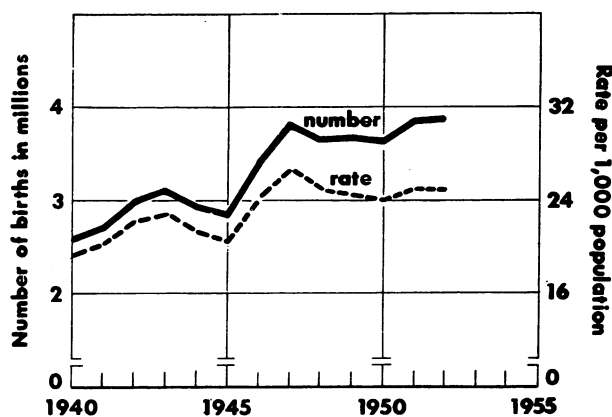


# U. S. Birth Statistics, January–April 1953

In April 1953 there were an estimated 292,000 live births. This is the first time in about a year that births were not higher than the corresponding monthly figure of the previous year. The birth rate on an annual basis for this April—22.5 per 1,000 population—was also somewhat lower than a year ago. In 1952, however, April births had been close to the all-time record for this month.

For the first 4 months of 1953, the total number of births remained high. During this period, births occurred at an annual rate of 24.4 per 1,000 population, and totaled an estimated 1,262,000. This is 23,000, or 2 percent, more than was estimated for the same period last year. These estimates allow for under-registration of births.



Estimated total live births and birth rates for the United States, 1940–50

NOTE: Data based on births adjusted for under-registration.

Since the end of World War II, more children have been born every year than in any wartime or prewar year. From an estimated 2,858,000 births in 1945 the total soared to 3,817,000 in 1947. After dropping to a slightly lower level for the next 3 years, the birth total reached a new high in 1951, and broke the rec-

ord again in 1952 with an estimated 3,889,000 live births.

Based on registered births alone, 58,000 more couples had a first child in 1951 than in 1950, according to preliminary estimates. This 5-percent increase in first-born children was largely a sequel to the marriage upswing that began in June 1950, at the start of the Korean War. Births of second-born children increased

## Estimated total live births and registered live births, and birth rates in the United States, 1940–52, and January–April 1952 and 1953

[Data on total live births include estimates for unregistered births. Rates per 1,000 population]

Period	Estimated total live births		Registered live births	
	Number	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Number	Rate <sup>1</sup>
<i>Jan.–Apr.</i>				
1953 <sup>2</sup> .....	1, 262, 000	24. 4	1, 243, 000	24. 0
1952 <sup>2</sup> .....	1, 239, 000	24. 2	1, 218, 000	23. 8
<i>Entire year</i>				
1952 <sup>2</sup> .....	3, 889, 000	25. 0	3, 824, 000	24. 6
1951 <sup>2</sup> .....	3, 833, 000	25. 0	3, 758, 000	24. 5
1950 .....	3, 632, 000	24. 1	3, 554, 149	23. 6
1949 .....	3, 649, 000	24. 5	3, 559, 529	23. 9
1948 .....	3, 637, 000	24. 9	3, 535, 068	24. 2
1947 .....	3, 817, 000	26. 6	3, 699, 940	25. 8
1946 .....	3, 411, 000	24. 1	3, 288, 672	23. 3
1945 .....	2, 858, 000	20. 4	2, 735, 456	19. 5
1944 .....	2, 939, 000	21. 2	2, 794, 800	20. 2
1943 .....	3, 104, 000	22. 7	2, 934, 860	21. 5
1942 .....	2, 989, 000	22. 2	2, 808, 996	20. 8
1941 .....	2, 703, 000	20. 3	2, 513, 427	18. 8
1940 .....	2, 559, 000	19. 4	2, 360, 399	17. 9

<sup>1</sup> All rates on an annual basis. For 1940 and 1950, rates based on enumerated population residing in the United States as of April 1; for 1941–46, based on estimated midyear population including Armed Forces overseas; for 1947–49, 1951, and 1952, based on estimated midyear population excluding Armed Forces overseas; for January–March 1952 and 1953 based on quarterly estimates of the population excluding Armed Forces overseas.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary estimates.

moderately (2 percent over 1950), while increases in third and fourth births were more substantial—9 percent and 13 percent, respectively—continuing a steady rise that has been going on since the end of World War II.

Prepared by the National Office of Vital Statistics, Public Health Service.