

# West Virginia Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) – Analytic Report

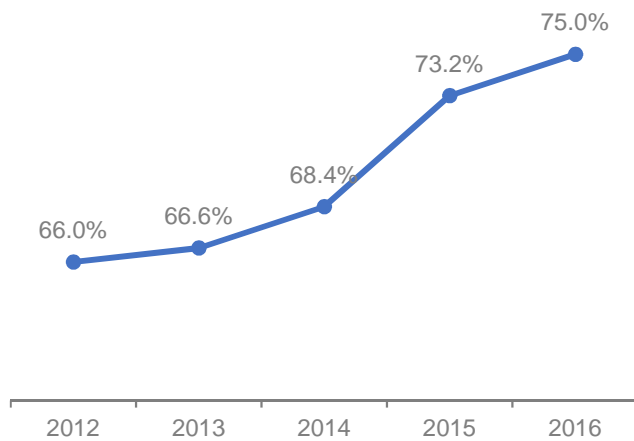
## Prevalence of mothers who breastfed their babies in West Virginia

2012-2016 WV PRAMS Data

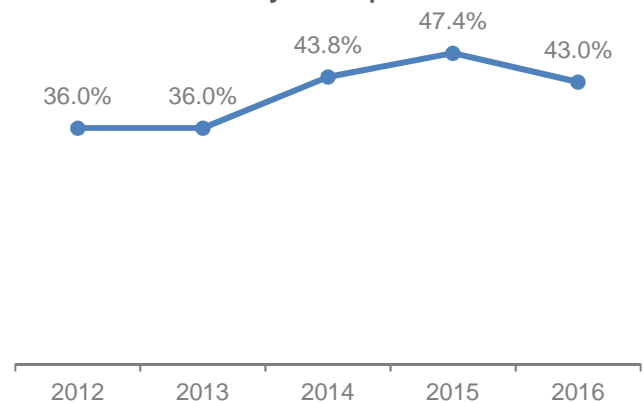
### Quick Facts:

- Breastfeeding has been shown to provide essential short and long term health benefits to the infant and the mother.
- Human breastmilk provides the right amount of ideal nutrition to the developing infant, while also protecting the infant against a whole array of diseases and conditions such as necrotizing enterocolitis, type 1 and type 2 diabetes and childhood obesity (1).
- Women who breastfed benefit from a decreased risk of breast and ovarian cancers, have an earlier return to pre-pregnancy weight, and increase of child spacing (1).
- The rate of women in West Virginia who ever breastfed has increased steadily from 66% in 2012 to 75% in 2016.
- Strides of improvement among the population of women still breastfeeding at the time of the survey and breastfeeding duration are necessary, as significant portions in both groups are feeding below the recommended American Academy of Pediatrics 12-month time frame.

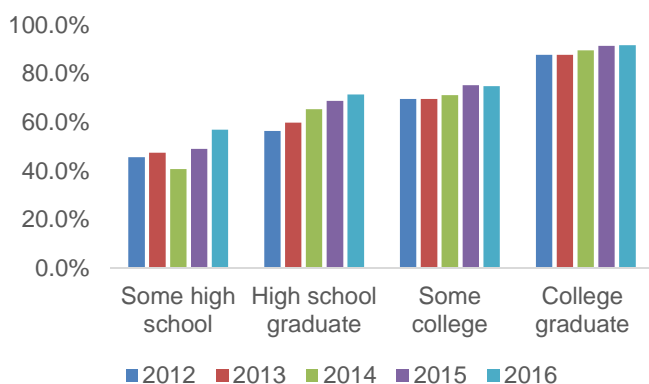
### Breastfed Ever



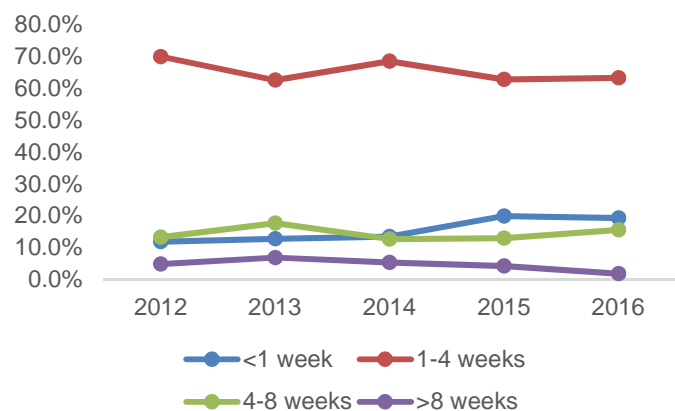
### Still breastfeeding at time of survey completion



### Ever Breastfed by Maternal Education



### Breastfeeding Duration



1. <https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Breastfeeding/Pages/Benefits-of-Breastfeeding.aspx>