

# Rapid Response Data Briefing

Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)

January 8, 2026

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# Panelists

**Dr. Rita Hamad**, Professor of Social Epidemiology and Public Policy at Harvard School of Public Health

**Dr. Michael Warren**, Chief Medical and Health Officer at March of Dimes

**Denice Ross**, former U.S. Chief Data Scientist

**Meghan Maury**, former Senior Advisor for Data Policy at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

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# What's in PRAMS

**Who:** Postpartum women, ~1,000-3,000 people per state per year.

**What:** Population-based surveillance system of maternal behaviors and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy; linked with birth certificate data.

**Where:** Collected by state, tribal, & local health departments in partnership with CDC; almost all states participate.

**When:** Collected annually since 1987.

**How:** CDC provides technical assistance, and harmonizes and releases data.

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# Why PRAMS is important

- Provides annual, national- and state-level data on experiences and outcomes in pregnancy and infancy
  - Data not captured in birth certificates or administrative data sets
- Guides state and national public health efforts aimed at improving outcomes for mothers and babies
  - Also used as performance measures for Title V/Maternal and Child Health Block Grant
- Offers holistic look at barriers and facilitators to optimal health
- Identifies emerging issues and threats

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# Risks facing its continued collection and publication

**Policy:** Question & response options on gender were removed due to EO 14168.

**Resources/Staffing:** The entire PRAMS team was placed on admin leave in April.

**Historical Data Availability:** Data requests aren't being processed. 1→50 state requests.

**Future Data Availability:** 2023 data hasn't been published.

**Data Quality:** Concerns about accuracy, timeliness, gaps, and comparability.

**Statutory Context:** States aren't required to participate. The PREEMIE Reauthorization Act of 2018 assumes the existence of PRAMS data.

# Statutory Context

## PREEMIE Reauthorization Act of 2018

PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SURVEY.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall—

- (1) continue systems for the collection of maternal-infant clinical and biomedical information, including electronic health records, electronic databases, and biobanks, to link with the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) and other epidemiological studies of prematurity in order to track, to the extent practicable, all pregnancy outcomes and prevent preterm birth; and
- (2) provide technical assistance, as appropriate, to support States in improving the collection of information pursuant to this subsection.;

# How you can help support this essential data resource

## <https://tinyurl.com/PRAMS-FRN>

### **SUMMARY:**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comment on a proposed information collection project titled Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS). PRAMS is a project of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and health departments that collects jurisdiction-specific, population-based data on maternal attitudes and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy.

### **DATES:**

CDC must receive written comments on or before January 20, 2026.

# PRAMS Public Comment Writing Workshop

<https://tinyurl.com/PRAMScomments>

## PRAMS PUBLIC COMMENT WRITING WORKSHOP



Facilitated by Dr. Arden Handler  
and Dr. Lee Warner

**January 13 at 12:00-1:00 PM EST**

HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Learn how to make your voice heard! This workshop will guide participants through the process of writing effective public comments in response to the Federal Register's call for the extension of PRAMS.

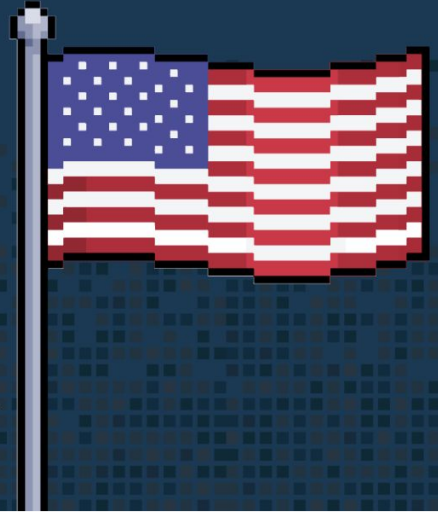
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Follow and Subscribe to [dataindex.us](https://dataindex.us)

## America's Data Index

Monitoring America's federal data infrastructure from dataset availability and new releases to planned and unplanned changes to collections.



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# To Keep Up to Date, Join the Federal Data Forum

[federaldataforum.prb.org](https://federaldataforum.prb.org)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Federal Data Forum. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'FDF Home', 'Discussion', 'Blogs', 'Events', and 'Member Directory'. A search bar and a 'Log in' button are also present. The main header area features a dark green background with the text 'FDF Home'. Below this, the 'Latest Discussions List' is displayed, including a dropdown menu set to 'Most Recent'. Two discussion posts are visible: one by Mark Mather titled 'RE: September Release of CPS ASEC' and another by James Jacobs titled 'new book "Preserving government information: past, ..."'. To the right, there are two sidebars: 'Community Quick Links' with links for 'Community FAQs' and 'Data Resources', and 'Community Events List' featuring two events: 'Rapid Response Data Briefing: American Time Use Survey' on July 9 and 'Association of Public Data Users' unConference 2025' on July 22.

# Take Action

Submit comments to

<https://tinyurl.com/PRAMS-FRN>

Register for the writing workshop

<https://tinyurl.com/PRAMScomments>

Check out [dataindex.us](https://dataindex.us)

Check out [federaldataforum.prb.org](https://federaldataforum.prb.org)



Respond by 1/20/2026

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