

Historical and Recent Trends in Childbirth in the United States

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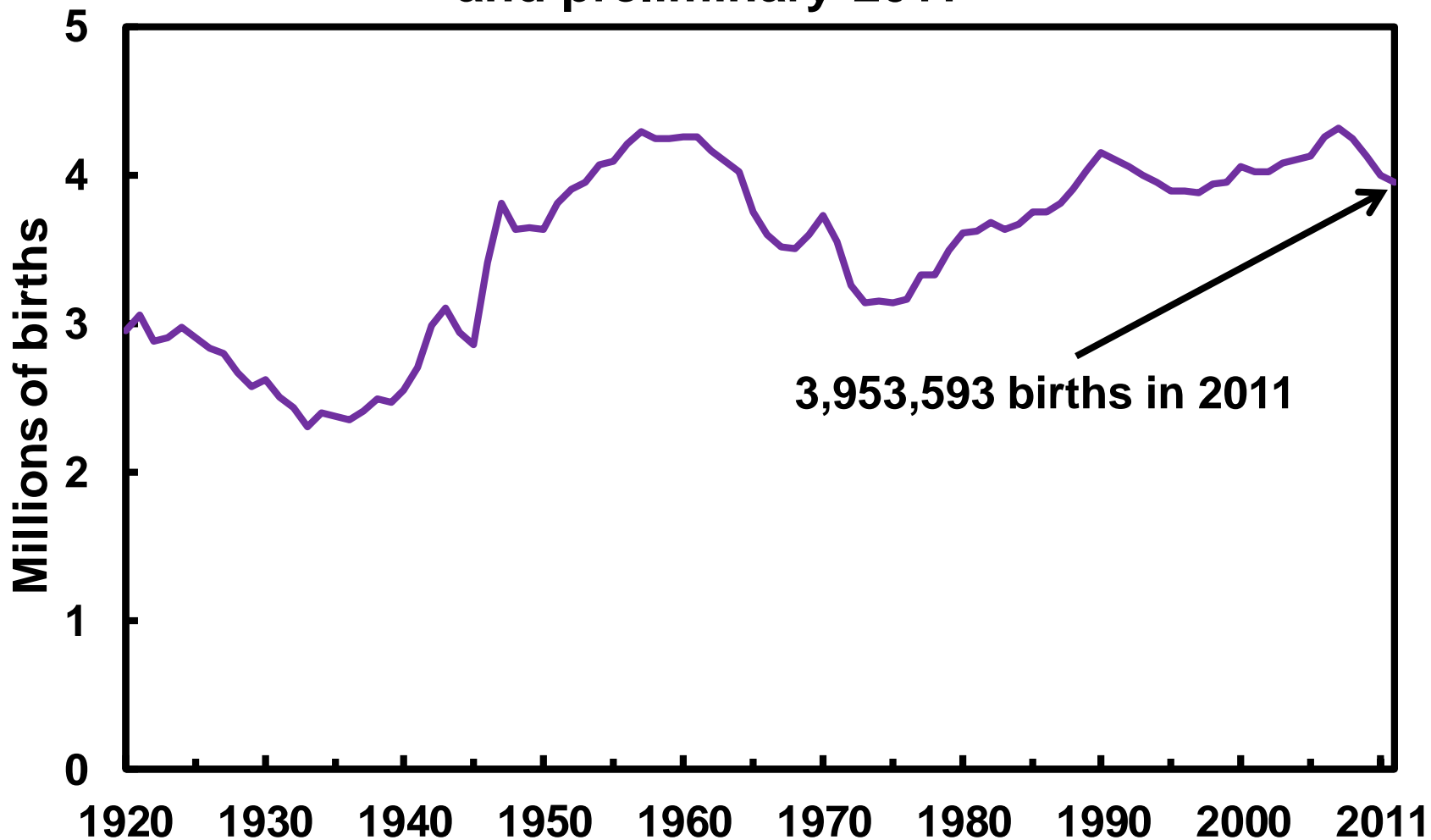
Sharon Kirmeyer

Source of Data:

Data based on all birth certificates filed in the United States each year

Demographic Trends

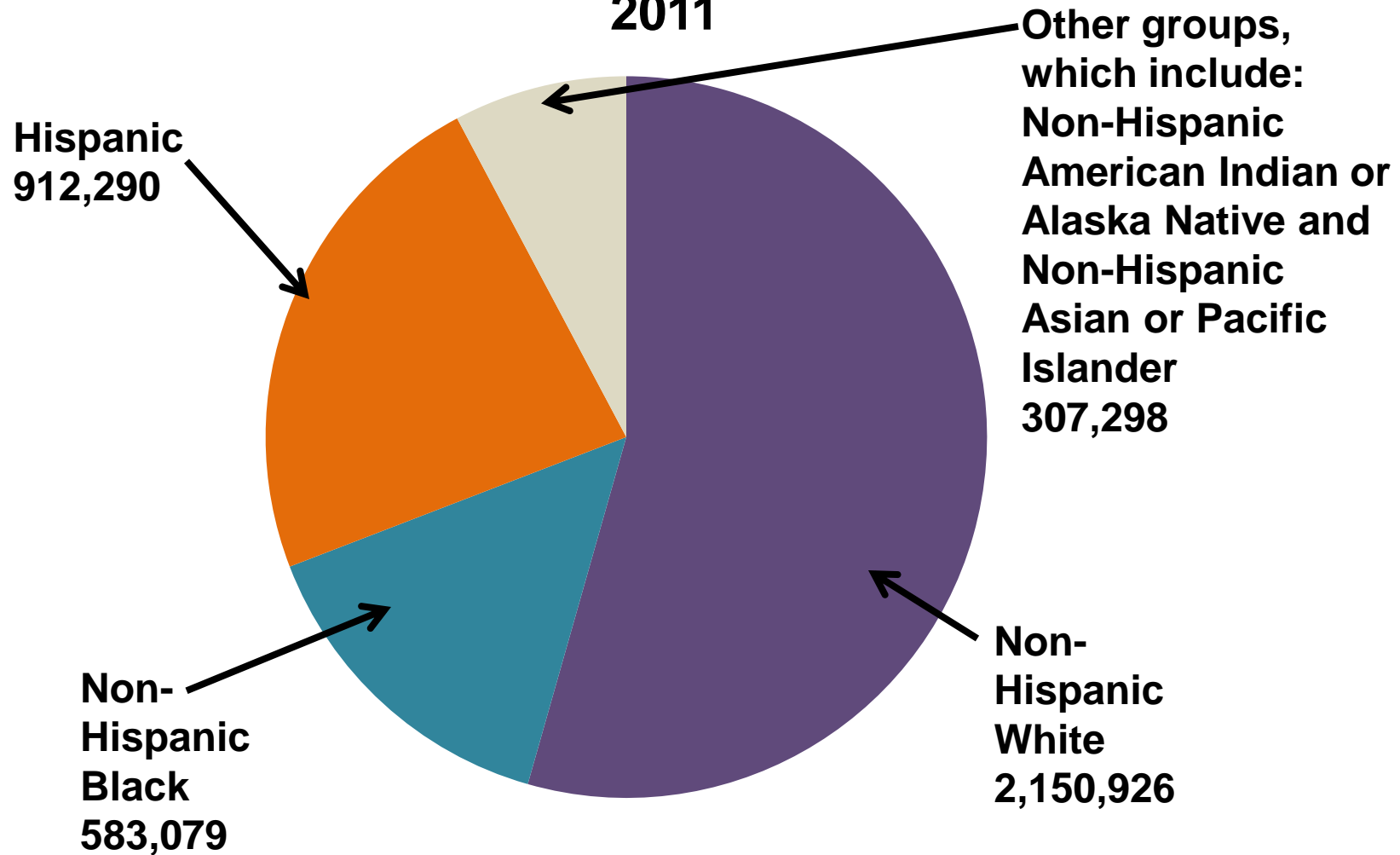
Number of births: United States, final 1920-2010 and preliminary 2011



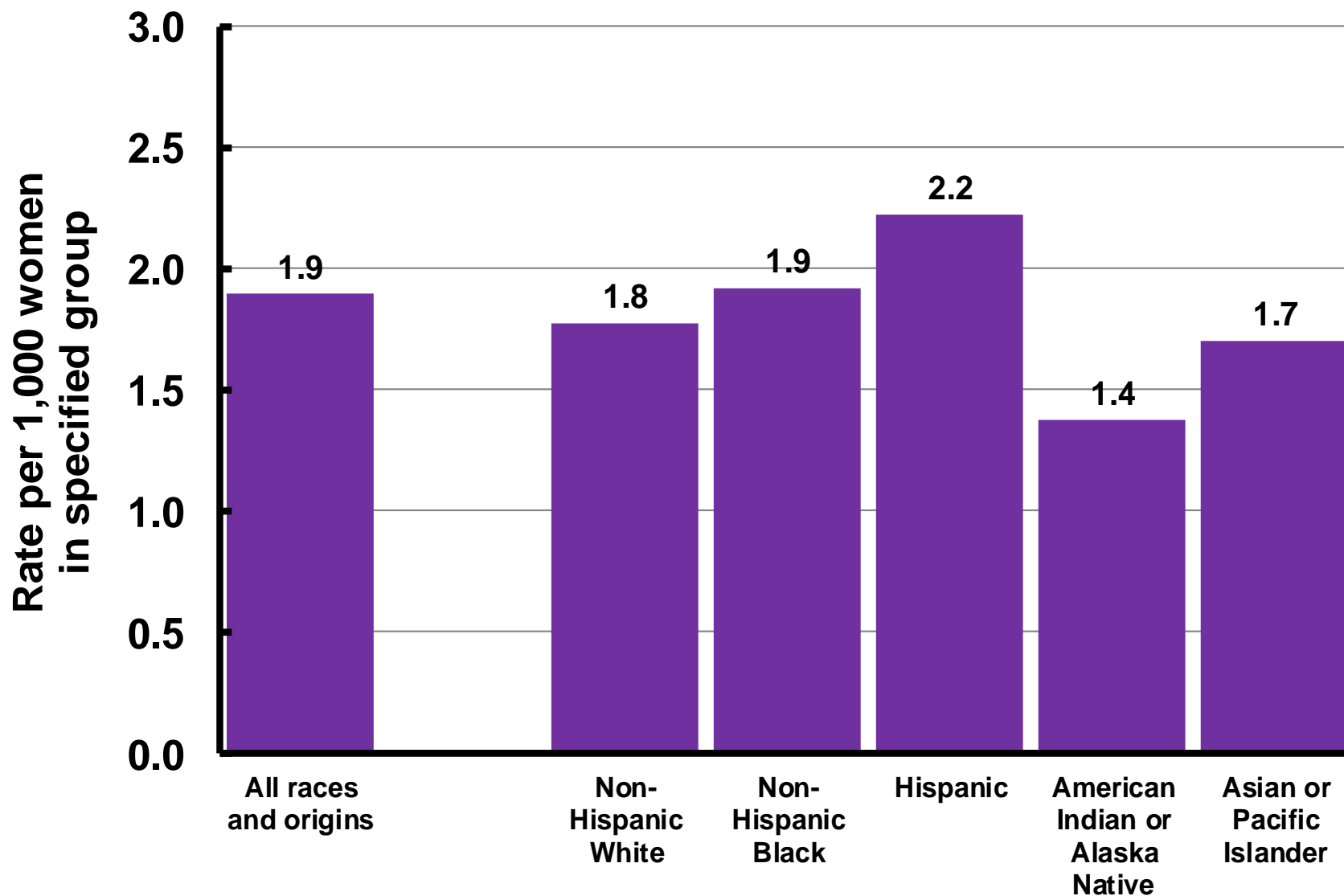
NOTES: Beginning with 1959, trend lines are based on registered live births; trend lines for 1920-1958 are based on live births adjusted for underregistration.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Number of births, by selected race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, preliminary 2011

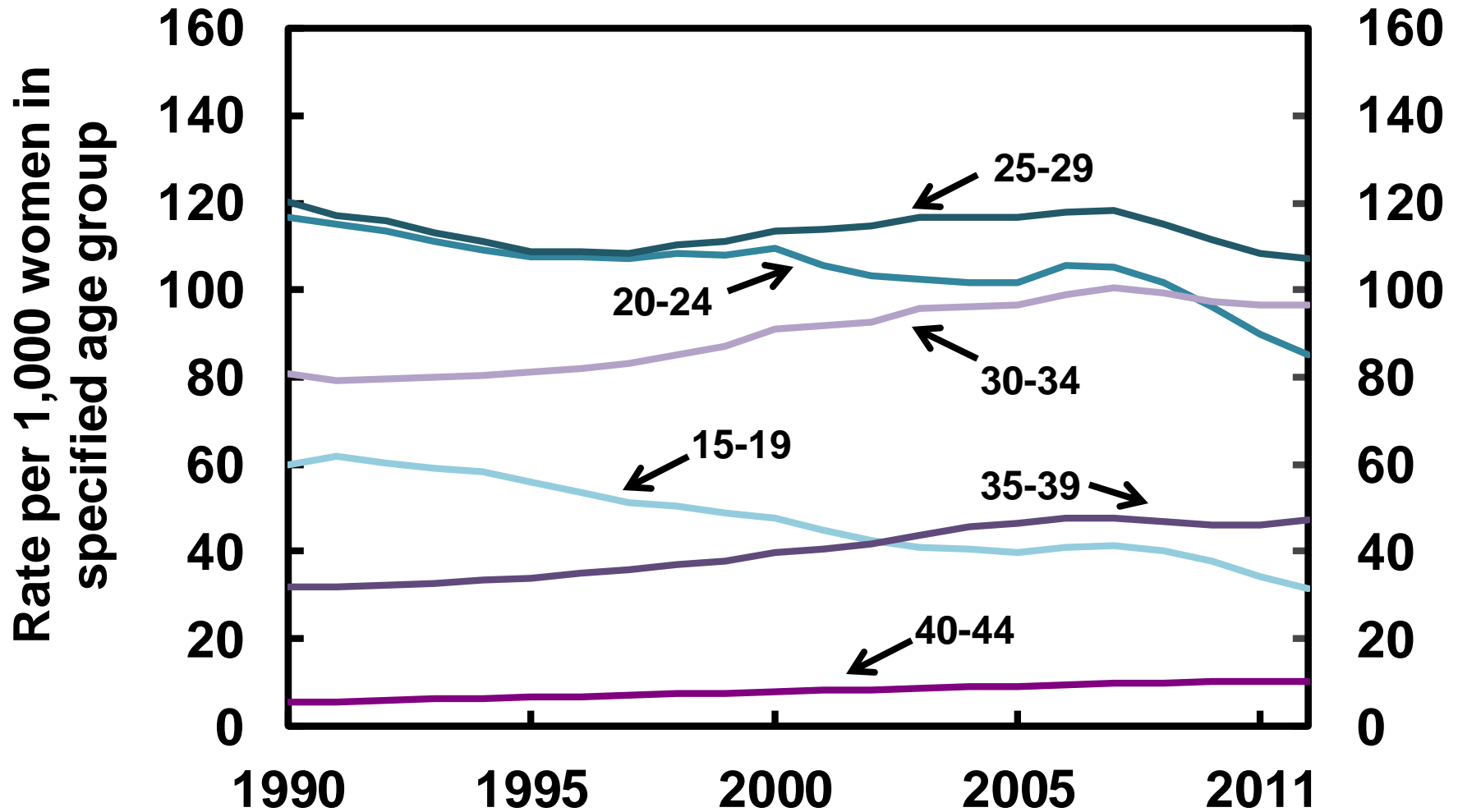


Total fertility rates, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, preliminary 2011



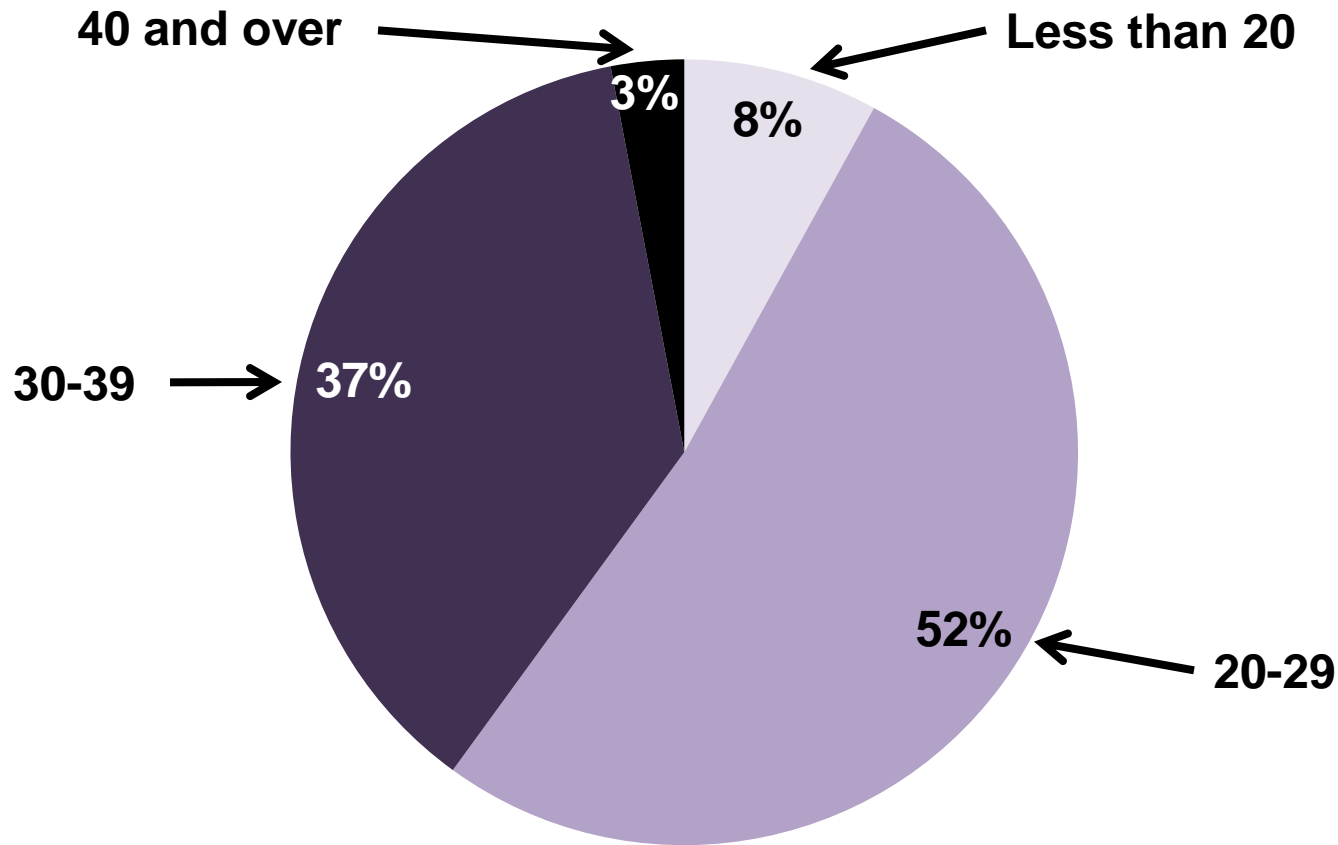
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Birth rates, by selected age of mother: United States, final 1990-2010 and preliminary 2011

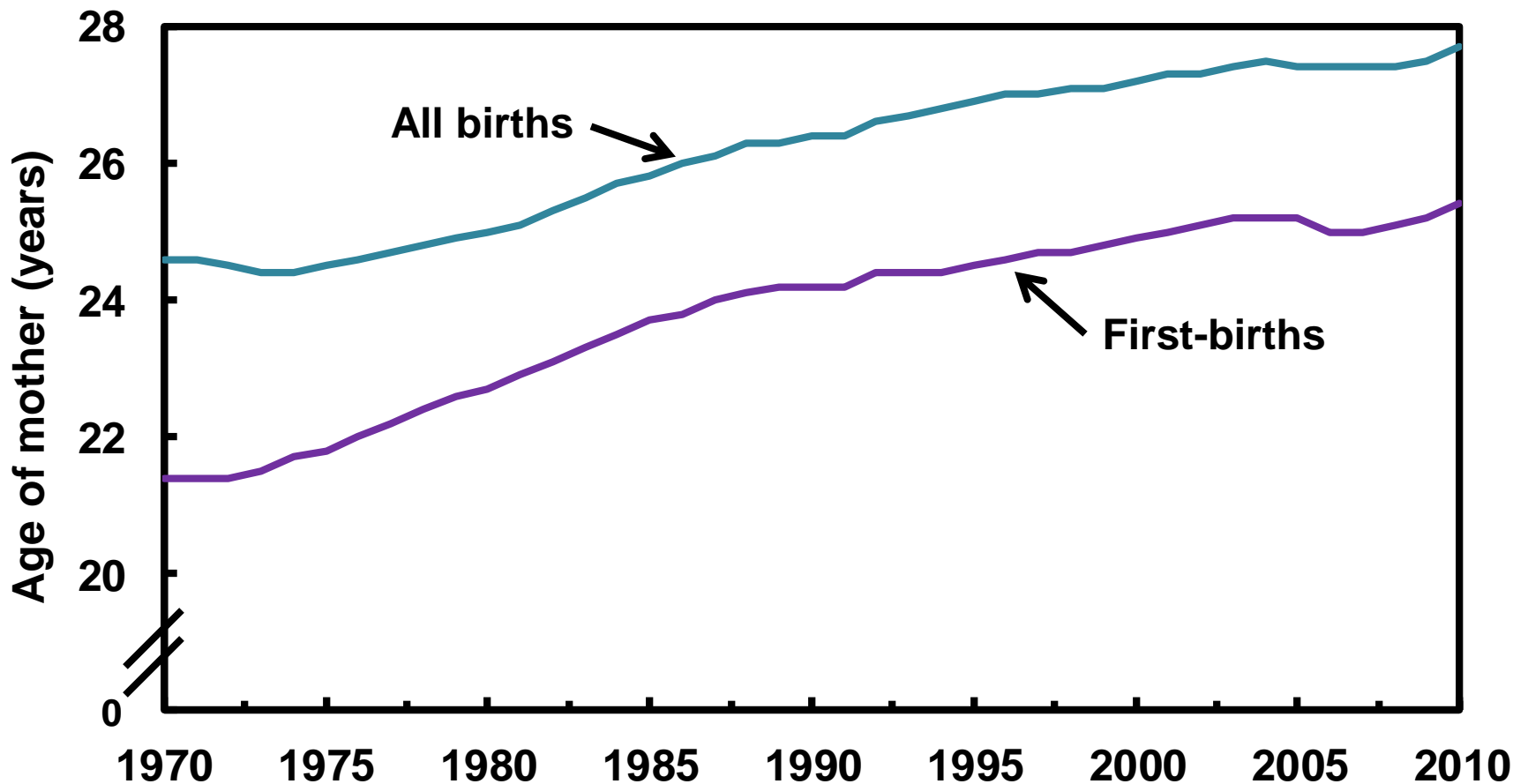


SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Percentage of births, by age of mother: United States, preliminary 2011



Mean age of mother for all births and mean age of mother at first birth: United States, final 1970-2010

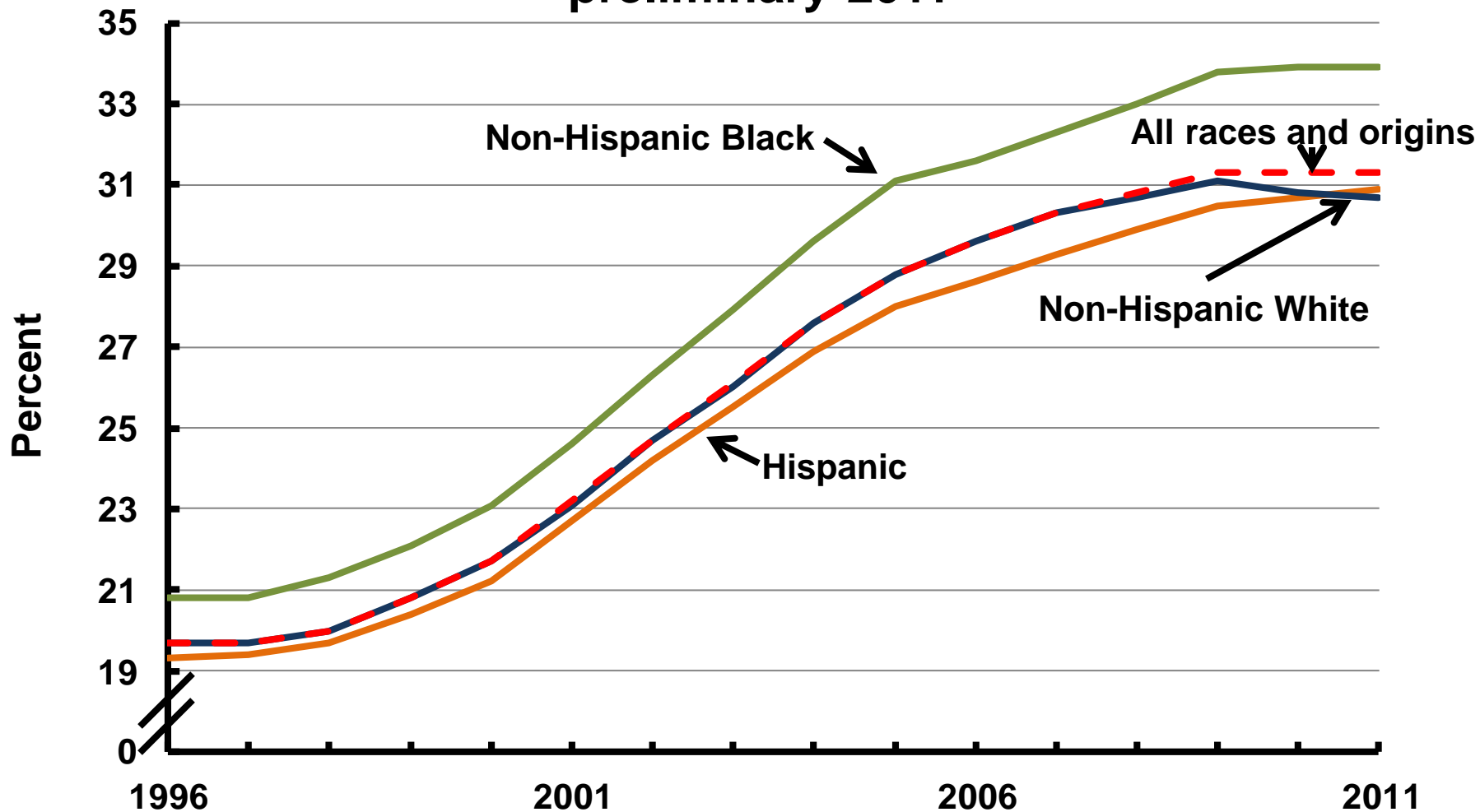


NOTE: Mean age at birth is the arithmetic average of the age of mothers at the time of the birth, computed directly from the frequency of births by age of mother and live birth order (first).

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Health Trends

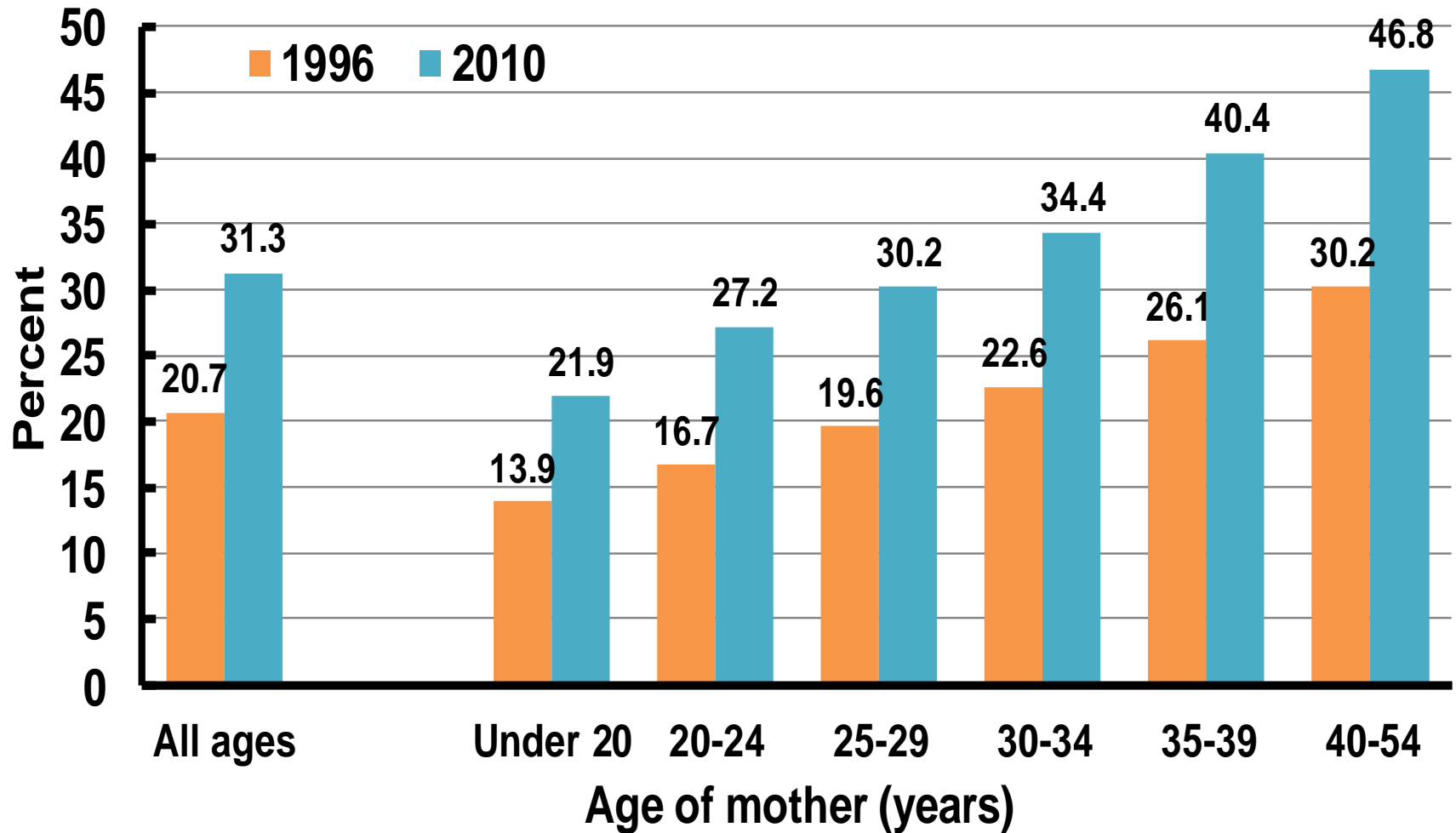
Cesarean delivery rate, by selected race and Hispanic origin: United States, final 1996-2010 and preliminary 2011



NOTE: Singleton births only.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

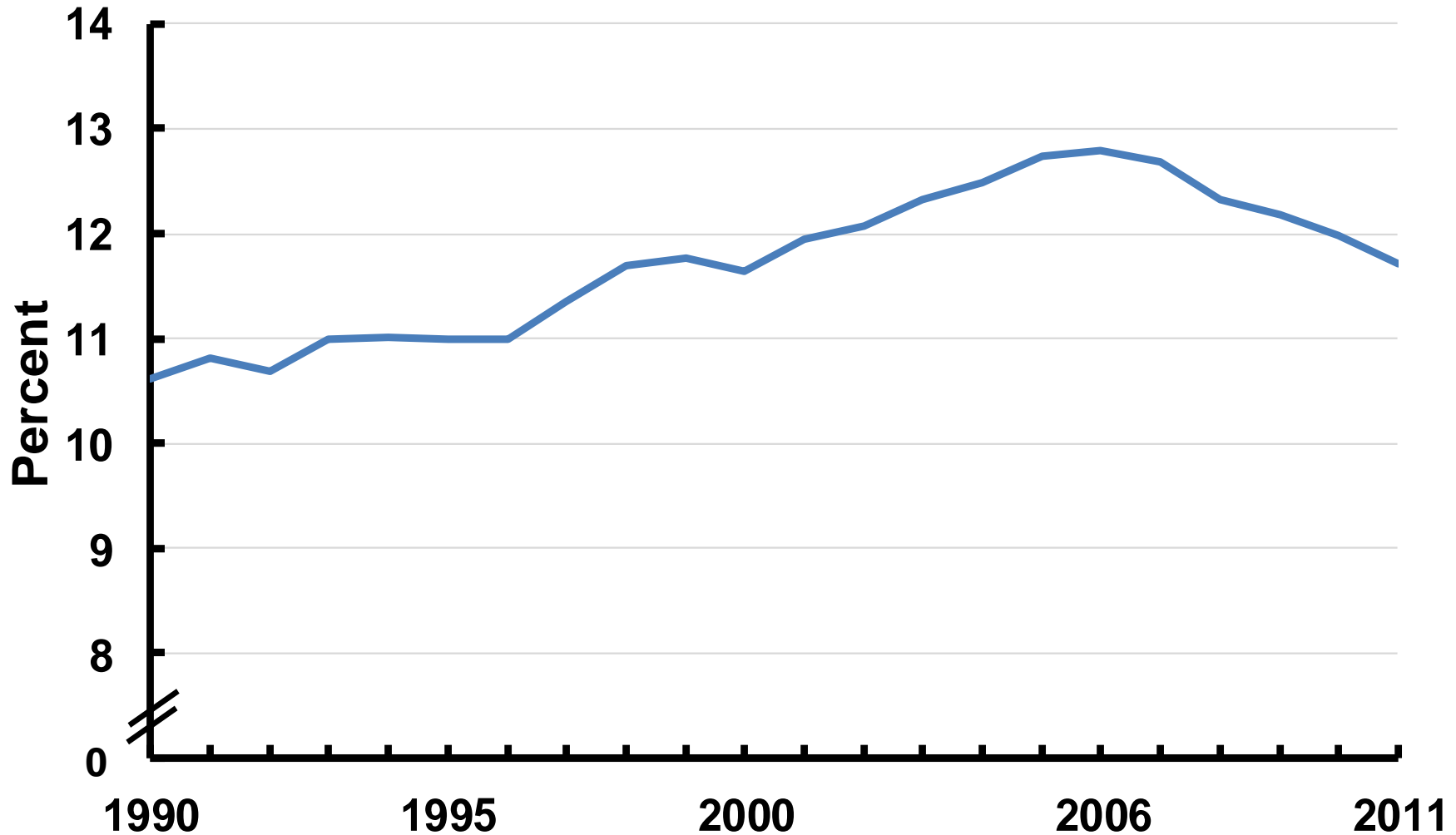
Cesarean delivery rates by age of mother: United States, final 1996 and 2010



NOTE: Singleton births only.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

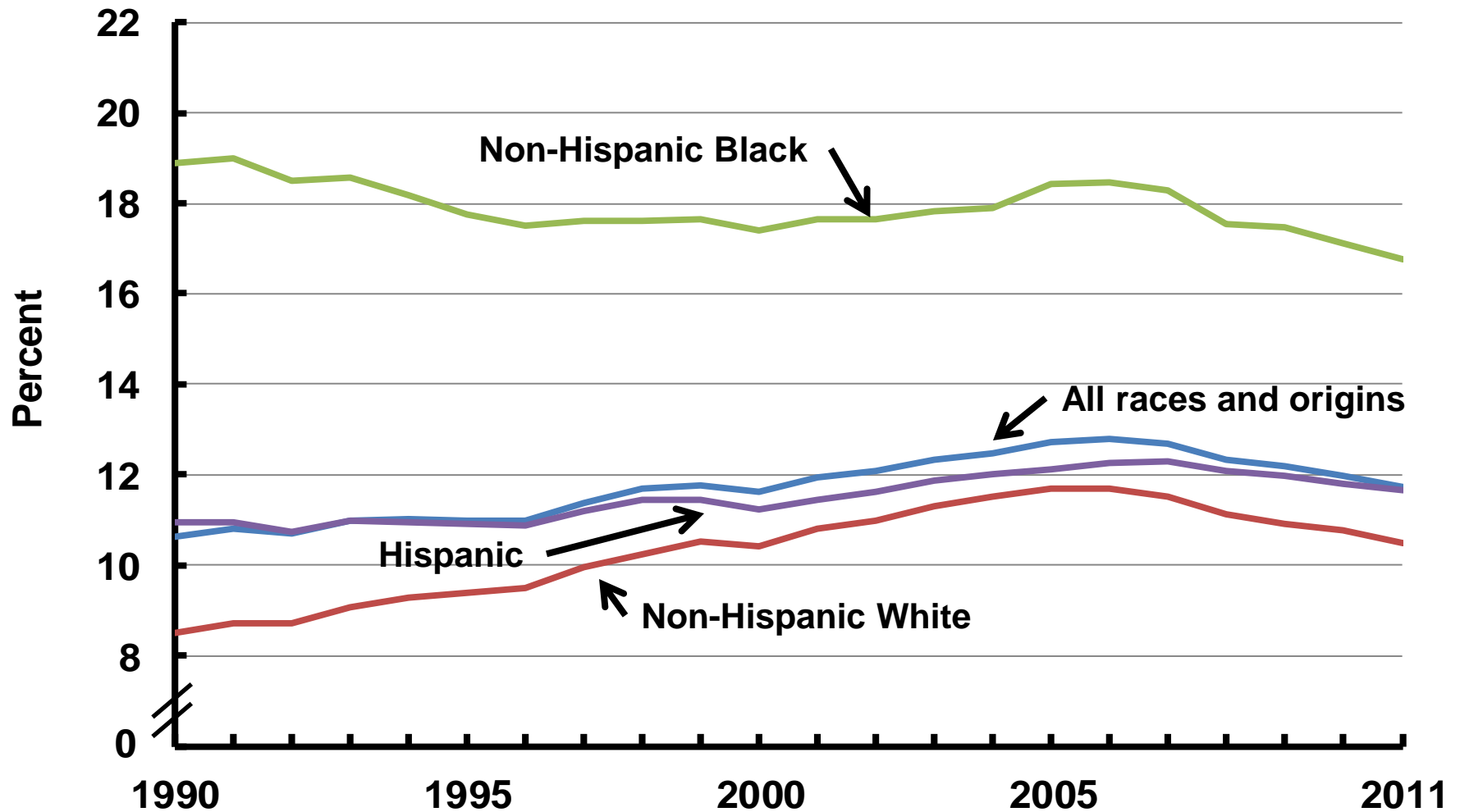
Preterm* birth rates: United States, final 1990-2010 and preliminary 2011



*Born prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

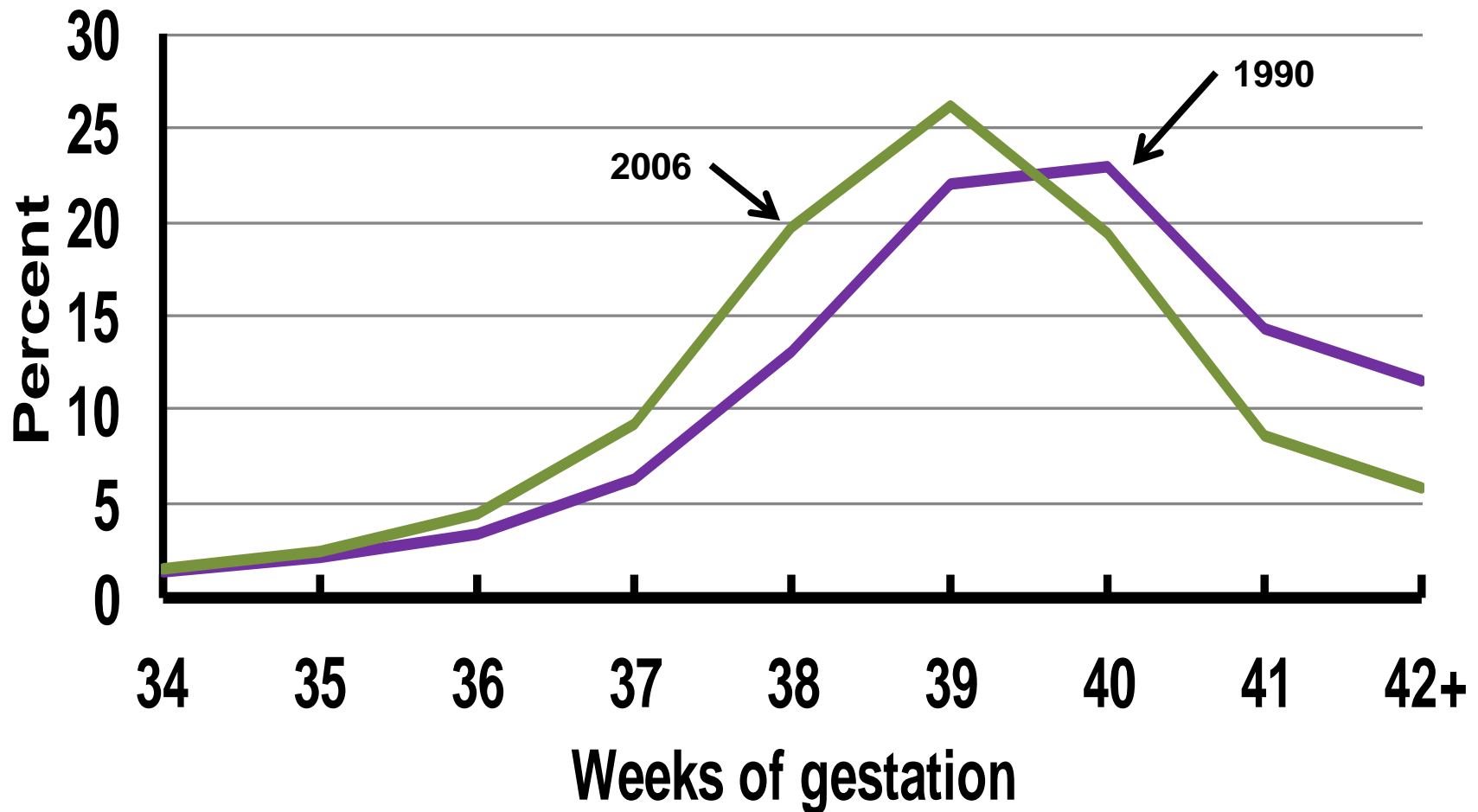
Preterm* birth rates, by selected race and Hispanic origin: United States, final 1990-2010 and preliminary 2011



*Born prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

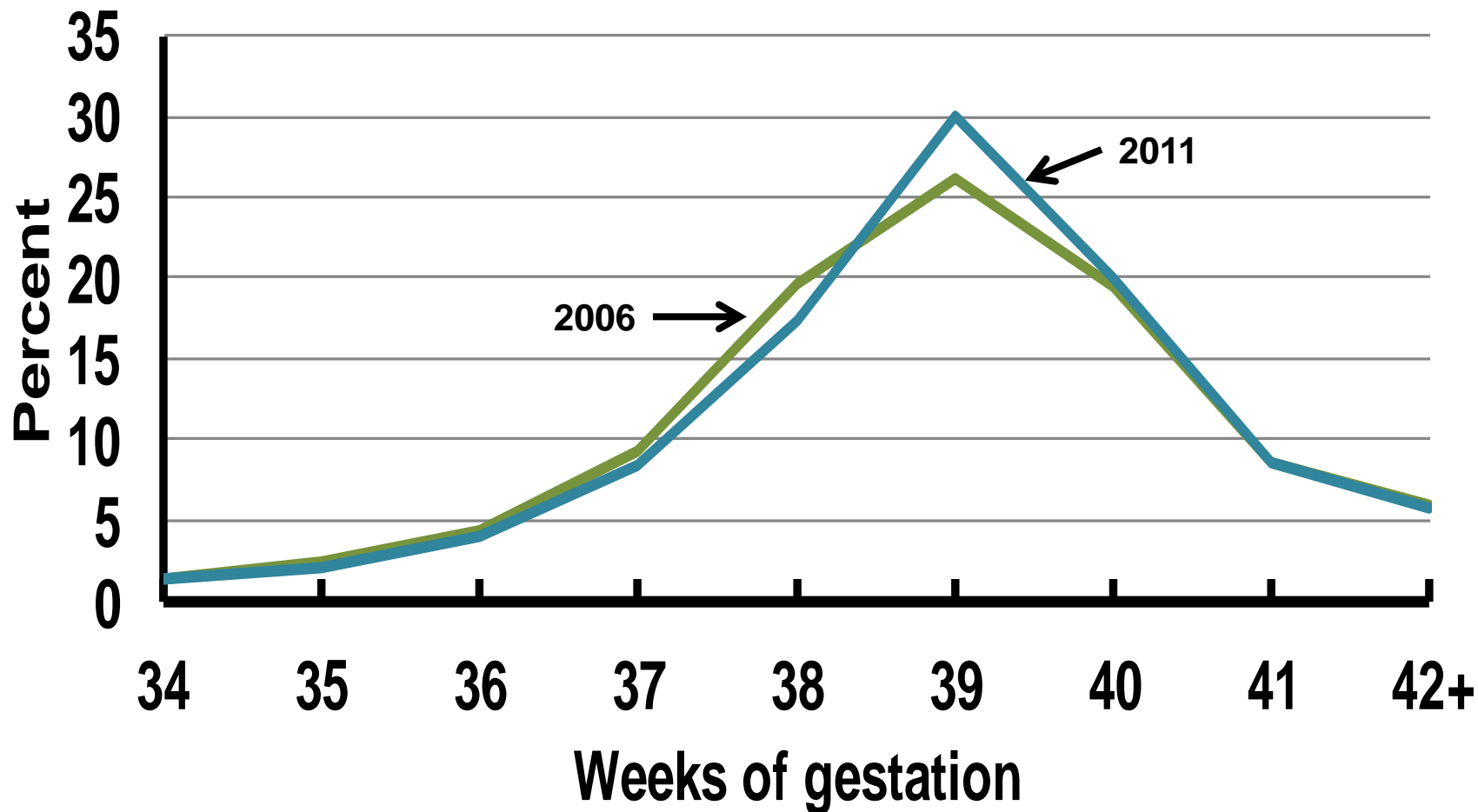
Percent distribution of births by gestational age: United States, final 1990 and 2006



NOTE: Singleton births only. Completed weeks based on LMP-based measure of gestational age.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

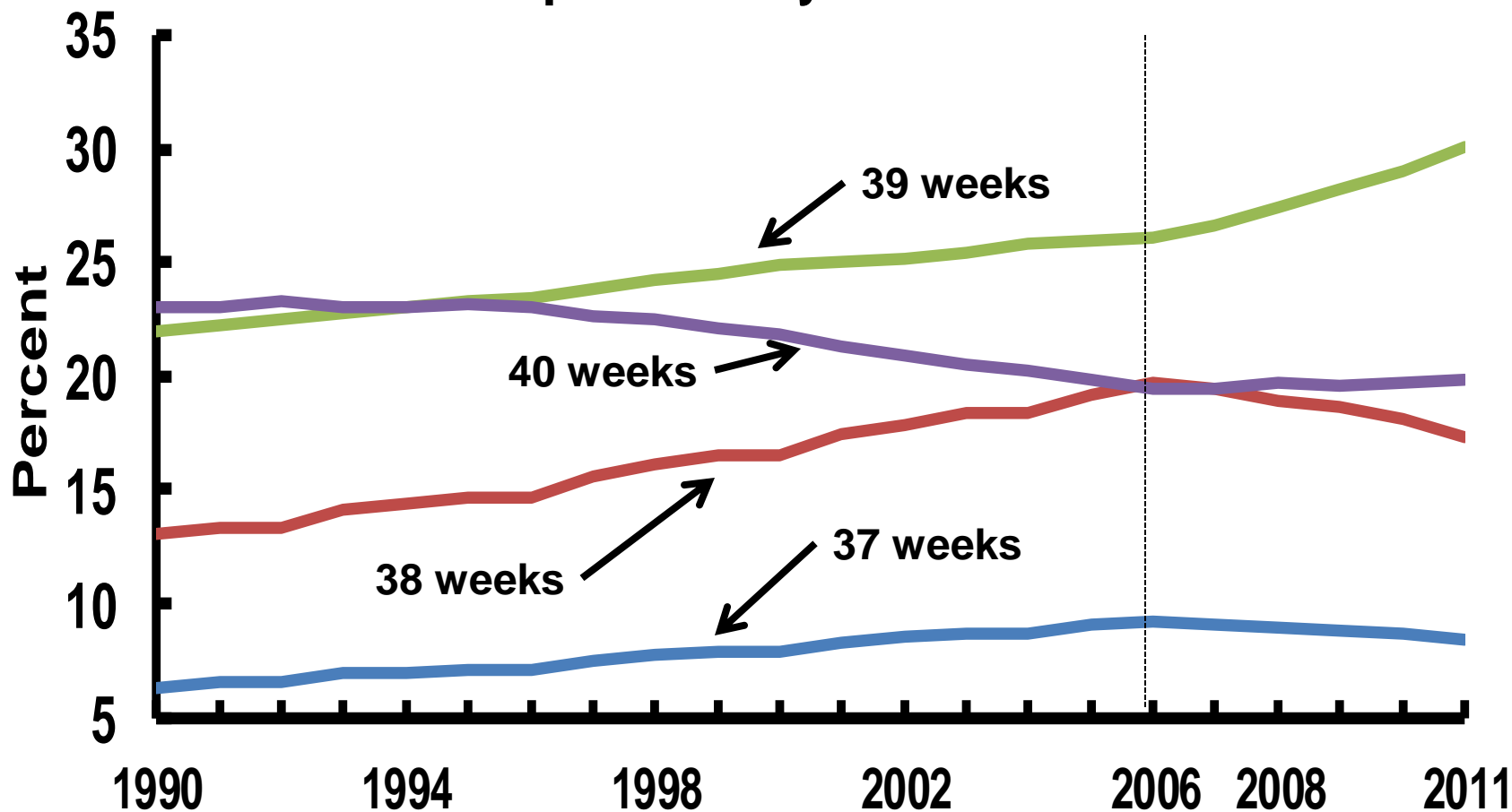
Percent distribution of births by gestational age: United States, final 2006 and preliminary 2011



NOTE: Singleton births only. Completed weeks based on LMP-based measure of gestational age.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

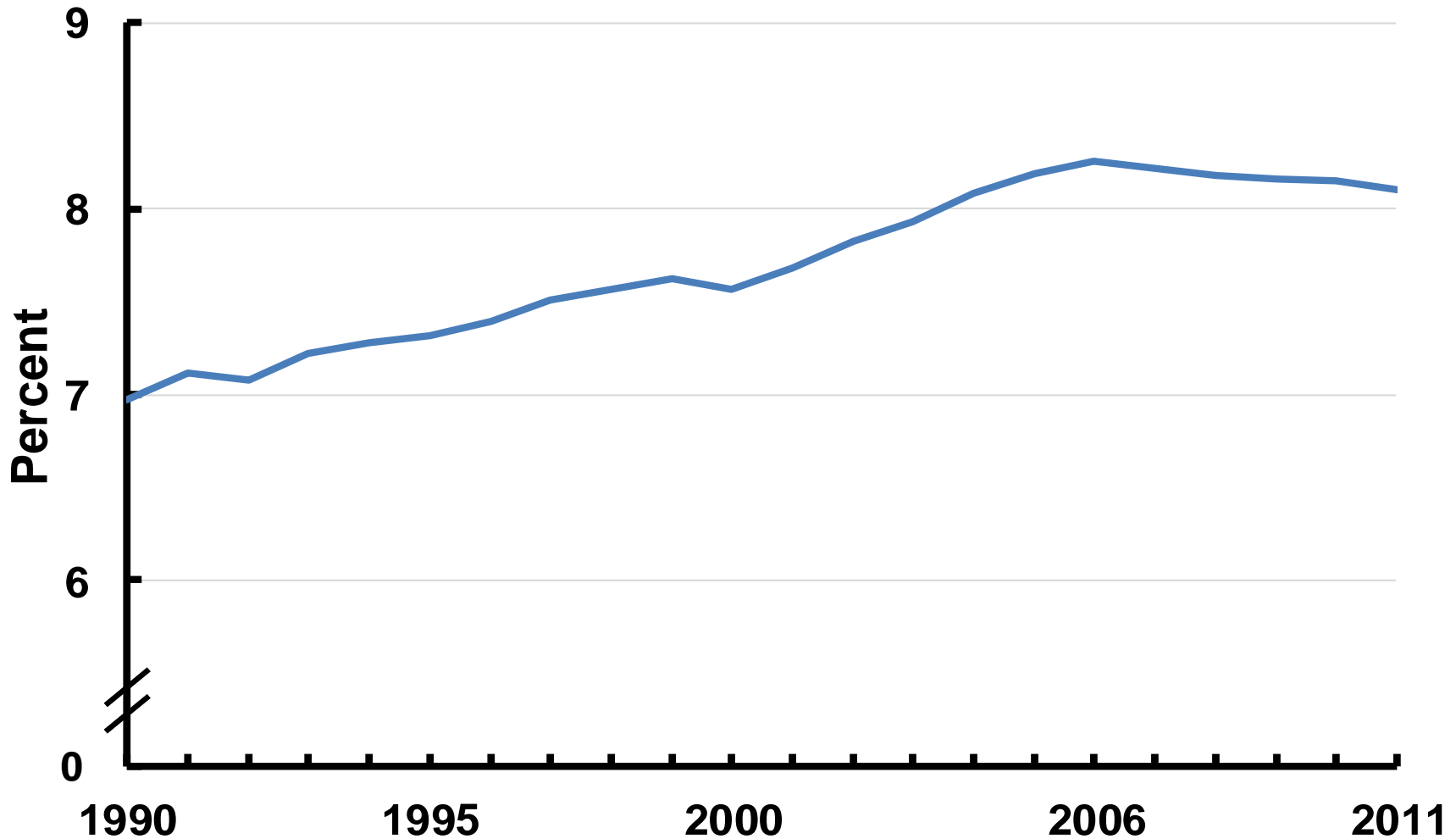
Percentage of births at 37, 38, 39 and 40 weeks of gestation: United States, final 1990-2010 and preliminary 2011



NOTE: Singleton births only.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

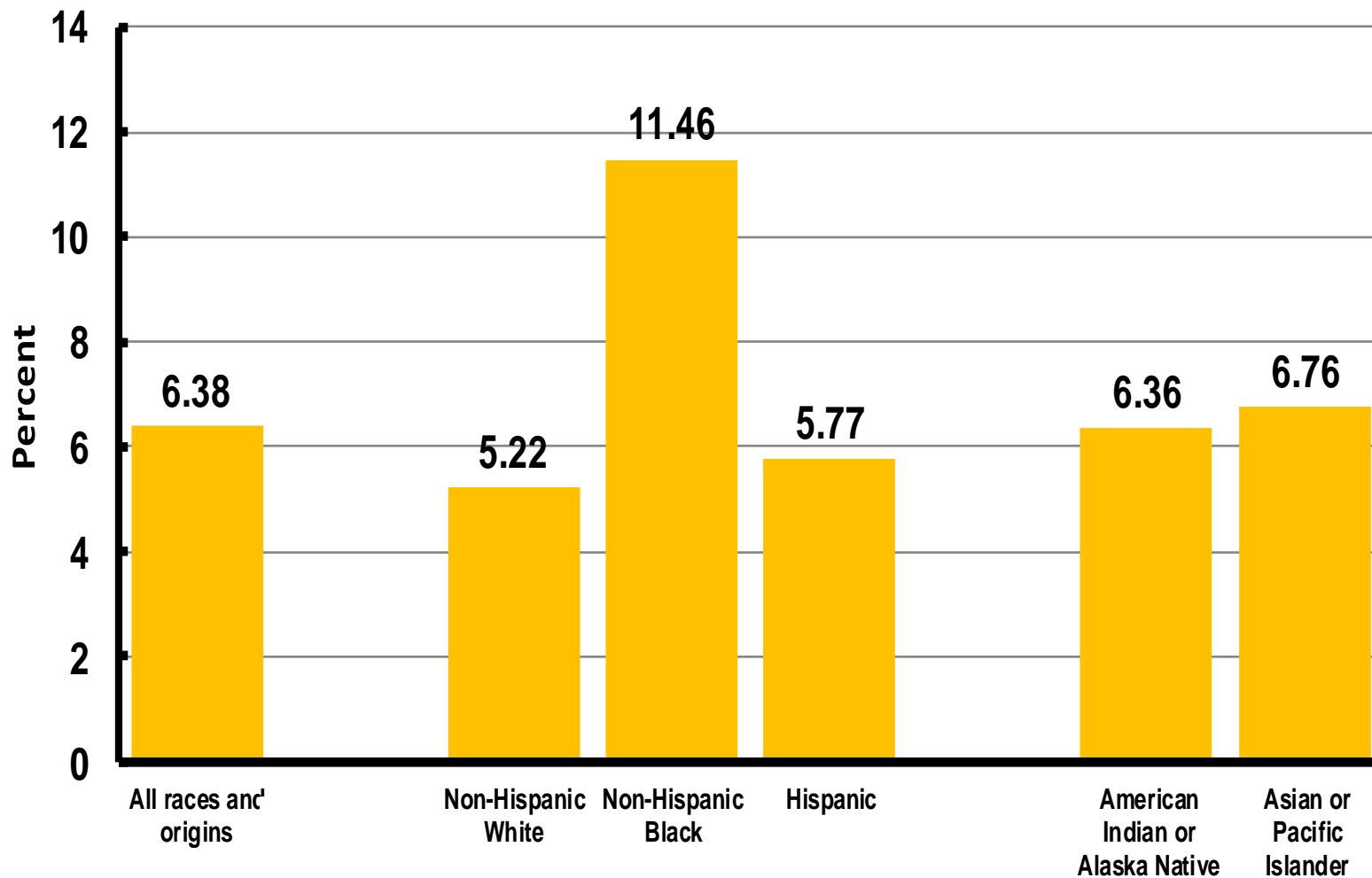
Low birthweight* rates: United States, final 1990-2010 and preliminary 2011



*Birthweight of less than 2,500 grams.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Low birthweight* rates by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, final 2010

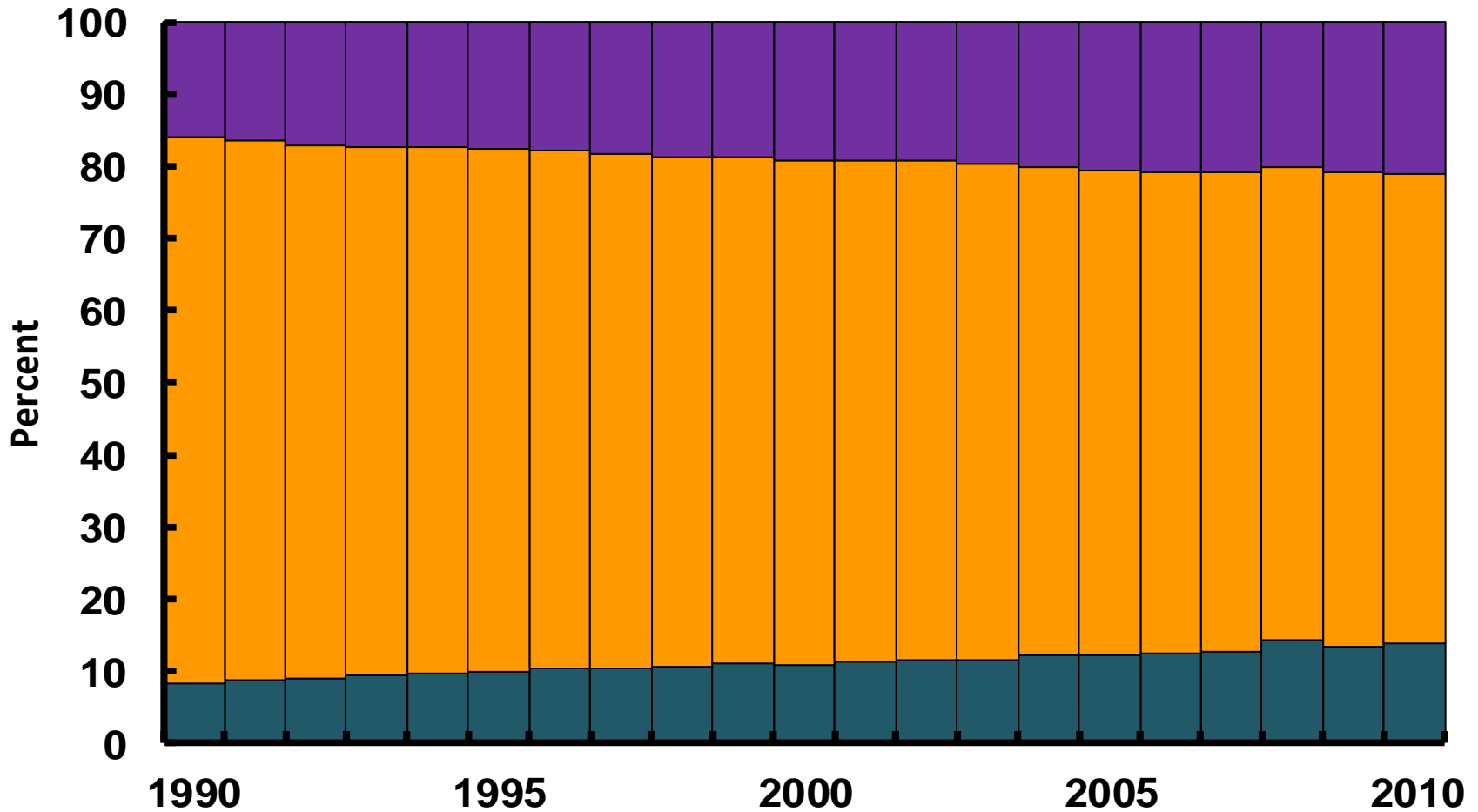


*Birthweight of less than 2,500 grams. NOTE: Singleton births only.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Weight gain during pregnancy for singleton, term births: United States, final 1990-2010

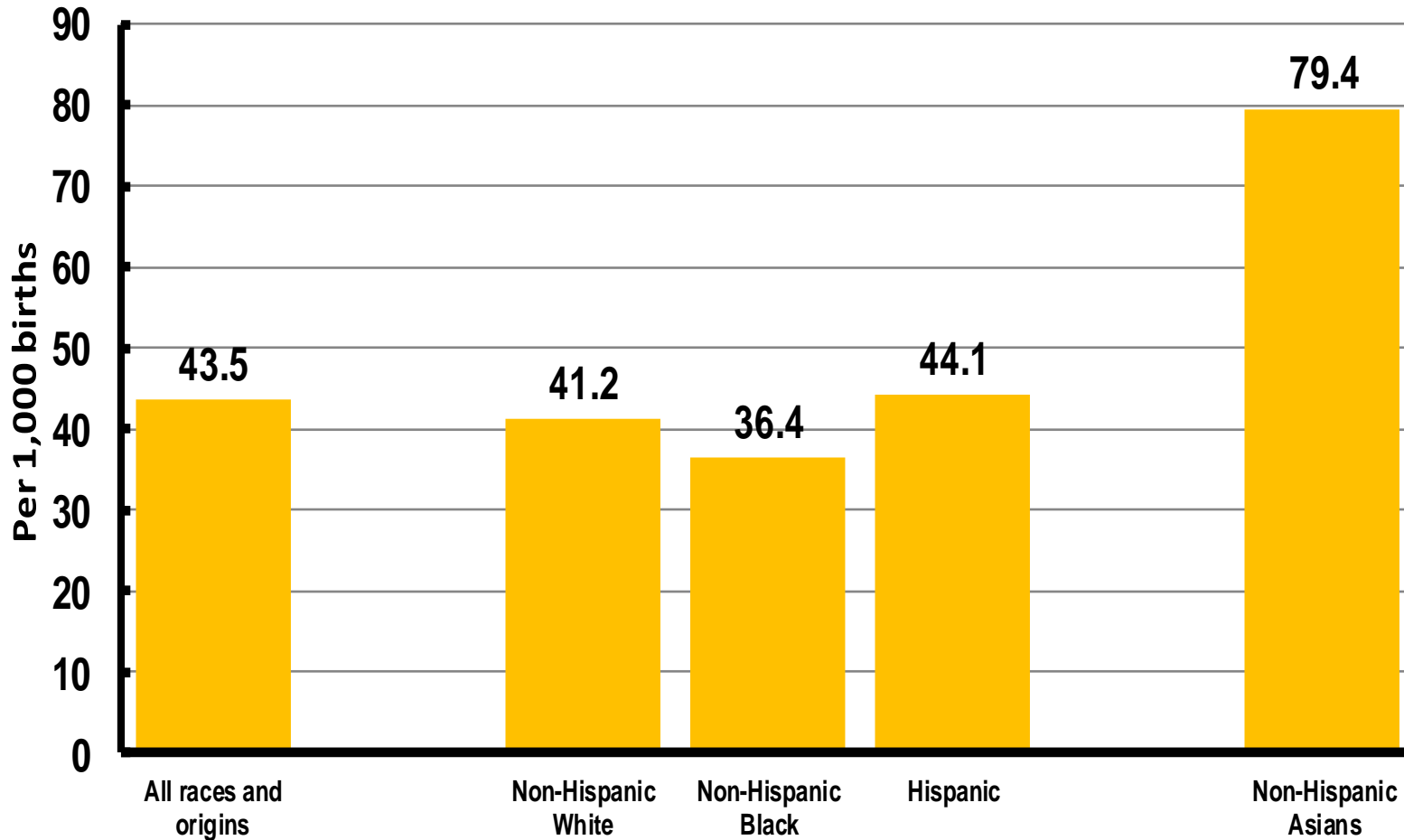
More than 40 pounds 16-40 pounds Less than 16 pounds



NOTE: Excludes data for California which did not report weight gain in pregnancy for 1990-2006. Term is 37 and greater weeks of gestation.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

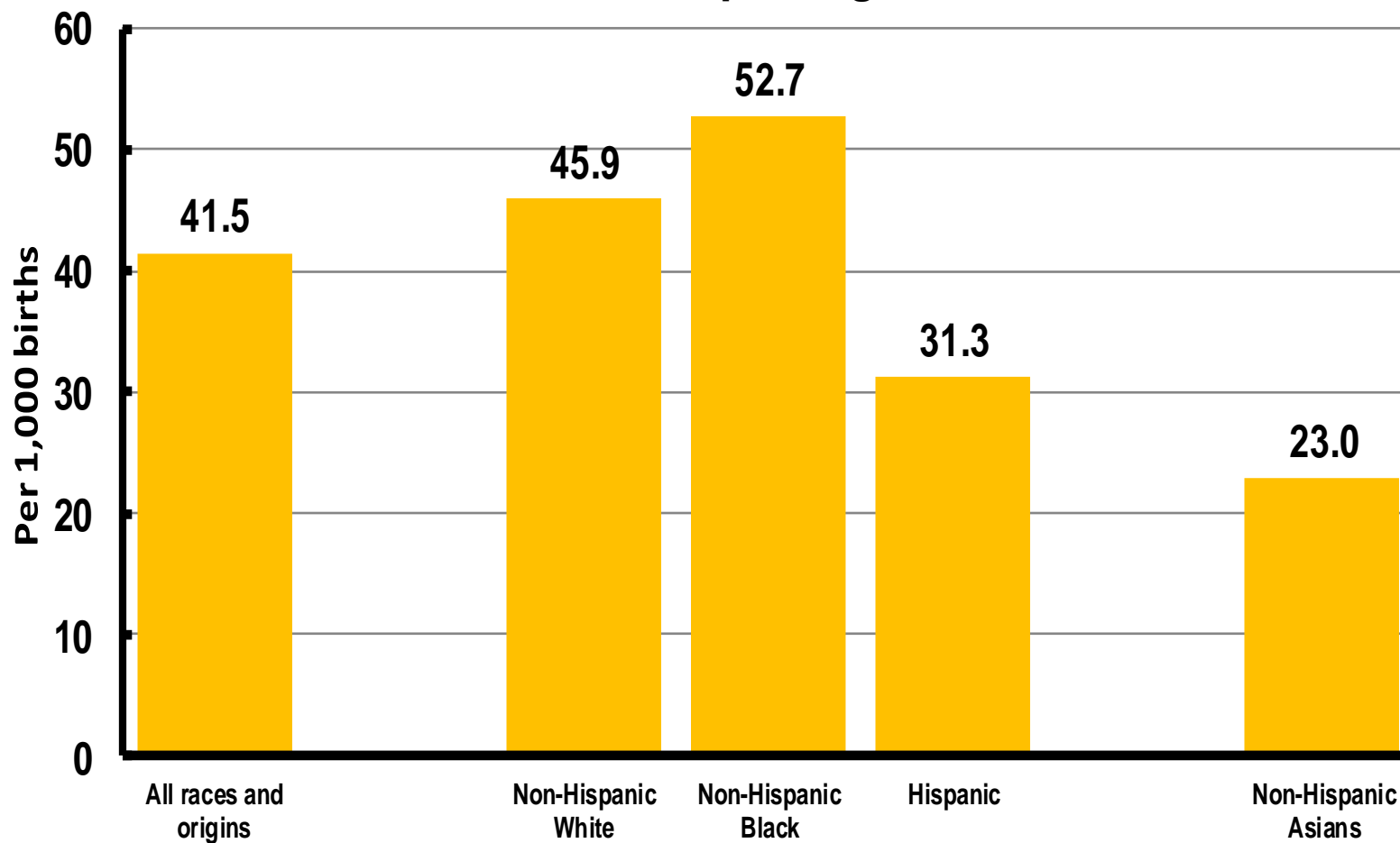
Rates of gestational diabetes by selected race and Hispanic origin of mother: 33 states and the District of Columbia, revised reporting area, final 2010



NOTE: Singleton births only.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

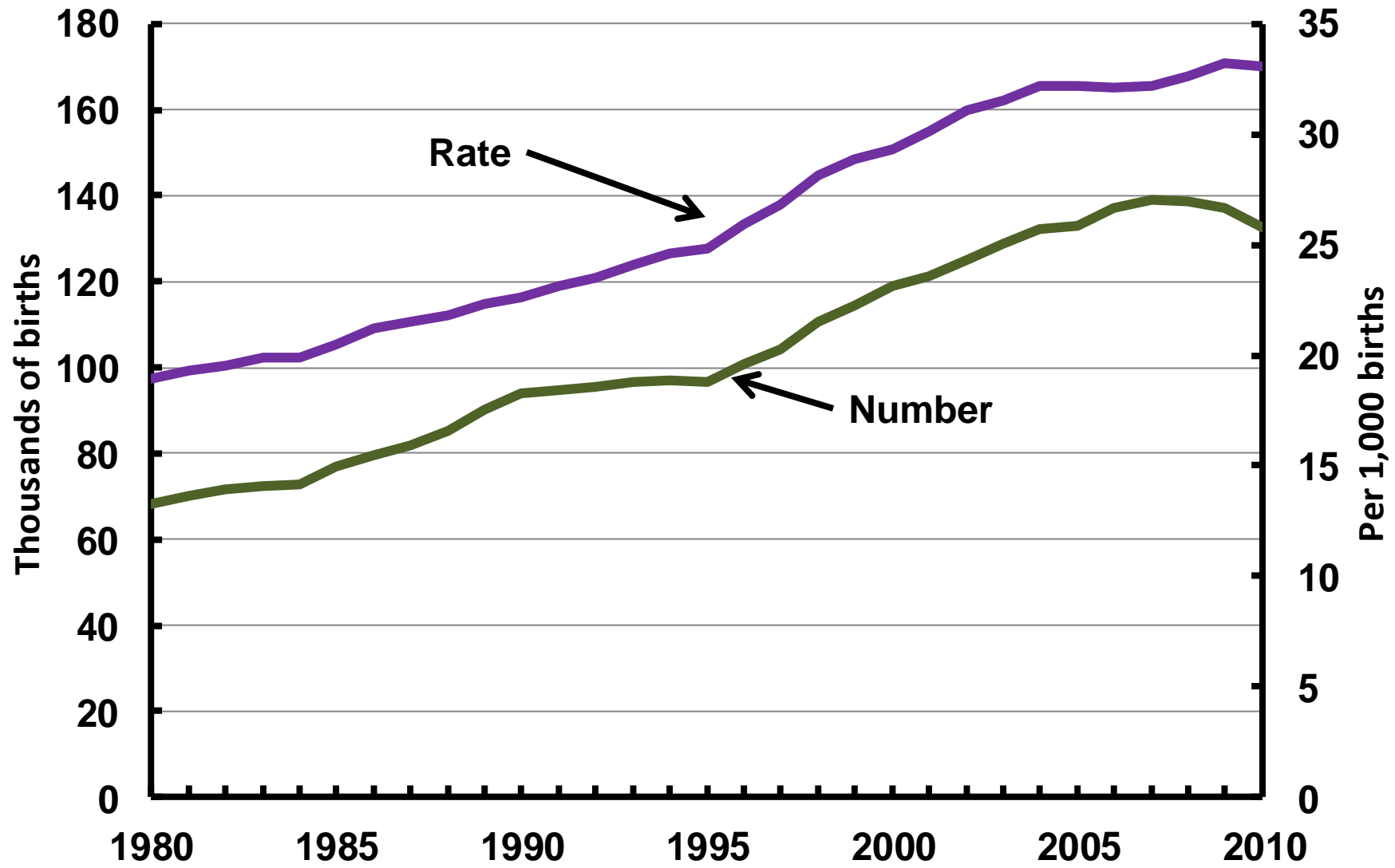
Rates of gestational hypertension by selected race and Hispanic origin of mother: 33 states and the District of Columbia, revised reporting area, final 2010



NOTE: Singleton births only.

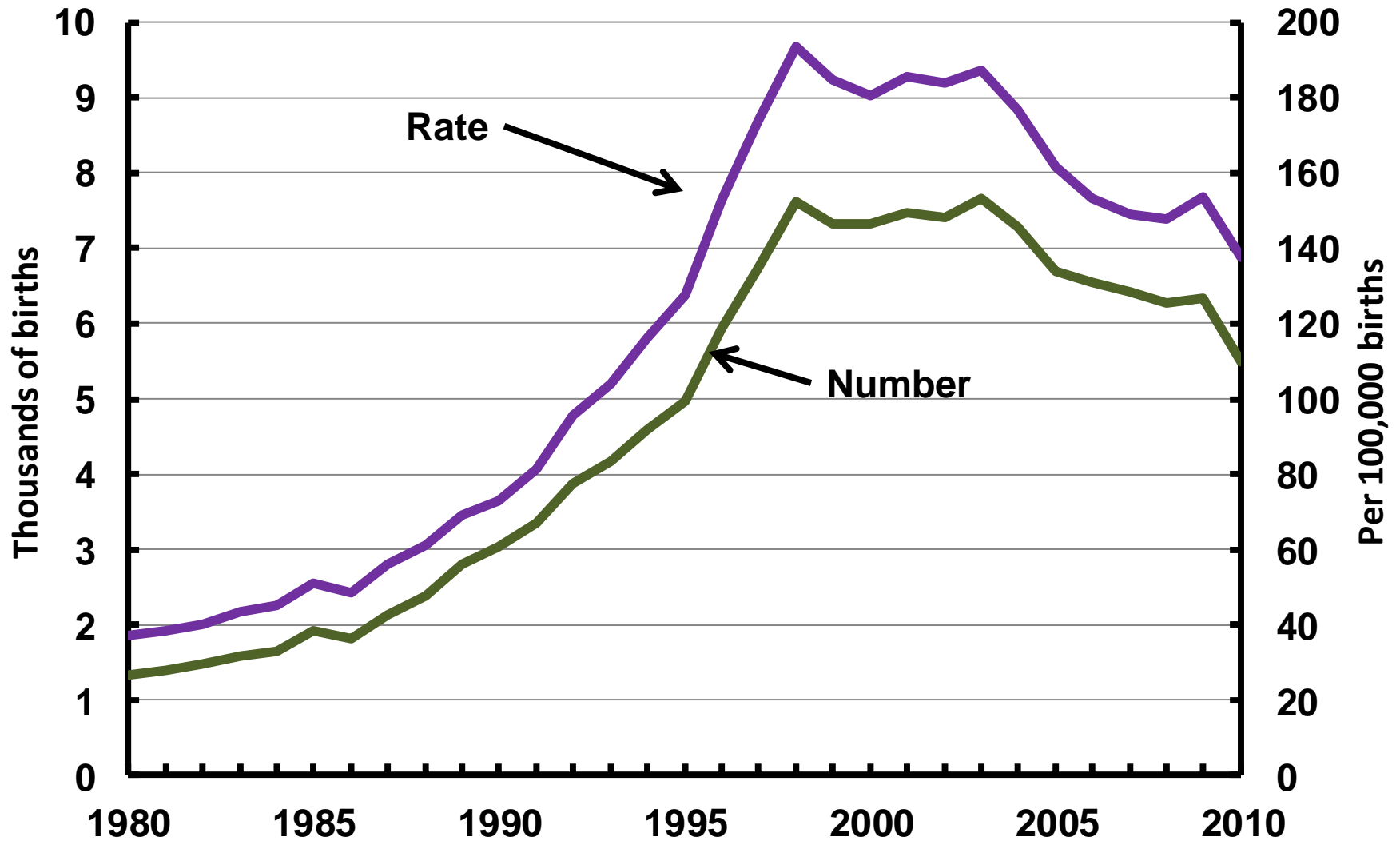
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Number and rate of twin births: United States, final 1980-2010



SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Number and rate of triplet and other higher-order births: United States, final 1980-2010



SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

Summary: Key General Trends

Substantial increases in:

- **The number and percent of births to Hispanic women**
- **The number, percent and rate of births to women age 30 and over**
- **The percent of women who gained more than 40 pounds during pregnancy**

Slight decreases in:

- **The cesarean delivery rate**
 - **The 2011 rate was highest for non-Hispanic Black women and lowest for non-Hispanic White women**

Summary: Key General Trends (Continued)

Slight decreases in:

- **Low birthweight**
 - **The 2010 rate was highest for non-Hispanic Black women and lowest for non-Hispanic White women**

Substantial decreases in:

- **Preterm births**
 - **The 2011 rate was highest for non-Hispanic Black women**
- **Triplet and other higher-order births**

Holding steady:

- **Twin births**

New items (to be released by 2014):

- **Body mass index (BMI)**
- **Tobacco use 3 months prior to pregnancy**
 - **Quit prior to pregnancy**
- **Mother received WIC food during pregnancy**
- **Pregnancy resulted from infertility therapy**
- **Infections present during pregnancy (e.g., chlamydia)**
- **Source of payment for the delivery (e.g., Medicaid)**
- **Interval since last live birth**
- **Maternal morbidities (e.g., ruptured uterus)**
- **Infant breastfed**