

Women's Health

Summary / Recommendations: Louisiana women who had higher levels of education and income, as well as those who were employed, were more likely to report having had a recent PAP test or mammogram in 2006. Efforts to improve women's health through early detection of breast and cervical cancer should emphasize increasing screening rates among women with lower socio-economic status.

Women's pap test and mammogram screening among adults, overall and by select categories. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Louisiana 2006

Characteristics+	Had Pap Test Past 3 Years++			Women aged 40+ Had mam- mogram Last 2 Years^			Women aged 50+ Had mam- mogram Last 2 Years~				
	Sample Size*	%	95% CI	Sample Size*	%	95% CI	Sample Size*	%	95% CI		
Total	2391	84.5	(82.7-86.2)	2455	75.8	(74.1-77.5)	1867	78.9	(77.0-80.8)		
Age				Age			Age				
18-34	721	84.6	(81.3-87.9)	40-54	1012	72.5	(69.8-75.2)	50-64	1109	80.1	(77.7-82.5)
35-54	1055	86.5	(84.3-88.7)	55+	1443	78.7	(76.5-80.9)	65+	758	77.2	(74.1-80.4)
55+	615	80.1	(76.9-83.4)								
Race											
White	1636	85.3	(83.3-87.3)		1797	76.3	(74.4-78.2)		1374	79.5	(77.4-81.6)
Black	604	86.9	(83.7-90.2)		511	75.5	(71.4-79.7)		379	79.4	(74.6-84.2)
Education											
< High school	217	73.6	(67.6-79.6)		303	63.1	(57.9-68.4)		270	65.7	(60.0-71.3)
High school grad	712	81.7	(78.2-85.2)		848	73.9	(70.9-76.9)		648	78.2	(75.0-81.4)
Some college/grad	1460	88.3	(86.2-90.4)		1303	81.4	(79.3-83.6)		948	85	(82.7-87.3)
HH Income											
<\$25,000	624	82.1	(78.8-85.4)		786	66.2	(62.7-69.8)		562	70.7	(67.0-74.5)
\$25,000-\$49,999	614	86.9	(83.6-90.1)		559	77	(73.6-80.3)		427	83.3	(79.8-86.7)
\$50,000+	766	90.4	(87.6-93.3)		685	84.8	(82.0-87.6)		433	89.2	(86.3-92.1)
Employment											
Employed	1286	88.5	(86.3-90.6)		978	78.4	(75.8-81.0)		595	82.2	(79.0-85.4)
Self- employed	437	81.5	(77.9-85.2)		877	78.5	(75.6-81.4)		825	79.6	(76.6-82.6)
Unemployed	547	79.1	(74.9-83.3)		385	67.4	(62.9-71.9)		276	73.5	(68.4-78.6)
Unable to work	111	81.0	(73.5-88.4)		205	72.8	(67.2-78.4)		164	75.5	(69.5-81.5)

* Percentages are based on weighted data estimates. Un-weighted sample size (pap test) = 2391. Un-weighted sample size (40+ mammogram) = 2455. Un-weighted sample size (50+ mammogram) = 1867.

+In this analysis, data for each category are included only for persons for whom the data were available; excluded data were either unknown or refused..

++The proportion of women who reported that they had PAP test in the last 3 years

^ The proportion of women aged 40 years or older who reported that they had mammogram test in the last 2 years.

~The proportion of women aged 50 years or older who reported that they had mammogram test in the last 2 years.

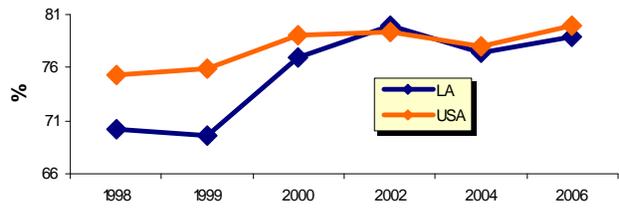
Early detection of breast and cervical cancers has been shown to increase a woman's chances of survival. Pap tests are used in order to determine if the cells of the cervix are abnormal, which may be due to an infection or cervical cancer (The National Women's Health Information Center, 2006). Pap tests provide a crucial step in prevention, because they can help find cancerous cells in the cervix at the early stages when the cancer is easier to treat (The National Women's Health Information Center, 2006). A mammogram allows the health care practitioner to have a more detailed look at the breast to determine any abnormal growth or development in the breast tissue (The National Women's Health Information Center, 2006). Among all of the cancers, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed in women in the U.S. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007).

The *Healthy People 2010* health objectives address both types of cancer. Objective 3-3 focuses on reducing the breast cancer death rate to 22.3 deaths per 100,000, as well as, increasing the proportion of women 40 and older who receive mammograms at least every 2 years (objective 3-13) to 70%. In addition, the aim is to reduce the death rate related to cervical cancer to 2.0 deaths per 100,000 females (objective 3-4), as well as, increasing the prevalence of women who attain Pap tests (objective 3-11) to 97%.

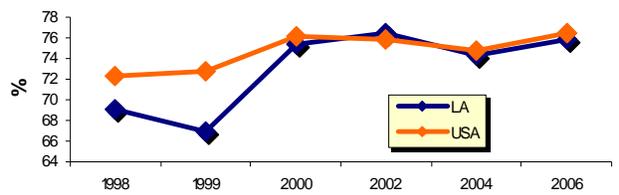
In 2006, 84.5% [95% CI: 82.7-86.2] of women in Louisiana reported that they had a Pap test in the last three years. Over three quarters (75.8%) [95% CI: 74.1-77.5] of Louisiana women age 40 years and over reported having a mammogram test in the last two years. This rate exceeds the *Healthy People 2010* goal. Among Louisiana women aged 50 and older, 78.9% [95% CI: 77.0-80.8] reported having had a mammogram in the last two years.

In 1998 and 1999, Louisiana women were less likely to have recent mammograms than their US counterparts. Louisiana rates caught up to US rates in 2000, and have remained similar since then.

US & LA Women Aged 50+ Had Mamogram Last 2 Years



US & LA Women Aged 40+ that had Mamogram within two years



Percentage of Women that have not had a mammogram within the past two years by Region. (LA 2004 BRFSS)

Region	N	%	95% CI
1	429	23	[18.5 - 27.4]
2	377	18.9	[14.5 - 23.3]
3	393	24.3	[19.4 - 29.2]
4	406	28.3	[23.4 - 27.7]
5	401	29.1	[23.7 - 34.5]
6	418	30.9	[25.9 - 36]
7	440	29.2	[24.3 - 34]
8	463	27.5	[23 - 32]
9	438	27.1	[22.5 - 31.7]