

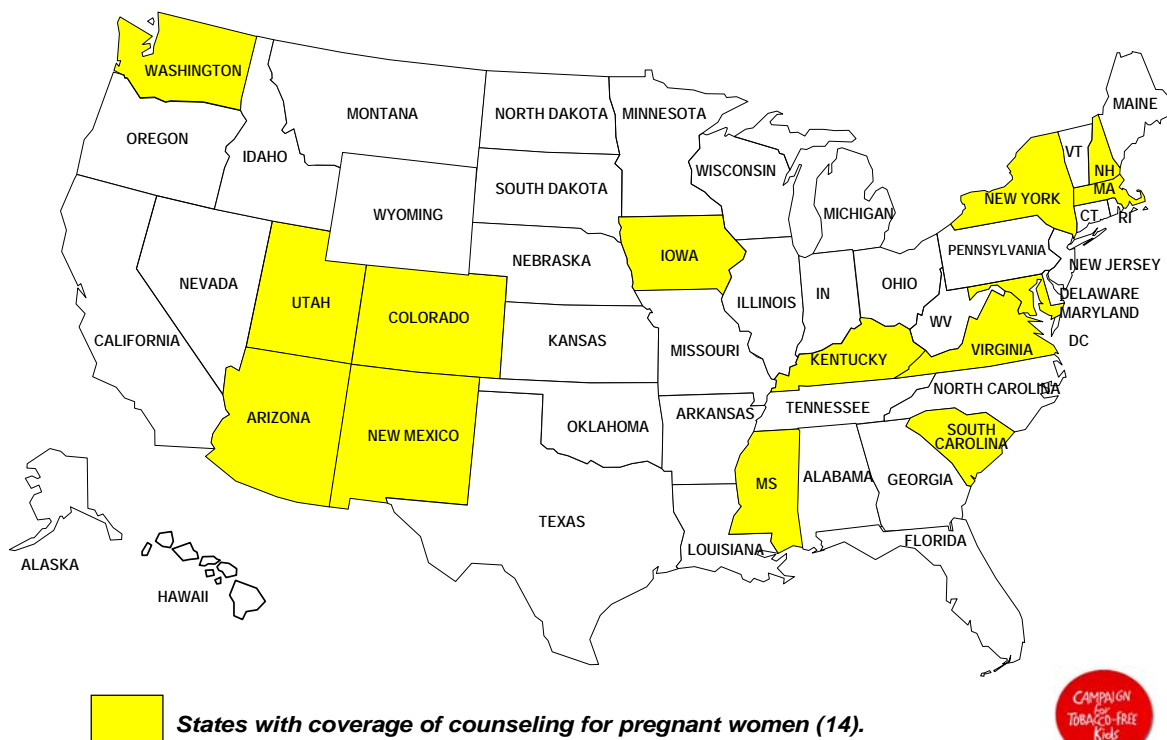


## STATE MEDICAID COVERAGE OF TOBACCO CESSATION SERVICES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) surveyed all states and the District of Columbia in 2006 and found that 14 states provide tobacco cessation counseling for pregnant women as part of their state Medicaid program (see map below for which States provide coverage).<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, the Medicaid program in 39 states covered some form of evidence-based cessation counseling and in 28 states covered at least one type of FDA-approved cessation drug. Clearly, state Medicaid coverage for tobacco cessation and treatment is sporadic and, even if it is deemed “comprehensive” it may not be tailored to address the unique needs of specific populations like pregnant women who smoke.

While the pregnant women in the States with targeted pregnancy coverage are fortunate to have access to the evidence-based treatment and services they need to help them quit their tobacco use and dramatically improve the chances they will give birth to a healthy baby, this still leaves the vast majority of pregnant women in other States with no coverage and no access to the evidence-based treatment they need. This survey clearly illustrates the need for action at the national level to remove these geographic disparities and ensure that all pregnant women who smoke and who are on Medicaid, regardless of where they live, have access to all the evidence-based cessation services they need to quit smoking and to ensure a healthy baby.

### State Medicaid Coverage of Tobacco Cessation (2006)



Source: CDC, State Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco-Dependence Treatments—United States, 2006, *MMWR* 57(05):117-122, February 8, 2008.

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Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, March 20, 2008 / Ann Boonn

#### Related Campaign Factsheets:

- *Harm Caused by Pregnant Women Smoking or Being Exposed to Secondhand Smoke*, <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0007.pdf>
- *Smoking and Pregnancy: The Benefits of Quitting*, <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0288.pdf>

<sup>1</sup> CDC, State Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco-Dependence Treatments—United States, 2006, *MMWR* 57(05):117-122, February 8, 2008, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5705a2.htm>.