

## Older motherhood in the UK

### ■ Read the passage, then describe the graph below.

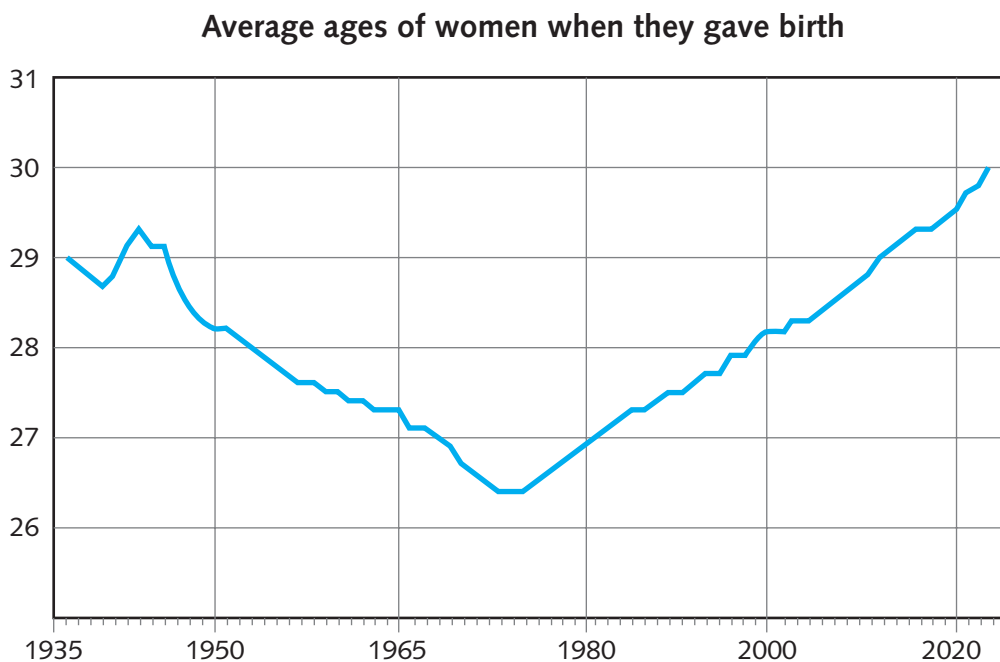
The **trend** towards older motherhood is continuing – with the **average** age of mothers in England and Wales reaching 30. The average age of mothers in 2020 increased to 30.0 years, compared with 29.8 years in 2019.

The ONS (Office for National Statistics) **report** said the average age of mothers had been increasing since 1975, with increasing numbers of women **delaying childbearing**.

It **cited** a number of possible factors:

- increased participation in higher education
- increased female participation in the labour force
- the increasing importance of a career
- the rising costs of childbearing
- labour market uncertainty
- housing factors
- instability of partnerships.

**average:** *media*  
**to cite:** *citare*  
**delaying childbearing:** *che ritardano la maternità*  
**report:** *rapporto, relazione*  
**trend:** *tendenza*



Source: ONS via BBC