

ages of 15 and 50 and secondly, the proportions of first and second births to the total. The average age of men between 15 and 50 was 30.9 years in 1931 and 30.7 in 1941; the average age of women was 30.4 in 1931 and again 30.4 in 1941. The changes are thus very small. Other things being equal, a high proportion of first and second births will result in a lower average age of parents. In 1930-32 first and second births were 43 p.c. of the total births. In 1945-47 first and second births together were 58 p.c. of the total. These changes are very great and account for the lower average age of parents.

A number of other facts are shown in Tables 13, 14 and 15. In the first place, the average age of fathers of legitimate children is about four years greater than the average age of mothers. Secondly, the average age of mothers of illegitimate children is about five years less than the average age of mothers of legitimate children; in 1930-32 the difference was six years. The fact that over two-thirds of illegitimate children are born to mothers under 25 years of age accounts for this difference. Thirdly, the average age of mothers of stillborn children is higher than that of live born. Table 15 shows that the rate of stillbirths per 1,000 live births increases with age of the mother. It is more than twice as high among mothers of 40-44 years as it is among mothers of 20-24, and over three times as high among mothers of 45-49.

13.—Legitimate Live Births, by Ages of Parents, 1945-47

Age Group	1945			1946			1947			1945			1946			1947								
	FATHERS						MOTHERS																	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.								
Under 20 years.....	2,020	0.7	2,278	0.7	2,215	0.6	13,361	4.8	15,535	4.9	18,343	5.3	34,301	12.4	43,530	13.7	51,262	14.9	73,534	26.7	87,624	27.6	98,697	28.7
20 - 24 ".....	69,491	25.2	85,111	26.8	97,858	28.4	80,613	29.2	95,400	30.1	104,810	30.4	72,314	26.2	81,656	25.8	86,886	25.2	60,467	21.9	67,573	21.3	70,647	20.5
25 29 ".....	51,866	18.8	56,308	17.8	57,935	16.8	35,074	12.7	37,660	11.9	38,664	11.2	27,748	10.1	29,619	9.3	30,187	8.8	11,440	4.2	12,021	3.8	12,232	3.6
30 34 ".....	11,897	4.3	12,375	3.9	12,232	3.5	1,103	0.4	1,168	0.4	1,025	0.3	6,003	2.2	6,133	1.9	5,908	1.7	20	--	9	--	16	--
35 39 ".....																								
40 44 ".....																								
45 49 ".....																								
50 years or over.....																								
<b>Totals, Stated Ages.....</b>	<b>275,640</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>317,010</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>344,473</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>275,612</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>316,990</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>344,434</b>	<b>100.0</b>												
Ages not stated.....	153	--	127	--	83	--	181	--	147	--	122	--												
<b>Totals, All Ages.....</b>	<b>275,793</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>317,137</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>344,556</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>275,793</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>317,137</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>344,556</b>	<b>100.0</b>												
Average Ages.....	32.9		32.5		32.1		28.8		28.6		28.3													

14.—Illegitimate Live Births, by Age of the Mother, 1944-47

Age Group	1944		1945		1946		1947	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 20 years.....	3,436	30.4	3,573	29.2	3,892	30.1	4,179	30.1
20 - 24 ".....	4,461	39.5	4,896	40.0	5,213	40.3	5,273	38.0
25 - 29 ".....	1,925	17.0	2,105	17.2	2,135	16.5	2,441	17.6
30 - 34 ".....	871	7.7	968	7.9	958	7.4	1,179	8.5
35 - 39 ".....	458	4.1	526	4.3	554	4.3	600	4.3
40 - 44 ".....	137	1.2	158	1.3	167	1.3	185	1.3
45 - 49 ".....	13	0.1	17	0.1	15	0.1	21	0.2
50 years or over.....	1	--	--	---	3	--	--	---
<b>Totals, Stated Ages.....</b>	<b>11,302</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,937</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,878</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Ages not stated.....	777	--	694	--	658	--	660	--
<b>Totals, All Ages.....</b>	<b>12,079</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,937</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,595</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,538</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Average Ages of Mothers.....	23.9		24.0		23.9		24.1	