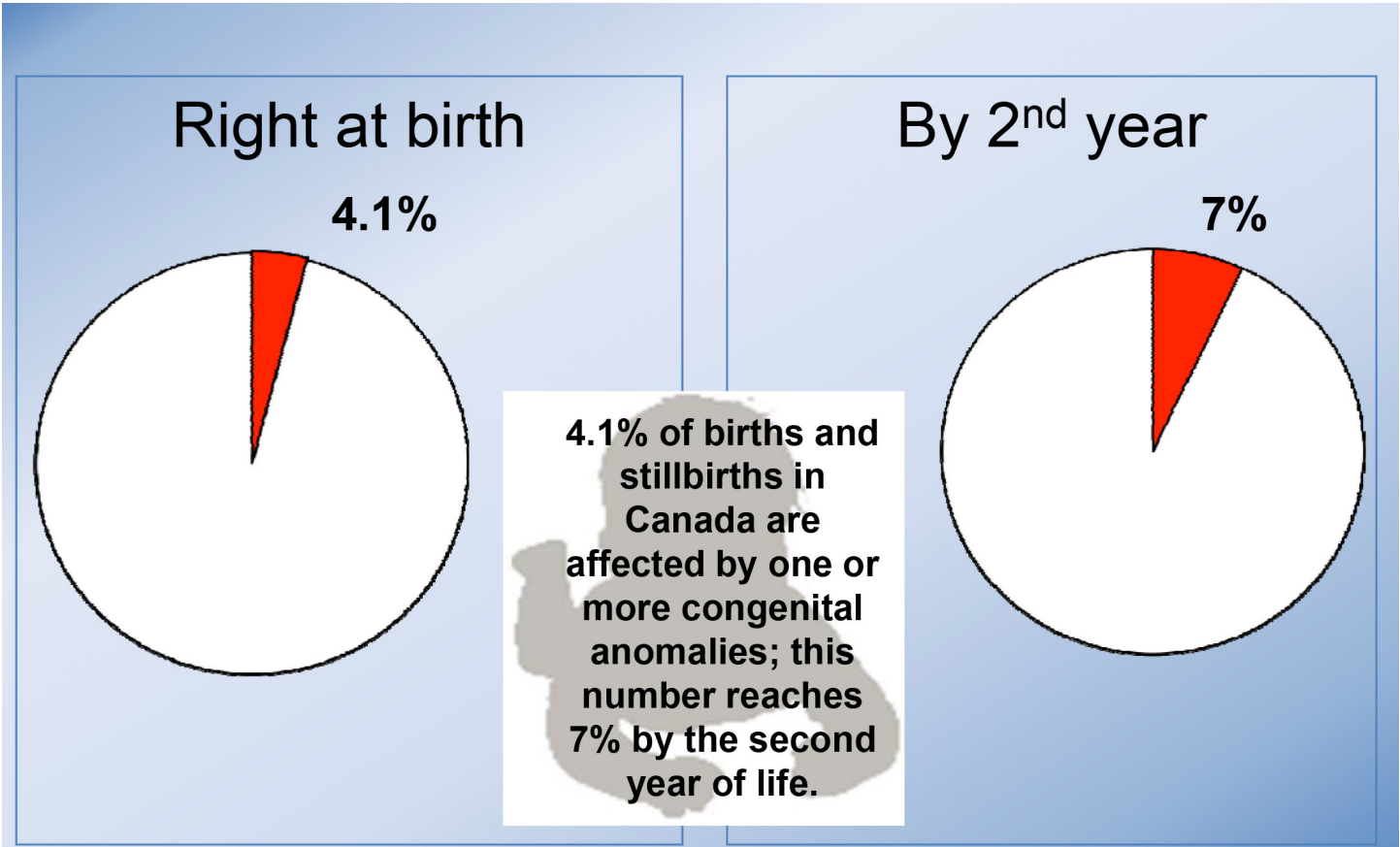




### 5.1.4 Prevalence of Congenital Anomalies in Canada



Graphic created using a Shutterstock images and data from Health Canada. Congenital Anomalies in Canada — A Perinatal Health Report, 2002. Ottawa: Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada, 2002.

In 2007, 4.1% of all births in Canada, including stillbirths, were affected by one or more congenital anomalies. It is estimated that major congenital anomalies affect an estimated 3% of all births.<sup>1</sup> It is also estimated that this rate increases to 7% by the second year of life.<sup>2</sup>

Children can be born with multiple congenital anomalies that can range from mild to severe to life threatening. Infants born with severe anomalies (e.g., anencephaly, trisomy 13, trisomy 18, or inoperable congenital heart defects) often die. Not all congenital anomalies are serious, and many can be corrected with treatment.

<sup>1</sup> Demographics and Risk Indicators Working Group, C.C.A.S.N., Public Health Agency of Canada. Congenital Anomalies Surveillance in Canada: Results of a 2006–2007 Survey on Availability of Selected Data Variables in Canadian Provinces and Territories. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Health Canada. Congenital Anomalies in Canada — A Perinatal Health Report, 2002. Ottawa: Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada; 2002

