

MATERNAL CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH (MCAH) PROJECT NARRATIVE
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Allocation Number 201142

The following program narrative is a profile of Santa Barbara County (SBC) with a focus on its population health.

A. General Description: Geographic & Environmental. Santa Barbara County is the 19th largest LHJ in California with a population of 423,895¹. SBC covers a large geographical area of 2,737 square miles. The southern end of the county is relatively urban with a high degree of tourism and students. The majority of SBC residents live in the cities of Santa Maria (23.6%), Santa Barbara (20.9%) and Lompoc (10.1%).

B. Demographics. According to the 2010 Census, the **ethnic/racial makeup** of the Santa Barbara County LHJ is:

White	48%
Latino	43%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5%
African American	2%
Other	3%

Racial/ethnic composition of the population is an important consideration in health planning and culturally appropriate resources to prevent health disparities. While Whites have a larger population than Latinos in the LHJ, they have a lower birth rate resulting in a higher number of births to Latina mothers than to White mothers. In 2009 there were 6,039 births. Of these, 67% were to Latina mothers.

Race and Ethnicity of All Births in SBC, 2009

White	26% (1555/6039)
Hispanic	67% (4055/6039)
Black	1% (65/6039)
American Indian	0% (9/6039)
Asian	4% (236/6039)
Asian Pacific Islander	0% (5/6039)
Multirace	2% (114/6039)

In North County, the **total births** to women of Hispanic ethnicity 80.6% (2,307/2,861). There are many Mixteco/Oaxacan families in the North County area. An estimated 15,000 – 25,000 Mixtecos/Oaxacans have immigrated to the Santa Maria area in recent years. Since Mixteco is not a written language, literacy is a huge obstacle to obtaining information.

According to the 2010 Census, the **proportion of women of childbearing age (15-44)** in the LHJ is 43% (90,521/211,109). Children less than 5 years account for 6% of the population, children between the ages 5-14 comprise 12% and youth between 15-24 years comprise 19%. In 2009 there were 6,039 live births in SBC.

The actual number of births to teens (age 15 -19) is declining in SBC. In 2009 there were 673 births to teens or 11.1% - (673/6039) of total births in SBC. However, 2009 data that is specific to **births to teens in North County** (Santa Maria, Guadalupe and surrounding areas) show that the percentage of births to teens in North County is higher than the rest of the county:

- 13.6% (389/2,861) of the total births in North County were to teens
- 14.72% (596/4,052) of births to Hispanic women were to teens

2009 data reveals that 6.2% babies were born low birth weight, 1.0% very low birth weight and 31% did not access prenatal care in the first trimester. The 2009 data indicates that 2,790 women were discharged with any breastfeeding (combination of human milk and formula), while only 1,669 were exclusively breastfeeding.

¹http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/state_census_data_center/census_2010/documents/2010Census_Pop_Rankers.xls

C. Socioeconomic factors. In 2009, Santa Barbara County had a higher percentage of people **living below the Federal Poverty Level** (19%) than average for the State (17.8%).² In 2009, almost one-third of Latinos in the County (31.1%) were living below the poverty level, compared to 7.3% of Whites. There are approximately 6358 **homeless in SBC** - 1.5% of population per 2010 Census. North County has a higher unemployment rate than **SBC unemployment³ rate** (10% January, 2011). Santa Maria's unemployment rate was 14.9% in February 2011 from January's high of 15.5%. Guadalupe unemployment rate was 16.3%.

Education levels are moderately high in Santa Barbara County, with 61.6% of residents 25 and older having completed some college.⁴ People residing in the southern part of the County tend to have higher education levels. According to the US Census data for 2005-2009, 85.3% of Santa Barbara city residents 25 and older have graduated from high school compared to 64.5% in Santa Maria. However, the percentage of births to mothers with an education level below GED in North County is 43.4% as compared to 35% in SBC and in Santa Maria the education level below GED was 49.9%.

In 2009, 19.3% of County residents had no **health insurance** for all or part of the year.⁵ Latinos were much more likely than Whites to be uninsured, with 22.9% of Latinos ages 0-64 lacking health insurance at the time of the survey compared to 5.6% of Whites in this age group. 21.4% of women of reproductive age have no insurance².

Medi-Cal Births by SBC Geographic Area (6,039 births in 2009) show that while 56.5% of births are to women on Medi-Cal⁶. 74.1% of births in North County were to Medi-Cal⁶ recipients.

Region	n	%
North	2119/2861	74.1%
Central	582/1108	52.5%
South	883/2061	42.8%

63.26% (N 3762) of **mothers had first trimester prenatal care** in North County as compared with 81.68% (N1266) in South County. There are ten (10) **CPSP providers**. SBC Managed Health Care does not mandate Medi-Cal providers to be in the CPSP program as they do in the CHDP program.

Of the 105,127 children⁷ in SBC, ages 1-17, approximately 45% are on some form of **Public Insurance**: Medi-Cal 34% (35,385); Healthy Families 10% (10,671) and Healthy Kids 1% (1,004). 45% of these children reside in the North County, South County comprising 35% and Mid-County 20%. There are thirty-nine (39) CHDP providers county-wide.

There are 324 **Dentists** in SBC. Many of these Dentists do not **accept Denti-Cal**. There is only one anesthesiologist in SBC for children at this time.

- North County, only 21/86 Dentists accept Denti-Cal, with 21,455 children on Medi-Cal
- South County 7/196 accept Denti-Cal with 7,823 children on Medi-Cal
- Mid-County there are 7/42 Dentists that accept Denti-Cal with 6,107 children with Medi-Cal⁸

The total percentage of **overweight and obese children** served by Low-Income Public Health Programs based on BMI are higher in Santa Barbara than the State average.⁹ In SBC, 33.5% of children 2-4 yrs of age

² California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), UCLA, 2011.

³ US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2011

⁴ US Census 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

⁵ California's Uninsured by County. Shana Alex Lavarreda, Y. Jenny Chia, Livier Cabezas, Dylan Roby, August 2010

⁶ Birth Stat Master File, 2009 – Santa Barbara County. CDPH Center for Health Statistics

⁷ Kidsdata.org. 2010

⁸ www.ca.gov and Health Linkages provider list 2010

⁹ California Department of Health Care Services, Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System. Accessed online at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/PedNSS2009.aspx#overview> (April 2011).

and 45.5% of children 5-10 yrs of age were overweight or obese. This compares to California rates of 32.9 and 41.5% respectively.

Child Deaths (2008)¹⁰ – Infant (36 deaths); Ages 1-14 (14 deaths); Ages 10-14 (5 deaths); Ages 15-19 (15 deaths). The majority of deaths were due to medical conditions or unpreventable disease. A child is most at risk of dying during the first 12 months of their life. Many of these deaths were due in some part to prematurity. Accidents appear to occur across all age categories. Parents co-sleeping with young children or maternal overlying are factors in some accidents and undetermined deaths.

In the past 4 years, of the roughly 4,000 annual referrals to **Child Welfare Services** approximately 85% required an in-person investigation. 66% of all investigations were in the North County region. Santa Barbara County was in the 90-100% percentile in 'Estimated Prevalence of Use of Illicit Drugs Other than Marijuana in Past Month Among Persons Aged 12 or Older by California Region, 2006-2008', 'Estimated Prevalence of Nonmedical Use of Pain Relievers in Past Year Among Persons Ages 12 or Older by California Region, 2006-2008', and Estimated Prevalence of Marijuana Use in Past Month Among Persons Ages 12 or Older by California Region, 2006-2008'¹¹. A serious **substance abuse** problem exists in SBC. The Lompoc and Santa Maria regions receive over seventy five (75) percent of all Alcohol and Drug treatment funding. In FY 2008-09, over 1,500 adults received substance abuse treatment in Northern Santa Barbara County. Of these individuals, 632 were women, 63% of whom were mothers of underage children and nearly 10% were pregnant at the time of entry into treatment. These women are unlikely to be employed and only 38% had completed high school. The needs for this population are far greater than the resources.¹²

D. Health Status and Priority Areas. The greatest health disparities are for women and children in the North County. In general, families in North County are likely to be young, Latino, Spanish-speaking, and live in poverty than residents in South County. They are also more likely to have births and to have teen births. They are less likely to have health insurance and less likely to be employed. The percentage of births to mothers with an education level below GED in North County is lower than South County. Dental access throughout the county is limited.

Santa Barbara MCAH Field Nursing (SBC PHD) is a non-evidenced based home visitation program for high risk women of child-bearing age and children <19. PHN's, a Medical Social Svc Practitioner and Health Service Aides provide home visitation and case management to these families for approximately 2-6 months for weekly and monthly visitation. The program serves those who are low-income and at high risk for adverse outcomes or have barriers to health, e.g. health insurance, teen parents, medical conditions, problems during and after pregnancy, child's developmental delays, exposure to tobacco, alcohol, drugs, family violence, depression or other conditions that interfere with a healthy life. Postpartum visitation and newborn assessment and anticipatory guidance, environmental assessment and safety are done on all high risk mothers delivering in the PHD Health Care Center Clinics. The Title V Capacity Assessment County priority areas are integrated in the home visitation program. These include perinatal depression assessment, breastfeeding/obesity prevention, medical and dental insurance access, medical and oral health access and education, teen pregnancy, DV and substance use.

Local Priority Needs – based on 2009 Capacity Assessment¹³. See SBC MCAH AFA Scope of Work.

Overweight Children – Decrease the incidence of overweight children in SBC. Promote breastfeeding

Children without Insurance – Increase the number of children with access to health and dental insurance

Teen Births – Decrease the number of teen births in SBC

Low Birth Weight – Decrease the incidence of low birth weight through education and community awareness

Teen and Perinatal Substance Abuse – Increase awareness and access to services for substance abuse

Postpartum Depression – Increase awareness and access to services for postpartum depression

¹⁰ FHOP 2009 data

¹¹ California Home Visiting Program: Statewide Home Visiting Needs Assessment.

¹² Santa Barbara County Alcohol Drug & Mental Health Services

¹³ www.sbcphd.org/MCAH