



Priority Health Needs of Wisconsin Women

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*Wisconsin Healthiest Women Initiative
and Statewide Advisory Committee on
Eliminating Racial and Ethnic
Disparities in Birth Outcomes*

*September 8, 2011
Beloit, Wisconsin*

Our Mission

To improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality



Fund Research

to understand problems & discover answers leading to prevention & treatment.



Help Moms

have full-term pregnancies & healthy babies.



Support Families

providing comfort when their baby needs help to survive and thrive.

Poverty in Wisconsin Women:

- Among Wisconsin women ages 15-44, 11.0% (about 1 in 9) were uninsured compared with 20.7% of women in the U.S. (2007-2009 average).
- In Wisconsin, 43.5% of all live births were funded by Medicaid in 2006.
- About 1 in 8 women ages 15-44 in Wisconsin (12.1%) lived in families with incomes below the poverty threshold (2007-2009 average) compared to 16.2% in the U.S.

Sources: Uninsured and Poverty: US Census Bureau. Data prepared for the March of Dimes using the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Medicaid Covered Births: Data collected by the National Governors Association, March 2009 - June 2009. Retrieved September 22, 2011, from www.marchofdimes.com/peristats.



Striking Disparities in Birth Outcomes Based on Maternal Race/Ethnicity In Wisconsin

Preterm birth rates in Wisconsin:

- Non-Hispanic Black 17.4%
- Hispanic 11.5%
- Non-Hispanic White 10.3%

Infant mortality rates in Wisconsin:

- Non-Hispanic Black 16.9 per 1,000
- Hispanic 5.7 per 1,000
- Non-Hispanic White 5.0 per 1,000



Notes: Preterm is less than 37 completed weeks of gestation.

An infant death occurs within the first year of life. Infant mortality rates are per 1,000 live births.

Sources: National Center for Health Statistics, 2006-2008 (average) final natality data and 2004-2006 (average) period linked birth/infant death data. Retrieved September 22, 2011, from www.marchofdimes.com/peristats.

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Binge Drinking

- In 2009, 24.3% of women ages 18-44 in Wisconsin reported binge drinking in the past month, compared to 15.7% overall in the U.S.
- Drinking alcohol during pregnancy, particularly binge drinking, can cause birth defects and mental retardation.

Note: Binge alcohol use is defined as having four or more drinks on at least one occasion during the past month.

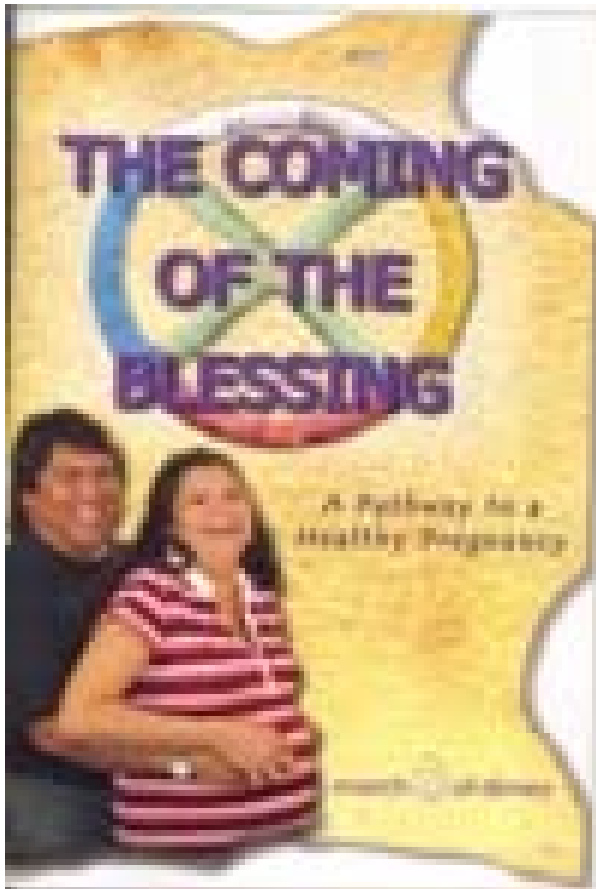
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Behavioral Surveillance Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved September 22, 2011, from www.marchofdimes.com/peristats.



Depression

- According to a joint report of American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Psychiatric Association, between 14% and 23% of pregnant women will experience depressive symptoms while pregnant.
- Identifying depression in pregnant women can be difficult because its symptoms mimic those associated with pregnancy, such as changes in mood, energy level, appetite and cognition.
- Depressed women are more likely to have poor prenatal care and pregnancy complication such as nausea, vomiting and pre-eclampsia, and are more likely to use drugs, alcohol and nicotine.

March of Dimes WI Chapter



The State Program Services Committee (PSC) determines investments of Chapter Community Grants.

In 2011 the PSC provided grants to fund evidence-based group prenatal care through Centering Pregnancy® and culturally appropriate prenatal care through the Coming of the Blessing® for Native American Communities.

In 2011-2012, the Wisconsin Chapter of the March of Dimes will work to eliminate elective deliveries before 39 weeks gestation.

Department of Health and Human Services Adopts Institute of Medicine (IOM) Recommendations Regarding Preventive Services for Women:

Starting August 1, 2012, Health insurers must include the following benefits in all new health plans (with exceptions for religious institutions) at no cost to the consumer ...

- Contraceptive methods and counseling to prevent unintended pregnancies
- Yearly well-woman preventive care visits to obtain recommended preventive services
- Screening for gestational diabetes
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) testing as part of cervical cancer screening for women over 30
- Counseling for STIs for sexually active women
- Counseling and screening for HIV for sexually active women
- Lactation counseling and equipment to promote breast-feeding



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