



Significance of Project

- ❖ Poor birth outcomes are a continuing public health challenge in LAC.
- ❖ The distributions of poor birth outcomes show significant racial/ethnic and geographic disparities.
- ❖ The precise reasons for these persistent disparities are mostly unknown.
- ❖ In 2005, MCAH Programs established the Los Angeles Mommy and Baby (LAMB) Project to provide timely data on factors associated with adverse birth outcomes in LAC.
- ❖ This biennial countywide survey provides comprehensive and groundbreaking perinatal data for public health professionals and community stakeholders in addressing disparities in poor birth outcomes in LAC.

Background & Objectives

- ❖ Perceived discrimination has been found to be related to health problems.
- ❖ Studies addressing the life-course exposure of discrimination to mothers in Los Angeles County are lacking.
- ❖ We aim to investigate racial disparities in the circumstances and reasons women report feeling discrimination.

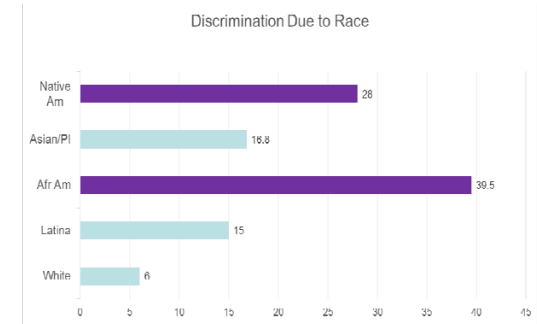
Analysis

- ❖ There were 6,041 mothers interviewed in 2014.
- ❖ Discrimination was measured using Krieger's seven-item discrimination scale.
- ❖ Reasons women felt discrimination and the circumstances of discrimination were assessed.

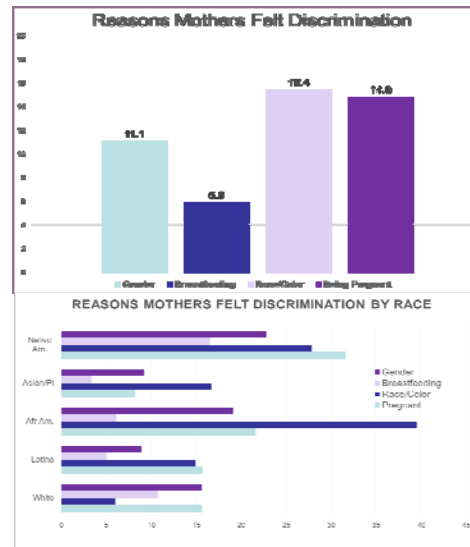


Results

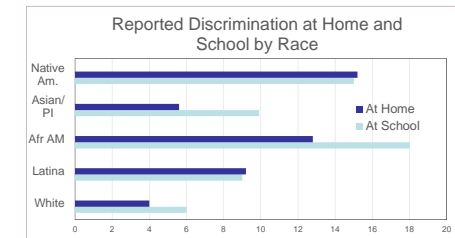
Ever Experienced Discrimination	Percent(%)	95 %CI		Estimated Number
Los Angeles County	37.8	36.12	39.5	48,781
Race/Ethnicity				
White	35.0	32.0	38.1	8,355
Latina	38.2	35.8	40.6	27,221
African American	→ 54.4	50.6	58.2	5,195
Asian/PI	32.0	27.2	36.8	7,282
Native Am./Alaskan Native	→ 54.4	43.4	65.4	121



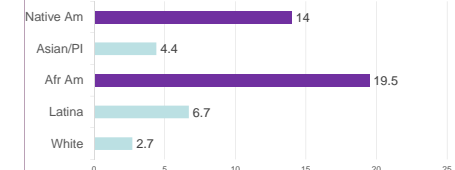
Reasons for Discrimination



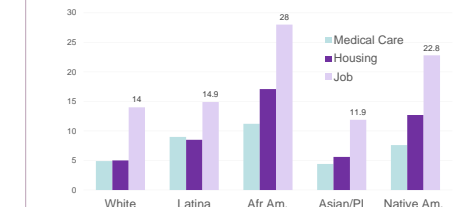
Circumstances of Discrimination



Reported Discrimination from Police or Courts by Race



Reported Discrimination Getting Housing and Jobs by Race



Key Findings

✓ Both African American and Native American mothers had high reported discrimination rates and the circumstances in which women report discrimination vary by race/ethnicity.

- 1) Pregnancy and race were commonly reported reasons mothers felt discrimination among each racial/ethnic group.
- 2) African-American and Native American/Alaskan Native mothers were most likely to report discrimination when getting a job or from the police or courts.

✓ Culturally sensitive strategies and policies are needed to ensure housing and workplace fairness as well as equal access and treatment by police and court officials.

✓ Health care providers should become aware of the role of discrimination in poor birth outcomes.

✓ LAMB has allowed us to move beyond the case-based approach to a population-based one.

*"Having to deal with being laid off and not being able to land a new job while pregnant is flat out discrimination and stress that I just didn't need."
- LAMB Mom*