Codebook for Low Birthweight Data

Infant mortality and birth defect rates are very high for low birth weight babies (classified here as a weight of < 2500g). A number of maternal factors may influence the chance of carrying a baby to term, and consequently of delivering a baby of normal birth weight. **LowBirthWt.csv** contains data for 56 mothers who gave birth to a low birth weight baby, along with 1:1 age-matched controls (mothers of normal weight babies). Maternal variables such as weight, smoking status and history of premature labour are included for each (a definition and coding scheme for each variable is included below).

NB: This case-control study was nested within a larger cohort study, thus data for other cases and controls were available but not used here, because either no control could be found to match a case (3 young mothers) or more controls were available than required for the 1:1 matching.

Variable Name	Description	
pair	Matching strata variable	
low	Low birthweight (< 2.5kg)?	0 = No
		1 = Yes
age	Mother's age in years	
lwt	Mother's weight in pounds at last menstrual period	
ethnic	Ethnic group	1 = White
		2 = Black
		3 = Other
smoke	Maternal smoking status during pregnancy	0 = No
		1 = Yes
ptd	Maternal history of premature labour	0 = No
		1 = Yes
ht	Maternal history of hypertension	0 = No
		1 = Yes
ui	Presence of uterine instability in mother	0 = No
		1 = Yes