

Reproductive | Health

2009 Update

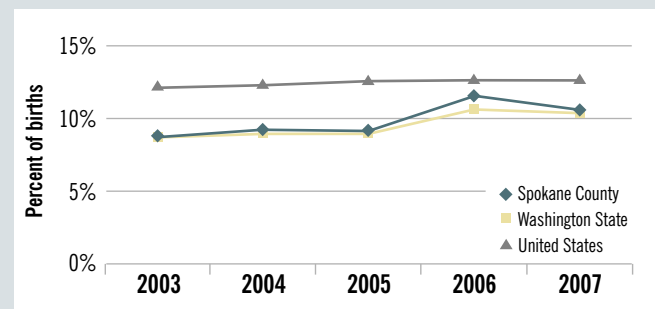
This indicator is 1 of 44 Spokane Counts indicators found at www.srhd.org/SpokaneCounts

Preterm Birth

Preterm births are measured by the percent of births with an estimated gestational age of less than 37 weeks. Preterm births are a leading cause of infant mortality. Although medical advances have helped to improve infant survival, these infants are at a higher risk for respiratory, gastrointestinal, immune system, central nervous system, hearing, and vision problems.^{1,2}

In Spokane County, 1 out of 10 births was preterm. There was no significant change in the proportion of preterm births from 2003 to 2007. Spokane County had a rate of preterm births in 2007 similar to that in Washington State, but significantly lower than in the U.S.

Preterm Birth



Source: Washington State Department of Health; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

There was no difference in preterm birth by age, income, education level, or race.

Indicator: Preterm Birth

Percent
(95% Confidence Interval)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
Total	Spokane County	10.9% (10.1, 11.9)	10.5% (9.7, 11.4)	10.6% (9.8, 11.5)	11.6% (10.8, 12.5)	10.7% (9.9, 11.5)
	Washington State	10.0% (9.8, 10.2)	10.0% (9.8, 10.2)	10.3% (10.1, 10.5)	10.7% (10.5, 10.9)	10.4% (10.2, 10.6)
	National	12.3%	12.5%	12.7%	12.8%	12.7%
Age Group (years)	15-17	11.9% (7.5, 18.3)	9.7% (5.8, 15.8)	15.3% (9.8, 22.9)	12.3% (7.6, 19.4)	9.8% (5.5, 16.9)
	18-19	11.5% (8.7, 15.1)	8.6% (6.0, 12.0)	10.3% (7.6, 13.9)	11.7% (8.9, 15.3)	10.6% (7.9, 14.0)
	20-24	11.1% (9.6, 12.7)	9.9% (8.5, 11.4)	9.8% (8.5, 11.4)	11.0% (9.6, 12.6)	9.9% (8.6, 11.4)
	25-29	9.5% (8.2, 11.1)	10.8% (9.3, 12.4)	10.8% (9.4, 12.4)	12.1% (10.7, 13.7)	10.0% (8.7, 11.4)
	30-34	11.9% (10.2, 13.9)	10.2% (8.6, 12.0)	9.8% (8.2, 11.7)	10.7% (9.0, 12.5)	11.8% (10.1, 13.8)
	35-39	10.9% (8.4, 14.1)	12.2% (9.7, 15.4)	11.9% (9.5, 15.0)	12.1% (9.7, 15.1)	12.9% (10.4, 15.9)
	40-44	15.6% (10.4, 22.7)	17.0% (11.2, 24.8)	16.2% (10.5, 24.3)	15.9% (10.6, 23.2)	11.2% (6.5, 18.7)
Income	Medicaid	11.9% (10.5, 13.5)	10.9% (9.7, 12.2)	11.7% (10.5, 13.0)	13.0% (11.8, 14.3)	10.9% (9.7, 12.2)
	Non-Medicaid	10.2% (9.2, 11.2)	10.2% (9.2, 11.3)	9.6% (8.6, 10.7)	10.3% (9.2, 11.4)	10.0% (9.0, 11.1)
Education	Less than high school	13.5% (11.1, 16.4)	9.4% (7.4, 11.9)	13.9% (11.4, 16.9)	14.5% (12.1, 17.3)	13.2% (10.8, 15.9)
	High school graduate	12.0% (10.4, 13.7)	11.1% (9.6, 12.9)	11.0% (9.5, 12.7)	12.0% (10.5, 13.7)	10.1% (8.7, 11.7)
	Some college	10.5% (9.2, 11.9)	10.7% (9.5, 12.2)	9.2% (8.1, 10.6)	11.6% (10.3, 13.0)	11.0% (9.8, 12.3)
	4+ yrs college, graduate	9.0% (7.6, 10.7)	10.1% (8.6, 11.8)	10.4% (8.9, 12.2)	9.9% (8.5, 11.5)	9.7% (8.3, 11.3)
Race	White	10.6% (9.7, 11.5)	10.4% (9.6, 11.3)	10.2% (9.4, 11.0)	11.3% (10.4, 12.1)	10.7% (9.9, 11.5)
	Black	13.8% (8.6, 21.3)	9.7% (5.5, 16.7)	16.4% (10.8, 24.1)	19.7% (13.7, 27.5)	7.1% (3.8, 13.2)
	Native American/Alaska Native	10.4% (6.2, 16.8)	12.5% (8.0, 19.0)	15.9% (11.0, 22.3)	16.1% (11.4, 22.2)	7.8% (4.7, 12.8)
	Asian/Pacific Islander	17.7% (12.5, 24.5)	6.6% (3.6, 11.8)	13.2% (8.9, 19.1)	13.9% (9.9, 19.3)	13.4% (9.3, 19.1)

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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1. Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Sutton PD et al. Births: Final data for 2004. National vital statistics reports; vol 55 no 1. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2006.

2. Institute of Medicine. Preterm Birth: Causes, Consequences, and Prevention. Report Brief. July 2006. <http://www.iom.edu/Object.File/Master/35/975/pretermbirth.pdf> . Accessed 09/21/07