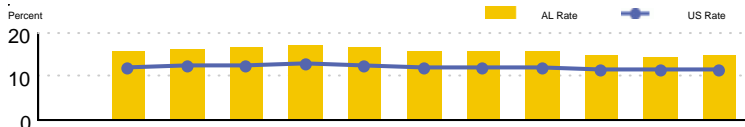


PERINATAL DATA SNAPSHOTS:

Alabama
Trends in Birth Outcomes

Health Indicators¹⁻⁵

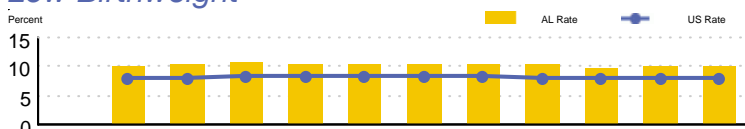
Preterm



Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
AL Rate	15.7	16.1	16.7	17.1	16.6	15.7	15.6	15.6	14.9	14.6	15.1
US Rate	12.3	12.5	12.7	12.8	12.7	12.3	12.2	12.0	11.7	11.5	11.4

- In 2013, 15.1% of infants (8,780 babies) were born preterm in Alabama.
- Between 2003 and 2013, the rate of infants born preterm in Alabama declined nearly 4%.
- Approximately three-quarters of all preterm births occur spontaneously, and the remainder result from medical intervention.
- The most consistently identified risk factors for spontaneous preterm births include a history of preterm birth, current multifetal pregnancy, and some uterine and/or cervical abnormalities.

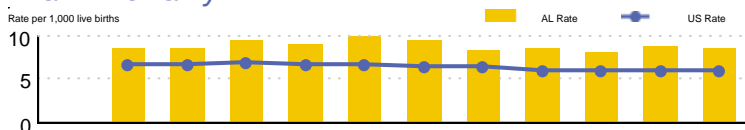
Low Birthweight



Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
AL Rate	10.0	10.4	10.7	10.5	10.4	10.6	10.3	10.3	9.9	10.0	10.0
US Rate	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.0

- In 2013, 10.0% of infants (5,805 babies) were born low birthweight in Alabama.
- Between 2003 and 2013, the rate of infants born low birthweight in Alabama was unchanged.
- Major risk factors for low birthweight include multifetal pregnancy, prematurity, smoking, inadequate maternal nutrition, and extremes of maternal age.

Infant Mortality



Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
AL Rate	8.6	8.7	9.5	9.0	9.9	9.5	8.3	8.7	8.2	8.9	8.6
US Rate	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0

- In 2013, the infant mortality rate was 8.6 per 1,000 live births (500 babies) in Alabama.
- Between 2003 and 2013, the infant mortality rate in Alabama was unchanged.
- Some leading causes of infant mortality are birth defects, prematurity/low birthweight, and sudden infant death syndrome.

Health Indicators, Alabama⁶

	Maternal Race / Ethnicity			Maternal Age (years)				Plurality		All
	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	<20	20-29	30-39	≥40	Singleton	Multiple	
Preterm	12.7%	19.4%	14.3%	16.3%	14.1%	15.5%	20.2%	13.2%	61.0%	14.8%
Low Birthweight	8.0%	14.8%	6.4%	10.9%	9.6%	10.2%	13.2%	8.1%	62.4%	10.0%
Infant Mortality	6.9	12.9	5.0	11.3	8.4	8.0	8.3	7.6	34.6	8.6

Footnotes

- Preterm is less than 37 completed weeks gestation.
- Low birthweight is less than 2500 grams (5 1/2 pounds).
- Infant mortality rate is infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
- All race categories exclude Hispanics.
- Multiple births include twin, triplet, and higher order deliveries.

Sources

- 1 National Center for Health Statistics, final natality data.
- 2 Prematurity risk factors compiled by March of Dimes available at www.marchofdimes.org/pregnancy/preterm-labor-and-birth.aspx.
- 3 Iams JD. The epidemiology of preterm birth. Clin Perinatol. 2003;30:651-54.
- 4 Low Birthweight Fact Sheet by March of Dimes available at www.marchofdimes.org/baby/low-birthweight.aspx.
- 5 National Center for Health Statistics, final mortality data, 1990-1994 and period linked birth/infant death data, 1995-present.
- 6 National Center for Health Statistics, final natality data, (2011-2013 Average) and period linked infant birth/death data (2011-2013 Average).