



Illinois PRAMS FACTS For 2008

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System

Family Planning

- 41 percent of pregnancies resulting in live births were reported as unintended.
- 49 percent of women who had an unintended pregnancy were not using birth control at the time of conception.

Prenatal Care

- 81 percent of women reported having heard or read about the importance of taking folic acid to prevent some birth defects.
- 76 percent of women reported being tested for HIV during their pregnancy, while 8 percent did not know if they were tested.
- 41 percent of women went to a dentist or dental clinic during their pregnancy and 44 percent reported being counseled by a dental or other health care worker about care of teeth and gums.
- 86 percent of women reported that a health care worker talked with them about “baby blues” or postpartum depression either during their pregnancy or after delivery.

Risk Factors

- 3 percent of women reported being physically abused by their husband or partner in the 12 months before their pregnancy; 2 percent reported abuse during pregnancy.
- 3 percent of women reported being physically abused by an ex-husband or ex-partner in the 12 months before pregnancy; 1 percent reported abuse during pregnancy.
- 19 percent of women smoked cigarettes during the three months before they became pregnant, and 10 percent smoked during the last three months of pregnancy.
- 51 percent of women reported drinking alcoholic beverages on a weekly basis in the three months before becoming pregnant. That figure dropped to 6 percent during the last three months of pregnancy. During both time periods, most women reported drinking three or fewer drinks per week.
- 8 percent of women reported being diagnosed with depression after their baby was born.

Infant Health and Care

- 99 percent of women said they had an infant car seat for their new baby.
- When asked how they learned to install and use the infant car seat, 24 percent of women reported that a health or safety professional showed them. The majority of women (66%) indicated they learned by reading the instructions that came with the car seat.
- 70 percent of women reported they most often put their baby to sleep on his or her back.
- 78 percent of women reported breastfeeding their baby at least once after birth and 66 percent were still breastfeeding one month after delivery.
- Among mothers who did not breastfeed, the most common reason for not doing so was that they did not like breastfeeding (50%).