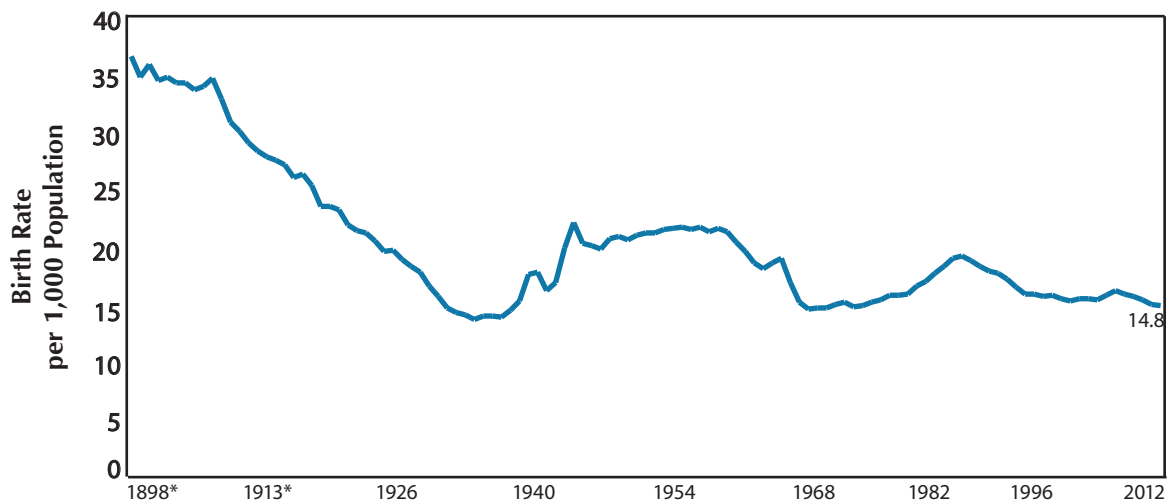


SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 2012

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PREGNANCY OUTCOMES



*1898-1913 Birth counts are estimated as number reported was determined to be incomplete.



Bill de Blasio, Mayor

Daniel Kass, MSPH, Interim Commissioner

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 2012 THE CITY OF NEW YORK PREGNANCY OUTCOMES

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February 2014

THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS STAFF UNDER THE DIRECTION OF REGINA ZIMMERMAN, PhD, MPH AND WENHUI LI, PhD.

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ANNUAL PREGNANCY OUTCOMES, INFANT MORTALITY, MORTALITY, EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS ARCHIVES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [HTTP://WWW.NYC.GOV/VITALSTATS](http://www.nyc.gov/vitalstats).

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PREGNANCY OUTCOMES OVERVIEW

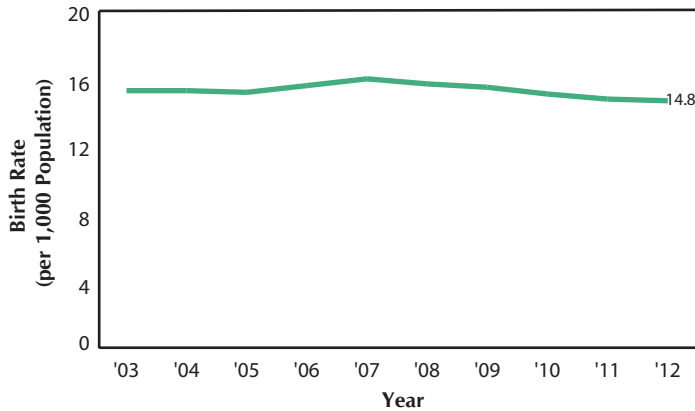
All pregnancy outcomes, whether a live birth or a spontaneous or induced termination of pregnancy, are required by law to be reported to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. This report compiles the information reported about these events to monitor the health of women and their infants in New York City. For additional tables, technical notes and samples of NYC certificates of birth, please see the Bureau of Vital Statistics website at www.nyc.gov/vitalstats.

Select Key Findings:

- The 2012 citywide crude birth rate was 14.8 births per 1,000 population, the lowest rate since 1979 when the rate was also 14.8. Since 2003, it decreased 3.9% from 15.4 (Figure 1).
- Since 2003, the teen birth rate continued its steady decline to a new low of 23.6 births per 1,000 women age 15-19 years in 2012. The rate decreased 32.4% from 34.9 in 2003, and 8.5% from 25.8 in 2011 (Figure 5).
- Numerous characteristics of birth correlate with the percentage of neighborhood population living below poverty. Neighborhoods with a higher percentage of population living below the federal poverty level have more preterm births, low birthweight newborns, pre-pregnancy overweight/obese mothers, and mothers who have late or no prenatal care. Neighborhoods with a higher percent of population living below the federal poverty level also have fewer multiple births, breastfed only babies, C-sections, and pre-pregnancy normal weight mothers (Table 2).
- Preterm (<37 weeks) and low birthweight (<2,500g) infants each accounted for less than 10% of live births in 2012. Non-Hispanic blacks were disproportionately more likely to have preterm (12.4%) and low birth weight infants (12.0%) than other racial/ethnic groups (Figures 7-12).
- In 2012, 39.4% of women giving birth were either overweight (23.4%) or obese (16.0%) pre-pregnancy. Disproportionately more non-Hispanic black (58.1%) and Hispanic (51.0%) mothers were overweight or obese pre-pregnancy (Figures 13-15).
- Citywide, the percentage of live births born via C-section increased from 27.0% of births in 2003 to 33.1% of births in 2009 remaining relatively stable since, at 32.7% in 2012 (Figures 16-18).
- The majority (87.2%) of infants born citywide in 2012 were fed some breast milk within five days of birth; 31.7% of newborns were fed exclusively breastmilk (Figures 22-24).
- Citywide, 6.8% of mothers received either late (3rd trimester) or no prenatal care in 2012; disproportionately more non-Hispanic black mothers (11.8%) received late or no prenatal care (Figures 25-27).

PREGNANCY OUTCOMES OVERVIEW

Figure 1. Crude Birth Rate, New York City, 2003–2012



- The 2012 citywide crude birth rate was 14.8 births per 1,000 population, the lowest rate since 1979 when the rate was also 14.8. The rate decreased 3.9% from 15.4 births per 1,000 population in 2003 and 0.7% from 14.9 births per 1,000 population in 2011.
- More detailed information on current birth rates can be found in Table 1 and Figures 4, 5, and 6.

- The citywide crude rate of spontaneous terminations of pregnancy increased from 6.5 terminations per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 years in 2003 to 7.0 in 2012, an 8.7% increase. Since 2011, it decreased 9.9%.
- Changes in rates of spontaneous terminations of pregnancy (i.e. miscarriages and still births) are likely due to variations in reporting facility's responsiveness to legal reporting requirements rather than true changes in such events. DOHMH continues to conduct outreach and education of targeted medical facilities about legal reporting requirements.
- More detailed information on spontaneous terminations of pregnancy rates can be found in Table 1.

Figure 2. Crude Spontaneous Terminations of Pregnancy Rate, New York City, 2003–2012

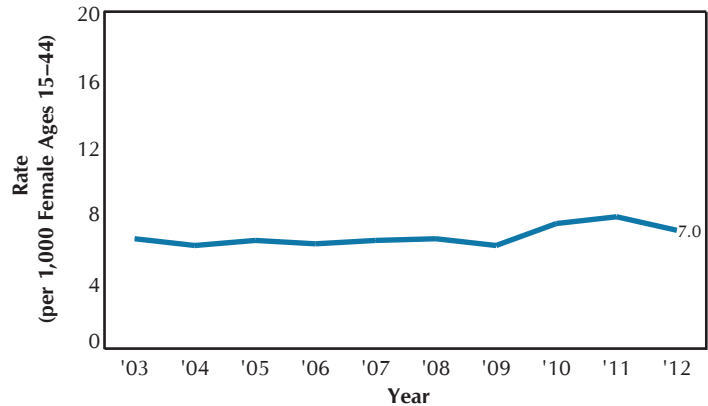
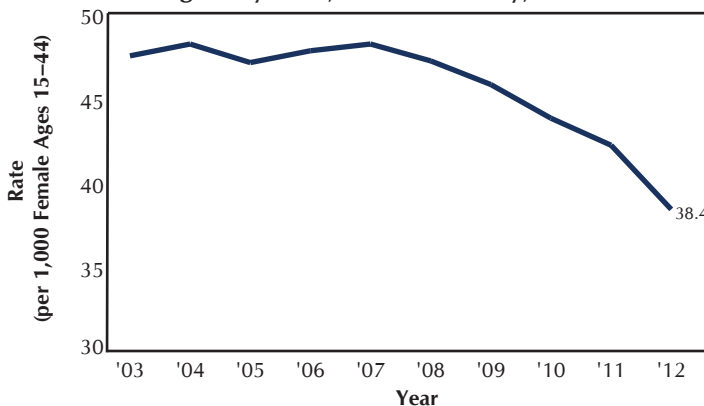


Figure 3. Crude Induced Terminations of Pregnancy Rate, New York City, 2003–2012



- The citywide crude induced terminations of pregnancy rate decreased 19.0% from 2003 to 2012, and nearly the entire decline has occurred in the past five years.
- Since 2011, induced terminations of pregnancy decreased 8.6%.
- Annual outreach and education of identified medical facilities regarding reporting requirements continue.
- More detailed information on induced terminations of pregnancy rates can be found in Table 1.

Table 1. Pregnancy Outcomes, Pregnancy Outcome Rates*, and Pregnancy Rates* by Mother's Age Group, Racial/Ethnic Group, and Borough of Residence, New York City, 2012

	Age of Woman	Live Births		Spontaneous Terminations		Induced Terminations		Pregnancy
	Years	Counts [†]	Rates per 1,000	Counts [†]	Rates per 1,000	Counts [†]	Rates per 1,000	Rates per 1,000
New York City [‡]	15-19	5,795	23.6	675	2.8	9,417	38.4	64.7
	20-29	53,397	73.9	4,923	6.8	40,965	56.7	137.5
	30-39	57,374	87.1	6,270	9.5	20,533	31.2	127.8
	40-49	6,664	11.4	1,645	2.8	2,897	4.9	19.1
	Total	123,231	14.8	13,514	7.0	73,815	38.4	109.6
Ethnic Group^{†§}								
Hispanic	15-19	3,281	36.9	208	2.3	3,357	37.8	77.0
	20-29	18,860	91.9	1,248	6.1	13,295	64.8	162.7
	30-39	13,154	71.1	1,225	6.6	5,664	30.6	108.3
	40-49	1,347	8.0	270	1.6	600	3.6	13.1
	Total	36,642	15.2	2,951	5.2	22,917	40.6	110.7
Asian and Pacific Islander	15-19	177	6.1	11	0.4	293	10.1	16.6
	20-29	8,872	85.6	333	3.2	2,172	20.9	109.7
	30-39	11,115	105.4	563	5.3	1,663	15.8	126.5
	40-49	985	11.0	111	1.2	365	4.1	16.3
	Total	21,149	18.8	1,018	3.6	4,493	15.8	93.8
Non-Hispanic White	15-19	477	8.5	71	1.3	670	11.9	21.7
	20-29	13,230	54.3	853	3.5	5,210	21.4	79.2
	30-39	22,486	104.0	1,676	7.8	3,205	14.8	126.6
	40-49	2,919	17.7	449	2.7	619	3.8	24.2
	Total	39,112	14.2	3,049	5.1	9,704	16.1	86.2
Non-Hispanic Black	15-19	1,778	26.9	216	3.3	4,415	66.7	96.9
	20-29	11,812	76.0	1,392	9.0	17,390	111.8	196.8
	30-39	9,846	70.3	1,430	10.2	8,441	60.3	140.9
	40-49	1,322	8.6	408	2.7	1,080	7.1	18.4
	Total	24,758	13.0	3,446	7.9	31,328	72.0	136.9
Borough of Residence[¶]								
Manhattan	15-19	583	15.2	84	2.2	1,394	36.3	53.7
	20-29	5,635	31.7	609	3.4	7,087	39.8	74.9
	30-39	11,266	76.9	1,143	7.8	3,356	22.9	107.6
	40-49	1,602	14.9	305	2.8	546	5.1	22.8
	Total	19,086	11.8	2,141	5.1	12,384	29.6	80.2
Bronx	15-19	1,799	34.6	156	3.0	2,542	48.8	86.4
	20-29	10,472	90.0	966	8.3	9,952	85.6	183.9
	30-39	6,949	68.0	850	8.3	4,474	43.8	120.1
	40-49	824	8.1	219	2.1	500	4.9	15.1
	Total	20,044	14.2	2,191	6.8	17,468	54.4	123.7
Brooklyn	15-19	1,843	23.8	208	2.7	2,728	35.3	61.8
	20-29	20,189	90.9	1,760	7.9	11,943	53.8	152.6
	30-39	18,105	87.8	1,942	9.4	6,123	29.7	126.9
	40-49	1,950	11.1	540	3.1	890	5.1	19.3
	Total	42,087	16.4	4,450	7.5	21,686	36.5	114.7
Queens	15-19	1,194	19.1	153	2.4	1,822	29.1	50.6
	20-29	12,304	70.5	1,058	6.1	8,029	46.0	122.5
	30-39	12,235	70.8	1,400	8.1	4,363	25.2	104.1
	40-49	1,253	7.6	322	2.0	598	3.6	13.2
	Total	26,986	11.9	2,933	6.0	14,812	30.1	90.8
Staten Island	15-19	228	15.2	23	1.5	314	21.0	37.8
	20-29	2,140	68.7	211	6.8	1,209	38.8	114.3
	30-39	2,657	86.6	336	11.0	546	17.8	115.4
	40-49	235	6.6	81	2.3	74	2.1	11.0
	Total	5,260	11.2	651	6.9	2,143	22.8	85.6

Note: Population data used to calculate rates are 2012 estimates based on the 2010 census. See Technical Notes: Population.

*See Technical Notes: Population, Vital Event Rates

†Counts for females age 15 to 19 are the number of events to females age <20; counts for females age 40 to 49 are the number of events to females age 40 and over.

‡See Technical Notes: Vital Event Rates

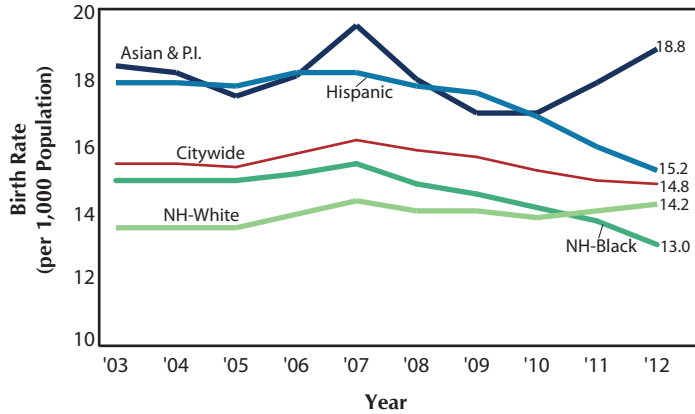
§Includes all events occurring in NYC regardless of residence.

¶Other/unknown ethnicities are excluded.

‡Numbers and rates are limited to events occurring in NYC to NYC residents only.

BIRTH RATE

Figure 4. Birth Rate by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2003–2012



- In 2012, the birth rate was highest among Asians and Pacific Islanders at 18.8 births per 1,000 population, followed by Hispanics at 15.2, non-Hispanic whites at 14.2, and non-Hispanic blacks at 13.0.
- From 2003 to 2012, birth rates increased among non-Hispanic whites (6.0%) and Asians and Pacific Islanders (3.3%), and decreased among Hispanics (14.6%) and non-Hispanic blacks (12.8%).

- In 2012, women aged 30 to 39 years of age had the highest birth rate at 87.1 births per 1,000 population of women 30 to 39, followed by women 20 to 29 (73.9), 15 to 19 (23.6), and 40 to 49 (11.4) years old.
- Since 2003, the teen birth rate continued its steady decline to a new low of 23.6 births per 1,000 women 15-19 years of age in 2012. The rate has decreased 32.4% from 34.9 in 2003, and 8.5% from 25.8 in 2011.

Figure 5. Birth Rate by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2003–2012

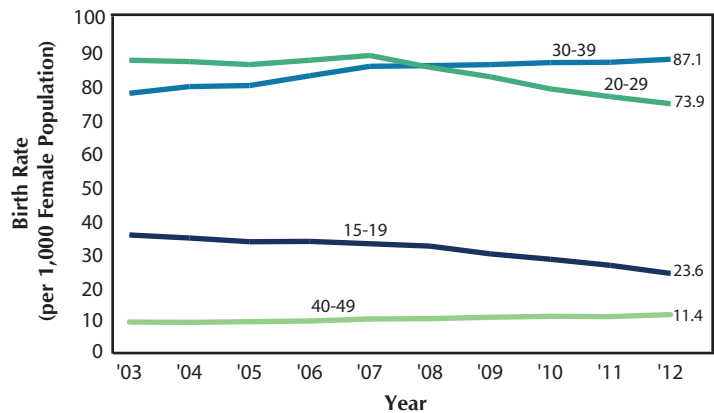
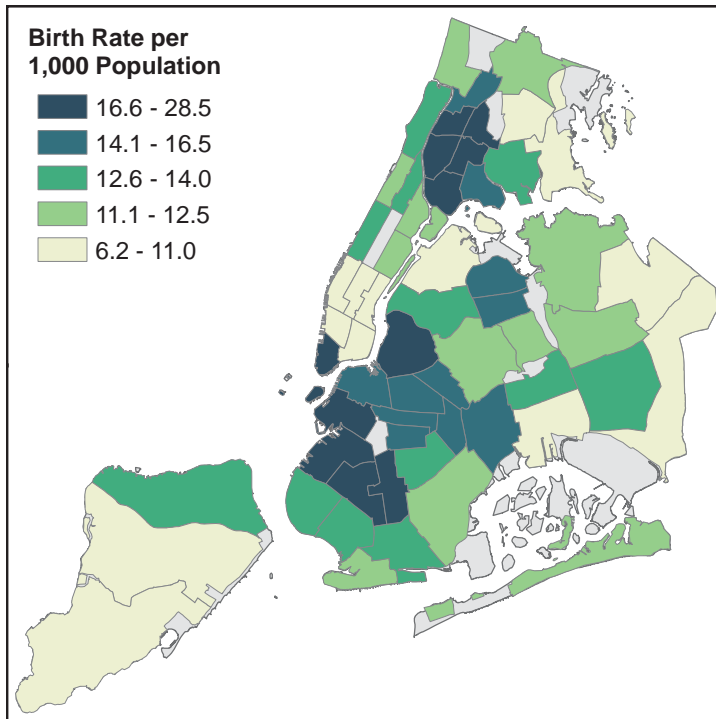


Figure 6. Birth Rate by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



- In 2012, the community districts with the lowest birth rates in New York City were Bayside at 6.2 births per 1,000 population, Throgs Neck at 7.7, Queens Village at 8.5, Tottenville at 9.0 and Murray Hill and Chelsea/Clinton, each at 9.1.
- The community districts with the highest birth rates in 2012 were Borough Park at 28.5 births per 1,000 population, Sunset Park at 25.1, Williamsburg/Greenpoint at 20.1, Battery Park/Tribeca at 19.0, and University/Morris Heights at 18.0.

PRETERM LIVE BIRTHS

- Since 2003, preterm live births (<37 weeks) declined 5.3%, accounting for 9.0% of all births citywide in 2012.
- Non-Hispanic blacks had more preterm live births (12.4%) in 2012 than other racial/ethnic groups (range: 7.4% to 9.4%), consistent with previous years.
- Since 2003, preterm births declined 7.5% among Asians and Pacific Islanders, 5.1% among non-Hispanic whites, 1.6% among non-Hispanic blacks and remained unchanged at 9.4% among Hispanics.

Figure 7. Percent Preterm Live Births by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2003–2012

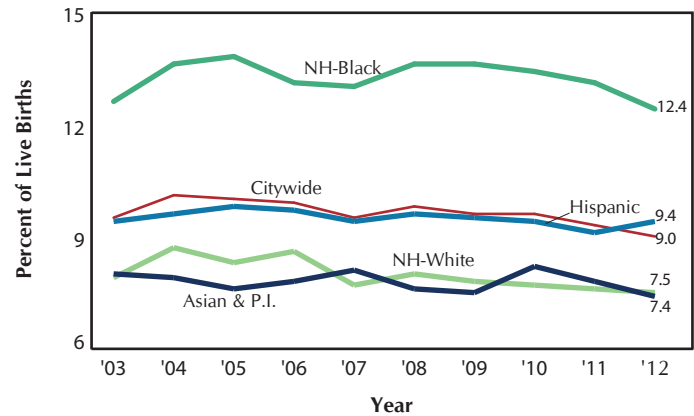
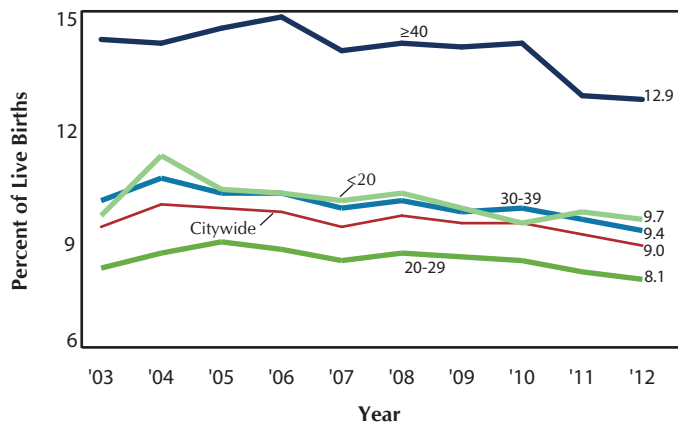


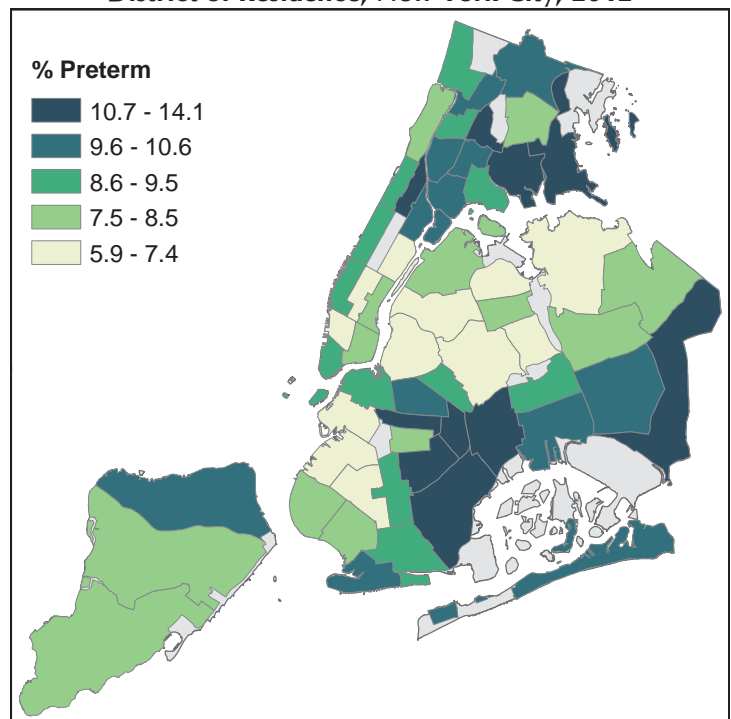
Figure 8. Percent Preterm Live Births by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2003–2012



- In 2012, mothers 40 years or older had more preterm births (12.9%) than younger mothers (range: 8.1% to 9.7%).
- Since 2003, preterm births declined 11.0% among mothers 40 years or older, 7.8% among mothers 30 to 39, 3.6% among mothers 20 to 29 and 1.0% among mothers less than 20 years of age.

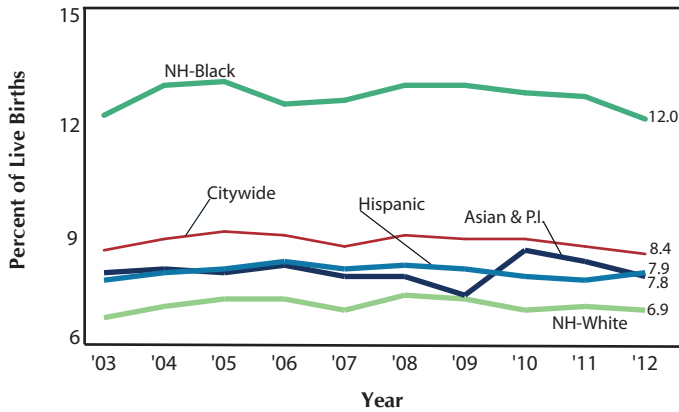
- In 2012, the community districts with the highest percentage of preterm live births were Brownsville (14.1%), East Flatbush (13.3%), East New York (12.3%), Queens Village and Canarsie (11.9% each).
- In 2012, the community districts with the lowest percentage of preterm live births included Midtown Business District (5.9%), Williamsburg/Greenpoint and Greenwich Village/SOHO (6.1% each), Upper East Side (6.2%), Sunset Park and Borough Park (6.3%), and Flushing (6.4%).

Figure 9. Percent Preterm Live Births by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



LOW BIRTHWEIGHT

Figure 10. Percent Low Birthweight Live Births by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2003–2012



- In 2012, 8.4% of citywide live births were low birthweight (<2,500g), a 1.2% decline since 2003.
- Non-Hispanic blacks had disproportionately more low birthweight births (12.0%) in 2012, relative to other racial/ethnic groups (range: 6.9% to 7.9%).

- The distribution of low birthweight live births by mother's age has remained stable over the past 10 years.
- In 2012, mothers aged 40 years or older had the highest percentage of low birthweight live births (12.4%), followed by mothers aged less than 20 (9.9%), 30 to 39 (8.4%), and 20 to 29 (7.7%).

Figure 11. Percent Low Birthweight Live Births by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2003–2012

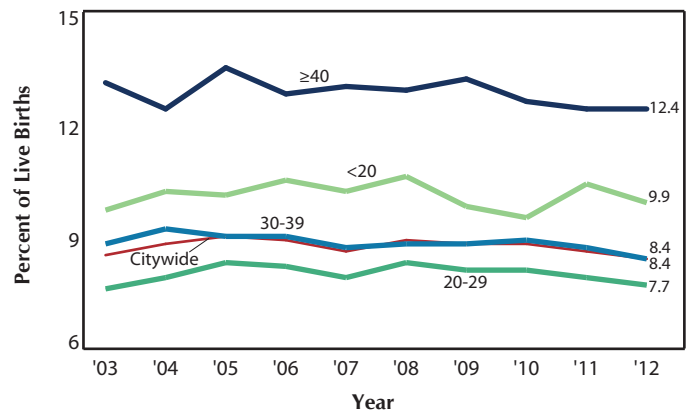
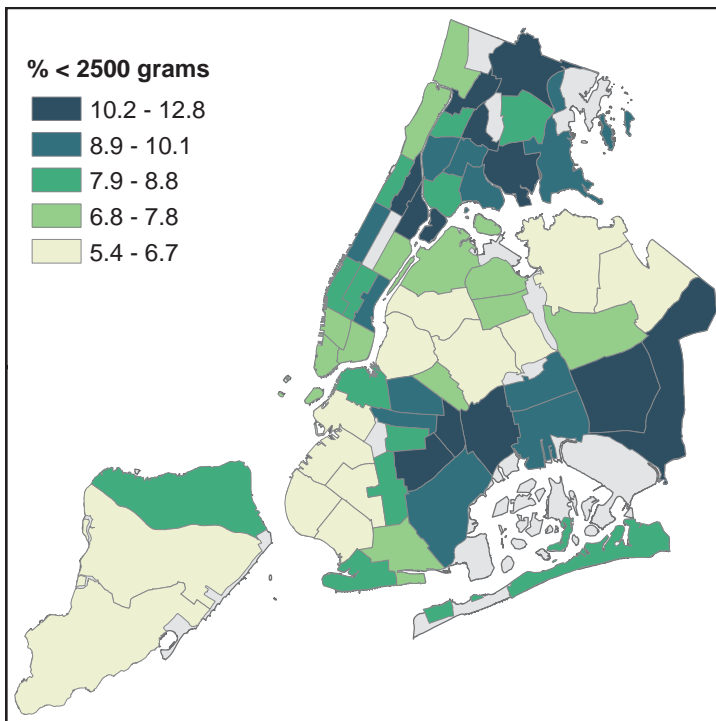


Figure 12. Percent Low Birthweight Live Births by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012

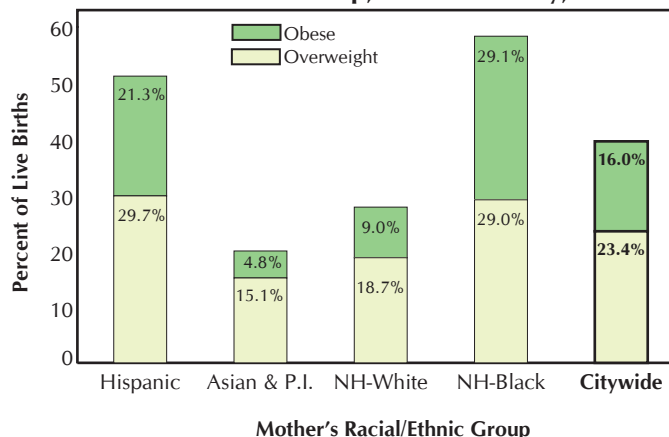


- In 2012, the community districts with the highest percentages of infants born weighing less than 2,500 grams were Brownsville (12.8%), East Flatbush (12.1%), Queens Village (11.9%), East Tremont (11.7%), and Central Harlem (11.5%).
- In 2012, Williamsburg/Greenpoint was the community district with the lowest percentage of low birthweight live births (5.4%), followed by Sunset Park (5.7%), Flushing (5.8%), Borough Park (5.9%), and Bayside, Sunnyside/Woodside and Ridgewood/Glendale (6.0% each).

MOTHER'S BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)

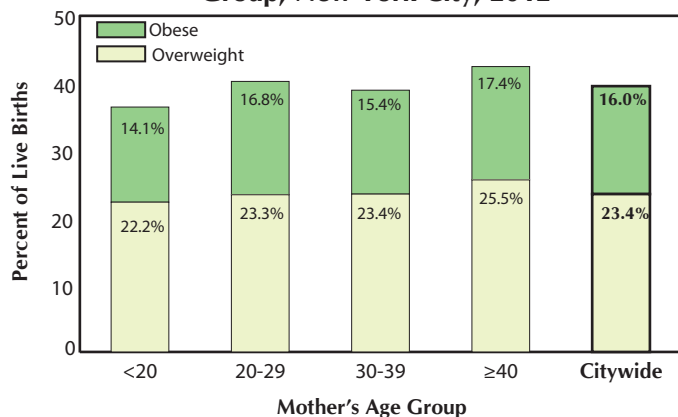
- In 2012, 39.4% of women giving birth were either overweight (23.4%) or obese (16.0%) pre-pregnancy.
- Disproportionately more non-Hispanic black (58.1%), and Hispanic (51.0%) women giving birth were overweight or obese pre-pregnancy.
- Asians and Pacific Islanders, and non-Hispanic whites had the lowest levels of pre-pregnancy overweight and obesity at 19.9% and 27.7%, respectively.

Figure 13. Pre-pregnancy BMI* by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2012



*Body Mass Index (BMI): Overweight: (25 BMI < 30), Obese: (BMI ≥ 30)

Figure 14. Pre-pregnancy BMI* by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2012

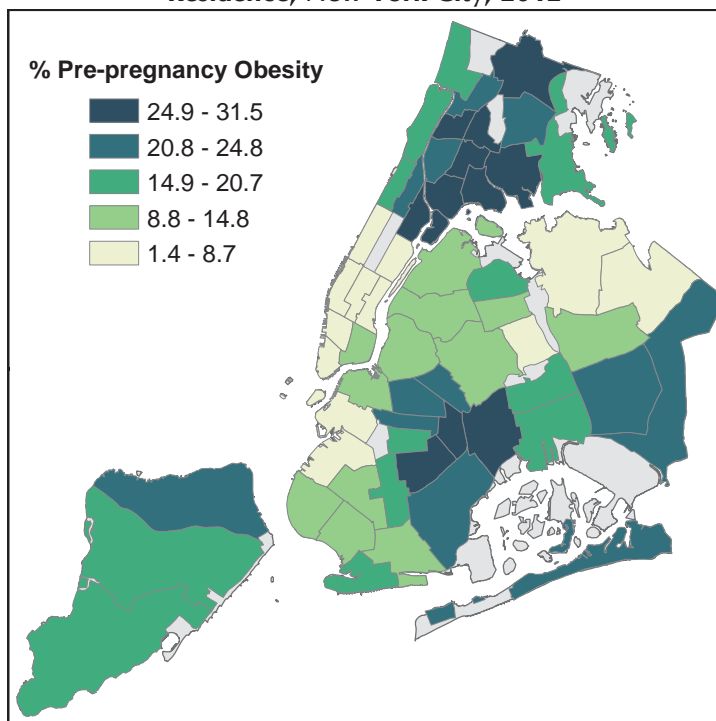


*Body Mass Index (BMI): Overweight: (25 BMI < 30), Obese: (BMI ≥ 30)

- In 2012, the percentage of pre-pregnancy overweight and obese mothers was similar across all age groups.
- In 2012, teenage mothers (<20 years) were least often obese (14.1%), while mothers aged 40 years or older were most often obese (17.4%).

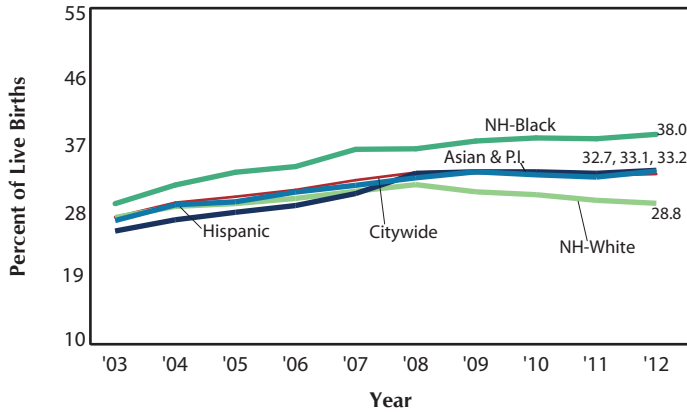
- In 2012, the community district with the highest percentage of pre-pregnancy obesity was Brownsville at 31.5%, followed by East Flatbush (29.2%), Morrisania and Hunts Point (29.0% each), East New York (27.1%), and Williamsbridge (27.0%).
- The five community districts with the lowest percentage of mothers with pre-pregnancy obesity were Battery Park/Tribeca (1.4%), Greenwich Village/SoHo (2.2%), Murray Hill (2.3%), Upper East Side (2.9%), and Midtown Business District (3.0%) in 2012.

Figure 15. Percent of Infants Born to Mothers with Pre-pregnancy Obesity by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



CESAREAN SECTION (C-SECTION) BIRTHS

Figure 16. Percent of Live Births Delivered by C-section by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2003–2012



- Citywide, 32.7% of live births were born via C-section in 2012, a 21.1% increase since 2003.
- Since 2003, C-section deliveries increased 32.4% among non-Hispanic blacks, 32.3% among Asians and Pacific Islanders, 24.9% among Hispanics, and 7.1% among non-Hispanic whites.

- Among mothers 40 years or older, nearly half (49.2%) of all births were delivered by C-section in 2012.
- Since 2003, C-section deliveries increased 30.4% among mothers less than 20 years of age, 26.7% among mothers 20 to 29, 12.2% among mothers 30 to 39, and 10.1% among mothers 40 years or older.

Figure 17. Percent of Live Births Delivered by C-section by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2003–2012

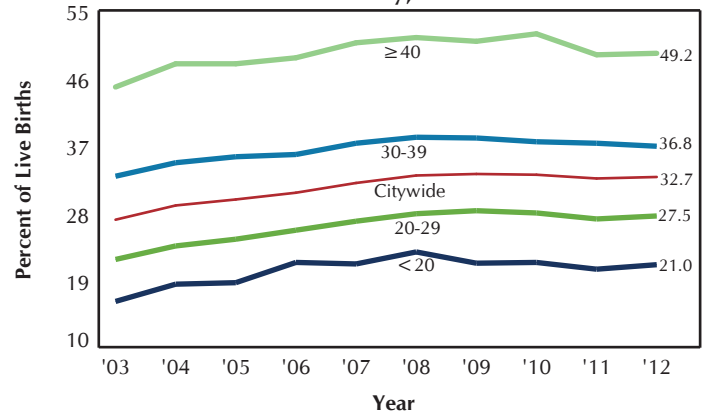
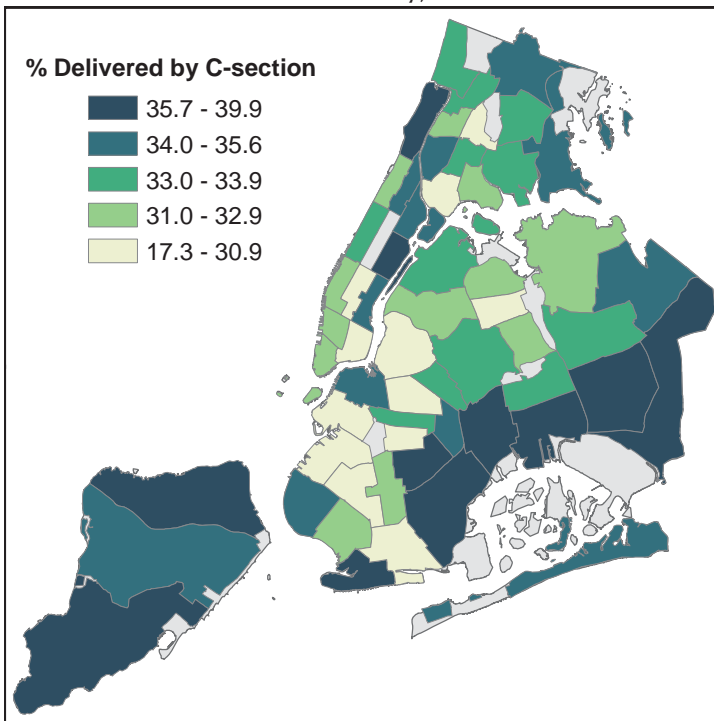


Figure 18. Percent of Live Births Delivered by C-section by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



- In 2012, the community district with the highest percentage of live births delivered by C-section was Tottenville at 39.9%, followed by East Flatbush (38.8%), Queens Village (37.6%), Coney Island (37.4%), and Canarsie, East New York, and Port Richmond (37.2% each).
- In 2012, the five community districts with the lowest percentage of C-section deliveries were Williamsburg/Greenpoint (17.3%), Borough Park (17.8%), Crown Heights South (27.0%), Sunset Park (27.9%), and Lower East Side (29.5%).

MULTIPLE LIVE BIRTHS

- During the last decade, the citywide percentage of multiple live births increased 5.6% to 3.8% in 2012.
- The percentage of multiple live births to non-Hispanic blacks increased 9.1% since 2003, followed by Hispanics (8.0%), non-Hispanic whites (5.8%) and Asians and Pacific Islanders at (3.6%).

Figure 19. Percent Multiple Live Births (Twins or Higher) by Mother’s Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2003–2012

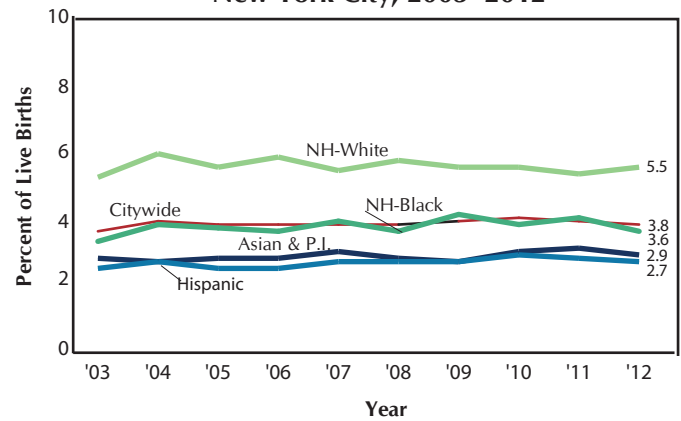
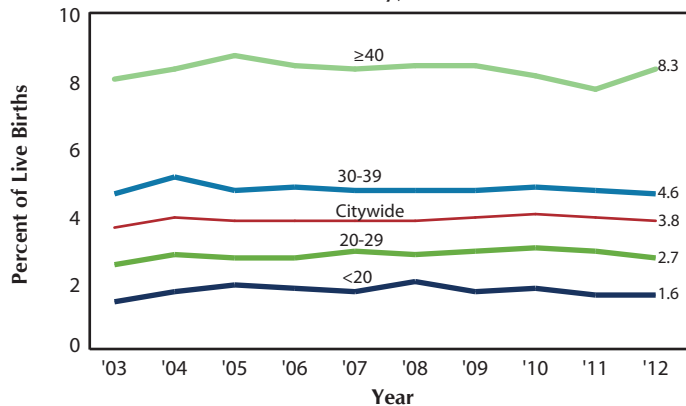


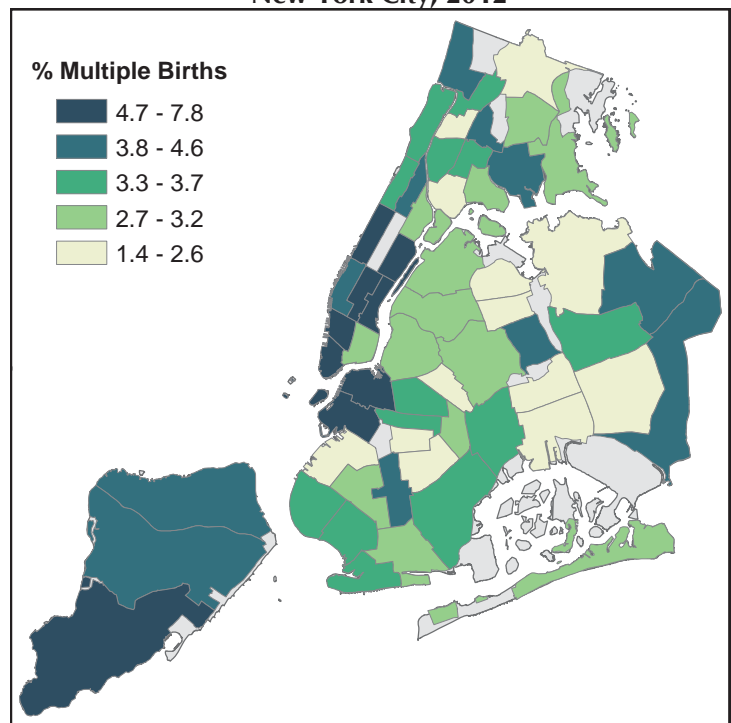
Figure 20. Percent Multiple Live Births (Twins or Higher) by Mother’s Age Group, New York City, 2003–2012



- In 2012, women 40 years or older had more multiple live births (8.3%) than other age groups (range: 1.6% to 4.6%). This is likely attributable to more frequent use of assisted reproductive technology compared to other age groups.
- The percentage of multiple live births to mothers less than 20 years of age increased 14.3%, followed by mothers 20 to 29 (8.0%) and mothers 40 years or older (3.8%). The percentage of multiple live births to mothers 30 to 39 was the same in 2012 as in 2003.

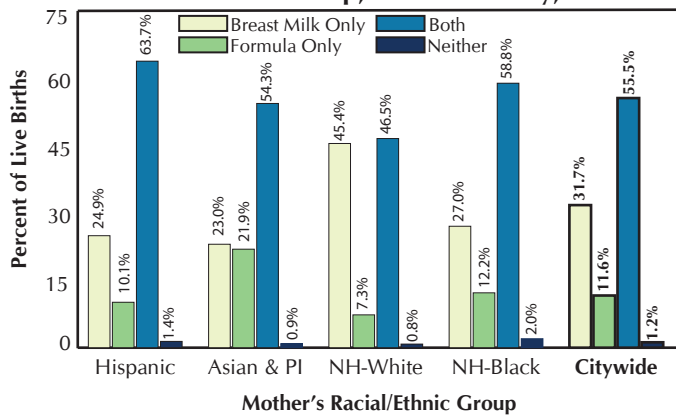
- In 2012, the community districts with the highest percentages of multiple live births were Upper West Side (7.8%), Murray Hill (7.4%), Battery Park/Tribeca (6.7%), Upper East Side (6.3%), and Park Slope (5.4%).
- In 2012, the community districts with the lowest percentages of multiple live births were Mott Haven (1.4%), Howard Beach (1.7%), Sunset Park (1.8%), Williamsbridge (2.1%), and East Flatbush, Jamaica/St. Albans, and University/Morris Heights (2.3 % each).

Figure 21. Percent Multiple Live Births (Twins or Higher) by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



BREASTFEEDING

Figure 22. Percent of Infants Fed Breastmilk or Formula within 5 Days of Birth by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2012



- Citywide, the majority of infants born in 2012 (87.2%) were fed some breastmilk within the first 5 days of life; 31.7% were fed exclusively breastmilk.
- Breast feeding data reported on the birth certificate can only include information through the first 5 days of life. New York City births must be filed with the Department within five business days of the event.
- Non-Hispanic whites were most likely to feed their infants exclusively breastmilk (45.4%) and Asians and Pacific Islanders were most likely to feed their infants solely formula (21.9%).

- Teenage mothers (<20 years) were least likely to exclusively breastfeed (20.3%) during the infant's first 5 days of life in comparison to all other maternal age groups (range: 27.7% to 36.2%).

Figure 23. Percent of Infants Fed Breastmilk or Formula within 5 Days of Birth by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2012

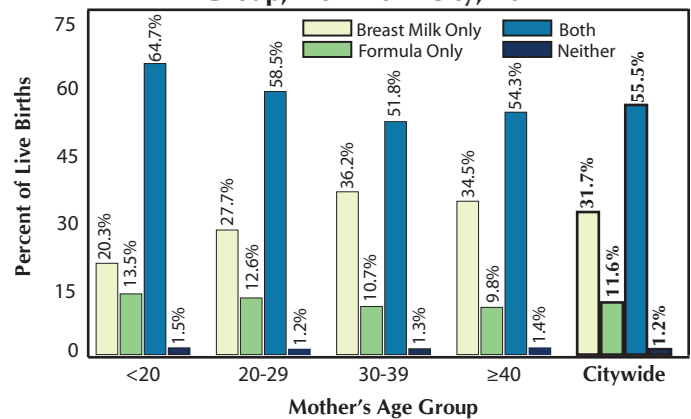
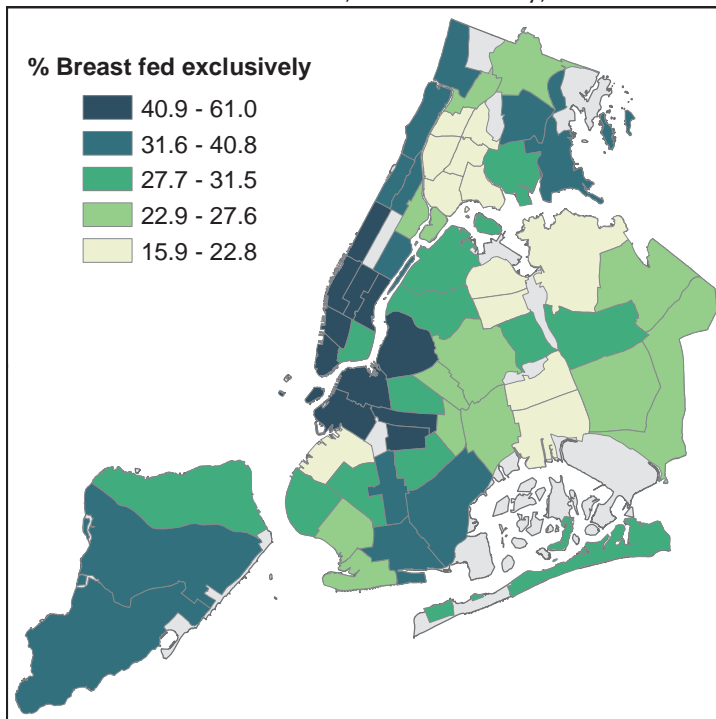


Figure 24. Percent of Infants Fed Breastmilk Exclusively within 5 Days of Birth by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



- In 2012, the community district with the smallest percentage of infants who were exclusively breastfed during the first 5 days of life was Elmhurst/Corona (15.9%) followed by Flushing (16.1%), Sunset Park (16.4%), Jackson Heights (18.4%), and Morrisania (19.6%).
- The community district with the largest percentage of infants exclusively breastfed was Park Slope (61.0%), followed by Chelsea/Clinton (55.7%), Murray Hill (55.5%), Battery Park/Tribeca (54.9%), and Midtown Business District (54.7%).

PRENATAL CARE

- Citywide, 6.8% of mothers received either late (3rd trimester) or no prenatal care in 2012.
- Non-Hispanic black mothers (11.8%) were more likely than other racial/ethnic groups to initiate prenatal care late or not at all compared to Hispanics (7.9%), Asians and Pacific Islanders (5.7%), and non-Hispanic whites (3.3%).

Figure 25. Percent of Mothers Who Received Late or No Prenatal Care by Mother's Racial/Ethnic Group, New York City, 2012

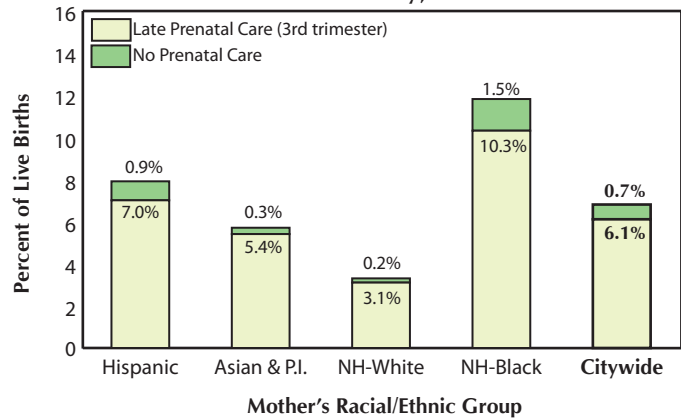
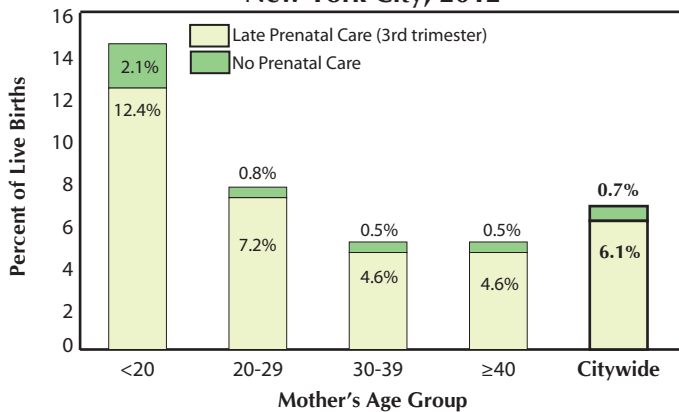


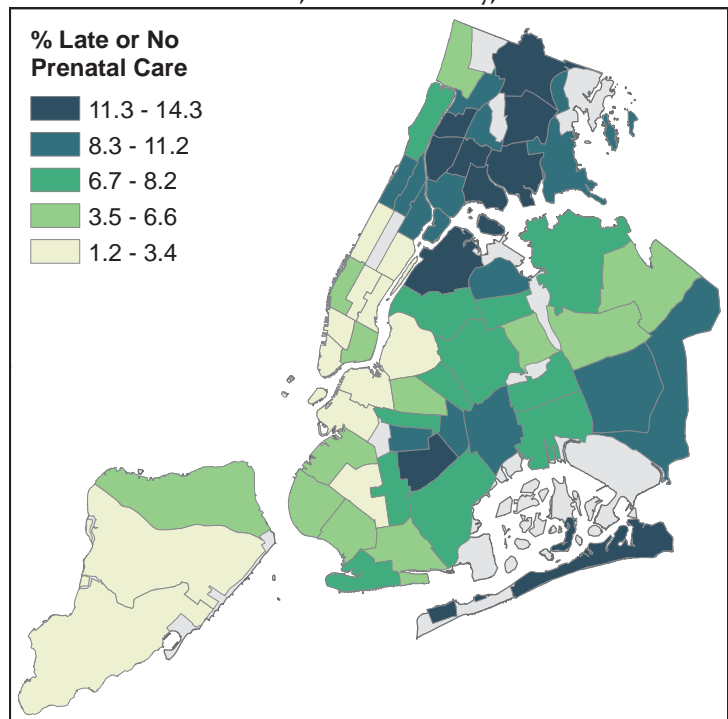
Figure 26. Percent of Mothers Who Received Late or No Prenatal Care by Mother's Age Group, New York City, 2012



- Teen mothers (<20 years of age) were more likely to receive late (12.4%) or no prenatal care (2.1%) than all other age groups.

- In 2012, the community district with the highest percentage of late or no prenatal care was Williamsbridge at 14.3%, followed by Hunts Point (14.2%), Unionport/Soundview (13.8%), Astoria/Long Island City (12.5%), and Morrisania (12.4%).
- The community districts with the lowest percentage of mothers who received late or no prenatal care were Tottenville (1.2%), Greenwich Village/SoHo (1.3%), Murray Hill and Battery Park/Tribeca (1.9% each), Park Slope (2.1%), and Upper East Side (2.2%).

Figure 27. Percent of Mothers Who Received Late or No Prenatal Care by Community District of Residence, New York City, 2012



NEIGHBORHOOD POVERTY

Table 2. Characteristics of Birth and Pregnancy Outcomes by Neighborhood Poverty*, New York City, 2003, 2012

Birth Characteristics	Low (<10%)			Medium (10 to <20%)			High (20 to <30%)			Very High (≥30%)		
	2012	2003	Chg 2003 to 2012 (%)	2012	2003	Chg 2003 to 2012 (%)	2012	2003	Chg 2003 to 2012 (%)	2012	2003	Chg 2003 to 2012 (%)
Births	25,611	22,282	15	30,373	28,371	7	25,741	26,836	-4	31,723	36,265	-13
Population	2,390,191	2,089,989	14	2,414,452	2,250,518	7	1,730,680	1,731,982	0	1,801,375	2,001,789	-10
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	10.7	10.7	0.0	12.6	12.6	0.0	14.9	15.5	-3.9	17.6	18.1	-2.8
Preterm Live Births (%)	8.3	9.1	-8.8	8.9	9.1	-2.2	9.0	9.2	-2.2	9.4	10.0	-6.0
Low Birth Weight (%)	7.8	8.1	-3.7	8.2	8.2	0.0	8.1	8.2	-1.2	8.8	9.1	-3.3
Body Mass Indicator‡												
Normal (%)	63.6	-	-	55.8	-	-	50.7	-	-	47.4	-	-
Overweight/Obese (%)	29.9	-	-	38.1	-	-	44.0	-	-	47.0	-	-
C-section (%)**	34.3	31.0	**	33.6	27.4	**	32.5	25.1	**	29.3	23.9	**
Multiple Births (%)	4.9	5.0	-2.0	3.5	3.3	6.1	2.9	2.8	3.6	2.9	2.7	7.4
Breastfed Only (%)‡	40.6	-	-	32.1	-	-	27.9	-	-	24.8	-	-
Late or No Prenatal Care	4.3	3.7	16.2	7.2	7.1	1.4	8.2	7.7	6.5	8.5	7.7	10.4
Foreign Born (%)	45.1	40.6	11.1	60.4	64.4	-6.2	59.7	63.6	-6.1	45.5	48.2	-5.6

*Birth with missing census tracts are excluded. New York City resident births only.

† Summary of Vital Statistics 2012, Appendix B. Technical Notes. Neighborhood Poverty. Neighborhood poverty (based on census tract) defined as percent of residents with incomes below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level, per Census 2010.

‡Prior to 2008, data needed to compute these variables were not collected on the New York City certificate of birth.

** 2003 C-section data is not comparable to 2012 due to 2008 birth certificate revisions. Historical Technical Notes: Births.

- Neighborhood poverty disparities are presented in the 2012 Summary of Vital Statistics for the first time. The neighborhood poverty indicator is the agency-recommended indicator for monitoring socioeconomic health disparities. The summary reports poverty at the census tract level. Each census tract is assigned to one of four neighborhood poverty categories based on the percent of the census tract population living below the federal poverty level: ≥30% below poverty, 20-29% below poverty, 10-19% below poverty, or <10% below poverty. The denominator of any rate by neighborhood poverty category contains the combined populations of census tracts falling within a category. The numerator contains the summed number of vital events occurring to residents of the census tracts falling within a category.
- In New York City, neighborhoods with higher percentages of population living below the federal poverty level have higher birth rates; ranging from 17.6 births per 1,000 population in very high poverty neighborhoods (≥30%) to 10.7 births in low poverty neighborhoods (<10%).
- Numerous characteristics of birth correlate with the percentage of neighborhood population living below poverty. Neighborhoods with a higher percentage of population living below the federal poverty level have more preterm births, low birthweight newborns, pre-pregnancy overweight/obese mothers, and mothers who have late or no prenatal care. Neighborhoods with a higher percent of population living below the federal poverty level also have fewer multiple births, breastfed only babies, C-sections, and pre-pregnancy normal weight mothers.
- From 2003 to 2012, birth rates within the low and medium poverty neighborhoods remained unchanged and decreased 3.9% and 2.8% within the high and very high poverty neighborhoods respectively. The percentage of preterm and low birthweight infants decreased from 2003 to 2012 within all poverty level neighborhoods, whereas the percent of infants born to mothers with late or no prenatal care increased slightly within all poverty level neighborhoods.
- Foreign-born mothers contributed 60.4% of births in medium poverty neighborhoods, followed by 59.7% in high, 45.5% in very high, and 45.1% in low poverty.