

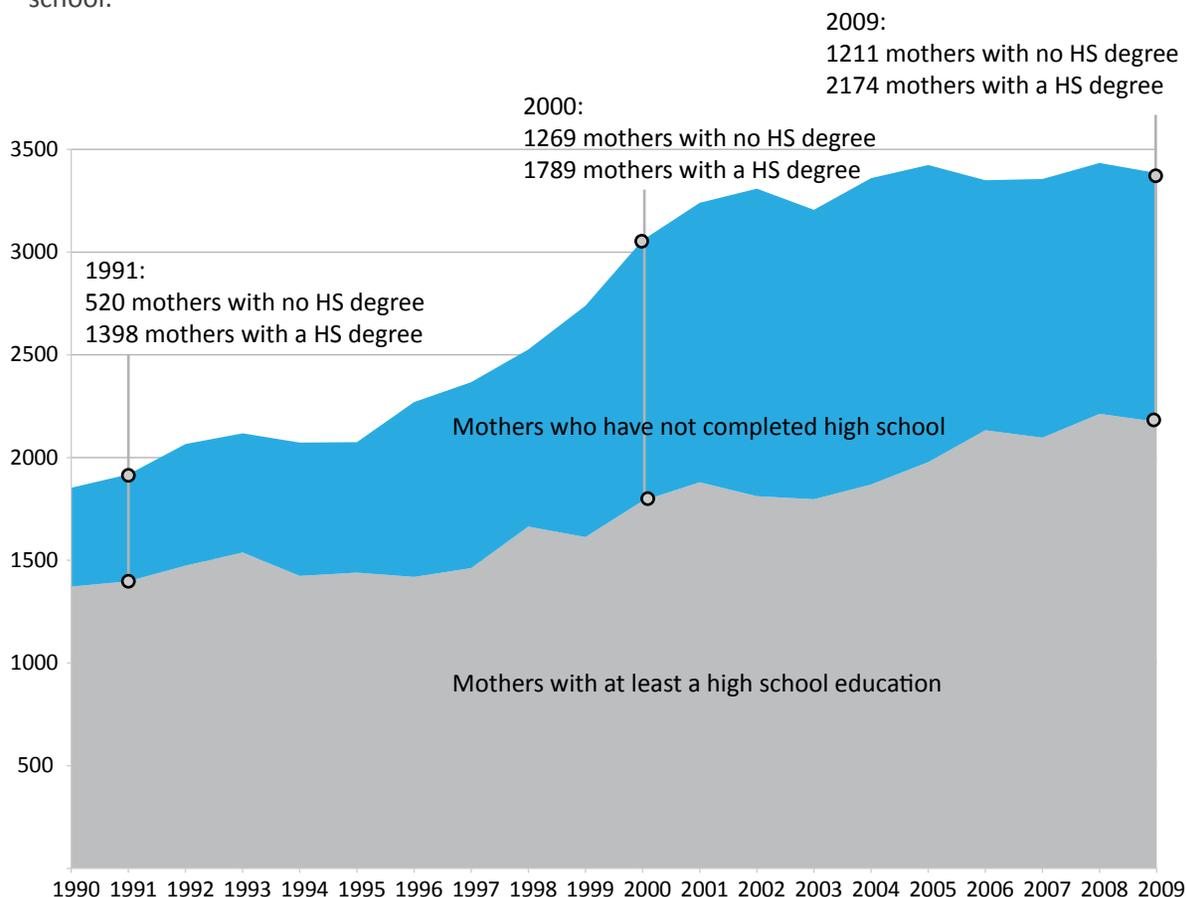
The Health-Education Gap Crosses Generations: Births in the Children's Corridor by Mother's Education

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.

“Educational attainment among adults is linked with children’s health...beginning early in life: babies of more-educated mothers are less likely to die before their first birthdays, and children of more-educated parents experience better health.” - The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [1]

Births by Year in the Children's Corridor by Mother's Education Level, 1990 to 2009

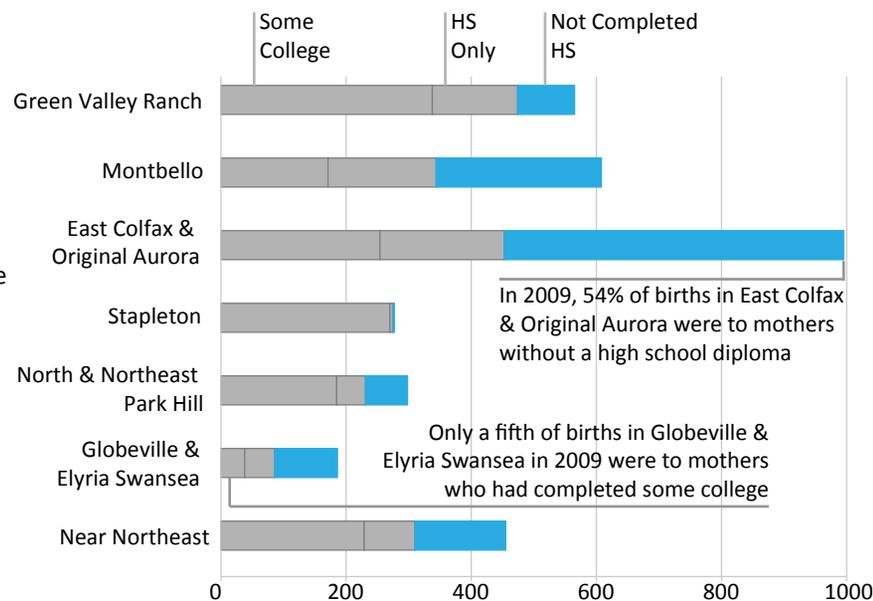
In the past two decades, the number of births per year in the Children's Corridor increased nearly 50 percent. The proportion of births to mothers without a high school education also grew. In 1990, 26% of births to mothers over 20 (and 20.5% of all births) were to mothers without a high school degree. 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.



Data Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, birth data 1990 to 2009

2009 Births by Corridor Hub and Mother's Education Level

Children's Corridor hubs vary when it comes to mothers' education levels: In Globeville and Elyria Swansea, 54% of mothers over 20 had not completed high school; in Stapleton, less than 1% of mothers don't have a high school degree and 92% have at least a bachelor's degree.



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]

[1] "Issue Brief: Education and Health," The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, September 2009.

[2] "America's Health Starts with Healthy Children: How Do States Compare?," The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, October 2008.