

VIII. OUT-OF-WEDLOCK PREGNANCIES AND BIRTHS

Out-of-Wedlock Births in TANF Families

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program requires that States engage in activities that "prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies." In order to collect data on and further emphasize this purpose, section 413(e) of the Social Security Act (the Act) requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to annually rank States and review issues relating to out-of-wedlock births.

Specifically, the statute requires DHHS to rank States on the following factors:

1. Absolute out-of-wedlock birth ratio, represented by the total number of out-of-wedlock births in families that receive TANF assistance for the most recent year for which information is available, over the total number of births in families receiving TANF assistance for such year; and
2. Net change in the out-of-wedlock birth ratio, the difference between the ratio for the current fiscal year for which information is available and the immediately preceding year.

Table 8:1, the Total Number of Out-of-Wedlock Births in TANF Families, is based on data the States reported to DHHS for FY 2000, the first year States were required to report these data. DHHS notes that, in some instances, e.g., some States reporting "0" out-of-wedlock births, the data may be incomplete or inaccurate. DHHS will continue to work with States to resolve these data issues.

Section 413(e) of the Act also requires DHHS to review the programs of the five States most recently ranked highest and the five States most recently ranked lowest.

Out-of-Wedlock Birth Bonus

Also, in support of the purpose in the Act to reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies and births, Congress included a performance bonus entitled, "Bonus to Reward Decrease in Illegitimacy Ratio," in the statute. The bonus is intended to focus State efforts on the reduction of out-of-wedlock births, encourage creativity in developing effective solutions, and reward those States that achieve the largest decreases in out-of-wedlock births without increasing the abortion rate.

The Administration for Children and Families issued final regulations on April 14, 1999, implementing section 403(a)(2) of the Act, which establishes the bonus. As specified in the statute, up to \$100 million annually is available in each of fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

Potentially eligible States include the 50 States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and American Samoa. In each year, up to five States (including the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) may be eligible, in addition to Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa. The amount of any award for Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa will be 25 percent of their mandatory TANF ceiling amount. The remainder of the \$100 million will be divided equally among the other eligible States up to a maximum of \$25 million for each eligible recipient.

On September 13, 1999, the Department announced the award of \$100 million in new bonuses to five awardees for achieving the nation's largest decreases in out-of-wedlock births between 1994 and 1997. This was the first award of these bonuses.

The awardees and the reductions in the proportion of out-of-wedlock births achieved were: California (5.7%), the District of Columbia (3.7%), Michigan (3.4%), Alabama (2.0%), and Massachusetts (1.5%). Each jurisdiction received \$20 million. (See Tables 8:4 and 8:5.)

On September 15, 2000, the Department announced the award of \$100 million to the five States achieving the largest decreases in out-of-wedlock births between 1995 and 1998.

The awardees and the reductions in the proportion of out-of-wedlock births achieved were: the District of Columbia (4.13%), Arizona (1.38%), Michigan (1.34%), Alabama (0.29%), and Illinois (0.02%). Each jurisdiction received \$20 million. (See Tables 8:6 and 8:7.)

On September 21, 2001, the Department announced the award of \$75 million to the three States achieving the largest decreases in out-of-wedlock births between 1996 and 1999. During this period, only three States experienced a decrease in their out-of-wedlock birth ratios.

The awardees and the reductions in the proportion of out-of-wedlock births achieved were: the District of Columbia (3.97%), Alabama (0.24%), and Michigan (0.009%). Each jurisdiction received \$25 million. (See Tables 8.8 and 8.9.)

DHHS's final regulations specified the process used in determining bonus awards. Briefly, the bonuses are awarded as follows:

- The ratio of out-of-wedlock births to total births is calculated for each State for the most recent two-year period for which data are available and for the prior two-year period. To compute these ratios, DHHS uses the vital statistics data compiled annually by the National Center for Health Statistics, based on records submitted by the States.
- The five States that had the largest proportionate decrease in their ratios between the most recent two-year period for which data are available and the prior two-year period are identified. These States are potentially eligible.
- If Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa had a comparable decrease in their ratios (i.e., a decrease at least as large as the smallest decrease among the other qualifying States or a decrease that ranks among the top five decreases when all States and Territories are ranked together), they are identified. These additional States are also potentially eligible.

- The potentially eligible States will be notified that, to be considered for the bonus, they need to submit data and information on the number of abortions performed in their State for the most recent year and for 1995.
- DHHS will determine which of the potentially eligible States also experienced a decrease in their rate of abortions (defined for the purposes of this bonus to be the ratio of abortions to live births) for the most recent calendar year compared to 1995, the base year specified in the Act. These States will receive a bonus award.
- While the criteria for determining bonus eligibility for Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and American Samoa are the same as for the States, their eligibility is determined separately and the determination of their bonus amount is different, as specified in the statute, i.e., sections 403(a)(2)(B)(ii) (Amount of Grant) and 403(a)(2)(C)(i)(I) (Definition of eligible State).

Additional Data on Out-of-Wedlock and Teen Births

The birth rate for unmarried women aged 15-44 years increased slightly in 1999 to 44.4 births per 1,000 women, compared with 44.3 in 1998. The 1999 birth rate is still five percent below the 1994 peak (46.9). The actual number of out-of-wedlock births rose one percent in 1999, to 1,308,560, following a three-percent rise during 1997-98. Between 1994 and 1997, the number declined two percent. Most of the 1997-99 increases are associated with the rising number of unmarried women of childbearing age. The proportion of all births that were out-of-wedlock was unchanged at 32.4 percent in 1996 and 1997, but increased to 32.8 percent in 1998 and 33.0 in 1999.

After several decades of sharp increases, non-marital childbearing has leveled off during the second half of the 1990s. The birth rate among unmarried women in 1999 remained nearly unchanged from 1998 and is five percent lower than its peak reached in 1994, while the proportion of births occurring outside of marriage has remained in the range of 32 to 33 percent. The 1990s have also seen dramatic declines in teen birth rates, 20 percent since 1991. These declines have been widespread, across age and racial groups, and across every State in the country as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

DHHS Programs to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

In the 1996 welfare reform law (PRWORA), Congress required the Department to issue a National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Specifically, the statute requires DHHS to describe its efforts to provide a cohesive approach to the challenges of teen pregnancy prevention and to assure that at least 25 percent of communities in the United States have teen pregnancy prevention programs in operation. The Department is in its fourth year of implementing the National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

The National Strategy's major teen pregnancy prevention initiatives promote the postponement of sexual activity as the most effective way for adolescents to prevent teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection. States may use TANF funds for teen pregnancy prevention activities in support of the goal of reducing and preventing out-of-wedlock pregnancies.

In addition to the National Strategy, the Department administers a number of major programs that address teen pregnancy.

Abstinence Education Program

The welfare reform law enacted in 1996 created the Abstinence Education Program, which provides Federal matching grants to States for abstinence education activities, including mentoring and counseling, designed to promote abstinence from sexual activity until marriage. The law provided an annual appropriation of up to \$50 million for each fiscal year from 1998 through 2002. The Department's Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) administers this program. A national evaluation of these abstinence education initiatives is underway.

Special Projects of Regional or National Significance

In FY 2001, HRSA awarded \$17.9 million and will award additional funds in FY 2002 for grants to support community-based abstinence education programs involving public and private entities. The grants will support the development and implementation of abstinence-only education programs for adolescents, ages 12 through 18, through Special Projects of Regional or National Significance.

The Adolescent Family Life Program

DHHS's Office of Population Affairs (OPA) administers the Adolescent Family Life Program, which funds demonstration projects to develop and test abstinence-based programs designed to delay the onset of sexual activity and prevent adolescent pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV/AIDS. This program also supports demonstrations that provide health, education, and social services to pregnant and parenting adolescents and research into the causes and consequences of adolescent pregnancy.

Community Coalition Prevention Demonstrations

Since 1995, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has funded demonstrations for the prevention of teen pregnancies. These projects support coalitions of local public and private agencies and organizations, in communities with high rates of teen pregnancy, in order to develop community action plans, coordinate efforts to reduce teen pregnancy, identify gaps in current programs and services, target existing resources, and design evaluation plans. CDC awarded approximately \$250,000 per year for two years to 13 communities in 11 States to help these communities mobilize and organize their resources. In FY 2000, a total of \$13.3 million was awarded to these 13 community coalition partnerships to implement their action plans;

evaluate their impact; and support related data collection, evaluation, and dissemination activities.

Working with Boys and Young Men

DHHS includes boys and young men in teen pregnancy prevention efforts. They are encouraged to prevent premature fatherhood through activities funded by such Federal programs as the Adolescent Family Life Program; the Abstinence Education Program, and the Adolescent Male Initiative, which is a part of the Title X family planning program. States may also use TANF funds to support such activities. By increasing understanding of the motivations for abstinence and for fatherhood and by developing effective prevention strategies, DHHS is building a variety of program activities that promote responsible behavior among teenage boys and young men. (See also Chapter VII of this Report, "Formation and Maintenance of Two-Parent Families.")

For example, the Office of Population Affairs/Office of Family Planning funds Adolescent Family Life projects that address family planning and reproductive health information and services for males. While not directly targeted to TANF recipients, many of these projects are located in areas where there are high rates of poverty or reduced access to health services. These projects are intended to integrate family planning services and education into programs where young males are already receiving other health, education, and social services.

Another example of services to boys and young men is the Abstinence Education Program. This program provides grants to States to support abstinence education and related services focused on groups most likely to bear children out-of-wedlock. States contract with various organizations to implement both statewide and local abstinence-only education programs, including community-based organizations, schools, youth-serving organizations, local health departments, and faith-based organizations. States are responsible for determining the kinds of projects that will be funded. A number of States have funded projects that help to promote abstinence for boys and young men:

- Florida funds community-based organizations, religious institutions, and public health agencies to implement programs for both boys and girls, including classroom instruction and after-school activities designed to enhance self-esteem and build life skills, counseling and referrals, and parent education.
- In Mississippi, the "Teens in Control" program serves boys and girls in grades five and six. This is a two-year program that promotes remaining abstinent until marriage through the development of self-esteem, self-discipline, and self-respect.
- New York provides funds for community-based efforts that provide abstinence education and other services for high-risk youth, including young males.

States are also using the flexibility under the TANF block grant to develop programs to reduce out-of-wedlock childbearing, and several States have chosen to use the TANF funds to develop programs for young men that include pregnancy prevention efforts. For example:

- Alabama funds a Fatherhood Initiative that will be administered by the State's Children's Trust Fund to establish community projects to prevent early and unplanned fatherhood, strengthen relationships between fathers and children, and increase child support payments by providing work and training opportunities for non-custodial parents.
- Maryland's "Young Fathers Responsible Fathers" programs are located in seven sites in six counties and Baltimore City. These programs do not provide financial assistance but do provide services to custodial and non-custodial fathers, age 16 and older, who have one or more children. Services include parenting, education, family planning, GED instruction, job-training, employment-search assistance, and self-esteem building. These programs also encourage co-parenting for non-custodial fathers.
- South Carolina uses TANF funds for three programs that deal with parenting and pregnancy prevention for couples. The Teen Companion Program helps youth who have never parented to prevent pregnancies, reduce the school dropout rate, and increase options for self-sufficiency. The Youth Parent Program is for youth who are pregnant or parenting. Its purpose is to prevent subsequent pregnancies, increase the number of students who return to school, increase options for self-sufficiency, reduce the need for Child Protective services, and reduce low birth weight and prenatal defects in newborns. Finally, under an Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, the State makes grants to each county to support local efforts to prevent early sexual activity and reduce the rate of adolescent pregnancy in each county by emphasizing sexual abstinence and male responsibility.

Appendices

Table 8:1	Total Number of Out-of-Wedlock Births in TANF Families
Table 8:2	Number, Rate, and Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women: United States, 1980 and 1985-99
Table 8:3	Number and Percent of Births to Unmarried Women: United States and Each State and Territory, 1999, and Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, United States and Each State and Territory, 1992-99 By Place of Residence
Table 8:4	Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 Average and 1996-97 Average, and Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 to 1996-97, United States and Each Territory (alphabetically ordered) [State Data for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]
Table 8:5	Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 to 1996-97, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of the Largest to Smallest Decline), United States and each Territory (rank ordered) [State Rankings for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards. States and Territories not Eligible for the Bonus Listed in Ascending Order of Increase]

- Table 8:6 Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 Average and 1997-98 Average, Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 to 1997-98, United States, each State and Territory (alphabetical ordered) [State Data for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]
- Table 8:7 Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 to 1997-98, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of Largest to Smallest Decline), United States, each State and Territory (rank ordered) [State rankings for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards. States and Territories not eligible for the Bonus listed in ascending order of increase.]
- Table 8:8 Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 Average and 1998-99 Average, Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 to 1998-98, United States, each State and Territory (alphabetical ordered) [State Data for the FY 2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]
- Table 8:9 Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 to 1998-99, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of Largest to Smallest Decline), United States, each State and Territory (rank ordered) [State rankings for the FY 2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards. States and Territories not eligible for the Bonus listed in ascending order of increase.]

Table 8:1
Total Number of Out-of-Wedlock Births in TANF Families
Fiscal Year 2000

	Total Births	Out-Of-Wedlock Births	Out-of-Wedlock Births as a Percent of Total
U. S. Totals	273,693	180,371	65.9%
Alabama	709	568	80.1%
Alaska	508	373	73.4%
Arizona	1,710	1,324	77.4%
Arkansas	1,229	177	14.4%
California	45,431	34,820	76.6%
Colorado	1,712	1,168	68.2%
Connecticut	952	759	79.7%
Delaware	468	360	76.9%
Dist. of Col.	223	158	70.9%
Florida	2,764	2,288	82.8%
Georgia	2,560	2,061	80.5%
Guam	0	0	-
Hawaii	1,931	1,584	82.0%
Idaho	75	57	76.0%
Illinois	18,140	12,490	68.9%
Indiana	16,757	13,969	83.4%
Iowa	522	77	14.8%
Kansas	3,618	2,770	76.6%
Kentucky	1,975	1,432	72.5%
Louisiana	5,705	5,029	88.2%
Maine	402	357	88.8%
Maryland	2,273	1,841	81.0%
Massachusetts	6,942	6,010	86.6%
Michigan	13,469	11,578	86.0%
Minnesota	5,706	4,285	75.1%
Mississippi	3,403	2,868	84.3%
Missouri	5,540	4,245	76.6%
Montana	53	37	69.8%
Nebraska	2,383	2,127	89.3%
Nevada	1,035	441	42.6%
New Hampshire	205	159	77.6%
New Jersey	830	679	81.8%
New Mexico	1,759	0	0.0%
New York	14,291	10,770	75.4%
North Carolina	28,583	9,368	32.8%
North Dakota	0	0	-
Ohio	4,585	3,549	77.4%
Oklahoma	26,549	5,257	19.8%
Oregon	1,648	0	0.0%
Pennsylvania	26,841	20,199	75.3%
Puerto Rico	260	0	0.0%
Rhode Island	1,719	1,333	77.5%
South Carolina	1,086	911	83.9%
South Dakota	255	213	83.5%
Tennessee	8,309	6,953	83.7%
Texas	1,334	1,146	85.9%
Utah	1,327	773	58.3%
Vermont	402	283	70.4%
Virgin Islands	85	85	100.0%
Virginia	250	12	4.8%
Washington	3,403	2,217	65.1%
West Virginia	815	572	70.2%
Wisconsin	931	638	68.5%
Wyoming	31	1	3.2%

*Data may be taken from samples for some States.

Table 8:2**Number, Rate, and Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women:
United States, 1980 and 1985-99**

Year	Births to unmarried women		
	Number	Rate (1)	Percent (2)
1999	1,308,560	44.4	33.0
1998	1,293,567	44.3	32.8
1997	1,257,444	44.0	32.4
1996	1,260,306	44.8	32.4
1995	1,253,976	45.1	32.2
1994	1,289,592	46.9	32.6
1993	1,240,172	45.3	31.0
1992	1,224,876	45.2	30.1
1991	1,213,769	45.2	29.5
1990	1,165,384	43.8	28.0
1989	1,094,169	41.6	27.1
1988	1,005,299	38.5	25.7
1987	933,013	36.0	24.5
1986	878,477	34.2	23.4
1985	828,174	32.8	22.0
1980	665,747	29.4	18.4

(1) Births to unmarried women per 1,000 unmarried women aged 15-44 years.

(2) Percent of all births to unmarried women.

NOTE: For most states, data on births to unmarried women are based on a direct question on the birth certificate or is based on a direct question on the birth certificate or in the electronic birth registration process, asking if the mother is married. In 1999, mother's marital status for two states was inferred from other information on the birth certificate.

Table 8:3

Number and Percent of Births to Unmarried Women: United States and Each State and Territory, 1999, and Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, United States and Each State and Territory, 1992-99 By Place of Residence

State	Number 1999	Percent of All Births to Unmarried Women								
		1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	
United States	1,308,560	33.0	32.8	32.4	32.4	32.2	32.6	31.0	30.1	
Alabama	20,693	33.3	34.1	33.9	33.7	34.5	34.5	33.5	32.6	
Alaska	3,301	33.2	31.1	30.6	31.0	29.9	29.3	28.0	27.4	
Arizona	31,463	38.8	38.4	37.6	38.8	38.2	38.3	37.9	36.2	
Arkansas	12,932	35.2	35.0	34.2	33.9	32.9	32.6	31.7	31.0	
California	170,372	32.9	32.8	32.8	31.4	32.1	35.7	35.3	34.3	
Colorado	15,818	25.4	25.6	25.2	24.8	24.9	25.0	24.8	23.8	
Connecticut	12,562	29.0	31.2	32.7	31.3	30.6	30.5	29.8	28.7	
Delaware	4,147	38.8	37.1	36.0	35.5	34.9	34.7	33.8	32.6	
Dist. of Columbia	4,642	61.7	62.9	63.6	66.1	65.8	68.8	67.8	66.9	
Florida	73,824	37.5	36.6	36.0	35.9	35.8	35.7	35.0	34.2	
Georgia	46,328	36.6	36.2	35.4	35.0	35.2	35.5	35.8	35.0	
Hawaii	5,593	32.8	31.5	29.9	30.3	29.2	28.3	27.2	26.2	
Idaho	4,302	21.6	22.0	20.7	21.3	19.9	18.7	18.7	18.3	
Illinois	62,088	34.1	34.1	33.4	33.7	33.8	34.3	34.1	33.4	
Indiana	29,640	34.5	33.5	32.6	32.3	31.9	31.5	30.8	29.5	
Iowa	10,330	27.5	27.2	26.2	26.3	25.2	24.8	24.6	23.5	
Kansas	11,098	28.6	27.8	27.6	26.9	25.9	26.0	25.9	24.3	
Kentucky	16,540	30.4	30.1	29.5	29.8	28.5	27.6	27.2	26.3	
Louisiana	30,109	44.8	44.9	43.9	43.4	42.4	42.6	42.0	40.2	
Maine	4,260	31.3	30.6	29.7	28.7	27.8	28.2	27.0	25.3	
Maryland	25,083	34.9	34.4	33.5	33.5	33.3	33.7	32.5	30.5	
Massachusetts	21,476	26.5	26.1	25.9	25.5	25.6	26.6	26.4	25.9	
Michigan	44,184	33.1	33.9	33.2	33.8	34.3	35.0	26.0	26.8	
Minnesota	17,065	25.9	25.6	25.0	24.8	23.9	24.0	23.4	23.0	
Mississippi	19,606	45.9	45.4	45.4	45.0	45.3	45.4	44.4	42.9	
Missouri	25,737	34.1	34.1	33.1	33.2	32.1	32.5	32.4	31.5	
Montana	3,232	30.0	29.9	28.7	27.9	26.5	25.5	27.3	26.4	
Nebraska	6,181	25.9	26.2	25.8	24.8	24.3	24.8	23.5	22.6	
Nevada	10,483	35.7	35.0	35.5	42.7	42.0	35.0	34.0	33.3	
New Hampshire	3,399	24.2	24.1	23.8	23.4	22.2	22.1	20.6	19.2	
New Jersey	32,556	28.5	28.3	28.0	28.0	27.6	28.1	27.1	26.4	
New Mexico	12,272	45.1	44.0	43.5	42.1	42.6	41.7	41.4	39.5	
New York	93,613	36.6	34.9	35.2	39.6	37.9	37.6	37.2	34.8	
North Carolina	37,814	33.2	32.8	32.2	32.0	31.4	31.9	32.1	31.3	
North Dakota	2,099	27.5	27.0	26.0	25.1	23.5	23.0	23.0	22.6	
Ohio	52,038	34.1	34.0	33.9	33.1	33.0	32.9	33.0	31.6	
Oklahoma	16,252	33.2	33.2	32.4	30.9	30.5	29.8	29.1	28.4	
Oregon	13,750	30.4	29.7	28.8	29.7	28.9	28.7	28.2	27.0	
Pennsylvania	47,865	32.9	32.8	32.8	32.3	32.4	32.8	32.2	31.6	
Rhode Island	4,242	34.3	33.9	33.1	33.3	31.1	32.1	31.7	29.6	
South Carolina	21,441	39.0	38.8	38.0	37.3	37.4	36.8	36.0	35.5	
South Dakota	3,348	31.8	32.0	31.1	29.5	28.0	27.7	27.7	26.6	
Tennessee	26,981	34.7	34.9	34.1	33.4	33.1	33.4	33.6	32.7	
Texas	109,244	31.3	31.5	30.7	30.4	30.0	28.9	17.0	17.5	
Utah	7,722	16.7	17.1	16.6	16.2	15.7	15.7	15.5	15.1	
Vermont	1,901	28.9	28.0	26.1	26.4	24.9	25.3	24.2	23.4	
Virginia	28,334	29.7	29.8	29.3	28.8	29.3	29.2	29.0	28.3	
Washington	22,335	28.1	27.9	27.1	27.3	26.7	26.0	26.3	25.3	
West Virginia	6,581	31.7	32.4	31.3	31.3	30.5	30.2	29.0	27.7	
Wisconsin	19,906	29.2	28.5	28.1	27.4	27.4	27.2	27.1	26.1	
Wyoming	1,778	29.0	29.6	27.4	27.0	26.4	27.5	25.8	24.0	
Puerto Rico	28,658	48.1	47.0	45.8	44.2	42.7	41.9	40.4	39.3	
Virgin Islands	1,121	67.1	69.6	67.8	64.3	62.5	66.7	67.1	63.2	
Guam	2,246	55.9	54.2	49.3	48.5	46.4	46.6	44.8	41.3	
American Samoa	616	35.5	34.2	34.7	34.0	34.0	31.9	---	---	
Northern Marianas	655	47.4	45.6	---	---	---	---	---	---	

--- Data not available.

NOTE: In 1998 and 1999, for 48 States and the District of Columbia, marital status of mother is determined from a direct question in the birth registration process. In two States, Michigan and New York, mother's marital status is inferred. Marital status was inferred in 4 states and the District of Columbia in 1997, in 5 States and the District of Columbia in 1994-96, and in 6 States and the District of Columbia in 1992-93.

Source: Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, various reports.

Table 8:4

Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 Average and 1996-97 Average, and Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 to 1996-97, United States and Each Territory (alphabetically ordered)

[State Data for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]

State	State Data for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards		
	Percent Unmarried, 1996-97	Percent Unmarried, 1994-95	Percent Change in Percent Unmarried, 1994-95 to 1996-97
United States 4/	32.394%	32.392%	0.003%
Alabama	33.773%	34.470%	-2.022%
Alaska	30.815%	29.567%	4.220%
Arizona	38.232%	38.289%	-0.148%
Arkansas	34.061%	32.763%	3.962%
California	30.422%	32.248%	-5.665%
Colorado	25.045%	24.918%	0.511%
Connecticut	32.035%	30.547%	4.872%
Delaware	35.751%	34.821%	2.669%
District of Columbia	64.889%	67.388%	-3.708%
Florida	35.980%	35.743%	0.662%
Georgia	35.222%	35.336%	-0.324%
Hawaii	30.092%	28.760%	4.630%
Idaho	21.009%	19.299%	8.862%
Illinois	33.569%	34.064%	-1.452%
Indiana	32.457%	31.735%	2.272%
Iowa	26.235%	25.008%	4.908%
Kansas	27.213%	25.916%	5.004%
Kentucky	29.612%	28.076%	5.471%
Louisiana	43.688%	42.546%	2.684%
Maine	29.221%	27.970%	4.469%
Maryland	33.489%	33.523%	-0.102%
Massachusetts	25.706%	26.095%	-1.493%
Michigan	33.510%	34.676%	-3.361%
Minnesota	24.914%	23.932%	4.104%
Mississippi	45.228%	45.396%	-0.371%
Missouri	33.137%	32.294%	2.609%
Montana	28.311%	25.989%	8.934%
Nebraska	25.289%	24.546%	3.028%
Nevada	39.550%	36.727%	7.686%
New Hampshire	23.598%	22.159%	6.493%

(continued...)

Table 8:4 (cont.)

Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 Average and 1996-97 Average, and Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 to 1996-97, United States and Each Territory (alphabetically ordered)

[State Data for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]

State	State Data for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards		
	Percent Unmarried, 1996-97	Percent Unmarried, 1994-95	Percent Change in Percent Unmarried, 1994-95 to 1996-97
New Jersey	27.988%	27.872%	0.418%
New Mexico	42.821%	42.111%	2.270%
New York	39.403%	37.748%	4.384%
North Carolina	32.100%	31.645%	1.437%
North Dakota	25.587%	23.253%	10.036%
Ohio	33.520%	32.972%	1.663%
Oklahoma	31.682%	30.143%	5.105%
Oregon	29.257%	28.798%	1.593%
Pennsylvania	32.544%	32.612%	-0.211%
Rhode Island	33.202%	31.636%	4.949%
South Carolina	37.677%	37.140%	1.445%
South Dakota	30.306%	27.862%	8.772%
Tennessee	33.750%	33.249%	1.505%
Texas	30.565%	29.437%	5.042%
Utah	16.388%	15.707%	4.336%
Vermont	26.260%	25.092%	4.655%
Virginia	29.065%	29.235%	-0.583%
Washington	27.223%	26.345%	3.335%
West Virginia	31.338%	30.367%	3.199%
Wisconsin	27.771%	27.270%	1.838%
Wyoming	27.176%	26.937%	0.888%
Puerto Rico	44.975%	37.153%	21.055%
Virgin Islands	65.987%	64.701%	1.988%
Guam	48.926%	46.496%	5.226%
American Samoa	34.351%	32.925%	4.332%

States and data in bold type are those for which adjusted birth data were provided because the states changed their methodology or procedures for reporting the mother's marital status. Calculations for all other states were done on the basis of data files provided by each state to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), which has tabulated the entire national birth file by mother's place of residence.

4/ Excludes data for the territories.

NOTE: Separate tables are available from NCHS for the adjusted birth data for California, Nevada, and New York City.

Prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS, from published birth data and special tabulations provided by California, Nevada, and New York City.

Table 8:5

Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 to 1996-97, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of the Largest to Smallest Decline), United States and each Territory (rank ordered)

[State Rankings for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards. States and Territories not Eligible for the Bonus Listed in Ascending Order of Increase]

State	Rank Order of States by Largest Decline in Percent Unmarried, 1994-95 to 1996-97	
	Rank	Percent change
United States 4/	--	0.003%
California	1	-5.665%
District of Columbia	2	-3.708%
Michigan	3	-3.361%
Alabama	4	-2.022%
Massachusetts	5	-1.493%
Illinois	6	-1.452%
Virginia	7	-0.583%
Mississippi	8	-0.371%
Georgia	9	-0.324%
Pennsylvania	10	-0.211%
Arizona	11	-0.148%
Maryland	12	-0.102%
New Jersey	--	0.418%
Colorado	--	0.511%
Florida	--	0.662%
Wyoming	--	0.888%
North Carolina	--	1.437%
South Carolina	--	1.445%
Tennessee	--	1.505%
Oregon	--	1.593%
Ohio	--	1.663%
Wisconsin	--	1.838%
New Mexico	--	2.270%
Indiana	--	2.272%
Missouri	--	2.609%
Delaware	--	2.669%
Louisiana	--	2.684%
Nebraska	--	3.028%
West Virginia	--	3.199%
Washington	--	3.335%
Arkansas	--	3.962%
Minnesota	--	4.104%

(continued...)

Table 8:5 (cont.)

Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1994-95 to 1996-97, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of the Largest to Smallest Decline), United States and each Territory (rank ordered)

[State Rankings for the FY1999 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards. States and Territories not Eligible for the Bonus Listed in Ascending Order of Increase]

State	Rank Order of States by Largest Decline in Percent Unmarried, 1994-95 to 1996-97	
	Rank	Percent change
Alaska	--	4.220%
Utah	--	4.336%
New York	--	4.384%
Maine	--	4.469%
Hawaii	--	4.630%
Vermont	--	4.655%
Connecticut	--	4.872%
Iowa	--	4.908%
Rhode Island	--	4.949%
Kansas	--	5.004%
Texas	--	5.042%
Oklahoma	--	5.105%
Kentucky	--	5.471%
New Hampshire	--	6.493%
Nevada	--	7.686%
South Dakota	--	8.772%
Idaho	--	8.862%
Montana	--	8.934%
North Dakota	--	10.036%
Virgin Islands	--	1.988%
American Samoa	--	4.332%
Guam	--	5.226%
Puerto Rico	--	21.055%

States and data in bold type are those for which adjusted birth data were provided because the states changed their methodology or procedures for reporting the mother's marital status. Calculations for all other states were done on the basis of data files provided by each state to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), which has tabulated the entire national birth file by mother's place of residence. See Table 8:4 for basic data on which calculations in this table are based.

1/ Excludes data for the territories.

-- State or territory not ranked because the percent of births to unmarried women increased in the State over the bonus period.

NOTE: Separate tables are available from NCHS for the adjusted birth data for California, Nevada, and New York City.

Prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS, from published birth data and special tabulations provided by

Table 8:6

Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 Average and 1997-98 Average, Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 to 1997-98, United States, Each State and Territory (alphabetical ordered)

[State Data for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]

State	State Data for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards		
	Percent Unmarried, 1997-98	Percent Unmarried, 1995-96	Percent Change in Percent Unmarried, 1995-96 to 1997-98
United States 4/	32.611%	32.271%	1.054%
Alabama	33.972%	34.071%	-0.290%
Alaska	30.876%	30.427%	1.474%
Arizona	38.005%	38.537%	-1.380%
Arkansas	34.617%	33.439%	3.523%
California	32.765%	31.741%	3.226%
Colorado	25.407%	24.846%	2.258%
Connecticut	28.616%	27.318%	4.753%
Delaware	36.566%	35.204%	3.868%
District of Columbia	63.249%	65.973%	-4.130%
Florida	36.315%	35.849%	1.301%
Georgia	35.808%	35.083%	2.065%
Hawaii	30.724%	29.725%	3.361%
Idaho	21.365%	20.619%	3.618%
Illinois	33.753%	33.760%	-0.022%
Indiana	33.067%	32.136%	2.896%
Iowa	26.719%	25.730%	3.843%
Kansas	27.654%	26.358%	4.916%
Kentucky	29.755%	29.146%	2.087%
Louisiana	44.429%	42.939%	3.471%
Maine	30.133%	28.254%	6.648%
Maryland	33.918%	33.420%	1.490%
Massachusetts	25.990%	25.529%	1.806%
Michigan	33.595%	34.050%	-1.336%
Minnesota	25.338%	24.335%	4.121%
Mississippi	45.413%	45.196%	0.480%
Missouri	33.591%	32.619%	2.982%
Montana	29.334%	27.166%	7.979%
Nebraska	26.015%	24.533%	6.042%
Nevada	35.036%	34.841%	0.560%
New Hampshire	23.958%	22.817%	5.003%

(continued...)

Table 8:6 (cont.)

Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 Average and 1997-98 Average, Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 to 1997-98, United States, Each State and Territory (alphabetical ordered)

[State Data for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]

State	State Data for the FY2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards		
	Percent Unmarried, 1997-98	Percent Unmarried, 1995-96	Percent Change in Percent Unmarried, 1995-96 to 1997-98
New Jersey	28.138%	27.787%	1.263%
New Mexico	43.789%	42.345%	3.411%
New York	35.069%	35.048%	0.061%
North Carolina	32.502%	31.710%	2.497%
North Dakota	26.509%	24.342%	8.904%
Ohio	33.948%	33.071%	2.653%
Oklahoma	32.838%	30.691%	6.998%
Oregon	29.287%	29.287%	-0.001%
Pennsylvania	32.800%	32.381%	1.292%
Rhode Island	33.516%	32.181%	4.147%
South Carolina	38.424%	37.382%	2.786%
South Dakota	31.582%	28.752%	9.842%
Tennessee	34.490%	33.234%	3.780%
Texas	31.088%	30.221%	2.872%
Utah	16.872%	15.959%	5.718%
Vermont	27.045%	25.646%	5.457%
Virginia	29.553%	29.051%	1.730%
Washington	27.512%	27.016%	1.836%
West Virginia	31.849%	30.939%	2.942%
Wisconsin	28.296%	27.395%	3.286%
Wyoming	28.460%	26.700%	6.592%
Puerto Rico	46.348%	43.420%	6.743%
Virgin Islands	68.666%	63.206%	8.640%
Guam	51.780%	47.470%	9.079%
American Samoa	34.467%	34.022%	1.308%
Northern Marianas	45.622%	---	---

--- Data not available.

4/ Excludes data for the territories.

States and data in bold type are those for which adjusted birth data were provided because the states changed their methodology or procedures for reporting the mother's marital status. Calculations for all other states were done on the basis of data files provided by each state to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), CDC, which has tabulated the entire national birth file by mother's place of residence.

NOTE: Separate tables are available from NCHS for the adjusted birth data for Connecticut, Nevada and New York City.

Prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS, from published birth data and special tabulations provided by Connecticut, Nevada, and New York City.

Table 8:7

**Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 to 1997-98,
States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In
Order of Largest to Smallest Decline), United States, each State and Territory
(rank ordered)**

*[State rankings for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards. States
and Territories not eligible for the Bonus listed in ascending order of increase.]*

State	Rank Order of States by Largest Decline in Percent Unmarried, 1995-96 to 1997-98	
	Rank	Percent change
United States 4/	--	1.054%
District of Columbia	1	-4.130%
Arizona	2	-1.380%
Michigan	3	-1.336%
Alabama	4	-0.290%
Illinois	5	-0.022%
Oregon	6	-0.001%
New York	--	0.061%
Mississippi	--	0.480%
Nevada	--	0.560%
New Jersey	--	1.263%
Pennsylvania	--	1.292%
Florida	--	1.301%
Alaska	--	1.474%
Maryland	--	1.490%
Virginia	--	1.730%
Massachusetts	--	1.806%
Washington	--	1.836%
Georgia	--	2.065%
Kentucky	--	2.087%
Colorado	--	2.258%
North Carolina	--	2.497%
Ohio	--	2.653%
South Carolina	--	2.786%
Texas	--	2.872%
Indiana	--	2.896%
West Virginia	--	2.942%
Missouri	--	2.982%
California	--	3.226%
Wisconsin	--	3.286%
Hawaii	--	3.361%
New Mexico	--	3.411%
Louisiana	--	3.471%
Arkansas	--	3.523%
Idaho	--	3.618%
Tennessee	--	3.780%
Iowa	--	3.843%
Delaware	--	3.868%

(continued...)

Table 8:7 (cont.)

Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1995-96 to 1997-98, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of Largest to Smallest Decline), United States, each State and Territory (rank ordered)

[State rankings for the FY 2000 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards. States and Territories not eligible for the Bonus listed in ascending order of increase.]

State	Rank Order of States by Largest Decline in Percent Unmarried, 1995-96 to 1997-98	
	Rank	Percent change
Minnesota	--	4.121%
Rhode Island	--	4.147%
Connecticut	--	4.753%
Kansas	--	4.916%
New Hampshire	--	5.003%
Vermont	--	5.457%
Utah	--	5.718%
Nebraska	--	6.042%
Wyoming	--	6.592%
Maine	--	6.648%
Oklahoma	--	6.998%
Montana	--	7.979%
North Dakota	--	8.904%
South Dakota	--	9.842%
American Samoa	--	1.308%
Puerto Rico	--	6.743%
Virgin Islands	--	8.640%
Guam	--	9.079%
Northern Marianas	--	---

--- Data not available.

-- State or territory not ranked because the percent of births to unmarried women increased in the State over the bonus period.

1/ Excludes data for the territories.

States and data in bold type are those for which adjusted birth data were provided because the states changed their methodology or procedures for reporting the mother's marital status. Calculations for all other states were done on the basis of data files provided by each state to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), CDC, which has tabulated the entire national birth file by mother's place of residence. See Table 8:8 for basic data on which calculations in this table are based.

NOTE: Separate tables are available from NCHS for the adjusted birth data for Connecticut, Nevada and New York City.

Prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS, from published birth data and special tabulations provided by Connecticut, Nevada, and New York City.

Table 8:8

**Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97
Average and 1998-99 Average, Percent Change in the Percent of Births
to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 to 1998-98, United States, each State and Territory
(alphabetical ordered)**

[State Data for the FY 2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]

State	State Data for the FY2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards		
	Percent Unmarried, 1998-99	Percent Unmarried, 1996-97	Percent Change in Percent Unmarried, 1996-97 to 1998-99
United States 1/	32.934%	32.394%	1.669%
Alabama	33.689%	33.773%	-0.249%
Alaska	32.144%	30.815%	4.315%
Arizona	38.569%	38.232%	0.881%
Arkansas	35.116%	34.061%	3.097%
California	32.806%	32.072%	2.290%
Colorado	25.500%	25.045%	1.816%
Connecticut	28.934%	27.701%	4.453%
Delaware	37.974%	35.751%	6.219%
District of Columbia	62.309%	64.889%	-3.976%
Florida	37.042%	35.980%	2.953%
Georgia	36.372%	35.222%	3.267%
Hawaii	32.168%	30.092%	6.901%
Idaho	21.820%	21.009%	3.856%
Illinois	34.087%	33.569%	1.542%
Indiana	34.001%	32.457%	4.757%
Iowa	27.372%	26.235%	4.332%
Kansas	28.186%	27.213%	3.578%
Kentucky	30.228%	29.612%	2.078%
Louisiana	44.880%	43.688%	2.729%
Maine	30.923%	29.221%	5.825%
Maryland	34.610%	33.489%	3.347%
Massachusetts	26.293%	25.706%	2.282%
Michigan	33.507%	33.510%	-0.009%
Minnesota	25.759%	24.914%	3.391%
Mississippi	45.675%	45.228%	0.988%
Missouri	34.090%	33.137%	2.878%
Montana	29.944%	28.311%	5.768%
Nebraska	26.030%	25.289%	2.930%
Nevada	35.504%	34.894%	1.746%
New Hampshire	24.169%	23.598%	2.421%

(continued...)

Table 8:8 (cont.)

**Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97
Average and 1998-99 Average, Percent Change in the Percent of Births
to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 to 1998-98, United States, each State and Territory
(alphabetical ordered)**

[State Data for the FY 2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus Awards]

State	State Data for the FY2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards		
	Percent Unmarried, 1998-99	Percent Unmarried, 1996-97	Percent Change in Percent Unmarried, 1996-97 to 1998-99
New Jersey	28.394%	27.988%	1.451%
New Mexico	44.589%	43.067%	3.535%
New York	35.752%	35.495%	0.725%
North Carolina	33.008%	32.100%	2.829%
North Dakota	27.243%	25.587%	6.473%
Ohio	34.049%	33.520%	1.578%
Oklahoma	33.193%	31.682%	4.769%
Oregon	30.072%	29.257%	2.786%
Pennsylvania	32.890%	32.544%	1.064%
Rhode Island	34.092%	33.202%	2.680%
South Carolina	38.914%	37.677%	3.283%
South Dakota	31.924%	30.306%	5.338%
Tennessee	34.781%	33.750%	3.056%
Texas	31.378%	30.921%	1.476%
Utah	16.907%	16.388%	3.163%
Vermont	28.458%	26.260%	8.372%
Virginia	29.743%	29.065%	2.333%
Washington	27.973%	27.223%	2.752%
West Virginia	32.058%	31.338%	2.297%
Wisconsin	28.835%	27.771%	3.830%
Wyoming	29.303%	27.176%	7.827%
Puerto Rico	47.532%	44.975%	5.684%
Virgin Islands	68.395%	65.987%	3.650%
Guam	55.007%	48.926%	12.428%
American Samoa	34.871%	34.351%	1.515%
Northern Marianas	46.500%	---	---

--- Data not available.

4/ Excludes data for the territories.

States and data in bold type are those for which adjusted birth data were provided because the states changed their methodology or procedures for reporting the mother's marital status. Calculations for all other states were done on the basis of data files provided by each state to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) which has tabulated the entire national birth file by mother's place of residence.

NOTE: Separate tables are available from CDC/NCHS for the adjusted birth data for Connecticut, Nevada, and New York City.

Prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS, CDC, from published birth data and special tabulations provided by Connecticut, Nevada, and New York City.

Table 8:9

Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 to 1998-99, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of Largest to Smallest Decline), United States, each State and Territory (rank ordered)

[State rankings for the FY 2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards. States and territories not eligible for the Bonus listed in ascending order of increase.]

State	Rank Order of States by Largest Decline in Percent Unmarried, 1996-97 to 1998-99	
	Rank	Percent change
United States 1/	--	1.669%
District of Columbia	1	-3.976%
Alabama	2	-0.249%
Michigan	3	-0.009%
New York	--	0.725%
Arizona	--	0.881%
Mississippi	--	0.988%
Pennsylvania	--	1.064%
New Jersey	--	1.451%
Texas	--	1.476%
Illinois	--	1.542%
Ohio	--	1.578%
Nevada	--	1.746%
Colorado	--	1.816%
Kentucky	--	2.078%
Massachusetts	--	2.282%
California	--	2.290%
West Virginia	--	2.297%
Virginia	--	2.333%
New Hampshire	--	2.421%
Rhode Island	--	2.680%
Louisiana	--	2.729%
Washington	--	2.752%
Oregon	--	2.786%
North Carolina	--	2.829%
Missouri	--	2.878%
Nebraska	--	2.930%
Florida	--	2.953%
Tennessee	--	3.056%
Arkansas	--	3.097%
Utah	--	3.163%
Georgia	--	2.729%
South Carolina	--	2.752%
Maryland	--	2.786%
Minnesota	--	2.829%
New Mexico	--	2.878%

(continued...)

Table 8:9 (cont.)

Percent Change in the Percent of Births to Unmarried Women, 1996-97 to 1998-99, States Potentially Eligible for the Bonus Ranked with Respect to Their Change (In Order of Largest to Smallest Decline), United States, each State and Territory (rank ordered)

[State rankings for the FY 2001 Out-of-Wedlock Bonus awards. States and territories not eligible for the Bonus listed in ascending order of increase.]

State	Rank Order of States by Largest Decline in Percent Unmarried, 1996-97 to 1998-99	
	Rank	Percent change
Kansas	--	2.930%
Wisconsin	--	2.953%
Idaho	--	3.056%
Alaska	--	3.097%
Iowa	--	3.163%
Connecticut	--	4.453%
Indiana	--	4.757%
Oklahoma	--	4.769%
South Dakota	--	5.338%
Montana	--	5.768%
Maine	--	5.825%
Delaware	--	6.219%
North Dakota	--	6.473%
Hawaii	--	6.901%
Wyoming	--	7.827%
Vermont	--	8.372%
American Samoa	--	1.515%
Virgin Islands	--	3.650%
Puerto Rico	--	5.684%
Guam	--	12.428%
Northern Marianas	---	

--- Data not available.

-- State or territory not ranked because the percent of births to unmarried women increased in the State over the bonus period.

1/ Excludes data for the territories.

States and data in bold type are those for which adjusted birth data were provided because the states changed their methodology or procedures for reporting the mother's marital status. Calculations for all other states were done on the basis of data files. See Table 8:10 for basic data on which calculations in this table are based.

NOTE: Separate tables are available from CDC/NCHS for the adjusted birth data for Connecticut, Nevada, and New York City.

Prepared in the Division of Vital Statistics, NCHS, CDC, from published birth data and special tabulations provided by Connecticut, Nevada, and New York City.

