

**Table 7.38d** Preconception Obesity by Mother's Race/Ethnicity in Hawai'i, Aggregate 2004-2008

Race-Ethnicity	Prevalance (%)
Samoan	50.2
Native Hawaiian	23.3
All Others	17.9
Black	16.5
White	11.4
Filipino	10.1
Japanese	9.1
Korean	6.2
Chinese	5.4

**Background:**

“Obesity is associated with multiple health consequences including the leading causes of death such as coronary heart disease, stroke, cancers of the breast and colon, and type 2 diabetes. Additionally, obesity is associated with poor female reproductive health and pre-pregnancy obesity has been found to be an independent risk factor for adverse pregnancy and neonatal outcomes. Pregnancy complications associated with obesity include gestational diabetes, gestational hypertension, pre-eclampsia, and cesarean delivery.”

**PRAMS Definition:**

“Self-reported height and weight prior to pregnancy was used to calculate a body mass index (weight in kilograms divided by the height in meters squared). A level of 30.0 or higher was considered preconception obesity. Since these are based on self-reported information several months after the pregnancy about her weight before the pregnancy, these estimates may be somewhat underestimated.”

**Differences Related to Maternal Race:**

“Half of Samoan and nearly a quarter of Hawaiian mothers had preconception obesity.”

**Source:** Hawai'i State, Department of Health, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System. Trend Report 2000-2008)