

Pregnancy Intention and Postpartum Contraception Use Among Mississippi Women in 2021

About PRAMS

- The **Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)** is an ongoing, population-based surveillance program sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH).
- PRAMS participants are randomly selected between 2 and 6 months **postpartum**.
- This study analyzed Mississippi PRAMS data from 886 women who had a live birth in 2021 in Mississippi to assess **unintended pregnancy** and **postpartum contraceptive use**.

About Pregnancy Intention and Contraception

- Each year, an estimated **45% of pregnancies** in the United States are **unintended**.
- Unintended pregnancies have a substantial impact on public health as they contribute to **adverse maternal and child outcomes**.
- Women with unintended pregnancies have a **higher rate of late prenatal care**, using **alcohol and drugs** during pregnancy, postpartum **depression**, and higher rates of adverse birth outcomes such as **preterm birth**.
- **Contraception** is one of the most important tools for preventing unintended pregnancies and short interpregnancy intervals.

Definitions

- In this report, **pregnancy intention** was defined using the PRAMS question, *“Thinking back to just before you got pregnant with your new baby, how did you feel about becoming pregnant?”*
 - **Intended pregnancy** responses: “I wanted to be pregnant sooner” or “I wanted to be pregnant then”
 - **Unintended pregnancy** responses: “I wanted to be pregnant later” or “I did not want to be pregnant then or at any time in the future”
 - **Unsure** response: “I was not sure what I wanted”
- In this report, estimates for women who reported their race to be anything other than White or Black are suppressed due to low response.
- The difference between two estimates is considered **statistically significant** (also stated as “significantly higher/lower” or “significant” in this fact sheet) if the 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.

Pregnancy Intention and Postpartum Contraception in Mississippi in 2021

Figure 1. Pregnancy Intention Among Women in MS, 2021

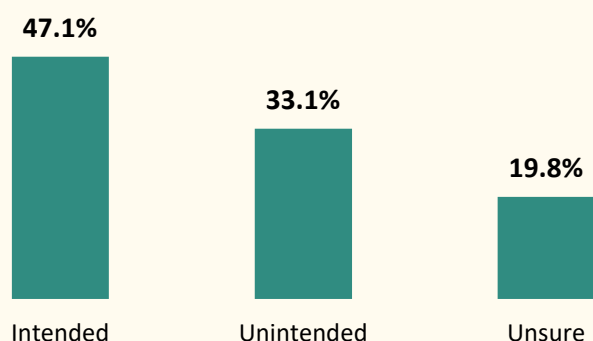
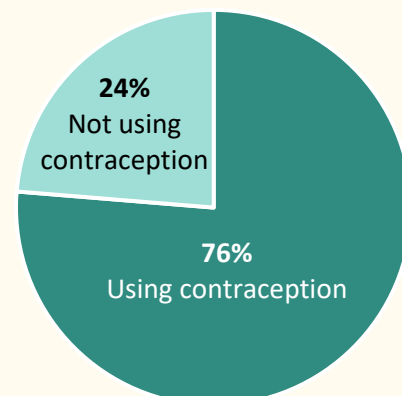


Figure 2. Postpartum Contraception Use Among Women in MS, 2021



Approximately 1 out of 3 women reported unintended pregnancy (Figure 1), and 3 out of 4 women reported postpartum birth control (Figure 2).

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- **Condoms (32.7%), withdrawal (28.6%), and birth control pills (27.2%)** were the 3 most frequently reported methods of postpartum contraception among women. (Figure 3)
- The percentage of postpartum contraception use was not **significantly associated with** demographic characteristics.(Figure 4)
- The percentage of unintended pregnancy was **significantly higher** among **Black women (42.7%)**, women with **less than a high school education (39.4%)**, women who were **younger than 20 years old (50.2%)**, women who were **not married (44.6%)**, and women whose annual household income was **\$16,000 or less (40.1%)**. (Figure 4)

Figure 3. Percentage of Postpartum Contraceptive Method Use, MS, 2021

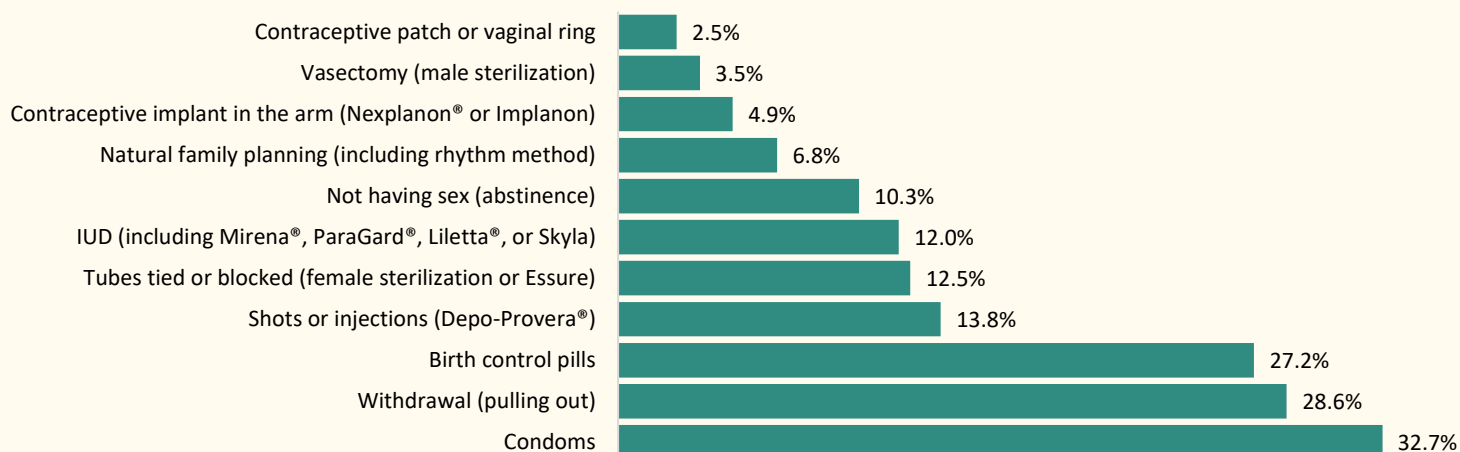
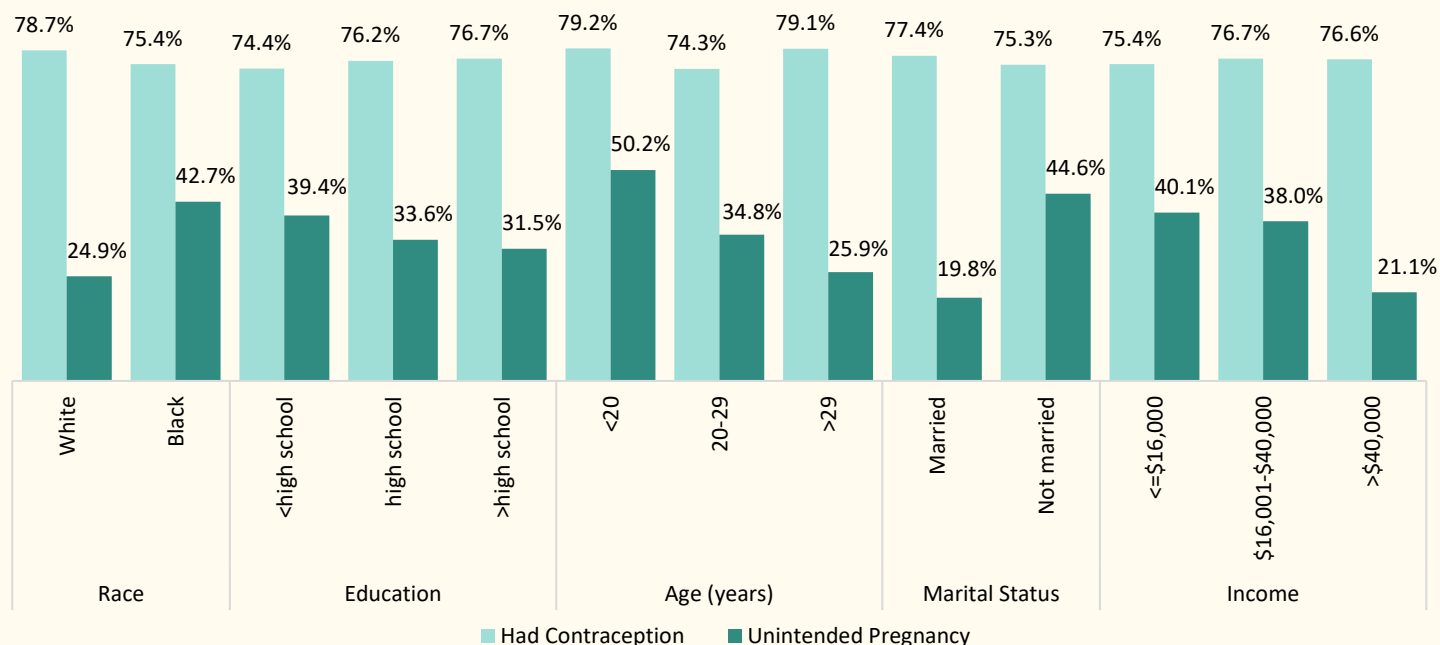


Figure 4. Percentage of Postpartum Contraception Use and Pregnancy Intention by Demographic Characteristics, MS, 2021



References

- 1) Troutman, M., Rafique, S. & Plowden, T.C. Are higher unintended pregnancy rates among minorities a result of disparate access to contraception?. *Contracept Reprod Med* 5, 16 (2020).
- 2) Azatlan-James EA, McLemore M, Taylor D. Multiple Unintended Pregnancies in U.S. Women: A Systematic Review. *Womens Health Issues*. 2017 Jul-Aug;27(4):407-413.

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