

Prevalence of Breastfeeding in Kansas 2013

Breastfeeding is defined as receiving breast milk whether by breastfeeding directly or from breast pumping which is common in the case of feeding premature infants. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that infants be breastfed or receive breast milk without supplemental foods or fluids for the first six months. Breastfeeding rates continue to rise in the U.S., with increases of about 3-4 percent according to the National Immunization Survey (NIS) in breastfeeding initiation and breastfeeding at 6 months. Breastfeeding initiation increased from 76.7 percent 2010 to 79.2% in 2011 births. Breastfeeding at 6 months increased from 47.5% in 2010 to 49.4% in 2011. Breastfeeding initiation data from Kansas birth certificates shows an increase of 5.7 percent from 2011-2013 with 83.7 percent initiating breastfeeding in 2013 and has exceeded the Healthy People 2020 objective of 81.9 percent of infants ever breastfeeding. The Kansas birth certificate records whether breastfeeding of the newborn infant was initiated before discharge from the hospital [1, 2, 3, 4].

Kansas Highlights and Breakouts

- In 2013, there were 38,805 live births in Kansas. Asian/Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander non-Hispanic mothers had the highest percentage initiating breastfeeding followed by White non-Hispanics and Hispanics (Table 1).
- Black non-Hispanic mothers had the lowest percentage initiating breastfeeding [4].
- The number and percentage of births and the percentage of breastfeeding initiations among infants tend to increase as the mother's age increases (Table 2).
- The highest percentage initiating Breastfeeding occurs when the mother's age ranges from 30-39, while the number of births declines (Table 2) [4].

Table 1. Breastfeeding initiated among infants born in Kansas by population group, 2013

Population Group	Total Births	Breast-feeding	Percent
White non-Hispanic	27,821	23,685	85.1
Black non-Hispanic	2,549	1,796	70.5
Native American non-Hispanic	183	135	73.8
Asian/Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander non-Hispanic	1,175	1,040	88.5
Other non-Hispanic	921	742	80.6
Hispanic any Race	6,139	5,081	82.8
Not Specified	17	11	64.7
Total	38,805	32,490	83.7

Table 2. Breastfeeding initiated among infants born in Kansas by age group of mother, 2013

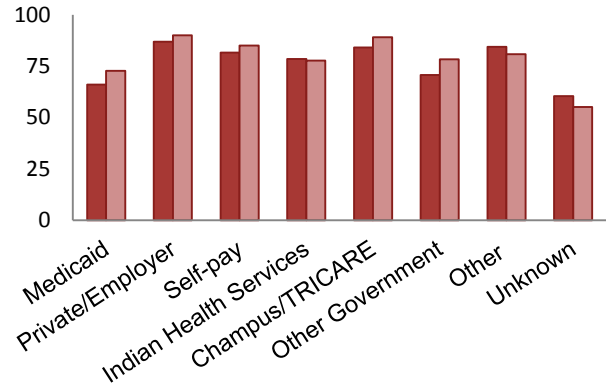
Age Group in Years	Total Births	Breast-feeding	Percent
10-14	30	23	76.7
15-17	721	528	73.2
18-19	2,146	1,640	76.4
20-29	21,796	17,992	82.5
30-39	13,327	11,630	87.3
40+	784	677	86.4
Unknown Age	1	0	0.0
Total	38,805	32,490	83.7

More Kansas Health Statistics and Publications

- For a list of all publications issued by KDHE go to http://www.kdheks.gov/data_reports_stats.htm.
- Visit Kansas Information for Communities (KIC) the department's online data query tool at <http://kic.kdheks.gov>.
- Community Health Needs Assessment information at <http://www.kansashealthmatters.org>.

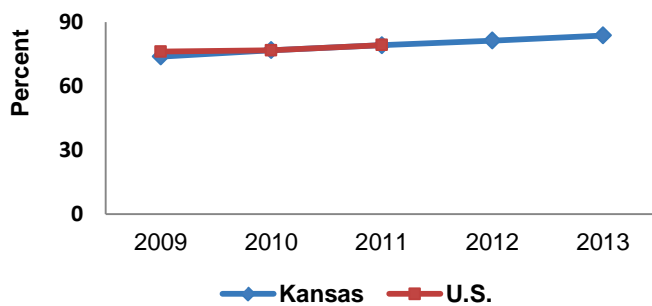
- Mothers whose deliveries were paid by private insurance had the highest percentage of breastfeeding initiation followed by Champus/TRICARE and self-payers in both years (Figure 1).
- Mothers whose deliveries were paid by Medicaid had the lowest percentage of breastfeeding initiation in 2011 and 2013. However, mothers with Medicaid had a statistically significant increase in breastfeeding initiation observed among the payers from 2011 to 2013 [4].

Figure 1. Breastfeeding Initiation Percentages by Primary Payer in Kansas 2011 and 2013



State and National Trends in Breastfeeding

Figure 2. Breastfeeding initiated by mothers in Kansas and U.S., 2009-2013



- Increasing trends in breastfeeding initiation occurred in Kansas and the U.S. from 2009 to 2011. The percentage of Kansas mothers initiating breastfeeding continued to increase from 2011 to 2013. Most current data available for the U.S. is 2011 (Figure 2) [2, 4].

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Related References:

[1] American Academy of Pediatrics. www2.aap.org/breastfeeding/files/pdf/Breastfeeding2012ExecSum.pdf

[2] National Immunization Survey. www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/NIS_data/

[3] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2020. www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/pdfs/HP2020objectives.pdf

[4] Kansas Birth Data, 2009-2013. Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, Vital Statistics Data Analysis.