

# Maternal and Infant Characteristics



Maternal Characteristics	Berrien	Michigan
% Under 20 years	12.9	9.4
% First births	35.9	38.5
% Fourth and higher order births	13.2	12
% Less than 12 years of education	23.5	16.9
% Cesarean delivery rate	21.6	28.6
% Weight gained while pregnant less than 16 lbs	10.8	12.5
% Smoked while pregnant	14.8	13.7
% Unmarried	42	36.7
% Received prenatal care during first trimester	68.2	83.3

Infant Characteristics	Berrien	Michigan
% Low birthweight	7.2	8.4
% Very low birthweight	1.3	1.7
% Preterm	9.5	10
% Singleton births	97.7	96.4
Male/female ratio	108.8	105.3



## Notes:

**Low weight births** are less than 2,500 grams.

**Very low weight births** are less than 1,500 grams.

**Preterm births** are infants born prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.

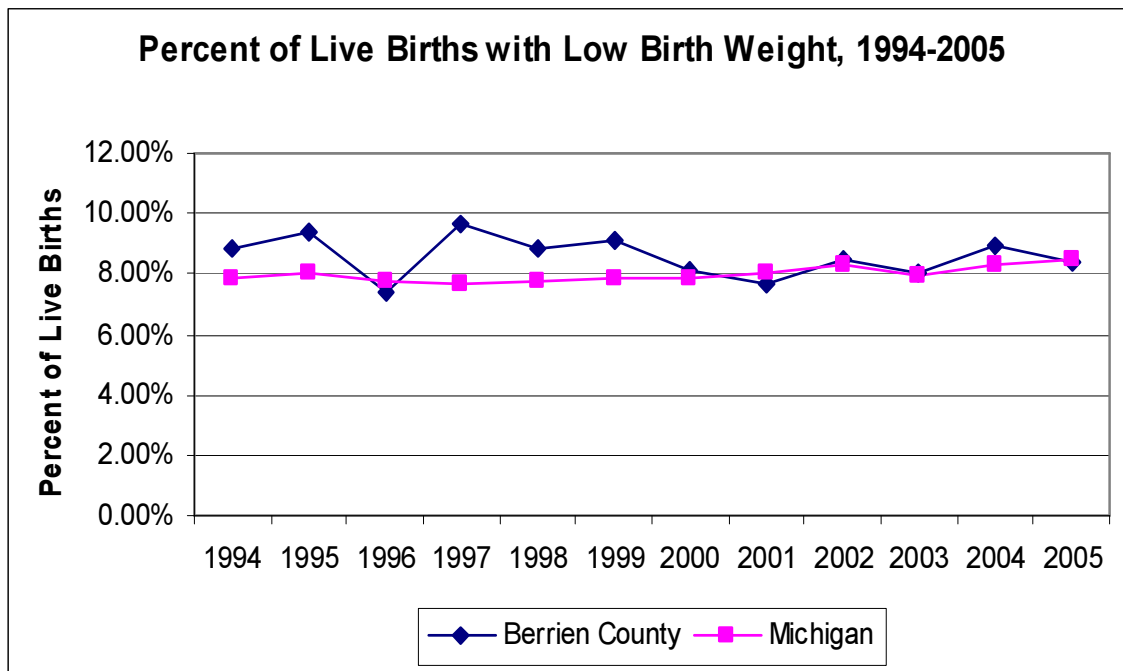
**Singleton birth** is a single birth delivery.

**Infant Characteristics** are the percent of newborns who gave birth.

**Male/female ratio** is the number of male resident live births divided by

# Maternal and Infant Characteristics

From 1994-2005, the average percent of live births that were low birth weight was 8.6% as compared to 8.0% for Michigan. However, in recent years, the percent of live births that were low birth weight has been increasing in Michigan (8.5% of live births were low birth weight compared to 8.4% of live births in Berrien County in 2005). In 2005, blacks (8.3%) were more likely than whites (6.9%) to give birth to a low birth weight baby. Benton Harbor City had the highest proportion of live births that were low birth weight (10.4%) within Berrien County in 2005.



Source: Michigan Resident Birth Files, MDCH

Last updated July 10, 2007.

For more information, please contact the Epidemiologist at 269-927-5639.