

1

The system of vital registration developed gradually in the U.S. It was only from 1933, when Texas entered the birth registration area, that it encompassed all 48 of the constituent states of the U.S. at that time. Alaska and Hawaii were added in 1959 and 1960, respectively, when they became states. Prior to their inclusion as states, data for these "organized territories", including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, were provided in supplements to the National Vital Statistics volumes.

2

Area=4. Birth counts by single years of age and birth order for 1931 and 1932 do not include the territories of Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. See Appendix 2 in the US Background and Documentation file for more information on area coding used in the input data files.

3

Area=5. Birth counts by single years of age and birth order for 1933 do not include the territories of Colorado, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. See Appendix 2 in the US Background and Documentation file for more information on area coding used in the input data files.

4

Area=6. Birth counts by single years of age and birth order for 1934-1938 do not include the territories of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. See Appendix 2 in the US Background and Documentation file for more information on area coding used in the input data files.

5

Figures on birth order for Massachusetts for the period 1939-1959 are included in the "total" and "unknown" classifications only. The state of Massachusetts did not require the reporting of such information in the given period.

6

Data pertain to the total population of the U.S. (i.e., cover all races) and were obtained by summing up the data from two categories: "white" and "all other races" or "white" and "non-white" or "male" and "female".

7

Figures on unknown age of the mother are distributed across all known ages.

8

Data pertain to ever married women only.

9

Data pertain to single women only. No information on parity of these is provided by the census.

10

Data pertain to white population of the US only.

11

Data pertain to non-white population of the US only.

12

Data pertain to black (originally termed "negro" in the data source) population of the US only.

13

Area=7. Birth counts by five-year age groups (no birth order) and birth counts by birth order (no mother's age) for 1933, the state of Colorado. See Appendix 2 in the US Background and Documentation file for more information on area coding used in the input data files.

14

Area=8. Birth counts by five-year age groups (no birth order) for 1933-1938, the state of Massachusetts. See Appendix 2 in the US Background and Documentation file for more information on area coding used in the input data files.

15

Area=9. Birth counts by five-year age groups (no birth order) and birth counts by birth order (no mother's age) for 1933-1938, the state of New Hampshire. See Appendix 2 in the US Background and Documentation file for more information on area coding used in the input data files.

16

These data, covering the period 1933-1938, are birth estimates. Country-specific methods were applied to obtain data on births by single years of age and birth order for the entire territory of the US. For more details about the used methods as well as characteristics of initial data, please see the Background Document for the US.

17

Total number of births, year 1936, age 18. The sum of births that occurred at age 18 over all birth orders did not match the total number of births at age 18 given in the original data source (Vital Statistics of the United States, 1952, Volume I, Introduction and Summary Tables. Tables for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Marriage, Divorce, Natality, Fetal Mortality, and Infant Mortality Data. United States Government Printing Office, 1955). This error was considered as a misprint and the given total 79896 was replaced with the actually obtained number 79897.

18

Total number of births, year 1936, age 44. The sum of births that occurred at age 44 over all birth orders did not match the total number of births at age 44 given in the original data source (Vital Statistics of the United States, 1952, Volume I, Introduction and Summary Tables. Tables for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Marriage, Divorce, Natality, Fetal Mortality, and Infant Mortality Data. United States Government Printing Office, 1955). This error was considered as a misprint and the given total 5468 was replaced with the actually obtained number 5467.

19

Year 1945, age group 40-44, birth order 5. There was a misprint in the original data source (Vital Statistics of the United States, 1945, Part II, Natality and Mortality Data for the United States Tabulated by Place of Residence. United States Government Printing Office, 1947), and the error was corrected: 6250 was replaced with 6251. (The original data were split into male and female births and the error was in the data on male births.)

20

There was a misprint in the original data source (Vital Statistics of the United States, 1949, Part II, Natality and Mortality Data for the United States Tabulated by Place of Residence. United States Government Printing Office, 1951), and the error was corrected: 5765 was replaced with 5768.

21

These figures were obtained by adding up births over all age groups.

22

The age-distribution of single women was generated by subtracting the number of ever married women from the total number of women.

23

The coverage of the US censuses, especially the censuses of 1910, 1940, and 1950, is not clear-cut. Arizona, for example, was included in the census of 1910 though it became a state in February, 1912 only. It seems that in that census and earlier ones a concept of the "contiguous states and territories" was used, which amounted to the 48 states between Canada and Mexico, along with any territories in there that did not have statehood at the time. Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico were regarded as "outlying areas" in the 1910 census. In the World War I, the US acquired some islands in the Pacific Ocean (Guam, Saipan, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas) and there are also the US Virgin Islands in the Atlantic which continue to be considered outlying areas by NCHS today.