



2020 Michigan Breastfeeding Report

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

Michigan Breastfeeding Rates

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

	Exclusive Breastfeeding at 6 Months	Any Breastfeeding at 12 Months	Formula Supplementation at 2 Days	mPINC Score
Michigan	25.8%	34.4%	15.6%	77
U.S. National	16.7%	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
Michigan WIC Rates	13.6%	10.4%	24%	76%
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.

Federally Funded Lactation Projects in Michigan 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, there are two funded communities in Michigan. The Greater Flint Health Coalition will collaborate with multi-sector partners, to improve health, prevent chronic disease, and reduce health disparities among African Americans and Hispanic Americans with the highest risk or burden of chronic disease related to health behaviors and health equity in Flint and Genesee County. The Coalition will increase access to healthier foods by expanding local resources, culturally competent breastfeeding support, and expanding an established Community Referral Platform utilizing community health workers and leveraging existing chronic disease prevention programs. The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is increasing access to breastfeeding support and culturally appropriate health and community programs through community-clinical linkages. The project focuses on African American and Hispanic Americans, especially those who have low socioeconomic status, are Medicaid or dual-eligible beneficiaries, and/or are living with disabilities in western Wayne County, MI.
- **[Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country](#)** (GHWIC) is the CDC's largest investment to improve American Indian and Alaskan Native (AI/AN) tribal health and is focused on health promotion and chronic disease prevention, including increase breastfeeding rates. In Michigan, the Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians received support through the GHWIC program.

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

- The **[Title V Maternal and Child Health \(MCH\) Block Grant](#)** provides funding for states and jurisdictions to meet the unique health needs of their children and families. Michigan has chosen increasing the percentage of infants who are ever breastfed and infants who are breastfed exclusively through 6 months as one of their Title V Maternal and Child Health grant National Performance Measures.
- 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. Michigan received six Healthy Start awards totaling \$6,806,715. Ingham County, Kalamazoo County, the Institute for Population Health, Inc. in Detroit, the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. in Sault Sainte Marie, and the Spectrum Health System in Grand Rapids each were awarded \$1,165,343. Genesee County was awarded \$980,000.
- 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, Great Lakes Intertribal Council was funded by UNC to train peer support and educators from the Tribes to provide breastfeeding support to pregnant and postpartum women. Outreach included promotion of telehealth services, breastfeeding initiation and duration support, and education on other chronic diseases (obesity and diabetes). Mommy and Me Lactation in Farmington Hills used funding from ROSE to provide telehealth to support virtual lactation classes and support to perinatal women as well as to use telehealth to increase partnerships with local WIC agencies, physician offices, doulas, and midwives.

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 Michigan agencies were awarded:
- **WIC Breastfeeding Awards of Excellence Gold Award 2020:** Macomb County Health Department WIC Program, Urban League of Detroit & Southeastern Michigan

Breastfeeding Coalitions Serving in Michigan

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 Michigan:

- Black Mothers' Breastfeeding Association: <http://blackmothersbreastfeeding.org>
- Southeast Michigan IBCLC's of Color: <https://www.facebook.com/SMIBCLCsofColor/>
- Michigan Breastfeeding Network: <https://mibreastfeeding.org/>
- Oakland County Breastfeeding Coalition: <http://oaklandcountybfngcoalition.weebly.com>