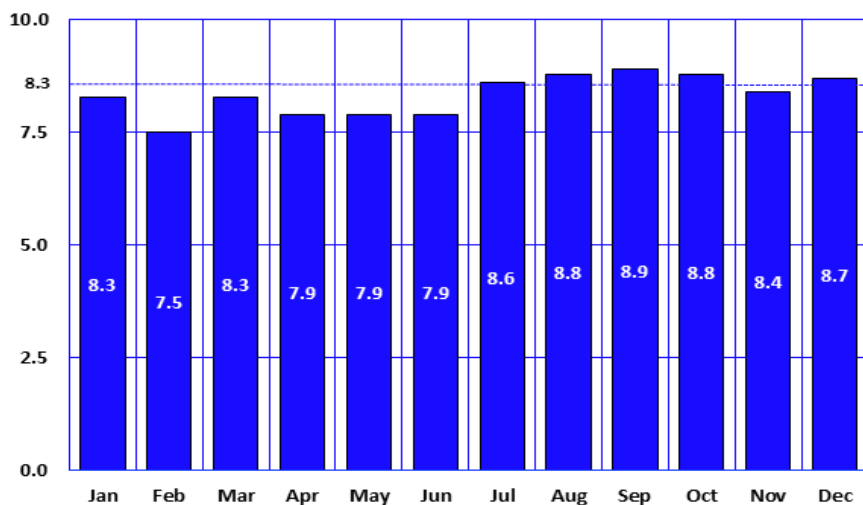


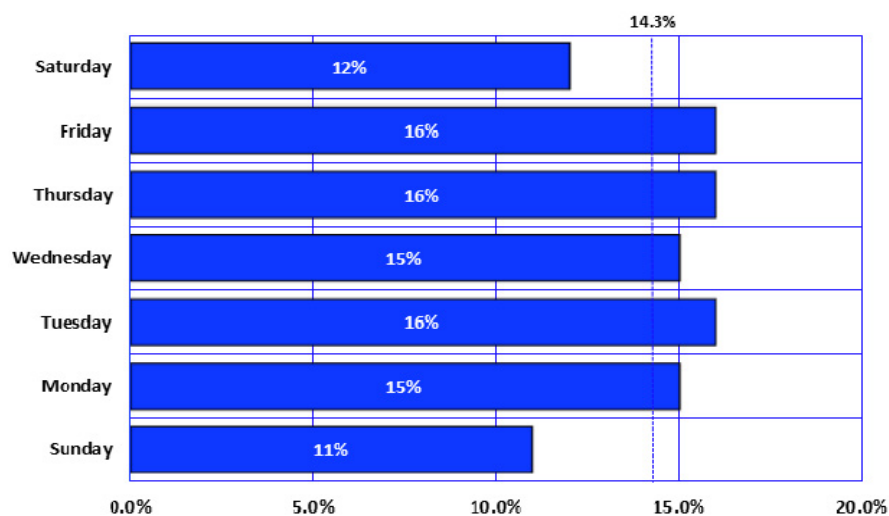
1B. NATALITY: MATERNAL CHARACTERISTICS AND NEWBORN'S HEALTH

Figure 1B-13
Percent of Resident Births by Month, Arizona, 2013



Historically, births in Arizona have peaked during August and September, with a monthly average around 8.3 percent. (**Figure 1B-13**).

Figure 1B-14
Percent of Resident Births by Day of the Week, Arizona, 2013



On average 233 infants were born per day in 2013 to Arizona residents. The daily average of resident live births in 2013 was substantially lower on weekends than on weekdays (**Figure 1B-14**). Many studies suggest that weekly, daily, and hourly variations observed in hospitals and clinics are not due to a biological rhythm of labor, but to increased frequency of obstetric interventions in the timing of delivery (induced labors and elective cesarean deliveries), making it more aligned with the work week schedule.

In 2013, only 7.9 percent of repeat cesarean deliveries occurred on Sundays, compared to 16.7 percent on Mondays. The average rate of induction of labor was substantially lower on weekend days (10.9 percent) than it was on week days (15.7 percent).