

# **Low Birth Weight**

**FHOP INDICATOR TEMPLATE**

**INDICATOR:** Percent of Low Birth Weight

**DEFINITION:** The percent of live births weighing less than 2,500 grams

**NUMERATOR:** The number of live births weighing less than 2,500 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 2030 OBJECTIVE**

None

Year	California				Los Angeles County			
	Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval		Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
2012	33,723	6.7	6.6	6.8	9,151	6.9	6.8	7.1
2013	33,798	6.8	6.8	6.9	9,058	7.0	6.9	7.2
2014	33,586	6.7	6.6	6.7	9,013	6.9	6.8	7.1
2015	33,666	6.8	6.8	6.9	9,100	7.3	7.2	7.5
2016	33,476	6.8	6.8	6.9	8,783	7.1	7.0	7.3
2017	32,451	6.9	6.8	7.0	8,508	7.3	7.1	7.4
2018	31,745	7.0	6.9	7.1	8,079	7.4	7.2	7.5
2019	31,699	7.1	7.0	7.2	7,900	7.4	7.2	7.5
2020	29,061	6.9	6.8	7.0	7,166	7.3	7.1	7.5
2021	30,605	7.3	7.2	7.4	7,319	7.6	7.4	7.8

Denominator: Live Births		
Year	California	LA County
2012	503,788	131,697
2013	494,392	128,526
2014	502,879	130,150
2015	491,748	124,507
2016	488,827	122,941
2017	471,658	116,850
2018	454,920	109,863
2019	446,479	107,202
2020	421,109	98,021
2021	420,608	96,230

Note: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.

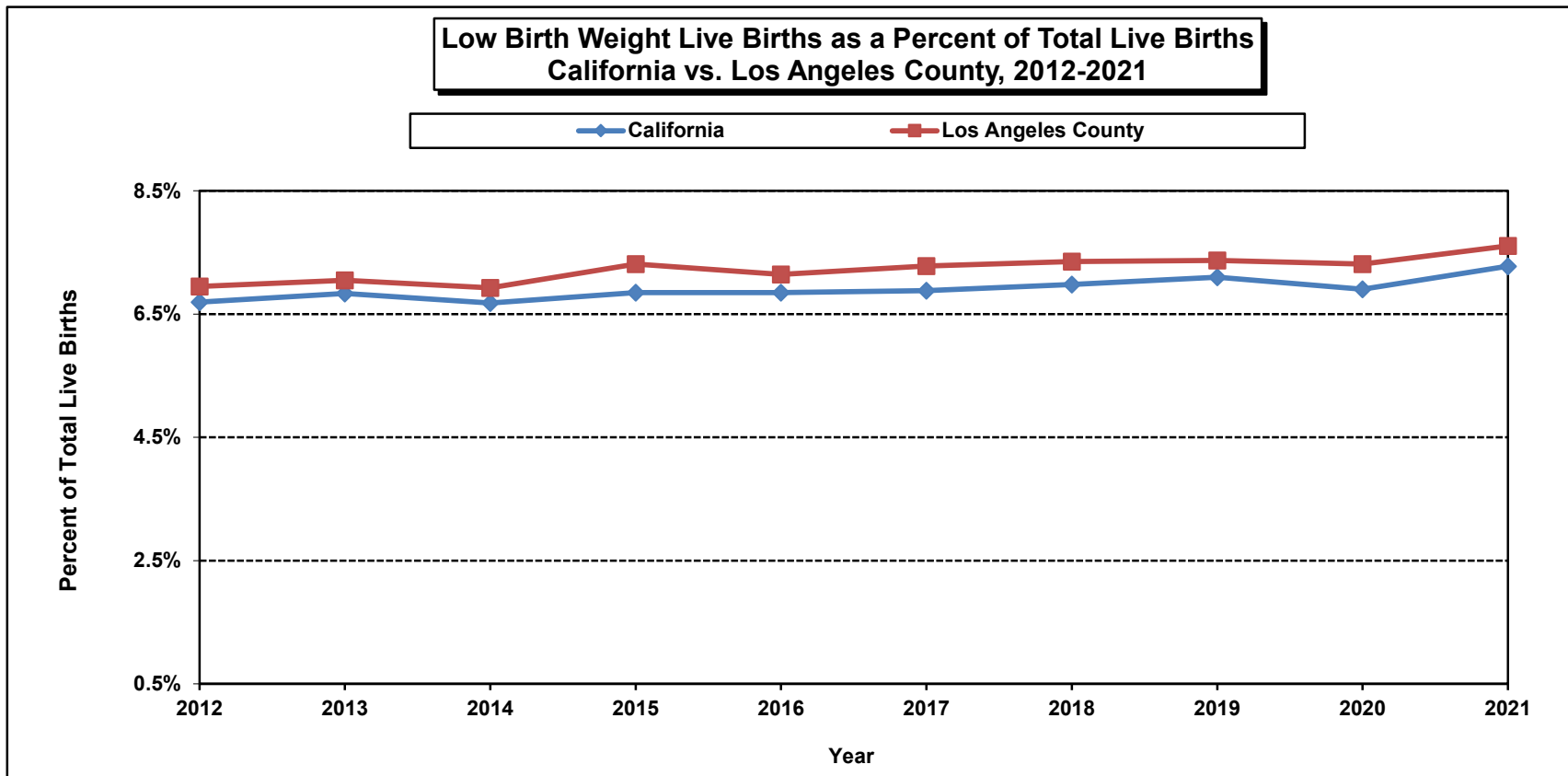
Sources: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2021

California Department of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2012-2017

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2007-2020. Updated in 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html>

California Department of Public Health, CHHS Open Data Portal, 1960-2021 Final Births by Year Statewide, Updated 10/18/21.

Accessed at: URL: <https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/test-cdph-statewide-live-birth-profiles/resource>



Note: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.

Sources: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2021

California Department of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2012-2017

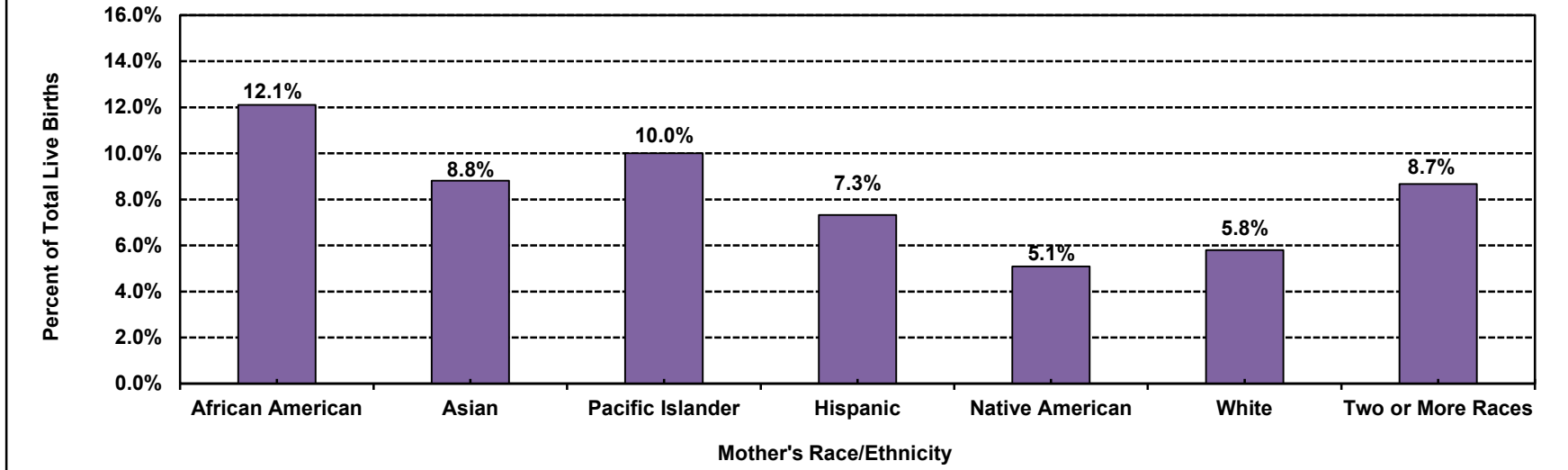
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2016-2021. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html> (for CA total live births, LBW, and VLBW live births, 2021)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2007-2020. Updated in 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html>

California Department of Public Health, CHHS Open Data Portal, 1960-2021 Final Births by Year Statewide, Updated 10/18/21.

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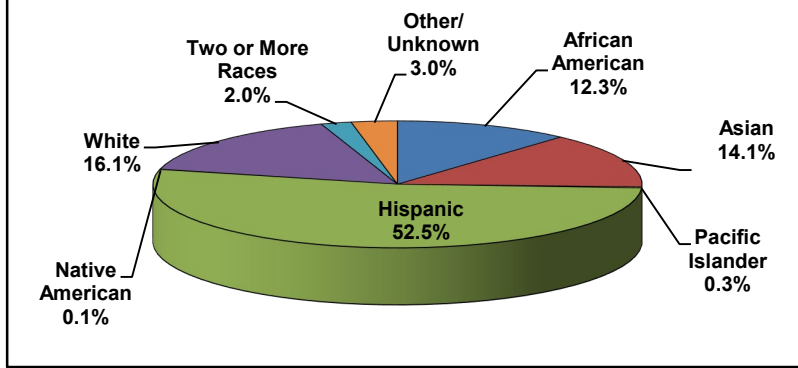
**Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percentage of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Race/Ethnicity	Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
African American	852	12.1	11.3	12.9
Asian	1,028	8.8	8.3	9.3
Pacific Islander	19	10.0	5.7	14.3
Hispanic	3,863	7.3	7.1	7.5
Native American	6	5.1	1.1	9.0
White	1,181	5.8	5.5	6.1
Two or More Races	147	8.7	7.3	10.0
Other/ Unknown	223	9.3	8.2	10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Total Live Births
7,039
11,670
190
52,733
118
20,393
1,697
2,390
<b>96,230</b>

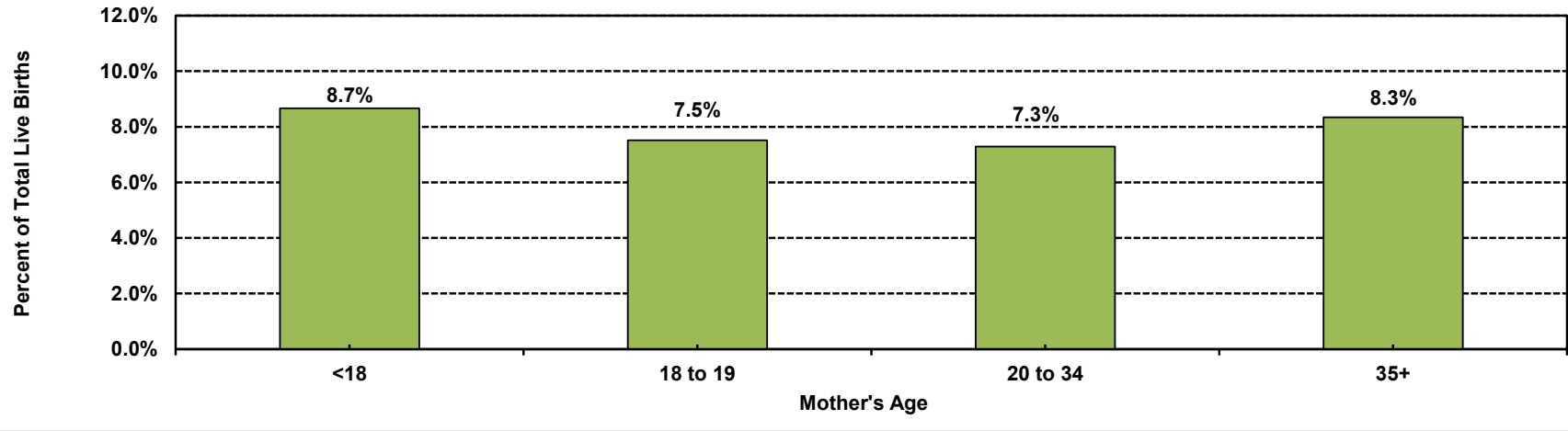
**Distribution of Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Notes: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.

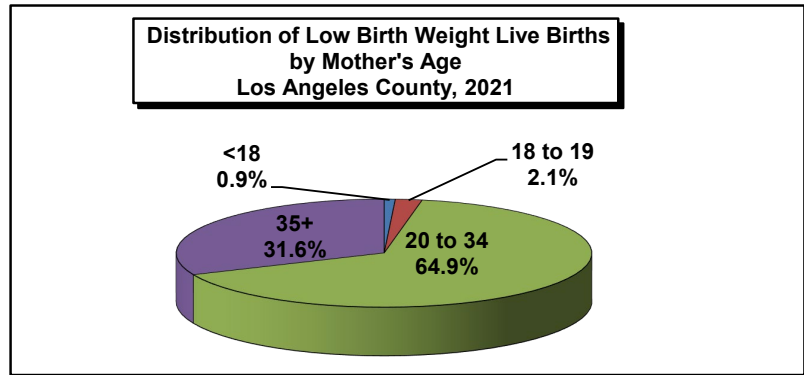
Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

**Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Age  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



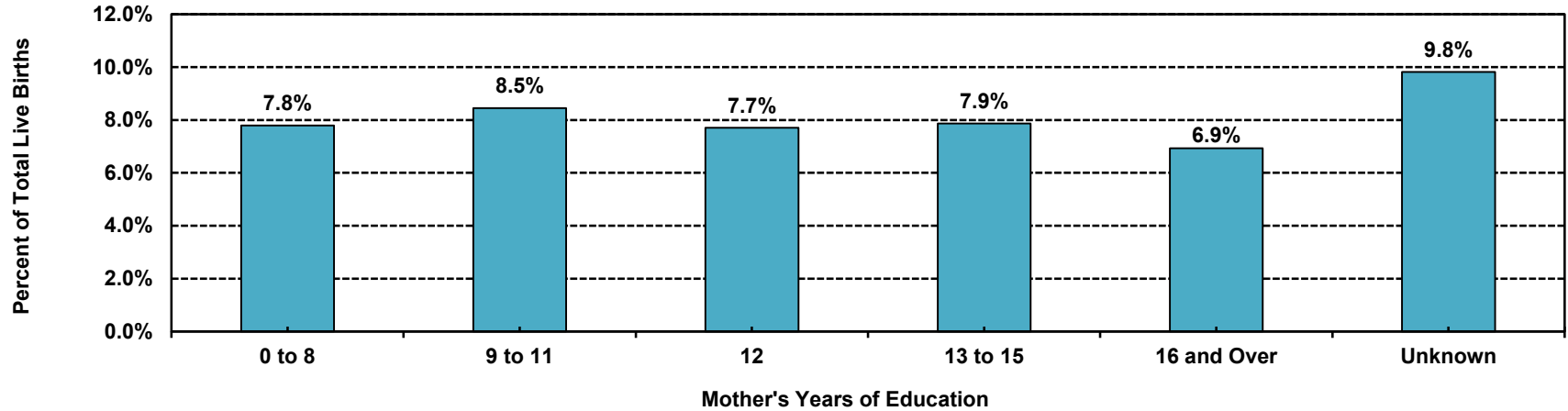
Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Age	Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
<18	63	8.7	6.6	10.7
18 to 19	152	7.5	6.4	8.7
20 to 34	4,791	7.3	7.1	7.5
35+	2,312	8.3	8.0	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Total Live Births
727
2,023
65,770
27,705
96,230



Notes: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.  
 Mother's Age "Unknown" category is excluded from this analysis.  
 Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

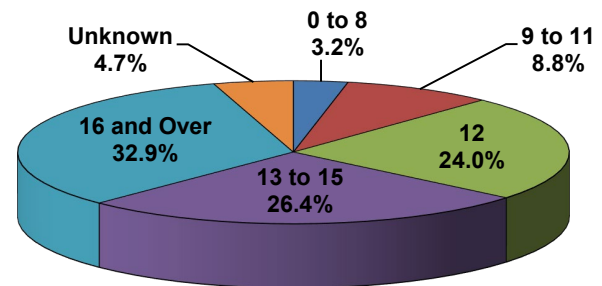
**Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Years of Education	Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
0 to 8	233	7.8	6.8	8.8
9 to 11	647	8.5	7.8	9.1
12	1,756	7.7	7.4	8.1
13 to 15	1,931	7.9	7.5	8.2
16 and Over	2,410	6.9	6.7	7.2
Unknown	342	9.8	8.8	10.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Total Live Births
2,989
7,655
22,787
24,531
34,785
3,483
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2021**

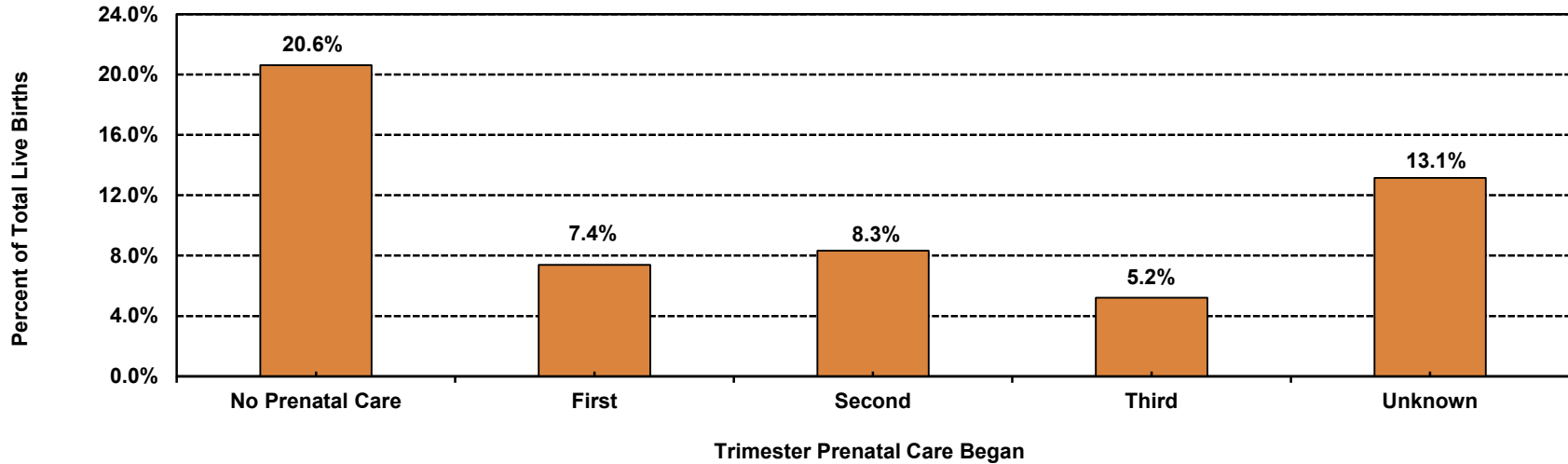


Notes: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.

This analysis did not adjust for teen mothers who may not have been old enough to have reached a higher categorical education level.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

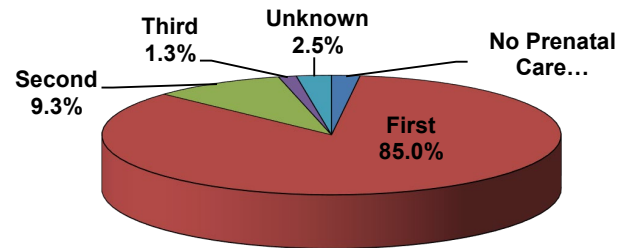
**Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care (PNC) Began  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began	Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
No Prenatal Care	146	20.6	17.6	23.6
First	6,219	7.4	7.2	7.6
Second	682	8.3	7.7	8.9
Third	92	5.2	4.2	6.2
Unknown	180	13.1	11.4	14.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Total Live Births
708
84,202
8,184
1,767
1,369
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began  
Los Angeles County, 2021**

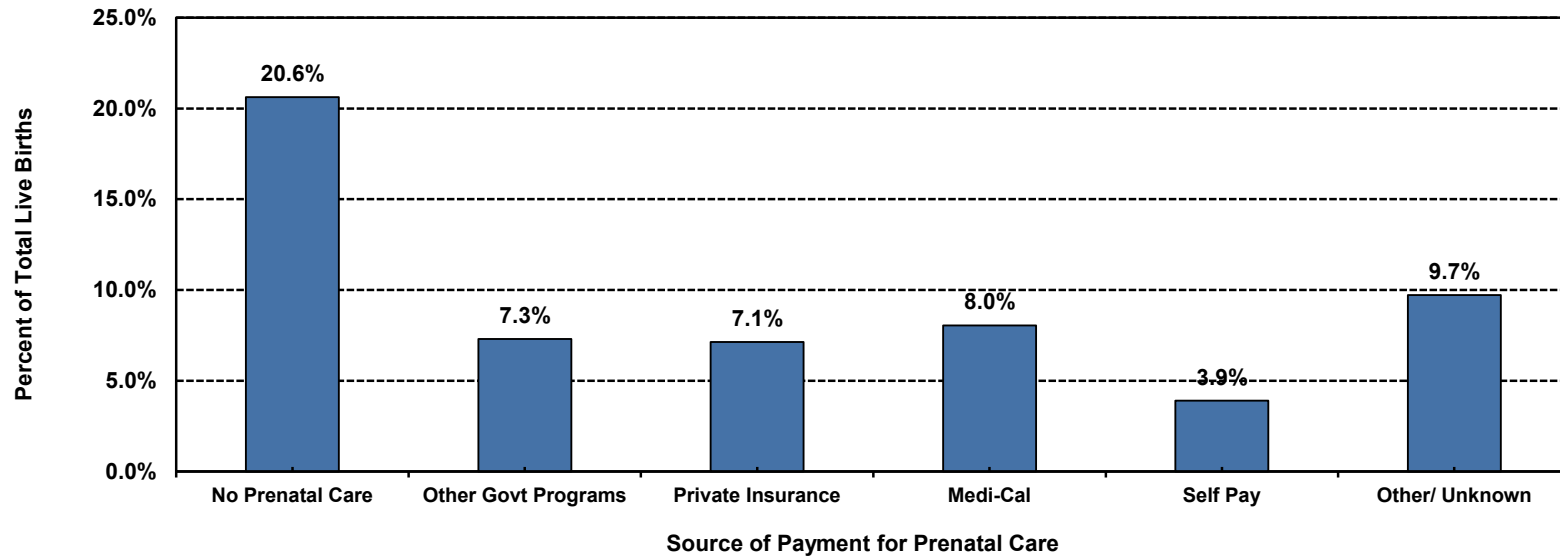


Notes: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.

"Trimester Prenatal Care (PNC) Began" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

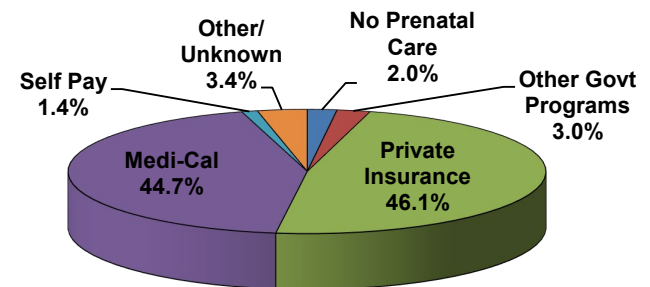
**Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Source of Payment for Prenatal Care	Low Birthweight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
No Prenatal Care	146	20.6	17.6	23.6
Other Govt Programs	165	7.3	6.2	8.4
Private Insurance	3,502	7.1	6.9	7.4
Medi-Cal	3,182	8.0	7.8	8.3
Self Pay	78	3.9	3.0	4.7
Other/ Unknown	246	9.7	8.6	10.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Total Live Births
708
2,261
49,133
39,596
2,001
2,531
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



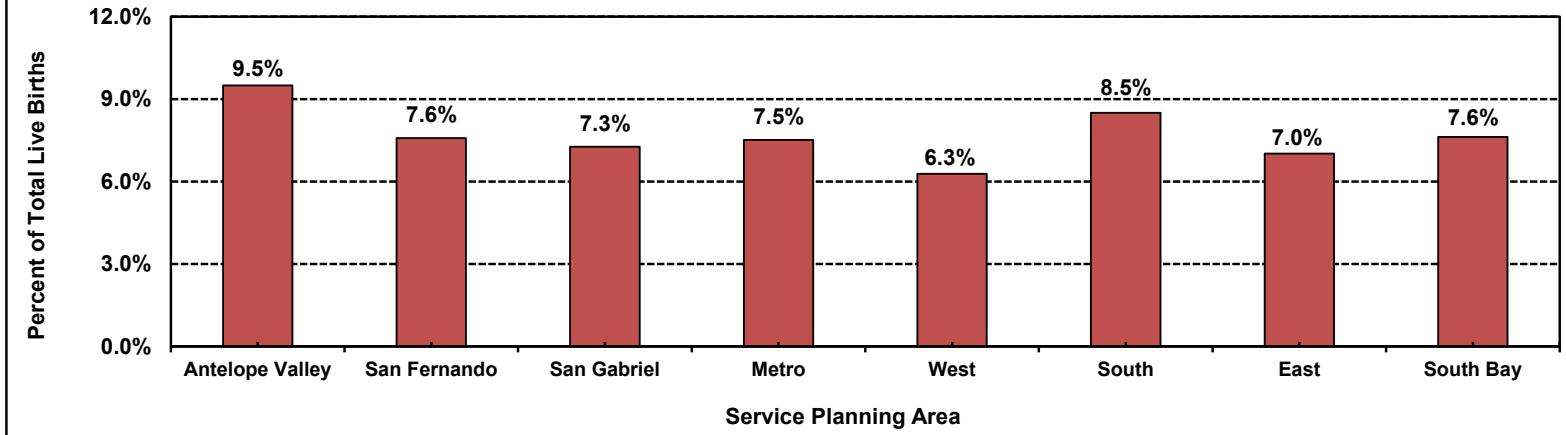
Notes: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.

"Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

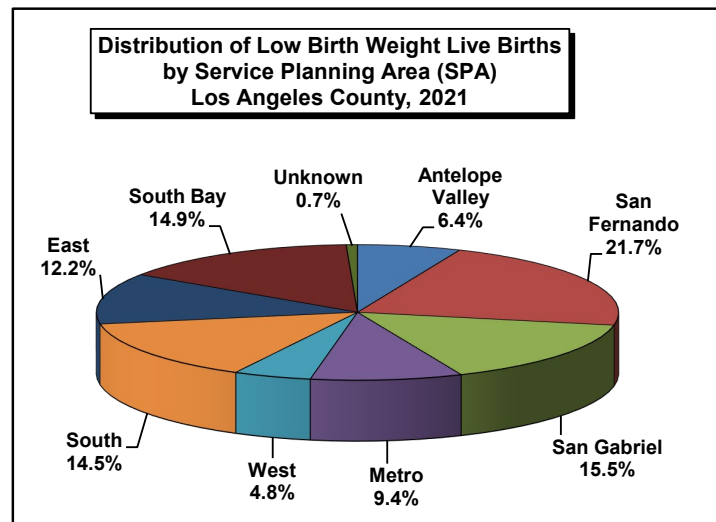


**Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Service Planning Area (SPA)  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Service Planning Area (SPA)	SPA		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
Antelope Valley	469	9.5	8.7	10.3
San Fernando	1,585	7.6	7.2	7.9
San Gabriel	1,131	7.3	6.9	7.7
Metro	686	7.5	7.0	8.1
West	352	6.3	5.6	6.9
South	1,062	8.5	8.0	9.0
East	890	7.0	6.6	7.5
South Bay	1,093	7.6	7.2	8.1
Unknown	51	8.8	6.5	11.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>

Total Live Births
4,937
20,910
15,568
9,125
5,609
12,497
12,678
14,329
577
<b>96,230</b>



Note: Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams at birth.  
Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

# **Very Low Birth Weight**

**Very Low Birth Weight**

**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 2030 OBJECTIVE**  
 None

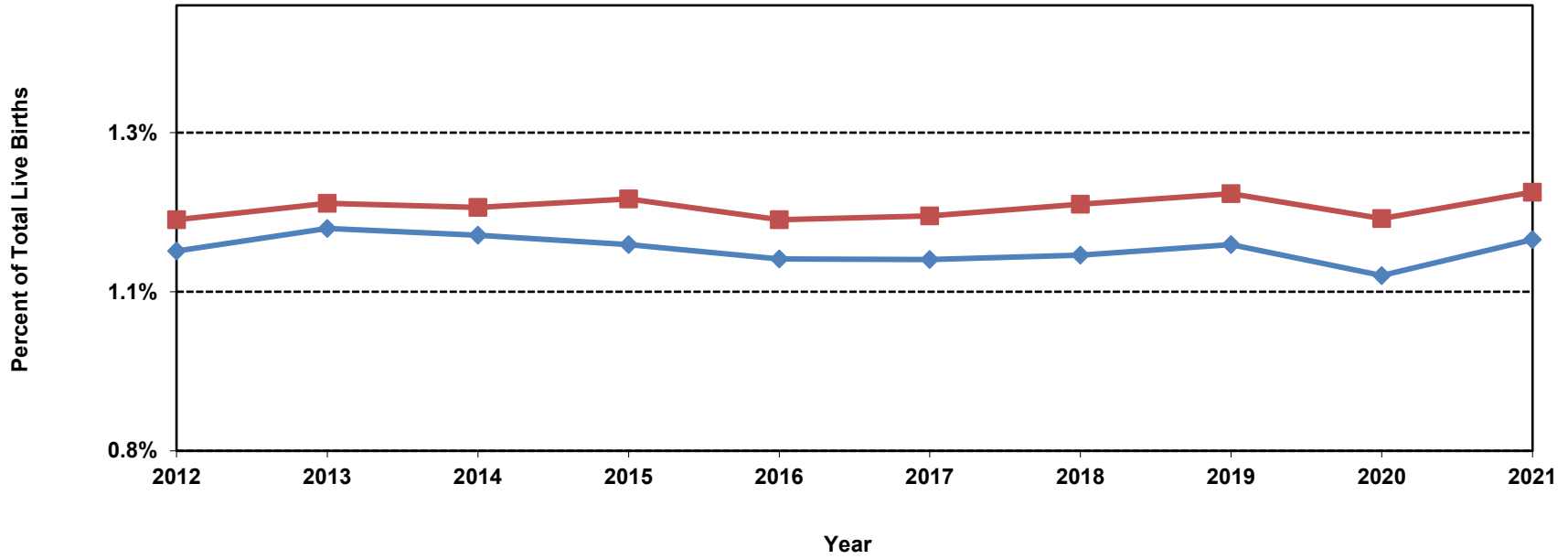
Year	California				Los Angeles County				Denominator: Live Births		
	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval		Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval		Year	California	LA County
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper			
2012	5,612	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,532	1.2	1.1	1.2	2012	503,788	131,697
2013	5,683	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,528	1.2	1.1	1.2	2013	494,392	128,526
2014	5,727	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,539	1.2	1.1	1.2	2014	502,973	130,150
2015	5,527	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,489	1.2	1.1	1.3	2015	491,748	124,507
2016	5,384	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,430	1.2	1.1	1.2	2016	488,827	122,941
2017	5,191	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,366	1.2	1.1	1.2	2017	471,658	116,850
2018	5,039	1.1	1.1	1.1	1,305	1.2	1.1	1.3	2018	454,920	109,893
2019	5,019	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,291	1.2	1.1	1.3	2019	446,479	107,202
2020	4,529	1.1	1.0	1.1	1,142	1.2	1.1	1.2	2020	421,109	98,021
2021	4,761	1.1	1.1	1.2	1,161	1.2	1.1	1.3	2021	420,608	96,230

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

Sources: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2021  
 California Department of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2012-2017  
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2007-2020. Updated in 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html>  
 California Department of Public Health, CHHS Open Data Portal, 1960-2021 Final Births by Year Statewide, Updated 10/18/21. Accessed at: URL: <https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/test-cdph-statewide-live-birth-profiles/resource>

**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
California vs. Los Angeles County, 2012-2021**

Los Angeles County      California



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

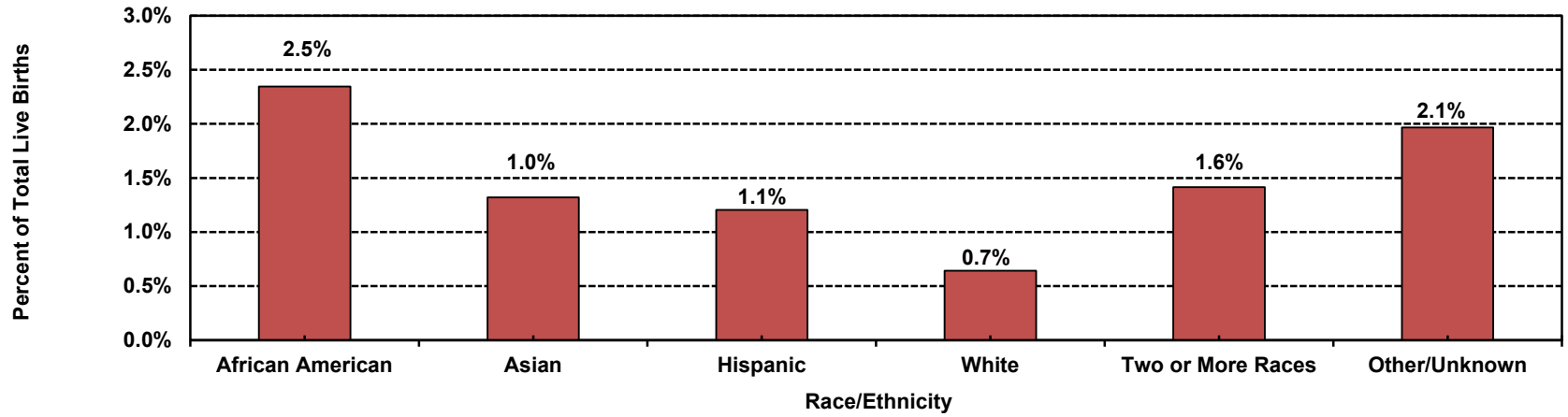
Sources: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2021

California Department of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2012-2017

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2007-2020. Updated in 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2007-2020. Updated in 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html>

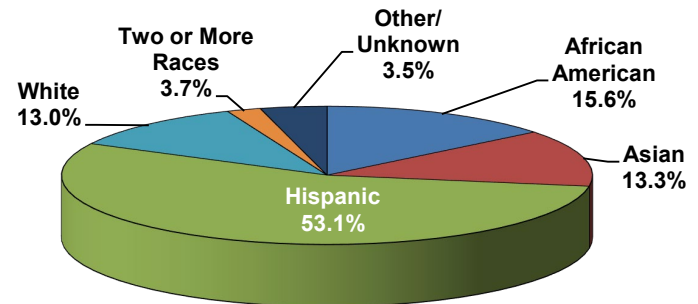
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Race/Ethnicity	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
African American	165	2.3	2.0	2.7
Asian	154	1.3	1.1	1.5
Hispanic	636	1.2	1.1	1.3
Native American	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
White	131	0.6	0.5	0.8
Two or More Races	24	1.4	0.9	2.0
Other/Unknown	47	2.0	1.4	2.5
Pacific Islander	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

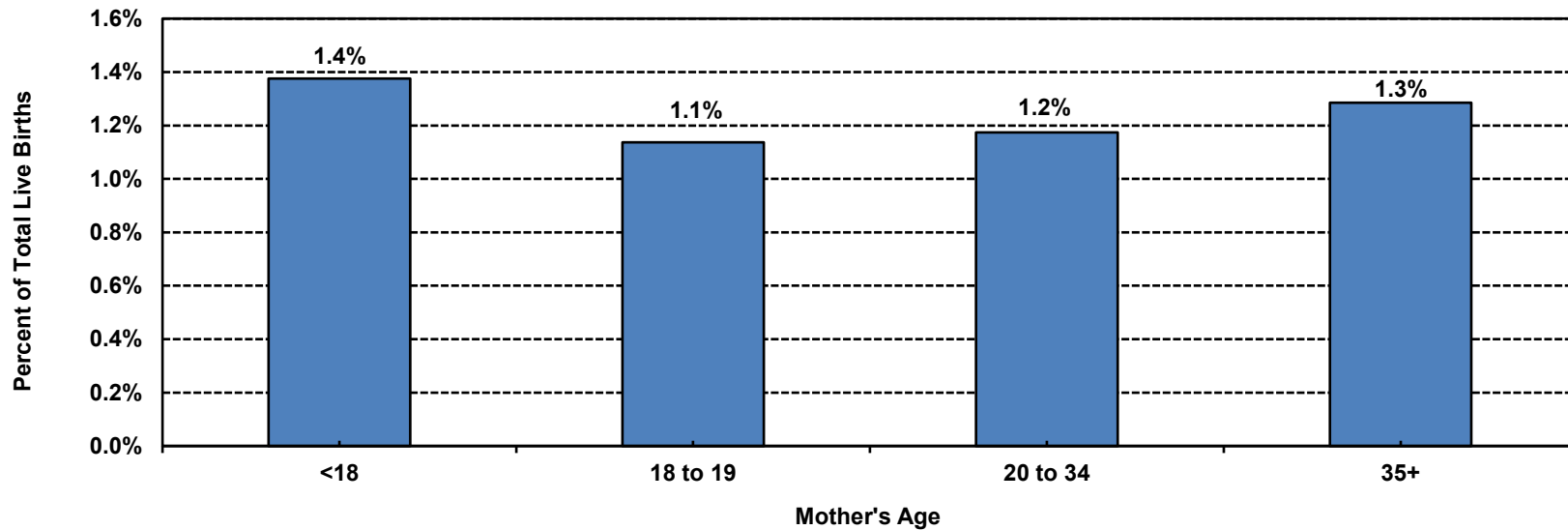
Total Live Births
7,039
11,670
52,733
118
20,393
1,697
2,390
190
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

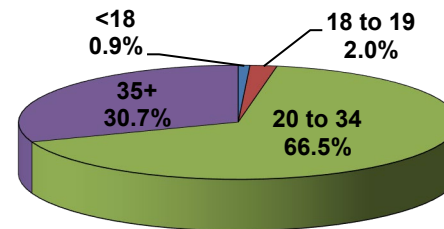
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Age  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Age	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
<18	10	1.4	0.5	2.2
18 to 19	23	1.1	0.7	1.6
20 to 34	772	1.2	1.1	1.3
35+	356	1.3	1.2	1.4
Other/Unknown	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

Total Live Births
N/C
2,023
65,770
27,705
N/C
96,230

**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Age  
Los Angeles County, 2021**

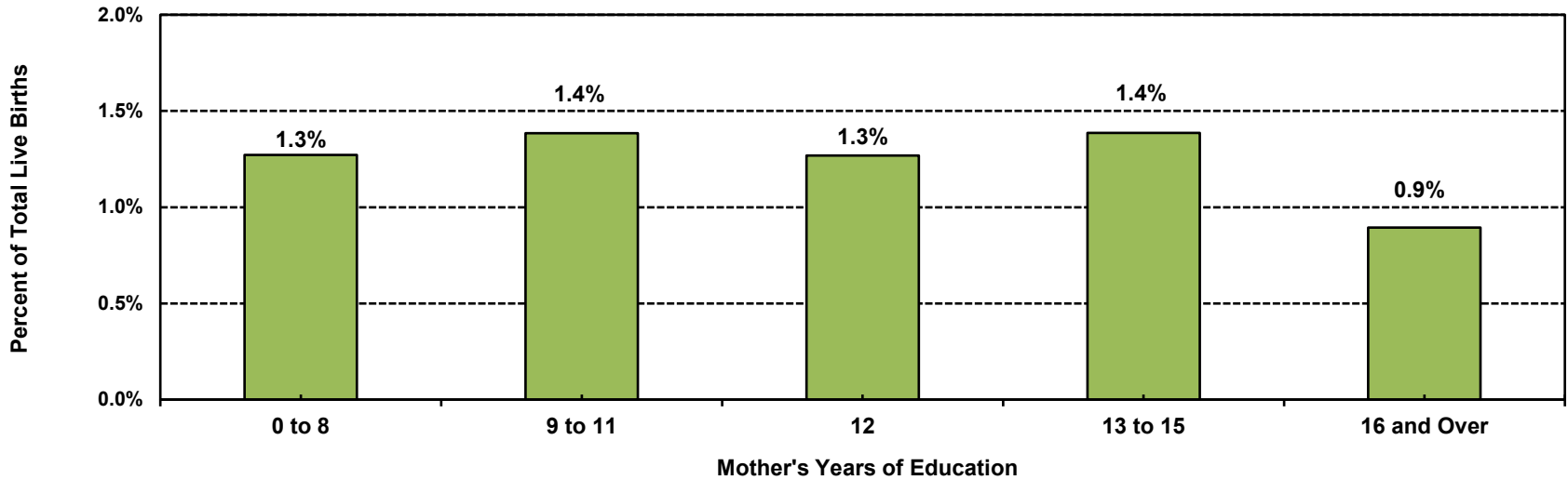


Notes: Very low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 1,500 grams at birth.

Total Live Births for the <18 category for "Mother's Age" is also suppressed to protect the confidentiality of individuals categorized as "Other/Unknown".

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

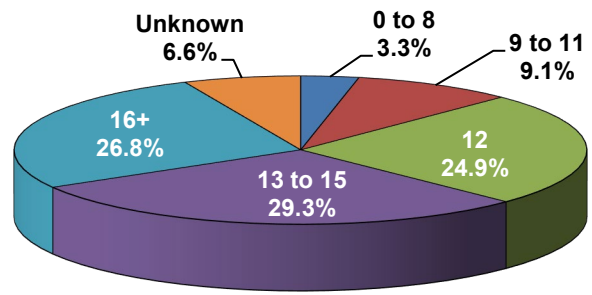
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Years of Education	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
0 to 8	38	1.3	0.9	1.7
9 to 11	106	1.4	1.1	1.6
12	289	1.3	1.1	1.4
13 to 15	340	1.4	1.2	1.5
16 and Over	311	0.9	0.8	1.0
Unknown	77	2.2	1.7	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

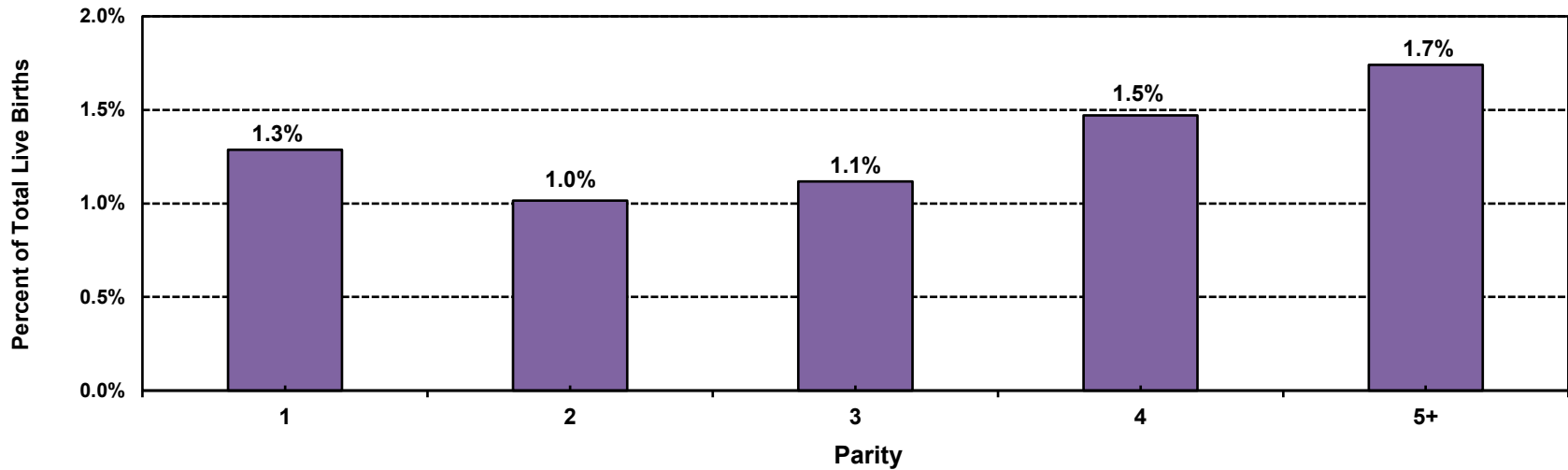
Total Live Births
2,989
7,655
22,787
24,531
34,785
3,483
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Notes: Very low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 1,500 grams at birth.  
 This analysis did not adjust for teen mothers who may not have been old enough to have reached a higher categorical education level.  
 Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

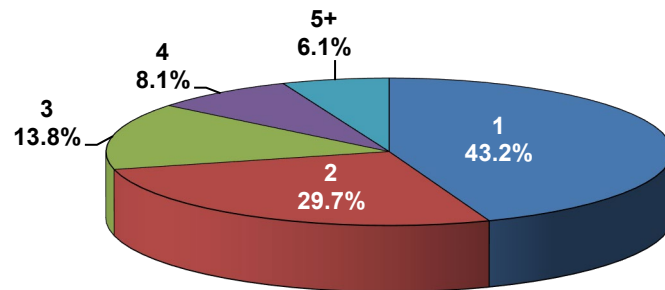
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Parity  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Parity	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
1	513	1.3	1.2	1.4
2	311	1.0	0.9	1.1
3	170	1.1	1.0	1.3
4	94	1.5	1.2	1.8
5+	71	1.7	1.3	2.1
Unknown	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

Total Live Births
39,873
30,624
15,208
6,395
4,080
50
<b>96,230</b>

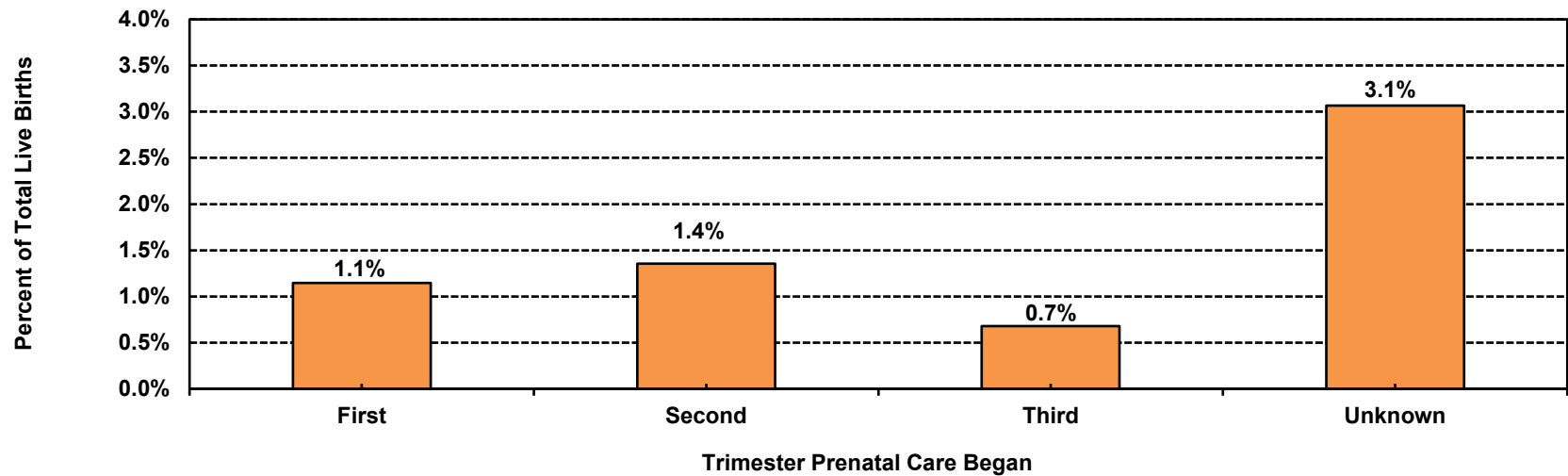
**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Parity  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Notes: Very low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 1,500 grams at birth.  
Parity is defined as the number of pregnancies resulting in live births to a woman.  
Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021



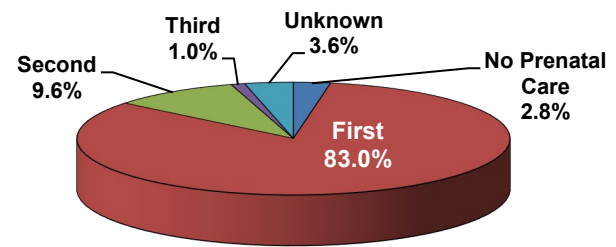
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care (PNC) Began  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
No Prenatal Care	32	4.5	3.0	6.0
First	964	1.1	1.1	1.2
Second	111	1.4	1.1	1.6
Third	12	0.7	0.3	1.1
Unknown	42	3.1	2.2	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

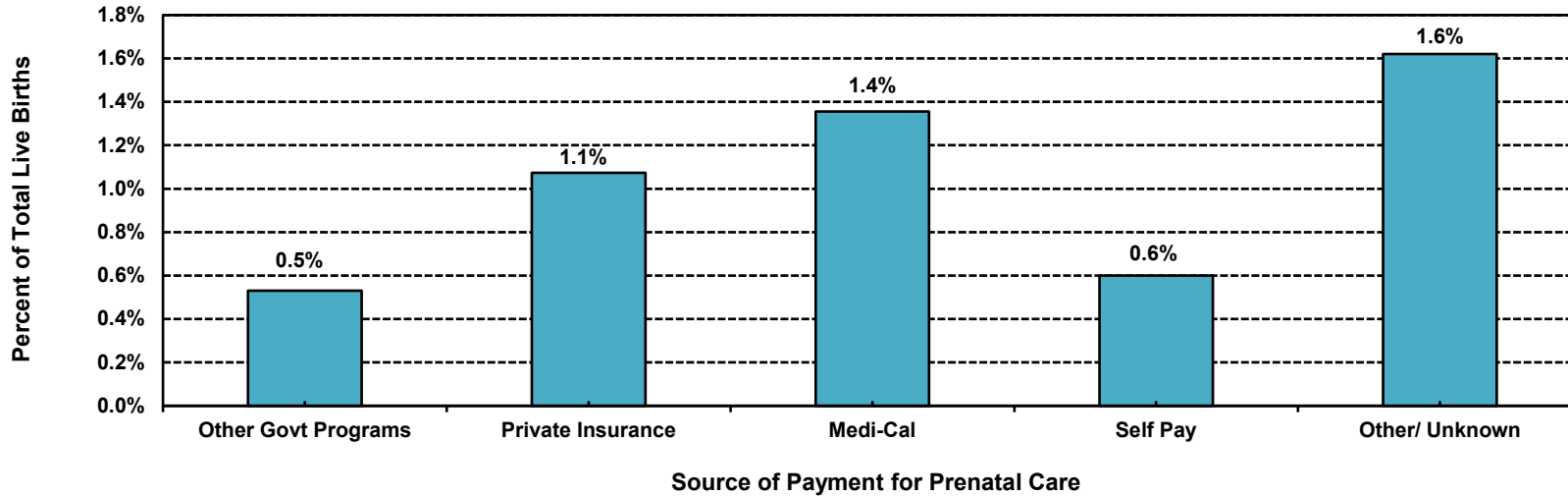
Total Live Births
708
84,202
8,184
1,767
1,369
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Notes: Very low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 1,500 grams at birth.  
Parity is defined as the number of pregnancies resulting in live births to a woman.  
Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

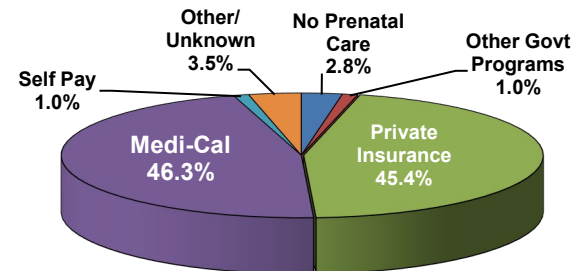
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Source of Payment for Prenatal Care	Very Low Birth Weight		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
No Prenatal Care	32	4.5	3.0	6.0
Other Govt Programs	12	0.5	0.2	0.8
Private Insurance	527	1.1	1.0	1.2
Medi-Cal	537	1.4	1.2	1.5
Self Pay	12	0.6	0.3	0.9
Other/ Unknown	41	1.6	1.1	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

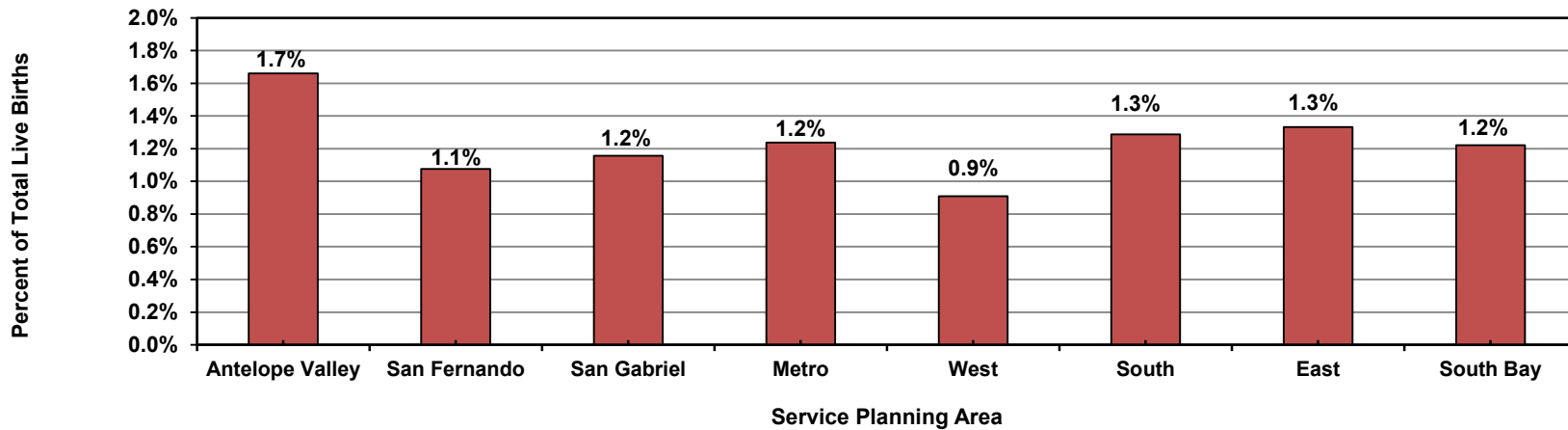
Total Live Births
708
2,261
49,133
39,596
2,001
2,531
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Notes: Very low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 1,500 grams at birth.  
 "Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth.  
 Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021

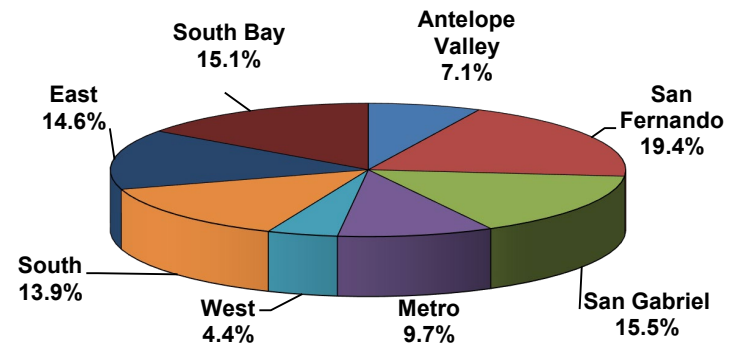
**Very Low Birth Weight Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Service Planning Area (SPA)  
Los Angeles County, 2021**



Los Angeles County, 2021				
Service Planning Area (SPA)	SPA		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
Antelope Valley	82	1.7	1.3	2.0
San Fernando	225	1.1	0.9	1.2
San Gabriel	180	1.2	1.0	1.3
Metro	113	1.2	1.0	1.5
West	51	0.9	0.7	1.2
South	161	1.3	1.1	1.5
East	169	1.3	1.1	1.5
South Bay	175	1.2	1.0	1.4
Unknown	5	0.9	0.1	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

Total Live Births
4,937
20,910
15,568
9,125
5,609
12,497
12,678
14,329
577
<b>96,230</b>

**Distribution of Very Low Birth Weight Live Births by Service Planning Area (SPA) Los Angeles County, 2021**



Note: Very low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 1,500 grams at birth.  
Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2021