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Perinatal Health Dashboard for Maternal and Child Health in Tennessee



Introduction: The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) section within the Family Health and Wellness (FHW) division at the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH), supported by the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant of the Health Resources Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, focuses on the health of Tennessee's mothers and babies. The main objective of this practicum was to create a public facing dashboard that showcases perinatal health indicators in Tennessee that can be used internally by TDH or externally by those looking to request data from TDH.

Methods: The dashboard indicators were chosen based on information obtained from a survey of expert FHW epidemiologists at TDH using REDCap, as well as independent research into other state-level dashboards. The Perinatal Health Indicator Dashboard includes data on births, plurality, low birthweight, mode of delivery, and preterm births.

Results: SAS and Tableau were used to clean, consolidate, and display data from birth certificates of newborns born to resident Tennessee mothers. The final dashboard stratified the outputs by race and ethnicity, birth year, perinatal region, and county.

Conclusions: This dashboard will reduce the number of data requests surrounding perinatal health and provide up-to-date data tables and visualizations for TDH employees and those outside TDH interested in perinatal health.