In 2009, 8.3 percent of fathers and 9.0 percent of mothers reported Hispanic origin for Tennessee’s total resident births. The percent of Hispanic births decreased slightly from 2008 to 2009.

More detailed county level birth data may be obtained by contacting the Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics or by visiting our web site at: health.state.tn.us

Copies of this document may be obtained by contacting the Division of Health Statistics, Cordell Hull Building, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243, (615)741-1954.

Report of Tennessee Births 2009 was prepared by the Tennessee Department of Health Division of Health Statistics Cordell Hull Bldg., Nashville, TN, 37243 Teresa S. Hendricks, Director

For additional information please contact: George Plumes, Manager, (615)741-1954

NOTE: The population estimates for Tennessee used to calculate the rates in this report were based on figures prepared from the 2000 Census in February 2008 by the Division of Health Statistics. These population figures may result in rates that differ from those published in previous time periods.

Department of Health, Authorization No. 343516, September 2010, Web site only.
TENNESSEE’S TOTAL BIRTH TRENDS INDICATE A...

In 2009, the percentage of births to unmarried women increased 28.6 percent from 2000 to 2009, while the increase for white women was 11.8 percent. For the years 2000 through 2009, the percent of births to unmarried black females ages 10 through 17 was almost twice the total unmarried percentages and was from 44.5 percent to 78.6 percent. The percent of births to unmarried white females for each race decreased as the age of the mother increased. The negative effects of births to unmarried adolescents include social and economic consequences resulting from interruption of schooling.

PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED FEMALES, BY AGE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2000-2009

ADOLESCENT (10-17) BIRTH RATES, BY RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2000-2009

PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN, BY AGE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2000-2009

NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS TO TENNESSEE RESIDENTS WAS 72,355 IN 2009. The low birthweight percentage of 9.2 occurring in 2009 remained the same as the percentage for 2008. In 2009, 3.9 percent of total births were multiple births, but this percentage increased to 3.2 by 2009. The total multiple births in 2009, 90.7 percent were low birthweight infants. This was a 2.8 percent decrease from the percent (82.5) of low weight multiple births in 2000.

NUMBER OF LOW BIRTHWEIGHT (LESS THAN 2,500 GRAMS) INFANTS BORN TO TENNESSEE RESIDENTS WAS 7,535 in 2009. The low birthweight percentage of 9.2 occurring in 2009 remained the same as the percentage for 2008. In 2009, 3.9 percent of total births were multiple births, but this percentage increased to 3.2 by 2009. Of the total multiple births in 2009, 90.7 percent were low birthweight infants. This was a 2.8 percent decrease from the percent (82.5) of low weight multiple births in 2000.

THE PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED FEMALES BY AGE REVEALED THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGES FOR FEMALES AGES 10 THROUGH 14 AND 15 THROUGH 17. In 2009, 99.6 percent of births to black females ages 10 through 17 were to unmarried adolescents, compared to 90.5 percent for unmarried white females. The percent of unmarried mothers for each race declined as the age of the mother increased. The negative effects of births to unmarried adolescents include social and economic consequences resulting from interruption of schooling.

ADOLESCENTS (10 THROUGH 17) AND MOTHERS AGED 40 YEARS AND OLDER FACE A GREATER RISK OF HAVING LOW BIRTHWEIGHT BABIES. In 2009, the low birthweight percentage of total births to mothers ages 10 through 17 was 10.7. This was a 10.1 percent decrease from the low birthweight rate of mothers ages 10 through 17 in 2008. The percent of total births to mothers ages 40 years and older that were low birthweight (11.9) decreased 5.8 percent from 2000 to 2009.