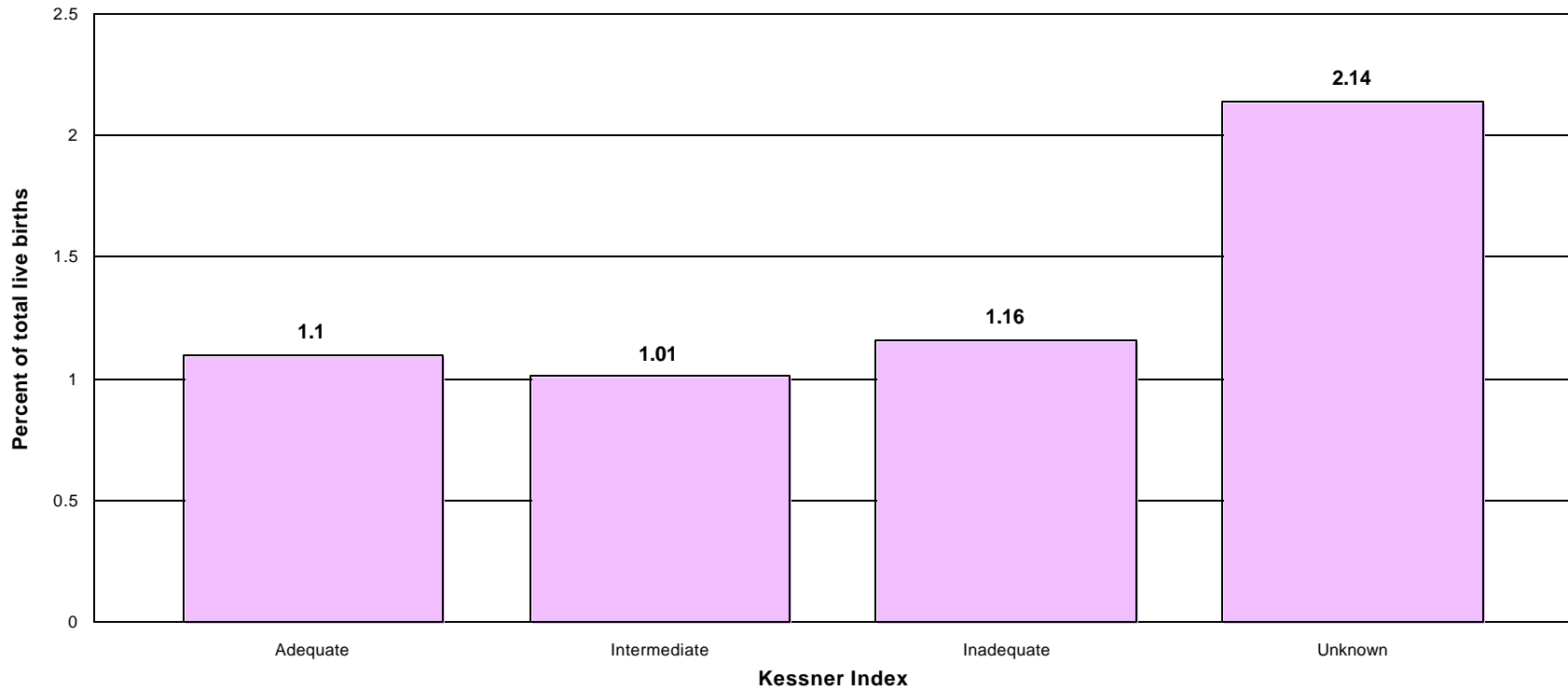


Very Low Birthweight Live Births, as Percent of Total Live Births, by Kessner Index

Los Angeles County, 1998



		Kessner Index							
		Inadequate		Intermediate		Adequate		Unknown	
Live Births	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
<1,500 grams	46	1.10	175	1.01	1,452	1.16	259	2.14	
Total	4,182	100.00	17,271	100.00	125,042	100.00	12,109	100.00	

Year 2000 Objective: Reduce very low birthweight to an incidence of no more than 1 percent of live births.

Note: Very low birthweight is defined as weight less than 1,500 grams at birth.

The Kessner Index takes into account three factors: month in which prenatal care began, number of prenatal visits, and length of gestation. This measure excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth.

Source: 1998 birth records from the California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics