



# Children's Sourcebook: Child Health and Well-Being Indicators in the Southern California Region

A Report Commissioned by:  
The Southern Area Consortium of Human Services (SACHS)

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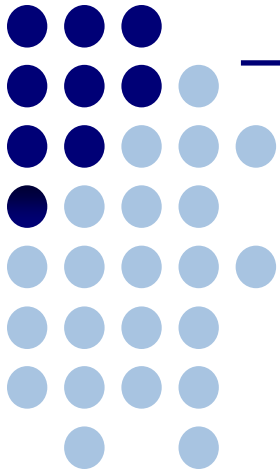
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## BACKGROUND

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In 2004, the Central California Children's Institute released *Children in Jeopardy: A Sourcebook for Community Action* (Sutton, Rondero-Hernandez, Perez, & Curtis, 2004) a desk-top reference tool providing information on child health and well-being indicators for the Central California Region. The purpose of the *Children's Sourcebook: Child Health and Well-Being Indicators in the Southern California Region*, commissioned by the Southern Area Consortium of Human Services (SACHS), is to compile the same types of information for the Southern California Region of Imperial, Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

## METHODOLOGY

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The data collected for these indicators comes from reliable, publicly available secondary sources and individual county statistics such as the Census Bureau, the 2001 California Health Interview Survey, and the California Department of Health Services. In every instance, the indicator is described and is followed by highlights that summarize the data provided in the figures and tables.

The indicators represent data for children ages 0-17. When available, data for children ages 0-5 is also presented. The term *children* is used to refer to children and adolescents under the age of 18. In some instances, data was not available in the desired breakdown of 0-17. Thus, some indicators include data for persons up to the age of 25. In this report, population rates for the year 2000 are based on population statistics as reported by the US Census Bureau. Population estimates for any other years are based on estimates from the California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit .

As the *Sourcebook* compares individual county statistics with other individual county statistics, the sources cited provide consistent information across each of the counties in terms of the data collection method, the sample size, and the year that the information was collected. While some counties report the same types of information yearly, some of the information in this report is from older data that has a higher accuracy rate, due to a higher sample size.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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For example, most of the older data in the *Sourcebook* is taken from the 2000 Decennial Census. The Census Bureau also conducts the American Community Survey (ACS) each year, which provides estimates from a survey of 3 million households. However, ACS only surveys areas with a population of 250,00 or more. In the Southern California Region, Imperial County would not have been included as they only have a population of approximately 140,000. Thus, while information would be readily obtained for some of the larger Southern California Counties, the information for Imperial County would not be available.

### INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE *SOURCEBOOK*

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Within this *Sourcebook*, child epidemiological data is presented in tables and charts arranged into four sections: Population and Family Characteristics (Population, Population Growth, Race and Ethnicity, English Language Proficiency, Educational Attainment, Female Householder Families, Family Size, Median Family Income, and Child Poverty), Health Indicators (Prenatal Care, Low Birth Weight, Infant Mortality, Breastfeeding, Immunization, Asthma, Overweight Children, Oral Health, Disabilities, Fatal Injuries, Births to Teenage Mothers, and Sexually Transmitted Infections), Access Indicators (Health Insurance, Usual Source of Health Care, Medi-Cal Enrollment, Enrollment in the Healthy Families Program, and Child Health and Disability Prevention Program), and Well-Being Indicators (Early Start, School Nutrition Program, Physical Inactivity, Television Viewing, Tobacco Use, Alcohol Use, Seatbelt Use, Child Abuse and Neglect, Domestic Violence, and Homicide). These tables and charts provide a quick reference guide for comparing indicators among the individual eight southern counties, the southern counties as a whole, and the State of California.

For example, in 1999, almost one in five children ages 0-17 in Southern California lived below the poverty level. Imperial County had the highest percentage of children living below the poverty level at 28.9%, while Ventura County reported the lowest percentage at 12.1%. Conditions of poverty increased for children ages 0-17 living in households headed by a female householder. Imperial County had the highest percentage of children ages 0-17 living below the poverty level at 54.7%, while Orange County had the lowest percentage at 27.0% (Figure 5 and 6).

While 60% of all California children ages 0-17 reside in Southern California, the children in this region vary greatly in race and ethnicity, social class, language development and education, family size, and family income. However, as a region they share some common health issues in terms of prenatal care, breastfeeding, immunization, asthma, obesity, and oral health.

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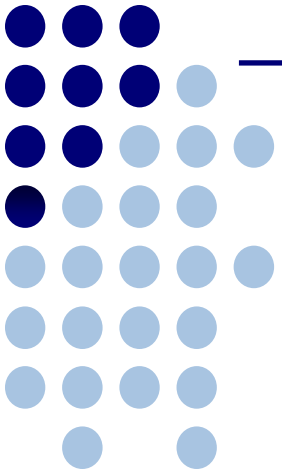
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# INTRODUCTION

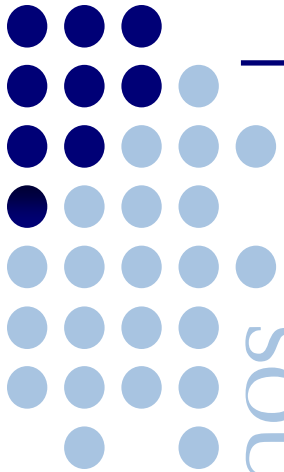
Modeled after *Children in Jeopardy: A Sourcebook for Community Action* (Sutton, Rondero-Hernandez, Perez, & Curtis 2004), the *Children's Sourcebook: Child Health and Well-Being Indicators in the Southern California Region* is designed as a desk-top reference tool providing information on child health and well-being indicators for the Southern California Counties of Imperial, Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

Within this *Children's Sourcebook*, child epidemiological data is presented in tables and charts arranged into four sections: Population and Family Characteristics, Health Indicators, Access Indicators, and Well-Being Indicators. These tables and charts provide a quick reference guide for comparing indicators among the individual eight southern counties, the southern counties as a whole, and the State of California.

The data collected for these indicators comes from reliable, publicly available secondary sources and individual county statistics such as the Census Bureau, the 2001 California Health Interview Survey, and the California Department of Health Services. In every instance, the indicator is described and is followed by highlights that summarize the data provided in the figures and tables.

The indicators represent data for children ages 0-17. When available, data for children ages 0-5 is also presented. The term *children* is used to refer to children and adolescents under the age of 18. In some instances, data was not available in the desired breakdown of 0-17. Thus, some indicators include data for persons up to the age of 25. In this report, population rates for the year 2000 are based on population statistics as reported by the US Census Bureau. Population estimates for any other years are based on estimates from the California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit .

In this report, the Southern California Region is represented by the following eight counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. These eight counties also represent the counties which participate in the Southern Area Consortium of Human Services (SACHS). Throughout this report, the term of Southern California and Southern Counties will be used to represent the Southern California Region.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
COUNTIES



1. Imperial
2. Los Angeles
3. Orange
4. Riverside
5. San Bernardino
6. San Diego
7. Santa Barbara
8. Ventura

## SUMMARY LIST OF INDICATORS

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### SECTION 1: Population and Family Characteristics

1. Population
2. Population Growth
3. Race and Ethnicity
4. English Language Proficiency
5. Educational Attainment
6. Female Householder Families
7. Family Size
8. Median Family Income
9. Child Poverty

### SECTION 2: Health Indicators

10. Prenatal Care
11. Low Birth Weight
12. Infant Mortality
13. Breastfeeding
14. Immunization
15. Asthma
16. Overweight Children
17. Oral Health
18. Disabilities
19. Fatal Injuries
20. Births to Teenage Mothers
21. Sexually Transmitted Infections

### SECTION 3: Access Indicators

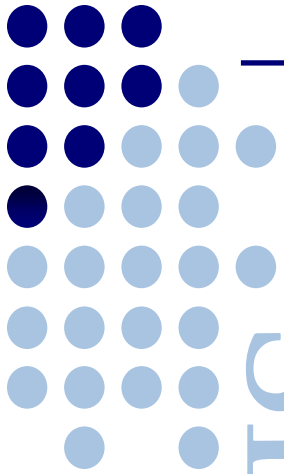
22. Health Insurance
23. Usual Source of Health Care
24. Medi-Cal Enrollment
25. Enrollment in the Healthy Families Program
26. Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

### SECTION 4: Well-Being Indicators

27. Early Start
28. School Nutrition Program
29. Physical Inactivity
30. Television Viewing
31. Tobacco Use
32. Alcohol Use
33. Seatbelt Use
34. Child Abuse and Neglect
35. Domestic Violence
36. Homicide

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# SECTION I

## POPULATION AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

1. Population
2. Population Growth
3. Race and Ethnicity
4. English Language Proficiency
5. Educational Attainment
6. Female Householder Families
7. Family Size
8. Median Family Income
9. Child Poverty

#### 1. Population

This indicator references the number and percentage of children under age 18 in the year 2000. Tables 1 and 2 show the number and percentage of children in the Southern Counties. Table 3 shows the percentage of the Southern Counties children ages 0-17 in four age groups: 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, and 15-17 years.

#### Highlights

- In 2000, 60% of all children ages 0-17 and 0-5 in the State of California resided in Southern California.
- In 2000, 30% of all children ages 0-17 and 0-5 living in California resided in Los Angeles County
- In the State of California, children ages 0-17 represented 27.3% of the total population. In Southern California, children of the same age group represented a slightly larger proportion of the total population at 28% of the Southern Region.

Table 1 Population of Children Ages 0-17, 2000

| Region                     | Male             | Female           | Population Total of Children Ages 0-17 | Percent of Total Population per Region |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Imperial                   | 22,884           | 21,862           | 44,746                                 | 31.4%                                  |
| Los Angeles                | 1,366,921        | 1,301,055        | 2,667,976                              | 28.0%                                  |
| Orange                     | 394,542          | 373,877          | 768,419                                | 27.0%                                  |
| Riverside                  | 239,725          | 228,966          | 468,691                                | 30.3%                                  |
| San Bernardino             | 282,532          | 269,515          | 552,047                                | 32.3%                                  |
| San Diego                  | 371,331          | 352,330          | 723,661                                | 25.7%                                  |
| Santa Barbara              | 51,253           | 48,249           | 99,502                                 | 24.9%                                  |
| Ventura                    | 109,854          | 104,390          | 214,244                                | 28.4%                                  |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>2,839,042</b> | <b>2,700,244</b> | <b>5,539,286</b>                       | <b>28.0%</b>                           |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>4,744,538</b> | <b>4,505,291</b> | <b>9,249,829</b>                       | <b>27.3%</b>                           |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table 2 Population of Children Ages 0-5, 2000

| Region                     | Male             | Female           | Population Total of Children Ages 0-5 | Percent of Total Population per Region |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Imperial                   | 6,808            | 6,416            | 13,224                                | 9.3%                                   |
| Los Angeles                | 458,751          | 437,392          | 896,143                               | 9.4%                                   |
| Orange                     | 134,181          | 128,048          | 262,229                               | 9.2%                                   |
| Riverside                  | 76,090           | 72,553           | 148,643                               | 9.6%                                   |
| San Bernardino             | 89,213           | 85,094           | 174,307                               | 10.2%                                  |
| San Diego                  | 123,070          | 117,355          | 240,425                               | 8.5%                                   |
| Santa Barbara              | 16,164           | 15,382           | 31,546                                | 7.9%                                   |
| Ventura                    | 35,064           | 33,298           | 68,367                                | 9.1%                                   |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>939,341</b>   | <b>895,538</b>   | <b>1,834,884</b>                      | <b>9.3%</b>                            |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>1,544,959</b> | <b>1,473,427</b> | <b>3,018,386</b>                      | <b>8.9%</b>                            |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table 3 Population of Children by Age Groups 0-17, 2000

| Region                     | Percent of Under 5 Years | Percent of 5 to 9 Years | Percent of 10 to 14 Years | Percent of 15 to 17 Years | Percent of 0 to 17 Years |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Imperial                   | 24.4%                    | 28.5%                   | 29.6%                     | 17.5%                     | 100.0%                   |
| Los Angeles                | 27.6%                    | 30.1%                   | 27.1%                     | 15.2%                     | 100.0%                   |
| Orange                     | 28.1%                    | 30.2%                   | 26.6%                     | 15.1%                     | 100.0%                   |
| Riverside                  | 26.0%                    | 29.8%                   | 28.6%                     | 15.7%                     | 100.0%                   |
| San Bernardino             | 25.9%                    | 29.7%                   | 28.7%                     | 15.7%                     | 100.0%                   |
| San Diego                  | 27.4%                    | 29.4%                   | 27.6%                     | 15.6%                     | 100.0%                   |
| Santa Barbara              | 26.1%                    | 29.6%                   | 28.2%                     | 16.1%                     | 100.0%                   |
| Ventura                    | 26.2%                    | 29.6%                   | 28.1%                     | 16.1%                     | 100.0%                   |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>27.3%</b>             | <b>29.9%</b>            | <b>27.5%</b>              | <b>15.4%</b>              | <b>100.0%</b>            |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>26.9%</b>             | <b>29.5%</b>            | <b>27.8%</b>              | <b>15.9%</b>              | <b>100.0%</b>            |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

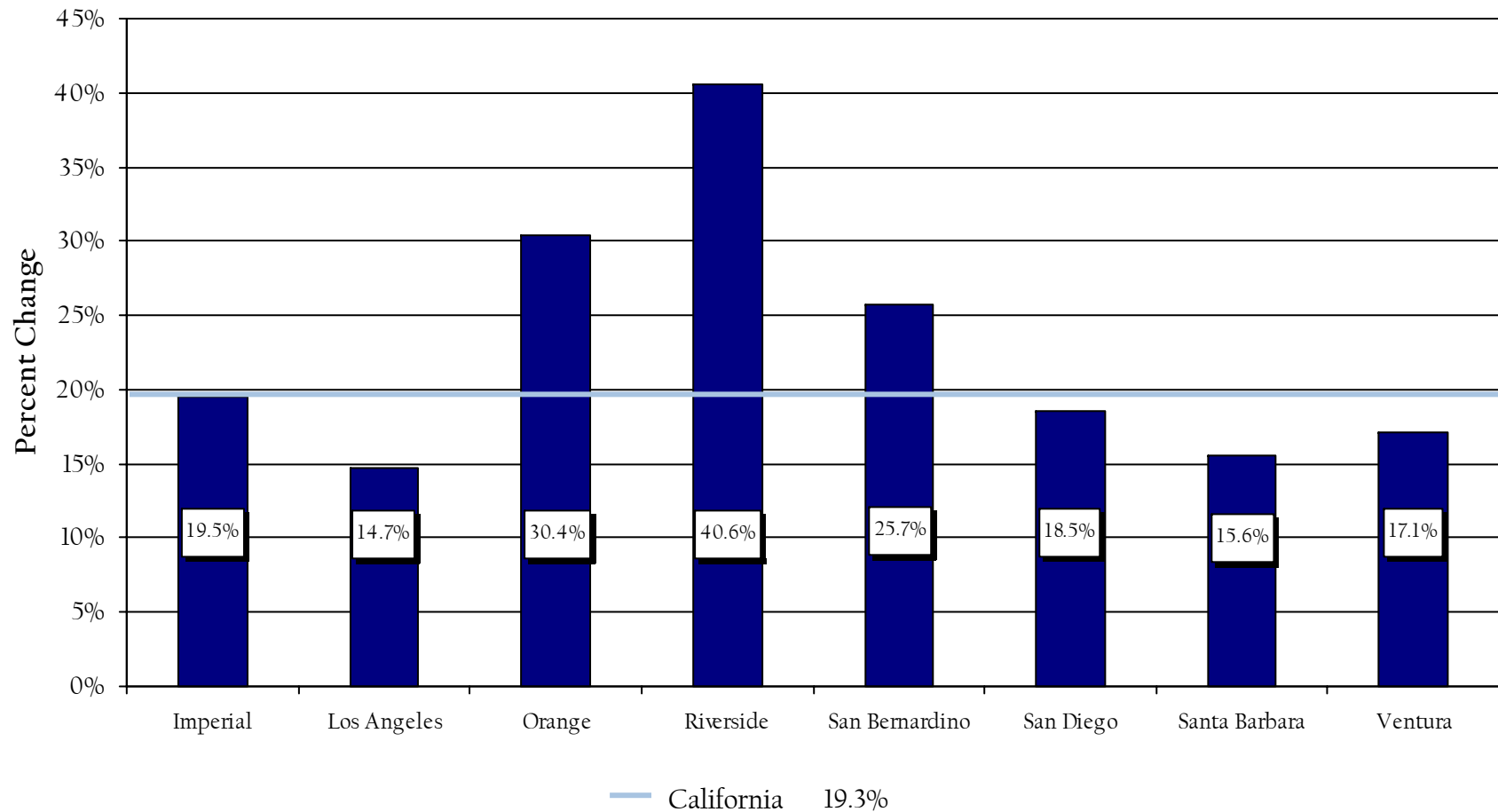
## 2. Population Growth

This indicator represents the percentage change in the child population between the years 1990 and 2000. Figures 1 and 2 show the percentage change in the child population in the Southern Counties between the 1990 and the 2000 census.

### Highlights

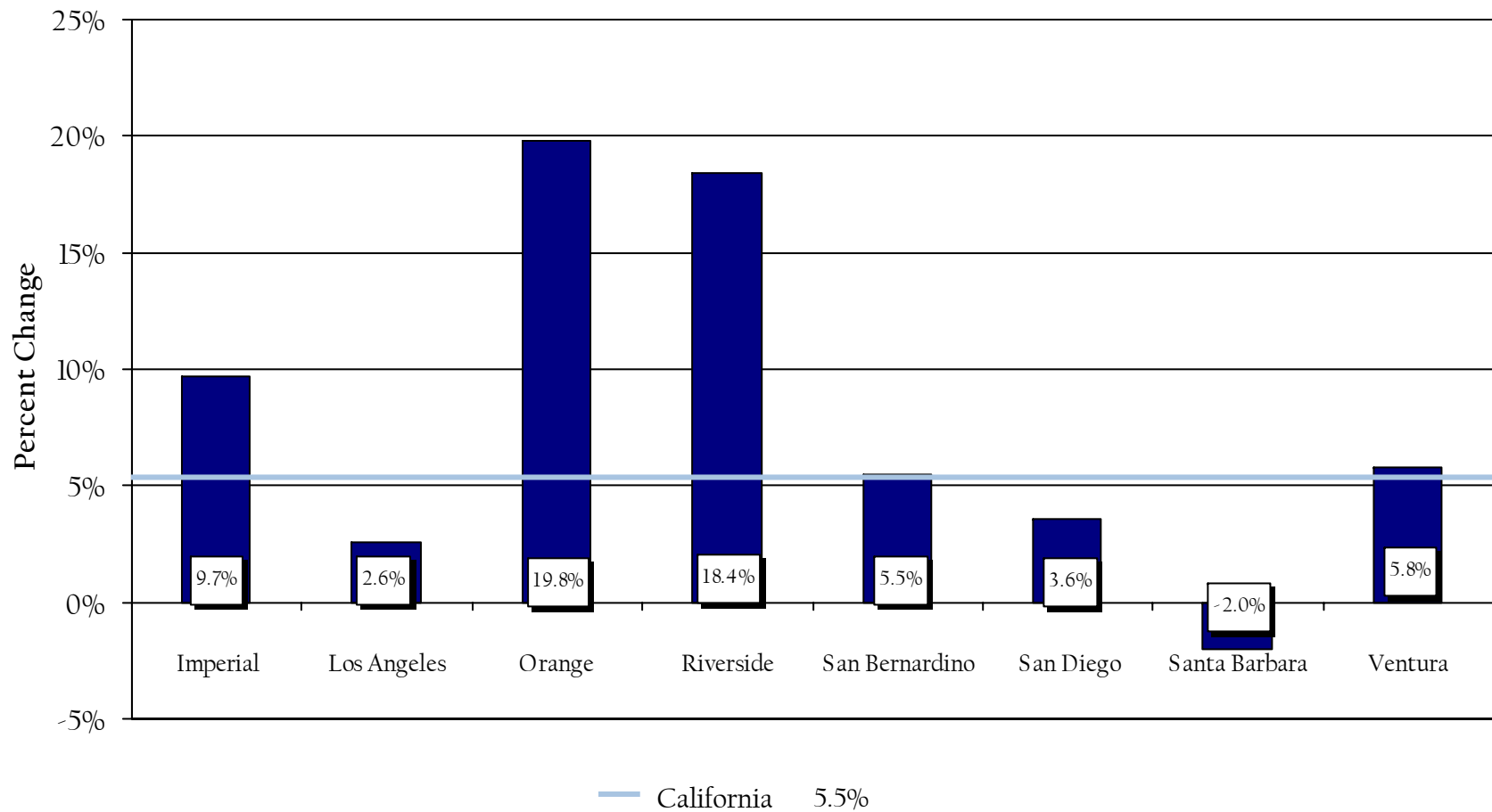
- The population of children ages 0-17 in Southern California grew from 4,605,175 children in 1990 to 5,539,286 children in 2000, an increase of 20.3%.
- The population of children ages 0-5 in Southern California grew from 1,724,273 children in 1990 to 1,834,879 children in 2000, an increase of 6.4%.
- The percentage change in the 0-17 population in the counties of Riverside (40.6%) and Orange (30.4%) well exceeded that of California (19.3%).
- Between 1990 and 2000, there was an increase in the number of children ages 0-5 in Southern California (6.4%), which is slightly higher than the state percentage of 5.5%. Again, the greatest increase among the Southern Counties occurred in Riverside (18.4%) and Orange (19.8%), both with a population growth of over three times the percentage change for the State of California.

Figure 1 Population Change for Children Ages 0-17, 1990-2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000.

Figure 2 Population Change of Children Ages 0-5, 1990-2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000.

### 3. Race and Ethnicity

This indicator represents the race and ethnicity<sup>1</sup> of children under the age of 18 in the year 2000. Tables 4 and 5 show the ethnic and racial distribution of children in the Southern Counties.

#### Highlights

- In 2000, Hispanic children, both ages 0-17 and ages 0-5, represented the largest ethnic group in Southern California and comprised over half of the total child population in Southern California (50.7% and 54.4%, respectively). These percentages were higher than the percentages of Hispanic children in both age groups across the State of California, where 43.8% and 47.6% of children were Hispanic, respectively.
- In the 0-17 and 0-5 age groups, Imperial County had the highest percentage of Hispanic children at 81.9% and 82.8%, respectively.
- In the 0-17 age group, the counties of Los Angeles and San Bernardino had higher percentages of African American children (both 9.9%) than the percentage for California (7.1%) and Southern California (7.5%). This was also true for the 0-5 age group, where the counties of Los Angeles (8.9%) and San Bernardino (9.4%) both had a higher percentage of African American Children as California (6.5%) and Southern California (6.9%).
- In both the 0-17 and 0-5 age groups, the percentage of Asian/Pacific Islanders in Orange County (12.2% and 11.1%, respectively) was higher than California (9.6% and 9.0%, respectively) and Southern California (7.5% and 7.4%, respectively).
- In both the 0-17 and 0-5 age groups, San Diego County had a higher percentage of Other (5.3% and 6.1%, respectively), which includes children with “some other race” and “two or more races,” than for California (4.2% and 4.6%, respectively) and Southern California (3.6% and 4.0%, respectively).

<sup>1</sup>The U.S. Census Bureau differentiates between *Hispanic or Latino* and *Not Hispanic or Latino*. *Hispanic or Latino* includes children of any race. *Not Hispanic or Latino* includes children of *One Race* and *Two or More Races*. The category of *One Race* includes White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race. For this indicator, Asian and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander were combined into Asian/Pacific Islander, and *Two or More Races* and *Some Other Race* were combined into an *Other* category.

Table 4 Race and Ethnicity of Children Ages 0-17, 2000

| Region                     | Hispanic/<br>Latino | White        | African<br>American | Asian/<br>Pacific<br>Islander | Native<br>American | Other*      | Total         |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Imperial                   | 81.9%               | 12.7%        | 1.5%                | 1.4%                          | 1.4%               | 1.1%        | 100.0%        |
| Los Angeles                | 57.5%               | 19.8%        | 9.9%                | 9.3%                          | 0.2%               | 3.1%        | 100.0%        |
| Orange                     | 42.4%               | 39.9%        | 1.5%                | 12.2%                         | 0.3%               | 3.6%        | 100.0%        |
| Riverside                  | 48.0%               | 38.0%        | 6.8%                | 3.1%                          | 0.7%               | 3.5%        | 100.0%        |
| San Bernardino             | 48.8%               | 33.2%        | 9.9%                | 3.9%                          | 0.5%               | 3.6%        | 100.0%        |
| San Diego                  | 38.1%               | 41.3%        | 6.5%                | 8.3%                          | 0.5%               | 5.3%        | 100.0%        |
| Santa Barbara              | 50.0%               | 41.1%        | 1.9%                | 3.1%                          | 0.6%               | 3.3%        | 100.0%        |
| Ventura                    | 43.1%               | 46.8%        | 1.7%                | 4.5%                          | 0.4%               | 3.5%        | 100.0%        |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>50.7%</b>        | <b>29.7%</b> | <b>7.5%</b>         | <b>7.9%</b>                   | <b>0.4%</b>        | <b>3.6%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>43.8%</b>        | <b>34.8%</b> | <b>7.1%</b>         | <b>9.6%</b>                   | <b>0.5%</b>        | <b>4.2%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

\*Other Includes Some Other Race and Two or More Races.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table 5 Race and Ethnicity of Children Ages 0-5, 2000

| Region                     | Hispanic/<br>Latino | White        | African<br>American | Asian/<br>Pacific<br>Islander | Native<br>American | Other*      | Total         |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Imperial                   | 82.8%               | 11.8%        | 1.4%                | 1.6%                          | 1.3%               | 1.1%        | 100.0%        |
| Los Angeles                | 61.1%               | 18.1%        | 8.9%                | 8.1%                          | 0.2%               | 3.4%        | 100.0%        |
| Orange                     | 46.6%               | 36.7%        | 1.4%                | 11.1%                         | 0.2%               | 4.1%        | 100.0%        |
| Riverside                  | 52.4%               | 34.3%        | 6.2%                | 2.7%                          | 0.6%               | 3.8%        | 100.0%        |
| San Bernardino             | 53.0%               | 29.5%        | 9.4%                | 3.7%                          | 0.5%               | 4.0%        | 100.0%        |
| San Diego                  | 40.4%               | 39.1%        | 6.2%                | 7.7%                          | 0.5%               | 6.1%        | 100.0%        |
| Santa Barbara              | 54.6%               | 36.6%        | 1.6%                | 3.0%                          | 0.5%               | 3.7%        | 100.0%        |
| Ventura                    | 46.7%               | 43.3%        | 1.5%                | 4.2%                          | 0.3%               | 4.0%        | 100.0%        |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>54.4%</b>        | <b>27.1%</b> | <b>6.9%</b>         | <b>7.4%</b>                   | <b>0.3%</b>        | <b>4.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>47.6%</b>        | <b>31.8%</b> | <b>6.5%</b>         | <b>9.0%</b>                   | <b>0.5%</b>        | <b>4.6%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

\*Other Includes *Some Other Race* and *Two or More Races*.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

#### 4. English Language Proficiency

This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 5-17 who, in 2000, reported speaking a language other than English at home and who reported speaking English less than “very well”. Table 6 shows those indicators of English language proficiency as well as the percentage of children living in linguistically isolated<sup>2</sup> households in the Southern Counties.

##### Highlights

- In 2000, three of the Southern Counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, and Orange) had a higher percentage of children who spoke a language other than English at home than did the state as a whole. In Southern California, there were 1,955,148 children who spoke a language other than English at home in 2000.
- The percentage of children who spoke a language other than English at home was highest in the counties of Imperial (18.7%) and Los Angeles (12.9%).
- In 2000, three of the Southern Counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, and Orange) had a higher percentage of children who spoke English less than “very well,” compared to the state as a whole. There were 752,733 children in Southern California who spoke English less than “very well.”
- In Imperial County, the percentage of children speaking English less than “very well” was more than twice (8%) the statewide percentage (3.5%).
- Of all the linguistically isolated households in the State of California (906,231 households), almost two-thirds are in Southern California (617,379 households).
- Of the 462,333 linguistically isolated households in Southern California, three of the Southern Counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, and Orange) slightly exceeded the percentage of linguistically isolated households in the state (3%).

<sup>2</sup>A linguistically isolated household is one in which no member 14 years old and older (a) speaks only English or (b) speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well”. In a linguistically isolated household, all members 14 years old and older have at least some difficulty with English (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003a).

Table 6 English Language Proficiency for Children Ages 5-17\*, 2000

| Region                     | Speak a Language Other Than English at Home | Speak English Less Than "Very Well" | Linguistically Isolated Households |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Imperial                   | 18.7%                                       | 8.0%                                | 5.6%                               |
| Los Angeles                | 12.9%                                       | 5.0%                                | 4.2%                               |
| Orange                     | 9.7%  | 4.0%                                | 3.5%                               |
| Riverside                  | 8.7%  | 3.2%                                | 2.6%                               |
| San Bernardino             | 8.9%  | 3.0%                                | 2.4%                               |
| San Diego                  | 7.4%  | 2.8%                                | 2.2%                               |
| Santa Barbara              | 7.7%  | 3.3%                                | 2.8%                               |
| Ventura                    | 7.9%  | 3.1%                                | 2.2%                               |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>10.7%</b>                                | <b>4.1%</b>                         | <b>3.4%</b>                        |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>9.2%</b>                                 | <b>3.5%</b>                         | <b>3.0%</b>                        |

\*Percentages based on total population per region.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

### 5. Educational Attainment

This indicator represents the percentage of young adults ages 18 to 24 who graduated from high school and those who were enrolled in college in the year 2000. Table 7 shows the percentage of young adults, ages 18-24, in Southern California who were high school graduates and the percentage enrolled in college or graduate school in 2000.

#### Highlights

- In 2000, the percentage of high school graduates in two of the eight Southern Counties (San Diego at 79.6% and Santa Barbara at 78.2%) was above the state percentage of 70.7%.
- Among the Southern Counties, Imperial County had the lowest percentage of young adults who graduated from high school at 60.9%, while San Diego County had the highest percentage of high school graduates at 79.6%.
- The percentage of young adults who were enrolled in college or graduate school was below the statewide average (35.4%) in half of the Southern Counties. Santa Barbara had the highest percentage among the Southern Counties with 55.1% of young adults enrolled in college or graduate school.

**Table 7** Young Adults Ages 18-24 Who Are High School Graduates and Those Enrolled in College or Graduate School, 2000

| Region                     | Young Adults Ages 18-24 Who Are High School Graduates | Young Adults Ages 18-24 Who Are Enrolled in College or Graduate School |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Imperial                   | 60.9%   | 27.6%  |
| Los Angeles                | 66.6%   | 35.4%  |
| Orange                     | 70.3%   | 39.2%  |
| Riverside                  | 67.6%   | 29.9%  |
| San Bernardino             | 69.4%   | 27.0%  |
| San Diego                  | 79.6%   | 35.9%  |
| Santa Barbara              | 78.2%   | 55.1%  |
| Ventura                    | 69.1%   | 31.2%  |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>69.8%</b>  | <b>35.1%</b>   |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>70.7%</b>  | <b>35.4%</b>   |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## 6. Female Householder Families

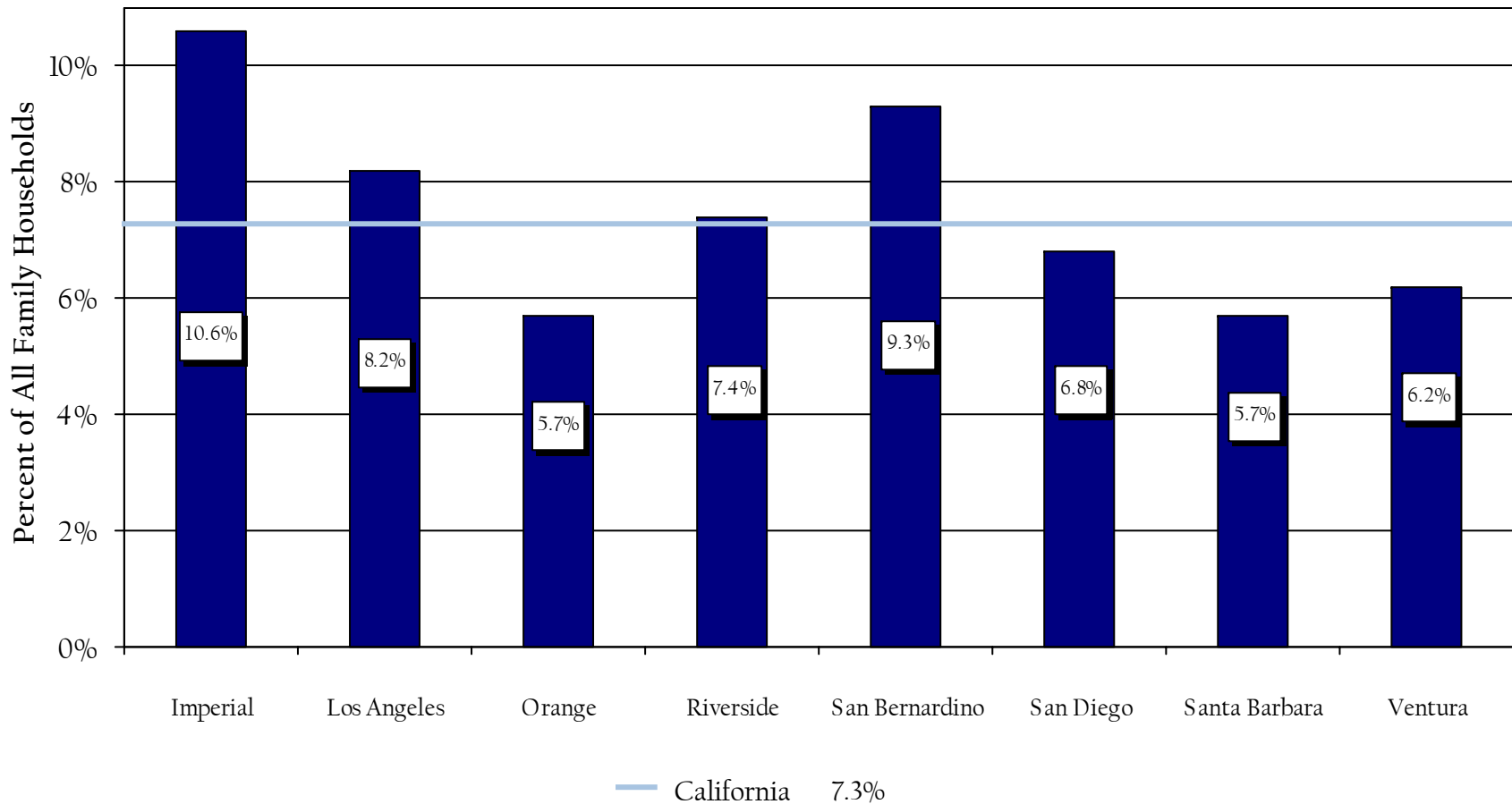
This indicator represents the percentage of female householder families<sup>3</sup> with their own children (son or daughter by birth, marriage, or adoption) under the age of 18 living in the household, for the year 2000. Figure 3 shows the proportion of female householder families in Southern California. Table 8 shows the percentage of children in various age groups in Southern California who lived in female householder families.

### Highlights

- In Southern California, there were 6,517,790 female householder families in 2000.
- In 2000, half of the Southern Counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino) exceeded the statewide percentage of female householder families living with their own children under 18 years of age.
- The highest percentages of female householder families were located in the counties of Imperial (10.6%) and San Bernardino (9.3%), while the lowest percentage of female householder families were located in the counties of Orange and Santa Barbara (both at 5.7%).
- Almost two-thirds (64.0%) of the children in female householder families in the Southern California Region were under the age of 12.

<sup>3</sup>A female householder family includes a female householder, with no husband present and one or more people living in the same household who are under the age of 18, regardless of marital status, and who are related to the householder. Does not include the householder's spouse or foster children, regardless of age. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003a.)

Figure 3 Female Householder Families with Own Children Under Age 18, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table 8 Children Ages 0-17 Living in Female Householder Families, By Age Group, 2000

| Region                     | Under 3 years | 3 and 4 years | 5 years     | 6 to 11 years | 12 to 17 years | Total 0-17 Years |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Imperial                   | 10.4%         | 9.2%          | 5.0%        | 36.4%         | 39.0%          | 100.0%           |
| Los Angeles                | 11.3%         | 9.9%          | 5.7%        | 38.2%         | 34.9%          | 100.0%           |
| Orange                     | 9.0%          | 8.6%          | 5.2%        | 38.1%         | 39.0%          | 100.0%           |
| Riverside                  | 11.2%         | 9.6%          | 5.5%        | 37.7%         | 35.9%          | 100.0%           |
| San Bernardino             | 11.6%         | 10.0%         | 5.6%        | 37.7%         | 35.1%          | 100.0%           |
| San Diego                  | 10.1%         | 9.3%          | 5.4%        | 37.8%         | 37.4%          | 100.0%           |
| Santa Barbara              | 10.1%         | 9.1%          | 5.1%        | 37.8%         | 37.9%          | 100.0%           |
| Ventura                    | 8.6%          | 8.3%          | 5.1%        | 37.9%         | 40.1%          | 100.0%           |
|                            |               |               |             |               |                |                  |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>10.8%</b>  | <b>9.7%</b>   | <b>5.5%</b> | <b>38.0%</b>  | <b>36.0%</b>   | <b>100.0%</b>    |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>10.9%</b>  | <b>9.6%</b>   | <b>5.5%</b> | <b>37.6%</b>  | <b>36.5%</b>   | <b>100.0%</b>    |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## 7. Family Size

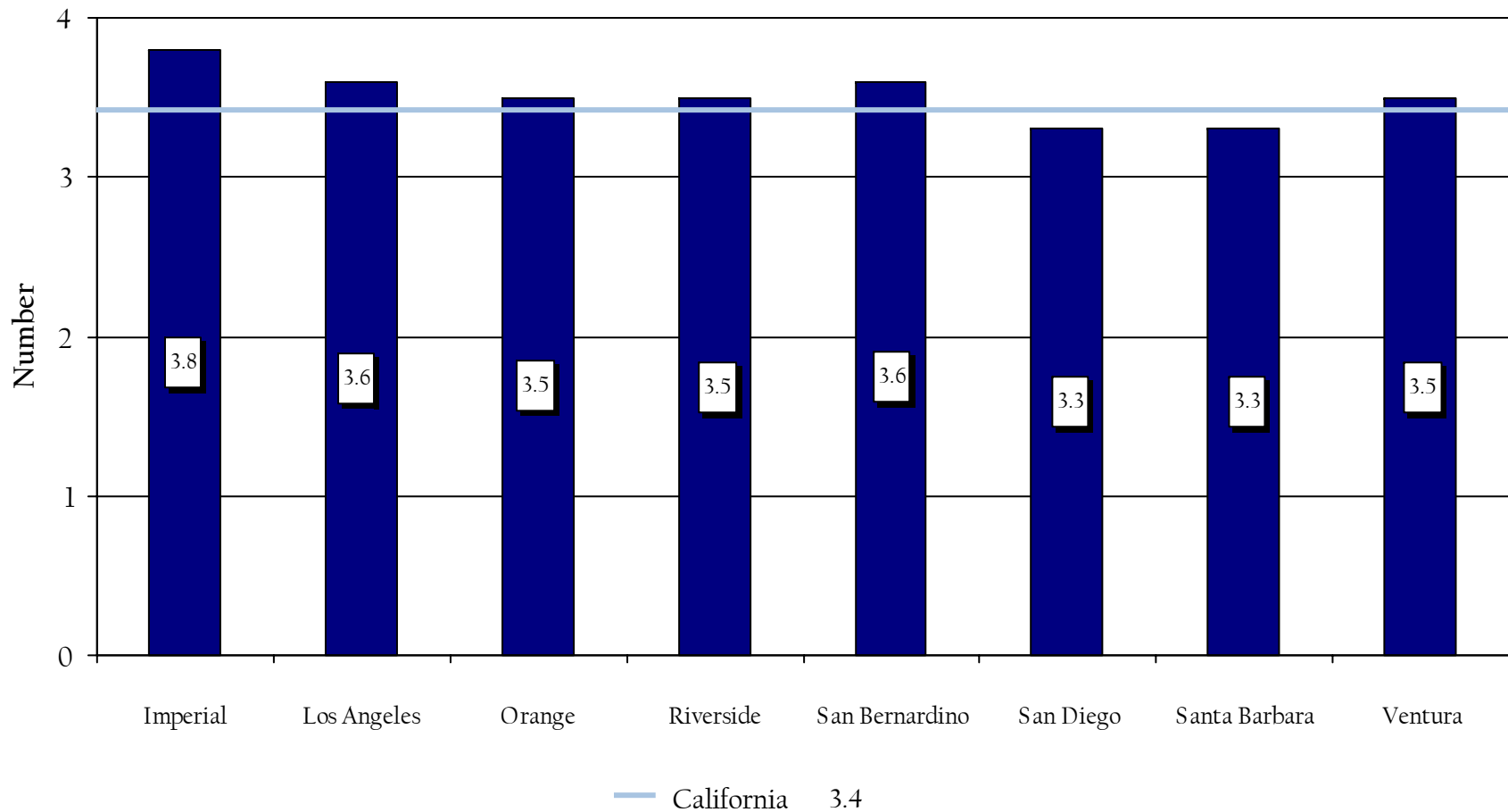
This indicator represents the average family size in the year 2000. The average family size is a measure obtained by dividing the number of people in families by the total number of families<sup>4</sup> in the year 2000. Figure 4 shows the average family size in Southern California.

### Highlights

- Among the Southern Counties, Imperial County had the highest average family size at 3.8 persons per family, while the counties of San Diego and Santa Barbara had the lowest family size at 3.3 persons per family.

<sup>4</sup>A family includes a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. A female householder includes a family with a female maintaining a household with no spouse of the householder present. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003b.)

Figure 4 Average Family Size, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## 8. Median Family Income

This indicator represents the median income in 1999 for families with their own children under the age of 18 and for female householders with their own children under the age of 18<sup>5</sup>. Table 9 shows the median family income in the Southern Counties.

### Highlights

- In 1999, there was a large range between median family incomes in the Southern Counties. Imperial County reported the lowest median family income at \$32,747, whereas Ventura County reported the highest median family income at \$62,310. This equates to a 47% difference in median family income between the two counties.
- Orange County also reported a high median family income, at \$60,192, which is a 19% difference from the state average of \$48,836.
- The median family income for female householder families was dramatically lower when compared to all families, at both the state and county level. Female householder families in Southern California reported a median family income that was less than half of the median family income reported by all families. Imperial County reported the lowest income for female householder families at \$15,057, while Orange County reported the highest income for female householder families at \$31,285, a 52% difference.
- Among the Southern Counties, only the counties of Orange, San Diego, and Ventura exceeded the state percentage in income for female householder families.

<sup>5</sup>A family includes a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. A female householder includes a family with a female maintaining a household with no spouse of the householder present. The median divides the income distribution of the total number of families including those with no income (U.S. Census Bureau, (2003b).

Table 9 Median Family Income, 1999

| Area                       | Families with Own Children Under 18 Years | Female Householder with Own Children Under 18 Years |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Imperial                   | \$32,747                                  | \$15,057  |
| Los Angeles                | \$40,768                                  | \$20,044  |
| Orange                     | \$60,192                                  | \$31,285  |
| Riverside                  | \$46,544                                  | \$20,319  |
| San Bernardino             | \$43,272                                  | \$19,611  |
| San Diego                  | \$49,046                                  | \$23,092  |
| Santa Barbara              | \$49,376                                  | \$22,160  |
| Ventura                    | \$62,310                                  | \$29,864  |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>\$48,032*</b>                          | <b>\$22,679*</b>                                    |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>\$48,836</b>                           | <b>\$22,200</b>                                     |

\*Note: Median family income for Southern California is an average of each county's median family income.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## 9. Child Poverty

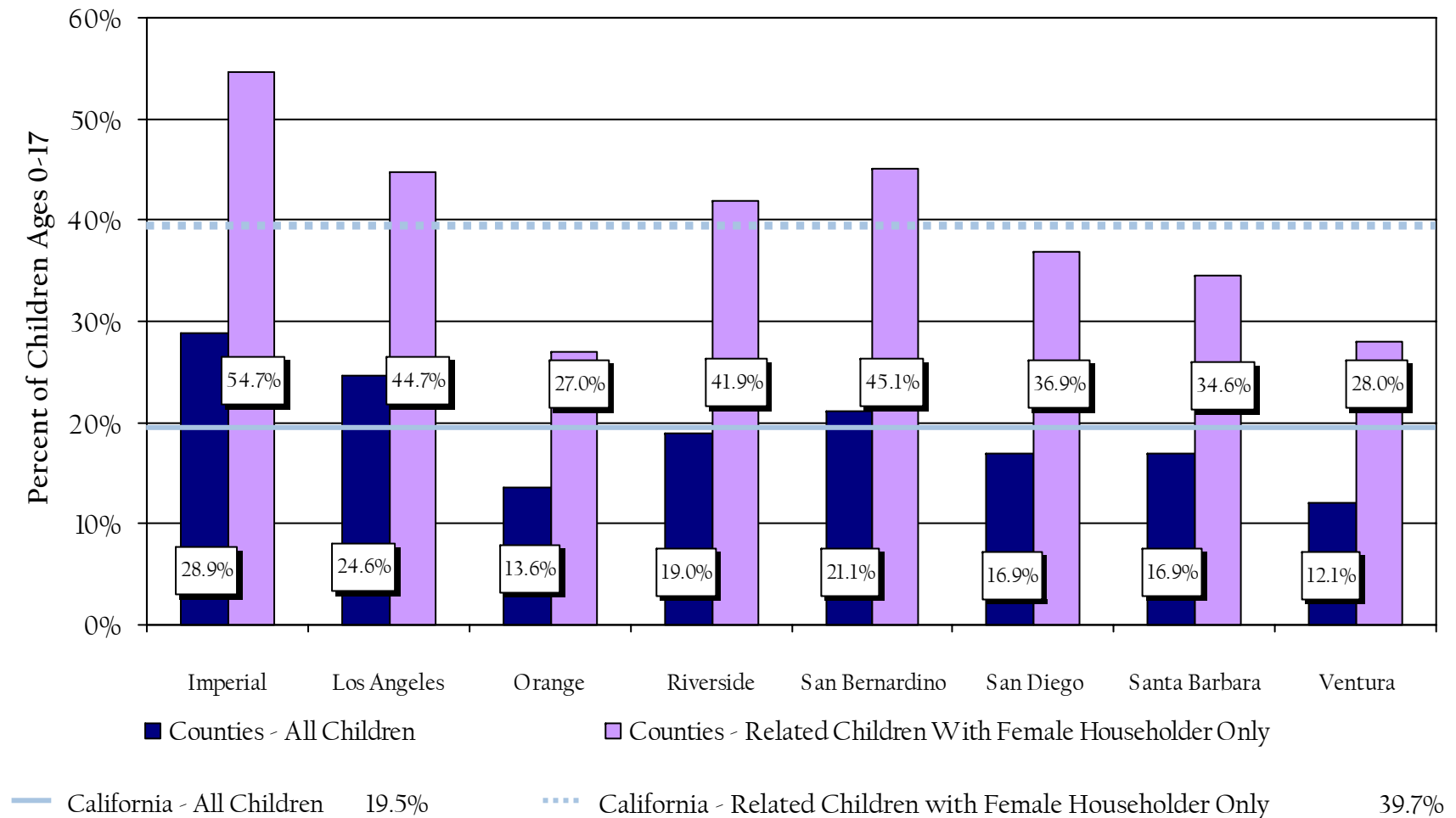
This indicator represents the percentage of children under the age of 18 who were living below the poverty level, as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau,<sup>6</sup> in 1999. Figures 5 and 6 show the percentage of children in age groups 0-17 and 0-5 in Southern California who were living below the poverty level in 1999.

### Highlights

- In 1999, almost one in five children ages 0-17 in Southern California lived below the poverty level. Imperial County had the highest percentage of children living below the poverty level at 28.9%, while Ventura County had the lowest at 12.1%.
- Conditions of poverty increased for children ages 0-17 living in households headed by a female householder. Imperial County had the highest percentage of children living with a female householder below the poverty level at 54.7%, while Orange County had the lowest percentage at 27%. The state's percentage was 39.7% in 1999.

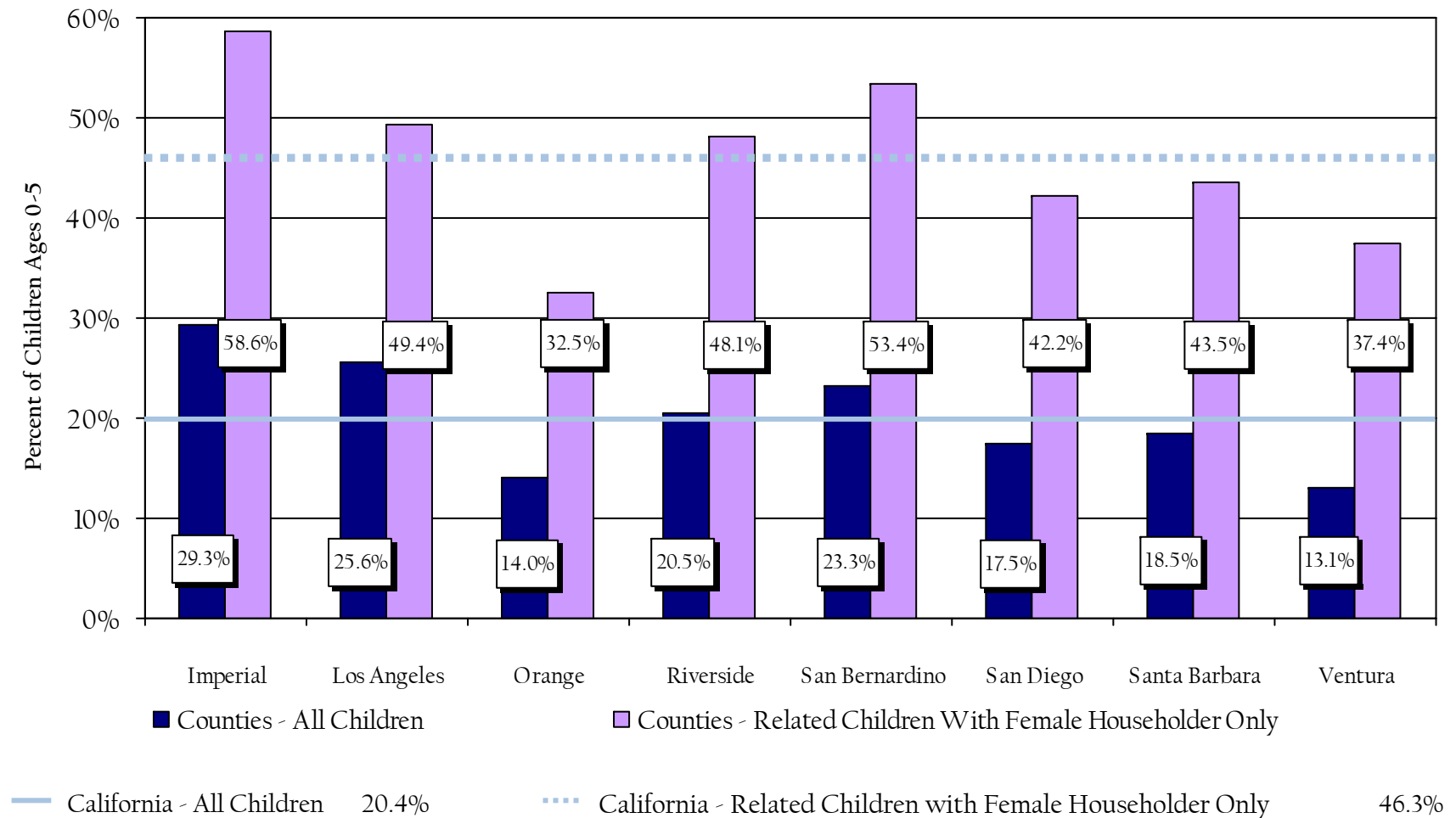
<sup>6</sup>The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is classified as being "below the poverty level" (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003b). For a complete explanation of the formula used to derive poverty status, which is the basis of the definition for this indicator, please refer to the 2000 Census of Population and Housing Summary Files 3 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003b).

**Figure 5 Children Ages 0-17 Living Below the Poverty Level, 1999**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

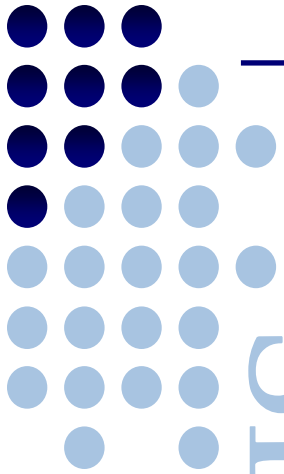
Figure 6 Children Ages 0-5 Living Below the Poverty Level, 1999



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

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# SECTION 2

## HEALTH INDICATORS

10. Prenatal Care
11. Low Birth Weight
12. Infant Mortality
13. Breastfeeding
14. Immunization
15. Asthma
16. Overweight Children
17. Oral Health
18. Disabilities
19. Fatal Injuries
20. Births to Teenage Mothers
21. Sexually Transmitted Infections

### 10. Parental Care

This indicator represents the percentage of live births in 2001 according to the trimester in which prenatal care<sup>7</sup> began. Table 10 shows the percentage of live births in Southern California by trimester in which prenatal care began.

#### Highlights

- In 2003, most women (88.0%) in Southern California initiated prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy, which is greater than the statewide percentage of 85.8%.
- The Counties of Orange and Ventura had the highest percentage of women who received prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy (91.3% and 90.3% respectively).
- Among the Southern Counties, Imperial County had the lowest percentage of women receiving prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy (73.9%).

<sup>7</sup>Prenatal care is generally measured as a percentage of women who receive at least one prenatal service from a physician or midwife.

Table 10 Live Births by Trimester in which Prenatal Care Began, 2003

| Region                     | First Trimester | Second Trimester | Third Trimester | No Prenatal Care | Unknown     | Total         |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Imperial                   | 73.9%           | 14.7%            | 4.8%            | 3.3%             | 3.3%        | 100.0%        |
| Los Angeles                | 89.8%           | 7.2%             | 1.2%            | 0.4%             | 1.5%        | 100.0%        |
| Orange                     | 91.3%           | 6.8%             | 1.1%            | 0.6%             | 0.2%        | 100.0%        |
| Riverside                  | 83.7%           | 11.7%            | 2.3%            | 0.7%             | 1.5%        | 100.0%        |
| San Bernardino             | 82.7%           | 12.6%            | 2.3%            | 0.8%             | 1.6%        | 100.0%        |
| San Diego                  | 86.1%           | 9.5%             | 1.9%            | 0.5%             | 2.0%        | 100.0%        |
| Santa Barbara              | 82.8%           | 13.5%            | 2.7%            | 0.6%             | 0.3%        | 100.0%        |
| Ventura                    | 90.3%           | 7.5%             | 1.6%            | 0.4%             | 0.2%        | 100.0%        |
|                            |                 |                  |                 |                  |             |               |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>88.0%</b>    | <b>8.6%</b>      | <b>1.5%</b>     | <b>0.5%</b>      | <b>1.3%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>85.8%</b>    | <b>10.0%</b>     | <b>1.9%</b>     | <b>0.5%</b>      | <b>1.7%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Data Tables 2003 (2004c).

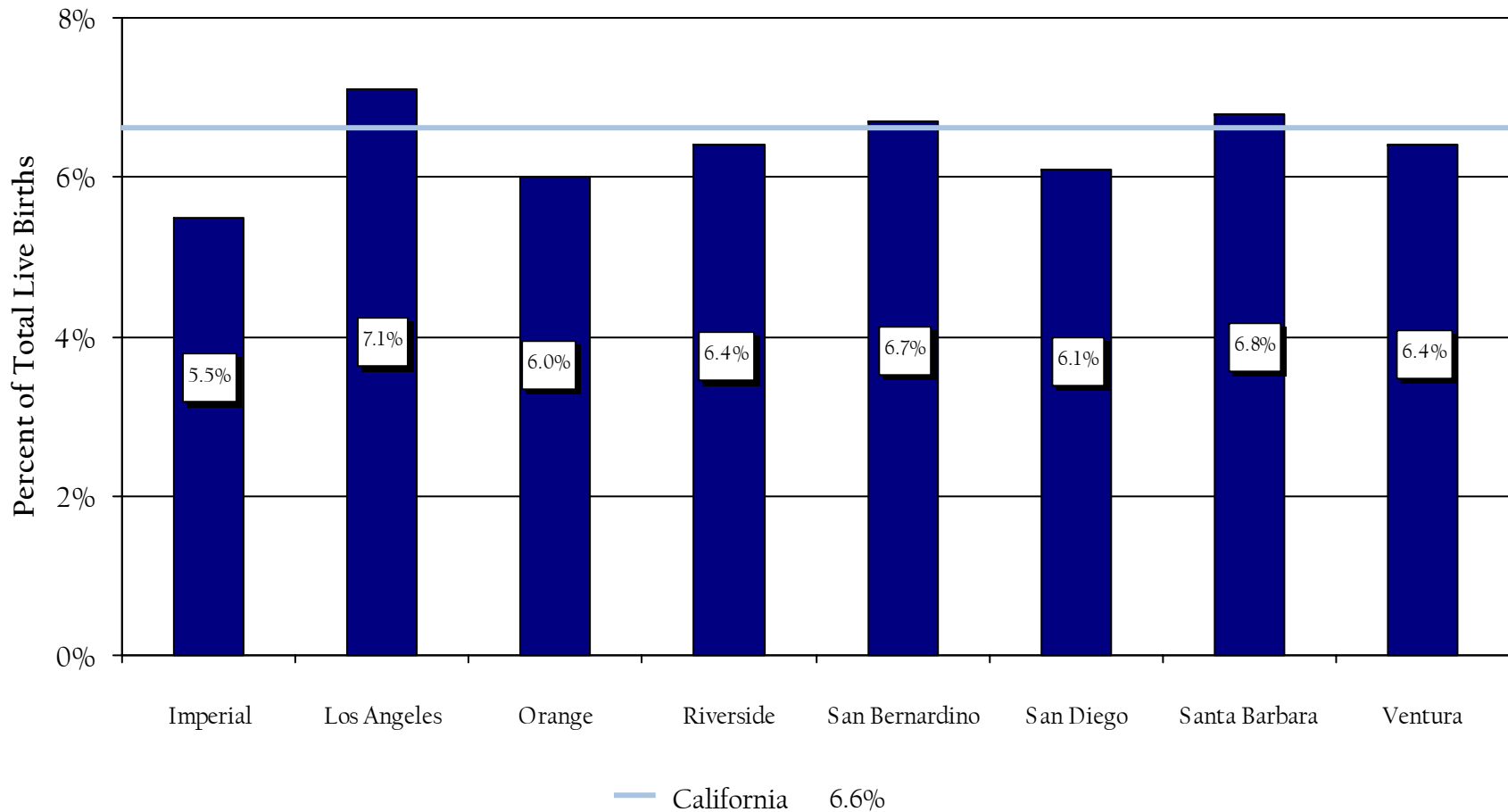
**II. Low Birth Weight**

This indicator represents the percentage of live births in 2001 where the baby weighed less than 2,500 grams or 5.8 lbs. Figure 7 shows the percentage of low birth weight births in Southern California. Table II shows the rates of low birth weight births per 1,000 population by the age of the mother.

**Highlights**

- Among the Southern Counties, Los Angeles County had the highest percentage of low birth weight births with 7.1%, which is slightly above the statewide percentage of 6.6%. Imperial County had the lowest percentage of low birth weight births with 5.5%.
- When examining the rate of low birth weight births in the Southern Counties by the age of the mother, the rates for all age groups appear comparable to the rates for the state.
- In 2001, the rate of low birth weight births among mothers ages 20-29 was higher than any other age group. In Southern California, there were twice as many mothers ages 20-29 than mothers ages 15-19 who had low birth weight babies (6.8 per 1,000 women compared to 3.1 per 1,000 women, respectively).
- The counties of San Bernardino and Los Angeles had the highest rate of low birth weight births among mothers ages 20-29 (8.7 and 7.7 per 1,000 women, respectively).
- The lowest rate of low birth weight births occurred in the 40-49 age group, with the average for Southern California at 0.6 per 1,000 women.

Figure 7 Low Birth Weight Births, 2003



Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Data Tables 2003 (2004b).

Table II Rates of Low Birth Weight Births per 1,000 Women Ages 15-49 by Age of Mother, 2001

| Region                     | 15 – 19 years | 20 – 29 years | 30 – 39 years | 40 – 49 years | Total Rate Per 1,000 |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Imperial                   | 3.1           | 5.1           | 4.3           | 0.5           | 3.4                  |
| Los Angeles                | 3.6           | 7.7           | 5.1           | 0.8           | 4.2                  |
| Orange                     | 2.2           | 6.6           | 5.6           | 0.6           | 3.8                  |
| Riverside                  | 3.7           | 6.3           | 4.9           | 0.5           | 3.7                  |
| San Bernardino             | 3.7           | 8.7           | 4.8           | 0.6           | 4.4                  |
| San Diego                  | 3.0           | 5.4           | 4.1           | 0.8           | 3.5                  |
| Santa Barbara              | 2.7           | 6.2           | 3.9           | 0.7           | 3.3                  |
| Ventura                    | 2.5           | 5.7           | 6.0           | 0.5           | 3.7                  |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>3.1</b>    | <b>6.8</b>    | <b>4.9</b>    | <b>0.6</b>    | <b>3.8</b>           |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>3.1</b>    | <b>6.5</b>    | <b>4.8</b>    | <b>0.6</b>    | <b>3.8</b>           |

Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Query System (2004b, 2004c).  
California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (1998).

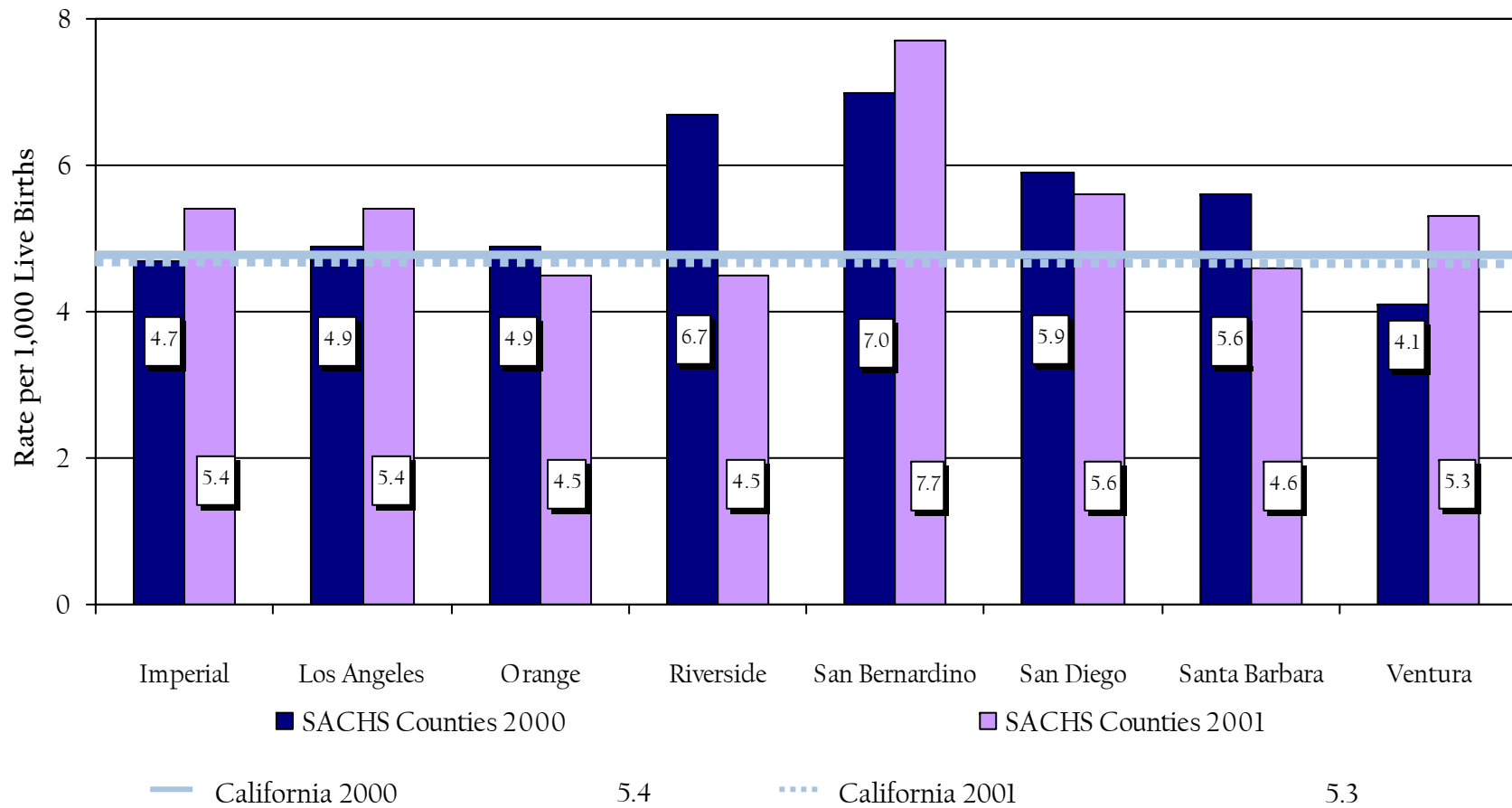
**12. Infant Mortality**

This indicator represents the number of infants, per 1,000 live births, who died from any cause in their first year of life in 2000 and 2001 (California Department of Health Services, 2002). Figure 8 shows the infant mortality rates in Southern California for both 2000 and 2001. Data for two consecutive years are presented in order to provide comparisons of rate changes, especially for counties with smaller populations.

**Highlights**

- In both 2000 and 2001, the infant mortality rate per 1,000 births in San Bernardino County (7.0 in 2,000 and 7.7 in 2001) exceeded that of the state (5.4 per 1,000 live births for 2000 and 5.3 per 1,000 live births for 2001). In 2000, Riverside County (6.7 per 1,000 live births) exceeded the state infant mortality rate of 5.4 per 1,000 live births but dropped below it in 2001.

Figure 8 Infant Mortality Rates, 2000 and 2001



Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Query System (2004a).

### 13. Breastfeeding

This indicator represents the percentage of women who were breastfeeding at the time of hospital discharge in 2000, who were either exclusively breastfeeding<sup>8</sup> or who reported any breastfeeding<sup>9</sup> (California Department of Health Services, California Maternal and Child Health Data Book, 2002). Figure 9 shows the breastfeeding rates in Southern California.

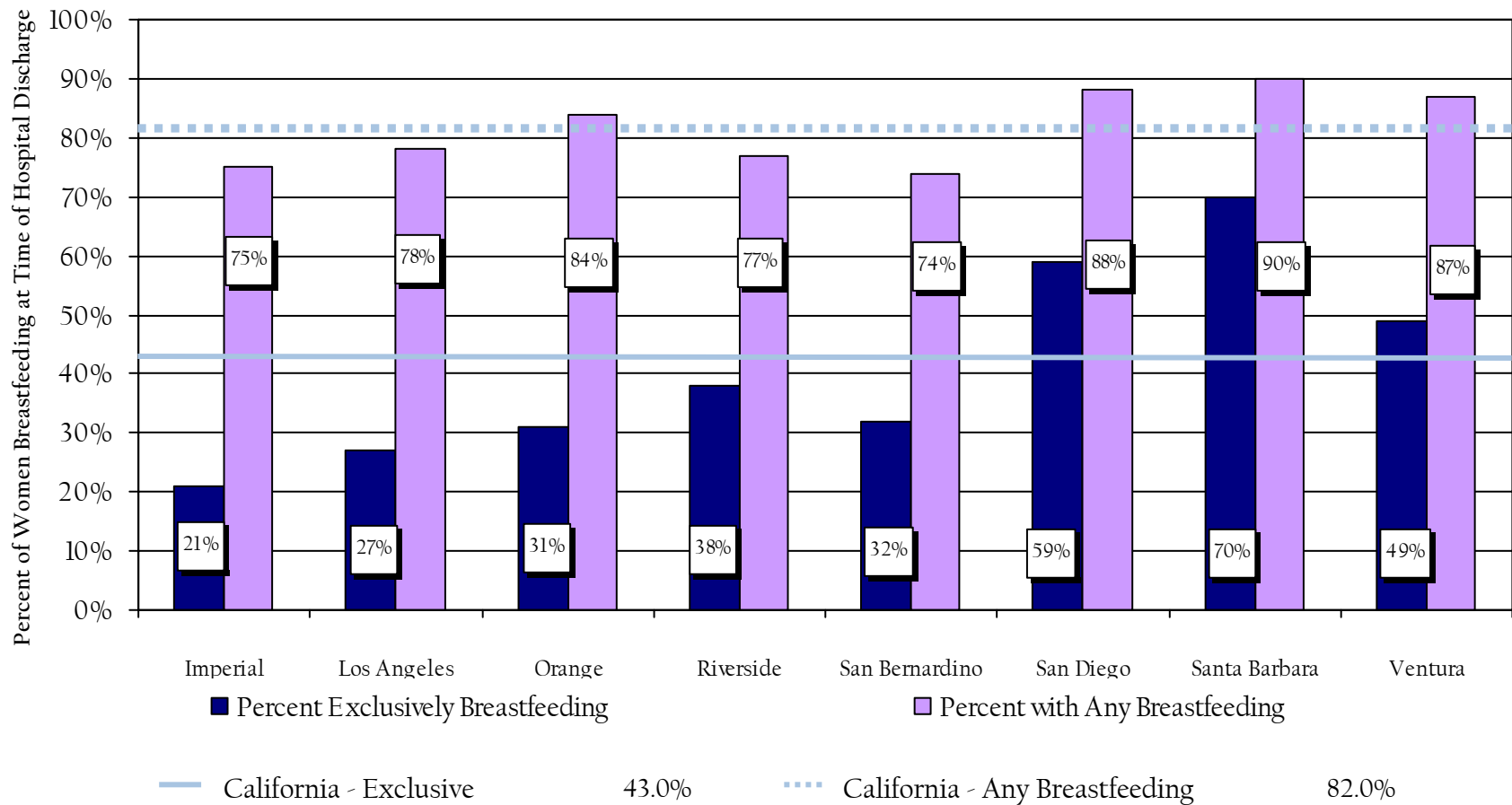
#### Highlights

- In 2000, the average percentage of Southern California women exclusively breastfeeding (41%) was only slightly lower than that of the state (43%). However, there was a great deal of variation among the Southern Counties with the percentage of women exclusively breastfeeding ranging from 21% in Imperial County to 70% in Santa Barbara County.
- The percentage of women reporting any breastfeeding in Southern California was equal to the percentage statewide (82%). There was less variation in the Southern Counties than the percentage who exclusively breastfed, with percentages ranging from 74% in San Bernardino to 90% in Santa Barbara.

<sup>8</sup>Exclusively breastfeeding includes women who are only breastfeeding (California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Branch, 2002).

<sup>9</sup>Any breastfeeding includes women who are exclusively breastfeeding and those who are supplementing breastfeeding with formula (California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Branch, 2002).

**Figure 9 Women Exclusively Breastfeeding and Women with Any Breastfeeding, 2000**



Source: California Department of Health Services, Maternal and Child Health Data Branch (2000).

#### 14. Immunization

This indicator represents the percentage of children entering kindergarten, licensed child care centers, and the seventh grade who received their required immunizations<sup>10</sup> in 2002. Table 12 shows the percentage of immunized children among the Southern Counties.

#### Highlights

- In 2003, almost all of the counties in Southern California either met or exceeded the statewide percentage of children who were immunized in kindergarten, licensed child care, and seventh grade.
- A lower percentage of children in the seventh grade had been immunized compared to the other groups, regardless of their county of residence.

<sup>10</sup>To enter or transfer into public or private elementary and secondary schools (grades K-12), children under age 18 must be immunized with the following vaccines: (a) Polio; (b) Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTP); (c) Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR); (d) Hepatitis B; and (e) Varicella. The required doses for these vaccines vary by age. To enter child care, children under age 5 must be immunized with the following vaccines; (a) Polio; (b) Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTP); (c) Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR); (d) Hepatitis B; and (e) Varicella; and (f) Hemophilus influenzae type B (Hib). The number of doses for these vaccines varies by age. Additional information can be obtained from the California Department of Health Services' Immunization Branch (see California Department of Health Services, Division of Communicable Diseases Control, Immunization Branch, 2003a, 2003b).

Table 12 Immunized Children in Kindergarten, Licensed Child Care Centers, and Seventh Grade, 2003

| Region                     | Kindergarten | Licensed Child Care | Seventh Grade |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Imperial                   | 93.2%        | 93.4%               | 80.1%         |
| Los Angeles                | 90.7%        | 94.0%               | 77.7%         |
| Orange                     | 92.9%        | 92.6%               | 80.8%         |
| Riverside                  | 95.2%        | 95.6%               | 77.6%         |
| San Bernardino             | 95.5%        | 99.1%               | 78.3%         |
| San Diego                  | 93.7%        | 93.0%               | 80.3%         |
| Santa Barbara              | 92.5%        | 92.0%               | 78.6%         |
| Ventura                    | 90.8%        | 92.0%               | 75.4%         |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>93.1%</b> | <b>94.0%</b>        | <b>78.6%</b>  |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>92.5%</b> | <b>93.4%</b>        | <b>78.8%</b>  |

Source: California Department of Health Services, Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch (2003a, 2003b, and 2003c).

### 15. Asthma

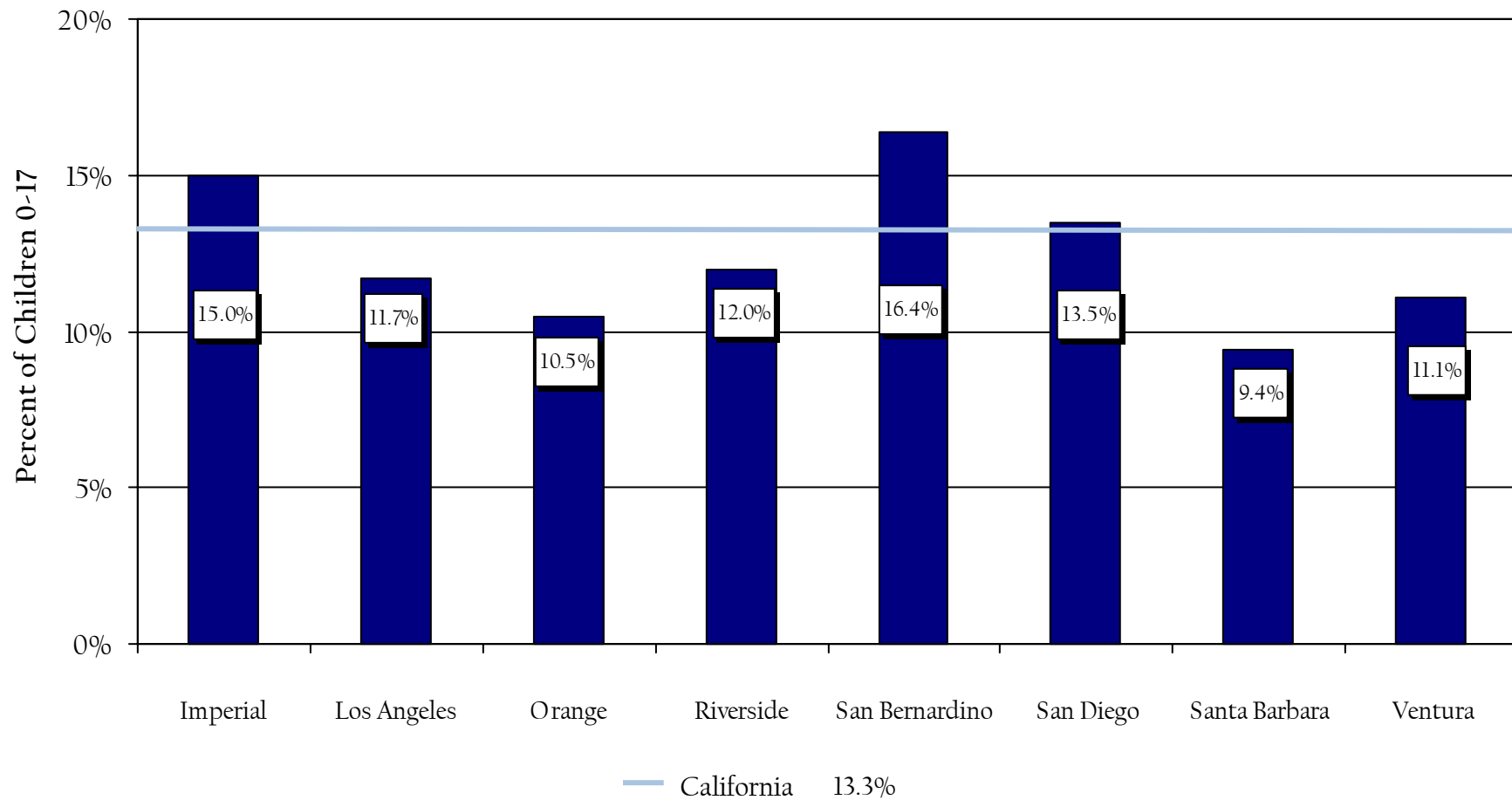
This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 0-17 who, in 2001, were reported to have been diagnosed with asthma<sup>11</sup> by a physician at any time. Figure 10 shows the percentage of children ages 0-17 in Southern California who were reported to be diagnosed with asthma by a physician at any time.

#### Highlights

- In 2001, the percentage of children diagnosed with asthma was higher in three of the eight Southern Counties than that of the state (13.3%). These counties were San Bernardino (16.4%), Imperial (15.0%), and San Diego (13.5%).
- The counties of Orange and Santa Barbara had the lowest percentage of children diagnosed with asthma among the Southern Counties with 9.4% and 10.5%, respectively.

<sup>11</sup>Asthma is a disease that affects your lungs. It is the most common long-term disease of children. It causes repeated episodes of wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and nighttime or early morning coughing. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2005).

Figure 10 Asthma Among Children, Ages 0-17, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Survey.

## 16. Overweight Children

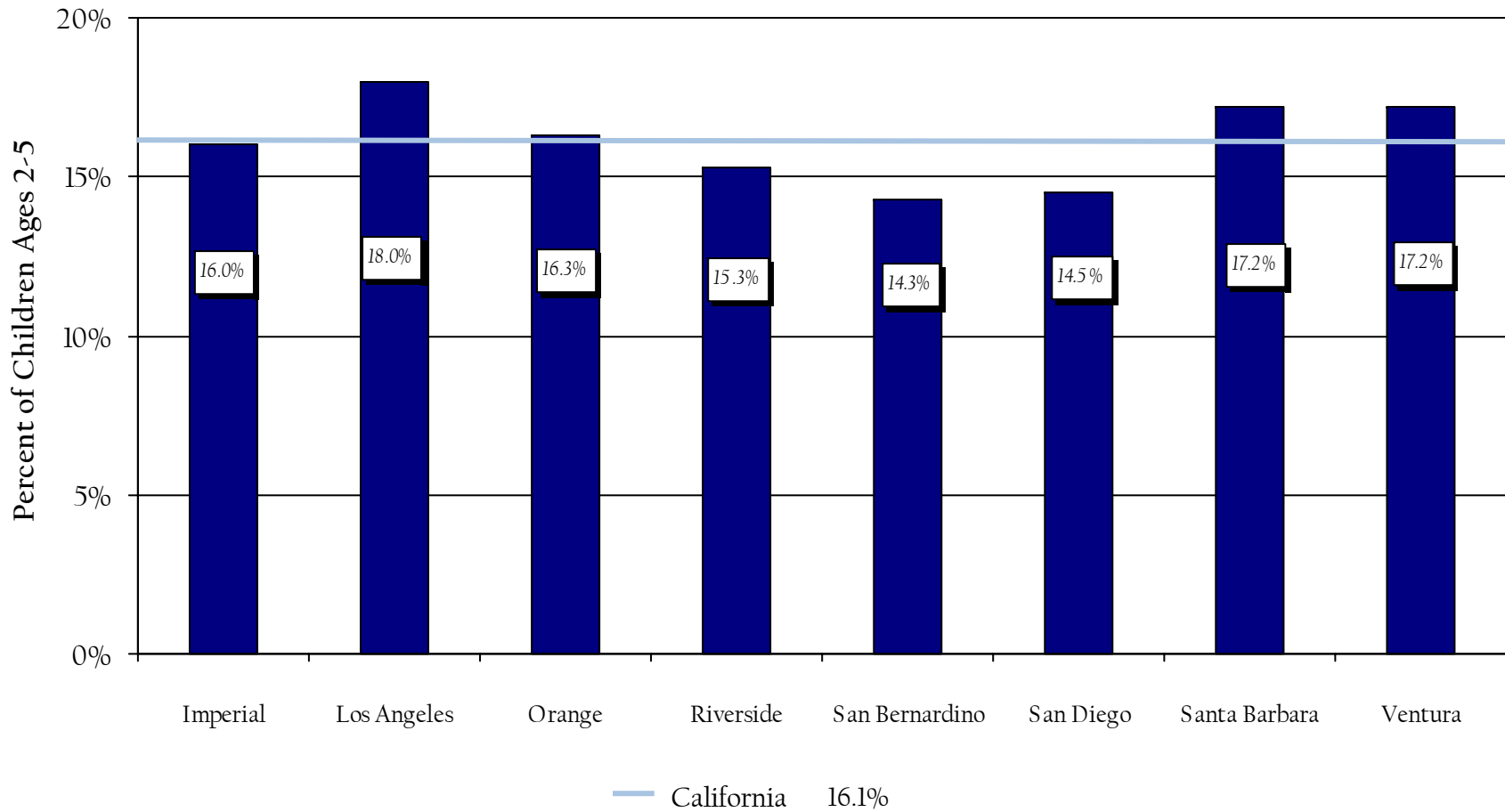
This indicator represents the percentage of children determined to be overweight in 2001, based on health assessments from the Child Health and Disability Prevention<sup>12</sup> (CHDP) program and reported by the California Food Policy Advocates (2003). Figures 11 and 12 show the percentage of overweight children ages 2-5 and 6-20 in Southern California who were receiving services from the CHDP program.

### Highlights

- Among the Southern Counties, Los Angeles County had the highest percentage of children ages 2-5 who were overweight in 2001 with 18.0%.
- For children ages 6 to 20, Imperial County had the highest percentage of overweight children among the Southern Counties in 2001 with 23.5%. San Bernardino has the lowest percentage at 19.1%.

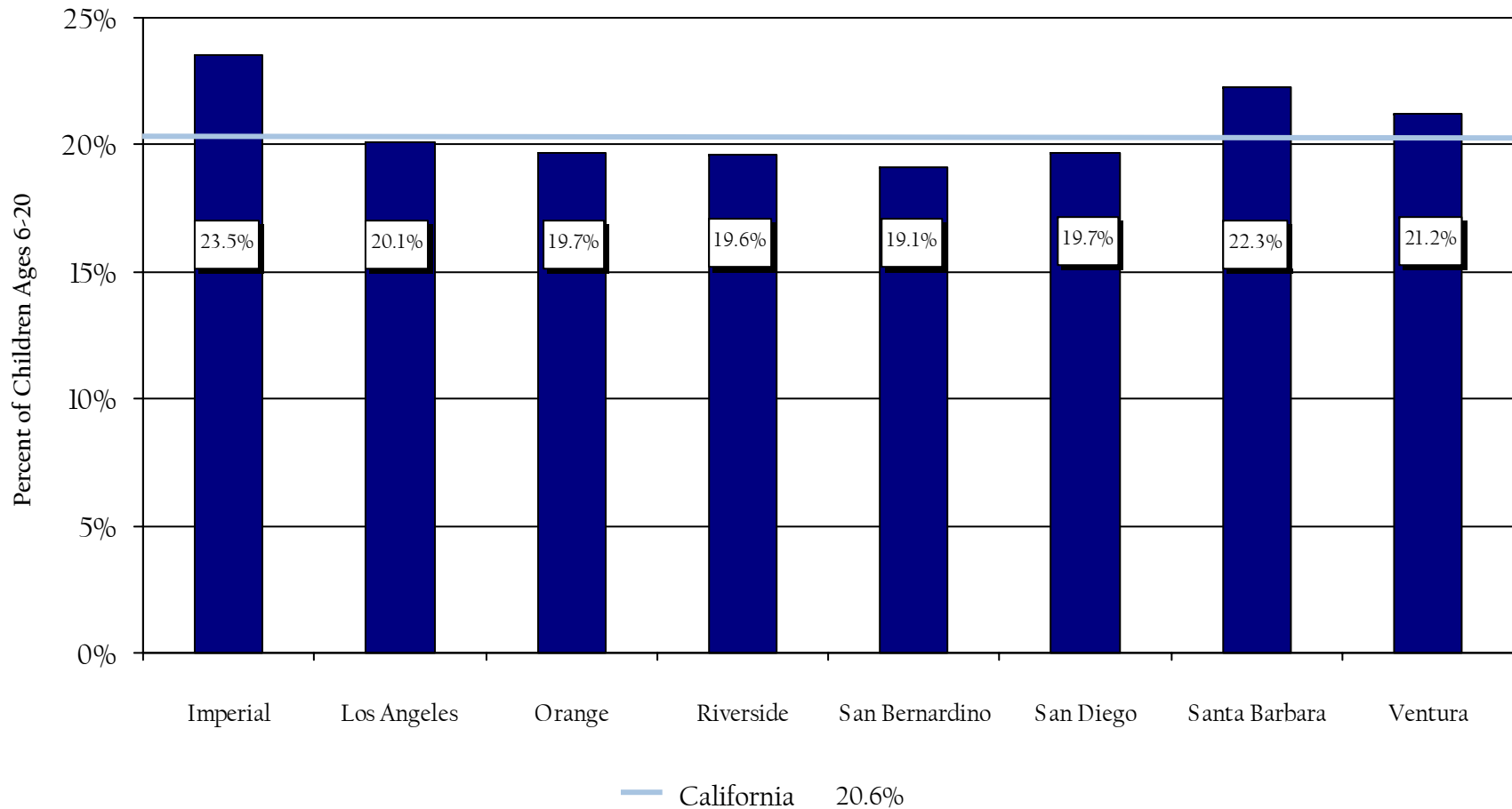
<sup>12</sup>This measure includes those children whose BMI-for-age and gender (2-20 years of age) and weight-for-length and gender (under 2 years of age) are in or above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile. This means that 95% of children of the same age and gender are of normal weight (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2004).

Figure 11 Children Ages 2-5 Who Were Overweight, 2001



Source: California Food Policy Advocates (2003).

Figure 12 Children Ages 6-20 Who Were Overweight, 2001



Source: California Food Policy Advocates (2003).

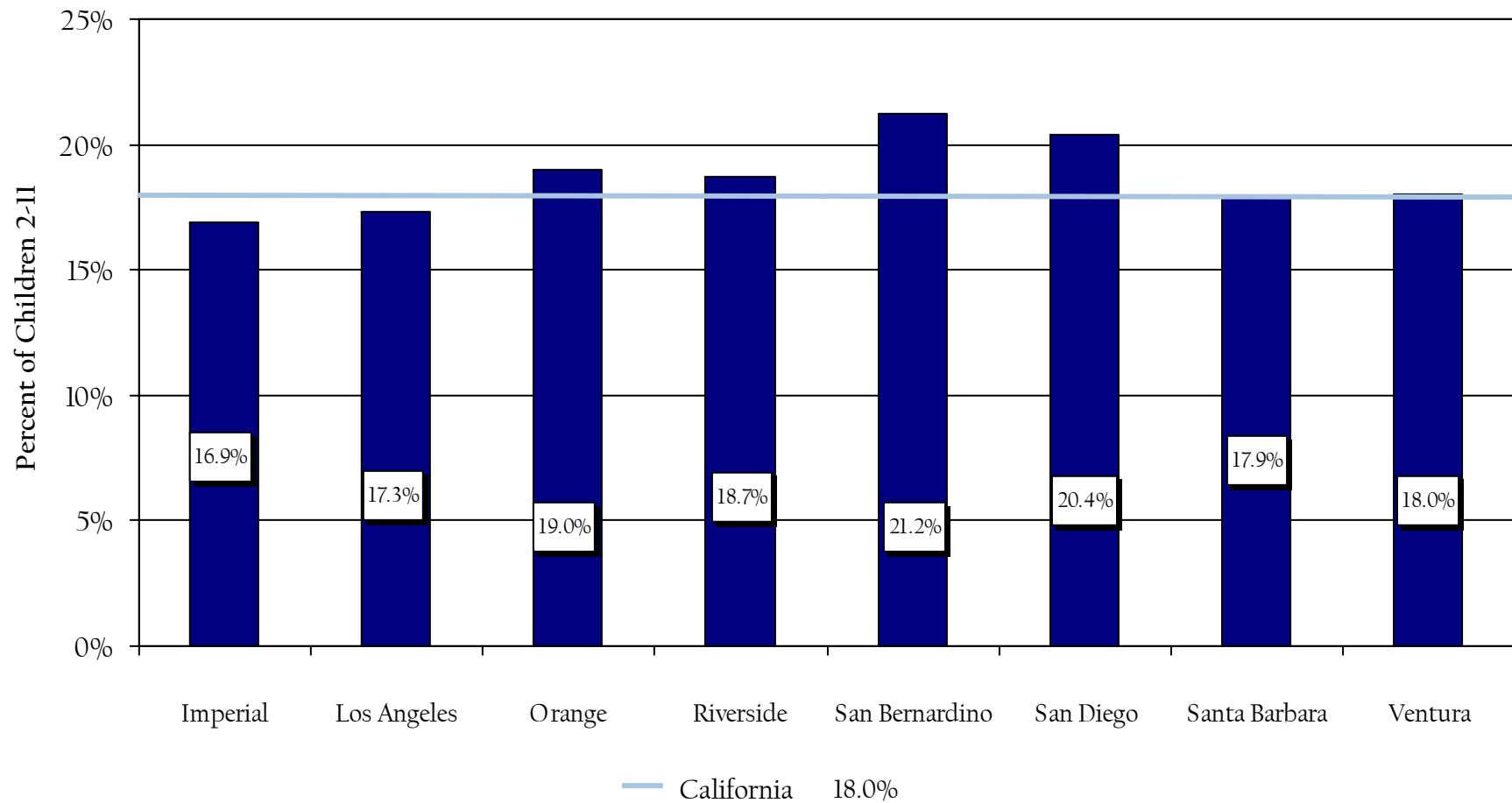
### 17. Oral Health

This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 2-11 who, in 2001, were reported to have never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist. Figures 13 and 14 show the percentage of Southern California children in two age groups, 2-11 and 2-5, who have never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist.

#### Highlights

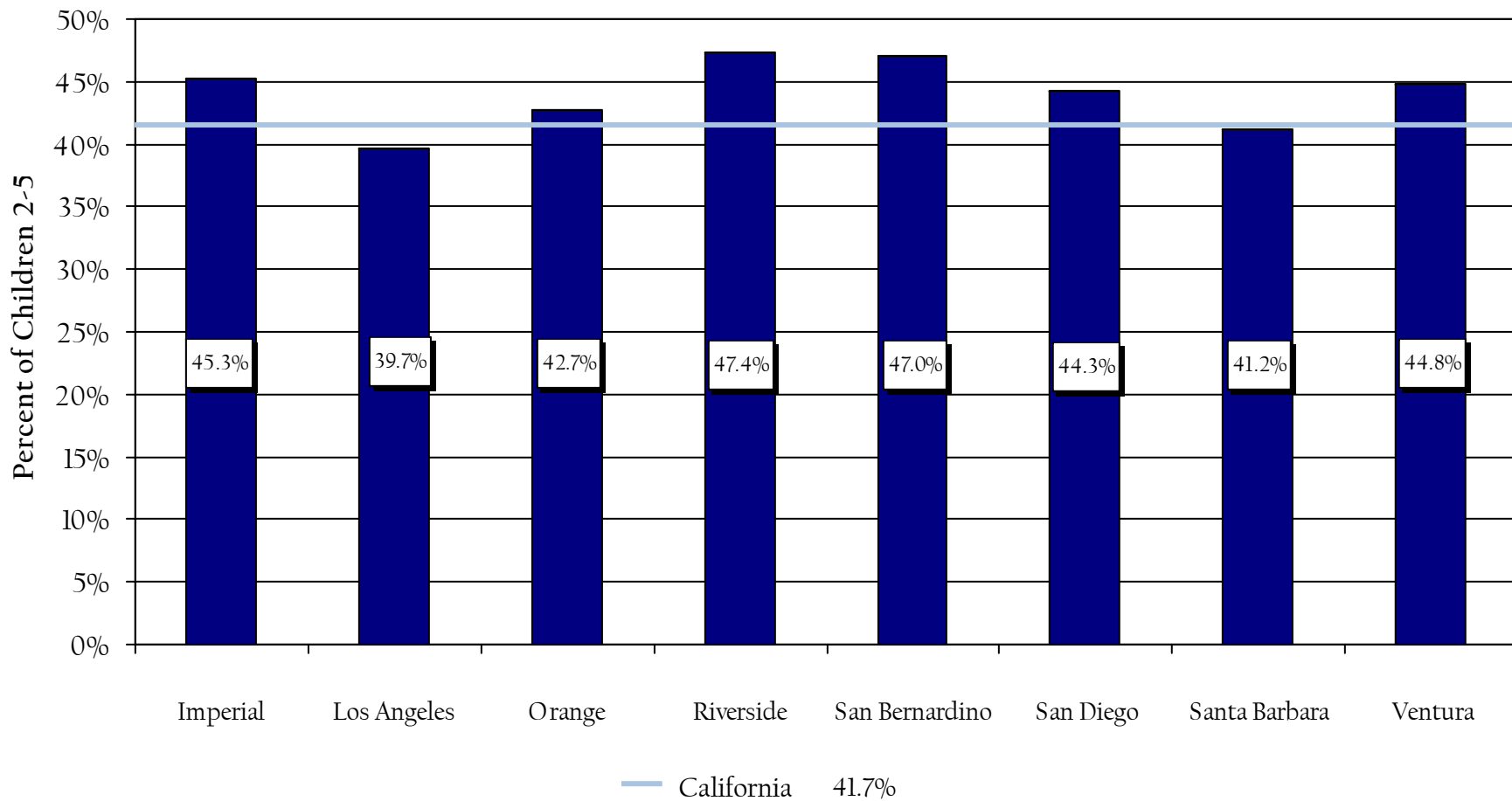
- In 2001, five of the eight counties in Southern California (Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura) had an equal or higher percentage of children ages 2-11 who were reported to have never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist than did the state (18.0%).
- For children ages 2-5, the proportion of children who had never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist was twice as high as it was for children ages 2-11. Almost half of the children ages 2-5 were reported to have never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist. The counties of Los Angeles and Santa Barbara are the only two Southern Counties whose percentages (39.7% and 41.2%, respectively) were lower than that of the state (41.7%).

Figure 13 Children Ages 2-11 Who Have Never Visited a Dentist, Dental Hygienist, or Orthodontist, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

Figure 14 Children Ages 2-5 Who Have Never Visited a Dentist, Dental Hygienist, or Orthodontist, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

## 18. Disabilities

This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 5-15 and young adults ages 16-20 with disabilities in 2000.<sup>13</sup> Disabilities among children ages 5-15 include sensory, physical, mental, or self-care disabilities. Disabilities among young adults ages 16-20 include sensory, physical, mental, or self-care, going outside-the-home, and employment disabilities.<sup>14</sup> Figures 15 and 16 show the percentage of children and young adults in the Southern California Region with a disability.

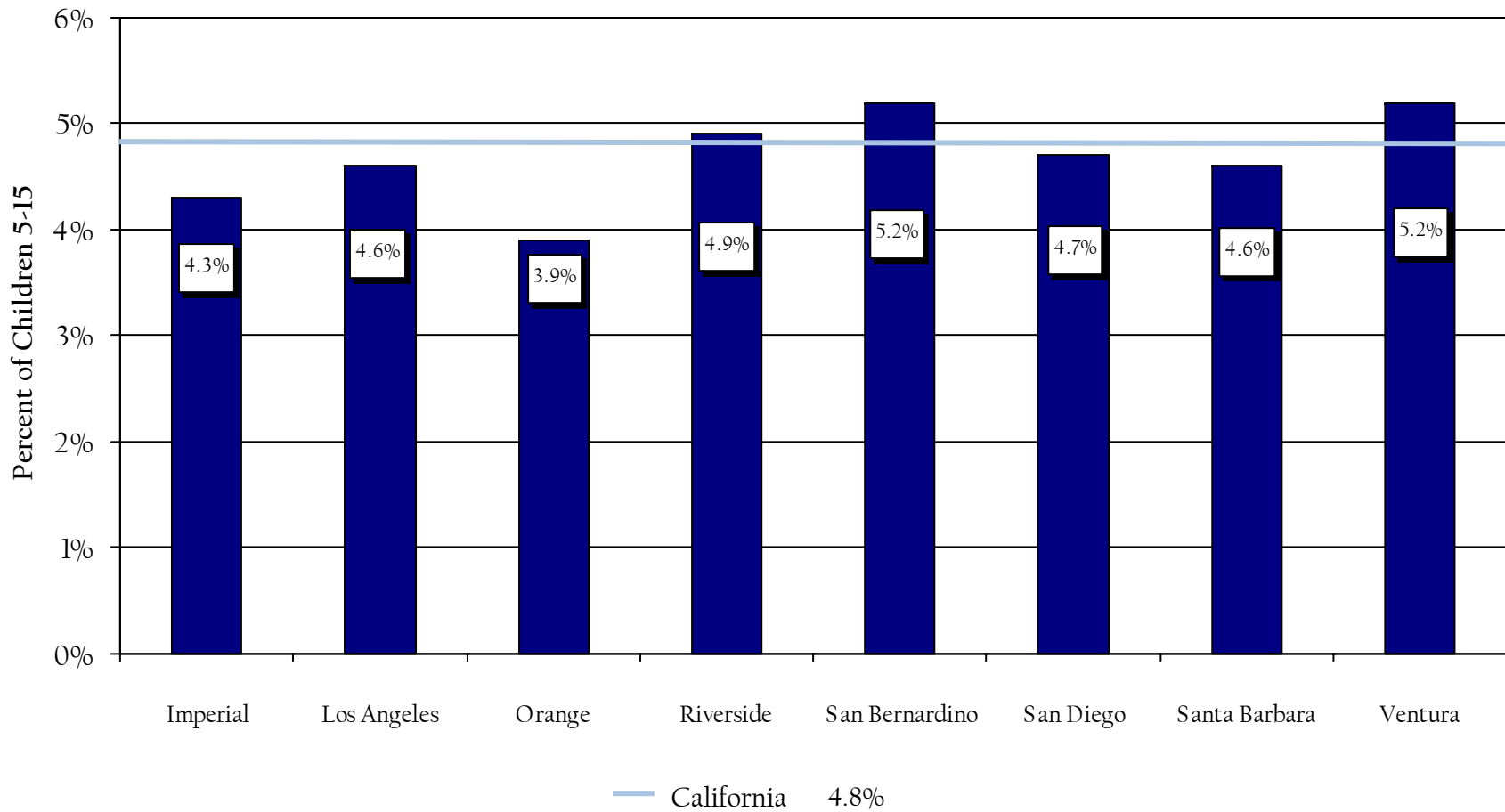
### Highlights

- In 2000, Orange County (3.9%) had the lowest percentage of children ages 5-15 with disabilities as compared to the rest of the Southern Counties, while the counties of San Bernardino and Ventura (both at 5.2%) had the highest percentage of children ages 5-15 with disabilities amongst the Southern Counties.
- Among young adults ages 16-20 in Southern California, Santa Barbara County had the lowest percentage of children with disabilities (10.6%) while Los Angeles had the highest (15.5%).

<sup>13</sup> The data are for children and young adults from a civilian non-institutionalized population.

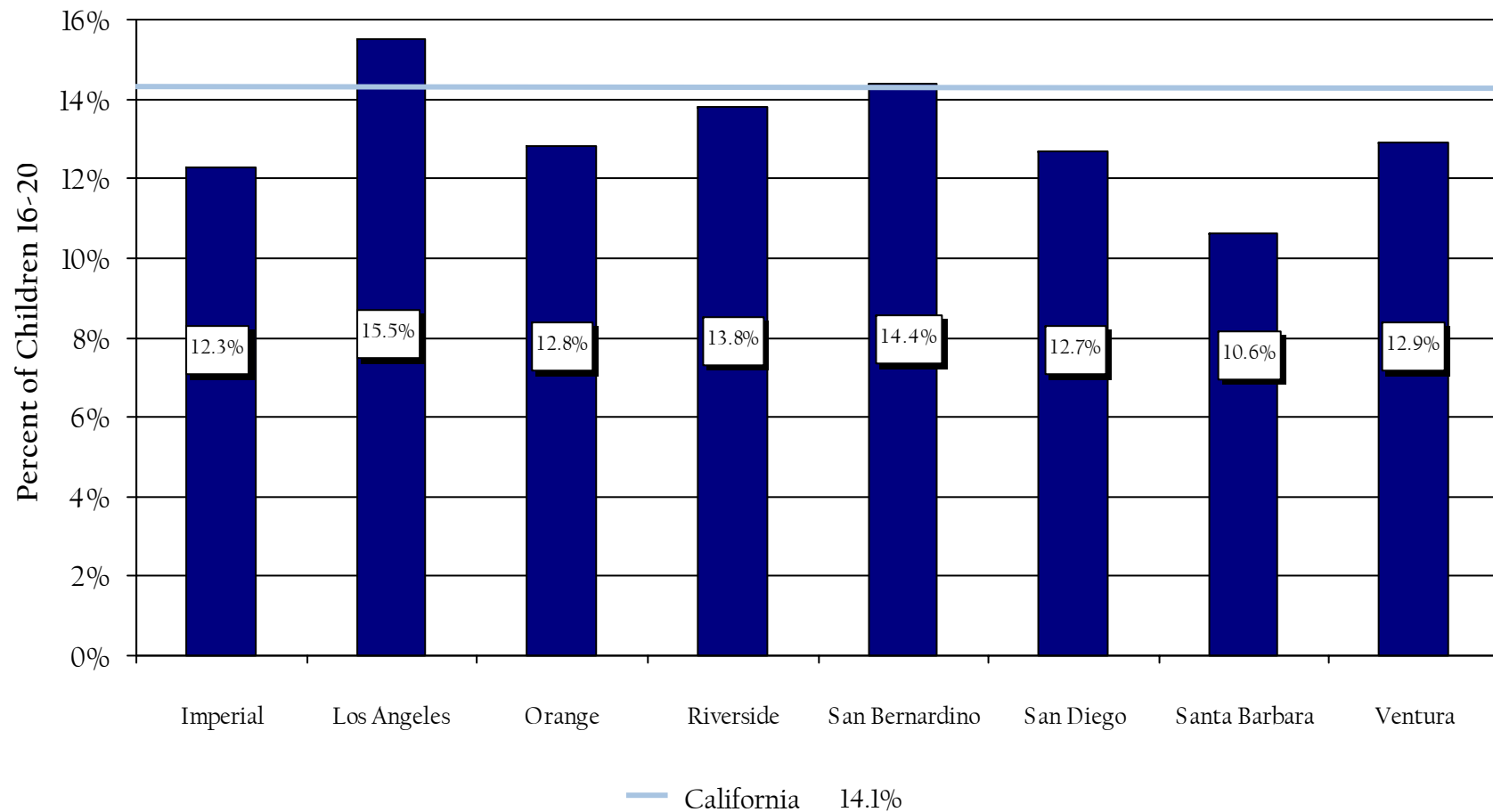
<sup>14</sup> Sensory disability includes blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment. Physical disability includes a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities, such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying. Mental disability includes a condition lasting 6 months or longer that makes it difficult to perform certain activities such as learning, remembering, or concentrating. Self-care disability includes a condition lasting 6 months or longer that makes it difficult to perform certain activities such as dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home. Going outside-the-home disability includes a condition lasting 6 months or longer that makes it difficult to perform certain activities such as going outside the home along to shop or visit a doctor's office. Finally, employment disability includes a condition lasting 6 months or longer that makes it difficult to work at a job or business (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003b).

Figure 15 Children 5-15 with Disabilities, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Figure 16 Children 16-20 with Disabilities, 2000



Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000.

**19. Fatal Injuries**

This indicator represents the causes of fatal injuries of children in the State of California in 2001. The data is presented for three child age groups, 0-5, 6-11, and 12-17. Tables 13 through 15 show the causes of fatal injuries in each of these age groups in Southern California. Categories where no fatal injuries occurred in 2001 were eliminated from the tables.

**Highlights**

- In 2001, the deaths among children ages 0-17 in Southern California (588 deaths) represented more than half (54%) of all deaths in the state (1,091 deaths) for this age group.
- Motor vehicle traffic accidents were the leading cause of death among children ages 0-5 in Southern California (55 deaths) and California (91 deaths). Drowning was the second leading cause of death among children ages 0-5 in both the Southern Counties (36 deaths) and California (69 deaths).
- Motor vehicle traffic accidents were the leading cause of death among children ages 6-11 in Southern California (35 deaths) and California (65 deaths).
- In the 12-17 age group, motor vehicle traffic accidents were the leading cause of death in Southern California (116 deaths). The second leading cause of death from fatal injuries in this age group was from assault/homicide with Southern California accounting for 112 adolescents deaths in 2001 (100 by firearm). These 112 deaths in Southern California from assault/homicide represents approximately 72% of all deaths from assault/homicide in California.

Table 13 Fatal Injuries in California Ages 0-5, 2001

| Fatal Injury Data<br>Ages 0 to 5 | Imperial | Los Angeles | Orange | Riverside | San Bernardino | San Diego | Santa Barbara | Ventura | Southern California | California |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------------|------------|
| All injuries                     | 3        | 87          | 32     | 31        | 29             | 19        | 2             | 3       | 206                 | 354        |
| Detailed causes of injury        |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Unintentional Injuries           |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Burn, Fire/Flame                 | -        | 5           | 2      | -         | 3              | -         | -             | -       | 10                  | 19         |
| Burn, Hot Object/Substance       | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| Drowning/Submersion              | -        | 12          | 8      | 7         | 3              | 5         | 1             | -       | 36                  | 69         |
| Fall                             | -        | 1           | 2      | -         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 4                   | 6          |
| Machinery                        | -        | -           | -      | 1         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| MVT, Occupant                    | 1        | 7           | 4      | 5         | 6              | 1         | -             | -       | 24                  | 37         |
| MVT, Bicyclist                   | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 1          |
| MVT, Pedestrian                  | 1        | 14          | 3      | 3         | 1              | 1         | -             | 1       | 24                  | 37         |
| MVT, Unspecified                 | -        | 2           | 1      | -         | 1              | 2         | -             | 1       | 7                   | 16         |
| Bicyclist, Other                 | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| Pedestrian, Other                | -        | 3           | 1      | 1         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 6                   | 11         |
| Transport, Other                 | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 2          |
| Natural/Environmental            | -        | -           | -      | -         | 2              | -         | -             | -       | 2                   | 5          |
| Poisoning                        | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 2                   | 2          |
| Struck by Object                 | -        | 1           | -      | 1         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 3                   | 5          |
| Suffocation                      | -        | 5           | 9      | 3         | 1              | 3         | 1             | 1       | 23                  | 46         |
| Other                            | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 3          |
| Self-Inflicted/Suicide           |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Other                            | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | -          |
| Assault/Homicide                 |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Abuse/Neglect                    | -        | 10          | 1      | 3         | 3              | -         | -             | -       | 17                  | 22         |
| Cut/Pierce                       | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| Firearm                          | -        | 1           | -      | 1         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 3                   | 9          |
| Other                            | -        | 10          | 1      | 4         | 3              | 2         | -             | -       | 20                  | 30         |
| Other                            |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Other - Undetermined Intent      | 1        | 7           | -      | 1         | 1              | 2         | -             | -       | 12                  | 21         |
| Other - Late Effects             | -        | 5           | -      | 1         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 8                   | 9          |

- Represents zero events.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control Branch (n.d.).

Table 14 Fatal Injuries in California Ages 6-11, 2001

| Fatal Injury Data<br>Ages 6 to 11 | Imperial | Los Angeles | Orange | Riverside | San Bernardino | San Diego | Santa Barbara | Ventura | Southern California | California |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------------|------------|
| All injuries                      | 1        | 36          | 7      | 10        | 6              | 10        | 1             | 1       | 72                  | 151        |
| Detailed causes of injury         |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Unintentional Injuries            |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Burn, Fire/Flame                  | -        | 1           | 1      | 1         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 4                   | 11         |
| Burn, Hot Object/Substance        | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 1          |
| Drowning/Submersion               | -        | 3           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 4                   | 16         |
| Fall                              | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | 1       | 2                   | 3          |
| Machinery                         | -        | -           | -      | -         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| MVT, Occupant                     | -        | 8           | 1      | 4         | 2              | 2         | -             | -       | 17                  | 30         |
| MVT, Bicyclist                    | 1        | 2           | -      | 1         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 4                   | 7          |
| MVT, Pedestrian                   | -        | 3           | 2      | 2         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 9                   | 13         |
| MVT, Unspecified                  | -        | -           | 2      | 1         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 5                   | 15         |
| Bicyclist, Other                  | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 3          |
| Pedestrian, Other                 | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 1          |
| Transport, Other                  | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 2                   | 2          |
| Natural/Environmental             | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 1          |
| Struck by Object                  | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 4          |
| Suffocation                       | -        | 1           | -      | 1         | -              | -         | 1             | -       | 3                   | 9          |
| Other                             | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 2          |
| Self-Inflicted/Suicide            |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Hanging/Suffocation               | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 1          |
| Assault/Homicide                  |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Cut/Pierce                        | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 2          |
| Firearm                           | -        | 6           | 1      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 7                   | 11         |
| Other                             | -        | 4           | -      | -         | -              | 2         | -             | -       | 6                   | 7          |
| Other                             |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Other - Undetermined Intent       | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 2                   | 7          |
| Other - Late Effects              | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 2                   | 2          |

- Represents zero events.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control Branch (n.d.).

Table 15 Fatal Injuries in California Ages 12-17, 2001

| Fatal Injury Data<br>Ages 12 to 17 | Imperial | Los Angeles | Orange | Riverside | San Bernardino | San Diego | Santa Barbara | Ventura | Southern California | California |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------------|------------|
| All injuries                       | 6        | 166         | 20     | 38        | 34             | 37        | 3             | 6       | 310                 | 586        |
| Detailed causes of injury          |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Unintentional Injuries             |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Burn, Fire/Flame                   | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 3          |
| Drowning/Submersion                | -        | 5           | -      | -         | 1              | 1         | 2             | -       | 9                   | 21         |
| Fall                               | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| Firearms                           | -        | 1           | -      | -         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 3                   | 6          |
| MVT, Occupant                      | 1        | 34          | 5      | 9         | 6              | 8         | -             | 1       | 64                  | 117        |
| MVT, Motorcyclist                  | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | 2         | -             | -       | 3                   | 7          |
| MVT, Bicyclist                     | -        | 2           | 1      | 2         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 5                   | 9          |
| MVT, Pedestrian                    | -        | 9           | 2      | 4         | 3              | 3         | -             | -       | 21                  | 36         |
| MVT, Unspecified                   | 3        | 5           | 1      | 2         | 5              | 7         | -             | -       | 23                  | 89         |
| Bicyclist, Other                   | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | 1         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| Pedestrian, Other                  | -        | 3           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 3                   | 4          |
| Transport, Other                   | -        | 1           | -      | -         | 2              | 1         | -             | -       | 4                   | 12         |
| Poisoning                          | -        | 3           | -      | -         | 2              | 2         | -             | 2       | 9                   | 13         |
| Struck by Object                   | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 2          |
| Suffocation                        | -        | 4           | -      | 2         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 6                   | 10         |
| Other                              | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 7          |
| Self-Inflicted/Suicide             |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Firearm                            | -        | 10          | 3      | 2         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 17                  | 30         |
| Hanging/Suffocation                | 1        | 4           | 2      | 3         | 1              | 4         | 1             | -       | 16                  | 37         |
| Jump                               | -        | 1           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 1                   | 1          |
| Poisoning                          | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 1          |
| Other                              | -        | 1           | -      | -         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 3                   | 7          |
| Assault/Homicide                   |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Blunt Object                       | -        | -           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | -                   | 2          |
| Cut/Pierce                         | 1        | 2           | -      | 1         | -              | -         | -             | 2       | 6                   | 9          |
| Firearm                            | -        | 68          | 6      | 12        | 9              | 4         | -             | 1       | 100                 | 136        |
| Other                              | -        | 5           | -      | -         | 1              | -         | -             | -       | 6                   | 9          |
| Other                              |          |             |        |           |                |           |               |         |                     |            |
| Other - Undetermined Intent        | -        | 2           | -      | -         | -              | -         | -             | -       | 2                   | 8          |
| Other - Late Effects               | -        | 1           | -      | 1         | 1              | 1         | -             | -       | 4                   | 7          |

- Represents zero events.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control Branch (n.d.).

## 20. Births to Teenage Mothers

This indicator represents the teen birth rate, per 1,000 females ages 15-19,<sup>15</sup> for the year 2003. Figure 17 shows the teen birth rates in Southern California.

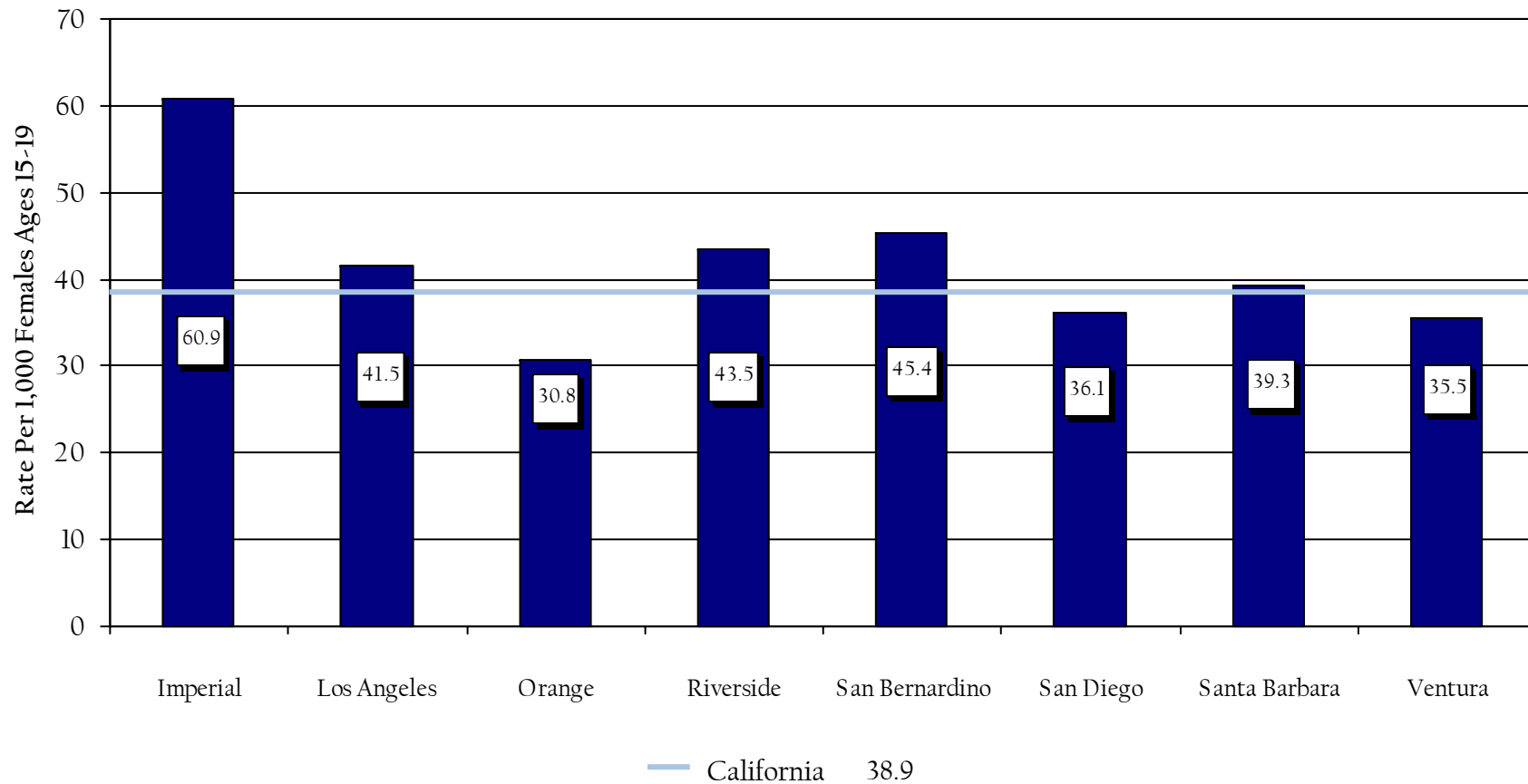
### Highlights

- In 2003, Imperial County's rate of teen births was 60.9 per 1,000 females, roughly 50% higher than that of the statewide rate of 38.9 per 1,000 females.
- Orange County had the lowest teen birth rate for females ages 15-19 among the Southern Counties with a birth rate of 30.8 per 1,000 females.

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<sup>15</sup>Also referred to as teenage mothers.

Figure 17 Teen Birth Rate for Females Ages 15-19, 2003



Note: Rates are based on adjusted population rates.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Data Tables 2003 (2004a).  
 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (1998)

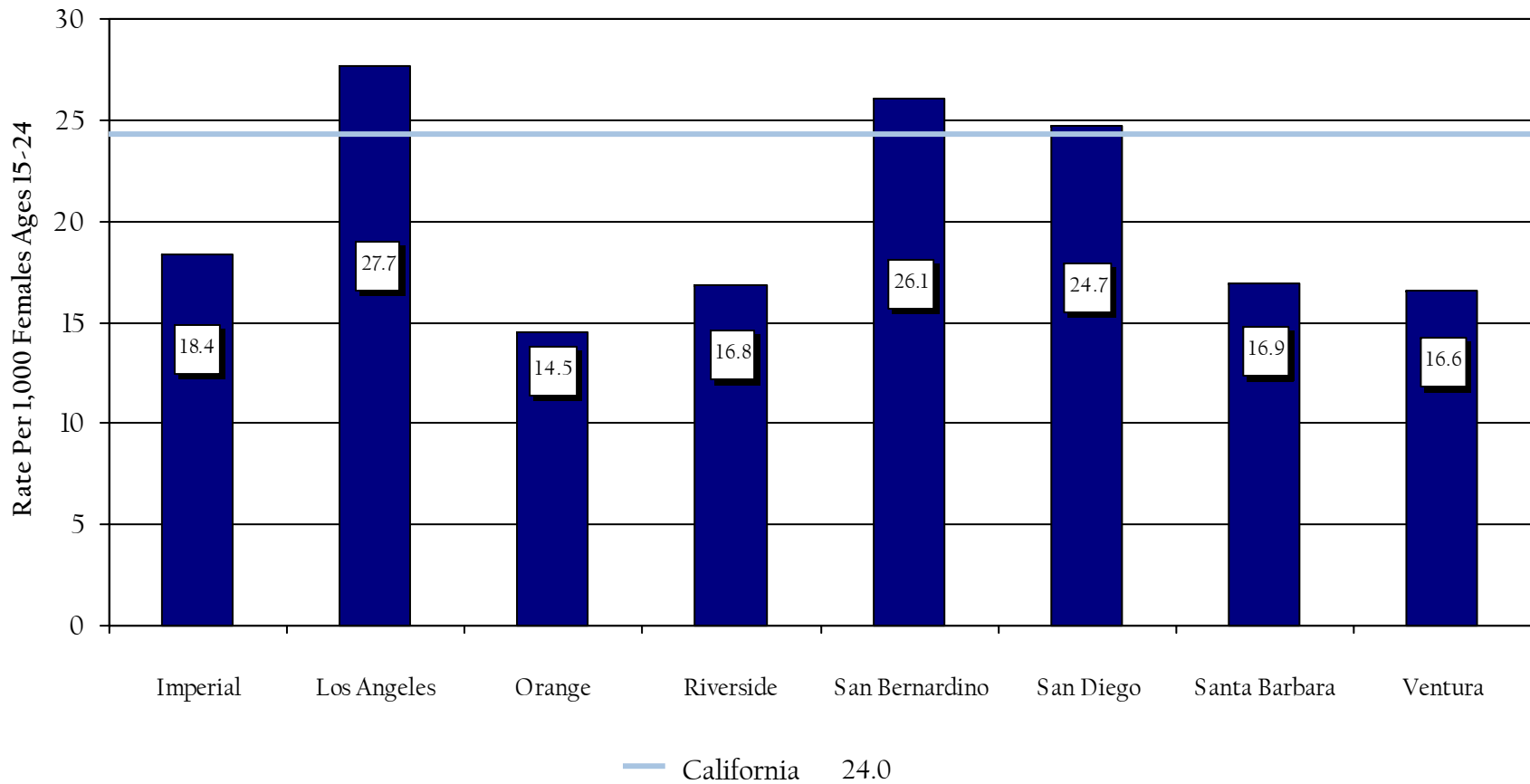
**21. Sexually Transmitted Infections**

This indicator represents the number of females, ages 15-24, who were diagnosed with chlamydia and gonorrhea in 2003. Figure 18 shows the rates of chlamydia infections among females ages 15-24 in Southern California. Figure 19 shows the rates of gonorrhea infections among females ages 15-24 in Southern California.

**Highlights**

- In 2003, the rates of chlamydia infections among females ages 15-24 in three of the eight Southern Counties (Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and San Diego) were higher than the statewide rate of 24.0 per 1,000 females ages 15-24. Rates of chlamydia infections in the Southern Counties varied and ranged from 14.5 per 1,000 females in Orange County to 27.7 per 1,000 females in Los Angeles County.
- The rates of gonorrhea infections per 1,000 females ages 15-24 in Southern California were highly variable. The counties of San Bernardino and Los Angeles had the highest rates with 3.9 and 3.7 per 1,000 females, respectively, while Santa Barbara County had the lowest rate with 0.7 per 1,000 females.

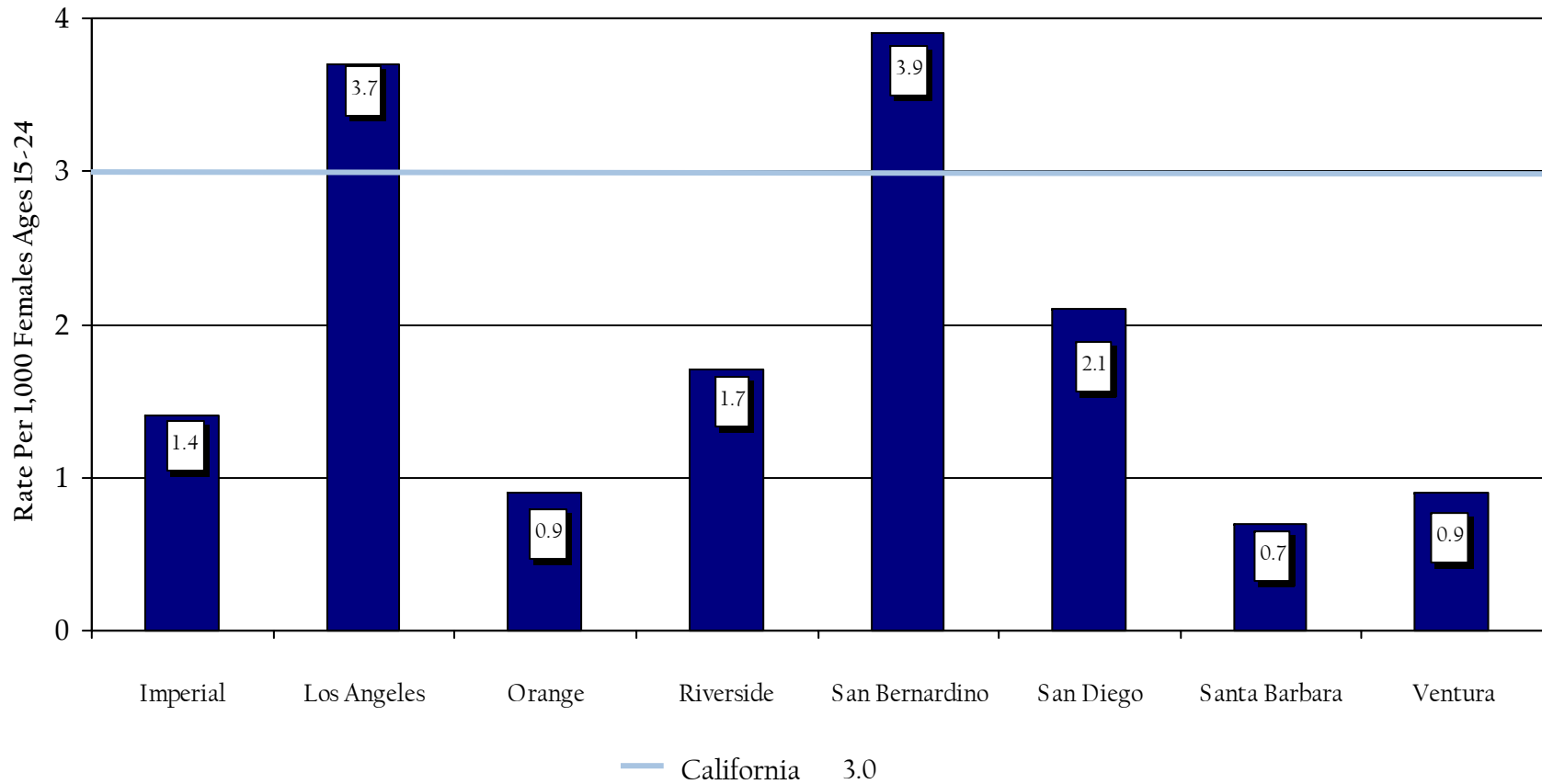
Figure 18 Rates for Chlamydia Infections for Females Ages 15-24, 2003



Note: Rates are based on 2003 population estimates.

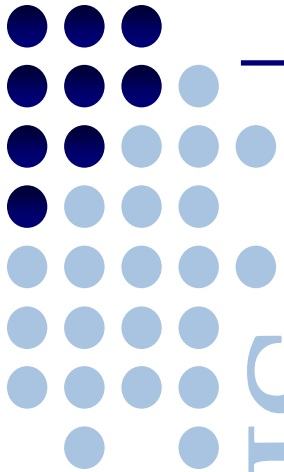
Source: California Department of Health Services, Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Branch (2003).  
 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).

Figure 19 Rates for Gonorrhea Infections for Females Ages 15-24, 2003



Note: Rates are based on 2003 population estimates.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Branch (2003).  
 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).



# SECTION 3

## ACCESS INDICATORS

- 22. Health Insurance
- 23. Usual Source of Health Care
- 24. Medi-Cal Program Enrollment
- 25. Enrollment in the Healthy Families Program
- 26. Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

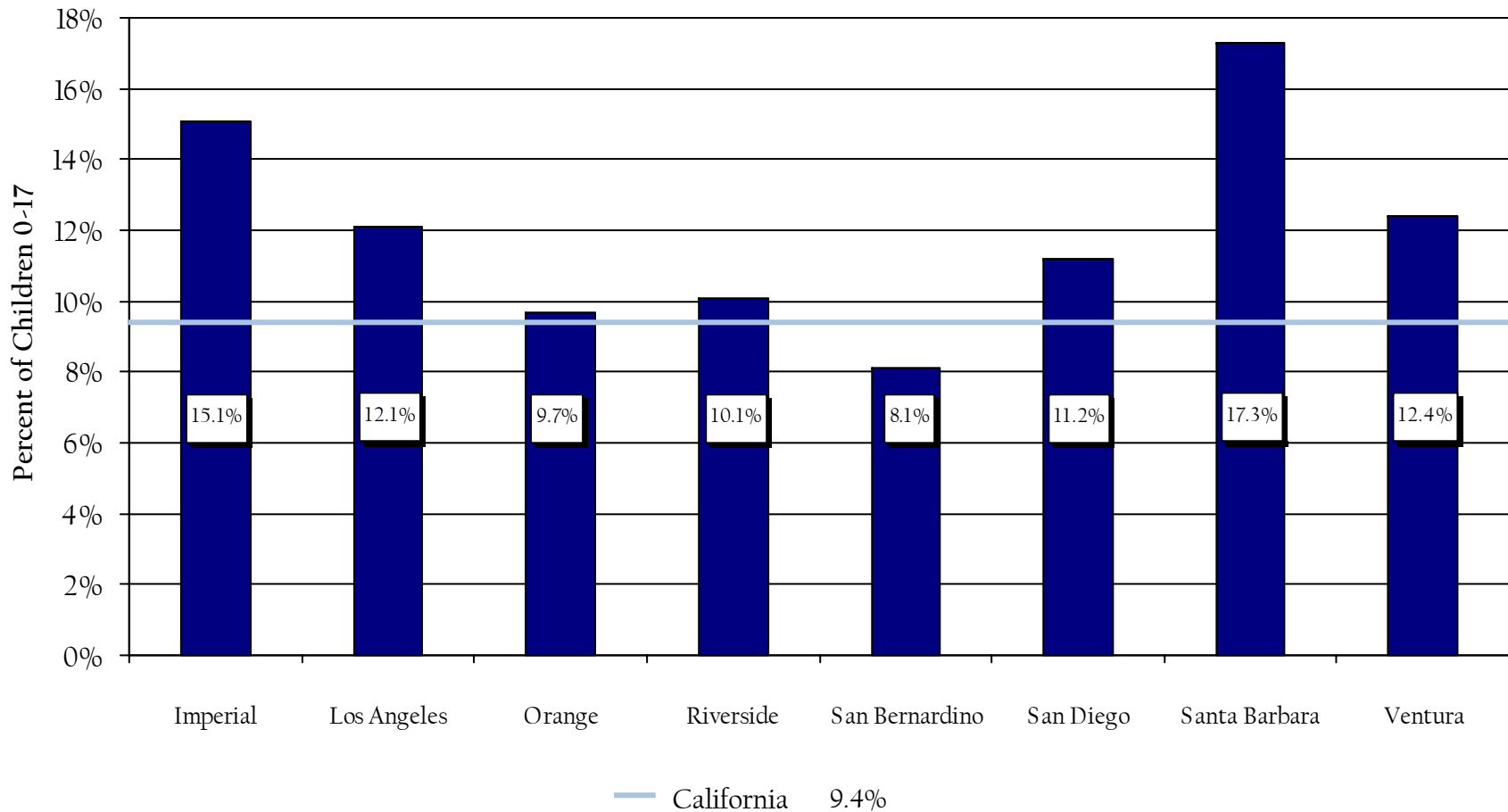
## 22. Health Insurance

This indicator represents the reported percentage of children under the age of 18 who had no health insurance coverage, either public or private, at the time of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001. Figure 20 shows the uninsured rate for children living in Southern California.

### Highlights

- In 2001, Santa Barbara had the highest percentage of uninsured children ages 6-17 (17.3%) among the Southern Counties. This is almost double the statewide percentage at 9.4%.
- The lowest percentage of uninsured children ages 0-17 was in San Bernardino where only 8.1% of the children were uninsured.

Figure 20 Children Ages 0-17 without Health Insurance Coverage, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

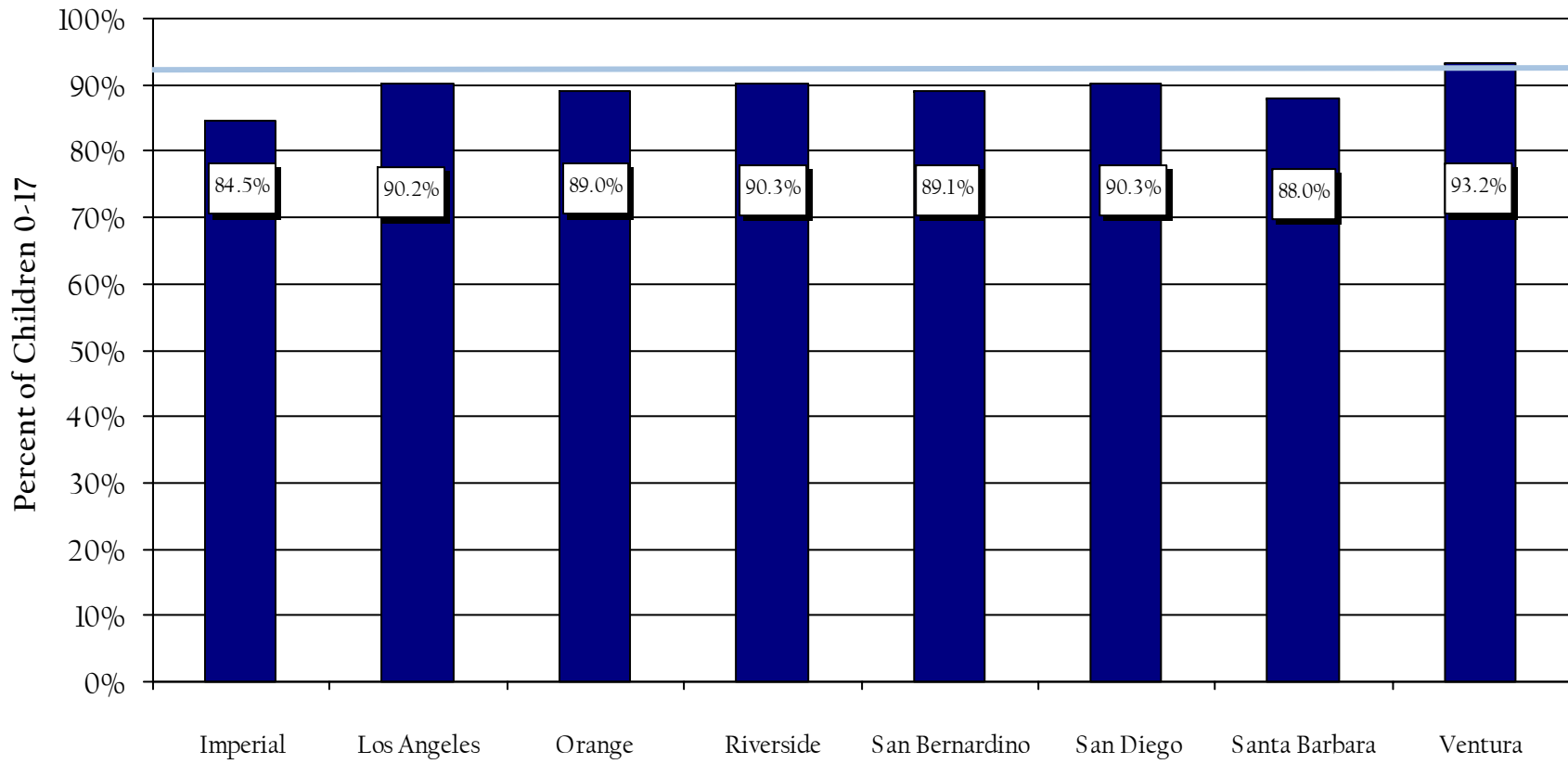
### 23. Usual Source of Health Care

This indicator represents the reported percentage of children ages 0-17 who had a usual place to go to when sick or in need of advice about their health (usual source of health care) at the time of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001. Figure 21 and 22 show the percentages of children ages 0-17 and 0-5 in the Southern California Region with a usual source of health care.

#### Highlights

- All Southern Counties remained on par with the state's average for children ages 0-17 and 0-5 who had a usual source of health care in 2003.

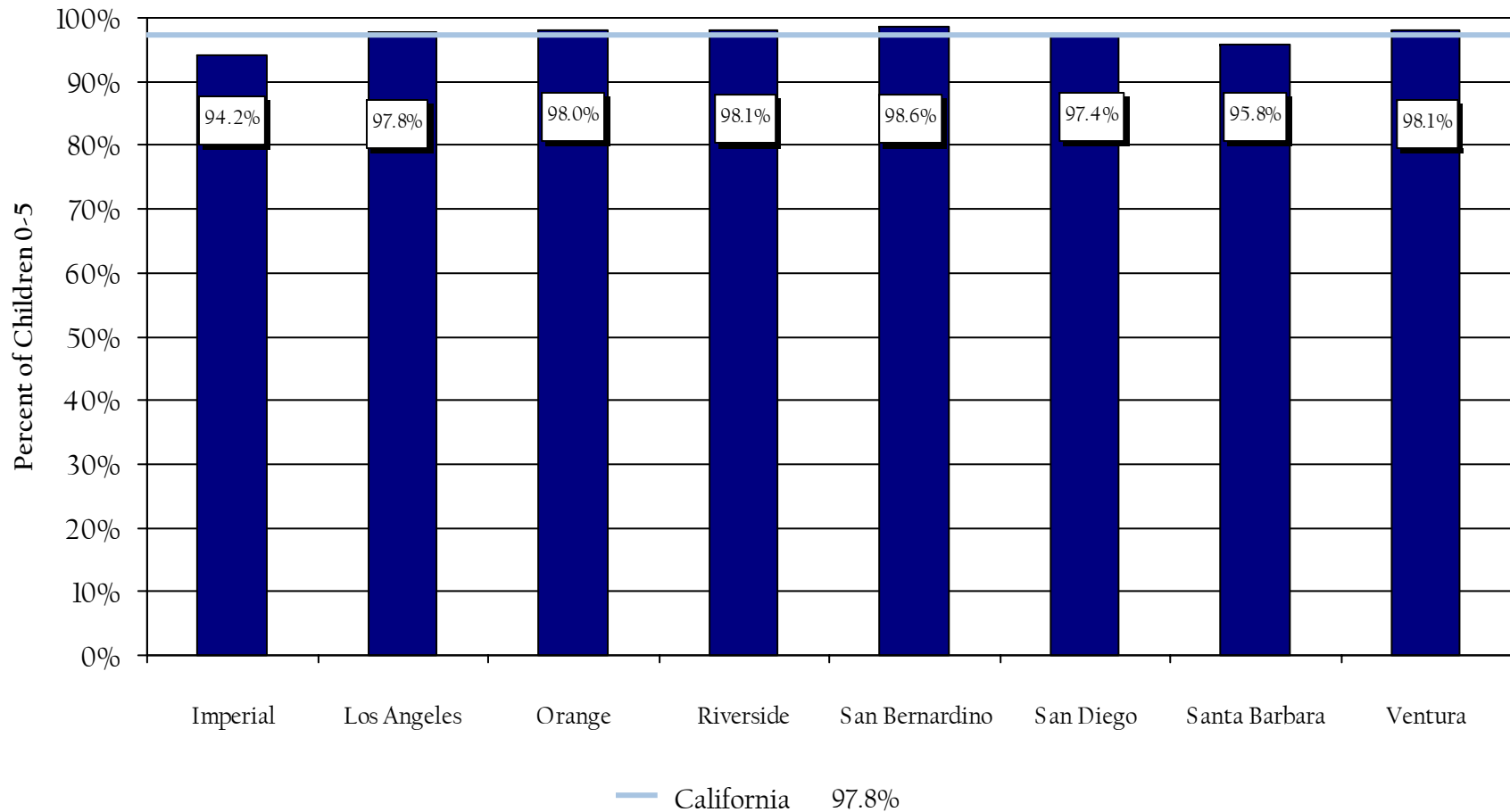
Figure 21 Children Ages 0-17 with a Usual Source of Health Care, 2003



— California 90.2%

Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2003 California Health Interview Survey.

**Figure 22 Children Ages 0-5 with a Usual Source of Health Care, 2003**



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2003 California Health Interview Survey.

## 24. Medi-Cal Program Enrollment

This indicator represents the number and percentage of children under age 18 who were enrolled in the Medi-Cal program<sup>16</sup> in 2003. Table 16 shows the number of children enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program in Southern California. Figures 23 and 24 show the percentage of children enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program as compared to the total population of children per region in Southern California by age groups 0-17 and 0-5.

### Highlights

- In 2003, 63% of all California children ages 0-17 enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program resided in Southern California. This was equal to 1,946,065 children across the region.
- For children ages 0-5, 776,640 children in Southern California, or 40.3% of all children ages 0-5, were enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program.
- The counties with the highest percentages of children enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program in both age groups were Imperial (43.2% of children 0-17 and 50.3% of children 0-5) and Los Angeles (42.9% of children 0-17 and 51% of children 0-5).

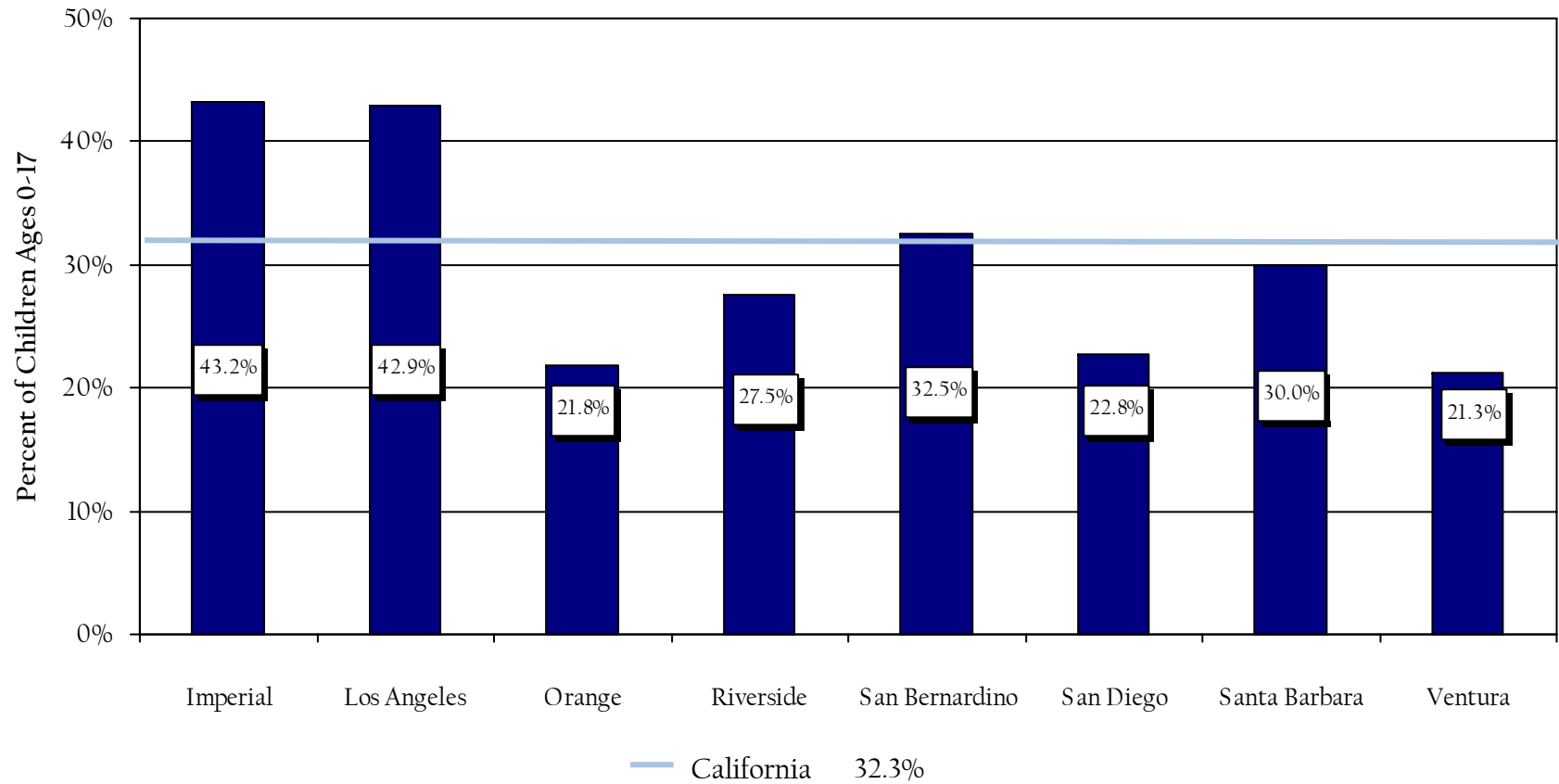
<sup>16</sup>Medi-Cal is a state and federally funded program designed to provide low-cost or no-cost medical benefits to low income families. Specifically, eligible people may include those who receive cash assistance under the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Program (SSI/SSP), California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKS), Refugee Assistance, or the Foster Care or Adoption Assistance Program. Those who are not receiving cash assistance may still be eligible if they are over age 65 or under age 21, blind, disabled, pregnant, diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer, in a skilled nursing home or intermediate care facility, of refugee status, a parent or caregiver relative of a child under age 21 and the child's parent is deceased or doesn't live with the child, or the child's parent is incapacitated, or the child's parent who is the primary wage earner is unemployed or underemployed (California Department of Health Services, 2004b).

Table 16 Number of Children Ages 0-17 and 0-5 Enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program, 2003

| Region                     | Number of Children Ages 0-17 Enrolled | Number of Children Ages 0-5 Enrolled |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Imperial                   | 19,771                                | 7,059                                |
| Los Angeles                | 1,187,180                             | 458,854                              |
| Orange                     | 172,740                               | 78,612                               |
| Riverside                  | 139,467                               | 58,987                               |
| San Bernardino             | 185,681                               | 73,207                               |
| San Diego                  | 164,923                               | 65,769                               |
| Santa Barbara              | 30,040                                | 13,421                               |
| Ventura                    | 46,262                                | 20,731                               |
|                            |                                       |                                      |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>1,946,065</b>                      | <b>776,640</b>                       |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>3,076,876</b>                      | <b>1,223,004</b>                     |

Source: California Department of Health Services, Medical Care Statistics Section (2004).

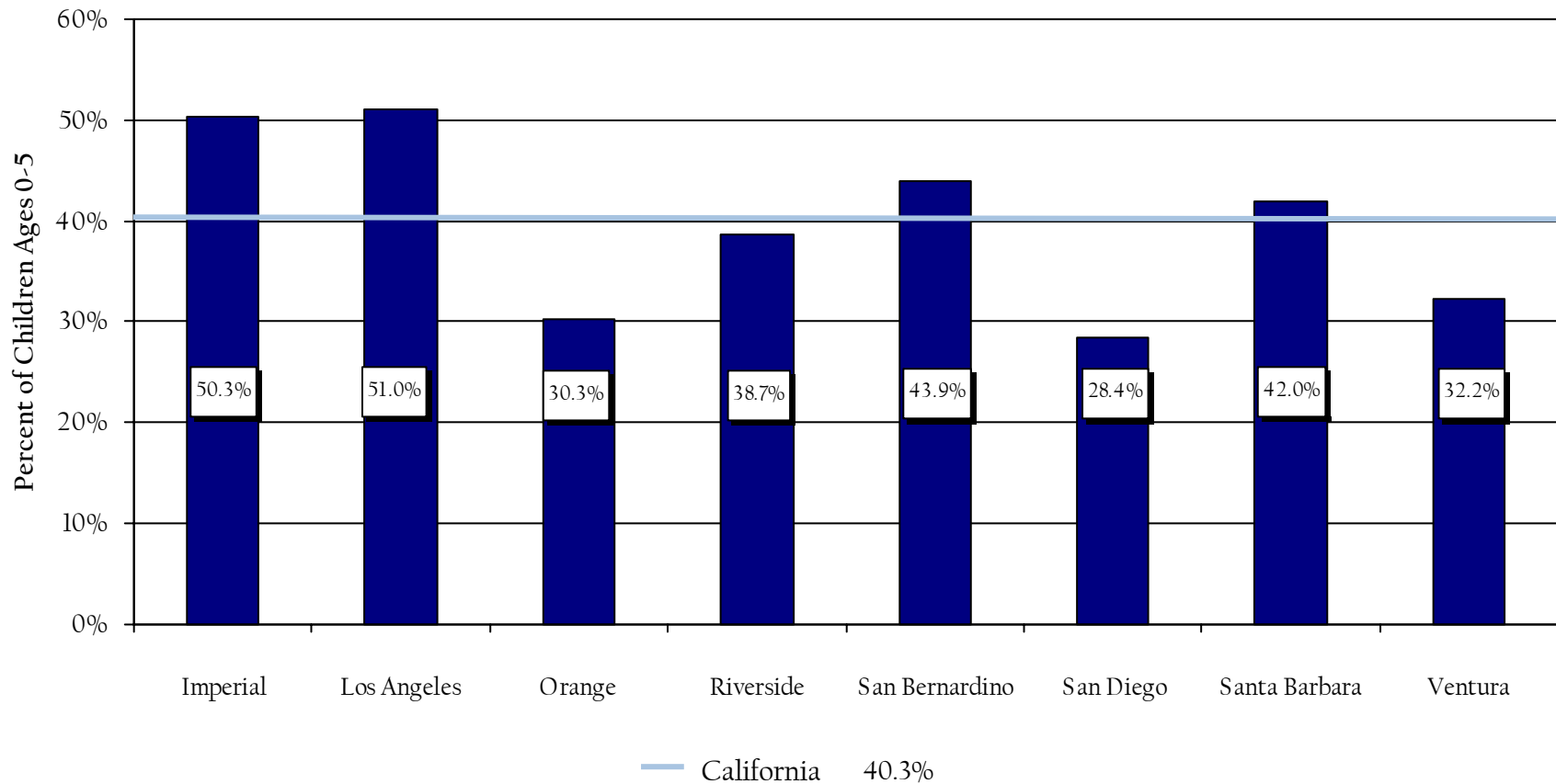
Figure 23 Children Ages 0-17 Enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program, 2003



Note. Percentages based on 2003 population estimates.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Medical Care Statistics Section (2004).  
 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).

Figure 24 Children Ages 0-5 Enrolled in the Medi-Cal Program, 2003



Note. Percentages based on 2003 population estimates.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Medical Care Statistics Section (2004).  
 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).

**25. Enrollment in the Healthy Families Program**

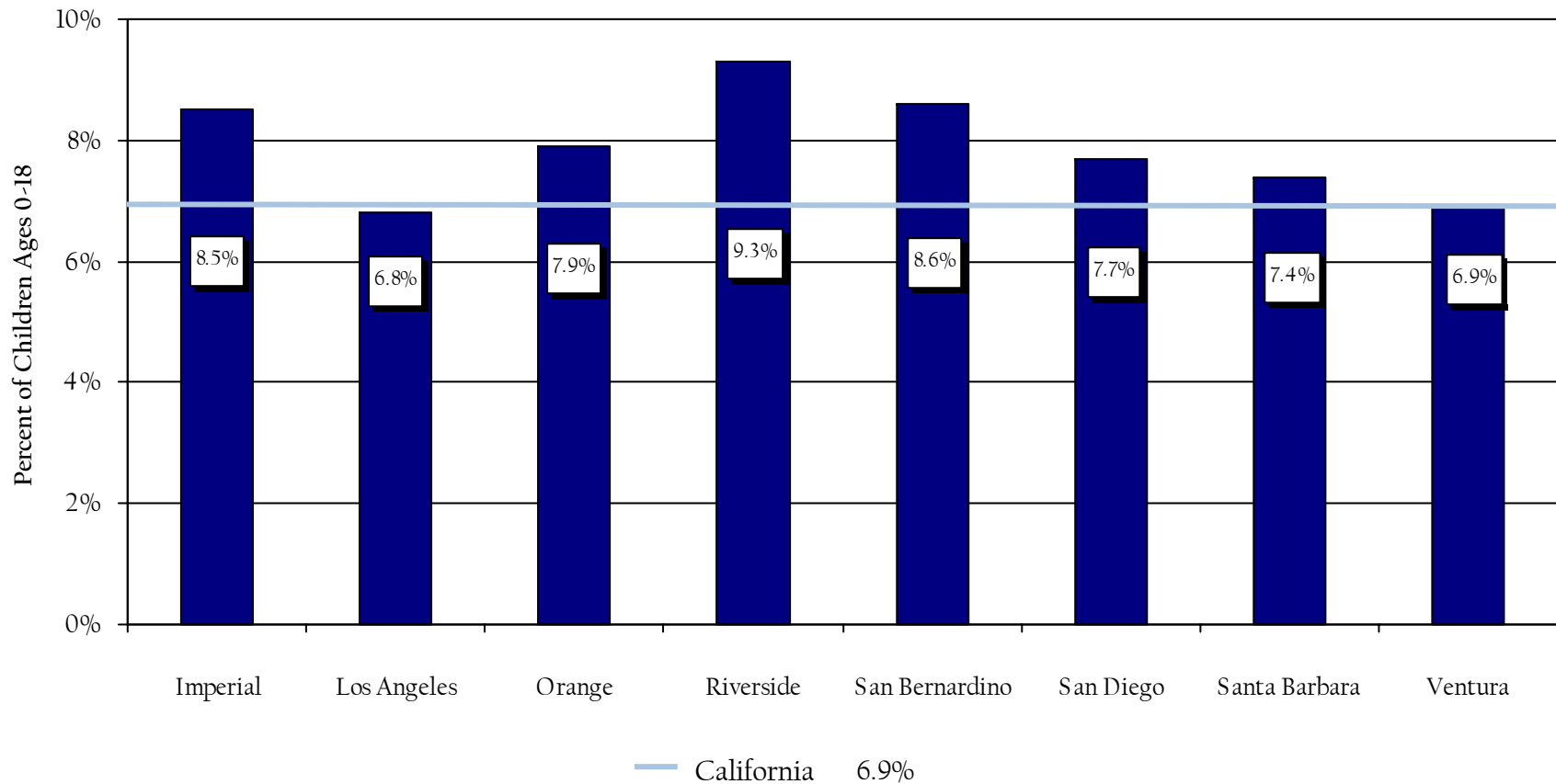
This indicator represents the percentage of children under age 19 enrolled in the Healthy Families program as of November 2004.<sup>17</sup> Figure 25 shows the percentage of children ages 0-18 enrolled in the Healthy Families program in Southern California.

**Highlights**

- All Southern Counties were either at or above the statewide average of 6.9% for children under the age of 19 who were enrolled in the Healthy Families program.

<sup>17</sup>The Health Families program is a state and federally funded health coverage program for children with family incomes above the level eligible for no-cost Medi-Cal and below 250% of the Federal Income Guidelines. Families pay a monthly premium of \$4 to \$9 per child, with a maximum of \$27 for all children in the family (California Department of Health Services, 2004a).

Figure 25 Children Ages 0-18 Enrolled in the Healthy Families Program as of November 2004



Note. Percentages based on 2004 population estimates.

Source: Source: California Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (2004).  
 California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).

## 26. Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

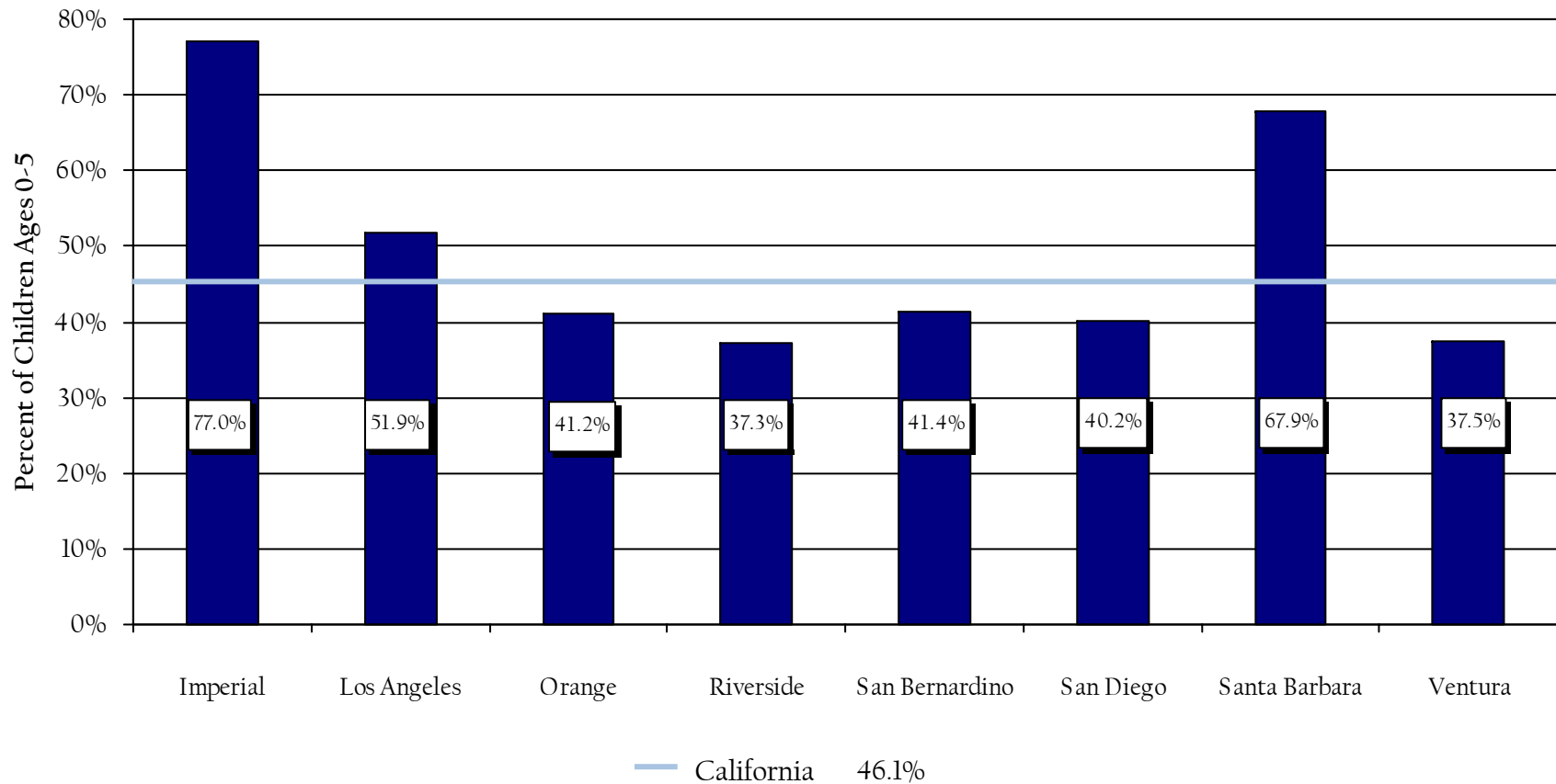
This indicator represents the percentage of children and young adults under age 21 who received services from the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program<sup>18</sup> between 2001 and 2002. Figures 26 and 27 show the percentage of children and young adults, ages 6-20 and 0-5, in Southern California who received CHDP program services. Figure 31 shows a comparison of the percentage of children and young adults, ages 0-5 and 6-20, who received CHDP program services.

### Highlights

- The counties of Imperial and Santa Barbara (77.0% and 67.9%, respectively) had over 20% more children ages 0-5 who were receiving CHDP Program Services in 2001-2002 than the statewide average of 46.1%.
- The counties of Imperial and Los Angeles had the highest participation in the CHDP Program for children and young adults ages 6-20 (12.2% and 12% respectively). Ventura County had the lowest percentage of children ages 6-20 that were served by the CHDP Program (5.4%).

<sup>18</sup>CHDP is a state and federally funded program that provides complete health assessments for the early detection and prevention of disease and disabilities in children and youth, ages 0-20 (California Department of Health Services, Child Health and Disability Prevention Program, 2004).

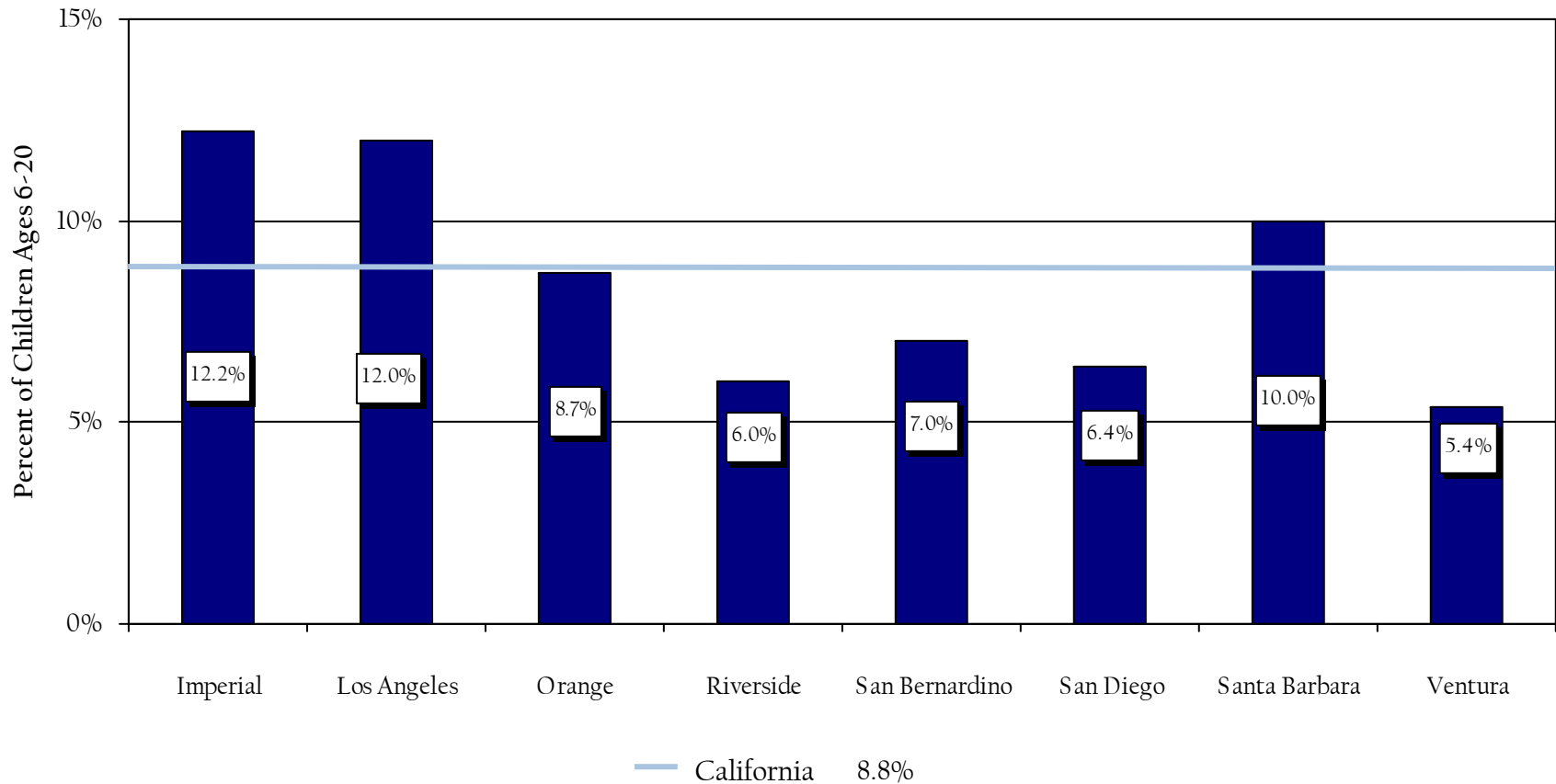
Figure 26 Children Ages 0-5 Receiving CHDP Program Services, 2001-2002



Note. Percentages based on 2002 population estimates.

Source: Source: California Department of Health Services, Children's Medical Services Branch (n.d).  
California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).

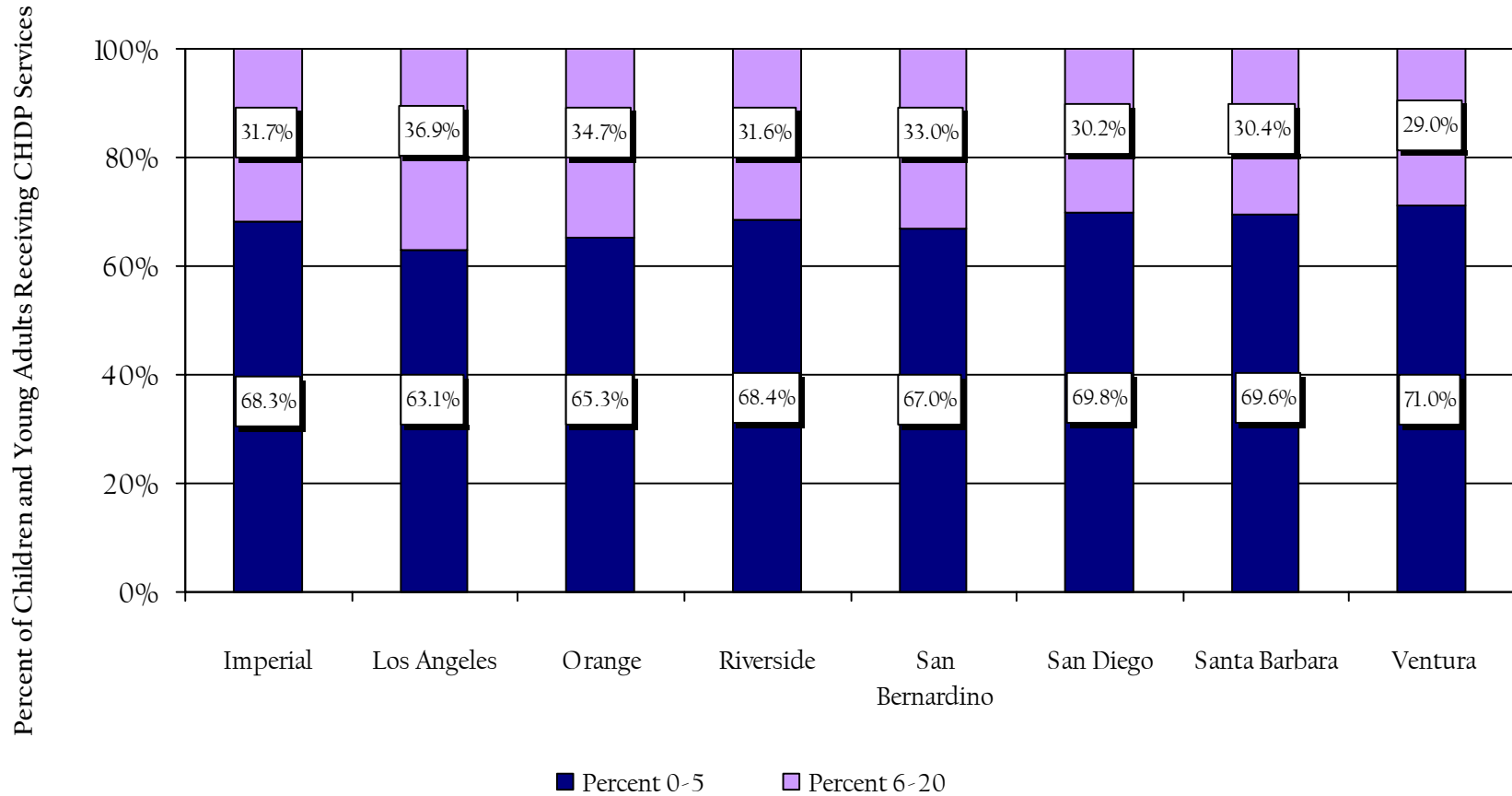
Figure 27 Children and Young Adults Ages 6-20 Receiving CHDP Program Services, 2001-2002



Note. Percentages based on 2002 population estimates.

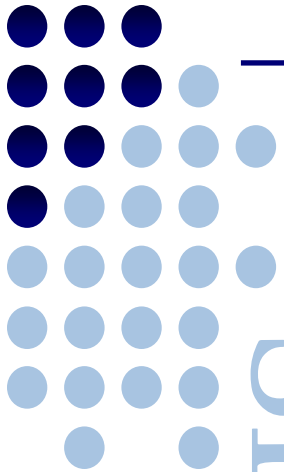
Source: Source: California Department of Health Services, Children's Medical Services Branch (n.d).  
California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).

Figure 28 Children and Young Adults Ages 0-5 and 6-20 Receiving CHDP Program Services, 2001-2002



Note. Percentages based on 2002 population estimates.

Source: Source: California Department of Health Services, Children's Medical Services Branch (n.d).  
California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2004).



# SECTION 4

## WELL-BEING INDICATORS

27. Early Start Program
28. School Nutrition Program
29. Physical Inactivity
30. Television Viewing
31. Tobacco Use
32. Alcohol Use
33. Seatbelt Use
34. Child Abuse and Neglect
35. Domestic Violence
36. Homicide

### 27. Early Start Program

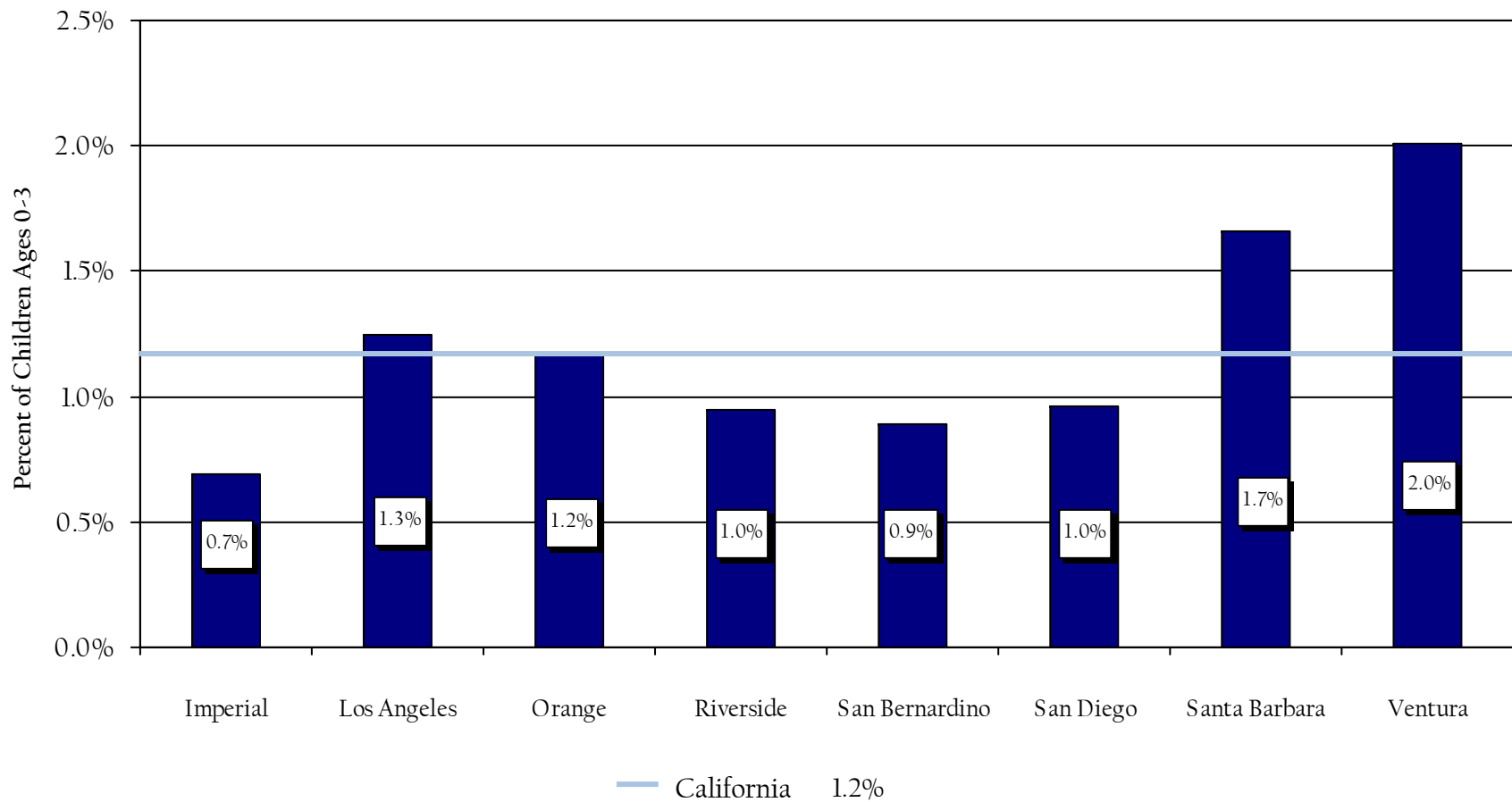
This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 0-3 who were enrolled in the California Department of Developmental Services' Early Start Program<sup>19</sup> in 2000. Figure 29 shows the percentage of children enrolled in the Early Start Program in Southern California.

#### Highlights

- In 2000, there were wide variations in the percentage of Southern California children enrolled in the Department of Developmental Services Early Start program, with percentages ranging from as high as 2% in Ventura County to a low of 0.7% in Imperial County. The statewide average for children ages 0-3 who were enrolled in the Department of Developmental Services Early Start Program was 1.2%.

<sup>19</sup>The Early Start Program provides early intervention services to infant and toddlers from birth through 36 months who have a developmental delay in either cognitive, communication, social, emotional, adaptive, or physical and motor development, including vision and hearing. Early intervention services include health services, nutrition services, physical therapy, speech and language services, among others (California Department of Developmental Services, 2004).

Figure 29 Children Ages 0-3 Enrolled in Department of Developmental Services Early Start Program, 2000



Source: Shaw, Santos, Cohen, Araki, Provance, & Reynolds (2001).

## 28. School Nutrition Programs

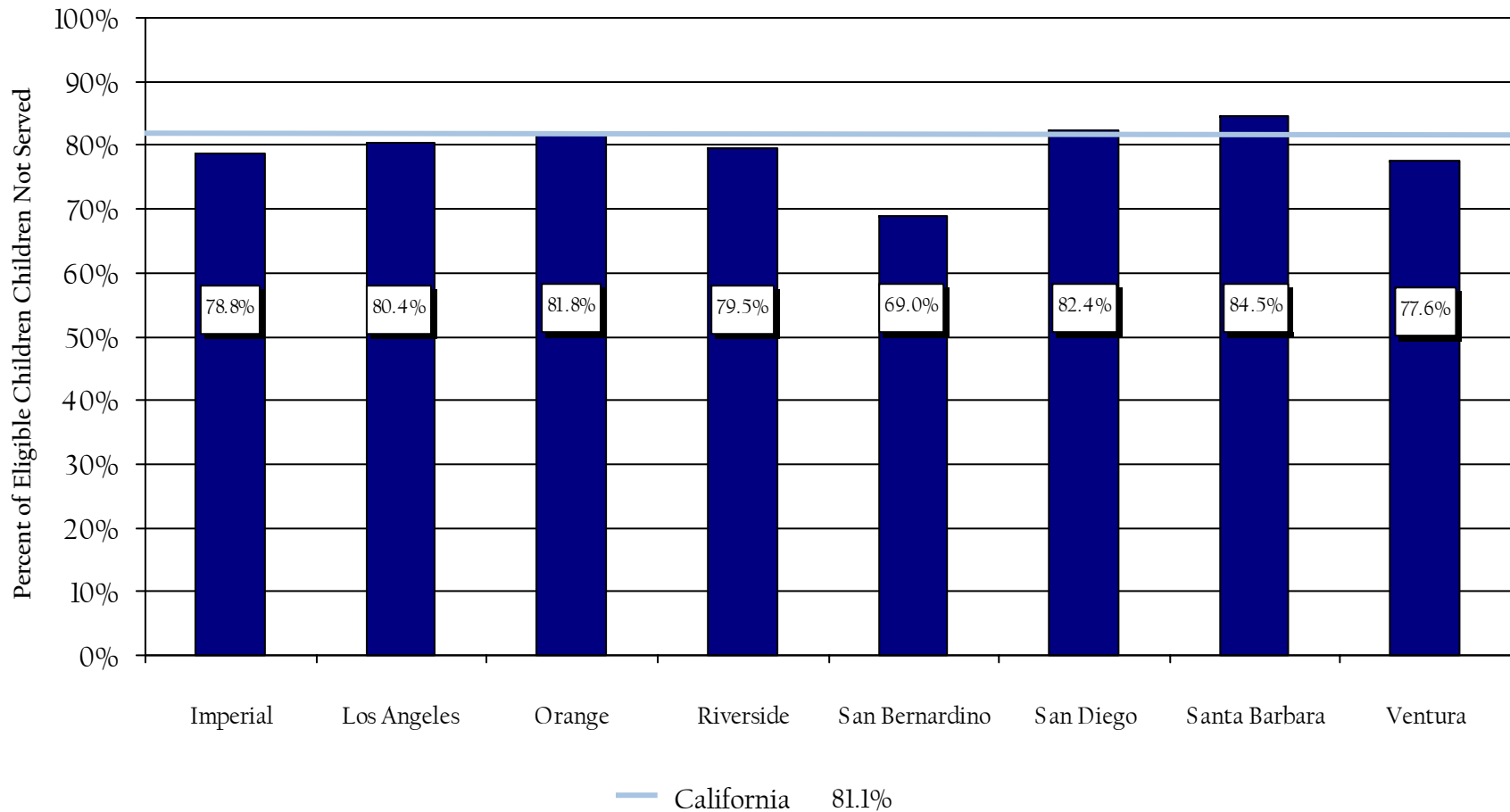
This indicator represents the percentage of eligible school-age children who were enrolled and not served in the School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program<sup>20</sup> in 2003. Figure 30 shows the percentage of eligible children not served in the School Breakfast Program and Figure 31 shows the percentage of eligible children not served in the National School Lunch Program in Southern California for 2003.

### Highlights

- Five of the eight Southern Counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura) had slightly lower averages than the statewide average of 81.1% of eligible children not served in the School Breakfast Program in 2003. San Bernardino had the lowest percentage among the Southern Counties at 69.0%.
- In 2003, all of the Southern Counties were lower than the statewide average of 54.1% for eligible children not served in the National School Lunch Program. San Bernardino had a substantially lower percentage (15.8%) than the remaining Southern Counties.

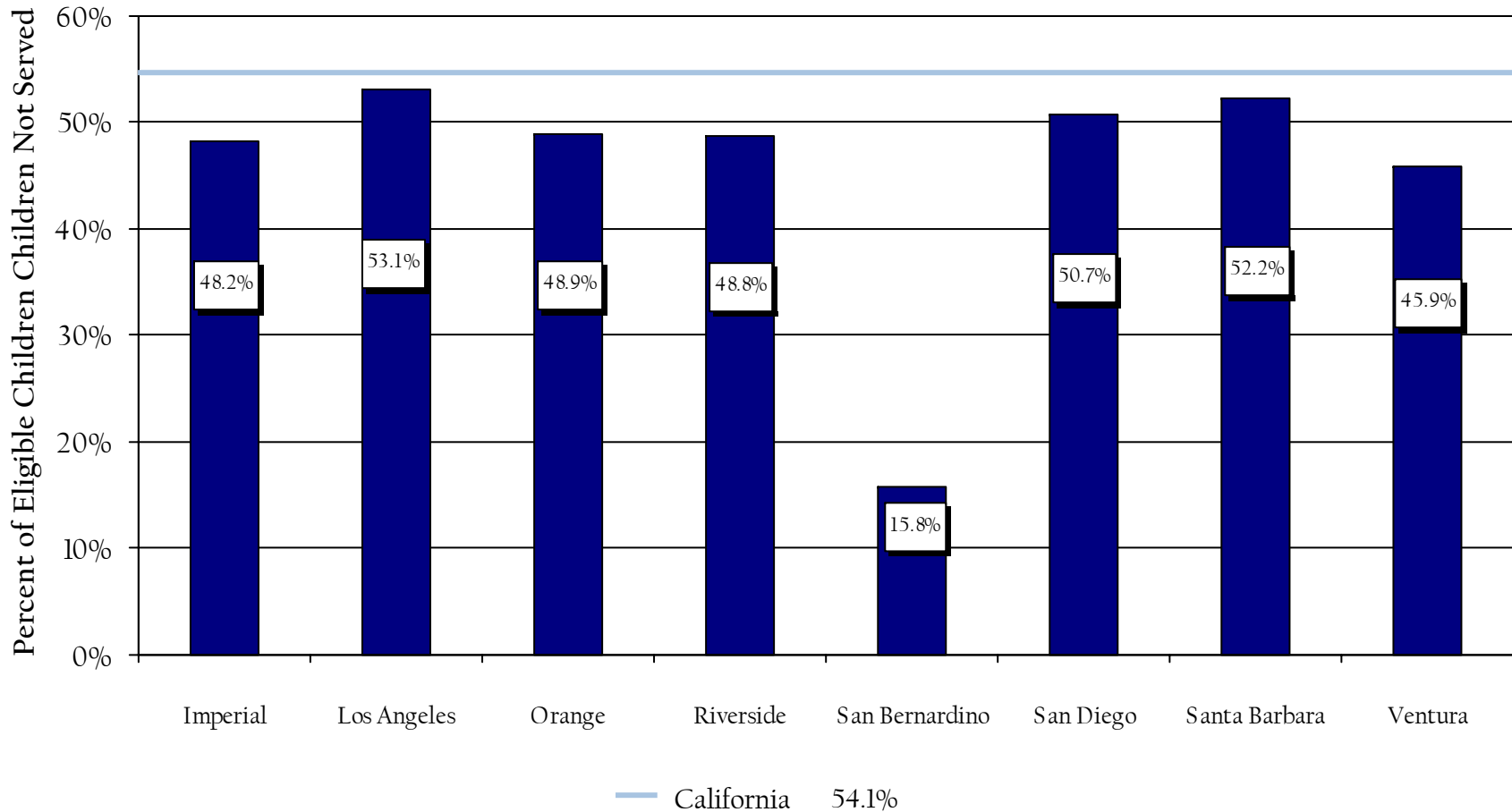
<sup>20</sup>Children are eligible to participate in the programs if the household's total income is the same or less than the income guidelines established by the programs. More information is available from the California Department of Education. (California Department of Education, 2004).

**Figure 30 Eligible Children Not Served in the School Breakfast Program, 2003**



Source: California Food Policy Advocates (2003).

Figure 31 Eligible Children Not Served in the National School Lunch Program, 2003



Source: California Food Policy Advocates (2003).

## 29. Physical Activity

This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 12-17 who reported not engaging in any moderate<sup>21</sup> or vigorous<sup>22</sup> physical activity in the week preceding the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001. Figure 32 shows the percentage of children in Southern California who reported not engaging in any moderate or vigorous physical activity in the week preceding the CHIS interview.

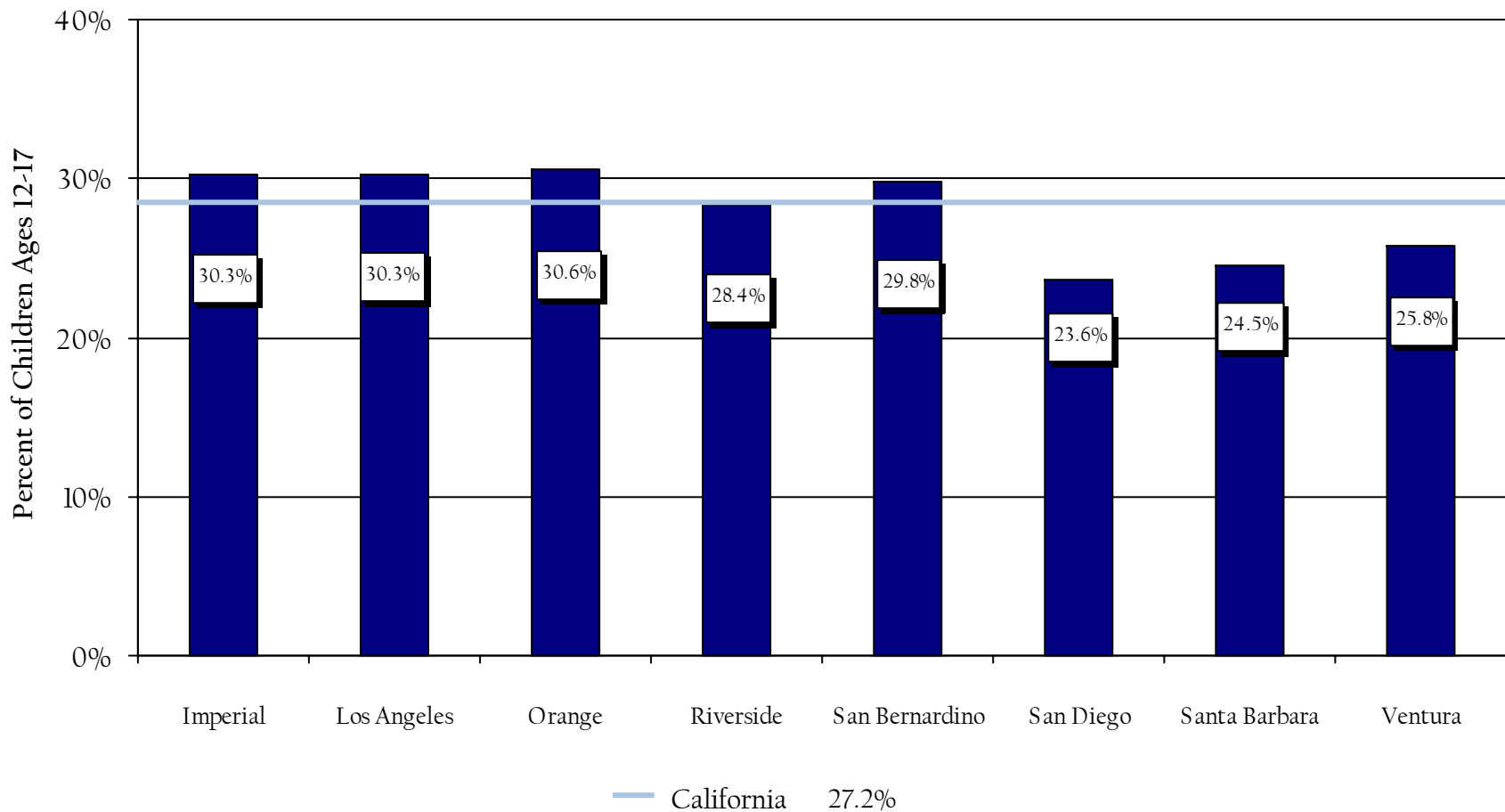
### Highlights

- In 2001, The counties of San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura had higher percentages of children ages 12-17 who were engaged in any moderate or vigorous physical activity in the week preceding the California Health Interview Survey than did the remaining Southern Counties.

<sup>21</sup>Any physical activity for at least half an hour that does not make one sweat or breathe hard; this includes walking for at least 30 minutes, slow bicycling or skating, doing chores like cleaning the house or mopping the floors (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001).

<sup>22</sup>Any physical activity for at least 20 minutes that makes one sweat and breathe hard (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001).

Figure 32 Children Ages 12-17 Who Reported Not Engaging in Any Moderate or Vigorous Physical Activity, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

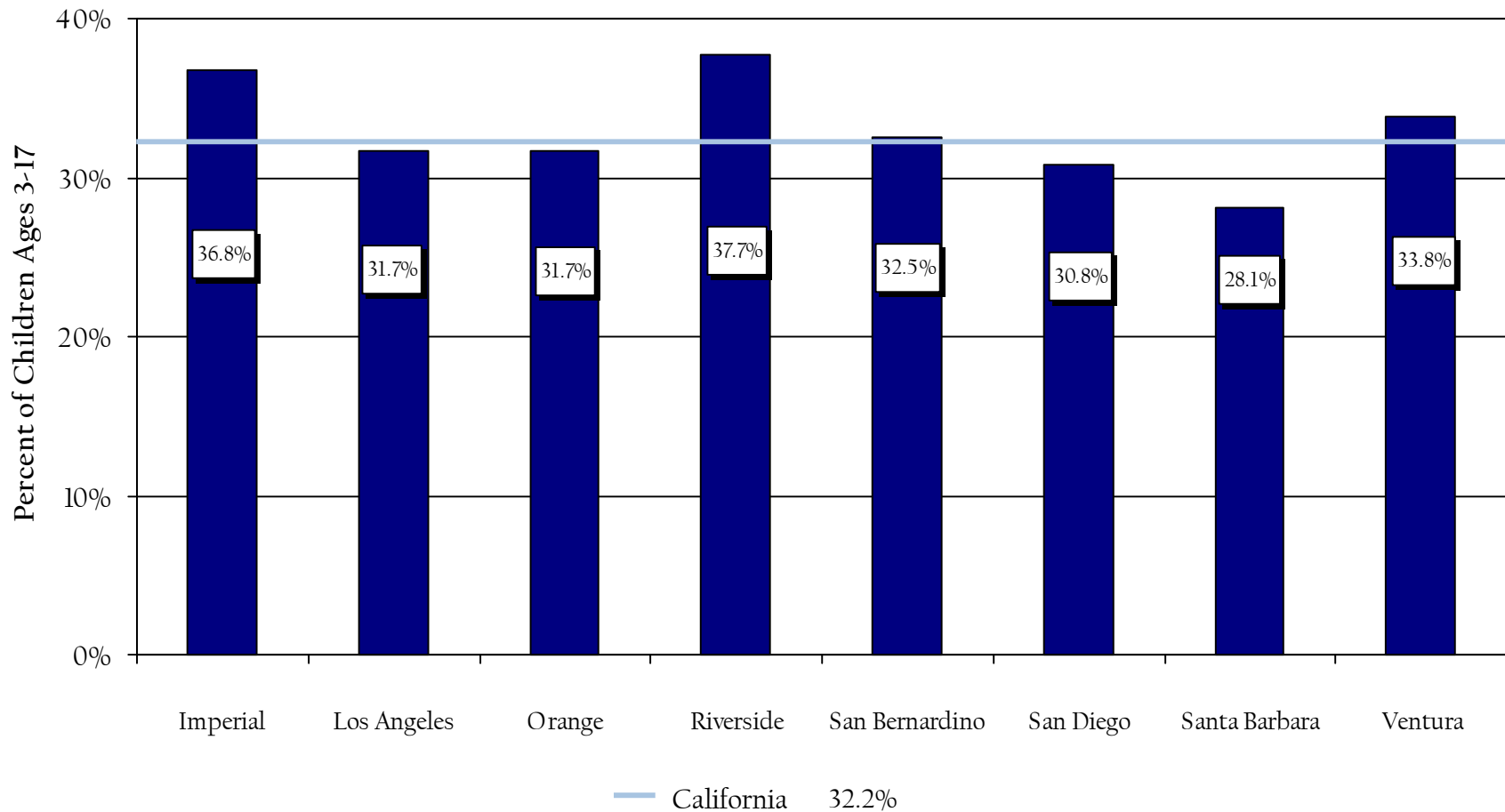
### 30. Television Viewing

This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 3-17 who, in 2001, reported watching television or playing video games 3 hours or longer per day on weekdays and weekends in the week preceding the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001. Figure 33 shows the percentage of children in Southern California who reported watching television 3 hours or more per day on weekdays. Figure 34 shows the percentage of children who reported watching television 3 hours or more per day on the weekends.

#### Highlights

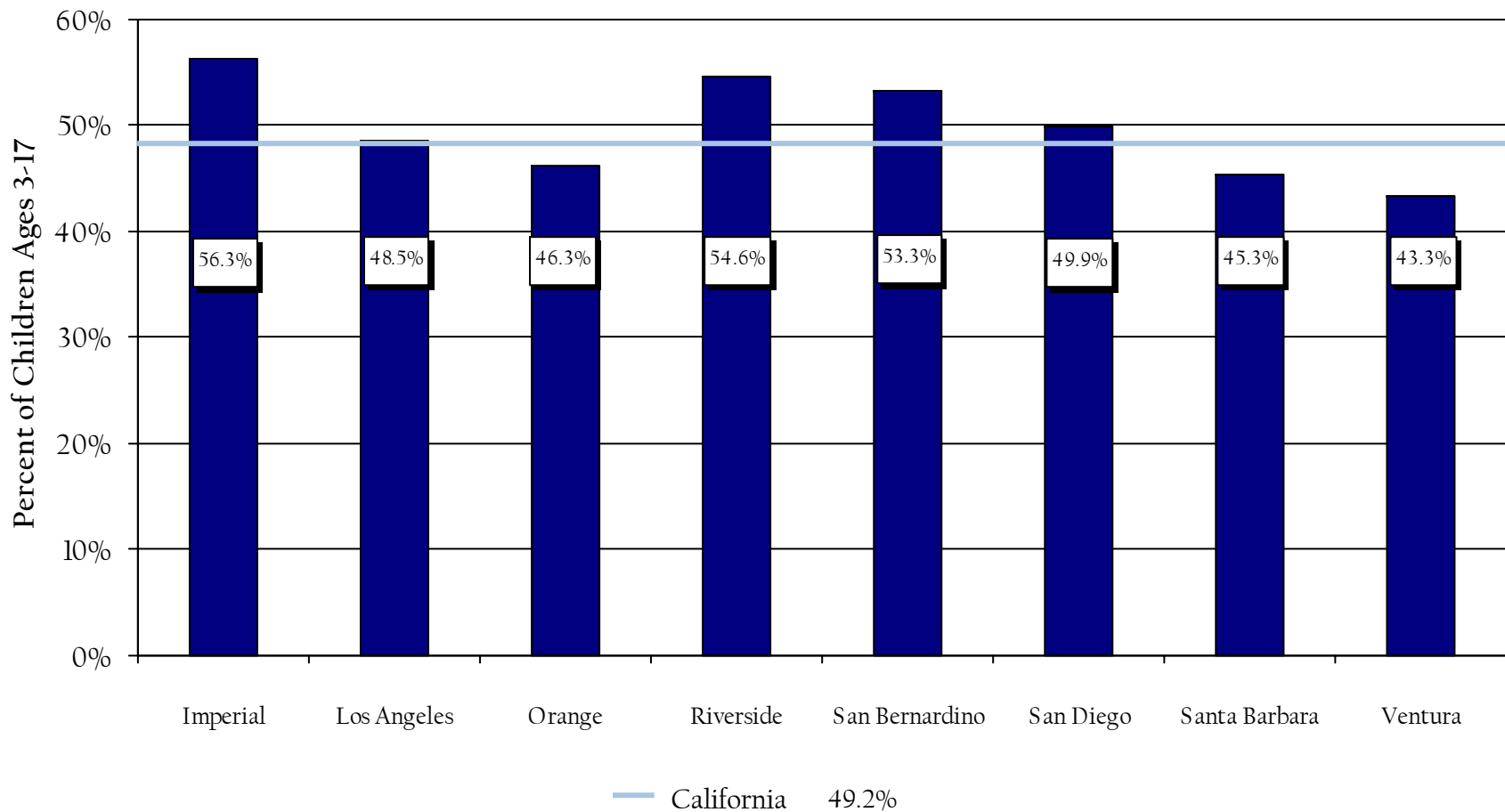
- Across the state, a higher percentage of children ages 3-17 watched television 3 hours or longer on the weekend than on the weekdays.
- In Southern California, the counties of Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino had higher percentages than the statewide average for children watching television 3 hours or longer on both the weekdays and the weekend.
- In Ventura County, the percentage of children watching television on the weekdays was slightly higher than the state average. However, on the weekends, the percentage of children watching television 3 hours or longer (43.3%) was lower than the statewide average (49.2%) and all other Southern Counties.

Figure 33 Children Ages 3-17 Who Watch Television 3 Hours or Longer Per Day on Weekdays, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

Figure 34 Children Ages 3-17 Who Watch Television 3 Hours or Longer Per Day on Weekends, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

### 31. Tobacco Use

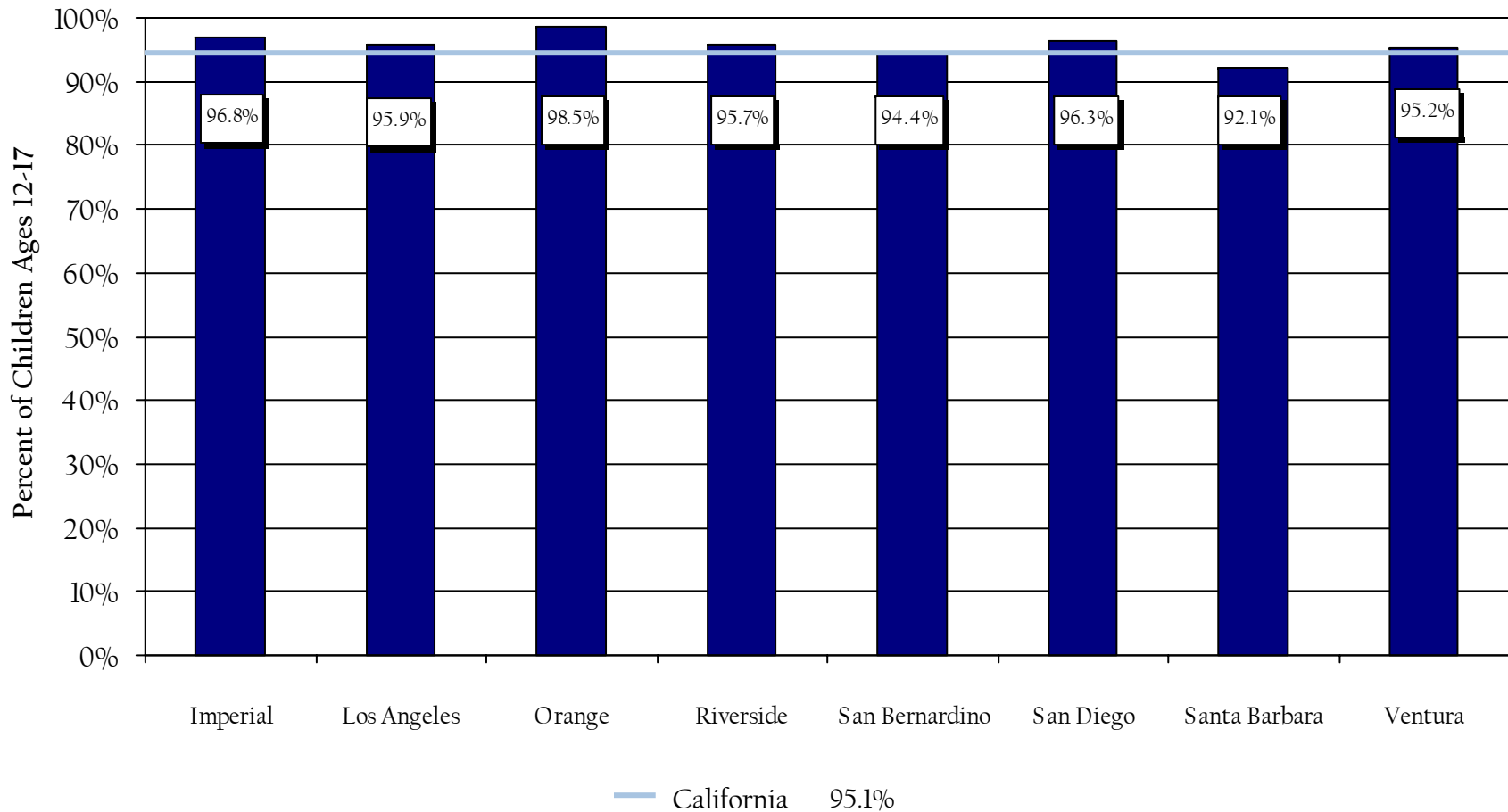
This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 12-17 who, in the week preceding the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001, reported never smoking cigarettes regularly in their lifetime.<sup>23</sup> Figure 35 shows the percentage of children in Southern California who reported they never smoked regularly.

#### Highlights

- The percentage of children ages 12-17 who never smoked a cigarette regularly in 2001 was comparable across the Southern Counties, varying only slightly from the statewide average of 95.1%.

<sup>23</sup>Regularly means at least one cigarette everyday for 30 days (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001).

**Figure 35 Children Ages 12-17 Who Never Smoked Cigarettes Regularly, 2001**



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

### 32. Alcohol Use

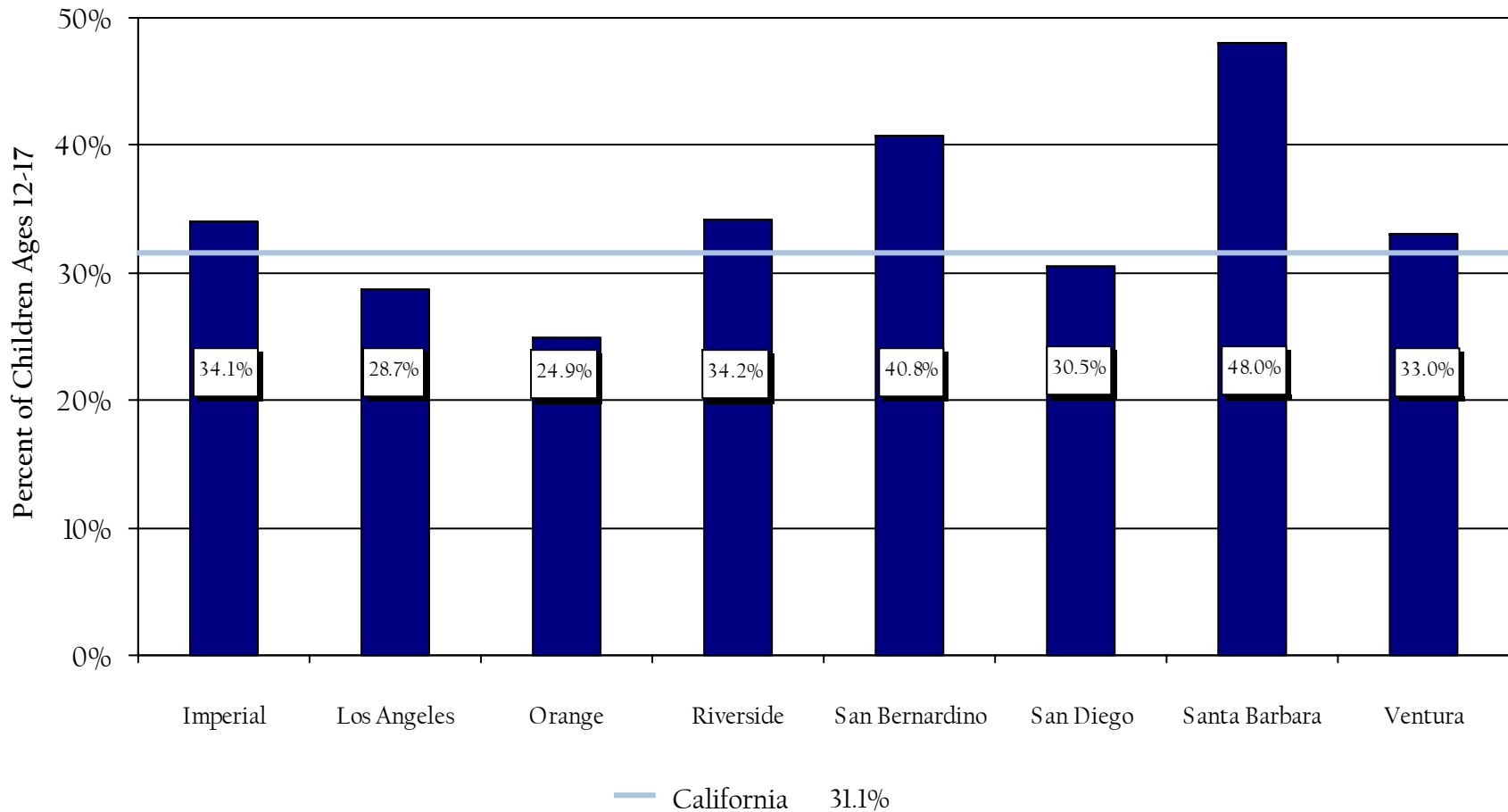
This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 12-17 who, in the week preceding the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001, reported consuming an alcoholic drink at some point in their lifetime.<sup>24</sup> Figure 36 shows the percentage of children ages 12-17 in Southern California who reported they had consumed alcohol at some point in their lifetime.

#### Highlights

- The highest percentage of children in the Southern Counties who reported having consumed an alcoholic drink at some point in their life was in Santa Barbara County, at 48%. This is well above the statewide average of 31.1%.
- Orange County had the lowest percentage of children who consumed alcohol, with 24.9% of children ages 12-17 who reported having consumed an alcoholic drink at some point in their lifetime.

<sup>24</sup>Alcoholic drink means more than a few sips of any alcoholic drink, like beer, wine, mixed drinks, or liquor (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001).

Figure 36 Children Ages 12-17 Who, at Some Point, Had an Alcoholic Drink, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

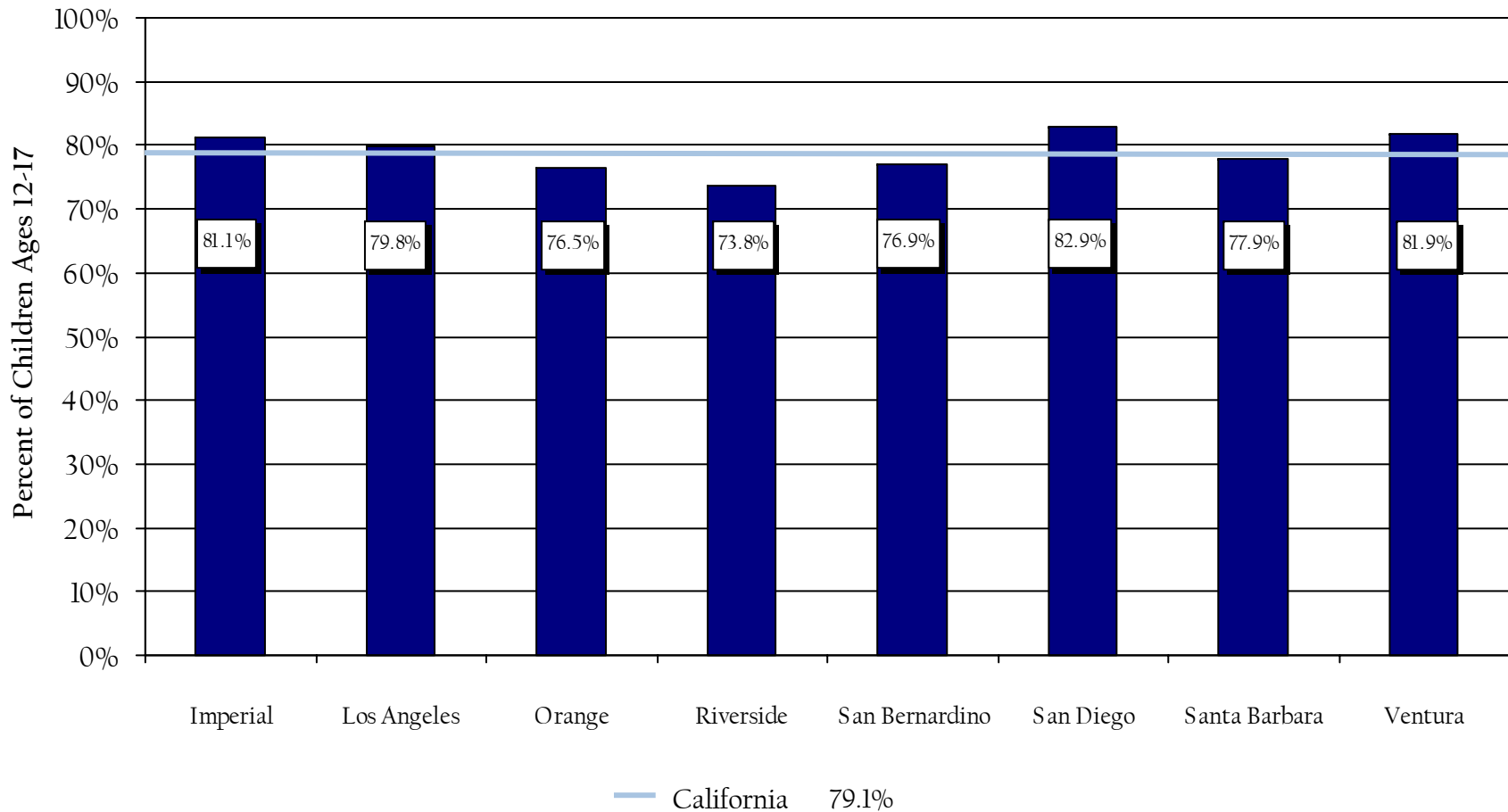
### 33. Seatbelt Use

This indicator represents the percentage of children ages 12-17 who, in the week preceding the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) in 2001, reported always wearing a seatbelt when riding in or driving a car. Figure 37 shows the percentage of children in Southern California who reported always wearing a seatbelt.

#### Highlights

- In 2001, the percentage of children ages 12-17 who reported always wearing a seatbelt was comparable across all of the Southern Counties.

Figure 37 Children Ages 12-17 Who Always Wear a Seatbelt, 2001



Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2001 California Health Interview Survey.

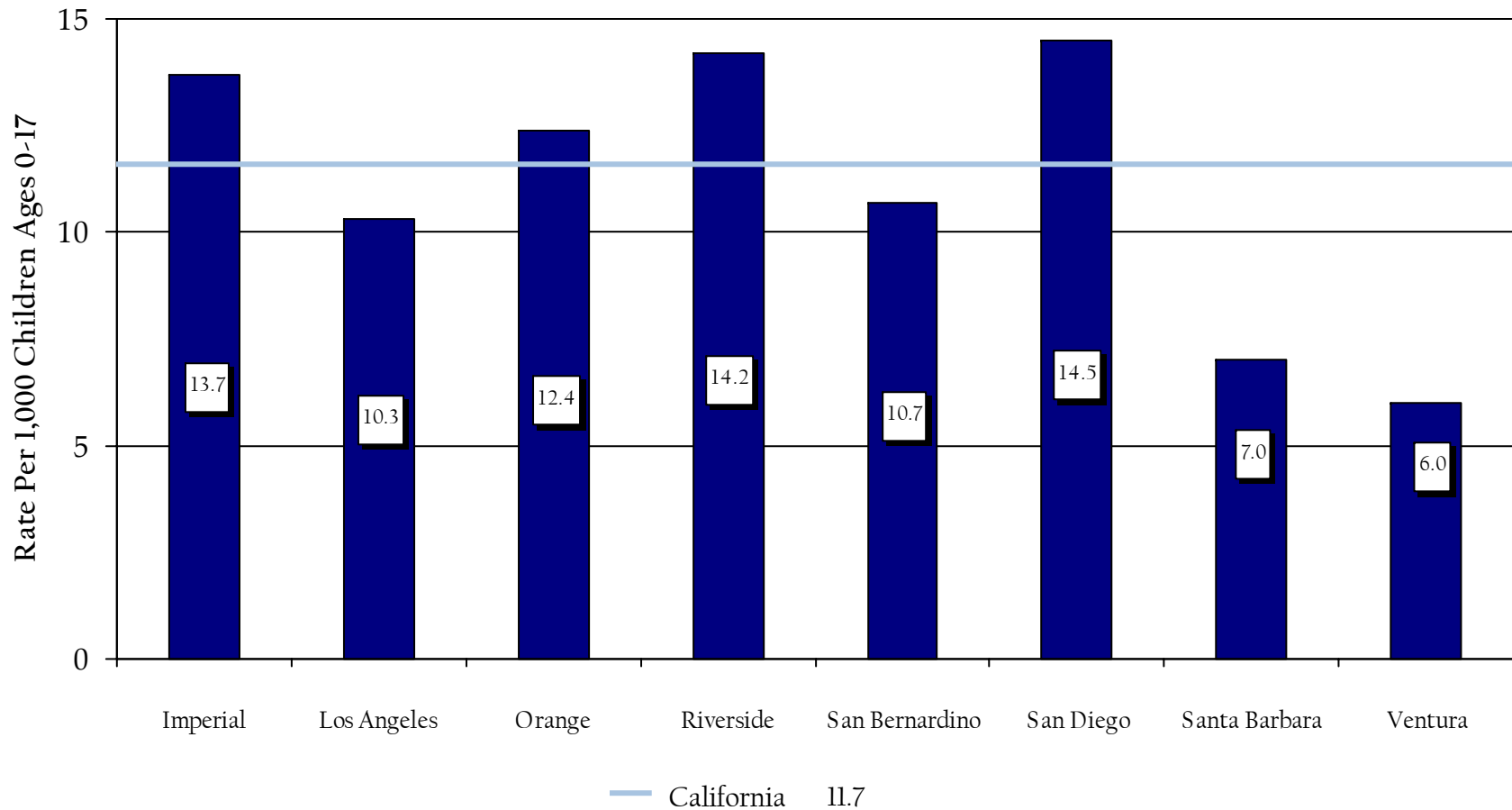
### 34. Child Abuse and Neglect

This indicator represents the number of children, per 1,000, under the age of 18, with substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect in 2003. Figure 38 shows the rate of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect in 2003 in Southern California.

#### Highlights

- The counties of San Diego and Riverside had the highest rates of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect among the Southern Counties (14.5 and 14.2 per 1,000 children ages 0-17, respectively). The lowest rates occurred in the counties of Ventura and Santa Barbara (6.0 and 7.0 per 1,000 children ages 0-17, respectively).
- The statewide rate of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect was 11.7 per 1,000 children ages 0-17 in 2003.

Figure 38 Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect for Children Ages 0-17, 2003



Source: Needell, Webster, Cuccaro-Alamin, Armijo, Lee Brookhart, Lery, et al. (2004).

### 35. Domestic Violence

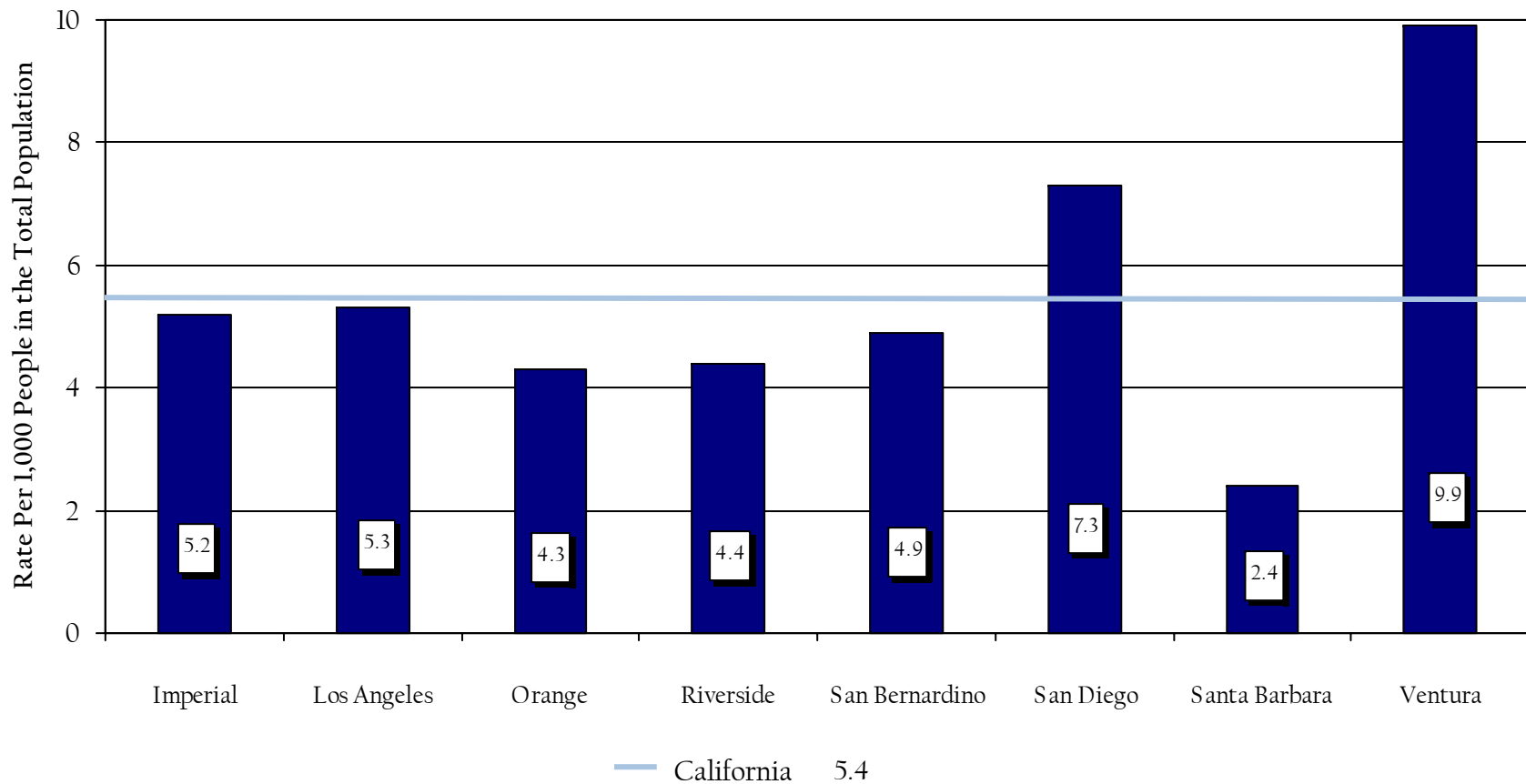
This indicator represents the number of persons, per 1,000 people in the general population, who made a domestic violence-related call for assistance in 2003.<sup>25</sup> Figure 29 shows the rate of domestic violence-related calls for assistance in Southern California.

#### Highlights

- Among the Southern Counties, the counties of San Diego and Ventura had the highest rate of domestic violence-related calls for assistance in 2003 with 7.3 and 9.9 calls per 1,000 people, respectively.
- Santa Barbara County had the lowest rate of domestic violence-related calls for assistance in 2003, with a rate of 2.4 calls per 1,000 people.

<sup>25</sup>Domestic Violence is abusive behavior used by any person in a relationship to control the other. Partners may be married or not married, heterosexual or not, living together, separated, or dating. Violence can include physical assault, sexual abuse, and stalking. (Oakland County Coordinating Council Against Domestic Violence, n.d.)

Figure 39 Domestic Violence Related Calls for Assistance, 2003



Note: Rates are based on 2004 population estimates.

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center (2003).  
California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit (2003).

### 36. Homicide

This indicator represents the number of homicides among children ages 0-17 in 2003. Table 17 shows the number of homicides among children in Southern California.

#### Highlights

- Of all the homicides of children ages 0-17 that occurred in California in 2003, approximately 70% occurred in Southern California.
- Homicides by firearm was the most common cause of homicide of children ages 0-17 in Southern California, where 110 children were murdered with a firearm in 2003.
- Homicides in Los Angeles County accounted for almost two-thirds (65%) of all the homicides of children ages 0-17 in the Southern Region. This also represents half of the number of homicides in the State of California.

Table 17 Homicides of Children Ages 0-17, 2002

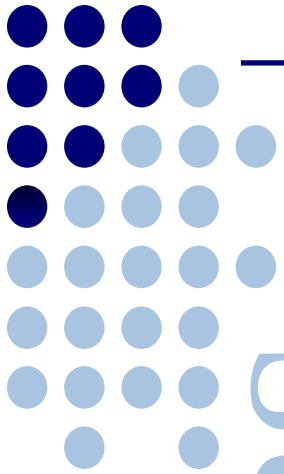
| Region                     | Abuse & Neglect | Blunt Object | Cut/Pierce | Firearm    | Other     | Total      |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Imperial                   | -               | -            | 1          | -          | -         | 1          |
| Los Angeles                | 10              | -            | 4          | 75         | 19        | 108        |
| Orange                     | 1               | -            | -          | 7          | 1         | 9          |
| Riverside                  | 3               | -            | 1          | 13         | 4         | 21         |
| San Bernardino             | 3               | -            | -          | 10         | 4         | 17         |
| San Diego                  | -               | -            | -          | 4          | 4         | 8          |
| Santa Barbara              | -               | -            | -          | -          | -         | -          |
| Ventura                    | -               | -            | 2          | 1          | -         | 3          |
| <b>Southern California</b> | <b>17</b>       | <b>-</b>     | <b>8</b>   | <b>110</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>167</b> |
| <b>California</b>          | <b>22</b>       | <b>2</b>     | <b>12</b>  | <b>156</b> | <b>46</b> | <b>238</b> |

- Represents zero.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control Branch (2004).

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# SUMMARY

With the Federal, State, and Local Governments focusing on safety, permanency, and child well-being, the indicators presented in this report provide a baseline of data in the Southern California Region that indicates how this region is doing in terms of child health and well-being. The indicators are meant to provide a quick reference guide for the Southern Counties and to provide each Southern County a mechanism for comparing individual county statistics with the other Southern Counties. This *Sourcebook* is also meant to share how each individual Southern County compares to California as a whole.

In this report the Southern California Region is comprised of the following eight counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. These same eight counties also comprise the Southern Area Consortium of Human Services (SACHS).

## POPULATION AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

### Demographics

In California, 60% of children ages 0-17 and 0-5 reside in the Southern California Region. While the race and ethnicity of these children varies across the Southern Counties, as a whole, the Southern California Region has a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino children than the state. For individual counties, as compared to the statewide percentages, Los Angeles and San Bernardino report a higher percentage of African American children, Imperial County reports a higher percentage of Native American children, and Orange County reports a higher percentage of Asian American children.

### Population Change

From 1990 to 2000, Southern California had a 20.3% increase in the population of children ages 0-17. The highest amount of growth among the Southern Counties occurred in Riverside County with a population change of 40.6% for children ages 0-17. This population change is

## SUMMARY

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twice the percentage of the population change for the state.

### Language Development and Education

When compared to the state, the Southern Region has a higher percentage of children ages 5-17 who speak a language other than English at home, speak English less than “very well,” and reside in linguistically isolated households. Imperial County, in particular, has the highest percentage among all Southern Counties in these three areas. In terms of education, the Southern Region is ten percentage points lower than California’s percentage of young adults ages 18-24 who have graduated from high school (70.7%). However, this region is on par with the state’s percentage of young adults ages 18-24 who are enrolled in college or graduate school.

### Family Size

As a whole, the average family size for the Southern Counties is consistent with the average family size of the state (3.4 persons per family). However, both Imperial County and San Bernardino County have a higher percentage of female householder families with their own children under the age of 18. A female householder family includes a female householder, with no husband present and one or more people living in the same household who are under the age of 18, regardless of marital status, and who are related to the householder. This does not include the householder’s spouse or foster children, regardless of age (U.S. Census Bureau, 2003a).

### Family income

The median family income among the Southern Counties varies considerably. For example, Imperial County reported the lowest median family income at \$32,747, whereas Ventura County reported the highest median family income at \$62,310. This equates to a 47% difference in the median family income between these two counties. In terms of female householder families, their median family income is less than half of the median family income for all families. Imperial County, once again, reported the lowest income for female householder families at \$15,057, while Orange County reported the highest income at \$31,285, a 52% difference.

### Poverty Level

In 1999, almost one in five children ages 0-17 in Southern California lived below the poverty level. Imperial County had the highest percentage of children living below the poverty level at 28.9%, while Ventura County reported the lowest percentage at 12.1%. Conditions of poverty increased for children ages 0-17 living in households headed by a female

## SUMMARY

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householder. Imperial County had the highest percentage of children ages 0-17 living below the poverty level at 54.7%, while Orange County had the lowest percentage at 27.0%.

### SPECIFIC HEALTH ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

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#### **Prenatal Care**

Prenatal care is the primary indicator of how well children fare physically and developmentally. Receiving prenatal care early and regularly is one of the best ways to promote a healthy pregnancy and has been associated with positive birth outcomes, fewer complications during pregnancy, delivery, and postpartum recovery (National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, n.d.). Almost nine in ten women (88.0%) in Southern California initiated prenatal care during their first trimester of pregnancy. While Imperial County had a low percentage of women receiving prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy (73.9%), they also had the lowest percentage of births where the baby weighed less than 2,500 grams or 5.8 pounds.

#### **Breastfeeding**

Epidemiologic research shows that human milk and breastfeeding infants provides advantages in regards to general health, growth, and development, while significantly decreasing risk for a large number of acute and chronic diseases. Research in the United States, Canada, Europe, and other developed countries, among predominantly middle-class populations, provides strong evidence that human milk feeding decreases the incidence and/or severity of diarrhea, lower respiratory infection, otitis media, bacteremia, bacterial meningitis, botulism, urinary tract infection, and necrotizing enterocolitis (American Academy of Pediatrics, 1997). There are a number of studies that show a possible protective effect of human milk feeding against sudden infant death syndrome, insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, lymphoma, allergic diseases, and other chronic digestive diseases (American Academy of Pediatrics, 1997). Breastfeeding has also been related to possible enhancement of cognitive development (American Academy of Pediatrics, 1997). Among the Southern Counties, there is a high variation with the percentage of women exclusively breastfeeding ranging from 21% in Imperial County to 70% in Santa Barbara County.

## SUMMARY

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### **Immunization**

Vaccinations provide artificially acquired immunity to a number of different communicable diseases. Immunizations help prevent certain diseases from occurring and it is much cheaper to prevent the disease than to cure it (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, 2003). In Southern California, nine in ten children are receiving their immunizations prior to entering Kindergarten. However, nearly one-quarter of seventh graders were not immunized.

### **Asthma**

Asthma is the most common long-term disease among children and affects the lungs by causing repeated episodes of wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and nighttime and early morning cough (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2005). Three of the eight Southern Counties (Imperial, San Bernardino, and San Diego) report a higher percentage of children diagnosed with asthma than the state, while children in the counties of Orange and Santa Barbara report a much lower percentage than the state.

### **Overweight Children**

Obesity is associated with significant health problems and is an important early risk factor for adult morbidity and mortality. Obesity is also associated with a number of medical problems and can affect cardiovascular health, the endocrine system, and mental health (American Academy of Pediatrics, 2003a). A sedentary lifestyle, including watching television for extended periods of time or a lack of exercise contributes to the occurrence of overweight children. In Southern California, the counties of Imperial, Santa Barbara, and Ventura all reported a higher percentage of children ages 6-20 who were overweight than the percentage reported for the state.

### **Oral Health**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that dental caries is the most prevalent of infectious diseases among children in the United States (American Academy for Pediatrics, 2003b). Roughly one in five children ages 2-11 in the Southern Counties have never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist. For children ages 2-5, roughly 40% have never visited a dentist, dental hygienist, or orthodontist.

## SUMMARY

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### SAFETY CONCERNS FOR CHILDREN

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#### Fatal Injuries

Almost half of all fatal injuries occurring in children ages 0-17 occurred in the Southern California Region. Within this, the leading cause for death in the Southern Region resulted from an accident from motor vehicle traffic. Almost half of all the suicides of children ages 0-17 occurred in the Southern Region. Regarding homicides, of all the homicides of children ages 0-17, approximately 70% occurred in Southern California. Homicide by firearm was the most common cause of homicide of children ages 0-17 in the Southern Region. In Los Angeles County, homicides accounted for almost two-thirds of all homicides of children in the Southern Region.

#### Child Abuse and Neglect

The average rate of child abuse and neglect in the Southern Region is on par with the statewide rate of 11.7 per 1,000 children. The average rate of domestic violence calls for assistance is also consistent with the rate for the state (both at 5.4 per 1,000 people). Research shows that there is a substantial overlap between domestic violence and child maltreatment (Hartley, 2002) and that children who witness their mother's abuse by a father or other intimate partner are more likely to experience multiple school and health problems, even if the children themselves are not abused (Kernic et al., 2002; Onyskiw, 2002).

### ACCESS INDICATORS

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#### Health Care

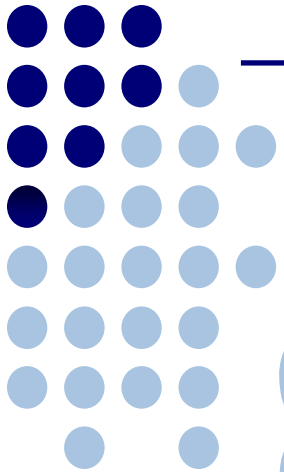
Health insurance is a critically important determinant of health care access and utilization among children. The uninsured are three times as likely as the privately insured to go without needed medical care, while uninsured low income children are four times as likely to rely on an emergency department or have no regular source of care (American Academy of Pediatrics, 2001). Roughly 1 in 10 children ages 0-17 did not have any form of health insurance in 2001. For those children enrolled in Medi-Cal, roughly 2 out of 3 children ages 0-17 reside in Southern California. However, among the Southern Counties, almost 9 out of 10 children ages 0-17 have a usual source of health care.

## SUMMARY

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### Early Start Program

The Early Start Program provides early intervention services to infant and toddlers from birth through 36 months who have a developmental delay in either cognitive, communication, social, emotional, adaptive, or physical and motor development, including vision and hearing. Early intervention services include health services, nutrition services, physical therapy, speech and language services (California Department of Developmental Services, 2004). In 2000, there were wide variations in the percentages of Southern California children ages 0-3 who were enrolled in the Early Start program. Ventura County reported the highest percentage of children enrolled in this program, while Imperial County reported the lowest.



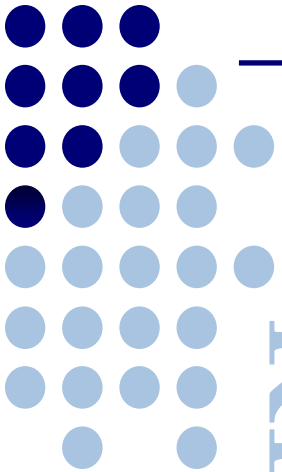
# CONCLUSION

The *Children's Sourcebook: Child Health and Well-Being Indicators in the Southern California Region* is designed as a desk-top reference tool providing information on child health and well-being indicators for the Southern California Counties of Imperial, Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

While 60% of all California children ages 0-17 reside in Southern California, the children in this region vary greatly in race and ethnicity, social class, language development and education, family size, and family income. However, as a region they share some common health issues for children in terms of prenatal care, breastfeeding, immunization, asthma, obesity, and oral health.

This *Sourcebook* presents epidemiological data in tables and charts to serve as a quick reference guide for comparing indicators among the eight individual Southern Counties, the Southern Counties as a whole, and the state of California. With the Federal, State, and Local governments focusing on safety, permanency, and child well-being, the indicators presented in this report should provide a baseline of data that depicts how this region is doing in terms of child health and well-being.

By taking a look at the specific population and community characteristics of the Southern California Region and how this region compares to the state on a number of different health and well-being indicators, it is hoped that this region will engage in policy development to assist and ensure that all children live in a safe and permanent home.



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