

Low Birth Weight Rate (<2,500 Grams, Excluding <500 Grams)

Name	Low Birth Weight Rate (<2,500 Grams, Excluding <500 Grams)
Short/Other Names	Not applicable
Description	Crude low birth weight rate (<2,500 grams, excluding <500 grams)
Interpretation	Lower rates for this indicator are desirable.
HSP Framework Dimension	Health System Outcomes: Improve health status of Canadians
Areas of Need	Not applicable
Geographic Coverage	All provinces/territories
Reporting Level /Disaggregation	National, Province/Territory, Region
Indicator Results	https://apps.cih.ca/mstrapp/asp/Main.aspx?Server=apmstrextpd_i&project=Quick%20Stats&uid=pce_pub_en&pwd=&evt=2048001&visualizationMode=0&documentID=029DB170438205AEBCC75B8673CCE822

Identifying Information

Name Low Birth Weight Rate (<2,500 Grams, Excluding <500 Grams)

Short/Other Names Not applicable

Indicator Description and Calculation

Description Crude low birth weight rate (<2,500 grams, excluding <500 grams)

Rate = (Number of live newborns with a birth weight between 500 grams and 2,499 grams, inclusive) ÷ (Number of live newborns with a birth weight greater than or equal to 500 grams) × 100

Calculation: Description

Unit of Analysis: Discharge from acute care facilities

Calculation: Geographic Assignment

Place of residence

Calculation: Type of Measurement

Rate - Rate per 100

Calculation: Adjustment Applied

None

Calculation: Method of Adjustment

Not applicable

Description:

Number of live newborns with a birth weight greater than or equal to 500 grams

Inclusions:

1. ICD-10-CA in-hospital birth codes:

–Any one diagnosis code of Z38.0, Z38.3 or Z38.6 coded in any position

Exclusions:

1. Non-newborn records

Denominator

2. Cadaveric donors

3. Weight <500 grams

4. Invalid birth weight (Weight = blank, 0000, 0001 or ZZZZ)

5. ICD-10-CA abortion or out-of-hospital birth codes:

–Any one diagnosis code of P96.4, Z38.1, Z38.2, Z38.4, Z38.5, Z38.7 or Z38.8 coded in any diagnosis field

Description:

Number of live newborns with a birth weight between 500 grams and 2,499 grams, inclusive

Numerator

Inclusions:

Weight <2,500 grams

Exclusions:

Same as denominator (numerator is a subset of the denominator)

Background, Interpretation and Benchmarks

Rationale Low birth weight can add to length of hospital stays and health care costs. Over the fiscal years, these rates have continued to vary among provinces and territories. Given this variability, this indicator can be used to inform government planners, policy-makers, health system decision-makers, health care providers, patients and the general public. It can help raise awareness and allow Canada to compare its rates with the rates of other countries.

Interpretation Lower rates for this indicator are desirable.

HSP Framework

Health System Outcomes: Improve health status of Canadians

Dimension

Areas of Need Not applicable

Targets/Benchmarks Not applicable

References Not applicable

Availability of Data Sources and Results

Data Sources DAD, HMDB, MED-ÉCHO

Type of Year:

Fiscal

Available Data Years **First Available Year:** 2001

Last Available Year: 2017

Geographic Coverage All provinces/territories

Reporting Level/Disaggregation National, Province/Territory, Region

Result Updates

Update Frequency Every year

Web Tool:

Indicator Quick Stats

Results **URL:** https://apps.cihi.ca/mstrapp/asp/Main.aspx?Server=apmstrextpri_i&project=Quick%20Stats&uid=pce_pub_en&pwd=&evt=2048001&visualizationMode=0&documentID=029DB170438205AEBCC75B8673CCE822

Updates As of 2015–2016, the national results include non-residents of Canada.

Quality Statement

In order to provide a more stable rate estimate, only data from regions with a population of at least 75,000 (from 2001–2002 to 2005–2006) or 50,000 (from 2006–2007 to 2014–2015) was reported. Additional indications for suppression were rate instability and under-reporting. As of 2015–2016, regions are not suppressed based on population; instead, the following suppression methodology is used:

Caveats and Limitations

a) Suppression due to privacy: To ensure privacy, a suppression rule is applied to all clinical indicator results. Numerators and/or denominators between 1 and 4 are suppressed.

b) Suppression due to unstable results: Unstable indicator results are suppressed. In general, these are indicator results with a denominator between 1 and 49.

As of 2006–2007, all provinces and territories submit in the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, Canada (ICD-10-CA) and Canadian Classification of Health Interventions (CCI) coding classification systems; for this reason, Canadian rates are provided only from 2006–2007 onward.

Results are presented for a patient's region of residence, rather than the location of the facility where hospitalization occurred. For Prince Edward Island and the territories, the entire province/territory is included as a region. Health regions in Nova Scotia and Alberta have changed over time. The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF/PCCF+) was used to assign patients to their region of residence.

Trending Issues

As of 2015–2016, the national results include non-residents of Canada.

Nunavut did not submit data to CIHI in 2002–2003.

Data from Region 6 in New Brunswick in 2004–2005 was suppressed due to incomplete data submission. Data from this region was excluded from the provincial rate. Data from Peace Country in Alberta in 2006–2007 and 2008–2009 was also suppressed due to incomplete data submission.

2016–2017 data for Nunavut is incomplete; indicator results have therefore been suppressed.

Comments

Not applicable