

Reproductive | Health

2009 Update

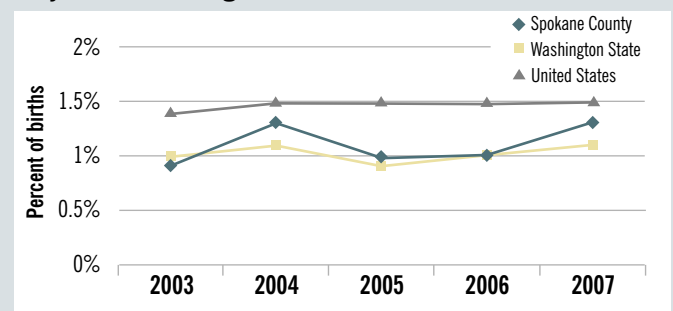
This indicator is 1 of 44 Spokane Counts indicators found at www.srhd.org/SpokaneCounts

Very Low Birth Weight

The very low birth weight (VLBW) indicator is measured as the percent of births with a birth weight less than 1500 grams (3.3 lbs). The principle predictor of death in the first 27 days of life (neonatal) is a very low birth weight.¹ In Spokane County, approximately two-thirds of neonatal deaths occur in infants with a very low birth weight. Risk factors associated with a mother delivering a VLBW infant include demographic risks (such as age and education), medical risks (such as diabetes and poor weight gain), behavioral and environmental risks (such as smoking), and healthcare risks (such as inadequate prenatal care).²

In Spokane County, there were 77 VLBW infants born in 2007. There was not a significant change in VLBW births from 2003 to 2007. The 2007 VLBW rate in Spokane County was similar to that in Washington State and the U.S.

Very Low Birth Weight <1500 grams or 3.3 pounds



Source: Washington State Department of Health; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Among Spokane County females who gave birth in 2007:

- There was no difference in VLBW percentage by age, education level, or income; and
- Race was not evaluated for differences due to the small number of cases.

Indicator: Very Low Birth Weight

Percent
(95% Confidence Interval)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
Total	Spokane County	0.9% (0.7, 1.2)	1.3% (1.0, 1.6)	1.0% (0.7, 1.3)	1.0% (0.8, 1.3)	1.3% (1.0, 1.6)
	Washington State	1.0% (0.9, 1.1)	1.1% (1.0, 1.1)	0.9% (0.9, 1.0)	1.0% (0.9, 1.1)	1.1% (1.0, 1.2)
	National	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%
Age Group (years)	15-17	0.0% (0.0, 2.6)	1.4% (0.2, 4.8)	0.9% (0.0, 4.3)	1.6% (0.4, 6.3)	2.7% (0.9, 8.0)
	18-19	0.8% (0.2, 2.2)	1.8% (0.7, 3.8)	2.5% (1.1, 4.7)	1.8% (0.8, 3.6)	2.3% (1.2, 4.3)
	20-24	0.9% (0.5, 1.5)	1.2% (0.7, 1.9)	1.0% (0.5, 1.6)	0.7% (0.4, 1.3)	1.2% (0.8, 1.9)
	25-29	1.1% (0.7, 1.8)	1.2% (0.7, 1.8)	1.0% (0.6, 1.6)	1.1% (0.7, 1.6)	1.2% (0.8, 1.8)
	30-34	0.8% (0.4, 1.5)	1.3% (0.7, 2.1)	0.6% (0.3, 1.3)	0.7% (0.4, 1.4)	1.0% (0.6, 1.8)
	35-39	1.1% (0.4, 2.5)	1.2% (0.4, 2.5)	1.1% (0.4, 2.3)	1.1% (0.5, 2.4)	1.4% (0.7, 2.7)
	40-44	0.7% (0.0, 3.7)	0.8% (0.0, 4.3)	0.0% (0.0, 3.3)	2.3% (0.7, 6.8)	0.9% (0.1, 6.3)
Income	Medicaid	0.9% (0.6, 1.5)	1.3% (0.9, 1.8)	1.1% (0.7, 1.5)	1.3% (0.9, 1.7)	1.2% (0.8, 1.7)
	Non-Medicaid	0.9% (0.6, 1.3)	1.2% (0.1, 1.7)	0.9% (0.6, 1.3)	0.7% (0.5, 1.1)	1.2% (0.9, 1.6)
Education	Less than high school	0.3% (0.1, 1.2)	1.3% (0.7, 2.5)	1.3% (0.7, 2.6)	1.6% (0.9, 2.8)	1.8% (1.0, 3.1)
	High school graduate	0.7% (0.4, 1.3)	1.2% (0.7, 1.9)	1.2% (0.7, 1.9)	1.1% (0.7, 1.7)	1.5% (1.0, 2.3)
	Some college	1.1% (0.7, 1.7)	1.0% (0.7, 1.6)	0.8% (0.5, 1.3)	0.9% (0.6, 1.4)	1.3% (0.9, 1.8)
	4+ yrs college, graduate	1.0% (0.6, 1.7)	1.6% (1.1, 2.4)	0.8% (0.5, 1.5)	0.9% (0.5, 1.5)	0.9% (0.5, 1.5)
Race	White	0.9% (0.7, 1.3)	1.2% (0.9, 1.6)	1.0% (0.7, 1.3)	1.0% (0.7, 1.3)	1.3% (1.1, 1.7)
	Black	0.0% (0.0, 0.0)	4.4% (1.4, 10.2)	2.4% (0.5, 6.9)	3.2% (0.9, 7.9)	1.6% (0.2, 5.5)
	Native American/Alaska Native	2.2% (0.4, 6.1)	0.0% (0.0, 2.5)	0.0% (0.0, 2.2)	1.7% (0.3, 4.7)	0.0% (0.0, 2.0)
	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6% (0.0, 3.2)	1.3% (0.2, 4.5)	1.7% (0.3, 4.8)	1.0% (0.1, 3.3)	1.1% (0.1, 3.7)

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



January 2010

Spokane Regional Health District | Disease Prevention and Response, Community Health Assessment
1101 W. College, Room 360 | Spokane, WA 99201 | DIRECT 509.323.2853 FAX 509.232.1706 TDD 509.324.1464

1. Rowley DL, MacDorman MF. December 1994. From Data to Action: CDC's Public Health Surveillance for Women, Infants, and Children. <http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/Products&Pubs/DatatoAction/pdf/birout7.pdf>. Accessed 09/21/07.

2. Rowley DL, MacDorman MF. December 1994. From Data to Action: CDC's Public Health Surveillance for Women, Infants, and Children. <http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/Products&Pubs/DatatoAction/pdf/birout3.pdf>. Accessed 09/21/07.