# PREGNANCY NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) / MASSACHUSETTS WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC) NUTRITION PROGRAM



Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition Nutrition Division 2010 PREGNANCY DATA REPORT



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## **2010 Pregnancy Data Report**

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (the WIC Program) is a preventive nutrition program targeted at low- to moderate-income women as well as infants and children up to age five years who are at increased health risk in comparison to the general population. WIC's goal is the early detection of potential health and nutritional risks accompanied by appropriate interventions. The WIC program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support and referrals to health care providers, social service agencies and many other assistance programs. WIC also provides benefits to purchase specific nutritious foods for participating women, infants, and children. In 2010, there were 35 WIC local programs and 127 WIC sites across Massachusetts (MA). The United States (US) Department of Agriculture and the state of Massachusetts jointly fund the Massachusetts WIC Nutrition Program.

#### National Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance

Since 1991, the Massachusetts WIC Program has participated in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System (PNSS). The CDC began monitoring behavioral and nutritional risk factors and birth outcomes among low-income pregnant women enrolled in public health programs in 1979. The resulting surveillance system, referred to here as PNSS, has collected data from various participating states and territories on nutritionrelated factors that contribute to pregnancy outcomes. The collected data are analyzed, interpreted and disseminated to guide public health policy and action. The data may also be used to set public health priorities and to plan, implement and evaluate nutrition programs for pregnant women. Demographic data include maternal birth date, race and ethnicity, marital status, education level, percent poverty, program participation and migrant status. Data also are collected on maternal height and pre-pregnancy weight, weight gain during pregnancy, anemia, parity, inter-pregnancy interval, breastfeeding, multivitamin use prior to & during pregnancy, diabetes during pregnancy, hypertension during pregnancy and timing of prenatal care; Other maternal data collected also include alcohol use, and tobacco use before, during, and after pregnancy as well as smoking in the household.. Collected information related to the infant includes date of birth, gestational age at birth, birth weight, parity, sex, infant feeding behavior, selected birth outcomes and health status at birth. States, US territories and Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs) constitute data contributors to the PNSS program.

The national PNSS is based primarily on data derived from the clinical service records of individual state WIC programs or other contributors, although a small proportion of records are obtained from women attending prenatal clinics funded by Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block grant and state funds. In 2010, data contributions were included for 31 states, the District of Columbia, one US territory and 3 Indian Tribal Organizations (the states and tribal organizations that participate in the PNSS have varied since the system's inception). The quantity and quality of data in the PNSS are affected by different data collection methods among contributing programs as well as differences in the criteria for women's eligibility among participating public health programs.

At the present time, all data submitted by Massachusetts to PNSS are derived from the clinical service records of the Massachusetts WIC Program. All clinic data are aggregated at the state level and then submitted in a secure system to the CDC for analysis. The CDC then generates the national data as well as state specific data. In 2010, 33,163 women participated in the Massachusetts PNSS (MA PNSS), and 1,162,961 women participated in the national PNSS.

#### PREGNANCY NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM IN MASSACHUSETTS

The present report can be utilized as a statewide summary using the data derived from the 2010 Massachusetts WIC Program. Starting with the 2002 report and for all subsequent reports through 2011, data analysis and chart preparation are provided by the CDC and not by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Office of Data Translation (ODT), (formerly the Office of Statistics and Evaluation).

#### Limitations

MA PNSS data are exclusive to pregnant women in the WIC program. Certain data on demographics, nutritional status, anemia and infant feeding practices should be interpreted with caution as they tend to be much different than the data for the general MA population published by the MA Department of Public Health. This discrepancy could occur because MA PNSS data are based on low income women participating in the WIC Program only and such data is not representative of the state of Massachusetts as a whole.

There were also small number limitations. Rates and proportions based on fewer than 100 observations are suppressed and trends based on small numbers should be interpreted cautiously. No statistics for some variables are shown for American Indian and multiple race MA PNSS populations. The CDC does not generate statistics based on fewer than 100 records as the data will not be statistically stable.

Some data such as income, child's birth weight information, and mother's age and breastfeeding characteristics were not obtained from certain clients as the clients declined to report them. Such missing information will impact household poverty determination, nutritional status, low birth weight and high birth weight determination as well as other factors that impact the health of the mother and child.

#### **Executive Summary**

This 2010 Massachusetts PNSS Pregnancy Data Report includes records for women served by the Massachusetts WIC Program during the 2010 calendar year (from January 01, 2010 to December 31, 2010). In this report, the 2010 Massachusetts PNSS data are directly compared to the 2010 national PNSS data. The Massachusetts PNSS report presents demographic, nutrition, and health-related data collected as part of normal service delivery for low- to moderate-income women who participate in the Massachusetts WIC Program. Many of the elements presented relate to medical and behavioral risks associated with poor pregnancy outcomes.

#### **Demographic Characteristics**

- The minority population (which consists of Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Black non-Hispanic, and Hispanic women) accounted for 51.4% of the women served by the Massachusetts WIC program in 2010 (Figure 2a).
- More than thirteen percent (13.7%) of the 2010 MA PNSS women were less than 20 years old, 57.3% were 20 to 29 years old, 26.5% were 30 to 39 years old and slightly over two percent (2.4%) were 40 years or older (Figure 3a).
- About twenty-four percent (24.3%) of the 2010 MA PNSS women did not finish high school (Figure 4).
- Most of the 2010 MA PNSS women (96.7%) were at or below 185% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (Figure 6).
- The participation rates for women in various programs at initial prenatal visit were as follows: WIC (100%), Food Stamps, now known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP (29.3%), Medicaid (78.0%) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or TANF (10.8%) (Figure 7).

#### Maternal Health Characteristics

- Seventy-four percent (74.0%) of all MA PNSS women began prenatal medical care during the first trimester of pregnancy (Figure 8).
- More than one-third (36.7%) of PNSS women were enrolled in the WIC program in the first trimester and 32.5% of PNSS women enrolled in the WIC program in the second trimester (Figure 8).
- Fifty percent (50.5%) of the women had pre-pregnancy body mass index (BMI) above normal (either overweight (26.4%) or obese (24.1%) prior to their current pregnancy) (Figure 11a).
- The prevalence of low hemoglobin/hematocrit (Hgb/Hct) status or anemia was slightly higher in women who were enrolled in WIC during the postpartum period (35.0%) than in women who were enrolled in WIC during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester period (34.5%) (Figure 18).
- Over twenty percent (20.8%) of WIC participants in 2010 MA PASS reported smoking in the three months prior to pregnancy (Figure 21a).
- Prevalence of maternal drinking in 2010 MA PNSS was 3.5% at 3 months prior to pregnancy but was 0.2% during the last 3 months of pregnancy

(Figure 23).

- The overall prevalence of diabetes during pregnancy in 2010 MA PNSS women was 4.4% (Figure 24a). The highest prevalence of pregnancy induced diabetes (7.0%) was observed among Asian women in 2010 MA PNSS (Figure 24b).
- Prevalence of hypertension during pregnancy was 5.7 %.(Figure 24a). The highest prevalence of pregnancy induced hypertension (7.5%) was observed among Black non-Hispanic women (Figure 24c).
- In 2010 MA PNSS, the overall prevalence of multivitamin use prior to pregnancy was 30.7% (Figure 25a).
- The overall prevalence of multivitamin use during pregnancy was 100% in 2010 MA PNSS in all race ethnicity groups (Figure 25a; Figure 25c).
- White non-Hispanic women had the highest prevalence (33.3%) of multivitamin use prior to pregnancy (Figure 25b).

#### Infant Characteristics

- Black non-Hispanic infants in 2010 MA PNSS had the highest prevalence of low birth weight (8.2%) while White non-Hispanic infants had the lowest prevalence of low birth weight (6.7%) (Figure 28a).
- More than eight percent (8.4%) of the MA PNSS participants had a preterm delivery (i.e. less than 37 weeks gestation). Black non-Hispanic women (8.7%) and Hispanic women (8.7%) had the highest prevalence of preterm deliveries (Figure 31a).
- Slightly more than ninety-two percent (92.2%) of MA PNSS women reported breastfeeding their infants during the early postpartum period, meeting and surpassing the Healthy People 2010 goal of 75% for breastfeeding initiation (Figure 32a).

#### Source of Data



- In Massachusetts, the entire PNSS data set (100%) was derived from the WIC Program.
- Nationally, all records also came from WIC participant data.



#### **Demographic Characteristics: Racial and Ethnic Distribution**

- In 2010, the MA PNSS population was comprised of 48.6% White non-Hispanic, 14.6% Black non-Hispanic, 31.8% Hispanic, 4.6% Asian /Pacific Islander, 0.2% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 0.2% multiple race.
- The national PNSS population (1,162,961) in 2010 was comprised of 41.9% White non-Hispanic, 22.8% Black non-Hispanic, 29.4% Hispanic, 1.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 3.4% Asian, 1.3% multiple race and 0.1% other race.
- The percentage of White non-Hispanic women served in WIC was higher for MA PNSS (48.6%) than for the National PNSS (41.9%). This proportion almost mirrors the proportion of non-WIC White non-Hispanic women in the state (86%) and the nation (80%) according to the recent census figures (<u>http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/25000.html</u>). The percentage of Asian women in MA PNSS (4.6%) was slightly higher than that of their counterparts (3.4%) in the national PNSS and reflects their percentage among non-WIC women as per the recent census data. The percentage of Black non-Hispanic Women is lower in MA PNSS (14.6%) than in National PNSS (22.8%) and also reflects the proportion among non-WIC women both in the state and the nation.



#### **Demographic Trends: Race and Ethnicity Distribution**

• The racial and ethnic distributions among MA PNSS participants followed similar trends between 2001 and 2010. White non-Hispanic was the largest racial and ethnic group (47.2% in 2001 and 44.7% in 2010) and American Indian/Alaskan Native group was the smallest racial and ethnic group (0.2% in 2001 and 0.2% in 2010).



#### Demographic Characteristics: Age Distribution

- In 2010, less than fourteen percent (13.7%) of the total MA PNSS population was younger than 20 years old. Over half (57.3%) were between 20 and 29 years old and over a fourth (26.5%) were between the ages of 30 and 39 years. Two percent (2.4%) of the MA PNSS population were 40 years of age or above.
- In the 2010 national PNSS, 17.2% of the total national PNSS population was less than 20 years old. Almost two-thirds (59.5%) were between 20 and 29 years old and about one-fifth (21.7%) were between the ages of 30 and 39 years. Just over one and a half percent (1.7%) of national PNSS population were 40 years of age or above.



#### **Demographic Characteristics: Age Distribution Trends**

- The proportion of teenage mothers (aged less than 20 years) in MA PNSS population declined in the past ten years from 18.3% in 2001 to 13.7% in 2010.
- The proportion of pregnant women aged 20 to 29 years in MA PNSS population increased from 54.9% in 2001 to 57.3% in 2010.
- The proportion of pregnant women aged 30 years or older in MA PNSS population increased slightly from 24.8% in 2001 to 26.5% in 2010.

#### Demographic Trends: Trends in Teen Age Distribution

Figure 3c-Trends in Teenage Motherhood Distribution in MA PNSS vs. National PNSS (below 20 Years of Age)



- The proportion of teenage mothers (aged less than 20 years) in both MA PNSS and national PNSS population declined over the ten year period from 2001 to 2010.
- The percentage of teenage moms in MA PNSS was lower (ranging from 18.3% in 2001 to 13.7% in 2010) compared to the percentage of such women in national PNSS (from 22.7% in 2001 to 17.1% in 2010).



#### Demographic Characteristics: Educational Level

- About twenty-four percent (24.3%) of MA PNSS women in 2010 had not finished high school, 48.5% had a high school diploma, and 27.2% had continued education beyond high school.
- In the 2010 national PNSS data set, a larger proportion (30.8%) of women nationally had not finished high school, 46.1% had completed high school education, and 23.2% had continued education beyond high school.



#### Demographic Characteristics: Migrant Status

- Of the total number (33,163) of MA PNSS women, only 4 were migrants. No statistics were therefore generated for migrants among women in the 2010 MA PNSS dataset since the number of migrants was fewer than 100 records. As a matter of policy, the CDC does not generate statistics based on fewer than 100 records as these estimates may be unstable.
- Only 0.4% of the national PNSS women were migrants.



#### Demographic characteristics: Household Income

WIC participation is dependent upon income eligibility, nutrition risk eligibility criteria and other requirements. It should be noted that for a participant to be income eligible for WIC Nutrition Program, applicants must have an income at or below a specified income level or standard set by the state agency or be determined adjunctively income-eligible based on participation in certain other income-based assistance programs.

Nutritional risk eligibility criteria include medically-based conditions (for example anemia, underweight, growth failure and poor pregnancy outcomes) and dietary-based conditions (such as nutrient deficiencies or inadequate food intake).

To be eligible for the WIC Nutrition Program, an applicant 's gross income must be equal to or less than 185% of the 2010 US Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines: (<u>http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/10poverty.htm</u>). Sometimes an applicant with a gross income greater than 185% of the 2010 US Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines may still qualify for the WIC Nutrition Program through adjunctive eligibility participation in SNAP, TANF, or Medicaid.

In 2010, 28.2% of women in MA PNSS were at or below 50% of the federal poverty level (FPL) compared to the national PNSS with 36.6% of women at or below 50% of the FPL.
(Please refer to the following link for more information on poverty)

Guidelines- http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/10poverty.htm).

- Approximately one third (32.6%) of women in MA PNSS had a household income between 51% and 100% of the FPL, higher than the figure seen in in their counterparts in the national PNSS population (28.2%).
- Similarly about fifteen percent (14.5%) of women in MA PNSS had a household income between 101% and 130% of the FPL, higher than the figure seen in in their counterparts in the national PNSS population (10.1%).
- Approximately nine percent (8.6%) of women in MA PNSS had a household income between 131% and 150% of the FPL, higher than the figure seen in their counterparts in the national PNSS population (5.1%).
- The percentage of women in MA PNSS at 151% to 185% FPL was 12.8%, higher than the percentage observed in the national PNSS population (5.9%).
- The percentage of women in MA PNSS at 186% to 200% FPL was 1.2%, higher than the percentage observed in the national PNSS population (0.6%).
- The percentage of women in MA PNSS at over 200% FPL was 2.1%, higher than the percentage observed in the national PNSS population (1.2%).
- The percentage of women who were adjunctively eligible is not available from MA PNSS since MA PNSS captures income regardless of adjunctive eligibility. The adjunctive eligibility observed in the 2010 national PNSS population was 12.3%.



#### **Program Participation at Initial Prenatal Visit**

- All MA PNSS women (100.0%) were enrolled in the WIC Program in 2010. Similarly, 100% of national PNSS women were enrolled in WIC in 2010.
- Twenty-nine percent (29.3%) of the women in MA PNSS also received Food Stamps or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), 78.0% were on Medicaid, and 10.8% received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
- Twenty-eight percent (28.1%) of women in the national PNSS received Food Stamps or SNAP, 64.2% were on Medicaid, and 5.5% received TANF.



#### Timing of WIC Enrollment and Medical Care

Studies have shown that participation in the WIC program during pregnancy has been associated with improved birth weights and reduction in preterm deliveries (Abrams 1993, Devaney 2007, Khanani et al., 2010). Additionally, studies concluded that participation in WIC during pregnancy resulted in fewer deliveries of infants who are small for gestational age, while longer enrollment in the WIC program was linked to healthier infants (Khanani 2010, Crawford et al 2004; Ahluwalia et al., 1998).

Timing of WIC enrollment and medical care varied in both MA PNSS and national PNSS

- Over a third (36.7%) of the women in 2010 MA PNSS enrolled in WIC during their first trimester of pregnancy, 32.5% enrolled in the second trimester, 14.8% enrolled in the third trimester and 16.1% enrolled in the postpartum period. In the national PNSS, 36.0% of women enrolled in WIC during their first trimester of pregnancy, 33.9% enrolled in the second trimester, 16.9% enrolled during the third trimester and 13.2% enrolled in the postpartum period.
- The proportion of PNSS women entering prenatal care is different for the MA PNSS than national PNSS populations. Specifically, 74.0% of women in the 2010 MA PNSS and 83.1% in the national PNSS entered medical care during their first trimester of pregnancy. Both of these figures are lower than the Healthy People 2010 (HP 2010) target

requiring that 90% of women to enter prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy.

• Similarly, proportion of PNSS women receiving no care is different for the MA PNSS than national PNSS populations. Specifically, 9.8% of women in the 2010 MA PNSS and 4.1% in the national PNSS received no care during pregnancy.



#### Trends in WIC Enrollment and Medical Care

- The proportion of PNSS women in Massachusetts who received medical care during their first trimester of pregnancy has remained steady, from 73.6% in 2001 to 74.0% in 2010. The proportion of women receiving medical care reached its peak (75.2%) in 2003.
- The percentage of women in MA PNSS who enrolled in the WIC program during their first trimester of pregnancy increased slightly from 34.4% in 2001 to 36.7% in 2010.
- The proportion of Massachusetts WIC women who reported they did not receive medical care during pregnancy was 8.4% in 2001 but rose slightly to 9.8% in 2010.

#### **Trends in First Trimester WIC Enrollment**



- The overall prevalence of first trimester WIC enrollment by MA PNSS mothers has increased slightly in the past ten years (from 34.4% in 2001 to 36.7% in 2010).
- The prevalence of first trimester WIC enrollment by MA PNSS mothers during the past ten years has been consistently below fifty percent in all race/ethnicity categories.
- The prevalence of first trimester WIC enrollment differed by race and ethnicity, with Hispanic mothers having a higher prevalence (43.5%) of early WIC enrollment in 2001 than Black non-Hispanic (30.9%), White non-Hispanic (30.9%) or Asian (30.0%) in 2001.
- The enrollment trend is similar after ten years, with Hispanic infants having a higher enrollment (48.8%) in 2010 than Asian (36.5%), White non-Hispanic (30.9%), and Black non-Hispanic (30.3%) in 2010.
- The greatest increase in first trimester WIC enrollment was observed among Asian and Hispanic women. Asian women increased by 6.5% from 30.0% in 2001 to 36.5% in 2010. Hispanic women increased by 5.3% from 43.5% in 2001 to 48.8% in 2010.



#### Parity Level and Inter-Pregnancy Interval

According to Reinhold et al (2009) of the CDC, inter-pregnancy interval (IPI) is the time between the end of one pregnancy and the last menstrual period before the next pregnancy. Studies (Zhu et al 1999, Smith, Pell and Dobbie 2003) have shown that women with an inter-pregnancy interval of less than 6 months are at a higher risk for maternal mortality and morbidity and also for giving birth to LBW infants, preterm infants or infants who are small for their gestational age than women conceiving after an inter-pregnancy interval of 18-23 months. A recent preliminary study has tied short inter-pregnancy interval (also known in lay literature as "short sibling spacing") to autism risk but the study needs to be corroborated with further studies (Lowry, 2011). Women who have a short interpregnancy interval have less time to replenish nutrient stores (IOM, 1996).

- Before their pregnancy in 2010, 47.8% of women in the MA PNSS had never been pregnant, 29.1% had one previous pregnancy, 13.7% had two previous pregnancies, and 9.4% had three or more previous pregnancies.
- Over twelve percent (12.4%) of MA PNSS women had less than 6 months between their previous pregnancy and the current pregnancy; almost a quarter (23.5%) of the women had 6 to 18 months between the previous pregnancy and the current pregnancy.
- Before their pregnancy in 2010, 40.3% of women in the national PNSS had never been pregnant, 26.8% had one previous pregnancy, 16.7%

had two previous pregnancies and 16.3% had three or more previous pregnancies.

• The proportion of the national PNSS women who had less than 6 months between their previous pregnancy and the current pregnancy was 11.7%, while the proportion that had 6 to 18 months between the previous pregnancy and the current pregnancy was 25.9%.



#### Prevalence of Pre-pregnancy Underweight and Overweight

Pre-pregnancy weight strongly determines infant birth weight according to the CDC-PNSS report of 2007 (Reinhold et al 2009). Some authors suggest that there is an association between maternal pre-pregnancy underweight and giving birth to an infant with low birth weight (Doherty et al., 2006). Low birth weight is the second leading cause of neonatal mortality and morbidity as well as childhood morbidity after preterm birth (Barnum and Schoendoff 2002).

Other studies suggest that overweight women are at increased risk for preeclampsia, gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), cesarean delivery, and failure to initiate breastfeeding (Li et al., 2003; Doherty et al 2006). Pre-pregnancy BMI data are derived from self reported weight and height information by PNSS women. The weight status of the women is classified based on the 2009 BMI categories proposed by the Institute of Medicine (IOM 2009)\*. According to the IOM 2009, underweight is a BMI less than 18.5, normal weight is a BMI from 18.5 to-24.9, overweight is a BMI from 25.0 to 29.9, and obese is a BMI greater than 30.0. A woman with a pre-pregnancy weight status of underweight should have a recommended prenatal weight gain of 28-40 pounds, while one classified as normal weight should have a recommended prenatal weight gain of 25-35 pounds. A woman with a pre-pregnancy weight status classified as overweight should have a recommended prenatal weight gain of 15-25 pounds, while one classified as obese should have a recommended prenatal weight gain of 11-20 pounds.

- In 2010, 4.2% of the women in 2010 MA PNSS were underweight prior to their current pregnancy. This percentage was comparable to the 2010 national PNSS where 4.5% of women were underweight prior to their current pregnancy.
- Over 45 percent (45.3%) of the women in 2010 MA PNSS were normal weight prior to their current pregnancy. This percentage was comparable to the 2010 national PNSS where 42.1% of women were normal weight prior to their current pregnancy.
- Fifty percent (50.5%) of the women in the MA PNSS population had excess weight and were either overweight (26.4%) or obese (24.1%), based on their BMI prior to pregnancy.
- About fifty-three percent (53.4%) of national PNSS women had excess weight pre-pregnancy (with 27.4% overweight and 26.0% obese).

\*See Appendix 1 for designation of weight categories and weight gain Recommendations based on BMI according to IOM 2009.



#### Trends in Pre-pregnancy Overweight and Underweight

- The proportion of MA PNSS women who were overweight pre-pregnancy has gradually increased from 45.0% in the year 2001 to 50.5% in 2010. A modest portion of the increase from 2008 to 2010 could be related to the change in IOM definitions of BMI categories (IOM 2009) for pregnant women.
- The proportion of MA PNSS women who were underweight before pregnancy fell slightly from 5.3% in 2001 to 4.2% in 2010. A portion of the change from 2008 to 2010 could also be due to the more narrow definition of underweight in the new guidelines (2009 IOM).

#### **Pre-pregnancy Underweight**



- The percent of PNSS women who were underweight prior to pregnancy varied by race and ethnicity in both MA PNSS and national PNSS.
- Asian women both in MA PNSS (11.0%) and national PNSS (8.7%) exhibited the highest prevalence of underweight prior to pregnancy in 2010.
- Black non-Hispanic (3.1%) and Hispanic (3.5%) women exhibited the lowest prevalence of pre-pregnancy underweight in the MA PNSS.
- Similarly, in the national PNSS, American Indian (2.9%), Hispanic (3.4%) and Black non-Hispanic (3.8%) women exhibited the lowest prevalence of pre-pregnancy underweight.

#### **Pre-pregnancy Overweight**



- Over half (58.1%) of Black non-Hispanic women in the MA PNSS had the highest prevalence of overweight before the current pregnancy, higher than the overall prevalence of pre-pregnancy overweight in the state of MA (50.5%).
- Asian women in MA PNSS had the lowest prevalence of pre-pregnancy overweight (23.0%) compared to the state prevalence for all race and ethnicity categories.
- Similarly, Asian women in the national PNSS had the lowest prevalence of pre-pregnancy overweight (31.9%) compared to the overall national prevalence (53.4%) in 2010.
- Compared to the overall prevalence (53.4%) in national PNSS women, pre-pregnancy overweight overall was less prevalent in MA PNSS women (50.5%).

\*See Appendix 1 for designation of weight categories based on BMI





The 2009 IOM report recommended a weight gain of 28-40 pounds for underweight women, 25-35 pounds for women of normal weight, 15-25 pounds for overweight women and 11-20 pounds for obese women (IOM 2009). Women who gain less than the IOM (2009) recommended weight gain are at an increased risk of giving birth to an infant with LBW.

- The overall prevalence of less than ideal maternal weight gain (20.5%) in 2010 MA PNSS was slightly less than the prevalence of 21.5% in the 2010 national PNSS women.
- Asian women in 2010 MA PNSS had the highest prevalence of less than ideal maternal weight gain (25.0%) during the current pregnancy. In contrast, White non-Hispanic women had the lowest prevalence of less than ideal maternal weight gain (17.3%) in 2010 MA PNSS.



Greater than Ideal Maternal Weight Gain

Women who gain more than the IOM's recommended weight gain during pregnancy are at an increased risk of giving birth to an infant with HBW, which can cause difficulty with delivery (IOM 2009) and may also lead to preterm delivery (Salihu et al 2008). In addition, women who gain excess weight during pregnancy may have more difficulty returning to their pre-pregnancy weight (Rooney and Schauberger, 2002). Similarly, excess weight gain during pregnancy coupled with failure to lose weight after pregnancy may lead to obesity beyond the childbearing years (Rooney and Schauberger 2002, Kabali and Werler 2007).

- Asian women in the 2010 MA PNSS data set had the lowest prevalence of greater than ideal maternal weight gain (34.0%) during the current pregnancy. Similarly Asian women in the 2010 national PNSS data set had the lowest prevalence of greater than ideal maternal weight gain (33.5%). In contrast, White non-Hispanic women had the highest prevalence of greater than ideal maternal weight gain both in MA PNSS (55.4%) and national PNSS (51.9%).
- Overall in 2010, 50.2% of MA PNSS participants gained more than the recommended amount of weight during their pregnancy compared to 48% of national 2010 PNSS women. Some of the variance could be due to the changes made to IOM guidelines from 2009 to 2010.



#### **Overall Maternal Weight Gain by Pre-pregnancy BMI**

- Overall, the women's pre-pregnancy BMI was a strong factor that determined whether the women in MA PNSS gained an adequate amount of weight during pregnancy. Overweight or obese women (prior to pregnancy) were more likely to exceed the IOM's recommended maximum weight gain for their body size.
- About one-fifth (21.3%) of MA PNSS participants who were obese before pregnancy gained less than the recommended amount of weight, while 56.1% of obese women gained more than the recommended ideal weight.
- Similarly, 14.1% of participating women who were overweight before pregnancy gained less than the recommended amount of weight while 60.8% gained more than the ideal amount of weight.
- In 2010, 28% of participating women who were underweight before pregnancy gained less than the recommended amount of weight while 31.7% of underweight women gained more than the ideal amount of weight.
# Prevalence of Maternal Weight Gain: Less than Ideal, Ideal, and Greater than Ideal Maternal Weight Gain



Figure 17a-Prevalence of Less Than Ideal, Ideal and

- In summary, nearly one-third (29.3%) of mothers in MA PNSS data set gained the ideal amount of weight during pregnancy. Over fifty percent (50.2%) gained more than ideal weight and about one-fifth (20.5%) gained less than the ideal amount of weight.
- Thirty percent (30.6%) of mothers in the national PNSS data set gained the ideal amount of weight during pregnancy. Compared to MA PNSS, the national PNSS had a lower percentage of women gaining more than ideal weight (48.0%) but a higher percentage of women gaining less than ideal weight (21.5%).



Trends in Less than Ideal and Greater than Ideal Maternal Weight Gain

- The proportion of MA PNSS women who gained more than ideal amount of weight in pregnancy has gradually increased from 49.3% in the year 2001 to 50.2% in 2010.
- The proportion of MA PNSS women who gained less than ideal amount of weight in pregnancy fell slightly from 21.2% in 2001 to 20.5% in 2010. A portion of the change from 2008 to 2010 could be due to the more narrow definition of underweight in the new guidelines (2009 IOM).



#### Trends in Greater Than Ideal Maternal Weight Gain

- The overall prevalence of greater than ideal maternal weight gain by MA PNSS mothers has increased slightly in the past ten years (from 49.3% in 2001 to 50.2% in 2010).
- The prevalence of greater than ideal maternal weight gain differed by race and ethnicity in 2001 MA PNSS with White non-Hispanic mothers having a higher prevalence (53.8%) than Black non-Hispanic (48.8%), Hispanic (45.9%), or Asian (32.9%) women.
- The trend in greater than ideal maternal weight gain is similar after ten years in 2010, where White non-Hispanic women still have higher prevalence (55.4%) than Black non-Hispanic (47.8%), Hispanic (46.7%), and Asian (34.0%) women.



# Prevalence of Anemia by Timing of Program Enrollment

\*See Appendix 1 for definitions and cutoff values.

Anemia (low hemoglobin/hematocrit) is an indicator of iron deficiency, the most common nutrient deficiency in the world. Iron deficiency is also the most common nutritional deficiency resulting from pregnancy (Doherty et al., 2006). Since pregnant women require higher amounts of iron, a supplementation of iron during pregnancy is often recommended. In addition to iron-rich foods, pregnant women often take iron supplements during pregnancy to ensure an adequate amount of iron intake (Conde-Agudelo and Belzian, 2000). Iron-deficiency anemia during the first two trimesters of pregnancy has been associated with inadequate gestational weight gain, a two-fold risk for preterm delivery, and a three-fold risk of giving birth to an infant with low birth weight (CDC, 1998). Iron-deficiency anemia during the third trimester of pregnancy is a reflection of inadequate iron intake and can affect a woman's health during the postpartum period (CDC, 1998).

- Prevalence of anemia among PNSS participants increased with increased delay of program enrollment.
- In MA PNSS, anemia was observed in 5.2% of women who enrolled in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, 12.0% of women who enrolled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester, and 34.5% of women who enrolled in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.

- A similar pattern was observed in the national PNSS dataset, where 7.6% of women who enrolled in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, 12.0% of women who enrolled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester, and 33.9% of women who enrolled in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester had anemia.
- The high proportion of women with anemia in the third trimester may reflect the fact that during the late stages of pregnancy, hemoglobin values generally decrease due to physiological changes associated with pregnancy (e.g., hemo-dilution).
- Thirty-five percent (35.0%) of all women who enrolled in MA PNSS during the postpartum period had anemia, higher than what was observed in PNSS women nationally (28.1%) in 2010.





- The overall prevalence of third trimester anemia in 2010 was 34.5% in MA PNSS and 33.9% in the national PNSS.
- In 2010, third trimester anemia varied by race and ethnicity both in MA and national PNSS. Specifically, Black non-Hispanic women had the highest prevalence of third trimester anemia (39.8%) while Asian women had the lowest prevalence (31.0%) in the 2010 MA PNSS. Anemia prevalence in other races was 32.5% in white non-Hispanic and 37.7% in Hispanic women. In the 2010 national PNSS, Black non-Hispanic women had the highest prevalence of third trimester anemia (49.4%), followed by American Indian women (35.0%) while white non-Hispanic women had the lowest prevalence (26.8%).
- It should be noted that these anemia results are based on data from lowincome, diverse and disadvantaged women participating in the WIC program and should therefore be interpreted with caution as they do not reflect the overall picture in the state of Massachusetts as a whole.
- Healthy People 2010 Objectives propose reducing the prevalence of third trimester anemia among low income pregnant females to no more than 20% (US-DHHS, 2000). In 2010, the prevalence of third trimester anemia did not meet the HP-2010 target of 20% in any ethnicity both in MA PNSS and national PNSS. More work needs to be done to reduce anemia in these by laying emphasis population groups on prenatal nutrition, iron supplementation and outreach health programs.



# Trends in Prevalence of Third Trimester Anemia

- The overall prevalence of third trimester anemia in MA PNSS mothers has declined slightly in the past ten years (from 36.3% in 2001 to 34.5% in 2010).
- Among Black non-Hispanic women, the prevalence of third trimester anemia has been consistently higher than among women from other races in MA PNSS. Over the past 10 years, the prevalence of third trimester anemia among Black non-Hispanic women decreased slightly (from 43.9% in 2001 to 39.8% in 2010).
- The MA PNSS during the past ten years did not meet the HP 2010 target of 20% prevalence of third trimester anemia in any race/ethnicity category.

#### **Prevalence of Postpartum Anemia**



- Overall, 35% of women in 2010 MA PNSS had postpartum anemia, higher than the finding in the national PNSS dataset (28.1%).
- In MA PNSS, Black non-Hispanic women had the highest prevalence of postpartum anemia (45.8%) followed by Hispanic women (38.3%) and Asian/Pacific Islander women (33.3%). White non-Hispanic women (31.0%) had the lowest prevalence of anemia. Insufficient data were available for American Indian women.
- In the 2010 national PNSS data, Black non-Hispanic women had the highest prevalence of postpartum anemia (44.2%), followed by American Indian (31.1%), Hispanic (28.2%), Asian (25.3%), and multiple-race women (25.2%). White non-Hispanic women (21.7%) had the lowest prevalence of postpartum anemia.



# Trends in the Prevalence of Postpartum Anemia

- The overall prevalence of postpartum anemia in MA PNSS mothers has increased in the past ten years (from 30.4% in 2001 to 35.0% in 2010).
- The prevalence of postpartum anemia differed by race and ethnicity, with Black non-Hispanic women having a higher prevalence (39.4%) in 2001 than Hispanic (37.0%), Asian (29.8%) or White non-Hispanic (26.0%). The trend is similar after ten years, with Black non-Hispanic women having higher prevalence (45.8%) in 2010 than Hispanic (38.3%), Asian (33.3%), and White non-Hispanic (31.0%) women.
- The prevalence of postpartum anemia has been consistently higher among Black non-Hispanic women than among women from other races at both state and national levels. Over the past ten years, the percentage of postpartum anemia in MA PNSS among Black non-Hispanic women increased slightly (from 39.4% in 2001 to 45.8% in 2010). However, between 2001 and 2010, the percentage of postpartum anemia in national PNSS among Black non-Hispanic women was stable at 44% (from 44.6% in 2001 to 44.2% in 2010).

## Smoking in the Household



Figure 21a-Prevalence of Smoking and Smoking

Smoking in the household, including both active smoking by the mother and passive (second-hand) smoking in the household, is detrimental to the infant. The adverse effects of smoking have been well documented (Anderson et al 2005, Hofhuis et al., 2003, US DHSS, 2001). Exposure to passive smoking for children less than 2 years of age has been associated with higher incidence of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and respiratory infection and illness.

Smoking has been known to be detrimental to infant health in many ways. Mortality rate is reported to be higher (40.0%) in infants born to mothers who smoked during pregnancy than in infants born to non-smokers (Salihu et al., 2003). According to the CDC, small gestational size, rather than preterm birth, is the mechanism through which smoking causes increased infant mortality. Preterm births do not differ significantly in both smokers and non smokers: however, the percentage of LBW and full term-LBW are significantly higher for infants born to smoking mothers.

Maternal smoking increases the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) according to Anderson et al., (2005). It also increases spontaneous abortions (US DHHS, 2001), and has long term negative effects on the growth, development, behavior and cognition of the infant (Samet and Yoon 2001).

- In 2010, nearly twenty-one percent (20.8%) of MA PNSS participants reported smoking during the three months prior to pregnancy. Smoking prevalence decreased during pregnancy to 12.0% and was reported at even lower rates for the last trimester (10.0%). Smoking prevalence increased slightly during the postpartum period to 11.6%.
- About fifteen percent (15.3%) of women participating in the MA PNSS reported living in a household where someone else smoked during the pregnancy; the percentage reporting household smoking was lower (10.5%) during the postpartum period.
- The percentage of women who reported maternal smoking during pregnancy was lower in MA PNSS (12.0%) than in national PNSS (13.8%). Similarly, the percentage of women who reported maternal smoking after pregnancy was also lower in MA PNSS women (11.6%) than in national PNSS (15.0%).
- The percentage of women who reported household smoking during pregnancy was lower in MA PNSS (15.3%) than in national PNSS (17.1%). The percentage of women who reported household smoking after pregnancy was also lower in MA PNSS women (10.5%) than in their counterparts in the national PNSS (16.8%).

#### **Trends in Prevalence of Maternal Smoking**



- The overall prevalence of third trimester smoking in MA PNSS mothers has declined in the past ten years (from 15.6% in 2001 to 10.0% in 2010).
- The prevalence of maternal smoking in the last 3 months of pregnancy differed by race and ethnicity, in 2010 MA PNSS, with White non-Hispanic mothers having a higher prevalence (17.1%) of smoking than Black non-Hispanic (4.5%), Hispanic (4.4%) and Asian (2.3%) mothers.
- Among White non-Hispanic women in MA PNSS, the prevalence of third trimester smoking has been consistently higher than among women from other races but has decreased over the past ten years (from 24.8% in 2001 to 17.1% in 2010).
- The HP 2010 target is to decrease prevalence of cigarette smoking in pregnancy especially in the last three months of pregnancy to 2.0% or less. Neither MA PNSS women nor their national counterparts met the HP 2010 target; therefore, more intervention work needs to be done to curtail smoking in last trimester of pregnancy.



#### Trends in the Prevalence of Household Smoking

- The overall prevalence of household smoking in MA PNSS has declined in the past ten years (from 25.0% in 2001 to 15.3% in 2010).
- In 2010, the prevalence of household smoking was slightly lower in MA PNSS (15.3%) than in national PNSS (15.4%).
- The prevalence of household smoking during pregnancy differed by race and ethnicity. White non-Hispanic households had a higher prevalence (23.8%) in 2010 than Asian (17.5%), Black non-Hispanic (8.5%), Hispanic (8.2%) households and overall state average (15.3%).
- Among White non-Hispanic households, the prevalence of household smoking has decreased over the past ten years (from 35.3% in 2001 to 23.8% in 2010).
- The overall prevalence of household smoking in Asian households has also declined in the past ten years (from 22.8% in 2001 to 17.5% in 2010) but when compared to the state average, the rate of household smoking Asian women in 2010 is still higher.
- The HP 2010 target is to decrease prevalence of exposure to household tobacco smoke among children aged six years or less to 10%. More intervention work needs to be done to curtail household smoking both in MA PNSS and their national counterparts as none met the HP2010 target for decreased exposure to household smoking.



# Maternal Smoking Changes during Pregnancy

- In 2010, about forty-three percent (43.2%) of MA PNSS women who reported smoking prior to pregnancy had quit smoking by the first prenatal visit.
- Among the national PNSS women, forty-three percent (43.5%) of those who reported smoking prior to pregnancy had quit smoking by the first prenatal visit.
- Over thirty-eight percent (38.7%) of MA PNSS women who reported smoking prior to pregnancy had quit smoking by the first prenatal visit and reported remaining smoke-free throughout the data collection period.
- In the national PNSS women, over thirty-eight percent (38.1%) of the prepregnancy smokers had quit smoking and reported remaining smoke-free throughout the data collection period.

#### **Prevalence of Maternal Drinking**



Maternal drinking has been known to be detrimental to infant health in many ways (Chiafarino et al., 2006, Mattson et al., 2006, Rasmussen et al., 2008 and Strandberg-Larsen et al., 2009). Alcohol consumption by the mother has resulted in fetal alcohol syndrome in some infants, a term first coined in the 1970s by Jones and Smith (1973). Since then, many other researchers have confirmed the detrimental effects of alcohol on fetal growth and development based on animal and human studies (May 1995, Passaro et al., 1996, US DHSS 2000). Alcohol effects could directly harm the fetus by affecting chemical mediators that guide fetal development. The effects could also indirectly harm the fetus through the mother by decreasing nutrients and oxygen transfer to the fetus, producing certain metabolites of ethanol such as acetaldehyde, which are known to be toxic or by compounding the effects of other drugs that the mother might be taking.

The degree of damage done by ethanol is affected by many factors such as time of gestation when alcohol exposure occurred, quantity, pattern and frequency of alcohol ingestion, genetic makeup of mother and child and other unknown factors. Because of these various factors, it is impossible to determine a safe level of alcohol intake in pregnancy. Therefore, the recommendation is abstinence from drinking.

- Three percent (3.5%) of women in 2010 MA PNSS reported drinking some alcohol in the three months prior to pregnancy, compared to 8.8% of women in national PNSS.
- In 2010 MA PNSS, 0.2% of women reported drinking alcohol in the last 3 months of pregnancy compared to 0.4% of women in the 2010 national PNSS.



# Prevalence of Medical Conditions during Pregnancy

- Over four percent (4.4%) of women in 2010 MA PNSS reported having diabetes during pregnancy compared to 5.2% of women in national PNSS.
- In 2010 MA PNSS, 5.7% of women reported having hypertension during pregnancy compared to 6.3% of women in the 2010 national PNSS.



#### **Prevalence of Diabetes during Pregnancy**

- Overall, 4.4% of women in 2010 MA PNSS had diabetes during pregnancy, a slightly lower prevalence than the finding in the national PNSS dataset (5.2%).
- In MA PNSS, White non-Hispanic women (4.1%) had the lowest prevalence of diabetes during pregnancy followed by Black non-Hispanic (4.5%) and Hispanic women (4.5%), while Asian women (7.0%), had the highest prevalence diabetes during pregnancy. Insufficient data were available for American Indian women.
- In the 2010 national PNSS data, American Indian (8.1%) and Asian (8.0%), women had the highest prevalence of diabetes during pregnancy. Black non-Hispanic women had the lowest prevalence of diabetes during pregnancy (4.4%), followed by multiple race women (4.9%), Hispanic (5.1%) and White non-Hispanic (5.2%) women.



## Prevalence of Hypertension during Pregnancy

- Overall, 5.7% of women in 2010 MA PNSS had hypertension during pregnancy, a slightly lower prevalence than the finding in the national PNSS dataset (6.3%).
- In MA PNSS, Asian women (2.3%) had the lowest prevalence of hypertension during pregnancy followed by Hispanic (4.9%) and White non-Hispanic (5.9%) women. Black non-Hispanic women (7.5%) had the highest prevalence hypertension during pregnancy. There was insufficient data for American Indian women.
- Similarly in the 2010 national PNSS data, Asian women (2.8%) and Hispanic women (4.0%) had the lowest prevalence of hypertension during pregnancy. Black non-Hispanic women (8.1%) had the highest prevalence of hypertension during pregnancy, followed by American Indian (7.6%), White non-Hispanic (7.3%) and multiple race (7.2%) women.



## Prevalence of Multivitamin Use Prior to and During Pregnancy

- Almost thirty-one percent (30.7%) of women in 2010 MA PNSS reported having used multivitamins prior to pregnancy compared to 19.2% of women in national PNSS.
- In 2010 MA PNSS, 100% of women reported having used multivitamins during pregnancy compared to 85.0% of women in the 2010 national PNSS.



## Prevalence of Multivitamin Use Prior to Pregnancy

- Overall, 30.7% of women in 2010 MA PNSS used multivitamins prior to pregnancy, a much higher prevalence than the finding in the national PNSS dataset (19.2%).
- In MA PNSS, Hispanic women (26.4%) and Black non-Hispanic women (28.4%) had lower prevalence of multivitamin use prior to pregnancy while White non-Hispanic (33.3%) women had the highest prevalence. There were insufficient data for Asian, multiple race and American Indian women in MA PNSS.
- In the 2010 national PNSS data, Black non-Hispanic women (15.3%) had the lowest prevalence of multivitamin use prior to pregnancy. White non-Hispanic women (22.7%) had the highest prevalence of multivitamin use prior to pregnancy, followed by Asian (18.6%), multiple race (17.7%) and American Indian (16.6%) women.



## **Prevalence of Multivitamin Use during Pregnancy**

- Overall, 100% of women in 2010 MA PNSS had used multivitamins during pregnancy, a much higher prevalence than the finding in the national PNSS dataset (85.0%).
- In MA PNSS, there were insufficient data for Asian, multiple race and American Indian women with regards to multivitamin use.
- However in the 2010 national PNSS data, Asian women (88.2%) had the highest prevalence of multivitamin use during pregnancy, followed by Black non-Hispanic women (86.3%), White non-Hispanic women (86.0%) multiple race (85.3%), Hispanic (82.6%) and American Indian (79.4%) women.





Low birth weight includes both very low birth weight (VLBW) and low birth weight (LBW). In infants born to PNSS women, VLBW is defined as birth weight less than 1,500 grams, LBW is defined as birth weight equal to or greater than 1,500 grams but less than 2500 grams. High birth weight (HBW) is defined as birth weight greater than 4000 grams. The HP 2010 target is to decrease the prevalence of VLBW to less than 0.9% while decreasing the prevalence of LBW to less than 5%.

Low birth weight is associated with neonatal and post-neonatal mortality in infants (Matthews and MacDorman, 2008). Infants with LBW are also at increased risk for future health problems that range from neuro-developmental health problems to conditions of the lower respiratory tract.

Some LBW infants may be full term (FT) and PNSS monitors this category and regards FT-LBW as an indicator of intrauterine growth retardation or fetal growth restriction (IOM, 1996). An infant is considered FT-LBW if the infant is born at or after 37 weeks of gestation but weighs less than 2500 grams. One of the causes of FT-LBW infants is poor nutrition during pregnancy.

High birth weight also has complications. According to the IOM (1996), an infant's size at birth is important because high birth weight (macrosomia) contributes to the risk for respiratory distress and other health problems in infants.

- The overall prevalence of LBW among infants born in 2010 to MA PNSS mothers was 6.3% while the overall LBW prevalence in the national PNSS infants was 6.9%.
- The overall prevalence of VLBW in the MA PNSS infants (0.9%) was almost similar to that in the national PNSS (1.1%) in 2010.
- Nearly eight percent (7.6%) of women in 2010 MA PNSS delivered HBW infants compared to about seven percent (6.7%) of women in the 2010 national PNSS dataset.

#### Prevalence of Selected Birth Outcomes



# Figure 27-Prevalence of Selected Birth Outcomes\*

- About eight percent (8.4%) of 2010 MA PNSS women delivered pre-term infants, a lower proportion than the 2010 national group (10.7%).
- Three percent (3.0%) of full-term infants were LBW in 2010 MA PNSS compared to 3.4% in national PNSS born in the same year.
- The MA PNSS rate of multiple births (3.4%) was more than twice as high as the rate in the national PNSS (1.4%).



# • Prevalence of Low Birth Weight

- Black non-Hispanic infants in the 2010 MA PNSS had the highest prevalence of LBW (8.2%), followed by Asian (7.9%) and Hispanic (6.8%) infants. White non-Hispanic infants in the 2010 MA PNSS had the lowest prevalence (6.7%) of LBW compared to other race/ethnicities. Insufficient data were available for American Indian women.
- Black non-Hispanic infants born to mothers in the 2010 MA PNSS had a lower prevalence of LBW (8.2%) than Black non-Hispanic infants in the national PNSS (11.7%). White non-Hispanic infants in MA PNSS (6.7%) also had a lower prevalence of LBW compared to the White non-Hispanic infants (7.1%) in the national PNSS.
- Asian infants (7.9%) in the 2010 MA PNSS had a similar prevalence of LBW to the Asian infants in the national PNSS (7.8%). Hispanic infants in the 2010 MA PNSS had a slightly higher prevalence (6.8%) of LBW than the Hispanic infants in the national PNSS (6.4%).
- Overall, the prevalence of LBW infants is lower in the 2010 MA PNSS (7.2%) than in the national PNSS (8.0%). However the MA PNSS LBW prevalence of 7.9% did not meet the HP 2010 target of 5.0% percent. More intervention efforts are required.

# Trends in the Prevalence of Low Birth Weight



- The overall prevalence of LBW in MA PNSS infants has been fairly steady in the past ten years with a small decreasing trend (8.1% in 2001 to 7.2% in 2010).
- The prevalence of LBW was consistently higher for Black non-Hispanic infants (9.6% in 2001 to 8.2% in 2010) than for White non-Hispanic, Asian, and Hispanic infants over the past ten years.



# Prevalence of Low Birth Weight by Selected Health Indicators

- Low pre-pregnancy BMI or maternal underweight, less than ideal weight gain during pregnancy and maternal smoking during pregnancy were all associated with LBW in infants born to PNSS mothers in Massachusetts.
- Data from the 2010 MA PNSS showed that 11.7% of PNSS women who were underweight prior to pregnancy delivered LBW infants, compared to 7.1% who were normal weight or 6.8% who were overweight prior to pregnancy.
- Similarly, 2010 MA PNSS women who gained less than the ideal amount of weight had LBW prevalence of 11.5% compared to LBW prevalence of 7.5% in women who gained the ideal amount (7.5%) and LBW prevalence of 5.1% for women who gained more than the ideal amount.
- The prevalence of LBW among MA PNSS women who smoked during pregnancy was higher (9.7%) than among non-smokers (6.4%).

# **High Birth Weight**



- A high birth weight (>4000 grams) or macrosomia is associated with increased risk of birth problems such as shoulder dystocia, nerve injury, fractures, asphyxia or death during infancy. High birth weight infants are also at increased risk for future health problems such as diabetes, obesity, lower respiratory tract conditions, hypertension and future cardiovascular difficulties (Jolly et al 2003, Ramsay et al., 2006, Kabali et al., 2007, and Asplund et al., 2008). Overall, in 2010, the prevalence of HBW infants born to MA PNSS women (7.6%) was higher than in the 2010 national PNSS (6.7%).
- High birth weight varied by race and Hispanic ethnicity in the 2010 MA PNSS population. Specifically, White non-Hispanic women had the highest percentage of HBW (9.3%), followed by Black non-Hispanic (6.6%) and Hispanic (6.3%) while Asian women had the lowest percentage (4.2%) of HBW infants in MA PNSS. There were insufficient data for American Indian women.
- In comparison, in the national PNSS data, American Indian women had the highest percentage (9.3%) of HBW infants, followed by White non-Hispanic (7.9%), Hispanic (6.8%), multiple race (6.8%) and Asian (4.9%). Black non-Hispanic (4.2%) women had the lowest percentage of HBW infants.





- The overall prevalence of HBW in MA PNSS infants has slightly decreased over the past ten years (ranging from 8.7% in 2001 to 7.6% in 2010).
- The prevalence of HBW was consistently higher for White non-Hispanic infants than for Black non-Hispanic, Hispanic and Asian infants from 2001 to 2010.

## **Preterm Delivery**



Preterm births refer to infants born before 37 weeks gestation. Preterm delivery is associated with increased risk for newborn health complications, long term disabilities such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, lung and gastrointestinal problems, vision and hearing loss and even death (March of Dimes 2010, Bhutto et al., 2002). In addition there are other factors that are associated with preterm birth and include iron deficiency anemia in pregnancy, low gestational weight gain, low income, race and ethnicity, young age of the mother, smoking, and low educational attainment (IOM, 1996).

The HP 2010 Objective proposes reducing preterm births to 7.6% or less of live births.

- The overall prevalence of preterm delivery for the entire MA PNSS population in 2010 was 8.4%, lower than the total prevalence for the 2010 national PNSS population (10.7%).
- The prevalence of preterm deliveries in 2010 was highest among Black non-Hispanic women in both MA PNSS (8.7%) and national PNSS (13.0%). The prevalence of preterm deliveries to Hispanic women was 8.7% in MA PNSS and 10.8% in the national PNSS.
- Asian women (7.2%) and White non-Hispanic women (7.9%) in the MA PNSS dataset had the lowest prevalence of preterm deliveries in 2010.

Similarly, Asian women (9.0%) and White non-Hispanic women (9.7%) in the 2010 national PNSS dataset had the lowest percentage of preterm deliveries.

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## Trends in the Prevalence of Preterm Delivery

- The overall prevalence of preterm delivery by MA PNSS mothers has declined slightly in the past ten years (from 9.9% in 2001 to 8.4% in 2010).
- Despite declining rates, the prevalence of preterm delivery by MA PNSS mothers during the past ten years has consistently not met the HP 2010 target of reducing preterm births to 7.6% or less in all race/ethnicity categories.
- The prevalence of preterm births differed by race and ethnicity, with Black non-Hispanic infants having a higher prevalence (11.7%) in 2001 than Hispanic (10.1%), Asian (9.4%) or White non-Hispanic (9.1%). The trend is similar over ten years. Black non-Hispanic infants have the same prevalence (8.7%) of preterm births in 2010 as Hispanic (8.7%) infants, but are still slightly higher than White non-Hispanic (7.9%) or Asian (7.2%).
- The prevalence of preterm delivery (7.2%) by Asian mothers in the 2010 MA PNSS met the HP 2010 target of reducing preterm births to 7.6% or less.

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# **APPENDIX 1**

### Pre-Pregnancy Weight Status, Hemoglobin and Hematocrit Status

#### Pre-pregnancy Weight Status:

Pre-pregnancy weight status is a major factor affecting infant birth weight. Body Mass Index (BMI) is used to determine the pre-pregnancy weight status categorization, on which recommended weight gain is based. The BMI is calculated by dividing the mother's weight in kilograms by the mother's height in meters squared (BMI = wt/ht<sup>2</sup>). Cutoffs have been established that are used to determine whether a woman was underweight, normal weight, or overweight prior to pregnancy (see Table 1).

BMI Cutoffs (BMI=(kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) (WHO)	Pre-pregnancy Weight Status
Less than 18.5	Underweight
18.5 – 24.9	Normal weight
25.0 – 29.9	Overweight
30.0 and over	Obese

Table 1: Pre-pregnancy weight categories	s based on BMI (NIH/NHLBI, 1998)
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#### Weight Gain during Pregnancy

Inadequate weight gain during pregnancy increases the risk of delivering a low birth weight infant. The recommended weight gain ranges used in this report are based on the new 2009 instead of the old 1990 recommendations of the Institute of Medicine (IOM, 1990; Suitor, 1997 IOM 2009). Women who are underweight prior to pregnancy have a higher recommended weight gain range than normal weight women, while overweight and obese women are advised to gain less weight. The new pre-pregnancy weight status and the corresponding recommended prenatal weight gain ranges are presented in Table 2a. While Table 2b compares the old and new IOM recommendations after almost 20 years.

Table 2a:	Recommended	Prenatal	Weight Gai	n by Pr	e-Pregnancy Weight	t
S	Status as per nev	v IOM Rec	commendati	ons (IOI	M, 2009).	

Pre-pregnancy Weight Status	Recommended Prenatal Weight Gain	Rates of weight gain 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trimester (mean range in lbs/wk)
Underweight (BMI <18.5)	28 - 40 pounds	1.0 (1.0-1.3)
Normal weight (BMI 18.5-24.9)	25 - 35 pounds	1.0 (0.8-1.0)
Overweight (BMI 25.0-29.9)	15 - 25 pounds	0.6 (0.5-0.7)
Obese (BMI =or > 30.0) (includes all classes)/sizes e.g. short women, & ethnicities	11-20 pounds	0.5 (0.4-0.6)

# Table 2b: Comparison of Recommended Prenatal BMI Status as per OLD<br/>(1990) vs. NEW (2009) IOM Recommendations For adults and<br/>pregnant teenagers (after almost 20 years)

Pre-pregnancy Weight Status	BMI Recommendation OLD IOM ( <b>1990)</b>	BMI Recommendation NEW IOM (2009)
Underweight	<19.8	<18.5
Normal weight	19.8-26.0	18.5-24.9
Overweight	26.1-29.0	25.0-29.9
Obese		
(includes all classes)	>29.0	= OR >30.0

#### Table 2c: Recommended Prenatal Weight Gain by Pre-Pregnancy Weight Status as per old IOM Recommendations (IOM, 1990).

Pre-pregnancy Weight Status	Recommended Prenatal Weight Gain	Rates of weight gain 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trimester (mean range in lbs/wk)
Underweight (BMI <18.5)	28 - 40 pounds	1.0 (1.0-1.3)
Normal weight (BMI 18.5-24.9)	25 - 35 pounds	1.0 (0.8-1.0)
Overweight (BMI 25.0-29.9)	15 - 25 pounds	0.6 (0.5-0.7)
Obese (BMI =or > 30.0)		
(includes all classes).all sizes/ethnicities	At least 15 pounds	0.5 (0.4-0.6)

#### Low Hemoglobin / Hematocrit status

Hemoglobin (Hgb) and hematocrit (Hct) are used as crude indicators of iron status. During pregnancy, normal physiologic changes occur in the blood to support the maternal and fetal demands of pregnancy. In the first and second trimesters, the maternal blood volume increases, causing a decrease in both Hgb and Hct concentration. During the third trimester, the increased fetal growth rate results in an increased need for iron. For these reasons, the cutoffs for Hgb and Hct are adjusted by trimester. Cut-off points are higher for smokers, because compromised oxygenation status due to smoking increases the amount of Hgb required for adequate oxygenation. The cutoffs for Hct and Hgb (Table 3) include adjustments for trimester of pregnancy and smoking.

		Quantity Smoked in Cigarettes Per Day (CPD)		
	Nonsmokers	10 - 19 CPD	20 - 39 CPD	40+ CPD
Hemoglobin (g/dl)				
First Trimester	11.0	11.3	11.5	11.7
Second Trimester	10.5	10.8	11.0	11.2
ThirdTrimester	11.0	11.3	11.5	11.7
Hematocrit (%)				
First Trimester	33.0	34.0	34.5	35.0
Second Trimester	32.0	33.0	33.5	34.0
ThirdTrimester	33.0	34.0	34.5	35.0

#### Table 3: Cutoff Values for Anemia for Pregnant Women (CDC, 1998)

In this report, data for Hgb are used where available. If data on Hgb are missing, Hct is used.

#### Table 4: Birth Weight Categories for Infants Born to PNSS Mothers

Birth Weight Category	Infant Weight
Very Low Birth Weight or VLBW	Less than 1500 grams
Low Birth Weight or LBW	1500 grams or more but less than 2500 grams
Normal Birth Weight or NBW	2500 grams to 4000 grams
High Birth Weight or HBW	Over 4000 grams

## APPENDIX 2: 2010 Participating Local WIC Programs in MA

#### 2010 MA WIC Programs:

- 1. Berkshire North
- 2. Berkshire South
- 3. Blue Hill Corridor
- 4. Brighton/Roslindale
- 5. Brockton
- 6. Cambridge/Somerville
- 7. Cape Cod
- 8. Chelsea/Revere
- 9. Dorchester North
- 10. Dorchester South
- 11. East Boston
- 12. Fall River
- 13. Framingham/Waltham
- 14. Franklin/ Hampshire/No Quabbin
- 15. Holyoke/Chicopee
- 16. Jamaica Plain
- 17. Lawrence
- 18. Lowell
- 19. New Bedford
- 20. North Central
- 21. North Shore
- 22. North Suburban
- 23. Northern Essex
- 24. Outer Cape
- 25. Plymouth
- 26. Quincy
- 27. Roxbury
- 28. South Boston
- 29. South Central
- 30. South Cove
- 31. South End
- 32. Springfield North
- 33. Springfield South
- 34. Taunton/Attleboro
- 35. Worcester

## APPENDIX 3: STATE MAPS OF COUNTY DATA

# Maps

State Maps of County Data



Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System



2010 CDC PNSS Report for Massachusetts





2010 CDC PNSS Report for Massachusetts

APPENDIX 4: TREND CHARTS FOR 2010 PNSS









#### Trends in First Trimester WIC Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity IN MA PNSS 60 50 Percentage 40 30 20 10 0 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 Year 🛦 White - Black → Hispanic → Total-MA <u> Asian</u> Multiple 2010 MA PNSS Table 21C

## Trends in Prevalence of Pre-pregnancy Overweight and Underweight\* in MA PNSS



Trends in Prevalence of Less Than Ideal and Greater Than Ideal Weight Gain\* in MA PNSS



# Trends in the Prevalence of Less Than Ideal Maternal Weight Gain\* in MA PNSS by Race and Ethnicity



## Trends in the Prevalence of Greater Than Ideal Maternal Weight Gain\* in MA PNSS by Race and Ethnicity



## Trends in Prevalence of Third Trimester Anemia\*

by Race and Ethnicity



## Trends in the Prevalence of Postpartum Anemia\* by Race and Ethnicity



# Trends in Prevalence of Smoking during the Last Three Months of Pregnancy



### Trends in the Prevalence of Smoking in the Household\* by Race and Ethnicity in MA PNSS



## Trends in the Prevalence of Low Birth Weight\* by Race and Ethnicity in MA PNSS



## Trends in the Prevalence of High Birth Weight\* by Race and Ethnicity in MA PNSS



## Trends in the Prevalence of Preterm Delivery\* by Race and Ethnicity IN MA PNSS





# MASSACHUSETTS

**2010** Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System