## Indicator W.2. Percentage of Pregnant Women Who Had Insurance to Cover Dental Care During Pregnancy

| Description: | Percentage of pregnant women reporting that they had insurance to cover dental care during pregnancy. |
| What data source is used? | The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a surveillance project of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health departments. PRAMS collects self-reported data on women’s attitudes and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy. |
| Who is the target population? | PRAMS is an state-level survey of resident women in the state who gave birth to a live-born infant during the year. |
| Which PRAMS question is used for this indicator? | Standard Question Y7: This question is about the care of your teeth during your most recent pregnancy. For each item, check No if it is not true or does not apply to you or Yes if it is true. |
| a. I knew it was important to care for my teeth and gums during my pregnancy | Yes [□] No [□] |
| b. A dental or other health care worker talked with me about how to care for my teeth and gums | Yes [□] No [□] |
| c. I had insurance to cover dental care during my pregnancy | Yes [□] No [□] |
| d. I needed to see a dentist for a problem | Yes [□] No [□] |
| e. I went to a dentist or dental clinic about a problem | Yes [□] No [□] |
| How is the indicator measured? | The indicator is expressed as a percentage [numerator/denominator x 100%]. |
| Are any PRAMS respondents excluded? | Women who responded to the PRAMS questionnaire overall but did not answer standard question Y7, response option “I had insurance to cover dental care during my pregnancy” are excluded from the indicator. |
| What does this indicator measure and why is it important? | This indicator is a measure of access to oral health care among pregnant women. Medical and oral health professional organizations, such as the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Dental Association, recommend that pregnant women have a visit with a dentist before and during pregnancy to get their oral health assessed, obtain preventive services, receive any treatment needed, and receive guidance about good eating and oral hygiene practices. |
| Are there any limitations to this indicator? | PRAMS data are collected only from women who delivered a live-born infant, not all pregnant women. PRAMS data are self-reported and may be subject to various types of response and measurement bias, such as inaccurate recall or responses that are influenced by what is “socially acceptable” rather than what the “true” answer would be. Not all states conduct PRAMS every year. |
| Where can I get more information about PRAMS? | • Additional information about PRAMS is available from [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov). • Each state has a [PRAMS coordinator](https://www.cdc.gov). |

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