



**Report of  
Tennessee  
Births  
2011**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
POLICY, PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT  
HEALTH STATISTICS**

**OCTOBER 2012**

# INTRODUCTION

*Report of Tennessee Births 2011 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 2011 total birth rate of 12.4 per 1,000 population decreased 12.7 percent from the rate of 14.2 in 2007. The 2011 white rate (11.8) decreased 11.9 percent from the rate of 13.4 in 2007, while the black rate (15.2) decreased 13.6 percent. From 2002 to 2011, Tennessee's adolescent birth rates decreased, while the birth percentages for unmarried women increased. In 2011, the percent of multiple births (3.2) was higher than the percentage in 2002. The 2011 low birthweight percentage of 9.0 decreased 2.2 percent during the ten-year period.

IN 2011, THERE WERE 79,462 TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS TO TENNESSEE RESIDENTS. Of the total, 60,252 or 75.8 percent were white and 16,482 or 20.7 percent were black births. There were 2,389 births to females ages 10 through 17. This number represented a 9.8 percent decrease for this age group from 2010. There were 8,345 births to females 35 years and older. Births for this age group decreased 0.5 percent from the previous year.

IN 2011, THE PERCENT OF TOTAL BIRTHS WITH FIRST TRIMESTER PRENATAL CARE WAS 64.3. The percent of white births with first trimester care was 67.7, while the percent for black births was 53.9 in 2011. (Percentages are based on births with prenatal care reported.) Tennessee's percent of no care was 1.9, with white mothers

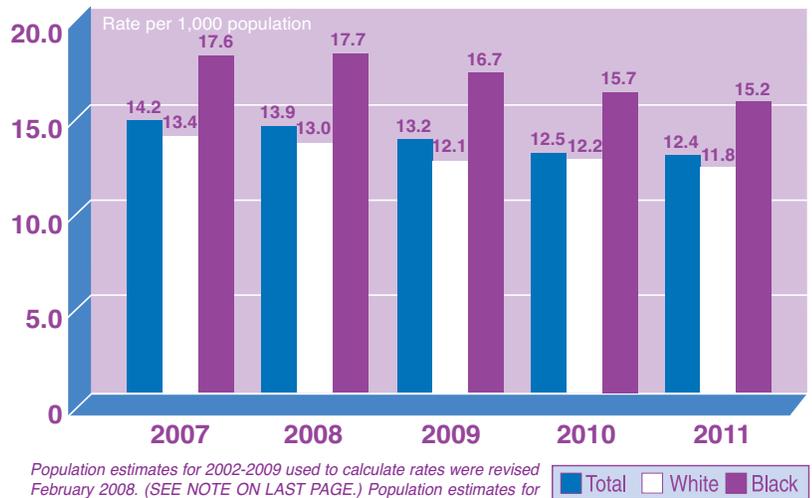
having the lowest percentage (1.3) of no care. The percent of black mothers with no care was 4.1 in 2011.

## NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2011

Age Groups	Total	White	Black
Total . . . . .	79,462	60,252	16,482
10-14 years . . .	102	50	51
15-17 years . . .	2,287	1,467	783
18-19 years . . .	6,200	4,295	1,810
20-24 years . . .	22,695	16,307	5,937
25-34 years . . .	39,802	31,525	6,613
35-44 years . . .	8,262	6,541	1,276
45+ years . . . .	83	64	12
Unknown	31	3	-

ADOLESCENTS (10 THROUGH 17) AND MOTHERS AGED 40 YEARS AND OLDER FACE A GREATER RISK OF HAVING LOW BIRTHWEIGHT BABIES. In 2011, the low birthweight percentage of total births to mothers ages 10 through 17 was 10.7. This was a 7.8 percent decrease from the low birthweight percentage of 11.6 in 2002. The percent of total births to mothers ages 40 years and older that were low birthweight (13.1) decreased 10.3 percent from 2002 to 2011.

## LIVE BIRTHS BY RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2007-2011



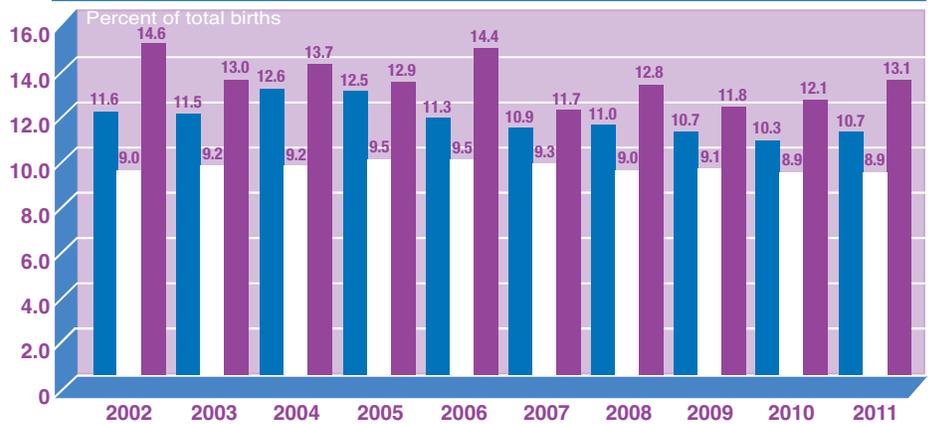
Population estimates for 2002-2009 used to calculate rates were revised February 2008. (SEE NOTE ON LAST PAGE.) Population estimates for 2010 were based on the 2010 Census data. Population estimates for 2011 were interpolated from the Census five-year age cohort estimates. Total includes births to other racial groups or race not stated.

## PERCENT OF BIRTHS BY TRIMESTER PRENATAL CARE BEGAN, AND RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2011

	Total Percent	White Percent	Black Percent
First Trimester . . . . .	64.3	67.7	53.9
Second Trimester . . . . .	21.7	20.2	27.0
Third Trimester . . . . .	4.6	4.2	5.9
No care . . . . .	1.9	1.3	4.1

Percentages based on number of births with prenatal care reported.

## LOW BIRTHWEIGHT\* PERCENTAGES OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS, BY AGE GROUP, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2002-2011



\* A live birth weighing less than 2,500 grams.

**NUMBER AND PERCENT OF BIRTHS BY WEIGHT AND RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2011**

	Total Number	Percent	White Number	Percent	Black Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	79,462	100.0	60,252	100.0	16,482	100.0
Under 2500 grams	7,169	9.0	4,661	7.7	2,286	13.9
1-1499 . . . . .	1,189	1.5	682	1.1	470	2.9
1500-2499 . . .	5,980	7.5	3,979	6.6	1,816	11.0
2500+ grams . .	72,257	90.9	55,570	92.2	14,187	86.1

Total includes births to other racial groups or race and weight not stated.

**NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED FEMALES BY AGE, WITH PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS BY AGE, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2011**

Age Groups	Total Number	Percent	White Number	Percent	Black Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	35,035	44.1	21,415	35.5	12,966	78.7
10-14 years . . .	102	100.0	50	100.0	51	100.0
15-17 years . . .	2,147	93.9	1,330	90.7	782	99.9
18-19 years . . .	5,191	83.7	3,334	77.6	1,780	98.3
20-24 years . . .	14,159	62.4	8,580	52.6	5,391	90.8
25-34 years . . .	11,663	29.3	7,003	22.2	4,375	66.2
35-44 years . . .	1,744	21.1	1,107	16.9	581	45.5
45+ years . . .	15	18.1	8	12.5	6	50.0

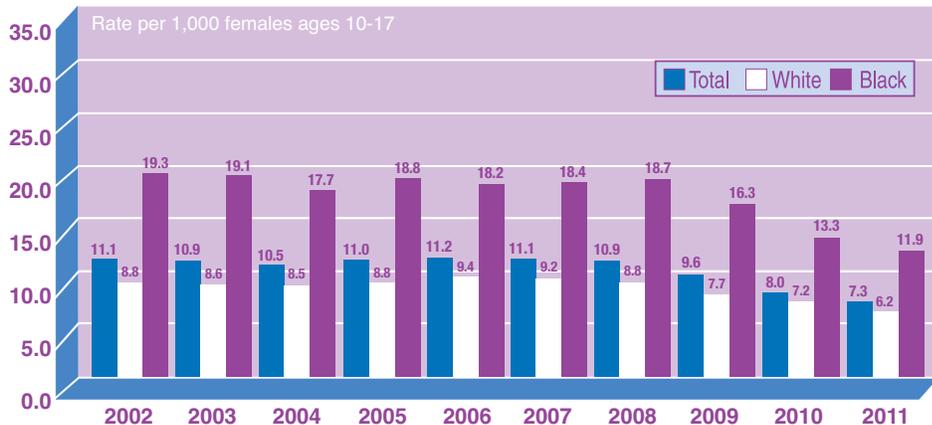
Total includes births to other racial groups or race and age not stated.

THE NUMBER OF LOW BIRTHWEIGHT (LESS THAN 2,500 GRAMS) INFANTS BORN TO TENNESSEE RESIDENTS WAS 7,169 IN 2011. The low birthweight percentage of 9.0 occurring in 2011 was the same as the percent in 2010. The percent (3.2) of total births that were multiple births, was 6.7 percent higher than the percent (3.0) in 2002. Of the total multiple births in 2011, 59.8 percent were low birthweight infants. This was a 6.4 percent decrease from the percent (63.9) of low weight multiple births in 2002.

THE PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED FEMALES BY AGE SHOWED THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGES FOR FEMALES AGES 10 THROUGH 14 AND 15 THROUGH 17. In 2011, 99.9 percent of births to black females ages 10 through 17 were to unmarried adolescents, compared to 91.0 percent for unmarried white females. 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 schooling.

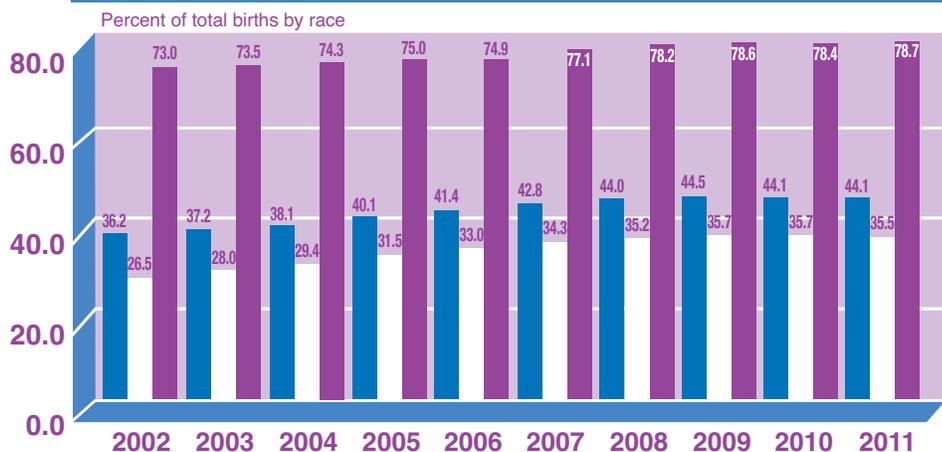
Adolescent (10 through 17) births by race, revealed the highest rates per 1,000 females were for black females for the period 2002 through 2011. THE BLACK ADOLESCENT BIRTH RATE OF 11.9 WAS TWICE THE WHITE ADOLESCENT BIRTH RATE OF 6.2 IN 2011. The total birth rate for adolescents declined 34.2 percent from 2002 to 2011, while the rates for white females decreased 29.5 percent. For the ten-year period, the black adolescent birth rate decreased 38.3 percent.

**ADOLESCENT (10-17) BIRTH RATES, BY RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2002-2011**



Population estimates for 2002-2009 used to calculate rates were revised February 2008. (SEE NOTE ON LAST PAGE.) Population estimates for 2010 were based on the 2010 Census data. Population estimates for 2011 were interpolated from the Census five-year age cohort estimates. Total includes births to other racial groups or race not stated.

**PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN, BY RACE OF MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2002-2011**



Total includes births to other racial groups or race not stated.

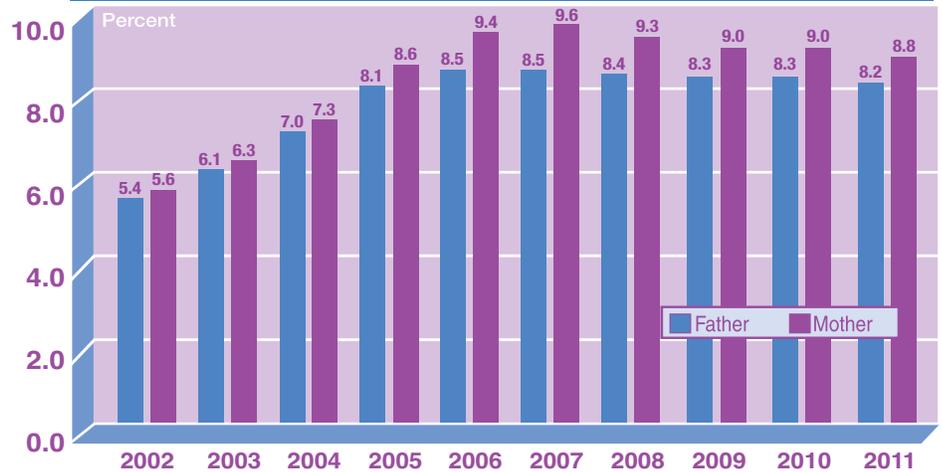
FOR THE YEARS 2002 THROUGH 2011, THE PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED BLACK WOMEN WAS ALMOST TWICE THE TOTAL UNMARRIED PERCENTAGES AND WAS FROM TWO TO THREE TIMES THE PERCENTAGES FOR UNMARRIED WHITE MOTHERS. Total births to unmarried women increased 21.8 percent from 2002 to 2011, while the increase for white women was 34.0 percent. For black women the percent increased from 73.0 in 2002 to 78.7 in 2011.

In 2011, 8.2 percent of fathers and 8.8 percent of mothers reported Hispanic origin for Tennessee's total resident births. The percentage of Hispanic births for both fathers and mothers decreased from 2010 to 2011.

More detailed county level birth data may be obtained by contacting the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics or by visiting our website at: [health.state.tn.us](http://health.state.tn.us)

*Report of Tennessee Births 2011* was prepared by the Tennessee Department of Health Office of Health Statistics  
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**PERCENT OF TOTAL BIRTHS BY HISPANIC ORIGIN OF FATHER AND MOTHER, RESIDENT DATA, TENNESSEE, 2002-2011**



Source: Tennessee Department Health, Office of Health Statistics.

2011 Total Population 6,403,140	2011 White Population 5,090,175	2011 Black Population 1,082,765
2011 Total Female (10-17) Population 329,509	2011 White Female (10-17) Population 243,143	2011 Black Female (10-17) Population 70,308

NOTE: The population estimates for Tennessee used to calculate the rates in this report for 2002 - 2009 were based on figures prepared from the 2000 Census in February 2008 by the Office of Health Statistics. The population estimates for 2010 were based on the 2010 Census data. Population estimates for 2011 were interpolated from the Census five-year age cohort estimates (CC-EST2011-ALLDATA-[ST-FIPS] May 2012) by the Office of Health Statistics in October 2012. These population figures may result in rates that differ from those published in previous time periods.

 Tennessee Department of Health, Authorization No. 343516, (10-12) website only