

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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### **16-8. Increase the proportion of very low birth weight (VLBW) infants born at level III hospitals or subspecialty perinatal centers.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	Title V Reporting System, HRSA, MCHB.
<b>State Data Source</b>	Title V Reporting System, HRSA, MCHB.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Adapted from 14.14 (Maternal and Infant Health).
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	None.
<b>Measure</b>	Percent.
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	73 (1996-97)
<b>Target</b>	90
<b>Target-Setting Method</b>	25 percent improvement.  For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
<b>Numerator</b>	Number of live births at very low birth weight (VLBW) in subspecialty facilities (level III facilities).
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of infants born live at VLBW.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	U.S. resident live births.
<b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Expected Periodicity</b>	Annual.
<b>Comments</b>	VLBW is defined as a birth weight of less than 1,500 grams (3 lbs 4 ozs).  Data are reported by States each year as part of the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant application. A national weighted average is calculated by summing the numerator and denominator information reported by each jurisdiction.  This objective differs from Healthy People 2000 objective 14.14, which proposed to track the

proportion of VLBW infants born in facilities covered by a neonatologist 24 hours a day. No data are available for Healthy People 2000 objective 14.14.

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.