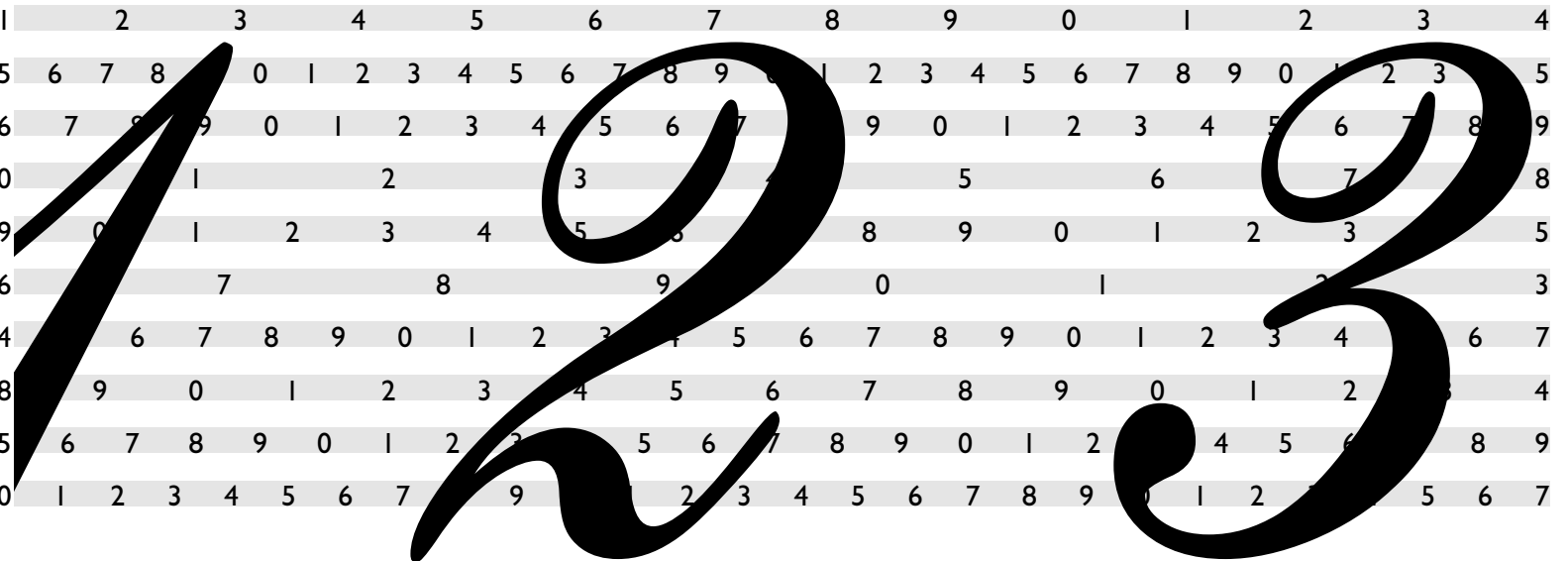


Birth-related Statistics



Summary

Statistics arising from birth events in British Columbia are presented in this section. These events are assigned to a Local Health Area (LHA) based on the usual residence of the mother. Information is included on birth weights, gestational ages, mode of delivery, maternal and paternal ages, birth orders, kind of birth, complications of pregnancy and delivery, and complications in the perinatal period. Several of the tables are accompanied by maps depicting variations in rates and ratios by LHA.

Statistics on birth events for 1995 are summarized below:

- There were 46,762 live births to B.C. residents in the province. The 1995 crude birth rate of 12.4 live births per 1,000 population was the lowest birth rate in the post-war period.
- Stillbirths occurred approximately one out of every 136 births in 1995 (347).
- Out of every 100 live births in 1995:
 - 6 were to teenage mothers, less than 20 years old (2,618)
 - 50 were to mothers 20 to 29 years old (23,339)
 - 42 were to mothers 30 to 39 years old (19,890)
 - 2 were to mothers 40 years of age or older (915)
- Almost all (97.9%) of the live births in 1995 were singletons (45,780). There were 943 live born twins, 39 live born triplets, and no quadruplets born in B.C. in 1995.
- Almost one fifth of all live births were delivered by cesarean section (9,288). The percentage of cesarean section deliveries was approximately 19.9% in both 1994 and 1995. The percentage of first cesarean deliveries out of all cesarean deliveries was higher in 1995 (63.4%) than in the previous year (61.8%). The percentage of spontaneous deliveries (vertex or breech) in 1995 (69.2%) was almost identical to 1994 (70.0%).
- There were 22 live births per 1,000 young women in the 15–19 age group in 1995. This age-specific fertility rate (22.06) was lower than the 1990–1994 teenage fertility rate (23.22).
- In 1995, 40,464 live births were delivered at term (from 37 to 41 weeks gestation) and had birth weights which were neither high (4,500 grams or more) nor low (less than 2,500 grams). This percentage of “healthy babies” (86.5%) was almost identical to the previous year (86.0%).
- Approximately one in twenty live births (2,460) was a low birth weight baby (less than 2,500 grams); the provincial low birth weight live birth rate was 52.61 per 1,000 live births. About one in fifteen live births (3,043) was pre-term (less than 37 weeks gestation).

TABLE 7
BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH ORDER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Age of Mother	Birth Order										Total Live Births	Stillbirths	Total Births	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9+	N.S.				
< 13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
14	33	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	—	34
15	105	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	107	1	108
16	287	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	303	1	304
17	412	46	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	462	3	465
18	572	121	17	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	711	3	714
19	768	201	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	999	13	1,012
20	923	302	70	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,302	4	1,306
21	952	435	96	15	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1,501	8	1,509
22	1,089	538	136	20	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,789	17	1,806
23	1,092	677	143	29	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,948	19	1,967
24	1,230	732	189	44	10	4	—	1	—	—	—	2,210	17	2,227
25	1,429	882	288	55	9	4	1	—	—	—	—	2,668	14	2,682
26	1,399	966	296	75	17	5	1	1	—	—	—	2,760	18	2,778
27	1,397	1,049	352	110	18	6	3	—	—	—	—	2,935	25	2,960
28	1,413	1,109	373	103	33	11	5	—	—	—	—	3,047	24	3,071
29	1,339	1,185	468	133	36	16	2	—	—	—	—	3,179	18	3,197
30	1,398	1,237	470	147	38	15	7	—	—	—	—	3,312	16	3,328
31	1,280	1,203	498	135	39	15	3	2	3	—	—	3,178	28	3,206
32	1,131	1,189	533	160	43	16	4	3	1	—	—	3,080	17	3,097
33	837	975	504	130	58	5	6	4	—	—	—	2,519	21	2,540
34	681	798	441	155	41	26	9	4	1	—	—	2,156	16	2,172
35	530	647	309	141	39	16	7	4	—	—	—	1,693	18	1,711
36	444	554	289	126	40	19	6	10	—	1	—	1,489	12	1,501
37	318	427	240	94	26	16	5	3	5	—	—	1,134	9	1,143
38	236	273	163	64	14	6	6	5	4	1	—	772	6	778
39	157	189	109	49	30	9	7	4	3	—	—	557	10	567
40	116	132	77	40	15	8	3	2	1	1	—	395	4	399
41	62	91	37	23	9	4	4	4	1	—	—	235	2	237
42	45	34	21	9	7	2	3	1	3	—	—	125	2	127
43	30	20	15	9	3	1	4	1	4	—	—	87	—	87
44	10	9	9	7	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	39	—	39
45+	8	4	9	6	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	34	1	35
N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	21,725	16,043	6,187	1,886	543	205	88	50	31	4	—	46,762	347	47,109

Note: Birth order denotes the number of live births. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 7

- There were 46,762 live births to B.C. residents in the province. The 1995 crude birth rate of 12.4 live births per 1,000 population was the lowest birth rate in the post-war period.
- Out of every 100 live births in 1995:
 - 6 were to teenage mothers, less than 20 years old (2,618)
 - 50 were to mothers 20 to 29 years old (23,339)
 - 42 were to mothers 30 to 39 years old (19,890)
 - 2 were to mothers 40 years of age or older (915)
- Of the 46,762 live births in 1995:
 - almost half (46.5%) were first born (21,725)
 - more than a third (34.3%) were second born (16,043)
 - only about one in five (19.2%) was third born or greater (8,990)
- The proportions of first, second, third, and later born live births in 1995 were essentially unchanged from those in 1994.
- Stillbirths occurred approximately one out of every 136 births in 1995 (347).

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX

HOME LIVE BIRTHS

The number of home live births in British Columbia decreased steadily from 263 in 1985 to 154 in 1988. The numbers fluctuated between 1988 and 1991, and then showed a steady increase from 203 in 1992 to 322 in 1995. (Please refer to the Information Box, *Live Births by Place of Birth* in the 1994 Annual Report for the number of live births by place of birth for 1985–1994.)

More than 99% (46,416) of the 1995 live births were born in hospital. In addition to the 322 live births born at home, there were 14 en route, 8 “other” (all were clinics, nursing stations, doctor’s offices, or other medical facilities), and 2 where the place of birth was not recorded. The table which follows shows the health region of the mother’s usual residence for the 1995 live births born at home.

HOME LIVE BIRTHS BY HEALTH REGION

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Health Region	Number	Percent	Rate
01 East Kootenay RHB	6	1.9	7.6
02 West Kootenay–Boundary RHB	22	6.8	27.7
03 North Okanagan RHB	13	4.0	11.1
04 South Okanagan Similkameen HB	12	3.7	5.1
05 Thompson RHB	8	2.5	5.4
06 Fraser Valley RHB	9	2.8	2.8
07 South Fraser Valley RHB	21	6.5	2.7
08 Simon Fraser HB	24	7.5	6.0
09 Coast Garibaldi RHB	18	5.6	20.7
10 Central Vancouver Island RHB	20	6.2	8.1
11 Upper Island/Central Coast RHB	7	2.2	5.1
12 Cariboo RHB	2	0.6	2.1
13 North West RHB	4	1.2	3.0
14 Peace Liard RHB	6	1.9	5.9
15 Northern Interior RHB	9	2.8	5.0
16 Vancouver HB	63	19.6	10.1
17 Burnaby HB	5	1.6	2.4
18 North Shore HB	18	5.6	9.9
19 Richmond HB	6	1.9	3.3
20 Capital HB	46	14.3	14.0
N.S.	3	0.9	
TOTAL	322	100.0	6.9

Rate per 1,000 live births in the specified area.

Health region based on mother’s usual residence.

TABLE 8
LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND KIND OF BIRTH
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Age of Mother	Kind of Birth			Total
	Single	Twin	Triplets+	
< 15	36	–	–	36
15–19	2,550	32	–	2,582
20–24	8,603	144	3	8,750
25–29	14,309	265	15	14,589
30–34	13,914	325	6	14,245
35–39	5,482	148	15	5,645
40–44	854	27	–	881
45 +	32	2	–	34
N.S.	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	45,780	943	39	46,762

Note: For the multiple births which include stillbirths, only live births are shown in this table.
 Triplets + : included in this column are the live births from multiple births of three or more.
 Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 8

- Of all live births in 1995:
 - Almost all (97.9%) of the births were singletons (45,780)
 - A twin was born about one out of every 50 live births (943)
 - A triplet was born approximately one out of 1,200 live births (39)
 - There were no quadruplets born in B.C.
- The singleton, twin, and triplet percentages for 1995 were essentially unchanged from 1994.
- Compared to the 2,618 live births to teenage mothers, there were two and a half times as many live births (6,560) to mothers aged 35 or older (elderly gravida) in 1995. While the teenage mother live birth rate (56.0) rose marginally from 1994 (55.4), the birth rate for elderly gravida increased from 133.2 in 1994 to 140.3 per 1,000 live births in 1995 (rates calculated from data presented in the table).

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX

BREECH PRESENTATION

The presentation or position of the fetus before delivery is recorded as a complication of pregnancy, labour or delivery (“maternal complication”) on the Physician’s Notice of Live Birth or Stillbirth. The ICD9 codes for malposition and malpresentation of the fetus include:

- 652.1 Breech or other malpresentation successfully converted to cephalic presentation
- 652.2 Breech presentation without mention of version
- 652.3 Transverse or oblique presentation
- 652.6 Multiple gestation with malpresentation of one fetus or more.

As the codes above indicate, breech presentation can be identified in single births; however the codes do not distinguish between breech and other malpresentations for multiple births.

(continued on page 25)

TABLE 9
LIVE BIRTHS BY MODE OF DELIVERY AND AGE OF MOTHER
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Mode of Delivery	Age of Mother (in Years)									Total	Percent
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	N.S.		
Spontaneous	27	1,964	6,261	10,086	9,561	3,563	518	20	–	32,000	68.4
Forceps/Suction	4	226	868	1,487	1,342	508	78	1	–	4,514	9.7
Breech	–	14	60	118	128	58	12	–	–	390	0.8
First cesarean	5	314	1,082	1,749	1,776	805	147	11	–	5,889	12.6
Repeat cesarean	–	35	365	965	1,269	649	114	2	–	3,399	7.3
N.S.	–	29	114	184	169	62	12	–	–	570	1.2
TOTAL	36	2,582	8,750	14,589	14,245	5,645	881	34	–	46,762	100.0

Note: Breech births may be understated as they may also be coded to forceps or cesarean.

Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 9

- More than two thirds of 1995 live births were delivered spontaneously: 68.4% (32,000) were spontaneous vertex (head first) and 0.8% (390) were spontaneous breech (buttocks or feet first).
- The percentage of spontaneous deliveries (vertex or breech) in 1995 (69.2%) was almost identical to 1994 (70.0%), and the percentage of cesarean section deliveries was approximately 19.9% in both years. It is interesting to note that while the average age of mothers has been increasing, the percentage of cesarean deliveries has decreased consistently from 22.0% in 1990.
- Approximately one in ten live births required the use of forceps or suction (4,514).
- In 1995, almost one fifth of all live births were delivered by cesarean section (9,288), and almost two thirds of these (5,889) were first cesareans. The percentage of first cesarean deliveries out of all cesarean deliveries was higher in 1995 (63.4%) than in the previous year (61.8%).
- Cesarean deliveries occurred to 13.5% (354) of the teenage mothers (less than 20 years of age) and to 26.3% (1,728) of mothers aged 35 or older. This difference was largely a result of repeat cesarean deliveries in the older age group; first cesarean deliveries occurred in 12.2% (319) of teenage mothers and 14.7% (963) of mothers aged 35 or older.

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX

BREECH PRESENTATION (continued)

In 1995, 1,075 (2.3%) of the 45,780 single live births were breech presentations (ICD9 codes 652.1 or 652.2). The modes of delivery for these births were:

- 8 spontaneous vertex (i.e. successful version)
- 325 spontaneous breech
- 14 forceps (including 4 with successful version)
- 727 cesareans (637 first and 90 repeat cesareans)
- 1 did not state the mode of delivery

In the mode of delivery categories shown in Table 9, the total shown for breech deliveries (390) includes single and multiple births with breech or other malpositions of the fetus and excludes breech presentations with successful version, as well as breech presentations delivered by forceps, vacuum extraction, or cesarean section.

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX

MOST CHOSEN FIRST NAMES FOR BABIES IN 1995

In 1995, just over half of all first names for babies started with A, M, S, K or J for girls and J, C, A, D and M for boys. The twenty most chosen first names for boys and girls as published in *Baby's Most Chosen Names in British Columbia, 1995* are shown in the table below. In recent years there has been a trend towards alternate spellings of names, especially for girls. If different spellings of the same name were considered, the list of the top twenty names would include 310 baby girls with Caitlin, Caitlyn, Kaitlin, Kaitlyn, Kaitlynn, Katelyn, Katelynn, or Katlyn, 201 with Hailee, Hailey, Haley, Haylee, or Hayley, 301 with Chelsea, Chelsey, Kelsea, Kelsey, Kelsi or Kelsie, 161 with Rebecca or Rebekah and 217 boys with Zachary, Zachery, Zackary or Zackery.

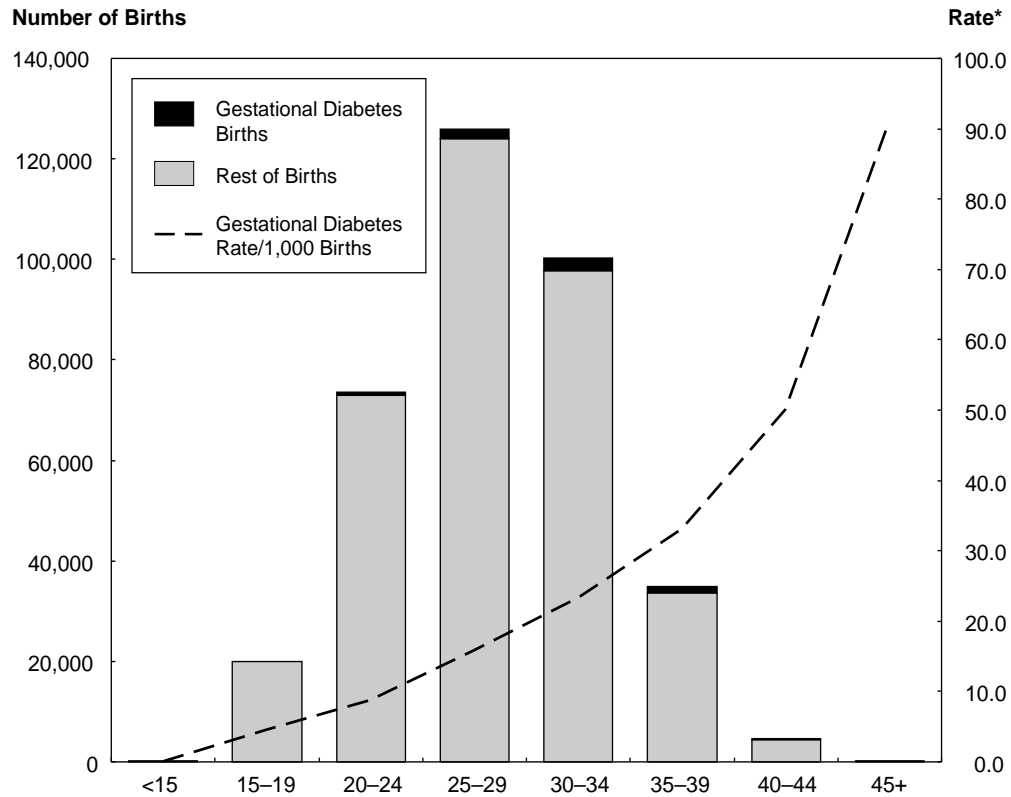
Most Common Spelling	Total*	Other Spellings of Name	Total for all variations
Boys' Names			
Matthew	442	Mathew	498
Brandon	357	Brandan, Branden, Brandyn, Brendan, Brenden, Brendon	514
Ryan	355		355
Michael	349	Micheal	372
Joshua	338		338
Jordan	336	Jordon	352
Alexander	318	Alexandre	327
Nicholas	317	Nickolas, Nicolas, Nikolas	387
Daniel	287		287
Tyler	282	Tylor	288
Christopher	278	Kristopher	294
Kyle	275		275
Jacob	254	Jakob	269
Andrew	249		249
Justin	246	Justyn	251
David	222		222
James	214		214
Austin	213	Austen	219
Kevin	205		205
Dylan	196	Dillon	229
Girls' Names			
Jessica	401	Jessika	406
Emily	298	Emilie	316
Sarah	297	Sara	381
Ashley	266	Ashleigh, Ashlee	281
Nicole	251		251
Samantha	229		229
Taylor	220	Tayler	233
Megan	215	Maegan, Meagan, Meaghan, Meghan	308
Amanda	180		180
Rachel	176		176
Emma	170		170
Jennifer	164		164
Stephanie	158	Stefanie	174
Michelle	153		153
Alexandra	148		148
Melissa	148		148
Courtney	146	Courtenay, Courteney	159
Brittany	144	Britney, Brittney, Brittni	185
Danielle	141		141
Hannah	141	Hana, Hanna	162

Note: *Total for the name as spelled.

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX

GESTATIONAL DIABETES BIRTHS AND RATES BY MOTHERS AGE

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1987-1994



Total Births	236	20,047	73,566	125,988	100,175	34,885	4,699	110
Gest. Diab.	0	90	637	1,978	2,331	1,153	235	10
Rest of Births	236	19,957	72,929	124,010	97,844	33,732	4,464	100
Rate	0.0	4.5	8.7	15.7	23.3	33.1	50.0	90.9

Note: Rates per 1,000 total (live born + stillborn) births.

The majority of births over the time period 1987 to 1994 (226,163 or 62.9%) occurred to women between the ages of 25 and 34. Likewise, the majority of births to mothers with gestational diabetes (3,484 or 67.0%) occurred in the same age group. Women age 35 and older accounted for 21.7% (1,398) of all gestational diabetes births but only had 11.0% (39,694) of total births.

Risk of getting gestational diabetes during pregnancy rose rapidly with increased mothers age. Women age 35 and older had more than four times the risk of acquiring gestational diabetes during pregnancy than women 20-24 and more than double the risk of women age 25-29.

Source: "Diabetes in Birth and Death: British Columbia, 1987 to 1994" in Quarterly Digest, Vol 5., No. 4, March 1996.

TABLE 10
LIVE BIRTHS BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA AND MODE OF DELIVERY
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Local Health Area	Spontaneous	Cesarean					Other	N.S.	Total Live Births	
		First	Repeat	Total	Ratio (p)	Percent			Number	Rate
01 Fernie	113	19	9	28	0.92	18.2	11	2	154	9.53
02 Cranbrook	217	22	13	35	0.64 *	12.6	15	10	277	11.07
03 Kimberley	43	14	7	21	1.56	30.9	3	1	68	7.75
04 Windermere	60	11	5	16	0.97	19.3	7	—	83	9.56
05 Creston	83	12	8	20	0.89	17.7	8	2	113	9.47
06 Kootenay Lake	23	10	1	11	1.29	25.6	5	4	43	11.55
07 Nelson	175	17	10	27	0.57 *	11.3	21	16	239	10.00
09 Castlegar	103	13	12	25	0.91	18.1	10	—	138	10.48
10 Arrow Lakes	50	9	1	10	0.76	15.2	3	3	66	12.61
11 Trail	143	19	13	32	0.76	15.1	35	2	212	10.14
12 Grand Forks	44	12	2	14	1.10	21.9	4	2	64	7.07
13 Kettle Valley	25	4	2	6	0.94	18.8	1	—	32	8.46
14 Southern Okanagan	120	27	12	39	1.11	22.0	14	4	177	9.81
15 Penticton	280	62	30	92	1.14	22.7	25	9	406	10.31
16 Keremeos	36	12	3	15	1.43	28.3	2	—	53	10.88
17 Princeton	34	4	5	9	0.99	19.6	2	1	46	9.23
18 Golden	62	19	6	25	1.40	27.8	3	—	90	11.82
19 Revelstoke	51	18	13	31	1.55 *	30.7	16	3	101	11.22
20 Salmon Arm	182	41	28	69	1.31 *	26.0	13	1	265	7.94
21 Armstrong-Spallumcheen	78	14	6	20	0.92	18.2	11	1	110	11.75
22 Vernon	433	73	59	132	1.10	21.8	29	11	605	10.48
23 Central Okanagan	1,131	183	83	266	0.85 *	16.8	154	28	1,579	11.44
24 Kamloops	751	175	100	275	1.23 *	24.5	78	20	1,124	11.71
26 North Thompson	44	6	7	13	1.06	21.0	5	—	62	12.61
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	336	87	56	143	1.31 *	26.1	66	3	548	12.54
28 Quesnel	233	46	36	82	1.20	23.9	28	—	343	13.45
29 Lillooet	35	8	4	12	1.02	20.3	10	2	59	11.85
30 South Cariboo	57	11	18	29	1.52 *	30.2	7	3	96	11.40
31 Merritt	102	12	16	28	0.94	18.7	17	3	150	12.81
32 Hope	58	11	12	23	1.17	23.2	16	2	99	11.23
33 Chilliwack	644	114	80	194	1.03	20.5	91	16	945	14.11
34 Abbotsford	1,111	165	134	299	0.92	18.3	166	55	1,631	15.49
35 Langley	954	123	93	216	0.82 *	16.2	147	18	1,335	12.98
36 Surrey	3,286	677	455	1,132	1.10 *	21.9	708	50	5,176	16.62
37 Delta	791	149	98	247	1.03	20.5	154	12	1,204	12.38
38 Richmond	1,218	226	127	353	0.99	19.6	212	16	1,799	12.52
39 Vancouver	4,224	886	344	1,230	0.99	19.8	738	35	6,227	11.76
40 New Westminster	469	95	44	139	1.00	19.8	85	10	703	14.91
41 Burnaby	1,446	218	142	360	0.86 *	17.1	271	33	2,110	12.00
42 Maple Ridge	677	111	65	176	0.91	18.1	98	20	971	13.69
43 Coquitlam	1,670	275	143	418	0.89 *	17.7	248	21	2,357	13.91
44 North Vancouver	1,034	170	112	282	0.96	19.1	147	14	1,477	11.93
45 West Vancouver-Bowen Is.	233	35	30	65	0.98	19.5	33	2	333	6.93
46 Sechelt	180	28	22	50	0.96	19.0	28	5	263	10.30
47 Powell River	156	16	17	33	0.80	15.8	19	1	209	10.28
48 Howe Sound	291	41	21	62	0.78	15.6	42	3	398	15.68
49 Central Coast	43	9	5	14	1.18	23.3	3	—	60	14.80
50 Queen Charlotte	58	7	5	12	0.80	15.8	4	2	76	12.73
52 Prince Rupert	206	37	27	64	1.00	19.9	50	1	321	16.40
54 Smithers	207	28	21	49	0.91	18.1	15	—	271	15.46
55 Burns Lake	87	11	8	19	0.81	16.1	11	1	118	14.80
56 Nechako	206	46	17	63	1.10	21.8	16	4	289	16.59
57 Prince George	956	178	127	305	1.11	22.0	113	14	1,388	13.86
59 Peace River South	308	38	23	61	0.74 *	14.7	43	3	415	14.09
60 Peace River North	360	52	30	82	0.85	16.9	39	5	486	17.53
61 Greater Victoria	1,359	335	129	464	1.17 *	23.3	163	8	1,994	9.61
62 Sooke	473	98	48	146	1.09	21.6	52	6	677	13.44
63 Saanich	341	76	32	108	1.10	21.9	41	3	493	8.34
64 Gulf Islands	77	18	6	24	1.01	20.0	13	6	120	8.70
65 Cowichan	371	77	37	114	1.03	20.5	59	13	557	11.04
66 Lake Cowichan	41	6	5	11	0.80	15.9	15	2	69	10.55
67 Ladysmith	133	21	16	37	0.99	19.7	17	1	188	11.55
68 Nanaimo	661	96	59	155	0.83 *	16.5	109	12	937	10.65
69 Qualicum	215	43	20	63	1.01	20.0	31	6	315	8.53
70 Alberni	294	49	29	78	0.96	19.1	37	—	409	12.14
71 Courtenay	422	75	47	122	1.02	20.2	55	6	605	10.60
72 Campbell River	355	57	44	101	1.04	20.7	27	5	488	12.34
75 Mission	325	51	50	101	1.04	20.7	52	11	489	13.75
76 Agassiz-Harrison	61	13	9	22	1.18	23.4	11	—	94	12.51
77 Summerland	73	10	8	18	0.87	17.3	10	3	104	9.02
78 Enderby	61	10	9	19	1.09	21.6	5	3	88	12.09
80 Kitimat	96	25	14	39	1.31	26.0	15	—	150	10.98
81 Fort Nelson	83	20	9	29	1.19	23.6	10	1	123	20.67
84 Vancouver Island West	36	6	3	9	0.94	18.8	2	1	48	10.91
85 Vancouver Island North	160	26	19	45	1.02	20.3	15	2	222	14.73
87 Stikine	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	5.96
88 Terrace	334	54	27	81	0.89	17.7	40	2	457	15.29
92 Nishga	18	2	5	7	1.14	22.6	5	1	31	18.86
94 Telegraph Creek	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	9	11.94
N.S.	79	15	7	22	0.91	18.0	17	4	122	—
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	32,000	5,889	3,399	9,288	1.00	19.9	4,904	570	46,762	12.42

Note: Percent based upon live births in the specified area. Rate per 1,000 population in the specified area. * Statistical testing indicates that observed cesarean births are significantly different from the expected ($p < 0.05$, two tailed). Other is comprised of forceps/suction and unassisted breech. Non-residents are excluded.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 10/FIGURE 9

- There were 9,288 cesarean deliveries of live born babies in 1995, which was 19.9% of provincial live births. This percentage was unchanged from 1994.

- The seven Local Health Areas (LHAs) with cesarean ratios which were statistically significant and high in 1995 (with the number of cesarean deliveries in parentheses) were:

– 19 Revelstoke	1.55	(31)
– 30 South Cariboo	1.52	(29)
– 27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	1.31	(143)
– 20 Salmon Arm	1.31	(69)
– 24 Kamloops	1.23	(275)
– 61 Greater Victoria	1.17	(464)
– 36 Surrey	1.10	(1,132)

Salmon Arm, Cariboo-Chilcotin, Kamloops, and Surrey had statistically significant high cesarean ratios in 1994.

- The eight LHAs with cesarean ratios which were statistically significant and low in 1995 (with the number of cesarean deliveries in parentheses) were:

– 07 Nelson	0.57	(27)
– 02 Cranbrook	0.64	(35)
– 59 Peace River North	0.74	(61)
– 35 Langley	0.82	(216)
– 68 Nanaimo	0.83	(155)
– 23 Central Okanagan	0.85	(266)
– 41 Burnaby	0.86	(360)
– 43 Coquitlam	0.89	(418)

Central Okanagan, Burnaby, and Coquitlam had statistically significant low cesarean ratios in 1994.

- The provincial crude live birth rate was 12.4 live births per 1,000 population in 1995, down from 12.8 in 1994. (Live birth rates are also presented in Table 1.) The five LHAs with the highest live birth rates in 1995 (actual numbers in parentheses) were:

– 81 Fort Nelson	20.67	(123)
– 92 Nishga	18.86	(31)
– 60 Peace River North	17.53	(486)
– 36 Surrey	16.62	(5,176)
– 56 Nechako	16.59	(289)

Fort Nelson, Nishga, and Peace River North were in the list of the five LHAs with the highest live birth rates in 1994.

- The five LHAs with the lowest live birth rates in 1995 (actual numbers in parentheses) were:

– 87 Stikine	5.96	(9)
– 45 West Vancouver-Bowen Island	6.93	(333)
– 12 Grand Forks	7.07	(64)
– 03 Kimberley	7.75	(68)
– 20 Salmon Arm	7.94	(265)

Stikine and West Vancouver were among the five LHAs with the lowest live birth rates in 1994.

TABLE 11
LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF FATHER,
AGE OF MOTHER AND OUT-OF-WEDLOCK
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Age of Father	Age of Mother (in Years)									Total	Percent
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	N.S.		
< 15	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	0.0
15-19	11	459	110	14	3	–	–	–	–	597	1.3
20-24	2	903	2,597	683	121	20	5	–	–	4,331	9.3
25-29	–	323	3,118	5,721	1,419	186	14	1	–	10,782	23.1
30-34	–	82	1,285	5,279	6,798	1,135	83	1	–	14,663	31.4
35-39	–	19	309	1,469	3,872	2,447	186	4	–	8,306	17.8
40-44	–	4	70	364	1,030	1,160	338	7	–	2,973	6.4
45+	–	2	35	145	351	416	190	17	–	1,156	2.5
N.S.	21	788	1,226	914	651	281	65	4	–	3,950	8.4
TOTAL	36	2,582	8,750	14,589	14,245	5,645	881	34	–	46,762	
Percent	0.0	5.5	18.7	31.2	30.5	12.1	1.9	0.0	–		100.0
Out-of-Wedlock	29	2,069	3,640	2,628	1,817	788	147	4	–	11,122	

Note: Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Out-of-Wedlock – Indicates mother and father of child were not legally married to each other and excludes 2,354 cases where marital status was not stated.

Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 11

- Out of every 100 live births in 1995:
 - 6 were to teenage mothers, less than 20 years old (2,618)
 - 50 were to mothers 20 to 29 years old (23,339)
 - 42 were to mothers 30 to 39 years old (19,890)
 - 2 were to mothers 40 years of age or older (915)
- Out of 100 live births in 1995:
 - 1 was to a teenage father, less than 20 years old (601)
 - 32 were to fathers 20 to 29 years old (15,113)
 - 49 were to fathers 30 to 39 years old (22,969)
 - 9 were to fathers 40 years of age or older (4,129)
 - about 9 did not include father's age (3,950)
- Out of every 100 live births in 1995:
 - 44 were to parents where the father's age group was older than the mother's (20,439)
 - 39 were to parents in the same age group (18,379)
 - 8 were to parents where the mother's age group was older than the father's (3,994)
 - about 9 did not include father's age (3,950)
- Almost one quarter (23.8%) of 1995 live births were reported as out-of-wedlock (11,122). The actual number of out-of-wedlock births may be even higher since the percentages exclude births where it was not known if the parents were married to each other.

TABLE 12
LIVE BIRTH FERTILITY RATES BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1990-1994 AND 1995

Local Health Area	1990-1994 Teenage Fertility Rate (15-19 yrs)			1995 ASFR ¹						1994 TFR ²	
	Observed	ASFR ¹	(p)	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	Rate	(p)
01 Fernie	77	25.28		21.94	81.93	120.48	51.24	16.58	2.92	1,475.50	
02 Cranbrook	119	27.42		28.17	80.47	109.11	54.83	20.26	0.00	1,464.24	
03 Kimberley	30	19.63		14.41	39.68	170.45	71.94	8.06	0.00	1,522.77	
04 Windermere	29	25.80		23.44	61.54	100.72	62.18	18.18	5.78	1,359.17	
05 Creston	54	31.90	*	29.76	152.48	98.90	61.86	21.74	0.00	1,823.70	
06 Kootenay Lake	20	36.56		31.75	177.42	158.54	85.47	37.59	0.00	2,453.83	*
07 Nelson	90	20.54		13.79	74.37	136.09	75.91	31.37	6.32	1,689.22	
09 Castlegar	55	24.18		17.82	91.95	134.29	61.59	12.73	4.13	1,612.55	
10 Arrow Lakes	38	49.10	*	31.58	157.48	150.44	87.43	38.67	0.00	2,328.04	*
11 Trail	71	21.85		20.90	68.79	139.62	88.61	16.65	4.74	1,696.53	
12 Grand Forks	32	25.62		7.75	57.38	122.17	37.57	17.80	2.98	1,228.27	*
13 Kettle Valley	15	26.18		15.15	90.00	208.33	32.89	7.35	0.00	1,768.66	
14 Southern Okanagan	54	25.05		14.89	141.24	175.64	61.96	34.54	0.00	2,141.38	*
15 Penticton	166	31.98	*	32.40	99.72	136.16	73.29	22.09	2.81	1,832.30	*
16 Keremeos	19	34.30		40.82	225.35	186.05	59.46	22.73	0.00	2,672.01	*
17 Princeton	25	31.93		44.03	104.84	105.69	47.06	14.35	10.87	1,634.19	
18 Golden	33	26.98		32.00	88.80	119.23	43.60	29.89	0.00	1,567.65	
19 Revelstoke	48	32.74	*	20.07	106.38	106.38	57.53	27.52	5.28	1,615.84	
20 Salmon Arm	122	27.46		19.32	92.96	103.85	52.39	18.93	2.28	1,448.58	
21 Armstrong-Spallumcheen	31	21.02		33.85	122.91	192.31	70.03	24.15	4.99	2,241.15	*
22 Vernon	238	27.17	*	30.72	85.39	118.39	71.52	24.00	6.12	1,680.76	
23 Central Okanagan	394	20.76	*	21.28	80.43	137.03	82.45	27.24	3.29	1,758.58	*
24 Kamloops	434	26.30	*	28.18	75.65	98.53	76.08	23.38	3.62	1,527.19	
26 North Thompson	25	30.23		52.91	102.56	136.36	38.65	27.03	4.88	1,811.95	
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	291	37.33	*	36.85	103.58	108.01	63.56	25.42	5.68	1,715.50	
28 Quesnel	162	34.51	*	39.12	126.45	122.35	61.68	19.04	1.89	1,852.69	*
29 Lillooet	52	61.39	*	29.70	107.78	85.89	65.73	37.04	0.00	1,630.71	
30 South Cariboo	75	63.88	*	64.64	82.99	101.82	67.07	21.88	6.80	1,725.98	
31 Merritt	91	45.55	*	53.10	91.72	129.63	54.17	14.83	4.75	1,740.99	
32 Hope	53	37.35	*	40.88	97.56	155.56	57.40	20.00	0.00	1,856.99	
33 Chilliwack	324	35.56	*	37.87	124.36	147.42	85.14	30.66	3.46	2,144.50	*
34 Abbotsford	389	26.02	*	27.63	126.20	160.25	92.58	29.40	5.13	2,205.94	*
35 Langley	296	18.05	*	12.42	72.35	147.19	106.50	27.29	4.74	1,852.50	*
36 Surrey	966	22.47	*	21.52	111.45	161.76	103.14	35.58	6.57	2,200.11	*
37 Delta	161	8.59	*	11.15	45.39	140.78	120.43	41.66	5.63	1,825.19	*
38 Richmond	214	9.61	*	7.70	36.83	100.22	106.86	46.75	6.69	1,525.24	*
39 Vancouver	910	13.76	*	12.38	33.48	55.34	82.25	46.46	9.41	1,196.58	*
40 New Westminster	156	32.26	*	33.73	67.42	92.79	100.17	45.12	7.49	1,733.68	*
41 Burnaby	349	14.56	*	10.58	33.43	74.09	94.40	47.89	5.49	1,329.35	*
42 Maple Ridge	217	21.76	*	18.94	75.83	130.89	96.66	34.74	4.45	1,807.52	*
43 Coquitlam	333	13.91	*	12.64	50.87	107.67	103.40	39.44	5.44	1,597.32	*
44 North Vancouver	163	8.97	*	8.06	23.71	72.16	119.69	52.91	9.43	1,429.79	*
45 West Vancouver-Bowen Is.	10	1.48	*	1.45	11.56	39.51	102.71	48.58	12.14	1,079.69	*
46 Sechelt	72	23.61	*	17.98	139.33	123.13	80.40	35.89	4.37	2,005.49	*
47 Powell River	105	31.11	*	30.48	87.35	106.19	69.28	16.35	3.99	1,568.23	*
48 Howe Sound	98	30.81	*	22.44	65.30	104.81	87.89	37.66	8.92	1,635.12	*
49 Central Coast	53	70.01	*	38.46	185.71	89.55	70.65	15.96	0.00	2,001.69	*
50 Queen Charlotte	31	39.49	*	19.87	84.16	84.62	80.27	30.00	0.00	1,494.54	*
52 Prince Rupert	213	60.48	*	52.80	123.29	128.95	76.51	29.85	2.74	2,070.65	*
54 Smithers	121	41.55	*	38.16	109.09	139.03	86.31	32.14	1.51	2,031.20	*
55 Burns Lake	81	51.36	*	36.72	113.33	146.15	86.96	19.29	3.80	2,031.31	*
56 Nechako	196	54.48	*	64.68	130.37	150.82	61.49	19.44	7.01	2,169.04	*
57 Prince George	670	35.67	*	35.25	75.30	107.16	71.90	20.40	5.03	1,575.18	*
59 Peace River South	219	42.78	*	43.97	121.85	118.61	66.12	14.94	3.92	1,846.99	*
60 Peace River North	233	44.86	*	39.73	120.18	141.05	91.06	28.67	8.32	2,145.00	*
61 Greater Victoria	540	20.02	*	20.18	40.56	64.42	75.43	31.53	4.35	1,182.35	*
62 Sooke	141	18.78	*	15.46	80.33	152.53	91.16	26.80	5.96	1,861.22	*
63 Saanich	86	11.03	*	15.17	48.42	120.10	104.37	31.86	1.55	1,607.37	*
64 Gulf Islands	21	16.07	*	25.16	103.96	150.75	111.70	26.41	6.36	2,121.71	*
65 Cowichan	248	32.16	*	25.43	109.56	130.24	59.88	27.55	5.82	1,792.35	*
66 Lake Cowichan	26	25.22	*	21.10	80.00	137.25	64.39	22.22	10.49	1,677.29	*
67 Ladysmith	64	26.68	*	36.23	104.12	114.04	81.17	31.02	0.00	1,832.91	*
68 Nanaimo	358	28.64	*	19.13	80.49	113.39	67.77	24.43	3.66	1,544.32	*
69 Qualicum	75	18.37	*	16.60	85.37	144.60	77.05	31.74	4.97	1,801.56	*
70 Alberni	262	43.66	*	45.45	94.74	125.39	65.92	20.42	4.47	1,781.99	*
71 Courtenay	212	27.67	*	21.76	75.81	117.15	73.47	27.01	3.76	1,594.75	*
72 Campbell River	236	36.74	*	37.23	84.52	126.74	70.81	24.28	7.63	1,756.02	*
75 Mission	136	26.15	*	37.26	125.73	150.23	70.04	22.96	7.63	2,069.18	*
76 Agassiz-Harrison	43	46.04	*	25.86	158.82	131.15	83.33	34.92	9.48	2,217.83	*
77 Summerland	19	11.64	*	12.44	99.14	156.63	86.39	22.00	14.35	1,954.72	*
78 Enderby	37	36.49	*	28.57	123.15	151.83	51.47	35.60	8.58	1,996.05	*
80 Kitimat	90	30.89	*	20.65	65.51	114.63	62.95	28.48	9.19	1,507.08	*
81 Fort Nelson	74	68.97	*	29.41	158.49	160.84	72.46	20.07	5.52	2,233.99	*
84 Vancouver Island West	40	49.08	*	28.17	74.47	76.92	51.81	23.47	0.00	1,274.24	*
85 Vancouver Island North	126	47.58	*	53.71	114.88	92.94	73.17	31.48	4.78	1,854.83	*
87 Stikine	3	10.79	+	17.24	71.43	60.61	44.78	0.00	0.00	970.26	
88 Terrace	321	58.28	*	50.00	96.41	135.43	68.40	23.29	3.70	1,886.16	*
92 Nishga	43	122.86	*	120.00	50.85	204.08	155.17	26.67	31.25	2,940.09	*
94 Telegraph Creek	15	102.74	*	120.00	95.24	60.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,379.22	*
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	12,747	23.22		22.06	67.32	102.02	86.58	34.21	5.84	1,590.14	

Note: ¹Age-Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR) – Live births per 1,000 women in each specific age group of childbearing age.
²Total Fertility Rate (TFR) – Sum of age-specific (15 to 44 years) fertility rates multiplied by the number of years in each age group (see glossary for definition). * Statistical testing indicates that fertility rate is significantly different from the average rate (p<0.05, two tailed). Non-residents and unknown Local Health Area are excluded. + Denotes significance is based on less than five births.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 12/FIGURE 10

- The province's 1995 Total Fertility Rate (TFR), 1,590.14 per 1,000 women of child bearing age (15 to 44 years of age), was the lowest rate in the post-war period. (See definition in Glossary)
- There were 34 Local Health Areas (LHAs) with statistically significant and high TFRs in 1995. The five highest were:

– 92 Nishga	2,940.09
– 16 Keremeos	2,672.01
– 06 Kootenay Lake	2,453.83
– 10 Arrow Lakes	2,328.04
– 21 Armstrong-Spallumcheen	2,241.15

Nishga and Keremeos were among the five LHAs with the highest TFRs in 1994.

Nishga was also among the five LHAs with the highest live birth rates in both 1994 and 1995.

- There were six LHAs with statistically significant and low TFR in 1995:

– 45 West Vancouver-Bowen Island	1,079.69
– 61 Greater Victoria	1,182.35
– 39 Vancouver	1,196.58
– 12 Grand Forks	1,228.27
– 41 Burnaby	1,329.35
– 44 North Vancouver	1,429.79

West Vancouver, Greater Victoria, Vancouver, Burnaby, and North Vancouver were among the eight LHAs with the lowest TFRs in 1994. West Vancouver and Grand Forks were also among the five LHAs with the lowest live birth rates in 1995.

- There were 22 live births per 1,000 young women in the 15–19 age group in 1995. This age-specific fertility rate (22.06) was lower than the 1990–1994 teenage fertility rate (23.22). Further information is presented in the Information Box Teen Pregnancy.
- There were 40 LHAs with statistically significant and high teenage fertility rates in 1990–1994. The five LHAs with the highest statistically significant rates (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 92 Nishga	122.86	(43)
– 94 Telegraph Creek	102.74	(15)
– 49 Central Coast	70.01	(53)
– 81 Fort Nelson	68.97	(74)
– 30 South Cariboo	63.88	(75)

Nishga, Telegraph Creek, and South Cariboo were also among the five LHAs with the highest teenage fertility rates in 1995.

- There were 15 LHAs with statistically significant low teenage fertility rates (based on at least 5 births) for 1990–1994. The five LHAs with the lowest statistically significant rates (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 45 West Vancouver-Bowen Island	1.48	(10)
– 37 Delta	8.59	(161)
– 44 North Vancouver	8.97	(163)
– 38 Richmond	9.61	(214)
– 63 Saanich	11.03	(86)

West Vancouver, Richmond, and North Vancouver were also among the five LHAs with the lowest teenage fertility rates in 1995.

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX

TEEN PREGNANCY

In the Ministry of Health, three different measures are commonly used to describe pregnancies of teenage women: teenage mother rate, teenage fertility rate, and teen pregnancy rate. In 1995, mothers under age 20 accounted for 56.07 births per 1,000 live births; this is the teenage mother rate presented in Appendix 3. The births to 15–19 year old mothers can be expressed a different way, as 22.06 live births per 1,000 young women in the 15–19 age group; this is the *teenage fertility rate* (the age-specific live birth rate for the 15–19 age group) presented in Table 12. A third broader measure, presented in the Provincial Health Officer's Annual Report is the *teen pregnancy rate* which is the sum of live births, stillbirths and hospital or clinic abortive outcomes per 1,000 young women in the 15–19 age group. The following table presents the combined data from the period 1985–1994.

TEEN PREGNANCY NUMBERS AND RATES

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1985–1994

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1990–94
Numbers*											
Live births	2,330	2,242	2,182	2,374	2,524	2,576	2,644	2,570	2,461	2,568	12,819
Stillbirths	17	30	19	19	16	19	26	16	12	24	97
Abortive outcomes	2,840	2,803	2,955	2,705	2,924	2,702	2,623	2,334	3,137	3,186	13,982
Total pregnancies	5,187	5,075	5,156	5,098	5,464	5,297	5,293	4,920	5,610	5,778	26,898
Population*	106,600	106,500	106,000	106,400	106,000	106,900	107,380	109,080	111,464	114,323	549,147
Rates per 1,000 women in 15 to 19 age group											
Live births	21.9	21.1	20.6	22.3	23.8	24.1	24.6	23.6	22.1	22.5	23.3
Stillbirths	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Abortive outcomes	26.6	26.3	27.9	25.4	27.6	25.3	24.4	21.4	28.1	27.9	25.5
Teen pregnancy rate	48.7	47.7	48.6	47.9	51.5	49.6	49.3	45.1	50.3	50.5	49.0

Notes: * Numbers and population are shown for the female population in the 15 to 19 age group only.
 Includes only events which occurred in B.C. to B.C. residents.
 Live births and stillbirths by calendar year from the Division of Vital Statistics.
 Hospital and abortive outcomes by fiscal year (clinic data included in 1994/1995 only) from Information Systems Inpatient Programs, Ministry of Health.

TABLE 13
LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT AND GESTATIONAL AGE
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Birth Weight (in Grams)	Gestational Age (in Weeks)							Total
	<20	20-27	28-36	37-41	42-45	46+	N.S.	
<500	3	31	1	—	—	—	—	35
500-749	1	60	5	1	—	—	—	67
750-999	—	53	20	—	—	—	—	73
1,000-1,249	—	29	73	2	—	—	—	104
1,250-1,499	—	9	110	4	—	—	—	123
1,500-1,749	—	—	178	10	—	—	—	188
1,750-1,999	—	—	238	47	—	—	—	285
2,000-2,249	—	1	382	159	1	—	—	543
2,250-2,499	—	—	481	559	1	—	1	1,042
2,500-2,749	—	2	521	1,631	16	—	—	2,170
2,750-2,999	—	—	439	3,842	45	—	—	4,326
3,000-3,249	—	—	213	7,160	112	—	1	7,486
3,250-3,499	—	—	119	8,792	193	1	1	9,106
3,500-3,749	—	1	53	8,318	270	—	2	8,644
3,750-3,999	—	—	10	5,880	308	—	—	6,198
4,000-4,249	—	—	5	3,293	248	—	—	3,546
4,250-4,499	—	—	2	1,548	128	—	—	1,678
4,500-4,749	—	—	2	623	53	—	—	678
4,750-4,999	—	—	—	189	15	—	—	204
5,000-5,249	—	—	—	72	9	—	—	81
5,250-5,499	—	—	—	10	1	—	—	11
5,500+	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	11
N.S.	—	1	—	6	1	—	155	163
TOTAL	4	187	2,852	42,157	1,401	1	160	46,762

Note: Non-residents are excluded.
 N.S. - Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 13

- In 1995, approximately 13 out of 15 live births (40,464) were delivered at term (from 37 to 41 weeks gestation) and had birth weights which were neither high (4,500 grams or more) nor low (less than 2,500 grams). This percentage of “healthy babies” (86.5%) was almost identical to the previous year (86.0%).
- There were 2,460 low birth weight live births in 1995 and 3,043 pre-term (less than 37 weeks gestation) live births. A total of 1,675 babies (3.6%) were both pre-term and low birth weight, which was marginally higher than in the previous year (3.4%).
- Post-term (42 or more weeks of gestation) deliveries occurred in 1,402 live births (3.0%) in 1995, a decrease from the previous year (3.8%). There were 985 high birth weight babies in 1995; the same percentage (2.1%) as in 1994.
- Out of every 100 live births in 1995:

by birth weight	by gestational age
– 5 were low birth weight	– 7 were preterm
– 93 were normal birth weight	– 90 were term
– 2 were high birth weight	– 3 were post-term

TABLE 14
LIVE BIRTHS BY BIRTH WEIGHT AND AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Birth Weight (in Grams)	Age of Mother (in Years)									Total
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	N.S.	
<500	–	–	2	11	17	3	2	–	–	35
500–749	–	1	7	25	21	12	1	–	–	67
750–999	1	6	13	15	23	11	4	–	–	73
1,000–1,249	–	6	26	28	26	16	2	–	–	104
1,250–1,499	–	8	22	40	31	18	4	–	–	123
1,500–1,749	–	13	36	53	59	23	4	–	–	188
1,750–1,999	–	17	52	86	86	41	3	–	–	285
2,000–2,249	–	36	87	161	158	83	17	1	–	543
2,250–2,499	2	75	205	289	323	125	23	–	–	1,042
2,500–2,749	1	116	425	692	624	260	49	3	–	2,170
2,750–2,999	1	252	878	1,393	1,190	520	88	4	–	4,326
3,000–3,249	8	442	1,450	2,350	2,227	865	139	5	–	7,486
3,250–3,449	8	525	1,759	2,808	2,722	1,113	164	7	–	9,106
3,500–3,749	7	452	1,571	2,705	2,731	1,023	153	2	–	8,644
3,750–3,999	4	336	1,139	1,959	1,904	744	108	4	–	6,198
4,000–4,249	3	183	611	1,104	1,160	422	58	5	–	3,546
4,250–4,499	1	79	268	525	566	204	33	2	–	1,678
4,500–4,749	–	21	116	202	219	103	16	1	–	678
4,750–4,999	–	7	35	68	55	34	5	–	–	204
5,000–5,249	–	3	10	25	38	4	1	–	–	81
5,250–5,499	–	–	2	2	5	1	1	–	–	11
5,500+	–	–	1	4	3	3	–	–	–	11
N.S.	–	4	35	44	57	17	6	–	–	163
TOTAL	36	2,582	8,750	14,589	14,245	5,645	881	34	–	46,762

Note: Non-residents are excluded.
 N.S. – Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 14

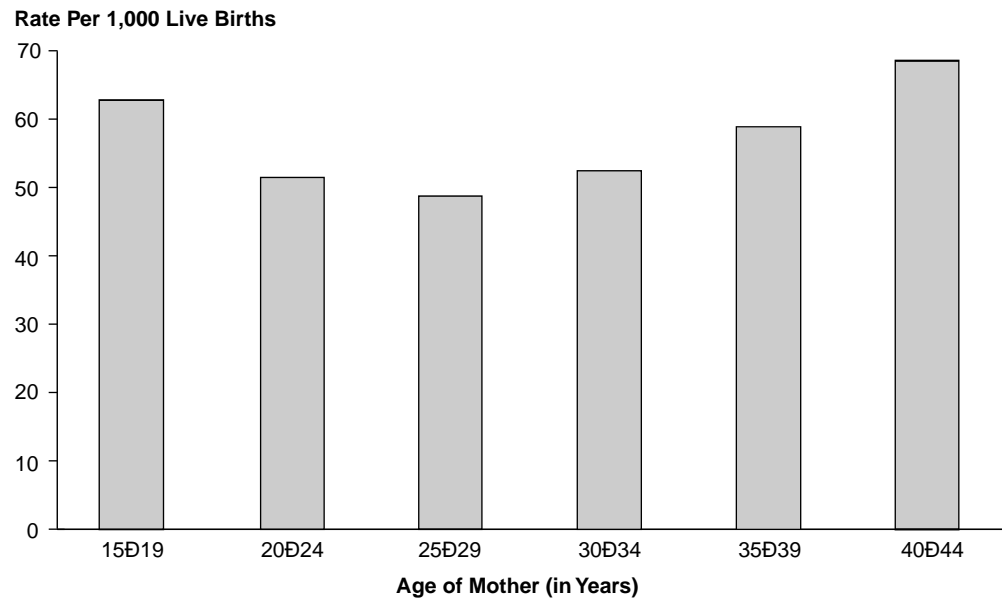
- Out of every 1,000 live births in 1995:
 - 53 had low birth weights (less than 2,500 grams)
 - ~ 1 of the 53 had an extremely low birth weight (less than 500 grams)
 - ~ 9 of the 53 had very low birth weights (less than 1,500 grams)
 - 923 had “healthy” birth weights which were neither low nor high
 - 21 had high birth weights (4,500 grams or more)
- Mothers aged 25–29 had the smallest proportion (4.9%) of low birth weight (LBW) births for the specified age groups (based on 5 or more LBW births in the age group). The percentage of LBW births by maternal age groups had a U-shaped distribution (see Figure 11) with the highest proportions of low birth weight babies in the under 20 and over 40 maternal age groups.
- In 1995, the proportion of high birth weight babies (4,500 grams or more) increased with maternal age, from 1.2% of the births in the 15–19 age group to 2.9% of births in the 45 or older age group.

TABLE 15
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER AND GENDER
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Age of Mother	Male		Female		Total		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Rate
< 15	2	0.2	1	0.1	3	0.1	++
15-19	89	7.5	73	5.7	162	6.6	62.74
20-24	230	19.3	220	17.3	450	18.3	51.43
25-29	327	27.5	381	30.0	708	28.8	48.53
30-34	368	31.0	376	29.6	744	30.2	52.23
35-39	150	12.6	182	14.3	332	13.5	58.81
40-44	22	1.9	38	3.0	60	2.4	68.10
45 +	1	0.1	-	-	1	0.0	++
N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,189	100.0	1,271	100.0	2,460	100.0	52.61

Note: Rate per 1,000 live births for the specified age group.
 Low birth weight denotes birth weight less than 2,500 grams.
 ++ denotes the number of cases is 5 or less.
 Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
 Non-residents are excluded. N.S. - Not stated.

FIGURE 11
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995



HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 15/FIGURE 11

- In 1995, there were 2,460 live births with low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams). The provincial low birth weight (LBW) live birth rate was 52.61 per 1,000 live births in 1995, an increase from 50.19 in 1994.
- Out of 24,182 male live births in 1995, 4.9% had low birth weight (1,189). For females, 5.6% of the 22,578 female live births had low birth weight (1,271). (These percentages are based on the data shown in this table and the number of male and female live births shown in Appendix 1.)
- Slightly more low birth weight live births were females than males, 51.7% compared to 48.3%. This might be a reflection of the fact that female infants tend to be smaller than males.
- Mothers aged 25–29 had the lowest rate of low birth weight babies (48.53 per 1,000 live births) in 1995. Mothers aged 40–44 had the highest rate of LBW live births (68.10) in 1995, but this age group had the lowest rate of LBW live births in 1994 (41.98).
- Compared to the previous year, the youngest and oldest age group of mothers showed the greatest increase in low birth weight births. Of all maternal age groups, only mothers aged 35–39 showed a lower LBW rate in 1995 (58.81) compared to 1994 (63.06).

VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION BOX**BIRTHS TO NON-RESIDENT MOTHERS**

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1995

Usual Residence of Mother	Number of Births
Canada	
Alberta	68
Northwest Territories	19
Ontario	17
Yukon	13
Saskatchewan	6
Quebec	5
Other Canada	10
Total Canada	138
United States	
Washington	13
California	5
Idaho	5
Other U.S.A.	4
Total United States	27
Asia / Pacific	
Hong Kong	46
Taiwan	17
China	6
Other Asia	8
Pacific countries	3
Total Asia / Pacific	80
Central & South America and Carib	7
Europe	11
Middle East and Africa	6
TOTAL	269

TABLE 16

LOW BIRTH WEIGHT LIVE BIRTHS BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA AND GESTATIONAL AGE

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1990-1994 AND 1995

Local Health Area	1990-1994				1995				Total	Rate
	Low Birth Weight Live Births				Gestational Age (in Weeks)					
	Observed	Ratio	(p)	Rate	<37	37-41	42+	N.S.		
01 Fernie	37	0.84		41.57	2	5	-	-	7	45.46
02 Cranbrook	54	0.78		38.54	5	5	-	-	10	36.10
03 Kimberley	19	1.00		49.35	1	2	-	-	3	44.12
04 Windermere	20	0.93		45.87	1	2	-	-	3	36.15
05 Creston	23	0.69		34.07	2	4	-	-	6	53.10
06 Kootenay Lake	7	0.74		36.65	2	3	-	-	5	116.28
07 Nelson	55	0.88		43.41	8	5	-	-	13	54.39
09 Castlegar	36	1.10		53.97	8	2	-	-	10	72.46
10 Arrow Lakes	13	0.85		41.80	2	1	-	-	3	45.46
11 Trail	63	1.08		53.34	5	3	-	-	8	37.74
12 Grand Forks	26	1.32		64.84	4	1	-	-	5	78.13
13 Kettle Valley	16	1.76	*	86.49	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 Southern Okanagan	40	1.08		52.91	7	2	-	-	9	50.85
15 Penticton	106	1.08		53.19	13	13	-	-	26	64.04
16 Keremeos	11	1.02		50.23	1	1	-	-	2	37.74
17 Princeton	14	1.18		58.09	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 Golden	22	0.89		44.00	3	2	-	-	5	55.56
19 Revelstoke	25	0.95		46.90	2	2	-	-	4	39.60
20 Salmon Arm	67	0.98		48.45	11	2	-	-	13	49.06
21 Armstrong-Spallumcheen	20	0.91		44.54	6	1	-	-	7	63.64
22 Vernon	118	0.79	*	38.79	17	6	-	-	23	38.02
23 Central Okanagan	345	1.01		49.52	55	31	-	-	86	54.47
24 Kamloops	274	1.04		51.13	34	21	-	-	55	48.93
26 North Thompson	23	1.67	*	82.44	1	-	-	-	1	16.13
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	152	1.12		55.21	22	4	-	-	26	47.45
28 Quesnel	83	1.04		51.11	10	6	-	-	16	46.65
29 Lillooet	18	1.10		54.38	2	2	-	-	4	67.80
30 South Cariboo	32	1.22		60.04	5	5	-	-	10	104.17
31 Merritt	45	1.13		55.83	5	4	-	-	9	60.00
32 Hope	26	1.01		49.71	3	1	-	-	4	40.40
33 Chilliwack	187	0.86	*	42.23	30	25	-	-	55	58.20
34 Abbotsford	352	0.96		47.10	48	20	1	-	69	42.31
35 Langley	300	0.90		44.37	50	21	-	-	71	53.18
36 Surrey	1,231	1.07	*	52.51	194	104	-	-	298	57.57
37 Delta	274	0.91		44.68	56	21	-	-	77	63.95
38 Richmond	389	0.94		46.08	68	23	-	-	91	50.58
39 Vancouver	1,655	1.14	*	55.89	237	116	-	-	353	56.69
40 New Westminster	180	1.16		56.89	34	17	-	-	51	72.55
41 Burnaby	534	1.08		53.31	83	42	-	-	125	59.24
42 Maple Ridge	197	0.79	*	39.00	35	10	-	1	46	47.37
43 Coquitlam	550	0.98		48.37	78	39	1	-	118	50.06
44 North Vancouver	309	0.81	*	39.81	43	15	-	-	58	39.27
45 West Vancouver-Bowen Is.	77	0.87		42.87	11	6	-	-	17	51.05
46 Sechelt	60	0.90		44.41	12	4	-	-	16	60.84
47 Powell River	46	0.82		40.21	7	3	-	-	10	47.85
48 Howe Sound	91	1.02		50.17	19	4	-	-	23	57.79
49 Central Coast	20	1.20		59.00	4	3	-	-	7	116.67
50 Queen Charlotte	27	1.07		52.53	3	1	-	-	4	52.63
52 Prince Rupert	72	0.82		40.54	13	7	-	-	20	62.31
54 Smithers	59	0.79		38.69	6	5	-	-	11	40.59
55 Burns Lake	36	1.11		54.46	3	1	-	-	4	33.90
56 Nechako	82	1.16		57.30	2	4	-	-	6	20.76
57 Prince George	388	1.08		53.23	53	27	-	-	80	57.64
59 Peace River South	94	0.82	*	40.14	12	3	-	-	15	36.15
60 Peace River North	106	0.90		44.15	10	9	-	-	19	39.10
61 Greater Victoria	529	0.99		48.82	68	25	-	-	93	46.64
62 Sooke	177	1.03		50.69	23	10	-	-	33	48.74
63 Saanich	110	0.90		44.34	12	10	-	-	22	44.63
64 Gulf Islands	22	0.86		42.23	1	1	-	-	2	16.67
65 Cowichan	154	1.06		52.20	29	7	-	-	36	64.63
66 Lake Cowichan	22	1.41		69.62	2	-	-	-	2	28.99
67 Ladysmith	43	0.98		48.15	7	2	-	-	9	47.87
68 Nanaimo	242	1.01		49.50	37	14	-	-	51	54.43
69 Qualicum	50	0.74	*	36.39	16	6	-	-	22	69.84
70 Alberni	89	0.83		40.90	12	7	-	-	19	46.46
71 Courtenay	137	0.99		48.72	16	7	-	-	23	38.02
72 Campbell River	127	1.06		52.33	16	6	-	-	22	45.08
75 Mission	114	0.94		46.45	27	8	-	-	35	71.58
76 Agassiz-Harrison	23	1.05		51.80	2	-	-	-	2	21.28
77 Summerland	21	0.95		46.98	4	3	-	-	7	67.31
78 Enderby	10	0.52	*	25.64	4	-	-	-	4	45.46
80 Kitimat	47	1.02		50.21	3	1	-	-	4	26.67
81 Fort Nelson	25	0.96		47.26	7	-	-	-	7	56.91
84 Vancouver Island West	9	0.52	*	25.71	5	-	-	-	5	104.17
85 Vancouver Island North	74	1.24		61.06	14	2	-	-	16	72.07
87 Stikine	11	3.06	*	150.68	-	-	-	-	-	-
88 Terrace	128	1.08		53.09	13	5	-	-	18	39.39
92 Nishga	5	0.53		26.18	1	-	-	-	1	32.26
94 Telegraph Creek	2	0.56		27.40	2	-	-	-	2	222.22
N.S.	3	0.76		37.50	6	2	-	-	8	65.57
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	11,280	1.00		49.24	1,675	782	2	1	2,460	52.61

Note: * Statistical testing indicates that observed low birth weight live births are significantly different from the expected (p<0.05, two tailed). Low Birth Weight denotes birth weight less than 2,500 grams. Ratio - observed over the expected low birth weight live births. Rate per 1,000 live births in the specified area. Non-residents are excluded.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 16/FIGURE 12

- The provincial low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams) live birth rate for 1995 was 52.61 per 1,000 live births, which was higher than the 1990–1994 rate (49.24).
- The Local Health Areas (LHAs) with the highest LBW rates (based on at least 5 cases) in 1995 (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 49 Central Coast	116.67	(7)
– 06 Kootenay Lake	116.28	(5)
– 30 South Cariboo	104.17	(10)
– 84 Vancouver Island West	104.17	(5)
– 12 Grand Forks	78.13	(5)
- The LHAs with lowest LBW rates (based on at least 5 cases) in 1995 (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 56 Nechako	20.76	(6)
– 02 Cranbrook	36.10	(10)
– 59 Peace River South	36.15	(15)
– 11 Trail	37.74	(8)
– 22 Vernon	38.02	(23)
– 71 Courtenay	38.02	(23)
- In 1995 there were three LHAs which did not have any low birth weight births; these were Kettle Valley, Princeton, and Stikine.
- There were five LHAs with low birth weight ratios for the period 1990–1994 which were statistically significant and high (number of births in parentheses):

– 87 Stikine	3.06	(11)
– 13 Kettle Valley	1.76	(16)
– 26 North Thompson	1.67	(23)
– 39 Vancouver	1.14	(1,655)
– 36 Surrey	1.07	(1,231)

Stikine, Vancouver, and Surrey had statistically significant high ratios for low birth weight live births for 1989–1993.

- There were eight LHAs with low birth weight ratios for the period 1990–1994 which were statistically significant and low (number of births in parentheses):

– 78 Enderby	0.52	(10)
– 84 Vancouver Island West	0.52	(9)
– 69 Qualicum	0.74	(50)
– 22 Vernon	0.79	(118)
– 42 Maple Ridge	0.79	(197)
– 44 North Vancouver	0.81	(309)
– 59 Peace River South	0.82	(94)
– 33 Chilliwack	0.86	(187)

Vernon, North Vancouver, and Chilliwack had statistically significant low ratios for low birth weight live births for 1989–1993.

TABLE 17
SELECTED MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY AND
DELIVERY IN LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1990-1994 AND 1995

Maternal Complications	ICD9 Code(s)	1990-1994		1995					Total	Percent
		Total	Percent	Age of Mother (in Years)						
				<20	20-29	30-39	40+	N.S.		
Antepartum hemorrhage	640-641	2,497	2.0	17	208	291	27	-	543	1.9
Hypertension/eclampsia	642	4,672	3.7	82	536	446	39	-	1,103	3.8
Early or threatened labour	644	11,629	9.2	191	1,363	1,254	77	-	2,885	9.9
Prolonged pregnancy	645	10,469	8.3	101	674	460	18	-	1,253	4.3
Hyperemesis	643	105	0.1	1	15	13	1	-	30	0.1
Other complications of pregnancy	646	1,184	0.9	12	93	90	2	-	197	0.7
Infective and parasitic conditions	647	851	0.7	21	135	93	5	-	254	0.9
Diabetes/other maternal conditions	648	5,607	4.4	40	502	607	46	-	1,195	4.1
Malposition and malpresentation	652	8,954	7.1	67	769	801	35	-	1,672	5.8
Disproportion	653	6,658	5.3	58	647	634	34	-	1,373	4.7
Abnormality of reproductive organs	654 (+)	20,224	16.0	42	1,506	2,160	127	-	3,835	13.2
Fetal abnormality affecting mother	655-656	10,711	8.5	196	1,690	1,649	82	-	3,617	12.5
Other problems of amniotic cavity	657-658,667	4,946	3.9	70	707	646	41	-	1,464	5.0
Obstructed labour	660	5,950	4.7	120	1,094	888	51	-	2,153	7.4
Abnormality of forces of labour	661	5,191	4.1	66	631	538	20	-	1,255	4.3
Long labour	662	2,931	2.3	26	273	218	4	-	521	1.8
Umbilical cord complications	663	2,087	1.7	28	254	188	8	-	478	1.6
Obstetrical trauma	664-665	1,386	1.1	23	183	141	4	-	351	1.2
Postpartum hemorrhage	666	2,203	1.7	61	369	269	13	-	712	2.5
Other labour/delivery complications	659,668-669	17,910	14.2	219	2,058	1,715	100	-	4,092	14.1
Other puerperal complications	670-676	179	0.1	2	14	20	-	-	36	0.1
Total maternal complications	640-648, 652-676	126,344	100.0	1,443	13,721	13,121	734	-	29,019	100.0
Live births with the above maternal complications	- Number	98,320		1,111	10,349	9,731	504	-	21,695	
	- Percent(*)	42.9		42.4	44.3	48.9	55.1	-	46.4	

Note: Percent based upon maternal complications. Percent(*) based upon live births for the specified maternal age group.

(+) includes repeat cesarean sections done for no reason other than uterine scar.

Each birth can have three maternal complication codes, including codes other than those shown here.

Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. - Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 17

- Maternal complications of pregnancy and delivery were noted in 21,695 live births in 1995. Nearly half of all births in the period 1990-1994 and in 1995 involved maternal complications (42.9% and 46.4%, respectively).
- The percentage of live births with maternal complications of pregnancy and delivery increased as the age of mother increased. Maternal complications were noted for approximately two in five live births (42.4%) to mothers less than 20 years, increasing to more than half (55.1%) of all live births delivered by mothers aged 40 or older. It should be noted, however, that the definition of maternal complications of pregnancy and delivery includes elderly gravida (maternal age of 35 or older).
- Abnormality of reproductive organs/uterine scars plus the category of other labour/delivery complications accounted for almost a third (30.2%) of all complications of pregnancy and delivery in 1990-1994. These two categories of maternal complications were also the most frequently noted in 1995, accounting for more than a quarter (27.3%) of the maternal complications. Fetal abnormality affecting the mother was also noted frequently (12.5%) on 1995 births.

TABLE 18

MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY AND DELIVERY IN LIVE BIRTHS BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1990-1994 AND 1995

Local Health Area	1990-1994				1995				
	Observed			Total Live Births	Complications			Total Live Births	
	Births	Ratio (p)	Percent		Observed	Expected	Ratio (p)		Percent
01 Fernie	330	0.86 *	37.1	890	72	71.4	1.01	46.8	154
02 Cranbrook	444	0.74 *	31.7	1,401	84	128.5	0.65 *	30.3	277
03 Kimberley	137	0.83 *	35.6	385	30	31.5	0.95	44.1	68
04 Windermere	182	0.97	41.7	436	40	38.5	1.04	48.2	83
05 Creston	253	0.87 *	37.5	675	57	52.4	1.09	50.4	113
06 Kootenay Lake	70	0.85	36.6	191	24	19.9	1.20	55.8	43
07 Nelson	521	0.96	41.1	1,267	112	110.9	1.01	46.9	239
09 Castlegar	340	1.19 *	51.0	667	61	64.0	0.95	44.2	138
10 Arrow Lakes	161	1.21 *	51.8	311	32	30.6	1.05	48.5	66
11 Trail	576	1.14 *	48.8	1,181	110	98.4	1.12	51.9	212
12 Grand Forks	177	1.03	44.1	401	24	29.7	0.81	37.5	64
13 Kettle Valley	89	1.12	48.1	185	13	14.8	0.88	40.6	32
14 Southern Okanagan	381	1.17 *	50.4	756	80	82.1	0.97	45.2	177
15 Penticton	1,007	1.18 *	50.5	1,993	208	188.4	1.10	51.2	406
16 Keremeos	89	0.95	40.6	219	28	24.6	1.14	52.8	53
17 Princeton	108	1.04	44.8	241	15	21.3	0.70	32.6	46
18 Golden	199	0.93	39.8	500	43	41.8	1.03	47.8	90
19 Revelstoke	264	1.15 *	49.5	533	57	46.9	1.22	56.4	101
20 Salmon Arm	682	1.15 *	49.3	1,383	141	122.9	1.15	53.2	265
21 Armstrong-Spallumcheen	169	0.88	37.6	449	51	51.0	1.00	46.4	110
22 Vernon	1,265	0.97	41.6	3,042	269	280.7	0.96	44.5	605
23 Central Okanagan	2,861	0.96 *	41.1	6,967	644	732.6	0.88 *	40.8	1,579
24 Kamloops	2,503	1.09 *	46.7	5,359	590	521.5	1.13 *	52.5	1,124
26 North Thompson	138	1.15	49.5	279	37	28.8	1.29	59.7	62
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	1,216	1.03	44.2	2,753	284	254.2	1.12	51.8	548
28 Quesnel	701	1.01	43.2	1,624	163	159.1	1.02	47.5	343
29 Lillooet	138	0.97	41.7	331	35	27.4	1.28	59.3	59
30 South Cariboo	207	0.90	38.8	533	50	44.5	1.12	52.1	96
31 Merritt	349	1.01	43.3	806	67	69.6	0.96	44.7	150
32 Hope	213	0.95	40.7	523	52	45.9	1.13	52.5	99
33 Chilliwack	1,746	0.92 *	39.4	4,428	441	438.4	1.01	46.7	945
34 Abbotsford	2,999	0.93 *	40.1	7,474	667	756.7	0.88 *	40.9	1,631
35 Langley	2,752	0.95 *	40.7	6,761	540	619.4	0.87 *	40.4	1,335
36 Surrey	9,669	0.96 *	41.2	23,443	2,449	2,401.4	1.02	47.3	5,176
37 Delta	2,633	1.00	42.9	6,132	579	558.6	1.04	48.1	1,204
38 Richmond	3,854	1.06 *	45.7	8,442	882	834.6	1.06	49.0	1,799
39 Vancouver	14,133	1.11 *	47.7	29,612	2,946	2,889.0	1.02	47.3	6,227
40 New Westminster	1,407	1.04	44.5	3,164	336	326.2	1.03	47.8	703
41 Burnaby	4,208	0.98	42.0	10,017	946	978.9	0.97	44.8	2,110
42 Maple Ridge	2,264	1.04 *	44.8	5,051	441	450.5	0.98	45.4	971
43 Coquitlam	4,977	1.02	43.8	11,370	1,072	1,093.5	0.98	45.5	2,357
44 North Vancouver	3,090	0.93 *	39.8	7,762	648	685.2	0.95	43.9	1,477
45 West Vancouver-Bowen Island	770	1.00	42.9	1,796	151	154.5	0.98	45.3	333
46 Sechelt	572	0.99	42.3	1,351	119	122.0	0.98	45.2	263
47 Powell River	513	1.04	44.8	1,144	84	97.0	0.87	40.2	209
48 Howe Sound	712	0.91 *	39.3	1,814	170	184.7	0.92	42.7	398
49 Central Coast	145	1.00	42.8	339	35	27.8	1.26	58.3	60
50 Queen Charlotte	204	0.92	39.7	514	31	35.3	0.88	40.8	76
52 Prince Rupert	613	0.80 *	34.5	1,776	153	148.9	1.03	47.7	321
54 Smithers	513	0.78 *	33.6	1,525	101	125.7	0.80 *	37.3	271
55 Burns Lake	271	0.96	41.0	661	48	54.7	0.88	40.7	118
56 Nechako	560	0.91 *	39.1	1,431	148	134.1	1.10	51.2	289
57 Prince George	2,826	0.90 *	38.8	7,289	641	644.0	1.00	46.2	1,388
59 Peace River South	801	0.80 *	34.2	2,342	162	192.5	0.84 *	39.0	415
60 Peace River North	767	0.74 *	31.9	2,401	198	225.5	0.88	40.7	486
61 Greater Victoria	4,807	1.03 *	44.4	10,836	928	925.1	1.00	46.5	1,994
62 Sooke	1,530	1.02	43.8	3,492	305	314.1	0.97	45.1	677
63 Saanich	1,068	1.00	43.0	2,481	215	228.7	0.94	43.6	493
64 Gulf Islands	186	0.83 *	35.7	521	61	55.7	1.10	50.8	120
65 Cowichan	1,190	0.94 *	40.3	2,950	257	258.4	0.99	46.1	557
66 Lake Cowichan	137	1.01	43.4	316	36	32.0	1.12	52.2	69
67 Ladysmith	408	1.06	45.7	893	91	87.2	1.04	48.4	188
68 Nanaimo	2,339	1.11 *	47.8	4,889	513	434.7	1.18 *	54.7	937
69 Qualicum	617	1.05	44.9	1,374	149	146.1	1.02	47.3	315
70 Alberni	889	0.95	40.9	2,176	203	189.8	1.07	49.6	409
71 Courtenay	1,302	1.08 *	46.3	2,812	334	280.7	1.19 *	55.2	605
72 Campbell River	1,089	1.05	44.9	2,427	229	226.4	1.01	46.9	488
75 Mission	1,046	0.99	42.6	2,454	236	226.9	1.04	48.3	489
76 Agassiz-Harrison	176	0.92	39.6	444	51	43.6	1.17	54.3	94
77 Summerland	207	1.08	46.3	447	45	48.3	0.93	43.3	104
78 Enderby	174	1.04	44.6	390	36	40.8	0.88	40.9	88
80 Kitimat	369	0.92	39.4	936	75	69.6	1.08	50.0	150
81 Fort Nelson	211	0.93	39.9	529	46	57.1	0.81	37.4	123
84 Vancouver Island West	165	1.10	47.1	350	25	22.3	1.12	52.1	48
85 Vancouver Island North	557	1.07	46.0	1,212	111	103.0	1.08	50.0	222
87 Stikine	32	1.02	43.8	73	4	4.2	0.96	44.4	9
88 Terrace	950	0.92 *	39.4	2,411	202	212.0	0.95	44.2	457
92 Nishga	57	0.70 *	29.8	191	18	14.4	1.25	58.1	31
94 Telegraph Creek	23	0.73	31.5	73	6	4.2	1.44	66.7	9
N.S.	22			80	58				122
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	98,320			229,077	21,695				46,762

Note: Observed births denotes live births with at least one maternal complication code in the range 640-648 or 652-676.

* Statistical testing indicates that the observed number of births with maternal complications is significantly different from the expected (p<0.05, two tailed). Percent of observed births is based on total live births. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. - Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 18/FIGURE 13

- The Local Health Areas (LHAs) with maternal complication ratios which were statistically significant and high in 1995 (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 71 Courtenay	1.19	(334)
– 68 Nanaimo	1.18	(513)
– 24 Kamloops	1.13	(590)

All these LHAs also had statistically significant high ratios for the 1990–1994 period.

- The LHAs with maternal complication ratios which were statistically significant and low in 1995 (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 02 Cranbrook	0.65	(84)
– 54 Smithers	0.80	(101)
– 59 Peace River South	0.84	(162)
– 35 Langley	0.87	(540)
– 23 Central Okanagan	0.88	(644)
– 34 Abbotsford	0.88	(667)

All these LHAs also had statistically significant low ratios for the 1990–1994 period.

- There were 14 LHAs with statistically significant and high maternal complication ratios in 1990–1994. The six LHAs with the highest ratios which were statistically significant (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 10 Arrow Lakes	1.21	(161)
– 09 Castlegar	1.19	(340)
– 15 Penticton	1.18	(1,007)
– 14 Southern Okanagan	1.17	(381)
– 20 Salmon Arm	1.15	(682)
– 19 Revelstoke	1.15	(264)

- There were 21 LHAs with statistically significant and low maternal complication ratios in 1990–1994. The six LHAs with the lowest ratios which were statistically significant (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 92 Nishga	0.70	(57)
– 02 Cranbrook	0.74	(444)
– 60 Peace River North	0.74	(767)
– 54 Smithers	0.78	(513)
– 52 Prince Rupert	0.80	(613)
– 59 Peace River South	0.80	(801)

TABLE 19
PERINATAL COMPLICATIONS IN LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1990–1994 AND 1995

Perinatal Complications	ICD9 Code(s)	1990–1994		1995					Total	Percent
		Total	Percent	Age of Mother (in Years)						
				<20	20–29	30–39	40+	N.S.		
Maternal conditions not related to pregnancy	760	50	0.0	–	3	1	1	–	5	0.0
Complications of pregnancy, labour and delivery	761,763	12,842	16.2	179	1,823	1,539	81	–	3,622	17.2
Complications of placenta, cord and membranes	762	1,233	1.6	29	256	280	19	–	584	2.8
Slow fetal growth/malnutrition/small for dates	764	3,167	4.0	26	208	165	6	–	405	1.9
Short gestation	765	12,729	16.1	195	1,383	1,279	85	–	2,942	14.0
Long gestation and high birth weight	766 (+)	6,469	8.2	130	1,098	888	41	–	2,157	10.3
Birth trauma	767	528	0.7	10	67	43	–	–	120	0.6
Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia	768	40,741	51.5	715	5,374	4,439	208	–	10,736	51.0
Respiratory conditions of fetus and newborn	769–770	823	1.0	16	139	101	5	–	261	1.2
Infections specific to the perinatal period	771	78	0.0	3	18	18	–	–	39	0.2
Fetal and neonatal hemorrhage	772	76	0.0	1	17	12	2	–	32	0.2
Perinatal jaundice/other hematological disorders	773–774,776	118	0.1	1	10	5	2	–	18	0.0
Perinatal endocrine and metabolic disturbances	775	22	0.0	–	4	3	–	–	7	0.0
Perinatal digestive system disorders	777	6	0.0	–	–	1	–	–	1	0.0
Integument and temperature regulation conditions	778	140	0.2	1	22	22	1	–	46	0.2
Other and ill-defined perinatal conditions	779	105	0.1	5	26	26	2	–	59	0.3
Total perinatal complications	760–779	79,127	100.0	1,311	10,448	8,822	453	–	21,034	100.0
Live births with the above perinatal complications	– Number	64,429		1,013	8,096	6,776	341	–	16,226	
	– Percent(*)	28.1		38.7	34.7	34.1	37.3	–	34.7	

Note: Each birth can have five perinatal complications, including codes other than those shown here. Percent based upon perinatal complications. Percent(*) based upon live births for the maternal age group. (+) includes only 766.0 (where birth weight •4500 grams) and 766.2 (where gestational age >41 weeks). Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Non-residents are excluded. N.S. – Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 19

- Perinatal complications were noted in 16,226 births or more than a third (34.7%) of 1995 live births. These complications were noted in more than a quarter of all live births (28.1%) in 1990–1994.
- Perinatal complications, as a percentage of the live births for a specified maternal age group, decreased with mother's age from age less than 20 to age 30–39. Mothers aged 40 or older had a higher percentage of live births with perinatal complications than mothers aged 20–29 or 30–39, but fewer complications than mothers less than 20 years old. In contrast, maternal complications of pregnancy and delivery increased as the age of mother increased.
- Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia accounted for more than half of the perinatal complications noted in both 1990–1994 and 1995 (51.5% and 51.0%). Complications of pregnancy, labour and delivery plus short gestation accounted for approximately a third of the perinatal complications in 1990–1994 and 1995. Long gestation and high birth weight was also noted frequently as a perinatal complication, especially on 1995 births.

TABLE 20
PERINATAL COMPLICATIONS IN LIVE BIRTHS
BY LOCAL HEALTH AREA

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1990-1994 AND 1995

Local Health Area	1990-1994				1995				
	Observed			Total	Observed	Expected			Total
	Births	Ratio (p)	Percent	Live Births	Births	Births	Ratio (p)	Percent	Live Births
01 Fernie	208	0.83 *	23.4	890	56	53.4	1.05	36.4	154
02 Cranbrook	299	0.76 *	21.3	1,401	78	96.1	0.81	28.2	277
03 Kimberley	103	0.95	26.8	385	18	23.6	0.76	26.5	68
04 Windermere	140	1.14	32.1	436	30	28.8	1.04	36.1	83
05 Creston	225	1.19 *	33.3	675	45	39.2	1.15	39.8	113
06 Kootenay Lake	49	0.91	25.7	191	21	14.9	1.41	48.8	43
07 Nelson	405	1.14 *	32.0	1,267	92	82.9	1.11	38.5	239
09 Castlegar	192	1.02	28.8	667	60	47.9	1.25	43.5	138
10 Arrow Lakes	94	1.07	30.2	311	23	22.9	1.00	34.8	66
11 Trail	294	0.89 *	24.9	1,181	82	73.6	1.11	38.7	212
12 Grand Forks	99	0.88	24.7	401	26	22.2	1.17	40.6	64
13 Kettle Valley	59	1.13	31.9	185	10	11.1	0.90	31.3	32
14 Southern Okanagan	193	0.91	25.5	756	61	61.4	0.99	34.5	177
15 Penticton	596	1.06	29.9	1,993	157	140.9	1.11	38.7	406
16 Keremeos	52	0.84	23.7	219	23	18.4	1.25	43.4	53
17 Princeton	94	1.39 *	39.0	241	18	16.0	1.13	39.1	46
18 Golden	165	1.17 *	33.0	500	36	31.2	1.15	40.0	90
19 Revelstoke	122	0.81 *	22.9	533	30	35.0	0.86	29.7	101
20 Salmon Arm	332	0.85 *	24.0	1,383	84	92.0	0.91	31.7	265
21 Armstrong-Spallumcheen	118	0.93	26.3	449	47	38.2	1.23	42.7	110
22 Vernon	747	0.87 *	24.6	3,042	193	209.9	0.92	31.9	605
23 Central Okanagan	1,814	0.93 *	26.0	6,967	529	547.9	0.97	33.5	1,579
24 Kamloops	1,357	0.90 *	25.3	5,359	393	390.0	1.01	35.0	1,124
26 North Thompson	76	0.97	27.2	279	25	21.5	1.16	40.3	62
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	1,162	1.50 *	42.2	2,753	275	190.2	1.45 *	50.2	548
28 Quesnel	477	1.04	29.4	1,624	136	119.0	1.14	39.7	343
29 Lillooet	126	1.35 *	38.1	331	27	20.5	1.32	45.8	59
30 South Cariboo	161	1.07	30.2	533	43	33.3	1.29	44.8	96
31 Merritt	208	0.92	25.8	806	45	52.0	0.86	30.0	150
32 Hope	136	0.92	26.0	523	31	34.4	0.90	31.3	99
33 Chilliwack	1,308	1.05	29.5	4,428	346	327.9	1.06	36.6	945
34 Abbotsford	2,258	1.07 *	30.2	7,474	614	565.9	1.08 *	37.6	1,631
35 Langley	1,744	0.92 *	25.8	6,761	496	463.2	1.07	37.2	1,335
36 Surrey	6,266	0.95 *	26.7	23,443	1,596	1,796.0	0.89 *	30.8	5,176
37 Delta	1,580	0.92 *	25.8	6,132	373	417.8	0.89 *	31.0	1,204
38 Richmond	2,079	0.88 *	24.6	8,442	514	624.2	0.82 *	28.6	1,799
39 Vancouver	8,449	1.01	28.5	29,612	2,005	2,160.7	0.93 *	32.2	6,227
40 New Westminster	1,027	1.15 *	32.5	3,164	273	243.9	1.12	38.8	703
41 Burnaby	2,874	1.02	28.7	10,017	704	732.2	0.96	33.4	2,110
42 Maple Ridge	1,420	1.00	28.1	5,051	344	336.9	1.02	35.4	971
43 Coquitlam	3,385	1.06 *	29.8	11,370	858	817.9	1.05	36.4	2,357
44 North Vancouver	2,347	1.08 *	30.2	7,762	492	512.5	0.96	33.3	1,477
45 West Vancouver-Bowen Island	544	1.08	30.3	1,796	115	115.5	1.00	34.5	333
46 Sechelt	414	1.09	30.6	1,351	99	91.3	1.08	37.6	263
47 Powell River	385	1.20 *	33.7	1,144	82	72.5	1.13	39.2	209
48 Howe Sound	550	1.08	30.3	1,814	156	138.1	1.13	39.2	398
49 Central Coast	117	1.23 *	34.5	339	26	20.8	1.25	43.3	60
50 Queen Charlotte	150	1.04	29.2	514	26	26.4	0.99	34.2	76
52 Prince Rupert	442	0.88 *	24.9	1,776	121	111.4	1.09	37.7	321
54 Smithers	384	0.90 *	25.2	1,525	91	94.0	0.97	33.6	271
55 Burns Lake	178	0.96	26.9	661	33	40.9	0.81	28.0	118
56 Nechako	378	0.94	26.4	1,431	103	100.3	1.03	35.6	289
57 Prince George	2,042	1.00	28.0	7,289	545	481.6	1.13 *	39.3	1,388
59 Peace River South	755	1.15 *	32.2	2,342	184	144.0	1.28 *	44.3	415
60 Peace River North	486	0.72 *	20.2	2,401	153	168.6	0.91	31.5	486
61 Greater Victoria	2,835	0.93 *	26.2	10,836	669	691.9	0.97	33.6	1,994
62 Sooke	978	1.00	28.0	3,492	251	234.9	1.07	37.1	677
63 Saanich	653	0.94	26.3	2,481	180	171.1	1.05	36.5	493
64 Gulf Islands	135	0.92	25.9	521	39	41.6	0.94	32.5	120
65 Cowichan	821	0.99	27.8	2,950	197	193.3	1.02	35.4	557
66 Lake Cowichan	91	1.02	28.8	316	29	23.9	1.21	42.0	69
67 Ladysmith	258	1.03	28.9	893	77	65.2	1.18	41.0	188
68 Nanaimo	1,679	1.22 *	34.3	4,889	385	325.1	1.18 *	41.1	937
69 Qualicum	442	1.14 *	32.2	1,374	112	109.3	1.02	35.6	315
70 Alberni	620	1.01	28.5	2,176	118	141.9	0.83 *	28.9	409
71 Courtenay	886	1.12 *	31.5	2,812	234	209.9	1.11	38.7	605
72 Campbell River	721	1.06	29.7	2,427	190	169.3	1.12	38.9	488
75 Mission	683	0.99	27.8	2,454	176	169.7	1.04	36.0	489
76 Agassiz-Harrison	129	1.03	29.1	444	44	32.6	1.35	46.8	94
77 Summerland	120	0.95	26.8	447	36	36.1	1.00	34.6	104
78 Enderby	99	0.90	25.4	390	22	30.5	0.72	25.0	88
80 Kitimat	257	0.98	27.5	936	65	52.0	1.25	43.3	150
81 Fort Nelson	129	0.87	24.4	529	30	42.7	0.70	24.4	123
84 Vancouver Island West	93	0.94	26.6	350	18	16.7	1.08	37.5	48
85 Vancouver Island North	398	1.17 *	32.8	1,212	89	77.0	1.16	40.1	222
87 Stikine	24	1.17	32.9	73	1	3.1	0.32	11.1	9
88 Terrace	627	0.92 *	26.0	2,411	157	158.6	0.99	34.4	457
92 Nishga	51	0.95	26.7	191	15	10.8	1.39	48.4	31
94 Telegraph Creek	15	0.73	20.5	73	5	3.1	1.60	55.6	9
N.S.	20			80	44				122
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	64,429			229,077	16,226				46,762

Note: Observed births denotes live births with at least one perinatal complication code in the range 760-779.

* Statistical testing indicates that observed number of births with perinatal complications is significantly different from the expected ($p < 0.05$, two tailed). Percent of observed births is based on total live births. Non-residents are excluded.

N.S. - Not stated.

HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 20/FIGURE 14

- There were five Local Health Areas (LHAs) with the statistically significant and high perinatal complication ratios in 1995 (number of births in parentheses):

– 27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	1.45	(275)
– 59 Peace River South	1.28	(184)
– 68 Nanaimo	1.18	(385)
– 57 Prince George	1.13	(545)
– 34 Abbotsford	1.08	(614)

Cariboo-Chilcotin, Peace River South, Nanaimo, and Abbotsford also had statistically significant high ratios in 1990–1994.

- There were five LHAs with low perinatal complication ratios which were statistically significant in 1995 (number of births in parentheses):

– 38 Richmond	0.82	(514)
– 70 Alberni	0.83	(118)
– 37 Delta	0.89	(373)
– 36 Surrey	0.89	(1,596)
– 39 Vancouver	0.93	(2,005)

Richmond, Surrey, and Delta also had statistically significant low ratios in 1990–1994.

- There were 17 LHAs with statistically significant and high perinatal complication ratios in 1990–1994. The five LHAs with the lowest ratios which were statistically significant (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	1.50	(1,162)
– 17 Princeton	1.39	(94)
– 29 Lillooet	1.35	(126)
– 49 Central Coast	1.23	(117)
– 68 Nanaimo	1.22	(1,679)

- There were 17 LHAs with statistically significant and low perinatal complication ratios in 1990–1994. The five LHAs with the lowest ratios which were statistically significant (number of births in parentheses) were:

– 60 Peace River North	0.72	(486)
– 02 Cranbrook	0.76	(299)
– 19 Revelstoke	0.81	(122)
– 01 Fernie	0.83	(208)
– 20 Salmon Arm	0.85	(332)