



CHILDHOOD RESILIENCE

Parents with Higher Education Degrees

INDICATOR

Percent of births to women with an associate's degree or higher.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Numerator | Number of births to a mother who had an associate's degree or higher |
| Denominator | Total number of births |

DESCRIPTION

This metric is obtained from the birth record, showing the percent of births to a mother with an associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degree.

IMPORTANCE

Higher parental education is correlated with better parenting skills, though the exact mechanism of the relationship is not well understood. Some contributing factors include increased executive functioning in the parents, increased social support seen in those who obtained higher education, increased wages and higher socioeconomic status, and/or the ability to access high-quality health services and childcare (Desai, 1998).

LIMITATIONS

- Paternal education level is also linked with child achievement but was unavailable for this report.
- The impact of maternal education level may be confounded by socioeconomic status.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

Wisconsin Analyses

| Race/Ethnicity | % Births to Women with Higher Education |
|---------------------------|---|
| Black, non-Hispanic | 13.3% |
| Hispanic | 14.3% |
| White, non-Hispanic | 53.7% |
| Other races, non-Hispanic | 41.8% |

National Analyses

| Race/Ethnicity | % Births to Women with Higher Education |
|---------------------------|---|
| Black, non-Hispanic | 15.2% |
| Hispanic | 22.2% |
| White, non-Hispanic | 47.5% |
| Other races, non-Hispanic | 51.8% |

| YEAR: | | 2015 | |
|------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| WI | US | Best | Worst |
| 44.8%* | 38.3% | 53.4% MN | 26.5% NV |
| PAST YEAR: | | 2014 | |
| WI | US | | |
| 44.3%* | 37.7% | | |

* Indicates a statistically significant difference from the US value at $p < 0.05$.

SOURCE

Desai, Sonalde, et. al. (1998). Maternal education and child health: Is there a strong causal relationship? *Demography*, 35(1), 71-81.
United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2007-2015, on CDC WONDER Online Database, February 2017. Retrieved from <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html>.