

## 8.—Live Births by Age of Parents, 1957

(Exclusive of Newfoundland)

| Age Group                       | Legitimate     |              |                |              | Illegitimate  |              |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|                                 | Fathers        |              | Mothers        |              | Mothers       |              |
|                                 | No.            | p.c.         | No.            | p.c.         | No.           | p.c.         |
| Under 20 years.....             | 3,898          | 0.9          | 28,706         | 6.6          | 6,262         | 35.9         |
| 20 — 24 ".....                  | 69,488         | 16.0         | 121,002        | 27.8         | 5,859         | 33.6         |
| 25 — 29 ".....                  | 130,679        | 30.1         | 128,902        | 29.6         | 2,727         | 15.6         |
| 30 — 34 ".....                  | 106,660        | 24.6         | 90,057         | 20.7         | 1,493         | 8.6          |
| 35 — 39 ".....                  | 67,773         | 15.6         | 50,564         | 11.6         | 826           | 4.7          |
| 40 — 44 ".....                  | 35,296         | 8.1          | 15,216         | 3.5          | 251           | 1.4          |
| 45 — 49 ".....                  | 14,340         | 3.3          | 1,151          | 0.3          | 28            | 0.2          |
| 50 years or over.....           | 5,911          | 1.4          | 19             | --           | 2             | --           |
| <b>Totals, Stated Ages.....</b> | <b>434,045</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>435,617</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>17,448</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| Ages not stated.....            | 1,739          | ...          | 167            | ...          | 546           | ...          |
| <b>Totals, All Ages.....</b>    | <b>435,784</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>435,784</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>17,994</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| Average ages.....               | 31.6           |              | 28.3           |              | 23.9          |              |

Table 9 illustrates the fact that the risk of having a stillborn child increases with the age of the mother. Although stillbirth rates for mothers of all ages have been declining in recent years, they continue to be almost three times as high among mothers of 40-44 years and almost four times as high among those over 45 years as for mothers under 30.

## 9.—Stillbirths and Rates per 1,000 Live Births, by Age of Mother, 1957

(Exclusive of Newfoundland)

| Age Group of Mother          | Live Births    | Stillbirths  | Rate per 1,000 Live Births |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                              | No.            | No.          | No.                        |
| Under 20 years.....          | 34,968         | 346          | 9.9                        |
| 20 — 24 ".....               | 126,861        | 1,423        | 11.2                       |
| 25 — 29 ".....               | 131,629        | 1,632        | 12.4                       |
| 30 — 34 ".....               | 91,550         | 1,437        | 15.7                       |
| 35 — 39 ".....               | 51,390         | 1,147        | 22.3                       |
| 40 — 44 ".....               | 15,467         | 512          | 33.1                       |
| 45 — 49 ".....               | 1,179          | 51           | 43.3                       |
| 50 years or over.....        | 21             | 1            | 47.6                       |
| Ages not stated.....         | 713            | 29           | ...                        |
| <b>Totals, All Ages.....</b> | <b>453,778</b> | <b>6,578</b> | <b>14.5</b>                |
| Average age of mothers.....  | 30.1           |              |                            |

**Order of Birth.**—Table 10 shows the order of birth of all live-born infants in 1957 according to the age of the mother. As would be expected, 26,569, or three out of every four, of the 34,968 infants born to mothers under 20 years of age were first children, whereas almost six out of every ten of the children born to mothers of 20-24 years were second or later children. This is a reflection of the earlier marriages and heavy fertility of recent years.

Table 11 summarizes the pattern of family formation since 1931. The results of the immediate postwar 'baby boom' are obvious—57.9 p.c. of the infants born in 1947 were first or second children while 50.5 p.c. of the 1957 baby crop were third or later children.