



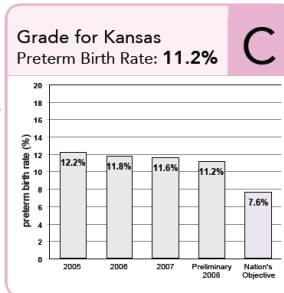
Prematurity Campaign: The Road Ahead

Robert Holcomb, MD, FAAP
Sunflower Neonatology
Associates

March of Dimes Kansas Perinatal Snapshot

March of Dimes 2010 Premature Birth Report Card

The March of Dimes graded states by comparing each state's rate of premature birth to the nation's 2010 objective of 7.6 percent. Preterm birth is the leading cause of newborn death in the United States. We don't yet understand all the factors that contribute to premature birth. The nation must continue to make progress on research to identify causes and prevention strategies, and on interventions and quality improvement initiatives to improve outcomes.



Status of Selected Contributing Factors

Factor	Previous Rate	Latest Rate	Status	Recommendation
Uninsured Women	18.0%	17.9%	★	Health care before and during pregnancy can help identify and manage conditions that contribute to premature birth. We urge federal and state policy makers to accelerate implementation of health reform by expanding coverage for women of childbearing age, and we urge employers to create workplaces that support maternal and infant health.
Women Smoking	19.3%	20.1%	✗	Smoking cessation programs can reduce the risk of premature birth. We urge federal and state policy makers to immediately implement comprehensive Medicaid coverage of smoking cessation coverage of provisions of health reform.
Late Preterm Birth	8.4%	8.0%	★	The rise in late preterm births (34-36 weeks) has been linked to rising rates of early induction of labor and c-sections. We call on hospitals and health care professionals to establish quality improvement programs that ensure consistency with professional guidelines regarding c-sections and inductions prior to 39 weeks gestation.

★ = moving in the right direction n/c = no change ✗ = moving in the wrong direction

State Actions:

For information on how we are working to reduce premature birth, contact the March of Dimes Kansas Chapter at (913) 469-3611.



Kansas Report Card

- Preterm birth rate 11.6% (1 in 9 babies premature)
- Kansas Grade Improves - “C”
- 2nd year decline in preterm birth rate with projected decline to 11.2% next year.
- Attributed to decline in uninsured rate & decrease in late preterm birth rate.
- Slight increase in smoking rate - 19.3% to 20.1%

Improvement Still Needed (KS)

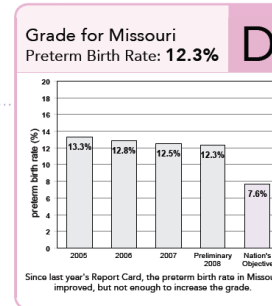
- Late preterm birth rate still too high
- Infant mortality rate high (7.2 per 1,000 live births)
- Black /White Infant Mortality 2:1 ratio
- C-section rate 29.8%
- High rates of binge drinking (14.5% self-reported)
- High rates of obesity (24.6%)

March of Dimes Missouri Perinatal Snapshot



March of Dimes 2010 Premature Birth Report Card

The March of Dimes graded states by comparing each state's rate of premature birth to the nation's 2010 objective of 7.6 percent. Preterm birth is the leading cause of newborn death in the United States. We don't yet understand all the factors that contribute to premature birth. The nation must continue to make progress on research to identify causes and prevention strategies, and on interventions and quality improvement initiatives to improve outcomes.



Status of Selected Contributing Factors

Factor	Previous Rate	Latest Rate	Status	Recommendation
Uninsured Women	17.6%	18.4%	✗	Health care before and during pregnancy can help identify and manage conditions that contribute to premature birth. We urge federal and state policy makers to accelerate implementation of health reform by expanding coverage for women of childbearing age, and we urge employers to create workplaces that support maternal and infant health.
Women Smoking	28.4%	24.5%	★	Smoking cessation programs can reduce the risk of premature birth. We urge federal and state policy makers to immediately implement comprehensive Medicaid coverage of smoking cessation coverage of provisions of health reform.
Late Preterm Birth	9.0%	8.9%	★	The rise in late preterm births (34-36 weeks) has been linked to rising rates of early induction of labor and c-sections. We call on hospitals and health care professionals to establish quality improvement programs that ensure consistency with professional guidelines regarding c-sections and inductions prior to 39 weeks gestation.

★ = moving in the right direction n/c = no change ✗ = moving in the wrong direction

State Actions:

For information on how we are working to reduce premature birth, contact the March of Dimes Missouri Chapter at (314) 913-9990.

march of dimes®

march of dimes®

Missouri Report Card 2010

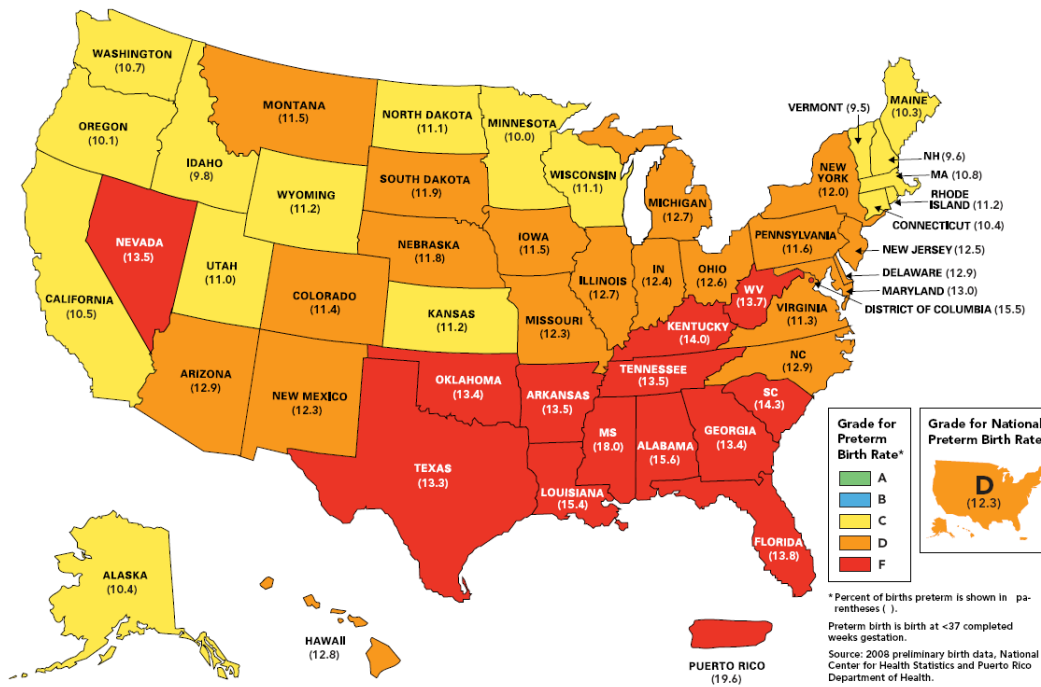
- **Preterm birth rate 12.5% (1 in 11 babies premature)**
- **Missouri grade remains a “D”**
- **Decrease in women smoking - 28.4% to 24.5%**
- **Slight decrease in late preterm birth rate - 9.0% to 8.9%**
- **Lost ground on uninsured women - 17.6% to 18.4%**

Improvement Still Needed (MO)

- Late preterm birth rate still too high
- Infant mortality rate high (7.4 per 1,000 live births)
- C-section rate 30.3%
- High smoking rate (24.5% self-reported)
- High rates of binge drinking (20.3% self-reported)
- High rates of obesity (27.6%)

How Do We Compare Nationally?

March of Dimes 2010 Premature Birth Report Card



Grade for Preterm Birth Rate*

- A (Green)
- B (Blue)
- C (Yellow)
- D (Orange)
- F (Red)

Grade for National Preterm Birth Rate*

D (12.3)

*Percent of births preterm is shown in parentheses ().
 Preterm birth is birth at <37 completed weeks gestation.
 Source: 2008 preliminary birth data, National Center for Health Statistics and Puerto Rico Department of Health.
 Premature birth report card grades prepared by the March of Dimes Perinatal Data Center. See Technical Notes for more information.
 © 2010 March of Dimes Foundation



Premature Birth Rate Declines Changing Tide?

Year	U.S. #	U.S. Count	KS #	KS Count
1996	11	423107	10.2	3742
1997	11.4	436600	10.4	3871
1998	11.6	452275	10.8	4135
1999	11.8	460853	10.9	4204
2000	11.6	467201	11	4377
2001	11.9	476250	11	4266
2002	12.1	480812	10.9	4311
2003	12.3	499008	11.6	4573
2004	12.5	508356	11.8	4667
2005	12.7	522913	12.2	4860
2006	12.8	542893	11.8	4824
2007	12.7	546602	11.6	4850

March of Dimes 2010 Initiatives

Progress in 2010

- Hosted Prematurity Coalition Meetings
 - Diane Helentjaris, VA Department of Health & Dennis Cooley, KS AAP (Kansas infant mortality update and VA best practice model)
 - Karla Damus, Boston University (late preterm update)
 - 2010 Prematurity Conference

March of Dimes 2010 Initiatives

Progress in 2010

- Passage of statewide smoking ban (partner with Clean Air Kansas)
- Passage of infant mortality data bill (partner with Blue Ribbon Panel on Infant Mortality)
- Implemented four prenatal care programs focused on disparities (Comenzando bien 2x, Becoming a Mom, Gestational Diabetes Management)
- Sponsored four professional development conferences on variety of topics

Collaboration is Key!

Perinatal Association of Kansas

Kansas Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics

Kansas Maternal Child Health Council

Governor's Newborn Screening Advisory Council

Blue Ribbon Panel on Infant Mortality

American Academy of Family Physicians

Mother & Child Health Coalition

American College of Nurse Midwives

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

March of Dimes



March of Dimes 2011 Priorities

- **Formalize Prematurity Coalition**
Structure, governance, subcommittees, plan of work
- **Launch disparities initiatives statewide**
- **Develop hospital quality collaborative**
- **Seek legislative approval for newborn screening fee**
- **Seek amendment to KS Medicaid Plan for coverage of birth spacing and wellness services.**

Rising to the Challenge



I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment, I still have a dream.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.