Table 1 Baseline characteristics of women who gave birth at Makassed Hospital in the two study years

Baseline characteristics	1993 (n = 3356) %	2002 (n = 3448) %	P-value
Age (years)			
15–19	16.5	11.5	< 0.001
20–35	77.0	79.7	
> 35	6.5	8.9	
Region			
Jerusalem	62.0	94.2	< 0.001
West Bank and Gaza Strip	38.0	5.8	
Locale			
Urban	69.0	71.4	< 0.001
Rural	28.1	23.7	
Refugee camp	2.9	4.9	
No. of booking visits			
0	40.0	54.9	< 0.001
1+	60.0	45.1	
Parity			
Primipara	26.3	24.9	0.18
Multipara	73.7	75.1	
No. of previous caesarean sections			
0	91.4	87.1	< 0.001
1	6.3	9.5	
> 1	2.3	3.4	
Antepartum haemorrhage	5.3	2.0	< 0.001
Pregnancy induced hypertension/ pre-eclampsia/eclampsia	4.7	2.1	< 0.001
Other conditions related to pregnancy[a]	10.0	7.5	< 0.001
Weeks of gestation			
Preterm (< 37)	13.3	8.7	< 0.001
Term (37–41)	78.2	88.9	
Post-term (> 41)	8.4	2.4	
Weight of baby (kg)			
< 2.5	13.5	8.7	< 0.001
> 2.5 ≤ 4	81.2	86.4	
> 4	5.3	4.9	
Current medical conditions			
Haematological disorder	6.8	7.0	0.77
Diabetes	0.7	2.7	< 0.001
Other medical conditions	4.1	2.6	0.001

[a]Including infertility related conditions, uterine and amniotic fluid abnormalities, pregnancy complications other that those mentioned in the table.