The Health-Education Gap Crosses Generations: 
Births in the Children’s Corridor by Mother’s Education

“In the Children’s Corridor in 2009 among mothers over 20, 36% had not completed high school, 21% had completed high school only, and 44% had completed at least some college.

In the past two decades, the number of births per year in the Children’s Corridor increased nearly 50 percent. The proportion of births to mothers without a high school education also grew. In 1990, 26% of births to mothers over 20 (and 20.5% of all births) were to mothers without a high school degree. The of births to low-education mothers peaked in 2002, when 45% of mothers over 20 had not completed high school. Those children are now in elementary school.

In 2009, 54% of births in East Colfax & Original Aurora were to mothers without a high school diploma. Only a fifth of births in Globeville & Elyria Swansea in 2009 were to mothers who had completed some college.

Children whose parents haven’t finished high school are twice as likely to be in poor or fair health as children whose parents have. [2]

College makes an even bigger difference. “Children whose parents have not finished high school are more than six times as likely to be in poor or fair health as children of college graduates,” says the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [1] in its analysis of the 2003 National Survey of Children’s Health.

What’s more, health gaps based on education level are larger in Colorado than they are nationwide. [2]