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## CHAPTER III. BIRTH STATISTICS

### OVERVIEW

Mother's behaviors from preconception through birth and shortly thereafter can have a large impact on a child's long-term health and well-being. The New Mexico Pregnancy Risk (NM PRAMS) is a surveillance system of behaviors before, during and after pregnancy. Table III-1 presents the most current PRAMS data available at the County level.

| <b>Table III - 1 PRAMS DATA 2000-2003 Birth Statistics</b>               |          |      |
|--|----------|------|
| n = 463 Births Sandoval County   | Sandoval | NM   |
| Did not use a multivitamin at all during the month before pregnancy      | 61.7     | 58.5 |
| Percent with Unintended Pregnancy  | 40.5     | 43.4 |
| Drank alcohol frequently or binged during the last 3 months of pregnancy | 0.5      | 1    |
| Smoked during the last 3 months of pregnancy                             | 9        | 10.3 |
| Smoked during 3 months before pregnancy                                  | 19.5     | 23.2 |
| Currently smoke any cigarettes   | 14       | 16.5 |
| Said their infant is exposed to tobacco smoke                            | 5.2      | 8    |
| Were physically abused by their partner during pregnancy                 | 5.7      | 7.6  |
| Had a weight problem before pregnancy                                    | 44.8     | 37   |
| Had pre-existing or gestational diabetes                                 | 6.4      | 7.7  |
| Had late or no prenatal care   | 27.5     | 30.9 |
| Had an adequate level of prenatal care                                   | 32.9     | 33.4 |
| Recalled prenatal discussion of how to care for her teeth and gums       | 21.4     | 20.3 |
| Had Medicaid for preconception healthcare                                | 14       | 15.8 |
| Had prenatal care paid by Medicaid                                       | 39.2     | 48.8 |
| Had prenatal care paid by other insurance                                | 56.2     | 41.8 |
| Had prenatal Indian Health Service                                       | 10.9     | 7.1  |
| Had WIC during pregnancy   | 43.8     | 58   |
| Had delivery paid by Medicaid  | 42.8     | 53.5 |
| Had delivery paid by Insurance   | 54.9     | 39.8 |
| Had delivery paid by Indian Health Service                               | 6.1      | 39.8 |
| Participated in WIC prenatal classes or groups                           | 22.1     | 41.8 |
| Participated in WIC postpartum WIC classes or groups                     | 23.2     | 38.8 |
| Participate in prenatal home visiting services                           | 5.9      | 6.2  |
| Participate in postpartum home visiting services                         | 12.8     | 10.6 |
| Participate in prenatal breastfeeding classes or groups                  | 11.3     | 17   |
| Participated in prenatal parenting classes or groups                     | 17.4     | 18.4 |
| Participate in postpartum parenting classes or groups                    | 3.6      | 4.9  |
| Had a dental problem   | 12.9     | 13   |
| Had dental care  | 33.8     | 28.3 |
| Initiated breastfeeding  | 79.3     | 79.7 |
| Breastfed at least 9 weeks   | 57.6     | 53.5 |
| Reported their infant had an adequate number of well-baby visits         | 83.5     | 79.8 |
| Said family had enough food  | 88.2     | 84.9 |

## BIRTH RATES

Since 1992 there has been a generally downward trend in births, from 16.8 births per 1,000 population (1992) to 13.9 (2002). In 2003, the national birth rate was 14.1; in New Mexico, it was 14.6, and in Sandoval County, 12.8. In 2004, the New Mexico birth rate was 14.7 and the Sandoval County rate 12.2. In New Mexico, birth rates vary substantially by race and ethnicity, ranging from 9.1 for the White, Non-Hispanic population, to 21.9 for Hispanic Whites, to 22.1 for Native Americans. Table III-2 and Figure III – 1 present 1992 to 2002 birth statistics for Sandoval County.

| YEAR | Live Births |            | Birth Rate* |            |
|------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
|      | Sandoval    | New Mexico | Sandoval    | New Mexico |
| 1992 | 1152        | 27910      | 16.8        | 17.7       |
| 1993 | 1236        | 27831      | 17.1        | 17.2       |
| 1994 | 1202        | 27585      | 15.8        | 16.7       |
| 1995 | 1224        | 26914      | 15.9        | 16         |
| 1996 | 1205        | 27216      | 14.5        | 16         |
| 1997 | 1306        | 26844      | 15.2        | 15.6       |
| 1998 | 1223        | 27294      | 13.9        | 15.7       |
| 1999 | 1303        | 27133      | 14.4        | 15.6       |
| 2000 | 1249        | 27206      | 13.9        | 15         |
| 2001 | 1297        | 22101      | 13.9        | 14.8       |
| 2002 | 1316        | 27708      | 13.7        | 14.8       |
| 2003 | 1275        | 27799      | 12.8        | 14.6       |
| 2004 | 1254        | 28355      | 12.2        | 14.7       |

\*Birth rates are per 1,000 population  
 Sources: (1) 1992-2002 data: Sandoval County Health Profile, 2003. (2) 2002-4: New Mexico Selected Health Statistics, 2004.

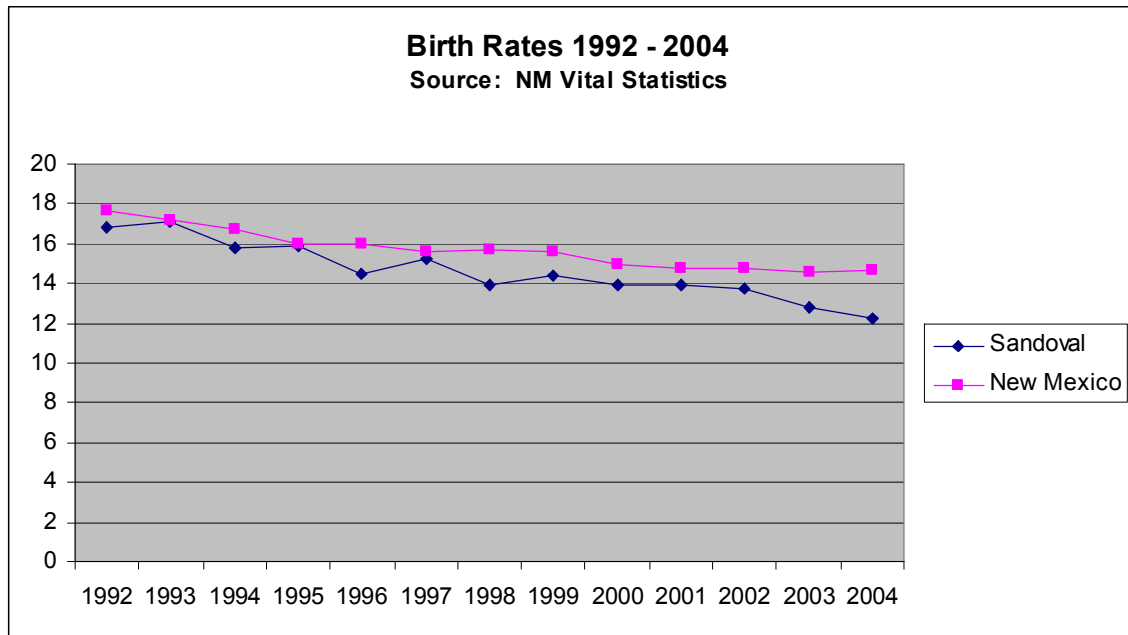


Figure III - 1 Birth Rates 1992 - 2004

## BIRTH WEIGHT

Low birth weight is defined as an infant weight of less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at the time of delivery. Infants born with low birth weight have increased infant mortality, morbidity, incidence of learning disabilities and medical costs. Risk factors for low-birth weigh include maternal age of less than seventeen and greater than 34, poverty, single marital status, lower levels of maternal education, smoking, inadequate weight gain, low pre-pregnancy weight and a variety of medical risk factors. Low birth weights are often associated with poverty.

The percent of Sandoval County's birth of babies with low birth weight has hovered near 7.5% since the 1990's.

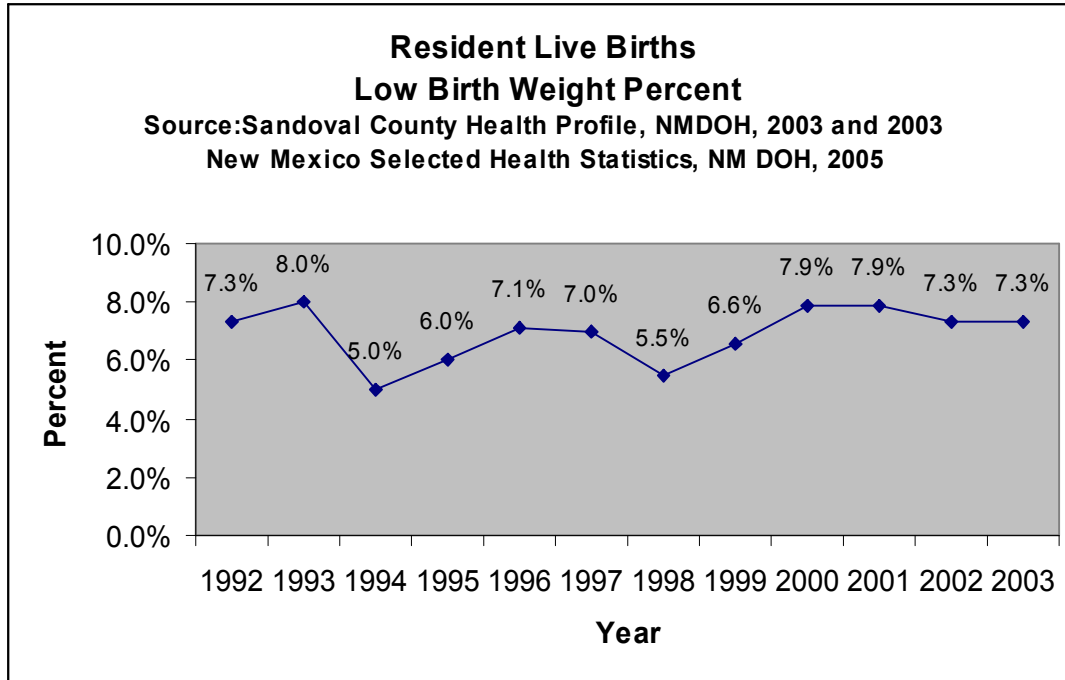


Figure III - 2 Resident Live Births

Table III-3 presents the percentage of babies born with low birth weights in several Sandoval County communities. The relatively small number of births in some of these communities, particularly Jemez Springs, suggests the need for caution in interpreting these statistics. However, it appears that the incidents of low birth weight babies are particularly high in Bernalillo and Jemez Pueblo, and relatively low in Rio Rancho and Cuba. Percents for Jemez Springs are based on less than 20 births per year and may be statistically unreliable. Please interpret with caution.

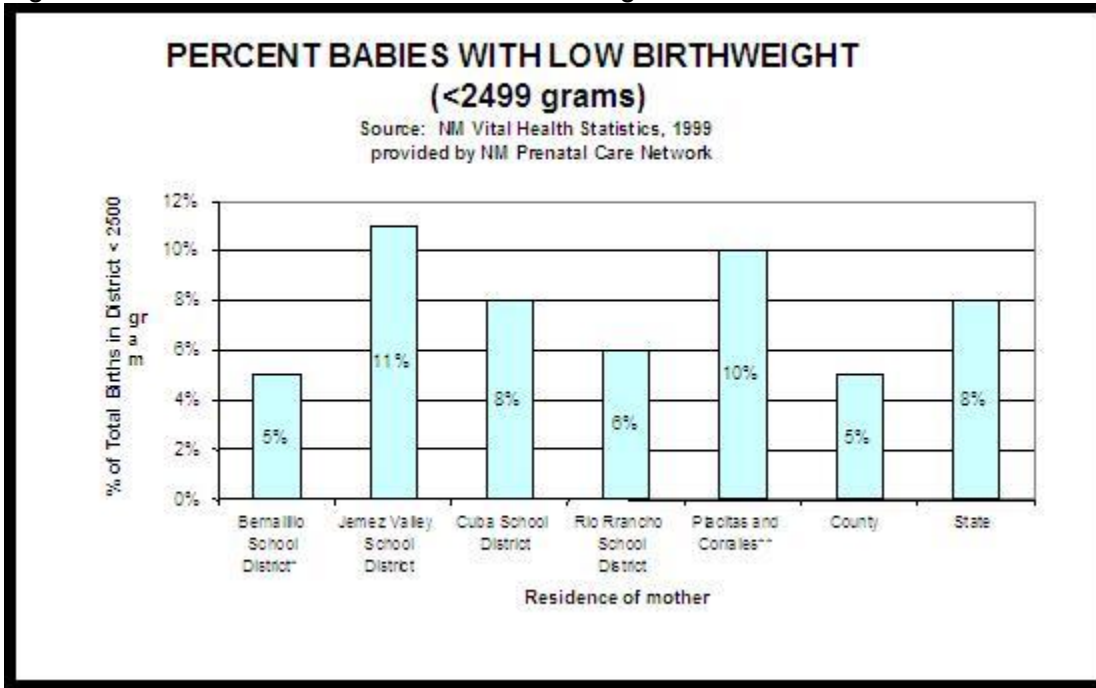
Table III - 3 Low Birth Weight Percent of Live Births

| Low Birth Weight Percent of Live Births by Selected Communities |                       |                 |                            |                            |                         |                                   |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|   | Bernalillo<br>(n=707) | Cuba<br>(n=368) | Jemez<br>Pueblo<br>(n=180) | Jemez<br>Springs<br>(n=50) | Rio Rancho<br>(n=3,824) | Other<br>Communities<br>(n=1,262) |
| 2000  | 12.1                  | 8.7             | 3.6                        | 5.6                        | 6.9                     | 9.0%                              |
| 2001  | 11.9                  | 8.8             | 18.5                       | 15.4                       | 7.2                     | 6.1%                              |
| 2002  | 6.6                   | 4.1             | 22.9                       | 8.3                        | 6.8                     | 8.0%                              |
| 2003  | 5.7                   | 6               | 9.1                        | 14.3                       | 7.4                     | 7.6%                              |
| 2004  | 11.4                  | 4.1             | 6.5                        | ---                        | 7.7                     | 9.7%                              |

Source: The State Center for Health Statistics, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics.

The data collected in 1999 is not directly comparable as it was aggregated using different criteria and included only one year. Nonetheless, it is interesting to note that in 1999, low birth weights were less common in the Bernalillo School District and more common in the Jemez Valley.

Figure III - 3 Percent Babies with Low Birth weight



## PRENATAL CARE.

Early prenatal care leads to better health, the earlier the better; New Mexico ranks 50th in the nation in terms of prenatal care<sup>iii</sup>. In 1999, the percent of Sandoval County mothers receiving a high level of prenatal care (48%) was consistent with the state average (47%) (Figure III-3). In 2003, both the State and Sandoval County had shown improvement.

Table III - 4 Percent Level of Prenatal Care

| Percent Level of Prenatal Care, 2003 |       |       |        |         |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
|                                      | High  | Mid   | Low/No | Unknown |
| New Mexico (n=27,799)                | 51.0% | 30.7% | 12.5%  | 5.7%    |
| Sandoval (n=1,275)                   | 54.9% | 24.4% | 11.8%  | 8.9%    |

Source: 2003 New Mexico Selected health Statistics, NM DOH, 2005.

There are noteworthy differences between racial/ethnic groups in the percent receiving low or no prenatal care. Among American Indians in Sandoval County, 19.1% fell into this category of prenatal care, while only 6.9% of White Non-Hispanics received low or no prenatal care.

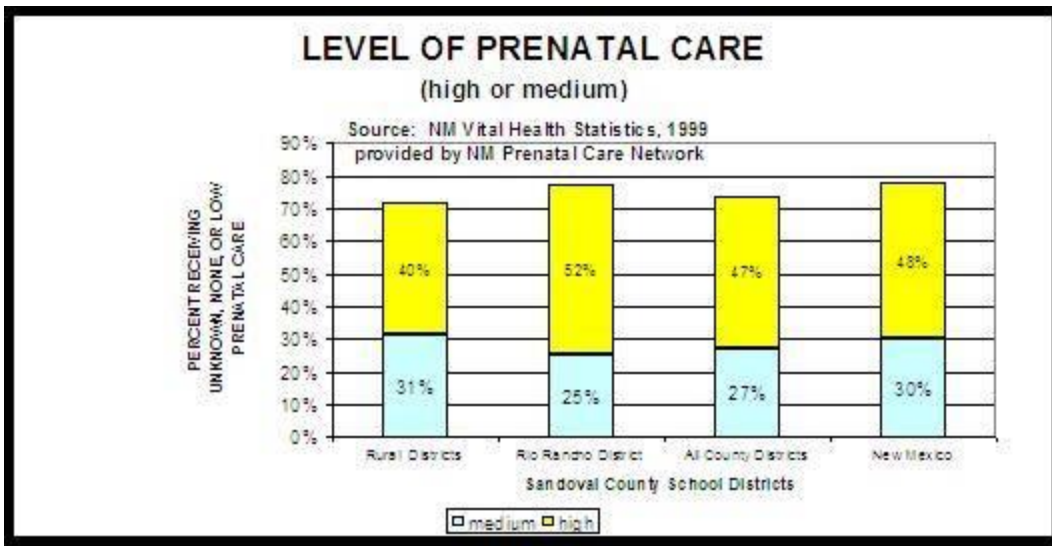
Table III - 5 Percent of Low or No Prenatal Care

| Percent of Low or No Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity of Child, 2003 |           |                    |                |       |                 |                   |
|---|-----------|--------------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|
|   | All Races | White Non-Hispanic | White Hispanic | Black | American Indian | Other and Unknown |
| New Mexico (n=3,482)  | 12.5%     | 8.4%               | 13.2%          | 12.3% | 18.0%           | 6.3%              |
| Sandoval (n=150)  | 11.8%     | 6.9%               | 10.7%          | 13.5% | 19.1%           | 11.8%             |

Source: 2003 New Mexico Selected health Statistics, NM DOH, 2005.

Data from 1999 also shows that compared to urban mothers, relatively fewer rural mothers receive a high level of prenatal care – 40% in the rural areas as compared to 52% in the urban area.iv

Figure III - 4 Prenatal Care



## TEEN AND SINGLE MOMS

Teen mothers’ health risks are greater than that of older mothers. Very few teens intend to become pregnant. They are less likely to receive early, or any, prenatal care, and their children are more likely to be born prematurely and to have low birth weights.v The percent of Sandoval County’s births to young mothers continues to be lower than that of the State as a whole. The percent of Sandoval County’s births to mothers over 30 is higher than the State as a whole.

Table III - 6 Births to Teen Mothers

| Source: New Mexico PRAMS, birth years 2001-2002 |                    |                          |                 |                  |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|   | Intended Pregnancy | Late or no Prenatal Care | Premature Birth | Low Birth Weight |
| 15-17   | 26.3%              | 44.6%                    | 14.7%           | 11.5%            |
| 18-19   | 32.3%              | 40.4%                    | 14.1%           | 9.8%             |
| 20 or older                                     | 62.1%              | 30.2%                    | 8.0%            | 6.7%             |

Between 1990 and 2003, the U.S. teen birth rate has dropped from 59.9 per 1000 female teens to 41.6 per 1000. New Mexico's rates have also dropped substantially, but the numbers are far higher. In 1990, the state rate was 78.1 per 1000 female teens. By 1999, it was 67 births per 1000 female teens. In 2002, it was 62 per 1000, and by 2004, 59.8 per 1000. Sandoval County's teen pregnancy rate has fluctuated. In 1999, the County rate was 49 per 1000 female teens. By 2001, it peaked at 65. By 2004, it was 37.8 per 1000, lower than the U.S. rate and substantially lower than the state rate.vi

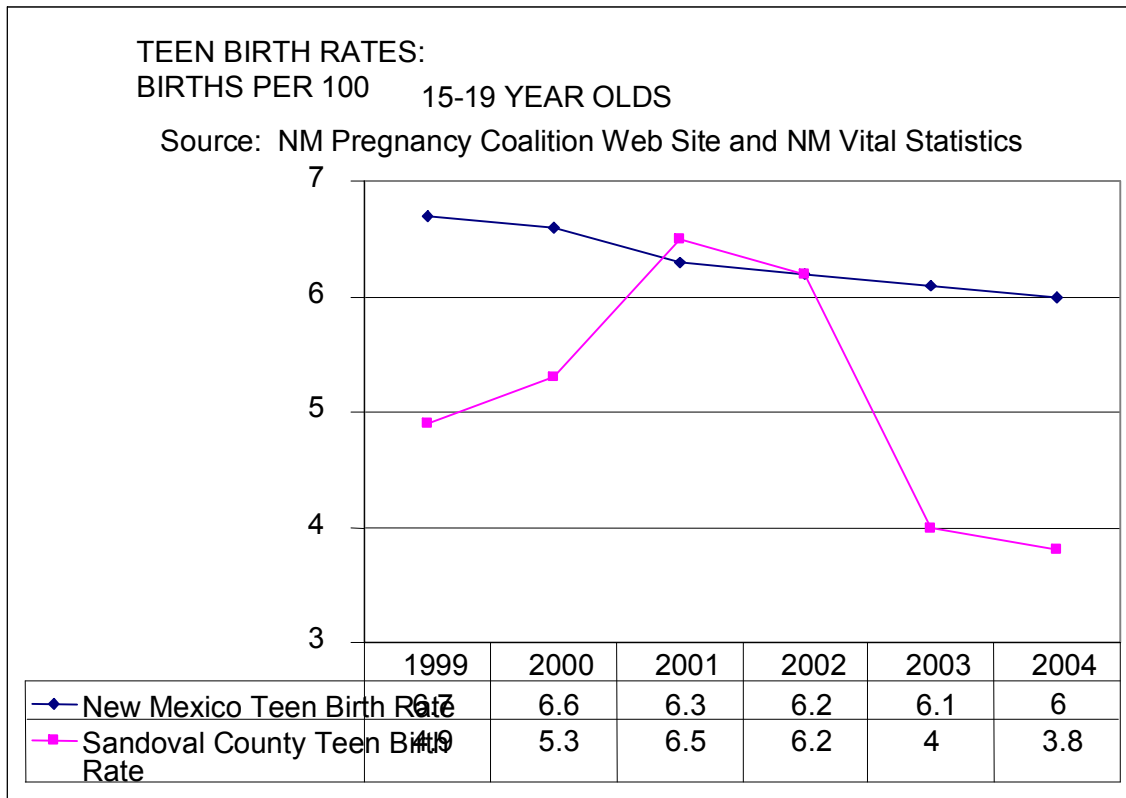


Figure III - 5 Number of Live Births by Mother's Age

Source: 2005 Vital Statistics Summary, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Epidemiology and Response Division, New Mexico Department of Health, October, 2006.

Table III - 7 Teen Birth Rates per 1000 Female Teens

|                                 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| New Mexico Teen Birth Rate      | 67   | 66   | 63   | 62   | 61.1 | 59.8 |
| Sandoval County Teen Birth Rate | 49   | 53   | 65   | 62   | 40.3 | 37.8 |
| State Ranking                   | 28   | 26   | 14   | 14   |      |      |

The percentage of live births to teen mothers varies considerably between Sandoval County communities.

Table III - 8 Teen Mothers Percent of Live Births

| Teen Mothers Percent of Live Births, 2000-2004 |                       |                 |                            |                            |                         |                                   |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  | Bernalillo<br>(n=707) | Cuba<br>(n=368) | Jemez<br>Pueblo<br>(n=180) | Jemez<br>Springs<br>(n=50) | Rio Rancho<br>(n=3,824) | Other<br>Communities<br>(n=1,262) |
| 2000   | 23.50%                | 20.70%          | 32.10%                     | 5.60%                      | 9%                      | 18.4%                             |
| 2001   | 20.00%                | 21.30%          | 18.50%                     | 0                          | 10.50%                  | 15.5%                             |
| 2002   | 23.70%                | 19.20%          | 20.00%                     | 0                          | 9.70%                   | 12.5%                             |
| 2003   | 22.90%                | 18.00%          | 6.80%                      | 0                          | 8.70%                   | 20.3%                             |

Percents for Jemez Springs are based on less than 20 births per year and may be statistically unreliable. This data should be interpreted with caution.  
Source: The State Center for Health Statistics, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics.  
Births to Teenage Mothers

The analysis of 1999 zip code level birth data also showed tremendous variations in the teen birth rate by school district, range from 36 per 1000 females in the Jemez Valley to 131 per 1000 females in the Bernalillo School District (Figure III-5). This is consistent with the 2000-2004 data.

There are also major differences in births to teen mothers by race and ethnicity. In 2003, 20% of births to White Hispanic women were to mothers age 19 and younger. 17.5% of American Indian births were to women in this age group and 16.2% of Blacks, while 9.1% of White non-Hispanics and 5.9% of Asians were in this age group.

Figure III - 6 Births to Teen Mothers

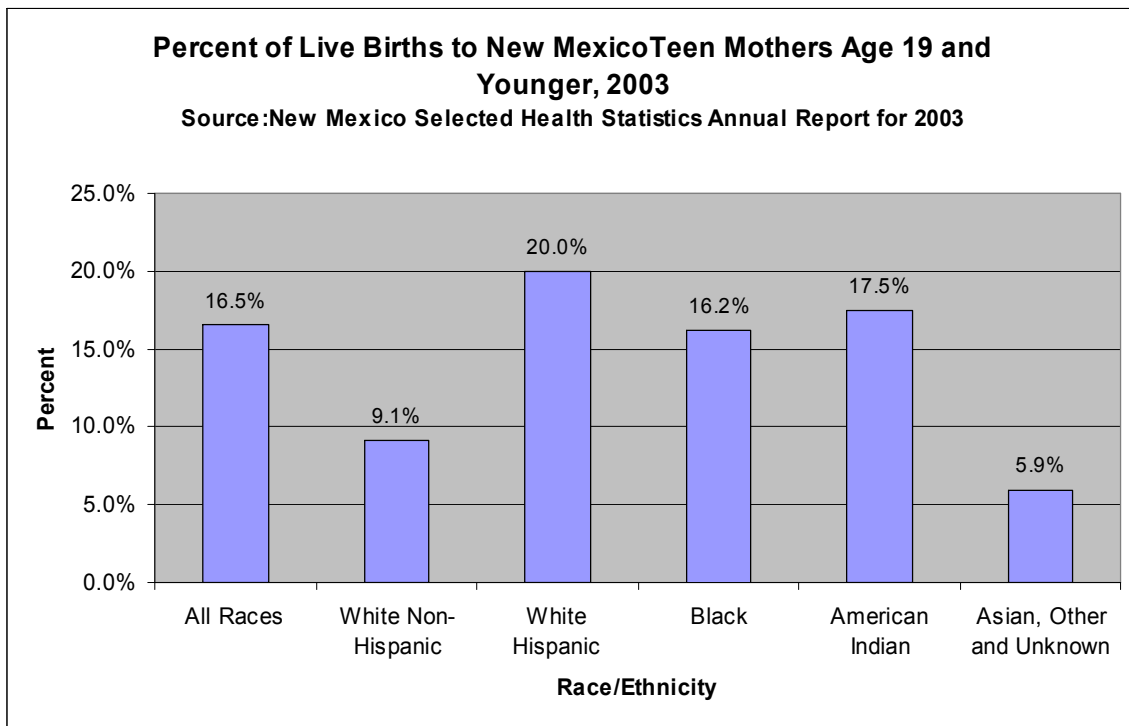
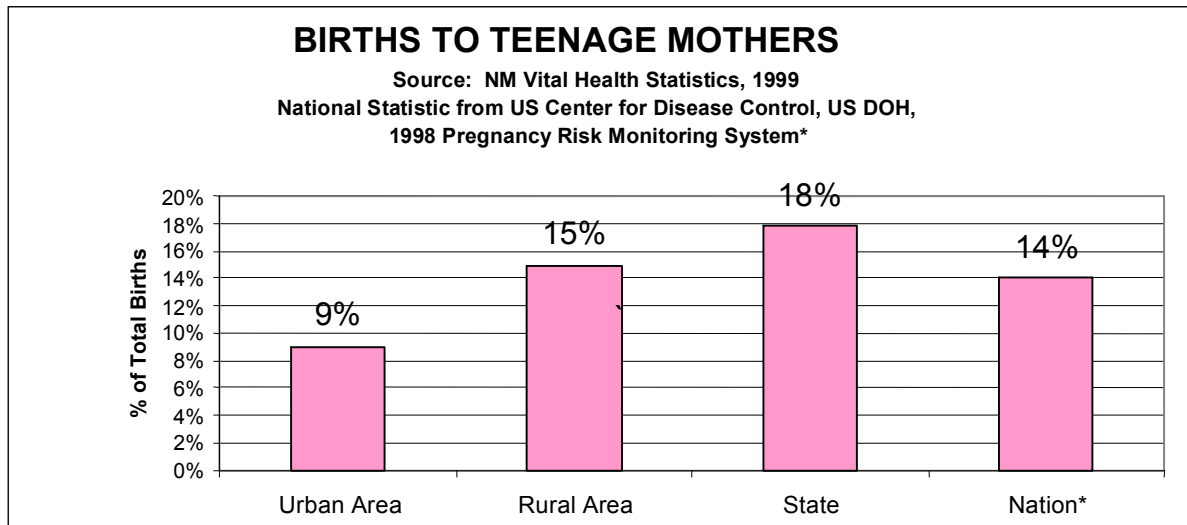


Figure III - 7 Births to Teen Mothers by Ethnicity

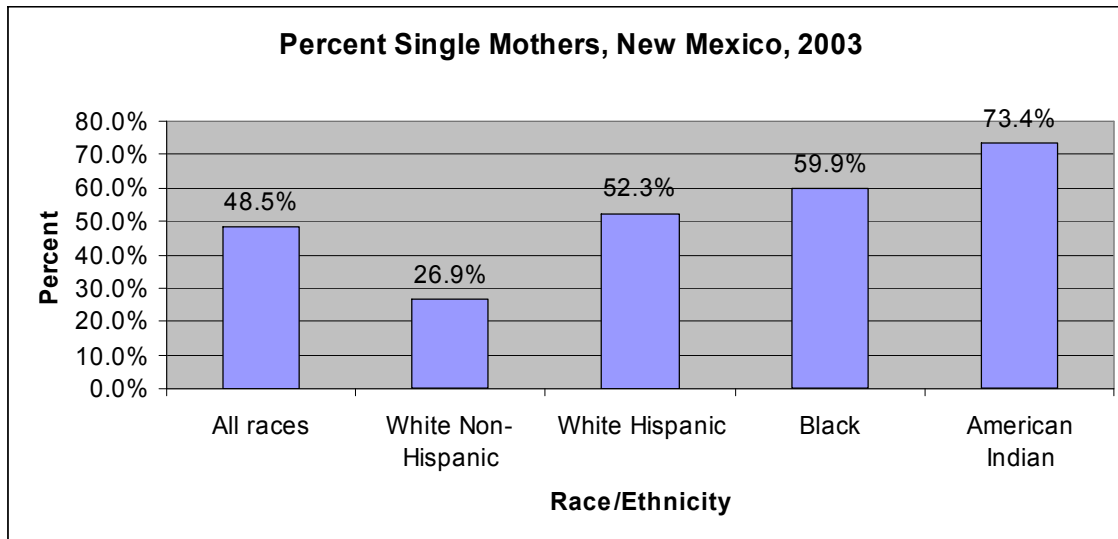
As shown in Table III – 9 , nearly half of all mothers are single. Young mothers are very likely to be single. Nearly 90% of Sandoval County’s mothers between the ages of 15 and 19 are single, compared to 84.1% of the State’s mothers in that age group.

Table III - 9 Percent Single Mothers

| Percent Single Mothers, 2001-2003 |       |       |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                   | 2003  | 2003  | 2001  |
| New Mexico                        | 48.5% | 46.9% | 46.3% |
| Sandoval                          | 45.5% | 44.1% | 43.2% |
|                                   |       |       |       |

A very high percentage of American Indian mothers are single, nearly 75%. Approximately 27% of White Non-Hispanic mothers are single. The percentage of births to single mothers varies considerably by Sandoval County community (Table III – 10 and Figure III - 11).

Figure III - 8 Percent Single Mothers by Race



Source: New Mexico Selected Health Statistics Annual Report for 2003

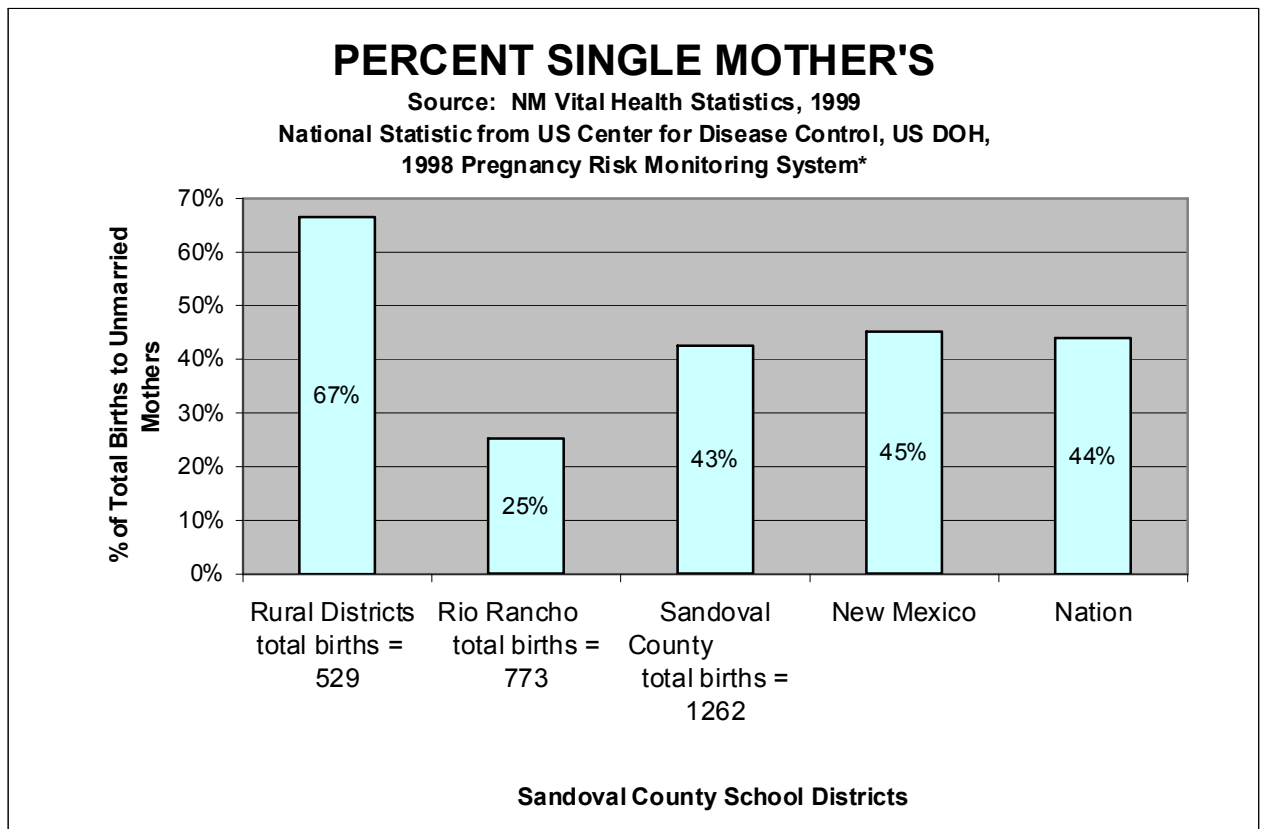
Table III - 10 Percent of Births to Single Mothers by Community

Single Mothers Percent of Live Births by Selected Communities, 2000-2004

|      | Bernalillo<br>(n=707) | Cuba<br>(n=368) | Jemez<br>Pueblo<br>(n=180) | Jemez<br>Springs<br>(n=50) | Rio Rancho<br>(n=3,824) | Other<br>Communities<br>(n=1,262) |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2000 | 59.8                  | 60.9            | 82.1                       | 16.7                       | 27.1                    | 71.1%                             |
| 2001 | 56.3                  | 70              | 88.9                       | 7.7                        | 27.4                    | 69.3%                             |
| 2002 | 60.5                  | 67.1            | 82.9                       | 16.7                       | 28.5                    | 70.5%                             |
| 2003 | 56.4                  | 76              | 70.5                       | 0                          | 32.1                    | 72.1%                             |
| 2004 | 61.8                  | 60.3            | 67.4                       | ---                        | 34.8                    | 67.7%                             |

Source: NM PRAMS data

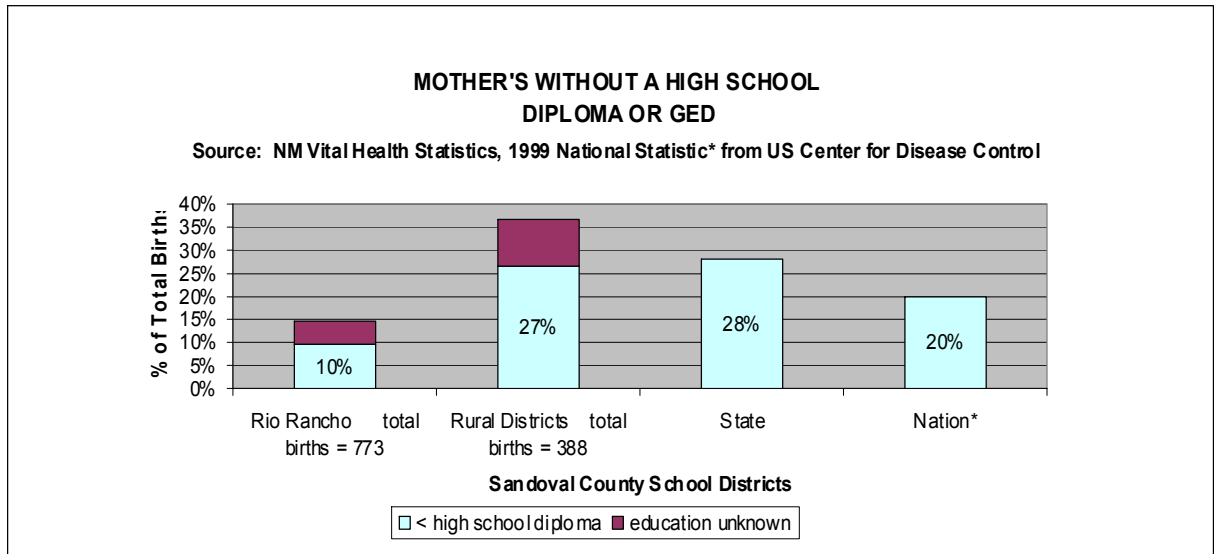
Figure III - 9 Percent Single Mothers by School District



## EDUCATION OF MOTHERS

Nationally, 20% of new mothers have either a high school diploma or a GED; 28% of New Mexico mothers have a high school diploma or a GED (Figure III-12). 27% of mothers residing in the rural areas of Sandoval County received a high school diploma or GED. For an additional 10% of new moms, the educational background was unknown, which could mean that many more new moms did not have a high school level degree. In Rio Rancho, 10% of new moms did not have a high school level diploma.

Figure III - 10 Mothers without a High School Diploma or GED



## AMERICAN INDIAN MOTHERS NATALITY BY COMMUNITY

The DOH was able to provide a number of birth statistics by Sandoval County Pueblos for this profile (level of prenatal care, low birth-weight, birth to teen mothers, births to single mothers, mothers with diabetes, and mothers with less than a 12 year education). When comparable data for other Sandoval County communities becomes available, it will be posted on the Health Alliance web site. Table III – 11 present the statistics by Pueblo and Figures III – 13 to III – 16 provide summary data for all of the Pueblos.

Table III - 11 American Natality by Community

## Native American Natality by Mother's Tribal Affiliation (1999 - 2005)

| COMMUNITY            | Total Births<br># | Low/No Prenatal Care |    | Low Birth-weight (<2500 grams) |    | Births to Teen Mothers |    | Births to Single Mothers |    | Mothers with Diabetes |    | Mothers with <12 Years of Education |    |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|-----------------------|----|-------------------------------------|----|
|                      |                   | #                    | %  | #                              | %  | #                      | %  | #                        | %  | #                     | %  | #                                   | %  |
| Cochiti Pueblo       |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 39                | 3                    | 8  | 2                              | 5  | 10                     | 26 | 34                       | 87 | 0                     | 0  | 7                                   | 18 |
| 2000-2002            | 45                | 8                    | 18 | 5                              | 11 | 6                      | 13 | 33                       | 73 | 0                     | 0  | 8                                   | 18 |
| 2003-2005            | 54                | 6                    | 11 | 5                              | 9  | 10                     | 19 | 44                       | 81 | 4                     | 7  | 6                                   | 11 |
| Jemez Pueblo         |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 124               | 17                   | 14 | 7                              | 6  | 27                     | 22 | 98                       | 79 | 8                     | 6  | 22                                  | 18 |
| 2000-2002            | 109               | 22                   | 20 | 14                             | 13 | 21                     | 19 | 83                       | 76 | 11                    | 10 | 13                                  | 12 |
| 2003-2005            | 140               | 32                   | 23 | 7                              | 5  | 19                     | 14 | 111                      | 79 | 12                    | 9  | 19                                  | 14 |
| San Felipe Pueblo    |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 172               | 26                   | 15 | 9                              | 5  | 33                     | 19 | 160                      | 93 | 7                     | 4  | 54                                  | 31 |
| 2000-2002            | 175               | 33                   | 19 | 9                              | 5  | 32                     | 18 | 161                      | 92 | 14                    | 8  | 57                                  | 33 |
| 2003-2005            | 185               | 28                   | 15 | 13                             | 7  | 51                     | 28 | 171                      | 92 | 7                     | 4  | 60                                  | 32 |
| Sandia Pueblo        |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 12                | 3                    | 25 | 1                              | 8  | 3                      | 25 | 10                       | 83 | 1                     | 8  | 2                                   | 17 |
| 2000-2002            | 23                | 3                    | 13 | 1                              | 4  | 6                      | 26 | 22                       | 96 | 1                     | 4  | 5                                   | 22 |
| 2003-2005            | 23                | 2                    | 9  | 1                              | 4  | 1                      | 4  | 18                       | 78 | 2                     | 9  | 4                                   | 17 |
| Santa Ana Pueblo     |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 19                | 2                    | 11 | 2                              | 11 | 4                      | 21 | 16                       | 84 | 0                     | 0  | 3                                   | 16 |
| 2000-2002            | 25                | 4                    | 16 | 2                              | 8  | 6                      | 24 | 18                       | 72 | 0                     | 0  | 4                                   | 16 |
| 2003-2005            | 32                | 5                    | 16 | 1                              | 3  | 7                      | 22 | 24                       | 75 | 2                     | 6  | 4                                   | 13 |
| Santo Domingo Pueblo |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 204               | 29                   | 14 | 5                              | 2  | 35                     | 17 | 178                      | 87 | 6                     | 3  | 56                                  | 27 |
| 2000-2002            | 230               | 41                   | 18 | 12                             | 5  | 54                     | 23 | 207                      | 90 | 8                     | 3  | 72                                  | 31 |
| 2003-2005            | 238               | 31                   | 13 | 17                             | 7  | 38                     | 16 | 209                      | 88 | 9                     | 4  | 49                                  | 21 |
| Zia Pueblo           |                   |                      |    |                                |    |                        |    |                          |    |                       |    |                                     |    |
| 1997-1999            | 33                | 7                    | 21 | 4                              | 12 | 6                      | 18 | 30                       | 91 | 3                     | 9  | 4                                   | 12 |
| 2000-2002            | 36                | 6                    | 17 | 4                              | 11 | 2                      | 6  | 30                       | 83 | 5                     | 14 | 2                                   | 6  |
| 2003-2005            | 50                | 5                    | 10 | 9                              | 18 | 7                      | 14 | 43                       | 86 | 2                     | 4  | 4                                   | 8  |

Source: Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, New Mexico Department of Health.  
Percents based on fewer than 20 events may be statistically unreliable and should be interpreted with caution.

Figure III - 11 County Pueblos - Low/No Prenatal Care 1999 - 2006

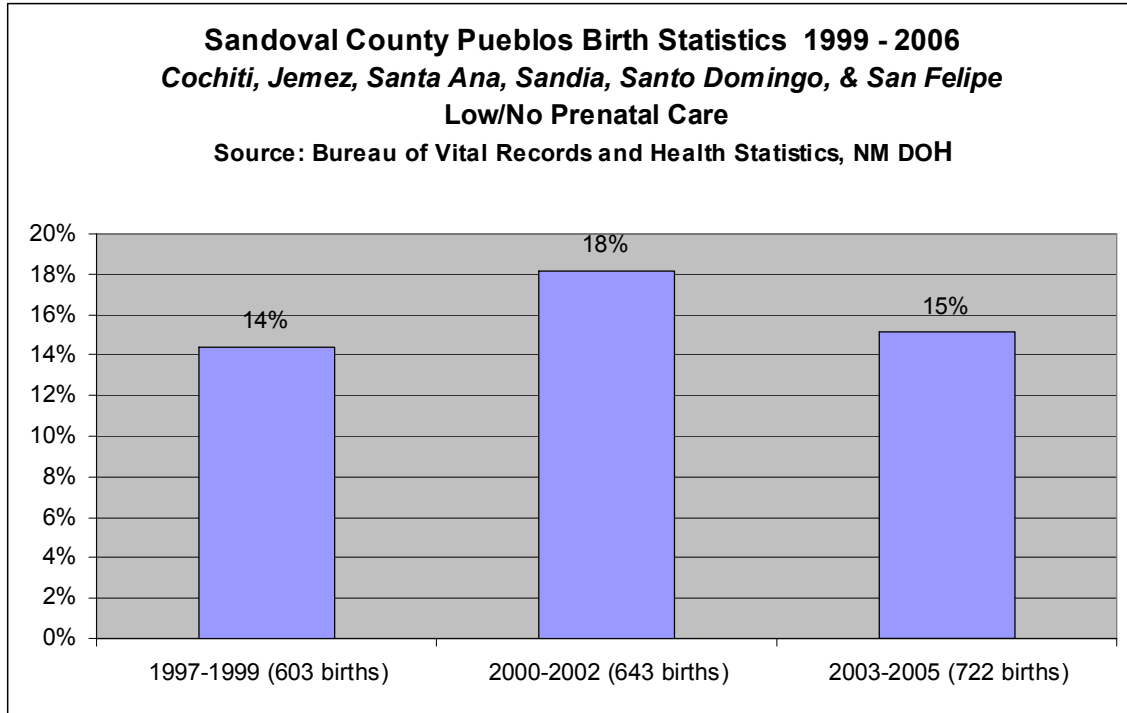
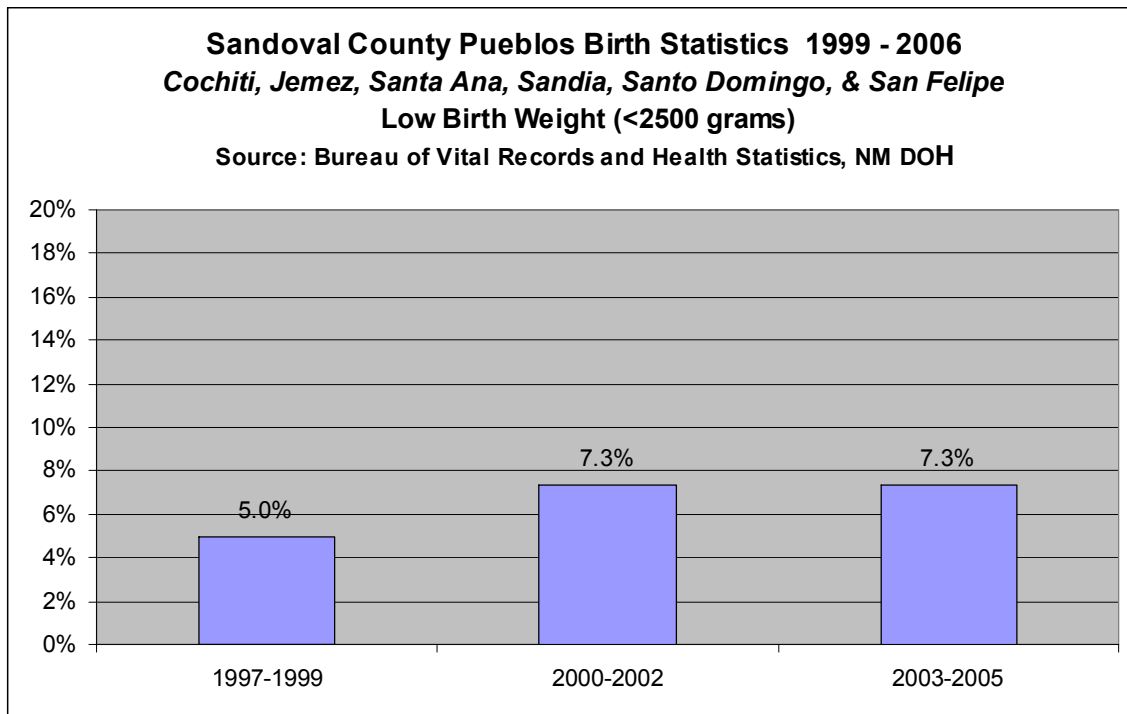


Figure III - 12 County Pueblos - Low Birth Weight 1999 - 2006



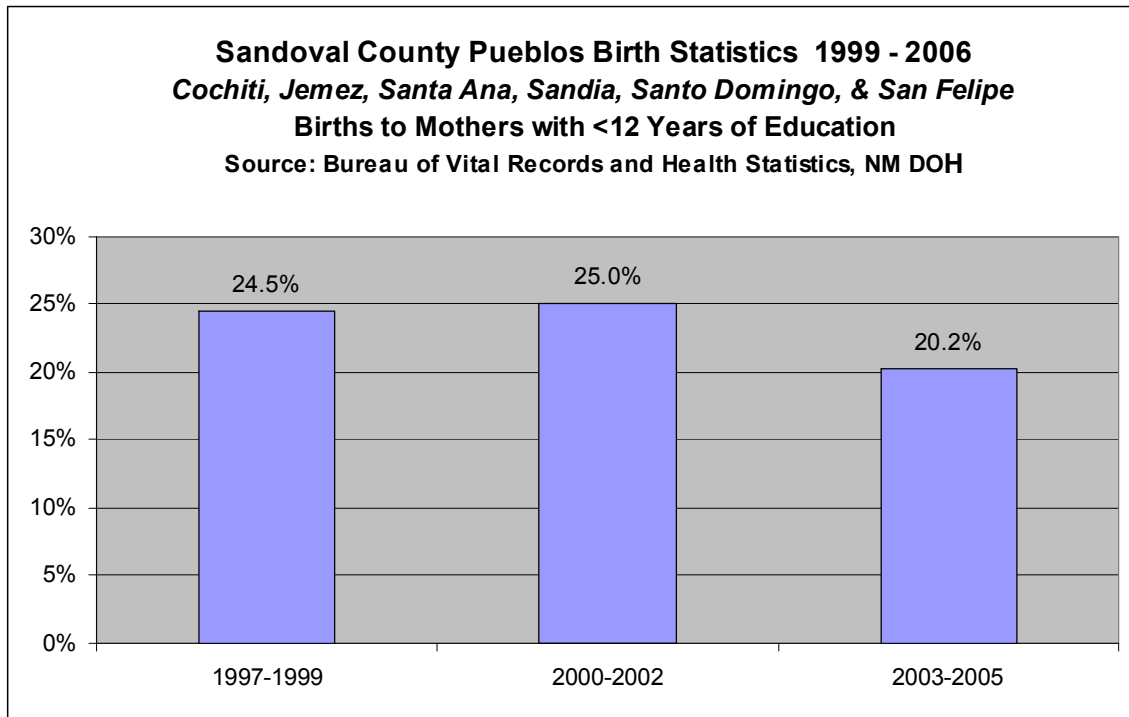
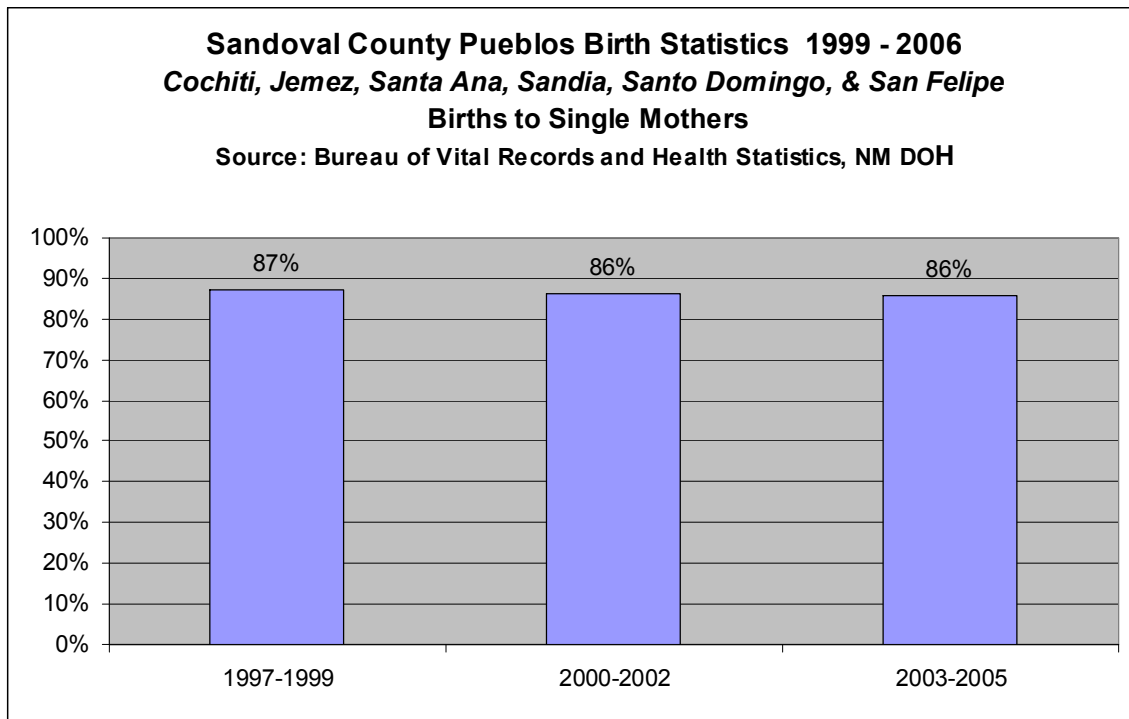


Figure III - 13 County Pueblos - Births to Mothers with < 12 Years of Education 1999 - 2006

Figure III - 14 County Pueblos - Births to Single Mothers



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<sup>i</sup> New Mexico Selected Health Statistics, 2004,

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<sup>iii</sup> The State of Health in New Mexico, 2000 Report, New Mexico Department of Health

<sup>iv</sup> Based on Kotelchuck Index, based on timing of initiation of care and adequacy of services received.

<sup>v</sup> New Mexico Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Program (NM PRAMS), Surveillance Report, New Mexico Department of Health, Maternal Child Health Epidemiology, <http://www.health.state.nm.us/phd/prams>.

<sup>vi</sup> New Mexico Selected Health Statistics Annual Report 2004, The State Center for Health Statistics, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, July, 2006, <http://www.health.state.nm.us>.