Births-Low Birthweight Births (number and percent live births for females all ages (2012-2014))

Why This Matters:
Infants weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth are considered to be low birthweight. The low birthweight rate is the number of low birthweight births per 100 live births for which a birthweight is known. This rate is presented as a percentage for all age groups and the age group 10 through 19 years.

Infants born with less than 37 weeks gestation are premature births. The premature birth rate is the number of premature births per 100 live births for which gestation is known. This rate is presented as a percentage for women of all ages and the age group 10 through 19 years.

Low birthweight is a major cause of infant mortality and increases an infant's chances for dying in infancy. Preterm delivery underlies most low birthweight births. Lifestyle behaviors - such as cigarette smoking, insufficient weight gain or nutritional intake during pregnancy and use of other drugs - are known risk factors. Socioeconomic disadvantage is also closely related to low birthweight.

Data Provider:
NYS Department of Health

Data Source:
NYS Department of Health; Bureau of Biometrics - birth certificates
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