

Perinatal indicators in Queensland

status, trends and disparities



A good start to life is influenced by the mother's health and wellbeing even before conception.

Healthy weight at conception, early and regular antenatal care during pregnancy, and avoiding alcohol and other drugs are important during pregnancy. The father's health and wellbeing also contributes to the health of the developing baby and infant.

Safe delivery at full term, breastfeeding to 12 months or longer, a nutritious diet during the early years and a nurturing, secure environment will give all Queensland children a great start.

A baby's birthweight is a key indicator of infant health and a determinant of a baby's chances of survival and health later in life.

Data in this factsheet refers to 2016 unless otherwise noted.

Maternal smoking is declining, but at a slower rate for teenagers, Indigenous Queenslanders mothers and those from low socioeconomic areas.

Births

62,779

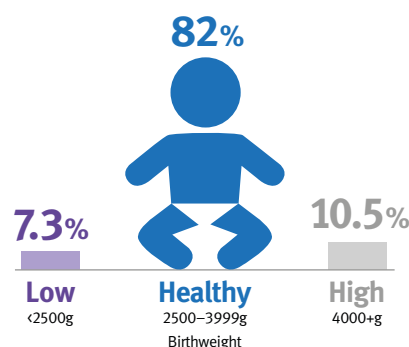
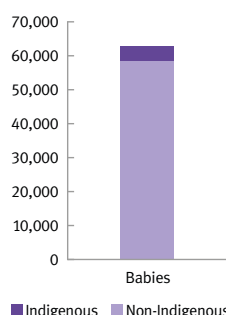
babies born to 61,876 mothers in Queensland

4230

babies born to 4178 Indigenous mothers (6.8%)

3 in 4

(46,163) births were in public facilities



Antenatal visits during pregnancy

77% of mothers had an antenatal visit in the first trimester

8 or more visits
81% of all mothers
65% of Indigenous mothers

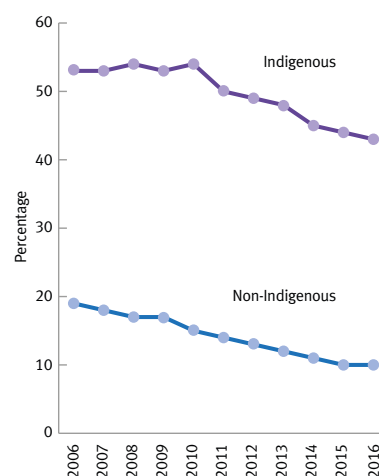
Smoking during pregnancy

12% of mothers smoked during pregnancy

About **7400 women** in 2016



3 times higher among teenagers
4 times higher for Indigenous mothers
5 times higher for women in low socioeconomic areas



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Mothers

12% of pregnant women were **diagnosed with gestational diabetes**

The recent lowering in the diagnostic threshold limits trend reporting

19% of **women were obese** at the time of conception

No change since 2012

20% of mothers were **aged 35 years or older**

No change over the past decade



Babies

9.3% of babies were **born prematurely**: about 5800 babies

Increased by 5% over past decade

77% of babies received **only breastmilk** at hospital discharge

Decreased by 3% since 2009

94% of infants were **fully immunised at 1 year of age** in 2017

Queensland target is 95%

Factors contributing to birthweight

Low birthweight baby <2500g

At least **twice** as likely for mothers who **smoked during pregnancy**

73% more likely for mothers who were **underweight at conception**

45% more likely for mothers who had **less than 8 antenatal visits**

25% more likely for **Indigenous Queensland** mothers

12% more likely for mothers **living in low socioeconomic areas**

High birthweight baby 4000+g

At least **twice** as likely for women who were **obese at conception**

50% more likely for women who were **overweight at conception**

9% more likely for mothers who **did not have an antenatal visit** in the first trimester

Data were modelled from the Queensland Perinatal Data Collection 2012–2016. The logistic regression model was adjusted for baby's gestational age, mother's age, selected medical conditions and pregnancy complications, socioeconomic status, Indigenous status and plurality.

More information on perinatal indicators and the impact on health including access to interactive data visualisations and detail on definitions and methods is available from the main report and the website:

www.health.qld.gov.au/cho_report

For further information: Population_Epidemiology@health.qld.gov.au