

**Table 9. Breastfeeding among mothers aged 15–44, by year of baby's birth and selected characteristics of mother: United States, average annual 1986–1988 through 2008–2010**

Updated data when available, Excel, PDF, and standard errors: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2015.htm#009>.

[Data are based on household interviews of samples of women of childbearing age]

Maternal characteristic	1986–1988	1989–1991	1992–1994	1995–1998	1999–2001	2002–2004	2005–2007	2008–2010
	Percent of babies breastfed							
Total . . . . .	54.1	53.3	57.6	64.4	66.5	69.5	68.8	74.2
Age at baby's birth								
Under 20 years . . . . .	28.4	34.7	41.0	49.5	47.3	60.0	50.7	65.5
20–24 years . . . . .	48.2	44.3	50.0	55.9	59.3	61.4	64.3	64.2
25–29 years . . . . .	58.2	56.4	57.4	68.1	63.5	71.1	70.6	75.8
30–44 years . . . . .	68.6	66.0	70.2	72.8	80.0	77.1	76.2	82.9
Race and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup>								
Not Hispanic or Latina:								
White only . . . . .	59.1	58.4	61.7	66.5	68.7	73.8	72.3	77.4
Black or African American only . . . . .	22.3	22.4	26.1	47.9	45.3	42.3	46.2	56.4
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	55.6	57.0	63.8	71.2	76.0	76.6	73.7	70.4
Education <sup>2</sup>								
No high school diploma or GED . . . . .	31.8	36.5	44.6	50.6	46.6	56.3	58.7	64.9
High school diploma or GED . . . . .	47.4	45.5	51.1	55.9	61.6	61.2	55.4	63.4
Some college, no bachelor's degree . . . . .	62.2	61.4	64.3	70.1	75.6	68.1	72.7	72.9
Bachelor's degree or higher . . . . .	78.4	80.6	82.5	82.0	81.3	89.6	88.3	90.8
Geographic region <sup>3</sup>								
Northeast . . . . .	51.3	53.5	56.5	61.6	66.9	73.0	72.4	73.9
Midwest . . . . .	52.3	49.6	51.7	61.7	61.9	66.0	66.2	69.8
South . . . . .	44.6	43.6	48.6	58.1	60.9	62.2	62.6	69.3
West . . . . .	71.4	69.5	77.3	78.1	78.9	83.3	79.0	83.1
	Percent of babies breastfed 3 months or more							
Total . . . . .	34.6	31.8	33.6	45.8	48.4	50.6	46.6	49.9
Age at baby's birth								
Under 20 years . . . . .	18.5	*10.5	*11.7	30.0	30.0	37.6	26.6	36.2
20–24 years . . . . .	26.1	24.1	25.1	36.6	41.8	38.0	38.6	36.3
25–29 years . . . . .	36.9	32.3	35.6	46.3	43.7	50.2	49.0	54.3
30–44 years . . . . .	50.1	46.8	46.7	57.5	62.4	63.9	56.3	60.1
Race and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup>								
Not Hispanic or Latina:								
White only . . . . .	37.7	35.2	36.6	47.8	49.7	54.5	49.5	51.3
Black or African American only . . . . .	11.6	11.5	13.3	29.6	33.7	29.2	26.3	39.3
Hispanic or Latina . . . . .	38.2	33.9	35.0	49.7	54.3	55.9	49.4	47.4
Education <sup>2</sup>								
No high school diploma or GED . . . . .	21.8	17.6	25.2	33.9	37.0	39.9	41.3	41.4
High school diploma or GED . . . . .	28.2	28.0	27.4	36.9	43.1	41.9	36.8	41.8
Some college, no bachelor's degree . . . . .	38.7	33.1	38.7	49.6	52.8	43.2	48.7	46.7
Bachelor's degree or higher . . . . .	55.0	56.1	59.3	64.5	64.1	75.9	65.8	65.5
Geographic region <sup>3</sup>								
Northeast . . . . .	29.9	37.2	36.4	48.2	48.8	59.9	51.5	49.1
Midwest . . . . .	30.3	31.5	30.1	42.0	42.8	46.8	41.6	43.4
South . . . . .	27.7	20.1	26.2	38.9	44.4	42.7	40.5	41.5
West . . . . .	52.4	42.9	45.3	58.2	59.2	62.6	57.8	64.7

\* Estimates are considered unreliable. Data preceded by an asterisk have a relative standard error of 20%–30%.

<sup>1</sup>Starting with 1995 data, race-specific estimates are tabulated according to 1997 *Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity* and are not strictly comparable with estimates for earlier years. Starting with 1995 data, race-specific estimates are for persons who reported only one racial group. Prior to data year 1995, data were tabulated according to the 1977 Standards. Estimates for single-race categories prior to 1995 included persons who reported one race or, if they reported more than one race, identified one race as best representing their race. See Appendix II, Race.

<sup>2</sup>Educational attainment is presented only for women aged 22–44. Education is as of date of interview. GED is General Educational Development high school equivalency diploma. See Appendix II, Education.

<sup>3</sup>See Appendix II, Geographic region.

NOTES: Data are based on single births to mothers aged 15–44 at interview, including those births that occurred when the mothers were younger than age 15. Data on breastfeeding for babies born in 1986–1994 are based on women interviewed for the 1995 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), also known as Cycle 5. Data for babies born in 1995–2001 are based on women interviewed for the 2002 NSFG, also known as Cycle 6. Data for babies born in 2002–2007 are based on women interviewed for the 2006–2010 NSFG, conducted after NSFG's transition from periodic to continuous interviewing. Data for babies born in 2008–2010 are based on women interviewed for the 2011–2013 NSFG. Standard errors are available in the spreadsheet version of this table. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Survey of Family Growth. See Appendix I, National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG).