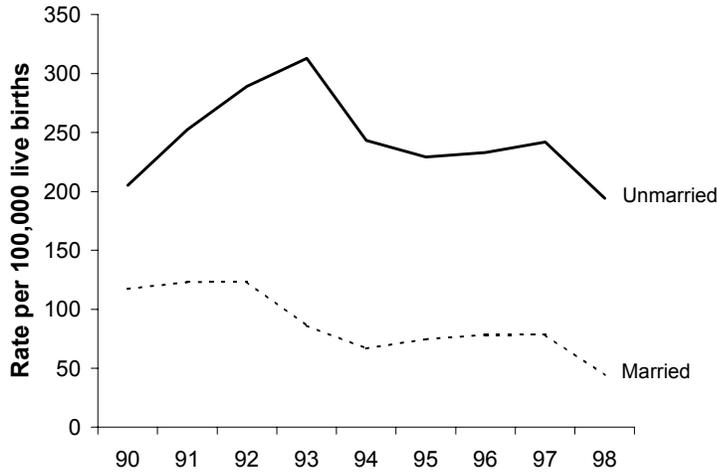


marital status and SIDS...

**SIDS Rates by Maternal Marital Status
Tennessee, 1990-1998**



Marital Status

On average, the rate of SIDS between 1990 and 1998 was 2.7 times higher for mothers who were not married at time of birth.

- “Marital status may serve as a marker for the “wantedness” of the child, the economic status of the mother, and the social support the mother has—all of which are factors that may influence the health of the mother and infant.”²⁰
- In Tennessee, unmarried mothers were 4.5 times more likely to have late (began in 3rd trimester) or no prenatal care.

- The percent of women giving birth who were unmarried has increased.
- In 1990, 30% of women giving birth were not married. The percent of births to unmarried mothers increased to 35% in 1998.

**Trend in Births to Unmarried Women
Tennessee, 1990-1998**

