

## **United Way of Metropolitan Dallas**

*serving Dallas, Collin, Rockwall Counties  
and Greater Lewisville*



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# 2006 Community Needs Assessment Creating a Healthier Community

## *Disabilities*

## Disabilities – North Texas Overview

### Definitions:

There are many types of disabilities and many disabling conditions. The Disabilities section contains data on both types and conditions. The U.S. Bureau of the Census provides counts of disabilities of the following types:

- Sensory disability -the following long lasting conditions: blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment
- Physical disability -a long lasting condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities, such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying
- Mental disability -a condition lasting six months or more that makes it difficult to learn, remember, or concentrate
- Self-Care disability -a condition lasting six months or more that makes it difficult to dress, bath, or get around inside the home
- Go-Outside-the-Home disability -a condition lasting six months or more that makes it difficult to go outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office
- Employment disability -a condition lasting six months or more that makes it difficult to work at a job or business

**It should be noted that the same person may have more than one type of disability.**

The following terms are used to describe the severity of mental retardation:

<u>Degree of Severity</u>	<u>IQ levels (to be used as guides)</u>
Mild	50-55 to approx. 70
Moderate	35-40 to 50-55
Severe	20-25 to 35-40
Profound	Below 20 or 25


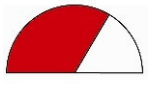

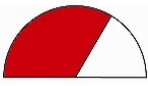

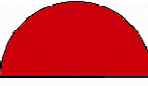

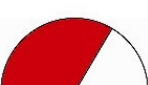
Source: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision, 2000, American Psychiatric Association.

Low-weight (less than 5.5 pounds) and very-low weight births (less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces) are reported in this section because studies show that many of these children may have disabilities in the future.

Overall, low-weight births as a percentage of all births have remained relatively stable (2000-2003) in Dallas, Denton, and Rockwall Counties, but have seen an increase in Collin County. According to the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services, all four counties have seen an increase of people on the waiting list for mental retardation services. The rate of supplemental security income (SSI) recipients has increased in all four counties, but is still below the rate for Texas. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 19.5% of individuals aged 5 and older have some type of disability.

Based on the data above, low-weight births as a percentage of all births have remained stable. The number of people on waiting list seems to be worse in all four counties. Overall, the situation for individuals with disabilities appears not to have changed significantly in recent years.

## Disabilities: Indicators and Trends

INDICATOR	SUMMARY	TREND	CONDITION
Low Weight Births as a Percent of All Births*	Low weight births as a percent of all birth in the North Texas region increased from 6.7% in 2000 to 7.7% in 2003.	 <b>Worsening</b>	 Concerned
Very Low-weight Births as a Percent of All Births*	Very low weight births as a percent of all birth in the North Texas region increased from 1.1 in 2000 to 1.2 in 2002.	 <b>Same or Mixed</b>	 Concerned
Number of People Waiting for Mental Retardation Services*	The number of people waiting for services increased each year from 2001 to 2005 (from 2,816 in August 2001 to 4,665 in November 2005).	 <b>Worsening</b>	 <b>Critical</b>
Number of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Recipients: Blind & Disabled Category	The rate of low income people with disabilities who receive SSI benefits in the North Texas region increased steadily—from 886.4 in 2000 to 1,067.4 in 2004.	 <b>Worsening</b>	 Concerned

\*Low-weight (less than 5.5 pounds) and very-low weight births (less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces) are reported in this section because studies show that many of these children will have disabilities in the future.

\*\*Services include: employment services, respite services, physical therapy, case management, residential services, individual and family support, day habilitation services, etc.

## Disabilities: By County

### Collin

- Low-weight births as a percentage of all births increased from 6.9% in 2000 to 7.8% in 2003.
- Very low weight births as a percentage of all births has increased from 1% in 2000 to 1.4% in 2003.

### Dallas

- Low weight and very low weight births as a percentage of all births remained relatively stable from 2000 through 2003.

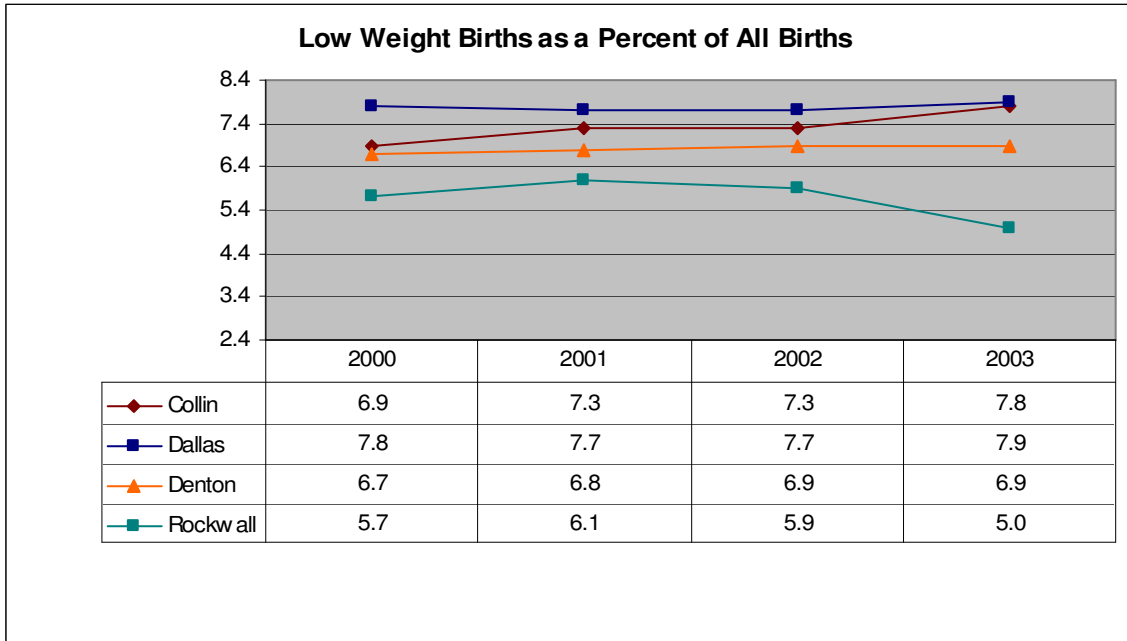
### Denton

- Low weight births as a percentage of all births remained relatively stable in Denton County from 2000 through 2003.
- Very low weight births as a percentage of all births has remained relatively stable from 2000-1.1% to 2003-1.2%

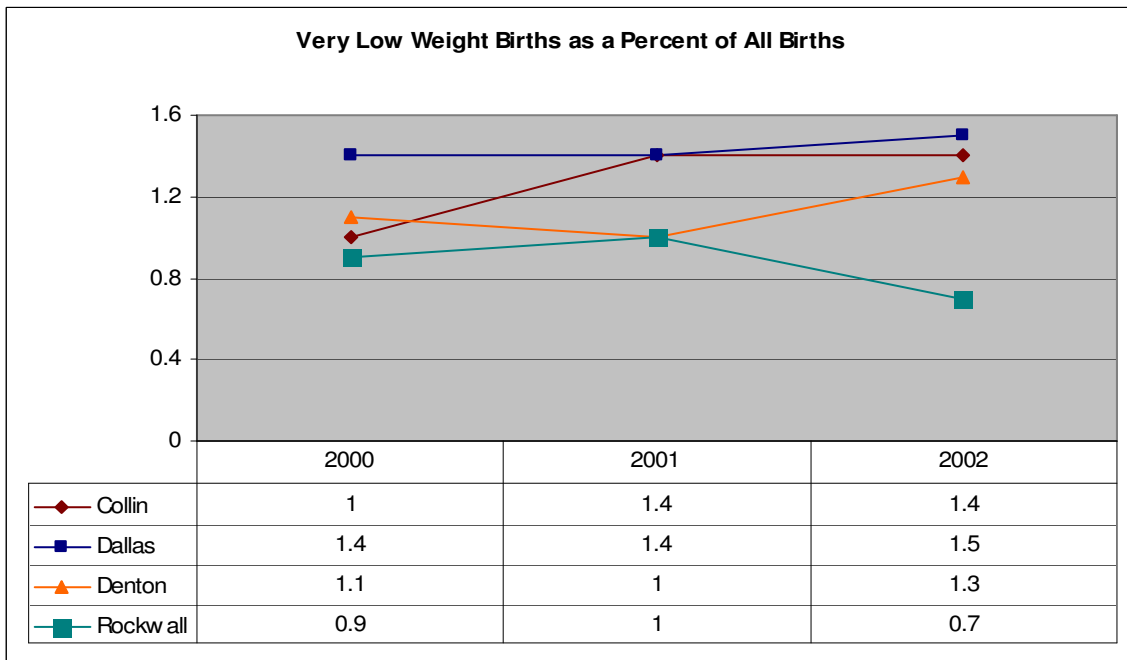
### Rockwall

- Low weight births as a percentage of all births saw a slight increase of 6.1% in 2001, but have dropped in the last two years.

## Disabilities: Supporting Data



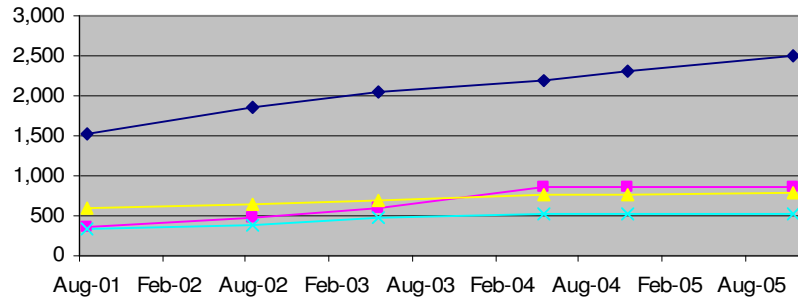
Low Birth Weight = birth weight of less than 5.5 pounds



Source: Texas Department of State Health Services (both charts above)

Very Low Birth Weight = birth weight of less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces

### Number of People Waiting for Mental Retardation Services

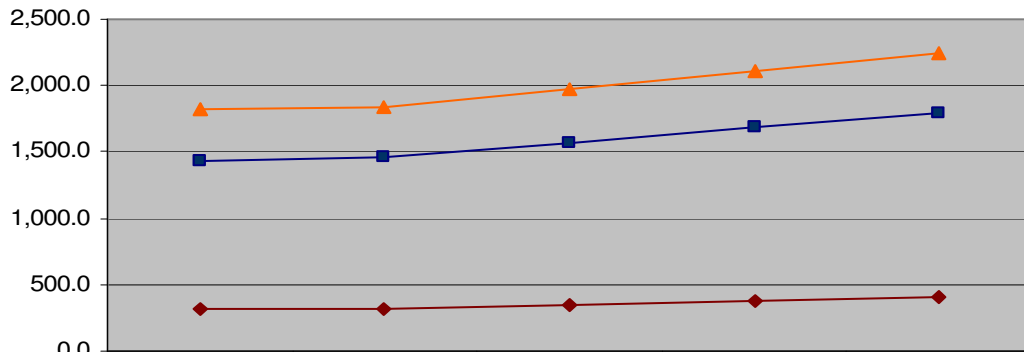


	8/31/2001	8/31/2002	5/31/2003	5/31/2004	11/30/2004	11/30/2005
◆ Dallas Metrocare--Dallas Co.	1,530	1,851	2,050	2,191	2,301	2,505
■ Lakes Regional MHMR*	366	474	594	860	853	851
▲ Life Path Systems/ Collin Co.	595	634	691	760	773	782
× Denton County MHMR	325	377	483	530	532	527

Source: Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services  
 \*Includes Rockwall County

### Rate of SSI recipients for Denton, Dallas, and Collin County (per 100,000)

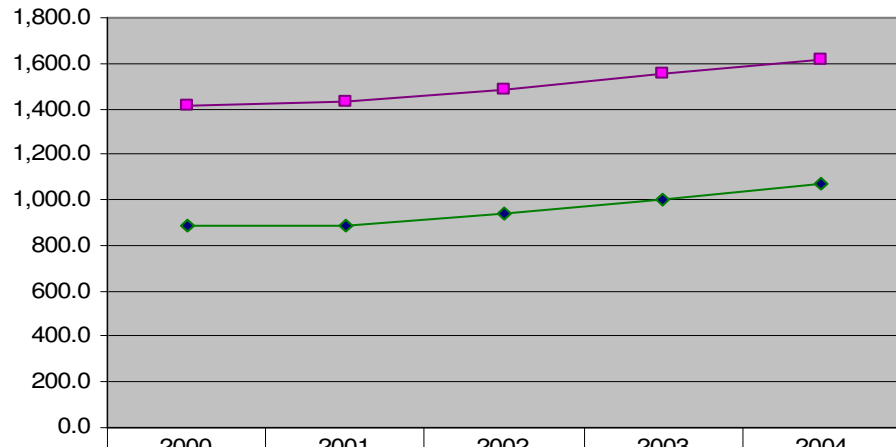
#### Rate of Supplemental Security Income Recipients (SSI): Blind & Disabled Category (per 100,000)



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
▲ Denton	384.5	383.5	410.7	431.4	451.5
■ Dallas	1,121.7	1,133.2	1,214.3	1,305.5	1,392.8
◆ Collin	314.2	323.2	348.2	377.4	404.9

Source: Social Security Administration  
 \*Rockwall County data unavailable due to unknown 2004 population

**Rate of Supplemental Security Income Recipients (SSI): Blind & Disabled Category (per 100,000)**



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
◆ UWMMD service area	886.4	885.5	940.2	999.4	1,067.4
■ Texas	1,410.2	1,426.9	1,484.5	1,554.9	1,615.8

Source: Social Security Administration  
 \*Rockwall County data unavailable