

What's Going on with Fertility in the U.S, California and the SCAG Region?

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What's going
on with
fertility?

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The New York Times

*U.S. Fertility Rate Fell to a Record
Low, for a Second Straight Year*

HUFFPOST

**Everyone Is Missing A Key Reason The U.S. Birth Rate
Is Declining**

In the U.S., women are essentially punished for having kids.

■ May 24, 2018, 4:00 AM PDT

Bloomberg

What's Discouraging
Millennials From Starting a
Family?

- It's about more than career ambitions.

Annual Births in California – Actual and Projected

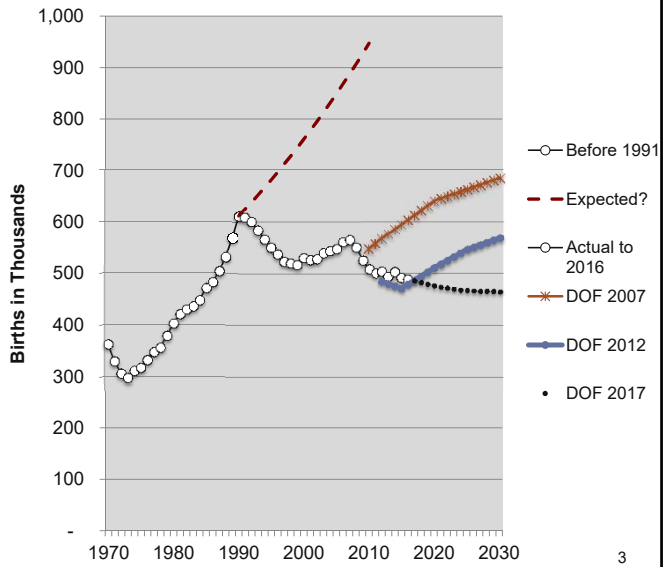
Between 1990 and 2030

Total California population + 48%

but

Annual births

lower by – 24%



Source: California Department of Finance; analysis Dowell Myers

General Fertility Rate - US

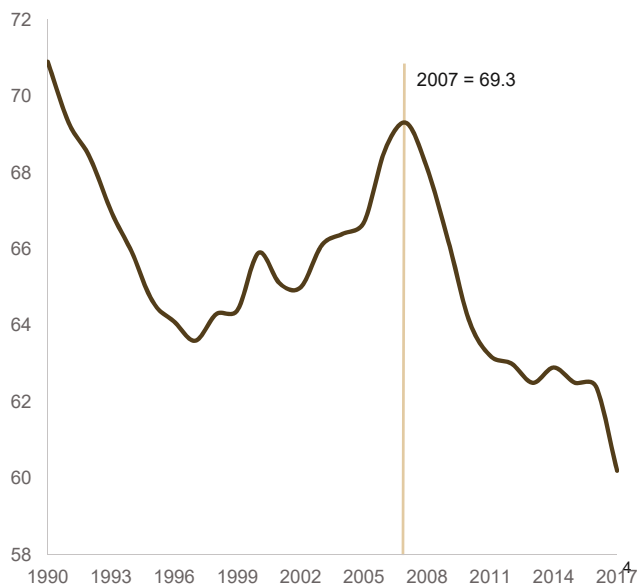
Total Fertility Rate

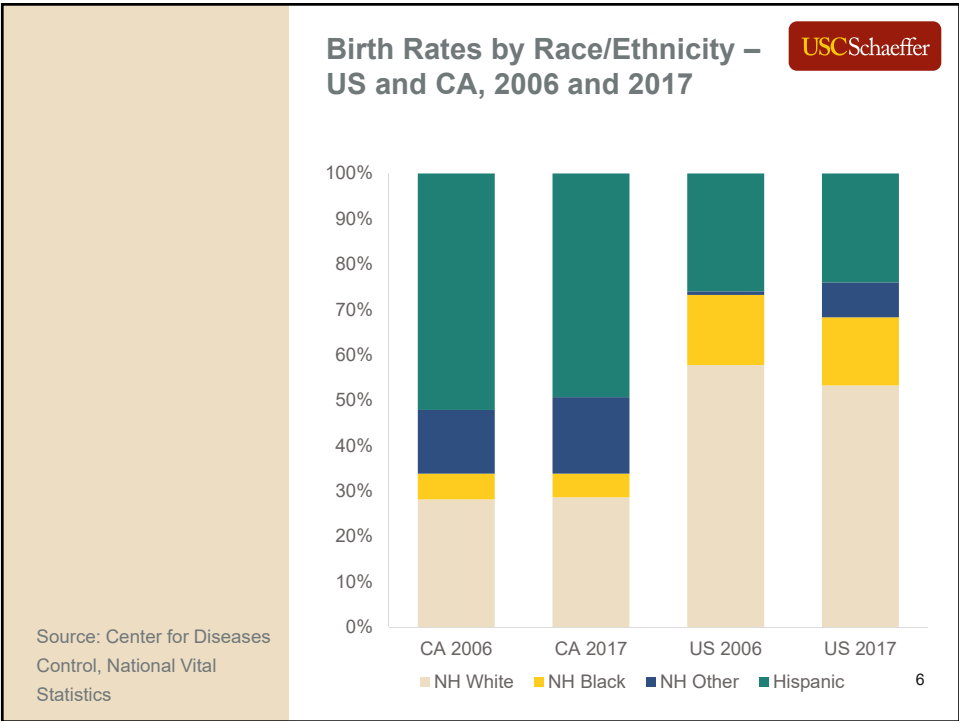
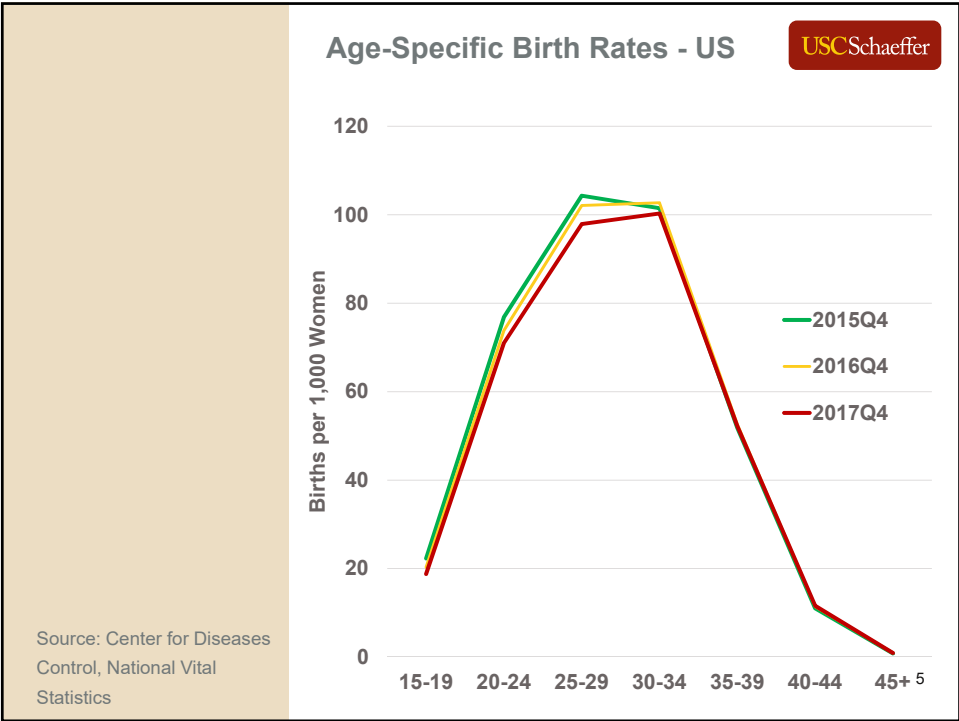
2015 1.843

2016 1.820

2017 1.764

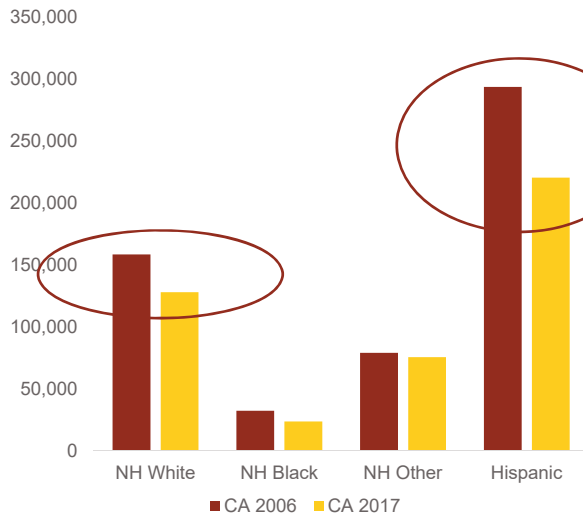
Source: Center for Diseases Control, National Vital Statistics





Births by Race/Ethnicity – 2006 and 2017 California Only

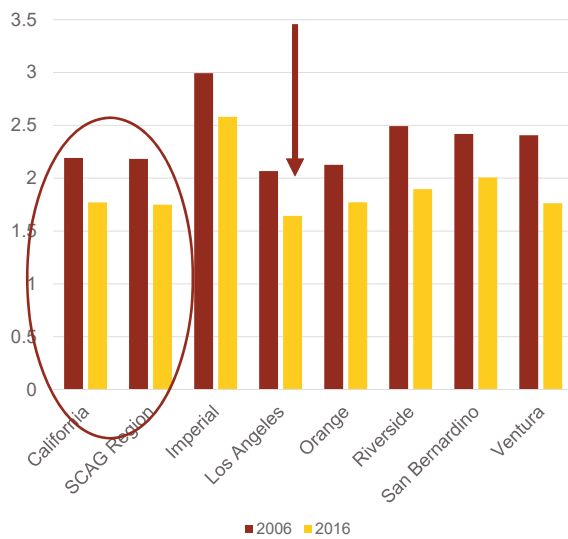
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Source: Center for Diseases Control, National Vital Statistics

Total Fertility Rate – SCAG Counties

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Source: California Department of Finance

So what's going on...?

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- Financial insecurity
- Cultural shift
- More working parents
- Delayed childbearing
- Workplace policy
- Public policies
- Migration

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Public Policy Options

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- Child care subsidies +
- Baby bonus +
- Parental leave +
- Maternity leave only ?
- Part-time work +
- School schedules ?
- But...differences across socioeconomic background

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In sum...

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- Fertility undoubtedly declining across the board
- No one-size-fits-all solution, but some public and private policies may help

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