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Births

Live Births

2004



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Statistics Canada
Health Statistics Division

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Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.

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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) edged downward to an all-time low again in 2004 despite a second straight increase in the number of live births.
- The crude birth rate declined from 10.6 live births for every 1,000 population in 2003 to 10.5 in 2004. Rates appear to have stabilized, with crude rates hovering around 10.5 to 10.7 since the millennium.
- In total, 337,072 babies were born in 2004, up 0.6% from the previous year. This followed a 1.9% gain the year before.
- The number of births increased in only five of 13 jurisdictions: Nova Scotia, Québec, Ontario, Alberta and Yukon.
- Newfoundland and Labrador had the largest relative decrease (-3.0%), near its annual average decline of 2.8% in the number of births throughout the 1990s.
- Trends in migration from province-to-province, as well as inflows of international migrants, have a major impact on the number of births in various provinces.
- Women who live in Newfoundland and Labrador gave birth to 4,488 babies in 2004, only about half the level of 8,929 in 1983. One reason behind this decline is out-migration, especially among men and women aged 20 to 29.
- The average age of women giving birth in Canada was 29.7 years in 2004, a slight increase from 29.6 in 2003. This continues a long-established upward trend.
- The total fertility rate is an estimate of the average number of children that women will have during the years they are aged 15 to 49, based on current age-specific birth rates. The statistics show that the rate in 2004 was unchanged from the 2003 rate of 1.53 children per woman. At 1.53, the total fertility rate in Canada is very close to the 2003 average rate of other industrialized countries: 1.56 children per woman (OECD).
- The Canadian rate is much lower, however, than the rate in the United States. In 2004, the total fertility rate in the U.S. edged up to 2.05, compared with 2.04 in 2003, as a result of increases in birth rates for women in their 30's.

Introduction

This product presents statistical tables showing the number of live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) of at least 20 weeks' gestation; total and age-specific fertility rates and crude birth rates; live births by age of mother and live birth order; male and female birth weights; weeks of gestation at the time of birth; and multiple births. Numbers are shown for Canada, the ten provinces and the three territories.

History note

Births - Shelf tables (84F0210X) data for 2000 and 2001 were released in the year 2003 in paper format. Since April 2004, this product is available on the Internet under the title "Births" (84F0210X).

Starting with the 2004 data, this product changed from an annual to a semi-annual publication (two volumes per data year). Volume 1 reports on live births and Volume 2 reports on fetal deaths (stillbirths).

CANSIM data

Free access to the 2000 to 2004 data is provided through a special CANSIM interface. The CANSIM tables can be linked directly from three different locations in the HTML product:

Tables section:

- Related CANSIM tables
- Individual tables, in the Source

Related products section:

- Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

Analysis

Births

Canada's crude birth rate (the number of live births for every 1,000 people in the population) edged downward to an all-time low again in 2004 despite a second straight increase in the number of live births.

The crude birth rate declined from 10.6 live births for every 1,000 population in 2003 to 10.5 in 2004. Rates appear to have stabilized, with crude rates hovering around 10.5 to 10.7 since the millennium.

The number of births in 2004 actually increased by 1,870 compared with 2003, but the increase in the number of births was not large enough to outpace the increase in the crude rate.

In total, 337,072 babies were born in 2004, up 0.6% from the previous year. This followed a 1.9% gain the year before.

The number of births increased in only five of 13 jurisdictions: Nova Scotia, Québec, Ontario, Alberta and Yukon.

Alberta edged out British Columbia for third spot in the number of births, after Ontario and Quebec. A total of 40,779 babies were born in Alberta in 2004, up 1.2%. The number of births in British Columbia was virtually unchanged.

The last time Alberta topped British Columbia for the number of births occurred in the 1980s, and previous to that in the early 1960s. On both occasions, it was associated with resource booms in Alberta.

Newfoundland and Labrador had the largest relative decrease (-3.0%), near its annual average decline of 2.8% in the number of births throughout the 1990s.

Text table 1
Births¹

	2003	2004	2003 to 2004	
	number		% change	increase/decrease
Canada ²	335,202	337,072	0.6	1,870
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,629	4,488	-3.0	-141
Prince Edward Island	1,417	1,390	-1.9	-27
Nova Scotia	8,650	8,734	1.0	84
New Brunswick	7,117	6,959	-2.2	-158
Quebec	73,905	74,072	0.2	167
Ontario	130,927	132,551	1.2	1,624
Manitoba	13,940	13,811	-0.9	-129
Saskatchewan	12,038	11,983	-0.5	-55
Alberta	40,287	40,779	1.2	492
British Columbia	40,496	40,489	0.0	-7
Yukon	335	365	9.0	30
Northwest Territories ³	701	698	-0.4	-3
Nunavut	758	747	-1.5	-11

1. Excludes births to non-residents of Canada and stillbirths.
2. Canada total includes births with unknown province or territory of residence of mother.
3. Data for Nunavut are excluded from the Northwest Territories.

National, international migration driving trends

Trends in migration from province-to-province, as well as inflows of international migrants, have a major impact on the number of births in various provinces.

Women who live in Newfoundland and Labrador gave birth to 4,488 babies in 2004, only about half the level of 8,929 in 1983. One reason behind this decline is out-migration, especially among men and women aged 20 to 29.

The out-migration from Newfoundland and Labrador was not offset by in-migration, both in terms of international immigrants and migration from other provinces.

Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest proportion of births to residents who were born outside of Canada (less than one in every 100 births). It also had one of the lowest for births to residents who were born elsewhere in Canada (nine in every 100).

On the receiving end of migration trends, about 29 births in every 100 in Alberta were to women who were born elsewhere in Canada, while about 20 were to international immigrants. Only 51 in every 100 were to women born in Alberta.

In contrast, Ontario relied much more on international immigrants for births. A total of 56 births out of every 100 in Ontario were to women born in Ontario, while 36 out of every 100 were to international immigrants. Only eight in 100 were to women born elsewhere in Canada.

Studies have shown that immigrants have higher fertility rates compared with Canadian-born women, but those rates decline to Canadian levels with the second-generation.

Text table 2
Births by place of birth of mother, 2004¹

	Place of birth of mother			
	In the province/territory of residence of mother	Within Canada, but not in the province/territory of residence of mother	Outside of Canada	Unknown ⁴
	percentage			
Place of residence of mother				
Canada ²	61.2	12.2	25.0	1.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	88.2	9.1	0.3	2.3
Prince Edward Island	67.8	27.9	4.2	0.0
Nova Scotia	71.8	21.9	6.2	0.1
New Brunswick	76.0	19.4	4.6	0.0
Quebec	75.5	3.4	14.7	6.5
Ontario	56.0	7.6	36.3	0.1
Manitoba	74.0	11.6	14.5	0.0
Saskatchewan	77.6	17.4	4.9	0.1
Alberta	50.5	29.3	20.1	0.2
British Columbia	46.2	19.8	32.9	1.0
Yukon	31.5	55.1	12.9	0.6
Northwest Territories ³	53.6	39.3	7.0	0.1
Nunavut	54.5	42.8	1.2	1.5

1. Excludes births to non-residents of Canada and stillbirths.
2. Canada total includes births with unknown province or territory of residence of mother.
3. Data for Nunavut are excluded from the Northwest Territories.
4. Includes cases where the place of birth of the mother is Canada, but the province or territory is unknown.

Moms keep getting older

The average age of women giving birth in Canada was 29.7 years in 2004, a slight increase from 29.6 in 2003. This continues a long-established upward trend.

The change in the age distribution of mothers is particularly striking compared with one generation earlier. In 2004, women aged 24 and under made up 20.6% of all mothers, half of the proportion of 40.7% in 1979, twenty-five years earlier.

The bulk of the births now occur to women aged 25 to 34, who accounted for 62.1% of all births in 2004 compared with 54.7% in 1979.

Births to older mothers, those aged 35 and older, were almost four times as frequent as a generation earlier. These mothers accounted for 17.2% of births in 2004, nearly four times the proportion of only 4.6% a quarter century earlier.

Migration may also be driving the trend to older motherhood. The average age of mothers who gave birth in the province or territory in which they themselves were born was 29.0 years in 2004, compared with 30.1 for Canadian migrants, and 31.1 for international immigrants. Women may delay marriage and childbirth while settling in a new area and re-establishing social networks.

Fertility rate unchanged

The total fertility rate is an estimate of the average number of children that women will have during the years they are aged 15 to 49, based on current age-specific birth rates.

The statistics show that the rate in 2004 was unchanged from the 2003 rate of 1.53 children per woman. The record-low fertility rate for Canada was set in 2000, at 1.49 children per woman.

At 1.53, the total fertility rate in Canada is very close to the 2003 average rate of other industrialized countries: 1.56 children per woman (OECD).

The Canadian rate is much lower, however, than the rate in the United States. In 2004, the total fertility rate in the U.S. edged up to 2.05, compared with 2.04 in 2003, as a result of increases in birth rates for women in their 30's.

Although older motherhood is increasing in both Canada and the United States, Canadian women in their 30s are more likely to be having their first child. Over a third (34.7%) of births to Canadian women in their 30s in 2004 were first births, compared with 27.1% of births to American women in their 30s.

Related products

Selected publications from Statistics Canada

82-221-X	Health indicators
82-223-X	Induced abortion statistics
82-224-X	Pregnancy outcomes

Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

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

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, Provinces and Territories

Selected tables of Canadian statistics from Statistics Canada

- *Births and birth rate, by provinces and territories*
- *Deaths and death rate, by provinces and territories*
- *Components of population growth, by province and territory*
- *Infant mortality rates, by province and territory*
- *Disability-free life expectancy, by province and territory*
- *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 occurrence,¹ 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
Total, Canada and other	337,422	36	337,386	4,506	1,372	8,730	7,088	73,032	133,529
Canada	337,072	36	337,036	4,500	1,371	8,722	7,082	73,004	133,339
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,488	0	4,488	4,472	0	2	2	2	10
Prince Edward Island	1,390	0	1,390	0	1,365	22	1	0	1
Nova Scotia	8,734	0	8,734	0	0	8,640	83	2	7
New Brunswick	6,959	0	6,959	2	1	36	6,901	11	6
Quebec	74,072	6	74,066	13	0	0	88	72,935	1,022
Ontario	132,551	29	132,522	5	2	13	2	48	132,221
Manitoba	13,811	0	13,811	0	0	0	0	1	8
Saskatchewan	11,983	0	11,983	0	0	0	0	0	2
Alberta	40,779	0	40,779	2	3	1	2	3	25
British Columbia	40,489	1	40,488	1	0	3	0	0	18
Yukon Territory	365	0	365	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Territories	698	0	698	1	0	1	0	0	7
Nunavut	747	0	747	4	0	4	3	2	12
Unknown	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outside Canada	350	...	350	6	1	8	6	28	190

Place of residence of mother	Place of occurrence								
	Total, Canada and USA	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
Total, Canada and other	337,422	337,386	14,286	12,077	40,744	40,517	380	698	427
Canada	337,072	337,036	14,280	12,073	40,719	40,450	371	698	427
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,488	4,488	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prince Edward Island	1,390	1,390	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	8,734	8,734	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
New Brunswick	6,959	6,959	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Quebec	74,072	74,066	1	1	2	4	0	0	0
Ontario	132,551	132,522	205	3	4	17	0	1	1
Manitoba	13,811	13,811	13,724	68	8	2	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	11,983	11,983	147	11,612	216	6	0	0	0
Alberta	40,779	40,779	6	374	40,296	65	2	0	0
British Columbia	40,489	40,488	2	6	112	40,333	13	0	0
Yukon Territory	365	365	0	0	4	7	354	0	0
Northwest Territories	698	698	2	2	62	12	2	609	0
Nunavut	747	747	193	1	13	1	0	88	426
Unknown	6	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Outside Canada	350	350	6	4	25	67	9	0	0

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 — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 2-1
Live births, by geography — Month

Place of residence of mother	Total	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
	number												
Canada	337,072	27,002	25,688	28,893	28,363	28,712	28,687	29,491	29,074	29,427	28,109	26,719	26,907
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,488	372	314	414	387	361	339	407	377	393	369	381	374
Prince Edward Island	1,390	118	94	121	106	129	128	123	121	122	110	103	115
Nova Scotia	8,734	719	648	783	695	752	741	753	767	755	742	696	683
New Brunswick	6,959	575	532	617	631	533	601	602	599	627	592	504	546
Quebec	74,072	5,838	5,581	6,331	6,190	6,333	6,302	6,667	6,385	6,627	6,118	5,900	5,800
Ontario	132,551	10,593	10,135	11,332	11,221	11,332	11,257	11,525	11,315	11,507	11,123	10,613	10,598
Manitoba	13,811	1,144	1,107	1,133	1,094	1,148	1,193	1,259	1,229	1,207	1,133	1,046	1,118
Saskatchewan	11,983	1,014	932	1,106	1,044	985	1,015	1,014	1,021	1,034	950	923	945
Alberta	40,779	3,294	3,142	3,381	3,407	3,519	3,535	3,578	3,586	3,553	3,373	3,148	3,263
British Columbia	40,489	3,186	3,060	3,494	3,444	3,467	3,423	3,414	3,512	3,467	3,455	3,256	3,311
Yukon Territory	365	29	30	28	34	29	40	23	36	24	27	29	36
Northwest Territories	698	63	60	75	44	66	53	57	62	52	52	69	45
Nunavut	747	57	53	76	66	57	59	69	63	58	65	51	73
Unknown	6	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
	percent												
Canada	100.0	8.0	7.6	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.3	7.9	8.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	8.3	7.0	9.2	8.6	8.0	7.6	9.1	8.4	8.8	8.2	8.5	8.3
Prince Edward Island	100.0	8.5	6.8	8.7	7.6	9.3	9.2	8.8	8.7	8.8	7.9	7.4	8.3
Nova Scotia	100.0	8.2	7.4	9.0	8.0	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.0	7.8
New Brunswick	100.0	8.3	7.6	8.9	9.1	7.7	8.6	8.7	8.6	9.0	8.5	7.2	7.8
Quebec	100.0	7.9	7.5	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.5	9.0	8.6	8.9	8.3	8.0	7.8
Ontario	100.0	8.0	7.6	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.5	8.7	8.4	8.0	8.0
Manitoba	100.0	8.3	8.0	8.2	7.9	8.3	8.6	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.2	7.6	8.1
Saskatchewan	100.0	8.5	7.8	9.2	8.7	8.2	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.6	7.9	7.7	7.9
Alberta	100.0	8.1	7.7	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.3	7.7	8.0
British Columbia	100.0	7.9	7.6	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.7	8.6	8.5	8.0	8.2
Yukon Territory	100.0	7.9	8.2	7.7	9.3	7.9	11.0	6.3	9.9	6.6	7.4	7.9	9.9
Northwest Territories	100.0	9.0	8.6	10.7	6.3	9.5	7.6	8.2	8.9	7.4	7.4	9.9	6.4
Nunavut	100.0	7.6	7.1	10.2	8.8	7.6	7.9	9.2	8.4	7.8	8.7	6.8	9.8
Unknown	100.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	16.7	16.7	0.0	16.7	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 2-2
Live births, by geography — 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									
Canada	337,072	111	14,075	55,383	103,743	105,705	48,130	9,376	413	136
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,488	2	292	906	1,344	1,378	478	85	3	0
Prince Edward Island	1,390	0	83	263	446	390	172	35	1	0
Nova Scotia	8,734	2	446	1,698	2,612	2,640	1,146	186	3	1
New Brunswick	6,959	1	412	1,565	2,309	1,885	680	105	2	0
Quebec	74,072	24	2,306	12,603	26,231	22,120	9,096	1,613	75	4
Ontario	132,551	21	4,321	17,810	38,272	45,648	21,795	4,368	195	121
Manitoba	13,811	19	1,199	3,002	4,211	3,614	1,477	283	6	0
Saskatchewan	11,983	15	1,202	2,981	3,862	2,683	1,023	211	4	2
Alberta	40,779	20	2,102	7,961	12,903	11,803	4,991	957	39	3
British Columbia	40,489	4	1,420	6,109	11,086	13,176	7,102	1,508	79	5
Yukon Territory	365	0	27	87	96	102	43	6	4	0
Northwest Territories	698	2	84	159	195	167	76	14	1	0
Nunavut	747	1	181	237	175	97	51	4	1	0
Unknown	6	0	0	2	1	2	0	1	0	0
	percent									
Canada	100.0	0.0	4.2	16.4	30.8	31.4	14.3	2.8	0.1	0.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	0.0	6.5	20.2	29.9	30.7	10.7	1.9	0.1	0.0
Prince Edward Island	100.0	0.0	6.0	18.9	32.1	28.1	12.4	2.5	0.1	0.0
Nova Scotia	100.0	0.0	5.1	19.4	29.9	30.2	13.1	2.1	0.0	0.0
New Brunswick	100.0	0.0	5.9	22.5	33.2	27.1	9.8	1.5	0.0	0.0
Quebec	100.0	0.0	3.1	17.0	35.4	29.9	12.3	2.2	0.1	0.0
Ontario	100.0	0.0	3.3	13.4	28.9	34.4	16.4	3.3	0.1	0.1
Manitoba	100.0	0.1	8.7	21.7	30.5	26.2	10.7	2.0	0.0	0.0
Saskatchewan	100.0	0.1	10.0	24.9	32.2	22.4	8.5	1.8	0.0	0.0
Alberta	100.0	0.0	5.2	19.5	31.6	28.9	12.2	2.3	0.1	0.0
British Columbia	100.0	0.0	3.5	15.1	27.4	32.5	17.5	3.7	0.2	0.0
Yukon Territory	100.0	0.0	7.4	23.8	26.3	27.9	11.8	1.6	1.1	0.0
Northwest Territories	100.0	0.3	12.0	22.8	27.9	23.9	10.9	2.0	0.1	0.0
Nunavut	100.0	0.1	24.2	31.7	23.4	13.0	6.8	0.5	0.1	0.0
Unknown	100.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	16.7	33.3	0.0	16.7	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." Where information is unavailable on the birth mother of children who are adopted, these records are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 2-3
Live births, by geography — Mean age of mother¹

Place of residence of mother	Mean age of mother
Canada	29.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	28.2
Prince Edward Island	28.5
Nova Scotia	28.7
New Brunswick	27.8
Quebec	28.9
Ontario	29.9
Manitoba	27.7
Saskatchewan	27.0
Alberta	28.5
British Columbia	29.9
Yukon Territory	28.2
Northwest Territories	27.2
Nunavut	24.5
Unknown	29.2

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 — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 2-4
Live births, by geography — 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		
Canada	13.7	51.0	97.4	95.8	40.1	6.9	0.3	10.5	1,525.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	16.8	50.4	86.3	78.9	23.4	3.9	0.1	8.7	1,299.1
Prince Edward Island	16.3	54.6	104.0	88.0	36.9	6.2	0.2	10.1	1,530.6
Nova Scotia	14.5	54.3	89.4	84.3	33.5	4.6	0.1	9.3	1,403.7
New Brunswick	17.2	63.4	96.6	74.5	24.7	3.3	0.1	9.3	1,398.7
Quebec	10.5	50.6	103.7	91.9	33.5	5.0	0.2	9.8	1,477.1
Ontario	10.7	42.9	92.5	101.5	44.4	8.1	0.4	10.7	1,502.6
Manitoba	29.6	75.2	110.5	95.7	37.5	6.1	0.1	11.8	1,773.6
Saskatchewan	32.2	83.7	125.3	91.8	32.6	5.5	0.1	12.1	1,856.1
Alberta	18.8	66.5	110.0	102.7	42.5	7.0	0.3	12.7	1,739.0
British Columbia	10.5	42.3	81.9	89.1	44.9	8.4	0.5	9.6	1,387.1
Yukon Territory	22.9	82.1	96.3	91.5	34.3	3.7	2.6	11.8	1,666.8
Northwest Territories	51.4	96.0	117.6	91.2	40.6	7.6	0.7	16.3	2,025.3
Nunavut	122.8	194.6	139.2	78.7	50.1	4.9	1.6	25.2	2,959.4

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 years 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 2004 birth and fertility rate calculations are July 1, 2004 updated postcensal estimates, adjusted for net census under-coverage and include non-permanent residents. These population estimates appear in the publication "Annual Demographic Statistics, 2005" (catalogue number 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 — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 2-5
Live births, by geography — Marital status of mother

Place of residence of mother	Marital status of mother						
	Total	Single (never married)	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Not stated
	number						
Canada	337,072	82,564	216,040	264	3,539	1,230	33,435
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,488	1,885	2,484	1	72	22	24
Prince Edward Island	1,390	512	861	0	10	0	7
Nova Scotia	8,734	3,291	5,271	11	138	2	21
New Brunswick	6,959	2,777	3,884	7	140	139	12
Quebec	74,072	40,044	30,841	125	1,208	254	1,600
Ontario	132,551	16,134	99,047	65	797	10	16,498
Manitoba	13,811	4,920	8,445	12	244	164	26
Saskatchewan	11,983	4,742	6,585	18	239	0	399
Alberta ¹	40,779	172	29,250	0	6	1	11,350
British Columbia	40,489	7,033	28,785	23	671	624	3,353
Yukon Territory	365	192	164	0	4	1	4
Northwest Territories	698	346	245	0	8	6	93
Nunavut	747	515	174	2	2	7	47
Unknown	6	1	4	0	0	0	1
	percent						
Canada	100.0	24.5	64.1	0.1	1.0	0.4	9.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	42.0	55.3	0.0	1.6	0.5	0.5
Prince Edward Island	100.0	36.8	61.9	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.5
Nova Scotia	100.0	37.7	60.4	0.1	1.6	0.0	0.2
New Brunswick	100.0	39.9	55.8	0.1	2.0	2.0	0.2
Quebec	100.0	54.1	41.6	0.2	1.6	0.3	2.2
Ontario	100.0	12.2	74.7	0.0	0.6	0.0	12.4
Manitoba	100.0	35.6	61.1	0.1	1.8	1.2	0.2
Saskatchewan	100.0	39.6	55.0	0.2	2.0	0.0	3.3
Alberta ¹	100.0	0.4	71.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.8
British Columbia	100.0	17.4	71.1	0.1	1.7	1.5	8.3
Yukon Territory	100.0	52.6	44.9	0.0	1.1	0.3	1.1
Northwest Territories	100.0	49.6	35.1	0.0	1.1	0.9	13.3
Nunavut	100.0	68.9	23.3	0.3	0.3	0.9	6.3
Unknown	100.0	16.7	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7

1. Partway through 2003, Alberta Registries amended their Registration of Birth form in such a way that Statistics Canada can no longer determine the legal marital status of those persons in common-law marriages.

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 2-6
Live births, by geography — 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					
Canada	3,388	3,419	3,444	3,480	3,329	3,360
Newfoundland and Labrador	3,455	3,500	3,504	3,560	3,403	3,440
Prince Edward Island	3,452	3,487	3,521	3,565	3,378	3,412
Nova Scotia	3,442	3,487	3,499	3,543	3,386	3,413
New Brunswick	3,434	3,480	3,479	3,522	3,387	3,425
Quebec	3,361	3,390	3,422	3,456	3,297	3,328
Ontario	3,384	3,402	3,438	3,465	3,326	3,346
Manitoba	3,462	3,487	3,523	3,557	3,397	3,430
Saskatchewan	3,455	3,486	3,505	3,550	3,402	3,430
Alberta	3,363	3,400	3,421	3,468	3,301	3,340
British Columbia	3,402	3,430	3,455	3,490	3,347	3,375
Yukon Territory	3,468	3,526	3,573	3,648	3,368	3,421
Northwest Territories	3,513	3,570	3,536	3,629	3,489	3,544
Nunavut	3,374	3,402	3,365	3,436	3,384	3,390
Unknown	3,340	3,430	3,545	3,545	3,237	3,347

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 arithmetic average of the two middle values.

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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									
Total ³	337,072	111	14,075	55,383	103,743	105,705	48,130	9,376	413	136
Single (never married)	82,564	108	9,533	24,859	25,405	15,412	5,996	1,189	56	6
Married	216,040	0	1,059	20,197	68,425	81,975	37,184	6,873	306	21
Widowed	264	0	3	19	45	89	78	30	0	0
Divorced	3,539	0	2	113	719	1,236	1,103	345	19	2
Separated	1,230	0	25	194	353	364	226	67	1	0
Not stated	33,435	3	3,453	10,001	8,796	6,629	3,543	872	31	107
	percent									
Total ³	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single (never married)	24.5	97.3	67.7	44.9	24.5	14.6	12.5	12.7	13.6	4.4
Married	64.1	0.0	7.5	36.5	66.0	77.6	77.3	73.3	74.1	15.4
Widowed	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Divorced	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	1.2	2.3	3.7	4.6	1.5
Separated	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.0
Not stated	9.9	2.7	24.5	18.1	8.5	6.3	7.4	9.3	7.5	78.7

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." Where information is unavailable on the birth mother of children who are adopted, these records are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

3. Partway through 2003, Alberta Registries amended their Registration of Birth form in such a way that Statistics Canada can no longer determine the legal marital status of those persons in common-law marriages.

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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									Not stated ²
	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	
	number									
Total	337,072	111	14,075	55,383	103,743	105,705	48,130	9,376	413	136
First live birth	152,145	110	12,066	33,230	50,714	39,643	13,805	2,444	118	15
Second live birth	118,108	1	1,784	16,172	35,568	42,227	18,992	3,226	126	12
Third live birth	44,079	0	199	4,552	12,064	15,968	9,361	1,855	71	9
Fourth live birth	14,022	0	19	1,128	3,625	4,895	3,458	859	34	4
Fifth live birth	4,601	0	1	239	1,146	1,609	1,203	391	11	1
Sixth live birth	1,992	0	0	43	409	741	592	191	16	0
Seventh live birth	905	0	0	6	139	341	274	137	7	1
Eighth live birth	491	0	0	1	42	146	201	91	10	0
Ninth live birth	238	0	0	0	21	65	100	48	4	0
Tenth live birth or more	296	0	0	1	1	52	114	117	11	0
Not stated	195	0	6	11	14	18	30	17	5	94
	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	45.1	99.1	85.7	60.0	48.9	37.5	28.7	26.1	28.6	11.0
Second live birth	35.0	0.9	12.7	29.2	34.3	39.9	39.5	34.4	30.5	8.8
Third live birth	13.1	0.0	1.4	8.2	11.6	15.1	19.4	19.8	17.2	6.6
Fourth live birth	4.2	0.0	0.1	2.0	3.5	4.6	7.2	9.2	8.2	2.9
Fifth live birth	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.1	1.5	2.5	4.2	2.7	0.7
Sixth live birth	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.2	2.0	3.9	0.0
Seventh live birth	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.6	1.5	1.7	0.7
Eighth live birth	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.0	2.4	0.0
Ninth live birth	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.0	0.0
Tenth live birth or more	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.2	2.7	0.0
Not stated	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.2	69.1

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." Where information is unavailable on the birth mother of children who are adopted, these records are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

Table 4-1
Live births, by birth weight and geography — Both sexes

Birth weight	Place of residence of mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
Total	337,072	4,488	1,390	8,734	6,959	74,072	132,551
Less than 500 grams	343	7	1	14	1	93	70
500 to 1,499 grams	2,940	46	15	86	73	640	1,134
500 to 749 grams	543	8	0	16	12	112	201
750 to 999 grams	589	8	4	16	13	132	233
1,000 to 1,249 grams	818	11	5	28	28	188	321
1,250 to 1,499 grams	990	19	6	26	20	208	379
1,500 to 2,499 grams	16,578	206	61	413	315	3,593	6,658
1,500 to 1,749 grams	1,522	25	12	38	37	325	591
1,750 to 1,999 grams	2,393	38	12	65	49	477	957
2,000 to 2,249 grams	4,217	45	12	102	79	902	1,697
2,250 to 2,499 grams	8,446	98	25	208	150	1,889	3,413
2,500 to 4,499 grams	309,182	4,093	1,271	7,949	6,421	67,644	121,890
2,500 to 2,749 grams	16,724	179	55	401	297	3,723	6,916
2,750 to 2,999 grams	32,798	360	117	702	627	7,684	12,958
3,000 to 3,249 grams	53,728	606	196	1,252	1,031	12,153	21,639
3,250 to 3,499 grams	66,280	831	261	1,666	1,242	14,928	26,278
3,500 to 3,749 grams	61,377	832	250	1,609	1,327	13,218	23,957
3,750 to 3,999 grams	43,594	705	200	1,303	1,025	9,080	16,926
4,000 to 4,249 grams	23,297	412	133	637	576	4,832	8,689
4,250 to 4,499 grams	11,384	168	59	379	296	2,026	4,527
4,500 grams or more	6,744	130	42	270	148	1,067	2,701
4,500 to 4,749 grams	4,395	87	28	170	98	704	1,778
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,531	32	11	62	33	243	594
5,000 to 5,249 grams	561	4	1	23	11	82	236
5,250 to 5,499 grams	179	5	2	8	5	32	63
5,500 grams or more	78	2	0	7	1	6	30
Not stated	1,285	6	0	2	1	1,035	98
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.9	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.9	5.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.5	2.2	1.8	2.4	2.2	2.6	2.6
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.7	91.2	91.4	91.0	92.3	91.3	92.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.6	4.3	5.0	5.2
2,750 to 2,999 grams	9.7	8.0	8.4	8.0	9.0	10.4	9.8
3,000 to 3,249 grams	15.9	13.5	14.1	14.3	14.8	16.4	16.3
3,250 to 3,499 grams	19.7	18.5	18.8	19.1	17.8	20.2	19.8
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.2	18.5	18.0	18.4	19.1	17.8	18.1
3,750 to 3,999 grams	12.9	15.7	14.4	14.9	14.7	12.3	12.8
4,000 to 4,249 grams	6.9	9.2	9.6	7.3	8.3	6.5	6.6
4,250 to 4,499 grams	3.4	3.7	4.2	4.3	4.3	2.7	3.4
4,500 grams or more	2.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.1	1.4	2.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.3	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.4	1.0	1.3
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.4
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1

Table 4-1 – continued

Live births, by birth weight and geography — Both sexes

Birth weight	Place of residence of mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
Total	337,072	13,811	11,983	40,779	40,489	365	698	747	6
Less than 500 grams	343	22	13	77	42	2	0	1	0
500 to 1,499 grams	2,940	113	113	380	323	2	9	6	0
500 to 749 grams	543	24	19	86	57	1	3	4	0
750 to 999 grams	589	23	24	70	65	1	0	0	0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	818	20	38	102	72	0	4	1	0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	990	46	32	122	129	0	2	1	0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	16,578	635	539	2,154	1,920	13	27	44	0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	1,522	55	59	203	167	3	4	3	0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	2,393	95	84	325	275	2	6	8	0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	4,217	175	135	567	485	3	5	10	0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	8,446	310	261	1,059	993	5	12	23	0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	309,182	12,578	10,968	37,458	37,313	338	578	675	6
2,500 to 2,749 grams	16,724	594	418	2,212	1,847	20	23	38	1
2,750 to 2,999 grams	32,798	1,132	1,014	4,124	3,931	30	39	80	0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	53,728	1,891	1,728	6,578	6,383	55	97	119	0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	66,280	2,648	2,275	7,958	7,914	55	91	130	3
3,500 to 3,749 grams	61,377	2,565	2,241	7,536	7,512	69	127	132	2
3,750 to 3,999 grams	43,594	1,957	1,764	5,015	5,372	52	106	89	0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	23,297	1,149	1,011	2,776	2,936	33	51	62	0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	11,384	642	517	1,259	1,418	24	44	25	0
4,500 grams or more	6,744	461	349	709	816	10	27	14	0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	4,395	279	219	471	534	4	14	9	0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,531	112	72	170	186	4	9	3	0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	561	47	40	46	66	2	1	2	0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	179	13	11	13	25	0	2	0	0
5,500 grams or more	78	10	7	9	5	0	1	0	0
Not stated	1,285	2	1	1	75	0	57	7	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	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.5	1.3	0.8	0.0
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.0
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.9	4.6	4.5	5.3	4.7	3.6	3.9	5.9	0.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.9	1.1	0.0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.7	1.3	0.0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.5	1.4	1.7	3.1	0.0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.7	91.1	91.5	91.9	92.2	92.6	82.8	90.4	100.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	5.0	4.3	3.5	5.4	4.6	5.5	3.3	5.1	16.7
2,750 to 2,999 grams	9.7	8.2	8.5	10.1	9.7	8.2	5.6	10.7	0.0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	15.9	13.7	14.4	16.1	15.8	15.1	13.9	15.9	0.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	19.7	19.2	19.0	19.5	19.5	15.1	13.0	17.4	50.0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.2	18.6	18.7	18.5	18.6	18.9	18.2	17.7	33.3
3,750 to 3,999 grams	12.9	14.2	14.7	12.3	13.3	14.2	15.2	11.9	0.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	6.9	8.3	8.4	6.8	7.3	9.0	7.3	8.3	0.0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	3.4	4.6	4.3	3.1	3.5	6.6	6.3	3.3	0.0
4,500 grams or more	2.0	3.3	2.9	1.7	2.0	2.7	3.9	1.9	0.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.3	2.0	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.1	2.0	1.2	0.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.5	1.1	1.3	0.4	0.0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	8.2	0.9	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4509).

Table 4-2
Live births, by birth weight and geography — Males

Birth weight	Place of residence of mother						Ontario
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	
	number						
Total	173,154	2,330	715	4,343	3,555	37,989	68,247
Less than 500 grams	164	4	1	9	0	44	23
500 to 1,499 grams	1,497	26	5	42	34	308	580
500 to 749 grams	273	2	0	11	4	53	107
750 to 999 grams	307	3	0	6	10	65	131
1,000 to 1,249 grams	409	8	2	14	12	84	161
1,250 to 1,499 grams	508	13	3	11	8	106	181
1,500 to 2,499 grams	7,944	95	31	177	166	1,683	3,243
1,500 to 1,749 grams	783	12	6	17	24	166	300
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,145	20	7	29	19	226	466
2,000 to 2,249 grams	2,072	17	5	41	46	416	862
2,250 to 2,499 grams	3,944	46	13	90	77	875	1,615
2,500 to 4,499 grams	158,327	2,120	652	3,943	3,259	34,690	62,514
2,500 to 2,749 grams	7,475	85	26	165	126	1,627	3,103
2,750 to 2,999 grams	14,639	165	49	319	301	3,374	5,821
3,000 to 3,249 grams	24,623	278	91	564	457	5,496	10,051
3,250 to 3,499 grams	32,534	402	115	783	608	7,443	12,879
3,500 to 3,749 grams	32,561	443	128	805	690	7,123	12,760
3,750 to 3,999 grams	24,878	390	125	703	552	5,302	9,587
4,000 to 4,249 grams	14,246	249	77	370	345	2,968	5,356
4,250 to 4,499 grams	7,371	108	41	234	180	1,357	2,957
4,500 grams or more	4,553	81	26	171	95	734	1,828
4,500 to 4,749 grams	2,950	54	15	105	62	484	1,192
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,039	20	8	38	21	169	404
5,000 to 5,249 grams	385	3	1	17	7	55	170
5,250 to 5,499 grams	128	4	2	7	4	23	43
5,500 grams or more	51	0	0	4	1	3	19
Not stated	669	4	0	1	1	530	59
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.7	4.4	4.8
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.4
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.7
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.3	2.0	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.4	91.0	91.2	90.8	91.7	91.3	91.6
2,500 to 2,749 grams	4.3	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.5	4.3	4.5
2,750 to 2,999 grams	8.5	7.1	6.9	7.3	8.5	8.9	8.5
3,000 to 3,249 grams	14.2	11.9	12.7	13.0	12.9	14.5	14.7
3,250 to 3,499 grams	18.8	17.3	16.1	18.0	17.1	19.6	18.9
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.8	19.0	17.9	18.5	19.4	18.8	18.7
3,750 to 3,999 grams	14.4	16.7	17.5	16.2	15.5	14.0	14.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	8.2	10.7	10.8	8.5	9.7	7.8	7.8
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4.3	4.6	5.7	5.4	5.1	3.6	4.3
4,500 grams or more	2.6	3.5	3.6	3.9	2.7	1.9	2.7
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.7	2.3	2.1	2.4	1.7	1.3	1.7
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.6	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.6
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1

Table 4-2 – continued

Live births, by birth weight and geography — Males

Birth weight	Place of residence of mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
Total	173,154	7,109	6,221	20,905	20,804	178	355	401	2
Less than 500 grams	164	12	6	39	25	0	0	1	0
500 to 1,499 grams	1,497	56	59	196	178	2	5	6	0
500 to 749 grams	273	9	15	38	27	1	2	4	0
750 to 999 grams	307	12	10	35	34	1	0	0	0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	409	10	15	57	43	0	2	1	0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	508	25	19	66	74	0	1	1	0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	7,944	317	257	1,007	922	3	14	29	0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	783	30	30	104	89	0	2	3	0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,145	39	39	159	131	0	5	5	0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	2,072	97	70	267	243	0	3	5	0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	3,944	151	118	477	459	3	4	16	0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	158,327	6,408	5,668	19,175	19,091	164	291	350	2
2,500 to 2,749 grams	7,475	270	194	1,002	832	13	15	17	0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	14,639	509	469	1,821	1,738	11	17	45	0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	24,623	869	792	2,974	2,929	16	45	61	0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	32,534	1,232	1,105	3,914	3,926	30	42	54	1
3,500 to 3,749 grams	32,561	1,308	1,179	4,029	3,931	30	60	74	1
3,750 to 3,999 grams	24,878	1,103	1,022	2,894	3,064	36	56	44	0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	14,246	704	588	1,739	1,770	17	25	38	0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	7,371	413	319	802	901	11	31	17	0
4,500 grams or more	4,553	316	230	487	552	9	14	10	0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	2,950	189	152	320	362	3	6	6	0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	1,039	81	45	118	124	4	5	2	0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	385	28	24	34	42	2	0	2	0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	128	9	6	8	20	0	2	0	0
5,500 grams or more	51	9	3	7	4	0	1	0	0
Not stated	669	0	1	1	36	0	31	5	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	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.5	0.0
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.0
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	4.6	4.5	4.1	4.8	4.4	1.7	3.9	7.2	0.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.0	1.4	1.2	0.0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.0	0.8	1.2	0.0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.2	1.7	1.1	4.0	0.0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	91.4	90.1	91.1	91.7	91.8	92.1	82.0	87.3	100.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	4.3	3.8	3.1	4.8	4.0	7.3	4.2	4.2	0.0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	8.5	7.2	7.5	8.7	8.4	6.2	4.8	11.2	0.0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	14.2	12.2	12.7	14.2	14.1	9.0	12.7	15.2	0.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	18.8	17.3	17.8	18.7	18.9	16.9	11.8	13.5	50.0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	18.8	18.4	19.0	19.3	18.9	16.9	16.9	18.5	50.0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	14.4	15.5	16.4	13.8	14.7	20.2	15.8	11.0	0.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	8.2	9.9	9.5	8.3	8.5	9.6	7.0	9.5	0.0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4.3	5.8	5.1	3.8	4.3	6.2	8.7	4.2	0.0
4,500 grams or more	2.6	4.4	3.7	2.3	2.7	5.1	3.9	2.5	0.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1.7	2.7	2.4	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	0.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.6	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.6	2.2	1.4	0.5	0.0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.1	0.0	0.5	0.0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	8.7	1.2	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4509).

Table 4-3
Live births, by birth weight and geography — Females

Birth weight	Place of residence of mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
Total	163,918	2,158	675	4,391	3,404	36,083	64,304
Less than 500 grams	179	3	0	5	1	49	47
500 to 1,499 grams	1,443	20	10	44	39	332	554
500 to 749 grams	270	6	0	5	8	59	94
750 to 999 grams	282	5	4	10	3	67	102
1,000 to 1,249 grams	409	3	3	14	16	104	160
1,250 to 1,499 grams	482	6	3	15	12	102	198
1,500 to 2,499 grams	8,634	111	30	236	149	1,910	3,415
1,500 to 1,749 grams	739	13	6	21	13	159	291
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,248	18	5	36	30	251	491
2,000 to 2,249 grams	2,145	28	7	61	33	486	835
2,250 to 2,499 grams	4,502	52	12	118	73	1,014	1,798
2,500 to 4,499 grams	150,855	1,973	619	4,006	3,162	32,954	59,376
2,500 to 2,749 grams	9,249	94	29	236	171	2,096	3,813
2,750 to 2,999 grams	18,159	195	68	383	326	4,310	7,137
3,000 to 3,249 grams	29,105	328	105	688	574	6,657	11,588
3,250 to 3,499 grams	33,746	429	146	883	634	7,485	13,399
3,500 to 3,749 grams	28,816	389	122	804	637	6,095	11,197
3,750 to 3,999 grams	18,716	315	75	600	473	3,778	7,339
4,000 to 4,249 grams	9,051	163	56	267	231	1,864	3,333
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4,013	60	18	145	116	669	1,570
4,500 grams or more	2,191	49	16	99	53	333	873
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1,445	33	13	65	36	220	586
4,750 to 4,999 grams	492	12	3	24	12	74	190
5,000 to 5,249 grams	176	1	0	6	4	27	66
5,250 to 5,499 grams	51	1	0	1	1	9	20
5,500 grams or more	27	2	0	3	0	3	11
Not stated	616	2	0	1	0	505	39
	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	0.0	0.1	0.1
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.9
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
1,500 to 2,499 grams	5.3	5.1	4.4	5.4	4.4	5.3	5.3
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.3	1.3
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.7	2.4	1.8	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.8
2,500 to 4,499 grams	92.0	91.4	91.7	91.2	92.9	91.3	92.3
2,500 to 2,749 grams	5.6	4.4	4.3	5.4	5.0	5.8	5.9
2,750 to 2,999 grams	11.1	9.0	10.1	8.7	9.6	11.9	11.1
3,000 to 3,249 grams	17.8	15.2	15.6	15.7	16.9	18.4	18.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	20.6	19.9	21.6	20.1	18.6	20.7	20.8
3,500 to 3,749 grams	17.6	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.7	16.9	17.4
3,750 to 3,999 grams	11.4	14.6	11.1	13.7	13.9	10.5	11.4
4,000 to 4,249 grams	5.5	7.6	8.3	6.1	6.8	5.2	5.2
4,250 to 4,499 grams	2.4	2.8	2.7	3.3	3.4	1.9	2.4
4,500 grams or more	1.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	1.6	0.9	1.4
4,500 to 4,749 grams	0.9	1.5	1.9	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.9
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
5,250 to 5,499 grams	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5,500 grams or more	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1

Table 4-3 – continued

Live births, by birth weight and geography — Females

Birth weight	Place of residence of mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
Total	163,918	6,702	5,762	19,874	19,685	187	343	346	4
Less than 500 grams	179	10	7	38	17	2	0	0	0
500 to 1,499 grams	1,443	57	54	184	145	0	4	0	0
500 to 749 grams	270	15	4	48	30	0	1	0	0
750 to 999 grams	282	11	14	35	31	0	0	0	0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	409	10	23	45	29	0	2	0	0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	482	21	13	56	55	0	1	0	0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	8,634	318	282	1,147	998	10	13	15	0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	739	25	29	99	78	3	2	0	0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	1,248	56	45	166	144	2	1	3	0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	2,145	78	65	300	242	3	2	5	0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	4,502	159	143	582	534	2	8	7	0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	150,855	6,170	5,300	18,283	18,222	174	287	325	4
2,500 to 2,749 grams	9,249	324	224	1,210	1,015	7	8	21	1
2,750 to 2,999 grams	18,159	623	545	2,303	2,193	19	22	35	0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	29,105	1,022	936	3,604	3,454	39	52	58	0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	33,746	1,416	1,170	4,044	3,988	25	49	76	2
3,500 to 3,749 grams	28,816	1,257	1,062	3,507	3,581	39	67	58	1
3,750 to 3,999 grams	18,716	854	742	2,121	2,308	16	50	45	0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	9,051	445	423	1,037	1,166	16	26	24	0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	4,013	229	198	457	517	13	13	8	0
4,500 grams or more	2,191	145	119	222	264	1	13	4	0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	1,445	90	67	151	172	1	8	3	0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	492	31	27	52	62	0	4	1	0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	176	19	16	12	24	0	1	0	0
5,250 to 5,499 grams	51	4	5	5	5	0	0	0	0
5,500 grams or more	27	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	0
Not stated	616	2	0	0	39	0	26	2	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	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0
500 to 749 grams	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
750 to 999 grams	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1,000 to 1,249 grams	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
1,250 to 1,499 grams	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	5.3	4.7	4.9	5.8	5.1	5.3	3.8	4.3	0.0
1,500 to 1,749 grams	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
1,750 to 1,999 grams	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.3	0.9	0.0
2,000 to 2,249 grams	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.6	0.6	1.4	0.0
2,250 to 2,499 grams	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.9	2.7	1.1	2.3	2.0	0.0
2,500 to 4,499 grams	92.0	92.1	92.0	92.0	92.6	93.0	83.7	93.9	100.0
2,500 to 2,749 grams	5.6	4.8	3.9	6.1	5.2	3.7	2.3	6.1	25.0
2,750 to 2,999 grams	11.1	9.3	9.5	11.6	11.1	10.2	6.4	10.1	0.0
3,000 to 3,249 grams	17.8	15.2	16.2	18.1	17.5	20.9	15.2	16.8	0.0
3,250 to 3,499 grams	20.6	21.1	20.3	20.3	20.3	13.4	14.3	22.0	50.0
3,500 to 3,749 grams	17.6	18.8	18.4	17.6	18.2	20.9	19.5	16.8	25.0
3,750 to 3,999 grams	11.4	12.7	12.9	10.7	11.7	8.6	14.6	13.0	0.0
4,000 to 4,249 grams	5.5	6.6	7.3	5.2	5.9	8.6	7.6	6.9	0.0
4,250 to 4,499 grams	2.4	3.4	3.4	2.3	2.6	7.0	3.8	2.3	0.0
4,500 grams or more	1.3	2.2	2.1	1.1	1.3	0.5	3.8	1.2	0.0
4,500 to 4,749 grams	0.9	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.5	2.3	0.9	0.0
4,750 to 4,999 grams	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0	1.2	0.3	0.0
5,000 to 5,249 grams	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	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	0.0	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	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	7.6	0.6	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4509).

Table 5-1
Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography — Both sexes

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of mother						Ontario
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	
	number						
Total	337,072	4,488	1,390	8,734	6,959	74,072	132,551
42 weeks or more	2,120	27	12	115	49	225	580
37 to 41 weeks	307,173	4,069	1,267	7,937	6,351	67,172	121,823
37 to 39 weeks	167,224	2,027	667	3,890	3,221	39,338	66,635
40 to 41 weeks	139,949	2,042	600	4,047	3,130	27,834	55,188
Less than 37 weeks	26,732	374	111	680	559	5,913	10,051
28 to 36 weeks	25,254	348	104	636	526	5,583	9,556
28 to 31 weeks	2,315	38	13	65	55	476	852
32 to 33 weeks	3,141	51	13	72	68	655	1,213
34 to 36 weeks	19,798	259	78	499	403	4,452	7,491
20 to 27 weeks	1,440	25	6	42	33	316	494
20 to 23 weeks	442	8	0	13	2	116	110
24 to 27 weeks	998	17	6	29	31	200	384
Less than 20 weeks	38	1	1	2	0	14	1
Not stated	1,047	18	0	2	0	762	97
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.3	0.7	0.3	0.4
37 to 41 weeks	91.1	90.7	91.2	90.9	91.3	90.7	91.9
37 to 39 weeks	49.6	45.2	48.0	44.5	46.3	53.1	50.3
40 to 41 weeks	41.5	45.5	43.2	46.3	45.0	37.6	41.6
Less than 37 weeks	7.9	8.3	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.0	7.6
28 to 36 weeks	7.5	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.2
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6
32 to 33 weeks	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
34 to 36 weeks	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.8	6.0	5.7
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1

Table 5-1 – continued

Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography — Both sexes

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
Total	337,072	13,811	11,983	40,779	40,489	365	698	747	6
42 weeks or more	2,120	329	125	339	296	14	9	0	0
37 to 41 weeks	307,173	12,306	10,970	36,720	37,011	317	574	650	6
37 to 39 weeks	167,224	5,859	5,391	19,520	19,830	132	276	433	5
40 to 41 weeks	139,949	6,447	5,579	17,200	17,181	185	298	217	1
Less than 37 weeks	26,732	1,142	886	3,718	3,113	34	61	90	0
28 to 36 weeks	25,254	1,079	825	3,482	2,940	31	57	87	0
28 to 31 weeks	2,315	105	92	323	283	2	7	4	0
32 to 33 weeks	3,141	132	101	439	368	5	7	17	0
34 to 36 weeks	19,798	842	632	2,720	2,289	24	43	66	0
20 to 27 weeks	1,440	60	59	225	170	3	4	3	0
20 to 23 weeks	442	30	17	90	48	3	2	3	0
24 to 27 weeks	998	30	42	135	122	0	2	0	0
Less than 20 weeks	38	3	2	11	3	0	0	0	0
Not stated	1,047	34	2	2	69	0	54	7	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	0.6	2.4	1.0	0.8	0.7	3.8	1.3	0.0	0.0
37 to 41 weeks	91.1	89.1	91.5	90.0	91.4	86.8	82.2	87.0	100.0
37 to 39 weeks	49.6	42.4	45.0	47.9	49.0	36.2	39.5	58.0	83.3
40 to 41 weeks	41.5	46.7	46.6	42.2	42.4	50.7	42.7	29.0	16.7
Less than 37 weeks	7.9	8.3	7.4	9.1	7.7	9.3	8.7	12.0	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	7.5	7.8	6.9	8.5	7.3	8.5	8.2	11.6	0.0
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.0
32 to 33 weeks	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.0	2.3	0.0
34 to 36 weeks	5.9	6.1	5.3	6.7	5.7	6.6	6.2	8.8	0.0
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.0
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.0
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	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	7.7	0.9	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4512).

Table 5-2
Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography — Males

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
Total	173,154	2,330	715	4,343	3,555	37,989	68,247
42 weeks or more	1,133	12	6	55	29	126	316
37 to 41 weeks	157,007	2,115	656	3,958	3,216	34,286	62,398
37 to 39 weeks	86,108	1,043	340	1,962	1,675	20,197	34,483
40 to 41 weeks	70,899	1,072	316	1,996	1,541	14,089	27,915
Less than 37 weeks	14,464	195	53	329	310	3,181	5,475
28 to 36 weeks	13,685	182	50	298	289	3,016	5,205
28 to 31 weeks	1,284	24	7	27	22	257	473
32 to 33 weeks	1,703	26	7	32	44	345	689
34 to 36 weeks	10,698	132	36	239	223	2,414	4,043
20 to 27 weeks	758	12	2	31	21	157	270
20 to 23 weeks	220	4	0	10	1	56	52
24 to 27 weeks	538	8	2	21	20	101	218
Less than 20 weeks	21	1	1	0	0	8	0
Not stated	550	8	0	1	0	396	58
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.7	0.5	0.8	1.3	0.8	0.3	0.5
37 to 41 weeks	90.7	90.8	91.7	91.1	90.5	90.3	91.4
37 to 39 weeks	49.7	44.8	47.6	45.2	47.1	53.2	50.5
40 to 41 weeks	40.9	46.0	44.2	46.0	43.3	37.1	40.9
Less than 37 weeks	8.4	8.4	7.4	7.6	8.7	8.4	8.0
28 to 36 weeks	7.9	7.8	7.0	6.9	8.1	7.9	7.6
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7
32 to 33 weeks	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.0
34 to 36 weeks	6.2	5.7	5.0	5.5	6.3	6.4	5.9
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3
Less than 20 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1

Table 5-2 – continued

Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography — Males

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
Total	173,154	7,109	6,221	20,905	20,804	178	355	401	2
42 weeks or more	1,133	181	66	189	143	8	2	0	0
37 to 41 weeks	157,007	6,291	5,653	18,732	18,913	154	287	346	2
37 to 39 weeks	86,108	2,973	2,834	10,041	10,136	59	136	227	2
40 to 41 weeks	70,899	3,318	2,819	8,691	8,777	95	151	119	0
Less than 37 weeks	14,464	621	501	1,983	1,711	16	36	53	0
28 to 36 weeks	13,685	589	468	1,869	1,620	15	34	50	0
28 to 31 weeks	1,284	57	48	188	170	2	5	4	0
32 to 33 weeks	1,703	68	46	232	203	0	2	9	0
34 to 36 weeks	10,698	464	374	1,449	1,247	13	27	37	0
20 to 27 weeks	758	30	31	108	90	1	2	3	0
20 to 23 weeks	220	12	9	48	22	1	2	3	0
24 to 27 weeks	538	18	22	60	68	0	0	0	0
Less than 20 weeks	21	2	2	6	1	0	0	0	0
Not stated	550	16	1	1	37	0	30	2	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	0.7	2.5	1.1	0.9	0.7	4.5	0.6	0.0	0.0
37 to 41 weeks	90.7	88.5	90.9	89.6	90.9	86.5	80.8	86.3	100.0
37 to 39 weeks	49.7	41.8	45.6	48.0	48.7	33.1	38.3	56.6	100.0
40 to 41 weeks	40.9	46.7	45.3	41.6	42.2	53.4	42.5	29.7	0.0
Less than 37 weeks	8.4	8.7	8.1	9.5	8.2	9.0	10.1	13.2	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	7.9	8.3	7.5	8.9	7.8	8.4	9.6	12.5	0.0
28 to 31 weeks	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.0	0.0
32 to 33 weeks	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.6	2.2	0.0
34 to 36 weeks	6.2	6.5	6.0	6.9	6.0	7.3	7.6	9.2	0.0
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.3	0.4	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	8.5	0.5	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth Database (CANSIM table 102-4512).

Table 5-3
Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography — Females

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of mother						
	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	number						
Total	163,918	2,158	675	4,391	3,404	36,083	64,304
42 weeks or more	987	15	6	60	20	99	264
37 to 41 weeks	150,166	1,954	611	3,979	3,135	32,886	59,425
37 to 39 weeks	81,116	984	327	1,928	1,546	19,141	32,152
40 to 41 weeks	69,050	970	284	2,051	1,589	13,745	27,273
Less than 37 weeks	12,268	179	58	351	249	2,732	4,576
28 to 36 weeks	11,569	166	54	338	237	2,567	4,351
28 to 31 weeks	1,031	14	6	38	33	219	379
32 to 33 weeks	1,438	25	6	40	24	310	524
34 to 36 weeks	9,100	127	42	260	180	2,038	3,448
20 to 27 weeks	682	13	4	11	12	159	224
20 to 23 weeks	222	4	0	3	1	60	58
24 to 27 weeks	460	9	4	8	11	99	166
Less than 20 weeks	17	0	0	2	0	6	1
Not stated	497	10	0	1	0	366	39
	percent						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
42 weeks or more	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.6	0.3	0.4
37 to 41 weeks	91.6	90.5	90.5	90.6	92.1	91.1	92.4
37 to 39 weeks	49.5	45.6	48.4	43.9	45.4	53.0	50.0
40 to 41 weeks	42.1	44.9	42.1	46.7	46.7	38.1	42.4
Less than 37 weeks	7.5	8.3	8.6	8.0	7.3	7.6	7.1
28 to 36 weeks	7.1	7.7	8.0	7.7	7.0	7.1	6.8
28 to 31 weeks	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.6
32 to 33 weeks	0.9	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.8
34 to 36 weeks	5.6	5.9	6.2	5.9	5.3	5.6	5.4
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.2	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	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1

Table 5-3 – continued

Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography — Females

Weeks of gestation	Place of residence of mother								
	Canada	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Unknown
	number								
Total	163,918	6,702	5,762	19,874	19,685	187	343	346	4
42 weeks or more	987	148	59	150	153	6	7	0	0
37 to 41 weeks	150,166	6,015	5,317	17,988	18,098	163	287	304	4
37 to 39 weeks	81,116	2,886	2,557	9,479	9,694	73	140	206	3
40 to 41 weeks	69,050	3,129	2,760	8,509	8,404	90	147	98	1
Less than 37 weeks	12,268	521	385	1,735	1,402	18	25	37	0
28 to 36 weeks	11,569	490	357	1,613	1,320	16	23	37	0
28 to 31 weeks	1,031	48	44	135	113	0	2	0	0
32 to 33 weeks	1,438	64	55	207	165	5	5	8	0
34 to 36 weeks	9,100	378	258	1,271	1,042	11	16	29	0
20 to 27 weeks	682	30	28	117	80	2	2	0	0
20 to 23 weeks	222	18	8	42	26	2	0	0	0
24 to 27 weeks	460	12	20	75	54	0	2	0	0
Less than 20 weeks	17	1	0	5	2	0	0	0	0
Not stated	497	18	1	1	32	0	24	5	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	0.6	2.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	3.2	2.0	0.0	0.0
37 to 41 weeks	91.6	89.7	92.3	90.5	91.9	87.2	83.7	87.9	100.0
37 to 39 weeks	49.5	43.1	44.4	47.7	49.2	39.0	40.8	59.5	75.0
40 to 41 weeks	42.1	46.7	47.9	42.8	42.7	48.1	42.9	28.3	25.0
Less than 37 weeks	7.5	7.8	6.7	8.7	7.1	9.6	7.3	10.7	0.0
28 to 36 weeks	7.1	7.3	6.2	8.1	6.7	8.6	6.7	10.7	0.0
28 to 31 weeks	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
32 to 33 weeks	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	2.7	1.5	2.3	0.0
34 to 36 weeks	5.6	5.6	4.5	6.4	5.3	5.9	4.7	8.4	0.0
20 to 27 weeks	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.6	0.0	0.0
20 to 23 weeks	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
24 to 27 weeks	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.6	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	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	7.0	1.4	0.0

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".
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			
Age of mother, all ages²	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
Under 20 years	14,186	1.3	6.6	91.2	1.9
20 to 34 years	264,831	0.9	5.6	92.0	2.0
35 to 49 years	57,919	1.2	6.9	90.8	2.1
Not stated ³	136	0.0	9.6	23.5	0.0
Total, parity of mother	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
First live birth	152,145	1.1	6.2	91.9	1.5
Second live birth	118,108	0.8	5.2	92.3	2.1
Third live birth or more	66,624	1.0	6.5	90.5	2.8
Not stated	195	0.0	4.6	44.6	2.1
Total, marital status of mother⁴	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
Married	217,270	0.9	5.5	92.3	2.0
Not married	86,367	1.1	6.5	90.7	1.9
Not stated	33,435	1.2	6.8	90.8	2.1
Total, birthplace of mother	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
Canada	248,438	0.9	5.7	91.6	2.3
Outside Canada	84,121	1.0	6.3	92.3	1.3
Not stated	4,513	1.6	7.0	91.2	1.2
Both sexes	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
Males	173,154	1.0	5.5	91.4	2.6
Females	163,918	1.0	6.3	92.0	1.3
Total	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
Single	326,840	0.7	4.5	93.1	2.1
Multiple	10,232	9.1	51.9	48.1	0.0
Total, weeks of gestation	337,072	1.0	5.9	91.7	2.0
Less than 28 weeks	1,478	98.8	99.0	0.5	0.1
28 to 36 weeks	25,254	7.1	50.2	49.4	0.1
37 to 41 weeks	307,173	0.0	1.8	95.7	2.1
42 weeks or more	2,120	0.0	0.5	92.2	7.3
Not stated	1,047	1.0	3.4	61.9	1.2

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." Where information is unavailable on the birth mother of children who are adopted, these records are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."

4. Partway through 2003, Alberta Registries amended their Registration of Birth form in such a way that Statistics Canada can no longer determine the legal marital status of those persons in common-law marriages.

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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
Age of mother, all ages ¹	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
Under 20 years	14,186	8.6	90.1	1.0
20 to 34 years	264,831	7.6	91.5	0.6
35 to 49 years	57,919	9.3	89.9	0.6
Not stated ²	136	7.4	26.5	0.0
Total, parity of mother	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
First live birth	152,145	8.0	91.0	0.8
Second live birth	118,108	7.2	92.1	0.4
Third live birth or more	66,624	9.1	89.9	0.7
Not stated	195	3.1	40.0	0.5
Total, marital status of mother ³	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
Married	217,270	7.5	91.7	0.6
Not married	86,367	8.6	90.1	0.7
Not stated	33,435	8.9	90.0	0.8
Total, birthplace of mother	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
Canada	248,438	8.1	90.9	0.7
Outside Canada	84,121	7.3	91.9	0.6
Not stated	4,513	8.6	90.2	0.4
Both sexes	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
Males	173,154	8.4	90.7	0.7
Females	163,918	7.5	91.6	0.6
Total	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
Single	326,840	6.4	92.6	0.6
Multiple	10,232	56.8	43.1	0.0
Total, birth weight	337,072	7.9	91.1	0.6
Less than 500 grams	343	98.8	0.6	0.0
500 to 1,499 grams	2,940	98.9	0.8	0.0
1,500 to 2,499 grams	16,578	65.8	34.0	0.1
2,500 to 4,499 grams	309,182	4.0	95.1	0.6
4,500 grams or more	6,744	0.5	97.0	2.3
Not stated	1,285	6.0	66.7	0.1

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." Where information is unavailable on the birth mother of children who are adopted, these records are included in the category "Age of mother, not stated."
3. Partway through 2003, Alberta Registries amended their Registration of Birth form in such a way that Statistics Canada can no longer determine the legal marital status of those persons in common-law marriages.

Note: See "Data quality, concepts and methodology — Explanatory notes for the tables".

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

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 (for example, 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 or violence which produced the fatal injury". 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**

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.

(ICD–10). 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 (as well as in Saskatchewan prior to 2001 and in New Brunswick prior to November 1996), only fetal deaths (stillbirths) weighing 500 or more grams must be reported, regardless of the gestation period.

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 1992. 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**.

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 (for example, 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.

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

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 (as well as in Saskatchewan prior to 2001 and in New Brunswick prior to November 1996), only fetal deaths (stillbirths) weighing 500 or more grams must be reported, regardless of the gestation period.

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, that is, 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 (that is, 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 (for example, 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, for example, 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 5,400 births in 2003, or 4% 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 (for example, 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% to 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% to 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
Alberta	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 (for example, 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, for example, 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 (that is, 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-X.

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.

Explanatory notes for the tables

Table 1 Live births, by place of residence of mother and place of occurrence, Canada, provinces, territories and outside Canada.

- 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 Live births, by geography

- 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.
- Rates for Canada include live births to residents of Canada, province or territory of residence unknown.
- 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.
- Birth weight is the first weight of the newborn obtained immediately after birth, expressed in grams.

Table 3 Live births, Canada

- 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.
- 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.

Table 4 Live births, by birth weight and geography

- 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 Live births, by weeks of gestation and geography

- 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 Live births, by characteristics of the mother and child, Canada

- 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 one or more live births or fetal deaths (stillbirths). The delivery must result in the birth of at least one liveborn infant to be included in this table. The category "Multiple births" 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.