Healthy People 2000
Summary of Alaska’s progress in maternal, infant, and child health objectives over the last decade

Over the last decade, Alaska has made significant progress for many of the National Healthy People 2000 (HP2000) goals in the area of maternal and child health. Most noticeable are our achievements in the reduction of infant mortality and maintaining a low prevalence of low birth weight births.

### HP2000 Targets Alaska Has Exceeded

**Reduce infant mortality to 7 per 1,000 live births**
- Reduced infant mortality to 6.1 per 1,000.
- Reduced neonatal mortality to 3.1 per 1,000.

**Reduce low and very low birth weight to 5% and 1%, respectively**
- Retained historically low prevalence of low and very low birth weight births at 4.4% and 0.7%, respectively.

**Increase breastfeeding to 75% during the post-partum period and 50% at six months**
- Increased breastfeeding during the post-partum period to nearly 89%.
- Increased breastfeeding at six months to 50.2%.

### Where Alaska Needs Work

**Reduce prenatal substance use**
- No reduction in prenatal cocaine or marijuana use over the last decade.

**Increase prenatal care**
- No improvement in the prevalence of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester.

**Reduce birth defects**
- The prevalences of fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) and neural tube defects are higher than the HP2000 targets.

**Reduce racial disparities**
- No reduction in racial disparities for Alaska Natives in infant mortality, FAS, and first trimester prenatal care.

### Significant Improvements — But More Work Ahead

**Reduce prenatal tobacco and alcohol use**
- Significant reduction in the prevalence of women using alcohol and tobacco prenatally — but Alaska has not achieved HP2000 goals for these indicators.

**Reduce post-neonatal mortality**
- Despite a significant decline in the number of post-neonatal deaths over the last decade, the HP2000 target of 2.5 post-neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births was not met.

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For further information on this topic, please contact the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, Section of Epidemiology, MCH Epidemiology Unit at 907-269-8073 or visit our web site at http://www.epi.hss.state.ak.us/mchepi

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**Data Sources:**
1. Alaska Bureau of Vital Statistics
2. Alaska Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Surveillance Project (FASSP)
3. Alaska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)
4. Ross Labs
5. Alaska Birth Defects Registry

**Note:**
†Rate is expressed as a three-year average for Alaska 2000 data and is comprised of years 1998-2000.
*Alaska Native includes American Indian