

Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy



Introduction

The Florida Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is an ongoing surveillance system, designed to collect data on maternal behaviors and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy. Every year, approximately 2,500 new mothers in Florida are randomly selected to participate. In 2010, Florida PRAMS had a total of 1,400 respondents.

* Data presented in this fact sheet are weighted to be representative of new mothers and infants in Florida.

Background

Cigarette smoke contains over 1,000 different compounds and accounts for almost every smoking-related complication in pregnancy. When a woman smokes during pregnancy, the toxins cause a shortage of oxygen to the baby and can have devastating effects on infant growth and development.

Research has shown that if a woman smokes or is exposed to secondhand smoke during pregnancy, her child may be born prematurely or be smaller than normal. Additional effects of smoking during pregnancy may include:

- Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS),
- Depressed breathing movements while in uterus,
- Learning problems,
- Respiratory disorders after birth, and
- Heart disease as an adult.

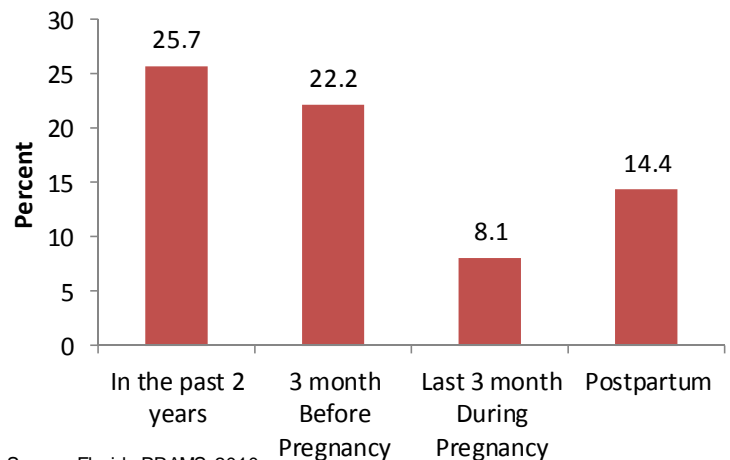
Recent studies report that expectant mothers who quit smoking in the first trimester increase their chances of delivering a healthy full-term, full-size baby.

This fact sheet examines the prevalence of cigarette smoking during pregnancy among new mothers in Florida.

Results

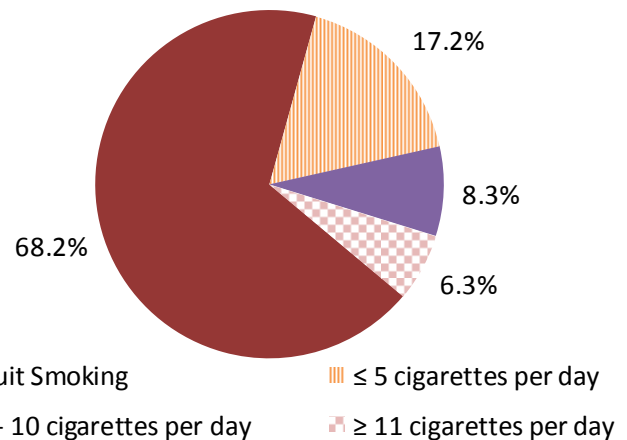
- In 2010, 25.7% of new mothers in Florida reported smoking at least 1 cigarette in the past two years; 22.2% reported smoking in the three months before they got pregnant; 8.1% reported smoking during the last three months of pregnancy; and 14.4% reported smoking in their postpartum (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Percentage of Cigarette Smoking Before/During/After Pregnancy, Florida, 2010



Source: Florida PRAMS, 2010

Figure 2: Percentage of Cigarette Smoking During the Last Three Months of Pregnancy among Smoking Mothers, Florida, 2010



Source: Florida PRAMS, 2010

- Of new mothers who smoked at least 1 cigarette in the past two years, 68.2% reported quitting smoking in the last three months of pregnancy; 17.2% reported smoking five or less cigarettes per day; 8.3% reported smoking six to ten cigarettes per day; and 6.3% reported smoking eleven or more cigarettes per day in the last three months of pregnancy (Figure 2).
- Of new mothers, 73% reported that a doctor, nurse, or other healthcare worker talked to them about how smoking during pregnancy could affect babies.

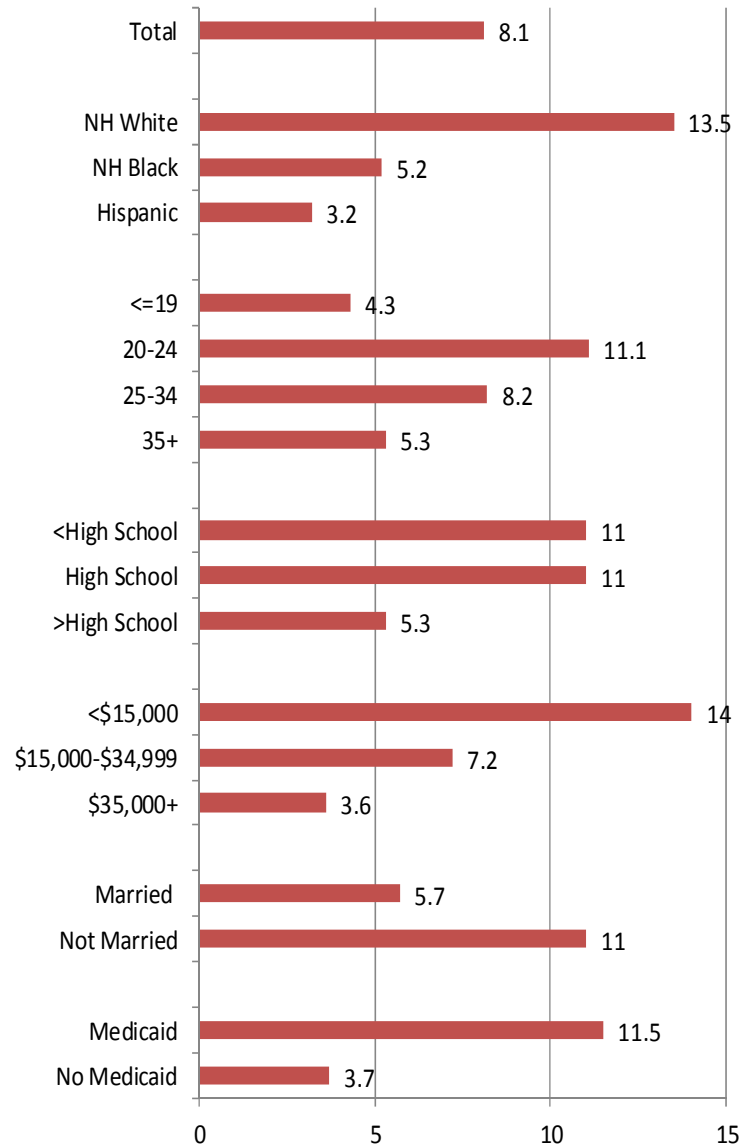
The prevalence of cigarette smoking during pregnancy among Florida PRAMS participants are:

- Significantly higher among non-Hispanic (NH) whites compared to non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics.
- Higher among mothers 20 to 24 years of age compared to mothers 25 years of age and older and mothers 19 years of age and younger.
- Significantly higher among mothers with a high school education compared to mothers with more than a high school education.
- Significantly higher among mothers with an annual family income of \$15,000 or less per year compared to mothers with a family income of \$35,000 or more.
- Significantly higher among unmarried mothers compared to their married counterparts.
- Significantly higher among mothers with Medicaid compared to mothers without Medicaid (Figure 3).

Summary

More than 8% of new mothers in Florida smoked during their pregnancy. The prevalence was significantly lower among non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics, mothers with more than a high school education, mothers with an annual family income of \$35,000 or more, married mothers, and mothers without Medicaid.

Figure 3: Prevalence of Smoking During Pregnancy By Demographic Characteristics, Florida, 2010



Source: Florida PRAMS, 2010

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