

**Table 10. Maternal education for live births, according to detailed race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, selected years 1970–2001**

[Data are based on birth certificates]

<i>Education, race, and Hispanic origin of mother</i>	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
	Percent of live births <sup>1</sup>											
Less than 12 years of education												
All races . . . . .	30.8	28.6	23.7	20.6	23.8	22.6	22.4	22.1	21.9	21.7	21.7	21.7
White . . . . .	27.1	25.1	20.8	17.8	22.4	21.6	21.6	21.3	21.2	21.3	21.4	21.7
Black or African American . . . . .	51.2	45.3	36.4	32.6	30.2	28.7	28.2	27.6	26.9	26.0	25.5	24.9
American Indian or Alaska Native . . . . .	60.5	52.7	44.2	39.0	36.4	33.0	33.0	32.8	32.7	32.2	31.6	31.0
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	---	---	21.0	19.4	20.0	16.1	15.0	14.0	12.9	12.4	11.6	10.8
Chinese . . . . .	23.0	16.5	15.2	15.5	15.8	12.9	12.8	12.3	11.4	12.0	11.7	11.9
Japanese . . . . .	11.8	9.1	5.0	4.8	3.5	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.0	2.1	1.8
Filipino . . . . .	26.4	22.3	16.4	13.9	10.3	8.0	7.4	7.3	6.9	6.3	6.2	6.0
Hawaiian . . . . .	---	---	20.7	18.7	19.3	17.6	16.9	16.8	18.5	16.8	16.7	15.4
Other Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	---	---	27.6	24.3	26.8	21.2	19.4	17.8	15.9	14.8	13.5	12.2
Hispanic or Latino <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	---	---	51.1	44.5	53.9	52.1	51.4	50.3	49.3	49.1	48.9	48.8
Mexican . . . . .	---	---	62.8	59.0	61.4	58.6	57.7	56.3	55.2	55.2	55.0	55.0
Puerto Rican . . . . .	---	---	55.3	46.6	42.7	38.6	38.1	37.1	35.9	34.4	33.4	32.3
Cuban . . . . .	---	---	24.1	21.1	17.8	14.4	14.5	13.7	13.0	12.3	11.9	11.8
Central and South American . . . . .	---	---	41.2	37.0	44.2	41.7	40.8	39.6	38.5	37.9	37.2	36.5
Other and unknown Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	---	---	40.1	36.5	33.3	33.8	33.0	32.8	33.6	32.5	31.4	30.4
Not Hispanic or Latino: <sup>2</sup>												
White . . . . .	---	---	18.3	15.8	15.2	13.3	13.0	12.9	12.8	12.6	12.2	12.0
Black or African American . . . . .	---	---	37.4	33.5	30.0	28.6	28.0	27.5	26.7	25.9	25.3	24.8
16 years or more of education												
All races . . . . .	8.6	11.4	14.0	16.7	17.5	21.4	22.1	22.8	23.4	24.1	24.7	25.2
White . . . . .	9.6	12.7	15.5	18.6	19.3	23.1	23.9	24.6	25.1	25.7	26.3	26.7
Black or African American . . . . .	2.8	4.3	6.2	7.0	7.2	9.5	10.0	10.5	11.0	11.4	11.7	12.1
American Indian or Alaska Native . . . . .	2.7	2.2	3.5	3.7	4.4	6.2	6.3	6.8	6.8	7.2	7.8	8.2
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	---	---	30.8	30.3	31.0	35.0	36.2	38.0	39.7	40.9	42.8	44.0
Chinese . . . . .	34.0	37.8	41.5	35.2	40.3	49.0	49.1	51.1	53.8	54.3	55.6	55.9
Japanese . . . . .	20.7	30.6	36.8	38.1	44.1	46.2	46.8	48.3	49.1	49.5	51.1	52.0
Filipino . . . . .	28.1	36.6	37.1	35.2	34.5	36.7	38.0	38.6	39.2	39.6	40.5	41.8
Hawaiian . . . . .	---	---	7.9	6.5	6.8	9.7	11.3	11.0	11.0	12.7	13.5	13.2
Other Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	---	---	29.2	30.2	27.3	30.5	32.2	34.4	36.7	38.5	40.7	42.6
Hispanic or Latino <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	---	---	4.2	6.0	5.1	6.1	6.4	6.7	7.0	7.4	7.6	7.9
Mexican . . . . .	---	---	2.2	3.0	3.3	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.1	5.3
Puerto Rican . . . . .	---	---	3.0	4.6	6.5	8.7	8.9	9.2	9.5	10.3	10.4	11.1
Cuban . . . . .	---	---	11.6	15.0	20.4	26.5	27.0	27.8	28.6	29.9	31.0	30.8
Central and South American . . . . .	---	---	6.1	8.1	8.6	10.3	11.2	11.9	12.5	13.2	14.1	14.8
Other and unknown Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	---	---	5.5	7.2	8.5	10.5	11.1	11.7	11.5	12.0	12.5	13.2
Not Hispanic or Latino: <sup>2</sup>												
White . . . . .	---	---	16.4	19.3	22.6	27.7	28.8	29.7	30.4	31.4	32.5	33.3
Black or African American . . . . .	---	---	5.7	6.7	7.3	9.5	10.0	10.6	11.0	11.4	11.7	12.2

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes live births for whom education of mother is unknown.

<sup>2</sup>Prior to 1993, data shown only for States with an Hispanic-origin item and education of mother item on the birth certificate (see Appendix II, Education; Hispanic origin).

NOTES: Starting in 1992, education of mother was reported on the birth certificate by all 50 States and the District of Columbia. Prior to 1992, data from States lacking an education of mother item were excluded (see Appendix II, Education). The race groups, white, black, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Asian or Pacific Islander, include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Maternal education groups shown in this table generally represent the group at highest risk for unfavorable birth outcomes (less than 12 years of education) and the group at lowest risk (16 years or more of education). Interpretation of trend data should take into consideration expansion of reporting areas and immigration. Data for additional years are available (see Appendix III).

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Birth File.