

Appendix E. Definitions and References

Definitions

Birth Rate: The number of births that occur within a certain population or geographical area, over a specified time period, in relation to the total population of the group or area. Specifically, the number of births per 1,000 total population.

Birth Weight: The first weight of the fetus or newborn obtained after birth. This weight preferably is measured within the first hour of life, before significant postnatal weight loss has occurred.

Calculated gestational age: Number of completed weeks from the first day of the mother's last normal menstrual period until the date of delivery or termination of pregnancy.

Clinical gestational age: A rating scale based on the Ballard Score, which examines the neuromuscular and physical maturity of the neonate immediately following delivery.

Colorado Health Information Dataset (CoHID): A Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment website that provides health, environmental, and demographic information, such as birth and death certificate data, PRAMS survey data, and injury statistics for the state of Colorado (<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/cohid/index.html>)

Fertility Rate (age-specific): The number of births for a specified age group of females within a certain population or area per 1,000 total females in the age group.

Infancy: The period between live birth and 1 year of age. A child ceases to be an infant on its first birthday.

Infant Death: Death in the first year of life.

Kotelchuck Index: An index of the adequacy of prenatal care based on month of entry into care, number of prenatal visits, and the gestational age of the infant at birth. The index is categorized as adequate plus, adequate, intermediate, inadequate or unknown based on these criteria. It is expected that prenatal care is termed adequate if the visits are greater than or equal to 80 percent of the recommended number. The index is also known as the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index.

Live Birth: The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes, or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation, of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached; each product of such a birth is considered live born.

Low Birth Weight: Birth weight of less than 2,500 grams (less than or equal to 5 lb 8 oz).

Multiple Birth: More than one child born resulting from a single pregnancy. Also called a plural birth.

Neonatal Death: Death prior to the 28th day of life.

Perinatal: Pertaining to or occurring in the period shortly before or after birth. In this report, perinatal refers to the period of 24 weeks gestation to 27 days of life.

Postneonatal Death: Death of a child occurring from the age of 28 days to 1 year.

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS): A surveillance project of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health departments. PRAMS collects state specific, population-based data on maternal attitudes and experiences prior to, during, and immediately following pregnancy. Data for Colorado can be found on CoHID (www.cdphe.state.co.us/cohid/index.html)

Premature Birth: Birth occurring prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation, but after the stage of viability (20 weeks gestation).

Prenatal: Existing or occurring before birth.

Preterm: Births occurring prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.

Term: Births occurring between 37 and 41 completed weeks of gestation (259-293 days).

Trimester: A 3-month period of time. First trimester care, for example, refers to care initiated in the first three months of pregnancy.

Very Low Birth Weight: Birth weight of less than 1,500 grams (less than or equal to 3 lbs. 5 oz).

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