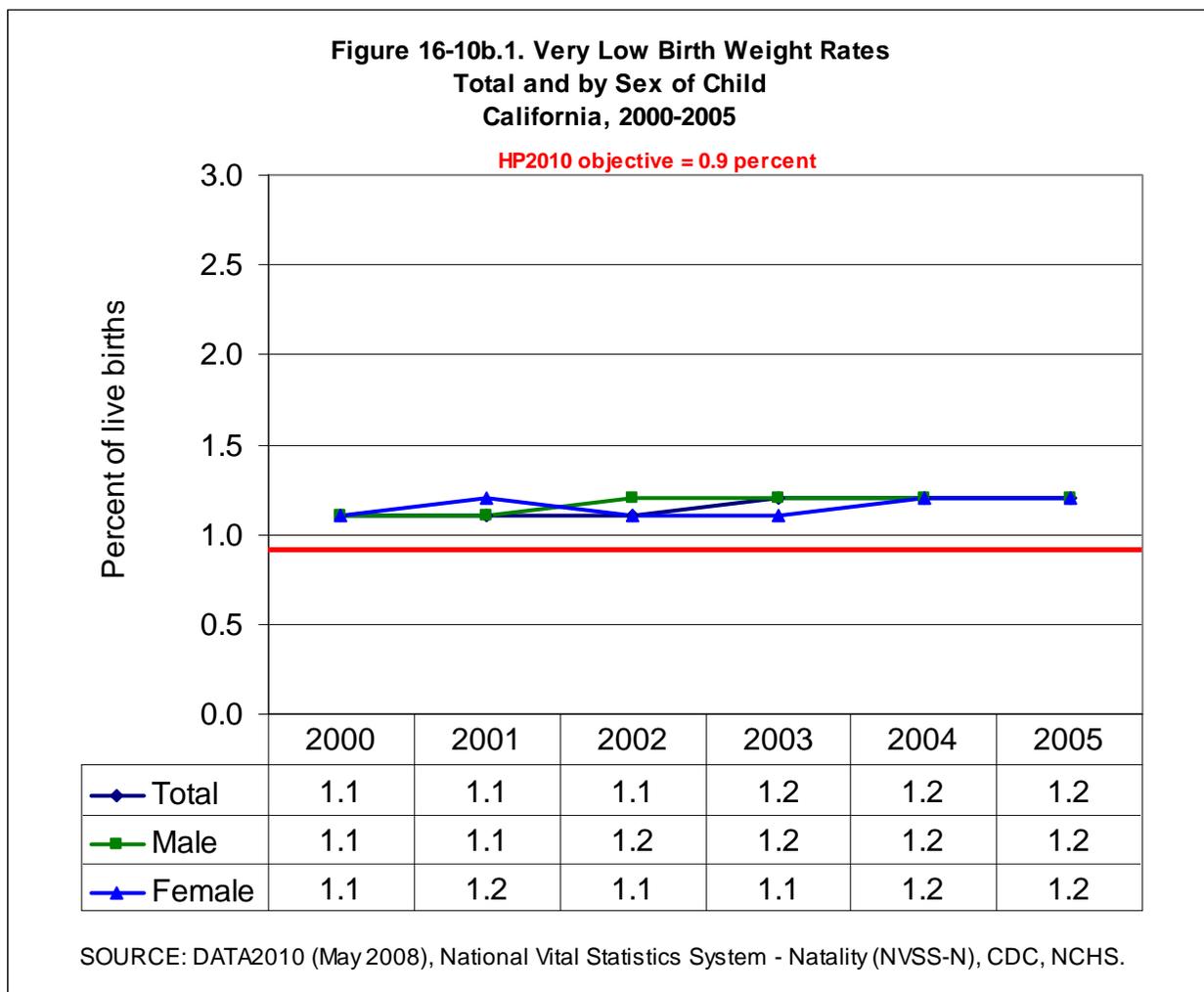


## Focus Area 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

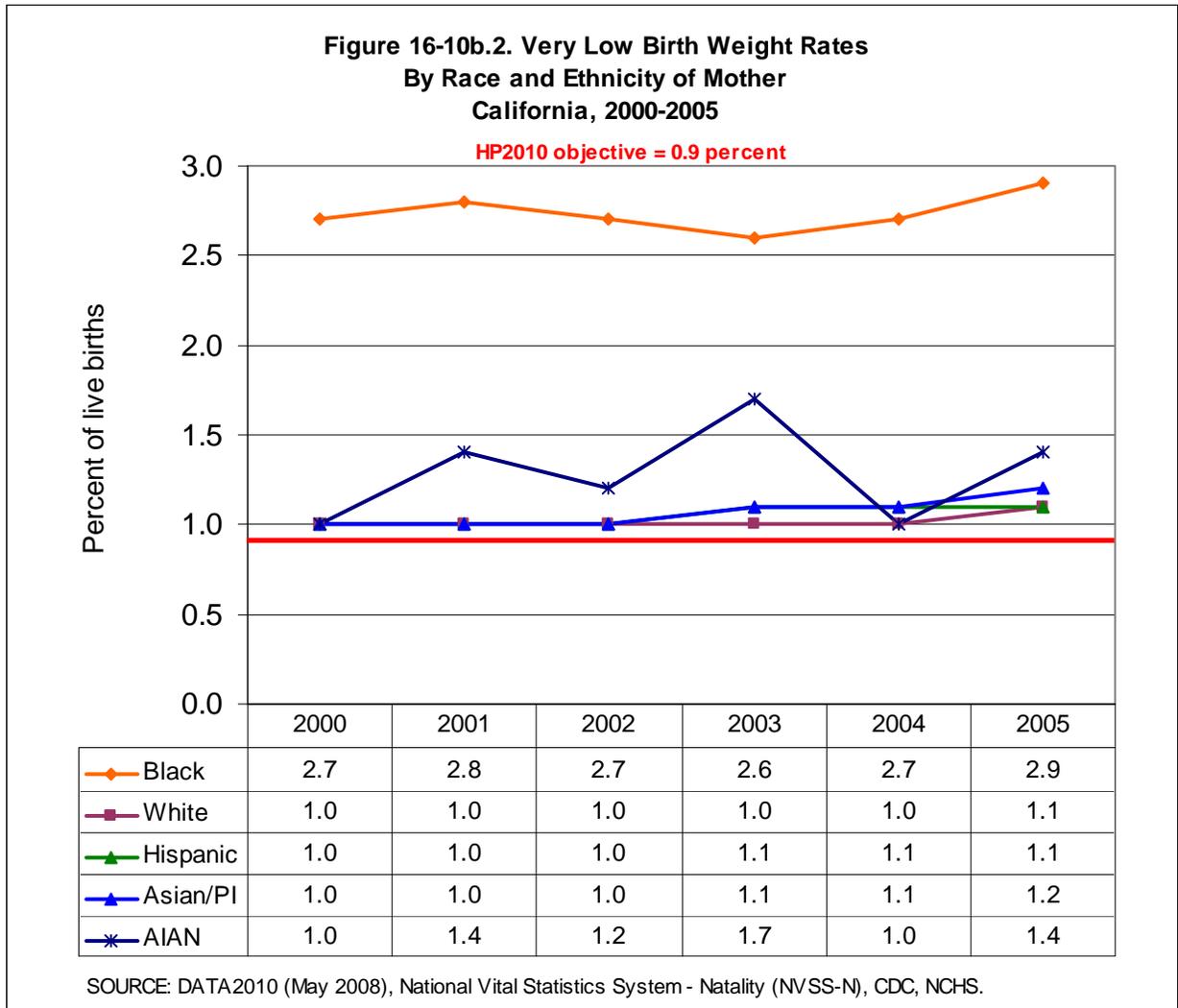
**Objective 16-10b. Reduce very low birth weight (less than 1,500 grams) births. Target = 0.9 percent [State Data Source: National Vital Statistics System – Natality (NVSS-N), CDC, NCHS]**

California's very low birth weight (VLBW) rate increased significantly from 1.1 percent in 2000 to 1.2 percent in 2005 based on data extracted from DATA2010 (**Figure 16-10b.1, Table 16-10b**). California's VLBW rates were higher than the HP2010 objective, and the trend in rates was moving away from the HP2010 target of 0.9 percent.

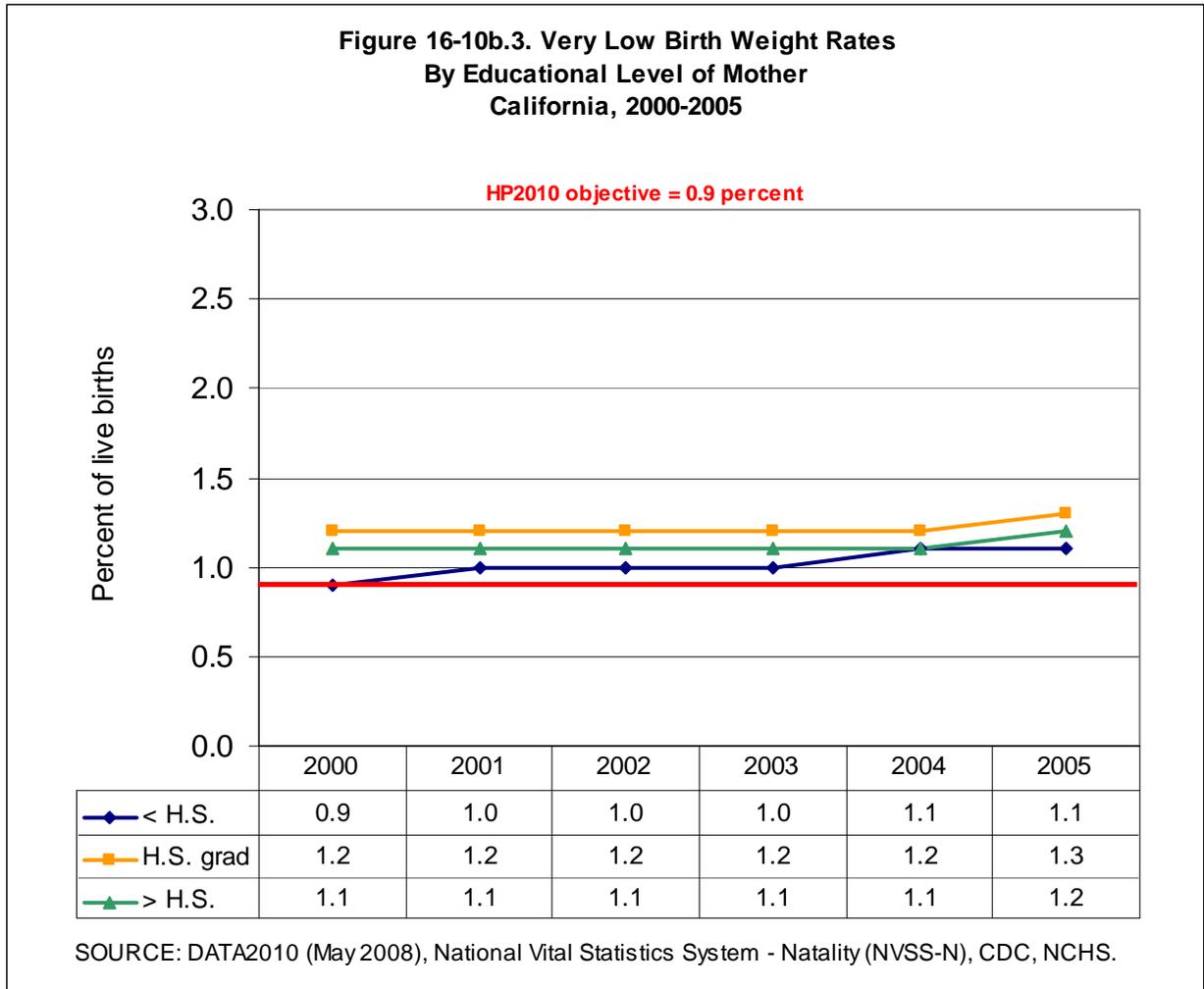


No significant differences were found in VLBW rates between female and male infants (**Figure 16-10b.1, Table 16-10b**), and this HP2010 objective was not being achieved for infants of either gender as of 2005.

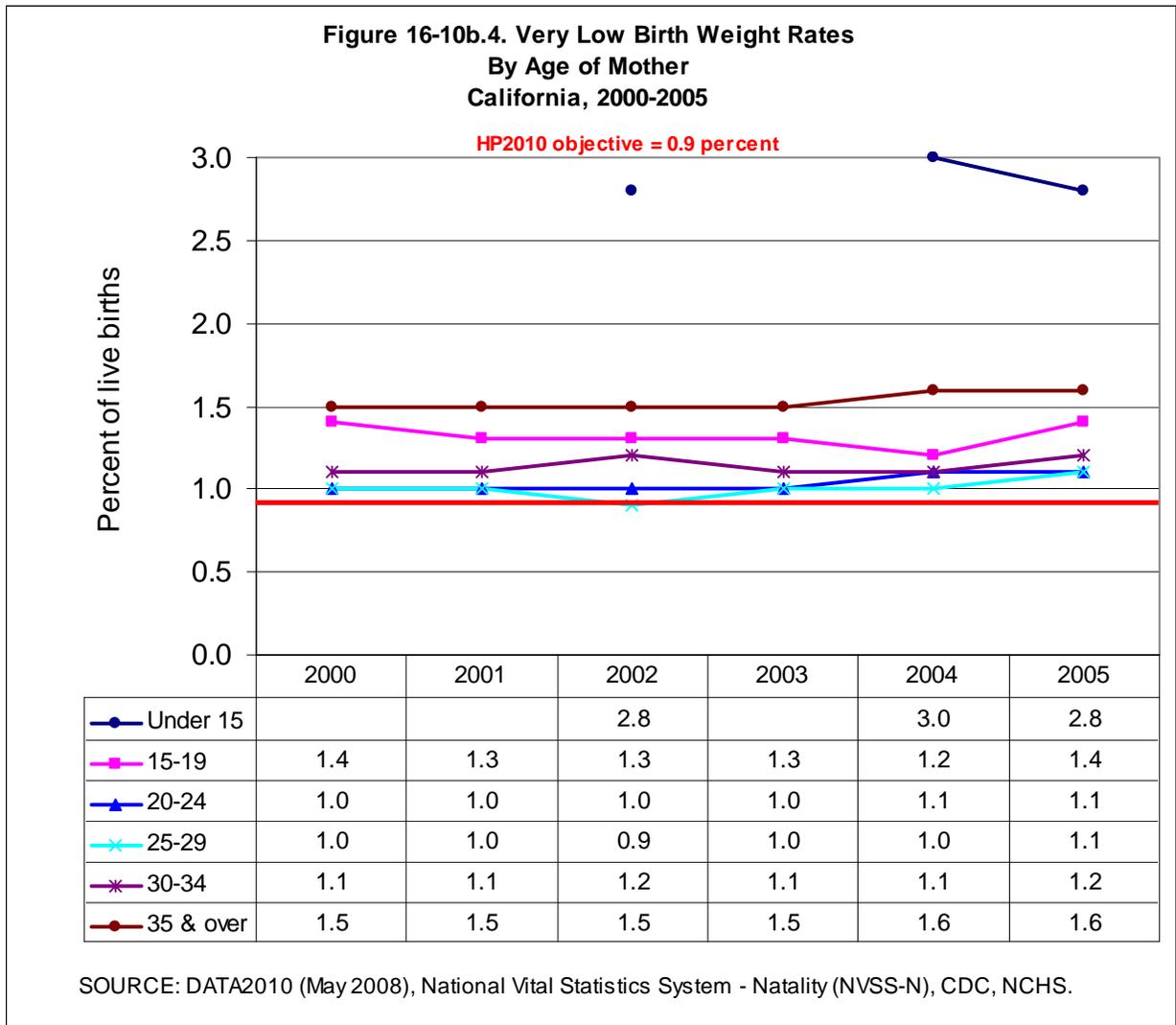
Data by race-ethnicity of the mother (**Figure 16-10b.2, Table 16-10b**) show that the highest VLBW rates were found for African Americans or Blacks (2.9 percent in 2005), followed by American Indians or Alaska Natives (AIAN) (1.4 percent in 2005). A significant increase in VLBW rates was found for Asian or Pacific Islander (PI) mothers from 1.0 percent in 2000 to 1.2 percent in 2005. This HP2010 objective was not being achieved for any racial or ethnic population as of 2005.



Data by educational level of mother (**Figure 16-10b.3, Table 16-10b**) indicate that those who had graduated from high school experienced the highest VLBW rates (1.3 percent in 2005), followed by those who had at least some college education (1.2 percent in 2005). Rates for mothers with less than a high school education significantly increased from 0.9 percent in 2000 to 1.1 percent in 2005. This HP2010 objective was not being achieved for mothers of any educational level as of 2005.



Examined by age of the mother (**Figure 16-10b.4, Table 16-10b**), VLBW rates were highest for those under 15 years (2.8 percent in 2005), followed by those aged 35 years and older (1.6 percent in 2005). Statistically significant increases were found for mothers aged 20-24 years and for those aged 35 years and older. The HP2010 objective of 0.9 percent was not being achieved for any maternal age group as of 2005.



For more information on very low birth weight (VLBW) births in California, visit the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Branch Web site at:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/MCAH/Pages/default.aspx>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 16-10b, please visit:

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm>

and the DATA2010 Web site at: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/data2010/>

Table 16-10b. Very Low Birth Weight Rates, California 2000-2005

	2000			2001			2002		
	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.
<b>Statewide Total</b>	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
<b>Sex of Child</b>									
Female	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Male	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
<b>Race-Ethnicity of Mother</b>									
African American/Black	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.8	2.6	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.0	0.6	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.8	1.2	0.8	1.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Hispanic/Latina	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
White	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
<b>Maternal Age Group</b>									
Under 15	DSU	-----	-----	DSU	-----	-----	2.8	1.6	4.0
15 - 19	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.5
20 - 24	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
25 - 29	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
30 - 34	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
35 and over	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
<b>Education Level of Mother</b>									
Less than high school	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
High school graduate	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Some college	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1

	2003			2004			2005		
	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	Rate <sup>1</sup>	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.
<b>Statewide Total</b>	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
<b>Sex of Child</b>									
Female	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Male	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
<b>Race-Ethnicity of Mother</b>									
African American/Black	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.9	2.7	3.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.7	1.3	2.1	1.0	0.6	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
Hispanic/Latina	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
White	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
<b>Maternal Age Group</b>									
Under 15	DSU	-----	-----	3.0	1.8	4.2	2.8	1.6	4.0
15 - 19	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.6
20 - 24	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
25 - 29	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
30 - 34	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
35 and over	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
<b>Education Level of Mother</b>									
Less than high school	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
High school graduate	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3
Some college	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2

SOURCE: DATA2010 (May 2008), CDC, NCHS; National Vital Statistics System - Natality (NVSS-N).

NOTES: <sup>1</sup> Percent of all live births having a birth weight of less than 1,500 grams.

DSU Data statistically unreliable due to small number of events.