Maternal and Child Health, US-Mexico Border

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Definitions:

- Data refer to the US side only of the US-Mexico border.
- Border region defined as 44 US counties within 62 miles or 100 kilometers of the border.
- Data are from birth and death certificates for residents of the border counties, plus US Census.
- Birth and death certificate data have some disadvantages, but several important advantages.
U.S. Counties Included in Border Region

2000 Population

- 55.1 million
- 6.6 million


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>248,709,873</td>
<td>281,421,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border</td>
<td>5,432,305</td>
<td>6,553,766</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Population Growth, US-Mexico Border
1990-2000

Fertility Rate, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

Births per 1000 women 15-44

- USA: 66
- Border: 84
- AZ border: 75
- CA border: 73
- NM border: 75
- TX border: 103

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Total Fertility Rate, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Total Fertility Rate, US-Mexico Border 2004

Completed number of births per woman

Border: 2.5
Hispanic: 3.0
NHW: 1.7

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Risk Factors for Pregnant Women and Infants

- Teen pregnancy/childbirth
- Pregnancy/childbirth at age 35+
- Low socioeconomic status
- Maternal smoking, drinking
- Access to prenatal care
- Maternal health conditions
- Maternal nutrition
Early Teen Birth Rate, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Birth Rate for Women 35+, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Percent of Mothers with Less Than 12 Years of Education, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

- USA: 22%
- Border: 32%
- Hispanic: 42%
- NHW: 7%

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Percent of Mothers Beginning Prenatal Care in First Trimester, US-Mexico Border, 2004

Legend
- NA
- 58.2 - 65.9
- 67.0 - 70.4
- 75.4 - 81.9
- 87.6 - 88.4
### Percent* of Mothers Who Smoked During Pregnancy, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>USA</th>
<th>Border</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>NHW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.

*Excludes data for California and other states.*
Percent Low Birth Weight, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Infant Mortality Rate, USA and US-Mexico Border, 2004

Source: National natality and mortality files, NCHS/CDC.
Hispanic Paradox

- Why do Hispanic mothers, infants and children have such good health despite their low income, low education, and other disadvantages?
MCH Data Quality

- **Birth weight:**
  - Very few birth certificates do not contain this information
  - Accuracy of birth weight data is certainly good enough to be confident of the percent low birth weight

- **Infant mortality:**
  - Border figures are similar to national rates for Hispanics and non-Hispanic Whites
  - Border Hispanic rate may be affected by women crossing border to give birth in US
Childhood Health

- Beyond the first year of life, the leading cause of childhood death is injuries, for both the border and the USA.
  - Within the injury category, motor vehicle crashes is the leading cause.
- Childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes are increasing concerns on the border.
Percent Cesarean Section Deliveries, USA and US-Mexico Border 2004

USA: 29.1%
Border: 31.3%
Hispanic: 32.5%
NHW: 28.6%

Source: National natality data, NCHS/CDC.
Thanks!

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