

Definition/Description:

High birth weights (HBW), defined as birth weight greater than 4,000 g (approximately 9 pounds), typically have not been tracked as a health status indicator. However, this indicator adds another dimension to understanding maternal and infant health. Many high-weight births are due to mothers with gestational diabetes. Some research shows that there is an increased risk of mortality for high birth weight infants in some populations, in addition to an increase in health risks. As HBW rate has more recently been established as an indicator to monitor in population health assessment activities, the definition of HBW varies among organizations. The HBW indicator has been reported as a birth weight greater than 9 pounds or greater than 11 pounds. The WRHA is using the definition provided by Manitoba Health, which is greater than 4000 grams or approximately 9 pounds.

Calculation:

$$\frac{\text{Number of births in high weight group (4000 + grams)} \times 1000}{\text{Total number of live births in fiscal year}}$$

Source:

The data used in this report was obtained from the Manitoba Health Hospital Abstract Database, Decisions Support Services, Manitoba Health. All numerical values, tables, and figures (including spatial analyses) were generated by the Population Health and Health System Analysis Unit, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

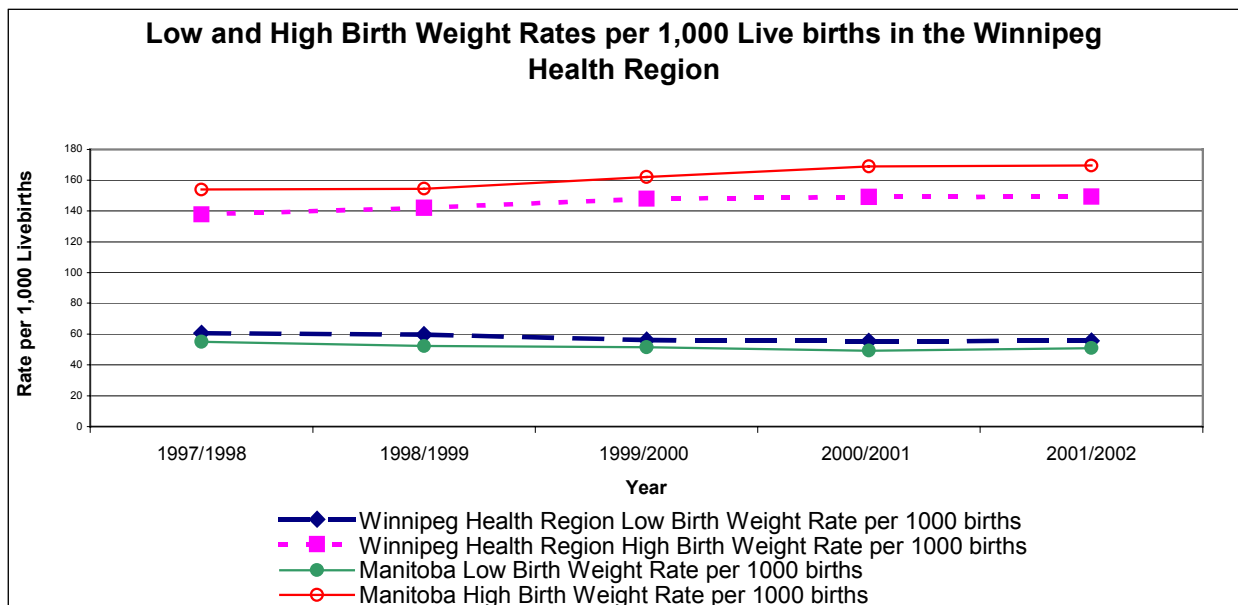
Findings:

High Birth Weight Rate per 1000 Livebirths by Community Area

Community Area	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Unknown	207.5	105.3	-	-	-
St. James-Assiniboia	174.8	136.1	178.9	159.1	175.1
Assiniboine South	171.7	111.9	165.5	161.2	150.3
Fort Garry	141.4	132	166.2	138.2	146.2
St. Vital	167.4	160.3	146.7	155.2	178.8
St. Boniface	154.8	143.1	159.8	167	171.8
Transcona	120.5	163.3	133	160.4	164.1
River East	140.4	150.9	150	135.7	142
Seven Oaks	116.4	132.2	129.9	119.9	151.6
Inkster	95.1	134.5	130.6	126.2	122.6
Point Douglas	138.4	154.8	135.1	173.4	132.1
Downtown	100.5	123.5	135.9	163	134.8
River Heights	147.4	160.7	149.1	134.2	137.6
Winnipeg Health Region	137.7	142	147.9	149	149.3

High Birth Weight Livebirth Counts by Community Area

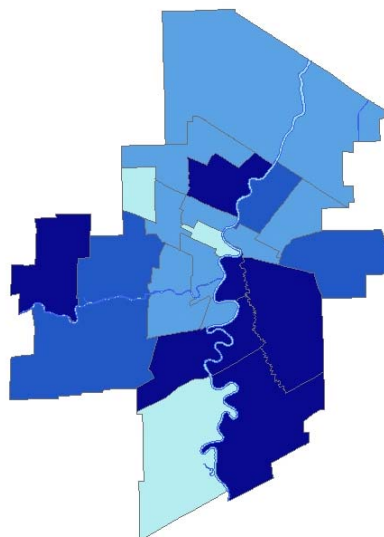
Community Area	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Unknown	11	6			
St. James-Assiniboia	107	78	107	88	104
Assiniboine South	51	31	48	49	43
Fort Garry	98	90	116	93	100
St. Vital	114	118	97	95	113
St. Boniface	76	74	81	84	89
Transcona	47	57	54	60	63
River East	154	153	157	139	139
Seven Oaks	71	78	76	70	87
Inkster	43	55	58	52	52
Point Douglas	88	96	85	108	77
Downtown	104	134	140	171	141
River Heights	92	95	92	80	83
Winnipeg Health Region	1056	1065	1111	1089	1091



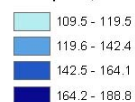
Proportion of Livebirths by Birth weight for the Winnipeg Health Region

	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
% of livebirths classified as low birthweight (1-2499 grams)	6.1	6.0	5.6	5.5	5.6
% of livebirths classified as average birthweight (2500-3999 grams)	79.2	79.1	78.9	79.0	78.8
% of livebirths classified as high birthweight (4000+ grams)	13.8	14.2	14.8	14.9	14.9
% of livebirths classified as unknown birthweight	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

High Birth Weight Rates per 1000 Livebirths in the Winnipeg Health Region by Neighbourhood Cluster; 2001/2002



Rate per 1,000 Livebirths



Highlights:

- HBW rates have varied between 138 and 149 per 1,000 live births over the period from 1997/1998 to 2001/2002. The WHR has lower high birth weight rates than the rest of the province over the past five years. There are areas within the Winnipeg Health Region that have high HBW rates compared to the Winnipeg Health Region value. High birth weight rates by Neighbourhood Cluster vary substantially from 109 per 1,000 live births to 189 per 1,000 live births in 2001/2002.