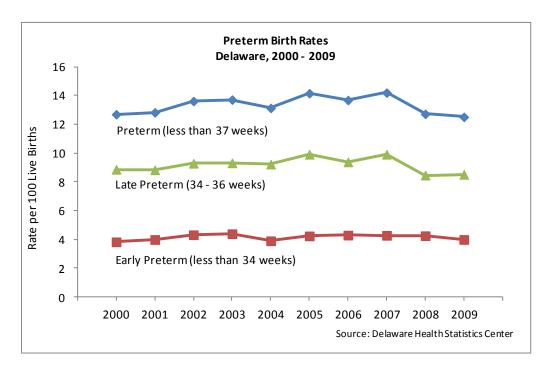
## DHSC Statsheet Delaware Health Statistics Center

Division of Public Health Department of Health and Social Services

From 2000 to 2009, late preterm birth rates were consistently more than twice that of the early preterm

rates.

## **Preterm Birth Rates in Delaware**



- In 2009, 12.5 percent of Delaware infants were born preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation). The majority of preterm births were born late preterm, between 34 and 36 weeks gestation.
- Though the preterm birth rate increased 11 percent, from 12.7 in 2000 to 14.2 in 2007, declines in 2008 and 2009 returned the rate to just under its 2000 level. As shown in the graph above, movement in the overall preterm birth rate was driven by the same trend in late preterm births.

If you have comments, suggestions, and/or questions, please contact the Delaware Health Statistics Center at (302) 744-4541.

Reported by Maridelle Dizon



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