

born infant. This compares with a rate of 164 for women in the age group 25-29. However, among married women, teen-age mothers have consistently had the highest fertility, with about one out of two bearing a child in 1966, while more than one out of every four married women in their early 20s had a child as compared with about one in five women in their late 20s.

8.—Age-Specific Fertility Rates per 1,000 Women, by Age Group, 1941-66

(Exclusive of Newfoundland for all years and the Yukon and Northwest Territories for 1941)

Year	Age Group							Gross Reproduction Rate
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
TOTAL WOMEN								
1941.....	30.7	138.4	159.8	122.3	80.0	31.6	3.7	1.377
1951.....	48.1	188.7	198.8	144.5	86.5	30.9	3.1	1.701
1956.....	55.9	222.2	220.1	150.3	89.6	30.8	2.9	1.874
1957.....	60.2	227.1	224.1	149.4	90.7	30.7	2.8	1.907
1958.....	59.2	226.5	223.3	147.9	87.6	28.9	2.7	1.886
1959.....	60.4	233.8	226.7	147.7	87.3	28.5	2.7	1.915
1960.....	59.8	233.5	224.4	146.2	84.2	28.5	2.4	1.893
1961.....	58.2	233.6	215.2	144.9	81.1	28.5	2.4	1.868
1962.....	55.3	232.4	215.6	143.4	77.0	27.5	2.1	1.836
1963.....	53.5	228.2	212.5	140.9	75.7	25.9	2.1	1.800
1964.....	50.6	216.2	206.0	138.0	72.1	25.0	2.1	1.720
1965.....	45.5	192.4	185.3	121.0	66.2	21.8	2.0	1.652
1966.....	48.2	169.1	163.5	103.3	57.5	19.1	1.7	1.369
MARRIED WOMEN								
1941.....	453.1	340.2	237.8	158.3	99.1	38.9	4.5	...
1951.....	498.5	350.4	248.1	168.7	100.6	36.6	3.7	...
1956.....	551.5	381.7	265.5	169.8	101.0	35.6	3.4	...
1961.....	541.2	374.4	255.6	161.4	89.9	32.1	2.8	...
1962.....	544.7	367.8	253.2	159.1	84.9	30.8	2.5	...
1963.....	547.4	356.8	251.9	155.8	83.1	28.8	2.4	...
1964.....	473.0	344.2	243.8	149.8	78.6	27.6	2.4	...
1965.....	433.6	309.2	219.3	133.0	71.6	23.9	2.3	...
1966.....	465.8	280.2	187.3	112.5	62.5	21.0	2.0	...

Age of Parents.—Age of parents is an important variable in any analysis of birth statistics. The distribution of legitimate and illegitimate live births by age of the parents is given in Table 9.

Over 8 p.c. of the legitimate children born in 1965 were born to mothers under 20 years of age, in almost two fifths of the births the mother was under 25 years, and in over two thirds, under 30 years; in over one fifth of the births the father was under 25 years of age, and in over one half of all births the father was under 30 years. On the other hand, almost two fifths of the illegitimate infants were born to mothers under 20 years of age and almost an additional 36 p.c. to mothers under 25 years. The average age of all the married mothers to whom a child was born in 1965 was 27.8, and of the fathers 31.0 years; ten years ago, the average ages of the parents were 28.4 and 31.8, and thirty years ago 29.2 and 33.7, respectively.

The median age of unmarried mothers who bore a live-born child in 1965 was 21.1; that is, half of the mothers of the 27,305 'illegitimate' children delivered in 1965 were under 21.2 years of age.