



2020 Indiana Breastfeeding Report

Human milk feeding is a proven primary prevention strategy, building a foundation for life-long health and wellness for infants and parents.

Indiana Breastfeeding Rates

See how Indiana breastfeeding rates and other measures compare to national rates and targets set by the Healthy People 2020 (HP2020) initiative.

	Breastfeeding Initiation Rate	Largest Disparity Between Racial/Ethnic Groups
Indiana	82.9%	11.3%
U.S. National	84.1%	16.7%
HP2020 Target	81.9%	N/A

Source: [National Vital Statistics System birth certificate data](#), a census of all 2019 births and the largest collection of breastfeeding data. Breastfeeding initiation is measured as a percentage. Largest disparity in breastfeeding initiation between racial/ethnic groups is measured as a percentage difference.

	Exclusive Breastfeeding at 6 Months	Any Breastfeeding at 12 Months	Formula Supplementation at 2 Days	mPINC Score
Indiana	21.1%	27.4%	10.8%	78
U.S. National	25.6%	35.3%	19.2%	79
HP2020 Target	25.5%	34.1%	14.2%	N/A

Source: [CDC Breastfeeding Report Card](#), a biannual publication highlighting progress towards breastfeeding goals in the United States. Breastfeeding and supplementation rates are measured as a percentage. CDC's national Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care (mPINC) survey assesses maternity care practices that affect how babies are fed.

WIC Program Breastfeeding Performance Measures

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five. The WIC program serves approximately 53 percent of all infants born in the United States.

	Fully Breastfed Rate	Partially Breastfed Rate	Total Breastfed Rate	Fully Formula Fed Rate
Indiana WIC Rates	13.9%	15.5%	29.4%	70.6%
National WIC Rates	12.1%	21.9%	33.9%	66.1%

Source: [Fiscal Year 2020 WIC Breastfeeding Data Local Agency Report](#). Breastfeeding and formula feeding rates are measured as a percentage of participating children under one year of age.

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Federally Funded Lactation Projects in Indiana During 2020

Each year funding is allocated to a variety of federally funded programs that include infant feeding support through the federal appropriations process.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- The [CDC Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding program](#) provides critical support to advance breastfeeding continuity of care and increase access to lactation-friendly environments in states, hospitals, and communities. In Fiscal Year 2020, this program was funded at \$9 million.
- [Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health](#) (REACH) funding is used to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic populations with the highest burden of chronic disease through culturally tailored interventions to address preventable risk behaviors. As part of the REACH program, Marion County Public Health Department is addressing breastfeeding policy and practice support in community, faith-based, and worksite settings.

Health Resources & Service Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (HRSA, MCHB)

- The [Healthy Start program](#) strengthens the foundations at the community, state, and national levels to help women, infants, and families reach their fullest potential. The Healthy Start program implements community-based interventions to improve the health of mothers and children, including lactation education. Indiana received five Healthy Start awards totaling \$5,494,609. Centerstone of Indiana, Inc. in Columbus and the Health & Hospital Corp of Marion County were each awarded \$1,165,343. The Fort Wayne Medical Society Foundation, Inc. received \$1,018,693, the Indiana Rural Health Association in Linton received \$1,086,213, and Union Hospital in Terre Haute was awarded \$1,059,017.
- The [Maternal Telehealth Access Project](#) (MTAP) is a one-time project funded through the CARES Act to increase access to quality maternity care and services via telehealth during (and beyond) the COVID-19 pandemic. The project focuses specifically on serving women at greatest risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, including women of color, Black women, Native American women, Latinx women, and women who live in rural and frontier communities. The MTAP [Community Grant Program](#) was designed to increase access to perinatal services and supports via telehealth, including clinical care, care coordination, support, and doulas/ community health workers. The project was coordinated by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), in partnership with Reaching Our Sisters Everywhere (ROSE) and the National Birth Equity Collaborative (NBEC). Through the MTAP program, the Indiana Black Breastfeeding Coalition received funding from ROSE to offer scholarships to virtual conferences and CLC and IBCLC certifications for African Americans who wanted to become certified.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

- Each year, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) presents the [WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence](#) to recognize local WIC agencies that have provided exemplary breastfeeding promotion and support activities. The following Indiana agencies were awarded:
- *WIC Breastfeeding Awards of Excellence Gold Award 2020:* Community & Family Services, Community Action Program of Western Indiana WIC Program, Morgan County, Northwest Indiana Community Action Corporation, St. Joseph County WIC (Agency 19), Western Indiana

Breastfeeding Coalitions Serving in Indiana

The USBC supports an extensive network of state, tribal, territorial, local, and cultural breastfeeding coalitions working to create policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) interventions to better serve babies and families. The following coalitions serve in Indiana:

- Indiana Black Breastfeeding Coalition: <https://www.indianablackbreastfeedingcoalition.com>
- Indiana Breastfeeding Coalition: <http://www.indianabreastfeeding.org/>
- Southwest Indiana Breastfeeding Coalition: <https://www.facebook.com/Southwest-Indiana-Breastfeeding-Coalition-144493926251228>

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