

Wisconsin PRAMS

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System



PRAMS Quarterly Newsletter: Winter 2017/2018

Highlights

Wisconsin PRAMS has a **new project director!** Fiona Weeks, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist, was hired by the Wisconsin Division of Public Health and started at the beginning of October.

Wisconsin PRAMS **2015 data** are available for analysis. See "How to request PRAMS data" on page 2 for more information! We hope to have the **2016 research file** available soon.

Looking Ahead

The **PRAMS Advisory Committee Meeting** was held by webinar on January 24. Please see the recap on page 2!

Wisconsin PRAMS worked to develop a **professional brand, which includes newly designed materials**, to better engage with all mothers who are involved in the project.

The PRAMS team successfully submitted its annual continuing grant application.

Winter 2017 Newsletter

The PRAMS team at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services provides quarterly newsletters to continuously engage the PRAMS Advisory Board and other agencies and organizations invested in maternal and infant health outcomes in Wisconsin.

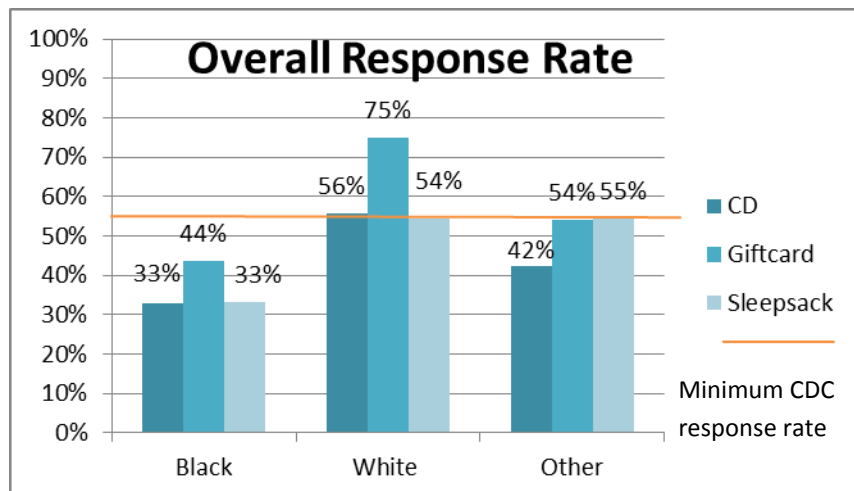
If there is any specific content you would like to see in future newsletters, please contact the Wisconsin PRAMS team at dhsdphprams@wi.gov.

NEW TO THIS ISSUE

We have added a third page aimed at informing moms about PRAMS. If you interact with pregnant women or new mothers in your maternal and child health work, please print out page 3 of this newsletter and share widely!

Featured Data

Wisconsin PRAMS conducted an experiment to assess the effect that different rewards had on women's response rates to the survey. Some women were offered a CD with lullabies, others were offered a \$10 Visa gift card, and a third group was offered a sleepsack. Across racial/ethnic groups, the \$10 Visa gift card consistently received the highest response rates (although it was almost tied with the sleep sack in the "other race" group.)





PRAMS Project Updates

2017 Wisconsin PRAMS Steering Committee Meeting

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the 2017 Wisconsin PRAMS Advisory Board Meeting which was held as a webinar this year. We appreciate your commitment to PRAMS and improving maternal and child health outcomes at both the state and local level.

Here is a brief recap of what was discussed:

- A new sampling design will go into effect for women with births in 2018. The goal of the new design is to get 300 respondents in each of the three stratified groups: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and other races.
- Wisconsin PRAMS data are available through 2015. Consider using PRAMS data to inform your programs and support your work!
- Planning for the next phase of PRAMS will begin in 2018 for data collection to start in 2020. Stay tuned for opportunities to contribute to what topics should be included in the survey!

Bringing Data to Action

The Wisconsin PRAMS team is always looking for opportunities to bring data to action. The survey collects data on a wide variety of topics including: breastfeeding, safe sleep practices, tobacco and alcohol use, stress, social support, and maternity leave.

PRAMS data have been used to update Medicaid policy related to folic acid-containing vitamins, inform the Healthy Smiles for Mom and Baby initiative, and provide baseline and evaluative data for the Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families, to name a few.

If your program is interested in using PRAMS data, please see the sidebar for information on how to request aggregate data, presentations, and access to the research file.

Please email the Wisconsin PRAMS team if you would be interested in helping bring PRAMS data to action! We'd be more than happy to work with you and your program.



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 send an email to the PRAMS team with the details of your request. Aggregate data requests may require Division of Public Health Data Governance Board approval.

If you would like to **access the PRAMS research file** for your own analysis using appropriate statistical software, please email the PRAMS team 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.

If you have any questions about what type of data request would be appropriate based on your research question, [email Wisconsin PRAMS](#) and someone from the team will get back to you!



Wisconsin PRAMS Team

Questions or comments? Please send to: dhsdphprams@wi.gov

Fiona Weeks | PRAMS Project Director

Gary Kirk | Principal Investigator

Stephanie Hartwig | PRAMS Data Manager

Angela Rohan | Senior MCH Epidemiologist and CDC Assignee to Wisconsin

Christopher Huard | PRAMS Sample Research Specialist



Acknowledgments

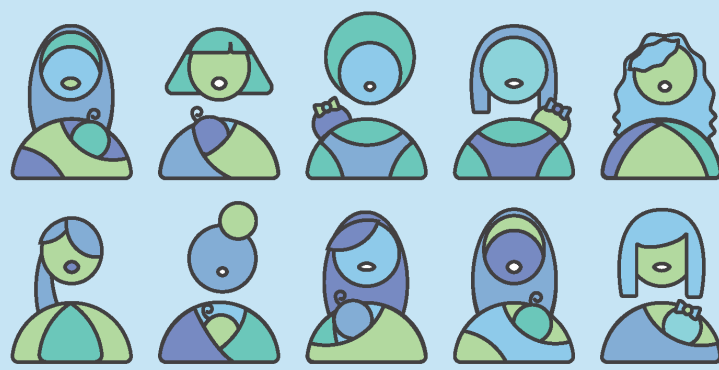
Funding for PRAMS is provided by the Cooperative Agreement 1U01DP006229-01 from the **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**.

Additional support is provided by the **Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Program**.

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**.

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PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM

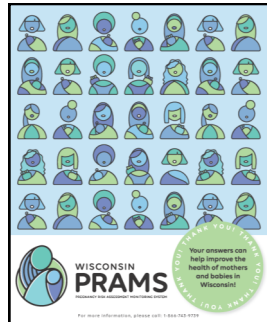
The Wisconsin PRAMS survey asks new moms about their lives and experiences before, during, and shortly after their most recent pregnancy.

We know you're very busy, but if you receive the Wisconsin PRAMS survey please fill it out and send it back to us! What you tell us helps us create or improve programs new moms can use in our state.

For more information about Wisconsin PRAMS please visit:
dhs.wisconsin.gov/stats/PRAMS

What is PRAMS?

Wisconsin PRAMS is a survey to learn more about the experiences of women before, during, and shortly after pregnancy. Every month about 250 new mothers are asked to share their stories. You might be one of them!



If you get our survey, please fill it out and send it back to us. By answering some questions about your recent pregnancy we can find out why some babies are born healthy and others are not. All survey responses are anonymous and are only used to inform public health practice and research.

Your answers are really important because what we learn from Wisconsin moms helps us improve programs and services available to women, their children, and their families!

What Wisconsin Moms Say About: Support for moms

"The main thing women need to do for healthier babies and mother is to ASK FOR HELP!!! They need to learn there is no shame in getting help!"

"The best gift that a mother can give her child is to give them health and a lot of love, and in order to do that, a mother should also, as much as she can, keep herself healthy for the good of both mom and baby."

"Being relaxed as much as possible is also very important. If you don't have knowledge, take classes and learn everything you can— even if you do have knowledge— refresh your mind! Each baby is a different person!"

"During my experiences with my child's birth it was very painful afterwards and hard to keep balance but I always had help with family members and the doctors at the hospital I had my child at."

"For anyone who may have low self-esteem or are embarrassed about their living situations, take the help from nurses and programs. It helped me a lot to get gifts and gift cards during my pregnancy and the help from the nurse."

Respondents to the Wisconsin PRAMS shared these comments in their survey booklets.

