

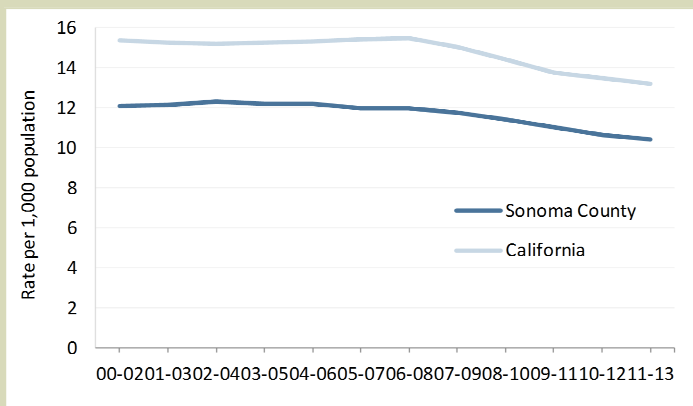


Overview

Monitoring trends in birth rates over time helps project potential needs for prenatal, maternity, and obstetric services as well as for education, child care, health care, and other services for children. Understanding the demographic composition of mothers and children provides important insight into the needs of these populations today and guides policies that will best support them in the future.

According to data from the National Center for Health Statistics¹ in 2013, the number and rate of births declined in the United States, a trend also seen in the county.

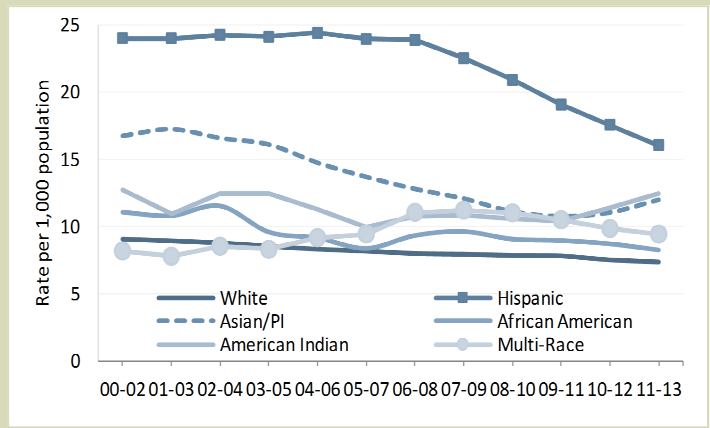
Figure 1. Birth rate per 1,000 population, three year moving average— Sonoma County and California 2000-2013



Trend

- The Sonoma County birth rate remained significantly lower than the California birth rate (Figure 1).
- The Sonoma County and California birth rates decreased significantly from 2000-2002 to 2011-2013—a decrease of about 13% over the time period.
- On average, there were about 600 fewer births to Sonoma County residents annually from 2011-2013 than in 2000-2002.

Figure 2. Birth rate by race/ethnicity per 1,000 population, three year moving average — Sonoma County 2000-2013



Race/Ethnicity

- The birth rate decreased most significantly among Hispanic (33%) and Asian/Pacific Islanders (28%) residents in Sonoma County (Figure 2).
- The number of births to white residents decreased by more than 750 annually (19%) since 2000-2002.
- The birth rate among the multi-racial population increased from 2000-2002 to 2007-2009 (36%) but then decreased by almost 18% over the four subsequent time periods.

Age-Specific Birth Rate

- Birth rates among Sonoma County women aged 15-19 and 20-29 continued their decreasing trend. Teen birth rates have decreased 42% since 2000-2002 while the rate for women 20-29 years has decreased by almost 28% (Figure 3).
- Birth rates for older women in Sonoma County have increased. The rate for women 30-39 and 40+ years increased by 15% and 19%, respectively, over the time period.

Figure 3. Age-specific birth rate per 1,000 women , three year moving average— Sonoma County 2000-2013

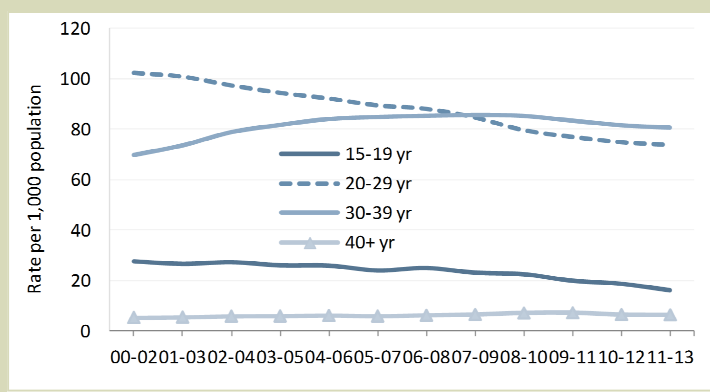


Table 1. Birth rate per 1,000 population, three year moving average—Sonoma County 2000-2013

	2000-2002	2001-2003	2002-2004	2003-2005	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013	
Sonoma County	12.1	12.1	12.3	12.2	12.2	12.0	12.0	11.7	11.4	11.0	10.7	10.4	v
California	15.3	15.2	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	15.5	15.0	14.4	13.7	13.4	10.2	v
<i>Race/ethnicity</i>													
White non-Hispanic	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.5	7.4	v
Hispanic	24.0	24.0	24.3	24.1	24.4	23.9	23.9	22.5	20.9	19.1	17.6	16.1	v
Asian/Pacific Islander	16.8	17.3	16.6	16.1	14.8	13.7	12.8	12.1	11.1	10.8	11.1	12.0	v
African American	11.1	10.8	11.5	9.6	9.1	8.4	9.3	9.6	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.2	v
American Indian	12.7	11.0	12.5	12.5	11.3	9.9	10.8	10.9	10.5	10.4	11.4	12.5	
Multi-Race	8.2	7.8	8.5	8.3	9.2	9.5	11.1	11.2	11.0	10.5	9.9	9.5	^
<i>Mother's age</i>													
15-19 yr	27.8	26.8	27.5	26.2	26.1	24.1	25.1	23.2	22.6	19.9	18.7	16.1	v
20-29 yr	102.2	100.7	97.3	94.4	92.1	89.4	88.0	84.6	79.6	77.0	74.9	73.8	v
30-39 yr	69.9	73.7	78.9	81.8	84.1	84.9	85.4	85.7	85.3	83.4	81.6	80.7	^
40+ yr	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.6	7.2	7.3	6.6	6.5	^

v Significant decrease from 2000-2002 to 2011-2013 p<.05

^ Significant increase from 2000-2002 to 2011-2013 p<.05

Table 2. Birth rate per 1,000 population, three year average—Sonoma County 2011-2013

	Annual average	Rate	95% Confidence interval
Sonoma County	5092	10.4	10.2-10.4
California	50017	13.2	13.2-13.3
<i>Race/ethnicity</i>			
White non-Hispanic	2371	7.4	7.2-7.5
Hispanic	1999	16.1	15.7-16.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	232	12.0	11.1-12.9
African American	62	8.2	7.1-9.5
American Indian	45	12.5	10.5-14.8
Multi-Race	122	9.5	8.5-10.5
<i>Mother's age</i>			
15-19 yr	258	16.1	15.0-17.3
20-29 yr	2284	73.8	72.2-75.5
30-39 yr	2328	80.7	78.9-82.5
40+ yr	212	6.5	6.0-7.0

References

1. Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Osterman MLK, et al. Births: Final data for 2013. National vital statistics reports; vol 64 no 1. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2015.