Table 1. Characteristics of a closed cohort (overall and according to preterm birth status) of eligible live births among North Carolina residents in 2015*

	All eligible births		Preterm births		Term births	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Prenatal care in first 20 weeks†						
Yes	53,829	88	4,205	84	49,624	89
No	7,012	12	826	16	6,186	11
Missing	606		101		505	
Race & Hispanic ethnicity‡						
White, non-Hispanic	34,098	56	2,438	48	31,660	56
White, Hispanic	2,060	3.4	114	2.2	1,946	3.5
African American, non-Hispanic	14,393	23	1,735	34	12,658	23
African American, Hispanic	309	0.50	27	0.53	282	0.50
Other, non-Hispanic	3,530	5.8	268	5.2	3,262	5.8
Other, Hispanic	7,027	11	548	11	6,479	12
Missing	30		2		28	
Maternal smoking§						
Yes	5,712	9.3	678	13	5,034	8.9
No	55,713	91	4,448	87	51,265	91
Missing	22		6		16	
Child's gender						
Female	30,063	49	2,398	47	27,665	49
Male	31,384	51	2,734	53	28,650	51
Missing	0		0		0	

*All data were derived from North Carolina Live Birth Certificate data for 2015. The study population included live singleton births without congenital malformations that experienced the entire risk period for preterm birth (the 17-week interval beginning with the 21st week of gestation and ending upon completion of the 37th week of gestation) during 2015. Births with unknown gestational age were excluded.

† Prenatal care before the 20th week of gestation was determined based on the month prenatal care began, as recorded on the North Carolina birth certificate.

‡ Based on the mother's self-reported race and Hispanic origin. 'Other' race includes all births with race identified as something other than White or African American. 'Missing' indicates births missing information on Hispanic ethnicity; race was recorded for all births.

§ Births with maternal smoking during pregnancy recorded on the birth certificate were classified as smokers. Data are missing for births with unknown smoking status.

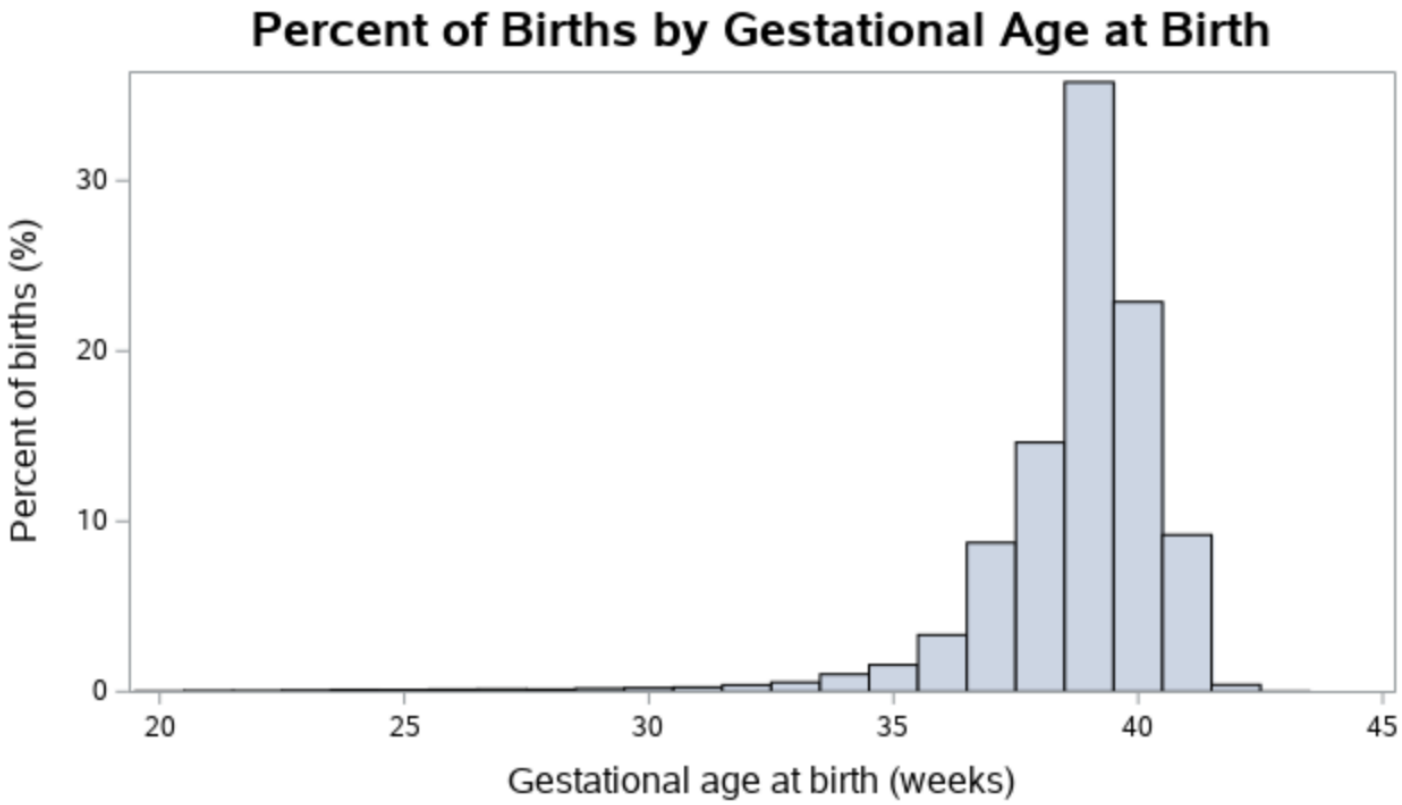

Figure 1. Gestational age at birth was measured from a cohort study population of 61,447 North Carolina live births in 2015. All data were derived from North Carolina Live Birth Certificate data for 2015. The study population included live singleton births without congenital malformations that experienced the entire risk period for preterm birth (the 17-week interval beginning with the 21st week of gestation and ending upon completion of the 37th week of gestation) during 2015. Births with unknown gestational age were excluded. The gestational age at birth has a minimum of 20 weeks, maximum of 43 weeks, median and mean of 39 weeks, and standard deviation of 2.1 weeks.

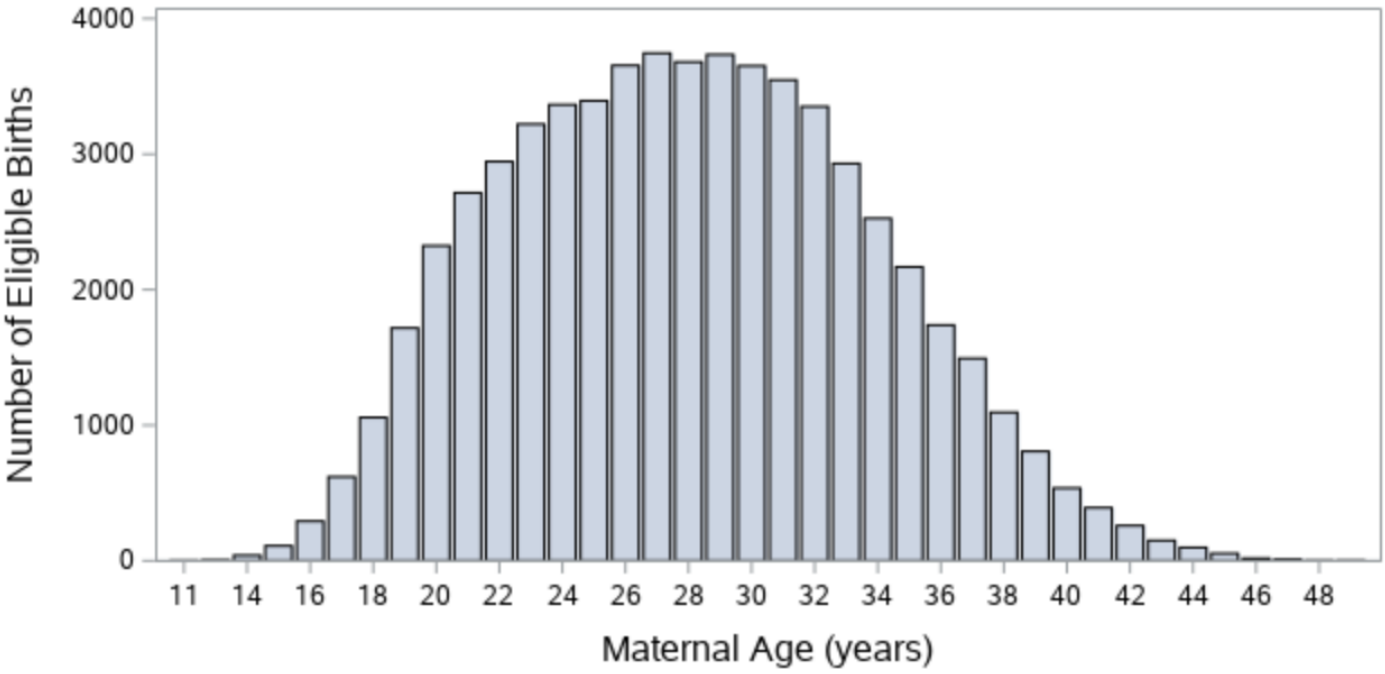

Figure 2. Maternal age was measured from a cohort study population of 61,446 North Carolina live births in 2015. All data were derived from North Carolina Live Birth Certificate data for 2015. The study population included live singleton births without congenital malformations that experienced the entire risk period for preterm birth (the 17-week interval beginning with the 21st week of gestation and ending upon completion of the 37th week of gestation) during 2015. Births with unknown gestational age were excluded. Maternal age in the total population has a minimum of 11 years, maximum of 49 years, median and mean of 28 years, and standard deviation of 5.8 years.