



Late or No Prenatal Care Utilization Clark County and Washington State, 1997 through 2006

Why it matters:

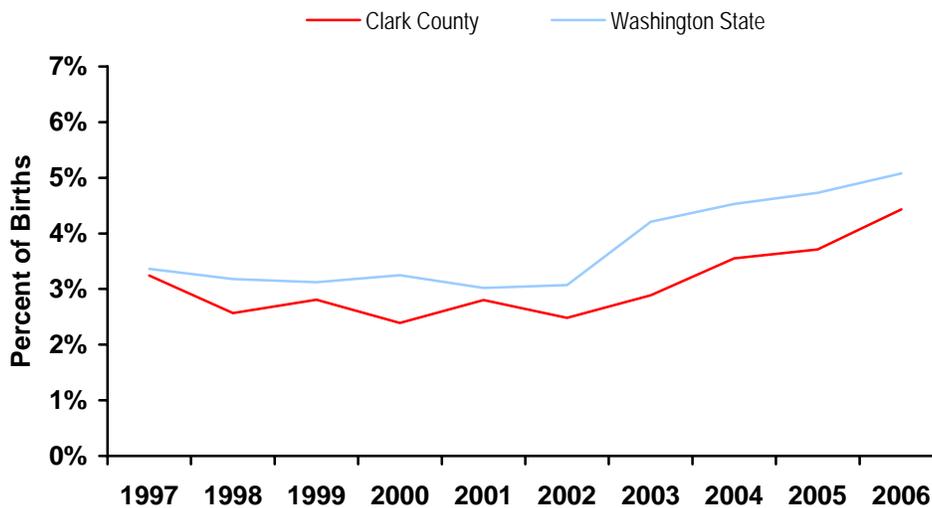
Prenatal care (PNC) throughout pregnancy increases opportunities for improving the long-term health of mothers and their infants, thereby promoting a healthier society and lower financial burden to families and taxpayers.¹ Women who begin PNC late in pregnancy, such as after the sixth month, are at greater risk for poor pregnancy outcomes.¹

Status:

- In Clark County, 4.4% of births were to women who received late or no prenatal care in 2006.^{2,3}
- Clark County's rate of women who received late or no prenatal care increased from 2002 to 2006.^{2,3}
- Recently, the percent of women in Clark County who received late or no prenatal care was significantly lower than for Washington State until 2006.^{2,3}

What we can do:

- Support programs that remove financial obstacles to women's access to early prenatal care.¹
- Support culturally appropriate prenatal care services.¹
- Support efforts to ensure an adequate supply and geographic distribution of diverse providers to provide prenatal care.¹
- Promote and support women's participation in Family Planning clinics, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and Maternity Support Services (MSS). Participation in these programs increases the likelihood of receiving timely and adequate prenatal care.^{4,5,6}



Year	Clark County			Washington State		
	% with Late or No PNC	95% CI*	Number	% with Late or No PNC	95% CI*	Number
1997	3.2	(2.8, 3.8)	160	3.4	(3.2, 3.5)	2,385
1998	2.6	(2.2, 3.1)	131	3.2	(3.1, 3.3)	2,284
1999	2.8	(2.4, 3.3)	145	3.1	(3.0, 3.3)	2,243
2000	2.4	(2.0, 2.8)	129	3.3	(3.1, 3.4)	2,429
2001	2.8	(2.4, 3.3)	149	3.0	(2.9, 3.2)	2,208
2002	2.5	(2.1, 2.9)	130	3.1	(3.0, 3.2)	2,214
2003	2.9	(2.5, 3.4)	152	4.2	(4.1, 4.4)	2,744
2004	3.6	(3.1, 4.1)	195	4.5	(4.4, 4.7)	3,040
2005	3.7	(3.2, 4.3)	207	4.7	(4.6, 4.9)	3,264
2006	4.4	(3.9, 5.0)	254	5.1	(4.9, 5.3)	3,855

*If two confidence intervals overlap, there is generally no significant difference between these rates. Please see reverse side for technical notes and sources.





Sources: (1) Washington State Department of Health. (July 2002) *The Health of Washington State. Prenatal Care*. Olympia, WA. Retrieved January 2008 from <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hws/HWS2002.htm>. (2) *Vital Registration System, Annual Statistics Files, Births 1980-2006*. [Data file]. Olympia, WA: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. (3) Public Health: Seattle & King County, Epidemiology, Planning, & Evaluation. (1991-2008). *VistaPHW 7.3.0.4, 2008* [Computer software for public health assessment]. Seattle, WA. (4) Jamieson D. & Bhescher P. (1992, September/October). The effect of family planning participation on prenatal care use and low birth weight. *Family Planning Perspectives*, 24 (5), 214-218. (5) Rush D. et al. (1988). Historical study of pregnancy outcomes. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 48, 412-28. (6) Farow D., Baldwin L., Cawthon M.L., & Connell F. (1996). The impact of extended maternity services on prenatal care use among Medicaid women. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 12 (2), 103-107.



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