Iowa Environmental Public Health Tracking Network

Nationally Consistent Data Measures for Vital Statistics

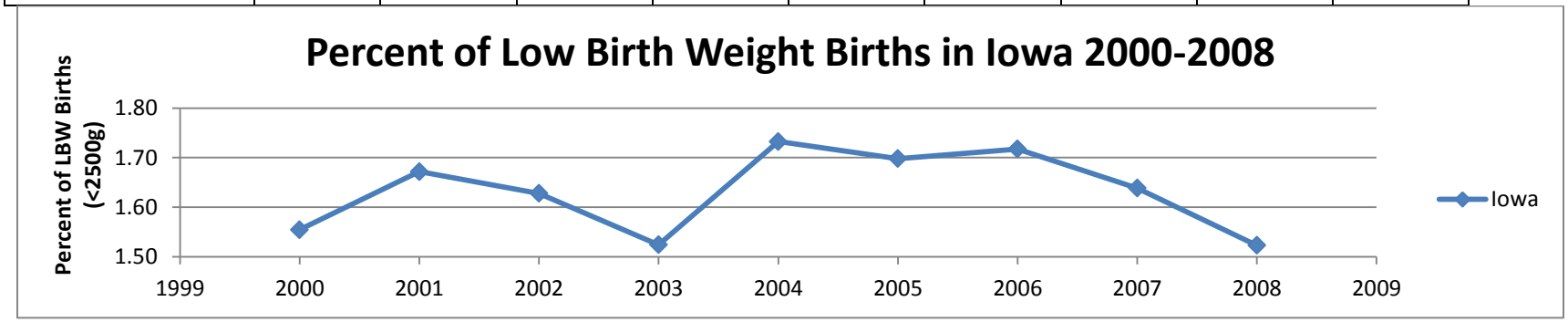
Low Birth Weight (LBW)

Birth weight is the first weight of the newborn measured immediately after birth. Birth weight of less than 5.5 lbs, or 2500 grams, is considered low birth weight. The NCDM for Low Birth Weight includes full term singleton infants (born at 37 weeks or after) with a birth weight less than 2500 grams. A low birth weight infant can be born too small, too early, or both. These conditions often have separate causes. Specific factors may be related to one of these conditions but not the other. For this reason, low birth weight in the Tracking Network includes only infants who are born full-term.

Presented below are data that represent the nationally consistent data measures related to Low Birth Weight:

1. Annual Percent of Low Birth Weight births at the State level.

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
% LBW births	1.55	1.67	1.63	1.52	1.73	1.70	1.72	1.64	1.52



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2. Annual Percent of Low Birth Weight births at the County level for select Counties*.

*County values are only shown for Counties with an annual average count of LBW Births greater than 10. Other Counties are not displayed due to small number suppression.

Selected Counties: Percent of Low Birth Weight Births 2000-2008									
County	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**
Polk	1.60	1.74	1.30	1.58	1.83	1.33	1.40	1.67	1.52
Scott	1.78	2.03	1.95	2.61	2.07	2.10	2.03	1.90	1.68
Linn	1.34	1.13	1.22	1.93	1.43	1.46	1.53	1.79	1.28
Black Hawk	1.37	2.29	1.95	2.12	2.01	3.04	1.93	1.89	2.59
Woodbury	1.87	1.44	1.84	2.05	2.38	1.77	1.91	1.37	1.94
Johnson	0.98	2.27	1.24	1.16	1.59	1.73	1.72	1.42	1.11
Pottawattamie	1.44	1.85	2.51	1.55	1.92	1.66	2.15	1.59	1.75
Dubuque	1.63	1.49	1.72	1.81	1.50	2.01	0.93	1.95	1.56
Clinton	2.14	4.10	3.44	1.53	2.20	1.12	2.77	2.28	1.71
Muscatine	1.71	1.19	1.47	1.10	2.03	2.27	2.69	1.06	2.12
State of Iowa	1.55	1.67	1.63	1.52	1.73	1.70	1.72	1.64	1.52

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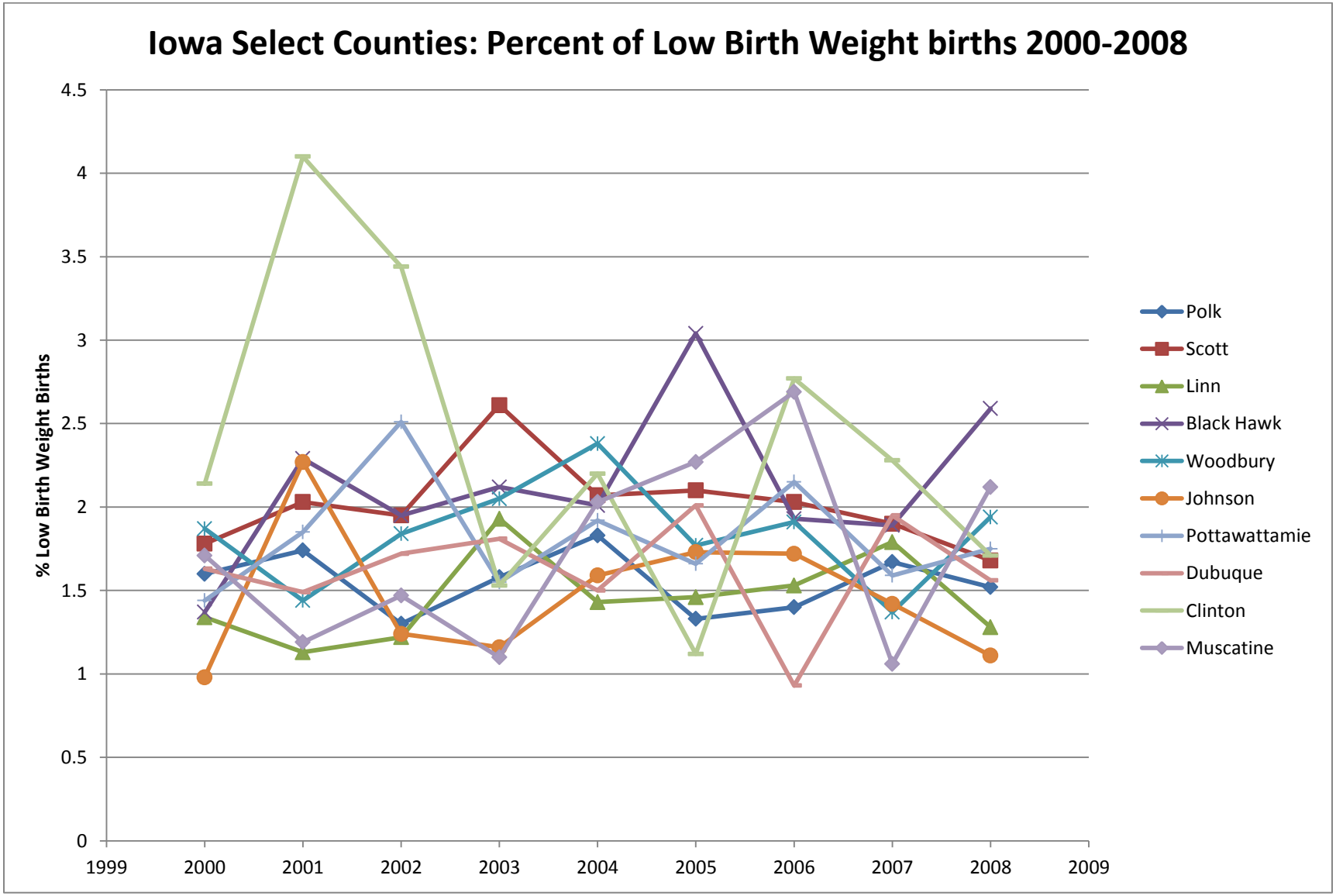

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