

Vermont PRAMS Data Brief

Prenatal Counseling – part 2

This is a report on the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), a survey conducted on a sample of Vermont women with live births since 2001. This report includes data from 2001^a-2007.

Included in the survey are questions about the content of prenatal care. Women are asked if health care workers talked with them about topics including smoking, drug and alcohol use, breastfeeding, postpartum birth control, medical tests and physical abuse (core questions). Since 2004, mothers have also been asked if health care workers told them how much weight to gain during pregnancy, and asked about their use of alcohol and drugs, whether they were experiencing abuse, and their intentions regarding postpartum birth control (state added questions). The question wording is included at the end of this report.

This is a closer look at the data presented in part 1, examining differences in responses by age, education, WIC enrollment status and parity.

Prenatal care content varies by age and education:

- Prenatal health care workers cover more topics with younger mothers and mothers with less education.
- Younger mothers (especially teens) and mothers with less than a HS education are more likely to discuss smoking, drug and alcohol use, and physical abuse with a prenatal health care worker.
- Younger mothers are also more likely to discuss breastfeeding, seatbelt use and HIV testing during prenatal care, as are mothers who have not been to college.
- Older and college educated mothers are more likely to have discussed birth defects testing.

Prenatal care content and WIC enrollment:

- Mothers enrolled in WIC are more likely to receive counseling on all core topics except birth defects testing, safe medications and early labor.

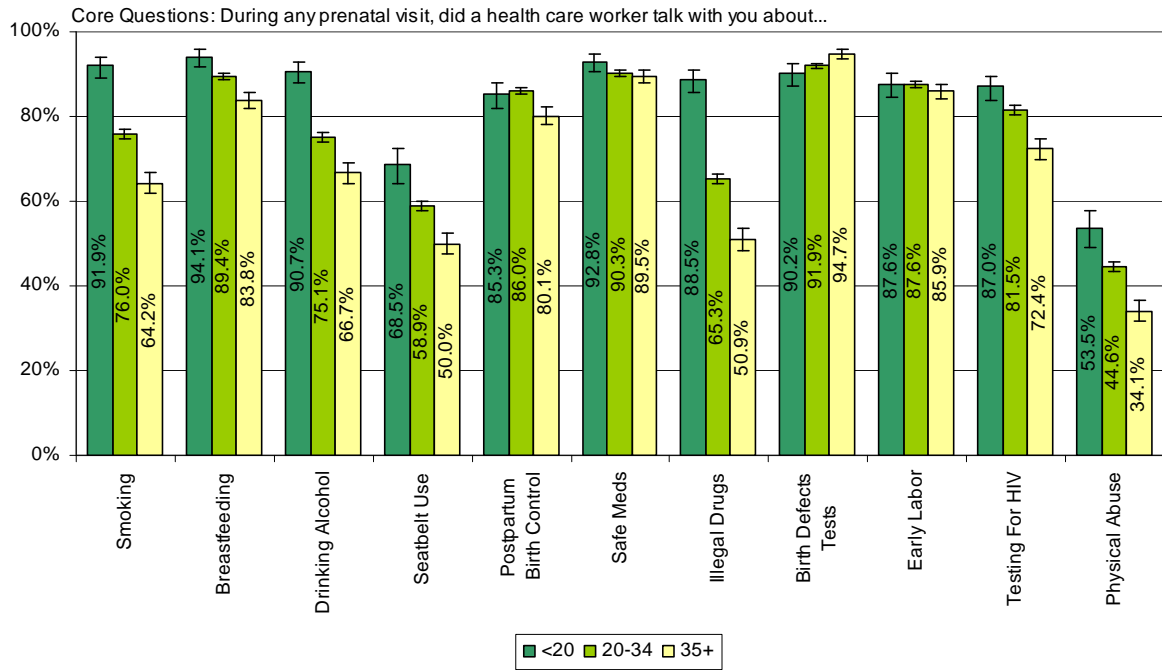
Prenatal care content and parity:

- First time mothers are more likely to have covered most topics than mothers who have given birth previously.
- First time mothers are significantly more likely to have been told by a health care worker how much weight they should gain during pregnancy.
- Postpartum birth control is the only topic more likely to be covered with mothers who have given birth previously.

^a 2001 data includes mothers who gave birth from October 2000 - December 2001; data collection began in January 2001.

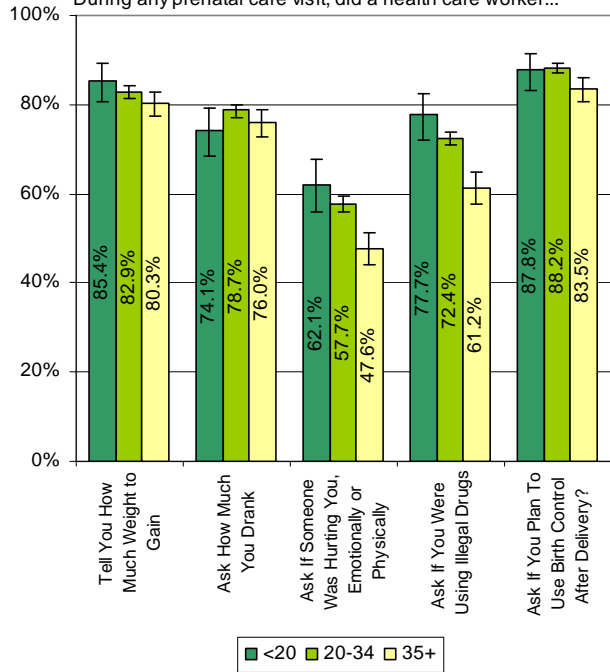
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Prenatal Counseling by Age of Mother VT PRAMS 2001-2007

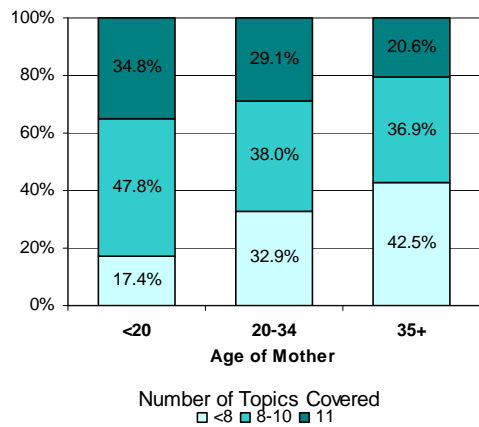


Prenatal Counseling by Age of Mother VT PRAMS 2004-2007

State Added Questions:
During any prenatal care visit, did a health care worker...

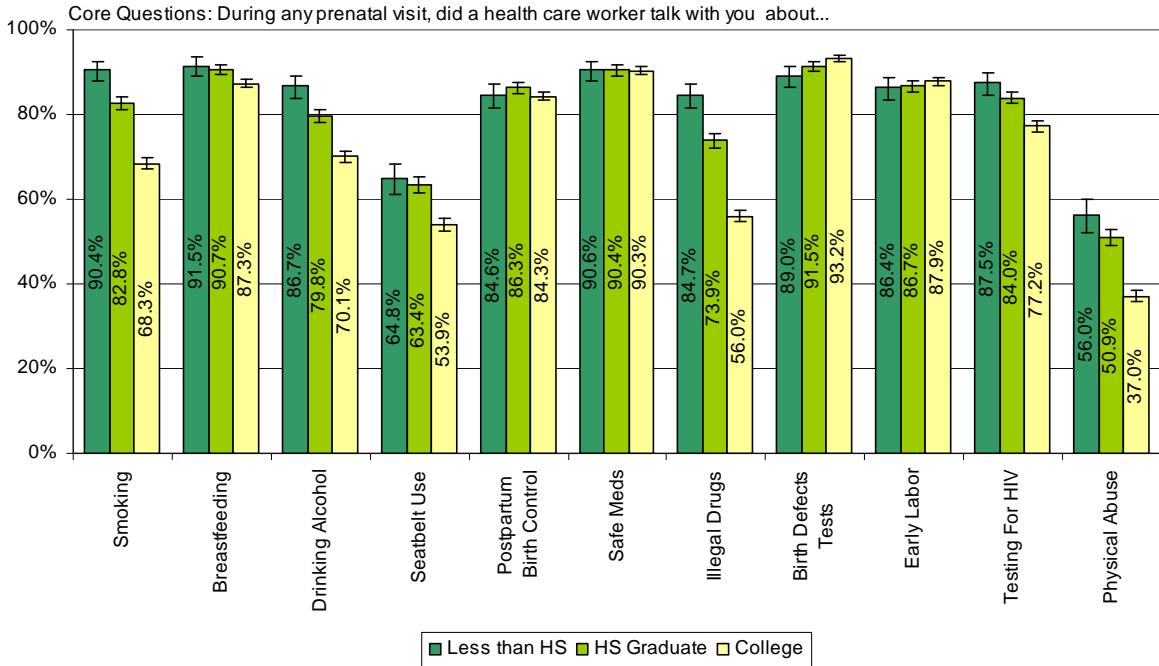


Vermont PRAMS 2001-2007 Number of Core Topics Covered During Prenatal Care



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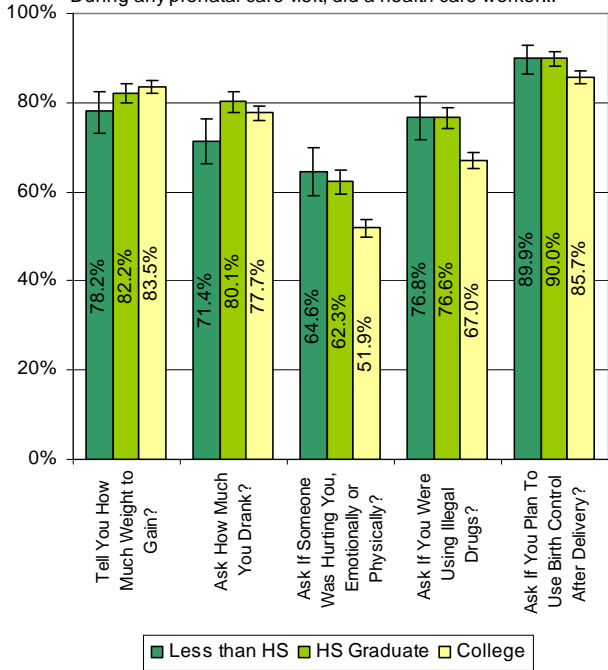
Prenatal Counseling by Maternal Education VT PRAMS 2001-2007



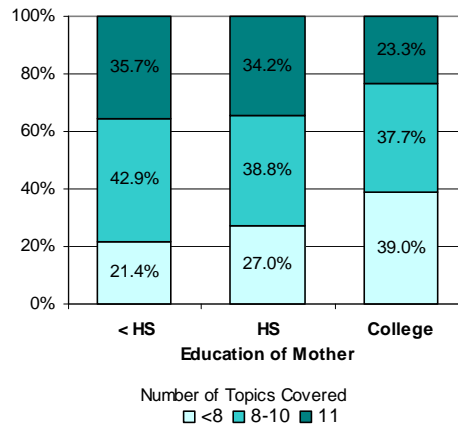
Women are included in the college category if they had any post-secondary education, whether or not they earned a degree.

Prenatal Counseling by Maternal Education VT PRAMS 2004-2007

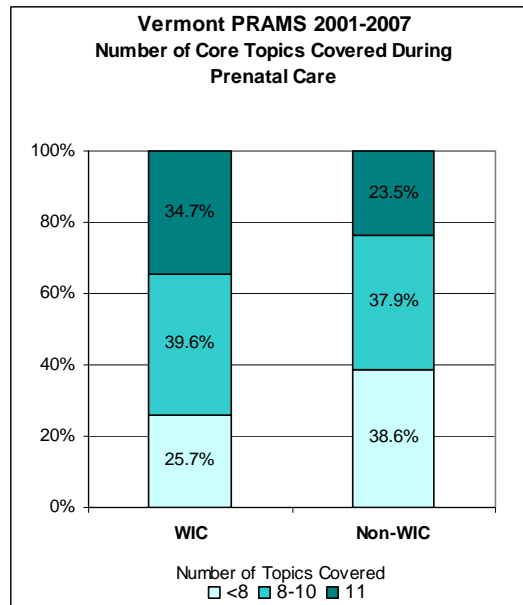
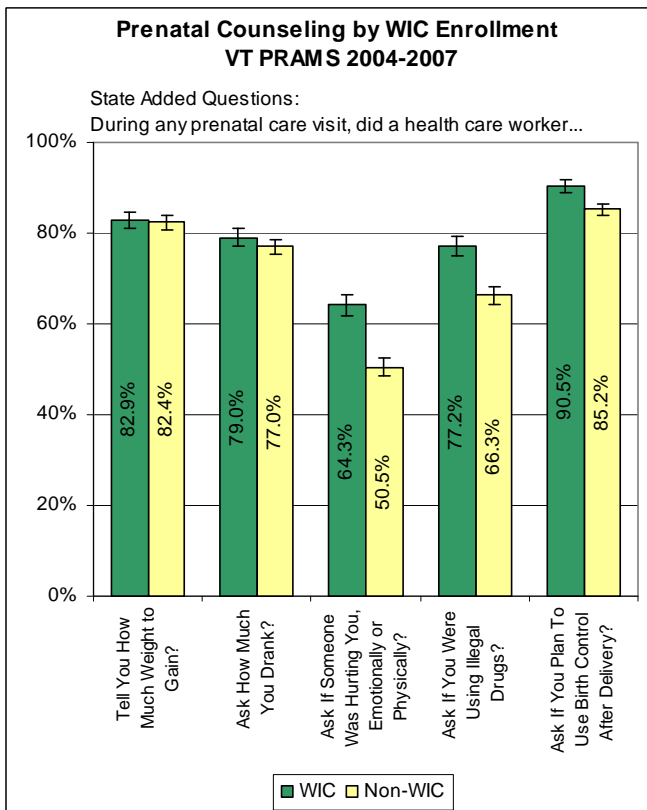
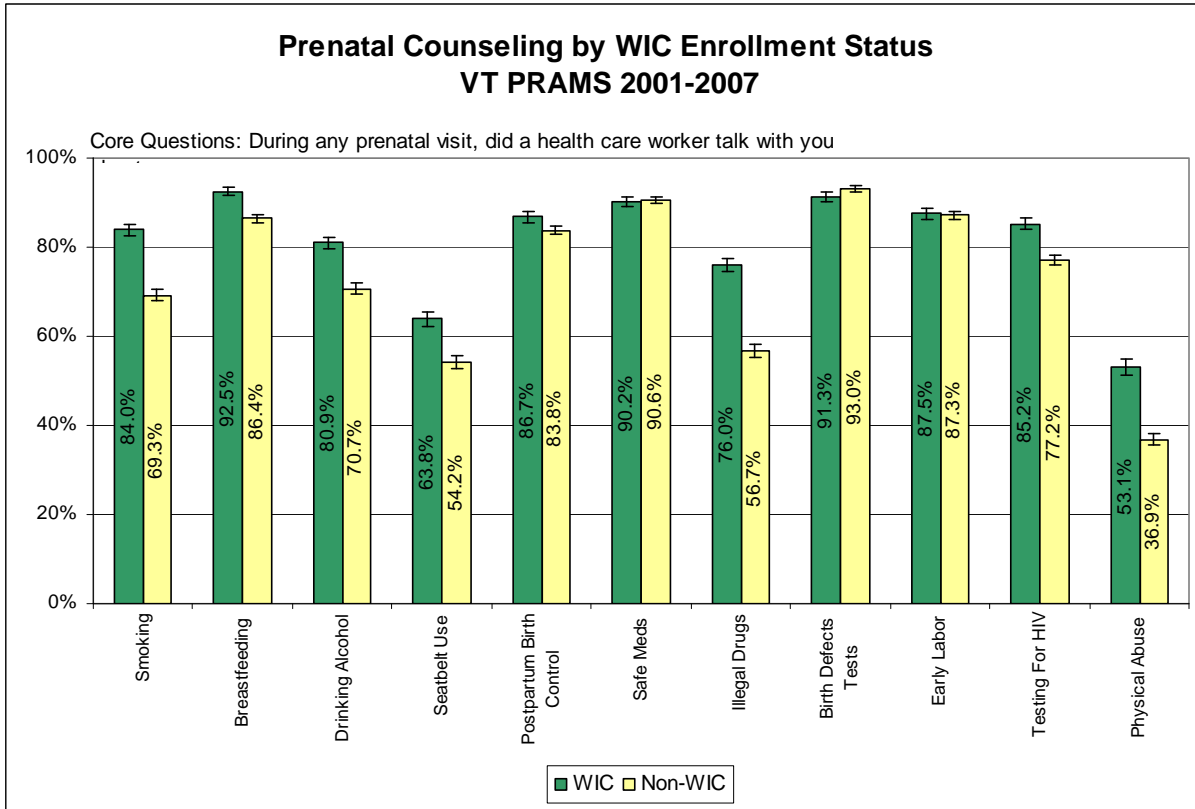
State Added Questions:
During any prenatal care visit, did a health care worker...



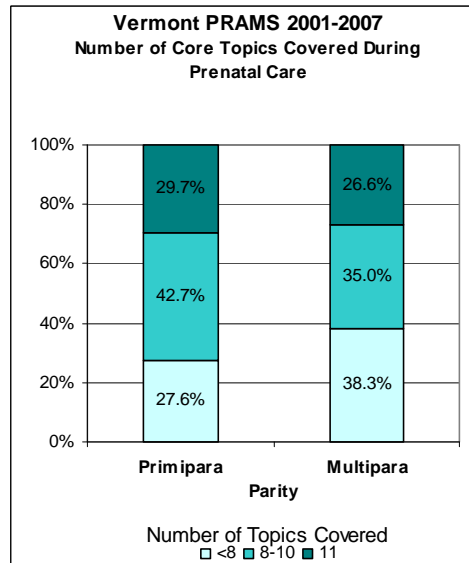
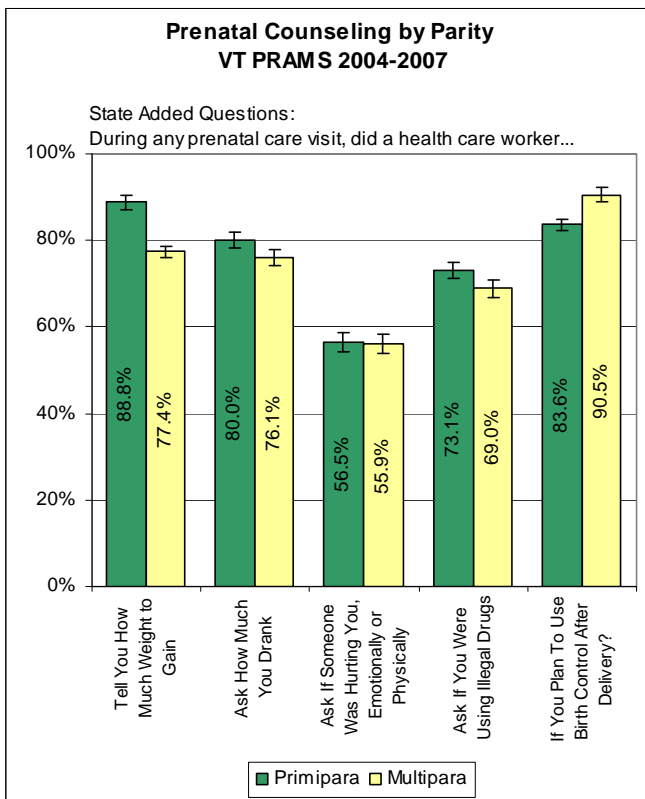
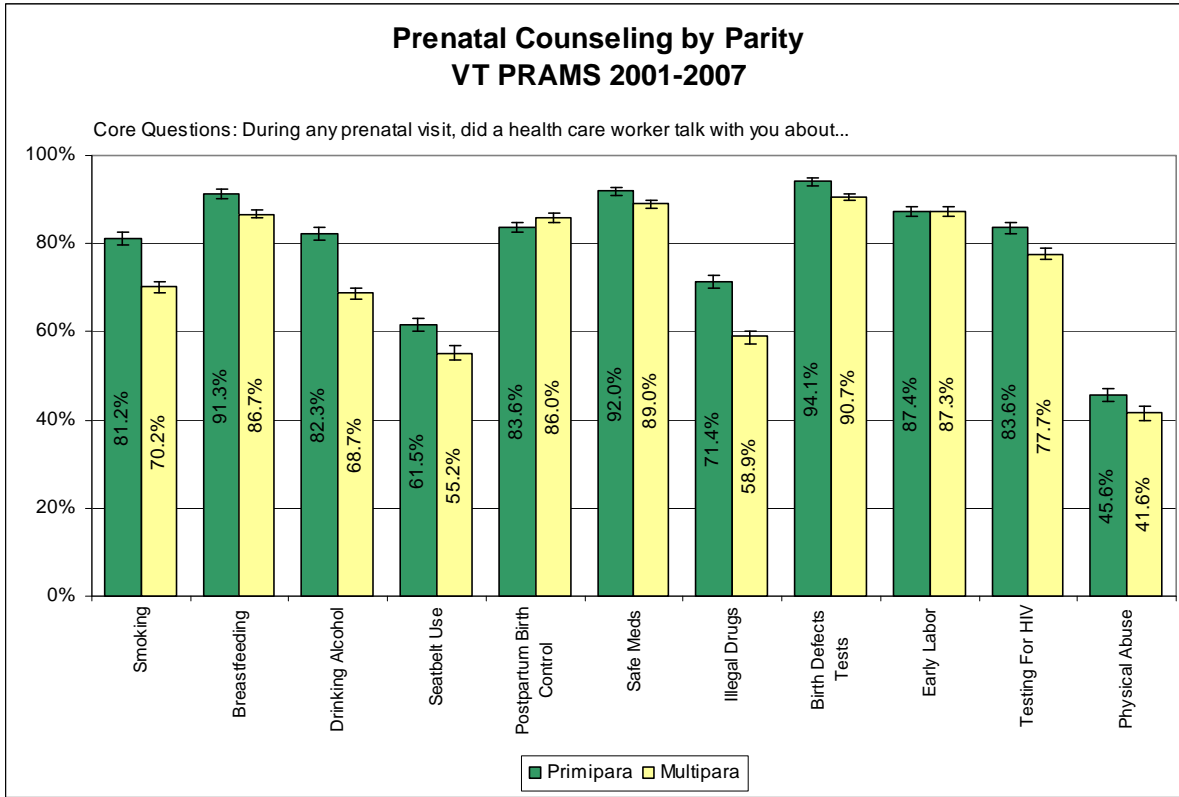
Vermont PRAMS 2001-2007 Number of Core Topics Covered During Prenatal Care



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PRAMS Prenatal Counseling Questions:

Core Questions:

21. During any of your prenatal care visits, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker talk with you about any of the things listed below? Please count only discussions, not reading materials or videos. For each item, circle **Y** (Yes) if someone talked with you about it or circle **N** (No) if no one talked with you about it.

		No	Yes
a. How smoking during pregnancy could affect my baby.	N		Y
b. Breastfeeding my baby	N		Y
c. How drinking alcohol during pregnancy could affect my baby	N		Y
d. Using a seat belt during my pregnancy	N		Y
e. Birth control methods to use after my pregnancy	N		Y
f. Medicines that are safe to take during my pregnancy	N		Y
g. How using illegal drugs could affect my baby.	N		Y
h. Doing tests to screen for birth defects or diseases that run in my family	N		Y
i. What to do if my labor starts early	N		Y
j. Getting tested for HIV (the virus that causes AIDS).	N		Y
k. Physical abuse to women by their husbands or partners	N		Y

State Added Questions (added in 2004):

22. During any of your prenatal care visits, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker talk with you about how much weight you should gain during your pregnancy?

- No
 Yes

23. During any of your prenatal care visits, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker ask you—

		No	Yes
a. How much alcohol you were drinking.	N		Y
b. If someone was hurting you emotionally or physically	N		Y
c. If you were using illegal drugs (marijuana or hash, cocaine, crack, etc.).	N		Y
d. If you planned to use birth control after your baby was born	N		Y

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