
Children and Family Health Services

Maternal and Child Health Report

Focus on Hamilton County Women and Children

Volume 4 Issue 4

April 1999

CFHS Consortium Geographic Service Areas

This month's WCHOP newsletter contains information on the demographics and health status of the Hamilton County CFHS Consortium geographic service areas.

The Consortium catchment area is made up of the 39 neighborhoods which either contain a Consortium location site (direct health care service provider) or are served by a nearby Consortium location.

Consortium Catchment Area Demographics

The Consortium catchment area covers about one-quarter of the land area and includes 36 percent of the population of Hamilton County (see Table 1, page 2). Almost 40 percent of the county's 89,000 children live within the catchment area, however, over 60 percent of the children below the poverty level live within the catchment area. Forty percent Hamilton County women who give birth reside within the catchment area and nearly 60 percent of births to teens, 15-17 are to residents of the CFHS Consortium catchment area.

Neighborhoods within the catchment area are more likely to be primarily black, and more likely to include residents of other races such as Asian or American Indian (see Table 2, page 3).

Elementary and high school students living in neighborhoods outside the catchment area are more likely to attend a private elementary or private high school. Adults in the catchment area are less likely to have finished a high school education, while adults outside the catchment area are

more likely to have a bachelor's degree or graduate degree.

There are more children in poverty living within the CFHS catchment area and more households in the catchment area receive public assistance. Per capita income is significantly higher and unemployment is lower. There is a higher percentage of housing units that are renter-occupied.

Health Outcomes

As Table 3 (page 3) illustrates, the catchment area has a significantly higher percentage of low birth weight births (LBW). The infant mortality is significantly higher in the CFHS Consortium catchment area (12.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births) than the non-catchment area (6.7) as is the percentage of births to teens.

Pregnant women residing in the catchment area were less likely to have adequate prenatal care.

Summary

There are significant differences (both in demographics and health outcomes) between the CFHS Consortium catchment area and those neighborhoods outside the catchment area.

Although the majority of Hamilton County residents live in municipalities outside the catchment area, most of the children living in poverty level and most young teens giving birth reside within the CFHS catchment area.

Those who provide health care regardless of ability of pay (public providers) or offer a sliding fee scale based on income, form Hamilton County’s “health care safety net.” Providing safety net services in all areas of need is an important objective for health planners in Hamilton County. Future WCHOP analyses will explore the availability of safety net providers in those areas of Hamilton County not served by the CFHS Consortium.

Source: 1990 U.S. Census Bureau
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Table 1 CFHS Consortium Area Characteristics

Characteristic	Consortium Catchment Area (%)	Remainder of Hamilton County (%)
Area (square miles)	104.3 (25)	308.5 (75)
Population	320,512 (36)	564,856 (64)
Children younger than 18	89,752 (39)	140,513 (61)
Children in poverty	28,280 (64)	16,232 (36)
Births 1990-95	31,110 (40)	46,236 (60)
Births to teens 15-17, 1990-95	2,550 (58)	1,864 (42)

Table 2 CFHS Consortium Catchment Area Demographics

	Catchment Area (N=39)	Non-Catchment Hamilton Area (N=50)	County
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Racial composition

White	60.2 %	86.2 %	77.7 %
Black	38.8 %	12.2 %	20.9 %
Other	.8 %	1.6 %	1.4 %
Education			
Private school enrollment	13.0 %	25.2 %	21.8 %
No h.s. diploma	35.2 %	24.8 %	24.3 %
With h.s. diploma	28.6 %	25.2 %	27.7 %
Bachelors degree	9.5 %	16.7 %	15.1 %
Graduate/prof. degree	5.3 %	11.1 %	8.6 %
Economic			
Children in poverty	31.1 %	14.5 %	19.3 %
On public assistance	8.4 %	4.2 %	8.9 %
Income	\$11,654	\$18,262	\$15,354
Unemployment	10.0 %	5.4 %	5.5 %
Housing			
Older housing	35.7 %	35.5 %	28.2 %
Rentals	50.8 %	39.8 %	39.1 %
Mobility	49.9 %	49.4 %	49.3 %

Source: 1990 U.S. Census. Private school = Elementary or high school. Public assistance = percent of households receiving public assistance income. Income: Per capita Income. Older housing = Housing units 50 years or older in 1990. Rentals= Housing units occupied by renters. Mobility = units where resident has lived less than 6 years.

Table 3 CFHS Consortium Neighborhoods Health Status

	Catchment Area (N=39)	Non-Catchment Hamilton Area (N=50)	County
LBW ^a	9.9 %	7.5 % **	8.6 %
VLBW	1.9 %	1.5 %	1.7 %
Infant Mortality rate ^b	12.9	6.7 **	10.5
Teen births 15-17	7.6 %	5.4 % *	5.8 %
Teen births 15-19	18.7 %	12.6 % **	14.2 %
Inadequate Prenatal care	14.4 %	9.0 % **	11.2 %
Maternal Smoking	23.4%	21.1 %	20.8 %

** Significant at .001 level * Significant at .05 level. ^a LBW data are for 1990-1996. ^b Rate per 1,000 live births
Source: Birth certificates, 1990-1995.