



Wisconsin Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Quarterly newsletter

Fall 2016

Highlights

- The Wisconsin PRAMS team applied for and received funding to incorporate a Zika supplement into data collection.
- The Advisory Board met in October 2016 and brainstormed ideas for PRAMS data to action around the Title V Priority Areas.
- PRAMS 2014 data are now available for analysis.

On the horizon

- PRAMS will hold focus groups to select an effective reward to help improve survey response.
- Updated rewards will be provided to responding mothers as of February 2017.
- Wisconsin received funding for the PRAMS Zika Supplement and data will be collected starting in February.

Fall Edition of the PRAMS Newsletter

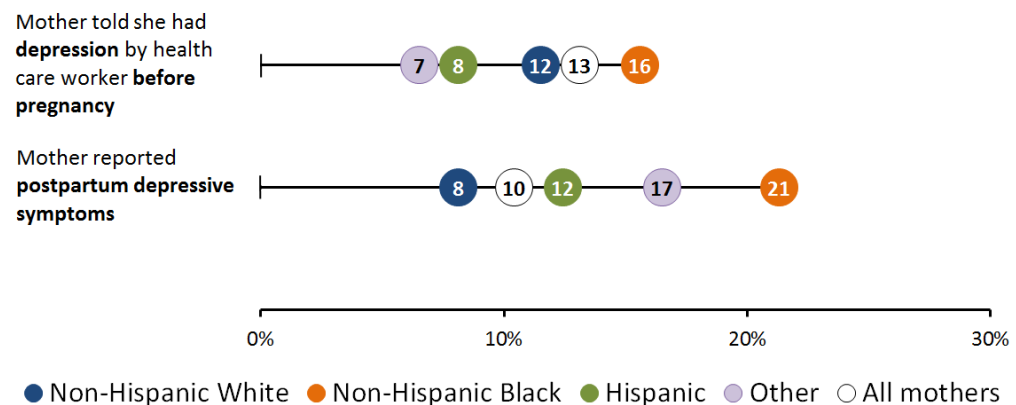
The PRAMS team at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) plans to provide these updates on a quarterly basis in order to continually engage the PRAMS Advisory Board. If there is any content you would specifically like to see in future newsletters, please contact DHSDPHPRAMS@wi.gov.

Featured Data

PRAMS 2012-2013 data on perinatal mental health were shared with the DHS Family Health Section last spring to spur discussion around the Title V Perinatal Depression Performance Measure strategies. Here are some key data points:

- Over **20%** of non-Hispanic black mothers reported postpartum depressive symptoms—nearly **three times** the white rate.
- Major life stressors can be risk factors for prenatal and postpartum depressive symptoms, and the experience of many of these stressors differs significantly across racial and ethnic groups (see Table below).
- Only **20%** of mothers reported being checked for depression by a health care worker in the year before pregnancy, reflecting a need for more preconception well visits and screening at such visits.
- About **80%** of mothers reported that a prenatal care provider talked to them about what to do if they felt depressed during or after pregnancy.

Non-Hispanic black mothers report higher rates of poor perinatal mental health than all other racial and ethnic groups (PRAMS, 2012-2013).



The Title V program is funding state and local strategies to increase access to quality pre- and inter-conception health care and to improve systems of perinatal depression screening and referral to appropriate services in order to address deficits and disparities in perinatal mental health and mental health screening.

How to request PRAMS data:

If you would like to **request aggregate data or a presentation** on one of the many topics on which PRAMS collects information, please contact Sarah Blackwell with the details of your request.

If you would like to **access the PRAMS research file** for your own analysis using appropriate statistical software, please contact Sarah Blackwell to request an application. Your completed application will be reviewed by the Division of Public Health Data Governance Board. Upon approval, a Data Use Agreement will be drafted granting you access to PRAMS data for your stated purpose.

PRAMS Zika Supplement Application

In November, WI PRAMS applied for CDC funding to incorporate a Zika supplement into data collection for six PRAMS sample batches during 2017. The project period will run from 12/30/2016-04/30/2018 and will entail:

- Reprinting the PRAMS survey booklet to incorporate the 12 additional questions related to Zika health education, screening, exposure, and prevention practices.
- Funding for improved rewards for six months of data collection to offset any potential decreases in response due to increased survey length.
- Collaborating with the CDC and state partners to develop a PRAMS Zika analysis plan and to translate findings into Zika planning and response.

Project Updates

- The WI PRAMS Advisory Board met in October 2016 and engaged in a data to action planning activity around six Title V priority areas. The ideas that emerged from this activity are helping to form the PRAMS analysis plan.
- WI PRAMS data for 2014 births are now available for analysis.
- WI PRAMS continues to explore financially sustainable and appropriately incentivizing options to improve the PRAMS reward, which is currently a music CD. PRAMS plans to hold focus groups this winter to determine mothers' preferences for updated rewards.
- The Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF) has recently put together PRAMS data tables for the four counties with funded collaboratives to reduce African American infant mortality (Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Rock).
- LIHF also recently expanded its use of PRAMS data to include research related to the socioeconomic and health care access factors that influence disparities in birth outcomes and maternal and child health.

The Wisconsin PRAMS Team

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The **Wisconsin Partnership Program**, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, provides invaluable support for PRAMS by funding an oversample of non-Hispanic black mothers in key counties with community collaboratives supported by the **UW Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families**.