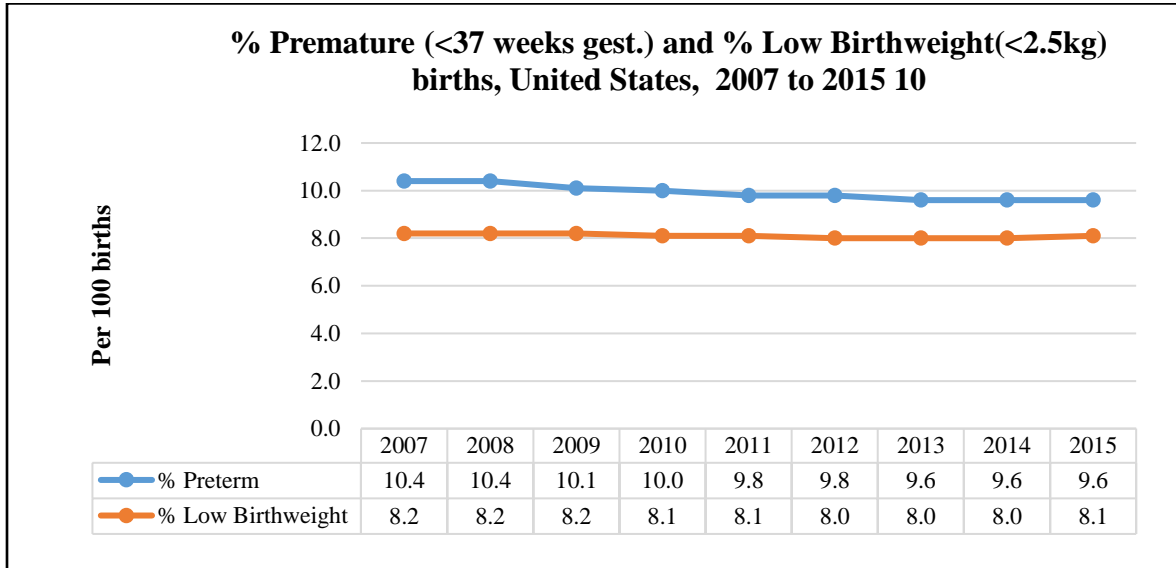
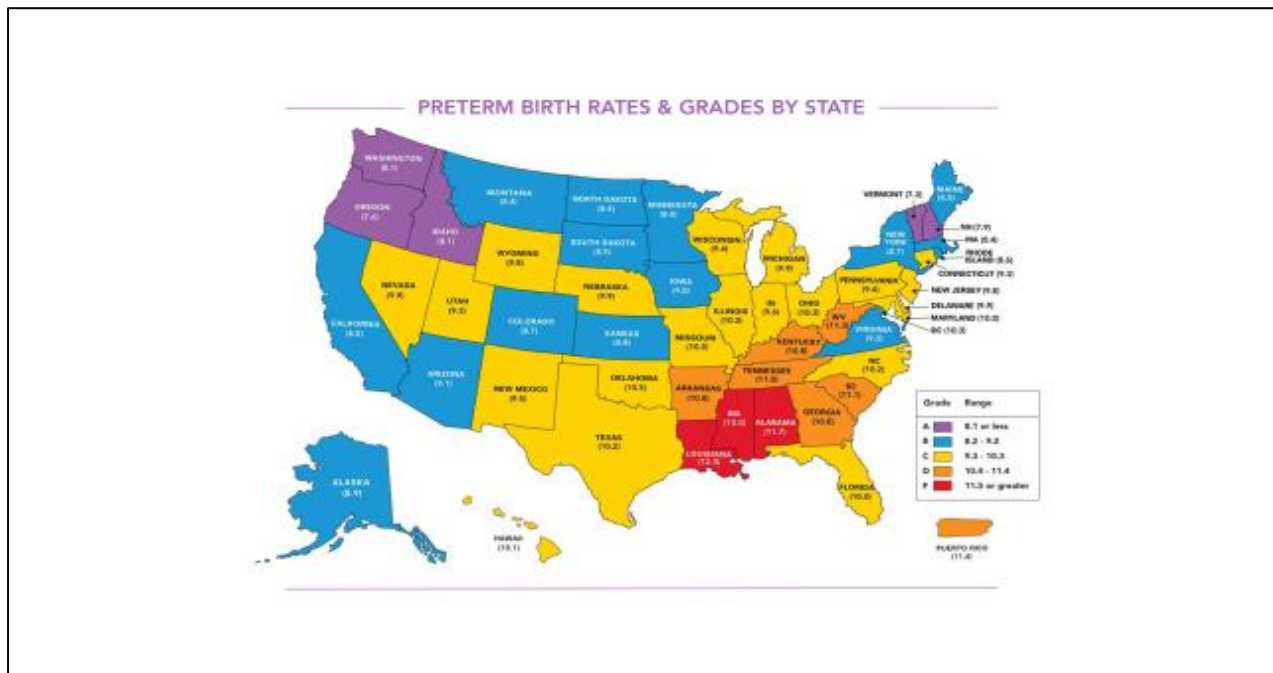


## Appendix I: Federal and State Context

In 2015, there were almost 4 million births in the United States. Over 23,000 (5.8/1,000 births) died before their first birthday; 382,000 were born prematurely (9.6%) and over 322,000 were low birth weight at birth (8.1%).<sup>9</sup> Since 2007, the U.S. has experienced a 7.7% decrease in premature births, while the low birth weight rates has remained unchanged.<sup>10</sup>

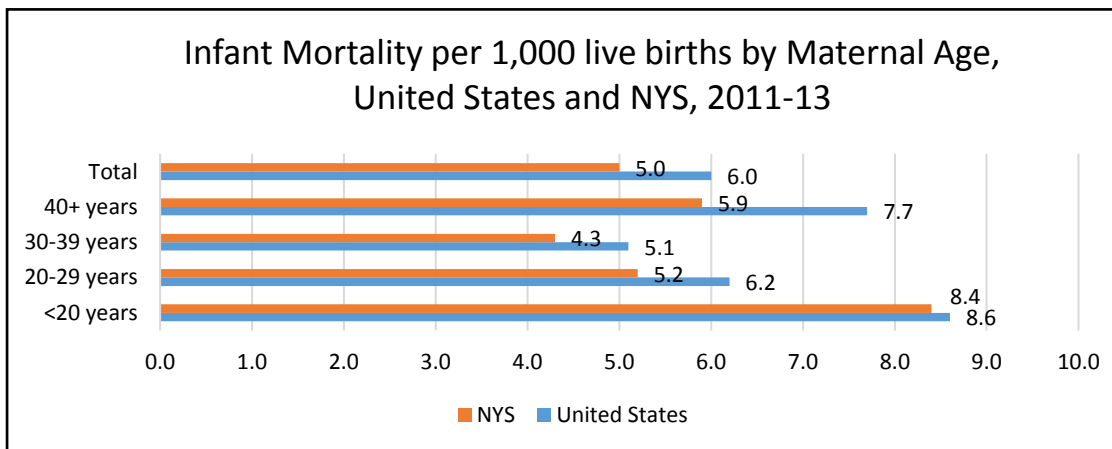
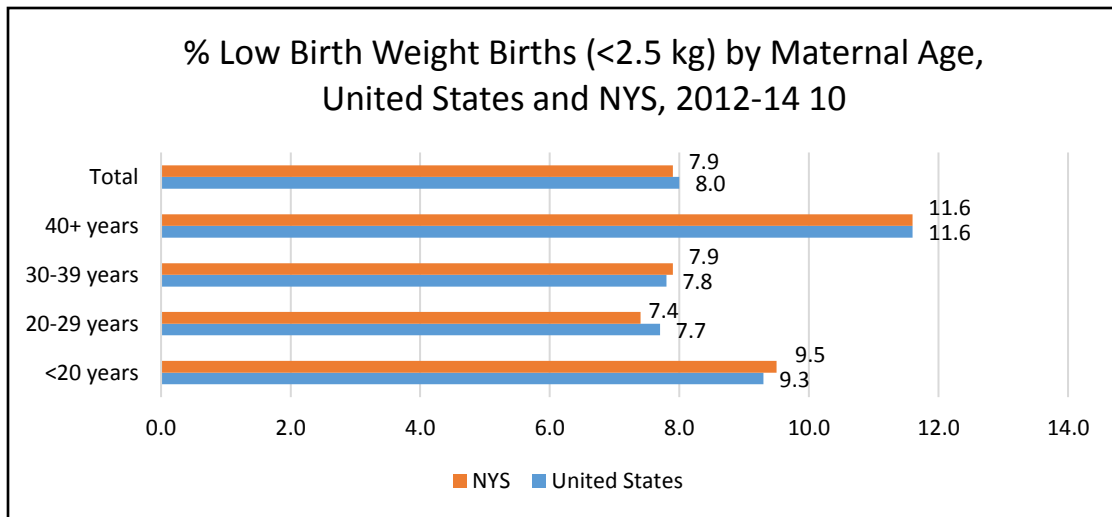
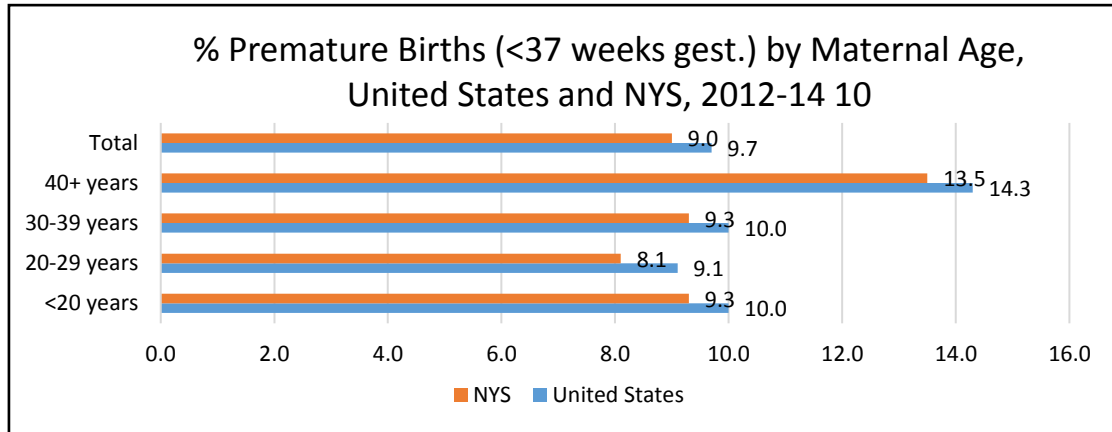


In 2015, New York State had 236,000 births. Almost 1,100 (4.6/1,000 births) died before their first birthday; 20,400 were born prematurely (8.6%) and over 18,400 were low birth weight at birth (7.8%).<sup>11</sup> When grading premature birth rates across the U.S., March of Dimes gave NYS a grade of B.<sup>10</sup>



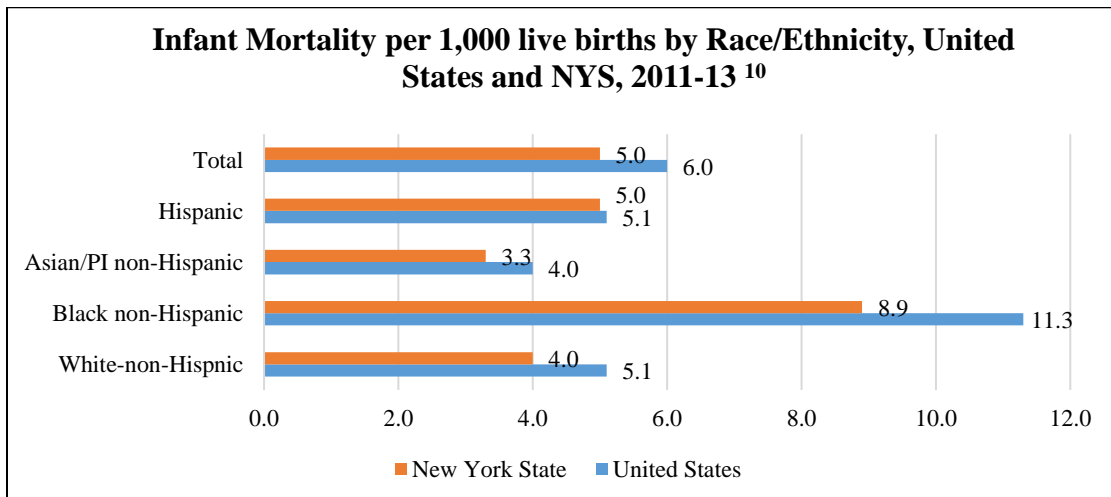
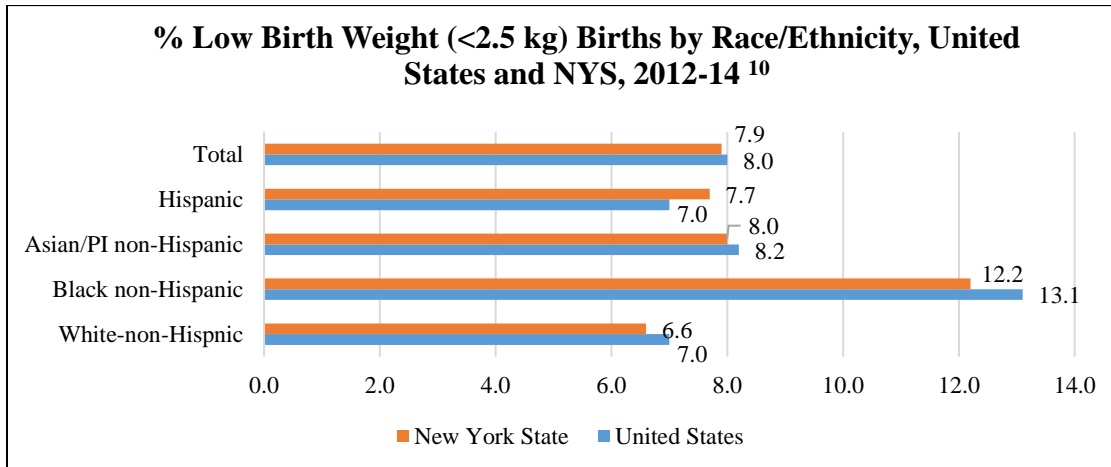
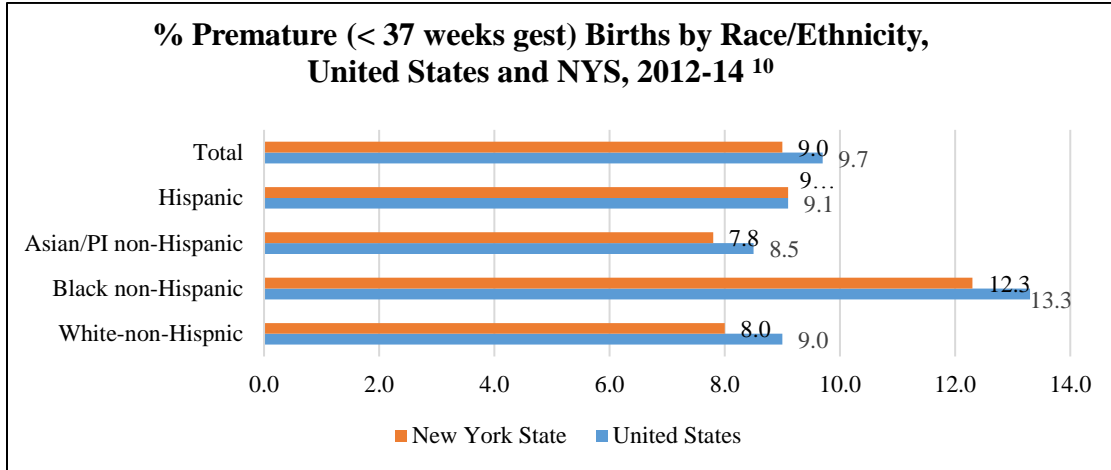
## Maternal Age

Maternal age is a risk factor for prematurity, low birth weight and infant mortality, with the highest rates found among the youngest and oldest mothers in both the U.S. and NYS. New York had better birth outcome rates than the U.S. for most age groups.<sup>10</sup>



## Race/Ethnicity

In the U.S., black non-Hispanic infants had higher rates compared to white non-Hispanic infants for prematurity (1.5 times), low birth weight (1.9 times), and infant mortality (2.2 times). Hispanic infants had similar rates as white non-Hispanic infants. New York State infants show similar race/ethnic differences.<sup>10</sup>



## **Prenatal Care**

While comparable U.S. data are not available, prenatal care rates in New York State are affected by maternal age and race/ethnicity. During 2012-14, young mothers (< 20 years) had much lower early (1<sup>st</sup> trimester) prenatal care rates compared to the general population (57.5% vs 76.3%). For late (3<sup>rd</sup> trimester) or no prenatal care, young mothers had twice the rate as the general population (11.2% vs 5.4%). Older mothers, over 40 years of age had prenatal care rates better than the general population (Early- 78.2% vs 76.3%; Late or No-4.0% vs 5.4%). Black non-Hispanic (65.9%) and Hispanic women (70.7%) had much lower early prenatal care rates than white non-Hispanic mothers (82.4%). Similarly, black non-Hispanic (10.4%) and Hispanic women (6.6%) had much higher late or no prenatal care rates compared to white non-Hispanic mothers (3.2%).<sup>10</sup>