

Del Norte County

Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Community Profile 2017-18

Demographics

Our Community

Total Population ¹	28,530
Total Population, African American.....	1,072
Total Population, American Indian/ Alaskan Natives.....	2,082
Total Population, Asian/Pacific Islander	1,025
Total Population, Hispanic	5,098
Total Population, White.....	18,209
Total Live Births ²	315

Our Mothers and Babies

% of women delivering a baby who received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester of their pregnancy ²	78.7%
% of births covered by Medi-Cal ²	67.1%
% of women ages 18-64 without health insurance ³	19.4%
% of women giving birth to a second child within 24 months of a previous pregnancy *	41.3%
% live births less than 37 weeks gestation ²	8.8%
Gestational diabetes per 1,000 females age 15-44	7.9
% of female population 18-64 living in poverty (0-200% FPL) ³	45.4%
Substance use diagnosis per 1,000 hospitalizations of pregnant women*	50.7%
Unemployment Rate ⁴	12.9%

Our Children and Teens

Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 births (ages 15-19) ²	41.6
Motor vehicle injury hospitalizations per 100,000 children age 0-146.....	6.8
% of children, ages 0-18 years living in poverty (0-200% FPL) ³	61.5%
Mental health hospitalizations per 100,000 age 15-24*	1,447.3
Children in Foster Care per 1,000 children ⁵	17.4
Substance abuse hospitalization per 100,000 aged 15-24*	982.8

Data sources: ¹ CA Dept. of Finance population estimates for Year 2015, January 2013; ² CA Birth Statistical Master Files 2011-2013 Annual Average, 3 year average; ³ California Health Interview Survey, 2014; ⁴ [State of California, Employment Development Department, February 2017](#); ⁵ [Data from CA Child Welfare Indicators Project, UC Berkeley Point in Time Jul 2015](#); ⁶ [California Department of Public Health, Safe and Active Communities Branch](#); *Data carried over from the Community Profile 2015-2016. Not updated.

About Our Community – Health Starts Where We Live, Learn, Work, and Play

1. Geography: Del Norte County is located at the far northwest corner of California, bordered by the Pacific Ocean to the west, Oregon to the north, Siskiyou County to the east, and Humboldt County to the south. It encompasses 1,008 square miles of land. Over 70% of the land in Del Norte County is managed and controlled by state and federal agencies, through national and state parks. The county seat is the coastal town of Crescent City. Other more rural communities include Klamath, Smith River, Hiouchi, Fort Dick, and Gasquet. The rural county is notable for its Coast Redwood forests, rugged coastlines, and mountain terrain associated with the Coastal Range and the Klamath Mountains.

2. Major Industries & Employers: The population is 28,530 with the majority of residents living in Crescent City. The remaining residents live in frontier communities. In the past, the major economic activities in the region were industries such as timber, fishing, and mining. Today, jobs in these areas are severely diminished and the major industry is by far government and government enterprises. Following this industry by a large margin are health care and social assistance. Retail services and accommodation and food services are also major industries, though often fall under seasonal employment. Over the years,

there has also been an increase in production and manufacturing of illegal substances, such as marijuana and methamphetamines.

3. Walkability & Recreation: Travel in Del Norte County is primarily automobile-oriented due to the rural nature of the communities and limited options for non-auto modes of travel. Walkability and cyclability could be improved with more and wider sidewalks, even pavement, wider bicycle lanes, and more rest benches. Del Norte County is famous for its natural beauty and state and federal parks, but both are difficult to access without a car and routes to these areas are unsafe for bicycles and pedestrians. Del Norte County also boasts its raw beauty in its beaches and rivers, though Del Norte County also has significant periods of inclement weather, falling around 70 inches of annual rainfall. While there is a well-utilized public transportation system, there is a lack of covered bus stops and the routes to outlying frontier communities are limited.

Health System – Health and Human Services for the MCAH Population

Maternal/Women's Health:

- Coordination with Public Assistance/Eligibility staff about prenatal care, MCAH home visiting, and access to insurance
- Follow-up telephone calls to new parents who were visited by a nurse in the hospital
- Community education to mothers enrolled in Baby Steps Program
- Coordination with local health teachers and juvenile hall to provide appropriate preconception education
- Coordination with First 5, WIC, and prenatal classes to provide appropriate antenatal education
- Coordination with WIC and Family Resource Center to provide support groups for mothers

Perinatal/Infant Health:

- Pregnant women who have missed their antenatal appointments are referred to public health for follow up home visits to address barriers to care and assist women back into care.
- MCAH Field Nursing accepts referrals for antenatal and postpartum home visiting
- Dissemination of perinatal/infant health education materials at annual community fairs
- Public Health Nurse visits to new parents at the hospital to educate about safe sleep and community resources
- Care coordination with OB provider office for high risk clients
- Participation in Del Norte Breastfeeding Coalition

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs:

- Early Intervention Case Reviews with Regional Center, Del Norte Unified School District, Early Start Home Visiting
- CCS Workgroup to address needs of families of clients
- MCAH Field Nursing accepts referrals for CCS clients and other children with special health care needs
- MCAH Field Nursing accepts referrals made by the School Attendance Review Board for children with special health needs
- Monthly follow-up with Open Door Community Clinic about CCS Referrals

Cross-Cutting and Life Course Issues:

- Participation in Child Abuse Prevention Council to build capacity to address symptoms of trauma, including Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health issues

Health Status and Disparities for the MCAH Population

Health Behaviors:

- Teen birth rate is higher than in California, though there has been improvement
- High childhood and adult obesity rate
- High rate of women giving birth within 24 months of the last live birth
- High rate of substance abuse, smoking, and binge drinking during pregnancy

Physical Environment:

- Geographically isolated
- Lack of transportation opportunities

- High rate of smoking in households with children
- Percentage of children walking, skateboarding, or bicycling to school has increased

SDOH:

- Percent of people living below the poverty line is higher than California
- High rate of children in foster care
- *High rate of Medi-Cal insured live births and a low rate of uninsured women and children*
- High rate of domestic violence calls and assault hospitalizations
- High rate of mood disorder hospitalizations
- Unemployment rates are higher in Del Norte County than California
- TANF, Cal Works, and Medi-Cal caseloads are much higher per capita than California

Availability of Care:

- Del Norte County has one hospital, Sutter Coast Hospital, which has an OB Department
- There is one OB/GYN provider at Sutter Coast Community Clinic who accepts Medi-Cal
- The managed care plan in Del Norte County is Partnership Health Plan of California
- Specialty physicians and dentists are limited
- There are two full-time pediatrician in Del Norte County, both at Open Door Community Clinic