

Statistics Canada

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Birth-related indicators (low and high birth weight, small and large for gestational age, pre-term births), by sex, three-year average, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups
occasional

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Sex = Both sexes

Characteristics [12](#), [13](#), [14](#), [15](#), [16](#) = Percent (percent)

Geography ^{8, 2}	Indicators	2000-2002	2005-2007	2010-2012
Canada [0]	Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams)	5.6	6.0	6.1
	Small for gestational age	8.4	8.4	8.7
	Pre-term births	7.4	7.8	7.7
	High birth weight (4,500 grams or more)	2.3	1.9	1.8
	Large for gestational age	12.0	10.9	10.4
Yukon [60]	Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams)	4.7	5.3	3.5
	Small for gestational age	7.3	5.5	7.1
	Pre-term births	6.6	8.7	6.9
	High birth weight (4,500 grams or more)	4.3	1.9	1.7
	Large for gestational age	14.1	12.0	14.3
Northwest Territories [61]	Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams)	4.5	4.5	6.3
	Small for gestational age	6.2	5.6	6.5
	Pre-term births	7.7	7.8	6.9
	High birth weight (4,500 grams or more)	4.2	4.7	4.4
	Large for gestational age	17.9	18.0	18.1
Nunavut [62]	Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams)	7.7	7.6	7.9
	Small for gestational age	7.2	6.2	5.5
	Pre-term births	11.1	12.7	13.3
	High birth weight (4,500 grams or more)	1.9	2.2	1.7
	Large for gestational age	13.3	14.5	13.6

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Footnotes:

1. Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database. The CANSIM table 102-4317 is an update of CANSIM table [102-4303](#).
2. Live births with a birth weight less than 2,500 grams, expressed as a percentage of all live births (birth weight known).
3. Live births with a birth weight less than the 10th percentile of birth weights of the same sex and the same gestational age in weeks from Kramer et al. "A New and Improved Population-based Canadian Reference for Birth Weight for Gestational Age". Expressed as a percentage of live singleton births with gestational ages from 22 to 43 weeks.
4. Live births with a gestational age less than 37 weeks expressed as a percentage of all live births (gestational age known).
5. Live births with a birth weight of 4,500 grams or more, expressed as a percentage of all live births (birth weight known).
6. Live births with a birth weight greater than the 90th percentile of birth weights of the same sex and the same gestational age in weeks from Kramer et al. "A New and Improved Population-based Canadian Reference for Birth Weight for Gestational Age". Expressed as a percentage of live singleton births with gestational ages from 22 to 43 weeks.
7. Numbers and rates in this table may differ from those found in similar data published by the Vital Statistics program as the data here have been tabulated based on postal codes available for place of residence.
8. Health regions are administrative areas defined by provincial ministries of health according to provincial legislation. The health regions presented in this table are based on boundaries and names in effect as of December 2015. For complete Canadian coverage, each northern territory represents a health region.
9. Peer groups are aggregations of health regions that share similar socio-economic and demographic characteristics, based on data from the 2011 Census of Population and 2011 National Household Survey. These are useful in the analysis of health regions, where important differences may be detected by comparing health regions within a peer group. The nine peer groups are identified by the letters A through I, which are appended to the health region 4-digit code. Caution should be taken when comparing data for the Peer Groups over time due to changes in the Peer Groups. In an analysis involving the peer groups, only one level of geography in Ontario should be used. For more information on the peer groups classification, consult Statistics Canada's publication "Health Regions: Boundaries and Correspondence with Census Geography" (catalogue number 82-402-X).
10. In Ontario, Public Health Units (PHU) administer health promotion and disease prevention programs. Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) are responsible for planning, funding and administering health care programs and services across the province. Data are provided for both PHUs and LHINs.
11. To avoid data suppression, northern regions in Saskatchewan have been grouped with neighbouring regions, as follows: Athabasca Health Authority (4713) is combined with Mamawetan/Churchill River Regional Health Authority (4711) and Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority (4712) and referred to as Mamawetan/Keewatin/Athabasca (4714).
12. Counts and rates (percentages) in this table are based on three consecutive years of data.
13. The 95% confidence interval (CI) illustrates the degree of variability associated with a number or a rate.
14. Wide confidence intervals (CIs) indicate high variability, thus, these numbers or rates should be interpreted and compared with due caution.
15. The following standard symbols are used in this Statistics Canada table: (..) for figures not available for a specific reference period, (...) for figures not applicable and (x) for figures suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act.
16. The figures shown in the tables have been subjected to a confidentiality procedure known as controlled rounding to prevent the possibility of associating statistical data with any identifiable individual. Under this method, all figures, including totals and margins, are rounded either up or down to a multiple of 5. Controlled rounding has the advantage over other types of rounding of producing additive tables as well as offering more protection.

Source: Statistics Canada. *Table 102-4317 - Birth-related indicators (low and high birth weight, small and large for gestational age, pre-term births), by sex, three-year average, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups, occasional (number unless otherwise noted)*, CANSIM (database). (accessed:)

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