

Maternity 2005

The provisional Maternal and Newborn Information 2005 presents a summary of birth related data in New Zealand in 2005. The data was drawn from the National Minimum Dataset (NMDS) collection, and it encompasses hospital-based events only.

Note

Provisional data is subject to change and revision. The final figures will be presented in the *Report on Maternity: Maternal and Newborn Information 2005* publication, which is due to be released by the Ministry in April 2008.

The number of mothers and live babies recorded in NMDS in 2005 is presented in Table 1, along with figures from Statistics New Zealand.

Table 1: Provisional number of mothers and live babies in 2005, by data source

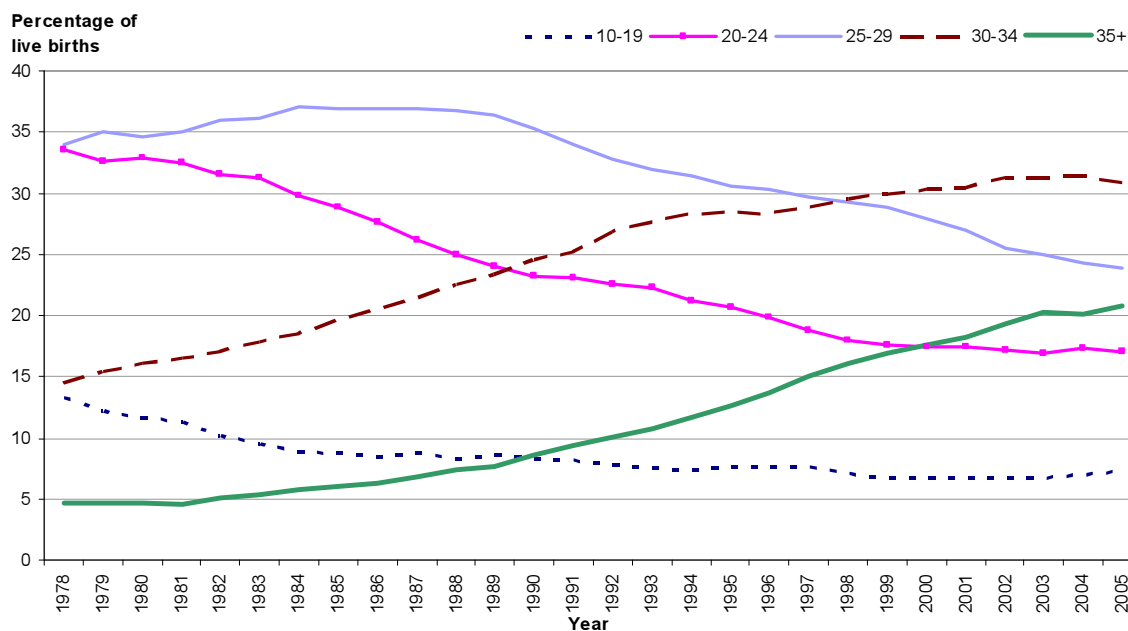
	Number
Total mothers*	57,196
Mothers recorded in NMDS (discharged from hospital)	54,849
Live babies*	58,727
Live babies recorded in NMDS (hospital births)	55,192

Data source: NMDS and Statistics New Zealand

* Registered in 2005 with Births, Deaths and Marriages, reported by Statistics New Zealand in 2006.

Figure 1 shows that the percentage of mothers aged 30 years and over has increased steadily since 1978, while the number of mothers aged 20-29 years has decreased.

Figure 1: Percentage of live birth registrations grouped by age of mother, 1978–2005



Data source: NZHIS

Table 2: Age distribution of mothers, by prioritised ethnicity group of the mother, 2005

Age group	Ethnicity						Total	
	Māori	Pacific peoples	Asian	European	Other	Not stated	No.	%
Under 16	87	13	1	46	1	2	150	0.3
16–19	1865	430	46	1500	61	49	3951	7.2
20–24	3245	1375	581	3896	250	113	9460	17.2
25–29	2664	1505	1361	7003	390	131	13,054	23.8
30–34	1976	1250	1576	11,319	516	197	16,834	30.7
35–39	951	808	905	6360	298	89	9411	17.2
40 and over	267	194	196	1230	68	31	1986	3.6
Not stated	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0.0
Total number	11,056	5576	4666	31,355	1584	612	54,849	
Total percentage	20.2	10.2	8.5	57.2	2.9	1.1		100.0

Data source: NMDS

Note: Prioritised ethnicity is a prioritisation system whereby each individual is allocated to a single ethnic group on the basis of the following priority: Māori, Pacific peoples, Asians, other groups except NZ European, NZ European. Thus, any person who selects Māori as one of their three ethnicities will be recorded as Māori.

Table 3 shows the number of mothers by delivery type. The rate of women having caesarean sections (23.7 percent) stayed at the same level as in 2004.

Table 3: Provisional number of mothers, by type of delivery, 2005

Type of birth	Mothers	
	Number	Percentage
Normal birth	36,661	66.8
Caesarean section	13,029	23.7
<i>Acute caesarean section</i>	7733	14.1
<i>Elective caesarean section</i>	5296	9.7
Spontaneous breech birth (unassisted)	125	0.2
Assisted birth	5034	9.2
<i>Assisted breech birth</i>	124	0.2
<i>Forceps only</i>	1615	2.9
<i>Forceps and vacuum extraction</i>	53	0.1
<i>Vacuum extraction only</i>	3242	5.9
Total	54,849	100.0

Data source: NMDS

Note: A caesarean section is an operative birth through an abdominal incision. An acute caesarean section is a caesarean section performed urgently for clinical reasons (such as the health of mother or baby) once labour has started. An elective caesarean section is a caesarean section performed as a planned procedure before or following the onset of labour when the decision to have a caesarean section was made before labour.

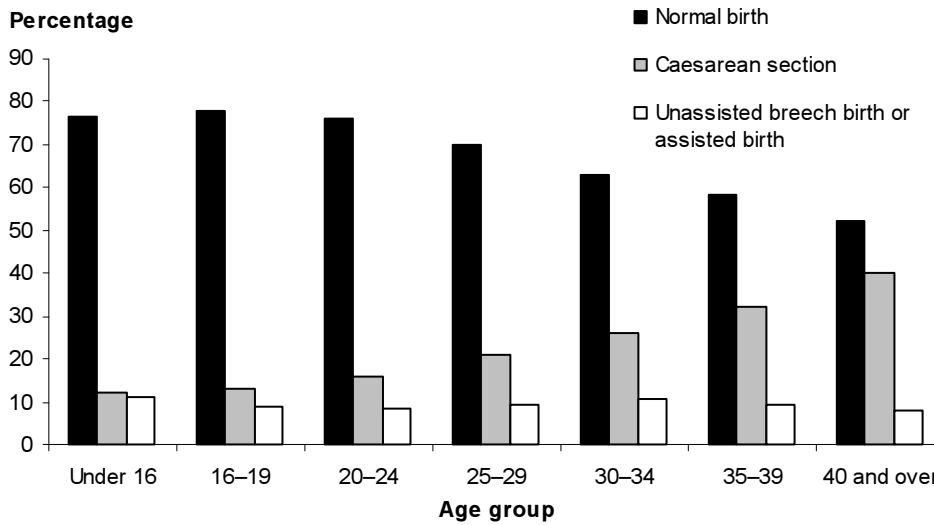
Table 4: Provisional number of mothers, by birth type, maternal ethnicity and age groups, 2005

	Normal birth	Caesarean section			Breech birth	Assisted birth					Total	
		Total	Acute	Elective		Total	Assisted breech birth	Forceps	Forceps and vacuum extraction	Vacuum extraction		
Age group												
Under 16	115	18	18	0	1	16	0	4	0	12	150	
16–19	3082	520	432	88	8	341	5	99	2	235	3951	
20–24	7196	1490	1070	420	24	750	28	222	6	494	9460	
25–29	9118	2731	1736	995	28	1177	23	357	18	779	13,054	
30–34	10,619	4431	2553	1878	46	1738	32	582	13	1111	16,834	
35–39	5491	3043	1540	1503	15	862	28	303	11	520	9411	
40 and over	1037	796	384	412	3	150	8	48	3	91	1986	
Not stated	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Ethnic group												
Māori	8709	1748	1126	622	37	562	22	176	0	364	11,056	
Pacific peoples	4237	1044	683	361	16	279	13	53	1	212	5576	
Asian	2696	1337	838	499	9	624	8	155	4	457	4666	
European	19,713	8305	4685	3620	53	3284	73	1159	45	2007	31,355	
Other	942	444	298	146	7	191	7	45	1	138	1584	
Not stated	364	151	103	48	3	94	1	27	2	64	612	
Total	36,661	13,029	7733	5296	125	5034	124	1615	53	3242	54,849	

Data source: NMDS

Figure 2 illustrates the distribution of delivery types by mother's age group.

Figure 2: Provisional percentage of mothers, by birth type and age group, 2005



Data source: NMDS

Table 5: Provisional number of babies delivered in hospital, by birth status and plurality, 2005

Birth status	Plurality				Total
	Singletons	Twins	Triples	Not stated	
Live births*	53,514	1642	36	0	55,192
Stillbirths	358	32	3	0	393
Not stated	0	0	0	127	127
Total hospital births	53,872	1674	39	127	55,712

Data source: NMDS

*Note: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has defined live birth as the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definitive movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached; each product of such birth is considered liveborn.

Table 6: Provisional number of liveborn babies, by sex and ethnicity, 2005

Ethnic group	Number of babies			Percentage of babies		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Māori	6172	5993	12,165	21.2	21.7	21.4
Pacific peoples	3011	2773	5785*	10.4	10.0	10.2
Asian	2535	2312	4847	8.7	8.4	8.5
European	16,239	15,583	31,823*	55.9	56.3	56.1
Other	802	753	1555	2.8	2.7	2.7
Not stated	302	261	564*	1.0	0.9	1.0
Total	29,061	27,675	56,739*	51.2	48.8	100.0

Data source: NMDS

* Note: The total includes three babies whose sex was not reported.

Table 7: Provisional number and rate of in-hospital live births, stillbirths and neonatal deaths, by ethnicity, 2005

Ethnic group	Total births	Number			Rate				
		Stillbirths	Early neonatal deaths	Late neonatal deaths	Stillbirths*	Early neonatal deaths†	Late neonatal deaths†	Total perinatal deaths*	Total neonatal deaths†
Māori	11,200	81	44	5	7.2	4.0	0.4	11.2	4.4
Pacific peoples	5650	59	21	3	10.4	3.8	0.5	14.2	4.3
Asian	4714	29	18	2	6.2	3.8	0.4	10.0	4.3
European	31,918	201	59	14	6.3	1.9	0.4	8.1	2.3
Other	1608	18	6	2	11.2	3.8	1.3	14.9	5.0
Not stated	622	5	3	2	8.0	4.9	3.2	12.9	8.1
Total	55,712	393	151	28	7.1	2.7	0.5	9.8	3.2

Data source: NMDS

* Rate per 1000 total births.

† Rate per 1000 live births.

Table 8: Provisional percentage of live babies born, by gestational age at birth and ethnicity, 2005

Ethnic group	Liveborn babies by gestational age (weeks)									Total	
	Less than 20	20–23	24–27	28–31	32–36	37–41	42	43 and over	Not stated	No.	%
Māori	0.0	0.2	0.4	1.1	5.8	87.0	2.8	0.3	2.3	12,165	100
Pacific peoples	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.8	5.2	88.2	4.0	0.6	0.9	5785	100
Asian	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.8	5.0	91.1	1.7	0.1	0.8	4847	100
European	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.8	6.1	88.6	2.6	0.1	1.4	31,823	100
Other	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.1	5.4	87.8	3.7	0.2	1.3	1555	100
Not stated	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.4	7.1	87.6	2.5	0.4	0.9	564	100
Total number	8	66	191	495	3303	50,179	1548	115	834	56,739	
Total percentage	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.9	5.8	88.4	2.7	0.2	1.5		100

Data source: NMDS

Table 9: Provisional percentage of live babies born, by birthweight at birth and ethnicity, 2005

Ethnic group	Liveborn babies by birthweight (grams)							Total	
	Less than 1000	1000–1499	1500–1999	2000–2499	2500–4499	4500 or more	Not stated	No.	%
Māori	0.6	0.7	1.4	4.6	90.5	2.2	0.0	12,165	100
Pacific peoples	0.4	0.4	1.0	3.1	89.7	5.3	0.0	5785	100
Asian	0.6	0.6	1.3	5.0	91.7	0.9	0.0	4847	100
European	0.4	0.7	1.1	3.5	91.4	2.9	0.0	31,823	100
Other	0.6	1.0	1.0	3.5	92.0	1.9	0.0	1555	100
Not stated	0.9	0.7	1.4	4.3	90.6	2.1	0.0	564	100
Total number	268	377	669	2164	51,688	1565	8	56,739	
Total %	0.5	0.7	1.2	3.8	91.1	2.8	0.0		100

Data source: NMDS

Table 10 shows that 66.9 percent of the live low birthweight babies were born at less than 37 weeks gestational age, whereas only 30.0 percent of the live low birthweight babies were born at 37 weeks and over gestational age.

Table 10: Provisional numbers of live babies born, by gestational age and birthweight at birth, 2005

Gestational age (weeks)	Liveborn babies by birthweight (grams)		
	Less than 2500	2500 or more	Not stated
Less than 37	2326	1737	0
37 and over	1045	50,797	0
Not stated	107	719	8
Total number	3478	53,253	8

Data source: NMDS