The WIC Breastfeeding Fact Sheet has been updated for 2018. Highlights of the new version include:

- **Milk supply** is the most common reason given for early weaning across the entire first year. From 2 weeks to 12 months, only 9% of women reported weaning due to work or school, while 30 – 42% listed “milk supply” as their reason for weaning.

- The biggest single ethnic group of never-breastfed infants were white infants, with 3,859 white infants formula-fed from birth in 2016.

- From 2013 to 2016, duration at 6 months *improved in many counties*, but decreased in a few counties, as seen in the side-by-side maps.

- Initiation rates were similar for women of all ages, but younger women were less likely to continue breastfeeding beyond the first few weeks. Women 35 and older had the highest duration rates, but still fell well short of Healthy People 2020 goals.

- The Northwest Region of Minnesota had the lowest breastfeeding duration rates (45% at 2 months), while the Metro Region had the highest rates (59%), followed by the Southeast (55%).

- There are wide disparities between ethnic groups in exclusive breastfeeding during the postpartum hospital stay, but rates of formula supplementation are markedly lower for women who participate in the WIC Peer Breastfeeding Support Program – except for East African women. With or without a peer, they have some of the lowest exclusivity rates, along with Hmong mothers without peer support. Hmong mothers with peer support are 2.7 times more likely to exclusively breastfeed.

Check out the [Breastfeeding in Minnesota's WIC Program, Fact Sheet 2018](#) and share it with your local leadership and community partners!