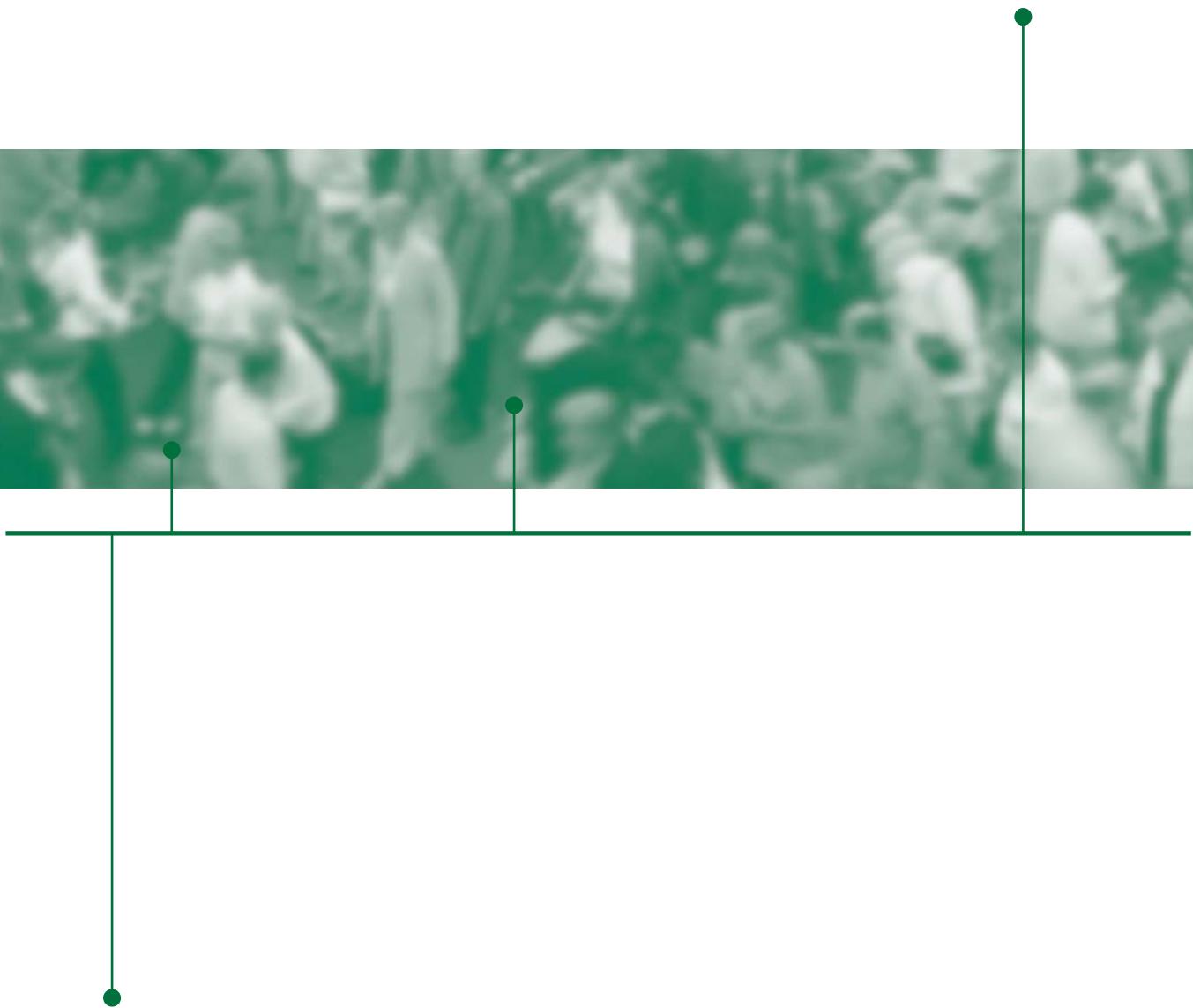
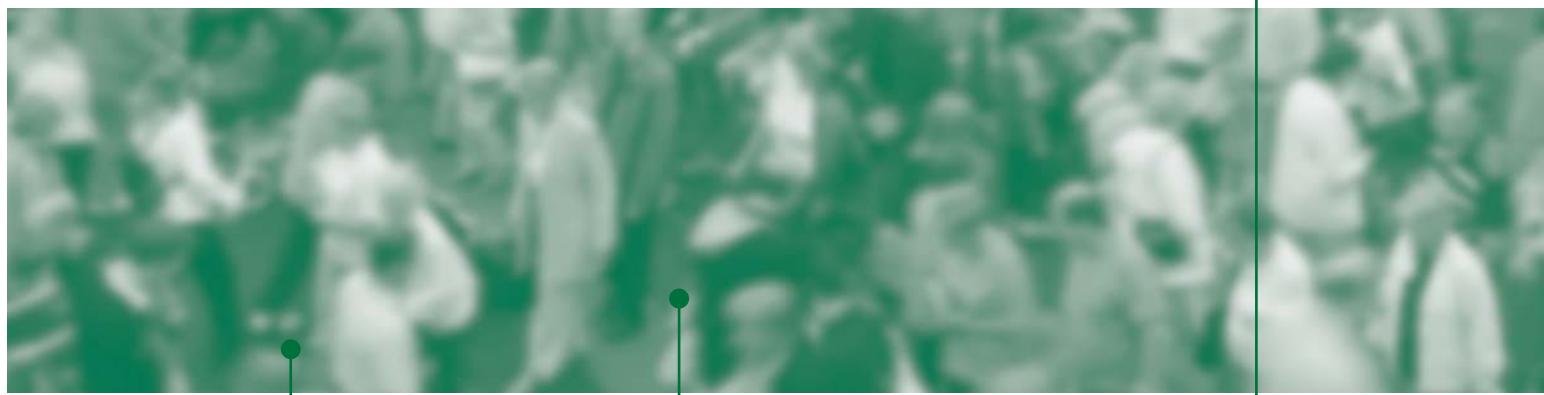


Birth-related Statistics



Birth Introduction

Statistics based on birth events form a crucial part of the demographic profile of communities, regions, provinces, and countries. They are used to derive important indicators of health status, fertility, infant mortality, and population growth. In turn, those indicators are used for health planning, policy formulation, research, and commerce. The tables in this part of the report present birth statistics categorized by maternal characteristics and other related measures. The tables refer only to live births except Table 7 which also includes stillbirths. The mother's usual residence is used to identify geographic location.

Births – General Indicators

Certain birth and parental characteristics that are presented in this section have been shown to be related to the infant's health status or are of general interest. These characteristics include age of mother, age of father, kind of birth (single, twin, or multiple), LHA of usual residence, and mode of delivery.

Table 7 shows the live birth cardinality by mother's age. About 82.0 percent of live births in 2008 were first or second births. Second, third, and subsequent live births tend to have been delivered to progressively older women.

Table 8 shows the number of live births in BC in 2008 by the age of mother and the age of father. It also shows, for each maternal age range, the number of infants born to couples who were not formally married to each other (Out-of-Wedlock).

Over half of the births (50.3 percent) in 2008 were to mothers 30 to 39 years old and 42.4 percent were to mothers in their twenties. Only 3.4 percent were to mothers less than 20 years and 4.0 percent to those 40 or older. For fathers, over half (52.4 percent) were in their thirties, more than a quarter (27.5 percent) were in their twenties, 13.6 percent were in their forties or older and 1.0 percent were less than 20 years old. In 5.5 percent of births, the father's age was not indicated.

Less than one percent (0.8 percent) of births (334) were to couples who were both in their teens; births to couples in which at least one person was a teen, made up 3.6 percent (1,573) of births.

While there were only 110 births (0.2 percent) to mothers age 45 years old and over, 4.2 percent (1,866) of all newborns had fathers in that age group.

Table 9 shows the number of births by birth kind (single, twin, triplet+) according to the mother's age group. In 2008, 4.3 percent of live births to mothers 35 years and older were multiple births; whereas, 2.6 percent of live births to mothers aged 20 to 34 were multiples and teenagers had the lowest proportion (0.8 percent).

In recent decades there has been a gradual increase in multiple birth rates in BC (see Figure 8). The proportions of multiple live births increased from 1.9 percent of all live births in 1986 to 2.9 percent in 2008.

Table 10 shows the 2008 fertility rates in the LHA where the mother resided and by maternal age groups. The table also shows the number of live births to women 15-19 years of age over the five-year period 2003-2007 and the fertility rate for that age group.

In Figure 29 the *Age Specific Fertility Rate* (ASFR) statistics for 15-19 year olds for the five-year period 2003-2007 are shown by LHA. The ASFR is described more fully in the *Glossary* and an example of the calculation method is shown in the *Methodology* section.

Table 11 shows the number and percentage of births in each maternal age group according to their mode of delivery. Generally, the proportion of births that were spontaneous vertex deliveries (which generally require no medical intervention), and to a lesser extent births assisted by vacuum extraction, are higher for younger mothers. On the other hand, deliveries by cesarean section are proportionally higher for older mothers (see also Figure 13).

Cesarean section deliveries in BC increased from 209.58 per 1,000 live births in 1986 to 305.89 in 2008 (see Figure 11).

Table 12 shows live births by the LHA where the mother usually resided and focuses on spontaneous vertex and cesarean section modes of delivery. Spontaneous breech, forceps, and vacuum deliveries are combined into the 'Other' category. The table shows the number and percent of live births that were delivered by cesarean section.

The columns on the right side of the table indicate the total number of live births in 2008 to residents of each LHA and the birth rate per 1,000 population. The LHA with the highest live birth rate was more than five times the rate of the lowest. For more comparisons of cesarean section delivery rates see also Figures 11, 12, and 13.

In Figure 30 the LHAs are grouped by their ratio of observed number of cesarean live births over expected number of cesarean live births for 2008. The figure shows the LHAs in quintiles from those with the highest cesarean ratios (quintile 5) to those with the lowest such rates (quintile 1).

Vital Statistics Information Box

BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S COUNTRY OF BIRTH

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Area	Province/Country	Births
Canada	Total	29,524
	British Columbia	21,159
	Ontario	2,669
	Alberta	2,483
	Manitoba	858
	Saskatchewan	787
	Quebec	628
	Nova Scotia	282
	Newfoundland & Labrador	229
	New Brunswick	146
	Yukon	75
	Northwest Territories	53
	Prince Edward Island	27
	Nunavut	2
North and Central America	Total	1,256
	United States	700
	Mexico	249
	Other North and Central American Countries	307
South America		326
Europe	Total	2,087
	England	400
	Other United Kingdom	237
	Russia	172
	Germany	169
	Romania	139
	Poland	127
	Ukraine	84
	Netherlands	69
	France	67
	Scandinavian Countries	63
	Other European Countries	560
Asia and the Middle East	Total	9,555
	India	2,849
	China	2,185
	Philippines	1,306
	Vietnam	537
	Korea	469
	Japan	344
	Taiwan	277
	Iran	242
	Hong Kong	233
	Pakistan	231
	Afghanistan	109
	Other Asian and Middle Eastern Countries	773
Africa	Total	547
	South Africa	149
	Other African Countries	398
Oceania	Total	415
	Fiji	217
	Australia	133
	New Zealand	62
	Other Oceanic Countries	3
Unknown	Total	446
Total		44,156

Note: Births consist of live births only. Non-residents are excluded.

TABLE 7
BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH ORDER
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Age of Mother	Birth Order										Total Live Births	Stillbirths	Total Births
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9+	N.S.			
13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
14	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	1	14
15	42	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43	3	46
16	96	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	1	99
17	237	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	259	6	265
18	362	53	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	419	5	424
19	526	112	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	647	3	650
20	661	177	41	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	881	14	895
21	725	280	40	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	1,053	8	1,061
22	789	348	68	25	7	-	-	-	-	-	1,237	7	1,244
23	898	486	118	25	3	-	1	-	-	-	1,531	4	1,535
24	1,023	532	166	34	6	3	-	-	-	-	1,764	11	1,775
25	1,064	610	203	66	12	9	-	-	-	-	1,964	19	1,983
26	1,159	768	243	81	13	3	1	-	-	-	2,268	20	2,288
27	1,271	842	294	86	24	8	3	-	1	-	2,529	21	2,550
28	1,369	908	292	100	33	13	2	-	-	-	2,717	32	2,749
29	1,333	969	335	92	24	12	4	1	-	-	2,770	20	2,790
30	1,342	1,068	401	114	30	11	3	3	2	-	2,974	24	2,998
31	1,259	1,180	371	113	42	20	8	3	1	-	2,997	27	3,024
32	1,169	1,114	361	111	42	11	1	3	1	-	2,813	20	2,833
33	1,019	1,148	392	103	25	13	5	2	3	-	2,710	30	2,740
34	892	1,043	372	118	32	21	11	1	4	-	2,494	22	2,516
35	754	955	400	113	26	13	2	1	1	-	2,265	24	2,289
36	622	857	312	102	22	13	3	3	3	-	1,937	20	1,957
37	519	717	307	97	29	17	6	-	3	-	1,695	21	1,716
38	378	575	230	80	27	10	6	-	3	1	1,310	10	1,320
39	291	421	179	72	14	10	9	6	5	-	1,007	19	1,026
40	195	279	110	46	17	8	4	2	5	-	666	9	675
41	127	180	72	24	10	4	1	-	1	-	419	6	425
42	81	121	55	16	11	9	3	2	4	-	302	9	311
43	45	61	33	13	6	2	-	2	2	-	164	5	169
44	32	40	9	7	3	4	1	2	1	-	99	1	100
45	21	13	11	4	-	1	-	-	1	-	51	2	53
45+	17	18	6	2	4	4	-	2	6	-	59	-	59
TOTAL	20,332	15,898	5,434	1,652	466	219	74	33	47	1	44,156	424	44,580
PERCENT	46.0	36.0	12.3	3.7	1.1	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	100.0		

Note: Birth order denotes the number of live births. Total includes unknown gender. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

TABLE 8
**TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF FATHER,
AGE OF MOTHER AND OUT-OF-WEDLOCK**
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Age of Father	Age of Mother (in Years)									Total	Percent
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	N.S.		
< 15	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	5	-
15-19	7	325	72	13	4	-	1	-	-	422	1.0
20-24	1	578	1,995	529	95	18	3	-	-	3,219	7.3
25-29	1	159	2,450	4,915	1,187	196	30	1	-	8,939	20.2
30-34	-	37	826	4,235	6,509	1,297	104	5	-	13,013	29.5
35-39	-	17	275	1,414	4,250	3,802	369	10	-	10,137	23.0
40-44	-	11	87	390	1,127	1,834	641	29	-	4,119	9.3
45+	-	9	37	149	396	786	434	55	-	1,866	4.2
N.S.	5	328	723	602	420	280	68	10	-	2,436	5.5
TOTAL	14	1,466	6,466	12,248	13,988	8,214	1,650	110	-	44,156	
Percent	0.0	3.3	14.6	27.7	31.7	18.6	3.7	0.2			100.0
Out-of-Wedlock	11	1,217	3,648	3,323	2,386	1,433	360	27	-	12,405	

Note: Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Out-of-Wedlock - Indicates mother and father of child were not legally married to each other and excludes 1,792 cases where marital status was not stated.

Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

TABLE 9
LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND KIND OF BIRTH
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Age of Mother	Kind of Birth				Total
	Single	Twin	Triplets+	N.S.	
< 15	14	-	-	-	14
15-19	1,454	12	-	-	1,466
20-24	6,333	130	3	-	6,466
25-29	11,963	280	5	-	12,248
30-34	13,556	418	14	-	13,988
35-39	7,891	313	10	-	8,214
40-44	1,563	81	6	-	1,650
45 +	92	18	-	-	110
N.S.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	42,866	1,252	38	-	44,156

Note: For the multiple births which include stillbirths, only live births are shown in this table. Triplets+ : included in this column are the live births from multiple births of three or more. Non-residents are excluded. N.S.- Not stated.

FIGURE 29
LIVE BIRTH TEENAGE FERTILITY RATES BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2003-2007

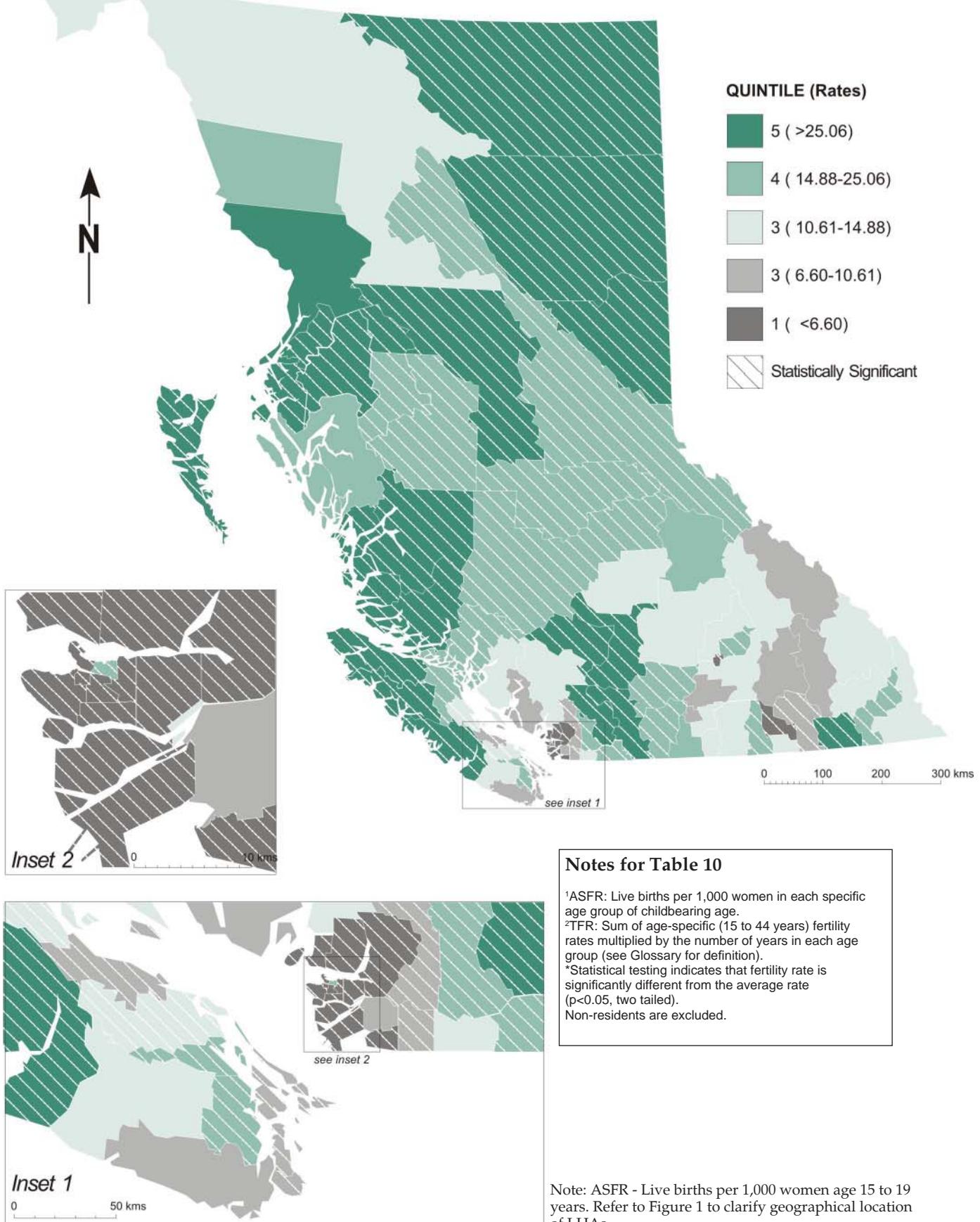


TABLE 11
LIVE BIRTHS BY MODE OF DELIVERY AND AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Mode of Delivery	Age of Mother (in Years)									Total
	<15	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45+	N.S.	
Spontaneous vertex	13	1,061	4,283	7,581	8,108	4,362	767	39	-	26,214
Percent	92.9	72.4	66.2	61.9	58.0	53.1	46.5	35.5		59.4
Spontaneous breech	-	1	17	32	40	33	6	-	-	129
Percent	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.0		0.3
Forceps	-	35	209	391	509	290	47	2	-	1,483
Percent	0.0	2.4	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.5	2.8	1.8		3.4
Vacuum	1	119	460	835	878	434	89	4	-	2,820
Percent	7.1	8.1	7.1	6.8	6.3	5.3	5.4	3.6		6.4
First cesarean	-	233	1,138	2,246	2,619	1,610	402	41	-	8,289
Percent	0.0	15.9	17.6	18.3	18.7	19.6	24.4	37.3		18.8
Repeat cesarean	-	17	358	1,162	1,834	1,484	339	24	-	5,218
Percent	0.0	1.2	5.5	9.5	13.1	18.1	20.5	21.8		11.8
N.S.	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
TOTAL	14	1,466	6,466	12,248	13,988	8,214	1,650	110	-	44,156
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	-	100.0

Note: Breech presentations may be coded to forceps, vacuum, first cesarean or repeat cesarean mode of delivery, as well as spontaneous breech. Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. - Not stated.



Vital Statistics Information Box

PLACE OF BIRTH FOR MIDWIFE ASSISTED BIRTHS

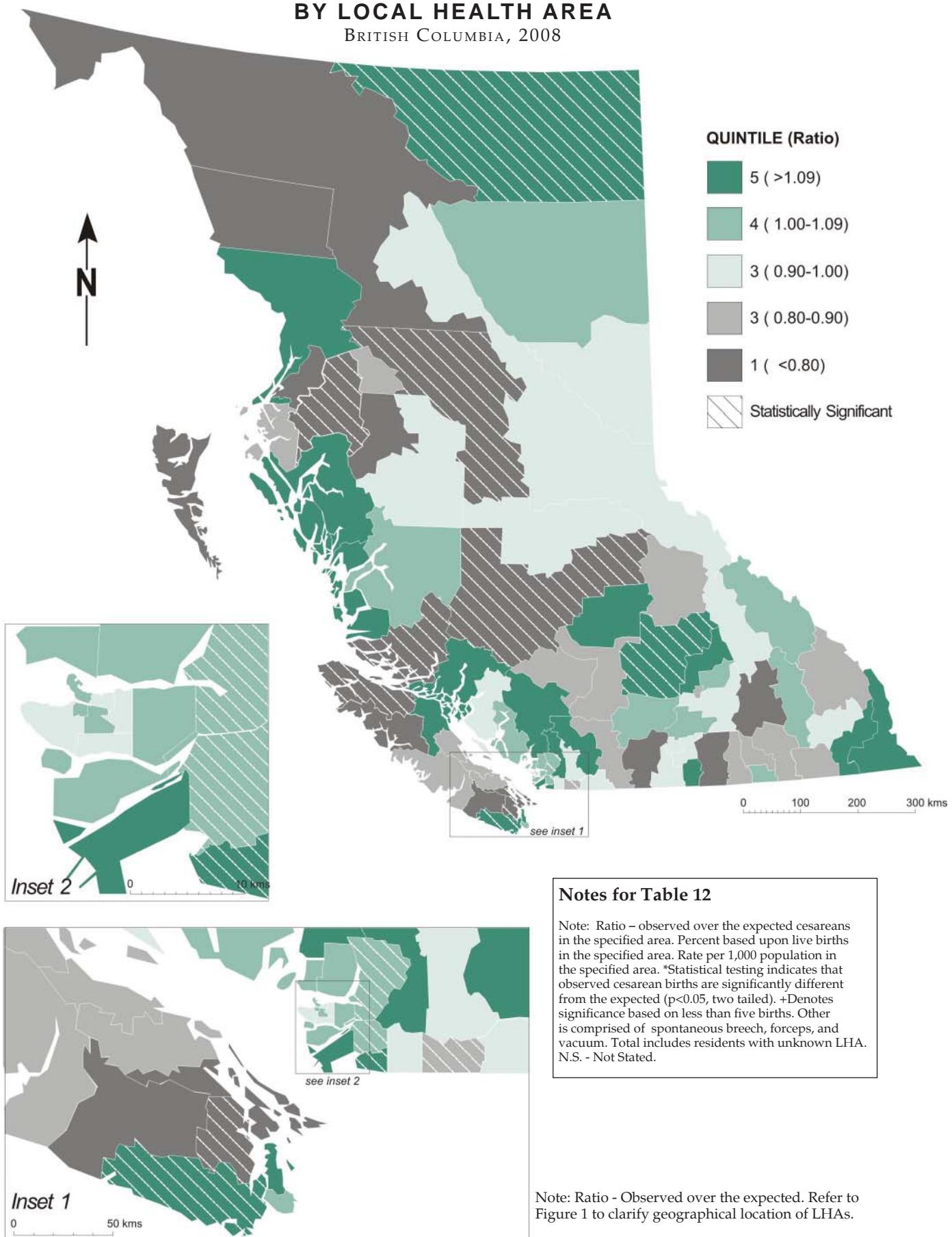
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2004-2008

The College of Midwives of British Columbia was established in 1995 and the first midwives were registered to practice in 1998. The Vital Statistics Agency implemented procedures to identify births delivered by registered midwives in 1998, and, by 1999, could identify all midwife assisted births. The table below shows the place of birth for midwife assisted births in the province from 2004 to 2008.

Place of Birth	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	No.	%								
Hospital	1,167	69.3	1,506	70.8	1,762	74.0	2,055	75.5	2,512	76.1
Home	462	27.5	475	22.3	223	9.4	651	23.9	722	21.9
Other & unknown*	54	3.2	146	6.9	395	16.6	15	0.6	67	2.0
Midwife Assisted Births	1,683	100.0	2,127	100.0	2,380	100.0	2,721	100.0	3,301	100.0
Percent of Total Births Delivered by Registered Midwives		4.2		5.2		5.7		6.3		7.5

Note: *Other and unknown includes birthing clinics.

FIGURE 30
**CESAREAN DELIVERIES OF LIVE BORN INFANTS
 BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA**
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008



Births – Birth Weight

Birth weight is recognized as a primary indicator of newborn health not only in BC and Canada but worldwide. It is also an important predictor of subsequent health and well being, as well as disability and death, among newborn infants. In BC a baby is weighed (in grams) immediately after birth, and that weight is used as one of the diagnostic indicators of fetal growth.

The following tables show birth weight categorized by other indicators related to birth weight, such as gender, gestational age, and maternal age.

Babies born at term (37 to 41 weeks) and between 2,500 and 4,499 grams have been shown to have the most favourable prospects for good health and Table 13 indicates that 38,987 births or 88.3 percent of all live births in 2008 were in that category. There were 3,385 pre-term births (less than 37 weeks) which accounted for 7.7 percent of all live births.

Table 14 shows the number of live births to residents of BC in 2008 according to maternal age group and infant birth weight category. By far, most of the babies in each age group had healthy weights (from 2,500 to 4,499 grams).

Table 14 shows that mothers in the mid-age categories had the largest proportions of healthy weight babies and the lowest proportions of LBW babies (weighing less than 2,500 grams).

Table 15 displays the number and percent of LBW babies by gender according to the mother's age group. Female babies have a higher rate of LBW (56.62 per 1,000 female live births) than males (52.27 per 1,000 male live births).

Figure 31 graphically shows the pattern of LBW by maternal age groups. Women in the middle age groups had the lowest rates of LBW babies in 2008 with increasing rates in subsequent age groups. Older mothers not only have increased rates of LBW babies but the rate among older mothers has shown an increasing trend since 1986 as indicated in Figure 10.

Table 16 shows the incidence of LBW babies in the period 2003 to 2007 and the year 2008, stratified by the LHA of maternal residence for the whole province. As well as the incidence of such births, the 2003 to 2007 portion of the table shows the LBW rate per 1,000 live births and the ratio of the observed and expected number of LBW births in the LHA.

There were 16 LHAs with ratios that were statistically significant. Of these, 7 were high. The 2008 data show the incidence figures broken down by three categories of gestational age of the newborn, the total number of LBW births, and the rate. In some LHAs the number of LBW babies was quite low in 2008, so the rates should be viewed with caution.

Figure 32 shows BC LHAs displayed in five levels according to the 2003-2007 observed versus expected LBW ratio. High ratios, (Quintile 5, deep green colour) mean that an LHA had quite a high ratio in the years 2003-2007. At the other extreme, the areas shown as dark grey have a relatively low ratio.

TABLE 13
LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT, GENDER, AND GESTATIONAL AGE
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Birth Weight (in Grams)	Gender		Gestational Age (in Weeks)						Total
	Male	Female	<20	20-27	28-36	37-41	42+	N.S.	
<500	13	13	2	23	-	1	-	-	26
500-749	28	33	-	56	5	-	-	-	61
750-999	28	30	-	39	19	-	-	-	58
1,000-1,249	44	44	-	27	61	-	-	-	88
1,250-1,499	60	67	-	3	122	2	-	-	127
1,500-1,749	96	85	-	-	174	7	-	-	181
1,750-1,999	148	160	-	-	286	22	-	-	308
2,000-2,249	259	227	-	1	372	113	-	-	486
2,250-2,499	514	552	-	-	580	485	1	-	1,066
2,500-2,749	925	1,201	-	1	596	1,529	-	-	2,126
2,750-2,999	1,881	2,362	-	-	460	3,774	9	-	4,243
3,000-3,249	3,326	3,794	-	-	302	6,801	17	-	7,120
3,250-3,499	4,249	4,537	-	-	156	8,599	31	-	8,786
3,500-3,749	4,388	3,691	-	1	54	7,984	40	-	8,079
3,750-3,999	3,280	2,440	-	-	32	5,635	53	-	5,720
4,000-4,249	1,927	1,307	-	-	9	3,189	36	-	3,234
4,250-4,499	965	539	-	-	2	1,476	26	-	1,504
4,500-4,749	394	201	-	-	1	580	14	-	595
4,750-4,999	156	62	-	-	1	210	7	-	218
5,000-5,249	46	16	-	-	-	61	1	-	62
5,250-5,499	13	3	-	-	-	16	-	-	16
5,500+	5	3	-	-	-	8	-	-	8
N.S.	23	21	-	-	-	-	-	44	44
TOTAL	22,768	21,388	2	151	3,232	40,492	235	44	44,156

Note: Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.



TABLE 14
LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT AND AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Birth Weight (in Grams)	Age of Mother (in Years)								Total
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	
<500	-	-	4	3	9	9	1	-	26
500-749	-	1	11	9	19	17	4	-	61
750-999	-	1	8	12	21	14	2	-	58
1,000-1,249	-	3	13	25	24	20	3	-	88
1,250-1,499	-	4	17	25	38	34	8	1	127
1,500-1,749	1	5	20	45	63	34	10	3	181
1,750-1,999	-	7	45	71	94	69	19	3	308
2,000-2,249	-	17	76	111	154	95	31	2	486
2,250-2,499	-	32	164	274	320	216	57	3	1,066
2,500-2,749	-	66	320	561	706	371	93	9	2,126
2,750-2,999	2	132	649	1,233	1,254	799	161	13	4,243
3,000-3,249	4	236	1,042	1,963	2,258	1,333	264	20	7,120
3,250-3,499	1	299	1,229	2,486	2,831	1,597	322	21	8,786
3,500-3,749	3	280	1,242	2,236	2,516	1,501	289	12	8,079
3,750-3,999	1	205	854	1,586	1,830	1,045	190	9	5,720
4,000-4,249	2	107	438	900	1,038	628	113	8	3,234
4,250-4,499	-	47	222	439	492	256	47	1	1,504
4,500-4,749	-	18	77	163	207	105	22	3	595
4,750-4,999	-	4	22	66	69	45	10	2	218
5,000-5,249	-	2	7	18	20	14	1	-	62
5,250-5,499	-	-	3	2	8	3	-	-	16
5,500+	-	-	1	3	2	2	-	-	8
N.S.	-	-	2	17	15	7	3	-	44
Low	1	70	358	575	742	508	135	12	2,401
Percent	7.1	4.8	5.5	4.7	5.3	6.2	8.2	10.9	5.4
Healthy	13	1,372	5,996	11,404	12,925	7,530	1,479	93	40,812
Percent	92.9	93.6	92.7	93.1	92.4	91.7	89.6	84.6	92.4
High	-	24	110	252	306	169	33	5	899
Percent	-	1.6	1.7	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	4.6	2.0
TOTAL	14	1,466	6,466	12,248	13,988	8,214	1,650	110	44,156

Note: Low birth weight <2,500 grams. Healthy birth weight 2,500 to 4,499 grams. High birth weight 4,500+ grams. Percent of age category in birth weight group. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. - Not stated.



TABLE 15
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND GENDER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

Age of Mother	Male		Female		Total		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Rate
< 15	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.0	+
15-19	38	3.2	32	2.6	70	2.9	47.75
20-24	186	15.6	172	14.2	358	14.9	55.37
25-29	271	22.8	304	25.1	575	23.9	46.95
30-34	373	31.3	369	30.5	742	30.9	53.05
35-39	254	21.3	254	21.0	508	21.2	61.85
40-44	63	5.3	72	5.9	135	5.6	81.82
45 +	4	0.3	8	0.7	12	0.5	109.09
N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,190	100.0	1,211	100.0	2,401	100.0	54.38

Note: Rate per 1,000 live births for the specified age group.

Low birth weight: birth weight less than 2,500 grams.

Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Total includes unknown gender.

+ Denotes the number of cases is less than five

Non-residents are excluded. N.S. - Not stated.

FIGURE 31
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2008

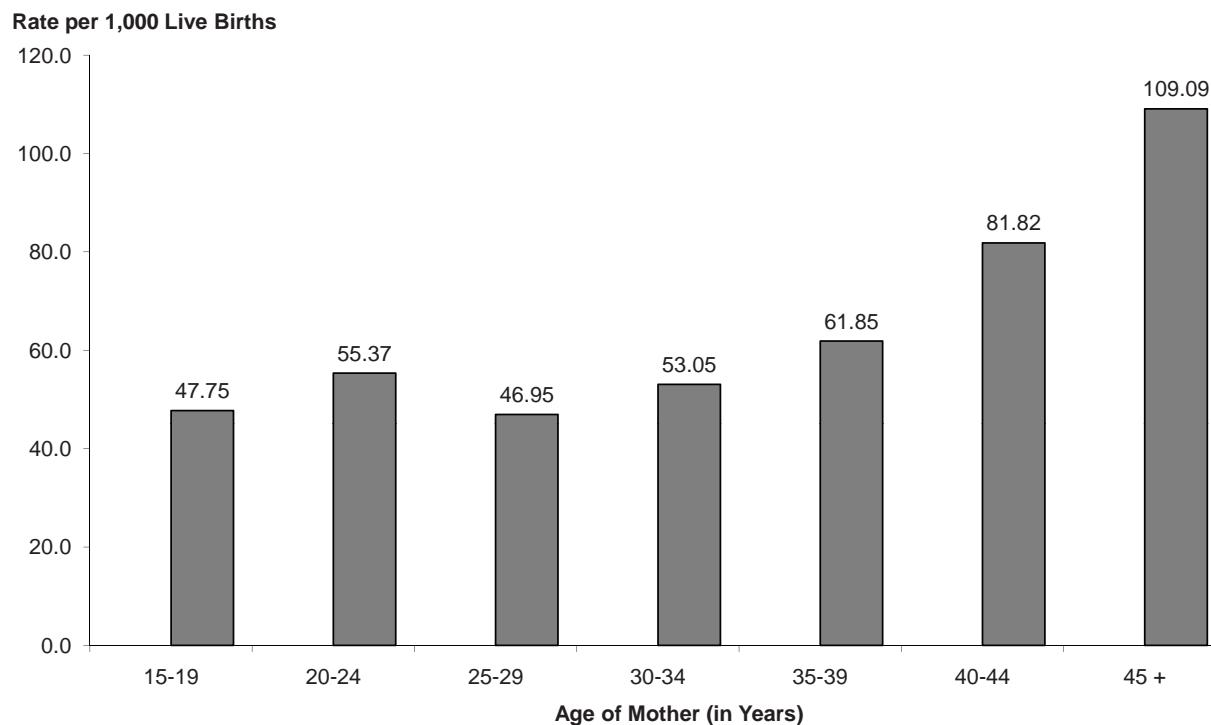
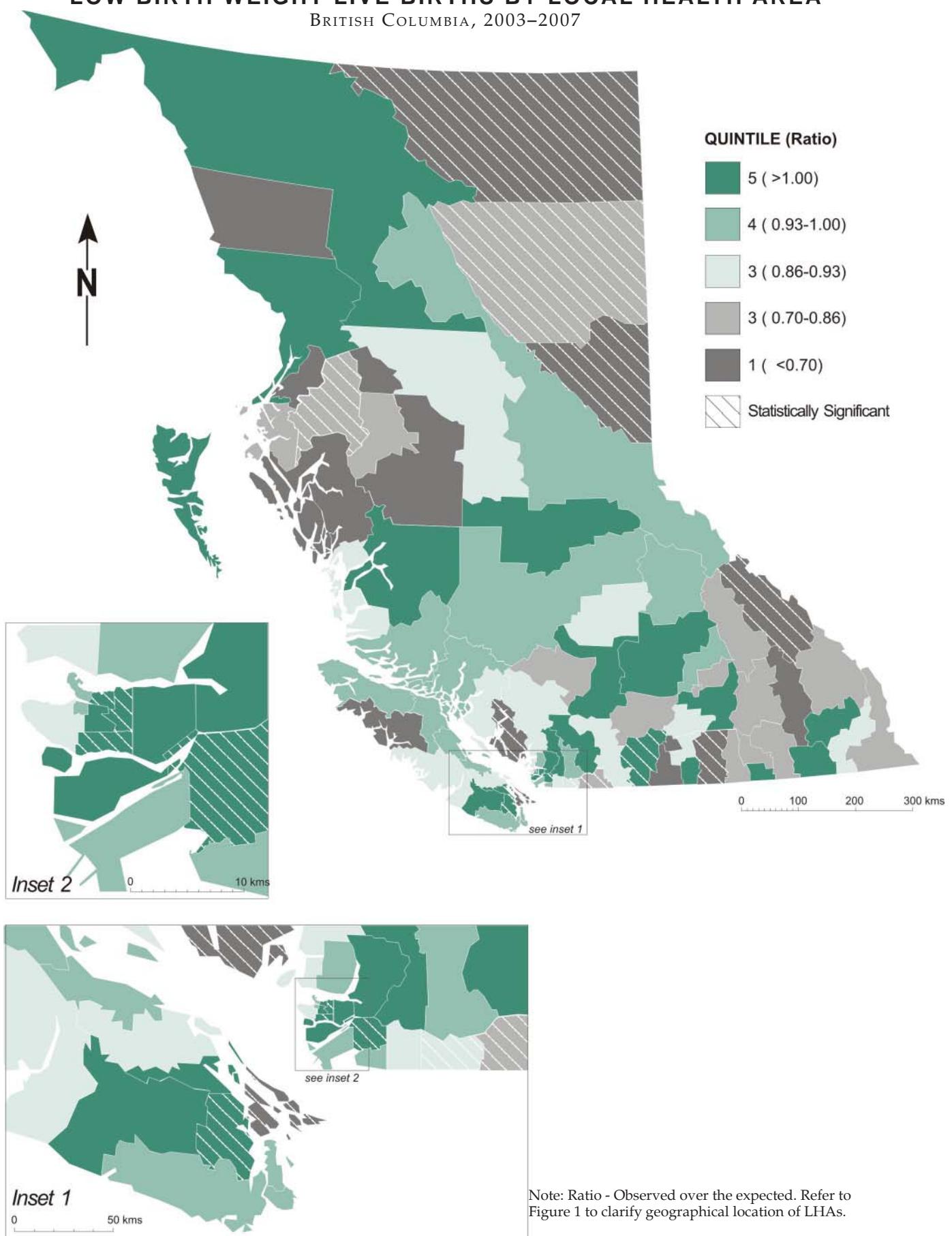


FIGURE 32
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2003–2007



Births – Maternal Complications and Perinatal Conditions

Both maternal complications and perinatal complications can be used as health status indicators. Only diagnoses affecting pregnancy, labour, or delivery were selected for the maternal complications part of this report. Perinatal conditions consist of diagnoses affecting the baby shortly before, during, or after birth.

The maternal complications shown in Table 17 are limited to those diagnoses that affected pregnancy, labour, or delivery. Note that an unlimited number of complications can be noted for each birth, so the total number of maternal complications can be greater than the number of live births with maternal complications.

Assisted or Surgical Delivery and *Maternal Abnormalities of the Pelvic Organs* were the two most frequent diagnostic categories of maternal complications in 2008 and the previous five years. The proportions of age group births that had pelvic organ abnormalities (including conditions such as cervical incompetence as well as scarring from surgeries such as previous cesarean sections) were observed more frequently in older mothers. Births complicated by *Maternal Abnormality of Pelvic Organs* made up 1.3 percent of births to mothers aged under 20 years compared to 21.6 percent of births for mothers 40 years and over. The proportions of age group births that had at least one complication are shown along the bottom of the table.

Elderly primigravida (ICD-10 code Z35.5) refers to women aged 35 or older who are experiencing their first pregnancy. This condition has always been recorded; however, the ICD-9 code (659.5) was included with other complications of labour and delivery, while ICD-10 puts elderly primigravida in the chapter with factors influencing health status and contact with health services. Elderly primigravida comprised 5.4 percent of all maternal complications in 2003-2007 and 5.3 percent in 2008 as shown in Table 17.

Table 18 shows the incidence of live births with maternal complications by LHA for the period 2003-2007 and for the year 2008. The observed births columns show the number of live births with complications stratified by maternal LHA of residence. The ratios indicate the number of observed births divided by the number that would be expected if the LHA had the provincial rates and (p) indicates those LHAs where the observed number was significantly different from the expected.

In 2008, there were statistically significant low ratios in 8 LHAs, whereas 5 LHAs had high ratios that were statistically significant. In the 2003 to 2007 period, 20 LHAs had low ratios that were statistically significant and 15 LHAs had high ratios that were statistically significant.

The map in Figure 33 shows the LHAs identified in their quintile ranks by their 2003-2007 ratios of observed births with maternal complications versus the expected number of births with such conditions. LHAs with the highest ratios are coloured deep green, and those with the lowest ratios are dark grey.

The conditions listed in Table 19 consist of diagnoses affecting the baby shortly before, during, or after birth. The table shows the number and percent of all perinatal conditions in each category for 2003-2007 and 2008. The 2008 portion of the table also shows the conditions by maternal age group. Again, an unlimited number of conditions can be noted for each birth, so the total number of perinatal conditions at the bottom of the table may exceed the number of live births with at least one perinatal condition.

Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia accounted for most of the perinatal conditions in both time periods (44.0 percent in 2003-2007 and 39.5 percent in 2008). Conditions related to short gestation and those related to long gestation or high birth weight together accounted for 43.6 percent of the conditions in 2008 and 34.6 percent in the 2003-2007 period.

Table 20 shows the incidence of live births with perinatal conditions, by the mother's LHA of residence for the period 2003-2007 and for the year 2008. In 2008, there were 23 LHAs where the observed number of perinatal conditions was significantly different from the expected number, and in 16 of these, the observed number was significantly higher.

Figure 34 map shows the LHAs identified in their quintile ranks by their 2003-2007 ratios of observed births with perinatal conditions to the expected number of births with such conditions. LHAs with the highest ratios are coloured deep green, and those with the lowest ratios are dark grey.

TABLE 17
MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY AND
DELIVERY IN LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2003–2007 AND 2008

Maternal Complications	ICD-10 Code(s)	2003–2007		2008					Total	Percent
		Total	Percent	<20	20–29	30–39	40+	N.S.		
Hypertension/hypertensive disorders in pregnancy	O10-O11, O13, O16	2,540	1.8	18	217	247	27	-	509	1.6
Edema and proteinuria without hypertension	O12	36	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	0.0
Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia	O14-O15	889	0.6	10	80	99	16	-	205	0.6
Hemorrhage in early pregnancy	O20	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	0.0
Hyperemesis gravidarum	O21	58	-	-	11	7	-	-	18	0.1
Other maternal disorders predominantly related to pregnancy	O22-O23, O25-O29	1,723	1.2	16	185	236	13	-	450	1.4
Diabetes in pregnancy	O24	2,276	1.6	4	151	306	51	-	512	1.6
Multiple gestation and related complications	O30-O31	6,133	4.3	11	405	730	103	-	1,249	3.8
Fetal malpresentation	O32	6,648	4.6	33	577	795	74	-	1,479	4.5
Disproportion	O33	455	0.3	2	32	37	2	-	73	0.2
Maternal abnormality of pelvic organs	O34	24,069	16.7	19	1,577	3,444	380	-	5,420	16.6
Disorders of amniotic fluid and membranes	O40-O42	4,149	2.9	33	351	436	34	-	854	2.6
Placental disorders	O43-O45, O73	2,130	1.5	9	173	265	30	-	477	1.5
Antepartum hemorrhage	O46	358	0.2	-	51	43	13	-	107	0.3
Prolonged pregnancy	O48	1,376	1.0	9	91	112	8	-	220	0.7
Preterm labour and delivery	O60	8,563	5.9	82	907	983	95	-	2,067	6.3
Abnormalities of forces of labour	O62-O63	5,911	4.1	51	638	740	51	-	1,480	4.5
Obstructed labour	O64-O66	11,437	7.9	112	1166	1197	84	-	2,559	7.8
Intrapartum hemorrhage	O67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evidence of fetal distress	O68	8,242	5.7	69	785	1031	98	-	1,983	6.1
Cord complications	O69	2,352	1.6	23	248	285	28	-	584	1.8
Obstetrical trauma	O70-O71	1,452	1.0	12	180	189	6	-	387	1.2
Postpartum hemorrhage	O72	1,923	1.3	22	203	217	17	-	459	1.4
Assisted or surgical delivery - no cause given ¹	O81-O82	30,761	21.3	166	2,541	3,016	290	-	6,013	18.4
Maternal and puerperal infections	O85-O86, O98, A34	234	0.2	6	33	33	2	-	74	0.2
Other puerperal complications	O87-O92	61	-	-	6	5	1	-	12	0.0
Maternal noninfectious diseases complicating the pregnant state	O99	2,065	1.4	14	205	266	30	-	515	1.6
Elderly primigravida	Z355	7,717	5.4	-	-	1,483	236	-	1,719	5.3
Maternal drug use	O355	448	0.3	6	57	30	-	-	93	0.3
Other maternal complications	O00-O08, O350-O353, O356-O36, O47, O61, O74-O75, O95-O97	10,122	7.0	95	1,275	1,690	149	-	3,209	9.8
Total maternal complications		144,131	100.0	822	12,148	17,923	1,838		32,731	100.0
Live births with the above maternal complications	- Number	107,257		605	9,038	12,512	1,160		23,315	
	- Percent(*)	52.0		40.9	48.3	56.4	65.9		52.8	

Note: Percent based upon maternal complications. Percent (*) based upon live births for the specified maternal age group.

¹Where no other complication code is found. Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

N.S. - Not Stated. Non-residents are excluded.

Vital Statistics Information Box

TOP 25 BABY NAMES IN 2008

Each year the British Columbia Vital Statistics Agency produces a list of the most chosen baby names. The table below provides the top 25 names. Alternate spellings of names that sound alike (such as Catherine, Katherine, and Katharine) are not combined. The complete 2008 list, as well as lists for several previous years can be found at <http://www.vs.gov.bc.ca/babynames/index.html>. In 2008, 643 boys' names and 722 girls' names were chosen for five or more newborns.

Baby Boys		Baby Girls		
Rank	Name	Number	Name	Number
1	Ethan	283	Ava	233
2	Nathan	224	Emma	228
3	Jacob	210	Emily	224
4	Lucas	208	Olivia	210
5	Logan	207	Sophia	195
6	Matthew	198	Chloe	160
7	Benjamin	194	Isabella	158
8	Joshua	193	Hannah	150
9	Liam	193	Abigail	145
10	James	191	Madison	140
11	Noah	189	Ella	139
12	Ryan	182	Sophie	136
13	Owen	179	Sarah	124
14	Alexander	159	Lily	122
15	Jack	158	Brooklyn	120
16	William	153	Taylor	118
17	Daniel	150	Maya	111
18	Evan	148	Grace	105
19	Jayden	144	Hailey	103
20	Samuel	139	Elizabeth	102
21	Aiden	131	Samantha	99
22	Tristan	127	Avery	90
23	Mason	126	Alexis	89
24	Oliver	118	Lauren	85
25	Dylan	113	Mia	84

FIGURE 33

**MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY AND
DELIVERY IN LIVE BIRTHS BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA**
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2003–2007

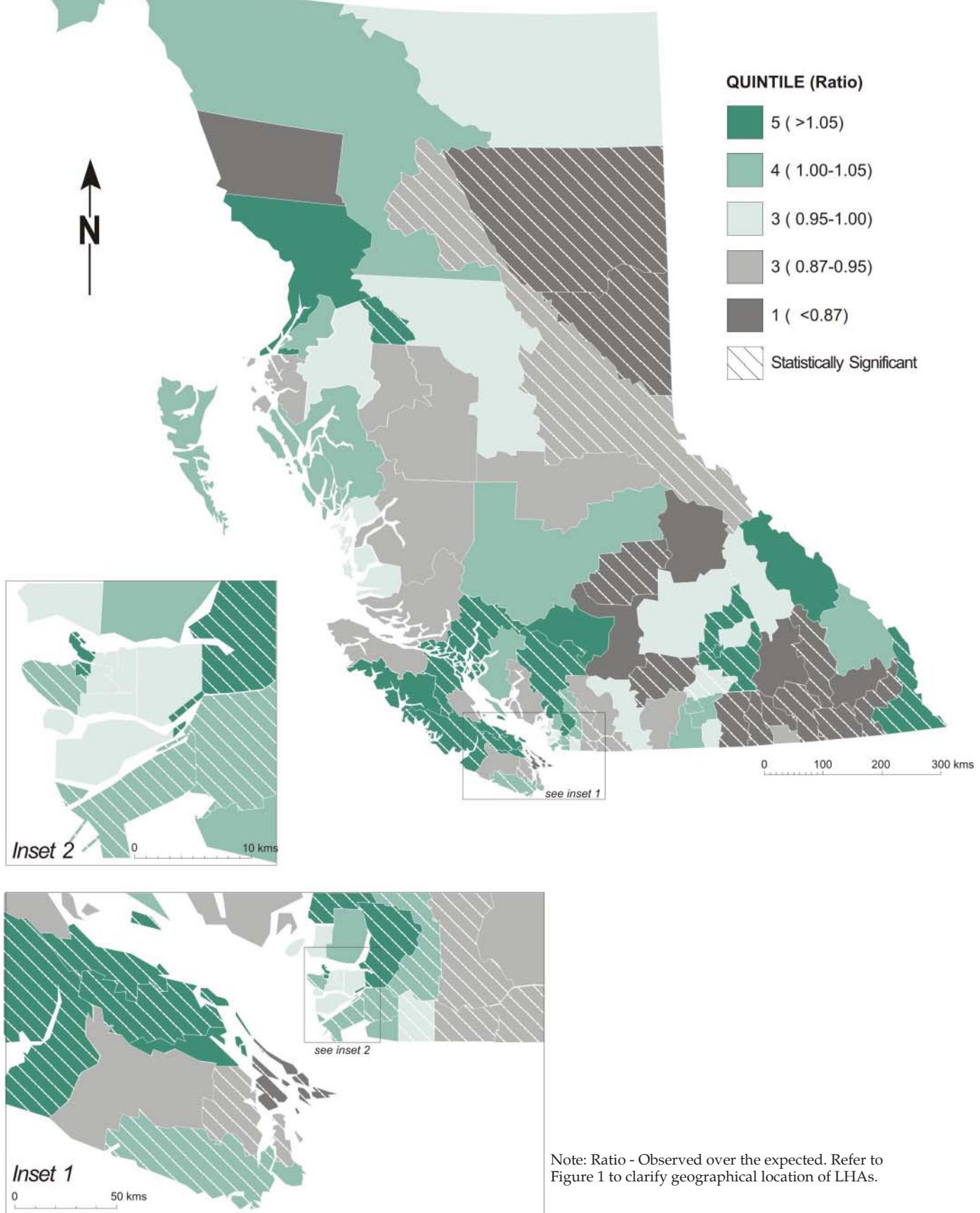


TABLE 19
PERINATAL CONDITIONS IN LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2003–2007 AND 2008

Perinatal Conditions	ICD-10 Code	2003–2007		2008					Total	Percent
		Total	Percent	<20	20–29	30–39	40+	N.S.		
Fetus/newborn affected by maternal conditions that may be unrelated to present pregnancy	P00	29	-	-	8	5	1	-	14	0.1
Complications of pregnancy, labour and delivery	P01, P03	11,821	13.2	48	844	1,213	148	-	2,253	11.4
Fetus/newborn affected by complications of placenta, cord and membranes	P02	3,201	3.6	17	214	234	29	-	494	2.5
Fetus affected by noxious influences transmitted via placenta (or breast milk)	P04	22	-	2	8	6	-	-	16	-
Slow fetal growth and malnutrition	P05	2,708	3.0	12	91	131	8	-	242	1.2
Perinatal disorders related to short gestation	P072, P073	15,024	16.7	111	1,323	1,684	196	-	3,314	16.8
Disorders related to long gestation or high birth weight	P08	16,056	17.9	165	2,193	2,742	196	-	5,296	26.8
Perinatal birth trauma	P10-P15	270	0.3	3	38	50	2	-	93	0.5
Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia	P20-P21	39,525	44.0	349	3,423	3,716	308	-	7,796	39.5
Respiratory conditions of fetus and newborn	P22-P28	581	0.6	6	39	37	2	-	84	0.4
Cardiovascular disorders originating in the perinatal period	P29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
Infections specific to the perinatal period	P35-P39	32	-	-	2	4	-	-	6	0.0
Fetal and neonatal hemorrhage	P50-P52, P54	108	0.1	-	2	5	-	-	7	0.0
Perinatal jaundice/other hematological disorders	P53, P55-P61	46	0.1	-	2	9	-	-	11	0.1
Perinatal endocrine and metabolic disorders	P70-P74	32	-	-	5	2	-	-	7	0.0
Digestive system disorders of fetus and newborn	P76-P78	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	0.0
Perinatal conditions of the integument and of temperature regulation	P80-P83	129	0.1	-	21	21	-	-	42	0.2
Other disorders originating in the perinatal period	P90-P96	229	0.3	4	32	30	2	-	68	0.3
All Perinatal Conditions		89,816	100.0	717	8,245	9,891	892	-	19,745	100.0
Live births with the above perinatal conditions	- Number	68,869		557	6,450	7,701	659	-	15,367	
	- Percent(*)	33.4		37.6	34.5	34.7	37.4			34.8

Note: Percent based upon perinatal conditions. Percent (*) based upon live births for the maternal age group. Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding. N.S. - Not stated. Non-residents are excluded.

Vital Statistics Information Box

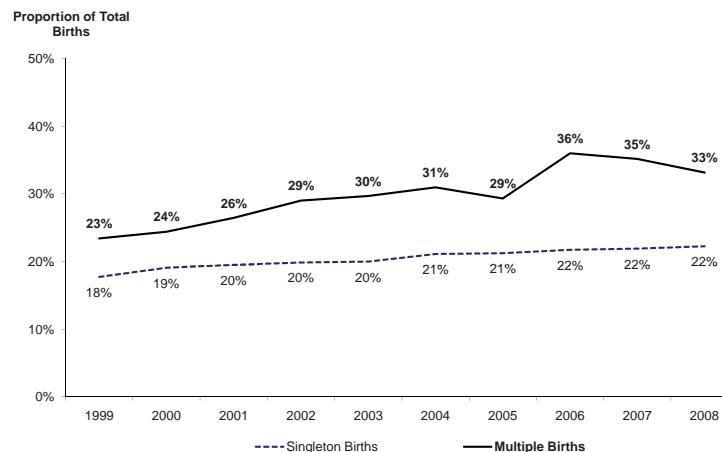
BIRTH AND OLDER MOTHERS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA 1999 - 2008

Older mothers, those aged 35 and over have increased their share of the total births to women in British Columbia. Since 1999, the share of singleton births attributable to older mothers has increased by nearly 34 percent and the share of multiple births attributable to older mothers has almost doubled. More of these births are via Cesarean section, however, the proportion of these births considered to be Low Birth Weight has remained relatively stable.

PROPORTION OF SINGLETON AND MULTIPLE BIRTHS

TO MOTHERS AGED 35 AND OLDER

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1999 - 2008



PROPORTION OF SINGLETON AND MULTIPLE BIRTHS

TO MOTHERS AGED 35 AND OLDER BIRTHED

VIA CESAREAN SECTION

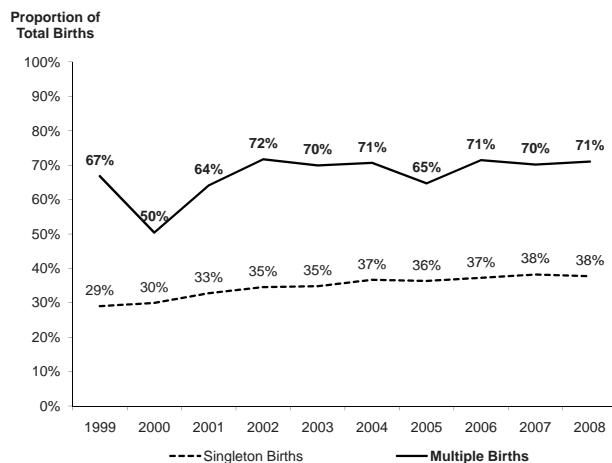
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1999 - 2008

PROPORTION OF SINGLETON AND MULTIPLE BIRTHS

TO MOTHERS AGED 35 AND OLDER WITH

LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (<2500 GRAMS)

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1999 - 2008



Proportion of Total Births

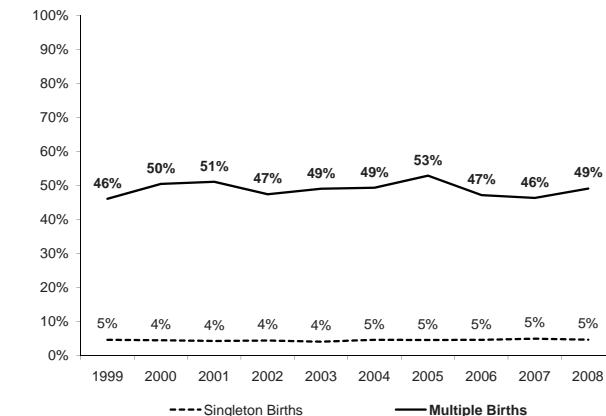


FIGURE 34
**PERINATAL CONDITIONS IN LIVE BIRTHS
 BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA**
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2003–2007

