# **Texas & Harris County Reproductive Health Update:** 2022 Fertility Rates, post 2021 Six-Week Abortion Ban

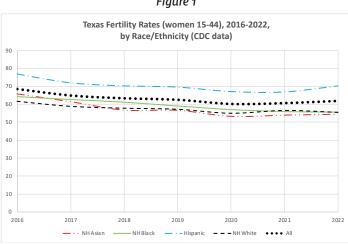
**BRIEFING 2401** 

## TX & HC 2022 overall fertility rates rose, led by Hispanic women 25-44. Teen overall fertility rates rose for first time in 15 years, while national rate fell. Fertility rates and birth timing trends varied by race/ethnicity.

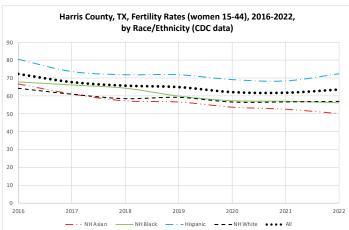
he 2021 Texas Legislature banned abortion after 6 weeks of pregnancy (effective 9.1.21) and on 6.24.22, the US Supreme Court issued its Dobbs v. Jackson women's Health Organization ruling, triggering Texas's total abortion ban as of 8.25.22. Any effects of the 2021 TX ban on births/fertility rates would begin to be seen starting in March or April 2022. Post Dobbs, 20 additional states have so far passed bans, and effects on fertility of those bans began to be visible in monthly CDC birth numbers data<sup>1</sup> from February 2023 onward, though fertility rates are not calculated there (and won't be until the CDC's annual natality data for 2023 as a whole becomes available in 2024). Fertility rates give a more accurate sense of changes because they take into account the number of women aged 15-44 living in the state, which may shift from year to year.

This report utilizes the 2022 CDC detailed annual Texas birth data including fertility rates, which became available to researchers in October 2023,<sup>2</sup> to track what occurred in Texas in 2022 after the 2021 ban, and provide an initial sense of what may follow in other states with bans, post Dobbs.<sup>3</sup>

As detailed below, the 2022 overall fertility rate rose 2% in Texas and 2.9% in Harris County after Texas's 2021 six-week abortion ban (see Figures 1 & 2), most markedly among Hispanic Women and specifically among Hispanic women 25-44 years old, who saw aggregated fertility rate rises of 8.0% and 8.5%, respectively,<sup>4</sup> while rate changes for Non-Hispanic (NH) women 25-44 were much lower (see Figures 3 & 4 and Tables 1 & 2). The Texas and Harris County teen fertility rates (for women 15 to 19) rose for the first time in 15 years though the national fertility rate continued to fall (see Figures 5 & 6).











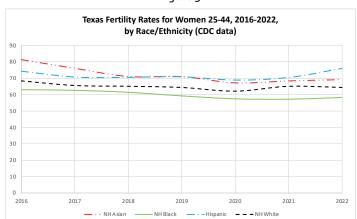
**JANUARY 2024** 

<sup>1</sup> National Center for Health Statistics. State and national provisional counts: monthly and 12 month-ending number of live births, deaths and infant deaths: United States. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 28, 2023by Bell et al. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/provisional-tables.htm

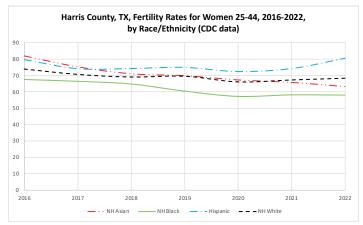
<sup>2</sup> All fertility rate and births data cited here come from the CDC's vital statistics database, wonder.cdc.gov, accessed on 10/22/2023, 11/16/2023 and 1/15/2024.

<sup>3</sup> Some researchers are already estimating the effects of Dobbs, based on provisional monthly birth data for 2023, including Dench et al., who estimate an overall rise in fertility rates in abortion ban states in 2023 of 2.3% compared to their pre-ban period. (See Dench, Daniel, Mayra Pineda-Torres, & Caitlin Myers, "The Effects of the Dobbs Decision on Fertility" (November 2023) Institute of Labor Economics.) They estimate that the rate is higher in large states and states geographically bound by other ban states, which make it harder to travel for an abortion, and postulate that Texas's rate rose by 5.1% in 2023, after Dobbs, compared to its pre-6-week ban period in 2021, due in part to longer travel distances to care. 4 The group of women aged 25-44 is created for ease of reference, since rates for Hispanic women in all 4 CDC age sectors between 25 and 44 rose substantially. Texas—25-29: +6.4%;

<sup>30-34: +8.7%; 35-39: +10.4%; 40-44: +6.7%.</sup> Harris County-25-29: +6.9%; 30-34: +8.7%; 35-39: +10.2%; 40-44: +10.7%. See Figures 10 & 14 and Tables 1 & 2.



### Figure 4



## Texas 2022 Fertility Rates

The overall Texas fertility rate (births per 1,000 women aged 15-44) rose in 2022 for the first time since 2014, by 2.0% over 2021 (from 60.68 births / 1,000 to 61.92), including an additional 16,147 births,<sup>5</sup> per the CDC's database. The rate in the **US overall fell, from 56.3 births per 1,000 women to 56.1%, less than 1%.**<sup>6</sup> Though the fertility rate rise might be explained in part by factors unrelated to the ban, a July 2023 analysis by researchers from Johns Hopkins analyzing the Texas 2022 birth data available at the

time<sup>7</sup> concluded that "the SB8 policy was associated with 9,799 additional births in Texas between April and December 2022."

The October 2023 data indicates that **most of the additional births in Texas in 2022 occurred among Hispanic women (15-44 years old)**,<sup>8</sup> for whom the overall fertility rate rose by 5.1%, including an additional 13,503 births. Overall Texas fertility rates among N**H Black and NH White women declined (by 0.6% and 2%**, respectively), while the state rate among NH Asians rose 0.9% (see Figure 1 & Table 1). Fertility **rates rose in particular among Hispanic women 25 to 44** years old, who saw a rate rise of 8% in Texas (see Figures 3 & 10, fn 3, and Table 1). Rate changes for women 25-44 in other groups: +1.1% NH Asian, +1.8% NH Black, -1% NH White.

That needn't mean that individuals in Non-Hispanic groups were not also strongly affected by the ban, but summaries most clearly document where there is evidence of notable change in group fertility rates, either in a shift in direction or in the pace of rise or decline. Since the 2022 births occur in a context in which both greater access to birth control (which could drive fertility rate declines) and lessened and/or different access to abortion (which could drive fertility rate rises) are occurring, the dynamics of individual women's experiences within each group are complex.

The differences in rate may suggest differential access to contraception across race/ethnicity and across income, insofar as income may intersect with race/ethnicity, as has been found in prior research, as well as differential ability to leave the state for an abortion elsewhere,<sup>9</sup> due to funding and transportation barriers, lack of time off from work, lack of childcare, etc.

Childcare issues that could prevent travel (and other barriers associated with already having children) may particularly shape the finding that rates rose much more steeply among older women, who were more likely to already have children at home. If families were already facing financial difficulties, additional mouths to feed would only further draw on limited resources, further impoverishing all family members.

## **Context: Long-term Fertility Trends**

Fertility rates fell markedly across the US between 2007 and 2022 (19.3% overall), as increasingly effective forms of birth control have come into wide use (long-acting reversible contraception, Plan B,

6 The US number includes the Texas data in its average, of course.

9 An Urban Institute study found that before the ACA, Black and Hispanic women were less likely than White women to use prescription contraception by 13.2 and 9.9 percentage points, respectively (Emily M. Johnston and Stacey McMorrow, "The Relationship between Insurance Coverage and Use of Prescription Contraception by Race and Ethnicity: Lessons from the Affordable Care Act," *Women's Health Issues*, 2020). While those numbers changed in states that expanded Medicaid under the ACA, since Texas did not, we can assume that differences by race/ethnicity remain in effect in this state. Beyond income, factors that may influence contraceptive access may include: lack of insurance, lack of information about birth control, distrust of doctors due to experience with bias, etc..

Figure 3

<sup>5</sup> In 2021, births in Texas rose by 1.4% over 2020 and the fertility rate rose by 0.78%, after a 3.8% fall in 2020 from the 2019 rate, the size of which may relate to the Covid pandemic. In the five years prior, births declined by 7.5% and fertility rates declined by 12.2% (2016-2020) though the population of women aged 15-44 was rising. While recent rises in births may be linked to the ongoing rise in the Texas population, fertility rates are indicative of underlying fertility patterns.

The total number of additional births in 2022 over 2021 in Texas was 16,147 (a 4.3% rise), due in part to the rise in the number of women 15-44 in the state, which rose 1.7% in that period: per Demographics.texas.gov, the population of women 15-44 was 6,122,097 in 2021 and 6,230,760 in 2022.

<sup>7</sup> Suzanne Bell, et al., "Texas 2021 Ban on Abortion in Early Pregnancy and Changes in Live Births," JAMA 330:3 (July 18, 2023): 281.

<sup>8</sup> It is not possible to be sure which or how many births would have ended in abortion if the mothers had that option, since while increased numbers of women in a given race/ethnicity group might have had access to birth control, lowering the numbers of births, others in the same group might have encountered barriers to abortion that led them to bear children they would not have chosen to, if they had the option, raising the rate among that sector and potentially leading to a flat overall fertility rate in the group overall, even though circumstances were dynamic.

etc.), at the same time that more young people identify as LGBT.<sup>10</sup> While rates were affected in all age groups over that period, the decline in the rates for teens were particularly steep, steadily falling 66.5% in the US (from 41.5 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 in 2007 to 13.9 in 2021) and 67.2% in Texas (from 61.8 births to 20.3 in 2021), with no breaks in either of those declines over those period. Though abortion rates declined during much of the same period (through 2017), many women still utilized the procedure to end unplanned or unwanted pregnancies, per incidence data from the Guttmacher Institute and the University of Texas. Abortion rates have risen since 2017 (8% between 2017 and 2020) such that slightly more than 1 in 5 US pregnancies ended in abortion in 2020 (20.6%, up from 18.4% in 2017).<sup>11</sup> As Jones et al. put it, "fewer people were getting pregnant in 2020 [than previously] and, among those who did, a larger proportion were having abortions."

The huge decrease in unplanned teen births between 2007 and 2021 is of particular note, because such births may interrupt mothers' educations, leading them into lifetimes of low-wage jobs and their families into more poverty than they would experience if they were able to prepare for the arrival of children. The 10year Turnaway Study of the effects on women of all ages who sought and were denied abortions (generally due to limits on the number of weeks into a pregnancy an abortion could happen in their states) found that they and their kids were more likely to live in poverty (61% vs. 45%) in the years after the unintended birth than the families of women who were able to obtain abortions when they sought them, but who were otherwise similar.<sup>12</sup> The 45%impoverished in the control group suggests that high percentages of women who experience unplanned pregnancies are poor to begin with, with more limited access to contraception.<sup>13</sup> Lowered teen births suggest young women (and young men) overall are less likely to interrupt their studies or to be impoverished. They also indicate a reduction in people interested in filling low-wage jobs in order to support children.

## Teen Fertility Rates Rise in Texas

While the steady teen fertility rate decline continued in the US overall in 2022 (from 13.94 to 13.62 births per 1,000), **in Texas the steady decline in the teen birth rate since 2007 ended in 2022**, with a slight rise in overall teen births – **up from 20.32 to 20.4 births** per 1,000 (a 0.39% rise) (see Figures 5 & 6). While that is a relatively small rise, the shift in the downward teen trend for the first time in 15 years is notable given both the 2021 ban and the continued fall among teens in the US overall.

The effect on Texas teen fertility rates also differed by race/ ethnicity: while fertility rates rose among Hispanic, NH Black and NH Asian teens in 2021, they continued to fall among NH White teens. The **Texas teen fertility rate rose for Hispanic teens** from 27.22 to 27.56 births per 1,000 (plus 1.2%), for Black teens from 22.29 to 22.41 births per 1,000 (plus 0.5%), and for Asian teens from 1.46 to 1.58 births per 1,000 (plus 8.2%—a larger ratio due to the numbers being small to begin with). The fertility rate for White teens fell, from 11.71 to 11.13 births per 1,000 (minus 5.0%), mitigating the rise in the state numbers overall (see Figure 5).

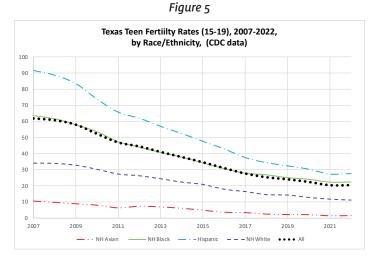
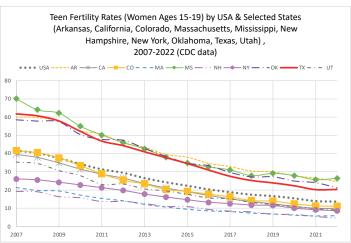


Figure 6 compares Texas teen fertility rates to those in 8 other states with various fertility patterns. In 2022, 13 states saw a rise in the teen birth rate (including Mississippi, the top green line in the chart below). Some of those 13 already had very low rates, so small variations might be expected (Massachusetts, for example, saw a rise from 5.74 births per 1,000 to 5.84). Others, like Mississippi and South Dakota, already had relatively high rates, and made abortion access more difficult in their states in 2021 and 2022, though they did not enact direct bans until summer 2022.





<sup>10</sup> Per a 2021 Gallup Poll, 20.8% of Gen Z identified as LBGT, whereas 10.5% of Millenials, 4.2% of Gen X and 2.6% of Baby boomers did.

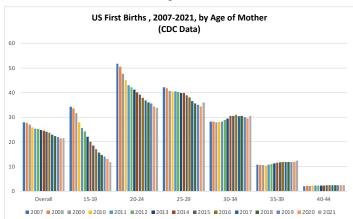
11 Rachel K. Jones, Elizabeth Witwer & Jenna Jerman, "Abortion Incidence and Service Availability in the United States, 2017" (2019): Guttmacher.org. Kari White et al., "Association of Texas' 2021 Ban on Abortion in Early Pregnancy with the Number of Facility-Based Abortions in Texas and Surrounding States," *JAMA* 328:20 (November 2022): 2048-2055. Rachel Jones, Marielle Kirstein & Jesse Philbin, "Abortion incidence and service availability in the United States, 2020," *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health* 54:1 (December 2022): 128–141. 12 Diana Greene Foster, *The Turnaway Study: Ten Years, a Thousand Women, and the Consequences of Having—or Being Denied—an Abortion* (NY: Scribner, 2020).

13 One study found that 75% of women seeking abortions lived below the poverty line (Rachel Jones and Jenna Jerman, "Characteristics and Circumstances of U.S. Women Who Obtain Very Early and Second Trimester Abortions" PLOS ONE (January 25, 2017): e0169969. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0169969

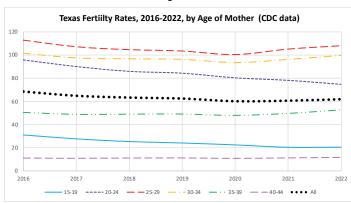
# The Ripple Effect of Delay across Births in All Age Bands

While fertility trends among women of all ages have involved varying levels of decline over the past decade and a half, a ripple effect of delay (or tempo effect) has emerged over the past few years, whereby women who refrained from births in their teens begin families later, raising the rates among older cohorts. Figure 7, with data from 2007 through 2021, tracks *first* births and indicates some ripple effect in the last few years, as women who don't start families in their teens or early twenties (in the second and third columns from the left) or even older, then start them later (columns further right).

#### Figure 7



In Texas, as Fig. 8 indicates, the ripple effect of increasing births among older women may overlap with and reinforce the effect of lack of access to abortion.



For instance, while births to women in Texas in their early twenties declined across all race/ethnicities, rates among women in their thirties and forties have risen in some recent years. As reflected in the CDC data, rates to Texas women 25-44 saw some slight dips in 2020 across groups, possibly related to the pandemic, and some degree of rise in 2021. But the increases in these age bands in 2022 were markedly larger among Hispanic women than those in 2021 (see Figures 3 & 10).

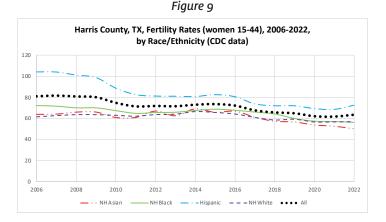
Fertility rates for Texas women 20-24 of all races and ethnicities continued their fall ongoing since 2007, with the biggest fall among NH Black women, down 9.6% since 2021 (from 82.57 births per 1,000 to 74.66) (see Figure 11).

Rates for Texas women 25-44 rose for all groups except NH White women, climbing 1.1% for NH Asian women (to 69.13 births/1,000), 1.8% for NH Black women (to 58.27), and 8% (7.98%) for Hispanic women (to 76.05). Rates for NH White women 25-44 fell 1.1% (to 64.4). As noted above, higher rates for some older women may link to their already having children they could not leave in order to travel to other states, among other factors (see Figures 3 & 10 to 13).

## Harris County 2022 Fertility Rates

In 2022, the Harris County fertility rate rose for the first time since 2015, by 2.9% (from 61.87 births per 1,000 to 63.65), including 2,972 additional births. As in the Texas data, Harris County rates varied notably by race/ethnicity, though that has been less the case of late, especially among teens, as rates have declined and converged (see Figures 5 & 6). In Harris County as in Texas, the Hispanic fertility rate led the overall rise— a bit higher than the state overall at 5.8% (from 68.44 to 72.4). But differently from in the state as a whole, the rates among NH White women rose 0.6% in Harris County (from 56.72 to 57.03 births per 1,000), and rates among NH Asians declined, by 4.7% (from 52.56 to 50.11). Rates among NH Black women fell in the county as in the state, by 1.5% (from to 57.08 to 56.23) (see Figures 2 & 9).

As in Texas overall, teen rates in Harris County rose overall (1.8%) – and also as in the state overall, rates rose for NH Asian, NH Black, and Hispanic teens, but fell for NH White teens (see details in discussion for each group re Figures 14 to 17, and *keep in mind the numbers* [*N*] *in these contexts are small*). Rates for women 25-44 fell 3.9% for NH Asian women (to 63.27 births per 1,000) and 0.3% for NH Black women (to 58.08), but rose 1.6% for NH White women 25-44 (to 68.32) and rose 8.5% for Hispanic women (to 80.45) (see Figure 4 & Table 2).

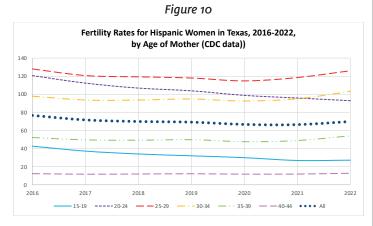


#### Figure 8

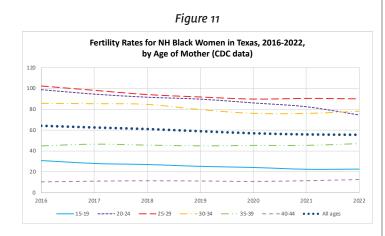
# Texas and Harris County Fertility Rates, Analyzed by Race/Ethnicity

## **Texas Fertility Rates Analyzed** by Race/Ethnicity (see Table 1)

Among Hispanic women in Texas in 2022, rates rose among all ages except 20-24 (whose rate declined 3.1% from 96.18 to 93.24), with an overall rise in the fertility rate of 5.1%. Rates rose 1.3% among 15-19 year-olds (from 27.22 to 27.56), they rose 6.4% among 25-29 year-olds (from 118.62 to 126.22), rates rose 8.7% among 30-34 year-olds (from 95.14 to 103.41), they rose 10.4% among 35-39 year-olds (from 49.02 to 54.14) and 6.7% among 40-44 year-olds (from 12.18 to 12.99). See Figure 10.

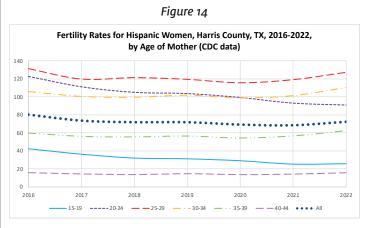


Among NH Black women in Texas in 2022, fertility rates rose among teens 15-19 (0.5%—from 22.29 to 22.41) and more markedly among women 30-34 years-old (2.8% - from 76.02 to 78.11), 35-39 (3.6% - 45.37 to 47.01) and 40-44 (8.7% - 11.45 to 12.44). Rates fell 9.6% among women 20-24 (from 82.57 to 74.66) and 0.5% among women 25-29 (90.54 to 90.12), with a decline in the overall fertility rate of 0.6%. See Figure 11.



## Harris County Fertility Rates Analyzed by Race/Ethnicity (see Table 2)

Among Hispanic women in Harris County in 2022, rates rose among all ages except 20-24 (down 2.3% from 93.01 to 90.9), with an overall rise in the fertility rate of 5.8%. Rates rose 1.7% among 15-19 year-olds (from 25.43 to 25.86), they rose 6.9% among 25-29 year-olds (from 119.18 to 127.4), rates rose 8.7% among 30-34 year-olds (from 101.4 to 110.24), they rose 10.2% among 35-39 yearolds (from 56.66 to 62.41) and 10.7% among 40-44 year-olds (from 14.33 to 15.86). See Figure 14.



Among NH Black women in Harris County in 2022, fertility rates rose among teens 15-19 (2.8%—from 21.84 to 22.46) and more markedly among women 35-39 years-old (6.2%—from 45.06 to 47.85) and women 40-44 (3.1% from 12.71 to 13.1). Rates fell 8.5% among women 20-24 (from 84.24 to 77.09), 3.4% among women 25-29 (89.62 to 86.6), and 0.6% among women 30-34 from 75.96 to 75.51), with an overall decline in the overall fertility rate of 1.5%. See Figure 15.

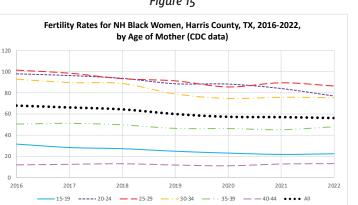


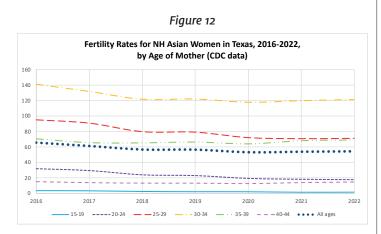
Figure 15

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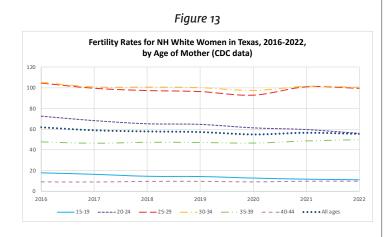
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# Texas and Harris County Fertility Rates, Analyzed by Race/Ethnicity (continued)

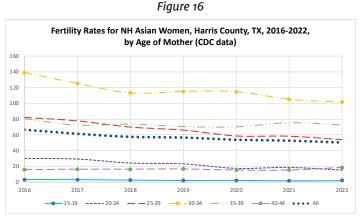
Among NH Asian women in Texas in 2022, rates rose slightly among all age groups except women 20-24, with an **overall rise** in the fertility rate of 0.9%. Rates rose 8.2% among Asian teens (from 1.46 births per 1,000 women 15-19 to 1.58), 0.6% among women 25-29 (70.66 to 71.08), 1.2% among women 30-34 (120.01 to 121.43), 1.5% among women 35-39 (68.25 to 69.25), and 5.1% among 40-44 year-olds (14.03 to 14.74). Rates fell 2.9% among 20-24 year-olds (18.15 to 17.62). See Figure 12.



**Fertility rates for NH White women** in Texas in 2022 fell among all age groups except 35-39, with an **overall decline in the fertility rate of 2%.** Rates fell to women 15-19 by 5% (from 11.71 to 11.13), among 20-24 year-olds by 6.2% (from 59.72 to 56.02), among 25-29 year-olds by 1.5% (from 100.95 to 99.42), among 30-34 year-olds by 1.0% (from 101.47 to 100.48), and among 40-44 year-olds by 0.3% (from 9.62 to 9.59). Rates rose among 35-39 year-olds by 2.4% (from 48.56 to 49.7) See Figure 13.

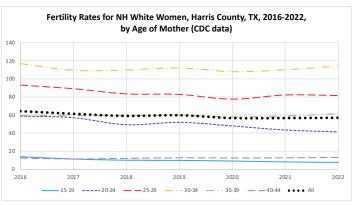


Among NH Asian women in Harris County in 2022, rates fell among all age groups except teens and women 40-44, with an overall decline in the fertility rate of 4.7%. Rates rose 18.9% among Asian teens—that percentage is large because the rate is so low that even a small rise (from 1.64 births per 1,000 women 15-19 to 1.95) registers as major. Rates fell a more significant 18.2% among 20-24 year-olds (18.71 to 15.31), 7.7% among women 25-29 (58.19 to 53.74), 3.6%% among women 30-34 (105.35 to 101.56), 3.8% among women 35-39 (75.62 to 72.77), and rose 20.3% among 40-44 year-olds (15.46 to 18.6, including 52 more births than in 2021). See Figure 16.



**Fertility rates for NH White women** in Harris County in 2022 fell among women 15-29, and rose among women 30-44, suggesting a continued ripple effect, with an **overall rise in the fertility rate of 0.6%**. Rates to women 15-19 fell by 6.6% (from 8.06 to 7.53), among 20-24 year-olds rates fell 4.6% (from 43.41 to 41.42), among 25-29 year-olds rates fell 0.8% (from 82.14 to 81.5). Rates rose among 30-34 year-olds by 3.7% (from 110.21 to 114.23), among 35-39 year-olds by 4.3% (from 58.88 to 61.38) and among 40-44 year-olds by 4.4% (from 12.6 to 13.15). See Figure 17.

#### Figure 17



PAGE 6

## Workforce

In addition to their effects on individuals and families, the changes in fertility rates documented above will have effects on regional workforce in the short and long terms—in regard to lowering education and skill levels, raising poverty levels, and shifting the availability of workers who are unplanned parents for jobs at different (i.e., lower) pay scales than they might otherwise have become eligible for. Further rises in births will likely increase the number of workers looking for low-wage jobs, and decrease the native skilled labor force. See also Baumle et al., which noted the likelihood of some decrease in migration to ban states of skilled labor from other states, post-Dobbs.<sup>14</sup>

## **Predicted Increases Post-Dobbs**

The introduction in 2022 of the Post-Dobbs total abortion ban in Texas has already led Dench et al. to predict a likely a 5.1% rise in the overall fertility rate in the state in 2023 (vs. the 2% rise in 2022 documented here, after the 20216-week ban). This is in part due to the geography of bans in surrounding states post-Dobbs (including Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana), which make interstate travel for an abortion more expensive and time-consuming for many.<sup>15</sup> For Dench et al., the early 2023 data also suggested that Hispanic women will see the biggest rate rises (as was the case in the 2022 data examined here) and that women 20-24 will see notable rises (differently from in the 2022 data). These predictions will evolve as fuller data becomes available.

The full version of this report will be published in Sexuality, Gender & Policy 7:1 (2024).

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<sup>14</sup> Baumle, A. K., A.K. Miller, and E. Gregory, "Effects of State-Level Abortion and LGBT Laws and Policies on Interstate Migration Attitudes," *Population Research and Policy Review* (2023). 15 Dench et al., 2023, "The Effects of the Dobbs Decision on Fertility," p. 4.

## Table 1. Fertility rates, by age and race and Hispanic origin of mother (15-44): Texas, 2016–2022, and percent change in rate per year.

|                       | Total<br>Fertiity<br>Rate | 15-19 | 20-24  | 25-29  | 30-34  | 35-39 | 40-44 | 25-44 | Percent<br>Change | 15-19   | 20-24   | 25-29   | 30-34  | 35-39  | 40-44  | 25-44  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| All Races/Ethnicities |                           |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2016                  | 68.55                     | 30.97 | 95.95  | 112.93 | 101.69 | 50.56 | 11.07 | 70.74 |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2017                  | 64.91                     | 27.58 | 90.21  | 107.18 | 97.48  | 48.9  | 10.81 | 67.75 | -5.31%            | -10.95% | -5.98%  | -5.09%  | -4.14% | -3.28% | -2.35% | -4.23% |
| 2018                  | 63.37                     | 25.26 | 86.04  | 104.66 | 96.72  | 49.07 | 11.12 | 67.07 | -2.37%            | -8.41%  | -4.62%  | -2.35%  | -0.78% | 0.35%  | 2.87%  | -1.00% |
| 2019                  | 62.54                     | 23.99 | 84.44  | 103.49 | 96.23  | 49.18 | 11.2  | 66.59 | -1.31%            | -5.03%  | -1.86%  | -1.12%  | -0.51% | 0.22%  | 0.72%  | -0.72% |
| 2020                  | 60.21                     | 22.37 | 80.4   | 100.4  | 93.38  | 48.04 | 10.76 | 64.43 | -3.73%            | -6.75%  | -4.78%  | -2.99%  | -2.96% | -2.32% | -3.93% | -3.24% |
| 2021                  | 60.68                     | 20.32 | 78.26  | 105.15 | 96.14  | 49.7  | 11.25 | 66.33 | 0.78%             | -9.16%  | -2.66%  | 4.73%   | 2.96%  | 3.46%  | 4.55%  | 2.95%  |
| 2022                  | 61.92                     | 20.4  | 74.78  | 108.11 | 99.69  | 52.73 | 11.8  | 68.76 | 2.04%             | 0.39%   | -4.45%  | 2.82%   | 3.69%  | 6.10%  | 4.89%  | 3.66%  |
| Hispanic, All Races   |                           |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2016                  | 76.86                     | 42.9  | 120.68 | 128.21 | 97.99  | 52.3  | 12.61 | 74.34 |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2017                  | 71.92                     | 37.49 | 112.47 | 120.83 | 93.72  | 49.74 | 12.03 | 70.73 | -6.43%            | -12.61% | -6.80%  | -5.76%  | -4.36% | -4.89% | -4.60% | -4.86% |
| 2018                  | 70.23                     | 34.35 | 107.04 | 119.41 | 93.69  | 49.38 | 12.23 | 70.56 | -2.35%            | -8.38%  | -4.83%  | -1.18%  | -0.03% | -0.72% | 1.66%  | -0.24% |
| 2019                  | 69.53                     | 32.35 | 104.08 | 118.12 | 94.87  | 49.98 | 12.52 | 70.93 | -1.00%            | -5.82%  | -2.77%  | -1.08%  | 1.26%  | 1.22%  | 2.37%  | 0.52%  |
| 2020                  | 67.03                     | 30.29 | 99.05  | 114.88 | 92.65  | 47.8  | 12.09 | 68.87 | -3.60%            | -6.37%  | -4.83%  | -2.74%  | -2.34% | -4.36% | -3.43% | -2.90% |
| 2021                  | 66.82                     | 27.22 | 96.18  | 118.62 | 95.14  | 49.02 | 12.18 | 70.43 | -0.31%            | -10.14% | -2.90%  | 3.26%   | 2.69%  | 2.55%  | 0.74%  | 2.27%  |
| 2022                  | 70.22                     | 27.56 | 93.24  | 126.22 | 103.41 | 54.14 | 12.99 | 76.05 | 5.09%             | 1.25%   | -3.06%  | 6.41%   | 8.69%  | 10.44% | 6.65%  | 7.98%  |
| NH Asian              |                           |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2016                  | 65.85                     | 3.64  | 31.88  | 95.22  | 140.83 | 70.74 | 15.15 | 81.25 |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2017                  | 61.49                     | 3.42  | 29.47  | 90.92  | 131.69 | 65.73 | 14    | 75.98 | -6.62%            | -6.04%  | -7.56%  | -4.52%  | -6.49% | -7.08% | -7.59% | -6.49% |
| 2018                  | 56.81                     | 2.5   | 23.93  | 79.8   | 121.77 | 65.43 | 13.38 | 71.03 | -7.61%            | -26.90% | -18.80% | -12.23% | -7.53% | -0.46% | -4.43% | -6.51% |
| 2019                  | 56.68                     | 2.2   | 22.96  | 79.19  | 122.07 | 66.52 | 13.37 | 70.94 | -0.23%            | -12.00% | -4.05%  | -0.76%  | 0.25%  | 1.67%  | -0.07% | -0.13% |
| 2020                  | 53.3                      | 2.13  | 19.27  | 72     | 117.94 | 64.12 | 12.87 | 67.17 | -5.96%            | -3.18%  | -16.07% | -9.08%  | -3.38% | -3.61% | -3.74% | -5.31% |
| 2021                  | 53.98                     | 1.46  | 18.15  | 70.66  | 120.01 | 68.25 | 14.03 | 68.35 | 1.28%             | -31.46% | -5.81%  | -1.86%  | 1.76%  | 6.44%  | 9.01%  | 1.76%  |
| 2022                  | 54.49                     | 1.58  | 17.62  | 71.08  | 121.43 | 69.25 | 14.74 | 69.13 | 0.94%             | 8.22%   | -2.92%  | 0.59%   | 1.18%  | 1.47%  | 5.06%  | 1.14%  |
| NH Bla                | ck                        |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2016                  | 64.34                     | 30.65 | 98.99  | 102.39 | 85.61  | 44.87 | 10.48 | 63.01 |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2017                  | 62.69                     | 27.86 | 94.72  | 98.29  | 85.26  | 46.5  | 11.05 | 62.61 | -2.56%            | -9.10%  | -4.31%  | -4.00%  | -0.41% | 3.63%  | 5.44%  | -0.63% |
| 2018                  | 61.21                     | 26.83 | 91.72  | 94.21  | 84.62  | 45.59 | 11.42 | 61.41 | -2.36%            | -3.70%  | -3.17%  | -4.15%  | -0.75% | -1.96% | 3.35%  | -1.92% |
| 2019                  | 59.08                     | 25.07 | 89.89  | 91.9   | 79.65  | 44.95 | 11.21 | 59.24 | -3.48%            | -6.56%  | -2.00%  | -2.45%  | -5.87% | -1.40% | -1.84% | -3.53% |
| 2020                  | 57.09                     | 24.02 | 86.25  | 89.89  | 76.12  | 45.34 | 10.82 | 57.44 | -3.37%            | -4.19%  | -4.05%  | -2.19%  | -4.43% | 0.87%  | -3.48% | -3.04% |
| 2021                  | 55.99                     | 22.29 | 82.57  | 90.54  | 76.02  | 45.37 | 11.45 | 57.23 | -1.93%            | -7.20%  | -4.27%  | 0.72%   | -0.13% | 0.07%  | 5.82%  | -0.37% |
| 2022                  | 55.68                     | 22.41 | 74.66  | 90.12  | 78.11  | 47.01 | 12.44 | 58.27 | -0.55%            | 0.54%   | -9.58%  | -0.46%  | 2.75%  | 3.61%  | 8.65%  | 1.82%  |
| NH Wh                 | ite                       |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2016                  | 61.69                     | 17.88 | 72.53  | 104.59 | 105.37 | 47.67 | 9     | 68.41 |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |
| 2017                  | 58.82                     | 16.44 | 68.26  | 99.48  | 100.84 | 46.41 | 8.87  | 65.59 | -4.65%            | -8.05%  | -5.89%  | -4.89%  | -4.30% | -2.64% | -1.44% | -4.12% |
| 2018                  | 57.77                     | 14.52 | 65.24  | 97.28  | 100.68 | 47.32 | 9.45  | 65.12 | -1.79%            | -11.68% | -4.42%  | -2.21%  | -0.16% | 1.96%  | 6.54%  | -0.72% |
| 2019                  | 57.17                     | 14.27 | 64.69  | 96.28  | 100.12 | 47.13 | 9.47  | 64.39 | -1.04%            | -1.72%  | -0.84%  | -1.03%  | -0.56% | -0.40% | 0.21%  | -1.12% |
| 2020                  | 54.91                     | 12.78 | 61.32  | 92.77  | 97.31  | 46.57 | 8.99  | 62.13 | -3.95%            | -10.44% | -5.21%  | -3.65%  | -2.81% | -1.19% | -5.07% | -3.51% |
| 2021                  | 56.51                     | 11.71 | 59.72  | 100.95 | 101.47 | 48.56 | 9.62  | 65.09 | 2.91%             | -8.37%  | -2.61%  | 8.82%   | 4.27%  | 4.27%  | 7.01%  | 4.76%  |
| 2022                  | 55.41                     | 11.13 | 56.02  | 99.42  | 100.48 | 49.7  | 9.59  | 64.4  | -1.95%            | -4.95%  | -6.20%  | -1.52%  | -0.98% | 2.35%  | -0.31% | -1.06% |
|                       |                           |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |

Source: CDC Wonder database (wonder.cdc.gov), percentages calculated by IRWGS.

### Table 2. Fertility rates, by age and race and Hispanic origin of mother (15-44): Harris County, TX, 2016–2022, and percent change in rate per year.

|                       | Total<br>Fertiity<br>Rate | 15-19 | 20-24  | 25-29  | 30-34  | 35-39 | 40-44 | 25-44 | Percent<br>Change | 15-19   | 20-24   | 25-29   | 30-34   | 35-39   | 40-44  | 25-44  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| All Races/Ethnicities |                           |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2016                  | 72.32                     | 31.61 | 95.7   | 109.27 | 109.06 | 59.45 | 14.13 | 75.59 |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2017                  | 67.77                     | 27.4  | 89.91  | 102.82 | 102.73 | 56.98 | 13.44 | 71.46 | -6.29%            | -13.32% | -6.05%  | -5.90%  | -5.80%  | -4.15%  | -4.88% | -5.46% |
| 2018                  | 65.8                      | 24.71 | 84.64  | 100.53 | 101.1  | 56.76 | 13.4  | 70.44 | -2.91%            | -9.82%  | -5.86%  | -2.23%  | -1.59%  | -0.39%  | -0.30% | -1.43% |
| 2019                  | 65.01                     | 23.87 | 83.94  | 99.04  | 100.65 | 56.35 | 13.73 | 69.77 | -1.20%            | -3.40%  | -0.83%  | -1.48%  | -0.45%  | -0.72%  | 2.46%  | -0.95% |
| 2020                  | 62.21                     | 22.3  | 80.51  | 94.64  | 97.06  | 54.66 | 12.89 | 66.8  | -4.31%            | -6.58%  | -4.09%  | -4.44%  | -3.57%  | -3.00%  | -6.12% | -4.26% |
| 2021                  | 61.87                     | 19.96 | 76.32  | 98.47  | 97.98  | 56.22 | 13.69 | 68.04 | -0.55%            | -10.49% | -5.20%  | 4.05%   | 0.95%   | 2.85%   | 6.21%  | 1.86%  |
| 2022                  | 63.65                     | 20.31 | 73.67  | 101.49 | 102.18 | 59.92 | 14.91 | 71    | 2.88%             | 1.75%   | -3.47%  | 3.07%   | 4.29%   | 6.58%   | 8.91%  | 4.35%  |
| Hispanic, All Races   |                           |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2016                  | 80.47                     | 42.25 | 122.58 | 131.47 | 105.86 | 59.82 | 15.97 | 79.63 |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2017                  | 73.67                     | 36.32 | 111.09 | 119.84 | 100.55 | 56.15 | 14.53 | 74.08 | -8.45%            | -14.04% | -9.37%  | -8.85%  | -5.02%  | -6.14%  | -9.02% | -6.97% |
| 2018                  | 71.89                     | 32.06 | 104.95 | 121.46 | 99.67  | 55.54 | 13.73 | 74.18 | -2.42%            | -11.73% | -5.53%  | 1.35%   | -0.88%  | -1.09%  | -5.51% | 0.13%  |
| 2019                  | 71.88                     | 31.25 | 103.59 | 119.56 | 101.88 | 56.51 | 14.81 | 74.88 | -0.01%            | -2.53%  | -1.30%  | -1.56%  | 2.22%   | 1.75%   | 7.87%  | 0.94%  |
| 2020                  | 69.18                     | 29.13 | 99.25  | 115.74 | 98.92  | 54.35 | 13.68 | 72.33 | -3.76%            | -6.78%  | -4.19%  | -3.20%  | -2.91%  | -3.82%  | -7.63% | -3.41% |
| 2021                  | 68.44                     | 25.43 | 93.01  | 119.18 | 101.4  | 56.66 | 14.33 | 74.15 | -1.07%            | -12.70% | -6.29%  | 2.97%   | 2.51%   | 4.25%   | 4.75%  | 2.52%  |
| 2022                  | 72.4                      | 25.86 | 90.9   | 127.4  | 110.24 | 62.41 | 15.86 | 80.45 | 5.79%             | 1.69%   | -2.27%  | 6.90%   | 8.72%   | 10.15%  | 10.68% | 8.50%  |
| NH Asi                | an                        |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2016                  | 66.71                     | 3.15  | 29.93  | 82.27  | 139.18 | 80.67 | 15.88 | 81.99 |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2017                  | 61.46                     | 3.05  | 29.16  | 77.78  | 125.19 | 72.54 | 16.42 | 75.3  | -7.87%            | -3.17%  | -2.57%  | -5.46%  | -10.05% | -10.08% | 3.40%  | -8.16% |
| 2018                  | 57.5                      | 2.52  | 24.11  | 69.88  | 113.18 | 73.81 | 16.47 | 71.08 | -6.44%            | -17.38% | -17.32% | -10.16% | -9.59%  | 1.75%   | 0.30%  | -5.60% |
| 2019                  | 56.6                      | 2.07  | 23.2   | 66.01  | 115.17 | 70.64 | 16.72 | 69.92 | -1.57%            | -17.86% | -3.77%  | -5.54%  | 1.76%   | -4.29%  | 1.52%  | -1.63% |
| 2020                  | 53.7                      | 2.2   | 17.42  | 58.49  | 114.77 | 70.29 | 15.44 | 67.32 | -5.12%            | 6.28%   | -24.91% | -11.39% | -0.35%  | -0.50%  | -7.66% | -3.72% |
| 2021                  | 52.56                     | 1.64  | 18.71  | 58.19  | 105.35 | 75.62 | 15.46 | 65.82 | -2.12%            | -25.45% | 7.41%   | -0.51%  | -8.21%  | 7.58%   | 0.13%  | -2.23% |
| 2022                  | 50.11                     | 1.95  | 15.31  | 53.74  | 101.56 | 72.77 | 18.6  | 63.27 | -4.66%            | 18.90%  | -18.17% | -7.65%  | -3.60%  | -3.77%  | 20.31% | -3.87% |
| NH Bla                | ck                        |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2016                  | 67.85                     | 31.62 | 98.18  | 101.42 | 92.8   | 50.42 | 11.87 | 67.62 |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2017                  | 66.12                     | 28.39 | 96.54  | 98.56  | 89.66  | 51.06 | 12.41 | 66.51 | -2.55%            | -10.22% | -1.67%  | -2.82%  | -3.38%  | 1.27%   | 4.55%  | -1.64% |
| 2018                  | 64.35                     | 27.27 | 93.89  | 93.42  | 88.78  | 49.68 | 12.98 | 64.87 | -2.68%            | -3.95%  | -2.74%  | -5.22%  | -0.98%  | -2.70%  | 4.59%  | -2.47% |
| 2019                  | 59.97                     | 24.85 | 88.72  | 91.41  | 79.04  | 46.28 | 11.73 | 60.51 | -6.81%            | -8.87%  | -5.51%  | -2.15%  | -10.97% | -6.84%  | -9.63% | -6.72% |
| 2020                  | 57.37                     | 23.08 | 88.44  | 85.72  | 74.82  | 46.15 | 10.97 | 57.3  | -4.34%            | -7.12%  | -0.32%  | -6.22%  | -5.34%  | -0.28%  | -6.48% | -5.30% |
| 2021                  | 57.08                     | 21.84 | 84.24  | 89.62  | 75.96  | 45.06 | 12.71 | 58.24 | -0.51%            | -5.37%  | -4.75%  | 4.55%   | 1.52%   | -2.36%  | 15.86% | 1.64%  |
| 2022                  | 56.23                     | 22.46 | 77.09  | 86.6   | 75.51  | 47.85 | 13.1  | 58.08 | -1.49%            | 2.84%   | -8.49%  | -3.37%  | -0.59%  | 6.19%   | 3.07%  | -0.27% |
| NH Wh                 | ite                       |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2016                  | 64.27                     | 13.86 | 58.77  | 92.94  | 116.89 | 59.38 | 12.36 | 73.9  |                   |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 2017                  | 61.4                      | 11.27 | 56.91  | 89.01  | 109.66 | 59.16 | 11.18 | 70.63 | -4.47%            | -18.69% | -3.16%  | -4.23%  | -6.19%  | -0.37%  | -9.55% | -4.42% |
| 2018                  | 59.05                     | 9.96  | 49.22  | 83.27  | 109.87 | 59.23 | 11.97 | 69.04 | -3.83%            | -11.62% | -13.51% | -6.45%  | 0.19%   | 0.12%   | 7.07%  | -2.25% |
| 2019                  | 59.8                      | 9.76  | 51.9   | 82.75  | 112.24 | 59.87 | 12.65 | 69.53 | 1.27%             | -2.01%  | 5.44%   | -0.62%  | 2.16%   | 1.08%   | 5.68%  | 0.71%  |
| 2020                  | 56.66                     | 9.05  | 47.91  | 77.53  | 108.07 | 57.81 | 12.38 | 66.06 | -5.25%            | -7.27%  | -7.69%  | -6.31%  | -3.72%  | -3.44%  | -2.13% | -4.99% |
| 2021                  | 56.72                     | 8.06  | 43.41  | 82.14  | 110.21 | 58.88 | 12.6  | 67.25 | 0.11%             | -10.94% | -9.39%  | 5.95%   | 1.98%   | 1.85%   | 1.78%  | 1.80%  |
| 2022                  | 57.03                     | 7.53  | 41.42  | 81.5   | 114.23 | 61.38 | 13.15 | 68.32 | 0.55%             | -6.58%  | -4.58%  | -0.78%  | 3.65%   | 4.25%   | 4.37%  | 1.59%  |

Source: CDC Wonder database (wonder.cdc.gov), percentages calculated by IRWGS.