

Vermont PRAMS Data Brief

Oral Health – Part 2

This is a report on the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), a survey conducted on a sample of Vermont women with live births since 2001. Oral Health Part 1 reported on 2009-2010 Oral Health indicators such as cleanings before pregnancy, dental checkups oral health care advice.

This report combines the following two questions to measure the timing of the respondent’s dental care:

*At any time during the **12 months before** you got pregnant with your new baby, did you have your teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist? (Y/N)*

*During your **most recent** pregnancy did you go to a dentist or dental clinic? (Y/N).*

Complete question wording is found at the end of this report.

Dental Care before and during pregnancy

- Nearly two thirds (65 %) of mothers reported getting their teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist in the year before they got pregnant.
- Nearly as many (61 %) went to a dentist or a dental clinic during their most recent pregnancy.
- Combining the responses to these two questions yields the following results:

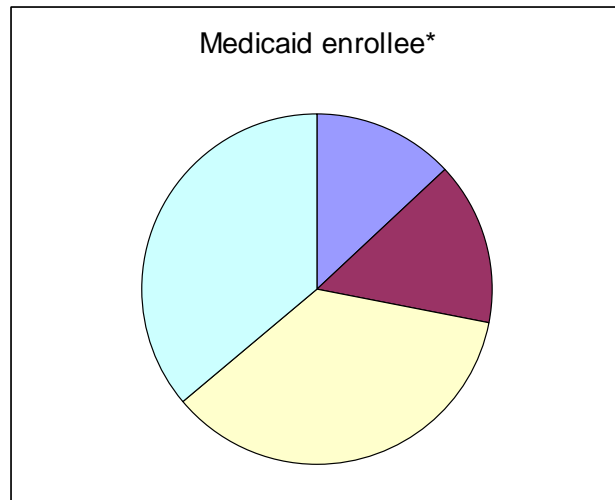
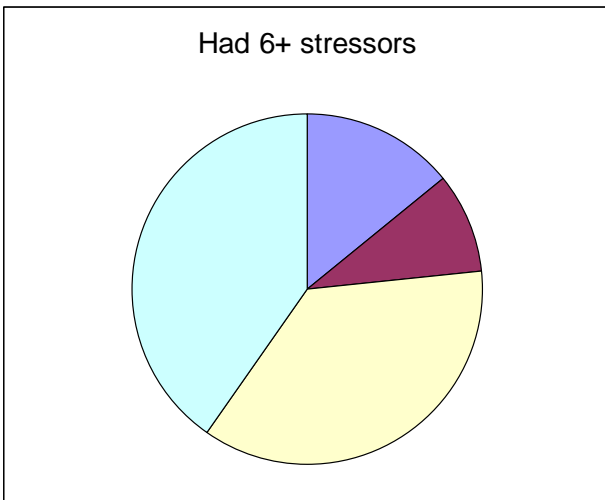
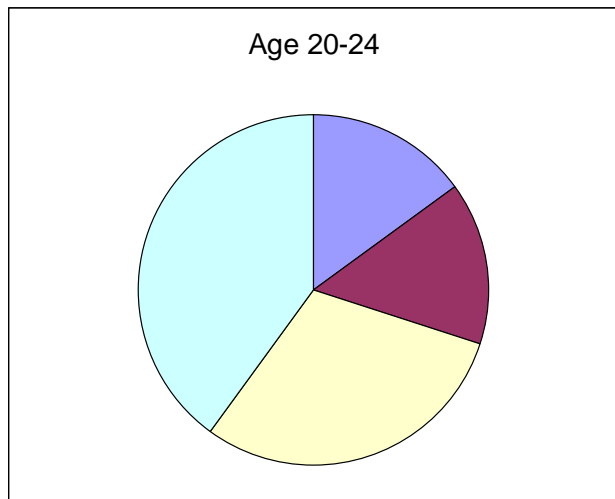
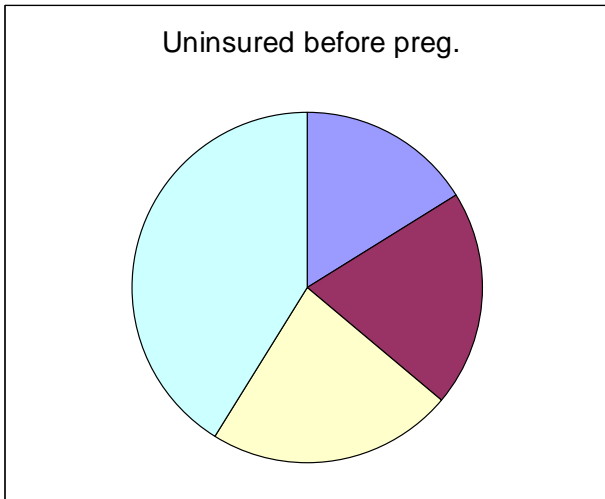
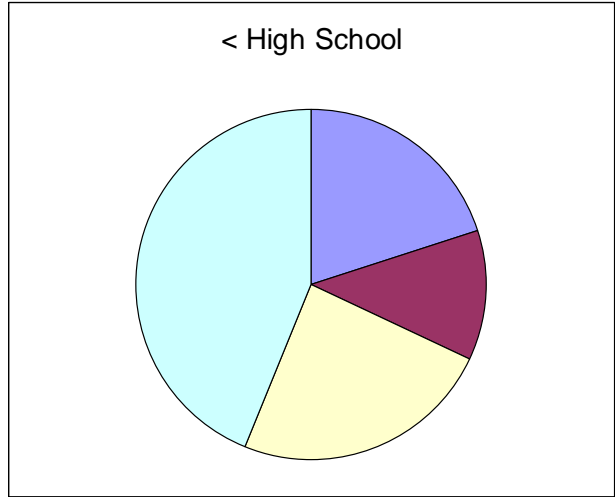
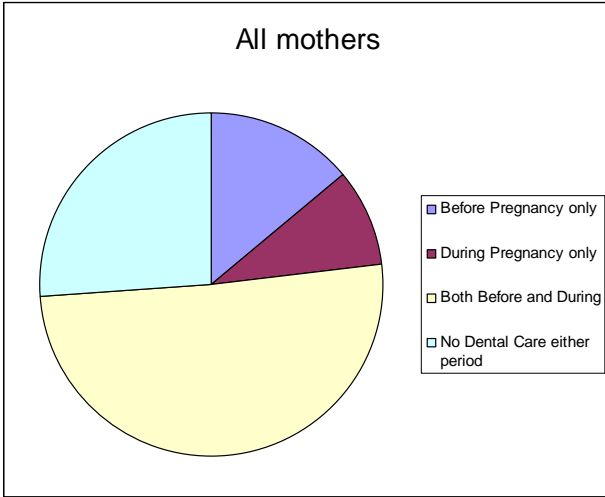
Received dental care in the year before pregnancy only	14%
Received dental care during pregnancy only	9%
Received dental care both before and during pregnancy	51%
Did not get dental care during either time period	26%
- As shown in the table below, the proportion without dental care at either time is higher among certain groups. For example, among those who have not obtained a high school degree that percentage is 44%. It is also higher among the uninsured, those in their early twenties, and those who reported 6 or more stressful events during their pregnancy.
- There are lower levels of dental care ‘both before and during pregnancy’ for these groups – ranging from 24 to 36 % – as compared to 51% for all mothers.

Timing of Dental Care	< High School	Uninsured before preg.	Age 20-24	Had 6+ stressors	Medicaid enrollee*
Before Pregnancy only	20%	16%	15%	14%	13%
During Pregnancy only	12%	20%	15%	9%	15%
Both Before and During	24%	23%	30%	36%	36%
No Dental Care either period	44%	41%	40%	40%	36%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Questions or comments about this report may be addressed to John Gauthier john.gauthier@state.vt.us, (802)863-7661.

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2009-2010 Mother's Dental Care Before and During Pregnancy by Selected Characteristics



* Medicaid includes those who were enrolled in Medicaid or Dr Dynasaur during any time period, before, during, or after pregnancy.

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PRAMS QUESTIONS USED IN THIS DATA BRIEF

1. At any time during the 12 months before you got pregnant with your new baby, did you do any of the following things? For each item, circle **Y** (Yes) if you did it or circle **N** (No) if you did not.
I had my teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist. . . N Y

73. This question is about the care of your teeth during your most recent pregnancy. For each item, circle **Y** (Yes) if it is true or circle **N** (No) if it is not true.
a. I needed to see a dentist for a problem. . . N Y
b. I went to a dentist or dental clinic. . . N Y
c. A dental or other health care worker talked with me about how to care for my teeth and gums . . . N Y

2. During the month before you got pregnant with your new baby, were you covered by any of these health insurance plans?

- Health insurance from your job or the job of your husband, partner, or parents
- Health insurance that you or someone else paid for (not from a job)
- Medicaid
- TRICARE or other military health care
- VHAP
- Dr. Dynasaur
- Other source(s) Please tell us: _____
- I did not have any health insurance before I got pregnant

43. This question is about things that may have happened during the 12 months before your new baby was born. For each item, circle **Y** (Yes) if it happened to you or circle **N** (No) if it did not. (It may help to look at the calendar when you answer these questions.)

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|--|--|
| a. A close family member was very sick and had to go into the hospital . . . N Y | g. I argued with my husband or partner more than usual. . . N Y |
| b. I got separated or divorced from my husband or partner . . . N Y | h. My husband or partner said he didn't want me to be pregnant. . . N Y |
| c. I moved to a new address . . . N Y | i. I had a lot of bills I couldn't pay. . . N Y |
| d. I was homeless . . . N Y | j. I was in a physical fight . . . N Y |
| e. My husband or partner lost his job . . . N Y | k. My husband or partner or I went to jail . . . N Y |
| f. I lost my job even though I wanted to go on working . . . N Y | l. Someone very close to me had a problem with drinking or drugs . . . N Y |
| | m. Someone very close to me died . . . N Y |