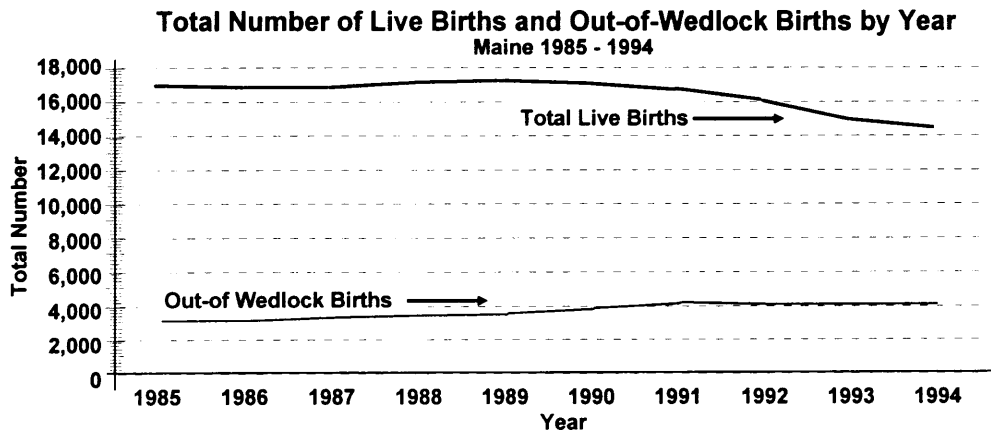


# 1994 MAINE BIRTHS

Maine Residents: 1985 - 1994 (preliminary data)

- ➔ The preliminary count of births for 1994 indicates that in that year there were 14,397 live births to Maine residents. That represents the *lowest count of live births to Maine women since 1901* when there were 14,021 births. The 1994 count continues a 5 year downward trend in the number of annual live births to resident women.
- ➔ The number of out-of-wedlock births in Maine has increased from 3,006 births in 1985 to 4,059 in 1994. As a percentage of live births, out-of-wedlock births have increased - from 18% in 1985 to 28% in 1994.



- ➔ In 1985, 58% of the live births to women younger than 20 years old were out-of-wedlock births; this proportion increased steadily over the decade. By 1994, this percentage had grown to 81%.
- ➔ The number of out-of-wedlock births to adolescent women has remained relatively stable over the decade fluctuating between 1,100 and 1,300 annually; however, of all out-of-wedlock births, the percent of out-of-wedlock births to adolescent women has decreased from 38% to 30%. Similarly, the number and the percent of all live births to women under 20 has also decreased - from 12% of all births to 10% (from 2,000 to 1,500).
- ➔ The pregnancy rate for Maine women 15 - 44 years old has decreased during the past decade from 78 per 1,000 women to 61. For women 15 - 19 years old, it has decreased from 69 per 1,000 women to 51.

Notes: The pregnancy rate is the number of reported live births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths per 1,000 female population in the age group under discussion, i.e., 15 - 44 years old or 15 - 19 years old.

Adolescent women are defined as women under the age of 20 years old.

For further data on this topic, please contact:  
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