

WHO IS THE TYPICAL PREGNANT SMOKER?

Data from the
MAINE PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM (PRAMS)
1988-1992

- ➔ One of the National Health Objectives for the Year 2000 is to reduce the prevalence of smoking to less than 15% among reproductive-aged women.¹
- ➔ Overall, among U.S. women of reproductive age, more than 20% smoke.² Among Maine women, more than 35% smoke.³

COMPARED TO ALL OTHER MAINE MOTHERS-TO-BE, THE HEAVY SMOKER* IS:

more than twice as likely to have had Medicaid support for prenatal care

equally likely to be a teenager

less than half as likely to have finished high school

more than twice as likely to be unmarried

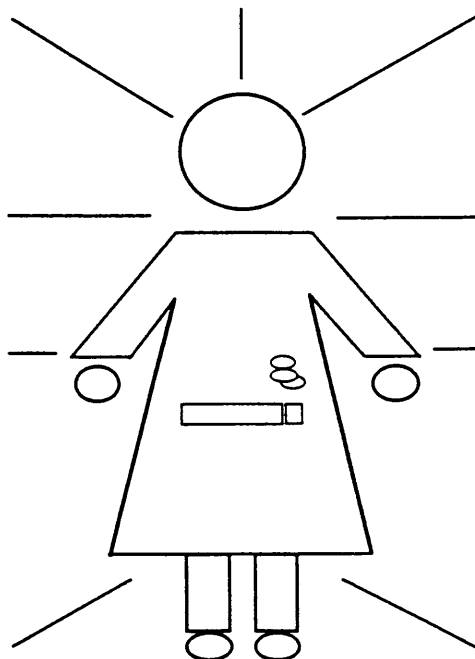
less likely to have income from wages

more than twice as likely to have annual household income less than \$10,000

less likely to have at least 3 people who would help if needed

more likely to have at least 3 children living with her

only half as likely to have reported no stressful events during pregnancy



* A heavy smoker is defined as one who smokes at least one pack of cigarettes per day.

- ➔ *Of the 16,000 babies born to Maine residents each year, one in every four has been exposed to an increased risk of low birth weight (a leading indicator of infant death and disease) due to maternal smoking during the last three months of pregnancy.*

Footnotes 1,2,3: Full citations for U.S. and Maine data will be provided upon request.

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