



Illinois PRAMS FACTS

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System

Family Planning

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

Prenatal Care

- 83 percent of women reported having heard or read about the importance of taking folic acid to prevent some birth defects.
- 70 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 reported being counseled by a dental or other health care worker about care of teeth and gums.
- 70 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

- 4 percent of women reported being physically abused by their husband or partner in the 12 months before their pregnancy; 3 percent reported abuse during pregnancy.
- 4 percent of women reported being physically abused by an ex-husband or ex-partner in the 12 months before pregnancy; 3 percent reported abuse during pregnancy.
- 22 percent of women smoked cigarettes during the three months before they became pregnant, and 12 percent still smoked during the last three months of pregnancy.
- 55 percent of women reported drinking alcoholic beverages on a weekly basis in the three months before becoming pregnant. That figure dropped to 8 percent during the last three months of pregnancy. During both time periods, most women reported drinking three or fewer drinks per week.
- 6 percent of women reported being diagnosed with depression after their baby was born. Women who delivered a low birthweight baby were more likely (11%) to report being diagnosed with depression than women who delivered a normal birthweight baby (6%).
- 70 percent of women who were diagnosed with depression after delivery reported taking prescription medicine for the depression; 33 percent received counseling for the depression.

Infant Health and Care

- 98 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, 25 percent of women reported that a health or safety professional showed them. The majority of women (71%) indicated they learned by reading the instructions that came with the car seat.
- 66 percent of women reported they most often put their baby to sleep on his or her back.
- 75 percent of women reported breastfeeding their baby at least once after birth and 62 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%).

Source: 2004 Illinois Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Center for Health Statistics

