

## **Maternal Demographics**

### **Background**

Information about maternal demographic characteristics (maternal age, race/ethnicity, education, Medicaid enrollment, and insurance type before pregnancy, during pregnancy, and at delivery) was obtained from the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)\*.

### **PRAMS Questions**

All respondents were asked the following questions about insurance:

**1. During the *month before you got pregnant with your new baby*, were you covered by any of these health insurance plans? Check all that apply.**

- Health insurance from your job or the job of your husband, partner, or parents
- Health insurance that you or someone else paid for (not from a job)
- Medicaid (or *state Medicaid name*)
- TRICARE or other military health care
- State-specific option (IHS, etc.)*
- State-specific option (state name for indigent care)*
- State-specific option (SCHIP or CHIP program name)*
- Other source(s) => Please tell us:
- I did not have any health insurance before I got pregnant

**2. Did any of these health insurance plans help you pay for your *prenatal care*? Check all that apply.**

- Health insurance from your job or the job of your husband, partner, or parents
- Health insurance that you or someone else paid for (not from a job)
- Medicaid (or *state Medicaid name*)
- TRICARE or other military health care
- State-specific option (IHS, or tribal/state name)*
- State-specific option (state name for indigent care)*
- State-specific option (CHIP or SCHIP program)*
- Other source(s) => Please tell us:
- I did not have health insurance to help pay for my prenatal care

**3. Did any of these health insurance plans help you pay for the *delivery of your new baby*? Check all that apply.**

- Health insurance from your job or the job of your husband, partner, or parents
- Health insurance that you or someone else paid for (not from a job)
- Medicaid (or *state Medicaid name*)

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\* For more information about PRAMS, please go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/PRAMS>

- TRICARE or other military health care
- *State-specific option (IHS, or tribal/state name)*
- *State-specific option (state name for indigent care)*
- *State-specific option (SCHIP or CHIP program)*
- Other source(s) => Please tell us:
- I did not have health insurance to help pay for the delivery

## Findings in Brief

This report includes findings from women who delivered a live-born infant in 2009 in any of the 29 PRAMS states that met the response rate threshold of 65%.<sup>†</sup>

The age distribution of respondents was as follows: 10.5%<sup>‡</sup> were 19 years of age and younger, 76.2% were 20–34 years of age, and 13.3% were 35 years old and older (Table 1). White, non-Hispanic women composed more than half (58.3%) of the respondents, followed by Hispanics (21.0%), black-non-Hispanics (14.0%), and women of other races/ethnicities (6.7%). More than half (53.4%) of respondents reported having more than a high school education, followed by 27.9% with at least a high school education and 18.7% with less than a high school education.

About half of respondents (50.2%) were enrolled in Medicaid at any point from preconception through pregnancy and delivery. However, only 18.3% had continuous Medicaid coverage across all three periods. The percentage of women with no insurance varied from 25.4% before conception to 3.2% during pregnancy and 1.8% at delivery.

## Public Health Implications

Almost half of the women delivering live births in 2009 had only a high school education or less, highlighting the need for all organizations serving women of childbearing age to ensure that their outreach efforts and materials are at an appropriate literacy level.

Approximately one in four women did not have health insurance before becoming pregnant. Preconception care is important to ensure optimal health before pregnancy, but without adequate insurance, women have not always been able to obtain the care they needed before becoming pregnant. Access to care remains a challenging issue, and strategies need to be developed to identify and refer women to prenatal care as soon as possible in their pregnancies.

There is a continued need to assess the health of women before and during pregnancy and to assess risks that may affect health outcomes during preconception, pregnancy, and in the early postpartum period. PRAMS remains an important source of information that can be used to accomplish these assessments, and the system is flexible enough to adapt to changing needs for information over time.

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<sup>†</sup>The 29 PRAMS states that met the response rate threshold of 65% in 2009 include: AK, AR, CO, DE, GA, HI, IL, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NE, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WV, WI, and WY.

<sup>‡</sup>95% confidence intervals (CI) for all percentages are included in Table 1.

**Table 1. Selected maternal demographics of PRAMS respondents, 29 States\*, PRAMS 2009**

<b>Maternal age</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>	<b>95% Confidence Interval</b>
<20 years	10.5	10.0-11.1
20-34 years	76.2	75.4-76.9
35+ years	13.3	12.7-13.9
<b>Maternal race/ethnicity</b>		
White, non-Hispanic	58.3	57.7-58.9
Black, non-Hispanic	14.0	13.6-14.5
Hispanic	21.0	20.5-21.4
Other	6.7	6.4-7.0
<b>Maternal education</b>		
<High School	18.7	18.0-19.5
High School	27.9	27.1-28.7
>High School	53.4	52.6-54.2
<b>Medicaid enrollment at any time before, during, or after pregnancy</b>		
Non-Medicaid	49.8	49.0-50.6
Medicaid	50.2	49.4-51.1
<b>Continuous Medicaid enrollment before and during pregnancy and at delivery</b>		
No	81.7	81.0-82.3
Yes	18.3	17.7-19.0
<b>Insurance coverage before pregnancy</b>		
No insurance	25.4	24.6-26.2
Medicaid	16.5	15.9-17.2
Private	55.8	55.0-56.7
Other	2.3	2.1-2.5
<b>Insurance coverage during pregnancy</b>		
No insurance	3.2	2.9-3.6
Medicaid	41.0	40.1-41.8
Private	53.1	52.3-54.0
Other	2.7	2.4-3.0
<b>Insurance coverage during</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>	<b>95% Confidence Interval</b>

<b>delivery</b>		
No insurance	1.8	1.5-2.0
Medicaid	45.8	44.9-46.6
Private	50.0	49.1-50.8
Other	2.5	2.2-2.7

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