



Ohio MCH Fact Sheet

Women's Health, Birth Outcomes, Newborn Health Birth Spacing

MCH Block Grant Needs Assessment Data

Key Data Summary – Ohio

- The percent of births spaced less than 18 months apart increased slightly from 13.6 in 1996 to 14.0 in 2005, as shown in the first graph.
- Black women were more likely to have a short birth interval, with 17.8 percent having one that was less than 18 months, compared with just 13.4 percent of white women, as shown in the second graph.
- No substantial difference in birth spacing was seen between Hispanic and non-Hispanic women (data not shown).
- Although older mothers were more likely to have had a previous birth than younger mothers, the likelihood of a short birth interval (among non-first births) was highest with the youngest mothers, at 46.5 percent having a birth interval of less than 18 months, as shown in the third graph.

Healthy People 2010 Objective 9-2

- Reduce the proportion of births occurring within 24 months of a previous birth to 6 percent.

Additional Information

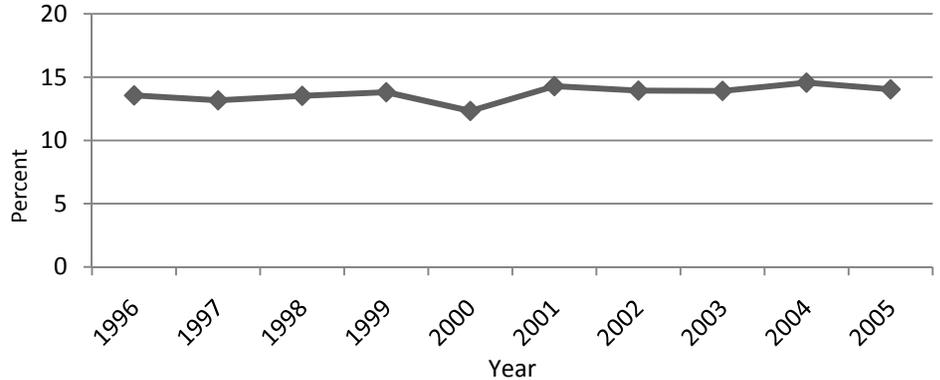
- Numerous studies have found that short birth intervals, ranging from less than three months to less than 18 months, are associated with an increased risk of adverse birth outcomes, including low birth weight, preterm births, small for gestational age, neonatal death and infant mortality.

Source: 2002 PRAMS Surveillance Report: Multistate Exhibits Postpartum Contraceptive Use. <http://www.cdc.gov>

- Among adolescent mothers, for whom preventing a repeat pregnancy is critical, one study found that 87 percent of postpartum adolescents were using hormonal contraceptives six months post-partum, but at 12 months, only 70 percent were still using a hormonal method.

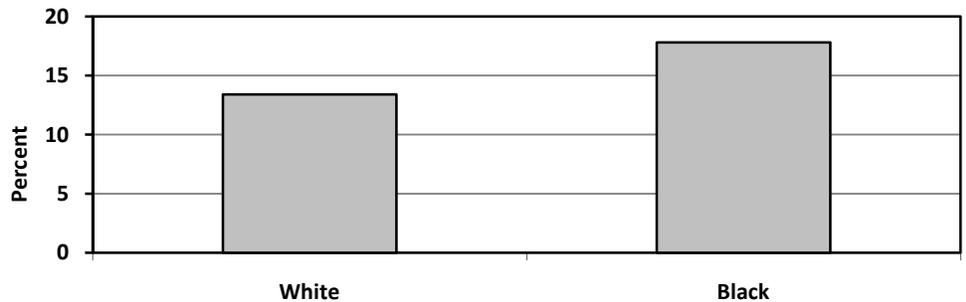
Source: 2002 PRAMS Surveillance Report: Multistate Exhibits Postpartum Contraceptive Use. <http://www.cdc.gov>

Births Spaced Less than 18 Months Apart,* Ohio



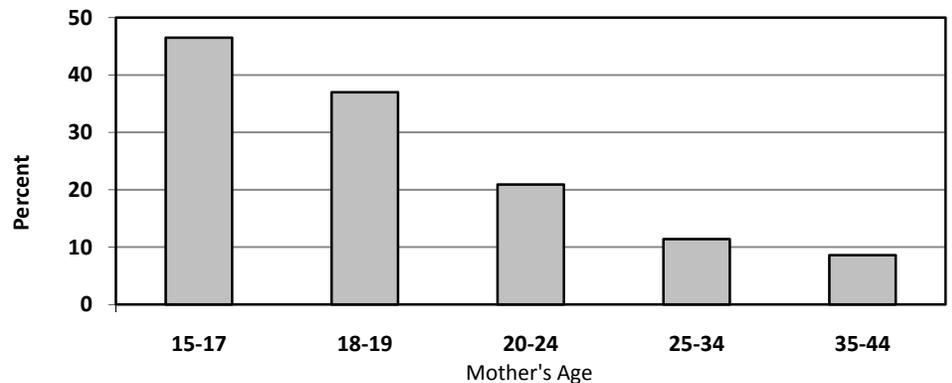
Source: Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics

Births Spaced Less than 18 Months Apart,* by Race, Ohio, 2005



Source: Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics

Births Spaced Less than 18 Months Apart,* by Maternal Age, Ohio, 2005



Source: Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics

*First births and births missing interval information excluded.