

proportions of first and second births to the total. 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. By the period 1945-48, first and second births together were 57 p.c. of the total. These changes are very great and account for the lower average age of parents in recent years. However, by 1951 the proportion of first and second births had declined to about 53 p.c.

These tables illustrate other significant facts: that the average age of fathers of legitimate children is about four years higher than the average age of mothers; that the average age of mothers of illegitimate children is four to five years lower than the average age of mothers of legitimate children—in 1930-32 the difference was six years (the fact that over 70 p.c. of illegitimate children are born to mothers under 25 years of age accounts for this difference); and that the average age of mothers of stillborn children is higher than that of the live born. Further, Table 11 shows that the rate of stillbirths per 1,000 live births increases with the age of the mother. It is almost three times as high among mothers of 40-44 years as it is among mothers at the ages of 20-24, and over four times as high among mothers of 45-49 years.

### 9.—Legitimate Live Births, by Age of Parent, 1931, 1941 and 1951

(Exclusive of Newfoundland and the Territories)

Age Group	Fathers						Mothers					
	1931		1941		1951		1931		1941		1951	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 20 years.....	986	0.4	1,203	0.5	2,874	0.8	12,544	5.4	14,185	5.8	19,930	5.6
20 - 24 ".....	25,977	11.2	29,857	12.2	51,458	14.6	58,307	25.1	67,185	27.4	96,058	27.1
25 - 29 ".....	57,507	24.8	69,134	28.2	102,368	29.0	64,509	27.8	74,461	30.4	109,850	31.0
30 - 34 ".....	55,945	24.1	63,436	25.9	86,981	24.7	48,724	21.0	49,484	20.2	73,554	20.8
35 - 39 ".....	43,769	18.9	42,508	17.4	59,690	16.9	33,440	14.4	28,507	11.6	41,170	11.6
40 - 44 ".....	28,400	12.3	22,711	9.3	31,243	8.9	12,933	5.6	10,163	4.1	12,551	3.5
45 - 49 ".....	13,206	5.7	10,567	4.3	12,459	3.5	1,366	0.6	1,049	0.4	1,015	0.3
50 years or over.....	6,042	2.6	5,515	2.3	5,469	1.6	22	--	19	--	28	--
<b>Totals, Stated Ages.....</b>	<b>231,832</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>244,981</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>352,542</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>231,845</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>245,053</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>354,156</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Ages not stated.....	276	...	235	...	1,789	...	263	...	163	...	175	...
<b>Totals, All Ages.....</b>	<b>232,108</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>245,216</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>354,331</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>232,108</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>245,216</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>354,331</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Average Ages.....	33.6		32.7		32.1		29.2		28.5		28.4	

### 10.—Illegitimate Live Births, by Age of the Mother, 1931, 1941 and 1951

(Exclusive of Newfoundland and the Territories)

Age Group of Mother	1931		1941		1951	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 20 years.....	2,750	38.8	2,762	29.9	4,463	33.0
20 - 24 ".....	2,669	37.7	3,666	39.7	4,984	36.9
25 - 29 ".....	934	13.2	1,633	17.7	2,265	16.8
30 - 34 ".....	401	5.7	661	7.2	1,061	7.8
35 - 39 ".....	243	3.4	368	4.0	557	4.1
40 - 44 ".....	75	1.1	124	1.3	173	1.3
45 - 49 ".....	10	0.1	16	0.2	15	0.1
50 years or over.....	—	—	1	--	1	--
<b>Totals, Stated Ages.....</b>	<b>7,082</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,231</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,519</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Ages not stated.....	1,283	...	870	...	513	...
<b>Totals, All Ages.....</b>	<b>8,365</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10,101</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,032</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Average Ages of Mothers.....	23.1		23.9		23.8	