Report of Tennessee Births 2013
Report of Tennessee Births 2013 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 2013 total birth rate of 12.3 per 1,000 population decreased 6.9 percent from the rate of 13.2 in 2009.
- The 2013 white rate (11.9) decreased 1.7 percent from the rate of 12.1 in 2009, while the black rate (15.2) decreased 9.0 percent.
- From 2004 to 2013, Tennessee’s adolescent birth rates decreased, while the birth percentages for unmarried women increased.
- In 2013, the percent of multiple births (3.1) was lower than the percentage in 2004.
- The 2013 low birthweight percentage of 9.1 decreased 3.2 percent during the ten-year period of 2004-2013.

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In 2013, there were 79,954 total live births to Tennessee residents. Of the total, 60,954 or 76.2 percent were white and 16,863 or 21.1 percent were black births.

- There were 1,943 births to females ages 10 through 17 in 2013. This number represented an 11.9 percent decrease for this age group from 2012.
- In 2013, there were 8,731 births to females 35 years and older. Births for this age group increased 2.3 percent over the previous year.

### Number of Live Births by Age and Race of Mother, Resident Data, Tennessee, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total ......</td>
<td>79,954</td>
<td>60,954</td>
<td>16,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14 years</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17 years</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>1,216</td>
<td>627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19 years</td>
<td>5,246</td>
<td>3,668</td>
<td>1,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24 years</td>
<td>22,544</td>
<td>16,086</td>
<td>6,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34 years</td>
<td>41,486</td>
<td>32,956</td>
<td>7,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44 years</td>
<td>8,656</td>
<td>6,923</td>
<td>1,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45+ years</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- In 2013, the percent of total births with first trimester prenatal care was 71.1.
- The percent of white births with first trimester care was 73.4, while the percent for black births was 63.5 in 2013. (Percentages are based on births with prenatal care reported.)
- Tennessee’s percent of no care was 1.9, with white mothers having the lowest percentage (1.2) of no care. The percent of black mothers with no care was 4.6 in 2013.

- Adolescents (10 through 17) and mothers aged 40 years and older face a greater risk of having low birthweight babies.
- In 2013, the low birthweight percentage of total births to mothers ages 10 through 17 was 9.4. This was a 25.4 percent decrease from the low birthweight percentage of 12.6 in 2004.
- The percent of total births to mothers ages 40 years and older that were low birthweight (12.1) decreased 11.7 percent from 2004 to 2013.
• Adolescent (10 through 17) births by race revealed the highest rates per 1,000 females were for black females for the period 2004 through 2013.
• The black adolescent birth rate of 9.9 was 1.9 times the white adolescent birth rate of 5.2 in 2013.
• The total birth rate for adolescents declined 43.8 percent from 2004 to 2013, while the rate for white females decreased 38.8 percent.
• For the ten-year period, the black adolescent birth rate decreased 44.1 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 2013, all births to females ages 10 through 14 were to unmarried adolescents. For black females ages 15 through 17, the percentage of births to unmarried females was 99.8.
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 2004 through 2013, the percentages of births to unmarried black women were almost twice the total unmarried percentages and over twice the percentages for unmarried white mothers.
Total births to unmarried women increased 15.5 percent from 2004 to 2013, while the increase for white women was 20.4 percent.
For black women the percent increased from 74.3 in 2004 to 78.1 in 2013.
• The 2013 number of low birthweight (less than 2,500 grams) infants born to Tennessee residents was 7,302.
• The low birthweight percentage of 9.1 occurring in 2013 decreased 1.1 percent from 2012.
• The percent of total births that were multiple births was 3.1. Of the total multiple births in 2013, 60.9 percent were low birthweight infants. This was a 2.9 percent decrease from the percent (62.7) of low weight multiple births in 2004.

In 2013, 8.1 percent of fathers and 8.6 percent of mothers reported Hispanic origin for Tennessee’s total resident births.

The percentage of Hispanic births for both fathers and mothers decreased from 2012 to 2013.

More detailed county level birth data may be obtained by contacting the Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Policy, Planning and Assessment or by visiting our website at:

health.state.tn.us

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