

Table 10 illustrates the fact that the risk of having a stillborn child increases with the age of the mother. The stillbirth rate is almost three times as high among mothers 40-44 and about six times as high among those of 45-49 years as it is for mothers under 30. Further, most of the reduction in stillbirths in recent years has been among young mothers.

8.—Legitimate Live Births by Age of Parent 1955 and 1956

(Exclusive of Newfoundland and the Yukon and Northwest Territories in 1955 and of Newfoundland only in 1956)

Age Group	Fathers				Mothers			
	1955		1956		1955		1956	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 20 years.....	3,308	0.8	3,340	0.8	24,300	5.9	25,628	6.1
20 — 24 “.....	63,845	15.6	66,401	15.9	112,687	27.5	115,871	27.7
25 — 29 “.....	119,590	29.2	124,172	29.7	121,669	29.6	124,576	29.7
30 — 34 “.....	101,919	24.9	103,219	24.7	88,322	21.5	88,852	21.2
35 — 39 “.....	64,724	15.8	65,613	15.7	47,157	11.5	48,119	11.5
40 — 44 “.....	35,533	8.7	35,249	8.4	15,105	3.7	14,868	3.5
45 — 49 “.....	14,224	3.5	13,788	3.3	1,111	0.3	1,135	0.3
50 years or over.....	5,936	1.5	5,956	1.4	11	--	12	--
Totals, Stated Ages.....	409,079	100.0	417,738	100.0	410,362	100.0	419,061	100.0
Ages not stated.....	1,429	...	1,479	...	146	...	156	...
Totals, All Ages.....	410,508	100.0	419,217	100.0	410,508	100.0	419,217	100.0
Average ages.....	31.8		31.7		28.4		28.4	

9.—Illegitimate Live Births by Age of the Mother 1955 and 1956

(Exclusive of Newfoundland and the Yukon and Northwest Territories in 1955 and of Newfoundland only in 1956)

Age Group of Mother	1955		1956	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 20 years.....	5,106	32.1	5,493	33.4
20 — 24 “.....	5,726	36.0	5,626	34.2
25 — 29 “.....	2,642	16.6	2,783	16.9
30 — 34 “.....	1,457	9.2	1,486	9.0
35 — 39 “.....	746	4.7	799	4.9
40 — 44 “.....	227	1.4	255	1.5
45 — 49 “.....	18	0.1	18	0.1
50 years or over.....	—	—	1	--
Totals, Stated Ages.....	15,922	100.0	16,461	100.0
Ages not stated.....	494	...	520	...
Totals, All Ages.....	16,416	100.0	16,981	100.0
Average ages of mothers.....	24.1		24.1	