

**Table B. Birth rates for teenagers 15–19 years by State, 1991 and 2002, and percent change, 1991–2002: United States and each State and territory**

[Birth rates per 1,000 estimated female population aged 15–19 years in each area]

State	1991	2002	Percent change, 1991–2002	State	1991	2002	Percent change, 1991–2002
United States <sup>1</sup>	61.8	43.0	–30	Nebraska	42.4	37.0	–13
Alabama	73.6	54.5	–26	Nevada	74.5	53.9	–28
Alaska	66.0	39.5	–40	New Hampshire	33.1	20.0	–40
Arizona	79.7	61.2	–23	New Jersey	41.3	26.8	–35
Arkansas	79.5	59.9	–25	New Mexico	79.5	62.4	–22
California	73.8	41.1	–44	New York	45.5	29.5	–35
Colorado	58.3	47.0	–19	North Carolina	70.0	52.2	–25
Connecticut	40.1	25.8	–36	North Dakota	35.5	27.2	–23
Delaware	60.4	46.3	–23	Ohio	60.5	39.5	–35
District of Columbia	109.6	69.1	–37	Oklahoma	72.1	58.0	–20
Florida	67.9	44.5	–34	Oregon	54.8	36.8	–33
Georgia	76.0	55.7	–27	Pennsylvania	46.7	31.6	–32
Hawaii	59.2	38.2	–35	Rhode Island	44.7	35.6	–20
Idaho	53.9	39.1	–27	South Carolina	72.5	53.0	–27
Illinois	64.5	42.2	–35	South Dakota	47.6	38.0	–20
Indiana	60.4	44.6	–26	Tennessee	74.8	54.3	–27
Iowa	42.5	32.5	–24	Texas	78.4	64.4	–18
Kansas	55.4	43.0	–22	Utah	48.0	36.8	–23
Kentucky	68.8	51.0	–26	Vermont	39.2	24.2	–38
Louisiana	76.0	58.1	–24	Virginia	53.4	37.6	–30
Maine	43.5	25.4	–42	Washington	53.7	33.0	–39
Maryland	54.1	35.4	–35	West Virginia	58.0	45.5	–22
Massachusetts	37.5	23.3	–38	Wisconsin	43.7	32.3	–26
Michigan	58.9	34.8	–41	Wyoming	54.3	39.9	–27
Minnesota	37.3	27.5	–26	Puerto Rico	72.4	62.2	–14
Mississippi	85.3	64.7	–24	Virgin Islands	77.9	56.8	–27
Missouri	64.4	44.1	–32	Guam	95.7	64.7	–32
Montana	46.8	36.4	–22	American Samoa	---	46.2	---
				Northern Marianas	---	42.3	---

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes data for the territories.

NOTE: Rates for 1991 have been revised and may differ from those previously published; see "Technical Notes."

**percent were to unmarried women.** This percent has increased very slowly in recent years, from 32.4 (1996–97) to 34.0 in 2002.

In 2002 as in every year since 1998, all States except Michigan and New York reported mother's marital status through a direct question on the birth certificates. Michigan and New York infer the mother's marital status on the basis of other information on the birth certificate; see "Technical Notes" for detailed information.

Birth rates for unmarried women are typically highest for women in their early twenties (tables 17 and 18). The rate in 2002 was 70.5 births per 1,000 aged 20–24 years. The rate for unmarried women aged 25–29 years was 61.5, and for older teenagers 18–19 years, it was 58.6 per 1,000. Rates were considerably lower for women in their thirties and older, as well as for younger teenagers 15–17 years.

**Birth rates for unmarried women vary widely by race and Hispanic origin.** In 2002 the rate for Hispanic women was highest at 87.9 per 1,000, followed by black women at 66.2, non-Hispanic white women at 27.8, and Asian or Pacific Islander (API) women, at 21.3. The birth rate for unmarried black women has fallen steeply during the 1990s through 2002, from 90.5 per 1,000 in 1990 to 66.2 in 2002, a 27-percent drop. The rate for non-Hispanic white women has varied little since 1994 (28.5). The rate for API women, available only for 2000–2002, has also been essentially stable. The rate for Hispanic women in 2002 was 8 percent below its 1994 peak, but has trended slowly up since 1998 (82.8 per 1,000).

Birth rates for unmarried black and Hispanic teenagers are quite comparable, but at ages 20 years and over, rates for Hispanic women are increasingly higher than for black women with advancing maternal age. Birth rates by age for unmarried API women are consistently lowest of all.

Birth rates for unmarried teenagers continued to decline in 2002. The overall rate for ages 15–19 years has dropped 23 percent since 1994; declines for younger teenagers were more than double the declines for older teenagers (34 compared with 15 percent). Among population subgroups, rates for unmarried black teenagers have fallen most steeply. The rate for unmarried black teenagers 15–17 years has fallen by half since 1991, from 79.9 to 39.9 per 1,000, and the rate for older black teenagers declined by 29 percent, to 104.1. Since the mid-1990s rates for unmarried non-Hispanic white teenagers have declined as well, by 36 percent for ages 15–17 years and 14 percent for ages 18–19 years, whereas the rates for unmarried Hispanic teenagers have declined more slowly.

The birth rate for unmarried women aged 20–24 years has declined slightly since 2000, by 2 percent, while the rate for women aged 25–29 years has risen steadily since 1997, by 15 percent. Rates for women in their thirties and older have increased as well since the mid-1990s.

The proportions of all births that are to unmarried women increased slightly for non-Hispanic white (23.0 percent) and Hispanic