1
The dots denote the cells where data were suppressed due to confidentiality requirements of the Canadian Statistics Act.

2
The data which were denoted with dots because of confidentiality requirements of the Canadian Statistics Act were replaced with estimated values. The estimation procedure is described in section 6 of the Background and Documentation file.

3
Some differences either between the total numbers of non-order and order-specific births or between the number of order-specific births in an aggregated age group and the sum of appropriate non-order specific births pertaining to the same year were found in the tabulations supplied by Statistics Canada for the period 1928-1943, the year 1946 and for the period 1952-1959. Statistics Canada could not explain the causes of these differences and suggested to use the series where the sums of births correspond to the totals provided in the following publication: *Statistics Canada. 1993. Selected Birth and Fertility Statistics, Canada, 1921-1990, Catalogue no. 82-553, Ottawa: Minister of Industry, Science and Technology*. Namely for this reason, the series of order-specific births used for the HFD calculations start in 1944 only, while for the year 1946 and the period 1952-1959 only data by aggregated age groups of mother (i.e. including for all birth orders combined) and not by single years of age are employed.

4
"The figures shown in the tables have been subjected to a confidentiality procedure known as "random rounding". This is done to prevent the possibility of associating statistical data with any identifiable individual. Under this method, all figures including totals are randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of "5", and in some cases "10". While providing strong protection against disclosure, this technique does not add significant error to the census data. However, there are some consequences for the users. Since totals are independently rounded, they do not necessarily equal the sum of individually rounded figures in distributions. Also, minor differences can be expected in corresponding totals and cell values in various census tabulations. Similarly, percentages, which are calculated on rounded figures, do not necessarily add up to 100." (Statistics Canada 2008: 5). For more details, see the background and documentation file of Canada.

5
These data pertain to single women only.

6
These data pertain to married women only.

7
These data pertain to separated women only.

8
These data pertain to divorced women only.

9
These data pertain to widowed women only.

10
These data pertain to ever married women only.

11
These data pertain to women of all marital statuses.

12
Due to confidentiality requirements of the Canadian Statistics Act, census parity data were randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of "5" and in some cases to "10". Since the total figures were independently rounded, they do not necessarily match the sum of individually rounded figures in the distributions. These are exactly the cells where differences between the sum of individually rounded figures and the independently rounded totals were found.

13
Due to confidentiality requirements of the Canadian Statistics Act, census parity data were randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of "5" and in some cases to "10". Since the total figures were independently rounded, they do not necessarily match the sum of individually rounded figures in the distributions. These are the new totals, generated by adding up individually rounded figures.

14
All single women come within the limits of unknown parity because only ever married women were asked.

15
Due to confidentiality requirements of the Canadian Statistics Act, in the years 1998 – 2006 birth counts in the age category 50+ were grouped together with the births by mothers of unknown age in a category "50+ and UNK". The original data is split into separate age categories "50+" and "UNK". In the age group "50+" the values for the "missing" years 1998-2006 are interpolated by fitting a linear trend to the existing data for the period 1991-1997 and 2007. Births in the age category "UNK" are result of extracting the imputed values for the age group "50+" from the original data. The order specific births are allocated proportionally. For more detailed description of the procedure, see the background and documentation file of Canada.

16
Following the standard HFD data format, this age category is named "UNK" while it includes birth counts of the combined age category "50+ and UNK".

17

The total number of births was obtained by summing up births over all ages. The sum may differ from the official figure because of estimated values with which the cells suppressed following confidentiality requirements of the Canadian Statistics Act were filled (see also the notes 1 and 2 above).

18
Data on birth counts by month were compiled by provinces and territories of Canada and then combined to cover the territory covered by data on birth counts by age of mother for the same years. For the description of area coding, see the Background and Documentation file.

19

The sum of births by age groups of mother for 1927 (234447 births) does not correspond to the total number of births provided in the same data source (234188 births). The difference is 39 births. The total number seems to be correct because the same figure appears in other official statistical publications, and it also matches the sum of birth counts by month for this year. The mistake in the age-specific birth data could not be identified, however.

20

The total numbers of births by month were found to be bigger than the total numbers of age-specific births for the years 1982-1985. The totals of monthly birth data correspond to figures shown in official statistical publications. The differences are very small, however: ten births in 1982, ten births in 1983, three births in 1984, and one birth in 1985.

21

To prevent inappropriate disclosure of private information, Statistics Canada rounded randomly some small actual numbers to a lower or higher multiple of 5. By design, differences between the rounded and actual counts should never exceed 4 and actual counts are more likely to be rounded to the nearest multiple of 5. Due to this practice, columns and rows in the birth order and age-specific data are expected to sum to totals only by chance. Consequently, the sum of birth-order specific births (6,910) for age 39 in data for 2010 does not equal the given total for this age (6,915). In order to make the sum and the total equal, we added the missing 5 births to the category of unknown birth order at age 39 (i.e., the original number 5 was changed to 10). The total number of births with unknown birth order was adjusted accordingly (i.e. the original number 165 was changed to 170).

22

Due to improvements in methodology and timeliness, the duration of data collection has been shortened compared to previous years. As a result there may have been fewer births captured by the time of the release. The data are therefore considered preliminary and may be subject to change.

23

There are small differences between total live births by age of mother and total monthly births for the years 2015 and 2016 (2 and 3 births, respectively). The differences can be explained by the different time of data processing (see also Note 22 above). The data on age- and birth order-specific births were received directly from Statistics Canada, whereas the monthly births were retrieved from the official online database of Statistics Canada.

24

For private data protection purposes, Statistics Canada rounds small actual numbers using the controlled rounding system. For this reason, in the data for the year 2012 the sums of births by birth order for ages 48 and 49 (55 and 50 births, respectively) do not equal the given totals for these ages (60 and 45). In order to make the sums and the totals match, at age 48 we added 5 births to the category of unknown birth order (i.e., changed the original number 5 to 10) and at age 49 we subtracted 5 births (i.e., changed from 5 to 0). Coincidentally, the original total number of births with unknown birth order remained the same.