

BIRTH



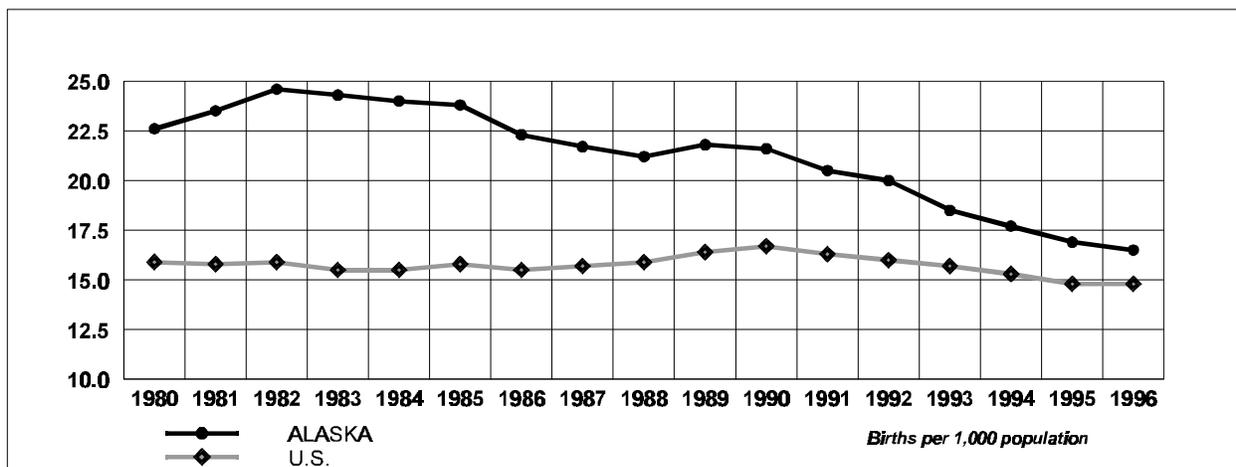
10,041 RESIDENT BIRTHS

INTRODUCTION

There were 10,041 Alaska resident live births in 1996 (5,179 boys and 4,862 girls). This is a decrease of 1.8 percent from the 10,222 births recorded in 1995.¹ The 1996 crude birth rate of 16.5 per 1,000 population (see Table 1.1A on page 14) represents a 2.4 percent decrease from the 1995 crude birth rate of 16.9 per 1,000 population, and a 17.5 percent decrease from the 1992 crude birth rate of 20.0 per 1,000 population.² The 1996 crude birth rate for the United States was 14.8 live births per 1,000 population.³ While the U.S. rate has ranged from 14.8 to 16.7 births per 1,000 population during the past 15 years, the Alaska rate has steadily declined, from a high of 24.5 births per 1,000 population in 1982 to a low of 16.5 in 1996.

- 1 Crondahl, J., Mitchell, P., Anderson, C., and Walden, S. Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, *Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics 1995 Annual Report*, Juneau, Alaska. July 1997, p. 9.
- 2 Zenk, A.E., Skagerberg, V.R., Withington, R.P., and Walden, S.L. Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, *Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics 1992 Annual Report*, Juneau, Alaska. January 1996, p. 9. Rates have been recalculated according to population estimates shown in Appendix I.
- 3 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 46, No. 1(S2), September 11, 1997, p. 2.

CHART 1.1 CRUDE BIRTH RATES, UNITED STATES AND ALASKA, 1980-1996



There were 111 multiple births with 109 sets of twins and 2 sets of triplets in 1996.

The most popular boy's name in 1996 was Michael and the most popular girl's name was Jessica. Michael was also the most popular boy's name in 1991, and the second most popular boy's name in 1986. Jessica ranked as the most popular girl's name in both 1986 and 1991. The table below shows the ten most popular boys' and girls' names for the years 1986, 1991, and 1996.

RANK	BOYS' NAMES			GIRLS' NAMES		
	1986	1991	1996	1986	1991	1996
01	Christopher	Michael	Michael	Jessica	Jessica	Jessica
02	Michael	Christopher	Jacob	Amanda	Ashley	Ashley
03	Matthew	James	John	Sarah	Amanda	Emily
04	Ryan	Joshua	David	Ashley	Sarah	Sarah
05	Joshua	Matthew	James	Jennifer	Samantha	Samantha
06	David	John	Matthew	Stephanie	Brittany	Megan
07	Daniel	Daniel	Daniel	Melissa	Elizabeth	Hannah
08	James	Ryan	Christopher	Danielle	Stephanie	Madison
09	Robert	Jacob	Tyler	Nicole	Jennifer	Amanda
10	John	Kyle	William	Elizabeth	Chelsea	Taylor

The incidence of low birth weight babies (under 2500 grams or 5 pounds 8 ounces and under) born in the five-year period from 1992 through 1996 was 5.3 percent of total live births, up from 5.0 percent from 1991 through 1995. While 1992-1996 was the only 5-year period in the past decade in which low birth weight percentages were above 5 percent, the trend since the 1987-1991 period has shown a steady increase in the percentage of low birth weight infants.

During 1996, 20.5 percent of mothers reported using tobacco at some time during their pregnancies, and 4.4 percent reported using alcohol. In the five years from 1992-1996, mothers under the legal age of smoking (19 years) were almost 1.9 times more likely to use tobacco than mothers of legal smoking age (32.2 percent of mothers under 19 compared with 20.4 percent of mothers ages 19 and over). Mothers under the legal drinking age of 21 were only slightly less likely to use alcohol during pregnancy than mothers age 21 and over (5.8 percent under 21 compared to 6.5 percent ages 21 and over).

The natural increase in population (the increase of births over deaths) was 7,428 persons, representing a natural increase rate of 12.2 persons per 1,000 population. This is a 3.9 percent decrease from the 12.7 persons per 1,000 population natural increase rate in 1995.

April had the most births with 899 or 9.0 percent of the total; January had the fewest births with 740, 7.4 percent of the total.

BIRTHS BY RESIDENCE AND OCCURRENCE

In order to calculate birth rates, fertility rates, or any of the other rates used in this report, estimates of the population must be made. Population estimates are provided by the Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section, Demographics Unit. Please refer to Appendix I for population estimates used in this report.

Fertility rate is a more accurate measure than crude birth rate since it is a measure of the number of births compared to the number of women of normal child-bearing age (15-44 years). Table 1.1A shows the total births, crude birth rates, and fertility rates by census area. The 1996 fertility rate for Alaska was 71.5 births per 1,000 women of child-bearing age. This is exactly the same fertility rate as in 1995; and is 8.8 percent above the 1996 United States' fertility rate of 65.7.⁴ The Alaska fertility rate peaked in 1982 at 91.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15-44. For a more detailed explanation of birth rates and fertility rates, see "Comparing Different Populations" in the Introduction.

Table 1.1A provides the number of births occurring, resident births, population, birth rate, female population of child-bearing age, and fertility rate by census area in Alaska. Please note that "births occurring" is the census area where the child was born and includes out of state occurrences for Alaskan residents, as well as births occurring in Alaska to non-resident mothers. The "resident" column is the number of births to resident mothers of each census area regardless of where the birth took place. Birth and fertility rates are based on numbers of resident births and estimated population by census area.

4 Ibid.

TABLE 1.1A BIRTH OCCURRENCES, RESIDENT BIRTHS, ESTIMATED POPULATIONS, CRUDE BIRTH RATES, FEMALE POPULATION AGES 15-44, AND FERTILITY RATES BY CENSUS AREA, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA	BIRTHS		POP	BIRTH RATE	FEMALES 15-44	FERTILITY RATE
	OCCURRING	RESIDENT				
ALEUTIANS EAST		25	2,214	11.3	449	55.7
ALEUTIANS WEST	4	46	5,763	8.0	1,168	39.4
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	5,065	4,116	254,178	16.2	61,070	67.4
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKAGWAY		34	3,821	8.9	809	42.0
BETHEL	446	387	15,334	25.2	3,207	120.7
BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH		22	1,255	17.5	271	81.2
DENALI BOROUGH		18	1,906	9.4	426	42.3
DILLINGHAM	80	103	4,481	23.0	936	110.0
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	1,641	1,461	82,289	17.8	19,768	73.9
HAINES BOROUGH	1	26	2,358	11.0	495	52.5
JUNEAU BOROUGH	451	430	29,294	14.7	6,889	62.4
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH	610	684	46,881	14.6	10,387	65.9
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH	310	243	14,701	16.5	3,249	74.8
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH	239	267	14,062	19.0	3,117	85.7
LAKE AND PENINSULA		35	1,808	19.4	372	94.1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH	503	718	50,665	14.2	11,803	60.8
NOME	143	234	9,119	25.7	1,872	125.0
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH	62	144	7,119	20.2	1,498	96.1
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH	110	169	6,521	25.9	1,292	130.8
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN	3	81	7,010	11.6	1,474	55.0
SITKA BOROUGH	154	120	8,682	13.8	1,928	62.2
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS	10	113	6,271	18.0	1,351	83.6
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	57	158	10,487	15.1	2,318	68.2
WADE HAMPTON	11	229	6,707	34.1	1,247	183.6
WRANGELL-PETERSBURG	35	82	7,217	11.4	1,536	53.4
YAKUTAT	1	11	798	13.8	168	65.5
YUKON-KOYUKUK	1	85	6,373	13.3	1,240	68.5
OUT OF STATE	116					
TOTAL	10,053	10,041	607,314	16.5	140,340	71.5

Table 1.1B shows birth occurrences and resident births by Native Regional Corporation areas. For a map showing Native Regional Corporation boundaries, see page 163.

MAP 1.1 CRUDE BIRTH RATE BY CENSUS AREA OF THE MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1996

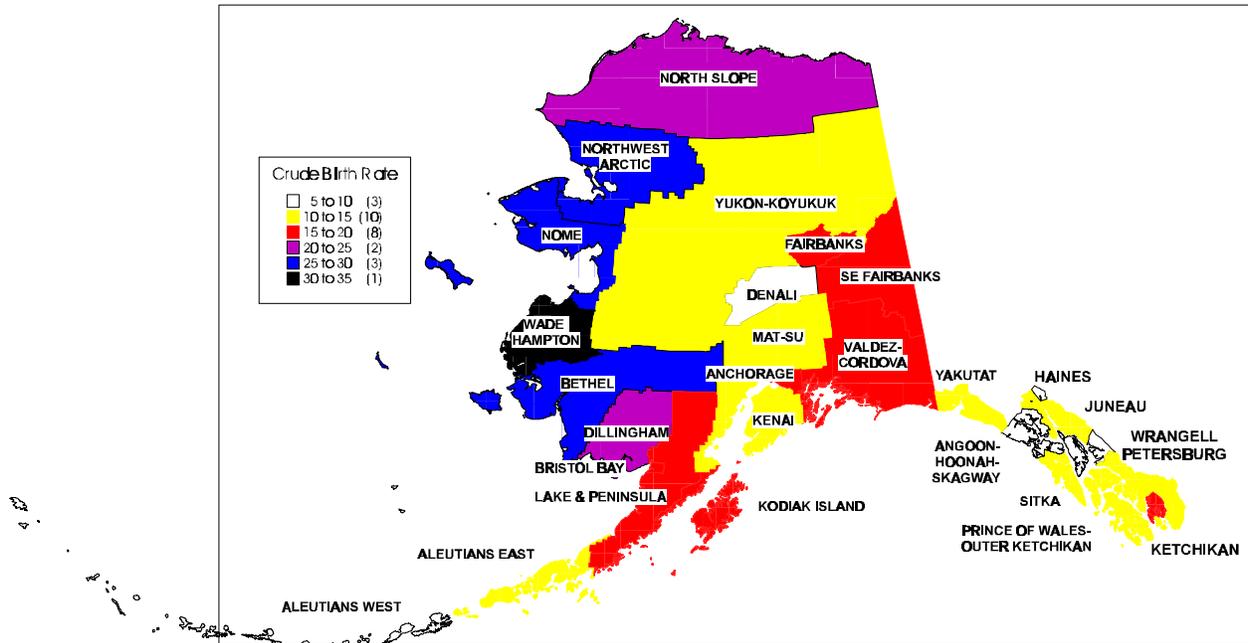


TABLE 1.1B BIRTH OCCURRENCES AND RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION AREA, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	BIRTHS	
	OCCURRING	RESIDENT
AHTNA INC	1	54
ALEUT CORP.	4	71
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	62	144
BERING STRAITS CORP	143	234
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	80	155
CALISTA CORP.	457	616
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	59	156
COOK INLET REG CORP	6,175	5,473
DOYON LTD	1,652	1,675
KONIAG INC.	239	267
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	110	169
SEALASKA CORP.	955	1,027
OUT OF STATE	116	
TOTAL	10,053	10,041

CHART 1.2A FERTILITY RATES WITH 95% CONFIDENCE INTERVALS BY CENSUS AREA, ALASKA, 1996

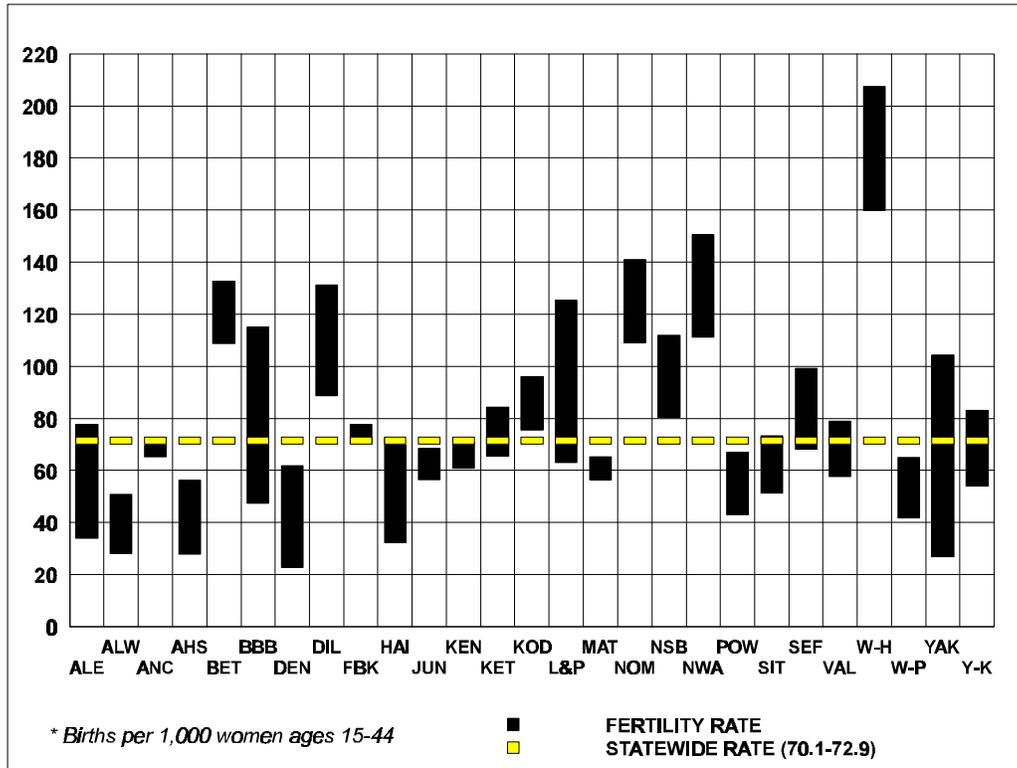
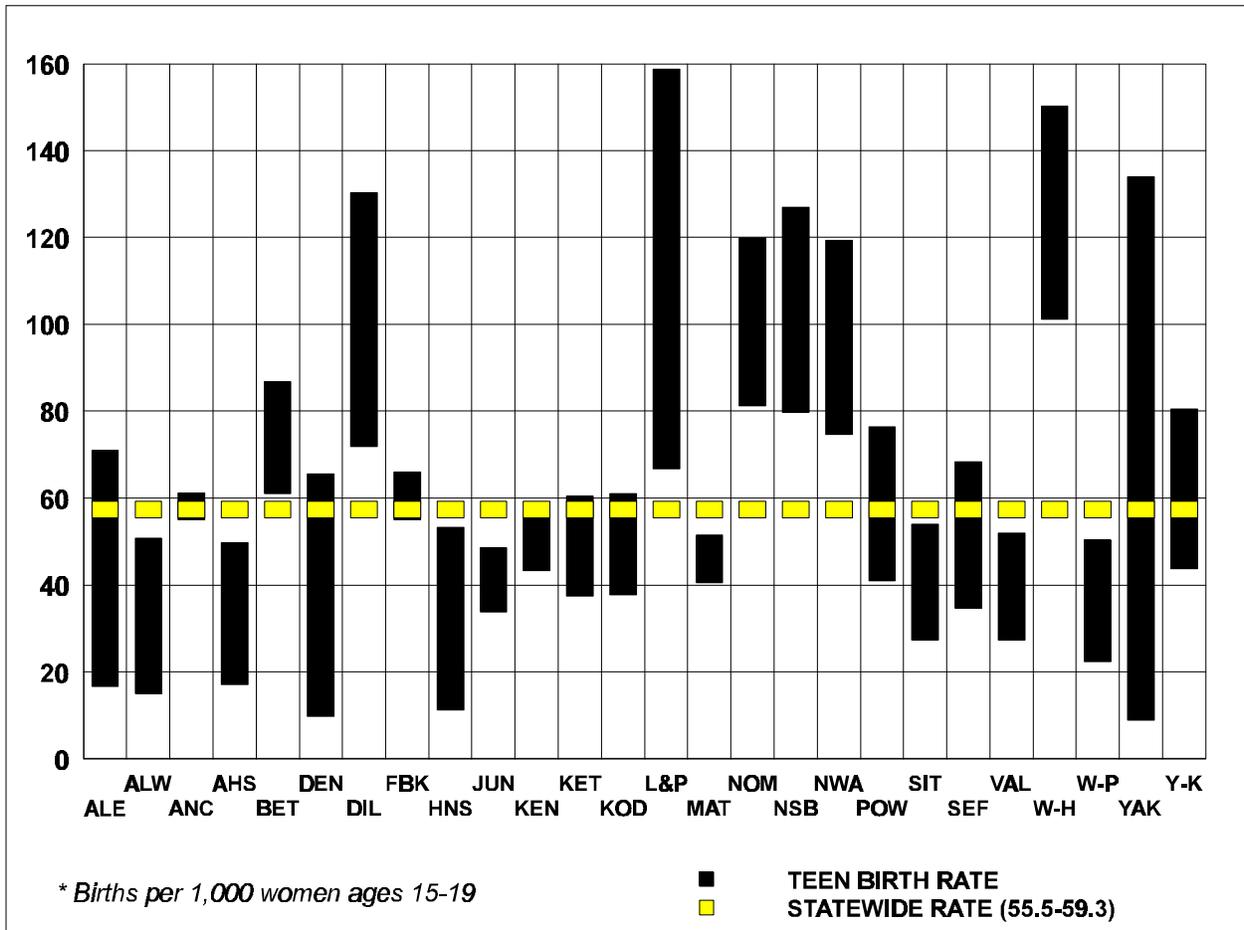


Chart 1.2A provides the 95% confidence interval ranges for fertility rates by census area. Census areas in this chart are in the same order as they are listed in Tables 1.1A and 1.2A. For a key to the abbreviations used in Chart 1.2A please refer to either Table 1.1A or 1.2A.

Confidence intervals are used to provide an indicator of statistical significance when analyzing small populations. Generally, smaller populations result in wider confidence intervals and less reliable rates. The calculated fertility rate occurs at the exact midpoint of the interval. If the statewide confidence interval falls within the band for a census area, the difference between the two is not statistically significant. For a more detailed discussion of confidence intervals and statistical significance, refer to Appendix B.

Chart 1.2A shows that the fertility rates for Aleutians West, Anchorage, Angoon-Hoonah-Skagway, Denali, Juneau, Matanuska-Susitna, Prince of Wales/Outer Ketchikan, and Wrangell-Petersburg are significantly lower than the statewide rates. On the other hand, the fertility rates for Bethel, Dillingham, Kodiak, Nome, North Slope, Northwest Arctic, and Wade-Hampton are significantly higher than for the statewide average.

CHART 1.2B TEEN BIRTH RATES WITH 95% CONFIDENCE INTERVALS BY CENSUS AREAS, ALASKA, 1994-1996



Since the birth rate for teens deals with smaller numbers than the general fertility rate, teen births and populations for a three year period, from 1994 through 1996, have been used in calculating teen birth rates by census area. The teen birth rate is calculated by dividing the number of births to teens from ages 15-19 in the three-year period by the total estimated female population in that age group for all three years, and multiplying by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Births to teens younger than 15 are not included when calculating the teen birth rate because there are few births in that population and the rate would not be comparable to the national teen birth rate.

Chart 1.2B shows that Aleutians West, Angoon-Hoonah-Skagway, Haines, Juneau, Matanuska-Susitna, Sitka, Valdez-Cordova, and Wrangell-Petersburg had teen birth rates below the statewide rate. Bethel, Dillingham, Lake & Peninsula, Nome, North Slope, Northwest Arctic, and Wade Hampton had teen birth rates above the statewide average. The Bristol Bay census area was not included in this chart because the number of teen births was too small to result in reliable teen birth rates.

TABLE 1.2A BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE												
	ALW	ANC	BET	DIL	FBK	HNS	JUN	KPB	KET	KOD	MSB	NOM	NSB
ALEUTN EAST		25											
ALEUTN WEST	4	29						1			2		
ANCHORAGE		4,066			2			4			28		
ANG-HNH-SKG		1					20						
BETHEL		96	286	2									
BRISTOL BAY		19		1	1								
DENALI					18								
DILLINGHAM		32	2	69									
FAIRBANKS		16		1,429									
HAINES		1				1	14	1					
JUNEAU		8			2		403						
KENAI PEN		82						599			1		
KETCHIKAN		2					1		229				
KODIAK		26						3		238			
LAKE-PENIN		27		7									
MAT-SU		254									461		
NOME		82			3						1	140	
NORTH SLOPE		58			12								62
NW ARCTIC		62			3							1	
PRINCE-WALES		2							66				
SITKA		4											
SE FAIRBANKS		1			103								
VALDEZ-CORDV		83			2			1			9		
WADE HAMPTON		59	155	1	1						1	2	
WRANGELL-PBG		4					8		14				
YAKUTAT		1					5						
YUKON-KOY		18	2		64								
TOTAL	4	5,058	445	80	1,640	1	451	609	309	238	503	143	62

Continued ➞

TABLE 1.2A CONTINUED

MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE										TOTAL	
	NAB	POW	SIT	SEF	VAL	WAH	WRP	YAK	YUK	OOS		
ALEUTN EAST												25
ALEUTN WEST											10	46
ANCHORAGE									1		15	4,116
ANG-HNH-SKG			10								3	34
BETHEL							2				1	387
BRISTOL BAY											1	22
DENALI												18
DILLINGHAM												103
FAIRBANKS				1	1						14	1,461
HAINES				4							5	26
JUNEAU				4							13	430
KENAI PEN											2	684
KETCHIKAN				1							10	243
KODIAK												267
LAKE-PENIN											1	35
MAT-SU											3	718
NOME		1									7	234
NORTH SLOPE		7									5	144
NW ARCTIC		102									1	169
PRINCE-WALES			3	5							5	81
SITKA				115							1	120
SE FAIRBANKS					8						1	113
VALDEZ-CORDV					1	57					5	158
WADE HAMPTON								9			1	229
WRANGELL-PBG				10					35		11	82
YAKUTAT				4							1	11
YUKON-KOY											1	85
TOTAL	110	3	154	10	57	11	35	1	1	116	10,041	

TABLE 1.2B BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RESIDENCE CORPORATION	NATIVE CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE												TOTAL	
	AHTNA	ALEUT	ARCT	BERI	BRIST	CALIS	CHUGA	COOK	DOYON	KONI	NANA	SEAAK		OOS
AHTNA	1						3	46	4					54
ALEUT		4						57					10	71
ARCTIC SLOPE			62					58	12		7		5	144
BERING STRAITS				140				83	3		1		7	234
BRISTOL BAY					76	2		74	1				2	155
CALISTA				2	3	452		156	1				2	616
CHUGACH							55	95	1				5	156
COOK INLET					1		1	5,448	2			1	20	5,473
DOYON						2		35	1,622			1	15	1,675
KONIAG								29		238				267
NANA				1				62	3		102		1	169
SEALASKA								24	2			952	49	1,027
TOTAL	1	4	62	143	80	456	59	6,167	1,651	238	110	954	116	10,041

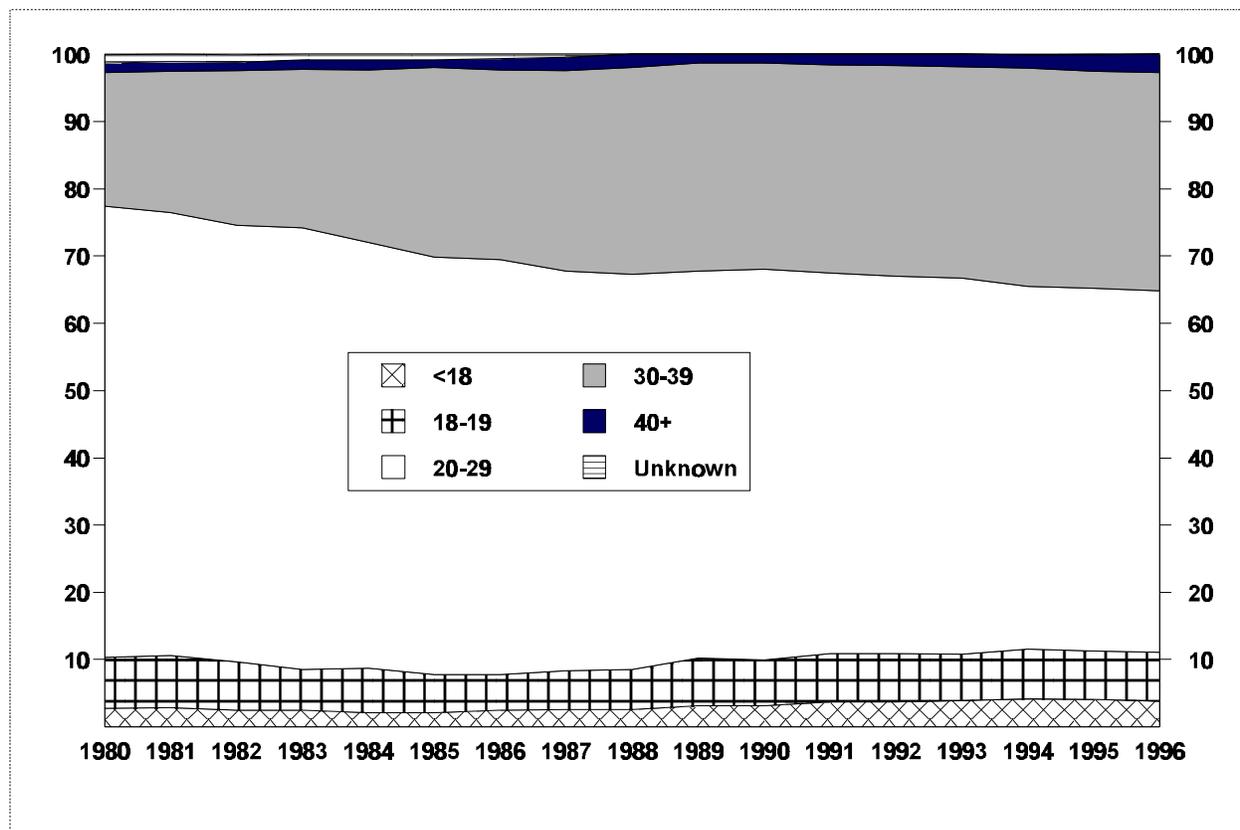
BIRTHS BY AGE AND RACE

A dramatic change in the last fifteen years has been the shift in the age distribution of mothers. Mothers ages 20-29 accounted for 53.7 percent of all births in 1996, down from 67.1 percent of all births in 1980. Mothers ages 30-39 accounted for 32.5 percent of all births in 1996, up from 19.9 percent in 1980. While there has been some change in the percentage of mothers under 20 and 40 and above, these changes are small compared to the shift in mothers from ages 20-29 to 30-39. (See Chart 1.3.)

TABLE 1.3A RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY AGE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1981-1996

AGE OF MOTHER	YEAR							
	1981		1986		1991		1996	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<18	291	2.9	324	2.7	434	3.7	385	3.8
18-19	807	7.9	687	5.6	837	7.2	728	7.3
20-29	6,682	65.5	7,575	62.1	6,621	56.6	5,392	53.7
30-39	2,079	20.4	3,331	27.3	3,606	30.9	3,260	32.5
40+	66	0.6	112	0.9	189	1.6	272	2.7
UNKNOWN	280	2.7	165	1.4	1	0.0	4	0.0
TOTAL	10,205	100.0	12,194	100.0	11,688	100.0	10,041	100.0

CHART 1.3 PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1980-1996



Race-specific birth and fertility rates are impacted by two factors: 1) base population estimates, and 2) the manner in which race is determined at birth. According to standards set by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the mother's race determines the child's race.

Table 1.3B shows differences in age distribution of mothers by race. In 1996, 9.0 percent of all white infants and 9.0 percent of all Asian/Pacific Islander infants were born to mothers under 20, while 16.5 percent of all Native infants and 15.4 percent of all black infants were born to mothers under 20. Even more startling is the difference in age distribution of first-time mothers: 18.5 percent of first-time white mothers and 18.2 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander mothers were under the age of 20; and 47.2 percent of Native first-time mothers and 32.8 percent of black first-time mothers were under the age of 20.

A comparison of total births and first-time births is an indicator of parity (the number of children born to a mother).. For instance, 40.0 percent of white infants and 28.2 percent of Native infants were born to first-time mothers. White mothers had an average of 1.0 prior live births; Native mother had an average of 1.8 prior live births; and Black and Asian mothers had an average of 1.2 prior live births.

TABLE 1.3B RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY AGE AND RACE FOR ALL MOTHERS AND FIRST-TIME MOTHERS, ALASKA, 1996

AGE	ALL MOTHERS										TOTAL
	WHITE		NATIVE		BLACK		ASIAN/PI		UNKN		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<18	174	2.6	168	7.0	29	6.7	14	2.9			385
18-19	431	6.4	228	9.5	38	8.7	30	6.1	1	5.9	728
20-29	3,579	53.5	1,299	54.0	258	59.3	246	50.1	10	58.8	5,392
30-39	2,296	34.3	673	28.0	103	23.7	182	37.1	6	35.3	3,260
40+	210	3.1	36	1.5	7	1.6	19	3.9			272
UNKNOWN	2	0.0	2	0.1							4
TOTAL	6,692	100.0	2,406	100.0	435	100.0	491	100.0	17	100.0	10,041
AGE	FIRST-TIME MOTHERS										TOTAL
	WHITE		NATIVE		BLACK		ASIAN/PI		UNKN		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<18	164	6.1	160	23.6	28	17.0	12	6.4			364
18-19	333	12.4	160	23.6	26	15.8	22	11.8	1	14.3	542
20-29	1,509	56.4	303	44.6	93	56.4	110	58.8	5	71.4	2,020
30-39	625	23.4	55	8.1	17	10.3	40	21.4	1	14.3	738
40+	45	1.7			1	0.6	3	1.6			49
UNKNOWN			1	0.1							1
TOTAL	2,676	100.0	679	100.0	165	100.0	187	100.0	7	100.0	3,714

TABLE 1.3C COMPARISON OF AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES BY THE MOTHER'S RACE, ALASKA AND THE UNITED STATES, 1991, 1995, 1996

MOTHER		ALASKA					UNITED STATES*				
AGE	RACE	RATE			CHANGE		RATE			CHANGE	
		1991	1995	1996	91-96	95-96	1991	1995	1996	91-96	95-96
15-17	WHITE	26.9	19.6	17.4	-35.3	-11.2	30.7	30.0	28.6	-6.8	-4.7
	NATIVE**	76.6	63.9	57.3	-25.2	-10.3	N/A	47.8	47.0	N/A	-1.7
	BLACK	54.6	50.2	44.0	-19.4	-12.4	84.1	69.7	64.9	-22.8	-6.9
	ASIAN/PI	17.9	36.5	23.9	33.5	-34.5	N/A	15.4	15.6	N/A	1.3
	TOTAL	37.6	30.6	26.9	-28.5	-12.1	38.7	36.0	34.0	-12.1	-5.6
18-19	WHITE	107.7	81.6	81.4	-24.4	-0.2	83.5	81.2	78.8	-5.6	-3.0
	NATIVE**	190.9	157.0	144.3	-24.4	-8.1	N/A	130.7	124.3	N/A	-4.9
	BLACK	154.4	167.2	111.8	-27.6	-33.1	158.6	137.1	133.0	-16.1	-3.0
	ASIAN/PI	78.9	76.9	88.8	12.5	15.5	N/A	43.4	41.5	N/A	-4.4
	TOTAL	125.6	101.3	96.3	-23.3	-4.9	94.4	89.1	86.5	-8.4	-2.9
15-19	WHITE	57.1	41.3	39.8	-30.3	-3.6	52.8	50.1	48.4	-8.3	-3.4
	NATIVE**	120.3	98.0	88.9	-26.1	-9.3	N/A	78.0	75.1	N/A	-3.7
	BLACK	92.9	94.1	68.1	-26.7	-27.6	115.5	96.1	91.7	-20.6	-4.6
	ASIAN/PI	40.6	51.6	48.8	20.2	-5.4	N/A	26.1	25.4	N/A	-2.7
	TOTAL	70.7	55.7	51.5	-27.2	-7.5	62.1	56.8	54.7	-11.9	-3.7
20-24	WHITE	159.8	166.8	158.2	-1.0	-5.2	109.0	106.3	107.9	-1.0	1.5
	NATIVE**	244.8	200.8	203.5	-16.9	1.3	N/A	132.5	136.1	N/A	2.7
	BLACK	146.8	147.3	136.1	-7.3	-7.6	160.9	137.1	137.3	-14.7	0.1
	ASIAN/PI	155.1	149.1	133.2	-14.1	-10.7	N/A	72.4	72.4	N/A	0.0
	TOTAL	174.6	172.1	165.8	-5.0	-3.7	115.7	109.8	111.1	-4.0	1.2
25-29	WHITE	128.8	130.8	136.0	5.6	4.0	118.8	114.8	117.0	-1.5	1.9
	NATIVE**	208.6	168.9	183.5	-12.0	8.6	N/A	98.4	100.5	N/A	2.1
	BLACK	118.4	69.4	74.7	-36.9	7.6	113.1	98.6	98.3	-13.1	-0.3
	ASIAN/PI	158.1	165.5	161.5	2.2	-2.4	N/A	113.4	112.0	N/A	-1.2
	TOTAL	142.4	134.1	140.3	-1.5	4.6	118.2	112.2	113.9	-3.6	1.5
30-34	WHITE	77.1	78.8	80.1	3.9	1.6	80.5	84.6	87.0	8.1	2.8
	NATIVE**	126.7	106.8	122.5	-3.3	14.7	N/A	62.2	63.7	N/A	2.4
	BLACK	81.4	61.8	57.2	-29.7	-7.4	67.7	64.0	63.3	-6.5	-1.1
	ASIAN/PI	102.2	101.0	90.5	-11.4	-10.4	N/A	106.9	109.8	N/A	2.7
	TOTAL	85.2	83.3	86.1	1.1	3.4	79.5	82.5	84.5	6.3	2.4
35-39	WHITE	36.3	34.0	32.6	-10.2	-4.1	31.8	34.5	35.7	12.3	3.5
	NATIVE**	58.3	44.9	49.6	-14.9	10.5	N/A	27.7	28.7	N/A	3.6
	BLACK	35.6	23.1	37.3	4.8	61.5	28.3	28.7	29.0	2.5	1.0
	ASIAN/PI	57.5	39.2	46.3	-19.5	18.1	N/A	52.4	52.4	N/A	0.0
	TOTAL	39.7	35.5	35.8	-9.8	0.8	32.0	34.3	35.4	10.6	3.2
40-44***	WHITE	7.3	8.8	9.2	26.0	4.5	5.2	6.4	6.7	28.8	4.7
	NATIVE**	15.1	11.0	10.8	-28.5	-1.8	N/A	6.1	6.3	N/A	3.3
	BLACK	3.7	4.8	7.7	108.1	60.4	5.5	6.0	6.1	10.9	1.7
	ASIAN/PI	10.2	6.2	13.9	36.3	124.2	N/A	12.1	12.2	N/A	0.8
	TOTAL	8.2	8.8	9.6	17.1	9.1	5.5	6.6	6.8	23.6	3.0

* U.S. data from National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 46, No. 1(S2), September 11, 1997, Table 1, p. 8.

** US Data on Native line is for American Indians

*** Includes births to mothers over 44 years old

TABLE 1.3D RACE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES, FERTILITY RATES, AND TEEN BIRTH RATES, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RACE	BIRTHS	TOTAL POPULATION	RACE SPECIFIC BIRTH RATE	FEMALES 15-44	FERTILITY RATE	TEEN BIRTHS	FEMALES 15-19	TEEN BIRTH RATE
WHITE	6,692	453,117	14.8	104,822	63.8	601	15,093	39.8
NATIVE	2,406	100,025	24.1	22,289	107.9	387	4,353	88.9
BLACK	435	27,268	16.0	6,581	66.1	65	954	68.1
ASIAN/PI	491	26,904	18.3	6,648	73.9	43	881	48.8
UNKNOWN	17					1		
TOTAL	10,041	607,314	16.5	140,340	71.5	1,097	21,281	51.5

Race-specific birth rates are the number of live births in a specified population, divided by the estimated population of that race, and multiplied by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Fertility rates are the number of live births, divided by the number of women ages 15 to 44 in the estimated population, multiplied by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Teen birth rates are the number of births to teens ages 15-19, divided by the estimated population of females ages 15-19, multiplied by a constant of proportionality of 1,000. Unlike Chart 1.2B which shows teen birth rates by census area calculated on a 3-year average, teen birth rates by race have been calculated on a single year basis because of the larger populations. Race-specific birth, fertility, and teen birth rates provide a useful means of comparing two populations.

CHART 1.4 RACE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, ALASKA, 1993-1996

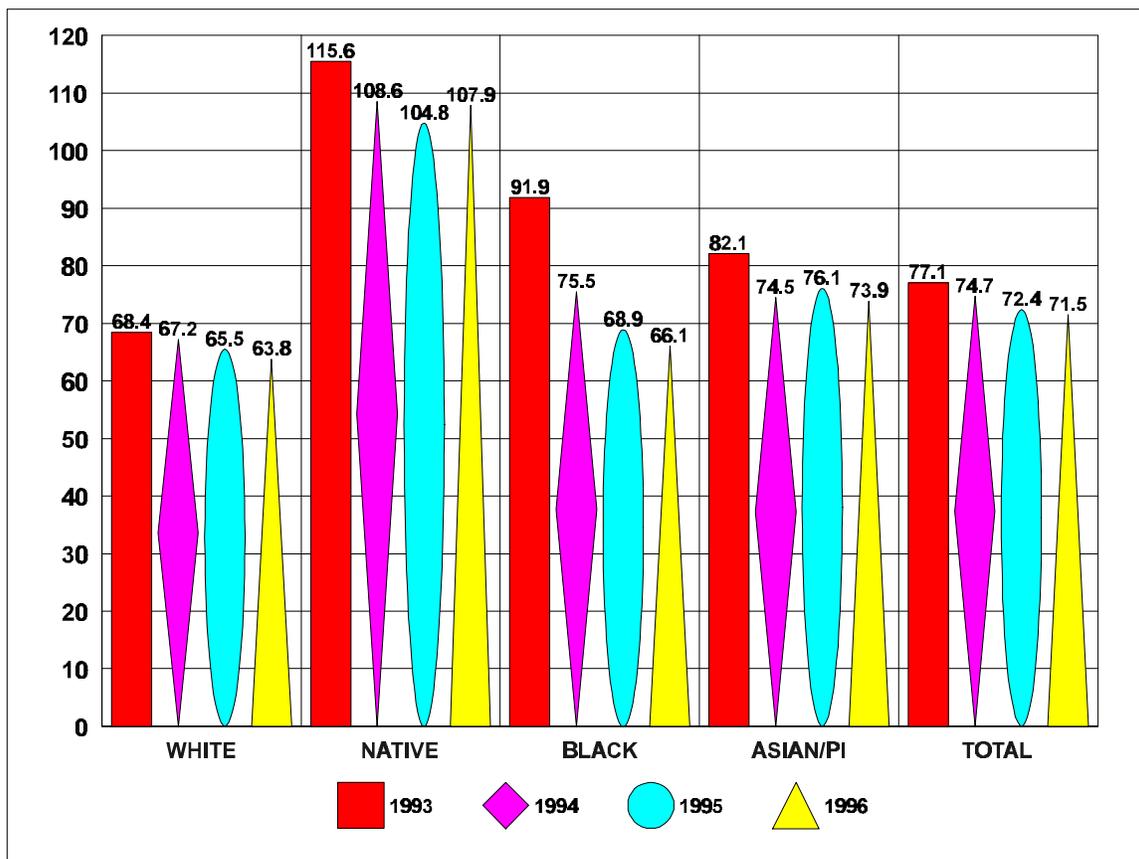
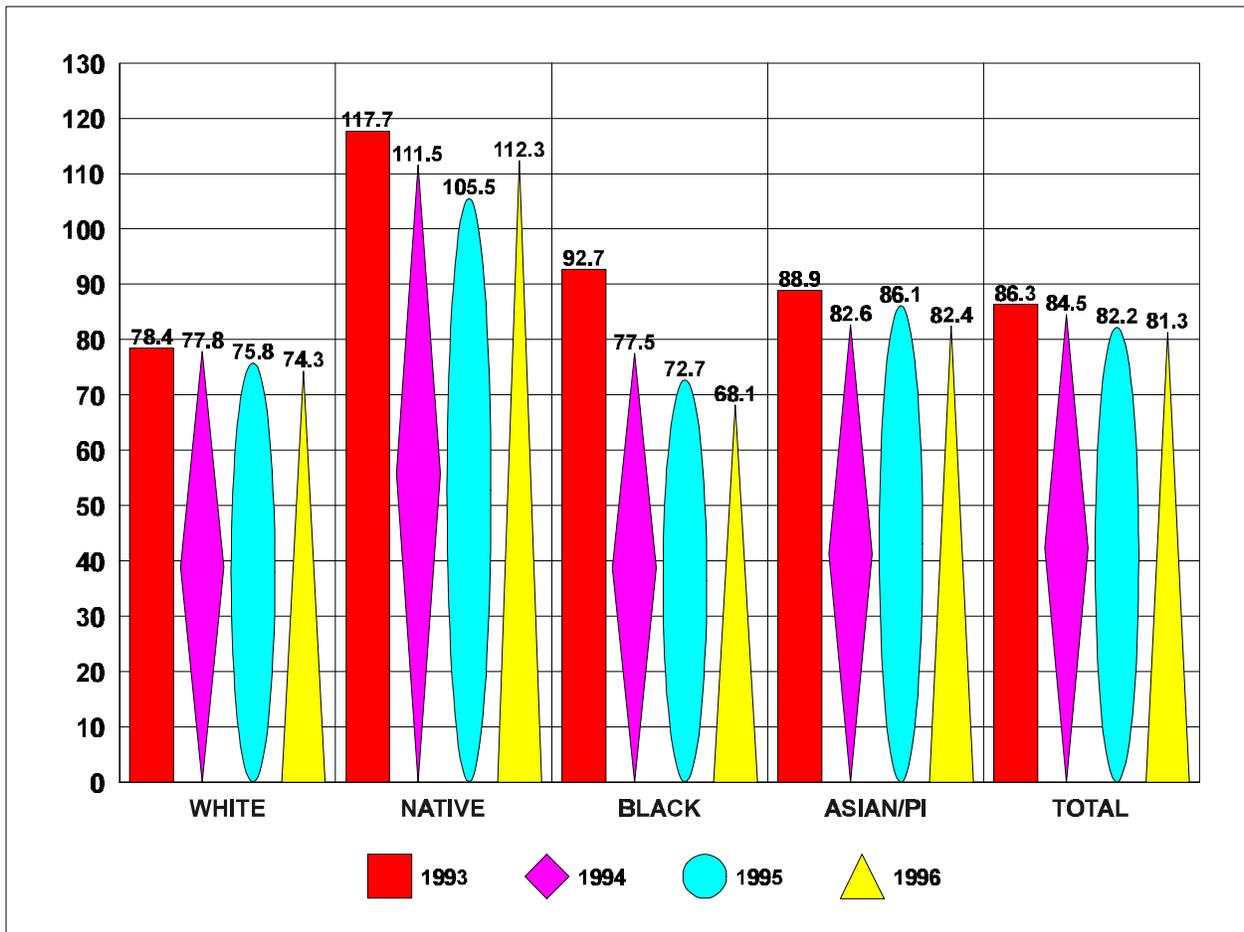


CHART 1.5 AGE-ADJUSTED BIRTH RATES BY RACE, ALASKA, 1993-1996



For this report, age-adjusted rates are birth rates standardized to 1940 standard million population. This allows comparisons between populations with different age distributions.

CHART 1.6 RACE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES FOR TEENS (AGES 15-19), ALASKA, 1993-1996

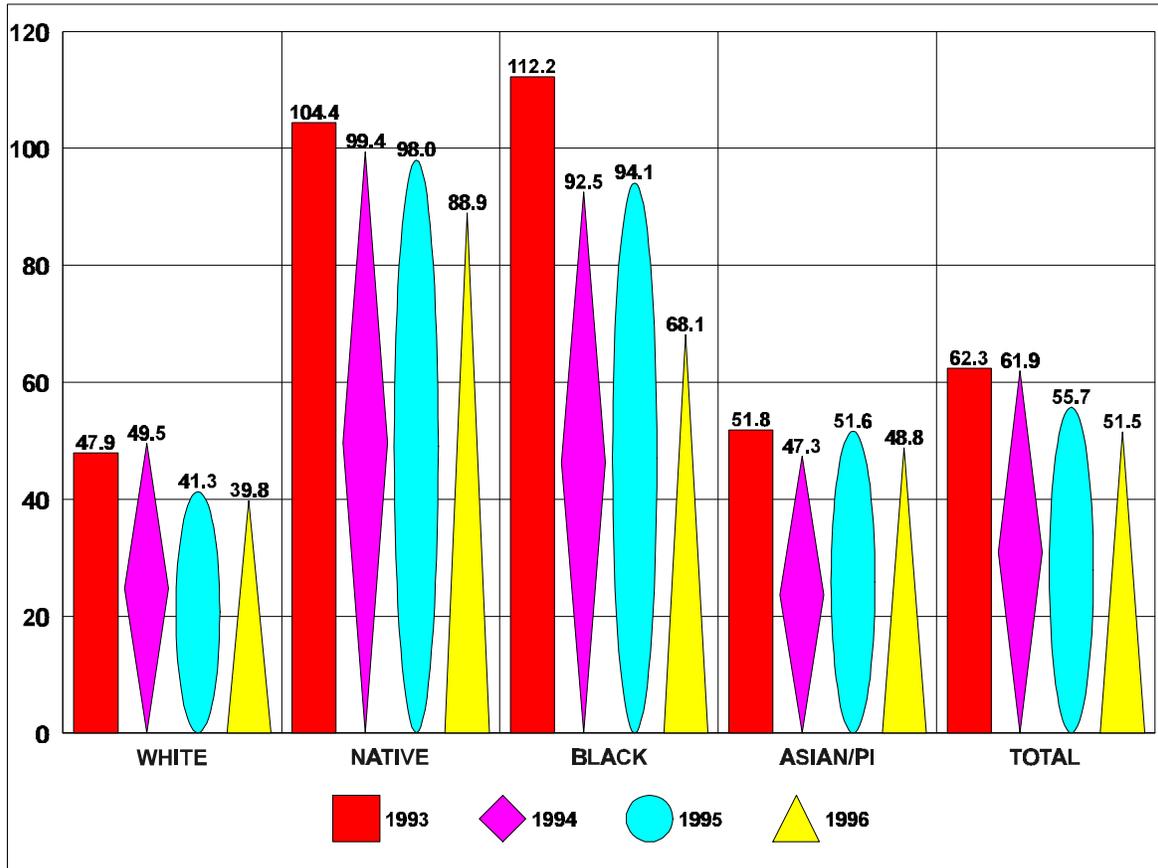


TABLE 1.4 PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENT BIRTHS BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S		PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS BY WEIGHT IN GRAMS									
		<750	750-1499	1500-1999	2000-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-3999	4000-4499	4500+	UNKN
AGE	RACE	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<15 YRS	WHITE			25.0			50.0				25.0
	NATIVE		11.1				66.7	22.2			
	BLACK						100.0				
	ASIAN/PI						100.0				
15-17 YRS	WHITE	0.6	0.6	2.4	3.5	20.6	37.1	25.9	9.4		
	NATIVE			2.5	1.3	11.9	33.3	34.6	13.2	2.5	0.6
	BLACK				7.4	14.8	48.1	22.2	7.4		
	ASIAN/PI					23.1	46.2	23.1		7.7	
18-19 YRS	WHITE	0.5	0.7	1.9	3.5	15.3	36.9	27.8	12.3	1.2	
	NATIVE	0.9	0.9	1.8	2.6	13.2	36.0	29.8	12.7	2.2	
	BLACK				7.9	21.1	36.8	28.9	5.3		
	ASIAN/PI		3.3		3.3	23.3	50.0	16.7	3.3		
	UNKNOWN						100.0				
20-24 YRS	WHITE	0.3	0.7	1.1	3.1	11.5	36.9	34.6	10.1	1.7	0.1
	NATIVE	0.3	0.6	0.7	3.1	11.3	30.5	36.1	13.8	3.6	
	BLACK	1.4	3.5	4.9	5.6	17.4	36.8	25.7	3.5	1.4	
	ASIAN/PI			1.0	6.7	15.2	42.9	24.8	6.7	1.9	1.0
	UNKNOWN				16.7		33.3	33.3			16.7
25-29 YRS	WHITE	0.1	0.3	0.9	2.6	10.4	34.8	34.7	13.2	3.0	
	NATIVE	0.3	0.5	1.4	2.1	11.8	29.1	34.9	15.4	4.5	
	BLACK	1.8	1.8	1.8	8.8	21.1	34.2	22.8	4.4	3.5	
	ASIAN/PI		0.7	2.8	4.3	15.6	36.2	34.8	4.3	1.4	
	UNKNOWN				25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0			
30-34 YRS	WHITE	0.1	0.6	0.9	3.2	10.5	32.1	34.0	15.2	3.1	0.2
	NATIVE	0.2	1.7	1.9	3.8	11.4	29.4	31.1	15.9	4.4	
	BLACK	1.5			7.4	20.6	41.2	25.0	4.4		
	ASIAN/PI			0.9	5.3	19.5	35.4	23.0	15.0	0.9	
	UNKNOWN					20.0		20.0	20.0		40.0
35-39 YRS	WHITE	0.1	1.2	1.3	3.2	11.4	30.4	34.2	15.2	2.9	0.1
	NATIVE	1.0	0.5	1.0	5.0	12.9	30.3	30.3	11.9	6.5	0.5
	BLACK		2.9			14.3	31.4	40.0	8.6	2.9	
	ASIAN/PI		1.4	1.4	2.9	20.3	36.2	27.5	10.1		
	UNKNOWN										100.0
40-44 YRS	WHITE		0.5	1.5	3.4	13.3	31.5	30.5	14.8	3.9	0.5
	NATIVE				8.3	22.2	30.6	22.2	11.1	5.6	
	BLACK	16.7				16.7	50.0	16.7			
	ASIAN/PI					11.1	16.7	66.7		5.6	
45+ YRS	WHITE				14.3	14.3	42.9		28.6		
	BLACK						100.0				
	ASIAN/PI						100.0				
UNKWN	WHITE						50.0	50.0			
	NATIVE						50.0	50.0			
TOTAL		0.3	0.7	1.2	3.3	12.2	33.8	33.0	12.7	2.8	0.1

Table 1.4 shows the percentage of resident births by age and race of mother and by birth weight of child. Infants under 2,500 grams are considered low birth weight. Achieving a low birth weight percentage of 5% is one of the Year 2000 objectives (Appendix F). For more information on birth weight, see page 45.

TABLE 1.5A RESIDENT BIRTHS TO TEENAGE MOTHERS BY CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, AGE AND MARITAL STATUS, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	MOTHER'S AGE						TOTAL		
	<15		15-17		18-19				
	MARRIED		MARRIED		MARRIED		MARRIED		
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	TOTAL
ALEUTIANS EAST				3				3	3
ALEUTIANS WEST				2		4		6	6
ANCHORAGE		5	14	116	72	214	86	335	421
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG				3		4		7	7
BETHEL		1		18	3	19	3	38	41
BRISTOL BAY					1	1	1	1	2
DENALI				1				1	1
DILLINGHAM		1		6		6		13	13
FAIRBANKS NSB		2	9	22	50	53	59	77	136
HAINES BOROUGH			1		1	1	2	1	3
JUNEAU BOROUGH			3	11	7	27	10	38	48
KENAI PENINSULA		2	4	17	26	43	30	62	92
KETCHIKAN		1	1	7	3	10	4	18	22
KODIAK ISLAND		1	3	6	5	9	8	16	24
LAKE-PENINSULA				3	1	1	1	4	5
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA			9	26	22	40	31	66	97
NOME				18	1	17	1	35	36
NORTH SLOPE				9	2	17	2	26	28
NORTHWEST ARCTIC				16	2	13	2	29	31
PRINCE OF WALES		1		5		5		11	11
SITKA BOROUGH			1	2		3	1	5	6
SE FAIRBANKS			1	2	3	3	4	5	9
VALDEZ-CORDOVA				8	5	5	5	13	18
WADE HAMPTON		1		13	1	17	1	31	32
WRANGELL-PETERSBG			1	3	1		2	3	5
YAKUTAT				1		2		3	3
YUKON-KOYUKUK		1		4		8		13	13
TOTAL		16	47	322	206	522	253	860	1,113

TABLE 1.5B RESIDENT BIRTHS TO TEENAGE MOTHERS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, AGE AND MARITAL STATUS, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	MOTHER'S AGE						TOTAL		
	<15		15-17		18-19				
	MARRIED		MARRIED		MARRIED		MARRIED		
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	TOTAL
AHTNA INC				3	3	1	3	4	7
ALEUT CORP.				5		4		9	9
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.				9	2	17	2	26	28
BERING STRAITS CORP				18	1	17	1	35	36
BRISTOL BAY CORP.		1		9	2	8	2	18	20
CALISTA CORP.		2		31	4	36	4	69	73
CHUGACH NATIVES INC				5	3	4	3	9	12
COOK INLET REG CORP		7	27	159	119	297	146	463	609
DOYON LTD		3	10	29	53	64	63	96	159
KONIAG INC.		1	3	6	5	9	8	16	24
NANA REGIONAL CORP.				16	2	13	2	29	31
SEALASKA CORP.		2	7	32	12	52	19	86	105
TOTAL		16	47	322	206	522	253	860	1,113

TABLE 1.6A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, RACE, AND SEX OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	RACE OF MOTHER					SEX OF CHILD		TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNKN	MALE	FEMALE	
ALEUTIANS EAST	7	18				14	11	25
ALEUTIANS WEST	22	18			6	23	23	46
ANCHORAGE	3,025	516	285	281	9	2,078	2,038	4,116
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG	15	18			1	17	17	34
BETHEL	16	369		2		187	200	387
BRISTOL BAY	16	6				8	14	22
DENALI	18					9	9	18
DILLINGHAM	16	85		2		56	47	103
FAIRBANKS NSB	1,135	135	134	55	2	767	694	1,461
HAINES BOROUGH	18	6			2	11	15	26
JUNEAU BOROUGH	306	88	6	30		210	220	430
KENAI PENINSULA	611	58	1	14		357	327	684
KETCHIKAN	183	46		12	2	125	118	243
KODIAK ISLAND	159	57	1	50		134	133	267
LAKE-PENINSULA	10	25				19	16	35
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	653	54	2	9		395	323	718
NOME	34	199		1		127	107	234
NORTH SLOPE	14	121		9		79	65	144
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	14	154		1		91	78	169
PRINCE OF WALES	32	45		3	1	44	37	81
SITKA BOROUGH	87	25		8		63	57	120
SE FAIRBANKS	87	17	6	3		64	49	113
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	129	25		4		82	76	158
WADE HAMPTON	3	226				119	110	229
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	58	23		1		49	33	82
YAKUTAT	8	3				6	5	11
YUKON-KOYUKUK	16	69				45	40	85
TOTAL	6,692	2,406	435	491	17	5,179	4,862	10,041

TABLE 1.6B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, RACE, AND SEX OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

N R C OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	RACE OF MOTHER					SEX OF CHILD		TOTAL
	WHITE	NATIVE	BLACK	ASIAN/PI	UNKN	MALE	FEMALE	
AHTNA INC	42	12				27	27	54
ALEUT CORP.	29	36		6		37	34	71
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	14	121		9		79	65	144
BERING STRAITS CORP	34	199		1		127	107	234
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	37	116		2		78	77	155
CALISTA CORP.	19	595		2		306	310	616
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	125	26		5		84	72	156
COOK INLET REG CORP	4,258	615	288	303	9	2,807	2,666	5,473
DOYON LTD	1,254	221	140	58	2	884	791	1,675
KONIAG INC.	159	57	1	50		134	133	267
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	14	154		1		91	78	169
SEALASKA CORP.	707	254	6	54	6	525	502	1,027
TOTAL	6,692	2,406	435	491	17	5,179	4,862	10,041

TABLE 1.7A RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY MOTHER'S AGE AND CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA	AGE OF MOTHER																				TOTAL
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45+		UNK		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
ALEUTIANS EAST			3	12.0			8	32.0	3	12.0	9	36.0	1	4.0	1	4.0					25
ALEUTIANS WEST			2	4.3	4	8.7	8	17.4	12	26.1	11	23.9	7	15.2	2	4.3					46
ANCHORAGE	5	0.1	130	3.2	286	6.9	1,053	25.6	1,151	28.0	950	23.1	441	10.7	95	2.3	3	0.1	2	0.0	4,116
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG			3	8.8	4	11.8	10	29.4	5	14.7	7	20.6	3	8.8	2	5.9					34
BETHEL	1	0.3	18	4.7	22	5.7	106	27.4	112	28.9	81	20.9	36	9.3	11	2.8					387
BRISTOL BAY					2	9.1	1	4.5	8	36.4	7	31.8	3	13.6	1	4.5					22
DENALI			1	5.6			4	22.2	7	38.9	4	22.2	2	11.1							18
DILLINGHAM	1	1.0	6	5.8	6	5.8	27	26.2	24	23.3	22	21.4	12	11.7	5	4.9					103
FAIRBANKS NSB	2	0.1	31	2.1	103	7.0	467	32.0	422	28.9	294	20.1	111	7.6	30	2.1	1	0.1			1,461
HAINES BOROUGH			1	3.8	2	7.7	6	23.1	5	19.2	7	26.9	3	11.5	2	7.7					26
JUNEAU BOROUGH			14	3.3	34	7.9	91	21.2	111	25.8	97	22.6	62	14.4	20	4.7	1	0.2			430
KENAI PENINSULA	2	0.3	21	3.1	69	10.1	169	24.7	180	26.3	136	19.9	83	12.1	23	3.4	1	0.1			684
KETCHIKAN	1	0.4	8	3.3	13	5.3	61	25.1	78	32.1	50	20.6	25	10.3	7	2.9					243
KODIAK ISLAND	1	0.4	9	3.4	14	5.2	69	25.8	82	30.7	63	23.6	22	8.2	7	2.6					267
LAKE-PENINSULA			3	8.6	2	5.7	9	25.7	10	28.6	5	14.3	5	14.3	1	2.9					35
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA			35	4.9	62	8.6	165	23.0	187	26.0	151	21.0	92	12.8	25	3.5	1	0.1			718
NOME			18	7.7	18	7.7	72	30.8	46	19.7	60	25.6	19	8.1	1	0.4					234
NORTH SLOPE			9	6.3	19	13.2	38	26.4	33	22.9	32	22.2	10	6.9	2	1.4			1	0.7	144
NORTHWEST ARCTIC			16	9.5	15	8.9	50	29.6	34	20.1	39	23.1	14	8.3	1	0.6					169
PRINCE OF WALES	1	1.2	5	6.2	5	6.2	20	24.7	26	32.1	13	16.0	10	12.3	1	1.2					81
SITKA BOROUGH			3	2.5	3	2.5	42	35.0	26	21.7	25	20.8	17	14.2	4	3.3					120
SE FAIRBANKS			3	2.7	6	5.3	40	35.4	26	23.0	19	16.8	14	12.4	5	4.4					113
VALDEZ-CORDOVA			8	5.1	10	6.3	39	24.7	35	22.2	34	21.5	24	15.2	6	3.8	2	1.3			158
WADE HAMPTON	1	0.4	13	5.7	18	7.9	69	30.1	63	27.5	40	17.5	19	8.3	5	2.2			1	0.4	229
WRANGELL-PETERSBG			4	4.9	1	1.2	17	20.7	24	29.3	18	22.0	15	18.3	3	3.7					82
YAKUTAT			1	9.1	2	18.2	3	27.3	1	9.1	3	27.3	1	9.1							11
YUKON-KOYUKUK	1	1.2	4	4.7	8	9.4	16	18.8	21	24.7	20	23.5	12	14.1	3	3.5					85
TOTAL	16	0.2	369	3.7	728	7.3	2,660	26.5	2,732	27.2	2,197	21.9	1,063	10.6	263	2.6	9	0.1	4	0.0	10,041

TABLE 1.7B RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY MOTHER'S AGE AND NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1996

N R C OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	AGE OF MOTHER																		TOTAL				
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45+			UNK			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%		
AHTNA INC			3	5.6	4	7.4	14	25.9	8	14.8	13	24.1	9	16.7	3	5.6							54
ALEUT CORP.			5	7.0	4	5.6	16	22.5	15	21.1	20	28.2	8	11.3	3	4.2							71
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.			9	6.3	19	13.2	38	26.4	33	22.9	32	22.2	10	6.9	2	1.4					1	0.7	144
BERING STRAITS CORP			18	7.7	18	7.7	72	30.8	46	19.7	60	25.6	19	8.1	1	0.4							234
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	1	0.6	9	5.8	10	6.5	37	23.9	40	25.8	32	20.6	19	12.3	7	4.5							155
CALISTA CORP.	2	0.3	31	5.0	40	6.5	175	28.4	175	28.4	121	19.6	55	8.9	16	2.6					1	0.2	616
CHUGACH NATIVES INC			5	3.2	7	4.5	36	23.1	41	26.3	38	24.4	23	14.7	4	2.6	2	1.3					156
COOK INLET REG CORP	7	0.1	186	3.4	416	7.6	1,376	25.1	1,507	27.5	1,223	22.3	609	11.1	142	2.6	5	0.1	2	0.0			5,473
DOYON LTD	3	0.2	39	2.3	117	7.0	527	31.5	475	28.4	336	20.1	139	8.3	38	2.3	1	0.1					1,675
KONIAG INC.	1	0.4	9	3.4	14	5.2	69	25.8	82	30.7	63	23.6	22	8.2	7	2.6							267
NANA REGIONAL CORP.			16	9.5	15	8.9	50	29.6	34	20.1	39	23.1	14	8.3	1	0.6							169
SEALASKA CORP.	2	0.2	39	3.8	64	6.2	250	24.3	276	26.9	220	21.4	136	13.2	39	3.8	1	0.1					1,027
TOTAL	16	0.2	369	3.7	728	7.3	2,660	26.5	2,732	27.2	2,197	21.9	1,063	10.6	263	2.6	9	0.1	4	0.0			10,041

TABLE 1.8A RESIDENT BIRTHS AND PERCENTAGE BY MOTHER'S AGE AND RACE, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RACE	AGE OF MOTHER																		TOTAL				
	<15		15-17		18-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45+			UNK			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%		
WHITE	4	0.1	170	2.5	431	6.4	1,690	25.3	1,889	28.2	1,539	23.0	757	11.3	203	3.0	7	0.1	2	0.0			6,692
NATIVE	9	0.4	159	6.6	228	9.5	715	29.7	584	24.3	472	19.6	201	8.4	36	1.5					2	0.1	2,406
BLACK	2	0.5	27	6.2	38	8.7	144	33.1	114	26.2	68	15.6	35	8.0	6	1.4	1	0.2					435
ASIAN/PI	1	0.2	13	2.6	30	6.1	105	21.4	141	28.7	113	23.0	69	14.1	18	3.7	1	0.2					491
UNKNOWN					1	5.9	6	35.3	4	23.5	5	29.4	1	5.9									17
TOTAL	16	0.2	369	3.7	728	7.3	2,660	26.5	2,732	27.2	2,197	21.9	1,063	10.6	263	2.6	9	0.1	4	0.0			10,041

TABLE 1.8B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S AGE AND NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S AGE	NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN							UNK	TOTAL
	NONE	ONE	TWO	3-4	5-9	10+			
<15 YRS	16								16
15-17 YRS	350	18	1						369
18-19 YRS	544	148	33	3					728
20-24 YRS	1,213	966	346	126	6		3		2,660
25-29 YRS	828	936	540	372	54		2		2,732
30-34 YRS	528	645	485	402	128	2	7		2,197
35-39 YRS	219	279	215	223	116	6	5		1,063
40-44 YRS	45	71	46	52	43	5	1		263
45+ YRS	4	1	2	1			1		9
UNKWN	1	2	1						4
TOTAL	3,748	3,066	1,669	1,179	347	14	18		10,041

MOTHER'S MARITAL STATUS

Although the crude birth rate declined from 16.9 live births per 1,000 population in 1995 to 16.5 live births per 1,000 population in 1996, the percentage of babies born to single mothers continues to increase. In 1995, births to single mothers represented 29.9 percent of all births; in 1996 births to single mothers accounted for 31.0 percent of all births. This compares to 32.4 percent of all births for the United States for 1996.⁵

The mother's marital status is used as an indicator of an infant's support system. An infant's support system consists of the immediate family, the extended family, and the community. Generally, the broader the support system, the more secure is the child's physical, emotional, and financial status. The only information available on the birth certificate pertaining to a support structure is the mother's marital status. We have no direct information pertaining to the commitment of the parents, the extended family or the community to the well-being of the child; therefore we use the mother's marital status as a proxy measure of the infant's support system.

In 1960, 15 percent of births to U.S. mothers under the age of 20 were to single mothers.⁶ In 1996, 76.4 percent of births to U.S. mothers under the age of 20 were to single mothers.⁷ In Alaska in 1996, 77.3% of births to mothers under 20 were to single mothers.

Alaskan mothers in all age groups are more likely to be unmarried in 1996 than a decade ago. In 1985, 51.1 percent of Alaska resident teen mothers were single. In 1996, 77.3 percent of Alaska resident teen mothers were single. In 1996, 30.0 percent of Alaska resident mothers ages 20-29 were single, up from 16.4 percent of mothers ages 20-29 in 1985. Of mothers ages 30-39, 10.3 percent were single in 1985; 18.4 percent were single in 1996.

Single mothers and married mothers present some alarming contrasts. In 1996, only 20.1 percent of single mothers had some college education, while 52.4 percent of married mothers had some college education. Sixty-two percent of unmarried mothers from 1992-1996 had adequate prenatal care while 77.8 percent of married mothers received adequate prenatal care. From 1992-1996, 22.6 percent of married mothers gained less than the recommended 25 pounds during pregnancy, while 26.3 percent of single mothers gained less than 25 pounds. Single mothers were more likely to deliver low birth weight infants than married mothers (6.6 percent vs. 4.7 percent). Single mothers were much more likely to report using tobacco (38.5% vs. 14.2%) and alcohol (11.9% vs. 4.2%) during pregnancy. Since unmarried mothers tend to be younger, less educated, less likely to receive adequate prenatal care, more likely to have inadequate weight gain, more likely to deliver low birth weight infants, and more likely to use tobacco and alcohol, their babies are more likely to be physically and financially disadvantaged at birth.

5 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 46, No. 1(S2), September 11, 1997, Table 6, p. 14.

6 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, pp. 26 and 40.

7 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 46, No. 1 (S2), September 11, 1997, Table C, p. 4.

TABLE 1.9A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL					
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	
ALEUTN EAST	3	5	2	2		3	9	1			6	14	3	2		25
ALEUTN WEST	3	7	9	6	5	4	10		1	1	7	17	9	7	6	46
ANCHORAGE	183	1,005	941	750	22	339	562	236	58	20	522	1,567	1,177	808	42	4,116
ANG-HNH-SKG		9	4	3	2	5	9	1		1	5	18	5	3	3	34
BETHEL	32	148	30	16	2	38	100	17		4	70	248	47	16	6	387
BRISTOL BAY		8	6	6			2					10	6	6		22
DENALI		5	4	5	1	1	2				1	7	4	5	1	18
DILLINGHAM	3	42	4	5		10	31	4	2	2	13	73	8	7	2	103
FAIRBANKS	68	476	327	281	14	76	124	61	26	8	144	600	388	307	22	1,461
HAINES	2	8	4	2	3		5	2			2	13	6	2	3	26
JUNEAU	21	98	71	88	20	32	56	26	11	7	53	154	97	99	27	430
KENAI PEN	48	204	128	119	5	48	91	27	11	3	96	295	155	130	8	684
KETCHIKAN	9	56	52	46	7	16	38	15	3	1	25	94	67	49	8	243
KODIAK	19	78	62	38		27	35	6	1	1	46	113	68	39	1	267
LAKE-PENIN	3	5	10	4	1	4	8				7	13	10	4	1	35
MAT-SU	37	198	171	104	2	48	109	42	7		85	307	213	111	2	718
NOME	11	52	10	24	2	33	89	10	1	2	44	141	20	25	4	234
NORTH SLOPE	13	23	15	6	3	35	44	3	1	1	48	67	18	7	4	144
NW ARCTIC	18	37	12	6		39	52	5			57	89	17	6		169
PRINCE-WALES	3	16	12	8	3	16	16	7			19	32	19	8	3	81
SITKA	3	18	31	29	3	10	17	5	2	2	13	35	36	31	5	120
SE FAIRBANKS	7	32	29	21		2	21		1		9	53	29	22		113
VALDEZ-CORDV	9	41	36	35	1	13	14	7	1	1	22	55	43	36	2	158
WADE HAMPTON	9	71	13	2	2	47	73	9		3	56	144	22	2	5	229
WRANGELL-PBG	9	13	10	17	10	2	13	5		3	11	26	15	17	13	82
YAKUTAT		2		2		2	2	3			2	4	3	2		11
YUKON-KOY	4	18	7	5	1	17	26	5	2		21	44	12	7	1	85
TOTAL	517	2,675	2,000	1,630	109	867	1,558	497	128	60	1,384	4,233	2,497	1,758	169	10,041

TABLE 1.9B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL					
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	
AHTNA INC	5	13	12	12		5	4	2		1	10	17	14	12	1	54
ALEUT CORP	6	12	11	8	5	7	19	1	1	1	13	31	12	9	6	71
ARCTIC SLO	13	23	15	6	3	35	44	3	1	1	48	67	18	7	4	144
BERING STS	11	52	10	24	2	33	89	10	1	2	44	141	20	25	4	234
BRISTOL BY	6	55	17	13	1	14	41	4	2	2	20	96	21	15	3	155
CALISTA CP	41	219	43	18	4	85	173	26		7	126	392	69	18	11	616
CHUGACH	5	50	37	28	1	8	19	6	2		13	69	43	30	1	156
COOK INLET	267	1,385	1,231	970	29	435	754	304	75	23	702	2,139	1,535	1,045	52	5,473
DOYON LTD	79	531	366	312	16	96	172	66	29	8	175	703	432	341	24	1,675
KONIAG INC	19	78	62	38		27	35	6	1	1	46	113	68	39	1	267
NANA CORP	18	37	12	6		39	52	5			57	89	17	6		169
SEALASKA	47	220	184	195	48	83	156	64	16	14	130	376	248	211	62	1,027
TOTAL	517	2,675	2,000	1,630	109	867	1,558	497	128	60	1,384	4,233	2,497	1,758	169	10,041

TABLE 1.10 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S RACE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RACE	MARITAL STATUS										TOTAL					TOTAL
	MARRIED					SINGLE					TOTAL					
	YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION					
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	
WHITE	309	1,805	1,598	1,433	74	350	691	300	105	27	659	2,496	1,898	1,538	101	6,692
NATIVE	174	617	189	67	15	452	721	130	14	27	626	1,338	319	81	42	2,406
BLACK	7	107	106	37	2	36	84	46	7	3	43	191	152	44	5	435
ASIAN/PI	26	143	106	93	13	26	59	21	2	2	52	202	127	95	15	491
UNKNOWN	1	3	1		5	3	3				1	4	6	1		17
TOTAL	517	2,675	2,000	1,630	109	867	1,558	497	128	60	1,384	4,233	2,497	1,758	169	10,041

TABLE 1.11 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY THE MOTHER'S AGE, MARITAL STATUS, AND EDUCATION, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S AGE	MARITAL STATUS											TOTAL					TOTAL	
	MARRIED						SINGLE					TOTAL						
	YEARS OF EDUCATION						YEARS OF EDUCATION					YEARS OF EDUCATION						
	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	TTL	0-11	12	13-15	16+	UNK	TTL	0-11	12	13-15	16+		UNK
<15 YRS						16					16	16						16
15-17 YRS	32	13	1		1	47	246	67	1	1	7	322	278	80	2	1	8	369
18-19 YRS	61	121	21		3	206	198	276	37	2	9	522	259	397	58	2	12	728
20-24 YRS	165	899	448	89	17	1,618	221	580	197	25	19	1,042	386	1,479	645	114	36	2,660
25-29 YRS	128	792	712	499	28	2,159	84	306	130	41	12	573	212	1,098	842	540	40	2,732
30-34 YRS	76	575	491	604	31	1,777	58	223	97	35	7	420	134	798	588	639	38	2,197
35-39 YRS	47	221	261	334	21	884	39	86	28	22	4	179	86	307	289	356	25	1,063
40-44 YRS	7	53	63	100	8	231	3	19	6	2	2	32	10	72	69	102	10	263
45+ YRS			3	4		7		1	1			2		1	4	4		9
UNKWN	1	1				2	2					2	3	1				4
TOTAL	517	2,675	2,000	1,630	109	6,931	867	1,558	497	128	60	3,110	1,384	4,233	2,497	1,758	169	10,041

AGES OF MOTHERS AND FATHERS

In 1996 there were 253 infants born to married teenage mothers and 83 infants born to mothers married to teenage fathers. Forty-seven infants were born to married mothers under the age of 18 and four infants were born to mothers married to fathers under the age of 18. Forty-three and one-half percent of all married fathers and 54.5 percent of all married mothers were ages 20-29. Women from ages 30-39 accounted for 38.4 percent of all married mothers, and 44.2 percent of all married fathers were from 30-39 years of age. Only 3.4 percent of married mothers were 40 or over, while 10.8 percent of married fathers were 40 or over.

TABLE 1.12 RESIDENT BIRTHS TO MARRIED MOTHERS BY THE MOTHER'S AGE AND FATHER'S AGE, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S AGE	FATHER'S AGE									TOTAL
	15-17 YRS	18-19 YRS	20-24 YRS	25-29 YRS	30-34 YRS	35-39 YRS	40-44 YRS	45+ YRS	UNKWN	
15-17 YRS	3	15	24	3	2					47
18-19 YRS		36	125	28	10	2	3	1	1	206
20-24 YRS	1	28	785	574	164	50	10	3	3	1,618
25-29 YRS			163	1,021	674	217	56	26	2	2,159
30-34 YRS			35	210	823	519	138	48	4	1,777
35-39 YRS			5	40	154	375	225	84	1	884
40-44 YRS			2	3	22	53	92	59		231
45+ YRS							2	5		7
UNKWN									2	2
TOTAL	4	79	1,139	1,879	1,849	1,216	526	226	13	6,931

Extrapolating from the ages of mothers and fathers at the time of birth shows that there were 159 mothers who were less than 16 years of age at the time of conception. The ages of 73 of these fathers is unknown. Of the 86 fathers whose age is known, 54 were at least 16 years of age and from 3 to 16 years older than the mother. There were five infants born to mothers more than three years older than the fathers who were less than 16 years of age. It is clear that part of the responsibility for teen pregnancy lies with adults.

PRENATAL CARE

Prenatal care is defined as pregnancy-related health care services provided to women between conception and delivery. This care includes monitoring health, encouraging good health habits, and providing information and social and psychological support. The Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics uses the Kessner Index⁷ to evaluate levels of prenatal care. This index is described in Appendix D. In 1996, 69.7 percent of all infants born to Alaska resident mothers received adequate prenatal care, compared to 73.9 percent in 1995 and 74.6 percent in 1994.

Another measure of adequacy of prenatal care is the percentage of mothers who receive care within the first trimester of their pregnancy. One of the Year 2000 Health Objectives (see Appendix F) is that 90% of pregnant women receive care within the first trimester. In 1994, 83.8% of women received care within the first trimester; in 1995 that figure had dropped to 82.5%; and in 1996, only 79.9 percent of women received prenatal care within the first trimester.

With more than 40 percent of all births, the Anchorage census area inevitably impacts statewide birth trends. The decrease in adequate prenatal care in Alaska from 1995 to 1996 was largely due to a decrease in Anchorage from

7 Kessner, D. "Infant Death: An Analysis by Maternal Risk and Health Care." Institute of Medicine, *Contrasts in Health Status, Volume 1*, 1973. National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, pp. 58-60.

85.4 percent in 1995 to 78.8 percent in 1996, accounting for more than 60 percent of the statewide decrease. This decrease in adequate prenatal care is the result of erroneous reporting of prenatal care in prior years. One of the factors determining adequacy of prenatal care is the month in which prenatal care begins. From 1990 through 1993, approximately 41 percent of mothers delivering infants in Anchorage were reported to have received their first prenatal care in the second month. In 1994, that percentage increased to 46 percent and in 1995 it was 57 percent. In 1996, only 42 percent of mothers delivering in Anchorage were reported to have received their first prenatal care in the second month. Correction of these reporting errors in 1996 accounts for a large portion of the perceived decrease in adequate prenatal care from 1995 levels.

In general, those infants whose mothers were Native or teenaged received lower levels of prenatal care than other infants. (See Tables 1.14 and 1.15.)

TABLE 1.13A PRENATAL CARE BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
ALEUTN EAST	20	80.0	4	16.0	1	4.0	25
ALEUTN WEST	34	73.9	8	17.4	4	8.7	46
ANCHORAGE	3,243	78.8	685	16.6	188	4.6	4,116
ANG-HNH-SKG	15	44.1	9	26.5	10	29.4	34
BETHEL	177	45.7	134	34.6	76	19.6	387
BRISTOL BAY	18	81.8	3	13.6	1	4.5	22
DENALI	13	72.2	3	16.7	2	11.1	18
DILLINGHAM	61	59.2	34	33.0	8	7.8	103
FAIRBANKS	1,032	70.6	329	22.5	100	6.8	1,461
HAINES	7	26.9	14	53.8	5	19.2	26
JUNEAU	288	67.0	109	25.3	33	7.7	430
KENAI PEN	459	67.1	159	23.2	66	9.6	684
KETCHIKAN	188	77.4	41	16.9	14	5.8	243
KODIAK	150	56.2	84	31.5	33	12.4	267
LAKE-PENIN	20	57.1	10	28.6	5	14.3	35
MAT-SU	521	72.6	161	22.4	36	5.0	718
NOME	127	54.3	70	29.9	37	15.8	234
NORTH SLOPE	86	59.7	41	28.5	17	11.8	144
NW ARCTIC	77	45.6	61	36.1	31	18.3	169
PRINCE-WALES	42	51.9	29	35.8	10	12.3	81
SITKA	85	70.8	28	23.3	7	5.8	120
SE FAIRBANKS	55	48.7	43	38.1	15	13.3	113
VALDEZ-CORDV	98	62.0	48	30.4	12	7.6	158
WADE HAMPTON	85	37.1	88	38.4	56	24.5	229
WRANGELL-PBG	54	65.9	19	23.2	9	11.0	82
YAKUTAT	6	54.5	4	36.4	1	9.1	11
YUKON-KOY	39	45.9	29	34.1	17	20.0	85
TOTAL	7,000	69.7	2,247	22.4	794	7.9	10,041

TABLE 1.13B PRENATAL CARE BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
AHTNA INC	34	63.0	17	31.5	3	5.6	54
ALEUT CORP	54	76.1	12	16.9	5	7.0	71
ARCTIC SLO	86	59.7	41	28.5	17	11.8	144
BERING STS	127	54.3	70	29.9	37	15.8	234
BRISTOL BY	97	62.6	45	29.0	13	8.4	155
CALISTA CP	262	42.5	222	36.0	132	21.4	616
CHUGACH	100	64.1	42	26.9	14	9.0	156
COOK INLET	4,190	76.6	997	18.2	286	5.2	5,473
DOYON LTD	1,138	67.9	403	24.1	134	8.0	1,675
KONIAG INC	150	56.2	84	31.5	33	12.4	267
NANA CORP	77	45.6	61	36.1	31	18.3	169
SEALASKA	685	66.7	253	24.6	89	8.7	1,027
TOTAL	7,000	69.7	2,247	22.4	794	7.9	10,041

TABLE 1.14 PRENATAL CARE BY RACE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RACE	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
WHITE	5,015	74.9	1,311	19.6	366	5.5	6,692
NATIVE	1,342	55.8	712	29.6	352	14.6	2,406
BLACK	336	77.2	78	17.9	21	4.8	435
ASIAN/PI	301	61.3	142	28.9	48	9.8	491
UNKNOWN	6	35.3	4	23.5	7	41.2	17
TOTAL	7,000	69.7	2,247	22.4	794	7.9	10,041

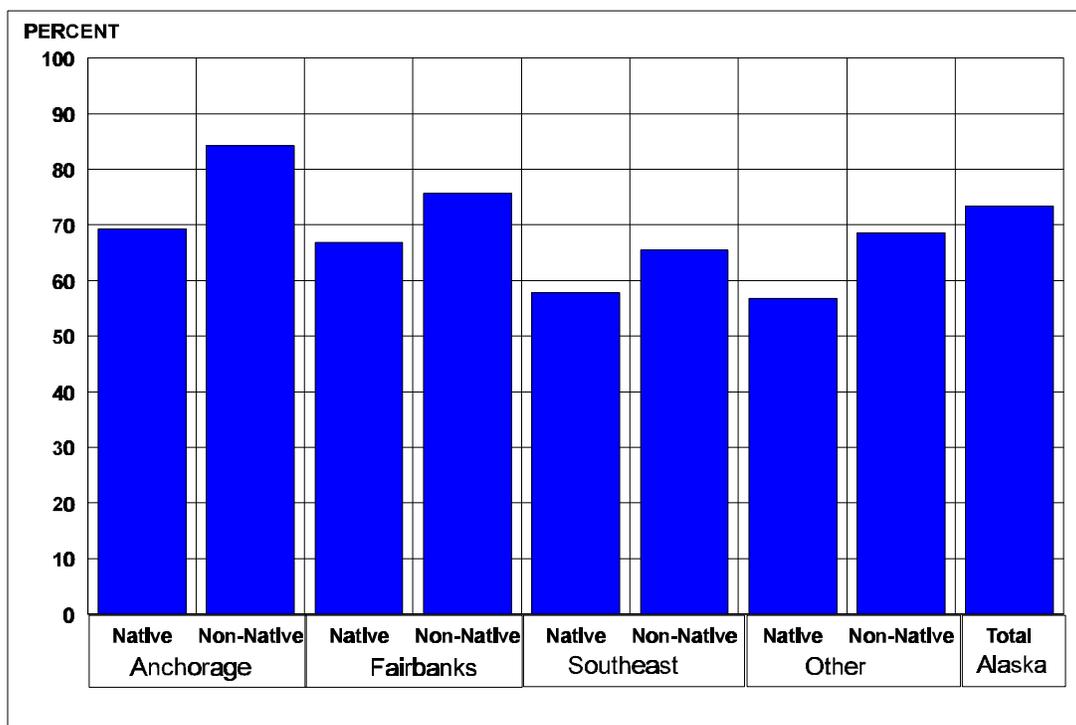
TABLE 1.15 PRENATAL CARE BY AGE OF MOTHER, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S AGE	PRENATAL CARE						TOTAL
	ADEQUATE		INTERMEDIATE		INADEQUATE		
	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	BIRTHS	PCT	
<15 YRS	4	25.0	7	43.8	5	31.3	16
15-17 YRS	188	50.9	129	35.0	52	14.1	369
18-19 YRS	440	60.4	212	29.1	76	10.4	728
20-24 YRS	1,806	67.9	641	24.1	213	8.0	2,660
25-29 YRS	1,997	73.1	540	19.8	195	7.1	2,732
30-34 YRS	1,608	73.2	445	20.3	144	6.6	2,197
35-39 YRS	763	71.8	217	20.4	83	7.8	1,063
40-44 YRS	187	71.1	52	19.8	24	9.1	263
45+ YRS	5	55.6	2	22.2	2	22.2	9
UNKWN	2	50.0	2	50.0			4
TOTAL	7,000	69.7	2,247	22.4	794	7.9	10,041

Chart 1.7 shows the percentage of mothers receiving adequate prenatal care for Natives and non-Natives in the Anchorage and Fairbanks census areas, Southeast Alaska, the remainder of the state, and all of Alaska. These regions were used to provide some geographic analysis without using populations so small as to be meaningless. In each region, a higher percentage of non-Natives received adequate prenatal care. Women in larger urban areas

(Anchorage and Fairbanks) received a higher level of prenatal care than women in Southeast and the remainder of the state.

CHART 1.7 PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS RECEIVING ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996



BIRTHS BY FACILITY, METHOD, AND ATTENDANT

In 1996, eighty-three percent of babies were delivered vaginally and seventeen percent by c-section. The U.S. cesarean delivery rate was 20.6 percent in 1996.⁸ Some remote or small hospitals had no c-section births; nor were there any c-section births at home or at birthing centers or clinics. At the hospitals which did have at least some c-section births, the rate varied widely, from a low of 3% at Yukon-Kuskokwim to a high of 35.7% at Sitka Community Hospital.

The overwhelming majority of babies delivered at hospitals were delivered by medical doctors (82.2%); however, several hospitals had a significant percentage of births attended by certified nurse midwives and doctors of osteopathy. At South Peninsula Hospital in Homer, 56.3 percent of infants were delivered by Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM); at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, 48.2 percent of infants were delivered by CNM; at Bassett Army Hospital at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, 37.7 percent of infants were delivered by CNM. Doctors of Osteopathy (DO) delivered 32.3 percent of infants at Kodiak Hospital, 26.1 percent of infants at Valley Hospital in Palmer, 19.9 percent of infants at Norton Sound Regional Hospital in Nome, and 17.0 percent at Maniilaq Medical Center in Kotzebue.

⁸ National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 46, No. 1(S2), September 11, 1997, p. 4.

Births at home, in birthing centers and clinics accounted for 4.3 percent of all births. Some of these births are in urban areas where hospitals are available; others take place in rural villages where clinics are the only medical facilities.

TABLE 1.16A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY BIRTH METHOD AND FACILITY, ALASKA, 1996

FACILITY	METHOD						TOTAL
	VAGINAL		C-SECTION		UNKNOWN		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
PROVIDENCE	1,819	77.7	522	22.3	1	0.0	2,342
FAIRBANKS	739	77.1	220	22.9			959
AK NATIVE MED CTR	825	90.3	89	9.7			914
ALASKA REGIONAL	672	75.3	220	24.6	1	0.1	893
ELMENDORF	675	88.0	92	12.0			767
BASSETT	567	91.0	56	9.0			623
YUKON-KUSKOKWIM	423	97.0	13	3.0			436
CENTRAL PENINSULA	355	82.4	76	17.6			431
BARTLETT	320	75.5	104	24.5			424
VALLEY	304	75.6	97	24.1	1	0.2	402
KETCHIKAN	240	77.9	68	22.1			308
CLINIC/BIRTHING CENTER	230	100.0					230
KODIAK	177	78.3	49	21.7			226
HOME	205	99.5			1	0.5	206
SOUTH PENINSULA	117	81.3	27	18.8			144
NORTON SOUND	141	100.0					141
OUT OF STATE	81	69.8	26	22.4	9	7.8	116
MANILAQ	106	100.0					106
PHS KANAKANAK	77	100.0					77
SEARHC MT EDGE CUMBE	70	90.9	7	9.1			77
SITKA	45	64.3	25	35.7			70
PHS BARROW	56	100.0					56
VALDEZ	41	91.1	4	8.9			45
WRANGELL	18	94.7	1	5.3			19
PETERSBURG	14	100.0					14
CORDOVA	9	100.0					9
OTHER	4	100.0					4
SEWARD	2	100.0					2
TOTAL	8,332	83.0	1,696	16.9	13	0.1	10,041

TABLE 1.16B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY BIRTH ATTENDANT AND FACILITY,
ALASKA, 1996

FACILITY	ATTENDANT										TOTAL
	MEDICAL DOCTOR		CERT NURSE MIDWIFE		DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHY (DO)		MIDWIFE		OTHER/ UNKN		
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
PROVIDENCE	2,073	88.5	264	11.3					5	0.2	2,342
FAIRBANKS	948	98.9			3	0.3			8	0.8	959
AK NATIVE MED CTR	664	72.6	237	25.9	12	1.3			1	0.1	914
ALASKA REGIONAL	839	94.0	54	6.0							893
ELMENDORF	396	51.6	370	48.2					1	0.1	767
BASSETT	323	51.8	235	37.7	63	10.1			2	0.3	623
YUKON-KUSKOKWIM	399	91.5	37	8.5							436
CENTRAL PENINSULA	350	81.2	67	15.5	14	3.2					431
BARTLETT	424	100.0									424
VALLEY	297	73.9			105	26.1					402
KETCHIKAN	307	99.7							1	0.3	308
CLINIC/BIRTHING CENTER	17	7.4	76	33.0	1	0.4	109	47.4	27	11.7	230
KODIAK	153	67.7			73	32.3					226
HOME	7	3.4	15	7.3			142	68.9	42	20.4	206
SOUTH PENINSULA	63	43.8	81	56.3							144
NORTON SOUND	112	79.4			28	19.9			1	0.7	141
OUT OF STATE	39	33.6	5	4.3	4	3.4	3	2.6	65	56.0	116
MANIILAQ	88	83.0			18	17.0					106
PHS KANAKANAK	74	96.1	1	1.3	2	2.6					77
SEARHC MT EDGECEMBE	77	100.0									77
SITKA	70	100.0									70
PHS BARROW	49	87.5			7	12.5					56
VALDEZ	45	100.0									45
WRANGELL	19	100.0									19
PETERSBURG	12	85.7			2	14.3					14
CORDOVA	9	100.0									9
OTHER	1	25.0							3	75.0	4
SEWARD	2	100.0									2
TOTAL	7,857	78.2	1,442	14.4	332	3.3	254	2.5	156	1.6	10,041

TABLE 1.17A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER/ CLINIC	HOME	OUT OF STATE	OTHER/ UNKN	
ALEUTIANS WEST		4				4
ANCHORAGE	4,915	70	72		1	5,058
BETHEL	436	7	2			445
DILLINGHAM	77	3				80
FAIRBANKS NSB	1,582	37	19		2	1,640
HAINES BOROUGH			1			1
JUNEAU BOROUGH	424		27			451
KENAI PENINSULA	578	1	29		1	609
KETCHIKAN	308		1			309
KODIAK ISLAND	226	8	4			238
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	402	79	22			503
NOME	141	1	1			143
NORTH SLOPE	56	6				62
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	106	3	1			110
PRINCE OF WALES			3			3
SITKA BOROUGH	147		7			154
SE FAIRBANKS			10			10
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	54		3			57
WADE HAMPTON		10	1			11
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	33	1	1			35
YAKUTAT			1			1
YUKON-KOYUKUK			1			1
OUT OF STATE				116		116
TOTAL	9,485	230	206	116	4	10,041

TABLE 1.17B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER/ CLINIC	HOME	OUT OF STATE	OTHER/ UNKN	
AHTNA INC.			1			1
ALEUT CORP.		4				4
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	56	6				62
BERING STRAITS CORP.	141	1	1			143
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	77	3				80
CALISTA CORP.	436	17	3			456
CHUGACH NATIVES INC.	57		2			59
COOK INLET REG CORP.	5,892	150	123		2	6,167
DOYON LTD.	1,582	37	30		2	1,651
KONIAG INC.	226	8	4			238
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	106	3	1			110
SEALASKA CORP.	912	1	41			954
OUT OF STATE				116		116
TOTAL	9,485	230	206	116	4	10,041

TABLE 1.18 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S RACE AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1996

RACE OF MOTHER	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER/ CLINIC	HOME	OUT OF STATE	OTHER/ UNKN	
WHITE	6,218	189	189	95	1	6,692
NATIVE	2,350	36	12	6	2	2,406
BLACK	432	1	1	1		435
ASIAN/PI	474	4	4	9		491
UNKNOWN	11			5	1	17
TOTAL	9,485	230	206	116	4	10,041

TABLE 1.19 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY MOTHER'S EDUCATION AND BIRTH FACILITY, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S EDUCATION	PLACE OF BIRTH					TOTAL
	HOSPITAL	BIRTHING CENTER/ CLINIC	HOME	OUT OF STATE	OTHER/ UNKN	
0-11	1,317	29	33	3	2	1,384
12	4,081	89	53	10		4,233
13-15	2,353	64	64	15	1	2,497
16+	1,631	47	55	25		1,758
UNK	103	1	1	63	1	169
TOTAL	9,485	230	206	116	4	10,041

TABLE 1.20A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE AND BY BIRTH ATTENDANT TYPE, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	ATTENDANT TYPE					TOTAL
	MEDICAL DOCTOR	DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHY	CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE	MIDWIFE	OTHER/ UNKNOWN	
ALEUTIANS WEST	2				2	4
ANCHORAGE	3,972	12	1,006	53	15	5,058
BETHEL	402		37		6	445
DILLINGHAM	74	2	1		3	80
FAIRBANKS NSB	1,286	66	235	38	15	1,640
HAINES BOROUGH					1	1
JUNEAU BOROUGH	424		2	25		451
KENAI PENINSULA	416	14	148	25	6	609
KETCHIKAN	307				2	309
KODIAK ISLAND	153	73		11	1	238
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	297	105	8	91	2	503
NOME	112	28			3	143
NORTH SLOPE	49	8			5	62
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	88	18		1	3	110
PRINCE OF WALES					3	3
SITKA BOROUGH	147			5	2	154
SE FAIRBANKS					10	10
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	55			2		57
WADE HAMPTON	2				9	11
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	32	2			1	35
YAKUTAT					1	1
YUKON-KOYUKUK					1	1
OUT OF STATE	39	4	5	3	65	116
TOTAL	7,857	332	1,442	254	156	10,041

TABLE 1.20B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE AND BY BIRTH ATTENDANT TYPE, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE BIRTH OCCURRED	ATTENDANT TYPE					TOTAL
	MEDICAL DOCTOR	DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHY	CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE	MIDWIFE	OTHER/ UNKNOWN	
AHTNA INC				1		1
ALEUT CORP.	2				2	4
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	49	8			5	62
BERING STRAITS CORP	112	28			3	143
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	74	2	1		3	80
CALISTA CORP.	404		37		15	456
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	58			1		59
COOK INLET REG CORP	4,682	131	1,162	169	23	6,167
DOYON LTD	1,286	66	235	38	26	1,651
KONIAG INC.	153	73		11	1	238
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	88	18		1	3	110
SEALASKA CORP.	910	2	2	30	10	954
OUT OF STATE	39	4	5	3	65	116
TOTAL	7,857	332	1,442	254	156	10,041

TABLE 1.21 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY RACE OF MOTHER AND BY BIRTH ATTENDANT TYPE, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RACE	ATTENDANT TYPE					TOTAL
	MEDICAL DOCTOR	DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHY	CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE	MIDWIFE	OTHER/ UNKNOWN	
WHITE	5,172	193	989	246	92	6,692
NATIVE	1,972	88	294	4	48	2,406
BLACK	321	15	97	1	1	435
ASIAN/PI	381	36	61	3	10	491
UNKNOWN	11		1		5	17
TOTAL	7,857	332	1,442	254	156	10,041

BIRTH WEIGHT

Tables 1.22A, 1.22B, and 1.23 show numbers of births by birth weight. Table 1.22A shows birth weight by census area, Table 1.22B by Native regional corporation, and Table 1.23 by race. Infants weighing less than 2,500 grams (5 pounds 8 ounces) are defined as low birth weight babies. Infants weighing less than 1,500 grams (3 pounds, 5 ounces) are considered very low birth weight. The National Center for Health Statistics is concerned with low birth weight rates because low birth weight infants are at much greater risk of mortality and long-term disability.⁹

⁹ National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 16.

TABLE 1.22A RESIDENT BIRTHS BY CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS							UNKN	TOTAL
	<750	750-1499	1500-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-4499	4500+		
ALEUTIANS EAST			2	2	8	13			25
ALEUTIANS WEST			3	7	10	23	3		46
ANCHORAGE	7	35	222	520	1,451	1,785	91	5	4,116
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG				2	6	21	4	1	34
BETHEL	1	2	10	46	120	196	11	1	387
BRISTOL BAY			1	2	6	12	1		22
DENALI	1			2	5	10			18
DILLINGHAM	1	3	3	13	33	46	4		103
FAIRBANKS NSB	7	7	60	170	486	691	37	3	1,461
HAINES BOROUGH				4	8	12		2	26
JUNEAU BOROUGH	1	3	22	46	130	214	14		430
KENAI PENINSULA	2	3	30	90	239	294	24	2	684
KETCHIKAN	1		8	22	71	134	7		243
KODIAK ISLAND	1	3	11	39	94	110	9		267
LAKE-PENINSULA				6	10	16	3		35
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	2	5	29	95	250	321	16		718
NOME	1	3	10	18	77	113	11	1	234
NORTH SLOPE			3	20	51	64	6		144
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	2	1	9	24	50	77	6		169
PRINCE OF WALES			2	5	24	43	7		81
SITKA BOROUGH			5	12	36	64	3		120
SE FAIRBANKS		2	4	12	38	56	1		113
VALDEZ-CORDOVA		1	5	10	60	79	3		158
WADE HAMPTON		1	9	31	70	105	13		229
WRANGELL-PETERSBG		1	3	12	31	34	1		82
YAKUTAT					5	6			11
YUKON-KOYUKUK	1		1	13	24	43	3		85
TOTAL	28	70	452	1,223	3,393	4,582	278	15	10,041

TABLE 1.22B RESIDENT BIRTHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<750	750-1499	1500-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-4499	4500+	UNKN	
AHTNA INC				3	26	24	1		54
ALEUT CORP.			5	9	18	36	3		71
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.			3	20	51	64	6		144
BERING STRAITS CORP	1	3	10	18	77	113	11	1	234
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	1	3	4	20	48	71	8		155
CALISTA CORP.	1	3	19	77	190	301	24	1	616
CHUGACH NATIVES INC		1	5	14	54	78	4		156
COOK INLET REG CORP	11	43	281	700	1,922	2,380	129	7	5,473
DOYON LTD	9	9	65	196	552	800	41	3	1,675
KONIAG INC.	1	3	11	39	94	110	9		267
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	2	1	9	24	50	77	6		169
SEALASKA CORP.	2	4	40	103	311	528	36	3	1,027
TOTAL	28	70	452	1,223	3,393	4,582	278	15	10,041

TABLE 1.23 RESIDENT BIRTHS BY RACE OF MOTHER AND BY BIRTH WEIGHT OF CHILD, ALASKA, 1996

MOTHER'S RACE	BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<750	750-1499	1500-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-4499	4500+	UNKN	
WHITE	13	40	279	767	2,297	3,121	167	8	6,692
NATIVE	9	19	105	287	741	1,146	97	2	2,406
BLACK	6	8	37	81	164	132	7		435
ASIAN/PI		3	29	86	187	178	7	1	491
UNKNOWN			2	2	4	5		4	17
TOTAL	28	70	452	1,223	3,393	4,582	278	15	10,041

LOW BIRTH WEIGHT PERCENTS

In Alaska, low birth weight percentages are calculated for a five-year period to reduce the possibility of year-to-year random variations. From 1992 through 1996, 5.3 percent of all Alaska resident births resulted in low birth weight babies. During 1996 the U.S. low birth weight percentage was 7.4 percent.¹⁰ Of all multiple birth infants (i.e. twins, etc.), 44.9 percent were characterized by low birth weight.

Tables 1.24A and 1.24B show the number and percent of very low birth weight infants (less than 1500 grams), the number and percent of low birth weight infants (from 1500 to 2499 grams), the number and percent of infants 2500 grams and over, and the number and percent of births where the birth weight is unknown. Note that the total shows that 94.6 percent of all births fall in the 2500+ category.

10 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Births and Deaths: United States, 1996," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 46, No. 1(S2), September 11, 1997, Table A, p. 3.

TABLE 1.24A BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S CENSUS AREA, ALASKA, 1992-1996

CENSUS AREA OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
ALEUTIANS EAST			7	5.8	114	94.2			121
ALEUTIANS WEST	3	0.6	16	3.4	456	96.0			475
ANCHORAGE	249	1.1	1,092	4.8	21,532	94.0	39	0.2	22,912
ANGOON-HOONAH-SKG			4	2.0	172	87.8	20	10.2	196
BETHEL	17	0.8	69	3.4	1,944	95.6	3	0.1	2,033
BRISTOL BAY			3	3.1	94	96.9			97
DENALI	1	0.8	5	4.1	116	95.1			122
DILLINGHAM	11	1.9	33	5.6	543	92.2	2	0.3	589
FAIRBANKS NSB	66	0.8	301	3.8	7,508	95.2	9	0.1	7,884
HAINES BOROUGH			6	4.5	101	75.4	27	20.1	134
JUNEAU BOROUGH	16	0.7	93	4.3	2,057	95.0			2,166
KENAI PENINSULA	28	0.8	127	3.7	3,282	95.3	7	0.2	3,444
KETCHIKAN	12	1.0	37	3.1	1,136	95.9			1,185
KODIAK ISLAND	12	0.9	62	4.5	1,300	94.5	2	0.1	1,376
LAKE-PENINSULA	1	0.5	9	4.2	204	95.3			214
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA	37	1.0	151	4.2	3,386	94.7	2	0.1	3,576
NOME	12	1.1	38	3.5	1,020	95.1	3	0.3	1,073
NORTH SLOPE	6	0.9	26	3.7	667	95.4			699
NORTHWEST ARCTIC	14	1.7	35	4.3	765	93.9	1	0.1	815
PRINCE OF WALES	4	0.8	16	3.2	478	95.4	3	0.6	501
SITKA BOROUGH	2	0.3	30	4.2	688	95.4	1	0.1	721
SE FAIRBANKS	6	1.2	21	4.1	485	94.4	2	0.4	514
VALDEZ-CORDOVA	5	0.7	28	3.9	678	95.2	1	0.1	712
WADE HAMPTON	4	0.4	52	4.7	1,055	95.0			1,111
WRANGELL-PETERSBG	2	0.4	13	2.7	460	96.8			475
YAKUTAT			1	1.6	61	98.4			62
YUKON-KOYUKUK	3	0.5	14	2.5	533	96.9			550
UNKNOWN					4	100.0			4
TOTAL	511	1.0	2,289	4.3	50,839	94.6	122	0.2	53,761

TABLE 1.24B BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION, ALASKA, 1992-1996

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF MOTHER'S RESIDENCE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
AHTNA INC			9	3.9	223	95.7	1	0.4	233
ALEUT CORP.	3	0.5	23	3.9	570	95.6			596
ARCTIC SLOPE CORP.	6	0.9	26	3.7	667	95.4			699
BERING STRAITS CORP	12	1.1	38	3.5	1,020	95.1	3	0.3	1,073
BRISTOL BAY CORP.	12	1.4	45	5.1	828	93.3	2	0.2	887
CALISTA CORP.	21	0.7	121	3.8	2,999	95.4	3	0.1	3,144
CHUGACH NATIVES INC	6	0.8	26	3.4	736	95.8			768
COOK INLET REG CORP	313	1.1	1,363	4.6	27,942	94.2	48	0.2	29,666
DOYON LTD	76	0.8	341	3.8	8,630	95.3	11	0.1	9,058
KONIAG INC.	12	0.9	62	4.5	1,302	94.5	2	0.1	1,378
NANA REGIONAL CORP.	14	1.7	35	4.3	765	93.9	1	0.1	815
SEALASKA CORP.	36	0.7	200	3.7	5,153	94.7	51	0.9	5,440
UNKNOWN					4	100.0			4
TOTAL	511	1.0	2,289	4.3	50,839	94.6	122	0.2	53,761

TABLE 1.25 BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S RACE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

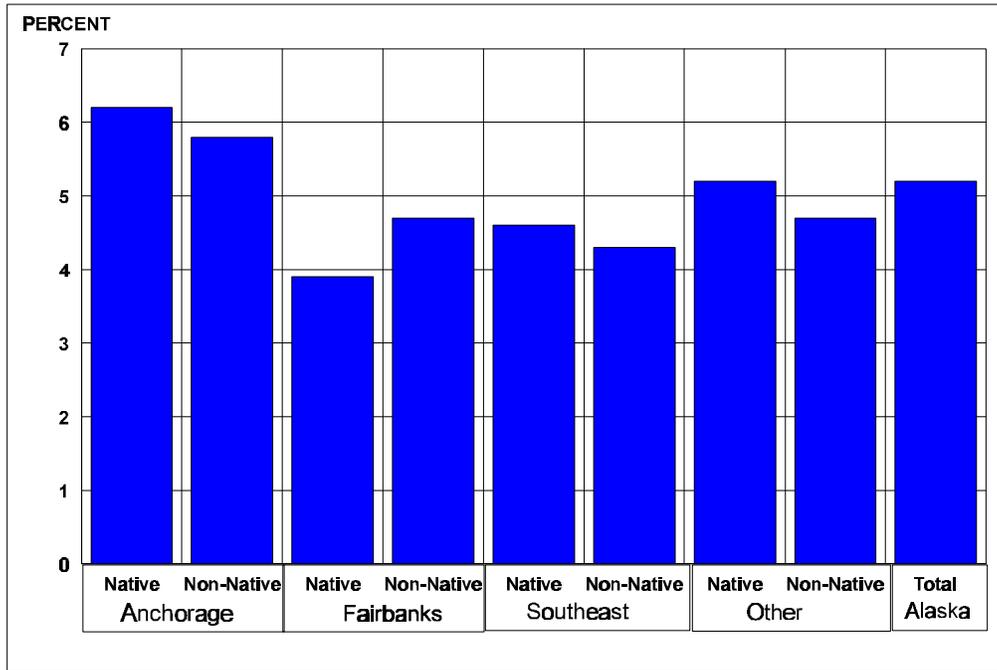
MOTHER'S RACE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
WHITE	299	0.8	1,424	3.9	34,611	95.1	52	0.1	36,386
NATIVE	118	1.0	522	4.3	11,548	94.6	25	0.2	12,213
BLACK	66	2.6	204	8.2	2,225	89.0	4	0.2	2,499
ASIAN/PI	27	1.1	133	5.3	2,350	93.5	4	0.2	2,514
UNKNOWN	1	0.7	6	4.0	105	70.5	37	24.8	149
TOTAL	511	1.0	2,289	4.3	50,839	94.6	122	0.2	53,761

TABLE 1.26 BIRTH WEIGHTS AND PERCENTAGES BY MOTHER'S AGE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

MOTHER'S AGE	CHILD'S BIRTH WEIGHT IN GRAMS								TOTAL
	<1500		1500-2499		2500+		UNKN		
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
<20 YRS	75	1.3	290	4.9	5,577	93.7	13	0.2	5,955
29-29 YRS	237	0.8	1,175	4.0	27,987	95.0	60	0.2	29,459
30-39 YRS	186	1.1	762	4.4	16,197	94.2	41	0.2	17,186
40+ YRS	13	1.1	59	5.2	1,059	93.3	4	0.4	1,135
UNKNOWN			3	11.5	19	73.1	4	15.4	26
TOTAL	511	1.0	2,289	4.3	50,839	94.6	122	0.2	53,761

Chart 1.8 shows percentage of low birth weight infants by residence for Native and non-Native mothers for the five years from 1992 through 1996. Native and non-Native mothers who live in the Anchorage census area had the highest percentages of low birth weight infants followed by Native mothers who lived outside Anchorage, Fairbanks and Southeast. All other mothers had percentages of low birth weight infants which were below the average for the entire state. Fairbanks was the only area in which the low birth weight percentage was higher for non-Natives than for Natives. Southeast showed the smallest difference between the percentage of low birth weight infants for Native mothers and non-Native mothers, 0.3 percent.

CHART 1.8 PERCENTAGE OF LOW BIRTH WEIGHT INFANTS BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996



OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISONS

Chart 1.9 shows the incidence of short gestation (pregnancy of less than 37 weeks) by residence for Native and non-Native mothers. The differences between Native and non-Native mothers for short gestation are more pronounced than between Native and non-Native mothers for low birth weight. In Fairbanks, the difference in short gestation between Native and non-Native mothers is 1.3%; in other parts of the state, Natives experience short gestation from 3.0% to 5.3% greater than non-Natives.

CHART 1.9 PERCENTAGE OF INFANTS BORN AT LESS THAN 37 WEEKS GESTATION BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

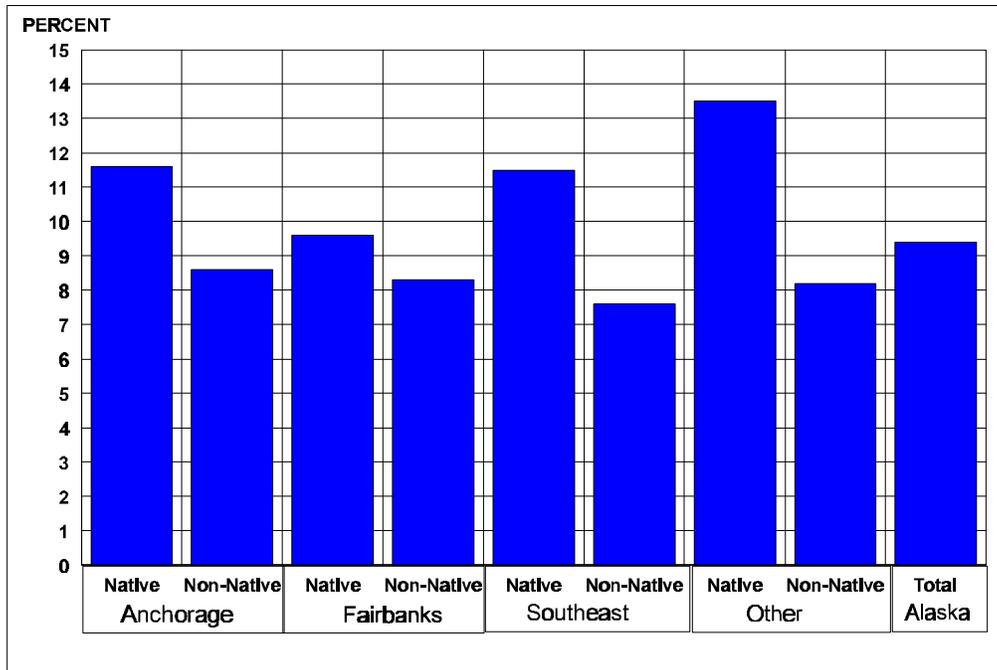


Chart 1.10A shows percentage of multiple births. Although multiple births make up only 2.4 percent of all births from 1992-1996, they comprise 20.9 percent of all low birth weight infants. In addition, babies born in multiple births are at greater risk of pre-term delivery and death within the first year.¹¹ Chart 1.10A shows that Native mothers who live in Anchorage and Fairbanks are more likely to experience multiple births than non-Native mothers in those cities, and the frequency for multiple births is similar for Native and non-Native mothers within the other regions of the state.

11 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 18.

CHART 1.10A PERCENTAGE OF MULTIPLE BIRTHS BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

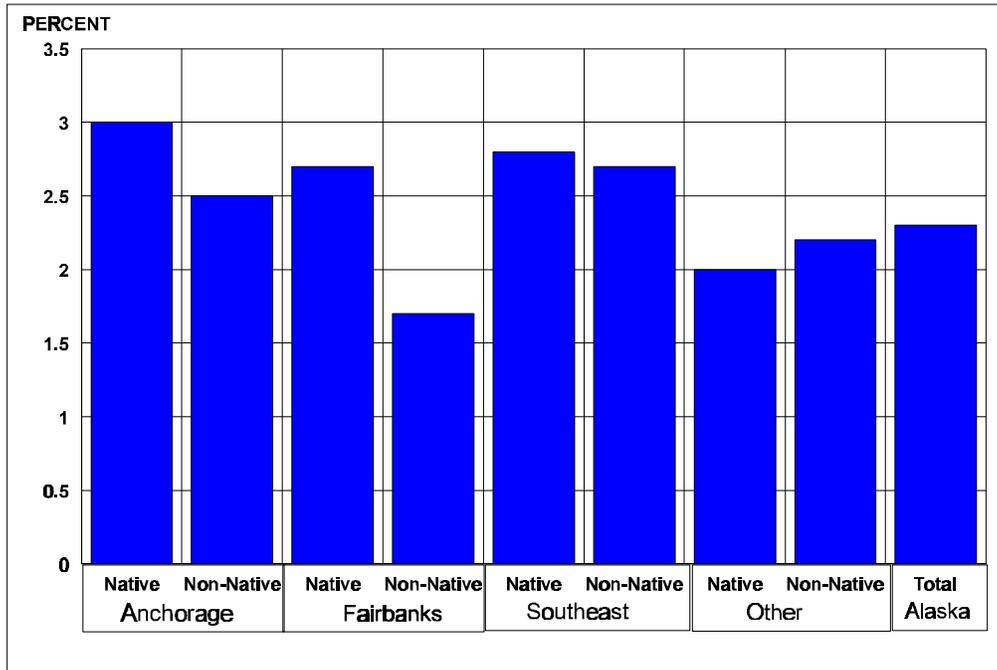


CHART 1.10B PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS REPORTING TOBACCO USE BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

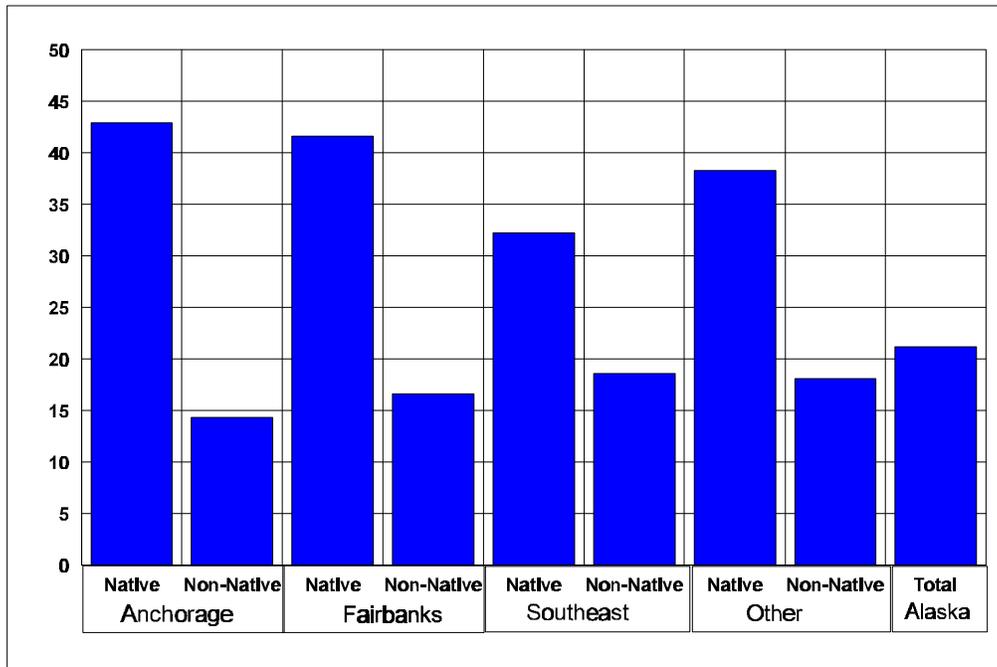


Chart 1.10B shows percentage of mothers who reported using tobacco. Maternal smoking has been shown to have an adverse effect on birth weight.¹² In Alaska from 1992-1996, reported tobacco use was notably higher among Native mothers in all parts of the state.

Chart 1.10C shows the percentage of mothers gaining less than 25 pounds during pregnancy. The total weight gained by the mother during pregnancy has been shown to have an independent, positive relationship with the weight of the newborn.¹³ Chart 1.10C shows that, except in Fairbanks, Native mothers had a higher percentage of low weight gain than non-Native mothers. The two groups with the highest percentage of low weight gain were Native mothers outside the Anchorage, Fairbanks and Southeast areas, and Native mothers in Anchorage. All other groups were below the state average of 23.7 percent.

CHART 1.10C PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS GAINING LESS THAN 25 POUNDS BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

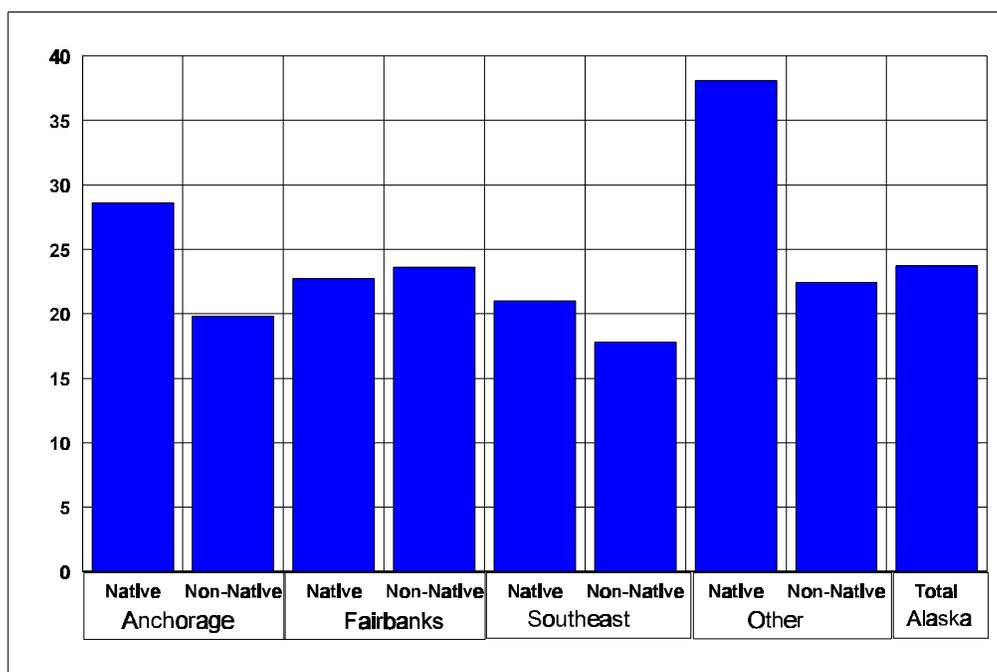


Chart 1.10D shows percentage of mothers who deliver a baby within one year of a previous pregnancy. Closely spaced births have been associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes such as low birth weight, short gestation, fetal growth retardation, and perinatal mortality.¹⁴ This chart shows that in every area Native mothers have a higher percentage of infants born within one year of a prior pregnancy. Non-Native mothers in all areas are at or below the state average percentage of 2.0 percent.

12 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 3.

13 *Ibid.*, p. 9.

14 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1993," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 43, No. 3(S), September 21, 1996, p. 20.

CHART 1.10D PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS GIVING BIRTH WITHIN ONE YEAR OF PRIOR PREGNANCY BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

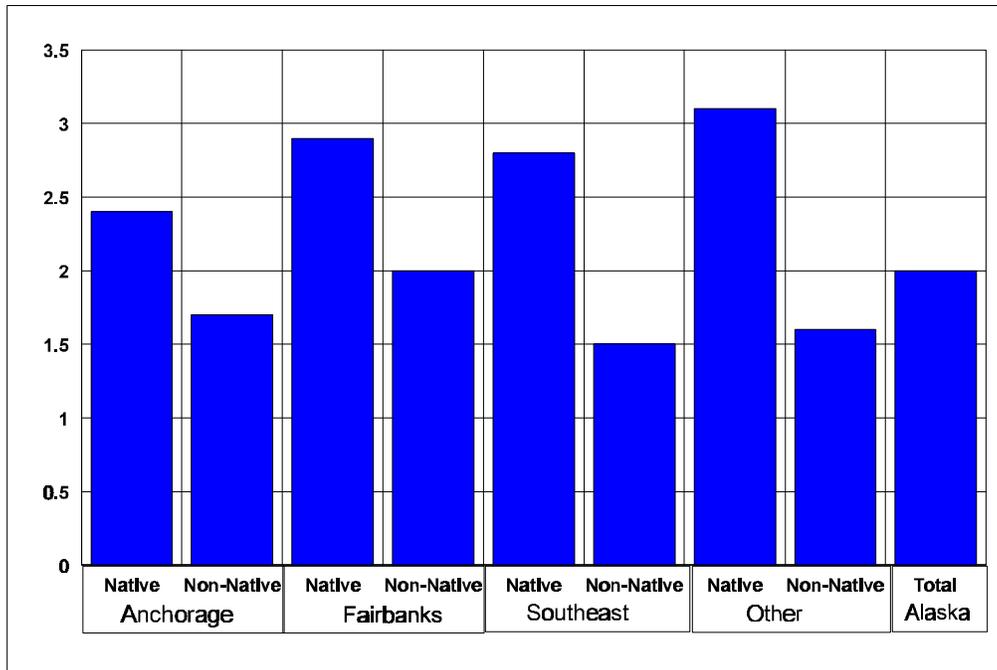


CHART 1.10E PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS REPORTING ALCOHOL USE DURING PREGNANCY BY RESIDENCE, NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE, ALASKA, 1992-1996

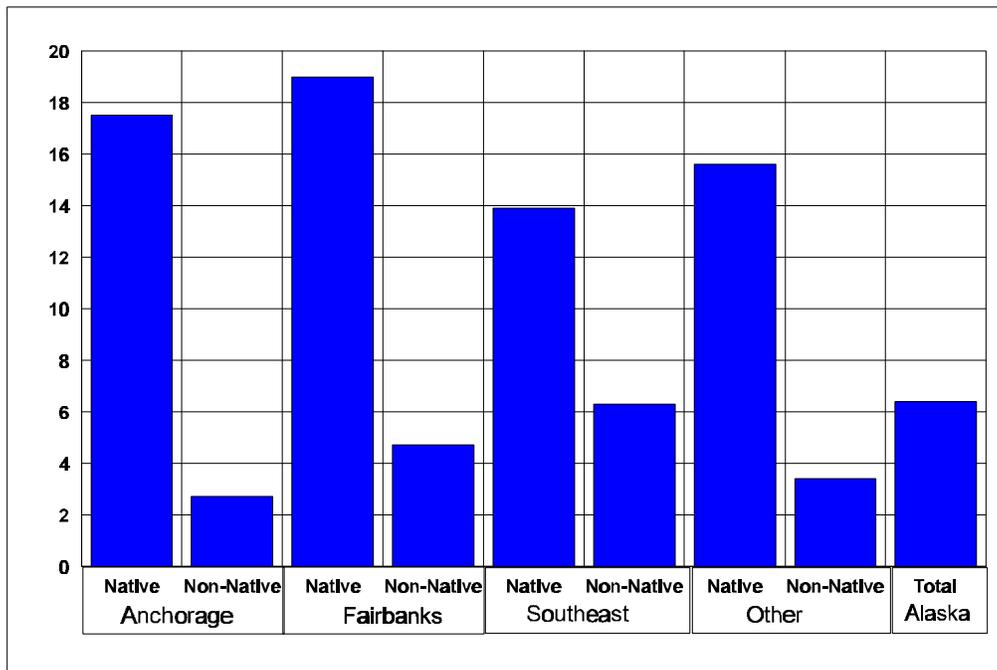


Chart 1.10E shows the percentage of mothers who reported using alcohol during pregnancy. Native mothers were more likely to use alcohol than non-Native mothers in every geographic grouping. The highest rates of reported alcohol use were by Native mothers in Anchorage and Fairbanks, while the lowest reported rate was by Anchorage non-Native mothers. The most severe adverse effect of excessive drinking is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) which results in disorders such as mental retardation.¹⁵

15 National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 11(S), June 10, 1997, p. 12.