

Perinatal risk factors and outcomes 2007/08–2011/12

Key findings of a multivariate analysis of the relationship between perinatal risk factors and adverse perinatal outcomes.

Risk ratios

The numbers given are adjusted risk ratios, which represent the chance of an event in a group exposed to a risk compared to a group not exposed to that risk. The risk ratios are adjusted to assume that other risk factors are the same between groups. For instance, if maternal diabetes has an adjusted risk ratio of 3.3 for preterm birth, women who have diabetes are 3.3 times as likely to have a

premature birth as women who do not, assuming that other risk factors (e.g. obesity) are constant between those groups. Risk ratios are shown only when significant at $p < .05$. Some risk factors with significant risk ratios are omitted from this document (e.g. low birth-weight for gestational age).

Maternal factors	Stillbirth	Neonatal death	Preterm birth
Obesity	1.5x	1.3x	
The mother has a Body Mass Index (BMI) more than 30. ⁽¹⁾			
Overweight	1.3x		
The mother has a Body Mass Index (BMI) between 25 and 29.99. ⁽¹⁾			
Underweight			1.4x
The mother has a Body Mass Index (BMI) less than 20. ⁽¹⁾			
Diabetes	2.0x		3.3x
The mother has been diagnosed with diabetes prior to current pregnancy.			
Hypertension			2.5x
The mother has been diagnosed with hypertension prior to current pregnancy.			
Indigenous status			1.2x
The mother identifies as Indigenous.			
Previous stillbirth			1.9x
The mother has had a stillbirth prior to current pregnancy.			

Pregnancy factors

Antepartum haemorrhage	1.6x	1.4x	3.8x
The mother has an antepartum (before birth) haemorrhage.			
Insufficient antenatal visits	1.4x	1.3x	2.1x
The mother attends less than five antenatal visits during the pregnancy.			
Pre-eclampsia			4.6x
The mother is diagnosed with pre-eclampsia.			
Smoking			1.4x
The mother smokes after 20 weeks gestation.			

(1) Compared to mothers with a Body Mass Index (BMI) in the healthy weight range (20 to 24.99).

(2) Compared to women aged 20 to 34 years.

* Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas

Data Source: Perinatal Data Collection, Queensland Health, 2007/08–2011/12.

For full report see www.health.qld.gov.au/hsu/peri/indigenous-peridisparity.pdf created by the Health Statistics Branch in collaboration with the Queensland Maternal and Perinatal Quality Council and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Unit.

Maternal factors Risk ratio

Obesity	1.5x
	1.3x
Overweight	1.3x
Underweight	1.4x
Diabetes	2.0x
	3.3x
Hypertension	2.5x
Indigenous status	1.2x
Mothers aged under 20⁽²⁾	1.3x
Mothers aged over 35⁽²⁾	1.1x
Not married or de facto	1.2x
Previous caesarian section	1.4x
Previous stillbirth	1.9x
SEIFA*: lowest 20% by residence	1.1x

Pregnancy factors

Antepartum haemorrhage	1.6x
	3.8x
	1.4x
Gestational diabetes	1.4x
Gestational hypertension	1.3x
Insufficient antenatal visits	1.4x
	2.1x
	1.3x
Pre-eclampsia	4.6x
Smoking	1.4x

Adverse perinatal outcomes

Stillbirth

27.2 times more likely

Preterm birth

Preterm births are births that occur before 37 weeks gestation.

22.2 times more likely

Neonatal death

Neonatal deaths are deaths that occur within 28 days of birth.



Queensland Government



An electronic version of this poster is available at www.health.qld.gov.au/hsu/peri/risk_chart.pdf