



What is the mPINC Survey?

The Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care (mPINC) Survey is a national survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that assesses infant feeding care processes, policies, and staffing expectations in maternity care settings.

What is in this report?

This report summarizes results from all Connecticut facilities that participated in the 2013 mPINC Survey and identifies opportunities to improve mother-baby care at hospitals and birth centers and related health outcomes throughout Connecticut.

Who participates in the mPINC survey?

All hospitals with maternity services and all free-standing birth centers in the United States are invited to participate in CDC's mPINC survey every two years.

Connecticut's mPINC Score:

82

In Connecticut, 83% of 29 eligible facilities participated in CDC's 2013 mPINC Survey.

Connecticut Highlights: Strengths

	<p>Provision of Breastfeeding Advice and Counseling All facilities (100%) in Connecticut provide breastfeeding advice and instructions to patients who are breastfeeding, or intend to breastfeed.</p>	<p>The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends pediatricians provide patients with complete, current information on the benefits and methods of breastfeeding to ensure that the feeding decision is a fully informed one. Patient education is important in order to establish breastfeeding.</p>
	<p>Availability of Prenatal Breastfeeding Instruction All facilities (100%) in Connecticut include breastfeeding education as a routine element of their prenatal classes.</p>	<p>Prenatal education about breastfeeding is important because it provides mothers with a better understanding of the benefits and requirements of breastfeeding, resulting in improved breastfeeding rates.</p>

Connecticut Highlights: Opportunities for Improvement

	<p>Appropriate Use of Breastfeeding Supplements Only 5% of facilities in Connecticut adhere to standard clinical practice guidelines against routine supplementation with formula, glucose water, or water.</p>	<p>The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Guidelines for Perinatal Care recommend against routine supplementation because supplementation with formula and/or water makes infants more likely to receive formula at home and stop breastfeeding prematurely.</p>
	<p>Inclusion of Model Breastfeeding Policy Elements Only 50% of facilities in Connecticut have comprehensive breastfeeding policies including all model breastfeeding policy components recommended by the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM).</p>	<p>The ABM model breastfeeding policy elements are the result of extensive research on best practices to improve breastfeeding outcomes. Facility policies determine the nature of care that is available to patients. Facilities with comprehensive policies consistently have the highest rates of exclusive breastfeeding, regardless of patient population characteristics such as ethnicity, income, and payer status.</p>
	<p>Provision of Hospital Discharge Planning Support Only 13% of facilities in Connecticut provide hospital discharge care including a phone call to the patient's home, opportunity for follow-up visit, and referral to community breastfeeding support.</p>	<p>The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) clinical practice guidelines recommend examination of the newborn by a qualified health care professional within 48 hours of hospital discharge in order to assess breastfeeding. Ensuring post discharge ambulatory support improves breastfeeding outcomes.</p>
	<p>Use of Combined Mother/Baby Postpartum Care Only 21% of facilities in Connecticut report that most healthy full-term infants remain with their mothers for at least 23 hours per day throughout the hospital stay.</p>	<p>Mother-infant contact during the hospital stay helps establish breastfeeding and maintain infant weight, temperature, and health. Rooming-in increases breastfeeding learning opportunities without affecting duration and quality of maternal sleep, and reduces supplemental feeds.</p>



Breastfeeding is associated with decreased risk for infant morbidity and mortality as well as maternal morbidity,¹ and provides optimal infant nutrition. *Healthy People 2020*² establishes breastfeeding initiation, continuation, and exclusivity as national priorities.

Changes in maternity care practices improve breastfeeding rates.

There are many opportunities to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding in Connecticut. Opportunities such as those listed below can help Connecticut bring ideal maternity care practices to all Connecticut hospitals.

Change opportunities:

- Examine Connecticut regulations for maternity facilities and evaluate their evidence base.
- Sponsor a Connecticut-wide summit of key decision-making staff at maternity facilities to highlight the importance of evidence-based practices for breastfeeding.
- Encourage and support hospital staff across Connecticut to be trained in providing care that supports mothers to breastfeed.
- Establish links among maternity facilities and community breastfeeding support networks in Connecticut.
- Implement evidence-based practices in medical care settings across Connecticut that support mothers' efforts to breastfeed.
- Integrate maternity care into related hospital-wide Quality Improvement efforts across Connecticut.
- Promote utilization of the Joint Commission's Perinatal Care Core Measure Set including exclusive breast milk feeding at hospital discharge in Connecticut hospital data collection systems.

Connecticut's 2013 Survey Results

82

Connecticut's State mPINC Score
(out of 100)*

Connecticut's State mPINC Rank
(out of 53)[†]

8

mPINC Care Dimension	Care Dimension Subscore*	Ideal Response to mPINC Survey Question	Percent of CT Facilities with Ideal Response	Item Rank [†]
Labor and Delivery Care	90	Initial skin-to-skin contact is at least 30 min w/in 1 hour (vaginal births)	79	18
		Initial skin-to-skin contact is at least 30 min w/in 2 hours (cesarean births)	91	---
		Initial breastfeeding opportunity is w/in 1 hour (vaginal births)	79	8
		Initial breastfeeding opportunity is w/in 2 hours (cesarean births)	78	7
		Routine procedures are performed skin-to-skin	58	9
Feeding of Breastfed Infants	87	Initial feeding is breast milk (vaginal births)	83	19
		Initial feeding is breast milk (cesarean births)	87	9
		Supplemental feedings to breastfeeding infants are rare	5	52
Breast-feeding Assistance	90	Water and glucose water are not used	100	---
		Infant feeding decision is documented in the patient chart	96	---
		Staff provide breastfeeding advice & instructions to patients	100	---
		Staff teach breastfeeding cues to patients	96	---
		Staff teach patients not to limit suckling time	83	2
		Staff directly observe & assess breastfeeding	96	---
Contact Between Mother and Infant	83	Staff use a standard feeding assessment tool	67	34
		Staff rarely provide pacifiers to breastfeeding infants	54	19
		Mother-infant pairs are not separated for postpartum transition	92	---
		Mother-infant pairs room-in at night	85	32
		Mother-infant pairs are not separated during the hospital stay	21	50
Facility Discharge Care	69	Infant procedures, assessment, and care are in the patient room	9	23
		Non-rooming-in infants are brought to mothers at night for feeding	96	---
Staff Training	74	Staff provide appropriate discharge planning (referrals & other multi-modal support)	13	51
		Discharge packs containing infant formula samples and marketing products are not given to breastfeeding patients	88	8
		New staff receive appropriate breastfeeding education	50	3
		Current staff receive appropriate breastfeeding education	17	40
Structural & Organizational Aspects of Care Delivery	85	Staff received breastfeeding education in the past year	79	8
		Assessment of staff competency in breastfeeding management & support is at least annual	83	1
		Breastfeeding policy includes all 10 model policy elements	50	4
		Breastfeeding policy is effectively communicated	92	---
		Facility documents infant feeding rates in patient population	83	17
		Facility provides breastfeeding support to employees	92	---
		Facility does not receive infant formula free of charge	50	3
Breastfeeding is included in prenatal patient education	100	---		
Facility has a designated staff member responsible for coordination of lactation care	79	13		

Questions about the mPINC survey?

Information about the mPINC survey, results, reports, scoring, and history is at: www.cdc.gov/mpinc

For more information:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity
Atlanta, GA USA

November 2014

* Quality Practice scores range from 0 to 100 for each question, dimension of care, facility, and state. The highest, best possible score for each is 100. Each facility and state's "Total Score" is made up of subscores for practices in each of 7 dimensions of care.

† Ranks range from 1 to 53, with 1 being the highest rank. In case of a tie, both are given the same rank. State ranks are not shown for survey questions with 90% or more facilities reporting ideal responses.

References

- ¹ Ip S, Chung M, Raman G, et al. Breastfeeding and maternal and infant health outcomes in developed countries. Rockville, MD: US Dept of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2007.
- ² US Dept of Health and Human Services. *Healthy People 2020 Summary of Objectives: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health*. Available at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/pdfs/MaternalChildHealth.pdf>
- ³ DiGirolamo AM, Grummer-Strawn LM, Fein S. Effect of maternity care practices on breastfeeding. *Pediatrics* 2008;122, Supp 2:S43-9.
- ⁴ Fairbank L, O'Meara S, Renfrew MJ, Woolridge M, Snowden AJ, Lister-Sharp D. A systematic review to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions to promote the initiation of breastfeeding. *Health Technology Assessment* 2000;4:1-171.