

**UPDATE TO:  
SPECIFICATIONS FOR COLLECTING AND EDITING  
THE UNITED STATES STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH --  
2003 REVISION  
May, 2004**

**Changes resulting from clearance by the US Department of Health and Human Services, November 2003:**

Item 37. Cigarette smoking before and during pregnancy. Wording of item changed from “Last three months of pregnancy” to “Last trimester of pregnancy.”

Item 41. Risk Factors in this Pregnancy.

Checkbox for “eclampsia” added.

Pregnancy resulted from infertility treatment -- checkboxes and instructions added for type of infertility treatment.

The checkbox for “Vaginal bleeding during this pregnancy” has been deleted.

Item 42. Infections Present in Pregnancy. Dropped checkbox for “Herpes Simplex Virus.”

Item 58. Is the Infant being breastfed? Modified wording to “Is the Infant being breastfed *at discharge*?”

**Changes recommended by the Data Analysis Committee, May 2004:**

Overview /Need for specifications

Modified to stress the importance of the electronic systems following the flow of the worksheets

Overview/General principals 6, 7, 9

Modified to recognize state legal requirements for adding categories/items.

Added recommendation for use of “hot keys” for unknown values.

Overview /Need for specifications

A new section entitled “Features Integral to the Electronic Systems” has been added

Overview/Transmission File

Principal 2 has been modified to delete requirement for software and table version numbers.

Items 22, 25. Race of mother/father, pg 5. Statement added to under “State File Considerations” clarifying NCHS position on coding and editing race data.

Item 2. Time of birth, pg 1. Modification of wording to strongly recommend use of 2400 clock.

Item 4. Date of Birth, pg 1. Instruction for paper record modified to indicate that the month of birth should be spelled out.

Items 5 - 7, 17, 26, pg 3-4. Facility name, City, town or location of birth, County of birth, Facility ID (NPI), Place where birth occurred  
Changes to order of questions for electronic systems.

Item 8d, pg 2. Mother’s birthplace. Note on the use of incremental browsing added.

Item 9, pg 2-8. Residence of mother; Mailing address of mother. Electronic systems instructions modified to better follow worksheet.

Item 15, pg 2. Mother Married? Modified to include instruction for “Mother’s name prior to first marriage.”

Item 27, pg 1, 3. Attendant at birth. Small change to definition of attendant and to instructions to electronic systems to allow for only one type of attendant to be selected.

Item 29, pg 2, 3. Dates of first and last prenatal care visit. Order of items for electronic screen modified. Added mention of use of “hot keys.”

Items 35 and 36, pg 3. Pregnancy history. Added note that symbols hot keys may be used in lieu of checkboxes for unknown values.

Item 37, pg 2-4. Cigarette smoking. Added note on use of “Never smoked in lifetime” checkbox to section on State File Considerations. Added screen for entry of fractions of packs.

Item 38, pg 1, 2. Principal source of payment for this delivery. Modified to indicate that reporting of “Indian Health Service, CHAMOUS/TRICARE, Other government” is optional.

Item 39, pg 4. Date of last normal menses. Wording of electronic message to operator modified.

Item 49, pg 1. Birthweight. Added statement indicating that hospitals which use only one unit to measure birthweight may choose to preset their systems to either grams or pounds/ounces. Added statement indicating that hot keys may be used for unknown values.

Item 52, pg 1-5. Plurality. Lowered acceptable plurality range from 16 to 12 births.

Item 55, pg 4-7. Congenital anomalies. Added instruction for electronic systems that if the Karyotype status of Down Syndrome or Suspected chromosomal disorder are unknown, checkboxes should be left blank.