

# National Vital Statistics Reports

From the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION  
National Center for Health Statistics  
National Vital Statistics System



Volume 47, Number 2

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## Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths: Provisional Data for February 1998

**Table 1. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States**

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

Item	February				January–February				12 months ending with February				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1996
Live births . . . . .	319,000	289,000	15.4	14.1	628,000	594,000	14.4	13.8	3,916,000	3,888,000	14.6	14.6	14.7
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	69.6	63.1	...	...	65.1	61.6	...	...	65.6	65.2	64.9
Deaths . . . . .	209,000	191,000	10.1	9.3	435,000	409,000	10.0	9.5	2,320,000	2,307,000	8.7	8.7	8.8
Infant deaths . . . . .	2,300	2,200	7.3	7.5	4,700	4,300	7.4	7.1	27,400	27,900	7.0	7.2	7.5
Natural increase . . . . .	110,000	98,000	5.3	4.8	193,000	185,000	4.4	4.3	1,596,000	1,581,000	5.9	5.9	5.9
Marriages . . . . .	151,000	163,000	7.7	8.3	249,000	268,000	6.0	6.5	2,366,000	2,357,000	8.8	8.9	8.9
Divorces . . . . .	83,000	87,000	4.0	4.3	170,000	181,000	3.9	4.2	1,152,000	1,151,000	4.3	4.3	4.4
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	269.1	266.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	268.0	265.6	263.2

... Category not applicable.

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

### Technical notes

Effective with Volume 47, Number 1, the *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* (MVSr) has been renamed the *National Vital Statistics Reports*. The monthly issue has become a two-page publication, containing [Technical notes](#) and two tables that show provisional vital statistics for the United States. The Current Mortality Sample has been replaced with a detailed biannual report of births and deaths (*Births and Deaths: United States*) based on preliminary data. Tables previously published in the MVSr that show provisional data by State are now available on the NCHS home page on the Internet at [www.cdc.gov/nchswww/](http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/)

### Nature and sources of data

Data shown here are provisional and include only events occurring within the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia). Mortality data exclude fetal deaths. Delay in the receipt of certificates in a registration office may result in a low figure for a given month followed by a high figure for the month(s) in which the delayed records were received. Totals for births, deaths, and infant deaths are

based on the State estimates by State of residence and, therefore, in effect, exclude events to nonresidents of the United States. Events to nonresidents of the United States are included in all marriage and divorce figures. The effect of excluding events to nonresidents from the U.S. totals is small. Provisional totals for marriages for the entire United States include adjustments for observed differences between provisional and final monthly figures. Divorce figures include reported annulments. The monthly national divorce estimate is obtained by multiplying the total for the reporting areas by the ratio observed between the most recent final annual divorce total for the United States and the provisional total for the reporting areas combined. The populations used for computing rates are furnished by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Monthly rates are based on populations estimated for the specific month. Year-to-date rates are averages of monthly rates that have been weighted by the number of days in the corresponding months. Rates for 12-month periods are the sum of events for the period per population estimated at the midpoint of the period. Because monthly infant mortality rates are based on relatively few events, they are highly variable, and comparisons of monthly infant mortality rates should be interpreted cautiously.



**Table 2. Provisional number of live births, marriages, divorces, deaths, and infant deaths and rates, by month: United States, January 1997–February 1998**

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

Period	Live births				Marriages		Divorces		Deaths		Infant deaths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years		Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population
			Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>								
<b>1997:</b>												
January . . . . .	305,000	13.5	60.2	63.2	105,000	4.9	94,000	4.1	218,000	9.6	2,100	6.7
February . . . . .	289,000	14.1	63.1	64.4	163,000	8.3	87,000	4.3	191,000	9.3	2,200	7.5
March . . . . .	313,000	13.8	61.7	62.6	191,000	8.8	95,000	4.2	198,000	8.7	2,500	7.9
April . . . . .	342,000	15.6	69.8	71.6	193,000	9.2	106,000	4.8	189,000	8.6	2,100	6.4
May . . . . .	311,000	13.7	61.5	61.9	234,000	10.3	99,000	4.3	195,000	8.6	2,300	7.2
June . . . . .	324,000	14.8	66.1	64.7	233,000	10.6	100,000	4.6	182,000	8.3	2,200	6.8
July . . . . .	345,000	15.2	68.1	65.3	229,000	10.1	99,000	4.4	192,000	8.4	2,300	6.7
August . . . . .	341,000	15.0	67.3	63.6	252,000	11.1	93,000	4.1	178,000	7.8	2,200	6.8
September . . . . .	353,000	16.0	71.9	67.7	232,000	10.5	96,000	4.4	176,000	8.0	2,300	6.8
October . . . . .	329,000	14.4	64.9	65.1	235,000	10.3	102,000	4.5	193,000	8.5	2,600	7.7
November . . . . .	304,000	13.8	61.9	63.9	151,000	6.9	87,000	4.0	189,000	8.6	2,000	6.6
December . . . . .	324,000	14.2	63.9	66.5	165,000	7.2	104,000	4.5	192,000	8.4	2,200	6.6
<b>1998:</b>												
January . . . . .	309,000	13.5	61.0	64.2	98,000	4.5	87,000	3.8	226,000	9.9	2,400	7.5
February . . . . .	319,000	15.4	69.6	70.7	151,000	7.7	83,000	4.0	209,000	10.1	2,300	7.3

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

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