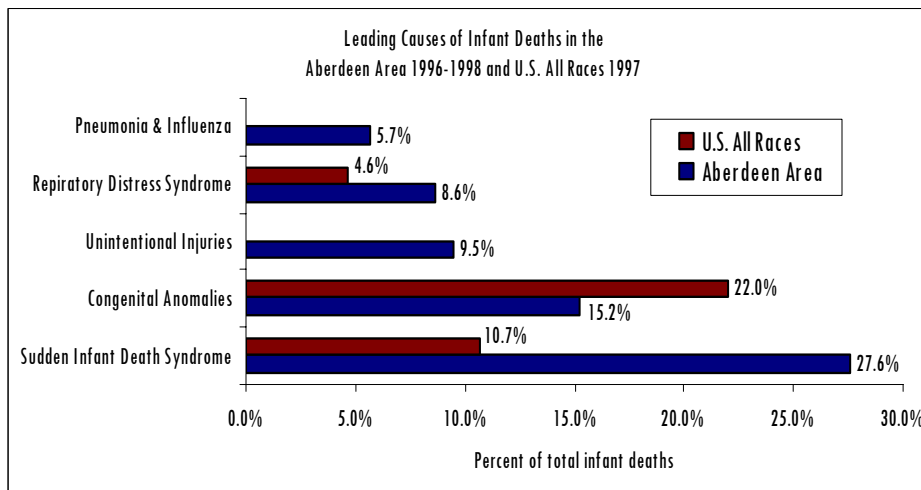




FACT SHEET: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AMONG NORTHERN PLAINS AI/AN

In the Aberdeen Area, the birth rate in 1996-1998 for the IHS user population was 29.5 per 1,000, the highest among all IHS areas and more than twice the rate for the U.S. all races in 1997 at 14.5 per 1,000. The percent of IHS user population under the age of five in the Aberdeen Area in FY 2001 was 11.2%, the highest among all IHS areas. The U.S. all races population under the age of five is 6.8%.¹ According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the AI/AN population is younger than the U.S. population, with 27.6% under the age of 15 years as compared with 21.4% under the age of 15 among U.S. all races.² The health of mothers, infants, and children is of critical importance, both as a reflection of the current health status of a large segment of the population and as a predictor of the health of the next generation. This Fact Sheet focuses on those health indicators that are of relevance to the health of mothers, infants, children, and adolescents, and show disparities from other IHS areas and from U.S. all races.



**MCH issues are top priority for
the Aberdeen Area Tribes**

The 18 Aberdeen Area tribes involved in strategic long range planning to ensure an orderly progression for achievement of health goals, identified maternal and child health as the number one priority. Additionally, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) is also identified independently as the 12th priority.

**MCH indicators that show disparities for Aberdeen Area tribes
as compared to IHS all areas or U.S. all races¹**

MCH Indicators	Aberdeen Area 1996-1998	IHS Total - All Areas 1996-1998	U.S. All Races 1997
High birth weight	14.9 %	12.6 %	10.2 %
Mothers of newborns who drank during pregnancy	4.7 %	3.6 %	1.1 %
Mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy	37.6 %	20.2 %	13.2 %
Prenatal Care in First Trimester	67.9%	68.5%	82.5%
Infant mortality: <1 year (per 1,000 live births) ³	12.5	8.9	7.2
Neonatal mortality: <28 days (per 1,000 live births) ³	5.6	4.4	4.8
Postneonatal mortality: 28 to 364 days (per 1,000 live births) ³	6.9	4.4	2.5
SIDS (per 1,000 live births) ³	3.45	1.61	.77

Healthy People 2010: MCH⁴

Healthy People 2010 is an initiative that identifies health objectives for the nation to achieve over the first decade of the new century. This table shows AI/AN and All Races rates nationally from 1997 for various indicators and the goal for 2010. (www.healthypeople.gov)

MCH Indicators	Baseline (1998)		2010 Target for all races, including AI/AN
	AI/AN	U.S. All Races	
Mothers who reported no cigarette smoking (1998)	80%	87%	99%
Receiving prenatal care in the first trimester	69%	83%	90%
Infant mortality: <1 year (per 1,000 live births)	9.3	7.2	4.5
Neonatal mortality: <28 days (per 1,000 live births)	5.0	4.8	2.9
Postneonatal mortality: 28 to 364 days (per 1,000 live births)	4.3	2.4	1.2
SIDS (per 1,000 live births)	1.52	0.72	0.25

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)

The rate of SIDS in the Aberdeen Area in 1996-1998 was 345.7, almost 4.5 times the rates for the U.S. all races rate of 77.1 (1997). The Aberdeen Area had the highest rate of SIDS among all areas; the second highest was Bemidji Area at a rate of 246.3.¹

SIDS is the diagnosis given for the sudden death of an infant under one year of age that remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation (i.e., autopsy, death scene exam, review of health status prior to dying and other family medical history). SIDS is the leading cause of death in infants between one month and one year of age. Most SIDS deaths occur when a baby is between one and four months of age. The rate of SIDS in AI/AN babies is about three times that of white babies. At risk for SIDS are babies who sleep on their stomachs, sleep on soft bedding, are premature or low birth weight, or who are born to mothers who smoke during pregnancy and after birth, are less than 20 years old at the time of their first pregnancy, or had no or late prenatal care.⁵ (www.hhs.gov/nvpo/factsheets/fs_tableVII_doc5.htm)

Children and Adolescents (ages 1-24 years)

The deaths of children after infancy also present a public health concern and an opportunity for prevention. In 1997, 13,562 children aged 1 to 14 years died, representing a death rate of 25.1 per 100,000 children in that age group. The leading cause of death for children of all ages is injury, which accounts for 13.1 deaths per 100,000 preschool children (aged 1 to 4 years) and 8.7 deaths per 100,000 school-aged children (aged 5 to 14 years). Among children aged 1 to 4 years, the leading injury-related causes of death are motor vehicle crashes, drownings, and fires and burns. Among those aged 5 to 14 years, the leading causes of death include motor vehicle crashes and firearms (including unintentional deaths, homicides, and suicides).⁵ For AI/AN, accidents represented the number one cause of death for ages 1-24 years. For AI/AN children aged 1-4 years, homicide was the second leading cause of death. For ages 5-24 years, homicide and suicide were among the second and third leading causes of death.⁶ These deaths are, for the most part, preventable.

Healthy People 2010: Child and Adolescent Deaths⁴			
Healthy People 2010 is an initiative that identifies health objectives for the nation to achieve over the first decade of the new century. This table shows AI/AN and All Races rates nationally from 1997 for various child deaths and the goal for 2010 (www.healthypeople.gov).			
Child and Adolescent Deaths (per 100,000)	Baseline (1997)		2010 Target for all races, including AI/AN
	AI/AN	U.S. All Races	
Aged 1-4 years	59.2	34.6	18.6
Aged 5-9 years	22.3	17.7	12.3
Aged 10-14 years	26.7	22.1	16.8
Aged 15-19 years	90.5	70.6	39.8
Aged 20-24 years	146.1	95.3	49.0

General mortality per 100,000 population by age for IHS all areas and U.S. all races⁶						
Causes of Death	1-4 years		5-14 years		15-24 years	
	AI/AN (1994-1996)	U.S. All Races (1995)	AI/AN (1994-1996)	U.S. All Races (1995)	AI/AN (1994-1996)	U.S. All Races (1995)
Death Rates	91.3	40.6	41.4	22.5	196.5	95.3
Injury and Poisoning	54.6	18.3	27.8	11.8	172.3	73.6
Accident	47.4	14.5	21.6	9.4	112.0	38.9
Suicide	-	-	2.7	0.9	33.9	13.4
Homicide	6.5	2.9	3.3	1.5	24.1	20.3
Firearm Injury	4.9	0.6	37.3	2.0	30.6	27.3
Other Injury	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.1	2.3	1.0
Alcoholism	-	-	0.2	0.0	3.4	0.3

¹Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, Regional Differences in Indian Health, 2000-2001. May 2003

²U.S. Census 2000 www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html (accessed 10/25/04)

³These AI/AN rates are adjusted to compensate for misreporting of AI/AN race on death certificate.

⁴U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Healthy People 2010*. 2nd ed. With Understanding and Improving Health and Objectives for Improving Health. 2 vols. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, November 2000. www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm#_Toc494699661 (accessed 10/25/04)

⁵CDC Reproductive Health Information Source www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/mh.htm (accessed 10/25/04)

⁶Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, Trends in Indian Health, 1998-99.