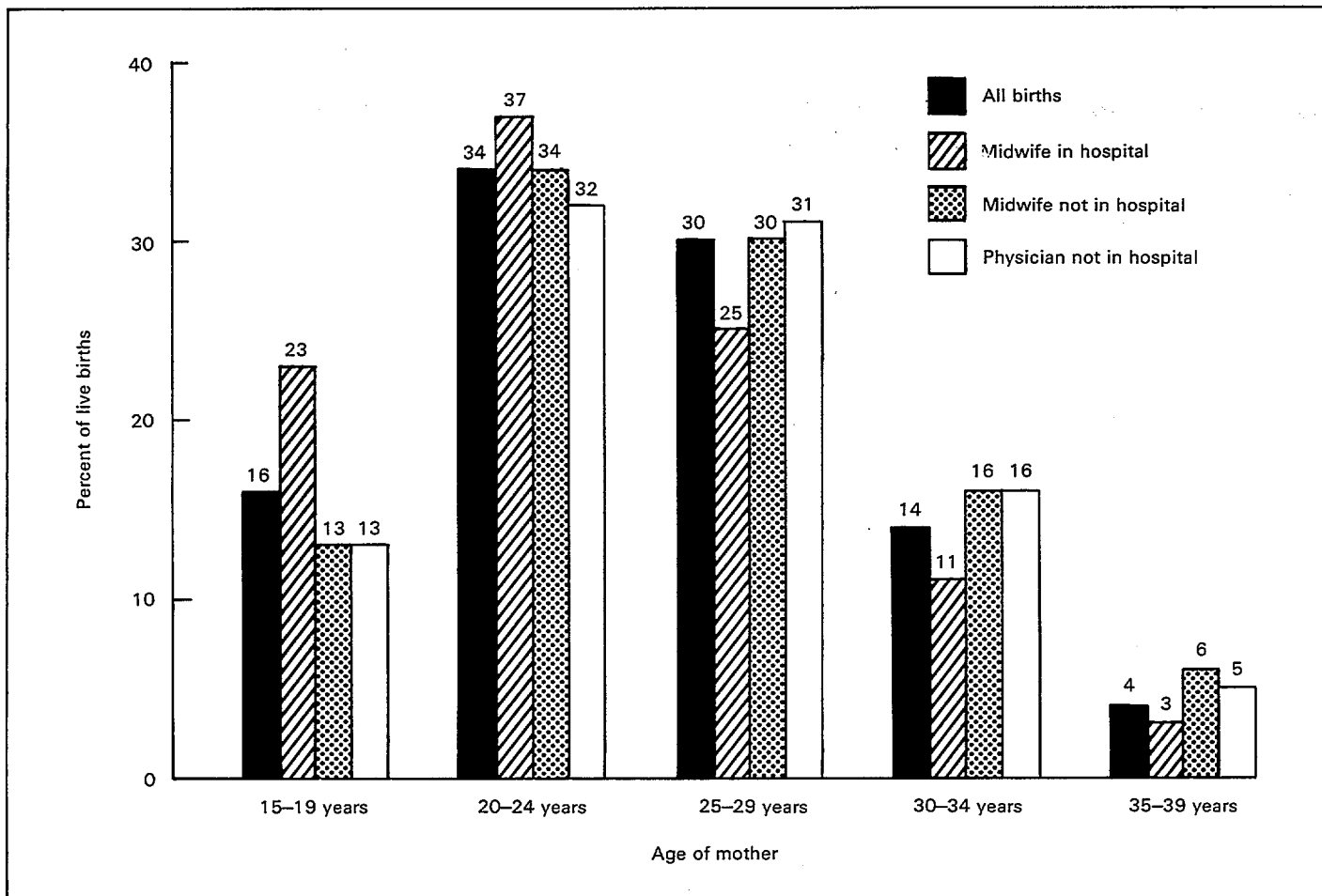


Figure 3. Percent distribution of live births by age of mother, for each attendant and place of delivery category: United States, 1978-79 average

Live-birth order

Women delivering in hospitals were far more likely to be having their first child and less likely to be having a third, fourth, or higher order birth than women delivering at home (table 8 and figure 4). About 42 percent of women with hospital deliveries were having their first child, compared with only 26 percent of women with home deliveries attended by midwives and 32 percent of the women attended by physicians at home. Similar large differences were found for both white and black mothers.

Differences in the ages of these mothers do not fully explain the proportionately larger number of higher order births in home deliveries. As shown in table A, women in each age group delivering at home were more likely than women delivering in hospitals to be bearing a third or higher order child. As noted earlier, more than one-quarter of the women attended by midwives at home were born in Mexico, more than nine times the proportion of all women delivering at this time who were of Mexican nativity. Women of Mexican origin have higher fertility than do other Hispanic or non-Hispanic women,⁹ which is one reason for the disproportionate number of higher order births in home deliveries attended by midwives. The role played by a previous childbirth experience in the choice of attendant for the present birth is unknown since information for prior births is not available from birth certificates.

Demographic risk

The age of the mother and total-birth order of the child (the sum of the live births and fetal deaths that a mother has had, including the present delivery) considered together can be used as an indicator of an infant's chance of survival.^{10,11} Infants born to mothers under 15 years of age and to mothers aged 40 years and over have less chance of surviving past the first year of life than do infants born to mothers at intermediate ages, regardless of birth order. There is also an increased risk of death during infancy for second or higher order babies of mothers in their teens and for babies of older mothers at extreme birth orders. For this report, mothers in these categories are considered as a group and are referred to as mothers at demographic risk. It can be assumed that a substantial number of women at demographic risk also had preexisting medical or antepartum obstetric conditions that could adversely affect their infant's health or survival. In one study,¹¹ medical and obstetric conditions such as syphilis, tuberculosis, and malformed pelvis were found to be more common among women who had been classified at demographic or socioeconomic risk than among those not so classified. A more complete description of the age and total-birth order combinations included in the demographic risk category are in the appendix.

Women having home deliveries were more likely than women delivering in hospitals to be at demographic risk (table

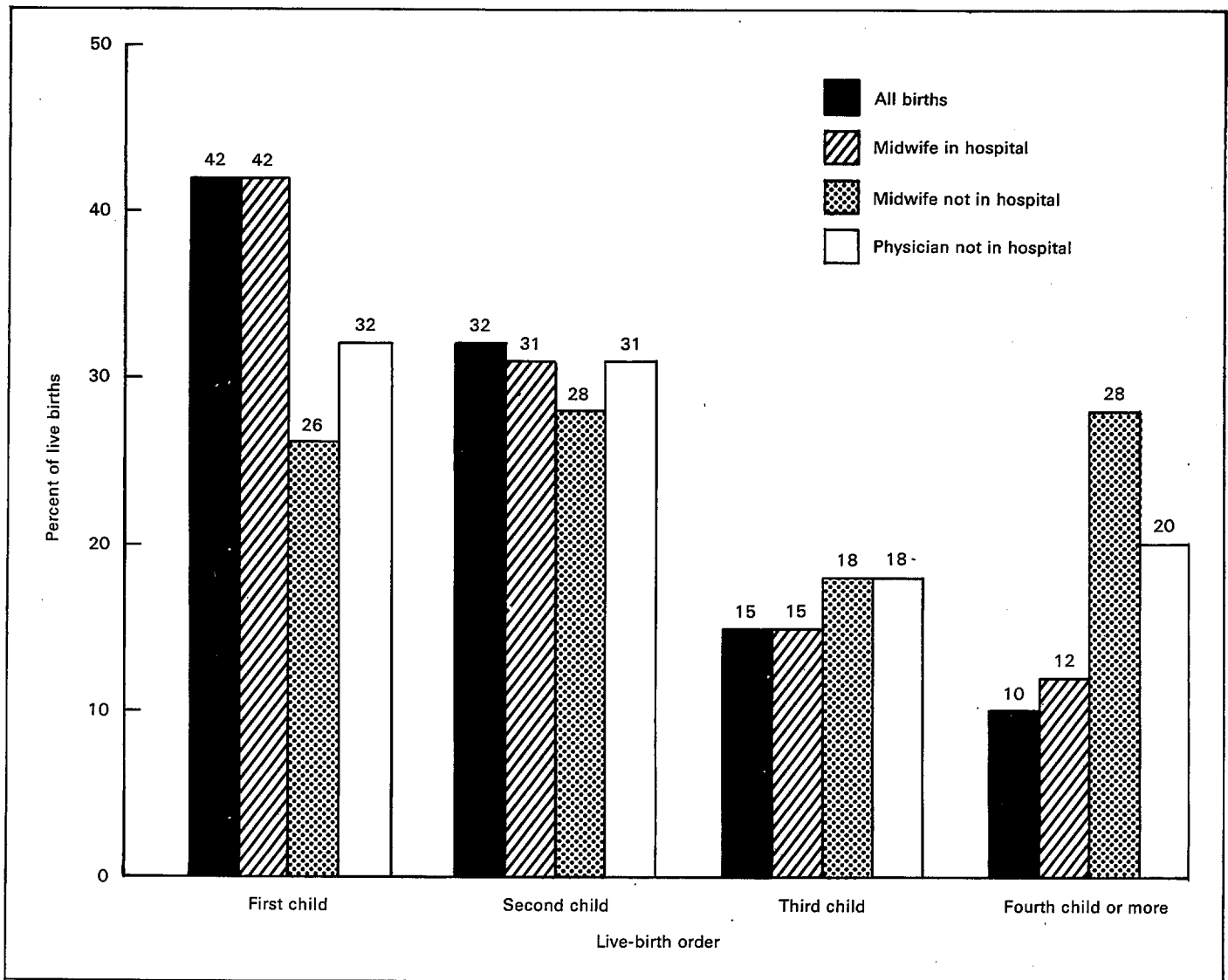


Figure 4. Percent distribution of live births by live-birth order, for each attendant and place of delivery category: United States, 1978-79 average

B). About 30 percent of the women with a home birth attended by a midwife were at risk, about twice the national average of 15 percent and higher than the proportion at risk for other out-of-hospital categories. Women delivered by midwives in hospitals were also more likely than the average mother to be at risk (20 percent). Black mothers, regardless of location of delivery or attendant, were more than 1½ times as likely as white mothers to be at demographic risk. The prenatal care received by mothers at risk is discussed later in this report.

Education

When interpreting data on educational attainment, it should be kept in mind that Texas, where 55 percent of all home births delivered by midwives occurred, does not request this item on the birth certificate. Information on education of the mother is also lacking for California, New Mexico, and Washington, with a combined total of 6 percent of midwife-delivered home births and 22 percent of the physician-delivered home births. These four States also accounted for 16 percent of all midwife-

in-hospital deliveries. Texas, California, and New Mexico have large Hispanic populations. If information on educational attainment of mothers were available for these States, the relationships by attendant shown in this report would undoubtedly be different because of the relatively lower educational attainment of Hispanic mothers.⁹

There are two distinct groups of women having out-of-hospital deliveries in greater than average numbers—those who completed only 8 years of school or less and those who completed one or more years of college. Women attended by midwives in hospitals were also more likely than the average mother to have completed only 8 years of school or less, but were not as likely as any other group to have completed one or more years of college (table 9).

There are large racial differences in educational attainment when delivery is at home or with a midwife attendant in a hospital. While 44 percent of the white women delivering at home with a midwife attendant had completed 13 years or more of school, only 9 percent of their black counterparts had achieved this educational level. On the other hand, there were propor-

Table A. Percent of live births of third and higher order by place of delivery, type of attendant, age of mother, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and age of mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | Not stated |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | |
| All races ² | 25.3 | 26.9 | 45.9 | 37.7 | 42.4 | 42.1 |
| Under 20 years | 3.3 | 3.9 | 10.2 | 5.8 | 6.8 | 6.9 |
| 20-24 years | 15.8 | 21.3 | 36.0 | 25.1 | 26.8 | 27.1 |
| 25-29 years | 29.9 | 37.8 | 51.0 | 43.3 | 46.3 | 43.6 |
| 30-34 years | 48.3 | 55.0 | 68.5 | 62.5 | 65.7 | 69.7 |
| 35-39 years | 68.4 | 75.0 | 86.2 | 80.1 | 84.4 | 84.7 |
| 40 years and over | 81.4 | 89.3 | 92.3 | 90.8 | 92.7 | 81.5 |
| White | 24.1 | 24.2 | 44.5 | 36.8 | 42.0 | 41.1 |
| Under 20 years | 2.3 | 2.8 | 9.1 | 3.7 | 4.4 | 6.2 |
| 20-24 years | 13.3 | 17.2 | 32.4 | 20.7 | 24.6 | 24.3 |
| 25-29 years | 27.7 | 32.0 | 48.4 | 40.7 | 45.0 | 41.6 |
| 30-34 years | 47.1 | 49.6 | 66.3 | 60.5 | 65.1 | 68.9 |
| 35-39 years | 67.8 | 69.1 | 84.8 | 79.5 | 84.2 | 83.8 |
| 40 years and over | 80.6 | 86.6 | 91.1 | 89.8 | 92.4 | 84.4 |
| Black | 30.9 | 30.6 | 53.6 | 41.9 | 46.5 | 47.8 |
| Under 20 years | 5.6 | 5.4 | 12.8 | 8.5 | 12.9 | 9.6 |
| 20-24 years | 27.3 | 29.4 | 53.4 | 41.8 | 44.6 | 41.3 |
| 25-29 years | 46.0 | 51.9 | 73.6 | 61.0 | 64.8 | 61.1 |
| 30-34 years | 61.0 | 68.5 | 86.5 | 78.5 | 74.6 | 83.1 |
| 35-39 years | 75.5 | 84.2 | 94.9 | 85.8 | 87.5 | 92.3 |
| 40 years and over | 87.0 | 89.3 | 100.0 | 97.1 | 100.0 | *57.1 |

¹Includes all resident births regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table B. Percent of births to mothers at demographic risk by place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | Not stated |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | |
| All races ² | 15.3 | 19.7 | 29.5 | 21.9 | 23.3 | 23.9 |
| White | 13.7 | 16.1 | 27.1 | 19.5 | 21.7 | 21.9 |
| Black | 24.1 | 26.9 | 42.4 | 32.2 | 38.7 | 36.2 |

¹Includes all resident births regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

NOTE: Mothers at demographic risk are those who are very young, in the oldest years of childbearing, or who had a high or low birth-order child relative to their age. See appendix for further details.

tionately fewer white than black women with less than a grade school education having a home delivery attended by a midwife. For midwife deliveries in hospitals, almost twice the proportion of white as black women had completed more than 13 years of schooling (29 percent compared with 15 percent). Overall, white women attended by midwives or "others" at home had the highest median years of schooling (12.8 years) and black women giving birth at home with a midwife attendant the lowest (11.4 years).

Marital status

There were 11 States that did not include a question on marital status on birth certificates during this period. These States (California, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, and Texas) comprised 40 percent of midwife-in-hospital deliveries, 57

percent of midwife out-of-hospital deliveries, and 37 percent of physician out-of-hospital deliveries. Lack of information on marital status for these States may affect comparisons among categories of birth attendants.

While 17 percent of all mothers in States reporting marital status were unmarried at the time of delivery in the 1978-79 period, a far higher proportion of the women with midwife-attended births in hospitals were unmarried (27 percent). Women delivering at home were less likely to be unmarried than women attended by midwives in hospitals: 15 percent of those attended by midwives and "others" and 22 percent of those delivered by physicians at home were unmarried. Regardless of the attendant or whether the birth was at home or in a hospital, the proportion of black mothers who were unmarried was more than 4 times the proportion of white mothers who were unmarried (table C).

Almost all mothers under 15 years of age, and about half

Table C. Number of live births and percent distribution by marital status of mother, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and marital status of mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races ² | | | | | | |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total | 2,028,390 | 24,173 | 4,305 | 7,436 | 6,047 | 450 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Married | 83.2 | 72.8 | 84.4 | 78.5 | 84.9 | 74.5 |
| Unmarried | 16.8 | 27.2 | 15.6 | 21.5 | 15.1 | 25.5 |
| White | | | | | | |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total | 1,630,982 | 15,584 | 3,081 | 5,527 | 5,302 | 314 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Married | 91.2 | 86.6 | 91.9 | 89.1 | 89.2 | 87.6 |
| Unmarried | 8.8 | 13.4 | 8.1 | 10.9 | 10.8 | 12.4 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total | 339,014 | 6,994 | 1,150 | 1,737 | 532 | 121 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Married | 45.3 | 42.3 | 64.7 | 44.6 | 44.6 | 41.9 |
| Unmarried | 54.7 | 57.7 | 35.3 | 55.4 | 55.4 | 58.1 |

¹Includes all births to mothers residing in areas reporting marital status of mother regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, Table I for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

of those aged 15-19 years were unwed at the time of delivery. The proportion of unwed mothers declined with advancing age, and was generally lowest for women aged 30-34 years (table 10).

Prenatal care

The early initiation of prenatal care affords the opportunity to identify high risk patients, to treat existing medical problems, and to educate the mother about nutrition, exercise, and other aspects of pregnancy.¹² Information on who provides prenatal care is not recorded on birth certificates; only the attendant at delivery is recorded. The attendant at delivery and provider of prenatal care are not necessarily the same person, although this is probably true for the large majority of births.

During the 1978-79 period, three-quarters of all mothers made their initial prenatal visit during the first trimester (three months) of pregnancy. Women delivering in hospitals attended by midwives were more likely to delay care; only 57 percent of these mothers made their initial visit during the first trimester. Even relatively fewer women delivering at home started care this early—slightly more than one-half of those attended by midwives, 55 percent attended by physicians, and 53 percent attended by "others" (table 11 and figure 5).

The proportion of women starting care in late pregnancy (third trimester) or receiving no care was 1½ to 2 times as high

when birth was at home (16 to 25 percent) as when delivery was in a hospital attended by a midwife (11 percent). For all groups, care was started earlier for white than for black mothers, and proportionately fewer white mothers had late or no care.

White mothers attended by midwives in hospitals made an average of 11.0 prenatal visits; black mothers averaged 9.4 visits. Racial differences were even more pronounced for mothers with home births. For midwife-attended home deliveries, white mothers averaged 10.1 visits compared with only 6.3 visits for black mothers. For physician-attended home deliveries, the median number of visits was 9.3 for white mothers and 6.8 for black mothers.

Women at demographic risk were much more likely than those not at risk to start prenatal care late in pregnancy or to receive no care at all (table 12). About 17 percent of the women at risk with midwife-in-hospital deliveries, and 24-37 percent of the women at risk delivering at home started care in the third trimester of pregnancy or received no care. These proportions were considerably higher than the proportion of all women at risk who had late or no care (10 percent). As noted earlier, women at demographic risk are probably more likely than other women to have a pre-existing medical or prenatal obstetric condition which would affect pregnancy outcome. Delay in seeking care can therefore be particularly detrimental to these women and their babies.

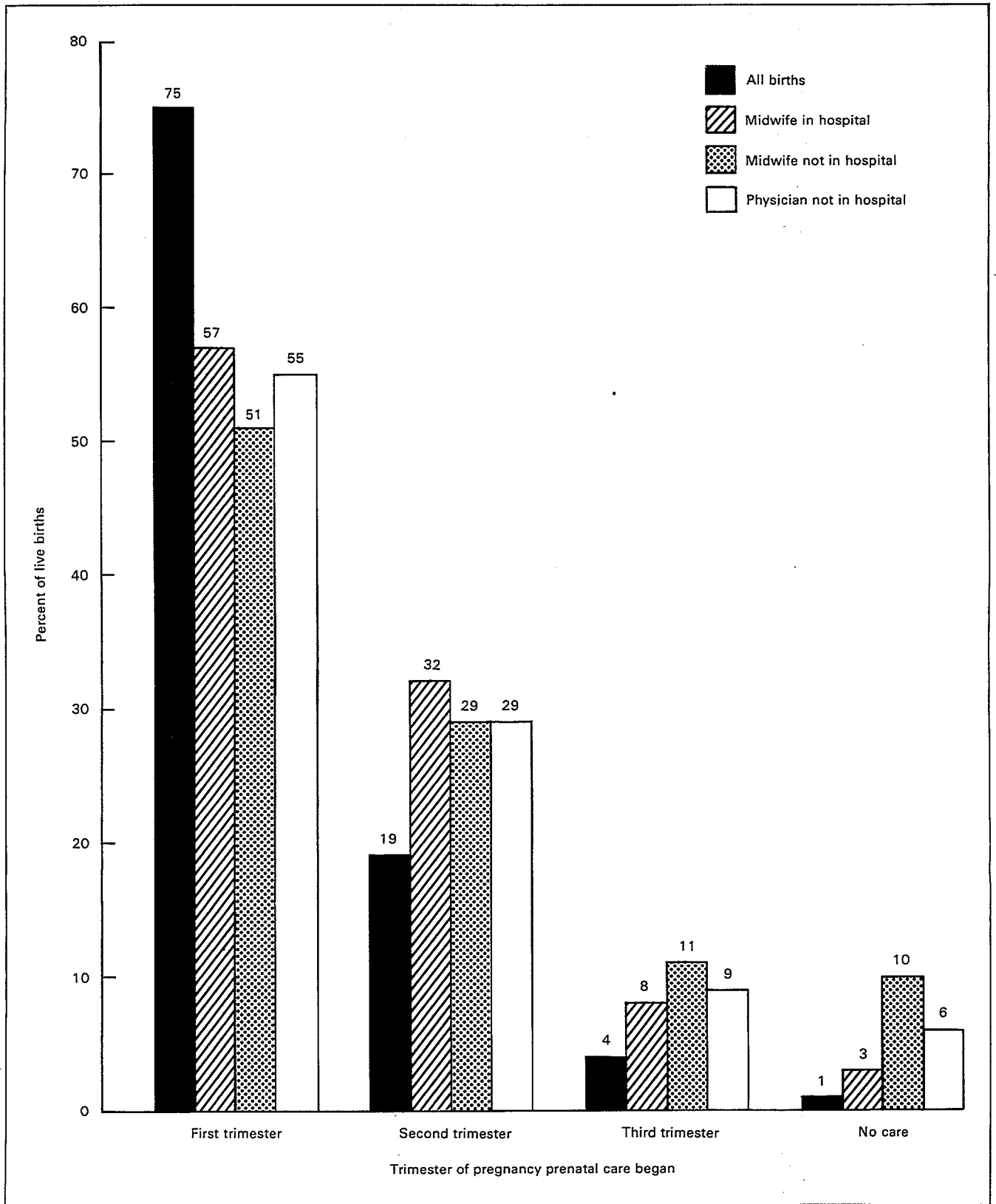


Figure 5. Percent distribution of live births by trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, for each attendant and place of delivery category: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

Birth weight

Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams or 5½ pounds) has been associated with a greatly elevated risk of infant mortality,¹³ congenital malformations,⁷ and other physical and mental impairments.¹⁴ Patterns of low birth weight are examined in this study according to the race and birth order of the child, and the age, education, marital status, and prenatal care of the mother. These factors all have a bearing on birth-weight outcome.⁶ Infants with excessive fetal growth, sometimes defined as birth weight of 4,000 grams (8 lb 13 oz) or more, are also at a somewhat greater risk of morbidity, although most infants of this size have normal development.¹⁴

It should be borne in mind when interpreting data shown in this section that differences in birth outcome are partly due to the screening process performed by midwives. Women initially judged to be at medical risk or who develop significant complications during pregnancy are generally referred to physicians for further prenatal care and delivery. Additionally, the high proportion of Mexican women with home deliveries affects birth weight comparisons for white mothers. Mexican mothers have fewer low-birth-weight infants than other mothers.⁹

Proportionately more babies born at home weighed 4,000 grams or more (13–18 percent) than babies delivered by midwives in hospitals (9 percent) or than all babies (10 percent). The same pattern of larger babies in home than hospital deliveries is evident for both white and black births (table 13).

The proportion of babies born at home weighing less than 5½ pounds varied widely by attendant. Only 4 percent of babies in midwife-attended home deliveries weighed this little, compared with 9 percent of those in physician-attended home deliveries and 7 percent attended by “others” at home. Five percent of the babies delivered by midwives in hospitals were of low birth weight.

Age and birth order

Mothers under 15 years of age were more likely to give birth to low-birth-weight infants than mothers of other ages, no matter who attended the birth. The proportion of low-birth-weight babies born to these young girls ranged from 11 percent for midwife-attended hospital deliveries to 39 percent for deliveries at home attended by “other” persons. Older teenagers were also more likely to bear low-birth-weight babies, with the risk of this outcome about the same for midwife-attended hospital and midwife-attended home deliveries (7 and 6 percent, respectively), but rising to 18 percent for home deliveries attended by “others.” The optimum age for childbearing was 25–34 years of age regardless of attendant (table 14).

The risk of low birth weight also differed by the birth order of the child. First and fourth and higher order births were more likely to be of low birth weight for all attendant groups, a reflection of the larger proportions of very young mothers having first births and mothers in the most advanced childbearing years having higher order births (table 15).

As previously noted, a mother’s age and the birth order of the child vary greatly according to place of delivery and attendant. To determine how much of the differences observed in the incidence of low birth weight by attendant was due to these variations, the percent low birth weight was recomputed for each attendant and place of delivery category. It was assumed that for each group the age and birth-order distribution was the same as for all births (see the appendix for a further explanation of this procedure). The results shown in table D indicate that even after adjustment for these dissimilarities, almost all of the originally observed differences in percent low birth weight remain for both black and white births.

Education of mother

In the United States, mothers with the highest levels of schooling are least likely to bear a low-birth-weight baby.⁶ This was also true for midwife-attended hospital and all home deliveries; the percent low birth weight was highest for infants of women with only 9–11 years of schooling and decreased for women with higher levels of educational attainment (table 16 and figure 6). The decrease was most dramatic for home deliveries attended by physicians—from 14 percent for women with 9–11 years of schooling to 4 percent for women who had completed college. The increased risk of low birth weight for babies born to women with 9–11 years of schooling compared with births to women with lesser schooling, regardless of attendant, probably reflects the higher incidence of fetal deaths for women with no more than a grade school education.⁶

Information on educational attainment is lacking for several States with large numbers of home and midwife-in-hospital deliveries. These findings are relevant to the reporting areas only and may not be representative of all births in the United States.

Marital status

Unmarried women were 2 to 3½ times as likely to bear a low-birth-weight baby as were married women, regardless of attendant (table 17). For both married and unmarried mothers, infants delivered by midwives (in a hospital or at home) were

Table D. Observed and adjusted percent of infants of low birth weight by place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races ² | | | | | | |
| Observed | 7.0 | 4.9 | 3.8 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 8.9 |
| Adjusted ³ | 7.0 | 4.6 | 3.6 | 8.6 | 8.3 | 9.4 |
| White | | | | | | |
| Observed | 5.9 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.6 |
| Adjusted ³ | 5.9 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 6.9 | 6.7 | 7.0 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| Observed | 12.7 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 16.3 | 21.0 | 22.8 |
| Adjusted ³ | 12.7 | 7.9 | 7.1 | 16.2 | 21.5 | 23.0 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of type of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Adjusted to reflect the age and birth order distribution of all births in the 1978-79 period.

least likely to weigh less than 5½ pounds. The percent low birth weight for infants born to married women was 4 percent for midwife-attended hospital deliveries, 3 percent for midwife-attended home deliveries, and 6 percent for physician-attended home deliveries. For unmarried mothers, the percent low birth weight was 8 percent for midwife-attended hospital deliveries, 6 percent for midwife-attended home deliveries, and 20 percent for physician-attended home deliveries. It should be noted that these data refer only to areas reporting marital status.

Prenatal care

The provider of prenatal care is not necessarily the attendant at delivery. Women being cared for by midwives who develop complications during pregnancy will most likely be transferred to a physician for the remainder of their prenatal care and for delivery.

There was no consistent pattern among attendant groups in the risk of a low-birth-weight outcome and the timing of the initial prenatal visit (table 18). Starting care early in pregnancy was not always related to a lower incidence of low-birth-weight babies. However, for all attendant groups both black and white mothers who had no prenatal care were far more likely to bear

a low-birth-weight baby than when some prenatal care had been received.

These data should be interpreted cautiously. A woman whose initial visit was in the first trimester of pregnancy may not receive continuous care thereafter. Also, the large differences in the percent low birth weight between births to mothers who had received no care and births where mothers had late care may be due to the larger proportion of births to mothers with no care that are born prematurely.¹⁵ Mothers who have postponed their first prenatal visit until late in pregnancy may deliver early and may not have the opportunity to receive care. They are then included in the "no care" category. Their premature babies are far more likely than full-term babies to be of low birth weight.

The role played by prenatal care in birth weight outcome cannot be judged by these data alone because the content and quality of prenatal care cannot be determined from information entered on birth certificates. Additionally, better educated women are more likely to start care early in pregnancy¹⁵ and such women are less likely to give birth to a low-weight infant. Therefore, the data presented in this report should be used only as a general indicator of the relevance of the timing of prenatal care.

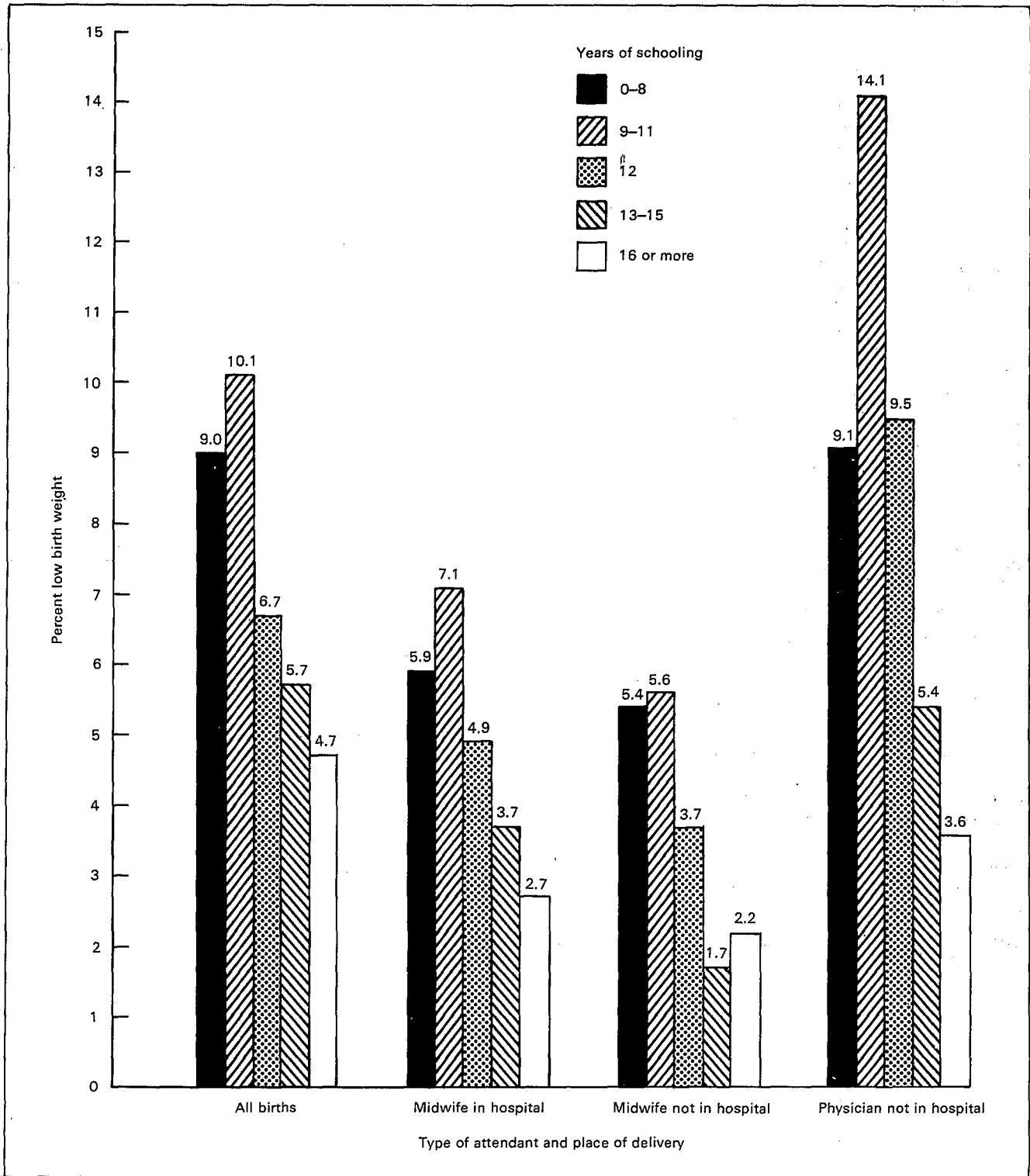


Figure 6. Percent of infants of low birth weight by educational attainment of mother, type of attendant and place of delivery: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

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Table 1. Number of live births and percent distribution by place of delivery and type of attendant, according to race of child: United States, specified years 1935-60 and each year 1965-79

| Race and year of birth of child | In hospital ¹ | | | Not in hospital ² | | | In hospital ¹ | | | Not in hospital ² | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-----------|---------|------------------------------------|
| | All live births | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | Total | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | Total | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ |
| | | Number | | | | | | Percent distribution | | | | | | | |
| All races | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1979... | 3,494,398 | 3,393,773 | 44,496 | 22,215 | 11,837 | 10,363 | 11,714 | 99.0 | 97.1 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 1978... | 3,333,279 | 3,221,677 | 36,282 | 42,700 | 11,806 | 9,778 | 11,036 | 99.0 | 96.7 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 1977... | 3,326,632 | 3,203,242 | 30,635 | 59,596 | 12,766 | 9,991 | 10,402 | 99.0 | 96.3 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 1976... | 3,167,788 | 3,055,287 | 24,656 | 58,153 | 11,940 | 9,574 | 8,178 | 99.1 | 96.4 | 0.8 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 1975... | 3,144,198 | 3,026,024 | 19,686 | 71,191 | 11,265 | 9,727 | 6,305 | 99.1 | 96.2 | 0.6 | 2.3 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| 1974... | 3,159,958 | | 3,133,797 | | 10,624 | 10,102 | 5,435 | 99.2 | | 99.2 | | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| 1973... | 3,136,965 | | 3,114,503 | | 6,578 | 11,443 | 4,441 | 99.3 | | 99.3 | | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 1972... | 3,258,411 | | 3,233,703 | | 7,177 | 13,033 | 4,498 | 99.2 | | 99.2 | | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 1971... | 3,555,970 | | 3,523,860 | | 9,560 | 17,594 | 4,956 | 99.1 | | 99.1 | | 0.9 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| 1970... | 3,731,386 | | 3,708,142 | | 5,178 | 15,306 | 2,760 | 99.4 | | 99.4 | | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 1969... | 3,600,206 | | 3,566,260 | | 7,520 | 23,024 | 3,402 | 99.1 | | 99.1 | | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| 1968... | 3,501,564 | | 3,449,250 | | 12,942 | 33,292 | 6,080 | 98.5 | | 98.5 | | 1.5 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.2 |
| 1967... | 3,520,959 | | 3,459,771 | | 13,950 | 40,210 | 7,028 | 98.3 | | 98.3 | | 1.7 | 0.4 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| 1966... | 3,606,274 | | 3,534,608 | | 16,798 | 46,772 | 8,096 | 98.0 | | 98.0 | | 2.0 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| 1965... | 3,760,358 | | 3,660,712 | | 33,268 | 55,452 | 10,926 | 97.4 | | 97.4 | | 2.6 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| 1960... | 4,257,850 | | 4,114,368 | | 49,336 | 86,076 | 8,070 | 96.6 | | 96.6 | | 3.4 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 0.2 |
| 1955... | 4,047,295 | | 3,818,810 | | 100,756 | 117,583 | 10,146 | 94.4 | | 94.4 | | 5.6 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 0.3 |
| 1950... | 3,554,149 | | 3,125,975 | | 251,539 | 161,099 | 15,536 | 88.0 | | 88.0 | | 12.0 | 7.1 | 4.5 | 0.4 |
| 1945... | 2,735,456 | | 2,155,594 | | 402,890 | 167,805 | 9,167 | 78.8 | | 78.8 | | 21.2 | 14.7 | 6.1 | 0.3 |
| 1940... | 2,360,399 | | 1,316,768 | | 825,271 | 204,968 | 13,392 | 55.8 | | 55.8 | | 44.2 | 35.0 | 8.7 | 0.6 |
| 1935... | 2,155,105 | | 795,629 | | 1,089,832 | 269,644 | | 36.9 | | 36.9 | | 63.1 | 50.6 | | 12.5 |
| White | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1979... | 2,808,420 | 2,733,403 | 29,086 | 17,537 | 9,356 | 8,879 | 10,159 | 99.0 | 97.3 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 1978... | 2,681,116 | 2,598,455 | 22,319 | 33,929 | 9,136 | 7,733 | 9,544 | 99.0 | 96.9 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 1977... | 2,691,070 | 2,600,011 | 17,935 | 47,699 | 9,389 | 7,028 | 9,008 | 99.1 | 96.6 | 0.7 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 1976... | 2,567,614 | 2,486,339 | 13,733 | 45,846 | 8,894 | 5,824 | 6,979 | 99.2 | 96.8 | 0.5 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| 1975... | 2,551,996 | 2,465,957 | 10,076 | 57,734 | 7,818 | 5,082 | 5,329 | 99.3 | 96.6 | 0.4 | 2.3 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| 1974... | 2,575,792 | | 2,558,707 | | 8,032 | 4,606 | 4,447 | 99.3 | | 99.3 | | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| 1973... | 2,551,030 | | 2,538,579 | | 4,747 | 4,386 | 3,318 | 99.5 | | 99.5 | | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 1972... | 2,655,568 | | 2,643,113 | | 4,795 | 4,367 | 3,283 | 99.5 | | 99.5 | | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 1971... | 2,919,746 | | 2,905,798 | | 6,002 | 4,590 | 3,356 | 99.5 | | 99.5 | | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 1970... | 3,091,264 | | 3,081,864 | | 3,774 | 3,674 | 1,952 | 99.7 | | 99.7 | | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 1969... | 2,993,614 | | 2,982,254 | | 4,300 | 5,010 | 2,050 | 99.6 | | 99.6 | | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 1968... | 2,912,224 | | 2,895,014 | | 7,346 | 6,776 | 3,088 | 99.4 | | 99.4 | | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 1967... | 2,922,502 | | 2,903,892 | | 7,498 | 7,616 | 3,496 | 99.4 | | 99.4 | | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| 1966... | 2,993,230 | | 2,973,236 | | 8,450 | 8,012 | 3,532 | 99.3 | | 99.3 | | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| 1965... | 3,123,860 | | 3,089,442 | | 20,178 | 8,878 | 5,362 | 98.9 | | 98.9 | | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| 1960... | 3,600,744 | | 3,555,812 | | 26,646 | 13,556 | 4,730 | 98.8 | | 98.8 | | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| 1955... | 3,458,448 | | 3,371,416 | | 60,738 | 20,520 | 5,774 | 97.5 | | 97.5 | | 2.5 | 1.8 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| 1950... | 3,063,627 | | 2,841,930 | | 181,279 | 33,161 | 7,257 | 92.8 | | 92.8 | | 7.2 | 5.9 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| 1945... | 2,395,563 | | 2,018,929 | | 329,147 | 41,128 | 6,359 | 84.3 | | 84.3 | | 15.7 | 13.7 | 1.7 | 0.3 |
| 1940... | 2,067,563 | | 1,238,677 | | 754,746 | 74,530 | | 59.9 | | 59.9 | | 40.1 | 36.5 | | 3.6 |
| 1935... | 1,888,012 | | 746,974 | | 1,019,271 | 121,767 | | 39.6 | | 39.6 | | 60.4 | 54.0 | | 6.4 |

See footnotes and note at end of table.

Table 1. Number of live births and percent distribution by place of delivery and type of attendant, according to race of child: United States, specified years 1935-60 and each year 1965-79—Con.

| Race and year of birth of child | All live births | In hospital ¹ | | | Not in hospital ² | | | In hospital ¹ | | | | Not in hospital ² | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | Total | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | Total | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified ³ | |
| All other | | Number | | | | | | Percent distribution | | | | | | | | |
| 1979... | 685,978 | 660,370 | 15,410 | 4,678 | 2,481 | 1,484 | 1,555 | 99.2 | 96.3 | 2.2 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| 1978... | 652,163 | 623,222 | 13,963 | 8,771 | 2,670 | 2,045 | 1,492 | 99.0 | 95.6 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | |
| 1977... | 635,562 | 603,231 | 12,700 | 11,897 | 3,377 | 2,963 | 1,394 | 98.8 | 94.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.2 | |
| 1976... | 600,174 | 568,948 | 10,923 | 12,308 | 3,046 | 3,750 | 1,199 | 98.7 | 94.8 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.2 | |
| 1975... | 592,202 | 560,067 | 9,610 | 13,457 | 3,447 | 4,645 | 976 | 98.5 | 94.6 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.2 | |
| 1974... | 584,166 | | 575,090 | | 2,592 | 5,496 | 988 | 98.4 | | 98.4 | | 1.6 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.2 | |
| 1973... | 585,935 | | 575,924 | | 1,831 | 7,057 | 1,123 | 98.3 | | 98.3 | | 1.7 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 0.2 | |
| 1972... | 602,853 | | 590,590 | | 2,382 | 8,666 | 1,215 | 98.0 | | 98.0 | | 2.0 | 0.4 | 1.4 | 0.2 | |
| 1971... | 636,224 | | 618,062 | | 3,558 | 13,004 | 1,600 | 97.1 | | 97.1 | | 2.9 | 0.6 | 2.0 | 0.3 | |
| 1970... | 640,122 | | 626,278 | | 1,404 | 11,632 | 808 | 97.8 | | 97.8 | | 2.2 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 0.1 | |
| 1969... | 606,592 | | 584,006 | | 3,220 | 18,014 | 1,352 | 96.3 | | 96.3 | | 3.7 | 0.5 | 3.0 | 0.2 | |
| 1968... | 589,340 | | 554,236 | | 5,596 | 26,516 | 2,992 | 94.0 | | 94.0 | | 6.0 | 0.9 | 4.5 | 0.5 | |
| 1967... | 598,457 | | 555,879 | | 6,452 | 32,594 | 3,532 | 92.9 | | 92.9 | | 7.1 | 1.1 | 5.4 | 0.6 | |
| 1966... | 613,044 | | 561,372 | | 8,348 | 38,760 | 4,564 | 91.6 | | 91.6 | | 8.4 | 1.4 | 6.3 | 0.7 | |
| 1965... | 636,498 | | 571,270 | | 13,090 | 46,574 | 5,564 | 89.8 | | 89.8 | | 10.2 | 2.1 | 7.3 | 0.9 | |
| 1960... | 657,106 | | 558,556 | | 22,690 | 72,520 | 3,340 | 85.0 | | 85.0 | | 15.0 | 3.5 | 11.0 | 0.5 | |
| 1955... | 588,847 | | 447,394 | | 40,018 | 97,063 | 4,372 | 76.0 | | 76.0 | | 24.0 | 6.8 | 16.5 | 0.7 | |
| 1950... | 490,522 | | 284,045 | | 70,260 | 127,938 | 8,279 | 57.9 | | 57.9 | | 42.1 | 14.3 | 26.1 | 1.7 | |
| 1945... | 339,893 | | 136,665 | | 73,743 | 126,677 | 2,808 | 40.2 | | 40.2 | | 59.8 | 21.7 | 37.3 | 0.8 | |
| 1940... | 292,446 | | 78,091 | | 70,525 | 143,830 | | 26.7 | | 26.7 | | 73.3 | 24.1 | 49.2 | | |
| 1935... | 267,093 | | 48,655 | | 70,561 | 147,877 | | 18.2 | | 18.2 | | 81.8 | 26.4 | 55.4 | | |
| Black | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1979... | 577,855 | 557,183 | 13,001 | 3,061 | 2,099 | 1,356 | 1,155 | 99.2 | 96.4 | 2.2 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| 1978... | 551,540 | 527,861 | 11,549 | 6,781 | 2,325 | 1,924 | 1,100 | 99.0 | 95.7 | 2.1 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | |
| 1977... | 544,221 | 518,069 | 10,295 | 8,907 | 3,044 | 2,883 | 1,023 | 98.7 | 95.2 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | |
| 1976... | 514,479 | 488,335 | 8,954 | 9,858 | 2,728 | 3,675 | 929 | 98.6 | 94.9 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.2 | |
| 1975... | 511,581 | 484,416 | 7,707 | 10,906 | 3,161 | 4,602 | 789 | 98.3 | 94.7 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.2 | |
| 1974... | 507,162 | | 498,579 | | 2,325 | 5,445 | 813 | 98.3 | | 98.3 | | 1.7 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 0.2 | |
| 1973... | 512,597 | | 503,137 | | 1,646 | 6,872 | 942 | 98.2 | | 98.2 | | 1.8 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 0.2 | |
| 1972... | 531,329 | | 519,408 | | 2,238 | 8,587 | 1,096 | 97.8 | | 97.8 | | 2.2 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 0.2 | |
| 1971... | 564,960 | | 547,254 | | 3,372 | 12,920 | 1,414 | 96.9 | | 96.9 | | 3.1 | 0.6 | 2.3 | 0.3 | |
| 1970... | 572,362 | | 558,802 | | 1,328 | 11,570 | 662 | 97.6 | | 97.6 | | 2.4 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 0.1 | |
| 1969... | 543,132 | | 520,892 | | 3,092 | 17,902 | 1,246 | 95.9 | | 95.9 | | 4.1 | 0.6 | 3.3 | 0.2 | |

¹Includes births occurring enroute to or on arrival at hospital.

²Includes births with place of delivery not stated.

³For additional detail, see appendix table III.

NOTE: Data by attendant for the years 1975 to 1977 differ from those previously published (see appendix).

Table 2. Number of live births and percent distribution by specified race of child, according to place of delivery and type of attendant: United States, 1978-79 average

| Specified race of child | All live births ¹ | In hospital | | Not in hospital | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | Physician | Midwife | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| | | | | Number ² | | | |
| All races | 3,413,839 | 3,307,008 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| White | 2,744,768 | 2,665,499 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| Black | 564,698 | 542,267 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| American Indian | 33,715 | 30,959 | 1,685 | 72 | 193 | 167 | 30 |
| Chinese | 11,478 | 11,184 | 69 | 7 | 14 | 11 | 6 |
| Japanese | 8,190 | 7,954 | 57 | 9 | 21 | 28 | 9 |
| Filipino | 13,927 | 13,478 | 117 | 7 | 24 | 24 | 13 |
| Hawaiian | 6,152 | 6,058 | 15 | 2 | 32 | 18 | 3 |
| Other Asian or Pacific Islander | 27,260 | 26,220 | 374 | 21 | 74 | 55 | 17 |
| Other races | 3,653 | 3,390 | 95 | 7 | 7 | 12 | 7 |
| | | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All races | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| White | 80.4 | 80.6 | 63.6 | 82.5 | 78.2 | 87.5 | 81.9 |
| Black | 16.5 | 16.4 | 30.4 | 16.3 | 18.7 | 9.3 | 13.4 |
| American Indian | 1.0 | 0.9 | 4.2 | 0.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.7 |
| Chinese | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Japanese | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Filipino | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 |
| Hawaiian | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Other Asian or Pacific Islander | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.9 |
| Other races | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of type of attendant or place of delivery.

²Number of births may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 3. Number of live births and percent distribution by nativity of mother, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and nativity of mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| | | | Number | | | |
| Total..... | 3,413,839 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All nativities..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Native-born ³ | 90.5 | 84.8 | 71.0 | 92.4 | 91.2 | 82.6 |
| Foreign-born..... | 9.5 | 15.2 | 29.0 | 7.6 | 8.8 | 17.4 |
| Puerto Rican..... | 0.9 | 2.0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Cuban..... | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Mexican..... | 2.8 | 4.6 | 25.9 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 11.0 |
| Other..... | 5.6 | 8.3 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 4.6 | 6.1 |
| White | | | | | | |
| | | | Number | | | |
| Total..... | 2,744,768 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All nativities..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Native-born ³ | 91.1 | 83.2 | 65.5 | 91.9 | 91.0 | 81.4 |
| Foreign-born..... | 8.9 | 16.8 | 34.5 | 8.1 | 9.0 | 18.6 |
| Puerto Rican..... | 1.0 | 3.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Cuban..... | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Mexican..... | 3.5 | 7.2 | 31.3 | 4.1 | 4.6 | 13.3 |
| Other..... | 4.2 | 6.3 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.2 | 5.1 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| | | | Number | | | |
| Total..... | 564,698 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All nativities..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Native-born ³ | 95.0 | 90.3 | 98.3 | 97.1 | 96.8 | 96.1 |
| Foreign-born ⁴ | 5.0 | 9.7 | 1.7 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 3.9 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Born in the United States.

⁴Detailed data for Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Mexican mothers are not shown separately because of the small number of such births.

Table 4. Number of live births and percent distribution by geographic region, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

[See appendix for composition of geographic regions]

| Race of child and geographic region | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | Number | | | |
| Total..... | 3,413,839 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All areas..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Northeast..... | 18.8 | 23.2 | 9.3 | 15.1 | 11.1 | 3.9 |
| North Central..... | 26.8 | 9.2 | 2.7 | 26.2 | 18.4 | 5.1 |
| South..... | 33.8 | 43.8 | 72.2 | 29.0 | 27.5 | 16.2 |
| West..... | 20.7 | 23.7 | 15.8 | 29.7 | 43.0 | 74.8 |
| White | | | Number | | | |
| Total..... | 2,744,768 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All areas..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Northeast..... | 19.3 | 21.6 | 10.4 | 17.1 | 11.1 | 4.2 |
| North Central..... | 28.4 | 12.2 | 2.9 | 28.8 | 19.4 | 5.2 |
| South..... | 30.6 | 38.3 | 69.0 | 20.7 | 24.6 | 11.2 |
| West..... | 21.7 | 27.9 | 17.7 | 33.5 | 44.9 | 79.5 |
| Black | | | Number | | | |
| Total..... | 564,698 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All areas..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Northeast..... | 17.6 | 30.5 | 3.4 | 8.5 | 13.4 | 3.8 |
| North Central..... | 20.8 | 3.2 | 1.6 | 17.9 | 12.1 | 3.2 |
| South..... | 52.7 | 61.1 | 92.3 | 67.2 | 60.9 | 50.8 |
| West..... | 9.0 | 5.2 | 2.8 | 6.4 | 13.6 | 42.2 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table 5. Number of live births and percent distribution by size of place of mother's residence, according to region, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child, region, and size of place | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races ² | | | | | | |
| United States..... | 3,413,839 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Urban places..... | 53.5 | 59.9 | 49.4 | 45.0 | 44.0 | 57.6 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 8.5 | 15.3 | 5.5 | 6.1 | 3.9 | 9.9 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 5.9 | 5.3 | 4.4 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 3.4 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 12.7 | 14.3 | 9.0 | 10.1 | 11.5 | 14.1 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 8.6 | 6.5 | 13.0 | 7.4 | 8.8 | 9.8 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 17.9 | 18.5 | 17.5 | 15.0 | 15.3 | 20.3 |
| Balance of area..... | 46.5 | 40.1 | 50.6 | 55.0 | 56.0 | 42.4 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Northeast..... | 640,449 | 9,390 | 936 | 1,780 | 1,063 | 70 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 57.4 | 80.9 | 48.4 | 31.7 | 38.6 | 34.5 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 19.9 | 56.2 | 25.0 | 4.6 | 6.8 | 10.8 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 2.1 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 2.5 | 3.1 | - |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 9.0 | 9.2 | 3.4 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 4.3 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 8.8 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 5.9 | 6.7 | 10.1 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 17.6 | 9.5 | 15.3 | 10.8 | 13.9 | 9.4 |
| Balance of area..... | 42.6 | 19.1 | 51.6 | 68.3 | 61.4 | 65.5 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| North Central..... | 913,369 | 3,717 | 269 | 3,098 | 1,765 | 90 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 52.9 | 60.4 | 24.7 | 50.2 | 45.0 | 43.9 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 8.2 | 0.7 | 2.0 | 12.2 | 3.1 | 1.1 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 6.4 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 7.6 | 6.6 | 4.4 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 10.5 | 21.3 | 5.2 | 8.6 | 12.1 | 12.2 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 7.9 | 13.3 | 1.5 | 6.4 | 7.4 | 6.7 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 19.9 | 20.9 | 12.5 | 15.3 | 15.8 | 19.4 |
| Balance of area..... | 47.1 | 39.6 | 75.3 | 49.8 | 55.0 | 56.1 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| South..... | 1,154,492 | 17,694 | 7,275 | 3,434 | 2,644 | 288 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 44.9 | 47.8 | 51.2 | 36.1 | 42.2 | 34.4 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 2.7 | 0.0 | 4.1 | 0.9 | 3.3 | 0.3 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 7.2 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 9.5 | 5.2 | 2.1 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 14.7 | 16.6 | 8.9 | 10.1 | 12.1 | 14.6 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 6.1 | 4.9 | 15.5 | 4.0 | 8.2 | 4.2 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 14.2 | 22.6 | 18.7 | 11.6 | 13.4 | 13.2 |
| Balance of area..... | 55.1 | 52.2 | 48.8 | 63.9 | 57.8 | 65.6 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| West..... | 705,530 | 9,589 | 1,591 | 3,510 | 4,128 | 1,329 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 64.9 | 61.6 | 46.4 | 55.7 | 46.0 | 64.8 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 7.7 | 9.2 | 1.2 | 6.3 | 3.9 | 12.6 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 6.6 | 12.8 | 9.2 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 15.5 | 12.6 | 13.4 | 12.5 | 11.8 | 14.7 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 13.5 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 12.3 | 10.2 | 11.3 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 21.6 | 18.7 | 14.1 | 20.1 | 16.5 | 22.5 |
| Balance of area..... | 35.1 | 38.4 | 53.6 | 44.3 | 54.0 | 35.2 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Number of live births and percent distribution by size of place of mother's residence, according to region, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average—Con.

| Race of child, region, and size of place | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| White | | | | | | |
| United States..... | 2,744,768 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Urban places..... | 49.0 | 58.2 | 53.9 | 42.3 | 42.1 | 56.1 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 6.0 | 12.3 | 5.9 | 4.9 | 2.9 | 8.9 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 4.4 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.1 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 10.9 | 13.6 | 9.8 | 8.9 | 10.7 | 12.0 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 8.8 | 7.9 | 15.4 | 8.3 | 9.0 | 10.2 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 18.9 | 19.3 | 18.1 | 16.1 | 15.4 | 21.9 |
| Balance of area..... | 51.0 | 41.8 | 46.1 | 57.7 | 57.9 | 43.9 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Northeast..... | 530,058 | 5,544 | 867 | 1,577 | 932 | 61 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 50.6 | 68.7 | 45.3 | 25.2 | 31.9 | 24.8 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 14.0 | 42.3 | 22.3 | 2.4 | 4.3 | 5.0 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 2.1 | - |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 7.0 | 6.0 | 2.8 | 4.9 | 5.6 | 4.1 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 9.2 | 6.5 | 4.4 | 5.6 | 6.1 | 6.6 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 18.9 | 13.2 | 15.6 | 10.4 | 13.9 | 9.1 |
| Balance of area..... | 49.4 | 31.3 | 54.7 | 74.8 | 68.1 | 75.2 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| North Central..... | 780,595 | 3,132 | 242 | 2,661 | 1,628 | 76 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 46.8 | 59.4 | 18.2 | 43.6 | 42.1 | 40.1 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 4.1 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 7.9 | 1.6 | 1.3 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 4.6 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 2.6 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 9.3 | 21.4 | 4.6 | 6.6 | 11.5 | 8.6 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 7.8 | 12.0 | 1.2 | 6.8 | 7.4 | 5.9 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 21.2 | 22.4 | 8.7 | 16.5 | 15.8 | 21.7 |
| Balance of area..... | 53.2 | 40.6 | 81.8 | 56.4 | 57.9 | 59.9 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| South..... | 838,596 | 9,846 | 5,729 | 1,915 | 2,064 | 163 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 40.1 | 44.2 | 58.7 | 33.2 | 40.9 | 31.4 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 2.5 | 0.1 | 4.9 | 1.0 | 2.4 | 0.3 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 5.0 | 1.8 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 1.5 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 12.5 | 15.3 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 11.7 | 8.9 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 6.1 | 6.0 | 19.4 | 5.7 | 9.1 | 4.9 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 14.0 | 21.0 | 19.8 | 12.5 | 12.8 | 15.7 |
| Balance of area..... | 59.9 | 55.8 | 41.3 | 66.8 | 59.1 | 68.6 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| West..... | 595,520 | 7,182 | 1,469 | 3,093 | 3,773 | 1,156 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 63.1 | 68.7 | 46.2 | 55.7 | 45.3 | 62.2 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 6.6 | 11.0 | 1.0 | 5.9 | 3.4 | 10.8 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 5.8 | 13.4 | 8.6 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 14.4 | 13.8 | 13.7 | 12.5 | 11.1 | 13.1 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 13.7 | 9.9 | 8.5 | 12.5 | 10.4 | 11.5 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 22.6 | 20.5 | 14.4 | 20.8 | 17.0 | 23.4 |
| Balance of area..... | 36.9 | 31.3 | 53.8 | 44.3 | 54.7 | 37.8 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Number of live births and percent distribution by size of place of mother's residence, according to region, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average—Con.

| Race of child, region, and size of place | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| Black | | | | | | |
| United States..... | 564,698 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Urban places..... | 74.1 | 69.3 | 27.1 | 56.5 | 61.3 | 63.9 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 19.8 | 23.8 | 3.5 | 11.1 | 13.3 | 16.4 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 13.1 | 6.1 | 2.0 | 15.9 | 8.7 | 4.8 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 20.4 | 17.5 | 5.0 | 14.9 | 17.5 | 24.8 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 7.6 | 4.4 | 1.5 | 4.0 | 7.6 | 6.9 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 13.2 | 17.5 | 15.0 | 10.6 | 14.2 | 10.9 |
| Balance of area..... | 25.9 | 30.7 | 72.9 | 43.5 | 38.7 | 36.1 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Northeast..... | 99,173 | 3,745 | 55 | 188 | 119 | 9 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 92.0 | 98.9 | 95.5 | 85.3 | 87.4 | *100.0 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 49.7 | 76.4 | 65.5 | 22.7 | 24.4 | *50.0 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 4.7 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 8.5 | 10.1 | *- |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 20.0 | 14.0 | 10.9 | 32.0 | 29.0 | *5.6 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 7.0 | 3.3 | 6.4 | 8.0 | 11.8 | *33.3 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 10.6 | 4.1 | 11.8 | 14.1 | 12.2 | *11.1 |
| Balance of area..... | 8.0 | 1.1 | 4.5 | 14.7 | 12.6 | *- |
| Number | | | | | | |
| North Central..... | 117,315 | 392 | 27 | 397 | 108 | 8 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 92.5 | 86.6 | 81.1 | 92.3 | 87.0 | *80.0 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 35.5 | 2.6 | 13.2 | 40.2 | 24.2 | - |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 19.0 | 13.8 | 9.4 | 20.8 | 20.0 | *26.7 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 18.3 | 25.5 | 7.5 | 21.3 | 18.6 | *20.0 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 8.5 | 30.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 8.4 | *20.0 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 11.3 | 14.6 | 47.2 | 6.2 | 15.8 | *13.3 |
| Balance of area..... | 7.5 | 13.4 | 18.9 | 7.7 | 13.0 | *20.0 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| South..... | 297,659 | 7,500 | 1,513 | 1,487 | 542 | 121 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 58.3 | 52.7 | 22.6 | 39.8 | 46.1 | 38.4 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 3.2 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 6.6 | 0.4 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 13.4 | 6.3 | 1.3 | 16.0 | 6.4 | 2.9 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 20.6 | 18.5 | 4.3 | 10.7 | 13.0 | 22.3 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 6.1 | 3.4 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 4.9 | 3.3 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 14.9 | 24.5 | 14.9 | 10.5 | 15.2 | 9.5 |
| Balance of area..... | 41.7 | 47.3 | 77.4 | 60.2 | 53.9 | 61.6 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| West..... | 50,552 | 640 | 46 | 141 | 121 | 101 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Urban places..... | 89.9 | 80.1 | 63.7 | 93.3 | 80.6 | 90.0 |
| 1,000,000 or more population..... | 22.8 | 8.1 | 4.4 | 22.0 | 22.3 | 33.8 |
| 500,000-1,000,000 population..... | 13.3 | 28.8 | 23.1 | 10.6 | 7.4 | 6.0 |
| 100,000-500,000 population..... | 25.2 | 21.0 | 20.9 | 18.8 | 25.6 | 29.9 |
| 50,000-100,000 population..... | 16.0 | 6.8 | 9.9 | 23.0 | 14.9 | 8.0 |
| 10,000-50,000 population..... | 12.6 | 15.5 | 5.5 | 18.8 | 10.3 | 12.4 |
| Balance of area..... | 10.1 | 19.9 | 36.3 | 6.7 | 19.4 | 10.0 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table 6. Number of live births by place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States and each State, 1978 and 1979

| State and race of child ¹ | 1979 | | | | | | | 1978 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| | In hospital ² | | | | Not in hospital ³ | | | In hospital ² | | | | Not in hospital ³ | | |
| | All live births | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | All live births | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified |
| United States..... | 3,494,398 | 3,393,773 | 44,496 | 22,215 | 11,837 | 10,363 | 11,714 | 3,333,279 | 3,221,677 | 36,282 | 42,700 | 11,806 | 9,778 | 11,036 |
| White..... | 2,808,420 | 2,733,403 | 29,086 | 17,537 | 9,356 | 8,879 | 10,159 | 2,681,116 | 2,598,455 | 22,319 | 33,929 | 9,136 | 7,733 | 9,544 |
| Black..... | 577,855 | 557,183 | 13,001 | 3,061 | 2,099 | 1,356 | 1,155 | 551,540 | 527,861 | 11,549 | 6,781 | 2,325 | 1,924 | 1,100 |
| Alabama..... | 62,603 | 61,369 | 393 | 54 | 252 | 408 | 127 | 60,227 | 58,878 | 327 | 58 | 288 | 575 | 101 |
| White..... | 39,893 | 39,534 | 155 | 12 | 40 | 87 | 65 | 38,753 | 38,408 | 131 | 21 | 34 | 107 | 52 |
| Black..... | 22,418 | 21,549 | 236 | 42 | 211 | 320 | 60 | 21,223 | 20,223 | 195 | 36 | 254 | 467 | 48 |
| Alaska..... | 9,096 | 8,170 | 516 | 139 | 27 | 76 | 168 | 8,861 | 7,895 | 609 | 138 | 33 | 67 | 119 |
| White..... | 6,366 | 5,784 | 308 | 72 | 17 | 57 | 128 | 6,280 | 5,694 | 370 | 70 | 23 | 52 | 71 |
| Black..... | 415 | 361 | 40 | 12 | - | - | 2 | 392 | 346 | 38 | 8 | - | - | - |
| Arizona..... | 46,709 | 42,659 | 2,714 | 892 | 54 | 196 | 194 | 43,112 | 39,617 | 2,132 | 702 | 114 | 241 | 306 |
| White..... | 39,363 | 36,718 | 1,726 | 520 | 40 | 188 | 171 | 36,021 | 33,839 | 1,170 | 402 | 98 | 235 | 277 |
| Black..... | 2,000 | 1,712 | 236 | 48 | - | 4 | - | 1,868 | 1,686 | 128 | 50 | - | - | 4 |
| Arkansas..... | 36,300 | 34,722 | 232 | 1,115 | 50 | 18 | 163 | 34,793 | 33,292 | 183 | 970 | 106 | 81 | 161 |
| White..... | 26,691 | 25,791 | 114 | 594 | 31 | 12 | 149 | 25,682 | 24,826 | 88 | 532 | 82 | 29 | 125 |
| Black..... | 9,272 | 8,616 | 116 | 505 | 19 | 6 | 10 | 8,843 | 8,212 | 93 | 430 | 24 | 52 | 32 |
| California..... | 379,422 | 357,723 | 3,728 | 13,229 | 1,913 | 238 | 2,591 | 356,310 | 331,396 | 2,485 | 17,720 | 1,794 | 184 | 2,731 |
| White..... | 311,808 | 293,360 | 3,145 | 11,073 | 1,735 | 201 | 2,294 | 293,495 | 272,644 | 2,079 | 14,570 | 1,619 | 163 | 2,420 |
| Black..... | 41,535 | 39,635 | 348 | 1,226 | 116 | 19 | 191 | 37,894 | 35,493 | 244 | 1,875 | 104 | 10 | 168 |
| Colorado..... | 47,213 | 46,403 | 292 | 93 | 141 | 9 | 275 | 44,107 | 43,392 | 152 | 64 | 228 | 16 | 255 |
| White..... | 43,578 | 42,844 | 264 | 78 | 124 | 9 | 259 | 40,960 | 40,294 | 135 | 59 | 210 | 15 | 247 |
| Black..... | 2,260 | 2,234 | 5 | 7 | 4 | - | 10 | 2,044 | 2,019 | 7 | 4 | 12 | - | 2 |
| Connecticut..... | 38,724 | 38,297 | 261 | 64 | 41 | 3 | 58 | 37,294 | 36,881 | 147 | 162 | 38 | 14 | 52 |
| White..... | 33,374 | 32,994 | 242 | 54 | 28 | 2 | 54 | 32,157 | 31,787 | 139 | 136 | 32 | 12 | 51 |
| Black..... | 4,902 | 4,862 | 18 | 6 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 4,641 | 4,606 | 4 | 24 | 6 | - | 1 |
| Delaware..... | 8,928 | 8,797 | 14 | 64 | 4 | 36 | 13 | 8,685 | 8,593 | 26 | 28 | 2 | 18 | 18 |
| White..... | 6,739 | 6,635 | 11 | 44 | 2 | 36 | 11 | 6,488 | 6,408 | 24 | 22 | - | 18 | 16 |
| Black..... | 2,129 | 2,102 | 3 | 20 | 2 | - | 2 | 2,138 | 2,126 | 2 | 6 | 2 | - | 2 |
| District of Columbia..... | 9,512 | 9,111 | 300 | 46 | 29 | 20 | 6 | 9,383 | 8,839 | 397 | 94 | 32 | 15 | 6 |
| White..... | 1,447 | 1,386 | 39 | 8 | - | 14 | - | 1,415 | 1,346 | 36 | 20 | 2 | 9 | 2 |
| Black..... | 7,943 | 7,608 | 257 | 38 | 28 | 6 | 6 | 7,848 | 7,383 | 355 | 72 | 30 | 4 | 4 |
| Florida..... | 121,146 | 114,624 | 4,272 | 729 | 406 | 550 | 565 | 113,343 | 108,748 | 2,566 | 780 | 251 | 538 | 460 |
| White..... | 88,023 | 84,154 | 2,355 | 481 | 251 | 332 | 450 | 81,640 | 78,541 | 1,680 | 608 | 160 | 266 | 385 |
| Black..... | 31,827 | 29,245 | 1,875 | 231 | 152 | 217 | 107 | 30,374 | 28,971 | 817 | 161 | 87 | 268 | 70 |
| Georgia..... | 88,018 | 84,665 | 2,610 | 333 | 81 | 151 | 178 | 84,140 | 81,018 | 2,469 | 135 | 116 | 236 | 166 |
| White..... | 55,395 | 53,942 | 1,101 | 197 | 39 | 19 | 97 | 52,717 | 51,466 | 978 | 83 | 55 | 29 | 106 |
| Black..... | 31,824 | 29,943 | 1,499 | 132 | 41 | 132 | 77 | 30,458 | 28,607 | 1,477 | 52 | 61 | 203 | 58 |
| Hawaii..... | 17,546 | 17,243 | 12 | 20 | 95 | 6 | 170 | 16,753 | 16,617 | - | 34 | 20 | 2 | 80 |
| White..... | 4,364 | 4,214 | 6 | 7 | 23 | 4 | 110 | 4,269 | 4,175 | - | 26 | 8 | 2 | 58 |
| Black..... | 527 | 514 | - | - | 4 | - | 9 | 410 | 410 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Idaho..... | 20,023 | 19,543 | 8 | 6 | 106 | 34 | 326 | 19,391 | 18,991 | 9 | 7 | 84 | 8 | 292 |
| White..... | 19,435 | 18,963 | 8 | 5 | 105 | 34 | 320 | 18,853 | 18,465 | 9 | 5 | 82 | 7 | 285 |
| Black..... | 80 | 79 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 81 | 81 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Illinois..... | 184,210 | 182,275 | 353 | 319 | 983 | 12 | 268 | 174,509 | 172,664 | 289 | 327 | 948 | 12 | 269 |
| White..... | 140,359 | 138,800 | 304 | 255 | 775 | 9 | 216 | 133,544 | 132,026 | 268 | 262 | 749 | 7 | 232 |
| Black..... | 40,331 | 39,997 | 37 | 58 | 190 | 3 | 46 | 37,521 | 37,230 | 14 | 60 | 181 | 5 | 31 |

Table 6. Number of live births by place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States and each State, 1978 and 1979—Con.

| State and race of child ¹ | 1979 | | | | | | | 1978 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| | In hospital ² | | | | Not in hospital ³ | | | In hospital ² | | | | Not in hospital ³ | | |
| | All live births | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | All live births | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified |
| Indiana | 87,383 | 86,564 | 191 | 17 | 257 | 33 | 321 | 83,598 | 82,741 | 159 | 66 | 296 | 40 | 296 |
| White | 77,234 | 76,487 | 184 | 17 | 205 | 33 | 308 | 74,088 | 73,298 | 154 | 58 | 252 | 38 | 288 |
| Black | 9,567 | 9,501 | 6 | - | 50 | - | 10 | 8,930 | 8,867 | 4 | 8 | 42 | 2 | 7 |
| Iowa | 46,788 | 46,546 | 13 | 25 | 89 | 15 | 100 | 44,584 | 44,368 | 6 | 23 | 83 | 8 | 96 |
| White | 45,151 | 44,915 | 10 | 25 | 87 | 15 | 99 | 43,105 | 42,900 | 6 | 23 | 78 | 8 | 90 |
| Black | 1,121 | 1,117 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1,023 | 1,015 | - | - | 3 | - | 5 |
| Kansas | 39,006 | 38,758 | 1 | 34 | 92 | 4 | 117 | 36,735 | 36,421 | 1 | 152 | 79 | 2 | 80 |
| White | 34,944 | 34,725 | - | 27 | 83 | 4 | 105 | 33,022 | 32,758 | 1 | 120 | 67 | 2 | 74 |
| Black | 3,225 | 3,207 | 1 | 4 | 7 | - | 6 | 2,958 | 2,922 | - | 20 | 10 | - | 6 |
| Kentucky | 58,907 | 56,307 | 2,214 | 24 | 164 | 68 | 130 | 57,334 | 54,919 | 2,067 | 23 | 114 | 100 | 111 |
| White | 52,967 | 50,810 | 1,826 | 15 | 143 | 62 | 111 | 51,576 | 49,514 | 1,773 | 16 | 91 | 84 | 98 |
| Black | 5,522 | 5,166 | 304 | 9 | 20 | 5 | 18 | 5,336 | 5,072 | 206 | 6 | 23 | 16 | 13 |
| Louisiana | 79,263 | 78,504 | 442 | 34 | 70 | 70 | 143 | 74,928 | 74,071 | 469 | 35 | 147 | 55 | 151 |
| White | 47,820 | 47,315 | 303 | 9 | 40 | 66 | 87 | 45,192 | 44,655 | 327 | 10 | 80 | 44 | 76 |
| Black | 30,590 | 30,345 | 133 | 23 | 30 | 4 | 55 | 28,955 | 28,652 | 130 | 25 | 64 | 11 | 73 |
| Maine | 16,365 | 15,983 | 101 | 14 | 143 | 72 | 52 | 15,847 | 15,517 | 30 | 28 | 178 | 48 | 46 |
| White | 16,056 | 15,678 | 98 | 14 | 142 | 72 | 52 | 15,569 | 15,245 | 30 | 26 | 178 | 45 | 45 |
| Black | 85 | 84 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 91 | 88 | - | 2 | - | - | 1 |
| Maryland | 58,226 | 56,717 | 962 | 111 | 159 | 197 | 80 | 55,329 | 53,817 | 1,002 | 80 | 198 | 156 | 76 |
| White | 39,146 | 38,245 | 493 | 67 | 86 | 188 | 67 | 38,071 | 37,165 | 500 | 57 | 135 | 149 | 65 |
| Black | 17,600 | 17,018 | 460 | 37 | 66 | 7 | 12 | 15,998 | 15,413 | 493 | 19 | 59 | 5 | 9 |
| Massachusetts | 70,656 | 69,974 | 249 | 25 | 164 | 8 | 236 | 68,657 | 68,255 | 58 | 35 | 186 | 5 | 118 |
| White | 64,339 | 63,794 | 152 | 18 | 149 | 8 | 218 | 62,844 | 62,487 | 44 | 32 | 169 | 3 | 109 |
| Black | 5,231 | 5,122 | 75 | 6 | 12 | - | 16 | 4,823 | 4,785 | 11 | 3 | 16 | 1 | 7 |
| Michigan | 144,600 | 143,877 | 50 | 588 | 28 | 7 | 50 | 139,149 | 138,433 | 40 | 513 | 100 | 12 | 51 |
| White | 118,505 | 117,901 | 42 | 487 | 23 | 7 | 45 | 114,232 | 113,611 | 39 | 446 | 88 | 10 | 38 |
| Black | 24,004 | 23,905 | 5 | 87 | 4 | - | 3 | 23,039 | 22,949 | 1 | 62 | 12 | 2 | 13 |
| Minnesota | 65,280 | 63,378 | 1,591 | 17 | 66 | 15 | 213 | 61,993 | 60,511 | 1,153 | 18 | 75 | 6 | 230 |
| White | 62,029 | 60,240 | 1,508 | 11 | 55 | 15 | 200 | 58,980 | 57,591 | 1,084 | 16 | 70 | 6 | 213 |
| Black | 1,454 | 1,397 | 51 | - | 4 | - | 2 | 1,384 | 1,330 | 43 | - | 2 | - | 9 |
| Mississippi | 45,923 | 43,454 | 2,006 | 43 | 189 | 167 | 64 | 44,399 | 41,020 | 2,254 | 574 | 290 | 161 | 100 |
| White | 23,489 | 23,121 | 278 | 11 | 16 | 41 | 22 | 22,653 | 22,063 | 297 | 236 | 18 | 15 | 24 |
| Black | 22,066 | 19,972 | 1,723 | 30 | 173 | 126 | 42 | 21,407 | 18,626 | 1,951 | 336 | 272 | 146 | 76 |
| Missouri | 76,468 | 75,823 | 28 | 20 | 359 | 57 | 181 | 72,892 | 72,253 | 29 | 39 | 359 | 66 | 146 |
| White | 64,030 | 63,453 | 28 | 17 | 317 | 41 | 174 | 60,981 | 60,414 | 25 | 32 | 320 | 49 | 141 |
| Black | 11,694 | 11,633 | - | 3 | 38 | 15 | 5 | 11,181 | 11,115 | 4 | 4 | 37 | 17 | 4 |
| Montana | 14,065 | 13,696 | 103 | 73 | 72 | 21 | 100 | 13,545 | 13,247 | 37 | 77 | 49 | 27 | 108 |
| White | 12,605 | 12,249 | 100 | 67 | 71 | 19 | 99 | 12,104 | 11,824 | 37 | 64 | 48 | 27 | 104 |
| Black | 70 | 69 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 55 | 53 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Nebraska | 26,220 | 26,016 | 116 | 11 | 33 | - | 44 | 25,112 | 25,019 | 8 | 10 | 26 | - | 49 |
| White | 24,421 | 24,247 | 91 | 11 | 29 | - | 43 | 23,438 | 23,356 | 3 | 10 | 24 | - | 45 |
| Black | 1,206 | 1,188 | 14 | - | 3 | - | 1 | 1,140 | 1,136 | - | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| Nevada | 12,365 | 11,756 | 178 | 292 | 9 | 3 | 127 | 10,990 | 10,528 | 264 | 68 | 16 | - | 114 |
| White | 10,493 | 9,986 | 137 | 246 | 8 | 2 | 114 | 9,243 | 8,863 | 206 | 56 | 11 | - | 107 |
| Black | 1,229 | 1,155 | 33 | 32 | 1 | - | 8 | 1,193 | 1,134 | 42 | 10 | 3 | - | 4 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|---------|---------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-----|
| New Hampshire | 12,845 | 12,353 | 309 | 15 | 16 | 101 | 51 | 12,429 | 12,107 | 189 | 5 | 25 | 55 | 48 |
| White | 12,647 | 12,163 | 305 | 14 | 16 | 100 | 49 | 12,239 | 11,919 | 188 | 5 | 24 | 55 | 48 |
| Black | 91 | 86 | 3 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 85 | 83 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| New Jersey | 96,501 | 94,459 | 1,396 | 55 | 212 | 218 | 161 | 93,535 | 91,284 | 1,071 | 722 | 160 | 163 | 135 |
| White | 74,951 | 73,807 | 647 | 33 | 148 | 208 | 108 | 72,617 | 71,271 | 470 | 532 | 110 | 145 | 89 |
| Black | 19,642 | 18,754 | 745 | 20 | 61 | 9 | 53 | 19,236 | 18,373 | 595 | 166 | 46 | 10 | 46 |
| New Mexico | 25,558 | 23,444 | 1,085 | 520 | 357 | 72 | 80 | 23,932 | 22,175 | 1,004 | 165 | 340 | 132 | 116 |
| White | 21,362 | 19,908 | 646 | 429 | 255 | 59 | 65 | 19,569 | 18,591 | 463 | 117 | 214 | 96 | 88 |
| Black | 711 | 670 | 22 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 860 | 743 | 67 | 6 | 14 | 20 | 10 |
| New York | 235,944 | 228,652 | 5,459 | 619 | 419 | 370 | 425 | 233,954 | 227,498 | 4,934 | 489 | 425 | 296 | 312 |
| White | 180,794 | 176,419 | 2,806 | 530 | 347 | 319 | 373 | 179,877 | 176,143 | 2,444 | 400 | 365 | 260 | 265 |
| Black | 48,622 | 45,829 | 2,563 | 76 | 64 | 45 | 45 | 48,876 | 46,218 | 2,446 | 84 | 58 | 31 | 39 |
| North Carolina | 83,849 | 82,779 | 467 | 22 | 381 | 57 | 143 | 82,442 | 81,721 | 25 | 8 | 485 | 88 | 115 |
| White | 56,545 | 56,002 | 234 | 9 | 169 | 12 | 119 | 55,552 | 55,224 | 12 | 3 | 211 | 8 | 94 |
| Black | 25,139 | 24,680 | 170 | 13 | 211 | 44 | 21 | 24,785 | 24,401 | 13 | 5 | 270 | 76 | 20 |
| North Dakota | 11,792 | 11,067 | 283 | 412 | 2 | - | 28 | 11,299 | 10,479 | 212 | 566 | 18 | - | 24 |
| White | 10,877 | 10,238 | 249 | 362 | 2 | - | 26 | 10,424 | 9,680 | 190 | 514 | 18 | - | 22 |
| Black | 108 | 48 | 26 | 32 | - | - | 2 | 84 | 48 | 16 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Ohio | 167,010 | 164,742 | 912 | 28 | 853 | 82 | 393 | 160,863 | 158,684 | 936 | 46 | 819 | 49 | 329 |
| White | 142,158 | 140,317 | 625 | 21 | 761 | 78 | 356 | 137,024 | 135,240 | 688 | 32 | 728 | 48 | 288 |
| Black | 23,355 | 22,945 | 278 | 7 | 89 | 4 | 32 | 22,420 | 22,038 | 244 | 12 | 86 | 1 | 39 |
| Oklahoma | 49,052 | 48,630 | 68 | 31 | 78 | 152 | 93 | 45,905 | 45,596 | 9 | 19 | 51 | 135 | 95 |
| White | 39,179 | 38,818 | 59 | 25 | 62 | 138 | 77 | 36,757 | 36,497 | 7 | 19 | 33 | 126 | 75 |
| Black | 5,037 | 5,014 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 1 | 4,643 | 4,624 | 1 | - | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| Oregon | 41,688 | 38,900 | 1,054 | 115 | 298 | 552 | 769 | 38,974 | 36,535 | 1,086 | 190 | 272 | 306 | 585 |
| White | 39,116 | 36,455 | 1,008 | 107 | 289 | 525 | 732 | 36,652 | 34,304 | 1,045 | 183 | 260 | 296 | 564 |
| Black | 976 | 941 | 11 | 1 | - | 9 | 14 | 946 | 917 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Pennsylvania | 157,865 | 153,712 | 2,224 | 383 | 1,010 | 315 | 221 | 152,248 | 133,854 | 2,117 | 15,563 | 467 | 82 | 165 |
| White | 135,801 | 132,346 | 1,715 | 284 | 953 | 309 | 194 | 130,892 | 116,223 | 1,576 | 12,443 | 425 | 78 | 147 |
| Black | 20,463 | 19,794 | 491 | 94 | 53 | 5 | 26 | 20,006 | 16,423 | 535 | 2,988 | 38 | 4 | 18 |
| Rhode Island | 11,880 | 11,734 | 73 | 2 | 24 | 15 | 32 | 11,522 | 11,466 | 4 | 3 | 20 | 13 | 16 |
| White | 10,878 | 10,743 | 71 | 1 | 19 | 13 | 31 | 10,560 | 10,509 | 4 | 3 | 17 | 11 | 16 |
| Black | 770 | 761 | - | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 738 | 735 | - | - | 2 | 1 | - |
| South Carolina | 50,645 | 48,866 | 1,184 | 182 | 157 | 65 | 191 | 49,671 | 47,632 | 1,231 | 320 | 129 | 162 | 197 |
| White | 29,887 | 29,147 | 510 | 81 | 66 | 7 | 76 | 29,125 | 28,443 | 359 | 181 | 43 | 11 | 88 |
| Black | 20,359 | 19,343 | 654 | 98 | 91 | 58 | 115 | 20,135 | 18,807 | 856 | 129 | 86 | 150 | 107 |
| South Dakota | 13,036 | 12,668 | 256 | 55 | 15 | 14 | 28 | 12,239 | 11,807 | 326 | 62 | 8 | 2 | 34 |
| White | 11,254 | 11,014 | 146 | 45 | 11 | 14 | 24 | 10,631 | 10,381 | 158 | 52 | 8 | 2 | 30 |
| Black | 66 | 56 | 10 | - | - | - | - | 60 | 52 | 8 | - | - | - | - |
| Tennessee | 68,452 | 66,588 | 1,072 | 29 | 371 | 267 | 125 | 66,607 | 64,717 | 1,043 | 19 | 414 | 289 | 125 |
| White | 52,416 | 51,010 | 827 | 24 | 209 | 230 | 116 | 51,291 | 49,955 | 773 | 13 | 197 | 240 | 113 |
| Black | 15,587 | 15,159 | 221 | 5 | 161 | 33 | 8 | 14,892 | 14,381 | 233 | 5 | 216 | 47 | 10 |
| Texas | 254,508 | 245,287 | 2,469 | 819 | 479 | 4,695 | 759 | 236,952 | 228,993 | 1,297 | 749 | 465 | 4,587 | 861 |
| White | 214,236 | 205,783 | 2,247 | 682 | 407 | 4,473 | 644 | 199,207 | 192,046 | 1,080 | 675 | 384 | 4,290 | 732 |
| Black | 37,062 | 36,386 | 166 | 123 | 68 | 209 | 110 | 35,019 | 34,308 | 153 | 66 | 77 | 288 | 127 |
| Utah | 41,098 | 40,114 | 478 | 35 | 66 | 159 | 246 | 38,808 | 37,925 | 370 | 136 | 65 | 47 | 265 |
| White | 39,644 | 38,754 | 408 | 29 | 59 | 155 | 239 | 37,489 | 36,702 | 298 | 123 | 62 | 46 | 258 |
| Black | 230 | 211 | 17 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 217 | 202 | 11 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 |
| Vermont | 7,512 | 7,225 | 101 | 45 | 18 | 54 | 69 | 7,120 | 6,933 | 57 | 8 | 14 | 40 | 68 |
| White | 7,459 | 7,174 | 100 | 45 | 18 | 54 | 68 | 7,061 | 6,874 | 57 | 8 | 14 | 40 | 68 |
| Black | 18 | 17 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 25 | 25 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Virginia | 76,959 | 75,836 | 495 | 95 | 223 | 213 | 97 | 73,443 | 72,449 | 422 | 60 | 228 | 201 | 83 |
| White | 56,218 | 55,377 | 372 | 71 | 149 | 166 | 83 | 54,485 | 53,748 | 332 | 52 | 144 | 132 | 77 |
| Black | 19,070 | 18,829 | 99 | 17 | 68 | 45 | 12 | 17,473 | 17,235 | 76 | 5 | 83 | 68 | 6 |
| Washington | 64,325 | 62,769 | 359 | 81 | 271 | 411 | 434 | 58,726 | 57,150 | 177 | 82 | 576 | 375 | 366 |
| White | 57,707 | 56,236 | 333 | 76 | 263 | 387 | 412 | 52,810 | 51,332 | 161 | 74 | 543 | 358 | 342 |
| Black | 2,552 | 2,527 | 6 | - | 2 | 13 | 4 | 2,364 | 2,337 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 5 |

Table 6. Number of live births by place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States and each State, 1978 and 1979—Con.

| State and race of child ¹ | 1979 | | | | | | | 1978 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| | All live births | In hospital ² | | | Not in hospital ³ | | | All live births | In hospital ² | | | Not in hospital ³ | | |
| | | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified | Physician | Midwife | Other and unspecified |
| West Virginia | 29,831 | 29,226 | 291 | 36 | 191 | 8 | 79 | 29,280 | 28,780 | 110 | 31 | 268 | 10 | 81 |
| White | 28,554 | 27,981 | 268 | 34 | 188 | 8 | 75 | 27,942 | 27,460 | 102 | 31 | 263 | 10 | 76 |
| Black | 1,139 | 1,107 | 23 | 2 | 3 | - | 4 | 1,206 | 1,188 | 8 | - | 5 | - | 5 |
| Wisconsin | 73,302 | 72,328 | 315 | 127 | 313 | 49 | 170 | 68,669 | 67,946 | 165 | 17 | 295 | 53 | 193 |
| White | 67,363 | 66,436 | 301 | 121 | 294 | 47 | 164 | 63,396 | 62,707 | 159 | 15 | 278 | 50 | 187 |
| Black | 4,623 | 4,587 | 13 | 3 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 4,135 | 4,106 | 6 | 1 | 16 | 3 | 3 |
| Wyoming | 9,781 | 9,440 | 196 | 78 | 7 | - | 60 | 8,661 | 8,005 | 129 | 480 | 12 | - | 35 |
| White | 9,310 | 8,990 | 181 | 72 | 7 | - | 60 | 8,144 | 7,543 | 120 | 436 | 12 | - | 33 |
| Black | 108 | 103 | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | 87 | 67 | 4 | 16 | - | - | - |

¹Total for each area includes races other than white and black.

²Includes births occurring enroute to or on arrival at hospital.

³Includes births with place of delivery not stated.

Table 7. Number of live births and percent distribution by age of mother, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and age of mother | All live births ¹ | In hospital | | Not in hospital | | | Not stated |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | Physician | Midwife | Midwife | Physician | Other | |
| All races² | | | | | | | |
| Total | 3,413,839 | 3,307,008 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | |
| All ages | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 15 years | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| 15-19 years..... | 16.0 | 16.0 | 23.1 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 8.8 | 9.7 |
| 20-24 years..... | 34.1 | 34.1 | 37.3 | 33.7 | 32.5 | 31.5 | 31.6 |
| 25-29 years..... | 30.5 | 30.6 | 25.0 | 29.7 | 31.4 | 35.7 | 33.8 |
| 30-34 years..... | 14.5 | 14.6 | 10.9 | 16.0 | 16.3 | 16.8 | 17.6 |
| 35-39 years..... | 3.8 | 3.8 | 2.7 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 5.5 | 5.4 |
| 40-49 years..... | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.6 |
| White | | | | | | | |
| Total | 2,744,768 | 2,665,499 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | |
| All ages | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 15 years | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| 15-19 years..... | 13.9 | 13.9 | 19.4 | 11.0 | 9.5 | 7.0 | 8.2 |
| 20-24 years..... | 34.0 | 34.0 | 37.6 | 33.1 | 31.9 | 31.3 | 30.8 |
| 25-29 years..... | 32.1 | 32.2 | 27.4 | 31.7 | 34.1 | 37.3 | 36.0 |
| 30-34 years..... | 15.2 | 15.3 | 12.2 | 16.9 | 17.9 | 17.5 | 17.9 |
| 35-39 years..... | 3.8 | 3.8 | 2.7 | 5.5 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 5.4 |
| 40-49 years..... | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.6 |
| Black | | | | | | | |
| Total | 564,698 | 542,267 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | | |
| All ages | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 15 years | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 2.9 | 1.5 |
| 15-19 years..... | 26.9 | 26.8 | 31.8 | 25.1 | 28.5 | 24.9 | 18.5 |
| 20-24 years..... | 35.7 | 35.6 | 37.4 | 36.8 | 34.7 | 32.7 | 38.4 |
| 25-29 years..... | 22.3 | 22.4 | 19.1 | 19.8 | 20.4 | 22.3 | 20.0 |
| 30-34 years..... | 10.0 | 10.0 | 7.6 | 10.9 | 9.3 | 10.5 | 14.7 |
| 35-39 years..... | 3.3 | 3.3 | 2.3 | 5.5 | 4.1 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| 40-49 years..... | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table 8. Number of live births and percent distribution by live-birth order, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and live-birth order | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races ² | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 3,413,839 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All live-birth orders | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First child | 42.5 | 41.9 | 26.4 | 31.6 | 27.3 | 28.5 |
| Second child | 32.2 | 31.2 | 27.7 | 30.7 | 30.2 | 29.4 |
| Third child | 15.1 | 14.9 | 18.0 | 17.6 | 18.7 | 19.1 |
| Fourth child or more | 10.2 | 12.0 | 27.9 | 20.2 | 23.8 | 23.0 |
| White | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 2,744,768 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All live-birth orders | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First child | 43.1 | 43.3 | 27.2 | 31.5 | 27.5 | 28.2 |
| Second child | 32.8 | 32.5 | 28.3 | 31.7 | 30.6 | 30.7 |
| Third child | 14.9 | 14.4 | 17.9 | 17.5 | 18.7 | 19.1 |
| Fourth child or more | 9.2 | 9.8 | 26.6 | 19.3 | 23.3 | 22.0 |
| Black | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 564,698 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All live-birth orders | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First child | 39.8 | 40.5 | 21.7 | 31.7 | 26.2 | 28.0 |
| Second child | 29.3 | 28.9 | 24.7 | 26.5 | 27.2 | 24.2 |
| Third child | 16.2 | 15.5 | 18.3 | 17.8 | 18.5 | 19.2 |
| Fourth child or more | 14.7 | 15.1 | 35.3 | 24.1 | 28.0 | 28.6 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with birth order not stated, which are excluded from the computation of the percent distributions.

Table 9. Number of live births, percent distribution by educational attainment of mother, and median years of school completed, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and years of school completed by mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 2,892,127 | 35,330 | 4,816 | 9,621 | 7,643 | 1,129 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All years of school completed | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 0-8 years | 5.1 | 8.5 | 13.6 | 11.9 | 7.3 | 14.5 |
| 9-11 years | 20.2 | 28.7 | 21.5 | 22.0 | 15.2 | 19.3 |
| 12 years | 43.9 | 38.6 | 30.7 | 34.7 | 36.0 | 32.1 |
| 13-15 years | 17.5 | 14.3 | 18.3 | 18.0 | 25.9 | 22.2 |
| 16 years or more | 13.4 | 10.0 | 15.9 | 13.4 | 15.6 | 11.9 |
| | | | Median | | | |
| Years of school completed | 12.6 | 12.3 | 12.5 | 12.5 | 12.8 | 12.5 |
| White | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 2,306,419 | 21,665 | 3,374 | 7,346 | 6,679 | 884 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All years of school completed | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 0-8 years | 4.9 | 8.7 | 12.5 | 12.4 | 6.5 | 14.1 |
| 9-11 years | 17.5 | 24.0 | 12.9 | 17.5 | 13.1 | 14.9 |
| 12 years | 44.7 | 37.9 | 30.2 | 33.7 | 36.4 | 33.0 |
| 13-15 years | 18.1 | 15.7 | 23.4 | 20.2 | 27.3 | 24.1 |
| 16 years or more | 14.8 | 13.7 | 21.0 | 16.1 | 16.7 | 14.0 |
| | | | Median | | | |
| Years of school completed | 12.6 | 12.5 | 12.8 | 12.6 | 12.8 | 12.6 |
| Black | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 504,646 | 11,892 | 1,361 | 2,065 | 716 | 188 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| All years of school completed | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 0-8 years | 5.2 | 7.4 | 16.2 | 10.1 | 12.6 | 16.4 |
| 9-11 years | 32.9 | 37.2 | 42.6 | 38.1 | 34.0 | 37.8 |
| 12 years | 41.8 | 40.1 | 32.3 | 37.9 | 32.5 | 29.4 |
| 13-15 years | 14.3 | 11.8 | 5.7 | 10.4 | 13.8 | 13.5 |
| 16 years or more | 5.8 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 7.1 | 2.9 |
| | | | Median | | | |
| Years of school completed | 12.3 | 12.1 | 11.4 | 12.0 | 12.1 | 11.7 |

¹Includes all births to residents of the areas reporting educational attainment of mother, regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, table 1, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with years of schooling not stated, which are excluded from the computation of percent distributions and medians.

Table 10. Percent of live births to unmarried women by age of mother, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and age of mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races ² | | | | | | |
| All ages | 16.8 | 27.2 | 15.6 | 21.5 | 15.1 | 25.5 |
| Under 15 years | 88.0 | 92.2 | *88.2 | 96.0 | 98.0 | *100.0 |
| 15-19 years | 45.1 | 54.1 | 44.6 | 56.3 | 49.0 | 57.4 |
| 20-24 years | 16.9 | 24.1 | 15.0 | 23.1 | 15.9 | 27.8 |
| 25-29 years | 7.0 | 12.1 | 10.0 | 10.5 | 9.7 | 11.4 |
| 30-34 years | 5.7 | 10.9 | 8.8 | 8.9 | 9.2 | 15.0 |
| 35-39 years | 7.6 | 15.1 | 11.7 | 12.4 | 9.2 | *27.1 |
| 40-49 years | 10.1 | 11.7 | *9.0 | 13.5 | *9.1 | *13.3 |
| White | | | | | | |
| All ages | 8.8 | 13.4 | 8.1 | 10.9 | 10.8 | 12.4 |
| Under 15 years | 72.2 | 75.9 | *75.0 | 87.0 | 95.5 | - |
| 15-19 years | 28.6 | 30.7 | 18.4 | 36.3 | 33.9 | 30.5 |
| 20-24 years | 8.7 | 11.9 | 8.4 | 11.8 | 11.3 | 14.2 |
| 25-29 years | 3.4 | 6.3 | 7.0 | 6.0 | 7.9 | 5.3 |
| 30-34 years | 2.9 | 5.6 | 6.3 | 5.1 | 8.2 | 11.3 |
| 35-39 years | 4.2 | 10.7 | 5.9 | 6.9 | 7.1 | 19.0 |
| 40-49 years | 5.9 | 8.3 | 1.6 | 6.6 | 7.0 | - |
| Black | | | | | | |
| All ages | 54.7 | 57.7 | 35.3 | 55.4 | 55.4 | 58.1 |
| Under 15 years | 98.1 | 96.7 | 91.7 | 100.0 | 100.0 | *100.0 |
| 15-19 years | 84.1 | 83.4 | 64.9 | 78.1 | 83.1 | 86.4 |
| 20-24 years | 53.7 | 50.6 | 29.9 | 54.6 | 59.1 | 59.8 |
| 25-29 years | 32.9 | 31.7 | 23.3 | 35.9 | 37.1 | 38.5 |
| 30-34 years | 26.7 | 29.5 | 19.0 | 33.3 | 24.1 | 24.1 |
| 35-39 years | 26.5 | 27.5 | 24.1 | 34.0 | 25.9 | *40.0 |
| 40-49 years | 26.9 | 18.4 | 22.2 | 32.1 | *29.4 | *40.0 |

¹Includes all births to residents of the areas reporting marital status, regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, table I, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table 11. Number of live births, percent distribution by trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, and median number of prenatal visits, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978–79 average

| Race of child, trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, and number of prenatal visits | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 3,389,094 | 39,345 | 9,969 | 11,473 | 9,526 | 1,752 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First trimester..... | 75.4 | 57.1 | 50.6 | 55.4 | 52.5 | 55.8 |
| Second trimester..... | 19.3 | 31.8 | 28.6 | 29.0 | 21.9 | 21.6 |
| Third trimester..... | 3.9 | 8.3 | 10.6 | 9.1 | 6.3 | 6.4 |
| No prenatal care..... | 1.3 | 2.8 | 10.3 | 6.5 | 19.3 | 16.2 |
| | | | Median | | | |
| Number of prenatal visits ⁴ | 11.0 | 10.4 | 9.0 | 8.9 | 8.1 | 8.3 |
| White | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 2,724,303 | 25,148 | 8,229 | 9,012 | 8,337 | 1,438 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First trimester..... | 78.6 | 61.8 | 51.9 | 60.0 | 54.2 | 58.6 |
| Second trimester..... | 17.0 | 28.7 | 26.5 | 26.3 | 21.2 | 20.2 |
| Third trimester..... | 3.3 | 7.6 | 10.6 | 8.2 | 5.9 | 6.0 |
| No prenatal care..... | 1.1 | 1.9 | 11.0 | 5.4 | 18.8 | 15.2 |
| | | | Median | | | |
| Number of prenatal visits ⁴ | 11.3 | 11.0 | 10.1 | 9.3 | 9.3 | 8.7 |
| Black | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 563,912 | 12,231 | 1,629 | 2,201 | 885 | 237 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| Total..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First trimester..... | 60.9 | 47.8 | 42.9 | 36.6 | 38.4 | 40.4 |
| Second trimester..... | 30.0 | 38.3 | 40.1 | 39.9 | 28.0 | 28.2 |
| Third trimester..... | 6.4 | 9.4 | 10.3 | 12.6 | 8.8 | 10.3 |
| No prenatal care..... | 2.8 | 4.5 | 6.7 | 10.9 | 24.8 | 21.1 |
| | | | Median | | | |
| Number of prenatal visits ⁴ | 9.7 | 9.4 | 6.3 | 6.8 | 6.9 | 6.3 |

¹For trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, includes all births to residents of the areas reporting month of pregnancy prenatal care began, regardless of attendant or place of delivery; for median number of visits, includes all births to residents of the areas reporting number of prenatal visits. See appendix, table I, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with month prenatal care began not stated, which have been excluded from the computation of the percent distributions.

⁴Excludes births to mothers with no prenatal care.

Table 12. Number of live births for mothers at demographic risk and percent distribution by trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races ² | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 514,100 | 7,629 | 2,892 | 2,489 | 2,160 | 400 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First trimester | 63.1 | 46.0 | 39.2 | 41.3 | 39.3 | 42.6 |
| Second trimester | 26.7 | 36.8 | 31.8 | 34.3 | 23.8 | 24.3 |
| Third trimester | 7.2 | 12.3 | 14.1 | 14.7 | 8.9 | 7.8 |
| No care | 3.0 | 4.9 | 14.9 | 9.7 | 28.0 | 25.2 |
| White | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 361,740 | 4,026 | 2,199 | 1,738 | 1,758 | 300 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First trimester | 67.7 | 50.1 | 39.8 | 43.0 | 41.0 | 45.6 |
| Second trimester | 23.5 | 34.3 | 28.6 | 33.6 | 22.0 | 23.6 |
| Third trimester | 6.3 | 12.1 | 14.9 | 15.4 | 8.7 | 7.3 |
| No care | 2.5 | 3.5 | 16.7 | 8.0 | 28.3 | 23.3 |
| Black | | | Number | | | |
| Total ³ | 134,478 | 3,187 | 676 | 697 | 336 | 82 |
| | | | Percent distribution | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| First trimester | 51.1 | 40.4 | 37.3 | 36.4 | 30.7 | 30.2 |
| Second trimester | 35.3 | 40.7 | 42.4 | 36.5 | 32.8 | 28.9 |
| Third trimester | 9.2 | 12.1 | 11.6 | 13.4 | 10.2 | 11.4 |
| No care | 4.4 | 6.8 | 8.8 | 13.7 | 26.4 | 29.5 |

¹Based on a 20-percent sample of all births in the areas reporting month of pregnancy prenatal care began, regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, table I, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with month prenatal care began not stated, which have been excluded from the computation of the percent distributions.

NOTE: Mothers at demographic risk are those who are: very young, in the oldest years of childbearing, or who had a high or low birth-order child relative to their age. See appendix for further details.

Table 13. Number of live births and percent distribution by birth weight, according to place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and birth weight | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| Total ³ | 3,413,839 | 40,389 | 10,071 | 11,822 | 9,600 | 1,776 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Less than 1,000 grams | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| 1,000-1,499 grams | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| 1,500-1,999 grams | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 2.0 |
| 2,000-2,499 grams | 4.5 | 3.9 | 2.9 | 4.8 | 4.1 | 5.1 |
| 2,500-2,999 grams | 16.8 | 18.8 | 13.0 | 16.0 | 14.1 | 15.2 |
| 3,000-3,499 grams | 37.2 | 41.1 | 32.7 | 34.3 | 32.6 | 32.3 |
| 3,500-3,999 grams | 28.6 | 27.5 | 32.8 | 28.9 | 30.7 | 29.6 |
| 4,000-4,499 grams | 8.6 | 7.3 | 13.4 | 9.8 | 11.9 | 10.6 |
| 4,500 grams or more | 1.8 | 1.3 | 4.4 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 3.4 |
| Less than 2,500 grams | 7.0 | 4.9 | 3.8 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 8.9 |
| White | | | | | | |
| Total ³ | 2,744,768 | 25,703 | 8,306 | 9,246 | 8,397 | 1,455 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Less than 1,000 grams | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.8 |
| 1,000-1,499 grams | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| 1,500-1,999 grams | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| 2,000-2,499 grams | 3.8 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 4.0 |
| 2,500-2,999 grams | 15.0 | 15.8 | 11.9 | 13.5 | 12.6 | 12.8 |
| 3,000-3,499 grams | 36.9 | 38.9 | 32.9 | 34.1 | 32.8 | 32.9 |
| 3,500-3,999 grams | 30.6 | 31.1 | 33.8 | 31.6 | 32.5 | 31.7 |
| 4,000-4,499 grams | 9.6 | 8.9 | 13.9 | 11.3 | 12.7 | 12.2 |
| 4,500 grams or more | 2.0 | 1.7 | 4.4 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.8 |
| Less than 2,500 grams | 5.9 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.6 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| Total ³ | 564,698 | 12,275 | 1,640 | 2,212 | 890 | 238 |
| Number | | | | | | |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent distribution | | | | | | |
| Less than 1,000 grams | 1.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 2.0 | 2.8 | 1.5 |
| 1,000-1,499 grams | 1.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 3.0 | 2.9 |
| 1,500-1,999 grams | 2.5 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 3.3 | 4.5 | 6.9 |
| 2,000-2,499 grams | 7.8 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 9.3 | 10.6 | 11.5 |
| 2,500-2,999 grams | 24.7 | 25.3 | 18.5 | 25.6 | 26.3 | 26.8 |
| 3,000-3,499 grams | 38.3 | 42.1 | 31.5 | 34.8 | 30.7 | 28.5 |
| 3,500-3,999 grams | 19.4 | 20.0 | 27.6 | 18.3 | 15.5 | 15.5 |
| 4,000-4,499 grams | 4.1 | 4.0 | 10.6 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 4.2 |
| 4,500 grams or more | 0.8 | 0.6 | 4.6 | 0.8 | 1.6 | 2.2 |
| Less than 2,500 grams | 12.7 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 16.3 | 21.0 | 22.8 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with birth weight not stated, which are excluded from the computation of the percent distributions.

Table 14. Percent of infants of low birth weight by age of mother, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and age of mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| All ages | 7.0 | 4.9 | 3.8 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 8.9 |
| Under 15 years | 14.4 | 10.7 | 13.3 | 27.9 | 39.0 | *10.0 |
| 15-19 years | 9.8 | 7.2 | 6.2 | 16.4 | 18.0 | 16.9 |
| 20-24 years | 7.0 | 4.8 | 3.8 | 8.5 | 7.1 | 9.7 |
| 25-29 years | 5.9 | 3.7 | 2.8 | 6.0 | 5.0 | 6.4 |
| 30-34 years | 6.0 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 8.7 |
| 35-49 years | 7.6 | 4.6 | 4.2 | 9.1 | 8.0 | 7.8 |
| White | | | | | | |
| All ages | 5.9 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.6 |
| Under 15 years | 11.4 | 2.7 | 18.5 | 24.4 | 41.2 | - |
| 15-19 years | 8.0 | 5.6 | 5.1 | 14.4 | 14.6 | 12.3 |
| 20-24 years | 5.8 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 7.2 |
| 25-29 years | 5.1 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.7 |
| 30-34 years | 5.2 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 7.2 |
| 35-49 years | 6.7 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 8.0 | 7.1 | 6.4 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| All ages | 12.7 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 16.3 | 21.0 | 22.8 |
| Under 15 years | 16.8 | 13.7 | *5.9 | 31.7 | 37.5 | *14.3 |
| 15-19 years | 14.4 | 9.6 | 8.9 | 18.8 | 27.8 | 27.4 |
| 20-24 years | 12.6 | 7.8 | 7.1 | 15.2 | 20.7 | 23.0 |
| 25-29 years | 11.3 | 6.7 | 6.9 | 15.1 | 14.8 | 23.6 |
| 30-34 years | 11.3 | 5.1 | 5.6 | 13.9 | 18.9 | 17.9 |
| 35-49 years | 12.5 | 8.8 | 4.9 | 14.9 | 17.1 | 19.4 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table 15. Percent of infants of low birth weight by live-birth order, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: United States, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and live-birth order | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| All orders ³ | 7.0 | 4.9 | 3.8 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 8.9 |
| First child | 7.3 | 5.6 | 4.3 | 10.8 | 10.4 | 10.9 |
| Second child | 6.4 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 6.9 | 6.1 | 7.0 |
| Third child | 6.8 | 4.5 | 3.6 | 7.7 | 5.4 | 8.0 |
| Fourth child and over | 8.1 | 5.0 | 4.1 | 7.8 | 6.7 | 9.8 |
| White | | | | | | |
| All orders ³ | 5.9 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.6 |
| First child | 6.3 | 4.3 | 3.4 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 8.6 |
| Second child | 5.3 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Third child | 5.6 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 5.6 | 4.1 | 4.9 |
| Fourth child and over | 6.4 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 7.7 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| All orders ³ | 12.7 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 16.3 | 21.0 | 22.8 |
| First child | 12.7 | 8.9 | 9.5 | 18.7 | 28.8 | 24.4 |
| Second child | 12.3 | 7.4 | 4.7 | 15.1 | 17.8 | 21.7 |
| Third child | 12.6 | 7.6 | 9.5 | 14.9 | 17.0 | 28.0 |
| Fourth child and over | 13.5 | 8.1 | 6.7 | 15.5 | 19.1 | 18.3 |

¹Includes all resident births, regardless of attendant or place of delivery.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with birth order not stated.

Table 16. Percent of infants of low birth weight by educational attainment of mother, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and years of school completed by mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| All years of school completed ³ | 7.1 | 5.2 | 3.7 | 9.1 | 7.1 | 9.3 |
| 0-8 years..... | 9.0 | 5.9 | 5.4 | 9.1 | 12.1 | 10.3 |
| 9-11 years..... | 10.1 | 7.1 | 5.6 | 14.1 | 13.2 | 17.6 |
| 12 years..... | 6.7 | 4.9 | 3.7 | 9.5 | 6.7 | 10.3 |
| 13-15 years..... | 5.7 | 3.7 | 1.7 | 5.4 | 4.4 | 5.0 |
| 16 years or more..... | 4.7 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 3.0 |
| White | | | | | | |
| All years of school completed ³ | 5.9 | 3.7 | 2.6 | 6.9 | 5.6 | 5.8 |
| 0-8 years..... | 7.8 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 7.1 | 8.2 | 6.4 |
| 9-11 years..... | 8.3 | 5.6 | 4.8 | 11.1 | 9.6 | 12.2 |
| 12 years..... | 5.6 | 3.4 | 2.0 | 8.0 | 5.7 | 5.9 |
| 13-15 years..... | 4.8 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 4.4 | 3.7 | 3.2 |
| 16 years or more..... | 4.3 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 3.2 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| All years of school completed ³ | 12.8 | 8.1 | 6.4 | 16.4 | 20.6 | 24.4 |
| 0-8 years..... | 14.7 | 9.3 | 6.3 | 17.1 | 28.7 | 22.2 |
| 9-11 years..... | 14.8 | 9.3 | 6.2 | 18.9 | 25.5 | 27.0 |
| 12 years..... | 12.0 | 7.6 | 7.4 | 13.9 | 18.0 | 28.0 |
| 13-15 years..... | 10.7 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 12.6 | 16.2 | 21.3 |
| 16 years or more..... | 8.9 | 5.0 | 3.6 | 9.2 | 6.3 | - |

¹Includes all births to mothers residing in areas reporting educational attainment of mother, regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, table I, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births with educational attainment of mother not stated.

Table 17. Percent of infants of low birth weight by marital status of mother, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and marital status of mother | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 7.0 | 4.8 | 3.5 | 9.3 | 7.0 | 11.6 |
| Married..... | 5.9 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 6.9 |
| Unmarried..... | 12.2 | 8.0 | 6.0 | 20.1 | 17.1 | 25.2 |
| White | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 5.8 | 3.4 | 2.3 | 7.1 | 5.6 | 7.0 |
| Married..... | 5.5 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 5.6 | 4.7 | 5.7 |
| Unmarried..... | 9.5 | 5.6 | 3.7 | 19.7 | 12.6 | 16.9 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 12.7 | 8.4 | 6.6 | 15.6 | 21.1 | 23.2 |
| Married..... | 10.5 | 6.4 | 6.1 | 9.9 | 15.2 | 14.1 |
| Unmarried..... | 14.5 | 9.7 | 7.5 | 20.2 | 25.8 | 29.4 |

¹Includes all births to residents of areas reporting marital status of mother, regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, table I, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

Table 18. Percent of infants of low birth weight by trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began | All live births ¹ | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | Not stated |
| All races² | | | | | | |
| Total ³ | 7.0 | 4.9 | 3.7 | 8.4 | 7.3 | 8.9 |
| First trimester | 6.3 | 4.1 | 2.9 | 6.8 | 5.8 | 7.5 |
| Second trimester | 8.2 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 7.2 | 7.0 | 7.3 |
| Third trimester | 7.9 | 5.3 | 4.3 | 6.3 | 6.7 | 3.7 |
| No prenatal care | 20.3 | 12.9 | 6.8 | 25.6 | 11.3 | 18.4 |
| White | | | | | | |
| Total ³ | 5.8 | 3.6 | 3.0 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.5 |
| First trimester | 5.4 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 5.3 | 4.8 | 5.0 |
| Second trimester | 6.7 | 3.9 | 2.7 | 5.5 | 4.8 | 5.7 |
| Third trimester | 6.5 | 4.2 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 0.7 |
| No prenatal care | 16.9 | 9.0 | 5.7 | 21.5 | 9.3 | 16.9 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| Total ³ | 12.7 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 16.3 | 21.0 | 22.9 |
| First trimester | 11.8 | 7.2 | 6.1 | 16.2 | 18.8 | 27.3 |
| Second trimester | 12.8 | 8.0 | 6.5 | 11.9 | 22.6 | 16.1 |
| Third trimester | 12.1 | 7.5 | 10.1 | 11.1 | 15.5 | 12.8 |
| No prenatal care | 27.3 | 16.7 | 16.0 | 33.3 | 25.1 | 23.7 |

¹Includes all births to residents of areas reporting month of pregnancy prenatal care began, regardless of attendant or place of delivery. See appendix, table I, for a listing of these areas.

²Includes races other than white and black.

³Includes births for which the month of pregnancy prenatal care began is not stated.

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Appendix

Technical notes

Sources of data

Data presented in this report were obtained from information reported on birth certificates filed in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. Additional information on births is published annually by the National Center for Health Statistics in Volume I of *Vital Statistics of the United States*. A complete discussion of the sources, classification, and processing of natality data may be found in the Technical appendix of these volumes.

Information on the attendant and place of delivery is derived from three birth certificate items. For all but 11 States and the District of Columbia, the wording of the attendant item is similar to the wording of the 1978 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth, "Name and title of the attendant at birth if other than the certifier." State certificates that do not use the standard wording generally have check boxes for specifying attendant. However, only a few States distinguish between a certified nurse-midwife and lay midwife. If the attendant item is not completed, the determination of attendant is made from the title of the certifier. The 1978 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth wording of the question on place of delivery is "Hospital-Name (if not in hospital, give street and number)." This wording, or one with minor variation, is used by all States.

Hospital births include births occurring in hospitals, institutions, clinics, medical centers, maternity homes, and other medical facilities such as infirmaries and dispensaries. Nonhospital births include those occurring in the mother's residence, a doctor's office, a public place, or a named place other than those included in the "inhospital" category. Generally, a birthing center that is a licensed facility will be classified as a hospital. Births occurring enroute to or on arrival at a hospital are considered to be hospital births. There were 1,053 such births in 1978 and 1,310 births in 1979.

Physician deliveries include deliveries attended by an M.D. (Doctor of Medicine), D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathy), resident, intern, or extern. Midwife deliveries include deliveries attended by a nurse-midwife, certified nurse-midwife, midhusband, or lay midwife.

The tabulation of inhospital deliveries has changed in recent years. For the period 1935-74, the "inhospital" category in previous NCHS publications and in table 1 of this report includes births in hospitals or institutions and births in clinics, centers, or maternity homes only when attended by a physician. The "inhospital" category shown in table 1 for 1975-79 includes all clinic, center, and maternity home births, regardless of attendant. Data for 1975-77 differ from previously published NCHS data for these years which conform to the earlier defini-

tion. For 1978 and 1979, data shown in table 1 and other NCHS publications are comparable—all clinic, center, and maternity home births, regardless of attendant, are classified as "inhospital" births.

Reporting areas

The birth certificates of all reporting areas include questions on attendant and place of delivery, race, nativity, age of mother, and birth order. However, not all areas request information on other characteristics discussed in this report. Table I shows the areas that requested information on educational attainment of mother, month of pregnancy prenatal care began, number of prenatal visits, and marital status of mother. The size of the reporting area for any table is dependent on which characteristics are included.

Sampling rates

Trend data shown in table 1 are based on varying sample sizes. Data for 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, and 1955 are based on the total file of birth records; data for 1960, 1965, 1966, and 1968-71 are derived from 50-percent samples of birth records; data for 1967 are based in part on 20-percent and in part on 50-percent samples. Birth statistics for the years 1972-79 are based on 100 percent of the birth certificates from States participating in the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program (VSCP) and on a 50-percent sample of births from all other States. The size of the VSCP reporting area grew from 6 States in 1972 to 42 States in 1979.

Residence classification

All tables included in this report are by place of residence of the mother and, for 1970-79, exclude births to nonresidents of the United States. Births to U.S. residents occurring outside the country are also excluded. Table 1 includes data for Alaska and Hawaii beginning in 1960.

Geographic region

For the purpose of classifying the population by geographic area, the States are grouped into four regions that correspond to those used by the U.S. Bureau of the Census as follows:

| Region | States included |
|-------------------------|--|
| Northeast | Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. |
| North Central | Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri. |

Table I. States reporting educational attainment of mother, month of pregnancy prenatal care began, number of prenatal visits, and marital status of mother: Each State, 1978-79

[Unless otherwise noted, reporting was for both 1978 and 1979. Items shown are those on the Standard Certificate of Live Birth. "X" denotes presence of item on the State certificate]

| State | Educational attainment of mother | Month of pregnancy prenatal care began | Number of prenatal visits | Marital status of mother |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama | X | X | X | X |
| Alaska | X | X | X | X |
| Arizona | X | X | X | X |
| Arkansas | X | X | X | X |
| California | ¹ X | X | ¹ X | |
| Colorado | X | X | X | X |
| Connecticut | X | X | X | |
| Delaware | X | X | X | X |
| District of Columbia | X | X | X | X |
| Florida | X | X | X | X |
| Georgia | X | X | X | |
| Hawaii | X | X | X | X |
| Idaho | X | X | X | X |
| Illinois | X | X | X | X |
| Indiana | X | X | X | X |
| Iowa | X | X | X | X |
| Kansas | X | X | X | X |
| Kentucky | X | X | X | X |
| Louisiana | X | X | X | X |
| Maine | X | X | X | X |
| Maryland | X | X | ² X | |
| Massachusetts | X | X | X | X |
| Michigan | X | X | X | |
| Minnesota | X | X | X | X |
| Mississippi | X | X | X | X |
| Missouri | X | X | X | X |
| Montana | X | X | X | |
| Nebraska | X | X | X | X |
| Nevada | X | X | X | |
| New Hampshire | X | X | X | X |
| New Jersey | X | X | X | X |
| New Mexico | | | | |
| New York | X | X | X | |
| North Carolina | X | X | X | X |
| North Dakota | X | X | X | X |
| Ohio | X | X | X | |
| Oklahoma | X | X | X | X |
| Oregon | X | X | X | X |
| Pennsylvania | X | X | X | X |
| Rhode Island | X | X | X | X |
| South Carolina | X | X | X | X |
| South Dakota | X | X | X | X |
| Tennessee | X | X | X | X |
| Texas | | X | | |
| Utah | X | X | X | X |
| Vermont | X | X | X | X |
| Virginia | X | X | X | X |
| Washington | | X | X | X |
| West Virginia | X | X | X | X |
| Wisconsin | X | X | X | X |
| Wyoming | X | X | X | X |

¹Did not report in 1979.

²Did not report in 1978.

Region—Con.

States included—Con.

| | |
|-------|--|
| South | Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas. |
| West | Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, and Hawaii. |

Completeness of reporting

The percent of records with information missing for the variables discussed in this report are shown in table II. Age of mother, race of child, and marital status are not included since these are imputed when not reported. When the mother's age is not stated on the birth certificate or reported as less than 10 or greater than 49 years, it is imputed on the basis of a previously processed record. Race of the child is also imputed from a

Table II. Percent of records with information missing for selected characteristics by place of delivery, type of attendant, and race of child: Total of reporting areas, 1978-79 average

| Race of child and characteristic | All live births | Midwife in hospital | Not in hospital | | | Not stated |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|------------|
| | | | Midwife | Physician | Other | |
| Live-birth order | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 0.8 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 4.7 |
| White | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 4.7 |
| Black | 1.1 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 4.6 |
| Total-birth order | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 1.1 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 5.2 |
| White | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 5.2 |
| Black | 1.6 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 4.8 |
| Educational attainment of mother | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 1.7 | 1.9 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 5.3 | 10.3 |
| White | 1.6 | 1.6 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 5.4 | 10.8 |
| Black | 2.1 | 1.3 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 4.0 | 7.7 |
| Month of pregnancy prenatal care began | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 3.2 | 3.9 | 6.2 | 5.0 | 8.1 | 10.5 |
| White | 2.9 | 3.3 | 5.8 | 4.8 | 8.1 | 9.9 |
| Black | 4.5 | 4.3 | 7.3 | 4.4 | 6.4 | 11.8 |
| Number of prenatal visits | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 4.9 | 5.5 | 6.9 | 6.4 | 9.5 | 14.7 |
| White | 4.4 | 4.6 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 9.4 | 14.7 |
| Black | 7.0 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 6.2 | 8.9 | 12.8 |
| Birth weight | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 3.0 | 5.5 |
| White | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 2.9 | 5.7 |
| Black | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 3.0 | 5.0 |
| Nativity of mother | | | | | | |
| All races ¹ | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 1.9 |
| White | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 1.9 |
| Black | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 1.9 |

¹Includes races other than white and black.

NOTE: Live-birth order, total-birth order, birth weight, and nativity of mother were reported by all areas; See Table I for a listing of areas reporting educational attainment of mother, month of pregnancy prenatal care began, and number of prenatal visits. Figures represent percent of records in reporting areas with missing information.

previous record when information for both mother's and father's race is missing. In areas reporting marital status, mothers for whom this information is missing are assumed to be married. For each of these three variables—age, race, and marital status—information was imputed for less than one-half of one percent of all records.

The extent of missing information about midwife-in-hospital deliveries is about the same as for all births during this period except for live-birth order and total-birth order. For these two variables, nonreporting is higher for midwife deliveries, but still low overall. The level of missing information is generally higher for midwife and physician home deliveries than for midwife-in-hospital deliveries. The most incomplete reporting is for home deliveries when the attendant was indicated as someone other than a physician or midwife or when the attendant was not stated (table II).

For the years 1975-79 there were substantial numbers of inhospital births with an unspecified attendant. However, dur-

ing this period such nonreporting declined markedly—from 64,069 births in 1975 to 10,994 births in 1979. The number of home births with an unspecified attendant also declined—from 3,345 births in 1975 to 1,682 births in 1979 (table III).

A national test of birth registration completeness for 1964-68 indicated that 99.5 percent of white births and 98.6 percent of all other births delivered in hospitals were registered.¹⁶ A lower proportion of out-of-hospital births were registered—94.4 percent of white births and 93.4 percent of all other births. Several studies indicate that registration of home births in some areas of the country may be substantially lower than these national averages in recent years.¹⁷

Demographic risk categories

Maternal age and total-birth order (the sum of live births and fetal deaths including the present delivery) categories con-

NOTE: A list of references follows the text.

Table III. Number of live births delivered by other and unspecified attendants, by place of delivery and race of child: United States, 1975-79

| Race of child and year of birth | In hospital ¹ | | | Not in hospital ² | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-------------|------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| | Total other and unspecified | Other | Unspecified | Total other and unspecified | Other | Unspecified |
| All races³ | | | | | | |
| 1979 | 22,215 | 11,221 | 10,994 | 11,714 | 10,032 | 1,682 |
| 1978 | 42,700 | 12,721 | 29,979 | 11,036 | 9,167 | 1,869 |
| 1977 | 59,596 | 12,531 | 47,065 | 10,402 | 7,449 | 2,953 |
| 1976 | 58,153 | 12,871 | 45,282 | 8,178 | 5,914 | 2,264 |
| 1975 | 71,191 | 7,122 | 64,069 | 6,305 | 2,960 | 3,345 |
| White | | | | | | |
| 1979 | 17,537 | 8,380 | 9,157 | 10,159 | 8,734 | 1,425 |
| 1978 | 33,929 | 9,952 | 23,977 | 9,544 | 8,059 | 1,485 |
| 1977 | 47,699 | 9,643 | 38,056 | 9,008 | 6,605 | 2,403 |
| 1976 | 45,845 | 9,642 | 36,203 | 6,979 | 5,148 | 1,831 |
| 1975 | 57,734 | 5,342 | 52,392 | 5,329 | 2,585 | 2,744 |
| Black | | | | | | |
| 1979 | 3,061 | 1,856 | 1,205 | 1,155 | 954 | 201 |
| 1978 | 6,781 | 1,875 | 4,906 | 1,100 | 825 | 275 |
| 1977 | 8,907 | 2,105 | 6,802 | 1,023 | 578 | 445 |
| 1976 | 9,858 | 2,480 | 7,378 | 929 | 550 | 379 |
| 1975 | 10,906 | 1,311 | 9,595 | 789 | 281 | 508 |

¹Includes births occurring enroute to or on arrival at hospital.

²Includes births with place of delivery not stated.

³Includes races other than white and black.

NOTE: Data by attendant for years 1975 to 1977 differ from those previously published; see "Sources of data."

sidered as indicators of demographic risk in this report are in accordance with those used in a study of New York City infant deaths.¹¹ These were determined by examining the infant mortality experience of the United States 1960 live birth cohort. The age and total-birth order combinations that most clearly indicated an elevated risk of infant mortality were selected. They are:

- All under 15 years of age
- 15-19 years of age and total-birth order 2 or more
- 20-24 years of age and total-birth order 4 or more
- 25-29 years of age and total-birth order 5 or more
- 30-34 years of age and total-birth order 1 or 6 or more
- 35-39 years of age and total-birth order 1 or 5 or more
- All 40 years or more of age

Records where total-birth order could not be determined were excluded from this analysis.

Definition of terms

Low birth weight—Low birth weight was defined as 2,500 grams or less in 1978 and as less than 2,500 grams in 1979. Infants for whom birth weight was not reported are excluded from the computation of percent low birth weight.

Race—Births are classified according to the race or origin of the parents. The categories are "White," "Black," "American Indian," "Chinese," "Japanese," "Hawaiian," "Filipino," "Other Asian or Pacific Islander," and "Other." The category "White" comprises births reported as white, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Hispanic origin. In all tables, race refers to the child's race. However, since the race of the mother and

child are identical for most births, in text statements the racial designation of the child is also used to identify the mother.

Urban places—Urban places are classified according to the population enumerated in the 1970 Census of Population. They include incorporated cities of 10,000 population or more, and towns in New England, townships in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and counties in other States that meet certain criteria. The remaining nonurban areas of the country and smaller urban places of less than 10,000 population are included in the category "balance of area."

Standardization of percent low birth weight

The direct method of standardization was used to compare the percent low birth weight of infants delivered by midwives in hospitals and infants delivered at home, without the influence of differences in age of the mother or live-birth order. The standard population was the distribution of all births in the 1978-79 period by age of the mother and live-birth order. Standardization was performed separately for births of all races, for white births and for black births using the following formula:

$$m_1 = \frac{\sum_{a,b} m_{a,b} P_{a,b}}{P} \times 100$$

where m_1 = standardized percent for given race,

$m_{a,b}$ = percent low birth weight for each age and birth-order group for given race

$P_{a,b}$ = average number of births in 1978-79 for each age and birth-order group for given race

P = total standard population (average of 1978-79) for given race

NOTE: A list of references follows the text.

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