

VITAL and HEALTH STATISTICS

DATA FROM THE NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM

Weight at Birth and Survival of the Newborn

By Age of Mother and Total-Birth Order

United States, Early 1950

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Statistics derived from vital records on neonatal mortality by weight at birth, by color and sex, for infants born in the United States, during the first 3 months of 1950, by age of mother, total-birth order, and outcome of the mother's previous pregnancies.

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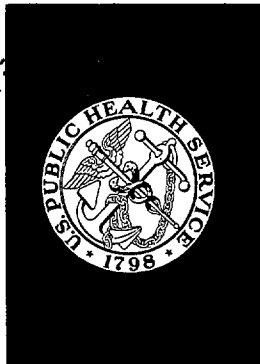
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

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Secretary

Public Health Service
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RELATED REPORTS

Vital Statistics—Special Reports, Volume 39:

- No. 1. Weight at Birth and Its Effect on Survival of the Newborn in the United States, Early 1950.
- No. 6. Relation of Weight at Birth to Cause of Death and Age at Death in the Neonatal Period: United States, Early 1950.

Vital Statistics—Special Reports, Volume 45:

- No. 10. Weight at Birth and Its Effect on Survival of the Newborn: United States by Geographic Divisions and by Urban and Rural Areas, Early 1950.

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Weight at Birth and Survival of Newborn, by Age of Mother and Total-Birth Order: United States, Early 1950

By Jeanne Loeb, Analytical Statistician

Introduction

This is the fourth in a series of reports in which the birth weight of children born in the first 3 months of 1950 and the relation of birth weight to mortality experience during the first 4 weeks of life have been studied in connection with other factors known about these births. The factors considered in this report include age of mother, birth order, and outcome of the mother's previous pregnancies. In earlier reports data by color, sex, plurality, attendant at birth, place of residence, age at death, and cause of death were presented.

During the period that has elapsed since the events analyzed here took place, there has been no fundamental change in the relative importance of neonatal mortality. Over two-thirds of the deaths in the first year occur in the neonatal period, and mortality in these 4 weeks is higher than in any single year of age after the first through age 50.

Additional information on factors affecting mortality of the newborn is needed to help delineate the problem more precisely. Data in this report on demographic factors associated with high mortality of children at different weights will help to indicate to medical, public health, and social welfare groups the magnitude of specific problems relating to excessive mortality among these infants. Of special interest is the immature group of children. Today, neonatal deaths among these infants account for over two-thirds of the total. From the large cohort of births included in the present study, detailed information is made available on two aspects of the problem of prematurity—frequency of immature birth and mortality experience of immature infants.

Of equal, though of less striking importance, is the need to know more about general differences in average birth weight and in mortality among

normal weight children. These variations which are sometimes very large are also significant in considering the overall comparative mortality and health experience of the newborn.

Certain limitations must be placed on interpretation of variations in birth weight and mortality with age of mother and birth order presented in this report because of the nature of the data. These same limitations apply to data in similar reports that have been published elsewhere¹ and may to some extent explain certain differences in findings. In each of these studies, the statistics for individual age of mother and birth-order categories represent to some extent the experience of different groups of women.² Because of the degree of selection at successive birth orders and ages of mother, these groups may differ sharply in relation to other factors than age of mother and birth order—for instance, socioeconomic status, habits in child spacing, etc.—depending on the fertility pattern prevailing in the area. For example, in this country and in many others, women having their third child represent only about one-half to two-thirds of those giving birth a second time, and at higher orders the ratio between births at successive orders is of similar magnitude. With this degree of reduction

¹McKeown, Thomas, and Gibson, J. R., "Observations On All Births (23,970) In Birmingham, 1947," *British Journal of Social Medicine*, Vol. 5, No. 2, April 1951, pp.98-112; Van Gelderen, H.H., Posthuma, J. Hermans, and De Haas, J. H., "Geboortegewicht en praematuritas in Nederland," *Tijdschrift v. Soc. Geneeskunde*, November 19, 1954, pp. 443-454; Bromberg, Y. M., Halevi, H. S., and Brzezinsky, A., "Studies in Anthropometry of Jewish Infants in Palestine," *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, Vol. 9, No. 3, September 1951, p. 297.

²In studies based on data for more than 1 year there is, of course, some duplication at successive birth orders or ages.

in the population at each birth order, selectivity in relation to economic level, a factor often considered to be related to birth weight,³ could affect the patterns of change in birth weight and mortality with birth order.

As a general index of the variation in socio-economic status with size of family in this country, data for white women by occupation of husband from the 1950 census of population are shown in table A. These figures indicate that there are some differences in occupational composition for small and large families—for example, a higher proportion of farmers, farm laborers, and other laborers are represented in the large family groups. It should be understood, therefore, that the variations in birth weight and mortality with

age of mother and birth order described in this report cannot be assigned wholly to the two factors under direct study. Other related factors may intervene and modify the effect of these variables.

Basis of study

With the addition of the item "birth weight" to practically all State certificates of birth in 1949, the development of data for this characteristic on a national basis became possible for the first time. Annual data on births by weight have been published since 1950, but only from this special study are national data also available on neonatal deaths by birth weight. The opportunity to obtain information on mortality in the neonatal period in relation to weight at birth for the first quarter of 1950 was afforded by the matching of neonatal death records with corresponding birth records, which was incidental to a test of birth registration completeness.⁴

³Douglas, J. W. B., "Social Class Differences in Health and Survival During the First Two Years of Life," *Population Studies*, Vol. V, No. 1, July 1951, pp. 35-58; Eastman, Nicholson J., "Prematurity and Its Relationship to Maternal Health," *California's Health*, Vol. 10, No. 16, February 28, 1953, pp. 121-123; Gibson, J. R., and McKeown, Thomas, "Birth Weight Related to Economic Circumstances of Parents," *British Journal of Social Medicine*, Vol. 5, No. 4, October 1951, pp. 259-264.

⁴For details on the procedures in the matching, see National Office of Vital Statistics, "Weight at Birth and Its Effect on Survival of the Newborn in the United States, Early 1950," *Vital Statistics—Special Reports*, Vol. 39, No. 1, 1954.

TABLE A. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MARRIED WHITE WOMEN 15-44 YEARS OLD BY MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF HUSBAND BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN: UNITED STATES, 1950

(Based on a 2.4-percent sample. Limited to women married once and husband present. In computing percentages, cases where husbands were not in the experienced civilian labor force or where information on occupation was not reported were excluded.)

MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF HUSBAND	Total women	WOMEN WITH SPECIFIED NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN					
		None	1	2	3	4	5 or more
TOTAL-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional, technical, and kindred workers----	8.8	10.2	9.3	9.7	8.0	5.4	2.8
Farmers and farm managers-----	9.6	6.9	7.2	8.6	11.8	15.5	21.8
Managers, officials, and proprietors, excl. farm	12.1	11.2	11.8	14.3	12.8	10.8	6.5
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers-----	13.5	17.0	15.6	13.6	10.5	7.9	5.1
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers-----	21.9	20.6	21.8	22.4	23.1	23.1	21.0
Operatives and kindred workers-----	22.5	22.2	23.2	21.2	22.3	24.0	25.0
Service workers, including private household----	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.2	2.9
Farm laborers and foremen-----	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.7	2.3	3.0	5.1
Laborers, except farm and mine-----	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.1	5.8	7.1	9.8

Source of basic data: U. S. Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Population: 1950*, Vol. IV, Part 5C, table 28.

All birth and related death certificates filed in the United States for children born between January 1 and March 31, 1950, except those for residents of Massachusetts, are included in the study group. Certificates relating to residents of Massachusetts were omitted since this State did not require the reporting of birth weight. Neonatal mortality rates for the United States including and excluding Massachusetts were 19.9 and 20.0, respectively.

and 93.5 percent of the nonwhite were registered. Data on birth registration completeness by certain of the classifications studied in this report are shown in table B.⁵

No definitive information is available on the completeness of death registration, but it is thought to vary generally as birth registration completeness. Since there is probably a slight bias in the direction of underreporting of small

⁵For summary of method and detailed statistics, see National Office of Vital Statistics, "Birth Registration Completeness in the United States and Geographic Areas, 1950. Part III. Data for Detailed Characteristics," *Vital Statistics—Special Reports*, Vol. 45, No. 9, 1956.

Registration completeness

A test of birth registration completeness covering the period of this study indicated that practically all (98.6 percent) of the white births

TABLE B. PERCENT BIRTH REGISTRATION COMPLETENESS BY AGE OF MOTHER, LIVE-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR:
UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Live-birth order refers to number of children born alive to mother)

AGE OF MOTHER AND COLOR ¹	Total ²	LIVE-BIRTH ORDER						
		1st	2d	3d	4th	5th	6th and 7th	8th and over
TOTAL-----	97.9	98.9	98.7	98.2	97.2	95.9	94.5	92.6
Under 20 years-----	97.1	97.7	96.2	94.9	94.6	84.1	88.2	-
20-24 years-----	98.1	99.2	98.3	96.9	95.0	93.5	91.9	90.7
25-29 years-----	98.3	99.4	99.3	98.5	96.9	95.3	93.8	93.0
30-34 years-----	98.1	99.2	99.4	99.1	98.2	96.7	94.5	92.5
35-39 years-----	97.1	98.8	99.2	98.9	98.3	96.9	95.3	92.4
40-44 years-----	96.5	98.6	98.8	99.2	98.4	97.2	96.4	93.3
45 years and over-----	90.9	94.4	94.3	93.1	92.3	91.2	89.9	90.7
White-----	98.6	99.3	99.1	98.8	98.0	97.0	95.6	93.9
Under 20 years-----	98.3	98.6	97.4	96.8	98.1	83.3	100.0	-
20-24 years-----	98.8	99.5	98.8	97.9	96.1	94.5	93.0	90.6
25-29 years-----	98.8	99.6	99.5	98.9	97.7	96.2	94.4	94.2
30-34 years-----	98.7	99.4	99.6	99.4	98.6	97.6	95.5	93.3
35-39 years-----	98.0	99.2	99.4	99.2	98.8	97.6	96.3	93.9
40-44 years-----	97.5	99.0	99.3	99.4	99.1	97.9	97.1	94.6
45 years and over-----	93.8	99.0	96.7	95.2	95.8	93.0	94.0	93.2
Nonwhite-----	93.5	95.0	94.8	94.1	93.1	92.4	91.9	90.3
Under 20 years-----	93.6	93.9	93.6	92.8	92.5	84.6	81.8	-
20-24 years-----	94.2	96.0	94.7	93.8	93.0	92.5	91.2	90.7
25-29 years-----	94.3	97.2	96.0	94.9	93.0	92.8	93.0	92.1
30-34 years-----	93.3	96.2	96.5	95.0	94.3	92.3	91.8	91.3
35-39 years-----	91.2	93.0	95.6	93.2	93.3	91.7	90.8	89.5
40-44 years-----	89.9	91.8	90.9	95.1	89.9	89.8	92.4	89.5
45 years and over-----	80.7	75.0	78.9	84.6	75.0	81.8	72.7	84.6

¹Figures for age of mother not stated are not shown separately but are included in totals.

²Figures for births of order not stated are not shown separately but are included in the "Total."

infants who died immediately after birth or in reporting some of them as fetal deaths, understatement of the proportion of infants at the low weights and of the mortality rates at these weights and at the younger ages may result. This biasing situation would, it seems likely, generally be of greater significance in groups with low birth registration completeness.

For other explanatory material relating to qualifications, adjustments, and classification of data, see Explanatory Notes at end of report.

Background Statistics

A brief summary of some of the basic statistics on the newborn by birth weight is given here as background for the data by birth order and age of mother that follow.

Of the children born in the first 3 months of 1950, 7.4 percent weighed 2,500 grams or less. However, deaths among these infants accounted for about two-thirds of all neonatal deaths. This is explained, of course, by the high mortality (174 per 1,000) in the group. For babies weighing 2,501 grams or more, the neonatal mortality rate was only 7.8 per 1,000.

Certain differences between the experience for the white and nonwhite groups in relation to birth weight are important. A greater proportion of nonwhite than white children were born at the immature⁶ weights (9.7 and 7.0 percent, respectively) and also at weights 4,501 grams or more (3.8 and 1.8 percent, respectively) and, on the average, the nonwhite babies weighed slightly less (50 grams) than the white. The higher neonatal mortality rate for nonwhite than white infants (about 40 percent) was due in part to these weight differences and in part to the substantially greater mortality among the nonwhite at weights of 2,501 grams or more.

In relation to age at death, approximately one-half of the deaths during the first 28 days occurred before the end of the first day, with the proportion dying this soon varying from three-fourths for the very small babies (those 1,000 grams or less) to about one-third for the mature

⁶Relates to children weighing 2,500 grams or less. See section on Classifications for discussion of usage of terms 'immature' and 'premature.'

group. The risk of dying was higher for the smaller babies at all ages in the neonatal period but the greatest differences were found in the early days of life.

When data by age for white and nonwhite infants were compared, it was noted that the advantage for the nonwhite at immature weights was due to lower mortality in the first few days of life. At subsequent ages the rate for the nonwhite immature infant was the same or greater than for the white. For babies weighing 2,501 grams or more, the loss among the nonwhite exceeded that among the white in the early days of life as well as later in the neonatal period.

Birth Order

Birth weight distribution

Among children included in the study group, births of immature infants, which represent such a critical segment of the newborn in relation to survival, occurred most frequently in first pregnancies⁷ and births of fifth and higher orders (7.7 percent). The lowest incidence of immaturity was found among second pregnancies (6.9 percent) and, as indicated in table 2 and figure 1, each subsequent birth order brought a slightly increased proportion of premature infants.

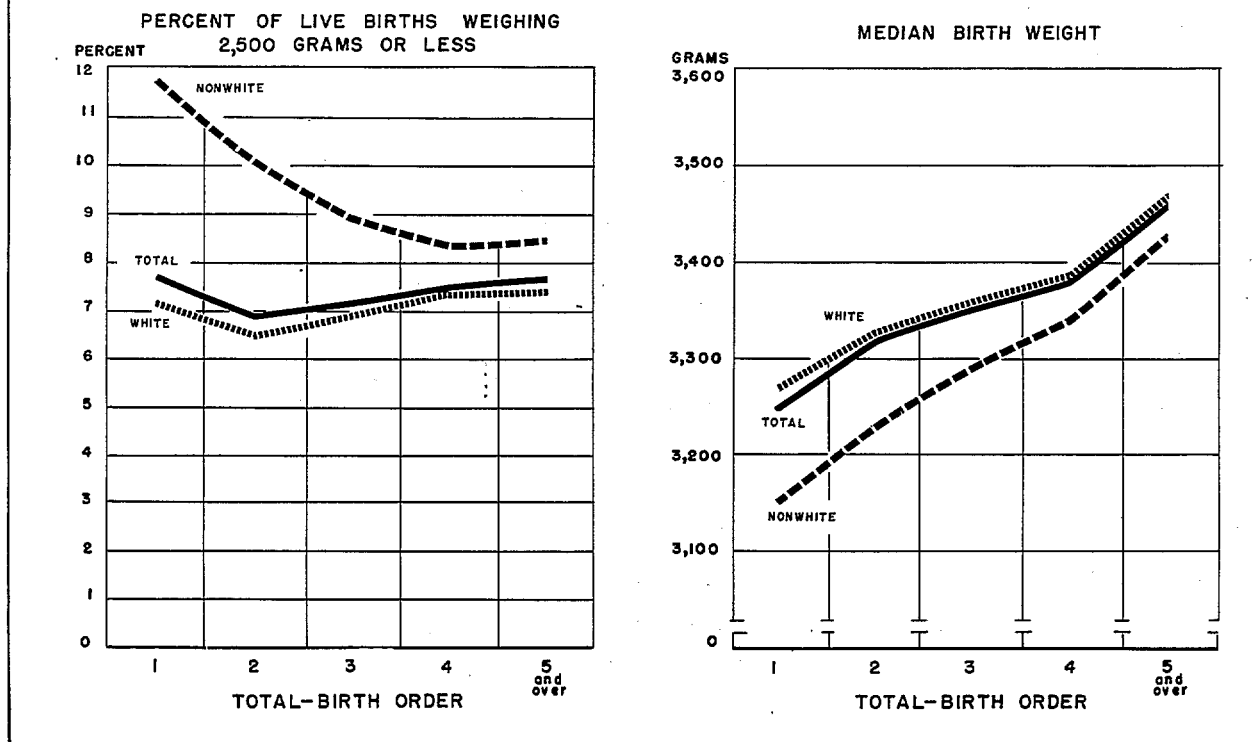
The changes in average (median) birth weight with birth order did not accord completely with differences in the incidence of immature birth in that, despite the rise in the proportion of small babies (2,500 grams or less) at birth orders above the second, birth weight increased at each successive birth order. From a low of 3,250 grams for first births, the median birth weight climbed continuously and reached a high of 3,460 grams at fifth and higher orders. Although

⁷Birth order, as used in this report, relates to 'total-birth order,' which refers to the number of live births, including the current birth, and fetal deaths that a mother has had. In this number, however, it can be assumed that only fetal deaths at gestations of 20 weeks or more are included since the birth order item relating to fetal deaths on the birth certificates in use in most States in 1950 required the reporting of only this group. In referring to total birth order as 'pregnancies,' therefore, this restriction should be understood.

Figure 1

Percent of Live Births at Weights of 2,500 Grams or Less and Median Birth Weights
by Total-Birth Order and Color: United States, January 1 to March 31, 1950

(Based on data shown in table 2)



data are not shown separately for individual orders above the fourth, the particularly marked increase in average birth weight between the fourth and the higher order births (80 grams) would seem to indicate a continuing rise even beyond the fifth order. The only other difference of comparable magnitude (70 grams) is found between weights of first and second children.

The shift toward higher weight with increasing birth order meant smaller proportions of children at weights 3,500 grams or less and larger proportions at weights above this. A child weighing 4,501 grams or more at birth was a relatively rare occurrence in first pregnancies (0.8 percent). But, among children of fifth and higher orders, 5.6 percent weighed this much (table 2).

Neonatal mortality

Variations in neonatal mortality with birth order were similar to, but—except between the first and second orders—were substantially greater than corresponding variations in the incidence of immaturity with birth order (figures 1 and 2). The risk of mortality dipped from 19.1 per 1,000 for the first births to the low, 17.8, among the children of second pregnancies and then climbed, first gradually and then somewhat sharply, to a maximum of 26.9 among fifth and higher order births (table 4).

For immature babies, mortality by birth order differed most notably from the experience of all children in that the rate was lower among first

than second births. But, for children weighing 2,501 grams or more the changes in mortality followed closely the pattern already described for total births except that the relative differences between mortality at first and second orders and at the higher orders were much greater.

If it were possible to reduce the overall neonatal mortality rates at all birth orders to the level for second births, the greatest saving in lives among the newborn would be made at the high orders (fifth and over) despite the small numbers of births of these orders. With a distribution of births the same as in January through March 1950, over 50 percent of the saving among mature infants would come from this group where socioeconomic factors are likely to be of importance. A reduction about half as large, but still substantial, would be achieved among first children weighing 2,501 grams or more. For first babies of this size, studies have indicated that

obstetrical problems in delivery may be the critical factor in the reduction of risk.

Age of Mother

Birth weight distribution

A similarity between the variations in birth weight by age of mother and variations by birth-order is immediately evident from a comparison of figures 1 and 3. This consistency may be due in part to the close correlation between age of mother and birth order in that births to younger mothers generally represent those of a lower order, whereas births to the older mothers are more likely to be those of higher order.

In relation to age of mother, immature birth was comparatively frequent among very young mothers (9.0 percent at 15-19 years), dropped to a minimum at 25-29 years (6.7 percent), and then in-

Figure 2

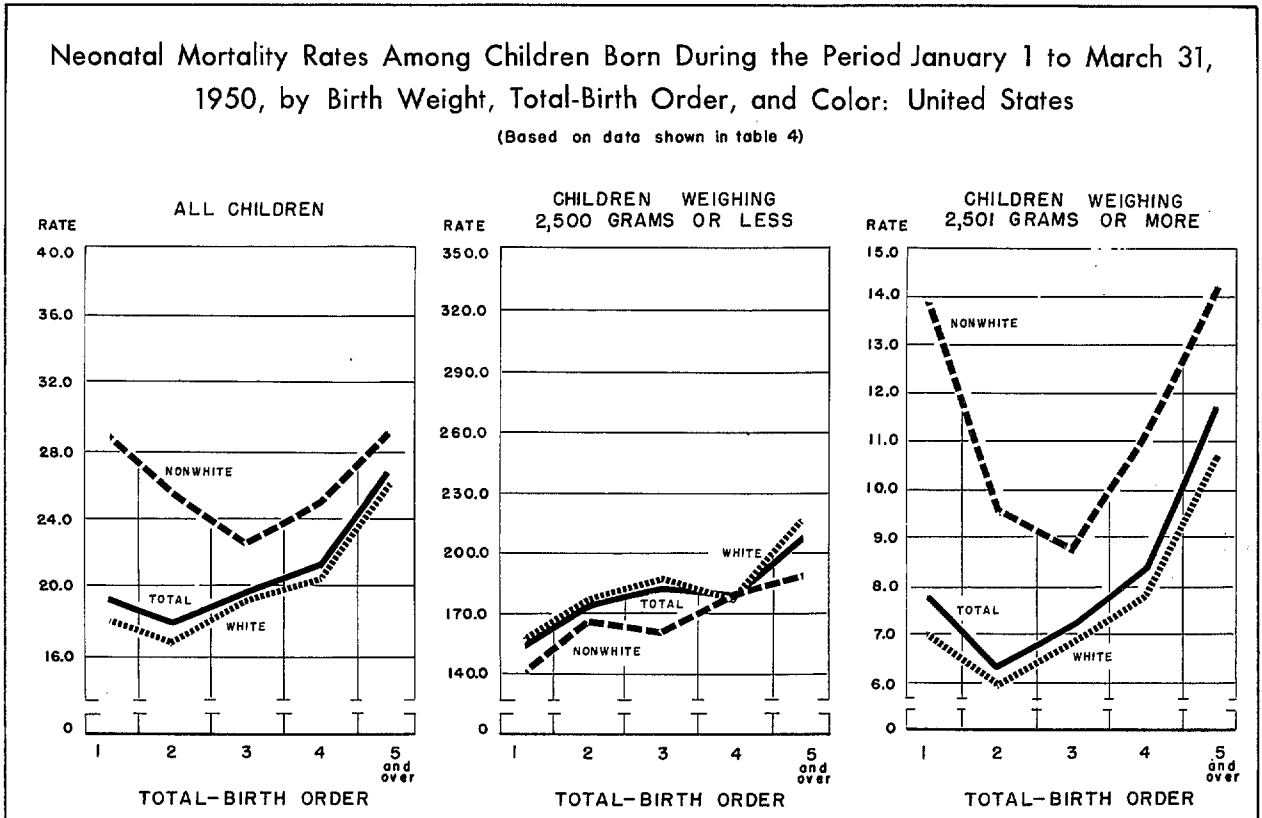
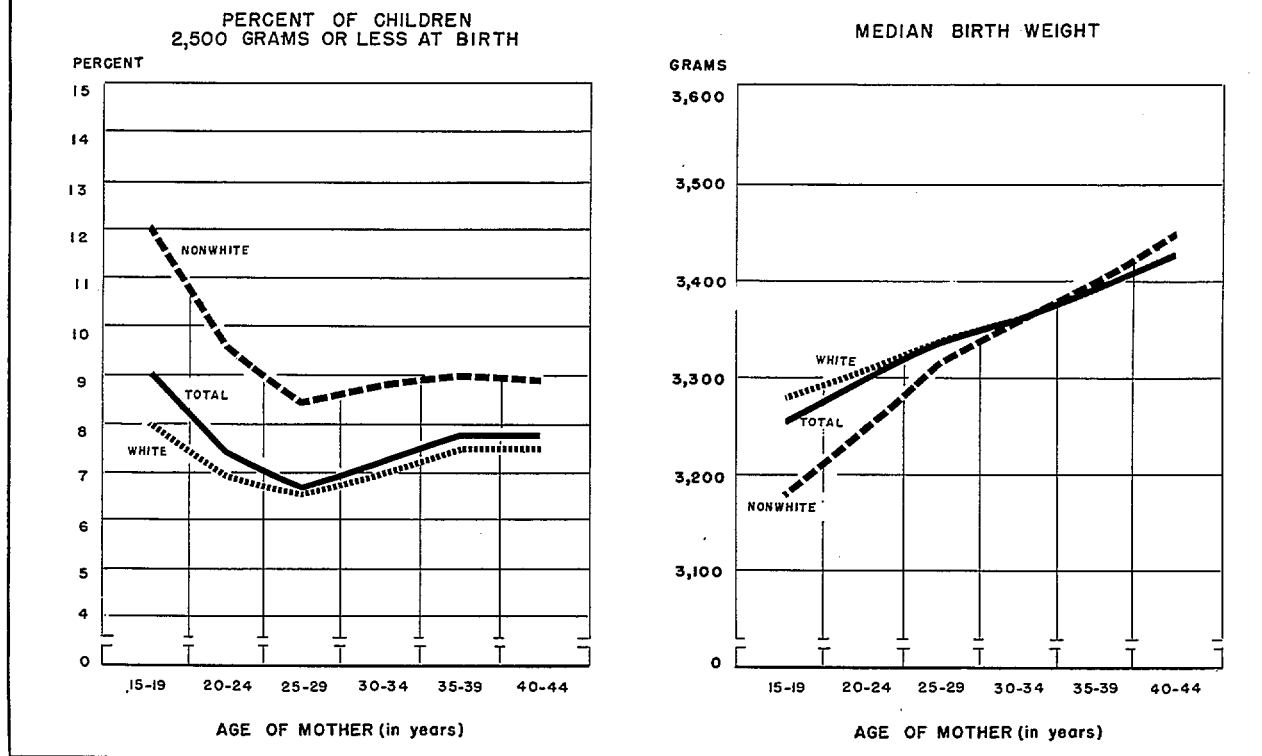


Figure 3

Percent of Live Births at Weights of 2,500 Grams or Less and Median Birth Weights by Age of Mother and Color: United States, January 1 to March 31, 1950

(Based on data shown in table 2)



creased. Average weight, however, varied directly with age of mother and did not reflect the effect of variations in immaturity. The proportion of very heavy babies (4,501 grams or more) also increased at each successive age of mother group (table 2).

Neonatal mortality

From the viewpoint of neonatal mortality, the risk for the newborn was also lowest in pregnancies to mothers aged 25-29 years. Substantially higher mortality was found among children of younger or older mothers (table 4). When rates for specific weight groups are examined, it is seen that the disadvantage for children born to mothers late in their reproductive period was particularly

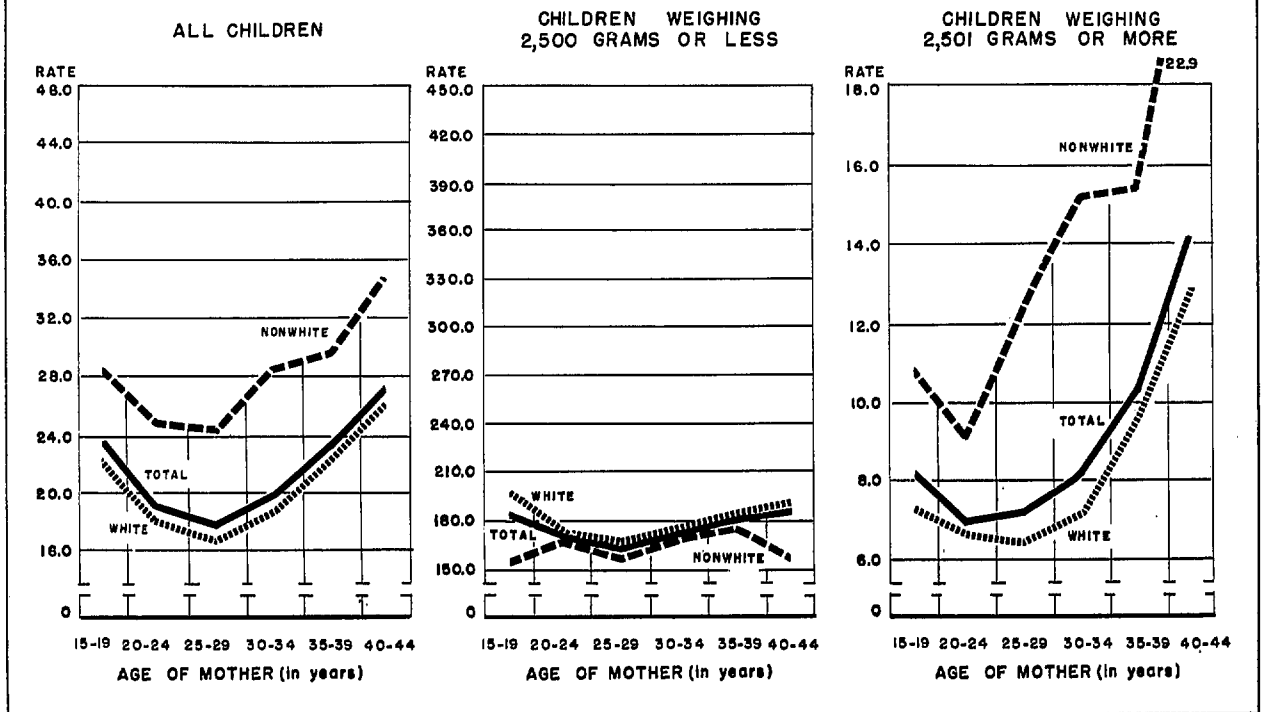
marked among infants weighing 2,501 grams or more at birth (figure 4). The rate for babies of this size to mothers 40-44 years of age was double the optimum rate. At immature weights the corresponding difference amounted to only 12 percent, and the increased mortality among babies of very young mothers was of equal importance.

The age of mother at which minimum mortality occurred varied slightly for the immature and mature groups. For the mature children, the minimum rate came at a slightly younger age than for the smaller babies. On detailed analysis, however, this difference appears to be due partly to a higher proportion of nonwhite babies among mothers of younger ages.

Figure 4

Neonatal Mortality Rates Among Children Born During the Period January 1 to March 31, 1950, by Birth Weight, Age of Mother, and Color: United States

(Based on data shown in table 4)



Color

Birth weight distribution

The experience of the white group with respect to prematurity closely paralleled that for all births. But, for the nonwhite, there were some notable differences (figures 1 and 3). The percentage of children weighing 2,500 grams or less for this group was lowest at the fourth order rather than at the second and the increase in immaturity after ages 25-29 years was less marked. Some comments are offered here on factors that may have a bearing on these differences even though it is not possible to assess their exact effect. One factor relates to quality of the data. For those children born in January

through March 1950, who were enumerated in the 1950 census, completeness of birth registration was found to vary substantially more with age of mother for the nonwhite than for the white group (table B). It is likely that the bias toward less complete reporting evidenced at older ages for the nonwhite is even more marked with respect to premature infants.

Another factor that may affect comparative data for the white and nonwhite concerns a social differential. Large proportions of nonwhite births at the lower birth orders and among the younger mothers are illegitimate. Thus, an association between immature birth and illegitimacy would be reflected to a greater extent in data for the nonwhite than for the white group.

Neonatal mortality

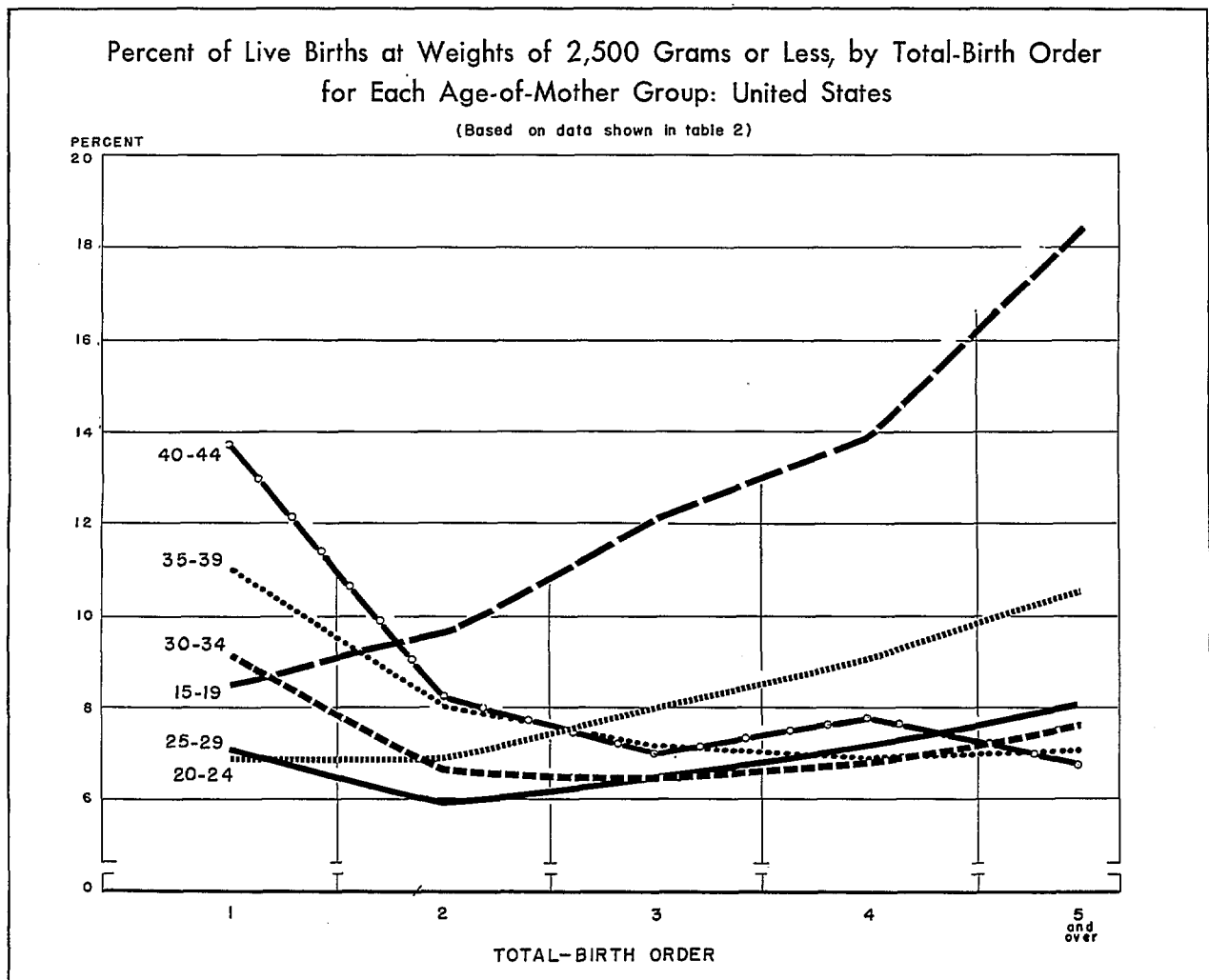
The relationship of mortality in the neonatal period to birth order differed in some ways for the white and nonwhite groups at weights of 2,501 grams or more (figure 2). The disadvantage for the first-born in comparison with other children of these weights was greater among the nonwhite than among the white. In addition, the best experience at mature weights occurred among third deliveries for the nonwhite but among secondbirths for the white.

For both white and nonwhite children, changes in neonatal mortality with age of mother showed general similarity (figure 4). However, the age of

mother carrying the minimum risk to the newborn weighing 2,501 grams or more was slightly younger for the nonwhite (20-24 years) than for the white (25-29 years).

Because of the small numbers of births for the nonwhite at weights 2,500 grams or less, the rates for this group are necessarily subject to a large degree of variation due to chance. This may explain the irregularities in the rates by age of mother for nonwhite births of these weights. Rates for this group by birth order, however, appeared to follow the general pattern noted earlier for all births of 2,500 grams or less—that is, one of increase in mortality with birth order.

Figure 5



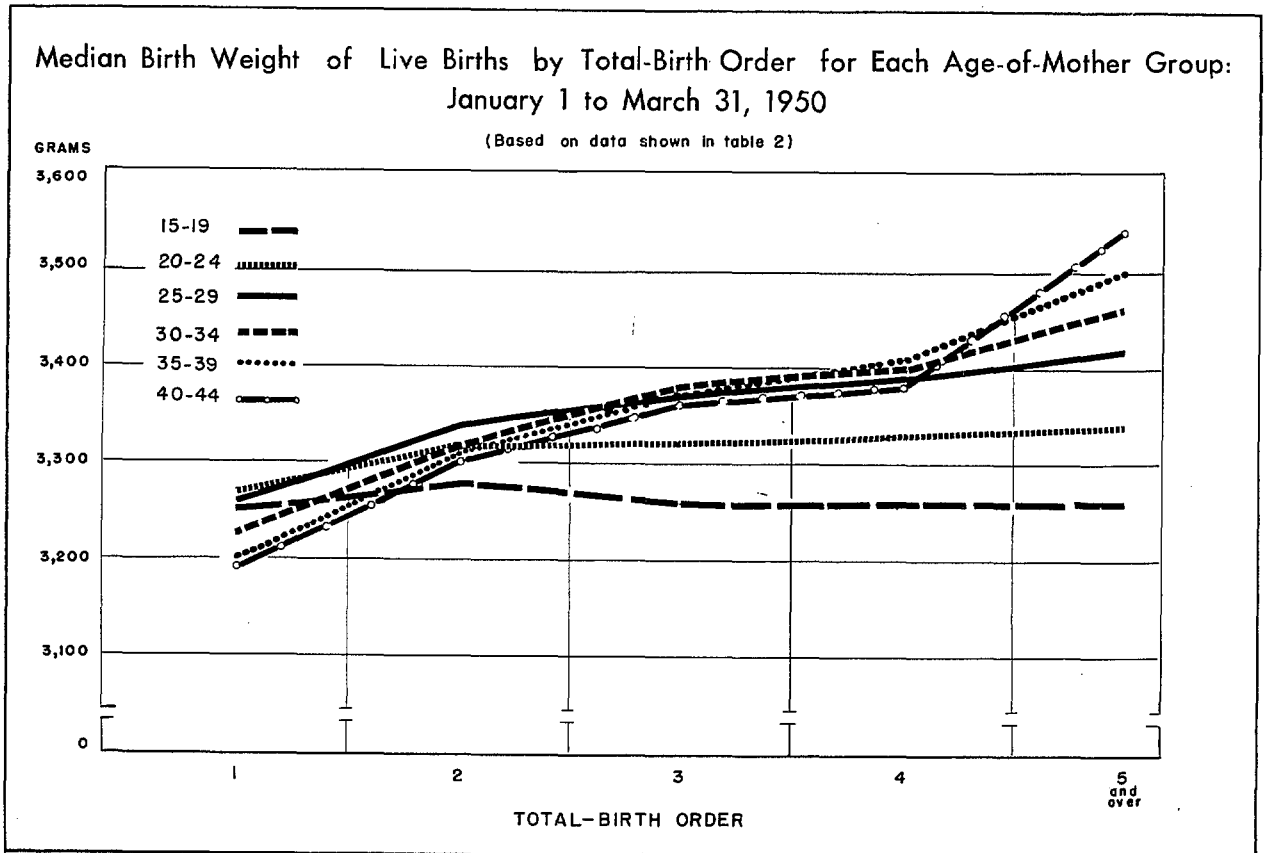
Birth Order and Age of Mother

Because of the high correlation between age of mother and birth order, variation in the incidence of immaturity and in neonatal mortality with one of these variables may be related largely to a simultaneous change in the other. To eliminate the effect of this correlation, therefore, data have been cross-tabulated by age of mother and birth order. By so doing, it is possible to hold one variable fixed, thereby eliminating changes due solely to this variable and related factors, and to study the residual changes in relation to the other variable. This treatment of the data, however, introduces an additional source of variation since certain combinations of birth order and age of mother may be of special significance with respect to such factors as interval between birth and economic status. For example, the interval between births is likely to be much shorter for

a young mother bearing a child of high birth order than for the older mothers bearing children of like order. Thus, when the changes in the incidence of immaturity and neonatal mortality with birth order are studied, while age of mother is held constant, it is possible that the effect of high birth order would be quite different for the younger and the older groups of women because of the differential in child spacing at different ages.

In general, therefore, when a pattern of change in immaturity or neonatal mortality with birth order is consistent for all age-of-mother groups, it is likely that the variation is related only to birth order and associated factors. On the other hand, a varying pattern would point to the effect of an additional factor or factors related to the composite of birth order and age of mother. This applies correspondingly when age of mother rather than birth order is the principal variable.

Figure 6



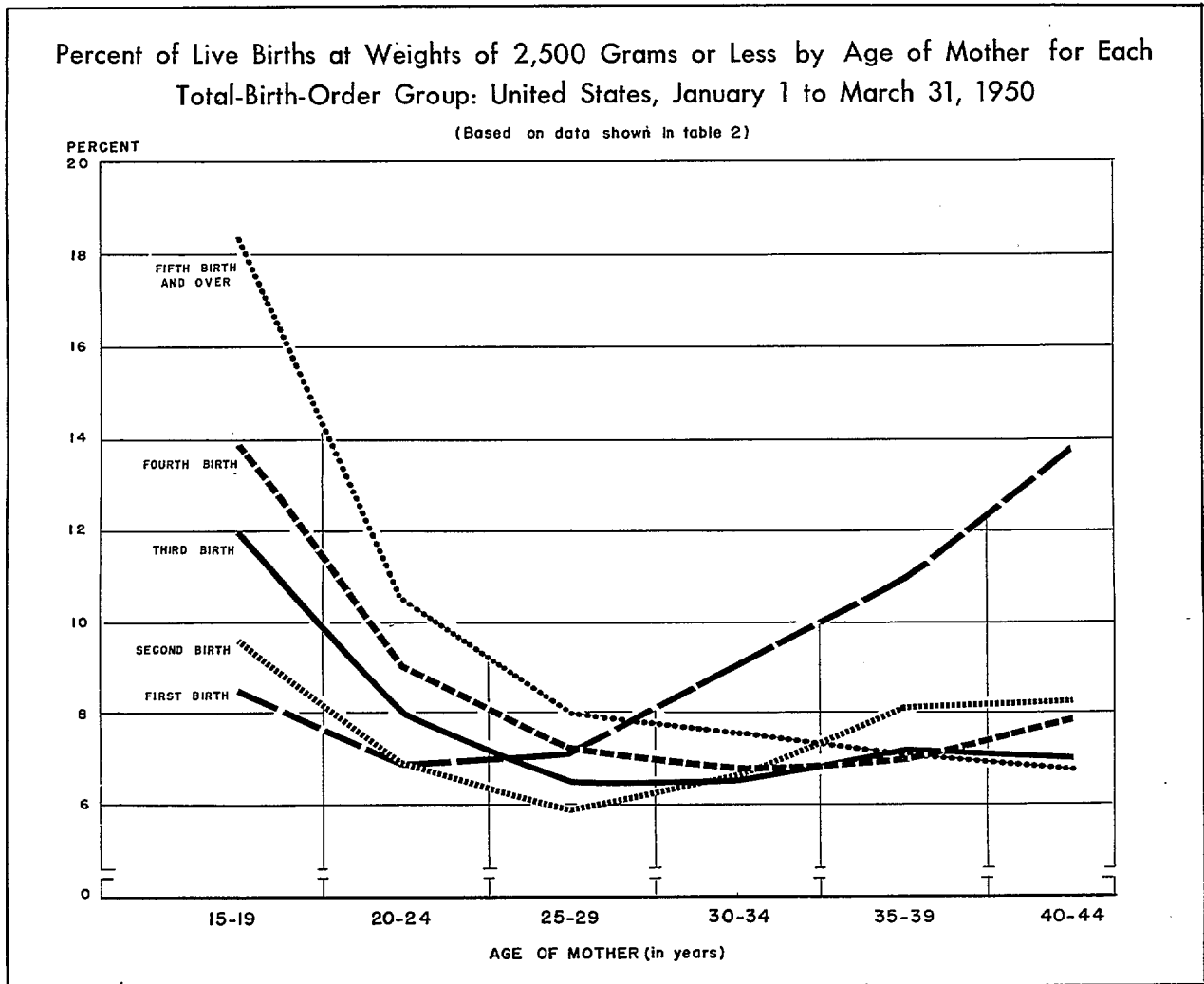
Birth weight distribution

Birth order.—From figure 5, it is evident that the changes in the incidence of immature birth with birth order varied considerably at each age of mother level. In contrast to the general situation described earlier, the frequency of immature birth among the offspring of mothers under 25 years of age was about the same or lower for first than second births. For this same group, increase in birth order beyond the second order brought sharp increases in the incidence of immaturity. The pattern differed for deliveries to mothers aged 25 years and over, in that, at this age level birth of a premature baby occurred more

frequently (by at least 20 percent) among first than among second pregnancies. At the same time, the rise at the higher birth orders became progressively smaller as age of mother increased until at ages 35 years and over there was virtually no change.

The modifying tendency toward considerably greater percentages of premature babies at the higher birth orders among younger mothers may very well indicate some significance of the interval between births. One other factor that may bear upon these differences is the use of "total-birth order" in this study. For the younger mothers, in contrast to the older, high birth order may mean somewhat greater proportions who have had at

Figure 7



least one fetal death at low gestations in previous pregnancies. In this connection, it will be shown later that the incidence of prematurity was higher among current births to women with previous fetal loss than among the births to the other women.

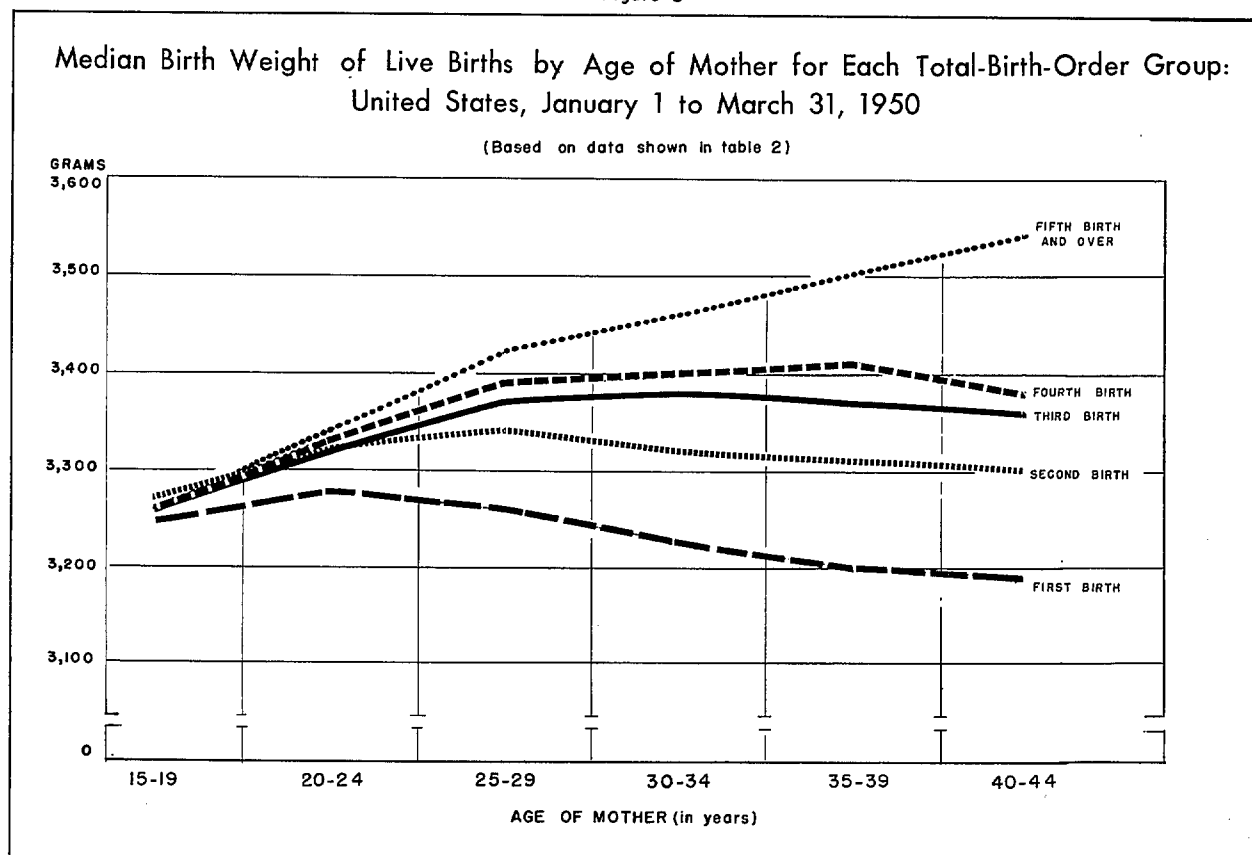
A different explanation must be offered for the higher percentages of immature babies found among first than among second births to women over 24 years. For this group, factors relating to physiological or anatomical changes may possibly be of prime importance.

Variations in median birth weights with birth order for each age-of-mother group, as shown in figure 6, indicate that, on the average, birth weight increased with birth order. The exceptions are confined principally to the younger age groups where a corresponding higher incidence of immature birth was also noted.

Age of mother.—When the changes in immature birth and median birth weights are examined with relation to age of mother (figures 7 and 8) it is seen that, except for first births, increasing age of mother through ages 25-29 years meant a sharp reduction in the proportion of premature births and a substantial increase in median birth weight. For first births, however, a slight upturn in immaturity and a decrease in median birth weight occurred at an earlier age.

The relation of prematurity to age of mother at ages over 25-29 years varied with birth order to a much greater degree than at the younger ages. Among first pregnancies the rise in premature birth was marked (from 7.1 percent at 25-29 years to 13.7 at 40-44 years). At each successive birth order the increase became smaller until at the fifth and higher orders there was

Figure 8



even a slight lessening in the frequency of premature birth with increase in age of mother past 25-29 years.

Color.—The above remarks relating to birth weights of all newborn are appropriate for white births. For nonwhite children the experience differed in some respects although the general pattern was very similar. There was the same shift with increasing age in the birth order at which prematurity was at a minimum. However, for each age group this minimum was generally found at a higher birth order for the nonwhite than for the white. Also, median birth weights for nonwhite children consistently increased with birth order regardless of age of mother.

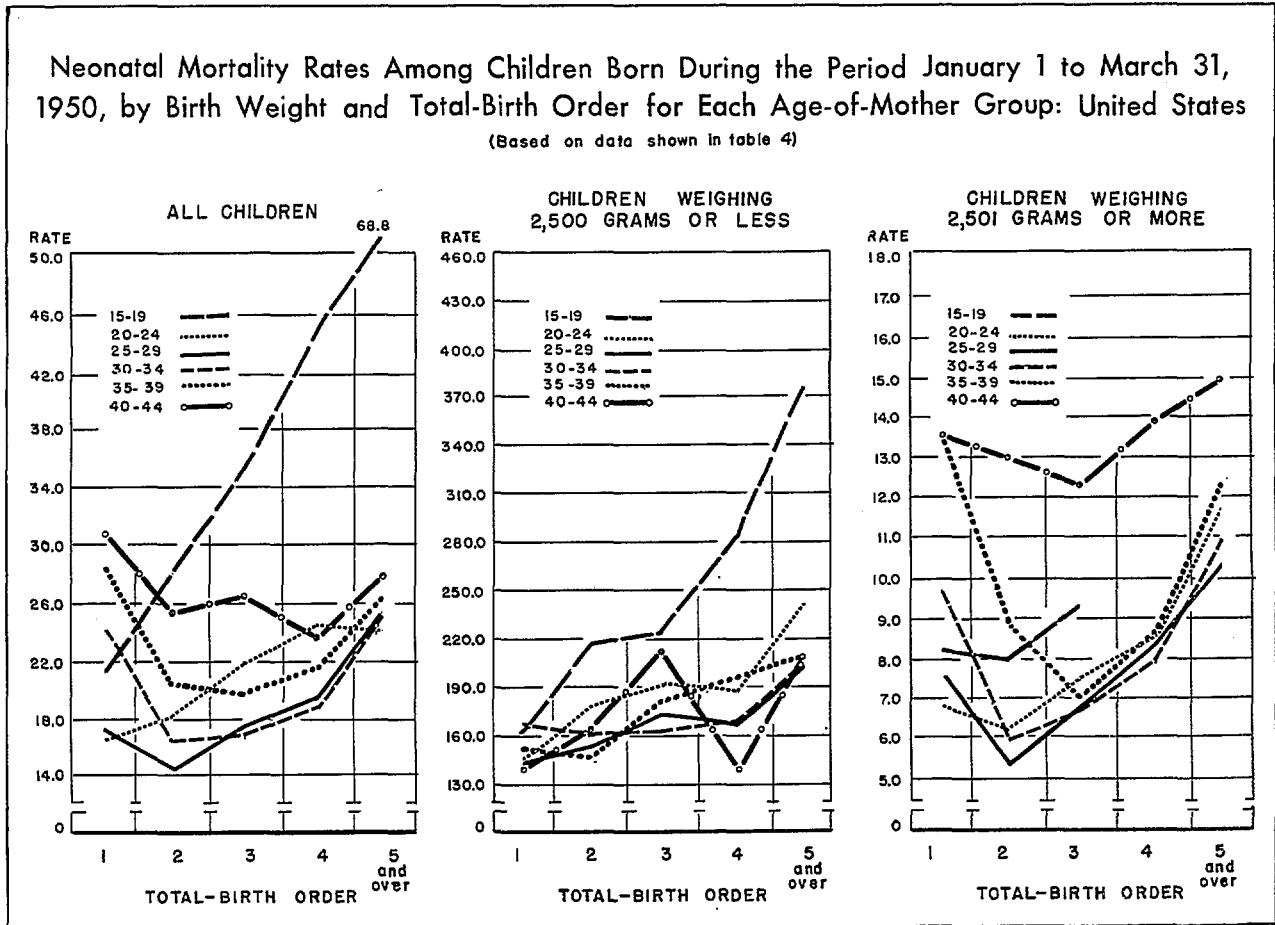
Changes in the incidence of immaturity and median birth weights with age of mother for the

white and nonwhite groups also appear to be of the same nature. In both, the trend was generally downward through the age of mother group 25-29 years, and for the low orders, upward at later ages.

Neonatal mortality

The similarity of variations in neonatal mortality with age of mother and birth order to variations in the incidence of immaturity with these factors is evident from a comparison of figures 9 and 10 with 5 and 7. Among mothers 25 years of age and over the hazard for the first born was greater than for the second born with respect to neonatal mortality as well as immature birth. For children of younger mothers,

Figure 9

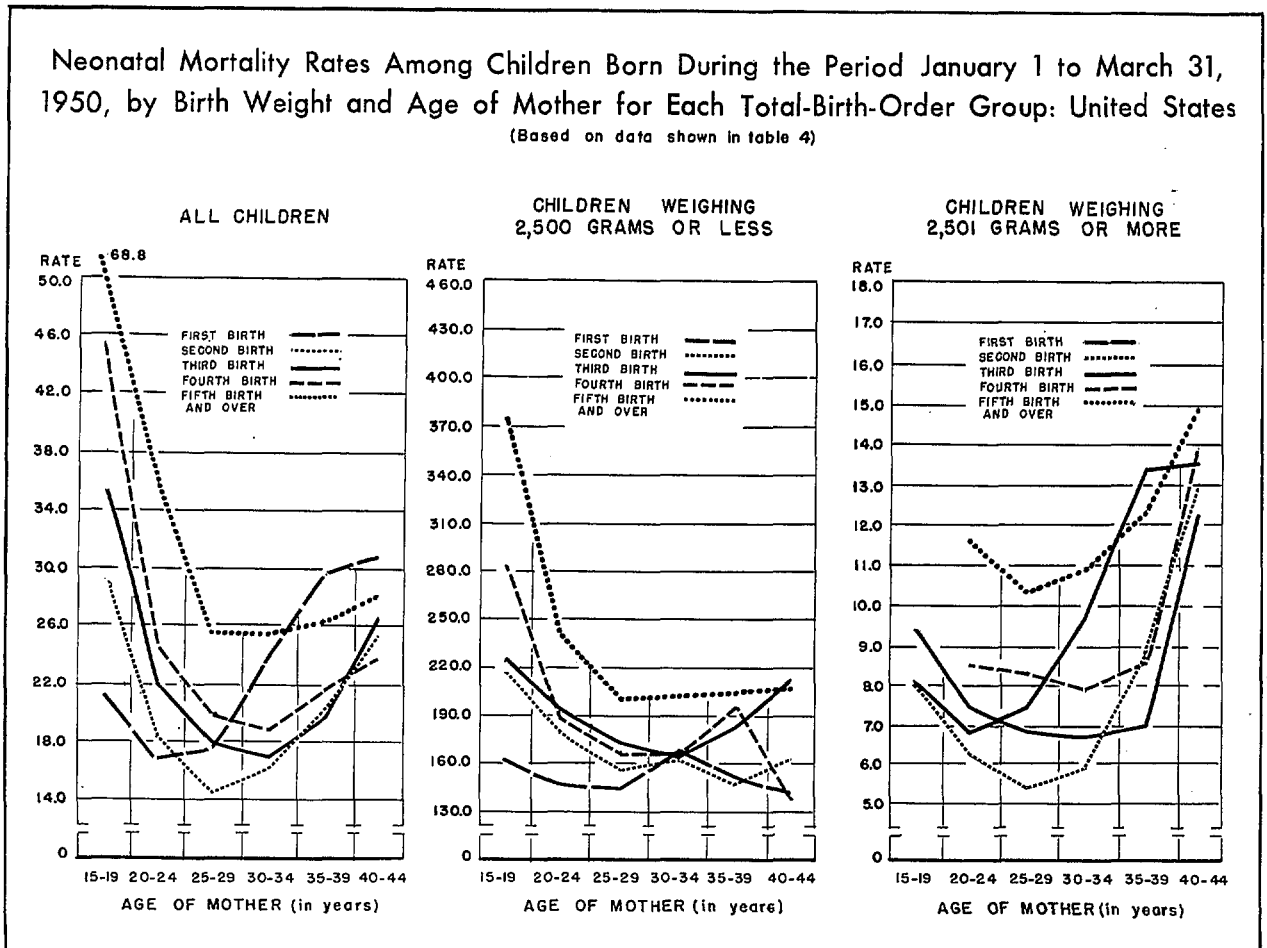


however, the risk among first-born was about the same as or lower than that for second-born children. Also, just as in the case of immaturity, the rise in mortality with birth order became less and less marked as mother's age increased and was even delayed past the second or third birth order. But, while higher birth order brought little or no increase in the proportion of premature births among mothers at the later reproductive years, a substantial rise in mortality persisted at fifth and higher birth orders regardless of age of mother. The correlative situation applies to a comparison of changes in immaturity and mortality with age of mother.

Considering the large proportion of the mortality in the neonatal period that pertains to premature infants, the relationship of total mor-

tality among the newborn to age of mother and birth order and of the incidence of immaturity to these variables would be expected to be similar. But, the similarity of some of the changes in mortality among mature children to changes in frequency of immature birth is surprising and suggests a continuum of problems leading to these outcomes. For children weighing 2,501 grams or more, the risk of mortality among the offspring of mothers over 19 years of age was materially higher for the first-born than for the second-born. Increased birth order above the second or third order, however, meant a rise in mortality at all ages and not just the younger ages as in the case of immaturity. Among immature children the pattern differed in that there was no definite disadvantage for the first as com-

Figure 10



pared with the second-born of mothers over age 19.

With regard to age of mother, mortality among immature babies decreased sharply up to ages 20-24 years for first births and to 25-29 years for later births. The rates at higher ages varied erratically. For children weighing 2,501 grams or more at birth, mortality dropped somewhat as mother's age increased to 20-24 or 25-29 years but rose sharply after 25-29 years for first births and after 30-34 or 35-39 years for higher birth orders. The latter rise did not have a counterpart in increased incidence of prematurity at birth orders above the second.

Single Births

In this section, data on single births by period of gestation (tables 6 and 8) and outcome of previous pregnancies⁸ (tables 10 and 12) are considered first in relation to age of mother and then in relation to birth order.

Data on single births, as distinct from total births, eliminate variations in proportions of immature births arising from differences in incidence of plural births.⁹ Such differences are very pertinent when age of mother and birth order are concerned because of the higher proportions of plural births among older mothers¹⁰ and the larger representation of children of plural births at each successive birth order.¹¹ It becomes even more important to consider only the single births when the two variables "period of gestation" and "outcome of previous pregnancies" are introduced.

⁸Outcome of previous pregnancies refers to the dichotomy of births according to whether or not any of a mother's earlier pregnancies ended in a fetal death at gestations of 20 weeks or more.

⁹This factor is significant since births at weights of 2,500 grams or less, where mortality is so high, were eight times as frequent among plural as among single deliveries.

¹⁰For detailed data see the annual reports, *Vital Statistics of the United States*, National Office of Vital Statistics.

¹¹First order births include one member of each plural set in first pregnancies. Births at other orders include one member of each of the plural sets of two consecutive pregnancy orders. Because of the sharp reduction in numbers of births at successive orders, the effect of relating the second child of a plural set to the number of births at the next higher pregnancy order is to increase the proportion representing members of plural sets at each successive birth order.

Birth weight distribution

The greater frequency of immaturity among first than later births is more definitely evidenced in data on single births (table 6) than in data on total births. For the single group, the percentage of immature births dropped from 7.3 for first births to 6.0 for second births but the increase at higher birth orders was of little consequence. It will be recalled that for total births the decline between first and second births was proportionately much smaller and there was an upturn in the incidence of prematurity after the second order.

Variations in the percentages of immature births with age of mother were, however, quite similar for single and total births except that in the former the decline between ages 15-19 years and 25-29 years somewhat exceeded that recorded for total births (table 8).

Neonatal mortality

The mortality experience by birth order for single children and all children differed in some ways. These differences appear to arise more because of factors relating to the incidence of plural deliveries and the incidence of immaturity among single as contrasted with plural deliveries than to differences in mortality at specific weights. At all birth orders the risk of mortality was consistently lower for single deliveries than for all deliveries (tables 4 and 12). In addition, among single births there was a sharper reduction in mortality between the first and second birth orders. A corresponding pattern was noted in the incidence of immaturity. Furthermore, the increase in mortality above the second order was slightly less marked for the single birth group.

At specific weights, the only differences of any magnitude in mortality of single and total births by birth order relate to the immature babies. Among these children, the rates for single deliveries at third and higher orders slightly exceeded the corresponding rates for all deliveries. Among births of 2,501 grams or more, where the segment of births relating to plural births is comparatively small, there was virtually no difference between the rates for single and total births.

A comparison between rates of mortality for total and single births by age of mother cannot

be made since data of this type were not tabulated for single births.

Birth weight by period of gestation

The relation of birth weight of child to age of mother and birth order varied with length of gestation. In deliveries at or near term, the median weight of the newborn increased directly with age of mother. At the lower gestations, however, there was a tendency for the babies of younger mothers to weigh more than or about the same as those of mothers slightly older. In some cases a small rise in birth weight occurred among children delivered to still older mothers.

Generally, birth order and related factors also appeared to have their principal significance for growth of a child only when intra-uterine life continued until term. For term babies, birth weight increased with birth order. At the early gestations, however, babies of third order were, on the average, somewhat lighter than others and babies of fifth and higher birth orders somewhat heavier. These comments apply in general for both the white and nonwhite cohorts although the data on the nonwhite births were found to be somewhat erratic.

For white births, the differences with age of mother in the proportions of all children weighing 2,500 grams or less at birth appear to be related in large part to frequency of deliveries at the earlier gestation ages rather than to developmental differences. The higher percentages of immature babies among the younger and older groups of

mothers were due in large measure to the greater proportions of births occurring at gestations of 35 weeks or less among these groups (table C). These proportions also varied for nonwhite births although developmental differences, indicated by differences in weight at the same gestation, were of somewhat greater significance for this cohort than for the white.

Current experience in relation to outcome of previous pregnancies

Immaturity.—The association between the outcome of previous pregnancies and birth of an immature child has been demonstrated in other studies¹² and is also clearly evident from data in this report. For single births in January through March 1950, delivery of an immature infant occurred well over 1½ times as frequently among mothers who had previously had one or more fetal losses as among other women (table 10). At all specific birth orders where comparisons are relevant, that is, second through fifth and over, differences between the percentages of children weighing 2,500 grams or less were even more pronounced—being at least 75 percent higher for women with one or more fetal deaths in previous pregnancies.

The significance of the outcome of previous pregnancies in relation to incidence of immaturity in current birth appeared to be greater for the white than the nonwhite group. For the former, the percentages in the case of women with previous fetal deaths hovered close to twice that among other women while for the nonwhite they were generally only about 1½ times.

Women with fetal deaths in previous pregnancies were particularly prone to have children at very low weights. For the white, births of 1,500 grams or less occurred almost three times as frequently among this group as among other women. Thus, although only 3.6 percent of all white births represented births to women who had previously had a fetal loss, 9.5 percent of the infants 1,500 grams or less are found among this group.

Neonatal mortality.—Higher mortality among the newborn also appeared to be associated with the

TABLE C. PERCENTAGE OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS OCCURRING AT GESTATIONS OF 35 WEEKS AND UNDER, BY AGE OF MOTHER AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Based on frequencies shown in table 7)

AGE OF MOTHER	Total	White	Nonwhite
TOTAL-----	3.2	3.1	3.8
15-19 years-----	4.3	4.2	4.8
20-24 years-----	3.2	3.0	4.0
25-29 years-----	2.8	2.7	3.4
30-34 years-----	3.1	3.1	3.1
35-39 years-----	3.2	3.2	3.1
40-44 years-----	3.3	3.3	3.6

¹²Yerushalmy, Jacob; Gardiner, Elizabeth M.; and Palmer, Carroll E.; "Studies in Childbirth Mortality," *Public Health Reports*, Vol. 56, No. 29, July 18, 1941, pp. 1463-1481.

occurrence of one or more fetal deaths in earlier pregnancies. The loss in this group during the neonatal period (35.8 per 1,000) was about double the loss among other children (17.6). At specific birth orders the relative differences were of about the same magnitude.

Although a higher incidence of immaturity accounts for part of this difference in mortality, the weight-specific data in table 12 indicate further that for babies weighing 2,500 grams or less at birth, and also for those weighing more, mortality throughout the neonatal period for the group whose mothers suffered loss in a previous pregnancy generally exceeded the rates for other children.

The limited data by age at death shown in table 12 give no indication of a differential in the relationship of mortality to the outcome of previous pregnancies with age at death. The gap between mortality in the group whose mothers had previous loss and those who had no previous loss fluctuated erratically, but the relative differences were just as likely to be large in the last 3 weeks of the neonatal period as in the first hour or the first day. However, considering the small frequencies, additional data would be needed to substantiate this finding.

For children weighing 2,500 grams or less at birth, mortality in the neonatal period increased with birth order both among the group born to mothers without fetal loss as well as among the other group. For heavier children, however, previous delivery of one liveborn child appeared to carry with it an advantage for the current child. Thus, considering only cases where the present and previous pregnancies (if any) ended in live births, the mortality was at a minimum at the second birth order. But, among the group whose mothers had at least one previous pregnancy ending in a fetal death, the lowest rate was found at the third order. For this group the third birth order is the earliest at which a woman could have had at least one previous liveborn child. The second birth order group is composed of cases where the current birth represents the first liveborn child.

With regard to age at death, a comparison of mortality for first and second liveborn children weighing 2,501 grams or more indicates that the disadvantage for the first-born is accounted for by higher mortality in the first week of life. This points to obstetrical difficulties as a critical factor.

Summary

Statistics relating to the birth weight of infants born in the United States during the first 3 months of 1950 and to the mortality experience of these infants by birth weight indicate that:

1. Immature birth occurred most frequently in first pregnancies and births of fifth and higher orders (7.7 percent) and was lowest among second pregnancies (6.9 percent). However, median birth weight, and also the proportion of very heavy children (4,501 grams or more), increased at each successive birth order following the first.

2. Overall neonatal mortality, as well as mortality among children weighing 2,501 grams or more, was also lowest among second births. For children of 2,500 grams or less, a lower rate was recorded among first than among second births. For both groups maximum mortality occurred among births of fifth and higher orders.

3. The incidence of immaturity was comparatively high among very young mothers (15-19 years) and dropped to a minimum at 25-29 years, but average weight varied directly with age of mother.

4. Neonatal mortality was also lowest in pregnancies to mothers aged 25-29 years. Substantially higher mortality was found among children of both younger and older mothers. For infants weighing 2,501 grams or more, the disadvantage for children born to mothers late in their reproductive life was particularly marked.

5. The experience of the white group with respect to prematurity closely paralleled that for all births. For the nonwhite, however, the lowest percentage occurred at the fourth order rather than the second and the increase in immaturity after ages 25-29 years was less marked.

6. Among children of 2,501 grams or more, the mortality disadvantage for the first-born in comparison with others was greater among the nonwhite than among the white. The age of mother carrying minimum risk to the newborn of these weights was slightly younger for the nonwhite than for the white.

7. When age of mother is held constant, changes in the incidence of prematurity with

birth order are given a somewhat different aspect. Among mothers under 25 years of age, the frequency of immature birth was about the same or lower for first than for second births and higher birth order brought sharp increases in the incidence of immaturity. However, the situation was gradually reversed as the mother's age increased with the high percentages falling at lower birth orders.

8. At all birth orders other than the first, the frequency of prematurity decreased with mother's age through 25-29 years. The increase in the percentage of premature babies at the later ages was most marked at the lower birth orders.

9. Variations in neonatal mortality with birth order when age of mother is held constant and with age of mother when birth order is held constant were similar to the corresponding variations in the incidence of immaturity. One exception is the substantial rise in mortality at high birth orders regardless of age of mother.

10. The similarity of changes in mortality with "age of mother-birth order" among children of 2,501 grams or more to changes in frequency of immature birth suggests a continuum of problems leading to these outcomes. Among immature children the pattern differed in that there was no definite disadvantage for the first, as compared with the second-born.

11. The greater frequency of immaturity among first than later births is more definitely evidenced in data on single births than in data on total births. In addition, among single births, the increase at higher birth orders was of little consequence.

12. With regard to neonatal mortality, the reduction between first and second order births was more marked and the increase above the second order was slightly less marked for the single than for the total birth group. This is related principally to the difference in the incidence of immaturity.

13. Birth order, age of mother, and related factors appeared to have their main significance for growth of a child only when intra-uterine life continued until term.

14. Women for whom one or more previous pregnancies ended in fetal deaths were more prone to give birth to a child of immature weight than other women, and neonatal mortality among their children, both those weighing 2,500 grams or less and 2,501 grams or more, exceeded that among corresponding groups of children to mothers without previous fetal loss.

15. For children weighing 2,501 grams or more at birth, previous delivery of one liveborn child appeared to carry with it an advantage for the current child. The first week of life was particularly critical in this difference.

Explanatory Notes

Distribution of "not stated"

Small proportions of births and deaths in the study group lacked information on birth order and/or age of mother, while somewhat larger proportions lacked data on birth weight (3.8 percent of the births and 14.7 percent of the neonatal deaths). In preparing data shown in this report, however, the not stated for all three of these variables were distributed to reduce the chance of possible distortions.

The method for distributing the not stated weights to derive the basic adjusted totals by weight and color for the United States took into account the bias toward less complete reporting for infants born at the early gestation ages. This method is described in detail in another report.¹³ Briefly, the not-stated birth weights in each gestation group were distributed according to the distribution of the known weights in that group. The procedure was applied separately to the neonatal death distributions and to distributions relating to children who survived, classified by plurality of birth and color.

The adjusted weight totals obtained in this way served as the basis for proportionate adjustment of birth weight data according to the other variables shown in this report.

¹³National Office of Vital Statistics, *op. cit.*, footnote 4.

Classifications

Birth weight is generally reported in terms of pounds and ounces on the birth certificate. The traditional gram groupings, however, have been used to tabulate and present the data in order to facilitate comparison with other studies of this type. The equivalents of these groups in terms of pounds and ounces¹⁴ are as follows:

1,000 grams or less	=	2 lb. 3 oz. or less
1,001-1,500 grams	=	2 lb. 4 oz.-3 lb. 4 oz.
1,501-2,000 grams	=	3 lb. 5 oz.-4 lb. 6 oz.
2,001-2,500 grams	=	4 lb. 7 oz.-5 lb. 8 oz.
2,501-3,000 grams	=	5 lb. 9 oz.-6 lb. 9 oz.
3,001-3,500 grams	=	6 lb. 10 oz.-7 lb. 11 oz.
3,501-4,000 grams	=	7 lb. 12 oz.-8 lb. 13 oz.
4,001-4,500 grams	=	8 lb. 14 oz.-9 lb. 14 oz.
4,501 grams or more	=	9 lb. 15 oz. or more.

For purposes of classification, the terms "immature" and "prematurely born" are used in this report to refer to infants weighing 2,500 grams or less at birth. This definition was recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 1935, and later adopted in the Sixth Revision of the International Lists of Diseases and Causes of Death (1948). The term "premature," although containing the concept of duration of pregnancy, has been used for many years in connection with the birth weight criterion. The Sixth Revision of the International Lists defines "premature" as relating to children of gestations of less than 37 weeks and indicates that for reporting and classification purposes, this criterion may be considered as equivalent to an immature infant as defined above. It is recognized in using these terms, that there may be basic differences in physical development for some of the subgroupings of births discussed, which would effect the general applicability of the criteria for classifying births as immature or premature.

The birth records for 1950 in all but a few of the States requested gestation-age information

in the following form: "Length of pregnancy--weeks." In practice, period of gestation is generally interpreted as referring to number of completed weeks that have elapsed between the first day of the last menstrual period and the date of birth of the child. At the present time, important inaccuracies that are due, in part, to failure to carry out this computation are evident in the data reported. These are described in the next section.

Birth record information on period of gestation is seriously deficient. The comparatively large numbers of 36 weeks of gestation result principally from the erroneous conversion of 9-month gestations to 36 weeks. Because of the distortion in the basic data, statistics for 36 weeks are shown separately. This type of error was also present at earlier gestations although the broad intervals into which the data are grouped reduce its effect. In addition, heavy concentrations at 40 weeks are indicative, in part, of a failure to calculate the period of gestation for infants who seem to be normally developed at birth. Although the main result of this is to lessen the numbers in the adjacent gestation intervals, some understatement of gestations of less than 36 weeks may also occur as a consequence.

These errors, while of considerable importance in considering the overall distribution of births by period of gestation, probably do not seriously affect the relationships studied in this report between weight at birth and birth order or age of mother for specific gestation groups.

Seasonality

In 1950, seasonal differences were found both in the incidence of immature birth and in neonatal mortality. The proportion of immature children in the first 3 months of 1950 (7.4 percent) was slightly smaller than for the year as a whole (7.6 percent). Neonatal mortality was also lower among children born in January through March 1950—19.9 per 1,000 live births for the United States and 20.0 for the United States excluding Massachusetts—as compared with 20.5 in 1950 for the United States.

Even though these differences are statistically significant, they are small and the relationships described in this report may be taken as generally

¹⁴In computing median weights, however, the end-points of the intervals were assumed to be one-half ounce less at the lower limit and one-half ounce more at the upper limit. These limits were then converted exactly to grams.

applicable for the entire year. On a weight-specific basis, in fact, it is likely that seasonality in mortality is of less importance than for the group as a whole since the differences in mortality described above may be partly explained by the lower incidence of immaturity among children born in January-March 1950.

Chance variation

Chance variation, in addition to the biases in reporting already discussed, must be considered in evaluating the data shown. This variation is related to the size of the birth population on which the figures are based and on the frequency of the occurrence measured. The smaller the population, or the smaller the frequency of the event in a given population group, the greater the relative variability.¹⁵ Mortality rates were not computed in the accompanying tables for certain small frequency groups, that is, where the birth population was less than 100 and there were fewer than 20 deaths. The discussion in this report has generally been limited to individual differences which are of significance, except where a certain consistency in pattern would indicate the significance of smaller differences.

¹⁵The standard error is the measure used to evaluate this variability. Chances are less than 1 in 20 that a difference as large as two standard errors would arise by chance. Generally, the standard error of a rate per 1,000 births is

$$\sqrt{\frac{R(1,000-R)}{B}}$$

where R is the rate and B is the number of births used to compute the rate. The standard error of the difference between two rates, R_1 and R_2 , is

$$\sqrt{\frac{R_1(1,000-R_1)}{B_1} + \frac{R_2(1,000-R_2)}{B_2}}$$

If two rates differ by less than twice this standard error, it is usually concluded that they are not significantly different (statistically). When a rate is low and the number of deaths is very small, the standard error of the rate is $\frac{R}{\sqrt{D}}$, where R is the

rate and D is the number of deaths. The standard error of the difference between two such rates, R_1 and R_2 , is

$$\sqrt{\frac{R_1^2}{D_1} + \frac{R_2^2}{D_2}}$$

TABLE 1. LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight, birth order, and age of mother not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)								
		1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more
ALL BIRTH ORDERS										
Total-----	837,786	3,928	5,081	11,368	41,240	151,808	315,629	226,739	64,508	17,465
Under 15 years-----	1,324	10	30	34	126	338	483	230	53	20
15-19 years-----	101,995	523	803	1,773	6,081	21,144	39,974	24,538	5,843	1,316
20-24 years-----	266,203	1,238	1,585	3,459	13,113	51,116	104,138	69,675	17,821	4,058
25-29 years-----	239,241	1,007	1,261	2,892	10,860	42,010	90,852	66,889	18,707	4,763
30-34 years-----	139,782	699	849	1,852	6,604	23,236	50,455	39,643	12,689	3,755
35-39 years-----	69,824	379	433	1,076	3,483	11,070	23,527	20,125	7,160	2,571
40-44 years-----	18,214	70	114	289	921	2,722	5,812	5,309	2,085	892
45 years and over-----	1,203	2	6	13	52	172	388	330	150	90
White-----	717,133	3,189	4,079	9,206	33,460	126,906	273,285	198,389	55,753	12,866
Under 15 years-----	439	6	11	14	39	98	154	90	20	7
15-19 years-----	76,447	374	546	1,178	4,025	14,928	30,700	19,435	4,511	750
20-24 years-----	226,954	977	1,256	2,783	10,595	42,485	89,949	60,706	15,310	2,893
25-29 years-----	211,589	848	1,065	2,477	9,311	36,716	81,100	59,900	16,563	3,609
30-34 years-----	124,023	598	734	1,595	5,696	20,532	45,186	35,595	11,211	2,876
35-39 years-----	60,852	320	369	908	2,969	9,623	20,766	17,749	6,201	1,947
40-44 years-----	15,868	64	94	240	787	2,378	5,118	4,658	1,817	712
45 years and over-----	961	2	4	11	38	146	312	256	120	72
Nonwhite-----	120,653	739	1,002	2,182	7,780	24,902	42,344	28,350	8,755	4,599
Under 15 years-----	885	4	19	20	87	240	329	140	33	13
15-19 years-----	25,548	149	257	595	2,056	6,216	9,274	5,103	1,332	566
20-24 years-----	39,249	261	329	676	2,518	8,631	14,189	8,969	2,511	1,165
25-29 years-----	27,652	159	196	415	1,549	5,294	9,752	6,989	2,144	1,154
30-34 years-----	15,759	101	115	257	908	2,704	5,269	4,048	1,478	879
35-39 years-----	8,972	59	64	168	514	1,447	2,761	2,376	959	624
40-44 years-----	2,346	6	20	49	134	344	694	651	268	180
45 years and over-----	242	-	2	2	14	26	76	74	30	18
FIRST BIRTH ORDER										
Total-----	261,269	1,121	1,519	3,472	14,093	55,273	106,936	63,172	13,498	2,185
Under 15 years-----	1,223	10	23	29	115	318	446	214	51	17
15-19 years-----	71,900	314	496	1,137	4,178	15,189	28,901	17,099	3,877	709
20-24 years-----	107,607	392	530	1,201	5,294	22,318	44,695	26,818	5,506	853
25-29 years-----	52,768	225	268	612	2,659	11,220	22,038	12,745	2,621	380
30-34 years-----	19,103	126	127	309	1,167	4,237	7,529	4,466	1,000	142
35-39 years-----	7,148	40	67	145	537	1,659	2,747	1,507	373	73
40-44 years-----	1,455	13	8	38	140	316	553	513	64	10
45 years and over-----	65	1	-	1	3	16	27	10	6	1
White-----	231,558	936	1,250	2,872	11,637	47,419	95,829	57,629	12,243	1,743
Under 15 years-----	419	6	8	12	38	95	148	87	19	6
15-19 years-----	57,168	240	360	809	2,916	11,343	23,449	14,366	3,218	467
20-24 years-----	98,624	335	449	1,044	4,592	19,920	41,302	25,083	5,163	736
25-29 years-----	49,405	195	241	551	2,407	10,308	20,740	12,128	2,499	336
30-34 years-----	17,844	110	121	285	1,067	3,911	7,049	4,253	943	125
35-39 years-----	6,664	36	65	135	489	1,530	2,586	1,423	338	62
40-44 years-----	1,376	13	6	35	126	297	530	300	59	10
45 years and over-----	58	1	-	1	2	15	25	9	4	1
Nonwhite-----	29,711	185	269	600	2,456	7,854	11,107	5,543	1,255	442
Under 15 years-----	804	4	15	17	77	223	298	127	32	11
15-19 years-----	14,732	74	136	328	1,262	3,846	5,452	2,733	659	242
20-24 years-----	8,983	57	81	157	702	2,398	3,393	1,735	343	117
25-29 years-----	3,363	30	27	61	252	912	1,298	617	122	44
30-34 years-----	1,259	16	6	24	100	326	480	233	57	17
35-39 years-----	484	4	2	10	48	129	161	84	35	11
40-44 years-----	79	-	2	3	14	19	23	13	5	-
45 years and over-----	7	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	2	-

VITAL STATISTICS—SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 1. LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR; UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 45)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)								
		1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more
SECOND BIRTH ORDER										
Total-----	251,083	1,053	1,391	3,212	11,564	45,292	97,260	69,252	18,250	3,809
Under 15 years-----	92	-	5	5	11	19	33	14	2	3
15-19 years-----	24,079	147	235	465	1,456	4,796	9,006	6,018	1,514	442
20-24 years-----	94,604	401	540	1,200	4,376	17,184	36,633	25,871	6,935	1,466
25-29 years-----	81,579	263	350	882	3,332	14,088	32,017	23,361	6,092	1,194
30-34 years-----	36,471	167	188	423	1,614	6,519	14,289	10,079	2,696	496
35-39 years-----	12,168	65	60	201	661	2,283	4,492	3,349	877	180
40-44 years-----	2,012	10	12	35	108	384	756	546	135	28
45 years and over-----	78	-	1	1	6	19	34	14	3	-
White-----	224,609	893	1,154	2,709	9,798	39,331	87,402	63,374	16,786	3,162
Under 15 years-----	17	-	3	2	1	2	5	2	1	1
15-19 years-----	16,344	103	144	287	878	3,061	6,196	4,365	1,074	236
20-24 years-----	83,136	332	434	994	3,655	14,571	32,378	23,305	6,277	1,190
25-29 years-----	76,896	234	331	811	3,035	13,053	30,206	22,284	5,861	1,081
30-34 years-----	34,694	151	171	369	1,506	6,121	13,615	9,678	2,603	460
35-39 years-----	11,545	64	59	191	621	2,144	4,255	3,203	839	169
40-44 years-----	1,904	9	11	34	97	362	714	523	129	25
45 years and over-----	73	-	1	1	5	17	33	14	2	-
Nonwhite-----	26,474	160	237	503	1,766	5,961	9,858	5,878	1,464	647
Under 15 years-----	75	-	2	3	10	17	28	12	1	2
15-19 years-----	7,735	44	91	178	578	1,735	2,810	1,653	440	206
20-24 years-----	11,468	69	106	206	721	2,613	4,255	2,566	656	276
25-29 years-----	4,683	29	19	71	297	1,035	1,811	1,077	231	113
30-34 years-----	1,777	16	17	34	108	398	674	401	93	36
35-39 years-----	623	1	1	10	40	139	237	146	36	11
40-44 years-----	108	1	1	1	11	22	42	23	4	3
45 years and over-----	5	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	1	-
THIRD BIRTH ORDER										
Total-----	143,480	751	896	1,919	6,753	24,304	52,279	40,979	12,432	3,167
Under 15 years-----	7	-	1	-	-	-	4	2	-	-
15-19 years-----	4,936	40	56	136	360	948	1,748	1,166	362	120
20-24 years-----	41,137	257	304	611	2,106	7,607	14,935	11,023	3,370	924
25-29 years-----	50,785	236	258	602	2,229	8,282	18,713	14,973	4,396	1,096
30-34 years-----	31,547	133	181	349	1,377	5,024	11,470	9,403	2,916	694
35-39 years-----	12,711	77	81	195	566	2,045	4,551	3,756	1,158	282
40-44 years-----	2,274	8	15	26	111	382	826	631	225	50
45 years and over-----	83	-	-	-	4	16	32	25	5	1
White-----	123,903	633	747	1,602	5,591	20,330	45,224	36,282	11,006	2,488
Under 15 years-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
15-19 years-----	2,558	23	32	68	196	443	939	620	198	39
20-24 years-----	31,757	196	232	478	1,570	5,676	11,575	8,767	2,665	598
25-29 years-----	45,761	210	227	533	1,952	7,290	16,857	13,747	4,034	911
30-34 years-----	29,620	126	166	318	1,255	4,654	10,744	8,949	2,773	635
35-39 years-----	11,974	70	76	182	519	1,893	4,285	3,576	1,116	257
40-44 years-----	2,157	8	14	23	96	361	793	600	215	47
45 years and over-----	74	-	-	-	3	13	30	22	5	1
Nonwhite-----	19,577	118	149	317	1,162	3,974	7,055	4,697	1,426	679
Under 15 years-----	5	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
15-19 years-----	2,378	17	24	68	164	505	809	546	164	81
20-24 years-----	9,380	61	72	133	536	1,931	3,360	2,256	705	326
25-29 years-----	5,024	26	31	69	277	992	1,856	1,226	362	185
30-34 years-----	1,927	7	15	31	122	370	726	454	143	59
35-39 years-----	737	7	5	13	47	152	266	180	42	25
40-44 years-----	117	-	1	3	15	21	33	31	10	3
45 years and over-----	9	-	-	-	1	3	2	3	-	-

TABLE 1. LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 45)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)								
		1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more
FOURTH BIRTH ORDER										
Total-----	72,627	373	492	1,064	3,534	11,596	25,255	20,911	7,224	2,178
Under 15 years-----	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	862	14	15	30	61	173	261	209	61	38
20-24 years-----	14,877	110	125	263	850	2,643	5,242	3,876	1,298	470
25-29 years-----	25,599	107	180	349	1,195	4,129	8,834	7,543	2,506	756
30-34 years-----	19,230	80	108	263	863	2,863	6,747	5,700	2,049	557
35-39 years-----	9,915	54	53	130	449	1,460	3,407	2,978	1,100	284
40-44 years-----	2,032	8	9	29	112	316	718	575	195	70
45 years and over-----	110	-	1	-	4	11	46	30	15	3
White-----	59,646	288	387	870	2,844	9,269	20,728	17,527	6,117	1,616
Under 15 years-----	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	306	3	9	13	26	67	94	75	12	7
20-24 years-----	9,601	73	89	185	541	1,648	3,422	2,528	873	242
25-29 years-----	21,239	88	139	294	986	3,382	7,283	6,367	2,130	570
30-34 years-----	17,343	70	97	232	773	2,534	6,077	5,214	1,873	473
35-39 years-----	9,157	46	43	121	412	1,333	3,142	2,775	1,030	255
40-44 years-----	1,902	8	9	25	103	294	671	541	184	67
45 years and over-----	97	-	1	-	3	10	39	27	15	2
Nonwhite-----	12,981	85	105	194	690	2,327	4,527	3,384	1,107	562
Under 15 years-----	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	556	11	6	17	35	106	167	134	49	31
20-24 years-----	5,276	37	36	78	309	995	1,820	1,348	425	228
25-29 years-----	4,360	19	41	55	209	747	1,551	1,176	376	186
30-34 years-----	1,887	10	11	31	90	329	670	486	176	84
35-39 years-----	758	8	10	9	37	127	265	203	70	29
40-44 years-----	130	-	-	4	9	22	47	34	11	3
45 years and over-----	13	-	-	-	1	1	7	3	-	1
FIFTH BIRTH ORDER AND OVER										
Total-----	109,327	630	783	1,721	5,296	15,343	33,899	32,425	13,104	6,126
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	218	8	1	5	26	38	58	46	29	7
20-24 years-----	7,978	78	86	184	487	1,364	2,633	2,087	714	345
25-29 years-----	28,510	176	205	447	1,445	4,291	9,250	8,267	3,092	1,337
30-34 years-----	33,431	193	245	508	1,583	4,593	10,420	9,995	4,028	1,866
35-39 years-----	27,882	143	172	405	1,270	3,623	8,330	8,535	3,652	1,752
40-44 years-----	10,441	31	70	161	450	1,324	2,959	3,244	1,468	734
45 years and over-----	867	1	4	11	35	110	249	251	121	85
White-----	77,417	439	541	1,153	3,590	10,557	24,102	23,577	9,601	3,857
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	71	5	1	1	9	14	22	9	9	1
20-24 years-----	3,836	41	52	82	237	670	1,272	1,023	332	127
25-29 years-----	18,288	121	127	288	931	2,683	6,014	5,374	2,039	711
30-34 years-----	24,522	141	179	371	1,095	3,312	7,701	7,521	3,019	1,183
35-39 years-----	21,512	104	126	279	928	2,723	6,498	6,772	2,878	1,204
40-44 years-----	8,529	26	54	123	365	1,064	2,410	2,694	1,230	563
45 years and over-----	659	1	2	9	25	91	185	184	94	68
Nonwhite-----	31,910	191	242	568	1,706	4,786	9,797	8,848	3,503	2,269
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	147	3	-	4	17	24	36	37	20	6
20-24 years-----	4,142	37	34	102	250	694	1,361	1,064	382	218
25-29 years-----	10,222	55	78	159	514	1,608	3,236	2,893	1,053	626
30-34 years-----	8,909	52	66	137	488	1,281	2,719	2,474	1,009	683
35-39 years-----	6,370	39	46	126	342	900	1,832	1,763	774	548
40-44 years-----	1,912	5	16	38	85	260	549	550	238	171
45 years and over-----	208	-	2	2	10	19	64	67	27	17

VITAL STATISTICS—SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight, birth order, and age of mother not stated are distributed. Figures for age of mother under 15 years and 45 years and over are not shown separately, but are included in totals for groups. Excludes data for Massachusetts. Two dots (..) indicate percent or median not computed where base is less than 100)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)											
			1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more		
ALL BIRTH ORDERS														
Total-----	3,320	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.4	4.9	7.4	18.1	37.7	27.1	7.7	2.1		
15-19 years-----	3,250	100.0	0.5	0.8	1.7	6.0	9.0	20.7	39.2	24.1	5.7	1.3		
20-24 years-----	3,300	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	4.9	7.3	19.2	39.1	26.2	6.7	1.5		
25-29 years-----	3,340	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	4.5	6.7	17.6	38.0	28.0	7.8	2.0		
30-34 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	4.7	7.2	16.6	36.1	28.4	9.1	2.7		
35-39 years-----	3,390	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.5	5.0	7.7	15.9	33.7	28.8	10.3	3.7		
40-44 years-----	3,430	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.6	5.1	7.7	14.9	31.9	29.1	11.4	4.9		
White-----	3,330	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.3	4.7	7.0	17.7	38.1	27.7	7.8	1.8		
15-19 years-----	3,280	100.0	0.5	0.7	1.5	5.3	8.0	19.5	40.2	25.4	5.9	1.0		
20-24 years-----	3,310	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.2	4.7	6.9	18.7	39.6	26.7	6.7	1.3		
25-29 years-----	3,340	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	4.4	6.5	17.4	38.3	28.3	7.8	1.7		
30-34 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	4.6	7.0	16.6	36.4	28.7	9.0	2.3		
35-39 years-----	3,390	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.5	4.9	7.5	15.8	34.1	29.2	10.2	3.2		
40-44 years-----	3,430	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.5	5.0	7.5	15.0	32.3	29.4	11.5	4.5		
Nonwhite-----	3,280	100.0	0.6	0.8	1.8	6.4	9.7	20.6	35.1	23.5	7.3	3.8		
15-19 years-----	3,180	100.0	0.6	1.0	2.3	8.0	12.0	24.3	36.3	20.0	5.2	2.2		
20-24 years-----	3,250	100.0	0.7	0.8	1.7	6.4	9.6	22.0	36.2	22.9	6.4	3.0		
25-29 years-----	3,320	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	5.6	8.4	19.1	35.3	25.3	7.8	4.2		
30-34 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.6	5.8	8.8	17.2	33.4	25.7	9.4	5.6		
35-39 years-----	3,400	100.0	0.7	0.7	1.9	5.7	9.0	16.1	30.8	26.5	10.7	7.0		
40-44 years-----	3,450	100.0	0.3	0.9	2.1	5.7	8.9	14.7	29.6	27.7	11.4	7.7		
FIRST BIRTH ORDER														
Total-----	3,250	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.3	5.4	7.7	21.2	40.9	24.2	5.2	0.8		
15-19 years-----	3,250	100.0	0.4	0.7	1.6	5.8	8.5	21.1	40.2	23.8	5.4	1.0		
20-24 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.9	6.9	20.7	41.5	24.9	5.1	0.8		
25-29 years-----	3,250	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	5.0	7.1	21.3	41.8	24.2	5.0	0.7		
30-34 years-----	3,230	100.0	0.7	0.7	1.6	6.1	9.1	22.2	39.4	23.4	5.2	0.7		
35-39 years-----	3,200	100.0	0.6	0.9	2.0	7.5	11.0	23.2	38.4	21.1	5.2	1.0		
40-44 years-----	3,190	100.0	0.9	0.5	2.6	9.6	13.7	21.7	38.0	21.5	4.4	0.7		
White-----	3,270	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	5.0	7.2	20.5	41.4	24.9	5.3	0.8		
15-19 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.4	5.1	7.6	19.8	41.0	25.1	5.6	0.8		
20-24 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.3	0.5	1.1	4.7	6.5	20.2	41.9	25.4	5.2	0.7		
25-29 years-----	3,260	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.9	6.9	20.9	42.0	24.5	5.1	0.7		
30-34 years-----	3,240	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.6	6.0	8.9	21.9	39.5	23.7	5.3	0.7		
35-39 years-----	3,200	100.0	0.5	1.0	2.0	7.3	10.9	23.0	38.8	21.4	5.1	0.9		
40-44 years-----	3,190	100.0	0.9	0.4	2.5	9.2	13.1	21.6	38.5	21.8	4.3	0.7		
Nonwhite-----	3,150	100.0	0.6	0.9	2.0	8.3	11.8	26.4	37.4	18.7	4.2	1.5		
15-19 years-----	3,150	100.0	0.5	0.9	2.2	8.6	12.2	26.1	37.0	18.6	4.5	1.6		
20-24 years-----	3,160	100.0	0.6	0.9	1.7	7.8	11.1	26.7	37.8	19.3	3.8	1.3		
25-29 years-----	3,150	100.0	0.9	0.8	1.8	7.5	11.0	27.1	38.6	18.3	3.6	1.3		
30-34 years-----	3,160	100.0	1.3	0.5	1.9	7.9	11.6	25.9	38.1	18.5	4.5	1.4		
35-39 years-----	3,150	100.0	0.8	0.4	2.1	9.9	13.2	26.7	33.3	17.4	7.2	2.3		
40-44 years-----	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0		
SECOND BIRTH ORDER														
Total-----	3,320	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.3	4.6	6.9	18.0	38.7	27.6	7.3	1.5		
15-19 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.6	1.0	1.9	6.0	9.6	19.9	37.4	25.0	6.3	1.8		
20-24 years-----	3,320	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.3	4.6	6.9	18.2	38.7	27.3	7.3	1.5		
25-29 years-----	3,340	100.0	0.3	0.4	1.1	4.1	5.9	17.3	39.2	28.6	7.5	1.5		
30-34 years-----	3,320	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	4.4	6.6	17.9	39.2	27.6	7.4	1.4		
35-39 years-----	3,310	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.7	5.4	8.1	18.8	36.9	27.5	7.2	1.5		
40-44 years-----	3,300	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.7	5.4	8.2	19.1	37.6	27.1	6.6	1.4		

¹Computed to nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds to ounces; see text.

TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 48)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)									
			1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more
SECOND BIRTH ORDER—Con.												
White-----	3,330	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	4.4	6.5	17.5	38.9	28.2	7.5	1.4
15-19 years-----	3,300	100.0	0.6	0.9	1.8	5.4	8.6	18.7	37.9	26.7	6.6	1.4
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	4.4	6.5	17.5	38.9	28.0	7.6	1.4
25-29 years-----	3,350	100.0	0.3	0.4	1.1	3.9	5.7	17.0	39.3	29.0	7.6	1.4
30-34 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.3	6.4	17.6	39.2	27.9	7.5	1.3
35-39 years-----	3,310	100.0	0.6	0.5	1.7	5.4	8.1	18.6	36.9	27.7	7.3	1.5
40-44 years-----	3,300	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.8	5.1	7.9	19.0	37.5	27.5	6.8	1.3
Nonwhite-----	3,230	100.0	0.6	0.9	1.9	6.7	10.1	22.5	37.2	22.2	5.5	2.4
15-19 years-----	3,220	100.0	0.6	1.2	2.3	7.5	11.5	22.4	36.3	21.4	5.7	2.7
20-24 years-----	3,230	100.0	0.6	0.9	1.8	6.3	9.6	22.8	37.1	22.4	5.7	2.4
25-29 years-----	3,240	100.0	0.6	0.4	1.5	6.3	8.9	22.1	38.7	23.0	4.9	2.4
30-34 years-----	3,230	100.0	0.9	1.0	1.9	6.1	9.8	22.4	37.9	22.6	5.2	2.0
35-39 years-----	3,250	100.0	0.2	0.2	1.6	6.4	8.3	22.3	38.0	23.4	6.1	1.8
40-44 years-----	3,210	100.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	10.2	13.0	20.4	38.9	21.3	3.7	2.8
THIRD BIRTH ORDER												
Total-----	3,350	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	4.7	7.2	16.9	36.4	28.6	8.7	2.2
15-19 years-----	3,260	100.0	0.8	1.1	2.8	7.3	12.0	19.2	35.4	23.6	7.3	2.4
20-24 years-----	3,320	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	5.1	8.0	18.5	36.3	26.8	8.2	2.2
25-29 years-----	3,370	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	4.4	6.5	16.3	36.8	29.5	8.7	2.2
30-34 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.1	4.4	6.5	15.9	36.4	29.8	9.2	2.2
35-39 years-----	3,370	100.0	0.6	0.6	1.5	4.5	7.2	16.1	35.8	29.5	9.1	2.2
40-44 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.4	0.7	1.1	4.9	7.0	16.8	36.3	27.7	9.9	2.2
White-----	3,360	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	4.5	6.9	16.4	36.5	29.3	8.9	2.0
15-19 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.9	1.3	2.7	7.7	12.5	17.3	36.7	24.2	7.7	1.5
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	4.9	7.8	17.9	36.4	27.6	8.4	1.9
25-29 years-----	3,370	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	4.3	6.4	15.9	36.8	30.0	8.8	2.0
30-34 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.1	4.2	6.3	15.7	36.3	30.2	9.4	2.1
35-39 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.6	0.6	1.5	4.3	7.1	15.8	35.8	29.9	9.3	2.1
40-44 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.1	4.5	6.5	16.7	36.8	27.8	10.0	2.2
Nonwhite-----	3,290	100.0	0.6	0.8	1.6	5.9	8.9	20.3	36.0	24.0	7.3	3.5
15-19 years-----	3,250	100.0	0.7	1.0	2.9	6.9	11.5	21.2	34.0	23.0	6.9	3.4
20-24 years-----	3,290	100.0	0.7	0.8	1.4	5.7	8.6	20.6	35.8	24.1	7.5	3.5
25-29 years-----	3,300	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.4	5.5	8.0	19.7	36.9	24.4	7.2	3.7
30-34 years-----	3,290	100.0	0.4	0.8	1.6	6.3	9.1	19.2	37.7	23.6	7.4	3.1
35-39 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.9	0.7	1.8	6.4	9.8	20.6	36.1	24.4	5.7	3.4
40-44 years-----	3,280	100.0	0	0.9	2.6	12.8	16.2	17.9	28.2	26.5	8.5	2.6
FOURTH BIRTH ORDER												
Total-----	3,380	100.0	0.5	0.7	1.5	4.9	7.5	16.0	34.8	28.8	9.9	3.0
15-19 years-----	3,260	100.0	1.6	1.7	3.5	7.1	13.9	20.1	30.3	24.2	7.1	4.4
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.7	0.8	1.8	5.7	9.1	17.8	35.2	26.1	8.7	3.2
25-29 years-----	3,390	100.0	0.4	0.7	1.4	4.7	7.2	16.1	34.5	29.5	9.8	3.0
30-34 years-----	3,400	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.4	4.5	6.8	14.9	35.1	29.6	10.7	2.9
35-39 years-----	3,410	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.3	4.5	6.9	14.7	34.4	30.0	11.1	2.9
40-44 years-----	3,380	100.0	0.4	0.4	1.4	5.5	7.8	15.6	35.3	28.3	9.6	3.4
White-----	3,390	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.5	4.8	7.4	15.5	34.8	29.4	10.3	2.7
15-19 years-----	3,180	100.0	1.0	2.9	4.2	8.5	16.7	21.9	30.7	24.5	3.9	2.3
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.8	0.9	1.9	5.6	9.2	17.2	35.6	26.3	9.1	2.5
25-29 years-----	3,390	100.0	0.4	0.7	1.4	4.6	7.1	15.9	34.3	30.0	10.0	2.7
30-34 years-----	3,410	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.3	4.5	6.8	14.6	35.0	30.1	10.8	2.7
35-39 years-----	3,420	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.3	4.5	6.8	14.6	34.3	30.3	11.2	2.8
40-44 years-----	3,380	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.3	5.4	7.6	15.5	35.3	28.4	9.7	3.5

¹Computed to nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds to ounces; see text.

VITAL STATISTICS—SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 2. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 48)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)									
			1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more
FOURTH BIRTH ORDER—Con.												
Nonwhite-----	3,340	100.0	0.7	0.8	1.5	5.3	8.3	17.9	34.9	26.1	8.5	4.3
15-19 years-----	3,310	100.0	2.0	1.1	3.1	6.3	12.4	19.1	30.0	24.1	8.8	5.6
20-24 years-----	3,320	100.0	0.7	0.7	1.5	5.9	8.7	18.9	34.5	25.5	8.1	4.3
25-29 years-----	3,360	100.0	0.4	0.9	1.3	4.8	7.4	17.1	35.6	27.0	8.6	4.3
30-34 years-----	3,350	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.6	4.8	7.5	17.4	35.5	25.8	9.3	4.5
35-39 years-----	3,350	100.0	1.1	1.3	1.2	4.9	8.4	16.8	35.0	26.8	9.2	3.8
40-44 years-----	3,310	100.0	0	0	3.1	6.9	10.0	16.9	36.2	26.2	8.5	2.3
FIFTH BIRTH ORDER AND OVER												
Total-----	3,460	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.6	4.8	7.7	14.0	31.0	29.7	12.0	5.6
15-19 years-----	3,260	100.0	3.7	0.5	2.3	11.9	18.3	17.4	26.6	21.1	13.3	3.2
20-24 years-----	3,340	100.0	1.0	1.1	2.3	6.1	10.5	17.1	33.0	26.2	8.9	4.3
25-29 years-----	3,420	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.6	5.1	8.0	15.1	32.4	29.0	10.8	4.7
30-34 years-----	3,460	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	4.7	7.6	13.7	31.2	29.9	12.0	5.6
35-39 years-----	3,500	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.5	4.6	7.1	13.0	29.9	30.6	13.1	6.3
40-44 years-----	3,540	100.0	0.3	0.7	1.5	4.3	6.8	12.7	28.3	31.1	14.1	7.0
White-----	3,470	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	4.6	7.4	13.6	31.1	30.5	12.4	5.0
15-19 years-----	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	1.1	1.4	2.1	6.2	10.7	17.5	33.2	26.7	8.7	3.3
25-29 years-----	3,410	100.0	0.7	0.7	1.6	5.1	8.0	14.7	32.9	29.4	11.1	3.9
30-34 years-----	3,470	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	4.5	7.3	13.5	31.4	30.7	12.3	4.8
35-39 years-----	3,510	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	4.3	6.7	12.7	30.2	31.5	13.4	5.6
40-44 years-----	3,540	100.0	0.3	0.6	1.4	4.3	6.7	12.5	28.3	31.6	14.4	6.6
Nonwhite-----	3,430	100.0	0.6	0.8	1.8	5.3	8.5	15.0	30.7	27.7	11.0	7.1
15-19 years-----	3,350	100.0	2.0	0	2.7	11.6	16.3	16.3	24.5	25.2	13.6	4.1
20-24 years-----	3,350	100.0	0.9	0.8	2.5	6.0	10.2	16.8	32.9	25.7	9.2	5.3
25-29 years-----	3,420	100.0	0.5	0.8	1.6	5.0	7.9	15.7	31.7	28.3	10.5	6.1
30-34 years-----	3,450	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.5	5.5	8.3	14.4	30.5	27.8	11.3	7.7
35-39 years-----	3,470	100.0	0.6	0.7	2.0	5.4	8.7	14.1	28.8	27.7	12.2	8.6
40-44 years-----	3,500	100.0	0.3	0.8	2.0	4.4	7.5	13.6	28.7	28.8	12.4	8.9

¹Computed to nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds to ounces; see text.

TABLE 3. DEATHS UNDER 28 DAYS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 51)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)								
		1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501-4,000	4,001-4,500	4,501 or more.
FOURTH BIRTH ORDER										
Total-----	1,536	314	280	206	172	179	205	113	43	24
Under 15 years-----	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	39	11	12	10	1	1	2	1	1	-
20-24 years-----	370	92	69	58	36	45	41	20	4	5
25-29 years-----	503	89	108	59	50	56	74	42	19	6
30-34 years-----	362	69	53	46	52	48	56	24	10	4
35-39 years-----	213	47	31	29	27	25	22	20	6	6
40-44 years-----	48	6	6	4	6	4	10	6	3	3
45 years and over-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-----	1,211	241	218	168	152	136	162	89	28	17
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	15	2	7	5	-	-	-	1	-	-
20-24 years-----	249	62	53	38	22	33	26	10	1	4
25-29 years-----	400	73	80	53	48	40	59	31	13	3
30-34 years-----	321	59	47	40	50	40	51	22	9	3
35-39 years-----	184	39	25	28	26	20	19	20	3	4
40-44 years-----	42	6	6	4	6	3	7	5	2	3
45 years and over-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nonwhite-----	325	73	62	38	20	43	43	24	15	7
Under 15 years-----	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	24	9	5	5	1	1	2	-	1	-
20-24 years-----	121	30	16	20	14	12	15	10	3	1
25-29 years-----	103	16	28	6	2	16	15	11	6	3
30-34 years-----	41	10	6	6	2	8	5	2	1	1
35-39 years-----	29	8	6	1	1	5	3	-	3	2
40-44 years-----	6	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	1	-
45 years and over-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FIFTH BIRTH ORDER AND OVER										
Total-----	2,936	521	401	443	390	300	357	287	122	115
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	15	7	1	4	3	-	-	-	-	-
20-24 years-----	286	64	46	61	32	27	32	18	3	3
25-29 years-----	728	151	108	105	93	79	67	72	27	26
30-34 years-----	854	161	117	128	111	84	103	75	39	36
35-39 years-----	728	114	92	96	108	73	100	73	42	30
40-44 years-----	292	23	37	46	41	30	47	44	10	14
45 years and over-----	33	1	-	3	2	7	8	5	1	6
White-----	2,009	375	286	301	282	209	256	164	74	62
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	8	4	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
20-24 years-----	144	35	26	30	14	12	21	6	-	-
25-29 years-----	473	106	71	74	62	55	48	30	17	10
30-34 years-----	598	122	88	99	75	56	69	49	20	20
35-39 years-----	535	89	68	61	91	53	78	49	29	17
40-44 years-----	226	18	32	33	36	27	35	28	8	9
45 years and over-----	25	1	-	3	2	6	5	2	-	6
Nonwhite-----	927	146	115	142	108	91	101	123	48	53
Under 15 years-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years-----	7	3	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
20-24 years-----	142	29	20	31	18	15	11	12	3	3
25-29 years-----	255	45	37	31	31	24	19	42	10	16
30-34 years-----	256	39	29	29	36	28	34	26	19	16
35-39 years-----	193	25	24	35	17	20	22	24	13	13
40-44 years-----	66	5	5	13	5	3	12	16	2	5
45 years and over-----	8	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	1	-

VITAL STATISTICS—SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 4. NEONATAL MORTALITY RATES BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Based on deaths under 28 days among children born Jan. 1 to Mar. 31, 1950. Rates per 1,000 live births in specified group. Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight, birth order, and age of mother not stated are distributed. Figures for age of mother under 15 years and 45 years and over are not shown separately, but are included in totals for groups. Excludes data for Massachusetts. Two dots (..) indicate rate not computed where the number of deaths is less than 10)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)							
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 4,500	4,501 or more	2,500 or less	2,501 or more
ALL BIRTH ORDERS									
Total-----	20.0	691.0	211.0	50.4	12.6	6.4	14.2	173.7	7.8
15-19 years-----	23.8	687.8	229.0	59.0	12.8	6.6	14.4	182.7	8.1
20-24 years-----	19.0	701.4	220.6	46.3	11.5	5.7	10.6	172.7	7.0
25-29 years-----	17.6	707.2	199.5	42.3	11.9	5.8	12.6	164.8	7.1
30-34 years-----	20.0	679.6	195.5	50.7	13.4	6.6	15.4	174.8	8.1
35-39 years-----	23.6	651.5	202.6	66.9	15.9	8.8	15.9	182.5	10.3
40-44 years-----	27.2	635.9	231.8	80.3	20.2	12.4	21.3	185.1	14.1
White-----	18.9	703.1	214.6	50.6	12.0	5.8	12.0	175.8	7.1
15-19 years-----	22.3	725.0	236.8	62.4	12.1	5.9	13.3	195.5	7.3
20-24 years-----	18.0	710.7	228.2	45.4	11.4	5.3	10.0	173.1	6.6
25-29 years-----	16.7	713.5	208.7	42.7	11.1	5.2	8.3	166.0	6.4
30-34 years-----	18.9	687.7	196.2	50.0	12.2	5.9	13.6	175.6	7.2
35-39 years-----	22.6	658.9	194.9	69.7	15.2	8.2	13.4	183.5	9.6
40-44 years-----	26.1	664.6	225.0	83.9	21.4	10.7	19.7	189.9	12.9
Nonwhite-----	26.7	640.4	195.7	49.5	15.4	10.3	20.2	164.7	11.9
15-19 years-----	28.3	603.4	213.4	52.5	14.6	9.0	..	157.0	10.8
20-24 years-----	24.8	666.1	189.3	50.0	12.0	8.1	12.0	171.0	9.2
25-29 years-----	24.6	673.2	156.6	39.4	16.8	10.4	26.0	157.4	12.4
30-34 years-----	28.7	629.6	190.7	55.1	22.6	12.8	21.6	170.2	15.2
35-39 years-----	29.9	609.8	244.0	50.6	20.7	13.3	24.0	176.4	15.4
40-44 years-----	35.0	461.5	265.3	..	..	24.8	..	157.9	22.9
FIRST BIRTH ORDER									
Total-----	19.1	689.0	197.9	43.3	11.2	6.6	17.4	154.2	7.7
15-19 years-----	21.2	654.3	197.9	57.2	12.6	6.6	18.3	162.3	8.1
20-24 years-----	16.6	709.3	202.3	37.6	10.1	5.8	14.1	147.8	6.8
25-29 years-----	17.3	703.9	187.9	32.7	11.0	6.3	..	145.9	7.5
30-34 years-----	24.1	739.1	213.6	34.4	10.1	9.5	..	168.9	9.7
35-39 years-----	28.7	598.1	172.4	57.7	15.7	12.5	..	152.1	13.4
40-44 years-----	30.9	666.7	..	..	..	..	..	140.7	13.5
White-----	17.8	701.7	206.8	42.4	10.5	5.9	13.2	157.0	7.0
15-19 years-----	19.8	693.3	210.1	59.0	11.5	5.8	..	175.3	7.1
20-24 years-----	15.5	709.2	210.7	36.8	9.7	5.4	..	147.2	6.4
25-29 years-----	16.4	708.7	196.0	32.0	10.4	5.7	..	145.6	6.8
30-34 years-----	22.3	740.3	221.1	33.7	8.4	7.6	..	170.6	7.9
35-39 years-----	28.1	584.2	170.4	61.3	15.7	11.5	..	154.5	12.6
40-44 years-----	29.8	631.6	..	..	..	..	..	144.4	12.5
Nonwhite-----	28.9	627.8	155.0	47.6	15.7	12.7	33.9	141.0	13.9
15-19 years-----	26.6	542.9	167.7	53.1	15.6	10.2	..	131.1	12.1
20-24 years-----	27.7	710.1	146.5	42.7	13.3	11.1	..	151.5	12.3
25-29 years-----	31.8	666.7	..	39.7	17.5	16.2	..	148.6	17.4
30-34 years-----	49.2	727.3	..	..	30.7	39.0	0	150.7	35.9
35-39 years-----	37.2	..	..	..	..	..	0	..	23.8
40-44 years-----	..	..	0	0	0	..	-	..	..
SECOND BIRTH ORDER									
Total-----	17.8	709.9	215.1	48.6	10.6	5.2	10.0	173.5	6.3
15-19 years-----	28.1	738.2	288.2	58.4	12.9	6.5	..	217.5	8.0
20-24 years-----	18.2	704.6	223.3	55.1	10.4	5.1	10.2	179.8	6.2
25-29 years-----	14.3	706.4	209.8	39.6	9.2	4.6	..	155.4	5.4
30-34 years-----	16.1	709.9	153.7	41.5	11.0	4.5	..	160.5	5.9
35-39 years-----	20.3	672.0	159.2	46.9	12.7	7.9	..	148.9	8.9
40-44 years-----	25.3	727.3	..	..	..	11.8	0	163.6	13.0

TABLE 4. NEONATAL MORTALITY RATES BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 54)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)							
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 4,500	4,501 or more	2,500 or less	2,501 or more
SECOND BIRTH ORDER—Continued									
White-----	16.9	717.6	218.5	49.0	10.2	4.9	9.2	174.6	5.9
15-19 years-----	27.2	781.4	289.2	66.1	13.7	5.8	..	236.5	7.4
20-24 years-----	17.5	712.8	241.4	54.4	10.6	4.9	10.1	181.9	6.0
25-29 years-----	14.0	708.0	218.2	41.8	8.4	4.3	..	159.6	5.1
30-34 years-----	15.2	701.9	146.5	42.5	10.1	4.3	..	156.5	5.6
35-39 years-----	20.2	682.9	151.8	45.5	12.1	7.8	..	149.7	8.8
40-44 years-----	26.3	800.0	..	..	..	12.4	0	172.2	13.7
Nonwhite-----	25.4	670.0	196.8	46.4	12.9	8.1	13.9	167.7	9.5
15-19 years-----	29.9	659.3	286.5	46.7	11.5	8.4	..	187.4	9.4
20-24 years-----	23.5	668.6	135.9	58.3	8.8	7.5	..	169.7	7.9
25-29 years-----	20.3	687.5	..	..	19.3	8.7	..	110.6	11.5
30-34 years-----	32.6	787.9	..	..	25.1	8.6	..	211.4	13.1
35-39 years-----	22.5	0	..	..	..	..	0	..	..
40-44 years-----	..	0	0	..	0	0	0	..	0
THIRD BIRTH ORDER									
Total-----	19.7	701.3	195.9	50.9	13.7	5.6	10.4	181.7	7.2
15-19 years-----	35.3	718.8	242.6	86.1	17.9	7.0	..	224.7	9.4
20-24 years-----	22.0	698.8	217.7	47.0	14.7	5.6	..	190.4	7.5
25-29 years-----	17.7	744.9	187.7	43.5	13.3	5.3	11.9	173.8	6.8
30-34 years-----	16.9	678.3	163.3	47.9	12.9	5.3	..	164.7	6.7
35-39 years-----	19.8	613.9	184.6	63.6	11.2	6.1	..	183.9	7.0
40-44 years-----	26.4	652.2	..	135.1	..	11.3	..	212.5	12.3
White-----	19.3	715.2	200.4	51.2	13.9	5.3	9.6	185.9	6.9
15-19 years-----	41.4	800.0	294.1	96.9	..	8.5	..	260.2	10.3
20-24 years-----	22.5	722.0	223.8	49.0	15.9	5.5	..	199.1	7.6
25-29 years-----	17.1	746.0	187.6	43.0	13.3	4.8	..	174.5	6.3
30-34 years-----	16.8	695.2	169.8	47.8	12.9	5.1	..	170.0	6.5
35-39 years-----	19.9	616.4	197.8	63.6	12.2	6.0	..	187.7	7.1
40-44 years-----	25.5	681.8	..	135.4	..	10.0	..	227.0	11.4
Nonwhite-----	22.3	629.2	173.5	49.9	12.6	7.3	13.3	160.9	8.7
15-19 years-----	28.6	609.8	191.2	73.2	19.8	..	0	183.2	8.6
20-24 years-----	20.5	624.1	195.5	41.0	11.4	5.9	..	163.3	7.1
25-29 years-----	23.9	736.8	188.4	46.9	13.1	9.6	..	168.7	11.3
30-34 years-----	19.7	454.5	..	..	..	8.3	..	108.6	9.7
35-39 years-----	19.0	..	0	..	0	..	0	138.9	..
40-44 years-----	..	0	0	..	0	..	0	..	..
FOURTH BIRTH ORDER									
Total-----	21.1	686.7	193.6	48.7	15.4	6.8	11.0	177.9	8.4
15-19 years-----	45.2	793.1	333.3	..	..	..	0	283.3	..
20-24 years-----	24.9	685.1	220.5	42.4	17.0	6.2	..	189.2	8.5
25-29 years-----	19.6	686.4	169.1	41.8	13.6	7.1	..	167.1	8.3
30-34 years-----	18.8	648.9	174.9	60.3	16.8	6.2	..	167.4	7.9
35-39 years-----	21.5	729.0	223.1	60.1	17.1	6.4	..	195.3	8.6
40-44 years-----	23.6	705.9	..	..	..	12.8	..	139.2	13.9

VITAL STATISTICS—SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 4. NEONATAL MORTALITY RATES BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 54)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)							
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 4,500	4,501 or more	2,500 or less	2,501 or more
FOURTH BIRTH ORDER—Continued									
White-----	20.3	680.0	193.1	53.4	14.7	6.3	10.5	177.5	7.8
15-19 years-----	49.0	..	..	0	0	..	0	274.5	..
20-24 years-----	25.9	709.9	205.4	40.7	20.0	5.4	..	197.1	8.5
25-29 years-----	18.8	674.0	180.3	48.7	11.8	6.5	..	168.5	7.4
30-34 years-----	18.5	634.7	172.4	64.7	15.8	6.2	..	167.2	7.7
35-39 years-----	20.1	719.1	231.4	63.1	18.0	6.0	..	189.7	7.7
40-44 years-----	22.1	705.9	..	..	..	10.0	..	151.7	11.4
Nonwhite-----	25.0	710.5	195.9	29.0	18.5	9.1	..	179.7	11.1
15-19 years-----	43.2	823.5	..	..	..	..	0	289.9	..
20-24 years-----	22.9	630.1	256.4	45.3	12.1	7.8	..	173.9	8.5
25-29 years-----	23.6	733.3	..	..	21.4	10.3	..	160.5	12.6
30-34 years-----	21.7	761.9	..	..	..	..	..	169.0	9.7
35-39 years-----	38.3	777.8	..	..	..	..	..	250.0	18.7
40-44 years-----	..	-	0	0	..	..	0	0	..
FIFTH BIRTH ORDER AND OVER									
Total-----	26.9	652.5	257.4	73.6	19.6	9.6	18.8	208.2	11.7
15-19 years-----	68.8	..	..	..	0	0	0	375.0	0
20-24 years-----	35.8	670.7	331.5	65.7	19.8	9.8	..	243.1	11.6
25-29 years-----	25.5	679.8	234.9	64.4	18.4	8.1	19.4	201.1	10.3
30-34 years-----	25.5	634.7	252.0	70.1	18.3	8.9	19.3	204.4	10.9
35-39 years-----	26.1	654.0	237.0	85.0	20.1	10.5	17.1	206.0	12.3
40-44 years-----	28.0	594.1	285.7	91.1	22.7	13.2	19.1	206.5	14.9
White-----	26.0	674.5	261.1	78.6	19.8	8.6	16.1	217.4	10.7
15-19 years-----	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	..	0
20-24 years-----	37.5	655.9	365.9	59.1	17.9	10.3	0	254.9	11.4
25-29 years-----	25.9	713.7	256.9	66.6	20.5	7.1	14.1	213.4	9.5
30-34 years-----	24.4	656.3	266.8	68.5	16.9	7.6	16.9	215.0	9.4
35-39 years-----	24.9	682.6	216.6	98.1	19.5	9.7	14.1	215.0	11.3
40-44 years-----	26.5	625.0	268.3	98.6	25.4	11.2	..	209.5	13.4
Nonwhite-----	29.1	602.8	250.0	63.3	19.0	12.3	23.4	188.8	14.2
15-19 years-----	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	..	0
20-24 years-----	34.3	690.1	303.9	72.0	21.6	9.3	..	231.7	11.8
25-29 years-----	24.9	616.5	195.0	60.3	14.9	9.9	25.6	178.7	11.8
30-34 years-----	28.7	576.3	211.7	73.8	21.9	12.7	23.4	179.0	15.1
35-39 years-----	30.3	576.5	277.8	49.7	22.2	13.5	23.7	182.6	15.8
40-44 years-----	34.5	476.2	342.1	..	..	22.4	..	194.4	21.5

TABLE 5. SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight, period of gestation, and birth order not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)					
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 3,500	3,501 or more
ALL GESTATION GROUPS							
Total-----	820,618	7,371	8,946	36,225	146,751	313,216	308,109
First birth-----	259,142	2,400	3,152	13,472	54,754	106,695	78,669
Second birth-----	246,740	1,981	2,505	10,232	44,097	96,767	91,158
Third birth-----	139,622	1,308	1,390	5,596	23,095	51,733	56,500
Fourth birth-----	70,222	665	729	2,871	10,792	24,907	30,258
Fifth birth and over-----	104,892	1,017	1,170	4,054	14,013	33,114	51,524
White-----	702,966	5,938	7,199	29,322	122,663	271,274	266,570
First birth-----	229,729	1,977	2,593	11,109	46,961	95,615	71,474
Second birth-----	220,772	1,656	2,081	8,624	38,253	86,959	83,199
Third birth-----	120,526	1,088	1,141	4,580	19,242	44,753	49,722
Fourth birth-----	57,615	503	590	2,291	8,594	20,424	25,213
Fifth birth and over-----	74,324	714	794	2,718	9,613	23,523	36,962
Nonwhite-----	117,652	1,433	1,747	6,903	24,088	41,942	41,539
First birth-----	29,413	423	559	2,363	7,793	11,080	7,195
Second birth-----	25,968	325	424	1,608	5,844	9,808	7,959
Third birth-----	19,096	220	249	1,016	3,853	6,980	6,778
Fourth birth-----	12,607	162	139	580	2,198	4,483	5,045
Fifth birth and over-----	30,568	303	376	1,336	4,400	9,591	14,562
GESTATIONS UNDER 28 WEEKS							
Total-----	4,342	3,670	321	80	70	99	102
First birth-----	1,355	1,145	102	29	24	30	25
Second birth-----	1,142	973	74	20	22	23	30
Third birth-----	768	663	51	12	5	18	19
Fourth birth-----	389	334	26	7	8	10	4
Fifth birth and over-----	688	555	68	12	11	18	24
White-----	3,515	3,027	236	60	53	80	59
First birth-----	1,130	973	76	23	16	26	16
Second birth-----	957	819	60	17	19	22	20
Third birth-----	643	563	42	9	5	13	11
Fourth birth-----	300	266	18	2	7	5	2
Fifth birth and over-----	485	406	40	9	6	14	10
Nonwhite-----	827	643	85	20	17	19	43
First birth-----	225	172	26	6	8	4	9
Second birth-----	185	154	14	3	3	1	10
Third birth-----	125	100	9	3	-	5	8
Fourth birth-----	89	68	8	5	1	5	2
Fifth birth and over-----	203	149	28	3	5	4	14
GESTATIONS OF 28-31 WEEKS							
Total-----	6,697	2,277	2,184	1,327	390	268	251
First birth-----	2,262	751	759	450	153	93	56
Second birth-----	1,816	639	572	375	95	76	59
Third birth-----	1,064	405	326	197	50	38	48
Fourth birth-----	603	215	187	112	31	19	39
Fifth birth and over-----	952	267	340	193	61	42	49
White-----	5,277	1,786	1,716	1,037	313	218	207
First birth-----	1,833	597	600	373	134	80	49
Second birth-----	1,461	522	459	295	72	65	48
Third birth-----	853	335	252	156	37	31	42
Fourth birth-----	476	155	160	88	26	17	30
Fifth birth and over-----	654	177	245	125	44	25	38

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TABLE 5. SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, and COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 57)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)					
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,900	2,001- 2,500	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 28-31 WEEKS—Continued							
Nonwhite-----	1,420	491	468	290	77	50	44
First birth-----	429	154	159	77	19	13	7
Second birth-----	355	117	113	80	23	11	11
Third birth-----	211	70	74	41	13	7	6
Fourth birth-----	127	60	27	24	5	2	9
Fifth birth and over-----	298	90	95	68	17	17	11
GESTATIONS OF 32-35 WEEKS							
Total-----	15,206	910	3,116	5,113	3,120	1,939	1,008
First birth-----	5,286	328	1,085	1,811	1,114	672	276
Second birth-----	4,462	248	967	1,514	922	538	273
Third birth-----	2,456	150	475	819	504	323	185
Fourth birth-----	1,283	75	241	434	250	180	103
Fifth birth and over-----	1,719	109	348	535	330	226	171
White-----	12,929	748	2,621	4,340	2,723	1,646	851
First birth-----	4,567	268	934	1,562	973	592	238
Second birth-----	3,916	218	825	1,324	834	466	249
Third birth-----	2,102	121	415	695	440	276	155
Fourth birth-----	1,057	60	196	358	217	145	81
Fifth birth and over-----	1,287	81	251	401	259	167	128
Nonwhite-----	2,277	162	495	773	397	293	157
First birth-----	719	60	151	249	141	80	38
Second birth-----	546	30	142	190	88	72	24
Third birth-----	354	29	60	124	64	47	30
Fourth birth-----	226	15	45	76	33	35	22
Fifth birth and over-----	432	28	97	134	71	59	43
GESTATIONS OF 36 WEEKS							
Total-----	68,658	150	1,164	6,015	12,676	23,151	25,502
First birth-----	19,616	51	429	2,153	4,378	7,068	5,537
Second birth-----	18,202	34	311	1,689	3,469	6,417	6,282
Third birth-----	11,585	33	191	949	2,065	3,764	4,583
Fourth birth-----	6,841	7	96	506	1,090	2,203	2,939
Fifth birth and over-----	12,414	25	137	718	1,674	3,699	6,161
White-----	54,056	108	923	4,788	10,153	18,593	19,491
First birth-----	16,306	37	347	1,757	3,649	5,929	4,587
Second birth-----	15,292	25	261	1,379	2,908	5,500	5,219
Third birth-----	9,316	21	149	776	1,667	3,059	3,644
Fourth birth-----	5,120	4	79	404	836	1,674	2,123
Fifth birth and over-----	8,022	21	87	472	1,093	2,431	3,918
Nonwhite-----	14,602	42	241	1,227	2,523	4,558	6,011
First birth-----	3,310	14	82	396	729	1,139	950
Second birth-----	2,910	9	50	310	561	917	1,063
Third birth-----	2,269	12	42	173	398	705	939
Fourth birth-----	1,721	3	17	102	254	529	816
Fifth birth and over-----	4,392	4	50	246	581	1,268	2,243
GESTATIONS OF 37 WEEKS AND OVER							
Total-----	725,715	364	2,161	23,690	130,495	287,759	281,246
First birth-----	230,623	125	777	9,029	49,085	98,832	72,775
Second birth-----	221,118	87	581	6,634	39,589	89,713	84,514
Third birth-----	123,749	57	347	3,619	20,471	47,590	51,665
Fourth birth-----	61,106	34	179	1,812	9,413	22,495	27,173
Fifth birth and over-----	89,119	61	277	2,596	11,937	29,129	45,119

TABLE 5. SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 57.)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)					
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 37 WEEKS AND OVER—Continued							
White-----	627,189	269	1,703	19,097	109,421	250,737	245,962
First birth-----	205,893	102	636	7,394	42,189	88,988	66,584
Second birth-----	199,146	72	476	5,609	34,420	80,906	77,663
Third birth-----	107,612	48	283	2,944	17,093	41,374	45,870
Fourth birth-----	50,662	18	137	1,439	7,508	18,583	22,977
Fifth birth and over-----	63,876	29	171	1,711	8,211	20,886	32,868
Nonwhite-----	98,526	95	458	4,593	21,074	37,022	35,284
First birth-----	24,730	23	141	1,635	6,896	9,844	6,191
Second birth-----	21,972	15	105	1,025	5,169	8,807	6,851
Third birth-----	16,137	9	64	675	3,378	6,216	5,795
Fourth birth-----	10,444	16	42	373	1,905	3,912	4,196
Fifth birth and over-----	25,243	32	106	885	3,726	8,243	12,251

TABLE 6. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight, period of gestation, and birth order not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts. Two dots (..) indicate percent or median not computed where base is less than 100)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL- BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
			1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,500 or less	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 3,500	3,501 or more
ALL GESTATION GROUPS									
Total-----	3,330	100.0	0.9	1.1	4.4	6.4	17.9	38.2	37.5
First birth-----	3,260	100.0	0.9	1.2	5.2	7.3	21.1	41.2	30.4
Second birth-----	3,330	100.0	0.8	1.0	4.1	6.0	17.9	39.2	36.9
Third birth-----	3,370	100.0	0.9	1.0	4.0	5.9	16.5	37.1	40.5
Fourth birth-----	3,400	100.0	0.9	1.0	4.1	6.1	15.4	35.5	43.1
Fifth birth and over-----	3,490	100.0	1.0	1.1	3.9	5.9	13.4	31.6	49.1
White-----	3,340	100.0	0.8	1.0	4.2	6.0	17.4	38.6	37.9
First birth-----	3,270	100.0	0.9	1.1	4.8	6.8	20.4	41.6	31.1
Second birth-----	3,340	100.0	0.8	0.9	3.9	5.6	17.3	39.4	37.7
Third birth-----	3,380	100.0	0.9	0.9	3.8	5.6	16.0	37.1	41.3
Fourth birth-----	3,410	100.0	0.9	1.0	4.0	5.9	14.9	35.4	43.8
Fifth birth and over-----	3,500	100.0	1.0	1.1	3.7	5.7	12.9	31.6	49.7
Nonwhite-----	3,290	100.0	1.2	1.5	5.9	8.6	20.5	35.6	35.3
First birth-----	3,160	100.0	1.4	1.9	8.0	11.4	26.5	37.7	24.5
Second birth-----	3,240	100.0	1.3	1.6	6.2	9.1	22.5	37.8	30.6
Third birth-----	3,300	100.0	1.2	1.3	5.3	7.8	20.2	36.6	35.5
Fourth birth-----	3,360	100.0	1.3	1.1	4.6	7.0	17.4	35.6	40.0
Fifth birth and over-----	3,460	100.0	1.0	1.2	4.4	6.6	14.4	31.4	47.6

¹Computed to nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds and ounces; see text.

VITAL STATISTICS—SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 6. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 59)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
			1,500 or less	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS UNDER 28 WEEKS ²									
Total-----	890	100.0	84.5	7.4	1.8	93.8	1.6	2.3	2.3
First birth-----	890	100.0	84.5	7.5	2.1	94.2	1.8	2.2	1.8
Second birth-----	900	100.0	85.2	6.5	1.8	93.4	1.9	2.0	2.6
Third birth-----	820	100.0	86.3	6.6	1.6	94.5	0.7	2.3	2.5
Fourth birth-----	880	100.0	85.9	6.7	1.8	94.3	2.1	2.6	1.0
Fifth birth and over-----	990	100.0	80.7	9.9	1.7	92.3	1.6	2.6	3.5
White-----	870	100.0	86.1	6.7	1.7	94.5	1.5	2.3	1.7
First birth-----	860	100.0	86.1	6.7	2.0	94.9	1.4	2.3	1.4
Second birth-----	890	100.0	85.6	6.3	1.8	93.6	2.0	2.5	2.1
Third birth-----	810	100.0	87.6	6.5	1.4	95.5	0.8	2.0	1.7
Fourth birth-----	860	100.0	88.7	6.0	0.7	95.3	2.3	1.7	0.7
Fifth birth and over-----	960	100.0	83.7	8.2	1.9	93.8	1.2	2.9	2.1
Nonwhite-----	990	100.0	77.8	10.3	2.4	90.4	2.1	2.3	5.2
First birth-----	1,050	100.0	76.4	11.6	2.7	90.7	3.6	1.8	4.0
Second birth-----	960	100.0	83.2	7.6	1.6	92.4	1.6	0.5	5.4
Third birth-----	900	100.0	80.0	7.2	2.4	89.6	0	4.0	6.4
Fourth birth-----	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fifth birth and over-----	1,050	100.0	73.4	13.8	1.5	88.7	2.5	2.0	6.9
GESTATIONS OF 28-31 WEEKS									
Total-----	1,740	100.0	34.0	32.6	19.8	86.4	5.8	4.0	3.7
First birth-----	1,740	100.0	33.2	33.6	19.9	86.6	6.8	4.1	2.5
Second birth-----	1,730	100.0	35.2	31.5	20.6	87.3	5.2	4.2	3.2
Third birth-----	1,690	100.0	38.1	30.6	18.5	87.2	4.7	3.6	4.5
Fourth birth-----	1,720	100.0	35.7	31.0	18.6	85.2	5.1	3.2	6.5
Fifth birth and over-----	1,800	100.0	28.0	35.7	20.3	84.0	6.4	4.4	5.1
White-----	1,740	100.0	33.8	32.5	19.7	86.0	5.9	4.1	3.9
First birth-----	1,760	100.0	32.6	32.7	20.3	85.7	7.3	4.4	2.7
Second birth-----	1,720	100.0	35.7	31.4	20.2	87.3	4.9	4.4	3.3
Third birth-----	1,670	100.0	39.3	29.5	18.3	87.1	4.3	3.6	4.9
Fourth birth-----	1,750	100.0	32.6	33.6	18.5	84.7	5.5	3.6	6.3
Fifth birth and over-----	1,800	100.0	27.1	37.5	19.1	83.6	6.7	3.8	5.8
Nonwhite-----	1,730	100.0	34.6	33.0	20.4	88.0	5.4	3.5	3.1
First birth-----	1,680	100.0	35.9	37.1	17.9	90.9	4.4	3.0	1.6
Second birth-----	1,760	100.0	33.0	31.8	22.5	87.3	6.5	3.1	3.1
Third birth-----	1,730	100.0	33.2	35.1	19.4	87.7	6.2	3.3	2.8
Fourth birth-----	1,550	100.0	47.2	21.3	18.9	87.4	3.9	1.6	7.1
Fifth birth and over-----	1,810	100.0	30.2	31.9	22.8	84.9	5.7	5.7	3.7
GESTATIONS OF 32-35 WEEKS									
Total-----	2,360	100.0	6.0	20.5	33.6	60.1	20.5	12.8	6.6
First birth-----	2,350	100.0	6.2	20.5	34.3	61.0	21.1	12.7	5.2
Second birth-----	2,340	100.0	5.6	21.7	33.9	61.2	20.7	12.1	6.1
Third birth-----	2,370	100.0	6.1	19.3	33.3	58.8	20.5	13.2	7.5
Fourth birth-----	2,380	100.0	5.8	18.8	33.8	58.5	19.5	14.0	8.0
Fifth birth and over-----	2,380	100.0	6.3	20.2	31.1	57.7	19.2	13.1	9.9
White-----	2,360	100.0	5.8	20.3	33.6	59.6	21.1	12.7	6.6
First birth-----	2,350	100.0	5.9	20.5	34.2	60.5	21.3	13.0	5.2
Second birth-----	2,350	100.0	5.6	21.1	33.8	60.4	21.3	11.9	6.4
Third birth-----	2,380	100.0	5.8	19.7	33.1	58.6	20.9	13.1	7.4
Fourth birth-----	2,390	100.0	5.7	18.5	33.9	58.1	20.5	13.7	7.7
Fifth birth and over-----	2,400	100.0	6.3	19.5	31.2	57.0	20.1	13.0	9.9

¹Computed to nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds and ounces; see text.²In computing the median birth weights for this group, data were also available for weight group 1,000 grams or less.

TABLE 6. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 59)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
			1,500 or less	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 32-35 WEEKS—Con.									
Nonwhite-----	2,320	100.0	7.1	21.7	33.9	62.8	17.4	12.9	6.9
First birth-----	2,300	100.0	8.3	21.0	34.6	64.0	19.6	11.1	5.3
Second birth-----	2,270	100.0	5.5	26.0	34.8	66.3	16.1	13.2	4.4
Third birth-----	2,360	100.0	8.2	16.9	35.0	60.2	18.1	13.3	8.5
Fourth birth-----	2,350	100.0	6.6	19.9	33.6	60.2	14.6	15.5	9.7
Fifth birth and over-----	2,350	100.0	6.5	22.5	31.0	60.0	16.4	13.7	10.0
GESTATIONS OF 36 WEEKS									
Total-----	3,310	100.0	0.2	1.7	8.8	10.7	18.5	33.7	37.1
First birth-----	3,190	100.0	0.3	2.2	11.0	13.4	22.3	36.0	28.2
Second birth-----	3,280	100.0	0.2	1.7	9.3	11.2	19.1	35.3	34.5
Third birth-----	3,340	100.0	0.3	1.6	8.2	10.1	17.8	32.5	39.6
Fourth birth-----	3,390	100.0	0.1	1.4	7.4	8.9	15.9	32.2	43.0
Fifth birth and over-----	3,490	100.0	0.2	1.1	5.8	7.1	13.5	29.8	49.6
White-----	3,290	100.0	0.2	1.7	8.9	10.8	18.8	34.4	36.1
First birth-----	3,190	100.0	0.2	2.1	10.8	13.1	22.4	36.4	28.1
Second birth-----	3,280	100.0	0.2	1.7	9.0	10.9	19.0	36.0	34.1
Third birth-----	3,330	100.0	0.2	1.6	8.3	10.2	17.9	32.8	39.1
Fourth birth-----	3,370	100.0	0.1	1.5	7.9	9.5	16.3	32.7	41.5
Fifth birth and over-----	3,480	100.0	0.3	1.1	5.9	7.2	13.6	30.3	48.8
Nonwhite-----	3,380	100.0	0.3	1.7	8.4	10.3	17.3	31.2	41.2
First birth-----	3,190	100.0	0.4	2.5	12.0	14.9	22.0	34.4	28.7
Second birth-----	3,280	100.0	0.3	1.7	10.7	12.7	19.3	31.5	36.5
Third birth-----	3,360	100.0	0.5	1.9	7.6	10.0	17.5	31.1	41.4
Fourth birth-----	3,460	100.0	0.2	1.0	5.9	7.1	14.8	30.7	47.4
Fifth birth and over-----	3,500+	100.0	0.1	1.1	5.6	6.8	13.2	28.9	51.1
GESTATIONS OF 37 WEEKS AND OVER									
Total-----	3,360	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.3	3.6	18.0	39.7	38.8
First birth-----	3,280	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.9	4.3	21.3	42.9	31.6
Second birth-----	3,350	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.0	3.3	17.9	40.6	38.2
Third birth-----	3,390	100.0	0.0	0.3	2.9	3.3	16.5	38.5	41.7
Fourth birth-----	3,420	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.0	3.3	15.4	36.8	44.5
Fifth birth and over-----	3,500+	100.0	0.1	0.3	2.9	3.3	13.4	32.7	50.6
White-----	3,380	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.0	3.4	17.4	40.0	39.2
First birth-----	3,290	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.6	3.9	20.5	43.2	32.3
Second birth-----	3,360	100.0	0.0	0.2	2.8	3.1	17.3	40.6	39.0
Third birth-----	3,400	100.0	0.0	0.3	2.7	3.0	15.9	38.4	42.6
Fourth birth-----	3,440	100.0	0.0	0.3	2.8	3.1	14.8	36.7	45.4
Fifth birth and over-----	3,500+	100.0	0.0	0.3	2.7	3.0	12.9	32.7	51.5
Nonwhite-----	3,310	100.0	0.1	0.5	4.7	5.2	21.4	37.6	35.8
First birth-----	3,180	100.0	0.1	0.6	6.6	7.3	27.9	39.8	25.0
Second birth-----	3,260	100.0	0.1	0.5	4.7	5.2	23.5	40.1	31.2
Third birth-----	3,310	100.0	0.1	0.4	4.2	4.6	20.9	38.5	35.9
Fourth birth-----	3,370	100.0	0.2	0.4	3.6	4.1	18.2	37.5	40.2
Fifth birth and over-----	3,480	100.0	0.1	0.4	3.5	4.1	14.8	32.7	48.5

¹Computed to nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds and ounces; see text.

TABLE 7. SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(Figures for birth weight, period of gestation, and age of mother not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,500 or less	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 28-31 WEEKS								
Total-----	6,697	2,277	2,184	1,327	5,788	390	268	251
Under 15 years-----	35	17	12	3	32	1	2	-
15-19 years-----	1,243	382	429	270	1,081	87	50	25
20-24 years-----	2,133	713	683	431	1,827	134	91	81
25-29 years-----	1,536	563	475	295	1,333	69	61	73
30-34 years-----	1,032	373	339	177	889	58	42	43
35-39 years-----	537	178	183	105	466	29	21	21
40-44 years-----	175	50	60	46	156	10	1	8
45 years and over-----	6	1	3	-	4	2	-	-
White-----	5,277	1,786	1,716	1,037	4,539	313	218	207
Under 15 years-----	16	6	6	2	14	-	2	-
15-19 years-----	835	246	277	188	711	64	41	19
20-24 years-----	1,641	544	532	327	1,403	107	71	60
25-29 years-----	1,274	469	393	243	1,105	54	49	66
30-34 years-----	900	329	299	148	776	52	35	37
35-39 years-----	464	150	157	93	400	25	20	19
40-44 years-----	142	42	49	36	127	9	-	6
45 years and over-----	5	-	3	-	3	2	-	-
Nonwhite-----	1,420	491	468	290	1,249	77	50	44
Under 15 years-----	19	11	6	1	18	1	-	-
15-19 years-----	408	136	152	82	370	23	9	6
20-24 years-----	492	169	151	104	424	27	20	21
25-29 years-----	262	94	82	52	228	15	12	7
30-34 years-----	132	44	40	29	113	6	7	6
35-39 years-----	73	28	26	12	66	4	1	2
40-44 years-----	33	8	11	10	29	1	1	2
45 years and over-----	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
GESTATIONS OF 32-35 WEEKS								
Total-----	15,206	910	3,116	5,113	9,139	3,120	1,939	1,008
Under 15 years-----	45	6	8	18	32	8	3	2
15-19 years-----	2,460	135	498	838	1,471	545	308	136
20-24 years-----	4,844	268	974	1,656	2,898	1,005	648	293
25-29 years-----	3,835	255	779	1,252	2,286	782	504	263
30-34 years-----	2,432	150	507	799	1,456	480	301	195
35-39 years-----	1,239	70	287	432	789	231	128	91
40-44 years-----	331	25	60	113	198	63	44	26
45 years and over-----	20	1	3	5	9	6	3	2
White-----	12,929	748	2,621	4,340	7,709	2,723	1,646	851
Under 15 years-----	17	1	2	10	13	2	1	1
15-19 years-----	1,865	97	356	628	1,081	427	250	107
20-24 years-----	4,078	217	817	1,392	2,426	871	534	247
25-29 years-----	3,366	218	684	1,108	2,010	703	429	224
30-34 years-----	2,191	132	451	720	1,303	449	274	165
35-39 years-----	1,102	62	254	379	695	212	114	81
40-44 years-----	292	20	55	98	173	54	41	24
45 years and over-----	18	1	2	5	8	5	3	2
Nonwhite-----	2,277	162	495	773	1,430	397	293	157
Under 15 years-----	28	5	6	8	19	6	2	1
15-19 years-----	595	38	142	210	390	118	58	29
20-24 years-----	766	51	157	264	472	134	114	46
25-29 years-----	469	37	95	144	276	79	75	39
30-34 years-----	241	18	56	79	153	31	27	30
35-39 years-----	137	8	33	53	94	19	14	10
40-44 years-----	39	5	5	15	25	9	3	2
45 years and over-----	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-

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TABLE 7. SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(Figures for birth weight, period of gestation, and age of mother not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
		1,500 or less	1,501- 2,000	2,001- 2,500	2,500 or less	2,501- 3,000	3,001- 3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 36 WEEKS								
Total-----	68,658	150	1,164	6,015	7,329	12,676	23,151	25,502
Under 15 years-----	164	-	3	23	26	53	50	35
15-19 years-----	10,273	18	197	982	1,197	2,192	3,630	3,254
20-24 years-----	22,077	55	355	1,954	2,364	4,256	7,757	7,700
25-29 years-----	17,874	37	292	1,483	1,812	3,192	5,998	6,872
30-34 years-----	10,636	20	188	928	1,136	1,805	3,440	4,255
35-39 years-----	5,812	15	103	510	628	896	1,746	2,542
40-44 years-----	1,699	4	26	126	156	262	490	791
45 years and over-----	123	1	-	9	10	20	40	53
White-----	54,056	108	923	4,788	5,819	10,153	18,593	19,491
Under 15 years-----	51	-	2	5	7	18	12	14
15-19 years-----	7,147	7	131	635	773	1,521	2,624	2,229
20-24 years-----	17,341	34	279	1,550	1,863	3,385	6,267	5,826
25-29 years-----	14,626	34	246	1,254	1,534	2,717	4,990	5,385
30-34 years-----	8,744	14	160	813	987	1,522	2,833	3,402
35-39 years-----	4,677	15	83	421	519	754	1,441	1,963
40-44 years-----	1,374	3	22	105	130	217	395	652
45 years and over-----	96	1	-	5	6	19	31	40
Nonwhite-----	14,602	42	241	1,227	1,510	2,523	4,558	6,011
Under 15 years-----	113	-	1	18	19	35	38	21
15-19 years-----	3,126	11	66	347	424	671	1,006	1,025
20-24 years-----	4,736	21	76	404	501	871	1,490	1,874
25-29 years-----	3,248	3	46	229	278	475	1,008	1,487
30-34 years-----	1,892	6	28	115	149	283	607	853
35-39 years-----	1,135	-	20	89	109	142	305	579
40-44 years-----	325	1	4	21	26	45	95	159
45 years and over-----	27	-	-	4	4	1	9	13
GESTATIONS OF 37 WEEKS AND OVER								
Total-----	725,715	364	2,161	23,690	26,215	130,495	287,759	281,246
Under 15 years-----	1,052	2	5	78	85	276	425	266
15-19 years-----	86,097	55	314	3,598	3,957	18,006	35,887	28,247
20-24 years-----	231,487	117	680	7,764	8,561	44,503	95,053	83,370
25-29 years-----	209,609	86	565	6,235	6,886	36,296	83,489	82,938
30-34 years-----	121,289	51	329	3,642	4,022	19,742	46,104	51,421
35-39 years-----	59,661	40	182	1,860	2,082	9,277	21,254	27,048
40-44 years-----	15,483	12	82	488	562	2,251	5,205	7,445
45 years and over-----	1,037	1	4	35	40	144	342	511
White-----	627,189	269	1,703	19,097	21,069	109,421	250,737	245,962
Under 15 years-----	339	1	1	20	22	78	137	102
15-19 years-----	65,262	31	186	2,295	2,512	12,696	27,721	22,333
20-24 years-----	199,276	91	521	6,266	6,878	37,093	82,597	72,708
25-29 years-----	186,907	69	487	5,333	5,889	31,824	74,946	74,248
30-34 years-----	108,489	35	280	3,133	3,448	17,536	41,555	45,950
35-39 years-----	52,467	31	163	1,594	1,788	8,095	18,876	23,708
40-44 years-----	13,617	11	62	429	502	1,979	4,627	6,509
45 years and over-----	832	-	3	27	30	120	278	404
Nonwhite-----	98,526	95	458	4,593	5,146	21,074	37,022	35,284
Under 15 years-----	713	1	4	58	63	198	288	164
15-19 years-----	20,835	24	128	1,293	1,445	5,310	8,166	5,914
20-24 years-----	32,211	26	159	1,498	1,683	7,410	12,456	10,662
25-29 years-----	22,702	17	78	902	997	4,472	8,543	8,690
30-34 years-----	12,800	16	49	509	574	2,206	4,549	5,471
35-39 years-----	7,194	9	19	266	294	1,182	2,378	3,340
40-44 years-----	1,866	1	20	59	80	272	578	936
45 years and over-----	205	1	1	8	10	24	64	107

TABLE 8. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Figures for birth weight, period of gestation, and age of mother not stated are distributed. Figures for age of mother under 15 years and 45 years and over are not shown separately, but are included in totals for groups. Excludes data for Massachusetts. Two dots (..) indicate percent or median not computed where base is less than 100)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)							
			1,500 or less	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501 or more	
ALL GESTATION GROUPS										
Total-----	3,330	100.0	0.9	1.1	4.4	6.4	17.9	38.2	37.5	
15-19 years-----	3,260	100.0	1.1	1.5	5.7	8.3	20.7	39.6	31.4	
20-24 years-----	3,310	100.0	0.9	1.1	4.5	6.5	19.1	39.6	34.9	
25-29 years-----	3,350	100.0	0.8	0.9	4.0	5.7	17.3	38.5	38.5	
30-34 years-----	3,380	100.0	0.9	1.0	4.1	6.0	16.2	36.7	41.1	
35-39 years-----	3,410	100.0	1.0	1.2	4.3	6.4	15.4	34.2	43.9	
40-44 years-----	3,450	100.0	1.0	1.3	4.3	6.6	14.6	32.3	46.5	
White-----	3,340	100.0	0.8	1.0	4.2	6.0	17.4	38.6	37.9	
15-19 years-----	3,280	100.0	1.0	1.3	5.0	7.3	19.5	40.5	32.7	
20-24 years-----	3,310	100.0	0.8	1.0	4.3	6.1	18.6	40.1	35.3	
25-29 years-----	3,350	100.0	0.8	0.9	3.8	5.5	17.1	38.8	38.6	
30-34 years-----	3,380	100.0	0.9	1.0	4.0	5.9	16.2	37.0	41.0	
35-39 years-----	3,410	100.0	0.9	1.1	4.2	6.3	15.4	34.7	43.7	
40-44 years-----	3,440	100.0	1.0	1.2	4.3	6.5	14.6	32.7	46.3	
Nonwhite-----	3,290	100.0	1.2	1.5	5.9	8.6	20.5	35.6	35.3	
15-19 years-----	3,190	100.0	1.4	2.1	7.7	11.2	24.3	36.7	27.7	
20-24 years-----	3,260	100.0	1.3	1.5	5.9	8.6	22.0	36.6	32.8	
25-29 years-----	3,330	100.0	1.1	1.2	5.0	7.2	18.8	35.9	38.1	
30-34 years-----	3,380	100.0	1.0	1.2	4.9	7.1	16.7	34.2	42.0	
35-39 years-----	3,430	100.0	1.0	1.2	4.9	7.1	15.7	31.4	45.8	
40-44 years-----	3,470	100.0	1.0	1.8	4.6	7.4	14.4	29.8	48.4	
GESTATIONS UNDER 28 WEEKS²										
Total-----	890	100.0	84.5	7.4	1.8	93.8	1.6	2.3	2.3	
15-19 years-----	1,060	100.0	79.3	13.0	3.2	95.6	1.3	1.3	1.8	
20-24 years-----	900	100.0	84.9	6.5	1.8	93.1	1.9	2.4	2.5	
25-29 years-----	850	100.0	85.7	6.2	1.7	91.6	2.2	3.0	3.3	
30-34 years-----	820	100.0	88.8	6.2	1.1	96.1	1.1	1.5	1.3	
35-39 years-----	840	100.0	86.5	6.4	1.8	94.7	0.5	2.8	2.0	
40-44 years-----	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..
White-----	870	100.0	86.1	6.7	1.7	94.5	1.5	2.3	1.7	
15-19 years-----	1,020	100.0	80.9	11.8	3.1	95.9	1.5	1.5	1.2	
20-24 years-----	890	100.0	85.8	6.3	2.0	94.1	1.8	2.4	1.7	
25-29 years-----	840	100.0	85.2	6.1	1.5	92.9	2.1	2.7	2.3	
30-34 years-----	800	100.0	90.5	5.3	0.5	96.3	1.0	1.8	1.0	
35-39 years-----	820	100.0	88.4	5.1	2.1	95.5	0.3	2.7	1.5	
40-44 years-----	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..
Nonwhite-----	990	100.0	77.8	10.3	2.4	90.4	2.1	2.3	5.2	
15-19 years-----	1,140	100.0	75.4	15.9	3.6	94.9	1.0	1.0	3.1	
20-24 years-----	940	100.0	81.3	7.0	1.1	89.3	2.6	2.2	5.9	
25-29 years-----	900	100.0	76.4	6.3	2.6	85.3	2.6	4.2	7.9	
30-34 years-----	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	..
35-39 years-----	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..
40-44 years-----	..	..	..	..	0	..	0	0	0

¹Computed to the nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds and ounces; see text.

²In computing the median birth weights for this group, data were also available for weight group 1,000 grams or less.

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TABLE 8. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 65)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
			1,500 or less	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 28-31 WEEKS									
Total-----	1,740	100.0	34.0	32.6	19.8	86.4	5.8	4.0	3.7
15-19 years-----	1,770	100.0	30.7	34.5	21.7	87.0	7.0	4.0	2.0
20-24 years-----	1,750	100.0	33.4	32.0	20.2	85.7	6.3	4.3	3.8
25-29 years-----	1,710	100.0	36.7	30.9	19.2	86.8	4.5	4.0	4.8
30-34 years-----	1,700	100.0	36.1	32.8	17.2	86.1	5.6	4.1	4.2
35-39 years-----	1,740	100.0	35.1	34.1	19.6	86.8	5.4	3.9	3.9
40-44 years-----	1,810	100.0	28.6	34.3	26.3	89.1	5.7	0.6	4.6
White-----	1,740	100.0	33.8	32.5	19.7	86.0	5.9	4.1	3.9
15-19 years-----	1,800	100.0	29.5	33.2	22.5	85.1	7.7	4.9	2.3
20-24 years-----	1,750	100.0	33.2	32.4	19.9	85.5	6.5	4.3	3.7
25-29 years-----	1,710	100.0	36.8	30.8	19.1	86.7	4.2	3.8	5.2
30-34 years-----	1,690	100.0	36.6	33.2	16.4	86.2	5.8	3.9	4.1
35-39 years-----	1,750	100.0	32.3	33.8	20.0	86.2	5.4	4.3	4.1
40-44 years-----	1,790	100.0	29.6	34.5	25.4	89.4	6.3	0	4.2
Nonwhite-----	1,730	100.0	34.6	33.0	20.4	88.0	5.4	3.5	3.1
15-19 years-----	1,720	100.0	33.3	37.3	20.1	90.7	5.6	2.2	1.5
20-24 years-----	1,750	100.0	34.3	30.7	21.1	86.2	5.5	4.1	4.3
25-29 years-----	1,720	100.0	35.9	31.3	19.8	87.0	5.7	4.6	2.7
30-34 years-----	1,770	100.0	33.3	30.3	22.0	85.6	4.5	5.3	4.5
35-39 years-----	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
40-44 years-----	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
GESTATIONS OF 32-35 WEEKS									
Total-----	2,360	100.0	6.0	20.5	33.6	60.1	20.5	12.8	6.6
15-19 years-----	2,360	100.0	5.5	20.2	34.1	59.8	22.2	12.5	5.5
20-24 years-----	2,360	100.0	5.5	20.1	34.2	59.8	20.7	13.4	6.0
25-29 years-----	2,360	100.0	6.6	20.3	32.6	59.6	20.4	13.1	6.9
30-34 years-----	2,360	100.0	6.2	20.8	32.9	59.9	19.7	12.4	8.0
35-39 years-----	2,310	100.0	5.6	23.2	34.9	63.7	18.6	10.3	7.3
40-44 years-----	2,360	100.0	7.6	18.1	34.1	59.8	19.0	13.3	7.9
White-----	2,360	100.0	5.8	20.3	33.6	59.6	21.1	12.7	6.6
15-19 years-----	2,390	100.0	5.2	19.1	33.7	58.0	22.9	13.4	5.7
20-24 years-----	2,370	100.0	5.3	20.0	34.1	59.5	21.4	13.1	6.1
25-29 years-----	2,360	100.0	6.5	20.3	32.9	59.7	20.9	12.7	6.7
30-34 years-----	2,360	100.0	6.0	20.6	32.9	59.5	20.5	12.5	7.5
35-39 years-----	2,320	100.0	5.6	23.0	34.4	63.1	19.2	10.3	7.4
40-44 years-----	2,370	100.0	6.8	18.8	33.6	59.2	18.5	14.0	8.2
Nonwhite-----	2,320	100.0	7.1	21.7	33.9	62.8	17.4	12.9	6.9
15-19 years-----	2,280	100.0	6.4	23.9	35.3	65.5	19.8	9.7	4.9
20-24 years-----	2,340	100.0	6.7	20.5	34.5	61.6	17.5	14.9	6.0
25-29 years-----	2,360	100.0	7.9	20.3	30.7	58.8	16.8	16.0	8.3
30-34 years-----	2,300	100.0	7.5	23.2	32.8	63.5	12.9	11.2	12.4
35-39 years-----	2,260	100.0	5.8	24.1	36.7	68.6	13.9	10.2	7.3
40-44 years-----	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

¹Computed to the nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds and ounces; see text.

TABLE 8. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950—Continued

(See headnote on p. 65)

PERIOD OF GESTATION, AGE OF MOTHER, AND COLOR	Median weight (in grams) ¹	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)						
			1,500 or less	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-3,500	3,501 or more
GESTATIONS OF 36 WEEKS									
Total-----	3,310	100.0	0.2	1.7	8.8	10.7	18.5	33.7	37.1
15-19 years-----	3,240	100.0	0.2	1.9	9.6	11.7	21.3	35.3	31.7
20-24 years-----	3,280	100.0	0.2	1.6	8.9	10.7	19.3	35.1	34.9
25-29 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.2	1.6	8.3	10.1	17.9	33.6	38.4
30-34 years-----	3,340	100.0	0.2	1.8	8.7	10.7	17.0	32.3	40.0
35-39 years-----	3,390	100.0	0.3	1.8	8.8	10.8	15.4	30.0	43.7
40-44 years-----	3,440	100.0	0.2	1.5	7.4	9.2	15.4	28.8	46.6
White-----	3,290	100.0	0.2	1.7	8.9	10.8	18.8	34.4	36.1
15-19 years-----	3,240	100.0	0.1	1.8	8.9	10.8	21.3	36.7	31.2
20-24 years-----	3,270	100.0	0.2	1.6	8.9	10.7	19.5	36.1	33.6
25-29 years-----	3,300	100.0	0.2	1.7	8.6	10.5	18.6	34.1	36.8
30-34 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.2	1.8	9.3	11.3	17.4	32.4	38.9
35-39 years-----	3,370	100.0	0.3	1.8	9.0	11.1	16.1	30.8	42.0
40-44 years-----	3,430	100.0	0.2	1.6	7.6	9.5	15.8	28.7	46.0
Nonwhite-----	3,360	100.0	0.3	1.7	8.4	10.3	17.3	31.2	41.2
15-19 years-----	3,230	100.0	0.4	2.1	11.1	13.6	21.5	32.2	32.8
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.4	1.6	8.5	10.6	18.4	31.5	39.6
25-29 years-----	3,430	100.0	0.1	1.4	7.1	8.6	14.6	31.0	45.8
30-34 years-----	3,420	100.0	0.3	1.5	6.1	7.9	15.0	32.1	45.1
35-39 years-----	3,500+	100.0	0	1.8	7.8	9.6	12.5	26.9	51.0
40-44 years-----	3,480	100.0	0.3	1.2	6.5	8.0	13.8	29.2	48.9
GESTATIONS OF 37 WEEKS AND OVER									
Total-----	3,360	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.3	3.6	18.0	39.7	38.8
15-19 years-----	3,290	100.0	0.1	0.4	4.2	4.6	20.9	41.7	32.8
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.4	3.7	19.2	41.1	36.0
25-29 years-----	3,370	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.0	3.3	17.3	39.8	39.6
30-34 years-----	3,400	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.0	3.3	16.3	38.0	42.4
35-39 years-----	3,430	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.1	3.5	15.5	35.6	45.3
40-44 years-----	3,470	100.0	0.1	0.5	3.2	3.8	14.5	33.6	48.1
White-----	3,360	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.0	3.4	17.4	40.0	39.2
15-19 years-----	3,310	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.5	3.8	19.5	42.5	34.2
20-24 years-----	3,330	100.0	0.0	0.3	3.1	3.5	18.6	41.4	36.5
25-29 years-----	3,370	100.0	0.0	0.3	2.9	3.2	17.0	40.1	39.7
30-34 years-----	3,400	100.0	0.0	0.3	2.9	3.2	16.2	38.3	42.4
35-39 years-----	3,430	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.0	3.4	15.4	36.0	45.2
40-44 years-----	3,470	100.0	0.1	0.5	3.2	3.7	14.5	34.0	47.8
Nonwhite-----	3,310	100.0	0.1	0.5	4.7	5.2	21.4	37.6	35.8
15-19 years-----	3,220	100.0	0.1	0.6	6.2	6.9	25.5	39.2	28.4
20-24 years-----	3,280	100.0	0.1	0.5	4.7	5.2	23.0	38.7	33.1
25-29 years-----	3,340	100.0	0.1	0.3	4.0	4.4	19.7	37.6	38.3
30-34 years-----	3,400	100.0	0.1	0.4	4.0	4.5	17.2	35.5	42.7
35-39 years-----	3,450	100.0	0.1	0.3	3.7	4.1	16.4	33.1	46.4
40-44 years-----	3,500+	100.0	0.1	1.1	3.2	4.3	14.6	31.0	50.2

¹Computed to the nearest 10 grams on basis of exact conversion of interval limits from pounds and ounces; see text.

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TABLE 9. SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight and birth order not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)							
		1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-4,500	4,501 or more
ALL BIRTH ORDERS-----	820,618	3,243	4,128	8,946	36,225	52,542	146,751	603,877	17,448
No previous fetal death-----	786,008	2,880	3,747	8,297	34,154	49,078	140,512	580,140	16,278
Previous fetal death-----	34,610	363	381	649	2,071	3,464	6,239	23,737	1,170
White-----	702,966	2,630	3,308	7,199	29,322	42,459	122,663	524,985	12,859
No previous fetal death-----	677,669	2,355	3,021	6,720	27,840	39,936	118,220	507,344	12,169
Previous fetal death-----	25,297	275	287	479	1,482	2,523	4,443	17,641	690
Nonwhite-----	117,652	613	820	1,747	6,903	10,083	24,088	78,892	4,589
No previous fetal death-----	108,339	525	726	1,577	6,314	9,142	22,292	72,796	4,109
Previous fetal death-----	9,313	88	94	170	589	941	1,796	6,096	480
First birth order-----	259,142	1,025	1,375	3,152	13,472	19,024	54,754	183,182	2,182
White-----	229,729	854	1,123	2,593	11,109	15,679	46,961	165,348	1,741
Nonwhite-----	29,413	171	252	559	2,363	3,345	7,793	17,834	441
Second birth order-----	246,740	849	1,132	2,505	10,232	14,718	44,097	184,122	3,803
No previous fetal death-----	241,048	785	1,071	2,384	9,878	14,118	42,860	180,347	3,723
Previous fetal death-----	5,692	64	61	121	354	600	1,237	3,775	80
White-----	220,772	718	938	2,081	8,624	12,361	38,253	167,000	3,158
No previous fetal death-----	216,028	673	888	1,977	8,354	11,892	37,268	163,772	3,096
Previous fetal death-----	4,744	45	50	104	270	469	985	3,228	62
Nonwhite-----	25,968	131	194	424	1,608	2,357	5,844	17,122	645
No previous fetal death-----	25,020	112	183	407	1,524	2,226	5,922	16,575	627
Previous fetal death-----	948	19	11	17	84	131	252	547	18
Third birth order-----	139,622	616	692	1,390	5,596	8,294	23,095	105,072	3,161
No previous fetal death-----	131,616	525	595	1,240	5,097	7,457	21,503	99,629	3,027
Previous fetal death-----	8,006	91	97	150	499	837	1,592	5,443	134
White-----	120,526	516	572	1,141	4,580	6,809	19,242	91,988	2,487
No previous fetal death-----	113,934	437	494	1,015	4,178	6,124	17,978	87,450	2,382
Previous fetal death-----	6,592	79	78	126	402	685	1,264	4,538	105
Nonwhite-----	19,096	100	120	249	1,016	1,485	3,853	13,084	674
No previous fetal death-----	17,682	88	101	225	919	1,333	3,525	12,179	645
Previous fetal death-----	1,414	12	19	24	97	152	328	905	29
Fourth birth order-----	70,222	295	370	729	2,871	4,265	10,792	52,989	2,176
No previous fetal death-----	64,229	225	290	631	2,506	3,652	9,699	48,843	2,035
Previous fetal death-----	5,993	70	80	98	365	613	1,093	4,146	141
White-----	57,615	226	277	590	2,291	3,384	8,594	44,021	1,616
No previous fetal death-----	52,979	175	219	509	2,015	2,918	7,783	40,752	1,526
Previous fetal death-----	4,636	51	58	81	276	466	811	3,269	90
Nonwhite-----	12,607	69	93	139	580	881	2,198	8,968	560
No previous fetal death-----	11,250	50	71	122	491	734	1,916	8,091	509
Previous fetal death-----	1,357	19	22	17	89	147	282	877	51
Fifth birth order and over-----	104,892	458	559	1,170	4,054	6,241	14,013	78,512	6,126
No previous fetal death-----	89,973	320	416	890	3,201	4,827	11,696	68,137	5,313
Previous fetal death-----	14,919	138	143	280	853	1,414	2,317	10,375	813
White-----	74,324	316	398	794	2,718	4,226	9,613	56,628	3,857
No previous fetal death-----	64,999	216	297	626	2,184	3,323	8,230	50,021	3,425
Previous fetal death-----	9,325	100	101	168	534	903	1,383	6,607	432
Nonwhite-----	30,568	142	161	376	1,336	2,015	4,400	21,884	2,269
No previous fetal death-----	24,974	104	119	264	1,017	1,504	3,466	18,116	1,888
Previous fetal death-----	5,594	38	42	112	319	511	934	3,768	381

TABLE 10. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, BY TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight and birth order not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR	Total	BIRTH WEIGHT (in grams)							
		1,000 or less	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001-2,500	2,500 or less	2,501-3,000	3,001-4,500	4,501 or more
ALL BIRTH ORDERS-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.4	6.4	17.9	73.6	2.1
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.3	6.2	17.9	73.8	2.1
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.0	1.1	1.9	6.0	10.0	18.0	68.6	3.4
White-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	4.2	6.0	17.4	74.7	1.8
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.3	0.4	1.0	4.1	5.9	17.4	74.9	1.8
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.1	1.1	1.9	5.9	10.0	17.6	69.7	2.7
Nonwhite-----	100.0	0.5	0.7	1.5	5.9	8.6	20.5	67.1	3.9
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.5	0.7	1.5	5.8	8.4	20.6	67.2	3.8
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.9	1.0	1.8	6.3	10.1	19.3	65.5	5.2
First birth order-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.2	5.2	7.3	21.1	70.7	0.8
White-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.8	6.8	20.4	72.0	0.8
Nonwhite-----	100.0	0.6	0.9	1.9	8.0	11.4	26.5	60.6	1.5
Second birth order-----	100.0	0.3	0.5	1.0	4.1	6.0	17.9	74.6	1.5
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.3	0.4	1.0	4.1	5.9	17.8	74.8	1.5
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.1	1.1	2.1	6.2	10.5	21.7	66.5	1.4
White-----	100.0	0.3	0.4	0.9	3.9	5.6	17.3	75.6	1.4
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.3	0.4	0.9	3.9	5.5	17.3	75.8	1.4
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.9	1.1	2.2	5.7	9.9	20.8	68.0	1.3
Nonwhite-----	100.0	0.5	0.7	1.6	6.2	9.1	22.5	65.9	2.5
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.7	1.6	6.1	8.9	22.4	66.2	2.5
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	2.0	1.2	1.8	8.9	13.8	26.6	57.7	1.9
Third birth order-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	4.0	5.9	16.5	75.3	2.3
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	0.9	3.9	5.7	16.3	75.7	2.3
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.1	1.2	1.9	6.2	10.5	19.9	68.0	1.7
White-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	0.9	3.8	5.6	16.0	76.3	2.1
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.4	0.9	3.7	5.4	15.8	76.8	2.1
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.2	1.2	1.9	6.1	10.4	19.2	68.8	1.6
Nonwhite-----	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	5.3	7.8	20.2	68.5	3.5
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.5	0.6	1.3	5.2	7.5	19.9	68.9	3.6
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.8	1.3	1.7	6.9	10.7	23.2	64.0	2.1
Fourth birth order-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	4.1	6.1	15.4	75.5	3.1
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	3.9	5.7	15.1	76.0	3.2
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.2	1.3	1.6	6.1	10.2	18.2	69.2	2.4
White-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	4.0	5.9	14.9	76.4	2.8
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.3	0.4	1.0	3.8	5.5	14.7	76.9	2.9
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.1	1.3	1.7	6.0	10.1	17.5	70.5	1.9
Nonwhite-----	100.0	0.5	0.7	1.1	4.6	7.0	17.4	71.1	4.4
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.6	1.1	4.4	6.5	17.0	71.9	4.5
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.4	1.6	1.3	6.6	10.8	20.8	64.6	3.8
Fifth birth order and over-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	3.9	5.9	13.4	74.9	5.8
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	3.6	5.4	13.0	75.7	5.9
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.9	1.0	1.9	5.7	9.5	15.5	69.5	5.4
White-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	3.7	5.7	12.9	76.2	5.2
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.3	0.5	1.0	3.4	5.1	12.7	77.0	5.3
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	1.1	1.1	1.8	5.7	9.7	14.8	70.9	4.6
Nonwhite-----	100.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	4.4	6.6	14.4	71.6	7.4
No previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.4	0.5	1.1	4.1	6.0	13.9	72.5	7.6
Previous fetal death-----	100.0	0.7	0.8	2.0	5.7	9.1	16.7	67.4	6.8

TABLE 11. DEATHS UNDER 28 DAYS AMONG SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, AGE, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Includes deaths among children born Jan. 1 to Mar. 31, 1950. Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight and birth order not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR	Total deaths under 28 days	BIRTH WEIGHT 2,500 GRAMS OR LESS					BIRTH WEIGHT 2,501 GRAMS OR MORE						
		Total	Age at death					Total	Age at death				
			Under 1 hour	1-23 hours	Under 1 day	1-6 days	7-27 days		Under 1 hour	1-23 hours	Under 1 day	1-6 days	7-27 days
ALL BIRTH ORDERS-----	15,049	9,109	973	4,149	5,122	3,180	807	5,940	549	1,483	2,032	2,526	1,382
No previous fetal death-----	13,811	8,286	877	3,741	4,618	2,932	736	5,525	503	1,364	1,867	2,358	1,300
Previous fetal death-----	1,238	823	96	408	504	248	71	415	46	119	165	168	82
White-----	12,183	7,501	833	3,436	4,269	2,636	596	4,682	442	1,189	1,631	1,998	1,053
No previous fetal death-----	11,270	6,870	758	3,121	3,879	2,444	547	4,400	412	1,109	1,521	1,881	998
Previous fetal death-----	913	631	75	315	390	192	49	282	30	80	110	117	55
Nonwhite-----	2,866	1,608	140	713	853	544	211	1,258	107	294	401	528	329
No previous fetal death-----	2,541	1,416	119	620	739	488	189	1,125	91	255	346	477	302
Previous fetal death-----	325	192	21	93	114	56	22	133	16	39	55	51	27
First birth order-----	4,756	2,905	323	1,258	1,581	1,032	292	1,851	213	469	682	805	364
White-----	3,944	2,448	285	1,072	1,357	871	220	1,496	178	391	569	648	279
Nonwhite-----	812	457	38	186	224	161	72	355	35	78	113	157	85
Second birth order-----	4,005	2,552	270	1,159	1,429	928	195	1,453	111	375	486	616	351
No previous fetal death-----	3,808	2,418	246	1,101	1,347	888	183	1,390	102	356	458	592	340
Previous fetal death-----	197	134	24	58	82	40	12	63	9	19	28	24	11
White-----	3,401	2,171	244	988	1,232	793	146	1,230	95	313	408	521	301
No previous fetal death-----	3,249	2,064	226	941	1,167	761	136	1,185	90	302	392	502	291
Previous fetal death-----	152	107	18	47	65	32	10	45	5	11	16	19	10
Nonwhite-----	604	381	26	171	197	135	49	223	16	62	78	95	50
No previous fetal death-----	559	354	20	160	180	127	47	205	12	54	66	90	49
Previous fetal death-----	45	27	6	11	17	8	2	18	4	8	12	5	1
Third birth order-----	2,492	1,542	159	735	894	526	122	950	67	262	329	371	250
No previous fetal death-----	2,228	1,347	136	628	764	474	109	881	64	238	302	347	232
Previous fetal death-----	264	195	23	107	130	52	13	69	3	24	27	24	18
White-----	2,103	1,308	140	625	765	450	93	795	61	215	276	315	204
No previous fetal death-----	1,888	1,142	119	531	650	408	84	746	58	200	258	298	190
Previous fetal death-----	215	166	21	94	115	42	9	49	3	15	18	17	14
Nonwhite-----	389	234	19	110	129	76	29	155	6	47	53	56	46
No previous fetal death-----	340	205	17	97	114	66	25	135	6	38	44	49	42
Previous fetal death-----	49	29	2	13	15	10	4	20	-	9	9	7	4

Fourth birth order-----	1,340	783	90	352	442	271	70	557	53	135	188	254	115
No previous fetal death-----	1,107	624	76	272	348	217	59	483	43	107	150	225	108
Previous fetal death-----	233	159	14	80	94	54	11	74	10	28	38	29	7
White-----	1,045	618	69	283	352	213	53	427	36	109	145	200	82
No previous fetal death-----	862	492	58	221	279	170	43	370	32	86	118	176	76
Previous fetal death-----	183	126	11	62	73	43	10	57	4	23	27	24	6
Nonwhite-----	295	165	21	69	90	58	17	130	17	26	43	54	33
No previous fetal death-----	245	132	18	51	69	47	16	113	11	21	32	49	32
Previous fetal death-----	50	33	3	18	21	11	1	17	6	5	11	5	1
Fifth birth order and over---	2,456	1,327	131	645	776	423	128	1,129	105	242	347	480	302
No previous fetal death-----	1,912	992	96	482	578	321	93	920	81	194	275	389	256
Previous fetal death-----	544	335	35	163	198	102	35	209	24	48	72	91	46
White-----	1,690	956	95	468	563	309	84	734	72	161	233	314	187
No previous fetal death-----	1,327	724	70	356	426	234	64	603	54	130	184	257	162
Previous fetal death-----	363	232	25	112	137	75	20	131	18	31	49	57	25
Nonwhite-----	766	371	36	177	213	114	44	395	33	81	114	166	115
No previous fetal death-----	585	288	26	126	152	87	29	317	27	64	91	132	94
Previous fetal death-----	181	103	10	51	61	27	15	78	6	17	23	34	21

TABLE 12. MORTALITY RATES AMONG SINGLE LIVE BIRTHS, BY BIRTH WEIGHT, AGE, TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR: UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1950

(Based on deaths under 28 days among children born Jan. 1 to Mar. 31, 1950. Rates per 1,000 children in specified group alive at the beginning of each age interval. Total-birth order refers to number of children ever born to mother, including fetal deaths. Figures for birth weight and birth order not stated are distributed. Excludes data for Massachusetts. Two dots (..) indicate rate not computed where the number of deaths is less than 10)

TOTAL-BIRTH ORDER, OUTCOME OF PREVIOUS DELIVERIES, AND COLOR	Total deaths under 28 days	BIRTH WEIGHT 2,500 GRAMS OR LESS					BIRTH WEIGHT 2,501 GRAMS OR MORE						
		Total	Age at death					Total	Age at death				
			Under 1 hour	1-23 hours	Under 1 day	1-6 days	7-27 days		Under 1 hour	1-23 hours	Under 1 day	1-6 days	7-27 days
ALL BIRTH ORDERS-----	18.3	173.4	18.5	80.5	97.5	67.1	18.2	7.7	0.7	1.9	2.6	3.3	1.8
No previous fetal death-----	17.6	168.8	17.9	77.6	94.1	65.9	17.7	7.5	0.7	1.9	2.5	3.2	1.8
Previous fetal death-----	35.8	237.6	27.7	121.1	145.5	83.8	26.2	13.3	1.5	3.8	5.3	5.4	2.7
White-----	17.3	176.7	19.6	82.5	100.5	69.0	16.8	7.1	0.7	1.8	2.5	3.0	1.6
No previous fetal death-----	16.6	172.0	19.0	79.7	97.1	67.8	16.3	6.9	0.6	1.7	2.4	3.0	1.6
Previous fetal death-----	36.1	250.1	29.7	128.7	154.6	90.0	25.2	12.4	1.3	3.5	4.8	5.2	2.4
Nonwhite-----	24.4	159.5	13.9	71.7	84.6	58.9	24.3	11.7	1.0	2.7	3.7	4.9	3.1
No previous fetal death-----	23.5	154.9	13.0	68.7	80.8	58.1	23.9	11.3	0.9	2.6	3.5	4.8	3.1
Previous fetal death-----	34.9	204.0	22.3	101.1	121.1	67.7	28.5	15.9	1.9	4.7	6.6	6.1	3.3
First birth order-----	18.4	152.7	17.0	67.3	83.1	59.2	17.8	7.7	0.9	2.0	2.8	3.4	1.5
White-----	17.2	156.1	18.2	69.6	86.5	60.8	16.4	7.0	0.8	1.8	2.7	3.0	1.3
Nonwhite-----	27.6	136.6	11.4	56.2	67.0	51.6	24.3	13.6	1.3	3.0	4.3	6.0	3.3
Second birth order-----	16.2	173.4	18.3	80.2	97.1	69.8	15.8	6.3	0.5	1.6	2.1	2.7	1.5
No previous fetal death-----	15.8	171.3	17.4	79.4	95.4	69.5	15.4	6.1	0.4	1.6	2.0	2.6	1.5
Previous fetal death-----	34.6	223.3	40.0	100.7	136.7	77.2	25.1	12.4	..	3.7	5.5	4.7	2.2
White-----	15.4	175.6	19.7	91.5	99.7	71.3	14.1	5.9	0.5	1.5	2.0	2.5	1.5
No previous fetal death-----	15.0	173.6	19.0	80.7	98.1	71.0	13.6	5.8	0.4	1.5	1.9	2.5	1.4
Previous fetal death-----	32.0	228.1	38.4	104.2	138.6	79.2	26.9	10.5	..	2.6	3.7	4.5	2.4
Nonwhite-----	23.3	161.6	11.0	73.4	83.6	62.5	24.2	9.4	0.7	2.6	3.3	4.0	2.1
No previous fetal death-----	22.3	159.0	9.0	72.5	80.9	62.1	24.5	9.0	0.5	2.4	2.9	4.0	2.2
Previous fetal death-----	47.5	206.1	..	88.0	129.8	..	..	22.0	..	..	14.7	..	..
Third birth order-----	17.8	185.9	19.2	90.4	107.8	71.1	17.7	7.2	0.5	2.0	2.5	2.8	1.9
No previous fetal death-----	16.9	180.6	18.2	85.8	102.5	70.8	17.5	7.1	0.5	1.9	2.4	2.8	1.9
Previous fetal death-----	33.0	233.0	27.5	131.4	155.3	73.6	19.8	9.6	..	3.3	3.8	3.4	2.5
White-----	17.4	192.1	20.6	93.7	112.4	74.5	16.6	7.0	0.5	1.9	2.4	2.8	1.8
No previous fetal death-----	16.6	186.5	19.4	88.4	106.1	74.5	16.6	6.9	0.5	1.9	2.4	2.8	1.8
Previous fetal death-----	32.6	242.3	30.7	141.6	167.9	73.7	..	8.3	..	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.4
Nonwhite-----	20.4	157.6	12.8	75.0	86.9	56.0	22.7	8.8	..	2.7	3.0	3.2	2.6
No previous fetal death-----	19.2	153.8	12.8	73.7	85.5	54.1	21.7	8.3	..	2.3	2.7	3.0	2.6
Previous fetal death-----	34.7	190.8	..	86.7	98.7	73.0	..	15.8	0	..	..	..	..

Fourth birth order-----	19.1	183.6	21.1	84.3	103.6	70.9	19.7	8.4	0.8	2.0	2.9	3.9	1.8
No previous fetal death-----	17.2	170.9	20.8	76.1	95.3	65.7	19.1	8.0	0.7	1.8	2.5	3.7	1.8
Previous fetal death-----	38.9	259.4	22.8	133.6	153.3	104.0	23.7	13.8	1.9	5.2	7.1	5.4	..
White-----	18.1	182.6	20.4	85.4	104.0	70.3	18.8	7.9	0.7	2.0	2.7	3.7	1.5
No previous fetal death-----	16.3	168.6	19.9	77.3	95.6	64.4	17.4	7.4	0.6	1.7	2.4	3.5	1.5
Previous fetal death-----	39.5	270.4	23.6	136.3	156.7	109.4	28.6	13.7	..	5.5	6.5	5.8	..
Nonwhite-----	23.4	187.3	23.8	80.2	102.2	73.3	23.2	11.1	1.4	2.2	3.7	4.6	2.8
No previous fetal death-----	21.8	179.8	24.5	71.2	94.0	70.7	25.9	10.7	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.7	3.1
Previous fetal death-----	36.8	224.5	..	125.0	142.9	87.3	..	14.0	..	..	9.1	..	..
Fifth birth order and over----	23.4	212.6	21.0	105.6	124.3	77.4	25.4	11.4	1.1	2.5	3.5	4.9	3.1
No previous fetal death-----	21.3	205.5	19.9	101.9	119.7	75.5	23.7	10.8	1.0	2.3	3.2	4.6	3.0
Previous fetal death-----	36.5	236.9	24.8	118.2	140.0	83.9	31.4	15.5	1.8	3.6	5.3	6.8	3.4
White-----	22.7	226.2	22.5	113.3	133.2	84.4	25.0	10.5	1.0	2.3	3.3	4.5	2.7
No previous fetal death-----	20.4	217.9	21.1	109.4	128.2	80.8	24.0	9.8	0.9	2.1	3.0	4.2	2.6
Previous fetal death-----	38.9	256.9	27.7	127.6	151.7	97.9	28.9	15.6	2.1	3.7	5.8	6.8	3.0
Nonwhite-----	25.1	184.1	17.9	89.4	105.7	63.3	26.1	13.8	1.2	2.8	4.0	5.8	4.1
No previous fetal death-----	23.4	178.2	17.3	85.3	101.1	64.3	22.9	13.5	1.2	2.7	3.9	5.6	4.0
Previous fetal death-----	32.4	201.6	19.6	101.8	119.4	60.0	35.5	15.3	..	3.3	4.5	6.7	4.2

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