



County of Orange Health Care Agency
Disease Control and Epidemiology
Epidemiology & Assessment

2002 BIRTH OUTCOMES FACT SHEET
COMPARING ORANGE COUNTY WITH CALIFORNIA AND THE UNITED STATES

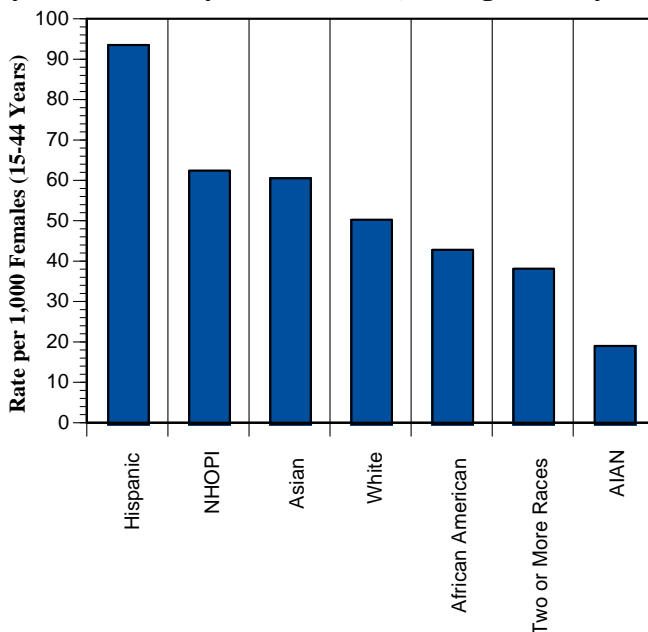
BIRTH FREQUENCIES AND RATES

- There were 44,760 births to Orange County residents in 2002, a decrease of 1.5% from the 45,462 births in 2001.
- The crude birth rate per 1,000 Orange County population was 15.1, a 3.1% decrease from 2001.
- The Orange County rate was similar to the California rate of 15.0 and 8.6% higher than the United States rate of 13.9.
- In 2002, the Orange County rate was the lowest in more than 15 years; the California rate was the lowest in nearly 30 years; and the United States rate was the lowest rate ever recorded.
- In 2002, there were 43,254 single births, representing 96.6% of all births to Orange County residents. There were 1,371 twin births (3.1% of all births) and there were 127 triplet births (0.3% of all births). There were 8 quadruplet births in 2002.
- As a percentage of all live births, Orange County had a similar percentage of twin births and a higher percentage of triplet births than did California and the United States.

FERTILITY RATES BY RACE/ETHNICITY

- The fertility rate (number of births per 1,000 females aged 15-44 years) among Orange County residents was 67.6, a decline of 2.3% from the rate of 69.2 in 2001.
- The Orange County rate was 1.2% lower than the California rate of 68.4 and 4.3% higher than the United States rate of 64.8.
- Among Orange County residents, 49.5% of births were to Hispanics, followed by Whites (33.1%), Asians (14.3%), and African-Americans (1.1%).
- In Orange County, the fertility rate differed markedly among racial/ethnic groups as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Fertility Rates by Race/Ethnicity of the Mother, Orange County Residents, 2002



Note: NHOPI is Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

AIAN is American Indian or Alaskan Native

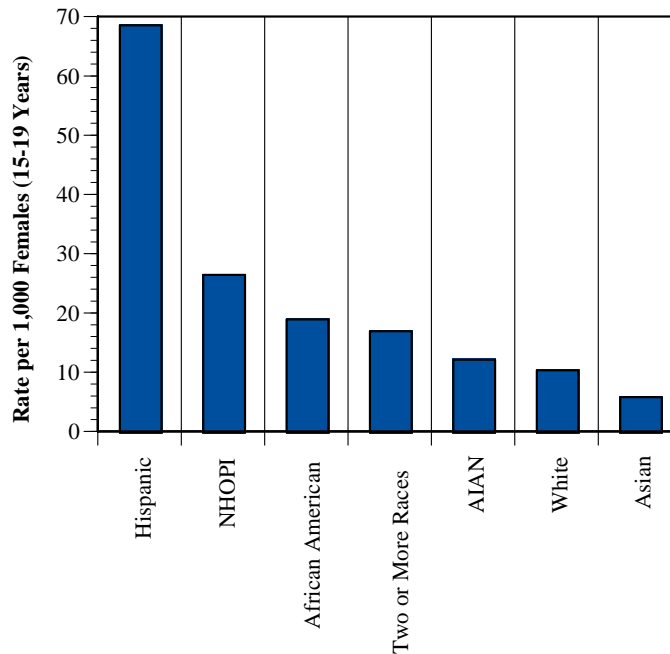
Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment

2002 BIRTH OUTCOMES FACT SHEET

BIRTHS TO TEENS

- In 2002, teenagers (15-19 years old) gave birth to 3,148 infants, resulting in a rate of 32.5 per 1,000; this is a decrease of 7.7% from the 2001 rate of 35.2 per 1,000.
- The Orange County rate was 20.0% lower than the California rate of 40.6 and 24.4% lower than the United States rate of 43.0.
- Among Orange County teens, the majority of births to females aged 15-19 years were to Hispanic females (80.6%).
- The teen birth rate among Orange County Hispanic females in 2002 was 68.7, which was slightly higher than the California rate of 68.5 but lower than the U.S. rate of 83.4.
- In Orange County, the teen birth rate differed markedly among racial/ethnic groups as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Teen Birth Rates by Race/Ethnicity of the Mother, Orange County Residents, 2002



Note: NHOPI is Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

AIAN is American Indian or Alaskan Native

Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment

INFANT MORTALITY

- In 2002, the infant mortality rate was 4.8 per 1,000 live births to Orange County residents, an increase of 6.7% from the 2001 rate of 4.5.
- The Orange County rate was 11.1% lower than the California rate of 5.4 and 31.4% lower than the United States rate of 7.0.
- In 2002, Orange County was close to meeting the Healthy People 2010 rate of 4.5.
- Among the four largest race/ethnicity categories, only the infant mortality rate for Asians met the Healthy People 2010 goal in 2002 (as the rate for Asians has done since 1999).
- Although life expectancy in the United States was the highest ever in 2002, infant mortality increased in 2002, the first year since 1958 that the rate has not declined or remained unchanged.
- The number and rate of infant deaths among Orange County residents by racial/ethnic group during 2002 is shown in Table 1.

2002 BIRTH OUTCOMES FACT SHEET

Table 1. Number and Rate of Infant Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Orange County Residents, 2002

Race/Ethnicity	Infant Deaths	Rate /1,000 Live Births
Hispanic	120	5.4
White	68	4.6
Asian	25	3.9
African American	3	--
Total	216	4.8
Healthy People 2000 Infant Mortality Goal per 1,000 Live Births		7.0
Healthy People 2010 Infant Mortality Goal per 1,000 Live Births		4.5

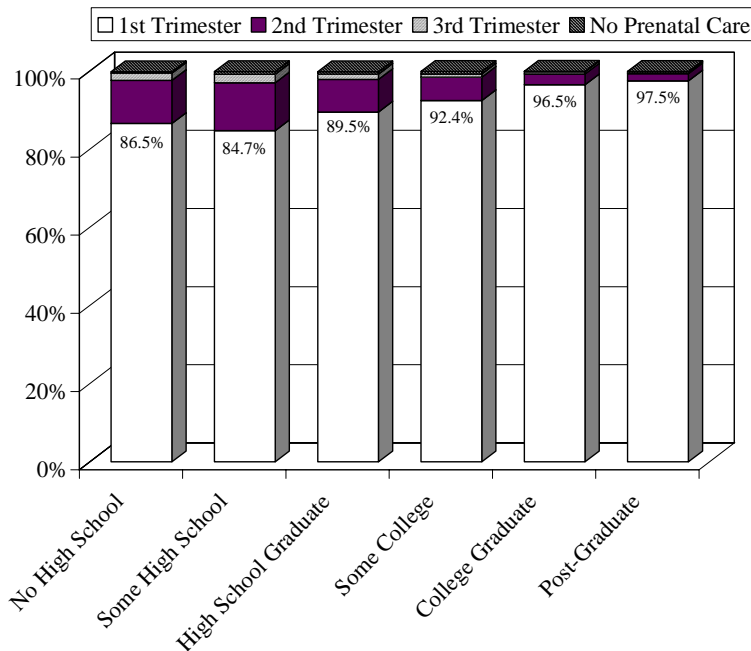
Note: Infant deaths based on 2002 Orange County Death Statistical Master File.

-- Rates are not calculated for fewer than five events.

PRENATAL CARE

- In 2002, 90.8% of Orange County mothers reported initiating prenatal care in the first trimester.
- This is an increase of 1.7% over 2001, when 89.3% of mothers reported beginning prenatal care in the first trimester.
- The percentage of Orange County mothers who initiated prenatal care in the first trimester was higher than both the California and United States percentages of 86.5% and 83.7%, respectively.
- Orange County met the Healthy People 2000 and 2010 goal of 90% of mothers receiving prenatal care in the first trimester.
- In 2002, of the four largest racial/ethnic groups, more than 90% of White and Asian mothers initiated prenatal care in the first trimester (95.1% and 92.6%, respectively), while 87.7% of Hispanic and 87.0% African American mothers did so..
- The principal sources of payment for prenatal care among Orange County residents in 2002 were HMO or Private (58.8%) and Medi-Cal (38.2%).
- Trimester prenatal care initiated by mother’s education and age, respectively, are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

Figure 3. Trimester Prenatal Care Initiated by Mother’s Education, Orange County Residents, 2002

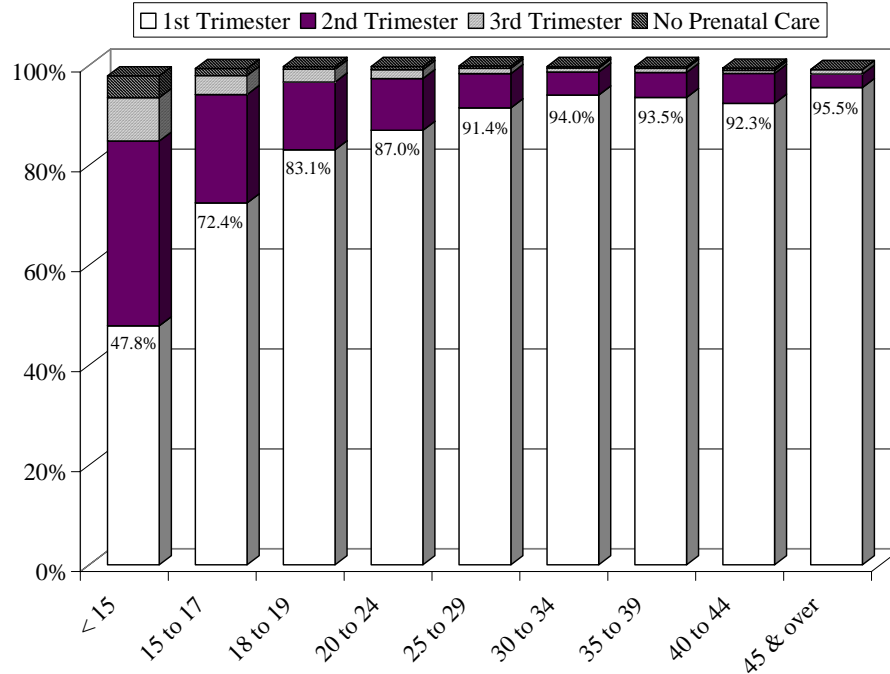


Note: Unknowns for mother’s education level (n=570) and prenatal care (n=74) are excluded from analysis.

Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment

2002 BIRTH OUTCOMES FACT SHEET

Figure 4. Trimester Prenatal Care Initiated by Mother's Age (Years), Orange County Residents, 2002



Note: Unknowns for mother's age (n=2) and prenatal care (n=120) are excluded from analysis.

Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment

METHODS OF DELIVERY AND SOURCES OF PAYMENT

- In 2002, Cesarean sections were performed in 27.9% of Orange County births. This percentage was higher than that for California (26.8%) and the United States (26.0%).
- First Cesarean deliveries accounted for 16.2% of Orange County births, compared to 15.7% of California births and 15.8% of United States births.
- The Healthy People 2010 goal for first Cesarean deliveries is 15.0%.
- Repeat Cesarean deliveries accounted for 11.7% of Orange County births, compared to 11.1% of California births and 10.2% of United States births.
- The principal sources of payment for delivery among Orange County mothers were HMO/Private (59.0%) and Medi-Cal (38.5%).
- The percent of Orange County Medi-Cal funded deliveries (38.5%) was 15.0% lower than the percent among California mothers (45.3%).
- In Orange County, the percent of Medi-Cal funded deliveries differed markedly among the major racial/ethnic groups. The highest percentage of deliveries funded by Medi-Cal was among Hispanic mothers (63.4%), and the lowest percentage was among White mothers (10.5%).

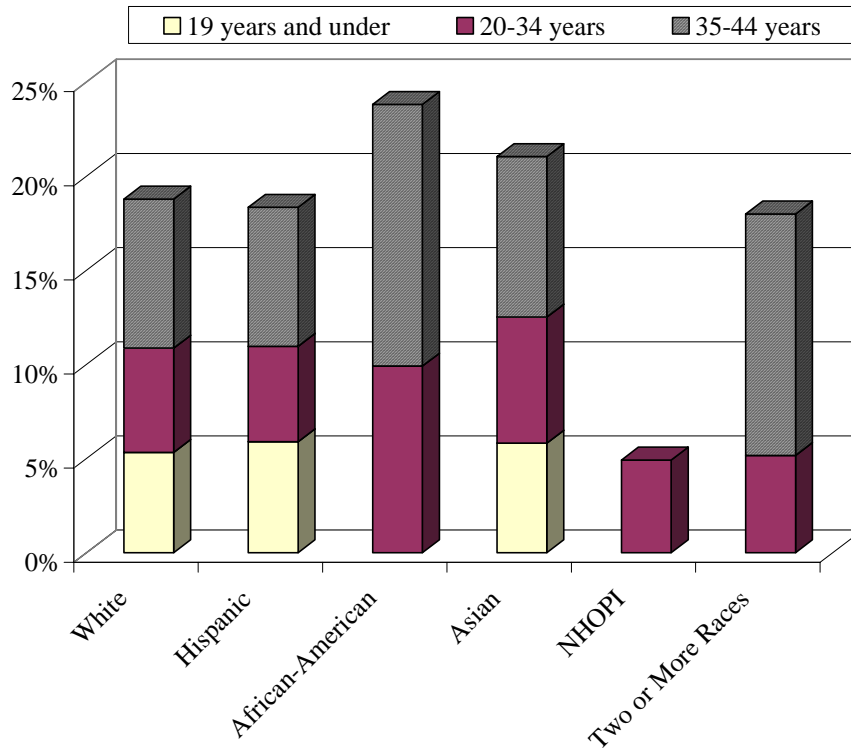
LOW BIRTHWEIGHT

- In 2002, the Orange County low birthweight (less than 2,500 grams or 5 pounds, 8 ounces) rate was 60.5 per 1,000 live births (a 3.2% increase from the rate of 58.6 per 1,000 live births in 2001).
- The Orange County rate was 5.5% lower than the California rate of 64.0 and 22.5% lower than the United States rate of 78.1.
- The United States rate represents the highest percentage of low birthweight births reported in more than 30 years.
- These levels exceed the Healthy People 2010 goal of 50.0 per 1,000 live births.
- The low birthweight rate is influenced by age of mother (with the highest risk for the youngest and oldest mothers), as well as the rise in multiple births.

2002 BIRTH OUTCOMES FACT SHEET

- Recent research suggests that singletons conceived with assisted-reproductive technology, which account for an increasing number of births, are at greater risk of low birthweight than those conceived spontaneously (Schieve LA, Meikle SF, Ferre C, et al. Low and very low birthweight in infants conceived with use of assisted reproductive technology. NEJM 346(10):731–7. 2002).
- The percent of low birthweight Orange County infants by age and race/ethnicity of the mother is shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5. Percent Low Birthweight by Age and Race/Ethnicity of Mother, Orange County Residents, 2002




Note: NHOPI is Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Percent is not calculated for fewer than five events.

American Indian/Alaskan Native race/ethnicity category is not shown due to only 4 low birthweight births in this population.

Source: County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment

Sources:

- County of Orange Health Care Agency, Epidemiology & Assessment, 2005.
- State of California, Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics of California 2002. .
- Kochanek KD, Murphy SL, Anderson RN, et al. Deaths: Final Data for 2002. National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 5. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 2004.

	County of Orange Health Care Agency	
	Epidemiology & Assessment	
	1719 W. 17 th St.	
	P.O. Box 6128	
	Santa Ana, CA 92706	
	Phone: (714) 834-8180	
	Fax: (714) 834-8196	
	Website: http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi	