

# Improving Child Well-Being in New Mexico



Health

## INDICATOR: Low-Birthweight Babies\*

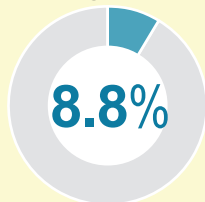
2016 indicator ranking



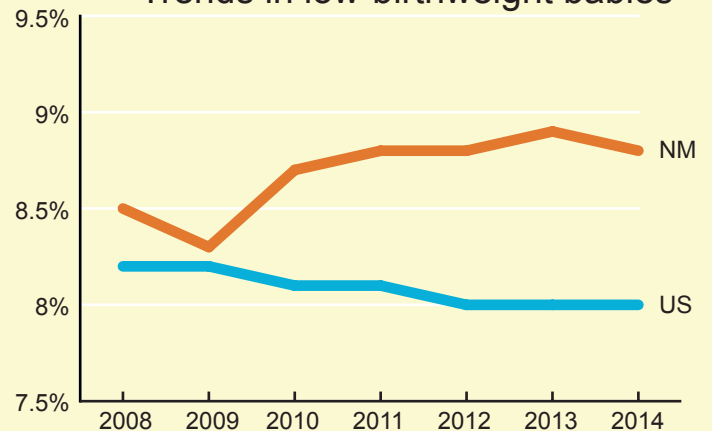
Number of low-birthweight babies

**2,280**

Percent of low-birthweight babies



Trends in low-birthweight babies



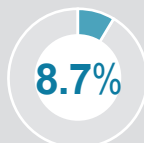
## WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES\*\*

To move up 1+ rankings to

**37<sup>th</sup>**

It would take a **0.6% drop**

in low-birthweight babies



Which means

**15**

fewer low-birthweight babies

To move up 5+ rankings to

**31<sup>st</sup>**

It would take a **5% drop**

in low-birthweight babies



Which means

**120**

fewer low-birthweight babies

To move up to the top ranking

**1<sup>st</sup>**

It would take a **32% drop**

in low-birthweight babies



Which means

**740**

fewer low-birthweight babies

## WHAT NEW MEXICO CAN DO

- Expand outreach to pregnant women to enroll them in Medicaid early in their pregnancy so more prospective mothers get full-term pre-natal care that can help prevent low birthweight.
- Provide adequate funding for more programs for new parents, including home visiting programs that begin prenatally, so more women can be served during their pregnancy.
- Expand and fully fund health and nutrition programs for pregnant teens.
- Support the creation and funding for county and tribal health councils.
- Fund home visiting under a Medicaid waiver to draw down federal funding.

\*Babies born weighing less than 5.5 pounds.

\*\*Ranking improvement estimates are based on point-in-time data reported in 2016; changes in other states' outcomes can also influence New Mexico's future rankings.

Sources: Rankings from: *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2016 (because states can tie in indicator rankings it may take more than 1 or 5 rankings in order to move up); Data from: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Vital Statistics Reports, 2008-2014

Baby in diaper icon by OCHA from www.flaticon.com

**New Mexico Voices for Children**  
625 Silver Ave. SW • Albuquerque, NM 87102 • 505-244-9505  
[www.nmvoices.org](http://www.nmvoices.org)

Follow us online

