

Table 44. Percent of live births very preterm and preterm and percent of live births of very low birthweight and low birthweight, by race and Hispanic origin of mother: United States, 1981–2002

Year	Very preterm ¹						Preterm ²					
	All races ³	White		Black		Hispanic ⁵	All races ³	White		Black		Hispanic ⁵
		Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic	Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic			Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic	Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic	
2002	1.96	1.60	1.56	4.01	4.04	1.72	12.1	11.1	11.0	17.5	17.7	11.6
2001	1.95	1.59	1.55	4.02	4.05	1.69	11.9	11.0	10.8	17.5	17.6	11.4
2000	1.93	1.55	1.51	4.04	4.09	1.69	11.6	10.6	10.4	17.3	17.4	11.2
1999	1.96	1.57	1.54	4.13	4.18	1.68	11.8	10.7	10.5	17.5	17.6	11.4
1998	1.96	1.57	1.52	4.11	4.15	1.72	11.6	10.5	10.2	17.5	17.6	11.4
1997	1.94	1.53	1.49	4.17	4.19	1.68	11.4	10.2	9.9	17.5	17.6	11.2
1996	1.89	1.48	1.43	4.13	4.17	1.66	11.0	9.8	9.5	17.4	17.5	10.9
1995	1.89	1.46	1.41	4.25	4.29	1.66	11.0	9.7	9.4	17.7	17.8	10.9
1994	1.91	1.45	1.39	4.32	4.36	1.67	11.0	9.6	9.3	18.1	18.2	10.9
1993	1.93	1.45	1.39	4.41	4.45	1.67	11.0	9.5	9.1	18.5	18.6	11.0
1992 ⁸	1.91	1.40	1.33	4.47	4.50	1.64	10.7	9.1	8.7	18.4	18.5	10.7
1991 ⁸	1.94	1.41	1.35	4.62	4.65	1.65	10.8	9.1	8.7	18.9	19.0	11.0
1990 ⁹	1.92	1.39	1.33	4.61	4.63	1.69	10.6	8.9	8.5	18.8	18.9	11.0
1989 ¹⁰	1.95	1.41	1.34	4.64	4.68	1.76	10.6	8.8	8.4	18.9	19.0	11.1
1988	1.96	1.42	---	4.72	---	---	10.2	8.5	---	18.7	---	---
1987	1.96	1.44	---	4.61	---	---	10.2	8.5	---	18.4	---	---
1986	1.90	1.41	---	4.47	---	---	10.0	8.4	---	18.0	---	---
1985	1.88	1.42	---	4.37	---	---	9.8	8.2	---	17.8	---	---
1984	1.83	1.38	---	4.22	---	---	9.4	7.9	---	17.1	---	---
1983	1.86	1.40	---	4.34	---	---	9.6	8.0	---	17.7	---	---
1982	1.84	1.40	---	4.22	---	---	9.5	8.0	---	17.4	---	---
1981	1.81	1.37	---	4.13	---	---	9.4	7.9	---	17.3	---	---

Year	Very low birthweight ⁶						Low birthweight ⁷					
	All races ³	White		Black		Hispanic ⁵	All races ³	White		Black		Hispanic ⁵
		Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic	Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic			Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic	Total ⁴	Non-Hispanic	
2002	1.46	1.17	1.17	3.13	3.15	1.17	7.8	6.8	6.9	13.3	13.4	6.5
2001	1.44	1.16	1.17	3.04	3.08	1.14	7.7	6.7	6.8	13.0	13.1	6.5
2000	1.43	1.14	1.14	3.07	3.10	1.14	7.6	6.5	6.6	13.0	13.1	6.4
1999	1.45	1.15	1.15	3.14	3.18	1.14	7.6	6.6	6.6	13.1	13.2	6.4
1998	1.45	1.15	1.15	3.08	3.11	1.15	7.6	6.5	6.6	13.0	13.2	6.4
1997	1.42	1.13	1.12	3.04	3.05	1.13	7.5	6.5	6.5	13.0	13.1	6.4
1996	1.37	1.09	1.08	2.99	3.02	1.12	7.4	6.3	6.4	13.0	13.1	6.3
1995	1.35	1.06	1.04	2.97	2.98	1.11	7.3	6.2	6.2	13.1	13.2	6.3
1994	1.33	1.02	1.01	2.96	2.99	1.08	7.3	6.1	6.1	13.2	13.3	6.2
1993	1.33	1.01	1.00	2.96	2.99	1.06	7.2	6.0	5.9	13.3	13.4	6.2
1992 ⁸	1.29	0.96	0.94	2.96	2.97	1.04	7.1	5.8	5.7	13.3	13.4	6.1
1991 ⁸	1.29	0.96	0.94	2.96	2.97	1.02	7.1	5.8	5.7	13.6	13.6	6.1
1990 ⁹	1.27	0.95	0.93	2.92	2.93	1.03	7.0	5.7	5.6	13.3	13.3	6.1
1989 ¹⁰	1.28	0.95	0.93	2.95	2.97	1.05	7.0	5.7	5.6	13.5	13.6	6.2
1988	1.24	0.93	---	2.86	---	---	6.9	5.7	---	13.3	---	---
1987	1.24	0.94	---	2.79	---	---	6.9	5.7	---	13.0	---	---
1986	1.21	0.93	---	2.73	---	---	6.8	5.7	---	12.8	---	---
1985	1.21	0.93	---	2.71	---	---	6.8	5.7	---	12.6	---	---
1984	1.19	0.93	---	2.60	---	---	6.7	5.6	---	12.6	---	---
1983	1.19	0.92	---	2.60	---	---	6.8	5.7	---	12.8	---	---
1982	1.18	0.91	---	2.56	---	---	6.8	5.6	---	12.6	---	---
1981	1.16	0.91	---	2.52	---	---	6.8	5.7	---	12.7	---	---

--- Data not available.

¹Births of less than 32 completed weeks of gestation.²Births of less than 37 completed weeks of gestation.³Includes races other than white and black and origin not stated.⁴Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on the birth certificate. Race categories are consistent with the 1977 Office of Management and Budget guidelines. Data for persons of Hispanic origin are included in the data for each race group according to the mother's reported race; see "Technical Notes."⁵Includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race.⁶Less than 1,500 grams (3 lb 4 oz).⁷Less than 2,500 grams (5 lb 8 oz).⁸Data by Hispanic origin exclude New Hampshire, which did not report Hispanic origin.⁹Data by Hispanic origin exclude New Hampshire and Oklahoma, which did not report Hispanic origin.¹⁰Data by Hispanic origin exclude New Hampshire, Oklahoma, and Louisiana, which did not report Hispanic origin.