



Delaware Breastfeeding Report

Breastfeeding is a proven primary prevention strategy, building a foundation for life-long health and wellness. Here's how Delaware's breastfeeding rates and other measures (2015 births) compare to national rates and targets set by the Healthy People 2020 initiative.

BREASTFEEDING RATES & PROGRESS	% ever breastfed	% duration to 12 months	% exclusive at 6 months	% of births at Baby-Friendly facilities	# of Baby-Friendly facilities
Delaware	77.4	33.4	23.6	88.1	4
U.S. National	83.2	35.9	24.9	26.1	555
HP2020 Target	81.9	34.1	25.5	8.1	N/A

A 2016 study published in the journal *Maternal & Child Nutrition* quantified excess cases of pediatric and maternal disease and death and associated costs attributable to suboptimal breastfeeding (using rates for 2014 births and defining "optimal" as 90% of infants breastfed according to medical recommendations). Here's how Delaware's costs resulting from sub-optimal rates compare:

COSTS OF SUB-OPTIMAL BREASTFEEDING RATES	Medical Costs of Sub-Optimal Rates	Non-Medical Costs of Sub-Optimal Rates	Death Costs of Sub-Optimal Rates
Delaware	\$7,084,698	\$3,382,968	\$34,025,613
U.S. National	\$2,405,023,438	\$1,093,681,596	\$10,798,725,299

Federally Funded Breastfeeding Project

Health Resources & Service Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau

- Through a **Title V Maternal and Child Health** grant, Delaware has chosen increasing percentage of infants who are ever breastfed and infants breastfed exclusively through 6 months as one of their National Performance Measures.

Your State Breastfeeding Coalition

The USBC is affiliated with breastfeeding coalitions in all 50 states that carry out activities at state/local levels.

Breastfeeding Coalition of Delaware

The Surgeon General has called for increasing the capacity of state coalitions to ensure coordinated leadership and implementation of state action plans. The Breastfeeding Coalition of Delaware strives to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding in Delaware by imparting current and evidence-based information and skills to enable parents, families, health practitioners, and community leaders to make informed decisions. Advocates have been breaking down barriers to breastfeeding success by implementing strategies recommended in The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding. In particular, the BCD has supported hospitals in their pursuit of Baby-Friendly Hospital designation, and provided the space and facilitation for common planning, information sharing and quality improvement among coalition partners. For more information, visit www.delawarebreastfeeding.org or find us on social media @DEbreastfeeding.

www.delawarebreastfeeding.org