

● Washington Fatherhood Council

● **5th Annual Fatherhood Summit**

● *Co-parenting, the hardest job
we'll ever do*



May 16-18, 2023

Including Fathers in Public Health: PRAMS for Dads

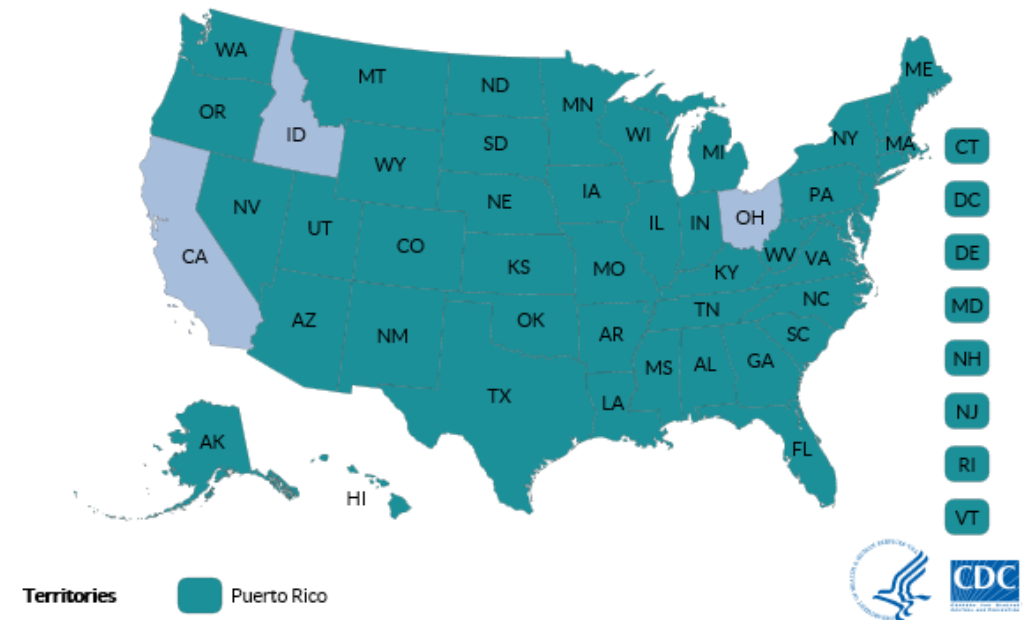
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What is PRAMS?

- State-specific, population-based surveillance system since 1987
- Captures maternal experiences before, during, and after pregnancy
- Window into early childhood
- Linked birth certificate sample via mail, phone when infants 2-6 months old
- Represents 85% of US births



PRAMS publication examples

- *Opioid use during pregnancy*
- *Prevalence, factors associated with infant safe sleep*
- *Contraception choices after pregnancy*
- *Use of e-cigarettes, vaping before, during and after pregnancy*
- *Trends in breastfeeding*

After 35 years...

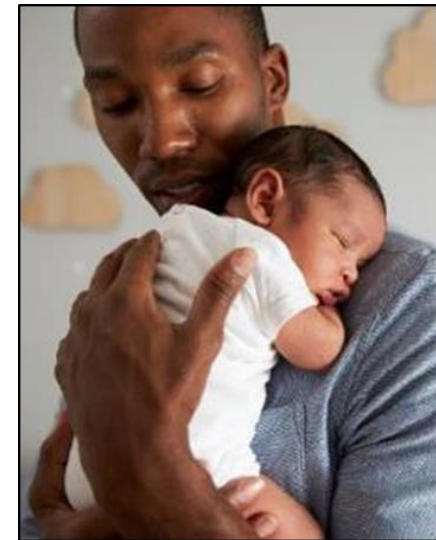
- Moms scribbled in survey margins:

“Why do you only ask if my partner hit, kicked, beat or slapped me during my pregnancy?”



Why include fathers?

- Fathers play a key role in the health and development of their children
- Father health status and behaviors influence decisions about pregnancy, women's health, and infant and early child development
- Very little research on:
 - roles, behaviors of expectant fathers
 - father's influence on maternal and child health
 - effect of transition to fatherhood on paternal health



How could we include fathers?



INCLUDING FATHERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH...

PRAMS for Dads objectives

1. To understand the experiences, attitudes and behaviors of new fathers
2. Test the feasibility of creating a new public health surveillance program of fathers



Piloted in the state of Georgia

What is PRAMS for Dads?

- Validated survey of men's health, attitudes, and experiences in perinatal period
- Comprehensive information about fathers
 - Impact on early childhood
- Links paternal factors, maternal PRAMS and infant BC outcomes
- Builds on success of PRAMS methodology

PRAMS for Dads Collaboration





Please Note: There is a \$10.00 processing fee for this form, if the request is submitted after one year. If this request is being mailed, please forward this completed form with a U.S. Money Order or certified check for the correct amount made payable to the State Office of Vital Records. A valid copy of your Photo ID must accompany this request. Please do not send cash by mail.
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION LEGIBLY AND CORRECTLY BELOW AND SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK.

Section 1: CHILD/PARENT'S INFORMATION

STATE FILE NUMBER: _____ COUNTY: _____

Please Note: Do not use this form if the mother was married to anyone within 10 months prior to the birth of this child or if, for any reason, there is another father of this child listed on the child's birth certificate.

FATHER'S FIRST NAME AT BIRTH: _____ FATHER'S MIDDLE NAME AT BIRTH: _____ FATHER'S USAL LAST NAME: _____ GENERATION (A, B, C, ETC.): _____

The father acknowledges that he is the biological (natural) father of the child born to:
 MOTHER'S FIRST NAME AT BIRTH: _____ MOTHER'S MIDDLE NAME AT BIRTH: _____ MOTHER'S LAST NAME AT BIRTH: _____

We are requesting that the name of the biological father be placed on the birth certificate and that the child be named:
 CHILD'S FIRST NAME: _____ CHILD'S MIDDLE NAME: _____ CHILD'S LAST NAME: _____ GENERATION (A, B, C, ETC.): _____

CHILD'S SEX (FEMALE OR MALE): _____ CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH & COUNTY: _____ CERTAIN? (IF YES WAS A METAL BIRTH OR BELLBIRTH): _____

Section 2: PARENT'S INFORMATION

MOTHER'S INFORMATION: ADDRESS (STREET NAME & NUMBER, CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE): _____ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____
 DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH (STATE IN U.S. OR COUNTRY IF NOT U.S.): _____ EMPLOYER: _____ ADDRESS (STREET NAME & NUMBER, CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE): _____

FATHER'S INFORMATION: ADDRESS (STREET NAME & NUMBER, CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE): _____ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____
 DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH (STATE IN U.S. OR COUNTRY IF NOT U.S.): _____ EMPLOYER: _____ ADDRESS (STREET NAME & NUMBER, CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE): _____

Section 3: NOTARY PUBLIC

I understand that either parent may withdraw this paternity acknowledgement, without penalty, within 60 days from the date of his/her signature. I have been informed of my rights and responsibilities as explained on the reverse side of this form.

Note: By signing this document, you are stating that you read and understood all of its provisions, including those printed on the reverse side of this document, and that the facts stated on this document are true. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 31-16-31, anyone making a false statement on this document may go to prison for up to five years and fined up to \$10,000. Photo ID is required of all individuals signing this document.

MOTHER'S SIGNATURE: _____	FATHER'S SIGNATURE: _____
PARENT'S SIGNATURE IF MOTHER IS A MINOR UNDER AGE 18, A PARENT MUST ALSO SIGN: _____	PARENT'S SIGNATURE IF FATHER IS A MINOR UNDER AGE 18, A PARENT MUST ALSO SIGN: _____
ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE TRUE BEFORE ME ON (NOTARY'S SIGNATURE & DATE): _____	ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE TRUE BEFORE ME ON (NOTARY'S SIGNATURE & DATE): _____
MY TERM EXPIRES ON (DATE): _____	MY TERM EXPIRES ON (DATE): _____
CERTIFICATION TYPE & NO. PRESENTED BY MOTHER: _____	CERTIFICATION TYPE & NO. PRESENTED BY FATHER: _____
PLEASE PLACE THE NOTARY SEAL BELOW: _____	PLEASE PLACE THE NOTARY SEAL BELOW: _____

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE ADDRESS BELOW.
STATE OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS | 1680 PHOENIX BLVD, SUITE 100, ATLANTA, GA 30349 | PHONE 404.679.4702

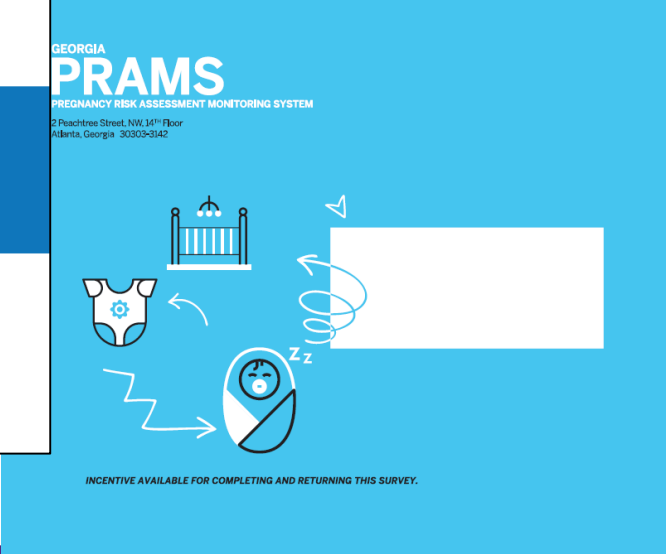
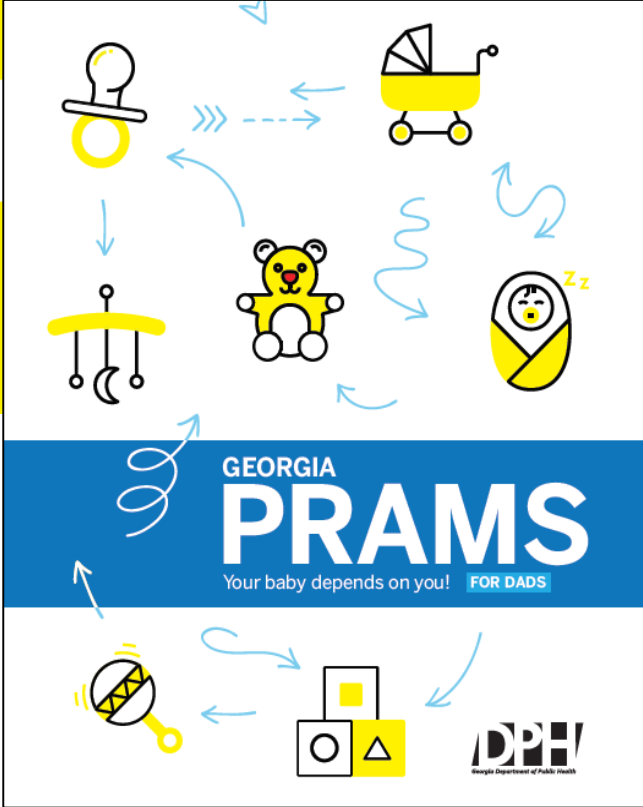
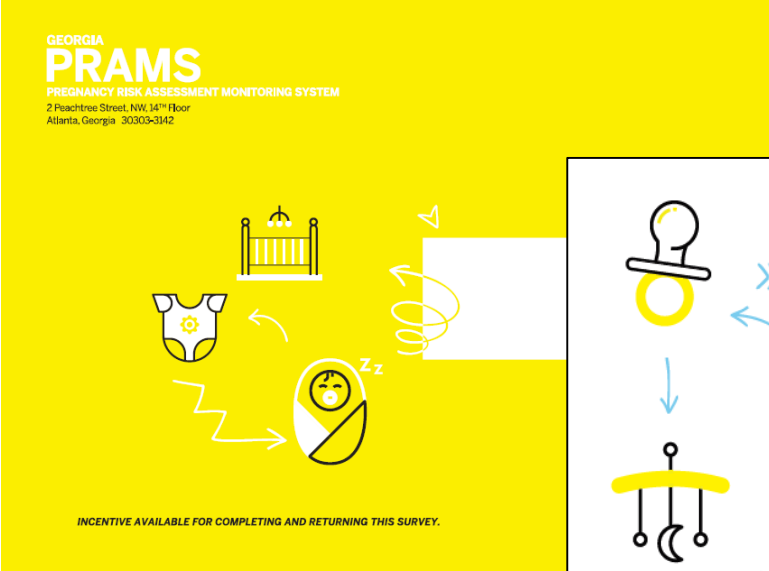
How to reach fathers?

- For married mothers (60%): husband is presumed to be father on birth record
- For unmarried mothers (40%)
 - Must check paternal acknowledgment on birth certificate
 - Paternity acknowledgment (PA) form filled out (70% overall completion rate)
 - PA is voluntary and signed by father
- Start 2-6 months postpartum
- Available in paper, on-line, and phone

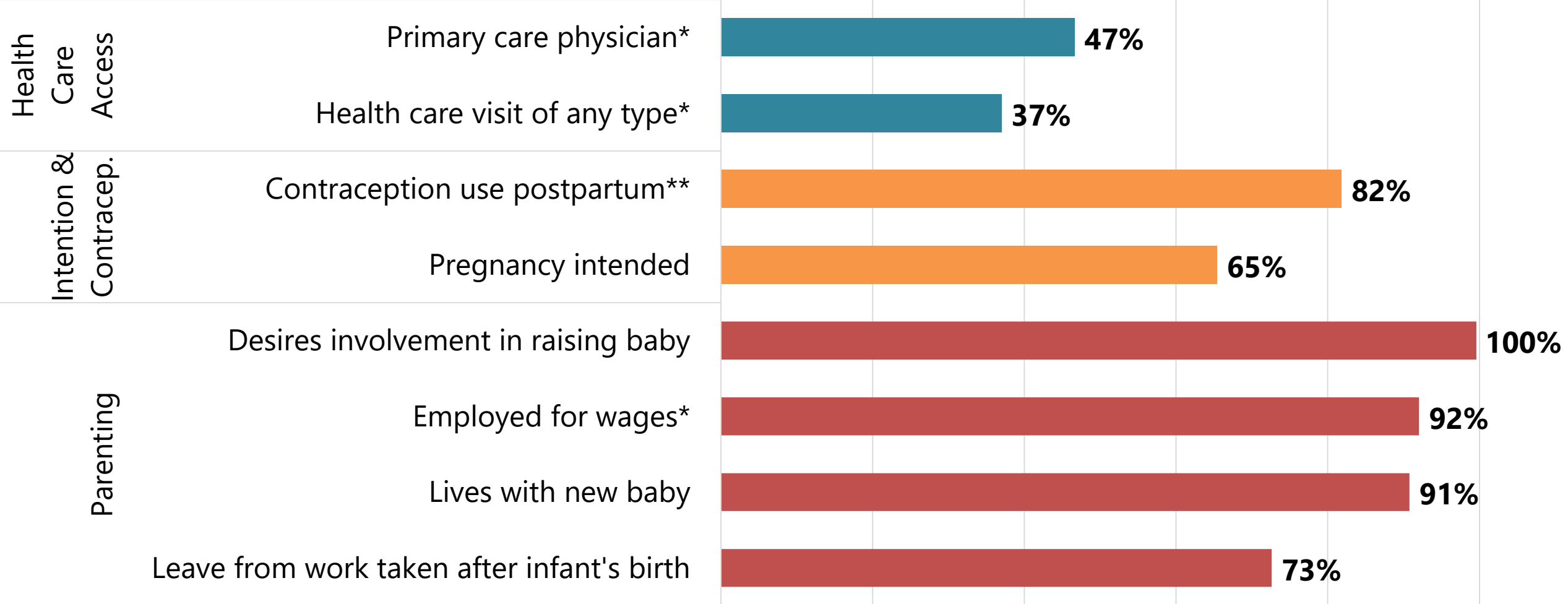
What to ask fathers?

DOMAINS	
Demographics	Safe sleep
Relationship status	Other children
Residency status	Vaccines
Family leave	Co-parenting
Health insurance, access	Attitudes re: fatherhood
Physical, mental health	SDOH/Discrimination*
Pregnancy intendedness	Breastfeeding KAB
Father-infant involvement	Disabilities*

Designing for dads



Unadjusted Survey Results: Characteristics of Participating Fathers, PRAMS for Dads Pilot Project, Georgia (n = 268; RR 32%)



*During pregnancy

**Among fathers reporting they are in a sexual relationship with infant's mother

Health: Data-to-action

BMI:

- 39% overweight
- 31% obese

Health behaviors:

- 19% current smoking
- 13% binge drinking
- 5% marijuana use

Mental health:

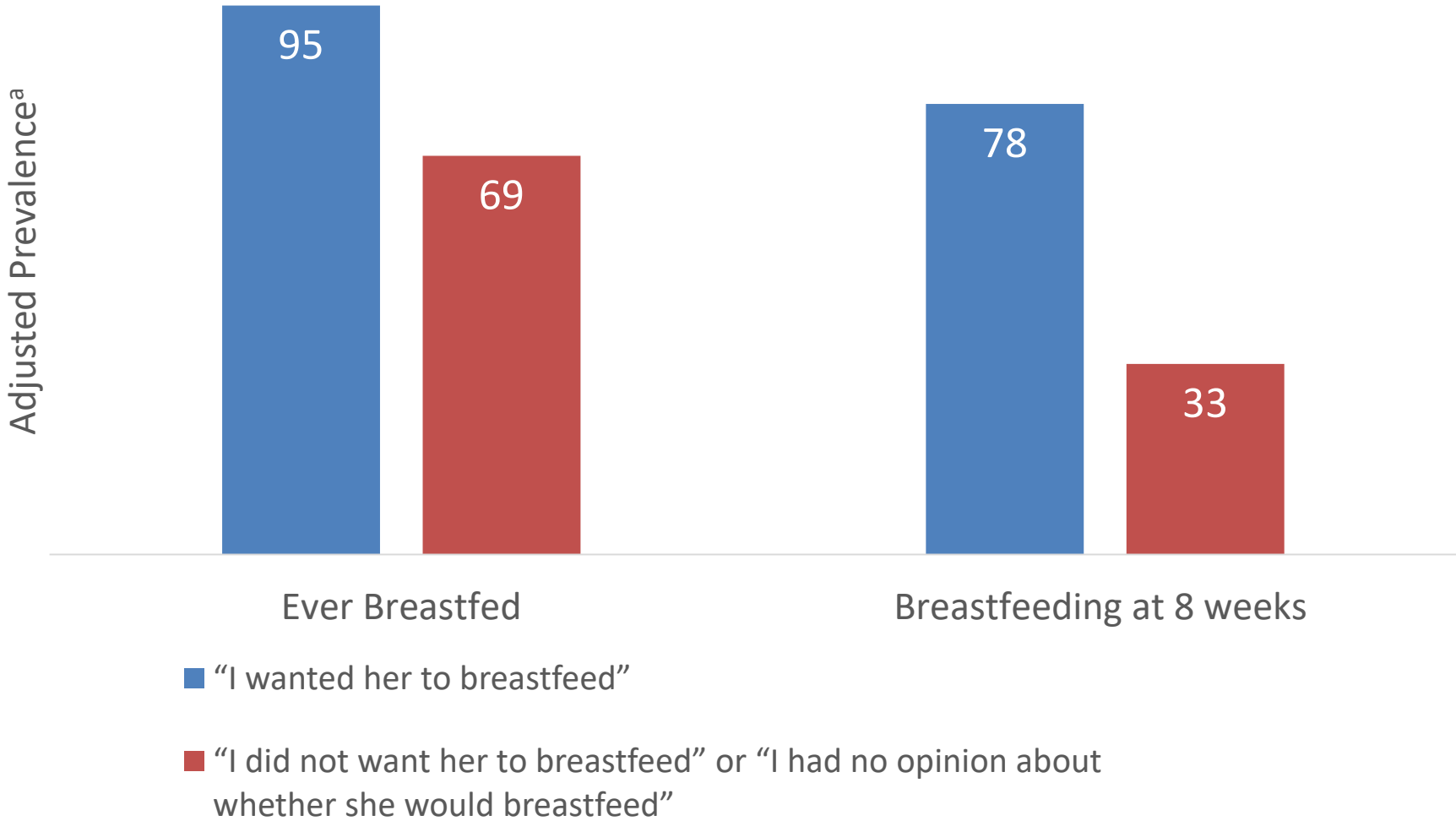
- 10% depressive symptoms

Findings Georgia PRAMS for Dads Pilot 2018-2019

1. Social Influences of Paternal Perinatal Health and Behaviors
2. Paternity Leave Practices and Associations with Infant Outcomes
3. Mental Health as a Family Experience: Relationship of Paternal Characteristics on Maternal Perinatal Depressive Symptoms in a Matched Sample*#
4. Influence of Paternal Breastfeeding Expectations and Knowledge on Maternal Breastfeeding Duration*
5. Fathers, Breastfeeding and Safe Infant Sleep Practices

**Using matched P4D, mPRAMS; # published in August 2022 Archives of Women's Mental Health Journal*

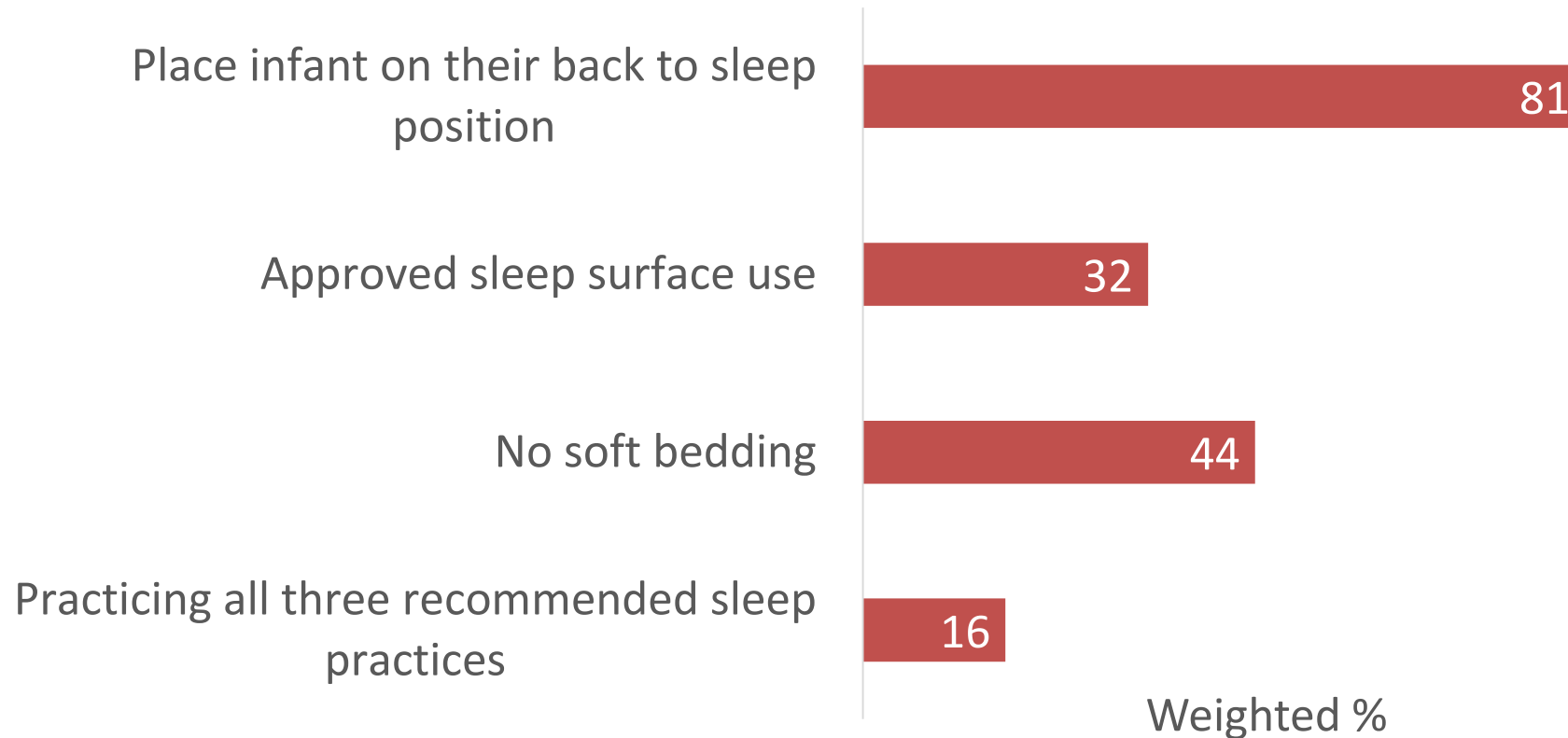
Paternal Breastfeeding Attitude and Breastfeeding Rates



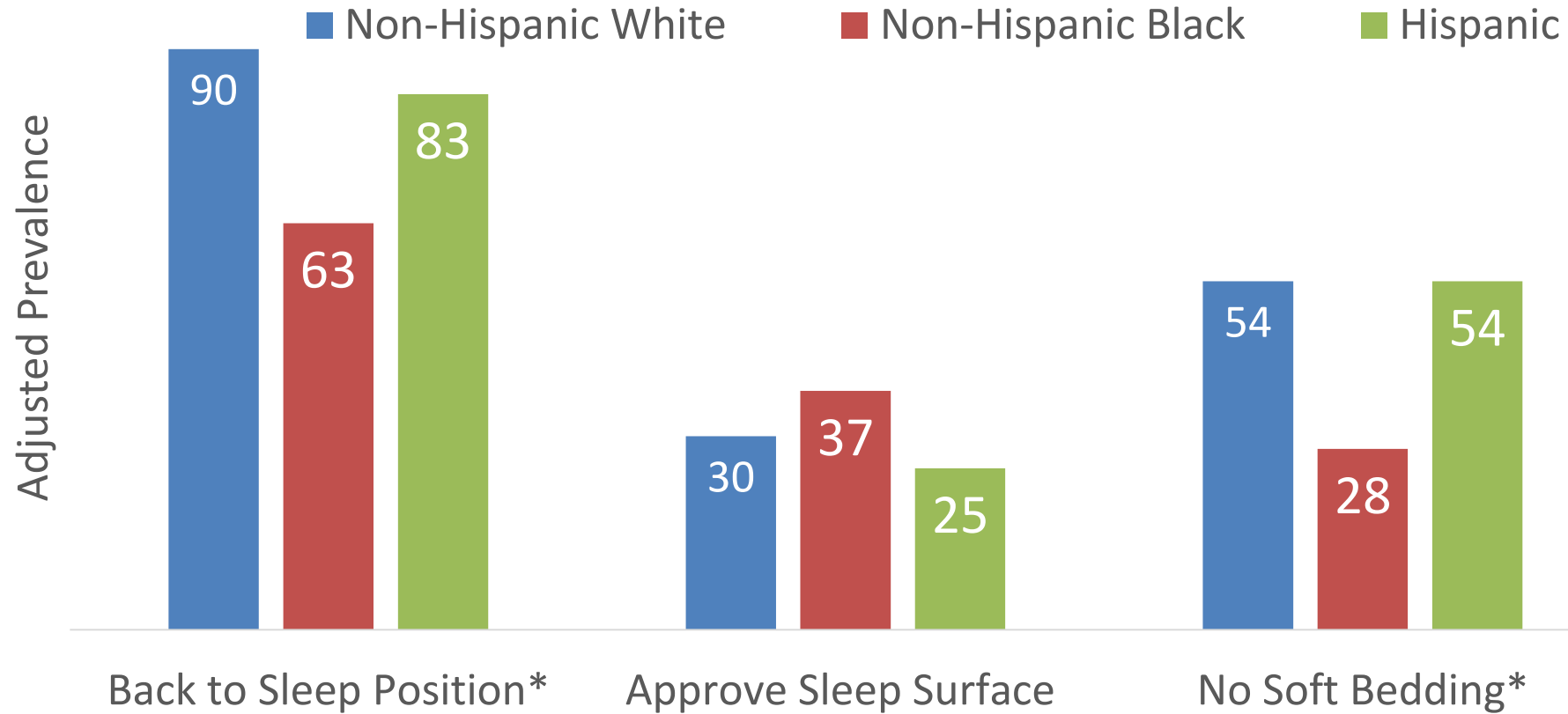
^aAdjusted for age, race and ethnicity, education, insurance status and marital status

Results- Sleep Practices

99% of fathers reported placing their infant to sleep



Sleep Practices by Race and ethnicity



Adjusted for age, race/ethnicity, education, insurance status and marital status

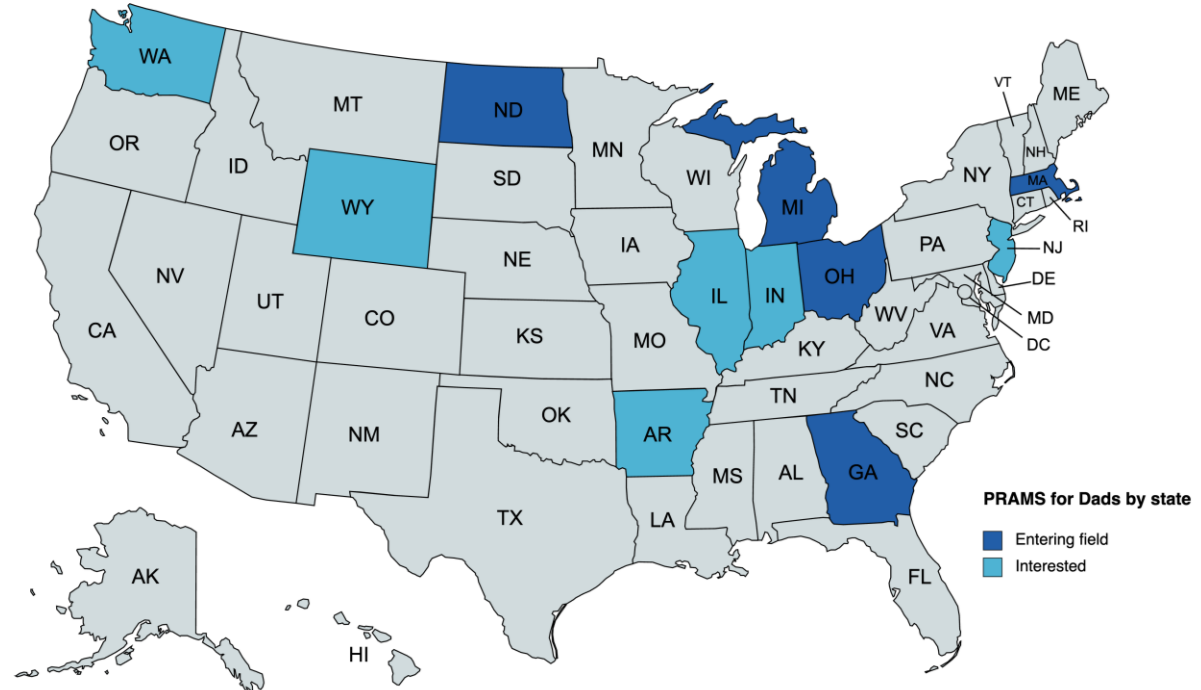
* Significant Difference between non-Hispanic White and Non-Hispanic Black fathers

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Scaling up PRAMS for Dads



- Georgia PRAMS for Dads Part II
 - HV sub-study (Morehead)
- Massachusetts Fatherhood and Parenthood Experiences
- Ohio Fatherhood Survey (OFS)
- Kent County Fatherhood Survey (MI)
- North Dakota Fatherhood Survey



Summary: PRAMS for Dads

- ...is a first-of-its-kind public health surveillance system for fathers/partners during the transition to fatherhood, early childhood
- ...offers a way toward gender equity in MCH/HV
- ...can provide states with necessary data to understand fathers' impact on families and children

Conclusion

- Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come
- Data drives decisions
 - Data on fathers' is missing
- Public health, policies, programs are ready

Thank you!

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