

Table 1-6. Mean Age of Mother by Live-birth Order, According to Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother: United States, 1968-2002

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Beginning in 1970, data excludes births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	Live-birth order								
		1	2	3	4	5	6 and 7	8 and over	Unknown or not stated	
ALL RACES										
Registered births										
2002.....	27.3	25.1	27.9	29.2	30.3	31.4	32.9	35.9	27.7	
2001.....	27.3	25.0	27.8	29.2	30.3	31.4	32.9	35.9	27.0	
2000.....	27.2	24.9	27.7	29.2	30.3	31.4	32.9	35.8	27.4	
1999.....	27.1	24.8	27.7	29.1	30.3	31.3	32.8	35.7	27.0	
1998.....	27.1	24.7	27.6	29.1	30.2	31.3	32.8	35.6	26.4	
1997.....	27.0	24.7	27.6	29.1	30.2	31.3	32.7	35.6	27.0	
1996.....	27.0	24.6	27.6	29.1	30.2	31.2	32.6	35.5	27.5	
1995.....	26.9	24.5	27.5	29.1	30.1	31.2	32.6	35.4	27.1	
1994.....	26.8	24.4	27.4	28.9	29.9	30.9	32.4	35.3	26.7	
1993.....	26.7	24.4	27.2	28.7	29.7	30.7	32.1	35.1	27.4	
1992.....	26.6	24.4	27.1	28.5	29.5	30.6	32.1	35.1	27.1	
1991.....	26.4	24.2	27.0	28.4	29.5	30.5	32.1	35.2	27.0	
1990.....	26.4	24.2	26.9	28.3	29.4	30.6	32.1	35.1	27.4	
1989.....	26.3	24.2	26.8	28.3	29.4	30.5	32.2	35.2	27.2	
1988.....	26.3	24.1	26.7	28.2	29.4	30.6	32.3	35.3	27.0	
1987.....	26.1	24.0	26.6	28.1	29.4	30.6	32.4	35.5	26.3	
1986.....	26.0	23.8	26.4	28.0	29.3	30.6	32.4	35.6	26.2	
1985.....	25.8	23.7	26.3	27.9	29.3	30.6	32.5	35.7	26.1	
1984(1).....	25.7	23.5	26.1	27.8	29.2	30.6	32.5	35.6	26.0	
1983(1).....	25.5	23.3	25.9	27.6	29.1	30.6	32.5	35.7	25.0	
1982(1).....	25.3	23.1	25.7	27.5	29.1	30.6	32.6	35.8	24.4	
1981(1).....	25.1	22.9	25.5	27.4	29.0	30.6	32.6	35.8	24.4	
1980(1).....	25.0	22.7	25.4	27.3	29.0	30.6	32.7	36.0	23.9	
1979(1).....	24.9	22.6	25.3	27.2	29.0	30.7	32.8	36.0	24.1	
1978(1).....	24.8	22.4	25.1	27.2	28.9	30.7	32.8	36.0	24.2	
1977(1).....	24.7	22.2	25.0	27.1	29.0	30.8	32.8	36.1	23.4	
1976(1).....	24.6	22.0	24.9	27.0	28.9	30.7	32.8	36.1	23.4	
1975(1).....	24.5	21.8	24.7	26.9	28.9	30.8	32.8	36.0	23.2	
1974(1).....	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.8	28.9	30.6	32.7	35.9	23.3	
1973(1).....	24.4	21.5	24.5	26.8	28.9	30.6	32.6	35.9	23.4	
1972(1).....	24.5	21.4	24.4	26.7	28.8	30.6	32.5	35.7	23.4	
1971(2).....	24.6	21.4	24.2	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.3	35.4	23.4	
1970(2).....	24.6	21.4	24.1	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.2	35.3	23.1	
1969(2).....	24.7	21.4	24.1	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.1	35.2	23.1	
1968(2).....	24.9	21.4	24.0	26.6	28.7	30.4	32.1	35.2	25.1	

Table 1-6. Mean Age of Mother by Live-birth Order, According to Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother: United States, 1968-2002

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Beginning in 1970, data excludes births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	Live-birth order								
		1	2	3	4	5	6 and 7	8 and over	Unknown or not stated	
WHITE, TOTAL										
2002.....	27.6	25.3	28.0	29.5	30.7	32.0	33.6	36.7	27.9	
2001.....	27.5	25.2	28.0	29.5	30.8	32.0	33.6	36.6	27.0	
2000.....	27.4	25.2	27.9	29.5	30.8	32.0	33.6	36.6	27.5	
1999.....	27.4	25.1	27.9	29.5	30.8	32.0	33.6	36.5	27.1	
1998.....	27.4	25.1	27.9	29.5	30.7	32.0	33.6	36.5	26.6	
1997.....	27.3	25.0	27.9	29.5	30.7	31.9	33.5	36.5	27.3	
1996.....	27.3	24.9	27.8	29.5	30.7	31.9	33.4	36.4	27.8	
1995.....	27.2	24.8	27.8	29.4	30.7	31.9	33.5	36.3	27.3	
1994.....	27.1	24.8	27.7	29.3	30.5	31.6	33.2	36.1	26.9	
1993.....	27.0	24.8	27.6	29.1	30.3	31.5	33.0	36.1	27.8	
1992.....	26.9	24.7	27.4	28.9	30.2	31.4	33.0	36.0	27.6	
1991.....	26.8	24.6	27.3	28.8	30.1	31.2	32.9	35.9	27.5	
1990.....	26.7	24.6	27.2	28.8	30.0	31.2	32.9	35.8	27.8	
1989.....	26.7	24.6	27.2	28.7	29.9	31.2	32.9	35.9	27.6	
1988.....	26.6	24.5	27.1	28.6	29.9	31.3	32.9	36.0	27.4	
1987.....	26.4	24.4	26.9	28.5	29.9	31.2	33.0	36.1	26.4	
1986.....	26.3	24.2	26.7	28.3	29.8	31.2	33.0	36.1	26.3	
1985.....	26.1	24.0	26.5	28.2	29.7	31.2	33.1	36.2	26.0	
1984(1).....	25.9	23.9	26.4	28.1	29.7	31.3	33.1	36.0	26.0	
1983(1).....	25.7	23.7	26.1	28.0	29.6	31.3	33.1	36.1	25.2	
1982(1).....	25.6	23.4	25.9	27.9	29.6	31.2	33.2	36.1	24.9	
1981(1).....	25.4	23.2	25.8	27.8	29.5	31.2	33.3	36.2	24.9	
1980(1).....	25.2	23.0	25.6	27.7	29.5	31.2	33.3	36.3	24.4	
1979(1).....	25.2	22.9	25.5	27.6	29.5	31.3	33.4	36.3	24.9	
1978(1).....	25.1	22.7	25.4	27.5	29.5	31.3	33.4	36.3	24.8	
1977(1).....	25.0	22.6	25.2	27.5	29.5	31.4	33.4	36.4	24.0	
1976(1).....	24.9	22.4	25.1	27.4	29.4	31.3	33.3	36.4	23.9	
1975(1).....	24.7	22.2	25.0	27.3	29.4	31.4	33.3	36.4	23.6	
1974(1).....	24.7	22.0	24.9	27.2	29.4	31.2	33.3	36.3	23.5	
1973(1).....	24.7	21.9	24.8	27.2	29.4	31.2	33.2	36.3	23.8	
1972(1).....	24.7	21.8	24.7	27.1	29.3	31.1	33.1	36.1	23.7	
1971(2).....	24.8	21.8	24.5	27.0	29.1	30.9	32.9	35.9	23.6	
1970(2).....	24.8	21.7	24.4	27.0	29.1	30.9	32.8	35.7	23.2	
1969(2).....	25.0	21.7	24.4	27.0	29.2	31.0	32.7	35.7	22.9	
1968(2).....	25.1	21.7	24.3	27.0	29.2	31.0	32.8	35.8	25.3	

Table 1-6. Mean Age of Mother by Live-birth Order, According to Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother: United States, 1968-2002

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Beginning in 1970, data excludes births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	Live-birth order								Unknown or not stated
		1	2	3	4	5	6 and 7	8 and over		
WHITE, NON-HISPANIC										
2002.....	28.2	26.1	28.7	30.1	31.2	32.3	33.9	37.1	28.6	
2001.....	28.1	26.0	28.6	30.1	31.3	32.4	33.9	37.0	28.2	
2000.....	28.0	25.9	28.6	30.0	31.3	32.4	34.0	37.0	28.9	
1999.....	27.9	25.8	28.5	30.0	31.2	32.4	33.9	36.9	28.3	
1998.....	27.9	25.7	28.5	30.0	31.2	32.4	34.0	36.9	27.2	
1997.....	27.8	25.6	28.4	30.0	31.2	32.4	34.0	36.9	28.2	
1996.....	27.7	25.6	28.4	30.0	31.2	32.3	33.8	36.7	28.8	
1995.....	27.6	25.4	28.3	29.9	31.2	32.4	33.9	36.7	28.5	
1994.....	27.5	25.4	28.2	29.8	31.0	32.1	33.7	36.5	28.2	
1993.....	27.4	25.3	28.0	29.6	30.8	31.9	33.4	36.5	28.4	
1992(3).....	27.3	25.2	27.9	29.3	30.5	31.7	33.3	36.3	28.0	
1991(3).....	27.1	25.1	27.7	29.2	30.5	31.6	33.3	36.2	28.1	
1990(4).....	27.1	25.0	27.6	29.1	30.3	31.6	33.2	36.2	28.5	
1989(5).....	27.0	25.0	27.5	29.0	30.3	31.5	33.2	36.1	28.1	
BLACK, TOTAL										
2002.....	25.5	22.6	25.8	27.4	28.5	29.6	31.2	34.1	26.5	
2001.....	25.3	22.4	25.7	27.3	28.4	29.6	31.2	34.1	26.5	
2000.....	25.2	22.3	25.6	27.2	28.3	29.5	31.0	34.0	26.1	
1999.....	25.1	22.2	25.5	27.1	28.2	29.4	31.0	33.8	25.8	
1998.....	25.0	22.2	25.4	27.1	28.2	29.4	30.9	33.5	25.2	
1997.....	25.0	22.1	25.4	27.1	28.2	29.4	30.8	33.6	25.5	
1996.....	24.9	22.0	25.4	27.0	28.1	29.3	30.7	33.5	26.0	
1995.....	24.8	21.9	25.3	27.0	28.1	29.3	30.8	33.2	25.6	
1994.....	24.7	21.9	25.2	26.8	27.8	28.9	30.6	33.3	25.5	
1993.....	24.6	21.8	25.0	26.6	27.6	28.7	30.2	33.0	25.4	
1992.....	24.5	21.8	24.8	26.3	27.5	28.7	30.2	33.0	25.2	
1991.....	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.2	27.4	28.6	30.2	33.2	25.3	
1990.....	24.4	21.7	24.7	26.3	27.5	28.8	30.3	33.3	26.1	
1989.....	24.3	21.6	24.6	26.3	27.5	28.8	30.5	33.5	26.2	
1988.....	24.3	21.6	24.6	26.3	27.5	28.9	30.6	33.6	26.0	
1987.....	24.2	21.5	24.5	26.3	27.6	29.0	30.8	33.7	24.0	
1986.....	24.1	21.4	24.5	26.2	27.6	29.0	30.9	34.0	23.3	
1985.....	24.0	21.3	24.4	26.1	27.5	29.0	30.9	34.2	23.5	
1984(1).....	23.9	21.1	24.2	26.0	27.4	28.9	31.0	34.2	23.4	
1983(1).....	23.8	21.0	24.1	25.9	27.4	28.9	30.9	34.5	21.9	
1982(1).....	23.7	20.9	23.9	25.8	27.4	28.9	31.1	34.8	21.3	

Table 1-6. Mean Age of Mother by Live-birth Order, According to Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother: United States, 1968-2002

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Beginning in 1970, data excludes births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	Live-birth order								
		1	2	3	4	5	6 and 7	8 and over	Unknown or not stated	
1981(1)	23.6	20.8	23.8	25.7	27.2	28.9	31.1	34.9	21.6	
1980(1)	23.5	20.6	23.6	25.6	27.2	28.8	31.1	35.1	21.0	
1979(1)	23.3	20.4	23.5	25.4	27.1	28.9	31.3	35.4	21.1	
1978(1)	23.2	20.2	23.3	25.2	27.0	28.9	31.3	35.3	21.6	
1977(1)	23.1	20.0	23.1	25.2	27.0	29.0	31.4	35.5	21.2	
1976(1)	23.0	19.9	22.9	25.0	26.9	28.8	31.4	35.4	21.4	
1975(1)	22.8	19.7	22.7	24.8	26.8	28.8	31.4	35.3	21.3	
1974(1)	22.7	19.6	22.5	24.6	26.7	28.6	31.1	35.3	21.5	
1973(1)	22.7	19.4	22.3	24.5	26.6	28.6	31.0	35.1	22.3	
1972(1)	22.9	19.4	22.3	24.5	26.5	28.5	30.8	34.9	22.3	
1971(2)	23.2	19.4	22.2	24.4	26.4	28.3	30.6	34.7	22.1	
1970(2)	23.3	19.5	22.1	24.3	26.4	28.2	30.4	34.5	21.7	
1969(2)	23.4	19.5	22.1	24.3	26.3	28.1	30.3	34.4	21.8	
1968(2)	23.6	19.5	21.9	24.2	26.2	28.0	30.3	34.3	23.7	
BLACK, NON-HISPANIC										
2002	25.4	22.6	25.8	27.3	28.5	29.6	31.2	34.1	26.5	
2001	25.3	22.4	25.7	27.2	28.3	29.6	31.2	34.1	26.4	
2000	25.2	22.3	25.5	27.1	28.2	29.5	31.0	33.9	26.0	
1999	25.1	22.2	25.5	27.0	28.2	29.4	31.0	33.8	25.6	
1998	25.0	22.2	25.4	27.0	28.2	29.3	30.9	33.6	25.0	
1997	25.0	22.1	25.4	27.0	28.2	29.3	30.8	33.6	25.3	
1996	24.9	22.0	25.3	27.0	28.1	29.2	30.7	33.5	25.8	
1995	24.8	21.9	25.3	27.0	28.0	29.3	30.8	33.2	25.4	
1994	24.7	21.8	25.1	26.7	27.8	28.9	30.6	33.3	25.4	
1993	24.6	21.8	24.9	26.5	27.6	28.6	30.2	32.9	25.3	
1992(3)	24.5	21.8	24.7	26.2	27.4	28.6	30.2	33.0	25.1	
1991(3)	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.2	27.4	28.6	30.2	33.1	25.3	
1990(4)	24.4	21.7	24.6	26.3	27.4	28.7	30.3	33.3	26.0	
1989(5)	24.3	21.6	24.6	26.3	27.5	28.7	30.5	33.5	26.2	
HISPANIC(6)										
2002	26.0	23.0	26.0	28.3	29.9	31.4	33.1	35.7	25.7	
2001	25.9	22.8	25.9	28.2	29.9	31.4	33.1	35.7	24.4	
2000	25.7	22.7	25.8	28.1	29.8	31.3	33.0	35.5	24.2	
1999	25.7	22.6	25.8	28.0	29.7	31.2	33.0	35.5	24.2	
1998	25.6	22.6	25.7	28.0	29.6	31.2	32.9	35.5	24.3	
1997	25.6	22.5	25.6	27.9	29.7	31.1	32.8	35.6	24.3	
1996	25.5	22.5	25.6	27.9	29.6	31.1	32.7	35.8	24.8	

Table 1-6. Mean Age of Mother by Live-birth Order, According to Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother: United States, 1968-2002

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother. Beginning in 1970, data excludes births to nonresidents of the United States; see Technical Appendix)

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	Live-birth order							
		1	2	3	4	5	6 and 7	8 and over	Unknown or not stated
1995.....	25.4	22.4	25.5	27.8	29.6	31.1	32.8	35.5	24.2
1994.....	25.4	22.4	25.5	27.7	29.5	30.8	32.5	35.3	23.6
1993.....	25.4	22.4	25.4	27.6	29.3	30.8	32.5	35.4	24.9
1992(3).....	25.3	22.4	25.2	27.5	29.2	30.6	32.4	35.5	25.4
1991(3).....	25.3	22.4	25.2	27.4	29.1	30.5	32.4	35.5	25.4
1990(4).....	25.3	22.4	25.2	27.4	29.1	30.6	32.3	35.3	26.1
1989(5).....	25.3	22.4	25.2	27.4	29.0	30.5	32.3	35.5	26.1

(1) Based on 100 percent of births in selected States and on 50-percent sample of births in all other States; see Technical Appendix.

(2) Based on 50-percent sample of births.

(3) Based on data for 49 States and the District of Columbia which reported Hispanic origin on the birth certificate.

(4) Based on data for 48 States and the District of Columbia which reported Hispanic origin on the birth certificate.

(5) Based on data for 47 States and the District of Columbia which reported Hispanic origin on the birth certificate.

(6) Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

NOTES: The median age in table 1-5 is the value that divides the birth rate distributions into two equal parts, one-half of the values being less and one-half being greater. It is computed from birth rates in 5-year age groups which eliminates the effects of changes in the age composition of the childbearing population over time. The mean age in table 1-6 is the numeric average. Thus, due to the different ways in which the median and mean ages are computed as well as the adjustment of the median, the numbers in tables 1-5 and 1-6 would be expected to differ. Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on birth certificates. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget standards. See Technical Appendix.