

Low Birth Weight

Canary in a Coalmine?

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Low birth weight signals not just infant or pregnancy related health, but the life course of women and the health of the communities in which they live.

◎ HIP objectives related to Low Birth Weight

> Perinatal

- Infant mortality
- Low birth weight

> Preconceptional

- Tobacco
- Overweight
- Mental health

> Developmental surveillance

- Pregnancy intention

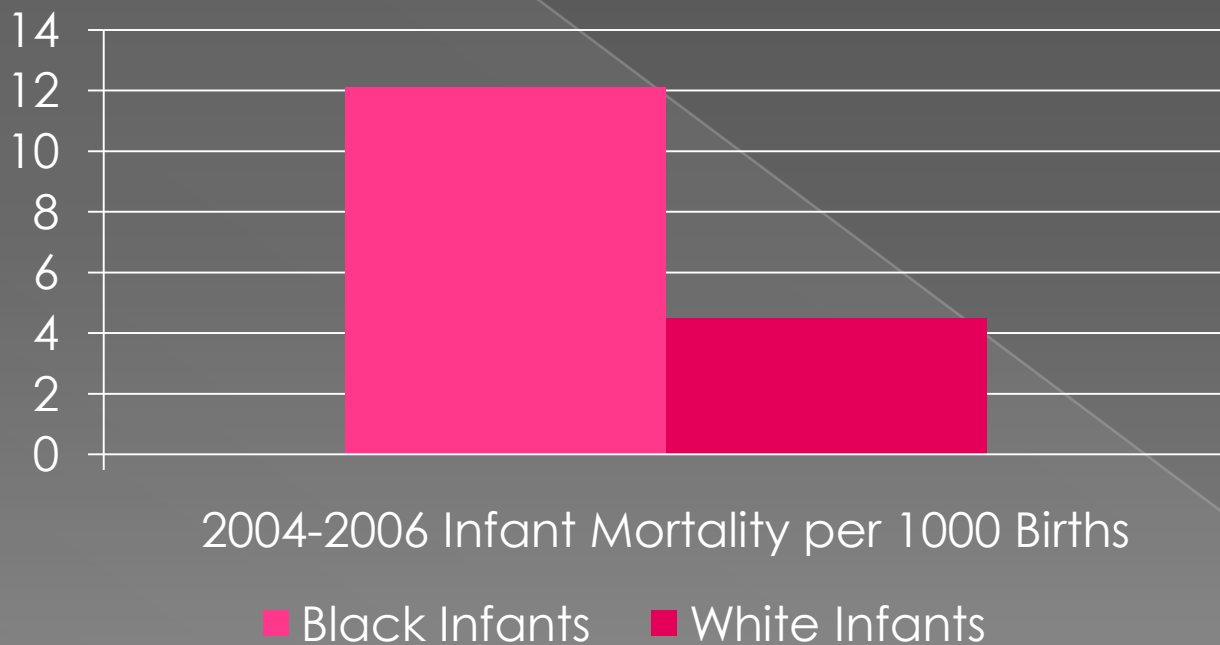
Low Birth Weight Risks

Risk Factors	Examples
Demographic	Black race, teens, women over 34 years
Medical	Parity, chronic disease, poor maternal weight gain, infections
Behavioral	Tobacco use, poor nutritional status
Health care	Inadequate prenatal care, pre-conceptual care

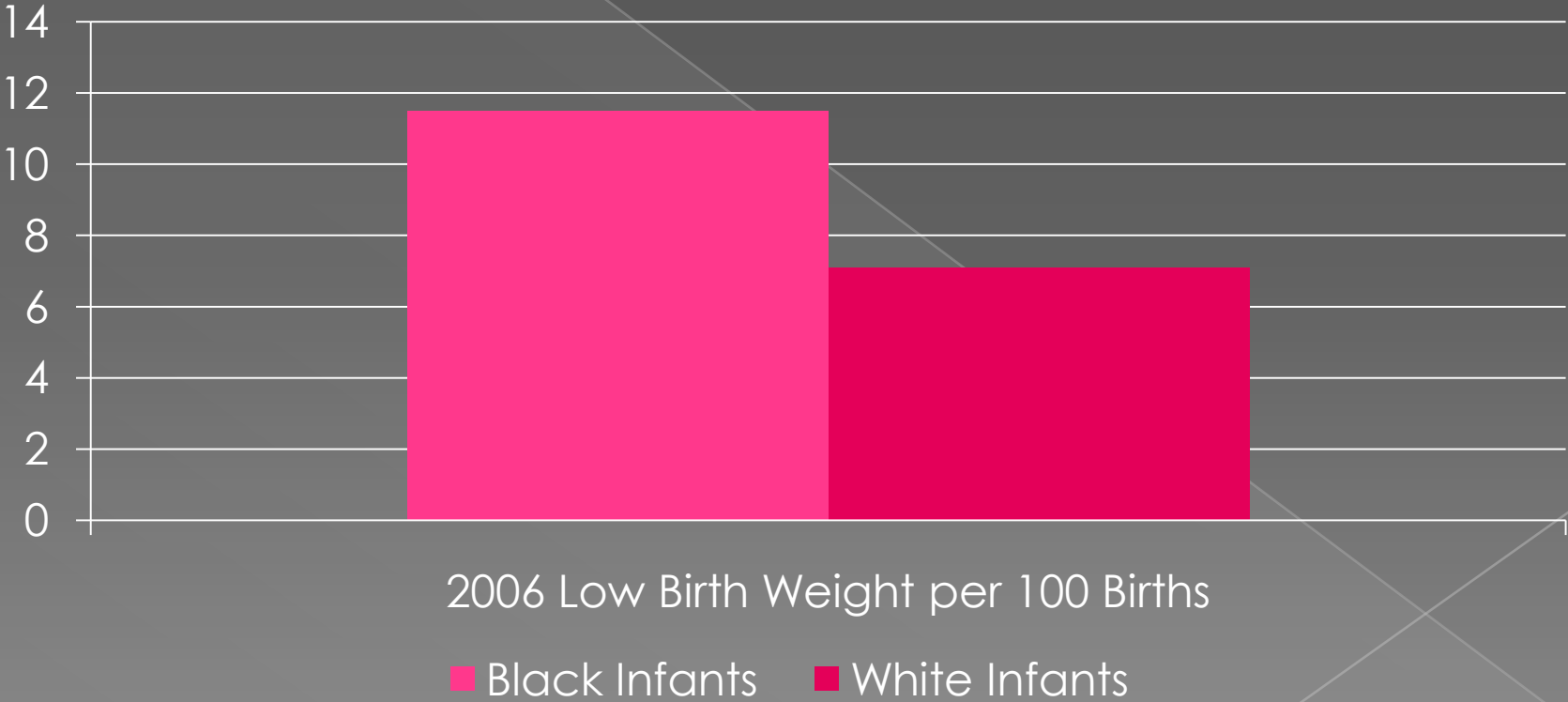
Perinatal Health

Infant death is strongly associated with low birthweight and prematurity

Infant Mortality Rates by Race Washtenaw County 2004-2006



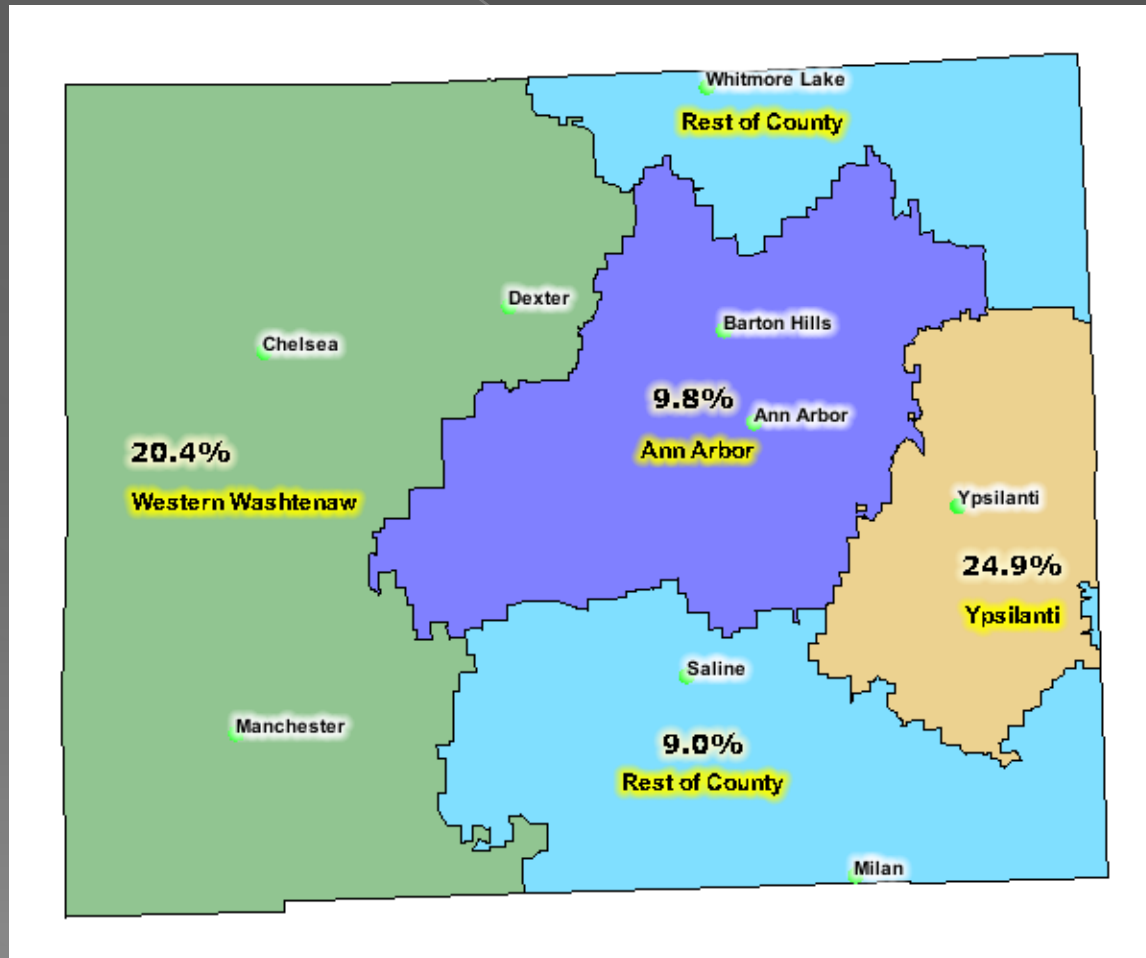
Low Birth Weight Rates by Race Washtenaw County 2004-2006



Preconceptual Health

Low Birthweight is associated with tobacco use, stress, maternal health

Tobacco use during pregnancy may be responsible 20%-30% of low birthweight or preterm infants



Washtenaw County Adults – 2005 HIP survey

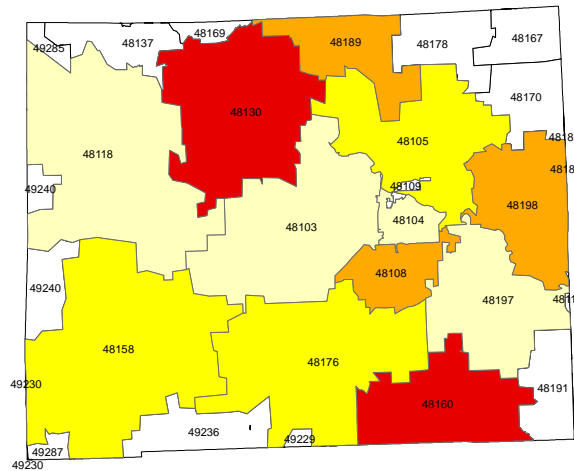
Do you currently smoke?

Percentage of
respondents answering:
Yes

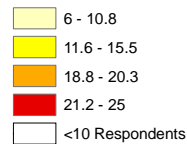
Babies born to mothers with symptoms of depression weigh less

Proportion of Washtenaw County Residents Identifying Ten or More Days of 'Poor Mental Health' During the Past Month

Washtenaw County HIP 2005 Survey Results

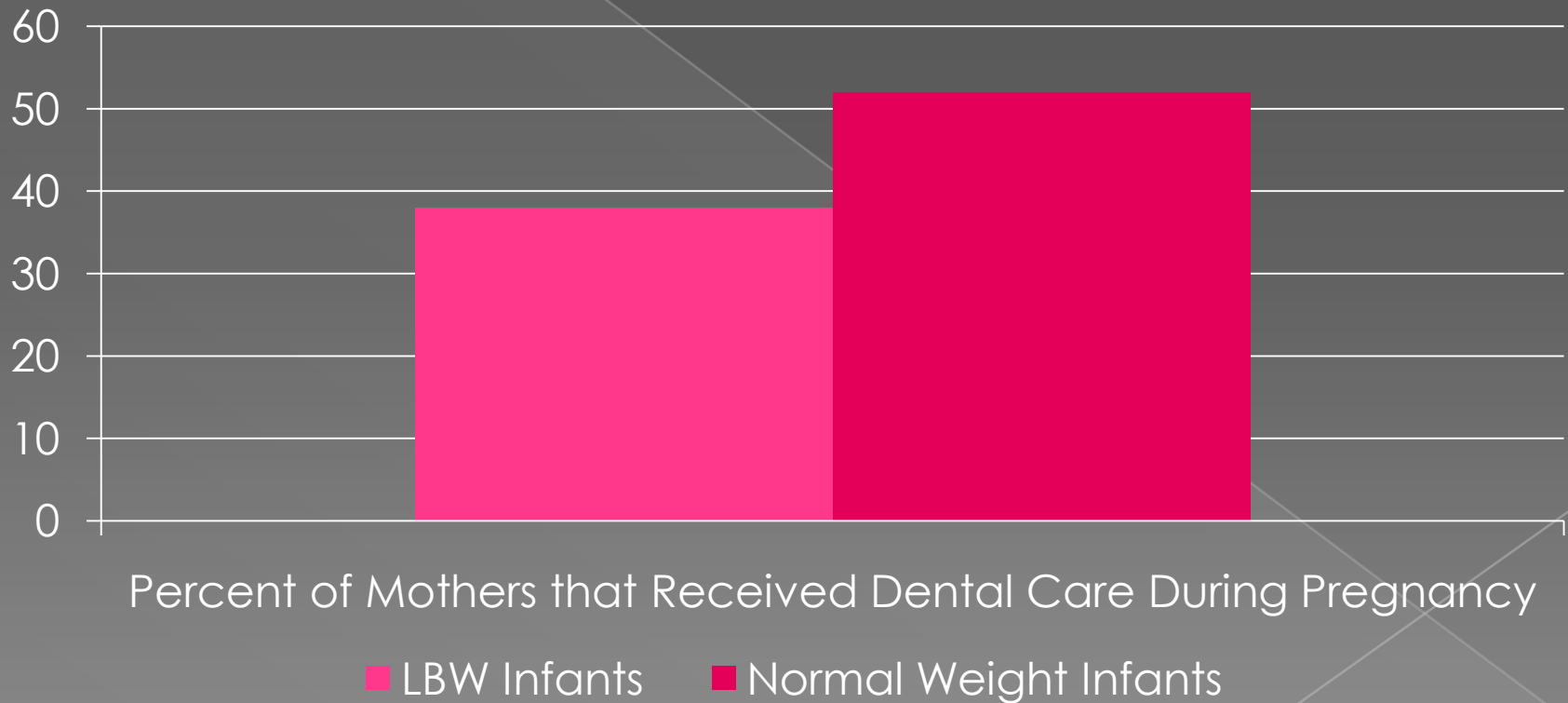


Percent with Ten or More Poor Mental Health Days



Dental care affects pregnancy outcomes

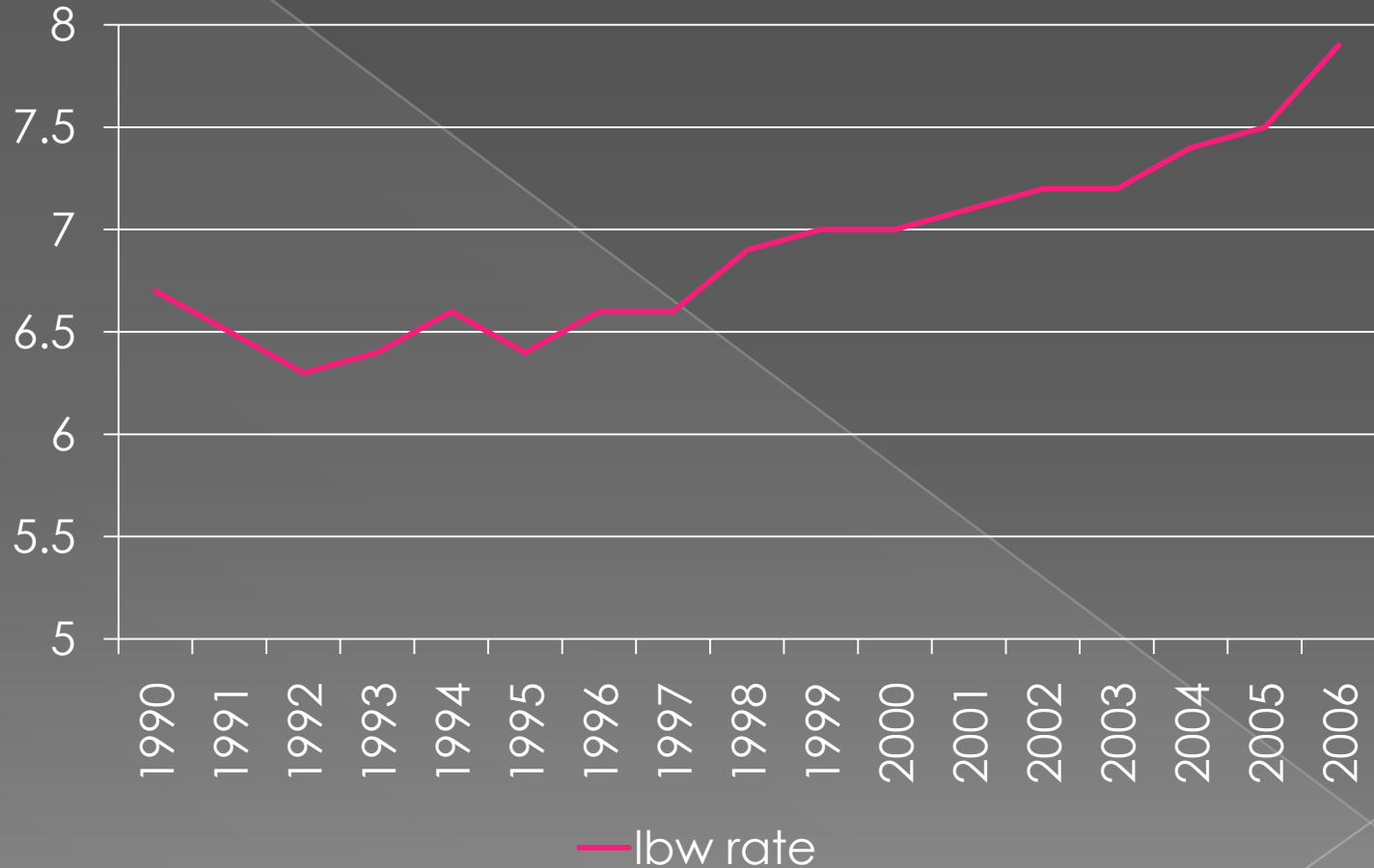
Dental Care and LBW – Washtenaw County PRAMS Data



Low birth weight is a triple threat...

- LBW is associated with lower maternal socioeconomic status
- LBW infants costs are significant in dollars and resources
- Adults who were born with lbw are less healthy and have lower incomes

Low Birth Weight Rates Washtenaw County Resident Births 1990 - 2006



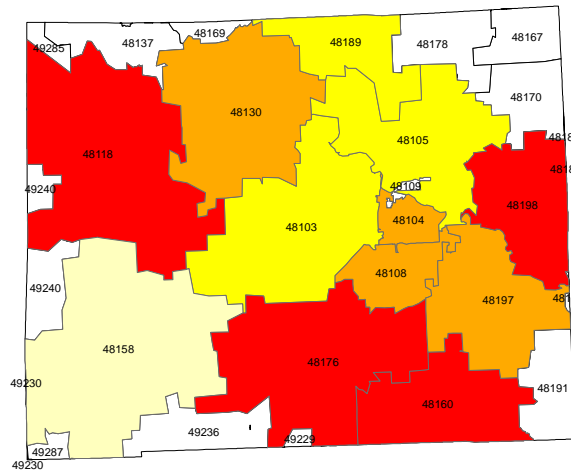
Low birth weight rates have increased in parallel with key economic indicators in Washtenaw County

Unemployment and Poverty Rates Washtenaw County Residents 1989 - 2006

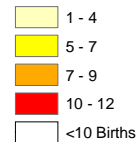


Higher low birth weight rates may be shifting higher in less urban areas in Washtenaw County

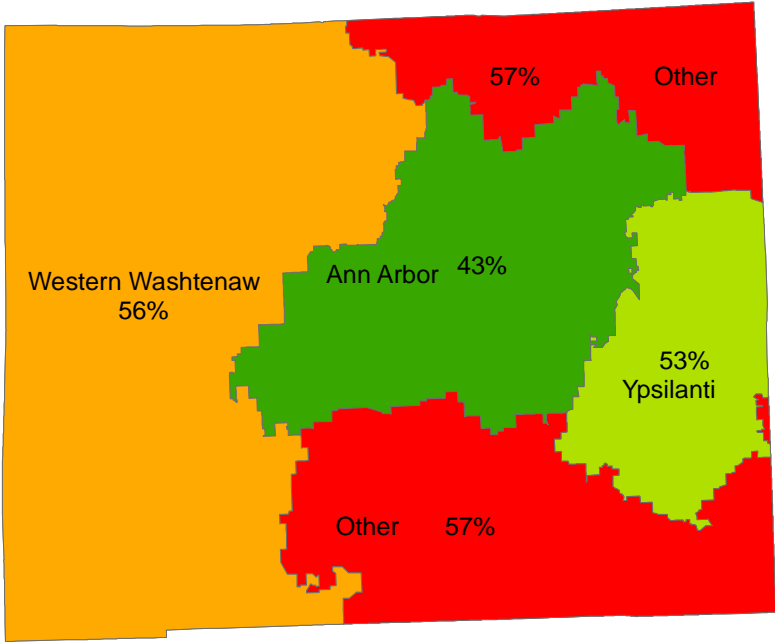
Low Birth Weight Rates
Washtenaw County Residents - 2006 Births



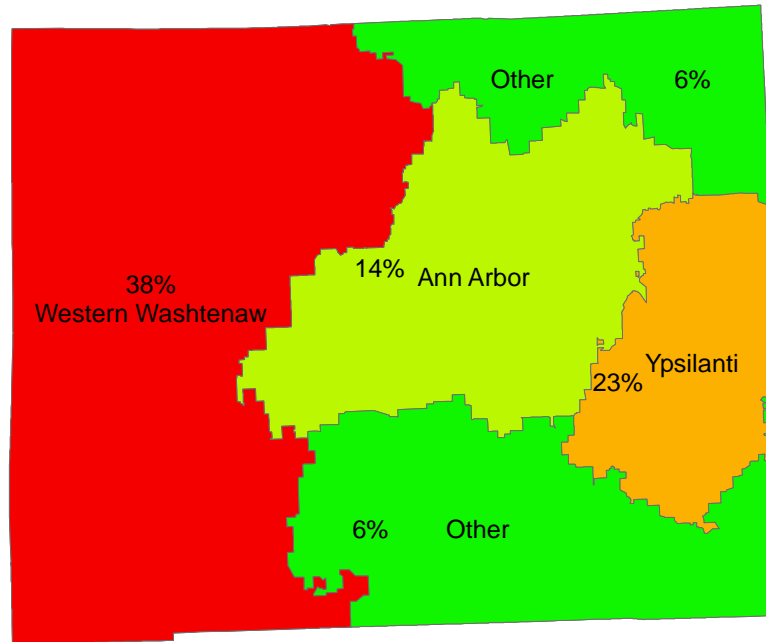
Percent of Births with Low Birth Weight



Overweight (BMI>25) Rates
Washtenaw County Adults by Region
HIP 2005 Survey



Percent Eating Fast Food Two or More Times Per Week
Washtenaw County Adults by Region
HIP 2005 Survey



Summary

- Low birth weight is very sensitive measure of a population's overall health including chronic and acute illness in adults, as well as the community environment
- Maternal health during the decades prior to pregnancy are powerful predictors of infant health
- Low birth weight affects human health, productivity and a communities economic health
- Question – Is decreasing 'rural' health and increasing 'rural' poverty resulting in increasing lbw rates?