SEOW

(State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup)

Short Report

Drug Affected Babies, by County and Public Health District (2006-2014)

Source: ***Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS), Maine Automated Child Welfare Information System (MACWIS)***

Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS), Maine Automated Child Welfare Information System (MACWIS). The Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) supports Maine's children and their families by providing Children's Behavioral Health, Child Welfare, Early Childhood, and Community services. The Maine Child Welfare Information System (MACWIS) serves as the single repository for all Maine child welfare information to assist Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) workers in the recording, tracking, and processing of child welfare functions. MACWIS is the single repository for all electronic child welfare information. It actively manages 850,000 identified persons and 28,525 resources in the system.

Indicator Description: BABIES BORN AFFECTED BY SUBSTANCES. This measure reflects the number of infants born in Maine where a healthcare provider reported to OCFS that there was reasonable cause to suspect the baby may be affected by illegal substance abuse or demonstrating withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure (illicit or prescribed appropriately under a physician's care for the mother's substance abuse treatment) or who have fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. This measure potentially excludes instances where the infant was exposed to substances and did not show withdrawal symptoms after birth, instances where the birth of an infant affected by substances was not reported to OCFS, and any other instances in which there were discrepancies between reporters when interpreting Title 22, §4011-A; notification of prenatal exposure to drugs or having fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

Why Indicator is Important: Prenatal exposure to alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs has the potential to cause a wide spectrum of physical, emotional, and developmental problems for these infants. The harm caused to the child can be significant and long-lasting, especially if the exposure is not detected and the effects are not treated as soon as possible.

Number (actual count) of drug affected babies, by county (OCFS/MACWIS 2006-2014)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Androscoggin	18	19	37	36	55	82	97	121	104
Aroostook	12	19	31	25	35	36	59	67	58
Cumberland	32	40	41	56	50	69	63	102	109
Franklin	1	1	6	4	10	13	15	16	7
Hancock	14	8	14	12	21	26	33	30	37
Kennebec	11	33	36	69	73	84	89	103	102
Knox	4	6	9	9	20	23	37	32	19
Lincoln	3	6	7	3	8	11	17	13	30
Oxford	5	7	14	11	7	19	11	27	34
Penobscot	65	73	81	139	162	155	187	182	226
Piscataquis	3	7	3	7	8	1	18	15	16
Sagadahoc	1	2	6	3	8	6	9	17	8
Somerset	7	13	16	21	28	42	43	70	56
Waldo	2	12	17	16	26	29	23	29	32
Washington	8	9	6	21	18	27	32	47	41
York	11	18	18	18	38	43	38	55	82
Maine	201	274	343	451	572	668	772	927	961

Average rate of drug affected babies per 10,000 residents, by county (OCFS/MACWIS, 2012-14)
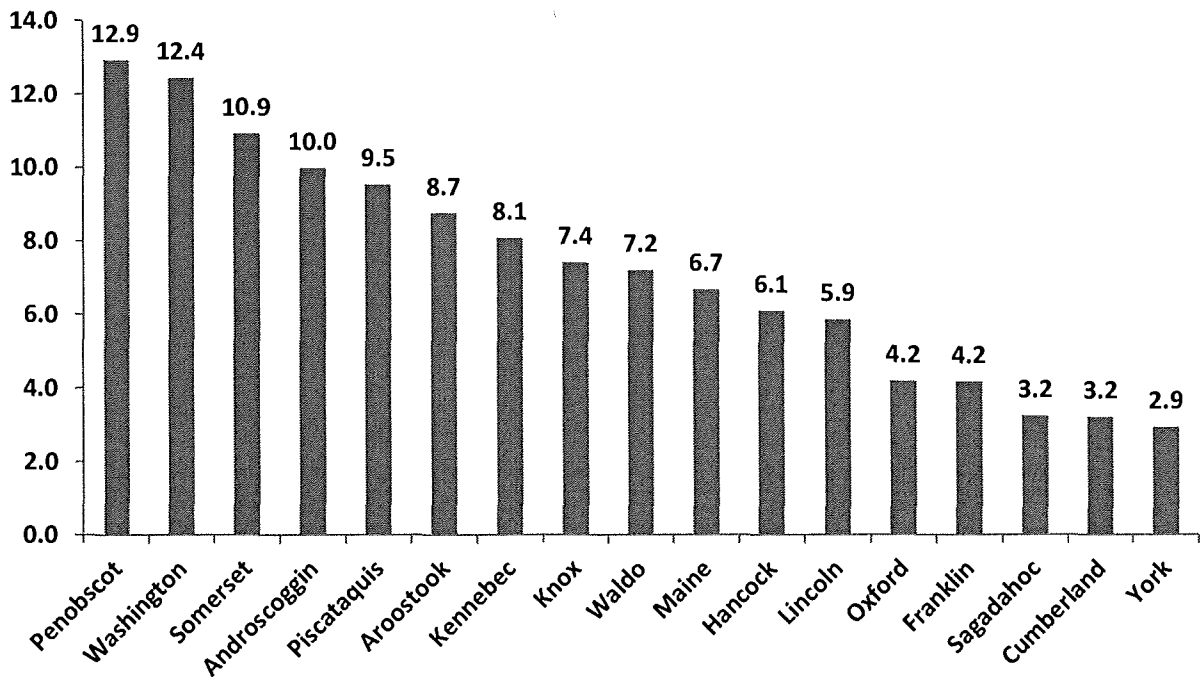
Average rate of drug affected babies per 10,000 residents, by county (OCFS/MACWIS, 2006-08 to 2012-14)
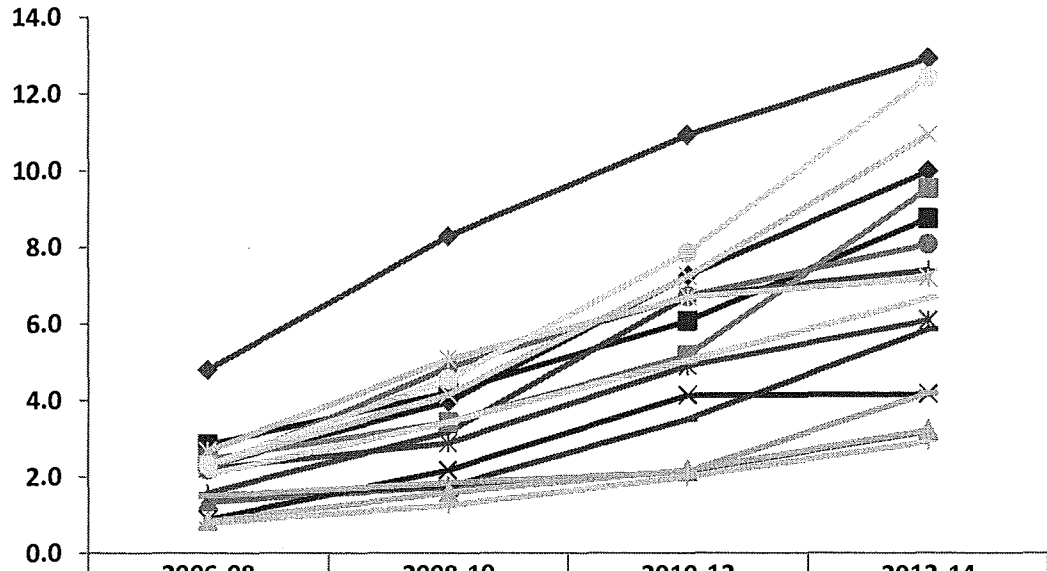
	2006-08	2008-10	2010-12	2012-14
Androscoggin	2.3	4.0	7.3	10.0
Aroostook	2.8	4.2	6.1	8.7
Cumberland	1.4	1.7	2.1	3.2
Franklin	0.9	2.2	4.1	4.2
Hancock	2.2	2.9	4.9	6.1
Kennebec	2.2	4.9	6.7	8.1
Knox	1.6	3.2	6.7	7.4
Lincoln	1.5	1.7	3.5	5.9
Oxford	1.5	1.8	2.1	4.2
Penobscot	4.8	8.3	10.9	12.9
Piscataquis	2.5	3.4	5.2	9.5
Sagadahoc	0.8	1.6	2.2	3.2
Somerset	2.3	4.1	7.2	10.9
Waldo	2.7	5.1	6.7	7.2
Washington	2.3	4.5	7.9	12.4
York	0.8	1.2	2.0	2.9
Maine	2.1	3.4	5.0	6.7

Average rate of drug affected babies per 10,000 residents, by public health district (OCFS, 2009 to 2013)
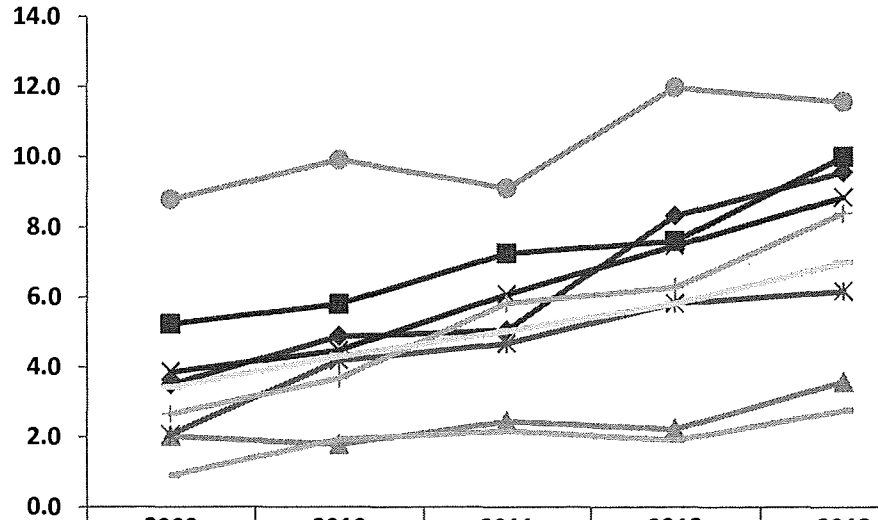
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Aroostook	3.5	4.9	5.0	8.3	9.6
Central	5.2	5.8	7.2	7.6	10.0
Cumberland	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.2	3.6
Downeast	3.9	4.5	6.1	7.5	8.8
Midcoast	2.1	4.2	4.7	5.8	6.2
Penquis	8.8	9.9	9.1	12.0	11.6
Western	2.6	3.7	5.8	6.3	8.4
York	0.9	1.9	2.2	1.9	2.8
Maine	3.4	4.3	5.0	5.8	7.0

Explanation of calculated rates

Rates were calculated using the following formula:

(actual number of drug affected babies/population of region) X 10,000. The rate per 10,000 allows us to see the frequency with which an occurrence shows up within a population over time, as well as to make relative comparisons between small and large population areas.

Example:

- For the three year period of 2012-14, Androscoggin County had a yearly average of 107 drug affected babies.
- Androscoggin County three year average (2012-14) population = 107,551
- Androscoggin's rate would be calculated in the following way (107/107,551)*10,000 = 10 drug affected babies per 10,000 residents

Questions or Comments

Timothy.Diomede@Maine.gov

Please visit the Maine SEOW website:

www.maineseow.com