

Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy Among Florida Women, 2011



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 2011, Florida PRAMS had a total of 1,392 respondents who completed the survey. 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. The two main compounds, nicotine and carbon monoxide, account 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.¹

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.
- Depressed breathing movements while in utero.
- Learning problems.
- Respiratory disorders after birth.
- 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 2011, 24.1% of new mothers reported smoking at least one cigarette in the past two years; 21.4% of new mothers reported smoking in the three months before they got pregnant; 8.6% of new mothers reported smoking during the last three months of pregnancy; and 13.9% of new mothers reported smoking in their postpartum (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking Before, During, and After Pregnancy Among Florida Women, 2011

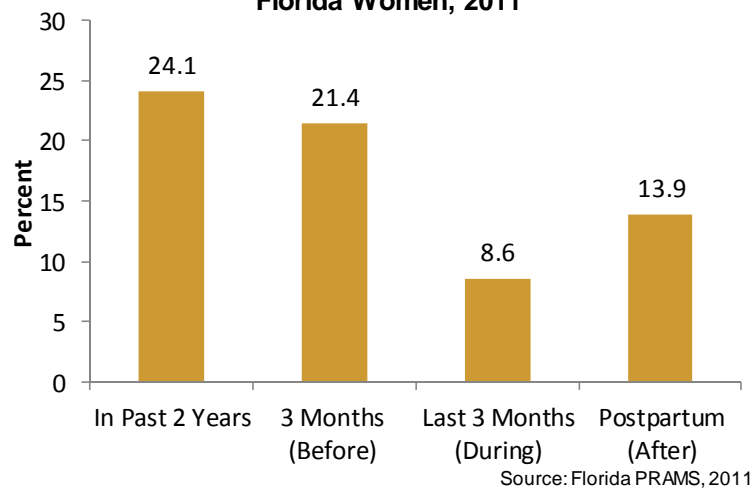
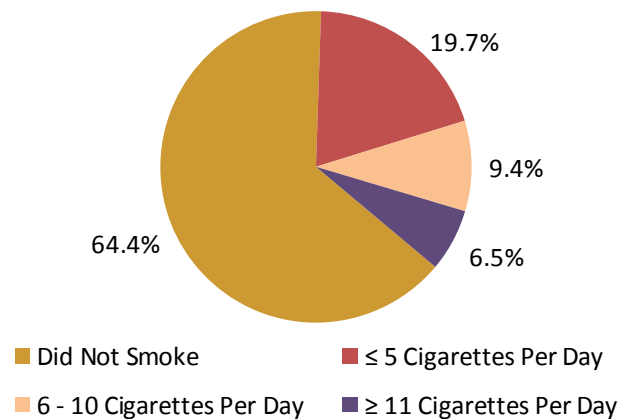


Figure 2: Percentage of Cigarette Smoking During the Last 3 Months of Pregnancy Among Florida Women Who Smoke, 2011



- Of new mothers who smoked at least one cigarette in the past two years, 64.4% reported quitting smoking in the last three months of pregnancy; 19.7% reported smoking five or less cigarettes per day; 9.4% reported smoking six to ten cigarettes per day; and 6.5% reported smoking 11 or more cigarettes per day in the last three months of pregnancy (Figure 2).
- Of new mothers, 74.2% reported that a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker talked to them about how smoking during pregnancy could affect their baby.

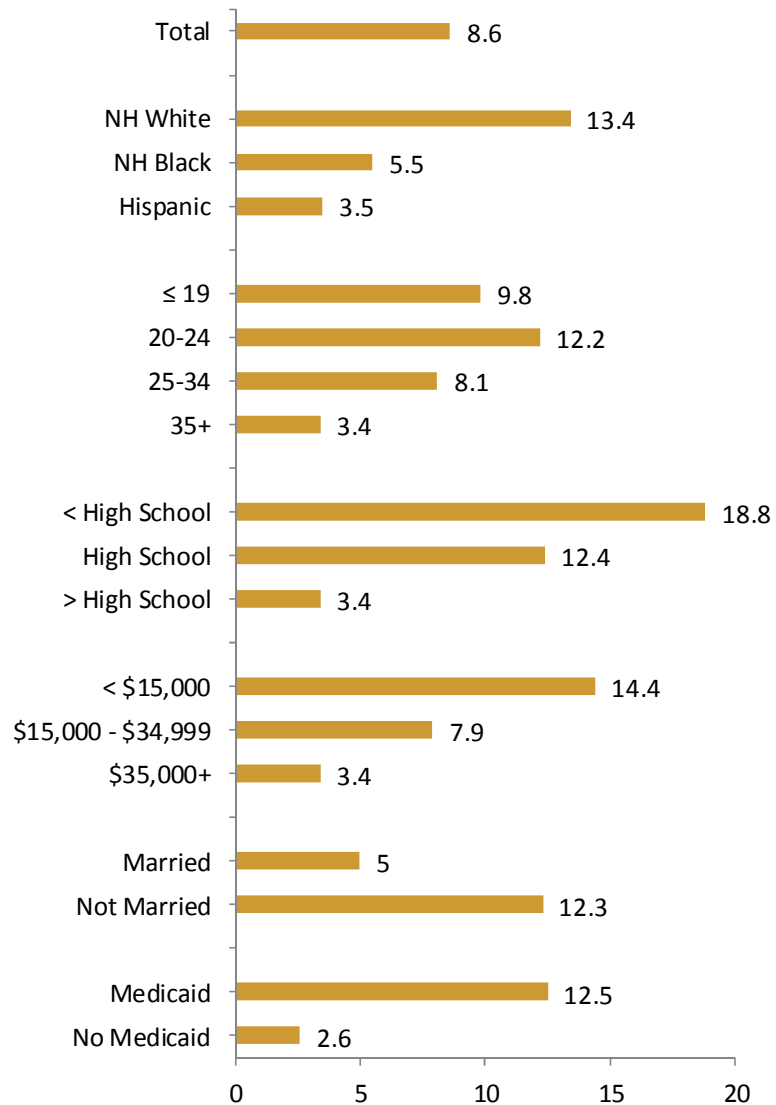
The prevalence of cigarette smoking during pregnancy among Florida PRAMS participants was:

- Significantly higher among non-Hispanic whites compared to non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics.
- Significantly higher among mothers 20 to 24 years old compared to mothers 35 years old and older.
- Significantly higher among mothers with a high school education or less compared to mothers with more than a high school education.
- Significantly higher among mothers with an annual family income of \$15,000 or less 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 who were Medicaid recipients compared to mothers who were not Medicaid recipients (Figure 3).

Summary

In 2011, more than 8% of new mothers in Florida smoked during their pregnancy. The prevalence was significantly higher among non-Hispanic whites, mothers with a high school education or less, mothers with an annual family income of \$15,000 or less, mothers 20 to 24 years of age, unmarried mothers, and mothers who were Medicaid recipients.

Figure 3: Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy Among Florida Women, by Demographic Characteristics, 2011



Source: Florida PRAMS, 2011



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