



# 2020 New York Breastfeeding Report



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

## New York Breastfeeding Rates

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

	<b>Breastfeeding Initiation Rate</b>	<b>Largest Disparity Between Racial/Ethnic Groups</b>
<b>New York</b>	87.9%	8.7%
<b>U.S. National</b>	84.1%	16.7%
<b>HP2020 Target</b>	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.

	<b>Exclusive Breastfeeding at 6 Months</b>	<b>Any Breastfeeding at 12 Months</b>	<b>Formula Supplementation at 2 Days</b>	<b>mPINC Score</b>
<b>New York</b>	25.8%	37.8%	24.9%	82
<b>U.S. National</b>	25.6%	35.3%	19.2%	79
<b>HP2020 Target</b>	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.

	<b>Fully Breastfed Rate</b>	<b>Partially Breastfed Rate</b>	<b>Total Breastfed Rate</b>	<b>Fully Formula Fed Rate</b>
<b>New York WIC Rates</b>	10.2%	37.2%	47.4%	52.6%
<b>National WIC Rates</b>	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 New York 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 New York. The Ferry Corridor Partnership leverages existing community assets to address preventable risk factors that are driving chronic diseases among African Americans living and working along the Ferry Corridor. The project focuses on strategies that promote tobacco-free living, improved nutrition, and increased availability of, and access to, health or community programs. Bronx Health REACH builds on past efforts to improve access to nutrition, physical activity, clinical care and preventive health programs for African Americans and Hispanic Americans in the Bronx. All interventions will be designed and implemented in concert with coalition members and community partners.
- The [State Physical Activity and Nutrition](#) (SPAN) program funds recipients to implement evidence-based strategies at state and local levels to improve nutrition and physical activity. As part of the SPAN program, New York is supporting six "Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities" regional grantees that are implementing interventions to support breastfeeding that address continuity of care, community support, and workplace compliance with federal and state lactation accommodation laws.
- [State perinatal quality collaboratives](#) (PQCs) are state or multi-state networks of teams working to improve the quality of care for mothers and babies, including improvements in breastfeeding rates. CDC's Division of Reproductive Health is currently providing support for the New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

### ***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. New York received six Healthy Start awards totaling \$6,806,652. Onondaga County was awarded \$980,000 and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Inc. in the Bronx was awarded \$1,165,280. In addition, the Community Health Center of Richmond, Inc. on Staten Island, Fund for Public Health in New York, Inc., Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership, Inc. and Public Health Solutions in New York City each received \$1,165,343.
- 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 doula/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, Urban Health Plan in New York City used funding from UNC to develop and execute various online Care Messages around perinatal health, breastfeeding initiation and duration, and beyond, in both English and Spanish and 'aired' on social media and via text m the Stork and Cradle in New York City was awarded funding from ROSE to mentor new lactation professionals, provide online breastfeeding education and support, and provide online childbirth education. Village Birth International in Syracuse used funding from NBEC to provide doula services via telehealth to birthing people, hold childbirth education classes, and provide breastfeeding and prenatal/postpartum groups.

### ***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 New York agencies were awarded:
- *WIC Breastfeeding Awards of Excellence Gold Award 2020*: Wyckoff Heights Medical Center,
- *WIC Breastfeeding Awards of Excellence Gold Award 2019*: Broome County Health Department WIC, Commission on Economic Opportunity WIC, Chemung & Schuyler WIC, Delaware Opportunities Inc., Montefiore New Rochelle WIC Program, Morrisania WIC Program, ODA WIC Williamsburg

### ***Breastfeeding Coalitions Serving in New York***

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 New York:

- New York Statewide Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc: [www.nysbreastfeeding.org](http://www.nysbreastfeeding.org);
- Breastfeeding Support Center of WNY: <http://www.breastfeedingsupportcenterwny.com>