



**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 California 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 California.

**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.

California's mPINC Score:

83

In California, 78% of 265 eligible facilities participated in CDC's 2013 mPINC Survey.

**California Highlights: Strengths**



**Provision of Breastfeeding Advice and Counseling**  
Staff at 94% of facilities in California provide breastfeeding advice and instructions to patients who are breastfeeding, or intend to breastfeed.

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.



**Documentation of Mothers' Feeding Decisions**  
Staff at 99% of facilities in California consistently ask about and record mothers' infant feeding decisions.

Standard documentation of infant feeding decisions is important to adequately support maternal choice.

**California Highlights: Opportunities for Improvement**



**Appropriate Use of Breastfeeding Supplements**  
Only 24% of facilities in California adhere to standard clinical practice guidelines against routine supplementation with formula, glucose water, or water.

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.



**Inclusion of Model Breastfeeding Policy Elements**  
Only 43% of facilities in California have comprehensive breastfeeding policies including all model breastfeeding policy components recommended by the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM).

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.



**Provision of Hospital Discharge Planning Support**  
Only 30% of facilities in California provide hospital discharge care including a phone call to the patient's home, opportunity for follow-up visit, and referral to community breastfeeding support.

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.



**Adequate Assessment of Staff Competency**  
Only 71% of facilities in California annually assess staff competency for basic breastfeeding management and support.

Implementing comprehensive assessment of staff training and skills for basic breastfeeding management and support establishes the foundation for quality infant feeding care. Adequate training and skills assessment are critical to ensure that mothers and infants receive care that is consistent, evidence-based, and appropriate.



Breastfeeding is associated with decreased risk for infant morbidity and mortality as well as maternal morbidity,<sup>1</sup> and provides optimal infant nutrition. *Healthy People 2020*<sup>2</sup> 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 California. Opportunities such as those listed below can help California bring ideal maternity care practices to all California hospitals.

### Change opportunities:

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

## California's 2013 Survey Results

83

California's State mPINC Score  
(out of 100)\*

California's State mPINC Rank  
(out of 53)<sup>†</sup>

7

mPINC Care Dimension	Care Dimension Subscore*	Ideal Response to mPINC Survey Question	Percent of CA Facilities with Ideal Response	Item Rank <sup>†</sup>
Labor and Delivery Care	86	Initial skin-to-skin contact is at least 30 min w/in 1 hour (vaginal births)	89	8
		Initial skin-to-skin contact is at least 30 min w/in 2 hours (cesarean births)	67	16
		Initial breastfeeding opportunity is w/in 1 hour (vaginal births)	76	10
		Initial breastfeeding opportunity is w/in 2 hours (cesarean births)	59	30
		Routine procedures are performed skin-to-skin	57	11
Feeding of Breastfed Infants	86	Initial feeding is breast milk (vaginal births)	81	26
		Initial feeding is breast milk (cesarean births)	74	22
		Supplemental feedings to breastfeeding infants are rare	24	27
Breast-feeding Assistance	92	Water and glucose water are not used	93	---
		Infant feeding decision is documented in the patient chart	99	---
		Staff provide breastfeeding advice & instructions to patients	94	---
		Staff teach breastfeeding cues to patients	90	---
		Staff teach patients not to limit suckling time	63	17
		Staff directly observe & assess breastfeeding	90	---
Contact Between Mother and Infant	90	Staff use a standard feeding assessment tool	90	---
		Staff rarely provide pacifiers to breastfeeding infants	67	6
		Mother-infant pairs are not separated for postpartum transition	86	15
		Mother-infant pairs room-in at night	98	---
		Mother-infant pairs are not separated during the hospital stay	79	5
Facility Discharge Care	71	Infant procedures, assessment, and care are in the patient room	22	6
		Non-rooming-in infants are brought to mothers at night for feeding	90	---
		Staff provide appropriate discharge planning (referrals & other multi-modal support)	30	26
		Discharge packs containing infant formula samples and marketing products are not given to breastfeeding patients	88	8
Staff Training	72	New staff receive appropriate breastfeeding education	37	6
		Current staff receive appropriate breastfeeding education	31	19
		Staff received breastfeeding education in the past year	69	12
		Assessment of staff competency in breastfeeding management & support is at least annual	71	12
Structural & Organizational Aspects of Care Delivery	84	Breastfeeding policy includes all 10 model policy elements	43	7
		Breastfeeding policy is effectively communicated	87	9
		Facility documents infant feeding rates in patient population	89	8
		Facility provides breastfeeding support to employees	81	11
		Facility does not receive infant formula free of charge	52	2
		Breastfeeding is included in prenatal patient education	90	---
		Facility has a designated staff member responsible for coordination of lactation care	80	11

### Questions about the mPINC survey?

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

### For more information:

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

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\* 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

- <sup>1</sup> 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.
- <sup>2</sup> 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/topics/objectives/2020/pdfs/MaternalChildHealth.pdf>
- <sup>3</sup> DiGirolamo AM, Grummer-Strawn LM, Fein S. Effect of maternity care practices on breastfeeding. *Pediatrics* 2008;122, Supp 2:S43-9.
- <sup>4</sup> 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.