

## Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths: Provisional Data for 2001

**Table 1. Provisional Vital Statistics for the United States for 2001**

[Rates for infant deaths are deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births; fertility rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years; all other rates are per 1,000 total population. Data are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical Notes]

Item	December				January–December				
	Number		Rate		Number		Rate		
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	1999
Live births . . . . .	327,000	339,000	13.8	14.5	4,028,000	4,063,000	14.5	14.8	14.6
Fertility rate . . . . .	...	...	64.0	66.5	...	...	67.0	67.6	66.1
Deaths . . . . .	210,000	205,000	8.9	8.8	2,419,000	2,408,000	8.7	8.8	8.8
Infant deaths . . . . .	2,400	2,200	7.1	6.4	27,600	27,200	6.9	6.7	7.1
Natural increase . . . . .	117,000	134,000	4.9	5.7	1,609,000	1,655,000	5.8	6.0	5.8
Marriages . . . . .	153,000	152,000	6.4	6.5	2,327,000	2,329,000	8.4	8.5	8.6
Divorces <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.0	4.2	4.1
Population base (in millions) . . . . .	...	...	278.8	276.2	...	...	277.7	275.1	272.9

... Category not applicable.

--- Data not available.

<sup>1</sup>Divorce rates exclude data for California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana. Populations for these rates also exclude these States.

NOTES: Figures include revisions received from the States. Twelve-month figures for the current year reflect revisions received for previous months, and figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published.

### Technical Notes

Effective with Volume 47, Number 1, the *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* (MVSR) has been renamed the *National Vital Statistics Reports* (NVSR). Each monthly issue typically includes [Technical Notes](#) and two tables that show provisional vital statistics for the United States for the given month. Because of resource constraints, production of the monthly reports of provisional data for the year 2001 was delayed. In order to reestablish a more timely publication schedule, provisional data for the first and second quarters of the year 2001 are included in single reports. Tables previously published in the MVSR that show provisional data by State are now available on the NCHS home page on the Internet at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs>

Data shown here are provisional and include only events occurring within the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia). Mortality data exclude fetal deaths. Delay in the receipt of certificates in a registration office may result in a low figure for a given month followed by a high figure for the month(s) in which the delayed records were received. Totals for births, deaths, and infant deaths are based on the State estimates by State of residence and, therefore, in effect, exclude events to nonresidents of the United States. Events to nonresidents of the United States are included in all marriage and divorce figures. The effect of excluding events to nonresidents from the U.S. totals is small. Divorce figures include reported annulments.

Until 1998 provisional totals for births, marriages, and divorces for the entire United States included corrections for observed differences between

provisional and final figures. These corrections served to compensate for delays in reporting. Beginning with data for January 1998, these monthly corrections for births, marriages, and divorces have been dropped. Further information on these changes has been provided in the NVSRs presenting provisional data for January, February, and March, 1999 (Volume 48, Numbers 1, 2, and 4, respectively; these reports are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs>).

Moreover, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), ceased to publish aggregated divorce counts and rates based on provisional data from all 50 States because it was no longer statistically feasible to supply estimates of monthly divorce counts for four nonreporting States (California, Colorado, Indiana, and Louisiana). Instead, NCHS is publishing only the 12-month divorce rates shown in [table 1](#), based solely on the combined counts and populations for the 46 reporting States and the District of Columbia. Aggregated 1-month and cumulative divorce numbers and rates as well as the 12-month number have been dropped because of their very limited usefulness when based on less than the full complement of States. Monthly marriage and divorce counts as reported by the States will continue to be provided on the NCHS Internet home page cited previously.

The populations used for computing rates are furnished by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The population estimates are based on the 1990 Census of Population and do not reflect the results of the 2000 census enumeration. Monthly rates are based on populations estimated for the specific month. Year-to-date rates are averages of monthly rates that have

**Table 2. Provisional number of live births, marriages, deaths, and infant deaths and rates, by month: United States, January 2000–December 2001**

[Data are provisional and are subject to monthly reporting variation; see Technical Notes]

Period	Live births				Marriages		Deaths		Infant deaths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years		Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 population	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
			Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>						
2000:										
January . . . . .	331,000	14.3	65.0	67.9	147,000	6.3	242,000	10.4	2,300	6.8
February . . . . .	318,000	14.7	66.8	68.0	159,000	7.3	219,000	10.1	2,300	7.2
March . . . . .	340,000	14.6	66.7	68.3	166,000	7.1	208,000	8.9	2,400	7.0
April . . . . .	318,000	14.1	64.6	65.4	166,000	7.4	196,000	8.7	2,300	7.0
May . . . . .	341,000	14.7	67.0	67.4	189,000	8.1	197,000	8.5	2,300	6.6
June . . . . .	339,000	15.0	68.7	67.8	237,000	10.5	181,000	8.0	2,100	6.3
July . . . . .	349,000	15.0	68.5	65.6	235,000	10.1	197,000	8.5	2,400	7.0
August . . . . .	359,000	15.4	70.5	68.0	244,000	10.4	189,000	8.1	2,300	6.6
September . . . . .	346,000	15.3	70.2	66.5	225,000	10.0	186,000	8.2	2,400	7.0
October . . . . .	345,000	14.8	67.8	68.3	217,000	9.3	196,000	8.4	2,100	6.1
November . . . . .	338,000	14.9	68.5	71.1	191,000	8.4	192,000	8.5	2,200	6.5
December . . . . .	339,000	14.5	66.5	67.1	152,000	6.5	205,000	8.8	2,200	6.4
2001:										
January . . . . .	335,000	14.3	65.7	68.6	143,000	6.1	227,000	9.6	2,400	7.1
February . . . . .	304,000	14.3	65.8	67.0	140,000	6.6	199,000	9.4	2,300	7.4
March . . . . .	339,000	14.4	66.4	67.9	170,000	7.2	216,000	9.2	2,400	7.0
April . . . . .	324,000	14.2	65.5	66.3	205,000	9.0	203,000	8.9	2,300	6.9
May . . . . .	344,000	14.6	67.4	67.8	215,000	9.1	201,000	8.5	2,400	6.9
June . . . . .	331,000	14.5	67.0	66.2	223,000	9.8	191,000	8.4	2,100	6.5
July . . . . .	351,000	14.9	68.8	65.8	236,000	10.0	191,000	8.1	2,200	6.4
August . . . . .	362,000	15.3	70.9	68.4	233,000	9.9	191,000	8.1	2,300	6.5
September . . . . .	343,000	15.0	69.4	65.6	217,000	9.5	192,000	8.4	2,200	6.5
October . . . . .	344,000	14.6	67.4	68.0	227,000	9.6	202,000	8.6	2,300	6.8
November . . . . .	324,000	14.1	65.6	68.0	168,000	7.3	197,000	8.6	2,300	6.9
December . . . . .	327,000	13.8	64.0	64.6	153,000	6.4	210,000	8.9	2,400	7.1

<sup>1</sup>The method of seasonal adjustment, developed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, is described in *The X-11 Variant of the Census Method II Seasonal Adjustment Program*, Technical Paper No. 15 (1967 revision).  
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been weighted by the number of days in the corresponding months. Rates for 12-month periods are the sum of events for the period per population estimated at the midpoint of the period. Populations have been estimated by NCHS for the 12-month divorce rates based on the 46 reporting States and the District of Columbia. Because monthly infant mortality rates are based on relatively few events, they are highly variable, and comparisons of monthly infant mortality rates should be interpreted cautiously.

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