

SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY

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BROADCAST

Recent reports show the highest prevalence of prenatal smoking behaviors nationally are among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) women.¹

Evidence suggests smoking during pregnancy increases risk for miscarriages, preterm births, and low birth weight babies and can also cause tissue damage, usually in the brain and lungs, of the fetus.² Also, babies are three times as likely to die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome if their mothers smoke.²

The Urban Indian Health Institute used Vital Statistics data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) to look at the rate of prenatal smoking for births to AI/AN and white women residing in Urban Indian Health Organization (UIHO) service areas from 2006-2010.

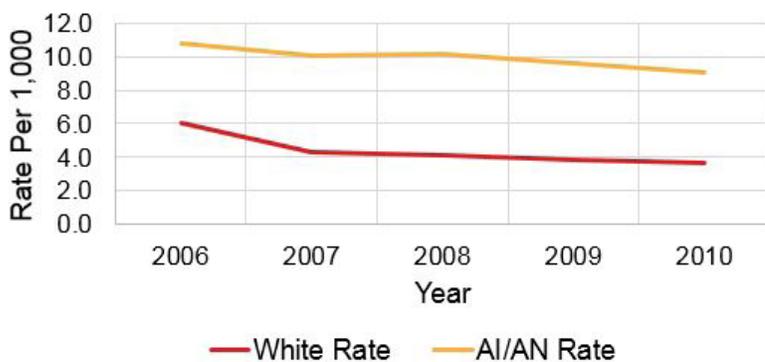
The prenatal smoking rate for both urban AI/ANs and urban whites dropped over this five year period. Rates per 1,000 births for whites fell from 6.1 in 2006 to 3.6 in 2010. For AI/ANs, the rates per 1,000 births fell from 10.8 in 2006 to 9.1 in 2010 (Figure 1).³ While declining prenatal smoking rates are encouraging, disparities remain.

For all of the years studied, the AI/AN prenatal smoking rate was significantly higher than that for whites.

Smoking during pregnancy is the most common cause of infant disease and death.⁴ The implementation and effectiveness of smoking cessation interventions should be considered for the urban AI/AN population. Multiple interventions including counseling and clinical screening have been shown to increase smoking cessation.⁵



Figure 1: Trends of Smoking During Pregnancy Among AI/ANs and Whites in UIHO Areas (2006-2010)



Source: NCHS, Natality data, 2006-2010

References

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3. NCHS. Natality, 2006-2010. as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program.
4. CDC. (2013). PRAMS and Smoking. Retrieved January 30, 2015, from <http://www.cdc.gov/prams/TobaccoandPrams.htm>
5. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. (2009). Counseling and Interventions to Prevent Tobacco Use and Tobacco-Caused Disease in Adults and Pregnant Women: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Reaffirmation Recommendation Statement. *Ann Intern Med* 2009; 150:551-55.