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# WEIGHT GAIN DURING PREGNANCY

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## REEXAMINING THE GUIDELINES

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Kathleen M. Rasmussen and Ann L. Yaktine, *Editors*

Committee to Reexamine IOM Pregnancy Weight Guidelines  
Food and Nutrition Board  
Board on Children, Youth, and Families

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NOTICE: The project that is the subject of this report was approved by the Governing Board of the National Research Council, whose members are drawn from the councils of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. The members of the committee responsible for the report were chosen for their special competences and with regard for appropriate balance.

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Willing is not enough; we must do.”*

—Goethe



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This report has been reviewed in draft form by individuals chosen for their diverse perspectives and technical expertise, in accordance with procedures approved by the National Research Council's (NRC's) Report Review Committee. The purpose of this independent review is to provide candid and critical comments that will assist the institution in making its published report as sound as possible and to ensure that the report meets institutional standards for objectivity, evidence, and responsiveness to the study charge.



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Although the reviewers listed above have provided many constructive comments and suggestions, they were not asked to endorse the conclusions or recommendations nor did they see the final draft of the report before its release. The review of this report was overseen by Neal A. Vanselow, Tulane University, Professor Emeritus and Nancy E. Adler, Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics and Center for Health and Community, University of California–San Francisco.

Appointed by the NRC and Institute of Medicine, they were responsible for making certain that an independent examination of this report was carried out in accordance with institutional procedures and that all review comments were carefully considered. Responsibility for the final content of this report rests entirely with the authoring committee and the institution.



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and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; U.S. Department of Health and  
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## Summary

Since 1990, the last time the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released guidelines for weight gain during pregnancy, many key aspects of the health of women of childbearing age have changed. This population now includes a higher proportion of women from racial/ethnic subgroups, and prepregnancy body mass index (BMI) and gestational weight gain (GWG) have increased among all population subgroups. Moreover, high rates of overweight and obesity are common in the population subgroups that are at risk for poor maternal and child health outcomes. Finally, women are also becoming pregnant at an older age and, as a result, are entering pregnancy more commonly with chronic conditions such as hypertension or diabetes, which put them at risk for pregnancy complications and may lead to increased morbidity during their post-pregnancy years. These and other factors suggested a need







the WHO cutoff points for adults, in part because of the impracticality of using pediatric growth charts in obstetric practices. Adolescents who follow adult BMI cutoff points will likely be categorized in a lighter group and thus advised to gain more; however, younger adolescents often need to gain more to improve birth outcomes.

### *Racial or Ethnic Groups*

Although an increasing proportion of pregnant U.S. women are members of racial or ethnic minority groups, the limited data available to the committee from commissioned analyses suggested that membership in one of these groups did not modify the association between GWG and the outcome of pregnancy. As a result, the committee concluded that its recommendations should be generally applicable to the various racial or ethnic subgroups that make up the American population, although additional

To account for advances in our scientific understanding of the determinants and consequences of GWG, the committee developed a modified conceptual framework (Figure S-1). However, it retained the same scientific approach and epidemiologic conventions used previously and discussed in detail in the IOM (1990) report.

The committee began its work by considering appropriate BMI cutoff points and describing trends over time in maternal prepregnancy BMI and

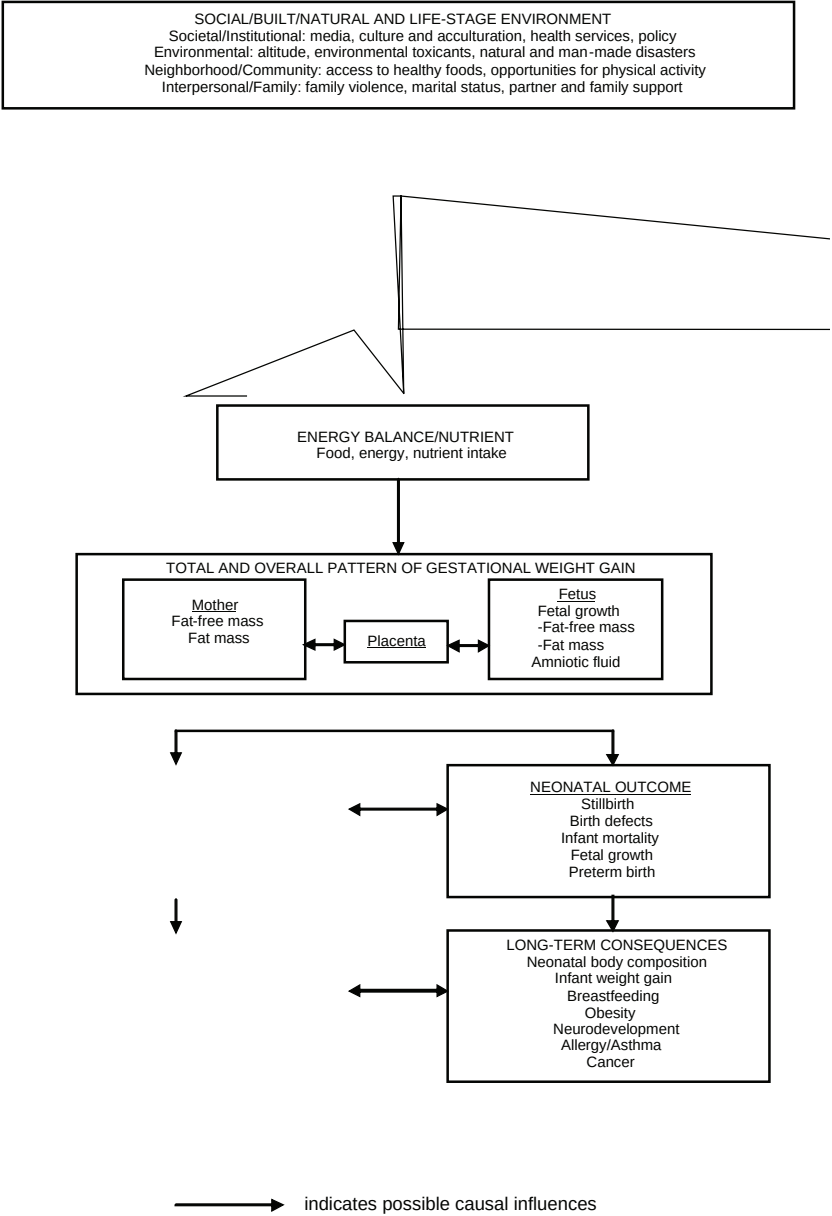


FIGURE S-1 Schematic summary of potential determinants and consequences for gestational weight gain.  
SOURCE: Modified from IOM, 1990.



during pregnancy. In addition, the committee recommends that researchers should conduct studies on the effects of weight loss or low GWG, including periods of prolonged fasting and the development of ketonuria/ketonemia

should provide support to researchers to (a) conduct studies to assess utilities (values) associated with short- and long-term health outcomes associated with GWG for both mother and child and (b) include these values in studies that employ decision analytic frameworks to estimate optimal GWG according to category of maternal prepregnancy BMI and other subgroups.

#### APPROACHES TO ACHIEVING RECOMMENDED WEIGHT GAIN DURING PREGNANCY

To meet the recommendations of this report fully, two different challenges must be met. First, a higher proportion of American women should



*Implementation Guide* (IOM, 1992). The increase in prevalence of obesity that has occurred since this report was written suggests that this recommendation has only become more important.

In offering women individualized attention, a number of kinds of services could be considered. Health care providers should chart women's weight gain and share the results with them so that they become aware of their progress toward their weight-gain goal. To assist health care providers in doing this, the committee has prepared charts that could be used as a basis for this discussion with the pregnant woman. These charts are



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# 1

## Setting the Stage for Revising Pregnancy Weight Guidelines: Conceptual Framework

### BACKGROUND

Improvement of maternal, fetal, and child health are key public health goals. Over the past four decades, changes in public health trends have challenged the health care sector to provide optimal guidance to women before, during, and after pregnancy so that they can achieve healthy outcomes for both themselves and their newborns. During this time, two reports have contributed to providing this guidance.

The first report, *Maternal Nutrition and the Course of Pregnancy* (NRC, 1970), developed from concern about high neonatal and infant mortality rates in the United States compared to other developed countries. In that report, the Committee on Maternal Nutrition recognized the positive relationship between gestational weight gain (GWG) and birth weight. The committee also noted the positive association between prepregnancy maternal weight and birth weight and the fact that higher prepregnancy maternal weight reduced the impact of GWG on birth weight. The report advised an average gestational weight gain of 24 pounds (20-25-pound range) and advised against the then-current practice of limiting3(a)-80(27-3(d))-3(c)-

groups, women of short stature, and women carrying twins; and detailed historic trends in weight gain recommendations and guidelines. The IOM (1990) recommendations for weight gain during pregnancy have been adopted by or have been influential in many countries. Observational studies have demonstrated that women who enter pregnancy at a normal BMI and gain within the recommended ranges are more likely to have a good birth outcome than women who gain outside the recommended ranges (Taffel et al., 1993; Abrams et al., 2000; Groth, 2006).

In the years since the release of the weight gain recommendations from the IOM (1990) report, however, some dramatic shifts in the demographic and epidemiologic profile of the U.S. population have occurred. Notably, the population of U.S. women of childbearing age has become more diverse; and prepregnancy BMI and excess GWG have increased across all population groups, particularly among minority groups who are already at risk for poor maternal and child health outcomes (Yeh and Shelton, 2005; Kim et al., 2007). These and other factors suggested a need to consider whether a revision of the IOM (1990) pregnancy weight gain guidelines is necessary.

## RATIONALE FOR REVISING THE GUIDELINES

### General Principles Framing the IOM (1990) Pregnancy Weight Guidelines

The IOM (1990) pregnancy weight guidelines were developed principally in response to concerns about low birth weight infants. Although adverse health outcomes for excess weight gain were considered in the IOM (1990) weight gain guidelines, the recommendations were derived largely from data collected in the 1980 National Natality Survey (Available: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/nmihs/abnmihs.htm> [accessed March 3, 2009]) and focused on preventing premature births and small-for-gestational age infants.

The IOM (1990) report and a subsequent report, *Nutrition During Pregnancy and Lactation: An Implementation Guide* (IOM, 1992), identified specific actions practitioners could take to achieve the recommendations in working with patients. They also identified a series of

(HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), to examine issues relating to maternal weight gain that had been published in the IOM (1990) report. The goal of this group was to determine whether new research provided a basis for practitioners to change guidance for GWG and recommend future directions for research, training, and/or other programmatic initiatives. The group concluded that formal revision of the IOM (1990) weight gain recommendations was not yet warranted; however, reservations were expressed that the recommendations for African American women, young adolescents, and women of short stature were too specific (Suitor, 1997).

Since publication of the IOM reports, *Nutrition During Pregnancy* (1990), *Nutrition During Lactation* (1991), and *Nutrition During Pregnancy and Lactation: An Implementation Guide* (1992), the population of U.S. women of childbearing age has become more diverse. Although low birth weight remains a significant concern during pregnancy, new health concerns have emerged. These include the greater prevalence of women who are overweight or obese entering pregnancy, which puts them at high risk for pregnancy complications. For example, data from the 2003-2004 round of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) show that 28.9 percent of women of reproductive age (20-39 years old) were obese ( $\text{BMI} \geq 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ) and 8.0 percent were extremely obese ( $\text{BMI} \geq 40 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ) (Ogden et al., 2006). Additionally, women are becoming pregnant at an older age and enter pregnancy with chronic conditions such as type 2 diabetes, which also puts them at risk for pregnancy complications and may lead to increased morbidity during their post-pregnancy years (Cleary-Goldman et al., 2005; Joseph et al., 2005; Delpisheh et al., 2008).

Also since publication of the IOM (1990) report and the subsequent 1991 and 1992 reports, research on GWG has demonstrated that weight patterns (underweight and overweight) and total weight gain have short- and long-term consequences for the health of the mother. For example, prepregnancy BMI above normal values ( $19.8\text{-}26 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ) is associated with preeclampsia, gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), cesarean delivery (Doherty et al., 2006; Abenhaim et al., 2007), and failure to initiate and sustain breastfeeding (Hilson et al., 1997; Li et al., 2003; Kugyelka et al., 2004). Increased maternal BMI and GWG have also been associated with higher fat mass in infants and subsequent overweight in children (Hillier et al., 2007; Oken et al., 2007).

ditions for (1) the health of the mother, particularly for women who are overweight, underweight, older, adolescent, or short in stature; (2) infant and child health; and (3) other metabolic processes that may affect the in utero environment.

Another concern that has frequently been raised by researchers and practitioners is the difference between BMI categories used in the IOM (1990) report and those used in the report *Clinical Guidelines on the Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults* from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI, 1998) in cooperation with the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, which are based on a report from the World Health Organization (1995). This is a problem for practitioners as well as for researchers. Most importantly, despite the effort made to publicize the recommendations of the IOM (1990) report, including the development of a guide to assist the medical profession to implement these guidelines (IOM, 1992), many health care providers have not used these guidelines and many women have not followed them (Abrams et al., 2000).

## SETTING THE STAGE FOR REVISING THE GUIDELINES

In response to such concerns, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of HHS requested that the National Research Council and the IOM convene a workshop in May 2006. The purpose of this workshop was to review trends in maternal weight; explore emerging research findings related to the complex relationship of the biological, behavioral, psychological, and social interactions that affect maternal and pregnancy weight on maternal and child health outcomes; and discuss interventions. The following specific questions were addressed by the workshop:

- What research and databases describe the distribution of maternal weight (prior to, during, and after pregnancy) among different populations of women in the United States?
- What research and databases inform understanding of the effects of different weight patterns (including underweight and overweight) during pregnancy on maternal and child health outcomes?
- What research has been conducted to describe the individual, community, and health care seighlt2acaras3(h)4(l)ltaarlghpigre oalt2oeight2oehpinm

and ethnic backgrounds in their efforts to comply with recommended weight guidelines and to improve their maternal health?

The summary report from that workshop, *Influence of Pregnancy Weight on Maternal and Child Health* (NRC-IOM, 2007), includes a review of U.S. trends in maternal weight (before, during, and after pregnancy) among different populations of women. The workshop report also includes a discussion of the determinants of GWG; the relationships among maternal weight, GWG, and the health of women and children; interventions in health care and community settings that help women achieve appropriate weight levels during and after pregnancy; and emerging themes that warrant further examination in future studies. Taken together, the workshop and its summary report reinforce the need to reexamine recommendations for GWG, especially in light of the current obesity epidemic, and to highlight ways to encourage their adoption.

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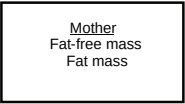
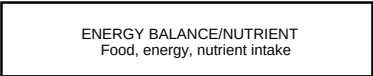
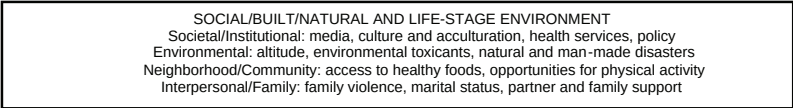


- performance, postpartum weight retention, cardiovascular disease, metabolic processes including glucose and insulin-related issues, and risk of other chronic diseases; for infants and children, in addition to low birth weight, consider early developmental impacts and obesity-related consequences (e.g., mental health, diabetes).
3. Recommend revisions to the existing guidelines, where necessary, including the need for specific pregnancy weight guidelines for underweight, normal weight, and overweight and obese women and adolescents and women carrying twins or higher-order multiples.
  4. Consider a range of approaches to promote appropriate weight gain, including:
    - individual (behavior), psychosocial, community, health care, and health systems;
    - timing and components of interventions; and
    - ways to enhance awareness and adoption of the guidelines, including interdisciplinary approaches, consumer education to men and women, strategies to assist practitioners to use the guidelines, and public health strategies.
  5. Identify gaps in knowledge and recommend research priorities.

### Approach to the Task

The committee approached its task by gathering information from existing scientific literature, including a systematic review of the literature by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) (Viswanathan

Task 1, given the magnitude and complexity of the task, the committee determined that it was unable to address maternal weight history before entering pregnancy other than to take prepregnant BMI into account. Whenever possible, the committee sought and presented data on outcomes



—————→ indicates possible causal influences

FIGURE 1-1 Schematic summary of potential determinants and consequences for gestational weight gain.  
SOURCE: Modified from IOM, 1990.

below recommended levels; identifies data gaps; and makes recommendations based on the committee's findings.

The report begins, in this chapter, by introducing the reasoning for a reexamination of pregnancy weight guidelines, based on data that have been gathered since the publication of *Nutrition During Pregnancy* (IOM, 1990).

Trends in GWG since the time of the IOM (1990) report are considered in Chapter 2, with particular attention to weight gain in racial or ethnic subgroups of the U.S. population. The information reviewed in this chapter helped guide the committee's recommendations for assisting women in achieving the new GWG guidelines presented in Chapter 7.

The composition and components of GWG are addressed in Chapter 3. Since the IOM (1990) report was prepared, the importance of the placenta in the dialogue between the mother and fetus has become more apparent.

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## 2

# Descriptive Epidemiology and Trends

The committee began its reexamination of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) (1990) recommendations for weight gain during pregnancy by evaluating trends since 1990 in both prepregnancy maternal body mass index (BMI) and gestational weight gain (GWG). As described in detail in Chapter 3, prepregnancy BMI and GWG are interrelated. When evaluating trends in GWG, the committee considered whether women were gaining



TABLE 2-1 Distribution of BMI (World Health Organization categories) from 1976 to 2004 Among U.S. Nonpregnant Women 12 to 44 Years of Age by Race or Ethnicity and Age (percentage)

|                               | 1976-1980      | 1988-1994 | 1999-2004      |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| <i>Total (%)</i>              |                |           |                |
| Underweight                   | 6.0            | 4.4       | 3.5            |
| Normal weight                 | 62.1           | 53.4      | 41.1           |
| Overweight                    | 18.8           | 20.8      | 25.3           |
| Class I obese                 | 7.9            | 12.2      | 15.8           |
| Class II obese                | 3.5            | 6.0       | 7.7            |
| Class III obese               | 1.7            | 3.4       | 6.5            |
| <i>By Race or Ethnicity</i>   |                |           |                |
| <i>Non-Hispanic white (%)</i> |                |           |                |
| Underweight                   | 6.3            | 4.7       | 4.3            |
| Normal weight                 | 64.2           | 58.3      | 46.4           |
| Overweight                    | 17.9           | 18.4      | 23.3           |
| Class I obese                 | 7.2            | 10.5      | 13.8           |
| Class II obese                | 2.9            | 5.3       | 6.9            |
| Class III obese               | 1.5            | 2.8       | 5.3            |
| <i>Non-Hispanic black (%)</i> |                |           |                |
| Underweight                   | 3.9            | 2.7       | — <sup>a</sup> |
| Normal weight                 | 47.8           | 37.3      | 23.4           |
| Overweight                    | 24.4           | 27.7      | 25.7           |
| Class I obese                 | 13.3           | 15.8      | 23.7           |
| Class II obese                | 7.3            | 9.7       | 12.2           |
| Class III obese               | — <sup>a</sup> | 6.8       | 13.3           |

obesity among American women of childbearing age (Flegal et al., 1998; Mokdad et al., 1999; IOM, 2005; Kim et al., 2007). The prevalence of obesity in women 12 to 44 years of age has more than doubled since 1976 (Table 2-1). Data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) in 1999-2004 showed that nearly two-thirds of women of childbearing age were classified as overweight (as defined by BMI  $\geq 25$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>), and almost one-third were obese (BMI  $\geq 30$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) (personal communication, A. Branum, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], December 2008). Obesity is far more common among racial or ethnic minority groups and increases in prevalence with advancing age.

|                      | 1976-1980      | 1988-1994 | 1999-2004      |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| Mexican American (%) |                |           |                |
| Underweight          | — <sup>b</sup> | 1.9       | — <sup>a</sup> |
| Normal weight        | — <sup>b</sup> | 36.0      | 32.0           |
| Overweight           | — <sup>b</sup> | 32.3      | 32.6           |
| Class I obese        | — <sup>b</sup> | 18.1      | 19.6           |
| Class II obese       |                | 6.9       | 7.9            |
| Class III obese      |                | 4.7       | 6.7            |
| <i>By Age</i>        |                |           |                |
| Age 20-34 (%)        |                |           |                |
| Underweight          | 7.1            | 5.1       | 4.6            |
| Normal weight        | 64.9           | 58.3      | 44.2           |
| Overweight           | 16.8           | 18.2      | 23.9           |
| Class I obese        | 6.9            | 10.6      | 14.8           |
| Class II obese       | 3.0            | 5.2       | 7.1            |
| Class III obese      | 1.4            | 2.6       | 5.4            |
| Age 35-44 (%)        |                |           |                |
| Underweight          | 3.8            | 3.3       | 2.1            |
| Normal weight        | 55.7           | 46.8      | 37.3           |
| Overweight           | 23.2           | 24.2      | 27.1           |
| Class I obese        | 10.2           | 14.2      | 17.1           |
| Class II obese       | 4.8            | 7.0       | 8.6            |
| Class III obese      | — <sup>a</sup> | 4.4       | 7.9            |

NOTE: Underweight, < 18.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; normal, 18.5 to < 25.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; overweight, 25.0 to < 30.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; class I obese, 30.0 to < 35.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; class II obese, 35.0 to < 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; class III obese, ≥ 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>a</sup>Insufficient unweighted data to make reliable estimates.

<sup>b</sup>Hispanic ethnicity not available in 1976-1980 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).

SOURCE: Personal communication, A. Branum, CDC, Hyattsville, Maryland, December 2, 2008.

Importantly, the prevalence of severe obesity, once a relatively rare condition, has increased dramatically among women of childbearing age (Table 2-1). Between 1979 and 2004, class I and II obesity doubled and class III obesity tripled. Trends are similar by age. The prevalence of all classes of obesity is lowest in white non-Hispanic women and highest in non-Hispanic black women; among the latter, the prevalence of class I obesity approaches 25 percent, and the prevalence of class II and III obesity each exceeds 10 percent. Almost one-fifth of Hispanic women have class I obesity, with the proportions of class II and III obesity each approaching 10 percent.

Because of these trends, more women are already obese when they become pregnant. Based on data from the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), one-fifth of American women are obese (BMI  $> 29 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ) at the start of pregnancy, a figure that has risen 70 percent in the past decade (Kim et al., 2007) (Figure 2-1). More specifically, although the prevalence of overweight has increased only slightly in the population as a whole and among black and white women, the prevalence of obesity doubled in white women and increased by 50 percent in black women. These statistics are based on data from only nine states; no nationally representative data are available from a modern cohort to provide trends in pregravid BMI values.

### *Body Mass Index Classification*

The report *Nutrition During Pregnancy* (IOM, 1990) recommended the use of BMI to classify maternal prepregnancy weight. The four prepregnancy BMI categories used in that report were selected to be consistent with 90 percent, 120 percent, and 135 percent of the 1959 Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's ideal weight-for-height standards—the standard most

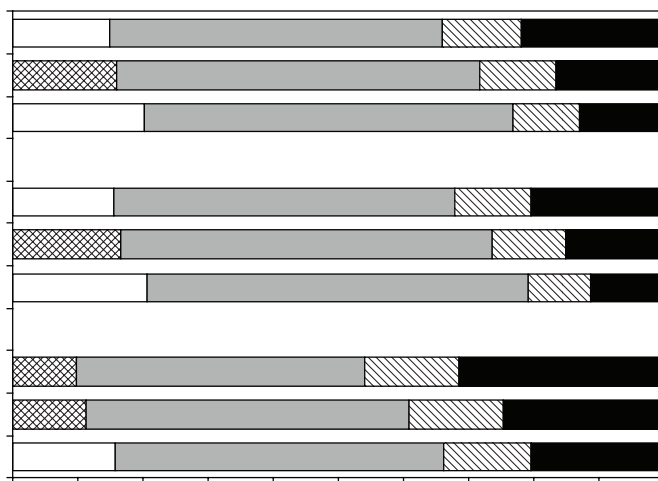


FIGURE 2-1 Trends in the distribution of BMI<sup>a</sup> from 1993 to 2003 among pregnant U.S. women in the total population and by race or ethnicity.

<sup>a</sup>IOM BMI categories were used (underweight,  $< 19.8 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ; normal weight,  $19.8\text{--}26.0 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ; overweight,  $26.1\text{--}29.0 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ; obese,  $> 29 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ).

SOURCE: Kim et al., 2007.

commonly used in the United States when the report was written. Since then, the World Health Organization (WHO, 1998) has developed and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI, 1998) has adopted the use of new BMI categories. The WHO BMI categories are based on different considerations and, as a result, are defined differently than those in the IOM (1990) report. The WHO BMI categories also include several grades or categories of obesity (see Table 2-2).

The weight gain during pregnancy is measured in kilograms per square meter (kg/m<sup>2</sup>). The Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have developed different BMI categories. The IOM categories are based on the weight gain during pregnancy, while the WHO categories are based on the BMI. The WHO categories include several grades or categories of obesity (see Table 2-2).

TABLE 2-2 Comparison of Institute of Medicine (IOM) and World Health Organization (WHO) BMI Categories

| Category        | IOM                       | WHO                         |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Underweight     | < 19.8 kg/m <sup>2</sup>  | < 18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup>    |
| Normal weight   | 19.8-26 kg/m <sup>2</sup> | 18.5-24.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> |
| Overweight      | 26.1-29 kg/m <sup>2</sup> | 25-29.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup>   |
| Obese Class I   | > 29 kg/m <sup>2</sup>    | 30-34.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup>   |
| Obese Class II  | —                         | 35-39.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup>   |
| Obese Class III | —                         | ≥ 40 kg/m <sup>2</sup>      |



TABLE 2-3 Data Required to Assess Trends in Pregnancy-Related Maternal Weight and the Ideal and Practical Methods of Measurement and Acquisition

|               |
|---------------|
| Required Data |
|---------------|

pregnancy than women 35 years of age and older. Between 1990 and 2005, there was a 31 percent increase in GWG of at least 40 pounds in singleton pregnancies among adolescents (NCHS, 2007a). In 2005, weight gain of < 15 pounds was more common among black and Hispanic than among white women (Figure 2-5). Within each racial or ethnic group, the proportion of women with low gains increased with advancing age.

*Weight Gain Relative to Prepregnancy BMI*

Unfortunately, the standard birth certificate lacks data on maternal prepregnancy weight and height. Thus, data from this source cannot pro-

TABLE 2-4 National Data Sources for Maternal Weight and Their Methods of Acquiring Key Variables

| Data Source                         | Prepregnancy Weight                                                         | Prepregnancy Height                                                         | Gestational Weight Gain                                          | Postpartum Weight                                                  | Data Coverage                                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Ideal                               | Recalled weight at first prenatal visit is abstracted from clinical records | Measured height at first prenatal visit is abstracted from clinical records | Last recorded weight is abstracted from clinical records         | Measured weight at least once starting 3 months or more postpartum | 50 states, little to no missing data          |
| Standard U.S. birth certificate     | Not available                                                               | Not available                                                               | Recalled at delivery                                             | Not applicable                                                     | 49 states (excludes California)               |
| Revised 2003 U.S. birth certificate | Recalled at delivery                                                        | Recalled at delivery                                                        | Based on last recorded weight abstracted from the medical record | Not applicable                                                     | 19 states in 2006                             |
| PRAMS                               | Recalled at 2-4 months postpartum                                           | Recalled at 2-4 months postpartum                                           | Obtained from birth certificates (recalled at delivery)          | Not available                                                      | 8 states                                      |
| PNSS                                | Recalled at the prenatal visit or postpartum visit                          | Measured at the prenatal visit or postpartum visit                          | Recalled at the postpartum visit                                 | Measured at WIC postpartum recertification visit                   | Low-income women in 26 states                 |
| IFPS II                             | Recalled in the postpartum period                                           | Recalled in the postpartum period                                           | Recalled in the postpartum period                                | Recalled at 3, 6, 9, and 12 months                                 | Nationally distributed consumer opinion panel |

NOTE: IFPS II = Infant Feeding Practices Study II; PNSS = Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System; WIC = Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

vide information about GWG relative to prepregnant BMI category. Birth certificate data may yield more useful statistics for weight gain surveillance in the near future. The IOM (1990) report called for collection of maternal prepregnancy weight and height, and these fields were added to the 2003 revised U.S. birth certificate, and by 2006, 19 states were using the revised birth certificate.

At present, the two large surveillance systems collecting data on GWG and prepregnancy BMI in the United States, PRAMS and PNSS, permit identification of trends if -3(y)-3( )m3( )m3( )treitef weighft gatesf c-3( )-164(a)-3(b)-3



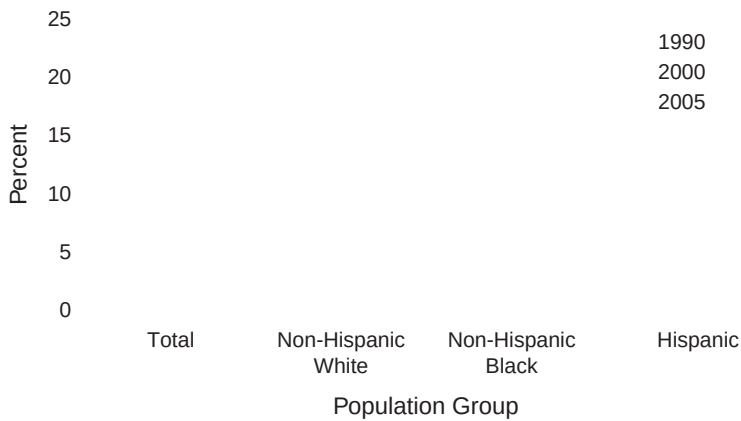


FIGURE 2-4 Percentage of women in the United States who gained more than 40 pounds during pregnancy, by race or ethnicity of the mother, 1990, 2000, and 2005.

NOTES: Includes only mothers with a singleton delivery and only non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and Hispanic mothers (who might be of any race). The total number of women who gained > 40 pounds was 456,678 in 1990, 588,253 in 2000, and 656,363 in 2005.

SOURCE: CDC, 2008a.

postpartum period. Currently, 37 states, New York City and the Yankton Sioux Tribe (South Dakota) participate in PRAMS (available online at

above the 15-pound recommended minimum. Similar trends were observed in 1992-1993 and 1998 (data not shown).

In 2002-2003, nearly half of underweight women represented in the PRAMS data gained within the range recommended by the IOM (1990), while 30.6 percent and 19.5 percent gained below and above the recommendations, respectively (Figure 2-7). For normal weight women, GWG varied little over this 10-year period. There was a small decrease in the proportion of women gaining less than, while a larger proportion of women gained in excess of the IOM (1990) recommendations.

The majority of overweight women had weight gains greater than the recommended range (Figure 2-7). By 2002-2003, only about one-quarter of overweight women gained within the recommended range. For obese women, there was a modest rise in the prevalence of excessive weight gain from 1993-1994 to 2002-2003. By the end of the observation period, only one-third of obese women gained within the recommended range. Among women in all BMI categories, no more than 50 percent of women gained within the recommended range.

### *Data Obtained from PNSS*

The only other large U.S. data source on GWG and prepregnancy BMI, PNSS, collects data on low-income women participating in public health programs (predominantly the U.S. Department of Agriculture's [USDA's] Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children [WIC]) from 26 states, 5 tribal governments, and 1 U.S. territory. For the analyses described below, data on pregravid BMI were used to determine whether weight gains fell above, within, or below the ranges recommended by the IOM (1990), but the data were not stratified by pregravid BMI. In this analysis, the data also were not limited to singleton, term pregnancies. Given these limitations, the data from PNSS show that from 1997 to 2007 in the total population of participating women, the proportion who gained within the range recommended by the IOM (1990) changed very little (Figure 2-8). Indeed, only about 30 percent of women with BMIs in the normal, overweight, and obese categories gained within the recommended ranges. The percentage of underweight women gaining within the recommended range rose slightly from nearly 36 percent in 1997 to just over 40 percent by 2007, while the percentage gaining below the recommended range declined from 41 percent to 32 percent. Furthermore, by the end of the observation period, approximately 46 percent of normal weight women, 46 percent of obese women, and 59 percent of overweight women gained in excess of the recommendations (IOM, 1990).

Similar time trends were observed when the PNSS data were stratified by race or ethnicity. In all racial/ethnic groups, the rates of high weight gains increased, low weight gains decreased, and recommended weight

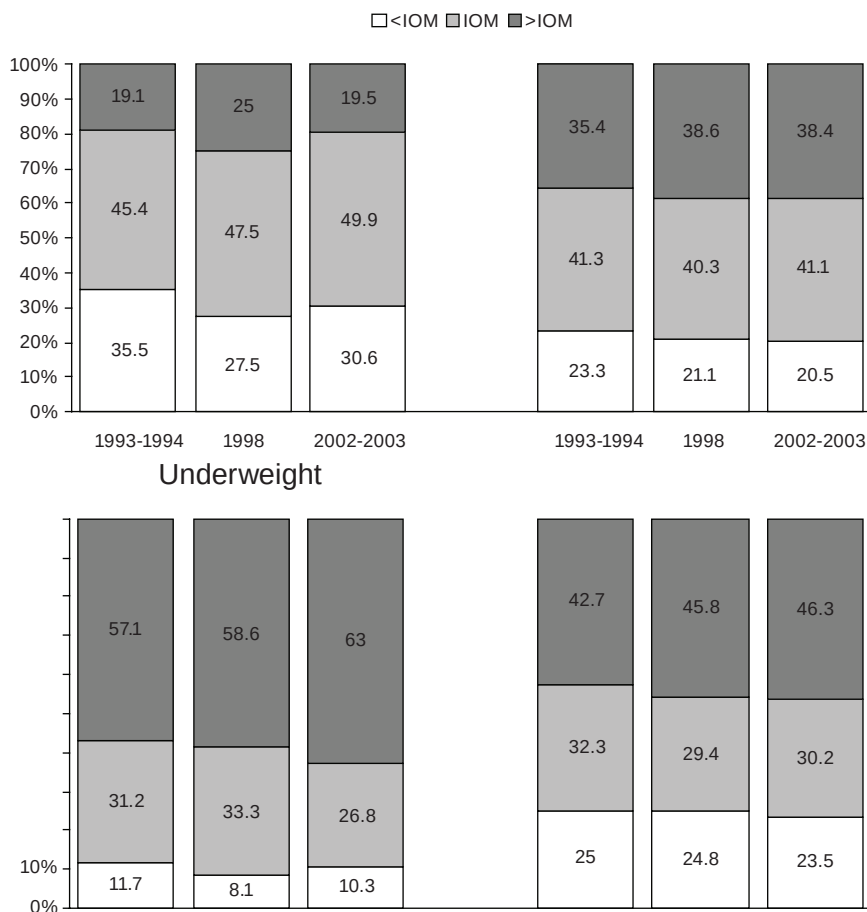


FIGURE 2-7 Distribution of gestational weight gain by prepregnancy BMI category among singleton, term deliveries from 1993 to 2003.

NOTE: IOM BMI categories were used (underweight [lean], < 19.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; normal, 19.8 to 26.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; overweight, 26.1 to 29.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; obese, > 29.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

SOURCE: Information contributed to the committee in consultation with P. Dietz, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2009.

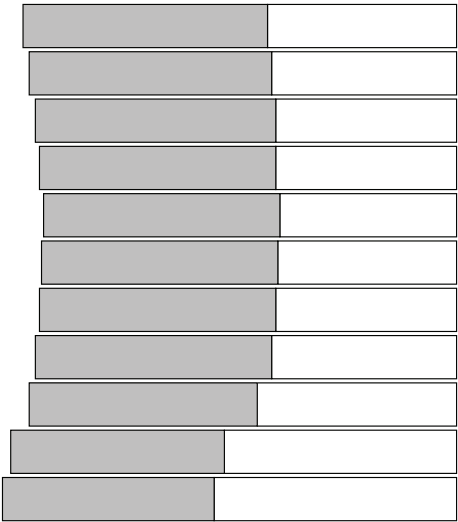
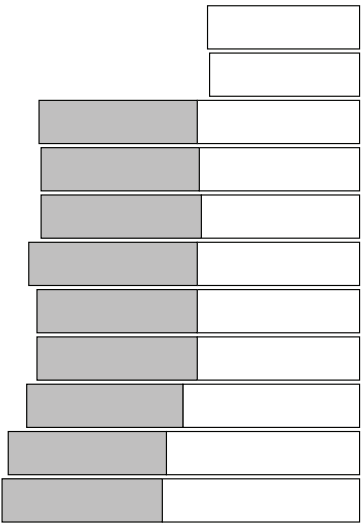


**FIGURE 2-8** Distribution of gestational weight gain from 1997 to 2007 by pregravid BMI.  
**NOTE:** BMI based on IOM categories (underweight [lean], <19.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; normal, 19.8 to 26.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; overweight, 26.1 to 29.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; obese, >29.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).  
**SOURCES:** Personal communication, A. Sharma, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia, December 2008; CDC, Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System. Available online at [http://www.cdc.gov/PEDNSSL/pnss\\_tables/pdf/national\\_table20.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/PEDNSSL/pnss_tables/pdf/national_table20.pdf) [accessed February 12, 2009].

### *Concluding Remarks*

Taken together, data from PRAMS and PNSS illustrate that less than half of the women

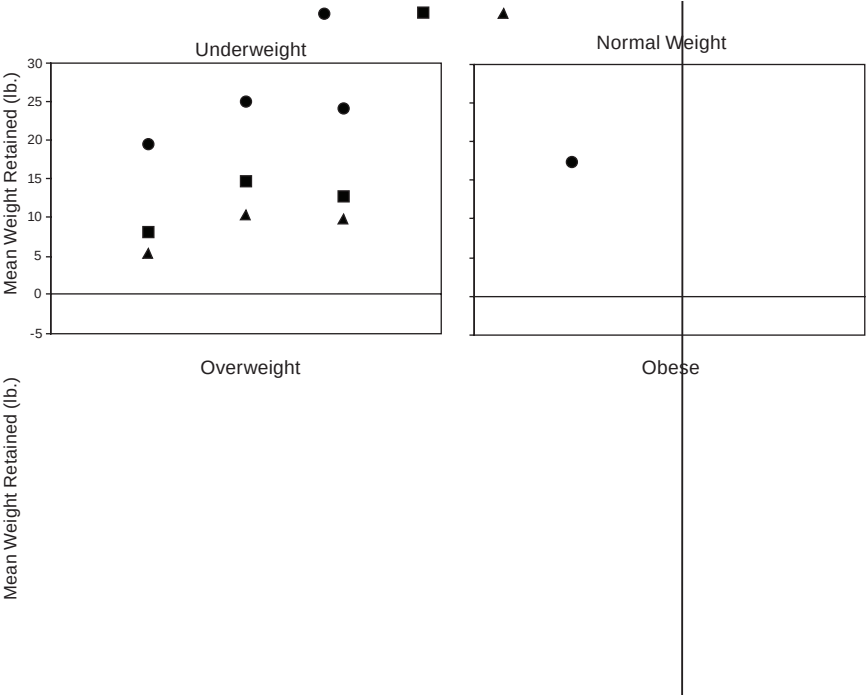
postpartum weight retention as a function of both prepregnancy body size (e.g., BMI) and adequacy of GWG.

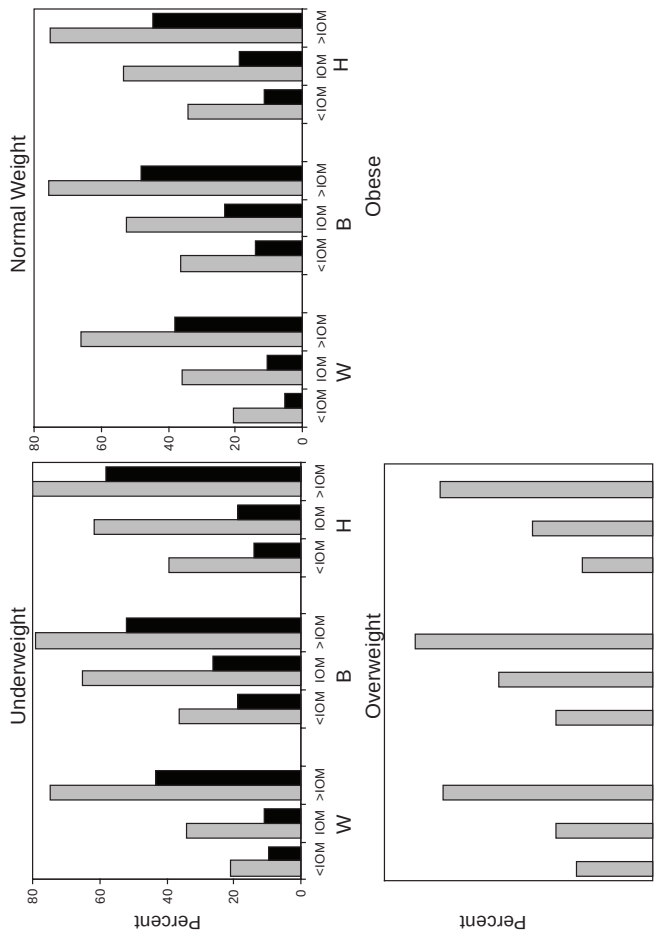
Unfortunately, data on maternal postpartum weights are not widely available, particularly for times later in the year after birth; this is different than during pregnancy, when maternal weight is monitored and routinely recorded in the clinical record. The committee used two sets of data for its evaluation of postpartum weight retention: PNSS, which was described earlier in the discussion on GWG trends, and the Infant Feeding Practices Study II (IFPS II).

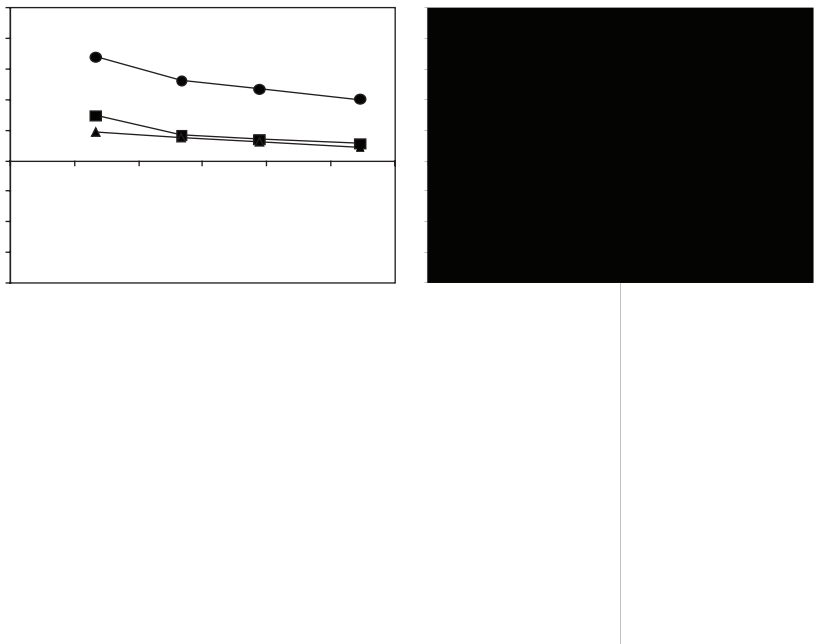
#### Data Obtained from PNSS

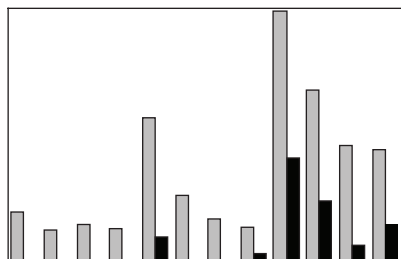
In addition to the data on GWG, PNSS also collects cross-sectional data on maternal weight at the mother's WIC recertification visit in the postpartum period. From 2004 to 2006, there were more than 1.4 million postpartum records with GWG and prepregnancy BMI in PNSS. However, only about 49,000 of these 1.4 million records occurred at 6 months postpartum or later and therefore provided useful information on postpartum weight retention in this low-income population sample (personal communication, A. Sharma, CDC, Atlanta, Georgia, December 2008); the committee's analysis was restricted to data collected at 24 weeks' postpartum or later. Notably, PNSS data are not nationally representative, and the women with postpartum records at >











### Concluding Remarks

Taken together, data from both PNSS and IFPS II suggest that gaining above the range recommended by IOM (1990) is associated with excess maternal weight retention postpartum, regardless of prepregnancy BMI. The data from IFPS II highlight that for most women, weight retention declines as time postpartum increases. However, postpartum weight retention remains a problem for a large proportion of mothers, even at 1 year after birth. These data also show that obese women who gained within or below the recommended ranges experienced a net loss in weight from their prepregnancy weight. However, for those who gained below their recommended range, the more time that passed after the birth, the more they experienced a net increase in weight and approached their prepregnancy weight. The racially diverse PNSS suggests that among low-income women,



*DESCRIPTIVE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND TRENDS*

(Guenther et al., 2006) (Figure 2-14). Additionally, approximately two-thirds of women 14-50 years of age did not consume at least five servings of fruits and vegetables per day (Serdula et al., 2004; CDC; available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.htm> [accessed June 29, 2009]). See Appendix B for additional information on nutritional intake. No other nationally representative data on dietary intake among pregnant women or women of childbearing age are available.

Among the population as a whole ages 19-39 years, total energy intake increased by 18 percent (1,856 to 2,198 kilocalories [kcal] per day) from 1977-1978 to 1994-1996. This included a sharp 58 percent increase in energy from snacks (244 to 387 kcal/d) as well as the proportion of total energy from fast foods and meals eaten at restaurants, including fast-food establishments (Nielsen et al., 2002). In addition, the proportion of energy from soft drinks nearly tripled; energy from fruit drinks doubled, while energy from milk decreased (Nielsen and Popkin, 2004).

From 1994-1996 to 1999-2000, there was little change in overall diet quality as measured by the Healthy Eating Index 2005 (Guenther et al., 2006). American's diets consistently met national recommendations for

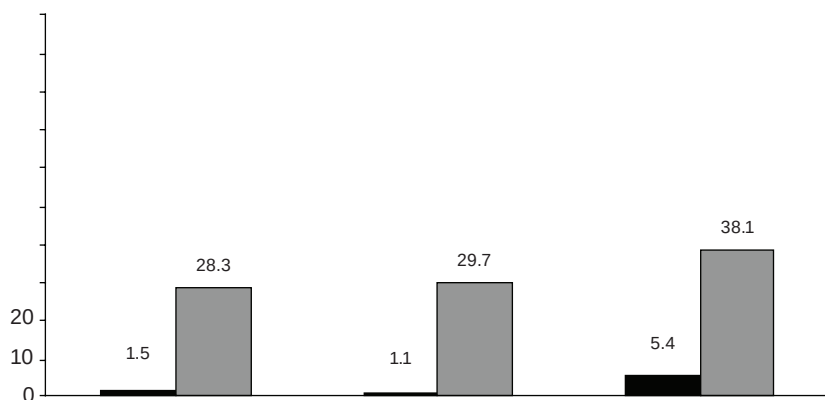


FIGURE 2-14 Percentage of U.S. childbearing-aged women who consumed the recommended number of servings of fruits and vegetables per day and five servings of fruits and vegetables per day.

NOTE: Recommended combined fruit and vegetable servings are eight servings for women aged 14-18 and 31-50 and nine servings for women aged 19-30.

SOURCE: Guenther et al., 2006.

total grains and meat or beans, but were far below the recommendation for whole grains, dark-green and orange vegetables, and legumes. Intakes of sodium and energy from solid fats, alcoholic beverages, and added sugars were well above national recommendations.

**Dieting** There was a steady rise in the prevalence of attempted weight loss among women of childbearing age from 1989 to 2000 (Serdula et al., 1994, 1999; Bish et al., 2005). In 2000, 60 and 70 percent of overweight and obese women, respectively, were attempting to lose weight, while 29 percent of women whose BMI was  $< 25 \text{ kg/m}^2$  also were attempting to lose weight (Bish et al., 2005).

Importantly, data from the Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS) also suggest an increase in the prevalence of attempted weight loss among women who reported being pregnant. In 1989, 3.6 percent of pregnant women who participated in the BRFSS said that they were attempting to lose weight (Cogswell et al., 1996). This figure doubled to 7.5 percent in 2003 (Bish et al., 2009). Furthermore, in 2003, 34.3 percent of women were trying to maintain their weight, that is, to keep from gaining weight (Bish et al., 2009).

**Food insecurity** Food insecurity is defined as “whenever the availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food or the ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways is limited or uncertain.” In 2006, 10.9 percent of U.S. households (12.6 million) had either low food security (6.9 percent) or very low food security (4.0 percent). It is difficult to obtain a nutrient-dense diet in an environment of food insecurity, and this has important implications for GWG (USDA; available online at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR49/ERR49.pdf> [accessed April 21, 2009]).

Pregnancy and lactation require modest increases in energy but greater increases in vitamin and mineral intake. For pregnant women to gain an appropriate amount of weight and meet their nutrient requirements, dietary changes to promote high nutrient density and appropriate energy intake is required. Unfortunately, the lack of nationally representative data on pregnant and postpartum women limits understanding of dietary trends among this important population subgroup.

### *Physical Activity*

*Healthy People 2010* (HHS, 2000) and the 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines (HHS, 2008) provide recommended levels of physical activity and emphasize that inactivity has adverse health consequences. Data from the BRFSS indicate that although the proportion of women of childbearing age who reported no recreational physical activity decreased between 1994



and 2004, one in five women aged 18-29 years of age and almost a quarter

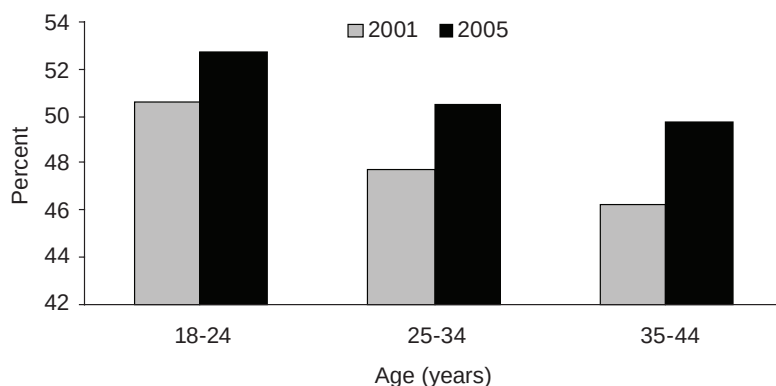


FIGURE 2-16 Trends in estimated percentage of women of childbearing age who reported meeting guidelines for regular physical activity.

NOTE: Physical activity is defined as at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity activity per day on 5 or more days a week, or at least 20 minutes a day of vigorous-intensity activity on 3 or more days a week, or both, when not working; an exercise occurrence is defined as 10+ minutes.

SOURCE: CDC, 2007.

graduate from high school to 53.3 percent among college graduates (CDC, 2007).

In summary, a high proportion of women of childbearing age fail to

18-29 years. Given that more than 10 percent of women of childbearing age may be depressed, screening and intervention for symptoms of depression during pregnancy may be required to achieve better GWG.

**Other psychological characteristics** Other psychological factors that may influence GWG include stress, social support, and attitude toward weight gain (see Chapter 4). The committee did not identify any nationally representative data specific to women during and after pregnancy that were indicative of trends or prevalence of these factors related to GWG.

#### PREGNANCY OUTCOMES RELATED TO GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN

The following describes trends since 1990 in known GWG-related







control study based on a statewide Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review in Florida reported that maternal mortality was increased three-, four-, and fivefold with class I (BMI 30-34.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), class II (BMI 35-39.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), and class III obesity (BMI  $\geq$  40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), respectively. Given the rising rates of obesity in the population, additional studies on obesity and maternal mortality are needed (Thompson et al., 2005).

### Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rate (deaths of infants less than 1 year of age per 1,000 live births) in the United States was 6.71 in 2005 (MacDorman et al., 2008). The dramatic decrease in infant mortality that occurred during the last half of the twentieth century has slowed since 2000 (Figure 2-21), and the United States has fallen behind many other developed countries in infant survival (NCHS, 2007b). Trends are similar for other measures, including early and late neonatal mortality and post-neonatal mortality, although perinatal mortality has continued to decrease steadily since 1990 (Martin et al., 2008).

Disparities in infant mortality according to maternal racial or ethnic group continue (Figure 2-22). In 2005, the infant mortality rate for non-Hispanic black mothers was three times higher than for Cuban mothers, who had the lowest rate; Puerto Rican and American Indian or Alaska Native mothers also had rates above the national average.

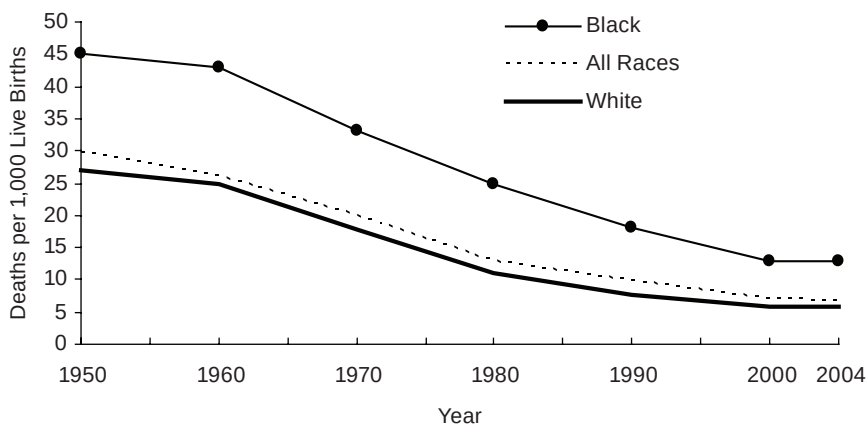


FIGURE 2-21 Infant mortality rates in the United States, 1950 through 2004, by race.

SOURCE: NCHS, 2007b.

### Birth Weight

There is a strong association between very low birth weight (due to preterm delivery or extreme fetal growth restriction) and infant mortality that decreases as birth weight increases until it reaches about 4,500 g, when there is a slight increase in infant mortality due to problems associated with macrosomia (Mathews and MacDorman, 2007). Although rates of infant mortality have decreased over time, the reverse J-shape of this relationship has not changed.

Between 1990 and 2005, the proportion of small infants increased and the proportion of large infants decreased (Figure 2-23). This downward shift in the overall distribution of birth weight is attributable in part to an increase in multiple births, but the pattern is similar for singleton births. Other possible explanations for these trends in birth weight include a greater prevalence of older mothers, who tend to have more complications of pregnancy, as well as increased use of assisted reproductive technology and obstetrical procedures, including labor induction and elective cesarean deliveries.

Rates for low birth weight and very low birth weight increased in the United States between 1990 and 2005, when the overall rate of low birth weight among singletons was 6.41 percent and the overall rate of very low birth weight was 1.14 percent. The lowest rates of low birth weight are among Hispanic and white infants, th(,)--3(e )TJ( )26(t)-2(h)-s(a)-2(n)-2(c)-2( )2[(a)-2(n)



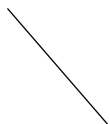


FIGURE 2-23 Percentage distribution of births by birth weight, United States, 1990 and 2005.

SOURCE: NCHS, 2007a.

### Small-for-Gestational Age Births

Small-for-gestational age (SGA) is used as a proxy to examine poor fetal growth (see Chapter 4) but can also include infants who are small but healthy due to their familial genetic background (Jaquet et al., 2005; Svens-







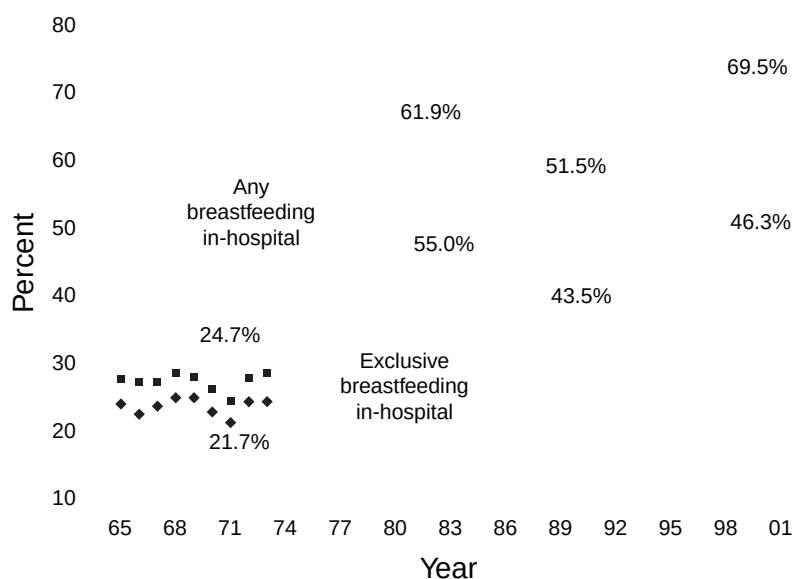


FIGURE 2-27 In-hospital breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding rates, 1965-2001.

SOURCE: Ryan et al., 2002. Reproduced with permission from *Pediatrics*, Vol. 110, pp. 1103-1109. Copyright © 2002 by the AAP.

FIGURE 2-28 Breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding rates at 6 months of age, 1971-2001.

SOURCE: Ryan et al., 2002. Reproduced with permission from *Pediatrics*, Vol. 110, pp. 1103-1109. Copyright © 2002 by the AAP.

## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Findings

1. Since the release of the weight gain recommendations of IOM (1990):
  -





ing all classes of obesity), age, racial/ethnic group, and socioeconomic status.

**Action Recommendation 2-2:** The committee recommends that all states adopt the revised version of the birth certificate, which includes fields for maternal prepregnancy weight, height, weight at delivery, and gestational age at the last measured weight. In addition, all states should strive for 100 percent completion of these fields on birth certificates and collaborate to share data, thereby allowing a complete national picture as well as regional snapshots.

## Supporting Actions

1. At the first prenatal visit, health care providers should record weight at last menstrual period and maternal height without shoes. Gestational weight gain should be based on measured weights (in light clothing and no shoes) abstracted from prenatal records. Gestational age at the last recorded weight should be documented, preferably through an early ultrasound, to properly evaluate adequacy of weight gain. To aid in data analysis, all data should be collected in a continuous form rather than categorically.
2. As part of maternal weight and height measurement, health care providers should record weight and height without shoes at the first prenatal visit. Gestational weight gain should be based on measured weights (in light clothing and no shoes) abstracted from prenatal records. Gestational age at the last recorded weight should be documented, preferably through an early ultrasound, to properly evaluate adequacy of weight gain. To aid in data analysis, all data should be collected in a continuous form rather than categorically.

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<http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/index.htm>

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<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/whusa08/hstat/mh/pages/237mm.html>

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db09.htm>

[http://www.marchofdimes.com/files/MP\\_Late\\_Preterm\\_Birth-Every\\_Week\\_Matters\\_3-24-06.pdf](http://www.marchofdimes.com/files/MP_Late_Preterm_Birth-Every_Week_Matters_3-24-06.pdf)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/obesity/childhood/prevalence.htm>



3

Composition and Components  
of Gestational Weight Gain:  
Physiology and Metabolism

Gestational weight gain (GWG) is a unique and complex biological  
Physiology and Metabolism of Gestational Weight Gain

cal composition and accretion rates of maternal, placental, and fetal components of GWG are presented, followed by discussions of the maternal and fetal-placental physiology underlying weight gain in pregnancy. Lastly, pathophysiologic conditions that may adversely affect GWG are reviewed to provide a foundation for understanding changes in body weight and composition during pregnancy.

## TOTAL AND PATTERN OF GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN

### Total Gestational Weight Gain

The total amount of weight gained in normal-term pregnancies varies considerably among women. Nevertheless, some generalizations can be made regarding tendencies and patterns of GWG in singleton and multiple pregnancies.

#### *Singleton Pregnancies*

An examination of studies published in the United States from 1985 to the present indicate that the mean total GWG of normal weight adult women giving birth to term infants ranged from a low of 10.0 to a high of 16.7 kg (Appendix C [Tables C-1A and C-1B] contains a tabular summary of the studies examined by the committee). Among adolescents, in general, GWG tended to be higher compared with adult women (means ranged from 14.6 to 18.0 kg in the studies examined). A consistent finding across studies was an inverse relationship between GWG and pregravid body mass index (BMI). Figure 3-2 illustrates a similar relationship with data derived from Abrams et al. (1986).

Since the release of the report *Nutrition During Pregnancy* (IOM, 1990) and its guidelines for GWG, a number of studies have examined GWG among overweight and obese women. Bianco et al. (1998) found that the mean GWG for 613 obese (BMI > 35) women averaged  $9.1 \pm 7.4$  kg. Thirteen percent of the women, however, gained more than 16 kg, and 9 percent either lost or failed to gain weight. In a cohort study using birth certificate data from 120,251 obese women in Missouri, 18, 30, and 40 percent of the women gained < 6.8 kg in obese classes I, II, and III, respectively. The amount of total gain associated with minimal risk for preeclampsia, caesarean delivery, large-for-gestational age (LGA), and small-for-gestational age (SGA) outcomes was 4.6-11.4 and 0-4.1 for class I and II obesity, respectively; and weight loss of 0-4.1 kg for class III obesity (Kiel et al., 2007) (see Chapter 2 for definition of obesity classes).

A prospective study of a cohort of 245,526 Swedish women confirmed that GWG among obese women (BMI = 30-34.9) and very obese women

FIGURE 3-2 Birth weight as a function of maternal weight gain and prepregnancy weight for height.

SOURCE: Modified from Abrams and Laros (1986). This article was published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*



The cumulative weight gain stratified by pregravid BMI for mothers of twins born at 37-42 weeks of gestation and with an average twin birth weight  $\geq 2,500$  g is shown in Table 3-1. Cumulative and rates of weight gain by trimester are presented in Appendix C, Tables C-3A and C-3B.

Outcomes associated with GWG in twin pregnancies, as with singleton pregnancies, are a function of pregravid BMI. Several studies have shown that, when stratified by pregravid BMI, increased GWG is associated with increased twin birth weight among underweight, normal weight, and overweight, but not obese, women (Brown and Schloesser, 1990; Luke et al., 1992; Lantz et al., 1996). Yeh and Shelton (2007) found that mean twin birth weights in the population studied increased incrementally from 2,237 g to 2,753 g for total GWG  $< 35$ , 35-45, 46-55, and  $> 55$  pounds, respectively. The odds of having a twin delivery at  $\geq 36$  weeks gestation and birth weight  $\geq 2,500$  g were significantly lower among women who gained  $< 35$  pounds (adjusted odds ratio [AOR] 0.49, 95% confidence interval

TABLE 3-1 Summary of Adjusted and Unadjusted\* Cumulative Weight Gain, by Pregravid BMI Status for Mothers of Twins at Gestational Ages 37-42 weeks, and with Average Twin Birth Weight

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[CI]: 0.37-0.65) and significantly higher among women who gained > 55 pounds (AOR 2.24, 95% CI: 1.51-3.33) compared to those who gained 35-45 pounds. Interestingly, GWG > 55 pounds was associated with an approximate 1.5 times greater likelihood of having a maternal complication (cumulative of gestational diabetes mellitus [GDM], pregnancy-induced hypertension, preeclampsia, and anemia [AOR 1.63, 95% CI: 1.02-2.60] or cesarean delivery [AOR 1.85, 95% CI: 1.20-2.87]).

In summary, GWG in twin gestations mirrors that in singleton pregnancies, i.e., there is an inverse relationship between maternal GWG and maternal prepregnancy BMI. These results suggest that a balance is needed between optimal GWG for maternal and twin outcomes.

### *Triplet and Quadruplet Pregnancies*

Fewer studies are available on triplet and quadruplet pregnancies (Appendix C, Table C-2). Reported GWG among mothers carrying triplets ranged from 13 to 33 pounds (3(h)-3(s)-3(a)-3(n)-33(p)-3(l)2F.267 0 Td5o8d5o1\_1 -3(a)-30

range (Appendix C, Tables C-1A and C-1B). For example, the pattern of GWG by maternal BMI category was examined in a large cohort of women visiting the University of California, San Francisco clinics (Abrams and Selvin, 1995; Carmichael et al., 1997). Mean rate of gain was 0.169 kg per week in the first trimester. Mean weight gains were higher in the second (0.563 kg per week) than the third trimester (0.518 kg per week) in all groups except for obese women; and mean gains in the second and third trimester were higher in underweight and normal weight women than in overweight and obese women. Birth weight was correlated most strongly with gain in the second trimester (32.8 g/kg GWG versus 18 and 17 g/kg in the first and third trimesters, respectively).

In another study, mean rates of GWG in non-obese, low-income black and white women were 2.48 kg in the first trimester and 0.49 and 0.45 kg per week in the second and third trimesters, respectively (Hickey et al., 1995). In contrast, GWG rates among predominantly Hispanic women ( $n = 7,589$ ) participating in the Prematurity Prevention Project were similar in the second (0.52 kg per week) and third trimesters (0.53 kg per week) (Siega-Riz et al., 1996); although the third-trimester gain was slightly lower

was 17.4 kg in a larger cohort of 1,564 twin births of > 28 weeks' gestation from the same population (Luke et al., 1998). In a similar study, Luke et al. (2003) found that rates of GWG associated with optimal outcomes were greater for underweight and normal weight women than for overweight and obese women. These results are similar to those of singleton pregnancies.

### COMPONENTS OF GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN

As pregnancy progresses, protein, fat, water, and minerals are deposited in the fetus, placenta, amniotic fluid, uterus, mammary gland, blood, and adipose tissue (Figure 3-3). The products of conception (placenta, fetus, amniotic fluid) comprise approximately 35 percent of the total GWG (Pitkin, 1976). The extent to which these changes in body composition are critical for normal fetal development or are incidental to pregnancy is not completely understood.

#### Maternal Components of Gestational Weight Gain

The committee reviewed evidence on maternal total body water (TBW) accretion, fat-free mass (FFM) accretion (i.e., protein accretion), and fat mass (FM) accretion. Each of these maternal components of GWG exhibit

FIGURE 3-3 Components of gestational weight gain.

NOTE: LMP = last menstrual period.

SOURCE: Pitkin, 1976. Nutritional support in obstetrics and gynecology. *Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology* 19(3): 489-513. Reprinted with permission.

unique patterns of accretion during pregnancy, with varying effects on outcome.

### *Total Body Water Accretion*

Total body water accretion is largely under hormonal control and is highly variable during pregnancy. Across several studies, TBW accretion measured by deuterium or antipyrine tracers averaged about 7-8 liters (L) in healthy pregnancies (Hytten and Chamberlain, 1991). Expansion of the extracellular fluid (ECF) measured using the tracer sodium thiocyanate is estimated to be about 6-7 L. For a reference 12.5-kg GWG, total water gain at term is distributed in the fetus (2,414 g), placenta (540 g), amniotic fluid (792 g), blood-free uterus (800 g), mammary gland (304 g), blood (1,267 g), and ECF (1,496 g) with no edema or leg edema and ECF (4,697 g) with generalized edema (Hytten and Chamberlain, 1991). Maternal age, parity, and height did not affect the incidence of edema, but overweight women had greater generalized edema than underweight women. As pregnancy advances, plasma volume expansion measured using Evans blue dye increases up to 45 percent (Rosso, 1990); maternal plasma volume expansion correlates positively with birth weight. Monthly bioimpedance analysis (BIA) measurements in 170 healthy pregnant women confirmed the progressive expansion of TBW, intracellular water (ICW), and ECF during pregnancy (Larciprete et al., 2003). Larciprete et al. (2003) also found that total body water accretion was positively correlated with birth weight, in agreement

of King et al. (1973), Pipe et al. (1979), Forsum et al. (1988), and Butte et al. (2003) is 686 g. A study of 108 black adolescents showed a mean rate of TBK accretion of 21 meq per week between 16 and 35 weeks' gestation, consistent with adult studies (Stevens-Simon et al., 1997). In summary, these recent studies suggest that protein accretion may be less than the approximate (~1 kg) estimates of the earlier findings of Hytten and Chamberlin (1991).

### *Fat Mass: Fat Accretion*

Based on serial measurements of skinfold thickness at seven sites made in 84 healthy, pregnant women, fat appears to be deposited preferentially over the hips, back, and upper thighs up to about 30 weeks' gestation (Figure 3-4; Taggart et al., 1967). This pattern of fat deposition is unique to pregnancy.

Sohlstrom and Forsum (1995) used magnetic resonance imaging to show that the majority of fat deposited during pregnancy is subcutaneous. Based on estimates of fat deposition and distribution both before and after

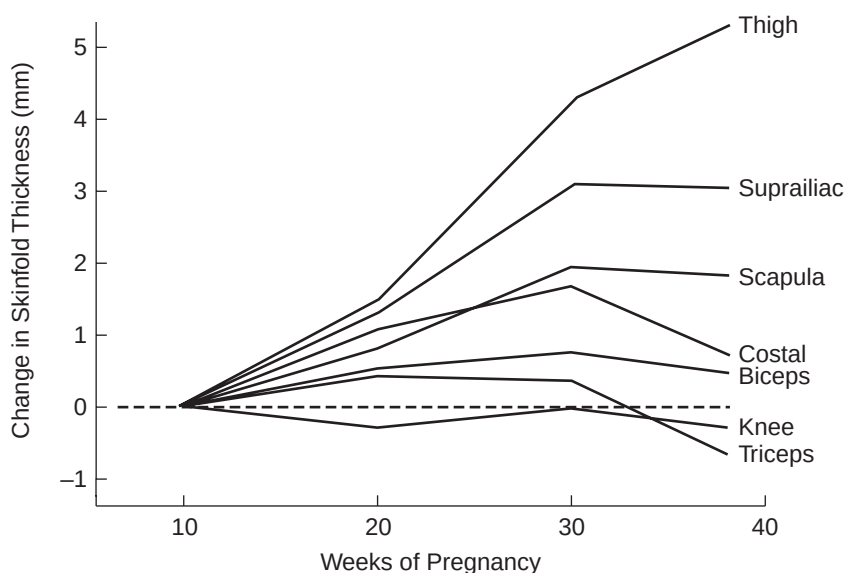


FIGURE 3-4 Longitudinal changes in skinfold thickness throughout pregnancy. SOURCE: Taggart et al., 1967. Changes in skinfolds during pregnancy. *British Journal of Nutrition* 21(2): 439-451. Reprinted with the permission of Cambridge University Press.













space, the trophoblast tissue (i.e., cytotrophoblast, syncytiotrophoblast), and fetal capillaries of peripheral and stem villi. The non-parenchymal tissue is composed of the decidual and chorionic plates, intercotyledonary septa, fetal vessels, connective tissue, and fibrin 9(d)-3(e)-d0(T)-3(h)-3(e3(0(T.3(n)-3( 1

relative changes in glycogen and fat exceeded the changes in amount (mg) of DNA, suggesting that a true increase in glycogen and fat per placental cell may have occurred. The increase in lipids in the placenta of the women with diabetes consisted primarily of triglycerides and phospholipids but not cholesterol (see Table C-6 in Appendix C for placental lipid content).

### Fetus

The optimal weight for a term infant is difficult to define. Not only are available methods for measuring fetal growth rate limited and prone to error, but fetal growth is impacted by a wide range of maternal physiologi





umbilical cord insertion all influenced twin birth weights. These variables can account for as much as a 1,000 g difference in weight at term. After 40 weeks' gestation, there is a decrease in weight of twins with a monochori-







the amniotic sac in late gestation (Ross and Brace, 2001). The two major inflow sources are fetal urine and lung liquid secretions. The two major outflows are fetal swallowing and intra-membranous absorption. Brace and Wolf (1989) reported on a series of 705 published amniotic fluid volumes derived from either direct collection or dye dilution techniques. At 8 weeks of gestation, amniotic volume increases at a rate of 10 mL per week, and at 13 weeks the rate increases to 25 mL per week. The maximal increase in amniotic fluid of 60 mL per week occurs at 21 weeks' gestation. The weekly volume increment then decreases and reaches zero at 33 weeks' gestation (i.e., the time at which maximal volume is reached).

There is wide variation in the amount of amniotic fluid in a normal pregnancy. Decreased amniotic fluid (i.e., oligohydramnios) occurs in approximately 8.2 percent of pregnancies, and increased amniotic fluid (i.e., polyhydramnios) occurs in approximately 1.6 percent of pregnancies (Ross and Brace, 2001). Oligohydramnios may occur as a consequence of fetal renal obstruction or dysplasia and may be associated with fetal growth restriction. Polyhydramnios is associated with various fetal structural anomalies such as congenital esophageal atresia, fetal anemia, congenital infections, and maternal diabetes. Given the wide range of normal amniotic fluid volume at term, this compartment may affect maternal GWG by as much as 1 kg.

### MATERNAL PHYSIOLOGY

Understanding the unique physiologic, metabolic, and endocrine milieu of the pregnant woman is crucial to understanding the mechanisms underlying GWG. The pregnant woman undergoes dramatic physiologic changes in anticipation and in support of fetal growth. Changes in many of the obligatory components of GWG (for example, TBW) are directly related to the alterations in maternal physiology that must occur for a healthy fetus and placenta to grow and develop. When the evidence permitted, the com

perfusion; this results in an increase in cardiac output and a relatively small decrease in mid-gestational blood pressure. Venous blood pressure rises in the lower limbs due to mechanical pressure in the

third trimester. The concentration of the metabolically active free cortisol also progressively increases through gestation due to increased production and decreased clearance. Adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) level is suppressed during pregnancy due to the action of estrogen and progesterone. The plasma concentration of dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEAS) declines during pregnancy due to an increase in metabolic clearance by the placenta and maternal liver.

The renin-angiotensin system changes dramatically during pregnancy. The adrenal gland remains responsive to the trophic action of angiotensin II, even though a refractory effect of pressors to angiotensin II develops early in pregnancy. This provides a probable explanation for the expansion of plasma volume during pregnancy. The secretion of prolactin from the pituitary and uterine decidua increases steadily during pregnancy. In contrast, luteinizing hormone and follicle-stimulating hormone are suppressed to levels similar to the luteal phase of ovulation. Growth hormone secretion is inhibited presumably by placental growth hormone production.

In normal pregnancy, thyroxine-binding globulin concentration is in-

secretion as a function of increased progesterone. Motility of the small intestine is also reduced during gestation; however, except for enhanced iron absorption, nutrient absorption is unchanged. These physiologic changes may affect the pattern of gestational weight gain in early gestation.

Changes in protein and nitrogen metabolism occur in early pregnancy, presumably in response to pregnancy-related hormones (Kalhan, 2000). Serum total  $\alpha$ -amino nitrogen decreases, as does the rate of urea synthesis and the rate of transamination of branched-chain amino acids, which are aimed at conservation of nitrogen and protein accretion in pregnancy. Protein turnover on a weight basis, however, does not change (Kalhan, 2000). Serum total protein and albumin fall progressively and by term are 30 percent lower than nonpregnant values (Hyttén and Chamberlain, 1991). The concentrations of binding proteins for corticosteroids, sex steroids, thyroid hormones, and vitamin D also increase.

Changes in carbohydrate and lipid metabolism occur during pregnancy to ensure a continuous supply of nutrients to the growing fetus (Butte, 2000). In early pregnancy, glucose tolerance is normal or improved slightly, and peripheral (muscle) sensitivity to insulin and hepatic basal glucose production are normal or increase by as much as 15 percent (Catalano et al., 1991, 1992, 1993). As pregnancy advances, nutrient-stimulated insulin responses increase progressively despite only minor deterioration in glucose tolerance, which is consistent with progressive insulin resistance (Kühl, 1991). In late pregnancy, insulin action is 50-60 percent lower than in nonpregnant state (Ryan et al., 1985; Buchanan et al., 1990; Catalano et al., 1991, 1992, 1993). By the third trimester, basal and 24-hour mean insulin concentrations may double (Lesser and Carpenter, 1994). The first and second phases of insulin release increase threefold by late pregnancy (Catalano et al., 1991). These alterations in maternal insulin sensitivity affect not only glucose metabolism but also lipid metabolism, resulting in a decreased ability of insulin to suppress lipolysis (Catalano et al., 2002).

Alterations in maternal physiology during pregnancy are mediated by placental factors, as evidenced by the significant increase in maternal insulin sensitivity that occurs within days after delivery of the fetus and placenta (Ryan et al., 1985). Alterations in maternal metabolism have generally been ascribed to placental hormones, such as hPL, progesterone, and estrogen (Kalkhoff et al., 1979; Ryan and Enns, 1988). Recently, Kirwan et al. (2002) reported that circulating cytokines (i.e., TNF- $\alpha$  concentration) were inversely correlated with insulin sensitivity.

The metabolic changes in insulin sensitivity that occur during pregnancy are modified by inflammatory factors (Friedman et al., 1999, 2008). In women with normal glucose tolerance during pregnancy who lose significant weight postpartum, there is a return to normal metabolic function. However, in women with GDM, particularly if there is no decrease in post-

partum weight or adiposity, there remains a significant inflammatory milieu that results in chronic insulin resistance, increasing the risk of diabetes and the metabolic syndrome.

Depending on the pregravid insulin sensitivity status of the woman, insulin sensitivity may increase or decrease during early pregnancy. In the very insulin-sensitive woman, insulin sensitivity most often decreases and is accompanied by an increase in adipose tissue and basal metabolic rate (Catalano et al., 1998). In contrast, in the more insulin-resistant women (e.g., those who are obese or have GDM), insulin sensitivity often increases and is accompanied by a decrease in basal metabolic rate and potential loss of adipose tissue (Okereke et al., 2004) (Figure 3-8). These physiologic changes may help to explain in part the relative decrease in weight gain in

FIGURE 3-8 Alterations in basal  $\text{VO}_2$  per kilogram of FFM per minute in relation to changes in basal endogenous glucose production

SOURCE: Catalano et al., 1998. Reprinted from *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, Volume 179, Issue 1, Catalano P. M., N. M. Roman-Drago, S. B.

obese insulin-resistant women compared to the greater increases in weight in lean insulin-sensitive women in early gestation. The placental factors related to these alterations in insulin sensitivity, energy expenditure, and



uterus, the feto-placental unit, intra- and extravascular fluids, and mammary gland, most of the weight gain that occurs over the course of a pregnancy lies in changes in maternal adipose tissue mass. In this context, the placental contribution to weight changes through the action of systemic factors that control the pathways of lipid synthesis and storage within the adipocyte must be taken into consideration. The placenta does not release adipogenic substrates into the maternal circulation. Hence, the most probable routes by which placental function would alter the regulation of lipogenic pathways are modulation of maternal insulin sensitivity and inflammation, as discussed previously.

### Placental Hormone Production

The sex steroids and human placental lactogen (hPL), which best reflect the endocrine function of the placenta have been considered primary candidates for regulation of maternal insulin sensitivity (Leturque et al., 1989). Although estrogens certainly have insulin sensitizing properties, the action of progesterone is clearly linked to diminishing insulin sensitivity and weight gain (Kalkhoff, 1982; Gonzalez et al., 2000; Xiang et al., 2007). Hence, an imbalance in placental progesterone production may be a contributing factor to maternal weight regulation. Human placental lactogen is the most abundant polypeptide hormone produced by the placenta with strong anabolic and lipolytic properties. Inasmuch as hPL enhances maternal nitrogen accrual, there has been speculation that this process could contribute to weight regulation (Florini et al., 1966). However, the lipolytic action of hPL on adipose tissue has received more experimental support. One consequence of the lipolytic effect of hPL is the re-orientation of maternal metabolism toward lipid rather than glucose utilization, favoring glucose sparing for the fetus. Interestingly, the ability of hPL to mediate pregnancy-induced insulin resistance, as suggested by Grumbach et al. (1968), was never fully established. Thus, the exact contribution of hPL to the regulation of maternal homeostasis remains to be established. Further, whether hPL synthesis is modified in pathologic pregnancies also has not been confirmed (Stewart et al., 1989).

Just as occurs in white adipose tissue, the placenta also synthesizes a large array of cytokines (Hauguel-de Mouzon and Guerre-Millo, 2006; Desoye and Hauguel-de Mouzon, 2007). All placenta-derived cytokines except leptin, which is released in large amounts in maternal circulation, likely act in either a paracrine or autocrine manner. Obesity and diabetes are associated with increased placental leptin production and maternal hy-

Another potential contribution of the placenta to the regulation of maternal metabolism and subsequent alteration in maternal weight gain is systemic inflammatory priming by circulating syncytiotrophoblast microparticles (STBMs). Syncytiotrophoblast microparticles bind to monocytes and stimulate the production of inflammatory cytokines (Germain et al., 2007; Rovere-Querini et al., 2007). In addition to local placental inflammation, these microparticles are potential contributors to the altered systemic inflammatory response in pregnancy (Challier et al., 2008). Consequently, increased macrophage infiltration into maternal adipose tissue in combination with increased insulin resistance may contribute to the regulation of adipose mass during pregnancy (Xu et al., 2003).

Taken together, there is little direct evidence that placental hormonal factors directly regulate maternal homeostasis and, particularly, quantitative changes in adipose tissue mass. The role of progesterone, hPL, and leptin in maternal insulin sensitivity and energy homeostasis remains to be established; inflammatory mechanisms are novel potential regulatory pathways that will also have to be examined.

differences between groups, but by 16 and 18 hours, the pregnant women had substantial increases in free fatty acid (FFA) and  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate ( $\beta$ HA), both of which were inversely correlated with glucose levels. There was a significant difference in FFA concentrations between obese and lean pregnant women only at 16 hours of fasting. In contrast, there were no significant differences in  $\beta$ HA levels at any time point between lean and obese women.

### Ketonuria and Ketonemia in Pregnancy

As first described by Freinkel (1980), pregnancy can be considered a condition of “accelerated starvation” because of the changes in maternal metabolism that occur because of the increase in insulin resistance. As discussed previously, the accelerated starvation occurs as a result of increased insulin resistance, particularly related to lipid metabolism. There is an increased risk of developing ketonuria and ketonemia in pregnancy even among women with normal glucose tolerance. Chez and Curcio (1987) reported that eight of nine women with clinically normal pregnancies developed ketonuria at various times during their pregnancy. Using a portable capillary meter, Gin et al. (2006) measured capillary blood ketones and  $\beta$ HA in women with normal glucose tolerance (controls) and those with GDM three times a day from 25 to 37 weeks’ gestation. Fasting ketonuria was strongly correlated with ketonemia in controls but not in women with GDM. There was a chronic increase in ketonemia levels in 12 percent of the controls and 47 percent of the women with GDM.

Pregnant women develop ketonemia much earlier than nonpregnant women during prolonged fasting because of the accelerated starvation. Felig (1973) studied women between 16 and 22 weeks’ gestation who elected termination of pregnancy and were willing to undergo prolonged fasting and compared them with a nonpregnant control group. After an overnight fast of at least 12 hours and for the first 36 to 60 hours of starvation, blood  $\beta$ HA and acetoacetate concentrations were two- to threefold higher in the pregnant group than in the nonpregnant group. The increase in lipolysis among the pregnant women was attributed to increases in hPL. The ketone concentrations in maternal blood were equivalent to those in amniotic fluid and were fortyfold above levels in fed subjects. The assumption is that amniotic fluid levels represent maternal-to-fetal transport. Felig (1973) also hypothesized that ketones become an important metabolic fuel for the fetal brain once glucose concentrations decrease, because the human fetal brain has the enzymes necessary for ketone oxidation.

Coetzee et al. (1980) reported that 19 percent of obese, insulin-dependent diabetic women on 1,000-kilocalorie (kcal) diets developed ketonuria. In contrast, in diabetic women eating higher-energy diets, only 14 percent had

ketonuria, and in pregnant nondiabetic women, only 7 percent developed ketonuria. Measurement of blood ketones was never positive if the urine measure was  $\leq$

- a. Mean GWG of normal weight women with twin births ranges from 15.5 to 21.8 kg.
  - b. GWG for triplets ranges from 20.5 to 23.0 kg at 32-34 weeks and for quadruplets from 20.8 to 31.0 kg at 31-32 weeks.
3. When stratified by the World Health Organization (WHO) pre-pregnancy BMI categories, sample sizes from data on twins are insufficient to designate a range for underweight women with pre-gravid BMI < 18.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.
  4. The extent to which fat mass accretion is critical rather than incidental to pregnancy is not clear, but unrestrained weight gain leads to postpartum weight retention.
  5. Placental size is strongly correlated with fetal growth, averaging approximately 500 g in singleton pregnancies.
  6. Amniotic fluid weight may affect maternal gestational weight gain by as much as 1 kg at term.
  7. Gestational gains in weight, total body water, total body potassium, protein, and FFM, but not FM, are positively correlated with birth weight across all BMI categories.
  8. Poor plasma volume expansion is associated with a poorly growing fetus and poor reproductive performance.
  9. Pregnancy is a condition of systemic inflammation that also influences maternal and fetal nutrient utilization.
  10. During prolonged fasting, i.e., 16-18 hours, pregnant women are more likely to develop elevated measures of blood  $\beta$ HA and acetoacetate. In women with diabetes, plasma FFA and  $\beta$ HA are inversely associated with intellectual development of the offspring at 3-5 years of age. Therefore, caution is warranted regarding periods of prolonged fasting and weight loss during pregnancy and the development of ketonuria.

### Research Recommendations

Research Recommendation 3-1: The committee recommends that the Na



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## 4

## Determinants of Gestational Weight Gain

The total amount of weight gain during pregnancy is determined by many factors. Aside from physiological factors (discussed in Chapter 2); psychological, behavioral, family, social, cultural, and environmental factors can also have an impact on gestational weight gain (GWG). Understanding these factors as determinants of GWG is an important component of revising weight gain guidelines for women during pregnancy. Several conceptual models guided the committee's consideration of determinants of GWG. The ecological perspective recognizes that health behavior such as GWG is influenced at multiple levels. Brofenbrenner (1979) identified multiple levels of environmental influence on health behavior in general:

- The microsystem—face-to-face interactions in specific settings, such as family, school, or a peer group;
- The mesosystem (a system of microsystems)—the interrelations among the various settings in which the individual is involved, such as that between the family and the workplace;
- The exosystem—the larger social system in which the individual is embedded, such as the extended family or community; and
- The macrosystem—cultural values and beliefs, such as cultural beliefs about GWG.

Other models that recognize the multiple determinants of health behavior or outcome include the health field model, which identifies multiple domains including the physical and social environments that exert influ-

ences on health behavior and outcome, and the epidemiological model, which describes a triad of epidemiologic factors to model the complex and interrelated factors contributing to the increasing rate of obesity in the United States and other countries. One of the triad components describes an “obesogenic” environment as “the sum of influences that the surroundings,

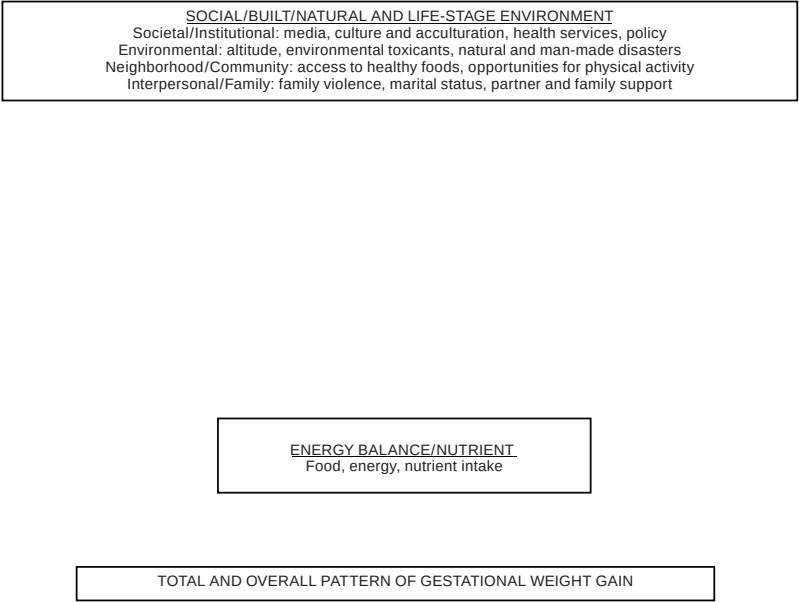


FIGURE 4-1 Schematic summary of determinants associated with GWG.



affect consumption behavior. Other studies have shown that the media



individual and social characteristics of the provider as contrasted with those of the pregnant woman, and racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in

Another example of policy influencing GWG is the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Rush et al. (1988) conducted a national evaluation of WIC programs and found that a reversal of low weight gain in early pregnancy and greater total weight gain during pregnancy occurred among women who enrolled in WIC compared with controls. They also found greater intake of protein, iron, calcium, vitamin C, and energy among WIC participants. However, subsequent evaluations (Joyce et al., 2008) have challenged these earlier findings and found more limited associations between WIC participation and GWG. Nonetheless, it is possible that policy that increases food access would have an impact on dietary pattern and GWG.

Policy that does not directly affect pregnant women can also have an effect on GWG. Examples include policy recommendations to restrict food and beverage advertising and marketing to young children, to develop and implement nutritional standards for all competitive foods and beverages

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were available. These findings were independent of income level; however, the study did not report on GWG.

### Opportunities for Physical Activity

Although a growing body of evidence has demonstrated the role of the built environment for populations at high risk for obesity (see Chapter 2 for trends in physical activity), only one study was identified that examined the relationship between neighborhood contexts and GWG. Laraia et al. (2007) conducted a study of neighborhood factors associated with physical activity and weight gain during pregnancy. They found that social spaces, defined as the presence of parks, sidewalks, and porches as well as the presence of people, including nonresidential visitors, was associated with decreased odds for inadequate or excessive GWG. The social spaces scale was also associated with decreased odds of living greater than 3 miles from a supermarket. These findings suggest that neighborhood environments can influence GWG by providing access to healthy foods and opportunities for physical activities.

### INTERPERSONAL/FAMILY DETERMINANTS

The committee considered three types of interpersonal/family factors

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Ventura (1994), found that unmarried mothers were more likely than married mothers to gain less than 7.3 kg during pregnancy. Olsen and Strawderman (2003) found in a cohort of 622 healthy adult women that 38 percent of married women had gained above the IOM (1990) guidelines, compared to 42 percent of women who were separated or divorced, and 48 percent of single women. They also found that 21 percent of married women had gained below the IOM (1990) guidelines, compared to 23 percent for single women and 29 percent for women who were separated or divorced. Thus married women were more likely to gain within the IOM (1990) recommended weight gain range than single or separated/divorced women.

### Partner and Family Support

The committee identified only two studies pertaining to the relationship between partner support and GWG. In the first, Dipietro et al. (2003) examined the influences of partner support on attitudes or behaviors toward GWG. In a cross-sectional study of 130 women with low-risk pregnancies, they found that partner support was associated with negative pregnancy body image, but not with attitudes or behaviors toward GWG. Siega-Riz and Hobel (1997) evaluated a clinic sample of 4,791 Hispanic women in Los Angeles and found that receiving financial support from the infant's father was significantly associated with decreased risk of poor GWG for overweight and obese women, but not for underweight or normal weight women.

Again, the committee only identified two studies pertaining to the influence of family support on GWG. In a sample of 99 pregnant adolescents, Stevens-Simon et al. (1993b) found that attitudes toward GWG were directly related to their perceived family support; negative weight gain attitudes were most common among heavier adolescents, depressed adolescents, and adolescents who did not perceive their families as supportive. In a study of 46 pregnant Mexican American adolescents, Gutierrez (1999) reported that the most powerful factors contributing to good food practices during pregnancy were maternal concern about the well-being of the infant, role of motherhood, and family support system; the investigators did not report on the contribution of family support to either GWG attitude or actual GWG.

### MATERNAL FACTORS

as age and race/ethnicity; physiological factors, some of which are also discussed in depth elsewhere in this report, and genetic factors known to impact GWG and those that may impact GWG because of their known influence on birth weight; and developmental and epigenetic programming in the mother, which may influence how a woman responds later in life.

### Sociodemographic Factors

#### *Gestational Weight Gain in Adolescents*

Adolescent pregnancy has been associated with increased risk of pre-term delivery, low birth weight, SGA births, and increased risk of neonatal mortality, although reported risk associations vary (Chen et al., 2007). To reduce these risks, the IOM (1990) report recommended that pregnant adolescents gain weight within the ranges for adult women unless they were under 16 years of age or less than 2 years post-menarche. In either of these cases, adolescents were encouraged to gain at the upper limits of the GWG guidelines for their prepregnancy BMI category.

The youngest adolescents as well as somewhat older adolescents who conceive soon after menarche may still be growing themselves (Scholl and Hediger, 1993). Even girls who become pregnant for a second time during adolescence may still be growing. Scholl et al. (1990) showed that adolescents who were still growing during a first pregnancy delivered infants whose birth weight did not differ from those who were not growing. This



et al., 1988). Nielsen et al. (2006) showed that birth weight outcomes improved in all prepregnancy BMI groups when GWG increased from below to within the lower half of the weight gain recommended by the IOM (1990) in a cohort of 815 pregnant African American adolescents. Further gains were not beneficial, particularly for infants of adolescents with a high prepregnancy BMI.

The possibility that adolescents who gained at the upper end of the range for their BMI category might have an excess risk of postpartum weight retention or the later development of obesity was not considered in formulating the 1990 guidelines, but has long been recognized as a possible downside of recommending relatively high weight gains for them (McAnarney and Stevens-Simon, 1993). Adolescents who have given birth are heavier (Gigante et al., 2005) with more adipose tissue (Gunderson et al., 2009) than adolescents who have not. Gestational weight gain was a significant predictor of increase in BMI 6 and 9 years post delivery in all prepregnancy BMI categories among the 330 primiparous black adolescents studied by Groth (2008). In addition, those who gained above the IOM (1990) guidelines were more likely to have become obese by 9 years post delivery than those who gained within the guidelines.

In summary, the relationship of GWG to fetal and birth outcomes, postpartum weight retention, and risk for future overweight/obesity appears to be generally similar to that for adult women. However, information on these subjects is more limited for pregnancy among adolescents, particularly younger adolescents, than it is for adult women. Data generated since the IOM (1990) report, particularly related to the risk of developing postpartum weight retention and obesity in adult women who had been pregnant as young adolescents, support the recommendation that “until more is known, adolescents less than two years post-menarche should be advised to stay within the IOM-recommended BMI-specific weight range without either restricting weight or encouraging weight gain at the upper end of the range” (Sutor, 1997).

### *Gestational Weight Gain in Older Women*

and of higher parity than non-obese subjects. The obese subjects also had higher rates of chronic hypertension, diabetes, and inadequate GWG. Prysak et al. (1995), in a retrospective comparison of pregnancy characteristics between older ( $\geq 35$  years old) and younger (25-29 years old) nulliparous women, found that the older women had significantly lower mean GWG than the younger women. In addition, obesity was significantly greater in the older compared to the younger women.

Endres et al. (1987) evaluated nutrient intake, prepregnancy weight, and GWG in pregnant women enrolled in the WIC program who were over 35 years of age versus adolescents aged 15-18 years. The investigators calculated prepregnancy BMI for both groups and found more than 50 percent of the older women were identified as obese prior to pregnancy. The study found no significant difference in total nutrient intake between the groups (neither met the Recommended Dietary Allowances [RDAs]), but the younger women had higher mean energy intakes (

TABLE 4-1 Effect of Chronological Maternal Age on GWG

| Reference                  | Age (yrs) | Racial/Ethnic Group            | Number<br>in Sample | Weight<br>Gain<br>(kg) | Coefficient<br>of Variation,<br>% |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ancrī et al.<br>(1977)     | 12-17     | Caucasian (one black<br>woman) | 26                  | 13.4                   | 26                                |
|                            | 18-19     |                                | 22                  | 12.4                   | 31                                |
|                            | 20-24     |                                | 24                  | 11.1                   | 17                                |
|                            | 25-32     |                                | 26                  | 10.7                   | 18                                |
| Frisancho et al.<br>(1983) | 12-13     | 13 in Sadeh                    |                     |                        |                                   |

In their review of birth records of 913,320 singleton births in New York City from 1995 to 2003, Stein (information contributed to the committee in consultation with Stein [see Appendix G, Part III]) found that Asian and non-Hispanic black women were more likely to gain 0 to 9 kg, whereas Hispanic and non-Hispanic white women were more likely to gain 20+ kg during pregnancy. Table 4-2 presents GWG among women of different race and ethnicity in this study population.

Taken together, the limited data on the influence of race/ethnicity on GWG is suggestive of inadequate GWG among some racial/ethnic groups. However, the paucity of data on a natigeemittee

TABLE 4-3 Gestational Weight Gain (pounds) by Selected Characteristics Among Women Delivering Full-term, Singleton Births (underweight women excluded), PRAMS, 2004-2005

| Characteristic           | ≤ 14 (n = 8,091) <sup>a</sup> |                 | 15-24 (n = 9,970) <sup>a</sup> |                 | 25-34 (n = 14,545) <sup>a</sup> |                 | 35-44 (n = 10,311) <sup>a</sup> |                 | ≥ 45 (n = 7,112) <sup>a</sup> |                 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
|                          | Percent <sup>b</sup>          | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>           | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>            | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>            | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>          | SE <sup>b</sup> |
| Age, yr (n) <sup>a</sup> |                               |                 |                                |                 |                                 |                 |                                 |                 |                               |                 |
| 14-19 (5,249)            | 15.4                          | 0.8             | 16.9                           | 0.8             | 25.7                            | 0.9             | 20.4                            | 0.9             | 21.7                          | 0.9             |
| 20-24 (12,477)           | 15.3                          | 0.5             | 19.3                           | 0.5             | 26.7                            | 0.6             | 20.3                            | 0.5             | 18.4                          | 0.5             |
| 25-29 (13,483)           | 15.8                          | 0.5             | 18.6                           | 0.5             | 28.5                            | 0.6             | 22.2                            | 0.5             | 15.0                          | 0.5             |
| 30-34 (11,169)           | 15.1                          | 0.5             | 18.6                           | 0.5             | 30.8                            | 0.6             | 22.1                            | 0.6             | 13.4                          | 0.5             |
| ≥ 35 (7,651)             | 15.9                          | 0.6             | 19.8                           | 0.7             | 32.2                            | 0.8             | 20.8                            | 0.7             | 11.2                          | 0.6             |
| Race/ethnicity           |                               |                 |                                |                 |                                 |                 |                                 |                 |                               |                 |
| White (27,393)           | 13.3                          | 0.3             | 17.4                           | 0.3             | 30.0                            | 0.4             | 22.7                            | 0.4             | 16.6                          | 0.3             |
| Black (7,790)            | 21.7                          | 0.7             | 21.1                           | 0.6             | 23.9                            | 0.7             | 18.2                            | 0.6             | 15.1                          | 0.6             |
| Hispanic (7,428)         | 17.3                          | 0.7             | 21.2                           | 0.7             | 29.3                            | 0.8             | 20.1                            | 0.7             | 12.1                          | 0.6             |
| Other (7,221)            | 16.4                          | 0.8             | 19.9                           | 0.9             | 30.6                            | 1.1             | 19.8                            | 0.9             | 13.5                          | 0.8             |
| Education, y (n)         |                               |                 |                                |                 |                                 |                 |                                 |                 |                               |                 |
| < 12 (8,154)             | 19.6                          | 0.7             | 21.1                           | 0.7             | 25.7                            | 0.8             | 18.0                            | 0.7             | 15.7                          | 0.7             |
| 12 (15,550)              | 17.3                          | 0.5             | 19.4                           | 0.5             | 26.0                            | 0.5             | 19.9                            | 0.5             | 17.4                          | 0.5             |
| > 12 (25,667)            | 12.7                          | 0.3             | 17.8                           | 0.3             | 31.7                            | 0.4             | 23.3                            | 0.4             | 14.5                          | 0.3             |
| Parity (n)               |                               |                 |                                |                 |                                 |                 |                                 |                 |                               |                 |
| 0 (20,782)               | 11.5                          | 0.3             | 15.9                           | 0.4             | 28.3                            | 0.5             | 24.3                            | 0.4             | 20.1                          | 0.4             |
| 1-2 (23,911)             | 16.8                          | 0.4             | 20.5                           | 0.4             | 29.8                            | 0.4             | 20.3                            | 0.4             | 12.7                          | 0.3             |
| ≥ 3 (5,100)              | 23.2                          | 0.9             | 22.9                           | 0.9             | 28.3                            | 0.9             | 14.8                            | 0.7             | 10.8                          | 0.7             |
| Total (50,029)           | 15.5                          | 0.2             | 18.8                           | 0.3             | 28.9                            | 0.3             | 21.4                            | 0.3             | 15.5                          | 0.2             |

NOTE:  $\chi^2$  test used for difference in gestational weight gain by maternal age, race/ethnicity, educational level, and parity were all statistically significant ( $p < .001$ )

<sup>a</sup>Based on unweighted data.

<sup>b</sup>Based on weighted data.

SOURCE: Reprinted from Chu S. Y., W. M. Callaghan, C. L. Bish and D. D'Angelo. Gestational weight gain by body mass index among U.S. women delivering live births, 2004-2005: fueling future obesity. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Copyright (2009), with permission from Elsevier.

*Food Insecurity*

Food insecurity is closely tied to socioeconomic status and is therefore discussed here even though it is arguably a modifiable factor. Several studies have identified a relationship between food insecurity, defined as “whenever the availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food or the ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways is limited or uncertain” (Anderson, 1990). These studies have shown a higher prevalence of overweight and obesity among women living in food-insecure households compared to women living in food secure households (Frongillo et al., 1997; Olson, 1999; Townsend et al., 2001; Adams et al., 2003; Basiotis and Lino, 2003; CDC, 2003; Crawford et al., 2004). The mechanisms mediating this association are not well understood. Reports in the literature addressing eating patterns support the idea that food deprivation can result in overeating (Olson and Strawderman, 2008). Polivy (1996) found that food restriction or deprivation, whether voluntary or involuntary, results in a variety of changes including the preoccupation with food and eating. It has also been suggested that food-insecure households tend to purchase calorie-

### Genetic Characteristics

The role of DNA sequence variation in the regulation of body weight is being investigated in many laboratories worldwide, but few investigators are focusing their attention on the genetics of weight gain during pregnancy. The committee was unable to identify studies dealing with the heritability of GWG. The only evidence on the genetic basis of GWG comes from a small number of reports focusing on the contribution of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in specific genes. At present no study has considered the important issue of nutrition or physical activity interactions with genes on GWG.

Most of the SNP studies have focused on the effect of the Trp64Arg allelic substitution in the beta 3 adrenergic receptor gene (*ADRβ3*) on weight gain during pregnancy (Festa et al., 1999; Yanagisawa et al., 1999; Alevizaki et al., 2000; Tsai et al., 2004; Fallucca et al., 2006). Festa et al. (1999) showed that Austrian mothers who were homozygous for the 64Arg allele gained more weight from baseline to gestational weeks 20 to 31 than heterozygotes. Among pregnant women with type 2 diabetes, Yanagisawa et al. (1999) showed that 12.2 percent of those homozygous and 19.2 percent of those heterozygous for the Trp allele and 28.6 percent homozygous for the Arg allele gained more than 5 units in BMI during pregnancy. In contrast, in a study from Greece, Alevizaki et al. (2000) found no differences among the *ADRβ3* genotypes for the rate of weight gain (g/day), calculated from the difference between the prepregnancy reported body weight and the weight measured between weeks 28 and 36 of gestation. Similarly, Tsai et al. (2004) found no differences in weight gain at 24 to 31 weeks of gestation among genotypes in a Taiwanese population. In the largest study to date, involving 627 pregnant women from Italy, Fallucca et al. (2006) found no effect of the *ADRβ3* polymorphism on GWG. In the same study, a marker in the insulin receptor substrate 1 (*IRS-1*) gene was also not associated with GWG.

Tok et al. (2006) examined the Pro12Ala polymorphism in the peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma 2 (*PPARδ2*) in pregnant Turkish women. Among 62 women who had gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), those with the Pro12Ala polymorphism gained more weight during pregnancy. Among 100 nondiabetic pregnant women, 294 women homozygous for the T allele with uncomplicated, singleton pregnancies who had term deliveries ranging from 37 to 40 weeks gained significantly more weight ( $17.4 \pm 0.9$  kg) than those with the C allele ( $15.1 \pm 0.4$  kg). However, the sample included women from various ethnic ancestries, which may have affected the results in an undetermined manner.

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adequate statistical power was available to identify the effects of alleles or genotypes with a small effect size.

### *Genetics and Birth Weight*

Gestational weight gain is associated with the weight of the infant at birth even though there may not always be a cause and effect relationship and despite the fact that reverse causation often cannot be excluded. In this context, it is useful to consider the role that genetic factors may play in the variation of birth weight. In particular, it is important to understand the potential role of risk alleles at specific genes on risk for SGA and large-for-gestational age (LGA).

The topic of the heritability of birth weight has been addressed for more than 50 years in the scientific literature. The evidence up to the late 1970s was reviewed (Robson, 1978) in a three-volume treatise on human growth. The conclusion was that the fetal genotype played a small role on birth weight, probably of the order of 10 percent, while the maternal genotype accounted for about 24 percent of the total variance. These estimates were derived from data on full siblings, half-siblings, first cousins, mother-child, father-child, and monozygotic and dizygotic twins.

The most compelling data for a role of paternal birth weight on weight of the offspring at birth also comes from a Norwegian study. A total of 67,795 father-mother-firstborn child trios were used to plot the birth weight of infants against paternal birth weight by classes of maternal birth weight (Magnus et al., 2001). The regression of a child's birth weight on the father's birth weight was 0.137, while the regression on the mother's birth weight was 0.24.



Importantly, variation in birth weight is influenced by a number of other factors in addition to the genetic makeup of the newborn. Several studies have identified maternal genotype as another important factor. For example, in the large Norwegian study cited above, maternal genetic factors accounted for 22 percent of the variation in birth weight (Lunde et al., 2007).

In another study of 6,811 white singletons and their natural parents, Griffiths et al. (2007) evaluated the effect of parental height and weight on offspring length and weight at birth and observed that the effects of parental height on birth weight were similar for both. However, the influence of the mother's weight on the infant's birth weight was stronger than that of the father. Finally, in a report on parental role on the familial aggregation of SGA in 256 infants, Jaquet et al. (2005) found that both parents contributed almost equally to the risk. Specifically, the risk of SGA for an infant at birth was 4.7 times greater for mothers and 3.5 times for fathers who were themselves SGA, compared to those who were appropriate-for-gestational age (AGA). When both parents had been SGA the risk of an SGA infant was 16 times higher.

Evidence for a role of specific genes with a focus on their implications for diabetes on birth weight is limited (McCarthy and Hattersley, 2008). Glucokinase encoded by the *GCK* gene is an enzyme that phosphorylates glucose to glucose-6-phosphate in the pancreas, where it serves as a glucose sensor and is the rate limiting step in glucose metabolism. A defect in the pancreatic glucose-sensing mechanisms of the fetus could potentially reduce weight at birth and have profound effects on the regulation of glucose and insulin later in life. Mutations altering highly conserved amino acids in *GCK* were genotyped in 58 offspring and their mothers from the UK (Hattersley et al., 1998). When a mutation was present in the fetus but not carried by the mother, weight at birth was diminished by more than 500 g. A concordant observation was that in 19 pairs of siblings discordant for a *GCK* mutation, the infant with the mutation weighed about 500 g less at birth than the other sibling (see Figure 4-2). When a mutation was absent in the fetus but present in the mother, mean birth weight was higher by about 600 g. When the mutation was present in both mother and fetus, body weight at birth was normal. The low and high birth weights associated with a number of *GCK* missense mutations are thought to reflect variation in fetal insulin secretion resulting from the *GCK* fetal genotype and indirectly

allele (single nucleotide polymorphism [SNP] at position -30) at the *GCK*

mutation carriers compared to nonmutated family members (Figure 4-2). Fifty-four percent of mutation carriers were macrosomic, compared with 13 percent for nonmutation family members.

In another candidate gene study, a common SNP in the fat mass and obesity associated gene (*FTO*) was investigated for its relationship to weight

a number of genome-wide association studies with comprehensive panels of markers, particularly in cohorts with large sample size and substantial numbers of small- and large-for-gestational age infants. It will also be critical in the future to design studies that will make it possible to define the maternal and fetal alleles at key genes that associate with increased risk for GWG outside recommended ranges in the context of maternal dietary and physical activity habits.

### Developmental Programming

In addition to genetics, a multitude of other maternal factors could potentially influence GWG. Early developmental programming is one of them. Developmental, or in utero, programming refers to physiological, metabolic, or behavioral adaptation resulting from exposure or lack thereof to hormones, nutrients, stress, and other agents at critical periods during embryonic or fetal development. These exposures and experiences may encode the functions of organs or systems that become manifest as elevated or diminished risk for disease later in life (Barker, 1998; Seckl, 1998).

The following example illustrates how developmental programming may influence maternal GWG. It has been suggested that developmental programming could influence the ability to respond to and cope with repeated exposure to stress. If this is shown to be the case, it could explain why some women may be at greater risk for excessive GWG. More specifically, ani-

growing, the committee was unable to identify studies that directly examined the influences of programming on GWG in the mother. Consequences of high GWG to the child that may be related to developmental programming are discussed in Chapter 6.

### Epigenetics

Some types of developmental programming may be mediated through epigenetic events—that is, chemical modifications to the DNA and histone proteins that influence gene expression and manifest as phenotypic differences potentially mimicking those associated with DNA sequence variants. Epigenetic events begin accruing early after fertilization. Some occur at the embryonic stage in key tissues, often resulting in silencing (or switching off) /Span <</MCIulff)

cal factors: (1) prepregnancy BMI, (2) changes in the hormonal milieu that impact the maternal metabolic response during pregnancy, and (3) changes in basal metabolic rate (BMR) and energy expenditure (EE) during pregnancy. The following discussion summarizes this evidence. The BMI studies are, to some extent, an expansion of Chapter 2 on trends in BMI since publication of the IOM (1990) report; and the studies on hormonal milieu, BMR, and EE are, to some extent, an extension of the Chapter 3 discussion on endocrine and metabolic changes that occur during pregnancy.

### *Pregnancy BMI*

Based on epidemiological studies (e.g., those described in Chapter 2), GWG is generally inversely proportional to maternal BMI. For example, in a report of over 2.3 million deliveries in Germany from 1995-2000, Voigt et al. (2007) reported that overall, relatively short and heavy women had lower GWGs than tall and thin women. In the United States, Chu et al. (2009) used the PRAMS data from 2004-2005 to assess the amount of GWG among 52,988 underweight, normal weight, overweight, and obese U.S. women delivering full-term singleton infants (Table 4-4). They found that, overall, GWG decreased with increasing BMI. When they stratified by BMI, they found that obese women gained less weight during pregnancy than normal or overweight women; yet about one-fourth of obese women still gained 35 pounds or more. In a multivariable regression model, maternal prepregnancy obesity was the strongest predictor of low GWG (obesity correlated with lowest GWG), followed by higher parity, African American or Hispanic racial identity, and higher maternal age.

Although pregnancy BMI can predict GWG there are also metabolic changes in pregnancy, i.e., basal metabolic rate (BMR), total energy expenditure (TEE), and hormonal changes that are independent of BMI that can influence GWG.

### *Insulin, Leptin, and Hormonal Milieu, Basal Metabolic Rate*

The metabolic response to pregnancy varies widely among women. Prentice et al. (1989) reported on longitudinal changes from pre-conception through 36 weeks' gestation in eight healthy well-nourished women. The mean GWG at 38 weeks' gestation was  $14.4 \pm 4.1$  kg. Lean body mass increased linearly to a mean of  $6.7 \pm 1.6$  kg by 36 weeks' gestation. Measured BMR varied from 8.6 to 35.4 percent above pregnancy BMR, although some obese subjects showed significant decreases in BMR up to 24 weeks' gestation ( $r = 0.84$ ). In pregnant women, the relative cost of exercise for 120 minutes was approximately 10 percent of TEE. The authors concluded, from finding a small range for energy savings from either minor physical

TABLE 4-4 Gestational Weight Gain (pounds) by Prepregnancy BMI Among Mothers Delivering Full-term, Singleton Births, PRAMS, 2004-2005

| BMI Group                                         | ≤ 14<br>(n = 8,442) <sup>a</sup> |                 | 15-24<br>(n = 10,583) <sup>a</sup> |                 | 25-34<br>(n = 15,477) <sup>a</sup> |                 | 35-44<br>(n = 10,942) <sup>a</sup> |                 | ≥ 45<br>(n = 7,544) <sup>a</sup> |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                   | Percent <sup>b</sup>             | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>               | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>               | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>               | SE <sup>b</sup> | Percent <sup>b</sup>             | SE <sup>b</sup> |
| Underweight<br>(BMI, < 18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )   | 10.5                             | 0.9             | 17.7                               | 1.1             | 34.4                               | 1.5             | 23.2                               | 1.3             | 14.2                             | 1.0             |
| Normal<br>(BMI, 18.5-24.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )     | 10.4                             | 0.3             | 16.1                               | 0.3             | 31.8                               | 0.4             | 24.7                               | 0.4             | 17.1                             | 0.3             |
| Overweight<br>(BMI, 25.0-29.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 15.7                             | 0.5             | 20.3                               | 0.5             | 27.5                               | 0.6             | 20.5                               | 0.5             | 16.1                             | 0.5             |
| Obese<br>(BMI, ≥ 30.0 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )         | 29.8                             | 0.7             | 24.4                               | 0.6             | 22.1                               | 0.6             | 13.1                               | 0.5             | 10.7                             | 0.5             |
| Total                                             | 15.3                             | 0.2             | 18.7                               | 0.3             | 29.1                               | 0.3             | 21.4                               | 0.3             | 15.5                             | 0.2             |

NOTE:  $\chi^2$  test for the difference in gestational weight gain by body mass index (BMI) group was statistically significant ( $p < .001$ ).

<sup>a</sup>Based on unweighted data.

<sup>b</sup>Based on weighted data; percentages were age adjusted.

SOURCE: Reprinted from Chu S. Y., W. M. Callaghan, C. L. Bish and D. D'Angelo. Gestational weight gain by body mass index among U.S. women

activity or thermogenesis along with high variability in BMR during pregnancy, that offering prescriptive energy intake recommendations would be impractical because it is impossible to know how an individual woman's metabolism will respond.

Durnin (1991) reported on longitudinal changes in energy expenditure during pregnancy among Scottish and Dutch women. Among this cohort, an increase in BMR was not seen until 16 weeks' gestation and was followed by a mean increase of 400 kcal/day over pregravid BMI. The total energy cost of pregnancy was estimated at 69,000 kcal. Adjusting for dietary energy intake (~22,000 kcal) the authors estimated that decreased physical activity or increased efficiency of work accounted for an additional savings of ~47,000 kcal. Similarly Forsum et al. (1985) found an increase in BMR throughout gestation in a study of Swedish women.

Lawrence et al. (1985) studied how women in a developing country responded to increasing food intake during pregnancy. Pregnant women in the Gambia who followed their normal dietary pattern experienced energy sparing of 11,000 kcal with no increase in BMR above pregravid BMI until 30 weeks' gestation. Further, the women showed a mean GWG of 6 kg with no increase in adipose tissue mass. When their baseline diet was supplemented with 723 kcal/day in additional food, BMR increased by approximately 1,000 kcal over pregravid BMI. Women whose diets were supplemented with additional food had a mean 8 kg increase in GWG and a 2 kg increase in fat mass. Food supplementation had no effect, however, on the energy cost of activity and



creased in the third trimester. When adjusted for fat-free mass (FFM), TEE decreased in all BMI groups toward the end of gestation. Using multiple regression analysis, the change in TEE throughout the course of gestation regressed on a number of factors.

components of maternal metabolism and may exert an indirect effect on GWG through their effects on maternal insulin sensitivity.

Leptin is produced in relatively large quantities by the placenta and is transferred primarily into the maternal circulation (Hauguel-de Mouzon et al., 2006), with maternal leptin concentrations increasing by 12 weeks' gestation and having a significant positive correlation with both maternal

disease activity at conception. Fonager et al. (1998) reported a decrease in birth weight and increased preterm delivery in women with active Crohn's disease at conception. Similarly in women with lupus complicating pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes are improved if lupus has been quiescent for at least 6 months before conception (Cunningham et al., 2005).

### *Hyperemesis Gravidarum*

Although as many as 70-85 percent of pregnant women will have nausea and occasional vomiting in pregnancy (Jewell and Young, 2003), this often resolves by the second trimester. There are usually no long-term sequelae, and treatment is mostly symptomatic including avoidance of

dysfunctional perception of body weight and shape (Wisner et al., 2007), and both may affect GWG. Anorexia, which is defined as body weight less than 85 percent of expected weight for age and height, occurs in between 0.5-1.0 percent of women of reproductive age. Bulimia is defined as weight at the minimally normal range but where the individual employs binge eat

1998 to approximately 72,177 in 2002 (Santry et al., 2005; Davis et al., 2006). Most of the procedures during this time were performed on women; 81 percent in 1998 and 84 percent in 2002. As a result of this trend, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) published a Committee Opinion on Obesity and Pregnancy addressing the issue of bariatric surgery and pregnancy (ACOG, 2005), recommending that obese women who have undergone bariatric surgery receive the following counseling before and during pregnancy:

- —Patients with adjustable g

*Twins and Higher Order Pregnancy*

As discussed in Chapter 3, the presence of multiple fetuses in a pregnancy has an influence on total GWG. In comparison to a singleton birth the additional components of the products of a twin gestation (fetus, placenta, and amniotic fluid) account for up to two additional kilograms in GWG (see discussion in Chapter 3). The effects of GWG on maternal and child health outcomes for multiple births are discussed in Chapters 5 and 6, respectively.

**Psychological Factors**

The committee evaluated whether several weight-related psychological factors—depression, stress, social support, and attitudes toward weight gain—might be determinants of GWG. The following discussion summarizes the committee’s review of the evidence. Based on its review, the committee found that depression, or depressive symptoms, are associated with both low and high GWG (i.e., lower or higher than the recommended ranges) but that the evidence on whether and how the other psychological factors impact GWG is inconclusive. The discussion on depression extends the Chapter 2 summary of trends since 1990 in depression during pregnancy.

*Depression*

The committee identified three studies showing a positive association between depression and GWG.

posits. Webb et al. (2009) found that pregnant women who gained in excess of the ranges recommended by IOM (1990) were more likely to have high depressive symptoms than women who met the weight gain recommendations. Casanueva et al. (2000) conducted a case-control study to test for associations between maternal depressive symptoms and fat deposition among Mexican pregnant adolescents. They used body weight and anthropometric measures of skinfold thickness to determine fat deposition beginning at 20 weeks gestation through 4 weeks postpartum. The results of this study indicated an association between depressive symptoms and excessive fat deposition in Mexican adolescents. In cross-sectional studies, high depressive symptoms have been associated with negative attitudes about GWG (Stevens-Simon et al., 1993b; Dipietro et al., 2003). Women who are concerned before and during pregnancy about their weight gain have higher depressive scores in the week following delivery (Abraham et al., 2001).

Not all studies have shown a positive association between depression and either high or low GWG. For example, Cameron et al. (1996) studied a biracial sample of 132 women in mid-gestation and found a positive association between GWG and depression score for white women with high self-esteem, a negative correlation with depression score and third-trimester weight among white women with low self-esteem, and no association between depression score and GWG among black women. Walker and Kim (2002) analyzed data from a longitudinal study of postpartum weight patterns in low-income women and found that depressive symptoms were not significantly associated with GWG. Collectively, however, the majority of studies indicate that low and high GWG may be a marker of depression during pregnancy. Trends in depression among women of child-bearing age are shown in Chapter 2.

### *Stress*

The committee found a lack of consistent evidence in support of a relationship between stress and GWG. The impact, however, of psychosocial factors such as stress on GWG and postpartum weight retention may be underestimated as a result of the limitations in measurement and data analysis; most of the available evidence is observational, and estimates of the impact of stress are confounded by the different kinds of effects that can occur depending on how an individual responds.

Picone et al. (1982) examined the influence of psychological stress as a factor in GWG and pregnancy outcome in a controlled prospective study of a group of 60 women utilizing an urban prenatal clinic. Psychological stress was assessed using a social readjustment rating scale from the Holmes-Rahe life events questionnaire. The investigators found a correlation between higher stress scores and lower GWG, independent of nutrient or caloric

intake. The finding suggests that stress did not affect food intake in these subjects, rather it impacted the utilization of calories and nutrients from the foods consumed to support pregnancy.

Based on the published regression models, either crude or adjusted, there does not appear to be a robust association between the appraisals of stress, sufficiency of coping resources, and adequacy of GWG. However, when evaluating the risk ratio differences observed between women who





1975) showed that energy/protein restriction was associated with a significant reduction in weekly maternal weight gain (weighted mean difference of 255 [95% CI: -436.56 to -73.0] g/week).

Several observational studies have also examined the relationship between prepregnancy BMI, caloric intake, and GWG. Bergmann et al. (1997) analyzed data in 156 healthy German women and reported that, while neither maternal BMI nor energy intake was related to birth weight, both were related to “net weight gain.” The authors defined maternal weight gain as the weight gain of the mother from the end of the third trimester minus the measured weight in the first trimester, excluding the weight of the fetus and placenta. Women in the high-BMI group (defined as  $> 24$ ) had an overall lower net weight gain (4.2 kg), compared to women in the normal-BMI group (6.2 kg) and low-BMI group (5.9 kg). However, the lower weight gain was confined to the multigravid women, with primigravid women actually having a greater net weight gain. These associations did not appreciably change when adjusted for energy intake, which did not vary during the course of pregnancy.

In another study, Olson and Strawderman (2003) used a proxy measure for energy intake by questioning 622 healthy pregnant women about changes in the amount of food eaten prior to and during pregnancy. They found that consuming either “much more” or “much less” food during rather than prior to pregnancy was associated with greater (3.67 pounds;  $p < 0.001$ ) and less (-3.16 pounds;  $p < 0.05$ ) GWG, respectively, compared to maintaining similar levels of food intake during and prior to pregnancy. Women who ate “much more” during rather than before their pregnancy had an adjusted odds ratio of 2.35 for excessive GWG. Lagiou et al. (2004) found that increased GWG by the end of the second trimester of pregnancy was associated, in a clinic sample of 224 pregnant women, with higher total energy intake and a higher proportion of protein and lipids of animal origin (and lower proportion of carbohydrates).

Finally, analyses from the Pregnancy, Infection, and Nutrition Study (Deierlein et al., 2008) showed that compared to women consuming diets within the lowest quartile for energy density (defined as the number of calories/g of food consumed) during the second trimester, women consuming diets with energy density values in the third and highest quartiles gained a significant excess of over 1 kg in total GWG.

Beyond general food intake, several studies have also examined the effect of GWG on consumption of different types of food as well as macronutrient and micronutrient intake. Stevens-Simon and McAnarney (1992) showed that adolescents who consumed fewer than three snacks a day had slower weight gains during pregnancy. Olson and Strawderman (2003) found that women who consumed three or more servings of fruits and vegetables per day gained 1.81 pounds less than those who consumed

fewer servings during pregnancy. More recently, Olafsdottir et al. (2006) found that the percentage of energy intake from various macronutrients is an important predictor of weight gain but only among overweight women and late in pregnancy. The investigators analyzed the relationship between dietary factors and GWG in 495 healthy Icelandic women using food frequency questionnaires; they defined optimal weight gain as 12-18 kg in normal weight women and 7-12 kg in overweight women. Eleven percent of overweight women had inadequate weight gain compared to only 2 percent of normal weight women; in contrast, 14 percent of overweight women gained > 18 kg, and 20 percent of normal weight women gained > 18 kg. The investigators found that, compared with women gaining suboptimal weight, the diet of overweight women gaining excessive weight had higher energy percentage from fat and lower energy percentage from carbohydrates. They also found that consumption of dairy products and sweets in late pregnancy was associated with a decreased risk of inadequate gain and an increased risk of excessive gain during pregnancy.

The committee identified two studies that examined the effects of caloric intake on GWG in relationship to glycemic load. In a small randomized clinical trial of a low-glycemic versus a high-glycemic diet, Clapp (2002) found that the women on the low-glycemic diet gained less weight during pregnancy (22.9 compared with 40.9 pounds). The investigators speculated on several potential mechanisms that might explain the difference, including changes in: daily digestible energy requirements (i.e., metabolic efficiency), substrate utilization (glucose oxidation versus lipid oxidation), and insulin resistance and sensitivity. Deierlein et al. (2008) reported that white women with glycemic load increases were more sensitive to increased weight gain during pregnancy; the same was not true for black women.

Altogether while several studies have demonstrated a relationship between energy intake and GWG and some studies have shown that dietary intake of certain types of foods may also influence GWG, the evidence base is not substantial enough to draw any conclusions.

### *Physical Activity*

ACOG took the position in 2002 that, in the absence of either medical or obstetric complications, 30 minutes or more of moderate exercise a day on most, if not all, days was recommended for pregnant women (ACOG, 2002). The ACOG report emphasized that participation in a wide range of recreational activities appears to be safe for pregnant women. Participation in activities with a high potential for trauma to the woman or fetus, however, should be avoided.

Published reviews on exercise and pregnancy concluded that the balance of evidence suggests a benefit of exercise during pregnancy, especially for

maternal outcomes (Morris and Johnson, 2005; Gavard and Artal, 2008). Moderate exercise during a low-risk pregnancy was found to be safe for both the mother and fetus and to improve overall maternal fitness and well-being as well as maternal and fetal outcomes (Morris and Johnson, 2005).

The report of the Physical Activity Guidelines Advisory Committee (HHS, 2008) concluded that:

- Moderate-intensity leisure time physical activity is not associated with an increased risk of low birth weight, preterm delivery, or early pregnancy loss; and
- Participation in vigorous activities has been associated with small reductions in birth weight compared to less active women (Leet and Flick, 2003)(r)-3(t)-3TM61\_1 1 Tf10 0 (l)-3(i)-3T7icmaR2(t)2(u)2(s)2(1A)e-381m wi7((e-381ci)-3)-147(t)-3m wsion in 7(w)-3(e)-3(i)-3(g)-3(h)

Some observational studies suggest that maintaining an active lifestyle or adding physical activity to the normal daily schedule of the pregnant woman may attenuate GWG. Clapp and Little (1995) compared exercising women who became pregnant and who continued to exercise at least three times per week to a group of women who stopped exercising once they became pregnant. The rate of GWG and of subcutaneous fat accretion (determined by skinfold thickness) was similar between the two groups during the first and second trimesters but the exercising women gained significantly less body weight and skinfold thickness during the third trimester. On average









### Women Incarcerated During Pregnancy

The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that women offenders account

2. Married women are more likely to have appropriate GWG than unmarried women. Intimate partner violence is associated with insufficient GWG. There is a paucity of studies examining the influence of partner/family support on GWG.
3. GWG is generally higher among adolescents and lower among women > 35 years of age, although the relationship of GWG among these groups to birth outcomes, postpartum weight retention, and subsequent risk for overweight/obesity remains unclear.
4. There is a lack of evidence on GWG among vulnerable populations, specifically, seasonal migrant workers, women in military service, and women incarcerated during pregnancy.
5. The IOM (1990) GWG guidelines appear to influence what women believe to be appropriate weight gain during pregnancy, though their influence on actual GWG is less clear in part because many health professionals are providing no or inappropriate advice about weight gain during pregnancy.
6. There is growing evidence suggesting that specific fetal and maternal genes and alleles can influence GWG, though both parental genotypes appear to affect birth weight. The effect of developmental programming and epigenetic events on GWG is strongly suspected, but direct evidence is still lacking. Leptin and adiponectin may represent markers of insulin sensitivity or other mechanisms affecting gestational weight changes.

### Research Recommendation

**Research Recommendation 4-1:** The committee recommends that the National Institutes of Health and other relevant agencies should provide support to researchers to conduct studies in large and diverse populations of women to understand how dietary intake, physical activity, dieting practices, food insecurity and, more broadly, the social, cultural, and environmental context affect GWG.

### Areas for Additional Investigation

The committee identified the following areas for further investigation to support its research recommendations. The research community should

facilitators and barriers to adoption of GWG recommendations by health care providers in their clinical practice;

- Partner and family influences on GWG;
- Influences of genetic factors, epigenetic events, and developmental programming on GWG;
- How GWG affects birth outcomes, postpartum weight retention, and overweight and obesity in later life among adolescents and older women. Findings from these studies should be used to re-evaluate the appropriateness of GWG recommendations for these women;
- Determining whether maternal biomarkers such as leptin, adiponectin, and other markers of insulin sensitivity can be used to enhance clinical prediction of adverse birth outcomes and guide further interventions for women with GWG outside the recommended ranges. Data on relevant biomarkers should be made available through databases such as the Federal Human Nutrition Research and Information Management (HNRIM) System Database; and
- Influences of psychological factors, such as depression, stress, social support, and attitude toward GWG on actual GWG.

The Department of Health and Human Services or other appropriate federal agencies should:

- Track racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in GWG and that the research community should conduct studies on how GWG affects birth outcomes, postpartum weight retention, and overweight and obesity in later life among women of different racial/ethnic and socioeconomic groups;
- Collect nationally representative data on dietary intake, physical activity, and food insecurity among prepregnant, pregnant, and postpartum women, and report these data by prepregnancy body mass index (including all classes of obesity), age, racial/ethnic group, and socioeconomic status; and
- Collect data on GWG among vulnerable populations.

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(2008) AHRQ evidence-based review on outcomes of gestational weight gain that are related to the mother during pregnancy, at delivery, and postpartum periods. Studies were rated “good,” “fair,” or “poor” based on a scoring algorithm developed by the AHRQ study reviewers using previously published guidelines (Downs and Black, 1998; Deeks et al., 2003). The methodological approach and system of rating articles used in the AHRQ review is provided in Appendix (i)-(g)-3(i)-3(q)((i)-(g)-c013(t)-3(i)3( )-51(u)si)-(g)-c03( )

i.e., adverse health outcomes to the mother, can arise in the prenatal and/or postpartum periods. Among the well-studied prenatal maternal outcomes that result from excessive GWG are pregnancy-associated hypertension (including preeclampsia and eclampsia) and risk of complications in labor and delivery. In the postpartum period, weight retention can lead to higher weight status in subsequent pregnancies as well as weight retention and other long-term maternal health consequences such as increased risk for type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Unfortunately the literature in this area does not allow inference of causality because it is based solely on observational studies.

The committee's conceptual framework (see Chapter 1) illustrates a model for maternal and child outcomes consequent to GWG outside the ranges recommended by the IOM (1990) report (Figure 5-1). There are numerous potential causal factors, including environmental factors that can influence the determinants of GWG and its consequences, and others that may affect those consequences by other routes. These consequences, i.e., adverse health outcomes to the mother, can arise in the prenatal and/or postpartum periods. Among the most-studied prenatal maternal outcomes resulting from excessive GWG are pregnancy-associated hypertension (including preeclampsia and eclampsia) and the risk of complications in labor and delivery. In the postpartum period, potential consequences include weight retention and lactation performance. Weight retention can lead to higher weight status in subsequent pregnancies predisposing the woman to more adverse reproductive outcomes (creating a cycle of risk) and other long-term maternal health consequences such as increased risk for type 2 diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and mental health issues. Therefore these outcomes are also included in the model. Unfortunately the literature in this area does not allow inference of causality since it is based solely

### Gestational Diabetes and Impaired Glucose Tolerance

Although pregnancy is frequently accompanied by a pronounced physiological decrease in peripheral insulin sensitivity (reviewed in Chapter 3), the combination of decreased peripheral insulin sensitivity and beta-cell dysfunction can lead to the development of abnormal glucose tolerance during pregnancy, or GDM. It is well established that women who are obese when they enter pregnancy tend to develop a more pronounced insulin resistance and are at greater risk for GDM than are non-obese women (Dahlgren, 2006; Chu( )-47(t)-2u()-3(m)-3(a.-3(e)-3(n)-3(,)-3( )-66(2)-3(07-3(0-73(3).-3

Outside the AHRQ review, Catalano et al. (1993) reported that weight gain in women with GDM was less than in a normal glucose tolerance group primarily because of greater pregravid weight. However, when GWG was assessed separately for early, mid- and late gestation, there was a significant decreased rate of weight gain in overweight women with GDM only from 30 weeks' gestation until delivery. There is biologic plausibility for an effect of GWG on the development of glucose tolerance: higher GWG could result in greater fat deposition, which could then influence insulin sensitivity. The body of evidence to date, however, is weak in support of such an association.

### Hypertensive Disorders

Hypertensive disorders during pregnancy include pregnancy-induced



GWG and hypertensive disorders. Five of these studies (two rated fair and the rest rated poor) examined pregnancy-induced hypertension (Edwards et al., 1996; Bianco et al., 1998; Thorsdottir et al., 2002; Brennand et al., 2005; Jensen et al., 2005). Only two of the studies reported an association between higher GWG and pregnancy-induced hypertension (Thorsdottir et al., 2002; Jensen et al., 2005). The five studies differed in their control

energy and fatigue (Tulman et al., 1998), stretch marks (Madlon-Kay, 1993; Atwal et al., 2006), heartburn (Marrero et al., 1992), gallstones (Lindseth and Bird-Baker, 2004; Ko, 2006), and hyperemesis (Dodds et al., 2006). Three of these studies were rated as fair (Tulman et al., 1998; Rodriguez et al., 2001; Ko, 2006) and five as poor quality (Marrero et al., 1992; Madlon-Kay, 1993; Lindseth and Bird-Baker, 2004; Atwal et al., 2006; Dodds et al., 2006). Overall, there was no association between higher GWG and the outcomes of interest except for the two studies in which stretch marks were examined (Madlon-Kay, 1993; Atwal et al., 2006). This association was weak because of the small sample size, study design (one was a cross-sectional study), and the lack of adjustment for confounding factors. In the one study in which hyperemesis was examined, women who gained a total of < 7 kg had an increased likelihood of more antenatal admissions for this outcome (Dodds et al., 2006). For this outcome in particular, GWG was not a causal factor but was more likely the result of having had hyperemesis during the pregnancy.

### CONSEQUENCES AT DELIVERY

The IOM (1990) report examined the link between GWG and complications during labor and delivery but only because such complications were viewed as being consequences of the delivery of a large-for-gestational age (LGA) infant. That report concluded that the contribution of GWG to delivery outcomes was quite small. Since then, the literature has grown and the outcomes related to delivery have been subdivided to better understand the process of labor. The discussion below addresses recent evidence for an association between GWG and each of these delivery outcomes. In summary, current evidence supports a strong association between GWG above recommended ranges and increased risk of cesarean delivery. There is no evidence, however, to support an association of GWG with maternal mortality in countries where women have ready access to obstetric care.

#### Induction of Labor

The AHRQ review (Viswanathan et al., 2008) included five studies related to an association between GWG and induction of labor (Ekblad and Grenman, 1992; Kabiru and Raynor, 2004; Jensen et al., 2005; Graves et al., 2006; DeVader et al., 2007). The strength of the evidence from these studies was rated weak for an association between high GWG and labor induction or failure of labor induction. Although statistically significant increases in the outcomes associated with high GWG were reported in all five studies, comparisons across studies were not meaningful because of

differences in the definition of high GWG and a lack of control for confounding factors.

### Length of Labor

Three studies in the AHRQ review (Viswanathan et al., 2008) examined associations between GWG and length of labor (Ekblad and Grenman, 1992; Johnson et al., 1992; Purfield and Morin, 1995). Although two of the three studies found a significant increase in the length of labor with higher weight gains, both lacked control for confounding factors (Ekblad and Grenman, 1992; Purfield and Morin, 1995). As a result, the evidence was rated as weak for an association between higher GWG and longer duration of labor.

### Mode of Delivery

Substantial research has been conducted since the IOM (1990) report on the association between GWG and mode of delivery, with the AHRQ review (Viswanathan et al., 2008) examining a total of 21 studies using GWG as a continuous or categorical variable unrelated to the IOM (1990) guidelines (Ekblad and Grenman, 1992; Johnson et al., 1992; Purfield and Morin, 1995; Witter et al., 1995; BT\*[(M)-3[(M)-3f3(e)-3(r)-3( )-1(e)-3(t)-3( )-1(a)-3(l)

dence among obese and morbidly obese women was rated as weak (Parker

2002; Li et al., 2003; Hilson et al., 2006; Baker et al., 2007). Although three of the studies showed that obese women had a shorter duration of breastfeeding (both exclusive and any breastfeeding) regardless of GWG (Rasmussen et al., 2002; Hilson et al., 2006; Baker et al., 2007), the evidence for any association between GWG and duration of exclusive or any breastfeeding was rated weak; evidence that low weight gain is associated with decreased initiation of breastfeeding was rated moderate. Since the AHRQ review, the committee identified one other study, a cross-sectional study done in Greece reporting that women with higher prepregnancy BMI were less likely to initiate breastfeeding and that GWG had no effect on either initiation or duration of breastfeeding (Manios et al., 2008).

### Postpartum Weight Retention

Postpartum weight is a woman's weight immediately after delivery of the fetus, placenta, and amniotic fluid. In the subsequent days to weeks, the increase in the woman's extracellular and extravascular water that occurred during pregnancy is lost and her plasma volume returns to prepregnancy

*GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN FOR THE MOTHER*



### Postpartum Depression

As with depression during pregnancy, there were no data on the relationship of GWG and postpartum depression in the IOM (1990) report. The AHRQ review (Viswanathan et al., 2008) does not include data on



## Other Adverse Health Outcomes

### *Mental Health*

As previously discussed, the topic of mental health of the mother is not addressed in the AHRQ review (Viswanathan et al., 2008). Two small studies (Jenkin and Tiggemann, 1997; Walker, 1997) provide weak evidence for a connection between postpartum weight retention up to 1 year post-delivery and self-esteem/depression. These studies did not control for prepregnancy BMI.

### *Cancer*

The committee found weak evidence for an association of GWG and risk of breast cancer. Specifically, a retrospective cohort study of 2,089 Finnish women showed a positive relationship between weight gain in the upper tertile ( $> 15$  kg) and post-menopausal breast cancer risk, after adjustment for prepregnancy BMI (RR = 1.62, 95% CI: 1.03-2.53) (Kinnunen et al., 2004). In a nested case-control study of 65 cases of breast cancer in this cohort, the BMI at the time of diagnosis did not change the findings. Among premenopausal women in the population, weight gains of  $> 16$  kg

woman's life. It is well established, however, that obesity is associated with

**Research Recommendation 5-1:** The committee recommends that the National Institutes of Health and other relevant agencies should provide support to researchers to conduct observational and experimental studies on the association between GWG and (a) glucose abnormalities and gestational hypertensive disorders that take into account the temporality of the diagnosis of the outcome and (b) the development of glucose intolerance, hypertension, and other cardiovascular disease risk factors as well as mental health and cancer later in a woman's life.

**Research Recommendation 5-2:** The committee recommends that the National Institutes of Health and other relevant agencies should provide support to researchers to conduct studies that (a) explore mechanisms, including epigenetic mechanisms, that underlie effects of GWG on ma-

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## 6

# Consequences of Gestational Weight Gain for the Child

The emphasis of the report *Nutrition During Pregnancy* (IOM, 1990)



factors ranging from the social/built/natural environment (macro) through behavior, physiology, and genetics (micro) (see Chapter 4) and interacting with each other over the life course, with different determinants being more or less important at different life stages. The other paradigm—the “developmental origins of health and disease” paradigm—focuses primarily on the prenatal and early postnatal periods, because they are the periods of most rapid somatic growth and organ development (Gillman, 2005; Sinclair et al., 2007; Hanson and Gluckman, 2008). Both of these frameworks invoke the concept of programming, which refers to perturbations or events that occur at early, plastic, and perhaps critical phases of development and can have long-lasting, sometimes irreversible, health consequences. The pe-

differ from other animal species in duration of pregnancy, placentation, and other important factors, the importance of the findings from animal studies

comes include stillbirth and birth defects. In contrast, neonatal body com-







EFFECTS ON NEONATAL MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY

There is a substantial literature on prepregnancy BMI and neonatal morbidity and mortality; maternal prepregnancy BMI is strongly associated with infant mortality and a number of other clinically important outcomes, including stillbirth and

to confounding. These component relationships (prepregnancy BMI and

### Birth Defects

The authoring committee of the IOM (1990) report did not identify any studies on the association between GWG and birth defects. Since the etiologic period for congenital defects is so early in pregnancy, GWG is not likely to be causally relevant.

showing a diminishing effect of low GWG with increasing BMI. In the highest GWG group, the relative risks for neonatal mortality for underweight, normal weight, overweight, and obese women were 1.0, 1.2, 1.4, and 1.8, respectively, showing the exact opposite tendency—excessive GWG was more strongly associated with neonatal death with increasing prepregnancy BMI. Maternal age at delivery did not affect neonatal mortality. After adjusting for gestational age at delivery, no association was found between teenage pregnancy and neonatal mortality. The same general pattern was seen for postneonatal deaths but was less pronounced (see Table 6-1).

More studies of infant mortality are needed, but the evidence from Chen et al. (2009) warrants serious consideration not only because of the

**TABLE 6-1** Maternal Prepregnancy BMI and Gestational Weight Gain of Infant Deaths and Controls (1988 National Maternal and Infant Health Survey [NMIHS])

| Maternal Prepregnancy BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | Total Weight Gain During Pregnancy <sup>a</sup> (kg) | Neonatal Death OR <sup>b</sup> (95% CI) | Postneonatal Death OR <sup>b</sup> (95% CI) | Infant Death OR <sup>b</sup> (95% CI) |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| < 18.5                                         | < 6.0                                                | 3.55 (1.92-6.54)                        | 2.96 (1.42-6.15)                            | 3.26 (1.86-5.72)                      |
|                                                | 6.0-11.6                                             | 1.35 (0.88-2.06)                        | 1.34 (0.83-2.14)                            | 1.34 (0.93-1.92)                      |
|                                                | 12.0-17.6 <sup>c</sup>                               | 1.00                                    | 1.00                                        | 1.00                                  |
|                                                | ≥ 18.0                                               | 0.99 (0.63-1.54)                        | 0.55 (0.32-0.95)                            | 0.79 (0.53-1.17)                      |
| 18.5-24.9                                      | < 6.0                                                | 3.07 (2.45-3.85)                        | 1.96 (1.51-2.55)                            | 2.58 (2.12-3.14)                      |
|                                                | 6.0-11.6                                             | 1.41 (1.19-1.68)                        | 1.12 (0.92-1.36)                            | 1.29 (1.11-1.49)                      |
|                                                | 12.0-17.6 <sup>c</sup>                               | 1.00                                    | 1.00                                        | 1.00                                  |
|                                                | ≥ 18.0                                               | 1.15 (0.96-1.37)                        | 0.94 (0.77-1.15)                            | 1.06 (0.91-1.23)                      |
| 25-29.9                                        | < 6.0                                                | 1.98 (1.34-2.92)                        | 0.81 (0.51-1.29)                            | 1.42 (1.02-1.99)                      |
|                                                | 6.0-11.6                                             | 1.20 (0.85-1.68)                        | 0.64 (0.43-0.95)                            | 0.94 (0.71-1.25)                      |
|                                                | 12.0-17.6 <sup>c</sup>                               | 1.00                                    | 1.00                                        | 1.00                                  |
|                                                | ≥ 18.0                                               | 1.41 (1.00-2.00)                        | 0.87 (0.58-1.31)                            | 1.16 (0.87-1.56)                      |
| ≥ 30                                           | < 6.0                                                | 1.19 (0.69-2.06)                        | 0.81 (0.40-1.62)                            | 1.04 (0.64-1.70)                      |
|                                                | 6.0-11.6                                             | 0.67 (0.39-1.17)                        | 0.91 (0.47-1.78)                            | 0.78 (0.48-1.26)                      |
|                                                | 12.0-17.6 <sup>c</sup>                               | 1.00                                    | 1.00                                        | 1.00                                  |
|                                                | ≥ 18.0                                               | 1.78 (0.96-3.33)                        | 1.29 (0.58-2.84)                            | 1.61 (0.92-2.81)                      |

NOTE: Midpoint and range values for outcomes (neonatal death, postnatal death, infant death) are derived using a separate reference group for each BMI category.

<sup>a</sup>Weight gain during pregnancy projected to 40 weeks' gestation.

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for race, maternal age at pregnancy, maternal education, maternal smoking during pregnancy, child's sex, live birth order, and plurality.

<sup>c</sup>Referent group for comparisons within BMI stratum.

SOURCE: Modified from Chen et al., 2009.

importance of the outcome but also because of the implications for the more voluminous literature on fetal growth and preterm birth. Although

immutable, however, because health disparities are strongly influenced by social and behavioral factors.

At the time of the IOM (1990) report, the evidence for an effect of GWG on fetal growth was viewed as “quite convincing.” Increased GWG was related to increased birth weight, and the report noted that the strength

had infants that weighed 93 g less on average than controls. Fewer of the treated number developed GDM or had cesarean deliveries.

In summary, the issue of whether the association between GWG and fetal growth is causal cannot be answered with certainty based on the available evidence. Observational data provide replicated indications of a strong association between lower GWG and increased risk of SGA, especially in underweight and normal weight women, and between higher GWG and increased risk of LGA, particularly among overweight and obese women.

There are several possi(h)-6(e)-6ossi ns(i)(r)-6(a)-6(l)-3182(n)-3scs(r)-6(a)-11t3r6(a)-1

as total gain exceeds 25-30 pounds. Although the magnitude of association varied substantially across studies, in general the highest GWG category had roughly half the risk of an LBW infant compared to the lowest GWG category. At the other end of the birth weight spectrum, 12 studies considered infant macrosomia (defined as birth weight > 4,000 or > 4,500 g). Recognizing the variability in definitions of macrosomia and GWG categories, the committee found that the studies showed a consistent trend for increased risk of macrosomia with increasing GWG. Relative risks were 2-3 for macrosomia in the highest compared to the lowest GWG category.

These results consistently indicate that the relationship of GWG to birth weight applies across the full range of weights and is not limited to the low or high end of the distribution. However, because birth weight is a combination of fetal growth and duration of gestation, studies that separate these two components are more informative.



First, Lof et al. (2008), whose focus was on the role of physical activity in relation to GWG and pregnancy outcome, noted that GWG during weeks 12-33 (unadjusted for prepregnancy BMI) was modestly correlated with increased birth weight ( $r$

categories for underweight women, and a 3- to 4-fold gradient in risk for women in the other BMI categories (see Table 6-2). Risk of LGA births or births > 4,500 g yielded clear and similar findings; with increasing weight gain, there was a markedly increased risk of LGA births, present among all BMI groups, but most pronounced on a relative scale among the women with the lowest BMI.

*Summary of the Evidence on an Association  
Between GWG and Fetal Growth*

In summary, the evidence that GWG is related to birth weight for gestational age based on observational studies is quite strong and the magnitude of that association is large, with relative risks of SGA with low GWG on the order of 2-3. It appears that the entire birth weight distribution is shifted upward with increased GWG, reducing the risk of SGA and increasing the risk of LGA as the mean birth weight rises. The evidence that this pattern is enhanced among women with low prepregnancy BMI is moderately strong as well.

It is not yet clear, however, whether the associations between GWG and birth weight for gestational age is impacted by fpac6213(i)-3(s)-144(n)-3(o)-3(

ity, smoking status, or other maternal attributes has been sparse, and the few studies summarized in the AHRQ review inconsistent. In addition to prepregnancy BMI, the only other factor that appears to imp1(t)-3(o)-61(a)-3(p)-3(p(e

a consistently increased risk of preterm birth among women in both the lowest and highest GWG categories. It is difficult to summarize the quantitative impact because the studies used varying definitions of high and low rates of weight gain and different analytic methods to characterize the relationship with preterm birth. In those studies that provided relative risks comparing higher and lower GWG to the middle range, the relative risks were on the order of 1.5-2.5 for both the higher and lower GWG groups, with greater consistency for the influence of lower GWG on preterm birth.

Effect modification by prepregnancy BMI (Siega-Riz et al., 1996;

The committee found no studies that directly link GWG to activation of the maternal or fetal HPA axis. However, several animal studies have linked periconceptional undernutrition to accelerated maturation of fetal HPA axis resulting in preterm delivery (Bloomfield et al., 2003, 2004; Kumarasamy et al., 2005).

Again, the committee also found no studies directly linking GWG to amniochorionic-decidual or systemic inflammation. However, it is plausible that maternal undernutrition may increase the risk of preterm delivery by suppressing immune functions or increasing oxidative stress. Macro- or micronutrient deficiencies are known to adversely affect maternal immune functions. For example, iron-deficiency anemia can alter the proliferation of T- and B-cells, reduce the killing activity of phagocytes and neutrophils, and lower bactericidal and natural killer cell activity, thereby increasing maternal susceptibility to infections (Allen, 2001). Furthermore, protein and/or micronutrient deficiencies may impair cellular antioxidant capacities because proteins provide the amino acids needed for synthesis of antioxidant defense enzymes, such as glutathione and albumin (reactive oxygen species scavengers); and many micronutrients themselves are antioxidants. Increases in reactive oxygen species, such as oxidized low-density lipoprotein and F2-isoprostanes (lipid peroxidation products), may contribute to cellular toxicity, inflammation, vasoconstriction, platelet aggregation, vascular apoptosis, and endothelial cell dysfunction (Luo et al., 2006), which may also activate the pathway to preterm delivery involving uteroplacental thrombosis and intrauterine vascular lesions.

#### *Summary of the Evidence on an Association Between GWG and Preterm Birth*

In summary, there is strong evidence for a U-shaped association between lower GWG and preterm birth among normal weight and underweight women, and moderate evidence for an association of higher GWG and preterm birth. The magnitude of the association is fairly strong, with relative risks on the order of two, but difficult to summarize because of variability in the definitions of higher and lower rates of weight gain. There is no empirical basis for suggesting modifiers of this relationship other than prepregnancy BMI, for which the data are clear in showing that associations of low GWG with preterm birth are stronger among underweight women.

The committee was unable to infer a causal relationship between GWG and preterm delivery based on available evidence. Although there are intriguing data linking macro- and/or micronutrient deficiencies to accelerated maturation of fetal HPA axis and altered immune functions and/or increased oxidative stress, suggesting that a direct causal relationship is biologically plausible, important questions regarding timing, threshold, content, and interactions remain unanswered. These uncertainties about a

direct causal relationship between GWG and preterm delivery guided the committee's approach to decision analysis in Chapter 7, which weighed the trade-offs of GWG with and without taking into account preterm delivery as an outcome.

## LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The IOM (1990) report recommendations for GWG focused largely on avoiding inadequate GWG and the short-term consequences of low fetal growth and prematurity (see Chapter 1). Since that time, the emergence of epidemic obesity in the U.S. population has raised the possibility that excessive weight gain may also be harmful. A small number of recent studies have addressed the relationship between GWG and adiposity at birth, markers of childhood obesity and cardiometabolic sequelae of childhood obesity. The following discussion summarizes the committee's review of the evidence for associations between GWG and neonatal body composition, infant weight gain, breastfeeding initiation, and other long-term outcomes.

### Neonatal Body Composition

As previously explained (see Fetal Growth section in this chapter), GWG is directly associated with fetal growth as measured by birth weight for gestational age. For long-term adiposity-related outcomes, however, it is important to measure not only weight (and length) at birth but also body composition. As mentioned in the chapter introduction, it has been hypothesized that relative amounts of adiposity and lean mass in fetal and neonatal life are important in setting long-term cardio-metabolic trajectories. Catalano and colleagues performed a series of studies examining the relationships between various maternal characteristics and neonatal body composition as measured by total body electrical conductivity (a method no longer in use). One set of studies compared infants who were born at term to overweight/obese women (pregravid BMI  $> 25$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>;  $n = 76$ ) with those born to lean/average weight women ( $n = 144$ ) (Sewell et al., 2006). As expected, weight gain was higher among lean/average (mean 15.2 kg) than overweight/obese (13.8 kg) women. Among the overweight/obese women, stepwise regression analyses that included pregravid weight as a covariate revealed that the higher the GWG, the more the newborn fat mass. The authors did not report a correlation among the lean women, presumably because the associated p-value exceeded 0.05. In another study, which combined data from diabetic and nondiabetic pregnant women (total  $n = 415$ ), GWG was directly associated with both lean and fat mass at birth (Catalano and Ehrenberg, 2006). The latter results are consistent with those of Udal et al. (1978), who found a direct association between GWG and the sum of 8 neonatal skinfold measurements among 109 nondiabetic mothers







TABLE 6-3 Published Studies (*N* > 1,000) Relating Total GWG to Child Obesity

|                    | Moreira et al., 2007 | Oken et al., 2007 | Oken et al., 2008 | Wrotniak et al., 2008 |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Age at Outcome (y) | 6-12                 | 3                 | 9-14              | 7                     |
| <i>N</i>           | 4,845                | 1,044             | 11,994            | 10,226                |
| Birth Years        | 1990-1997            | 1999-2002         | 1982-1987         | 1959-1966             |
| GWG Exposure       | < 9 kg<br>9-13.5     | per 5 kg          | per 5 lb          | per 1 kg              |
|                    | 13.6-15.9<br>16+     | A/E vs. I         | I/E vs. A         | I/E vs. A             |

Child BMI Outcome

OR 1.20 (95% CI 1.04-1.38) per 5 kg  
OR 1.10 (95% CI 1.01-1.20) per 5 lb  
OR 1.04 (95% CI 0.99-1.09) per 1 kg



10,000 7-year-old term-born offspring of participants in the 1950s-1960s Collaborative Perinatal Project (see Table 6-3). Not surprisingly, mean maternal BMI ( $21.9 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ), total weight gain (9.5 kg), birth weight (3.23 kg), and the proportions of women with excessive gain (11 percent) and children with obesity (defined as BMI > 95th percentile—5.7 percent) were lower

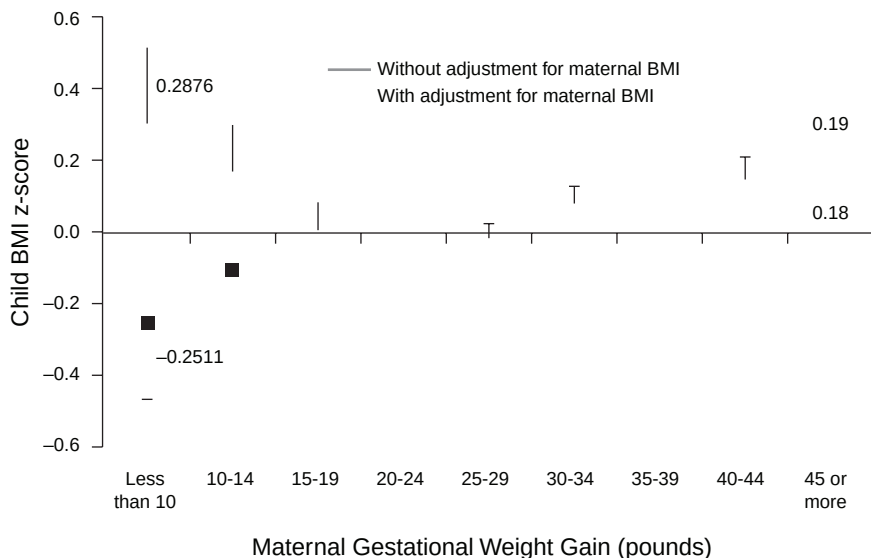


FIGURE 6-3 Associations of maternal gestational weight gain with child BMI z-score at ages 9-14 years, with and without adjustment for maternal prepregnancy BMI. All estimates are adjusted for maternal age, race/ethnicity, marital status, household income, paternal education, child sex, gestation length, age, and Tanner stage at outcome assessment.

SOURCE: Oken et al., 2008. Maternal gestational weight gain and offspring weight in adolescence. *Obstetrics and Gynecology* 112(5): 999-1006. Reprinted with permission.



and female infants. Watt and Strongman (1985) documented that SGA was inversely associated with MDI developmental scores at 4 months, whereas Goldenberg et al. (1996) found an inverse relationship between SGA and IQ at 5.5 years of age. Wiles et al. (2006) did not find a relationship between

**Long-term neurodevelopment in preterm SGA** In preterm SGA infants, the majority of longitudinal studies reviewed by the committee focused on extremely premature (Feldman and Eidelman, 2006; Kono et al., 2007; Paavonen et al., 2007; Leonard et al., 2008) or very low birth weight (VLBW) (Litt et al., 1995; Hack, 1998; Brandt et al., 2003; Kilbride et al., 2004; Litt et al., 2005; Feldman and Eidelman, 2006; Hille et al., 2007; Paavonen et al., 2007; Strang-Karlsson et al., 2008a, 2008b) infants. Among 14 studies in children, 11 found that SGA was associated with cognitive and/or neurodevelopment impairments, although this relationship may be modified by degree of postnatal catch-up growth and maternal-child interactions (Casey et al., 2006; Feldman and Eidelman, 2006). In general, the effect size was proportional to the severity of prematurity (Calame et al., 1983; Feldman and Eidelman, 2006; Kono et al., 2007). The two studies conducted among adolescents found an association of VLBW with IQ (Hille et al., 2007) and breathing-related sleep disorders (Paavonen et al., 2007). Among adults, VLBW was associated with emotional instability (Strang-Karlsson et al., 2008b) and SGA with lower head circumference among individuals who did not fully catch up in their head circumference growth during their first 12 months of life.

Effect size was again assessed for cognitive measures. Of 19 studies reviewed, 13 reported cognitive scores by SGA status; of these, 1 reported

The overwhelming majority of studies reviewed support an association between preterm SGA and lower neurodevelopment in the longer term. Consistent with the studies on term SGA, many of the studies on preterm SGA did not properly control for key perinatal (e.g., asphyxia), socio-economic, parental, and home environment confounders (e.g., maternal-child interactions). In addition, although some studies included term births as reference groups (Calame et al., 1983; Silva et al., 1984; Holwerda-Kuipers, 1987; Litt et al., 1995, 2005; Hack et al., 1998; Brandt et al., 2003; Kilbride et al., 2004; Paavonen et al., 2007; Leonard et al., 2008; Strang-Karlsson et al., 2008a, 2008b), others used preterm subgroups as comparison groups (McCarton et al., 1996; Hutton et al., 1997; Casey et al., 2006; Kono et al., 2007). Because of these study design limitations, the effect size or the proportion of the variance in neurodevelopmental outcomes that can be attributed to being born premature per se or to the combination of prematurity and SGA still needs to be determined.

In summary, as was the case with infant mortality, one must link GWG to being born preterm or small- or large-for-gestational age and, from there, to neurodevelopmental outcomes. This sequence is biologically plausible and it is possible that it is causal, but the evidence to establish causality is not available.

**Apgar score** The Apgar score (see Glossary in Appendix A) assessments are usually conducted 1 and 5 minutes after birth, and scores can range from 0 to 10. However, Apgar scores in term infants, even at 5 minutes, have important limitations, as they are not adequate predictors of longer term morbidity and mortality and do not correlate well with neurological outcomes (ACOG, 2006) although very low scores (0-3) associated with low birth weight do predict neonatal mortality. The AHRQ review (Viswanthan et al., 2008) identified five studies examining the influence of GWG on a newborn's Apgar score (Stevens-Simon and McAnarney, 1992; Nixon et al., 1998; Cedergren et al., 2006; Stotland et al., 2006; Wataba et al., 2006). Taken together, these studies provide only modest evidence that excessive GWG is associated with low Apgar score, and one study suggested that low GWG in nulliparous women also predicts low Apgar 7(t)-1(56(n)-3(e)-3(u)-n(6)-TJEM



in mobilization of maternal adipose tissue and possibly lean body mass.

to controls with adequate GWG. In that study, maternal smoking (OR = 18) was the major determinant of the response.

### *Cancer*

Whether associations exist between GWG, birth weight, and risk for childhood cancers is not clear; however, there are a few studies that have examined the possibility.

**Childhood leukemia** Two lines of evidence link GWG to cancer: First, a recent meta-analysis (Hjalgrim et al., 2003) estimated that d lha-3( )-76oe7e7e7e7e7e7

levels, providing some support to the estrogen hypothesis; however, higher GWG was associated with lower levels of maternal progesterone and of sex hormone-binding globulin (-0.7 percent [95% CI: -1.5, 0.0] at 16 weeks and -1.2 percent [95% CI: -2.0, -0.4] at 27 weeks, respectively, for every 1-kg increment in GWG).

In addition, one study directly addressed the association of GWG with incident breast cancer. Analyzing data from the Finnish Cancer Registry, Kinnunen et al. (2004) found that offspring of mothers in the upper tertile of GWG (> 15 kg) had a 1.62-fold higher breast cancer risk than mothers who gained within the recommended range (11-15 kg) after adjusting for parity; mother's age at menarche, at first birth, and at index pregnancy; and prepregnancy BMI. Together these findings provide some support for the hypothesis that nrestivt whigat gait ait epregnancyecsoldlraldtct rvhadee

weight gain predicts SGA. Both LGA and SGA are themselves markers of neonatal morbidity. The literature on preterm birth is more ambiguous because of a less-extensive body of epidemiologic evidence, a nonlinear (U-shape) relationship between GWG and preterm birth that is modest in magnitude, and uncertainty about biologic mechanisms. Even when GWG is measured in a way that takes into account the shortened duration of pregnancy associated with GWG with preterm births, results are subject to some uncertainty. The U-shaped association of GWG with preterm birth is harder to interpret than the monotonic dose-response gradient with birth weight for gestational age, postpartum weight retention, and childhood

LGA. Despite a limited number of randomized controlled trials, biological plausibility from animal models is strong. Relative risks for GWG and SGA appear to be higher among women with lower prepregnancy BMI.

4. The evidence for a relationship between GWG and preterm birth,





*GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN FOR THE CHILD*



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outcomes and their frequency in the population. To develop estimates of risk and frequency, the committee used data from the published literature and from additional, commissioned analyses (see below).

The committee considered the incidences, long-term sequelae, and baseline risks of several potential outcomes associated with GWG (additional information about these outcomes appears in Appendix G). Postpartum weight retention, cesarean delivery, gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), and pregnancy-induced hypertension or preeclampsia emerged from this process as being the most important maternal health outcomes. The committee removed preeclampsia from consideration because of the lack of sufficient evidence that GWG was a cause of preeclampsia and not just a reflection of the disease process. The committee also removed GDM from consideration because of the lack of sufficient evidence that GWG was a cause of this condition. Postpartum weight retention and, in particular, unscheduled primary cesarean delivery were retained for further consideration.

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### PREVIOUS APPROACHES FOR DEVELOPING WEIGHT GAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

Many approaches have been and are currently being used for making recommendations for how much weight women should gain during pregnancy. At one extreme is the advice from the National Center for Clinical Excellence in the United Kingdom that women should not be weighed at all during pregnancy, “as it may produce unnecessary anxiety with no added benefit” with the exception being “pregnant women in whom nutrition is of concern” (National Collaborating Centre for Women’s and Children’s Health, 2008). At the other extreme is the single target approach. For example, in the United States, the 1970 report *Maternal Nutrition and the*



analysis be undertaken “in which probabilities and utilities (values) are assigned to each potential outcome” to assist in balancing the risks and benefits of any recommendation.

for Cedergren's analysis (2007), none of these investigators considered the

variety of maternal and neonatal outcomes associated with prepregnant BMI and GWG and their interaction. For those outcomes with a strong independent association with GWG and little possibility of reverse causality (unscheduled primary cesarean delivery, SGA, LGA, and postpartum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg), the researchers calculated the absolute risk for women in each of the four major categories of prepregnant BMI. Although the trade-off between reducing the risk of SGA and increasing the risk of cesarean delivery was evident in these data, as it was in those from Sweden (Cedergren, 2007) and Missouri (Devader et al., 2007; Kiel et al., 2007; Langford et al., 2008), what is unique in this presentation is the inclusion of postpartum weight retention. Nohr et al. (2008) detected a dramatic increase in postpartum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg with increasing GWG in all categories of prepregnant BMI. In addition, they calculated the proportion of women who had changed from one BMI category to another at 6 months postpartum according to GWG. They found that only 0.4 percent of underweight women became overweight at the highest GWG ( $\geq 20$  kg) studied. Thus, they concluded that high GWG was “probably not disadvantageous for either underweight women or their infants.” For normal weight, overweight, and obese women, however, the trade-off between SGA and these other outcomes, particularly postpartum weight retention, occurred at lower GWG values: 16-19 kg, 10-15 kg, and  $< 10$  kg, respectively. As was the case for the other studies, Nohr et al. (2008) did not weight their outcomes by their frequency or severity; however, it is clear that the authors sought the point of minimum risk of SGA and postpartum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg in their decision making.

Although the analytic approaches used by these research groups have many similarities, their conclusions about optimal weight gain vary widely (Table 7-1). This is particularly striking for underweight and normal weight women but is also the case for overweight women. The differences in conclusions may have resulted from the different mix of outcomes considered.

TABLE 7-1 Summary of Research Published Since the IOM (1990) Report in Which Recommendations for Optimal Weight Gain During Pregnancy Are Developed

|                                 |            | Proposed Optimal Weight Gain During Pregnancy (kg) |            |           |         |          |         |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Maternal                        | 1990 IOM   | Bracero                                            |            | DeVader   | Kiel    | Langford | Nohr    |
| Prepregnant                     | Guidelines | and                                                |            | et al.,   | et al., | et al.,  | et al., |
| BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )        | (kg)       | Byrne,                                             | Cedergren, | 2007      | 2007    | 2008     | 2008    |
|                                 |            | 1998                                               | 2007       |           |         |          |         |
| <i>IOM BMI Categories</i>       |            |                                                    |            |           |         |          |         |
| Underweight<br>( $< 19.8$ )     | 12.5-18    | 16.4-18.2                                          | —          | —         | —       | —        | —       |
| Normal<br>weight<br>(19.8-26.0) | 11.5-16    | 14.1-18.2                                          | —          | 11.4-15.5 | —       | —        | —       |
| Overweight<br>(26.0-29.0)       | 7-11.5     | 11.8-13.6                                          | —          | —         | —       |          |         |







of Health (NHLBI, 1998). These categories have been widely adopted in the United States and internationally and, if used in formulating recommen-



*Racial/Ethnic Group*

The descriptive observational data cited in Chapter 4 suggested that inadequate GWG was more common in some racial/ethnic groups. However, only Dr. Stein's analysis of data from New York City in 1995-2003 and Dr. Herring's analysis of the nationally representative data from the NMIHS in 1988-1991 provided insight into whether a woman's racial or ethnic group

women, smokers would have to gain at least 16-19 kg instead of 5-9 kg to have a 10 percent risk of having an SGA infant. If they were to gain in this higher range, their risk of retaining  $\geq 5$  kg at 6 months postpartum would be over 20 percent instead of being about 5 percent. Thus, the weight gain

hood obesity). When weighting the trade-off among these outcomes, the committee considered, within each category of prepregnant BMI: (a) the incidence or prevalence of each of these outcomes, (b) whether the outcomes were permanent (e.g., neurocognitive deficits) or potentially modifiable (e.g., postpartum weight retention), and (c) the quality of the available data. The committee compared the resulting ranges with those developed in the quantitative risk analysis conducted by its consultant, Dr. Hammitt. Finally, the committee considered how its recommendations might be accepted and used by clinicians and women. The committee intends these guidelines be used in concert with good clinical judgment as well as a discussion between the woman and her prenatal care provider about diet and exercise. If a woman's GWG is not within the proposed guidelines, prenatal care providers should consider other relevant clinical evidence, as well as both the adequacy and consistency of fetal growth and any available information on the nature of excess (e.g., fat or edema) or inadequate GWG, before suggesting that the woman modify her pattern of weight gain. The safety of intentional weight loss during pregnancy among obese women has not been determined. Thus, priority should be given to addressing weight-loss issues either preconceptionally or between pregnancies, not during pregnancy.

In constructing these guidelines, the committee recognized that they fall within the category of personalized medicine. Use of these guidelines will require standardized assessment procedures to inform clinical judgment as well as support of ancillary services (e.g., counseling on nutrition and physical activity) or other interventions that might be deemed necessary to achieve the recommended levels of weight gain. Thus, the committee recognizes that full implementation of these guidelines may entail additional medical expg tional

1. Before conception, use consistent and reliable procedures to measure and record in the medical record the woman's weight and height without shoes.
2. Determine the woman's prepregnancy BMI.
3. Carefully measure the woman's height without shoes and weight in light clothing at the first prenatal visit using procedures that have been rigorously standardized at the site of prenatal care. Use consistent, reliable procedures to measure weight at each subsequent visit.
4. Estimate the woman's gestational age from the onset of her last menstruation or from an early ultrasound examination.
5. At the initial comprehensive prenatal examination and together with the pregnant woman, set a weight-gain goal based on pre-pregnant BMI and other relevant considerations and explain to the woman why weight gain is important.
6. Monitor the woman's prenatal course to identify any abnormal pattern of gain that may indicate a need to intervene, displaying the results graphically for the woman (see Chapter 8, Figures 8-1 through 8-4). When abnormal gain appears to be real rather than a result of an error in measurement or recording, together with the woman try to determine the cause and then develop and implement corrective actions.

### DISCUSSION OF THE NEW GUIDELINES

These new guidelines differ from those issued in 1990 in two important

gained  $< 5$  kg. It is possible, based on the data collected in these investigations and compared to higher gains, that weight gains  $< 5$  kg may be associated with a more favorable trade-off among outcomes. However, the



women, with increased risk of LGA and its consequences. As additional experimental data are generated to confirm or refute a causal interpretation of the evidence linking GWG and fetal growth, this reasoning may need to be revised.

In contrast, the likelihood that the link from increased caloric intake to

veloped from published and commissioned research data needed to support a more complete and persuasive analysis were unavailable. In particular, more information is needed on associations between GWG and longer term maternal outcomes, such as postpartum weight retention and later reproductive function and health, and child health outcomes such as fetal growth restriction, child neurocognitive outcomes, and o -3(e)-34(o)-3le suc lucsue hgrowth

outcomes of mothers and children that occur after the neonatal period.

5. There is insufficient evidence to continue to support a modification of GWG guidelines for African American women, women of short stature, or adolescents younger than 16 years of age.
6. There is insufficient data with which to establish how much more weight women carrying multiple fetuses should gain beyond that recommended for women carrying singleton fetuses.
7. The committee reaffirms the clinical recommendations in IOM (1990) for implementation of these guidelines.
8. There is insufficient evidence to reject the possibility that racial/ethnic group modifies the association between GWG and important maternal and child health outcomes.

### Recommendation for Action

**Action Recommendation 7-1:** The committee recommends that relevant federal agencies, private voluntary organizations, and medical and public health organizations should adopt these new guidelines for GWG and publicize them to their members and also to women of childbearing age.

### Recommendation for Research

**Research Recommendation 7-1:** To permit the development of improved recommendations for GWG in the future, the committee recommends that the National Institutes of Health and other relevant agencies



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# 8

## Approaches to Achieving Recommended Gestational Weight Gain

To understand the challenges that may arise in implementing the proposed guidelines on gestational weight gain (GWG) presented in Chapter 7, the committee reviewed the present environment for childbearing (see Chapter 2 for details) as well as interventions that have been conducted to improve GWG in response to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) 1990 guidelines. In addition, the committee considered the guidance that these interventions might provide for implementation of these revised guidelines. Although proposing a complete implementation and evaluation plan is beyond the scope of the committee’s work, this chapter provides a framework for developing such a plan.

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heavier than in the past challenge them to meet the previous guidelines (IOM, 1990) and will continue to make it difficult for women to meet the

TABLE 8-1 Gestational Weight Gain (kg) by Prepregnant BMI Categories Among Large Studies Compared to New Guidelines

| Prepregnant BMI Category                     | Study              |                                           |                                                       |                                                                    |                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                              | New GWG Guidelines | Sweden, National (1994-2002) <sup>a</sup> | Danish National Birth Cohort (1996-2002) <sup>b</sup> | Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (2002-03) <sup>c</sup> | New York City Vital Statistics Birth Data (1995 to 2003) <sup>d</sup> |
| Underweight (< 18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )      | 12.5-18.0          | 13.5 ± 0.03 (SEM) (n = 72,361)            | 15.3 ± 5.1 (SD) (n = 2,648)                           | 14.8 ± 0.27 (SEM) (n = 1,628)                                      | 15.1 ± 5.01 (SD) (n = 1,632)                                          |
| Normal weight (18.5-24.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 11.5-16.0          | 13.8 ± 0.01 (SEM) (n = 368,063)           | 15.8 ± 5.2 (SD) (n = 41,569)                          | 15.0 ± 0.50 (SEM) (n = 11,513)                                     | 15.0 ± 5.52 (SD) (n = 1,632)                                          |
| Overweight (25.0-29.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )    |                    |                                           |                                                       |                                                                    |                                                                       |
| Obese (30.0-39.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )         |                    |                                           |                                                       |                                                                    |                                                                       |
| Severely obese (≥ 40.0 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )   |                    |                                           |                                                       |                                                                    |                                                                       |

erweight  
(2 .0-2 .9 kg/m



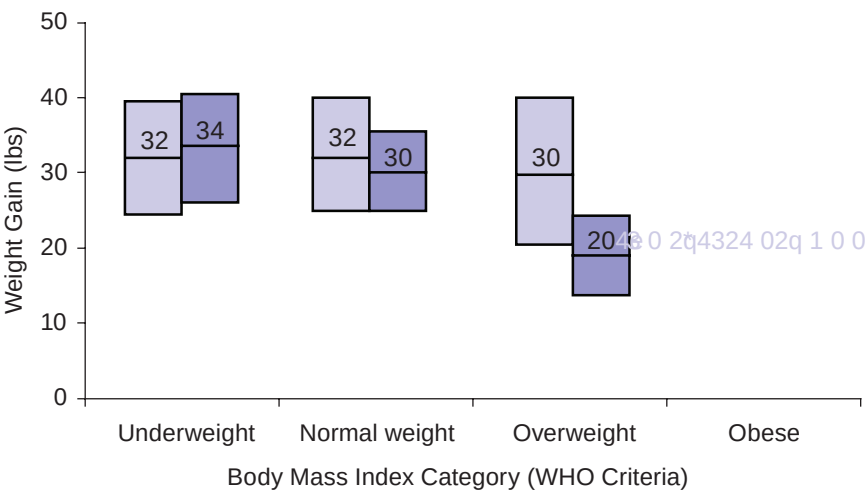


FIGURE 8-1 Comparison of weight gain by BMI category between data reported in the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), 2002-2003, and weight gain as recommended in the new guidelines.

*Lactation: An Implementation Guide* (IOM, 1992a) called for a dietary assessment of pregnant women early in gestation with a referral to a dietitian if needed. Although such services are not uniformly available today and may not be covered by medical insurance plans, the committee endorses these recommendations as they have only become more important as child-bearing women have become heavier. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recently made similar recommendations for nutrition counseling specifically for obese women.

Most recent studies have focused on various ways to help women to limit their weight gain during pregnancy. None of four trials conducted in North American populations was completely successful in helping women limit GWG and adhere to the IOM (1990) guidelines. First, in a study of Cree women from Quebec, Gr(a)-3(y)-3/Span <<1v1.MCID 1537o(p)-3(l)-3(o)-3(v1.M

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differences between the groups in type of delivery or infant weight at birth. In Denmark, Wolff et al. (2008) randomized 50 obese pregnant women to receive 10 1-hour dietary consultations that were designed to help them restrict their GWG to 6-7 kg or usual care. The women in the intervention group were successful in limiting both their energy intake and their gestational weight gain compared to those in the control group. The exception was the pilot study in Finland by Kinnunen et al. (2007), in which primiparous pregnant women were recruited from six public health clinics. Most of these women had a normal prepregnant BMI. The 49 women in the intervention group received 5 individual counseling sessions on diet and leisure-time physical activity; the 56 controls received usual care. Although the intervention improved various aspects of the subjects' diets, it did not prevent excessive GWG.

The studies in Sweden (Claesson et al., 2008) and Denmark (Wolff et al., 2008) demonstrate that it is possible to motivate obese pregnant women to limit their weight gain during pregnancy to 6-7 kg. Achieving this goal required a substantial investment in individual dietary or motivational counseling. The studies in Sweden and Denmark were conducted in women with a BMI of 30 or higher at the time of enrollment. The women in the intervention group received individual counseling sessions on diet and leisure-time physical activity. The women in the control group received usual care. Although the intervention improved various aspects of the subjects' diets, it did not prevent excessive GWG.

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## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR NEW GUIDELINES

The committee worked from the perspective that the reproductive cycle begins before conception and continues through the first year postpartum. Opportunities to influence maternal weight status are available through the entire cycle. Although it is beyond the scope of this report to consider the evidence associated with timing, duration, or strength of specific strategies or interventions, here the committee offers a basic framework for possible approaches to the implementation guidelines, with a particular focus on consumer education and strategies to assist practitioners and public health programs. A basic goal of this framework is to help women improve the quality of their dietary intake and increase their physical activity to be able to meet these new guidelines. These behavioral changes will need to be supported by both individualized care and community-level actions to alter the physical and social environments that influence dietary behaviors. A comprehensive review of the evidence associated with such actions and guidelines for their use will require future analyses, as was done in the report *Nutrition During Pregnancy and Lactation: An Implementation Guide* (IOM, 1992a).

To meet the recommendations of this report fully, two different challenges must be met. First, a higher proportion of American women must conceive at a weight within the range of normal BMI values. Second, a higher proportion of American women should limit their weight gain during pregnancy to the range specified in these guidelines for their prepregnant BMI.

### *Conceiving at a Normal BMI Value*

Meeting this first challenge requires preconceptional counseling and, for many women, some weight loss. Such counseling may need to include additional contraceptive services (ACOG, 2005) to assist women in planning the timing of their pregnancies. Such counseling also may need to include services directed toward helping women to improve the quality of their diets (Gardiner et al., 2008) and increase their physical activity. This is because only a small proportion of women who are planning a pregnancy—and even fewer of those who are not planning a pregnancy but become pregnant nonetheless—comply with recommendations for optimal nutrition and lifestyle (Inskip et al., 2009).

Counseling is already an integral part of the preconception recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (Johnson et al., 2006), which are designed to enable women to enter pregnancy in optimal health, avoid adverse health outcomes associated with childbearing, and reduce disparities in adverse pregnancy outcomes. The IOM report *Nu-*

*trition During Pregnancy and Lactation: An Implementation Guide* (IOM, 1992a) also includes practical guidelines for preconceptional care.

It is noteworthy that few intervention studies have evaluated ways to

As noted in Chapter 7, health care providers should chart women's weight gain and share the results with them so that they become aware of their progress toward their weight-gain goal. To assist health care providers in doing this, the committee has prepared charts (see Figures 8-2 through 8-5) that could be used as a basis for this discussion with the pregnant woman and could also be included in her medical record. These charts reflect the fact that typically only some weight gain usually occurs in the first trimester and that weight gain is greater and close to linear in the second and third trimesters (see Chapter 7 for the rates used in preparing these charts). The range around the target line in the second and third trimesters reflects the final width of the target range. In presenting these graphics, the committee emphasizes that graphical formats should be carefully and empirically tested before adoption to insure that the final product effectively communicates to women the intended messages about GWG.

These charts are meant to be used as part of the assessment of the progress of pregnancy and a woman's weight gain and for looking beyond the gain from one visit to the next and toward the overall pattern of weight gain. This is because the pattern of GWG, like that of total GWG, is highly variable even among women with good outcomes of pregnancy (Carmichael et al., 1997). Carmichael et al. (1997) have recommended that women should be evaluated for modifiable factors (e.g., lack of money to buy food, stress, infection, medical problems) that might be causing them to have

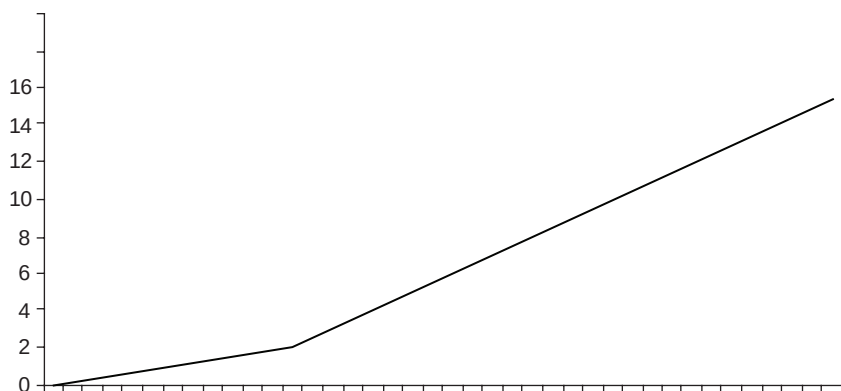
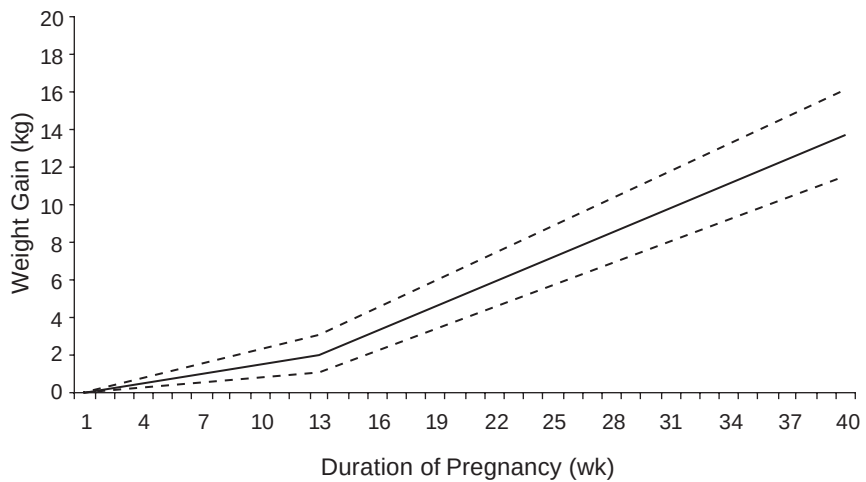


FIGURE 8-2 Recommended weight gain by week of pregnancy for underweight (BMI:  $< 18.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ) women (dashed lines represent range of weight gain).

NOTE: First trimester gains were determined using three sources (Siega-Riz et al., 1994; Abrams et al., 1995; Carmichael et al., 1997).





excessively high or low gains before any corrective action is recommended. The committee endorses this approach.

In addition to being made aware of their weight gain as pregnancy progresses through the use of weight-gain charts, women should be provided with advice about both diet and physical activity (ACOG, 2002). This may require referral to a dietitian as well as other appropriately qualified individuals, such as those who specialize in helping women to increase their physical activity. These services may need to continue into the postpartum period to give women the support necessary for returning to their pre-pregnant weight within the first year and for achieving normal BMI values before a subsequent conception.

Individualized nutrition services for pregnant women can be provided by a dietitian, as recommended in *Nutrition Services in Perinatal Care* (IOM, 1992b). Individualized dietary advice is also available for pregnant women on the Internet (see, for example, MyPyramid.gov [available online at <http://mypyramid.gov/mypyramidmoms/index.html>, accessed February 18, 2009]).

Individualized assessment of physical activity patterns and recommendations for improvement can be provided by a woman's health care provider or by the type of trained practitioners that work in many health clubs and community-based ( )-26(t)-(t)-3(h)-3( )-26(c)-3(l)-3(MT06-(t)-tr)-3(a)-3(c)-3(i)-3(l)-3(i)-

cal activity is available on the Internet (see, for example, MyPyramid.gov [available online at [http://mypyramid.gov/pyramid/physical\\_activity\\_tips.html](http://mypyramid.gov/pyramid/physical_activity_tips.html), accessed February 18, 2009]), including advice specifically designed for pregnant women (available online at [http://www.acog.org/3\(l\)-3\(u\)-3\(d\)-3\(i\)-3\(n\)-3\(g\)](http://www.acog.org/3(l)-3(u)-3(d)-3(i)-3(n)-3(g)))

is needed to guide the development of comprehensive and effective implementation strategies to achieve these guidelines.

Special attention should be given to low-income and minority women, who are at risk of being overweight or obese at the time of conception, consuming diets of lower nutritional value, and performing less recreational physical activity. The low health literacy levels that characterize this group also represent a major barrier for understanding and acting upon health recommendations (IOM, 2004). The use of culturally appropriate channels and approaches to convey this information at both the individual and population level is essential (Huff and Kline, 1999; Glanz et al., 2002). The community has a particularly important role to play in fostering appropriate GWG in low-income women. Approaches to consider range from social marketing (Siegel and Lotenberg, 2007) to improving the cultural skills of the health care providers that communicate GWG recommendations at an individual level (Haughton and George, 2008).

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

Although the guidelines developed as part of this committee process are not dramatically different from those published previously (IOM, 1990), fully implementing them would represent a radical change in the care of women of childbearing age. In particular, the committee recognizes that full implementation of these guidelines would mean:

- Offering services, such as counseling on diet and physical activity, as well as access to contraception, to all over-

the current environment. However, the reduction in future health problems among both women and their children that could be achieved by meeting the guidelines in this report provide additional justification for the committee's recommendations.

These new guidelines are based on observational data, which consistently show that women who gained within the IOM (1990) guidelines experienced better outcomes of pregnancy than those who did not (see Chapters 5 and 6). Nonetheless, these new guidelines require validation from experimental studies. To be useful, however, such validation studies must have adequate statistical power to determine not only if a given intervention helps women to gain within the recommended range but also if it improves the maternal and infant outcomes. In the future, it will be important to reexamine the trade-offs between women and their children in pregnancy outcomes related to prepregnancy BMI as well as GWG. It will also be important to estimate the cost-effectiveness of interventions designed to help women meet these recommendations.

## FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Finding

The committee found that:

1. Existing research is inadequate to establish the characteristics of interventions that work reliably to assist women in meeting the 1990 guidelines for GWG or avoiding postpartum weight retention.

### Recommendations for Action

Action Recommendation 8-1: The committee recommends that a83(e)-3(r)- th

research to aid providers and communities in assisting women to meet these guidelines, especially low-income and minority women. The committee also recommends that the Department of Health and Human Services should provide funding for research to examine the cost-effectiveness (in terms of maternal and offspring outcomes) of interventions designed to assist women in meeting these guidelines.

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# Open Session and Workshop Agendas

## REEXAMINATION OF IOM PREGNANCY WEIGHT GUIDELINES

Institute of Medicine | National Research Council  
Food and Nutrition Board  
Board on Children, Youth, and Families

The National Academy of Sciences Building  
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## SESSION 1: TRENDS IN GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN

- 9:10 Trends in Distribution of Prepregnancy Body Mass Index  
*Andrea Sharma, Ph.D., M.P.H., Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity, CDC, Atlanta, GA*
- 9:30 New Analyses from the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System  
*Patricia Dietz, Dr.P.H., M.P.H., Division of Reproductive Health, CDC, Atlanta, GA*
- 9:50 Pregnancy's Effects on Overall and Central Obesity in Women: Influence of Race/Ethnicity  
*Erica P. Gunderson, Ph.D., Kaiser Permanente, Oakland, CA*
- 10:10 Q&A
- 10:30 Break

## SESSION 2: DETERMINANTS OF GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN

- 11:00 Psychosocial and Behavioral Influences on Obesity: Application to Pregnancy  
*Suzanne Phelan, Ph.D., Brown University*
- 11:20 Biological Determinants: Developmental Origins  
*Peter Nathanielsz, M.D., Ph.D., University of Texas Health Sciences Center, San Antonio*
- 11:40 Q&A
- 12:00 p.m. Break for Lunch

## SESSION 3: GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN AND PREGNANCY OUTCOMES

- 1:00 Gestational Weight Gain: Clinician Survey and Consequences for Mother and Child  
*Emily Oken, M.D., M.P.H., Harvard University*
- 1:20 Consequences of Gestational Weight Gain: Outcomes for the Mother and Infant  
*Ellen A. Nohr, Ph.D., Aarhus University, Denmark*

- 1:40      Disparities in Fetal Growth and Ethnic-Specific Growth Standards  
*Michael Kramer, M.D., McGill University*
- 2:00      Q&A
- 2:20      Clinic and Community-Based Intervention Programs: Impact on Gestational Weight Gain  
*Christine Olson, Ph.D., Cornell University*



# 10

## Committee Member Biographical Sketches

KATHLEEN M. RASMUSSEN, Sc.D. (*Chair*



for Nutrition, the Society for Epidemiologic Research, and the Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research.

CLAUDE BOUCHARD, Ph.D.,



(1988-1990). Dr. Butte received her M.P.H. in public health nutrition and her Ph.D. in nutrition from the University of California, Berkeley.

PATRICK M. CATALANO, M.D., F.A.C.O.G., is professor and chair of the Department of Reproductive Biology at Case Western Reserve University at MetroHealth Medical Center. Dr. Catalano also serves on the Management Council and Executive Committee at MetroHealth Medical Center. He has published more than 130 articles in peer-reviewed journals and served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology* and *Metabolism and Diabetes*. He holds membership in the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Diabetes Association, the Perinatal Research Society, and the American Gynecological and Obstetrical Society. Dr. Catalano is a member of the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Division of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Catalano's research focus is insulin resistance and glucose metabolism in pregnancy and the role of placental cytokines in the regulation of fetal growth and adiposity. He has had research support from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) for more than 20 years. Dr. Catalano received his M.D. from the University of Vermont, Burlington.

served a medicine-pediatrics internship and residency at North Carolina Memorial Hospital. Dr. Gillman is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Physicians, and the American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and Prevention.

**FERNANDO A. GUERRA, M.D., M.P.H.**, is director of health for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Guerra's career reflects a long-standing interest and involvement in pediatric care, public health, and health policy. His expertise is improving access to health care systems for infants, women, children, and the elderly and improving access to health care for migrant children. He is also active with local, national, and international forums on a variety of health issues. Dr. Guerra has served on the Committee on Ethical Issues in Housing-Related Health Hazard Research Involving Children; the Frontiers of Research on Children, Youth, and Families Steering Committee; the Committee on Using Performance Monitoring to Improve Community Health; and the Committee on Overcoming Barriers to Immunization. He is a former member of the Board on Children, Youth, and Families and

Women's Hospital. She also served a postdoctoral fellowship in cardiology



primary research activities and interests are in reproductive, environmental, and cancer epidemiology. Dr. Savitz received his undergraduate training in psychology at Brandeis University, a master's degree in preventive medicine at Ohio State University in 1978, and his Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health in 1982. He was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine in 2007.

ANNA MARIA SIEGA-RIZ, Ph.D., is associate professor in the Depart

# appendix A

## Acronyms and Abbreviations, Glossary, and Supplemental Information

### ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

|      |                              |
|------|------------------------------|
| ACTH | adrenocorticotrophic hormone |
| ADHD |                              |

|     |                                                                                        |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ECF | extracellular fluid                                                                    |
| FFA | free fatty acid                                                                        |
| FFM | fat-free mass                                                                          |
| FM  | fat mass                                                                               |
| GDM | ge(e)-3((e)(a)-3(t)-3( )-31(m)-3ETEOETEn)-3( )-31lma <sup>dm</sup> (e)(te)-3((e)(a)-3( |

|               |                                             |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| PNSS          | Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System     |
| PRAMS         | Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System |
| PROM          | premature rupture of membranes              |
| PTB           | preterm birth                               |
| QALY          | quality-adjusted life-years                 |
| SD            | standard deviation                          |
| SGA           | small-for-gestational age                   |
| SNP           | single nucleotide polymorphism              |
| STBM          | syncytiotrophoblast microparticles          |
| TBK           | total body potassium                        |
| TBN           | total body nitrogen                         |
| TBW           | total body water                            |
| TEE           | total energy expenditure                    |
| TNF- $\alpha$ | tumor necrosis factor-alpha                 |
| VLBW          | very low birth weight                       |



## Adipokines

Also called adipose cytokines. A variety of proteins released into the systemic circulation by adipose (fat) tissue in response to changes in the metabolic status. Dysregulation of adipokine secretion (either abnormally increased or decreased levels) may be one of the mechanisms by which insulin resistance is tied to obesity. Adipokines implicated in insulin resistance include leptin, resistin, and adiponectin.

## Adiponectin

Also called adipocyte complement-related protein of 30 kDa (Acrp30).

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**Anorexia nervosa**

A psychophysiological disorder usually occurring in teenage women that is characterized by fear of becoming obese, a distorted self-image, a persistent aversion to food, and severe weight loss, and that is often marked by hyperactivity, self-induced vomiting, amenorrhea, and other physiological changes.

**Antipyrine**

Also called phenazone. An analgesic (pain reducer) and antipyretic (fever reducer) that was formerly widely used, but is now largely replaced in oral use by less toxic drugs such as aspirin.

**Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)**

A childhood syndrome that is characterized by impulsiveness and short attention span and sometimes by hyperactivity, and that often leads to learning disabilities and various behavioral problems.

**Basal metabolic rate (BMR)**

The rate of energy expenditure that occurs in the post-absorptive state, defined as the particular condition that prevails after an overnight fast

they have a specific disease or other outcome (cases) and are compared to a control (referent comparison) group without the disease to evaluate whether there is a difference in the frequency of exposure to possible disease risk factors.

**Congenital anomalies**

Birth defects.

**Consequences**

Health outcomes (effects) caused by the determinants.

**Corticosteroids**

Any number of hormonal steroid substances obtained from the cortex of the adrenal gland.

**Cortisol**

Also called hydrocortisone. A hormone produced by the adrenal cortex upon stimulation by ACTH that mediates various metabolic processes such as gluconeogenesis (formation of glucose from precursors other than carbohydrates), and has anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive properties. Cortisol levels in the blood may become elevated in response to physical or psychological stress.

**Creatinine**

One of the non-protein constituents of blood, a breakdown product of creatine (protein used to make ATP). Increased quantities of serum creatinine are found in advanced stages of renal disease.

**Decidua**

The mucous membrane lining the uterus modified during pregnancy, and cast off at parturition or during menstruation. The human decidua is made up of a part lining the uterus (parietalis), a part enveloping the embryo (capsularis), and a part participating with the chorion in the formation of the placenta (basalis).

**Dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEAS)**

A weak androgen (male hormone) produced by the adrenal cortex in both men and women that is measured in women showing symptoms of virulism (male body characteristics) or hirsutism (excessive hair growth). It is also measured in children who are maturing too early (precocious puberty).

**Deoxycorticosterone**

A steroid hormone from the adrenal gland that acts principally on salt and water metabolism.

**Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)**

A nucleic acid that consists of long chains of nucleotides twisted together into a double helix and joined by hydrogen bonds between complementary bases adenine and thymine or cytosine and guanine.

via its nucleotides and their sequence, and is capable of self-replication and RNA synthesis.

#### Determinants

Causal (etiologic) factors.

#### Deuterium

An isotope of hydrogen with one proton and one neutron in the nucleus having a heavy atomic weight (2.014).

#### Dyspnea

Difficulty in breathing, often associated with lung or heart disease, and resulting in shortness of breath.

#### Edema

Also called dropsy, oedema. A local or generalized condition in which the body tissues contain an excessive amount of tissue fluid.

#### Effect modifier

A factor that increases or decreases the magnitude of the effect of a determinant on a particular consequence.

#### Epidemiology

The study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states and events in populations and the control of health problems.

#### Epigenetic

Mechanisms, processes, and/or biological compounds that affect a cell, organ, or individual without changing or perturbing DNA.

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**Fetus**

The developing organism in the human uterus after the second month of gestation.

**Food insecurity**

Whenever the availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food or the ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways is limited or uncertain.

**Free fatty acid (FFA)**

An uncombined fatty acid.

**Genotype**

Genetic characteristics of an individual determined by a set of alleles that make up the genome.

**Gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM)**

Metabolic derangement in glucose metabolism and profound abnor

**Histone**

Any of several small simple proteins that are most commonly found in association with DNA in chromatin and are rich in the basic amino acids lysine and arginine.

**Homozygous**

Two identical alleles, each at the same position on homologous chromosomes.

**Human chorionic gonadotropin (HCG)**

A hormone that is secreted by the placenta during early pregnancy to maintain corpus luteum function and stimulate placental progesterone production; is commonly tested for as an indicator of pregnancy.

**Hydrodensitometry**

Method of body composition measurement applying Archimedes' principle by submerging subject in water.

**Hyperemesis gravidarum**

Severe and prolonged vomiting during pregnancy.

**Hyperinsulinemia**

Also spelled hyperinsulinaemia. The presence of excess insulin in the blood.

**Hypertension**

Abnormally high arterial blood pressure that is usually indicated by an adult systolic blood pressure of 140 mm Hg or greater or a diastolic blood pressure of 90 mm Hg or greater, is chiefly of unknown cause but may be attributable to a preexisting condition (such as a renal or endocrine disorder), that typically results in a thickening and inelasticity of arterial walls and hypertrophy of the left heart ventricle, and that is a risk factor for various pathological conditions or events (such as heart attack, heart failure, stroke, end-stage renal disease, or retinal hemorrhage).

**Hypoxia**

Insufficient levels of oxygen in blood or tissue.

**In utero**

In the uterus.

**Intracellular water (ICW)**

The water within the tissue cells.

**Intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR)**

Also called intrauterine growth retardation. A condition resulting in a fetal weight less than the tenth percentile of predicted weight for gestational age, in which there is a pathological process present that prevents expression of normal growth potential.



**Observational studies**

Study types that follow a population (either prospectively or retrospectively) to examine how exposure to risk factors influences one's probability of developing a disease in the absence of intervention; includes cross-sectional studies, cohort studies, and case-control studies.

**Odds ratio (OR)**

In a case-control study (see above), the exposure odds among cases compared to the exposure odds among controls, where the exposure odds are the number of individuals with the exposure relative to the number of individuals without the exposure (e.g., if 3 out of 10 people are exposed, then the exposure odds are 3:7).

**Osmolarity**

The osmotic concentration of a solution expressed as osmoles of solute per liter of solution.

**Parity**

The number of children previously born to a woman.

**Phenotype**

Physical, biochemical, and physiologic makeup of an individual; determined by genetic and environmental factors.

**Physical activity level (PAL)**

As an energy component, the ratio of total energy expenditure (TEE) to basal daily energy expenditure (BEE).

**Placenta**

The membranous vascular organ in female mammals that permits metabolic interchange between fetus and mother. It develops during pregnancy from the chorion of the embryo and the decidua basalis of the maternal uterus, and permits the absorption of oxygen and nutritive materials into the fetal blood and the release of carbon dioxide and nitrogenous waste from it, without the direct mixing of maternal and fetal blood.

**Placenta previa**

A complication of pregnancy in which the placenta grows in the lowest part of the womb (uterus) and covers all or part of the opening to the cervix.

**Plasma volume**

Measure of volume of plasma in the blood.

**Postpartum**

Of or occurring in the period shortly after childbirth.

**Postterm birth**

Birth occurring after a gestation of 42 or more weeks.







systematic inflammatory response of both normal and preeclamptic pregnancies.

### Thyroxine

An iodine-containing hormone that is produced by the thyroid gland, increase the rate of cell metabolism, regulates growth, and is made synthetically for treatment of thyroid disorders.

### Total energy expenditure (TEE)

$TEE = BMR + TEF + NE + E_{\text{thermogenesis}}$  (energy expenditure = basal metabolic rate (BMR) + thermic effect of food (TEF) + non-exercise activity thermogenesis (NEAT) + exercise activity thermogenesis (EAT))



TABLE A-1 Description and Comparison of Public Health Surveys of Pregnant Women, Infants, and Children

| Survey                                           | Objectives                                                                                                                                                        | Population/Data Collection                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Infant Feeding Practices Survey II (IFPS-II)     | To understand and improve the health of mothers and children by collecting information on infant feeding behaviors and factors influencing infant feeding choices | <p>Approximately 4,000 pregnant women from across the nation began their participation in the Infant Feeding Practices Study II (IFPS-II) between May and December 2005 and approximately 2,000 continued their participation through their infant's first year.</p> <p>To qualify, a healthy women gave birth to one healthy, full-term or near-term infant weighing at least 5 pounds at birth.</p> <p>Data were collected using mailed questionnaires, with the exception of a brief telephone interview near the time of the infant's birth.</p> |
| Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) | To collect, analyze, and disseminate data to guide public health policy and action                                                                                | <p>Data are collected for infants, children, and adolescents from birth to 20 years of age who go to public health clinics for routine care, nutrition education, and supplemental foods.</p> <p>Data is collected at the clinic level then aggregated at the state level and submitted to CDC for analysis. Forty states, 1 U.S. Territory, 5 Indian Tribal Organizations, and the District of Columbia participated in 2007.</p>                                                                                                                   |

| Data Source                                                                                                                         | Available Data | Strengths/Limitations |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
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| Data Source | Available Data | Strengths/Limitations |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|
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## REFERENCE

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### Websites:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ifps/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/pednss/index.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/prams/>

# appendix B

## Supplementary Information on Nutritional Intake

DIETARY REFERENCE INTAKES FOR PREGNANCY

TABLE B-1A Equations to Estimate Energy Requirement for Pregnant Women by Trimester

|                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Estimated Energy Requirement (kcal/day) = Nonpregnant EER |
|                                                           |
|                                                           |

TABLE B-2 Dietary Reference Intakes for Pregnant Women: Vitamins, Elements, Total Water, and Macronutrients in Alphabetical Order

| Nutrient             | EAR <sup>a</sup> | RDA <sup>b</sup> /AI <sup>c</sup> | UL <sup>d</sup> |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Biotin</b>        |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 30 µg/day                         | —               |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 30 µg/day                         | —               |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 30 µg/day                         | —               |
| <b>Boron</b>         |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | —                                 | 17 mg/day       |
| 19-30 y              | —                | —                                 | 20 mg/day       |
| 31-50 y              | —                | —                                 | 20 mg/day       |
| <b>Calcium</b>       |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 1,300 mg/day                      | 2.5 g/day       |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 1,000 mg/day                      | 2.5 g/day       |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 1,000 mg/day                      | 2.5 g/day       |
| <b>Carbohydrate</b>  |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | 135 g/day        | 175 g/day                         | —               |
| 19-30 y              | 135 g/day        | 175 g/day                         | —               |
| 31-50 y              | 135 g/day        | 175 g/day                         | —               |
| <b>Chloride</b>      |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 2.3 g/day                         | 3.6 g/day       |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 2.3 g/day                         | 3.6 g/day       |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 2.3 g/day                         | 3.6 g/day       |
| <b>Choline</b>       |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 450 mg/day                        | 3.0 g/day       |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 450 mg/day                        | 3.5 g/day       |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 450 mg/day                        | 3.5 g/day       |
| <b>Chromium</b>      |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 29 µg/day                         | —               |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 30 µg/day                         | —               |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 30 µg/day                         | —               |
| <b>Copper</b>        |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | 785 µg/day       | 1,000 µg/day                      | 8,000 µg/day    |
| 19-30 y              | 800 µg/day       | 1,000 µg/day                      | 10,000 µg/day   |
| 31-50 y              | 800 µg/day       | 1,000 µg/day                      | 10,000 µg/day   |
| <b>Fiber (Total)</b> |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 28 g/day                          | —               |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 28 g/day                          | —               |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 28 g/day                          | —               |
| <b>Flouride</b>      |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y              | —                | 3.0 mg/day                        | 10 mg/day       |
| 19-30 y              | —                | 3.0 mg/day                        | 10 mg/day       |
| 31-50 y              | —                | 3.0 mg/day                        | 10 mg/day       |

*continued*

TABLE B-2 Continued

| Nutrient                     | EAR <sup>a</sup> | RDA <sup>b</sup> /AI <sup>c</sup> | UL <sup>d</sup> |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Folate<sup>e</sup></b>    |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | 520 µg/day       | 600 µg/day                        | 800 µg/day      |
| 19-30 y                      | 520 µg/day       | 600 µg/day                        | 1,000 µg/day    |
| 31-50 y                      | 520 µg/day       | 600 µg/day                        | 1,000 µg/day    |
| <b>Iodine</b>                |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | 160 µg/day       | 220 µg/day                        | 900 µg/day      |
| 19-30 y                      | 160 µg/day       | 220 µg/day                        | 1,100 µg/day    |
| 31-50 y                      | 160 µg/day       | 220 µg/day                        | 1,100 µg/day    |
| <b>Iron</b>                  |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | 23 mg/day        | 27 mg/day                         | 45 mg/day       |
| 19-30 y                      | 22 mg/day        | 27 mg/day                         | 45 mg/day       |
| 31-50 y                      | 22 mg/day        | 27 mg/day                         | 45 mg/day       |
| <b>Linoleic acid</b>         |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | —                | 13 g/day                          | —               |
| 19-30 y                      | —                | 13 g/day                          | —               |
| 31-50 y                      | —                | 13 g/day                          | —               |
| <b>α-Linolenic Acid</b>      |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | —                | 1.4 g/day                         | —               |
| 19-30 y                      | —                | 1.4 g/day                         | —               |
| 31-50 y                      | —                | 1.4 g/day                         | —               |
| <b>Magnesium<sup>f</sup></b> |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | 335 mg/day       | 400 mg/day                        | 350 mg/day      |
| 19-30 y                      | 290 mg/day       | 350 mg/day                        | 350 mg/day      |
| 31-50 y                      | 300 mg/day       | 360 mg/day                        | 350 mg/day      |
| <b>Manganese</b>             |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | —                | 2.0 mg/day                        | 9 mg/day        |
| 19-30 y                      | —                | 2.0 mg/day                        | 11 mg/day       |
| 31-50 y                      | —                | 2.0 mg/day                        | 11 mg/day       |
| <b>Molybdenum</b>            |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | 40 µg/day        | 50 µg/day                         | 1,700 µg/day    |
| 19-30 y                      | 40 µg/day        | 50 µg/day                         | 2,000 µg/day    |
| 31-50 y                      | 40 µg/day        | 50 µg/day                         | 2,000 µg/day    |
| <b>Niacin<sup>g</sup></b>    |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | 14 mg/day        | 18 mg/day                         | 30 mg/day       |
| 19-30 y                      | 14 mg/day        | 18 mg/day                         | 35 mg/day       |
| 31-50 y                      | 14 mg/day        | 18 mg/day                         | 35 mg/day       |
| <b>Nickel</b>                |                  |                                   |                 |
| 14-18 y                      | —                | —                                 | 1.0 mg/day      |
| 19-30 y                      | —                | —                                 | 1.0 mg/day      |
| 31-50 y                      | —                | —                                 | 1.0 mg/day      |



\*AI = adequate intake, sufficient scientific evidence not available; e265.7tabish n R, and thus calculate and RDT9t2A, an AI is usually developed. The AI or rea265.7t-fed infants is the mean intake. The AI for other life-265.7t age groups and gender groups 6 T9t2except healthy brea265.7t-fed infants) is believed to cover the needs of all healthy individuals in the group, but a lack of data or uncertainty in the data prevents being able to specify with confidence the percentage

The ULs for magnesium represent intake from pharmacological agents only and do not include intake from food and water.

*g*



TABLE B-4 Additional Macronutrient Recommendations

| Macronutrient         | Recommendation                                                   |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dietary cholesterol   | As low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet |
| Trans fatty acids     | As low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet |
| Saturated fatty acids | As low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet |
| Added sugars*         | Limit to no more than 25% of total energy                        |

\*Not a recommended intake. A daily intake of added sugars that individuals should aim for

### TRENDS IN ENERGY INTAKE AND MARKERS OF ENERGY DENSITY

As the prevalence of obesity rises among childbearing-aged women and women entering pregnancy, important shifts in diet and physical activity have also occurred. In a recent study, Nielsen and colleagues (2002) used nationally representative data from the 1977-1978 Nationwide Food Consumption Survey and the 1989-1991 and 1994-1996 Continuing Surveys of Food Intake by Individuals to investigate the trends in total energy intake and energy intake by meal pattern type (Figure B-1). Data were stratified by age but not sex. These investigators found that among U.S. adults aged 19-39 years, there was an 18 percent increase in total energy intake over the 20-year period (1856 to 2198 kcal/d). When separated into energy from meal pattern type, the major contributor to this overall increase in energy intake was a sharp 58 percent increase in energy from snacks (244-387 kcal/d). Additionally, the percent of total energy from key food groups, such as salty snacks, sweetened beverages, candy, pizza, French fries, cheeseburgers, and Mexican-style food, increased between survey years 1977-1978 and 1994-1996.

These authors further investigated trends in beverage intake using the aforementioned data sources plus the 1999-2001 nationally-representative NHANES. For all age groups, including adults aged 19 to 39 years, sweet-

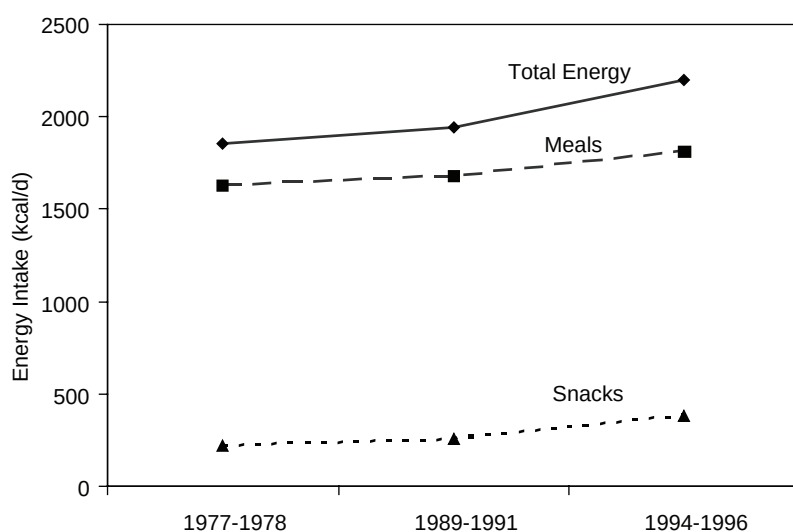


FIGURE B-1 Trends in energy intake and meal pattern type, U.S. adults aged 19-39 years.

SOURCE: Nielsen et al., 2002.

ened beverage intake increased and milk consumption decreased between survey years 1977-1978 and 1999-2001 (Figure B-2) (Nielsen and Popkin, 2004). Specifically, energy from soft drinks nearly tripled (2.8 to 7.0 percent [approximately 50 to 144 kcal per person per day]), energy from fruit drinks doubled (1.1 to 2.2 percent [from 20 to 45 kcal per person per day]),

ined sub-groups of vegetables, mean intakes for childbearing-aged women were below the recommended amounts for all subgroups except for starchy vegetables (Figure B-3). These data clearly illustrate that childbearing-aged women failed to meet recommendations for fruits and vegetables.

Another method of quantifying the overall quality of American's diets is through the use of the Healthy Eating Index-2005 (HEI-2005), a tool designed to measure compliance of diets with the key, diet-related recommendations of the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (HHS/USDA, 2005). The HEI-2005 has 12 components, as seen in Table B-5 (Guenther et al., 2006). For most components, higher intakes result in higher scores. Note, however, that for three components, saturated fat, sodium, and calories from solid fats, alcoholic beverages, and added sugars (SoFAAS), lower intake levels result in higher scores because lower intakes are more desirable. Monitoring changes in the HEI-2005 scores can provide a method for nutrition surveillance in the population.

In a recent analysis, trends in the HEI-2005 scores and its components were published for all Americans two years of age and older (subgroups of the population were not studied). From 1994-1996 to 2001-2002, there was little change in either overall HEI-2005 score or its components. The average HEI-2005 score was 58.2 out of 100 possible points in both time periods. American's diets consistently met recommendations for the groups "Total Grains" and "Meat and Beans," but were far below the maximum

FIGURE B-3 Mean daily intakes of vegetables by subtype among U.S. females 19-30 years of age.

SOURCE: Guenther et al., 2006.

score for the groups, “Dark Green and Orange Vegetables” and “Legumes” as well as whole grains. Intakes from SoFAAS were well below the recommendations, as reflected in low scores on these components. From 1994-1996 to 2001-2002 the HEI-2005 score declined for the groups “Whole Fruit,” “Total Vegetables,” and “Whole Grains” while the score for the groups “Milk,” “Oils,” and “Sodium” improved.

Some of these dietary pattern changes may be a result of the trend toward obtaining a greater proportion of food outside the home. Self-reported dietary data from national surveys was used to show that the percentage of total energy intake obtained from foods consumed at home decreased from 77 in 1977-1978 to 65 percent from 1994-1996 (Figure B-4) (Nielsen et al., 2002). The amount of energy obtained from foods consumed from restaurants, including fast food establishments, doubled from 9 to 21 percent during this same period.

The aforementioned analysis relied on dietary intake data obtained from surveys. There is no “gold standard” method of assessing dietary intakes in individuals, and all self-reported dietary intake data have inherent biases. Therefore food supply data, collected directly from food producers and distributors, are often used to examine trends in American dietary patterns. The estimates are adjusted for spoilage, cooking losses, plate waste, and other food losses accumulated throughout the marketing system and

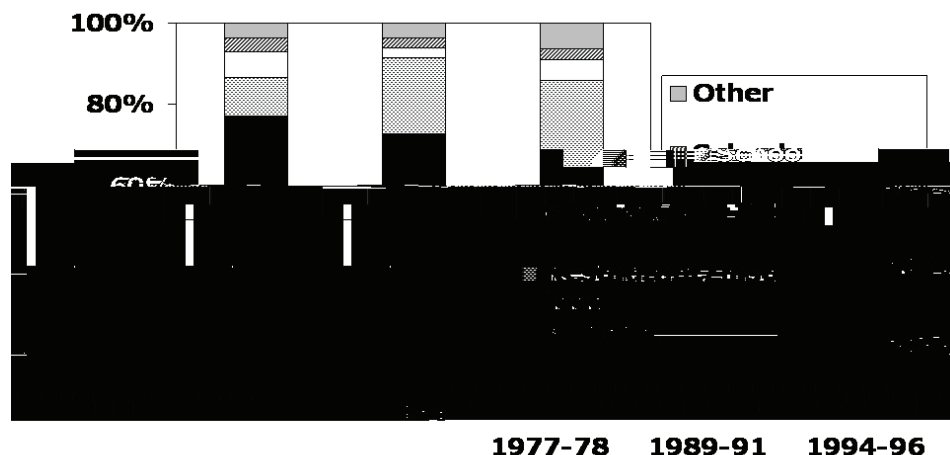


FIGURE B-4 Trends in energy intake (percent energy) by location, Americans aged 2+ years.

SOURCE: Nielsen et al., 2002.

the home. Analysis of trends in food supply data provide the same conclusions regarding trends in increasing energy intake and overall diet quality of Americans as self-reported survey data.

The most recent loss-adjusted annual per capita food supply data analyses by the USDA's Economic Research Service suggests a 12 percent

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## appendix C

### Supplementary Information on Composition and Components of Gestational Weight Gain

Tables C-1 through C-6 summarize literature and data that are referenced and/or support the discussion in Chapter 3, *Composition and Components of Gestational Weight Gain: Physiology and Metabolism*.







TABLE C-1A Continued

| Study Description                                      | Population Characteristics | Study Criteria          | Weight Gain by Trimester |            |            | Total Weight Gain |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
|                                                        |                            |                         | 1st                      | 2nd        | 3rd        |                   |
| Author, year: Catalano et al., 1993<br>Country: USA    | Total Study N: 390         | Women with GDM (n = 78) |                          |            |            | 12.6 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | Controls (n = 312)      |                          |            |            | 15.0 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | Underweight             |                          |            |            |                   |
|                                                        |                            | GDM (n = 15)            | 0.24 kg/wk               | 0.35 kg/wk | 0.34 kg/wk | 12.2 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | Control (n = 92)        | 0.28 kg/wk               | 0.38 kg/wk | 0.39 kg/wk | 15.0 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | Average weight          |                          |            |            |                   |
|                                                        |                            | GDM (n = 34)            | 0.29 kg/wk               | 0.42 kg/wk | 0.39 kg/wk | 14.6 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | Control (n = 172)       | 0.35 kg/wk               | 0.40 kg/wk | 0.40 kg/wk | 15.2 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | Overweight              |                          |            |            |                   |
|                                                        |                            | GDM (n = 29)            | 0.27 kg/wk               | 0.32 kg/wk | 0.30 kg/wk | 10.5 kg           |
| Author, year: Cedergren, 2006*<br>Country: Sweden      | Total Study N: 245,526     | Control (n = 48)        | 0.28 kg/wk               | 0.36 kg/wk | 0.37 kg/wk | 14.1 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | BMI < 20                |                          |            |            | 13.5 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | BMI 20-24.9             |                          |            |            | 13.8 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | BMI 25-29.9             |                          |            |            | 13.2 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | BMI 30-34.9             |                          |            |            | 11.1 kg           |
|                                                        |                            | BMI > 35                |                          |            |            | 8.7 kg            |
| Author, year: Claesson et al., 2008<br>Country: Sweden | Total Study N: 348         | Obese (n = 155)         |                          |            |            | 8.7 kg            |
|                                                        |                            | Controls (n = 193)      |                          |            |            | 11.3 kg           |
|                                                        |                            |                         |                          |            |            | Adjusted:         |
|                                                        |                            |                         |                          |            |            | 7.5 kg            |
|                                                        |                            |                         |                          |            |            | 9.8 kg            |



| Study Description                   | Population Characteristics                          | Study Criteria                                | Weight Gain by Trimester |     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
|                                     |                                                     |                                               | 1st                      | 2nd | 3rd                             |
| Author, year: Johnston et al., 1992 | Total Study N: 272                                  | Adolescents (n = 123)<br>Adults (n = 149)     |                          |     | 15.4 kg                         |
|                                     | Group Description: Middle class, upper class        |                                               |                          |     | 14.4 kg<br>(39.6 wks gestation) |
| Country: USA                        |                                                     |                                               |                          |     |                                 |
| Author, year: Kinnunen et al., 2007 | Total Study N: 132                                  | Intervention (n = 48)<br>Control (n = 56)     |                          |     | 14.6 kg                         |
|                                     | Group Description: Primiparas                       |                                               |                          |     | 14.3 kg                         |
| Country: Finland                    |                                                     |                                               |                          |     |                                 |
| Author, year: Kramer et al., 1992   | Total Study N: 9,742                                | Mean prepregnancy BMI: 22.1 kg/m <sup>2</sup> |                          |     | 14.5 kg<br>(0.37 kg/wk)         |
|                                     | Group Description: Mostly Canadian-born, Caucasians |                                               |                          |     |                                 |
|                                     |                                                     | Time of delivery: ≥ 37 weeks                  |                          |     | 14.6 kg                         |
|                                     |                                                     | < 37 weeks                                    |                          |     | 12.5 kg                         |
| Author, year: Lawton et al., 1988   |                                                     | < 34 weeks                                    |                          |     | 9.9 kg                          |
|                                     |                                                     | < 32 weeks                                    |                          |     | 9.1 kg                          |



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| Study Description                                                                    | Population Characteristics                | Study Criteria                              | Weight Gain by Trimester |            |            | Total Weight Gain |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
|                                                                                      |                                           |                                             | 1st                      | 2nd        | 3rd        |                   |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Siega-Riz et al., 1996<br><i>Country:</i><br>USA             | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>9,651            | Preterm deliveries (n = 517)                | 1.4 kg                   | 0.51 kg/wk | 0.50 kg/wk |                   |
|                                                                                      | <i>Group Description:</i><br>80% Hispanic | Term deliveries (n = 7,072)                 | 1.2 kg                   | 0.53 kg/wk | 0.53 kg/wk |                   |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Stevens-Simon and McAnarney, 1992*<br><i>Country:</i><br>USA | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>141              | Weight Gain:<br>Slow, < 0.28 kg/wk (n = 23) |                          |            | 0.16 kg/wk | 6.50 kg           |
|                                                                                      | <i>Group Description:</i><br>Teens, Black | Average, 0.28-0.45 kg/wk (n = 87)           |                          |            | 0.32 kg/wk | 13.3 kg           |
|                                                                                      |                                           | Rapid, > 0.45 kg/wk (n = 31)                |                          |            | 0.56 kg/wk | 22.7 kg           |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Soltani and Fraser, 2000*<br><i>Country:</i><br>UK           | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>77               | Normal weight (n = 29)                      |                          |            |            | 11.0 kg           |
|                                                                                      |                                           | Overweight (n = 23)                         |                          |            |            | 11.9 kg           |
|                                                                                      |                                           | Obese (n = 25)                              |                          |            |            | 9.7 kg            |



**TABLE C-1B Maternal Weight Gain in Singleton Pregnancies (by percent of BMI and gain category)**

| Study Description                                                           | Population Characteristics  | Weight/BMI Category         | Weight Gain (percent of n)                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Cogswell et al., 1995<br><br><i>Country:</i><br>USA | <i>Total Study N:</i>       |                             | <i>Gained &lt; 6.8 kg:</i>                |
|                                                                             | 53,541                      | BMI 19.8-26                 | 6%                                        |
|                                                                             | <i>Group Description:</i>   | BMI > 26-29                 | 11%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 25%                                       |
|                                                                             | Low income women            |                             | <i>Gained 6.8-8.6 kg:</i>                 |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI 19.8-26                 | 6%                                        |
|                                                                             | BMI 19.8-26 (n = 33,809)    | BMI > 26-29                 | 8%                                        |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 10%                                       |
|                                                                             | BMI > 26-29 (n = 7,661)     | BMI 19.8-26                 | <i>Gained 9.1-10.9 kg:</i>                |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 26-29                 | 11%                                       |
|                                                                             | BMI > 29 (n = 12,071)       | BMI > 26-29                 | 13%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 13%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             |                             | <i>Gained 11.4-13.2 kg:</i>               |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI 19.8-26                 | 14%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 26-29                 | 13%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 13%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             |                             | <i>Gained 13.6-15.4 kg:</i>               |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI 19.8-26                 | 17%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 26-29                 | 16%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 12%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             |                             | <i>Gained 15.9-17.7 kg:</i>               |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI 19.8-26                 | 14%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 26-29                 | 11%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 8%                                        |
|                                                                             |                             |                             | <i>Gained &gt; 18.2 kg:</i>               |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI 19.8-26                 | 31%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 26-29                 | 28%                                       |
|                                                                             |                             | BMI > 29                    | 19%                                       |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Hickey et al., 1993*<br><br><i>Country:</i><br>USA  | <i>Total Study N:</i>       |                             | <i>Gained within IOM recommendations:</i> |
|                                                                             | 1,168                       | Black women, pregravid BMI: |                                           |
|                                                                             | <i>Group Description:</i>   | Low, < 19.8 (n = 221)       | 37.1%                                     |
|                                                                             |                             | Normal, 19.8-26.0 (n = 350) | 30.9%                                     |
|                                                                             | Low income, high risk women | High, > 26.0-29.0 (n = 84)  | 27.4%                                     |
|                                                                             |                             |                             |                                           |
|                                                                             | Black (n = 803)             | White women, pregravid BMI: |                                           |
|                                                                             | White (n = 365)             | Low, < 19.8 (n = 118)       | 37.3%                                     |
|                                                                             |                             | Normal, 19.8-26.0 (n = 168) | 35.7%                                     |
|                                                                             |                             | High, > 26.0-29.0 (n = 29)  | 20.7%                                     |

TABLE C-1B Continued

| Study Description                             | Population Characteristics       | Weight/BMI Category | Weight Gain (percent of n)             |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Kiel et al., 2007*    | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>120,170 | BMI 30-34.9         | <i>Gain of less than 0.9 kg:</i><br>3% |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 35-39.9         | 8%                                     |
|                                               | <i>Group</i><br>Description:     | BMI ≥ 40            | 15%                                    |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                        | Obese women                      |                     | <i>Gain of 0.9-6.4 kg:</i>             |
|                                               | BMI 30-34.9                      | BMI 30-34.9         | 15%                                    |
|                                               | (n = 70,536)                     | BMI 35-39.9         | 22%                                    |
|                                               | BMI 35-39.9                      | BMI ≥ 40            | 25%                                    |
|                                               | (n = 30,609)                     |                     | <i>Gain of 6.5-11.4 kg:</i>            |
|                                               | BMI ≥ 40                         | BMI 30-34.9         | 26%                                    |
|                                               | (n = 19,025)                     | BMI 35-39.9         | 27%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | BMI ≥ 40            | 25%                                    |
|                                               |                                  |                     | <i>Gain of &gt; 11.4 kg:</i>           |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 30-34.9         | 56%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 35-39.9         | 43%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | BMI ≥ 40            | 35%                                    |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Nohr et al., 2007*    | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>62,167  | BMI < 18.5          | <i>Gain of 0.28 kg/wk:</i><br>15.3%    |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 18.5-24.9       | 11.5%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 25-29.9         | 19.6%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 30+             | 36.1%                                  |
| <i>Country:</i><br>Sweden                     |                                  |                     | <i>Gain of 0.28-0.68 kg/wk:</i>        |
|                                               |                                  | BMI < 18.5          | 71.0%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 18.5-24.9       | 72.2%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 25-29.9         | 62.1%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 30+             | 49.6%                                  |
|                                               |                                  |                     | <i>Gain of &gt; 0.68 kg/wk:</i>        |
|                                               |                                  | BMI < 18.5          | 13.7%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 18.5-24.9       | 16.3%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 25-29.9         | 18.3%                                  |
|                                               |                                  | BMI 30+             | 14.2%                                  |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Schieve et al., 2000* | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>3,511   | Low BMI             | <i>Gained &lt; 0.23 kg/wk:</i><br>4%   |
|                                               |                                  | Average BMI         | 5%                                     |
|                                               |                                  | High BMI            | 23%                                    |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                        |                                  |                     | <i>Gained 0.23-0.68 kg/wk:</i>         |
|                                               |                                  | Low BMI             | 78%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | Average BMI         | 74%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | High BMI            | 63%                                    |
|                                               |                                  |                     | <i>Gained &gt; 0.68 kg/wk:</i>         |
|                                               |                                  | Low BMI             | 18%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | Average BMI         | 21%                                    |
|                                               |                                  | High BMI            | 14%                                    |

continued

TABLE C-1B Continued

| Study Description                              | Population Characteristics                                                                                  | Weight/BMI Category                                                            | Weight Gain (percent of n)                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Stotland et al., 2006* | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>15,101                                                                             | Low and Normal BMIs                                                            | <i>Gain of &lt; 0.27 kg/wk:</i><br>11%<br><i>Gain of 0.27-0.52 kg/wk:</i><br>68.2%<br><i>Gain of &gt; 0.27 kg/w:</i><br>21.1%  |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                         |                                                                                                             |                                                                                |                                                                                                                                |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Taffel et al., 1993    | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>1,707                                                                              | BMI < 19.8<br>BMI 19.8-26<br>BMI > 26                                          | <i>Actual Gain &lt; 10 kg:</i><br>13%<br>16%<br>38%                                                                            |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                         | <i>Group Description:</i><br>BMI < 19.8<br>(n = 379)<br>BMI 19.8-26<br>(n = 1,024)<br>BMI > 26<br>(n = 304) | BMI < 19.8<br>BMI 19.8-26<br>BMI > 26<br>BMI < 19.8<br>BMI 19.8-26<br>BMI > 26 | <i>Actual Gain 10-12.3 kg:</i><br>21%<br>19%<br>19%<br><i>Actual Gain &gt; 12.3 kg:</i><br>66%<br>64%<br>42%                   |
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Wen et al., 1990*      | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>17,149                                                                             | Weights (kg): < 50, 50-60,<br>61-72, 73-84, ≥ 85                               | Gained < 0.24 kg/wk:<br>12%<br>Gained 0.24-0.57 kg/wk:<br>54%<br>Gained 0.58-0.74 kg/wk:<br>19%<br>Gained ≥ 0.75 kg/wk:<br>14% |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                         | Black and White<br>indigent women                                                                           |                                                                                |                                                                                                                                |

\*Indicates that study is included in the systematic literature review conducted by Viswanathan et al., 2008.

TABLE C-2 Maternal Weight Gain in Twin and Triplet Pregnancies (by trimester and total weight gain)

| Author (Year)                                                      | Population Characteristics                                              | Study Criteria              | Weight Gain by Trimester |     |         | Total Weight Gain |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|---------|-------------------|
|                                                                    |                                                                         |                             | 1st                      | 2nd | 3rd     |                   |
| Twins                                                              |                                                                         |                             |                          |     |         |                   |
| Author, year:<br>Brown and Schloesser, 1990<br><br>Country:<br>USA | Total Study N:<br>203,768                                               | Prepregnancy Weight Status: |                          |     |         |                   |
|                                                                    | Group Description:<br>Twins (n = 1,984)<br><br>Singletons (n = 201,784) | Twins                       |                          |     |         |                   |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Underweight                 |                          |     |         | 17.9 kg           |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Normal weight               |                          |     |         | 16.9 kg           |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Overweight                  |                          |     |         | 17.0 kg           |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Obese                       |                          |     |         | 15.2 kg           |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Very obese                  |                          |     |         | 12.7 kg           |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Singletons                  |                          |     |         |                   |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Underweight                 |                          |     |         | 13.5 kg           |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Normal weight               |                          |     |         | 13.8 kg           |
|                                                                    | Overweight                                                              |                             |                          |     | 13.9 kg |                   |
|                                                                    | Obese                                                                   |                             |                          |     | 12.6 kg |                   |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Very obese                  |                          |     |         | 11.0 kg           |
| To 34 wks                                                          |                                                                         |                             |                          |     |         |                   |
| Author, year:<br>Fenton et al., 1994<br><br>Country:<br>Canada     | Total Study N:<br>100                                                   | Birth weight:               |                          |     |         |                   |
|                                                                    | Group Description:<br>Normal weight women<br>(BMI = 19-28), aged 20-35  | > 3 kg                      |                          |     |         | 15.50 kg          |
|                                                                    |                                                                         | Intermediate<br>SGA         |                          |     |         |                   |

continued







| Author (Year)       | Population Characteristics          | Study Criteria                                                               | Weight Gain by Trimester |     |     | Total Weight Gain |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|
|                     |                                     |                                                                              | 1st                      | 2nd | 3rd |                   |
| Triplets            |                                     |                                                                              |                          |     |     |                   |
| Author, year:       | Total Study N:                      | Prepregnancy BMI:                                                            |                          |     |     |                   |
| Eaton et al. (2014) | 23 (8% SOTJ E03(s)g3(r), 3(9)ntroas | 19.8-9u0 -1.844 TD[(A)-3(u)-3(i)-3u0n = 5)                                   |                          |     |     |                   |
| Country:            | Group Description:                  | 5675 257 T200TTJ541C 1 E-3(8)7MC tn k3(a)-3an <</MCID 20173 >>BDC /T921 1 Tf |                          |     |     |                   |
| USA                 | Triplet gestations                  |                                                                              |                          |     |     |                   |

TABLE C-3A Summary of Adjusted and Unadjusted\* Rates of Maternal Weight Gain by Trimesters, by Pregravid BMI Status for Mothers of Twins at Gestational Ages 37-42 Wk, and with Average Twin Birth weight >

TABLE C-3B Summary of Adjusted and Unadjusted\* Cumulative Gain by Trimesters, by Pregravid BMI Status for Mothers of Twins at Gestational Ages 37-42 Wk, and with Average Twin Birth weight > 2,500 g

|                       | 1st Trimester | 2nd Trimester | 3rd Trimester | Total |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| Unadjusted            |               |               |               |       |
| Pregravid BMI < 25    | 1.5           | 2.5           | 3.5           | 7.5   |
| Pregravid BMI 25-29.9 | 2.0           | 3.0           | 4.0           | 9.0   |
| Pregravid BMI ≥ 30    | 2.5           | 3.5           | 4.5           | 10.5  |
| Adjusted              |               |               |               |       |
| Pregravid BMI < 25    | 1.5           | 2.5           | 3.5           | 7.5   |
| Pregravid BMI 25-29.9 | 2.0           | 3.0           | 4.0           | 9.0   |
| Pregravid BMI ≥ 30    | 2.5           | 3.5           | 4.5           | 10.5  |

TABLE C-3D Interquartile Ranges of Cumulative Gain by Trimesters, by Pregravid BMI Status for Mothers of Twins at Gestational Ages 37-42 Weeks, and with Average Twin Birth weight > 2,500 g

| Pregravid BMI                        | Cumulative Weight Gain |          |           |           |              |       |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------|
|                                      | To 13 wks              |          | To 26 wks |           | To 37-42 wks |       |
|                                      | kg/wk                  | lb/wk    | kg/wk     | lb/wk     | kg           | lbs   |
| Normal weight <sup>a</sup> (n = 409) | 1.4-5.4                | 3.0-11.8 | 10.0-16.4 | 22.0-36.0 | 16.8-24.5    | 37-54 |
| Overweight <sup>b</sup> (n = 154)    | 0.3-4.3                | 0.7-9.4  | 7.7-14.1  | 17.0-31.0 | 14.1-22.7    | 31-50 |
| Obese <sup>c</sup> (n = 143)         | 0.9-3.8                | 2.0-8.4  | 4.9-11.4  | 10.7-25.0 | 11.4-19.1    | 25-42 |

NOTES: Results are presented as the 25th-75th percentiles for the rates or cumulative gain over the interval.

<sup>a</sup>BMI = 18.5-24.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>b</sup>BMI = 25.0-29.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>c</sup>BMI = ≥ 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

SOURCE: Historical cohort of twin births delivered at John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, and -3(3(n)-3(a)-a)-3ou-3(i)-3(m)-3(r)-3(i)-3(a)-506mmmwM06mmmm-3(i)-,3(i)- wA-3(-3(i)-n3(i)- )3(wA-3(-3(a)

TABLE C-4 Maternal Weight Gain and Body Composition

| Author<br>(Year)                                         | Population/Study<br>Characteristics                                                                | Study Criteria                 | Body Composition<br>Measurements (FFM,<br>FM, TBW)              |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author,<br/>year:</i><br>Bronstein<br>et al.,<br>1996 | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>33<br><br><i>Group Description:</i><br>Non-pregnant and<br>pregnant women | Pregnant women<br>(n = 16)     | FFM at 31-35 weeks:<br>55.5 kg<br>FM at 31-35 weeks:<br>32.8 kg |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                                   | [BC by densitometry]                                                                               | Non-pregnant<br>women (n = 17) |                                                                 |

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CuDTriCositear:CPteBg(e)-3625 0 FFM,

| Author<br>(Year)                                        | Population/Study<br>Characteristics                                                                                                                                                            | Study Criteria                     | Body Composition<br>Measurements (FFM,<br>FM, TBW)                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author,<br/>year:</i><br>Catalano<br>et al.,<br>1998 | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>16<br><br><i>Group Description:</i><br>Women with normal<br>and abnormal glucose<br>tolerance (Ab GT);<br>Ab GT (n = 6),<br>Controls (n = 10)<br>[BC by densitometry] | Ab GT (n = 6)<br>Controls (n = 10) | Pregavid measurements<br><br><br><i>FFM:</i><br>46.4 kg<br>46.3 kg<br><i>FM:</i><br>12.8 kg<br>10.2 kg<br><br><i>Sum of<br/>7 site<br/>skinfolds:</i><br>88.7 mm<br>74.0 mm |

| Pregravid Weight/<br>Body Comp | Weight Gain/Body Composition by<br>Trimester |     |                  | Total<br>Weight<br>Gain | Postpartum<br>Weight/Body<br>Composition |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                                | 1st                                          | 2nd | 3rd              |                         |                                          |
| 59.2 kg<br>56.5 kg             | 12-14 wks                                    |     | 34-36 wks        |                         |                                          |
|                                | <i>Weight:</i>                               |     | <i>Weight:</i>   |                         |                                          |
|                                | 60.5 kg                                      |     | 71.6 kg          |                         |                                          |
|                                | 59.9 kg                                      |     | 70.0 kg          |                         |                                          |
|                                | <i>FFM:</i>                                  |     | <i>FFM:</i>      |                         |                                          |
|                                | 46.4 kg                                      |     | 53.4 kg          |                         |                                          |
|                                | 46.8 kg                                      |     | 53.6 kg          |                         |                                          |
|                                | <i>FM:</i>                                   |     | <i>FM:</i>       |                         |                                          |
|                                | 14.1 kg                                      |     | 18.2 kg          |                         |                                          |
|                                | 13.2 kg                                      |     | 16.5 kg          |                         |                                          |
|                                | <i>Sum of</i>                                |     | <i>Sum of</i>    |                         |                                          |
|                                | <i>7 site</i>                                |     | <i>7 site</i>    |                         |                                          |
|                                | <i>skinfolds:</i>                            |     | <i>skinfold:</i> |                         |                                          |
|                                | 93.5 mm                                      |     | 108.9 mm         |                         |                                          |
|                                | 89.0 mm                                      |     | 109.8mm          |                         |                                          |
| 56.2 kg<br>67.6 kg<br>69.7 kg  |                                              |     |                  | 12.3 kg                 | <i>FM gain</i><br>4.7 kg                 |
|                                |                                              |     |                  | 13.0 kg                 | 4.2 kg                                   |
|                                |                                              |     |                  | 12.0 kg                 | 3.2 kg                                   |
| 66.3 kg                        |                                              |     |                  | 13.7 kg                 | 4.8 kg                                   |
| 0 ko fat                       | 32 wks:                                      |     |                  | 2 wks pp:               |                                          |
|                                |                                              |     |                  |                         |                                          |



| Author<br>(Year)                                                 | Population/Study<br>Characteristics                                                                         | Study Criteria | Body Composition<br>Measurements (FFM,<br>FM, TBW) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author,<br/>year:</i><br>Kopp-<br>Hoolihan<br>et al.,<br>1999 | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>9<br><br><i>Group Description:</i><br>Healthy, non-smokers<br>planning a pregnancy |                |                                                    |
| <i>Country:</i><br>USA                                           |                                                                                                             |                |                                                    |

| Pregravid Weight/<br>Body Comp | Weight Gain/Body Composition by<br>Trimester |           |           | Total<br>Weight<br>Gain | Postpartum<br>Weight/Body<br>Composition |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                                | 1st                                          | 2nd       | 3rd       |                         |                                          |
|                                | 8-10 wks                                     | 24-26 wks | 34-36 wks |                         | 4-6 wks                                  |
| 64.7 kg                        | 64.9 kg                                      | 72.1 kg   | 75.9 kg   |                         | 68.0 kg                                  |
| 33.5 kg                        | 33.9 kg                                      | 36.5 kg   | 39.1 kg   |                         | 33.8 kg                                  |
| 0.72                           | 0.73                                         | 0.74      | 0.74      |                         | 0.72                                     |
| 2525 g                         | —                                            | —         | —         |                         | 2463 g                                   |
| 46.3 kg                        | 46.7 kg                                      | 49.7 kg   | 52.8 kg   |                         | 46.7 kg                                  |
| 20.2 kg                        | 20.3 kg                                      | 24.4 kg   | 24.3 kg   |                         | 22.0 kg                                  |
| —                              | 0.19 kg                                      | 7.23 kg   | 3.76 kg   | 11.2 kg                 | —                                        |
| —                              | 0.10 kg                                      | 4.10 kg   | -0.10 kg  | 4.20 kg                 | —                                        |
| —                              | 53.00                                        | 57.00     | -3.00     | —                       | —                                        |

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| Author<br>(Year) | Population/Study<br>Characteristics | Study Criteria | Body Composition<br>Measurements (FFM,<br>FM, TBW) |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|

*Author,  
year:*

| Pregravid Weight/<br>Body Comp | Weight Gain/Body Composition by<br>Trimester |     |     | Total<br>Weight<br>Gain | Postpartum<br>Weight/Body<br>Composition |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                                | 1st                                          | 2nd | 3rd |                         |                                          |
|                                | 1212                                         |     |     |                         |                                          |

TABLE C-5 Mean Weights and Percentiles for Placentas (singletons, twins, and triplets)

| Gestational<br>age (weeks) | 90th Percentile |       |          | Mean Placental Weight |       |          | 10th Percentile |       |          | Cases (n)  |       |          |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------|-----------------------|-------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|------------|-------|----------|
|                            | Singletons      | Twins | Triplets | Singletons            | Twins | Triplets | Singletons      | Twins | Triplets | Singletons | Twins | Triplets |
| 19                         | —               | 263   | —        | —                     | 212   | —        | —               | 161   | —        | —          | 2     | —        |
| 20                         | —               | 270   | 285      | —                     | 218   | 253      | —               | 166   | 226      | —          | 3     | 3        |
| 21                         | 172             | 286   | 320      | 143                   | 231   | 284      | 114             | 176   | 257      | 3          | 2     | 2        |
| 22                         | 191             | 310   | 345      | 157                   | 251   | 319      | 122             | 191   | 289      | 6          | 5     | 2        |
| 23                         | 211             | 343   | 400      | 172                   | 276   | 361      | 133             | 210   | 331      | 7          | 2     | 3        |
| 24                         | 233             | 382   | 445      | 189                   | 307   | 406      | 145             | 232   | 371      | 9          | 3     | 5        |
| 25                         | 256             | 426   | 498      | 208                   | 341   | 456      | 159             | 257   | 408      | 19         | 5     | 6        |
| 26                         | 280             | 475   | 558      | 227                   | 380   | 509      | 175             | 284   | 444      | 14         | 4     | 6        |
| 27                         | 305             | 528   | 630      | 248                   | 421   | 564      | 192             | 314   | 480      | 9          | 8     | 4        |
| 28                         | 331             | 584   | 697      | 270                   | 464   | 621      | 210             | 345   | 516      | 16         | 7     | 5        |
| 29                         | 357             | 641   | 772      | 293                   | 509   | 679      | 229             | 377   | 553      | 11         | 12    | 6        |
| 30                         | 384             | 700   | 849      | 316                   | 554   | 738      | 249             | 409   | 591      | 12         | 17    | 10       |
| 31                         | 411             | 758   | 925      | 340                   | 600   | 797      | 269             | 441   | 631      | 14         | 13    | 15       |
| 32                         | 438             | 815   | 1,000    | 364                   | 644   | 855      | 290             | 472   | 674      | 24         | 29    | 7        |
| 33                         | 464             | 870   | 1,072    | 387                   | 687   | 911      | 311             | 503   | 719      | 30         | 27    | 14       |
| 34                         | 491             | 923   | 1,139    | 411                   | 727   | 965      | 331             | 531   | 768      | 32         | 53    | 43       |
| 35                         | 516             | 971   | 1,200    | 434                   | 764   | 1,017    | 352             | 558   | 821      | 44         | 52    | 33       |
| 36                         | 542             | 1,014 | —        | —                     | —     | —        | —               | —     | —        | —          | —     | —        |

TABLE C-6 DNA, Glycogen, and Lipid Content in Placentas from Normal and Diabetic Human Pregnancies

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*APPENDIX C*



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## appendix D

### Summary of Determinants of Gestational Weight Gain

Table D-1 summarizes the literature that is referenced and discussed in Chapter 4, *Determinants of Gestational Weight Gain*.

TABLE D-1 Summary of Literature on Determinants of Gestational Weight Gain

| Determinants                  | Findings/Interpretations                                                                                                                             | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | References                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Societal/Institutional</i> |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Media                         | The committee was unable to identify studies that examined specifically the media's influence on gestational weight gain.                            | Media may exert its effects on gestational weight gain indirectly by influencing pre-pregnancy BMI and other biological determinants, as well as eating habits and sedentary behaviors that are established well before pregnancy.                                                          | Gortmaker et al., 1996<br>Gortmaker et al., 1999<br>Robinson, 1999<br>Kunkel, 2001<br>Hastings et al., 2003<br>Epstein et al., 2008                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Culture and Acculturation     | The committee was unable to identify studies that examined specifically the effects of culture and acculturation factors on gestational weight gain. | Cultural norms and beliefs can influence dietary behavior and physical activities, thereby affecting energy balance and gestational weight gain. Acculturation is generally associated with more unhealthy behaviors, including dietary intake, and higher rates of overweight and obesity. | Ventura and Taffel, 1985<br>Scribner and Dwyer, 1989<br>Cabral et al., 1990<br>Kleinman et al., 1991<br>Rumbaut and Weeks, 1996<br>Singh and Yu, 1996<br>Fuentes-Afflick and Lurie, 1997<br>Schaffer et al., 1998<br>Jones and Bond, 1999<br>King, 2000<br>Callister and Birkhead, 2002<br>Lizarzaburu and Palinkas, 2002<br>Hubert et al., 2005<br>Baker and Hellerstedt, 2006<br>Hernandez-Valero et al., 2007<br>Fuentes-Afflick and Hessel, 2008 |

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Health Services | <p>The committee found insufficient evidence to evaluate the influence of prenatal weight gain advice on actual gestational weight gain.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>Studies limited by self-selection bias, recall bias, differences in time during gestation when nutrition advice was given, variation in content and frequency of advice, the pairing of advice with other food or nonfood interventions, individual and social characteristics of the provider as contrasted with those of the pregnant woman, and racial-ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in weight gain advice given to women.</p> <p>The impact of the IOM guidelines on actual gestational weight gain may be limited in</p> | <p>Rush, 1981<br/>Orstead et al., 1985<br/>Olds et al., 1986<br/>Bruce and Tchabo, 1989<br/>Brown et al., 1992<br/>Morris et al., 1993<br/>Hickey, 2000</p> |
| Policy          | <p>Examples include IOM guidelines, WIC programs, and policy recommendations to restrict food/beverage marketing to young children. IOM guidelines appear to influence what women believe to be appropriate weight gain during pregnancy. A national evaluation of WIC programs found a reversal of low weight gain in early pregnancy and greater total weight gain during pregnancy among women who enrolled in WIC compared with controls.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                             |

| Determinants                         | Findings/Interpretations                                                                                                                                  | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | References                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Environmental<br>Toxicants           | The committee was unable to identify studies that examined specifically the effects of exposures to environmental toxicants on gestational weight gain.   | More research is needed on the relationships among environmental toxicants, gestational weight gain, and fetal growth.                                                                                                                                                                              | Dar et al., 1992<br>Wolff et al., 2007                                                                                                   |
| Natural and<br>Man-made<br>Disasters | The committee was unable to identify studies that examined specifically the effects of natural or man-made disasters on gestational weight gain.          | Disasters can affect gestational weight gain by influencing resource availability (including food supply), healthcare access, and stress levels.                                                                                                                                                    | Weissman et al., 1989<br>Cordero, 1993<br>Glynn et al., 2001<br>Lederman et al., 2004<br>Eskenazi et al., 2007<br>Landrigan et al., 2008 |
| <i>Neighborhood/Community</i>        |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                          |
| Access to<br>Healthy Foods           | The committee found no direct evidence for the influence of neighborhood or community factors such as access to healthy foods on gestational weight gain. | Laraia et al. found pregnant women who live more than four miles from a supermarket had a two-fold greater risk of falling into the lowest Diet Quality Index quartile compared to women who lived ≤ 2 miles from a supermarket, b( )-3( )-7(w)-3deruc93T-3(t)-3( )-31(d3(n)-3(d)-t8 )-31(w)-3(o)-3 |                                                                                                                                          |







|                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Sociodemographic Factors:</i><br>Older Women     | Several studies reported higher prepregnancy BMI and lower gestational weight gain among older women.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | The contributions of gestational weight gain to birth outcomes, postpartum weight retention and subsequent overweight/obesity among older women remain unclear and require further research. | Gross et al., 1980<br>Endres et al., 1987<br>Cnattingius et al., 1992<br>Prysak et al., 1995<br>Fretts, 2005<br>Joseph et al., 2005<br>Reddy et al., 2006<br>Delpisheh et al., 2008 |
| <i>Sociodemographic Factors:</i><br>Race/Ethnicity  | The committee found that few of the studies reviewed considered the influence of the many possible determinants of gestational weight gain among different racial/ethnic groups or alternatively, adjusted for race/ethnicity in their analyses.                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <i>Sociodemographic Factors:</i><br>Food Insecurity | Several studies have reported that food insecurity is associated with increased gestational weight gain, but the results are inconsistent. The committee found that few of the studies reviewed considered the influence of food insecurity on gestational weight gain, and none adjusted for food insecurity in their analyses. |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                     |



|                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Medical Factors:</i><br>Anorexia Nervosa<br>and Bulimia | Sollid et al. (2004) found increased preterm delivery & SGA among women with eating disorders but did not obtain information on gestational weight gain. Kouba et al. (2005) found anorexic women gained less weight and had lower birth weight infants.                                                                                                 | Sollid et al., 2004<br>Kouba et al., 2005<br>Wisner et al., 2007<br>Bulik et al., 2008                                                                           |
| <i>Medical Factors:</i><br>Bariatric Surgery               | Three studies reported a decrease in gestational weight gain during a subsequent pregnancy in women who had bariatric surgery.<br><br>Incidence of gestational diabetes and hypertensive disorders is lower in pregnancy following bariatric surgery; The effect of bariatric surgery on the risk of fetal macrosomia and birth weight are inconclusive. | Gurewitsch et al., 1996<br>Marceau et al., 2004<br>Skull et al., 2004<br>Dixon et al., 2005<br>Santry et al., 2005<br>Davis et al., 2006<br>Ducarme et al., 2007 |
| <i>Psychological Factors:</i><br>Depression                | The committee found that evidence in support of a relationship between depressive symptoms and gestational weight gain is inconclusive.<br><br>Studies limited by lack of generalizability and control for confounding. Difficult to establish cause-effect from cross-sectional studies.                                                                | Cameron et al., 1996<br>Casaneuva et al., 2000<br>Abraham et al., 2001<br>Walker and Kim, 2002<br>Dipietro et al., 2003<br>Bodnar et al., 2009                   |
| <i>Psychological Factors:</i><br>Stress                    | The committee found no robust association between stress and gestational weight gain.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Picone et al., 1982<br>Orr et al., 1996<br>Rondo et al., 2003<br>Brawarksy et al., 2005<br>Dominguez et al., 2005                                                |
| <i>Psychological Factors:</i>                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                  |





TABLE D-1 Continued

| Determinants                                               | Findings/Interpretations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | References                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Energy Balance</i>                                      | The committee found that there remains a dearth of information to relate dietary intake or physical activity to gestational weight gain even though they are primary determinants of weight gain in non-pregnant individuals.                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                         |
| <i>Vulnerable Populations:</i><br>Seasonal Migrant Workers | Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System (PNSS) found that migrant women had lower gestational weight gain than non-migrant women; however, the prevalence for adverse birth outcomes (low birth weight, very low birth weight, preterm birth, and small for gestational age) was similar for both groups. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Reed et al., 2005                                                                       |
| <i>Vulnerable Populations:</i><br>Military                 | The committee was unable to identify studies that specifically examined gestational weight gain among women in military service.                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Magann and Nolan, 1991<br>O'Boyle et al., 2005<br>Haas and Pazdernik, 2006              |
| <i>Vulnerable Populations:</i><br>Incarcerated Women       | The committee was unable to identify studies that specifically examined gestational weight gain among women who are incarcerated.                                                                                                                                                                         | Several studies suggest that birth outcomes of incarcerated pregnant women may be better, suggesting certain aspects of the prison environment, such as shelters and regular meals, may be protective particularly for high-risk pregnant women. | Safyer and Richmond, 1995<br>Martin et al., 1997a<br>Martin et al., 1997b<br>Bell, 2004 |

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## appendix E

### Results from the Evidence-Based Report\* on Outcomes of Maternal Weight Gain

The purpose of this systematic evidence-based review, requested by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and conducted by the RTI International—University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Evidence-based Practice Center (RTI-UNC EPC), was to review the evidence on outcomes of gestational weight gain with specific attention to five key questions:

- KQ 1. What is the evidence that either total weight gain or rate of weight gain during pregnancy is associated with (1) birth outcomes, (2) infant health outcomes, and (3) maternal health outcomes? Does any evidence suggest that either total weight gain or rate of weight gain is a causal factor in infant or maternal health outcomes?
- KQ 2. What are the confounders and effect modifiers for the association between gestational weight gain (overall and patterns) and birth outcomes? Based on the findings in KQ 1, do these confounders and effect modifiers themselves contribute to antepartum or postpartum complications or to longer-term maternal and fetal complications, including development of adult obesity?
- KQ 3. What is the evidence that weight gains above or below thresholds defined in the 1990 IOM body mass index (BMI) guide-

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\* Appendixes and evidence tables cited in this report are provided electronically at <http://www.ahrq.gov/downloads/pub/evidence/pdf/admaternal/admaternalapp.pdf>.

lines or weight loss in pregnancy contribute to antepartum or postpartum complications or longer-term maternal and fetal complications? How do these relationships vary by sociodemographic characteristics (i.e., race and age)?

- KQ 4. What are the harms or benefits of offering the same weight gain recommendations to all pregnant women, irrespective of age and body weight considerations (e.g., pregravid weight, actual body weight at a particular time point, or optimal body weight)?
- KQ 5. What are the anthropometric tools for determining adiposity and their appropriateness for the pregnancy state? What are the risks and benefits of measuring adiposity for (1) clinical management of weight gain during pregnancy and (2) evaluation of the relationship between weight gain and outcomes of pregnancy?

The review focused on screening studies from 1990 to October 2007 that were published in English, and excluded studies with low sample size (case series < 100 and cohorts < 40) or failure to control for pregravid weight. In total, 150 studies were systematically reviewed and each was rated on quality and used to assess the strength of evidence for each outcome. The report, including appendices and evidence tables, can be accessed and viewed in its entirety at <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/tp/admattp.htm>. Literature published outside of the scope of the report (prior to 1990 and after October 2007) are reviewed in Appendix C of this report. The methods and results and of the evidence review (Chapter 3 of the report) are provided below.

## CHAPTER 2: METHODS

In this chapter, we document the procedures that the RTI International-University of North Carolina Evidence-based Practice Center (RTI-UNC EPC) used to develop this comprehensive evidence report on outcomes of maternal weight gain. The team was led by a senior health services researcher (Meera Viswanathan, PhD, Study Director), a senior epidemiologist (Anna Maria Siega-Riz, PhD, RD, Scientific Director), and a senior nurse-researcher (Merry-K Moos, FNP, MPH, co-Scientific Director).

We first describe our strategy for identifying articles relevant to our five key questions (KQs), our inclusion and exclusion criteria, and the process we used to abstract relevant information from the eligible articles and generate our evidence tables. We also discuss our criteria for grading the quality of individual articles and for rating the strength of the evidence as a whole. Finally, we explain the peer-review process.

## Literature Review Methods

### *Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria*

Our inclusion and exclusion criteria are documented in Table 1. As noted in Chapter 1, this systematic review focuses on outcomes of maternal weight gain with respect to the 1990 recommendations from the Institute of Medicine (IOM). Largely for that reason, we limited our searches to articles published in 1990 and thereafter. We also restricted our searches

for randomized controlled trials (RCTs) or nonrandomized cohorts with comparisons or fewer than 100 subjects for case series; and (4) were not original studies.

For KQ 1, 2, 3, and 4, we required that the reported association between maternal weight gain and health outcomes accounted for prepregnancy body mass index (BMI) or weight, either through stratified univariate analysis or multivariate analysis.

### *Literature Search and Retrieval Process*

**Databases** We used multifaceted search strategies to include current and valid research on the KQs, which we applied to four standard electronic databases—MEDLINE®, Cochrane Collaboration resources, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), and Embase. We also hand-searched the reference lists of relevant articles to make sure that we did not miss any relevant studies. We consulted with our Technical Expert Panel (TEP) about any studies or trials that are currently under way or that may not yet be published.

**Search terms.** Based on the inclusion/exclusion criteria above, we generated a list of Medical Subject Heading (MeSH) search terms aa c t23(e0 >>BD

*APPPP*





of the first author. A list of abbreviations and acronyms used in the tables appears at the beginning of that appendix.

### *Quality Rating of Individual Studies*

The evidence for this systematic review is based almost entirely on observational studies. This fact presents a challenge for rating individual studies. Quality rating forms for RCTs have been validated and in use for several years; a similarly well-validated form for observational studies does not exist.

Thus, as a parallel effort, we developed a form to rate observational studies.<sup>35</sup> This form, which can be used to rate the quality of a variety of observational studies, was based on a review of more than 90 AHRQ systematic reviews that included observational studies; we supplemented this review with other key articles identifying domains and scales.<sup>36,37</sup> We structured the resultant form largely on the basis of the domains and subdomains suggested by Deeks and colleagues;<sup>36</sup> we then adapted it for use in this systematic review (Appendix B\*).

The form currently includes review of nine key domains: background, sample selection, specification of exposure, specification of outcome, soundness of information, followup, analysis comparability, analysis of outcome, and interpretation. Each of these domains was further evaluated on aspects of quality of the study design or reporting that would influence the reader's perception of internal validity of the journal article (Table 3). We note that variations in reporting could result in different scores for studies drawing from the same sample.

As described in Table 3, we combined these elements to generate overall scores. We set the default as fair and then focused on the threshold required for good and poor studies; the algorithm is also described in Table 3. Fair studies, therefore, include studies that were predominantly fair (four to nine fair ratings on domains) and could not be rated either good (fewer than five good ratings for subdomains) or poor (fewer than three poor ratings for subdomains). Studies with more than five good ratings for domains that also received one or two poor ratings were downgraded to fair quality.

Key methodological concerns in this literature relate to the source of information on weight gain and the timing of measurement of weight gain. Studies that relied solely on self-reported pregravid and final pregnancy weights suffer from well-documented issues of recall bias. In addition, women tend to misreport their weight, and this bias varies by weight status<sup>38</sup> and ethnicity.<sup>39</sup> The timing of weight measurement (for pregravid weight and final weight) can vary depending on the design of the study; when unreported, the total weight gain during pregnancy cannot be assumed to be collected at similar time points for all women within the study,

TABLE 3. Scoring Algorithm for Subdomains and Overall Quality Rating for Individual Studies

| Definition and Scoring Algorithm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Rating |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Score algorithm for background (presented in the context of previous research, hypothesis clearly described)                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| • Both elements present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Good   |
| • Neither present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Poor   |
| • One of two elements present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Fair   |
| Score algorithm for sample definition (explicitly stated inclusion/exclusion criteria, uniform application of criteria, clear description of recruitment strategy, clear description of characteristics of the participants, power analysis or some other basis noted for determining the adequacy of study sample size) |        |
| • > Three elements present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Good   |
| • < Two elements present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Poor   |
| • Two or three elements present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Fair   |
| Score algorithm for exposure (clear definition of weight gain, check for plausibility of pregravid weight, clear explanation of actions taken on outliers)                                                                                                                                                               |        |
| • All three elements present or clearly defined                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Good   |
| • Poor definition of weight gain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Poor   |
| • Moderate or very clear definition of weight gain, one or more other elements present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Fair   |
| Score algorithm for outcome (clear description of primary outcomes)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |        |
| • All essential details described                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Good   |
| • Few or no essential details described                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Poor   |
| • Some essential details described                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Fair   |
| Score algorithm for soundness of information (quality of source of information on exposure, confounders, and outcome)                                                                                                                                                                                                    |        |
| • Good for all three                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |        |
| • Poor on source of information for exposure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| •                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |        |

resulting in further bias. Our rating algorithm, therefore, paid special attention to the source of data on gestational weight gain and the timing of measurement. Studies that relied solely on recalled prepregnancy and total pregnancy weight were rated poor on that domain, but if they defined their gestational weight variable clearly (providing details on the timing of measurement for pregravid and final weight measurements) and either checked for the biological plausibility of pregravid weight status or explained how outliers were dealt with, they could receive an overall fair rating (assuming that they received fewer than three poor ratings overall).

### *Strength of Available Evidence*

Our scheme follows the criteria applied in an earlier RTI-UNC EPC systematic review of systems for rating the strength of a body of evidence.<sup>40</sup> That system has three domains: quality of the research (as evaluated by the quality rating algorithm described above), quantity of studies (including number of studies and adequacy of the sample size), and consistency of findings. Two senior staff members assigned grades by consensus.

We graded the body of literature for each KQ and present those ratings as part of the discussion in Chapter 4. The possible grades in our scheme are as follows:

I. Strong: The evidence is from studies of sound design (good quality); results are both clinically important and consistent with minor exceptions at most; results are free from serious doubts about generalizability, bias, or

flaws in research design. Studies with negative results have sufficiently large samples to have adequate statistical power.

II. Moderate: The evidence is from studies of sound design (good quality), but some uncertainty remains because of inconsistencies or concern about generalizability, bias, research design flaws, or adequate sample size. Alternatively, the evidence is consistent but derives from studies of weaker design (fair quality).

III. Weak: The evidence is from a limited number of studies of weaker design (fair or poor quality). Studies with strong design (good quality) either have not been done or are inconclusive.

IV. No evidence: No published literature.

### External Peer Review

As is customary for all evidence reports and systematic reviews done for AHRQ, the RTI-UNC EPC requested review of this report from a wide array of individual outside experts in the field, including our TEP, and from relevant professional societies and public organizations. AHRQ also requested review from its own staff. sal. 3(i)-3(e(n)-3(d)-c)-3(u)-3(s)-3(t)-3(o)-3(

Appendix C provides the detailed evidence tables for KQs 1, 3, and 5. Our summary tables below feature groups of studies addressing each outcome; we present these text tables only when we have three or more studies pertaining to that particular outcome. These tables are organized by quality (good, then fair, then poor), and then alphabetically.

The summary tables generally provide information to identify the study

and heartburn in gestation,<sup>45</sup> and some increased risk of stretch marks with increased weight gain.<sup>43,44</sup>

*Detailed results* A prospective cohort study in Sweden examined symptoms across pregnancy and attempted to document the prevalence and frequency of 27 pregnancy symptoms while controlling for biomedical factors.<sup>41</sup> A cohort of 476 nulliparous women was assessed six times during gestation (gestational ages of 10, 12, 20, 28, 32, and 36 weeks). The investigators sought to determine the prevalence of various symptoms in pregnancy and to explore whether psychosocial variables are explanatory while controlling for possible confounding variables such as medical risk, smoking, and weight gain. Pregravid BMIs were calculated from self-reported weight information and women were weighed when they ar-

marks ( $P < .05$ ) but the analysis did not account for any confounders or effect modifiers. The other study reported on a cross-sectional sample of 324 primiparous women who were assessed within 48 hours of giving birth in Great Britain.<sup>44</sup> Logistic regression analysis found maternal age, BMI, weight gain, and neonatal birthweight to be independently associated with striae. Weight gain was a weakly significant risk factor (OR, 1.08; 95% CI, 1.02-1.14).

## Hyperemesis

*Study characteristics* A retrospective cohort study compared the experiences of 1,270 women who had an antepartum admission before 24 weeks of gestation for hyperemesis with those of 154,821 women who experienced no antepartum admission related to vomiting (Evidence Table 2).<sup>47</sup> Baseline weight and weight gain were abstracted from the Nova Scotia Atlee Perinatal Database, but the authors did not explain how the weights entered into the database were assessed.

### *Overview of results*







| Author, Year                                       | Country, Setting                        | Sample Size   | Baseline BMI            | Quality  | Pregravid Weight (How Measured)              | Total Weight Gain (How Measured)                            | Definition of Groups                                                                     | Results                                                                                              | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                        |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Murakami et al., 2005 <sup>52</sup>                | Japan                                   | hospital data | 633                     | All BMIs | Pregravid weight: Self-report on first visit | Total weight gain: Measured on admission for birth          | G1: < 8.5 kg gain<br>G2: 8.5-12.5 kg gain<br>G3: > 12.5 kg gain                          | AOR (95% CI) gestational diabetes<br>G1: 5.14 (0.97-27.20)<br>G2: Reference<br>G3: 3.91 (0.61-24.73) | Maternal age, parity, smoking, weight gain, gestational weeks; pregravid BMI |
| Fair                                               | Thorsdottir, et al., 2002 <sup>53</sup> | Iceland       | University Hospital     | 615      | Pregravid weight: Self-report                | Total weight gain: Maternity records (no specifics offered) | G1: < 11.5 kg gain<br>G2: 11.5-16.0 kg gain<br>G3: 16.1-20.0 kg gain<br>G4: > 20 kg gain | Incidence gestational diabetes<br>G1: 2.9%<br>G2: 0<br>G3: 0<br>G4: 0<br>( <i>P</i> = .015)          | Age, parity, height, gestational age                                         |
| Bianco, et al., 1998 <sup>54</sup>                 | US                                      | New York      | Medical Center Database | 11,840   |                                              |                                                             |                                                                                          |                                                                                                      |                                                                              |
| Nonobese (BMI 19-27) and Morbidly obese (BMI > 35) |                                         |               |                         |          |                                              |                                                             |                                                                                          |                                                                                                      |                                                                              |

Self8103(d)-3(0)-3(y)-3(-)-3(c)-3(t)TJEMC /Span <</MCID 24776 >>BDC 0 -1.875 TD[(T)95(o)-3(0)-3(a)-381a] Cght gain: Mate8123(d)-3(0)-3(y)-3(-)-3C >>BDC 0m24776 >>Bu(b)-3(a)-3(s)-TJEMC /SpfC 0 -1.8DC 0m/Span <<(-)-30(Y)1 oe as1un <</MCID 2477TJ



tolerance test (GTT). Abnormalities in the GTT results are considered diagnostic of GDM. The set point for determining if the glucose challenge test is abnormal is not universally agreed upon. Therefore, more women in one setting may be tested for disease than in another setting, not because of an increased prevalence of disease but because of differing definitions of abnormal. In addition, impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) is not clearly defined. Women with an abnormal glucose challenge test who subsequently have a normal GTT are sometimes identified as having IGT; more commonly, women who have one abnormal value in their GTT are designated as having IGT. The lack of standardization in the criteria necessary to be considered to have IGT and GDM hampers the body of research exploring the relationship between weight gain and abnormal glucose tolerance in pregnancy. Further hampering understanding of the relationship is that GDM is generally diagnosed around 28 weeks of gestation and is treated, in part, by dietary counseling and efforts to control weight gain. Similar attention is not directed toward women without this diagnosis. Therefore, using total weight gain as a predictor of disease or as a comparison point to a population without the diagnosis is likely to result in methodologically flawed conclusions.

*Overview of results* Four studies (1 good,<sup>32</sup> fair,<sup>55,56</sup> 1 poor<sup>51</sup>) found that greater weight gains in pregnancy were positively associated with abnormal glucose tolerance. Three studies (1 good quality,<sup>48</sup> 1 fair,<sup>53</sup> 1 poor<sup>49</sup>) found that women having lower than average weight gains had higher likelihood of GDM. Finally, four studies (2 poor,<sup>50,54</sup> 1 fair<sup>52,53,57</sup>) found no significant association.

*Detailed results* Whether total weight gain or the 3(a)-3(l)-3( 137)-3(c)--3( 137)-

range of weight gain included in the reference category was large (14-28 pounds) especially given that nearly 50 percent of the sample entered into the reported pregnancies with BMIs > 26.0.

Overall, family history of diabetes,<sup>50,56</sup> maternal age,<sup>3,50,56</sup> parity,<sup>50</sup> and BMI

TABLE 5. Gestational Weight Gain and Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension

|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |                      |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |                      |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |                      |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    | Definition of Groups |





|                  |                                                                              |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author, Year     |                                                                              |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight                                                             |
| Sample Size      |                                                                              |
| Baseline BMI     |                                                                              |
| Quality          | SEf3-5(l)-6Rc                                                                |
|                  | Blfc >>(e)-3(u)-3(d3-5(l)-6R )-31(W)71(n)-3(e)-3((W)71(A)-3(e)-3((M)-ti)-3(y |
|                  | BFBMetrPregravid Wwgght                                                      |
|                  | Cetlf3-5(-)-3(e)-3(g)-3(p)-3(r)108r CC(e)-3(d)-35531(M)-titywgght            |
|                  | W2t /5P2[(W)-(2)C 19.07t1 EM( 0303()).3(-]0f-l)23(-]6f-l)-3(t(B)-J(MMC /Sp   |



|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    |

---

| Results                                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OR (95% CI) gestational HTN<br>G1: 1<br>G2: 2.1 (0.8-5.7)<br>G3: 3.6 (1.3-9.8)<br>G4: 4.8 (1.7-13.1)<br>( <i>P</i> = 0.001)                                              | Results of 2 hour OGTT, age, pregravid BMI, gestational age, parity, smoking, ethnicity, and site of prenatal care |
| Incidence preeclampsia<br>G1: 1.9%<br>G2: 3.2%<br>G3: 1.6%<br>( <i>P</i> = .203)<br><br>G4: 2.8%<br>G5: 3.7%<br>G6: 3.7%<br>( <i>P</i> = .002)                           | Pregravid weight                                                                                                   |
| No clear trends for preeclampsia or severe preeclampsia by pregravid weight status and kg/week weight gains. AOR generally crossed 1.0 or had wide confidence intervals. |                                                                                                                    |

using < 5 kg as the reference weight gain, found a statistically significant trend for development of pregnancy-associated hypertension with increasing weight (*P* = 0.0001).<sup>59</sup>

Although these women were more likely to experience obstetrical complications than a control population (BMIs 19-27), gestational weight gain did not affect the complication rate.

One other study did not support the association between weight gain and pregnancy-induced hypertension.<sup>52</sup> In this study, 633 Japanese women who gave birth to a singleton infant at 24-42 weeks of gestational age were studied. Pregravid BMI categories were those defined by the IOM. At the time of the study (2005) the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology did not have a recent guideline for weight gain during pregnancy; as a result, researchers used the frequency distributions from their population to set quartiles regarding weight gain and then set the parameters for insufficient and excessive gains accordingly. In this study, insufficient gain was defined as less than 8.5 kg and excessive gain as 12.5 kg. Finding no significant influence on weight gain and various perinatal outcomes of the mother or infant, the research team used other cut-off points and was still unable to find an appropriate criterion for predicting risk. The authors stated that their sample size was not sufficient to prove a lack of significance. Of note, the mean pregravid BMI of the sample was  $20.9 \pm 2.8$  and the mean weight gain was  $10.5 \text{ kg} \pm 3.4$ . While this study was assessed to be of fair quality, it has little, if any, generalizability to the United States because our population of childbearing women is more racially and ethnically diverse and have a higher mean BMI.

## Gallstones

*Study characteristics* Two studies reported on the relationship between weight gain in pregnancy and cholelithiasis (gallstones)<sup>62,63</sup> (Evidence Table 5).

*Overview of results* Two studies (1 poor<sup>62</sup> and 1 fair<sup>63</sup>) suggest a potential relationship between weight gain and cholelithiasis.

*Detailed results* One study reported on weight and the development of gallstones in a prospective study of 128 northern plains Native American and white women in 2004.<sup>63</sup> Nine independent variables including BMI, prenatal weight gain, prenatal physical activity, dietary fat, iron supplementation, age, parity, history of gallbladder disease, and serum cholesterol were analyzed. Weight assessments during pregnancy were carefully collected; how pregravid weights were determined is not specifically stated. Gestational weight gain had a nonsignificant, partial correlation of 0.09 and a beta coefficient of 0.13. A case-control study (rated poor quality), using data abstracted from birth certificates, reported on 6,(v)-3tn womed fr09

were randomly selected for each case and matched for year of delivery. Multiple logistic regression found an inverse relationship between gestational weight gain and gallbladder disease. The OR per kg was. 0.98 (95% CI, 0.97-0.99;  $P = < 0.001$ ). Maternal age, race, BMI based on self-reported pregravid weight, GDM, and infant gestational age were accounted for in the analysis.

### *Maternal Intrapartum Outcomes*

#### **Premature rupture of membranes (PROM)**

*Study characteristics* Investigators explored the relationship of gestational weight gain and the risks for premature rupture of membranes (PROM) in two studies (Evidence Table 6).<sup>64,65</sup> One involved a total of 1,176 women who had experienced preterm delivery, defined as gestation  $\leq 36$  weeks, with PROM ( $n = 220$ ), preterm delivery without PROM ( $n = 184$ ), full-term delivery with PROM, defined as gestation  $\geq 37$  weeks, with at least 3 hours of PROM before the onset of labor, ( $n = 184$ ), and 588 controls. Women were recruited following delivery at two academic medical centers in the United States.<sup>64</sup> In another study,<sup>65</sup> the investigators analyzed data for 62,167 women enrolled in the Danish National Birth Cohort who had pregravid weight and total weight gain recorded in the registry. They assessed the impact of obesity and gestational weight gain on the risk of various subtypes of preterm birth, including PROM. Pregravid weight and gestational gains were self-reported.

*Overview of results* Two fair studies<sup>64,65</sup> suggest that low weight

weight and total weight gain, were assessed through a questionnaire administered to most of the subjects within 72 hours of giving birth.

*Results for rate of weight gain* In the Danish cohort study, women with a weekly weight gain of less than 275 grams per week had an adjusted hazards ratio for PROM of 1.5 (95% CI, 1.2-1.7) compared with women gaining between 276 grams and 675 grams weekly. When compared with women with BMIs of 18.5 to 24.9, those with either low (< 18.5) or high (> 30) BMIs had significantly higher rates of preterm delivery with PROM. The authors adjusted for prepregnancy BMI, weight gain, parity, mother's age, socio-occupational status, and lifestyle exposures in early pregnancy including smoking and alcohol exposure.<sup>65</sup>

### Preterm labor

*Study characteristics* One poor study (Evidence Table 7) examined the relationship between gestational weight gain and preterm labor.<sup>66</sup> Preterm labor was not defined. This study, set in the United States, examined data from 11,505 women at the Boston Hospital for Women. The study defined gestational weight gain as pounds gained per week ( $\leq 0.4$ , 0.41 to 0.65, 0.66 to 0.9, and  $> 0.9$ ).

*Overview of results* One poor study suggested that weight gain below 0.65 to 0.9 pounds per week significantly increased the risk of preterm labor.<sup>66</sup>

### Results

**Results** The author examined the effects of low (< 8 kg) and high weight gain (> 16 kg), compared with the effect of average weight gain (8-16 kg), on deliveries at > 41 weeks of gestation across strata of maternal pregravid BMI strata. After adjusting estimates for maternal age, parity, smoking in early pregnancy, and year of birth, no significant associations emerged between gestational weight gain and postterm gestational age. The study suggests that low or high gestational weight gain has no effect on postterm gestation.

### Induction of labor

**Study characteristics** Five studies examined the relationship between gestational weight gain and labor induction (Table 6, Evidence Table 9). Of these, three were set in the United States,<sup>25,51,67</sup> one in Denmark,<sup>59</sup> and one in Finland.<sup>68</sup> Of these five studies, three were of poor quality.<sup>51,59,68</sup> Three examined induction of labor<sup>59,67,68</sup> and two examined failed induction of labor (defined as a birth that required a cesarean delivery despite induction of labor).<sup>25,51</sup> One of five studies was limited to obese, glucose-tolerant women,<sup>67</sup> and one to women of normal weight;<sup>25</sup> the other studies included women with a range of pregravid BMI. Each of the five studies defined gestational weight gain differently. Three used categories of gesta

One 13(s)-3(t)-3(r)-3(a)-3(t)-3(i)-3(f)-3(e)-3(d)-3( 13(i)-3(t)-3se)-3( 13(s)-3(a)-3(m)-  
weight 253(a)23(n)23(d)23( 253(w)23(e)23(i)23(g)23(h)23(t)23( 253(g)23ae)23(i)23







sociation between gestational weight gain and increase in the risk of failed induction compared with all other delivery routes.<sup>25,51</sup>

### Length of labor

*Study characteristics* Three cohort studies, set in Finland and the United States, examined the association between gestational weight gain and labor (Table 7, Evidence Table 10).<sup>68-70</sup> Two studies focused on length of labor,<sup>68,69</sup> one on labor abnormalities.<sup>70</sup> The definition of gestational weight gain differed across studies. One study examined an overall increase in weight of > 25 percent or ≤ 25 percent for women with normal pregravid weight (90-120 percent of normal weight for height based on Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Table for 1983).<sup>69</sup> Another reported on categories of gestational weight gain (< 16 pounds, 16-25 pounds, 26-35 pounds, and > 35 pounds) for pregravid BMI categories defined by the IOM.<sup>70</sup> The third study, of poor quality, stratified its sample by weight gain categories, comparing women with normal prepregnancy weight and weight gain during pregnancy with those with abnormal weight gain (≥ 20 kg, or ≤ 5 kg) during pregnancy; the study did not specify the prepregnancy weight status of women in these “abnormal” weight gain categories.<sup>68</sup>

*Overview of results* Two of three studies (2 fair,<sup>69,70</sup> 1 poor<sup>68</sup>) suggested that higher weight gain among normal weight women of normal weight was associated with longer labor.<sup>68,69</sup>

*Results* The two studies that examined length of labor demonstrated significantly longer second stage of labor for women with high weight gain, based on samples of 35,768 and 10,469 respectively. Neither study controlled for confounders or effect modifiers.

The study that reported on labor abnormalities found higher odds of

TABLE 7. Gestational Weight Gain and Length of Labor

| Author, Date                       | Pregravid Weight (How Measured)                 | Definition of Groups               | Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Johnson et al., 1992 <sup>70</sup> | Self-report collected at first antepartal visit | G1: total weight gain < 16 pounds  | Elevated odds of labor abnormalities only in the group gaining > 35 pounds compared with women gaining < 16 pounds; not significant when adjusted for confounders                                                                                        | Prepregnancy weight quartile, height (tertile), BMI category, race/ethnicity, marital status, private physician, parity, infant sex, maternal agcity,y pesex, mateb(gc)-3(i)6325 >>BD |
| USA, prenatal clinics              | Total weight gain: Last prenatal visit          | G2: total weight gain 16-25 pounds | Trend analysis showed risk of labor abnormalities with increased weight gain, a difference in 10 lb. corresponds to OR = 2 (P < 0.0001) after adjusting for BMI, patient care (private vs. nonprivate), parity, infant sex, hypertension, and macrosomia |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3,191                              |                                                 | G3: total weight gain 26-35 pounds |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| All weights/BMI                    |                                                 | G4: total weight gain > 35 pounds  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Fair                               |                                                 |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                       |

TABLE 7. Continued

| Author, Date<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                          | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                                                             | Definition of<br>Groups                                                                                                                                 | Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in<br>Analysis |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ekblad and Grenman,<br>1992 <sup>68</sup><br>Finland, hospital<br>357<br>Normal weight only<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Data from records,<br>unclear if self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Last clinically measured<br>weight prior to delivery | G1: weight gain<br>≤ 5 kg<br>G2: weight gain<br>≥ 20 kg<br>G3: reference<br>(normal<br>prepregnancy<br>weight and normal<br>weight gain<br>[undefined]) | Labor pattern—I stage (minutes ± SD)<br>G1: 333 ± 208<br>G2: 374 ± 208<br>G3: 346 ± 188<br><br>Labor pattern—II stage (minutes)<br>G1: 15 ± 18) <i>P</i> < 0.05 compared to<br>reference category<br>G2: 27 ± 25<br>G3: 21 ± 18<br><br>Labor pattern—III stage (minutes)<br>G1: 13 ± 13<br>G2: 13 ± 11<br>G3: 12 ± 12 | NA                                                          |

BMI, body mass index; G, group; SD, standard deviation.

All 21 studies examined cesarean delivery as an outcome. Five examined instrumental delivery in addition to cesarean delivery.<sup>25,51,58,68,69</sup> Eight studies reported on cesarean delivery without providing further definition.<sup>4,25,49,54,58,59,74,76</sup> The studies that offered some detail varied in their definition; these studies defined cesarean delivery as failure to progress,<sup>51</sup> unscheduled cesarean,<sup>67,70</sup> cesarean including elective and emergency,<sup>52</sup> elective cesarean and emergency cesarean,<sup>61,68</sup> cephalopelvic disproportion/failure to progress, fetal distress, breech, and other indications,<sup>73</sup> cesarean delivery for cephalic presentation,<sup>77</sup> and cesarean delivery for singleton cephalic presentation separately analyzed for primary and repeat cesareans, with and without labor.<sup>78</sup> A key consideration in assessing the risk of cesarean delivery is the route of previous delivery; with the declining prevalence of vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC), a history of prior cesarean delivery is likely to result in cesareans for all subsequent pregnancies. Studies that fail to account for prior route of delivery cannot therefore control for its confounding effect. Eleven studies did not take into account prior route of delivery.<sup>4,25,49,52,54,58,59,61,67,68,70</sup>

Definitions of gestational weight gain also varied greatly. Some studies used categorical definitions designed to identify high weight gain alone,<sup>67,71</sup> weight gain across a spectrum of gain,<sup>4,25,49,52,54,58,59,70,72,74,77</sup> continuous weight gain,<sup>73,76</sup> rate of weight gain,<sup>61,78</sup> and weight gain in relation to pregravid weight.<sup>51,68,69,75</sup>

*Overview of results* Across the 14 fair<sup>4,25,52,58,67,69-73,75-78</sup> and 7

TABLE 8.

---

| Results                                                                                     |                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AOR for weight gain < 8 kg for cesarean section compared with weight gain 8-16 kg (95% CI)  | AOR for weight gain < 8 kg for instrumental delivery compared with weight gain 8-16 kg (95% CI)  | Maternal age, parity, smoking in early pregnancy, and year of birth                                           |
| G1: 1.07 (0.89-1.29)                                                                        | G1: 0.89 (0.71-1.11)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G2: 0.98 (0.92-1.05)                                                                        | G2: 0.88 (0.80-0.96)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G3: 0.88 (0.82-0.95)                                                                        | G3: 0.85 (0.76-0.95)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G4: 0.81 (0.73-0.90)                                                                        | G4: 0.75 (0.63-0.88)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G5: 0.75 (0.66-0.87)                                                                        | G5: 0.83 (0.65-1.03)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| AOR for weight gain > 16 kg for cesarean section compared with weight gain 8-16 kg (95% CI) | AOR for weight gain > 16 kg for instrumental delivery compared with weight gain 8-16 kg (95% CI) |                                                                                                               |
| G1: 1.29 (1.17-1.43)                                                                        | G1: 1.28 (1.15-1.43)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G2: 1.24 (1.19-1.29)                                                                        | G2: 1.19 (1.14-1.25)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G3: 1.23 (1.17-1.30)                                                                        | G3: 1.14 (1.06-1.23)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G4: 1.22 (1.10-1.35)                                                                        | G4: 1.09 (0.93-1.27)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| G5: 1.27 (1.05-1.52)                                                                        | G5: 1.04 (0.77-1.40)                                                                             |                                                                                                               |
| Progression of AOR of cesarean delivery weight gain (for every 5 lbs): 1.094 (1.074-1.115)  |                                                                                                  | BMI, maternal height, maternal age, pregnancy weight gain, gestational age at delivery, and fetal birthweight |



|                  |                        |                      |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Date     |                        |                      |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight (How  |                      |
| Sample Size      | Measured)              |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain (How |                      |
| Quality          | Measured)              | Definition of Groups |

---





| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Compared with women who gained 15-25 lbs during their pregnancies, those who gained less weight had significantly lower odds of preeclampsia, cesarean delivery, and LGA births, but higher odds for SGA births | Age, race, parity, education, poverty (enrollment in Medicaid, WIC, food stamp programs), tobacco use, chronic hypertension |
| Magnitude differed by obesity classification, even after adjusting for known or suspected confounders                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                             |

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| Author, Date<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                           | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                                          | Definition of Groups                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shepard et al., 1998 <sup>75</sup><br>USA, obstetrical practices<br>2,301<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self report before 15 weeks<br>of gestation<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Self report of weight at<br>delivery | Proportional weight<br>gain (total weight gain/<br>prepregnancy weight) and<br>absolute weight gain |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: Proportional Gain:<br>Adjusted Relative Risk<br>(95% CI)<br>G2: Absolute Gain:<br>Adjusted RR (95% CI)<br>U-3(e)-3(i)23(d)-3(j)-3im32-3( )-31(AC /Artifact <</O /LayoutEMC /Arti <</O /La3(n)-3(a)-3(%)-3( )-</O 01<br>in |                                                          |

|                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | G1:wiG1:G1:10<br>GeeG1:11G1:1sG1:1sG1:14                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author, Date<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                         | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                                                                                                                                                    | Definition of Groups                                                                                                         |
| Bianco et al., 1998 <sup>54</sup><br>USA, major medical center<br>11,926<br>BMI OF 27 and 34 are<br>excluded from analysis<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Unclear<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Weight from before 36<br>weeks gestation or not<br>within 4 weeks of delivery<br><br>Maternal weight gain<br>outcomes by BMI presented<br>for morbidly obese women<br>only, N: 613 | G1: 0 or weight loss<br>G2: 1-15 lbs<br>G3: 1(e)]TJEMC3.5 12.5 Td[(G)-3(1)-3(:)4<br>G3: 1(e)]TJEMC3.5 12.5 Td[(G)-3(1)-3(:)5 |

| Results                    | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Cesarean %                 | NA                                                       |
| G1: 25.8%                  |                                                          |
| G2: 26.8%                  |                                                          |
| G3: 28.8%                  |                                                          |
| G4: 35.0%                  |                                                          |
| G5: 33.8% ( <i>P</i> = NS) |                                                          |





| Results                                                                                                                                      | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OR for cesarean delivery<br>(95% CI)<br>G1: 1.0<br>G2: 2.4 (1.1-5.3)<br>G3: 3.0 (1.4-6.4)<br>G4: 3.6 (1.6-7.8)<br><i>P</i> for trend = 0.002 | 2-h OGTT result, maternal<br>age, prepregnancy BMI,<br>gestational age (continuous<br>variables), parity, smoking,<br>ethnic background, and<br>cli-3( )-31(a)-3(n)-3(d )2g, |

TABLE 8. Continued

| Author, Date<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                  | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                                        | Definition of Groups                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wataba et al., 2006 <sup>61</sup><br>Japan, academic medical<br>center<br>21,718<br>All weights/BMI<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Unreported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>From hospital<br>database/register                                  | Rate of weight gain,<br>categorized differently across<br>different BMI groups |
| Young et al., 2002 <sup>74</sup><br>USA, private practice<br>3,375<br>All weights/BMI<br>Poor               | Pregravid weight:<br>Self reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Based on last clinically<br>measured weight prior to<br>delivery | G1: < 30 lbs<br>G2: 30-35 lbs<br>G3: > 35 lbs                                  |

AOR, adjusted odds ratio; BMI, body mass index; G, group; GDM, gestational diabetes mellitus; kg, kilogram; lbs, pounds; LGA, large-for-gestational age; SGA, small-for-gestational age.

which did not control for route of previous delivery, did not find any association between gestational weight gain and route of delivery.<sup>67</sup>

Six studies defined gestational weight gain in categories that allowed for the identification of both low and high weight gain, across a spectrum of pregravid weight categories;<sup>52,58,70,72,74</sup> of these, one was rated poor quality<sup>74</sup> and the remainder fair. One study showed no difference in cesar-

Results

Confounders and Effect  
Modifiers Included in Analysis  
Modifier-8yout >>BDC ut >>bDC ut >>s  
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*Results for instrumental delivery* Five studies examined instrumental delivery in addition to cesarean delivery.<sup>25,51,58,68,69</sup> Two found no association.<sup>25,68</sup> Of the remaining studies, one found a higher risk of instrumental delivery with increased weight gain only for normal BMI and overweight women,<sup>58</sup> and a second found this only for overweight women.<sup>51</sup> A third study, limited to women of normal weight, examined differences in the rate of vacuum extraction and forceps delivery by amount of weight gain; it found a higher rate of vacuum extraction with excessive weight gain but no difference in rate of forceps delivery.<sup>69</sup>

*Results controlling for confounding* Studies varied in their adjustment for confounding factors. Seven studies controlled for route of previous delivery by limiting their sample to primary cesarean<sup>51,71,72,75</sup> or primigravida.<sup>69,73,74</sup> Three studies included multigravidas but accounted for previous cesarean delivery in the analysis.<sup>76-78</sup> The remaining 11 studies did not control for route of previous delivery.<sup>4,25,49,52,54,58,59,61,67,68,70</sup>

Of the 10 studies that controlled for route of previous delivery, five studies examined underlying health risks (e.g., preeclampsia, pregnancy-induced hypertension) as predictors of cesarean delivery; all five found these health factors to be significantly associated with risks of cesarean delivery.<sup>71,72,75,76,78</sup>

## Vaginal birth after cesarean

*Study characteristics* One U.S. cohort study (rated poor quality) examined the effect of weight gain on the success of vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC) (Evidence Table 12).<sup>79</sup>

*Overview of results* A single poor study found that gestational weight gain of 40 pounds or more increased the risk of VBAC 17826 >>BDC -11.21 -1.2 Td[









*Results* The three studies found rates of shoulder dystocia ranging from 0.6 percent to 1.4 percent.<sup>51,68,80</sup> Two studies reported no statistically

to 30 pounds, after adjusting for maternal age, maternal race or ethnicity, maternal education, Medicaid status, tobacco use, alcohol use, maternal height, prior pregnancy, adequacy of prenatal care, child's sex, and child's birth year.<sup>25</sup> The poor study showed similar results, with an unadjusted OR of CPD of 1.85 (95% CI, 1.63-2.06) for normal-weight women gaining > 35 pounds compared with women gaining < 30 pounds. This study also showed an increased risk of CPD for underweight women gaining > 35 pounds compared with women gaining < 30 pounds (unadjusted OR: 3.8; 95% CI, 3-4.6). The relationship between weight gain and CPD was not statistically significant at higher pregravid BMI levels.<sup>74</sup>

### Complications of labor and delivery

*Study characteristics* Two retrospective cohort studies, one from Iceland<sup>53</sup> and the other from the United States,<sup>81</sup> evaluated the impact of gestational weight gain on complications of labor and delivery (Evidence Table 16).

O

*Birth Outcomes***Preterm birth**

*Study characteristics* Twelve studies (Table 10, Evidence Table 17) examined the relationship between weight gain and birth outcomes.<sup>23,59,65,71,82-89</sup> These include eight cohort studies,<sup>59,65,82-86,89</sup> two case-control studies,<sup>87,88</sup> and two cross-sectional studies.<sup>23,71</sup> The majority of the studies defined preterm birth as delivery occurring prior to 37 weeks of gestation; the one exception defined it as delivery between 24 and 35 weeks of gestation.<sup>87</sup> Each study defined weight gain differently. Two studies examined associations of weight gain with early and late preterm birth,<sup>23,65</sup> and studies 31-3(x)-3(a)-3(b)

TABLE 10. Gestational Weight Gain and Preterm Birth

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                            | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kramer et al., 1995 <sup>88</sup><br>Canada, University<br>Hospitals<br>396<br>All weight/BMI<br>Good                 | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Self-report | Gestational weight gain<br>categories (kg/wk):<br>G1: < 0.27<br>G2: ≥ 0.27 |
| Siega-Riz et al., 1996 <sup>84</sup><br>USA, Public Health Clinics<br>(California)<br>7,589<br>All weight/BMI<br>Good | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured  | Categories of 3rd trimes Tf0.551 0(e)-3(s)-sl.,                            |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AOR (95% CI) for cases with preterm delivery versus controls<br>G1: 1.56 (0.94-2.58)<br>G2: 1.00 (reference)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parity, marital status, language, age, education, matched on smoking history                                                                     |
| AOR (95% CI) for rate of preterm birth:<br>G1: 1.91 (1.40-2.61)<br>G2: 1.00 (reference)<br><br>AOR (95% CI) for rate of preterm labor:<br>G1:1.75 (1.15-2.64)<br>G2: 1.00 (reference)<br><br>AOR (95% CI) for rate of PPROM:<br>G1: 2.70 (1.35-5.42)<br>G2: 1.00 (reference)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Iron status, parity combined with maternal age, ethnicity, hypertension (chronic or pregnancy induced), smoking status, week prenatal care began |
| Linear regression analysis of gestational age (days) as dependent variable and gestational weight gain (kg) as independent variable: Regression coefficient = 0.51; t-statistic = 13.1; <i>P</i> < 0.001<br><br>AOR (95% CI) of spontaneous preterm birth/kg increase in total weight gain: 0.84 (0.82-0.87)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | BMI, maternal age, infant sex cigarettes per day maternal height, parity, race, pattern of gain derived from quadratic curves                    |
| In general, in comparison to women with normal BMI in G3: underweight women in G1-G5 and normal weight women in G1, G2, and G5 were at increased risk of very preterm births (AOR: 1.5-9.8). Underweight women in G1-G3 and G5 and normal women in G1, G2, and G5 were at increased risk moderate preterm births (AOR: 1.4-3.1). Overweight and obese women in G1 and G5 were at increased risk of very preterm birth (AOR: 2.3-2.5) but had no elevated risk of moderate preterm birth. Very obese women with G1, G4, G5 had increased risks of very preterm births (AOR: 2.1-2.8) and with G4 had increased risks of moderate preterm birth (AOR: 1.3) | Race, Medicaid recipient, parity, marital status                                                                                                 |

*continued*



TABLE 10. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                  | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)     | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nohr et al., 2007 <sup>65</sup><br><br>Danish National Birth Cohort<br><br>16,167<br><br>All weight/BMI<br><br>Fair         | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Self-reported | Rate of gestational weight gain (g/wk) for women with early preterm birth (22-33 weeks) with PPROM :<br>G1: < 275<br>G2: 276-675<br>G3: ≥ 676<br><br>Rate of gestational weight gain (g/wk) for women with early preterm birth (22-33 weeks) without PPROM :<br>G4: < 275<br>G5: 276-675<br>G6: ≥ 676<br><br>Rate of gestational weight gain (g/wk) for women with late preterm birth (34-36 weeks) with PPROM:<br>G7: < 275<br>G8: 276-675<br>G9: ≥ 676<br><br>Rate of gestational weight gain (g/wk) for women with late preterm birth (34-36 weeks) without PPROM:<br>G10: < 275<br>G11: 276-675<br>G12: ≥ 676 |
| Rosenberg et al., 2005 <sup>71</sup><br><br>USA, New York City birth files<br><br>329,988<br><br>All weight/BMI<br><br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Self-report     | Categories of total gestational weight gain (lbs):<br><br>G1: < 41<br>G2: ≥ 41                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

Results

Confounders and Effect  
Modifiers Included in  
Analysis

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Author, Year  
Country, Setting  
Sample Size  
Baseline BMI

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| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reference category of rate of weight gain: 0.35-< 0.46 kg/wk                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | None                                                                                                                                       |
| RD of preterm birth varied by prepregnant BMI and gestational weight gain. Overall, women gaining 0.26-0.46 kg/wk had the lowest RD of preterm birth. The highest RD occurred for women gaining the least and most amount of weight, irrespective of prepregnant BMI; however, the highest RD of preterm births were among women of low BMI |                                                                                                                                            |
| AOR (95% CI) for preterm delivery < 37 weeks:<br>G1: 2.6 (2.1-3.2)<br>G2: 1.0 (reference)<br>G3: 1.0 (0.8-1.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Race, age pregravid BMI, year of delivery, parity, previous preterm birth, number of days between last weighing and delivery, smoking      |
| AOR (95% CI) for preterm delivery < 34 weeks:<br>G1: 3.0 (2.0-4.8)<br>G2: 1.0 (ref)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |
| AOR for preterm birth:<br>G1: 1.52 ( $P < 0.05$ )<br>G2: 1.11 (NS)<br>G3: 1.00 (ref)<br>G4: 1.71 ( $P < 0.05$ )                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Race, parity, infant sex, marital status, education, age, previous preterm89(,)3( )-31(i)-3(n)-age 8.75 Td[(P)-3(r)-3(e)-3(g)-3(r)-3(a)-3( |

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                         | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)     | Definition of Groups   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Spinillo et al., 1998 <sup>87</sup><br>Italy, University Hospital<br>690<br>All weight/BMI<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Medical records | G1: Prepregnancy BMI ≤ |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AOR (95% CI) for cases with spontaneous preterm delivery versus controls:<br>G1: 5.63 (2.35-13.8)<br>G2: 2.45 (1.60-3.75)<br><i>P</i> = 0.06 for interaction between G1 and G2<br><br>G3: 5.29 (1.45-20.90)<br>G4: 2.42 (1.65-3.55)<br><i>P</i> = 0.21 for interaction between G3 and G4 | Pregravid BMI, pregravid weight, height, age, parity, smoking, social class education, infant sex |
| Regression analysis with gestational age (weeks) as the dependent variable and net gestational weight onalt usginuaB3(g)-3(e)-=gh3(6)-3(5)- >>BDC T*d[( )-31(=i)-3 pa 0.g/SpainyB O nayout >>ETut >>BT1(DC T*[(G)-3(4)-3(:)-3( )-31(2)-3(.)-3(10)0 ifa0c-323. b843/376281F               |                                                                                                   |

est and greatest rates of weight gain,  $< 0.10$  kg per week and  $\geq 0.65$  kg per week, respectively. The lowest risks of preterm delivery occurred among women gaining between 0.26 and 0.46 kg per week (the 25th through the 74th percentiles). Preterm risk differences did vary by maternal pregravid BMI status. An increased risk of preterm birth was associated with rates of weight gain for the following pregravid BMI categories:

- pregravid BMI  $< 19.8$ :  $< 0.26$  kg per week;
- pregravid BMI of 19.8 to 26.0:  $< 0.26$  kg per week and  $> 0.65$  kg per week;
- pregravid BMI of 26.1 to 29.0:  $< 0.10$  kg per week and  $> 0.65$  kg per week; and
- pregravid BMI  $> 29.0$ :  $\geq 0.57$  kg per week.

The results were similar when rates of weight gain per week excluded the first 14 weeks of gestation.

*Results from categorical measures of trimester rate of weight gain* Four studies used categorical definitions of rate of gestational weight gain measured during specific trimesters of pregnancy (16 of the 17 studies studied

33 weeks), late (34-36 weeks), and all (22-36 weeks) preterm births with PPROM, without PPROM, and with medical induction.<sup>65</sup> Gestational weight gain was categorized as low (< 275 g/week), medium (275-675 g/week), and high (> 675 g/week) based on two self-reported measurements recorded at least 6 weeks apart between 12 and 37 weeks of gestation. Women with medium rates of weight gain were used as the reference. Overall, low rates of weight gain were significantly associated with an increased risk of early spontaneous preterm birth with and without PPROM and with all spontaneous preterm births with PPROM, adjusted odds ratios ranged from 1.5 to 2.1. High rates of weight gain were significantly associated with an increased risk of early spontaneous preterm births without PPROM (AOR, 1.9; 95% CI, 1.3-2.6) and early, late, and all medically induced early preterm births. However, when women with obesity-related diseases and abruptio placenta were excluded, the associations for medically induced preterm births were no longer significant.

Another fair quality study used information collected for the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) to examine the effect of rate of weight gain during the second and third trimesters on preterm birth.<sup>23</sup> These investigators stratified women by prepregnancy BMI status and examined the risk of preterm birth in two categories: moderate length of gestation (32-36 weeks) and very short length of gestation (20 to 31 weeks). Second and third trimester rate of weight gain was categorized, in kg per week, as follows: < 0.12, 0.12-0.22, 0.23-0.68, 0.69-0.79, and > 0.79; the investigators also used five pregravid BMI groups: underweight (< 19.8), normal weight (19.8-26.0), overweight (26.1-28.9), obese (29.0-34.9), and very obese ( $\geq 35.0$ ). Women of normal weight with rates of weight gain of 0.23 to 0.68 kg per week were used as the reference for analyses. After adjusting for covariates and excluding women with diabetes, hypertension, or small-for-gestational-age (SGA) infants, significant associations (AOR range, 1.3-3.1) were reported between moderate preterm birth and rates of weight gain as follows: < 0.69 and > 0.79 kg per week among underweight women; < 0.23 and > 0.79 kg per week among normal weight women; and 0.69 to 0.79 kg per week among obese and very obese women. Significant associations (AOR range, 1.5-9.8) were reported between very preterm birth and rates of weight gain as follows: all weight gain categories among underweight women; < 0.23 and > 0.79 kg per week among normal weight women; < 0.12 and > 0.79 kg per week among overweight and obese women; and < 0.12 and > 0.68 kg per week among very obese women. In general, the greatest odds were found among underweight women and in the extreme weight gain categories.

Results from a poor study<sup>87</sup> were consistent with those of the other studies and revealed an overall increased odds of preterm birth (between 24





teen studies adjusted their analyses for multiple confounders, including maternal age, BMI, smoking, glucose levels, race, marital status, and parity.<sup>48,55,59,70,75,90-93,97-103,105</sup>

*Overview of results* The results for four good,<sup>48,98,103,106 12</sup> fair,<sup>55,65,</sup>  
3(5)-3(5)-3(,)-3(5)-3(9)-3(,)-3(7)-42-3(-)-3(9)-3(3)-3(,)-3(9)-3(3)93(,)-3(9)-3(7)-3(-)9,-3(7)-3(-)43(1)-3(0)-3(3)-3(,)-3(1)-3(0)-d

TABLE 11. Total Gestational Weight Gain (categorical) and Infant Birthweight

| Author, Year                       | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)                                  | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                  | Results | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in<br>Analysis |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hickey et al., 1990 <sup>106</sup> | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report                                    | Infant BW for groups<br>defined by maternal weight<br>near term (% of standard<br>weight-for-height)                                                                                                  |         |                                                             |
| United States, prenatal<br>clinics | Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal care or<br>maternity records | G1: > 135%, Black<br>G2: > 135%, Hispanic<br>G3: 120-135%, Black<br>G4: 120-135%, Hispanic<br>G5: 110-119%, Black<br>G6: 110-119%, Hispanic<br>G7: 100-109%, Black<br>G8: 100-109%, Hispanic<br>G9: < |         |                                                             |
| 325                                |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |                                                             |
| All weight/BMI                     |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |                                                             |
| Good                               |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |                                                             |



| Author, Year                                                                                                                              | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups | Results | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in<br>Analysis |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ekblad and Grenman,<br>1992 <sup>68</sup>                                                                                                 |                                    |                      |         |                                                             |
| Finland, hospital                                                                                                                         |                                    |                      |         |                                                             |
| 357                                                                                                                                       |                                    |                      |         |                                                             |
| Prepregnancy weight 20%<br>over or under ideal body                                                                                       |                                    |                      |         |                                                             |
| 0 -1.25 TD[(o)TD(i)-3(g)-3(h)-3474 >>cy weigca9T*[(0 -1.25 mu)-3(n)-3(d)-3(e)-30)TJEMC /Span <<MCID 2943(e)-3(i)-3(g)-4/Span <<M93(t)-3(a |                                    |                      |         |                                                             |



born to women who gained  $< 35$  lbs. One study among morbidly obese women (BMI  $> 35$ ) found a similar trend, although it was inconsistent at

TABLE 12. Total Gestational Weight Gain (continuous) and Infant Birthweight

| Author, Year                          | Country, Setting                   | Sample Size | Baseline BMI    | Quality | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)                                     | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                    | Definition of<br>Groups                                                                  | Results                                                 | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in<br>Analysis                       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Brown et al.,<br>2002 <sup>98</sup>   | USA, primary<br>care clinics       | 389         | All weight/BMI  | Good    | Pregravid weight:<br>Measured by<br>study investigators                | Total weight gain:<br>Collected by study<br>investigators              | G1: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain | G1: $\beta = 20$ g<br>( $P < 0.0001$ )                  | Maternal age,<br>parity, pregravid<br>BMI, height,<br>infant sex,<br>gestational age |
| Groff et al.,<br>1997 <sup>103</sup>  | USA,<br>multispecialty<br>clinics  | 341         | All weights/BMI | Good    | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report 82%                                   | First prenatal visit<br>18%                                            | G1: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 lb increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain | G1: $\beta =$<br>10.1g $\pm$ 1.76<br>( $P \leq 0.001$ ) | Pregravid BMI,<br>infant sex,<br>smoking                                             |
| Aras et al.,<br>1                     |                                    |             |                 |         | Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records |                                                                        |                                                                                          |                                                         |                                                                                      |
| Kieffer et al.,<br>2006 <sup>48</sup> | USA,<br>community<br>health center | 1,041       | All weights/BMI | Good    | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report                                       | Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | G1: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain | G1: $\beta = 19.7$<br>g $\pm$ 2.8<br>ale statinal<br>g  |                                                                                      |



| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                               | Definition of<br>Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Results                   | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in<br>Analysis |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Butte et al.,<br>2003 <sup>97</sup><br><br>USA, US<br>Agriculture<br><br>Research<br>Service<br><br>Children's<br>Nutrition<br>Research Center | Pregravid weight:<br>Measured by<br>study investigators<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured by<br>study investigators | G1: Correlation<br>coefficient<br><br>G2: Variability<br>in birthweight<br>accounted for<br>by gestational<br>age, pregravid<br>weight, and total<br>pregnancy weight<br>gain                                                    | G1: 0.28<br><br>G2: 37.9% | Maternal race,<br>pregravid BMI,<br>gestational age            |
| 63                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                           |                                                                |
| All weights/BMI                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                           |                                                                |
| Fair                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                           |                                                                |
| Edwards et al.,<br>1996 <sup>55</sup><br><br>USA, hospital<br><br>1,443<br><br>Normal and<br>obese BMI<br><br>Fair                             | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records          | G1: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain for<br>obese women<br><br>G2: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain for<br>normal weight |                           |                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                         | w3(g)-3(h)-3(t)-3( )-31(p)-3(e)-3(r )TJEMC3(t )TJEMD 23(h)-3(t )]                                                                                                                                                                |                           |                                                                |

| Author, Year | Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)  | Definition of<br>Groups | Results | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Sample Size  | Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) |                         |         |                                     |
| Quality      |                  |                                     |                         |         |                                     |

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TABLE 12. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                        | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                      | Definition of<br>Groups                                                                                                                                   | Results                                                                               | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in<br>Analysis                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Muscati et al.,<br>1996 <sup>105</sup><br><br>Canada,<br>public health<br>department<br><br>371<br><br>All weight/BMI<br><br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Collected by study<br>investigators          | G1: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total weight gain<br>up to week 20                                                              | G1: $\beta = 22$<br>g $\pm$ 6<br>( $P < 0.01$ )                                       | Parity, pregravid<br>standard weight,<br>pregravid excess<br>weight, birth<br>length, infant sex                      |
| Pezzarossa<br>et al., 1996 <sup>100</sup><br><br>Italy, not stated<br>192<br><br>All weights/BMI<br><br>Fair                      | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain for:<br><br>G1: Controls<br>(normal glucose<br>tolerance)<br>G2: GDM | G1: $\beta =$<br>27.8 g<br>( $P = 0.0001$ )<br>G2: $\beta = 39.5$<br>( $P = 0.0001$ ) | Pregravid BMI,<br>fasting plasma<br>glucose                                                                           |
| Di Cianni et al.,<br>2004 <sup>91</sup><br><br>Italy, diabetes<br>clinic<br>180<br><br>All weights/BMI<br><br>Poor                | Pregravid weight:<br>Not reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Collected by study<br>investigators             |                                                                                                                                                           | F statistic<br>= 3.16, $P =$<br>0.08                                                  | Pregravid<br>BMI, maternal<br>triglycerides,<br>plasma glucose                                                        |
| Jensen et al.,<br>2005 <sup>59</sup><br><br>Denmark,<br>university<br>hospitals<br>481<br><br>Obese<br><br>Poor                   | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | G1: Increase in<br>birthweight per<br>1 kg increase in<br>total pregnancy<br>weight gain                                                                  | G1:<br>$\beta = 18.4$ g<br>( $P < 0.001$ )                                            | Maternal age,<br>pregravid<br>BMI, smoking,<br>gestational age,<br>result of 2-hour<br>oral glucose<br>tolerance test |

*APPENDIX E*

TABLE 13. Continuous Gestational Weight Gain by Trimester and Infant Birthweight

| Author, Year     |                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis |         |  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|--|
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight (How Measured)  | Definition of Groups                                  | Results |  |
| Sample Size      | Total Weight Gain (How Measured) |                                                       |         |  |
| Baseline BMI     |                                  |                                                       |         |  |
| Quality          |                                  |                                                       |         |  |
| Brown et al.,    |                                  |                                                       |         |  |

in net weight gain raised infant birthweight as follows: for underweight women, 41.9 g; for women of normal weight, 19.2 g; and for obese women, 9.1 g.<sup>104</sup> Each kilogram of net weight gain associated with an increase of 111.2 g in birthweight in another study.<sup>83</sup>

TABLE 14. Net and Proportional Gestational Weight Gain and Infant Birthweight

Author, Year

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*APPENDIX E*



TABLE 15. Total Gestational Weight Gain and Low Birthweight (LBW)

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                              | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                          | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hickey et al., 1990 <sup>106</sup><br>United States, prenatal clinics<br>325<br>All weights/BMI<br>Good | Pregravid weight: Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain: Routine prenatal care or maternity records | G1: Percent BW < 3,000, Low weight gain < 120% of standard<br>G2: Percent BW ≥ 3,000, Low weight gain < 120% of standard<br>G3: Percent BW < 3,000, Acceptable weight gain ≥ 120% of standard<br>G4: Percent BW ≥ 3,000, Acceptable weight gain ≥ 120% of standard |

| Results                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: 38.2<br>G2: 61.8<br>G3: 22.1<br>G4: 77.9                                                                                                             | N/A                                                                                             |
| G1: 2.1 (1.6-2.6)<br>G2: 0.5 (0.4-0.6)<br>G3: 1.0<br>G4: 0.5 (0.3-0.8)<br>G5: 0.6 (0.3-1.1)<br>G6: 0.4 (0.3-0.7)<br>G7: 1.0                              | Maternal age, maternal race, height, smoking, infant sex, gestational age                       |
| G1: 1.15 (0.78-1.67)                                                                                                                                     | Gestational age, adolescence, pregravid underweight, number of Healthiest Baby Possible visits  |
| G1: Odds of LBW are lower for women in this group<br>G2: Odds of LBW are higher for women in this group<br>Numerical value for ORs not reported in study | Maternal age, maternal race, maternal education, poverty, smoking, parity, chronic hypertension |

*continued*

|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |                      |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |                      |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |                      |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    | Definition of Groups |
| Kirchengast and  |                   |                      |



TABLE 15. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                              | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                      | Definition of Groups                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bianco et al., 1998 <sup>54</sup><br>USA, medical center<br>613<br>Morbidly obese (BMI<br>> 35)<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | % LBW for GWG:<br><br>G1: Weight loss or 0 lbs<br>G2: 1-15 lbs<br>G3: 16-25 lbs<br>G4: 26-35 lbs<br>G5: > 35 lbs |
| Lasker et al., 2005 <sup>109</sup><br>USA, hospital<br>5,528<br>All weights/BMI<br>Poor                 | Pregravid weight:<br>Not stated<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records  | OR and 95% CI, for LBW<br><br>G1: GWG < 10 lbs<br>G2: GWG > 30 lbs<br>G3: GWG 21-30 lbs (Reference)              |

BMI, body mass index; BW, birthweight; CI, confidence interval; GDM, gestational diabetes mellitus; GWG, gestational weight gain; kg, kilogram; lbs, pounds; LBW, low birthweight; N/A, not applicable; OR, odds ratio.

underweight women gaining at least 12 kg when compared to underweight women gaining less than 11 kg (OR, 0.5; 95% CI, 0.2-1.0).<sup>108</sup> A study in Austria<sup>93</sup> found that the odds ratio of LBW was 0.9 (95% CI, 0.85-0.95) for each 1 kg increase in gestational weight gain. A study among obese women also found that the risk of having a LBW infant was increased for low gestational weight gains.<sup>4</sup>

Among low-income women the effect of weight gain varied by pregravid BMI;<sup>2</sup> only among women of average weight was there a consistent decrease in LBW risk as gestational weight gain increased from < 15 pounds to ≥ 40 pounds. Mothers of average weight who gained less than 15 pounds had an OR for delivering an LBW infant of 2.1 (95% CI, 1.6-2.6). The odds of LBW were substantially lower for women who gained



TABLE 16. Other Gestational Weight Gain Measures and LBW

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                      | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                   | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Johnson et al., 1992 <sup>70</sup><br>USA, prenatal clinics<br>3,191<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal care or<br>maternity records | OR and 95% CI, for LBW<br><br>G1: Net WG <<br>G : Net WG 0rr. . l<br>: Net WG 0r l<br>: Net WG G1: . (Referene)<br>: . (. .)<br>: . (. .)<br>: . (. .)Maternal ra<br>pregravid weight, m<br>oacoalcoorg ue, pre<br>inant eepar, 19 |

| Results                                                                                   | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: 1.0 (Reference)<br>G2: 0.51 (0.27-0.98)<br>G3: 0.54 (0.28-1.04)<br>G4: 0.38 (0.2-0.8) | Maternal race, parity, pregravid BMI, height, pregravid weight, marital status, education, tobacco/alcohol/drug use, pregnancy-induced hypertension, gestational age, macrosomia, infant sex |
| G1: 3.5%<br>G2: 7.4%<br>G3: 2.1%<br>G4: 2.8%<br>G5: 2.1%<br>G6: 4.6%                      | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| G1: 5%<br>G2: 32%<br>G3: 3.1%<br>G4: 2.7%                                                 | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                          |



gaining 14.9 to 23.5 pounds, the OR was 0.51 (95% CI, 0.27-0.98). The association between risk of LBW infants and proportional weight gain (total gestational weight gain divided by pregravid weight) above and below the median was also evaluated in relation to BMI status.<sup>75</sup> Obese women had a higher percentage of LBW infants than underweight women. The risk of LBW was even higher for women gaining less than the median.

A study of adolescent mothers (rated poor quality) showed similar effects. Mothers who shifted to lower weight classes during pregnancy were more likely to have LBW babies, and mothers who progressed to higher weight classes had lower percentages of LBW.<sup>95</sup>

## Macrosomia

**Study characteristics** Twelve studies examined the influence of gestational weight gain on macrosomia in their infants (Evidence Table 20).<sup>2,4,49,59,70,77,93,108,110-113</sup>

TABLE 17. Gestational Weight Gain and Macrosomia > 4,500 g

| Author, Year     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups |
|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Country, Setting | Total Weight                       |                      |
| Sample Size      | Gain (How                          |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Measured)                          |                      |
| Quality          |                                    |                      |

| Author, Year     | Pregravid Weight |
|------------------|------------------|
| Country, Setting |                  |
| Sample Size      |                  |
| Baseline BMI     |                  |
| Quality          |                  |

Zhou and Olsen,  
1997<sup>108</sup>  
Denmark, two  
communities  
7,122

and obese women.<sup>108</sup> However, the confidence intervals from this study are very imprecise. A fair-quality study in Norway showed similar results, with increasing ORs as weight gain increased. Women with weight gain in the fourth quartile, as compared to weight gain in the first quartile, had the highest OR of 4.3 (95% CI, 1.9-9.8).<sup>113</sup>

Among low-income women enrolled in the Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), a fair-quality U.S. study reported significant associations between weight gain and macrosomia only Womeud.SCID 3fmenonnd me nde ep3(d)omntsly-3( )-161((m)-3(e)-3(-3(.-3( )-1









a higher risk of macrosomia for women gaining more than 16 kg as compared to women gaining less than 10 kg (OR, 3.37; 95% CI, 3.22-3.53).<sup>112</sup> Similar results were noted in a fair-quality U.S. study where weight gains above 35 pounds (as compared to weight gains of 15 to 25 pounds) were associated with an OR for macrosomia of 2.83 (95% CI, 2.04-3.92).<sup>77</sup> A fair-quality study in Austria found that for each 1 kg increase in ge3( )24(f)-EMC /Spa p

categories. A fair-quality study of obese women<sup>4</sup> observed lower odds of LGA among women who gained less than the reference group (15-25 pounds) and higher odds of LGA among women who gained more the reference group. A poor-quality study among Japanese women found that nulliparous women in the 3(d)-3(d)-3(s)-3( )-175(o3(a)-5(i)-e)-3( )-107(3(d)-3(d)-175(o

TABLE 19. Gestational Weight Gain and LGA

| Author, Year                   | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)  |                                |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Country, Setting               | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups           |
| Sample Size                    |                                     |                                |
| Baseline BMI                   |                                     |                                |
| Quality                        |                                     |                                |
| Bo et al., 2003 <sup>115</sup> | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report    | G1: OR and 95% CI, for LGA for |
| Italy, university clinic       | Total weight gain:<br>Not collected |                                |
| 700                            |                                     |                                |
| All weights/BMI                |                                     |                                |
| Fair                           |                                     |                                |

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| Results | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included<br>in Analysis |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|

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| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                    | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                      | Definition of Groups                                         | Relative Risks for LGA                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pezzarossa et al., 1996 <sup>100</sup><br>Italy, not stated<br>192<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | Relative risks for LGA:<br>G1: GWG < 9 kg<br>G2: GWG 9-14 kg | Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records |

<

| Results                                                                                                                                                                   | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: Relative risks for LGA similar between non-diabetic and GDM groups<br>G2: GDM group has 2 times higher risk that non-diabetics<br><br>Numerical results not reported. | Pregravid BMI, fasting plasma glucose                 |
| G1: 12.0<br>G2: 11.8<br>G3: 18.8<br>G4: 25.8<br>G5: 23.8<br>( <i>P</i> < 0.01)                                                                                            | N/A                                                   |

TD[(T)95(o)-3(t)-3(a-31(f)-3(o)-3(r)-3( )-31(G)-3(W)-3(G)-3(:)]TJEMC /Act <</O /Layout >>BDC -3.147 -1.875 Td[(P)-3(o)-

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                       | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                      | Definition of Groups                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jensen et al., 2005 <sup>59</sup><br>Denmark, university hospitals<br>481<br>Obese<br>Poor       | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | ORs and 95% CIs for LGA<br><br>G1: GWG < 5.0 kg (Reference)<br>G2: GWG 5.0-9.9 kg<br>G3: GWG 10.0-14.9 kg<br>G4: GWG ≥ 15.0 kg |
| Sunehag et al., 1991 <sup>120</sup><br>Italy, prenatal clinics<br>133<br>All weights/BMI<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Not stated<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Not stated                                        | G1: Association between LGA and<br>GWG > 18 kg                                                                                 |

| Results                                                             | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: 1.0<br>G2: 2.4 (1.1-5.3)<br>G3: 2.1 (1.1-4.8)<br>G4: 4.7 (2-11) | Maternal age, pregravid BMI, gestational age, 2 hour OGTT, parity, smoking, ethnicity, clinical center |
| G1: $c^2 = 8.2$ ( $P < 0.005$ )                                     | N/A                                                                                                    |

Eleven studies<sup>4,58,59,61,100,105,115,116,118,121,122</sup> adjusted for potential confounders including age, pregravid BMI, glucose levels, smoking status, parity, and gestational age.

*Overview of results for SGA* Twenty studies examined the relationship between gestational weight gain and SGA (Evidence Table 22).<sup>4,51,54,58,59,61,66,68,89,95,105,108,111,114,116,118,119,122-124</sup> One study was of good qual



TABLE 20. Gestational Weight Gain and LGA by BMI Status

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                         | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                          | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Caulfield et al.,<br>1998 <sup>116</sup><br><br>USA, hospital<br>obstetric<br>database<br><br>3,870<br><br>All weights/BMI<br>Good | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records     | ORs and 95% CIs for LGA per 50g/wk increase<br>in rate of weight gain by BMI<br><br>G1: Underweight<br>G2: Normal weight<br>G3: Overweight                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Cedergren,<br>2006 <sup>58</sup><br><br>Sweden, Medical<br>Birth Registry<br><br>245,526<br><br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair            | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records     | ORs and 95% CIs for LGA (> 2 SD above the<br>mean)<br><br>Weight gain < 8 kg<br>G1: BMI < 20<br>G2: BMI 20-24.9<br>G3: BMI 25-29.9<br>G4: BMI 30-34.9<br>G5: BMI ≥ 35<br><br>Weight gain > 16 kg<br>G6: BMI < 20<br>G7: BMI 20-24.9<br>G8: BMI 25-29.9<br>G9: BMI 30-34.9<br>G10: BMI ≥ 35<br><br>Weight gain 8-16 kg (Reference) |
| Kiel et al., 2007 <sup>4</sup><br><br>USA, birth<br>certificate registry<br><br>120,251<br><br>Obese<br><br>Fair                   | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | G1: Odds of LGA for weight gain > 25 lbs<br>G2: OR of LGA for weight gain < 15 lbs<br>G3: Reference weight gain 15-25 lbs                                                                                                                                                                                                         |



| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                     | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wataba et al.,<br>2006 <sup>61</sup><br><br>Japan, academic<br>medical center<br><br>21,718<br><br>All weights/BMI<br><br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Not stated<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | ORs and 95% CIs for LGA<br><br>Nulliparous<br>G1: Low BMI (< 18), WG > 0.40 kg/wk<br>G2: Medium BMI (18-23.9), WG 0.20-<br>0.25 kg/wk<br>G3: WG 0.25-0.30 kg/wk (Reference)<br>G4: Medium BMI, WG 0.30-0.35 kg/wk<br>G5: Medium BMI, WG 0.35-0.40 kg/wk<br>G6: Medium BMI, WG > 0.40 kg/wk<br><br>Parous<br>G7: Low BMI (< 18), WG > 0.40 kg/wk<br>G8: WG 0.20-0.25 kg/wk (Reference for low/<br>med BMI)<br>G9: Medium BMI (18-23.9), WG 0.25-<br>0.30 kg/wk<br>G10: Medium BMI, WG 0.30-0.35 kg/wk<br>G11: Medium BMI, WG 0.35-0.40 kg/wk<br>G12: Medium BMI, WG > 0.40 kg/wk<br>G13: High BMI (≥ 24), WG 0.15-0.20 kg/wk<br>G14: WG ≥ 0.30 kg/wk (Reference for high<br>BMI) |

BMI, body mass index; CI, confidence interval; g, grams; g/wk, gram per week; kg/wk, kilo-



TABLE 21. Gestational Weight Gain and SGA

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Author, Year     |                  |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight |
| Sample Size      |                  |
| Baseline BMI     |                  |
| Quality          |                  |

| Results                                                                                   | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: 2.06 (1.62-2.63)<br>G2: 1.82 (1.35-2.47)                                              | Maternal age, maternal race, parity, gestational age, smoking, pregravid BMI, height                                                                                              |
| G1: 1.9 (1.8-2.2)<br>G2: 1.0                                                              | Maternal age, education, Medicaid status, pregravid BMI, smoking, previous SGA, adequacy of prenatal care, maternal cardiac disease, preeclampsia, year of birth of second infant |
| G1: 3.0 (2.5-3.5)<br>G2: 1.9 (1.6-2.2)<br>care or.f<br>167,750<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair | PregravidMfact <</Oa3(n)su/Layout >>BDC JEMC /Art(f)-3( )-3ayout >037<br>Self-report<br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity                               |

TABLE 21. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                   | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                          | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kiel et al., 2007 <sup>4</sup><br>USA, birth certificate registry<br>120,251<br>Obese<br>Fair                | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | G1: Odds of SGA for weight gain<br>> 25 lbs<br>G2: OR of SGA for weight gain<br>< 15 lbs<br>G3: Reference Weight gain 15-25 lbs                                                             |
| Kramer et al., 1990 <sup>122</sup><br>Canada, university hospital<br>8,719<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair        | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records     | G1: OR and 95% CI, for SGA for<br>each 5 kg decrease in net gestational<br>WG                                                                                                               |
| Muscatti et al., 1996 <sup>105</sup><br>Canada, public health<br>department<br>371<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Collected by study<br>investigators              | G1: OR for SGA per 1 kg increase<br>in WG up to week 20<br>G2: OR for SGA per 1 kg increase<br>in WG from weeks 21 to 30<br>G3: OR for SGA per 1 kg increase<br>in WG from weeks 31 to term |
| Steward and Moser, 2004 <sup>114</sup><br>USA, vital statistics data<br>2,933<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair     | Pregravid weight:<br>Not stated<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Self-report                                           | G1: OR and 95% CI, for SGA<br>defined as FGR < 0.85                                                                                                                                         |

| Results                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: Odds of SGA are lower for women in this group<br>G2: Odds of SGA are higher for women in this group<br>Numerical value for ORs not reported in study | Maternal age, maternal race, maternal education, poverty, smoking, parity, chronic hypertension                                      |
| G1: 1.32 (1.20-1.44)                                                                                                                                     | Pregravid weight, infant sex, smoking, parity, maternal diabetes, height, previous LBW infant, severe pregnancy-induced hypertension |



|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Author, Year     |                  |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight |
| Sample Size      |                  |
| Baseline BMI     |                  |
| Quality          |                  |

---

| Results                                                                                                                   | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included<br>in Analysis |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 3(l )]TJ25 6. TD0-3(o)-3(d)-3(t)-3(-3(d)-3(e3( )-31(9D[(1)out >>BDC 0 -1.875 TD[(T)95(o)-3(t)-3(a)-3(l)-3( )-3G7)]TJEMC:C |                                                          |
| (o)-3(r)-3/C01.28 Tm1.929/O /La<001E>t >>BDC 8 0 0 8 -378 490.75 Tm[(J)-3m[(A)-3(u) 5151tegTot27.27 73(t)-3G(e)-JEL       |                                                          |

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                                  | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                          | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ekblad and Grenman, 1992 <sup>68</sup><br>Finland, hospital<br>357<br>Prepregnancy weight 20%<br>over or under ideal body<br>weight for height and normal<br>weight<br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | Infant BW by group<br><br>Infant weight percentile for mothers<br>with normal prepregnancy weight<br>and normal weight gain<br>G1: < 2.5%<br>G2: 2.5-10%<br>G3: 10-50%<br>G4: 50-90%<br>G5: 90-97.5%<br>G6: > 97.5%<br><br>Infant weight percentile for mothers<br>with weight gain ≤ 5 kg<br>G7: < 2.5%<br>G8: 2.5-10%<br>G9: 10-50%<br>G10: 50-90%<br>G11: 90-97.5%<br>G12: > 97.5%<br><br>Infant weight percentile for mothers<br>with weight gain ≥ 20 kg<br>G13: < 2.5%<br>G14: 2.5-10%<br>G15: 10-50%<br>G16: 50-90%<br>G17: 90-97.5%<br>G18: > 97.5% |
| Jensen et al., 2005 <sup>59</sup><br>Denmark, university hospitals<br>481<br>Obese<br>Poor                                                                                  | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records     | Rates of SGA<br>G1: GWG < 5.0 kg (Reference)<br>G2: GWG 5.0-9.9 kg<br>G3: GWG 10.0-14.9 kg<br>G4: GWG ≥ 15.0 kg                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



TABLE 22. Gestational Weight Gain and SGA by BMI Status

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                       | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                   | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Caulfield et al., 1998 <sup>116</sup><br>USA, hospital obstetric<br>database<br>3,870<br>All weights/BMI<br>Good | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal care or<br>maternity records | ORs and 95% CIs for SGA<br>per 50g/wk increase in rate of<br>weight gain by BMI<br><br>G1: Underweight<br>G2: Normal weight<br>G3: Overweight                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cedergren, 2006 <sup>58</sup><br>Sweden, Medical Birth<br>Registry<br>245,526<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair         | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal care or<br>maternity records | ORs and 95% CIs for SGA<br>( $< 2$ SD below the mean)<br><br>Weight gain $< 8$ kg<br>G1: BMI $< 20$<br>G2: BMI 20-24.9<br>G3: BMI 25-29.9<br>G4: BMI 30-34.9<br>G5: BMI $\geq 35$<br><br>Weight gain $> 16$ kg<br>G6: BMI $< 20$<br>G7: BMI 20-24.9<br>G8: BMI 25-29.9<br>G9: BMI 30-34.9<br>G10: BMI $\geq 35$<br><br>Weight gain 8-16 kg<br>(Reference) |
| Cheng et al., 2004 <sup>124</sup><br>USA, birth certificate<br>registry<br>14,114<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair     | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Not stated                                    | 95% CIs of SGA for low<br>weight gain ( $< 0.2$ kg/wk) by<br>BMI<br><br>G1: Underweight<br>G2: Normal weight<br>G3: Overweight<br>G4: Obese                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: 0.87 (0.78-0.97)<br>G2: 0.90 (0.84-0.96)<br>G3: 0.93 (0.86-1.01)                                                                                                                                                                              | Maternal age, race, parity, pregravid BMI, height, hypertension, provider type, smoking, infant sex                                                                               |
| G1: 2.35 (1.92-2.88)<br>G2: 1.99 (1.77-2.23)<br>G3: 1.75 (1.48-2.07)<br>G4: 1.68 (1.26-2.25)<br>G5: 1.71 (1.03-2.85)<br><br>G6: 0.50 (0.41-0.61)<br>G7: 0.50 (0.45-0.56)<br>G8: 0.57 (0.47-0.68)<br>G9: 0.61 (0.40-0.93)<br>G10: 0.50 (0.20-1.24) | Maternal age, parity, smoking, year of birth                                                                                                                                      |
| G1: (1.2-2.4)<br>G2: (1.9-2.7)<br>G3: (1.6-2.9)<br>G4: (1.4-2.1)                                                                                                                                                                                  | Maternal age, education, Medicaid status, pregravid BMI, smoking, previous SGA, adequacy of prenatal care, maternal cardiac disease, preeclampsia, year of birth of second infant |

*continued*

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                 | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                   | Definition of Groups                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Zhou and Olsen, 1997 <sup>108</sup><br>Denmark, two communities<br>Cohort<br>7,122<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal care or<br>maternity records | % Growth T*[(m)-3(a)-3(t)-ords<br>01(a)-3(n)-3(( D 33674 >>B13(t))-3(o0CA6 68 |

*continued*





Results

Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included  
in Analysis

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the two highest weight gain categories. One study, using data from the Swedish Medical Birth Registry, observed higher rates of SGA (here defined as  $< 2$  SD below the mean) among the lowest weight gain groups.<sup>123</sup> Specifically, women gaining  $< 0.25$  kg per week had an OR of 3.0 (95% CI, 2.5-3.5) when compared with women gaining  $\geq 0.45$  kg per week. The ORs decreased as gestational weight gain category dropped. Similar results were found in a study of obese women.<sup>4</sup>

Among white nonsmokers in Canada (fair-quality study),<sup>105</sup> for each 1 kg increase in weight gain up to week 20, the OR of an SGA infant was 0.93 (not significant); for weight gain from weeks 21 to 30, it was 0.85 ( $P < 0.01$ ); and for weight gain from week 31 to term, it was 0.89 ( $P < 0.01$ ). In other words, increases in weight gain from weeks 21 to term lowered a woman's risk of an SGA infant. A fair-quality study of the predictors of SGA found that average weekly weight gain  $< 0.20$  kg had 12.9 percent sensitivity and 91.3 percent specificity.<sup>119</sup>

Two fair-quality studies defined growth restriction using FGR, with SGA specified as an FGR  $< 0.85$ .<sup>79,89</sup> In general, increases in weight gain were associated with lower risks of SGA. Specifically, one study found an OR of 0.98 (95% CI, 0.97-0.98) for each 1 kg increase in total gestational weight gain.<sup>114</sup> Another study found an OR of 1.32 (95% CI, 1.20-1.44) for each 5 kg decrease in net gestational weight gain (total gestational weight gain minus infant birthweight).<sup>122</sup>

In a poor U.S. study,<sup>66</sup> using women gaining 0.65 to 0.9 pounds per week as the reference group, women gaining  $\leq 0.40$  pounds per week had an OR for an SGA infant of 2.8 (95% CI, 2.2-3.6), and women gaining 0.4 to 0.65 pounds per week an OR of 1.6 (95% CI, 1.4-1.9). In this study, however, women gaining  $> 0.9$  pounds per week also experienced a significant protective effect against SGA (OR, 0.6; 95% CI, 0.5-0.7).

The results from three<sup>14,20,31</sup>-poor-CID 33919 ii3(u)-3(l)y3(o)-3(m)-33( )-99(s)-3(t)

the risk decreasing with increasing BMI.<sup>116</sup> Specifically, the ORs of SGA for each 50 g per week increase in maternal weight were as follows: 0.87 (95% CI, 0.78-0.97) for underweight mothers; 0.90 (95% CI, 0.84-0.96) for mothers of normal weight; and 0.93 (95% CI, 0.86-1.01) for overweight and obese women. In the Swedish birth registry study (rated fair quality), the risk of SGA was higher in the low weight gain group (< 8 kg), but the risk decreased with increasing BMI.<sup>58</sup> Using women gaining between 8 and 16 kg as the reference group, these researchers reported that the OR for delivering an SGA infant for women with low weight gain (< 8 kg) was 1.71 (95% CI, 1.03-2.85) among women with a BMI  $\geq$  35; it was 2.35 (95% CI, 1.92-2.88) among women with a BMI < 20. Women gaining > 16 kg were at decreased risk for delivering an SGA infant, with the risk being similar between all BMI categories.

Among nondiabetic women in Denmark (fair-quality study) for whom SGA was defined as birthweight < 3,000 g despite placenta weight being above the 66th percentile (491 g), women who gained more than 16 kg were at lower risk of delivering an SGA infant; this risk was the same regardless of BMI status.<sup>108</sup> The risk of SGA decreased with increasing weight gain, and it also tended to decrease as BMI increased. In a U.S. study, 95% CIs of the OR of SGA for low weight gain (< 0.2 kg/wk) compared to weight gain > 0.2 kg/wk, were similar across BMI categories: underweight (95% CI, 1.2-2.4), normal weight (95% CI, 1.9-2.7), overweight (95% CI, 1.6-2.9), obese (95% CI, 1.4-2.1).<sup>124</sup>

A poor-quality study of the effect of changing BMI categories found

TABLE 23. Gestational Weight Gain and Apgar Scores

| Author, Date<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                               | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                                                                                                                            | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cedergren, 2006 <sup>58</sup><br>Sweden, Medical<br>Birth Registry<br>245,526<br>All weights/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self report, if unknown,<br>standardized measurement<br>is made during first visit to<br>maternity health care center<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured when woman entered<br>delivery unit | Weight gain < 8 kg, 8-16 kg,<br>and > 16 kg for each BMI<br>class below<br><br>G1: BMI < 20<br>G2: BMI 20-24.9<br>G3: BMI 25-29.9<br>G4: BMI 30-34.9<br>G5: BMI ≥ 35 |

| Results                                                                                                                                                        | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No association between low weight gain and Apgar score (< 7), despite BMI of mother                                                                            | BMI, maternal age, parity, smoking in early pregnancy, year of birth                                                                           |
| Increased OR for gestational weight gain on 1-minute and 5-minute Apgar score ≤ 7, persists after adjusting (no further details provided)                      | Prepregnancy weight quartile, height (tertile), BMI category, race, parity, hypertension, other variables entered by stepwise regression model |
| Gestational weight gain was not a predictor of Apgar scores < 7                                                                                                | Age, parity, BMI                                                                                                                               |
| AOR for 1 min Apgar scores < 4 for nulliparous women with low BMI, weekly weight gain < 15 kgr , compared with women gaining 0.25-0.3 kgr : 12.24 (2.04-73.43) |                                                                                                                                                |
| AOR for 1 min Apgar scores < 4 for parous women with medium BMI, weekly weight gain 0.35-0.4 kgr compared with women                                           |                                                                                                                                                |

gestational weight gain, after adjusting for prepregnancy weight quartile, height (tertile), BMI category, race, parity, hypertension, and other variables entered by stepwise regression model, but the authors provided no further details on the magnitude of the effect.<sup>70</sup>

One poor-quality study examined associations between 1-minute Apgar scores > 4 and rates of weekly weight gain (7 categories), categorized differently across different BMI groups (3 groups) and parity (2 categories), resulting in 42 comparisons.<sup>61</sup> Two comparisons were statistically significant: (1) higher risk for low Apgar scores for nulliparous women with low BMI and lower-than-median weight gain for their peer group; and (2) higher risk for parous women with medium BMI with higher-than-median weight gain for their peer group.

### *Infant Outcomes*

#### Perinatal mortality

*Study characteristics* Three studies, two set in the United States<sup>93,94</sup> and one in Denmark,<sup>126</sup> looked at the association between maternal weight gain and mortality, defined in one study as stillbirth<sup>126</sup> and in two others as perinatal mortality (neonatal plus fetal deaths)<sup>93,94</sup> (Table 24, Evidence Table 24). All three studies used different definitions of maternal weight gain:

- weight gain per week;<sup>126</sup>
- optimal weight gain<sup>127</sup> defined as 36 to 40 pounds for underweight women, 31 to 40 pounds for women of ideal prepregnancy weight, and 26 to 30 pounds for overweight women, based on associations between maternal prepregnancy weight, height, weight gain, and adverse perinatal outcomes; and
- low weight gain (< 0.8 kg per week).<sup>128</sup>

*Overview of results* One of these studies was rated poor quality<sup>128</sup> and the others were rated fair. These studies suggest a protective effect of gestational weight gain on perinatal mortality but not on stillbirth.

*Results for categorical measures of weight gain* Both studies that focused on optimal or low weight gain found a protective effect of weight gain on infant mortality, but variations in the definition of weight gain and the outcomes did not make a low weight gain a low weight gain.





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gain on stillbirth within groups defined by BMI.<sup>126</sup> It found increased risks of stillbirth with pregravid obesity and overweight status. This association between higher pregravid weight and stillbirth persisted after the investigators excluded women with obesity-related diseases (diabetes, preeclampsia, and other hypertensive disorders). Within this subset of women without obesity-related diseases ( $n = 39,187$ ), the AOR for stillbirth related to an increased weight of 100 g per week was 0.94 (95% CI, 0.87-1.03).

### Neonatal distress

*Study characteristics* A Swedish study examined the effects of gestational weight gain on fetal distress (equivalent to International Classification of Diseases [ICD] 9-codes 768.<sup>2-4</sup>; and ICD 10-codes P20.0, P20.1, and P20.9) using medical birth registry data from 245,526 singleton, term pregnancies over a 9-year period. (Evidence Table 25).<sup>58</sup> Women were grouped by BMI status into three gestational weight gain categories: < 8 kg (low), 8 to 16 kg, and > 16 kg (high).

*Overview of results* The results of this fair study show that after adjusting for maternal age, parity, smoking in early pregnancy, and year of birth, the authors reported that fetal distress was not significantly associated with low weight gain despite the BMI of the mother. Overweight and morbidly obese women with excessive weight gain did have an increased risk for fetal distress.

*Detailed results* Compared with women with gestational weight gain of 8-16 kg, the OR for fetal distress among women gaining 16 kg or more was 2.15 (95% CI, 1.10-4.20) for women with BMI  $\geq 35$  and 1.31 (95% CI, 1.05-1.53) for women with BMI 25-29.9.

Neonatal hy3(r)-3(t)-(-)-3(3)- tI 25w 4MCID 325.1.se1.tiric1. l c1sults

the following complications: macrosomia (birthweight > 4,500 g), hypoglycemia (at least one plasma glucose <

women was 29.1 and most were nulliparas. Most of the women gained between 8.5 and 12.5 kg (mean, 10.5 kg) during their pregnancy. Gestational weight gain was collected from maternity records and was based on last

BMI, date of delivery, pregnancy-induced hypertension, mode of delivery, length of first stage of labor, length of second stage of labor, gestational age, and birthweight. Using weight gain of 11.5 to 16 kg as a reference, the authors reported that gestational weight gain less than 7 kg was associated with neonatal seizure (AOR, 10.66; 95% CI, 2.17-52.36). Gestational weight gain > 18 kg was associated with assisted ventilation (AOR, 1.52; 95% CI, 1.16-2.00), seizure (AOR, 6.19; 95% CI, 1.32-28.96), polycythemia (AOR, 1.59; 95% CI, 1.13-2.22), and meconium aspiration syndrome (AOR, 1.86; 95% CI, 1.13-3.05).

The case-control study<sup>130</sup> examined the association between maternal reproductive history, including gestational weight gain, and the risk of infant leukemia in 240 cases, defined as infant leukemia diagnosed at < 1 year of age, and 255 controls matched to cases by year of birth. Infants with infant leukemia were significantly ( $P < 0.003$ ) less likely to be white (79.5 percent vs. 85.5 percent) and more likely to be Hispanic (10.5 percent vs.

analysis done separately for mothers with GDM and controls, total gestational weight gain significantly predicted infant's BMI such that a 1 kg increase in weight gain was associated with a 0.06 and 0.05 increase in BMI for GDM and control infants, respectively, after controlling for pre-gravid BMI and glucose values. The difference between the results of these two studies lies in the fact that once the weight of the infant is removed from total weight gain, an important product of conception is missing from the measure of weight gain and thus the strength of the association is reduced.<sup>131</sup>

### Other infant growth characteristics

*Study characteristics* Six studies examined the association between gestational weight gain and various other infant growth characteristics (Evidence Table 31, Table 25).<sup>31,56,57,62,82,89</sup>

*Overview of results* The evidence from one good,<sup>98</sup> three fair,<sup>14,56,57,82</sup> and one poor study<sup>68</sup> suggest that gestational weight gain is associated with various measures of infant growth characteristics. A single fair study failed to find an association between gestational weight gain and infant proportionality.<sup>122</sup>

*Detailed results* One good-quality study analyzed the relationship between weight gain (total surplus) and infant growth characteristics.<sup>43</sup> (i-pl34742 is)-4( )ta14(1oEM

TABLE 25. Gestational Weight Gain and Other Infant Growth Measures

| Author, Year                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)  |                                          |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Country, Setting                 | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups                     |
| Sample Size                      |                                     |                                          |
| Baseline BMI                     |                                     |                                          |
| Quality                          |                                     |                                          |
| Brown et al., 2002 <sup>98</sup> | Pregravid weight:                   | G1: Increase in ponderal index per 1 kg  |
| USA, primary care                | Measured by study                   | increase in first trimester weight gain  |
| clinics                          | investigators                       | G2: Increase in ponderal index per 1 kg  |
|                                  |                                     | increase in second trimester weight gain |
| 389                              | Total weight gain:                  | G3: Increase in Ponderal Index per 1 kg  |
| All weight/BMI                   | Collected by study                  | increase in third trimester weight gain  |
| Good                             | investigators                       |                                          |

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| Results                                | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included<br>in Analysis |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: $\beta = 0.21$<br>( $P < 0.0003$ ) |                                                          |



TABLE 25. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                                                        | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                          | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shepard et al.,<br>1996 <sup>117</sup><br><br>Norway and Sweden,<br>multicenter study<br><br>369<br><br>All weights/BMI<br><br>Fair                                                               | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured at 3<br>study time periods              | Increase in mean abdominal fetal growth<br>rate (mm/day) per 5% increase in<br>proportional weight gain in this period:<br><br>G1: Weeks 17-25<br>G2: Weeks 25-33<br>G3: Weeks 33-37 |
| Ekblad and Grenman,<br>1992 <sup>68</sup><br><br>Finland, hospital<br><br>357<br><br>Prepregnancy weight<br>20% over or under<br>ideal body weight for<br>height and normal<br>weight<br><br>Poor | Pregravid weight:<br>Medical records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Routine prenatal<br>care or maternity<br>records | Mean symphysis-fundus height:<br><br>G1: Weight gain ≤ 5 kg<br>G2: Weight gain 5-20 kg<br>G3: Weight gain ≥ 20 kg                                                                    |

β, unstandardized coefficient from multiple regression; BMI, body mass index; cm, centimeters; g, gram; GWG, gestational weight gain; kg, kilogram; SC, standardized coefficient; SGA, small-for-gestational age.

Infant body proportionality was studied in a Canadian population (rated fair quality) with validated gestational ages.<sup>122</sup> Proportionality was evaluated using z transformations of crown-heel length, head circumference, birth weight, BMI, PI, and birth weight divided by gestational weight gain was associated with core

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Results

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15 months postpartum,<sup>132</sup> 3 years of age,<sup>24</sup> and 2 and 5 years for the Avon longitudinal study of pregnancy and childhood (ALSPAC) in England.<sup>133</sup> All three included only singleton k477m744leglth 5thngli clu5tly uu 5tlgl5 All t17th All

TABLE 26. Gestational Weight Gain and Childhood Weight Status

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                  | Pregnant<br>Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight<br>Gain (How<br>Measured) |                                      | Definition<br>of Groups                                                                                                                             | Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Confounders and Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                             | Pregravid<br>weight:<br>Self-report                                            | Total weight<br>gain:<br>Self-report |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                        |
| Li et al., 2007 <sup>134</sup><br>USA, National<br>Longitudinal<br>Survey of youth<br>1979 Child and<br>Young Adult file<br>1,739<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid<br>weight:<br>Self-report                                            | Total weight<br>gain:<br>Self-report | Maternal<br>weight<br>gain<br>categories<br>(kg):<br>G1:<br>< 15 lbs<br>G2:<br>15-24 lbs<br>G3:<br>25-34 lbs<br>G4:<br>35-44 lbs<br>G5:<br>> 45 lbs | AOR (95% CI) for early onset<br>of overweight that persisted throughout childhood)<br>compared with normal (low probability of overweight<br>throughout childhood and was characterized as the<br>never overweight class)<br>G5: 1.7 (1.0-2.9)<br>G3: 1.0 (reference)<br><br>Other AOR for weight gain categories for early onset<br>overweight not significant compared with weight gain<br>25-34 lbs<br><br>No association between maternal weight gain and risk<br>of late onset overweight (moderately high probability<br>of overweight at age 2 years, low probability of<br>overweight at age 4 and 6 years, but growing<br>probability of overweight after age 8 years) | Infant sex, race, birth order;<br>gestational age, birthweight,<br>breastfeeding, pregravid BMI,<br>maternal age, maternal education,<br>family income |

O-47.75 -1d0-15.625 Td C-3() -c-30(i)-3(n)-3(c)-3(o)-3(m)-3(an <</MCI03JEMC /Sp00)-3(i)-3(i)-3(y) )ITJ JTIEMC /Span.625 Td(O()-5.306 133.509 Tm)-3(-3

| Author, Year | Country, Setting | Sample Size | Baseline BMI | Quality |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|---------|
|--------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|---------|

to 1987, examined the effect of maternal prenatal lifestyle factors on children's hospitalizations with infectious diseases (Evidence Table 33).<sup>135</sup> After excluding stillbirths, multiple births, and children with congenital malformations, the authors followed 10,440 newborns from 6 months to 12 years. Information on prenatal factors was self-reported by the mother via a questionnaire. Weight gain, calculated as the difference between the self-reported pregravid weight and the weight measured at the time of delivery obtained from the medical records, was categorized as < 10, 10 to 12, 13 to 15, and  $\geq 16$  kg. Outcome data on hospitalizations related to infections were obtained from registry information based on ICD codes.

*Overview of results* One fair study suggested that weight gain > 13 kg only for women who were underweight before pregnancy (BMI < 18) was associated with an increased risk of childhood hospitalization for infectious diseases.<sup>135</sup>

*Detailed results* The crude incidence rate ratios (IRRs) for the effect of weight gain on hospitalizations were nonsignificant compared with weight gains of 13 to 15 kg: < 10 kg, 0.99; 10 to 12 kg, 0.93; and > 16 kg, 1.01). When maternal pregravid weight status was stratified as BMI < 18 and BMI  $\geq 18$ , weight gain greater than 13 kg among women with a pregravid BMI < 18 increased the risk of hospitalizations compared with women with higher BMI and gaining similar weight (IRR, 1.42; 95% CI, 1.09-1.86). This model adjusted for maternal and paternal age, social group, marital status, number of siblings, and maternal smoking during pregnancy.

### *Short- and Long-term Maternal Outcomes*

*Lactation* We found no evidence on the effect of gestational weight gain (not defined by IOM definitions) on lactation that accounted for pregravid weight. We present results for studies relying on IOM definitions of weight gain under KQ 3.

### *Postpartum weight retention*

*Study characteristics* Twelve articles from 10 study populations examine the relationship between gestational weight gain and postpartum weight retention (Evidence Table 34, Table 27).<sup>105,136-146</sup> Six articles used data collected within 1-year postpartum;<sup>105,140-143,145</sup> four used long-term follow-up data of greater than 1 year postpartum;<sup>136,142,144,146</sup> and three used interpregnancy interval data.<sup>137-139</sup>

*Overview of results* The results of the two good<sup>144,147</sup> and eight<sup>105,136-143,145</sup> fair studies reviewed in this section suggest that gestational weight gain is positively associated with weight retention within 1 year postpartum.

TABLE 27. Gestational Weight Gain and Postpartum Weight Retention

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                               | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                                  | Definition of Groups                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Callaway et al., 2007 <sup>146</sup><br><br>Australia, University<br>Hospital<br><br>3,572<br><br>All weight/BMI<br>Good | Pregravid weight:<br>Self report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Obstetric records/maternal<br>questionnaires | G1: Gestational weight gain<br>≤ 15 kg<br><br>G2: Gestational weight gain<br>> 15 kg |





| Author, Year                                                                              | Pregravid Weight (How Measured)                                 | Definition of Groups |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Country, Setting                                                                          | Total Weight Gain (How Measured)                                |                      |
| Sample Size                                                                               |                                                                 |                      |
| Baseline BMI                                                                              |                                                                 |                      |
| Quality                                                                                   |                                                                 |                      |
| Hunt et al., 1995 <sup>139</sup>                                                          | Pregravid weight:                                               |                      |
| USA, population-based family history database (Utah) and participants of an obesity study | Self-report (va7 >>BDC 8 -3(y ))TJEMC /Span <</MCID 35629 >>BDC |                      |
| 221                                                                                       |                                                                 |                      |
| All weight/BMI Morbidly obese                                                             |                                                                 |                      |
| Fair                                                                                      |                                                                 |                      |

Results

Confounders and Effect Modifier(How

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| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)       | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Muscatti et al., 1996 <sup>105</sup><br>Canada, Prenatal Nutrition<br>Counseling Program<br>371<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Physicians' records<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured  | G1: Weight gain $\leq$ week<br>20 (kg)<br><br>G2: Weight gain weeks<br>21-30 (kg)<br><br>G3: Weight gain weeks<br>31-term<br><br>G4: Total weight gain<br>$\leq$ 12 kg<br><br>G5: Total weight gain<br>$>$ 12 kg |
| Ohlin et al., 1990 <sup>145</sup><br>Sweden, maternity clinics<br>1423<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair                          | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Maternity records | Gestational weight gain as a<br>continuous variable (kg)                                                                                                                                                         |

Results

Confounders and Effect Modifiers  
Included in Analysis

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|                  |                        |                      |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Year     | Pregravid Weight (How  |                      |
| Country, Setting | Measured)              |                      |
| Sample Size      | Total Weight Gain (How |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Measured)              | Definition of Groups |
| Quality          |                        |                      |

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| Results                                                                                                                                          | Confounders and Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>(e)-3(d)-3(0))TJEMC /Artifac7.&lt;/O /Layout &gt;&gt;BDC 13.5 3.75 Td[(P)-3(r)-3(e)-3(g)-3(r)-3T*[(A)-3(l)-3((H)-3(o)-3(O /:.)-3( )-3</div> |                                                          |

tum<sup>105,141,145</sup> and with interpregnancy weight gains.<sup>137-139</sup> There is evidence to suggest that pattern of weight gain influences weight retention; a higher percentage of weight gained within the first 20 weeks of gestation is retained at 6 weeks postpartum compared to weight gains later in pregnancy.<sup>105</sup> Additionally, weight retention differs across pregravid BMI strata,<sup>138,143</sup> with overweight and obese women retaining more weight compared to normal weight women. Postpartum weight retention seems to be especially problematic for obese women, who may be at risk for increases in fat mass and central adiposity in the postpartum period.<sup>143</sup> In the long term, the effect of gestational weight gain on weight retention is less conclusive; two studies<sup>144,146</sup> found little to no association between gestational weight gain and weight at 2.5 and 21 years after the index pregnancy and one study<sup>136</sup> found that women who became overweight at 15 years follow-up had higher gestational weight gains compared to women who remained normal weight.

*Results for less than 1-year postpartum* Three cohort studies, two rated<sup>105,143</sup> and the other rated poor,<sup>140</sup> examined the association between weight gain and weight retention prior to 1-year postpartum.

One study used a population of low-income white women to examine the influence of total gestational weight gain and partial weight gains, categorized as weight gain  $\leq 20$  weeks, 21-30 weeks, and 31 weeks to term, on postpartum weight retention at 6 weeks.<sup>105</sup> Each kilogram of gestational weight gain at  $\leq 20$  weeks, 21-30 weeks, and 31 weeks to term was significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) associated with an increase of 0.86 ( $\pm 0.05$ ), 0.68 ( $\pm 0.07$ ), and 0.49 ( $\pm 0.07$ ) kg at 6 weeks postpartum, respectively. Pregravid weight status, defined as underweight, normal weight, and overweight, was based on 1983 Metropolitan Life Insurance Table weight-for-height values. The mean gestational weight gains for women with  $<$  median postpartum weight retention (median values of postpartum weight retention were 5.7 kg for underweight, 6.2 kg for normal weight, and 3.1 kg for overweight women) were 13.3, 13.2, and 9.6 kg for underweight, normal weight, and overweight women, respectively. In contrast, the mean weight gains for women  $\geq$  median postpartum weight retention were 19.6, 20.2, and 19.1 kg, respectively ( $P < 0.001$ ). Similar significant differences were seen for mean partial weight gains between women with postpartum weight retention  $<$  median and  $\geq$  median values ( $P < 0.05$ - $P < 0.001$ ), with the greatest weight gain differences seen within 20 weeks of gestation. Gestational weight gain of 12 kg was associated with 2.5 kg of postpartum weight retention; regression analyses for weight gains of  $\leq 12$  kg and  $> 12$  kg were associated with 0.58 (SE: 0.13) and 0.77 (SE: 0.04) kg of postpartum weight retention per kg of weight gain, respectively.





no significant differences between normal-weight women and overweight women in the amount of weight retained from prepregnancy to 6 months and 1 year postpartum.

*Postpartum weight retention in the medium term* One good-quality study<sup>144</sup> found no association between gestational weight gain and weight retention at two and half years postpartum in a small cohort of women with low antenatal risks enrolled in the Antenatal Care Project (United Kingdom).

*Long-term postpartum weight retention* Three publications (2 studies) measured long-term weight retention. One good-quality study in a cohort of Australian women examined the association between gestational weight gain, dichotomized as  $\leq 15$  kg and  $> 15$  kg, and weight retention at 21 years after the index pregnancy.<sup>146</sup> Excessive weight gain during pregnancy ( $> 15$  kg) was associated with a mean change in BMI of 0.19 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (95% CI, 0.16-0.22).

Two articles, both rated fair, from the Stockholm Pregnancy and Weight Development Study examined the effects of gestational weight gain on weight retention at 15 years postpartum.<sup>136,142</sup> At 15 years follow-up, women who had been overweight (BMI  $> 25$ ) before pregnancy were heavier than women who had been of normal weight (BMI 20-25) before pregnancy.<sup>142</sup> The difference in the weight increases from prepregnancy to 15 years follow-up between overweight and normal-weight women were not significant ( $7.7 \pm 7.0$  kg and  $6.2 \pm 12.1$  kg, respectively;  $P = 0.36$ ).<sup>142</sup> Among women with normal pregravid weight, those who remained at a normal weight at 15 years follow-up had significantly lower gestational weight gains than women who were overweight at 15 years follow-up ( $13.6 \pm 3.7$  kg and  $15.4 \pm 4.4$  kg, respectively;  $P < 0.001$ ).<sup>136</sup>

*Interpregnancy weight retention* Three studies, all rated fair quality, examined the association between gestational weight gain and interpregnancy weight retention.<sup>137-139</sup> Two cohort studies used data collected from women attending a city hospital in England.<sup>137,138</sup> In one, gestational weight gain during a previous pregnancy was associated with a 0.262 kg increase (standard error of the mean [SEM], 0.052;  $P < 0.001$ ) in weight between the index pregnancy and the previous pregnancy.<sup>137</sup> In the other, gestational weight gain was associated with a 0.176 kg increase (SEM, 0.074;  $P = 0.001$ ) in weight from the beginning of the index pregnancy to the beginning of the second pregnancy.<sup>138</sup> Prepregnancy BMI and interpregnancy weight gain were independently associated, suggesting that women who had gained the most weight between pregnancies were more likely to have been overweight before their first pregnancy than women who gained less between pregnancies.

A cross-sectional study examined the effect of weight gain (self-reported) from multiple pregnancies on the development of morbid obesity in a group





TABLE 28. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Gestational Diabetes Mellitus

| Author, Year     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups | Results | Confounders and |
|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Country, Setting |                                    |                      |         |                 |
| Sample Size      | Total Weight Gain                  |                      |         |                 |
| Baseline BMI     | (How Measured)                     |                      |         |                 |
| Quality          |                                    |                      |         |                 |

| Author, Year                                                    | Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups | Results | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thorsdottir, 2002 <sup>53</sup>                                 |                  |                                    |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |
| Iceland, hospital records                                       |                  |                                    |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |
| 614                                                             |                  |                                    |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |
| Normal weight/BMI                                               |                  |                                    |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |
| 19.5-5-5-7.tw3(i )TJEMC /Span <</MCID136458 >>BDC 0 -1.875 Fmtl |                  |                                    |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |

risk of developing GDM because of methodological problems with most studies addressing this topic.

*Detailed results* Obese women, independent of weight gain, had increased risks of developing GDM in three studies (1 of good quality,<sup>3</sup> 1 of poor quality



TABLE 29. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Preeclampsia

| Author, Year                       | Country, Setting            | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups                   | Results                                                                                                | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis                                                                           |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Devader et al., 2007 <sup>25</sup> | USA, birth certificate data | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report   | Maternal weight gain categories (lbs): | AOR (95% CI) for preeclampsia:<br>G1: 0.56 (0.49-0.64)<br>G2: 1.00 (reference)<br>G3: 1.88 (1.74-2.04) | Age, race, education, income, alcohol use, height, prior pregnancy, inadequate prenatal care use, smoking, child's gender, birth year |
| 94,696                             |                             | Total weight gain:<br>Measured     | G1: < 25<br>G2: 25-35<br>G3: > 35      |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                       |
| Normal weight/BMI 19.8-26          |                             |                                    |                                        |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                       |
| Fair                               |                             |                                    |                                        |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                       |



| Author, Year                   | Pregavid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups | Results | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kiel et al., 2007 <sup>4</sup> |                                   |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |
| USA, Hospital                  |                                   |                                     |                      |         |                                                             |

TABLE 30. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Cesarean Delivery

| Author, Year                       | Country, Setting                        | Pregavid Weight<br>(How Measured)                         | Definition of<br>Groups           | Results                                                                                                                      | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in<br>Analysis |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Devader et al., 2007 <sup>25</sup> | USA-Missouri, birth<br>certificate data | Pregavid weight:<br>Self-report                           | G1: Gained less<br>than 25 lbs    | AOR for cesarean delivery (additionally controlled for<br>LGA and cephalopelvic disproportion)                               | Age, race,<br>education, income,                               |
|                                    |                                         | Total weight gain:<br>As reported on birth<br>certificate | G2: Gained<br>25-35 lbs           | G1: 0.82 (0.78-0.87)                                                                                                         | alcohol use, height,                                           |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G3: Gained<br>more than<br>35 lbs | G2: 1.0                                                                                                                      | prior pregnancy,<br>inadequate prenatal                        |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           |                                   | G3: 1.35 (1.29-1.40)                                                                                                         | care use, smoking,<br>child's gender, birth<br>year            |
| Edwards et al., 1996 <sup>55</sup> | USA, hospital                           | Pregavid weight:<br>Self-reported                         | Obese                             | Obese                                                                                                                        |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         | Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records                    | G1: wt loss or<br>0 lbs           | G1: 30.7%                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G2: 1-14 lbs                      | G2: 21.6%                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G3: 15-25 lbs                     | G3: 23.8%                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G4: 26-35 lbs                     | G4: 26.2%                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G5: > 35 lbs                      | G5: 30.1%                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | Normal wt                         | Normal wt                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G1: < 25 lbs                      | G1: 5.7%                                                                                                                     |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G2: 25-35 lbs                     | G2: 12.1%                                                                                                                    |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           | G3: > 35 lbs                      | G3: 8.6%                                                                                                                     |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           |                                   | No significant difference in rates of cesarean delivery by<br>IOM weight gain categories for normal weight or obese<br>women |                                                                |
|                                    |                                         |                                                           |                                   | Obese women AOR = 3.2 (2.3-4.4) for cesarean delivery                                                                        |                                                                |

|                  |                                                                   |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author, Year     |                                                                   |
| Country, Setting |                                                                   |
| Sample Size      | Pregavid Weight                                                   |
| Baseline BMI     | (How Measured88b8p3(d)-3()-33 36994tMCID 36992 >>Bravid rBWeight6 |
| Quality          | (How Measured                                                     |

|                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kiel et al., 2007 <sup>4</sup><br>USA-Missouri, birth certificate<br>120, 170<br>Obese BMI > 30<br>Fair                  | Pregravid BMI:<br>Self-reported<br>Total weight gain:<br>Birth certificate                                                          | G1: Wt loss > 10 lbs<br>G2: Wt loss 2-9 lbs<br>G3: No change<br>G4: 2-9 lbs<br>G5: 10-14 lbs<br>G6: 15-25 lbs<br>G7: 26-35 lbs<br>G8: > 35 lbs | For all three classes of obese women, risks of cesarean delivery rise above an OR of 1 when weight gain exceeds 25 pounds                                                                                                                                                                              | Age, race, parity, education, poverty (enrollment in Medicaid, WIC, food stamp programs), tobacco use, chronic hypertension |
| Parker and Abrams, 1992 <sup>118</sup><br>USA, hospital data base<br>6,690<br>All wt/BMI (using IOM definitions)<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self reported<br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured weight in prenatal record                                      | G1: Below IOM<br>G2: Above IOM                                                                                                                 | AOR for all women weight gain > IOM (G2) = 1.48 (1.25-1.76)<br>For overweight women, there was no significant association between cesarean delivery and weight gain (AOR = 0.71 (0.40-1.26)<br>For nonoverweight women, the association between cesarean delivery and weight gain was 1.45 (1.21-1.73) | Age, race, parity, pregravid BMI, height, maternal high and low weight gain, smoking, gestational age, birthweight          |
| Stotland et al., 2004 <sup>149</sup><br>USA, university hospital<br>9,788<br>All wt/BMI<br>Fair                          | Pregravid weight:<br>No details reported<br>Total weight gain:<br>No details reported, possibly measured weight in prenatal records | G1: Below IOM<br>G2: Above IOM                                                                                                                 | AOR with birthweight in model<br>G1: 0.99 (0.82-1.19)<br>G2 :1.40 (1.22-1.59)<br>BMI < 19.8 G1 = 0.96 (0.67-1./Artif-3(2)-3(-Arti)                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                             |

| Author, Year                                               | Pregavid Weight<br>(How Measured)   | Definition of<br>Groups | Results | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in<br>Analysis |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) |                         |         |                                                                |
| Thorsdottir et al.,<br>2002                                |                                     |                         |         |                                                                |

association between weight gain and risk of cesarean delivery. For underweight women, two studies reported a moderate to strong association between weight gain above IOM recommendations and risk for cesarean delivery;<sup>118,149</sup> for nonobese women, one of these studies reported a moderate association.<sup>118</sup> Three studies reported that the risk of cesarean delivery was higher for obese or morbidly obese women than for nonobese women.<sup>54,55,150</sup> One study suggested that these risks increase within classes of obesity with gains greater than 25 pounds.<sup>4</sup>

The one study that examined the interaction between weight gain of 25-34 pounds and pregravid overweight or obese status did find a significant effect for multiparous women but not primiparous.<sup>77</sup>

### *Birth Outcomes*

#### **Preterm birth**

*Study characteristics* Four studies, all rated fair, reported on the association between weight gain according to the IOM guidelines and preterm birth defined as < 37 completed weeks of gestation (Evidence Table 40, Table 31).<sup>22,85,151,152</sup> One study reported on total weight gain.<sup>22</sup> All four reported on the rate of weight gain or pattern.<sup>22,85,151,152</sup>

*Overview of results* Despite inconsistencies in the definitions of rate of weight gain and the timing of its calculation, the four studies are consistent in showing increased risks of preterm birth for underweight and normal-weight women, thereby providing evidence of some association between

TABLE 31. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Preterm Birth (< 37 weeks)

| Author, Year                       | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)     | Definition of Groups                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country, Setting                   | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)    |                                                                                                                               |
| Sample Size                        |                                        |                                                                                                                               |
| Baseline BMI                       |                                        |                                                                                                                               |
| Quality                            |                                        |                                                                                                                               |
| Hickey et al., 1995 <sup>151</sup> | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported     | G1: Low rate of weight gain in first trimester-underweight (BMI < 19.8) & < 2.3 kg and normal weight (BMI 19.8-26) & < 1.6 kg |
| USA, university prenatal clinics   | Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records | G2: Low rate of weight gain in second trimester (Underwt & < 0.38 kg/wk or normal wt & < 0.37 kg/wk)                          |
| 1,518                              |                                        | G3: Low rate of weight gain in third trimester (Underwt & < 0.38 kg/wk or normal wt & < 0.37 kg/wk)                           |
| Under/normal wt                    |                                        |                                                                                                                               |
| Fair                               |                                        |                                                                                                                               |

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| Results | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|

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34.)-3(-)]TJE (BMS(t)-3(a)-2(l)-3( )-31(r)-3(e)-3(c)-3(o)-3(r)-3(d)-3(s)]TJEMC /Artifact <</O /Layout >>BDC 9.125 4.375 Td



TABLE 31. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)        | Definition of Groups                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Stotland et al., 2006 <sup>85</sup><br>USA, academic medical<br>center<br>15,101<br><br>Underweight BMI < 19.8<br>and normal weight BMI<br>19.8-26<br><br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>prenatal records | G1: low rate of weight gain < .27 kg/wk<br>G2: ref 0.27-0.52 kg/wk<br>G3: high rate of weight gain<br>> 0.52 kg/wk |

Af Am, African American; AOR, adjusted odds ratio; BMI, body mass index; CI, confidence interval; DOB, date of birth; G, group; IOM, Institute of Medicine; kg/wk, kilograms per week; OR, odds ratio; PTB, pre-term birth; USA, United States of America; wk, week; wt, weight.

preterm birth was U-shaped. The lowest risk of preterm birth was observed for all women with weight gain ratios between 1.10 and 1.40.

*Results on rate of weight gain for all women* In the two studies that examined rate of weight gain among women in all BMI groupings,



crude and adjusted analyses. High rate of weight gain, defined as  $> 0.52$  kg per week, was not associated with risk of preterm birth. These findings were similar when the models were stratified by ethnicity, parity, and history of preterm birth, and adjusted for the confounders listed.

In another U.S. study, total weight gain in the first trimester was defined as measured weight at 10 to 13 weeks minus self-reported pregravid weight; second and third trimester rates of weight gain were based on measured weights during the trimester.<sup>151</sup> Low weight gain in the first or second trimester alone was not associated with spontaneous preterm birth. By contrast, low third-trimester weight gain was statistically significantly associated with spontaneous preterm birth. The combination of low second- and third-trimester rate of weight gain was also statistically significantly associated with spontaneous preterm birth. All analyses controlled for several confounders listed in Table 31.

### Birthweight

*Study characteristics* Ten studies from nine databases examined the

found, overall, that black women gaining above the IOM guidelines experienced significantly higher birthweights (a range of 73 g to 330 g) than those who gained less weight.<sup>20,60,153,156</sup> Among white women,<sup>20,156</sup> weight gain above the IOM guidelines was also associated with higher birthweights for those with a BMI  $\leq 29$ <sup>20,156</sup> but not  $> 29$  in one study.<sup>156</sup> This increase in birthweight was close to 200 g.<sup>20,156</sup> In three of these studies,<sup>20,153,156</sup> the analyses were adjusted for multiple confounders listed in Table 32.

One good study conducted among black adolescents that examined total weight gain found infant birthweights to be lower among those who gained less than the IOM recommendations than among those who gained within or above the guidelines;<sup>153</sup> infant birthweights did not differ between those who gained within and those who gained above the thresholds.

*Detailed results for rate of weight gain* Three fair-quality studies examined rate of weight gain as the exposure of interest with respect to birthweight.

TABLE 32. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Birthweight

|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |                      |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |                      |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |                      |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    | Definition of Groups |

| Results | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|

(s)]TJEMC0( )-31(T)-3(h)-7n)-3(l)-3(y)]TJEMC /Artifact <</O /Layout >>fact <</O teasur(s)]TJEMC0( )-31(T)-3(h)-7nlydht

TABLE 32. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                        | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                                 | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hickey et al., 1993 <sup>156</sup><br>USA, prenatal clinics<br>1,168<br>All weight/BMIs<br>Fair                   | Pregravid BMI:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records                             | BMI $\leq$ 29<br>G1: gain < range<br>G2: gain in the range<br>G3: gain > range<br><br>BMI > 29<br>G4: gain < 6.0 kg<br>G5: gain > 6.0 kg |
| Luke et al., 1996 <sup>104</sup><br>USA, clinic<br>487<br>All weight/BMIs<br>Fair                                 | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records, measured                | G1: Gain < IOM<br>G2: gain equal to IOM<br>G3: gain > IOM                                                                                |
| May, 2007 <sup>157</sup><br>USA, WIC clinic<br>233<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair                                      | Pregravid weight:<br>Self reported<br><br>Total gestational weight<br>gain:<br>Self-reported              | G1: Below IOM<br>G2: Greater IOM                                                                                                         |
| Ogunyemi et al., 1998 <sup>60</sup><br>USA, Hospital<br>582<br>All weight/BMIs (using<br>IOM definitions)<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total gestational weight<br>gain:<br>Prenatal records, measured | G1: Low < IOM<br>G2: Normal = IOM<br>G3: High > IOM                                                                                      |





TABLE 32. Continued

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                               | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)                  | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Scholl et al., 1995 <sup>158</sup><br>USA Camden Study<br>274<br>Normal weight BMI<br>19.8-26<br>air                                     | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records, measured | Rate between 20-36 wks<br>G1: low rate < 0.34 kg/wk<br>G2: moderate rate 0.34-<br>0.68 kg/wk<br>G3: Excessive rate<br>> 0.68 kg/wk                          |
| Stevens-Simon and<br>McAnarney, 1992 <sup>154</sup><br>USA African-American<br>adolescent maternity<br>program<br>141<br>All BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-reported<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records, measured | G1: slow < 0.23 kg/wk<br>G2: average 0.23-4 kg/wk<br>G3: rapid > 0.4 kg/wk                                                                                  |
| Bianco et al., 1998 <sup>54</sup><br>USA, medical center<br>11,926<br>Nonobese (BMI 19-27) and<br>morbidly obese (BMI > 35)<br>Poor      | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured                     | Maternal weight gain<br>categories among morbidly<br>obese :<br>G1: Weight loss/no change<br>G2: 1-15 lbs<br>G3: 16-25 lbs<br>G4: 26-35 lbs<br>G5: > 35 lbs |

&, and; AOR, adjusted odds ratio; birthwt, birthweight; BMI, body mass index; g, gram; G, group; GDM, gestational diabetes mellitus; IOM, Institute of Medicine; kg/wk, kilogram per week; NR, not/none reported; OR, odds ratio; underwt, underweight; USA, United States of America; WIC, The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

than those whose mothers gained more weight. This finding appeared to be statistically significant for all women and for black women when analyses were stratified by race. Low rate of weight gain in the second and third trimesters was associated with a 206 g deficit in weight of the infant. Low rate of weight gain in all three trimesters was associated with the greatest deficit, 284 g.

| Results                                                                                                                                    | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Birthweight (g):<br>G1: 3,049 (56.94) $P < 0.05$ , low vs. moderate plus excessive weight gain<br>G2: 3,208 (36.33)<br>G3: 3,191 (49.46)   | NR                                                          |
| Birthweight (g):<br>G1: 2,745 (694)<br>G2: 3,097 (457)<br>G3: 3,351 (482) $P < 0.0001$<br>No difference in pregravid by weight gain groups | NR                                                          |
| G1: 3,302 g<br>G2: 3,192 g<br>G3: 3,337 g<br>G4: 3,506 g<br>G5: 3,453 g<br>$P = < 0.05$                                                    | NR                                                          |

Low birthweight

*Study characteristics* Twelve articles (from 10 databases) examined low birthweight (LBW, defined as  $< 2,500$  g) (Evidence Table 42, Table 33).<sup>2,20,54,55,60,127,154,159-163</sup> Two articles reported on data from the

TABLE 33. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Low Birthweight (< 2,500 g)

|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |                      |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |                      |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |                      |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    | Definition of Groups |

| Results                      | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| G1: 17.3%                    |                                                       |
| G2: 10.0%                    |                                                       |
| G3: 12.3%                    |                                                       |
| G4: 10.5%                    |                                                       |
| G5: 7.8%                     |                                                       |
| G6: 2.6%                     |                                                       |
| G7: 17.5%                    |                                                       |
| G8: 3.5%                     |                                                       |
| G9: 3.6%                     |                                                       |
| G10: 12.4%                   |                                                       |
| G11: 6.0%                    |                                                       |
| G12: 5.3%                    |                                                       |
| G13: 16.0%                   |                                                       |
| G14: 11.1%                   |                                                       |
| G15: 8.3%                    |                                                       |
| G16: 4.0%                    |                                                       |
| G17: 6.0%                    |                                                       |
| P = 0.003 for G13-G17        |                                                       |
| G18: 14.2%                   |                                                       |
| G19: 5.4%                    |                                                       |
| G20: 4.9%                    |                                                       |
| P = 0.001 for G18-G20        |                                                       |
| For obese women, compared to |                                                       |

Author, Year  
Country, Setting  
Sample Size  
Baseline BMI  
Quality

---

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Within every BMI-race ethnicity stratum, the odds of delivering a LBW infant tended to decrease as weight gain increased. This trend was statistically significant for all strata; however, the trend diminished with increasing BMI. Women with underweight and normal weight BMI in G2 were 1.1-2.8 times m3(e)-3(r)-3(e)-31(w)-3(i-31(f)-3(o)-3(r)-3( )-31(a)-3(l)-3(l ))TJEMC /Artifact <</O /Layout >>BDC T*[ |                                                       |

TABLE 33. Continued

| Author, Year                                    | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)  | Definition of Groups                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country, Setting                                | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) |                                                                          |
| Sample Size                                     |                                     |                                                                          |
| Baseline BMI                                    |                                     |                                                                          |
| Quality                                         |                                     |                                                                          |
| Cogswell et al., 1995 <sup>2</sup>              | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report    | Maternal weight gain<br>categories (lbs) stratified by<br>pregravid BMI: |
| USA, Pregnancy Nutrition<br>Surveillance System | Total weight gain:<br>Self-report   | Normal weight (BMI<br>19.8-26.0):                                        |
| 53,541                                          |                                     | G1: < 15                                                                 |
| Normal/Overweight/Obese                         |                                     | G2: 15-19                                                                |
| Fair                                            |                                     | G3: 20-24                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | G4: 25-29                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | G5: 30-34                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | G6: 35-39                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | G7: ≥ 40                                                                 |
|                                                 |                                     | Overweight (BMI<br>> 26.0-29.0):                                         |
|                                                 |                                     | G8: < 15                                                                 |
|                                                 |                                     | G9: 15-19                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | G10: 20-24                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G11: 25-29                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G12: 30-34                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G13: 35-39                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G14: ≥ 40                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | Obese (BMI > 29.0):                                                      |
|                                                 |                                     | G15: < 15                                                                |
|                                                 |                                     | G16: 15-19                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G17: 20-24                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G18: 25-29                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G19: 30-34                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G20: 35-39                                                               |
|                                                 |                                     | G21: ≥ 40                                                                |

Results

---



|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    |

---

*continued*

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                                         | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ogunyemi et al., 1999 <sup>60</sup><br>USA, Hospital<br>582<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair                                                                                              | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured    | Maternal weight gain<br>categories:<br><br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM<br><br>BMI IOM                                                                                                                                             |
| Stevens-Simon and<br>McAnarney, 1992 <sup>154</sup><br>USA, adolescent maternity<br>program<br>141<br>Fair                                                                         | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured    | Maternal weight gain<br>categories (kg/wk):<br><br>G1: < 0.23<br>G2: 0.23-0.40<br>G3: > 0.40                                                                                                                                                   |
| Strauss and Dietz, 1999 <sup>161</sup><br>USA, National<br>Collaborative Perinatal<br>Project and the Child<br>Health and Development<br>Study<br>10,756<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured    | Maternal weight gain<br>categories stratified by<br>pregravid BMI:<br><br>BMI < 20.0:<br>G1: Low 1st trimester gain<br>BMSSd trim 0.2<br>BMSSd trim : 1<br>a BM0 BMSSd trim<br>N : 1 G1: Low 1st<br>B( 27.0:<br>N : 1 G1: Low 1st<br>ght 280.2 |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AOR (95% CI) for very low birthweight:<br>G1: 1.8 (0.6-4.7)<br>G2: 1.1 (0.4-4.7)<br>G3: 1.0 (Reference)                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Age, parity, pregravid BMI, preeclampsia, cesarean delivery, previous cesarean, tobacco use, previous fetal death, hypertension, asthma, previous LBW, vomiting, NICU |
| Distribution of LBW, %:<br>G1: 21.4<br>G2: 10.6<br>G3: 4.3<br>P = NS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                        |
| AOR (95% CI) for < 2,500g:<br>G1: 0.88 (0.50-1.57)<br>G2: 2.68 (1.46-4.94)<br>G3: 2.07 (1.22-3.51)<br>G4: 1.31 (0.88-1.95)<br>G5: 1.92 (1.29-2.87)<br>G6: 2.12 (1.48-3.04)<br>G7: 1.02 (0.50-2.08)<br>G8: 1.88 (1.03-3.43)<br>G9: 1.53 (0.86-2.74)<br><br>Reference group-normal rate of weight gain in the trimester | Race, GDM, toxemia, smoking                                                                                                                                           |

*continued*

| Author, Year                      | Pregravid Weight                                                     |                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country, Setting                  | (How Measured)                                                       |                                                                        |
| Sample Size                       | Total Weight Gain                                                    |                                                                        |
| Baseline BMI                      | (How Measured)                                                       | Definition of Groups                                                   |
| Quality                           |                                                                      |                                                                        |
| Bianco et al., 1998 <sup>54</sup> |                                                                      |                                                                        |
| USA, medical center               |                                                                      |                                                                        |
| 11,926                            | Pregravid weight (kg)                                                | TJEMC /Span 52/MCID 3                                                  |
| 11,926                            | Total weight gain (kg)                                               | >>BDC 0LN1.25 Td[(C)-3 Td[b270 Td[(R)-3(i)-3(n)-3(>BDC e)-3(-)-31(B)-3 |
| avnaonb270                        | Td[(P)-3(W)71(e)-3(i)-3(g)-3(a)-3(gT)95(o)-3(>BDC T*[:T-3(e)-3(d )TJ |                                                                        |
|                                   |                                                                      |                                                                        |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                             | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Distribution of LBW,%:<br>G1: 2.0<br>G2: 11.1<br>G3: 8.3<br>G4: 5.2<br>G5: 3.8<br><i>P</i> = NS                                                                                                     | Race, parity, clinic service, substance abuse, preexisting medical condition                             |
| AOR (95% CI) for very low birthweight (500-1,499g):<br>G1: 2.06 (1.26-2.87)<br>G2: 1.82 (1.22-2.29)<br>G3: 1.00 (reference)<br>G4: 2.05 (0.90-4.44)<br>G5: 1.25 (0.61-1.61)<br>G6: 1.74 (1.23-2.42) | Ethnicity, intendedness of pregnancy, Medicaid status, WIC status, prenatal care, diabetes, hypertension |
| AOR (95% CI) for moderately low birthweight (1500-2499 g):<br>G1: 4.83 (2.98-7.83)<br>G2: 1.77 (1.23-2.60)<br>G3: 1.00 (reference)<br>G4: 0.28 (0.11-1.83)<br>G5: 1.09 (0.67-2.13)                  |                                                                                                          |

*Overview of results* Evidence from twelve articles (2 good,<sup>159,160</sup> 7 fair,<sup>2,20,55,60,77,127,154,161</sup> and 3 poor<sup>54,162,163</sup>) supports an association between weight gain less than the IOM guidelines and LBW for both underweight and normal-weight women; evidence is less conclusive about any association for women with higher body weight.

*Detailed results for total weight gain* In the nine-state PNSS study,<sup>160</sup> analyses for normal and overweight women stratified by race showed a statistically significant decreased risk of LBW with higher gains. Among underweight women, a protective effect against LBW was seen with higher gains in whites and Hispanic and an increased risk was associated with low weight gains (> 10 lbs < IOM threshold) across all the race groups. Similarly, among obese women of all race groups, low weight gains (> 10 pounds below the IOM threshold) were associated with higher risk of LBW.<sup>160</sup>

In the eight-state PNNS study,<sup>2</sup> for women of normal weight, the odds for LBW were elevated and statistically significant when their weight gains were below 19 pounds compared with women whose weight gains were in the recommended range. For overweight and obese women, weight gains below the IOM guidelines were not associated with LBW infants. This was also shown in the study by Edwards et al.<sup>55</sup>

Weight gains above the IOM guidelines starting at > 35 pounds were protective against having a LBW infant for normal-weight women,<sup>2</sup> and starting at ≥ 40 pounds for overweight women, but higher weight gains were not protective for obese women.

Two studies showed almost double the odds of LBW among black women who delivered at term but had weight gain below the IOM range;<sup>20,60</sup> this finding was statistically significant in only one (good) study.<sup>20</sup> The OR among white women was 1.5 (not significant).<sup>20</sup>

The only association seen among obese women was among smokers who gained less than the IOM guidelines.

the second and third trimesters.<sup>161</sup> Low rate of weight gain in the second and third trimesters was associated with an increased risk of term LBW or intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR) in both data sets. This association held for all weight status groups except women with a BMI > 25 when the analysis was stratified by pregravid BMI and adjusted for multiple confounders.

### Fetal growth (large for gestational age or macrosomia)

*Study characteristics* We identified 15 studies that examined the association between weight gain categorized according to the IOM guidelines on LGA<sup>4,25,54,116,118,129,154,159</sup> or macrosomia<sup>2,53,55,110,160,164,165</sup> (Evidence Tables 43 and 44, Table 34). Five studies used data from a hospital database;<sup>54,55,116,118,129,159</sup> three were cohort studies.<sup>53,154,164</sup> One study used data from a health maintenance organization;<sup>110</sup> one used a prenatal clinic database;<sup>153</sup> one used state birth certificate data;<sup>4,25</sup> one used the Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System;<sup>2,160</sup> and one used controls from a multi-center study of birth defects.<sup>165</sup>

*Overview of results for LGA infant weight* Eight studies defined LGA as > 90 percentile of birthweight for gestational age (Table 34).<sup>4,25,54,116,118,129,154,159</sup> The majority of these studies, of which two were rated good,<sup>116,159</sup> one poor<sup>54</sup> and the remainder fair,<sup>4,25,118,129,154</sup> showed a consistent association between weight gains above the IOM guidelines and LGA for women of all weight status groups. Four articles examined LGA defined as > 4,500 g;<sup>2,53,110,160</sup> two were good quality,<sup>110,160</sup> two were fair.<sup>2,53</sup> They also showed a consistent association. When macrosomia or high birthweight was the outcome, results were less consistent (1 poor quality,<sup>165</sup> 2 fair-rated studies<sup>55,164</sup>).

*Detailed results for LGA infant weight* One study reported the risk of LGA among women of all weight status groups



TABLE 34. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Large-for-Gestational-Age Infant Weight

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| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| AOR (95% CI) for LGA and rate of weight gain (per 50 g/wk):<br>G1: 1.25 (1.11-1.41)<br>G2: 1.14 (1.08-1.20)<br>G3: 1.13 (1.07-1.20)<br><br>Expected absolute change (as % of baseline) in incidence of LGA<br>associated with modifiable risk factor (G4-G7):<br>G4: +1.28 (+26)<br>G5: -0.77 (-16)<br>G6: +2.58 (+17)<br>G7: -2.87 (-19) | Age, race,3( )TJEMC /Artifact <</C                          |

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)    | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Devader et al.,<br>2007 <sup>25</sup><br><br>USA, birth<br>certificate data<br><br>94,696<br><br>Normal weight/BMI<br>19.8-26<br><br>Fair                      | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured       | Maternal weight gain categories:<br>G1: < 25 lbs<br>G2: 25-35 lbs<br>G3: > 35 lbs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Kiel et al., 2007 <sup>4</sup><br><br>USA, birth registry<br><br>120,170<br><br>Obese BMI > 30<br><br>Fair                                                     | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Medical record | Maternal weight gain categories stratified by<br>prepregnancy obesity status, Obese Class I (BMI<br>30-34.9), Obese Class II (BMI 35-39.9), Obese<br>Class III (> = BMI 40):<br>G1: ≤ -10 lbs<br>G2: -2 to -9 lbs<br>G3: No change<br>G4: 2-9 lbs<br>G5: 10-14 lbs<br>G6: 15-25 lbs<br>G7: 26-35 lbs<br>G8: > 35 lbs |
| Parker and Abrams,<br>1992 <sup>118</sup><br><br>USA, hospital<br><br>USA, Hospital<br>database<br>(California)<br><br>6,690<br><br>All weight/BMI<br><br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured       | Maternal weight gain categories:<br>G1: < IOM range<br>G2: Within IOM range<br>G3: > IOM<br><br>BMI IOM                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Stevens-Simon<br>and McAnarney,<br>1992 <sup>15</sup>                                                                                                          |                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |



|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Author, Year     |                   |                      |
| Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight  |                      |
| Sample Size      | (How Measured)    |                      |
| Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain |                      |
| Quality          | (How Measured)    | Definition of Groups |

Stotland et al.,-3(s )JTJEMC /Span <</MCID s

Results

Confounders and  
Effect Modifiers

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| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Within every BMI-race ethnicity stratum, the odds of delivering a &gt; 4,500g infant tended to increase as weight gain increased. This trend was statistically significant for all strata; however, the trend diminished with decreasing BMI. Women in G6 were 2.2-10.8 times more likely to 61(G)-3(6)13( )y rG6ng a</p> <p>&gt;</p> |                                                             |



| Author, Year                    | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)      | Definition of Groups             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Country, Setting                | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)     |                                  |
| Sample Size                     |                                         |                                  |
| Baseline BMI                    |                                         |                                  |
| Quality                         |                                         |                                  |
| Thorsdottir, 2002 <sup>53</sup> | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report        | Maternal weight gain categories: |
| Iceland, Hospital<br>records    | Total weight gain:<br>Maternity records | G1: < 11.5 kg                    |
| 614                             |                                         |                                  |
| Normal weight/BMI<br>19.5-25.5  |                                         |                                  |
| Fair                            |                                         |                                  |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Birthweight > 4,500g,%<br>G1: 4.3<br>G2: 4.1 ( <i>P</i> < 0.05 between groups)<br>G3: 9.1 ( <i>P</i> < 0.05 between groups)<br>G4: 10.2 ( <i>P</i> < 0.05 between groups)<br><i>P</i> for trend < 0.015<br><br>RR (95% CI) for > 4,500g:<br>G5: 1.00 (reference)<br>G6: 3.54 (1.26-9.97) | Age, parity, height, gestational age, birthweight     |
| Birthweight < 1,200g,<br>G1: 120e<br>G2: 1205<br>G3: G3G5<br>G4: 13G6<br>G5: 23G6E>Tj EMC /Artifact <</O /Layout >>BDC /T1_1 1 Tf 6.411 0 Td [( )-31(()-f(N)-3(o)-3(r)-[( )-3[(G)<br>G7: 6.6<br>G8: 1616                                                                                 |                                                       |

| Author, Year                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)  | Definition of Groups                                                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country, Setting                 |                                     |                                                                        |
| Sample Size                      | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) |                                                                        |
| Baseline BMI                     |                                     |                                                                        |
| Quality                          |                                     |                                                                        |
| Rode et al., 2007 <sup>164</sup> | Pregravid weight:<br>Self report    | Maternal weight gain categories stratified by<br>pregravid BMI status: |
| Denmark Smoke-                   | Total weight gain:<br>Self report   | BMI less than 19.8                                                     |
| free Newborn Study,              |                                     | G1: < IOM                                                              |
| University Hospital              |                                     | G2: Within IOM                                                         |
| 2,248                            |                                     | G3: > IOM                                                              |
| All weight/BMI                   |                                     | BMI 19.8-26.0                                                          |
| Fair                             |                                     | G4: < IOM                                                              |
|                                  |                                     | G5: Within IOM                                                         |
|                                  |                                     | G6: > IOM                                                              |
|                                  |                                     | BMI 26.1-29.0                                                          |
|                                  |                                     | G7: < IOM                                                              |
|                                  |                                     | G8: Within IOM                                                         |
|                                  |                                     | G9: > IOM                                                              |
|                                  |                                     | BMI greater than 29.0                                                  |
|                                  |                                     | G10: < IOM                                                             |
|                                  |                                     | G11: Within IOM                                                        |
|                                  |                                     | G12: > IOM                                                             |



among obese smokers.<sup>55,159</sup> In a study that grouped women into classes of obesity,<sup>4</sup> the odds of LGA increased with weight gains above 25 pounds for all classes of obesity.

Two studies examined the impact of rate of weight gain according to the IOM guidelines on having an LGA infant.<sup>116,154</sup> One good study defined the rate of weight gain in increments of 50 g per week.<sup>116</sup> The AORs associated with having an LGA infant for each increment were as follows: 1.25 for normal-weight women, 1.14 for overweight women, and 1.13 for obese women. Using these AORs, the authors calculated the expected change in the incidence of LGA if weight gains remained within the IOM guidelines. These changes were -0.77 percent for black women and -2.87 percent for white women; baseline LGA incidence rates were 4.8 percent and 14.8 percent, respectively. The other study investigated rate of weight gain among black adolescents with no difference in pregravid weight status.<sup>154</sup> In bivariate analysis the prevalence of LGA did not differ between mothers who were slow weight gainers (< 0.23 kg/week) or rapid weight gainers (> 0.4 kg/week) and mothers who were average weight gainers (0.23 to 0.4 kg/week).

With respect to LGA defined as > 4,500 g, the one study reporting risk estimates for women of all weight groups found that weight gain above the IOM guidelines was associated with a threefold increased risk of LGA after adjustment for various confounders.<sup>110</sup> Women who gained less than the recommendation were 62 percent less likely to have an LGA infant than women who gained within the recommended range.

Analyses for normal-weight women showed a threefold increased risk of LGA with weight gains above the IOM guidelines<sup>110</sup> or at > 40

significant increased risk in the two studies of fair quality.<sup>55,164</sup> Normal-weight women who gained below the guidelines were at decreased risk in one study.<sup>164</sup> For obese women, one study found no difference in the risk of macrosomia with weight gains either above or below the IOM guidelines;<sup>164</sup> the other found that those who gained above the IOM guidelines had 2.8 times the risk for a macrosomic infant relative to those who gained within the recommended range.<sup>55</sup> For underweight and overweight women, weight gains above or below the IOM guidelines were not associated with delivering a macrosomic infant,<sup>164</sup> although women with weight gains above the guidelines appeared to have a slightly increased risk.

Fetal growth (sm (sght lig slTnT/Span 4MCID 40456 BDC -BT/T1201 Tf00 0 0 10 27

TABLE 35. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Small-for-Gestational-Age

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| Results | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------|

\*4[(G)-3(2)-3(:)-3( )-31(N)-3(l)-3( )-31(w)-3(e)-3(i)-3(g)-3(h)-3(t)-3( )-31(g)-3(a)-3(i)-3(l)-3( )]TJEMC /Artifact <</O /Layout  
(f)-25 TD25 TdA-3(l)-3( )]TJEMC /Artifact <</O /Layout >>BDC 0 -1.-3(e)-3(a)s( )-31(N)c3(e)-3(a)-3(r)-3(i)e3(c)d3(c)-3(k0-



TABLE 35. Continued

| Author, Year                                           | Country, Setting | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)  | Definition of Groups                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sample Size                                            | Baseline BMI     | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) |                                                                                                         |
| Nielsen et al.,<br>2006 <sup>153</sup>                 |                  | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report    | G1: BMI < 19.8<br>G2: BMI 19.8-26.0<br>G3: BMI > 26.0                                                   |
| USA, hospitals<br>(African<br>American<br>adolescents) |                  | Total weight gain:<br>Measured      | G4: < IOM<br>G5: Lower half of IOM<br>G6: Upper half of IOM<br>G7: > IOM                                |
| 815                                                    |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| All weight/BMI                                         |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Good                                                   |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Devader et al.,<br>2007 <sup>25</sup>                  |                  | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report    | Maternal weight gain categories (lbs):<br>G1: < 25<br>G2: 25-35<br>G3: > 35                             |
| USA, birth<br>certificate data                         |                  | Total weight gain:<br>Measured      |                                                                                                         |
| 94,696                                                 |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Normal weight/<br>BMI 19.8-26                          |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Fair                                                   |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Edwards et al.,<br>1996 <sup>55</sup>                  |                  | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report    | Obese BMI > 29 (kg):<br>G1: Lost weight/no change<br>G2: 0.5-6.5<br>G3: 7-11.5<br>G4: 12-16<br>G5: > 16 |
| USA, hospital                                          |                  | Total weight gain:<br>Measured      |                                                                                                         |
| 1,443                                                  |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |
| Normal/Obese<br>weight/BMI                             |                  |                                     | Normal weight 19.8-26<br>G6: < 11.5<br>G7: 11.5-16<br>G8: > 16                                          |
| Fair                                                   |                  |                                     |                                                                                                         |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SGA, %:<br>G1: 22.3<br>G2: 15.6<br>G3: 11.5<br><i>P</i> < 0.01 for G1-G3<br><br>AOR (95% CI) for SGA:<br>G4: 2.31 (1.22-4.37)<br>G5: 1.00 (reference)<br>G6: 0.88 (0.41-1.89)<br>G7: 0.68 (0.34-1.35)<br><i>P</i> < 0.01 for G4-G7<br><br>AOR (95% CI) for SGA:<br>G1: 2.14 (2.01-2.27)<br>G2: 1.0 (reference)<br>G3: 0.48 (0.45-0.50) | Parity, pregravid<br>BMI, time between<br>last weight measure<br>and delivery, height<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Age, race,<br>education, income,<br>alcohol use, height,<br>prior pregnancy,<br>inadequate prenatal<br>care use, smoking,<br>child's gender, birth<br>year |

| Author, Year                                 | Country, Setting              | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)  | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kiel et al.,<br>2007 <sup>4</sup>            | USA, birth<br>registry        | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report   | Total weight gain:<br>Medical record | Maternal weight gain categories stratified by<br>prepregnancy obesity status, Obese Class I (BMI<br>30-34.9), Obese Class II (BMI 35-39.9), Obese Class<br>III (BMI ≥ 40):<br>G1: ≤ -10 lbs<br>G2: -2 to -9 lbs<br>G3: No change<br>G4: 2-9 lbs<br>G5: 10-14 lbs<br>G6: 15-25 lbs<br>G7: 26-35 lbs<br>G8: > 35 lbs |
| Parker and<br>Abrams,<br>1992 <sup>118</sup> | USA, hospital<br>(California) | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report   | Total weight gain:<br>Measured       | Maternal weight gain categories:<br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM<br>BMI IOM                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 6,690                                        | All weight/BMI                |                                    |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Fair                                         |                               |                                    |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |







TABLE 36. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Apgar Scores

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                   | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)      | Definition of Groups                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nixon et al., 1998 <sup>125</sup><br>USA, county nurse-midwifery services<br>2,228<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair                 | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Data records     | Gestational weight gain<br>categorized by IOM<br>recommendations<br><br>BMI IOM                                  |
| Stevens-Simon and McAnarney, 1992 <sup>154</sup><br>USA, adolescent maternity program<br>141<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair       | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured         | Maternal weight gain<br>categories (kg/wk):<br><br>G1: < 0.23<br>G2: 0.23-0.40<br>G3: > 0.40                     |
| Stotland et al., 2006 <sup>129</sup><br>USA, university hospital<br>20,465<br>All weight/BMI (using IOM definitions)<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Prenatal records | Maternal weight gain<br>categories:<br><br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM<br>G4: < 7 kg<br>G5: > 18 kg |

BMI, body mass index; G, group; IOM, Institute of Medicine; kg/wk, kilogram per week; NS, not significant; USA, United States of America.

*Overview of results* Three fair studies provide insufficient evidence to support an association between weight gain and low Apgar scores.

*Detailed Results on Apgar Scores* Three studies included investigation of Apgar scores and adherence to the IOM recommendations.<sup>125,129,154</sup> In one study,<sup>129</sup> total weight gain above the IOM guidelines increased the risk

| Results                                                                                                            | Confounders and Effect Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Maternal weight gain by IOM guidelines was not not a significant predictor of Apgar scores (details—none reported) | None                                                  |

Distribution of 1-minute Apgar score  $\leq 4$ , %:

G1: 25.0

G2: 4.5

G3: 14.9

P=4032 for G1 v-3(2(o)-3(r)-ryout >>BDC /T1\_2 1 Tf0.551 0 Td( (-)5(0)-3(.)-3/Artifact <(r-3) (-)31(s)-3(c)-3 GN/Artifact <</Oe/O /p-3/(O-3(3(e)-3(g)-3<0062(t))TJEMC 75out >-13. T\*[(GSct <</O //ArtifactTf0.614



conducted among black adolescents and found a slow rate of weight gain ( $< 0.23$  kg/week) to be associated with a 1-minute Apgar score of  $\leq 4$  compared to higher rates of weight gain ( $> 0.23$  kg/week).

### *Infant Outcomes*

#### Perinatal mortality

*Study characteristics* One US study of a hospital database examined perinatal mortality (Evidence Table 47).

than the IOM guidelines (AOR, 1.38; 95% CI, 1.01-1.89); weight gains below the IOM were not associated with infant hypoglycemia.

Stratification by race (in the good study) showed that among infants born to non-Hispanic white women, a pregnancy weight gain below the IOM guidelines was significantly associated with a decreased odds of hypoglycemia (OR, 0.39; 95% CI, 0.18-0.84); among infants born to women of minority groups (undefined), weight gain below the IOM guidelines was significantly associated with an increased risk of hypoglycemia (OR, 1.69; 95% CI, 1.08-2.64).<sup>110</sup> This study also stratified by pregravid BMI and did not find any significant effect that suggested the effect of weight gain varied by pregravid BMI.

The second study reported that women who gained above the IOM guidelines were significantly more likely to have an infant with hypoglycemia (AOR, 1.52; 95% CI, 1.06-2.16)<sup>129</sup> but that women with weight gain below the

(Evidence Table 50). This study involved 1,585 women from a single HMO in Boston who were part of pregnancy study and then enrolled in a follow-up study. A total of 1,110 children completed a visit at age 3, at which time study staff measured their weight and height; maternal weight and pregravid weight status were obtained via questionnaire. This study did not specify singleton-only births, but it did note that preterm births and infants weighing < 2,500 kg were excluded because of their different growth trajectories in the first year of life. Maternal weight gain was calculated as the difference between weight measured near delivery obtained from the prenatal record and self-reported pregravid weight. The study reported on the effect of total weight gain, net weight gain (excluding infant birthweight) and weight gain classified by IOM guidelines. Child BMI percentiles were grouped as follows: below 50th (referent category), 50th to 84th, 85th to 94th, and 95th or higher.

*Results* Using children born to women who gained inadequately as the referent, children born to women who gained adequately or excessively had higher odds of being in higher percentile categories. The AORs for children born to women who gained adequately were as follows: 50th to 84th percentile, 1.85 (1.17-2.92); 85th to 94th percentile, 2.09 (1.12-3.92), and 95th percentile and above, 3.77 (1.38-10.27). AORs for children born to mothers who gained excessively were similar: respectively, 1.84 (1.17-2.88), 2.03 (1.11-3.72) and 4.35 (1.69-11.24). Both models adjusted for maternal pregravid BMI, prenatal smoking, race/ethnicity, household income, marital status, glucose tolerance, paternal BMI, gestational length, and child's sex.

### *Short- and Long-Term Maternal Outcomes*

#### *Lactation performance*

*Study characteristics* Three studies (four articles) reported on the effects of weight gain on lactation performance (Evidence Table 51, Table 37).<sup>166-169</sup> One study was done using the Danish National Birth Cohort;<sup>166</sup> another study (2 articles) used a U.S. hospital database for years 1988 to 1997;<sup>168,169</sup> and the third used data from the U.S. Pediatric Nu

TABLE 37. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Breastfeeding

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                                                                                              | Pregavid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight<br>Gain (How<br>Measured)                                     | Definition<br>of Groups                                      | Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in<br>Analysis |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Baker et al.,<br>2007 <sup>166</sup><br><br>Denmark-<br>National Birth<br><br>37,459<br><br>All wt/BMI<br>Under wt BMI<br>< 18.5<br>Normal BMI<br>18.5-24.9<br>Overweight<br>BMI 25-29<br>Obese BMI<br>≥ 30<br><br>Fair | Pregavid<br>weight:<br><br>Prepregnant<br>weight Self<br>reported<br><br>Total weight<br>gain:<br>Self-reported | G1:<br>< 8 kg<br><br>G2: 8-<br>15.9 kg<br><br>G3:<br>≥ 16 kg | Overall higher risk<br>of terminating full<br>or any breastfeeding<br>with higher<br>pregavid BMI.<br><br>Unadjusted RR full<br>BF G1: 1.13 (95%<br>1.08-1.18) G3: 1.05<br>(1.03-1.08).<br><br>Any BF<br>G1: RR 1.16<br>(1.11-1.22)<br>G3: 1.05 (1.03-1.08)<br><br>GWG not a<br>predictor of full or<br>any when BMI was<br>in the model. | BMI                                                            |
| Li et al.,<br>2003 <sup>167</sup><br><br>USA WIC<br>clinics                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                 |                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                |

t 1d Ov d l 15h C3fu C3d (76) 3ni3(l)13(:)-32 An--3(s)-3(t)-3(e)-3(d)-3( )-30(R)-3(R)1rmt 1mo

*continued*



study used categories corresponding to the following cutpoints:  $< 8$  kg, 8 to 15.9 kg (the reference group), and  $\geq 16$  kg.<sup>166</sup>

*Overview of results* These studies (all fair quality) support an association between weight gains below the IOM guidelines and lower likelihood of breastfeeding initiation; they also suggest a shorter duration of exclusive breastfeeding among obese women. They provide only inconsistent evidence of an association between weight gain in relation to the IOM guidelines and initiation of breastfeeding.

*Detailed results on breastfeeding initiation* Obese women, regardless of weight gain, had higher odds of never initiating breastfeeding than women of normal weight in one U.S. study.<sup>167-</sup>

were associated with early termination of full breastfeeding. Once the authors adjusted for pregravid BMI, however, this association was no longer significant.

*Detailed results on duration of any breastfeeding* Shorter duration of any breastfeeding was associated with maternal obesity.<sup>166,167,169</sup>

In the two U.S. studies, gaining weight above the IOM guidelines was associated with shorter duration of any breastfeeding (in the range of 1 to

study, changes in body fat from 14 to 37 weeks of gestation stratified by pregravid BMI showed that women who gained below the IOM guidelines had the lowest amount of fat gain; those within an intermediate level and those above had the highest fat gain.<sup>16</sup> The investigators did not report significance tests. Among obese women who gained within the IOM guidelines, the percentage of body fat change (-0.6 kg) was significantly lower



TABLE 38. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Short-Term Weight Retention

| Author, Year                     | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups                                  | Results                                                                                                                                       | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Luke et al., 1996 <sup>104</sup> | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report   | Maternal weight gain<br>< IOM recommendations:        | Mean (SEM) retained weight (defined as 2-day<br>postpartum weight minus pregravid weight, kg):                                                |                                                             |
| USA, clinic                      | Total weight gain:<br>Measured     | G1: BMI < 19.8<br>G2: BMI 19.8–26.0<br>G3: BMI > 26.0 | G1: 3.2 (0.5) <i>P</i> < 0.05 compared to G4<br>G2: 0.8 (0.4) <i>P</i> < 0.05 compared to G5<br>G3: -5.0 (0.7) <i>P</i> < 0.05 compared to G6 |                                                             |
| All weight/BMI                   |                                    | Maternal weight gain within<br>IOM recommendations:   | G4: 8.2 (0.7)<br>G5: 7.0 (0.4)<br>G6: 1.4 (0.8)                                                                                               |                                                             |
| Fair                             |                                    | G4: BMI < 19.8<br>G5: BMI 19.8–26.0<br>G6: BMI > 26.0 |                                                                                                                                               |                                                             |
|                                  |                                    | Maternal weight gain<br>> IOM recommendations:        |                                                                                                                                               |                                                             |
|                                  |                                    | G7: BMI < 19.8<br>G8: BMI 19.8–26.0<br>G9: BMI > 26.0 |                                                                                                                                               |                                                             |



TABLE 39. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Weight Retention During the First Year Postpartum

| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality              | Pregravid Weight (How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How Measured)                | Definition of Groups                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amorim et al., 2007 <sup>171</sup><br>Sweden, hospital<br>483<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Obstetric records    | Maternal weight gain categories:<br>< IOM<br>Within IOM<br>> IOM                                |
| Rooney et al., 2002 <sup>174</sup><br>USA, hospital<br>540<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair    | Pregravid weight:<br>Measured at first visit<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured | Maternal weight gain categories:<br><br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM<br><br>BMI IOM |



| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                    | Pregravid Weight (How<br>Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain (How<br>Measured)                     | Definition of Groups                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Walker, 1996 <sup>172</sup><br>USA, mail survey<br>88<br>Underweight/Normal/<br>Overweight (using IOM<br>definitions)<br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Self report                     | Maternal weight gain<br>categories:<br><br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM                                                                           |
| Olson, 2002 <sup>175</sup><br>USA, hospital and primary<br>care clinic system<br>622<br>All weight/BMI<br>Fair                | Pregravid weight:<br>Measured during first<br>trimester<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Measured | Maternal weight gain<br>categories:<br><br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM<br>G4: Interaction for > IOM<br>and income ≤ 185% federal<br>poverty line |

| Results                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Confounders and<br>Effect Modifiers<br>Included in Analysis                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mean weight retention at 6 months postpartum, lbs:<br>G1: 0.4<br>G2: 3.7<br>G3: 13.5<br>$P < 0.001$                                                                                                          | Mode of delivery,<br>infant sex,<br>breastfeeding,<br>infant birthweight,<br>pregravid BMI |
| Maternal weight gain was significantly related to weight at 6 months postpartum: $r = 0.60$ , $P < 0.001$<br>Mean weight retention at 18 months postpartum, lbs:<br>G1, G2: 0.7<br>G3: 11.0<br>$P < 0.01$    |                                                                                            |
| Maternal weight gain was significantly related to weight at 18 months postpartum: $r = 0.49$ , $P < 0.001$                                                                                                   |                                                                                            |
| Regression coefficient (SE) for weight change from early pregnancy to 1 year postpartum (kg):<br>G1: -1.50 (0.62) $P = 0.016$<br>G2: reference<br>G3: 0.32 (0.65) $P = 0.621$<br>G4: 3.41 (0.91) $P < 0.001$ |                                                                                            |
| AOR (95% CI) for major weight gain ( $\geq 10$ lbs) at 1 year postpartum:<br>G1: 0.33 (0.13-0.83)<br>G2: 1.00 (reference)<br>G3: 1.47 (0.73-2.94)<br>--1                                                     |                                                                                            |

the United States, and one was from Sweden.

TABLE 40. Weight Change Relative to IOM Thresholds and Long-Term Weight Retention

| Author, Year                      | Country, Setting                             | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)                       | Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured) | Definition of Groups                                                               | Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis                                           |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gunderson,<br>2000 <sup>177</sup> | USA, hospital                                | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report                         | Total weight gain:<br>Measured      | Maternal weight gain<br>categories:<br>G1: < IOM/within IOM<br>G2: > IOM           | AOR (95% CI) for becoming overweight<br>between baseline (pregravid weight at start of<br>index pregnancy) and start of second study<br>pregnancy (median interval time = 1.5 years):<br>G1: Reference<br>G2: 2.95 (1.67-5.24) | Smoking, PIH, education,<br>parity, marital status, age at<br>menarche, interval to first<br>birth |
| Good                              | All weight/BMI<br>(using IOM<br>definitions) |                                                          |                                     |                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                    |
| Rooney,<br>2005 <sup>176</sup>    | USA, hospital                                | Pregravid weight:<br>Measured at first<br>prenatal visit | Total weight gain:<br>Measured      | Categories of maternal<br>weight gain:<br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: within IOM<br>G3: > IOM | Multivariable regression coefficient (95% CI)<br>for BMI at 15 years postpartum:<br>G1: -0.57 (-0.57-1.21)<br>G2: reference<br>G3: 1.69 (0.79-2.58)                                                                            |                                                                                                    |
| Fair                              | All weight/BMI                               |                                                          |                                     |                                                                                    | Multivariable regression coefficient (95% CI)<br>for change in weight between baseline and 15<br>years postpartum:<br>G1: 0.43 (-1.87-2.73)<br>G2: reference                                                                   |                                                                                                    |



| Author, Year<br>Country, Setting<br>Sample Size<br>Baseline BMI<br>Quality                                                                  | Pregravid Weight<br>(How Measured)<br>Total Weight Gain<br>(How Measured)       | Definition of Groups                                                            | Results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Confounders and Effect<br>Modifiers Included in Analysis |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Amorim et al.,<br>2007 <sup>171</sup><br><br>Sweden,<br>hospital<br><br>483<br><br>All weight/BMI<br>(using IOM<br>definitions)<br><br>Fair | Pregravid weight:<br>Self-report<br><br>Total weight gain:<br>Obstetric records | Maternal weight gain<br>categories:<br>G1: < IOM<br>G2: Within IOM<br>G3: > IOM | Mean (SD) change in weight at 15 years<br>postpartum, kg:<br>G1: 6.2 (6.8)<br>G2: 6.7 (6.8)<br>G3: 10.3 (8.5)<br>P = 0.000<br><br>Mean (SD) BMI at 15 years postpartum:<br>G1: 23.5 (3.7)<br>G2: 23.6 (3.0)<br>G3: 25.9 (3.9)<br>P = 0.000<br><br>Multiple regression coefficient, B (95% CI) for<br>15 year BMI status:<br>G1: 0.01 (-0.56-0.59)<br>G2: Reference<br>G3: 0.72 (0.15-1.30)<br>P = 0.033<br><br>Multiple regression coefficient (95% CI) for<br>change in BMI status between pregravid and<br>15 years postpartum:<br>G1: 0.02 (-0.56-0.59)<br>G2: Reference<br>G3: 0.68 (0.11-1.24)<br>P = 0.042 | Education, lactation, weight                             |



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# appendix F

## Data Tables

### APPROACH TO GATHERING EVIDENCE

In order to review the most relevant scientific literature available, the committee and staff conducted thorough searches of several online bibliographic databases, including Medline, Science Direct, and WorldCat/First Search. General searches on pregnancy, gestational weight gain, and outcomes of pregnancy were first conducted to identify primary literature. Using the results of the primary search, key search terms were developed and secondary searches were then conducted. Search terms were chosen based on relevance to the report outline and topics included in the previous Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, *Nutrition During Pregnancy* (IOM, 1990). Although initial searches were general, subsequent searches focused on retrieving studies that were not covered by the evidence-based review conducted by Viswanathan et al. (2008). To identify studies that fell outside of the scope of that report, searches were limited to publication dates prior to 1990 and after October 2007. Similar to the methodology used by Viswanathan et al. (2008), searches were limited to English. As the study progressed, focused searches were conducted as needed and general searches were carried out to identify newly published articles. See Box F-1 for an example of how searches were conducted. The focus of this appendix is literature that addresses the consequences of gestational weight gain. Table F-1 includes studies on the consequences of gestational weight gain for the mother and for the child, as discussed in Chapter 5, *Consequences of Gestational Weight Gain for the Mother*, and Chapter 6, *Consequences*





**BOX F-1**  
**Examples of Searches Using Key Words to**  
**Identify Relevant Literature (PubMed)**

***General search (limited to English)***

#1 Search Pregnancy

#2 Search Weight Gain

#3 Search #1 and #2

#4 Search gestational weight

#5 Search #3 OR #4

TABLE F-1 Consequences of Gestational Weight Gain

| Study Description | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured), |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                   |                                                                      |                                                                                              |



| Study Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Abrams and Laros,<br/>1986</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>USA (San Francisco,<br/>CA)</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>Sept 1980 to Dec<br/>1983</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To study the effect of<br/>maternal weight gain<br/>on birth weight.</p> | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li></ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>2,946</p> <p><i>Group Description:</i><br/>G1: Prepregnancy,<br/>underweight<br/>G2: Prepregnancy, ideal<br/>weight<br/>G3: Prepregnancy,<br/>moderately overweight<br/>G4: Prepregnancy, very<br/>overweight</p> <p><i>Group N:</i><br/>G1: 268<br/>G2: 1,535<br/>G3: 901<br/>G4: 224</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singleton pregnancies</li><li>• ≥ 37 weeks' gestation</li><li>• Live infant was delivered<br/>at study hospital</li></ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maternal transfers</li><li>• Transports</li><li>• Intrauterine transfusions</li><li>• Fetal surgeries</li></ul> | <p>Pregnancy weight gain = <math>T_n - MCID / T1_1 - TE(a)</math></p>                                                        |

| Outcomes/Results/Confounders                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Outcomes description:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total maternal weight gain</li><li>• Infant birth weight</li></ul> | <i>Results:</i><br>Mean weight gain (kg)<br>G1: 14.3<br>G2: 15.2<br>G3: 15.2<br>G4: 14.1<br><br>Birth weight (gm)<br>G1: 3,290<br>G2: 3,414<br>G3: 3,521<br>G4: 3,593 | <i>Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Race</li><li>• Parity</li><li>• Maternal age</li><li>• Number of cigarettes smoked/day</li><li>• Prepregnancy weight/height</li><li>• SES</li></ul> |

*continued*

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| Study Description                                                         | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Berkowitz, 1981                                   | <i>Design:</i><br>• Case-control                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Demographics:</i><br>G1:<br>Married: 64%<br>Race:<br>White, 65.7%<br>Black, 29.1%<br>Hispanic, 4.0%<br>Mean age: 24.9     |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA                                            | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>488                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>1977                                         | <i>Group Description:</i><br>G1: preterm deliveries, < 37 weeks<br>G2: term deliveries, 37 weeks or later                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To study the epidemiology of preterm delivery. | <i>Group N:</i><br>G1: 175<br>G2: 313<br><br><i>Inclusion criteria:</i><br>• Singleton infants<br>• Delivered before 37 wks gestation<br>• Spoke English<br>• Were interviewed during postpartum stay<br>• Had not placed infant up for adoption<br><br><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br>• Deliveries that were induced or surgically assisted without prior spontaneous labor or spontaneous rupture of membranes<br>• Women who were referred to outlying hospitals or physicians | <i>G2:</i><br>Married: 77.3%<br>Race:<br>White, 72.8%<br>Black, 22.7%<br>Hispanic, 3.2%<br>Mean age: 26.2                    |





| Study Description | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:                                                                                                       |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                   |                                                                      | Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>aSpan <</MHC T*[(T)asteria[(P9066(E)-5Ar)-3(e)-3 |



| Study Description                          | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Butte et al., 1984 |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA             |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>NR            |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine      |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

---

TABLE F-1 Continued

| Study Description                                                                                                                       | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Chen et al., 2008                                                                                               | <i>Design:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Retrospective</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Low weight gain = < 0.16 kg/wk                                                                                               |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA                                                                                                          | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>4,037,009                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>1995-2000                                                                                                  | <i>Group Description:</i><br>G1: Nulliparous women,<br>under aged 10-15<br>G2: Nulliparous women,<br>under aged 16-17<br>G3: Nulliparous women,<br>under aged 18-19<br>G4: Nulliparous women,<br>under aged 20-24                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the<br>association between<br>teenage pregnancy<br>and neonatal<br>and postneonatal<br>mortality. | <i>Group N:</i><br>G1: 183,977 live births<br>G2: 674,026 live births<br>G3: 1,098,111 live births<br>G4: 2,080,895 live births<br><br><i>Inclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singleton live births</li><li>• 10-24 years of age</li><li>• Nulliparous</li></ul><br><i>Exclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subjects with missing<br/>data on prenatal care<br/>and/or gestational age</li></ul> |                                                                                                                              |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

*Outcomes description:*

- Neonatal and postneonatal mortality and morbidity

*Results:*

Teenage pregnancy (G1, G2, G3) was associated with increased neonatal mortality (OR: 1.20, 95% CI = 1.16-1.24) and postneonatal mortality (OR: 1.47, 95% CI = 1.41-1.54). There was still an association of increased risk of neonatal and postneonatal mortality after adjusting for GWG (OR 1.23, 95% CI = 1.19-1.28 and OR: 1.48, 95% CI = 1.42-1.55 respectively). No association was seen with gestational age at birth and neonatal mortality and teenage pregnancy (OR: 0.98, 95% CI = 0.95-1.02), but there was a significant association between gestational age at birth, teenage pregnancy, and postneonatal mortality (OR: 1.40, 95% CI = 1.34-1.46).

*Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Education level (defined as appropriate or inappropriate for age)
- Prenatal care (intensive, adequate, or inadequate)
- Race
- Tobacco and alcohol use during pregnancy
- Mode of delivery

*Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Birth defect
- Gestational age (< 32 wks, 32-36 weeks, ≥ 37 wks)

*continued*

| Study Description                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Frentzen et al., 1988                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA (Florida)                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>Jan 1982 to Dec 1984                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To compare the<br>influence of pregnancy<br>weight gain on<br>infant birth weight<br>and outcome among co/SpanJEMC /Sp-3(fl)-3 /Sp3(l)-3(l)-3(m)-3(e)-3(n)-3(t)4131(o)-3(u)-3(Gm)-32Tm[:t25 |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |





| Study Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Geelhoed et al., 2008</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>Rotterdam, The Netherlands</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>Apr 2002 to Jan 2006</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To examine the associations of maternal anthropometrics during pregnancy and left ventricular mass in infancy.</p> | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Prospective</li></ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>791</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singleton infants</li><li>• Aged 6 wks and 6 mos</li></ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multiple gestations</li><li>• Pregnancies resulting in intrauterine or perinatal death</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Measurements were taken at early visits (&lt; 18 wks gestation), mid pregnancy (18-25 wks), and late pregnancy (&gt; 25 wks).</p> <p>Pregravid weight was self-reported.</p> <p>Weight gain = late pregnancy weight - prepregnancy weight</p> |
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Haiek and Lederman, 1988</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>USA (New York, NY)</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>January 1981 to May 1985</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To examine the relationship between maternal weight for height and term birth weight.</p>                           | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li></ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>180</p> <p><i>Group Description:</i><br/>G1: Adult women, 19-30 y<br/>G2: Teens, &lt; 16 y</p> <p><i>Group N:</i><br/>G1: 90<br/>G2: 90</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gave birth at St. Luke's Hospital</li><li>• Live infants</li><li>• Received prenatal care</li></ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivery occurred before 37 weeks' gestation</li><li>• Factors known to affect fetal growth were present</li></ul> | <p>Data obtained from a standard prenatal and intrapartum form included in the medical record.</p>                                                                                                                                               |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

*Outcomes description:*

- Maternal anthropometrics
- Infant cardiac structure

*Results:*

No associations were seen between maternal weight gain during pregnancy and LVM at 6 wks of age, however weight gain during pregnancy was positively correlated with postnatal LVM at 6 mos of age.

For each kg increase in weight during pregnancy, LVM at age 6 mos increased by 0.08 g (95% CI 0.02, 0.15).

Weight gain in late pregnancy is associated with larger LVM at 6 mos.

*Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Age
- Height
- Prepregnancy weight
- Prepregnancy BMI
- Weight in late pregnancy

*Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Gender
- Birth weight/length

*Outcomes Description:*

Term birth weight

*Results:*

Mean birth weight was lower in the teen group than compared with the adult group. Birth weight also increased with increasing maternal prepregnancy weight, weight gain, and percent of standard weight for height at term for both groups. Overall, the teen group gave birth to smaller babies than the adult group.

*Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Marital status
- Education
- Race
- Date of registration for prenatal care
- Number of prenatal visits
- Height
- Prepregnancy weight
- Weight at delivery
- Smoking and drinking habits
- Obstetric history and complications
- Type of delivery
- Duration of pregnancy

*Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:*

- NR

*continued*

| Study Description                                                                                                      | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                          | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Harrison et al., 1980                                                                          | <i>Design:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Prospective</li></ul> |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA (Arizona)                                                                               | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>327                                                                  |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>Dec 1976 to June 1978                                                                     | <i>Inclusion criteria:</i>                                                                    |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the relationship between maternal obesity, weight gain, and infant birth weight. |                                                                                               |                                                                                                                              |





| Outcomes/Results/Confounders                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Outcomes description:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GDM</li><li>• Rate of weight gain</li></ul> | <i>Results:</i> <p>Gains of 1.1-2.2 kg/yr were associated with a small increased risk of GDM (OR 1.63, 85% CI 0.95-2.81). Gains of 2.3-10.0 kg/yr were associated with a 2.5-fold increased risk of GDM (OR 2.61, 95% CI 1.5-4.57) as compared with stable weight).</p> | <i>Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age</li><li>• Baseline BMI</li><li>• Prepregnancy BMI</li><li>• Parity</li><li>• Education</li><li>• Note of infertility (y or n)</li><li>• Amenorrhea (y or n)</li><li>• PCOS (y or no)</li><li>• Hypothyroid (y or n)</li><li>• Family history of diabetes (y or n)</li><li>• Smoking prior to pregnancy (y or n)</li></ul> <i>Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:</i> <p>NR</p> |

*continued*



Outcomes/Results/Confounders

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| Study Description                                                                                                                 | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Langford et al., 2008                                                                                     | <i>Design:</i><br>• Population-based Cohort                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Study population was further divided into eight categories to represent 10-lb gain increments.                               |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA; Missouri birth certificate data                                                                   | <i>Total study N:</i><br>34,143                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Prepregnancy BMI: height and weight rep(e)-2ac >>BDC 8 0 0 8 248 515.75EMC /S                                                |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>1990-2004                                                                                            | <i>Group Description:</i><br>G1: GWG below IOM recs (< 15 lbs)<br>G2: GWG within IOM recs (15-25 lbs)<br>G3: GWG above IOM recs (> 25 lbs)                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the relationship between GWG and adverse maternal and infant outcomes for overweight women. | <i>Group N:</i><br>G1: 1,787<br>G2: 7,205<br>G3: 25,151<br><br><i>Inclusion criteria:</i><br>• Singleton, full term deliveries<br>• Nulliparous<br>• Missouri residents<br>• Aged 18-35<br>• Prepregnancy BMIs 26-29 kg/m <sup>2</sup><br><br><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br>• NR |                                                                                                                              |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

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*Outcomes description:*

Adjusted relative risks

- Preeclampsia
- Cesarean section
- Macrosomia
- Low birth weight (LBW)
- Perinatal death

*Groups*

G1: GWG below IOM recs

G2: GWG within IOM recs

G3: GWG above IOM recs

—

G4: GWG < 5 lbs

G5: GWG 6-14 lbs

G6: GWG 15-24 lbs

G7: GWG 25-34 lbs

G8: GWG 35-44 lbs

G9: GWG 45-54 lbs

G10: GWG 55-64 lbs

G11: GWG ≥ 65 lbs

*Maternal confounders/effect*

| Study Description                                                                                                                             | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Lof et al., 2008                                                                                                      | <i>Design:</i>                                                       |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Sweden                                                                                                             |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>Apr 2000 to Nov<br>2003                                                                                          |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the effects<br>of pre-pregnancy<br>physical activity<br>and maternal BMI<br>on GWG and birth<br>weight. |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |

| Outcomes/Results/Confounders                                                                               | Results:                                                                                                                                                                                         | M(l)-3tern(l)-3l clnfounders/effect modifiers:                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gestation(l)-3l weight gain</li> <li>Infant birth weight</li> </ul> | <p>BMI and GWG, but not pre-pregnancy physic(l)-3l activity level, were linked to birth weight. GWG and pre-gestation(l)-3l weeks 12 and 33+ were clrrrllled with ellv(l)-3lrd birth weight.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P(l)-3rity</li> <li>Smoking status</li> <li>Pregnancy physic(l)-3l activity level</li> </ul> <p>Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:<br/>NR</p> |

*continued*

| Study Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Manios et al., 2008</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>Greece</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>Apr 2003 to July 2004</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To examine the effect of maternal obesity on initiation and duration of breastfeeding.</p> | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-sectional</li> </ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>2,374</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greek preschool aged children, 12 to 60 mos</li> <li>• Participants in GENESIS (Growth, Exercise, ad Nutrition Epidemiological Study In preschoolers)</li> </ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br/>NR</p>     | <p>Prepregnancy weight was self-reported.</p> <p>GWG was self-reported and categorized based on IOM recs.</p> <p>BMI categories: underweight (&lt; 19.8); normal (19.8-26); overweight (&gt; 26-29); obese (&gt; 29)</p>                                 |
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Mitchell and Lerner, 1989</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>USA</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>NR</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To compare pregnancy outcome in overweight and normal weight women.</p>                                    | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cohort</li> </ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>152</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singleton pregnancies</li> <li>• Patients at one private practice</li> <li>• Entered prenatal care prior to 12th week</li> <li>• Seen regularly throughout gestation</li> </ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br/>NR</p> | <p>Initial weight/BMI: recorded at first prenatal visit</p> <p>Gestational weight gain: difference between weight at first prenatal visit (initial weight) and weight recorded at final antepartum visit (<math>\leq 5</math> days before delivery).</p> |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

*Outcomes description:*

- Breastfeeding initiation and duration

*Results:*

A higher percentage of mothers with increased prepregnancy BMI or high GWG failed to initiate breastfeeding, as compared to normal weight mothers.

With women who initiated breastfeeding, no significance differences were seen in breastfeeding duration in women with different gestational weight gains.

*Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Parental age
- Education level of population
- Parental anthropometric data
- Parity
- Smoking and alcohol consumption during pregnancy
- Weight status before, during and after pregnancy

*Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Feeding patterns
- Gestational age

*Outcomes description:*

- Brith weight
- Gestational age
- Apgar scores at 1 and 5 min
- Incidence of infant or maternal complications
- Gestational weight gain

*Results:*

A significant linear relationship was seen between maternal weight gain and birth weight in normal and overweight pregnancies. Infants of overweight mothers had higher birth weights at each weight gain level. Overweight mothers also gained significantly less weight than normal weight mothers.

*Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:*

- Age
- Height
- Parity
- Race
- Smoking habits

*Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:*

NR

*continued*

| Study Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Naeye, 1981</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>USA</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>1959-1966</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To determine whether the growth needs of young mothers compete with the growth needs of their fetuses for available nutrients.</p>                                            | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li></ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>13,830</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black</li><li>• Singleton infants</li><li>• Maternal age of 10-32 years</li></ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maternal diabetes mellitus</li><li>• Placenta previa</li><li>• Hydramnios</li><li>• Oligohydramnios</li><li>• Congenital malformations of the infant</li></ul> | <p>Mothers of infants were placed into age categories: 10-14, 15-16, 17-19, and 20-32 years and grouped according to pregravid weight for height (recalled at first antenatal visit).</p> <p>Net pregnancy gain was calculated by subtracting the weight of the neonate and the placenta from the maternal weight at the end of the pregnancy.</p> |
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Naeye, 1979</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>USA</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>1959-1966</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To determine if a 24 to 27 lb weight gain is optimal for all singleton pregnancies or requires modification for specific subgroups of mothers based on pregnancy outcome.</p> | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li></ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>44,565</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singleton infants</li></ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hydramnios</li><li>• Oligohydramnios</li><li>• One or more maternal hematocrit values less than 20%</li><li>• Diabetes</li><li>• Heart disease</li><li>• Tuberculosis</li><li>•</li></ul>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |





| Study Description                                                                                                                                   | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                            | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Nohr et al., 2008                                                                                                           | <i>Design:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Retrospective</li></ul>                                                 |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Denmark (Danish<br>National Birth<br>Cohort)                                                                             | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>60,892                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>1996-2002                                                                                                              | <i>Group Description:</i><br>G1: Low GWG (< 10 kg)<br>G2: Medium GWG<br>(10-15 kg)<br>G3: High GWG (16-19 kg)<br>G4: Very high GWG<br>(≥ 20 kg) |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the<br>associations between<br>prepregnancy BMI<br>and gestational weight<br>gain with pregnancy<br>outcomes. | <i>Groups % of N:</i><br>G1: 12.6%<br>G2: 44.7%<br>G3: 20.9%<br>G4: 21.9%                                                                       |                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                     | <i>Inclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Liveborn, singleton</li></ul>                                                |                                                                                                                              |



| Study Description | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|

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Outcomes/Results/Confounders

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TABLE F-1 Continued

| Study Description                                                                                                      | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                 | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Rodriquez et al., 2008                                                                         | <i>Design:</i><br>• Follow-up of prospective cohort                                                  | Prepregnancy BMI: taken from medical chart at time of booking (rounded to the nearest whole number) by the midwife             |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Sweden and Denmark                                                                          | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>12,556                                                                      | Maternal weight: recorded at delivery or in late gestation for all women and subtracted from prepregnancy weight to obtain GWG |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>Follow-up: 2001-2002 in Sweden, 1993-1994 in Denmark                                      | <i>Group Description:</i><br>School-aged children                                                    | Average weekly gain: divided weight gain by the number of completed gestational weight                                         |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the relationship between pregnancy weight and core symptoms of ADHD in offspring | <i>Inclusion criteria:</i><br>• Live born, singleton infants<br><br><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br>NR |                                                                                                                                |



| Study Description                                                                                                                    | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Rudra et al., 2008                                                                                           | <i>Design:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Prospective</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Pregravid BMI: using self-reported height and weight during the three months before pregnancy.                               |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA (Washington State)                                                                                    | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>2,468                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Weight gain during pregnancy = rate of gain between prepregnancy and 18-22 wks gestation                                     |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>1996-2005                                                                                               | <i>Inclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attended prenatal care clinics affiliated with two hospitals</li><li>• Started prenatal care before 20 wks gestation</li><li>• 18 years of age or older</li><li>• Speak or read English</li><li>• Planned to carry pregnancy to term and to deliver at one of two affiliated hospitals</li></ul> | Weight gain rate in early pregnancy = [(weight at 18-22 wks - prepregnancy weight)/weeks' gestation at weight mea            |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the relationship between prepregnancy weight and gestational weight gain and preterm delivery. | <i>Exclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Had early pregnancy loss</li><li>• Multiple gestations</li><li>• Missing prepregnancy weight or height data in interviews</li><li>• Missing weight data mid-pregnancy</li><li>• Extreme weight loss during pregnancy</li></ul>                                                                   | 0.503 0 Td[( )-2.C 0 -1                                                                                                      |







Outcomes/Results/Confounders

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| Study Description                                                                              | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria             | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Segal et al., 2008                                                     | <i>Design:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cross-sectional</li></ul> |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Canada                                                              | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>86                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>NR                                                                | <i>Inclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>     |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the maternal factors that determine infant birth weight. |                                                                                  |                                                                                                                              |







Study Description

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| Study Description                            | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Tenovuo et al., 1988 |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Finland           |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>1985            |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objectiv</i>                        |                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |



|                   |                                                                      |                     |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                   |                                                                      | Protocol Including: |
| Study Description | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria |                     |

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Outcomes/Results/Confounders

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| Study Description                                                                             | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Udal et al., 1978                                                     | <i>Design:</i><br>• Cohort                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Prepregnant weight: obtained from maternal history or medical chart review.                                                                                |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>USA (Arizona)                                                      | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>109                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Obese prepregnant weight > 120% of median weight for height.                                                                                               |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>NR                                                               | <i>Group Description:</i><br>G1: Obese mothers<br>G2: Nonobese mothers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Weight at term: admitting obstetric nurse                                                                                                                  |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the relationship between maternal and neonatal obesity. | <i>Group N:</i><br>G1: 33<br>G2: 76<br><br><i>Inclusion criteria:</i><br>• Nondiabetic mothers<br>• Infants born at 37-43 weeks' gestation<br>• Examined within 72 hours of birth<br><br><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br>• Infants of diabetic mothers<br>• Twins<br>• Neonates with known congenital or metabolic abnormalities | Neonatal fatness was calculated by the sum of eight skin fold measurements (SSFT).<br><br>Race:<br>White, n = 98<br>Black, n = 5<br>American Indian, n = 6 |

| Outcomes/Results/Confounders                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Outcomes description:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Neonatal obesity</li></ul> | <p><i>Results:</i></p> <p>Parameters of Infants Born to Mothers</p> <p>Birth weight (gm) = G1: 3,471 ± 739; G2: 3,279 ± 494 (p value NS)</p> <p>SSFs (mm) = G1: 30.2 ± 9.1; G2: 26.0 ± 5.2 (p value &lt; 0.05)</p> <p>Head circumference (cm) = G1: 34.7 ± 1.9; G2: 34.3 ± 1.3 (p value NS)</p> <p>Length (cm) = G1: 50.5 ± 3.3; G2: 50.2 ± 2.2 (p value NS)</p> <p>LGA infants tended to have higher skin fold thickness measurements (sum of eight skin fold measurements) and obese mothers had infants with significantly increased skin fold thickness measurements.</p> <p>GWG was associated with increased neonatal fatness and length, while prepregnancy weight for height was associated with neonatal fatness independent of length.</p> <p>GWG (kg) = 26 ± 18 in fatter LGA infants as compared to 14 ± 7 in other LGA infants (p value &lt; 0.01).</p> | <p><i>Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GWG</li><li>• Parity</li><li>• Prepregnancy weight/height</li><li>• Cigarette smoking</li><li>• Family history of diabetes</li><li>• Gestational age</li></ul> <p><i>Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gestational age</li><li>• Birth weight</li><li>• Bilateral mid-arm circumference</li><li>• Eight skin fold thickness measurements</li></ul> |

*continued*

| Study Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Author, year:</i><br/>Varma, 1984</p> <p><i>Country/Setting:</i><br/>UK (London)</p> <p><i>Enrollment period:</i><br/>1978-1980</p> <p><i>Study Objective:</i><br/>To assess the relationship between maternal weight at booking in the first trimester and the total weight gain during pregnancy and birth weight, complications, and mode of delivery.</p> | <p><i>Design:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Retrospective</li></ul> <p><i>Total Study N:</i><br/>3,002</p> <p><i>Group Description:</i><br/>G1: GWG <math>\leq</math> 2.5 kg<br/>G2: GWG 2.5-5.9 kg<br/>G3: GWG 6.0-10.9 kg<br/>G4: GWG 11.0-15.9 kg<br/>G5: 16.0-20.9 kg<br/>G6: 21+ kg</p> <p><i>Group N:</i><br/>G1: 182<br/>G2: 272<br/>G3: 1,114<br/>G4: 1,028<br/>G5: 252<br/>G6: 154</p> <p><i>Inclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seen in antenatal clinic during first trimester</li></ul> <p><i>Exclusion criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diabetes</li><li>• Multiple pregnancy</li><li>• Polyhydramnios</li><li>• Gastrointestinal disorders</li></ul> | <p>Maternal booking weight: recorded under standardized conditions in clinic, every 4 wks up to 28 wks then every 2 wks from 28-36 wks and weekly from 36 wks-delivery.</p> |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

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| Study Description                                                                                                              | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                       | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Voldner et al., 2008                                                                                   | <i>Design:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cohort</li><li>• Prospective</li></ul>                              |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Norway                                                                                              | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>553                                                                                               |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>2002-2005                                                                                         | <i>Inclusion criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Healthy women</li><li>• Singleton pregnancies</li></ul> |                                                                                                                              |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the modifiable determinants of fetal macrosomia, specifically lifestyle-related factors. |                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                              |

Outcomes/Results/Confounders

Outcomes description:

- Macrosomic infant  
(≥ 4,200 g)

Results:

Weight gain < 10.2 kg

Univariate analyses:

OR = 1.0

Multivariate analyses:

OR = 1.0

Weight gain ≥ 10.2 kg

Univariate analyses:

OR = 1.7 (95% CI 1.0-2.8;

p value 0.04)

Multivariate analyses:

OR = 1.7 (95% CI 0.9-3.2;

p value 0.09)

BMI, weight gain, plasma

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| Study Description                                                                                                              | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured),<br>and Baseline Characteristics                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Author, year:</i><br>Wolff et al., 2008                                                                                     | <i>Design:</i><br>• Randomized control trial                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Weight, height, blood pressure and heart rate were measured at inclusion and at 27 and 36 weeks' gestation.                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Country/Setting:</i><br>Denmark                                                                                             | <i>Total Study N:</i><br>50                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Prepregnancy weight, weight gain from 36 weeks' gestation until delivery, and postpartum weight (1st, 2nd, and 3rd weeks), were self reported. Weight at 4 weeks postpartum was measured at the department.                          |
| <i>Enrollment period:</i><br>NR                                                                                                | <i>Group Description:</i><br>G1: Intervention<br>(nondiabetic obese pregnant women)<br>G2: Control                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Total GWG was calculated as the difference between self-reported prepregnancy weight and weight just before delivery.                                                                                                                |
| <i>Study Objective:</i><br>To examine the effects of dietary counseling on GWG and glucose metabolism in obese pregnant women. | <i>Group N:</i><br>G1: 23<br>G2: 27<br><br><i>Inclusion criteria:</i><br>• Obese pregnant women (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )<br>• Nondiabetic<br>• 15 ± 3 weeks' gestation at enrollment<br><br><i>Exclusion criteria:</i><br>• Smoked<br>• Age < 18 years or > 45 years<br>• Multiple pregnancy<br>• Medical complications known to affect fetal growth or weight gain | G1: received 10 one-hour consultations with a trained dietician during the pregnancy; were instructed to eat a healthy diet; and limit energy intake based on individual requirements (estimated by energetic cost of fetal growth). |



| Study Description | Study Design/<br>Patient Population/<br>Inclusion-Exclusion Criteria | Protocol Including:<br>Pregravid Weight (how measured),<br>Total Weight Gain (how measured), |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                   |                                                                      |                                                                                              |

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| Outcomes/Results/Confounders                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Outcomes description:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offspring overweight status</li><li>• GWG</li></ul> | <p><i>Results:</i></p> <p>Median GWG: 9.5 kg</p> <p>Median birth weight: 3,230 g</p> <p>Median gestational age: 40 wks</p> <p>Median BMI at 7 yr assessment: 15.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Overweight status at 7 yr assessment (BMI at or above 95th percentile): 5.7%</p> <p><i>Adjusted Association between GWG and overweight at 7 yrs</i></p> <p>GWG by 1 kg of weight gain:</p> <p>OR 1.03 (95% CI 1.02, 1.05)</p> <p>Excessive GWG vs Recommended GWG (IOM):</p> <p>OR 1.48 (95% CI 1.06, 2.06)</p> <p>Insufficient weight gain vs Recommended weight gain (IOM):</p> <p>OR 0.88 (95% CI 0.68, 1.14)</p> <p>The association between GWG and overweight in offspring was strongest for women underweight before pregnancy.</p> | <p><i>Maternal confounders/effect modifiers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Race</li><li>• Age</li><li>• Prepregnancy BMI</li><li>• Number of cigarettes smoked/day</li></ul> <p><i>Infant and child confounders/effect modifiers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sex</li><li>• First-born status</li><li>• Study site</li><li>• Gestational age</li></ul> |

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# appendix G

## Consultant Reports

As part of its approach, the committee commissioned analyses from consultants to aid in decision making by providing information not readily available in current literature. Dr. Ellen Nohr from Aarhus University, Denmark, provided analyses from the Danish National Birth Cohort on low and very high categories of gestational weight gain (GWG), as well as

## PART I: ANALYSES FROM DR. NOHR

### COMBINED ASSOCIATIONS OF PREPREGNANCY BODY MASS INDEX AND GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN WITH THE OUTCOME OF PREGNANCY. ANALYSES BASED ON THE DANISH NATIONAL BIRTH COHORT

*Ellen Aagaard Nohr, PhD  
Associate Professor of Epidemiology  
University of Aarhus, Denmark*

The combined associations of prepregnancy body mass index (BMI) and gestational weight gain on pregnancy outcomes have until recent years mostly focused on birth weight. Large data collections with detailed information about maternal characteristics and pregnancy outcomes are now available which makes it possible to investigate these associations in a broader range of maternal and neonatal outcomes while adjusting for important maternal life style factors. Such a study based on the Danish National Birth Cohort (DNBC) (Nohr et al., 2008) was presented to the Committee to Reexamine IOM Pregnancy Weight Guidelines in June 2008 along with a number of analyses that focused on the BMI-specific association between GWG and all outcomes included in the study. These supplementary analyses are presented in the following in the “First DNBC Report.” At the meeting in June, the IOM committee requested new analyses for some outcomes where very low and very high categories of GWG as well as obese class I and obese class II + III were included. This work is presented in the “Second DNBC Report.” In August 2008, additional analyses were presented for the IOM committee that provided information in subgroups of women defined by parity, height, smoking and young age. These results are presented in the “Third DNBC Report.”

#### First DNBC Report

##### *Study Population*

The Danish National Birth Cohort (DNBC) is a nationwide study of 100,419 pregnancies among 92,274 women recruited 1996-2002. More detailed descriptions of the study methods and the recruitment were previously published (Olsen et al., 2001; Nohr et al., 2006; Danish National Birth Cohort homepage, available online: <http://www.ssi.dk/sw9314.asp> [accessed February 2009]). Briefly, data were collected during two telephone interviews during pregnancy at approximately 16 and 30 weeks of

gestation, and two telephone interviews after birth when the child was approximately 6 and 18 months old. The women included in the cohort were mostly Caucasians as only 4 percent were born outside Scandinavia.

This study used information about 60,892 liveborn, full-term singleton ( $\geq 37$  wk of gestation) infants whose mothers had participated in the first pregnancy and the first postpartum interview and provided information about prepregnancy BMI, GWG and postpartum weight retention 6 months after birth. In the following, the data and methods of the study will be shortly presented. A more detailed description has been published (Nohr et al., 2008).

### *Independent Variables*

The main exposures were prepregnancy BMI and GWG. In the first pregnancy interview, the women reported their prepregnancy weight and

cases covered vacuum extraction, and planned and emergency cesarean deliveries. The latter type covered cesarean section carried out when the woman was in labor.

Postpartum weight retention was calculated as the difference between the woman's prepregnancy weight and her weight 6 months postpartum as reported in the first postpartum interview. Postpartum weight retention was summarized by two variables defined as postpartum weight loss (loss  $\geq 2$  kg) and postpartum weight retention (gain of  $\geq$

liveries, all women with cesarean deliveries were excluded. In all adjusted models, Wald's test with nine degrees of freedom and a significance level of 0.05 (two sided p-value) was used to assess the hypothesis that there was no effect modification by BMI group of the association between GWG and pregnancy outcomes.

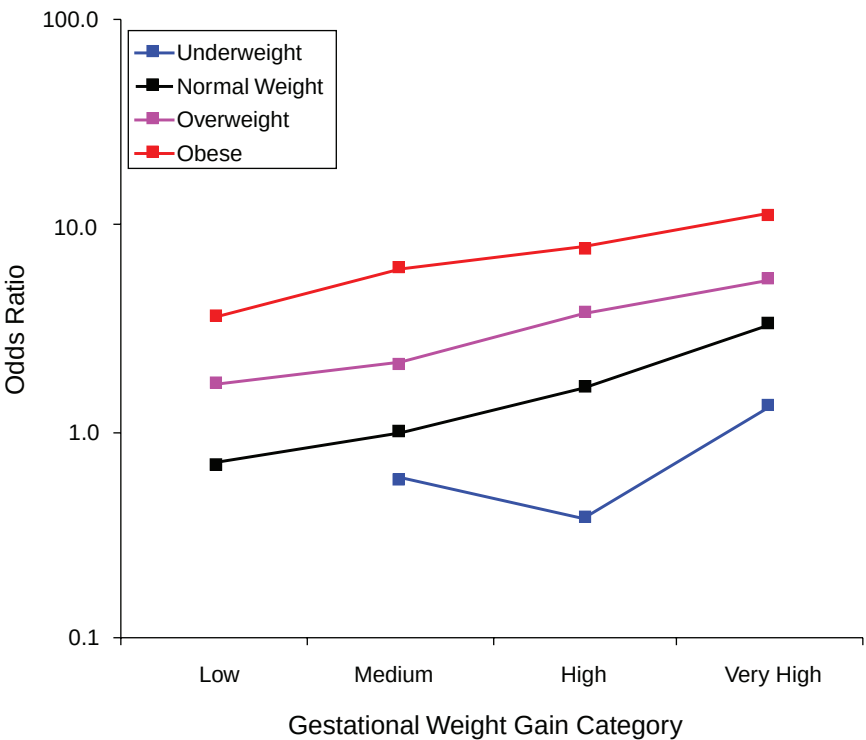


FIGURE G-1A Preeclampsia.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

|               | Low | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|-----|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 0.0 | 0.6      | 0.4  | 1.3       |
| Normal weight | 0.7 | 1.0      | 1.6  | 3.3       |
| Overweight    | 1.7 | 2.1      | 3.8  | 5.4       |
| Obese         | 3.6 | 6.1      | 7.7  | 11.2      |

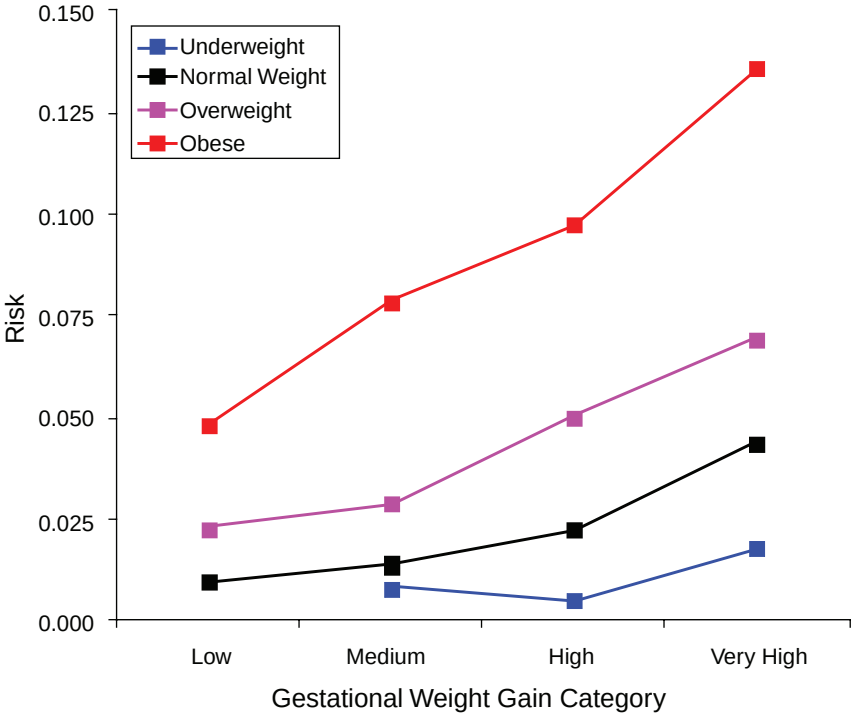


FIGURE G-1B Preeclampsia.  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.





**FIGURE G-2A** Hypertensive disorders.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

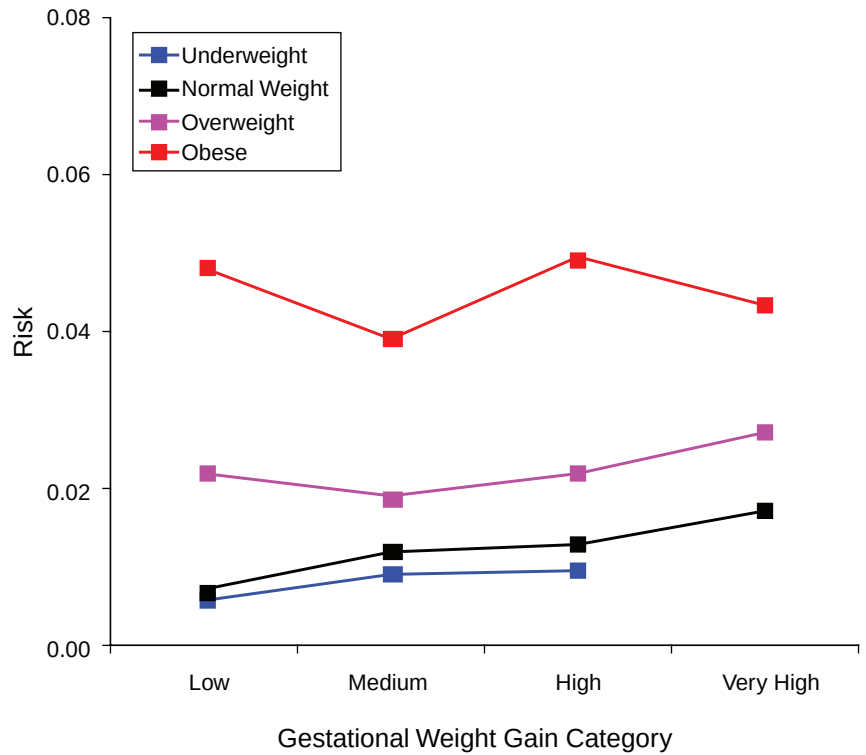


**FIGURE G-2B** Hypertensive disorders.  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

**TABLE G-2B**

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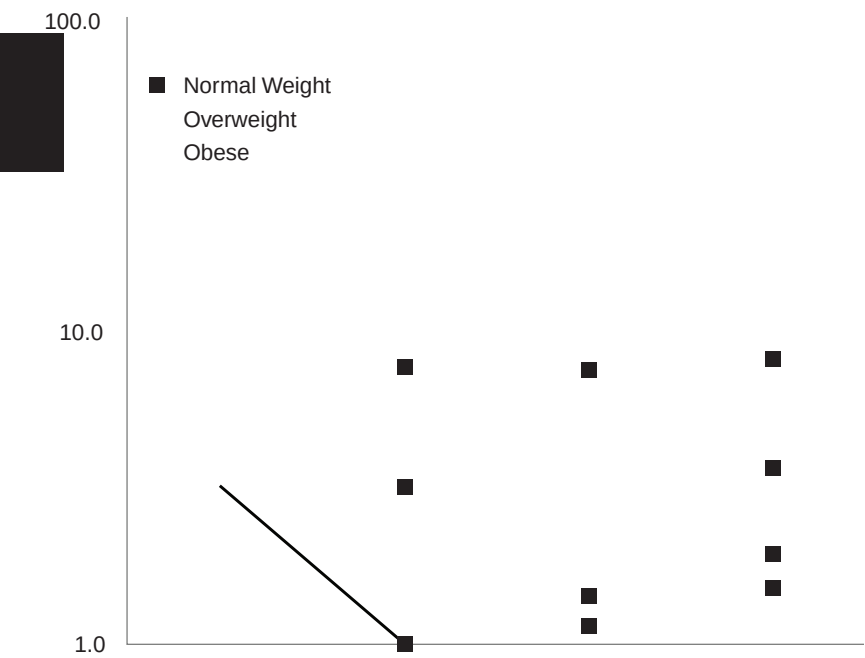


FIGURE G-3A Gestational diabetes.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

TABLE G-3A Gestational Diabetes, Adjusted Odds Ratios (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low  | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|------|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 0.0  | 1.0      | 0.0  | 1.7       |
| Normal weight | 3.2  | 1.0      | 1.2  | 1.4       |
| Overweight    | 7.0  | 3.2      | 1.4  | 3.2       |
| Obese         | 15.1 | 7.7      | 7.5  | 7.4       |

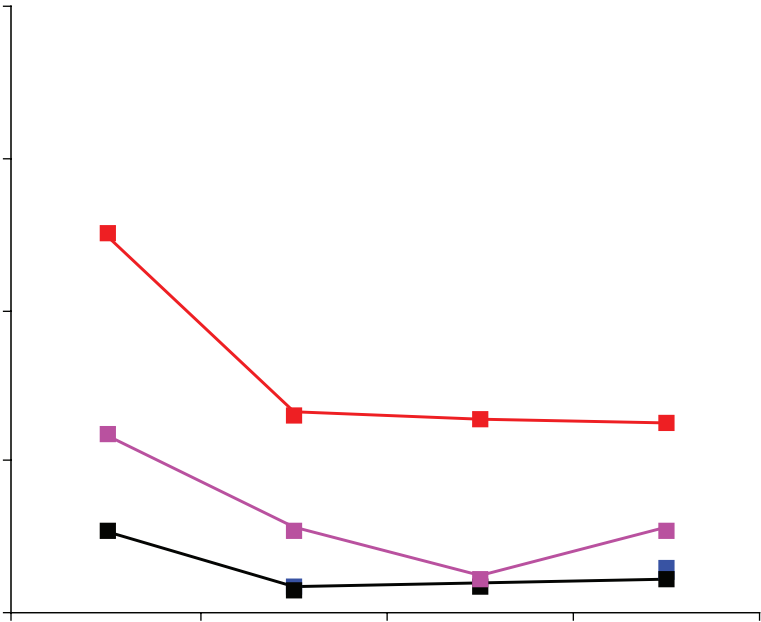


FIGURE G-3B Gestational diabetes.  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

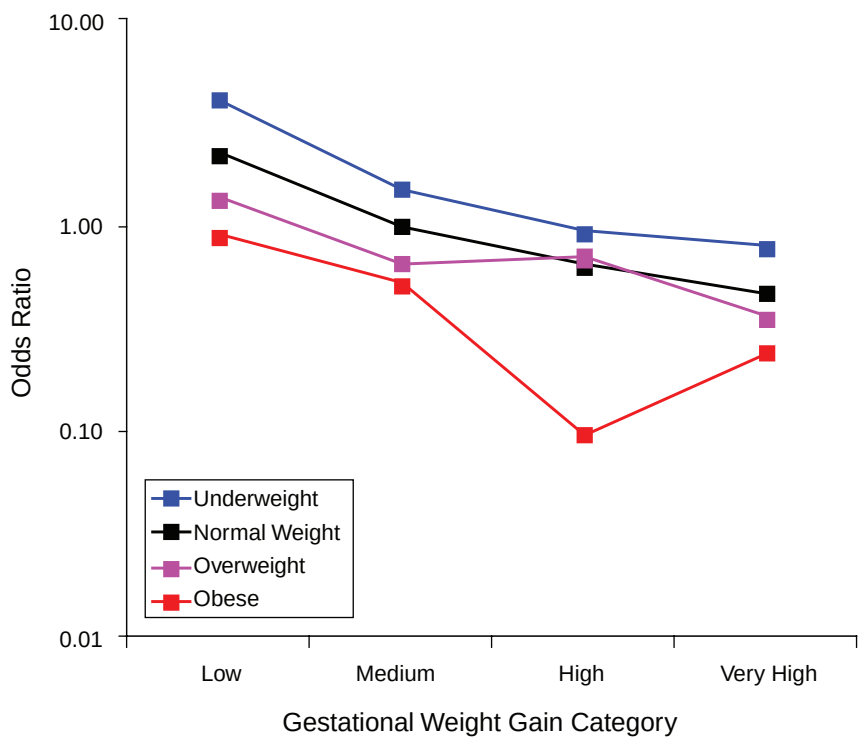


FIGURE G-4A Small-for-gestational-age infant (< 2.5 percent).  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

TABLE G-4A Small-for-Gestational-Age Infant (< 2.5 percent), Adjusted Odds Ratios (gestational weight gain by BMI)

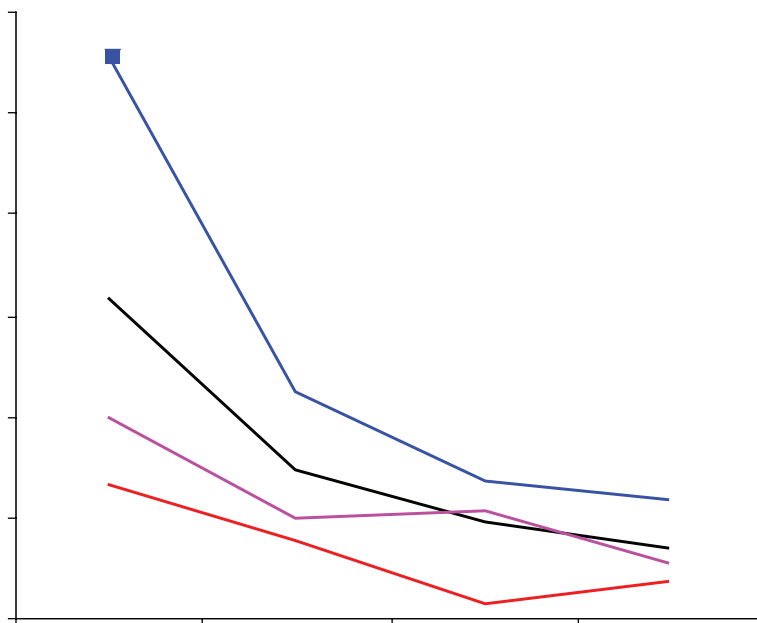


FIGURE G-4B Small-for-gestational-age infant (< 2.5 percent).

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

FIGURE G-5A

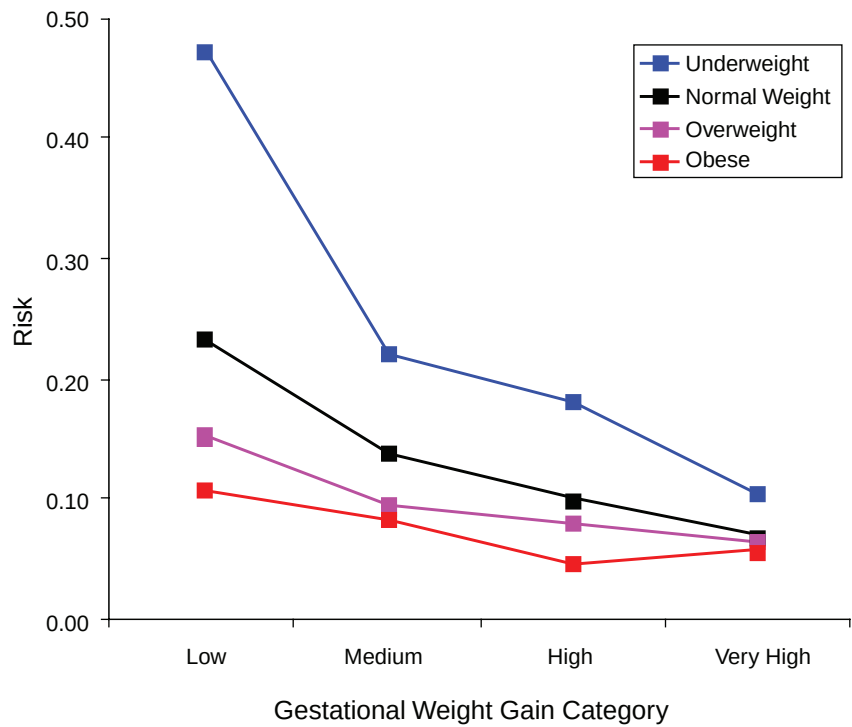


FIGURE G-5B Small-for-gestational-age infant (< 10 percent).  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-5B

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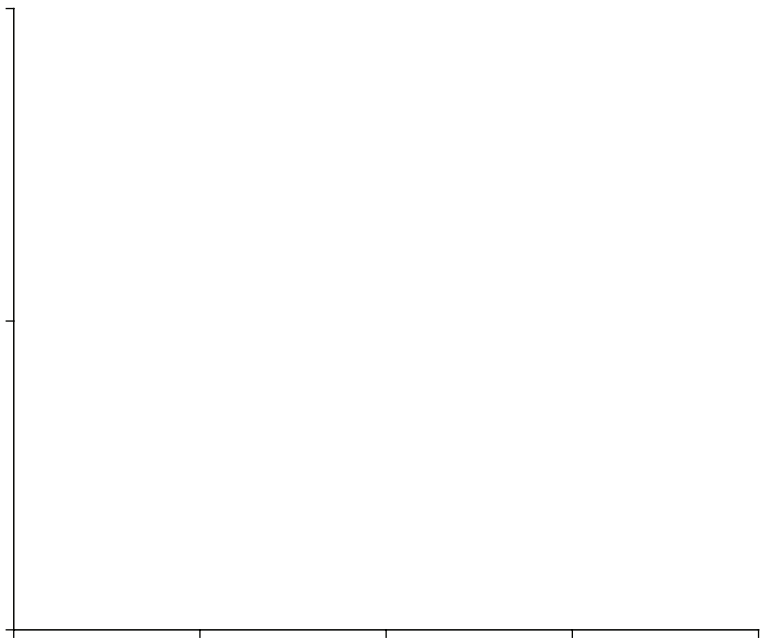


FIGURE G-6A Large-for-gestational-age infant (> 90 percent).  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

FIGURE G-6B Large-for-gestational-age infant (> 90 percent).

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous

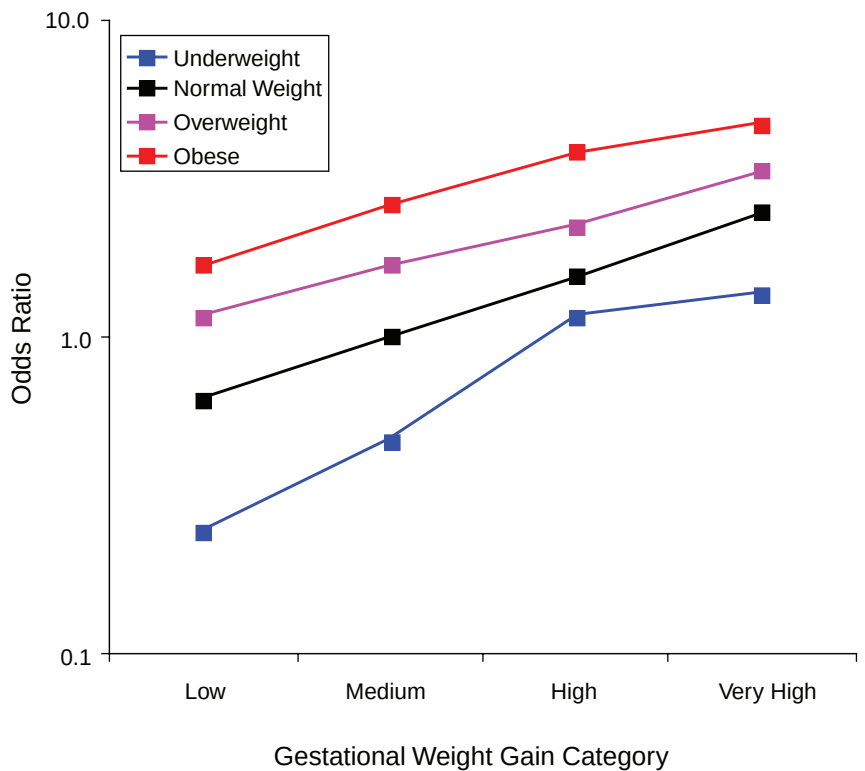


FIGURE G-7A Birth weight > 4,000 g.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

TABLE G-7A Birth Weight > 4,000 g, Adjusted Odds Ratios (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|-----|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 0.2 | 0.5      | 1.2  | 1.4       |
| Normal weight | 0.6 | 1.0      | 1.6  | 2.5       |
| Overweight    | 1.2 | 1.7      | 2.6  | 3.4       |
| Obese         | 1.7 | 2.6      | 3.8  | 4.7       |

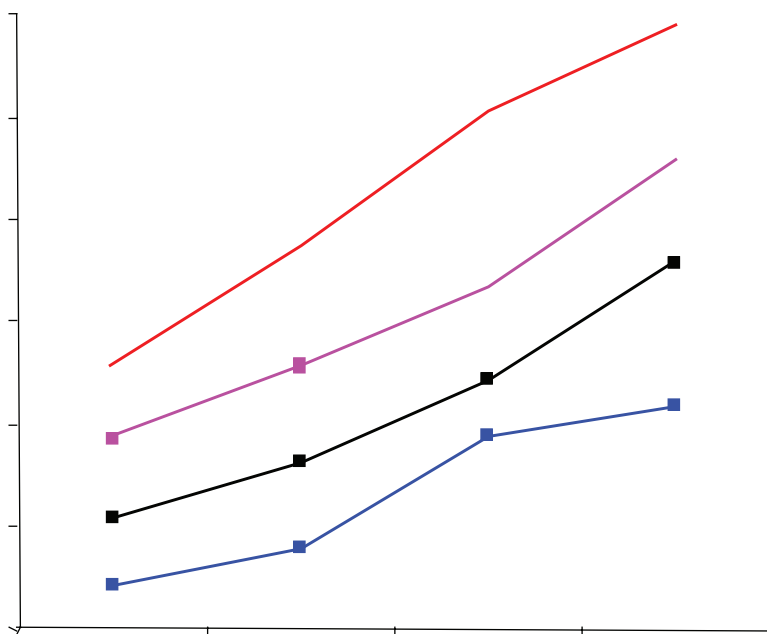


FIGURE G-7B Birth weight > 4,000 g.

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-8A High Ponderal Index (> 90 percent), Adjusted Odds Ratios (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|-----|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 0.6 | 0.6      | 0.8  | 1.0       |
| Normal weight | 0.8 | 1.0      | 1.2  | 1.6       |
| Overweight    | 0.9 | 1.4      | 1.6  | 2.2       |
| Obese         | 1.3 | 1.9      | 2.0  | 2.1       |

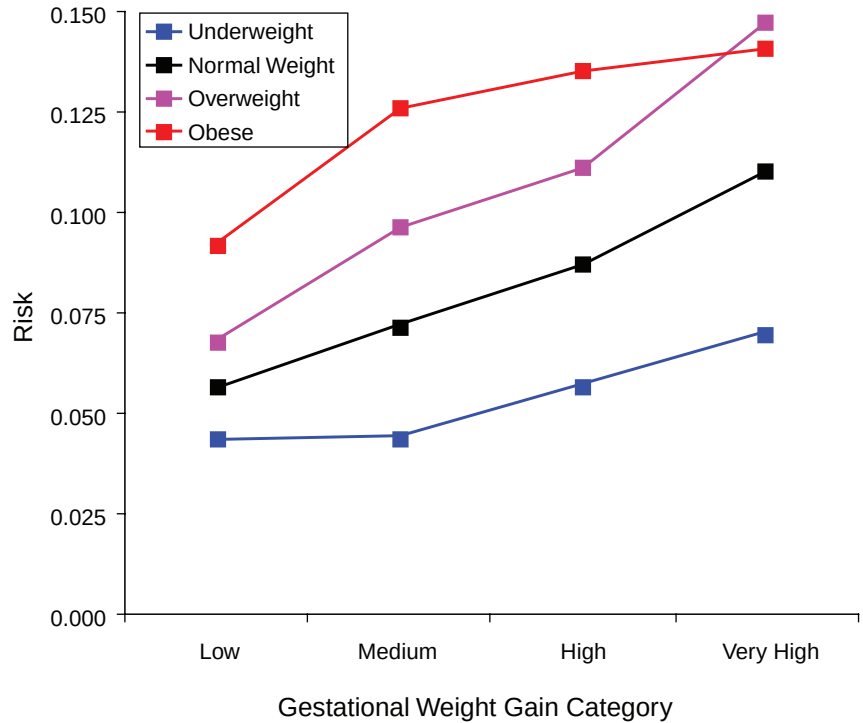


FIGURE G-8B High Ponderal Index (> 90 percent).  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-8B High Ponderal Index (> 90 percent), Adjusted Risks (gestational weight gain by BMI)

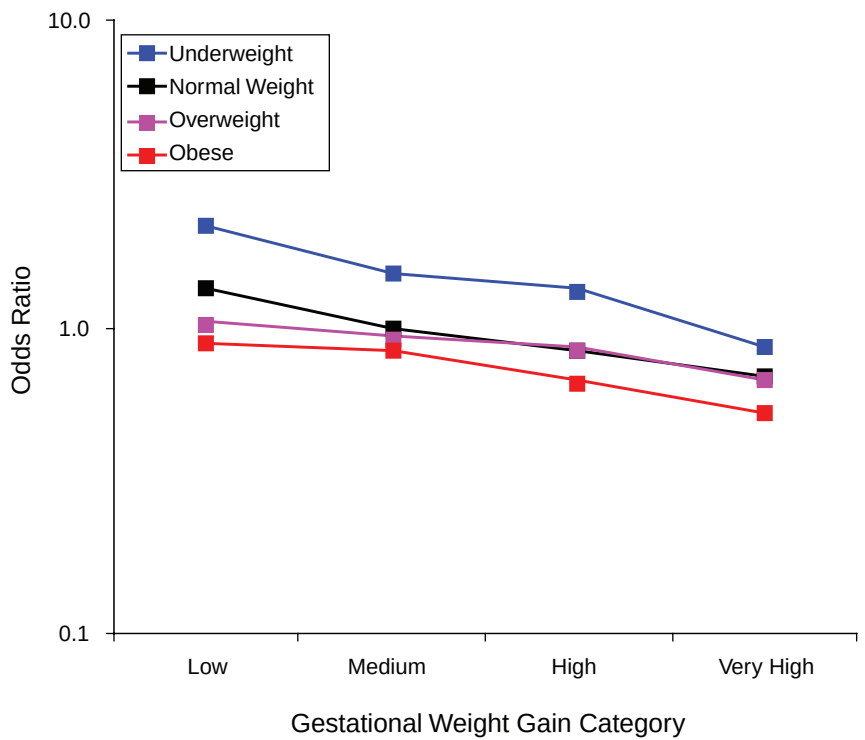


FIGURE G-9A Low Ponderal Index (< 10 percent).  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

TABLE G-9A Low Ponderal Index (<

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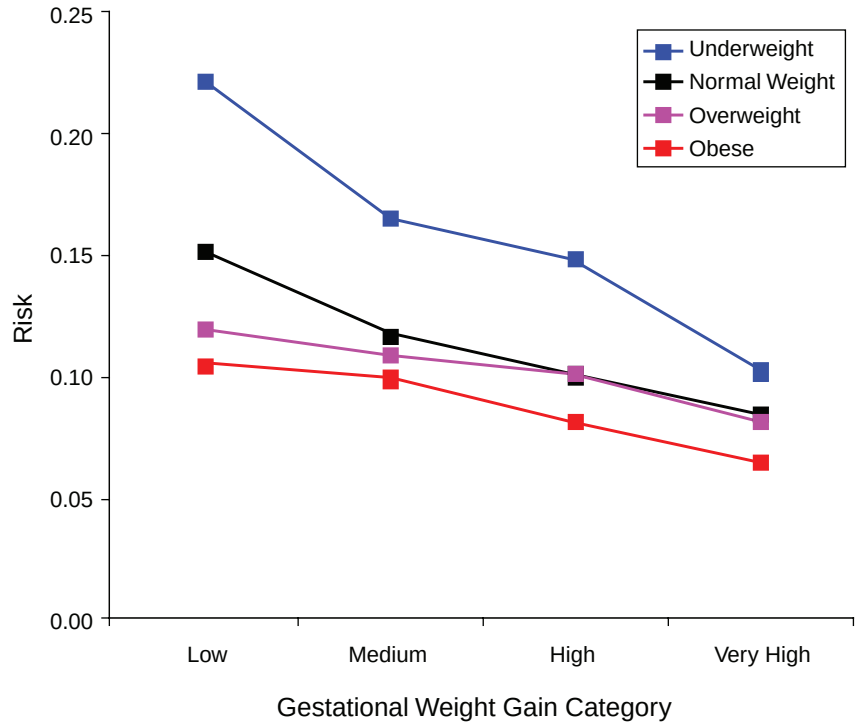


FIGURE G-9B Low Ponderal Index (< 10 percent).  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-9B



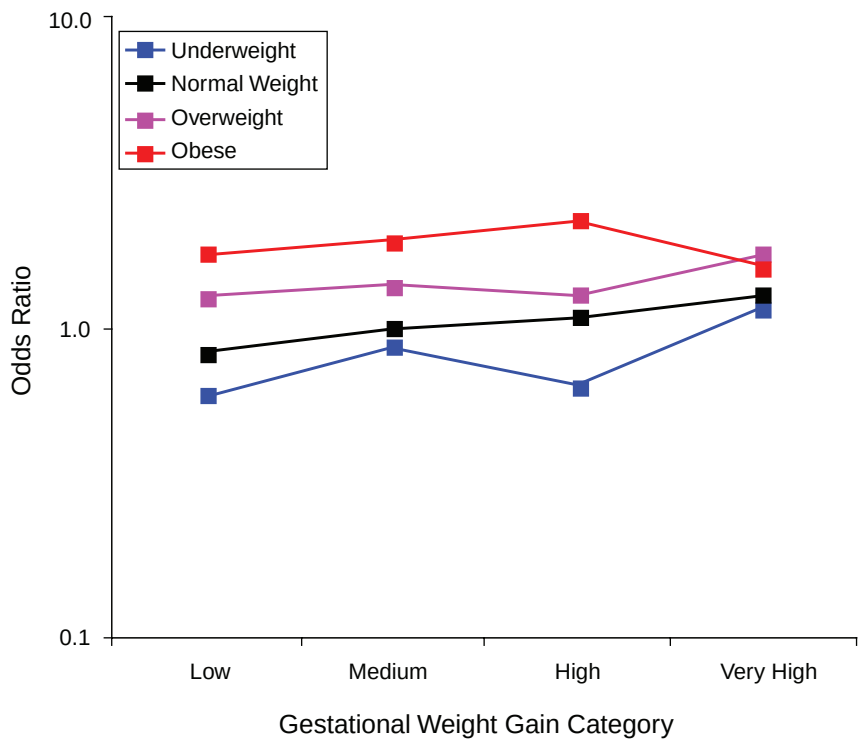


FIGURE G-10A Cesarean delivery before labor.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

TABLE G-10A Cesarean Delivery Before Labor, Adjusted Odds Ratios (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|-----|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 0.6 | 0.9      | 0.6  | 1.2       |
| Normal weight | 0.8 | 1.0      | 1.1  | 1.3       |
| Overweight    | 1.2 | 1.4      | 1.3  | 1.7       |
| Obese         | 1.7 | 1.9      | 2.2  | 1.6       |

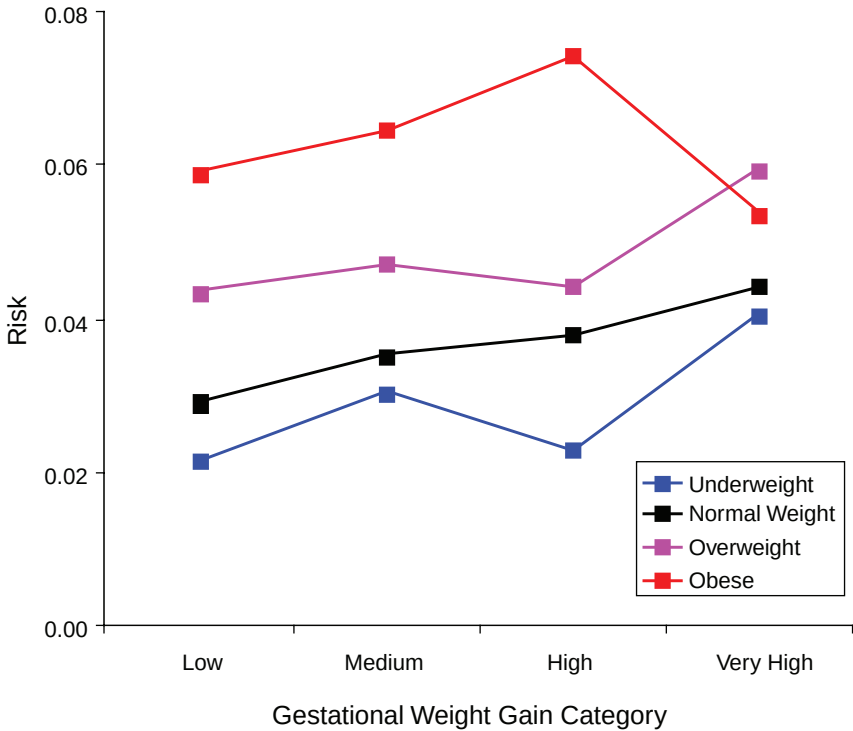


FIGURE G-10B Cesarean delivery before labor.

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-10B Cesarean Delivery Before Labor, Adjusted Risks (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low  | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|------|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 2.2% | 3.1%     | 2.3% | 4.1%      |
| Normal weight | 2.9% | 3.5%     | 3.8% | 4.4%      |
| Overweight    | 4.4% | 4.7%     | 4.4% | 6.0%      |
| Obese         | 5.9% | 6.5%     | 7.4% | 5.4%      |

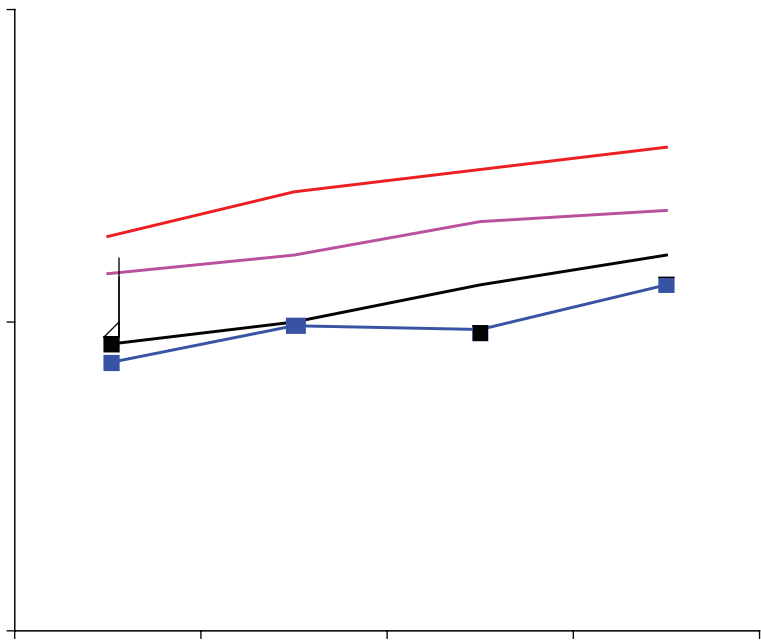


FIGURE G-11A Cesarean delivery during labor.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).



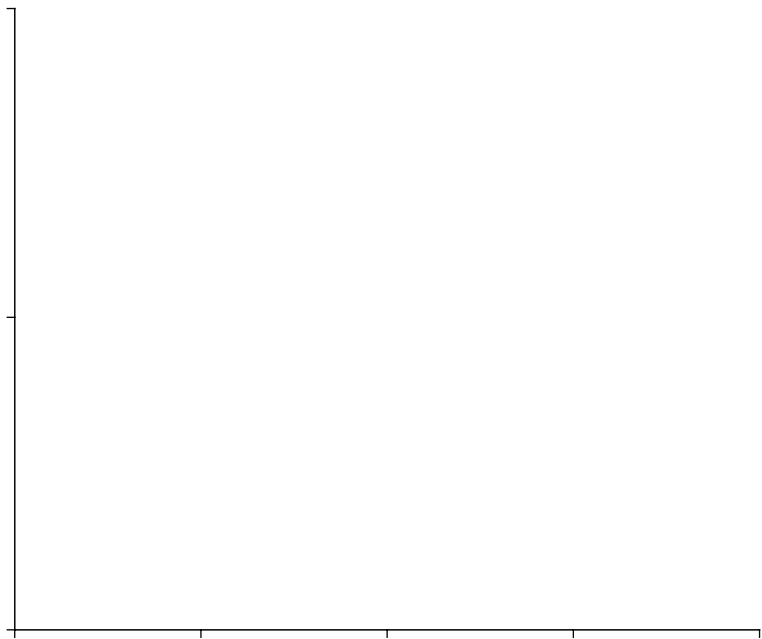


**FIGURE G-12A** Instrumental deliveries.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

FIGURE G-12B Instrumental deliveries.

TABLE G-13A Low Apgar Score (<

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TABLE G-13B Low Apgar Score (< 8 after 5 minutes), Adjusted Risks (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low  | Moderate | High | Very High |
|---------------|------|----------|------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 1.2% | 1.1%     | 0.7% | 1.0%      |
| Normal weight | 0.8% | 1.0%     | 1.5% | 1.4%      |
| Overweight    | 1.3% | 1.7%     | 1.0% | 1.7%      |
| Obese         | 1.5% | 1.7%     | 2.8% | 2.3%      |



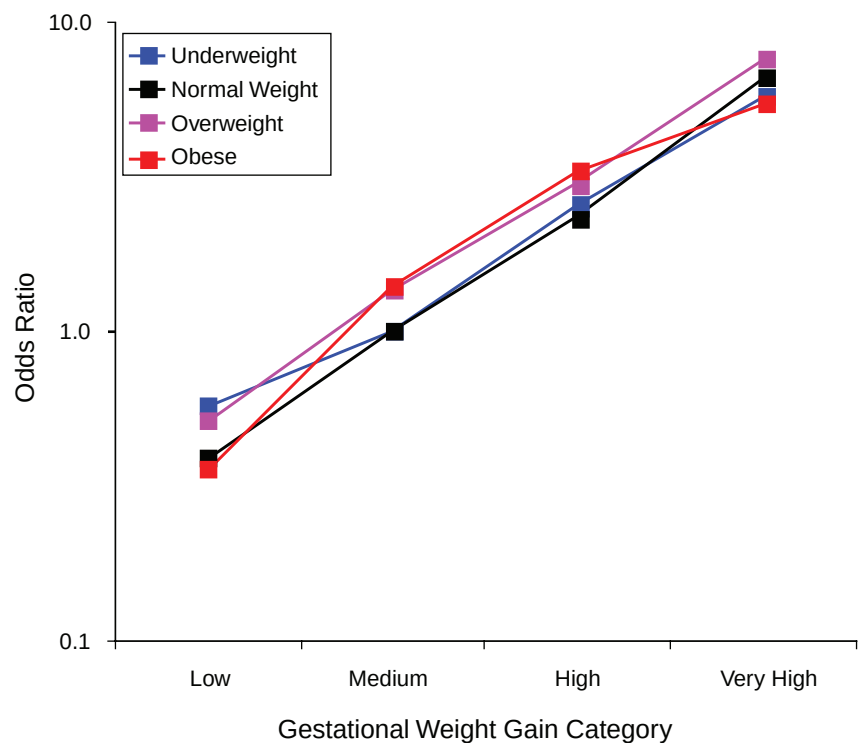


FIGURE G-14A Post partum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 6 months.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

TABLE G-14A Post Partum Weight Retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 6 Months,  
Adx31(R)-3(ee)-3(t)-3(e)-3d6 ee Ratio kgeetatioo (i)-3(g)-3(h)-3(t)-3( )-31gtan BM

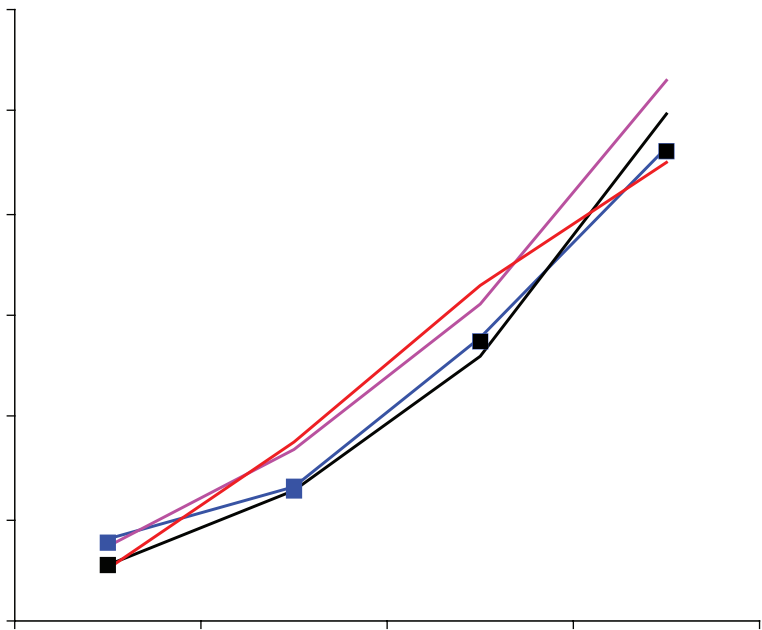


FIGURE G-14B Post partum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 6 months.  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

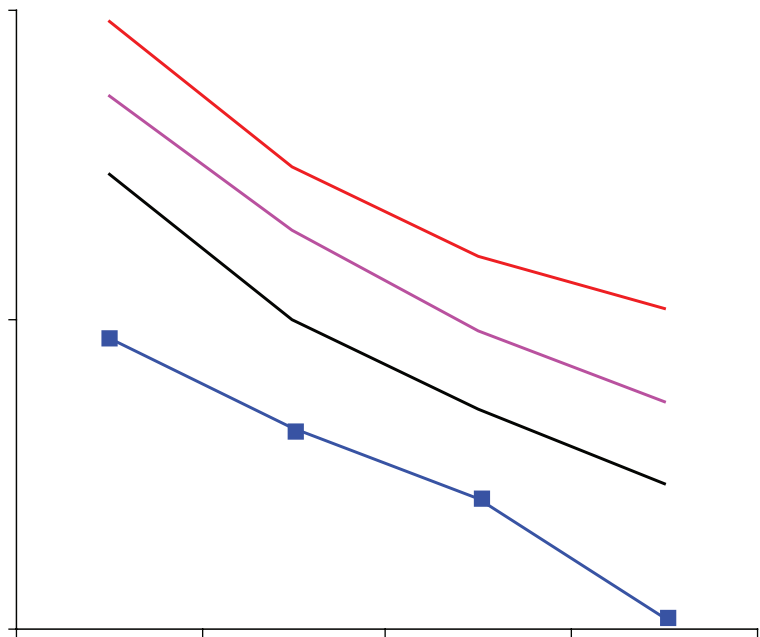


FIGURE G-15A Post partum weight loss  $\geq 2$  kg at 6 months.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

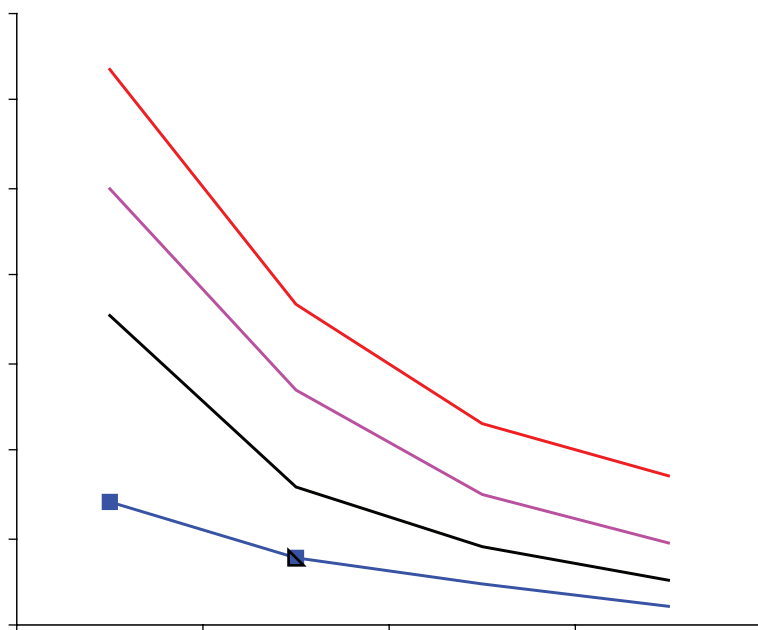


FIGURE G-15B Post partum weight loss  $\geq 2$  kg at 6 months.

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

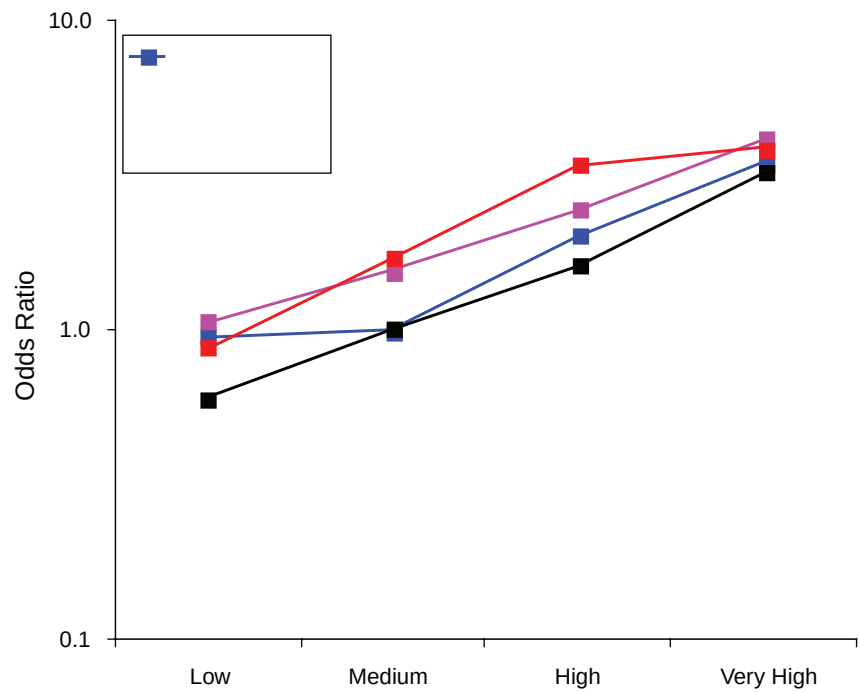


FIGURE G-16A Post partum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 18 months.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

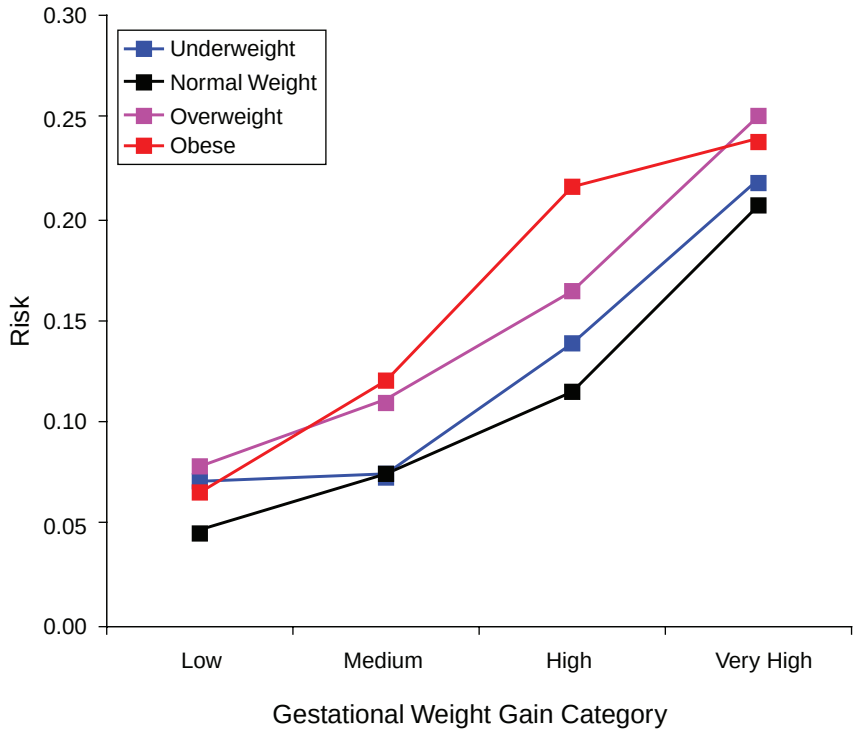


FIGURE G-16B Post partum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 18 months.  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-16B Post Partum Weight Retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 18 Months, Adjusted Risks (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|             | Low  | Moderate | High  | Very High |
|-------------|------|----------|-------|-----------|
| Underweight | 7.1% | 7.4%     | 13.9% | 21.8%     |

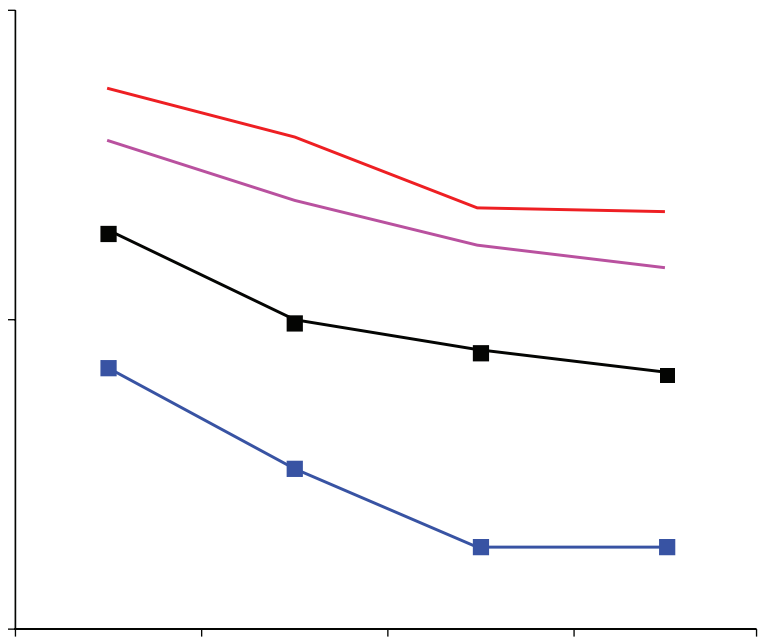
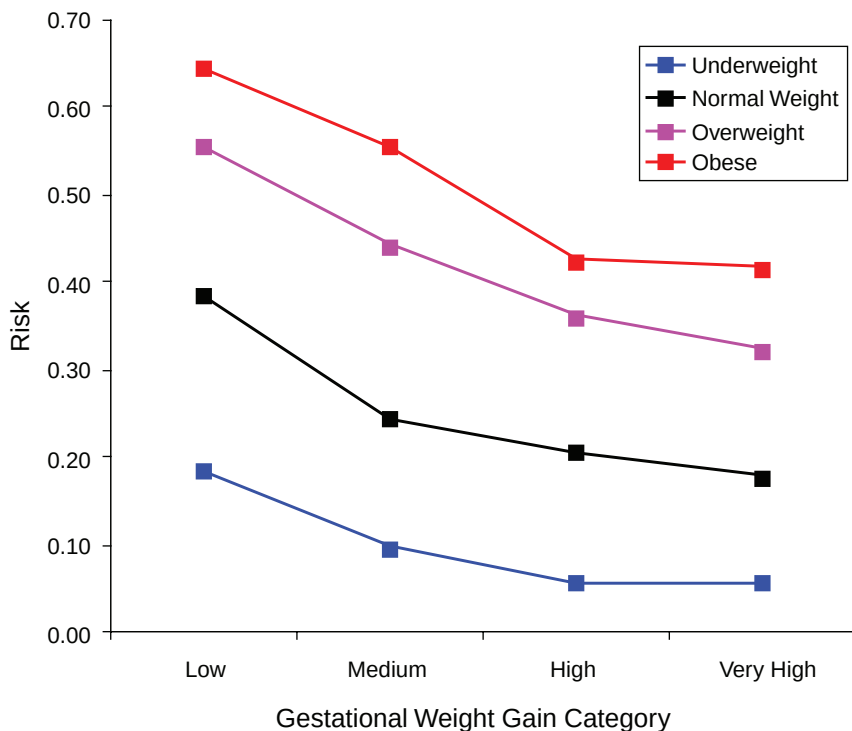


FIGURE G-17A Post partum weight loss  $\geq 2$  kg at 18 months.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, social status, exercise, gestational age (days).

FIGURE G-17B Post partum weight loss  $\geq 2$  kg at 18 months.

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

TABLE G-17B Post Partum Weight Loss  $\geq 2$  kg at 18 Months, Adjusted Risks (gestational weight gain by BMI)

|               | Low   | Moderate | High  | Very High |
|---------------|-------|----------|-------|-----------|
| Underweight   | 18.5% | 9.6%     | 5.6%  | 5.6%      |
| Normal weight | 38.6% | 24.4%    | 20.5% | 17.8%     |
| Overweight    | 55.4% | 44.1%    | 36.1% | 32.3%     |
| Obese         | 64.5% | 55.5%    | 42.5% | 41.6%     |



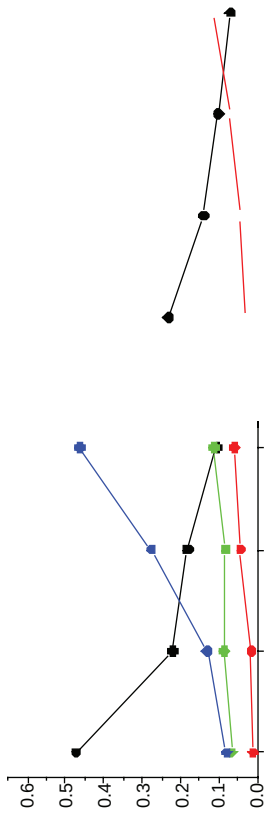


FIGURE G-18 GWG-specific absolute risks for SGA, LGA, emergency cesarean delivery and postpartum weight retention within each group.  
NOTE: Points present risks of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise and 280 days of gestation. For PPWR, she breastfed < 14 weeks.

**TABLE G-18A** GWG-Specific Absolute Risks for SGA, LGA, Emergency Cesarean Delivery and Postpartum Weight Retention for Underweight Women

|              | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | ≥ 20 kg |
|--------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| SGA          | 47.3%   | 22.1%    | 18.2%    | 10.5%   |
| LGA          | 1.1%    | 1.6%     | 4.4%     | 5.9%    |
| Emergency CD | 6.7%    | 8.7%     | 8.3%     | 11.4%   |
| PPWR         | 7.9%    | 13.1%    | 27.6%    | 46.5%   |

NOTE: CD = cesarean delivery; LGA = large-for-gestational age; PPWR = postpartum weight retention; SGA = small-for-gestational age.

**TABLE G-18B** GWG-Specific Absolute Risks for SGA, LGA, Emergency Cesarean Delivery and Postpartum Weight Retention for Normal Weight Women

|              | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | ≥ 20 kg |
|--------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| SGA          | 23.3%   | 14.0%    | 10.1%    | 7.1%    |
| LGA          | 2.9%    | 4.5%     | 7.2%     | 11.6%   |
| Emergency CD | 7.6%    | 9.0%     | 11.2%    | 13.7%   |
| PPWR         | 5.6%    | 13.0%    | 26.1%    | 49.7%   |

NOTE: CD = cesarean delivery; LGA = large-for-gestational age; PPWR = postpartum weight retention; SGA = small-for-gestational age.

**TABLE G-18C** GWG-Specific Absolute Risks for SGA, LGA, Emergency Cesarean Delivery and Postpartum Weight Retention for Overweight Women

|              | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | ≥ 20 kg |
|--------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| SGA          | 15.4%   | 9.5%     | 8.2%     | 6.5%    |
| LGA          | 5.6%    | 8.2%     | 11.0%    | 16.3%   |
| Emergency CD | 12.1%   | 13.8%    | 17.2%    | 18.4%   |
| PPWR         | 7.2%    | 16.9%    | 31.1%    | 53.2%   |

NOTE: CD = cesarean delivery; LGA = large-for-gestational age; PPWR = postpartum weight retention; SGA = small-for-gestational age.

**TABLE G-18D** GWG-Specific Absolute Risks for SGA, LGA, Emergency Cesarean Delivery and Postpartum Weight Retention for Obese Women

|              | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | ≥ 20 kg |
|--------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| SGA          | 10.9%   | 8.4%     | 4.8%     | 5.8%    |
| LGA          | 9.7%    | 12.6%    | 18.9%    | 22.2%   |
| Emergency CD | 15.5%   | 20.4%    | 23.1%    | 26.2%   |
| PPWR         | 5.1%    | 17.5%    | 33.0%    | 45.0%   |

NOTE: CD = cesarean delivery; LGA = large-for-gestational age; PPWR = postpartum weight retention; SGA = small-for-gestational age.



Second DNBC Report

At the DNBC workshop in Washington, DC, in June 2003, the IOE committee found the additive approach with presentation of a separate and

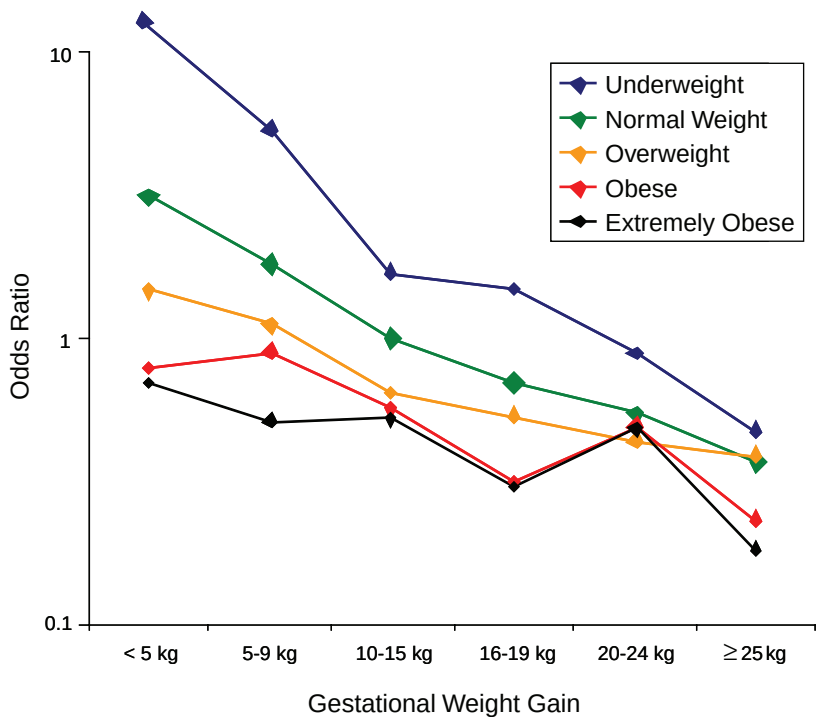


FIGURE G-19A Small-for-gestational-age infant (< 10 percentile).  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, exercise, social status, gestational age in days ( $p = 0.0001$  [Wald's test]).

TABLE G-19A Small-for-Gestational-Age Infant, Adjusted Odds Ratios (by BMI and gestational weight gain)

|           | < 5 kg              | 5-9 kg                                        | 10-15 kg                        | 16-19 kg          | 20-24 kg          | ≥ 25 kg           |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| < 18.5    | 12.5<br>(3.9; 39.8) | 5.4<br>(3.9; 7.5)                             | 1.7<br>(1.4; 2.0)               | 1.5<br>(1.1; 1.9) | 0.9<br>(0.6; 1.3) | 0.5<br>(0.2; 0.9) |
| 18.5-24.9 | 3.1<br>(2.2; 4.5)   | 1.8<br>(1.6; 2.0)                             | 1.0<br>(ref)                    | 0.7<br>(0.6; 0.8) | 0.5<br>(0.5; 0.6) | 0.4<br>(0.3; 0.4) |
| 25.0-29.9 | 1.5<br>(1.0; 2.0)   | 1.1<br>(0.9; 1.3)                             | 0.6<br>(0.6; 0.7)               | 0.5<br>(0.4; 0.7) | 0.4<br>(0.3; 0.6) | 0.4<br>(0.3; 0.5) |
| 30-34.9   | 0.8<br>(0.5; 1.1)   | 0.9<br>(0.7; 1.2)<br>(0.4; 0.7)<br>(0.2; 0.6) | 0.5<br>(0.3; 0.9)<br>(1.3; 0.5) |                   |                   |                   |

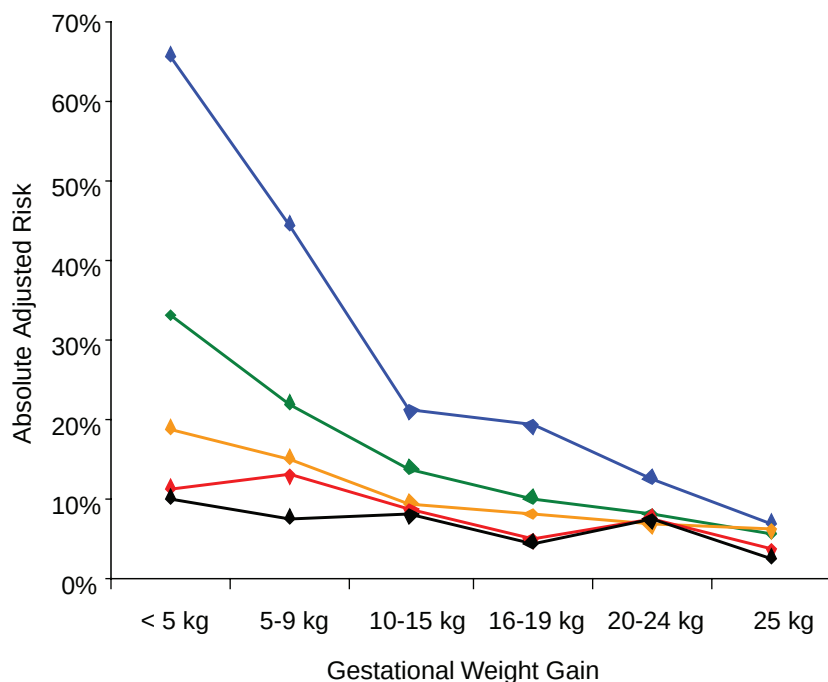


FIGURE G-19B Small-for-gestational-age infant (< 10 percentile).

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

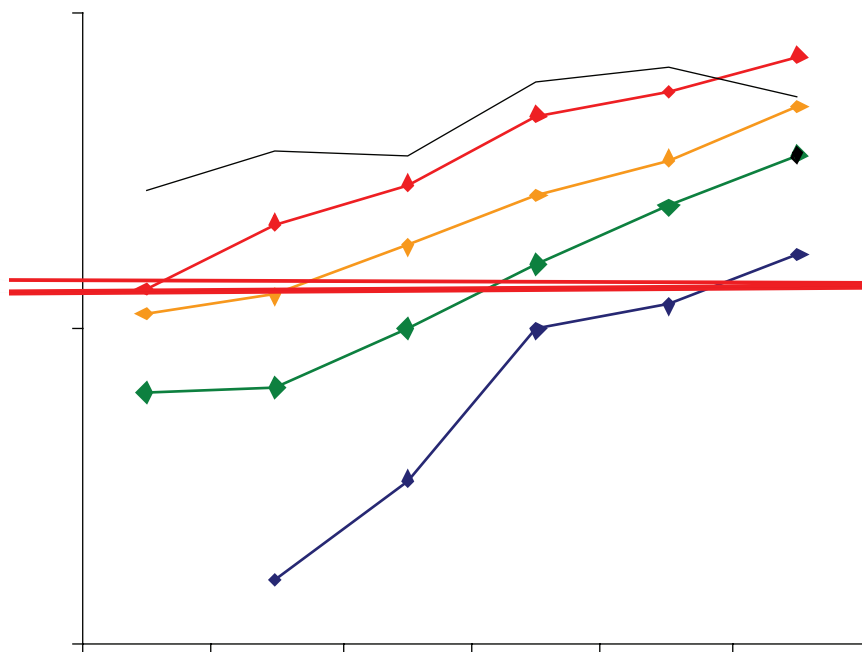


FIGURE G-20A Large-for-gestational-age infant (> 90 percentile).

NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, exercise, social status, gestational age in days ( $p = 0.0001$  [Wald's test]).

FIGURE G-20B Large-for-gestational-age infant (> 90 percentile).

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high



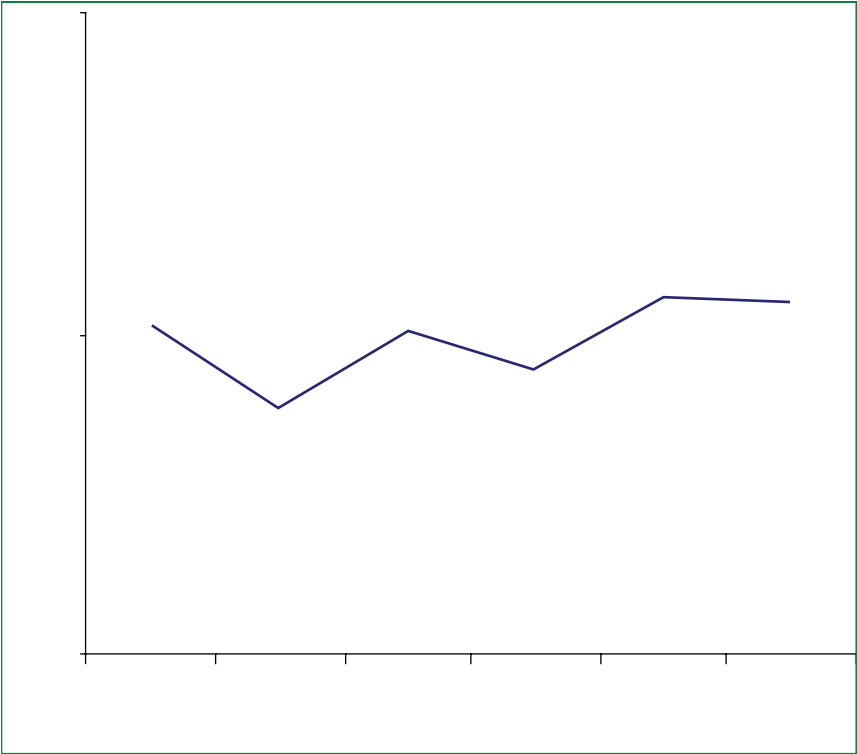


FIGURE G-21A Emergency cesarean deliveries.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, exercise, social status, gestational age in days ( $p = 0.23$  [Wald's test]).

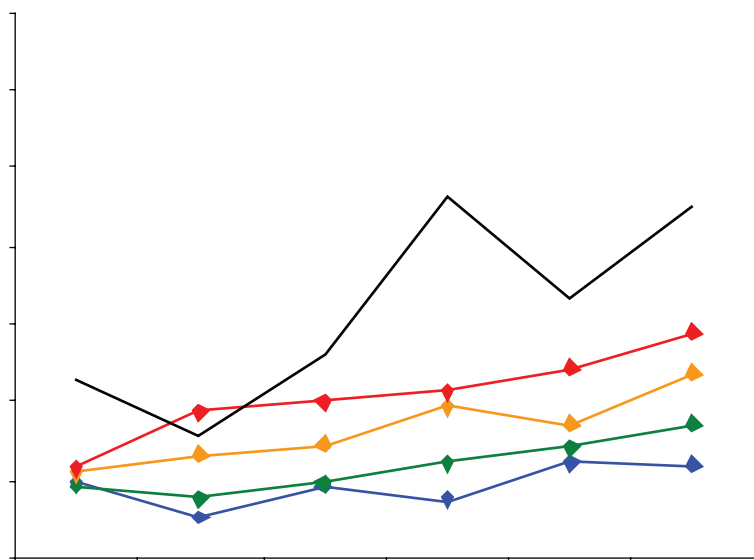


FIGURE G-21B Emergency cesarean deliveries.

NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

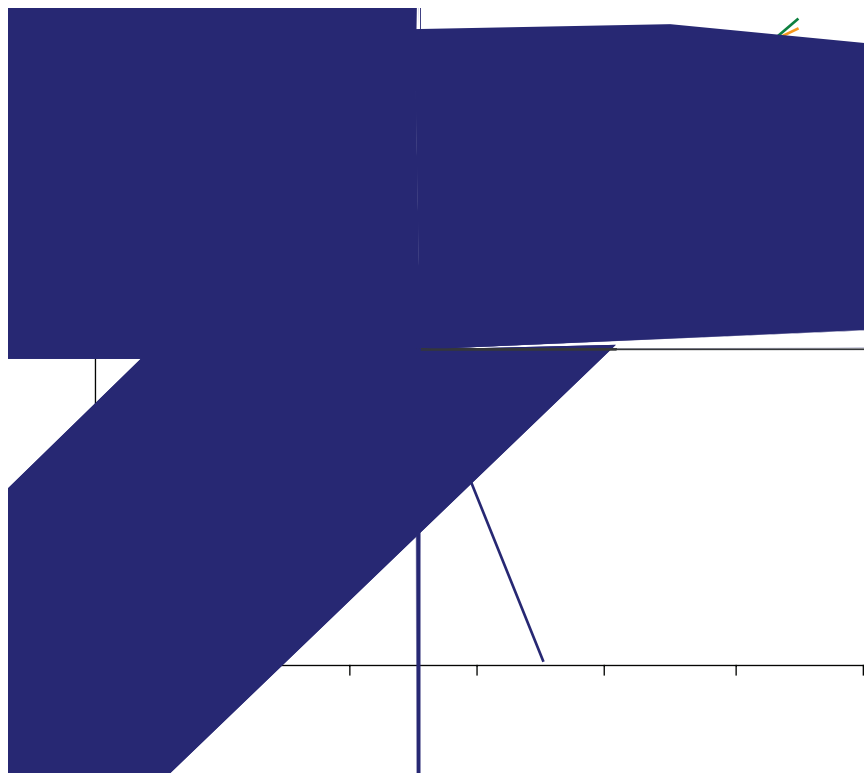


FIGURE G-22A Postpartum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 6 months.  
NOTE: Full model. Odds ratios adjusted for age, parity, height, smoking, alcohol consumption, exercise, social status, gestational age in days ( $p = 0.001$  [Wald's test]).

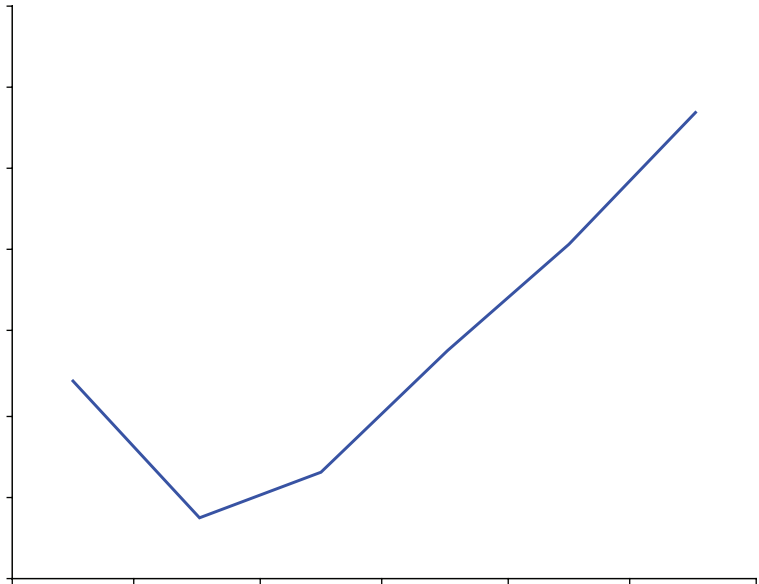


**FIGURE G-22B** Postpartum weight retention  $\geq 5$  kg at 6 months.  
**NOTE:** Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, nonsmoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation.

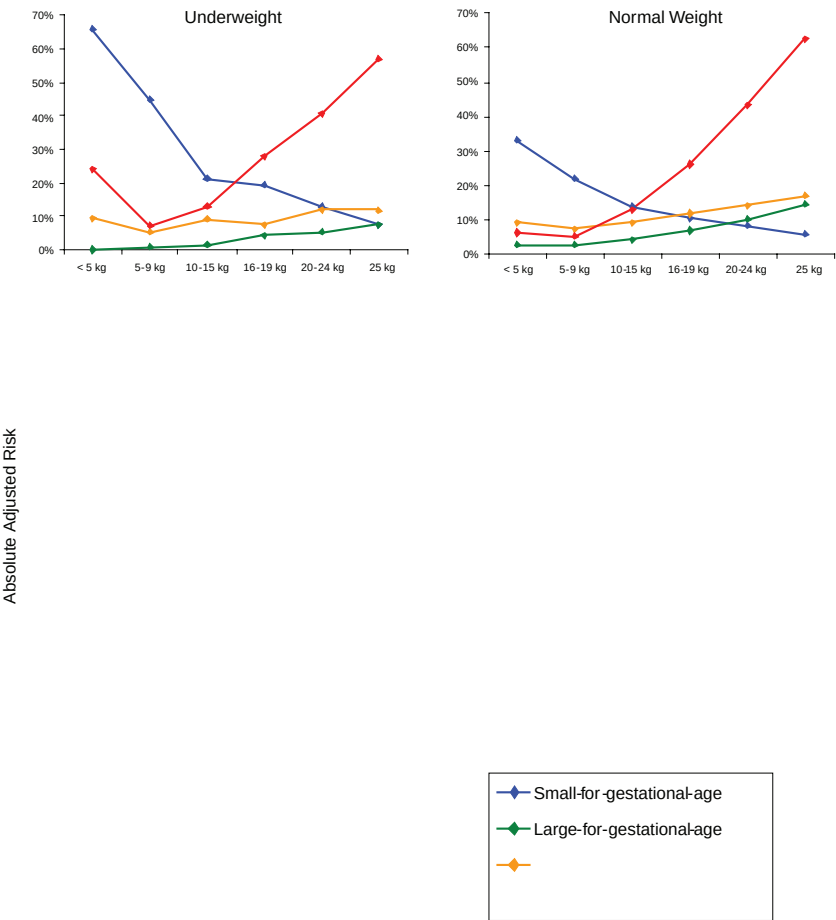


FIGURE G-23 GWG-specific absolute risks for SGA, LGA, emergency cesarean delivery and postpartum weight retention within each BMI group.  
NOTE: Absolute risks derived from odds ratios. Presents risk of a primiparous woman, age 25-29, height 1.60-1.69, non smoker, no alcohol consumption, high social status, no exercise, 280 days of gestation. For PPWR, she is breastfeeding less than 14 weeks.

- Only for underweight, normal weight and overweight women was  $\text{GWG} < 5 \text{ kg}$  associated with substantial risk of SGA.
- Extremely obese women had risks similar to obese women except for emergency cesarean delivery. Here, data indicated high and increasing risk with increasing GWG.
- The data did not suggest deleterious consequences of GWG



tion, she breastfed < 14 weeks. The same characteristics applied for “a short woman,” only she was < 1.60 m tall. “A smoking woman” was also defined as a reference woman, only she was a smoker. Among primiparous women, we also defined “a young woman,” who was similar to the reference woman, only was she < 20 years old.

### *Results*

First, the absolute risks are presented in seven figures, one for each subtype of woman, to evaluate if the “trade-off” between mother and infant differed across different types of women. Every figure is accompanied with a table with estimates and 95% confidence intervals corresponding to all points in the figure:

- Figure G-24 (Table G-23): Unexposed primiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes



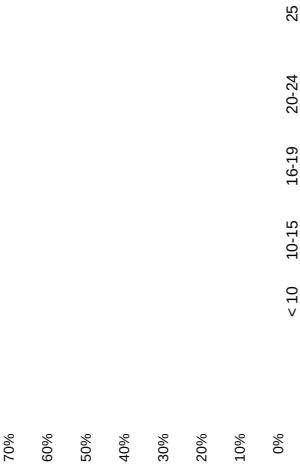


FIGURE G-24 Unexposed primiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes.  
NOTE: Age 25-29, height 160-169 cm, high social status. In pregnancy: no smoking, no alcohol, moderate exercise. For PPWR, she breastfed > 14 weeks.



|            | < 5 kg               | < 10 kg              | 10-15 kg             | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|---------|
| Overweight |                      |                      |                      |          |          |         |
| SGA        | 0.16<br>(0.11; 0.24) | 0.16<br>(0.13; 0.20) | 0.10<br>(0.08; 0.11) |          |          |         |

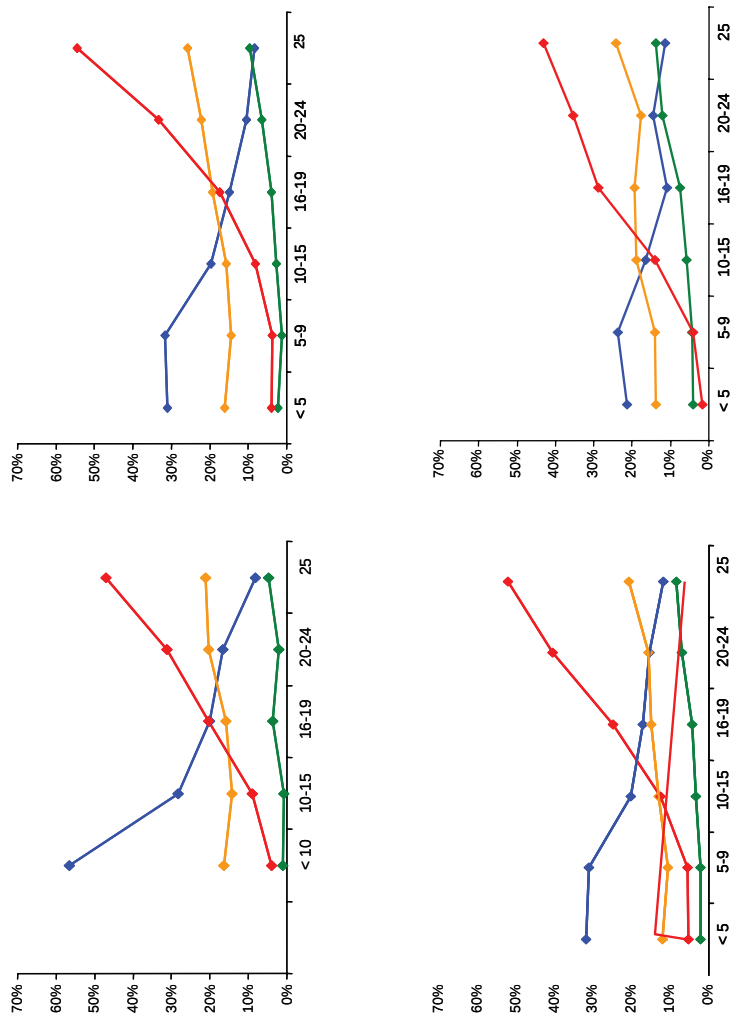


FIGURE G-25 Short primiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes.  
NOTE: Age 25-29, height < 160 cm, high social status. In pregnancy: no smoking, no alcohol, moderate exercise. For PPWR, she breastfed > 14 weeks.

TABLE G-24





TABLE G-25 Smoking Primiparae, GWG-Specific Risks of Pregnancy Outcomes

|                      | < 5 kg               | < 10 kg              | 10-15 kg             | 16-19 kg             | 20-24 kg             | ≥ 25 kg              |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Underweight</i>   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA                  |                      | 0.67<br>(0.57; 0.76) | 0.38<br>(0.32; 0.44) | 0.28<br>(0.22; 0.36) | 0.24<br>(0.17; 0.32) | 0.12<br>(0.06; 0.23) |
| LGA                  |                      | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.03) | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.01) | 0.03<br>(0.02; 0.04) | 0.02<br>(0.01; 0.03) | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.07) |
| Emergency CS         |                      | 0.08<br>(0.04; 0.17) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.10) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.12) | 0.11<br>(0.07; 0.17) | 0.11<br>(0.06; 0.20) |
| PPWR                 |                      | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.10) | 0.10<br>(0.07; 0.12) | 0.21<br>(0.17; 0.27) | 0.33<br>(0.26; 0.40) | 0.49<br>(0.38; 0.59) |
| <i>Normal weight</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA                  | 0.41<br>(0.29; 0.55) | 0.42<br>(0.38; 0.46) | 0.28<br>(0.25; 0.30) | 0.21<br>(0.19; 0.24) | 0.15<br>(0.13; 0.18) | 0.13<br>(0.10; 0.15) |
| LGA                  | 0.02<br>(0.00; 0.05) | 0.01<br>(0.01; 0.01) | 0.02<br>(0.01; 0.02) | 0.03<br>(0.02; 0.04) | 0.05<br>(0.04; 0.06) | 0.07<br>(0.06; 0.09) |
| Emergency CS         | 0.08<br>(0.03; 0.18) | 0.07<br>(0.06; 0.09) | 0.08<br>(0.07; 0.09) | 0.10<br>(0.09; 0.12) | 0.11<br>(0.10; 0.13) | 0.14<br>(0.11; 0.16) |
| PPWR                 | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.11) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.05) | 0.09<br>(0.08; 0.10) | 0.18<br>(0.17; 0.21) | 0.35<br>(0.32; 0.87) | 0.56<br>(0.53; 0.60) |

*continued*



|              | < 5 kg                       | < 10 kg              | 10-15 kg             | 16-19 kg                             | 20-24 kg             | ≥ 25 kg              |
|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Overweight   |                              |                      |                      |                                      |                      |                      |
| SGA          | 0.32<br>(0.31; 0.33)         | 0.23<br>(0.26; 0.37) | 0.20<br>(0.17; 0.23) | 0.17<br>(0.14; 0.21)                 | 0.15<br>(0.12; 0.19) | 0.12<br>(0.09; 0.16) |
| LGA          | 0.02<br>(0.01; 0.05)         | 0.02<br>(0.01; 0.03) | 0.03<br>(0.03; 0.04) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.06)                 | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.09) | 0.08<br>(0.06; 0.11) |
| Emergency CS | 0.12<br>(0.07; 0.20)         | 0.11<br>(0.08; 0.14) | 0.13<br>(0.11; 0.15) | 0.15<br>(0.12; 0.18)                 | 0.16<br>(0.13; 0.19) | 0.20<br>(0.16; 0.25) |
| PPWR         | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.10)<br>0.12 | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.08) | 0.12<br>(0.11; 0.14) | 0.25<br>(0.21; 0.29)<br>(0.54; 0.03) | 0.16<br>(0.13; 0.04) | 0.20<br>(0.12; 0.1   |

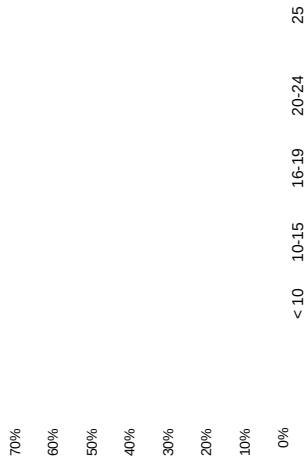


FIGURE G-27 Young primiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes.  
NOTE: Age < 20, height 160-169 cm, high social status. In pregnancy: no smoking, no alcohol, moderate exercise. For PPWR, she breastfed > 14 weeks.

TABLE G-26 Young Primiparae, GWG-Specific Risks of Pregnancy Outcomes

|                      | < 5 kg               | < 10 kg              | 10-15 kg             | 16-19 kg             | 20-24 kg             | ≥ 25 kg              |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Underweight</i>   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA                  |                      | 0.33<br>(0.22; 0.46) | 0.13<br>(0.09; 0.18) | 0.09<br>(0.06; 0.14) | 0.07<br>(0.04; 0.12) | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.07) |
| LGA                  |                      | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.06) | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.02) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.09) | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.07) | 0.06<br>(0.03; 0.14) |
| Emergency CS         |                      | 0.06<br>(0.03; 0.14) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.09) | 0.06<br>(0.03; 0.11) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.14) | 0.09<br>(0.04; 0.17) |
| PPWR                 |                      | 0.06<br>(0.02; 0.13) | 0.12<br>(0.09; 0.17) | 0.27<br>(0.20; 0.35) | 0.39<br>(0.30; 0.49) | 0.56<br>(0.44; 0.67) |
| <i>Normal weight</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA                  | 0.15<br>(0.08; 0.24) | 0.15<br>(0.11; 0.21) | 0.09<br>(0.06; 0.12) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.09) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.06) | 0.03<br>(0.02; 0.05) |
| LGA                  | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.10) | 0.02<br>(0.01; 0.03) | 0.03<br>(0.02; 0.05) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.08) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.13) | 0.12<br>(0.08; 0.19) |
| Emergency CS         | 0.06<br>(0.02; 0.15) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.89) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.09) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.11) | 0.09<br>(0.06; 0.13) | 0.11<br>(0.07; 0.15) |
| PPWR                 | 0.05<br>(0.02; 0.14) | 0.05<br>(0.04; 0.07) | 0.11<br>(0.09; 0.14) | 0.23<br>(0.19; 0.28) | 0.41<br>(0.35; 0.48) | 0.63<br>(0.56; 0.69) |

|                   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Overweight</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| SGA               | 0.10<br>(0.06; 0.17) | 0.10<br>(0.07; 0.15) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.08) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.07) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.07) | 0.03<br>(0.02; 0.05) |  |  |  |
| LGA               | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.09) | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.07) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.10) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.12) | 0.13<br>(0.08; 0.19) | 0.15<br>(0.10; 0.23) |  |  |  |
| Emergency CS      | 0.09<br>(0.05; 0.17) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.13) | 0.10<br>(0.07; 0.14) | 0.12<br>(0.08; 0.17) | 0.13<br>(0.09; 0.18) | 0.16<br>(0.11; 0.23) |  |  |  |
| PPWR              | 0.07<br>(0.03; 0.13) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.11) | 0.16<br>(0.12; 0.20) | 0.30<br>(0.24; 0.37) | 0.47<br>(0.40; 0.54) | 0.59<br>(0.51; 0.66) |  |  |  |
| <i>Obese</i>      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| SGA               | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.10) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.11) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.07) | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.05) | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.07) | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.06) |  |  |  |
| LGA               | 0.08<br>(0.04; 0.13) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.13) | 0.11<br>(0.07; 0.17) |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |

70%  
60%  
50%  
40%  
30%  
20%  
10%  
0%

FIGURE G-28 Unexposed multiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes.  
NOTE: Age 25-29, height 160-169 cm, high social status. In pregnancy: no smoking, no alcohol, moderate exercise. For PPWR, she breastfed > 14 weeks.

TABLE G-27 Unexposed Multiparae, GWG-Specific Risks of Pregnancy Outcomes

| < 5 kg | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|

*Underweight*



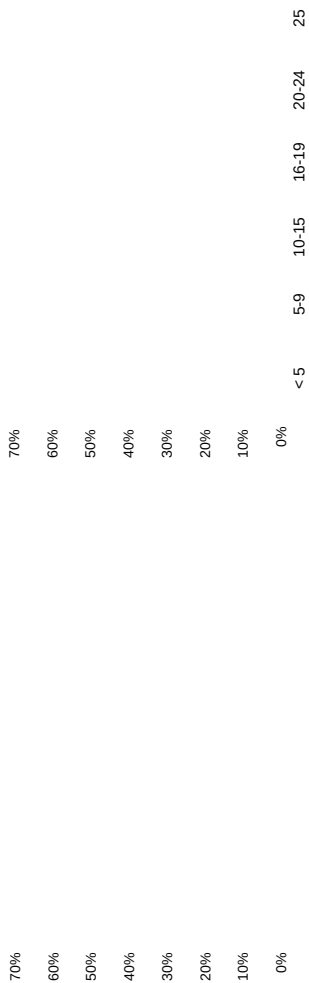


FIGURE G-29 Short multiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes.  
NOTE: Age 25-29, height < 160 cm, high social status. In pregnancy: no smoking, no alcohol, moderate exercise. For PPWR, she breastfed > 14 weeks.



TABLE G-28 Short Multiparae, GWG-Specific Risks of Pregnancy Outcomes

|                      | < 5 kg               | < 10 kg              | 10-15 kg             | 16-19 kg             | 20-24 kg             | ≥ 25 kg              |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Underweight</i>   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA                  |                      | 0.40<br>(0.30; 0.52) | 0.18<br>(0.14; 0.23) | 0.18<br>(0.13; 0.24) | 0.12<br>(0.07; 0.19) | 0.07<br>(0.03; 0.17) |
| LGA                  |                      | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.03) | 0.02<br>(0.01; 0.03) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.07) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.11) | 0.10<br>(0.05; 0.19) |
| Emergency CS         |                      | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.09) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.09) | 0.05<br>(0.02; 0.09) | 0.06<br>(0.03; 0.14) | 0.08<br>(0.03; 0.22) |
| PPWR                 |                      | 0.09<br>(0.05; 0.16) | 0.13<br>(0.10; 0.16) | 0.26<br>(0.20; 0.32) | 0.39<br>(0.32; 0.48) | 0.57<br>(0.45; 0.68) |
| <i>Normal weight</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA                  | 0.30<br>(0.21; 0.41) | 0.17<br>(0.14; 0.21) | 0.11<br>(0.09; 0.13) | 0.07<br>(0.06; 0.09) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.09) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.06) |
| LGA                  | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.09) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.05) | 0.06<br>(0.05; 0.07) | 0.09<br>(0.07; 0.11) | 0.12<br>(0.10; 0.15) | 0.17<br>(0.14; 0.21) |
| Emergency CS         | 0.04<br>(0.01; 0.12) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.06) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.07) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.09) | 0.09<br>(0.07; 0.11) | 0.10<br>(0.07; 0.14) |
| PPWR                 | 0.07<br>(0.03; 0.13) | 0.05<br>(0.04; 0.07) | 0.13<br>(0.11; 0.15) | 0.26<br>(0.23; 0.29) | 0.42<br>(0.38; 0.46) | 0.58<br>(0.53; 0.62) |

|                   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Overweight</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA               | 0.15<br>(0.10; 0.21) | 0.10<br>(0.08; 0.13) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.09) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.09) | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.07) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.09) |
| LGA               | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.09) | 0.07<br>(0.06; 0.09) | 0.10<br>(0.08; 0.12) | 0.14<br>(0.11; 0.17) | 0.17<br>(0.14; 0.21) | 0.23<br>(0.19; 0.29) |
| Emergency CS      | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.09) | 0.08<br>(0.06; 0.12) | 0.08<br>(0.06; 0.10) | 0.12<br>(0.09; 0.16) | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.12) | 0.13<br>(0.09; 0.19) |
| PPWR              | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.09) | 0.08<br>(0.06; 0.10) | 0.17<br>(0.14; 0.19) | 0.30<br>(0.26; 0.34) | 0.49<br>(0.44; 0.54) | 0.57<br>(0.51; 0.63) |
| <i>Obese</i>      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA               | 0.09<br>(0.06; 0.13) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.10) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.10) | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.09) | 0.07<br>(0.03; 0.14) | 0.01<br>(0.00; 0.09) |
| LGA               | 0.09<br>(0.07; 0.12) | 0.13<br>(0.10; 0.17) | 0.15<br>(0.12; 0.18) | 0.24<br>(0.18; 0.31) | 0.21<br>(0.15; 0.29) | 0.22<br>(0.15; 0.31) |
| Emergency CS      | 0.08<br>(0.05; 0.13) | 0.11<br>(0.08; 0.15) | 0.13<br>(0.09; 0.17) | 0.18<br>(0.11; 0.27) | 0.21<br>(0.13; 0.32) | 0.26<br>(0.15; 0.40) |
| PPWR              | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.06) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.10) | 0.18<br>(0.14; 0.21) | 0.30<br>(0.23; 0.37) | 0.40<br>(0.31; 0.48) | 0.52<br>(0.42; 0.62) |

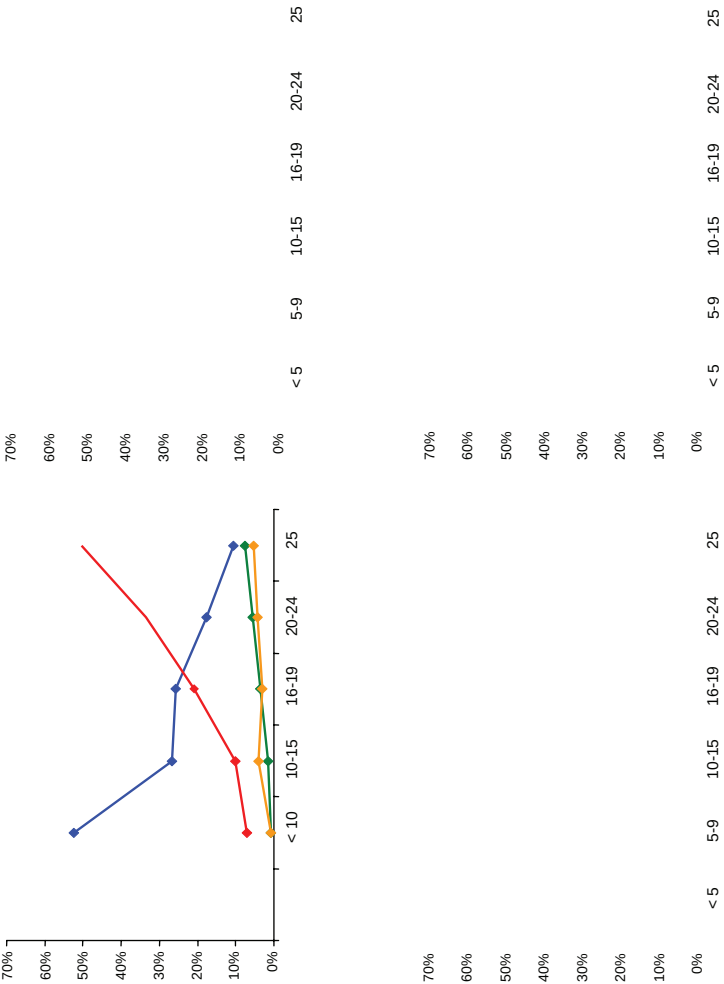


FIGURE G-30 Smoking multiparae, GWG-specific risks of pregnancy outcomes.  
NOTE: Age 25-29, height 160-169 cm, high social status. Smoked during pregnancy, no alcohol, moderate exercise. For PPWR, she breastfed > 14 weeks.



TABLE G-29 Continued

|                   | < 5 kg               | < 10 kg              | 10-15 kg             | 16-19 kg             | 20-24 kg             | ≥ 25 kg              |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Overweight</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA               | 0.22<br>(0.16; 0.30) | 0.16<br>(0.12; 0.20) | 0.11<br>(0.09; 0.13) | 0.10<br>(0.07; 0.13) | 0.07<br>(0.04; 0.10) | 0.09<br>(0.05; 0.14) |
| LGA               | 0.04<br>(0.03; 0.07) | 0.05<br>(0.04; 0.07) | 0.08<br>(0.07; 0.09) | 0.11<br>(0.09; 0.13) | 0.13<br>(0.11; 0.16) | 0.18<br>(0.15; 0.22) |
| Emergency CS      | 0.03<br>(0.01; 0.06) | 0.05<br>(0.04; 0.08) | 0.05<br>(0.04; 0.7)  | 0.08<br>(0.06; 0.11) | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.08) | 0.09<br>(0.06; 0.13) |
| PPWR              | 0.04<br>(0.02; 0.07) | 0.06<br>(0.05; 0.08) | 0.13<br>(0.12; 0.15) | 0.25<br>(0.22; 0.28) | 0.43<br>(0.38; 0.47) | 0.51<br>(0.45; 0.56) |
| <i>Obese</i>      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| SGA               | 0.13<br>(0.09; 0.19) | 0.12<br>(0.08; 0.16) | 0.11<br>(0.08; 0.15) | 0.06<br>(0.03; 0.14) | 0.11<br>(0.05; 0.21) | 0.02<br>(0.00; 0.25) |
| LGA               | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.09) | 0.10<br>(0.08; 0.13) | 0.11<br>(0.09; 0.14) | 0.19<br>(0.14; 0.24) | 0.17<br>(0.12; 0.23) | 0.17<br>(0.12; 0.31) |
| Emergency CS      | 0.05<br>(0.03; 0.09) | 0.07<br>(0.05; 0.10) | 0.08<br>(0.06; 0.11) | 0.12<br>(0.07; 0.19) | 0.14<br>(0.09; 0.23) | 0.18<br>(0.10; 0.29) |
| PPWR              | 0.03<br>(0.02; 0.05) | 0.06<br>(0.04; 0.08) | 0.14<br>(0.12; 0.17) | 0.25<br>(0.19; 0.31) | 0.33<br>(0.26; 0.42) | 0.45<br>(0.36; 0.56) |

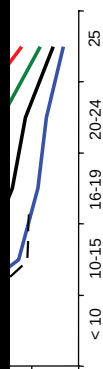


FIGURE G-31 GWG-specific risk of pregnancy outcomes in subtypes of underweight women.

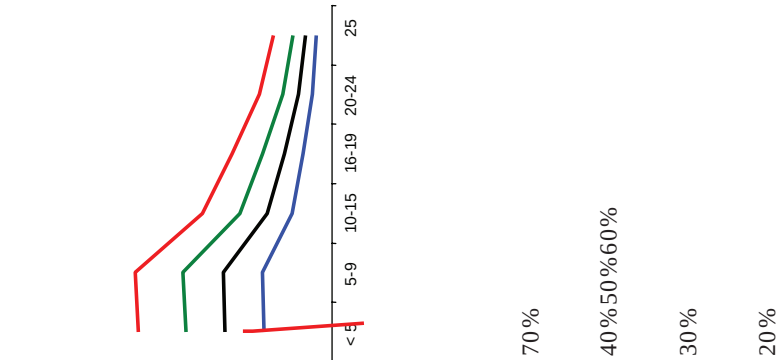


FIGURE G-32 GWG-specific risk of pregnancy outcomes in subtypes of normal weight women. 0% 10%

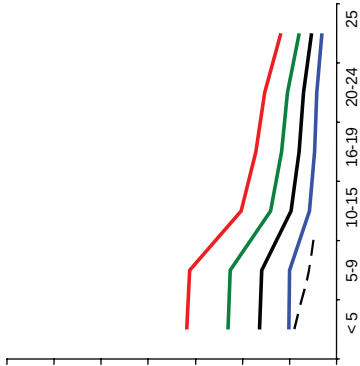


FIGURE G-33 GWG-specific risk of pregnancy outcomes in subtypes of overweight women.



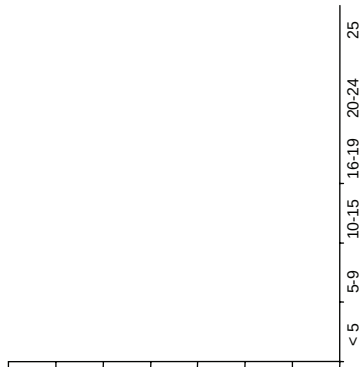


FIGURE G-34 WG-specific risk of pregnancy outcomes in subtypes of obese women.

For emergency cesarean delivery and postpartum weight retention, the above analyses were repeated with adjustment for birth weight. When adjusted for birth weight, the presented absolute risk was that of a woman giving birth to a 3,500-3,999 g infant. These results are presented in:

- Figure G-35 (Tables G-30A through G-30D): Underweight women, risks before and after adjustment for birth weight
- Figure G-36 (Tables G-31A through G-31D): Normal weight

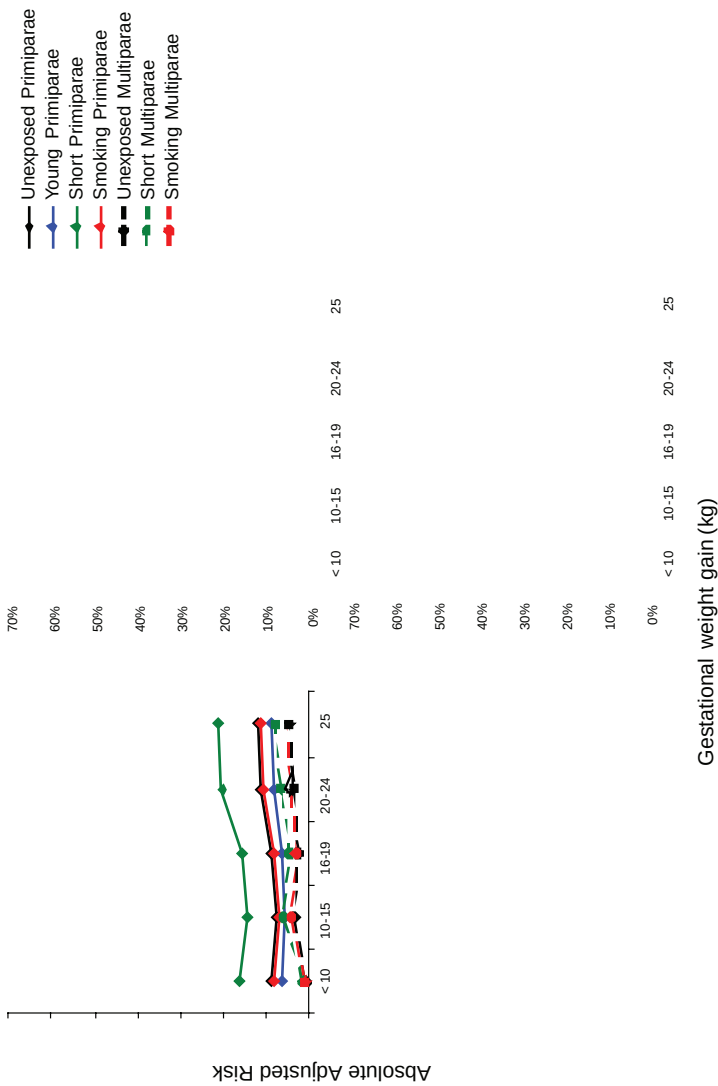


FIGURE G-35 Underweight women, emergency cesarean delivery (CS) and postpartum weight retention (PPWR) with and without adjustment for birth weight.  
NOTE: Absolute risks in different types of underweight women. When adjusted for birth weight, the presented risk is that of a women giving birth to a 3,500-3,999 g infant.

**TABLE G-30A Emergency Cesarean Delivery (CS) in Different Types of Underweight Women by GWG**

|                     | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.09    | 0.08     | 0.09     | 0.11     | 0.12    |
| Young primipara     | 0.06    | 0.05     | 0.06     | 0.08     | 0.09    |
| Short primipara     | 0.16    | 0.14     | 0.16     | 0.20     | 0.21    |
| Smoking primipara   | 0.08    | 0.07     | 0.08     | 0.11     | 0.11    |
| Unexposed multipara | 0.01    | 0.03     | 0.03     | 0.04     | 0.04    |
| Short multipara     | 0.01    | 0.06     | 0.05     | 0.06     | 0.08    |
| Smoking multipara   | 0.01    | 0.04     | 0.03     | 0.04     | 0.05    |

**TABLE G-30B Emergency Cesarean Delivery (CS) with Adjustment for Birth Weight in Different Types of Underweight Women by GWG**

|                     | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.10    | 0.08     | 0.09     | 0.12     | 0.11    |
| Young primipara     |         |          |          |          |         |

**TABLE G-30C Postpartum Weight Retention (PPWR) in Different Types of Underweight Women by GWG**

|                     | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.04    | 0.09     | 0.21     | 0.32     | 0.48    |
| Young primipara     | 0.06    | 0.12     | 0.26     | 0.39     | 0.56    |
| Short primipara     | 0.04    | 0.09     | 0.20     | 0.31     | 0.47    |
| Smoking primipara   | 0.04    | 0.10     | 0.22     | 0.33     | 0.49    |
| Unexposed multipara | 0.07    | 0.10     | 0.21     | 0.34     | 0.51    |
| Short multipara     | 0.09    | 0.13     | 0.26     | 0.39     | 0.57    |
| Smoking multipara   | 0.07    | 0.10     | 0.21     | 0.33     | 0.50    |

**TABLE G-30D Postpartum Weight Retention (PPWR) with Adjustment for Birth Weight in Different Types of Underweight Women by GWG**

|                     | < 10 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|---------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.04    | 0.09     | 0.21     | 0.32     | 0.48    |
| Young primipara     | 0.05    | 0.12     | 0.26     | 0.38     | 0.55    |
| Short primipara     | 0.03    | 0.08     | 0.19     | 0.29     | 0.45    |
| Smoking primipara   | 0.04    | 0.08     | 0.20     | 0.31     | 0.47    |
| Unexposed multipara | 0.07    | 0.10     | 0.20     | 0.33     | 0.50    |
| Short multipara     | 0.09    | 0.12     | 0.24     | 0.39     | 0.55    |
| Smoking multipara   | 0.07    | 0.09     | 0.19     | 0.33     | 0.49    |



TABLE G-31A Emergency Cesarean Delivery (CS) in Different Types of Normal Weight Women by GWG

|                     | < 5 kg | 5-9 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | 25+ kg |      |
|---------------------|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|--------|------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.09   | 0.08   | 0.08     | 0.11     | 0.12     | 0.15   |      |
| Young primipara     | 0.06   | 0.06   | 0.06     | 0.08     | 0.09     | 0.11   |      |
| Short primipara     | 0.16   | 0.15   | 0.16     | 0.19     | 0.22     |        |      |
| 0.08                | 0.11   |        | 0.16     | 0.15     | 0.06     | 0.06   | 0.08 |

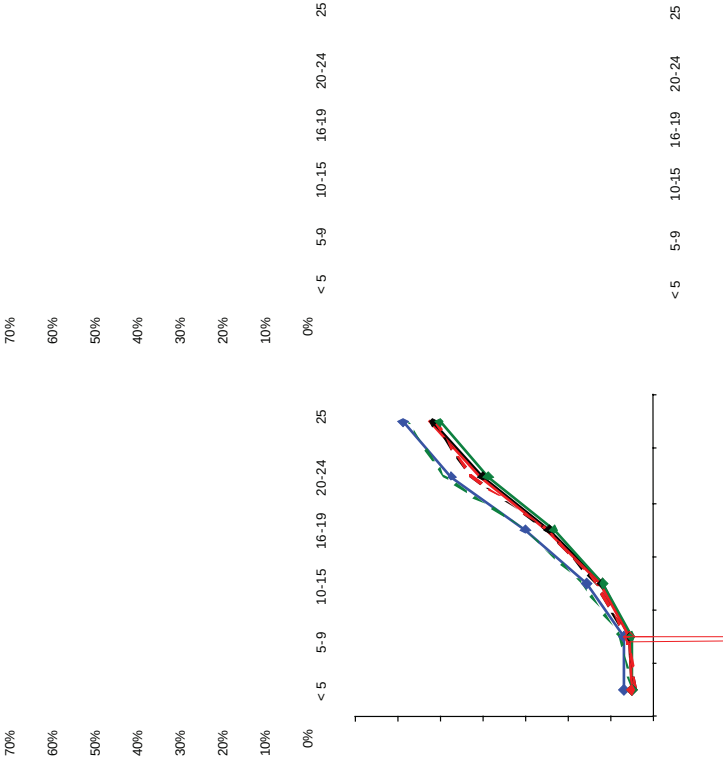


FIGURE G-37 Overweight women, emergency cesarean delivery (CS) and postpartum weight retention (PPWR) with and without adjustment for birth weight.  
NOTE: Absolute risks in different types of overweight women. When adjusted for birth weight, the presented risk is that of a women giving birth to a 3,500-3,999 g infant.

TABLE G-32A Emergency Cesarean Delivery (CS) in Different Types of Overweight Women by GWG

|                     | < 5 kg | 5-9 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|---------------------|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.13   | 0.11   | 0.14     | 0.16     | 0.17     | 0.22    |
| Young primipara     | 0.09   | 0.08   | 0.10     | 0.12     | 0.12     | 0.17    |
| Short primipara     | 0.23   | 0.21   | 0.25     | 0.28     | 0.29     | 0.36    |
| Smoking primipara   | 0.12   | 0.11   | 0.13     | 0.15     | 0.16     | 0.21    |
| Unexposed multipara | 0.02   | 0.05   | 0.05     | 0.07     | 0.05     | 0.07    |
| Short multipara     | 0.04   | 0.08   | 0.08     | 0.12     | 0.08     | 0.13    |
| Smoking multipara   | 0.03   | 0.05   | 0.05     | 0.08     | 0.05     | 0.09    |



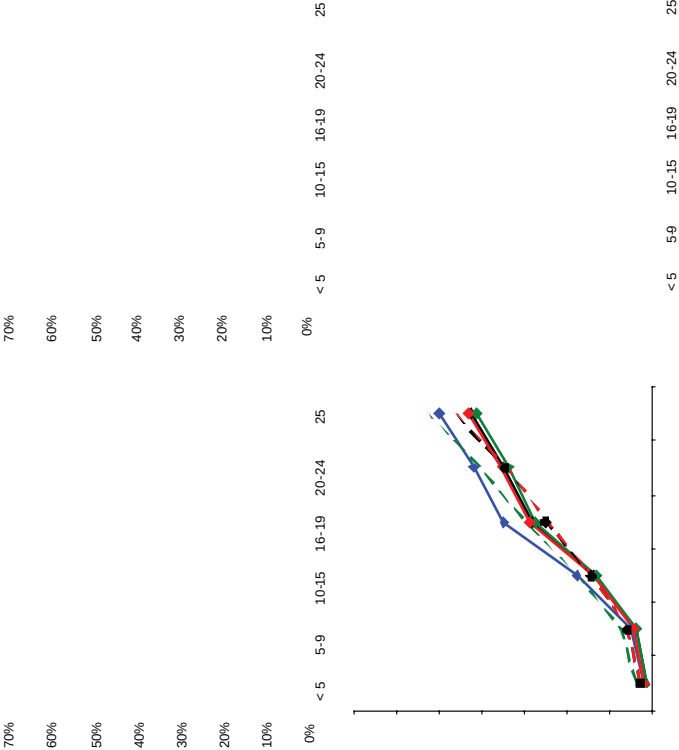


FIGURE G-38 Obese women, emergency cesarean delivery (CS) and postpartum weight retention (PPWR) with and without adjustment for birth weight.  
NOTE: Absolute risks in different types of obese women. When adjusted for birth weight, the presented risk is that of a woman giving birth to a 3500-3999 g infant.

TABLE G-33A Emergency Cesarean Delivery (CS) in Different Types of Obese Women by GWG

|                     | < 5 kg | 5-9 kg | 10-15 kg | 16-19 kg | 20-24 kg | ≥ 25 kg |
|---------------------|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Unexposed primipara | 0.15   | 0.15   | 0.20     | 0.21     | 0.19     | 0.26    |
| Young primipara     | 0.11   | 0.11   | 0.15     | 0.15     | 0.14     | 0.20    |

end of the recommended range. Only risk of emergency cesarean deliveries was uniquely high in short primiparae, which was probably related to pelvic size and prepregnancy BMI and not to gain,

health concerns have arisen, including the greater prevalence of women who are overweight or obese entering pregnancy, which puts them at high risk for pregnancy complications. More women are becoming pregnant at an older age and enter pregnancy with chronic conditions such as type 2 diabetes, which also puts them at risk for pregnancy complications and may lead to increased morbidity during their post-pregnancy years. In addition to adverse outcomes for the mother, there are risks for the child associated with te6tttnay,t(r)-3(s)-6D5tnsd -3(-3(c)-3(a)-3(t))-3(s)-6D5d-6D5tnsil3(t)-35t child3-3( with e6tttEMC i4b3(c)H489(w)-3(i)-3(t)-3(h)-3( )-892ttere cin T\*[(w)(h)-3/MCID -letP

### Gestational Weight Gain

Gestational weight gain in NMIHS is available from either maternal self-report at the time of questionnaire (mean 17 months postpartum with range 6 to 31 months) or from medical care provider report (Figure G-39). For these analyses, medical care provider was used when available, and maternal self-report was used when provider report was unavailable. Pre-gravid weight, used to calculate gestational weight gain, was largely based on self-reported data unless the provider reported a measured pregravid weight (this is possible but not indicated in the data set). In addition, gestational age at delivery is based on vital records data and is not of uniform quality; there are numerous cases of extreme outliers in birth weight that may be due to incorrect pregnancy dating. Birth weight was thus cleaned by eliminating observations more than three standard deviations from the mean birth weight at each gestational age week.

The original gestational weight gain variable has mean 30.5 pounds and ranged from 217 pounds lost to 235 pounds gained. For purposes of this analysis, data were cleaned by excluding the top 1 percent and bottom 1 percent of this variable. The resulting variable had range limited to 22 pounds lost to 79 pounds gained. The (unweighted) empirical density of weight gain is presented in Figure G-39; 29 percent of women had inadequate gain; 26 percent of women had adequate gain, and 45 percent of women had excessive gain based on the current IOM recommendations for weight gain and World Health Organization (WHO) cutoffs for BMI.

Weight gain adequacy was related to pregravid BMI category, as described below in Table G-34. In particular, underweight women tended to have inadequate or adequate gain, while the majority of normal weight, overweight, and obese women had excessive gain. Interestingly, fewer overweight women had inadequate gain than women in any other group.

In all analysis models, predicted outcomes are obtained for the following three scenarios:

1. Observed weight gain.
2. Weight gain according to the IOM (1990) recommendations.
3. Weight gain as indicated by the Oken et al. (2008) analysis.

In order to determine whether weight gain was according to the current IOM recommendations, women were classified into one of four pregravid BMI groups. Within each BMI group, the current IOM recommended weight gain range at 40 weeks was linearly extrapolated (after accounting for recommended first trimester gain) to a range at each week of gestation, so that each woman could be classified as having adequate weight gain (within the IOM recommended range), inadequate gain, or excessive gain,

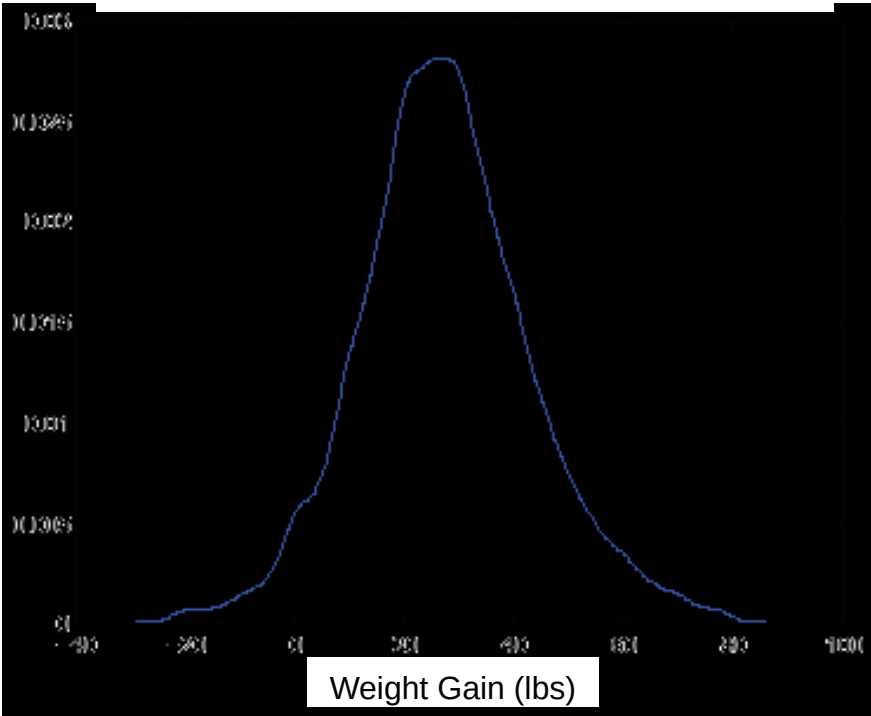


FIGURE G-39 Empirical distribution of weight gain in NMIHS.

TABLE G-34 Adequacy of Weight Gain (Current IOM Guidelines) by Pregravid BMI (WHO Cutoffs)

| Pregravid BMI | Weight Gain Adequacy (%) |          |           |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------|
|               | Inadequate               | Adequate | Excessive |
| Underweight   | 33.7                     | 41.2     | 25.1      |
| Normal        | 29.8                     | 28.7     | 41.5      |
| Overweight    | 19.4                     | 18.8     | 61.8      |
| Obese         | 32.9                     | 7.7      | 59.5      |

based on the IOM (1990) recommended first trimester gain, extrapolating

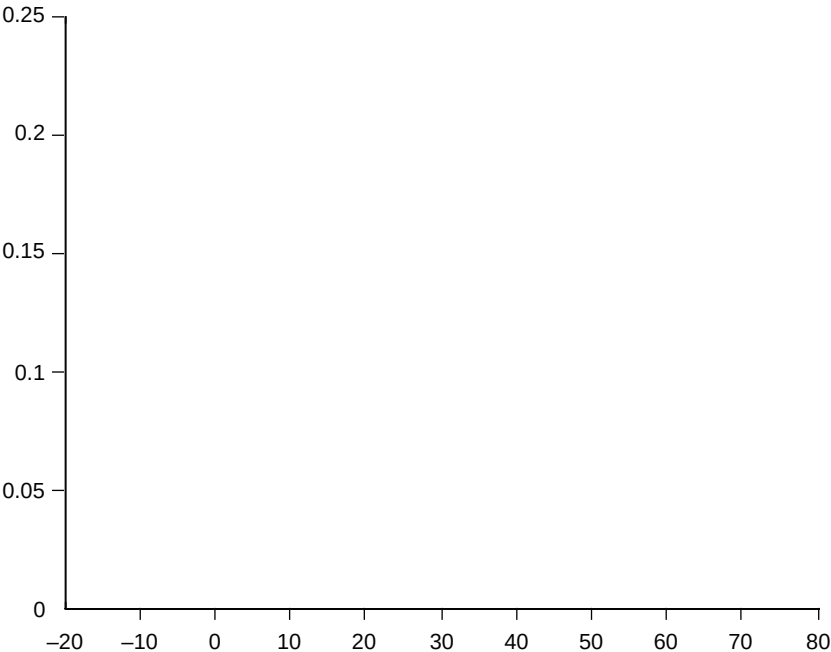


FIGURE G-41 Weight gain (lbs) and probability of cesarean delivery.



maternal height (< 63 in, 63-66 in,  $\geq$  67 in), maternal age (< 20 years, 20-24 years, 25-29 years, 30-34 years,  $\geq$  35 years), and maternal smoking during 12 months prior to delivery (none, 1-10 cigarettes per day, > 10 cigarettes per day).

Clearly, weight gain will be greater for longer pregnancies, so a rela-

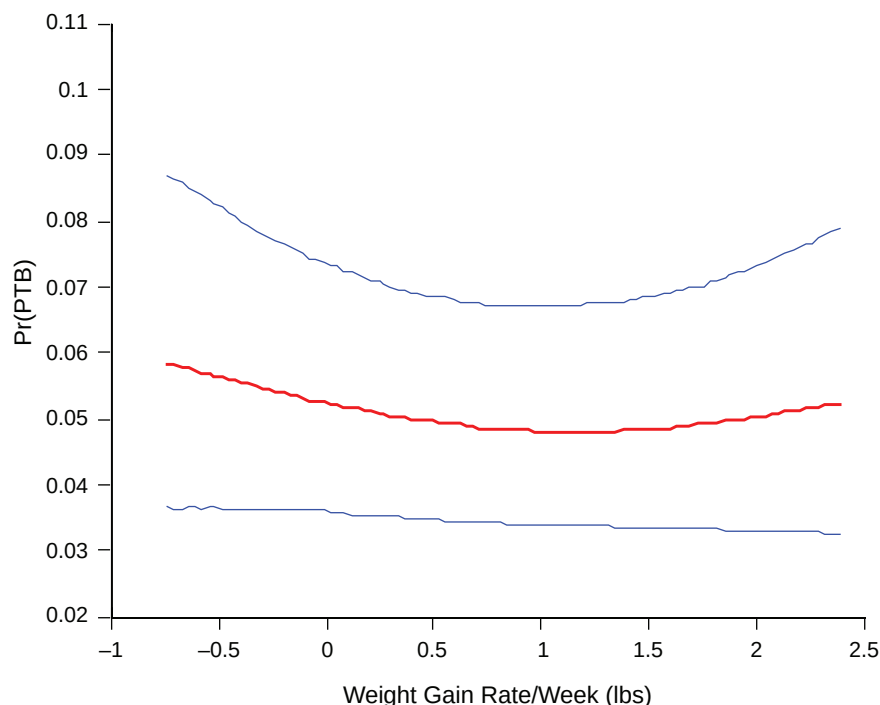


FIGURE G-42 Relationship of weight gain to preterm birth probability.

or more years), maternal height (< 63 in, 63-66 in, ≥ 67 in), maternal smoking during 12 months prior to delivery (none, 1-10 cigarettes per day, > 10 cigarettes per day), parity (multiparous versus nulliparous), infant gender, and the interaction between pregravid BMI and weight gain.

The association between weight gain and birth weight among terms is illustrated in Figure G-43. Among underweight and normal weight women, in the range of (5, 55) pounds gained among normal weight women, birth weight steadily increases, and then birth weight declines slightly after

TABLE G-36 Predicted Probabilities of Preterm Birth by Pregravid BMI

| Pregravid BMI | Preterm Probabilities (95% CI) |                   |                   |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|               | Observed Data                  | IOM Gain          | Oken Gain         |
| Underweight   | 0.11 (0.09, 0.14)              | 0.11 (0.09, 0.14) | 0.11 (0.09, 0.14) |
| Normal weight | 0.08 (0.07, 0.09)              | 0.08 (0.07, 0.09) | 0.08 (0.07, 0.09) |
| Overweight    | 0.07 (0.05, 0.08)              | 0.07 (0.05, 0.08) | 0.07 (0.05, 0.09) |
| Obese         | 0.08 (0.06, 0.11)              | 0.08 (0.06, 0.11) | 0.09 (0.06, 0.13) |

around 55 pounds gained. This trend flattens among overweight and obese women so that there is less association between gestational weight gain and birth weight.

Figure G-44 presents the estimated birth weight density among term births observed in the NMIHS data (blue curve and confidence bands); among term births assuming compliance to current IOM recommendations (red); and among term births assuming compliance to the Oken et al. (2009) recommendations (green). The figure shows that the observed distribution of birth weights is shifted to the right (higher birth weights) compared to the distributions assuming compliance to the IOM and Oken et al. recommendations. The shift is most pronounced for women who are overweight or obese at the start of pregnancy.

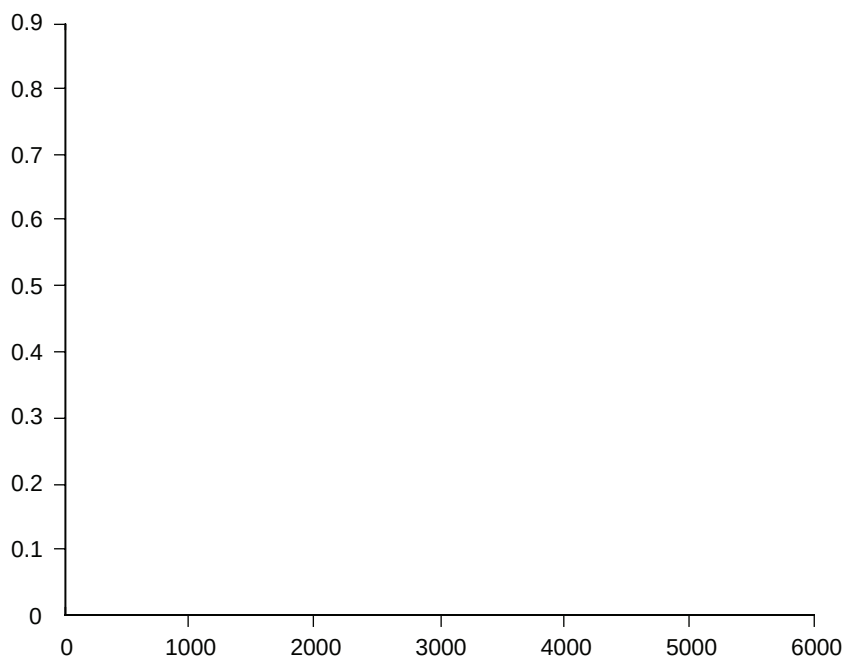


FIGURE G-44 Birth weight density, predicted birth weight distribution by hypothetical weight gain.

model based on backward selection; predictors retained in the final model include maternal pregravid BMI (WHO categories), maternal weight gain, maternal race (black versus non-black), maternal education (< 12 years, 12 years, 13-15 years, 16+ years) maternal height (< 63 in, 63-66 in,  $\geq$  67 in), maternal age (< 20 years, 20-24 years, 25-29 years, 30-34 years,  $\geq$  35 years), maternal smoking in 12 months prior to delivery (none, 1-10 cigarettes per day, > 10 cigarettes per day), maternal exercise during pregnancy, gestational age, maternal employment during pregnancy, and the following interactions: pregravid BMI by weight gain, race by weight gain, race by maternal height, race by maternal age, and race by exercise. As illustrated in Figures G-45 and G-46, weight gain was significantly associated with SGA risk. Non-black women who were underweight, normal weight, or overweight were somewhat more likely to have a SGA birth if their weight gain was inadequate. The association between weight gain and SGA risk was considerably muted as pregravid BMI increased.

The SGA density does vary slightly across weight gain recommendations. Using the observed data, 11 percent (10 percent, 12 percent) of births

are SGA. Under the IOM recommendations, 11 percent (10 percent, 12 percent) of births are SGA. Under the alternate values, 13 percent (12 percent, 16 percent) of births are SGA. Probabilities of SGA birth by pregravid BMI categories are below in Table G-37.

#### Large-for-Gestational Age

Zhang and Bowes (1995) cutoff points were used to determine LGA status. Predictors were selected in the LGA logistic regression model based on backward selection. Predictors retained in the final model include maternal pregravid BMI (WHO categories), maternal weight gain, maternal race (black

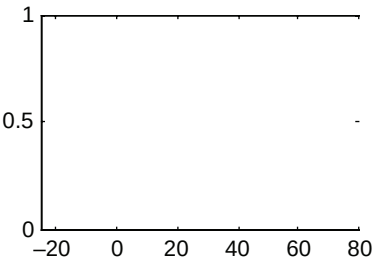


FIGURE G-46 Risk of SGA birth in black women by weight gain (lbs) and pre-gravid BMI.

8 percent (7 percent, 9 percent) of births are LGA. Predicted probabilities of LGA by pregravid BMI category are in Table G-38.

### Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding initiation and duration were not associated with pregnancy weight gain after confounder adjustment. While point estimates of the probabilities of initiation and of breastfeeding 6 months among initiators are provided in Figure G-40, the interval estimates about these probabilities are quite wide. Analysis of these outcomes is not included due to

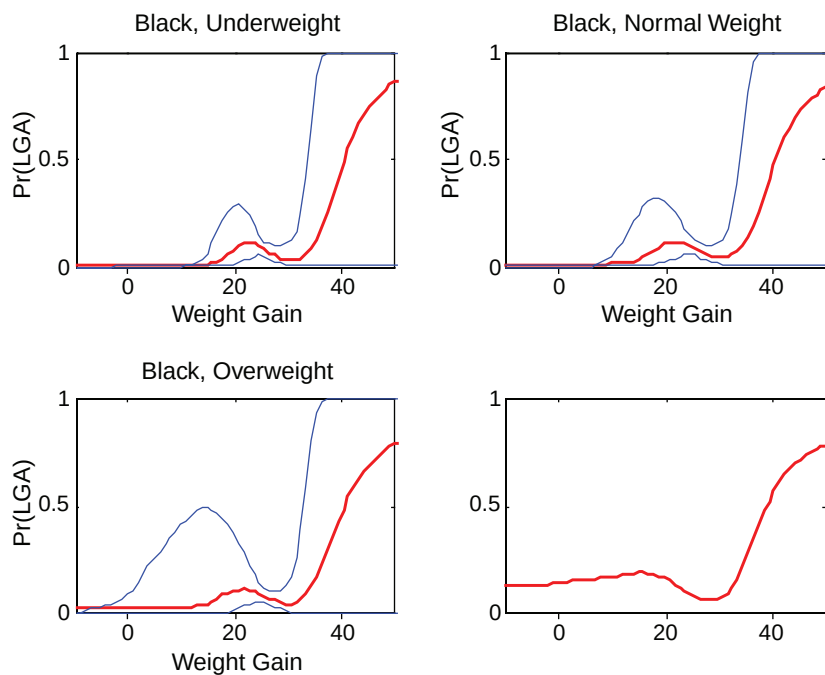
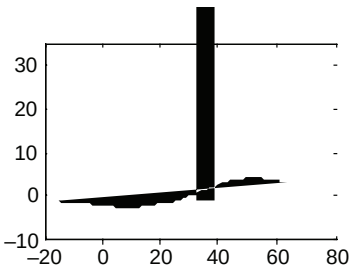


FIGURE G-48 Probability of LGA birth by BMI and weight gain (lbs) in blacks.



smoking during postpartum (none, 1-10 cigarettes per day, > 10 cigarettes



## PART III: ANALYSES FROM DR. STEIN AND DR. SAVITZ

### THE EFFECT OF MATERNAL RACE/ETHNICITY AND BMI ON THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN AND BIRTH OUTCOME

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To examine the independent and joint effects of maternal race/ethnicity and body mass index (BMI) on the association between gestational weight gain (GWG) and birth outcome, New York City vital statistics birth data for 1995 to 2003 was linked to hospital discharge data from the Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS). Of 1,173,053 birth records, 1,084,882 (92.5 percent) were successfully matched to a hospital discharge record. Unmatched records resulted from missing personal information needed for the matching algorithm. Singleton births were more likely to be matched to a hospital discharge record than infants from a multiple gestation. Of 1,133,020 vital records for singleton births, 1,067,356 (94.2 percent) were successfully linked to a hospital discharge record (see Tables G-39 and G-40).

#### Inclusion Criteria

Of the 1,067,356 singleton births with matched vital records and hospital discharge data, 913,461 (85.6 percent) were potentially eligible for analysis. Inclusion criteria, and the corresponding percent lost, are GWG between -10 to 40 kg (10.7 percent), no birth defects (2.2 percent), non-missing outcome and covariate (maternal age, race/ethnicity, parity, education, smoking) data (1.2 percent), gestational age between 26 and 42 completed weeks (1.0 percent), and plausible combination of birth weight and gestational age (0.7 percent) (Alexander et al., 1996). Maternal height, needed to calculate BMI, was reported for births to New York City residents in hospitals located elsewhere in New York State, which were only 34,307 (3.8 percent) of these 913,461 potentially eligible births. As indicated in Table G-41, women with height reported had higher pre-pregnancy and delivery weights, more frequent primary cesarean sections, fewer term small-for-gestational age (SGA) and more term large-for-gestational age (LGA) births. Additionally, these women were more often from Queens and the Bronx, which likely accounts for the increased proportion of white non-Hispanic women.

TABLE G-39 Characteristics of Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003,  $n = 34,307$ 

| Characteristic                                    | N (percent)   |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Gestational weight gain, kg</i>                |               |
| Mean (standard deviation)                         | 14.4 (5.8)    |
| <i>Gestational weight gain, kg</i>                |               |
| < 0                                               | 140 (0.4)     |
| 0-4                                               | 1,408 (4.1)   |
| 5-9                                               | 5,861 (17.1)  |
| 10-14                                             | 12,950 (37.7) |
| 15-19                                             | 8,953 (26.1)  |
| 20-24                                             | 3,590 (10.5)  |
| > 25                                              | 1,405 (4.1)   |
| <i>Gestational weight gain, kg</i>                |               |
| 0-9                                               | 7,269 (21.3)  |
| 10-14                                             | 12,950 (37.9) |
| 15-19                                             | 8,953 (26.2)  |
| > 20                                              | 4,995 (14.6)  |
| <i>Gestational weight gain rate<sup>a</sup></i>   |               |
| Lower tertile (-0.35-0.30 kg/week)                | 11,250 (32.3) |
| Middle tertile (0.31-0.41 kg/week)                | 11,416 (33.3) |
| Upper tertile (0.42-1.19 kg/week)                 | 11,641 (33.9) |
| <i>Body mass index, pre-pregnancy</i>             |               |
| Mean (standard deviation)                         | 24.8 (5.3)    |
| <i>Body mass index, pre-pregnancy</i>             |               |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                              | 1,632 (4.8)   |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                           | 19,892 (58.0) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                | 7,893 (23.0)  |
| 30-35 (obese I)                                   | 3,077 (9.0)   |
| 35-40 (obese II)                                  | 1,166 (3.4)   |
| 40+ (obese III)                                   | 647 (1.9)     |
| <i>Body mass index, pre-pregnancy</i>             |               |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                              | 1,632 (4.8)   |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                           | 19,892 (58.0) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                | 7,893 (23.0)  |
| 30+ (obese)                                       | 4,890 (14.3)  |
| <i>Preterm &lt; 37 weeks</i>                      |               |
| Yes                                               | 2,430 (7.1)   |
| No                                                | 31,877 (92.9) |
| <i>Preterm &lt; 37 weeks, delivery indication</i> |               |
| PROM or spontaneous                               | 1,738 (71.5)  |
| Medically indicated                               | 692 (28.5)    |
| <i>Primary cesarean delivery<sup>b</sup></i>      |               |
| Primary cesarean                                  | 6,279 (21.1)  |
| Vaginal delivery                                  | 23,518 (78.9) |
| <i>Term SGA &lt; 10 percentile</i>                |               |
| Yes                                               | 2,749 (8.6)   |
| No                                                | 29,128 (91.4) |

continued

| Characteristic                     | N (percent)   |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Term LGA &gt; 90 percentile</i> |               |
| Yes                                | 3,242 (10.2)  |
| No                                 | 28,635 (89.8) |
| <i>Maternal race/ethnicity</i>     |               |
| Non-Hispanic white                 | 16,291 (47.5) |
| Non-Hispanic black                 | 9,209 (26.8)  |
| Hispanic                           | 4,953 (14.4)  |
| Asian                              | 3,558 (10.4)  |
| Other                              | 296 (0.9)     |
| <i>Maternal age, years</i>         |               |
| Mean (standard deviation)          | 30.7 (5.3)    |
| <i>Parity</i>                      |               |
| 0                                  | 15,926 (46.4) |
| 1+                                 | 18,381 (53.6) |
| <i>Education, years</i>            |               |
| < 12                               | 1,968 (5.7)   |
| 12                                 | 8,676 (25.3)  |
| > 12                               | 23,663 (69.0) |
| <i>Tobacco use</i>                 |               |
| Yes                                | 879 (2.6)     |
| No                                 | 33,428 (97.4) |

<sup>a</sup>Rate of gestational weight gain equivalent for 40 weeks gestation: lower tertile = -13.6-12 kg gain; middle tertile = 12.1-16.4 kg gain; upper tertile = 16.5-47.6 kg gain.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes 3,502 repeat cesarean and 1,008 vaginal birth after cesarean deliveries.

### Dependent Variables

Five birth outcomes were studied: preterm birth < 37 completed weeks gestation, spontaneous preterm birth < 37 completed weeks gestation, primary cesarean delivery, term SGA, and term LGA. Preterm birth < 37 weeks was examined as a dichotomous variable. Spontaneous preterm births were differentiated from medically indicated preterm births using International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD-9) hospital discharge diagnosis and procedure codes. Women with artificial rupture of membranes, induction of labor by artificial rupture of membranes, or other surgical or medical induction of labor (ICD-9 codes 73.0, 73.01, 73.09, 73.1, 73.4) were categorized as medically indicated preterm births. From the remaining women, those with premature rupture of membranes (PROM) (658.1x; 658.2x) were categorized as spontaneous. We then added pre-labor cesarean deliveries to medically indicated births. To identify pre-labor cesareans, we looked for women with delivery by cesarean section (74.x), but without codes indicating labor or spontaneous delivery (644.0x; 644.1x; 644.2x). The remaining preterm births were classified as spontane-

TABLE G-40A Bivariate Association between BMI and Characteristics of Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003,  $n = 34,307$

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TABLE G-40B Bivariate Association between Rate of Gestational Weight Gain and Race/Ethnicity Among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003, *n* = 34,307

| Maternal race/ethnicity | Rate of Gestational Weight Gain <sup>a</sup> |                |               |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
|                         | Lower Tertile                                | Middle Tertile | Upper Tertile |
|                         | N = 11,250                                   | N = 11,416     | N = 11,641    |
|                         | N (percent)                                  | N (percent)    | N (percent)   |
| Non-Hispanic white      | 4,922 (30.2)                                 |                |               |

TABLE G-40E Bivariate Association between Gestational Weight Gain and Race/Ethnicity Among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003, *n* = 913,290

| Maternal race/ethnicity | Gestational Weight Gain    |                            |                            |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|                         | 0-9 kg                     | 10-14 kg                   | 15-19 kg                   | 20+ kg                     |
|                         | N = 234,764<br>N (percent) | N = 333,968<br>N (percent) | N = 223,366<br>N (percent) | N = 121,192<br>N (percent) |
| Non-Hispanic white      | 56,817 (20.3)              | 112,814 (40.4)             | 75,274 (26.9)              | 34,517 (12.3)              |
| Non-Hispanic black      | 69,294 (29.2)              | 77,868 (32.8)              | 54,412 (22.9)              | 35,899 (15.1)              |
| Hispanic                | 78,528 (26.9)              | 99,705 (34.1)              | 70,694 (24.2)              | 43,513 (14.9)              |
| Asian                   | 29,086 (29.0)              | 42,137 (41.9)              | 22,251 (22.1)              | 6,964 (6.9)                |
| Other                   | 1069 (30.1)                | 1,444 (40.7)               | 735 (20.7)                 | 299 (8.4)                  |

ous. Medically indicated preterm births (692) were excluded from analyses comparing spontaneous preterm births < 37 weeks to term births. Vaginal births after cesarean (1,008) and repeat cesareans (3,502) were excluded from analyses comparing primary cesarean delivery to vaginal delivery as noted on the birth certificate. Term SGA was used to indicate term infants below the 10th percentile of birth weight for week of gestation; by the combination of infant gender, maternal race (black/non-black), and parity (nulliparous/multiparous) (3(r)-3(o)-3(u)-3(s)-3())-3( )-28 MCID 53930 >>B- /Span <</I





Statistical Analysis

Analyses were restricted to singleton births with complete information on all measures and were performed using SAS Version 9.1 (SAS Institute, Cary, North Carolina) and Stata Version 10 (Stata Corp, College Station, Texas). Unconditional logistic regression was used to estimate odds ratios (OR) and 95 percent confidence intervals (CI) for the relation between GWG and birth outcome. For each birth outcome, the unadjusted association was calculated. To assess whether the effect of GWG on birth outcome

TABLE G-42 Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Rate of Gestational Weight Gain with Preterm Birth <

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TABLE G-43 Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Rate of Gestational Weight Gain with Spontaneous Preterm Birth < 37 Weeks vs. Term Birth ≥ 37 Weeks among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003,  $n = 33,615$

|                                                                                                                              | Rate of Gestational Weight Gain <sup>a</sup> |                |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                                                                                                              | Lower Tertile                                | Middle Tertile | Upper Tertile  |
| <i>Overall, unadjusted</i>                                                                                                   | 1.3 (1.2, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (1.0, 1.3) |
| <i>By BMI, adjusted for race/ethnicity</i><br>( $GWG*BMI\ p = 0.28$ )                                                        |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                                                                         | 1.0 (0.6, 1.6)                               | 1.0            | 0.8 (0.5, 1.2) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                                                                                      | 1.4 (1.2, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (1.0, 1.3) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                                                                           | 1.2 (0.9, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.8, 1.4) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                                                                                  | 1.1 (0.8, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (0.9, 1.7) |
| <i>By race/ethnicity, adjusted for BMI</i> ( $GWG*ethnicity\ p = 0.75$ )                                                     |                                              |                |                |
| Non-Hispanic white                                                                                                           | 1.1 (0.9, 1.4)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.9, 1.3) |
| Non-Hispanic black                                                                                                           | 1.3 (1.0, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (1.0, 1.5) |
| Hispanic                                                                                                                     | 1.5 (1.1, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.7, 1.4) |
| Asian                                                                                                                        | 1.2 (0.9, 1.8)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.7, 1.7) |
| <i>By race/ethnicity (<math>n = 898,893</math>),<br/>adjusted for pre-pregnancy weight</i><br>( $GWG*ethnicity\ p < 0.001$ ) |                                              |                |                |
| Non-Hispanic white                                                                                                           | 1.1 (1.1, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (1.1, 1.1) |
| Non-Hispanic black                                                                                                           | 1.2 (1.2, 1.3)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.9, 1.0) |
| Hispanic                                                                                                                     | 1.1 (1.1, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.9, 1.0) |
| Asian                                                                                                                        | 1.1 (1.0, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (1.0, 1.1) |
| <i>By BMI and race/ethnicity</i><br>( $GWG*BMI*ethnicity\ p = 0.56$ )                                                        |                                              |                |                |
| Non-Hispanic white                                                                                                           |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                                                                         | 0.8 (0.4, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 0.7 (0.3, 1.4) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                                                                                      | 1.3 (1.0, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.9, 1.5) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                                                                           | 1.2 (0.8, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 0.9 (0.6, 1.3) |

TABLE G-44 Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the

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TABLE G-45 Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Gestational Weight Gain with Term Small-for-Gestational Age among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003, *n* = 31,760

|                                                                                                  | Gestational Weight Gain |          |                |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
|                                                                                                  | 0-9 kg                  | 10-14 kg | 15-19 kg       | 20+ kg         |
| Overall, unadjusted                                                                              | 1.3 (1.2, 1.4)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.7, 0.8) | 0.5 (0.4, 0.6) |
| By BMI, adjusted for race/ethnicity<br>( <i>GWG*BMI</i> <i>p</i> = 0.43)<br>< 18.5 (underweight) |                         |          |                |                |

TABLE G-46 Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Gestational Weight Gain with Term Large-for-Gestational Age among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003, *n* = 31,760

|                                                               | Gestational Weight Gain |          |                |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
|                                                               | 0-9 kg                  | 10-14 kg | 15-19 kg       | 20+ kg         |
| Overall, unadjusted                                           | 0.9 (0.8, 1.0)          | 1.0      | 1.4 (1.3, 1.5) | 2.5 (2.3, 2.7) |
| By BMI, adjusted for race/ethnicity (GWG*BMI <i>p</i> = 0.01) |                         |          |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                          | 0.4 (0.1, 1.9)          | 1.0      | 1.6 (0.8, 3.2) | 4.9 (2.6, 9.4) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                       | 0.7 (0.5, 0.8)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.3, 1.7) | 2.8 (2.5, 3.3) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                            | 0.6 (0.5, 0.7)          | 1.0      | 1.3 (1.1, 1.6) | 2.2 (1.8, 2.6) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                   | 0.7 (0.6, 0.9)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.2, 1.9) | 1.9 (1.5, 2.5) |
| By race/ethnicity, adjusted for BMI (GWG*ethnicity <i>p</i>   |                         |          |                |                |





TABLE G-47B Adjusted<sup>a</sup> Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Rate of Gestational Weight Gain with Spontaneous Preterm Birth < 37 Weeks vs. Term Birth ≥ 37 Weeks among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003, *n* = 33,615

|                                            | Rate of Gestational Weight Gain <sup>b</sup> |                |                |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                            | Lower Tertile                                | Middle Tertile | Upper Tertile  |
| <i>Overall</i>                             | 1.3 (1.1, 1.4)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (1.0, 1.3) |
| <i>By BMI (GWG*BMI <i>p</i> = 0.27)</i>    |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                       | 1.0 (0.6, 1.6)                               | 1.0            | 0.7 (0.5, 1.2) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                    | 1.4 (1.2, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (1.0, 1.4) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                         | 1.2 (0.9, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.8, 1.4) |
| 30+ (obese)                                | 1.1 (0.8, 1.4)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (0.9, 1.7) |
| <i>By race/ethnicity</i>                   |                                              |                |                |
| <i>(GWG*ethnicity <i>p</i> = 0.77)</i>     |                                              |                |                |
| Non-Hispanic white                         | 1.1 (0.9, 1.4)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.9, 1.3) |
| Non-Hispanic black                         | 1.3 (1.0, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (1.0, 1.5) |
| Hispanic                                   | 1.4 (1.1, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.7, 1.4) |
| Asian                                      | 1.2 (0.8, 1.8)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.7, 1.7) |
| <i>By BMI and race/ethnicity</i>           |                                              |                |                |
| <i>(GWG*BMI*ethnicity <i>p</i> = 0.50)</i> |                                              |                |                |
| <i>Non-Hispanic white</i>                  |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                       | 0.8 (0.4, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 0.7 (0.3, 1.4) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                    | 1.3 (1.0, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.9, 1.4) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                         | 1.2 (0.8, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 0.8 (0.5, 1.3) |
| 30+ (obese)                                | 0.9 (0.5, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.4 (0.8, 2.5) |
| <i>Non-Hispanic black</i>                  |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                       | 1.0 (0.4, 2.4)                               | 1.0            | 0.7 (0.3, 1.7) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                    | 1.3 (1.0, 1.8)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (0.9, 1.6) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                         | 1.3 (0.9, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 1.4 (0.9, 2.0) |
| 30+ (obese)                                | 1.3 (0.8, 2.0)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (0.7, 2.0) |
| <i>Hispanic</i>                            |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                       | 1.6 (0.4, 7.0)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.3, 4.2) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                    | 1.7 (1.1, 2.6)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.6, 1.5) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                         | 1.0 (0.6, 1.8)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.5, 1.8) |
| 30+ (obese)                                | 1.2 (0.6, 2.3)                               | 1.0            | 1.0 (0.5, 2.3) |
| <i>Asian</i>                               |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                       | 0.4 (0.1, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 0.9 (0.3, 2.5) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                    | 1.6 (1.0, 2.6)                               | 1.0            | 1.4 (0.9, 2.3) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                         | 0.9 (0.4, 2.1)                               | 1.0            | 0.7 (0.2, 2.2) |
| 30+ (obese)                                | 0.3 (0.1, 1.3)                               | 1.0            | 0.6 (0.1, 3.4) |

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for maternal age, parity, education, and smoking.

<sup>b</sup>Rate of gestational weight gain equivalent for 40 weeks gestation: lower tertile = -13.6-12 kg gain; middle tertile = 12.1-16.4 kg gain; upper tertile = 16.5-47.6 kg gain.

**TABLE G-47C** Adjusted<sup>a</sup> Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Rate of Gestational Weight Gain with Primary Cesarean Delivery vs. Vaginal Delivery among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003,  $n = 29,797$

|                                                                     | Rate of Gestational Weight Gain <sup>b</sup> |                |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                                                     | Lower Tertile                                | Middle Tertile | Upper Tertile  |
| <i>Overall</i>                                                      | 1.0 (0.9, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.2, 1.4) |
| <i>By BMI (GWG*BMI <math>p = 0.62</math>)</i>                       |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                | 0.9 (0.6, 1.3)                               | 1.0            | 1.7 (1.2, 2.3) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                             | 0.9 (0.8, 1.0)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.2, 1.4) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                  | 1.0 (0.8, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.1, 1.5) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                         | 0.9 (0.7, 1.0)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (1.0, 1.5) |
| <i>By race/ethnicity</i><br>(GWG*ethnicity $p = 0.15$ )             |                                              |                |                |
| Non-Hispanic white                                                  | 0.9 (0.8, 1.0)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.2, 1.5) |
| Non-Hispanic black                                                  | 0.9 (0.8, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.1, 1.5) |
| Hispanic                                                            | 0.9 (0.7, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (1.0, 1.5) |
| Asian                                                               | 1.0 (0.8, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.1, 1.6) |
| <i>By BMI and race/ethnicity</i><br>(GWG*BMI*ethnicity $p = 0.64$ ) |                                              |                |                |
| Non-Hispanic white                                                  |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                | 1.2 (0.6, 2.3)                               | 1.0            | 1.9 (1.1, 3.3) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                             | 0.8 (0.7, 0.9)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.1, 1.4) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                  | 1.0 (0.7, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 1.4 (1.1, 1.8) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                         | 0.9 (0.7, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (0.9, 1.7) |
| Non-Hispanic black                                                  |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                | 0.8 (0.3, 2.3)                               | 1.0            | 2.6 (1.2, 6.0) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                             | 1.1 (0.9, 1.3)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.1, 1.6) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                  | 0.9 (0.7, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.9, 1.4) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                         | 0.8 (0.6, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.8, 1.6) |
| Hispanic                                                            |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                | 1.0 (0.3, 3.7)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.4, 2.9) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                             | 0.9 (0.7, 1.1)                               | 1.0            | 1.2 (1.0, 1.5) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                  | 1.0 (0.7, 1.4)                               | 1.0            | 1.1 (0.7, 1.6) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                         | 1.0 (0.6, 1.7)                               | 1.0            | 1.7 (1.0, 2.9) |
| Asian                                                               |                                              |                |                |
| < 18.5 (underweight)                                                | 0.7 (0.3, 1.4)                               | 1.0            | 1.4 (0.8, 2.5) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)                                             | 1.1 (0.8, 1.5)                               | 1.0            | 1.3 (1.0, 1.7) |
| 25-30 (overweight)                                                  | 1.0 (0.6, 1.9)                               | 1.0            | 1.6 (0.8, 3.0) |
| 30+ (obese)                                                         | 0.4 (0.1, 1.2)                               | 1.0            | 0.4 (0.1, 1.7) |

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for maternal age, parity, education, and smoking.

<sup>b</sup>Rate of gestational weight gain equivalent for 40 weeks gestation: lower tertile = -13.6-12 kg gain; middle tertile = 12.1-16.4 kg gain; upper tertile = 16.5-47.6 kg gain.

TABLE G-47D Adjusted<sup>a</sup> Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Gestational Weight Gain with Term Small-for-Gestational Age among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003,  $n = 31,760$

|                                  | Gestational Weight Gain |          |                 |                  |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|------------------|
|                                  | 0-9 kg                  | 10-14 kg | 15-19 kg        | 20+ kg           |
| <i>Overall</i>                   | 1.3 (1.2, 1.4)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.7, 0.8)  | 0.5 (0.4, 0.6)   |
| <i>By BMI (GWG*BMI</i>           |                         |          |                 |                  |
| <i>p = 0.42)</i>                 |                         |          |                 |                  |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | 1.5 (1.0, 2.3)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.5, 1.0)  | 0.3 (0.2, 0.6)   |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 1.5 (1.3, 1.7)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.6, 0.8)  | 0.5 (0.4, 0.6)   |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 1.4 (1.1, 1.7)          | 1.0      | 0.6 (0.5, 0.8)  | 0.6 (0.4, 0.8)   |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 1.8 (1.3, 2.4)          | 1.0      | 0.9 (0.6, 1.4)  | 0.9 (0.5, 1.4)   |
| <i>By race/ethnicity</i>         |                         |          |                 |                  |
| <i>(GWG*ethnicity p = 0.52)</i>  |                         |          |                 |                  |
| Non-Hispanic white               | 1.5 (1.3, 1.7)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.6, 0.8)  | 0.5 (0.4, 0.6)   |
| Non-Hispanic black               | 1.3 (1.1, 1.7)          | 1.0      | 0.9 (0.7, 1.1)  | 0.6 (0.4, 0.8)   |
| Hispanic                         | 1.6 (1.3, 2.1)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.5, 0.9)  | 0.6 (0.4, 0.8)   |
| Asian                            | 1.6 (1.2, 2.0)          | 1.0      | 0.8 (0.6, 1.0)  | 0.5 (0.3, 0.7)   |
| <i>By BMI and race/ethnicity</i> |                         |          |                 |                  |
| <i>(GWG*BMI*ethnicity</i>        |                         |          |                 |                  |
| <i>p = 0.42)</i>                 |                         |          |                 |                  |
| Non-Hispanic white               |                         |          |                 |                  |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | 1.1 (0.6, 2.0)          | 1.0      | 0.5 (0.3, 0.9)  | 0.5 (0.2, 1.0)   |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 1.5 (1.3, 1.9)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.6, 0.9)  | 0.5 (0.4, 0.6)   |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 1.2 (0.9, 1.7)          | 1.0      | 0.4 (0.3, 0.7)  | 0.3 (0.2, 0.6)   |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 1.8 (1.1, 2.8)          | 1.0      | 0.6 (0.3, 1.2)  | 0.8 (0.4, 1.7)   |
| Non-Hispanic black               |                         |          |                 |                  |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | 2.3 (0.9, 5.9)          | 1.0      | 1.0 (0.4, 2.5)  | 0.2 (0.02, 1.4)  |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 1.2 (0.9, 1.7)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.5, 1.0)  | 0.4 (0.3, 0.6)   |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 1.2 (0.8, 1.9)          | 1.0      | 0.9 (0.6, 1.6)  | 1.1 (0.6, 1.9)   |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 2.1 (1.2, 3.8)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (0.7, 3.1)  | 1.4 (0.6, 3.4)   |
| Hispanic                         |                         |          |                 |                  |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | 4.3 (1.1, 16.8)         | 1.0      | 1.7 (0.5, 5.9)  | 1.1 (0.3, 4.6)   |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 1.3 (1.0, 1.9)          | 1.0      | 0.6 (0.4, 0.8)  | 0.5 (0.3, 0.7)   |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 1.5 (1.0, 2.5)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.4, 1.3)  | 0.8 (0.4, 1.4)   |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 2.1 (1.0, 4.1)          | 1.0      | 1.2 (0.5, 2.9)  | 0.6 (0.2, 2.2)   |
| Asian                            |                         |          |                 |                  |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | 1.4 (0.6, 3.1)          | 1.0      | 0.7 (0.4, 1.3)  | 0.1 (0.01, 0.5)  |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 1.7 (1.3, 2.3)          | 1.0      | 0.8 (0.6, 1.0)  | 0.7 (0.4, 1.1)   |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 1.6 (0.9, 3.0)          | 1.0      | 0.9 (0.4, 2.0)  | 0.3 (0.04, 2.2)  |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 0.1 (0.01, 1.2)         | 1.0      | 0.4 (0.05, 3.8) | n/c <sup>b</sup> |

<sup>a</sup>Adjuste)

TABLE G-47E Adjusted<sup>a</sup> Odds Ratios and 95% Confidence Intervals for the Association of Gestational Weight Gain with Term Large-for-Gestational Age among Singleton Births, New York City, 1995-2003,  $n = 31,760$

|                                  | Gestational Weight Gain |          |                |                 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                  | 0-9 kg                  | 10-14 kg | 15-19 kg       | 20+ kg          |
| <i>Overall</i>                   | 0.9 (0.8, 1.0)          | 1.0      | 1.4 (1.3, 1.5) | 2.6 (2.3, 2.9)  |
| <i>By BMI (GWG*BMI</i>           |                         |          |                |                 |
| <i>p = 0.02)</i>                 |                         |          |                |                 |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | 0.4 (0.1, 1.8)          | 1.0      | 1.6 (0.8, 3.2) | 5.1 (2.7, 9.8)  |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 0.7 (0.6, 0.9)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.3, 1.7) | 2.9 (2.5, 3.3)  |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 0.6 (0.5, 0.7)          | 1.0      | 1.3 (1.1, 1.6) | 2.3 (1.9, 2.7)  |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 0.7 (0.6, 0.9)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.2, 1.9) | 2.0 (1.5, 2.5)  |
| <i>By race/ethnicity</i>         |                         |          |                |                 |
| <i>(GWG*ethnicity p = 0.89)</i>  |                         |          |                |                 |
| Non-Hispanic white               | 0.8 (0.6, 0.9)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.3, 1.7) | 2.7 (2.3, 3.1)  |
| Non-Hispanic black               | 0.6 (0.5, 0.7)          | 1.0      | 1.4 (1.2, 1.7) | 2.2 (1.9, 2.7)  |
| Hispanic                         | 0.7 (0.5, 0.9)          | 1.0      | 1.4 (1.1, 1.9) | 2.8 (2.1, 3.8)  |
| Asian                            | 0.7 (0.4, 1.1)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.0, 2.2) | 3.2 (2.0, 5.0)  |
| <i>By BMI and race/ethnicity</i> |                         |          |                |                 |
| <i>(GWG*BMI*ethnicity</i>        |                         |          |                |                 |
| <i>p = 0.16)</i>                 |                         |          |                |                 |
| Non-Hispanic white               |                         |          |                |                 |
| < 18.5 (underweight)             | n/c <sup>b</sup>        | 1.0      | 1.1 (0.4, 3.2) | 4.5 (1.8, 11.4) |
| 18.5-25 (normal weight)          | 0.9 (0.7, 1.2)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.3, 1.8) | 3.1 (2.6, 3.7)  |
| 25-30 (overweight)               | 0.5 (0.4, 0.8)          | 1.0      | 1.5 (1.2, 2.0) | 2.4 (1.9, 3.2)  |
| 30+ (obese)                      | 0.7 (0.5, 1.0)          | 1.0      | 1.6 (1.1, 2.2) | 1.9 (1.3, 2.7)  |

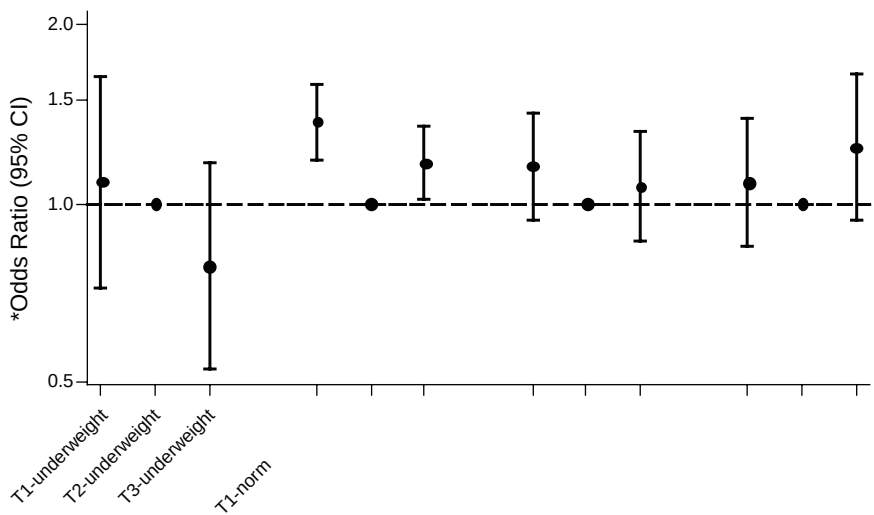


FIGURE G-52 Gestational weight gain and preterm birth, < 37 weeks by body mass index (BMI).

FIGURE G-54 Gestational weight gain and cesarean section by body mass index (BMI).



For each endpoint, the expected number of quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) lost over the lifetime of the mother and child was estimated. QALYs are a standard measure of health that combined length of life and quality of health. They are defined as the sum of the time spent in each health state weighted by the health-related quality of life (HRQL) associated with that state. HRQL is a measure of the quality or utility associated with a health state, normalized so that perfect health takes a value of 1.0.





TABLE G-48B Infant Mortality (Herring)

| BMI                         | GWG (kg)  | Prevalence (%) |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Underweight<br>( $< 18.5$ ) | $< 0$     | 2.60           |
|                             | 0-4.9     | 3.12           |
|                             | 5-9.9     | 1.15           |
|                             | 10-14.9   | 0.46           |
|                             | 15-19.9   | 0.44           |
|                             | 20-24.9   | 0.27           |
|                             | $\geq 25$ | 0.61           |
| Normal<br>(18.5-24.9)       | $< 0$     | 1.66           |
|                             | 0-4.9     | 1.40           |
|                             | 5-9.9     | 0.80           |
|                             | 10-14.9   | 0.45           |
|                             | 15-19.9   | 0.39           |
|                             | 20-24.9   | 0.39           |
|                             | $\geq 25$ | 0.44           |
| Overweight<br>(25-29.9)     | $< 0$     | 1.30           |
|                             | 0-4.9     | 0.83           |
|                             | 5-9.9     | 0.67           |
|                             | 10-14.9   | 0.56           |
|                             | 15-19.9   | 0.56           |
|                             | 20-24.9   | 0.44           |
|                             | $\geq 25$ | 0.47           |
| Obese<br>( $\geq 30$ )      | $< 0$     | 1.15           |
|                             | 0-4.9     | 0.93           |
|                             | 5-9.9     | 0.83           |
|                             | 10-14.9   | 0.54           |
|                             | 15-19.9   | 0.65           |
|                             | 20-24.9   | 1.02           |
|                             | $\geq 25$ | 0.50           |

NOTES: BMI = body mass index; GWG = gestational weight gain.

women). These departures from the anticipated J- or U-shaped relationship between GWG and infant mortality seem implausible and may reflect limited data at the extreme points or artifacts of model estimation.

QALYs Lost

Infant mortality implies the child’s entire lifetime is lost. A value of 80 QALYs is assumed, consistent with current life expectancy at birth. In principle, one could adjust this figure downward to recognize that not all years of life are lived in perfect health (especially at older ages), but adjustment

for this factor is viewed as negligible in comparison with other uncertainties and approximations in the risk tradeoff calculations. The figure might also be adjusted downward if it is considered appropriate to discount the value of future life years.

Postpartum Weight Retention (PPWR)

Prevalence

Prevalence estimates were provided by Ellen Nohr using data from the Danish National Birth Cohort (Nohr et al., 2008). For this analysis, PPWR is defined as retention of at least 5 kg body mass 6 months after birth. Prevalence estimates were provided for four GWG classes (< 10, 10-15, 16-19, ≥ 20 kg), as reported in Table G-49. Third order polynomial functions were fit to these estimates.

QALYs Lost

The effects of PPWR on morbidity and mortality are estimated on the assumption that weight retained post-partum is retained for the rest

TABLE G-49 Post-Partum Weight Retention (Nohr)

| BMI                     | GWG (kg) | Prevalence (%) |
|-------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Underweight<br>(< 18.5) | < 10     | 7.9            |
|                         | 10-15    | 13.1           |
|                         | 16-19    | 27.6           |
|                         | ≥ 20     | 46.5           |
| Normal<br>(18.5-24.9)   | < 10     | 5.6            |
|                         | 10-15    | 13.0           |
|                         | 16-19    | 26.1           |
|                         | ≥ 20     | 49.7           |

Source: Nohr et al., 2008. Data from the Danish National Birth Cohort. Weight gain during pregnancy (GWG) in kg. BMI = Body Mass Index. EMC = Estimated Mean Change. BDC = Body Mass Change. TD = Total Difference. MCID = Minimum Clinically Important Difference. t = t-statistic.

of a woman's life and using estimates of how mortality and health-related quality of life vary with BMI. First, average retained weight conditional on retaining at least 5 kg at 6 months post-partum is estimated as 10 kg (based in part on data from committee member Barbara Abrams suggesting that roughly half of women who retain at least 5 kg retain at least 10 kg). The incremental effect on BMI of a 10 kg weight increase is 3.7, calculated using a nominal average height (5 foot 5 inches).

**Mortality** The effect of increased BMI on mortality is calculated using estimates from Peeters et al. (2003) cited by Hu (2008). Using data from the Framingham heart study, they estimated that an average 40 year old female nonsmoker loses 3.3 years of life if overweight and 7.1 years if obese. Using midpoint values of BMI for normal, overweight, and obese (assumed value = 33), a 1 point increment to BMI is associated with about 0.6 life years lost, and so the effect of a 3.7 point BMI increment is estimated as 2.2 years (this is the average of the slopes estimated by comparing overweight and obese with normal weight, 2.1 and 2.3, respectively). This effect is applied only to women with pregravid BMI in the overweight and obese categories. No account is taken of any possible beneficial effect of weight gain on mortality of underweight women.

**Morbidity** Jia and Lubetkin (2005) used data from the U.S. Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) to estimate how HRQL varies with BMI class. The MEPS includes two measures of individual's current HRQL obtained using the EQ-5D and EQ-VAS. The EQ-5D is a standard instrument used to estimate HRQL based on classification of health into one of three levels (no problem, some problem, severe problem) on each of five dimensions or attributes (mobility, self care, usual activities, pain/discomfort, anxiety/depression). The EQ-VAS is an example of a visual analog scale,



TABLE G-50 Childhood Obesity

| BMI                         | GWG Rate (kg/wk) | GWG (kg in 40 wk) | Prevalence (%) |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Underweight<br>( $< 18.5$ ) | $< 0.15$         | $< 6$             | 1.46           |
|                             | 0.15-0.29        | 6-12              | 1.52           |
|                             | 0.30-0.45        | 12-18             | 1.89           |
|                             | $\geq 0.45$      | $\geq 18$         | 2.34           |
| Normal<br>(18.5-24.9)       | $< 0.15$         | $< 6$             | 4.06           |
|                             | 0.15-0.29        | 6-12              | 4.23           |
|                             | 0.30-0.45        | 12-18             | 5.21           |
|                             | $\geq 0.45$      | $\geq 18$         | 6.40           |
| Overweight<br>(25-29.9)     | $< 0.15$         | $< 6$             | 10.4           |
|                             | 0.15-0.29        | 6-12              |                |
| 0.30-0.45                   | 12-18            | $\geq 18$         | $\geq 10.4$    |

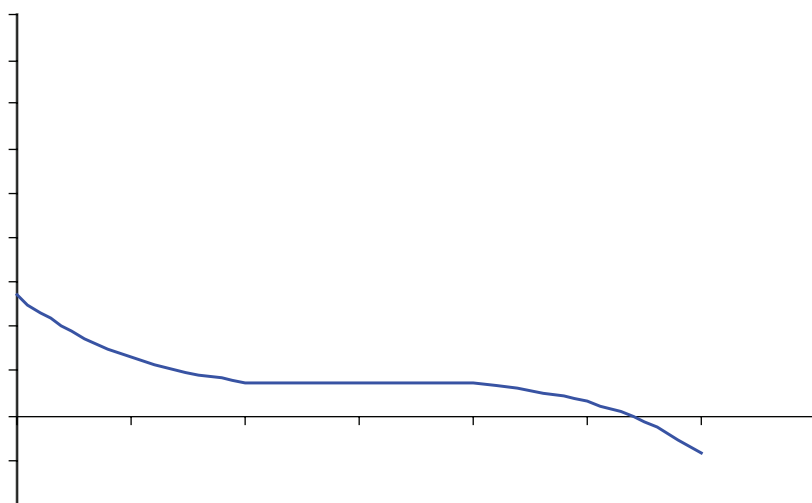


FIGURE G-57 Total expected quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) lost (Chen et al. [2008] mortality estimates).

ing the Chen et al. (2008) estimates of infant mortality and in Figure G-58 using the Herring estimates.

The conclusions are similar using both sets of infant mortality estimates. For overweight and obese women, the estimated total mortality and morbidity consequences for mother and child of the endpoints included in this analysis are minimized for GWG less than about 10 to 15 kg. For normal and underweight women, estimated mortality and morbidity consequences are minimized for GWG greater than about 10 to 15 kg. Within these ranges, estimated total QALY losses are not very sensitive to GWG. In Figure G-58, the prominent departure from a trend for obese women at high GWG, and the less prominent departure from a trend for underweight women at low GWG reflect the surprisingly low estimates of infant mortality prevalence for these categories shown in Table G-48B. As noted above, these departures from the trend toward increasing infant mortality with very low or very high GWG may reflect limited data for these categories or modeling artifacts. Similarly, the trend toward negative QALY losses for high GWG among underweight women shown in Figure G-57 is also likely to reflect limited data and possible model artifacts associated with extrapolation beyond the range of observations.

The vertical scale suggests that the expected loss of quality-adjusted



FIGURE G-58 Total expected quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) lost (Herring infant mortality estimates).



IOM (Institute of Medicine). 1990.

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