

**Data on Teenage Childbearing
in the United States**

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Preface

This report represents a compilation of data, from seven national data bases or data systems, to inform the deliberations of the American Enterprise Institute/White House Working Seminar on Integrated Services for Children and Families.

In Part I, data from the vital statistics system are presented on births to young women in the U.S. In addition, data from the Census Bureau Current Population report on fertility by educational attainment are presented. These data show a steady increase in non-marital childbearing and a recent increase in the overall teen birth rate.

In Part II, extensive tabulations are presented on the social and economic well-being of young mothers as they vary by the woman's marital status. These data were developed from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW) and the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY) for a study of the consequences of teenage childbearing funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, under Contract No. R01-HD-21537. The specific tabulations which are presented and discussed here were completed for the AEI/White House Working Seminar on Integrated Services for Children and Families. (Because table production for this report was completed in tandem with table production for NICHD, table numbers are not consecutive. Copies of the NICHD report, "The Consequences of Early Childbearing in the 1980s," can be obtained directly from Child Trends.)

Part III of this report examines the extent to which AFDC recipients are or were teenage mothers. Special analyses of the AFDC Quality Control Survey, the Current Population Survey, the Survey of Income and Program Participation, and the National Health Interview Survey are reported. All analyses show teen mothers to be disproportionately represented among recipients of AFDC.

This report was prepared to identify trends in the incidence of early and non-marital childbearing and to describe the social and economic outcomes associated with teenage parenthood. These data can help to identify disadvantaged populations which may require special programs, policy initiatives, or services. These analyses do not address issues of causality. Child Trends' 1992 final report to NICHD does, however, address issues of causality. In addition, a report which discusses recent multivariate studies of the consequences of timing of first birth, entitled "Outcomes of Early Childbearing: An Appraisal of Recent Evidence," is available from the Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch, Center for Population Research, NICHD.

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Part I

Data on U.S. Births

Table 1: The Number of Births

- ▶ In 1989, 517,989 babies were born to mothers younger than 20. Teens accounted for one in eight U.S. births.
- ▶ After the "baby boom" passed through their teen years, the number of births to teens fell, reaching 472,181 in 1986. Since 1986, however, the number of births to women younger than 20 has risen by nearly 46,000 (45,908).
- ▶ The increase in the number of births to teens during the late 1980s occurred among both white and African American teens. Among Hispanic teens, most of whom are white, a substantial increase has occurred in the number of births every year for which data are available.
- ▶ The increase in the number of births that occurred in the late 1980s took place among teens under age 15, ages 15-17, and ages 18-19 in all race/ethnicity groups.

Note: Before 1989, race was assigned according to the race of the child. Beginning in 1989, race is being assigned according to the race of the mother. This has resulted in an increase in the number of white births (because a birth to a white mother and a black father is now defined as a white birth). For 1989, we present numbers according to both the old and the new definitions.

Table 1: Number of births by age of mother and race/ethnicity of child, United States, 1960-1989.

	<u>Total</u>	<u><20</u>	<u><15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>15-19</u>
ALL RACES						
1989	4,040,958	517,989	11,486	181,044	325,459	506,503
1988	3,909,510	488,941	10,588	176,624	301,729	478,353
1987	3,809,394	472,623	10,311	172,591	289,721	462,312
1986	3,756,547	472,081	10,176	168,572	293,333	461,905
1985	3,760,561	477,705	10,220	167,789	299,696	467,485
1980	3,612,258	562,330	10,169	198,222	353,939	552,161
1975	3,144,198	594,880	12,642	227,270	354,968	582,238
1970	3,731,386	656,460	11,752	223,590	421,118	644,708
1965	3,760,358	598,662	7,768	188,604	402,290	590,894
1960	4,257,850	593,746	6,780	182,408	404,558	586,966
BLACK						
1989*	673,124	157,259	6,560	63,832	86,867	150,699
1989	709,395	163,609	6,640	65,785	91,184	156,969
1988	671,976	152,508	6,182	63,833	82,493	146,326
1987	641,567	144,853	5,981	61,093	77,779	138,872
1986	621,221	141,606	5,877	58,449	77,280	135,729
1985	608,193	140,130	5,860	56,809	77,461	134,270
1980	589,616	156,146	5,793	65,966	84,387	150,353
1975	511,581	168,359	7,315	74,946	86,098	161,044
1970	572,362	179,100	7,274	76,882	94,944	171,826
1965	581,126	146,268	5,242	62,488	78,538	141,026
1960	602,264	na	na	na	na	na
WHITE						
1989*	3,192,355	345,102	4,630	111,736	228,736	340,472
1989	3,131,991	335,731	4,527	108,833	222,371	331,204
1988	3,046,162	319,544	4,073	106,907	208,564	315,471
1987	2,992,488	312,108	4,009	105,995	202,104	308,099
1986	2,970,439	315,335	4,007	104,920	206,408	311,328
1985	2,991,373	322,826	4,101	106,042	212,683	318,725
1980	2,898,732	392,229	4,171	127,657	260,401	388,058
1975	2,551,996	415,202	5,073	148,344	261,785	410,129
1970	3,091,264	467,928	4,320	143,646	319,962	463,608
1965	3,123,860	446,198	2,444	124,294	319,460	443,754
1960	3,600,744	460,654	2,524	129,544	328,586	458,130
HISPANIC						
1989	532,249	88,880	2,125	33,400	53,355	86,755
1988	449,604	73,858	1,621	28,257	43,980	72,237
1987	406,153	66,150	1,402	25,347	39,401	64,748
1986	389,048	63,816	1,319	23,870	38,627	62,497
1985	372,814	61,512	1,250	22,725	37,537	60,262
1980	307,163	58,247	1,115	21,648	35,484	57,132

*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

NOTE: Detailed data for blacks have been available only since 1968.

Data for Hispanics have been available only since 1978, with 13 states reporting in 1980, representing 92% of the Hispanic population. In 1989, 47 states and DC reported Hispanic birth data (99% of Hispanic population).

SOURCE: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 2: Fertility Rates

- ▶ **The rate of births per 1,000 female teens declined substantially during the post-World War II years.**
- ▶ **Between the mid-1970s and mid-1980s, rates of teenage childbearing stayed at a plateau.**
- ▶ **Since 1986, teenage fertility rates have been rising.**
- ▶ **Between 1986 and 1989, the fertility rate rose 19% among teens 15-17 and 7% among teens aged 18-29.**
- ▶ **The fertility rate rose between 1986 and 1989 among both white teens and African American teens.**
- ▶ **The ratio of the black fertility rate to the white fertility rate is higher the younger the age group. Among teens under age 15, the black rate is about seven times higher; at ages 15-17, the black rate is nearly three times higher; at ages 18-19 it is twice as high; and among women 20-24 the black rate is 1.5 times higher than the white rate.**

Table 2: Fertility rates (births per 1,000 women), by age of mother and race/ethnicity of child, United States, 1960-1989.

	<u>Total</u>	<u><15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>
ALL RACES						
1989	69.2	1.4	36.5	86.4	58.1	115.4
1988	67.2	1.3	33.8	81.7	53.6	111.5
1987	65.7	1.3	31.8	80.2	51.1	108.9
1986	65.4	1.3	30.6	81.0	50.6	108.2
1985	66.2	1.2	31.1	80.8	51.3	108.9
1980	68.4	1.1	32.5	82.1	53.0	115.1
1975	66.0	1.3	36.1	85.0	55.6	113.0
1970	87.9	1.2	38.8	114.7	68.3	167.8
1965	96.3	.8	na	na	70.4	na
1960	118.0	.8	na	na	89.1	na
BLACK						
1989*	85.8	5.0	80.0	153.2	110.4	157.1
1989	90.4	5.0	82.4	160.8	115.0	165.5
1988	86.6	4.8	76.6	150.5	105.9	157.5
1987	83.8	4.7	72.9	142.2	100.3	149.5
1986	82.4	4.6	70.0	141.0	98.1	143.7
1985	82.2	4.5	69.8	137.1	97.4	140.8
1980	88.1	4.3	73.6	138.8	100.0	146.3
1975	87.9	5.1	85.6	152.4	111.8	142.8
1970	115.4	5.2	101.4	204.9	140.7	202.7
1965	133.9	4.3	na	na	144.6	243.1
1960	153.5	4.3	na	na	156.1	295.4
WHITE						
1989*	66.0	.7	28.3	74.7	48.5	108.0
1989	64.7	.7	27.5	72.6	47.2	105.7
1988	63.0	.6	25.5	69.2	43.7	102.5
1987	62.0	.6	24.1	68.6	41.9	101.1
1986	61.9	.6	23.4	69.8	41.8	101.5
1985	63.0	.6	24.0	70.1	42.8	102.8
1980	64.7	.6	25.2	72.1	44.7	109.5
1975	62.5	.6	28.0	74.0	46.4	108.2
1970	84.1	.5	29.2	101.5	57.4	163.4
1965	91.3	.3	na	na	60.6	189.0
1960	113.2	.4	na	na	79.4	252.8
HISPANIC						
1989	104.9	2.3	na	na	100.8	184.4
1988	96.4	na	na	na	na	na
1987	93.0	na	na	na	na	na
1986	94.0	na	na	na	na	na
1985	na	na	na	na	na	na
1980	95.4	1.7	52.1	126.9	82.2	156.4

*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

NOTE: Detailed data for blacks have been available only since 1968.

Data for Hispanics have been available only since 1978, with 13 states reporting in 1980, representing 92% of the Hispanic population. In 1989, 47 states and DC reported Hispanic birth data (99% of Hispanic population).

SOURCE: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 3: Non-Marital Births

- ▶ **The number of non-marital births in the U.S. has risen every year overall and among teens.**
- ▶ **In 1989, more than a million babies were born outside of marriage (1,094,169).**
- ▶ **In 1989, 347,880 births occurred to unmarried women under the age of 20.**
- ▶ **Whites account for the majority of non-marital births both overall and among teens.**
- ▶ **Of all births occurring outside of marriage, teen mothers accounted for 32% in 1989.**
- ▶ **The proportion of all non-marital births occurring to teens is declining, despite the increased number of non-marital teen births. This is due to large increases in the number of non-marital births among women age 20 and older. In the early 1970s, teens accounted for half of all non-marital births; in the late 1980s teens accounted for not quite a third.**

Table 3: Number of non-marital births, by age of mother and race/ethnicity of child, United States, 1960-1989.

	<u>Total</u>	<u><20</u>	<u><15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>15-19</u>	Percent of non-marital births that were <u>to teen mothers</u>
ALL RACES							
1989	1,094,169	347,880	10,612	140,686	196,582	337,268	32%
1988	1,005,299	322,406	9,907	136,137	176,362	312,499	32%
1987	933,013	302,541	9,583	130,740	162,218	292,958	32%
1986	878,477	290,135	9,415	123,491	157,229	280,720	33%
1985	828,174	280,308	9,386	118,931	151,991	270,922	34%
1980	665,747	271,801	9,024	121,900	140,877	262,777	41%
1975	447,900	233,500	11,000	116,800	105,700	222,500	52%
1970	398,700	199,900	9,500	96,100	94,300	190,400	50%
1965	291,200	129,200	6,100	61,700	61,400	123,100	44%
1960	224,300	91,700	4,600	43,700	43,400	87,100	41%
BLACK							
1989*	442,395	145,176	6,458	61,372	77,346	138,718	33%
1989	457,480	149,739	6,532	62,954	80,253	143,207	33%
1988	426,665	139,530	6,111	61,299	72,120	133,419	33%
1987	399,144	131,803	5,917	58,434	67,452	125,886	33%
1986	380,261	128,012	5,817	55,714	66,481	122,195	34%
1985	365,527	126,161	5,783	54,136	66,242	120,378	35%
1980	325,737	133,729	5,707	61,204	66,818	128,022	41%
1975	249,600	130,900	7,200	65,500	58,200	123,700	52%
1970	215,100	114,700	6,800	58,400	49,500	107,900	53%
1965	na	na	na	na	na	na	
1960	na	na	na	na	na	na	
WHITE							
1989*	613,543	192,173	3,920	75,108	113,145	188,253	31%
1989	593,911	186,200	3,830	72,971	109,399	182,370	31%
1988	539,696	172,163	3,522	70,501	98,140	168,641	32%
1987	498,645	160,915	3,392	68,235	89,288	157,523	32%
1986	466,774	153,125	3,346	64,065	85,714	149,779	33%
1985	432,969	145,511	3,380	61,341	80,790	142,131	34%
1980	320,063	131,128	3,144	57,761	70,223	127,984	41%
1975	186,400	97,500	3,600	48,900	45,000	93,900	52%
1970	175,100	81,900	2,500	36,200	43,200	79,400	47%
1965	123,700	52,100	1,400	21,500	29,200	50,700	42%
1960	82,500	34,000	1,200	15,000	17,800	32,800	41%
HISPANIC							
1989	189,166	53,610	1,761	22,812	29,037	51,849	28%
1988	153,018	43,750	1,377	19,201	23,172	42,373	29%
1987	132,393	37,700	1,151	16,792	19,757	36,549	28%
1986	123,019	35,038	1,083	15,118	18,837	33,955	28%
1985	109,971	31,895	987	13,763	17,145	30,908	29%
1980	72,531	24,745	821	10,983	12,941	23,924	34%

*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

NOTE: Detailed data for blacks have been available only since 1968.

Data for Hispanics have been available only since 1978, with 13 states reporting in 1980, representing 92% of the Hispanic population. In 1989, 47 states and DC reported Hispanic birth data (99% of Hispanic population).

SOURCE: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 4: Non-Marital Birth Rates

- ▶ **The non-marital birth rate has risen every year among whites and among the overall U.S. population.**
- ▶ **In 1989, 41.8 per thousand or 4% of unmarried women 15-44 had a child; 9% of black and 3% of white unmarried women had a child. Among teens 15-19, 40.6 per thousand or 4% had a child; 10% of black and nearly 3% of white unmarried females 15-19 had a child.**
- ▶ **Among African Americans, the non-marital birth rate declined somewhat in the late 1970s but has risen again in the late 1980s.**
- ▶ **Despite the rapid increase in the rate of non-marital childbearing among white teens, the rate among black teens is four times higher at ages 15-17 and about three and one-half times higher at ages 18-19.**
- ▶ **The rate of non-marital childbearing is very similar among teens 18-19 and women 20-24.**

Note: Because of the re-classification of race from child to mother, the birth rate in 1989, based on the new vital statistics definition of race, is higher among whites and lower among African Americans.

Table 4: Non-marital birth rates (per 1,000 unmarried women), by age of mother and race of child, United States, 1960-1989.

	<u>Total</u>	<u><15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>
ALL RACES						
1989	41.8	na	28.8	57.4	40.6	62.0
1988	38.6	na	26.5	52.7	36.8	56.7
1987	36.1	na	24.5	49.9	34.1	53.1
1986	34.3	na	22.9	48.9	32.6	49.7
1985	32.8	na	22.5	46.6	31.6	46.8
1980	29.4	na	20.6	39.0	27.6	40.9
1975	24.5	na	19.5	32.8	23.9	31.2
1970	26.4	na	17.1	31.7	22.4	38.4
1965	23.4	na	na	na	16.7	39.6
1960	21.6	na	na	na	15.3	39.7
BLACK						
1989*	90.0	na	77.0	141.9	103.4	142.0
1989	93.1	na	79.0	147.3	106.7	147.0
1988	88.9	na	74.1	136.1	98.3	138.2
1987	84.7	na	70.4	127.5	92.6	129.9
1986	80.9	na	67.4	125.0	89.9	121.4
1985	78.8	na	67.0	121.1	88.8	116.1
1980	82.9	na	69.6	120.2	89.2	115.1
1975	84.2	na	77.8	126.8	95.1	109.9
1970	95.5	na	77.9	136.4	96.9	131.5
1965	na	na	na	na	na	na
1960	na	na	na	na	na	na
WHITE						
1989*	30.1	na	19.3	41.2	28.4	44.2
1989	29.2	na	18.8	39.8	27.5	42.8
1988	26.6	na	17.1	36.4	24.8	38.3
1987	24.6	na	15.8	34.2	22.8	35.8
1986	23.2	na	14.6	33.2	21.5	33.5
1985	21.8	na	14.2	30.9	20.5	30.9
1980	17.6	na	11.8	23.6	16.2	24.4
1975	12.4	na	9.6	16.5	12.0	15.5
1970	13.9	na	7.5	17.6	10.9	22.5
1965	11.6	na	na	na	7.9	22.0
1960	9.2	na	na	na	6.6	18.2

*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

NOTE: Detailed data for blacks have been available only since 1968.

SOURCE: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 5: Percent of Births That Are Non-Marital

- ▶ In 1989, 27% -- more than a quarter of all U.S. births -- occurred outside marriage.
- ▶ The proportion of births in the U.S. that occur outside of marriage has increased every year overall, among blacks, among whites, among Hispanics, and among teens.
- ▶ Two-thirds of all births to mothers under the age of 20 occurred outside of marriage in 1989 -- 92% among blacks and 56% among whites. Among Hispanics (who may be white or black but most of whom are white), 60% of births to mothers under the age of 20 occurred outside of marriage in 1989.

Table 5: Percent non-marital births, by age of mother and race/ethnicity of child, United States, 1960-1989.

	<u>Total</u>	<u><20</u>	<u><15</u>	<u>15-17</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>15-19</u>
ALL RACES						
1989	27%	67%	92%	78%	60%	67%
1988	26%	66%	94%	77%	58%	65%
1987	24%	64%	93%	76%	56%	63%
1986	23%	61%	93%	73%	54%	61%
1985	22%	59%	92%	71%	51%	58%
1980	18%	48%	89%	61%	40%	48%
1975	14%	39%	87%	51%	30%	38%
1970	11%	30%	81%	43%	22%	30%
1965	8%	22%	79%	33%	15%	21%
1960	5%	15%	68%	24%	11%	15%
BLACK						
1989*	66%	92%	98%	96%	89%	92%
1989	64%	92%	98%	96%	88%	91%
1988	63%	91%	99%	96%	87%	91%
1987	62%	91%	99%	96%	87%	91%
1986	61%	90%	99%	95%	86%	90%
1985	60%	90%	99%	95%	86%	90%
1980	55%	86%	99%	93%	79%	85%
1975	49%	78%	98%	87%	68%	77%
1970	38%	64%	93%	76%	52%	63%
1965	na	na	na	na	na	na
1960	na	na	na	na	na	na
WHITE						
1989*	19%	56%	85%	67%	49%	55%
1989	19%	55%	85%	67%	49%	55%
1988	18%	54%	86%	66%	47%	53%
1987	17%	52%	85%	64%	44%	51%
1986	16%	49%	84%	61%	42%	48%
1985	14%	45%	82%	58%	38%	45%
1980	11%	33%	75%	45%	27%	33%
1975	7%	23%	71%	33%	17%	23%
1970	6%	18%	58%	25%	14%	17%
1965	4%	12%	57%	17%	9%	11%
1960	2%	7%	48%	12%	5%	7%
HISPANIC						
1989	36%	60%	83%	68%	54%	60%
1988	34%	59%	85%	68%	53%	59%
1987	33%	57%	82%	66%	50%	56%
1986	32%	55%	82%	63%	49%	54%
1985	29%	52%	79%	61%	46%	51%
1980	24%	42%	74%	51%	36%	42%

*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assigns the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

NOTE: Detailed data for blacks have been available only since 1968.

Data for Hispanics have been available only since 1978, with 13 states reporting in 1980, representing 92% of the Hispanic population. In 1989, 47 states and DC reported Hispanic birth data (99% of Hispanic population).

SOURCE: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 6: Births by Birth Order

- ▶ The majority of births to teens are first births.
- ▶ The number of higher-parity births to teens had been declining; however, in 1989 the number of second births rose, as did the number of first births.
- ▶ In 1989, teens had 121,635 babies that were second or higher order births.

Table 6. Number of births by birth order, by age and race/ethnicity of mother, United States, 1960-1989.

	< 15		15-17		18-19		15-19	
	1st birth	2nd or higher	1st birth	2nd or higher	1st birth	2nd or higher	1st birth	2nd or higher
ALL RACES								
1989	11,006	391	154,244	26,051	228,869	95,193	383,113	121,244
1988	10,234	315	151,280	24,531	212,793	87,536	364,073	112,067
1987	9,966	295	149,170	22,618	205,451	83,041	354,621	105,659
1986	9,838	252	145,954	21,559	209,279	82,458	355,233	104,017
1985	9,848	279	145,140	21,468	214,132	83,769	359,272	105,237
1980	9,657	275	171,316	23,783	254,360	95,421	425,676	119,204
1975	11,976	312	197,377	25,553	254,209	95,280	451,586	120,833
1970	10,932	556	191,578	28,138	306,810	107,786	498,388	135,924
1965	7,434	326	157,196	31,246	275,032	126,906	432,228	158,152
1960	6,412	266	145,964	33,520	250,700	146,104	396,664	179,624
BLACK								
1989*	6,294	228	50,844	12,701	52,179	34,223	103,023	46,924
1989	6,374	228	52,550	12,941	55,218	35,485	107,768	48,426
1988	5,970	193	51,526	12,017	50,354	31,683	101,880	43,700
1987	5,766	196	49,952	10,911	48,378	29,159	98,330	40,070
1986	5,664	166	48,111	10,013	48,585	28,341	96,696	38,354
1985	5,646	165	46,622	9,842	48,997	28,093	95,619	37,935
1980	5,431	192	53,831	10,778	52,288	30,795	106,119	41,573
1975	6,842	233	61,300	11,855	52,700	31,759	114,000	43,614
1970	6,868	284	61,108	14,440	56,120	37,336	117,228	51,776
1965	4,986	250	46,884	15,512	39,520	38,932	86,404	54,444
1960	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
WHITE								
1989*	4,332	247	98,849	12,448	169,975	57,857	268,824	70,305
1989	4,332	144	96,317	12,086	165,430	56,056	261,747	68,142
1988	3,948	106	94,825	11,580	155,074	52,592	249,899	64,172
1987	3,897	85	94,519	10,924	150,253	50,918	244,772	61,842
1986	3,892	77	93,393	10,817	153,991	51,234	247,384	62,051
1985	3,957	103	94,342	10,921	158,545	52,774	252,887	63,675
1980	4,037	81	113,524	12,467	195,651	62,056	309,175	74,523
1975	4,888	74	132,600	13,229	196,551	61,444	329,151	74,673
1970	3,924	258	127,822	13,306	246,220	68,790	374,042	82,096
1965	2,370	72	108,766	15,528	232,754	86,706	341,520	101,902
1960	2,404	58	107,860	19,216	215,194	106,262	323,054	125,478

*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assign the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

Source: Compiled by Child Trends with data from the annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 7: Percent of Teen Births That Are First or Later Births

- ▶ **Among teen mothers younger than 15, nearly all births are first births; 3% are second or higher order births. (For 1% of births, birth order is not stated.)**
- ▶ **Among teens 15-17, 14% or one in eight births are second or higher parity births.**
- ▶ **Among teens 18-19, 29% of all births are second or higher order births.**
- ▶ **The proportion of teen births that are second or higher parity births is considerably greater among black than white teens.**

Table 7. Percent of births by birth order, by age and race/ethnicity of mother, United States, 1960-1989.

	< 15		15-17		18-19		15-19	
	1st birth	2nd or higher	1st birth	2nd or higher	1st birth	2nd or higher	1st birth	2nd or higher
ALL RACES								
1989	96%	3%	85%	14%	70%	29%	76%	24%
1988	97%	3%	86%	14%	71%	29%	76%	23%
1987	97%	3%	86%	13%	71%	29%	77%	23%
1986	97%	2%	87%	13%	71%	28%	77%	23%
1985	96%	3%	87%	13%	71%	28%	77%	23%
1980	95%	3%	86%	12%	72%	27%	77%	22%
1975	95%	2%	87%	11%	72%	27%	78%	21%
1970	93%	5%	86%	13%	73%	26%	77%	21%
1965	96%	4%	83%	17%	68%	32%	73%	27%
1960	95%	4%	80%	18%	62%	36%	68%	31%
BLACK								
1989*	96%	3%	80%	20%	60%	39%	68%	31%
1989	96%	3%	80%	20%	61%	39%	69%	31%
1988	97%	3%	81%	19%	61%	38%	70%	30%
1987	96%	3%	82%	18%	62%	37%	71%	29%
1986	96%	3%	82%	17%	63%	37%	71%	28%
1985	96%	3%	82%	17%	63%	36%	71%	28%
1980	94%	3%	82%	16%	62%	36%	71%	28%
1975	94%	3%	82%	16%	61%	37%	71%	27%
1970	94%	4%	79%	19%	59%	39%	68%	30%
1965	95%	5%	75%	25%	50%	50%	61%	39%
1960	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
WHITE								
1989*	94%	5%	88%	11%	74%	25%	79%	21%
1989	96%	3%	88%	11%	74%	25%	79%	21%
1988	97%	3%	89%	11%	74%	25%	79%	20%
1987	97%	2%	89%	10%	74%	25%	79%	20%
1986	97%	2%	89%	10%	75%	25%	79%	20%
1985	96%	3%	89%	10%	75%	25%	79%	20%
1980	97%	2%	89%	10%	75%	24%	80%	19%
1975	96%	1%	89%	9%	75%	23%	80%	18%
1970	91%	6%	89%	9%	77%	21%	81%	18%
1965	97%	3%	88%	12%	73%	27%	77%	23%
1960	95%	2%	83%	15%	65%	32%	71%	27%

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*Births by race of mother. (Beginning with 1989, birth data are tabulated by race of mother. Previous tabulations are by race of child, which assign the child to the race of the non-white parent, if any, or to the race of the father, if both are non-white.)

NOTE: Percentages do not add to 100% because the proportion of births with birth order "not stated" are not shown.

Source: Compiled by Child Trends with data from the annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 8: Education, Marital Status, and Fertility

- ▶ **Data from the Current Population Survey conducted by the Census Bureau for 1990 provide a snapshot of the strong correlation between education, marital status, and childbearing in the U.S.**
- ▶ **At ages 15-24, most married women with just 12 years of schooling or less have had a child. Most women who have attended college are childless. At ages 25-34, most married women have had at least one birth; however, among women with four or more years of college, four in ten married women are childless.**
- ▶ **Nearly nine in ten (89%) of never-married women aged 15-19 have not had a child. Among women still unmarried at ages 25-35, 69% are childless.**
- ▶ **Among African American women 15-19, the vast majority of those who have ever married are also mothers, except for women in their early twenties who have attended college.**
- ▶ **Among never-married African American women, the majority of those aged 15-24 are childless; however, only college-educated, never-married African American women remain childless in their late twenties and early thirties.**
- ▶ **Among white women who have married, the majority of those with 12 or fewer years of schooling are mothers, while the majority of those who have attended college are childless. The negative association between education and fertility continues among white women 24-35; but fewer women are childless at any level of education.**
- ▶ **Among ever-married Hispanic women, those with more education are more often childless. The vast majority of never married Hispanic women are found to be childless, with the exception of older Hispanic dropouts, two-thirds of whom are mothers.**

Table 8. Children ever born per 1,000 women and percent childless, by educational attainment, United States, 1990.

	1990			
	<u>Women 15 to 24 years</u>		<u>Women 25 to 34 years</u>	
	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>
ALL RACES				
<u>All marital classes</u>				
Total	347	78%	1,344	34%
Not a high school graduate	349	80%	2,128	15%
High school, 4 years	494	67%	1,499	26%
College, 1 or more years	179	87%	989	46%
1 to 3 years	206	85%	1,246	36%
4 or more years	87	94%	746	55%
4 years	88	93%	780	54%
5 or more years	83	94%	670	59%
<u>Women ever married</u>				
Total	963	40%	1,583	22%
Not a high school graduate	1,463	22%	2,287	9%
High school, 4 years	974	35%	1,695	17%
College, 1 or more years	518	62%	1,270	31%
1 to 3 years	613	55%	1,508	24%
4 or more years	242	83%	1,024	39%
4 years	246	83%	1,065	38%
5 or more years	205	86%	930	43%
<u>Women never married</u>				
Total	168	89%	597	69%
Not a high school graduate	183	89%	1,629	31%
High school, 4 years	237	83%	743	59%
College, 1 or more years	82	94%	247	85%
1 to 3 years	95	93%	419	76%
4 or more years	34	97%	120	92%
4 years	29	97%	128	92%
5 or more years	58	95%	103	94%

(continued)

Table 8. Children ever born per 1,000 women and percent childless, by educational attainment, United States, 1990 (continued).

	1990			
	<u>Women 15 to 24 years</u>		<u>Women 25 to 34 years</u>	
	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>
BLACK				
<u>All marital classes</u>				
Total	627	64%	1,745	22%
Not a high school graduate	552	72%	2,432	10%
High school, 4 years	857	49%	1,811	19%
College, 1 or more years	442	70%	1,336	31%
1 to 3 years	495	67%	1,540	26%
4 or more years	184	85%	973	41%
4 years	183	86%	991	42%
5 or more years	189	81%	926	40%
<u>Women ever married</u>				
Total	1,354	27%	2,036	13%
Not a high school graduate	2,027	12%	2,599	9%
High school, 4 years	1,455	19%	2,132	11%
College, 1 or more years	670	54%	1,709	17%
1 to 3 years	798	45%	1,863	15%
4 or more years	129	94%	1,415	20%
4 years	129	94%	1,471	20%
5 or more years	(-)	(-)	1,297	20%
<u>Women never married</u>				
Total	518	70%	1,417	32%
Not a high school graduate	467	76%	2,279	11%
High school, 4 years	693	58%	1,469	27%
College, 1 or more years	394	73%	837	51%
1 to 3 years	433	72%	1,082	41%
4 or more years	198	83%	444	68%
4 years	201	83%	490	65%
5 or more years	189	81%	282	75%

(-) Represents zero or rounds to zero.

(continued)

Table 8. Children ever born per 1,000 women and percent childless, by educational attainment, United States, 1990 (continued).

	1990			
	<u>Women 15 to 24 years</u>		<u>Women 25 to 34 years</u>	
	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>
WHITE				
<u>All marital classes</u>				
Total	296	80%	1,285	35%
Not a high school graduate	308	82%	2,041	15%
High school, 4 years	424	70%	1,449	27%
College, 1 or more years	144	89%	953	48%
1 to 3 years	164	87%	1,199	38%
4 or more years	74	94%	730	57%
4 years	76	94%	764	55%
5 or more years	67	96%	651	60%
<u>Women ever married</u>				
Total	919	41%	1,535	23%
Not a high school graduate	1,423	23%	2,219	9%
High school, 4 years	922	37%	1,648	18%
College, 1 or more years	486	64%	1,232	33%
1 to 3 years	574	57%	1,468	25%
4 or more years	234	83%	995	41%
4 years	238	82%	1,033	39%
5 or more years	205	86%	905	44%
<u>Women never married</u>				
Total	96	93%	314	82%
Not a high school graduate	116	92%	1,196	44%
High school, 4 years	125	90%	369	75%
College, 1 or more years	40	97%	130	92%
1 to 3 years	46	96%	201	87%
4 or more years	17	99%	83	95%
4 years	14	99%	81	95%
5 or more years	31	98%	88	95%

(continued)

Table 8. Children ever born per 1,000 women and percent childless, by educational attainment, United States, 1990 (continued).

	1990			
	<u>Women 15 to 24 years</u>		<u>Women 25 to 34 years</u>	
	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>	<u>Children ever born per 1,000 women</u>	<u>Percent childless</u>
HISPANIC				
<u>All marital classes</u>				
Total	499	69%	1,749	24%
Not a high school graduate	545	69%	2,264	15%
High school, 4 years	526	64%	1,677	21%
College, 1 or more years	247	80%	1,093	42%
1 to 3 years	245	80%	1,309	33%
4 or more years	259	79%	732	57%
4 years	213	79%	751	59%
5 or more years	407	80%	702	53%
<u>Women ever married</u>				
Total	1,206	29%	1,990	15%
Not a high school graduate	1,446	25%	2,489	9%
High school, 4 years	1,094	27%	1,879	12%
College, 1 or more years	590	50%	1,372	28%
1 to 3 years	621	49%	1,635	18%
4 or more years	365	64%	943	45%
4 years	365	64%	932	50%
5 or more years			964	37%
<u>Women never married</u>				
Total	226	85%	971	53%
Not a high school graduate	267	82%	1,519	33%
High school, 4 years	172	88%	895	54%
College, 1 or more years	130	89%	388	77%
1 to 3 years	109	91%	510	71%
4 or more years	233	83%	173	88%
4 years	159	84%	231	85%
5 or more years	407	80%	87	91%

SOURCE: US Bureau of the Census. (1991). Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 454, Fertility of American women: June 1990, Washington, DC: GPO.

Table 9: Birth Order, Marital Status, and Age in 1988

- ▶ Of the 3,909,510 births in 1988, 1,595,587 (41%) were first births.
- ▶ 38% of marital births and 50% of non-marital births were first births.
- ▶ Nearly a third (31.2%) of all first births were non-marital. One in five (21.8%) of higher order births were non-marital.
- ▶ Of the 1,005,299 non-marital births in 1988, half were first births and half were higher parity births.

Table 9. Total 1988 births, by mother's age, marital status, and birth order.

	<u>Total number</u>	<u>Number first births</u>	<u>Percent first births</u>	<u>Number second & higher births</u>	<u>Percent second & higher births</u>	<u>Number with birth order not stated</u>
ALL BIRTHS						
All ages	3,909,510	1,595,587	41%	2,291,897	59%	22,026
Under 15	10,588	10,234	97%	315	3%	39
15-17	176,624	151,280	86%	24,531	14%	813
18-19	301,729	212,793	71%	87,536	29%	1,400
15-19	478,353	364,073	76%	112,067	23%	2,213
20-24	1,067,472	505,975	47%	556,229	52%	5,268
25-29	1,239,256	447,219	36%	784,921	63%	7,116
30-34	803,547	206,649	26%	591,746	74%	5,152
ALL MARITAL BIRTHS						
All ages	2,904,211	1,097,263	38%	1,792,412	62%	14,536
Under 15	681	651	96%	28	4%	2
15-17	40,487	33,849	84%	6,480	16%	158
18-19	125,367	87,299	70%	37,643	30%	425
15-19	165,854	121,148	73%	44,123	27%	583
20-24	716,567	347,252	48%	366,470	51%	2,845
25-29	1,042,891	391,440	38%	646,196	62%	5,255
30-34	708,673	184,120	26%	520,440	73%	4,113
ALL NON-MARITAL BIRTHS						
All ages	1,005,299	498,324	50%	499,485	50%	7,490
Under 15	9,907	9,583	97%	287	3%	37
15-17	136,137	117,431	86%	18,051	13%	655
18-19	176,362	125,494	71%	49,893	28%	975
15-19	312,499	242,925	78%	67,944	22%	1,630
20-24	350,905	158,723	45%	189,759	54%	2,423
25-29	196,365	55,779	28%	138,725	71%	1,861
30-34	94,874	22,529	24%	71,306	75%	1,039

NOTE: Percents do not always add to 100 due to rounding and to the fact that births with birth order not stated account for up to 1% in any category.

SOURCE: Compiled by Child Trends, Inc., with data from annual Natality volumes of the Vital Statistics Branch of the National Center for Health Statistics.

Part II

**Outcomes Associated with
Age and Marital Status of Women
at the Birth of Their First Child**

**Additional tabulations funded by the American Enterprise Institute
of data developed under NICHD Contract No. R01-HD-21537**

INTRODUCTION

What are the lives of teenage mothers like later in life? How much schooling do they eventually complete? What are their families like? What is their economic status? How do these outcomes differ for women who are unmarried when their child is born compared with women who are married? How do outcomes differ for unmarried women who subsequently marry compared with those who do not? Have outcomes changed over time?

Considerable information regarding the experiences of women and the circumstances of their families is available from the national cross sectional surveys conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Longitudinal information from specialized surveys allow us to expand our understanding of the outcomes associated with teenage childbearing to include both a broader array of tabulations and a set of outcomes that provide a cumulative perspective, to supplement the "snapshot" available from cross sectional data. The availability of two comparable data bases comparing outcomes among two recent cohorts also provides a unique opportunity to examine whether and how outcomes associated with teenage childbearing have changed across recent cohorts.

The following tables provide a broad view of the outcomes of women in two recent cohorts -- women in the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW) and the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY).

The NLSYW is a sample of 5,159 women who were aged 14-24 at the time of the first survey, in 1968. Blacks were oversampled by design to provide sufficient cases for racial comparisons. Respondents have been interviewed annually from 1968 to 1973, and approximately biennially since then. After 5 interviews, 90% of the original sample were still being interviewed. In 1987, 68% of the women who were interviewed in 1968 were still participating in the interviews.

To produce statistically reliable results for black women, households in predominantly black enumeration districts were selected at a rate three times greater than the rate for white enumeration districts. This resulted in a sample of 3,638 white women and 1,459 black women. Sixty-two young women of other races came into the sample and are included in the non-black sample, which we refer to hereafter as "white." Because blacks were over-sampled, it is possible to do separate analyses for blacks and whites. (In the NLSY, it is possible to do separate analyses of Hispanics if all Hispanic sub-groups are combined into one group, but this is not an option with the NLSYW. Therefore, the Hispanic oversample is excluded from the non-black NLSY sample.) The data have been weighted to adjust for over-sampling and for sample attrition; when weighted, the data are nationally representative.

The NLSY is a nationally representative probability sample of 11,400 young men and women aged 14 to 21 as of January 1, 1979. They were initially interviewed in 1979 and have been interviewed annually since then. By 1988, 10,466 (90.2% of the original respondents) remained in the sample. Females comprise half of the sample, or approximately 5,200 cases going into the 1988 survey year. Black, Hispanic, and economically disadvantaged white youth are over-represented in the sample. Weights have been developed to adjust the sample for the over-representation and to correct the sample for non-coverage and non-cooperation.

Although data on fertility and marital events are less rich and less detailed in the NLSYW than in the NLSY, the content of the interviews with this cohort is very similar to that of the NLSY, described above. In fact, in many cases identical questions were repeated in the NLSY in order to create a data time series. Most relevant to this paper, the same kinds of information were collected in both surveys with regard to family background, education, childbearing, marriage, employment, and economic well-being.

Sample selection and data collection for the NLSYW were conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. These functions are fulfilled for the NLSY by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC). However, NORC's procedures were intentionally similar to those employed by the Census, so that there are not strong design differences that would preclude comparative analyses of the two data bases (Mott, 1988). For all of these reasons, it is appropriate and feasible to conduct parallel analyses of the two cohorts and to make direct cohort comparisons of outcomes such as educational attainment and poverty.

Because we are focusing on women as they pass a specific pivotal age (age 27), problems of missing data are magnified. Some women passed these ages during years when no survey was fielded, while others failed to be interviewed as they passed a pivotal age. To maximize the sample size, we used the following procedure. Women who reached a pivotal age in a survey year provided data for that year. For women who reached a pivotal age without an interview, we obtained data from the previous interview if the respondent was in the first 6 months of her pivotal age (e.g., the first half of her 27th year), and from the subsequent interview for women in the second half of the pivotal age. In the few cases in which no interview was conducted in the subsequent year, data were obtained from the previous year and vice versa.

Respondents' missing information on an outcome variable was dropped from the portions of the analysis focusing on that particular outcome; however, because cases with missing data are believed to differ from cases with full information, we attempted to fill in information as much as possible from other sources, such as subsequent interviews.

THE BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN WHO BECOME MOTHERS AT DIFFERENT AGES

The tables in the following sections are descriptive -- that is, they provide information on outcomes across different categories of age at first birth. They do not examine the underlying processes that produce these outcomes. We know, however, from a number of studies, that the women who become mothers during their teenage years differ from women who postpone childbearing. In addition, those women who marry differ from those who deliver outside of marriage.

In the tables that follow, each outcome variable is cross-tabulated with a variable indicating a woman's age at first birth and marital status. Too few women who became mothers at age 25 or older were unmarried at the birth or never married to permit analysis. Thus, for mothers in this age group we show data for the post-marital conception category alone. Also, we only report results when there are at least 20 women in the particular category.

The data in these first two tables illustrate the large differences that distinguish young and unmarried mothers from other women. It is important to keep these differences in mind when reviewing the data presented in later tables: much of the disadvantage associated with teenage childbearing is due to these prior differences rather than the fact of an early birth. While the exact proportion due to antecedent differences has not been pinpointed from studies done to date, and, in fact, is in some dispute, most would agree that the majority (>50%) of the disadvantages associated with early childbearing are due to background differences. However, few would say that *all* of the negative outcomes experienced by teenage mothers occur solely because of background disadvantages. A significant, substantively important portion are due to the difficulties of childrearing during the teen years.

Tables 20e (NLSYW) and 20f (NLSY): Background Characteristics of Women According to their Age and Marital Status at First Birth

Data in the first table describe the family of origin of women in the NLSYW, the older cohort of women. The first panel presents information for all women. Percentages are weighted to be nationally representative. The unweighted N is also provided to indicate the sample size on which the percentages are based. Because African American families are highly disadvantaged relative to white families, in the next two panels information on family background is provided for these same women distinguished by their race. In the second table, data are provided for women in the NLSY, the younger cohort. Data in the first panel are for all women, weighted to be nationally representative. In additional panels, data are presented for black, non-black, non-Hispanic (white), and Hispanic women.

Data on the income of the family of origin are not available; however a variety of other indicators all suggest that the families of teenage mothers were relatively disadvantaged compared with the families of older childbearers. In addition, those young women who gave birth outside of marriage as teens tend to be from particularly disadvantaged backgrounds. For example, in the NLSYW, while 72-73% of married teen mothers were raised by both of their biological parents, 66% of the teen mothers who delivered outside of marriage but married later, and just 45% of those who had not yet married by age 27, were raised by both parents. On the other hand, 91% of the women who became mothers within marriage after age 25 were raised by both biological parents.

As a measure of intellectual stimulation in the home of origin, respondents in both cohorts were asked whether their families had newspapers, magazines, and library cards. By this measure of background as well, teen mothers and particularly unmarried teen mothers were disadvantaged. Similarly, teen mothers and particularly unmarried teen mothers are more likely to have been raised by a parent who did not have a high school diploma and to have come from a large family. In addition, only a small minority of teen parents reported that they were in a college preparatory curriculum in high school.

The panels showing race-specific background data document the substantial disadvantages of minority families in both cohorts. Nevertheless, within each race group and in each cohort, it is clear that those who become parents as teens, particularly those who never marry, come from families that are disadvantaged in a variety of ways.

In the tables that follow, we will see that the disadvantages experienced by women who become mothers during their teen years continue in the families that they themselves establish.

These data were developed from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW) and the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY) for a study of the consequences of teenage childbearing funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, under Contract No. R01-HD-21537. Additional tabulations, which are presented and discussed here, were completed for the AEI/White House Working Seminar on Integrated Services for Children and Families. (Because table production for this report was completed in tandem with table production for NICHD, table numbers are not consecutive. Copies of the NICHD report, "The Consequences of Early Childbearing in the 1980s," can be obtained directly from Child Trends.)

Table 20e. Background Variables at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status at Age 27. Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Background Variables	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married
Total											
% from families with 2 biological parents	66%	45%	72% Chi ² =25***	73%	79%	70%	83% Chi ² =12***	86%	91%	82% Chi ² =8***	87%
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	64%	50%	74% Chi ² =18***	69%	68%	63%	84% Chi ² =32***	85%	91%	89% Chi ² =2	91%
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	37%	26%	56% Chi ² =34***	38%	44%	28%	60% Chi ² =27***	61%	70%	75% Chi ² =.785	77%
% with 4 or more siblings	59%	70%	46% Chi ² =20***	47%	57%	63%	36% Chi ² =36***	33%	26%	30% Chi ² =6**	24%
% in college prep programs	19%	14%	22% Chi ² =8*	15%	31%	11%	33% Chi ² =11**	33%	44%	58% Chi ² =3*	54%
Unweighted N	224	98	305	395	80	75	170	968	301	485	698
Non-Black											
% from families with 2 biological parents	77%	--	76% Chi ² =.658	74%	83%	--	85% Chi ² =.906	87%	92%	84% Chi ² =4**	88%
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	81%	--	78% Chi ² =4	73%	70%	--	87% Chi ² =7*	87%	92%	93% Chi ² =.01	93%
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	44%	--	60% Chi ² =23***	39%	60%	--	65% Chi ² =9**	63%	72%	79% Chi ² =.0003	79%
% with 4 or more siblings	51%	--	42% Chi ² =2	45%	51%	--	32% Chi ² =12***	31%	25%	26% Chi ² =3**	22%
% in college prep programs	21%	--	22% Chi ² =10**	15%	36%	--	35% Chi ² =1.17	33%	45%	62% Chi ² =5**	55%
Unweighted N	69	7 ^a	211	315	26	13 ^a	121	850	262	366	612

(continued)

Table 20e. (cont.) Background Variables at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status at Age 27. Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Background Variables	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married
Black											
% from families with 2 biological parents	54%	40%	55% Chi ² _{-9**}	58%	75%	62%	69% Chi ² ₋₃	66%	78%	63% Chi ² _{-.091}	61%
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	45%	46%	55% Chi ² _{-8**}	36%	64%	51%	57% Chi ² ₋₃	54%	69%	62% Chi ² _{-.553}	57%
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	29%	20%	31% Chi ² ₋₄	23%	23%	30%	18% Chi ² _{-7*}	37%	33%	39% Chi ² _{-1.3}	32%
% with 4 or more siblings	68%	76%	67% Chi ² ₋₃	69%	66%	63%	64% Chi ² _{-1.18}	58%	48%	57% Chi ² _{-4**}	69%
% in college prep programs	16%	6%	23% Chi ² _{-10**}	16%	24%	6%	19% Chi ² _{-19***}	33%	21%	27% Chi ² _{-.003}	28%
Unweighted N	155	90	94	73	54	62	49	118	39	119	86

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1985 data. (JOB TAB20YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p≤.10; **p≤.05; ***p≤.01

Table 20f. Background Variables at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status at Age 27. Total Sample. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort MLSY.

Background Variables	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married	
Total												
% from families with 2 biological parents	53%	44%	74% Chi ² -52***	71%	60%	58%	69% Chi ² -26***	77%	87%	82% Chi ² -.005	83%	
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	62%	49%	75% Chi ² -28***	62%	72%	68%	85% Chi ² -11**	78%	88%	89% Chi ² -.013	89%	
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	56%	45%	63% Chi ² -11***	59%	64%	47%	76% Chi ² -26***	72%	85%	87% Chi ² -.004	87%	
% with 4 or more siblings	66%	65%	49% Chi ² -31***	47%	55%	56%	53% Chi ² -14***	42%	36%	32% Chi ² -.852	30%	
% in college prep programs	14%	14%	12% Chi ² -.918	12%	18%	18%	24% Chi ² -5	25%	39%	44% Chi ² -2	40%	
Unweighted N	332	173	233	241	123	121	164	694	354	582	725	
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic												
% from families with 2 biological parents	61%	64%	76% Chi ² -8**	74%	60%	74%	75% Chi ² -8**	79%	89%	86% Chi ² -1	83%	
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	68%	61%	78% Chi ² -6	67%	83%	75%	88% Chi ² -3	82%	91%	93% Chi ² -2	91%	
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	66%	66%	64% Chi ² -.083	65%	70%	49%	81% Chi ² -7*	77%	89%	91% Chi ² -.742	89%	
% with 4 or more siblings	59%	44%	47% Chi ² -8*	42%	51%	34%	53% Chi ² -9**	38%	35%	29% Chi ² -.100	28%	
% in college prep programs	9%	2%	12% Chi ² -2	9%	11%	5%	24% Chi ² -7*	25%	39%	45% Chi ² -2	41%	
Unweighted N	127	21	159	149	49	24	103	485	269	374	554	

(continued)

Table 20f. (cont.) Background Variables at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status at Age 27. Total Sample. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Background Variables	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married
Black											
% from families with 2 biological parents	45%	40%	53% Chi ² -2	47%	61%	53%	47% Chi ² -2	60%	63%	67% Chi ² -.203	69%
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	56%	49%	65% Chi ² -4	52%	59%	70%	68% Chi ² -2	67%	52%	71% Chi ² -.661	76%
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	50%	42%	65% Chi ² -7**	51%	59%	51%	79% Chi ² -8*	59%	43%	69% Chi ² -1	63%
% with 4 or more siblings	77%	71%	54% Chi ² -9**	68%	62%	66%	42% Chi ² -6	61%	62%	47% Chi ² -.637	52%
% in college prep programs	22%	16%	22% Chi ² -2	25%	30%	21%	31% Chi ² -2	28%	34%	36% Chi ² -.124	38%
Unweighted N	159	131	34	33	54	75	33	84	32	139	94
Hispanic											
% from families with 2 biological parents	48%	--	71% Chi ² -9**	66%	64%	50%	41% Chi ² -10**	68%	74%	65% Chi ² -.7***	84%
% with reading material index score of 2 or more	55%	--	60% Chi ² -15***	34%	55%	46%	71% Chi ² -8**	44%	66%	69% Chi ² -.472	64%
% with a parent who completed at least 12 years education	23%	--	45% Chi ² -8**	25%	32%	28%	32% Chi ² -.106	31%	49%	51% Chi ² -.820	58%
% with 4 or more siblings	69%	--	59% Chi ² -4	71%	51%	42%	63% Chi ² -11**	73%	37%	43% Chi ² -.490	38%
% in college prep programs	14%	--	8% Chi ² -9**	28%	15%	27%	12% Chi ² -3	23%	36%	33% Chi ² -.055	31%
Unweighted N	46	10 ^a	40	58	18	21	27	115	52	63	79

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB20Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

EDUCATION

Tables 1g (NLSYW) and 1i (NLSY): Education at Age 27

Age at first birth and race are both strongly associated with educational attainment measured at age 27, an age when most people have attained as much formal education as they are likely to complete. Only a small minority of women who had their first child before age 20 go beyond high school, either in the older NLSYW cohort or in the younger NLSY cohort. On the other hand, more than half of the women who were at least 25 when they had a first birth (including those still childless at age 27) have attended and/or graduated from college. In addition, black and Hispanic women are considerably less likely to obtain post-secondary schooling than are white women, though few teen mothers go to college regardless of their race or ethnicity.

A comparison of the two cohorts (the older NLSYW cohort with the younger NLSY cohort) reflects the increased educational attainment of teenage mothers in the more recent cohort. Fewer women in every age at first birth group are high school dropouts in the more recent cohort, a change that is particularly apparent among those women who became mothers during their teen years.

Among teenage mothers in both cohorts, those who had a child outside of marriage are more likely to attend at least one year of college than those who were married at delivery. Consistent differences by marital status are not apparent among women who are 20 or older at first birth.

Table 1j: GEDs and High School Completion

The greater availability of the GED in recent years is an important part of the explanation for the increased educational attainment of teenage mothers. Data from the NLSY show that a majority of teenage mothers now complete high school by age 27, and GEDs account for a substantial minority of those high school diplomas. Never-married Hispanic (63%) and African American (45%) teen mothers are particularly likely to be high school dropouts, as are white teen mothers who were never-married (40%) and those who married only after their first birth (45%).

A detailed examination of this table shows that very few teenage mothers complete college, regardless of marital status or GED status. In fact, very few GED holders go on to college, irrespective of their age at first birth.

Table 19b (NLSY): Educational Attainment Measured Five Years After the First Birth

Many women in the NLSY had not yet turned 27 by the time these data were collected in 1988. An examination of schooling at a common life cycle stage -- five years after the first birth -- provides a check on the conclusions derived from the data measured at age 27. These data reinforce the conclusions drawn from the first set of tables. Few teenage mothers attend college and very few graduate. A substantial minority of women who bear children in their early twenties attend college; but few graduate. Women who delay childbearing into their twenties, however, are far less likely to be high school dropouts, while more than a third of teen mothers still lack a high school diploma five years after the birth of their first child.

Table 1g. Educational Attainment and College Attendance as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Total Educ. Attain. by age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Post- Marital concp.	Not Married	Married
less than 12 yrs.	47%	49%	41%	52%	20%	21%	6%	11%	5%	8%	6%
High School	39%	37%	50%	42%	51%	64%	60%	60%	37%	30%	34%
Some College	12%	9%	8%	4%	26%	9%	27%	19%	24%	20%	23%
Coll. Grad, or more	2%	5%	1%	2%	4%	6%	7%	10%	35%	43%	37%
Unweighted N	276	128	349	450	90	88	180	1046	319	536	747
			Chi ² -27***				Chi ² -28***			Chi ² -8**	
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	14%	14%	9%	6%	30%	16%	35%	29%	58%	63%	60%
Unweighted N	276	128	349	450	90	88	180	1046	319	536	747
			Chi ² -13***				Chi ² -7*			Chi ² -1	
Non-Black Educ. Attain. by age 27											
less than 12 yrs.	47%	--	40%	52%	19%	--	5%	11%	5%	7%	5%
High School	37%	--	52%	44%	51%	--	60%	61%	36%	29%	34%
Some College	14%	--	7%	3%	27%	--	28%	19%	24%	19%	23%
Coll. Grad, or more	3%	--	1%	2%	3%	--	7%	10%	35%	45%	37%
Unweighted N	79	9 ^a	234	355	30	14 ^a	128	912	276	390	648
			Chi ² -46***				Chi ² -21**			Chi ² -8**	
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	17%	--	8%	5%	30%	--	35%	29%	59%	65%	60%
Unweighted N	79	9 ^a	234	355	30	14 ^a	128	912	276	390	648
			Chi ² -15***				Chi ² -4			Chi ² -2	

(continued)

Table 1g. (cont.) Educational Attainment and College Attendance as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black Educ. Attain. by age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
less than 12 yrs. High School	48%	55%	43%	58%	21%	18%	9%	19%	7%	16%	21%
Some College	41%	32%	42%	27%	50%	65%	61%	47%	51%	34%	28%
Coll. Grad, or more	10%	11%	11%	12%	25%	14%	19%	20%	14%	21%	22%
Unweighted N	2%	1%	5%	4%	4%	3%	11%	14%	29%	29%	29%
	197	119	115	95	60	74	52	134	43	146	99
			Chi ² -11				Chi ² -16*			Chi ² -2	
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	12%	12%	15%	15%	29%	17%	30%	33%	42%	50%	51%
Unweighted N	197	119	115	95	60	74	52	134	43	146	99
			Chi ² -1				Chi ² -7*			Chi ² -.03	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1985 data. (JOB TAB1YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 11. Educational Attainment and College Attendance as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Total Educ. Attain. by age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
less than 12 yrs. High School	36%	42%	27%	33%	12%	17%	7%	7%	4%	3%	4%
Some College	51%	37%	65%	60%	56%	48%	54%	63%	39%	28%	35%
Coll. Grad. or more	13%	17%	8%	7%	30%	30%	30%	24%	25%	29%	28%
Unweighted N	1%	4%	0%	0%	3%	5%	9%	6%	32%	40%	34%
	361	190	247	278	127	126	167	732	361	592	747
			Chi ² -54***				Chi ² -24***			Chi ² -13***	
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	13%	21%	8%	7%	33%	35%	39%	30%	57%	69%	62%
Unweighted N	361	190	247	278	127	126	167	732	361	592	747
			Chi ² -21***				Chi ² -6			Chi ² -11***	
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic											
Educ. Attain. by age 27											
less than 12 yrs. High School	41%	40%	28%	29%	15%	19%	6%	6%	4%	3%	3%
Some College	52%	29%	65%	64%	63%	60%	56%	65%	40%	27%	35%
Coll. Grad. or more	7%	18%	7%	7%	22%	21%	29%	23%	24%	27%	27%
Unweighted N	0%	14%	0%	0%	1%	0%	9%	7%	33%	42%	35%
	140	24	168	166	49	25	104	501	273	384	566
			Chi ² -59***				Chi ² -14			Chi ² -9**	
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	7%	31%	7%	7%	23%	21%	38%	29%	57%	70%	62%
Unweighted N	140	24	168	166	49	25	104	501	273	384	566
			Chi ² -10**				Chi ² -5			Chi ² -7***	

(continued)

Table 11. (cont.) Educational Attainment and College Attendance as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Black Educ. Attain. by age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
less than 12 yrs.	26%	41%	20%	29%	5%	15%	0%	3%	8%	3%	11%
High School	54%	39%	61%	61%	43%	43%	47%	53%	31%	30%	25%
Some College	19%	18%	17%	11%	47%	34%	37%	34%	44%	36%	39%
Coll. Grad. or more	1%	2%	3%	0%	6%	8%	16%	10%	17%	31%	25%
Unweighted N	167	143	36	36	59	78	34	96	33	145	96
			Chi ² -17**				Chi ² -18**				Chi ² -8**
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	20%	21%	19%	11%	53%	42%	53%	44%	61%	67%	64%
Unweighted N	167	143	36	36	59	78	34	96	33	145	96
			Chi ² -2				Chi ² -2				Chi ² -.27
Hispanic. Educ. Attain. by age 27											
less than 12 yrs.	52%	60%	30%	58%	--	24%	19%	24%	12%	3%	10%
High School	31%	33%	70%	34%	--	52%	50%	46%	38%	28%	37%
Some College	17%	8%	0%	8%	--	24%	25%	29%	31%	50%	33%
Coll. Grad. or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	--	0%	6%	1%	19%	19%	21%
Unweighted N	54	23	43	76	19a	23	29	135	55	63	85
			Chi ² -27***				Chi ² -11				Chi ² -6*
% Attended 1 yr. of College or more by Age 27	17%	8%	0%	8%	--	24%	31%	30%	50%	69%	53%
Unweighted N	54	23	43	76	19a	23	29	135	55	63	85
			Chi ² -9**				Chi ² -1				Chi ² -4*

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data.
(JOB TAB1Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 1j. Receipt of Diploma and GED as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY

Receipt of Diploma/GED by age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married	
Total												
less than 12 yrs.	39%	46%	29%	35%	12%	17%	7%	7%	4%	3%	4%	
High School, GED	12%	6%	15%	12%	6%	4%	5%	5%	2%	1%	3%	
High School, Diploma	36%	26%	48%	46%	50%	45%	47%	58%	36%	26%	32%	
Some Coll., GED	3%	4%	2%	2%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	
Some Coll., HS Diploma	10%	14%	6%	6%	29%	28%	31%	23%	25%	29%	26%	
Coll. Grad or more, GED	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Coll. Grad or more, HS Dip.	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	5%	10%	7%	31%	40%	34%	
Unweighted N	338	178	232	264	123	123	161	713	355	578	727	
			Chi ² -60***				Chi ² -30**			Chi ² -20***		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic												
less than 12 yrs.	44%	40%	29%	31%	14%	20%	7%	6%	4%	3%	3%	
High School GED	13%	15%	16%	13%	8%	0%	5%	5%	3%	1%	3%	
High School Diploma	35%	14%	48%	49%	56%	61%	48%	60%	37%	26%	32%	
Some Coll., GED	3%	5%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	
Some Coll., HS Diploma	4%	13%	5%	5%	21%	20%	31%	22%	24%	27%	25%	
Coll. Grad or more, GED	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Coll. Grad or more, HS Dip.	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	9%	7%	33%	42%	35%	
Unweighted N	130	24	159	156	50	23	101	493	269	373	549	
			Chi ² -67***				Chi ² -18			Chi ² -16***		
Black												
less than 12 yrs.	27%	45%	20%	29%	5%	15%	0%	4%	8%	3%	11%	
High School GED	12%	4%	13%	9%	3%	5%	0%	1%	0%	4%	0%	
High School Diploma	41%	29%	47%	52%	39%	38%	41%	52%	31%	26%	24%	
Some Coll., GED	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	
Some Coll., HS Diploma	17%	16%	17%	11%	49%	32%	41%	34%	42%	35%	39%	
Coll. Grad or more, GED	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
	1%	2%	3%	0%	4%	8%	18%	10%	17%	32%	25%	
Unweighted N	158	133	35	36	55	77	31	91	33	143	95	
			Chi ² -25**				Chi ² -27**			Chi ² -12**		

(continued)

Table 1j. (cont.) Receipt of Diploma and GED as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY

Hispanic Receipt of Diploma/GED by age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpot.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpot.	Post- Marital concpot.	Not Married	Married
less than 12 yrs.	56%	63%	36%	60%	--	24%	19%	27%	14%	3%	10%
High School GED	10%	6%	17%	4%	--	3%	7%	3%	2%	0%	1%
High School Diploma	18%	22%	48%	29%	--	49%	43%	41%	32%	29%	36%
Some Coll., GED	0%	5%	0%	2%	--	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	3%
Some Coll., HS Diploma	16%	3%	0%	5%	--	24%	25%	27%	31%	49%	31%
Coll. Grad or more, GED	0%	0%	0%	0%	--	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Coll. Grad or more, HS Dip.	0%	0%	0%	0%	--	0%	6%	1%	20%	20%	20%
Unweighted N	50	21	38	72	18 ^a	23	29	129	53	62	83
			Chi ² -31***				Chi ² -14				Chi ² -9

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB1Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 19b. Educational Attainment in 5 Years Since First Birth, by Age at First Birth, and Marital Status at First Birth. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Educ. Attainment	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.
Total									
less than 12 yrs.	41%	41%	34%	39%	11%	15%	8%	10%	4%
High School	50%	46%	60%	55%	59%	59%	52%	63%	43%
Some College	9%	12%	6%	5%	28%	24%	32%	22%	23%
Coll. Grad, or more	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%	2%	9%	5%	31%
Unweighted N	483	364	319	364	159	222	200	805	182
			Chi ² -23***				Chi ² -26***		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic									
less than 12 yrs.	44%	43%	34%	36%	16%	16%	8%	9%	3%
High School	50%	55%	60%	58%	68%	73%	53%	65%	45%
Some College	6%	3%	6%	6%	16%	11%	31%	21%	21%
Coll. Grad, or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	9%	5%	31%
Unweighted N	192	61	218	218	58	58	122	562	142
			Chi ² -5				Chi ² -21**		
Black									
less than 12 yrs.	33%	39%	26%	27%	4%	14%	0%	3%	--
High School	53%	45%	62%	66%	48%	48%	45%	57%	--
Some College	13%	15%	11%	7%	45%	35%	42%	32%	--
Coll. Grad, or more	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%	4%	13%	8%	--
Unweighted N	214	259	40	41	81	129	41	103	12 ^a
			Chi ² -12				Chi ² -26***		
Hispanic									
less than 12 yrs.	54%	53%	41%	66%	19%	22%	20%	26%	12%
High School	32%	33%	56%	30%	62%	66%	55%	50%	32%
Some College	14%	13%	3%	4%	11%	12%	18%	23%	18%
Coll. Grad, or more	1%	0%	0%	1%	8%	0%	7%	1%	39%
Unweighted N	77	44	61	105	20	35	37	140	28
			Chi ² -25***				Chi ² -14		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB19Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

MARRIAGE and FAMILY SIZE

Tables 2e (NLSYW) and 2g (NLSY): Marriage

Marriage before the age of 20 is fairly uncommon among contemporary cohorts of young women. Those who do marry young tend to already be pregnant or they become pregnant and have a child shortly after marriage. Nevertheless, women who marry in their teens account for more than a third of those who have their first birth in their early twenties and nearly one in eight of those having a first birth during their mid-twenties.

Among women who have a child prior to marriage but who marry before age 27, the majority of those marriages occur during the child's pre-school years.

Note: Date of marriage and first birth were coded with great effort and making use of all available information in both surveys, including household records, birth and marriage histories, and birth and marriage updates. Nevertheless, self-reported historical information is not always perfectly accurate, as can be observed from occasional discrepancies found in these tables.

Tables 3e (NLSYW) and 3g (NLSY): Number of Children

An important factor in the greater risk of poverty among teenage mothers is their larger family size. Young mothers have participated in the general trend toward having smaller families, and the decline in the proportion having four or more children is very apparent in these data. For example, among never married teen mothers, 20% of the women in the older cohort had four or more children by age 27, compared with 10% of comparable women in the younger cohort. Nevertheless, given their head start, teenage mothers tend to have larger families in their late twenties, even compared with mothers who had their first birth in their early twenties.

Among teenage mothers in both cohorts, those who have never married by age 27 are the most likely to have only one child; however in the younger NLSY cohort only a third of never-married teen mothers have just one child by age 27.

Presence of a Spouse

The proportion of women with a spouse in the year prior to the year they turned 27 is reported in another panel in the same table as the number of children. One can see that the majority of married teenage mothers remained married (or have re-married)

by the time they are 27. Among teen mothers who married subsequent to their first birth, 73% remain married in the older cohort, as did 63% in the younger cohort.

Race/ethnicity differences in marriage patterns are very evident in the data. African American teen mothers are particularly unlikely to have been married at first birth (as an examination of the sample sizes across marital statuses suggests). In addition, in the younger cohort, even among those who were married when their first child was born, just over half remain married at age 27. Among whites, about three-quarters of those married when their first child was born remain married at age 27, as are about seven in ten Hispanic teen mothers who were married when their first child was born.

Table 18b (NLSY): Proportion of Years Spent as a Single Mother During Five Year Period after the First Birth

A problem with choosing age 27 for making comparisons across age at first birth categories is that those who were younger when they began family formation have had more years to marry and separate or divorce than women who delayed family formation into their twenties. To address the confounding factor of differences in exposure to the "risk" of marital disruption, Table 18 depicts the woman's experiences during a constant period of time -- the five years following the birth of her first child regardless of her age when that first birth occurred. Results are presented for the younger NLSY cohort.

Interestingly, for women who delivered outside of marriage but subsequently married, most were married for at least a third of those years. Obviously, this is considerably lower than the proportion for women married at delivery. On the other hand, about one in four married teen mothers spend more than a third of their child's pre-school years as a single parent. It is notable that whether the parents were married at conception or married during pregnancy makes little difference in the proportions experiencing single motherhood during the ensuing five years. From the perspective of the child, it is clear that substantial proportions of the children born to young mothers experience family structure changes while quite young.

Table 2e. Age at First Marriage as of Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Age at first mar. as of age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpd.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpd.	Post- Marital concpd.	Not Married	Married
Total											
<18	11%	na	32%	49%	na	na	0%	3%	2%	na	2%
18-19	39%	na	66%	51%	na	na	6%	36%	10%	na	11%
20-21	24%	na	2%	0%	21%	na	60%	43%	27%	na	24%
22-23	15%	na	0%	0%	31%	na	26%	17%	38%	na	28%
24-27	12%	na	0%	0%	48%	na	8%	1%	24%	na	35%
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na
Unweighted N	276	128	349	450	90	88	180	1046	319	536	747
			Chi ² =1482***				Chi ² =1908***			Chi ² =1406***	
Non-Black											
<18	9%	na	33%	48%	na	na	0%	4%	2%	na	2%
18-19	47%	na	64%	53%	na	na	7%	36%	10%	na	11%
20-21	21%	na	2%	0%	17%	na	58%	43%	27%	na	25%
22-23	17%	na	0%	0%	37%	na	27%	17%	38%	na	28%
24-27	7%	na	0%	0%	46%	na	8%	1%	24%	na	35%
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na
Unweighted N	79	9	234	355	30	14	128	912	276	390	648
			Chi ² =910***				Chi ² =1347***			Chi ² =1071***	
Black											
<18	13%	na	25%	60%	na	na	0%	2%	0%	na	3%
18-19	31%	na	73%	40%	na	na	1%	32%	4%	na	6%
20-21	27%	na	2%	0%	27%	na	74%	42%	27%	na	17%
22-23	13%	na	0%	0%	24%	na	22%	24%	30%	na	24%
24-27	17%	na	0%	0%	50%	na	3%	0%	38%	na	50%
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na
Unweighted N	197	119	115	95	60	74	52	134	43	146	99
			Chi ² =776***				Chi ² =497***			Chi ² =249***	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data. (JOB TAB2YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

na = not applicable

43

Table 2g. Age at First Marriage by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Age at first mar. as of age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+			No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married	
Total												
<18	16%	na	54%	57%	na	na	0%	4%	2%	na	2%	
18-19	28%	na	46%	41%	na	na	17%	42%	12%	na	11%	
20-21	25%	na	0%	0%	25%	na	43%	40%	16%	na	16%	
22-23	12%	na	0%	0%	28%	na	33%	13%	41%	na	23%	
24-27	20%	na	0%	0%	45%	na	8%	0%	28%	na	48%	
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	
Unweighted N	365	192	247	280	128	126	168	734	362	594	747	
			Chi ² =1394***				Chi ² =1589***			Chi ² =1805***		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic												
<18	21%	na	52%	58%	na	na	0%	4%	2%	na	2%	
18-19	33%	na	48%	42%	na	na	19%	43%	13%	na	11%	
20-21	24%	na	0%	0%	27%	na	40%	40%	15%	na	15%	
22-23	7%	na	0%	0%	21%	na	33%	12%	41%	na	23%	
24-27	15%	na	0%	0%	49%	na	9%	0%	28%	na	49%	
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	
Unweighted N	142	24	168	168	50	25	105	502	273	384	566	
			Chi ² =578***				Chi ² =736***			Chi ² =1078***		
Black												
<18	9%	na	67%	50%	na	na	0%	0%	3%	na	5%	
18-19	19%	na	33%	41%	na	na	14%	31%	6%	na	9%	
20-21	28%	na	2%	0%	24%	na	56%	45%	23%	na	15%	
22-23	18%	na	0%	0%	32%	na	29%	22%	40%	na	28%	
24-27	27%	na	0%	0%	44%	na	0%	1%	28%	na	43%	
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	
Unweighted N	168	145	36	36	59	78	34	96	33	145	96	
			Chi ² =577***				Chi ² =369***			Chi ² =258***		
Hispanic												
<18	17%	na	59%	56%	--	na	0%	4%	0%	na	2%	
18-19	34%	na	41%	39%	--	na	11%	43%	4%	na	11%	
20-21	17%	na	0%	0%	--	na	53%	33%	23%	na	26%	
22-23	13%	na	0%	0%	--	na	29%	20%	39%	na	18%	
24-27	19%	na	0%	0%	--	na	8%	1%	32%	na	44%	
No Marriage	na	100%	na	na	--	100%	na	na	na	100%	na	
Unweighted N	55	23	43	76	19 ^a	23	29	136	56	65	85	
			Chi ² =274***				Chi ² =265***			Chi ² =150***		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data.

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

na = not applicable

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 3e. Number of Children and Proportion of Women with a Spouse at Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYM.

Total # of Children at Age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
One	10%	40%	14%	12%	20%	66%	32%	38%	94%	na	na
Two	37%	26%	41%	44%	59%	22%	53%	49%	6%	na	na
Three	30%	15%	26%	32%	18%	10%	14%	11%	na	na	na
Four	12%	10%	12%	10%	3%	2%	1%	1%	na	na	na
Five or More	10%	10%	7%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	na	na	na
Unweighted N	276	128	349	450	90	88	180	1046	319	536	747
			Chi ² -65***				Chi ² -34***				
% with a Spouse at Age 27	73%	na	77%	83%	75%	na	85%	91%	98%	na	85%
Unweighted N	276	127	349	446	86	88	180	1044	319	517	735
			Chi ² -185***				Chi ² -310***				Chi ² -940***
45 Non-Black # of Children at Age 27											
One	11%	--	15%	11%	23%	--	31%	38%	94%	na	na
Two	46%	--	42%	45%	55%	--	55%	49%	6%	na	na
Three	31%	--	27%	33%	22%	--	14%	11%	0%	na	na
Four	7%	--	11%	9%	0%	--	1%	1%	0%	na	na
Five or More	6%	--	5%	2%	0%	--	0%	0%	0%	na	na
Unweighted N	79	9	234	355	30	14	128	912	276	390	648
			Chi ² -53***				Chi ² -15*				
% with a Spouse at Age 27	83%	na	81%	86%	77%	na	88%	91%	98%	na	86%
Unweighted N	79	9	234	351	28	14	128	911	276	382	640
			Chi ² -33***				Chi ² -108***				Chi ² -724***

(continued)

Table 3e. (cont.) Number of Children and Proportion of Women with a Spouse at Age 27, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black # of Children at Age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Concep. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
One	10%	30%	11%	19%	16%	64%	42%	43%	92%	na	na
Two	28%	30%	36%	28%	63%	21%	37%	47%	8%	na	na
Three	30%	18%	24%	25%	13%	12%	16%	9%	0%	na	na
Four	18%	10%	15%	19%	7%	3%	5%	2%	0%	na	na
Five or More	14%	12%	15%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	na	na
Unweighted N	197	119	115	95	60	74	52	134	43	146	99
			Chi ² =33***				Chi ² =41***				
% with a Spouse at Age 27	62%	na	56%	54%	72%	na	68%	85%	98%	na	70%
Unweighted N	197	118	115	95	58	74	52	133	43	135	95
			Chi ² =117***				Chi ² =139***			Chi ² =133***	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data.
(JOB TAB3YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

na = not applicable

Table 3g. Number of Children and Proportion of Women with a Spouse in Prior Year, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort MLSY.

Total # of Children at Age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
One	16%	33%	17%	18%	34%	54%	35%	39%	89%	na	na
Two	43%	37%	52%	49%	53%	38%	46%	49%	11%	na	na
Three	23%	20%	24%	24%	13%	3%	17%	11%	1%	na	na
Four	14%	7%	6%	6%	0%	2%	2%	2%	0%	na	na
Five or More	3%	4%	2%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	na	na
Unweighted N	365	192	247	280	128	126	168	734	362	594	747
			Chi ² -38***				Chi ² -38***				
% with a Spouse in prior yr. at Age 27	63%	na	74%	71%	70%	na	80%	83%	94%	na	63%
Unweighted N	363	191	246	279	128	125	168	731	362	593	746
			Chi ² -216***				Chi ² -278***				
Non-Black Non-Hispanic											
# of Children at Age 27											
One	21%	40%	18%	19%	38%	52%	34%	38%	89%	na	na
Two	43%	52%	53%	52%	53%	35%	45%	50%	10%	na	na
Three	18%	4%	23%	24%	9%	4%	19%	10%	1%	na	na
Four	17%	2%	5%	5%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	na	na
Five or More	1%	3%	1%	1%	0%	10%	0%	0%	0%	na	na
Unweighted N	142	24	168	168	50	25	105	502	273	384	566
			Chi ² -22**				Chi ² -65***				
% with a Spouse in prior yr. at Age 27	64%	na	77%	73%	73%	na	81%	85%	95%	na	64%
Unweighted N	141	24	167	168	50	25	105	499	273	383	565
			Chi ² -27***				Chi ² -62***				

(continued)

Table 3g. (cont.) Number of Children and Proportion of Women with a Spouse in Prior Year, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Black	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	No Birth by 27		
	# of Children at Age 27	Pre-mar. Birth. subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth. subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married
One	10%	32%	5%	24%	31%	59%	45%	50%	82%	na	na	
Two	46%	34%	58%	31%	54%	38%	38%	38%	19%	na	na	
Three	29%	23%	28%	30%	13%	3%	14%	12%	0%	na	na	
Four	11%	7%	6%	12%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	na	na	
Five or More	4%	4%	4%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	na	na	
Unweighted N	168	145	36	36	59	78	34	96	33	145	96	
			Chi ² =35***				Chi ² =22**					
% with a Spouse in prior yr. at Age 27	59%	na	50%	54%	66%	na	72%	63%	86%	na	55%	
Unweighted N	167	144	36	36	59	78	34	96	33	145	96	
			Chi ² =137***				Chi ² =100***					
48 Hispanic												
# of Children at Age 27												
One	15%	35%	26%	10%	--	37%	32%	42%	83%	na	na	
Two	39%	32%	31%	45%	--	46%	66%	43%	17%	na	na	
Three	26%	19%	26%	26%	--	4%	0%	14%	0%	na	na	
Four	13%	14%	12%	11%	--	13%	3%	1%	0%	na	na	
Five or More	8%	0%	5%	8%	--	0%	0%	0%	0%	na	na	
Unweighted N	55	23	43	76	19 ^a	23	29	136	56	65	85	
			Chi ² =14**				Chi ² =33***					
% with a Spouse in prior yr. at Age 27	70%	na	72%	69%	--	na	86%	80%	83%	na	59%	
Unweighted N	55	23	43	75	19 ^a	22	29	136	56	65	85	
			Chi ² =47***				Chi ² =58***					

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB3YN.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, July 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 18b. Proportion of Years Respondent Spent as a Single Mother in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

% years as a single mother in 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital. concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital. concept.	Post-Marital. concept.	
Total										
Never a single mother	na	na	62%	64%	na	na	75%	76%	90%	
1-33%	28%	na	13%	14%	38%	na	9%	8%	4%	
34%+	73%	100%	26%	22%	62%	100%	17%	17%	6%	
Unweighted N	404	325	272	331	157	231	207	857	199	
			Chi ² -560***				Chi ² -636***			
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic										
Never a single mother	na	na	63%	65%	na	na	75%	77%	91%	
1-33%	33%	na	12%	15%	38%	na	9%	8%	4%	
34%+	67%	100%	26%	20%	62%	100%	16%	15%	5%	
Unweighted N	164	60	189	194	57	61	127	602	156	
			Chi ² -208***				Chi ² -248***			
Black										
Never a single mother	na	na	46%	54%	na	na	72%	56%	--	
1-33%	16%	na	23%	11%	35%	na	11%	12%	--	
34%+	84%	100%	32%	35%	65%	100%	17%	32%	--	
Unweighted N	172	225	30	37	80	134	42	109	14 ^a	
			Chi ² -270***				Chi ² -245***			
Hispanic										
Never a single mother	na	na	64%	62%	na	na	77%	75%	81%	
1-33%	35%	na	18%	13%	53%	na	2%	7%	0%	
34%+	65%	100%	18%	25%	47%	100%	21%	18%	19%	
Unweighted N	68	40	53	100	20	36	38	146	29	
			Chi ² -136***				Chi ² -150***			

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Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB18Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY and HOURS WORKED

Tables 6e (NLSYW) and 6g (NLSY): Percent of Weeks Worked During the Five Years Prior to Age 27

At age 27, women who have had their first child in their twenties have a young child(ren) in the home. Hence, one might expect them to be employed less of the time than women whose oldest child was born during their teen years. However, there is no evidence of such a trend in the data presented in the first panel of these tables. Teen mothers do not show evidence of having returned or become more attached to the labor force by age 27 than delayed childbearers.

Studying the second panel of each table further supports this conclusion. During the year prior to age 27, younger mothers are no more likely than women who became mothers in their twenties to be employed part-time or full-time.

On the other hand, marital status differences in employment are apparent among women in the younger (NLSY) cohort. Within the category of teen mothers, for example, never-married mothers are significantly more likely to have never been employed during the five years prior to age 27 (24%) or to have been employed 20% of the time or less (28%). A similar pattern appears among women who became mothers in their early twenties.

Not surprisingly, women still childless at age 27 are the most likely to be employed continuously and full-time.

Tables 11c (NLSYW) and 11d (NLSY): Proportion of Time Employed During Five and Ten-Year Periods After the First Birth

Longitudinal data in the NLSYW and the NLSY allow us to follow women during the five-year period after their first child is born to examine patterns of employment. In addition, for the older cohort of NLSYW women, we are able to follow most mothers for a ten-year period after their first child is born. Obviously, births to delayed childbearers are under-represented in this sample; but the vast majority of women can be tracked for at least five years.

Interestingly, among teenage mothers, only a minority are never employed at all during their first child's pre-school years and just a handful are never employed during the first ten years after the birth of their first child. On the other hand, very few are consistently employed throughout the period.

Within the group of teen mothers, never-married mothers are the most likely to never have been employed during their child's pre-school years, particularly in the more recent NLSY cohort, where 32% of Hispanic, 29% of black and 12% of white never-married teenage mothers never worked during the five-year period after the birth of their first child. These proportions are higher than the comparable proportions for never-married mothers who bore their first child in their early twenties; but even among these slightly older mothers, substantial proportions of Hispanic and black never-married women were never employed during their child's first five years. In every group, non-employment is more common among never-married mothers than among mothers who were married when their first child was born.

Tables 12c (NLSYW) and 12d (NLSY): Proportion of Time After the First Birth Spent Employed Full-Time

Younger mothers are particularly unlikely to have worked full-time; this is especially true of never-married teenage mothers, among whom 55% never worked full-time during the five years after the birth of their first child.

Since for most single parents, it is necessary to work full-time to support a family above the poverty line, it is important to note that only 7% of never-married teen mothers are estimated to have worked full-time for all or nearly all of their first born's pre-school years. Among never-married mothers whose first birth occurred in their early twenties, 34% never worked full-time, while 27% worked all or nearly all of the five-year period.

Tables 14c (NLSYW) and 14d (NLSY): Proportion of Years After the First Birth Spent Unemployed

Only a minority of teenage mothers, particularly in the younger cohort, completely escaped unemployment. 80% of never-married NLSY teen mothers experienced unemployment, 75% of those who delivered outside of marriage but later married, 77% of those who married to legitimate a pregnancy, and 64% of those who were married when they became pregnant experienced unemployment during the five years after their first child's birth. On the other hand, few were unemployed for a substantial proportion of this time period.

Across the two cohorts, similar proportions of never-married teen mothers experienced unemployment; however, in the older cohort, 34% were unemployed for at least 10% of their child's pre-school years, compared with just 4% among comparable mothers in the younger cohort. This time trend is also visible among never-married mothers who were 20-24 when their first child was born: women in the older cohort experienced longer durations of unemployment.

Unemployment can be avoided either by having a job or by not looking for a job. Among older mothers, only a minority experience unemployment and their periods of unemployment tend to be of fairly short duration. However, those women in their early twenties who were unmarried at the birth of their child face higher rates of unemployment than married women, even though their experience of unemployment is substantially lower than that of teenage mothers.

Table 6e. Respondent's Work History in Five Years Prior to Age 27, by Age at First Birth, and Marital Status at First Birth.
Total Sample (Heighted): 1968 Cohort NLSY.

Total % of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
none	18%	23%	17%	19%	11%	9%	10%	13%	0%	4%	1%
1-20%	18%	16%	16%	22%	9%	12%	16%	16%	2%	2%	4%
21-40%	15%	8%	18%	16%	11%	13%	13%	15%	5%	4%	5%
41-60%	21%	18%	18%	20%	28%	16%	30%	23%	20%	16%	14%
61-80%	13%	12%	14%	11%	18%	21%	17%	18%	26%	22%	22%
81-90%	6%	5%	6%	4%	7%	11%	7%	6%	15%	14%	18%
91-100%	10%	19%	11%	8%	15%	19%	8%	9%	31%	38%	36%
Unweighted N	274	126	349	442	86	87	179	1036	318	520	737
			Chi ² =19*				Chi ² =20*			Chi ² =25***	
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27											
none	47%	39%	48%	50%	49%	31%	57%	61%	60%	17%	20%
1-80%	21%	23%	23%	25%	25%	14%	18%	15%	19%	12%	17%
81-100%	32%	38%	29%	25%	26%	56%	26%	24%	21%	71%	63%
Unweighted N	252	103	324	426	83	77	168	972	301	503	724
			Chi ² =6*				Chi ² =32***			Chi ² =11**	
Non-Black % of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27											
none	23%	--	17%	20%	12%	--	11%	13%	0%	3%	1%
1-20%	20%	--	17%	22%	9%	--	16%	16%	2%	2%	4%
21-40%	17%	--	18%	17%	11%	--	13%	15%	5%	4%	5%
41-60%	17%	--	18%	20%	28%	--	30%	23%	20%	16%	14%
61-80%	11%	--	14%	10%	20%	--	16%	18%	26%	22%	23%
81-90%	3%	--	5%	3%	4%	--	7%	6%	15%	15%	18%
91-100%	9%	--	11%	8%	17%	--	8%	9%	31%	39%	36%
Unweighted N	79	9 ^a	234	348	28	14 ^a	127	903	275	383	642
			Chi ² =11*				Chi ² =14*			Chi ² =12*	
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27											
none	52%	--	51%	52%	61%	--	58%	63%	61%	16%	20%
1-80%	25%	--	23%	25%	19%	--	17%	14%	18%	11%	17%
81-100%	23%	--	26%	23%	20%	--	24%	23%	21%	73%	63%
Unweighted N	72	7 ^a	215	334	29	12 ^a	121	848	262	372	627
			Chi ² =3*				Chi ² =12*			Chi ² =12***	

(continued)

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Table 6e. (cont.) Respondent's Work History in Five Years Prior to Age 27, by Age at First Birth, and Marital Status at First Birth.
 Total Sample (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black % of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married	
none	12%	26%	16%	13%	10%	9%	6%	11%	0%	12%	1%	
1-20%	15%	17%	12%	18%	9%	11%	15%	8%	13%	0%	3%	
21-40%	13%	7%	17%	12%	12%	13%	8%	13%	4%	5%	11%	
41-60%	25%	17%	17%	16%	28%	20%	31%	31%	26%	19%	24%	
61-80%	16%	11%	17%	23%	17%	19%	29%	13%	26%	22%	16%	
81-90%	9%	3%	7%	9%	11%	13%	2%	13%	15%	10%	12%	
91-100%	10%	20%	14%	10%	13%	17%	10%	11%	15%	31%	33%	
Unweighted N	195	117	115	94	58	73	52	133	43	137	95	
			Chi ² =35***				Chi ² =16*			Chi ² =19***		
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27												
none	42%	42%	33%	37%	32%	34%	41%	40%	41%	20%	20%	
1-80%	17%	18%	21%	20%	34%	13%	22%	21%	37%	21%	21%	
81-100%	42%	40%	46%	42%	35%	53%	37%	39%	22%	60%	59%	
Unweighted N	180	96	109	92	54	65	47	124	39	131	97	
			Chi ² =3*				Chi ² =11**			Chi ² =.00020*		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data.
 (JOB TAB6YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 6g. Respondent's Work History in Five Years Prior to Age 27, by Age at First Birth, and Marital Status at First Birth.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Total % of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Post- Marital concp.	Not Married	Married	
none	11%	24%	14%	11%	8%	21%	7%	6%	2%	1%	1%	
1-20%	21%	28%	17%	21%	15%	18%	11%	13%	2%	4%	2%	
21-40%	17%	15%	15%	21%	23%	15%	11%	14%	4%	5%	4%	
41-60%	16%	9%	15%	13%	13%	11%	27%	17%	9%	8%	7%	
61-80%	13%	12%	16%	18%	17%	6%	22%	20%	27%	20%	23%	
81-90%	7%	3%	7%	9%	15%	13%	7%	10%	15%	17%	17%	
91-100%	15%	10%	17%	7%	8%	16%	14%	21%	41%	45%	46%	
Unweighted N	359	189	244	277	127	123	165	723	356	585	738	
			Chi ² =46***				Chi ² =65***			Chi ² =12 ^a		
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27												
none	33%	54%	34%	38%	31%	53%	42%	37%	29%	5%	5%	
1-80%	23%	18%	18%	27%	19%	9%	19%	19%	20%	10%	12%	
81-100%	45%	28%	48%	35%	51%	38%	39%	45%	51%	86%	83%	
Unweighted N	282	162	185	204	97	100	114	544	261	485	634	
			Chi ² =24***				Chi ² =12 ^a			Chi ² =2		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic % of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27												
none	10%	21%	16%	9%	11%	21%	7%	6%	1%	1%	1%	
1-20%	21%	31%	17%	22%	17%	28%	11%	11%	2%	4%	1%	
21-40%	19%	12%	14%	22%	23%	11%	11%	13%	5%	4%	4%	
41-60%	14%	7%	14%	14%	3%	7%	29%	17%	8%	6%	7%	
61-80%	14%	26%	16%	18%	20%	2%	21%	21%	28%	21%	23%	
81-90%	7%	1%	6%	9%	19%	16%	7%	10%	16%	18%	17%	
91-100%	16%	1%	16%	6%	7%	14%	14%	21%	40%	46%	47%	
Unweighted N	139	24	167	167	49	25	102	494	268	378	559	
			Chi ² =21				Chi ² =36***			Chi ² =8		
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27												
none	31%	--	35%	38%	34%	--	47%	36%	30%	4%	5%	
1-80%	19%	--	18%	27%	11%	--	19%	19%	20%	8%	11%	
81-100%	50%	--	46%	35%	55%	--	34%	45%	50%	88%	84%	
Unweighted N	105	17 ^a	119	123	38	17 ^a	69	361	192	306	476	
			Chi ² =8				Chi ² =7			Chi ² =3		

(continued)

Table 6g. (cont.) Respondent's Work History in Five Years Prior to Age 27, by Age at First Birth, and Marital Status at First Birth.
Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married	
Black												
% of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27												
none	13%	22%	6%	20%	2%	21%	5%	7%	5%	3%	3%	
1-20%	20%	29%	15%	15%	10%	16%	12%	18%	4%	5%	8%	
21-40%	16%	16%	18%	19%	22%	15%	9%	13%	9%	9%	9%	
41-60%	21%	9%	20%	8%	32%	13%	19%	14%	13%	17%	7%	
61-80%	11%	10%	20%	19%	13%	6%	31%	11%	16%	18%	30%	
81-90%	6%	3%	13%	8%	14%	11%	10%	16%	4%	12%	15%	
91-100%	14%	12%	8%	12%	8%	17%	14%	21%	50%	37%	29%	
Unweighted N	165	142	36	35	59	77	34	96	33	144	94	
			Chi ² =32***				Chi ² =45***			Chi ² =11*		
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27												
none	33%	53%	28%	24%	17%	51%	13%	33%	13%	8%	11%	
1-80%	26%	17%	20%	26%	31%	9%	23%	17%	31%	18%	18%	
81-100%	41%	30%	52%	50%	52%	41%	64%	50%	55%	74%	71%	
Unweighted N	129	125	32	29	47	65	24	82	27	125	85	
			Chi ² =19***				Chi ² =24***			Chi ² =.537		
Hispanic												
% of Weeks Worked in 5 Years Prev. to Age 27												
none	16%	43%	6%	14%	16%	21%	9%	10%	4%	3%	1%	
1-20%	22%	16%	21%	22%	25%	12%	14%	23%	9%	4%	2%	
21-40%	16%	8%	14%	20%	28%	17%	20%	19%	0%	7%	3%	
41-60%	12%	13%	10%	13%	4%	7%	21%	13%	14%	12%	6%	
61-80%	14%	0%	7%	17%	14%	9%	15%	15%	15%	12%	24%	
81-90%	8%	9%	11%	7%	0%	19%	8%	10%	5%	14%	12%	
91-100%	13%	11%	32%	8%	14%	15%	13%	10%	53%	49%	52%	
Unweighted N	55	23	41	75	19 ^a	21	29	133	55	63	85	
			Chi ² =36***				Chi ² =14			Chi ² =7		
% of Prev. Year Worked Full-Time At Age 27												
none	41%	69%	27%	44%	--	--	43%	42%	23%	8%	3%	
1-80%	26%	3%	15%	30%	--	--	15%	14%	22%	14%	14%	
81-100%	32%	28%	58%	27%	--	--	42%	44%	56%	78%	83%	
Unweighted N	48	20	34	52	12 ^a	18 ^a	21	101	42	54	73	
			Chi ² =20***				Chi ² =8			Chi ² =2		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data.

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 11c. Proportion of Weeks Respondent Spent Employed in the First 5 and 10 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Total % weeks emply. 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	
Never employed	11%	17%	16%	14%	15%	10%	17%	15%	12%	
1-20%	28%	33%	24%	33%	12%	9%	21%	26%	18%	
21-40%	25%	10%	19%	21%	17%	15%	20%	14%	14%	
41-60%	17%	25%	18%	15%	11%	4%	12%	14%	12%	
61-80%	12%	6%	16%	10%	19%	22%	16%	14%	12%	
81-100%	7%	9%	8%	7%	26%	40%	14%	16%	33%	
Unweighted N	174	74	184	203	82	53	130	790	516	
			Chi ² =13				Chi ² =32***			
<u>% weeks emply. 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never employed	2%	6%	3%	4%	0%	0%	5%	4%	2%	
1-20%	21%	20%	21%	27%	12%	4%	21%	18%	14%	
21-40%	23%	16%	24%	24%	22%	17%	16%	17%	12%	
41-60%	22%	19%	14%	19%	12%	8%	19%	19%	17%	
61-80%	22%	26%	23%	18%	19%	28%	24%	18%	22%	
81-100%	11%	13%	15%	8%	35%	44%	17%	24%	34%	
Unweighted N	125	48	146	145	56	31	104	566	186	
			Chi ² =10				Chi ² =19			
<u>Non-Black % weeks emply. 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never employed	13%	--	16%	15%	21%	--	18%	16%	12%	
1-20%	29%	--	25%	34%	13%	--	21%	27%	19%	
21-40%	24%	--	18%	20%	19%	--	20%	14%	14%	
41-60%	19%	--	18%	15%	10%	--	11%	14%	12%	
61-80%	11%	--	17%	9%	16%	--	16%	14%	12%	
81-100%	5%	--	7%	8%	22%	--	14%	16%	32%	
Unweighted N	44	3 ^a	128	158	20	8 ^a	96	680	452	
			Chi ² =11				Chi ² =13			
<u>% weeks emply. 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never employed	0%	--	3%	4%	--	--	5%	4%	2%	
1-20%	26%	--	22%	27%	--	--	22%	18%	14%	
21-40%	24%	--	25%	24%	--	--	16%	17%	13%	
41-60%	25%	--	13%	20%	--	--	18%	20%	17%	
61-80%	23%	--	22%	16%	--	--	22%	18%	22%	
81-100%	3%	--	14%	9%	--	--	17%	23%	33%	
Unweighted N	35	3 ^a	99	118	14 ^a	5 ^a	75	492	168	
			Chi ² =12				Chi ² =8			

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(continued)

Table 11c. (cont.) Proportion of Weeks Respondent Spent Employed in the First 5 and 10 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black % weeks emply. 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	
Never employed	10%	20%	15%	7%	10%	9%	5%	11%	1%	
1-20%	27%	28%	21%	30%	10%	7%	14%	13%	2%	
21-40%	26%	12%	26%	30%	14%	16%	26%	19%	12%	
41-60%	16%	24%	17%	18%	13%	7%	25%	16%	19%	
61-80%	12%	7%	11%	13%	22%	21%	15%	14%	15%	
81-100%	9%	10%	11%	2%	30%	41%	14%	28%	50%	
Unweighted N	130	71	56	45 Chi ² =18	62	45	34	110 Chi ² =14	64	
% weeks emply. 10 yrs. after 1st birth										
Never employed	3%	7%	7%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	--	
1-20%	16%	17%	13%	24%	5%	6%	14%	13%	--	
21-40%	22%	20%	16%	22%	21%	15%	10%	18%	--	
41-60%	18%	15%	19%	9%	10%	2%	23%	14%	--	
61-80%	21%	25%	26%	39%	28%	21%	38%	10%	--	
81-100%	20%	16%	20%	3%	36%	56%	15%	44%	--	
Unweighted N	90	45	47	27 Chi ² =9	42	26	29	74 Chi ² =24*	18 ^a	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1985 data. (JOB TAB11YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 11d. Proportion of Weeks Respondent Spent Employed in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

% weeks employed 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.
Total									
Never employed	15%	25%	8%	16%	8%	16%	9%	8%	11%
1-20%	31%	32%	24%	23%	22%	21%	14%	21%	19%
21-40%	15%	18%	28%	21%	18%	21%	17%	13%	11%
41-60%	18%	11%	15%	20%	15%	9%	19%	14%	11%
61-80%	11%	9%	13%	11%	20%	10%	24%	17%	11%
81-100%	10%	6%	12%	10%	17%	23%	17%	27%	38%
Unweighted N	394	313	273	324	156	216	195	790	177
			Chi ² ₋₅₁ ***				Chi ² ₋₄₃ ***		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic									
Never employed	12%	12%	9%	15%	9%	8%	9%	8%	10%
1-20%	32%	28%	24%	21%	26%	22%	14%	20%	19%
21-40%	15%	30%	28%	22%	16%	31%	18%	13%	11%
41-60%	18%	10%	15%	21%	9%	4%	19%	15%	11%
61-80%	13%	9%	12%	11%	24%	11%	25%	17%	11%
81-100%	10%	11%	12%	9%	17%	24%	15%	28%	38%
Unweighted N	159	57	191	190	57	59	119	551	139
			Chi ² ₋₁₆				Chi ² ₋₃₀ **		
Black									
Never employed	18%	29%	12%	22%	5%	20%	8%	8%	--
1-20%	29%	34%	15%	23%	15%	19%	8%	21%	--
21-40%	17%	14%	30%	12%	23%	14%	18%	9%	--
41-60%	20%	11%	20%	17%	24%	13%	14%	13%	--
61-80%	8%	8%	17%	12%	17%	11%	25%	16%	--
81-100%	9%	3%	6%	14%	17%	23%	27%	34%	--
Unweighted N	168	219	31	36	79	124	41	102	11 ^a
			Chi ² ₋₃₁ ***				Chi ² ₋₃₆ ***		
Hispanic									
Never employed	17%	32%	2%	20%	15%	25%	6%	14%	9%
1-20%	34%	23%	28%	30%	35%	33%	34%	26%	17%
21-40%	10%	15%	18%	17%	13%	15%	12%	19%	4%
41-60%	16%	12%	19%	12%	7%	5%	22%	9%	7%
61-80%	12%	10%	14%	12%	13%	3%	8%	18%	28%
81-100%	11%	8%	20%	9%	17%	20%	18%	14%	35%
Unweighted N	67	37	51	98	20	33	35	137	27
			Chi ² ₋₂₁				Chi ² ₋₁₉		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NSLYW), 1979-1988 data.

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 12c. Proportion of Time Respondent Spent Employed Full-Time in the First 5 and 10 Years After Her First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+
Total	Pre-mar. Birth. subs. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth. subs. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.
<u>% emply. full-time in 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never employed full-time	14%	20%	22%	21%	15%	10%	27%	27%	37%
1-20%	33%	33%	30%	36%	17%	10%	23%	30%	19%
21-40%	23%	17%	19%	19%	19%	17%	19%	14%	12%
41-60%	15%	18%	15%	12%	8%	3%	8%	11%	7%
61-80%	9%	7%	10%	7%	17%	19%	11%	8%	7%
81-100%	6%	5%	5%	5%	25%	41%	12%	11%	18%
Unweighted N	174	74	184	203	78	50	127	770	473
			Chi ² =7				Chi ² =55***		
<u>% emply. full-time in 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never employed full-time	2%	8%	16%	10%	1%	2%	15%	14%	21%
1-20%	34%	27%	25%	32%	18%	6%	27%	32%	29%
21-40%	22%	20%	24%	25%	13%	22%	20%	15%	12%
41-60%	22%	16%	12%	18%	15%	9%	12%	13%	16%
61-80%	10%	19%	17%	13%	23%	15%	17%	13%	11%
81-100%	10%	10%	8%	4%	30%	46%	10%	13%	13%
Unweighted N	112	44	130	134	43	27	97	480	148
			Chi ² =20				Chi ² =35***		
Non-Black									
<u>% emply. full-time in 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never employed full-time	16%	--	22%	21%	21%	--	29%	28%	38%
1-20%	34%	--	30%	37%	23%	--	24%	30%	19%
21-40%	24%	--	18%	18%	19%	--	18%	14%	12%
41-60%	16%	--	15%	12%	0%	--	7%	11%	7%
61-80%	7%	--	10%	7%	16%	--	10%	8%	6%
81-100%	3%	--	4%	5%	22%	--	12%	10%	17%
Unweighted N	44	3 ^a	128	158	20	8 ^a	94	662	417
			Chi ² =9				Chi ² =23**		
<u>% emply. full-time in 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never employed full-time	0%	--	17%	10%	0%	--	16%	15%	21%
1-20%	45%	--	26%	33%	30%	--	27%	33%	30%
21-40%	26%	--	24%	26%	16%	--	21%	15%	12%
41-60%	18%	--	11%	17%	8%	--	10%	13%	16%
61-80%	11%	--	16%	12%	17%	--	16%	13%	10%
81-100%	0%	--	6%	4%	29%	--	10%	12%	12%
Unweighted N	30	2 ^a	88	111	13 ^a	3 ^a	71	419	132
			Chi ² =17				Chi ² =13		

(continued)

Table 12c. (cont.) Proportion of Time Respondent Spent Employed Full-Time in the First 5 and 10 Years After Her First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+
	Pre-mar. Birth. subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concepn.	Pre-mar. Birth. subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concepn.	Post-Marital concepn.
% emply. full-time in 5 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never employed full-time	13%	23%	16%	17%	8%	9%	9%	15%	7%
1-20%	32%	28%	29%	28%	12%	9%	18%	23%	12%
21-40%	23%	19%	23%	24%	18%	19%	30%	11%	11%
41-60%	14%	16%	10%	18%	17%	5%	19%	14%	12%
61-80%	11%	8%	13%	12%	18%	17%	16%	14%	20%
81-100%	8%	6%	10%	2%	28%	41%	8%	24%	38%
Unweighted N	130	71	56	45	58	42	33	108	56
			Chi ² =8				Chi ² =24*		
% emply. full-time in 10 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never employed full-time	4%	10%	11%	8%	2%	2%	0%	1%	--
1-20%	22%	23%	15%	24%	7%	8%	26%	22%	--
21-40%	18%	24%	20%	17%	10%	18%	9%	20%	--
41-60%	25%	19%	16%	28%	22%	3%	34%	13%	--
61-80%	9%	14%	18%	20%	29%	20%	27%	11%	--
81-100%	21%	11%	21%	3%	30%	49%	4%	33%	--
Unweighted N	82	42	42	23	30	24	26	61	16 ^a
			Chi ² =12				Chi ² =29**		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data. (JOB TAB12YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 12d. Proportion of Time Respondent Spent Employed Full-Time in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	
Total										
Never employed full-time	40%	55%	32%	41%	26%	34%	28%	24%	28%	
1-20%	20%	15%	24%	15%	14%	15%	12%	13%	13%	
21-40%	8%	9%	10%	12%	13%	12%	12%	9%	8%	
41-60%	12%	7%	11%	11%	13%	4%	11%	6%	3%	
61-80%	11%	8%	7%	8%	15%	8%	11%	16%	11%	
81-100%	11%	7%	17%	14%	19%	27%	27%	31%	38%	
Unweighted N	254	237	173	214	119	162	132	569	109	
			Chi ² =27**				Chi ² =21**			
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic										
Never employed full-time	34%	47%	33%	41%	29%	29%	32%	24%	29%	
1-20%	22%	13%	25%	14%	14%	14%	11%	13%	14%	
21-40%	8%	14%	11%	13%	15%	21%	12%	9%	8%	
41-60%	12%	2%	9%	11%	7%	0%	11%	6%	3%	
61-80%	13%	13%	6%	8%	18%	8%	8%	16%	10%	
81-100%	12%	12%	16%	14%	17%	29%	27%	33%	37%	
Unweighted N	96	42	118	121	47	38	71	375	79	
			Chi ² =13				Chi ² =15			
Black										
Never employed full-time	46%	60%	32%	45%	16%	35%	13%	22%	--	
1-20%	17%	15%	13%	5%	15%	15%	7%	16%	--	
21-40%	8%	7%	14%	4%	13%	9%	17%	8%	--	
41-60%	13%	9%	23%	17%	22%	6%	7%	9%	--	
61-80%	8%	5%	7%	5%	14%	9%	27%	12%	--	
81-100%	8%	5%	12%	24%	21%	27%	29%	34%	--	
Unweighted N	116	165	20	23	57	98	32	82	11 ^a	
			Chi ² =22				Chi ² =30**			
Hispanic										
Never employed full-time	45%	39%	19%	39%	--	42%	22%	34%	--	
1-20%	16%	21%	14%	23%	--	23%	23%	18%	--	
21-40%	5%	12%	6%	7%	--	4%	3%	10%	--	
41-60%	11%	3%	18%	7%	--	6%	16%	7%	--	
61-80%	8%	15%	14%	12%	--	0%	13%	14%	--	
81-100%	14%	10%	29%	13%	--	25%	23%	17%	--	
Unweighted N	42	30	35	70	15 ^a	26	29	112	19 ^a	
			Chi ² =18				Chi ² =18			

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data.

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 14c. Proportion of Time Respondent Spent Unemployed in the First 5 and 10 Years After Her First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYH.

	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	
Total % time unemply. in 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	
Never unemployed	25%	25%	45%	50%	40%	50%	68%	69%	78%	
<5%	34%	32%	26%	30%	26%	21%	19%	20%	11%	
5-9%	18%	9%	15%	9%	15%	12%	7%	5%	5%	
10%+	24%	34%	14%	11%	19%	17%	5%	6%	5%	
Unweighted N	175	74	184	203	78	50	127	770	473	
			Chi ² =35***				Chi ² =36***			
% time unemply. in 10 yrs. after 1st birth										
Never unemployed	23%	18%	31%	34%	27%	28%	55%	57%	66%	
<5%	33%	27%	39%	40%	26%	15%	30%	27%	20%	
5-9%	24%	27%	13%	13%	23%	23%	11%	9%	10%	
10%+	20%	29%	17%	13%	24%	35%	5%	8%	5%	
Unweighted N	113	44	130	134	43	27	97	480	148	
			Chi ² =13				Chi ² =40***			
Non-Black % time unemply. in 5 yrs. after 1st birth										
Never unemployed	32%	--	47%	52%	58%	--	70%	69%	79%	
<5%	32%	--	26%	30%	15%	--	19%	20%	11%	
5-9%	21%	--	13%	9%	15%	--	7%	5%	5%	
10%+	15%	--	14%	9%	11%	--	4%	6%	5%	
Unweighted N	44	3 ^a	128	158	20	8 ^a	94	662	417	
			Chi ² =21**				Chi ² =8			
% time unemply. in 10 yrs. after 1st birth										
Never unemployed	27%	--	31%	36%	40%	--	57%	57%	67%	
<5%	34%	--	39%	39%	26%	--	29%	26%	19%	
5-9%	27%	--	13%	13%	10%	--	11%	9%	9%	
10%+	12%	--	16%	13%	24%	--	3%	8%	4%	
Unweighted N	30	2 ^a	88	111	13 ^a	3 ^a	71	419	132	
			Chi ² =11				Chi ² =26***			

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(continued)

Table 14c. (cont.) Proportion of Time Respondent Spent Unemployed in the First 5 and 10 Years After Her First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black % time unemply. in 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Ma Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.
Never unemployed	18%	28%	31%	29%	21%	50%	46%	62%	48%
<5%	35%	32%	25%	30%	36%	18%	20%	22%	17%
5-9%	15%	10%	26%	7%	15%	13%	13%	5%	15%
10%+	32%	30%	19%	35%	27%	20%	21%	11%	20%
Unweighted N	131	71	56	45	58	42	33	108	56
			Chi ² -16*				Chi ² -29***		
% time unemply. in 10 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never unemployed	19%	21%	32%	9%	14%	37%	30%	48%	--
<5%	33%	32%	35%	49%	25%	20%	40%	40%	--
5-9%	20%	23%	12%	14%	37%	19%	8%	4%	--
10%+	29%	24%	21%	27%	24%	25%	22%	8%	--
Unweighted N	83	42	42	23	30	24	26	61	16 ^a
			Chi ² -8				Chi ² -33***		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data. (JOB TAB14YM.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 14d. Proportion of Time Respondent Spent Unemployed in First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status
Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

% time unempl. in 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	
Total										
Never unemployed	25%	20%	23%	36%	28%	31%	37%	51%	72%	
<5%	59%	56%	67%	60%	63%	53%	59%	44%	27%	
5-9%	11%	20%	9%	3%	7%	13%	3%	5%	2%	
10%+	6%	4%	2%	0%	2%	3%	1%	1%	0%	
Unweighted N	363	291	252	308	154	213	193	785	174	
			Chi ² =65***				Chi ² =59***			
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic										
Never unemployed	30%	29%	24%	37%	39%	31%	37%	53%	72%	
<5%	59%	60%	66%	60%	59%	56%	62%	43%	27%	
5-9%	7%	11%	9%	3%	1%	13%	1%	4%	2%	
10%+	4%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	
Unweighted N	148	54	175	179	56	58	118	547	137	
			Chi ² =18**				Chi ² =31***			
Black										
Never unemployed	15%	15%	10%	28%	13%	29%	21%	38%	--	
<5%	58%	57%	67%	67%	69%	52%	56%	49%	--	
5-9%	16%	24%	23%	6%	16%	13%	18%	11%	--	
10%+	11%	5%	0%	0%	3%	6%	5%	2%	--	
Unweighted N	153	202	30	36	78	123	41	101	11 ^a	
			Chi ² =19**				Chi ² =17**			
Hispanic										
Never unemployed	34%	39%	25%	37%	31%	45%	59%	39%	77%	
<5%	53%	41%	73%	57%	57%	49%	37%	53%	23%	
5-9%	13%	20%	2%	5%	7%	6%	4%	7%	0%	
10%+	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	0%	0%	1%	0%	
Unweighted N	62	35	47	93	20	32	34	137	26	
			Chi ² =18**				Chi ² =9			

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB14Y.SPS on CB-NICH05-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

WOMEN'S EARNINGS

Tables 8e (NLSYW) and 8g (NLSY): Hourly Rate of Pay

Among women who worked, hourly rate of pay is found to vary substantially by age at first birth. Differences according to marital status are erratic, with the exception that women not yet mothers by age 27 tend to have higher hourly earnings. Race differentials among women are slight in both cohorts.

Only about one in ten women in the NLSY who bore a child before age 25 earn \$10.00 an hour or more, in 1989 constant dollars.¹ Among mothers who were 25 or 26 at first birth and worked, one in five earned more than \$10.00 per hour, as did more than a quarter of the women not yet mothers at age 27.

Tables 9e (NLSYW) and 9g (NLSY): Annual Earnings

Non-mothers have the highest earnings by far. Very few mothers in either cohort earn more than \$18,000 in 1989 dollars, while a substantial minority of non-mothers earn this much. Again, race and ethnic differences are slight.

Differences in annual earnings associated with marital status at first birth are not found at the higher end of the earnings scale; rather, as one would expect from the employment data, never-married mothers are considerably more likely to have no earnings at all than women married at birth or subsequently. This difference is found among women who became mothers in their teens and also among those who became mothers in their early twenties.

Tables 10i (NLSYW) and 10k (NLSY): Family Income

Family income is tabulated for both cohorts in these tables. (Some additional information is reported related to poverty and welfare receipt which is discussed later.) Despite rather modest differences in personal income among women becoming unmarried or married mothers at different ages, differences in *family* income are striking. The majority of never-married teenage mothers have family incomes at age 27 that are less than \$10,000 in 1989 dollars -- 56% in the NLSYW and 66% in the younger

¹To make earnings and income reported across a variety of years comparable, we used annual inflation factors supplied by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to transform earnings and income into 1989 constant dollars.

NLSY cohort. Only 10-16% of the NLSYW teen mothers and 19-27% of the NLSY teen mothers who ever married had similarly low incomes at age 27.

While women who delay their first birth past the teen years generally tend to enjoy higher family incomes than teen mothers, never-married mothers who had their first birth in their early twenties are only slightly better off than never-married teen mothers.

The role of husband's income is further illustrated in a contrast of family income among non-mothers at age 27. As noted above, women who are not yet mothers at age 27 tend to be advantaged in terms of education and personal earnings. However, when family income is considered, only 22% of NLSY women who are neither married nor mothers have incomes above \$30,000 compared with 57% of married non-mothers.

Table 8e. Hourly Rate of Pay at Age 27, by Age at First Birth, and Marital Status at First Birth. Total Sample (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Hourly Rate of Pay at Age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	No Birth	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
Total											
<\$4.00	11%	8%	5%	11%	12%	4%	2%	8%	4%	5%	2%
\$4.01-\$6.00	34%	41%	39%	41%	42%	36%	30%	28%	18%	15%	15%
\$6.01-\$10.00	40%	29%	45%	40%	38%	55%	46%	46%	53%	45%	46%
\$10.01+	15%	22%	11%	8%	9%	5%	21%	18%	25%	36%	37%
Unweighted N	179	75	207	251	62	58	97	535	195	461	639
			Chi ² =16*				Chi ² =18*			Chi ² =8**	
Non-Black											
<\$4.00	13%	--	6%	11%	--	--	2%	8%	3%	4%	2%
\$4.01-\$6.00	19%	--	41%	42%	--	--	32%	28%	17%	14%	14%
\$6.01-\$10.00	52%	--	42%	40%	--	--	45%	47%	54%	45%	47%
\$10.01+	17%	--	12%	7%	--	--	21%	17%	26%	36%	37%
Unweighted N	43	7 ^a	125	187	18 ^a	11 ^a	66	441	158	344	549
			Chi ² =32***				Chi ² =14			Chi ² =6	
Black											
<\$4.00	10%	4%	3%	10%	10%	7%	5%	4%	9%	7%	6%
\$4.01-\$6.00	47%	50%	31%	37%	34%	29%	15%	27%	24%	18%	23%
\$6.01-\$10.00	30%	35%	56%	43%	43%	56%	58%	43%	46%	41%	42%
\$10.01+	13%	11%	10%	11%	13%	9%	22%	25%	21%	34%	30%
Unweighted N	136	68	82	64	44	47	31	94	37	117	90
			Chi ² =18**				Chi ² =12			Chi ² =1	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data. (JOB TABBYW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 8g. Hourly Rate of Pay By Age at First Birth and Marital Status at Age 27. Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Total Hourly Pay by age 27	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	No Birth at 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth. subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married
<\$4.00	35%	38%	26%	43%	32%	26%	29%	29%	15%	13%	12%
\$4.01-6.00	28%	24%	33%	30%	31%	20%	39%	32%	20%	20%	22%
\$6.01-10.00	28%	27%	33%	21%	27%	44%	27%	28%	46%	37%	40%
\$10.01+	9%	11%	8%	6%	10%	10%	5%	11%	20%	29%	27%
Unweighted N	260	104	179	184	93	71	129	508	278	548	688
			Chi ² =24**				Chi ² =14				Chi ² =5
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic											
<\$4.00	31%	--	27%	45%	39%	--	32%	31%	14%	12%	11%
\$4.01-6.00	27%	--	34%	28%	16%	--	38%	31%	19%	19%	23%
\$6.01-10.00	30%	--	32%	21%	32%	--	24%	27%	47%	37%	39%
\$10.01+	12%	--	7%	6%	13%	--	5%	11%	20%	31%	27%
Unweighted N	98	14 ^a	120	108	32	15 ^a	81	351	202	358	523
			Chi ² =16*				Chi ² =10				Chi ² =4
Black											
<\$4.00	39%	40%	30%	40%	28%	29%	11%	19%	30%	20%	19%
\$4.01-6.00	27%	27%	26%	46%	47%	20%	51%	35%	30%	21%	19%
\$6.01-10.00	27%	26%	38%	7%	20%	37%	38%	37%	23%	37%	42%
\$10.01+	7%	8%	6%	7%	6%	13%	0%	9%	17%	22%	20%
Unweighted N	126	80	28	28	51	43	28	66	30	130	83
			Chi ² =11				Chi ² =18**				Chi ² =.471
Hispanic											
<\$4.00	35%	--	15%	35%	--	--	19%	25%	15%	14%	12%
\$4.01-6.00	37%	--	35%	33%	--	--	33%	43%	16%	29%	21%
\$6.01-10.00	24%	--	37%	26%	--	--	42%	20%	46%	40%	47%
\$10.01+	4%	--	13%	6%	--	--	7%	13%	23%	16%	20%
Unweighted N	36	10a	31	48	10a	13a	20	91	46	60	82
			Chi ² =9				Chi ² =13				Chi ² =2

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TABBYW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 9e. Annual Earnings by Age at First Birth and Marital Status at First Birth. Total Sample. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSYW.

Annual Earnings	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth at 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married	
Total												
\$0	37%	41%	41%	42%	34%	32%	47%	49%	40%	9%	10%	
\$1-5000	21%	19%	19%	23%	24%	11%	17%	19%	17%	8%	9%	
\$5001-11,000	17%	15%	18%	16%	25%	14%	10%	12%	17%	14%	13%	
\$11,001-18,000	15%	17%	16%	15%	11%	31%	16%	13%	17%	31%	30%	
\$18,001-24,000	8%	3%	5%	4%	5%	11%	7%	6%	7%	23%	25%	
\$24001+	3%	5%	2%	2%	1%	2%	4%	2%	3%	16%	13%	
Unweighted N	272	125	348	449	90	88	179	1038	316	532	733	
			Chi ² =13*				Chi ² =38***			Chi ² =4*		
Non-Black												
0	47%	--	42%	43%	40%	--	48%	50%	41%	8%	11%	
\$1-5000	19%	--	20%	24%	29%	--	16%	19%	16%	8%	9%	
\$5001-11,000	11%	--	19%	15%	15%	--	9%	11%	17%	13%	13%	
\$11,001-18,000	14%	--	13%	14%	12%	--	16%	12%	17%	31%	30%	
\$18,001-24000	6%	--	5%	3%	4%	--	7%	5%	7%	23%	24%	
\$24001+	3%	--	2%	2%	0%	--	4%	2%	3%	17%	13%	
Unweighted N	77	9 ^a	234	354	30	14 ^a	127	906	274	389	635	
			Chi ² =12*				Chi ² =16*			Chi ² =4*		
Black												
0	26%	44%	32%	26%	25%	36%	31%	31%	12%	14%	8%	
\$1-5000	24%	17%	15%	19%	17%	6%	25%	16%	37%	12%	12%	
\$5001-11,000	23%	15%	13%	19%	39%	15%	16%	16%	15%	15%	17%	
\$11,001-18,000	16%	18%	31%	26%	10%	31%	16%	21%	28%	30%	26%	
\$18,001-24000	10%	1%	7%	9%	6%	10%	11%	12%	7%	20%	36%	
\$24001+	2%	4%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	9%	1%	
Unweighted N	195	116	114	95	60	74	52	132	42	143	98	
			Chi ² =39***				Chi ² =33***			Chi ² =14**		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1988 data. (JOB TAB9YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p≤.10; **p≤.05; ***p≤.01

Table 9g. Annual Earnings at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status at Age 27. Total Sample. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Annual Earnings	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	Not Married	Married	
Total												
\$0	34%	51%	30%	33%	33%	49%	35%	31%	25%	6%	6%	
\$1-5000	23%	15%	21%	30%	25%	13%	26%	24%	15%	10%	11%	
\$5001-11,000	25%	14%	22%	21%	17%	12%	23%	19%	18%	18%	22%	
\$11,001-18,000	11%	14%	22%	9%	20%	19%	12%	18%	22%	28%	30%	
\$18,001-24,000	4%	3%	3%	4%	2%	2%	4%	6%	16%	23%	18%	
\$24001+	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%	5%	1%	3%	5%	15%	14%	
Unweighted N	360	186	247	278	127	124	166	724	357	586	736	
			Chi ² =48***				Chi ² =28**			Chi ² =9		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic												
\$0	34%	44%	31%	33%	38%	55%	37%	30%	26%	5%	5%	
\$1-5000	20%	3%	20%	31%	28%	10%	27%	24%	15%	9%	11%	
\$5001-11,000	32%	34%	23%	19%	7%	20%	22%	20%	18%	18%	22%	
\$11,001-18,000	7%	16%	22%	9%	23%	14%	9%	18%	21%	28%	30%	
\$18,001-24,000	2%	2%	3%	4%	0%	0%	4%	6%	16%	24%	18%	
\$24001+	5%	0%	2%	4%	4%	2%	0%	3%	4%	16%	15%	
Unweighted N	142	23	168	166	50	25	103	496	269	378	559	
			Chi ² =30**				Chi ² =19			Chi ² =7		
Black												
\$0	32%	51%	28%	30%	19%	48%	20%	32%	15%	12%	11%	
\$1-5000	27%	18%	19%	25%	21%	14%	19%	15%	23%	17%	12%	
\$5001-11,000	18%	12%	29%	29%	35%	11%	33%	21%	25%	15%	21%	
\$11,001-18,000	15%	12%	21%	11%	19%	20%	28%	22%	20%	29%	29%	
\$18,001-24,000	7%	3%	3%	5%	6%	3%	0%	6%	13%	16%	14%	
\$24001+	1%	4%	0%	0%	1%	5%	0%	5%	4%	11%	13%	
Unweighted N	165	140	36	36	58	77	34	94	33	144	94	
			Chi ² =31***				Chi ² =28**			Chi ² =2		
Hispanic												
\$0	39%	64%	24%	35%	--	45%	38%	36%	23%	8%	4%	
\$1-5000	26%	8%	28%	24%	--	15%	24%	25%	17%	18%	11%	
\$5001-11,000	20%	6%	11%	23%	--	4%	17%	16%	8%	21%	19%	
\$11,001-18,000	14%	22%	25%	11%	--	25%	12%	16%	28%	29%	33%	
\$18,001-24,000	2%	0%	10%	6%	--	0%	7%	5%	14%	10%	20%	
\$24001+	0%	0%	2%	1%	--	11%	3%	1%	10%	14%	13%	
Unweighted N	53	23	43	76	19 ^a	22	29	134	55	64	83	
			Chi ² =27**				Chi ² =15			Chi ² =5		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB9YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 10i. Income, Poverty, Welfare Receipt, and Work Status at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYM.

Total Income at age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Post- Marital concp.	Not Married	Married	
0-\$5000	56%	57%	55%	60%	52%	43%	60%	65%	56%	15%	19%	
\$5001-\$10,000	13%	15%	15%	16%	24%	10%	11%	11%	16%	10%	10%	
\$10,001-\$15,000	14%	14%	15%	13%	16%	21%	12%	9%	8%	19%	17%	
\$15,000-\$20,000	9%	6%	9%	7%	4%	22%	7%	9%	13%	23%	24%	
\$20,001-\$25,000	5%	4%	4%	2%	3%	2%	6%	4%	5%	19%	19%	
\$25,001+	3%	5%	2%	3%	1%	1%	5%	2%	2%	13%	11%	
Unweighted N	275	126	349	449	90	88	179	1041	319	535	742	
			Chi ² =8				Chi ² =60***			Chi ² =4		
<u>Family income at age 27</u>												
0-\$5000	9%	21%	7%	5%	10%	23%	5%	5%	4%	7%	3%	
\$5001-\$10,000	7%	35%	7%	5%	9%	21%	3%	2%	3%	8%	1%	
\$10,001-\$15,000	11%	16%	9%	12%	12%	21%	9%	6%	3%	15%	5%	
\$15,000-\$20,000	11%	10%	13%	14%	13%	18%	9%	11%	6%	21%	10%	
\$20,001-\$25,000	15%	9%	11%	16%	11%	9%	12%	12%	9%	21%	9%	
\$25,001-\$30,000	13%	5%	14%	14%	18%	2%	15%	16%	20%	7%	10%	
\$30,001-\$50,000	26%	6%	33%	28%	24%	4%	40%	42%	45%	15%	42%	
\$50,000+	9%	0%	6%	6%	3%	2%	7%	6%	10%	7%	20%	
Unweighted N	266	121	340	438	87	86	171	1004	307	524	724	
			Chi ² =118***				Chi ² =155***			Chi ² =262***		
<u>Below poverty level at age 27</u>	22%	54%	15%	15%	20%	35%	8%	7%	7%	10%	3%	
Unweighted N	266	121	340	438	87	86	171	1003	307	524	724	
			Chi ² =61***				Chi ² =57***			Chi ² =22***		
<u>Below poverty level (150%) at age 27</u>	32%	71%	27%	31%	31%	51%	16%	15%	9%	15%	5%	
Unweighted N	266	121	340	438	87	86	171	1003	307	524	724	
			Chi ² =49***				Chi ² =59***			Chi ² =37***		
<u>Welfare and work status at age 27</u>												
No work/no welfare	23%	7%	27%	29%	25%	7%	37%	38%	32%	3%	6%	
Work only	59%	51%	60%	60%	61%	53%	60%	56%	65%	93%	93%	
Welfare only	9%	21%	6%	7%	10%	17%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	
Both	9%	21%	8%	5%	4%	22%	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%	
Unweighted N	250	100	325	426	83	77	167	963	300	500	713	
			Chi ² =40***				Chi ² =116***			Chi ² =23***		

(continued)

Table 10i. (cont.) Income, Poverty, Welfare Receipt, and Work Status at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort HLSYH.

Non-Black Income at age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19			Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+			No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married
0-\$5000	64%	--	57%	62%	62%	--	60%	66%	56%	14%	18%
\$5001-\$10,000	8%	--	15%	15%	22%	--	11%	11%	16%	10%	10%
\$10,001-\$15,000	10%	--	13%	12%	9%	--	12%	8%	8%	19%	17%
\$15,000-\$20,000	11%	--	9%	6%	3%	--	5%	9%	13%	24%	24%
\$20,001-\$25,000	6%	--	4%	2%	4%	--	6%	4%	5%	19%	19%
\$25,001+	1%	--	2%	3%	0%	--	6%	2%	2%	14%	12%
Unweighted N	79	9 ^a	234	354	30	14 ^a	127	908	276	390	643
			Chi ² -15				Chi ² -31***			Chi ² -5	
<u>Family income at age 27</u>											
0-\$5000	5%	--	6%	4%	11%	--	4%	5%	4%	7%	3%
\$5001-\$10,000	3%	--	6%	5%	13%	--	2%	1%	3%	8%	1%
\$10,001-\$15,000	10%	--	8%	12%	9%	--	9%	6%	3%	14%	5%
\$15,000-\$20,000	13%	--	14%	13%	7%	--	9%	11%	6%	22%	9%
\$20,001-\$25,000	9%	--	11%	15%	11%	--	12%	12%	9%	21%	9%
\$25,001-\$30,000	14%	--	15%	15%	20%	--	14%	16%	20%	7%	10%
\$30,001-\$50,000	34%	--	35%	30%	27%	--	43%	43%	45%	15%	43%
\$50,000+	14%	--	6%	6%	3%	--	8%	6%	10%	7%	21%
Unweighted N	74	8 ^a	228	345	28	14 ^a	121	873	266	384	625
			Chi ² -28				Chi ² -112***			Chi ² -206***	
<u>Below poverty level at age 27</u>	13%	--	11%	14%	20%	--	6%	7%	6%	8%	3%
Unweighted N	74	8 ^a	228	345	28	14 ^a	121	872	266	384	625
			Chi ² -1.46				Chi ² -16***			Chi ² -12***	
<u>Below poverty level (150%) at age 27</u>	20%	--	24%	28%	36%	--	13%	14%	9%	12%	5%
Unweighted N	74	8 ^a	228	345	28	14 ^a	121	872	266	384	625
			Chi ² -5				Chi ² -34***			Chi ² -20***	
<u>Welfare and work status at age 27</u>											
No work/no welfare	32%	--	29%	31%	27%	9%	39%	39%	33%	3%	6%
Work only	54%	--	60%	59%	57%	56%	59%	56%	65%	95%	93%
Welfare only	8%	--	5%	6%	13%	0%	1%	3%	2%	1%	0%
Both	7%	--	7%	5%	4%	35%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%
Unweighted N	72	7 ^a	217	334	29	12 ^a	120	839	261	370	621
			Chi ² -12				Chi ² -80***			Chi ² -17***	

(continued)

Table 10i. (cont.) Income, Poverty, Welfare Receipt, and Work Status at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status.
Total Sample. (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black Income at age 27	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Post- Marital concp.	Not Married	Married
0-\$5000	47%	58%	45%	38%	38%	42%	56%	45%	46%	25%	21%
\$5001-\$10,000	19%	15%	12%	21%	28%	12%	10%	11%	17%	11%	15%
\$10,001-\$15,000	19%	14%	25%	17%	25%	25%	7%	19%	13%	17%	18%
\$15,000-\$20,000	8%	8%	10%	18%	6%	17%	18%	12%	18%	19%	18%
\$20,001-\$25,000	4%	2%	6%	4%	1%	3%	8%	10%	7%	20%	27%
\$25,001+	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%	0%	7%	1%
Unweighted N	196	117	115	95	60	74	52	133	43	145	99
			Chi ² =22				Chi ² =29**			Chi ² =7	
<u>Family income at age 27</u>											
0-\$5000	13%	21%	17%	15%	10%	24%	10%	4%	12%	12%	8%
\$5001-\$10,000	11%	40%	8%	9%	4%	15%	12%	9%	2%	10%	3%
\$10,001-\$15,000	13%	13%	18%	14%	15%	25%	13%	11%	7%	17%	8%
\$15,000-\$20,000	8%	12%	8%	19%	22%	13%	6%	17%	10%	15%	16%
\$20,001-\$25,000	22%	9%	8%	24%	10%	13%	9%	7%	6%	21%	19%
\$25,001-\$30,000	12%	5%	11%	5%	16%	3%	23%	16%	19%	7%	4%
\$30,001-\$50,000	17%	2%	25%	12%	22%	7%	23%	27%	42%	12%	33%
\$50,000+	4%	0%	4%	3%	3%	0%	4%	8%	2%	7%	9%
Unweighted N	192	113	112	93	59	72	50	131	41	140	99
			Chi ² =112***				Chi ² =63***			Chi ² =22***	
<u>Below poverty level at age 27</u>	32%	61%	33%	29%	19%	39%	28%	11%	12%	21%	8%
Unweighted N	192	113	112	93	59	72	50	131	41	140	99
			Chi ² =34***				Chi ² =24***			Chi ² =7***	
<u>Below poverty level (150%) at age 27</u>	45%	76%	44%	52%	24%	48%	37%	25%	16%	34%	15%
Unweighted N	192	113	112	93	59	72	50	131	41	140	99
			Chi ² =34***				Chi ² =14***			Chi ² =11***	
<u>Welfare and work status at age 27</u>											
No work/no welfare	13%	6%	17%	9%	23%	7%	18%	25%	6%	4%	7%
Work only	65%	50%	60%	66%	67%	52%	67%	69%	83%	83%	85%
Welfare only	11%	26%	12%	15%	6%	25%	8%	2%	2%	7%	4%
Both	11%	19%	12%	10%	4%	16%	8%	4%	9%	7%	5%
Unweighted N	178	93	108	92	54	65	47	124	39	130	92
			Chi ² =22***				Chi ² =49***			Chi ² =2	

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1985 data.

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 10k. Income at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Total	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	Not Married	Married	
Family income at age 27												
0-\$5000	13%	25%	6%	10%	10%	25%	4%	6%	6%	10%	4%	
\$5001-\$10,000	21%	41%	16%	14%	20%	34%	13%	7%	3%	9%	5%	
\$10,001-\$15,000	13%	14%	13%	15%	7%	21%	13%	10%	3%	17%	6%	
\$15,000-\$20,000	12%	10%	7%	12%	10%	9%	8%	12%	6%	15%	10%	
\$20,001-\$25,000	10%	4%	17%	9%	16%	4%	11%	11%	9%	18%	9%	
\$25,001-\$30,000	10%	5%	12%	8%	14%	3%	13%	11%	9%	10%	11%	
\$30,001-\$50,000	19%	2%	25%	24%	18%	1%	30%	35%	45%	14%	38%	
\$50,000+	3%	1%	3%	9%	5%	4%	8%	7%	20%	8%	19%	
Unweighted N	362	190	247	279	127	125	167	729	358	588	737	
			Chi ² =132***				Chi ² =159***			Chi ² =263***		
Welfare and work status at age 27												
No work/no welfare	15%	15%	19%	23%	15%	12%	24%	25%	23%	5%	4%	
Work only	66%	33%	66%	66%	68%	38%	66%	70%	77%	95%	96%	
Welfare only	11%	33%	10%	5%	8%	35%	6%	3%	0%	0%	0%	
Both	8%	19%	4%	5%	9%	15%	5%	2%	1%	0%	0%	
Unweighted N	365	192	247	280	128	126	168	734	362	594	746	
			Chi ² =116***				Chi ² =175***			Chi ² =0.38		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic												
Family income at age 27												
0-\$5000	8%	18%	5%	9%	9%	45%	2%	6%	5%	9%	3%	
\$5001-\$10,000	19%	37%	14%	12%	19%	22%	13%	5%	3%	8%	4%	
\$10,001-\$15,000	12%	19%	13%	13%	1%	32%	15%	9%	2%	17%	5%	
\$15,000-\$20,000	14%	13%	5%	11%	7%	0%	7%	12%	6%	15%	10%	
\$20,001-\$25,000	12%	2%	18%	10%	20%	0%	12%	11%	9%	19%	9%	
\$25,001-\$30,000	13%	11%	14%	8%	21%	2%	12%	11%	8%	11%	11%	
\$30,001-\$50,000	20%	0%	27%	26%	20%	0%	33%	38%	46%	14%	39%	
\$50,000+	2%	0%	4%	10%	4%	0%	7%	8%	21%	8%	19%	
Unweighted N	142	23	168	167	50	25	104	499	270	379	560	
			Chi ² =35**				Chi ² =87***			Chi ² =158***		
Welfare and work status at age 27												
No work/no welfare	15%	32%	20%	25%	18%	22%	25%	25%	23%	5%	4%	
Work only	72%	36%	66%	67%	67%	39%	62%	71%	76%	96%	96%	
Welfare only	8%	6%	10%	4%	5%	32%	6%	2%	0%	0%	0%	
Both	5%	25%	4%	5%	10%	7%	7%	2%	1%	0%	0%	
Unweighted N	142	24	168	168	50	25	105	502	273	384	565	
			Chi ² =21**				Chi ² =46***			Chi ² =0.08		

(continued)

Table 10k. (cont.) Income at Age 27 by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

Black	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+		No Birth by 27	
	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concepn.	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concepn.	Post-Marital concepn.	Not Married	Married	
Family income at age 27												
0-\$5000	18%	27%	10%	8%	11%	18%	10%	9%	16%	16%	7%	
\$5001-\$10,000	23%	41%	28%	21%	20%	41%	8%	19%	3%	13%	11%	
\$10,001-\$15,000	14%	13%	24%	27%	15%	15%	8%	18%	5%	21%	11%	
\$15,000-\$20,000	11%	8%	10%	21%	13%	13%	12%	14%	13%	16%	14%	
\$20,001-\$25,000	9%	4%	6%	12%	12%	6%	9%	9%	16%	13%	7%	
\$25,001-\$30,000	7%	5%	6%	3%	4%	1%	17%	12%	13%	4%	9%	
\$30,001-\$50,000	15%	2%	12%	4%	17%	2%	24%	16%	26%	11%	26%	
\$50,000+	4%	1%	3%	5%	8%	5%	13%	4%	7%	8%	15%	
Unweighted N	166	144	36	36	58	77	34	95	33	145	94	
			Chi ² -55***				Chi ² -47***			Chi ² -23***		
Welfare and work status at age 27												
No work/no welfare	12%	10%	14%	14%	8%	7%	10%	20%	10%	6%	9%	
Work only	63%	32%	69%	65%	75%	37%	90%	68%	84%	93%	90%	
Welfare only	15%	38%	10%	11%	9%	38%	0%	7%	3%	1%	1%	
Both	10%	19%	7%	10%	8%	18%	0%	5%	3%	0%	0%	
Unweighted N	168	145	36	36	59	78	34	96	33	145	96	
			Chi ² -51***				Chi ² -69***			Chi ² -0.62		
Hispanic												
Family income at age 27												
0-\$5000	27%	18%	6%	20%	--	27%	20%	11%	14%	12%	4%	
\$5001-\$10,000	20%	49%	17%	23%	--	22%	15%	17%	2%	15%	4%	
\$10,001-\$15,000	9%	8%	12%	17%	--	30%	5%	13%	15%	11%	6%	
\$15,000-\$20,000	6%	22%	21%	12%	--	8%	14%	18%	3%	15%	9%	
\$20,001-\$25,000	6%	0%	26%	5%	--	0%	13%	12%	9%	10%	10%	
\$25,001-\$30,000	3%	0%	5%	6%	--	10%	11%	10%	13%	14%	10%	
\$30,001-\$50,000	24%	3%	12%	16%	--	0%	15%	17%	31%	16%	38%	
\$50,000+	5%	0%	2%	0%	--	3%	8%	3%	14%	9%	21%	
Unweighted N	54	23	43	76	19 ^a	23	29	135	55	64	83	
			Chi ² -521***				Chi ² -26			Chi ² -21***		
Welfare and work status at age 27												
No work/no welfare	21%	19%	14%	19%	--	18%	25%	24%	20%	7%	2%	
Work only	51%	34%	69%	63%	--	42%	67%	64%	80%	94%	98%	
Welfare only	17%	41%	11%	11%	--	25%	8%	11%	0%	0%	0%	
Both	11%	6%	7%	7%	--	15%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	
Unweighted N	55	23	43	76	19a	23	29	136	56	65	85	
			Chi ² -19***				Chi ² -23***			Chi ² -2		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data.

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category.

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

POVERTY, WELFARE, and HOME OWNERSHIP

Tables 10i (NLSYW) and 10k (NLSY): Work and Welfare Assistance

Tables 10i and 10j cross-tabulate work status in the prior year with the receipt of welfare assistance in the prior year at age 27. Across both cohorts, there is no discernable pattern by age at first birth. However, when marital status at the first birth is considered, we see a greater proportion of never married women who had their first births before age 25 in the welfare only category. Among both the women who delayed child birth until age 25 or older and those who were not yet mothers by age 27, very few, if any, were welfare recipients only.

A greater proportion of married than never-married mothers are classified as neither having worked nor having received welfare assistance in the prior year, presumably because they were supported by a spouse. The majority of non-mothers were classified as having worked at least some portion of the prior year.

Tables 15c (NLSYW) and 15d (NLSY): Proportion of Years Spent in Poverty

By following women longitudinally and comparing each family's annual income to the poverty line for a family of that size and cumulating the data, we are able to provide information on the family's long-term experience of poverty. For women in the NLSYW, we are able to make such a calculation for both the initial five years after the first birth and for ten years after the first birth. For the younger NLSY cohort, we are able to follow mothers for five years after the first birth.

Among never-married teen mothers, only 7% in the NLSYW and 13% in the NLSY are estimated to never have experienced poverty. In fact, 76% in the NLSYW and 80% in the NLSY are estimated to have been in poverty for more than a third of their child's first five years. Data for the NLSYW indicate that more than 60% of never-married teen mothers spent more than two-thirds of their child's first ten years in poverty.

If 150% of the poverty line is considered, it can be seen that very few families formed by never-married teen mothers escaped economic deprivation. Black and Hispanic never-married teen mothers are more likely to have experienced poverty than comparable white mothers; but only a quarter of never-married white teen mothers were never in poverty (compared with 8% of black and 7% of Hispanic never-married teen mothers).

While never-married teen mothers are by far the most likely to face poverty, the data also suggest frequent poverty among teen parents who marry. Half of NLSY teen mothers who were married at childbirth fell into poverty at some point during their

child's pre-school years and three-quarters experienced poverty or near-poverty. Only a third of the women who were unmarried at delivery but married later escaped poverty and just 7% were not near poverty.

On the other hand, the vast majority of women (nine in ten) who were older than 25 when their first child was born were never in poverty during the first five or the first ten years of their child's life. In fact, 80% never fell below 150% of the poverty line.

Among women bearing children in their early twenties, their marital status is a very strong correlate of their experience in poverty. Married mothers are not as likely to escape poverty as women who become mothers past age 25, nor as likely to experience poverty as teen mothers. Only 20% of never-married mothers escape poverty, compared with 32% of those who deliver outside of marriage but subsequently marry and more than three-quarters of those who are married when their first child is born.

Although part of the association between early childbearing, non-marriage, and poverty is due to the disproportionate number of minority females who are never-married and thus reflects their socioeconomic disadvantage, the incidence of poverty is higher among never-married and teen mothers among African Americans and among Hispanics, as well as among whites. In fact, we estimate that only 8% of black, 9% of Hispanic, and 27% of white never-married teen mothers are never poor during their child's first five years. Only 1%, 3%, and 5% respectively never fall below 150% of poverty.

An important race/ethnicity difference is apparent among those mothers who do marry. For all women, being married at childbirth reduces the woman's prospects of being in poverty enormously. However, substantial proportions of minority married mothers remain close to the poverty line. For example, among black women who had their first child between ages 20-24, the proportion whose families were never even near poor (<150% of the poverty line) was 9% among never-married mothers, 13% among mothers unmarried at delivery who married subsequently, 15% among mothers who married during pregnancy, and 26% among mothers married at conception. In other words, among African American women, even those who delayed the first birth into their early twenties and were married at conception, three-quarters experienced economic deprivation.

Tables 16c (NLSYW) and 16d (NLSY): Proportion of Years Mothers Received Welfare Assistance During the Five and Ten Year Periods after First Birth

As one might anticipate given prior data on income and poverty and also given the restriction of AFDC to unmarried women, receipt of public income transfers is substantially higher among young never-married mothers, while it almost never occurs among married mothers who delay childbearing past age 25.

Among never-married teen mothers, approximately three-quarters received assistance at some point during their child's first five years; and most received benefits for at least a third of those years. Among married teen mothers, the proportions are reversed: three-quarters never received AFDC.

As before, never-married mothers who had their first child in their early twenties also have an elevated probability of receiving welfare compared with women who are married at delivery. It is worth noting that women who deliver outside of marriage but enter marriage at a later point in their child's pre-school years have a probability of receiving AFDC that is nearly as high as those women who remain unmarried. They are, however, less likely to receive AFDC for an extended period.

Although higher proportions of black and Hispanic never-married teen mothers receive AFDC, a majority of white never-married teenage mothers also receive AFDC. Thus, in the NLSY, the proportions never receiving AFDC among never-married teen mothers were 21% for blacks, 25% for Hispanics, and 45% for whites. Among NLSY women becoming mothers in their early twenties, however, race/ethnicity differences are minor. A third of never-married mothers, 80-90% of married mothers, and 40-48% of mothers who are unmarried at delivery but marry subsequently never receive welfare, regardless of race/ethnicity.

Table 17b (NLSY): Home Ownership

Home ownership is the main form of financial equity for most Americans but one which has eluded many contemporary young families. Data in the NLSY allow us to piece together information about whether families have acquired a home during the five-year period after the birth of their first child. (Some may, of course, have owned a home prior to becoming pregnant; we focus on the five years after the first birth.)

Home ownership is virtually non-existent among never-married teen mothers. Those who delivered outside of marriage and married subsequently are somewhat more likely to own a home, while about half of those mothers who were married when their first child was born owned a home before their first child entered school. Among married mothers, those married at conception are slightly more likely to own a home than those marrying during pregnancy. White teen mothers are slightly more likely to

acquire a home if they marry; but differences by race and ethnicity are modest compared with differences by age and marital status at first birth.

Similar patterns are found among women whose first birth occurred in their early twenties. Only about one in ten never-married mothers owned a home, compared with a third of mothers who were unmarried at birth but married later, half of those who married during pregnancy, and two-thirds of those married at conception. As noted in the examination of the poverty data, where married minority families were found more likely to be near the poverty line, married minority group families are also less likely to own a home.

Among women who were at least 25 when their first child was born, more than 80% owned a home.

Table 15c. Proportion of Years Respondent Spent in Poverty (100% and 150%) in the First 5 and 10 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Total % yrs. in pov. 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.
Never in poverty	34%	7%	60%	64%	46%	41%	72%	84%	91%
1-33%	22%	17%	22%	20%	29%	27%	18%	12%	7%
over 33%	44%	76%	18%	15%	25%	33%	11%	4%	3%
Unweighted N	166	72	177	201	80	56	126	809	534
			Chi ² =87***				Chi ² =102***		
<u>% yrs. in pov. 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never in poverty	28%	8%	51%	58%	42%	26%	63%	76%	86%
1-17%	21%	3%	23%	16%	19%	15%	20%	13%	9%
18-33%	16%	11%	12%	11%	15%	12%	9%	5%	5%
34-66%	14%	18%	6%	8%	18%	23%	6%	4%	0%
over 67%	20%	60%	8%	7%	6%	25%	2%	1%	1%
Unweighted N	131	51	151	160	55	39	104	610	193
			Chi ² =85***				Chi ² =113***		
<u>% yrs. in (150%) of pov. 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never in poverty	21%	5%	41%	43%	20%	18%	57%	70%	84%
1-33% of yrs. on pov.	18%	3%	21%	27%	30%	32%	20%	17%	11%
over 33% of yrs. in pov	61%	92%	38%	31%	50%	50%	23%	12%	5%
Unweighted N	166	72	177	201	80	56	126	809	534
			Chi ² =63***				Chi ² =113***		
<u>% yrs. in (150%) of pov. 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>									
Never in poverty	17%	6%	28%	38%	25%	8%	47%	62%	79%
1-17%	17%	1%	28%	21%	17%	9%	21%	17%	12%
18-33%	15%	1%	11%	7%	10%	22%	14%	9%	4%
34-66%	16%	11%	19%	17%	21%	18%	14%	6%	3%
over 67%	35%	81%	14%	17%	29%	43%	4%	7%	4%
Unweighted N	131	51	151	160	55	39	104	610	193
			Chi ² =77***				Chi ² =110***		

(continued)

Table 15c. (cont.)

Non-Black	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	
<u>% yrs. in pov. 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	49%	--	61%	67%	50%	--	73%	85%	91%	
1-33%	24%	--	22%	20%	26%	--	18%	12%	7%	
over 33%	27%	--	17%	13%	24%	--	9%	4%	2%	
Unweighted N	44	3 ^a	124	152 Chi ² =13**	22	8 ^a	94	700 Chi ² =38***	470	
<u>% yrs. in pov. 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	40%	--	53%	60%	--	--	64%	78%	86%	
1-17%	29%	--	24%	16%	--	--	20%	13%	8%	
18-33%	16%	--	12%	10%	--	--	9%	5%	5%	
34-66%	7%	--	4%	8%	--	--	6%	3%	0%	
over 67%	9%	--	7%	5%	--	--	2%	1%	1%	
Unweighted N	34	3 ^a	106	125 Chi ² =17	19 ^a	6 ^a	76	534 Chi ² =62***	177	
<u>% yrs. in (150%) of pov. 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	33%	--	44%	45%	23%	--	59%	72%	85%	
1-33% of yrs. on pov.	23%	--	21%	27%	32%	--	21%	17%	11%	
over 33% of yrs. in pov	44%	--	35%	28%	45%	--	21%	11%	5%	
Unweighted N	44	3 ^a	124	152 Chi ² =8	22	8 ^a	94	700 Chi ² =45***	470	
<u>% yrs. in (150%) of pov. 10 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	22%	--	30%	40%	--	--	48%	63%	80%	
1-17%	25%	--	28%	21%	--	--	23%	17%	11%	
18-33%	25%	--	11%	6%	--	--	14%	8%	3%	
34-66%	10%	--	19%	17%	--	--	13%	6%	3%	
over 67%	19%	--	12%	16%	--	--	2%	6%	3%	
Unweighted N	34	3 ^a	106	125 Chi ² =25**	19 ^a	6 ^a	76	534 Chi ² =78***	177	

(continued)

Table 15c. (cont.)

Black	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.
% yrs. in pov. 5 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never in poverty	18%	3%	56%	44%	41%	35%	58%	71%	82%
1-33%	20%	20%	15%	22%	33%	28%	18%	17%	9%
over 33%	62%	77%	29%	34%	26%	37%	25%	13%	9%
Unweighted N	122	69	53	49	58	48	32	109	64
			Chi ² =60***				Chi ² =26***		
% yrs. in pov. 10 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never in poverty	16%	3%	40%	42%	49%	30%	53%	49%	--
1-17%	13%	4%	16%	13%	16%	5%	17%	22%	--
18-33%	17%	14%	10%	20%	4%	18%	11%	7%	--
34-66%	22%	14%	18%	6%	17%	19%	12%	9%	--
over 67%	32%	65%	16%	19%	15%	29%	8%	13%	--
Unweighted N	97	48	45	35	36	33	28	76	16 ^a
			Chi ² =50***				Chi ² =19*		
% yrs. in (150%) of pov. 5 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never in poverty	9%	1%	23%	24%	17%	14%	39%	52%	71%
1-33% of yrs. on pov.	13%	4%	18%	21%	27%	36%	13%	19%	17%
over 33% of yrs. in pov	78%	95%	59%	55%	55%	50%	49%	29%	12%
Unweighted N	122	69	53	49	58	48	32	109	64
			Chi ² =36***				Chi ² =35***		
% yrs. in (150%) of pov. 10 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never in poverty	11%	0%	13%	18%	19%	11%	37%	29%	--
1-17%	10%	2%	21%	23%	25%	5%	3%	25%	--
18-33%	4%	2%	17%	14%	23%	15%	15%	14%	--
34-66%	23%	14%	17%	12%	8%	27%	23%	4%	--
over 67%	53%	83%	32%	33%	25%	41%	21%	29%	--
Unweighted N	97	48	45	35	36	33	28	76	16 ^a
			Chi ² =47***				Chi ² =32***		

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1985 data. (JOB TAB15YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 15d. Proportion of Years Respondent Spent in Poverty (100% and 150%) in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		
	Total % years in poverty (100%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.
Never in poverty		32%	13%	52%	54%	32%	20%	78%	77%	90%
1-33%		15%	7%	16%	20%	17%	9%	10%	11%	6%
34%+		53%	80%	32%	27%	51%	72%	13%	12%	5%
Unweighted N		294	245	216	257	126	180	159	678	142
				Chi ² =129***				Chi ² =266***		
<u>% years in poverty (150%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty		7%	2%	20%	24%	18%	9%	45%	50%	80%
1-33%		10%	5%	20%	19%	11%	6%	15%	15%	7%
34%+		83%	93%	61%	57%	70%	86%	41%	35%	13%
Unweighted N		370	305	262	310	153	206	189	757	171
				Chi ² =107***				Chi ² =147***		
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic										
<u>% years in poverty (100%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty		39%	27%	52%	58%	36%	13%	80%	79%	90%
1-33%		18%	7%	16%	20%	18%	8%	8%	11%	6%
34%+		43%	66%	33%	22%	46%	80%	12%	10%	4%
Unweighted N		129	46	152	162	49	48	104	485	113
				Chi ² =27***				Chi ² =132***		
<u>% years in poverty (150%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty		9%	5%	22%	26%	24%	9%	51%	53%	82%
1-33%		12%	14%	20%	22%	13%	3%	14%	15%	6%
34%+		79%	81%	58%	52%	63%	88%	35%	32%	12%
Unweighted N		154	55	183	181	56	56	118	525	133
				Chi ² =28***				Chi ² =58***		

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(continued)

Table 15d. (cont.) Proportion of Years Respondent Spent in Poverty (100% and 150%) in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		
Black	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.	
<u>% years in poverty (100%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	21%	8%	55%	37%	31%	25%	70%	59%	--	
1-33%	9%	9%	11%	13%	15%	8%	16%	16%	--	
34%+	71%	84%	35%	50%	54%	67%	14%	26%	--	
Unweighted N	115	169	26	24	60	102	29	82	10 ^a	
			Chi ² =45***				Chi ² =46***			
<u>% years in poverty (150%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	4%	1%	10%	19%	13%	9%	15%	26%	--	
1-33%	5%	2%	16%	7%	9%	7%	24%	13%	--	
34%+	91%	97%	74%	74%	78%	84%	62%	61%	--	
Unweighted N	155	216	31	34	77	117	40	100	11 ^a	
			Chi ² =45***				Chi ² =23***			
Hispanic										
<u>% years in poverty (100%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	22%	7%	53%	33%	15%	15%	57%	56%	--	
1-33%	19%	0%	19%	21%	21%	14%	16%	9%	--	
34%+	59%	93%	29%	46%	64%	72%	27%	35%	--	
Unweighted N	50	30	38	71	17 ^a	30	26	111	19 ^a	
			Chi ² =35***				Chi ² =26***			
<u>% years in poverty (150%) 5 yrs. after 1st birth</u>										
Never in poverty	7%	3%	7%	13%	5%	8%	20%	26%	67%	
1-33%	11%	0%	18%	8%	12%	7%	11%	12%	6%	
34%+	82%	97%	75%	79%	83%	86%	69%	62%	27%	
Unweighted N	61	34	48	95	20	33	31	132	27	
			Chi ² =12*				Chi ² =10			

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB15Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 16c. Proportion of Years Respondent Received Income from Welfare in the First 5 and 10 Years After First Birth, By Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Total % yrs. rec'd welfare in first 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24				Age at First Birth-25+
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concp.	Post- Marital concp.
Never rec'd welfare	45%	23%	77%	74%	58%	37%	78%	91%	94%
1-33%	13%	11%	12%	13%	23%	25%	13%	6%	4%
over 33%	42%	66%	11%	13%	19%	39%	9%	3%	2%
Unweighted N	181	77	188	210	83	57	136	842	587
			Chi ² =94***				Chi ² =147***		
% yrs.rec'd welfare in first 10 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never rec'd welfare	37%	13%	68%	66%	54%	23%	74%	87%	94%
1-17%	10%	8%	18%	14%	17%	17%	16%	7%	5%
18-33%	19%	1%	5%	5%	13%	5%	4%	2%	1%
34-66%	13%	16%	6%	8%	10%	17%	4%	2%	1%
over 67%	21%	62%	3%	7%	7%	37%	2%	3%	0%
Unweighted N	143	54	161	167	60	42	116	678	246
			Chi ² =125***				Chi ² =161***		
Non-Black % yrs.rec'd welfare in first 5 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never rec'd welfare	56%	--	78%	77%	62%	--	78%	91%	95%
1-33%	10%	--	13%	11%	18%	--	13%	6%	4%
over 33%	35%	--	9%	12%	19%	--	9%	3%	2%
Unweighted N	46	3 ^a	131	161	23	9 ^a	103	725	520
			Chi ² =28***				Chi ² =75***		
% yrs.rec'd welfare in first 10 yrs. after 1st birth									
Never rec'd welfare	46%	--	69%	68%	--	--	74%	87%	94%
1-17%	11%	--	19%	14%	--	--	17%	6%	5%
18-33%	12%	--	4%	5%	--	--	4%	2%	1%
34-66%	13%	--	4%	7%	--	--	4%	2%	1%
over 67%	18%	--	3%	7%	--	--	1%	3%	0%
Unweighted N	35	3 ^a	113	132	19 ^a	7 ^a	87	589	228
			Chi ² =39***				Chi ² =101***		

(continued)

Table 16c. (cont.) Proportion of Years Respondent Received Income from Welfare in the First 5 and 10 Years After First Birth, By Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with A Birth (Weighted): 1968 Cohort NLSYW.

Black % yrs.rec'd welfare in first 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth=10 thru 19				Age at First Birth=20 thru 24				Age at First Birth=25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar Birth	Post- Marital concpt.	Post- Marital concpt.	
Never rec'd welfare	35%	22%	67%	46%	54%	45%	82%	88%	89%	
1-33%	17%	13%	11%	29%	28%	13%	9%	7%	4%	
over 33%	49%	65%	22%	25%	19%	42%	9%	6%	7%	
Unweighted N	135	74	57	49	60	48	33	117	67	
			Chi ² =43***				Chi ² =56***			
% yrs.rec'd welfare in first 10 yrs. after 1st birth										
Never rec'd welfare	27%	9%	55%	51%	52%	36%	75%	73%	--	
1-17%	10%	9%	4%	12%	8%	11%	12%	8%	--	
18-33%	26%	1%	15%	6%	21%	8%	6%	11%	--	
34-66%	13%	20%	21%	22%	19%	10%	3%	4%	--	
over 67%	24%	61%	5%	9%	0%	35%	5%	4%	--	
Unweighted N	108	51	48	35	41	35	29	89	18 ^a	
			Chi ² =75***				Chi ² =55***			

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Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women (NLSYW), 1968-1985 data. (JOB TAB16YW.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 16d. Proportion of Years Respondent Received Income from AFDC in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

% yrs. rec'd income from AFDC 5 yrs. after 1st birth	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+	
	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Pre-mar. Birth subseq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concept.	Post-Marital concept.
Total									
Never rec'd AFDC	43%	27%	76%	83%	45%	34%	89%	91%	97%
1-33%	14%	12%	11%	6%	20%	9%	3%	3%	2%
34%+	43%	61%	13%	11%	35%	56%	8%	7%	1%
Unweighted N	384	306	268	320 Chi ² -226***	155	215	191	786 Chi ² -359***	176
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic									
Never rec'd AFDC	42%	45%	75%	84%	44%	34%	90%	92%	97%
1-33%	13%	8%	12%	7%	20%	6%	2%	3%	3%
34%+	46%	47%	13%	9%	37%	59%	8%	6%	0%
Unweighted N	159	56	186	188 Chi ² -85***	56	59	117	547 Chi ² -176***	138
Black									
Never rec'd AFDC	43%	21%	70%	87%	48%	34%	89%	83%	--
1-33%	17%	12%	8%	2%	21%	12%	8%	7%	--
34%+	40%	67%	22%	11%	31%	54%	2%	11%	--
Unweighted N	160	214	31	35 Chi ² -82***	79	124	41	102 Chi ² -85***	11 ^a
Hispanic									
Never rec'd AFDC	57%	25%	86%	74%	40%	35%	81%	82%	100%
1-33%	13%	20%	1%	4%	14%	6%	0%	4%	0%
34%+	31%	55%	12%	22%	46%	59%	20%	14%	0%
Unweighted N	65	36	51	97 Chi ² -45***	20	32	33	137 Chi ² -42***	27

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB16Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p<.10; **p<.05; ***p<.01

Table 17b. Proportion of Years Respondent Owned or Made Payments on a Home in the First 5 Years After First Birth, by Age at First Birth and Marital Status. Total Sample with a Birth. (Weighted): 1979 Cohort NLSY.

	Age at First Birth-10 thru 19				Age at First Birth-20 thru 24			Age at First Birth-25+		
	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Pre-mar. Birth subsq. marriage	Never Married	Pre-mar. Concep./ Post-Mar. Birth	Post-Marital concpt.	Post-Marital concpt.	
Total										
Never	81%	94%	55%	47%	66%	89%	53%	32%	17%	
1-33%	9%	4%	11%	11%	12%	6%	15%	9%	2%	
34%+	10%	2%	34%	42%	22%	5%	33%	59%	81%	
Unweighted N	374	310	267	316	151	215	194	760	174	
			Chi ² =164***				Chi ² =211***			
Non-Black, Non-Hispanic										
Never	79%	91%	53%	44%	57%	83%	49%	28%	17%	
1-33%	9%	4%	11%	10%	13%	6%	15%	8%	2%	
34%+	12%	5%	36%	46%	30%	12%	36%	64%	81%	
Unweighted N	153	56	186	187	54	59	119	529	137	
			Chi ² =55***				Chi ² =81***			
Black										
Never	84%	95%	82%	46%	73%	92%	66%	58%	--	
1-33%	9%	4%	0%	19%	12%	6%	15%	15%	--	
34%+	7%	1%	18%	36%	22%	5%	33%	27%	--	
Unweighted N	155	217	31	32	77	124	40	99	11 ^a	
			Chi ² =74***				Chi ² =43***			
Hispanic										
Never	82%	89%	60%	64%	83%	95%	67%	62%	17%	
1-33%	11%	11%	21%	16%	5%	5%	4%	11%	4%	
34%+	7%	0%	20%	21%	12%	0%	29%	27%	80%	
Unweighted N	66	37	50	97	20	32	35	132	26	
			Chi ² =19***				Chi ² =17***			

Source: Child Trends, Inc., based on public use files from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), 1979-1988 data. (JOB TAB17Y.SPS on CB-NICHD5-2, June 1992)

^a Fewer than 20 cases in this category

*p≤.10; **p≤.05; ***p≤.01

Part III

Teenage Mothers and AFDC

Teenage Mothers and AFDC

Between 1975 and 1990, the *number* of AFDC recipients under age 30 who were teenage mothers when they bore their first child rose by about 325,000 (see Table 1). However, the *proportion* of recipient mothers under age 30 who were teen mothers declined, though only very slightly, over this 15-year period. In all years, approximately 6 in 10 of all AFDC recipients who were then under age 30 were teenagers when their first child was born. Likewise, estimates of the proportion of recipients of all ages who were teenagers when their first child was born show little change during this period. Since the total AFDC program cost, unadjusted for inflation, increased between 1975 and 1990, the amount expended on the households of teen mothers also rose in absolute terms.

Analyses using other data bases also indicate that women who were teenage mothers represent a very disproportionate portion of the AFDC recipient population (see Tables 2 and 3). For example, data from the 1986 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) indicate that 58% of all AFDC recipients were teenagers when they had their first child, and data from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Child Health Supplement indicate that 59% of recipients were teenagers when their first child was born. Data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) indicate that 48% of all AFDC recipients were teenagers at the time their oldest child in the household was born. (This CPS proportion of 48% undoubtedly represents an under-estimate, as older women are likely to have older children who have left the household and are therefore missed, causing bias because the calculation of the older women's age at the birth of her first child is actually based on her second or even third child, rather than the oldest child.) The SIPP, NHIS, and CPS estimates are very much in line with, and in fact bound, the estimate based on data from the Integrated Quality Control Survey. All data clearly indicate that teenage childbearers continue to account for a disproportionate share of all AFDC recipients.

Table 1: The Proportion of Women Receiving AFDC Payments Who Were Teenagers When Their First Child Was Born and Estimated Dollar Costs for AFDC Benefits for These Women.

	1975	1984	1990
Total mothers under age 30 receiving AFDC	1.588 mil.	1.765 mil.	1.913 mil.
Mothers under 30 receiving AFDC who were 19 or younger at the birth of their first child	1.024 mil.	1.115 mil.	1.126 mil.
Proportion of mothers under age 30 receiving AFDC who became mothers at age 19 or younger	64%	63%	59%
Proportion of all recipients who became mothers at age 19 or younger (estimated)	54.1%	54.5%	51.4%
Total AFDC costs expended on households established by recipients who became mothers at age 19 or younger (estimated)	\$5.1 billion	\$8.8 billion	\$10.9 billion
Total AFDC program costs	\$9.5 billion	\$16.1 billion	\$21.2 billion

Note: Mother's age at first childbirth is calculated from the age of oldest child in the assistance unit. To avoid calculation errors that would occur as first-born children grow up and leave their mother's household, analyses were limited to mothers under age 30 at the time data were collected. The proportion calculated to have been teenage mothers is likely to be underestimated because some teenaged mothers are not designated the caretaker. Cases in which the mother's age was unknown were deleted. The proportion of all recipients estimated to be teenage mothers was calculated by assuming 43% of recipients age 30 and over were teenagers when their first child was born. The resulting proportions -- 54.1, 54.5, and 51.4% -- were then applied to total program costs for AFDC in each year. Data on total federal and state AFDC expenditures include both benefits and administrative costs, and are from the Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, *Overview of Entitlement Programs (1991 Green Book)*, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1991, Table 17, p. 614.

Source: Tabulations by Kristin A. Moore, Child Trends, Inc., using unpublished data for 1990 and 1984 from the National Integrated Quality Control System. Data for 1990 were provided by Gerald A. Joireman, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services. Data for 1984 were provided by Wilbur Weder, Family Support Administration, Office of Family Assistance, Department of Health and Human Services. Data for 1975 are from the 1975 AFDC Recipient Characteristics survey as reported in Mary Ann Scheirer, JWK International Corporation, "Research on the Societal Consequences of Adolescent Childbearing: Public Assistance Costs, 1975 and 1977," Quarterly Progress Report to the Center for Population Research, NICHD, for the 3-month period ending December 31, 1980.

Table 2: Distribution of Children Under Age 18 by their Mother's Age at First Birth Among Families Receiving AFDC, Poor Non-AFDC Families, Near-Poor Families², and Non-Poor Families, Using Data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation, 1986, and the Current Population Survey, March 1988.³

Mother's Age at First Birth	Children in:				
	AFDC Families	Poor Non-AFDC Families	Near-Poor Families	Non-Poor Families	All Children
Survey of Income and Program Participation					
15 and younger	9.1%	5.6%	2.9%	1.5%	2.9%
16-17	23.0%	15.4%	14.2%	6.9%	10.3%
18-19	26.2%	25.4%	28.3%	14.9%	18.7%
20-24	33.7%	43.6%	38.8%	45.9%	43.6%
25-29	6.7%	7.5%	12.5%	24.5%	19.6%
30+	1.3%	2.4%	3.2%	6.2%	5.0%
	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>99.9%</u>	<u>99.9%</u>	<u>99.9%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>
Current Population Survey^{4,5}					
15 and younger	6.6%	4.2%	2.4%	1.4%	2.4%
16-17	17.8%	12.3%	8.9%	3.5%	6.5%
18-19	23.4%	18.1%	16.8%	9.2%	12.4%
20-24	34.1%	37.7%	43.9%	38.3%	38.3%
25-29	10.9%	18.9%	18.5%	31.4%	26.6%
30+	7.1%	8.8%	9.6%	16.3%	13.9%
	<u>99.9%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>	<u>100.1%</u>

Source: Nord, Christine Winqvist, & Amy Rhoads, *A Statistical Profile of At-Risk Children in the United States*, July 1992, Child Trends, Inc., Washington, DC.

²"Near-Poor" is defined as from 100% to 150% of the poverty level.

³Children with no mother in the household are excluded from this table. These children constitute 8.2% of AFDC children and 5.4% of all children under 18 in SIPP, and 7% of AFDC children and 6.3% of all children in the CPS.

⁴Mother's age at first birth was estimated by subtracting the age of her oldest child in the household from her age.

⁵Persons 65 and older were excluded.

Table 3. Age at First Birth of Mothers in AFDC Families, Poor Non-AFDC Families, and Non-Poor Families, Families with Children 0-17 Years Old, 1988 National Health Interview Survey, Child Health Supplement.

<u>Age at Birth of First Child</u>	AFDC Families	Poor Non-AFDC Families	Non-Poor Families	All Families with Focus Child Aged 0-17
Under 18	30.1%	26.4%	8.9%	12.4%
18-19	29.0%	24.7%	15.9%	17.9%
20-23	28.0%	31.1%	34.4%	33.5%
24-29	9.0%	14.5%	33.2%	29.4%
30 or older	4.0%	3.3%	7.6%	6.9%
	100.1%	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Zill, Nicholas, Kristin A. Moore, Christine Winquist Nord, and Thomas Stief. (1991). *Welfare Mothers as Potential Employees: A Statistical Profile Based on National Survey Data*, Table 2. Washington, DC: Child Trends, Inc.