

Table 9-1
Live births, by characteristics of the mother and child, Canada — Birth weight indicators

Characteristics of mother and child	Live ¹ births	Birth weight			
		Less than 1,500 grams	Less than 2,500 grams	2,500 to 4,499 grams	4,500 grams or more
		number	percent		
Age of mother, all ages ²	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
Under 20 years	15,280	1.2	6.3	91.6	2.0
20 to 34 years	286,194	0.9	5.7	92.4	1.8
35 to 49 years	66,340	1.3	7.1	90.9	2.0
Not stated ³	50	10.0	22.0	78.0	0.0
Total, parity of mother	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
First live birth	163,446	1.1	6.3	92.2	1.5
Second live birth	129,886	0.9	5.4	92.7	1.9
Third live birth or more	74,495	1.0	6.5	90.8	2.6
Not stated	37	0.0	5.4	64.9	0.0
Total, marital status of mother ⁴	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
Married and/or separated	227,944	0.9	5.6	92.5	1.9
Not married	100,347	1.1	6.3	91.8	1.8
Not stated	39,573	1.4	7.3	90.6	2.1
Total, birthplace of mother	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
Canada	268,158	0.9	5.8	92.1	2.1
Outside Canada	94,622	1.1	6.6	92.2	1.2
Not stated	5,084	1.8	7.3	91.3	1.4
Both sexes	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
Males	188,337	1.0	5.6	91.9	2.5
Females	179,527	1.0	6.4	92.3	1.3
Total	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
Single	356,305	0.7	4.5	93.5	1.9
Multiple	11,559	8.8	51.9	48.1	0.0
Total, weeks of gestation	367,864	1.0	6.0	92.1	1.9
Less than 28 weeks	1,621	99.2	99.6	0.2	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	26,951	7.4	52.2	47.6	0.2
37 to 41 weeks	336,991	0.0	1.9	96.1	2.0
42 weeks or more	2,146	0.0	0.3	91.9	7.8
Not stated	155	0.0	3.2	56.1	1.3

1. Number of live births includes births with unknown birth weight.

2. Age of mother attained at the last birthday preceding delivery.

3. For confidentiality reasons, live births to mothers aged 50 and over are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated." Where information is unavailable on the birth mother of children who are adopted, these records are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

4. Partway through 2003, Alberta Registries amended their Registration of Birth form in such a way that Statistics Canada can no longer determine the legal marital status of those persons in common-law marriages.

Note(s): See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4511).