

# Utah Hospital Maternity and Newborn Guide

2002 and 2003 Average Maternity and  
Newborn Hospital Charges



Utah Department of Health  
Office of Health Care Statistics  
PO Box 144004  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4004



This report is published to increase consumer awareness of health care costs and can be reproduced and distributed without permission.

This and other consumer reports are available on our website: [health.utah.gov/hda](http://health.utah.gov/hda).  
All data © 2003, 2004, Utah Department of Health, Office of Health Care Statistics.

## Using This Information

This report provides hospital charge comparisons for ten common maternity and newborn conditions/procedures. The information in this brochure is general information only. You can use this information to ask questions of your provider, hospital or insurance representative and let them know that you plan to take an active role in your health care decisions.

The charges in this report are averages across two years and may differ from what you are or were billed. Unusually high charges were excluded from the calculations. For each condition, the average charge was calculated as in the following example:

$$\frac{\text{Total normal delivery with no complications charges/}}{\text{Total number of patients having a}} \\ \text{normal delivery with no complications} = \\ \text{Average normal delivery with no complications charges}$$

Hospital charges vary for a number of reasons such as differences in hospital types and the severity of conditions they treat. Teaching hospitals and large referral hospitals may have higher average charges because they treat the most complex (and most expensive) conditions.

### Resources from the Utah Department of Health

Additional sources of health care consumer information provided by the Utah Department of Health:

- See the Baby Your Baby website at [www.babyyourbaby.org](http://www.babyyourbaby.org) or call the Baby Your Baby Hotline, 1-800-826-9662
- Health Resource Hotline, 1-888-222-2542
- For additional C-section information, see the C-section report at <http://health.utah.gov/hda/consumerInfo/maternalChild.htm>
- For additional copies of this brochure, visit our website at [http://health.utah.gov/hda/consumer\\_publications/maternal04.pdf](http://health.utah.gov/hda/consumer_publications/maternal04.pdf)

This is a Health Data Committee publication and can be reproduced and distributed without permission. The Utah Health Data Committee was established by the Utah Legislature in 1990 to collect, analyze and distribute statewide healthcare data.

# Become an Informed Health Care Consumer

## Take Responsibility

Take an active part in health care for you and your baby. Don't wait until delivery to learn about your health plan coverage or to compare hospital and/or physician fees and services. Let your only surprise be the boy-girl kind, not gaps in your maternity coverage.

## Speak Up

No one knows more about you than you do! Visit your provider (e.g., doctor or certified nurse midwife) before you get pregnant or early in pregnancy and then regularly during pregnancy.

Talk to your doctor about what you are experiencing and any other medical conditions that you may have.

## Explore Options

Your first priority, of course, is a safe and healthy delivery of your baby. There are many options in delivery and childbirth. Take a tour of some selected hospitals to see what birth options they provide. Some women choose an unmedicated delivery. If you are considering that option, explore how a hospital can support your choice. Your baby can be delivered by a doctor or by a certified nurse midwife. Find a childbirthing class in your area to get more information about childbirth and delivery options.

## Know Your Insurance Plan

Learn about your health insurance plan or medical benefits before you become pregnant, if possible. Then you have time to make more choices. Many companies offer several insurance plans such as preferred provider organizations (PPO's) or health maintenance organizations (HMO's). Each plan differs in what it covers, its limits of coverage and the rules that apply to the plan.

## Ask Questions

Consider yourself a partner in your care and treatment. Look closely at the maternity coverage in the health plans available to you. Here are some questions that you may want to consider:

- *Does your health plan cover pregnancy (prenatal care and delivery)?*
- *Is your pregnancy covered if your child is conceived before or soon after you joined your plan?*
- *Does your plan require prior approval for prenatal care or hospital admission?*
- *What deductible or co-payments are you expected to pay?*
- *Will you be reimbursed for expenses before or after the delivery?*
- *Does your plan cover certified nurse midwives or birthing centers if you wish to use them?*
- *Are you required to attend a prenatal education program to get full benefits?*
- *Does your plan cover prenatal diagnostic testing such as ultrasound, amniocentesis or chorionic villa sampling?*
- *What delivery options (such as anesthesia or C-section) does your plan cover?*
- *Does your plan cover newborn nursery care and/or neonatal intensive care?*
- *How long can you and your baby stay in the hospital after delivery?*

## Reduce The Chances of Complications

You can reduce the chances of complications occurring during pregnancy and childbirth by getting early and regular prenatal care. Utah's Baby Your Baby program says that 13 is the lucky number when it comes to a healthy pregnancy. Visit your health care provider before the 13th week of pregnancy and then go back at least 13 times throughout pregnancy. You can also reduce your chances of complications by avoiding things like smoking, drinking alcohol, or taking non-prescribed drugs during your pregnancy. Follow your doctor's or midwife's instructions about issues such as diet, exercise and weight gain. In addition to longer hospital stays, discomfort, and worry for you and your baby, complications are expensive. The most significant difference in cost is not between hospitals, but between an uncomplicated vaginal delivery and a cesarean section or complicated birth. Also, the cost of caring for a full-term newborn is a fraction of the cost of caring for a premature baby.

## Know Your Hospital

The chart in this brochure lists hospital charges as well as hospital characteristics. Hospital characteristics that have an effect on C-section rates are the following:

- ◆ Availability of an obstetrician or anesthesiologist;
- ◆ Presence of a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU);
- ◆ Location of the hospital - Urban or Rural; and
- ◆ Volume of deliveries. Hospitals in rural areas, with no obstetrician and/or anesthesiologist on staff, with fewer than 1,500 deliveries have a significantly higher first cesarean rate for mothers aged 18-34. \*

\*Source: Office of Health Data Analysis report, *Cesarean Delivery in Utah 1992-1995*

# Average Hospital Maternity and Newborn Charges

## Inpatient Charges for Utah's Most Common Maternity and Newborn Related Conditions 2002-2003 Combined

	Maternity Conditions							Newborn Conditions			
	Normal delivery no complication DRG 373	Normal delivery w/tubal ligation DRG 374	Normal delivery w/complication DRG 372	C-Section no complication DRG 371	C-Section w/complication DRG 370	C-Section Rate#	Vaginal Birth After C-Section Rate##	Newborn normal DRG 391	Premature w/RDS DRG 386	Premature major problem DRG387	Hospital characteristics
Allen Memorial Hospital	\$3,083	\$6,191	\$4,190	\$6,662	\$7,907	19.6%	15.4%+	864	—	—	R, A
Alta View Hospital	3,331	3,799	3,814	5,200	5,995	17.4%	23.2%	1,321	7,469	5,949	U, A, O, J
American Fork Hospital	3,143	3,989	3,921	6,587	7,844	14.6%	36.1%	1,220	11,405	9,023	U, A, O, J
Ashley Valley Medical Center	3,090	6,451	3,579	7,330	7,603	12.6%	36.8%	645	5,086	970*	R, A, J
Bear River Valley Hospital	3,019	4,138	3,640	4,678	5,271*	15.1%	38.1%+	946	—	—	R, A, O
Beaver Valley Hospital	2,192	3,502	2,522	4,107	4,450	29.3%	8.8%	733	—	—	R, A
Brigham City Community Hospital	2,824	4,656	4,038	5,415	6,663	17.1%	21.8%	977	—	3,123	R, A, O, J
Castleview Hospital	3,295	6,340	4,258	7,707	7,942	26.1%	4.0%	1,221	15,707	12,754	R, A, O, J
Central Valley Medical Center	3,048	5,224	3,396	5,561	6,226	27.5%	17.1%	879	—	—	R, A
Cottonwood Hospital	3,351	4,079	3,950	5,723	6,342	18.6%	24.8%	1,397	5,884	4,629	U, A, O, J
Davis Hospital & Medical Center	4,249	5,832	5,021	5,791	7,070	19.1%	26.9%	1,031	37,017	9,513	U, N, A, O, J
Delta Community Medical Center	3,424	5,181	4,392	4,853	5,686	30.0%	0.0%	1,322	2,796*	—	R
Dixie Medical Center	2,209	2,910	2,851	3,936	5,256	18.0%	28.9%	1,168	23,229	14,311	R, A, O, J
Fillmore Community Medical Center	4,226	5,878	5,850	6,610	9,132	26.0%	0.0%+	1,429	—	—	R
Garfield Memorial Hospital	2,710	5,220*	2,833	7,920	9,171	16.7%	25.0%+	997	—	—	R, A
Gunnison Valley Hospital	2,634	4,750	3,164	5,404	5,642	30.4%	2.1%	866	756*	—	R, A
Heber Valley Medical Center	3,045	4,898	4,172	6,265	7,213	27.4%	6.3%	892	4,324*	—	R, A
Jordan Valley Hospital	4,117	6,556	4,959	8,993	10,217	15.5%	28.5%	1,430	8,198	9,284	U, A, O, J
Kane County Hospital	2,192	5,141*	3,139*	6,322	7,880*	14.9%	33.3%+	905	—	—	R, A, O
Lakeview Hospital	3,563	4,357	4,317	5,934	5,960	21.4%	10.8%	1,258	7,948	5,627	U, A, O, J
LDS Hospital	3,935	5,080	5,366	7,043	10,026	20.5%	24.5%	1,034	74,996	39,277	U, N, A, O, J
Logan Regional Hospital	3,142	3,852	3,932	5,165	6,614	15.7%	24.7%	1,039	18,328	15,700	R, A, O, J
McKay-Dee Hospital	3,435	4,383	4,355	5,809	7,682	22.7%	14.4%	1,101	77,430	29,092	U, N, A, O, J
Milford Valley Memorial Center	2,991	3,824	3,395*	6,249	—	12.9%	0.0%+	1,360	—	—	R
Mountain View Hospital	3,710	5,099	4,386	6,298	6,822	14.2%	27.5%	1,130	15,719*	11,326	R, A, O, J
Mountain West Medical Center	3,732	7,293	5,317	10,602	12,713	24.4%	19.0%	1,563	2,482*	2,113*	R, A, O, J
Ogden Regional Medical Center	3,536	4,393	4,307	7,139	9,149	20.7%	15.9%	818	50,031	17,109	U, N, A, O, J
Orem Community Hospital	3,469	4,400	3,942	6,579	7,437	16.7%	25.4%	1,190	5,732	5,652	U, A, O, J
Pioneer Valley Hospital	4,341	6,756	5,213	8,464	8,753	21.1%	17.4%	1,290	10,093	6,790	U, N, A, O, J
Primary Children's Medical Center	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,666	125,062	50,635	U, A, J
Salt Lake Regional Medical Center	4,093	6,388	5,612	7,728	9,503	15.1%	33.6%	1,019	16,508	12,550	U, N, A, O, J
San Juan Hospital	2,316	5,328	2,648	6,652	6,989	19.5%	22.6%	763	—	1,279*	R, A
Sanpete Valley Hospital	4,123	5,888	5,144	8,670	7,650	23.1%	22.2%+	1,129	—	2,441*	R, A
Sevier Valley Hospital	2,755	4,859	3,614	7,635	9,067	20.8%	11.8%	1,030	5,747*	3,118*	R, A, J
St. Mark's Hospital	3,972	6,053	4,844	5,797	6,935	24.0%	18.2%	1,348	37,714	21,564	U, N, A, O, J
Timpanogos Regional Medical Center	3,813	4,654	4,925	5,653	7,699	15.4%	31.3%	820	5,733	7,848	U, N, A, O, J
Uintah Basin Medical Center	2,977	4,535	3,161	5,525	6,179	24.0%	16.0%	1,015	7,744*	2,160	R, A, O
University of Utah Hospital	4,579	6,971	6,824	7,535	10,305	24.6%	26.3%	979	158,259	52,646	U, N, A, O, J
Utah Valley Medical Center	3,182	3,908	4,139	6,203	9,388	18.1%	27.7%	1,260	53,888	28,828	U, N, A, O, J
Valley View Medical Center	2,318	3,851	3,064	4,928	5,670	13.7%	41.5%	890	8,308	7,399	R, A, O, J
<b>Utah Hospital Average**</b>	<b>3,546</b>	<b>4,892</b>	<b>4,631</b>	<b>6,338</b>	<b>8,262</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>68,283</b>	<b>29,732</b>	

# Maternity and Newborn

## Category Definitions

### Descriptions of Maternity and Newborn Related Conditions Requiring Hospitalization

DRG (Diagnosis Related Group) is a hospitalization classification based on diagnoses, clinical procedures, patient age, gender, length of stay, and other factors.

**DRG 373:** Vaginal Delivery Without Complicating Diagnoses. No illness or condition in the mother or newborn complicated the vaginal delivery and no Cesarean Section (C-section) delivery or operating room procedure, such as tubal ligation or dilation and curettage (D&C), was performed.

**DRG 374:** Vaginal Delivery With Sterilization and/or Dilation and Curettage. A sterilization procedure, such as tubal ligation, or D&C was performed, but otherwise the vaginal delivery was uncomplicated.

**DRG 372:** Vaginal Delivery With Complicating Diagnoses. Though no C-section, tubal ligation or D&C was performed, an illness or condition in the mother or newborn complicated the delivery.

**DRG 371:** Cesarean Section Without Complicating Diagnoses or Comorbidities. A C-section was performed; no health problems were identified in the mother or newborn.

**DRG 370:** Cesarean Section With Complicating Diagnoses or Comorbidities. An illness or condition in the mother or newborn complicated the C-section delivery.

**DRG 391:** Normal Newborn. The newborn had no identified illness or condition.

**DRG 386:** Extreme Immaturity or Respiratory Distress Syndrome, Neonate. Newborn weighs less than 3 ½ pounds at birth or is born before the 28<sup>th</sup> week of a 40-week pregnancy with or without severe lung problems (Respiratory Distress Syndrome). With severe lung problems a newborn has difficulty breathing due to immature or underdeveloped lungs. This category does not include newborns who were transferred to another hospital or who died in the hospital.

**DRG 387:** Prematurity With Major Problems, Neonate. Newborn is born before full term of 40 weeks with an illness or condition, which complicates hospital care.

## Hospital Characteristics

- R - Rural hospital
- U - Urban hospital
- N - Neonatal intensive care unit in hospital
- A - Anesthesiologist on staff
- O - Obstetrician on staff
- J - Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)

## Key

- # C-section rate = number of C-section deliveries divided by the total number of deliveries and multiplied by 100. C-section rates were not calculated for fewer than 50 births in 2002 and 2003 combined.
- ## VBAC (Vaginal Birth After Previous C-section) rate = the number of women who had a vaginal birth and a previous C-section divided by the total number of women who had a previous C-section and multiplied by 100.
- + Rate is based on a denominator (all women who had a previous C-section) of less than 30.
- No discharges in 2002 or 2003.
- \* Based on fewer than four discharges.
- \*\* Utah Hospital Average = the sum of all facility charges billed in the state for a specific DRG divided by the total number of discharges for this DRG. This average includes only the hospitals listed above. Outlier charges (2.5 standard deviations above the state average) were excluded from the overall average and each hospital's average. Some hospital averages do not include additional costs associated with the hospital stay.