
Massachusetts Birth Defects 2006-2007



Massachusetts Birth Defects Monitoring Program
Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

October 2010

Massachusetts Birth Defects 2006-2007

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Note to Readers: Changes in this year's report

This report contains changes from previous reports. These are outlined by section.

<u>Section</u>	<u>Change or addition</u>
Chapter 1	<i>This chapter contains a description of changes to the Massachusetts legislative regulations regarding case ascertainment and abstraction.</i>
Chapter 3	<i>A figure showing the overall prevalence of defects by interpregnancy interval (IPI) (Figure 2) was added.</i> <i>Small for gestational age (SGA) was added as a pregnancy outcome in Figure 3.</i>
Appendix	<i>A list of birth defects classified by severity level was added.</i> <i>The map of Massachusetts regions has been enhanced to include age-adjusted regional prevalences.</i>

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Executive Summary

Although birth defects are rare when compared to other adverse birth outcomes, such as low birthweight or prematurity, they are the leading cause of death in the first year of life in the United States. Nationally, about 20% of all infant deaths result from a birth defect. In Massachusetts, 16.0% of all infant deaths were attributable to birth defects (MADPH 2007).

The causes of birth defects are poorly understood. For 60-70% of major birth defects, no known cause has been identified. Researchers are looking at a wide variety of environmental exposures and risk factors as possible causes. Because most of the structural development of the fetus occurs during early pregnancy, studies usually focus on the “periconceptional” period, the month before and three months after conception. For the developing pregnancy, the environment includes any exposures to the fetus as well as any exposures to the mother.

Folic acid deficiency is related to certain birth defects. The awareness of folic acid intake to prevent birth defects may be increasing, although almost half of Massachusetts mothers (47.7%) with recent live births surveyed as part of the CDC Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) did not take any multivitamins or prenatal vitamins during the month prior to pregnancy (MA PRAMS Report 2010).

The Massachusetts combined lifetime costs for babies born with any of 12 major structural birth defects was estimated at \$129 million in 2007 dollars (see Technical Notes for inflation adjustment) (Harris and James 1997). These figures include direct costs of medical treatment, developmental services and special education, as well as indirect costs to society for lost wages due to early death or occupational limitations. The psychosocial costs cannot be calculated.

Over the past ten years, the Massachusetts Center for Birth Defects Research and Prevention (MCBDRP), aka “The Center” has developed and refined the surveillance performed through the Birth Defects Monitoring Program (BDMP). The first full year of population-based, active statewide surveillance data was 1999. The primary focus of the state surveillance system is the identification of major structural birth defects, with or without a chromosomal abnormality and non-chromosomal malformation syndromes. Inborn errors of metabolism are monitored separately by the state newborn screening program.

This report presents statewide data on the prevalence of birth defects among live births and stillbirths in Massachusetts during the years 2006 and 2007. The first annual report presented Massachusetts birth defects data for the year 1999. Three subsequent reports compiled data from 2000-2001, 2002-2003, and 2004-2005, respectively. Our ability to find and identify infants born with birth defects to Massachusetts residents has improved over time and is reflected in increased

prevalence rates. The 2006-2007 data are presented in combined form since the numbers are relatively small for individual defects. Although with the 2006-2007 report we appear to have established a preliminary baseline rate, given its comparability with previous reports, interpretations of these data with respect to the 2004-2005 report must still be made with caution.

The data allow for some preliminary trend analyses and evaluation of the efficacy of public health prevention efforts such as folic acid awareness and intake monitoring. The BDMP continues to monitor and improve case ascertainment quality so that reliable and accurate data are available to inform policy planning of public health efforts.

Planning for children with special health care needs is essential to support affected infants and families. Coordination between the BDMP and maternal and child health programs helps to ensure services for identified children and to provide population-based information to guide future program planning and prevention strategies.

Prevalence

The overall prevalence of birth defects among births to Massachusetts residents in 2006-2007 was 166.1 per 10,000 live births. Among the 155,604 live births to Massachusetts residents in 2006-2007, 2,528 had one or more birth defects. In addition, 57 stillbirths were identified as having a birth defect. Although population-based, active surveillance statewide from 1999 through 2007 provides baseline frequencies for birth defects, more years of data will establish the stability of these preliminary baseline frequencies. The ten most common defects were unchanged from the 2005-2006 report. Three of these ten most common defects were cardiovascular defects: atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), ventricular septal defects (membranous and NOS), and pulmonary stenosis, valvular. Common non-cardiovascular defects included hypospadias (2nd or 3rd degree), clubfoot, polydactyly/syndactyly, Down syndrome, obstructive genitourinary defects, cleft lip with and without cleft palate and cleft palate without cleft lip.

The CDC published improved national prevalence estimates for 18 selected major defects. Massachusetts was one of 11 states with population-based monitoring programs to contribute birth defect data. These average prevalence rates cover deliveries from 1999-2001 (CDC 2006). Massachusetts rates for 2006-2007 were significantly lower than the U.S. rates for approximately one-third of the defects and were about the same as the national estimates for the other two-thirds. The lower rates for the other defects may reflect differences in surveillance system methodology and regional variation. Also, birth defects are not reported in Massachusetts when they are prenatally diagnosed and the pregnancy is electively terminated, which would tend to result in lower rates for Massachusetts for certain defects. Based on previous studies of defects in association with prenatal screening and subsequent elective termination (Forrester, Merz et al. 1998; Cragan and Khoury 2000; Peller, Westgate et al. 2004), adjusted Massachusetts

rates that include cases currently not included in surveillance become similar to or slightly higher than the average U.S. rates. In addition, spontaneous deliveries of stillbirths ≥ 20 weeks of gestation were reported by birthing hospitals, but limited information about the stillbirth is included in the maternal record. Thus, some birth defects are not well documented and cannot be confirmed for inclusion in state surveillance.

Cases with One Defect vs. Two or More Defects

Of all 2,585 birth defect cases (2,528 live births and 57 stillbirths) 55.1% had one defect and 44.9% had more than one (defined as having more than one defect among defects that were included in this surveillance report). Anencephaly, cleft lip with and without cleft palate, biliary atresia and hypospadias (2nd or 3rd degree) appeared more often as a single defect rather than with other defects. Birth defects which appeared more often in conjunction with other defects included holoprosencephaly, anophthalmia/microphthalmia, cloacal exstrophy, omphalocele, obstructive genitourinary defect, reduction deformity of upper or lower limbs, trisomy 18, Down syndrome, and all cardiovascular defects.

Selected Pregnancy Outcomes

We compared selected pregnancy outcomes (C-sections, birthweight, gestational age, multiple birth and infant death) among infants born with birth defects to those born without birth defects in 2004-2005. Of infants born with birth defects, 44.1% were C-section deliveries, compared to 33.2% of non-birth defect births; 21.4% of birth defect cases were of low birthweight (<2500 grams) as opposed to 7.7% of those without a birth defect; 18.3% of infants were defined as small for gestational age, compared with 9.8% of those without a birth defect; 5.3% of infants with a birth defect died before their 1st birthday, compared to 0.4% of those without a birth defect. While numbers of infants with birth defects are relatively small, it is important to recognize the impact of these outcomes when diagnosing and treating a baby with a birth defect.

Sex

The birth defect case prevalence was 135.6 for females and 195.1 for males per 10,000 live births. While the prevalence of most types of birth defects did not substantially differ by sex of the infant/fetus, some conditions were associated with sex. The most common defects seen in males, in order of prevalence beginning with the most prevalent defect, were hypospadias (2nd or 3rd degree), obstructive genitourinary defect, polydactyly/syndactyly, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), Down syndrome, and clubfoot. The most common defects seen in females were atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), polydactyly/syndactyly, Down syndrome, obstructive genitourinary defect, clubfoot, ventricular septal defects (membranous and NOS), and valvular pulmonary stenosis.

Plurality

Examining birth defects by plurality is important since birth defects are more common among multiple births (more than one infant), and the number of multiple births has been on the rise in Massachusetts since 1994. Plurality information obtained from reviewing the medical record differed slightly from the plurality recorded on the birth and fetal death records. Because medical record abstraction may reveal early losses not recorded at birth and is therefore more accurate, plurality from the medical record abstraction is used in this report. When using the medical record, the birth defect case prevalence was 159.7 for singletons and 301.7 for multiple births per 10,000 live births. Birth defect case prevalence from vital records for singletons was 160.5, but for multiple births it was 284.5.

Birth defects that occurred most often among multiple births (all of which occurred more often than in singleton births) were obstructive genitourinary defect, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree), polydactyly/syndactyly, clubfoot, ventricular septal defects (membranous and NOS), Down syndrome, cleft lip with and without cleft palate, tetralogy of Fallot, and valvular pulmonary stenosis.

Analysis of Trends

Given that the overall prevalence of birth defects in Massachusetts described in the 2004-2005 and 2006-2007 reports remained stable (overall rate, 166.8 and 166.1, respectively), preliminary trend analysis using data from this report and previous reports may be performed with the understanding that better ascertainment of cases and increased use of diagnostic technologies may be factors in any apparent change in individual birth defect rates. Trends in selected cardiovascular, orofacial and musculoskeletal birth defects for which we have large numbers of cases during each report interval allow for preliminary baseline prevalence rates to be estimated. Gastroschisis is one defect that displayed an increase between 2000 and 2007. This increase parallels the national trend and may reflect the aggressive strategies for and improvements in surveillance.

Maternal Age

Monitoring birth defects by maternal age is important since the number of births to older mothers has been increasing over time in Massachusetts. The prevalence of birth defects varied by maternal age group. For live births only, rates per 10,000 live births were 147.4 for mothers younger than 20 years, 153.9 for those 20-24 years, 152.2 for those 25-29 years, 157.4 for those 30-34 years and 190.0 for those 35 years and older. Mothers younger than the age of 20 had the highest rate (16.4 per 10,000) of gastroschisis. This association has been shown in previous studies (Fillingham and Rankin 2008; Vu, Nobuhara et al. 2008). As expected, there was a strong association between Down syndrome and advanced maternal age. Although 44% of babies with Down syndrome were born to women under 35, the Down syndrome rate of 30.1 per 10,000 births for women 35 years and older was about three times that of the next highest Down syndrome rate (10.4

per 10,000 births occurred in the 30-34 age group) and nearly 6 times the lowest age-group rate (5.1 per 10,000 births in mothers aged 20-24 years). The pattern of higher Down syndrome rates among babies born to older women reflects the pattern of higher chromosomal defects in general among older women.

In 2006, Massachusetts had the highest proportion of births conceived through assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures among state residents (1,291 per million residents). In 2006, Massachusetts was one of the five states with the highest frequency of ART procedures performed (Sunderam S., Chang J. et al 2009). This high frequency of ART procedures may be due in part to more complete insurance coverage in Massachusetts, and may, in fact, be an underestimate (Zhang Z, Macaluso M et al. 2009). In the U.S., ART has also been associated with some birth defects such as septal heart defects and cleft lip with and without cleft palate (Reefhuis, Honein et al. 2009).

Maternal Race / Hispanic Ethnicity

The prevalence of birth defects varied by maternal race and Hispanic ethnicity. The age-adjusted birth defect prevalence per 10,000 live births was 163.9 for Non-Hispanic Whites, 153.4 for Non-Hispanic Blacks, 133.5 for Non-Hispanic Asians/Pacific Islanders and 176.7 for Hispanics. Due to small numbers, the rates for other races were not calculated individually. The most common defects among Hispanics included obstructive genitourinary defect, polydactyly/syndactyly, clubfoot, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), and Down syndrome. Among Blacks, the most common defects included polydactyly/syndactyly, obstructive genitourinary defect, Down syndrome, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), and hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree). The most common defects among Whites included atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), obstructive genitourinary defect, polydactyly/syndactyly, hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree), and Down syndrome. Among Asians, the most common defects included polydactyly/syndactyly, obstructive genitourinary defect, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), and cleft lip with and without cleft palate. Though Asians had generally lower age-adjusted rates of chromosomal defects, all races (Whites, Blacks, Asians, Hispanics and the combined "other") were comparable. This finding is a different from the 2004-2005 report, where Whites had about half the rate compared to Blacks, Hispanics, and "other". Maternal birthplace (U.S. versus non-U.S.) may be a contributing factor in group differences, as women born in the U.S. had slightly higher rates than those born outside the U.S. The prevalence of birth defects in children of Hispanic women born in the U.S. Territories (including Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam) was higher than the rates of women born both in and outside the U.S, but the overlapping confidence intervals indicate a lack of statistical significance in the difference.

Region

The birth defect rates among six Massachusetts regions in 2006-2007 were not statistically significantly different. The rates ranged from 154.8 per 10,000 in Boston to 174.7 per 10,000 in Southeast Massachusetts.

Severity

A severity scale was developed by the Center in collaboration with our partners at Boston University and the Massachusetts General Hospital. This scale was based on the usual outcome for a specific birth defect including its typical compatibility with survival, the need for immediate treatment, the need for long-term care and the amenability of the defect to correction. We developed a new automated algorithm to classify the cases into the categories of “severe”, “serious”, “moderate”, and “mild”. Nearly 3% of cases with birth defects were classified as “severe” and most of these cases did not survive. This percentage was an underestimate of severe cases due to limited data. For example, researchers at CDC estimated that up to 80% of anencephaly cases and 50% of any neural tube defect may be electively terminated after prenatal diagnosis (Cragan and Khoury 2000). Nineteen percent of cases were affected with a “serious” birth defect. Many of these cases needed intensive medical care and planning for continuing care and long-term disability. “Moderate” birth defects comprised about 70% of the total cases. All of these needed medical follow up and many may have required a number of surgeries and extensive treatment. “Mild” birth defects comprised nearly 9% of the affected infants. These defects may or may not have required corrective treatment.

Etiology and Pattern

The surveillance system in Massachusetts allowed for the collection of relevant etiology (cause) information. Cases with known etiology accounted for about 18% of the birth defects in Massachusetts in 2006-2007. Of the cases with known cause, “single gene” etiology accounts for almost 19%, “chromosomal” etiology accounts for almost 77% and “maternal-fetal factors” accounted for about 5%. The majority of birth defects cases in Massachusetts in 2006-2007 had an unknown etiology (82%). Among the cases with unknown etiology, the “multiple major” (2 or more major defects in different organs/body parts) pattern comprised 10%, while the “isolated” pattern comprised the majority (about 90%). Within the “isolated” pattern, three subgroups further described the occurrence of birth defects cases. These “isolated” subgroups are solitary defect, major and minors (different organ/body parts) or 2 or more defects (same organ/body part), and sequence (common primary defect with consistent, related anomalies).

Related Public Health Resources

Two resources include: "Public Health Resources in Massachusetts" and a list of "Selected National Resources." Both may be found through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website: www.mass.gov/dph/birthdefects.

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Chapter 1

Introduction



Baby with cleft palate



Cleft palate

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Public Health Importance of Birth Defects

Each year in the United States, approximately 120,000 babies—1 in 33—are born with birth defects (March of Dimes 2010). Birth defects, sometimes called congenital anomalies, are abnormalities of structure, function or metabolism present before birth. These abnormalities may be fatal or may result in physical or mental disability. Several thousand defects have been identified. Some are life threatening while others are less severe.

Birth defects can lead to lifelong disability, require costly medical care and cause great distress in families. The economic, emotional and social impact on families may be catastrophic.

Although birth defects are rare when compared to other adverse birth outcomes, such as low birthweight or prematurity, they are the leading cause of death in the first year of life in the United States. Nationally, about 20% of all infant deaths result from a birth defect. In Massachusetts, 16.0% of all infant deaths were attributable to birth defects (MADPH 2007). The overall infant mortality rate for Massachusetts in 2008 was 4.9 per 1,000 births, and for the U.S. it was 6.7 per 1,000 births.

Causes of Birth Defects

The causes of most birth defects are poorly understood, but certain genetic and environmental factors have been associated with selected defects. These include prenatal environmental factors, such as infections (e.g., rubella), exposures to medications or other chemicals, drug or alcohol abuse or nutritional deficiencies.

A single abnormal gene can cause certain birth defects. The gene may have an error in its code, a missing piece or extra genetic material, all of which can result in malformations. Other birth defects may be caused by a combination of factors such as genes interacting with environmental factors. For 70% of major birth defects, no known cause has been identified (CDC 2006). We show in Chapter 6 that about 82% of birth defect cases in Massachusetts have unknown etiology. These cases were further classified by birth defect patterns.

Researchers are looking at a wide variety of environmental exposures and risk factors as causes of birth defects. Because most of the structural development of the fetus occurs during early pregnancy, studies usually focus on the “periconceptual” period, the month before and three months after conception. For the developing pregnancy, “the environment” includes any exposure to the fetus as well as any exposure to the mother.

Birth Defects and Folic Acid Awareness and Behavior

Studies have shown that the presence of adequate amounts of folic acid (vitamin B9) in the mother’s system during the “periconceptual” period may help prevent defects of the brain and spinal cord known as neural tube defects. Mandatory fortification of cereal grains with folic acid has resulted in a 26% reduction in the

number of babies born with these neural tube defects in the US (Mills and Signore 2004). However, recent studies in certain populations have suggested that not all cases of neural tube defects are preventable by increasing folate intake (Heseker, Mason et al. 2008) and that periconceptional supplement use did not reduce the risk of neural tube defects possibly because folate fortification reduced the occurrence of only folic acid-sensitive neural tube defects (Mosley, Cleves et al. 2009).

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), administered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Health Information Statistics, Research and Evaluation, included questions about folic acid awareness and behavior in its 2000 and 2004 surveys. In the 2004 survey, 63.8% of female respondents ages 18-49 reported that taking folic acid can prevent birth defects. Also, 51.6% of the participating women ages 18-49 reported that they take folic acid on a daily basis (see table in Appendix).

An additional and potentially more relevant indicator of folic acid intake can be multivitamin use among women who recently had a live birth. The Massachusetts Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) survey of resident women who had a live birth includes questions about prenatal multivitamin use. Mothers of singletons, twins and triplets (higher order multiples were excluded) were asked about their weekly consumption of a multivitamin or prenatal vitamin the month prior to becoming pregnant. Among respondents, 36.1% reported that did not take multivitamins, 16.2% took 1-6 multivitamins per week, and 47.7% took multivitamins on a daily basis (MA PRAMS Report 2010) These data are presented in the Appendix).

Healthy People 2010 Challenges

Healthy People 2010 established the objectives of reducing the fetal and infant death rates by 40%, developmental disabilities rates by 50% and neural tube defect rates by 50% (DHHS 2000). Additionally, the draft version of the new Healthy People 2020 adds an objective to increase the 1-year survival rates of children born with Down syndrome. Birth defects surveillance is a critical component of the public health strategy to achieve these objectives. The active surveillance program in Massachusetts allows the Department of Public Health to monitor the extent and occurrence of birth defects within the Commonwealth. These data make it possible to identify:

- Changes in birth defect rates over time that may indicate a change in environmental conditions affecting the health of the population;
- Geographical areas with consistently high or unusual rates (clusters);
- Families of affected children who may benefit from services or who may be interested in participating in research studies; and
- Key data for preventive strategy planning by the Department of Public Health.

Birth Defects Surveillance in Massachusetts

Over the past eleven years, the BDMP has developed and refined its surveillance program. The first full year of population-based, active surveillance statewide was 1999.

The primary focus of the state surveillance system is the identification of major structural birth defects with or without a chromosomal abnormality and non-chromosomal malformation syndromes. This includes ICD-9 CM codes ranging from 740.0 to 759.9 and a few selected codes outside this range for defects such as DiGeorge syndrome, Pierre Robin sequence and amniotic bands sequence.

The Center's active surveillance system uses multiple sources of ascertainment. Birth, tertiary (Level III nurseries) and specialty care hospitals in Massachusetts routinely submit discharge lists and nursery data on infants born with birth defects. Since over 70% of out-of-state births to Massachusetts mothers occur in Rhode Island, two Rhode Island hospitals, the Women and Infants' Hospital and the Rhode Island Hospital, were added in 2000. In 2001, the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary was included in order to increase ascertainment of eye and ear anomalies that come to their attention. Vital records also serve as an additional source. Fetal death reports and infant death certificates are reviewed. Birth certificates are checked for additional information such as residency of the mother.

Potential birth defect cases, reported from these varied sources, are assigned to medical record abstractors who make field visits to hospital records departments. Abstractors have specialized training and ongoing education to abstract medical records of potential cases. Abstraction is conducted on a regular basis using a Confidential Reporting and Abstraction Form (CRAF) to capture essential data for each birth defect case. The CRAFs are submitted to the Center for review of completeness and accuracy. Surveillance data are entered and maintained in a confidential electronic database.

Economic Impact on Massachusetts

Estimating the economic impact of birth defects on the state of Massachusetts is challenging. The California Birth Defects Monitoring Program and the Metropolitan Atlanta Congenital Defects Program, using 1992 data, estimated the lifetime cost for families dealing with a baby with birth defects to be between \$75,000 and \$503,000 (CDC 1995). Their estimated lifetime cost for a baby born with spina bifida was \$385,896 in 2007.

Adjusting for inflation, the estimated combined lifetime cost in Massachusetts for babies born with 12 major structural birth defects was \$129 million in 2007 (see Technical Notes). These figures included direct costs of medical treatment, developmental services and special education, as well as indirect costs to society for lost wages due to early death or occupational limitations. There are also social and emotional impacts.

Legislative Changes Regarding Birth Defects Surveillance

In March 2002, the Massachusetts Legislature amended the state birth defects monitoring statute (Chapter 111, section 67E) to allow expansion of the surveillance system to capture diagnoses through age three. It also extends mandated reporters to include attending physicians, primary care and specialist physicians who may diagnose birth defects. These physicians will now have a statutory duty to report within 30 days of making such a diagnosis. The amended statute also permits researchers to access state surveillance data after obtaining IRB approval and approval of the MDPH Commissioner pursuant to M.G.L.c.111s.24A/B/67E.

Update on the Implementation of the Regulations

In the winter 2009, Massachusetts enacted regulations (105 CMR 302) related to the Massachusetts Birth Defects Monitoring Program. Among its provisions, the regulations expanded the reporting requirements for birth defects cases identified at or after birth; extended reporting to cases identified prenatally, and established an Advisory Committee.

Since their enactment, the program has been working on the implementation of the regulations. Hospitals across the Commonwealth were notified of the new requirements, and the expanded post-natal reporting was implemented in these sites with the utilization of a revised Confidential Reporting and Abstracting Form (CRAF). An advisory group of obstetrical and radiological clinicians was convened to develop the specifications related to prenatal reporting, and visits were made to the Massachusetts tertiary hospitals to determine where and how birth defects are diagnosed prenatally. Implementation of the prenatal specifications will begin in November, 2010, and are expected to be fully implemented in all maternity hospitals by June, 2011. As such, these changes are not reflected in the current, 2006-2007 report. An advisory committee, comprised of patients, families, health care providers, researchers, and other interested parties, was also established. Two advisory committee meetings have been held in 2010, with one more planned for October 2010.

The 2006-2007 Surveillance Report

This report presents statewide data on the prevalence of birth defects in live births and stillbirths in Massachusetts during the years 2006 and 2007. The data are presented in combined form since the numbers are relatively small for individual defects. The first annual report presented Massachusetts data for birth defects for the year 1999. Our second, third, and fourth reports compiled data from 2000-2001, 2002-2003, and 2004-2005, respectively. Our ability to find and identify infants born with birth defects to Massachusetts residents has improved over time. The approximate prevalence increases of 12% from 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, and 9% from 2002-2003 to 2004-2005 are attributable to improved case ascertainment. The prevalence of all birth defects for this report is similar to the 2004-2005 report, decreasing by 0.4%. Interpretations of these data must be made with caution until a multi-year estimate establishes a stable, baseline rate.

With the introduction of the 2006-2007 report the Massachusetts Birth Defects Monitoring Program (BDMP) seems to have leveled-off in terms of defect prevalence estimates. The overall rate reported for birth defects in MA in 2006-2007 (166.1 per 10,000 live births) is virtually identical to the corresponding rate in the 2004-2005 report.

Unless otherwise indicated this report uses the term “births” to mean live births plus stillbirths. A stillbirth was defined as the delivery of a fetus that was not alive and was greater than or equal to 20 weeks gestational age or weighed at least 350 grams.

Chapter 2

Methods



Baby with gastroschisis

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Case Definition

This report summarizes data on selected birth defects present in births occurring during the calendar years 2006 through 2007 to Massachusetts residents. Cases met the following criteria:

- The infant was live born or the fetus was stillborn with a gestational age greater than or equal to 20 weeks or with a weight of at least 350 grams.
- The infant or fetus had a structural birth defect that met diagnostic criteria (see Birth Defects Codes and Exclusions by Defect Category in Appendices).
- The diagnosis was made before the infant reached one year of age.

Data Collection

The Massachusetts Birth Defects Monitoring Program (BDMP) used active population-based surveillance methods for statewide case ascertainment. Hospitals across the state submitted monthly discharge lists with birth defect diagnoses to the Center. Nursery and neonatal intensive care liaisons phoned in reports of birth defects. Abstractors reviewed medical charts for each potential case. If the infant or fetus had a birth defect that met the case definition criteria, detailed demographic and diagnostic information was recorded on a hospital reporting form. This information was entered into a confidential surveillance database for analysis.

Confidentiality

Great care was taken to protect the confidentiality of data. The Center has developed extensive procedures to guarantee the confidentiality of the data and protect the privacy of families. These procedures uphold the Center's ethical and legal obligations to safeguard confidentiality and fully comply with the strict requirements of state and federal laws.

Data Analysis

A defect may have occurred as a single event or in combination with other defects. If the case had more than one defect within the same defect category, only one of these defects was counted in the category total. If the case had more than one defect in different defect categories, the case was listed in the total for each of these defect categories. Thus the counts in the defect categories presented in the prevalence tables represent the total number of defects and not the total number of cases with birth defects. Each case in the BDMP was linked to a Registry of Vital Records and Statistics record. In this report, maternal age and race/ethnicity are drawn from the birth certificate. Because birth certificate data are more accurate for these fields than fetal death reports, analyses of maternal age and race/ethnicity are limited to live births.

The occurrence of birth defects is reported as prevalence. Prevalence is calculated as the number of birth defect cases born during the period 2006-2007 per 10,000 live births born during the same period. Prevalence tables include the number of cases found, the estimated prevalence rate per 10,000 live births and the 95% confidence interval for that rate. The incidence (new cases) of birth defects (based upon the number of embryos conceived within a year) is not fully measured because both the total number of conceptions that occur and the number of these conceptions resulting in a defect are not known (Sever 2004).

The confidence interval (CI) can be used to assess the magnitude and stability of a rate or ratio. The CI for rates in the tables is a range of possible values around the point estimate that has a 95% chance of including the actual underlying risk of an infant being born with a birth defect. Wide confidence intervals reflect the large variation due to small numbers (see Technical Notes).

Data Limitations

1. Birth defect counts for this report are only for calendar years 2006 through 2007. Due to the small numbers of birth defects, conclusions from these results are not valid until a more extensive multi-year estimate establishes a stable, baseline rate.
2. Currently, the Massachusetts BDMP ascertains cases only at birthing hospitals, two non-birthing tertiary care centers, two non-birthing community hospitals and one specialty care hospital. Thus, defects that are not diagnosed at birth and that do not need hospitalization may be underreported (e.g., cardiac defects that are detected in an outpatient setting after the immediate newborn period).
3. Misclassification of birth defects may occur through coding errors or vague diagnoses. Quality control measures such as careful abstraction of the medical records minimize this error.
4. As medical diagnostic technology has improved, many prenatal and postnatal tests are now performed outside the traditional hospital setting. Prenatal diagnosis enables physicians to identify some birth defects well before the expected date of delivery and offers women alternatives in the management of their affected pregnancies. These decisions have significant implications for monitoring birth defects. For example, it is estimated that up to 50% of all pregnancies affected with a neural tube defect may be discontinued and would thus not be included in hospital records (Cragan and Khoury 2000). In addition, postnatal tests such as echocardiograms and ultrasounds may identify internal organ defects not diagnosed in the birthing hospital.
5. Spontaneous abortions that are delivered prior to 20 weeks of gestation and at less than 350 grams are not included in the case definition. It has been estimated that about 29% of birth defects cases are missed by not monitoring early fetal losses (Forrester, Merz et al. 1998; Ethen and Canfield 2002).

6. Only diagnoses confirmed before one year of age are currently included. The frequency of diagnosed malformations can be higher among older children due to 'hidden' abnormalities such as kidney malformations or certain heart defects which are detected by accident, in conjunction or when a child is symptomatic (Holmes 1994). Many defects are also detected when diagnostic tests are performed to confirm a more severe, accompanying defect. Finally, many defects that result in developmental delays (e.g. fetal alcohol syndrome) may not be detected until those delays become evident when a child is much older.

7. In 2000, 1,318 births occurred to Massachusetts residents at out-of-state hospitals. Of these births, 68.9% occurred in Rhode Island (RI) hospitals. In order to capture data on infants with birth defects residing in the southeastern region of Massachusetts that were born or treated at RI hospitals, we began receiving hospital discharge lists and abstracting medical records on infants with birth defects at two RI hospitals. Deliveries and diagnoses that occurred in other out-of-state facilities are not included at this time.

8. There are limitations when comparing the Massachusetts BDMP data to data from other states and national estimates. Factors such as differences in population demographics, living environment, and surveillance/case ascertainment methods used by different monitoring programs may contribute to differences in the prevalence of birth defects.

Glossary

A glossary of selected birth defect terms is included in the appendices of this report.

Chapter 3

Prevalence of Birth Defects



Baby with anencephaly

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Overall Prevalence of Birth Defects

Table 1 shows the prevalence of defects for all births and for live births and stillbirths separately. Among the 155,604 live births to Massachusetts residents in 2006-2007, 2,528 had one or more structural birth defects that were ascertained by Massachusetts BDMP. In addition, 57 stillbirths were identified with a birth defect. Overall, 1.7% of births in the state (166.1 per 10,000 live births) were identified as having at least one birth defect. The majority of defects occurred in the cardiovascular (30.9%) and musculoskeletal (29.6%) categories. Figure 1 shows the percentage of reported birth defects by defect category. Cases can be included in more than one defect category.

The CDC published improved national prevalence estimates for 18 selected major defects. Massachusetts was one of 11 states with population-based monitoring programs to contribute birth defect data. These average prevalence rates cover deliveries from 1999-2001 (CDC 2006). Massachusetts rates for 2006-2007 were significantly lower than the US rates for approximately one-third of the defects and were about the same as the national estimates for the other two-thirds (see Table 2). Differences in rates may reflect variations in defect criteria between surveillance systems as well as regions. Also, in Massachusetts, birth defects are not reported when they are prenatally diagnosed and the pregnancy is electively terminated, which would tend to result in lower rates for certain defects. Spontaneous deliveries of stillbirths equal to or greater than 20 weeks of gestation were reported by birthing hospitals but limited information about the stillbirth is included in the maternal record. Thus, some birth defects are not well documented and are unable to be confirmed for inclusion in state surveillance.

Another data source to which we can compare Massachusetts rates is the neural tube defect (NTD) ascertainment project of the National Birth Defects Prevention Network at CDC. Massachusetts has submitted data quarterly since 1999. Using data from 1999-2000, researchers from CDC calculated prevalence rates for spina bifida and anencephaly, two serious birth defects that occur early in pregnancy (CDC 2004). Birth defect programs which included prenatally diagnosed cases of spina bifida that are subsequently electively terminated had a prevalence rate of 4.1. Massachusetts does not collect data on elective terminations and has a spina bifida prevalence of 1.5 per 10,000 for 2006-2007 which is over 60% lower than the national rate (see Table 2).

CDC estimates that up to 50% of pregnancies with neural tube defects and up to 80% of pregnancies with anencephaly may be electively terminated after prenatal diagnosis (Cragan and Khoury 2000). Substantial evidence from past studies have examined the effect of prenatal diagnoses and elective termination on the prevalence of various birth defects (Forrester, Merz et al. 1998). Researchers at Brigham and Women Hospital (BWH), where 11% of resident births occurred in 2004-2005, looked at past trends in elective termination in Massachusetts. For the two years 1994 and 1999, 40-80% of pregnancies prenatally diagnosed with either lethal or very severe defects were terminated (Peller, Westgate et al. 2004),

suggesting that epidemiologic studies of major malformations must include elective terminations to be complete.

We can estimate cases not included in the surveillance if we compare our data to several studies such as the aforementioned BWH study (Table 3). These studies provide the numbers of cases captured by surveillance with and without the inclusion of electively terminated cases. We calculate the difference in number of cases between the two surveillance systems as a percentage of possible cases missed by a surveillance system such as ours which does not include electively terminated cases. We then adjust the Massachusetts rates for the selected birth defects to include all cases (non-terminated cases and estimated terminated cases), assuming that the cited studies examined populations similar to the residents of Massachusetts who had prenatal health access similar to that found in Massachusetts.

The unadjusted 2006-2007 Massachusetts rates for anencephaly, spina bifida and trisomy 18 were lower than the national estimates. The rate for Down syndrome was similar to the national estimate (Table 2). Using 2006-2007 rates an estimated 50-72% of anencephaly cases are missed through exclusion of terminated cases. Upon adjusting the Massachusetts rate of anencephaly, one out of the three adjusted Massachusetts rates of anencephaly may be similar to the national estimate while the other two adjusted rates are lower than the national estimate. Likewise, with an estimated 29-46% of spina bifida cases missed through exclusion of terminated cases in surveillance, one of the three adjusted Massachusetts rates of spina bifida may also be similar to the national estimate while the other two are lower than the national estimate. In the case of trisomy 18, where 49-57% of cases may be missed due to elective termination, the two adjusted Massachusetts rates are similar to the national estimate. The estimated 35-37% of Down Syndrome cases missed due to elective termination based on two sources translates to adjusted Massachusetts rates exceeding the national estimate. Table 3 lists the adjusted rates. The adjusted rates of trisomy 18 and Down syndrome in Massachusetts are similar and higher, respectively, compared to national estimates, possibly reflecting the older population having children in Massachusetts.

The adjusted rates calculated here in Table 3 are based on previous studies examining data from various locations and dating as far back as 1974 through 1999. Therefore, the adjusted rates for these defects may be an underestimation, because the studies cited are not recent and may not reflect the current behaviors in prenatal diagnostic testing and elective termination decision-making processes in the state. In recent years, due to the increasing numbers of pregnancies in older women, different diagnostic testing behaviors may have developed. Further evidence of these trends may be reflected in the Massachusetts Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) survey data, collected from Massachusetts resident women who had a live born infant in 2007 and 2008. Mothers of singletons, twins, and triplets (higher order multiples were excluded)

were asked whether they had discussed with healthcare providers the availability of tests to screen for birth defects or diseases during prenatal care visits. 93.2% of the respondents (N=2,592) replied that a healthcare provider had discussed the issue with them, and Black, non-Hispanics (88.8%) and Asian, non-Hispanics (86.4%) were significantly less likely than White, non-Hispanics (94.6%) to report that a healthcare provider had discussed the issue with them (MA PRAMS Report, 2010).

Figure 2 provides the overall prevalence of birth defects by interpregnancy interval (IPI), defined as the time period in completed months between the date of conception of one pregnancy and the date of delivery of the preceding pregnancy, among women whose preceding pregnancy resulted in a live birth. There were no clear trends in the overall prevalence of birth defects by IPI. However, this does not preclude the existence of trends for individual birth defects that may be obscured when looking at defects overall.

Cases with One Defect vs. Two or More Defects

Table 5 shows the distribution of birth defects by whether they appeared as a one diagnosis or in combination (more than one) with defects from other organs, organ systems, or parts of the body. A case was defined as having more than one defect if it had more than one defect from among those defects that are included in this surveillance report.

Among birth defect cases, 55.1% had one defect and 44.9% had more than one defect. Defects that appeared more often as a one defect rather than with other defects included anencephaly, cleft lip with and without cleft palate, biliary atresia, and hypospadias (2nd or 3rd degree). Birth defects that appeared more often in conjunction with other defects included holoprosencephaly, anophthalmia/microphthalmia, cloacal exstrophy, omphalocele, reduction deformity of lower limbs, trisomy 18, and all of the cardiovascular defects. Overall, in 2006-2007, a cardiovascular defect was almost 4 times more likely to occur with another defect.

Selected Pregnancy Outcomes

Figure 3 compares selected pregnancy outcome characteristics among infants born with birth defects to those born without birth defects in 2006-2007 by percentage. Of infants born with birth defects, 44.1% were delivered by Cesarean, compared to 33.2% of infants born with no birth defect births; 21.4% of infants with birth defects had low birthweight (<2,500 grams) as opposed to 7.7% of those without a birth defect; 18.3% of infants were defined as small for gestational age, compared with 9.8% of those without a birth defect; 5.3% of infants with a birth defect died before their 1st birthday, compared to 0.4% of those without a birth defect. While numbers of infants with birth defects are relatively small, it is important to recognize the impact of these outcomes when diagnosing and treating a baby with a birth defect.

Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex

Table 6 presents the prevalence of birth defects by sex of the infant/fetus. The overall prevalence was 135.6 for females and 195.1 for males per 10,000 live births. While the prevalence of most types of birth defects did not differ by sex of the infant/fetus, some conditions were significantly associated with sex. Table 7 shows the most common birth defects for females and males. The most common defects seen in females were atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), polydactyly/syndactyly, and Down syndrome. The most common defects seen in males were hypospadias (2nd or 3rd degree), obstructive genitourinary defects, and polydactyly/syndactyly. Selected birth defects by sex of infant are presented in Figure 4.

Trend Analyses of Selected Birth Defects

The statewide data on the prevalence of birth defects in live births and stillbirths during multiple years from this surveillance report as well as three prior surveillance reports allow for some trend analysis. Data from the first few reports must be interpreted with caution since surveillance techniques were being established and executed. However, preliminary trend analysis with recent reports may be performed with the understanding that better ascertainment of cases and increased use of diagnostic technologies may have contributed to any apparent increase in birth defect rates. A comparison of selected cardiovascular birth defects rates from 2006-2007 to rates in the previous two reports suggests that most rates have remained steady or slightly increased due to better case confirmation. Similar trends are found in selected orofacial and musculoskeletal birth defects as well.

Defects such as gastroschisis and hypospadias are some of the defects of interest due to increasing national prevalence trends. Surveillance in Massachusetts and elsewhere has suggested an increased risk of gastroschisis in pregnancies among very young women (under 20), although the mechanisms for this are unknown. A recent study has shown that although younger women had comparatively larger risk of gastroschisis and greater prevalence of smoking, cigarette smoking had no effect on risk in women under 20, but smoking (possibly the duration of smoking) increased the risk in older women (Werler, Mitchel et al. manuscript). The rate of gastroschisis in Massachusetts has increased 63.8% between 2000 and 2007 (Figure 5). This increasing trend parallels the increasing national rates of gastroschisis, although a factor in this increase may be better ascertainment of cases by the surveillance system in Massachusetts. This may be due to aggressive strategies of case confirmation and improvements in surveillance, although over time, increases have been observed in other locations, around the U.S. and internationally as well.

Table 1 Prevalence of Birth Defects, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Count among live births	Count among stillbirths	Total Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
Total Cases	2,528	57	2,585	166.1	159.8-172.6
Central Nervous System: 223 cases					
Anencephaly	6	2	8	0.51	0.22-1.01
Encephalocele	3	0	3	0.19	0.04-0.56
Holoprosencephaly	5	2	7	0.45	0.18-0.93
Hydrocephaly w/o spina bifida	33	5	38	2.44	1.73-3.35
Microcephaly	30	1	31	1.99	1.35-2.83
Spina bifida w/ and w/o hydrocephaly	21	2	23	1.48	0.94-2.22
Tethered cord	55	0	55	3.53	2.66-4.60
Other CNS*	110	3	113	7.26	5.98-8.73
Eye: 84 cases					
Aniridia	1	0	1	0.06	0.00-0.36
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	16	0	16	1.03	0.59-1.67
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	50	0	50	3.21	2.38-4.24
Other eye*	31	0	31	1.99	1.35-2.83
Ear: 56 cases					
Anotia/microtia	31	0	31	1.99	1.35-2.83
Other ear*	30	0	30	1.93	1.30-2.75
Cardiovascular: 801 cases					
Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection					
Total/partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	24	0	24	1.54	0.99-2.29
Atrioventricular Canal Defects					
ASD primum	8	0	8	0.51	0.22-1.01
Common atrium	5	0	5	0.32	0.10-0.75
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	43	4	47	3.02	2.22-4.02
Endocardial cushion (OS and NOS)	6	1	7	0.45	0.18-0.93
VSD, canal type	4	1	5	0.32	0.10-0.75
Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch					
Double outlet right ventricle	20	2	22	1.41	0.89-2.14
d-Transposition of the great arteries	32	2	34	2.19	1.51-3.05
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	8	0	8	0.51	0.22-1.01

Table 1 Prevalence of Birth Defects, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Count among live births	Count among stillbirths	Total Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>					
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	65	3	68	4.37	3.39-5.54
Truncus	6	0	6	0.39	0.14-0.84
<i>Ebstein Anomaly</i>					
Ebstein anomaly	7	0	7	0.45	0.18-0.93
<i>Heterotaxy (Laterality Defects)</i>					
Heterotaxy	15	2	17	1.09	0.64-1.75
<i>Left-Sided Obstruction</i>					
Aortic valve stenosis	29	0	29	1.86	1.25-2.68
Coarctation of aorta	62	0	62	3.98	3.05-5.11
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	28	1	29	1.86	1.25-2.68
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	5	0	5	0.32	0.10-0.75
<i>Patent Ductus Arteriosus</i>					
Patent ductus arteriosus	283	0	283	18.19	16.13-20.43
<i>Right-Sided Obstruction</i>					
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	99	0	99	6.36	5.17-7.75
Pulmonary valve atresia w/intact septum	7	0	7	0.45	0.18-0.93
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	6	0	6	0.39	0.14-0.84
Tricuspid valve atresia	7	0	7	0.45	0.18-0.93
<i>Septal Defects</i>					
ASD (secundum and NOS)	252	2	254	16.32	14.38-18.46
VSD (membranous and NOS)	148	4	152	9.77	8.28-11.45
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	19	0	19	1.22	0.74-1.91
<i>Single Ventricle and L-TGA</i>					
L-TGA	6	0	6	0.39	0.14-0.84
Single ventricle	12	0	12	0.77	0.40-1.35
<i>Other Cardiovascular</i>					
Other cardiovascular*	261	2	263	16.90	14.92-19.07
<i>Respiratory: 54 cases</i>					
Choanal atresia	14	0	14	0.90	0.49-1.51
Lung anomalies	21	1	22	1.41	0.89-2.14
Other Respiratory*	22	0	22	1.41	0.89-2.14

Table 1 Prevalence of Birth Defects, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Count among live births	Count among stillbirths	Total Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>					
<i>Orofacial: 266 cases</i>					
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	115	6	121	7.78	6.45-9.29
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	73	2	75	4.82	3.79-6.04
Pierre Robin sequence	23	0	23	1.48	0.94-2.22
Other orofacial*	72	0	72	4.63	3.62-5.83
<i>Gastrointestinal: 250 cases</i>					
Biliary atresia	9	0	9	0.58	0.26-1.10
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	37	0	37	2.38	1.67-3.28
Hirschsprung disease	24	0	24	1.54	0.99-2.29
Rectal and large intestinal atresia/stenosis	58	0	58	3.73	2.83-4.82
Small intestinal atresia	55	0	55	3.53	2.66-4.60
Other gastrointestinal*	102	2	104	6.68	5.46-8.10
<i>Genitourinary: 570 cases</i>					
Bladder exstrophy	1	0	1	0.06	0.00-0.36
Cloacal exstrophy	2	0	2	0.13	0.02-0.46
Hypospadias, 2 nd or 3 rd degree	181	0	181	11.63	10.00-13.46
Obstructive genitourinary defect	242	0	242	15.55	13.65-17.64
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	2	2	4	0.26	0.07-0.66
Other genitourinary*	271	4	275	17.67	15.65-19.89
<i>Musculoskeletal: 766 cases</i>					
Clubfoot	181	7	188	12.08	10.42-13.94
Craniosynostosis	72	0	72	4.63	3.62-5.83
Diaphragmatic hernia	42	2	44	2.83	2.05-3.80
Gastroschisis	52	4	56	3.60	2.72-4.67
Omphalocele	19	2	21	1.35	0.84-2.06
Polydactyly/syndactyly	231	3	234	15.04	13.17-17.09
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	23	0	23	1.48	0.94-2.22
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	50	4	54	3.47	2.61-4.53
Skeletal dysplasia	17	1	18	1.16	0.69-1.83
Other musculoskeletal*	163	8	171	10.99	9.40-12.77

Table 1 Prevalence of Birth Defects, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Count among live births	Count among stillbirths	Total Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>					
<i>Chromosomal and other Syndromes: 428 cases</i>					
Klinefelter syndrome	7	0	7	0.45	0.18-0.93
Trisomy 13	12	4	16	1.03	0.59-1.67
Trisomy 18	14	10	24	1.54	0.99-2.29
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	193	4	197	12.66	10.95-14.56
Turner syndrome	10	5	15	0.96	0.54-1.59
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes*	168	4	172	11.05	9.46-12.83
<i>Other: 59 cases</i>					
Amniotic bands	12	4	16	1.03	0.59-1.67
Skin anomalies	18	0	18	1.16	0.69-1.83
Other, specified*	24	1	25	1.61	1.04-2.37

¹ Cases can be included in the count for more than one defect. Cases are counted once in the total for a defect category.

* Note that this rate may represent a heterogeneous group of defects.

Table 2 Comparison of Selected Massachusetts 2006-2007 Birth Defect Rates to National Estimates

Defect	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births MA¹	95% Confidence Interval	Rate per 10,000 Births US²	95% Confidence Interval
Anencephaly ³	8	0.51	0.22-1.01	3.45	3.27 – 3.64
Spina bifida ³	23	1.48	0.94-2.22	4.10	3.90 – 4.30
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	16	1.03	0.59-1.67	2.08	1.90 – 2.27
Truncus arteriosus (common truncus)	6	0.39	0.14-0.84	0.82	0.71 – 0.93
Transposition of the great arteries ⁴	40	2.57	1.84-3.50	4.73	4.47 – 5.00
Tetralogy of Fallot	68	4.37	3.39-5.54	3.92	3.67 – 4.17
Endocardial cushion defect ⁵	66	4.24	3.28-5.40	4.35	4.10 – 4.62
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	29	1.86	1.25-2.68	2.43	2.24 – 2.63
Cleft palate without cleft lip	75	4.82	3.79-6.04	6.39	6.08 – 6.71
Cleft lip with and without cleft palate	121	7.78	6.45-9.29	10.48	10.08 – 10.88
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	37	2.38	1.67-3.28	2.37	2.18 – 2.56
Rectal and large intestinal atresia/stenosis	58	3.73	2.83-4.82	4.81	4.54 – 5.08
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	54	3.47	2.61-4.53	3.79	3.55 – 4.03
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	23	1.48	0.94-2.22	1.90	1.73 – 2.07
Gastroschisis	56	3.60	2.72-4.67	3.73	3.49 – 3.97
Omphalocele	21	1.35	0.84-2.06	2.09	1.91 – 2.27
Diaphragmatic hernia	44	2.83	2.05-3.80	2.94	2.73 – 3.15
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	193	12.66	10.95-14.56	13.65	13.19 – 14.12
Trisomy 13	16	1.03	0.59-1.67	1.33	1.18 – 1.47
Trisomy 18	24	1.54	0.99-2.29	2.41	2.22 – 2.61

¹. MA rate is based on live births and stillbirths.

². All US rates except for anencephaly and spina bifida are from the CDC MMWR report presenting improved national prevalence estimates based on the average prevalence from 11 states including MA (CDC 2006). Rates were adjusted for race-specific distribution of US live births during 1999–2001 for all defects except anencephaly, spina bifida, Down syndrome, trisomy 13 and trisomy 18. Rates for Down syndrome, trisomy 13 and trisomy 18 were adjusted for maternal age.

³. National estimates for anencephaly and spina bifida are based on the CDC MMWR report detailing average prevalence rates from 23 active surveillance systems including MA. These rates are from surveillance systems that include prenatally diagnosed and terminated pregnancies (CDC 2004).

⁴. Includes d-TGA and L-TGA.

⁵. Includes ASD primum, common atrium, CAVC, endocardial cushion defect OS and NOS and VSD canal type.

Table 3 Prevalence of Selected Birth Defects Adjusted for Cases Not Currently Included in Massachusetts Surveillance (i.e. Elective Termination)

Defect	MA rate	95% Confidence Interval	Estimated Missing % ¹	Estimate Source ²	Adjusted MA rate ³	95% Confidence Interval	US rate	95% Confidence Interval
Anencephaly	0.51	0.22 – 1.01	66.7	Peller, et al.	1.53	0.91 – 2.16	3.45 ⁴	3.27 – 3.64
			50.0	Cragan, et al.	1.02	0.60 – 1.44		
			72.0	Forrester, et al.	1.82	1.08 – 2.57		
Spina bifida	1.48	0.94 – 2.22	45.5	Peller, et al.	2.72	2.12 – 3.31	4.10 ⁴	3.90 – 4.30
			29.0	Cragan, et al.	2.08	1.63 – 2.54		
			29.8	Forrester, et al.	2.11	1.65 – 2.57		
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	12.66	10.95 – 14.56	35.2	Peller, et al.	19.54	18.13 – 20.94	12.94 ⁵	12.51–13.39
			37.3	Forrester, et al.	20.10	18.65 – 21.54		
Trisomy 18	1.54	0.99 – 2.29	56.5	Peller, et al.	3.54	2.59 – 4.49	2.29 ⁵	2.11 – 2.48
			49.0	Forrester, et al.	3.02	2.21 – 3.83		

¹. Missing were cases of all gestational ages for which the diagnosed defect was ascertained before or after an elective termination. Missing % is defined as the percentage of electively terminated cases divided by all cases liveborn, stillborn and electively terminated for each defect.

². Studies on the effect of prenatal diagnosis and elective terminations on birth defect surveillance. Peller, et al. provides data on liveborn, stillborn and elective terminations from a large urban tertiary center in Boston, MA, for the years 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994 and 1999 (Peller, Westgate et al. 2004). Cragan, et al. provides data on liveborn, stillborn and elective terminations from multiple states; the California Birth Defects Monitoring Program (1989 – 1991) was used here because it contributed the largest overall sample size to the study (Cragan and Khoury 2000). Forrester, et al. provides data on liveborn, stillborn and elective terminations from Hawaii's population based, active surveillance system, 1987 – 1996 (Forrester, Merz et al. 1998).

³. Adjusted rates included cases from elective terminations estimated according to the respective sources.

⁴. US average prevalence rates for trisomy 21 and trisomy 18 are unadjusted pooled estimates from 11 states during 1999 – 2001. While all 11 states had active surveillance, 3 of the states did not include cases of <20 weeks gestation ascertained from specialized sources for prenatal ascertainment; four states routinely visit prenatal diagnostic centers to ascertain cases, and four states obtain some prenatal data from sources such as genetics laboratories (CDC 2006).

⁵. US average prevalence rates for anencephaly and spina bifida are calculated from eight population-based surveillance systems that collect data systematically from sources with diagnostic prenatal ascertainment, including live births, stillbirths, fetal deaths and elective terminations during 1999 – 2000 (CDC 2004).

Figure 1 Most Common Types of Birth Defects, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

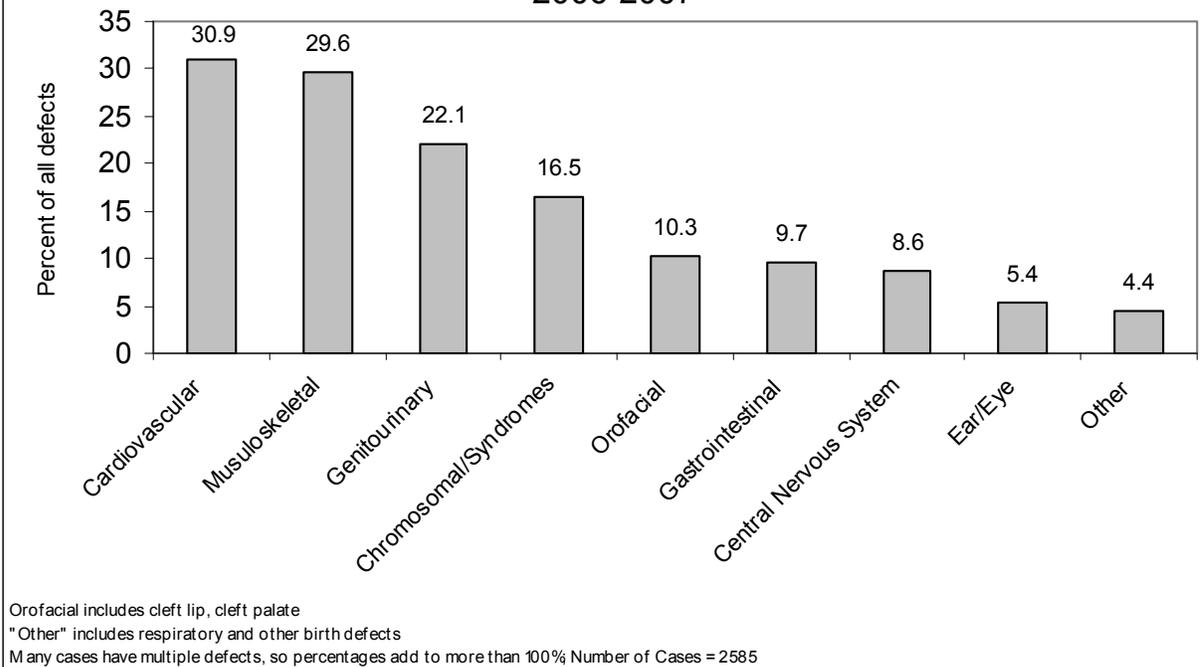
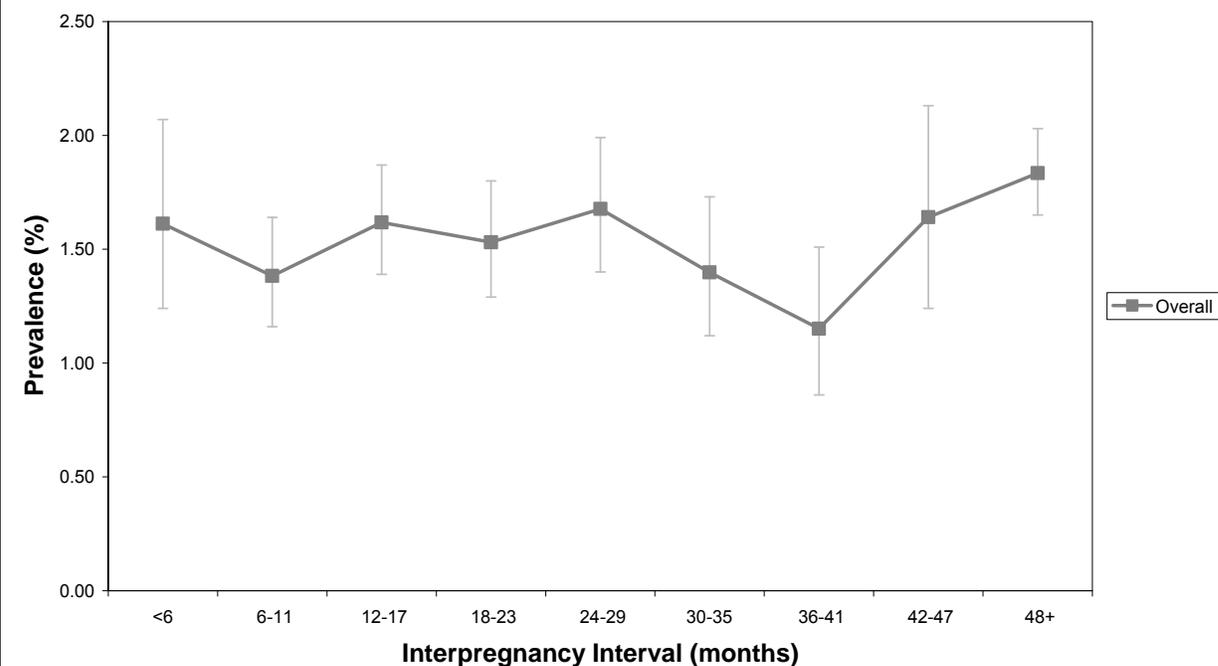


Figure 2 Birth Defect Prevalence (95% CI) by Interpregnancy Interval



Interpregnancy Interval: the time period in completed months between the date of conception of one pregnancy and the date of delivery of the preceding pregnancy.

Note: Prevalence estimates are among multigravid women whose preceding pregnancy resulted in a live birth.

**Table 4 Most Common Defects among Live Births
and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006 – 2007**

Defect¹	Category	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
ASD (Secundum and NOS)	Cardiovascular	254	16.32	14.38-18.46
Obstructive Genitourinary Defect	Genitourinary	242	15.55	13.65-17.64
Polydactyly/Syndactyly	Musculoskeletal	234	15.04	13.17-17.09
Trisomy 21 (Down Syndrome)	Chromosomal and other Syndromes	197	12.66	10.95-14.56
Clubfoot	Musculoskeletal	188	12.08	10.42-13.94
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd Degree	Genitourinary	181	11.63	10.00-13.46
VSD (Membranous and NOS)	Cardiovascular	152	9.77	8.28-11.45
Cleft Lip w/ and w/o Cleft Palate	Orofacial	121	7.78	6.45-9.29
Pulmonary Stenosis, Valvular	Cardiovascular	99	6.36	5.17-7.75
Cleft Palate w/o Cleft Lip	Orofacial	75	4.82	3.79-6.04

¹: Excludes patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) due to the high number of cases and the mild severity of the majority of these cases.

Table 5 Cases with One Defect vs. Two or More Defects among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Cases with one Defect	Cases with two or more defects ²	Total Cases
<i>Central Nervous System: 223 cases</i>			
Anencephaly	8	0	8
Encephalocele	1	2	3
Holoprosencephaly	0	7	7
Hydrocephaly w/o spina bifida	3	35	38
Microcephaly	9	22	31
Spina bifida w/ and w/o hydrocephaly	7	16	23
Tethered cord	17	38	55
Other CNS	40	73	113
<i>Eye: 84 cases</i>			
Aniridia	0	1	1
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	1	15	16
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	33	17	50
Other eye	7	24	31
<i>Ear: 56 cases</i>			
Anotia/microtia	14	17	31
Other ear	5	25	30
<i>Cardiovascular: 801 cases</i>			
<i>Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection</i>			
Total/partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	3	21	24
<i>Atrioventricular Canal Defects</i>			
ASD primum	0	8	8
Common atrium	0	5	5
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	0	47	47
Endocardial cushion (OS and NOS)	0	7	7
VSD, canal type	0	5	5
<i>Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch</i>			
Double outlet right ventricle	0	22	22
d -Transposition of the great arteries	12	22	34
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	0	8	8
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	18	50	68
Truncus	0	6	6

Table 5 Cases with One Defect vs. Two or More Defects among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Cases with one Defect	Cases with two or more defects ²	Total Cases
<i>(cont'd)</i>			
<i>Ebstein Anomaly</i>			
Ebstein anomaly	2	5	7
<i>Heterotaxy (Laterality Defects)</i>			
Heterotaxy	1	16	17
<i>Left-Sided Obstruction</i>			
Aortic valve stenosis	2	27	29
Coarctation of aorta	8	54	62
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	7	22	29
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	0	5	5
<i>Patent Ductus Arteriosus</i>			
Patent ductus arteriosus	5	278	283
<i>Right-Sided Obstruction</i>			
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	41	58	99
Pulmonary valve atresia w/intact septum	2	5	7
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	1	5	6
Tricuspid valve atresia	0	7	7
<i>Septal Defects</i>			
ASD (Secundum and NOS)	37	217	254
VSD (Membranous and NOS)	43	109	152
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	1	18	19
<i>Other Cardiovascular</i>			
Other cardiovascular	26	237	263
<i>Single Ventricle and L-TGA</i>			
L-TGA	0	6	6
Single ventricle	0	12	12
<i>Respiratory: 54 cases</i>			
Choanal atresia	6	8	14
Lung anomalies	15	7	22
Other respiratory	7	15	22
<i>Orofacial: 266 cases</i>			
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	99	22	121
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	37	38	75

Table 5 Cases with One Defect vs. Two or More Defects among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

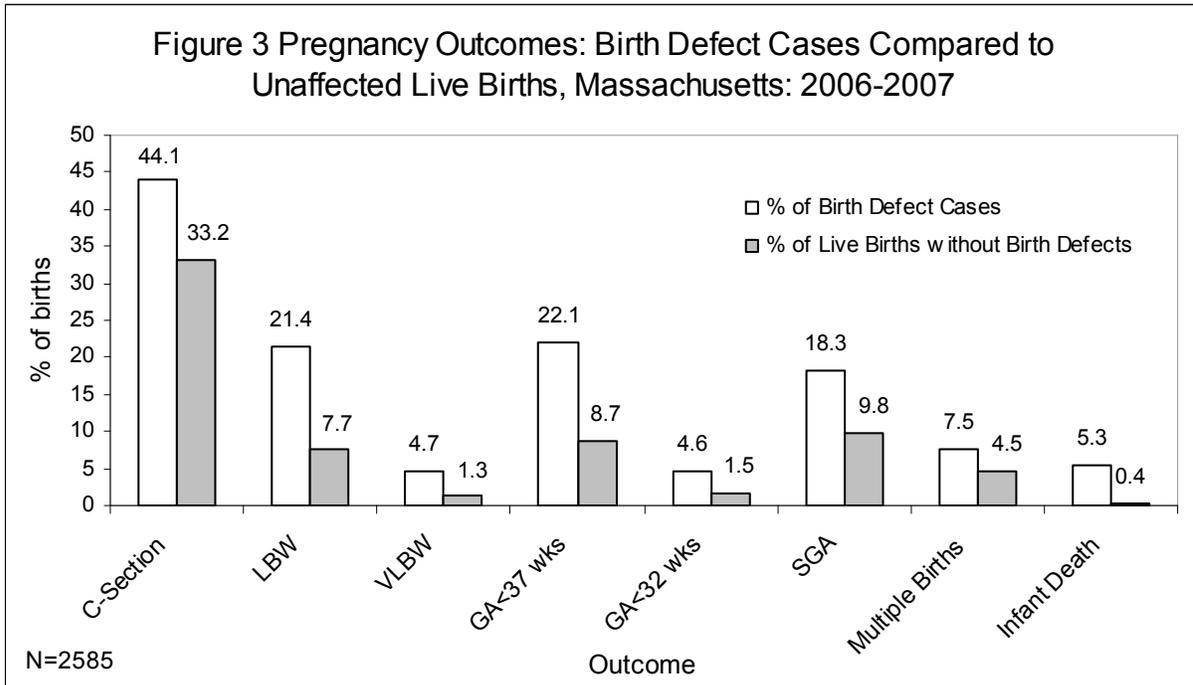
Defect ¹	Cases with one Defect	Cases with two or more defects ²	Total Cases
<i>(cont'd)</i>			
Pierre Robin sequence	0	23	23
Other orofacial	46	26	72
<i>Gastrointestinal: 250 cases</i>			
Biliary atresia	8	1	9
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	8	29	37
Hirschsprung disease	20	4	24
Rectal and large Intestinal atresia/stenosis	18	40	58
Small intestinal atresia	22	33	55
Other gastrointestinal	38	66	104
<i>Genitourinary: 570 cases</i>			
Bladder exstrophy	1	0	1
Cloacal exstrophy	0	2	2
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	134	47	181
Obstructive genitourinary defect	56	186	242
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	1	3	4
Other genitourinary	94	181	275
<i>Musculoskeletal: 766 cases</i>			
Clubfoot	127	61	188
Craniosynostosis	63	9	72
Diaphragmatic hernia	20	24	44
Gastroschisis	42	14	56
Omphalocele	7	14	21
Polydactyly/syndactyly	164	70	234
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	3	20	23
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	20	34	54
Skeletal dysplasia	12	6	18
Other musculoskeletal	17	154	171
<i>Chromosomal and other Syndromes: 428 cases</i>			
Klinefelter syndrome	6	1	7
Trisomy 13	1	15	16
Trisomy 18	5	19	24

Table 5 Cases with One Defect vs. Two or More Defects among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Cases with one Defect	Cases with two or more defects ²	Total Cases
<i>(cont'd)</i>			
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	69	127	196
Turner syndrome	9	6	15
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes	31	141	172
Other: 5 cases			
Amniotic bands	2	14	16
Skin anomalies	12	6	18
Other, specified	2	23	25

¹ Cases can be included in more than one defect. Cases are counted once in the total for a defect category.

² A case was defined as having multiple defects if it had more than one defect from among those that were included in this surveillance report.



LBW: low birth weight; VLBW: very low birth weight; GA<37: gestational age less than 37 weeks; GA<32: gestational age less than 32 weeks; SGA: small-for-gestation age, defined as birth weight below the 10th percentile for gestational age on basis of a sex-specific US standard (Oken 2003)

Table 6 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex of Infant among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Sex	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>Central Nervous System</i>				
Anencephaly	Male	4	0.50	0.14-1.29
	Female	4	0.53	0.14-1.35
Encephalocele	Male	1	0.13	0.00-0.7
	Female	2	0.26	0.03-0.95
Holoprosencephaly	Male	0	0.00	0.00-0.38
	Female	7	0.92	0.37-1.90
Hydrocephaly w/o spina bifida	Male	14	1.76	0.96-2.95
	Female	24	3.16	2.03-4.86
Microcephaly	Male	13	1.63	0.87-2.79
	Female	18	2.37	1.41-3.75
Spina bifida w/ and w/o hydrocephaly	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	18	2.37	1.41-3.75
Tethered cord	Male	26	3.26	2.13-4.78
	Female	29	3.82	2.56-5.49
Other CNS	Male	61	7.65	5.85-9.83
	Female	52	6.85	5.12-8.98
<i>Eye</i>				
Aniridia	Male	1	0.13	0.00-0.70
	Female	0	0.00	0.00-0.39
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	Male	4	0.50	0.14-1.29
	Female	12	1.58	0.82-2.76
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	Male	27	3.39	2.23-4.93
	Female	23	3.03	1.92-4.55
Other eye	Male	16	2.01	1.15-3.26
	Female	15	1.98	1.11-3.26
<i>Ear</i>				
Anotia/microtia	Male	19	2.38	1.44-3.72
	Female	12	1.58	0.82-2.76
Other ear	Male	17	2.13	1.24-3.42
	Female	13	1.71	0.91-2.93

Table 6 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex of Infant among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Sex	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Cardiovascular				
Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection				
Total/partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	Male	14	1.76	0.96-2.95
	Female	10	1.32	0.63-2.42
Atrioventricular Canal Defects				
ASD primum	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	3	0.40	0.08-1.16
Common atrium	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	0	0.00	0.00-0.39
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	Male	18	2.26	1.34-3.57
	Female	29	3.82	2.56-5.49
Endocardial cushion (OS and NOS)	Male	2	0.25	0.03-0.91
	Female	5	0.66	0.21-1.54
VSD, canal type	Male	0	0.00	0.00-0.38
	Female	5	0.66	0.21-1.54
Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch				
Double outlet right ventricle	Male	12	1.51	0.78-2.63
	Female	10	1.32	0.63-2.42
d-Transposition of the great arteries	Male	21	2.64	1.63-4.03
	Female	13	1.71	0.91-2.93
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	Male	5	0.63	0.2-1.46
	Female	3	0.40	0.08-1.16
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	Male	31	3.89	2.64-5.52
	Female	37	4.87	3.43-6.72
Truncus	Male	2	0.25	0.03-0.91
	Female	4	0.53	0.14-1.35
Ebstein Anomaly				
Ebstein anomaly	Male	4	0.50	0.14-1.29
	Female	3	0.40	0.08-1.16
Heterotaxy (Laterality Defects)				
Heterotaxy	Male	11	1.38	0.69-2.47
	Female	6	0.79	0.29-1.72

Table 6 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex of Infant among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Sex	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
<i>Left-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Aortic valve stenosis	Male	20	2.51	1.53-3.88
	Female	9	1.19	0.54-2.25
Coarctation of aorta	Male	38	4.77	3.37-6.54
	Female	24	3.16	2.03-4.70
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	Male	14	1.76	0.96-2.95
	Female	15	1.98	1.11-3.26
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	Male	2	0.25	0.03-0.91
	Female	3	0.40	0.08-1.16
<i>Patent Ductus Arteriosus</i>				
Patent ductus arteriosus	Male	145	18.19	15.35-21.41
	Female	138	18.18	15.27-21.48
<i>Right-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	Male	46	5.77	4.23-7.7
	Female	53	6.98	5.23-9.13
Pulmonary valve atresia w/intact septum	Male	5	0.63	0.2-1.46
	Female	2	0.26	0.03-0.95
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	1	0.13	0.00-0.73
Tricuspid valve atresia	Male	0	0.00	0.00-0.38
	Female	7	0.92	0.37-2.14
<i>Septal Defects</i>				
ASD (secundum and NOS)	Male	128	16.06	13.40-19.1
	Female	126	16.60	13.83-19.76
VSD (membranous and NOS)	Male	79	9.91	7.85-12.35
	Female	73	9.62	7.54-12.09
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	Male	8	1.00	0.43-1.98
	Female	11	1.45	0.72-2.59
<i>Single Ventricle and L-TGA</i>				
L-TGA	Male	4	0.50	0.14-1.29
	Female	2	0.26	0.03-0.95

Table 6 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex of Infant among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Sex	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Single ventricle	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	7	0.92	0.37-1.90
<i>Other Cardiovascular</i>				
Other cardiovascular	Male	147	18.45	15.58-21.68
	Female	116	15.28	12.63-18.33
<i>Respiratory</i>				
Choanal atresia	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	9	1.19	0.54-2.25
Lung anomalies	Male	9	1.13	0.52-2.14
	Female	13	1.71	0.91-2.93
Other respiratory	Male	10	1.25	0.60-2.31
	Female	12	1.58	0.82-2.76
<i>Orofacial</i>				
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	Male	69	8.66	6.74-10.96
	Female	52	6.85	5.12-8.98
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	Male	40	5.02	3.59-6.83
	Female	35	4.61	3.21-6.41
Pierre Robin sequence	Male	14	1.76	0.96-2.95
	Female	9	1.19	0.54-2.25
Other orofacial	Male	41	5.14	3.69-6.98
	Female	31	4.08	2.77-5.80
<i>Gastrointestinal</i>				
Biliary atresia	Male	4	0.50	0.14-1.29
	Female	5	0.66	0.21-1.54
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	Male	22	2.76	1.73-4.18
	Female	15	1.98	1.11-3.26
Hirschsprung disease	Male	19	2.38	1.44-3.72
	Female	5	0.66	0.21-1.54
Rectal and large intestinal atresia/stenosis	Male	35	4.39	3.06-6.11
	Female	23	3.03	1.92-4.55

Table 6 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex of Infant among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Sex	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Small intestinal atresia	Male	25	3.14	2.03-4.63
	Female	30	3.95	2.67-5.64
Other gastrointestinal	Male	58	7.28	5.53-9.41
	Female	46	6.06	4.44-8.08
<i>Genitourinary</i>				
Bladder exstrophy	Male	1	0.13	0-0.7
	Female	0	0.00	0.00-0.39
Cloacal exstrophy	Male	0	0.00	0.00-0.38
	Female	2	0.26	0.03-0.95
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	Male	181	22.71	19.52-26.27
	Female	0	0.00	0.00-0.39
Obstructive genitourinary defect	Male	166	20.83	17.78-24.25
	Female	76	10.01	7.89-12.53
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	Male	2	0.25	0.03-0.91
	Female	2	0.26	0.03-0.95
Other genitourinary	Male	205	25.72	22.32-29.50
	Female	69	9.09	7.07-11.50
<i>Musculoskeletal</i>				
Clubfoot	Male	112	14.05	11.57-16.91
	Female	75	9.88	7.77-12.39
Craniosynostosis	Male	45	5.65	4.12-7.56
	Female	27	3.56	2.34-5.18
Diaphragmatic hernia	Male	33	4.14	2.85-5.82
	Female	11	1.45	0.72-2.59
Gastroschisis	Male	26	3.26	2.13-4.78
	Female	29	3.82	2.56-5.49
Omphalocele	Male	14	1.76	0.96-2.95
	Female	7	0.92	0.37-1.90
Polydactyly/syndactyly	Male	138	17.32	14.55-20.46
	Female	98	12.91	10.48-15.73

Table 6 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Sex of Infant among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Sex	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	Male	10	1.25	0.6-2.31
	Female	13	1.71	0.91-2.93
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	Male	23	2.89	1.83-4.33
	Female	31	4.08	2.77-5.80
Skeletal dysplasia	Male	10	1.25	0.6-2.31
	Female	8	1.05	0.46-2.08
Other musculoskeletal	Male	94	11.79	9.53-14.43
	Female	77	10.14	8.01-12.68
<i>Chromosomal and other Syndromes</i>				
Klinefelter syndrome	Male	7	0.88	0.35-1.81
	Female	0	0.00	0.00-0.39
Trisomy 13	Male	6	0.75	0.28-1.64
	Female	10	1.32	0.63-2.42
Trisomy 18	Male	5	0.63	0.20-1.46
	Female	19	2.50	1.51-3.91
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	Male	117	14.68	12.14-17.59
	Female	80	10.54	8.36-13.12
Turner syndrome	Male	3	0.38	0.08-1.10
	Female	12	1.58	0.82-2.76
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes	Male	89	11.17	8.97-13.74
	Female	84	11.07	8.83-13.70
<i>Other</i>				
Amniotic bands	Male	3	0.38	0.08-1.10
	Female	12	1.58	0.82-2.76
Skin anomalies	Male	10	1.25	0.60-2.31
	Female	8	1.05	0.46-2.08
Other, specified	Male	14	1.76	0.96-2.95
	Female	11	1.45	0.72-2.59

¹. Cases can be included in more than one defect. Cases are counted once in the total for a defect category. Due to missing sex of infant counts may not match those in other tables.

**Table 7 Most Common Defects by Sex of Live Births
and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007**

Defect¹	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
FEMALE			
ASD (secundum and NOS)	126	16.60	13.83-19.76
Polydactyly/syndactyly	98	12.91	10.48-15.73
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	80	10.54	8.36-13.12
Obstructive genitourinary defect	76	10.01	7.89-12.53
Clubfoot	72	9.49	7.42-11.95
VSD (membranous and NOS)	73	9.62	7.54-12.09
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	53	6.98	5.23-9.13
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	48	6.32	4.66-8.38
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	34	4.48	3.10-6.26
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	34	4.48	3.10-6.26
MALE			
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	181	22.71	19.52-26.27
Obstructive genitourinary defect	166	20.83	17.78-24.25
Polydactyly/syndactyly	133	16.69	13.97-19.78
ASD (secundum and NOS)	128	16.06	13.40-19.10
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	113	14.18	11.69-17.05
Clubfoot	109	13.68	11.23-16.50
VSD (membranous and NOS)	79	9.91	7.85-12.35
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	67	8.41	6.52-10.68
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	46	5.77	4.23-7.70
Craniosynostosis	45	5.65	4.12-7.56

¹ Excludes patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) due to the high number of cases and the mild severity of the majority of these cases.

Figure 4 Prevalence of Selected Birth Defects by Sex of Infant Among Live Births and Still Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

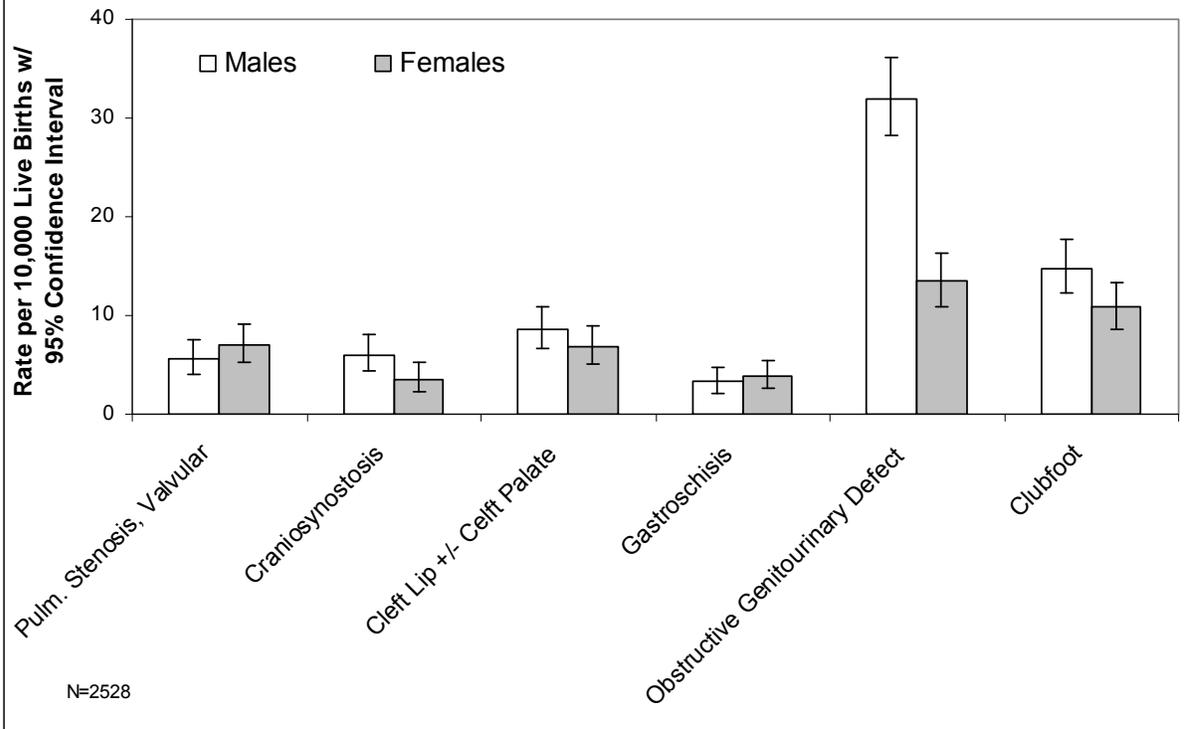
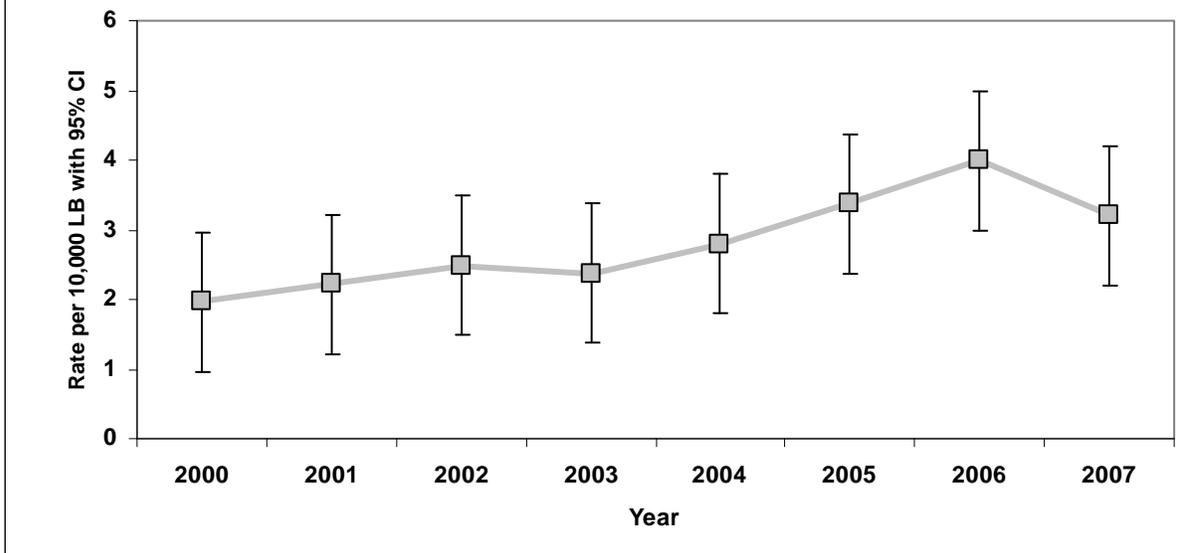


Figure 5 Prevalence of Gastroschisis in Massachusetts, 2000-2007



Chapter 4

Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality and Maternal Age



Baby with cleft lip

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Plurality

Table 8 shows the distribution of birth defects by plurality. Plurality information obtained from reviewing the medical record differed slightly from the plurality recorded on the birth and fetal death records. Because medical record abstraction may reveal early losses not recorded at birth and is therefore more accurate, plurality from the medical record abstraction is used in this report. When using the medical record, the birth defect case prevalence was 159.7 for singletons and 301.7 for multiple births (more than one infant) per 10,000 live births. Plurality from vital records for singletons was 160.5 but for multiple births was 284.5. While multiple births comprised 4.5% of all live births, they comprised 8.1% of birth defects cases among live births (see Figure 6). Birth defects that occurred most often in multiple births (all of which occurred more often than in singleton births) were obstructive genitourinary defect, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree), polydactyly/syndactyly, clubfoot, ventricular septal defects (membranous and NOS), Down syndrome, cleft lip with and without cleft palate, tetralogy of Fallot, and valvular pulmonary stenosis. Figure 7 presents rates for selected birth defects for singletons and multiples. Table 9 lists the most common defects among singletons and multiples. Examining birth defects by plurality is important since the rate of multiple births has been increasing in Massachusetts since 1994.

Maternal Age

The prevalence of birth defects varied by maternal age. For live births only, rates per 10,000 live births were 147.4 for mothers younger than 20 years, 153.9 for those 20-24 years, 152.2 for those 25-29 years, 157.4 for those 30-34 years and 190.0 for those 35 years and older. Based on the calculation of population attributable fraction, 42.6% of Down syndrome cases in Massachusetts may be due to births in women greater than or equal to 35 years old. Table 10 shows the rates for birth defects by maternal age.

As expected, there was a strong association between Down syndrome and advanced maternal age (see Figure 8). The Down syndrome rate of 30.1 per 10,000 births for women 35 years and older was more than two times that of any other maternal age group. The pattern of higher Down syndrome rates among older women reflects the pattern of higher chromosomal defects in general among older women. Figure 9 shows the increase of chromosomal defects as maternal age increases; the rate of chromosomal defects among women in the 35+ age group is significantly higher than all other age groups. The proportion of all birth defects that are chromosomal defects was higher in the 35+ age group than in other age groups.

Figure 10 shows that younger mothers (aged 19 and under) had the highest rate (16.4) of gastroschisis cases. This association has been shown in previous studies (Forrester and Merz 1999). Mothers younger than 25 years of age had infants with higher rates of gastroschisis and diaphragmatic hernia than other age groups. Older mothers had higher rates for many defects including Down

syndrome and ventricular septal defects (membranous and NOS). While results for other defects also differed by age group, the small numbers from two years of surveillance were not sufficient for interpretation.

Table 11 displays the most common birth defects for live births by maternal age groups. Obstructive genitourinary defect and polydactyly/syndactyly were two of the five most frequently occurring defects common to all maternal age groups. Hypospadias (2nd or 3rd degree) and clubfoot were among the five most common birth defects in every age group, with the exception of maternal age greater than 35 years.

Monitoring birth defects by maternal age is important since the number of births to older mothers has been increasing over time in Massachusetts. Birth rates for women ages 30+ have increased steadily from 1980 to 2006. The number of births to women ages 30+ surpassed the number of births to women below age 30 in 1996. Recent data suggest that the numbers of births to women ages 30+ peaked in 2002 and has slightly decreased since, whereas the numbers of births to women ages below 30 reached a low point in 2004 and may be slightly increasing so that the numbers of births to women in the two age groups are converging (MADPH 2009). The number of births to women ages 35 in 2007 is almost 60% greater than the number in 1989, and likewise, the number of births to women under age 35 in 2006 is less than 25% of the number in 1989 (MassCHIP v3.0 r324).

The percentage of women giving birth in the state who are aged of 35 or over has doubled from 11.4% in 1989 to 22.7% in 2007. In addition, multiple births occurring in mothers aged 35 or over also doubled (3.4% to 6.8%) between 1989 and 2007 while multiple births to mothers under the age under 35 decreased slightly (18.3% to 12.6% from 1989 to 2007, respectively) (MassCHIP v3.0 r324).

A factor in both the increased percentage of women giving birth at an age of 35 or over and the disparity of multiple births among these older women giving birth may be the use of assisted reproductive technology (ART). Between 1997 to 2004, a steady 2% of Massachusetts births resulted from ART (CDC 2009) though this may be an underestimate (Zhang Z, Macaluso M et al). According to the CDC, Massachusetts ranked 5th highest in number of ART procedures performed in 2006 (8,305), after California, New York, Illinois and New Jersey. In 2006 Massachusetts had the highest ratio of the number of ART procedures among state residents at 1,291 per million residents. (Sunderam S., Chang J. et al 2009). Of the infants born in 2005 as a result of ART procedures, 43.5% were born in multiple birth deliveries (Wright, Chang et al. 2008). Figure 11 shows the disparity in percent of births that are single versus multiple from ART births and non-ART births in Massachusetts (CDC 2009). The vast majority of non-ART births are single deliveries, whereas almost half of ART births are multiple deliveries. ART poses many risks associated with multiple births that may lead to adverse maternal and infant outcomes such as low birthweight and preterm delivery. ART has also

been associated with some birth defects such as septal heart defects and cleft lip with or without cleft palate (Reefhuis, Honein et al. 2009).

Table 8 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ²	Plurality	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>Central Nervous System</i>				
Anencephaly	Singleton	8	0.54	0.23-1.06
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Encephalocele	Singleton	3	0.20	0.04-0.59
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Holoprosencephaly	Singleton	7	0.47	0.19-0.97
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Hydrocephaly w/o spina bifida	Singleton	33	2.22	1.53-3.12
	Multiple	5	7.18	2.33-16.76
Microcephaly	Singleton	30	2.02	1.36-2.88
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Spina bifida w/ and w/o hydrocephaly	Singleton	20	1.35	0.82-2.08
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Tethered cord	Singleton	50	3.36	2.50-4.43
	Multiple	5	7.18	2.33-16.76
Other CNS	Singleton	103	6.93	5.66-8.40
	Multiple	10	14.37	6.89-26.42
<i>Eye</i>				
Aniridia	Singleton	1	0.07	0.00-0.37
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	Singleton	16	1.08	0.62-1.75
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	Singleton	47	3.16	2.32-4.20
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Other eye	Singleton	30	2.02	1.36-2.88
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
<i>Ear</i>				
Anotia/microtia	Singleton	28	1.88	1.25-2.72
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Other ear	Singleton	28	1.88	1.25-2.72
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38

Table 8 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ²	Plurality	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Cardiovascular				
Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection				
Total/partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	Singleton	21	1.41	0.87-2.16
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Atrioventricular Canal Defects				
ASD primum	Singleton	7	0.47	0.19-0.97
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Common atrium	Singleton	4	0.27	0.07-0.69
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	Singleton	45	3.03	2.21-4.05
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Endocardial cushion (OS and NOS)	Singleton	5	0.34	0.11-0.78
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
VSD, canal type	Singleton	5	0.34	0.11-0.78
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch				
Double outlet right ventricle	Singleton	20	1.35	0.82-2.08
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
d-Transposition of the great arteries	Singleton	33	2.22	1.53-3.12
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	Singleton	7	0.47	0.19-0.97
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	Singleton	57	3.83	2.90-4.97
	Multiple	10	14.37	6.89-26.42
Truncus	Singleton	4	0.27	0.07-0.69
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Ebstein Anomaly				
Ebstein anomaly	Singleton	7	0.47	0.19-0.97
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Laterality Defects				
Heterotaxy	Singleton	17	1.14	0.67-1.83
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30

Table 8 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ²	Plurality	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
<i>Left-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Aortic valve stenosis	Singleton	26	1.75	1.14-2.56
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Coarctation of aorta	Singleton	58	3.90	2.96-5.04
	Multiple	4	5.75	1.57-14.71
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	Singleton	26	1.75	1.14-2.56
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	Singleton	5	0.34	0.11-0.78
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
<i>Patent Ductus Arteriosus</i>				
Patent ductus arteriosus	Singleton	267	17.96	15.87-20.25
	Multiple	16	22.99	13.14-37.33
<i>Right-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	Singleton	90	6.05	4.87-7.44
	Multiple	9	12.93	5.91-24.55
Pulmonary valve atresia w/intact septum	Singleton	7	0.47	0.19-0.97
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	Singleton	6	0.40	0.15-0.88
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Tricuspid valve atresia	Singleton	4	0.27	0.07-0.69
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
<i>Septal Defects</i>				
ASD (secundum and NOS)	Singleton	229	15.41	13.48-17.54
	Multiple	25	35.92	23.25-53.02
VSD (membranous and NOS)	Singleton	138	9.28	7.80-10.97
	Multiple	14	20.11	11.00-33.75
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	Singleton	19	1.28	0.77-2.00
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
<i>Single Ventricle and L-TGA</i>				
L-TGA	Singleton	5	0.34	0.11-0.78
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01

Table 8 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ²	Plurality	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Single ventricle	Singleton	10	0.67	0.32-1.24
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
<i>Other Cardiovascular</i>				
Other cardiovascular	Singleton	236	15.88	13.92-18.04
	Multiple	27	38.79	25.56-56.44
<i>Respiratory</i>				
Choanal atresia	Singleton	13	0.87	0.47-1.50
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Lung anomalies	Singleton	19	1.28	0.77-2.00
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Other respiratory	Singleton	21	1.41	0.87-2.16
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
<i>Orofacial</i>				
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	Singleton	108	7.27	5.96-8.77
	Multiple	13	18.68	9.95-31.94
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	Singleton	71	4.78	3.73-6.02
	Multiple	4	5.75	1.57-14.71
Pierre Robin sequence	Singleton	23	1.55	0.98-2.32
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Other orofacial	Singleton	69	4.64	3.61-5.87
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
<i>Gastrointestinal</i>				
Biliary atresia	Singleton	9	0.61	0.28-1.15
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	Singleton	33	2.22	1.53-3.12
	Multiple	4	5.75	1.57-14.71
Hirschsprung disease	Singleton	24	1.61	1.03-2.40
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Rectal and large intestinal Atresia/stenosis	Singleton	51	3.43	2.55-4.51
	Multiple	7	10.06	4.04-20.72
Small intestinal atresia	Singleton	51	3.43	2.55-4.51
	Multiple	4	5.75	1.57-14.71

Table 8 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ²	Plurality	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Other gastrointestinal	Singleton	97	6.53	5.29-7.96
	Multiple	7	10.06	4.04-20.72
<i>Genitourinary</i>				
Bladder exstrophy	Singleton	1	0.07	0.00-0.37
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Cloacal exstrophy	Singleton	2	0.13	0.02-0.49
	Multiple	0	0.00	0.00-5.30
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	Singleton	164	11.03	9.41-12.86
	Multiple	17	24.43	14.23-39.11
Obstructive genitourinary defect	Singleton	216	14.53	12.66-16.60
	Multiple	26	37.36	24.40-54.74
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	Singleton	3	0.20	0.04-0.59
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Other genitourinary	Singleton	256	17.22	15.18-19.47
	Multiple	19	27.30	16.44-42.63
<i>Musculoskeletal</i>				
Clubfoot	Singleton	172	11.57	9.91-13.44
	Multiple	16	22.99	13.14-37.33
Craniosynostosis	Singleton	69	4.64	3.61-5.87
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Diaphragmatic hernia	Singleton	43	2.89	2.09-3.90
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Gastroschisis	Singleton	54	3.63	2.73-4.74
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Omphalocele	Singleton	18	1.21	0.72-1.91
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60
Polydactyly/syndactyly	Singleton	217	14.60	12.72-16.68
	Multiple	17	24.43	14.23-39.11
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	Singleton	21	1.41	0.87-2.16
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	Singleton	51	3.43	2.55-4.51
	Multiple	3	4.31	0.89-12.60

Table 8 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ²	Plurality	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Skeletal dysplasia	Singleton	17	1.14	0.67-1.83
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Other musculoskeletal	Singleton	148	9.96	8.42-11.70
	Multiple	23	33.05	20.95-49.59
<i>Chromosomal and other Syndromes</i>				
Klinefelter syndrome	Singleton	5	0.34	0.11-0.78
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Trisomy 13	Singleton	14	0.94	0.51-1.58
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Trisomy 18	Singleton	23	1.55	0.98-2.32
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	Singleton	183	12.31	10.59-14.23
	Multiple	14	20.11	11.00-33.75
Turner syndrome	Singleton	14	0.94	0.51-1.58
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes	Singleton	156	10.49	8.91-12.28
	Multiple	16	22.99	13.14-37.33
<i>Other</i>				
Amniotic bands	Singleton	14	0.94	0.51-1.58
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38
Skin anomalies	Singleton	17	1.14	0.67-1.83
	Multiple	1	1.44	0.04-8.01
Other, specified	Singleton	23	1.55	0.98-2.32
	Multiple	2	2.87	0.35-10.38

¹. Plurality is the number of births to a woman from the same pregnancy. A singleton is the birth of one infant; multiple represents more than one infant.

². Cases can be included in more than one defect. Cases are counted once in the total for a defect category. Due to missing plurality of infant counts may not match those in other tables.

**Table 9 Most Common Defects by Plurality¹ of Live Births
and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007**

Defect ²	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
MULTIPLE			
Obstructive genitourinary defect	26	37.36	24.40-54.74
ASD (secundum and NOS)	25	35.92	23.25-53.02
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	17	24.43	14.23-39.11
Polydactyly/syndactyly	17	24.43	14.23-39.11
Clubfoot	16	22.99	13.14-37.33
VSD (membranous and NOS)	14	20.11	11.00-33.75
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	14	20.11	11.00-33.75
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	13	18.68	9.95-31.94
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	10	14.37	6.89-26.42
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	9	12.93	5.91-24.55
SINGLETON			
ASD (secundum and NOS)	229	15.41	13.48-17.54
Polydactyly/syndactyly	217	14.60	12.72-16.68
Obstructive genitourinary defect	216	14.53	12.66-16.60
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	183	12.31	10.59-14.23
Clubfoot	172	11.57	9.91-13.44
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	164	11.03	9.41-12.86
VSD (membranous and NOS)	138	9.28	7.80-10.97
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	108	7.27	5.96-8.77
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	90	6.05	4.87-7.44
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	71	4.78	3.73-6.02

- ¹. Plurality is the number of births to a woman from the same pregnancy. A singleton is the birth of one infant; multiple represents more than one infant.
- ². Excludes patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) due to the high number of cases and the mild severity of the majority of these case

Figure 6 Plurality of All Live Births and Birth Defect Cases, Live Births Only, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

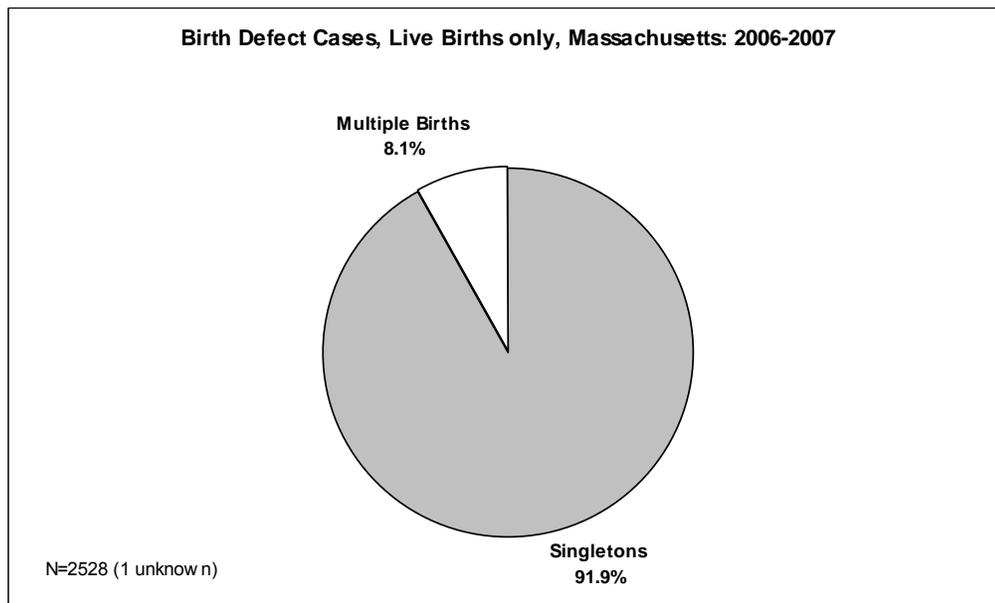
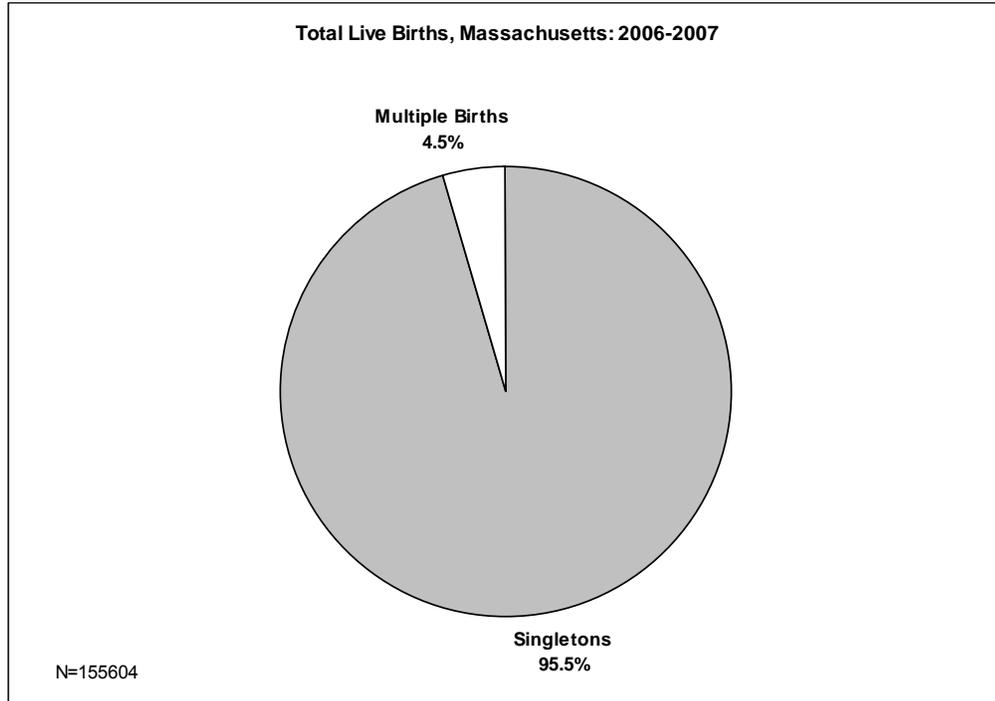


Figure 7 Prevalence of Selected Birth Defects by Plurality among Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

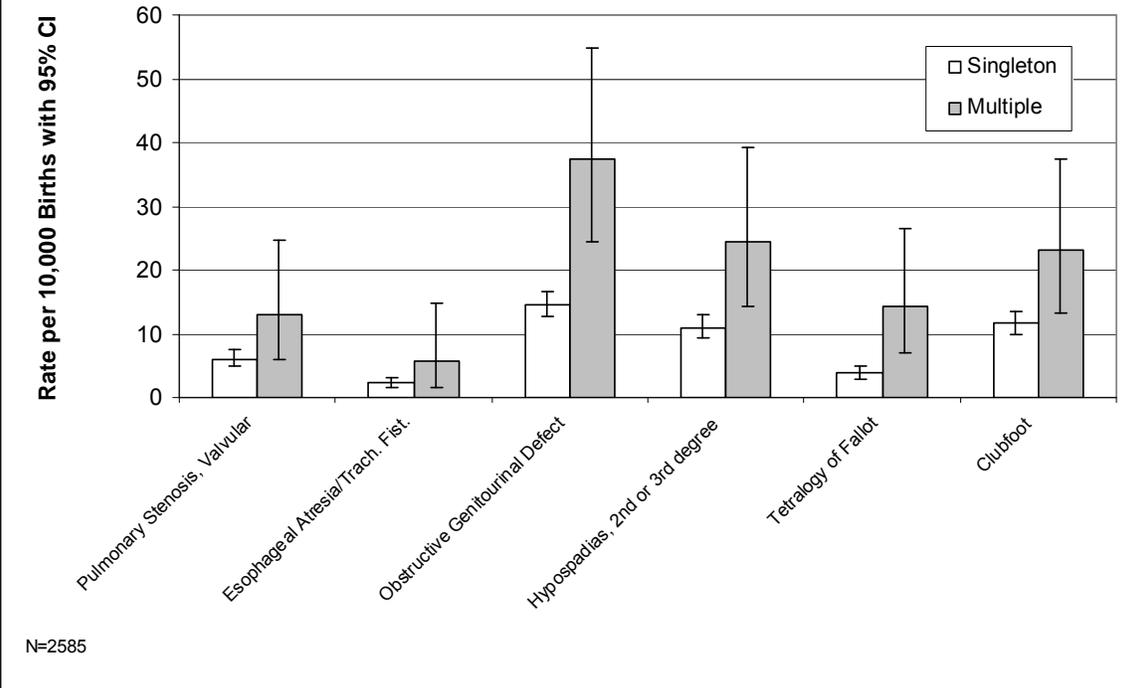


Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>Central Nervous System</i>				
Anencephaly	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	1	0.28	0.01-1.55
Encephalocele	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	2	0.80	0.10-2.89
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	0	0.00	0.00-0.79
	35+	1	0.28	0.01-1.55
Holoprosencephaly	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	2	0.80	0.10-2.89
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
Hydrocephaly w/o spina bifida	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	5	2.00	0.65-4.66
	25-29	6	1.58	0.58-3.44
	30-34	9	1.92	0.88-3.64
	35+	11	3.06	1.53-5.48
Microcephaly	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	5	2.00	0.65-4.66
	25-29	8	2.11	0.91-4.16
	30-34	9	1.92	0.88-3.64
	35+	7	1.95	0.78-4.01
Spina Bifida w/ and w/o hydrocephaly	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	9	2.37	1.09-4.51
	30-34	5	1.07	0.35-2.49
	35+	3	0.83	0.17-2.44

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Tethered cord	<20	6	6.14	2.25-13.37
	20-24	7	2.80	1.12-5.76
	25-29	15	3.96	2.21-6.53
	30-34	19	4.05	2.44-6.32
	35+	8	2.23	0.96-4.39
Other CNS	<20	11	11.26	5.62-20.14
	20-24	20	7.99	4.88-12.35
	25-29	27	7.12	4.69-10.36
	30-34	23	4.90	3.11-7.35
	35+	29	8.07	5.40-11.59
<i>Eye</i>				
Aniridia	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	0	0.00	0.00-0.79
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	4	1.60	0.44-4.09
	25-29	4	1.05	0.29-2.70
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	8	3.20	1.38-6.30
	25-29	10	2.64	1.26-4.85
	30-34	18	3.83	2.27-6.06
	35+	11	3.06	1.53-5.48
Other eye	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	6	2.40	0.88-5.22
	25-29	4	1.05	0.29-2.70
	30-34	10	2.13	1.02-3.92
	35+	8	2.23	0.96-4.39

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
<i>Ear</i>				
Anotia/microtia	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	8	2.11	0.91-4.16
	30-34	11	2.34	1.17-4.19
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63
Other ear	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	8	3.20	1.38-6.30
	25-29	4	1.05	0.29-2.70
	30-34	10	2.13	1.02-3.92
	35+	7	1.95	0.78-4.01
<i>Cardiovascular</i>				
<i>Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection</i>				
Total/Partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	4	1.60	0.44-4.09
	25-29	5	1.32	0.43-3.08
	30-34	9	1.92	0.88-3.64
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63
<i>Atrioventricular Canal Defects</i>				
ASD primum	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
Common atrium	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	2	0.56	0.07-2.01

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	5	2.00	0.65-4.66
	25-29	9	2.37	1.09-4.51
	30-34	10	2.13	1.02-3.92
	35+	17	4.73	2.76-7.57
Endocardial cushion (OS and NOS)	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	4	0.85	0.23-2.18
	35+	2	0.56	0.07-2.01
VSD, canal type	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	0	0.00	0.00-0.79
	35+	3	0.83	0.17-2.44
<i>Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch</i>				
Double outlet right ventricle	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	9	3.60	1.64-6.83
	25-29	4	1.05	0.29-2.70
	30-34	4	0.85	0.23-2.18
	35+	3	0.83	0.17-2.44
d -Transposition of the great arteries	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	12	3.16	1.64-5.53
	30-34	9	1.92	0.88-3.64
	35+	7	1.95	0.78-4.01
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	3	0.79	0.16-2.31
	30-34	3	0.64	0.13-1.87
	35+	1	0.28	0.01-1.55

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	17	6.80	3.96-10.88
	25-29	12	3.16	1.64-5.53
	30-34	17	3.62	2.11-5.80
	35+	18	5.01	2.97-7.91
Truncus	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	2	0.53	0.06-1.91
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
<i>Ebstein Anomaly</i>				
Ebstein anomaly	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
<i>Heterotaxy (Laterality Defects)</i>				
Heterotaxy	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	2	0.80	0.10-2.89
	25-29	5	1.32	0.43-3.08
	30-34	4	0.85	0.23-2.18
	35+	3	0.83	0.17-2.44
<i>Left-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Aortic valve stenosis	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	5	2.00	0.65-4.66
	25-29	7	1.85	0.74-3.80
	30-34	12	2.56	1.32-4.47
	35+	2	0.56	0.07-2.01
Coarctation of aorta	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	6	2.40	0.88-5.22
	25-29	21	5.54	3.43-8.47
	30-34	18	3.83	2.27-6.06

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i> Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	35+	16	4.45	2.54-7.23
	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	5	2.00	0.65-4.66
	25-29	10	2.64	1.26-4.85
	30-34	5	1.07	0.35-2.49
	35+	7	1.95	0.78-4.01
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	2	0.56	0.07-2.01
<i>Other Cardiovascular</i>				
Other cardiovascular	<20	10	10.23	4.91-18.82
	20-24	34	13.59	9.41-18.99
	25-29	75	19.78	15.56-24.80
	30-34	74	15.76	12.38-19.79
	35+	68	18.92	14.69-23.98
<i>Patent Ductus Arteriosus</i>				
Patent ductus arteriosus	<20	10	10.23	4.91-18.82
	20-24	39	15.59	11.09-21.31
	25-29	48	12.66	9.33-16.78
	30-34	87	18.53	14.84-22.86
	35+	99	27.54	22.39-33.53
<i>Right-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	12	4.80	2.48-8.38
	25-29	17	4.48	2.61-7.18
	30-34	30	6.39	4.31-9.12
	35+	38	10.57	7.48-14.51
Pulmonary valve atresia w/intact septum	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	2	0.80	0.10-2.89
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>	30-34	3	0.64	0.13-1.87
	35+	1	0.28	0.01-1.55
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	3	0.79	0.16-2.31
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
Tricuspid valve atresia	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	5	1.39	0.45-3.25
<i>Septal Defects</i>				
ASD (secundum and NOS)	<20	7	7.16	2.88-14.76
	20-24	34	13.59	9.41-18.99
	25-29	60	15.82	12.08-20.37
	30-34	64	13.63	10.50-17.41
	35+	87	24.21	19.39-29.86
VSD (membranous and NOS)	<20	8	8.19	3.53-16.13
	20-24	16	6.40	3.66-10.39
	25-29	35	9.23	6.43-12.84
	30-34	37	7.88	5.55-10.86
	35+	52	14.47	10.81-18.97
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	6	1.58	0.58-3.44
	30-34	6	1.28	0.47-2.78
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
<i>Single Ventricle and L-TGA</i>				
L-TGA	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>	35+	3	0.83	0.17-2.44
Single ventricle	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	4	1.60	0.44-4.09
	25-29	2	0.53	0.06-1.91
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	5	1.39	0.45-3.25
Respiratory				
Choanal atresia	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	5	2.00	0.65-4.66
	25-29	2	0.53	0.06-1.91
	30-34	3	0.64	0.13-1.87
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
Lung anomalies	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	3	0.79	0.16-2.31
	30-34	6	1.28	0.47-2.78
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63
Other respiratory	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	2	0.53	0.06-1.91
	30-34	6	1.28	0.47-2.78
	35+	8	2.23	0.96-4.39
Orofacial				
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	<20	6	6.14	2.25-13.37
	20-24	16	6.40	3.66-10.39
	25-29	33	8.70	5.99-12.22
	30-34	30	6.39	4.31-9.12
	35+	30	8.35	5.63-11.92
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	<20	5	5.12	1.66-11.94
	20-24	11	4.40	2.19-7.87
	25-29	15	3.96	2.21-6.53
	30-34	23	4.90	3.11-7.35
	35+	19	5.29	3.18-8.26

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Pierre Robin sequence	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	8	2.11	0.91-4.16
	30-34	4	0.85	0.23-2.18
	35+	7	1.95	0.78-4.01
Other orofacial	<20	5	5.12	1.66-11.94
	20-24	11	4.40	2.19-7.87
	25-29	16	4.22	2.41-6.85
	30-34	18	3.83	2.27-6.06
	35+	22	6.12	3.84-9.27
<i>Gastrointestinal</i>				
Biliary atresia	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	4	1.60	0.44-4.09
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	2	0.56	0.07-2.01
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	6	2.40	0.88-5.22
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	9	1.92	0.88-3.64
	35+	18	5.01	2.97-7.91
Hirschsprung disease	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	6	2.40	0.88-5.22
	25-29	6	1.58	0.58-3.44
	30-34	4	0.85	0.23-2.18
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63
Rectal and large intestinal atresia/stenosis	<20	6	6.14	2.25-13.37
	20-24	10	4.00	1.92-7.35
	25-29	15	3.96	2.21-6.53
	30-34	14	2.98	1.63-5.00
	35+	13	3.62	1.93-6.19

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Small intestinal atresia	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	10	4.00	1.92-7.35
	25-29	10	2.64	1.26-4.85
	30-34	18	3.83	2.27-6.06
	35+	14	3.90	2.13-6.54
Other gastrointestinal	<20	6	6.14	2.25-13.37
	20-24	18	7.19	4.26-11.37
	25-29	26	6.86	4.48-10.05
	30-34	33	7.03	4.84-9.87
	35+	19	5.29	3.18-8.26
<i>Genitourinary</i>				
Bladder exstrophy	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
Cloacal exstrophy	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	0	0.00	0.00-1.47
	25-29	0	0.00	0.00-0.97
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	<20	9	9.21	4.21-17.49
	20-24	23	9.19	5.83-13.79
	25-29	39	10.29	7.31-14.06
	30-34	58	12.35	9.38-15.97
	35+	52	14.47	10.81-18.97
Obstructive genitourinary defect	<20	20	20.47	12.50-31.61
	20-24	30	11.99	8.09-17.12
	25-29	53	13.98	10.47-18.28
	30-34	80	17.04	13.51-21.21
	35+	59	16.42	12.50-21.17

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	1	0.26	0.01-1.47
	30-34	0	0.00	0.00-0.79
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03
Other genitourinary	<20	14	14.33	7.83-24.04
	20-24	44	17.59	12.78-23.61
	25-29	62	16.35	12.54-20.96
	30-34	82	17.47	13.89-21.68
	35+	69	19.20	14.94-24.30
<i>Musculoskeletal</i>				
Clubfoot	<20	10	10.23	4.91-18.82
	20-24	32	12.79	8.75-18.06
	25-29	45	11.87	8.66-15.88
	30-34	62	13.21	10.13-16.93
	35+	32	8.90	6.09-12.57
Craniosynostosis	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	9	3.60	1.64-6.83
	25-29	17	4.48	2.61-7.18
	30-34	29	6.18	4.14-8.87
	35+	16	4.45	2.54-7.23
Diaphragmatic hernia	<20	4	4.09	1.12-10.48
	20-24	8	3.20	1.38-6.30
	25-29	11	2.90	1.45-5.19
	30-34	12	2.56	1.32-4.47
	35+	7	1.95	0.78-4.01
Gastroschisis	<20	16	16.37	9.36-26.59
	20-24	20	7.99	4.88-12.35
	25-29	11	2.90	1.45-5.19
	30-34	5	1.07	0.35-2.49
	35+	0	0.00	0.00-1.03

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Omphalocele	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	6	1.58	0.58-3.44
	30-34	4	0.85	0.23-2.18
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
Polydactyly/syndactyly	<20	12	12.28	6.35-21.45
	20-24	36	14.39	10.08-19.92
	25-29	53	13.98	10.47-18.28
	30-34	77	16.40	12.94-20.50
	35+	53	14.75	11.05-19.29
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	7	2.80	1.12-5.76
	25-29	9	2.37	1.09-4.51
	30-34	3	0.64	0.13-1.87
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	13	5.20	2.77-8.89
	25-29	13	3.43	1.83-5.86
	30-34	14	2.98	1.63-5.00
	35+	9	2.50	1.15-4.75
Skeletal dysplasia	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	4	1.05	0.29-2.70
	30-34	5	1.07	0.35-2.49
	35+	5	1.39	0.45-3.25
Other musculoskeletal	<20	16	16.37	9.36-26.59
	20-24	29	11.59	7.76-16.65
	25-29	34	8.97	6.21-12.53
	30-34	45	9.59	6.99-12.83
	35+	39	10.85	7.72-14.83

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
<i>Chromosomal and other Syndromes</i>				
Klinefelter syndrome	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	2	0.80	0.10-2.89
	25-29	2	0.53	0.06-1.91
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	2	0.56	0.07-2.01
Trisomy 13	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	3	0.79	0.16-2.31
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63
Trisomy 18	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	3	0.79	0.16-2.31
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	<20	5	5.12	1.66-11.94
	20-24	10	4.00	1.92-7.35
	25-29	21	5.54	3.43-8.47
	30-34	49	10.44	7.72-13.80
	35+	108	30.05	24.65-36.28
Turner syndrome	<20	0	0.00	0.00-3.78
	20-24	1	0.40	0.01-2.23
	25-29	2	0.53	0.06-1.91
	30-34	3	0.64	0.13-1.87
	35+	4	1.11	0.30-2.85
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes	<20	7	7.16	2.88-14.76
	20-24	23	9.19	5.83-13.79
	25-29	45	11.87	8.66-15.88
	30-34	50	10.65	7.91-14.04
	35+	43	11.96	8.66-16.12

Table 10 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect ¹	Maternal Age	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Other				
Amniotic bands	<20	2	2.05	0.25-7.39
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	4	1.05	0.29-2.70
	30-34	2	0.43	0.05-1.54
	35+	1	0.28	0.01-1.55
Skin anomalies	<20	3	3.07	0.63-8.97
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	8	2.11	0.91-4.16
	30-34	1	0.21	0.01-1.19
	35+	3	0.83	0.17-2.44
Other, specified	<20	1	1.02	0.03-5.70
	20-24	3	1.20	0.25-3.50
	25-29	7	1.85	0.74-3.80
	30-34	7	1.49	0.60-3.07
	35+	6	1.67	0.61-3.63

¹ Cases can be included in more than one defect. Cases are counted once in the total for a defect category. Because only live births are presented on this table, case totals are not listed. Due to missing age of mother counts may not match those in other tables.

Figure 8 Rates of Down syndrome among Maternal Age Groups, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

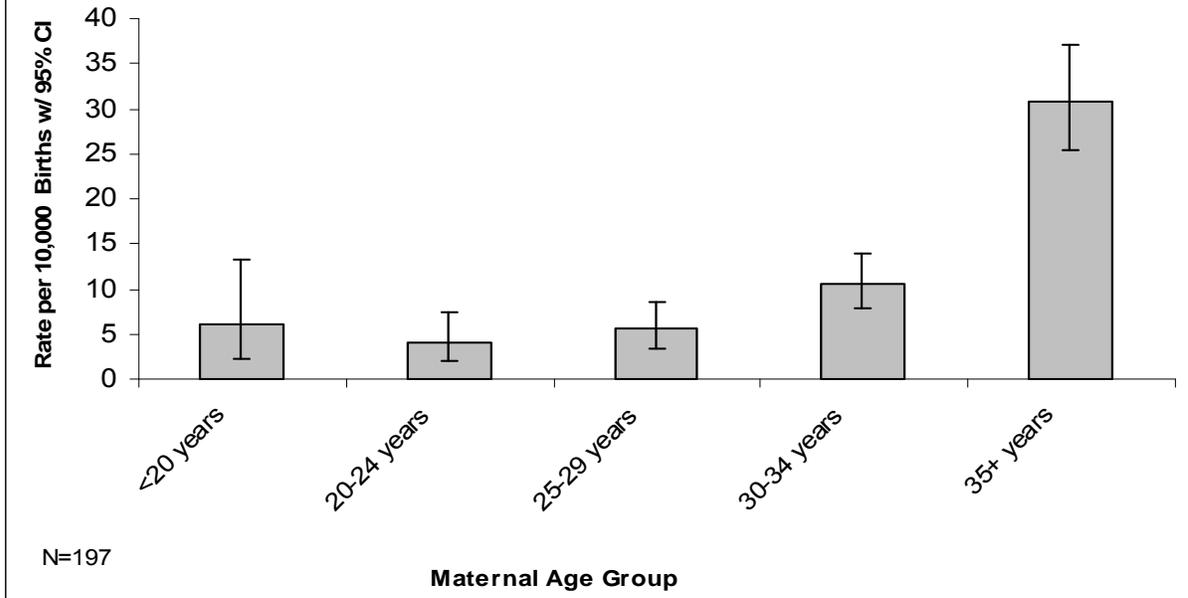
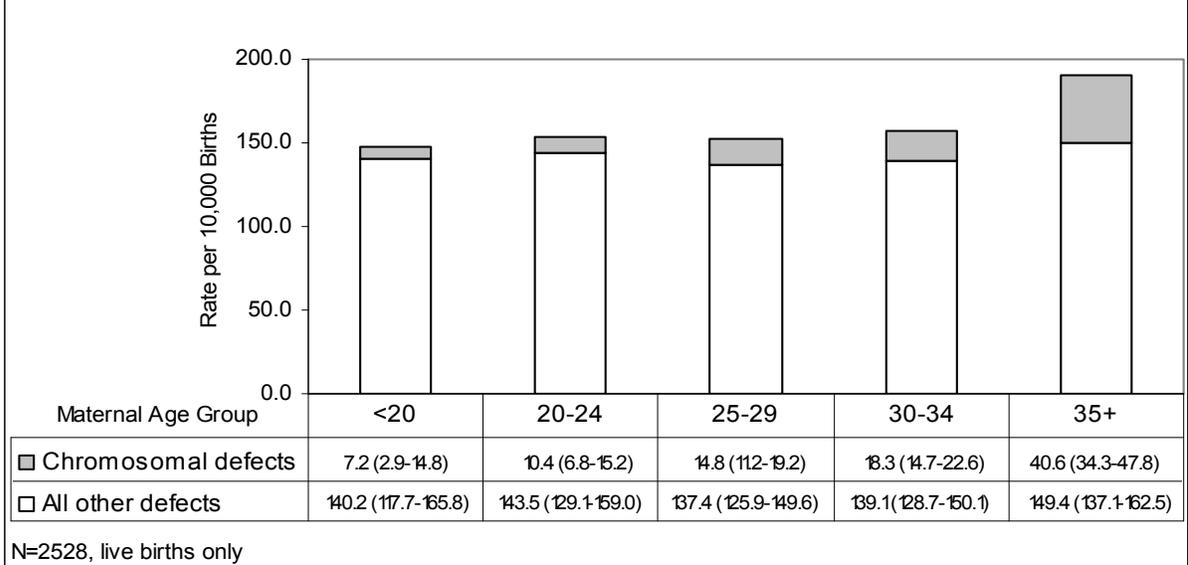


Figure 9 Chromosomal and All Other Defects by Maternal Age, Massachusetts: 2006-2007



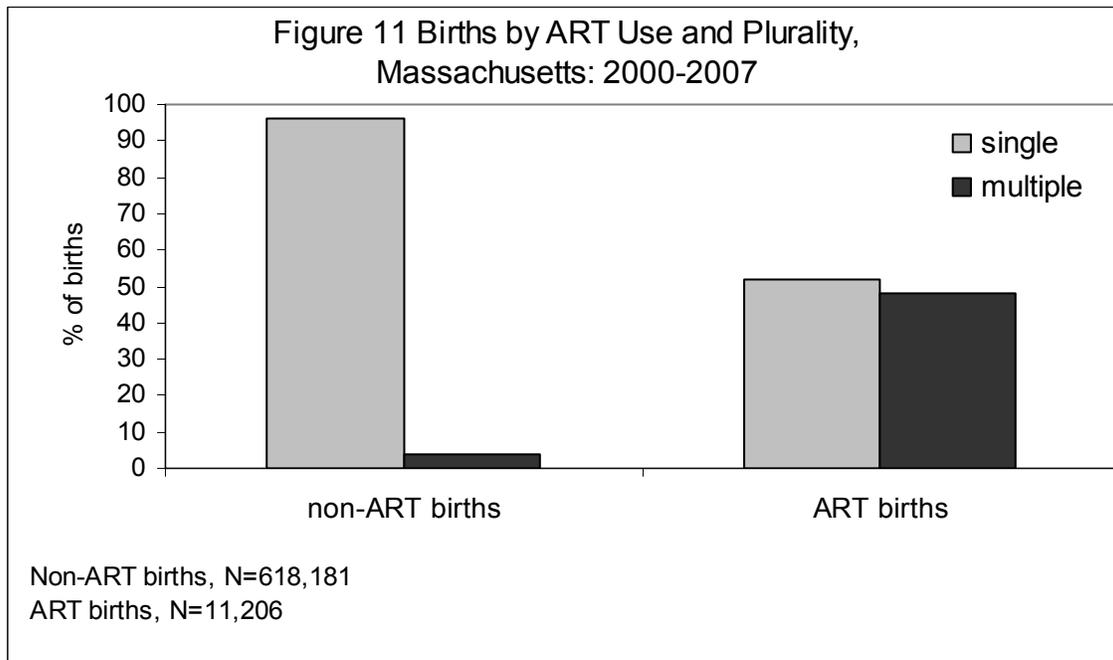
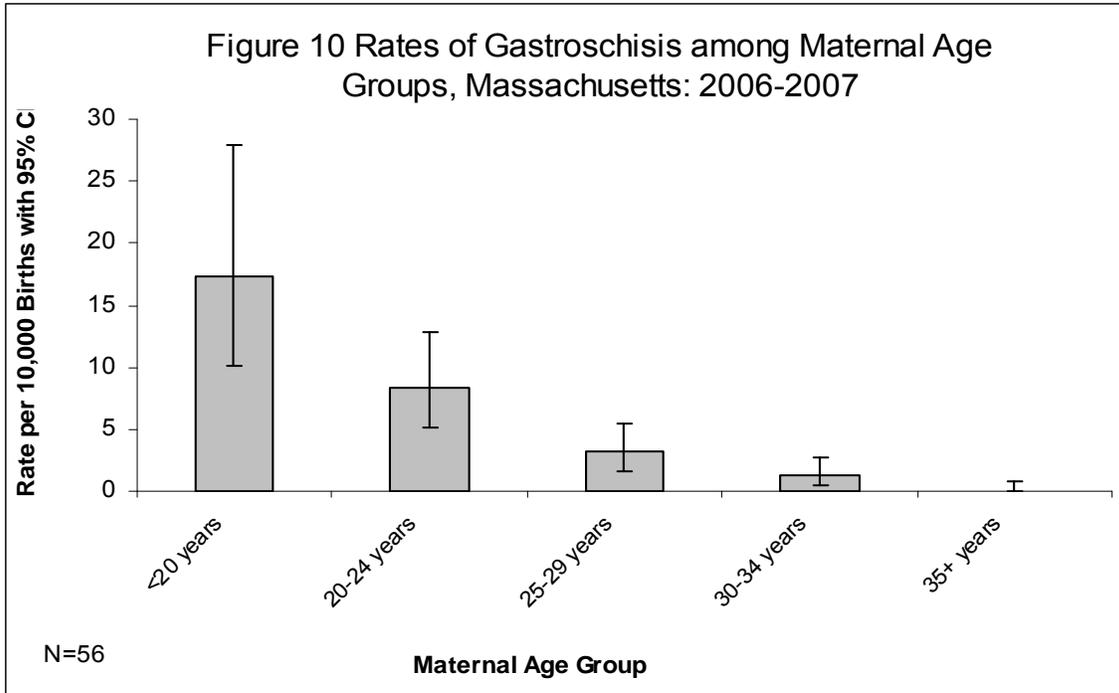


Table 11 Most Common Defects by Maternal Age Group for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Age Group (yrs)	Defect ¹	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<20	Obstructive genitourinary defect	20	20.47	12.50-31.61
	Gastroschisis	16	16.37	9.36-26.59
	Polydactyly/syndactyly	12	12.28	6.35-21.45
	Clubfoot	10	10.23	4.91-18.82
	Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	9	9.21	4.21-17.49
20-24	Polydactyly/ syndactyly	36	14.39	10.08-19.92
	ASD (secundum and NOS)	34	13.59	9.41-18.99
	Clubfoot	32	12.79	8.75-18.06
	Obstructive genitourinary defect	30	11.99	8.09-17.12
	Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	23	9.19	5.83-13.79
25-29	ASD (secundum and NOS)	60	15.82	12.08-20.37
	Obstructive genitourinary defect	53	13.98	10.47-18.28
	Polydactyly/syndactyly	53	13.98	10.47-18.28
	Clubfoot	45	11.87	8.66-15.88
	Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	39	10.29	7.31-14.06
30-34	Obstructive genitourinary defect	80	17.04	13.51-21.21
	Polydactyly/syndactyly	77	16.40	12.94-20.50
	ASD (secundum and NOS)	64	13.63	10.50-17.41
	Clubfoot	62	13.21	10.13-16.93
	Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	58	12.35	9.38-15.97
35+	Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	108	30.05	24.65-36.28
	ASD (secundum and NOS)	87	24.21	19.39-29.86
	Obstructive genitourinary defect	59	16.42	12.50-21.17
	VSD (membranous and NOS)	52	14.47	10.81-18.97
	Polydactyly/syndactyly	53	14.75	11.05-19.29

¹. Excludes patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) due to the high number of cases and the mild severity of the majority of these cases

Chapter 5

Prevalence of Birth Defects by Race / Ethnicity and Region



Baby with encephalocele

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Maternal Race / Hispanic Ethnicity

Table 12 shows the variation in prevalence of birth defects by maternal race and Hispanic ethnicity. The rate per 10,000 live births was 163.9 for non-Hispanic Whites, 153.4 for non-Hispanic Blacks, 133.5 for non-Hispanic Asians/Pacific Islanders and 176.7 for Hispanics. In some analyses, the rates for other races were not calculated due to small numbers or the rates for other races were combined as one “other” category.

Table 13 shows the more common defects by maternal race and Hispanic ethnicity. The most common defects in Hispanics included obstructive genitourinary defect, polydactyly/syndactyly, clubfoot, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), and Down syndrome. In Blacks, the most common defects included polydactyly/syndactyly, obstructive genitourinary defect, Down syndrome, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), and hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree). The most common defects in Whites included atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), obstructive genitourinary defect, polydactyly/syndactyly, hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree), and Down syndrome. In Asians, the most common defects included polydactyly/syndactyly, obstructive genitourinary defect, atrial septal defects (secundum and NOS), and cleft lip with and without cleft palate.

To understand birth defect trends or patterns in maternal race and ethnicity, we explored differences among the groups for certain categories of birth defects. Figure 12 shows the rate of chromosomal defects and all other defects according to maternal race and ethnicity. These rates were age-adjusted because chromosomal defects as well as other defects may be related to maternal age and differences may exist between racial and ethnic groups.

Multiple factors likely contribute to differences in prevalence by racial and ethnic groups including genetic variation, diet and lifestyle, differential access or use of health care services including prenatal screening and diagnosis, or socioeconomic differences. Interestingly, maternal birthplace may also be a contributing factor (see Figure 13). Children born to women born in the U.S. had a slightly higher, though non-significant, rate of birth defects than children of women born outside the U.S. The rate of birth defects in children of Hispanic women born in the U.S. territories (including Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam) was non-significantly higher than the rates among women born both in and outside the U.S. More years of data and in-depth studies are needed to affirm the stability of these rates and to understand racial and ethnic patterns.

Trends in Maternal Race and Ethnicity

Figure 14 shows the age-adjusted birth defects rates between 2004-2005 and 2006-2007. In Blacks, Asians and Hispanics, the rates decreased between the two time periods. Among whites the rates slightly increased. The birth defects rate in other races increased. These changes were not significant between the two time periods examined.

Birth Defects by Massachusetts Region

The Massachusetts Commonwealth's Executive Office of Health and Human Services delineates regions for use by the Department of Public Health for statistical, care coordination and administrative purposes. The six regions are based on geographical groupings of cities and towns: Western, Central, Northeast, Metro West, Boston and Southeast. A map of these regions is provided in the Appendix section of this report.

The birth defect rates by the six regions in 2006-2007 are shown in Figure 15. Although not statistically significantly different, the rates range from 154.8 per 10,000 in Boston to 174.7 per 10,000 in Southeast Massachusetts.

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race¹	Count²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>Central Nervous System</i>				
Anencephaly	White, Non-Hispanic	2	0.19	0.02-0.68
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
Encephalocele	White, Non-Hispanic	1	0.09	0.00-0.53
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Holoprosencephaly	White, Non-Hispanic	2	0.19	0.02-0.68
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Hydrocephaly w/o spina bifida	White, Non-Hispanic	17	1.61	0.94-2.58
	Black, Non-Hispanic	9	6.97	3.19-13.23
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	4	1.86	0.51-4.75
Microcephaly	White, Non-Hispanic	17	1.61	0.94-2.58
	Black, Non-Hispanic	5	3.87	1.26-9.04
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	7	3.25	1.31-6.69
Spina Bifida w/ and w/o hydrocephaly	White, Non-Hispanic	14	1.33	0.72-2.22
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Tethered cord	White, Non-Hispanic	41	3.88	2.79-5.27
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	3	2.67	0.55-7.81
	Hispanic	8	3.71	1.60-7.31
Other CNS	White, Non-Hispanic	61	5.78	4.42-7.42
	Black, Non-Hispanic	16	12.39	7.08-20.12
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	6	5.34	1.96-11.63
	Hispanic	25	11.60	7.51-17.12

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Eye				
Aniridia	White, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-0.35
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	White, Non-Hispanic	4	0.38	0.10-0.97
	Black, Non-Hispanic	8	6.19	2.67-12.21
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	4	1.86	0.51-4.75
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	White, Non-Hispanic	39	3.69	2.63-5.05
	Black, Non-Hispanic	7	5.42	2.18-11.17
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
Other eye	White, Non-Hispanic	21	1.99	1.23-3.04
	Black, Non-Hispanic	4	3.10	0.84-7.93
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
Ear				
Anotia/microtia	White, Non-Hispanic	21	1.99	1.23-3.04
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	3	2.67	0.55-7.81
	Hispanic	6	2.78	1.02-6.06
Other ear	White, Non-Hispanic	22	2.08	1.31-3.15
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Cardiovascular				
Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection				
Total/partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	White, Non-Hispanic	17	1.61	0.94-2.58
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
Atrioventricular Canal Defects				
ASD primum	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
Common atrium	White, Non-Hispanic	3	0.28	0.06-0.83
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	White, Non-Hispanic	33	3.13	2.15-4.39
	Black, Non-Hispanic	5	3.87	1.26-9.04
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	4	1.86	0.51-4.75
Endocardial cushion (OS and NOS)	White, Non-Hispanic	4	0.38	0.10-0.97
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
VSD, canal type	White, Non-Hispanic	2	0.19	0.02-0.68
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch				
Double outlet right ventricle	White, Non-Hispanic	8	0.76	0.33-1.49
	Black, Non-Hispanic	4	3.10	0.84-7.93
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
d-Transposition of the great arteries	White, Non-Hispanic	21	1.99	1.23-3.04
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	6	2.78	1.02-6.06
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	White, Non-Hispanic	5	0.47	0.15-1.11
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	White, Non-Hispanic	41	3.88	2.79-5.27
	Black, Non-Hispanic	7	5.42	2.18-11.17
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	9	8.02	3.67-15.22
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Truncus	White, Non-Hispanic	5	0.47	0.15-1.11
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
<i>Ebstein Anomaly</i>				
Ebstein anomaly	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
<i>Heterotaxy (Laterality Defects)</i>				
Heterotaxy	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
<i>Left-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Aortic valve stenosis	White, Non-Hispanic	19	1.80	1.08-2.81
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Coarctation of aorta	White, Non-Hispanic	49	4.64	3.43-6.13
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	White, Non-Hispanic	20	1.89	1.16-2.93
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	White, Non-Hispanic	4	0.38	0.10-0.97
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
<i>Other Cardiovascular</i>				
Other cardiovascular	White, Non-Hispanic	180	17.05	14.65-19.73
	Black, Non-Hispanic	23	17.81	11.29-26.72
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	12	10.69	5.52-18.67
	Hispanic	34	15.77	10.92-22.04
<i>Patent Ductus Arteriosus</i>				
Patent ductus arteriosus	White, Non-Hispanic	193	18.28	15.79-21.05
	Black, Non-Hispanic	26	20.13	13.15-29.50
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	19	16.92	10.19-26.43
	Hispanic	32	14.84	10.15-20.96
<i>Right-Sided Obstruction</i>				
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	White, Non-Hispanic	63	5.97	4.58-7.63
	Black, Non-Hispanic	7	5.42	2.18-11.17
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	7	6.23	2.51-12.85
	Hispanic	18	8.35	4.95-13.20
Pulmonary valve atresia w/intact septum	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	White, Non-Hispanic	3	0.28	0.06-0.83
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
Tricuspid valve atresia	White, Non-Hispanic	7	0.66	0.27-1.37
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
<i>Septal Defects</i>				
ASD (secundum and NOS)	White, Non-Hispanic	181	17.14	14.73-19.83
	Black, Non-Hispanic	15	11.62	6.50-19.16
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	17	15.14	8.82-24.24
	Hispanic	26	12.06	7.88-17.67
VSD (membranous and NOS)	White, Non-Hispanic	96	9.09	7.36-11.10
	Black, Non-Hispanic	14	10.84	5.93-18.19
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	10	8.91	4.27-16.38
	Hispanic	22	10.21	6.40-15.45
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	White, Non-Hispanic	10	0.95	0.45-1.74
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	4	3.56	0.97-9.12
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
<i>Single Ventricle and L-TGA</i>				
L-TGA	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
Single ventricle	White, Non-Hispanic	10	0.95	0.45-1.74
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Respiratory				
Choanal atresia	White, Non-Hispanic	12	1.14	0.59-1.99
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
Lung anomalies	White, Non-Hispanic	16	1.52	0.87-2.46
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
Other respiratory	White, Non-Hispanic	15	1.42	0.80-2.34
	Black, Non-Hispanic	5	3.87	1.26-9.04
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
Orofacial				
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	White, Non-Hispanic	81	7.67	6.09-9.53
	Black, Non-Hispanic	7	5.42	2.18-11.17
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	13	11.58	6.17-19.80
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	White, Non-Hispanic	57	5.40	4.09-6.99
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Pierre Robin sequence	White, Non-Hispanic	18	1.70	1.01-2.69
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Other orofacial	White, Non-Hispanic	52	4.92	3.68-6.46
	Black, Non-Hispanic	11	8.52	4.25-15.24
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	6	2.78	1.02-6.06

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
<i>Gastrointestinal</i>				
Biliary atresia	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal Fistula	White, Non-Hispanic	25	2.37	1.53-3.49
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	6	2.78	1.02-6.06
Hirschsprung disease	White, Non-Hispanic	16	1.52	0.87-2.46
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
Rectal and large intestinal atresia/stenosis	White, Non-Hispanic	36	3.41	2.39-4.72
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	4	3.56	0.97-9.12
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Small intestinal atresia	White, Non-Hispanic	41	3.88	2.79-5.27
	Black, Non-Hispanic	5	3.87	1.26-9.04
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	6	2.78	1.02-6.06
Other gastrointestinal	White, Non-Hispanic	64	6.06	4.67-7.74
	Black, Non-Hispanic	8	6.19	2.67-12.21
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	3	2.67	0.55-7.81
	Hispanic	17	7.89	4.59-12.63

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Genitourinary				
Bladder exstrophy	White, Non-Hispanic	1	0.09	0.00-0.53
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
Cloacal exstrophy	White, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-0.35
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	White, Non-Hispanic	139	13.16	11.07-15.54
	Black, Non-Hispanic	15	11.62	6.50-19.16
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	8	7.13	3.08-14.04
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Obstructive genitourinary defect	White, Non-Hispanic	157	14.87	12.63-17.38
	Black, Non-Hispanic	18	13.94	8.26-22.03
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	18	16.03	9.50-25.34
	Hispanic	39	18.09	12.86-24.73
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	White, Non-Hispanic	1	0.09	0.00-0.53
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-1.71
Other genitourinary	White, Non-Hispanic	189	17.90	15.44-20.64
	Black, Non-Hispanic	17	13.16	7.67-21.08
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	27	24.05	15.85-34.99
	Hispanic	29	13.45	9.01-19.32

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
<i>Musculoskeletal</i>				
Clubfoot	White, Non-Hispanic	132	12.50	10.46-14.82
	Black, Non-Hispanic	7	5.42	2.18-11.17
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	8	7.13	3.08-14.04
	Hispanic	28	12.99	8.63-18.77
Craniosynostosis	White, Non-Hispanic	56	5.30	4.01-6.89
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Diaphragmatic hernia	White, Non-Hispanic	30	2.84	1.92-4.06
	Black, Non-Hispanic	4	3.10	0.84-7.93
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
Gastroschisis	White, Non-Hispanic	29	2.75	1.84-3.94
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Omphalocele	White, Non-Hispanic	11	1.04	0.52-1.86
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	4	1.86	0.51-4.75
Polydactyly/syndactyly	White, Non-Hispanic	143	13.54	11.41-15.95
	Black, Non-Hispanic	27	20.91	13.78-30.42
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	20	17.81	10.88-27.51
	Hispanic	34	15.77	10.92-22.04
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	White, Non-Hispanic	11	1.04	0.52-1.86
	Black, Non-Hispanic	3	2.32	0.48-6.79
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	7	3.25	1.31-6.69

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	White, Non-Hispanic	32	3.03	2.07-4.28
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	2	1.78	0.22-6.44
	Hispanic	12	5.57	2.88-9.72
Skeletal dysplasia	White, Non-Hispanic	12	1.14	0.59-1.99
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Other musculoskeletal	White, Non-Hispanic	110	10.42	8.56-12.56
	Black, Non-Hispanic	11	8.52	4.25-15.24
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	13	11.58	6.17-19.80
	Hispanic	26	12.06	7.88-17.67
<i>Chromosomal and other Syndromes</i>				
Klinefelter syndrome	White, Non-Hispanic	6	0.57	0.21-1.24
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Trisomy 13	White, Non-Hispanic	8	0.76	0.33-1.49
	Black, Non-Hispanic	1	0.77	0.02-4.31
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07
Trisomy 18	White, Non-Hispanic	5	0.47	0.15-1.11
	Black, Non-Hispanic	4	3.10	0.84-7.93
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	White, Non-Hispanic	133	12.60	10.55-14.93
	Black, Non-Hispanic	17	13.16	7.67-21.08
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	10	8.91	4.27-16.38
	Hispanic	23	10.67	6.76-16.01

Table 12 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

Defect	Maternal Race ¹	Count ²	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
<i>(cont'd)</i>				
Turner syndrome	White, Non-Hispanic	7	0.66	0.27-1.37
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	1	0.46	0.01-2.58
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes	White, Non-Hispanic	118	11.17	9.25-13.38
	Black, Non-Hispanic	14	10.84	5.93-18.19
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	9	8.02	3.67-15.22
	Hispanic	25	11.60	7.51-17.12
<i>Other</i>				
Amniotic bands	White, Non-Hispanic	7	0.66	0.27-1.37
	Black, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-2.86
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	5	2.32	0.75-5.41
Skin anomalies	White, Non-Hispanic	11	1.04	0.52-1.86
	Black, Non-Hispanic	5	3.87	1.26-9.04
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	0	0.00	0.00-3.29
	Hispanic	2	0.93	0.11-3.35
Other, specified	White, Non-Hispanic	15	1.42	0.80-2.34
	Black, Non-Hispanic	2	1.55	0.19-5.59
	Asian, Non-Hispanic	1	0.89	0.02-4.96
	Hispanic	3	1.39	0.29-4.07

¹. Due to small numbers, races classified as "other" are not included.

². Cases can be included in more than one defect. Cases are counted once in the total for a defect category. Because only live births are presented on this table, case totals are not listed. Due to missing race of mother counts may not match those in other tables.

**Table 13 Most Common Defects by Maternal Race/Hispanic
Ethnicity for Live Births, Massachusetts: 2006-2007**

Race¹	Defect²	Count	Rate per 10,000 Births	95% Confidence Interval
White, Non-Hispanic	ASD (secundum and NOS)	181	17.14	14.73-19.83
	Obstructive genitourinary defect	157	14.87	12.63-17.38
	Polydactyly/syndactyly	143	13.54	11.41-15.95
	Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	139	13.16	11.07-15.54
	Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	133	12.6	10.55-14.93
Black, Non-Hispanic	Polydactyly/syndactyly	27	20.91	13.78-30.42
	Obstructive genitourinary defect	18	13.94	8.26-22.03
	Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	17	13.16	7.67-21.08
	ASD (secundum and NOS)	15	11.62	6.50-19.16
	Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	15	11.62	6.50-19.16
Asian, Non-Hispanic	Polydactyly/syndactyly	20	17.81	10.88-27.51
	Obstructive genitourinary defect	18	16.03	9.50-25.34
	ASD (secundum and NOS)	17	15.14	8.82-24.24
	Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	13	11.58	6.17-19.80
	VSD (membranous and NOS)	10	8.91	4.27-16.38
	Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	10	8.91	4.27-16.38
Hispanic	Obstructive genitourinary defect	39	18.09	12.86-24.73
	Polydactyly/syndactyly	34	15.77	10.92-22.04
	Clubfoot	28	12.99	8.63-18.77
	ASD (secundum and NOS)	26	12.06	7.88-17.67
	Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	23	10.67	6.76-16.01

¹. Due to small numbers, races classified as "other" are not included.

². Excludes patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) due to the high number of cases and the mild severity of the majority of these cases.

Figure 12 Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Chromosomal and All Other Defects by Maternal Race / Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

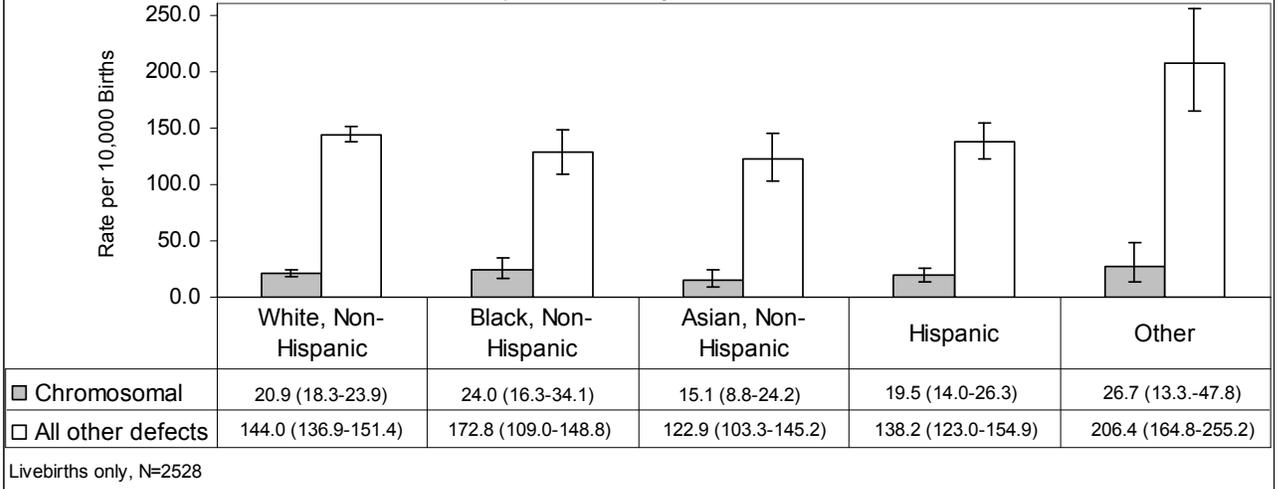


Figure 13 Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race / Hispanic Ethnicity and Birthplace, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

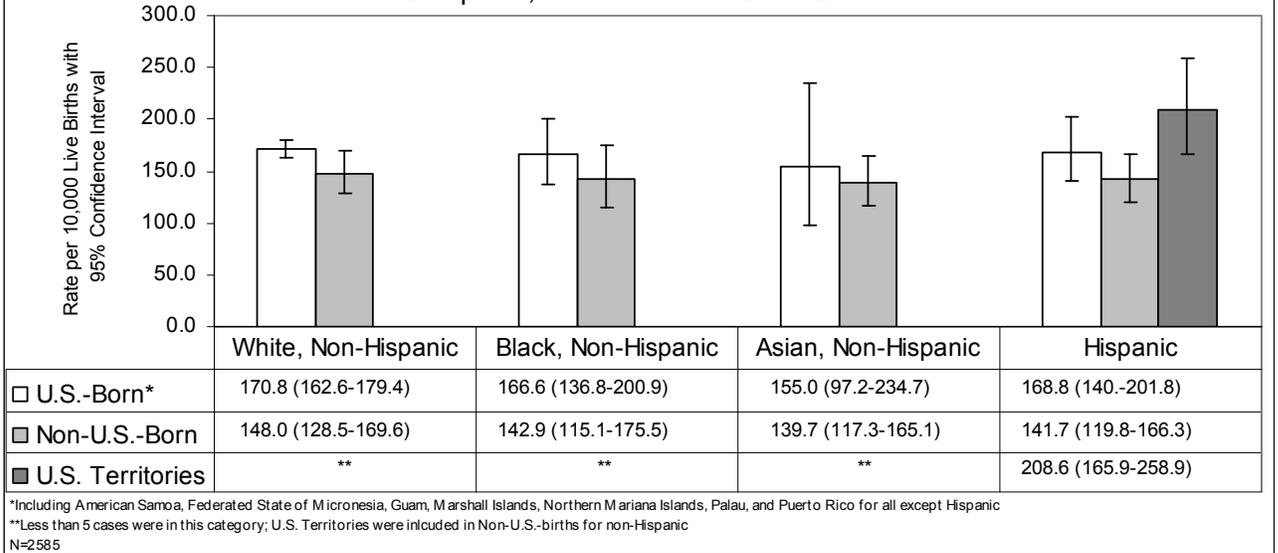


Figure 14 Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Birth Defects by Maternal Race / Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 2004-2005 and 2006-2007

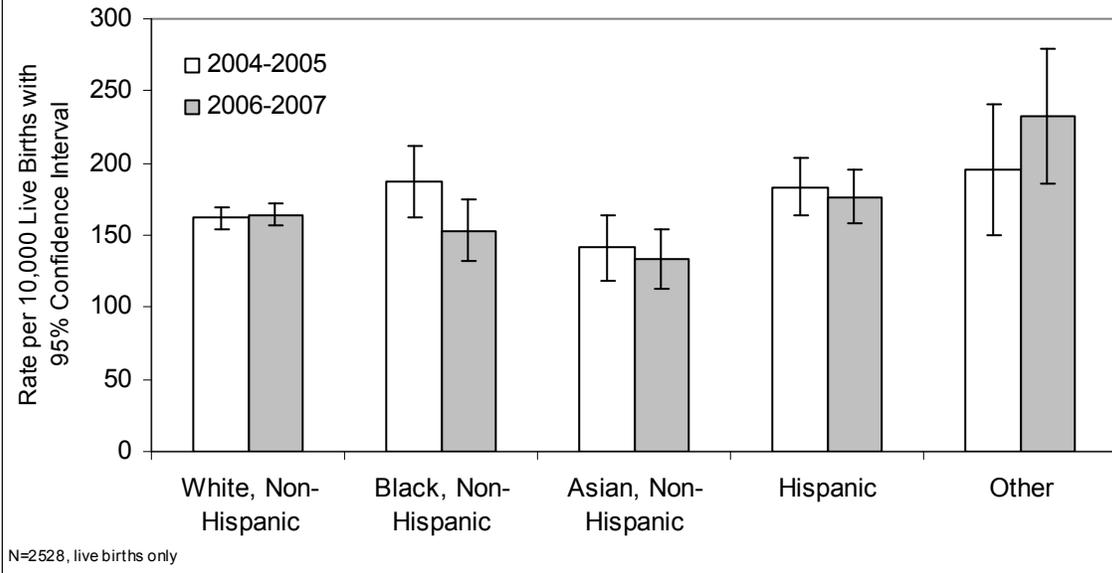
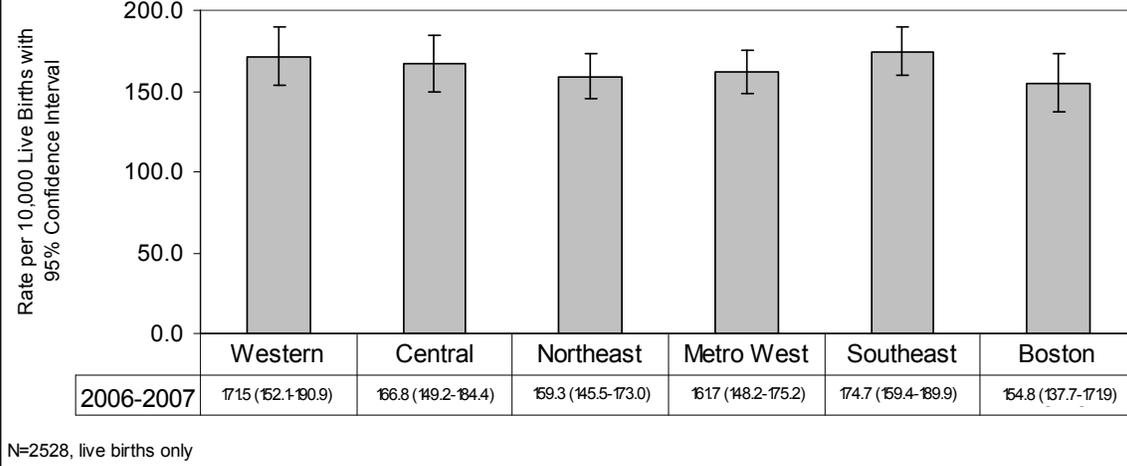


Figure 15 Age-Adjusted Birth Defect Rates by Region, Massachusetts: 2006-2007



Chapter 6

Prevalence of Birth Defects by Severity, Etiology and Pattern



Baby with omphalocele

Courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Prevalence of Birth Defects by Severity

Birth defects cases were categorized by their level of severity. This scale was based on the usual outcome for a specific birth defect including its typical compatibility with survival, the need for immediate treatment, the need for long-term care and the amenability of the defect to correction.

These levels of severity included four categories: “severe” was defined as requiring supportive measures, usually incompatible with life; “serious” was defined as correctable, most having long-term needs; “moderate” was defined as most amenable to correction, many having long-term needs; and “mild” was defined as amenable to correction, with minimal long-term needs. The rules for designing the new automated algorithm are in the Technical Notes, and a list of selected defects within each severity category is in the Appendix.

Table 14 shows the percentage of birth defect cases by severity groups. Nearly three percent of cases had birth defects classified as “severe,” and most did not survive the neonatal period. This percentage was an underestimate of these most “severe” cases due to limitations of the data and because we were missing many “severe” defects including the estimated 80% of anencephaly cases and 50% of any neural tube defects that were electively terminated after prenatal diagnosis (Cragan and Khoury 2000).

Nineteen percent of cases were affected with a “serious” birth defect. These cases typically require intensive medical care and planning for continuing care and experience long-term disability.

“Moderate” birth defects comprised almost 70% of the total cases. All of these children needed medical follow-up, and many needed surgeries and extensive treatment.

“Mild” birth defects comprised nearly 9% of the cases. Within the classification of “mild severity,” there was variability. For example, children with microphthalmia (small eyes) could have mild reduction in the size of the globe or a more severe reduction resulting in visual loss or the need for intrusive ophthalmologic medical care. In contrast, infants with isolated dextrocardia (heart in the right side of the chest instead of the left) and no other heart defect have no clinical consequence.

Prevalence of Birth Defects by Etiology and Pattern

To enhance the existing active birth defects surveillance program, a method was developed to classify cases by etiology and pattern. The surveillance system in Massachusetts allowed for the collection of relevant etiology information. Categories with sufficient detail were created, allowing similar cases to be grouped using knowledge of pathogenesis and embryologic mechanisms. The case classification defined a case as a biologic entity rather than a collection of individual defects. The schema was based upon general principles outlined in the literature (Rasmussen, Olney et al. 2003; Cary, Feldkamp et al. 2005).

Cases with known etiology accounted for about 18% of the birth defects (476 of 2,585 live births and stillbirths) in Massachusetts in 2006-2007. Etiology groups include “single gene,” “chromosomal,” “maternal-fetal factors” (including teratogens or uterine factors) and “other factors.”

As Figure 16 shows, single gene etiology accounted for 18.5% (88) of the known etiology cases. Single gene defects include achondroplasia, Marfan syndrome (deletion 15q21.1), Smith-Lemli-Opitz syndrome and other examples of defects categorized as Mendelian syndrome. Chromosomal etiology accounted for almost 76.7% (365) of the cases with known etiology. Cases with chromosomal etiology include trisomy 13, 18 and 21, Turner syndrome and other chromosomal duplications and deletions. Maternal-fetal and other factors accounted for about 4.6% (23) of all cases with known etiology. Maternal-fetal factors include teratogens such as maternal diabetes and uterine factors such as deformation or didelphy uterus. The “other factor” known etiology cases include conjoined twins. Cases with known etiology may also be classified by pattern, with the categories and definitions listed in Table 15. The majority of cases with known etiology fall within the “multiple majors” pattern including combinations of two or more major defects.

While the CDC estimates that about 70% of birth defects have unknown cause, the majority (82%) of birth defects cases in Massachusetts in 2006-2007 had unknown etiology (2,109 of 2,585 live births and stillbirths). These were categorized by pattern and by description in Table 15.

The “isolated” pattern is the largest category among the cases with unknown etiology, comprising about 90%. Within this pattern are three subgroups based on the number and type of defects found in a case. The largest subgroup of isolated cases have a truly solitary defect such as cleft palate, gastroschisis or anencephaly, comprising about 52% of total cases with unknown etiology. The next largest isolated pattern subgroup accounts for about 35% of the cases with unknown etiology. These cases have 2 or more defects in the same organ or body part, or they have an isolated major and some minor defects in different body parts. An example of this pattern is coarctation of the aorta and aortic stenosis (valvar). The third subgroup accounts for the remaining cases (a little over 4% of all unknown cases) within the isolated pattern and is defined by a sequence of a common primary defect with consistent related anomalies. An example of this pattern is spina bifida, clubfoot, hydrocephalus and hip dislocation. The “multiple majors” pattern comprises about 10% of cases with unknown etiology, and these cases include combinations of two or more major defects such as hydrocephalus and cleft palate and anotia. See Figure 17 for the distribution of cases with unknown etiology among these patterns.

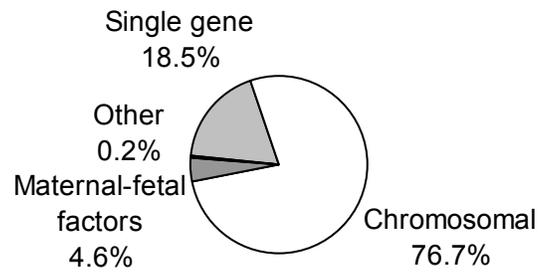
Table 14 Percentage of Birth Defect Cases by Severity Groups, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

SEVERITY CATEGORIES	PERCENTAGE OF BIRTH DEFECTS CASES
Severe, supportive measures, usually incompatible with life	2.7%
Serious, may be correctable, most have long-term needs	19.0%
Moderate, most correctable, many have long-term needs	69.6%
Mild, may be correctable, minimal long-term needs	8.7%

Table 15 Patterns and Etiology of Birth Defect Cases, Massachusetts: 2006-2007

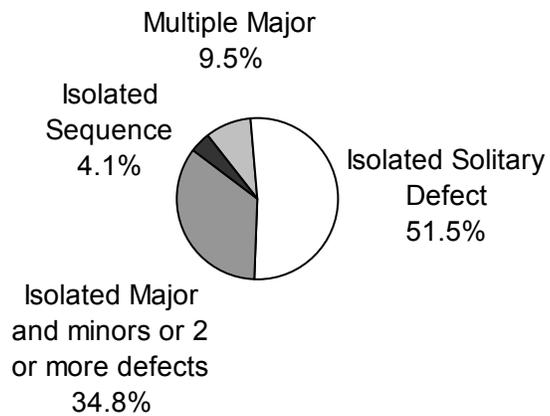
Pattern	Description	Cases	
		Known Etiology	Unknown Etiology
Isolated	Solitary defect	4	1,087
	Major and minors (different organ/body parts) or 2 or more defects (same organ/body part)	7	734
	Sequence: Common primary defect with consistent, related anomalies	4	87
Multiple Majors	2 or more major defects in different organs/body parts	461	201
Total		476 (18.4%)	2,109 (81.6%)

Figure 16 Birth Defect Cases with Known Etiology,
Massachusetts: 2006-2007



N=476

Figure 17 Patterns of Birth Defect Cases with Unknown Etiology,
Massachusetts: 2006-2007



N=2109

Appendices

Technical Notes

Definitions

2006-2007 Denominators Used in Calculating Rates

Birth Defects Codes and Exclusions by Defect Category

All ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts – Live Births and Stillbirths

Birth Defects by Severity

Glossary of Selected Birth Defect Terms

Map of Massachusetts EOHHS-Defined Regions and Age-Adjusted Overall Birth Defects Prevalence, 2006-2007

References

Technical Notes

Data Sources

Surveillance records were matched to records from the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics to gain supplemental information or to verify information on the cases. All records were matched. Birth certificate data were used as the source of information for mother's date of birth and race/ethnicity. Surveillance records provided all diagnostic and the remaining demographic information.

Prevalence, Rates and Confidence Intervals

Prevalence is defined as the number of individuals with a disease or condition over a specified period of time divided by the number of individuals at risk during the same period. The numerator is the number of cases of birth defects. Since the preferred denominator is all pregnancies and since the number of pregnancies cannot be determined, the number of total births is used as an approximation.

The rates provided in the tables are estimations of the proportion of infants born with birth defects. This rate is expressed as birth defect births per 10,000 births and is calculated by the formula:

Cases/total number live births x 10,000

Fetal deaths are included in the numerator but not in the denominator, so the result is technically a ratio and not a rate. This method of calculating rates is consistent with the national "Guidelines for Conducting Birth Defects Surveillance." (National Birth Defects Prevention Network, June 2004) Because the number of fetal deaths is so small, the inclusion of fetal deaths in the denominator does not substantially change the ratio.

The confidence interval (CI) is a method of assessing the magnitude and stability of a rate or ratio. The CI represents a range of values that has a 95% probability of including the true rate or ratio. Observed rates are subject to statistical variation. Thus, even if the underlying risk of an infant being born with a birth defect is identical in two subpopulations, the observed rates for the subpopulations may differ because of random variation. The confidence interval describes the precision of the observed rate as an estimate of the underlying risk of being born with a birth defect, with a wider interval indicating less certainty about this estimate. The width of the interval reflects the size of the subpopulation and the number of cases of birth defects. Smaller subpopulations with fewer defects lead to wider confidence intervals. The 95% confidence intervals used in the report are based on the Poisson distribution.

Assignment of Race/Ethnicity

The Center follows the recommendation of the National Center for Health Statistics of classifying births according to the self-reported race/ethnicity of the mother. The Massachusetts birth certificate records mother's race and ethnicity, including Hispanic ethnicity and was used to more accurately calculate Hispanic-specific rates of birth defect prevalence. Race/ethnicity is a self-reported item and is subject to the usual limitations of this type of information.

Calculation of 2007 Dollars

2007 dollars were calculated from the Gross Domestic Product Deflator Inflation Index, an inflation calculator for adjusting costs from one year to another using the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Deflator inflation index of 1.0319 representing the inflation from 2005 to 2007. (Based on this calculator, costs increased from 125 million to 129 million during this period.) This inflation calculator is based on the inflation rate during the US Government Fiscal Year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. <http://cost.jsc.nasa.gov/inflateGDP.html>.

Assignment of Severity

Cases with birth defects were categorized by their level of severity. The severity scale was developed by the Center in collaboration with our partners at Boston University and the Massachusetts General Hospital. This scale was based on the usual outcome for a specific birth defect including its typical compatibility with survival, the need for immediate treatment, the need for long-term care and the amenability of the defect to correction.

A new automated algorithm was created for the 2004-2005 report based on modified rules that had been developed to determine severity of defects described in previous birth defects surveillance reports, and the program was validated using the data described in the reports. The automated process for 2006-2007 data was able to assign severity levels to about 96% of the cases, with the remaining 4% assigned manually by the Center Clinical Geneticist. The process that included the automated categorization system produced percentages of birth defects within each of the four severity categories in 2006-2007 that were similar to those attained in each of the categories in previous reports.

Some of the rules for assigning severity level are briefly described here. First, each defect labeled by an ICD9/BPA code was assigned a severity score or range of severity scores based on the defining characteristics of the defect. Each infant/fetus case was usually assigned a severity score based on the most severe defect it displayed. An exception was when the infant/fetus had 3 or more mild defects and was categorized as a moderate case. Cases with infant death when a lethal anomaly was not present were reviewed by the Center Clinical Geneticist and manually assigned a severity level. Cases with one or more defects that ranged in a single severity category may have required further review and manual assignment of severity level. Cases with a syndrome plus defect(s) were listed by the severity of the syndrome only. Syndromes were defined as a group of malformations that occurred together frequently enough to be recognized collectively as a distinct abnormal condition. The remainder of complex cases such as multiple major cases and syndromes required manual review by the Clinical Geneticist.

Definitions

These definitions are derived from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health report titled Massachusetts Births, 2007 except where noted.

Birthweight

The weight of an infant recorded at the time of delivery. It may be recorded in either pounds/ounces or grams.

1 pound = 453.6 grams
1,000 grams = 2 pounds and 3 ounces

Infant

A child whose age is less than one year (365 days).

Infant Death

Death of a child whose age is less than one year.

Interpregnancy Interval (IPI): The time period in completed months between the date of conception of one pregnancy and the date of delivery of the preceding pregnancy.

Live Birth

Any infant who breathes or shows any other evidence of life (such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles) after separation from the mother's uterus, regardless of the duration of gestation.

Neonatal

Infant under 28 days of age.

Neonatal Death

Death of a child whose age is less than 28 days.

Plurality

The number of births to a woman produced in the same gestational period. A singleton is the birth of one infant; twins represent the births of two infants, etc.

Resident Birth

The birth of an infant whose mother reports that her usual place of residence is in Massachusetts. In Massachusetts, a resident is a person with a permanent address in one of the 351 cities or towns.

Small for gestational age: Term used to describe an infant whose birth weight is below the 10th percentile (i.e. below 90% of infants) for gestational age on basis of a sex-specific US standard (Oken 2003).

Stillbirth

The birth of a fetus at greater than or equal to 20 weeks gestation, or with a weight of at least 350 grams.

2006 and 2007 Populations Used in Calculating Rates

Numbers of Live Births to MA Residents*				
		2006 N=77670	2007 N=77934	Total N=155,604
By Maternal Age	<20	4778	4993	9771
	20-24	12420	12598	25018
	25-29	18633	19283	37916
	30-34	23611	23334	46945
	35+	18218	17724	35942
	Unknown	10**	2**	12**
By Infant's Sex	Male	39670	40026	79696
	Female	37999	37907	75906
By Plurality	Singleton	74146	74498	148644
	Multiple Birth	3524	3436	6960
By Maternal Race/Ethnicity	White	52975	52620	105595
	Black	6452	6462	12914
	Hispanic	10696	10861	21577
	Asian/PI	5469	5758	11227
	<i>American Indian</i>	151**	157**	308**
	<i>Other, non-Hisp</i>	1844**	1967**	3811**
	<i>Unknown</i>	83**	109**	192**

* data runs for total year and two-year total in each demographic strata (i.e. age, sex, plurality, race/eth) are mutually exclusive

** some variables not included (or categories are collapsed) for risk factor analysis due to low cell counts

Birth Defect Codes and Exclusions¹ by Defect Category		
Defect	ICD-9 / BPA²	NOTES
Central Nervous System		
Anencephaly	740.020-740.100	
Encephalocele	742.000-742.090	
Holoprosencephaly	742.260-742.267	
Hydrocephaly	742.300, 742.310, 742.380, 742.390	Postnatal diagnosis required. Exclude mild or transient hydrocephaly due to intraventricular hemorrhage; ventriculomegaly. Include if associated with prenatal infection.
Microcephaly	742.100	Include if 2 SD below the mean, adjusted for gestational age and length.
Spina bifida	741.001-741.999	Include cases with and without associated hydrocephaly.
Spinal cord	742.580	
Other CNS	742.200-742.250, 742.270-742.290, 742.320, 742.400-742.480, 742.900	Postnatal diagnosis required. Exclude cysts due to IVH, anoxia, postnatal infection.
Eye		
Aniridia	743.420-743.424	
Anophthalmia/microphthalmia	743.000-743.104	Include all truly small eyes/globes, more than short palpebral fissures.
Congenital glaucoma, congenital cataract	743.200-743.204, 743.320-743.326, 743.350-743.364	Exclude minor lens opacities.
Other eye ³	743.300-743.314, 743.340-743.344, 743.410, 743.430-743.636	Exclude blue sclera corneal opacity. Exclude long eyelashes, small palpebral fissures, tear duct cysts, blocked tear ducts; eyelid, lacrimal system and orbit anomalies.
Ear		
Anotia/microtia	744.010-744.214	Exclude microtia type I mild.
Other ear ³	744.000, 744.240, 744.250	Exclude low-set/rotated, absent ear lobes, minor anomalies.

Birth Defect Codes and Exclusions¹ by Defect Category (cont'd)		
Defect	ICD-9 / BPA²	NOTES
Cardiovascular		
Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection		
Total/partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection	747.420, 747.430	
Atrioventricular Canal Defects		
ASD primum	745.600	
Common atrium	745.610	
Complete atrioventricular canal defect	745.620, 745.630	
Endocardial cushion defect (OS and NOS)	745.680, 745.690	
VSD, canal type	745.685	
Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch		
Double outlet right ventricle	745.185-745.189	
d-Transposition of the great arteries	745.100, 745.110	
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	747.217	
Tetralogy of Fallot w/ and w/o pulmonary atresia	745.200, 747.310	
Truncus	745.000	
Ebstein Anomaly		
Ebstein anomaly	746.200	
Laterality Defects		
Heterotaxy, situs inversus	759.300-759.395	
Left-Sided Obstruction		
Aortic valve stenosis	746.300	
Coarctation of aorta	747.100-747.190	
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	746.700, 747.200	
Interrupted aortic arch (type A and NOS)	747.215, 747.216	

Birth Defect Codes and Exclusions¹ by Defect Category (cont'd)

Defect	ICD-9 / BPA ²	NOTES
Patent Ductus Arteriosus		
Patent ductus arteriosus	747.000	Exclude if on prostaglandin or gestational age <37 weeks. Include if >=37 weeks and >=6 wks when last noted or <6 wks if treated with indocin or surgery or associated with other codable defect.
Right-Sided Obstruction		
Pulmonary stenosis, valvular	746.010	
Pulmonary valve atresia w/ intact septum	746.000	
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD	746.030	
Tricuspid valve atresia	746.100	
Septal Defects		
ASD (secundum, OS and NOS)	745.510, 745.580, 745.599	
VSD (membranous and NOS)	745.485, 745.490	
VSD, conoventricular/malalignment	745.487	
Single Ventricle and L-TGA		
L-TGA	745.120	
Single ventricle	745.300-745.380	
Other Cardiovascular		
Other cardiovascular ³	745.010, 746.080, 746.090, 746.400-746.600, 746.800-746.995, 747.210, 747.220-747.300, 747.320-747.410, 747.480-747.810, 747.880	Exclude pulmonary/tricuspid/aortic valve insufficiency/regurgitation, mitral valve congenital insufficiency. Exclude peripheral pulmonary artery stenosis with physiologic PPS (i.e. <36 wks).

Birth Defect Codes and Exclusions¹ by Defect Category (cont'd)

Defect	ICD-9 / BPA ²	NOTES
Respiratory		
Choanal atresia	748.010-748.014	
Lung anomalies ³	748.400-748.580, 748.880	Exclude hypoplasia of lung if GA<36 weeks, or associated with space occupying lesion, diaphragmatic hernia, skeletal dysplasia, bilateral renal agenesis/oligohydramnios.
Other respiratory ³	748.000, 748.205, 748.310-748.385, 748.690	Exclude laryngo-tracheomalacia.
Orofacial		
Cleft lip w/ and w/o cleft palate	749.101-749.290	Exclude isolated alveolar ridge, cleft gum.
Cleft palate w/o cleft lip	749.001-749.090	Exclude isolated submucous cleft, bifid uvula.
Pierre Robin sequence	524.080	
Other orofacial ³	744.400, 744.480, 748.120, 748.180, 750.120, 750.130	
Gastrointestinal		
Biliary atresia	751.650	
Esophageal atresia/tracheoesophageal fistula	750.300-750.330	
Hirschsprung disease	751.300-751.340	
Rectal and large intestinal atresia/stenosis	751.200-751.240	
Small intestinal atresia	751.100-751.195	
Other gastrointestinal ³	750.600-751.010, 751.400-751.540, 751.560, 751.580, 751.660-751.800	Exclude isolated anal fistula, pyloric stenosis, unspecified anomalies of upper alimentary tract, superficial rectal fissure, tongue tie, protruding tongue.
Genitourinary		
Bladder exstrophy	753.500	
Cloacal exstrophy	751.550	
Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree	752.606-752.627	Exclude 1st degree hypospadias and epispadias.
Obstructive genitourinary defect ³	753.200-753.290, 753.600-753.690	Include primary diagnosis with surgical intervention and secondary diagnosis with postnatal confirmation.
Renal agenesis/hypoplasia	753.000-753.008	Exclude isolated renal agenesis/hypoplasia.
Other genitourinary ³	752.000-752.480, 752.700-752.880, 753.110, 753.120, 753.160, 753.180, 753.310-753.480, 753.485, 753.700-753.880	Exclude isolated undescended testicle(s), unspecified genitourinary anomalies.

Birth Defect Codes and Exclusions¹ by Defect Category (cont'd)

Defect	ICD-9 / BPA ²	NOTES
Musculoskeletal		
Clubfoot	754.500, 754.520-754.735	Exclude positional, flexible, untreated (casting, surgery).
Craniosynostosis	756.000-756.024, 756.050, 756.056, 756.410	Exclude deformational plagiocephaly and other abnormal head shape w/o craniosynostosis.
Diaphragmatic hernia	756.600-756.619	
Gastroschisis	756.710	
Omphalocele	756.700	
Polydactyly/syndactyly	755.005-755.199	Exclude postaxial polydactyly: Type B. Exclude extra digit, NOS. Exclude accessory digits, NOS: hand/foot not specified, hand/hoot pre/postaxial not specified. Exclude isolated 2-3 toe syndactyly.
Reduction deformity, lower limbs	755.300-755.390	
Reduction deformity, upper limbs	755.200-755.290	
Skeletal dysplasia	755.555, 756.430-756.590	
Other musculoskeletal ³	754.200-754.410, 754.510, 754.880, 755.440-755.800, 756.080-756.340, 756.620, 756.680, 756.720-756.880	Exclude if flexible, untreated, positional. Exclude congenital dislocation hip. Exclude supernumerary rib in cervical region, deviated septum.
Chromosomal and Other Syndromes		
Klinefelter syndrome	758.700-758.790	
Trisomy 13	758.100-758.190	
Trisomy 18	758.200-758.290	
Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)	758.000-758.090	
Turner syndrome	758.600-758.690	
Other chromosomal syndromes/other syndromes	279.110, 756.045, 756.046, 756.055, 756.057-756.065, 756.525, 756.830, 756.850, 758.300-758.590, 758.800-758.990, 759.500, 759.610, 759.800-759.890	Exclude balanced autosomal translocation.
Other		
Amniotic bands	658.800	
Skin anomalies ³	757.110-757.800	Exclude other specified, unspecified congenital anomalies of the integument. Exclude skin tags, urticaria pigmentosa, nevus not elsewhere classified (port wine, nevus flammeus, stork bite), specified anomalies of hair or nails, hypoplastic breast/nipple, absent nipple, small nipple.
Other, Specified	759.000-759.240, 759.680, 759.700	Exclude ectopic, lobulation, hyperplasia, splenomegaly, hypoplasia, misshapen and other specified or unspecified anomalies of spleen. Exclude hypoplasia and other specified or unspecified anomalies of the adrenal gland.

¹ Other ICD 9 codes and diagnoses outside of the 740.0 - 759.9 range which are also excluded are: Syringomyelia, isolated; inguinal hernia, umbilical hernia, testicular torsion, sacral/pilonidal dimple, tibial torsion, hydroceles, webbing of neck and associated abnormalities, heart murmurs without confirmation of a structural defect.

² Coding scheme derives from International Classification of Diseases (ICD) 9th Revision/British Pediatric Association (BPA), 1979.

³ Some defect(s) in this category are included only with surgical intervention or other treatment, if isolated; otherwise they require a codable defect.

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label	BPA Code	# of Defects
Central Nervous System		
Agyria and lissencephaly	742240	6
Anencephaly	740020	8
Arrhinencephaly	742270	1
Brain cysts: Porencephaly / porencephalic	742410	1
Brain: Other specified anomalies / cortical atrophy / cranial nerve defects	742480	7
Cerebellar Hypoplasia	742235	5
Cerebellum anomalies	742230	6
Corpus callosum anomalies (don't code colpocephaly with ACC)	742210	58
Dandy-Walker Malformation	742310	19
Encephalocele, Occipital	742000	3
Enlarged brain and head / enlarged head / enlarged brain / megalencephaly / macrocephaly	742400	12
Holoprosencephaly, Alobar	742265	2
Holoprosencephaly, Lobar	742267	1
Holoprosencephaly, NOS	742260	1
Holoprosencephaly, Semilobar	742266	3
Hydranencephaly	742320	5
Hydrocephaly, NOS	742390	10
Hydrocephaly, Anomalies of Aqueduct of Sylvius	742300	7
Hydrocephaly, Other Specified	742380	5
Lipomeningomyelocele, Highest level unspecified, No mentioned hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741849	1
Lipomeningomyelocele, Highest level, lumbar, No mentioned hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741843	4
Meningocele, Highest level unspecified, Hydrocephalus, other (aqueduct of Sylvius) or NOS, closed lesion	741419	1
Meningocele, Highest level, sacral, No mentioned hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741814	1
Meningocele, Highest level, sacral, No mentioned hydrocephalus, open lesion	741714	1
Meningocele, Highest level, thoracic, No mentioned hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741812	1
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level unspecified, Hydrocephalus, other (aqueduct of Sylvius) or NOS, unspec. open/closed	741509	1
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level, lumbar, Arnold Chiari malformation ± hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741103	3
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level, lumbar, Arnold Chiari malformation ± hydrocephalus, open lesion	741003	5
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level, lumbar, Arnold Chiari malformation ± hydrocephalus, unspec. open/closed lesion	741203	1
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level, lumbar, Hydrocephalus, other (aqueduct of Sylvius) or NOS, unspec. open/closed	741503	1
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level, sacral, No mentioned hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741804	1
Meningomyelocele/myelomeningocele, Highest level, sacral, No mentioned hydrocephalus, open lesion	741704	1
Microcephalus	742100	31
Microgyria / polymicrogyria	742250	9
Myelocele, Highest level, cervical, No mentioned hydrocephalus, closed lesion	741821	1

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)

Eye

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
Absence of iris/Aniridia, Bilateral	743424	1
Absence of lens/Congenital Aphakia, Laterality Unk	743300	1
Anophthalmos, Bilateral	743004	1
Anophthalmos, Right	743002	1
Axenfeld Anomaly, Bilateral	743469	1
Axenfeld Anomaly, Left	743466	1
Buphthalmos/Congenital Glaucoma, Bilateral	743204	9
Buphthalmos/Congenital Glaucoma, Left	743201	1
Buphthalmos/Congenital Glaucoma, Right	743202	2
Cataract, anterior polar, Left	743351	2
Cataract, anterior polar, Right	743352	1
Cataract, NOS, Left	743321	9
Cataract, NOS, Bilateral	743324	10
Cataract, NOS, Right	743322	13
Cataract, other specified, Left	743361	2
Cataract, other specified, Bilateral	743364	3
Microphthalmos, Bilateral	743104	9
Microphthalmos, Laterality Unk	743100	1
Microphthalmos, Left	743101	2
Microphthalmos, Right	743102	3
Peters Anomaly, Bilateral	743464	1
Peters Anomaly, Right	743462	1
S Anterior segment: OS colobomas and anomalies (Use for Rieger SYNDROME, use 759800. For Reiger ANOMALY, use 743470-474)	743480	2
S Anterior segment: Unspecified colobomas and anomalies	743490	1
S Choroid: Coloboma	743535	2
S Cornea, other anomalies. Excludes: megalocornea (use 743.220)	743410	2
S Eyelid: Ectropion	743610	1
S Eyelids: Coloboma	743636	2

Ear

Anotia, Left	744011	1
Anotia, Right	744012	1
Microtia, Bilateral	744214	5
Microtia, Left	744211	7
Microtia, Right	744212	19
S # Ear : ACCESSORY auricle / polyotia	744100	2
S Absence or stricture of auditory canal	744000	5
S Anomaly of inner ear / congenital anomaly of membranous labyrinth or organ of Corti	744030	4
S Anomaly of middle ear / fusion of ossicles	744020	3
S Ear: Other specified anomalies (see also 744.230) / #DARWIN tubercle	744280	6
S Ear: Other misshapen ear / cleft / malformed / #POINTED / # ELFIN, pixie-like / # LOP / # CAULIFLOWER / # ABSENT or decreased cartilage -- a conditional exclusion if <36wks	744230	10

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
S Ear: Unspecified anomalies / congenital anomaly (any part) / anomaly, deformity, NOS	744300	1
Cardiovascular		
Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Connection		
Partial anomalous pulmonary venous return/connection/drainage	747430	10
Total anomalous pulmonary venous return/connection/drainage	747420	14
Atrioventricular Canal Defects		
Atrial septal defect, primum type (ASD1)	745600	8
Common Atrium	745610	5
Complete atrioventricular canal (CAVC)	745630	47
Endocardial cushion defect, NOS	745690	2
Endocardial cushion defect, Other specified	745680	5
Ventricular septal defect, inflow type (subtricuspid, canal-type) (VSDavc)	745685	5
Atrial septal defect, primum type (ASD1)	745600	8
Conotruncal (Outlet) and Aortic Arch		
Dextro-transposition of great arteries (dTGA, dTGV) w/ intact ventricular septum	745100	21
Dextro-transposition of great arteries (dTGA, dTGV) w/ ventricular septal defect	745110	13
Double-outlet right ventricle (DORV) with normally related great arteries	745185	9
Double-outlet right ventricle (DORV) with transposed great arteries	745186	8
Double-outlet right ventricle (DORV), NOS	745189	4
Double-outlet right ventricle (DORV), Other Specified	745188	1
Interrupted aortic arch, type B	747217	8
Pulmonary atresia with VSD (tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia)	747310	10
Tetralogy of Fallot	745200	58
Truncus Arteriosus	745000	6
Ebstein Anomaly		
Ebstein Malformation or Anomaly	746200	7
Heterotaxy (Laterality Defects)		
Complete situs inversus w/ dextrocardia	759300	2
Heterotaxy, NOS	759395	3
Situs ambiguus, left; left isomerism	759360	3
Situs ambiguus, sidedness NOS	759380	7
Situs ambiguus, sidedness unclear	759370	1
Situs inversus abdominis	759330	2
Complete situs inversus w/ dextrocardia	759300	2
Heterotaxy, NOS	759395	3
Left – Sided Obstruction		
Aortic stenosis, valvar	746300	30
Coarctation of the aorta (COA), preductal (proximal)	747100	2
Coarctation of the aorta, juxtaductal	747120	3
Coarctation of the aorta, NOS	747190	57
Hypoplastic left heart syndrome	746700	29
Interrupted aortic arch, NOS	747215	3
Interrupted aortic arch, type A	747216	2

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
Right – Sided Obstruction		
Pulmonary valve atresia with VSD (not TOF variant 747.310)	746030	6
Pulmonary valve atresia/intact ventricular septum	746000	7
Pulmonic stenosis, valvar	746010	98
Tricuspid atresia	746100	7
Septal Defects		
Atrial septal defect, NOS	745599	70
Atrial septal defect, OS	745580	3
Atrial septal defect, Secundum type (ASD2)	745510	184
Ventricular septal defect, NOS	745490	9
Ventricular septal defect, Malalignment-type (type I, subarterial) (VSDmal)	745487	19
Ventricular septal defect, Perimembranous (type II, membranous) (VSDmem)	745485	143
Single Ventricle and L – TGA		
L-TGA /Corrected transposition of great vessels / ventricular inversion. Excludes: dextrocardia (use 746800)	745120	6
Single ventricle, NOS	745300	4
Single ventricle, Double Inlet Left Ventricle	745310	4
Single ventricle, Double Inlet Right Ventricle	745320	4
Other Cardiovascular		
"Pulmonic" or pulmonary atresia, stenosis, or hypoplasia, NOS w/ no mention of whether valve or artery	746995	1
Anomalies of coronary artery or sinus	746885	13
Aorta: Hypoplasia	747210	7
Aorta: Other specified anomalies	747280	1
Aorta: Persistent right aortic arch	747230	28
Aorta: Vascular ring / double aortic arch / vascular ring compression of trachea	747250	10
Aortic septal defect / aortopulmonary window. Excludes: atrial septal defect(use 745.590)	745010	2
Aortic valve: bicuspid BAV / insufficiency or regurgitation / # MILD',MINIMAL', 'TRIVIAL',or 'PHYSIOLOGIC' ~	746400	36
Aortic valve: Other specified anomalies / aortic valve atresia. Excludes: supravalvular aortic stenosis(747.220)	746480	20
Aortic valve: Unspecified anomalies	746490	1
Bicuspid Aortic Valve (BAV); new code for cases starting DOB 1/1/07	746470	24
Cerebral vessels: Other anomalies / vein of Galen	747810	2
Cor triatriatum	746820	4
Great veins: Other specified anomalies (includes IVC interruption, bilateral SVC)	747480	16
Heart: Other specified anomalies / ectopia cordis / mesocardia / conduction defects, NOS	746880	53
Hypoplastic left ventricle. Excludes: hypoplastic left heart syndrome (746.700)	746881	4
Hypoplastic right heart or right ventricle / Uhl's disease (parchment RV)	746882	4
Mitral valve: Absence, atresia, or hypoplasia	746505	6
Mitral valve: Congenital mitral stenosis	746500	5
Persistent left superior vena cava	747410	35
Pulmonary infundibular (subvalvular) stenosis	746830	13
Pulmonary valve: Other specified anomalies. Excludes: infundibular PS (746.830)	746080	22
S Circulatory system: Other specified anomalies. Excludes cong aneurysms: coronary ~ (746.880),peripheral ~ (747.640), pulmonary~ (747.330), retinal ~(743.510), ruptured cerebral arterioven	747880	3
S Peripheral arteries: Other anomalies / aberrant subclavian artery	747640	31
S Pulmonary artery: atresia, absence or agenesis. Use 746.995 if artery or valve is not specified	747300	1
S Pulmonary artery: other specified / pulmonary artery hypoplasia	747380	6
S Pulmonary artery: stenosis. Use 746.995 if artery or valve is not specified	747320	9
Situs: Dextrocardia without situs inversus / dextrocardia with situs solitus. Excludes: dextrocardia with situs inversus (use_759.300)	746800	9
Supra-aortic stenosis / supravalvular aortic stenosis. Excludes: aortic stenosis, congenital(see 746.300)	747220	5

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
Valves: Unspecified anomalies	746900	1
Respiratory		
Choanal atresia, Bilateral	748014	6
Choanal atresia, Left	748011	1
Choanal atresia, Right	748012	7
Larynx: Cleft / laryngotracheoesophageal cleft / 1/04: use for laryngeal atresia/stenosis	748385	36
Other anomalies of trachea. Excludes: vascular ring compression of the trachea (use 747.250)	748330	6
S Choanal stenosis (For NBDPS: choanal atresia = 748.010 etc)	748000	5
S Lung agenesis or aplasia	748500	2
S Lung cysts: CCAM (cong cystic adenomatoid malf), Other specified	748480	11
S Lung cysts: Single	748400	1
S Lung: other specified dysplasia / fusion of lobes	748580	2
S Lung: sequestration	748520	7
S Other anomalies of bronchus	748350	1
S Stenosis of bronchus	748340	1
Orofacial		
Cleft hard palate, Bilateral	749010	1
Cleft hard palate, Central	749020	5
Cleft hard palate, NOS	749030	21
Cleft hard palate, Unilateral, Left	749001	1
Cleft hard palate, Unilateral, Right	749002	1
Cleft lip and palate, Bilateral cleft lip	749210	24
Cleft lip and palate, Central cleft lip	749220	1
Cleft lip and palate, NOS	749290	3
Cleft lip and palate, Unilateral cleft lip, Left	749201	23
Cleft lip and palate, Unilateral cleft lip, Right	749202	13
Cleft lip, Bilateral	749110	5
Cleft lip, Central	749120	1
Cleft lip, NOS	749195	1
Cleft lip, Unilateral, Left	749101	31
Cleft lip, Unilateral, Right	749102	14
Cleft palate, NOS	749090	12
Cleft soft palate, Central	749060	3
Cleft soft palate, NOS	749070	30
Cleft soft palate, Unilateral, Right	749042	1
Nose: Fissured, notched, or cleft	748120	1
Nose: OS anomalies (For NBDPS: nasal pyriform aperture stenosis is here, not Cho Sten)/ small nose and nostril / absent nasal septum / # FLAT or WIDE nasal bridge/ #BEAKED nose	748180	16
Pierre Robin sequence (not a true "syndrome")	524080	23
S Branchial cleft, sinus, fistula, cyst, or pit	744400	26
S Cleft: Incomplete CL/ microform /pseudo / fused lip /healed lip	749190	5

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
S Face or neck: Other specified anomalies (6/03 eg. facial cleft)	744880	7

Gastrointestinal

Anal atresia with fistula	751230	23
Anal atresia without mention of fistula	751240	15
Annular pancreas	751720	4
Biliary atresia, extrahepatic or NOS (use 751670 for intrahepatic)	751650	5
Bronchoesophageal fistula with or without mention of esophageal atresia	750330	1
Congenital hiatal hernia / cardiac displacement through esophageal hiatus / partial thoracic stomach. Excludes: congenital diaphragmatic hernia (756.610)	750600	1
Duplication of anus, appendix, cecum, or intestine / enterogenous cyst	751500	6
Ectopic (displaced, anteriorly placed) anus	751530	17
Esophageal atresia with TE fistula	750310	34
Esophageal atresia without TE fistula	750300	4
Hirschsprung disease, NOS	751330	12
Hirschsprung disease: Long – segment (aganglionosis beyond rectum)	751310	17
Hirschsprung disease: Short – segment (aganglionosis involving no more than the anal sphincter and the rectum)	751320	6
Intestinal atresia/stenosis, duodenum	751100	17
Intestinal atresia/stenosis, ileum	751120	8
Intestinal atresia/stenosis, jejunum	751110	22
Intestinal atresia/stenosis, large intestine, NOS	751200	3
Malrotation: cecum and/or colon	751400	1
Malrotation: Other specified and unspecified	751490	48
Malrotation: small intestine alone	751495	3
Meckel's diverticulum	751010	10
Microcolon	751520	1
Other specified anomalies of intestine / rectal fissures	751580	2
Other specified anomalies of upper alimentary tract	750800	1
Persistent omphalomesenteric duct / persistent vitelline duct	751000	4
Rectal atresia/stenosis without mention of fistula	751220	6
Tracheoesophageal fistula without mention of esophageal atresia	750320	1

Genitourinary

# Urachus: PATENT	753700	4
Bladder exstrophy	753500	1
Cloacal exstrophy	751550	2
Double urethra or urinary meatus	753840	3
Genital organs: Other specified anomalies / microgenitalia / macrogenitalia	752880	1
Gyne: OS anomalies of cervix, vagina, or external female genitalia /# VAGINAL tags / # HYMENAL tags	752480	2
Gyne: S Ovaries, Multiple cysts	752085	3

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
Gyne: S Ovaries, Other specified anomalies	752080	1
Gyne: Uterus, other anomalies / bicornuate/ unicornis	752380	2
Gyne: Vagina, absence or atresia complete or partial	752410	1
Hypospadias, Second Degree	752606	71
Hypospadias, Second Degree with Chordee	752626	58
Hypospadias, Third Degree	752607	13
Hypospadias, Third Degree with Chordee	752627	39
Indeterminate sex, NOS / ambiguous genitalia	752790	21
Kidneys: Polycystic, adult type (APKD)	753120	1
Kidneys: Polycystic, infantile type (IPKD)	753110	2
Other and unspecified atresia and stenosis of urethra and bladder neck	753690	2
Other atresia, or stenosis of bladder neck	753610	1
Other specified anomalies of bladder and urethra	753880	5
Penis: Other anomalies / concealed penis / absent or hooded foreskin / #REDUNDANT foreskin (Redundant foreskin is never coded.)	752860	84
Penis: Small / hypoplastic / micropenis	752865	14
Renal agenesis, bilateral	753000	1
Renal agenesis, left + renal hypoplasia, right	753006	2
Renal hypoplasia, bilateral	753005	1
S Absence of testis / monorchidism, NOS	752800	1
S Atresia, stricture, or stenosis of ureter / ureteropelvic junction obstruction or stenosis /ureterovesical junction obstruction or stenosis / hypoplastic ureter	753210	58
S Congenital hydronephrosis / pyelocaliectasis	753200	225
S Kidney/renal: cyst, single	753100	9
S Kidney: Double or triple, pelvis / pyelon duplex or triplex	753310	20
S Kidney: Ectopic / pelvic	753330	5
S Megaloureter, NOS / hydroureter	753220	48
S Ureter: Accessory / double ureter / duplex collecting system	753410	30
S Ureter: Ectopic	753420	11
S Ureter: Other specified anomalies / ureterocele	753480	30
S Ureter: Variations of vesicoureteral reflux	753485	80
S Kidney: Lobulated, fused, or horseshoe / crossed fused ectopia	753320	7
S Kidneys: Multicystic renal dysplasia / multicystic kidney	753160	29
Testis and scrotum: Other anomalies / polyorchidism / bifid scrotum. Excludes: torsion of the testes or spermatic cord(608.200)	752820	11
True hermaphroditism / ovotestis	752700	3

Musculoskeletal

= Achondroplasia	756430	5
= Amyotrophia congenita (= one specific type of arthrogryposis)	756840	2
= Arthrogryposis multiplex congenita / distal arthrogryposis syndrome. Temporarily includes: one or more flexion contractures of individual joints	755800	18
= Cleidocranial dysostosis	755555	1
= Osteogenesis imperfecta	756500	6
= Other specified osteodystrophies	756580	3

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
= Spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia	756460	1
= Thanatophoric dwarfism	756447	2
Absence of foot or toes, Bilateral	755349	5
Absence of foot or toes, Left	755346	4
Absence of foot or toes, Right	755347	6
Absence of hand or fingers, Bilateral	755249	3
Absence of hand or fingers, Left	755246	18
Absence of hand or fingers, Right	755247	11
Absence of the forearm and hand, Bilateral	755244	1
Absence of the forearm and hand, Left	755241	1
Absence of the forearm and hand, Right	755242	1
Absence of the lower leg and foot, Left	755341	1
Absence of thigh only (lower leg and foot present), Right	755332	1
Congenital postural scoliosis	754200	20
Craniosynostosis, Coronal, Bilateral	756014	6
Craniosynostosis, Coronal, Laterality Unk	756010	1
Craniosynostosis, Coronal, Left	756011	6
Craniosynostosis, Coronal, Right	756012	3
Craniosynostosis, Lambdoidal, Left	756021	2
Craniosynostosis, Lambdoidal, Right	756022	1
Craniosynostosis, Metopic	756006	14
Craniosynostosis, Sagittal	756005	42
Diaphragmatic hernia, Morgagni, Bilateral	756619	1
Diaphragmatic hernia, Bochdalek, Left	756611	11
Diaphragmatic hernia, Bochdalek, Right	756612	2
Diaphragmatic hernia, Morgagni, Left	756616	1
Diaphragmatic hernia, Morgagni, Right	756617	4
Diaphragmatic hernia, NOS (inc. absent/hemidiaphragm), Laterality Unk	756600	1
Diaphragmatic hernia, NOS (inc. absent/hemidiaphragm), Left	756601	21
Diaphragmatic hernia, NOS (inc. absent/hemidiaphragm), Right	756602	3
Fibular aplasia/hypoplasia, Left	755371	1
Fibular aplasia/hypoplasia, Right	755372	1
Gastroschisis	756710	56
Longitudinal deficiency of arm, NOS, Bilateral	755254	1
Omphalocele	756700	21
Prune belly syndrome	756720	2
Radial aplasia/hypoplasia, Bilateral	755269	4
Radial aplasia/hypoplasia, Left	755266	4
Radial aplasia/hypoplasia, Right	755267	3
S Anomalies of elbow and upper arm	755540	1
S Anomalies of fingers /camptodactyly/macro- /brachy-/clino-, triphalangeal thumb. Excludes:acrocephalosyndactyly(see756.050) /Apert synd(see756.055)	755500	46
S Bowing, tibia and/or fibula	754410	3
S Clubfoot, NOS / talipes, NOS	754730	92
S Clubfoot: # METATARSUS varus or adductus	754520	16
S Clubfoot: Complex varus deformities	754530	3

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
S Clubfoot: Talipes calcaneovarus	754510	1
S Clubfoot: Talipes equinovarus	754500	72
S Diaphragm: Eventration	756620	2
S Diaphragm: Other specified anomalies	756680	2
S Genu recurvatum	754430	3
S Lower limb: hypoplasia / Toes, feet, legs: hypoplasia. Excludes: aplasia of or absent lower limb (see 755.3)	755685	4
S Other specified deformities of ankle and / or toes / dorsiflexion of foot. Excludes: widely spaced first and second toes (use_755.600)	754780	3
S Other specified valgus deformities of foot	754680	2
S Polydactyly fingers / postaxial polydactyly, Type A	755005	63
S Polydactyly: Accessory big toe (preaxial)	755030	13
S Polydactyly: Accessory digits foot, NOS (preaxial, postaxial not specified)	755096	9
S Polydactyly: Accessory digits hand, NOS (preaxial, postaxial not specified)	755095	9
S Polydactyly: Accessory thumbs (preaxial polydactyly)	755010	50
S Polydactyly: Accessory toes (postaxial)	755020	53
S Ribs: Absence	756300	20
S Ribs: Extra	756330	13
S Ribs: Fused	756320	8
S Ribs: Other anomalies	756340	4
S Syndactyly: Fused fingers	755100	10
S Syndactyly: Fused toes	755120	33
S Syndactyly: Unspecified (see below for specified site)	755190	3
S Syndactyly: Unspecified (webbed vs. fused) thumb and / or fingers, NOS	755193	10
S Syndactyly: Unspecified (webbed vs. fused) Toes	755199	1
S Syndactyly: Unspecified toes	755194	3
S Syndactyly: Webbed fingers	755110	20
S Syndactyly: Webbed toes / # WEBBING between the second and third toes.	755130	37
S Talipes calcaneovalgus	754600	12
S Unspecified reduction defect of lower limb	755390	2
S Unspecified valgus deformities of foot	754690	2
S Unspecified varus deformities of feet	754590	1
S Upper leg: anomalies / anteversion of femur	755650	1
S Upper limb: Hypoplasia / Fingers, hands, or arms: hypoplasia. Excludes: aplasia or absent upper limb (see 755.2)	755585	9
S Upper limb: Other specified anomalies / hyperextensibility of upper limb / shortening of upper limb	755580	3
Sacral agenesis	756175	3
Skull and face bone: Other specified anomalies / localized skull defects / mid-facial hypoplasia / prominent maxilla/hypotelorism / # FLATocciput / # PROMINENT occiput.	756080	14
Spine: Kyphosis / kyphoscoliosis	756120	9
Split-Foot, Bilateral	755359	1
Split-Foot, Right	755357	2
Split-Hand, Bilateral	755259	3
Split-Hand, Left	755256	3
Split-Hand, Right	755257	3
Sternum: Other anomalies / double ossification center in manubrium / bifid/ short	756380	1
Thumb only missing or hypoplastic, Bilateral	755264	2
Thumb only missing or hypoplastic, Left	755261	2
Thumb only missing or hypoplastic, Right	755262	1

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
Tibial aplasia/hypoplasia, Right	755367	1
Ulnar aplasia/hypoplasia, Bilateral	755274	2
Ulnar aplasia/hypoplasia, Right	755272	2
Unspecified anomalies of spine	756190	1
Vertebrae, cervical: anomalies	756140	2

Chromosomal and Other Syndromes

= 1/06 Clarified: "Other Trans" Incl Unbal AND Other Bal Translocations, OS. Excludes bal trans in normal (758.400)	758540	7
= 22q11 deletion (Added 7/04: apply to 1/01. Also code phenotype if stated, eg. DGS 279.110)	758370	21
= Autosome OS: Other spec anomalies / marker / 8/02: Ring, derivative, mosaic, isochromosome, "additional" material / 3/03 inversions. 2/08 Never code "pericentric inv 9"	758580	15
= Crouzon disease	756040	1
= Deletion 17p or 18p / deletion of short arm chromosome 17 or 18	758350	1
= Deletion 4p / Wolff-Hirschorn syndrome	758320	5
= Deletion 5p / Cri du chat syndrome	758310	2
= Deletion: Autosome (not X or Y)(ie. #1-16, 4q,5q,19,20) / (From 8/02, used for 22q11, prior to the specific 22q code added 7/04)	758380	9
= Deletion: unspecified autosome	758390	1
= Down syndrome: diagnosed clinically, but no karyotype report in medical record	758090	1
= Down syndrome: mosaic	758040	1
= Down syndrome: translocation 21, duplication 21q, Robertsonian translocation, isochromosome 21q	758020	3
= Down syndrome: trisomy 21	758000	192
= Goldenhar syndrome / oculoauriculovertebral dysplasia	756060	4
= Hemifacial microsomia	756065	6
= Klinefelter syndrome: 47, XXY	758700	7
= Mosaic XO/XY, 45X/46XY. Excludes: with Turner phenotype(758.610)	758800	3
= Other craniofacial syndromes / Hallermann-Streif syndrome	756046	3
= Other specified acrocephalosyndactylies	756057	2
= Sex chromosome : Unspecified anomaly	758890	1
= Sex chromosome: Other specified anomaly / fragile X	758880	5
= Treacher-Collins syndrome / Mandibulofacial dysostosis	756045	2
= Triploidy	758586	3
= Trisomy 13 (archaic Patau syndrome): cytogenetics result in record	758100	16
= Trisomy 18 (archaic Edwards syndrome): cytogenetics result in record	758200	24
= Trisomy 8	758500	1
= Trisomy, partial / 8/02 "partial trisomy" = "duplication". But, for "dup NOS" use 758930	758530	10
= Trisomy: Other total trisomy syndromes / trisomy 22 / trisomy, NOS	758520	3
= Tuberous sclerosis / Bourneville's disease	759500	6
= Turner phenotype: karyotype 45,X [XO] Note: The 7586xx code series that follows excludes pure gonadal dysgenesis(752.720)	758600	9
= Turner phenotype: variant karyotypes, eg. isochromosome, mosaic (eg X, XX,XY), partial X deletion, ring X chromosome. Excludes: Turner phenotype with normal karyotype	758610	6
= Unspecified chromosome: Unspecified anomaly of chromosome(s)	758990	1
= XXX female / 47XXX / Triple X syndrome	758850	8

ICD9/BPA Codes with Counts - Live Births and Stillbirths, Massachusetts 2006-2007

BPA label (cont'd)	BPA Code	# of Defects
= XYY, male / 47,XYY / mosaic XYY male	758840	1
= Malf OS: VATER/VACTERL/Acardia/ Angelman/Bloom/CHARGE/hemihyper/Meckel-Gruber/Neu-Laxova/PentalogyCantrell/Sotos/ TownesBrock/ WalkerWarburg/ Weaver / 10/02 VCFS,Shprintzen: code also chrome/FISH	759890	22
= Malf. Syndromes/face: Aarskog /BOF /BOR /Fraser /FreemanSheldon / Kabuki / Miller-Dieker/ Noonan /Opitz G / oral-facial-digita/ Oto-palato-digital / Septo-optic dysplasia / Waardenburg / Williams	759800	18
= Malf. Syndromes/limbs: Baller-Gerold/ Carpenter / caudal regression /Fryns/ Holt-Oram / Klippel-Trenaunay-Webe/ LimbBodyWall /Roberts/ Rubinstein-Taybi / sirenomelia / thrombocytopenia-absent radius	759840	6
= Malf. Syndromes/metabolic: Alagille /Alport / Beckwith-Wiedemann / Johansen-Blizzard/ leprechaunism / Lowe/ Menkes(kinky hair) /Prader-Willi/ Zellweger	759870	11
= Malf. Syndromes/other skeletal: Marfan / Stickler/ Beemer Langer	759860	4
= Malf. Syndromes/short stature: Smith-Lemli-Optiz /de Lange / Cockayne / Laurence-Moon-Biedl / Russell-Silver / Seckel	759820	3
DiGeorge S (10/02: Use for specific phenotype with chrome/FISH 22q, if available 758.370)	279110	10
= 1/06 Clarified: "Other Trans" Incl Unbal AND Other Bal Translocations, OS. Excludes bal trans in normal (758.400)	758540	7
= 22q11 deletion (Added 7/04: apply to 1/01. Also code phenotype if stated, eg. DGS 279.110)	758370	21
= Autosome OS: Other spec anomalies / marker / 8/02: Ring, derivative, mosaic, isochrome, "additional" material / 3/03 inversions. 2/08 Never code "pericentric inv 9"	758580	15
 Other		
= Collodion baby	757110	2
= Ectodermal dysplasia. Excludes: Ellis-van Creveld syndrome (756.525)	757340	2
= Epidermolysis bullosa	757330	2
= X-linked ichthyosis	757196	5
Adrenogenital syndrome / adrenal hyperplasia	255200	2
Amniotic band sequence	658800	16
Anomalies of thymus / absent thymus / # THYMICHYPERTROPHY	759240	3
Ichthyosiform erythroderma	757197	1
Multiple congenital anomalies (In MA, ="MCA NOS", not "MCA no specific dx") / anomaly, multiple, NOS / deformity, multiple, NOS	759700	3
Skin: Other specified anomalies / scalp defects. For specified anomalies of skin see 757.390. For specified anomalies of hair, see_757480. For specified anomalies of nails_757.580	757800	7
Spleen: Absence / asplenia	759000	6
Spleen: Accessory / 8/02 Use for polysplenia, though not exactly the same	759040	8
Spleen: Hypoplasia	759010	1

Birth Defects by Severity

Severe, supportive measures, usually incompatible with life

Anencephaly
 Bilateral renal agenesis
 Trisomy 13
 Trisomy 18
 Severe identifiable syndrome or condition, not elsewhere classified
 Severe isolated defects, not elsewhere classified
 Multiple severe defects, (Severe MCA,NEC)

Serious, may be correctable, most have long – term needs

Achondroplasia
 Aniridia
 Anophthalmia
 Arthrogyposis
 Biliary atresia
 Bladder exstrophy
 Cloacal exstrophy
 CHD, multiple mod – severe, not elsewhere classified
 Double outlet right ventricle
 Encephalocele
 Heterotaxy with CHD
 Holoprosencephaly
 Hypoplastic left heart syndrome
 Limb reductions, mod – severe
 Osteogenesis imperfecta
 Sacral agenesis, caudal regression, sirenomelia
 Single ventricle
 Spina bifida
 Amniotic band complex
 Down syndrome
 Mod serious syndrome/condition, not elsewhere classified
 Mod serious defect, not elsewhere classified
 Mod – severe multiple defects, (Mod – severe MCA,NEC)

Moderate, most correctable, many have long – term needs

Aortic valve stenosis
 Atrial septal defect
 Atrioventricular canal AVC / AVSD / ECD
 Choanal atresia
 Cleft lip/ palate
 Coarctation
 Cataract, glaucoma
 Clubfoot
 Coloboma
 CHD, Mult mild – mod not, listed elsewhere

Moderate, most correctable, many have long – term needs (cont'd)

Craniosynostosis
 Dandy – Walker malformation
 Diaphragmatic hernia
 Esophageal atresia/ TEF
 Ebstein anomaly
 Gastroschisis
 Genitourinary, obstructive
 Hirschsprung disease
 Penis, buried, hidden
 Hydrocephalus
 Hypospadias, 2nd or 3rd degree
 Intestinal atresia: duod, jejunal, ileal
 Imperforate anus/rectal atresia and stenosis
 Interrupted aortic arch
 Klinefelter syndrome
 Limb reductions, mild – mod
 Malrotation
 Microcephaly
 Microtia
 Omphalocele
 Pulm sequestration/ CCAM
 Pulmonary atresia/stenosis
 Tethered cord
 Tetralogy of Fallot
 Total /partial anom. pulm venous return
 Transposition great arteries
 Tricuspid atresia/stenosis
 Turner syndrome
 Ventricular septal defect
 Moderate syndrome/condition, not elsewhere classified
 Moderate defect, not elsewhere classified
 Moderate multiple severe defects, (Moderate MCA,NEC)
 DiGeorge/ VCF/ 22q11 del spectrum
 Goldenhar/FAVS/ OAVD

Mild, may be correctable, minimal long – term needs

Bicuspid aortic valve
 Meckel's diverticulum
 Microphthalmia
 CHD, OS, asymptomatic
 Patent ductus arteriosus
 Polydactyly, accessory thumbs, syndactyly
 Heterotaxy without CHD, Situs inversus totalis without CHD, Situs inversus abdominis, isolated dextrocardia
 Mild defect, not listed above

Glossary of Selected Birth Defects Terms¹

Agenesis, aplasia: Congenital absence of a body part or organ, implying that the structure never formed. Result of an error in development, as opposed to an external process.

Agenesis corpus callosum: Congenital absence of the part of the brain which connects the two cerebral hemispheres.

Amniotic band sequence: Highly variable group of defects (or single defect) due to encirclement (strangulation) of a body part by strands of a fragmented amniotic sac. Includes terminal transverse limb defects, clefts and body wall defects.

Anencephaly: Congenital absence of the skull and brain.

Aniridia: Congenital complete absence of the iris of the eye.

Anophthalmia: Congenital complete (or essentially complete) absence of the eye globe.

Anotia: Congenital absence of the ear.

Aortic valve stenosis: Congenital heart defect characterized by aortic valve narrowing reducing the flow of blood.

Arthrogryposis: Multiple congenital contractures of various joints.

Atresia / Imperforation: Congenital absence or closure of a normal opening (valve or lumen).

Atresia or stenosis of large intestine, rectum and anus: Congenital absence, closure or constriction of the large intestine, rectum or anus (commonly known as **imperforate anus**).

Atresia or stenosis of small intestine: Congenital absence, closure or constriction of the small intestine (**duodenal, jejunal, ileal atresia/stenosis**).

Atrial Septal Defect (ASD): Congenital heart defect characterized by one or more openings in the atrial septum (wall between the right and left atria). Most common type is called **ASD, secundum**.

Biliary atresia: Congenital absence of the ducts in the biliary tract.

Birth defect: Congenital abnormalities of structure, function or metabolism present before birth.

Bladder exstrophy: Congenital exposure of the bladder mucosa caused by incomplete closure of the anterior bladder wall and the abdominal cavity.

Branchial cleft, fistula, tag, cyst: Congenital abnormality of the neck or area just below the collarbone (clavicle). Includes skin pits (cleft), tissue tags, or cysts.

Cataract: Congenital opacity (clouding) of the lens of the eye.

Choanal atresia, choanal stenosis: Congenital absence (or narrowing) of the passageway between the nose and pharynx due to a thick bone or thin "membranous" bone.

Cleft lip: Congenital defect of the upper lip in which there is incomplete closure.

Cleft palate: Congenital defect in the closure of the palate; the structure which separates the nasal cavities and the back of the mouth. May involve the soft palate, hard palate or alveolus (gum).

Coarctation of the aorta: Congenital heart defect characterized by narrowing of the descending aorta. Usually occurs as an indentation at a specific location, less commonly diffuse narrowing.

Congenital: Abnormality or problem present at birth. Includes defects detected prenatally and those not recognized until after the newborn period.

Congenital heart defect (CHD), cardiovascular malformation (CVM): Abnormal heart structure present at birth. Includes defects detected prenatally, and those recognized after the newborn period.

Craniosynostosis: Congenital abnormality of skull shape due to premature fusion of the sutures between the skull bones. Head may be elongated, foreshortened, tower – like or asymmetrically flattened.

Dandy – Walker malformation: Congenital defect of the cerebellum involving a small cerebellar vermis and cystic dilation of the fourth ventricle.

Diaphragmatic hernia: Congenital defect of the muscular diaphragm resulting in herniation of the abdominal contents into the chest. Incomplete, asymptomatic variation is called eventration.

Down syndrome (trisomy 21): Distinctive and common chromosome abnormality syndrome caused by an extra copy of chromosome 21. Can be complete (trisomy 21), attached to another chromosome (translocation), or mixed with cells containing normal chromosomes (mosaic).

Dysplasia: Abnormal cell organization of an organ. Usually congenital, may be acquired.

Ebstein anomaly: Congenital heart defect characterized by downward displacement of the tricuspid valve into the right ventricle, associated with tricuspid valve regurgitation.

Encephalocele: Congenital defect of the skull resulting in herniation (protrusion) of the brain.

Endocardial cushion defect (ECD), atrioventricular canal (AVC) defect, atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD): Congenital heart defect characterized by a combined atrial and ventricular septal defects, and common atrioventricular valve (instead of distinct tricuspid and mitral valves). In contrast to complete AVC, the partial AVC includes an atrial septal defect, primum type, plus a cleft mitral valve.

Esophageal atresia: Congenital discontinuity of the lumen of the esophagus. Usually associated with a tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) which is an abnormal connection between the esophagus and trachea.

Fistula: Abnormal connection between an internal organ and the body surface, or between two internal organs or structures. Can be congenital or acquired.

Gastroschisis: Congenital opening of the abdominal wall with protrusion of the abdominal contents. Can be distinguished from omphalocele by location usually to the right of the umbilicus.

Heterotaxy (situs anomalies): Congenital malposition of the abdominal organs often associated with a congenital heart defect.

Hirschsprung disease: Congenital aganglionic megacolon (enlarged colon) due to absent nerves in the wall of the colon.

Holoprosencephaly: Spectrum of congenital defects of the forebrain due to failure of the brain to develop into two equal halves. Includes alobar (single ventricle), semilobar and lobar types.

Hydrocephalus: Accumulation of fluid within the spaces of the brain. Can be congenital or acquired.

Hydronephrosis: Enlargement of the urine – filled chambers (pelves, calyces) of the kidney

Hyperplasia: Overgrowth due to an increase in the number of cells of tissue.

Hypertrophy: Overgrowth due to enlargement of existing cells.

Hypoplasia: Small size of organ or part due to arrested development.

Hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS): Congenital heart defect characterized by extreme smallness of left – sided structures. Classically, aortic valve/mitral valve atresia or marked hypoplasia, ascending aorta and left ventricle hypoplasia.

Hypospadias: Congenital defect of the penis in which the urethral meatus (urinary outlet) is not on the glans (tip). Severity based on location from shaft to scrotum and perineum.

Limb deficiency, upper (arms) / lower (legs): Congenital absence of a portion or entire limb. Types include transverse (resembling an amputation), longitudinal (missing ray) and intercalary (missing bone in – between).

Macrocephaly: Large head due to extra fluid or extra volume.

Meninges: Membranes that cover the brain and spinal cord.

Microcephaly: Small head, with corresponding smallness of the brain.

Microphthalmia: Congenital smallness of the eye globe.

Microtia: Congenital smallness or maldevelopment of the external ear, with or without absence or narrowing of the external auditory canal.

Mosaic: In genetics, two or more different chromosome types in cell lines. Proportion of normal to abnormal cells usually correlated to severity.

Neural tube defect (NTD): Congenital opening from head to the base of the spine resulting from failure of the neural tube to close in the first month of pregnancy. Includes anencephaly, spina bifida and encephalocele.

NOS: Not Otherwise Specified

Obstructive genitourinary defect: Congenital narrowing or absence of the urinary tract structure at any level. Severity often depends upon the level of the obstruction. Often accompanied by hydronephrosis.

Omphalocele: Congenital opening of the abdominal wall with protrusion of the abdominal contents. Can be distinguished from gastroschisis by location within umbilical ring.

Patent ductus arteriosus (PDA): Congenital heart defect characterized by persistence of the fetal blood vessel connecting the pulmonary artery and the aorta.

Polydactyly: Extra fingers or toes which may be medial (pre – axial) or lateral (postaxial).

Pulmonary atresia: Congenital heart defect characterized by absence of the pulmonary valve or pulmonary artery itself. May occur with an intact ventricular septum (PA/IVS) or with a ventricular septal defect, in which it is more properly called Tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia (TOF/PA).

Pulmonary stenosis (PS): Congenital heart defect characterized by narrowing of the pulmonary valve.

Renal agenesis: Congenital absence of the kidney.

Spina bifida: Neural tube defect with protrusion of the spinal cord and/or meninges. Includes myelomeningocele (involving both spinal cord and meninges) and meningocele (involving just the meninges).

Stenosis: Narrowing or constriction of the diameter of a bodily passage or orifice.

Tetralogy of Fallot (TOF): Congenital heart defect composed of ventricular septal defects, pulmonary stenosis or atresia, displacement of the aorta to the right and hypertrophy of right ventricle.

Tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF): See **esophageal atresia**.

Translocation: Chromosome rearrangement in which a piece of genetic material is transferred from one segment to another. May be balanced (no chromosome material gained or lost), or unbalanced (material has been gained or lost).

Transposition of the great vessels (arteries) (dTGA): Congenital heart defect in which the aorta arises from the right ventricle, and the pulmonary artery arises from the left ventricle (opposite of normal).

Tricuspid atresia: Congenital heart defect characterized by the absence of the tricuspid valve.

Trisomy: Chromosome abnormality characterized by a third copy of a chromosome. Includes complete and partial formation of an extra chromosome.

Trisomy 13: Chromosome abnormality caused by an extra chromosome 13.

Trisomy 18: Chromosomal abnormality caused by an extra chromosome 18.

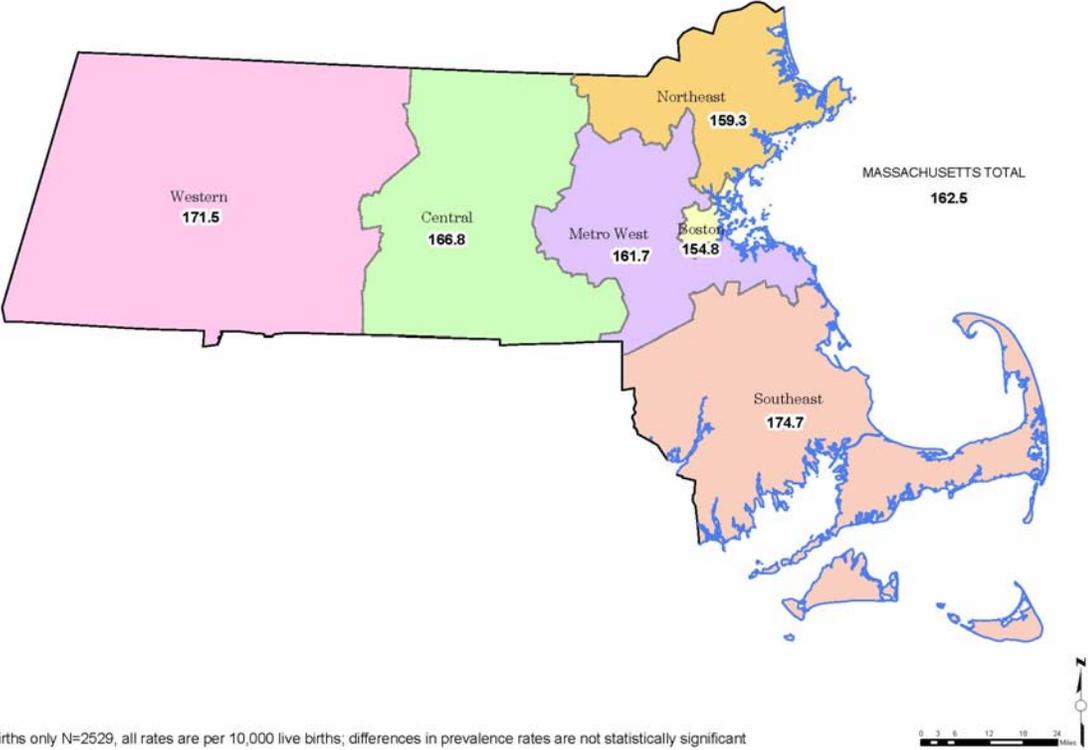
Trisomy 21: See **Down syndrome**.

Truncus arteriosus: Congenital heart defect characterized by a single great arterial trunk, instead of a separate aorta and pulmonary artery.

Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD): Congenital heart defect characterized by one or several openings in the ventricular septum. Includes subtypes based on location of the "hole" in the septum, ie. membranous, muscular, conoventricular, subtricuspid/canal.

¹ Adapted from the Texas Birth Defects Monitoring Division, Texas Department of Health, <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/tbdmd/glossary.htm>. Modified 2/27/01, Accessed 4/2/01.

**Map of Massachusetts EOHHs-Designated Regions
and Overall, Age-Adjusted Rate of Birth Defects, 2006-2007***



Folic Acid Awareness and Behavior in Women Ages 18-44,
Massachusetts 2000 and 2004¹

Survey Year, Age Group	Recognized that taking folic acid can prevent birth defects (%)	Take folic acid daily (%)
2000		
18 – 24	35.8	35.0
25 – 29	57.6	40.7
30 – 34	64.9	46.9
35 – 39	61.6	45.3
40 – 44	60.3	45.7
2004		
18 – 24	NA ²	NA ²
25 – 29	NA ²	53.8
30 – 34	75.3	57.1
35 – 39	78.6	53.6
40 – 44	63.6	55.1

¹ Data obtained from women surveyed by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Health Statistics, Research and Evaluation. The difference in the data may be associated with demographical factors such as age, gender and race/ethnicity of the respondent groups.

² Underlying sample size is less than 50 respondents (insufficient data).

Frequency of Multivitamin Use during Month Prior to Pregnancy,
Massachusetts, 2007/2008¹

Frequency of multivitamin or prenatal vitamin consumption	% of respondents (N=2973)
None	47.7
1 – 3 times per week	9.1
4 – 6 times per week	7.1
Every day of the week	36.1

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