



January—March 2011
Fast Facts

Trend of Fetal Loss in Louisiana, 1997-2006

Key Findings:

- Stratification by gestational age into four groups showed significant decreases among 28-36 and 37+ week fetal deaths ($p < 0.01$) but no trend over time among 20-23 or 24-27 week fetal deaths.
- Results were similar to national data, with a significant decrease noted in late fetal deaths (28+ weeks gestation).

Pregnancy Intention following a fetal loss, 2004-2007

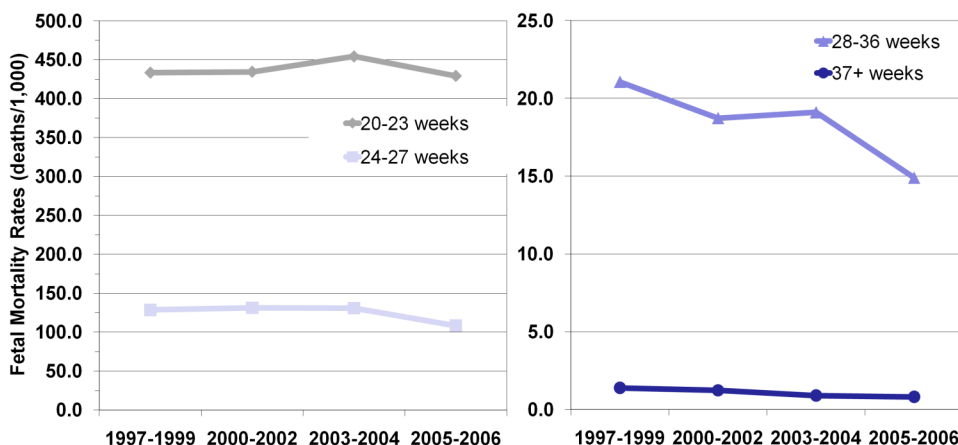
Key Findings:

- Women with a prior fetal loss were 50% more likely to report an intended pregnancy (OR=1.5, 95%CI=1.2,2.0)
- A higher proportion of women with a prior fetal loss reported receiving counseling prior to this pregnancy on how to prepare for a healthy pregnancy and baby (29.6% vs 22% and 24%, $p < 0.01$)
- About 22% of women with a prior loss were obese before their current pregnancy, compared to 24% of women with no prior loss and 17% of women with no prior pregnancy ($p < 0.01$)

DID YOU KNOW?..

Trend of Fetal Loss in Louisiana, 1997-2006

Figure 1: Fetal death rates by Gestational Age (fetal deaths/1,000 live births + fetal deaths)



Data Source: Louisiana Vital Records

Pregnancy Intention following a Fetal Loss, 2004-2007

- Nearly one-third of all US pregnancies result in a fetal loss
- It is important to understand characteristics and practices of women who have experienced a fetal loss, as many go on to have one or more subsequent pregnancies

History of Prior Fetal Loss by Current birth Pregnancy Intention

		No prior pregnancy	No prior loss	Prior fetal loss	X ² p-value
Pregnancy Intention	Yes	45.0	43.8	54.3	0.01
	No	55.0	56.2	45.7	
Pre-pregnancy counseling	Yes	23.9	22.0	29.6	0.01
	No	76.1	78.0	70.4	
Pre-pregnancy obesity	Yes	17.3	24.2	22.1	0.01
	No	82.7	75.8	77.9	
Pre-pregnancy smoking	Yes	24.2	26.1	28.4	ns
	No	75.8	73.9	71.6	

Data Source: LaPRAMS