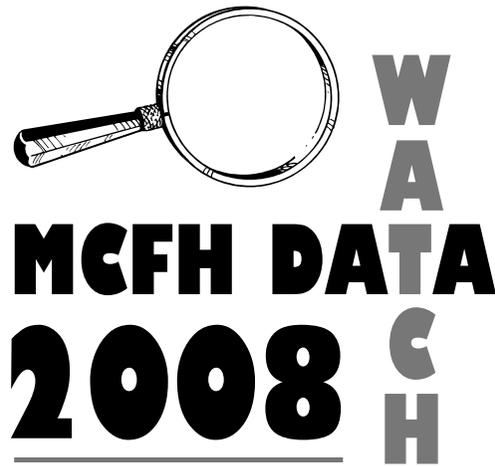


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**A Report on Selected  
Maternal & Child Health  
Indicators for the City of  
Philadelphia, 1995-2005**



**“What is happening in my neighborhood?”** That question is a common refrain of community residents, advocates and policymakers who care about the health of women and children in Philadelphia. Known widely as a “City of Neighborhoods,” Philadelphia is indeed a colorful tapestry of unique communities. The health of these communities also varies greatly from neighborhood to neighborhood.

The Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health (MCFH) regularly collects both citywide data and data on an individual community level. This information is vital for both program development and state and federal reporting requirements. The data contained in this report have been separated into 12 Planning Analysis Sections as defined by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission, and which are separated along census tract lines and neighborhood names. The data for 2005 were analyzed and compared with data from previous years in order to draw some general conclusions about the state of maternal and child health in Philadelphia.

We hope this report will foster closer collaboration among social service providers, policymakers, community leaders, grassroots advocates and health care organizations. Whatever your neighborhood or affiliation, please join us as we look forward with hope and commitment to a healthier future for all of Philadelphia’s families.

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# DEFINITIONS AND TERMS

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**Information in this report** has been obtained from the birth, death and fetal death data provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (unless otherwise noted). These data were supplied by the Bureau of Health Statistics and Research, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations or conclusions. Analysis was completed by the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health. All measures are calculated for Philadelphia residents only.

- **Number of births:**  
Total number of births to women residing in Philadelphia.
- **Infant Mortality Rate:**  
Number of infant deaths (under age of 1) per 1,000 live births.
- **Percentage of Infants with Low Birthweight:**  
Percentage of infants with birth weights under 2500g (5 lbs, 9 oz).
- **Percentage of Infants Born Preterm:**  
Percentage of infants born at less than 37 completed weeks of gestation.
- **Percentage of Women Receiving Late or No Prenatal Care:**  
Percentage of women who reported beginning prenatal care in their third trimester of pregnancy or who received no prenatal care.
- **Percentage of Women who Received Less than Adequate Prenatal Care:**  
Percentage of women who had no prenatal care or less than adequate ratings on the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index (Kotelchuck). In 2003, significant changes occurred to the birth certificate, which resulted in some data loss. Women with available prenatal data constitute a true and accurate sample of Philadelphia women with respect to demographics.
- **Percentage of Births to Women under 18:**  
Percentage of births to women under the age of 18 at the time of delivery.
- **Percentage of Women with Method of Delivery as Cesarean Section:**  
Percentage of women whose method of delivery was Cesarean Section.
- **Percentage of Women who are Overweight or Obese Pre-Pregnancy:**  
Percentage of women with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of greater than 25 before their pregnancy began. BMI is a measure of relationship between weight and height that is associated with body fat and health risk.
- **Percentage of Women with Pre-Pregnancy Diabetes and/or Hypertension:**  
Percentage of women who have been diagnosed with pre-pregnancy hypertension and/or diabetes.
- **Percentage of Women with Gestational Diabetes and/or Hypertension:**  
Percentage of women who have been diagnosed with gestational hypertension and/or diabetes.
- **Percentage of Children  $\leq 5$  with Elevated Blood Lead Levels:**  
Percentage of children 5 years old or younger screened for lead in 2005 with blood lead levels equal to or exceeding 10mcg/dl. (Source: *Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, 2007*)

# SUMMARY OF INDICATORS

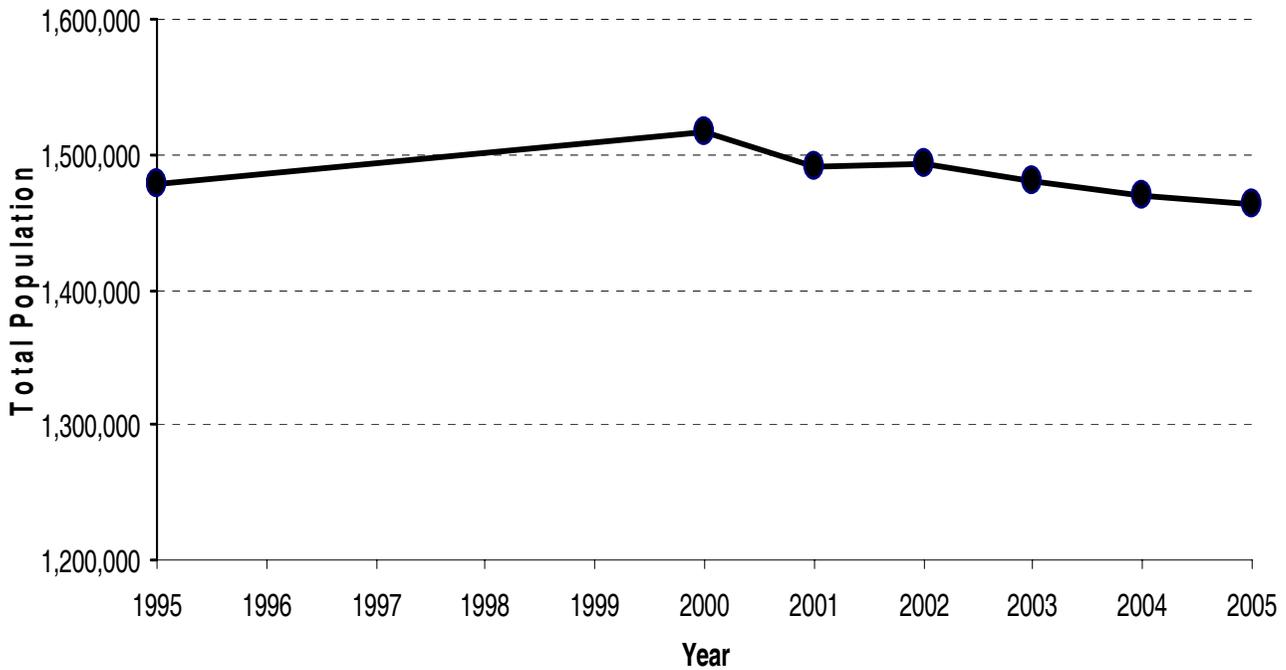
INDICATORS	PHILADELPHIA 1995	PHILADELPHIA 2000	PHILADELPHIA 2005
Population	1,498,971 *	1,517,550	1,463,281 **
Number of births	23,932	21,849	22,027
Infant mortality rate	12.3	10.3	11.3
% of infants with low birthweight	11.5%	10.9%	11.3%
% of infants born preterm	12.4%	12.3%	12.1%
% of women who received late or no prenatal care ***	9.0%	6.7%	11.4%
% of women who received less than adequate prenatal care ***	41.9%	40.0%	46.2%
% of births to women under 18	8.6%	7.0%	6.3%
% of women having Cesarean births	19.5%	21.5%	27.7%
% of women who are overweight or obese pre-pregnancy	***	***	47.2%
% of women with pre-pregnancy hypertension and/or diabetes	***	***	2.2%
% of women with gestational hypertension and/or diabetes	***	***	6.5%
% of children ≤5 with elevated blood lead levels	21.9%	12.2%	6.5%

\* population projected for 1995 based on 1990 U.S. Census Data

\*\* population projected for 2005 based on 2000 U.S. Census Data

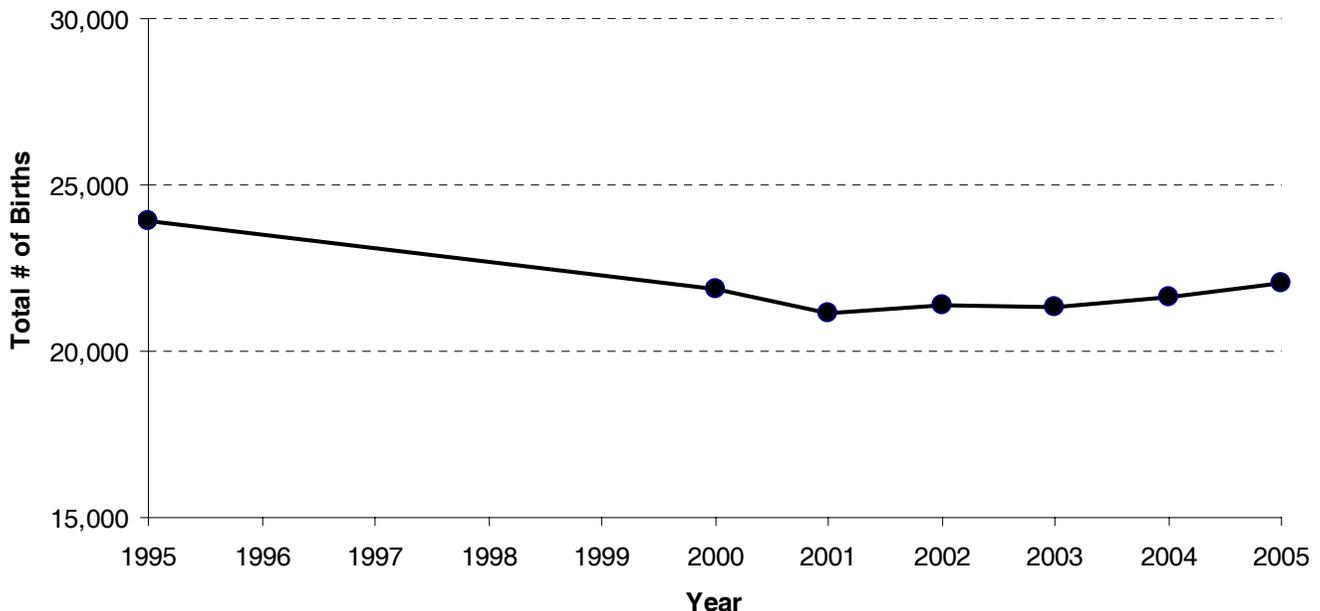
\*\*\* The Birth Certificate changed significantly in 2003. Prenatal data prior to 2003 cannot be compared to present data. Other information, such as pre-pregnancy weight or hypertension, was not collected prior to 2003.

## Total Population of Philadelphia Residents, 1995-2005



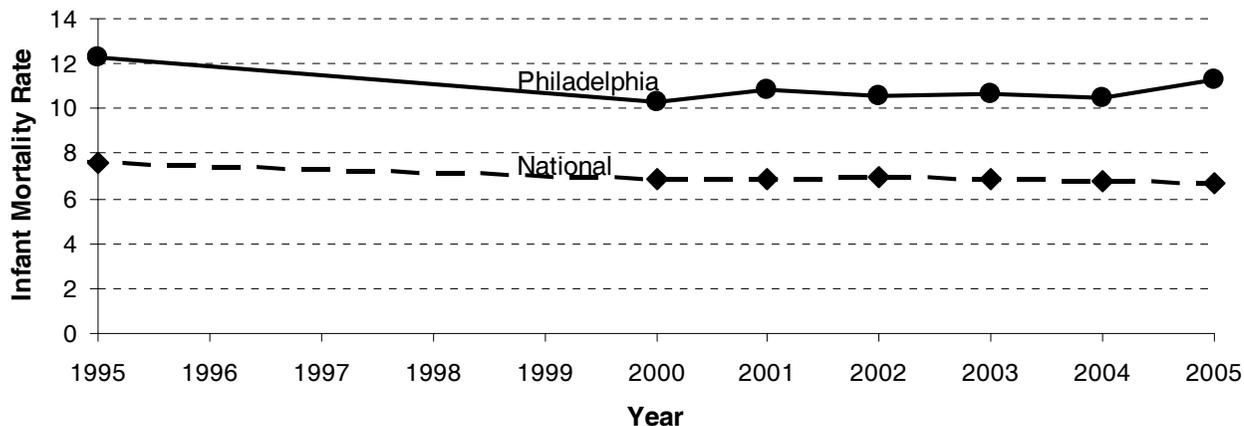
NOTE: General trends indicate that the total population of all Philadelphia residents has declined steadily over the last five years. (Data Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census Data, and 1995, 2001-2005 U.S. Census Data Estimates)

## Total Number of Births for All Philadelphia Residents of All Races, 1995-2005



NOTE: The number of births to Philadelphia residents has declined slightly over the last 10 years, during which the total Philadelphia population also decreased. There were slight increases in births to Philadelphia residents in 2004 and 2005. (Data Source: PA Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics)

## Comparing Philadelphia and National Infant Mortality Rates (IMR), 1995-2005



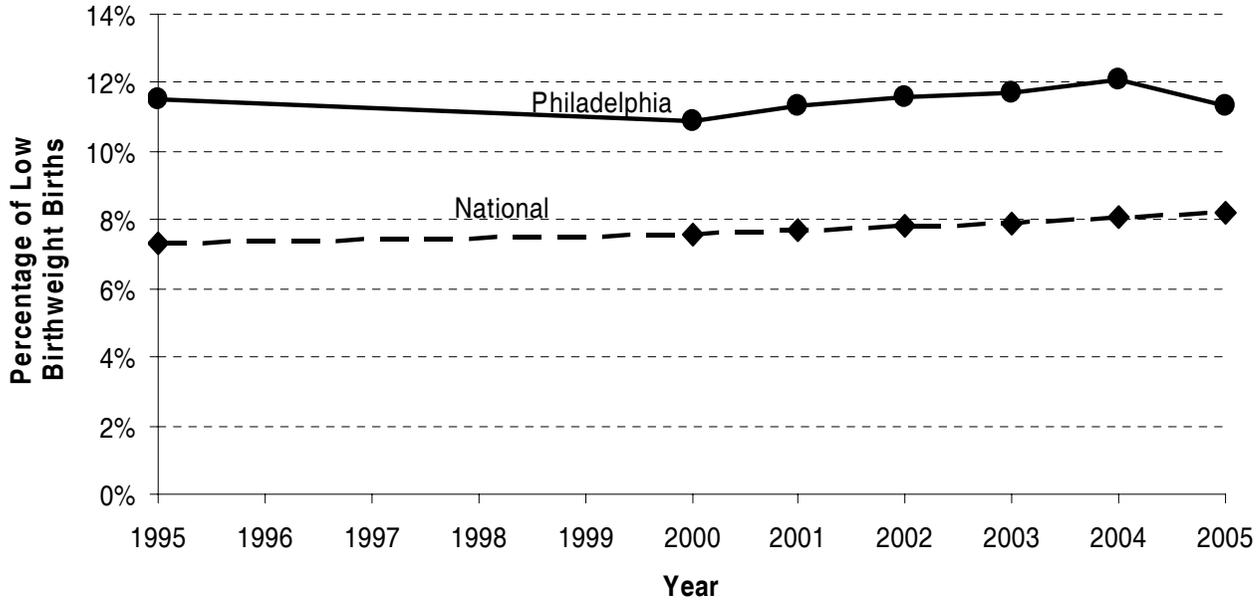
NOTES: From 1995-2000, the infant mortality rate (IMR) for Philadelphia declined, while from 2000-2004, the IMR remained constant. Although the trend is similar to the national trend, Philadelphia maintained a higher IMR. There was a slight rise in the Philadelphia IMR in 2005, which was inconsistent with national trends. Analysis of this trend found the increase may be due to chance and random changes in population from one year to the next. With random variation, the number of infant deaths is expected to differ from year to year. (Data Source: PA Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics)

The two charts on the facing page show trends in preterm and low birthweight births. While the Philadelphia infant mortality rate increased slightly in 2005, there was a decrease in the percentage of low birthweight births and an increase in the percentage of preterm births.

### **DANGER: PRETERM BIRTHS**

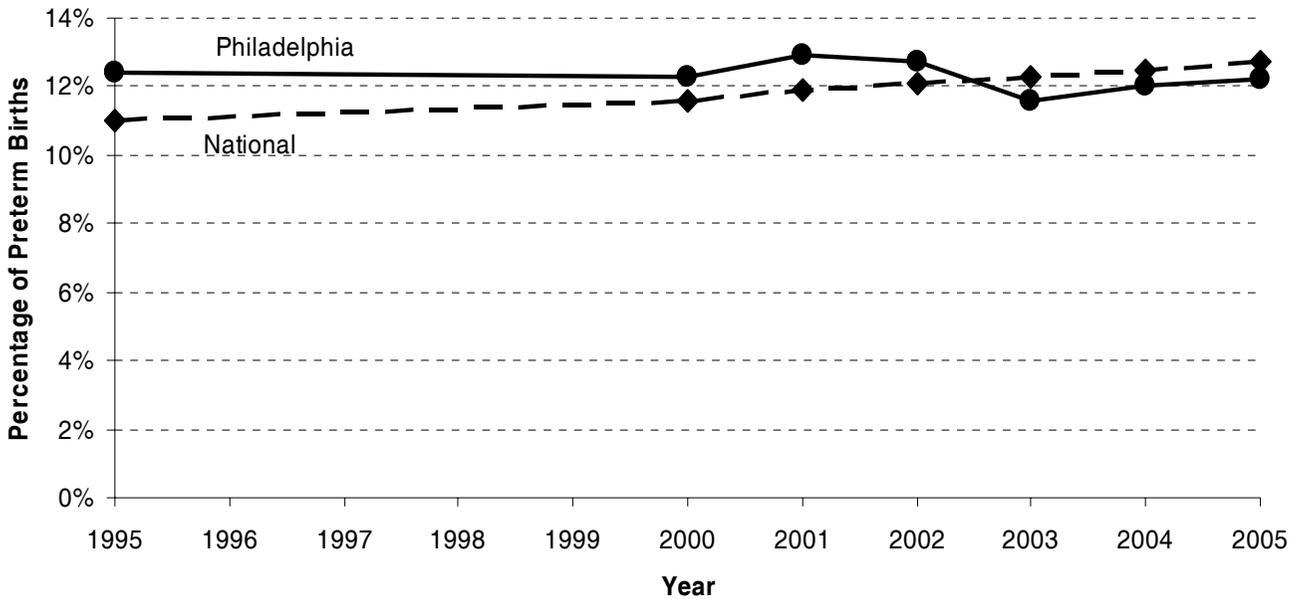
- In Philadelphia, the most common reason for infant deaths is preterm births—babies being born too soon or too small. Babies born prematurely are more likely to have medical complications and other health problems that put them at risk for death during the neonatal and post-neonatal period (before the age of one year).
- A woman who has had a preterm delivery is more likely to have another preterm delivery. Lifestyle behaviors can also contribute to preterm births, including poor nutrition and obesity, cigarette smoking, use of alcohol, and drug abuse.
- Inadequate prenatal care is also a risk factor for preterm births. Early prenatal care helps to identify and manage conditions and behaviors that can result in babies being born preterm.
- Focusing attention on a woman during the two years before she becomes pregnant can also reduce many of the risk factors for preterm and low birthweight delivery. MCFH works to:
  - 1) Improve a woman's nutritional status and increase her awareness of healthy eating;
  - 2) Promote preconceptional smoking cessation to reduce the exposure of the fetus and infant to tobacco;
  - 3) Identify infections that can result in preterm labor;
  - 4) Promote access to contraception to assist a woman in planning her pregnancies;
  - 5) Check that immunizations are up to date for Hepatitis B and Measles;
  - 6) Promote the use of folic acid to prevent birth defects.

## Comparing Philadelphia and National Percentages of Low Birthweight Births, 1995-2005



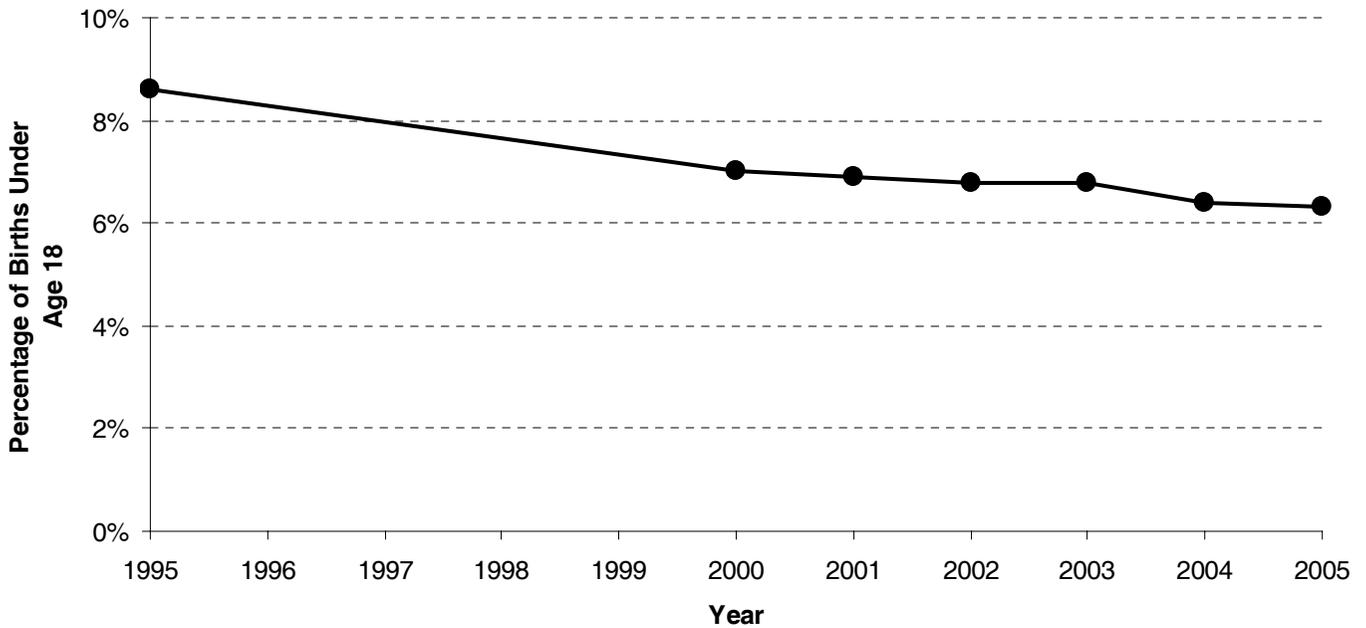
NOTE: Philadelphia's percentage of low birthweight births remained higher than the national average over the last 10 years. While the national rates have steadily increased, there has been very little change in the overall Philadelphia rate since 1990. (Data Source: PA Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics)

## Comparing Philadelphia and National Percentages of Preterm Births, 1995-2005



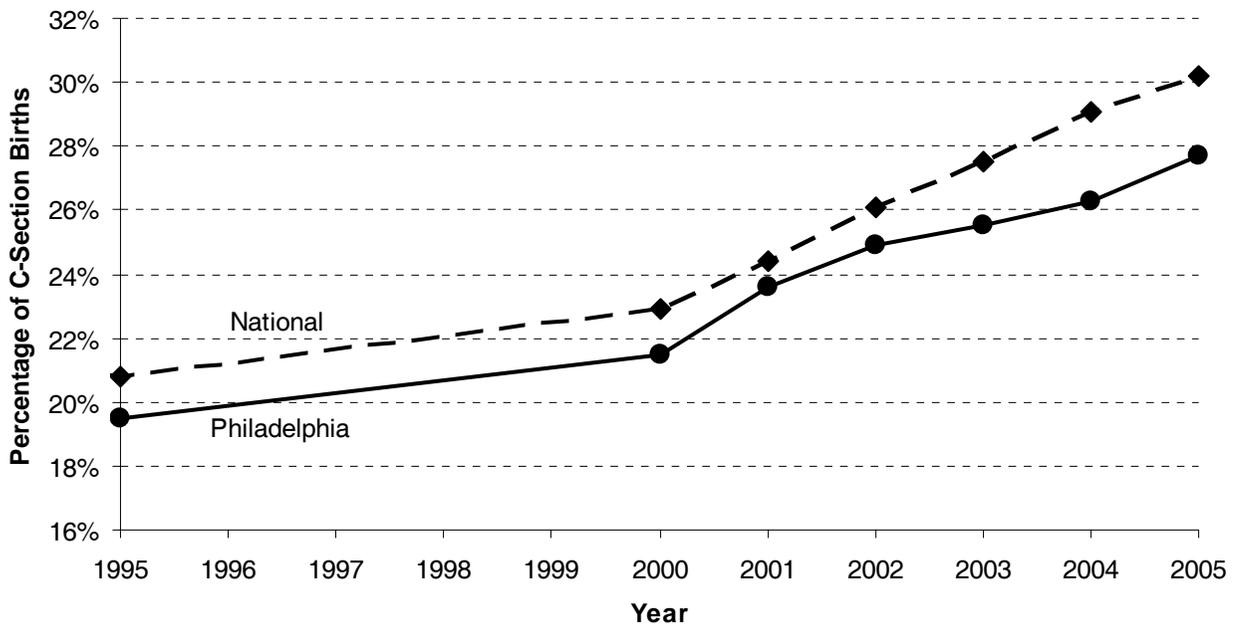
NOTE: Philadelphia's percentage of preterm births is similar to the national average over the last 10 years. The percentage has been rising slightly since 2003. This may be affecting the changing infant mortality rate in the City. (Data Source: PA Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics)

## Percentage of Births to Mothers in Philadelphia Under the Age of 18, 1995-2005



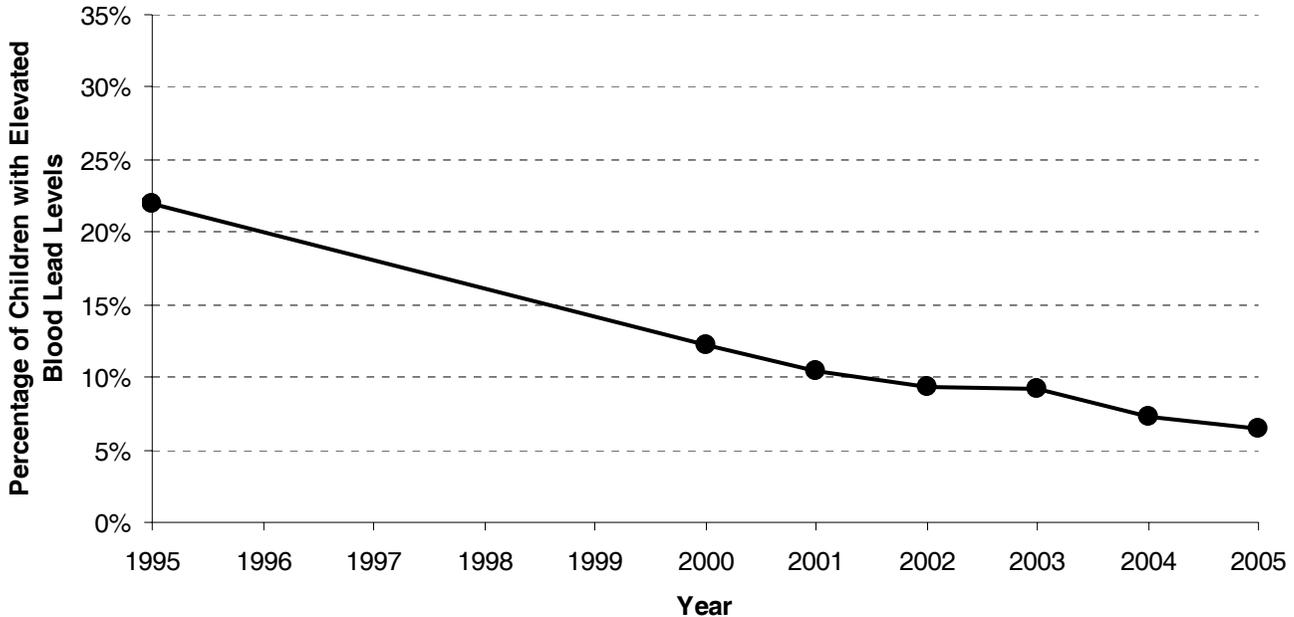
NOTE: Peaking in 1995, the percentage of births to women under the age of 18 has steadily decreased over the last 10 years. Although not presented in this chart, national trends are similar to those of Philadelphia. National data is calculated for births to women under the age of 20, and cannot be presented on the same graph. (Data Source: PA Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics)

## Comparing Philadelphia and National Percentage of Births Via Cesarean Section, 1995-2005



NOTE: Philadelphia and national trends show a substantial increase in the percentage of births born via Cesarean section. Although Philadelphia has rates lower than the national average, since 1995 the rate of C-section delivery increased about 10% to 27.7% of all Philadelphia births. (Data Source: PA Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics)

## Percentage of Children Age 5 and Under in Philadelphia with Elevated Blood Lead Levels, 1995-2005



NOTE: Over the last 10 years, there were substantial reductions in the number of children age five and under with elevated blood lead levels. Although not presented in this chart, national trends are similar to those of Philadelphia. National data is calculated for children age 6 and under, and cannot be presented on the same graph. (Data Source: Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, 2005)

## KEY FINDINGS

- 1.** The population of all Philadelphia residents slightly decreased over the time period of 2000-2005, while the number of births remained relatively constant.
- 2.** Philadelphia's infant mortality rate, although higher than the national average, has improved since 1995. The recent increase in 2005 may be due to chance and random changes.
- 3.** The percentage of low birthweight births to Philadelphia mothers has generally remained unchanged since 1995. 2005 data shows some improvement.
- 4.** The percentage of preterm births in Philadelphia remained relatively stable since 1995, with less than a 1% difference over the 1995-2005 period.
- 5.** The number of births to teen mothers (under the age of 18) has been decreasing steadily since 1995. About 6% of births in Philadelphia are to teen mothers.
- 6.** The percentage of C-section births increased almost 10% (from 19.5% in 1995 to 27.9% in 2005) in Philadelphia over the last 10 years.
- 7.** In 2003, significant changes occurred to the birth certificate, and prenatal data has not been collected for all women. For the accurate sample of Philadelphia women for whom data is available, almost half (46.2%) received less than adequate prenatal care.
- 8.** From 1995-2005, there was almost a 20% decrease in the number of children who tested positive for elevated blood lead levels, mirroring national averages. In Philadelphia, the percentage dropped to approximately 5% of all children tested.
- 9.** Poor maternal pre-conceptional health is a growing concern. Approximately 47% of women who give birth in Philadelphia are overweight or obese prior to pregnancy. Being overweight or obese can contribute to poor birth outcomes.

# DATA TABLES OF PHILADELPHIA AND NATIONAL TIME TRENDS, 1995-2005

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**Population of Philadelphia Residents**

Year	Total Number
1995	1,478,002
2000	1,517,550
2001	1,491,812
2002	1,492,231
2003	1,479,339
2004	1,470,151
2005	1,463,281

**Births of Philadelphia Residents**

Year	Total Number
1995	23,932
2000	21,849
2001	21,128
2002	21,380
2003	21,313
2004	21,631
2005	22,027

**Infant Mortality Rate, Philadelphia and National**

Year	Philadelphia Rate	National Rate
1995	12.3	7.6
2000	10.3	6.9
2001	10.8	6.8
2002	10.6	7.0
2003	10.7	6.8
2004	10.5	6.8
2005	11.3	6.7

**Percentage of Low Birthweight Births, Philadelphia and National**

Year	Philadelphia Percentage	National Percentage
1995	11.5%	7.3%
2000	10.9%	7.6%
2001	11.3%	7.7%
2002	11.6%	7.8%
2003	11.7%	7.9%
2004	12.1%	8.1%
2005	11.3%	8.2%

# DATA TABLES OF PHILADELPHIA AND NATIONAL TIME TRENDS, 1995-2005

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**Percentage of Preterm Births, Philadelphia and National**

Year	Philadelphia Percentage	National Percentage
1995	12.4%	11.0%
2000	12.3%	11.6%
2001	12.9%	11.9%
2002	12.7%	12.1%
2003	11.6%	12.3%
2004	12.0%	12.5%
2005	12.2%	12.7%

**Percentage of Births to Philadelphia Women Under 18**

Year	Philadelphia Percentage
1995	8.6%
2000	7.0%
2001	6.9%
2002	6.8%
2003	6.8%
2004	6.4%
2005	6.3%

**Percentage of C-Section Births, Philadelphia and National**

Year	Philadelphia Percentage	National Percentage
1995	19.5%	20.8%
2000	21.5%	22.9%
2001	23.6%	24.4%
2002	24.9%	26.1%
2003	25.5%	27.5%
2004	26.3%	29.1%
2005	27.7%	30.2%

**Percentage of Philadelphia Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels**

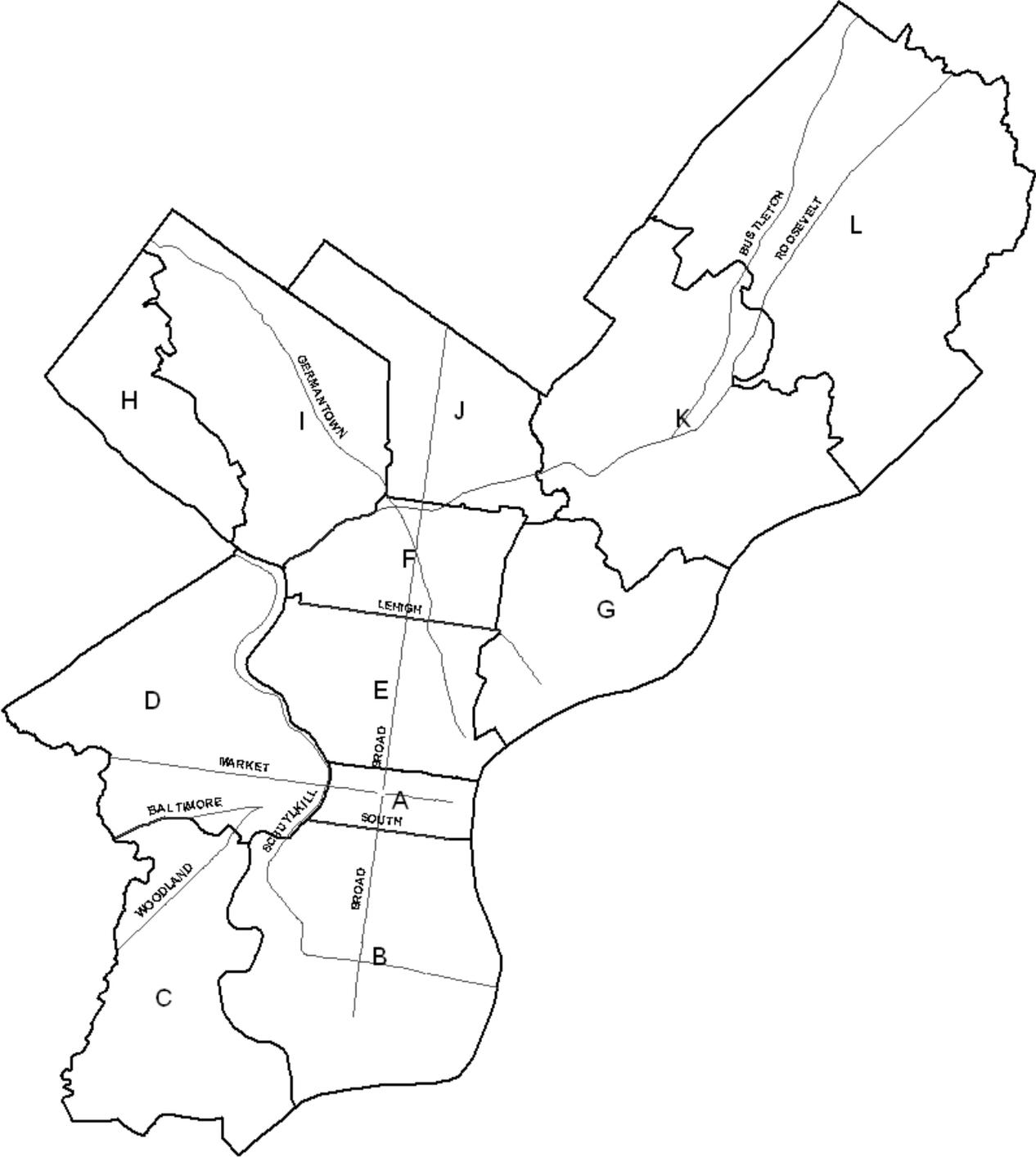
Year	Philadelphia Percentage
1995	21.9%
2000	12.2%
2001	10.4%
2002	9.3%
2003	9.2%
2004	7.3%
2005	6.5%

# PHILADELPHIA PLANNING ANALYSIS SECTIONS, NEIGHBORHOODS & CENSUS TRACTS

	Planning Analysis Section	Neighborhoods Contained	Census Tracts
<b>A</b>	Center City	Center City	1-12, 366
<b>B</b>	South	Schuylkill-Point Breeze, Grays Ferry-Passyunk, Pennsport-Queen Village, Southwark-Bella Vista, Snyder-Whitman, South Broad-Girard Estates	13-42, 44-48, 50-51
<b>C</b>	Southwest	Eastwick-Elmwood, Paschall-Kingsessing	54-75
<b>D</b>	West	University City, Cobbs Creek, Mill Creek-Parkside, Haddington-Overbrook, Overbrook Park-Wynnefield Heights	76-122, 124
<b>E</b>	Lower North	Strawberry Mansion, Sharswood-Stanton, Poplar-Temple, Northern Liberties-West, Kensington, Fairmount-Spring Garden	125-142, 144-149, 151-157, 162-165, 167-169
<b>F</b>	Upper North	Nicetown-Tioga, Hunting Park-Fairhill	170-176, 194-205
<b>G</b>	Bridesburg/ Kensington/ Richmond	Lower Kensington, Richmond-Bridesburg, Upper Kensington, Juniata Park-Harrowgate	143, 158-161, 177-193
<b>H</b>	Roxborough/ Manayunk	Roxborough, Manayunk	209-222
<b>I</b>	Germantown/ Chestnut Hill	Chestnut Hill-West Mt. Airy, East Mt. Airy, East Falls-Westside, Germantown	206-208, 224-245, 249-257
<b>J</b>	Olney/ Oak Lane	West Oak Lane-Cedarbrook, Oak Lane-Fernrock, Ogontz, Logan, Olney-Feltonville	258-290
<b>K</b>	Near Northeast	Frankford, Wissinoming-Tacony, Lawndale-Crescentville, Mayfair-Holmesburg, Oxford Circle, Rhawnhurst-Fox Chase	291-327, 329-343, 367
<b>L</b>	Far Northeast	Bustleton, Somerton, Torresdale-North, Torresdale-South-Pennypack Park	328, 344-349, 351-353, 355-365

# MAP OF PHILADELPHIA PLANNING ANALYSIS SECTIONS

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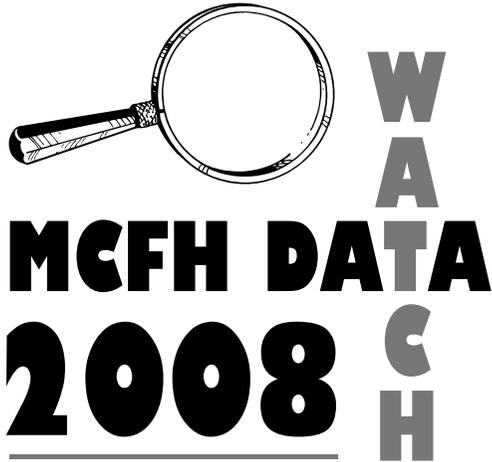


# NEIGHBORHOOD DATA TABLES, 2005

INDICATORS	Center City	South	South-west	West	Lower North	Upper North	Bridesburg/Kensington/Richmond	Roxborough Manayunk	Germantown / Chestnut Hill	Olney/Oak Lane	Near North-east	Far North-east	All Philadelphia
Population*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,463,281
Number of births	431	2,320	1,315	2,683	1,977	1,640	1,814	361	1,379	2,487	3,718	1,728	22,027
Infant mortality rate	9.3	9.5	14.4	14.9	10.6	18.3	8.3	5.5	11.6	13.3	11.3	3.5	10.6
% of infants with low birthweight	8.1%	9.5%	13.0%	14.0%	13.6%	11.9%	10.6%	8.3%	12.8%	13.2%	9.6%	7.3%	11.3%
% of infants born preterm	6.7%	10.4%	14.1%	14.5%	13.7%	12.4%	10.9%	8.6%	13.2%	13.3%	11.4%	9.4%	12.1%
% of women who received late or no prenatal care	4.1%	10.2%	14.7%	11.8%	15.9%	14.3%	11.7%	2.7%	10.0%	13.1%	9.3%	6.5%	11.4%
% of women who received less than adequate prenatal care	28.2%	42.0%	48.8%	44.3%	56.2%	55.2%	49.3%	27.3%	40.9%	49.8%	44.1%	42.5%	46.2%

% of births to women under 18	0.2%	5.8%	7.8%	7.0%	7.9%	10.6%	8.2%	1.7%	5.7%	7.7%	4.5%	1.7%	6.3%
% of women having Cesarean births	31.3%	26.9%	24.2%	27.4%	27.3%	26.7%	27.2%	30.5%	26.3%	26.3%	30.4%	29.6%	27.7%
% of women who are overweight or obese pre-pregnancy	15.1%	40.8%	53.8%	52.2%	49.3%	51.7%	45.5%	32.3%	48.9%	52.4%	46.0%	39.0%	47.2%
% of women with pre-pregnancy hypertension or diabetes	0.2%	1.5%	2.1%	2.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%	0.6%	1.7%	3.3%	2.1%	1.9%	2.2%
% of women with gestational hypertension and/or diabetes	3.9%	5.3%	6.4%	6.3%	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%	5.5%	6.3%	7.3%	6.6%	7.6%	6.5%
% of children ≤5 with elevated blood lead levels	1.6%	3.5%	8.2%	9.0%	7.0%	9.8%	6.3%	1.2%	6.9%	5.8%	4.2%	1.6%	6.6%

\* population projected for 2005 based on 2000 U.S. Census Data



**Acknowledgements:**

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