

## Folic Acid Surveillance Surveys

### Massachusetts (Updated 10/2012)

Criteria	Comments
Title of the state or local Folic Acid Survey	Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)
Geographic area covered	Massachusetts (statewide)
Contact information at BDR	
Name of person:	Hafsatou Diop, MD, MPH
Agency:	Massachusetts Department of Public Health
State:	Massachusetts
Email address:	<a href="mailto:Hafsatou.Diop@state.ma.us">Hafsatou.Diop@state.ma.us</a>
Phone:	(617)624-5764
Survey sample size:	N = 2,289 for 2011 (~ 2,400 women per year who recently delivered a live infant)
General description of survey or dataset (target population, frequency of administration, years covered, data collection methods, reason for data collection)	<p>PRAMS is a surveillance project of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). PRAMS is a survey that asks women questions about their experiences and behaviors before, during, and shortly after pregnancy. The MDPH began conducting the PRAMS survey in 2007.</p> <p>The PRAMS sample is randomly drawn from Massachusetts birth certificates and includes women who have had a recent live birth in the state. Women are selected for participation between 2-6 months after delivery, with the majority chosen 2 months after delivery. Selected women are first contacted by mail. If there is no response to repeated mailings, women are contacted and given the opportunity to answer the survey by telephone.</p>
Cost of survey	Yearly budget of ~ \$140,000 with additional in-kind support from MDPH
Questions included in the survey (most current, changes over time, state specific changes)	<p>3. 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?</p> <p>-I didn't take a multivitamin, prenatal vitamin, or folic acid vitamin at all                      -1 to 3 times a week                      -4 to 6 times a week                      -Every day of the week</p>
Uses of data	PRAMS data are used to inform the Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant priorities and state performance measures. These data can be used to identify groups of women and infants at high risk for health problems, to monitor changes in health status, and to measure progress towards goals in improving the health of mothers and infants. PRAMS data are used by state and local governments to plan and review programs and policies aimed at reducing health problems among mothers and babies. PRAMS data are used by MDPH to identify other agencies that have important contributions to make in planning maternal and infant health programs and to develop partnerships with those agencies.
Results/Summary (may including links to reports or published articles)	<a href="http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/prego-newborn/prams-report-09.pdf">http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/prego-newborn/prams-report-09.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/prego-newborn/prams-report-07-08.pdf">http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/prego-newborn/prams-report-07-08.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/prego-newborn/prams-report-2007.pdf">http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/prego-newborn/prams-report-2007.pdf</a>
Web site address (if available)	<a href="http://www.mass.gov/dph/prams">www.mass.gov/dph/prams</a>
Comments (limitations, lessons learned)	Self-reported data