

# INTENDEDNESS OF PREGNANCY

Data are from the  
MAINE PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM (PRAMS): 1996

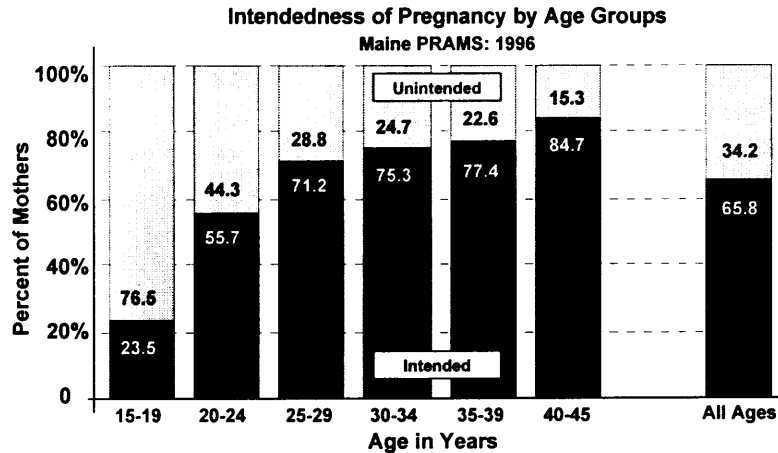
➔ There were 13,766<sup>1</sup> live births to Maine women in 1996; more than 1/3 of those births were from unintended pregnancies. According to PRAMS data, about 1/4 of all births were to mothers who would have preferred to have their baby at a later time; an additional (8%) reported that they had not wanted to be pregnant then or at any time in the future.

➔ More than 3/4 of the births to adolescent mothers (women younger than 20 years old) were unintended.

➔ Women who were on Medicaid were less likely to have planned their pregnancy. In fact, 62% of the women who were on Medicaid and who had a baby in 1996 reported that their pregnancy was unintended. Thirty percent of the women who were not on Medicaid and who had babies that year reported unintended pregnancies.

➔ Women who had births from unintended pregnancies were more likely to have someone close to them with a bad drinking or drug problem. They were 4 times more likely to have separated or divorced in the year before having their baby.

➔ Whether a pregnancy was intended or not was correlated with the source of family income during the previous year. Mothers who reported aid (such as AFDC/TANF, welfare, food stamps, etc.) as a source of income were more likely to report having an unintended pregnancy.



Intendedness of Pregnancy	Sources of Family Income (During Past 12 Months)					
	Money from job or business	Aid (AFDC/TANF, Food Stamps, etc.)	Unemployment	Child Support/Alimony*	Interest, Fees, Rental Income, etc.	Social Security, Worker's Comp, etc.*
Intended	69%	41%	70%	44%	75%	66%
Unintended	31%	59%	30%	56%	25%	34%

Notes: Mothers who are on Medicaid are defined as women who received Medicaid just before becoming pregnant.

Footnote 1: Preliminary count of births is from the Maine Vital Statistics System, April 1998.

\* These differences were not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance.

For further data on this topic, please contact:  
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