

Ventura County

Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Community Profile 2017-18

Demographics

Our Community

Total Population ¹	844,833
Total Population, African American	13,945
Total Population, American Indian/ Alaskan Natives	2,595
Total Population, Asian/Pacific Islander	59,905
Total Population, Hispanic	353,004
Total Population, White	415,384
Total Live Births ²	10,441

Our Mothers and Babies

% of women delivering a baby who received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester of their pregnancy ²	81.9%
% of births covered by Medi-Cal ²	43.4%
% of women ages 18-64 without health insurance ³	20.0%
% of women giving birth to a second child within 24 months of a previous pregnancy *	37.2%
% live births less than 37 weeks' gestation ²	7.9%
Gestational diabetes per 1,000 females age 15-44	7.9
% of female population 18-64 living in poverty (0-200% FPL) ³	27.2%
Substance use diagnosis per 1,000 hospitalizations of pregnant women*	12.8
Unemployment Rate ⁴	7.9

Our Children and Teens

Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 births (ages 15-19) ²	21.9
Motor vehicle injury hospitalizations per 100,000 children age 0-146	8.4
% of children, ages 0-18 years living in poverty (0-200% FPL) ³	36.5%
Mental health hospitalizations per 100,000 age 15-24*	1,792.5
Children in Foster Care per 1,000 children ⁵	4.1
Substance abuse hospitalization per 100,000 aged 15-24*	942.4

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) Ventura County is a diverse region with geography ranging from agricultural fields to coastal plains to mountain communities. Ventura County covers over 1,845 square miles including 43 miles of coastline. The Los Padres National Forest accounts for 46.7% of its land mass or 860 square miles in the northern portion of the County. Ventura County is home to the only deep-water port between Los Angeles and San Francisco, which is the shipping point for agriculture and is the largest refrigerated fruit terminal on the West Coast. Ventura County attracts thousands of farm and migrant workers and their families all who need access to healthcare, education, and social services.

2) Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) is our largest employer in Ventura County with 17,000 jobs and \$1.6 billion in economic activity per year. The second leading industry behind government is the trade/transportation/utilities industry.

3) According to the County Health Rankings (2016), 97.8% of individuals lived reasonably close to a park or recreational facility. However, lower SES areas tend to have less access to safe routes (i.e. sidewalks, neighborhoods without crime) to these open spaces. In Western Ventura County, 1.9% of the sub-region total acres (excluding national forests) are dedicated to parks and recreation open space compared to 7.8% in Eastern Ventura County.

Health System – Health and Human Services for the MCAH Population

1) There are 8 hospitals within Ventura County (VC), 6 of which have birthing facilities.

2) There are 59 Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) providers and 69 Denti-Cal providers.

3) The percentage of uninsured children 0-18 years was 6.4% in 2015, but adults 18-64 years were more likely to be uninsured at 19.3%. Females were less likely to be uninsured than males (12.1% of females versus 15.5% of males). The percent of Hispanics that were uninsured was more than 3 times the percent of Whites that were uninsured in Ventura County in 2015 (22.6% of Hispanics versus 7.1% of Whites). Residents from the cities of Oxnard (78.3%), Port Hueneme (82.9%), and Santa Paula (80.9%) are less likely to be insured than residents of other cities. VC also has a large population (20,000+) of indigenous farm workers from the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca that only speak Mixteco and other languages different than Spanish. There are several barriers to accessing healthcare within the county including lack of transportation, lack of permanent residency status, low literacy levels, low English proficiency, availability of healthcare services outside of their local/county area, and limited services available after work. In addition, there is limited access to mental health services, public and private, because MCAH clients do not often meet the strict guidelines for inclusion. There are very few Denti-Cal providers that will treat pregnant women.

4) The Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan in Ventura County is Gold Coast Health Plan.

Health Status and Disparities for the MCAH Population

1) 40.0% of 5th graders were outside the healthy fitness zone for their body composition (overweight or obese) in 2015-16. Students in Fillmore, Santa Paula, Oxnard, and Port Hueneme were more likely to be overweight and obese than in other cities; these cities have higher poverty rates, lower graduation rates, and lower median incomes. Mothers living in these cities are also more likely to be overweight or obese prior to pregnancy. Hispanic children are more likely to be overweight or obese; 48.4% of Hispanic 5th graders were overweight or obese compared to 25.4% of White 5th graders.

2) Only 82.9% of mothers received prenatal care within the 1st trimester in 2015, a decrease from 83.3% in 2014. Hispanics were the least likely of all race/ethnic groups to initiate early prenatal care at 77.3%; Asians (91.2%), African Americans (79.7%), Pacific Islanders (86.9%), and Whites (91.4%) were all more likely. However, the rate has decreased for all race/ethnic groups since 2000. Younger mothers were also less likely to initiate early prenatal care (62.0% of 15-19 yr. old versus 84.0% of mothers 20+ yrs.).

3) From 2010 to 2015, there has been a 48.8% decrease in the number of teen births in Ventura County. However, in 2015 as in previous years, the majority of the teenage pregnancies occurred in teens of Hispanic race (88.1%) followed to a lesser extent by teens of white race (10.4%). 7.4% of the births that occurred in Hispanic women were in Hispanic teenagers.