



Anencephaly Investigation

Central Washington, 2010-2015

Advisory Committee Meeting
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Cathy Wasserman, PhD, State Epidemiologist for Non-Infectious Conditions

PUBLIC HEALTH
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HEALTHIER COMMUNITY



Prevention Update

Provider Materials

- DOH is finalizing a Folic Acid fact sheet for Community Health Workers and health care providers.
- DOH has a reference sheet with links to free health education materials available for download.
- DOH, Local Health, Memorial Hospital and the March of Dimes are collaborating to disseminate educational materials to Community Health Workers and providers in Central Washington.

Public Messaging

- DOH has undertaken a media campaign in Central Washington to raise awareness about the importance of folic acid for women of childbearing age.
- 30-second messages developed by March of Dimes
- Radio messages in English and Spanish
- Focused in Benton, Franklin and Yakima counties
- We expect to reach 88-92% of targeted women, with women hearing the messages on average 14 times.

Public Messaging

- DOH has undertaken a separate media campaign in Central Washington with preconception health messaging.
- 12 episode radio novela developed by Oregon DOH
- Segments in Spanish
- Focused in Benton, Franklin and Yakima counties
- Transcripts available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) on DOH website

Other Prevention Efforts

- Continue communication with Vitamin Angels to secure subsidized vitamins.
- Continuing to monitor the March of Dimes efforts to have corn masa flour supplemented with folic acid.

Follow Up from 4/28/15 Mtg

Preconception Vitamin Use, PRAMS, Washington 2010-2012

- 58% (51%, 64%) of women residents of Benton, Franklin, Yakima counties reported never taking a vitamin with folic acid in the month before pregnancy
- 46% (44%, 49%) rest of Washington

- 26% (21%, 33%) Benton, Franklin, Yakima daily use
- 36% (34%, 39%) rest of Washington

- Data are too sparse to look at single years of data

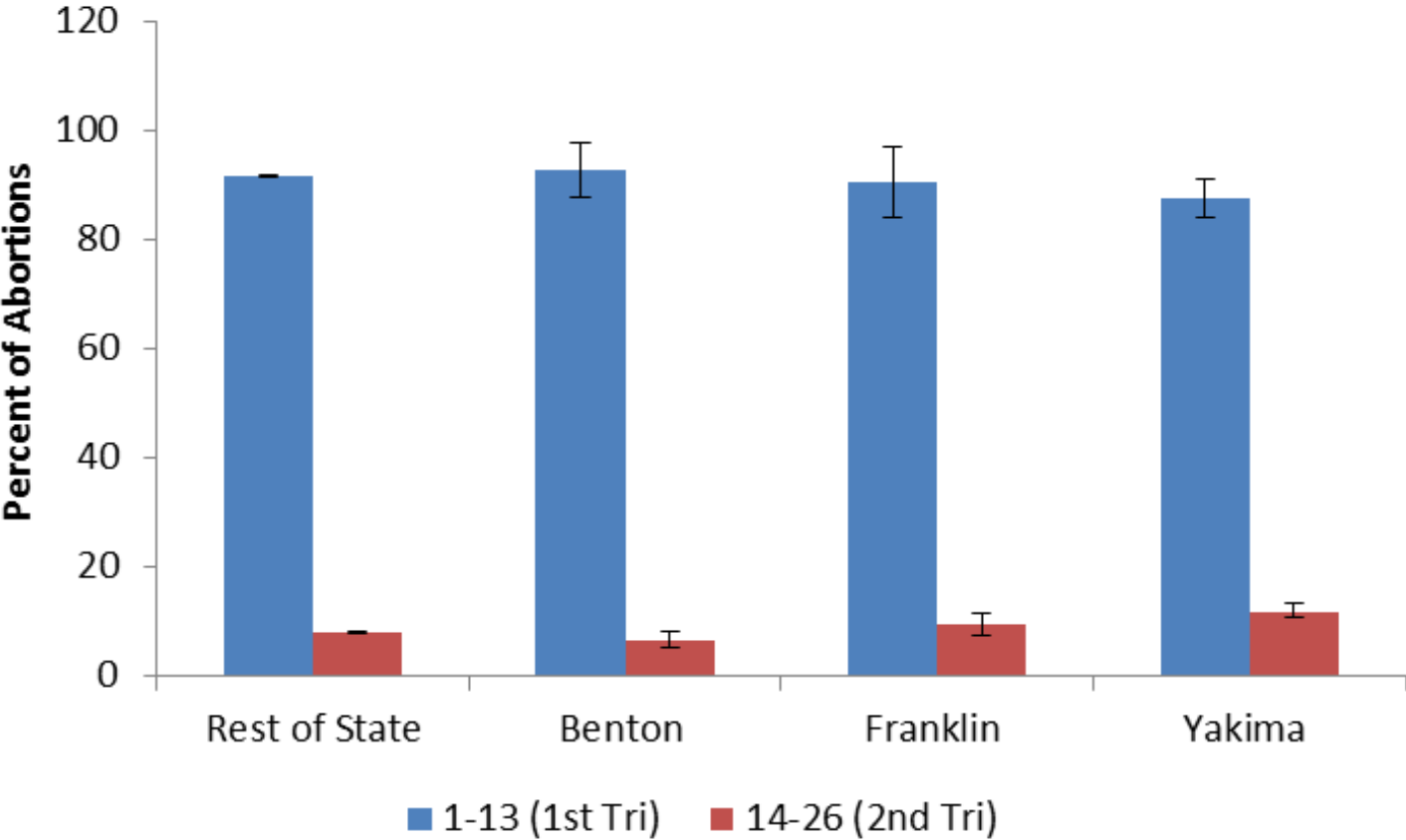
Anencephaly and Neural Tube Defect Rates, 1987-1988

- Benton, Franklin, Yakima: 9 infants with NTD
- 11,271 births
- Rate: 8.0 (3.7, 15.2) per 10,000 live births
- No cases of anencephaly

Impact on Rates of Including Cases where pregnancy ended before 20 weeks gestation

- 61 NTD including 19 < 20 weeks gestation
- 41 Anencephaly including 18 < 20 wks gestation
- 2011-2014 Anencephaly rate if exclude cases < 20 wks
5.4 (3.2, 8.5)
- Rate if exclude cases < 17 wks
6.8 (4.4, 10.3)
- Rate if exclude cases < 15 wks
7.8 (5.1, 11.4)

Percent of Abortions by Gestational Age, Washington, 2010-2013



To provide comments or questions,
please contact:

Cathy Wasserman, PhD MPH
State Epidemiologist for Non-Infectious Conditions
Washington State Department of Health
PO Box 47890
Olympia, WA 98504-7890
cathy.wasserman@doh.wa.gov