



Interesting Reproductive Health Facts

- Almost half of all pregnancies in Iowa and across the United States are unintended, one of the highest levels in the developed world. (*Finer, Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 2006*) (*Losch, M. Iowa Barriers to Prenatal Care, 2006*) (*IDPH Termination of Pregnancy Report, 2006*)
- Unintended pregnancy is especially a problem for young adults. Among Iowa women ages 18 to 30, 47% of pregnancies are unintended. Among those ages 18 & 19 the percent unintended raises to 79% and among those ages 20 to 25 it is 57%. (*Losch, M. Iowa Barriers to Prenatal Care, 2006*) (*IDPH Termination of Pregnancy Report, 2006*)
- In one year in Iowa, on the average, publicly-funded family planning clinic services avert 20,000 unintended pregnancies and 8,000 abortions each year saving approximately \$88 million annually in Medicaid costs. (*Finer, "The Impact of Publically Funded Family Planning Clinic Services on Unintended Pregnancies and Government Cost Savings, Sept. 2008*)
- Nationally, for every \$1 spent on publically-funded family planning programs, \$4.02 is saved in averted Medicaid birth costs.* (*Finer - "The Impact of Publically Funded Family Planning Clinic Services on Unintended Pregnancies and Government Cost Savings, Sept. 2008*)
* Costs are for maternity care, delivery and one year of infant- related care.
- Iowa currently ranks 48th in making family planning services available and 39th in the nation for providing funding for this issue. (*Guttmacher, Contraception Counts, 2007*)
- More than two thirds of Americans believe it is important to reduce unintended pregnancies, and 75% of Iowans say they favor providing uninsured and low income women with access to contraception. (*Planned Parenthood/ AnzaloneLiszt poll, 2007*)
- Women who have unintended pregnancies are more likely to live in poverty, less likely to finish high school or attend college and more likely to engage in risky behavior that threatens their health and the health of their baby. (*National Campaign, One In Three, 2007*)
- Access to contraceptive services reduces the number of abortions, improves the lives of women, and saves tax dollars. Women who plan their pregnancies are more likely to finish school and begin careers or marry and enjoy healthier lives. (*National Campaign, One In Three, 2007*)