

The birth weight is one of the indicators in determining the chances of newborn survival. Babies weighing below what is normal maybe influenced by factors such as following:

- 1. Genetics
- 2. The health of the mother particularly during pregnancy
- 3. Environmental factors including exposure of the mother to second hand smoking
- 4. Economic status of the parents
- 5. Other factors such as multiple birth where such baby is likely to be outside the appropriate gestational age or the age of pregnancy where the basis is the mother’s last menstrual period. Babies may also be twins or triplets
- 6. Pre-pregnancy weight of the mother is low
- 7. Maternal age such that teen mothers are more at risk of low and very low birth weight (less than 1,000 grams) during delivery
- 8. Placental location/uterine fibroids – Abnormal placentatiasis, especially placenta previa can result in a decrease in blood supply to the fetus. The presence of uterine fibroids may decrease blood supply by stealing blood away from the body thereby decreasing access to nutrients resulting in lower birth weights.

F. Total Births By Attendance

The largest threat to maternal mortality occurs during labor, birth and the 24 hours following birth. Many of the interventions known to save the lives of women and their newborns depend upon the presence of a skilled birth attendant. This health professional must be accredited such as a midwife, doctor or nurse and has been educated and trained to proficiency in the skills needed to manage normal (uncomplicated) pregnancies, childbirth and the immediate post natal complications in women and newborns. The need to increase women’s access to skilled birth attendants is highlighted by MDG 5 (to improve maternal health by decreasing the maternal mortality ratio by 75% by 2015).

Table D.9
TOTAL BIRTHS BY ATTENDANCE
Province of Bataan
CY 2011 - 2015

CY	Nurse	Midwife	Medical Doctor	HILOT		Others	Unknown	Total
				Trained	Untrained			
2011	7	3,256	7,324	367	0	68	0	11,022
2012	80	4,561	8,498	475	0	53	0	13,667
2013	35	3,939	8,782	293	0	45	0	13,094
2014	12	2,993	8,119	305	0	38	0	11,467
2015	22	2,489	9,538	186	0	55	0	12,290

Source: PHO