



# COUNTY OF ORANGE – HEALTH CARE AGENCY

# PRESS RELEASE

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## BIRTH OUTCOMES IN ORANGE COUNTY

**(Santa Ana)** - A new report from the Health Care Agency finds that Orange County has lower prevalence rates for six important measures, including pre-term birth, low birth weight, births to teens, prenatal care, breastfeeding initiation, and infant mortality, compared to the U.S. and the state of California. In addition, utilizing a composite measure to compare birth outcomes, every Orange County city ranked above the Healthy People 2020 goals and the California and national averages.

“We are very pleased that Orange County has achieved six of the seven Healthy People 2020 goals related to births,” said County Health Officer, Dr. Eric Handler, “But there is still more to do in reducing health disparities within our community. These successes notwithstanding, it is important for providers in the community to remain vigilant in order to maintain and improve on these areas.”

As described in this report, pronounced disparities exist across different race/ethnic groups and across different cities in the county. The Health Care Agency and local healthcare providers will continue to collaborate to serve areas of need and reduce disparities in order to improve birth outcomes for all Orange County babies.

The full report “Orange County Geographic Health Profile: Birth Indicators (2000-2010)” is available on the HCA website at: <http://www.ochcahealthinfo.com/pubs>.

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