Report of Tennessee Births 2012
Report of Tennessee Births 2012 provides information on final birth data for state residents. Resident data include events that occurred to residents of Tennessee irrespective of where the events took place. Birth certificates filed with the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of Vital Records supplied the data for this report. Tennessee’s total birth trend indicates a gradual decline since the late 1940s when the rates were at record highs.

- The 2012 total birth rate of 12.4 per 1,000 population decreased 10.8 percent from the rate of 13.9 in 2008.
- The 2012 white rate (11.9) decreased 9.5 percent from the rate of 13.0 in 2008, while the black rate (15.1) decreased 14.7 percent.
- From 2003 to 2012, Tennessee’s adolescent birth rates decreased, while the birth percentages for unmarried women increased.
- In 2012, the percent of multiple births (3.2) was higher than the percentage in 2003.
- The 2012 low birthweight percentage of 9.2 decreased 2.1 percent during the ten-year period of 2003-2012.

- In 2012, there were 80,202 total live births to Tennessee residents. Of the total, 60,792 or 75.8 percent were white and 16,560 or 20.6 percent were black births.
- There were 2,206 births to females ages 10 through 17 in 2012. This number represented a 7.7 percent decrease for this age group from 2011.
- In 2012, there were 8,539 births to females 35 years and older. Births for this age group increased 2.3 percent over the previous year.

- The 2012 percent of total births to mothers ages 40 years and older that were low birthweight (13.4) increased 3.1 percent from 2003 to 2012.

**NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>80,202</td>
<td>60,792</td>
<td>16,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14 years</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17 years</td>
<td>2,117</td>
<td>1,403</td>
<td>687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19 years</td>
<td>5,772</td>
<td>3,995</td>
<td>1,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24 years</td>
<td>23,153</td>
<td>16,466</td>
<td>6,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34 years</td>
<td>40,512</td>
<td>32,155</td>
<td>6,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44 years</td>
<td>8,457</td>
<td>6,658</td>
<td>1,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45+ years</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Policy, Planning and Assessment, Office of Health Statistics

- In 2012, the percent of total births with first trimester prenatal care was 70.1.
- The percent of white births with first trimester care was 72.6, while the percent for black births was 60.8 in 2012. (Percentages are based on births with prenatal care reported.)
- Tennessee’s percent of no care was 2.1, with white mothers having the lowest percentage (1.3) of no care. The percent of black mothers with no care was 5.0 in 2012.

- Adolescents (10 through 17) and mothers aged 40 years and older face a greater risk of having low birthweight babies.
- In 2012, the low birthweight percentage of total births to mothers ages 10 through 17 was 11.2. This was a 2.6 percent decrease from the low birthweight percentage of 11.5 in 2003.
- The percent of total births to mothers ages 40 years and older that were low birthweight (13.4) increased 3.1 percent from 2003 to 2012.

**PERCENT OF BIRTHS BY TRIMESTER PRENATAL CARE BEGAN, AND RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Percent</th>
<th>White Percent</th>
<th>Black Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Trimester</td>
<td>70.1</td>
<td>72.6</td>
<td>60.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Trimester</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Trimester</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No care</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentages based on number of births with prenatal care reported.
Source: Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Policy, Planning and Assessment, Office of Health Statistics
Adolescent (10 through 17) births by race, revealed the highest rates per 1,000 females were for black females for the period 2003 through 2012.

The black adolescent birth rate of 10.4 was 1.7 times the white adolescent birth rate of 6.0 in 2012.

The total birth rate for adolescents declined 38.5 percent from 2003 to 2012, while the rates for white females decreased 30.2 percent.

For the ten-year period, the black adolescent birth rate decreased 45.5 percent.

The percent of births to unmarried females by age showed the highest percentages for females ages 10 through 14 and 15 through 17.

In 2012, 99.9 percent of births to black females ages 10 through 17 were to unmarried adolescents, compared to 90.5 percent for unmarried white females.

Generally the percent of unmarried mothers 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 education.

For the years 2003 through 2012, the percentages of births to unmarried black women were almost twice the total unmarried percentages and were from two to three times the percentages for unmarried white mothers.

Total births to unmarried women increased 18.5 percent from 2003 to 2012, while the increase for white women was 27.9 percent.

For black women the percent increased from 73.5 in 2003 to 78.6 in 2012.
- The 2012 number of low birthweight (less than 2,500 grams) infants born to Tennessee residents was 7,359.
- The low birthweight percentage of 9.2 occurring in 2012 increased 2.2 percent over 2011.
- The percent of total births that were multiple births was 3.2. Of the total multiple births in 2012, 60.7 percent were low birthweight infants. This was a 5.9 percent decrease from the percent (64.5) of low weight multiple births in 2003.

- In 2012, 8.3 percent of fathers and 8.7 percent of mothers reported Hispanic origin for Tennessee’s total resident births.

- The percentage of Hispanic births for fathers increased while the percent for mothers decreased from 2011 to 2012.

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

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### NUMBER AND PERCENT OF BIRTHS BY WEIGHT AND RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Range</th>
<th>Total Number</th>
<th>White Number</th>
<th>Black Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 2500 grams</td>
<td>7,359</td>
<td>4,779</td>
<td>2,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-1499 . . . . .</td>
<td>1,254</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500-2499 . . .</td>
<td>6,105</td>
<td>4,051</td>
<td>1,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2500+ grams . . .</td>
<td>72,257</td>
<td>55,989</td>
<td>14,225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total includes births to other racial groups or race and weight not stated. Source: Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Policy, Planning and Assessment, Office of Health Statistics

### PERCENT OF TOTAL BIRTHS BY HISPANIC ORIGIN OF FATHER AND MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2003-2012

- In 2003, 6.1% of fathers and 6.7% of mothers reported Hispanic origin for Tennessee’s total resident births.
- In 2012, 8.1% of fathers and 8.6% of mothers reported Hispanic origin for Tennessee’s total resident births.

Source: Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Policy, Planning and Assessment, Office of Health Statistics

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### 2012 Population Statistics

- **2012 Total Population**: 6,456,121
- **2012 White Population**: 5,117,466
- **2012 Black Population**: 1,097,867
- **2012 Total Female (10-17) Population**: 328,208
- **2012 White Female (10-17) Population**: 242,417
- **2012 Black Female (10-17) Population**: 69,143

**NOTE**: The population estimates for Tennessee used to calculate the rates in this report for 2003 - 2009 were based on figures prepared from the 2000 Census in February 2008 by the Office of Health Statistics. The population estimates for 2010 were based on the 2010 Census data. Population estimates for 2011 and 2012 were interpolated from the Census five-year age cohort estimates (CC-EST2012-ALLDATA-[ST-FIPS] May 2013) by the Office of Health Statistics. These population figures may result in rates that differ from those published in previous time periods.

**THE MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS TO PROTECT, PROMOTE AND IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND PROSPERITY OF PEOPLE IN TENNESSEE.**

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