



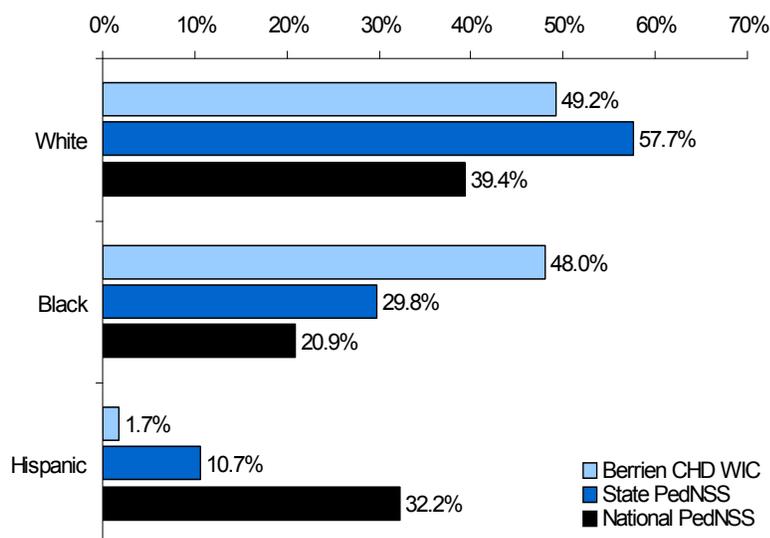
2003 WIC Local Agency Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) Report

The goal of Michigan WIC is to improve the health outcome of low income nutritionally at-risk women and children by providing supplemental nutritious foods, offering nutrition education/counseling, breastfeeding support, and referral to other health and social services. This report is developed to provide specific local information regarding the health and nutritional status of WIC participants. In order to provide local statistics stratified by age and race/ethnicity, three-year averages were calculated for each health indicator. Consequently, point estimates represent the incidence or prevalence of an indicator between the years 2001 and 2003. Trends were constructed using rolling averages and cover the period between 1998 and 2003.

In 2000, there were 10,628 children under five years old in Berrien County. One in five persons (23.4%) under the age of five years old in the county live below poverty. Berrien County Health Department WIC (Berrien CHD WIC), in 2003, served approximately 3,528 of all the children that participate in WIC in Michigan. PedNSS data about WIC participants in Berrien County WIC showed:

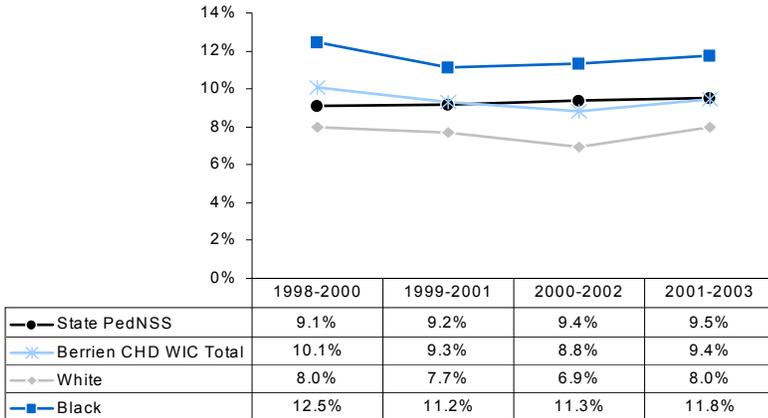
- One in ten Black infants were low birthweight;
- Approximately one in ten White infants had a birthweight of at least 4000g (13 lbs 8oz);
- The prevalence of short stature among children two to five years old was nearly half that of infants and children under two years old;
- Less than three percent of infants and children under five years old (2.4%) of Berrien County WIC were underweight;
- 15.1% of children two to five years old were at risk of overweight and 11.4% of children were overweight;
- One third of infants and children under the age of two years old had iron deficiency anemia;
- The overall prevalence of infants ever breastfed was 42.0%.

Figure 1. **Racial/ethnic distribution** among infants and children under five years old, 2001-2003 PedNSS



Half of the infants and children under five years old of Berrien County WIC were non-Hispanic White and the remaining half was primarily non-Hispanic Black.

Figure 2. Trend in **low birthweight*** by race/ethnicity among infants in the Berrien County HD WIC Agency, 1998-2003 MI PedNSS



The incidence of low birthweight among Black infants in Berrien County WIC declined, on average, by 1.7% per year.

*Low birthweight is defined as having a birthweight less than 2500 grams (5lbs 9 oz) regardless of gestational age.

Figure 3. Trend in **ever breastfed** by race/ethnicity among infants in the Berrien County HD WIC Agency, 1998-2003 PedNSS

The prevalence of infants ever breastfed increased an average of 1.3% per year in White participants, meanwhile in Black participants the increase was, on average, 5.5% per year.

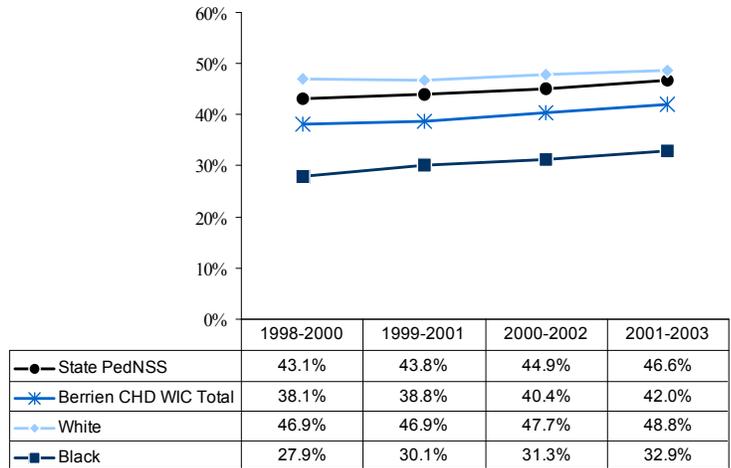
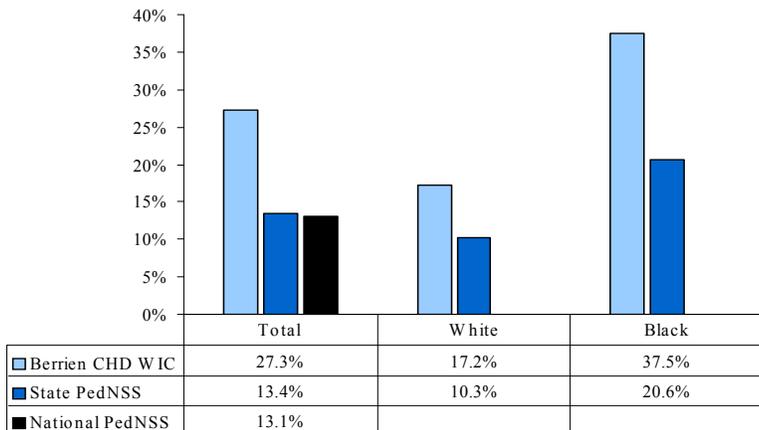


Figure 4. Average prevalence of **iron deficiency anemia*** by race/ethnicity among infants and children under five years old, 2001-2003 PedNSS

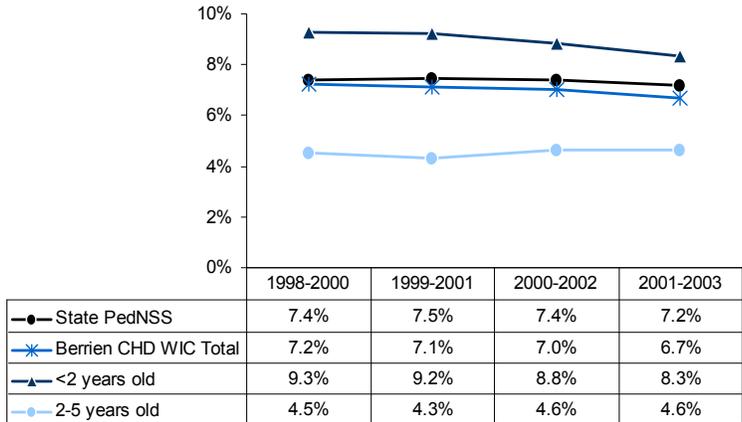


When stratified by race/ethnicity, the prevalence of iron deficiency anemia is higher infants and children under five years old of Berrien County WIC than their state counterparts.

*For infants under the age of one year, iron deficiency anemia is defined as having either a hemoglobin concentration of 11.0 g/dL or a hematocrit level of less than 33%. For children two to five years old, iron deficiency anemia is defined as having either a hemoglobin concentration less than 11.1 g/dL or a hematocrit level below 33.3%.

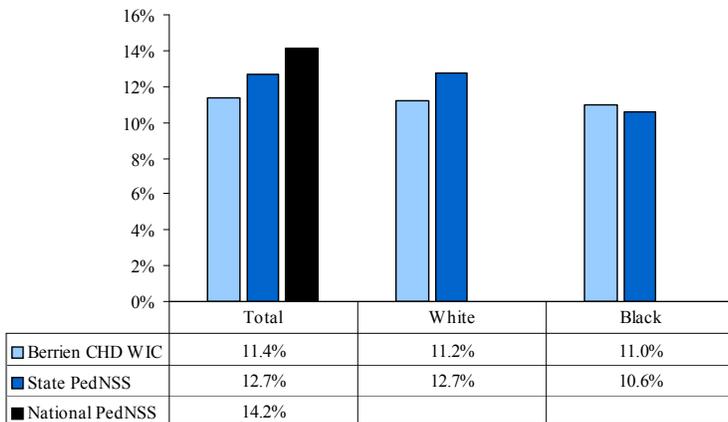
Although the prevalence of short stature was higher among infants and children under two years old in Berrien County WIC, the overall trend of short stature decreased an average on 3.5% per year.

Figure 5. Trend in **short stature*** by age group among infants and children under five years old, 1998-2003 MI PedNSS



*Short stature is defined as having a height-for-age below the 5th percentile of the National Center for Health Statistics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NCHS/CDC) age- and gender- specific growth chart.

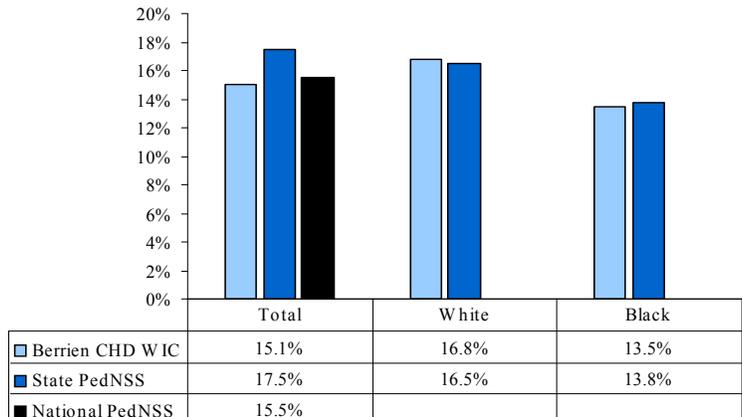
Figure 6. Average prevalence of **overweight*** by race/ethnicity among children two to five years old, 2001-2003 PedNSS



White children two to five years old of Berrien County WIC had a prevalence of overweight lower than their state peers, however Black children had a prevalence of overweight higher than their state peers.

*Overweight is defined as having a weight-for-height greater than the 95th percentile of the National Center for Health Statistics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NCHS/CDC) age- and gender- specific growth chart.

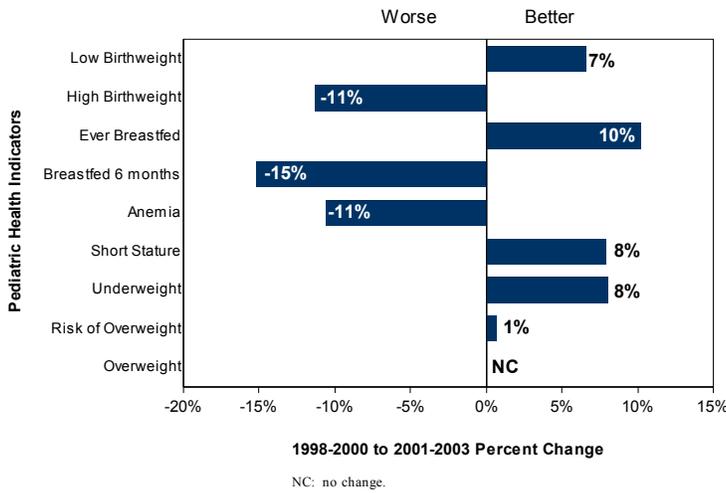
Figure 7. Average prevalence of **risk of overweight*** by race/ethnicity among children two to five years old, 2001-2003 PedNSS



*Risk of overweight is defined as having a weight-for-height between the 85th and the 95th percentile of the National Center for Health Statistics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NCHS/CDC) age- and gender- specific growth chart.

Among both White and Black children two to five years old the prevalence of risk of overweight was nearly equivalent among state and Berrien County WIC participants.

Figure 8. Pediatric health progress review for Berrien County HD WIC infants and children under five years old, 1998-2000 and 2001-2003 MI PedNSS



Since 1998-2000, improvements were observed in low birthweight, ever breastfed, short stature, underweight, and risk of overweight among infants and children of Berrien County WIC.



Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor

Janet Olszewski, Director

Suggested Citation:

Larrieux C, Eghtedary K, Grigorescu V, Carr A. "2003 WIC Local Agency PedNSS Report Berrien County Health Department." WIC Division, Bureau of Family, Maternal, and Child Health, Michigan Department of Community Health. April 2007.

For more information, please contact:

WIC Division
Michigan Department of Community Health
Lewis Cass Building
6th floor

320 South Walnut Street
Lansing, MI 48913

Website: <http://www.michigan.gov/wic>
E-mail: MichiganWic@michigan.gov

Michigan Department of Community Health

WIC Program

Mission Statement

The mission of the Michigan WIC program is to improve the health outcomes and quality of life for eligible women, infants, and children by providing nutritious food, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion, and support and referrals to health and other services. To this end:

- Delivery of services and supports are to be provided in a caring, respectful, efficient, and cost effective manner.
- Delivery of services shall be provided in a culturally competent and confidential manner.
- The WIC Program shall assure the broadest possible access to services, supports, and food.