

HEALTHY START OF SOUTHERN OREGON

**RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES
IN PERINATAL HEALTH OUTCOMES**

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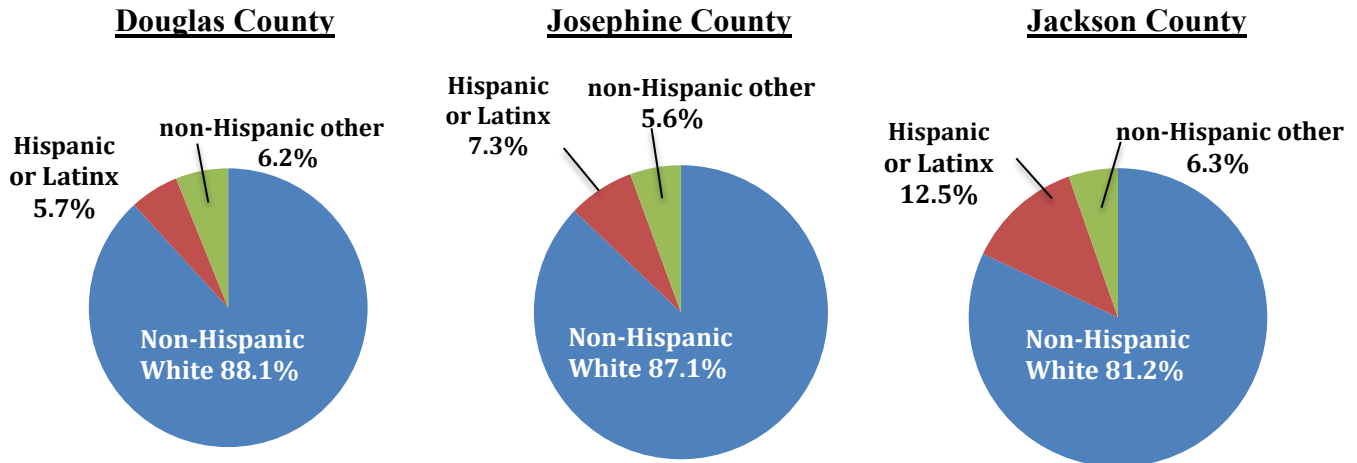
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Demographics of Southern Oregon

Over the past ten years, there has been a rapid increase in diversity in Southern Oregon. The community of color is growing, especially the Hispanic/Latinx population, which is the largest ethnic minority population in the region. The second largest ethnic minority population in the region is Native American, from the Umpqua, Coos, Siletz, Siuslaw, Cow Creek, Modoc, Coquille and Klamath tribes.

Southern Oregon Population Distribution by Race and Hispanic or Latinx Origin



Source: US Census Bureau, 2014-2018, American Community Survey 5-year estimates

Hispanic or Latinx identity can encompass and include multiple races. In the pie-chart above:

- **Hispanic or Latinx** refers to individual of *any* race who report Hispanic origin/Latinx identity
- **Non-Hispanic White** refers to individuals who report that their race is *White alone*
- **Non-Hispanic other** includes individuals who report that their race is either one non-white race alone, or two or more races

The “Other” category in the pie chart above includes the following:

Detail of “Other” Category	Douglas	Josephine	Jackson
	Percent	Percent	Percent

Two or More Races	3.6%	3.1%	3.0%
Am Indian/Alaska Native Alone	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%
Asian Alone	1.1%	1.0%	1.3%
Black /African American Alone	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%
Nat Hawaii/Pac Islander Alone	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
Some other race alone	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Total Other	6.2%*	5.6%	6.3%*

*Note, slight adjustment to total due to rounding of percentages for categories

Population Distribution by Race/Ethnicity – Douglas, Josephine, Jackson County

Population Distribution by Race/Ethnicity	Douglas		Josephine		Jackson	
	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate
Total Population	100%	108,323	100%	85,481	100%	214,267
Non-Hispanic White	88.1%	95,400	87.1%	74,478	81.2%	174,091
Hispanic or Latino/a/x	5.7%	6,130	7.3%	6,246	12.5%	26,989
Am Indian/Alaska Native*	4.0%	4,378	3.5%	2,983	4.0%	4,312
Asian*	1.8%	1,945	1.6%	1,389	2.4%	5,053
Black /African American*	0.8%	829	0.9%	804	1.4%	2,946
Nat Hawaii/Pac Islander*	0.4%	402	0.3%	265	0.7%	1,451
Some other Race*	0.8%	901	2.0%	1,707	1.7%	3,741

Source: US Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

* These categories include individuals of one race or in combination with one or more race

Between three and four percent of the region’s population is multi-racial. The younger population in the region is more diverse than the older population, and the region’s community of color is expected to grow over the next decade. The proportion of total births that are to non-white mothers in the region illustrates this demographic shift.

Percent of Live Births to Minority Race/Ethnicity* - Jackson, Josephine Counties

*Includes nonwhite race and Hispanic ethnicity

County	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Oregon	31.4%	31.2%	31%	31.7%	31.6%	31.6%	32.8%
Douglas Co	12.1%	10.7%	13.5%	12.3%	12.4%	11.5%	11.5%
Josephine Co	15.9%	16.2%	15.7%	17.5%	13.5%	16.3%	15.9%
Jackson Co	24.9%	27.2%	26.1%	27.2%	26.2%	28.9%	28.5%

Source: OHA, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

Josephine and Jackson County in particular, have a higher proportion of births to non-white mothers in comparison to the demographic population distribution of the county.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes

There are racial and ethnic disparities in pregnancy and birth outcomes in the United States. Nationally, non-white mothers have higher rates of maternal mortality and morbidity, pre-term births, low birth weight, and infant mortalities. These same disparities exist in Southern Oregon.

Because of the small population size of communities of color in Southern Oregon, there are challenges in gathering accurate, local data disaggregated by race and ethnicity. Calculating rates using small sample sizes is problematic and may yield misleading results. Disaggregating infant mortality data by race and ethnicity is particularly challenging due to the small relative number of occurrences, and challenges accessing county-level infant death data broken out by race/ethnicity.

Disparities in Pre-Term Birth Rates

Because low birth weight and preterm births are significant predisposing factors for infant mortality, disaggregating this birth data by race and ethnicity can shed light on likely infant mortality disparities in our region. Even with the relatively much larger numbers of low birthweight and pre-term births, there are still small sample sizes of fewer than five for some racial and ethnic groups, particularly in Douglas and Josephine counties. One strategy to improve the accuracy of disaggregated data for smaller sub-groups is to use pooled data sets. Below find both three-year and six-year averages by county:

Pre-Term Births (<37 weeks) by Race/Ethnicity – Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Douglas County 2012-2014			Douglas County 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	pre-term births	3-year rate	total births	pre-term births	3-year rate	6-year pre-term birth rate
White	2869	224	7.81%	2876	228	7.93%	7.87%
Hispanic	213	15	7.04%	201	19	9.45%	8.21%
Black	7	2*	28.57%*	14	4*	28.57%*	28.57%
Am Ind/Al Nat	33	0	0	38	4*	10.53%*	5.63%*
Asian	33	4*	12.12%*	36	4*	11.11%*	11.59%
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	9	0	0	2	1*	50.0%*	9.09%*
Multiple race	97	9	9.28%	91	5	5.49%	7.45%
Other/unknown	6	0	-	3	1	-	-
Total Douglas Co	3267	254	7.77%	3261	266	8.16%	7.97%

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall & white rate

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Pre-Term Births (<37 weeks) by Race/Ethnicity – Josephine County

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine County 2012-2014			Josephine County 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	pre-term births	3-year pre-term birth rate	total births	pre-term births	3-year pre-term birth rate	6-year pre-term birth rate
White	2102	175	8.33%	2215	188	8.49%	8.41%

Hispanic	234	16	6.84%	219	27	12.33%	9.49%
Black	5	2*	40%*	8	0	0	15.4%*
Am Ind/Al Nat	32	3*	9.38%*	29	3*	10.34%*	9.84%
Asian	30	1*	3.33%*	33	3*	9.09%*	6.35%*
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	3	0	0	4	0	0	0
Multiple race	102	9	8.82%	90	6	6.67%	7.81%
Other/unknown	16	3	-	15	3	-	-
Total Josephine Co	2524	209	8.28%	2613	230	8.80%	8.56%

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall & white rate

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Pre-Term Births (<37 weeks) by Race/Ethnicity – Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Jackson County 2012-2014			Jackson County 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	pre-term births	3-year pre-term birth rate	total births	pre-term births	3-year pre-term birth rate	6-year pre-term birth rate
White	5012	397	7.92%	5008	422	8.43%	8.17%
Hispanic	1316	123	9.35%	1375	123	8.95%	9.14%
Black	36	3*	8.33%*	31	5	16.13%	11.94%
Am Ind/Al Nat	100	13	13.0%	50	2*	4.0%*	10.0%
Asian	99	12	12.12%	116	13	11.21%	11.63%
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	14	1*	7.14%*	33	3*	9.09%*	8.51%*
Multiple race	224	20	8.93%	284	29	10.21%	9.65%
Other/unknown	94	14	-	46	6	-	-
Total Jackson Co	6895	583	8.46%	6943	603	8.69%	8.57%

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall & white rate

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

To produce an even larger sample size, and potentially more accurate trend data, we have combined six-year pooled data from Douglas and Josephine counties. Since Jackson County has a larger sample size, and more differences in its demographics, Jackson County's racial and ethnic data will not be pooled with Douglas and Josephine Counties.

Six-Year Pre-Term Birth Rate (<37 weeks) by Race/Ethnicity Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017		
	total births	pre-term births	6-year pre-term birth rate

White	10,062	815	8.10%
Hispanic	867	77	8.88%
Black	34	8	23.53%
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	10	7.58%
Asian	132	12	9.09%
Nat Haw/Pac Islr	18	1*	5.56%*
Multiple race	380	29	7.63%
Other/unknown	40	7	-
Total Josephine and Douglas	11,665	959	8.22%

Red indicates elevated rate in comparison to overall & white rate

Source: OHA, [Center for Health Statistics, medical characteristics of birth by race/ethnicity](#)

The six-year disaggregated pre-term data suggests a racial/ethnic disparity in pre-term birth rates in Southern Oregon for women of color, particularly for women who identify as Hispanic/Latinx, African American/Black, and Asian. This mirrors national disparity data for women of color.

Disparities in Low-Birth Weight Rates

The same data pooling strategies are used to disaggregate birthweight data by race and ethnicity:

Low Birth Weight Rates (<2500 grams) by Race/Ethnicity – Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Douglas - 2012-2014			Douglas - 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	LBW births	3-year LBW rate	total births	LBW births	3-year LBW rate	6-year LBW rate
White	2869	190	6.62%	2876	198	6.88%	6.75%
Hispanic	213	13	6.10%	201	20	9.95%	7.97%
Black	7	2*	28.57%*	14	4*	28.57%*	28.57%
Am Ind/Al Nat	33	1*	3.03%*	38	3*	7.89%*	5.63%*
Asian	33	1	3.03%	36	5	13.89%	8.70%
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	9	0	0	2	1*	50.0%*	9.09%*
Multiple race	97	6	6.19%	91	4*	4.40%*	5.32%
Other/unknown	6	1	-	3	1	-	-
Total Douglas Co	3267	214	6.55%	3261	236	7.24%	6.89%

Low Birth Weight Rates (<2500 grams) by Race/Ethnicity – Josephine County

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine - 2012-2014			Josephine - 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	LBW births	3-year LBW rate	total births	LBW births	3-year LBW rate	6-year LBW rate
White	2102	118	5.61%	2215	161	7.27%	6.46%
Hispanic	234	16	6.84%	219	20	9.13%	7.95%
Black	5	0	0	8	0	0	0
Am Ind/Al Nat	32	1*	3.13%*	29	2*	6.90%*	4.92%*
Asian	30	1*	3.33%*	33	2*	6.06%*	4.76%*

Nat Haw/Pac Islander	3	0	0	4	0	0	0
Multiple race	102	7	6.86%	90	9	10.0%	8.33%
Other/unknown	16	5	-	15	3	-	-
Total Josephine Co	2524	148	5.86%	2613	197	7.54%	6.72%

Low Birth Weight Rates (<2500 grams) by Race/Ethnicity – Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Jackson - 2012-2014			Jackson - 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	LBW births	3-year LBW rate	total births	LBW births	3-year LBW rate	6-year LBW rate
White	5012	302	6.03%	5008	350	6.99%	6.51%
Hispanic	1316	90	6.84%	1375	95	6.91%	6.87%
Black	36	3*	8.33%*	31	5	16.13%	11.94%
Am Ind/Al Nat	100	13	13.0%	50	0	0	8.67%
Asian	99	11	11.11%	116	10	8.62%	9.77%
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	14	1*	7.14%*	33	1*	3.03%*	4.26%*
Multiple race	224	18	8.04%	284	16	5.63%	6.69%
Other/unknown	94	11	-	46	4	-	-
Total Jackson Co	6895	449	6.51%	6943	481	6.93%	6.72%

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall & white rate

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Source: OHA, [Center for Health Statistics, medical characteristics of birth by race/ethnicity](#)

Once again, to produce an even larger sample size, and potentially more accurate trend data, we have combined six-year pooled low birth weight data from Douglas and Josephine Counties.

**Six-Year Low Birth Weight Rates (<2500 grams) by Race/Ethnicity
Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017**

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017		
	total births	low birth weight births	6-year LBW rate
White	10,062	667	6.63%
Hispanic	867	69	7.96%
Black	34	6	17.65%
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	7	5.30%
Asian	132	9	6.82%
Nat Haw/Pac Islr	18	1*	5.56%*
Multiple race	380	29	7.63%
Other/unknown	40	10	-
Total Josephine and Douglas	11,665	795	6.82%

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall & white rate

Source: OHA, [Center for Health Statistics, medical characteristics of birth by race/ethnicity](#)

The six-year disaggregated low birthweight data suggests a racial/ethnic for women of color, however there appear to be differences between Jackson County, in comparison with Josephine and Douglas County. All three counties show birth weight disparities for women who identify as African American/Black. While Jackson County data suggests that the birthweight disparity has narrowed significantly between Hispanic/Latinx and White births, Josephine and Douglas county data suggest continuing birthweight disparities for births to Hispanic/Latinx women. Jackson

County birthweight data shows disparities for women who identify as Native American/Alaska Native and as Asian, with less clear trends in Josephine and Douglas County, though this may be a factor of small sample size.

Risk Factors Linked to Poorer Birth Outcomes: Smoking, Age of Mother

Several health factors have been linked to poorer birth outcomes. These include tobacco use during pregnancy, births to mothers younger than 18 years, and births to mothers older than 40 years. Below find Southern Oregon data on these health factors, broken down by race and ethnicity, using pooled six-year data to increase sample size.

Tobacco Use During Pregnancy by Race/Ethnicity – Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Douglas - 2012-2014			Douglas - 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	tobacco use	3-year average	total births	tobacco use	3-year average	6-year average
White	2869	711	24.8%	2876	598	20.8%	22.8%
Hispanic	213	33	15.5%	201	29	14.4%	15.0%
Black	7	-	-	14	2*	14.3%*	9.5%*
Am Ind/Al Nat	33	5	15.2%	38	11	29.0%	22.5%
Asian	33	-	-	36	1*	2.8%*	1.4%*
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	9	3*	33.3%*	2	-	-	27.3%*
Multiple race	97	33	34.0%	91	18	19.8%	27.1%
Other/unknown	6	1	-	3	1	-	-
Total Douglas	3267	786	24.1%	3261	660	20.2%	22.2%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall and white rate

Tobacco Use During Pregnancy by Race/Ethnicity – Josephine County

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine - 2012-2014			Josephine - 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	tobacco use	3-year average	total births	tobacco use	3-year average	6-year average
White	2102	499	23.7%	2215	460	20.8%	22.2%
Hispanic	234	35	15.0%	219	23	10.5%	12.8%
Black	5	-	-	8	-	-	-
Am Ind/Al Nat	32	7	21.9%	29	5	17.2%	19.7%
Asian	30	2*	6.7%*	33	1*	3.0%*	4.8%*
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	3	-	-	4	-	-	-
Multiple race	102	28	27.5%	90	24	26.7%	27.1%
Other/unknown	16	-	-	15	3	-	-
Total Josephine	2524	571	22.6%	2613	516	19.7%	21.2%

Tobacco Use During Pregnancy by Race/Ethnicity – Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Jackson - 2012-2014-			Jackson – 2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	tobacco use	3-year average	total births	tobacco use	3-year average	6-year average
White	5012	790	15.8%	5008	792	15.8%	15.8%
Hispanic	1316	70	5.4%	1375	69	5.0%	5.2%
Black	36	11	30.6%	31	3*	9.7%*	20.9%

Am Ind/Al Nat	100	30	30.0%	50	7	14%	24.7%
Asian	99	1*	1.0%*	116	1*	0.9%*	0.9%*
Nat Haw/Pac Islander	14	1*	7.1%*	33	4*	12.1%*	10.6%
Multiple race	224	47	21.0%	284	51	18.0%	19.3%
Other/unknown	94	13	-	46	4	-	-
Total Jackson	6895	963	14.0%	6943	931	13.4%	13.7%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall and white rate

Source: Oregon Data: OHA, [Center for Health Statistics](#), [medical characteristics of birth by race/ethnicity](#)

Below is combined six-year pooled low tobacco use data from Douglas and Josephine Counties:

Six-Year Tobacco Use During Pregnancy by Race/Ethnicity Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017		
	total births	Tobacco use	6-year rate
White	10,062	2268	22.5%
Hispanic	867	120	13.8%
Black	34	2*	5.9%*
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	26	19.7%
Asian	132	4*	3.0%*
Nat Haw/Pac Islr	18	3*	16.7%*
Multiple race	380	103	27.1%
Other/unknown	40	7	-
Total	11,665	2533	21.7%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall and white rate

Source: Oregon Data: OHA, [Center for Health Statistics](#), [medical characteristics of birth by race/ethnicity](#)

The rates of tobacco use during pregnancy for white women are markedly higher in Josephine and Douglas counties, compared to Jackson County. Jackson County shows racial/ethnic disparities for Black/African American, Native American, and multiracial women. Smoking rates during pregnancy are lowest for Hispanic/Latinx and Asian women. In Josephine and Douglas counties, the highest rates of smoking during pregnancy are among multi-racial women.

Racial and ethnic disparities in percent of total births to younger mothers

Both extremes of the reproductive age are considered at risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes. Teenage mothers have a higher risk of preterm birth, low birth weight, low Apgar score, and postnatal mortality.

Percent of Total Births to Mothers Younger than 18 by Race/Ethnicity – Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Three-year averages Douglas - 2012-2014			Three-year averages Douglas 2015-2017			Six-year 2012-2017
	total births	Births by age of mother		total births	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 10-17
		10-14	15-17		10-14	15-17	
White	2869		58	2876	1	36	1.29%
Hispanic	213		5	201		3*	1.49% *
Black	7		-	14		-	0%

Am Ind/Al Nat	33		1*	3.03%*	38		1*	2.63%*	2.82%*
Asian	33		-	-	36		-	-	0%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	9		-	-	2		-	-	0%
Multiple race	97		3*	3.09%*	91		1*	1.10%*	2.13%*
Other/unknown	6		-	-	3		-	-	-
Total Douglas	3267	0	67	2.05%	3261	1	41	1.29%	1.7%

Percent of Total Births to Mothers Younger than 18 by Race/Ethnicity –Josephine County

Race/Ethnicity	Three-year averages Josephine - 2012-2014				Three-year averages Josephine - 2015-2017				Six-year 2012- 2017
	total births	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 10-17	total births	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 10-17	% of births to ages 10-17
		10-14	15-17			10-14	15-17		
White	2102	1	48	2.33%	2215	1	30	1.40%	1.85%
Hispanic	234		6	2.56%	219		8	3.65%	3.09%
Black	5		-	-	8		1*	1.3%*	7.69%*
Am Ind/Al Nat	32		1*	3.13%*	29		-	-	1.64%*
Asian	30		-	-	33		-	-	0%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	3		-	-	4		-	-	0%
Multiple race	102	2	1*	2.94%*	90		2*	2.22%*	2.08%*
Other/unknown	16		-	-	15		-	-	-
Total Josephine	2524	3	56	2.34%	2613	1	41	1.61%	1.97%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall and white rate

Percent of Total Births to Mothers Younger than 18 by Race/Ethnicity –Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Three-year averages Jackson - 2012-2014				Three-year averages Jackson - 2015-2017				Six-year 2012-2017
	total births	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 10-17	total births	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 10-17	% of births to ages 10-17
		10-14	15-17			10-14	15-17		
White	5012	2	83	1.70%	5008	1	55	1.12%	1.40%
Hispanic	1316	3	43	3.50%	1375		27	1.96%	2.71%
Black	36		-	-	31		-	-	0%
Am Ind/Al Nat	100		3*	3.00%*	50		3*	6.00%*	4.00%
Asian	99		1*	1.01%*	116		-	-	0.47%*
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	14		-	-	33		-	-	0%
Multiple race	224	1	2*	1.33%*	284		5	1.76%	1.57%
Other/unknown	94		2	-	46		-	-	-

Total Jackson	6895	6	134	2.03%	6943	1	90	1.31%	1.67%
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**Six-Year Averages –Percent of Total Births to Mothers Younger than 18 by Race/Ethnicity
Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017**

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017		
	total births	Births 10-17	6-year average - % of births to ages 10-17
White	10,062	175	1.74%
Hispanic	867	22	2.54%
Black	34	1*	2.94%*
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	3*	2.27%*
Asian	132	-	0
Nat Haw/Pac Islr	18	-	0
Multiple race	380	8	2.11%
Other/unknown	40	-	-
Total	11,665	210	1.80%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable

Red indicates elevated rate, in comparison to overall and white rate

There is a higher proportion of births to very young mothers among the Hispanic/Latinx and Native American/Alaska Native population in Southern Oregon, while among Asian and White women there is a lower proportion of births to very young mothers.

Racial and ethnic disparities in percent of total births to older mothers

Delayed childbearing, especially births to mothers over the age of 40, carries a higher risk of maternal and obstetric complications. The majority of studies report an association between advanced maternal age and preterm delivery, low birth weight, perinatal death and cesarean sections. Below find Southern Oregon data on maternal age, broken down by race and ethnicity.

[Lodera et al, BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth, 2019](#)

Percent of Total Births to Mothers Older than 40 by Race/Ethnicity – Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Three-year averages Douglas - 2012-2014			Three-year averages Douglas - 2015-2017			Six-year 2012- 2017		
	total births	Births by age of mother		total births	Births by age of mother			% of births to ages 40+	
		40- 44	45+		40- 44	45+			
White	2869	35	3	1.32%	2876	43	2	1.57%	1.44%
Hispanic	213	3	2	2.35%	201	4	-	1.88%*	2.17%
Black	7	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	0
Am Ind/Al Nat	33	-	-	-	38	-	-	-	0
Asian	33	3	-	9.09%*	36	3	-	9.09%*	8.70%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	9	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	0

Multiple race	97	-	-		91	-	-		0
Other/unknown	6	-	-		3	-	-		-
Total Douglas	3267	41	5	1.41%	3261	50	2	1.62%	1.50%

Percent of Total Births to Mothers Older than 40 by Race/Ethnicity –Josephine County

Race/Ethnicity	Three-year averages Josephine - 2012-2014				Three-year averages Josephine - 2015-2017				Six-year 2012- 2017
	total birth s	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 40+	total birth s	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 40+	% of births to ages 40+
		40- 44	45+			40-44	45+		
White	2102	44	6	2.34%	2215	50	5	2.48%	2.43%
Hispanic	234	6	-	2.56%	219	6	-	2.74%	2.64%
Black	5	-	-	-	8	-	-	0	0
Am Ind/Al Nat	32	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	0
Asian	30	2*	-	6.67% *	33	3*	-	9.09% *	7.94%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	0
Multiple race	102	3*	-	2.94% *	90	2*	-	2.22%*	2.60%
Other/unknown	16	1	-	-	15	1	-	-	-
Total Josephine	2524	56	6	2.46%	2613	62	5	2.56%	2.51%

Percent of Total Births to Mothers Older than 40 by Race/Ethnicity –Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Three-year averages Jackson - 2012-2014				Three-year averages Jackson - 2015-2017				Six-year 2012- 2017
	total birth s	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 40+	total birth s	Births by age of mother		% of births to ages 40+	% of births to ages 40+
		40- 44	45+			40-44	45+		
White	5012	109	7	2.31%	5008	108	5	2.26%	2.29%
Hispanic	1316	22	1	1.67%	1375	46	2	3.49%	2.64%
Black	36	-	-	-	31	4*	-	12.9% *	5.97%*
Am Ind/Al Nat	100	2	-	2.00%*	50	2*	-	4.00% *	2.67%*
Asian	99	5	-	5.05%	116	4*	-	3.45% *	4.19%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	14	-	-	-	33	-	-	-	0
Multiple race	224	10	1	4.91%	284	6	1	2.46%	3.54%
Other/unknown	94	7	1	-	46	1	-	-	-
Total Jackson	6895	155	10	2.39%	6943	171	8	2.58%	2.49%

*rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable – *Red indicates elevated rate in comparison to overall and white rate*

Source: Oregon Public Health Authority, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

**Six-Year Averages –Percent of Total Births to Mothers Older than 40 by Race/Ethnicity
Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017**

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017
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	total births	Births to ages 40+	6-year average - % of births to ages 40+
White	10,062	188	1.87%
Hispanic	867	21	2.42%
Black	34	-	0
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	-	0
Asian	132	11	8.33%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	18	-	0
Multiple race	380	5	1.32%
Other/unknown	40	2	-
Total	11,665	227	1.95%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable – *Red indicates elevated rate in comparison to overall and white rate*
 Source: Oregon Public Health Authority, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

The highest proportion of births to older mothers in Southern Oregon is among the Asian population, while among White women, there is a lower proportion of births to older mothers. Jackson County shows higher proportions of births to older women of color, though sample size for some racial/ethnic groups is small, even with six-year pooling.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Prenatal Care During the First Trimester

Timely access to prenatal care is an important determinant of birth outcome. The percentage of low birthweight infants is much higher for women who start prenatal care after the first trimester. First trimester care is defined as care that begins in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. Mother’s race/ethnicity, residence, marital status, education and age continue to influence rates of accessing prenatal care. The highest percentage of inadequate care is found among unmarried women, women with less education, women who are young, and women of color.

Percent that Started Prenatal Care in First Trimester by Race/Ethnicity–Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Douglas County - 2012-2014			Douglas County – 2015-2017			Douglas County 2012-2017
	total births	care in 1 st trimester	3-year average	total births	care in 1 st trimester	3-year average	6-year average
White	2869	2314	80.7%	2876	2377	82.6%	81.7%
Hispanic	213	166	77.9%	201	152	75.6%	76.8%
Black	7	7	100%	14	14	100%	100%
Am Ind/Al Nat	33	26	78.8%	38	25	65.8%	71.8%
Asian	33	26	78.8%	36	32	88.9%	84.1%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	9	8	88.9%	2	1*	50%*	81.8%
Multiple race	97	77	79.4%	91	74	81.3%	80.3%
Other/unknown	6	3	-	3	2	-	-
Total Douglas	3267	2627	80.4%	3261	2677	82.1%	81.3%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable – *Red indicates lower rate in comparison to overall and white rate*
 Source: Oregon Public Health Authority, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

Percent that Started Prenatal Care in First Trimester by Race/Ethnicity–Josephine Co

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine County -	Josephine County –	Josephine County
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	2012-2014			2015-2017			2012-2017
	total births	care in 1 st trimester	3-year average	total births	care in 1 st trimester	3-year average	6-year average
White	2102	1651	78.5%	2215	1751	79.1%	78.8%
Hispanic	234	168	71.8%	219	170	77.6%	74.6%
Black	5	2*	40.0%	8	6	75.0%	61.5%
Am Ind/Al Nat	32	20	62.5%	29	20	69.0%	65.6%
Asian	30	22	73.3%	33	26	78.8%	76.2%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	3	2*	66.7%	4	3*	75.0% *	71.4%
Multiple race	102	75	73.5%	90	66	73.3%	73.4%
Other/unknown	16	9	-	15	10	-	-
Total Josephine	2524	1949	77.2%	2613	2052	78.5%	77.9%

Percent that Started Prenatal Care in First Trimester by Race/Ethnicity – Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Jackson County - 2012-2014			Jackson County – 2015-2017			Jackson County 2012-2017
	total births	care in 1 st trimester	3-year average	total births	care in 1 st trimester	3-year average	6-year average
White	5012	3848	76.8%	5008	4017	80.2%	78.5%
Hispanic	1316	996	75.7%	1375	1069	77.8%	76.7%
Black	36	23	63.9%	31	20	64.5%	64.2%
Am Ind/Al Nat	100	61	61.0%	50	31	62.0%	61.3%
Asian	99	84	84.8%	116	96	82.8%	83.7%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	14	7	50.0%	33	24	72.7%	66.0%
Multiple race	224	157	70.1%	284	193	68.0%	68.9%
Other/unknown	94	64	-	46	29	-	-
Total Jackson	6895	5240	76.0%	6943	5479	78.9%	77.5%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable – *Red indicates lower rate in comparison to overall and white rate*

Source: Oregon Public Health Authority, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

Six-Year Averages – Percent that Started Prenatal Care in First Trimester Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017		
	total births	1 st trimester care	6-year rate
White	10,062	8093	80.4%
Hispanic	867	656	75.7%
Black	34	29	85.3%
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	91	68.9%
Asian	132	106	80.3%
Nat Haw/Pac Islr	18	14	77.8%
Multiple race	380	292	76.8%
Other/unknown	40	24	-
Total	11,665	9305	79.8%

Initiation of prenatal care during the first trimester is higher in Douglas County than in Jackson and Josephine Counties. Racial and ethnic disparities in accessing prenatal care during the first trimester exist in Southern Oregon.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Breastfeeding Initiation

Initiating and sustaining breastfeeding is a recommended best practice with health benefits for both mother and baby. <https://www.womenshealth.gov/breastfeeding>

Percent Initiating Breast Feeding by Race/Ethnicity - Douglas County

Race/Ethnicity	Douglas County - 2012-2014			Douglas County – 2015-2017			Douglas County 2012-2017
	total births	Breast fed	3-year average	total births	breast fed	3-year average	6-year average
White	2869	2548	88.8%	2876	2556	88.9%	88.8%
Hispanic	213	192	90.1%	201	179	89.1%	89.6%
Black	7	4*	57.1%*	14	11	78.6%	71.4%
Am Ind/Al Nat	33	30	90.9%	38	29	76.3%	83.1%
Asian	33	33	100%	36	35	97.2%	98.6%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	9	6	66.7%	2	2*	100%*	72.7%
Multiple race	97	88	90.7%	91	80	87.9%	89.4%
Other/unknown	6	4	-	3	2	-	-
Total Douglas	3267	2905	88.9%	3261	2894	88.7%	88.8%

Percent Initiating Breast Feeding by Race/Ethnicity – Josephine County

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine County - 2012-2014			Josephine County – 2015-2017			Josephine County 2012-2017
	total births	Breast fed	3-year average	total births	breast fed	3-year average	6-year average
White	2102	1928	91.7%	2215	2070	93.5%	92.6%
Hispanic	234	206	88.0%	219	205	93.6%	90.7%
Black	5	4*	80.0%	8	7	87.5%	84.6%
Am Ind/Al Nat	32	28	87.5%	29	25	86.2%	86.9%
Asian	30	28	93.3%	33	33	100%	96.8%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	3	3*	100%*	4	4*	100%*	100%
Multiple race	102	93	91.2%	90	85	94.4%	92.7%
Other/unknown	16	11	-	15	10	-	-
Total Josephine	2524	2301	91.2%	2613	2439	93.3%	92.3%

Percent Initiating Breast Feeding by Race/Ethnicity – Jackson County

Race/Ethnicity	Jackson County - 2012-2014			Jackson County – 2015-2017			Jackson County 2012-2017
	total births	Breast fed	3-year average	total births	breast fed	3-year average	6-year average
White	5012	4698	93.7%	5008	4680	93.5%	93.6%
Hispanic	1316	1231	93.5%	1375	1282	93.2%	93.4%
Black	36	29	80.6%	31	28	90.3%	85.1%
Am Ind/Al Nat	100	89	89.0%	50	45	90.0%	89.3%
Asian	99	97	98.0%	116	108	93.1%*	95.3%
Nat Haw/Pac Isl	14	12	85.7%	33	29	87.9%	87.2%
Multiple race	224	207	92.4%	284	262	92.3%	92.3%

Other/unknown	94	77	-	46	38	-	-
Total Jackson	6895	6440	93.4%	6943	6472	93.2%	93.3%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable – *Red indicates lower rate in comparison to overall and white rate*

Source: Oregon Public Health Authority, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

**Six-Year Averages – Percent Initiating Breast Feeding by Race/Ethnicity
Pooled Data – Josephine and Douglas Counties – 2012-2017**

Race/Ethnicity	Josephine & Douglas combined 2012-2017		
	total births	Breast fed	6-year rate
White	10,062	9102	90.5%
Hispanic	867	782	90.2%
Black	34	26	76.5%
Am Ind/Al Nat	132	112	84.8%
Asian	132	129	97.7%
Nat Haw/Pac Islr	18	15	83.3%
Multiple race	380	346	91.1%
Other/unknown	40	7	-
Total	11,665	10,539	90.3%

* rates based on less than 5 events are unreliable – *Red indicates lower rate in comparison to overall and white rate*

Source: Oregon Public Health Authority, [Center for Health Statistics, maternal risk factors by county of residence](#)

Initiation of breast-feeding is lower for African American/Black, Native American, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and multiracial mothers. The breast-feeding initiation rate is similar for White and Hispanic/Latinx women, and highest for Asian mothers.