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Births

2002



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Statistics Canada
Health Statistics Division

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Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

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Highlights

- Canada's crude birth rate (the number of live births for every 1,000 people in the population) fell to its all-time low in 2002 in the wake of another decline in the number of live births.
- The crude birth rate dropped to 10.5 live births for every 1,000 population, the lowest since vital statistics began to be produced nationally in 1921. The rate has dropped 25.4% in the last 10 years alone.
- In total, 328,802 babies were born in 2002, down 1.5% from the previous year. It was the 11th decline in the past 12 years.
- The fertility rate, an entirely different measure, estimates the average number of children women aged 15 to 49 will have in their lifetime. It fell slightly from 1.51 per woman in 2001 to 1.50 per woman in 2002, which was only marginally above the record low of 1.49 set in 2000.
- The biggest impact on the national statistics came from declines in live births in Ontario (-2.4%) and Quebec (-1.7%). Combined, these two provinces accounted for almost 4,400 fewer live births in 2002, representing 89% of the net decrease for the entire country.
- The average age of mothers in 2002 was 29.5 years, up a full year from 1992, when the average age was 28.4. On average, Nunavut mothers were the youngest among the three territories at 25.1 years old, while Saskatchewan mothers were the youngest on average among the provinces at 27.5 years.

Analysis

Canada's crude birth rate (the number of live births for every 1,000 people in the population) fell to its all-time low in 2002 in the wake of another decline in the number of live births.

The crude birth rate dropped to 10.5 live births for every 1,000 population, the lowest since vital statistics began to be produced nationally in 1921. The rate has dropped 25.4% in the last 10 years alone.

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Internationally, fertility in Canada falls more or less midway between industrialized nations such as France, Australia and the United Kingdom, which have higher fertility rates, and Italy, Japan and Germany, which have lower rates.

The United States stands out from other industrialized countries, with a fertility rate of at least two children per woman in each year since 1989.

Nunavut stood apart with a fertility rate of 3.04, while among the provinces, Saskatchewan had the highest fertility rate (1.82). In contrast, Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest fertility rate, at 1.31 per woman.

In Saskatchewan, the number of live births fell 4.2% to 11,761, the biggest decline among the provinces and territories.

On the other hand, women in Alberta had 38,691 babies, up 2.8%, the biggest gain. Alberta has recorded increases in the number of births in four of the last five years.

The biggest impact on the national statistics came from declines in live births in Ontario (-2.4%) and Quebec (-1.7%). Combined, these two provinces accounted for almost 4,400 fewer live births in 2002, representing 89% of the net decrease for the entire country.

Ontario and Quebec have experienced declines in the number of births in four of the last five years. British Columbia has incurred declines in all five years.

The average age of mothers in 2002 was 29.5 years, up a full year from 1992, when the average age was 28.4. On average, Nunavut mothers were the youngest among the three territories at 25.1 years old, while Saskatchewan mothers were the youngest on average among the provinces at 27.5 years.

On the other hand, at 30.3 years, Ontario mothers were the oldest on average among the provinces. Yukon mothers were the oldest on average among the territories at 29.0 years old.

Among the territories, by far the youngest first-time mothers were those in Nunavut, with an average age of 21.5 years in 2002. This age is over six years younger than the national average age of first-time mothers, 27.7 years. Among the provinces, first-time mothers in Saskatchewan were youngest, with an average age of 25.2. At 28.5 years, first-time mothers in British Columbia and Ontario were the oldest.

Twenty years ago, the majority of live births in Canada were to mothers aged 20 to 29 years. Mothers in their 20s gave birth to 66.2% of babies in 1982. Only 47.9% of births were to mothers in this age group in 2002.

Since that time, the proportion of births to mothers in their 30s has grown, particularly for mothers in their early 30s. By 2002, 44.8% of births were to mothers aged 30 to 39, up from only 23.0% of births in 1982.

Related products

Selected publications from Statistics Canada

82-224-X Pregnancy outcomes

Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

102-0019	Disability-free life expectancy - abridged life table, at birth and at age 65, by sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups
102-0020	Disability-adjusted life expectancy - abridged life table, at birth and at age 65, by sex, Canada, provinces, territories and health regions
102-0030	Infant mortality, by sex and birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories
102-0125	Life expectancy - abridged life table, at birth and at age 65, by sex, Canada, provinces and territories (Comparable Indicators, 2004)
102-0207	Infant mortality, by sex, three-year average, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups
102-0208	Perinatal mortality, by sex, three-year average, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups
102-0504	Deaths, by age group and sex, Canada, provinces and territories
102-0506	Infant mortality, by age group and sex, Canada
102-0507	Infant mortality, by age group, Canada, provinces and territories
102-0508	Perinatal mortality and components, Canada, provinces and territories
102-0511	Life expectancy - abridged life table, at birth and at age 65, by sex, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4005	Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams), by sex, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4203	Low birth weight babies (less than 2,500 grams), by sex, three-year average, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups
102-4501	Live births, by place of residence of mother and place of occurrence, Canada, provinces, territories and outside Canada
102-4502	Live births, by month, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4503	Live births, by age of mother, Canada, provinces and territories

102-4504	Live births, mean age of mother, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4505	Live births, crude birth rate, age-specific and total fertility rates, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4506	Live births, by marital status of mother, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4507	Live births, by age and marital status of mother, Canada
102-4508	Live births, by age and parity of mother, Canada
102-4509	Live births, by birth weight and sex, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4510	Live births, mean and median birth weight, by sex, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4511	Live births, birth weight indicators, by characteristics of the mother and child, Canada
102-4512	Live births, by weeks of gestation and sex, Canada, provinces and territories
102-4513	Live births, weeks of gestation indicators, by characteristics of the mother and child, Canada
102-4514	Fetal deaths (20 weeks or more of gestation) and late fetal deaths (28 weeks or more of gestation), Canada, provinces and territories
102-4515	Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths), by type (single or multiple), Canada, provinces and territories
102-4516	Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths), by place of birth (hospital and non-hospital), Canada, provinces and territories
106-9002	Pregnancy outcomes, by age group, Canada, provinces and territories
106-9024	Induced abortions, by age group, Canada
051-0004	Components of population growth, Canada, provinces and territories
051-0013	Births by sex, Canada, provinces and territories
051-0035	Components of population growth, census divisions and census metropolitan areas, 2001 Census boundaries
053-0001	Vital statistics, births, deaths and marriages

Selected surveys from Statistics Canada

3231	Vital Statistics - Birth Database
3234	Vital Statistics - Stillbirth Database
3604	Estimates of Population by Age and Sex for Canada, the Provinces and the Territories

Selected tables of Canadian statistics from Statistics Canada

- *Canadian Statistics - Births and birth rate, by provinces and territories*
- *Canadian Statistics - Deaths and death rate, by provinces and territories*
- *Canadian Statistics - Components of population growth, by provinces and territories*
- *Canadian Statistics - Marriages by provinces and territories*
- *Canadian Statistics - Infant mortality rates, by provinces and the territories*
- *Canadian Statistics - Disability-free life expectancy, by provinces and territories*
- *Canadian Statistics - Induced abortions by age group*
- *Pregnancy outcomes by province or territory of residence*
- *Pregnancy outcomes by age group*

Statistical tables

Table 1

Live births, by place of residence of mother and place of occurrence¹, Canada, provinces, territories and outside Canada

Place of residence of mother	Place of occurrence								
	Total, Canada and USA	United States	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
2002									
Total, Canada and other	329,137	31	329,106	4,684	1,309	8,621	7,194	71,507	129,410
Canada	328,802	31	328,771	4,676	1,309	8,613	7,186	71,465	129,266
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,651	0	4,651	4,640	0	3	1	1	4
Prince Edward Island	1,328	0	1,328	1	1,306	18	2	0	1
Nova Scotia	8,663	0	8,663	3	0	8,559	86	3	9
New Brunswick	7,046	0	7,046	2	0	21	7,011	4	7
Quebec	72,477	4	72,473	14	0	0	75	71,396	984
Ontario	128,528	26	128,502	4	2	7	3	50	128,202
Manitoba	13,888	0	13,888	1	1	0	0	2	13
Saskatchewan	11,761	1	11,760	1	0	0	0	0	6
Alberta	38,691	0	38,691	4	0	1	4	2	14
British Columbia	40,065	0	40,065	2	0	0	1	1	14
Yukon Territory	339	0	339	0	0	0	0	1	1
Northwest Territories	635	0	635	0	0	0	1	0	3
Nunavut	726	0	726	4	0	4	2	4	8
Unknown	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0
Outside Canada	335	...	335	8	0	8	8	42	144

Place of residence of mother	Place of occurrence								
	Total, Canada and USA	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
2002									
Total, Canada and other	329,137	329,106	14,330	11,746	38,749	40,109	349	707	391
Canada	328,802	328,771	14,310	11,744	38,725	40,041	341	707	388
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,651	4,651	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Prince Edward Island	1,328	1,328	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	8,663	8,663	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
New Brunswick	7,046	7,046	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Quebec	72,477	72,473	0	0	1	3	0	0	0
Ontario	128,528	128,502	201	6	7	20	0	0	0
Manitoba	13,888	13,888	13,778	90	3	0	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	11,761	11,760	155	11,356	238	4	0	0	0
Alberta	38,691	38,691	4	281	38,299	82	0	0	0
British Columbia	40,065	40,065	4	4	115	39,913	11	0	0
Yukon Territory	339	339	0	0	1	6	329	1	0
Northwest Territories	635	635	0	4	42	7	1	577	0
Nunavut	726	726	167	3	17	0	0	129	388
Unknown	4	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Outside Canada	335	335	20	2	24	68	8	0	3

1. The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence and on the place of occurrence.

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4501)*

Table 2-1

Live births, Canada, provinces and territories — Month

Place of residence of mother	Total	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
number													
2002													
Canada	328,802	26,777	24,744	27,824	27,647	28,806	27,266	29,016	28,709	28,893	27,841	25,820	25,459
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,651	345	352	398	386	400	392	401	437	413	422	354	351
Prince Edward Island	1,328	115	94	107	98	128	122	114	109	126	124	106	85
Nova Scotia	8,663	704	658	747	736	775	683	820	749	759	705	674	653
New Brunswick	7,046	566	538	636	591	585	560	590	636	664	610	536	534
Quebec	72,477	5,941	5,580	6,183	6,214	6,469	5,933	6,389	6,165	6,340	6,004	5,639	5,620
Ontario	128,528	10,349	9,640	10,698	10,653	11,090	10,774	11,365	11,394	11,326	10,980	10,288	9,971
Manitoba	13,888	1,173	1,111	1,145	1,138	1,208	1,126	1,257	1,208	1,193	1,182	1,076	1,071
Saskatchewan	11,761	1,007	906	1,076	993	1,019	979	1,040	1,004	996	960	888	893
Alberta	38,691	3,166	2,775	3,303	3,279	3,402	3,246	3,442	3,401	3,372	3,309	3,034	2,962
British Columbia	40,065	3,255	2,978	3,372	3,416	3,569	3,306	3,476	3,452	3,542	3,434	3,089	3,176
Yukon Territory	339	32	24	36	23	31	22	17	35	37	21	23	38
Northwest Territories	635	59	37	69	61	59	57	44	44	63	48	48	46
Nunavut	726	65	50	54	59	71	66	60	74	61	42	65	59
Unknown	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
percent													
Canada	100.0	8.1	7.5	8.5	8.4	8.8	8.3	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.5	7.9	7.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	7.4	7.6	8.6	8.3	8.6	8.4	8.6	9.4	8.9	9.1	7.6	7.5
Prince Edward Island	100.0	8.7	7.1	8.1	7.4	9.6	9.2	8.6	8.2	9.5	9.3	8.0	6.4
Nova Scotia	100.0	8.1	7.6	8.6	8.5	8.9	7.9	9.5	8.6	8.8	8.1	7.8	7.5
New Brunswick	100.0	8.0	7.6	9.0	8.4	8.3	7.9	8.4	9.0	9.4	8.7	7.6	7.6
Quebec	100.0	8.2	7.7	8.5	8.6	8.9	8.2	8.8	8.5	8.7	8.3	7.8	7.8
Ontario	100.0	8.1	7.5	8.3	8.3	8.6	8.4	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.5	8.0	7.8
Manitoba	100.0	8.4	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.7	8.1	9.1	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.7	7.7
Saskatchewan	100.0	8.6	7.7	9.1	8.4	8.7	8.3	8.8	8.5	8.5	8.2	7.6	7.6
Alberta	100.0	8.2	7.2	8.5	8.5	8.8	8.4	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.6	7.8	7.7
British Columbia	100.0	8.1	7.4	8.4	8.5	8.9	8.3	8.7	8.6	8.8	8.6	7.7	7.9
Yukon Territory	100.0	9.4	7.1	10.6	6.8	9.1	6.5	5.0	10.3	10.9	6.2	6.8	11.2
Northwest Territories	100.0	9.3	5.8	10.9	9.6	9.3	9.0	6.9	6.9	9.9	7.6	7.6	7.2
Nunavut	100.0	9.0	6.9	7.4	8.1	9.8	9.1	8.3	10.2	8.4	5.8	9.0	8.1
Unknown	100.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4502)

Table 2-2

Live births, Canada, provinces and territories — Age of mother

Place of residence of mother	Age of mother ¹									
	All ages	Under 15 years	15 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	25 to 29 years	30 to 34 years	35 to 39 years	40 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	Not stated ²
	number									
2002										
Canada	328,802	120	15,413	56,729	100,646	100,768	46,468	8,354	286	18
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,651	4	304	988	1,452	1,325	510	68	0	0
Prince Edward Island	1,328	0	89	260	422	372	158	27	0	0
Nova Scotia	8,663	5	512	1,759	2,599	2,453	1,136	193	5	1
New Brunswick	7,046	3	455	1,586	2,356	1,878	662	102	4	0
Quebec	72,477	20	2,775	13,877	24,945	20,798	8,553	1,455	53	1
Ontario	128,528	20	4,755	17,744	37,256	43,383	21,337	3,884	138	11
Manitoba	13,888	19	1,281	3,114	4,080	3,602	1,499	287	6	0
Saskatchewan	11,761	11	1,159	2,877	3,793	2,711	1,039	165	6	0
Alberta	38,691	18	2,225	7,885	11,992	10,995	4,746	800	29	1
British Columbia	40,065	14	1,603	6,186	11,298	12,904	6,672	1,341	43	4
Yukon Territory	339	0	25	68	101	84	48	12	1	0
Northwest Territories	635	0	72	145	185	159	62	11	1	0
Nunavut	726	6	158	237	167	103	46	9	0	0
Unknown	4	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
	percent									
Canada	100.0	0.0	4.7	17.3	30.6	30.6	14.1	2.5	0.1	0.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	0.1	6.5	21.2	31.2	28.5	11.0	1.5	0.0	0.0
Prince Edward Island	100.0	0.0	6.7	19.6	31.8	28.0	11.9	2.0	0.0	0.0
Nova Scotia	100.0	0.1	5.9	20.3	30.0	28.3	13.1	2.2	0.1	0.0
New Brunswick	100.0	0.0	6.5	22.5	33.4	26.7	9.4	1.4	0.1	0.0
Quebec	100.0	0.0	3.8	19.1	34.4	28.7	11.8	2.0	0.1	0.0
Ontario	100.0	0.0	3.7	13.8	29.0	33.8	16.6	3.0	0.1	0.0
Manitoba	100.0	0.1	9.2	22.4	29.4	25.9	10.8	2.1	0.0	0.0
Saskatchewan	100.0	0.1	9.9	24.5	32.3	23.1	8.8	1.4	0.1	0.0
Alberta	100.0	0.0	5.8	20.4	31.0	28.4	12.3	2.1	0.1	0.0
British Columbia	100.0	0.0	4.0	15.4	28.2	32.2	16.7	3.3	0.1	0.0
Yukon Territory	100.0	0.0	7.4	20.1	29.8	24.8	14.2	3.5	0.3	0.0
Northwest Territories	100.0	0.0	11.3	22.8	29.1	25.0	9.8	1.7	0.2	0.0
Nunavut	100.0	0.8	21.8	32.6	23.0	14.2	6.3	1.2	0.0	0.0
Unknown	100.0	0.0	0.0	75.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1. Age attained at the last birthday preceding delivery.

2. For confidentiality reasons, live births to mothers aged 50 and over are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4503)*

Table 2-3

Live births, Canada, provinces and territories — Mean age of mother¹

Place of residence of mother	Mean age of mother
2002	
Canada	29.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	28.0
Prince Edward Island	28.2
Nova Scotia	28.5
New Brunswick	27.7
Quebec	28.6
Ontario	29.8
Manitoba	27.6
Saskatchewan	27.0
Alberta	28.4
British Columbia	29.6
Yukon Territory	28.5
Northwest Territories	27.3
Nunavut	24.6
Unknown	25.5

1. Mean age of mother for Canada, a province or a territory is calculated by summing the mothers' ages at their last birthday preceding delivery, and then dividing the sum by the total number of live births in that jurisdiction. To estimate mid-year mean age, a statistic often used in analyses, add 0.5 to the mean age in this table.

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4504)*

Table 2-4

Live births, Canada, provinces and territories — Crude birth rate, age-specific and total fertility rates

Place of residence of mother	Age specific fertility rate (women) ^{1, 2}							Crude birth ⁵ rate, live births per 1,000 population	Total ⁶ fertility rate per 1,000 females
	15 to 19 ³ years	20 to 24 years	25 to 29 years	30 to 34 years	35 to 39 years	40 to 44 years	45 to 49 ⁴ years		
2002									
Canada	15.0	54.0	97.5	90.9	36.4	6.2	0.2	10.5	1,501.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	16.4	55.5	91.3	71.3	23.7	3.0	0.0	9.0	1,305.7
Prince Edward Island	17.6	56.1	102.6	83.7	29.8	4.9	0.0	9.7	1,473.3
Nova Scotia	16.8	57.1	88.2	76.9	30.4	4.8	0.1	9.3	1,371.8
New Brunswick	18.6	64.9	96.1	73.1	22.0	3.2	0.1	9.4	1,390.1
Quebec	12.5	55.1	105.0	86.0	28.9	4.5	0.2	9.7	1,460.5
Ontario	12.0	45.0	92.0	96.3	41.6	7.5	0.3	10.6	1,474.1
Manitoba	32.1	80.3	110.0	96.3	35.1	6.3	0.1	12.0	1,801.0
Saskatchewan	30.7	84.1	123.3	92.6	29.7	4.3	0.2	11.8	1,824.1
Alberta	20.0	68.9	107.2	97.5	38.1	5.9	0.2	12.4	1,689.4
British Columbia	11.8	45.6	85.0	85.0	40.0	7.6	0.3	9.7	1,376.9
Yukon Territory	21.2	72.6	103.4	71.1	35.3	7.6	0.7	11.3	1,558.9
Northwest Territories	46.9	93.7	109.5	87.2	32.5	6.5	0.7	15.3	1,885.3
Nunavut	119.8	210.1	135.9	85.9	44.6	11.7	0.0	25.3	3,039.9

1. Age attained at the last birthday preceding delivery.

2. Age-specific fertility rate (ASFR) is the number of live births per 1,000 females in a specific age group. Five-year age groups were used in these tabulations (ranging from 15 to 19 to 45 to 49 years).

3. Live births to females under 20 years of age per 1,000 females aged 15 to 19.

4. Live births to females aged 45 years and over per 1,000 females aged 45 to 49.

5. The population estimates used for the 2002 birth and fertility rate calculations are July 1, 2002 updated postcensal estimates, adjusted for net census under-coverage and include non-permanent residents. These population estimates appear in the publication "Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003" (catalogue no. 91-213-XIB/XPB).

6. Total fertility rate is an estimate of the average number of live births a female can be expected to have in her lifetime, based on the age-specific fertility rates (ASFR) of a given year. The total fertility rate (TFR) = [(ASFR of 15 to 19-year-olds + ASFR of 20 to 24-year-olds + ... + ASFR of 45 to 49-year-olds)] multiplied by 5 (that is, the number of years in each age group).

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database, and Demography Division (population estimates) (CANSIM table 102-4505)*

Table 2-5

Live births, Canada, provinces and territories — Marital status of mother

Place of residence of mother	Marital status of mother						
	Total	Single (never married)	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Not stated
	number						
2002							
Canada	328,802	90,443	208,385	313	4,400	1,313	23,948
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,651	1,802	2,716	10	65	46	12
Prince Edward Island	1,328	430	879	1	13	0	5
Nova Scotia	8,663	3,078	5,446	3	125	5	6
New Brunswick	7,046	2,630	4,131	6	136	138	5
Quebec	72,477	40,067	29,291	120	1,490	309	1,200
Ontario	128,528	15,808	93,406	60	650	15	18,589
Manitoba	13,888	4,813	8,604	14	249	186	22
Saskatchewan	11,761	4,234	6,890	20	237	3	377
Alberta	38,691	9,829	27,959	37	762	1	103
British Columbia	40,065	6,755	28,480	37	660	592	3,541
Yukon Territory	339	167	167	0	3	2	0
Northwest Territories	635	327	239	0	9	8	52
Nunavut	726	501	177	5	1	8	34
Unknown	4	2	0	0	0	0	2
	percent						
Canada	100.0	27.5	63.4	0.1	1.3	0.4	7.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	38.7	58.4	0.2	1.4	1.0	0.3
Prince Edward Island	100.0	32.4	66.2	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.4
Nova Scotia	100.0	35.5	62.9	0.0	1.4	0.1	0.1
New Brunswick	100.0	37.3	58.6	0.1	1.9	2.0	0.1
Quebec	100.0	55.3	40.4	0.2	2.1	0.4	1.7
Ontario	100.0	12.3	72.7	0.0	0.5	0.0	14.5
Manitoba	100.0	34.7	62.0	0.1	1.8	1.3	0.2
Saskatchewan	100.0	36.0	58.6	0.2	2.0	0.0	3.2
Alberta	100.0	25.4	72.3	0.1	2.0	0.0	0.3
British Columbia	100.0	16.9	71.1	0.1	1.6	1.5	8.8
Yukon Territory	100.0	49.3	49.3	0.0	0.9	0.6	0.0
Northwest Territories	100.0	51.5	37.6	0.0	1.4	1.3	8.2
Nunavut	100.0	69.0	24.4	0.7	0.1	1.1	4.7
Unknown	100.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4506)

Table 2-6

Live births, Canada, provinces and territories — Mean and median birth weight

Place of residence of mother	Birth weight					
	Both sexes		Males		Females	
	mean ¹	median ²	mean ¹	median ²	mean ¹	median ²
grams						
2002						
Canada	3,403	3,430.0	3,460	3,490.0	3,344	3,370.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	3,487	3,525.0	3,542	3,600.0	3,433	3,460.0
Prince Edward Island	3,492	3,520.0	3,573	3,594.0	3,416	3,470.0
Nova Scotia	3,453	3,487.0	3,515	3,543.0	3,388	3,430.0
New Brunswick	3,445	3,485.0	3,501	3,550.0	3,388	3,414.0
Quebec	3,369	3,395.0	3,427	3,458.0	3,308	3,335.0
Ontario	3,400	3,430.0	3,457	3,486.0	3,340	3,367.0
Manitoba	3,473	3,490.0	3,519	3,543.0	3,422	3,430.0
Saskatchewan	3,464	3,495.0	3,523	3,550.0	3,403	3,433.0
Alberta	3,380	3,420.0	3,434	3,475.0	3,324	3,362.0
British Columbia	3,421	3,449.0	3,475	3,512.0	3,363	3,384.0
Yukon Territory	3,534	3,570.0	3,555	3,632.0	3,513	3,522.0
Northwest Territories	3,520	3,572.0	3,576	3,666.0	3,474	3,483.0
Nunavut	3,384	3,410.0	3,416	3,498.0	3,349	3,373.0
Unknown	3,694	3,934.0	3,975	4,002.0	2,852	2,852.0

1. Mean birth weight is calculated for Canada, a province or a territory by summing the first weight of each newborn (obtained immediately after birth), and then dividing the sum by the total number of live births in that jurisdiction.

2. Median birth weight refers to the middle value birth weight when newborns' birth weight is ranked from lightest to heaviest. In the case of an even number of observations, the median is the average of the two middle values.

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4510)*

Table 3-1

Live births, Canada — Age and marital status of mother

Marital status of mother	Age of mother ¹									
	All ages	Under 15 years	15 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	25 to 29 years	30 to 34 years	35 to 39 years	40 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	Not stated ²
number										
2002										
Total	328,802	120	15,413	56,729	100,646	100,768	46,468	8,354	286	18
Single (never married)	90,443	115	12,372	29,740	25,652	15,277	6,145	1,112	29	1
Married	208,385	0	1,201	20,783	67,083	77,546	35,439	6,112	214	7
Widowed	313	0	4	24	73	98	80	32	2	0
Divorced	4,400	0	4	181	923	1,579	1,353	342	17	1
Separated	1,313	0	25	211	370	399	234	71	3	0
Not stated	23,948	5	1,807	5,790	6,545	5,869	3,217	685	21	9
percent										
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single (never married)	27.5	95.8	80.3	52.4	25.5	15.2	13.2	13.3	10.1	5.6
Married	63.4	0.0	7.8	36.6	66.7	77.0	76.3	73.2	74.8	38.9
Widowed	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.0
Divorced	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.9	1.6	2.9	4.1	5.9	5.6
Separated	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.0
Not stated	7.3	4.2	11.7	10.2	6.5	5.8	6.9	8.2	7.3	50.0

1. Age attained at the last birthday preceding delivery.

2. For confidentiality reasons, live births to mothers aged 50 and over are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4507)*

Table 3-2

Live births, Canada — Age and parity of mother

Parity of mother	Age of mother ¹									
	All ages	Under 15 years	15 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	25 to 29 years	30 to 34 years	35 to 39 years	40 to 44 years	45 to 49 years	Not stated ²
number										
2002										
Total	328,802	120	15,413	56,729	100,646	100,768	46,468	8,354	286	18
First live birth	145,195	118	12,992	33,660	48,020	36,011	12,323	1,986	80	5
Second live birth	117,073	2	2,142	16,867	35,362	41,067	18,644	2,913	73	3
Third live birth	43,706	0	252	4,710	11,764	15,925	9,323	1,669	59	4
Fourth live birth	14,054	0	19	1,170	3,617	4,842	3,550	832	23	1
Fifth live birth	4,725	0	0	239	1,251	1,550	1,285	385	14	1
Sixth live birth	2,052	0	0	57	409	737	617	218	14	0
Seventh live birth	935	0	0	13	141	350	316	110	5	0
Eighth live birth	429	0	0	1	41	148	154	79	6	0
Ninth live birth	252	0	2	0	14	74	98	59	5	0
Tenth live birth or more	306	0	0	0	4	47	146	102	7	0
Not stated	75	0	6	12	23	17	12	1	0	4
percent										
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
First live birth	44.2	98.3	84.3	59.3	47.7	35.7	26.5	23.8	28.0	27.8
Second live birth	35.6	1.7	13.9	29.7	35.1	40.8	40.1	34.9	25.5	16.7
Third live birth	13.3	0.0	1.6	8.3	11.7	15.8	20.1	20.0	20.6	22.2
Fourth live birth	4.3	0.0	0.1	2.1	3.6	4.8	7.6	10.0	8.0	5.6
Fifth live birth	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.2	1.5	2.8	4.6	4.9	5.6
Sixth live birth	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.3	2.6	4.9	0.0
Seventh live birth	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.7	1.3	1.7	0.0
Eighth live birth	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.9	2.1	0.0
Ninth live birth	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.7	1.7	0.0
Tenth live birth or more	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.2	2.4	0.0
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.2

1. Age attained at the last birthday preceding delivery.

2. For confidentiality reasons, live births to mothers aged 50 and over are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4508)*

Table 4-1

Live births, by birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories — Both sexes

Birth weight	Place of residence of the mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
2002							
Total	328,802	4,651	1,328	8,663	7,046	72,477	128,528
Less than 500 grams	327	4	0	6	4	86	100
500 to 1,499 grams	2,813	30	9	95	65	543	1,119
500 to 749 grams	565	6	1	19	16	119	202
750 to 999 grams	584	5	2	15	11	121	238
1,000 to 1,249 grams	717	7	6	26	16	128	288
1,250 to 1,499 grams	947	12	0	35	22	175	391
1,500 to 2,499 grams	15,660	199	61	394	311	3,348	6,370
1,500 to 1,749 grams	1,341	15	4	35	26	250	562
1,750 to 1,999 grams	2,366	34	10	56	52	495	973
2,000 to 2,249 grams	4,042	56	18	99	85	846	1,627
2,250 to 2,499 grams	7,911	94	29	204	148	1,757	3,208
2,500 to 4,499 grams	301,868	4,249	1,215	7,896	6,494	66,645	117,938
2,500 to 2,749 grams	15,839	187	49	376	321	3,670	6,335
2,750 to 2,999 grams	30,857	380	83	696	642	7,386	11,983
3,000 to 3,249 grams	51,420	565	195	1,226	959	12,082	20,413
3,250 to 3,499 grams	64,382	827	243	1,614	1,304	14,766	25,249
3,500 to 3,749 grams	60,251	886	258	1,629	1,328	13,119	23,345
3,750 to 3,999 grams	43,098	735	198	1,297	994	8,786	16,727
4,000 to 4,249 grams	24,290	455	130	669	612	4,807	9,276
4,250 to 4,499 grams	11,731	214	59	389	334	2,029	4,610
4,500 grams or more	7,243	135	43	270	172	1,116	2,970
4,500 to 4,749 grams	4,746	92	25	172	117	776	1,909
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,637	23	11	61	37	241	696
5,000 to 5,249 grams	590	16	5	27	12	73	249
5,250 to 5,499 grams	172	1	2	5	6	15	72
5,500 grams or more	98	3	0	5	0	11	44
Not stated	891	34	0	2	0	739	31
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.9
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.8	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.6	5.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.4	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.4	2.5
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.8	91.4	91.5	91.1	92.2	92.0	91.8
2,500 to 2,749 grams	4.8	4.0	3.7	4.3	4.6	5.1	4.9
2,750 to 2,999 grams	9.4	8.2	6.3	8.0	9.1	10.2	9.3
3,000 to 3,249 grams	15.6	12.1	14.7	14.2	13.6	16.7	15.9
3,250 to 3,499 grams	19.6	17.8	18.3	18.6	18.5	20.4	19.6
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.3	19.0	19.4	18.8	18.8	18.1	18.2
3,750 to 3,999 grams	13.1	15.8	14.9	15.0	14.1	12.1	13.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	7.4	9.8	9.8	7.7	8.7	6.6	7.2
4,250 to 4,499 grams	3.6	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.7	2.8	3.6
4,500 grams or more	2.2	2.9	3.2	3.1	2.4	1.5	2.3
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.4	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.1	1.5
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.5
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

Table 4-1 – continued

Live births, by birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories — Both sexes

Birth weight	Place of residence of the mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
2002									
Total	328,802	13,888	11,761	38,691	40,065	339	635	726	4
Less than 500 grams	327	16	10	62	37	0	2	0	0
500 to 1,499 grams	2,813	111	97	387	344	3	5	5	0
500 to 749 grams	565	24	24	85	69	0	0	0	0
750 to 999 grams	584	22	13	79	76	1	0	1	0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	717	26	19	114	83	0	2	2	0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	947	39	41	109	116	2	3	2	0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	15,660	589	494	2,058	1,756	8	24	48	0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	1,341	67	51	181	143	0	3	4	0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	2,366	97	81	291	267	0	2	8	0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	4,042	140	143	547	459	4	8	10	0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	7,911	285	219	1,039	887	4	11	26	0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	301,868	12,719	10,819	35,435	36,914	314	571	655	4
2,500 to 2,749 grams	15,839	555	481	1,905	1,902	12	19	27	0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	30,857	1,094	1,000	3,786	3,667	23	46	70	1
3,000 to 3,249 grams	51,420	1,933	1,644	6,043	6,121	45	81	113	0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	64,382	2,682	2,174	7,504	7,707	63	104	145	0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	60,251	2,594	2,254	7,105	7,393	65	137	138	0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	43,098	1,959	1,704	5,013	5,425	64	100	95	1
4,000 to 4,249 grams	24,290	1,213	1,025	2,810	3,174	23	52	42	2
4,250 to 4,499 grams	11,731	689	537	1,269	1,525	19	32	25	0
4,500 grams or more	7,243	452	340	749	937	14	28	17	0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	4,746	292	199	480	645	8	18	13	0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,637	100	76	177	199	5	7	4	0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	590	37	39	63	66	1	2	0	0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	172	18	17	19	16	0	1	0	0
5,500 grams or more	98	5	9	10	11	0	0	0	0
Not stated	891	1	1	0	77	0	5	1	0
	percent								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.0
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.8	4.2	4.2	5.3	4.4	2.4	3.8	6.6	0.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.0	0.3	1.1	0.0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	0.0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.4	2.1	1.9	2.7	2.2	1.2	1.7	3.6	0.0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.8	91.6	92.0	91.6	92.1	92.6	89.9	90.2	100.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	4.8	4.0	4.1	4.9	4.7	3.5	3.0	3.7	0.0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	9.4	7.9	8.5	9.8	9.2	6.8	7.2	9.6	25.0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	15.6	13.9	14.0	15.6	15.3	13.3	12.8	15.6	0.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	19.6	19.3	18.5	19.4	19.2	18.6	16.4	20.0	0.0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.3	18.7	19.2	18.4	18.5	19.2	21.6	19.0	0.0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	13.1	14.1	14.5	13.0	13.5	18.9	15.7	13.1	25.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	7.4	8.7	8.7	7.3	7.9	6.8	8.2	5.8	50.0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	3.6	5.0	4.6	3.3	3.8	5.6	5.0	3.4	0.0
4,500 grams or more	2.2	3.3	2.9	1.9	2.3	4.1	4.4	2.3	0.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.4	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.6	2.4	2.8	1.8	0.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4509)

Table 4-2

Live births, by birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories — Males

Birth weight	Place of residence of the mother						Ontario
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	
	number						
2002							
Total	168,842	2,327	645	4,418	3,592	37,240	66,061
Less than 500 grams	164	1	0	5	2	45	45
500 to 1,499 grams	1,478	19	3	46	35	280	580
500 to 749 grams	288	3	0	9	8	50	101
750 to 999 grams	322	2	1	9	5	68	127
1,000 to 1,249 grams	383	7	2	10	9	66	162
1,250 to 1,499 grams	485	7	0	18	13	96	190
1,500 to 2,499 grams	7,451	92	25	184	163	1,552	3,029
1,500 to 1,749 grams	650	10	1	11	16	107	279
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,203	17	4	34	32	245	476
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1,922	20	9	44	40	390	795
2,250 to 2,499 grams	3,676	45	11	95	75	810	1,479
2,500 to 4,499 grams	154,427	2,117	585	4,002	3,286	34,209	60,407
2,500 to 2,749 grams	7,080	85	25	151	140	1,615	2,830
2,750 to 2,999 grams	13,659	154	32	308	252	3,280	5,338
3,000 to 3,249 grams	23,545	259	76	541	434	5,566	9,381
3,250 to 3,499 grams	31,465	377	123	786	621	7,300	12,302
3,500 to 3,749 grams	31,868	426	110	855	690	7,071	12,373
3,750 to 3,999 grams	24,457	400	107	722	576	5,096	9,551
4,000 to 4,249 grams	14,800	283	73	396	367	2,951	5,648
4,250 to 4,499 grams	7,553	133	39	243	206	1,330	2,984
4,500 grams or more	4,872	82	32	179	106	783	1,984
4,500 to 4,749 grams	3,158	56	18	109	75	531	1,260
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,130	15	9	38	19	174	471
5,000 to 5,249 grams	397	9	4	23	7	58	175
5,250 to 5,499 grams	112	0	1	4	5	12	43
5,500 grams or more	75	2	0	5	0	8	35
Not stated	450	16	0	2	0	371	16
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.8	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.4	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.2	4.6
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.2	1.9	1.7	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.5	91.0	90.7	90.6	91.5	91.9	91.4
2,500 to 2,749 grams	4.2	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.9	4.3	4.3
2,750 to 2,999 grams	8.1	6.6	5.0	7.0	7.0	8.8	8.1
3,000 to 3,249 grams	13.9	11.1	11.8	12.2	12.1	14.9	14.2
3,250 to 3,499 grams	18.6	16.2	19.1	17.8	17.3	19.6	18.6
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.9	18.3	17.1	19.4	19.2	19.0	18.7
3,750 to 3,999 grams	14.5	17.2	16.6	16.3	16.0	13.7	14.5
4,000 to 4,249 grams	8.8	12.2	11.3	9.0	10.2	7.9	8.5
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4.5	5.7	6.0	5.5	5.7	3.6	4.5
4,500 grams or more	2.9	3.5	5.0	4.1	3.0	2.1	3.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.9	2.4	2.8	2.5	2.1	1.4	1.9
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.7	0.6	1.4	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.7
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Not stated	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

Table 4-2 – continued

Live births, by birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories — Males

Birth weight	Place of residence of the mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
2002									
Total	168,842	7,215	6,012	19,803	20,694	167	289	376	3
Less than 500 grams	164	8	5	32	19	0	2	0	0
500 to 1,499 grams	1,478	70	47	205	187	3	3	0	0
500 to 749 grams	288	16	12	51	38	0	0	0	0
750 to 999 grams	322	16	6	43	44	1	0	0	0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	383	20	10	56	41	0	0	0	0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	485	18	19	55	64	2	3	0	0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	7,451	288	243	970	851	5	13	36	0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	650	31	24	90	75	0	2	4	0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,203	57	42	148	139	0	2	7	0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1,922	61	69	265	218	3	3	5	0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	3,676	139	108	467	419	2	6	20	0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	154,427	6,542	5,484	18,073	18,986	151	250	332	3
2,500 to 2,749 grams	7,080	281	208	861	860	6	5	13	0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	13,659	500	440	1,667	1,635	11	19	23	0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	23,545	863	721	2,811	2,798	18	28	49	0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	31,465	1,319	1,081	3,685	3,739	29	36	67	0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	31,868	1,340	1,172	3,712	3,950	28	64	77	0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	24,457	1,106	905	2,807	3,043	32	49	62	1
4,000 to 4,249 grams	14,800	710	612	1,705	1,985	15	28	25	2
4,250 to 4,499 grams	7,553	423	345	825	976	12	21	16	0
4,500 grams or more	4,872	306	232	523	611	8	18	8	0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	3,158	196	134	335	421	4	14	5	0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,130	69	58	131	137	3	3	3	0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	397	24	20	39	36	1	1	0	0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	112	14	11	12	10	0	0	0	0
5,500 grams or more	75	3	9	6	7	0	0	0	0
Not stated	450	1	1	0	40	0	3	0	0
	percent								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.8	1.0	0.0	0.0
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.2	1.0	0.0	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.4	4.0	4.0	4.9	4.1	3.0	4.5	9.6	0.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.7	1.1	0.0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.7	1.9	0.0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.8	1.0	1.3	0.0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.2	1.9	1.8	2.4	2.0	1.2	2.1	5.3	0.0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.5	90.7	91.2	91.3	91.7	90.4	86.5	88.3	100.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	4.2	3.9	3.5	4.3	4.2	3.6	1.7	3.5	0.0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	8.1	6.9	7.3	8.4	7.9	6.6	6.6	6.1	0.0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	13.9	12.0	12.0	14.2	13.5	10.8	9.7	13.0	0.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	18.6	18.3	18.0	18.6	18.1	17.4	12.5	17.8	0.0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.9	18.6	19.5	18.7	19.1	16.8	22.1	20.5	0.0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	14.5	15.3	15.1	14.2	14.7	19.2	17.0	16.5	33.3
4,000 to 4,249 grams	8.8	9.8	10.2	8.6	9.6	9.0	9.7	6.6	66.7
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4.5	5.9	5.7	4.2	4.7	7.2	7.3	4.3	0.0
4,500 grams or more	2.9	4.2	3.9	2.6	3.0	4.8	6.2	2.1	0.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.9	2.7	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.4	4.8	1.3	0.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.0	0.8	0.0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4509)

Table 4-3

Live births, by birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories — Females

Birth weight	Place of residence of the mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
2002							
Total	159,960	2,324	683	4,245	3,454	35,237	62,467
Less than 500 grams	163	3	0	1	2	41	55
500 to 1,499 grams	1,335	11	6	49	30	263	539
500 to 749 grams	277	3	1	10	8	69	101
750 to 999 grams	262	3	1	6	6	53	111
1,000 to 1,249 grams	334	0	4	16	7	62	126
1,250 to 1,499 grams	462	5	0	17	9	79	201
1,500 to 2,499 grams	8,209	107	36	210	148	1,796	3,341
1,500 to 1,749 grams	691	5	3	24	10	143	283
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,163	17	6	22	20	250	497
2,000 to 2,249 grams	2,120	36	9	55	45	456	832
2,250 to 2,499 grams	4,235	49	18	109	73	947	1,729
2,500 to 4,499 grams	147,441	2,132	630	3,894	3,208	32,436	57,531
2,500 to 2,749 grams	8,759	102	24	225	181	2,055	3,505
2,750 to 2,999 grams	17,198	226	51	388	390	4,106	6,645
3,000 to 3,249 grams	27,875	306	119	685	525	6,516	11,032
3,250 to 3,499 grams	32,917	450	120	828	683	7,466	12,947
3,500 to 3,749 grams	28,383	460	148	774	638	6,048	10,972
3,750 to 3,999 grams	18,641	335	91	575	418	3,690	7,176
4,000 to 4,249 grams	9,490	172	57	273	245	1,856	3,628
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4,178	81	20	146	128	699	1,626
4,500 grams or more	2,371	53	11	91	66	333	986
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1,588	36	7	63	42	245	649
4,750 to 4,999 grams	507	8	2	23	18	67	225
5,000 to 5,249 grams	193	7	1	4	5	15	74
5,250 to 5,499 grams	60	1	1	1	1	3	29
5,500 grams or more	23	1	0	0	0	3	9
Not stated	441	18	0	0	0	368	15
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
500 to 1,499 grams	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.9
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3
1,500 to 2,499 grams	5.1	4.6	5.3	4.9	4.3	5.1	5.3
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.6	2.1	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.7	2.8
2,500 to 4,499 grams	92.2	91.7	92.2	91.7	92.9	92.1	92.1
2,500 to 2,749 grams	5.5	4.4	3.5	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.6
2,750 to 2,999 grams	10.8	9.7	7.5	9.1	11.3	11.7	10.6
3,000 to 3,249 grams	17.4	13.2	17.4	16.1	15.2	18.5	17.7
3,250 to 3,499 grams	20.6	19.4	17.6	19.5	19.8	21.2	20.7
3,500 to 3,749 grams	17.7	19.8	21.7	18.2	18.5	17.2	17.6
3,750 to 3,999 grams	11.7	14.4	13.3	13.5	12.1	10.5	11.5
4,000 to 4,249 grams	5.9	7.4	8.3	6.4	7.1	5.3	5.8
4,250 to 4,499 grams	2.6	3.5	2.9	3.4	3.7	2.0	2.6
4,500 grams or more	1.5	2.3	1.6	2.1	1.9	0.9	1.6
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.2	0.7	1.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.4
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

Table 4-3 – continued

Live births, by birth weight, Canada, provinces and territories — Females

Birth weight	Place of residence of the mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
2002									
Total	159,960	6,673	5,749	18,888	19,371	172	346	350	1
Less than 500 grams	163	8	5	30	18	0	0	0	0
500 to 1,499 grams	1,335	41	50	182	157	0	2	5	0
500 to 749 grams	277	8	12	34	31	0	0	0	0
750 to 999 grams	262	6	7	36	32	0	0	1	0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	334	6	9	58	42	0	2	2	0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	462	21	22	54	52	0	0	2	0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	8,209	301	251	1,088	905	3	11	12	0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	691	36	27	91	68	0	1	0	0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,163	40	39	143	128	0	0	1	0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	2,120	79	74	282	241	1	5	5	0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	4,235	146	111	572	468	2	5	6	0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	147,441	6,177	5,335	17,362	17,928	163	321	323	1
2,500 to 2,749 grams	8,759	274	273	1,044	1,042	6	14	14	0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	17,198	594	560	2,119	2,032	12	27	47	1
3,000 to 3,249 grams	27,875	1,070	923	3,232	3,323	27	53	64	0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	32,917	1,363	1,093	3,819	3,968	34	68	78	0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	28,383	1,254	1,082	3,393	3,443	37	73	61	0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	18,641	853	799	2,206	2,382	32	51	33	0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	9,490	503	413	1,105	1,189	8	24	17	0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4,178	266	192	444	549	7	11	9	0
4,500 grams or more	2,371	146	108	226	326	6	10	9	0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1,588	96	65	145	224	4	4	8	0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	507	31	18	46	62	2	4	1	0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	193	13	19	24	30	0	1	0	0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	60	4	6	7	6	0	1	0	0
5,500 grams or more	23	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0
Not stated	441	0	0	0	37	0	2	1	0
	percent								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.8	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.0	0.6	1.4	0.0
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	5.1	4.5	4.4	5.8	4.7	1.7	3.2	3.4	0.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	0.6	1.4	1.4	0.0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.6	2.2	1.9	3.0	2.4	1.2	1.4	1.7	0.0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	92.2	92.6	92.8	91.9	92.6	94.8	92.8	92.3	100.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	5.5	4.1	4.7	5.5	5.4	3.5	4.0	4.0	0.0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	10.8	8.9	9.7	11.2	10.5	7.0	7.8	13.4	100.0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	17.4	16.0	16.1	17.1	17.2	15.7	15.3	18.3	0.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	20.6	20.4	19.0	20.2	20.5	19.8	19.7	22.3	0.0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	17.7	18.8	18.8	18.0	17.8	21.5	21.1	17.4	0.0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	11.7	12.8	13.9	11.7	12.3	18.6	14.7	9.4	0.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	5.9	7.5	7.2	5.9	6.1	4.7	6.9	4.9	0.0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	2.6	4.0	3.3	2.4	2.8	4.1	3.2	2.6	0.0
4,500 grams or more	1.5	2.2	1.9	1.2	1.7	3.5	2.9	2.6	0.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.0	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.2	2.3	1.2	2.3	0.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.2	1.2	0.3	0.0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4509)

Table 5-1

Live births, by weeks of gestation, Canada, provinces and territories — Both sexes

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of the mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
2002							
Total	328,802	4,651	1,328	8,663	7,046	72,477	128,528
42 weeks or more	2,987	28	11	174	72	351	902
37 to 41 weeks	300,424	4,288	1,238	7,837	6,456	66,065	118,210
37 to 39 weeks	153,637	2,002	594	3,476	3,075	36,845	60,663
40 to 41 weeks	146,787	2,286	644	4,361	3,381	29,220	57,547
Less than 37 weeks	24,514	326	78	650	518	5,367	9,374
28 to 36 weeks	23,071	313	74	611	486	5,055	8,858
28 to 31 weeks	2,174	33	4	64	38	399	890
32 to 33 weeks	2,987	38	11	84	71	583	1,276
34 to 36 weeks	17,910	242	59	463	377	4,073	6,692
20 to 27 weeks	1,402	13	4	38	32	295	508
20 to 23 weeks	461	6	0	10	7	104	144
24 to 27 weeks	941	7	4	28	25	191	364
Less than 20 weeks	41	0	0	1	0	17	8
Not stated	877	9	1	2	0	694	42
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.9	0.6	0.8	2.0	1.0	0.5	0.7
37 to 41 weeks	91.4	92.2	93.2	90.5	91.6	91.2	92.0
37 to 39 weeks	46.7	43.0	44.7	40.1	43.6	50.8	47.2
40 to 41 weeks	44.6	49.2	48.5	50.3	48.0	40.3	44.8
Less than 37 weeks	7.5	7.0	5.9	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.3
28 to 36 weeks	7.0	6.7	5.6	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.7
32 to 33 weeks	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0
34 to 36 weeks	5.4	5.2	4.4	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.2
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

Table 5-1 – continued

Live births, by weeks of gestation, Canada, provinces and territories — Both sexes

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of the mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
2002									
Total	328,802	13,888	11,761	38,691	40,065	339	635	726	4
42 weeks or more	2,987	379	189	450	404	12	12	3	0
37 to 41 weeks	300,424	12,445	10,735	34,919	36,731	308	568	620	4
37 to 39 weeks	153,637	5,590	5,096	17,689	17,884	103	218	400	2
40 to 41 weeks	146,787	6,855	5,639	17,230	18,847	205	350	220	2
Less than 37 weeks	24,514	1,034	837	3,320	2,857	19	51	83	0
28 to 36 weeks	23,071	975	787	3,086	2,676	18	49	83	0
28 to 31 weeks	2,174	96	78	286	266	2	9	9	0
32 to 33 weeks	2,987	101	116	381	310	3	3	10	0
34 to 36 weeks	17,910	778	593	2,419	2,100	13	37	64	0
20 to 27 weeks	1,402	56	50	225	178	1	2	0	0
20 to 23 weeks	461	24	14	94	56	0	2	0	0
24 to 27 weeks	941	32	36	131	122	1	0	0	0
Less than 20 weeks	41	3	0	9	3	0	0	0	0
Not stated	877	30	0	2	73	0	4	20	0
	percent								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.9	2.7	1.6	1.2	1.0	3.5	1.9	0.4	0.0
37 to 41 weeks	91.4	89.6	91.3	90.3	91.7	90.9	89.4	85.4	100.0
37 to 39 weeks	46.7	40.3	43.3	45.7	44.6	30.4	34.3	55.1	50.0
40 to 41 weeks	44.6	49.4	47.9	44.5	47.0	60.5	55.1	30.3	50.0
Less than 37 weeks	7.5	7.4	7.1	8.6	7.1	5.6	8.0	11.4	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	7.0	7.0	6.7	8.0	6.7	5.3	7.7	11.4	0.0
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.4	1.2	0.0
32 to 33 weeks	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.5	1.4	0.0
34 to 36 weeks	5.4	5.6	5.0	6.3	5.2	3.8	5.8	8.8	0.0
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.6	2.8	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4512)

Table 5-2

Live births, by weeks of gestation, Canada, provinces and territories — Males

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of the mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
number							
2002							
Total	168,842	2,327	645	4,418	3,592	37,240	66,061
42 weeks or more	1,572	17	7	98	32	199	459
37 to 41 weeks	153,500	2,137	602	3,982	3,271	33,777	60,505
37 to 39 weeks	79,026	1,008	295	1,734	1,549	18,908	31,215
40 to 41 weeks	74,474	1,129	307	2,248	1,722	14,869	29,290
Less than 37 weeks	13,320	171	36	337	289	2,902	5,076
28 to 36 weeks	12,530	164	35	315	273	2,739	4,797
28 to 31 weeks	1,197	21	2	35	19	216	485
32 to 33 weeks	1,636	16	4	43	50	315	701
34 to 36 weeks	9,697	127	29	237	204	2,208	3,611
20 to 27 weeks	761	7	1	21	16	152	272
20 to 23 weeks	241	4	0	6	3	50	71
24 to 27 weeks	520	3	1	15	13	102	201
Less than 20 weeks	29	0	0	1	0	11	7
Not stated	450	2	0	1	0	362	21
percent							
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.9	0.7	1.1	2.2	0.9	0.5	0.7
37 to 41 weeks	90.9	91.8	93.3	90.1	91.1	90.7	91.6
37 to 39 weeks	46.8	43.3	45.7	39.2	43.1	50.8	47.3
40 to 41 weeks	44.1	48.5	47.6	50.9	47.9	39.9	44.3
Less than 37 weeks	7.9	7.3	5.6	7.6	8.0	7.8	7.7
28 to 36 weeks	7.4	7.0	5.4	7.1	7.6	7.4	7.3
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.7
32 to 33 weeks	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.4	0.8	1.1
34 to 36 weeks	5.7	5.5	4.5	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.5
20 to 27 weeks	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

Table 5-2 – continued

Live births, by weeks of gestation, Canada, provinces and territories — Males

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of the mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
2002									
Total	168,842	7,215	6,012	19,803	20,694	167	289	376	3
42 weeks or more	1,572	207	96	245	200	4	6	2	0
37 to 41 weeks	153,500	6,411	5,465	17,737	18,892	149	253	316	3
37 to 39 weeks	79,026	2,922	2,695	9,109	9,238	55	91	206	1
40 to 41 weeks	74,474	3,489	2,770	8,628	9,654	94	162	110	2
Less than 37 weeks	13,320	583	451	1,820	1,565	14	28	48	0
28 to 36 weeks	12,530	544	426	1,686	1,464	13	26	48	0
28 to 31 weeks	1,197	54	39	154	157	2	6	7	0
32 to 33 weeks	1,636	57	67	202	171	1	3	6	0
34 to 36 weeks	9,697	433	320	1,330	1,136	10	17	35	0
20 to 27 weeks	761	37	25	128	99	1	2	0	0
20 to 23 weeks	241	16	9	51	29	0	2	0	0
24 to 27 weeks	520	21	16	77	70	1	0	0	0
Less than 20 weeks	29	2	0	6	2	0	0	0	0
Not stated	450	14	0	1	37	0	2	10	0
	percent								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.9	2.9	1.6	1.2	1.0	2.4	2.1	0.5	0.0
37 to 41 weeks	90.9	88.9	90.9	89.6	91.3	89.2	87.5	84.0	100.0
37 to 39 weeks	46.8	40.5	44.8	46.0	44.6	32.9	31.5	54.8	33.3
40 to 41 weeks	44.1	48.4	46.1	43.6	46.7	56.3	56.1	29.3	66.7
Less than 37 weeks	7.9	8.1	7.5	9.2	7.6	8.4	9.7	12.8	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	7.4	7.5	7.1	8.5	7.1	7.8	9.0	12.8	0.0
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.2	2.1	1.9	0.0
32 to 33 weeks	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.6	0.0
34 to 36 weeks	5.7	6.0	5.3	6.7	5.5	6.0	5.9	9.3	0.0
20 to 27 weeks	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.0
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.7	2.7	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4512)

Table 5-3

Live births, by weeks of gestation, Canada, provinces and territories — Females

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of the mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
number							
2002							
Total	159,960	2,324	683	4,245	3,454	35,237	62,467
42 weeks or more	1,415	11	4	76	40	152	443
37 to 41 weeks	146,924	2,151	636	3,855	3,185	32,288	57,705
37 to 39 weeks	74,611	994	299	1,742	1,526	17,937	29,448
40 to 41 weeks	72,313	1,157	337	2,113	1,659	14,351	28,257
Less than 37 weeks	11,194	155	42	313	229	2,465	4,298
28 to 36 weeks	10,541	149	39	296	213	2,316	4,061
28 to 31 weeks	977	12	2	29	19	183	405
32 to 33 weeks	1,351	22	7	41	21	268	575
34 to 36 weeks	8,213	115	30	226	173	1,865	3,081
20 to 27 weeks	641	6	3	17	16	143	236
20 to 23 weeks	220	2	0	4	4	54	73
24 to 27 weeks	421	4	3	13	12	89	163
Less than 20 weeks	12	0	0	0	0	6	1
Not stated	427	7	1	1	0	332	21
percent							
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.9	0.5	0.6	1.8	1.2	0.4	0.7
37 to 41 weeks	91.9	92.6	93.1	90.8	92.2	91.6	92.4
37 to 39 weeks	46.6	42.8	43.8	41.0	44.2	50.9	47.1
40 to 41 weeks	45.2	49.8	49.3	49.8	48.0	40.7	45.2
Less than 37 weeks	7.0	6.7	6.1	7.4	6.6	7.0	6.9
28 to 36 weeks	6.6	6.4	5.7	7.0	6.2	6.6	6.5
28 to 31 weeks	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6
32 to 33 weeks	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.9
34 to 36 weeks	5.1	4.9	4.4	5.3	5.0	5.3	4.9
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0

Table 5-3 – continued

Live births, by weeks of gestation, Canada, provinces and territories — Females

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of the mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
2002									
Total	159,960	6,673	5,749	18,888	19,371	172	346	350	1
42 weeks or more	1,415	172	93	205	204	8	6	1	0
37 to 41 weeks	146,924	6,034	5,270	17,182	17,839	159	315	304	1
37 to 39 weeks	74,611	2,668	2,401	8,580	8,646	48	127	194	1
40 to 41 weeks	72,313	3,366	2,869	8,602	9,193	111	188	110	0
Less than 37 weeks	11,194	451	386	1,500	1,292	5	23	35	0
28 to 36 weeks	10,541	431	361	1,400	1,212	5	23	35	0
28 to 31 weeks	977	42	39	132	109	0	3	2	0
32 to 33 weeks	1,351	44	49	179	139	2	0	4	0
34 to 36 weeks	8,213	345	273	1,089	964	3	20	29	0
20 to 27 weeks	641	19	25	97	79	0	0	0	0
20 to 23 weeks	220	8	5	43	27	0	0	0	0
24 to 27 weeks	421	11	20	54	52	0	0	0	0
Less than 20 weeks	12	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Not stated	427	16	0	1	36	0	2	10	0
	percent								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.9	2.6	1.6	1.1	1.1	4.7	1.7	0.3	0.0
37 to 41 weeks	91.9	90.4	91.7	91.0	92.1	92.4	91.0	86.9	100.0
37 to 39 weeks	46.6	40.0	41.8	45.4	44.6	27.9	36.7	55.4	100.0
40 to 41 weeks	45.2	50.4	49.9	45.5	47.5	64.5	54.3	31.4	0.0
Less than 37 weeks	7.0	6.8	6.7	7.9	6.7	2.9	6.6	10.0	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	6.6	6.5	6.3	7.4	6.3	2.9	6.6	10.0	0.0
28 to 31 weeks	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.9	0.6	0.0
32 to 33 weeks	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.0
34 to 36 weeks	5.1	5.2	4.7	5.8	5.0	1.7	5.8	8.3	0.0
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.6	2.9	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4512)

Table 6-1

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			
2002					
Age of mother, all ages²	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
Under 20 years	15,533	1.2	6.4	91.6	1.8
20 to 34 years	258,143	0.9	5.4	92.1	2.2
35 to 49 years	55,108	1.2	6.8	90.6	2.4
Not stated ³	18	0.0	5.6	61.1	0.0
Total, parity of mother	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
First live birth	145,195	1.0	6.1	92.0	1.6
Second live birth	117,073	0.8	5.1	92.3	2.4
Third live birth or more	66,459	1.0	6.2	90.4	3.1
Not stated	75	1.3	2.7	49.3	2.7
Total, marital status of mother	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
Married	209,698	0.9	5.4	92.1	2.3
Not married	95,156	1.0	6.2	91.4	1.9
Not stated	23,948	1.4	6.7	90.6	2.4
Total, birthplace of mother	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
Canada	245,865	0.9	5.4	91.8	2.5
Outside Canada	78,056	1.0	6.5	92.1	1.4
Not stated	4,881	1.5	7.2	90.7	1.2
Both sexes	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
Males	168,842	1.0	5.4	91.5	2.9
Females	159,960	0.9	6.1	92.2	1.5
Total, types of birth	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
Single	319,241	0.7	4.3	93.1	2.3
Multiple	9,561	10.0	52.7	47.2	0.0
Total, weeks of gestation	328,802	1.0	5.7	91.9	2.2
Less than 28 weeks	1,443	98.7	99.2	0.2	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	23,071	7.2	50.7	48.8	0.2
37 to 41 weeks	300,424	0.0	1.9	95.6	2.3
42 weeks or more	2,987	0.1	0.3	92.1	7.5
Not stated	877	1.5	5.1	74.9	0.7

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

2. Age 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."

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

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

Table 6-2

Live births, by characteristics of the mother and child, Canada — Weeks of gestation indicators

Characteristics of mother and child	Live births	Gestation		
		Less than 37 weeks	37 to 41 weeks	42 weeks or more
	number	percent		
2002				
Age of mother, all ages ¹	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
Under 20 years	15,533	8.0	90.2	1.5
20 to 34 years	258,143	7.2	91.7	0.9
35 to 49 years	55,108	8.6	90.3	0.9
Not stated ²	18	16.7	50.0	0.0
Total, parity of mother	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
First live birth	145,195	7.6	91.0	1.1
Second live birth	117,073	6.8	92.4	0.6
Third live birth or more	66,459	8.3	90.5	0.9
Not stated	75	2.7	44.0	0.0
Total, marital status of mother	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
Married	209,698	7.1	91.9	0.8
Not married	95,156	8.0	90.5	1.0
Not stated	23,948	8.4	90.5	0.9
Total, birthplace of mother	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
Canada	245,865	7.5	91.3	1.0
Outside Canada	78,056	7.4	91.7	0.7
Not stated	4,881	8.6	89.1	0.6
Both sexes	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
Males	168,842	7.9	90.9	0.9
Females	159,960	7.0	91.9	0.9
Total, types of birth	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
Single	319,241	6.0	92.8	0.9
Multiple	9,561	55.2	44.6	0.0
Total, birth weight	328,802	7.5	91.4	0.9
Less than 500 grams	327	99.4	0.6	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	2,813	98.3	1.2	0.1
1,500 to 2,499 grams	15,660	64.2	35.6	0.1
2,500 to 4,499 grams	301,868	3.7	95.1	0.9
4,500 grams or more	7,243	0.5	96.3	3.1
Not stated	891	9.4	71.4	0.2

1. Age attained at the last birthday preceding delivery.

2. For confidentiality reasons, live births to mothers aged 50 and over are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

Note: See *Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes*.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4513)*

Table 7

Fetal deaths (20 weeks or more of gestation) and late fetal deaths (28 weeks or more of gestation), Canada, provinces and territories

Place of residence of mother	Gestation	
	20 weeks or more (fetal deaths)	28 weeks or more (late fetal deaths)
2002		
Canada	2,015	1,028
Newfoundland and Labrador	24	12
Prince Edward Island	6	3
Nova Scotia	79	30
New Brunswick	33	21
Quebec	286	199
Ontario	821	413
Manitoba	104	52
Saskatchewan	93	61
Alberta	250	119
British Columbia	298	106
Yukon Territory	3	2
Northwest Territories	4	3
Nunavut	14	7
Unknown	0	0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Stillbirth Database (CANSIM table 102-4514)

Table 8-1

Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths), Canada, provinces and territories — Type of birth (single or multiple)

Place of residence of mother	Type of birth								
	Total			Single			Multiple		
	Total, births	Live births	Fetal deaths (stillbirths)	Total, births	Live births	Fetal deaths (stillbirths)	Total, births	Live births	Fetal deaths (stillbirths)
2002									
Canada	330,817	328,802	2,015	321,105	319,241	1,864	9,712	9,561	151
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,675	4,651	24	4,539	4,521	18	136	130	6
Prince Edward Island	1,334	1,328	6	1,288	1,282	6	46	46	0
Nova Scotia	8,742	8,663	79	8,501	8,427	74	241	236	5
New Brunswick	7,079	7,046	33	6,897	6,865	32	182	181	1
Quebec	72,763	72,477	286	70,927	70,660	267	1,836	1,817	19
Ontario	129,349	128,528	821	125,263	124,500	763	4,086	4,028	58
Manitoba	13,992	13,888	104	13,650	13,550	100	342	338	4
Saskatchewan	11,854	11,761	93	11,525	11,444	81	329	317	12
Alberta	38,941	38,691	250	37,685	37,457	228	1,256	1,234	22
British Columbia	40,363	40,065	298	39,133	38,855	278	1,230	1,210	20
Yukon Territory	342	339	3	334	331	3	8	8	0
Northwest Territories	639	635	4	631	627	4	8	8	0
Nunavut	740	726	14	728	718	10	12	8	4
Unknown	4	4	0	4	4	0	0	0	0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth and Stillbirth Databases (CANSIM table 102-4515)

Table 8-2

Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths), Canada, provinces and territories — Place of birth (hospital and non-hospital)

Place of residence of mother	Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths)					
	Total, births		Live births		Fetal deaths (stillbirths)	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
2002						
Canada						
Total, place of birth	330,817	100.0	328,802	100.0	2,015	100.0
Hospital	328,370	99.3	326,370	99.3	2,000	99.3
Non-hospital	2,371	0.7	2,359	0.7	12	0.6
Unknown	76	0.0	73	0.0	3	0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Total, place of birth	4,675	100.0	4,651	100.0	24	100.0
Hospital	4,662	99.7	4,639	99.7	23	95.8
Non-hospital	12	0.3	12	0.3	0	0.0
Unknown	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	4.2
Prince Edward Island						
Total, place of birth	1,334	100.0	1,328	100.0	6	100.0
Hospital	1,333	99.9	1,327	99.9	6	100.0
Non-hospital	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown	1	0.1	1	0.1	0	0.0
Nova Scotia						
Total, place of birth	8,742	100.0	8,663	100.0	79	100.0
Hospital	8,715	99.7	8,636	99.7	79	100.0
Non-hospital	26	0.3	26	0.3	0	0.0
Unknown	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
New Brunswick						
Total, place of birth	7,079	100.0	7,046	100.0	33	100.0
Hospital	7,073	99.9	7,040	99.9	33	100.0
Non-hospital	6	0.1	6	0.1	0	0.0
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Quebec						
Total, place of birth	72,763	100.0	72,477	100.0	286	100.0
Hospital	72,640	99.8	72,357	99.8	283	99.0
Non-hospital	122	0.2	120	0.2	2	0.7
Unknown	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.3
Ontario						
Total, place of birth	129,349	100.0	128,528	100.0	821	100.0
Hospital	128,367	99.2	127,547	99.2	820	99.9
Non-hospital	980	0.8	979	0.8	1	0.1
Unknown	2	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0
Manitoba						
Total, place of birth	13,992	100.0	13,888	100.0	104	100.0
Hospital	13,808	98.7	13,708	98.7	100	96.2
Non-hospital	183	1.3	179	1.3	4	3.8
Unknown	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
Saskatchewan						
Total, place of birth	11,854	100.0	11,761	100.0	93	100.0
Hospital	11,828	99.8	11,735	99.8	93	100.0
Non-hospital	22	0.2	22	0.2	0	0.0
Unknown	4	0.0	4	0.0	0	0.0
Alberta						
Total, place of birth	38,941	100.0	38,691	100.0	250	100.0
Hospital	38,545	99.0	38,298	99.0	247	98.8
Non-hospital	395	1.0	392	1.0	3	1.2
Unknown	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
British Columbia						
Total, place of birth	40,363	100.0	40,065	100.0	298	100.0
Hospital	39,692	98.3	39,396	98.3	296	99.3
Non-hospital	608	1.5	607	1.5	1	0.3
Unknown	63	0.2	62	0.2	1	0.3

Table 8-2 – continued

Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths), Canada, provinces and territories — Place of birth (hospital and non-hospital)

Place of residence of mother	Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths)					
	Total, births		Live births		Fetal deaths (stillbirths)	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
Yukon Territory						
Total, place of birth	342	100.0	339	100.0	3	100.0
Hospital	331	96.8	328	96.8	3	100.0
Non-hospital	11	3.2	11	3.2	0	0.0
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Northwest Territories						
Total, place of birth	639	100.0	635	100.0	4	100.0
Hospital	634	99.2	630	99.2	4	100.0
Non-hospital	4	0.6	4	0.6	0	0.0
Unknown	1	0.2	1	0.2	0	0.0
Nunavut						
Total, place of birth	740	100.0	726	100.0	14	100.0
Hospital	738	99.7	725	99.9	13	92.9
Non-hospital	2	0.3	1	0.1	1	7.1
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown						
Total, place of birth	4	100.0	4	100.0	0	0.0
Hospital	4	100.0	4	100.0	0	0.0
Non-hospital	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Note: See Data quality, concepts and methodology — Footnotes.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth and Stillbirth Databases (CANSIM table 102-4516)

Definitions

The definitions used for the production of statistical tables of Canadian vital statistics data are based on those recommended by the World Health Organization¹ and the United Nations.²

Age of mother

Age the mother attained at her last birthday preceding delivery.

Birth

The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy. See also Fetal death (stillbirth) and Live birth.

Birth and fertility rates

- *Age-specific fertility rate (ASFR)*: The number of live births per 1,000 women in a specific age group. Five-year age groups were used in these tabulations (ranging from 15 to 19 to 45 to 49 years).
- *Age-specific fertility rate, women 15 to 19 years*: Live births to women under age 20 per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.
- *Age-specific fertility rate, women 45 to 49 years*: Live births to women aged 45 years and over per 1,000 women aged 45 to 49.
- *Crude birth rate*: The number of live births per 1,000 population.
- *Total fertility rate (TFR)*: An estimate of the average number of live births a woman can be expected to have in her lifetime, based on the age-specific fertility rates (ASFR) of a given year. The total fertility rate (TFR) = [(ASFR of 15 to 19 year olds + ASFR of 20 to 24 year olds +... + ASFR of 45 to 49 year olds)], multiplied by 5 (i.e. the number of years in each age group).

Birth weight

The first weight of the fetus or newborn obtained immediately after birth, expressed in grams.

- *Extremely low birth weight*: Birth weight under 1,000 grams.
- *High birth weight*: Birth weight of 4,500 or more grams.
- *Low birth weight*: Birth weight under 2,500 grams.
- *Normal birth weight* ranges from 2,500 to 4,499 grams.
- *Very low birth weight*: Birth weight under 1,500 grams.

Cause of fetal death (stillbirth)

The cause of fetal death (stillbirth) coded is the underlying cause of fetal death. This is defined as "(a) the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or (b) the circumstances of the accident

1. World Health Organization (WHO). *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Volumes 1 and 2 (ICD-10)*. Geneva, 1992.

2. United Nations. *Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System. Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 19, Rev. 1*. New York, 1974.

or violence which produced the fatal injury"¹. This underlying cause of fetal death is selected from a number of conditions listed on the medical certificate of cause of fetal death (stillbirth).

Beginning in the year 2000 in Canada, causes of death and fetal death (stillbirth) are coded to the 10th revision of the World Health Organization's *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10)*¹. The previous revision, ICD-9³ was used in Canada for the classification of cause of death and fetal death (stillbirth) from 1979 to 1999.

Delivery

A delivery may consist of one or more live born or stillborn fetuses. The number of deliveries in a given period will be equal to or less than the number of births because multiple births (twins, triplets or higher-order births) are counted as single deliveries.

Fetal death (stillbirth)

Death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy; the death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles. Only fetal deaths where the production of conception has a birth weight of 500 grams or more or the duration of pregnancy is 20 weeks or longer are registered in Canada.

In Quebec and Saskatchewan (and New Brunswick, prior to November 1996), only fetal deaths (stillbirths) weighing 500 or more grams must be reported, regardless of the gestation period. Until 1997, a gestation period of at least 20 weeks was required in Prince Edward Island, regardless of birth weight.

Because of these differences in reporting requirements, fetal death (stillbirth) data are presented for two gestation periods: 20 or more weeks of gestation (including fetal deaths or stillbirths with unknown weeks of gestation), and 28 or more weeks of gestation (excluding unknown weeks of gestation).

Fetal death (stillbirth) rate

The number of fetal deaths (stillbirths) per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths (stillbirths).

ICD-10 codes

International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) codes, 10th revision, were established by the World Health Organization in 1992¹. The ICD-10 manual assigns codes to specific diseases, injuries and causes of death and fetal death (stillbirth).

Live birth

The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Marital status of mother

Refers to the legal conjugal status of the mother at the time of the delivery. Persons in common-law relationships are assigned to their legal marital status category. A *single* person is one who has never been married, or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. A *separated* person is legally married but is not living with his or her spouse because the couple no longer wants to live together. A *divorced* person is one who has obtained a legal divorce and has not remarried. A *married* person is one who is legally married and not separated. A person whose spouse has died and who has not remarried is *widowed*.

3. World Health Organization (WHO). *International Classification of Diseases, 1975 Revision, Volume 1 (ICD-9)*. Geneva, 1977.

Mean age of mother

The mean (average) age of mother for Canada, a province or a territory is calculated by summing the mothers' ages at their last birthday, and then dividing the sum by the total number of live births in that jurisdiction. To estimate mid-year mean age, a statistic often used in analyses, add 0.5 to mean age.

Mean birth weight

The mean (average) birth weight for Canada, a province or a territory is calculated by summing the first weight of each newborn (obtained immediately after birth), and then dividing the sum by the total number of live births in that jurisdiction.

Median birth weight

The median is the middle value in a set of ordered numbers (e.g. newborns' birth weight ranked from lightest to heaviest). In the case of an even number of observations, the median is the average of the two middle values.

Multiple birth

A delivery that results in more than one birth, whether live born or stillborn. This includes the delivery of twins, triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets and more.

Parity of mother

The number of live births a woman has had to date (excludes fetal deaths or stillbirths). A woman with zero parity has had no live births; a woman of parity 1 has had one live birth, of parity 2, two live births, and so on. In the case of a first delivery resulting in live twins, the woman has a parity of 1 after the first twin is born and a parity of 2 after the second twin is born.

Population

Persons whose usual place of residence is somewhere in Canada, including Canadian government employees stationed abroad and their families, members of the Canadian Armed Forces stationed abroad and their families, crews of Canadian merchant vessels, and non-permanent residents of Canada.

The population estimates used for vital statistics rate calculations are adjusted for net census under-coverage and include non-permanent residents. Net census under-coverage is the difference between census under-coverage and census over-coverage. The former refers to persons who were part of the census universe but were not enumerated in the census; the latter, to persons either enumerated more than once or enumerated but not part of the census universe. Non-permanent residents are persons claiming refugee status, persons holding a student or employment authorization, or a Minister's permit, and all non-Canadian-born dependents of the above individuals.

Mid-year (July 1) population estimates are used to calculate the rates in vital statistics publications (see table footnotes). Population estimates are frequently revised by Statistics Canada's Demography Division.

Provinces and territories

Unless otherwise stated, the geographic distribution of births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) in the tables of this publication is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Nunavut came into being officially as a Territory of Canada on April 1, 1999. The name Northwest Territories applies to a Territory with different geographic boundaries before and after April 1, 1999.

Stillbirth (fetal death)

Death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy; the death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement

of voluntary muscles. Only fetal deaths where the production of conception has a birth weight of 500 grams or more or the duration of pregnancy is 20 weeks or longer are registered in Canada.

In Quebec and Saskatchewan (and New Brunswick, prior to November 1996), only fetal deaths (stillbirths) weighing 500 or more grams must be reported, regardless of the gestation period. Until 1997, a gestation period of at least 20 weeks was required in Prince Edward Island, regardless of birth weight.

Because of these differences in reporting requirements, fetal death (stillbirth) data are presented for two gestation periods: 20 or more weeks of gestation (including fetal deaths or stillbirths with unknown weeks of gestation), and 28 or more weeks of gestation (excluding unknown weeks of gestation).

Stillbirth (fetal death) rate

The number of fetal deaths (stillbirths) per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths (stillbirths).

Type of birth

Type of birth refers to the plurality of a delivery, i.e. whether the delivery results in the birth of one or more live born or stillborn infants.

Weeks of gestation

The interval, in completed weeks, between the first day of the mother's last menstrual period and the day of delivery (i.e. the duration of pregnancy). It can also be any estimate of that interval, based on ultrasound, a physical examination or other method. Canadian birth registration documents do not specify how the gestational age was calculated. *Pre-term* refers to a period of gestation less than 37 completed weeks; *term*, 37 through 41 completed weeks; and *post-term*, 42 or more completed weeks.

Vital Statistics - Birth Database

Survey description

This is an administrative survey that collects demographic information annually from all provincial and territorial vital statistics registries on all live births in Canada. Some data are also collected on live births to Canadian residents in selected American states.

The data are used to calculate basic indicators (such as counts and rates) on births of residents of Canada. Information from this database is also used in the calculation of statistics, such as age-specific fertility rates.

For Canada as a whole, it was impossible to compile a satisfactory series of vital statistics prior to 1921. Eight provinces initially joined the cooperative Canadian vital statistics system, leading to the publication of the first annual report for Canada in 1921; that report included Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Quebec began to participate in 1926 and Newfoundland in 1949 (after joining Confederation) and their data were included in the tabulations from those years onward. Basic data from the Yukon and Northwest Territories were published as appendices to the national tables from 1924 to 1955; their data were first included in the regular tabulations in 1956. Nunavut came into being officially as a Territory of Canada on April 1, 1999. The name Northwest Territories applies to a Territory with different geographic boundaries before and after April 1, 1999.

Prior to 1944 all vital events were classified by place of occurrence. Since 1944, births, stillbirths, and deaths have been classified by area of reported residence, with births and stillbirths according to the residence of the mother.

Data sources and methodology

Survey population

The conceptual universe of the Birth database is births to Canadian resident women anywhere in the world. The target population of the Birth database is births to Canadian resident women in Canada and to Canadian resident women in American states. The actual (survey) population of the Birth database is births to Canadian resident women and non-resident women in Canada, and births to Canadian resident women in some American states.

Sampling

This survey is a census with a cross-sectional design.

Collection

Responding to this survey is mandatory. Data are extracted from administrative files.

Provincial and territorial Vital Statistics Acts (or equivalent legislation) render compulsory the registration of all live births, stillbirths, deaths and marriages within their jurisdictions. These Acts follow, as closely as possible, a Model Vital Statistics Act that was developed to promote uniformity of legislation and reporting practices among the provinces and territories.

The Canadian Vital Statistics system operates under an agreement between the Government of Canada and governments of the provinces and territories. The Vital Statistics Council for Canada, an advisory committee set up by an Order-in-Council, oversees policy and operational matters. All provincial and territorial jurisdictions and Statistics Canada are represented on the Vital Statistics Council. Under the agreement, all registrars collect a specified set of data elements, although any of them may decide to collect additional information.

The main form for the registration of a live birth is completed by the parents, who are responsible for filing it with the local registrar. Most provinces also require physicians (or other birth attendants) to report all births.

The central Vital Statistics Registry in each province and territory provides data from birth registrations to Statistics Canada. The following statistical data items are reported for each birth by all provinces and territories for inclusion in the Canadian Vital Statistics system:

- Date and place of birth
- Child's sex, birth weight and gestational age
- Parents' age, marital status and birthplace
- Mother's place of residence
- Type of birth (single or multiple)
- Parity

All provinces and territories supply microfilm copies or optical images of registration forms to Statistics Canada. In addition, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and the Western provinces supply machine-readable abstracts of registrations, which contain the required standard information. For the territories, the required standard information on microfilm is converted to machine-readable format at Statistics Canada. Subsequent changes to registrations due to errors or omissions are transmitted to Statistics Canada as the information becomes available. However, changes received after a cut-off date are not reflected in published tabulations.

Error detection

Provinces and territories that supply machine-readable data conduct edits (presence of the data, validation of code ranges, and data consistency) before transmitting their data, based on standard edit specifications prepared by Statistics Canada. Health Statistics Division has actively promoted the use of a standard data dictionary and standard correlation edits for provincial/territorial data entry. More extensive edit routines are applied to the data by Statistics Canada to ascertain the completeness and quality of the data. For 2000, about 8% of the records were assessed for follow-up action either by referring to the microfilmed registrations or optical images or by consulting with the registries. After the preparation of a preliminary data file, verification tables are prepared for data review by the registries and Statistics Canada (e.g., distributions, large changes, percentage and number of unknowns, outliers, changes in the relative composition).

The last comprehensive study of the quality of data capture and data coding was done in 1981, when error rates for most variables were found to be quite low. Since then, studies have been completed on an irregular basis for specific provinces. The most recent study was done in 2002 on the 2000 Prince Edward Island birth data following their development of a new data capture system. A systematic random sample of records was drawn, and the Prince Edward Island capture was compared with the microfilmed documents. Inconsistencies were documented, and a report was sent to the Prince Edward Island Vital Statistics Registrar. Overall, the error rate was zero for most of the important statistical variables (sex of child, age of mother, total number of children, multiple birth indicators). Issues being discussed include: the handling of amendments, consistency of reporting birth weight in metric units, consideration of recapture and 100% verification of certain variables, and earlier detection of errors.

With Prince Edward Island adopting their own data capture, the only birth data regularly captured at Statistics Canada are the data from the three territories, and any late records. Operations and Integration Division maintains data capture quality controls such as 100% verification for new clerks, and sample batch re-capture for experienced clerks to maintain an error rate of less than 3%.

Imputation

Imputation is done on missing sex of child for tabulations in publications only. Sex is assigned based on the last digit of the registration number. This usually affects no more than 5 records annually (except for 1996 when there were 125 records with imputed sex of child and in 1998 when there were 77).

Quality evaluation

Upon completion of the annual national birth data base (produced as described in the section Error Detection above), Statistics Canada carries out a series of quality checks that include: 1) producing a set of verification tables which consist of basic tabulations for the majority of variables in the data base by province or territory of occurrence; 2) sending the verification tables to each provincial/territorial registrar of vital statistics for their review and approval that Statistics Canada and the registry obtain the same results; 3) checking for internal consistencies, e.g. running frequencies and looking for outliers on certain data elements; and 4) comparing the most recent data year with past data years to detect any unusual or unexpected changes. Comparisons of tabulated data are made with vital statistics data published by the provinces and territories, where available. After Statistics Canada creates the publication data file, the availability of birth statistics is announced in *The Daily*.

Disclosure control

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any data which would divulge information obtained under the Statistics Act that relates to any identifiable person, business or organization without the prior knowledge or the consent in writing of that person, business or organization. Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

Data accuracy

Coverage

Since the registration of births is a legal requirement in each Canadian province and territory, reporting is virtually complete. Under-coverage is thought to be minimal, but is being monitored. Under-coverage may occur because of late registration, which, if not completed soon after birth, is needed for school registration. Statistics Canada does receive late registrations (typically 1,000 to 1,500 cases, five years after the year of the event), and consideration is currently being given to including late registrations and late amendments on the data file for subsequent publication. Incomplete registration is also a source of under-coverage. For example, some provinces require that a notarized statement be completed when a mother declines to name the father on the application for birth registration. Until the statement is notarized, the application is not registered.

Out-of-country births are incompletely reported. There is no reporting of births to Canadian resident women occurring in countries other than the United States; although there is a reciprocal agreement with the U.S., some states may not report births to Canadian resident women occurring in their state.

Non-registration is minimal, except in Ontario where provincial health officials have noted a rise in the number of physician notices of birth that do not have a matching registration from the parents. This may represent up to 4,000 births in 2000, or 3% of all Ontario births, but is probably less because of duplicate or late registrations being included in this total. This is apparent especially in districts of Ontario that charge a service fee for birth registration (e.g. the City of Ottawa charged a \$30 service fee in 2003 to register a birth), and for infants who die within days of the birth (25% of Ontario infant deaths do not have a matching birth registration). These quality concerns have been discussed several times with the Ontario Office of the Registrar General (ORG). Labour disruptions and backlogs have limited ORG resources available for follow-up. For missing birth registrations for infant deaths, it is recognized that collection of these data from the grieving families is difficult.

Over-coverage is minimal. Births to non-resident women in Canada are registered but are excluded from most tabulations. Duplicate birth registrations are identified as part of the regular processing operations on each provincial

and territorial subset, as well as additional inter-provincial checks, and comparisons between the birth and stillbirth databases for multiple births. Possible duplicate registrations are checked against microfilmed registrations or optical images, or by consulting with the provinces and territories.

Response rates

Item response

For 1997 to 2000, the response rates were 98-100% for most variables on the Birth database, except for mother's marital status, father's age, and birthplace where the response rates were 90-95%. One notable exception is that data on the dates of birth of the mother and the father are not supplied to Statistics Canada by the Province of Ontario; however, the age of each parent is provided by that province. As part of security improvements done after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Ontario Office of the Registrar General has decided to capture these variables. Date of birth data for each parent is expected to be transmitted to Statistics Canada from Ontario starting with the 2003 data.

Other accuracy issues

Ontario birth weights and gestation data

In the development of the Canadian Perinatal Surveillance System, problems with Ontario Birth data had been noted related to the truncation of birth weights. Working with the Ontario Office of the Registrar General, the issues of truncation of birth weight, and the consistent editing of weight and gestation data (from the physician's notice of birth as opposed to the parent's registration) have been resolved. The data continue to be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Low birth weight/low gestation data

Analysts in Health Statistics Division continue to monitor developments in the field of assisted reproductive technology and medical technology as they relate to the reporting of extremely low birth weight and/or low gestation babies. There is some inconsistency in the practice of registering these babies, even though there is a legal requirement to do so. Statistically, this problem has resulted in alternative indicators for infant mortality being calculated, where the denominator is composed of live births weighing 500 g or more.

Vital Statistics - Stillbirth Database

Survey description

This is an administrative survey that collects demographic information annually from all provincial and territorial vital statistics registries on all stillbirths (fetal deaths) in Canada. Some data are also collected on stillbirths to Canadian resident women in selected American states.

The data are used to calculate basic indicators (such as counts and rates) on stillbirths to Canadian resident women. Information from this database is also used in the calculation of statistics, such as the late fetal death rate and the perinatal death rate. Information from the Stillbirth database is found in both the birth and death annual publications.

For Canada as a whole, it was impossible to compile a satisfactory series of vital statistics prior to 1921. Eight provinces initially joined the cooperative Canadian vital statistics system, leading to the publication of the first annual report for Canada in 1921; that report included Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Quebec began to participate in 1926 and Newfoundland in 1949 (after joining Confederation) and their data were included in the tabulations from those years onward. Basic data from the Yukon and Northwest Territories were published as appendices to the national tables from 1924 to 1955; their data were first included in the regular tabulations in 1956. Nunavut came into being officially as a Territory of Canada on April 1, 1999. The name Northwest Territories applies to a Territory with different geographic boundaries before and after April 1, 1999.

Prior to 1944 all vital events were classified by place of occurrence. Since 1944, births, stillbirths, and deaths have been classified by area of reported residence, with births and stillbirths according to the residence of the mother.

Stillbirth is currently defined as the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, which did not at any time after birth breathe or show other sign of life. In 2001, most provinces and all three territories required a stillbirth with a gestational age of at least 20 weeks or a birth weight of at least 500 grams to be registered. In Quebec and Saskatchewan (and New Brunswick prior to November 1996), only stillbirths weighing at least 500 grams were required to be registered, regardless of the gestational age. Until 1997, a gestational age of at least 20 weeks was required for stillbirths to be registered in Prince Edward Island, regardless of the birth weight.

History

Starting in 1959, the definition of a stillbirth was revised to conform, in substance, to the definition of “fetal death” recommended by the World Health Organization. At the same time, the compulsory registration of stillbirths was extended to 20 weeks’ gestation – from 28 weeks – and the new period of gestation incorporated into the definition: “Stillbirth means the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother, after at least 20 weeks’ pregnancy, of a product of conception in which, after such expulsion or extraction, there is no breathing, beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or unmistakable movement of voluntary muscle.”

Provinces implemented the new definition at different times, as shown in the table below:

Province	Implementation Date of Revised (1959) Stillbirth Definition
Nova Scotia	March 1959
Manitoba	August 1959
Alberta	January 1, 1960: 24 or more weeks or 750 grams weight January 1, 1963: 20 or more weeks or 500 grams weight
Saskatchewan	January 1, 1961
Quebec	January 1, 1961
Ontario	December 15, 1961
New Brunswick	January 1, 1962
British Columbia	July 1, 1962
Prince Edward Island	January 1, 1964
Newfoundland	1986

Prior to 1959 the following definition of stillbirth was incorporated in the vital statistics legislation of the provinces: "Stillbirth means the birth of a fetus, after at least 28 weeks' pregnancy, which, after complete separation from the mother, does not show any sign of life."

The underlying cause of stillbirth variable in the stillbirth database is classified according to the World Health Organization "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems" (ICD). The following table shows the data years for which each revision of this classification was used. Data users must note that underlying cause of stillbirth data coded to different revisions of the classification are not comparable and they should contact Statistics Canada for assistance with the use of this variable across classification revisions.

International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) Revision	Data Year Used at Statistics Canada
ICD-3	1921 to 1930
ICD-4	1931 to 1940
ICD-5	1941 to 1949
ICD-6	1950 to 1957
ICD-7	1958 to 1968
ICDA-8	1969 to 1978
ICD-9	1979 to 1999
ICD-10	2000 to present

An online version of ICD-10, second edition, (in English) became accessible as of October 2004 on the World Health Organization (WHO) website (www.who.int/classifications/en). The second edition incorporates the updates to ICD-10 that came into effect up to January 1, 2003.

Data sources and methodology

Survey population

The conceptual universe of the Stillbirth database is stillbirths to Canadian resident women anywhere in the world. The target population of the Stillbirth database is stillbirths to Canadian resident women in Canada and to Canadian resident women in American states. The actual (survey) population of the Stillbirth database is stillbirths to Canadian resident women and non-resident women in Canada, and stillbirths to Canadian resident women in some American states.

Sampling

This survey is a census with a cross-sectional design.

Collection

Responding to this survey is mandatory. Data are extracted from administrative files.

Provincial and territorial Vital Statistics Acts (or equivalent legislation) render compulsory the registration of all live births, stillbirths, deaths and marriages within their jurisdictions. These Acts follow, as closely as possible, a Model Vital Statistics Act that was developed to promote uniformity of legislation and reporting practices among the provinces and territories.

The Canadian Vital Statistics system operates under an agreement between the Government of Canada and governments of the provinces and territories. The Vital Statistics Council for Canada, an advisory committee set up by an Order-in-Council, oversees policy and operational matters. All provincial and territorial jurisdictions and Statistics Canada are represented on the Vital Statistics Council. Under the agreement, all registrars collect a specified set of data elements, although any of them may decide to collect additional information.

The form for the registration of a stillbirth is usually completed by the parents, who are responsible for filing it with the local, provincial or territorial registrar. Stillbirth registration requires a medical certificate of the cause of stillbirth to be completed by a physician or coroner.

The central Vital Statistics Registry in each province and territory provides data from stillbirth registrations to Statistics Canada. The following statistical data items are reported for each stillbirth by all provinces and territories for inclusion in the Canadian Vital Statistics system:

- Date and place of stillbirth
- Sex, birth weight and gestational age of fetus (See "History" for further information on definitions of stillbirth related to birth weight and gestational age.)
- Underlying cause of stillbirth classified to the World Health Organization "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems" (ICD) (See "History" for further information about this variable).
- Parents' age, marital status and birthplace
- Mother's place of residence
- Type of birth (single or multiple)
- Parity

All provinces and territories supply microfilm copies or optical images of registration forms to Statistics Canada. In addition, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and the Western provinces supply machine-readable abstracts of registrations, which contain the required standard information. For Newfoundland and Labrador, and the territories, the required standard information on microfilm is converted to machine-readable format at Statistics Canada. Subsequent changes to registrations due to errors or omissions are transmitted to Statistics Canada as the information becomes available. However, changes received after a cut-off date are not reflected in published tabulations.

Error detection

Provinces and territories that supply machine-readable data carry out edits (presence of the data, validation of code ranges, and data consistency) before transmitting their data, based on standard edit specifications prepared by Statistics Canada. Health Statistics Division has actively promoted the use of a standard data dictionary and standard correlation edits for provincial/territorial data entry. More extensive edit routines are applied to the data by Statistics Canada to ascertain the completeness and quality of the data. For example, additional edits for multiple births identify possible errors and inconsistencies between the stillbirth and birth databases. If the characteristics of the mother of triplets (1 live born and 2 stillborn) are different on the separate registration forms, manual updates make these data consistent on both the birth and stillbirth databases. For 2000, about 28% of the records were

assessed for follow-up action either by referring to the microfilmed registrations or optical images or by consulting with the registries. After the preparation of a preliminary data file, verification tables are prepared for data review by the registries and Statistics Canada (e.g., distributions, large changes, percentage and number of unknowns, outliers, changes in the relative composition).

The last comprehensive study of the quality of data capture and data coding was done in 1981, when error rates for most variables were found to be quite low. Most provinces do their own data capture, but because of the small size of the Stillbirth database, it is often faster for Statistics Canada to re-capture the records from the microfilms rather than wait for electronic files which usually require reformatting. In 2000, Operations and Integration Division (OID) data captured about 20% (approximately 400) of the stillbirth records. OID maintains data capture quality controls such as 100% verification for new clerks, and sample batch re-capture for experienced clerks to maintain an error rate of less than 3%.

Quality evaluation

Upon completion of the annual national stillbirth data base (produced as described in the section Error Detection above), Statistics Canada carries out a series of quality checks that include: 1) producing a set of verification tables which consist of basic tabulations for the majority of variables in the data base by province or territory of occurrence; 2) sending the verification tables to each provincial/territorial registrar of vital statistics for their review and approval that Statistics Canada and the registry obtain the same results; 3) checking for internal consistencies, e.g. running frequencies and looking for outliers on certain data elements; and 4) comparing the most recent data year with past data years to detect any unusual or unexpected changes. Comparisons of tabulated data are made with vital statistics data published by the provinces and territories, where available. After Statistics Canada creates the publication data file, the availability of stillbirth statistics is announced in *The Daily*.

Disclosure control

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any data which would divulge information obtained under the Statistics Act that relates to any identifiable person, business or organization without the prior knowledge or the consent in writing of that person, business or organization. Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

Data accuracy

Coverage

Since the registration of stillbirths is a legal requirement in each Canadian province and territory, reporting is virtually complete, with some important exceptions. Québec and Saskatchewan use slightly more limited reporting criteria (500 or more grams birth weight, compared with 500 or more grams birth weight or a gestational age of at least 20 weeks used in other provinces). New Brunswick does not require the registration of stillbirths meeting the reporting criteria when the fetus is removed during a therapeutic abortion. Stillbirth rates may be slightly underestimated in these provinces as a result. Under-coverage may also occur because of late registration. Some stillbirths are registered by local authorities, but the paperwork is not forwarded to provincial or territorial registrars before a cut-off date. These cases for 1996 represent approximately 15 stillbirths, 6 years after the year of stillbirth (accumulated late records), or seven-tenths of one percent of the total records.

Other missing registrations may occur with Canadian women who have a stillbirth outside of Canada. Only stillbirths in the United States are regularly reported to Statistics Canada, and of these, Statistics Canada has received only three records over the past decade.

Over-coverage is minimal. Stillbirths to non-resident women in Canada are registered but are excluded from most tabulations. Duplicate stillbirth registrations are identified as part of the regular processing operations on each provincial and territorial subset, as well as by additional inter-provincial checks. Additional edits for multiple births identify possible duplicates or missing records between the stillbirth and birth databases. Possible duplicate

registrations are checked against microfilmed registrations or optical images, or by consulting with the provinces and territories.

Response rates

Item response

For 1997 to 2000, the response rates were 98% to 100% for most of the demographic variables on the stillbirth database (age of mother, sex of fetus, province of residence of mother). The response rate for last name of mother and date of birth were both at 100%. The underlying cause of stillbirth is unknown in about 20% of the records, in most cases because the certifier was unsure of the cause, and not because of a data capture or processing error or omission. Postal codes are not well reported and/or captured, with only 60% of the records having postal codes.

Other accuracy issues

Underlying cause of stillbirth certification

There are two stages in the determination of an underlying cause of stillbirth: certification done by the certifier, and classification (coding) done by a medical coder. When a stillbirth occurs, the medical doctor in attendance, or the coroner, medical examiner or other certifier completes the medical certificate of stillbirth. The certificate consists of several sections eliciting the direct cause of stillbirth, antecedent causes, and other significant conditions of the mother and fetus. No quality studies specifically focusing on stillbirth certification have been done in Canada, but quality studies done on the certification of deaths have shown that approximately one-third of certificates contain major errors. Most of the errors (about 85%) involve the use of non-specific conditions such as “stroke” or “heart failure”. Approximately 10% of the errors involve illogical sequences of conditions entered in on the line items. Some of these can be resolved during coding, where the classification rules pinpoint illogical sequences. The remaining 5% involve competing causes. Proper training of certifiers, however, can greatly reduce these errors. Statistics Canada is working with the provincial and territorial registrars on two projects to improve quality: a half-day workshop suitable for continuing medical education credit, and an on-line tutorial.

Estimates of population by age and sex for Canada, the Provinces and the Territories

Survey description

This estimates program is used in the calculation of demographic, social and economic indicators (fertility rates, mortality rates, nuptiality rates, divorce rates, unemployment rates, school enrolment rates, etc.) in which the population, or a part thereof, serves as the denominator. These data are used in calculation of weights for use in Statistics Canada's Surveys (Labour Force Survey, Household Facilities and Equipment Survey, General Social Survey, Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, etc.). They are also used in the determination of the annual level of immigration by the Government of Canada. In addition, the data helps in the preparation of population projections by Statistics Canada, where estimates of population by age and sex are used as the base population. Estimated population counts play a vital role under the "Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act" and the "Canada Student Loans Act" in determining the amounts of federal-provincial/territorial transfers.

Data sources and methodology

Sampling

This survey is a census.

Collection

Data are extracted from administrative files and derived from other surveys.

Postcensal estimates are obtained by the component method, using the most recent census of population (Survey 3901) adjusted to July 1 and for net census undercount as the base population. For example, to estimate the population as of July 1, 2003, demographic events experienced by each cohort since the 2001 Census have been taken into account. To the base population count, births, immigrants and net change of non-permanent residents have been added, and deaths and total emigrants were subtracted. It is also necessary to add the interprovincial net migration. This produces a postcensal estimate of total population as July 1, 2003. The components of population change are estimated on the basis of data gleaned from various sources.

Estimation

Demographic estimates can be categorised as either intercensal or postcensal. Intercensal estimates correspond to estimates between censuses, whereas postcensal estimates correspond to non-census years after the most recent census. In producing up-to-date figures, postcensal estimates are obviously more timely (as there is no need to wait until the release of the next census), albeit less accurate. The production of intercensal estimates involves the retrospective adjustment of past figures with the availability of new census data. Postcensal estimates are obtained by adding the number of births, subtracting the number of deaths and by adding or subtracting the net impact of international and internal migration on the most recent census population adjusted for census coverage error (i.e. both census undercount and census overcount). The inclusion of non-permanent residents in the target population dictates that net change in the size of this subpopulation in Canada be added or subtracted from the base period. Estimates of population are first produced for each province and territory, and then summed to obtain an estimate of the population of Canada. Postcensal estimates of population by age and sex are produced following essentially the same approach as that of total population but applied to each age and sex cohort in the population. For more detailed information regarding population estimation methods, see Population and Family Estimation Methods at Statistics Canada, Demography Division, Catalogue No. 91-528-XIE.

Disclosure control

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any data which would divulge information obtained under the Statistics Act that relates to any identifiable person, business or organization without the prior knowledge or the consent in writing of that person, business or organization. Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

Revisions and seasonal adjustments

Data are revised once a year and after each Census, postcensal estimates are revised to produce intercensal estimates.

Data accuracy

The estimates of population by age and sex contain certain inaccuracies stemming from (1) errors in corrections for net census undercoverage and (2) imperfections in other data sources and the methods used to estimate the components. Errors due to estimation methodologies and data sources other than censuses are difficult to quantify but not insignificant. The more detailed the breakdown of the data, the larger the inaccuracy coefficient becomes. The component totals contain a certain amount of initial error, and the methodology used to classify them by sex and age, produces additional error in the figures at each stage. Nevertheless, the components can be divided into two categories according to the quality of their data sources: births, deaths, immigration, for which the sources of final data may be considered very good; total emigration, non-permanent residents and interprovincial migration for which the methods used may be a more substantial source of error. Lastly, the size of the error due to component estimation may vary by province, sex, and age and errors in some components (births and total emigration) may have a greater impact on a given age group or sex. Intercensal estimates contain the same types of errors as postcensal estimates, as well as errors resulting from the way in which the errors present at the end of the period were distributed, that is, on the basis of the time elapsed since the reference Census.

Footnotes

Table 1:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Place of residence of mother outside Canada includes live births to non-residents of Canada and births with unknown country of residence of mother.

Table 2-1:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 2-2:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 2-3:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 2-4:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Rates for Canada include live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Table 2-5:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Marital status of mother refers to her legal conjugal status at the time of the birth. Persons in common-law relationships are assigned to their legal marital status category. A single person is one who has never been married, or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. A separated person is legally married but is not living with his or her spouse because the couple no longer wants to live together. A divorced person is one who has obtained a legal divorce and has not remarried. A married person is one who is legally married and not separated. A person whose spouse has died and who has not remarried is widowed.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 2-6:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Birth weight is the first weight of the newborn obtained immediately after birth, expressed in grams.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 3-1:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Marital status of mother refers to her legal conjugal status at the time of the birth. Persons in common-law relationships are assigned to their legal marital status category. A single person is one who has never been married, or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. A separated person is legally married but is not living with his or her spouse because the couple no longer wants to live together. A divorced person is one who has obtained a legal divorce and has not remarried. A married person is one who is legally married and not separated. A person whose spouse has died and who has not remarried is widowed.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Table 3-2:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Parity refers to the number of live births a female has had to date (excludes fetal deaths or stillbirths). A female with zero parity has had no live births; a female of parity 1 has had one live birth, of parity 2, two live births, and so on. In the case of a first delivery resulting in live twins, the female has a parity of 1 after the first twin is born and a parity of 2 after the second twin is born.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Table 4-1 to 4-3:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Birth weight is the first weight of the newborn obtained immediately after birth, expressed in grams.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 5-1 to 5-3:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Weeks of gestation refers to the interval, in completed weeks, between the first day of the mother's last menstrual period and the day of delivery (that is, the duration of the pregnancy). It can also be any estimate of that interval, based on ultrasound, a physical examination or other method. Canadian birth registration documents do not specify how the weeks of gestation are to be calculated.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 6-1:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Birth weight is the first weight of the newborn obtained immediately after birth, expressed in grams.

Parity refers to the number of live births a female has had to date (excludes fetal deaths or stillbirths). A female with zero parity has had no live births; a female of parity 1 has had one live birth, of parity 2, two live births, and so on. In the case of a first delivery resulting in live twins, the female has a parity of 1 after the first twin is born and a parity of 2 after the second twin is born.

Marital status of mother refers to her legal conjugal status at the time of the birth. Persons in common-law relationships are assigned to their legal marital status category. A single person is one who has never been married, or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. A separated person is legally married but is not living with his or her spouse because the couple no longer wants to live together. A divorced person is one who has obtained a legal divorce and has not remarried. A married person is one who is legally married and not separated. A person whose spouse has died and who has not remarried is widowed.

Type of birth refers to the plurality of a delivery, that is, whether the delivery results in the birth of one or more liveborn or stillborn infants. The delivery must result in the birth of at least one liveborn infant to be included in this table. The category "Type of birth, multiple" includes the delivery of twins, triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets or more.

Weeks of gestation refers to the interval, in completed weeks, between the first day of the mother's last menstrual period and the day of delivery (that is, the duration of the pregnancy). It can also be any estimate of that interval, based on ultrasound, a physical examination or other method. Canadian birth registration documents do not specify how the weeks of gestation are to be calculated.

Table 6-2:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

The geographic distribution of live births in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Weeks of gestation refers to the interval, in completed weeks, between the first day of the mother's last menstrual period and the day of delivery (that is, the duration of the pregnancy). It can also be any estimate of that interval, based on ultrasound, a physical examination or other method. Canadian birth registration documents do not specify how the weeks of gestation are to be calculated.

Parity refers to the number of live births a female has had to date (excludes fetal deaths or stillbirths). A female with zero parity has had no live births; a female of parity 1 has had one live birth, of parity 2, two live births, and so on. In the case of a first delivery resulting in live twins, the female has a parity of 1 after the first twin is born and a parity of 2 after the second twin is born.

Marital status of mother refers to her legal conjugal status at the time of the birth. Persons in common-law relationships are assigned to their legal marital status category. A single person is one who has never been married, or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. A separated person is legally married but is not living with his or her spouse because the couple no longer wants to live together. A divorced person is one who has obtained a legal divorce and has not remarried. A married person is one who is legally married and not separated. A person whose spouse has died and who has not remarried is widowed.

Type of birth refers to the plurality of a delivery, that is, whether the delivery results in the birth of one or more liveborn or stillborn infants. The delivery must result in the birth of at least one liveborn infant to be included in this table. The category "Type of birth, multiple" includes the delivery of twins, triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets or more.

Birth weight is the first weight of the newborn obtained immediately after birth, expressed in grams.

Table 7:

Fetal death (stillbirth) is death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy; the death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles. Only fetal deaths where the product of conception has a birth weight of 500 grams or more or the duration of pregnancy is 20 weeks or longer are registered in Canada.

Weeks of gestation refers to the interval, in completed weeks, between the first day of the mother's last menstrual period and the day of delivery (that is, the duration of the pregnancy). It can also be any estimate of that interval, based on ultrasound, a physical examination or other method. Canadian birth registration documents do not specify how the weeks of gestation are to be calculated.

Weeks of gestation, 20 weeks or more (fetal deaths) refers to fetal death (stillbirth) with a duration of pregnancy of 20 weeks or more, or a birth weight of 500 grams or more. Fetal deaths with unknown weeks of gestation are included.

Weeks of gestation, 28 weeks or more (late fetal deaths) refers to a fetal death (stillbirth) with a duration of pregnancy of 28 weeks or more. Fetal deaths with unknown weeks of gestation are excluded.

Fetal death (stillbirth) data are tabulated according to the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to fetal deaths (stillbirths) to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 8-1:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Fetal death (stillbirth) is death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy; the death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles. Only fetal deaths where the product of conception has a birth weight of 500 grams or more or the duration of pregnancy is 20 weeks or longer are registered in Canada.

Type of birth refers to the plurality of a delivery, that is, whether the delivery results in the birth of one or more liveborn or stillborn infants. The category "Type of birth, multiple" includes the delivery of twins, triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets and more.

The geographic distribution of live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.

Table 8-2:

Live birth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Fetal death (stillbirth) is death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy; the death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles. Only fetal deaths where the product of conception has a birth weight of 500 grams or more or the duration of pregnancy is 20 weeks or longer are registered in Canada.

The category "Place of birth - non-hospital" includes births in private homes, in health care institutions such as nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, nursing stations and other short-term care facilities and other health care facilities not licensed to operate as hospitals by provincial, territorial or federal governments, such as free-standing birthing centres, and at other specified sites.

The geographic distribution of live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) in this table is based on the mother's usual place of residence.

Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut.

Unknown province or territory of residence of mother refers to live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.