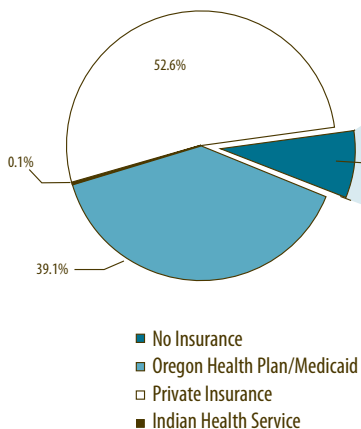# PAYMENT FOR PRENATAL CARE

Women's access to prenatal services is affected by their insurance coverage for prenatal care. Women who have no insurance coverage when they become pregnant often have limited provider choice and experience delays in accessing prenatal care. In an attempt to improve access to early prenatal care, Oregon offers expanded Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid eligibility and expedited application processing for pregnant women. Women who remain uninsured throughout their pregnancies rely heavily on Oregon's network of safety net providers for their prenatal services.

• In 2004, 8.2 percent of women who gave birth in Oregon reported having no insurance for their prenatal care services; 39.1 percent used the Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid.

• More than one-fourth (28.7 percent) of Hispanic women had no insurance for prenatal care – 3.5 times higher than the state average.

• In 2004, Asian/Pacific Islander women were significantly more likely than any other race/ethnic group to pay for their prenatal care using private insurance.

• American Indian/Alaska Native and black/African American women were significantly more likely to use the Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid to pay for their prenatal care services than other race/ethnic groups – 66.6 and 64.9 percent, respectively.
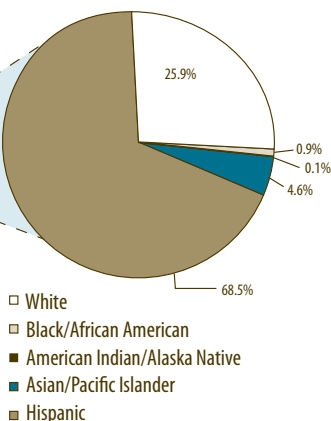
This analysis includes respondents who had a single source of payment for prenatal care - either Private Insurance, Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid, Indian Health Service (only available to American Indians/Alaska Natives), or no insurance. The "no insurance" category includes women who reported paying for their prenatal care from personal income. All respondents with multiple payment sources were excluded from analysis (24.6 percent).
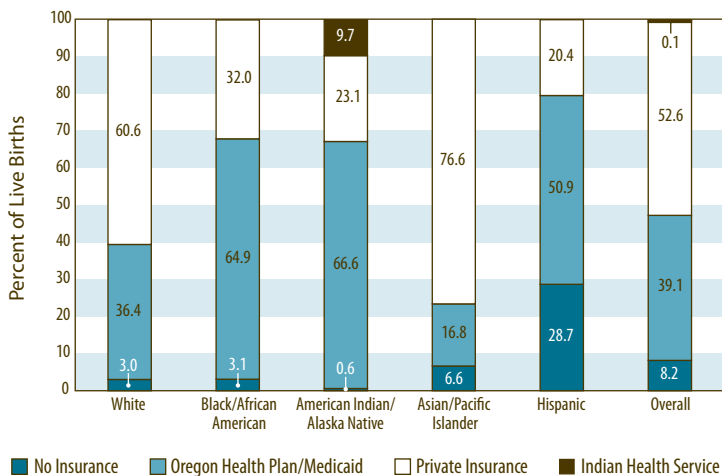
Method of Payment for Prenatal Care, Oregon, 2004

52.6%

0.1%

39.1%

8.2%

25.9%

0.9%
0.1%
4.6%

68.5%

No Insurance for Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity, Oregon, 2004

- ■ No Insurance
- ■ Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid
- □ Private Insurance
- ■ Indian Health Service

- □ White
- □ Black/African American
- ■ American Indian/Alaska Native
- ■ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ■ Hispanic

Data Source: Oregon Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)

Method of Payment for Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity, Oregon, 2004

Percent of Live Births

	White	Black/African American	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Overall
Indian Health Service			9.7			0.1
Private Insurance	60.6	32.0	23.1	76.6	20.4	52.6
Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid	36.4	64.9	66.6	16.8	50.9	39.1
No Insurance	3.0	3.1	0.6	6.6	28.7	8.2

- ■ No Insurance
- ■ Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid
- □ Private Insurance
- ■ Indian Health Service

Data Source: Oregon Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)