## I. HEALTH ASSESSMENT

#### C. HEALTH STATUS

## 9. Racial Disparities in Health

# 1. WHAT IS THE OVERALL HEALTH STATUS OF DELAWARE'S MINORITY POPULATION?

African American residents of Delaware have worse health status compared to white residents. They are more likely than their white counterparts to live in poverty and experience higher chronic disease mortality rate.

- African American and Hispanic residents of Delaware are over three times as likely to live in poverty than white residents.
  - In 1989, 22.0 percent of African American residents and 19.3 percent of Hispanic residents of Delaware lived in **poverty** compared to 5.7 percent of white households.
- African American and Hispanic residents of Delaware are less likely to graduate from high school than their white counterparts.

## ISSUE FOR FUTURE STUDY

The Hispanic population in Delaware is growing; however, little health status data by ethnicity were available for analysis. Additionally, the question of documentation is one that plagues the analysis and addressing of health status and delivery system concerns for segments of the Hispanic population.

- Roughly 60 percent of African American and
   Hispanic Delaware residents possessed a high school diploma, compared to approximately 80 percent of white residents.
- Of residents who possess high school diplomas, Delaware residents of Hispanic ethnicity are the most likely to pursue education beyond high school.
  - While half or slightly less than half of Delaware's white and African American residents with high school diplomas pursued education beyond high school, 65 percent of Delaware residents of Hispanic education received some college education, with over 60 percent of college-educated Hispanic residents receiving some type of degree.
  - African American residents were the least likely to receive bachelor's degrees or higher (17 percent), compared to 29 percent white residents and 28 percent of Hispanic residents. African American residents also were the least likely to receive education beyond a high school diploma (49 percent) compared to 59 percent of white residents and 65 percent of Hispanic residents receiving education beyond high school.

- African American residents of Delaware experience higher mortality rates compared to white residents.
  - In 1997, African Americans in Delaware had an overall mortality rate (668.7 deaths per 100,000 persons) 39 percent higher than white Delaware residents (482.3 deaths per 100,000 persons), after adjusting for population age differences.
- African American Delaware residents experience higher chronic disease death rates than white residents for all chronic conditions except COPD.
  - The heart disease mortality rate of African
    American residents (163.1 deaths per 100,000 persons) was over 20 percent higher than that of white Delaware residents in 1997 (135.0 deaths per 100,000 persons).
  - In 1997, African Americans experienced a higher cerebrovascular disease death rate (30.0 deaths per 100,000 persons) that was 43 percent higher than white residents experienced (21 deaths per 100,000 persons).
  - In Delaware, African Americans were more likely to die from cancer, with 187.2
     African American residents dying from cancer per 100,000 persons compared to 136.0 deaths per 100,000 persons for white residents in 1997.
  - White Delaware residents experienced a higher COPD death rates (22.2 deaths per 100,000 persons), over 20 percent higher than the African American COPD death rate in 1997.
- African American residents of Delaware experience substantially higher rates of sexually transmitted diseases compared to white residents.
  - The incidence of syphilis within the African American population (2.1 cases per 100,000 persons) was roughly twice that of Delaware's white population (1.0 cases per 100,000 persons).
  - Delaware's incidence of gonorrhea for African Americans (942.0 new cases per 100,000 persons) was over 26 times the rate for white residents (35.8 cases per 100,000 persons).
- African American Delaware residents tend to experience poorer outcomes than whites with regard to maternal and child health, while Hispanic residents had a mixed experience.
  - The teenage birth rate for African American Delaware residents (104.0 births per 1,000 teenage females, ages 15 to 19), and the rate for Hispanic Delaware residents

#### ISSUE FOR FUTURE STUDY

Both community stakeholders and researchers have noted the importance of the racial and ethnic composition of the health care workforce in addressing the health needs and status of a diverse population. The growth of the Hispanic and non-white populations since 1990 point to a need to investigate further how best to eliminate these racial disparities in health and how well the health care workforce is meeting the needs of these populations.

- (112.1 births per 1,000 teenage females, ages 15 to 19) was almost three times that of white residents (39.0 births per 1,000 teenage females, ages 15 to 19) in 1998.
- African American Delaware residents experienced an infant mortality rate (18.7 deaths per 1,000 live births) nearly three times that of white residents (6.9 deaths per 1,000 live births) in 1998.
- African American Delaware residents reported almost twice the proportion of **low birth weight** infants (14.8 percent) relative to whites (7.7 percent), while Hispanic
   residents reported a proportion roughly 20 percent less that of whites (6.2 percent) in
   1998.
- A smaller proportion of African American (74.2 percent) and Hispanic (69.7 percent) pregnant females in Delaware received **prenatal care** relative to white pregnant females (86.4 percent) in 1998.
- African Americans experienced a larger proportion of Cesarean section births (24.8 percent) than whites (22.7 percent), while Hispanic Delaware females experienced a smaller proportion (18.2 percent).

# 2. HOW DOES THE OVERALL HEALTH STATUS OF DELAWARE'S MINORITY POPULATION VARY BY COUNTY?

The greatest socioeconomic disparities by race and ethnicity are seen in Sussex County while New Castle County experiences greater racial disparities in mortality due to various chronic conditions. Racial and ethnic disparities in maternal and child health are the most pronounced in Kent County.

- The three counties have similar proportions of non-white residents, roughly 20 percent.
- Sussex County has a smaller fraction of residents of Hispanic origin than either New Castle or Kent Counties but larger disparities in income and education across all races and ethnicities.
  - Sussex County had the highest proportion of African American and Hispanic residents living in poverty (46 percent and 27 percent, respectively).
  - The largest percentage of African American households with **incomes** less than \$15,000 per year was in Sussex County (48 percent).
  - Of African American and Hispanic residents in Delaware, those in Sussex County are the most likely to **not receive a high school diploma** (55 percent and 52 percent, respectively).

- Of the three Delaware counties, New Castle County's African American mortality rate is the highest for all conditions except cancer.
  - African American residents in New Castle County had the highest overall death rate (723.0 deaths per 100,000 people) and the largest gap between the number of African American and white deaths per 100,000 persons in 1997.
    - ➤ In 1997, the number of heart disease deaths per 100,000 persons in New Castle County (173.8 deaths per 100,000 persons) was greater than in either Kent or Sussex Counties. The disparity between African Americans and whites was largest in New Castle County; however, the death rate per 100,000 persons due to heart disease was higher for white residents of Kent County than African American residents.
    - Nearly twice the number of African American residents per 100,000 persons died of cerebrovascular disease than white residents (17.1 deaths per 100,000 persons and 32.2 deaths per 100,000 persons, respectively) in New Castle County in 1997.
  - Although the African American cancer death rate was higher than the white death rate in all three counties, the disparity between African Americans and whites in terms of cancer mortality is widest in Sussex County, with 224.9 African American cancer deaths per 100,000 persons and 148.2 white cancer deaths per 100,000 persons in 1997.
  - Across the three counties, chronic and obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
    death rates for white residents were consistently higher than for African American
    residents in 1997.
- African Americans in Kent County experience the poorest performance relative to whites in the three Delaware counties on most indicators related to maternal and child health, except teenage pregnancy.
  - Between 1993 and 1997, Kent County's African American infant mortality rate (16.5 deaths per 1,000 live births) was greater than those of New Castle or Sussex County (15.3 deaths per 1,000 live births and 11.1 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively).
  - In 1997, the proportion of African American low birth weight live births (15.6 percent) and very low birth weight live births (5.8 percent) in Kent County exceeded those of New Castle County (12.4 percent and 3.3 percent, respectively) and Sussex County (11.1 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively).

- A smaller proportion of African American mothers in Kent County received prenatal care (57.7 percent) relative to New Castle and Kent Counties (76.0 percent and 65.0 percent, respectively), while a larger fraction of Kent County mothers reported tobacco use during pregnancy (14.6 percent) relative to New Castle and Sussex County mothers (12.8 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively) in 1997.
  - ➤ In all three counties, white mothers were more likely to use tobacco during pregnancy than African American mothers. This trend was reversed in Wilmington, with the percentage of African American mothers reporting tobacco use exceeding that of whites.
- Sussex County experienced the highest rates of teenage pregnancy across all races and ethnicities. Racial and ethnic disparities also were more pronounced in Sussex County, with the African American teenage pregnancy rate up to nearly twice that of other counties and the Hispanic teenage pregnancy rate up to six times that of other counties.
- 3. HOW DOES THE OVERALL HEALTH STATUS OF DELAWARE'S MINORITY POPULATION COMPARE TO BENCHMARKS?

Consistent with stakeholder beliefs, racial disparities tend to be less pronounced in Delaware than in benchmark communities, particularly for chronic disease mortality rates.

- Although a smaller percentage of minorities in Delaware live in poverty compared to most other communities, the degree of racial disparity is more pronounced.
  - In 1989, a smaller fraction of African American residents and residents of Hispanic ethnicity (22.0 percent and 19.3 percent, respectively) lived in poverty compared to most comparison communities.
  - The disparity between African Americans and whites in Delaware living in poverty was between six and 59 percent higher than the U.S. and most benchmark communities. Similarly, compared to the nation and most benchmarks, the disparity between the Hispanic and white population was between 31 and 75 higher for Delaware residents.
- Delaware's African American population generally exhibits lower rates of mortality than residents of most comparison communities.
  - In 1997, the disparity in mortality rates for heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, and cerebrovascular disease between African American residents and their white counterparts was narrower in Delaware than in most comparison communities.
  - The disparity between the 1997 African American and white cancer mortality rates in Delaware fell within the range of comparison communities.

- The degree of racial disparities in the transmission of communicable disease is considerably less in Delaware than for the U.S.
  - In 1999/2000, the incidence of **syphilis** for African American residents in Delaware (2.1 cases per 100,000 persons) was considerably less than that of the U.S. (22.0 cases per 100,000 persons). Delaware achieved the Healthy People 2000 objective for reducing the **incidence of syphilis** within the African American population to no more than 30 cases per 100,000 persons.
  - Although African American residents exhibited a slightly higher new case rate for gonorrhea (942.0 cases per 100,000 persons) than the U.S. (807.9 cases per 100,000 persons), the degree of racial disparity between African Americans and white residents in Delaware is smaller.
- Racial and ethnic disparities in Delaware for maternal and child health generally are comparable to benchmarks or fall within the range of benchmark performance.
  - The disparity in Delaware between African Americans and whites in terms of infant mortality, low birth weight, use of prenatal care and Cesarean sections as a proportion of all live births is roughly comparable to the disparities exhibited by benchmarks.
    - Racial disparities between African Americans and whites for very low birth weight infants were more pronounced in Delaware than in benchmarks.
  - The disparity between African Americans and whites, as well as between Hispanics and whites, for teenage pregnancy falls within the range of benchmarks, wider by up to 73 percent and narrower by up to 27 percent.

Exhibit I-C-110:

Generally, Delaware outperformed or was comparable to the U.S. and benchmarks in reducing racial disparities in health.

## **Health Status Indicators**

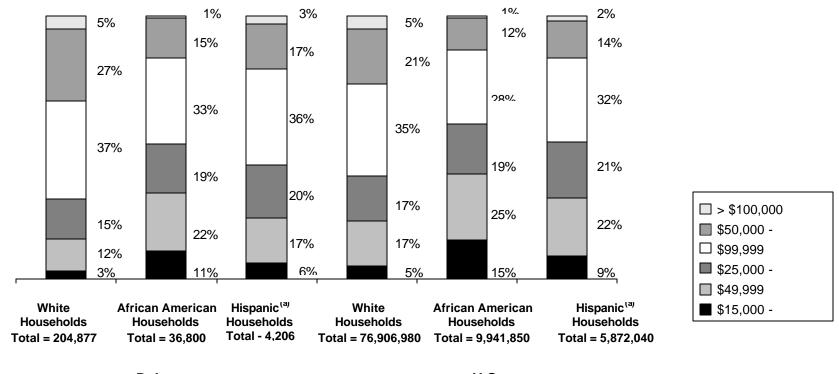
Racial Disparities in Health	
Overall Age-adjusted Mortality	+
Heart Disease Mortality	+
Cerebrovascular Mortality	+
COPD Mortality	+
Cancer Mortality	_
Syphilis Incidence	+
Gonorrhea Incidence	+
Teenage Pregnancy	$\Leftrightarrow$
Infant Mortality Rate	$\Leftrightarrow$
Low and Very Low Birth Weight Infants	$\Leftrightarrow$
Prenatal Care	$\Leftrightarrow$
Use of Tobacco during Pregnancy	$\Leftrightarrow$

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

## Exhibit I-C-111:

Racial disparity in household income between white and African American households in Delaware was similar to the U.S. average. White households of Delaware maintained higher incomes than their national counterparts, and Hispanic households in Delaware maintained higher incomes than African American households in Delaware

## Distribution of Households by Race, Ethnicity<sup>(a)</sup> and Annual Income 1989



Delaware U.S.

Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1990 households based on 1989 income levels.

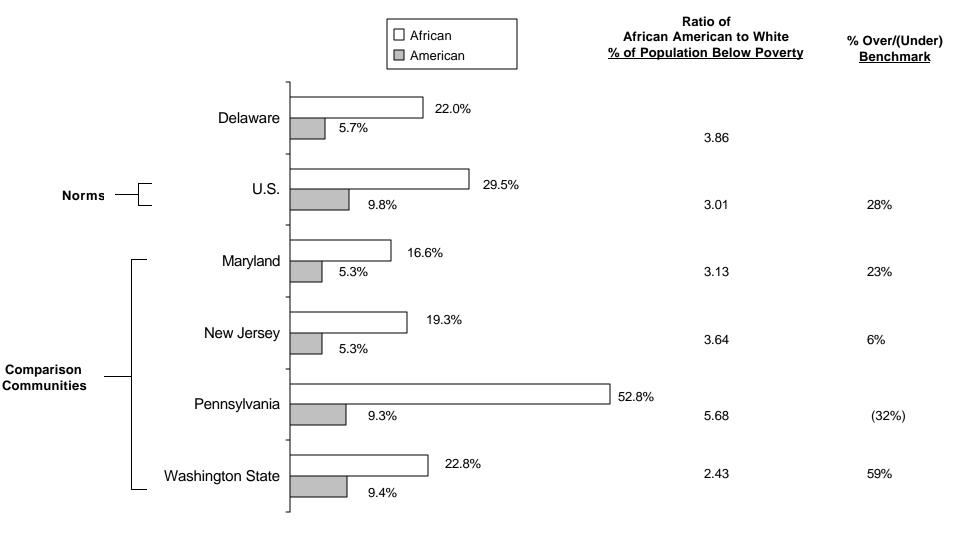
Notes: (a) Households of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

## Exhibit I-C-112:

African American residents in Delaware were over three times more likely to be living in poverty than white residents. The disparity between African Americans and whites in Delaware is more pronounced relative to the nation as a whole and most benchmark communities.

## Percentage of Population Below Poverty by Race 1989



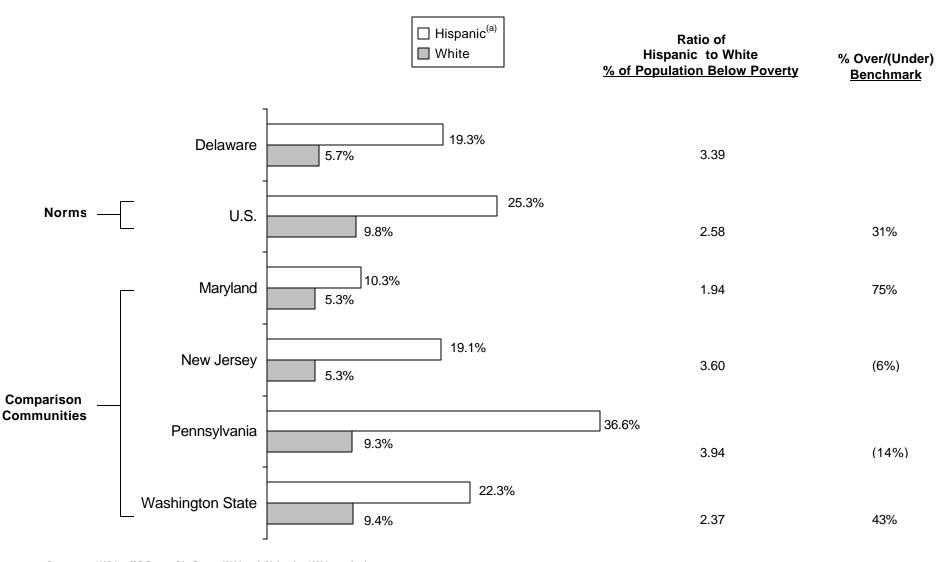
Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1990 households based on 1989 income levels.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

## **Exhibit I-C-113:**

Hispanic residents in Delaware were approximately three times more likely than white residents to live in poverty. Compared to the nation and most benchmarks, the disparity between the Hispanic and white population was

## Percentage of Population Below Poverty by Hispanic Ethnicity 1989



Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1990 households based on 1989 income levels.

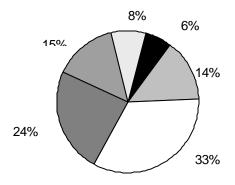
Notes: (a) Households of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

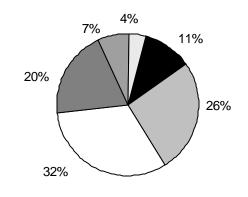
Exhibit I-C-114:

African American and Hispanic residents in Delaware were less likely to have a high school degree than white residents.

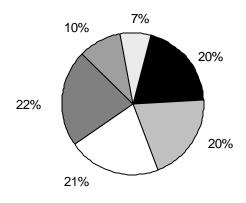
## Highest Level of Education Attained, Percentage of the Delaware Population 25 Years and Older 1990



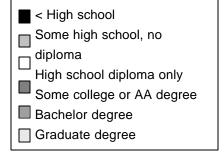
White Total = 355,185



African American Total = 62,720



Hispanic<sup>(a)</sup> Total = 7,565



Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

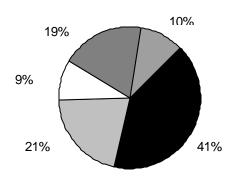
Notes: (a) Households of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

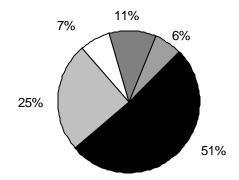
HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

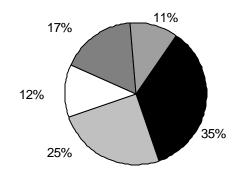
Exhibit I-C-115:

African American and Hispanic residents with a high school diploma were less likely to have obtained a bachelor or graduate degree than white high school graduates. African American residents were the least likely to obtain education beyond the high

## Highest Level of Education Attained for Delaware Residents Aged 25 or Older with High School Diploma 1990







White Total = 285,043

African American Total = 39,644

Hispanic<sup>(a)</sup> Total = 4,548

Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Notes: (a) Households of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

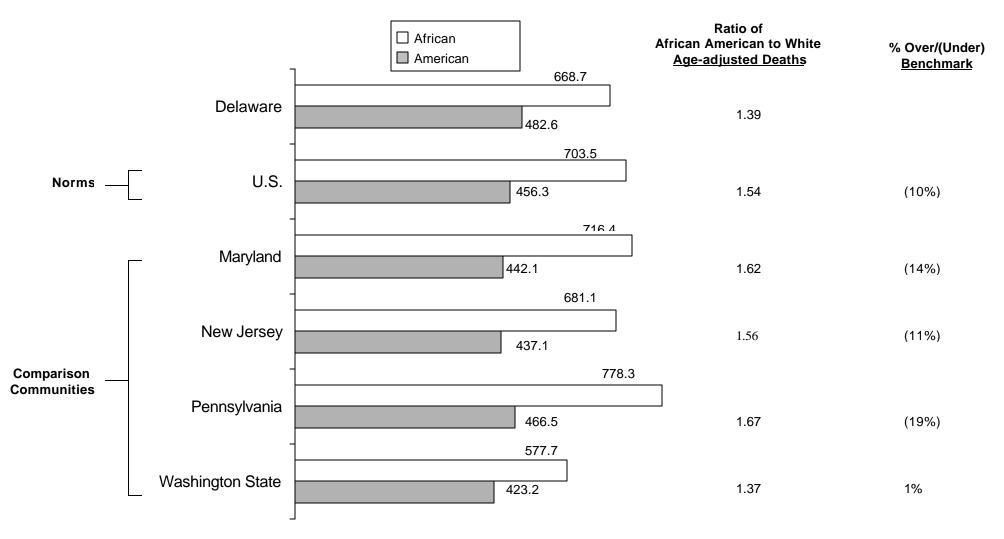
HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

High school diploma only
Some college, no degree
Associate degree
Bachelor degree
Graduate degree

**Exhibit I-C-116:** 

The disparity between African American and white death rates in Delaware are smaller than in the nation and most comparison states, with the exception of Washington State.

# Age-adjusted Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race<sup>(a)</sup> 1997



Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Sciences, CDC, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

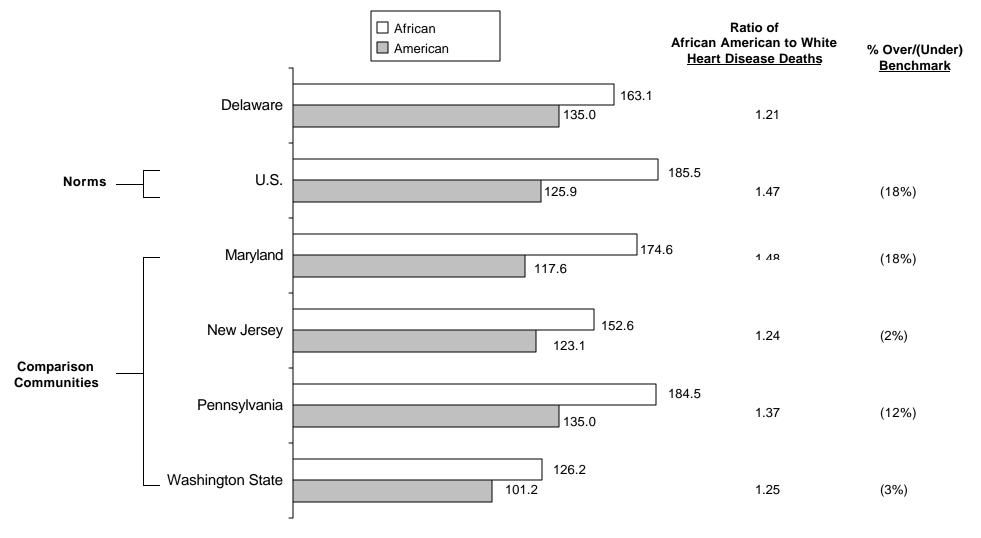
Notes: (a) Death rates are age-adjusted (except for U.S. rates which are age-sex adjusted) to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-117:

The disparity in heart disease death rates between African American and white residents in Delaware is smaller than in the U.S. and comparison states.

# Heart Disease Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race<sup>(a)</sup> 1997



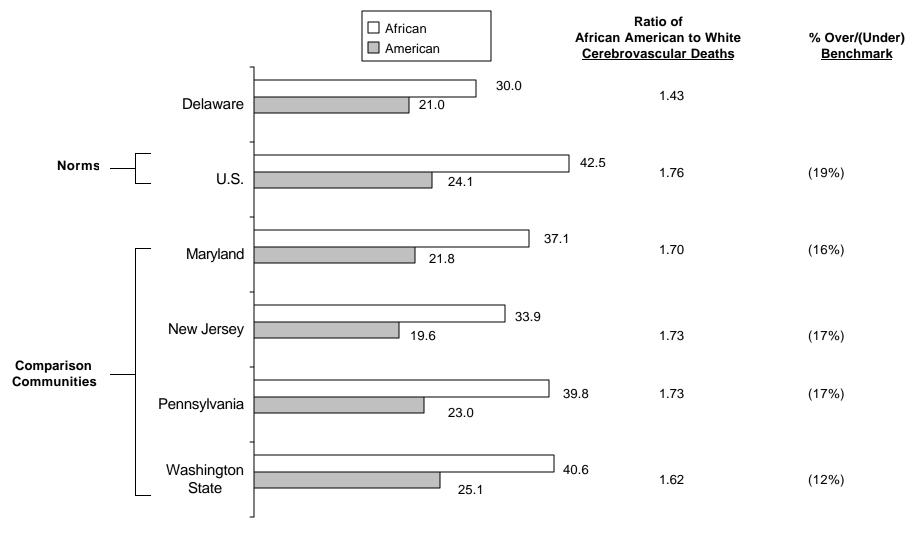
1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Sciences, CDC, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software. Sources: Notes:

(a) Death rates are age-adjusted (except for U.S. rates which are age-sex adjusted) to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-118:** Delaware has a smaller disparity between African Americans and whites in terms of cerebrovascular deaths.

# Cerebrovascular Disease Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race<sup>(a)</sup> 1997



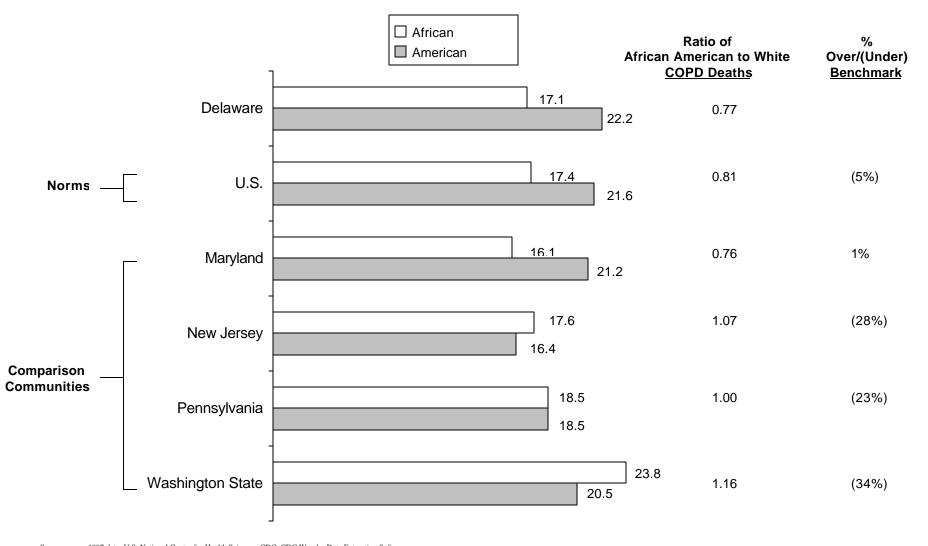
Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Sciences; CDC, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software

Notes: (a) Death rates are age-adjusted (except for U.S. rates which are age-sex adjusted) to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-119:** African American residents in Delaware experienced a lower COPD mortality rate than white residents.

# Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases and Allied Conditions Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race<sup>(a)</sup> 1997



204

Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Sciences, CDC, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

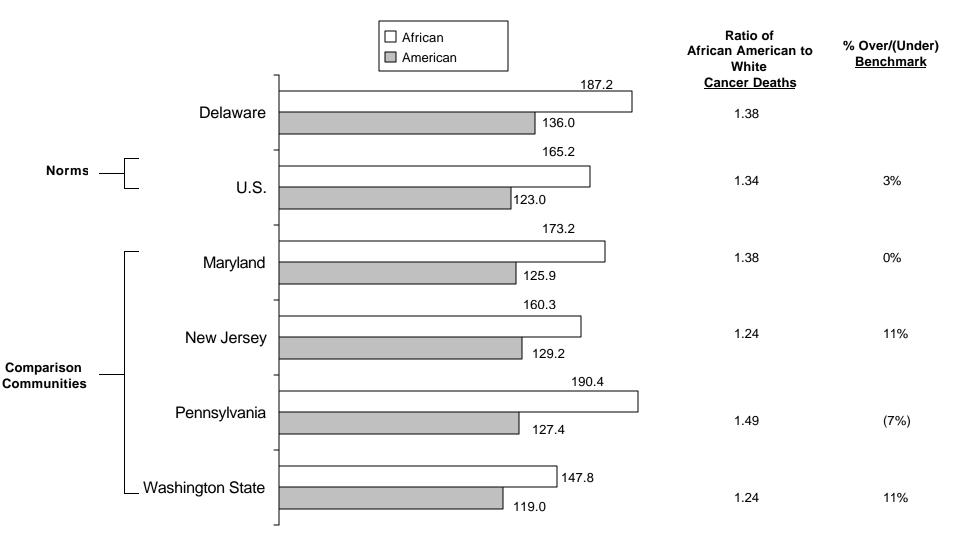
Notes: (a) Death rates are age-adjusted (except for U.S. rates which are age-sex adjusted) to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-120:

The disparity in cancer mortality between African Americans and whites in Delaware is slightly greater than in the U.S. and in most benchmark communities.

# Cancer Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race<sup>(a)</sup> 1997



1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Sciences, CDC, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software. Notes:

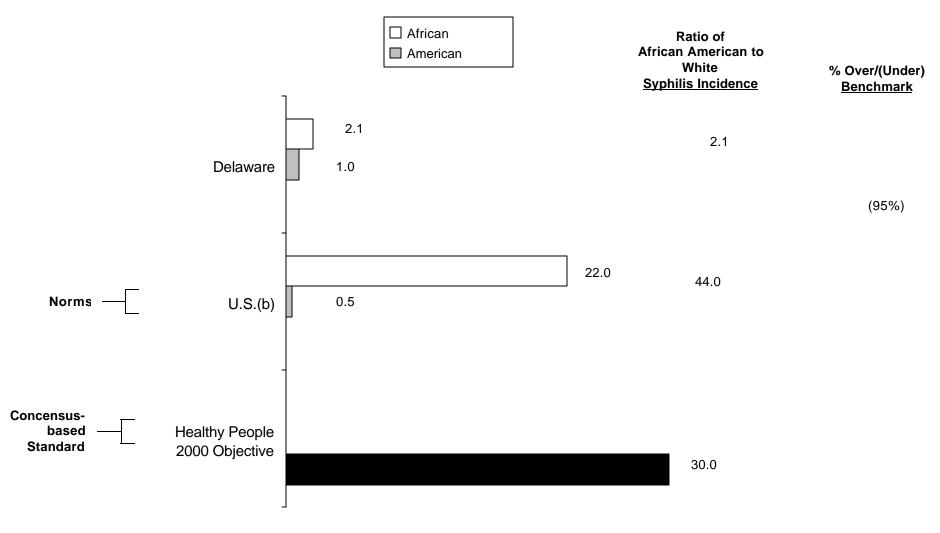
(a) Death rates are age-adjusted (except for U.S. rates which are age-sex adjusted) to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

## Exhibit I-C-121:

Approximately two African Americans for every one white person in Delaware has syphilis. The disparity between African Americans and whites in Delaware is significantly less than in the U.S.

# Syphilis Incidence Rates<sup>(a)</sup> per 100,000 Persons by Race 1999/2000 and 1997 Data



Sources: 1) Notes: (a)

1) 1999/2000 current 52 week data, Delaware Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Branch; 2) 1997, data, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1997 Sexually Transmitted Disease Reports; 3) Healthy People 2000 objective.

Notes: (a) Includes primary and secondary syphilis cases.

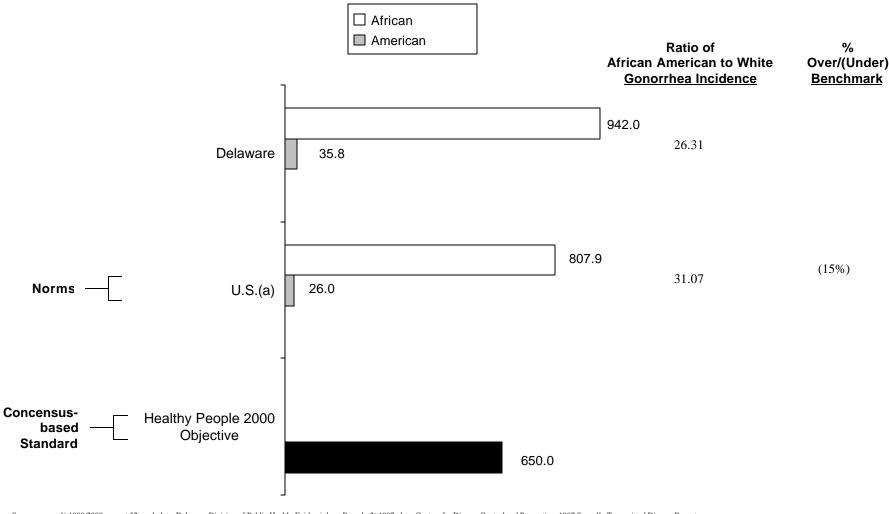
(b) Not all states require race to be reported, thus the national rate includes only reporting states.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-122:

Over 26 African Americans to every one white person in Delaware has gonorrhea. The disparity between African Americans and whites in terms of gonorrhea incidence in Delaware is slightly less than in the U.S.

## Gonorrhea Incidence Rates per 100,000 Persons by Race 1999/2000 and 1997 Data



Sources: 1) 1999/2000 current 52 week data, Delaware Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Branch; 2) 1997, data, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1997 Sexually Transmitted Disease Reports;

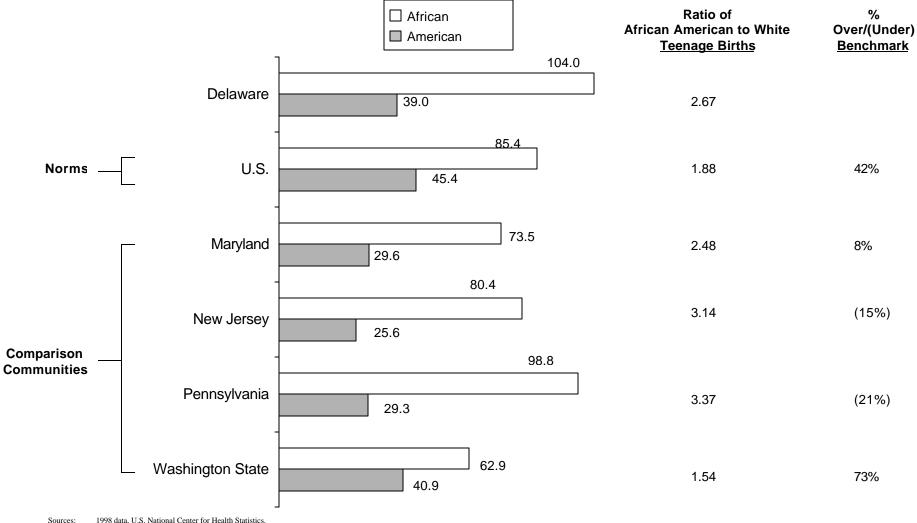
3) Healthy People 2000 objective

(a) Not all states require race to be reported, thus the national rate includes only reporting states.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-123: African American teens in Delaware gave birth at almost three times the rate of white teens.

Teenage Birth Rates per 1,000 by Race: Females Age 15 to 19<sup>(a)</sup> 1998



Sources:

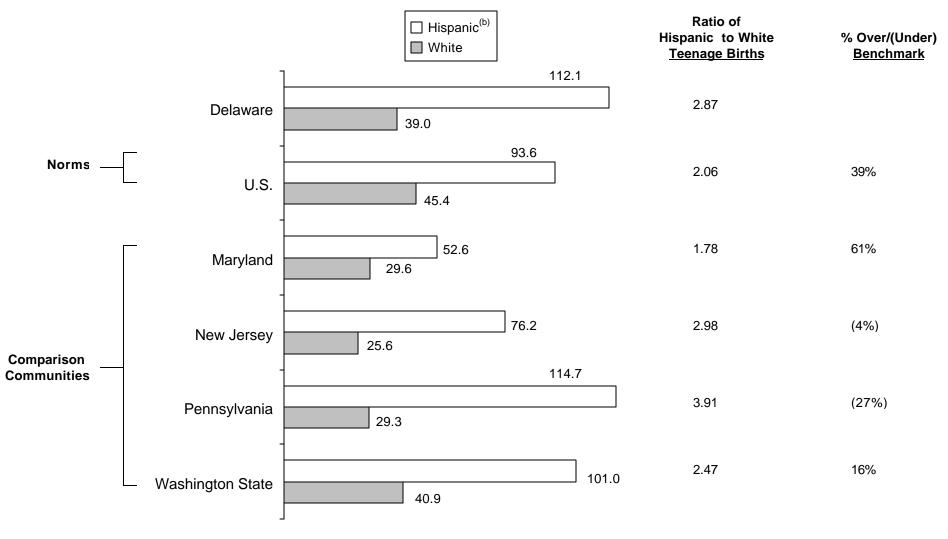
(a) Teenage birth rate is defined as total number of births to females aged 15 to 19 divided by total number of females in that age group. Notes:

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-124:

Hispanic teens in Delaware gave birth at approximately three times the rate of white teens. The disparity between Hispanic and white teens was greater in Delaware than for the nation as a whole and for two of the four benchmark

Teenage Birth Rates per 1,000 by Hispanic Ethnicity: Females Age 15 to 19<sup>(a)</sup> 1998



Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics.

Notes: (a) Teenage birth rate is defined as total number of births to females aged 15 to 19 divided by total number of females in that age group.

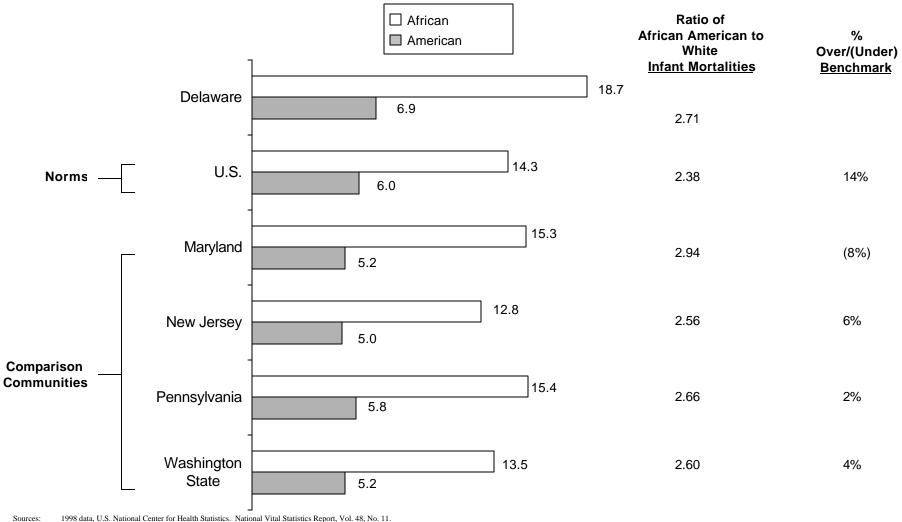
(b) Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-125:

Delaware's infant mortality rate for the African Americans relative to whites was higher than the national average and all state benchmarks, except for Maryland.

Infant Mortality Rates (IMR) per 1,000 Live Births by Race<sup>(a)</sup> 1998



Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 48, No. 11

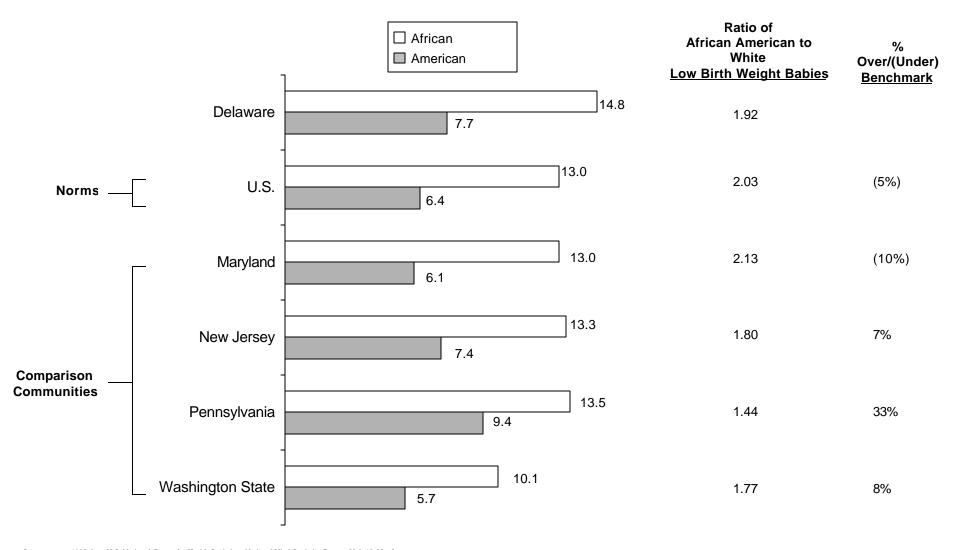
Notes: (a) Infant deaths based on race of descendant; live births based on race of mother.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-126:

African American mothers in Delaware were approximately twice as likely as white mothers to give birth to low birth weight babies.

# Proportion of Low Birth Weight<sup>(a)</sup> Live Births by Race 1998



Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 48, No. 3.

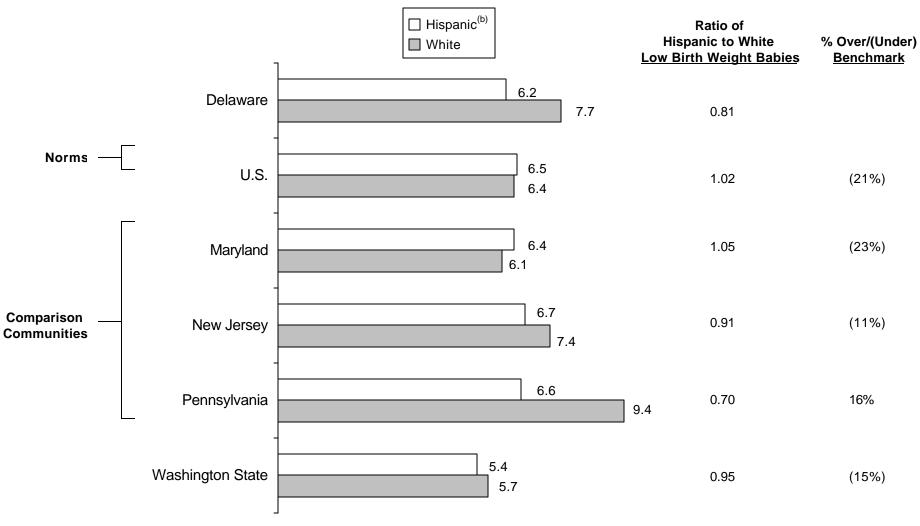
Notes: (a) Low birth weight infants weigh under 2,500 grams.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

## Exhibit I-C-127:

Hispanic mothers in Delaware, in general, were less likely to deliver low birth weight babies than white mothers in Delaware. The disparity between Hispanic and white mothers in terms of giving birth to low birth weight infants was smaller in Delaware than in most benchmarks.

# Proportion of Low Birth Weight<sup>(a)</sup> Live Births by Ethnicity 1998



Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 48, No. 3.

Notes: (a) Low birth weight infants weigh under 2,500 grams.

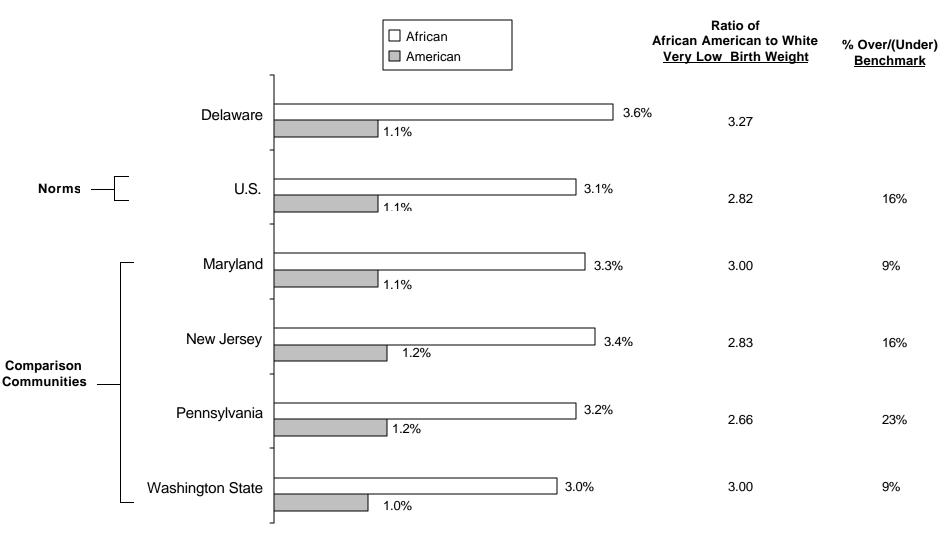
(b) Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-128:

The proportion of very low birth weight babies born to African American mothers in Delaware was slightly higher than national and state experiences.

# Proportion of Very Low Birth Weight<sup>(a)</sup> Live Births by Race 1998



Sources: 1-6) 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 48, No. 3. 7) Healthy People 2000 Objective.

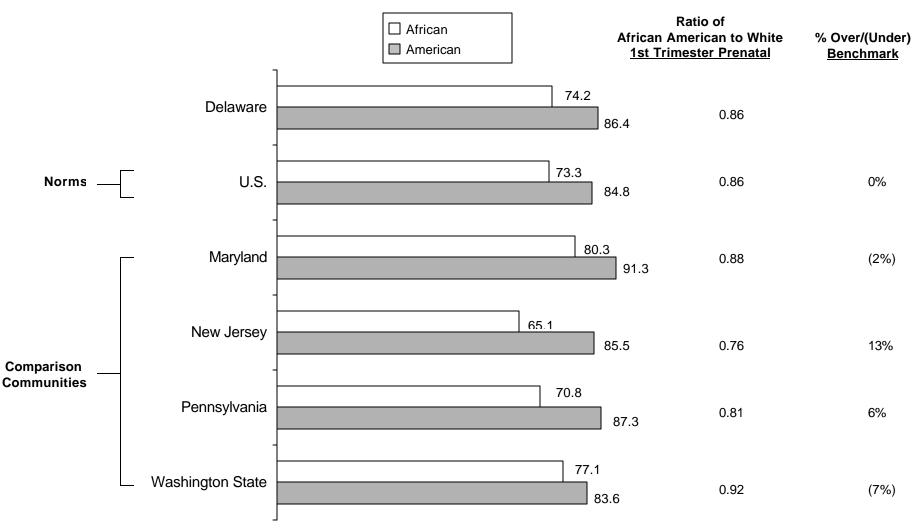
Notes: (a) Very low birth weight infants weigh under 1,500 grams.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-129:

Mirroring national and state experiences, African American mothers in Delaware were less likely to have received first trimester prenatal care than their white counterparts.

## Percentage of Females Receiving First Trimester Prenatal Care by Race 1998



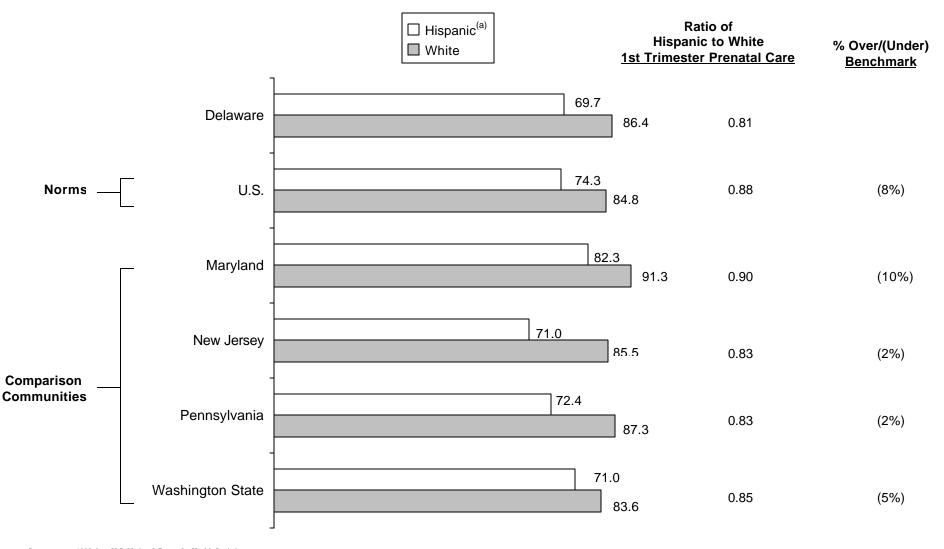
Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-130:

In general, Hispanic mothers in Delaware were slightly less likely to receive first trimester prenatal care compared to state and national benchmarks.

## Percentage of Females Receiving First Trimester Prenatal Care by Hispanic Ethnicity 1998



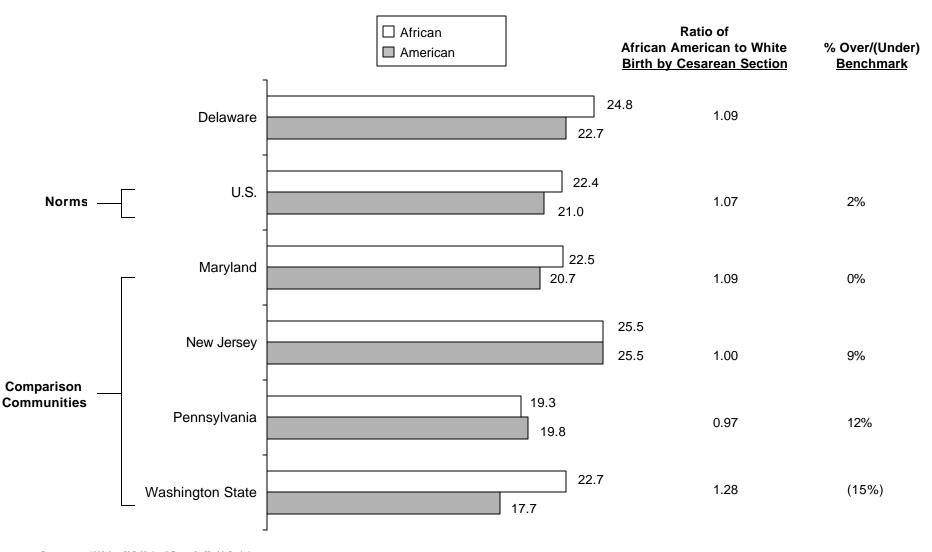
Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics.

Notes: (a) Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-131:** Similar to state and national experiences, African American females were more likely than white females to deliver by Cesarean section.

## Proportion of Births Delivered by Cesarean Section by Race of Mother 1998



Sources: 1998 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-132:

Hispanic females in Delaware were less likely than white females to deliver by Cesarean section. The disparity between Hispanic and white females was greater in Delaware compared to the nation and benchmark communities.

## Proportion of Births Delivered by Cesarean Section by Race of Mother 1998

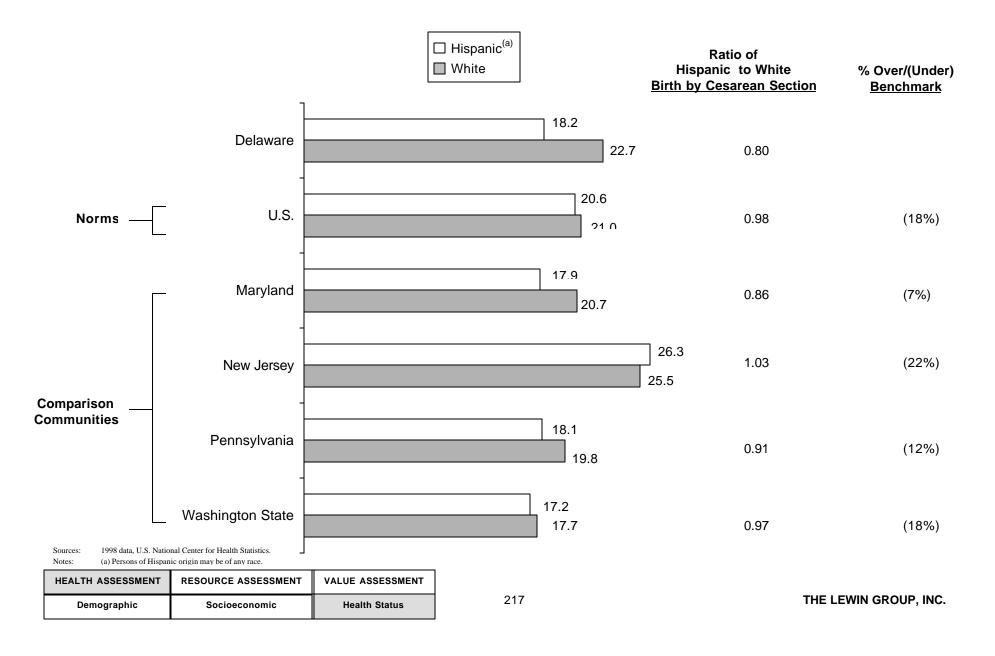


Exhibit I-C-133:

In all three counties, Hispanic households had lower incomes than their white counterparts but had higher incomes than their African American counterparts.

# Income Distribution by Race, Ethnicity<sup>(a)</sup> and County 1989

Income Distribution	White	African American	Hispanic		
< \$5,000:	3%	10%	7%	/	
\$5,000 - \$14,999:	6%	19%	17%	/	
\$15,000 - \$24,999:	14%	17%	20%	New	
\$25,000 - \$49,999:	39%	35%	36%	Castle )	
\$50,000 - \$99,999:	32%	18%	16%		
≥ \$100,000:	7%	1%	3%		
Income Distribution	White	African American	Hispanic		
< \$5,000:	4%	12%	3%		
\$5,000 - \$14,999:	16%	24%	14%	Kent	
\$15,000 - \$24,999:	19%	20%	24%		
\$25,000 - \$49,999:	4%	30%	38%		
\$50,000 - \$99,999:	19%	13%	22%		
≥ \$100,000:	3%	1%	0%		
Income Distribution	White	African American	Hispanic		N
< \$5,000:	4%	16%	9%	Sugger	1N
\$5,000 - \$14,999:	18%	32%	28%	Sussex	
\$15,000 - \$24,999:	21%	26%	13%		W
\$25,000 - \$49,999:	37%	18%	28%		W
\$50,000 - \$99,999:	17%	8%	15%		·V
≥ \$100,000:	3%	0%	8%		ď
					S

Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1990 households by 1989 income levels.

Notes: (a) Households of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-134: In 1989, Sussex County had the highest proportion of African American and

Hispanic residents living in poverty.

# Percentage of Population Below Poverty by Race, Ethnicity<sup>(a)</sup> and County 1989

#### **Population Below Poverty:**

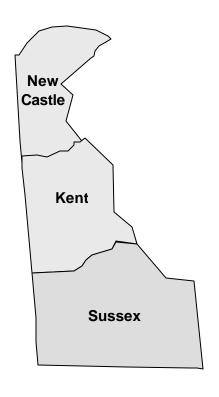
White: 5%
African American: 20%
Hispanic: 19%

## **Population Below Poverty:**

White: 8%
African American: 25%
Hispanic: 16%

## **Population Below Poverty:**

White: 7%
African American: 46%
Hispanic: 27%





Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1990 households by 1989 income levels.

Notes: (a) Households of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-135:

African American and white residents of Sussex County were less likely to have some college or a college degree than their counterparts in the other two counties.

# Distribution of Highest Level of Education Attained, Population Aged 25 Years and Older by Race, Ethnicity<sup>(a)</sup> and County 1990

Income Distribution	White	African American	Hispanic	
< 9th grade:	5%	8%	21%	
9 - 12 grade:	12%	24%	20%	
High school diploma:	31%	34%	21%	<i>\</i>
Some college:	18%	17%	14%	
Associate degree:	7%	5%	7%	New<
Bachelor degree:	17%	8%	10%	Castle
Graduate/Professional:	10%	4%	7%	
Income Distribution	White	African American	Hispanic	
< 9th grade:	11%	13%	15%	
9 - 12 grade:	2%	23%	14%	
High school diploma:	44%	28%	24%	Kent
Some college:	23%	20%	25%	Kent
Associate degree:	8%	4%	9%	
Bachelor degree:	12%	7%	10%	
Graduate/Professional:	1%	4%	3%	
Income Distribution	White	African American	Hispanic	
< 9th grade:	99	% 21%	27%	N
9 - 12 grade:	179	6 34%	25%	Sussex
High school diploma:	39%		15%	Custok
Some college:	15%	<b>6</b> 10%	9%	$W \longrightarrow E$
Associate degree:	69	% 3%	4%	
Bachelor degree:	10%	% 3%	11%	
Graduate/Professional:	59	% 1%	9%	S

Sources: 1990 data, U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1990 households by 1989 income levels.

Notes: (a) Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-136:

In Delaware, African Americans experience higher mortality rates than white residents, with New Castle County experiencing the widest racial disparity.

# Deaths from All Causes per 100,000 Persons by Race and County<sup>(a)</sup> 1997

Deaths:

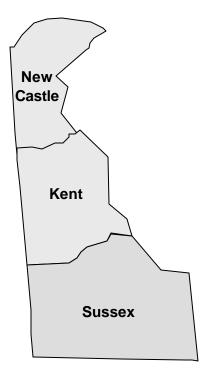
White: 459.5 African American: 723.0

Deaths:

White: 500.9 African American: 541.6

Deaths:

White: 540.6 African American: 614.9





Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

Notes: (a) Date rates are age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-137:

Whites in New Castle County experienced the lowest heart disease mortality rate, while African Americans in the same county experienced the highest mortality rate.

## Heart Disease Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race and County<sup>(a)</sup> 1997

Deaths:

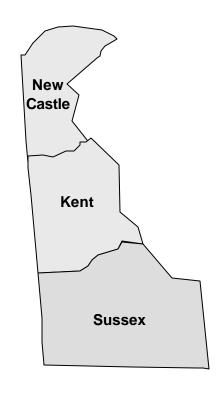
White: 125.5 African American: 173.8

Deaths:

White: 157.6 African American: 135.3

Deaths:

White: 145.5 African American: 156.9





Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

Notes: (a) Date rates are age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT	
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status	

**Exhibit I-C-138:** In 1997, white residents of New Castle County experienced the lowest

cerebrovascular disease mortality rate while African Americans experienced

the highest.

# Cerebrovascular Disease Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race and County<sup>(a)</sup> 1997

Deaths:

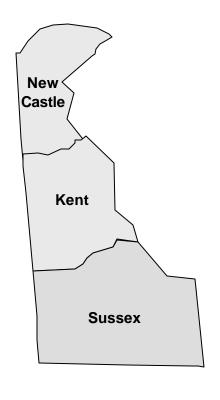
White: 17.1 African American: 32.3

Deaths:

White: 28.9 African American: 28.4<sup>(b)</sup>

Deaths:

White: 27.6 African American: 21.7<sup>(b)</sup>





Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

Notes: (a) Date rates are age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. national population.

(b) Insufficient data to compute reliable statistic.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-139: In 1997, white residents in Kent County experienced the highest COPD

mortality rates.

## Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases and Allied Conditions Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race and County<sup>(a)</sup> 1997

Deaths:

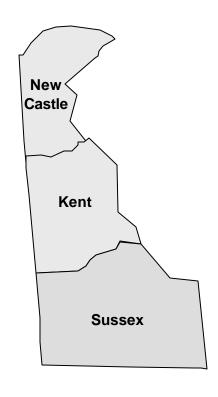
White: 21.8 African American: 20.1

Deaths:

White: 33.2 African American: 16.3<sup>(b)</sup>

Deaths:

White: 16.3 African American: 9.5<sup>(b)</sup>



224



Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

Notes: (a) Date rates are age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. national population.

(b) Insufficient data to compute reliable statistic.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-140:

Sussex County African American and white residents had the highest cancer mortality rates relative to their counterparts in the other two counties.

## Cancer Deaths per 100,000 Persons by Race and County<sup>(a)</sup> 1997

Deaths:

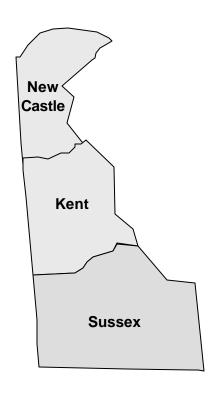
White: 134.7 African American: 191.2

Deaths:

White: 123.9 African American: 128.0

Deaths:

White: 148.2 African American: 224.9



225



Sources: 1997 data, U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder Data Extraction Software.

Notes: (a) Date rates are age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. national population.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-141:** White, African American and Hispanic teenagers living in Sussex County had

the highest birth rates.

# Teen Birth Rates per 1,000 Females Aged 15 to 19 by Race, Ethnicity<sup>(a)</sup> and County 1997

#### Births:

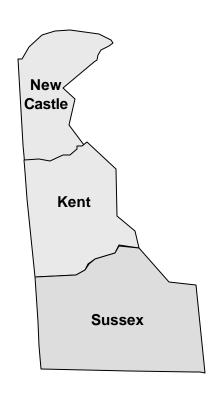
White: 27.6
African American: 111.7
Hispanic: 85.1
Other: 8.1

#### Births:

White: 69.4 African American: 74.4 Hispanic: 36.1 Other: 66.7

#### Births:

White: 79.4
African American: 132.2
Hispanic: 218.8
Other: 28.2





Sources: 1997 data, Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1997. Notes: (a) Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-142:** African Americans in Kent County and the City of Wilmington experienced the

highest infant mortality rates.

# Five-year Average<sup>(a)</sup> Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Live Births by Race and County 1993 - 1997

White: 4.9 African American: 15.3

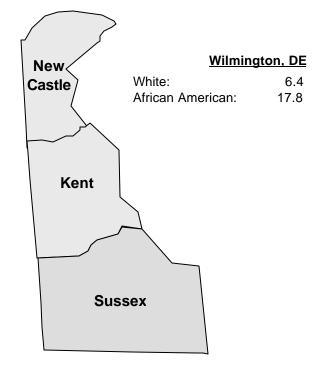
**Infant Mortality Rate:** 

**Infant Mortality Rate:** 

White: 5.9 African American: 16.5

**Infant Mortality Rate:** 

White: 8.0 African American: 11.1





Sources: 1997 data, Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1997.

Notes: (a) The state of Delaware uses five-year averages to control for random fluctuations in annual rates due to small sample sizes.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-143:** In Kent County, African American mothers are almost three times more likely

to give birth to low birth weight babies compared to white mothers.

# Proportion of Low Birth Weight<sup>(a)</sup> Live Births by Race and County 1997

#### **Low Birth Weight Live Births:**

White: 7.3% African American: 12.4% Other: 8.9%

#### **Low Birth Weight Live Births:**

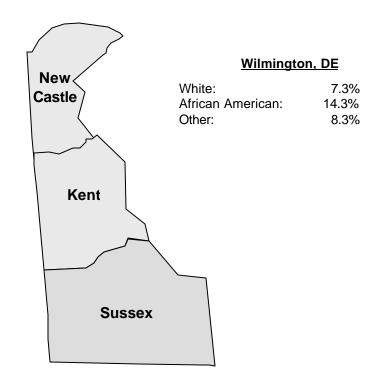
 White:
 5.7%

 African American:
 15.6%

 Other:
 11.6%

### **Low Birth Weight Live Births:**

White: 6.9% African American: 11.1% Other: 5.9%





Sources: 1997 data, Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1997. Notes: (a) Low birth weight infants weigh under 2,500 grams.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

Exhibit I-C-144:

Within the three-county area, African American mothers were up to six times more likely to give birth to very low birth weight babies than white mothers.

## Proportion of Very Low Birth Weight<sup>(a)</sup> Live Births by Race and County 1997

#### **Very Low Birth Weight Live Births:**

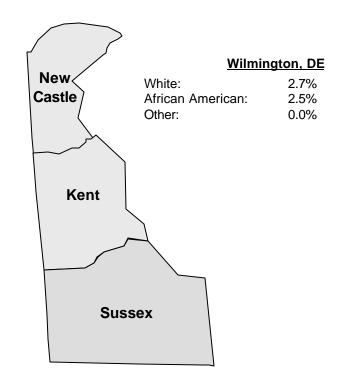
White: 1.3%
African American: 3.3%
Other: 0.5%

#### **Very Low Birth Weight Live Births:**

White: 0.9% African American: 5.8% Other: 2.3%

## Very Low Birth Weight Live Births:

White: 1.2% African American: 3.4% Other: 5.9%





Sources: 1997 data, Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1997.

Notes: (a) Very low birth weight infants weigh under 1,500 grams.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-145:** African American mothers in all three counties were less likely to receive first

trimester prenatal care than white mothers.

## Percentage of Females Receiving First Trimester Prenatal Care by Race and County 1997

#### First Trimester Prenatal Care:

 White:
 91.0%

 African American:
 76.0%

 Other:
 86.8%

#### **First Trimester Prenatal Care:**

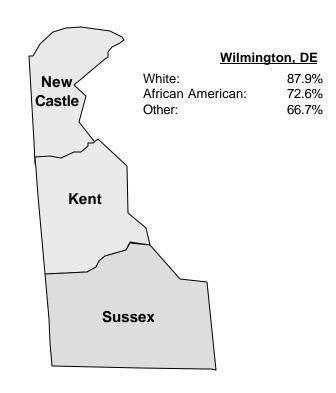
 White:
 71.1%

 African American:
 57.7%

 Other:
 65.1%

#### First Trimester Prenatal Care:

White: 80.1% African American: 65.0% Other: 70.6%





Sources: 1997 data, Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1997.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status

**Exhibit I-C-146:** In all three counties and Wilmington, African American females were

less likely to use tobacco during pregnancy than white mothers.

## Percentage of Females Reporting Tobacco Use during Pregnancy by Race and County 1997

#### **Tobacco Use:**

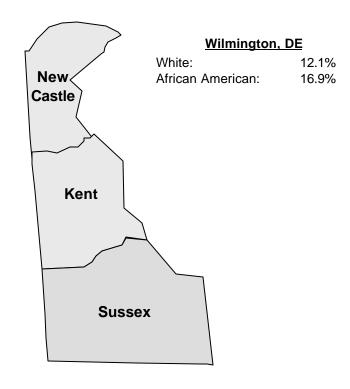
White: 14.7% African American: 12.8%

#### **Tobacco Use:**

White: 18.0% African American: 14.6%

#### **Tobacco Use:**

White: 14.2% African American: 6.8%



231



Sources: 1997 data, Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report,

HEALTH ASSESSMENT	RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	VALUE ASSESSMENT
Demographic	Socioeconomic	Health Status