

**TITLE V INDICATOR TEMPLATE**

**INDICATOR:** Percent of Very Low Birthweight

**DEFINITION:** The percent of live births weighing less than 1,500 grams

**NUMERATOR:** The number of live births weighing less than 1,500 grams, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**DENOMINATOR:** The total number of live births, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 OBJECTIVE:**

Reduce very low birthweight births to an incidence of no more than 0.9 percent of live births.  
(Baseline: 1.4 percent in 1998) (Objective 16-10b)

**RISK FACTORS:** Preterm birth, prior preterm birth; race/ethnicity (African American, Puerto Rican); substance use/abuse (e.g. illicit drug use)

See also risk factors for low birthweight

Year	California				LA County			
	Very Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval		Very Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
1993	6,099	1.0	1.0	1.1	2,145	1.1	1.1	1.2
1994	6,282	1.1	1.1	1.1	2,109	1.2	1.1	1.2
1995	5,877	1.1	1.0	1.1	2,057	1.2	1.1	1.2
1996	5,812	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,933	1.1	1.1	1.2
1997	5,869	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,912	1.2	1.1	1.2
1998	6,013	1.2	1.1	1.2	1,932	1.2	1.2	1.3
1999	5,950	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,993	1.3	1.2	1.3
2000	6,075	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,823	1.2	1.1	1.2
2001	6,054	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,962	1.3	1.2	1.3
2002	6,127	1.2	1.1	1.2	1,898	1.3	1.2	1.3

Denominator: Live Births		
Year	California	LA County
1993	584,483	189,706
1994	567,034	180,394
1995	551,226	174,862
1996	538,628	168,973
1997	524,174	162,036
1998	521,265	158,604
1999	518,073	156,153
2000	531,285	157,391
2001	527,371	153,523
2002	529,245	151,167

Source: California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics, 1993-2002.