

MEASURE LBW-CH: LIVE BIRTHS WEIGHING LESS THAN 2,500 GRAMS

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(National Center for Health Statistics)

A. DESCRIPTION

Percentage of live births that weighed less than 2,500 grams at birth during the measurement year.

Note: A lower rate indicates better performance.

Data Collection Method: State Vital Records submitted to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) National Vital Statistics System, Natality.

Guidance for Reporting:

- To reduce state burden and streamline reporting, CMS will calculate this measure for states using state natality data obtained through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research (CDC WONDER). **States are not asked to report data for this measure for FFY 2021 Core Set reporting.**
- The most recent NCHS natality data for each state are available at: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html>.
- The measurement period for this measure is the calendar year before the Child Core Set reporting year. For example, calendar year 2020 data should be used for the FFY 2021 reporting year.
- Eligibility for this measure is based on deliveries that have Medicaid as principal source of payment for delivery as indicated on the birth certificate. For more information on the principal source of payment field see “[21. Principal source of payment](#)” in NCHS’s [Guide to Completing the Facility Worksheets for the Certificate of Live Birth and Report of Fetal Death](#).

B. ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIFICATION

Denominator

The number of resident live births in the state in the reporting period with Medicaid as the principal source of payment for the delivery.

The following four principal sources of payment for the delivery are available in all states’ birth certificates: (1) Private insurance, (2) Medicaid (or a comparable state program), (3) Self-pay, or (4) Other. More detailed information for the “other” category is available for 34 states and the District of Columbia. In some states, deliveries covered by CHIP may be included in the “Medicaid” category. For more information on the principal source of payment field see “[21. Principal source of payment](#)” in NCHS’s [Guide to Completing the Facility Worksheets for the Certificate of Live Birth and Report of Fetal Death](#).

Numerator

The number of resident live births in the state weighing less than 2,500 grams at birth with Medicaid as the principal source of payment for the delivery.

Units

Report as a percentage.

C. EXCLUSIONS

Exclude resident live births from both the denominator and numerator with a birth weight that is “Unknown or Not Stated.”