



Population, Family and Neighborhood

PF 1.1

NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18 IN THE UNITED STATES

Though the total population of the United States has grown steadily over the last four decades, growth in the number of children has been less steady, and the number of children has even decreased during some periods.

From 1950 to 1960, roughly the period of the baby boom, the number of children under age 18 increased by 36 percent from 47.3 to 64.5 million (see Figure PF 1.1). The number rose at a more modest rate in the ensuing decade to 69.8 million in 1970. The number actually declined to 63.7 million by 1980, and held steady over the next decade. Between 1990 and 1997, the number of children rose by more than five million to 69.5 million. The U.S. Bureau of the Census projects that the number of children will continue to rise over the next several decades, reaching 77.6 million by the year 2020.

Table PF 1.1

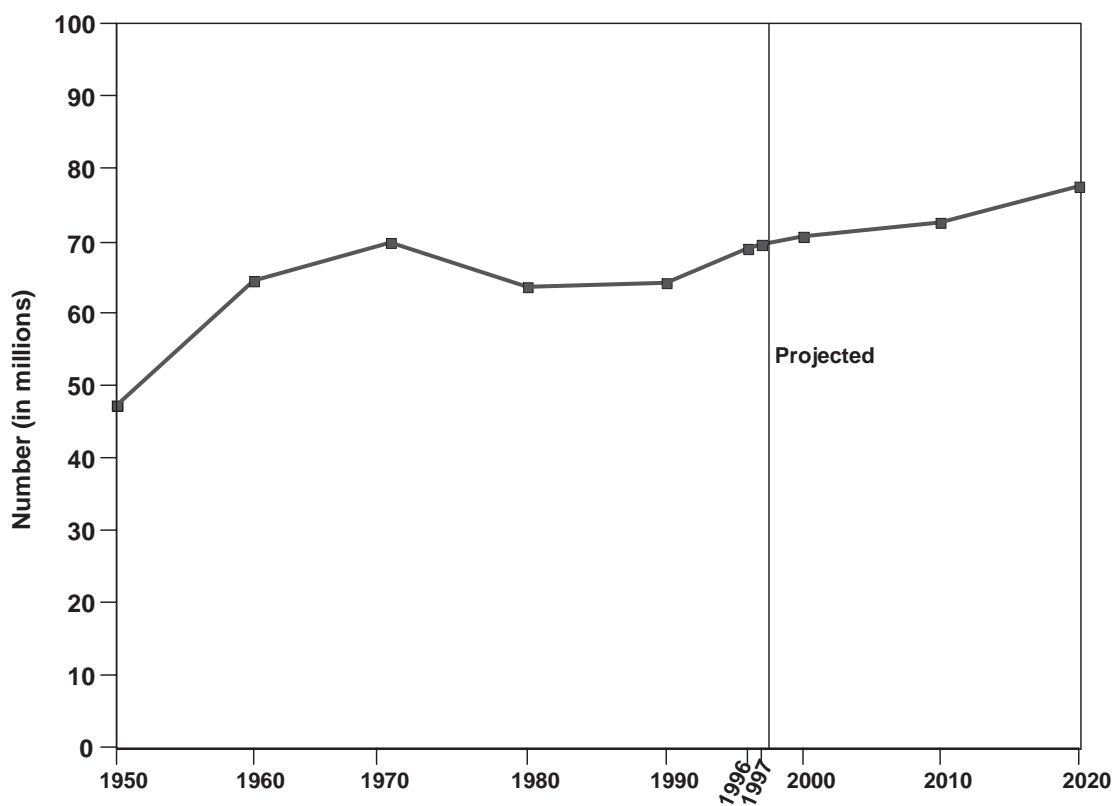
Number (in millions) of children under age 18 in the United States, by age: selected years, 1950-1997, and projected, 2000-2020

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	1996	1997	Projected		
								2000	2010	2020
All children	47.3	64.5	69.8	63.7	64.2	69.0	69.5	70.8	72.5	77.6
Under age 6	19.1	24.3	20.9	19.6	22.5	23.4	23.2	22.9	23.9	26.4
Ages 6-11	15.3	21.8	24.6	20.8	21.6	23.0	23.4	24.3	23.6	25.8
Ages 12-17	12.9	18.4	24.3	23.3	20.1	22.6	23.0	23.6	25.0	25.4

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 311, No. 519, No. 917, No. 1130 (Table 2 in each); and unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Figure PF 1.1

Number (in millions) of children under age 18 in the United States: selected years, 1950-1997, and projected, 2000-2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 311, No. 519, No. 917, No. 1130 (Table 2 in each); and unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

PF 1.2

CHILDREN AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION

The percentage of the total population who are children can have important consequences for the entire population. On the one hand, because children are for the most part dependent and in need of investment to become productive citizens, they may present special short-term fiscal challenges to society when they constitute a relatively high proportion of the overall population. On the other hand, as they grow up and become productive adults they will provide support for those entering retirement and for the next generation of children.

In 1950 children under age 18 constituted 31 percent of the overall population (see Figure PF 1.2). During the next decade, children as a proportion of the population rose rapidly to 36 percent. The rise in birthrates that produced this increase in the proportion of children in the population during the 1950s is commonly known as the baby boom. Since that peak in 1960, the percentage has been declining to its current level of 26 percent. Projections by the U.S. Bureau of the Census predict that this proportion will drop further to 24 percent by the year 2010, and will remain at approximately that level through 2020.

In contrast, the proportion of the population ages 65 and older has increased from 8 percent in 1950 to 13 percent in 1997. That percentage is projected to increase to 16 percent by the year 2020.

Table PF 1.2

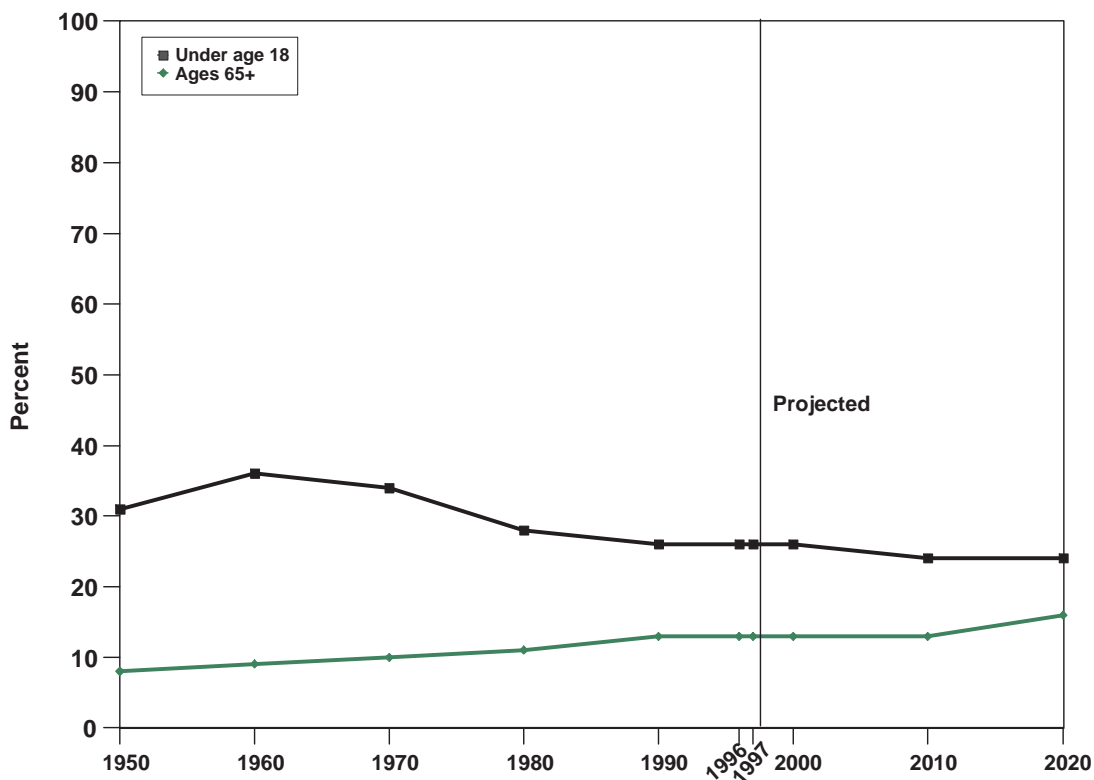
Persons in selected age groups as a percentage of the total U.S. population: selected years, 1950-1997, and projected, 2000-2020

Age group	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	1996	1997	Projected		
								2000	2010	2020
Under age 18	31	36	34	28	26	26	26	26	24	24
Ages 18-64	61	55	56	61	62	61	61	62	62	59
Ages 65+	8	9	10	11	13	13	13	13	13	16

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 311, No. 519, No. 917, No. 1130 (Table 2 in each); and unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Figure PF 1.2

Children under age 18 and adults ages 65 and over as a percentage of the U.S. population: selected years, 1950-1997, and projected, 2000-2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 311, No. 519, No. 917, No. 1130 (Table 2 in each); and unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

PF 1.3

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN

Since 1960, Americans have been moving toward having families with fewer children. Indeed, a growing percentage of families have no minor children of their own in their household. Between 1960 and 1990, the percentage of families with four or more own children under age 18 in the household decreased from 9 percent to 3 percent, where it has remained through 1997 (see Figure PF 1.3). During the same period, the proportion of families with no minor children grew from 43 percent to 51 percent.

Differences by Race and Hispanic Origin. These general trends are also evident when white, black, and Hispanic families are considered separately, though the levels are substantially different for each group (see Table PF 1.3). For example, between 1970 and 1997 the percentage of black families with four or more children dropped from 19 percent to 5 percent. The percentage for whites during that period went from 9 percent to 2 percent. For Hispanic families, the percentage dropped from 10 percent to 6 percent between 1980 (the first year for which Hispanic estimates are available) and 1997.

Black and Hispanic families were considerably less likely than white families to be without any minor children, with proportions of 42 percent, 35 percent, and 52 percent, respectively, in 1997. They were also more likely than white families to have four or more children, though these differences were smaller than in previous decades.

Table PF 1.3

Percentage distribution of families in the United States by number of own children under age 18 and by race and Hispanic origin^a: selected years, 1960-1997

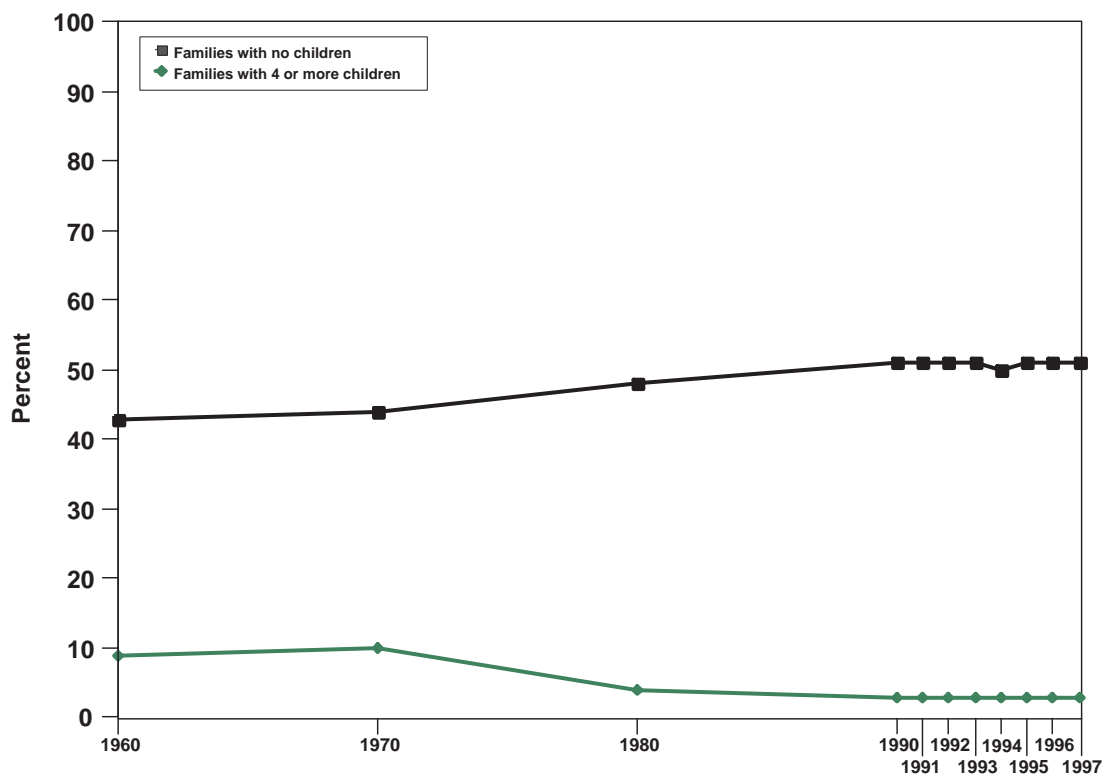
	1960	1970	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
All families											
Without own children	43	44	48	51	51	51	51	50	51	51	51
One child	19	18	21	21	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
2 children	18	17	19	19	19	18	19	19	19	19	19
3 children	11	11	8	7	7	7	7	8	7	7	7
4 or more children	9	10	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
White families											
Without own children	43	45	49	51	53	53	53	52	52	52	52
One child	19	18	21	21	19	20	19	19	20	19	20
2 children	18	18	19	19	18	18	19	19	19	19	19
3 children	11	11	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
4 or more children	9	9	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2
Black families											
Without own children	—	39	38	41	41	42	42	40	42	43	42
One child	—	18	23	25	25	24	25	25	24	24	24
2 children	—	15	20	19	19	19	18	20	20	18	20
3 children	—	10	10	9	9	10	10	9	9	9	9
4 or more children	—	19	8	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hispanic families											
Without own children	—	—	31	37	36	36	37	36	36	36	35
One child	—	—	23	23	22	22	23	22	23	23	24
2 children	—	—	23	21	23	22	22	23	23	23	23
3 children	—	—	13	12	12	13	12	13	12	12	12
4 or more children	—	—	10	7	7	7	7	6	7	7	6

^aPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for whites and blacks include persons of Hispanic origin.

Sources: All estimates from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, "Household and Family Characteristics," various years.

Figure PF 1.3

Percentage of families in the United States with no children, and with four or more resident children: selected years, 1960-1997



Source: All estimates from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, "Household and Family Characteristics," various years.

PF 1.4

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE CHILD POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES

The United States has become increasingly racially and ethnically diverse over the last several decades and is projected to become even more so in the decades to come. As recently as 1980, nearly three-quarters (74 percent) of all children in this country were non-Hispanic whites (see Figure PF 1.4). This proportion diminished to 66 percent in 1996 and 1997, and is expected to continue a steady downward trend until, by the year 2020, non-Hispanic whites will constitute just over one-half (55 percent) of the U.S. child population.

Prior to 1997, non-Hispanic blacks were the largest minority population of children in the United States. In 1997, however, Hispanics and non-Hispanic blacks each constituted about 15 percent of the total child population, with slightly more Hispanic than black children (10.3 versus 10.2 million) (see Table PF 1.4). These were followed by non-Hispanic Asian Americans at 4 percent, and non-Hispanic Native Americans at 1 percent. By the year 2020, more than one in five American children are expected to be Hispanic, nearly double the proportion in 1990. The Asian American population is also expected to continue its rapid growth, increasing from 4 percent in 1997 to 6 percent by the year 2010.

Table PF 1.4

Percentage distribution and number (in millions) of children under age 18 in the United States, by race and Hispanic origin:^a selected years, 1980-1997, and projected, 2000-2020

	1980	1990	1996	1997	Projected		
					2000	2010	2020
Percent							
White, non-Hispanic	74	69	66	66	64	59	55
Black, non-Hispanic	15	15	15	15	15	16	16
Hispanic	9	12	14	15	16	19	22
Asian American, non-Hispanic ^b	2	3	4	4	4	6	6
Native American, non-Hispanic ^c	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Number (in millions)							
White, non-Hispanic	47.1	44.2	45.6	45.6	45.4	42.7	42.4
Black, non-Hispanic	9.3	9.5	10.2	10.2	10.6	11.3	12.2
Hispanic	5.7	7.9	10.0	10.3	11.0	13.7	17.2
Asian American, non-Hispanic ^b	1.1	2.0	2.6	2.7	3.1	4.0	5.0
Native American, non-Hispanic ^c	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8

^aPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for whites, blacks, Asian Americans, and Native Americans exclude persons of Hispanic origin.

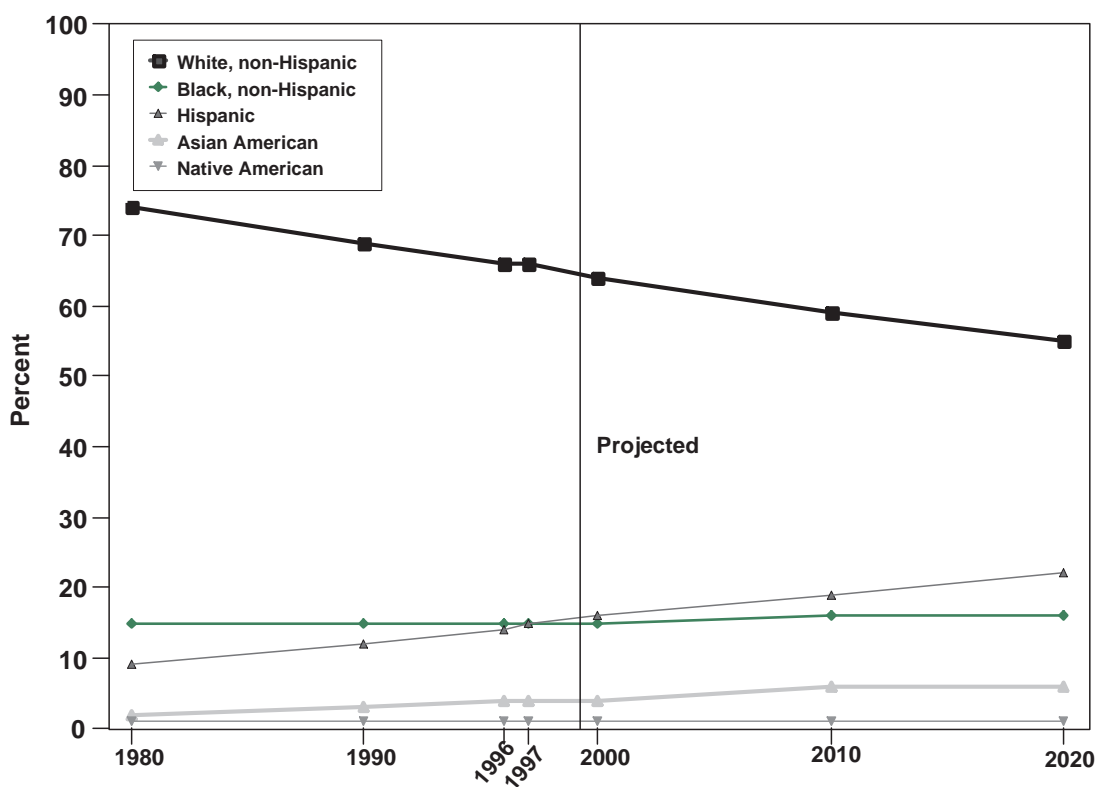
^bIncludes Pacific Islanders.

^cIncludes Alaskan Natives.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1095, Table 1; and No. 1130, Table 2; also unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Figure PF 1.4

Percentage distribution of children under age 18 in the United States, by race and Hispanic origin:^a selected years, 1980-1997, and projected, 2000-2020



^aPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for whites, blacks, Asian Americans, and Native Americans exclude persons of Hispanic origin.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1095, Table

PF 1.5

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

The United States is a nation of immigrants. Rates of immigration have varied substantially over periods of our history, as have the countries and cultures from which these immigrants originate. Recently, the United States has been experiencing a period of high immigration. Immigrant children are of particular interest, since they may have special needs that must be addressed through the education system.

The percentage of America's children and youth under age 20 who are foreign born has been increasing steadily over the last several decades, from 1.2 percent in 1970 to 3.7 percent in 1990 (see Figure PF 1.5.A).

Differences by Age. Older children are more likely than younger children to be foreign born. In 1990, 6.5 percent of youth ages 15 through 19 were foreign born, compared with only 1.4 percent of children under age 5 (see Table PF 1.5.A).

Differences by Race and Hispanic Origin. The percentage of children and youth under age 20 who are foreign born varies substantially by racial and ethnic background (see Figure PF 1.5.B). In 1980, less than 2 percent of whites, blacks, and Native Americans were foreign born, compared with 40 percent of Asians and 14 percent of Hispanics. By 1990, the percentage of foreign-born Asian children had declined from 40 to 33.2 percent, while the percentage of foreign-born Hispanic children increased to almost 16 percent. More recent data for children under age 18 show a similar pattern, though differences in both data source and age range prevent direct comparison with earlier data (see Table 1.5.B).

Table PF 1.5.A

Percentage of children under age 20 in the United States who were foreign born,^a by age, and by race and Hispanic origin:^b 1970, 1980, and 1990

	1970	1980	1990
All Children	1.2	2.9	3.7
Under age 5	0.6	1.4	1.4
Ages 5-9	1.1	2.6	2.7
Ages 10-14	1.4	3.2	4.3
Ages 15-19	1.8	4.1	6.5
Race and Hispanic origin			
White	1.2	1.7	1.8
Black	0.5	1.8	2.2
Native American, Eskimo, and Aleut	—	1.5	1.1
Asian and Pacific Islander	—	40.0	33.2
Hispanic	—	14.0	15.8

^aIncludes both immigrants and illegal aliens.

^bPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for whites, blacks, Asians, and Native Americans include persons of Hispanic origin.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *National Origin and Language*, PC(2-1A), 1970; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Detailed Characteristics of the Population*, 1980, Chapter D, U.S. Summary; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *The Foreign-Born Population in the U.S.*, 1990, CP-3-1, and 1990 STF-3A census files.

Table PF 1.5.B

Percentage of children under age 18 in the United States who were foreign born,^a by race and Hispanic origin:^b 1994-1996

	1994	1995	1996
All Children	4	4	4
Race and Hispanic origin			
White	3	3	3
Black	2	2	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	25	28	27
Hispanic	14	14	13

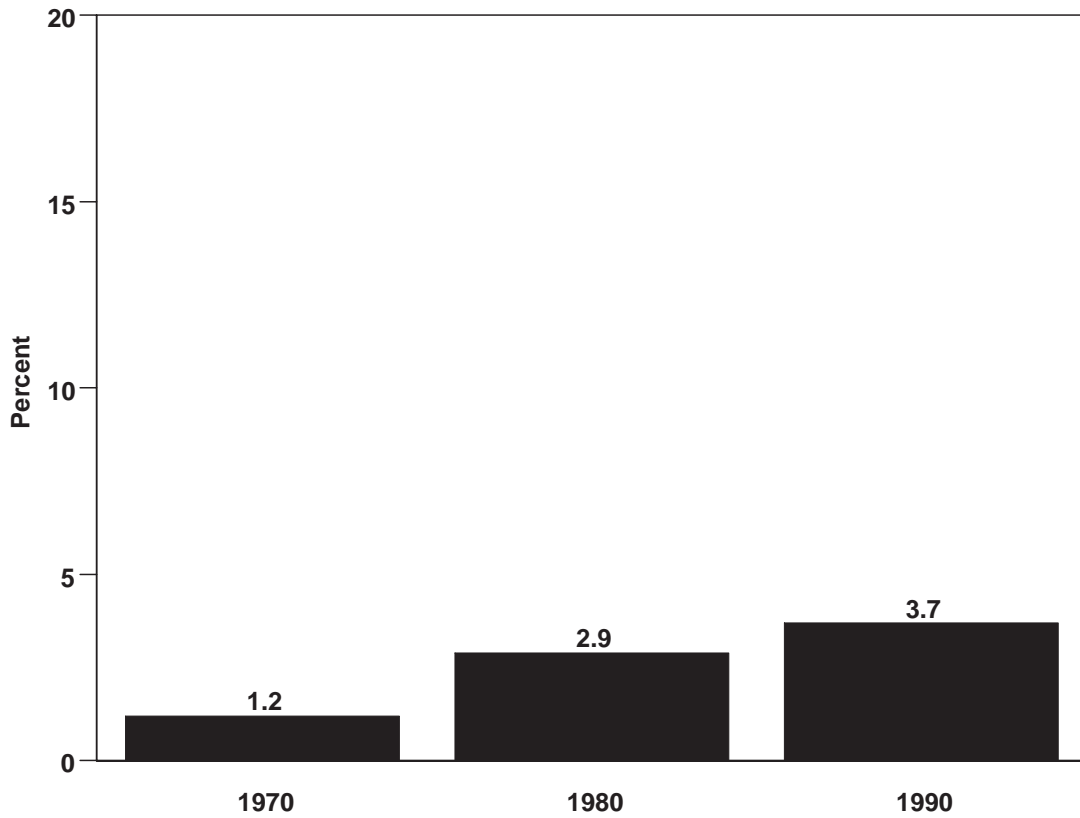
^aIncludes both immigrants and illegal aliens.

^bPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for whites, blacks, and Asians include persons of Hispanic origin.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, No. 486, Tables 1 and 2; U.S. Bureau of the Census, Paper Listing, Series PPL-58, *The Foreign-Born Population, 1995, Detailed Tables*, Tables 1 and 2; U.S. Bureau of the Census, Paper Listing, Series PPL-59, *The Foreign-Born Population, 1996, Detailed Tables*, Tables 1 and 2. All percentages calculated by Child Trends, Inc., based on number estimates from these sources.

Figure PF 1.5.A

Percentage of children under age 20 in the United States who were foreign born:^a
1970-1990

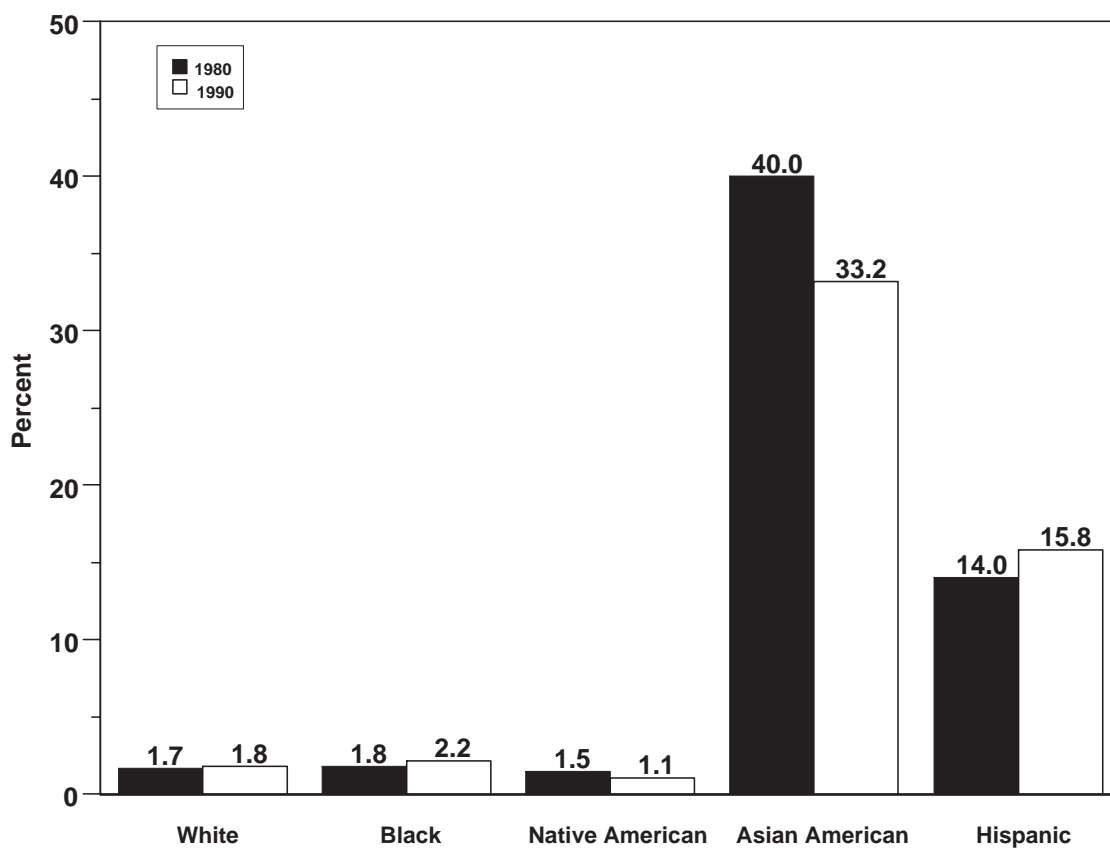


^aIncludes both immigrants and illegal aliens.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *National Origin and Language*, PC(2-1A), 1970; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Detailed Characteristics of the Population*, 1980, Chapter D, U.S. Summary; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *The Foreign-Born Population in the U.S.*, 1990, CP-3-1, and 1990 STF-3A census files.

Figure PF 1.5.B

Percentage of children under age 20 in the United States who were foreign born,^a by race and Hispanic origin:^b 1980 and 1990



^aIncludes both immigrants and illegal aliens.

^bPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for whites, blacks, Asian Americans, and Native Americans include persons of Hispanic origin.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, No. 486, Tables 1 and 2; U.S. Bureau of the Census, Paper Listing, Series PPL-58, *The Foreign-Born Population, 1995, Detailed Tables*, Tables 1 and 2; U.S. Bureau of the Census, Paper Listing, Series PPL-59, *The Foreign-Born Population, 1996, Detailed Tables*, Tables 1 and 2. All percentages calculated by Child Trends, Inc., based on number estimates from these sources.

PF 1.6

CHILDREN AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE DEPENDENT POPULATION

Children and senior citizens are less likely than other age groups to fully support themselves through participation in the labor market. Varying proportions of both the child population and the elderly population therefore receive income transfers, health care, and other services through public programs. This indicator looks at children (under age 18) as a percentage of the dependent population (children under age 18 and adults ages 65 and older).

Children's share of the dependent population fell from 79 percent in 1960 to 67 percent in 1990, and has remained unchanged since then (see Table PF 1.6). By the year 2010, however, that percentage is projected to decline to 65 percent.

Differences by Race and Hispanic Origin.¹ The trend toward a larger senior population, relative to the child population, is occurring among all racial and ethnic groups. Between 1980 and 1990, the number of children declined as a percentage of the dependent population across all racial and ethnic groups (see Figure PF 1.6). Population projections for 2010 suggest that there will be even more seniors relative to children in each group at that time.

Yet there are also considerable differences across groups in the number of children relative to senior citizens. There are far fewer white children relative to white senior citizens than there are minority children relative to minority seniors. In 1997, white children were estimated to make up about 61 percent of the white dependent population. Blacks are closest to whites, with children making up 79 percent of the combined child and elderly population total. Among Hispanics, children outnumber seniors by the greatest margin, with children estimated to account for 86 percent of the dependent population.

Table PF 1.6

Children in the United States as a percentage of the dependent population (persons ages 17 and under and ages 65 and over), by race and Hispanic origin:^a selected years, 1960-1997, and projected 2010

	Estimated						Projected
	1960	1970	1980	1990	1996	1997	2010
All children under age 18	79	78	71	67	67	67	65
White, non-Hispanic	—	—	68	62	61	61	57
Black	—	—	82	79	79	79	78
Hispanic	—	—	89	87	86	86	83
Asian American ^b	—	—	88	85	81	80	76
Native American ^c	—	—	84	82	84	84	79

^aPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for blacks, Asian Americans, and Native Americans include persons of Hispanic origin.

^bIncludes Pacific Islanders.

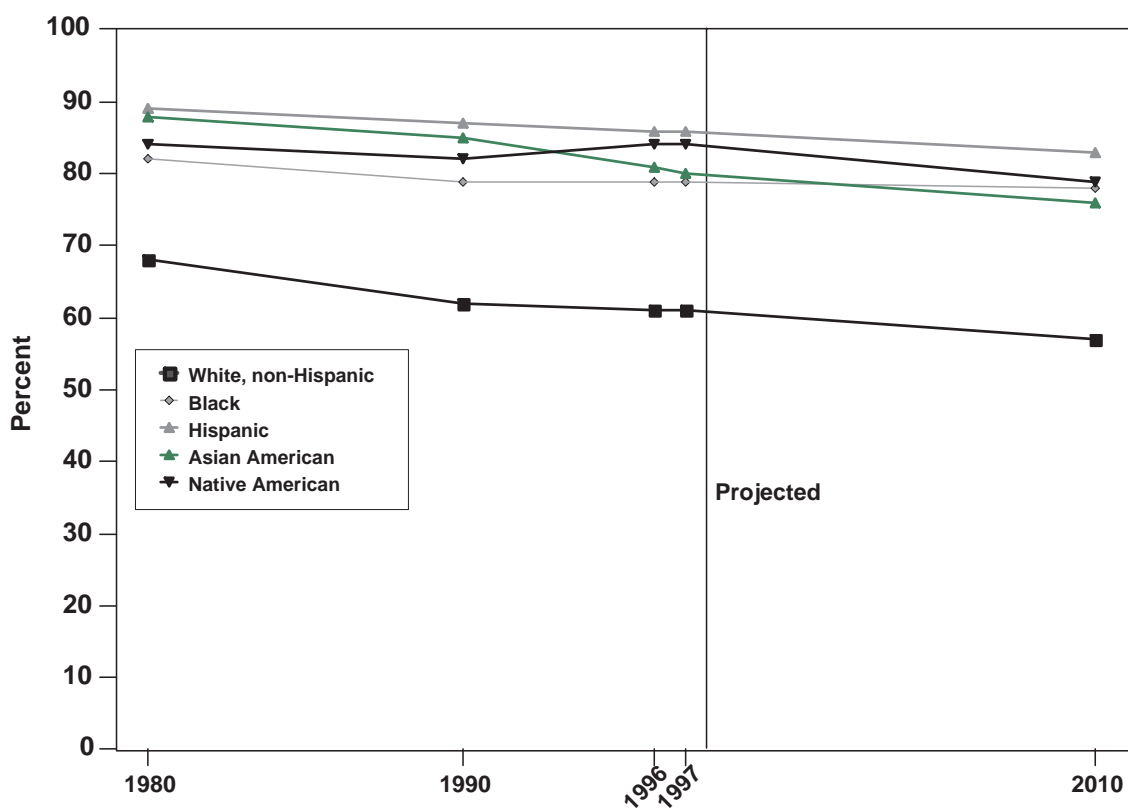
^cIncludes Alaskan Natives.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1095, Table 1; and No. 1130, Table 2; also unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

¹Estimates for whites exclude Hispanics of that race.

Figure PF 1.6

Children in the United States as a percentage of the dependent population (persons ages 17 and under and ages 65 and over), by race and Hispanic origin:^a selected years, 1980-1997, and projected for 2010.



^aPersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Estimates for blacks, Asian Americans, and Native Americans include persons of Hispanic origin.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25, No. 1095, Table 1; and No. 1130, Table 2; also unpublished data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

PF 1.7

FERTILITY RATE AND NUMBER OF BIRTHS

Changes in the fertility rate can have important consequences for society as it is a major determinant of overall population growth and the age structure of the population.

The fertility rate in the United States dropped dramatically between 1960 and 1980 from 118.0 to 68.4 per 1000 women ages 15 to 44 (see Figure PF 1.7.A). Since 1980 the rate has leveled off at between 66 and 71 per 1,000. The preliminary estimate for 1996 is 65.7 births per 1,000. The number of births also dropped between 1960 and 1980 from about 4.3 million to 3.6 million (see Table PF 1.7.B). In 1996 there were about 3.9 million births.

Differences by Race and Hispanic Origin. In recent years, Hispanic women have had much higher fertility rates than women from the major race groups. Preliminary estimates for 1996 indicate that Hispanic women have a rate of 104.4 per 1,000, while white,² black, Asian, and American Indian women have rates that vary between 65 and 71 per 1,000 (see Table PF 1.7.A).

Differences by Women's Age. The number and the percentage of all births to older women has increased substantially since 1980 (see Table PF 1.7.B and Figure PF 1.7.B). In 1980, 20 percent of all births were to women ages 30 to 44. By 1996 that had risen to 35 percent.

Differences by Women's Education. In 1995, 23 percent of all births were to women lacking high school degrees, and 21 percent were to women with four or more years of college (see Table PF 1.7.B).

²Rates for non-Hispanic whites are even lower at 58 per 1,000 women ages 15 to 44 compared to 64 per 1,000 for all whites in 1995.

Table PF 1.7.A

Fertility rates in the United States by race and Hispanic origin and age of mother (births per 1,000 females in each age group): selected years, 1960-1996

	1960 ^a	1970 ^a	1980	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996 ^b
All races											
All ages^c	118.0	87.9	68.4	66.3	70.9	69.6	68.9	67.6	66.7	65.6	65.7
Ages 15-19	89.1	68.3	53.0	51.0	59.9	62.1	60.7	59.6	58.9	56.8	54.7
Ages 20-24	258.1	167.8	115.1	108.3	116.5	115.7	114.6	112.6	111.1	109.8	111.1
Ages 25-29	197.4	145.1	112.9	111.0	120.2	118.2	117.4	115.5	113.9	112.2	113.9
Ages 30-34	112.7	73.3	61.9	69.1	80.8	79.5	80.2	80.8	81.5	82.5	84.5
Ages 35-39	56.2	31.7	19.8	24.0	31.7	32.0	32.5	32.9	33.7	34.3	35.4
Ages 40-44	15.5	8.1	3.9	4.0	5.5	5.5	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.8
White^d											
All ages^c	113.2	84.1	65.6	64.1	68.3	67.0	66.5	65.4	64.9	64.4	64.7
Ages 15-19	79.4	57.4	45.4	43.3	50.8	52.8	51.8	51.1	51.1	50.1	48.4
Ages 20-24	252.8	163.4	111.1	104.1	109.8	109.0	108.2	106.9	106.2	106.3	107.9
Ages 25-29	194.9	145.9	113.8	112.3	120.7	118.8	118.4	116.6	115.5	114.8	117.0
Ages 30-34	109.6	71.9	61.2	69.9	81.7	80.5	81.4	82.1	83.2	84.6	87.0
Ages 35-39	54.0	30.0	18.8	23.3	31.5	31.8	32.2	32.7	33.7	34.5	35.7
Ages 40-44	14.7	7.5	3.5	3.7	5.2	5.2	5.7	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.7
Black^d											
All ages^c	153.5	115.4	84.7	78.8	86.8	85.2	83.2	80.5	76.9	72.3	70.8
Ages 15-19	156.1	140.7	97.8	95.4	112.8	115.5	112.4	108.6	104.5	96.1	91.7
Ages 20-24	295.4	202.7	140.0	135.0	160.2	160.9	158.0	152.6	146.0	137.1	137.3
Ages 25-29	218.6	136.3	103.9	100.2	115.5	113.1	111.2	108.4	104.0	98.6	98.3
Ages 30-34	137.1	79.6	59.9	57.9	68.7	67.7	67.5	67.3	65.8	64.0	63.3
Ages 35-39	73.9	41.9	23.5	23.9	28.1	28.3	28.8	29.2	28.9	28.7	29.0
Ages 40-44	21.9	12.5	5.6	4.6	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.1
Hispanic^{e,f}											
All ages^c	—	—	95.4	—	107.7	108.1	108.6	106.9	105.6	105.0	104.4
Ages 15-19	—	—	82.2	—	100.3	106.7	107.1	106.8	107.7	106.7	101.6
Ages 20-24	—	—	156.4	—	181.0	186.3	190.6	188.3	188.2	188.5	189.0
Ages 25-29	—	—	132.1	—	153.0	152.8	154.4	154.0	153.2	153.8	160.0
Ages 30-34	—	—	83.2	—	98.3	96.1	96.8	96.4	95.4	95.9	97.2
Ages 35-39	—	—	39.9	—	45.3	44.9	45.6	44.7	44.3	44.9	44.7
Ages 40-44	—	—	10.6	—	10.9	10.7	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.6
Asian/Pacific Islander^d											
All ages^c	—	—	73.2	68.4	69.6	67.6	67.2	66.7	66.8	66.4	66.6
Ages 15-19	—	—	26.2	23.8	26.4	27.4	26.6	27.0	27.1	26.1	25.4
Ages 20-24	—	—	93.3	83.6	79.2	75.2	74.6	73.3	73.1	72.4	72.4
Ages 25-29	—	—	127.4	123.0	126.3	123.2	121.0	119.9	118.6	113.4	112.0
Ages 30-34	—	—	96.0	93.6	106.5	103.3	103.0	103.9	105.2	106.9	109.8
Ages 35-39	—	—	38.3	42.7	49.6	49.0	50.6	50.2	51.3	52.4	52.4
Ages 40-44	—	—	8.5	8.7	10.7	11.2	11.0	11.3	11.6	12.1	12.2
American Indian^d											
All ages^c	—	—	82.7	78.6	76.2	75.1	75.4	73.4	70.9	69.1	69.8
Ages 15-19	—	—	82.2	79.2	81.1	85.0	84.4	83.1	80.8	78.0	75.1
Ages 20-24	—	—	143.7	139.1	148.7	144.9	145.5	139.8	134.2	132.5	136.1
Ages 25-29	—	—	106.6	109.6	110.3	106.9	109.4	107.6	104.1	98.4	100.5
Ages 30-34	—	—	61.8	62.6	61.5	61.9	63.0	62.8	61.2	62.2	63.7
Ages 35-39	—	—	28.1	27.4	27.5	27.2	28.0	27.6	27.5	27.7	28.7
Ages 40-44	—	—	8.2	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.3

^aBeginning in 1980, births have been tabulated by the race and ethnicity of the mother. Previously, births are tabulated by race of child, assigning a child to the race of the nonwhite parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are nonwhite. - ^bData for 1996 are preliminary. - ^cFertility rates computed by relating total births, regardless of age of mother, to women aged 15-44 years. - ^dIncludes persons of Hispanic origin. - ^ePersons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. - ^fData for Hispanics have been available since 1978; 22 states reported Hispanic origin in 1980, representing 90 percent of the Hispanic population. Hispanic birth data was reported by 23 states and the District of Columbia in 1985; 48 states and District of Columbia in 1990; 49 states and the District of Columbia in 1991 and 1992; and all 50 states and the District of Columbia in 1993 through 1996. Rates in 1985 were not calculated for Hispanics because estimates for populations were not available.

Sources: Ventura, S.J., Peters, K.D., Martin, J.A., and Maurer, J.D. "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report 46* (1, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1997; Ventura, S.J., Martin, J.A., Curtin, S.C., and Mathews, T.J. "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report 45* (11, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1997. Also previous issues of this annual report; Ventura, S.J. "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report 32* (6, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1983.

Table PF 1.7.B

Number of births in the United States by mother's age, race and Hispanic origin, marital status, and education level: selected years, 1960-1996

	1960 ^a	1970 ^a	1980	1985	1990	1995	1996 ^b
Age of mother							
All Ages	4,257,850	3,731,386	3,612,258	3,760,561	4,158,212	3,899,589	3,914,953
Ages 15-19	586,966	644,708	552,161	467,485	521,826	499,873	494,272
Ages 20-24	1,426,912	1,418,874	1,226,200	1,141,320	1,093,730	965,547	951,247
Ages 25-29	1,092,816	994,904	1,108,291	1,201,350	1,277,108	1,063,539	1,078,411
Ages 30-34	687,722	427,806	550,354	696,354	886,063	904,666	904,329
Ages 35-39	359,908	180,244	140,793	214,336	317,583	383,745	400,810
Ages 40-44	91,564	49,952	23,090	28,334	48,607	67,250	71,663
Race and Hispanic Origin^c							
White	3,600,744	3,091,264	2,936,351	3,037,913	3,290,273	3,098,885	3,113,014
Black	602,264	572,362	568,080	581,824	684,336	603,139	596,039
Hispanic ^d	—	—	307,163	372,814	595,073	679,768	697,829
Marital Status							
Married	4,033,550	3,332,686	2,946,511	2,932,387	2,992,828	2,645,613	2,647,570
Unmarried ^e	224,300	398,700	665,747	828,174	1,165,384	1,253,976	1,267,383
Education Level							
Less than high school	—	—	—	—	—	867,552	—
Completed high school	—	—	—	—	—	1,307,228	—
At least some college	—	—	—	—	—	845,110	—
Four or more years of college	—	—	—	—	—	820,325	—

^aBirths from 1980 onwards by race of mother. Tabulations prior to 1980 are by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the nonwhite parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are nonwhite.

^bData for 1996 are preliminary.

^cEstimates for white and black mothers include Hispanics of those races. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

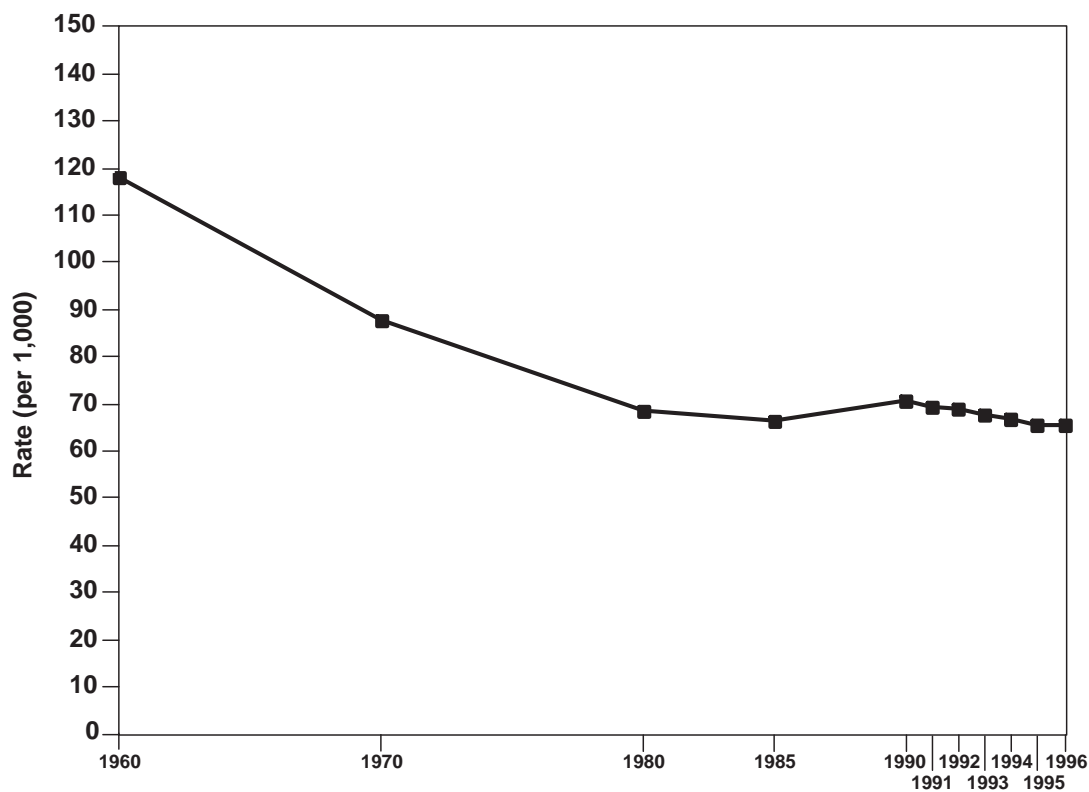
^dBirths by Hispanic origin in 1980 are based on data from 22 States which report Hispanic origin on the birth certificate; 23 States and the District of Columbia in 1985; 48 States and the District of Columbia in 1990; and 50 States and the District of Columbia in 1995 and 1996.

^eFrom 1980 onwards, data for states in which marital status was not reported have been inferred and included with data from the remaining states. Prior to 1980, births by marital status are estimated for the United States from registration areas in which marital status of mother was reported. See Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995, referenced below.

Sources: Ventura S.J., Peters, K.D., Martin, J.A., and Maurer, J.D. "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 46 (1, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1997; Ventura, S.J., Martin, J.A., Curtin, S.C., and Mathews, T.J. "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 45 (11, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics, 1997; National Center for Health Statistics. *Vital Statistics of the United States, 1990, Vol. I, Natality*. Washington, D.C.: Public Health Service. 1994. Also the 1985, 1980, and 1970 editions of this annual report; National Center for Health Statistics. "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1985." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 36 (4, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: Public Health Service. 1987; National Center for Health Statistics. "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1980." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 31 (8, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: Public Health Service. 1982; Ventura, S.J. "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 32 (6, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1983; National Center for Health Statistics. "Summary Report Final Natality Statistics, 1970." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 22 (12, Supp.). Rockville, Md.: Public Health Service. 1974.

Figure PF 1.7.A

Overall fertility rate (per 1,000 women ages 15-44 years)^a in the United States: selected years, 1960-1996^b



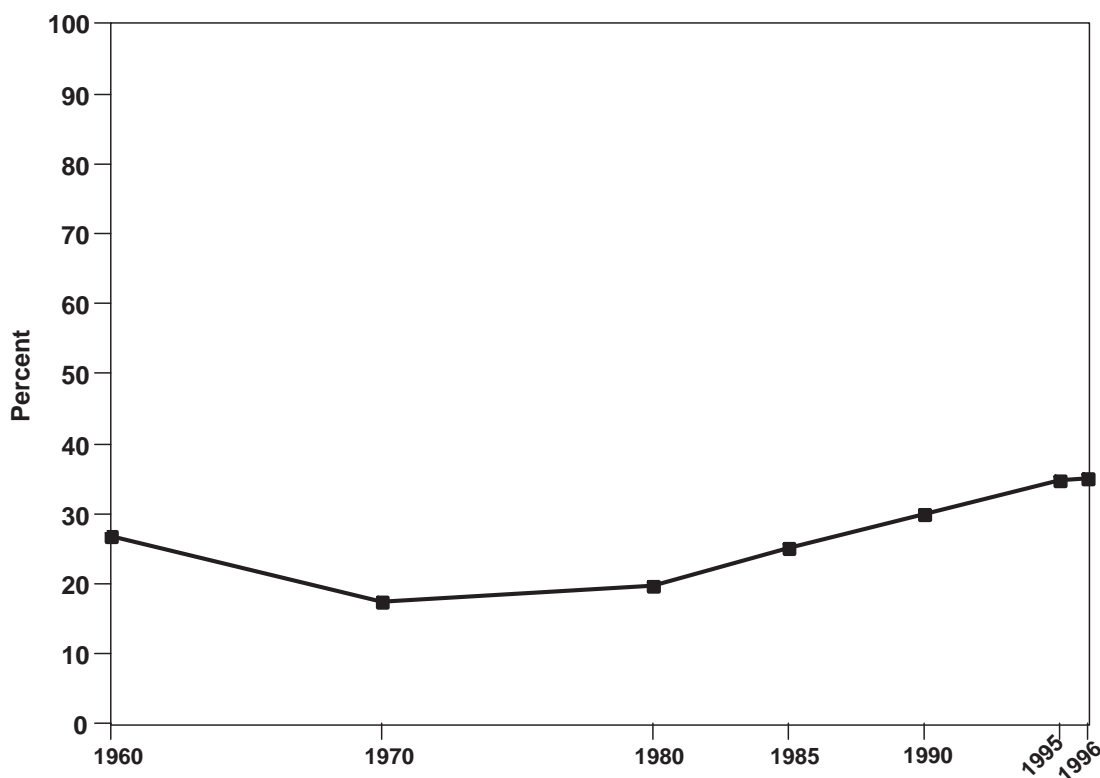
^aFertility rates computed by relating total births, regardless of age of mother, to women aged 15-44 years.

^bData for 1996 are preliminary.

Sources: Ventura, S.J., Peters, K.D., Martin, J.A., and Maurer, J.D. "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 46 (1, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1997; Ventura, S.J., Martin, J.A., Curtin, S.C., and Mathews, T.J. "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 45 (11, Supp 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1997. Also previous issues of this annual report; Ventura, S.J. "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 32 (6, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1983.

Figure PF 1.7.B

Percentage of all births in the United States to women ages 30 through 44, selected years: 1960-1996^a



^aData for 1996 are preliminary.

Sources: Ventura S.J., Peters, K.D., Martin, J.A., and Maurer, J.D. "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 46 (1, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1997; Ventura, S.J., Martin, J.A., Curtin, S.C., and Mathews, T.J. "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 45 (11, Supp. 2). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics, 1997; National Center for Health Statistics. *Vital Statistics of the United States*, 1990, Vol. I, Natality. Washington, D.C.: Public Health Service. 1994. Also the 1985, 1980, and 1970 editions of this annual report; National Center for Health Statistics. "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1985." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 36 (4, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: Public Health Service. 1987; National Center for Health Statistics. "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1980." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 31 (8, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: Public Health Service. 1982; Ventura, S.J. "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 32 (6, Supp.). Hyattsville, Md.: National Center for Health Statistics. 1983; National Center for Health Statistics. "Summary Report Final Natality Statistics, 1970." *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* 22 (12, Supp.). Rockville, Md.: Public Health Service. 1974.

