

A Health Survey about Mothers and Babies in the District of Columbia



With your help, more babies could be healthier





Important Information About PRAMS Please Read Before Starting the Survey

- The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a research project sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the DC Department of Health (DOH).
- The purpose of the study is to find out why some babies are born healthy and others are not.
- We are asking 1300 women in District of Columbia to answer the same questions. All of your names were picked by a computer from recent birth certificates.
- It takes about 15-20 minutes to answer all questions. Some questions may be sensitive, such as questions about smoking or drinking during pregnancy.
- You are free to do the survey or not. If you don't want to participate at all, or if you don't want to answer a particular question, that's okay. There is no penalty or loss of benefits for not participating or answering all questions.
- Your survey may be combined with information the health department has from other sources.
- If you choose to do the survey, your answers will be kept private to the extent allowed by law and will be used only for research. If you are currently in jail, your participation in the study will have no effect on parole.
- Your name will not be on any reports from PRAMS. The booklet has a number so we will know when it is returned.
- Your answers will be grouped with those from other women. What we learn from PRAMS will be used to plan programs to help mothers and babies in District of Columbia.
- If you have any questions about your rights in the project, please call Dr. Fern Johnson-Clarke at 1(855)-772-6732.

If you have questions about PRAMS, or if you want to answer the questions by telephone, please call Sandra Johnson, DC PRAMS Project Coordinator, at 855-PRAMSDC (855-772-6732) The call is free.



Questions Commonly Asked About PRAMS

What is PRAMS?

PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) is a joint research project between the DC Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Our purpose is to find out why some babies are born healthy and others are not. To do this, our questionnaire asks new mothers questions about their behaviors and experiences around the time of their pregnancy. Each year in DC there are hundreds of babies born with serious health problems. Many of these babies die. We need your help to find out why. No matter how your pregnancy went, your answers will help us learn more about ways to improve the chances for future mothers and babies in DC.

Will my answers be kept private?

Yes—all answers are kept completely private to the extent permitted by law. All answers given on the questionnaires will be grouped together to give us information on DC mothers of new babies. In reports from this survey, no woman will be identified by name.

How was I chosen to participate in PRAMS?

Your name was picked by chance, like in a lottery, from the state birth certificate registry. You are one of a small number of women who were chosen to help us in this study.

Is it really important that I answer these questions?

Yes! Because of the small number of mothers picked, it is important to have everyone's answers. Every pregnancy is different. To get a better overall picture of the health of mothers and babies in DC, we need each mother selected to answer the questions. From the information you give us, we may be able to improve health care for women and children in DC. We need to know what went *right* as well as what went wrong during your pregnancy. Your help is really important to the success of our program.

Some of the questions do not seem related to health care—why are they asked?

Many things in a mother's life may affect her pregnancy. These questions try to get the best picture of the new mother's health care and things that happened to her during pregnancy.

What if I want to ask more questions about PRAMS?

Please call us at our toll-free number 1(855) PRAMS-DC, and we will be happy to answer any other questions that you may have about PRAMS. If you prefer to complete the questionnaire over the telephone, please call us on the same number Please check the box next to your answer or follow the directions included with the question. You may be asked to skip some questions that do not apply to you.

BEFORE PREGNANCY

The first questions are about you. How tall are you without shoes? 1. 6. Feet Inches OR Centimeters 2. Just before you got pregnant with your new baby, how much did you weigh? 7. Pounds **OR** _____ Kilos 3. What is your date of birth? Month Day Year The next questions are about the time before you got pregnant with your new baby.

4. During the 3 months before you got pregnant with your new baby, did you have any of the following health conditions? For each one, check No if you did not have the condition or Yes if you did.

No Yes

Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes (not	
gestational diabetes or diabetes that	
starts during pregnancy)	
High blood pressure or hypertension	
Depression	
	gestational diabetes or diabetes that starts during pregnancy)

5. During the month before you got pregnant with your new baby, how many times a week did you take a multivitamin, a prenatal vitamin, or a folic acid vitamin? I didn't take a multivitamin, prenatal vitamin, or folic acid vitamin in the month before I got pregnant 1 to 3 times a week 4 to 6 times a week Every day of the week In the 12 months before you got pregnant with your new baby, did you have any health care visits with a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker, including a dental or mental health worker? Go to Page 2, Question 9 No -Yes What type of health care visit did you have in the 12 months before you got pregnant with your new baby? Check ALL that apply Regular checkup at my family doctor's office □ Regular checkup at my OB/GYN's office □ Visit for an illness or chronic condition Visit for an injury Usit for family planning or birth control Visit for depression or anxiety Usit to have my teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist Other — ➤ Please tell us:

8.	During any of your health care visits in the 12 months before you got pregnant, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker <u>do</u> any of the following things? For each item, check No if they did not or Yes if they did.	The next questions are about your <i>health insurance coverage</i> before, during, and after your pregnancy with your <i>new</i> baby.
 b. c. d. e. f. g. h. i. j. k. 	No Yes Tell me to take a vitamin with folic acid Image: Construct of the second secon	 9. During the month before you got pregnant with your new baby, what kind of health insurance did you have? Check ALL that apply Private health insurance from my job or the job of my husband or partner Private health insurance from my parents Private health insurance from the Health Insurance Marketplace or HealthCare.gov Medicaid DC Alliance Other health insurance —> Please tell us: I did not have any health insurance during the month before I got pregnant 10. During your most recent pregnancy, what kind of health insurance did you have for your prenatal care? Check ALL that apply I did not go for prenatal care? Check ALL that apply I did not go for private health insurance from my job or the job of my husband or partner Private health insurance from my parents Private health insurance from my parents Other health insurance from my parents I rivate health insurance from my parents Private health insurance from the Health Insurance Marketplace or HealthCare.gov Medicaid DC Alliance Other health insurance from the Health Insurance Marketplace or HealthCare.gov Medicaid DC Alliance Other health insurance from the Health Insurance Marketplace or HealthCare.gov Medicaid DC Alliance Other health insurance for my parents I did not have any health insurance for my prenatal care



Go to Question 14

	□ No		
	Go to Page 4, Que	sti	on 16
*			
15.	Did any of these things keep you from prenatal care when you wanted it? For item, check No if it did not keep you from getting prenatal care or Yes if it did.	ead	-
	М	٥I	Yes
a.	I couldn't get an appointment when I wanted one		
b.	I didn't have enough money or insurance to pay for my visits		
c.	I didn't have any transportation to get to the clinic or doctor's office		
d.	The doctor or my health plan would not start care as early as I wanted		
e.	I had too many other things going on		
f.	I couldn't take time off from work or school		
g.	I didn't have my Medicaid card		
h.	I didn't have anyone to take care of my children		
i.	I didn't know that I was pregnant		
j.	I didn't want anyone else to know I was pregnant		
k.	I didn't want prenatal care		

If you did not get prenatal care, go to Page 4, Ouestion 18.

16. During any of your prenatal care visits, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker ask vou any of the things listed below? For each item, check **No** if they did not ask you about it or Yes if they did. No Yes a. If I knew how much weight I should gain during pregnancy..... b. If I was taking any prescription medication..... c. If I was smoking cigarettes..... d. If I was drinking alcohol e. If someone was hurting me emotionally or physically..... f. If I was feeling down or depressed...... g. If I was using drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, crack, or meth h. If I wanted to be tested for HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) i. If I planned to breastfeed my new baby.. j. If I planned to use birth control after my baby was born 17. How did you feel about the prenatal care you got during your most recent pregnancy? If you went to more than one place for prenatal care, answer for the place where you got *most* of your care. For each item, check No if you were not satisfied or Yes if you were satisfied. No Yes a. The amount of time I had to wait b. The amount of time the doctor, nurse, or midwife spent with me c. The advice I got on how to take care of myself..... d. The understanding and respect shown toward me as a person 18. During the 12 months before the delivery of your new baby, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker offer you a flu shot or tell you to get one? No



- Yes

23.	During <i>your most recent</i> pregnancy, did you have any of the following health conditions? For each one, check No if you did not have the condition or Yes if you did.
	No Yes
a.	Gestational diabetes (diabetes that <u>started</u> during <i>this</i> pregnancy) 🔲 🔲
b.	High blood pressure (that <u>started</u> during this pregnancy), pre-eclampsia or eclampsia
c.	Depression
24.	Did you have any of the following problems during your most recent pregnancy? For each item, check No if you did not have the problem or Yes if you did.
	No Yes
2	Vaginal bleeding
a.	
b.	Kidney or bladder (urinary tract) infection (UTI)
c.	Severe nausea, vomiting, or dehydration that sent me to the doctor or hospital
d.	Cervix had to be sewn shut (cerclage for incompetent cervix)
e.	Problems with the placenta (such as abruptio placentae or placenta previa) 📮 📮
f.	Labor pains more than 3 weeks before my baby was due (preterm or early labor)
g.	Water broke more than 3 weeks before my baby was due (preterm premature
	rupture of membranes [PPROM]) 🖵 🛛
h.	I had to have a blood transfusion 🖵 📮
i.	I was hurt in a car accident 🔲 🔲

25. During your most recent pregnancy, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker give you a series of weekly shots of a medicine called progesterone, Makena®, or 17P (17 alpha-hydroxyprogesterone) to try to keep your new baby from being born too early?

No

- Yes
- I don't know

The next questions are about smoking cigarettes around the time of pregnancy (before, during, and after).

- 26. Have you smoked any cigarettes in the past 2 years?
 □ No → Go to Page 6, Question 30
 Yes
 27. In the 3 months before you got pregnant, how many cigarettes did you smoke on an average day? A pack has 20 cigarettes.
 □ 41 cigarettes or more
 □ 21 to 40 cigarettes
 □ 11 to 20 cigarettes
 - If to 20 cigarettes
 - 6 to 10 cigarettes
 1 to 5 cigarettes
 - I loss than 1 sigar
 - Less than 1 cigarette
 - I didn't smoke then
- 28. In the *last 3 months* of your pregnancy, how many cigarettes did you smoke on an average day? A pack has 20 cigarettes.
 - 41 cigarettes or more
 - 21 to 40 cigarettes
 - 11 to 20 cigarettes
 - □ 6 to 10 cigarettes
 - 1 to 5 cigarettes
 - Less than 1 cigarette
 - I didn't smoke then

- 29. How many cigarettes do you smoke on an average day now? A pack has 20 cigarettes.
 - 41 cigarettes or more
 - □ 21 to 40 cigarettes
 - □ 11 to 20 cigarettes
 - □ 6 to 10 cigarettes
 - 1 to 5 cigarettes
 - Less than 1 cigarette
 - I don't smoke now
- 30. Does your husband or partner smoke inside your home?
 - 🛛 No
 - Yes
- 31. Not including yourself or your husband or partner, does anyone else smoke cigarettes inside your home?
 - 🛛 No
 - Yes

The next questions are about using other tobacco products around the time of pregnancy.

E-cigarettes (electronic cigarettes) and other electronic nicotine products (such as vape pens, e-hookahs, hookah pens, e-cigars, e-pipes) are battery-powered devices that use nicotine liquid rather than tobacco leaves, and produce vapor instead of smoke.

A **hookah** is a water pipe used to smoke tobacco. It is not the same as an e-hookah or hookah pen.

32. Have you used any of the following products in the past 2 years? For each item, check No if you did not use it or Yes if you did.

No Yes

a.	E-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine	
	products	
b.	Hookah	

If you used e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine products in the *past 2 years*, go to Question 33. Otherwise, go to Question 35.

- 33. During the 3 months <u>before</u> you got pregnant, on average, how often did you use e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine products?
 - More than once a day
 - Once a day
 - 2-6 days a week
 - □ 1 day a week or less
 - □ I did not use e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine products then

34. During the <u>last 3</u> months of your pregnancy, on average, how often did you use e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine products?

- More than once a day
- Once a day
- 2-6 days a week
- 1 day a week or less
- I did not use e-cigarettes or other electronic nicotine products then



I didn't drink then

Pregnancy can be a difficult time. The next questions are about things that may have happened <u>before</u> and <u>during</u> your most recent pregnancy.

37. During the *12 months before* your new baby was born, how often did you feel unsafe in the neighborhood where you lived?

- Always
- Often
- Sometimes
- □ Rarely
- Never

Questions 38–40 have been removed. Please continue with Question 41.

siı	nce your ne	w baby w	as born.	
41.	When was y	our new b	aby born?	
	/	/		
	/ _	/	20	
	Month	Day	Year	
42.				how long did
1	he or she sta	-	ess than 1	dav)
	🛛 24 to 48 h	ours (1 to 2		aay
	 3 to 5 day 6 to 14 da 			
	More that	n 14 days		
	My baby v		rn in a hos	oital
	My baby i the hospi		>	Go to Page Question 4
¥				Question 4
43.	Is your baby	y alive now	/?	
	🗖 No ——	→ We	are very so	rry for your los
	Yes	G	o to Page 9	, Question 5
• 60	to Page 8, Q	uestion 44	a	
du	to i uge o, q			



53	Did a doctor, nurse, or other health care	56. What kind of birth control are you or your
55.	worker tell you any of the following things? For each thing, check No if they did not tell you	husband or partner using <i>now</i> to keep from getting pregnant?
	or Yes if they did.	Check ALL that apply
b. c.	NoYesPlace my baby on his or her back to sleepImage: Comparison of the back to sleep in a crib, bassinet, or pack and playImage: Comparison of the back to the back to back to the back to back to the back to back to 	 Tubes tied or blocked (female sterilization or Essure®) Vasectomy (male sterilization) Birth control pills Condoms Shots or injections (Depo-Provera®) Contraceptive patch (OrthoEvra®) or vaginal ring (NuvaRing®) IUD (including Mirena®, ParaGard®, Liletta®, or Clude®)
↓ ↓	Are you or your husband or partner doing anything now to keep from getting pregnant? Some things people do to keep from getting pregnant include having their tubes tied, using birth control pills, condoms, withdrawal, or natural family planning. No Yes Go to Question 56 What are your reasons or your husband's or partner's reasons for not doing anything to	Skyla®) Contraceptive implant in the arm (Nexplanon® or Implanon®) Natural family planning (including rhythm method) Withdrawal (pulling out) Not having sex (abstinence) Other
	keep from getting pregnant <i>now</i> ?	57. Since your new baby was born, have you had a postpartum checkup for yourself? A
	Check ALL that apply	postpartum checkup is the regular checkup a
	I want to get pregnant	woman has about 4-6 weeks after she gives
	I am pregnant now	birth.
	I had my tubes tied or blocked	Go to Page 10, Question 59
	 I don't want to use birth control I am worried about side effects from birth 	☐ Yes
	 Fail worked about side effects from birth control I am not having sex My husband or partner doesn't want to use anything I have problems paying for birth control Other> Please tell us: 	¥ Go to Page 10, Question 58
aı	you or your husband or partner is <u>not doing</u> bything to keep from getting pregnant <i>now,</i> to Question 57.	

- 58. During your postpartum checkup, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker do any of the following things? For each item, check **No** if they did not do it or **Yes** if they did. No Yes a. Tell me to take a vitamin with folic acid ... \Box b. Talk to me about healthy eating, exercise, and losing weight gained during pregnancy..... c. Talk to me about how long to wait before getting pregnant again d. Talk to me about birth control methods I can use after giving birth....... e. Give or prescribe me a contraceptive method such as the pill, patch, shot (Depo-Provera[®]), NuvaRing[®], or condoms..... f. Insert an IUD (Mirena®, ParaGard®, Liletta[®], or Skyla[®]) or a contraceptive implant (Nexplanon® or Implanon®) 🖵 g. Ask me if I was smoking cigarettes h. Ask me if someone was hurting me emotionally or physically..... i. Ask me if I was feeling down or depressed j. Test me for diabetes 59. Since your new baby was born, how often have you felt down, depressed, or hopeless? Always Often □ Sometimes □ Rarely Never 60. Since your new baby was born, how often have you had little interest or little pleasure in doing things you usually enjoyed? Always Often □ Sometimes □ Rarelv Never
- 61. Since your new baby was born, has a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker told you that you had depression?

🛛 No

Yes

Question 62 has been removed. Please continue with Question 63.

	OTHER EXPERIENCES he next questions are on a variety of opics.	66.	During your most recent pregnancy, did you take or use any of the following drugs for any reason? Your answers are strictly confidential. For each item, check No if you did not use it or Yes if you did.
63.	Some of these things might happen to people during childhood. Childhood experiences may be important. Please tell us if any of these things ever happened to you from the time you were born through age 13. No Yes	b.	No Yes Over-the-counter pain relievers such as aspirin, Tylenol [®] , Advil [®] , or Aleve [®]
a.	Most of the time, I had an adult who believed in me and who I could count on to help me	d.	Adderall®, Ritalin® or another stimulant Image: Comparison of the stimulant Marijuana or hash Image: Comparison of the stimulant Synthetic marijuana (K2, Spice) Image: Comparison of the stimulant
	A parent or guardian I lived with got divorced or separated		Methadone, naloxone, subutex, or Suboxone®
	We had to move because of problems paying the rent or mortgage		Heroin (smack, junk, black tar, <i>Chiva</i>) Amphetamines (uppers, speed, crystal
d.	Someone in my family or I went hungry because we could not afford enough food		meth, crank, ice, <i>agua</i>)
	A parent or guardian got in trouble with the law or went to jail	1	Tranquilizers (downers, ludes) Hallucinogens (LSD/acid, PCP/angel
	A parent or guardian I lived with had a serious drinking or drug problem		dust, Ecstasy, Molly, mushrooms, bath salts)
g.	I was in foster care (removed from my home by the court or child welfare agency)	l.	Sniffing gasoline, glue, aerosol spray cans, or paint to get high (huffing)
64.	Thinking back to your childhood through age 13, how often was it hard for your family to pay for basic needs like food or housing?	67.	How would you describe the time during your most recent pregnancy?
	 Very often Somewhat often Not very often Never 		 One of the happiest times of my life A happy time with few problems A moderately hard time A very hard time One of the worst times of my life
65.	During the 12 months before your new baby was born, how often did you experience discrimination, or harassment, or were made to feel inferior because of your race, ethnicity, or culture?	68.	During <i>your most recent</i> pregnancy, did you get any of these services? For each one, check No if you did not get the service and Yes if you did.
	 Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never 		NoYesParenting classesICounseling for depression or anxietyI

Check ONE answer

Parenting classes		
	_	

69. During pregnancy, you probably had to get different kinds of health-related services. These may have included clinic visits, doctor's or nurse's office visits, applying for health insurance, applying for Medicaid, or getting help for a family problem.

Did you ever feel you were treated unfairly in getting these kinds of services because of any of the following? For each item, check No if you were not treated unfairly or Yes if you were treated unfairly.

		No	Yes
a.	My race, ethnicity, or culture	🗖	
b.	My age	🗖	
	The language I speak		

- d. My citizenship......
- e. My insurance or Medicaid status 🔲 📮
- f. I felt unfairly treated for other reasons..... Please tell us:

If your baby is not alive or is not living with you, go to Question 71.

- 70. Since your new baby was born, have you used any of these services? For each one, check No if you did not use the service or Yes if you did.
- a. Parenting classes.....
- b. Counseling for depression or anxiety
- 71. Since your new baby was born, how often would you say you have been worried or stressed about having enough money to pay your bills?
 - □ Always
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely
 - Never

- 72. Do you have one or more persons you think of as your personal doctor or nurse? A personal doctor or nurse is a health professional who is familiar with your health history. This can be a general doctor, a specialist doctor, a nurse practitioner, or a physician assistant.
 - 🛛 No
 - Yes
- 73. In what country were you born?
- Check ONE answer United States -Go to Question 75 **G** Puerto Rico **U** Other Country -➤ Please tell us: 74. How old were you when you moved to the **United States?** Age in years

The next questions are about the time during the *12 months before* your new baby was born.

- 75. During the 12 months before your new baby was born, what was your yearly total household income before taxes? Include your income, your husband's or partner's income, and any other income you may have received. All information will be kept private and will not affect any services you are now getting.
 - □ \$0 to \$16,000
 - □ \$16,001 to \$20,000
 - □ \$20,001 to \$24,000
 - □ \$24,001 to \$28,000
 - \$28,001 to \$32,000
 - □ \$32,001 to \$40,000
 - □ \$40,001 to \$48,000
 - □ \$48,001 to \$57,000
 - □ \$57,001 to \$60,000
 - □ \$60,001 to \$73,000
 - □ \$73,001 to \$85,000
 - □ \$85,001 to \$100,000
 - □ \$100,001 to \$120,000
 - □ \$120,001 or more
- 76. During the 12 months before your new baby was born, how many people, including yourself, depended on this income?



77. What is today's date?



These next questions are about Zika virus. Zika virus infection is an illness that is most often spread by the bite of a mosquito but may also be spread by having sex with a man who has the Zika virus.

Z1. During your most recent pregnancy, how worried were you about getting infected with Zika virus? Check ONE answer Very worried Somewhat worried Not at all worried I had never heard of Zika virus during my most Go to Page 14, recent pregnancy -**Ouestion Z5** Z2. At any time during your most recent pregnancy, did you talk with a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker about Zika virus? No Yes, a health care worker talked with me without my asking about it □ Yes, a health care worker talked with me, but only AFTER I asked about it Z3. During your most recent pregnancy, did you get a blood test for Zika virus? No Yes The next questions are about travel during your most recent pregnancy. Z4. During your most recent pregnancy, were you aware of recommendations that pregnant women should avoid travel to areas with Zika virus? No Yes





Thank you for answering these questions! Your answers will help us learn more about how to keep pregnant women and their babies healthy. Please use this space for any additional comments you would like to make about your experiences around the time of your pregnancy or the health of mothers and babies in the District of Columbia.

Thanks for answering our questions!

Your answers will help us work to keep mothers and babies in the District of Columbia healthy.