

# **Preterm Live Births**

**Preterm Live Births**

**INDICATOR:** Percent of Preterm Live Births

**DEFINITION:** The percent of live births occurring at less than 37 weeks of gestation.

**NUMERATOR:** The number of live births occurring at less than 37 weeks of gestation, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**DENOMINATOR:** The total number of live births, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 OBJECTIVE:**  
Reduce preterm births to an incidence of no more than 9.4 percent of live births.  
(Objective MICH 9.1: baseline 10.0% in 2018)

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030 OBJECTIVE:**  
This objective has been removed from Healthy People 2030 (MICH 9.1).

Year	California				Los Angeles County			
	Preterm Live Birth		95% Confidence Interval		Preterm Live Birth		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
2010	43,527	8.6	8.5	8.6	13,493	10.1	10.0	10.3
2011	42,616	8.5	8.4	8.6	13,059	10.0	9.9	10.2
2012	42,427	8.4	8.4	8.5	12,758	9.7	9.5	9.8
2013	41,540	8.4	8.3	8.5	11,688	9.1	8.9	9.3
2014	41,594	8.3	8.2	8.3	11,442	8.8	8.6	8.9
2015	41,600	8.5	8.4	8.5	10,941	8.8	8.6	8.9
2016	42,074	8.6	8.5	8.7	10,979	8.9	8.8	9.1
2017	40,907	8.7	8.6	8.8	10,534	9.0	8.9	9.2
2018	39,964	8.8	8.7	8.9	9,902	9.0	8.8	9.2
2019	46,291	10.4	10.3	10.5	9,810	9.2	9.0	9.3

Denominator: Live Births		
Year	California	LA County
2010	508,748	133,160
2011	500,909	130,313
2012	502,722	131,697
2013	493,587	128,526
2014	502,973	130,150
2015	491,748	124,507
2016	488,827	122,941
2017	471,658	116,850
2018	454,920	109,893
2019	446,479	107,202

Note: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

For birth weight data shown in WONDER before May 8, 2015, 21 births that occurred in year 2011 were erroneously reported in the birth weight category 5000-8165 grams, instead of the "Not stated" birth weight category. These 21 births are now reported in "Not stated" birth weight category.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

Sources:

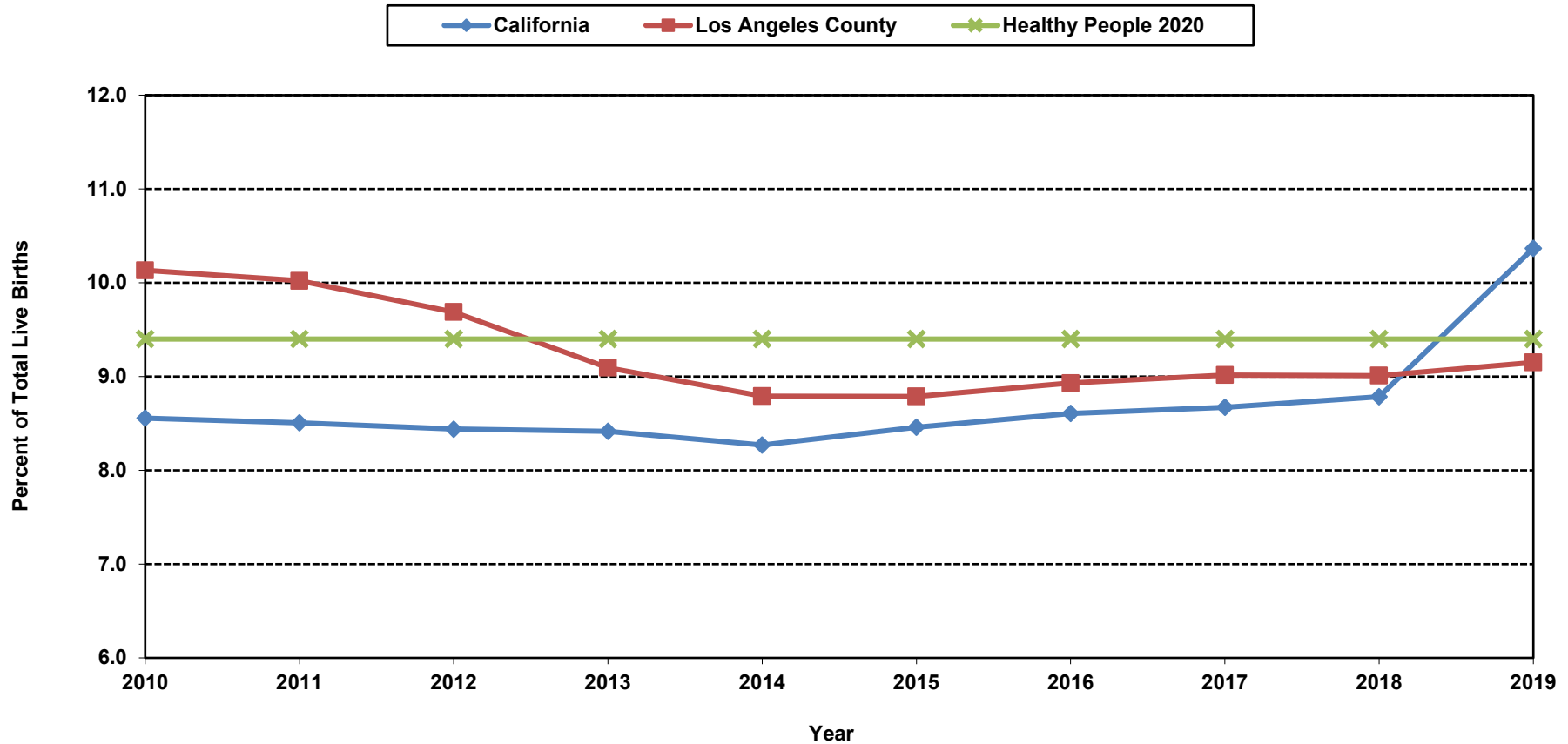
California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2019 (for LAC birth data)

California Department of Public Health, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2011-2017 (for LAC birth data)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Natality on CDC WONDER Online Database. Data are from the Natality Records 2007-2020. Updated in 2020. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded->

California Department of Public Health, CHHS Open Data Portal, 1960-2020 Final Births by Year Statewide, Updated 10/18/21. Accessed at URL: <https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/test-cdph-statewide-live-birth-profiles/resource> (for CA total live births and PT live births, 2014-2018)

### Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births California vs. Los Angeles County, 2010-2019



Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

For birth weight data shown in WONDER before May 8, 2015, 21 births that occurred in year 2011 were erroneously reported in the birth weight category 5000-8165 grams, instead of the "Not stated" birth weight category. These 21 births are now reported in "Not stated" birth weight category.

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Sources:

California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2019 (for LAC birth data)

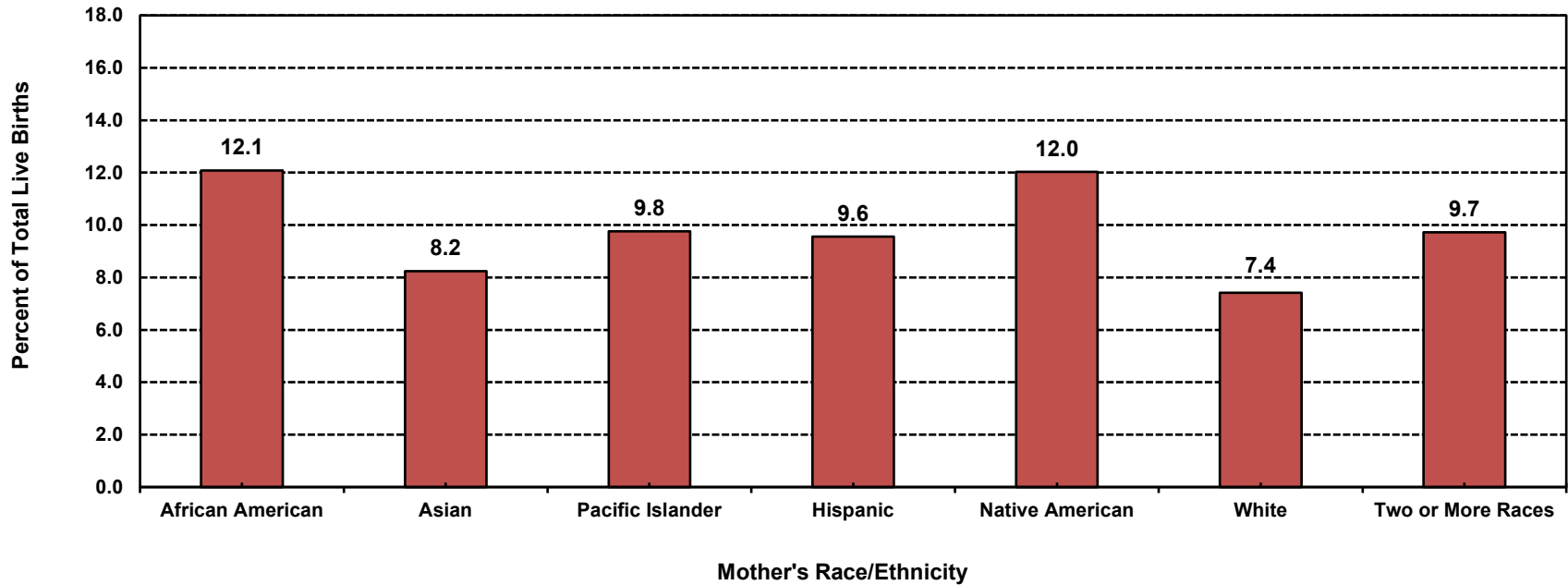
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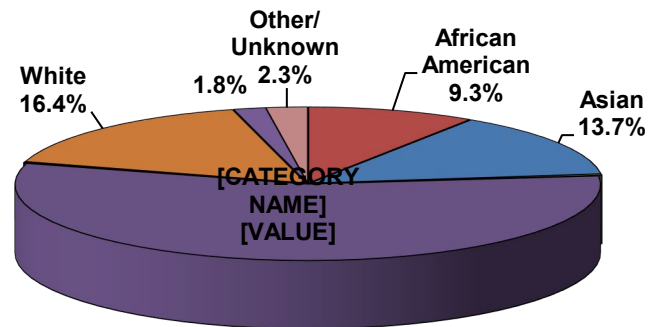
**Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Race/Ethnicity	Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
African American	911	12.1	11.3	12.8
Asian	1,348	8.2	7.8	8.7
Pacific Islander	25	9.8	6.1	13.4
Hispanic	5,505	9.6	9.3	9.8
Native American	16	12.0	6.5	17.6
White	1,608	7.4	7.1	7.8
Two or More Races	173	9.7	8.3	11.1
Other/ Unknown	224	11.8	10.4	13.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>

Total Live Births
7,539
16,359
256
57,561
133
21,679
1,779
1,896
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Preterm Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**

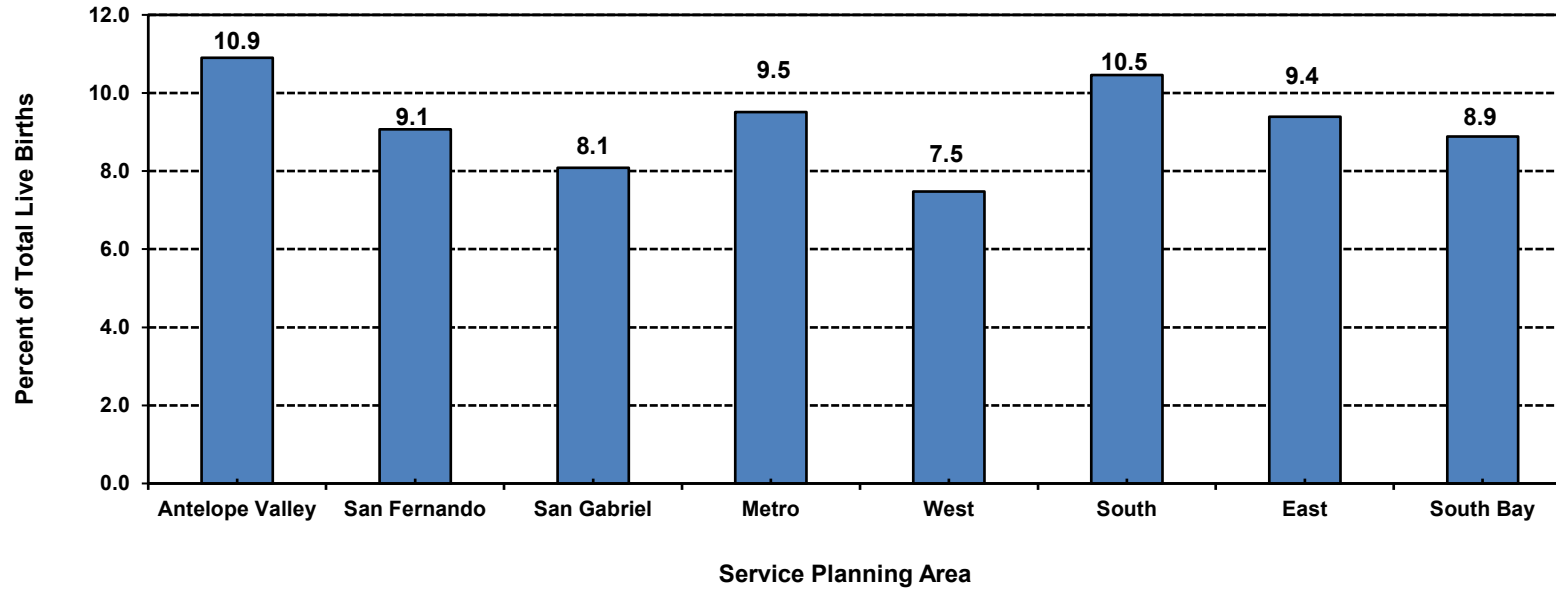


Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

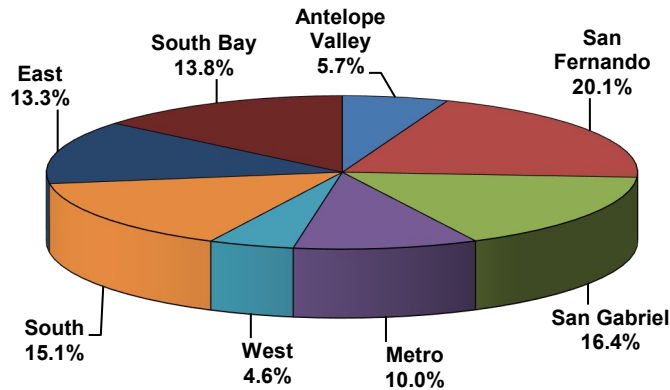
**Preterm Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Service Planning Area  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Service Planning Area (SPA)	SPA		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
Antelope Valley	564	10.9	10.1	11.8
San Fernando	1,967	9.1	8.7	9.5
San Gabriel	1,605	8.1	7.7	8.5
Metro	979	9.5	8.9	10.1
West	453	7.5	6.8	8.1
South	1,484	10.5	10.0	11.0
East	1,306	9.4	8.9	9.9
South Bay	1,357	8.9	8.4	9.3
Unknown	95	12.4	10.1	14.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>

Total Live Births
5,172
21,679
19,862
10,297
6,057
14,185
13,910
15,276
764
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Preterm Live Births  
by Service Planning Area  
Los Angeles County, 2019**

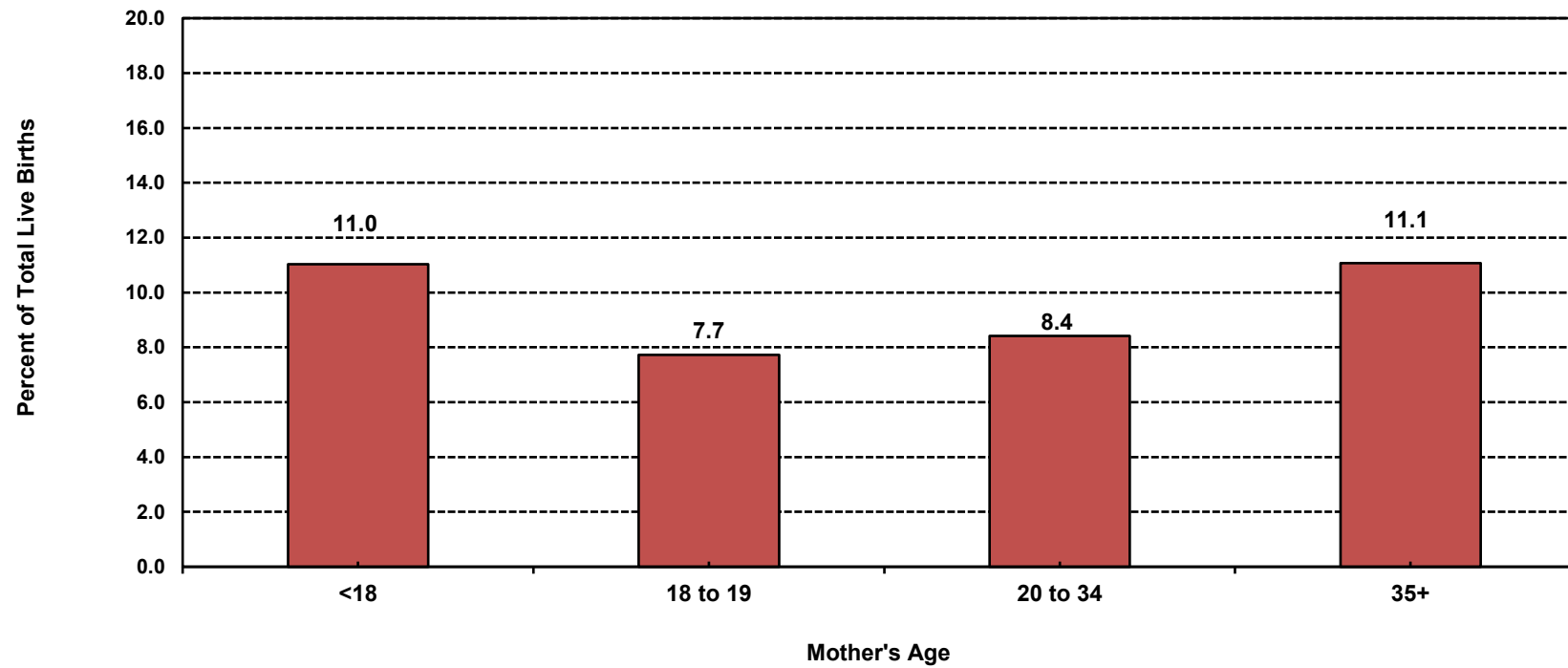


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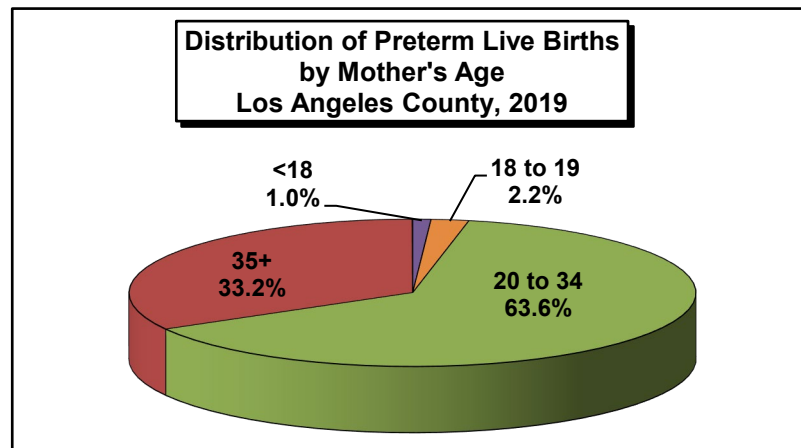
Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

**Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Age  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Age	Preterm Live Birth		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
<18	102	11.0	9.0	13.0
18 to 19	211	7.7	6.7	8.7
20 to 34	6,236	8.4	8.2	8.6
35+	3,259	11.1	10.7	11.4
Other/ Unknown	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>

Total Live Births
925
2,729
74,087
29,447
14
<b>107,202</b>



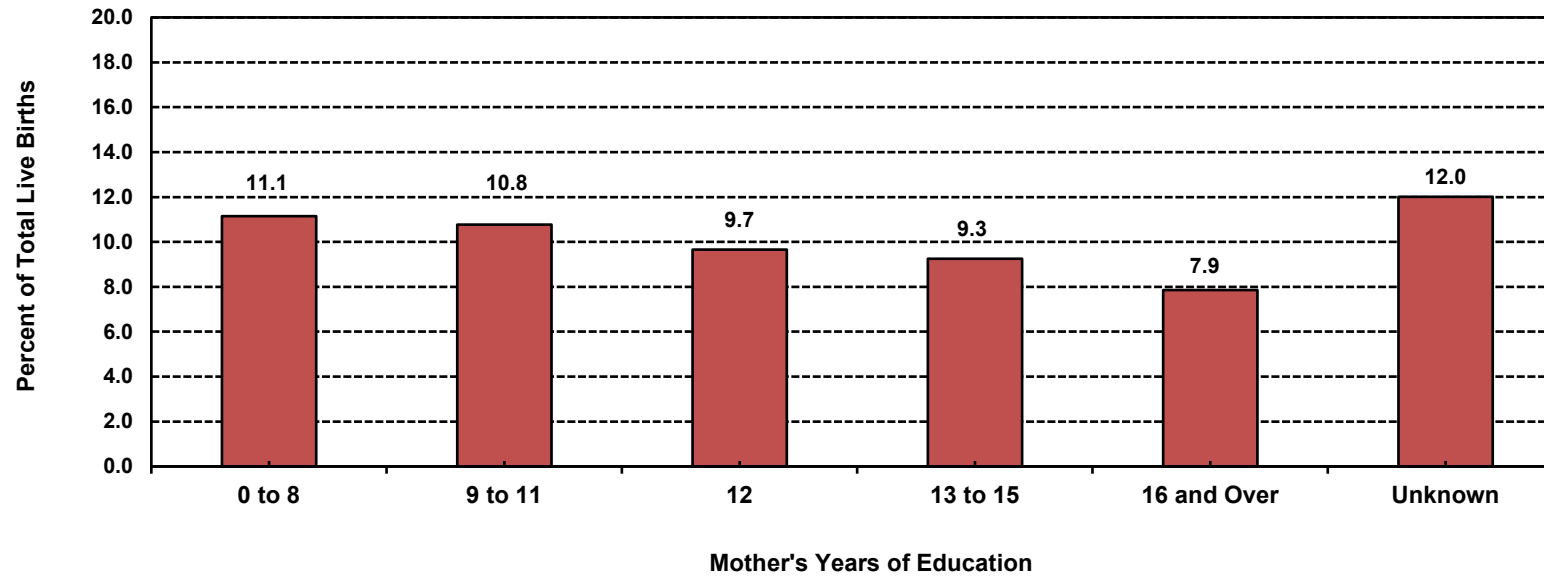
Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

Numbers fewer than 5 are shown as "<5". Rates are not calculated (N/C) if number is fewer than five.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

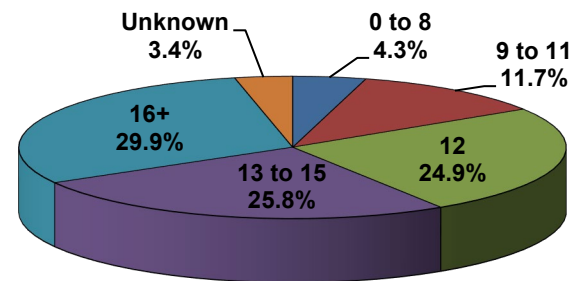
**Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Years of Education	Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
0 to 8	424	11.1	10.1	12.1
9 to 11	1,146	10.8	10.2	11.4
12	2,444	9.7	9.3	10.0
13 to 15	2,529	9.3	8.9	9.6
16 and Over	2,933	7.9	7.6	8.1
Unknown	334	12.0	10.8	13.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>

Total Live Births
3,805
10,643
25,296
27,332
37,346
2,780
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Preterm Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2019**

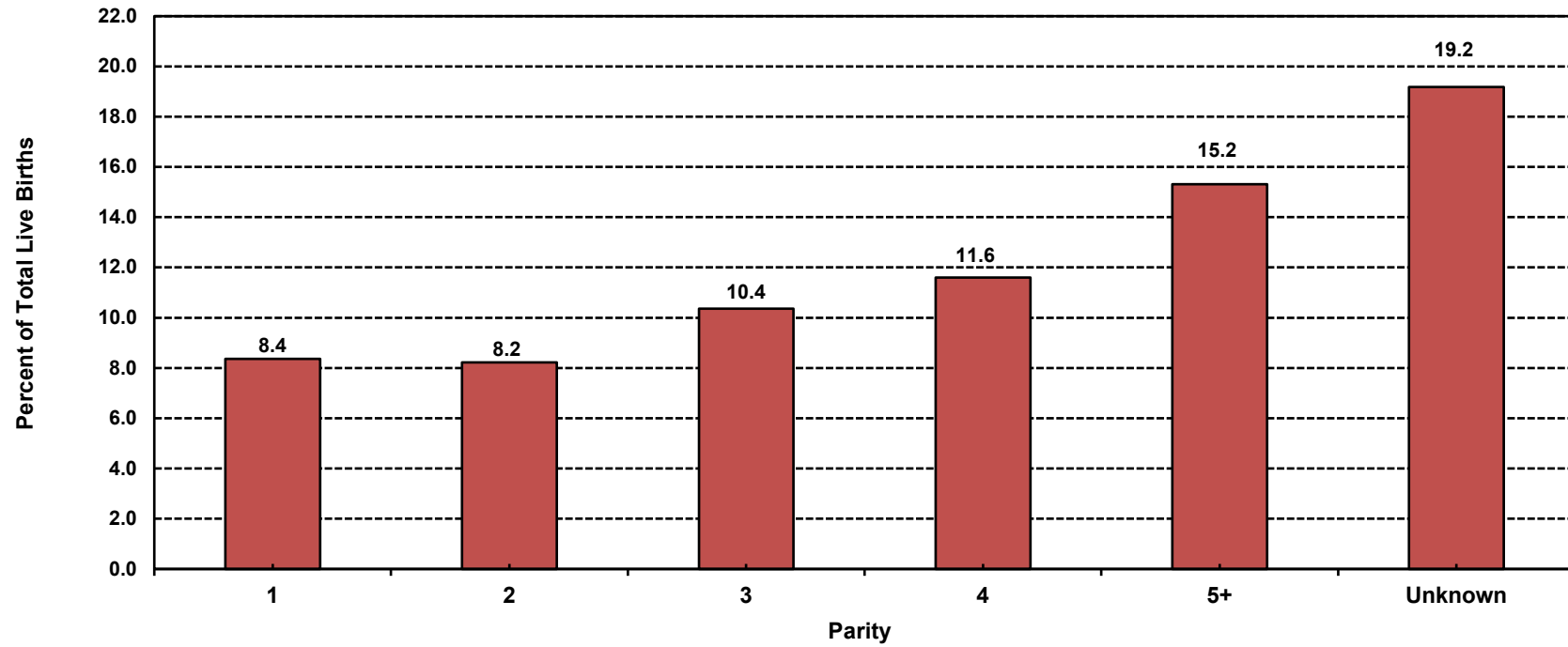


Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

This analysis did not adjust for teen mothers who may not have been old enough to have reached a higher categorical education level. Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

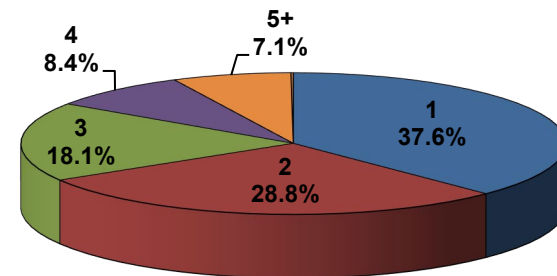
**Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Parity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Parity	Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
1	3,684	8.4	8.1	8.6
2	2,823	8.2	7.9	8.5
3	1,775	10.4	9.9	10.8
4	821	11.6	10.9	12.3
5+	693	15.3	14.3	16.4
Unknown	14	19.2	10.1	28.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>

Total Live Births
44,045
34,355
17,122
7,080
4,527
73
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Preterm Live Births  
by Parity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

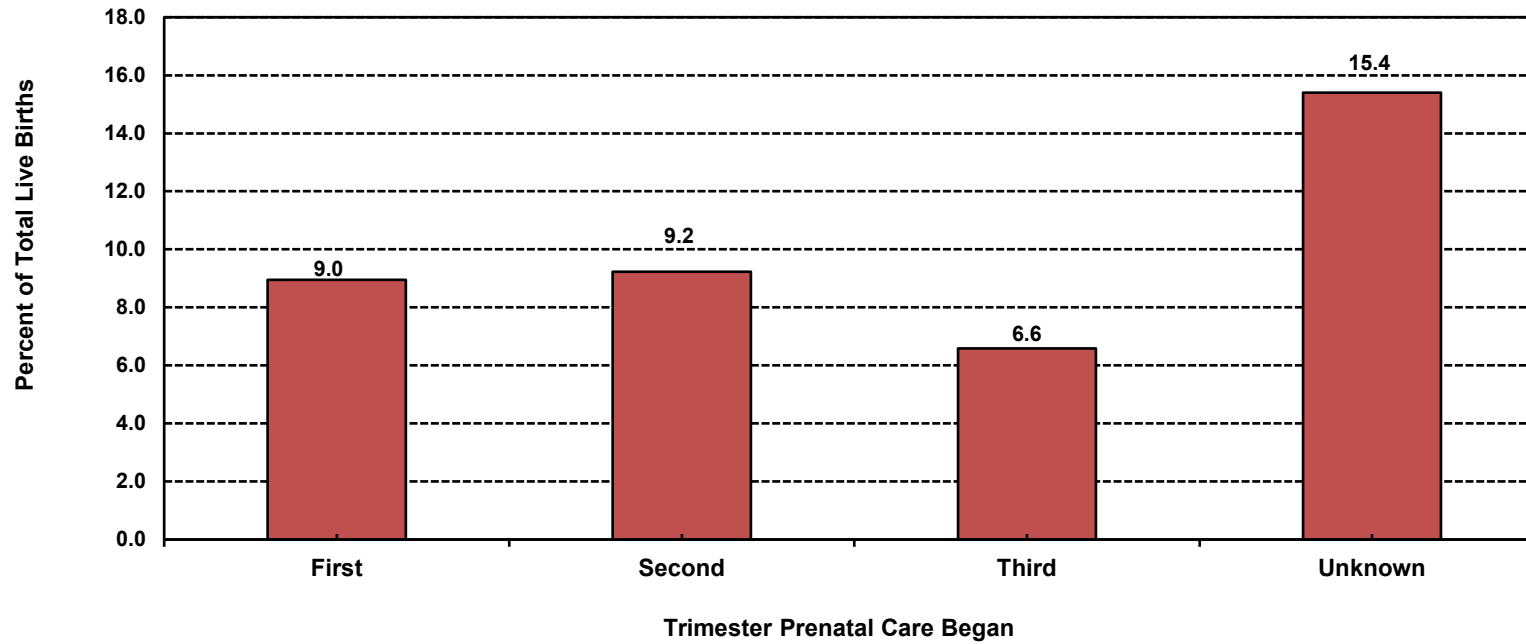
Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

Parity is defined as the number of pregnancies resulting in live births to a woman.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

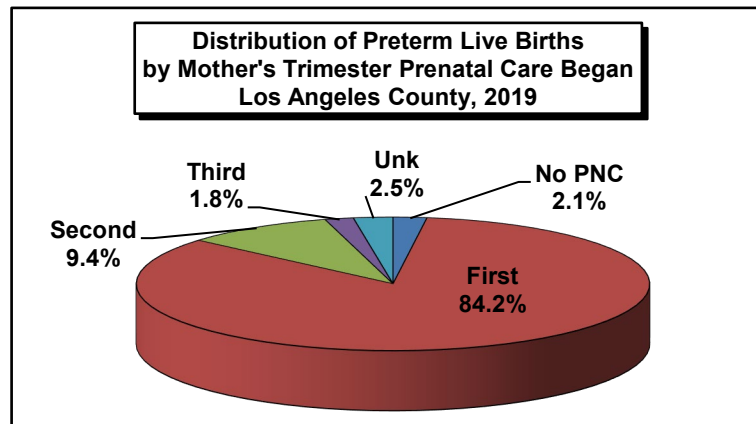


**Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care (PNC) Began  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began	Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
No Prenatal Care	208	30.4	27.0	33.9
First	8,258	9.0	8.8	9.1
Second	925	9.2	8.7	9.8
Third	176	6.6	5.6	7.5
Unknown	243	15.4	13.6	17.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>

Total Live Births
684
92,238
10,028
2,674
1,578
<b>107,202</b>



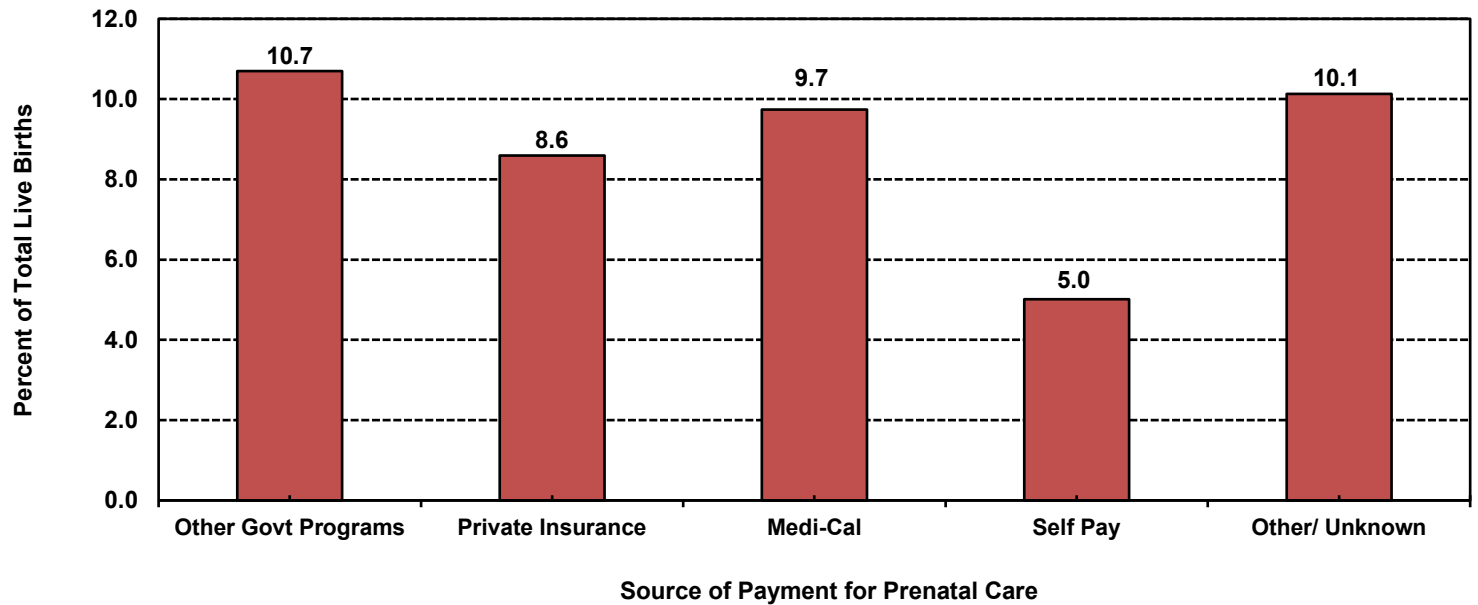
Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

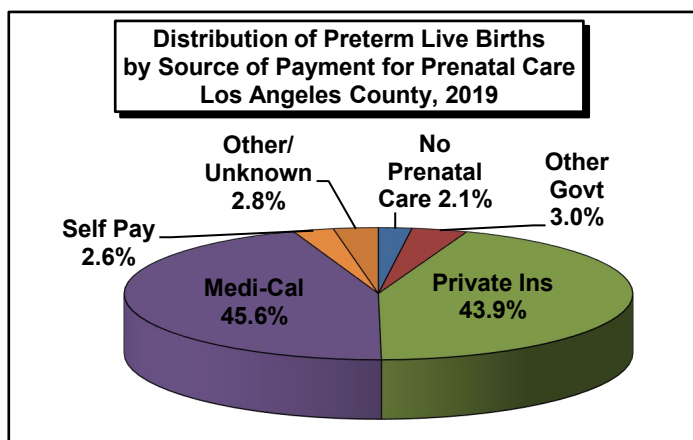
"Trimester Prenatal Care (PNC) Began" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

**Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019					Total Live Births
Source of Payment for Prenatal Care	Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval		
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper	
No Prenatal Care	208	30.4	27.0	33.9	684
Other Govt Programs	348	10.7	9.6	11.8	3,254
Private Insurance	4,330	8.6	8.4	8.8	50,369
Medi-Cal	4,391	9.7	9.5	10.0	45,076
Self Pay	254	5.0	4.4	5.6	5,065
Other/ Unknown	279	10.1	9.0	11.3	2,754
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>107,202</b>



Notes: "Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring between 17 and 36 weeks gestation inclusive.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2007-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate beginning in 2015.

"Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live

b Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

# **Early Preterm**

**Early Preterm Live Births**

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**INDICATOR:** Percent of Early Preterm Live Births

**DEFINITION:** The percent of live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.

**NUMERATOR:** The number of live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**DENOMINATOR:** The total number of live births, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 OBJECTIVE:**

Reduce early preterm births to an incidence of no more than 1.5 percent of live births. (Baseline: 1.7 percent in 2007) (Objective MICH-9.4)

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030 OBJECTIVE:**

This objective has been removed from the list of Healthy People Objectives (Objective MICH-9.4).

Year	Los Angeles County			
	Early Preterm		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
2010	2,037	1.5	1.5	1.6
2011	1,921	1.5	1.4	1.5
2012	1,861	1.4	1.3	1.5
2013	1,711	1.3	1.3	1.4
2014	1,732	1.3	1.3	1.4
2015	1,695	1.4	1.3	1.4
2016	1,559	1.3	1.2	1.3
2017	1,547	1.3	1.3	1.4
2018	1,500	1.4	1.3	1.4
2019	1,515	1.4	1.3	1.5

Denominator: Los Angeles County Live Births	
Year	LA County
2010	133,160
2011	130,313
2012	131,697
2013	128,526
2014	130,150
2015	124,507
2016	122,941
2017	116,850
2018	109,893
2019	107,202

Note: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015.

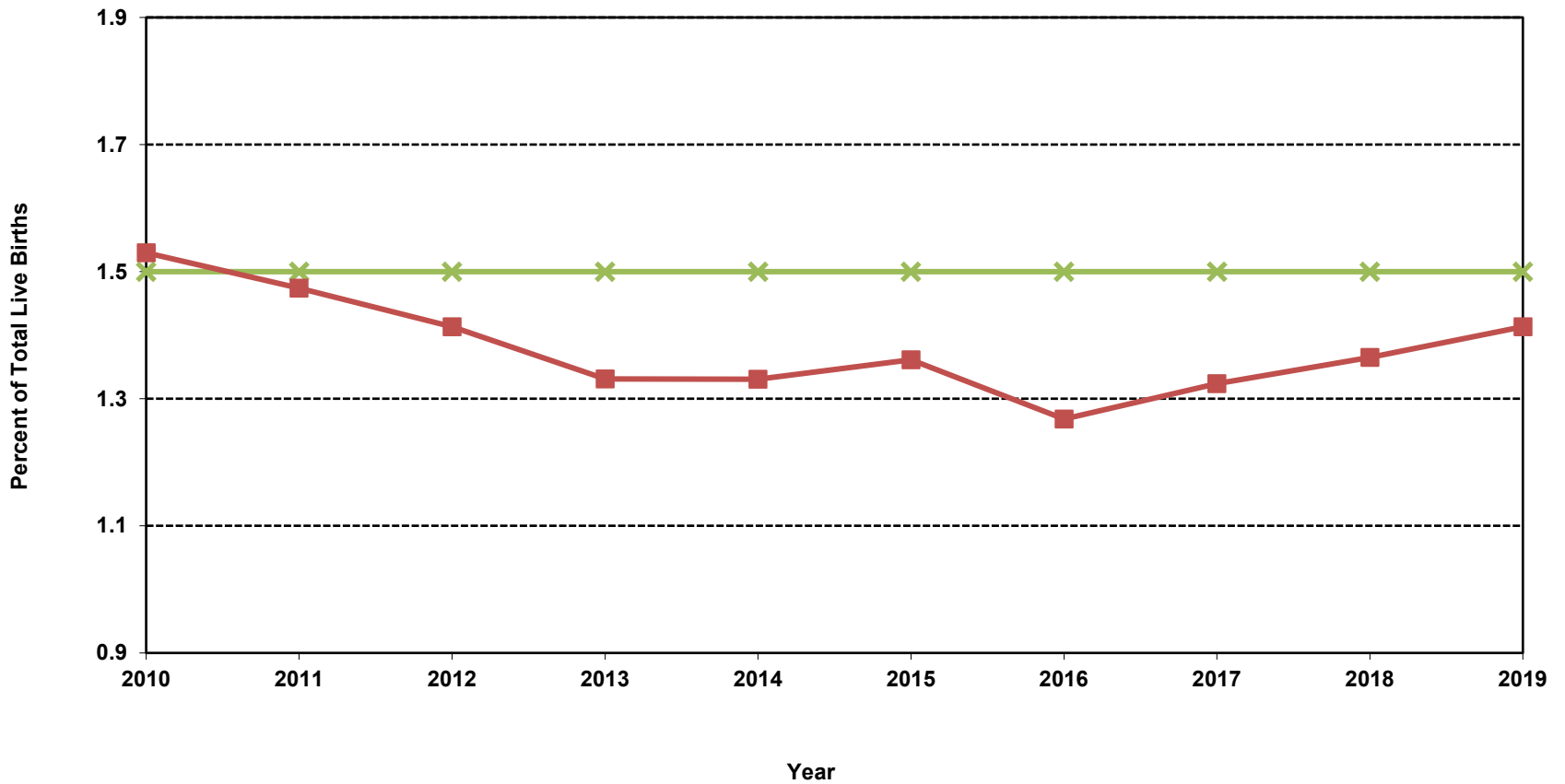
Sources:

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### Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births Los Angeles County, 2010-2019

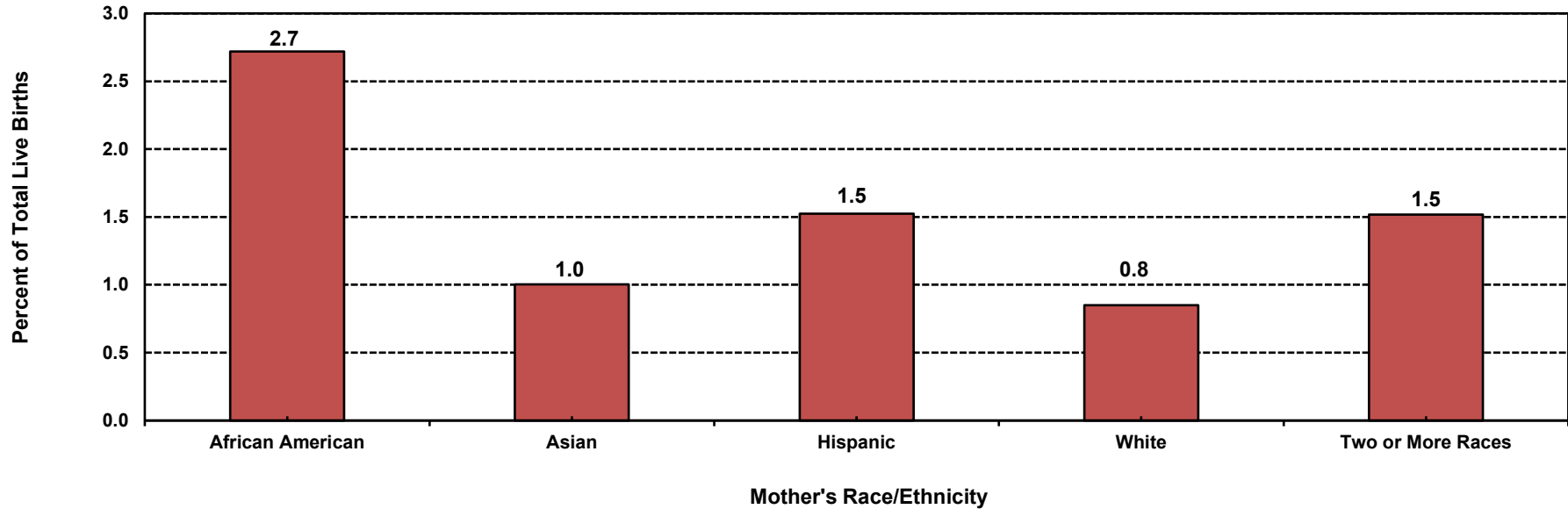
✕ Healthy People 2020     
 ■ Los Angeles County



Note: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.  
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Sources:  
 California Integrated Vital Records System, 2018-2019 (for LAC birth data)  
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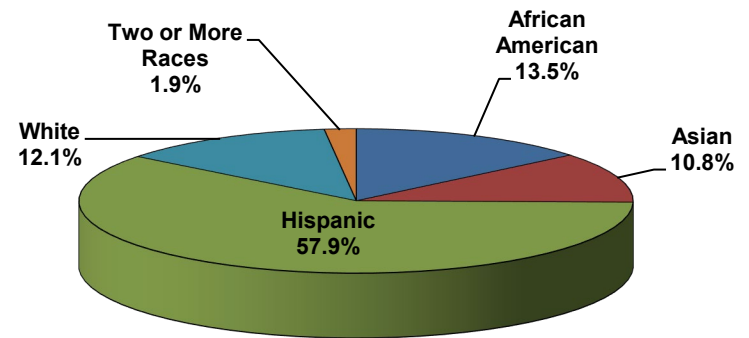
**Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Race/Ethnicity	Early Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
African American	205	2.7	2.4	3.1
Asian	164	1.0	0.8	1.2
Hispanic	877	1.5	1.4	1.6
Native American	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
White	184	0.8	0.7	1.0
Two or More Races	27	1.5	0.9	2.1
Pacific Islander	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
Other/ Unknown	51	2.7	2.0	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Total Live Births
7,539
16,359
57,561
133
21,679
1,779
256
1,896
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Mother's Race/Ethnicity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



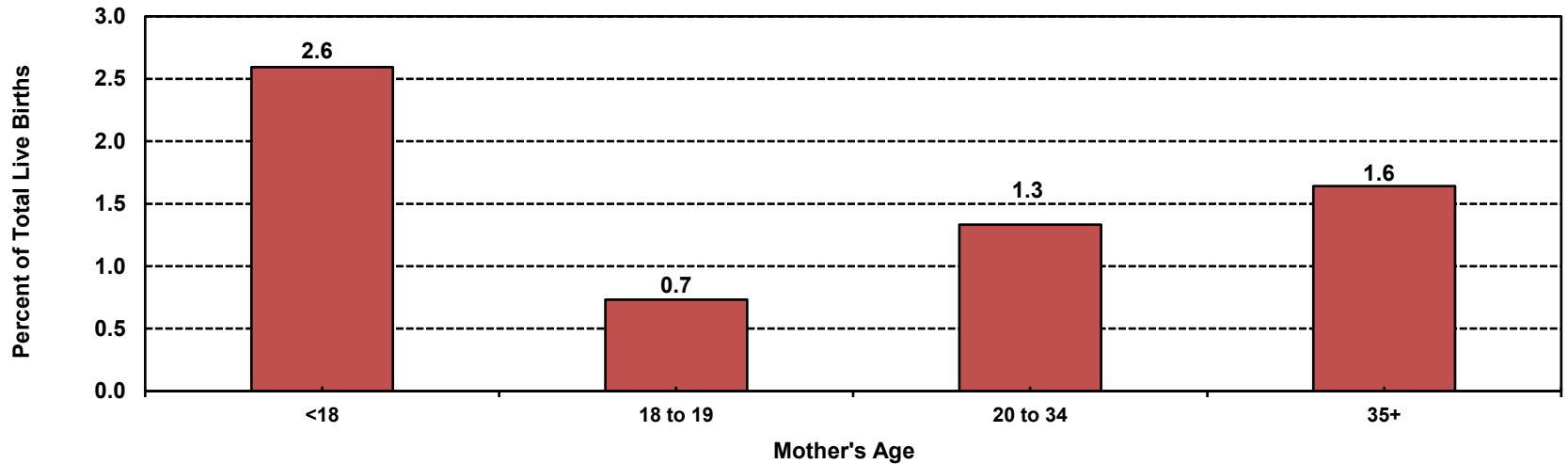
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Numbers fewer than 5 are shown as "<5". Rates are not calculated (N/C) if number is fewer than five.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

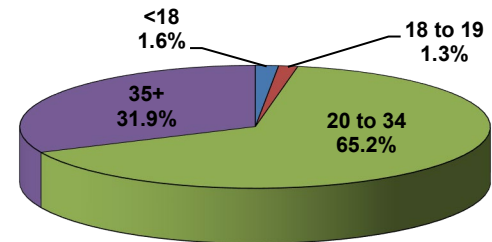
**Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Age  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Age	Early Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
<18	24	2.6	1.6	3.6
18 to 19	20	0.7	0.4	1.1
20 to 34	988	1.3	1.3	1.4
35+	483	1.6	1.5	1.8
Other/Unknown	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Total Live Births
925
2,729
74,087
29,447
14
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Mother's Age  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



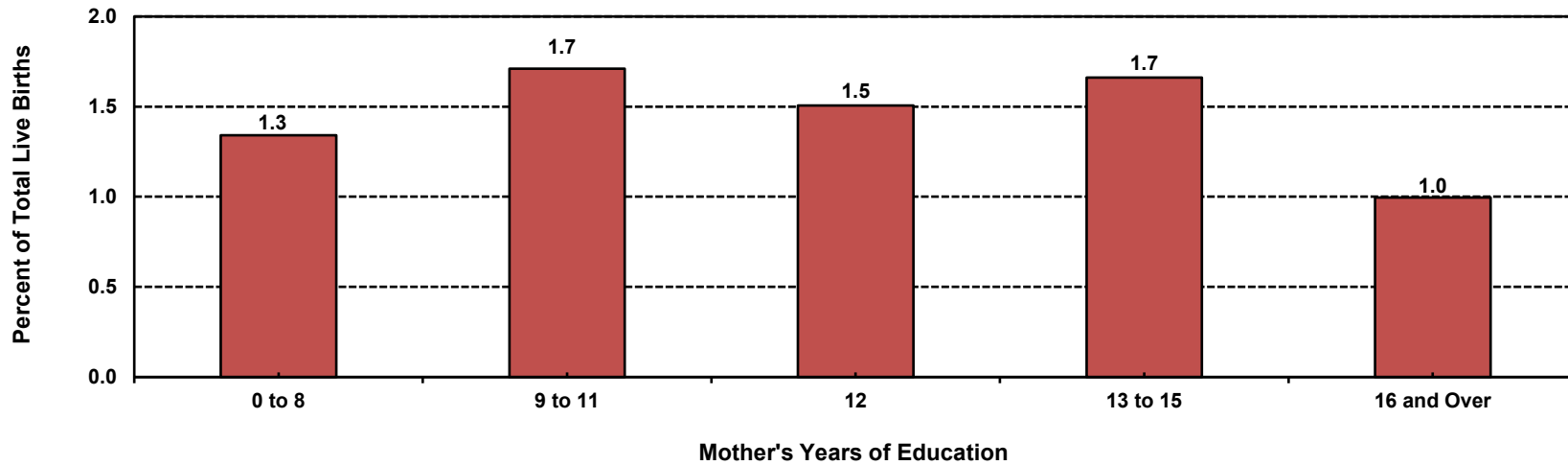
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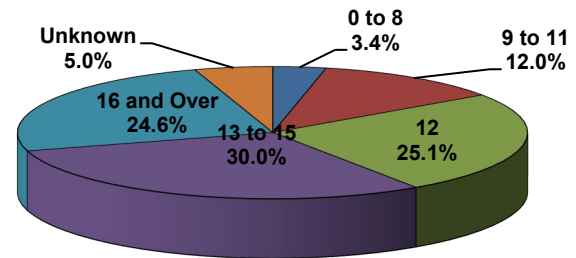
**Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Years of Education	Early Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
0 to 8	51	1.3	1.0	1.7
9 to 11	182	1.7	1.5	2.0
12	381	1.5	1.4	1.7
13 to 15	454	1.7	1.5	1.8
16 and Over	372	1.0	0.9	1.1
Unknown	75	2.7	2.1	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Total Live Births
3,805
10,643
25,296
27,332
37,346
2,780
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Mother's Years of Education  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Notes: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.

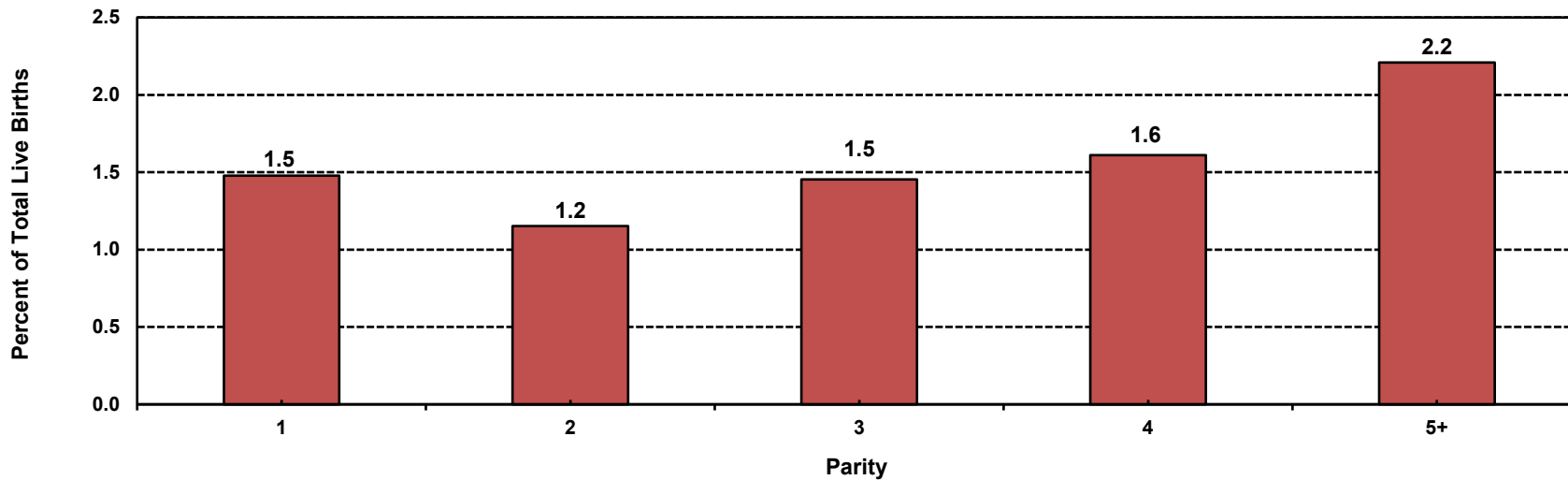
Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015.

This analysis did not adjust for teen mothers who may not have been old enough to have reached a higher categorical education level.

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019



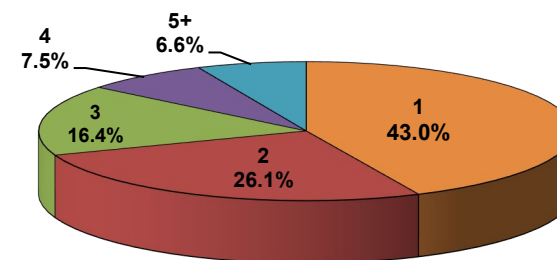
**Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Parity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Parity	Early Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
1	651	1.5	1.4	1.6
2	396	1.2	1.0	1.3
3	249	1.5	1.3	1.6
4	114	1.6	1.3	1.9
5+	100	2.2	1.8	2.6
Unknown	<5	N/C	N/C	N/C
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

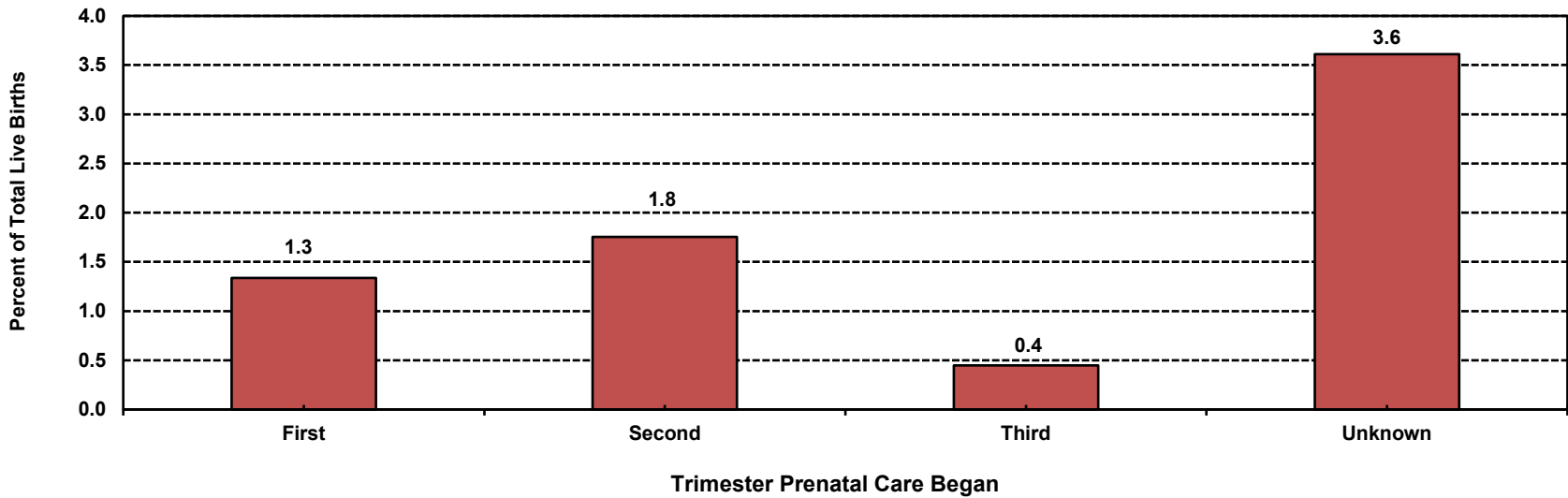
Total Live Births
44,045
34,355
17,122
7,080
4,527
73
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Parity  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Notes: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.  
 Numbers fewer than 5 are shown as "<5". Rates are not calculated (N/C) if number is fewer than five.  
 Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015.  
 Parity is defined as the number of pregnancies resulting in live births to a woman.  
 Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

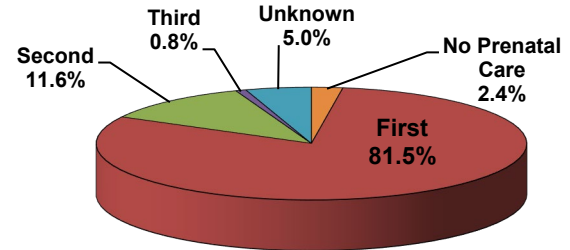
**Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began	Early Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
No Prenatal Care	36	5.3	3.6	6.9
First	1,234	1.3	1.3	1.4
Second	176	1.8	1.5	2.0
Third	12	0.4	0.2	0.7
Unknown	57	3.6	2.7	4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Total Live Births
684
92,238
10,028
2,674
1,578
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Mother's Trimester Prenatal Care Began  
Los Angeles County, 2019**

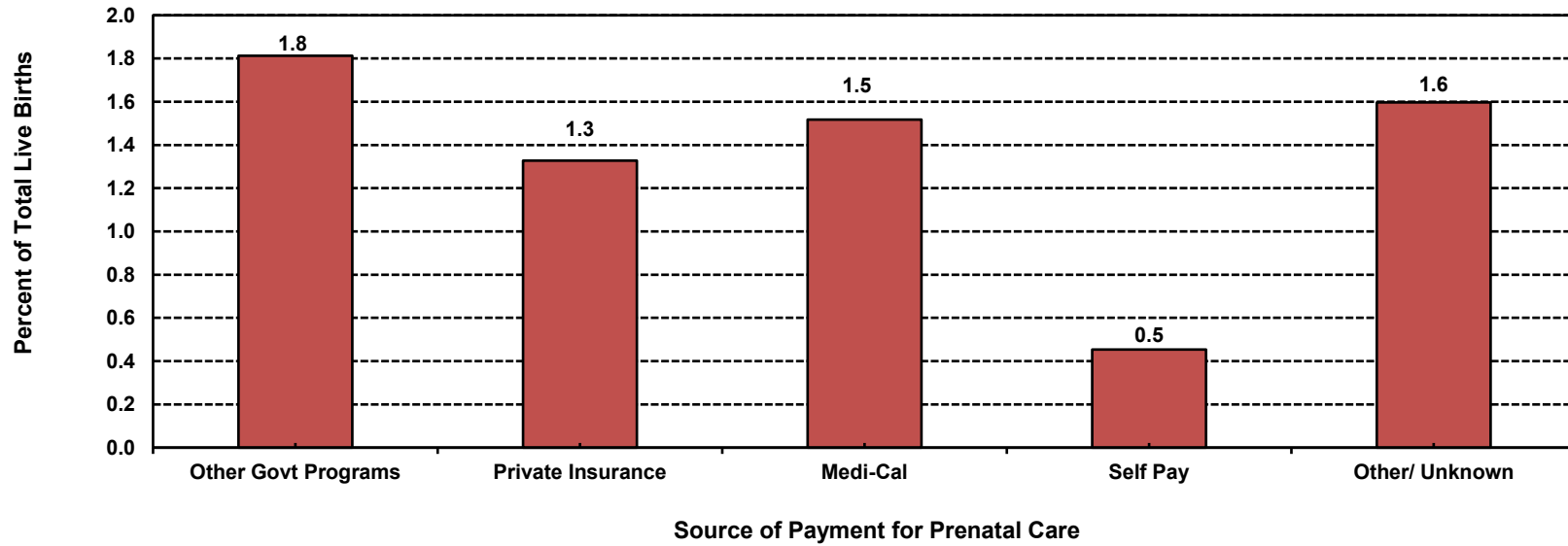


Notes: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.

Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015.

"Trimester Prenatal Care (PNC) Began" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth. Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

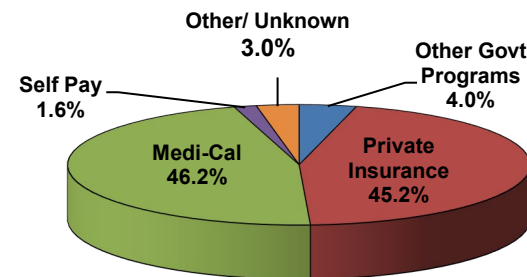
**Early Preterm Live Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Source of Payment for Prenatal Care	Early Preterm Live Births		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
Other Govt Programs	59	1.8	1.4	2.3
Private Insurance	669	1.3	1.2	1.4
Medi-Cal	684	1.5	1.4	1.6
Self Pay	23	0.5	0.3	0.6
Other/ Unknown	44	1.6	1.1	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

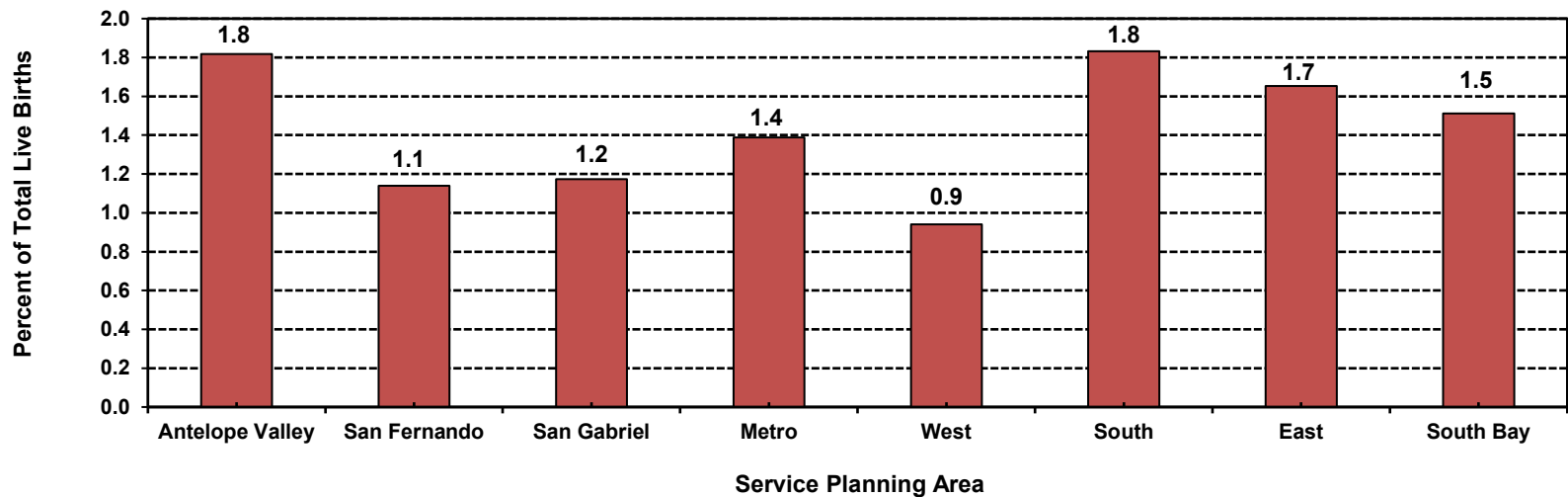
Total Live Births
3,254
50,369
45,076
5,065
2,754
<b>106,518</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Source of Payment for Prenatal Care  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Notes: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation.  
 Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015.  
 "Source of Payment for Prenatal Care (PNC)" excludes the prenatal care experiences of all women whose pregnancies did not result in a live birth.  
 Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019

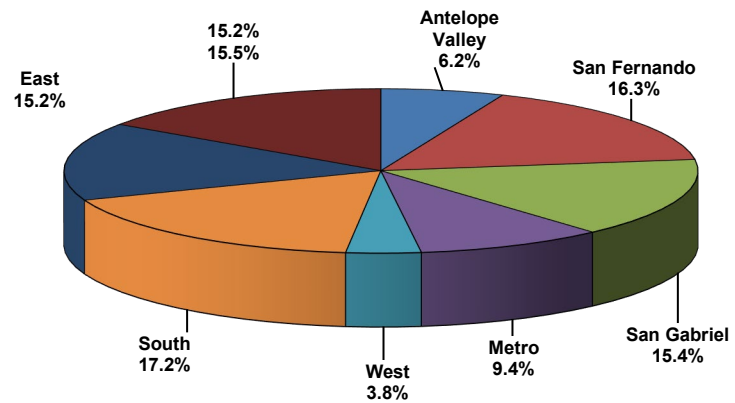
**Early Preterm Births as a Percent of Total Live Births  
by Service Planning Area  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Los Angeles County, 2019				
Service Planning Area (SPA)	SPA		95% Confidence Interval	
	Number	Percent	Lower	Upper
Antelope Valley	94	1.8	1.5	2.2
San Fernando	247	1.1	1.0	1.3
San Gabriel	233	1.2	1.0	1.3
Metro	143	1.4	1.2	1.6
West	57	0.9	0.7	1.2
South	260	1.8	1.6	2.1
East	230	1.7	1.4	1.9
South Bay	231	1.5	1.3	1.7
Unknown	20	2.6	1.5	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Total Live Births
5,172
21,679
19,862
10,297
6,057
14,185
13,910
15,276
764
<b>107,202</b>

**Distribution of Early Preterm Live Births  
by Service Planning Area  
Los Angeles County, 2019**



Notes: "Early Preterm Live Births" is defined as live births occurring at less than 32 weeks of gestation. Gestation calculated based on last menses in years 2010-2014. Gestation calculated based on obstetrical estimate in beginning in 2015. The residential zip codes of the mother were used to allocate live births to corresponding SPA. SPA corresponding to each zip code (published in 2010) were designated using the zip code centroids. Published statistics based on other corresponding table may vary when compared. Records that cannot be assigned to any SPA are classified as "Unknown".

Source: California Integrated Vital Records System, 2019