NEW MOTHERS IN MAINE: Birth Control Use and Prenatal Care Payment Source

Data from the

MAINE PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM (PRAMS)

Maine Residents: 1993

- **→** 37% of the women delivering live babies in Maine pay for prenatal care services with Medicaid funds.
- Approximately 20% of delivering mothers (regardless of prenatal care payment source) reported using birth control when they became pregnant; 33% of the women whose prenatal care was paid for by Medicaid reported using birth control when they became pregnant compared to only 12% of women whose care was paid for by other sources.
- Of the women not using birth control at the time they became pregnant, 65% wanted to become pregnant; 39% of women whose prenatal care was paid for by Medicaid wanted to become pregnant compared to 77% of women whose care was paid for by other sources.
- Among mothers who were not using birth control when they got pregnant, those whose prenatal care was paid for by Medicaid responded quite differently than other mothers did when asked ... "Why were you not using birth control?"

 Percent of Maine Mothers Who Were Not Using Birth

Response Option

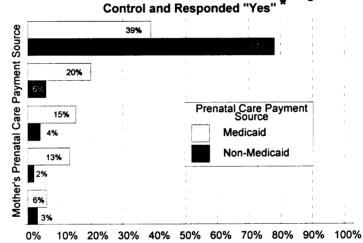
I wanted to become pregnant

I didn't think I could get pregnant at that time

I had been having bad side effects from the birth control I had used

I did not expect to be sexually active

I didn't think that I (or my mate) could have any more children



- Among women who used birth control, a third of those whose prenatal care was paid for by Medicaid received family planning services during or after their pregnancy compared to 12% of the other mothers whose prenatal care was paid for by non-Medicaid sources.
- 29% of the mothers whose prenatal care was paid for by Medicaid had less than 12 years of education; this was true for only 6% of other mothers (58% of these mothers had 13 or more years of education compared to 19% for the Medicaid group).

* Women were instructed to answer "yes" to as many options as applied.

For further data on this topic, please contact: the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, Bureau of Health at 35 Anthony Avenue, State House Station 11, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011 The contact person(s) is: Marty Burns - (207) 624-5445

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Angus S. King, Jr. Governor



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