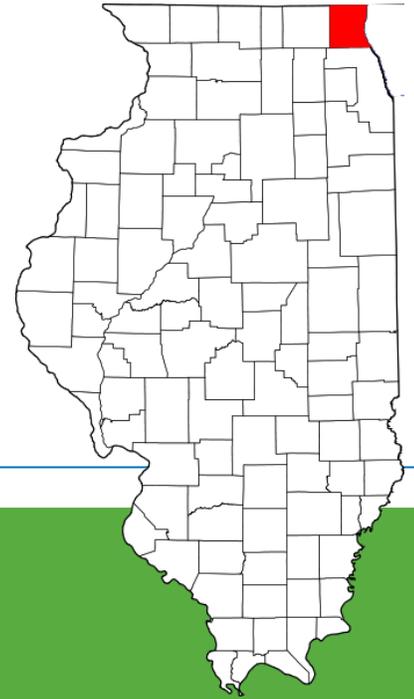




LakeCounty

Health Department and
Community Health Center

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Lake County Birth Report 2005-2009

Prepared October 2012 by the Lake County Health Department Assessment Team

For more information on the Lake County Health Department, the services it offers, or additional data questions, please refer to our website at health.lakecountyil.gov, call 847.984.8000, or email at HealthAssessment@lakecountyil.gov.

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Introduction

The report presents detailed information and trends on births, birth rates, demographics and birth outcomes in Lake County between 2005 and 2009. Births and birth rates in Lake County have been on the decline over the time period of 2005-2009. This coincides with a National drop in the number of births reported by the Centers for Disease Control in their 2009 data final release. In addition, the number of births in Lake County has been in decline since 2001, despite a general population increase. Overall, the maternal risk factors and adverse birth outcomes in Lake County are better when compared to Illinois and National figures.

Method

The numbers in this report were gathered from a 100% sampling of the birth certificate data in Lake County from 2005-2009. The race, ethnicity and marital status are all self-reported on birth certificates. Due to underreporting, several races were not included in this analysis. Women of Hispanic origin were not broken down into further races as most are reported as white. In this report, by race, White means White, not of Hispanic Origin and African American means African American, not of Hispanic Origin. The data was analyzed using SPSS software.

Highlights

- The number of births to Lake County residents between 2005 and 2009 dropped from 9,936 to 8,992, a 9.5% decline. The number of births declined for Hispanics as well for all races except African Americans, which increased.
- The birth rate among women ages 15 to 44 was 65.0/1,000 in 2009, down 6.1% from 2005 (69.2/1,000).
- The birth rate for teenagers 15-19 declined slightly from 29.0/1,000 in 2005 to 26.1/1,000 in 2009. The birth rate for Hispanic mothers aged 15-19 declined from 12.9/1,000 to 11.5/1,000; however, the birth rate for African American mothers 15-19 rose slightly from 12.3/1,000 to 13.9/1,000.
- The mean age of mothers remained constant at 29.1. This trend was true across all races. The mean age of Hispanic mothers increased slightly from 26.3 to 27.0.
- The number of births to unmarried women increased from 2,676 in 2005 to 2,909 in 2009, an 8.7% increase. Additionally, the percent of births to unmarried women rose from 26.9% to 32.3%. This trend was consistent with both White and African American races, but not for Hispanic mothers.
- The number of premature births (<37 weeks) declined slightly to 8.7% of all births (from 9.0% in 2005). This is consistent across all races and ethnicities.
- The low birth weight (<2,500 grams) rate declined from 6.3% of all births to 5.9% in 2009. The very low birth weight (<1,500 grams) remained constant at 1.2%.

Details

Births and Birth Rate

The birth rate for women in the age group of 15-44 in Lake County has been in a steady decline from 2005-2009. The rate dropped from 69.2/1,000 to 65.0/1,000, a 6.1% decline. Lake County's birth rate was slightly higher than the 2009 Illinois birth rate (64.7/1,000) and lower than the 2009 National birth rate (66.7/1,000). The birth rate among Hispanic women age 15-44 dropped the most, from 105.5/1,000 in 2005, down 12.6% to 92.2/1,000. Despite this decline, the Hispanic birth rate was still slightly higher than the 2009 Illinois birth rate (91.5/1,000) and lower than the 2009 National birth rate (93.3/1,000). The birth rate for African American women aged 15-44 remained relatively constant over the same time period at 73.4/1,000 and was higher than the 2009 Illinois and National birth rates (65.0/1000 and 68.9/1000 respectively). The total number of births for African American women increased 4.8% over this time period, possibly explained by an increase of 6.3% in the population of African American women. The number of births to Lake County residents between 2005 and 2009 dropped from 9,936 to 8,992, a 9.5% decline. The number of women age 15-44 also decreased, but by less than 1%. The decline in population cannot fully explain the decrease in birth rates.

Maternal Risk Factors

Age of Mother

Similar to overall birth rates, the birth rate for mothers age 25-29 was also in decline, down 9.0% from 2005-2008, but this age group saw a sharp increase of 17.2% from 2008-2009. The birth rate for mothers age 30-34 increased slightly overall from 2005-2009 by 9.1%. The birth rates of the other maternal age groups declined. Additionally, the number of births declined for all age groups except 15-19. The average age of an unmarried mother in 2009 was 24.8 whereas the average age for a married mother was 31.0, over 6 years older. There was no difference in average maternal age for the mothers of low birth weight babies and mothers of normal weight babies, which was about 29 years old.

Teenage Births

The birth rate to teenage women age 15-19 declined from 29.0/1,000 in 2005 to 26.1/1,000 in 2009, a 9.7% drop. The Lake County rate compares favorably to the 2009 Illinois and National birth rates to women in this age group. Both rates were higher than in Lake County (35.8/1,000 and 39.1/1,000, respectively). This trend does mirror the National trend of a decrease in birth rate to teenage mothers. The actual number of births to Lake County women age 15-19, however, went up slightly from 693 to 703 from 2005 to 2009. The increase in number of births coincided with a steep increase in population (12.4%) which may explain the increase in births. The number of births decreased in both White women and Hispanic women, but increased African American women. The birth rate in 2009 for African American women age 15-19 (13.9/1,000) was 10 times the birth rate for White women age 15-19 (1.9/1,000). The birth rate in 2009 for Hispanic women age 15-19 was also much higher than White women at 11.5/1,000.

Maternal Marital Status

The percent of unmarried women having children increased 20.1% from 26.9% to 32.3%. These percentages are much lower than the Illinois and National average, both at just over 40%. This increase was consistent across all races and for Hispanic women. In fact, the majority of unmarried women who have children are Hispanic, but this number decreased from 54.3% to 52.2%. Additionally, the majority of African American women who had children between 2005 and 2009 were unmarried (70.1% aggregated). The 2009 Illinois and National percentages for African American women who had children and were unmarried were higher (80.3% and 72.5% respectively).

Birth Outcomes

Low Birth weight

Defined as a birth weight less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds), the percent of births that are considered low birth weight (LBW) declined from 6.3% of all births to 5.3% from 2005-2009. The percentages of LBW births in Lake County were lower than the 2009 Illinois and National average (8.4% and 8.2%, respectively). Babies whose birth weight is less than 1500 grams (3.3 pounds) are considered very low birth weight (VLBW). The percent of births that were VLBW remained constant at about 1.2%. The percentage of VLBW births in Lake County was consistent with the 2009 Illinois and National average (both 1.5%).

Premature Births

Babies born before 37 weeks of gestation are considered to be premature. The percent of babies who were born premature dropped marginally from 9.0% to 8.7% from 2005-2009. The percent of premature babies is higher in 2009 in Illinois and Nationally than in Lake County (10.0% and 12.0%, respectively). The percent of premature births stayed relatively constant in African American women (10.8% in 2005 and 10.5% in 2009), White women (10.0% in 2005 and 10.1% in 2009) and Hispanic women (6.9% in 2005 and 7.0% in 2009). Clearly, premature terms and LBW go hand in hand. Between 2005 and 2009, the percent of babies that both were premature and LBW was 71.0%.

Data Tables

Lake County Female Population by Age Group, 2005-2009

Age Group	2005 ¹	2006 ¹	2007 ¹	2008 ¹	2009 ¹	Average ¹	Percent of Total ¹	National Average ¹
<15	80,465	79,667	79,916	78,750	79,260	79,612	22.4%	19.6%
15-19	23,868	26,071	26,029	25,987	26,862	25,763	7.3%	6.8%
20-24	19,433	21,680	21,641	21,601	22,391	21,349	6.0%	6.7%
25-29	21,877	23,261	22,666	23,169	18,176	21,830	6.2%	6.8%
30-34	22,557	22,060	20,939	21,429	18,641	21,125	6.0%	6.3%
35-39	26,041	25,786	27,236	23,484	24,158	25,341	7.2%	6.5%
40-44	29,714	30,159	25,847	27,488	27,932	28,228	8.0%	6.8%
>45	118,746	125,898	129,188	132,553	137,342	128,745	36.3%	40.7%
Total	342,701	354,582	353,462	354,461	354,762	351,994	100.0%	100.0%

1-2005-2009 US Census

Lake County Birth Data, 2005-2009

Category	2005 ¹	2006 ¹	2007 ¹	2008 ¹	2009 ¹	Illinois, 2009 ²	National, 2009 ³
Total Number of Births							
Births	9936	9871	9833	9459	8992	171,077	4,130,665
Number of Births by Maternal Age Group							
<15	9	13	13	20	11	186	5,029
15-19	693	683	712	679	703	16,190	409,802
20-24	1,736	1,737	1,705	1,638	1,516	36,342	1,005,982
25-29	2,542	2,553	2,574	2,450	2,292	47,462	1,166,787
30-34	2,922	2,831	2,802	2,814	2,656	44,169	955,246
35-39	1,679	1,665	1,699	1,501	1,459	21,649	474,103
>40	355	389	327	355	355	5,067	113,716
Number of Births by Ethnicity							
Hispanic	3,139	3,057	3,086	2,933	2,745	40,369	999,548
Number of Births by Race (Non-Hispanic)							
African American	751	781	798	817	789	28,267	609,584
American Indian	30	22	17	20	22	258	48,665
Asian	493	480	525	495	453	9,653	251,089
White	5,105	5,098	4,880	4,705	4,378	89,165	2,212,552
Number of Births by Outcomes							
VLBW(<1,500 grams)	115	149	132	119	110	2,655	59,917
LBW(<2,500 grams)	621	603	639	655	534	14,372	336,747
Premature(<37 weeks)	894	957	990	920	786	17,109	502,306

1-Illinois Department of Public Health, Birth Certificate Files, 2005-2009

2-Data from IDPH, Birth Statistics 2009

3-CDC, National Vital Statistics Report, Births: Final Data for 2009

*Age group is over 40

Lake County Birth Rate Data, 2005-2009

Category	2005 ¹	2006 ¹	2007 ¹	2008 ¹	2009 ¹	Illinois, 2009 ²	National, 2009 ³
Birth Rate among women ages 15-44 years (per 1,000)							
Birth Rate	69.2	66.2	68.1	66.0	65.0	64.7	66.7
Birth Rate by Maternal Age Group (per 1,000)							
<15	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.5
15-19	29.0	26.2	27.4	26.1	26.1	35.8	39.1
20-24	89.3	80.1	78.8	75.8	67.7	81.7	96.3
25-29	116.2	109.8	113.6	105.7	126.1	104.4	110.5
30-34	129.5	128.3	133.8	131.3	142.5	105.0	97.7
35-39	64.5	64.6	62.4	64.0	60.4	50.8	46.5
>40	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.7	10.1
Birth Rate among women ages 15-44 years by Ethnicity (per 1,000)							
Hispanic	105.5	102.7	103.7	98.6	92.2	91.5	93.3
Birth Rate among women ages 15-44 years by Race (Non-Hispanic) (per 1,000)							
African American	70.0	72.8	74.4	76.2	73.6	65.0	68.9
White	48.7	48.7	46.6	44.9	41.8	48.9	58.4
Percent of Births by Outcomes							
VLBW(<1,500 grams)	1.2%	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.6%	1.5%
LBW(<2,500 grams)	6.3%	6.1%	6.5%	6.9%	5.9%	8.4%	8.2%
Premature(<37 weeks)	9.0%	9.7%	10.1%	9.7%	8.7%	10.0%	12.0%

1-Illinois Department of Public Health, Birth Certificate Files, 2005-2009

2-Data from IDPH, Birth Statistics 2009

3-CDC, National Vital Statistics Report, Births: Final Data for 2009