

Mammograms among Women Residing in Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity Counties: A Summary of Findings from the Rural Health Information Survey

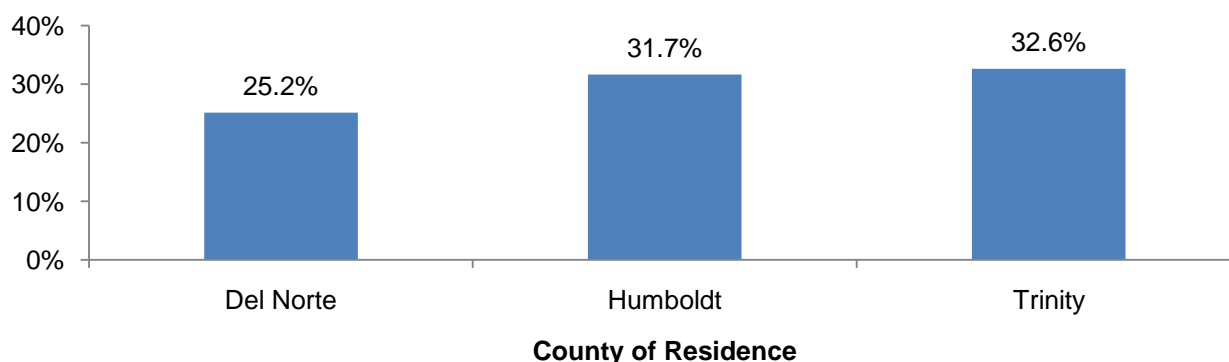
The Rural Health Information Survey was conducted by the California Center for Rural Policy in the fall of 2006. The purpose of the survey was to assess health disparities, access and utilization of healthcare, and other determinants of health among residents in rural Northern California with the goal of providing useful information for planning and policy development. For more details about the sampling please visit our website.

Following are graphs showing the percent of women respondents aged 40 to 64 years who reported receiving a mammogram within the two years prior to the survey. The analysis was restricted to women respondents from Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity Counties.

Most major U.S. medical organizations recommend mammography screening every 1-2 years for women age 40 and older. The precise age at which to discontinue screening mammography is uncertain. The age range of 40 to 64 years was used for this analysis as this is the age range in which there is general agreement that mammograms should be performed regularly.¹

By county of residence, there was not a significant difference between women aged 40 to 64 years who had not received a mammogram within the two years prior to the survey (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit 1
No Mammogram in past 2 years by
County of Residence
(age 40-64 yrs) (*n* = 805)



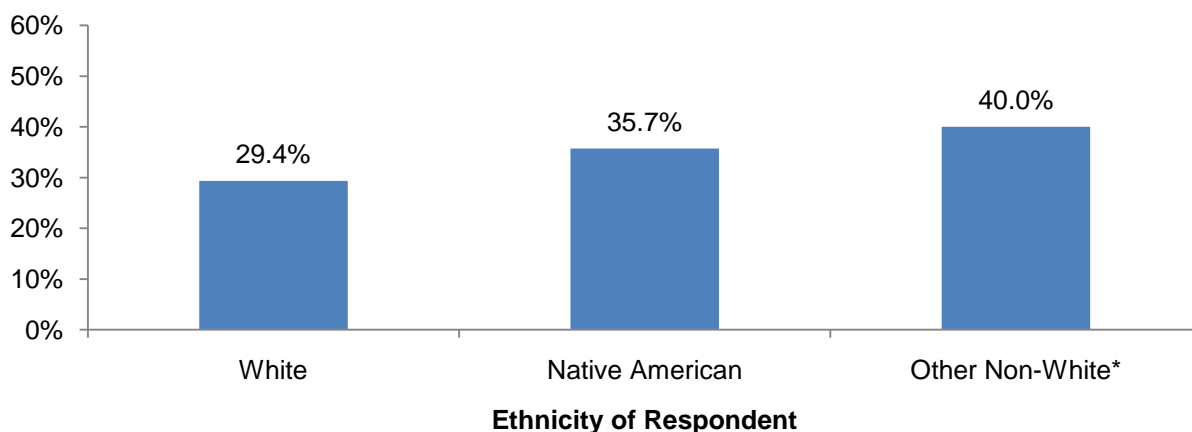
Source: Rural Health Information Survey, 2006, California Center for Rural Policy

This analysis was for the question, "To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a mammogram?"

This analysis was restricted to women respondents from Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity counties who answered the question and provided their year of birth. Women who answered "don't know" or "not applicable" were excluded from the analysis.

By ethnicity, there was not a significant difference between white, Native American and other non-white women aged 40-64 who had not received a mammogram in the past two years. While it appears that the other non-white respondents may be more likely to have not had a mammogram, the sample size may be too small for this difference to be statistically significant (Exhibit 2).

Exhibit 2
No Mammogram in past 2 years
by Ethnicity of Respondent
(age 40-64 yrs) (*n* = 800)



Source: Rural Health Information Survey, 2006, California Center for Rural Policy

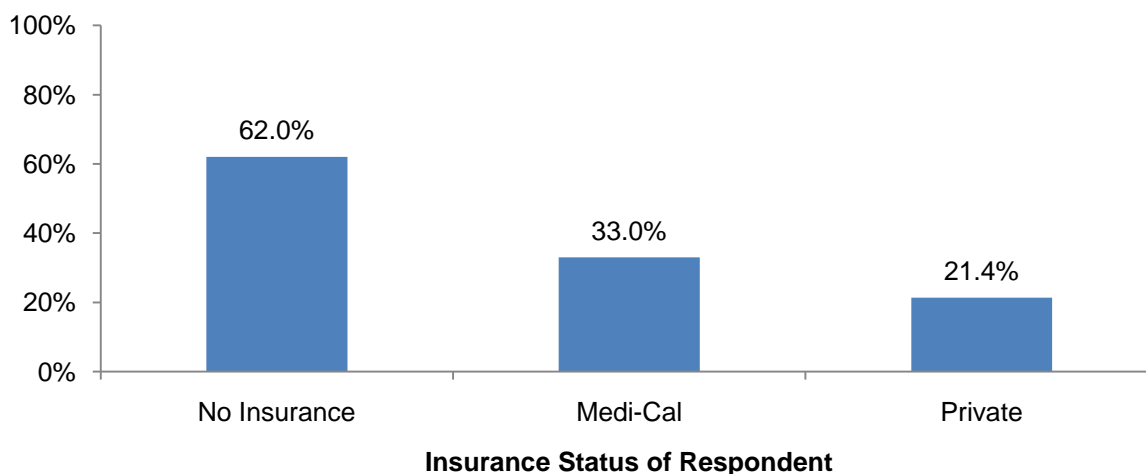
*Respondents were able to classify their ethnicity as White, African American, Latino/a, Asian, Native American, Multi-racial, or Other. Due to a small number of respondents in several of the categories, comparisons were made between White, Native American, and Other Non-White respondents (includes African American, Latino/a, Asian, Multi-racial and other).

This analysis was for the questions, "To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a Mammogram?"

This analysis was restricted to women respondents aged 40 to 64 years from Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity counties who answered the question. Women who answered "don't know" or "not applicable" were excluded from the analysis.

Insurance status is associated with whether or not women have received a mammogram. Women without insurance were significantly more likely than women with Medi-Cal or private insurance to have not received the recommended screening for breast cancer. Women with Medi-Cal insurance were significantly more likely than women with private insurance to have not received a mammogram (Exhibit 3).

Exhibit 3
No Mammogram in past 2 years by
Insurance Status of Respondent
(age 40-64 yrs) (*n* = 742)



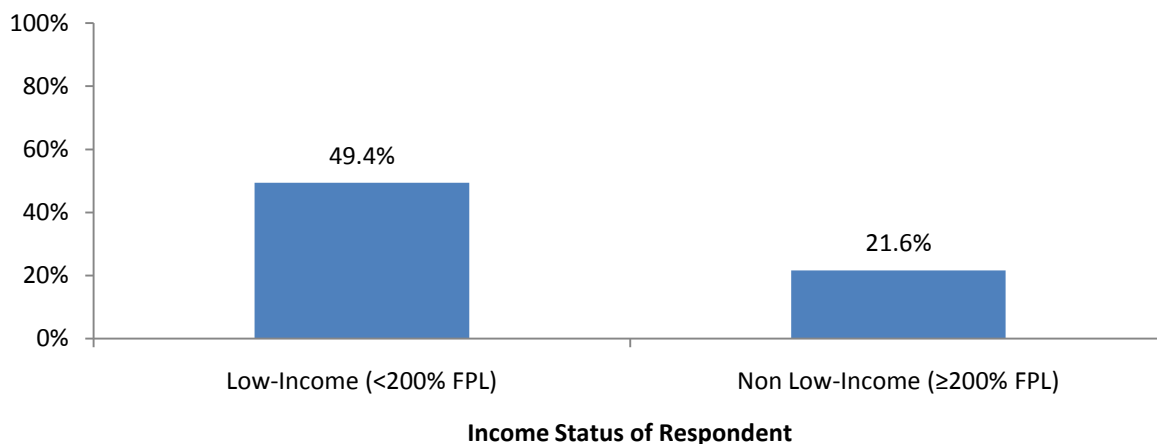
Source: Rural Health Information Survey, 2006, California Center for Rural Policy

This analysis was for the questions, “To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a mammogram?”

This analysis was restricted to women respondents from Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity counties who answered the question and reported their insurance status as “None”, “Medi-Cal” or “Private”. Women who answered “don’t know” or “not applicable” were excluded from the analysis.

Income status is associated with whether or not women have received a mammogram. Low-income women (less than 200% of the federal poverty level*) were significantly more likely than non low-income women to have not received a mammogram within the two years prior to the survey (Exhibit 4).

Exhibit 4
No Mammogram in past 2 years
by Income Status of Respondent
(age 40-64) (n = 713)



Source: Rural Health Information Survey, 2006, California Center for Rural Policy

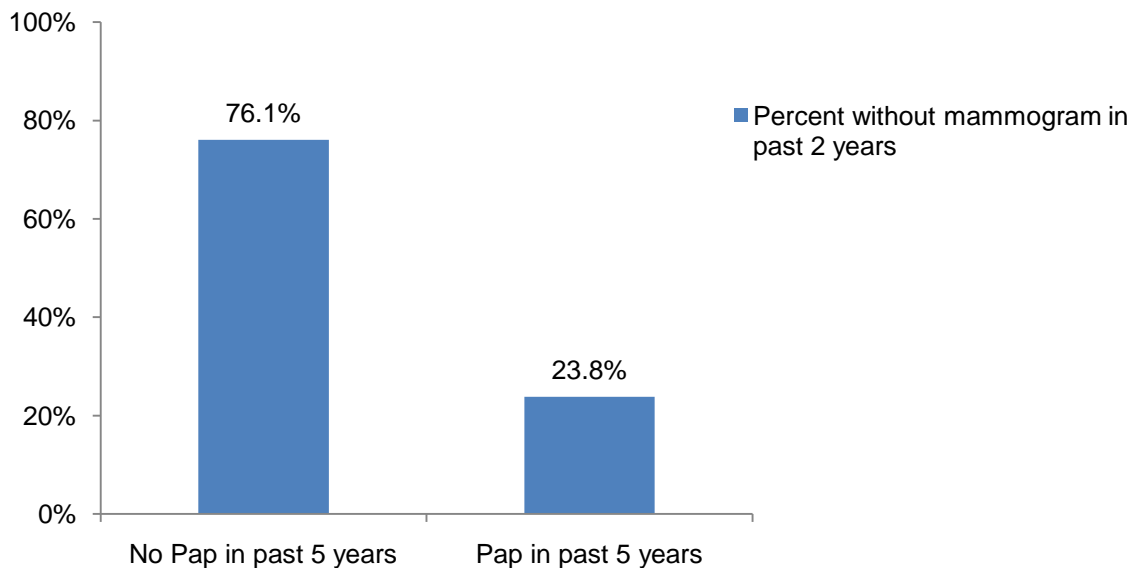
This analysis was for the question, “To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a mammogram?”

This analysis was restricted to women respondents from Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity counties who answered the question and provided their year of birth and information necessary for determining income status. Women who answered “don’t know” or “not applicable” were excluded from the analysis.

* The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) varies by household size. For a family of four (two adults, two children) the 2006 Federal Poverty Level (100% FPL) was \$20,444, 200% FPL was \$40,888 and 300% FPL was \$61,332.

Women who had not had the recommended screening for cervical cancer were also less likely to have the recommended screening for breast cancer. Among women respondents 40 to 64 years old, 76.1% of those who had not had a pap test in the past 5 years also did not have a mammogram in the past 2 years. Conversely, among those who had a pap in the past 5 years, only 23.8% did not have a mammogram in the past 2 years. This suggests that women who receive a pap are more likely to also receive a mammogram. However, there are still some women (23.8%) who receive a pap test, but do not receive a mammogram (Exhibit 5).

Exhibit 5
Pap tests and Mammograms
(age 40-64 yrs) (n = 772)



Source: Rural Health Information Survey, 2006, California Center for Rural Policy

This analysis was for the questions, “To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a Pap Smear?” and, “To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a mammogram?”

This analysis was restricted to women respondents from Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity counties who answered the questions and provided their year of birth. Women who answered “don’t know” or “not applicable” were excluded from the analysis.

Thirty two different communities were sampled in Del Norte (4), Humboldt (17) and Trinity (11) counties. Exhibit 6 shows each sampled community with the number and percentage of women respondents (aged 40 to 64 years) who reported having a mammogram in the 2 years prior to the survey. The communities with the highest percentage of women not receiving a mammogram are listed at the top. The communities highlighted in grey had less than 20 women answer the question and thus have unreliable estimates.

Exhibit 6. Mammogram in the past 2 years within each sampled community (age 40-64 yrs)

Town	Zip Code	Mammogram within the past 2 years		Total Number of Women that Answered the Question
		No (%)	Yes (%)	
Hoopa	95546	41.4%	58.6%	29
Hayfork	96041	39.7%	60.3%	68
Willow Creek	95573	34.4%	65.6%	61
Klamath	95548	33.3%	66.7%	24
Lewiston	96052	30.4%	69.6%	23
Whitethorn	95589	30.0%	70.0%	30
Douglas City	96024	29.6%	70.4%	27
Weaverville	96093	26.5%	73.5%	132
Crescent City	95531	25.3%	74.7%	91
Junction City	96048	25.0%	75.0%	24
McKinleyville	95519	23.8%	76.2%	42
Fortuna	95540	21.2%	78.8%	33
Gasquet	95543	16.0%	84.0%	25
Cutten	95534	12.5%	87.5%	24
Alderpoint	95511	44.4%	55.6%	9*
Burnt Ranch	95527	20.0%	80.0%	10*
Carlotta	95528	66.7%	33.3%	12*
Fort Dick	95538	28.6%	71.4%	14*
Honeydew	95545	28.6%	71.4%	7*
Korbel	95550	20.0%	80.0%	5*
Mad River	95552	41.7%	58.3%	12*
Orick	95555	50.0%	50.0%	12*
Orleans	95556	47.1%	52.9%	17*
Phillipsville	95559	46.2%	53.8%	13*
Samoa	95564	11.1%	88.9%	9*
Redcrest	95569	16.7%	83.3%	6*
Weott	95571	27.3%	72.7%	11*
Big Bar	96010	66.7%	33.3%	6*
Hyampom	96046		100.0%	3*
Trinity Center	96091	41.7%	58.3%	12*
Bridgeville - Ruth Store	955261	66.7%	33.3%	3*
Bridgeville	955262	66.7%	33.3%	9*
Total		30.9%	69.1%	803

Source: Rural Health Information Survey, 2006, California Center for Rural Policy

This analysis was for the question, "To the best of your knowledge, when did you last have a mammogram?"

This analysis was restricted to women respondents from Del Norte, Humboldt or Trinity counties who answered the question and provided their year of birth. Women who answered "don't know" or "not applicable" were excluded from the analysis.

*Sampled communities with less than 20 respondents for the question provide unstable estimates.

Limitations

This study provides information about the respondents of the survey and does not necessarily describe the population in general. However, this is the largest study ever conducted in this rural region of California.

References

1. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). Agency for Health Care Research and Quality. <<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/USpstfix.htm>>.

Report compiled 08/11/09
by Jessica Van Arsdale, MD, MPH

California Center for Rural Policy, Humboldt State University, 1 Harpst Street, Arcata, CA 95521
707.826.3400 office 707.826.3403 fax <http://www.humboldt.edu/~ccrp/>