Surveillance Update
N.C. Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch


Percentage of smoking among pregnant women in N.C., by age group: N.C. PRAMS, 2003

All estimates are weighted to reflect the entire population of NC women who gave birth in 2003. Excluded from the sampling frame are births to North Carolina residents that took place out of state, those where the birth certificate did not contain the mother's last name, multiple births of 4 or more, and birth to mothers under the age of 13. Mothers who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes in the past two years and at least 1 cigarette a day are defined as smokers.

The N.C. Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Project provides a critical source of public health data for understanding the scope of the tobacco problem and measuring progress toward overall goals among pregnant women. N.C. PRAMS is a random, stratified, monthly mail/telephone survey of North Carolina women who recently delivered a live-born infant. Each month, a sample of approximately 200 women with recent live-born deliveries is drawn from the Provisional Birth File. Every year a core set of tobacco-related questions are asked of these women before, during and after pregnancy. In addition, tobacco modules on topics such as other tobacco products and counseling can be added. See the N.C. PRAMS website for more information: www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/prams.cfm

N.C. Division of Public Health ● Surveillance and Evaluation Team ● 919-715-3497 ● www.communityhealth.dhhs.state.nc.us/tobacco.htm