Racial Disparities in Selected Maternal Characteristics and Perinatal Health Indicators 2014 & 2016

Service Planning Area (SPA) 1

This data fact sheet presents key indicators of health for new mothers and infants in Service Planning Area 1, by mother's race/ethnicity. Vital statistics data (2016) was used to describe population demographics in SPA 1. The Los Angeles Mommy and Baby project data (2014 & 2016) was used to describe racial and ethnic disparities in health indicators and behaviors for new mothers and infants.

Maternal Demographics (Table 1)

- The general fertility rate (live births per 1,000 females 15-44) in SPA 1 varied from 45.4 for Asian women to 74.3 for Latina women.
- The teen fertility rate (live births per 1,000 females 15-19) in SPA 1 was 8.0 for White teens, 33.2 for Black teens, and 28.4 for Latina teens.
- While greater than 75.9% of Asian mothers had greater than a high school education, 44.0% of Latina mothers attained greater than a high school education at the time of delivery.
- A greater proportion of Asian mothers were married at the time of delivery compared to White, Black and Latina mothers (81.6% vs 62.2% & 22.8% & 41.7%, respectively).

Selected Maternal Health Indicators in SPA 1 (Table 1)

- Latina mothers were more likely to be uninsured six months before pregnancy (25.9%) compared to White, Black, and Asian mothers.
- Asian mothers were less likely to be overweight or obese compared to White, Latina, and Black mothers (22.1% vs 51.7% & 64.2% & 57.7%).
- Gestational Diabetes was higher in Asian mothers (23.2%) compared to all Los Angeles County (LAC) mothers (12.4%).
- White and Asian mothers were less likely to have unintended pregnancies compared to Latina and Black mothers (42.1% & 41.8% vs 57.6% & 58.3%).
- White (20.8%) and Black (23.6%) mothers in SPA 1 were more likely to report pre-pregnancy anxiety compared to all LAC mothers (11.9%).
- Depressive symptoms during pregnancy were reported by 41.2% of Black mothers in SPA 1, which was the highest amongst White, Latina and Asian mothers in SPA 1.
- Black mothers (51.4%) were more likely to experience any discrimination compared to White (37.8%), Latina (34.3%), and Asian (19.9%) mothers.
- Approximately 13% of Black and Asian babies in SPA 1 were low birth weight compared to approximately 6.8% of White and Latina babies.
- Exclusive breastfeeding at 3 months was more common in White mothers (46.2%) and Asian mothers (48.8%) compared to Latina mothers (29.8%) and Black mothers (27.5%).
- Black mothers (68.7%) in SPA 1 were least likely to place their infants on their backs to sleep most of the time compared to White (84.3%) and Latina (86.3%) mothers.

Table 1. Maternal Characteristics and Health Indicators by Mother's Race/Ethnicity, Service Planning Area 1, Los Angeles County 2014 & 2016

	Los Angeles County (N=250,909)				White (N=2,362) SPA 1				Latina (N=5,906) SPA 1				Black (N=2,026) SPA 1				Asian (N=216) SPA 1			
	Population				Population			, -	Population			,	Population	0/			Population			
4	Estimate	%	95%		Estimate	%		% CL	Estimate	%		% CL	Estimate	%		% CL	Estimate	%		% CL
General Fertility Rate ¹	122,326	56.2	55.9	56.5	1,123	46.6	43.9	49.4	3,071	74.3	71.6	76.9	967	67.7	63.4	72.0	136	45.4	37.7	53.0
Teen Fertility Rate ²	5,292	15.3	14.9	15.7	32	8.0	5.3	10.8	242	28.4	24.9	32.0	96	33.2	26.6	39.8	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maternal Demographics ³																				
Married ⁴	143,999	58.2	56.9	59.5	1,428	62.2	56.4	68.1	2,420	41.7	36.4	47.0	451	22.8	17.2	28.5	170	81.6	72.7	90.5
Education																				
<12 years	20,414	16.6	16.4	16.8	97	8.6	7.0	10.3	758	24.6	23.1	26.1	170	17.6	15.2	20.0	6	4.4	1.0	7.8
12 years	29,035	23.6	23.4	23.9	232	20.6	18.2	23.0	938	30.5	28.8	32.1	282	29.2	26.3	32.0	27	19.7	13.0	26.4
>12 years	69,747	56.7	56.5	57.0	785	69.7	67.0	72.4	1,354	44.0	42.2	45.7	509	52.6	49.5	55.8	104	75.9	68.8	83.1
Age																				
<20 years old	5,347	4.4	4.2	4.5	32	2.8	1.9	3.8	244	7.9	7.0	8.9	96	9.9	8.0	11.8	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
20-24 years old	20,178	16.4	16.2	16.6	226	20.1	17.7	22.4	835	27.1	25.5	28.7	282	29.2	26.3	32.0	11	8.0	3.5	12.6
25-34 years old	67,878	55.2	54.9	55.5	709	63.0	60.1	65.8	1,573	51.1	49.3	52.9	466	48.2	45.0	51.3	87	63.5	55.4	71.6
35+ years old	29,523	24.0	23.8	24.2	159	14.1	12.1	16.2	427	13.9	12.6	15.1	123	12.7	10.6	14.8	39	28.5	20.9	36.0
Pre-pregnancy Health & Well-being⁴																				
Access to Health Care																				
Uninsured	64,897	26.0	24.8	27.2	312	13.3	9.0	17.6	1,527	25.9	21.4	30.5	274	13.5	8.7	18.3	24	11.0†	3.9	18.0
Medi-Cal ⁵	60,969	25.3	24.2	26.4	576	25.3	20.1	30.4	2,397	41.7	36.4	47.0	1,184	61.6	55.0	68.3	44	21.0	11.7	30.2
Preconception Health Behaviors																				
Not taking a multivitamin	118,368	47.7	46.4	49.0	982	41.9	36.0	47.9	3,338	57.5	52.2	62.7	1,198	59.1	52.6	65.6	100	46.2	34.9	57.5
Smoked cigarettes 6 months before pregnancy	17,702	7.3	6.7	7.9	511	22.3	17.1	27.5	397	6.9	4.3	9.5	477	24.1	18.2	30.1	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
No preconception health counseling	177,666	71.3	70.2	72.5	1,766	75.3	70.2	80.4	4,621	78.7	74.3	83.0	1,434	72.4	66.0	78.9	159	73.6	63.7	83.5
Did not have enough money for food	11,799	4.7	4.2	5.2	215	9.1	5.3	12.9	457	7.7	5.0	10.5	182	9.0	5.2	12.7	15	7.1†	1.0	13.1
Family Planning Practices																				
Unwanted/mistimed pregnancy by mother	107,668	43.9	42.6	45.1	962	42.1	36.1	48.0	3,311	57.6	52.3	63.0	1,170	58.3	51.5	65.0	88	41.8	30.5	53.2
Unwanted/mistimed pregnancy by partner ⁶	67,122							34.0	2,146				-					31.6	20.2	43.0
Received fertility treatment	11,985			5.3		5.4†			· ·		N/A		54			4.7	17	7.9†	2.0	13.7
Ever used emergency contraception	63,746							25.8	1,074					18.1				13.2	5.4	21.0
Obstetric History																				
Previous preterm birth	16,068	7.1	6.4	7.8	198	9.4	5.8	13.0	398	7.7	4.7	10.6	201	11.3	6.9	15.7	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Previous low birth weight	13,571			6.7	147	7.0			311			8.8	264			20.6	•	10.5†	3.0	18.0
Previous stillbirth or miscarriage	53,592							38.3	1,281				582					20.8	11.3	30.3
Previous abortion	36,793							20.8	-	10.2				31.8				11.9†		19.8

Table 1. Maternal Characteristics and Health Indicators by Mother's Race/Ethnicity, Service Planning Area 1, Los Angeles County 2014 & 2016

Table 1. Maternal Characteristics and Health Indicato	Los An		County		White	e (N=2 SPA 1	,362)		Latin	a (N=5 SPA 1	,906)			k (N=2, SPA 1	026)		Asian (N=216) SPA 1			
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	Population Estimate	%			Population Estimate %		95% CL		Population Estimate	%	95% CL		Population Estimate	%	95% CL		Population Estimate	%	95% CL	
Maternal Medical Conditions before Pregnancy																				
Asthma	14,008	5.6	5.0	6.1	264	11.2	7.5	14.8	459	7.8	5.0	10.6	310	15.3	10.1	20.5	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
High blood pressure	8,965	3.6	3.1	4.1	79	3.3†	0.5	6.2	145	2.5†	0.9	4.1	260	12.9	7.5	18.2	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Diabetes	6,848	2.7	2.3	3.2	36	1.5†	0.2	2.8	153	2.6†	0.9	4.2	136	6.7†	2.6	10.9	17	7.7†	1.1	14.2
Anemia	25,798	10.3	9.5	11.0	331	14.0	10.0	18.0	641	10.8	7.6	14.1	538	26.5	20.6	32.5	19	9.0†	2.5	15.5
Periodontal disease	22,080	8.8	8.1	9.5	325	13.7	9.7	17.8	475	8.0	5.3	10.8	230	11.4	7.2	15.5	18	8.5†	1.8	15.2
Overweight/obese	116,317	48.8	47.4	50.1	1,210	51.7	45.8	57.6	3,780	64.2	59.2	69.2	1,163	57.7	51.1	64.3	48	22.1	12.8	31.5
Depression	24,695	9.8	9.1	10.6	410	17.3	13.0	21.7	507	8.6	5.7	11.5	440	21.7	15.9	27.5	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Anxiety	29,850	11.9	11.1	12.7	492	20.8	16.1	25.6	597	10.1	6.7	13.6	478	23.6	17.7	29.5	24	11.2†	4.2	18.3
Prenatal Care and Maternal Risk Factors during P	regnancy ⁴																			
Prenatal Care																				
Entered prenatal care after 1st trimester	20,295	8.4	7.7	9.1	307	13.5	9.1	17.9	1,071	18.8	14.6	22.9	484	25.2	19.1	31.4	26	12.5†	5.1	20.0
Did not get prenatal care as early was wanted ⁷	25,899	12.4	11.5	13.3	451	23.0	17.4	28.6	1,241	24.6	19.7	29.4	475	28.7	22.2	35.3	28	16.6†	7.5	25.7
Traveled 15 miles or more to get care ⁷	21,439	10.4	9.5	11.3	424	21.9	16.2	27.5	1,416	29.3	23.9	34.6	384	23.3	17.3	29.4	42	24.4	13.8	35.1
Dissatisfied with amount of wait time at prenatal care ⁸	45,915							35.0	-				512			32.1	45	21.4	12.1	30.7
Dissatisfied with amount of time spent with doctor/nurse ⁸	25,805				320			18.1	-	12.2		15.7	215	11.0		15.1	14	6.6†	1.0	12.1
Dissatisfied with advice given at prenatal care ⁸	16,644				237		6.8			10.1		13.3	101	5.2†	2.4	8.0	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dissatisfied with understanding/respect received ⁸	8,956				191	8.4	4.6			5.1		7.4	156	8.0		11.4	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Needed to see a dentist	48,398	_	_		489			26.4	1,083				483	24.4		30.2	24	11.4†	3.9	19.0
Received dental care	93,139				819			41.8	1,603				563	28.3		34.2	61	28.6	18.3	38.9
Received a seasonal flu shot during pregnancy	122,785							41.3	•							40.5	108	50.8	39.4	62.2
Medical Conditions during Pregnancy																				
Labor pains 3 weeks before due date	30,306	12.2	11.3	13.1	359	15.4	11.0	19.8	820	14.2	10.3	18.1	343	17.1	11.8	22.4	17	7.8†	2.4	13.3
High blood pressure	27,045				282	12.0				9.4		12.5	414	20.8		26.9		8.7†	2.5	14.9
Gestational diabetes	30,751				195	8.4	5.1			13.6		17.3	197	9.8		14.3	50	23.2	13.5	33.0
Urinary tract Infection	21,841				381			20.8		11.8		15.2	217	10.9	6.7	15.0		9.0†	2.6	15.4
Water broke more than 3 weeks early	12,174	4.9			101	4.3†		7.0				10.4	160		3.8	12.1	17	7.8†	2.0	13.7
Incompetent Cervix	4,429	1.8		2.1	N/C			N/A		3.2†		5.2	42	2.1†	0.2	4.0	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
STD/STI	4,555	1.8		2.2	43	1.9†	0.3			1.7†		3.1	166	8.3	4.6		N/C	N/A	, N/A	N/A
Bacterial vaginosis	24,891				201	8.6	5.4			11.5		14.9	385	19.2		24.4		8.7†	2.0	15.4
Periodontal disease	33,378				392			21.4		12.9		16.5	302	15.2		19.8		11.2†	3.8	18.7
Risk Behaviors during Pregnancy																				
Cigarette smoking	3,700	1.5	1.3	1.8	235	10.2	6.6	13.8	123	2.1†	0.6	3.6	205	10.3	6.3	14.3	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marijuana use	4,365	1.8	1.5	2.1	76	3.3†	1.1	5.5	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	97	4.8†	2.0	7.6	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A
Secondhand smoke exposure	10,370	4.5	3.9	5.1	211	9.4	6.0	12.9		2.4†			207	11.2	7.0	15.5	15	7.7†	1.1	14.3
Did not exercise ⁹	55,151		22.6	24.8	506	23.3	18.2	28.4	1,510	28.2	23.1	33.3	732	39.4	32.7	46.1	69	31.8	21.3	42.3
Mental Health during Pregnancy																				
Depressive symptoms ¹⁰	64,189	25.6	24.5	26.7	640	27.1	21.8	32.4	1,473	24.9	20.5	29.4	834	41.2	34.5	47.8	43	20.0	11.1	29.0

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Table 1. Maternal Characteristics and Health Indicato	Los An		-		White (N=2,362)					a (N=5				k (N=2,	026)		Asian (N=216)				
	(N:	=250,9	09)			SPA 1	ī		SPA 1				SPA 1								
	Population Estimate	%			Population Estimate %		95% CL		Population Estimate %		95% CL		Population Estimate	%	95% CL		Population Estimate	%	959	% CL	
Stressful Environment and Life Events during Pregnancy																					
Perceived neighborhood as unsafe	34,448	13.9	13.1	14.8	318	13.7	9.7	17.8	634	11.0	7.9	14.1	362	18.0	12.6	23.5	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Family member had to go into the hospital	35,446	14.6	13.7	15.5	502	22.0	17.1	26.9	663	11.5	8.4	14.7	462	24.7	18.6	30.8	30	14.2†	6.3	22.0	
Divorced/separated from husband/partner	15,097	6.2		6.9	195	8.5	5.2		229	4.0	2.1	5.9	322	17.1	12.2	22.1	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Moved to a new address	58,928	24.3	23.2	25.4	615		21.6	32.1	1,672	29.0	24.2	33.9	684	35.9	29.4	42.3	41	19.6	10.7	28.5	
Were homeless	8,177		3.0	3.9	79	3.5†	1.4	5.6		3.4†	1.6	5.3	298	15.7		20.7	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Husband/partner lost his/her job	24,103				241	10.5		14.2		12.4		15.8	217		7.4	15.7	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Lost job but wanted to continue working	19,772	8.2	7.5	8.9	171	7.5†	3.8	11.3		10.4		13.8	245	13.0	8.5	17.4	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Argued more than usual with husband/partner	56,698				537		18.2		1,459				911	46.7		53.5	34	16.0†	7.6	24.4	
Had a lot of bills that could not be paid	39,526			17.3	436	19.1		24.0	•			24.0	578	30.4		36.9	20	9.6†	3.0	16.1	
Was in a physical fight	4,680	1.9	1.6	2.3	101	4.4†	2.0	6.9		2.0+		3.4	146	7.7	4.1	11.4	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Husband/partner or self went to jail	5,542	2.3	1.9	2.7	95	4.2†	1.8	6.6		3.4†		5.4	254	13.3	8.3	18.3	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Someone close had drinking or drug problems	17,541		6.6	7.9	286	12.6		16.5	448	7.8	5.1	10.5	277	14.5	9.9	19.2	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Someone close and important died	27,598	11.4	10.6	12.2	278	12.2	8.3	16.1	813	14.1	10.5	17.8	412	21.6	15./	27.4	17	8.4	1.8	14.9	
Lifetime Discrimination ¹¹																					
Any discrimination	92,226	36.8	35.5	38.0	894	37.8	32.1	43.6	2,024	34.3	29.3	39.3	1,042	51.4	44.8	58.1	43	19.9	11.0	28.8	
At work	41,589	16.6	15.7	17.5	405	17.1	12.8	21.5	711	12.0	8.6	15.4	471	23.3	17.8	28.7	19	8.8†	2.4	15.3	
When getting medical care	17,632	7.0	6.4	7.7	202	8.5	4.8	12.3	589	10.0	6.8	13.2	230	11.3	7.2	15.5	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
When getting housing	18,864	7.5	6.9	8.2	149	6.3	3.5	9.1	299	5.1	2.9	7.3	390	19.2	13.8	24.7	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Because of race/color	39,008	15.5	14.6	16.5	303	12.8	8.6	17.0	714	12.1	8.5	15.7	749	37.0	30.6	43.4	17	7.9†	2.2	13.6	
Because of gender	29,559	11.8	11.0	12.5	353	14.9	10.8	19.0	459	7.8	4.8	10.7	434	21.4	16.1	26.7	13	5.9†	0.8	10.9	
Because of pregnancy	34,967							20.9	1,033	17.5	13.6	21.4	382			23.9	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Postpartum ⁴																					
Delivery Method																					
Had a Cesarean	85,345	34.1	32.9	35.3	849	36.2	30.4	42.0	2,133	36.3	31.2	41.4	772	38.2	31.6	44.9	99	45.9	34.6	57.2	
C-section discussion initiated by mother	9,780	12.1	10.6	13.5	58	7.2†	2.1	12.3	111	5.3†	1.7	8.9	114	15.6†	7.7	23.4	13	13.0†	2.2	23.8	
Reason for C-section: Had a previous C-section ¹²	38,671							58.1	1,113					48.1			49	49.4	32.7	66.1	
Reason for C-section: Baby was in wrong position ¹²	14,154							26.0	•			24.8		7.4†		13.1	19	19.1†	6.0	32.2	
Reason for C-section: Labor was taking too long ¹²	12,202							14.0				14.3		10.9†				N/A	N/A	N/A	
Do atu autuus Haalik																					
Postpartum Health	220.200	04.	00 -	03.4	3.000	00.0	05.2	03.4	4.0.40		00.0	00.0	4		72.4	02.0	200	02.5	00.0		
Had a Postpartum check-up	228,208								4,940				1,557				200	93.5	88.0	99.0	
Family planning discussed during Check-Up	203,235	89.8	89.0	90.7	1,843	88.9	84.9	92.9	4,690	95.6	93.3	97.8	1,463	94.7	91.3	98.0	181	93.2	87.5	99.0	

Table 1. Maternal Characteristics and Health Indicators by Mother's Race/Ethnicity, Service Planning Area 1, Los Angeles County 2014 & 2016

		Los Angeles County (N=250,909)				White (N=2,362) SPA 1				Latina (N=5,906) SPA 1				Black (N=2,026) SPA 1				Asian (N=216) SPA 1			
	Population Estimate	%	95%	CL	Population Estimate	%	95%	% CL	Population Estimate	%	95%	. CL	Population Estimate	%	959	% CL	Population Estimate	%	959	% CL	
Infant Health⁴																					
Preterm birth ^{3,13}	10,979	8.9	8.8	9.1	87	7.7	6.2	9.3	306	9.9	8.9	11.0	121	12.5	10.4	14.6	18	13.1	7.5	18.8	
Low birth weight ³	8,783	7.1	7.0	7.3	62	5.5	4.2	6.8	245	8.0	7.0	8.9	128	13.2	11.1	15.4	18	13.1	7.5	18.8	
Had a well-baby check up	242,703	97.9	97.5	98.3	2,211	94.7	92.1	97.3	5,563	95.6	93.5	97.6	1,916	96.3	93.9	98.6	216	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Breastfeeding Practices																					
Any breastfeeding at 1 week	220,388	87.8	87.0	88.7	2,075	87.9	84.1	91.6	4,982	84.4	80.6	88.1	1,568	77.4	71.7	83.0	198	91.6	85.1	98.1	
Exclusive breastfeeding at 1 week	138,129	55.1	53.8	56.3	1,575	66.7	61.1	72.3	3,235	54.8	49.5	60.1	1,140	56.2	49.6	62.9	140	65.0	54.1	75.9	
Exclusive breastfeeding at 1 month	120,631	49.4	48.1	50.7	1,294	56.2	50.2	62.1	2,402	42.6	37.3	47.9	928	47.5	40.7	54.3	138	65.1	54.1	76.1	
Exclusive breastfeeding at 3 months	92,983	40.8	39.5	42.1	980	46.2	40.0	52.5	1,548	29.8	24.7	34.8	503	27.5	21.5	33.5	101	48.8	37.1	60.4	
Sleeping Environment																					
Sleeps on back	192,853	83.8	82.9	84.8	1,913	84.3	80.0	88.6	4,775	86.3	82.4	90.2	1,190	68.7	62.0	75.3	175	82.2	73.6	90.8	
Ever slept with another person	177,832	72.2	71.0	73.3	1,521	65.2	59.4	71.0	4,148	72.0	67.1	76.9	1,640	83.0	77.9	88.2	178	85.5	77.3	93.6	

¹ Live births per 1,000 females ages 15-44, California Department of Public Health: 2016 Birth Statistical File; analyzed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health,

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²Live births per 1,000 females 15-19, California Department of Public Health: 2016 Birth Statistical File; analyzed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health,

³ California Department of Public Health: 2016 Birth Statistical File; analyzed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health,

⁴ Source: Los Angeles Mommy and Baby Project, 2014 & 2016

⁵ Percntage of new mothers with Medi-Cal among insured and uninsured

⁶ Options included: Intended by partner, Unwanted/mistimed by partner, No partner/unknown

⁷ Question removed from 4th wave of 2016 LAMB

⁸ Options included: Dissatisfied, Neutral, Satisfied

⁹ Excludes those mothers who were told not to exercise by a health care provider

¹⁰ Question is a modified PHQ2; depressive symptoms defined as positive response to felt sad, empty, depressed or lost interest in most things for >=2weeks

 $^{^{\}rm 11}$ Women were asked if they had ever experienced discrimination

¹²Reported by mother as at least one of the reasons for cesarean delivery

¹³ Gestational age calculated based on obstetrical estimation

[†] Signifies that the estimate is statistically unstable (relative standard error > 30%) and therefore may not be appropriate to use for planning or policy purposes Numbers fewer than 5 are shown (N/C). Rates and estimates are not calculated for numbers fewer than five.