

BIRTHS TO WOMEN WHO RECEIVED ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE

DEFINITION: Number and percentage of live births to women who received early and adequate prenatal care, disaggregated by race.

SIGNIFICANCE

Prenatal care is critical to ensuring positive birth outcomes. In addition to providing important health care services, prenatal care provides pregnant women with information about nutrition, exercise, and healthy behaviors during pregnancy. Prenatal visits are also an opportunity for health care providers to educate expectant parents about infant care, the benefits of breastfeeding, and injury and illness prevention.¹ Research shows that babies born to mothers who received late or no prenatal care are five times as likely to die as babies who are born to mothers who received adequate prenatal care.²

Teen mothers are at especially high risk for receiving late or no prenatal care. Among births to Louisiana teens ages 15-19, 3.9% were to mothers receiving late or no prenatal care.³

Louisiana has made progress in increasing the percentage of births to women who receive early and adequate prenatal care. Between 2001 and 2006, the percentage of births to women who received prenatal care rose from 79% to 85%.

RACIAL DISPARITIES

White women are more likely than black women to receive early and adequate prenatal care. The racial disparity ratio shows that a black baby was 1.9 times as likely as a white baby to be born to a mother who did not receive early and adequate prenatal care in 2006. Five parishes had racial disparity ratios of 1.1 or less, indicating a relatively low level of racial disparity. By contrast, 36 parishes had racial disparity ratios of at least 2.0, meaning that a black baby was at least twice as likely as a white baby to be born to a mother who did not receive early and adequate prenatal care.

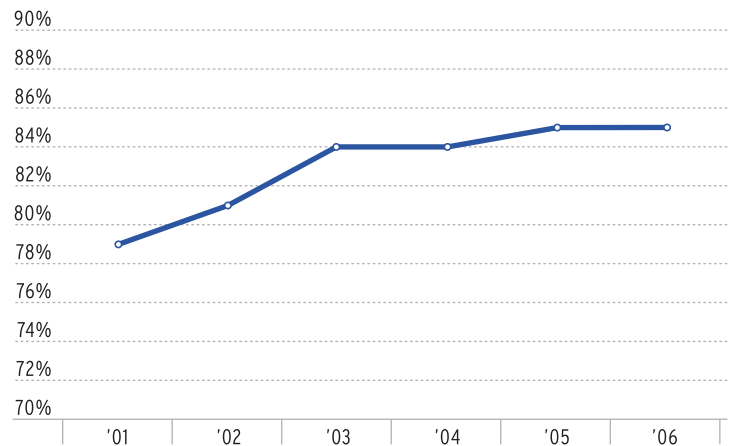
RATE CALCULATION

100 * (number of births to women who received adequate prenatal care ÷ total number of births)

100 * (number of births to black women who received adequate prenatal care ÷ total number of births to black women)

100 * (number of births to white women who received adequate prenatal care ÷ total number of births to white women)

PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS TO WOMEN WHO RECEIVED EARLY AND ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE IN LOUISIANA 2001-2006



PERCENTAGE OF ALL BIRTHS TO MOTHERS RECEIVING LATE OR NO PRENATAL CARE BY AGE GROUP IN LOUISIANA 2006

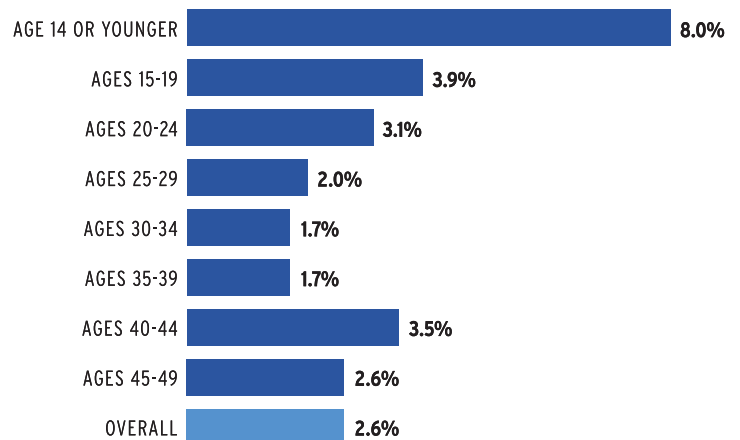


CHART DATA SOURCES

(TOP): Live births 2001-2006: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics (BOTTOM): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, VitalStats, www.cdc.gov/nchs/vitalstats.htm.

DATA SOURCE

Live births 2006: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics

DATA NOTE

The Kotelchuck index is used to measure early and adequate prenatal care.

¹ Child Trends, "Late or No Prenatal Care," Child Trends Data Bank, 2007, retrieved from <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org> on 6/30/2009.

² Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "A Healthy Start: Begin Before Baby's Born," U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, retrieved from <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov> on 6/30/2009.

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, VitalStats, "Prenatal Care," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/vitalstats.htm> on 7/30/2009.

BIRTHS TO WOMEN WHO RECEIVED ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE (NUMBER AND PERCENT OF BIRTHS)

2006	TOTAL		BLACK		WHITE		RACIAL DISPARITY RATIO*
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
LOUISIANA	53,199	84.8	19,078	79.1	32,473	88.8	1.9
Acadia	605	66.9	128	58.2	476	69.9	1.4
Allen	349	91.8	72	90.0	260	92.5	1.3
Ascension	1,524	89.6	336	77.4	1,168	94.0	3.8
Assumption	228	81.7	85	72.0	141	88.7	2.5
Avoyelles	589	94.1	208	90.8	371	95.9	2.2
Beauregard	436	83.7	43	70.5	384	85.9	2.1
Bienville	166	86.5	73	86.9	93	86.1	0.9
Bossier	1,546	88.0	368	81.4	1,137	90.9	2.0
Caddo	3,081	80.9	1,678	74.6	1,348	90.2	2.6
Calcasieu	2,634	92.1	773	87.7	1,815	94.3	2.2
Caldwell	125	91.2	24	88.9	101	91.8	1.4
Cameron	69	93.2	<5	LNE	68	93.2	n.a.
Catahoula	130	92.2	30	73.2	100	100.0	n.a.
Claiborne	171	82.2	90	78.3	81	88.0	1.8
Concordia	227	85.0	107	77.5	119	93.7	3.6
De Soto	328	82.4	140	73.3	185	90.7	2.9
East Baton Rouge	5,457	87.6	3,039	84.0	2,226	93.6	2.5
East Carroll	97	71.9	80	69.6	17	85.0	2.0
East Feliciana	247	88.5	117	86.0	128	90.8	1.5
Evangeline	486	88.4	151	83.0	333	91.0	1.9
Franklin	256	83.4	99	75.6	155	89.1	2.2
Grant	262	93.2	35	87.5	223	94.1	2.1
Iberia	936	80.3	347	73.8	569	85.1	1.8
Iberville	376	82.1	207	75.8	169	91.8	3.0
Jackson	147	76.6	41	65.1	105	82.0	1.9
Jefferson	4,765	84.5	1,545	81.0	2,727	87.8	1.6
Jefferson Davis	339	70.5	52	59.8	281	73.0	1.5
Lafayette	2,409	76.5	783	69.2	1,559	80.7	1.6
Lafourche	1,069	81.8	199	75.4	825	83.7	1.5
La Salle	173	96.6	23	88.5	146	98.0	5.7
Lincoln	427	72.5	182	65.9	235	78.9	1.6
Livingston	1,734	93.6	77	84.6	1,645	94.2	2.7
Madison	141	80.1	102	77.3	39	90.7	2.4
Morehouse	323	81.0	156	75.4	165	86.8	1.9
Natchitoches	467	75.6	230	70.1	227	81.1	1.6
Orleans	2,112	81.0	1,269	77.8	720	89.6	2.1
Ouachita	2,162	90.3	955	86.1	1,175	93.8	2.3
Plaquemines	240	82.5	56	84.8	175	84.1	1.0
Pointe Coupee	263	85.1	123	79.9	139	90.3	2.1
Rapides	1,896	94.0	713	90.7	1,143	96.3	2.5
Red River	127	79.9	58	68.2	69	93.2	4.7
Richland	275	89.3	125	85.0	147	93.0	2.1
Sabine	287	83.7	52	66.7	215	89.6	3.2
St. Bernard	178	89.0	15	68.2	158	91.3	3.7
St. Charles	623	87.4	198	81.8	403	91.0	2.0
St. Helena	95	84.1	58	80.6	37	90.2	2.0
St. James	260	85.0	145	80.6	115	91.3	2.2
St. John the Baptist	650	84.4	380	81.0	254	90.1	1.9
St. Landry	1,178	79.8	539	73.4	627	86.1	1.9
St. Martin	551	73.1	215	66.8	334	78.0	1.5
St. Mary	667	83.6	260	83.1	390	84.6	1.1
St. Tammany	2,711	88.0	308	77.8	2,332	90.1	2.2
Tangipahoa	1,713	89.3	681	84.5	1,013	92.8	2.1
Tensas	51	71.8	37	68.5	14	82.4	1.8
Terrebonne	1,430	81.7	297	73.7	1,013	84.2	1.7
Union	273	80.3	95	72.0	176	85.4	1.9
Vermilion	696	81.9	160	80.8	515	82.0	1.1
Vernon	662	71.0	115	69.7	521	72.4	1.1
Washington	650	90.5	233	85.7	413	93.4	2.2
Webster	441	87.3	155	80.3	284	91.6	2.3
West Baton Rouge	302	87.0	114	78.6	188	93.1	3.1
West Carroll	135	88.8	24	72.7	110	93.2	4.0
West Feliciana	101	90.2	37	80.4	63	96.9	6.4
Winn	151	78.2	41	59.4	109	88.6	3.6

*The racial disparity ratio was calculated by dividing the rate of black births to mothers who DID NOT receive adequate prenatal care by the corresponding white rate. Ratios of greater than 1 indicate that black babies were more likely than white babies to have been born to mothers who did not receive early and adequate prenatal care. The greater the number, the higher the racial disparity. Conversely, the closer the ratio is to one, the smaller the racial disparity. n.a. A racial disparity ratio was not calculated for Cameron Parish because the number of babies born to black mothers who received adequate prenatal care was less than five (and thus unreportable). The racial disparity ratio was also not calculable for Catahoula Parish because 0% of births to white women were to mothers who received less-than-adequate prenatal care.

LNE [low number of events] is used because the rate or percent may be unreliable.