



# A PATERNITY POTPOURRI



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PATERNITY SUMMIT

QUIET WATERS PARK

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# PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT

- ❖ Determining an individual's legal father
- ❖ Paternity establishment is important for individual children, the child support program, & the state



# WHY PATERNITY MATTERS TO THE INDIVIDUAL CHILD & PARENT

- ❖ Sense of identity
- ❖ Relationship
- ❖ Medical background
- ❖ Child Support
- ❖ Social Security blanket protection
- ❖ Right of inheritance
- ❖ Visitation/Custody



# WHY PATERNITY MATTERS TO THE CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

- ❖ Necessary before a support order can be established
- ❖ States must meet 90% paternity establishment threshold
- ❖ Higher paternity establishment rate = more incentive \$

# WHY PATERNITY MATTERS TO ALL OF US

Support cannot be ordered unless paternity is established, and child support income is important in many ways:

- ❖ All else equal, every \$1.00 of child support received increases family income by \$2.00<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ For all children, child support constitutes about 16% of total family income; among poor children, 26%<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Families receiving child support are more likely to leave welfare<sup>3</sup>
- ❖ Women who receive child support, regardless of amount, are less likely to return to TANf after an exit<sup>4</sup>; and
- ❖ Child support receipt, all else equal, reduces poverty<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Garfinkel, I., Heinz, T., & Huang, C-C. (2001). Child support enforcement: Incentives and wellbeing. Working Paper 215, Joint Center for Poverty Research.

<sup>2</sup> Sorensen, E., & Zibman, C. (2000). To what extent do children benefit from child support? Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

<sup>3</sup> Huang, C., Kunz, J., & Garfinkel, I. (2002). The effect of child support on exits and reentries. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 21(4), 557-576.

<sup>4</sup> Srivastava, S., Ovwigho, P.C., & Born, C.E. (2001). Child support receipt among children in former TANF families. Baltimore: University of Maryland School of Social Work.

<sup>5</sup> Pirog, M., and Ziol-Guest, K.M. (2006). Child support enforcement: Programs and policies, impacts and questions. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 25(4), 943-990.




# AND BECAUSE...

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 Births: Preliminary Data for 2007

Births to unwed moms up in U.S., across globe  


**2007 stork brings record 4.31M babies**

 **U.S. has baby boomlet with help from unwed mothers**





Unmarried women boost record '07 U.S. birth rate

Births to unwed mothers at record high



**Unwed birth rate reaches all-time high**



**Out-of-wedlock births on the rise worldwide**



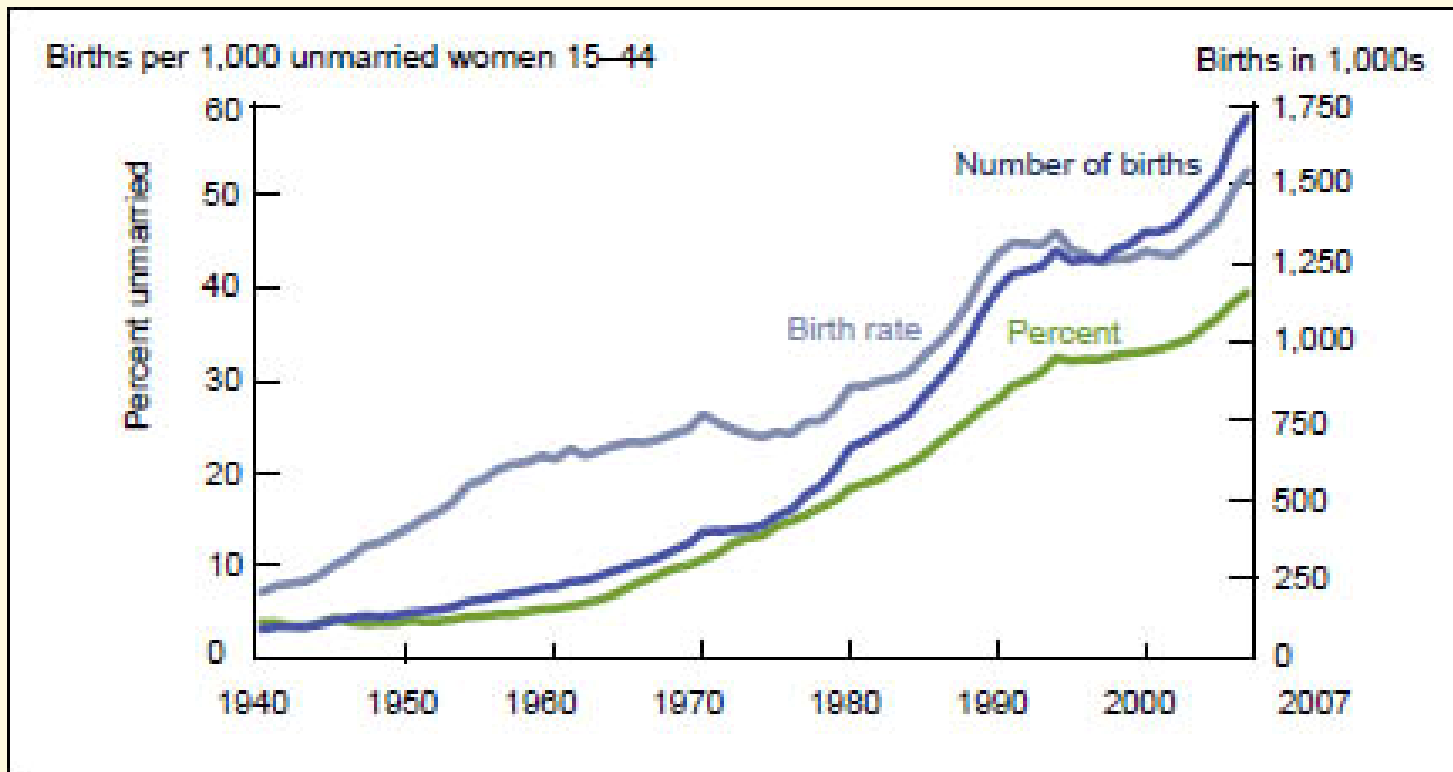


# THE FACTS BEHIND THE HEADLINES

- ❖ 4.3 million US births in 2007, the highest number ever recorded
- ❖ 1.7 million births – 40% – were to unmarried women
- ❖ ALL measures of childbearing by unmarried women increased to historic levels in 2007, such as:
  - ❖ Total number of non-marital births increased 4% from 2006 and 26% from 2002
  - ❖ non-marital births increased from 2006 to 2007 in all age groups but 10 to 14-year-olds
  - ❖ The largest increases – 6% or more – in non-marital births were for women 25 to 39 years of age

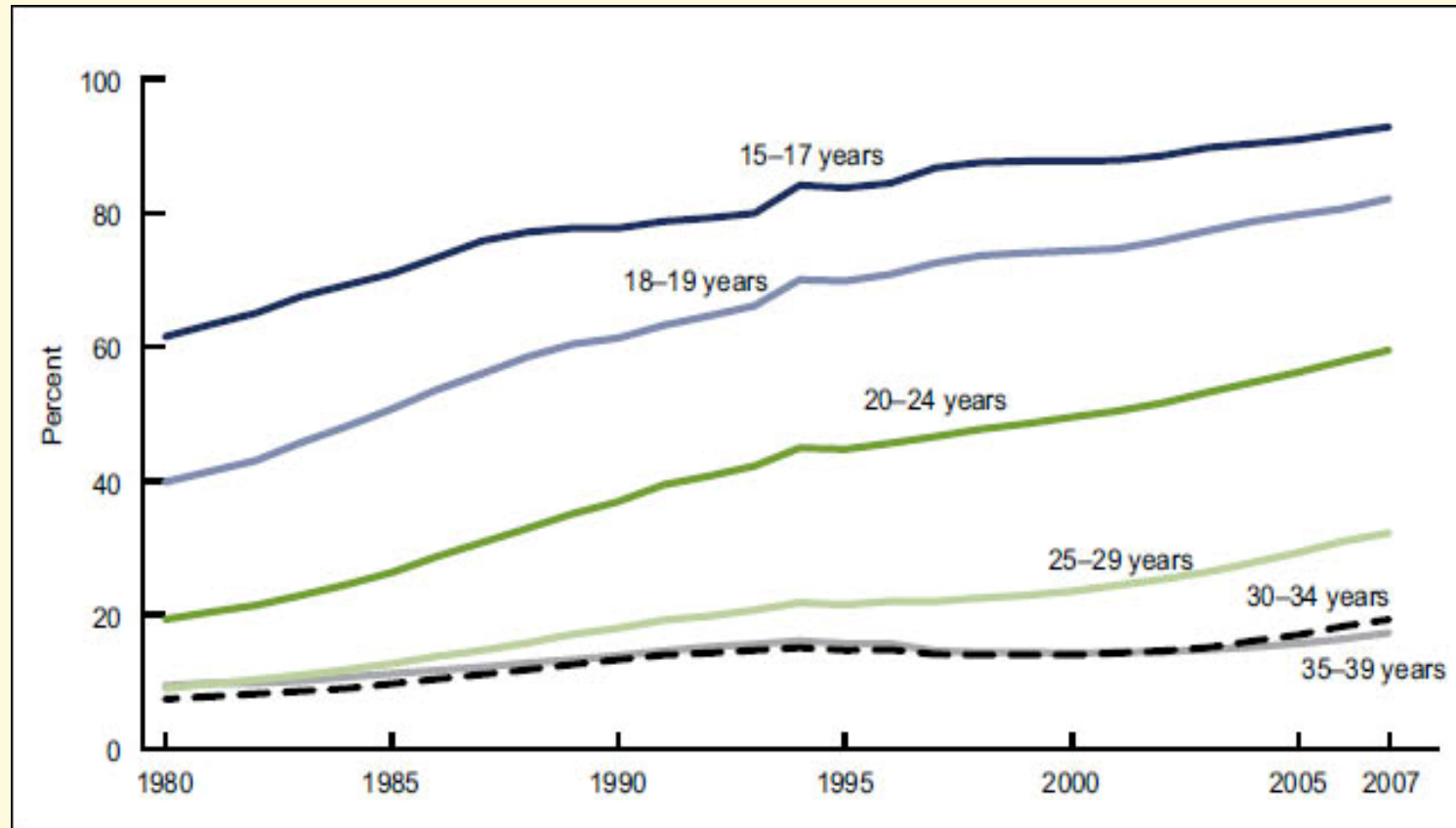


# NUMBER OF BIRTHS, BIRTH RATE, AND PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN: UNITED STATES, 1940-2007



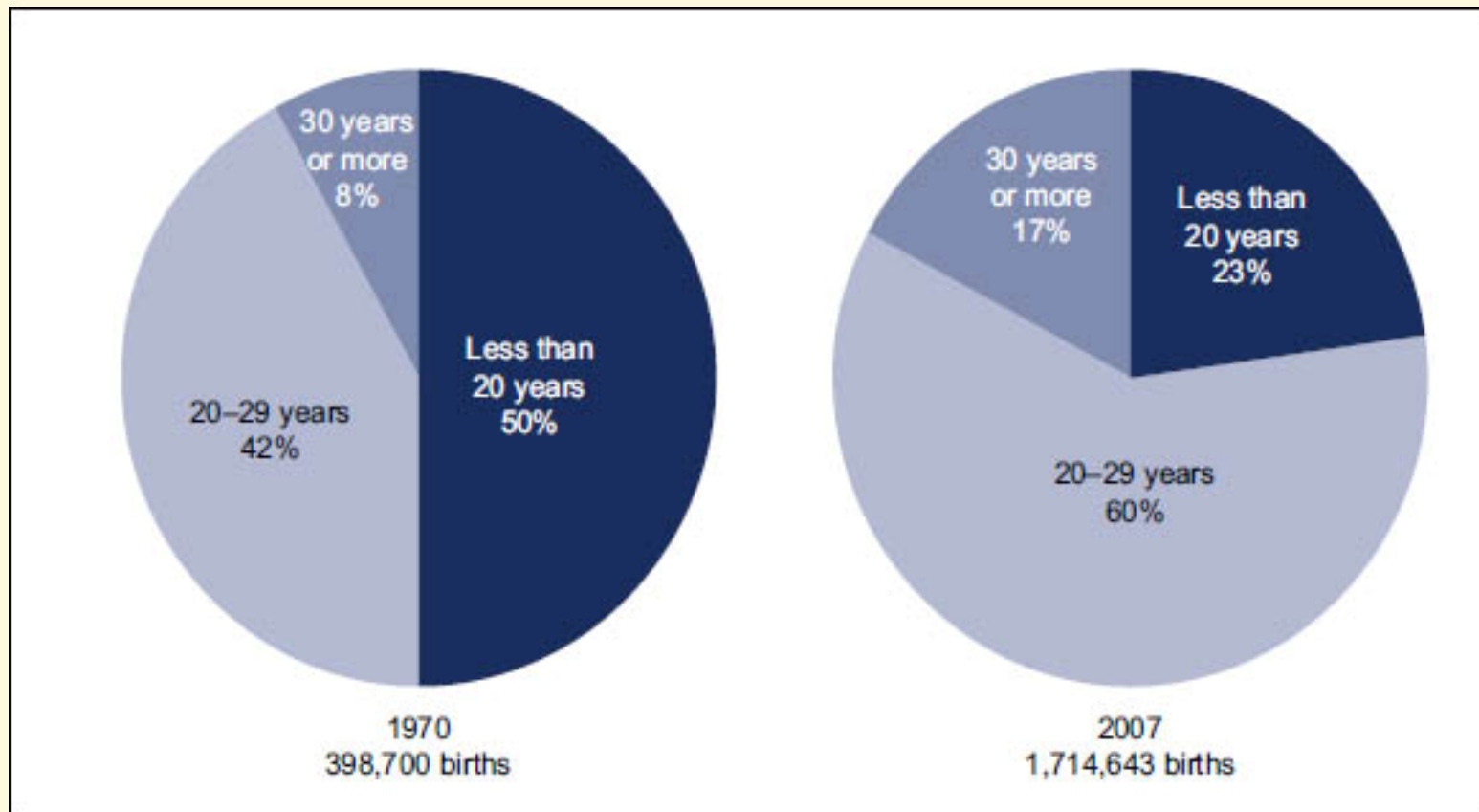
Source: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System. NCHS Data Brief No. 18, May 2009: Changing Patterns of Nonmarital Childbearing in the United States. Stephanie J. Ventura.

## PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS IN EACH AGE GROUP TO UNMARRIED WOMEN: UNITED STATES, 1980-2007



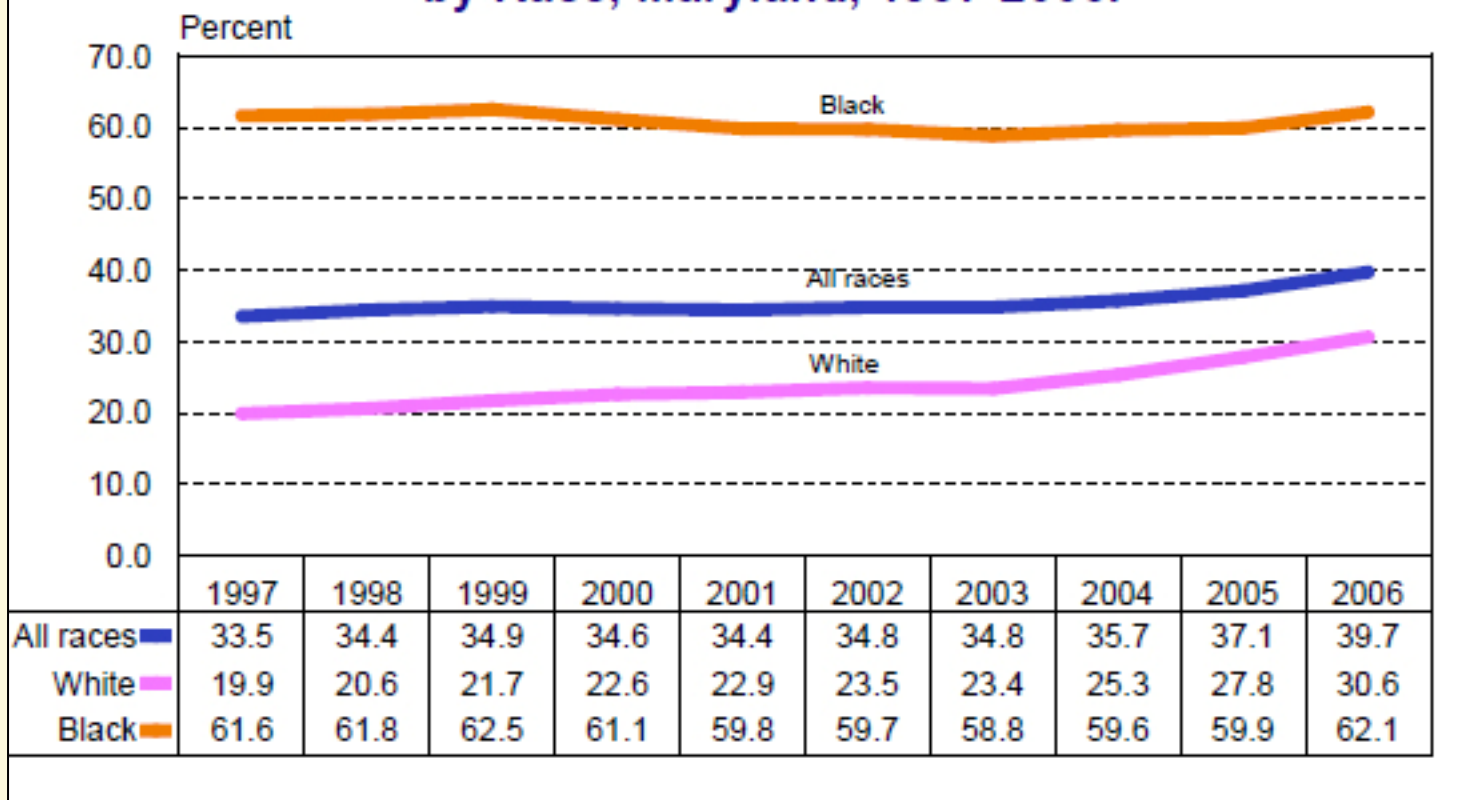
Source: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System. NCHS Data Brief No. 18, May 2009: Changing Patterns of Nonmarital Childbearing in the United States. Stephanie J. Ventura.

## DISTRIBUTION OF NONMARITAL BIRTHS BY AGE: UNITED STATES, 1970 AND 2007



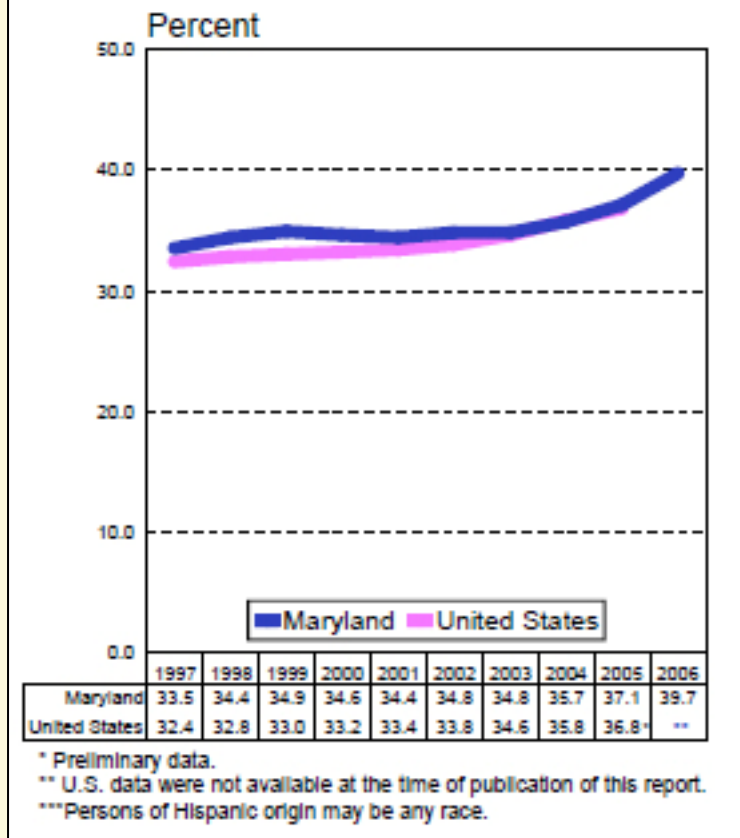
Source: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System. NCHS Data Brief No. 18, May 2009: Changing Patterns of Nonmarital Childbearing in the United States. Stephanie J. Ventura.

## Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women by Race, Maryland, 1997-2006.

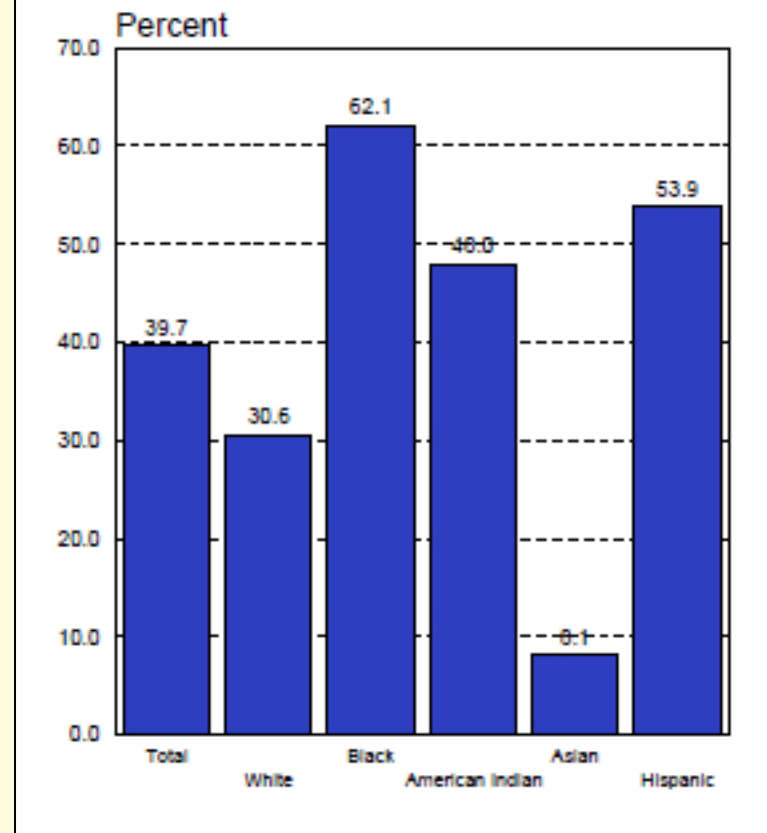


Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics Administration. *Maryland Vital Statistics Annual Report 2006*

Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women, Maryland and the U.S., 1997-2006.

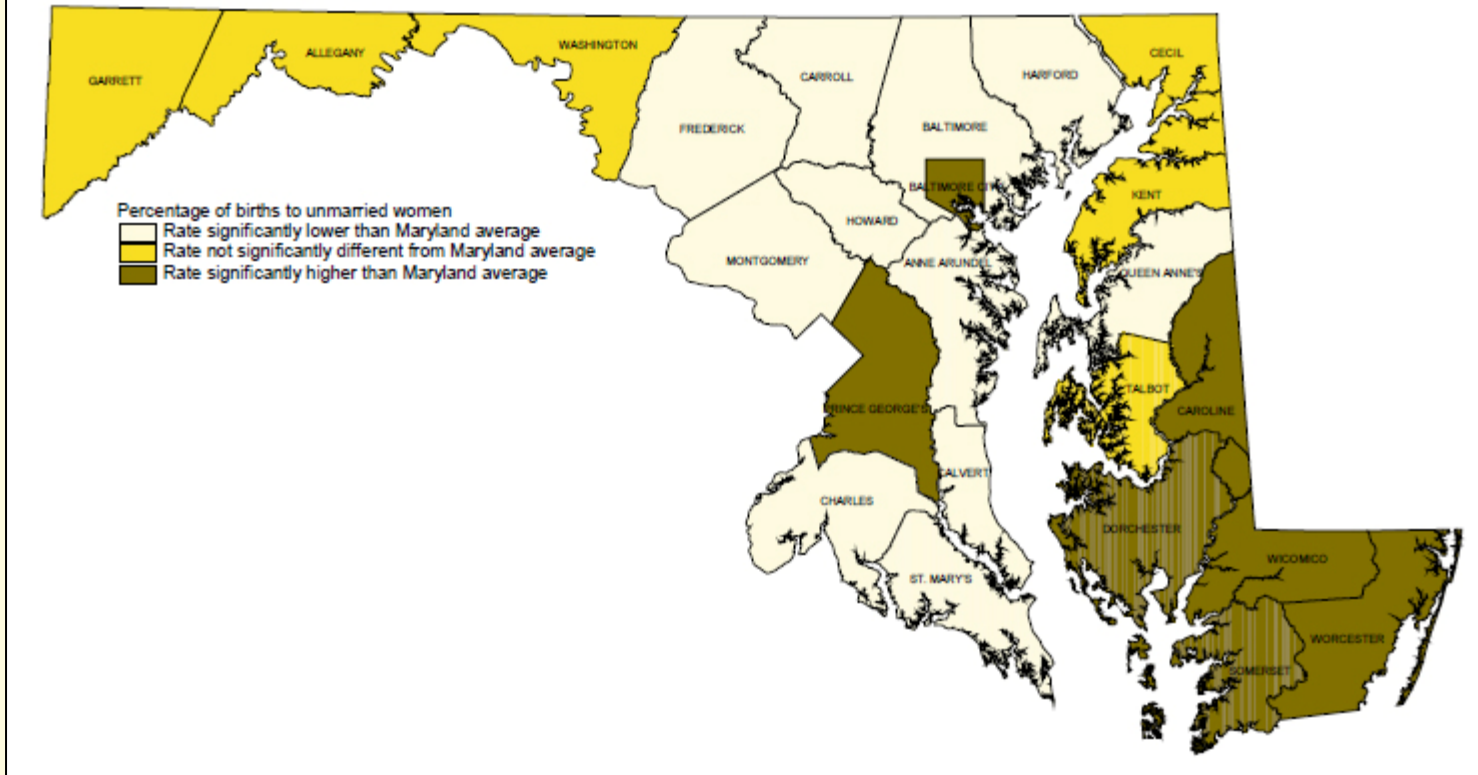


Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women by Race and Hispanic Origin\*\*\*, Maryland, 2006.



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics Administration. *Maryland Vital Statistics Annual Report 2006*

## Comparison of Percentages of Births to Unmarried Women\* with the Maryland State Average, 2006.



Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics Administration. *Maryland Vital Statistics Annual Report 2006*

**TABLE 15. BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN OF MOTHER, REGION, AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, MARYLAND, 2006.**

REGION AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION	NUMBER						PERCENT <sup>4</sup>					
	ALL RACES <sup>1</sup>	WHITE		BLACK <sup>2</sup>	ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER <sup>2</sup>	HISPANIC <sup>3</sup>	TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	WHITE		BLACK <sup>2</sup>	ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER <sup>2</sup>	HISPANIC <sup>3</sup>
		TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	NON-HISPANIC					TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	NON-HISPANIC			
MARYLAND .....	30,720	14,271	8,994	15,827	380	5,428	39.7	30.6	24.4	62.1	8.1	53.9
NORTHWEST AREA .....	2,051	1,718	1,504	295	14	222	34.1	32.4	30.9	62.0	7.1	50.3
GARRETT .....	100	99	99	1	0	0	33.7	33.7	33.9	-	-	-
ALLEGANY .....	313	294	294	14	2	1	44.1	43.0	43.4	82.4	-	-
WASHINGTON .....	791	658	631	122	1	33	41.5	38.7	38.6	73.1	-	46.5
FREDERICK .....	847	667	480	158	11	188	27.3	25.5	21.2	54.5	6.7	52.1
BALTIMORE METRO AREA .....	14,677	5,797	4,596	8,611	155	1,233	41.8	27.9	24.9	70.7	8.2	52.9
BALTIMORE CITY .....	6,748	1,114	749	5,583	29	374	69.2	40.8	34.1	82.4	14.2	67.6
BALTIMORE COUNTY .....	3,743	1,846	1,554	1,790	56	303	37.6	30.1	27.9	58.8	8.4	51.1
ANNE ARUNDEL .....	2,165	1,452	1,114	652	30	343	30.5	26.3	23.0	55.8	9.1	49.1
CARROLL .....	461	421	400	34	5	22	24.5	23.8	23.3	54.8	11.6	41.5
HOWARD .....	687	386	231	269	25	158	20.3	17.9	12.7	41.9	4.5	45.8
HARFORD .....	873	578	548	283	10	33	28.8	23.8	23.4	57.3	10.4	37.9
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA .....	10,090	4,375	820	5,459	178	3,646	38.1	33.1	12.1	51.1	7.6	54.8
MONTGOMERY .....	3,758	2,399	504	1,213	109	1,934	27.2	26.6	9.3	43.1	5.9	52.8
PRINCE GEORGE'S .....	6,332	1,976	316	4,246	69	1,712	49.9	46.9	24.0	54.0	13.5	57.2
SOUTHERN AREA .....	1,506	842	784	633	13	70	33.8	26.8	26.8	55.7	8.7	31.1
CALVERT .....	331	236	227	92	2	11	32.8	27.9	27.6	68.1	-	40.7
CHARLES .....	705	305	264	383	6	46	36.1	28.2	27.6	49.9	7.1	34.3
SAINT MARY'S .....	470	301	293	158	5	13	31.5	24.9	25.5	67.5	11.6	20.3
EASTERN SHORE AREA .....	2,396	1,539	1,290	829	20	257	44.6	36.2	33.6	81.2	21.3	61.0
CECIL .....	516	446	436	60	8	11	38.1	35.8	35.8	73.2	33.3	36.7
KENT .....	81	50	41	31	0	9	42.9	32.5	30.1	88.6	-	50.0
QUEEN ANNE'S .....	150	120	107	27	2	14	29.1	25.4	24.0	81.8	-	48.3
CAROLINE .....	226	176	126	48	2	51	47.4	42.8	35.9	80.0	-	83.6
TALBOT .....	151	108	67	41	1	41	42.3	36.2	28.2	78.8	-	68.3
DORCHESTER .....	240	104	83	135	0	23	59.1	41.6	37.4	89.4	-	74.2
WICOMICO .....	660	335	278	317	5	60	49.5	37.8	35.8	77.9	14.3	53.6
SOMERSET .....	157	65	47	92	0	18	56.3	39.9	36.2	83.6	-	54.5
WORCESTER .....	215	135	105	78	2	30	46.2	36.7	32.6	85.7	-	63.8

<sup>1</sup> Includes races categorized as 'other'.

<sup>2</sup> Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on the birth certificate. Data for persons of Hispanic origin are included in the data for each race group according to the mother's reported race.

<sup>3</sup> Includes all births to mothers of Hispanic origin of any race.

<sup>4</sup> Percent of total births in the specified group.

\* Percentages based on <5 events in the numerator are not presented since such percentages based on small numbers are unstable.

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics Administration. *Maryland Vital Statistics Annual Report 2006*

**TABLE 16. BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED WOMEN BY AGE, RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN OF MOTHER, MARYLAND, 2006.**

AGE OF MOTHER	NUMBER						PERCENT <sup>4</sup>					
	ALL RACES <sup>1</sup>	WHITE		BLACK <sup>2</sup>	ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER <sup>2</sup>	HISPANIC <sup>3</sup>	TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	WHITE		BLACK <sup>2</sup>	ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER <sup>2</sup>	HISPANIC <sup>3</sup>
		TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	NON-HISPANIC					TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	NON-HISPANIC			
ALL AGES .....	30,720	14,271	8,994	15,827	380	5,428	39.7	30.6	24.4	62.1	8.1	53.9
UNDER 15 .....	108	32	14	74	0	18	98.2	94.1	100.0	100.0	*	90.0
15 - 17 .....	2,023	843	527	1,152	11	327	95.5	91.6	92.9	98.9	78.6	89.8
18 - 19 .....	4,098	1,837	1,287	2,185	36	572	89.5	83.4	84.5	95.6	78.3	81.2
20 - 24 .....	11,144	5,377	3,561	5,571	106	1,862	68.1	58.8	55.0	83.3	26.6	68.2
25 - 29 .....	7,166	3,355	1,925	3,652	106	1,469	35.7	27.2	20.3	57.8	8.3	49.9
30 - 34 .....	3,685	1,740	959	1,851	67	803	18.8	13.8	9.1	36.7	3.7	38.5
35 - 39 .....	1,928	829	550	1,046	42	289	16.5	10.9	8.3	34.3	4.5	30.2
40 - 44 .....	534	245	162	276	11	83	19.5	14.0	10.7	34.2	6.6	33.7
45 & OVER .....	26	9	5	16	1	4	13.8	7.3	4.5	28.1	*	*
NOT STATED .....	8	4	4	4	0	1	72.7				*	*

<sup>1</sup> Includes races categorized as 'other'.

<sup>2</sup> Race and Hispanic origin are reported separately on the birth certificate. Data for persons of Hispanic origin are included in the data for each race group according to the mother's reported race.

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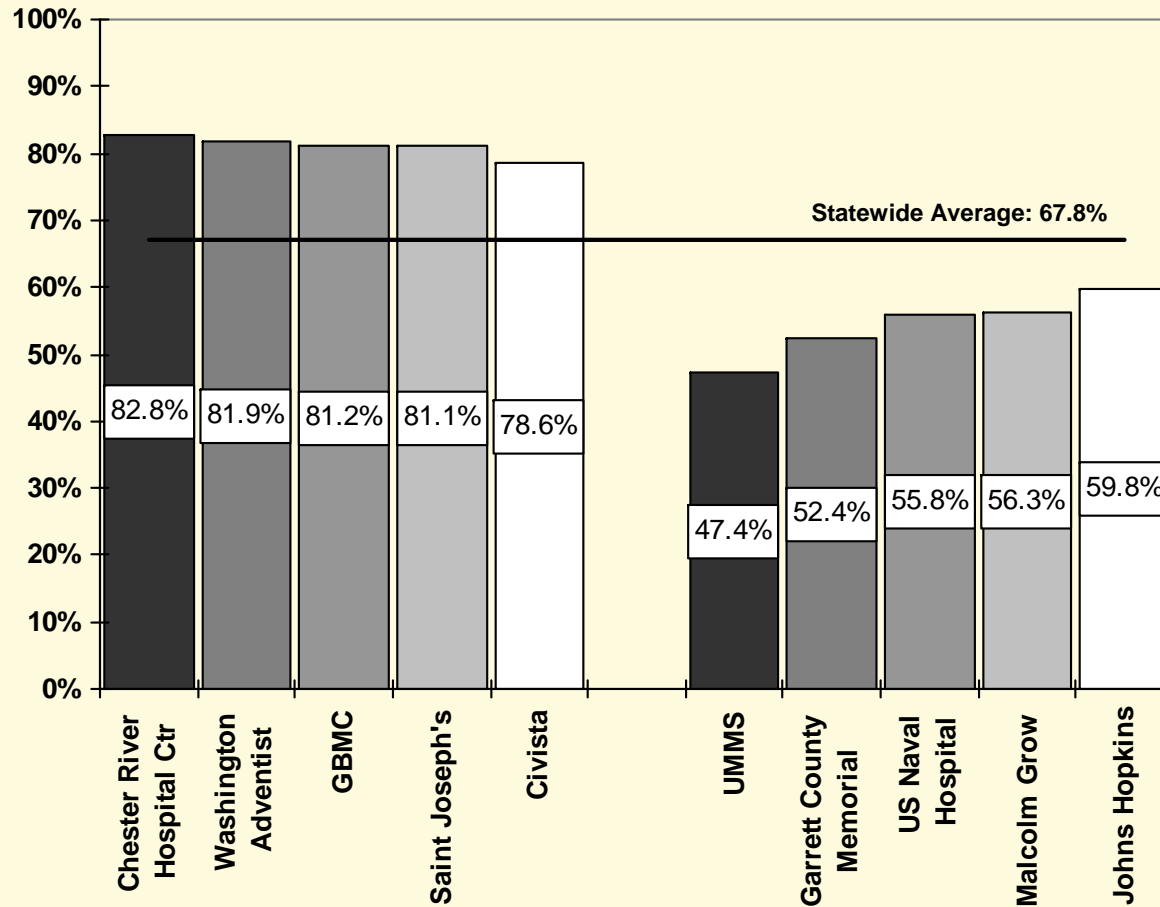
Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Vital Statistics Administration. *Maryland Vital Statistics Annual Report 2006*



# ESTABLISHING PATERNITY

- ❖ At or near the time of birth – the “magic moment” – is the best time to establish paternity
- ❖ Today, most of paternities in the US and in Maryland are done through voluntary acknowledgement
- ❖ In FFY 2008, 1.8 million paternities were established nationwide, 1.2 million or 66.6% through in-hospital or other paternity acknowledgements (up from 56.9% in FFY 2004)
- ❖ Maryland trends are similar: in the current FFY (through April), 84% of all paternity establishments have been done via affidavit, almost all in hospitals
- ❖ Historically, in Maryland, about two of every three non-marital births results in a paternity affidavit

## VAPP HIGHEST AND LOWEST HOSPITAL AFFIDAVIT SUCCESS RATES, 3Q2008



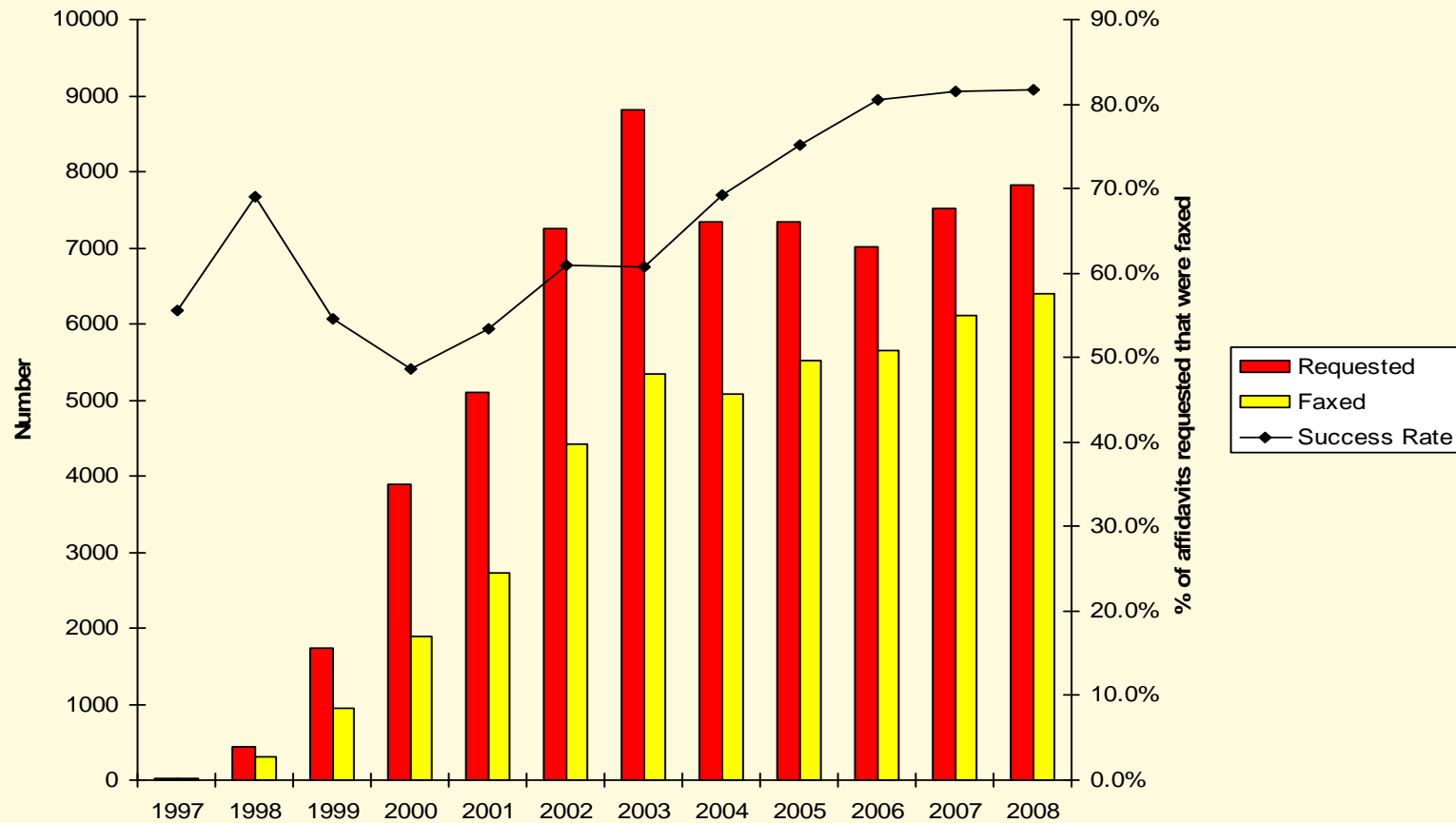
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# WHO SIGNS PATERNITY AFFIDAVITS IN MARYLAND?

- ❖ From our research studies and ongoing tracking, we have learned that:
  - ❖ An affidavit is more likely to be signed if mom is Caucasian, has at least a high school education, and is employed
  - ❖ Affidavits are less likely when either or both parents are teens
  - ❖ The vast majority – over 90% – of affidavit signers (moms and dads) live in Maryland
  - ❖ The vast majority – over 80% – of affidavit signers (moms and dads) live in the same MD county
  - ❖ Most affidavit signers – 58% in 3Q2008 – reside in the same home (i.e. are cohabitating)

# VAPP FAXBACK REQUESTS 1997-2007



Note: The 1997 figures only reflect the last seven months of the calendar year (June to December 1997).



# THANK YOU!

For more information on child support in Maryland, please  
visit us on the Web at:

**<http://www.familywelfare.umaryland.edu>**

A copy of this presentation can be found at:

**<http://www.familywelfare.umaryland.edu/articles.htm>**