

### Indicator W.3. Percentage of Pregnant Women Who Reported Having Their Teeth Cleaned by a Dentist or Dental Hygienist During Pregnancy

<b>Description:</b>	Percentage of pregnant women reporting that they had their teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist during pregnancy.
<b>What data source is used?</b>	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.
<b>Who is the target population?</b>	PRAMS is an state-level survey of resident women in the state who gave birth to a live-born infant during the year.
<b>Which PRAMS question is used for this indicator?</b>	Core Question 17: <b>During your most recent pregnancy, did you have your teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>How is the indicator measured?</b>	The indicator is expressed as a percentage [numerator/denominator x 100%]. <div style="border: 1px solid #4a7ebb; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p><b>Numerator:</b> The subset of women in the denominator who answered "yes" to core question 17</p> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> <p><b>Denominator:</b> Number of women who answered "yes" or "no" to core question 17</p> </div>
<b>Are any PRAMS respondents excluded?</b>	Women who responded to the PRAMS questionnaire overall but did not answer core question 17 are excluded from the indicator.
<b>What does this indicator measure and why is it important?</b>	This indicator is a measure of <b>utilization</b> of oral health care services by 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. <sup>i</sup>
<b>Are there any limitations to this indicator?</b>	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.
<b>Where can I get more information about PRAMS?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional information about the PRAMS survey is available from <a href="#">CDC</a>.</li> <li>• Each state has a <a href="#">PRAMS coordinator</a>.</li> </ul>

<sup>i</sup>Oral Health Care During Pregnancy Expert Workgroup. 2012. [Oral Health Care During Pregnancy: A National Consensus Statement](#). Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center.