



February/March 2018

What is PRAMS?

PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) is a population-based risk factor surveillance system jointly sponsored by the Wyoming Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The purpose of PRAMS is to find out why some babies are born healthy and others are not. To do this, PRAMS asks a sample of Wyoming women who had a live birth infant in the past two to six months, questions about their experience and behaviors before, during, and shortly after pregnancy.

PRAMS Mission: To promote the collection, analysis, and dissemination of population-based data of high scientific quality and to support the use of data to develop policies and programs in order to decrease maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.

For more information about the WY PRAMS visit our [website](#).

For more information about PRAMS including questionnaires, methodology, participating states, data to action and publications, visit the [CDC website](#).

U.S. Teen Births

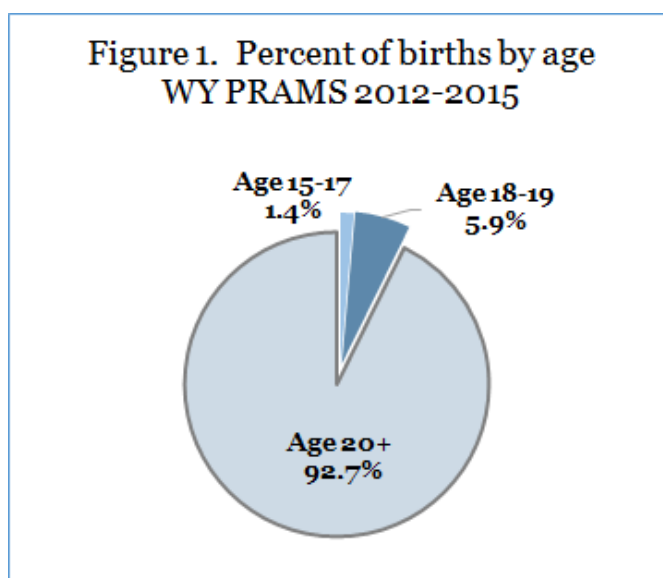
Teen birth rates¹ continue to decline nationally. Rates dropped from 41.5 per 1,000 girls age 15-19 (2007)², to 22.3 per 1,000 (2015).³ While rural teen births account for only about 20% of all U.S. teen births⁴, in 2015, the teen birth rate in rural counties (30.9 per 1,000) continued to exceed rates in both medium/small urban counties (24.3 births per 1,000) and large urban counties (18.9 per 1,000) across the nation.⁵

According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, teen births cost U.S. taxpayers (federal, state, and local) at least \$9.4 billion dollars in 2010.⁶

Teen Births in Wyoming

Wyoming teen birth rates declined by nearly half (47%) between 2007 (49.6 births per 1,000) and 2016 (26.2 births per 1,000).¹¹ While substantial progress has been made, Wyoming's teen birth rate remains higher than the (20.3 births per 1,000).¹²

Teen births account for only 7.3% of the total births in Wyoming (Figure 1), yet in 2010, the most recent year available, teen births cost taxpayers about \$ 20 million dollars.⁶



Teen mothers in Wyoming were more often (Figure 2):

- First-time mothers
- Not married
- Enrolled in WIC and or Medicaid during their pregnancy

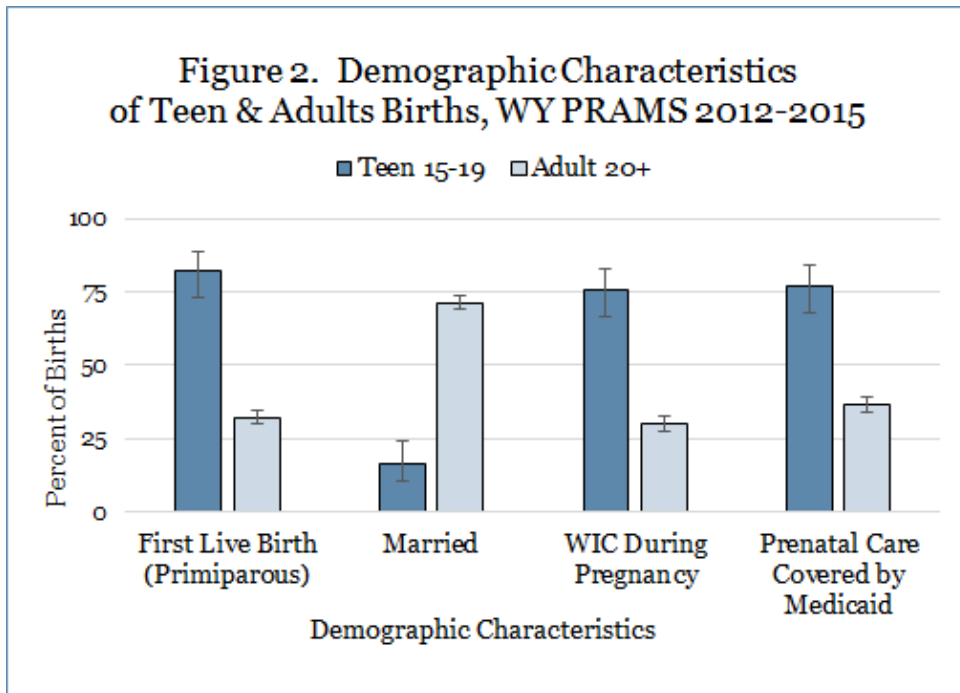
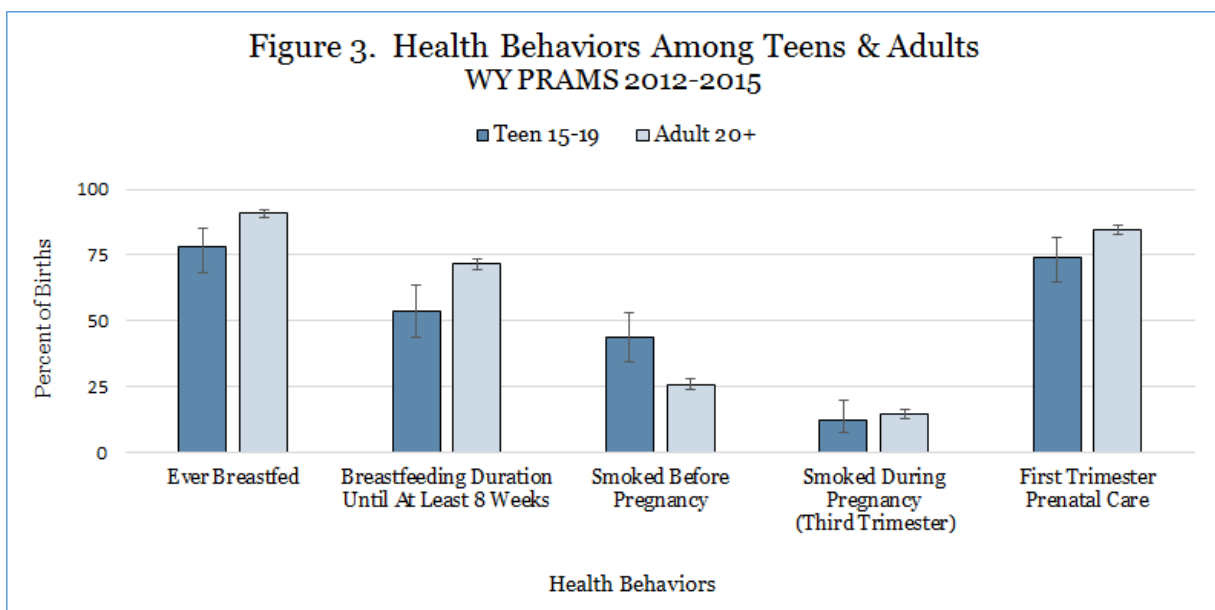


Figure 3 provides data from Wyoming PRAMS (2012-2015) on health behaviors before, during, and after pregnancy among teens and adult women. Fewer teens initiate and continue breastfeeding until at least 8 weeks after birth. Teens report higher rates of smoking before pregnancy, however no difference was observed for smoking during the third trimester of pregnancy when compared to older moms. There was also no significant difference in the proportion of teens who sought first trimester prenatal care as compared to adults.



Efforts to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

The Wyoming MCH Program works on several programs aimed of improving its priorities of healthy and safe relationships and access to and use of effective family planning. For more information about healthy and safe relationships such as the Personal Responsibility and Education Program please contact [Danielle Marks](#). If you are interested in learning more about the efforts to expand access to Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives in Wyoming please contact [Christina Taylor](#).

Our goal with WY PRAMS continues to be to:

1. To work with YOU to disseminate data from WY PRAMS
2. To inform WY stakeholders, programs, and policies.
3. To conduct and present analyses of WY PRAMS data pertaining to priorities of stakeholders and programs across the state.

If you would like more information please contact the WY PRAMS Project (wdh-wyprams@wyo.gov)

To Subscribe to the WY PRAMS Listserv: Please encourage anyone you feel would be interested in participating in PRAMS activities to subscribe to the Wyoming PRAMS Listserv. To subscribe, send an email to sympa@lists.health.wyo.gov. In the subject line of the email please type "subscribe wyoprms" , and in the body of the email, please provide your first and last name.

To unsubscribe send an email to sympa@lists.health.wyo.gov. In the subject line of the email please type "unsubscribe wyoprms", and in the body of the email please provide your first name and last name.