



South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative (SCBOI) Geospatial Environmental Scan **KEY FINDINGS**

RURALITY

Facilities

- Of the 16 BabyNet program locations, 3 are in rural areas. (7 of 16 are in urban, and 6 of 16 in suburban areas, however programs serve multiple counties.)
- Only 1 of 13 Centering² sites is in a rural area of SC.
- Of the 73 DHEC clinics, 18 are in rural areas.
- Of the 87 rural health clinics, 27 are in rural areas.
- Of the 190 FQHCs, 56 are in rural areas.
- There are no Baby-Friendly hospitals and only two perinatal-rated hospitals in rural ZCTAs.

Maternal Conditions/Birth Outcomes

- 6% of uninsured deliveries occurred in rural areas.
- 14% of mothers with severe maternal morbidity were in rural areas.
- 11% of C-sections were in rural areas.
- 12% of preterm births were in rural areas.
- 16% of teen deliveries were in rural areas.
- 13% of low birthweight newborns were in rural areas.
- Of ZCTAs that had 3-4 maternal conditions³ in the top quartile, 88% were considered rural or suburban. (45% are suburban, 42% are rural)

COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY

- Neither Healthy Start⁴ nor Nurse-Family Partnership Programs⁵ serve Aiken, Barnwell, Beaufort, Calhoun, Fairfield, Jasper, Kershaw, Lee, or Newberry counties.
- There are no OB-GYN providers in Allendale, Edgefield, or McCormick counties.
- There are no Licensed Independent Practitioners in Bamberg, Calhoun, Chester, Edgefield, or McCormick counties.
- Between 2020 and 2025, the Female 15-44 population is expected to grow by almost 40,000 in urban areas while decreasing by over 1,400 in rural ZCTAs.

NOTES:

- 1 The Index of Relative Rurality (IRR) is a continuous, relative index that combines frequently used census figures with other measures of rurality to create index values that adhere to a 0-1 continuous scale, with 0 being the most urban and 1 being the most rural. The IRR values used are based on 2019 ZCTA IRR values. See Metadata for more information.
- 2 Centering Healthcare Institute (CHI), March 2021.
- 3 Maternal conditions include four conditions measured for the SCBOI that are the rates of obesity, depression, hypertension, and diabetes among hospitalized mothers.
- 4,5 SC Nurse-Family Partnership Program and National Healthy Start Association, March 2021.



In this scan, a “rural area” is a SC ZCTA where the 2019 IRR¹ value > 0.84.



Communities of Opportunities defines a network of residents, communities, decision makers, and funders who believe every community can be a healthy, thriving community.

RACIAL/ETHNIC EQUITY

In areas with the highest concentration of black females, ages 15-44⁶

- 54% of mothers were using WIC services, more than double the rate (24%) of mothers using WIC services in areas with high concentrations of white females 15-44.
- Hypertension and obesity rates (239.9 and 205.7 per 1,000 pregnancies, respectively), among hospitalized mothers, were above the statewide rate of 211.1 and 159.2 per 1,000 pregnancies, respectively.

BIRTH OUTCOMES/POPULATION HEALTH

- About 34% of all births in 2017-2019 were delivered by C-section, consistent with C-sections between 2013-2015 (rate in previous SCBOI scan).
- SC Medicaid paid for over 60% of deliveries (91,103/148,293) between 2017 and 2019. Of these 91,103 deliveries, 14% were in rural areas.
- For each maternal condition (obesity, depression, hypertension, and diabetes), 40%-45% of the ZCTAs with the highest rates (within the top quartile) were >25 minutes from an OB-GYN service provider.
- A third of all ZCTAs with 3-4 maternal conditions in the highest rates (top quartile) were >25 minutes from an OB-GYN service provider.
- Over half (58%) of the ZCTAs with 3-4 maternal conditions in the highest rates (top quartile) were >30 minutes from a perinatal hospital.
- For all ZCTAs where diabetes, depression, or obesity as a maternal condition were in the top quartile, at least half were more than 30 minutes from a perinatal hospital.

30 MILES

In accordance with federal rule 42 § 447.203, SC monitors access to OB-GYN providers in a Fee-For-Service or Managed Care arrangement using 30-mile or 45-minute distance and drive time to care thresholds for 90% of adult females.

45 MINS



NOTES:

6 (Top quartile of the measure distribution; > 52.9%)



The South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative (SCBOI) Geospatial Environmental Scan[®] is a product of the UofSC Institute for Families in Society under contract to the SC Department of Health and Human Services.

To learn more about the geographic patterns of resource availability related to birth outcomes at the state and community level in South Carolina, explore the interactive SCBOI Geospatial Environmental Scan[®] at the link below.

<https://www.schealthviz.sc.edu/boi-information-products>



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