

HIGHLIGHTS

• MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH •

- Although there was a significant decrease (48%) in the infant mortality rate for Alaska Native infants between 1980-1983 and 2004-2007 (17.2 vs. 9.0 per 1,000 live births, $p < .05$), the rate remains twice that of Alaska Whites (9.0 vs. 4.4, $p < .05$). This disparity is largely found during the post-neonatal period.
- Alaska Native women are 3 times as likely to smoke during pregnancy as Alaska White women (30.2% vs. 10.3%, $p < .05$). However, between 1996 and 2007, there was a 6% decrease in the percent of Alaska Native women who reported smoking during pregnancy.
- The percent of mothers who use smokeless tobacco during pregnancy is greatest in southwest Alaska. In the Yukon-Kuskokwim region, 41% of mothers report using smokeless tobacco during pregnancy.
- There has been a steady decline in the percent of Alaska Native women who report alcohol consumption during pregnancy. Between 1996 and 2007, the disparity between Alaska Native women and Alaska White women decreased from 4 times greater to 1.5 times greater ($p < .05$).



Maternal and Child Health – Infant Mortality Rate

Definition: Infant mortality rate is defined as the number of deaths within the first year of life per 1,000 live births. The neonatal mortality rate is defined as the number of deaths within the first 28 days of life per 1,000 live births. The post-neonatal mortality rate is defined as the number of deaths between 29 days and one year per 1,000 live births.

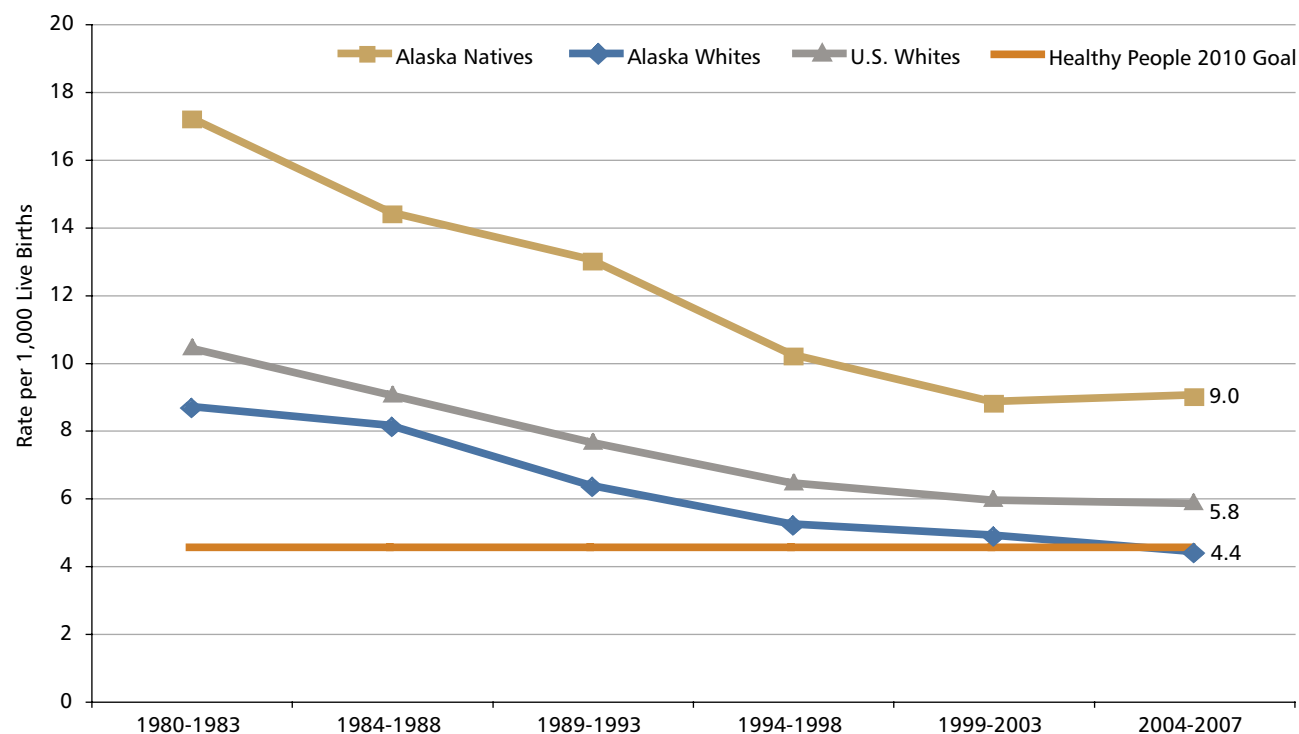
Healthy People 2010, Goal 16.1c. Reduce infant death rate to 4.5/1,000 live births. Reduce neonatal mortality rate to 2.9. Reduce post-neonatal mortality rate to 1.2.

Healthy Alaskans 2010, Objective 16.2: Reduce infant death rate to 4.5/1,000 live births. Reduce neonatal mortality rate to 2.9. Reduce post-neonatal mortality rate to 2.4.

Average Annual Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 live births, 1980-2007

Alaska Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

U.S. Data Source: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program



Summary:

- During 2004-2007, the Alaska Native infant mortality rate was twice that of Alaska Whites (9.0 vs. 4.4, $p < .05$).
- Between 1980-1983 and 2004-2007, there was a significant decrease (48%) in the infant mortality rate for Alaska Native infants (17.2 vs. 9.0 per 1,000 live births, $p < .05$).
- During 2004-2007 the neonatal mortality rate among Alaska Native infants was about the same as U.S. Whites. However, the Alaska Native post-neonatal mortality rate was 2.7 times that of Alaska Whites (5.4 vs. 2.0, $p < .05$).

Data Availability:

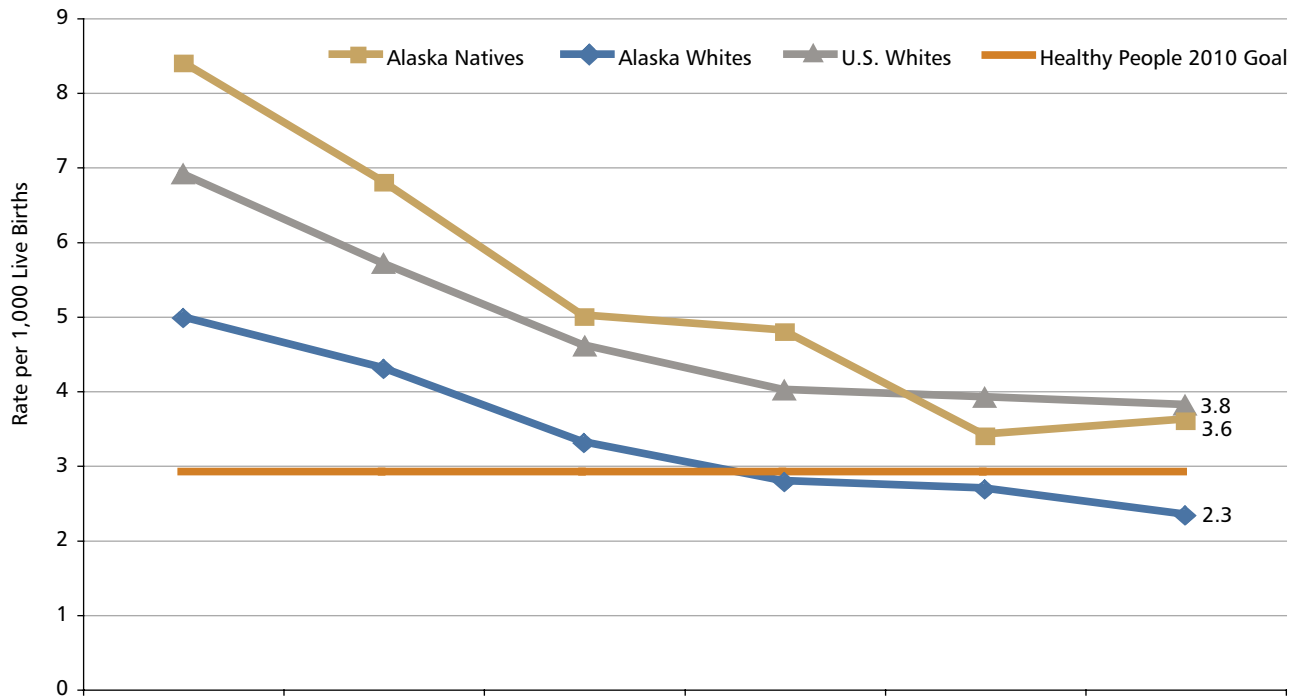
Mortality data is available by borough or census area, race, and statewide.

For more information:

Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/bvs/>

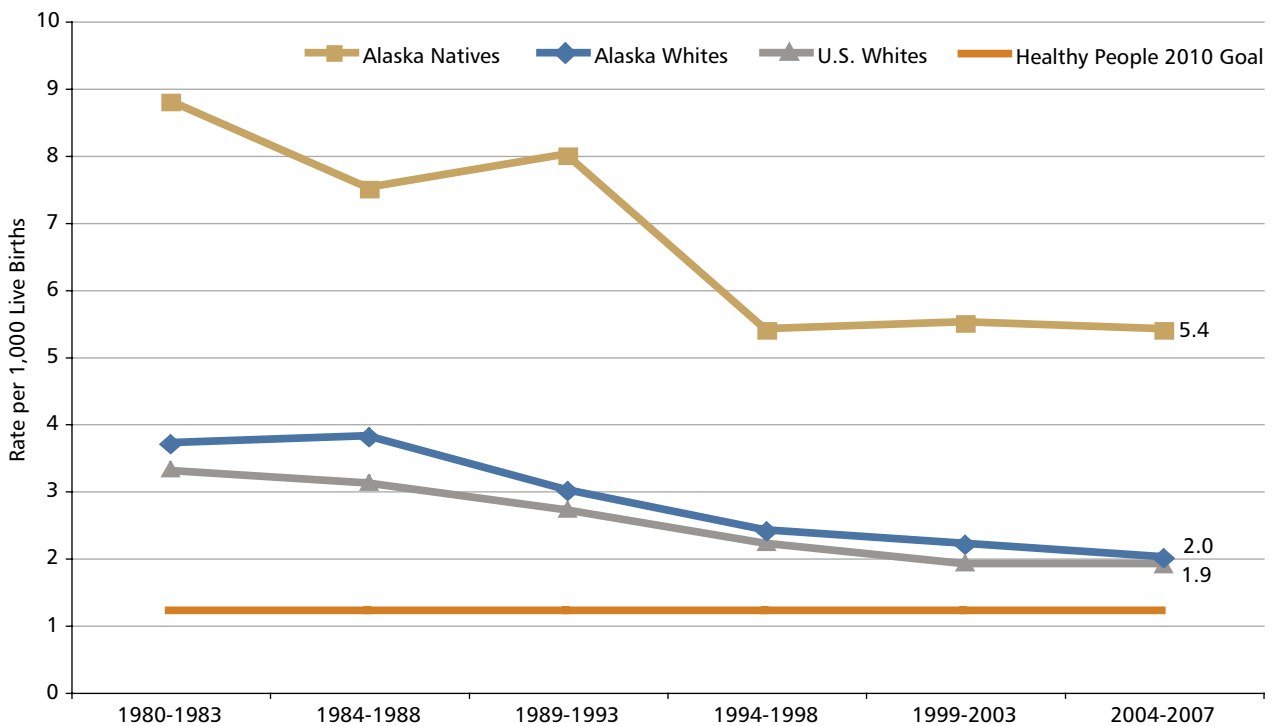
Average Annual Neonatal (Births to 28 days) Mortality Rates per 1,000 live births, 1980-2007

Alaska Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics
 U.S. Data Source: National Center for Health Statistics



Average Annual Post-Neonatal (29 days to one year) Mortality Rates per 1,000 live births, 1980-2007

Alaska Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics
 U.S. Data Source: National Center for Health Statistics

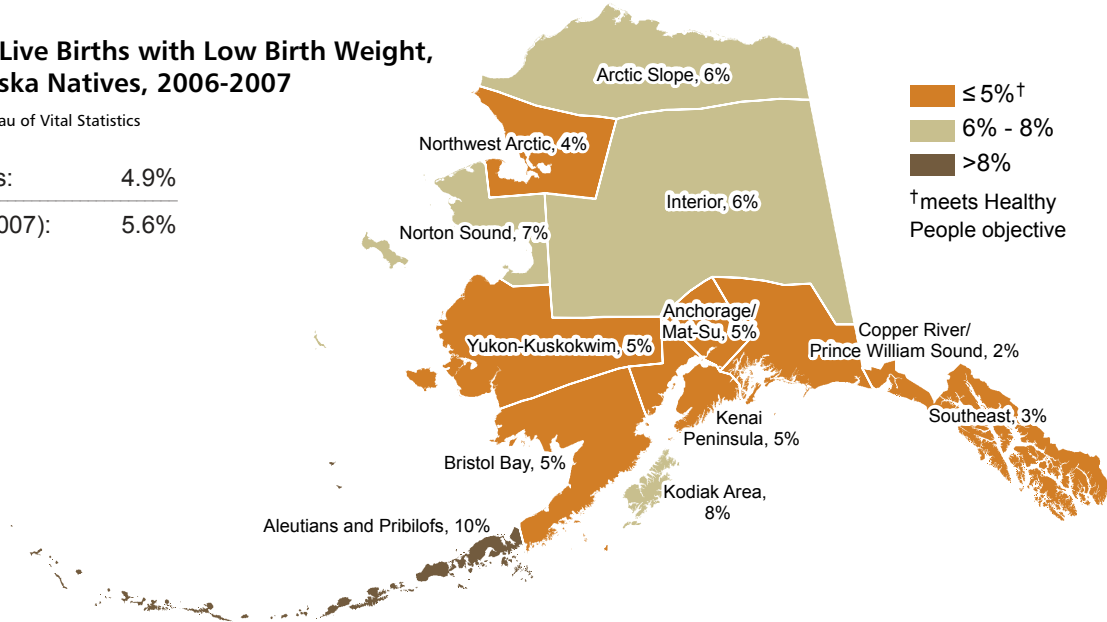


Maternal and Child Health – Low Birth Weight

Percentage of Live Births with Low Birth Weight, by Region, Alaska Natives, 2006-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

All Alaska Natives: 4.9%
 Alaska Whites (2007): 5.6%



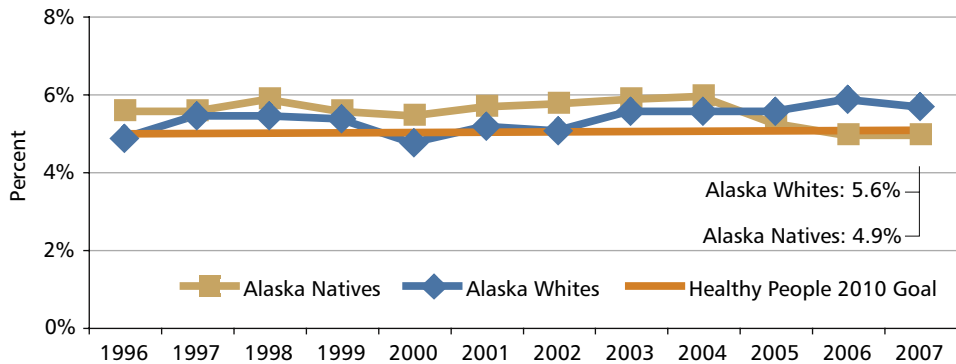
Definition: Low birth weight is defined as births less than 2500 grams.

Healthy People 2010, Goal 16.10a: Reduce low birth weight (LBW) to 5% of live births.

Healthy Alaskans 2010, Objective 16.12: Reduce percentage of live births who have low birth weight to 4%.

Percentage of Live Births with Low Birth Weights, 1996-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics



Summary:

- Although there appears to be variations between regions, none of the regions' percent of low birth weight infants was significantly different than Alaska Natives statewide.
- The percent of Alaska Native infants born with low birth weight has not changed since 1996. This percentage was comparable to the percentage of low birth weight among Alaska White infants.

Data Availability: Available census area, by race, statewide.

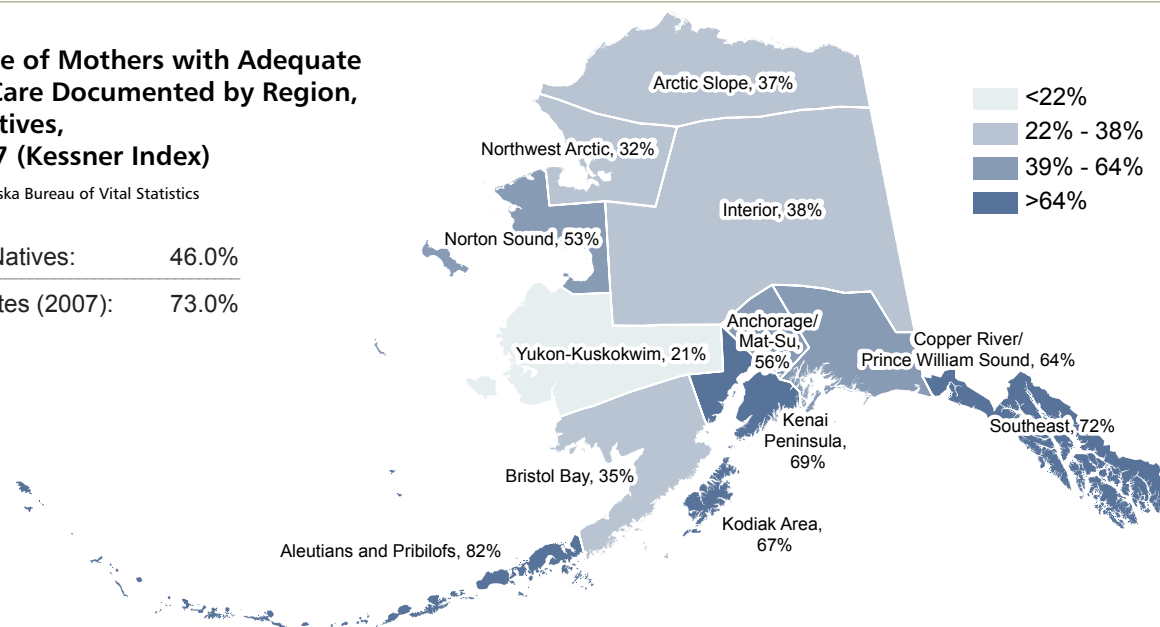
For more information: Statewide birth statistics are available at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/DPH/bvs/data/default.htm>

Maternal and Child Health – Adequate Prenatal Care Documented

Percentage of Mothers with Adequate Prenatal Care Documented by Region, Alaska Natives, 2006-2007 (Kessner Index)

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

All Alaska Natives: 46.0%
 Alaska Whites (2007): 73.0%



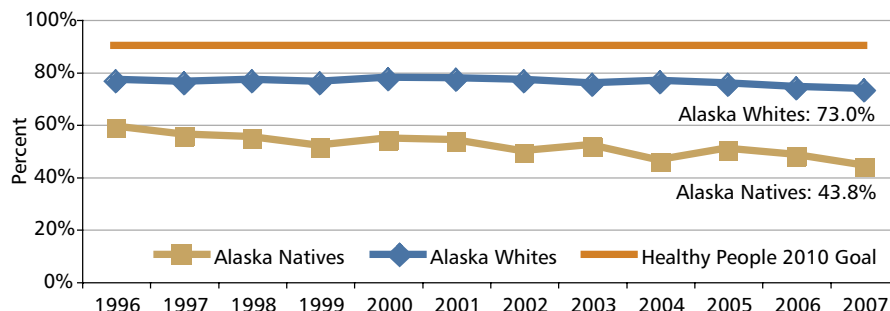
Definition: Adequacy of prenatal care is based on the Kessner Index or the APNCU (Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index). Both of these indices depend on documentation of care. The Kessner Index categorizes the adequacy of prenatal care based on the month pregnancy care starts, number of visits, and length of gestation. This index assigns three levels of care: adequate, intermediate, or inadequate.

Healthy People 2010, Goal 16.6b: Increase the proportion of women who receive adequate prenatal care to 90%.

Healthy Alaskans 2010, Objective 11.b: Increase the proportion of pregnant women who receive adequate prenatal care to 90%.

Percentage of Mothers with Adequate Prenatal Care, Documented, 1996-2007 (Kessner Index)

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics



Summary:

- The Aleutians and Pribilofs, Anchorage/Mat-Su, Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak Area and Southeast regions had higher rates of documented adequate prenatal care than Alaska Natives statewide ($p < .05$). The Bristol Bay, Interior, Northwest Arctic and Yukon-Kuskokwim regions had lower rates of documented adequate prenatal care than Alaska Natives statewide ($p < .05$).
- About 29% percent fewer Alaska Native mothers appear to have received adequate prenatal care as compared to Alaska White mothers ($p < .05$). This may be due to prenatal care not being documented on birth certificate forms. In addition, the percent of Alaska Native mothers with documented adequate prenatal care has decreased 15% since 1996.

Data Availability:

Available by census area, by race, statewide.

For more information:

Statewide birth statistics are available at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/DPH/bvs/data/default.htm>

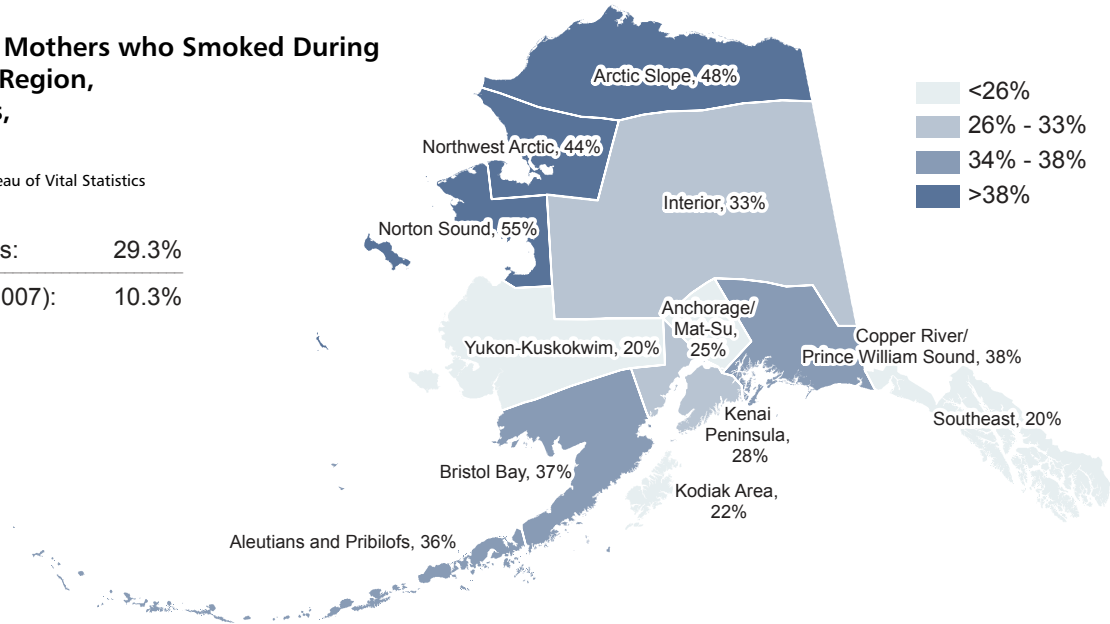
Note: Data are from birth certificates which document adequacy of prenatal care.

Maternal and Child Health – Smoking During Pregnancy

Percentage of Mothers who Smoked During Pregnancy by Region, Alaska Natives, 2006-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

All Alaska Natives: 29.3%
 Alaska Whites (2007): 10.3%



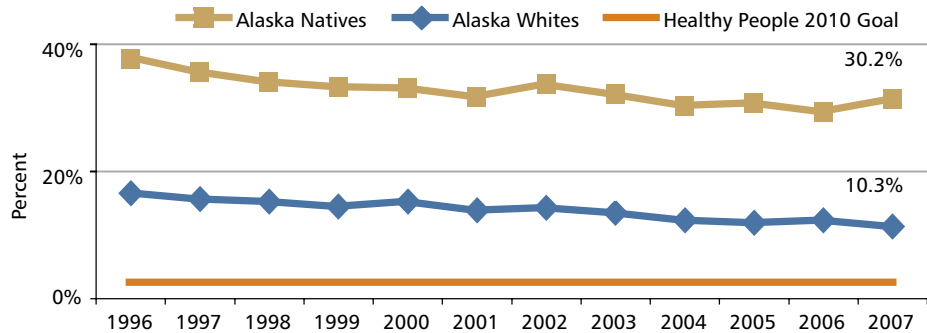
Definition: Women who reported smoking any time during pregnancy.

Healthy People 2010, Goal 16.17c. Increase the reported abstinence in past month from cigarette smoking by pregnant women to 99%.

Healthy Alaskans 2010, Objective 16.18. Decrease proportion of women who delivered a live birth who report cigarette smoking during last three months of pregnancy to 15%.

Percentage of Mothers who Smoked During Pregnancy, 1996-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics



Summary:

- Based on birth certificate form documentation, Alaska Native women from the Arctic Slope, Northwest Arctic and Norton Sound regions were more likely to have reported smoking during pregnancy than were Alaska Native mothers statewide ($p < .05$) and women from the Anchorage/Mat-Su, Southeast and Yukon-Kuskokwim regions were less likely to have reported smoking during pregnancy than were Alaska Native mothers statewide ($p < .05$).
- The percent of Alaska Native women who reported smoking during pregnancy decreased by 6% since 1996. There was a corresponding decrease in smoking among Alaska White mothers. Alaska Native women appear to report smoking 3 times more than Alaska White mothers (30.2% vs. 10.3%, $p < .05$).

Data Availability: Available by census area, by race, statewide.

For more information: Statewide birth statistics are available at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/DPH/bvs/data/default.htm>

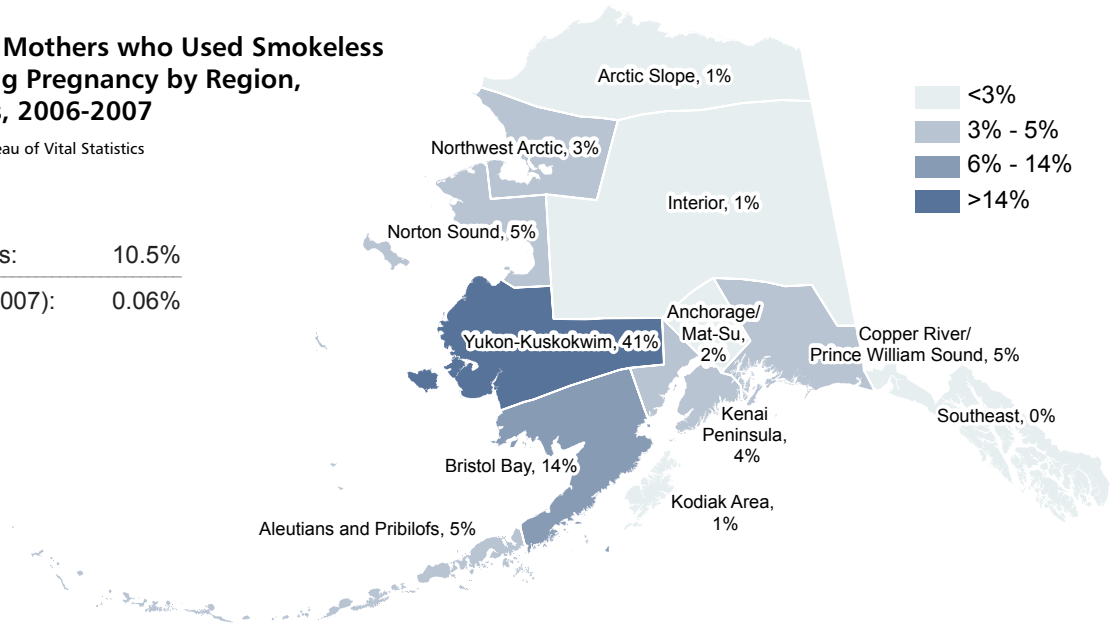
Note: Data is from birth certificates which document smoking and alcohol use at any time during pregnancy. This measure is different than the Healthy People and Healthy Alaskan objectives.

Maternal and Child Health – Smokeless Tobacco Use During Pregnancy

Percentage of Mothers who Used Smokeless Tobacco During Pregnancy by Region, Alaska Natives, 2006-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

All Alaska Natives: 10.5%
 Alaska Whites (2007): 0.06%



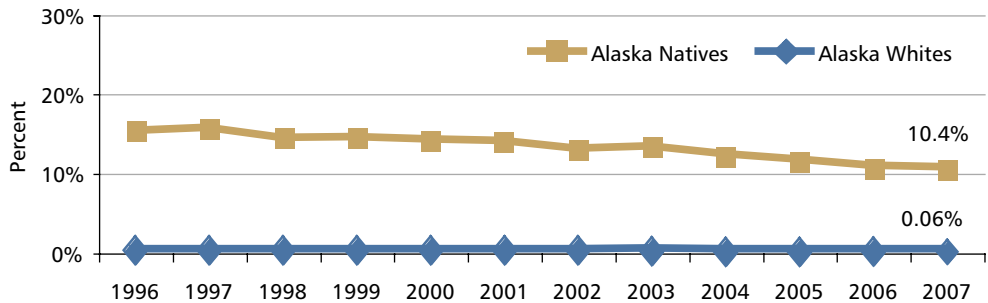
Definition: Women who reported smokeless tobacco use during pregnancy.

Healthy People 2010, Goal 16-17c. None available

Healthy Alaskans 2010, Objective 16.18. None available

Percentage of Mothers who Used Smokeless Tobacco During Pregnancy, 1996-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics



Summary:

- Statewide, 10.4% of Alaska Native women reported using smokeless tobacco while pregnant (2007).
- Alaska Native women from the Yukon-Kuskokwim region were more likely to have reported using smokeless tobacco during pregnancy than were Alaska Native mothers statewide (41% vs. 10.5%, $p < .05$)
- Smokeless tobacco use during pregnancy is about 170 times greater among Alaska Native women than among Alaska White mothers (10.4 vs. 0.06, $p < .05$).

Data Availability: Available by census area, by race, statewide.

For more information: Statewide birth statistics are available at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/DPH/bvs/data/default.htm>

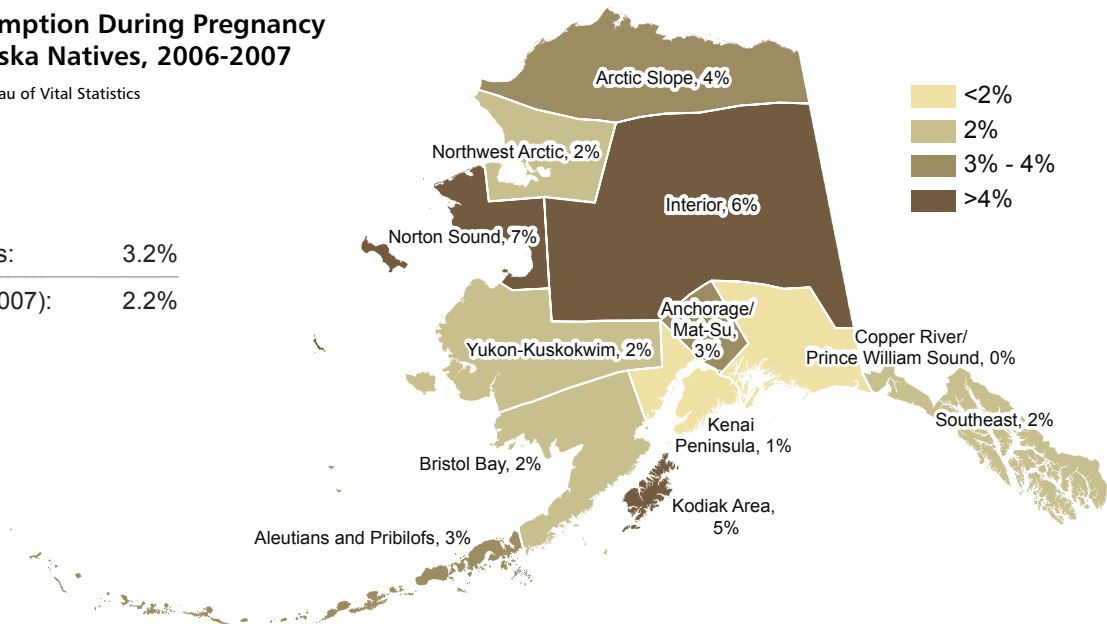
Note: Data is from birth certificates which document smoking and alcohol use at any time during pregnancy.

Maternal and Child Health – Alcohol Consumption During Pregnancy

Alcohol Consumption During Pregnancy by Region, Alaska Natives, 2006-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics

All Alaska Natives: 3.2%
 Alaska Whites (2007): 2.2%



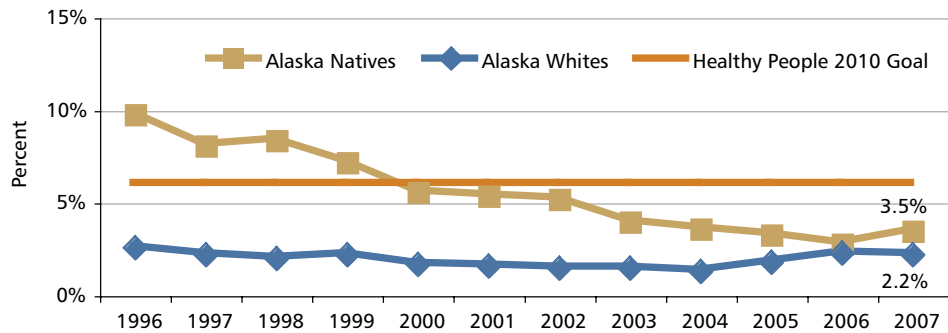
Definition: Women who reported alcohol consumption any time during pregnancy.

Healthy People 2010, Goal 16-17a. Increase the reported abstinence in the past 6 months from alcohol use by pregnant women to 94% (or 6% use).

Healthy Alaskans 2010, Objective 16-17. Decrease proportion of women who delivered a live birth who report the use of alcohol during last 3 months of pregnancy to 3.5%.

Alcohol Consumption Any Time During Pregnancy, 1996-2007

Data Source: Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics



Summary:

- Alaska Native women from the Interior and Norton Sound regions were more likely to have reported alcohol consumption at some point during pregnancy than Alaska Native women statewide ($p < .05$). Alaska Native women from the Kenai Peninsula were less likely to have reported alcohol consumption during pregnancy ($p < .05$).
- There has been a steady decline in the percent of Alaska Native women who reported alcohol consumption during pregnancy. Between 1996 and 2007, the disparity between Alaska Native women and Alaska White women has decreased from 4 times greater to 1.5 times greater ($p < .05$).

Data Availability: Available by census area, by race, statewide.

For more information: Statewide birth statistics are available at <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/DPH/bvs/data/default.htm>

Note: Data is from birth certificates which document smoking and alcohol use at any time during pregnancy. This measure is different than the Healthy People and Healthy Alaskan objectives.