

# Vermont PRAMS Data Brief

## Breastfeeding – part II

This is a report on the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), a survey conducted on a sample of Vermont women with live births during calendar year 2004.

This is the second of two reports on breastfeeding. Part I summarized breastfeeding initiation and continuation by select demographics, and summarized prenatal care counseling on breastfeeding. This report covers additional PRAMS survey questions including the following:

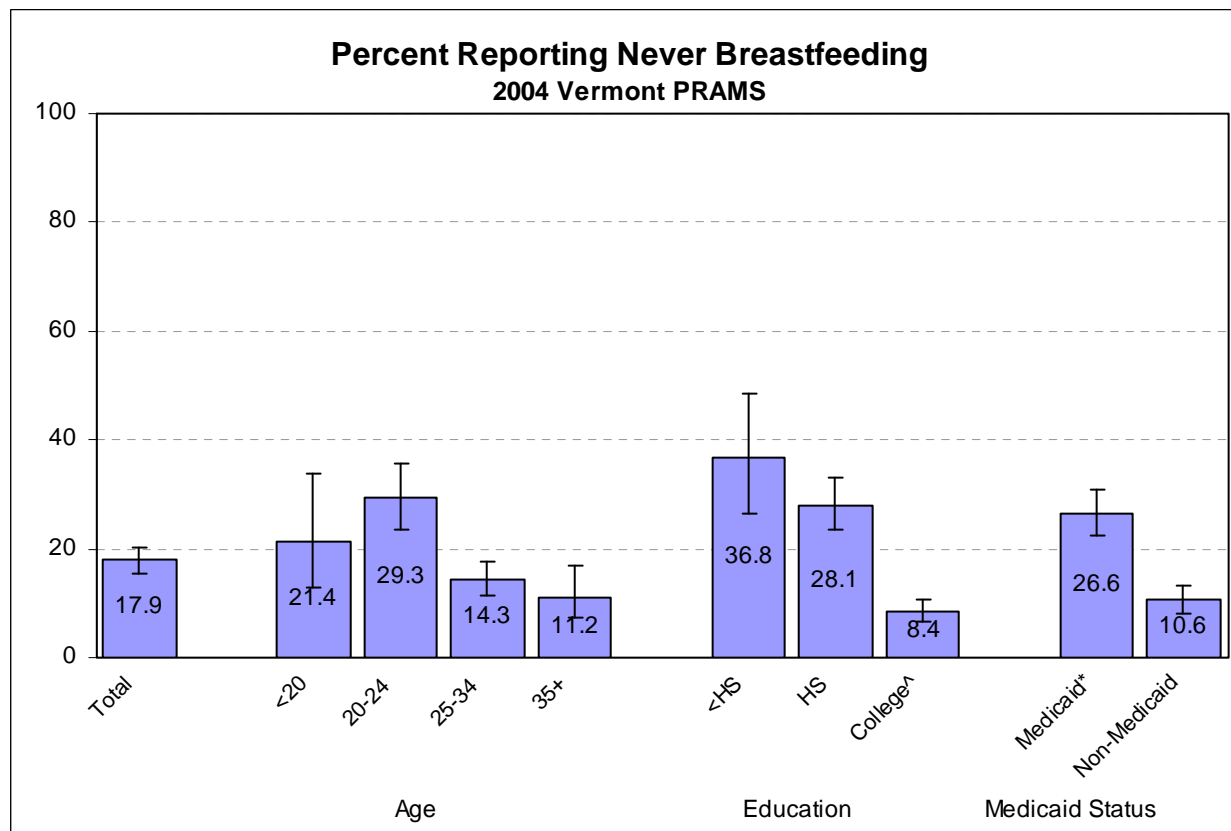
*What were your reasons for not breastfeeding your baby?*

*What were your reasons for stopping breastfeeding?*

The first question was asked of mothers who said they did not breastfeed, the second was asked of all mothers who did breastfeed but had stopped by the time they completed the survey. Each of the above questions was followed by a list of reasons; mothers were asked to check all that apply. There is also a series of questions asking about events in the hospital related to breastfeeding.

### Reasons for not Breastfeeding

Younger mothers and mothers who did not attend college were less likely to breastfeed.



^ Includes mothers who completed any college work, whether or not they earned a degree.

\* Mother was enrolled in Medicaid prior to pregnancy, or Medicaid\*\* paid for prenatal care, or Medicaid\*\* paid for delivery.

\*\* Includes Dr. Dynasaur.

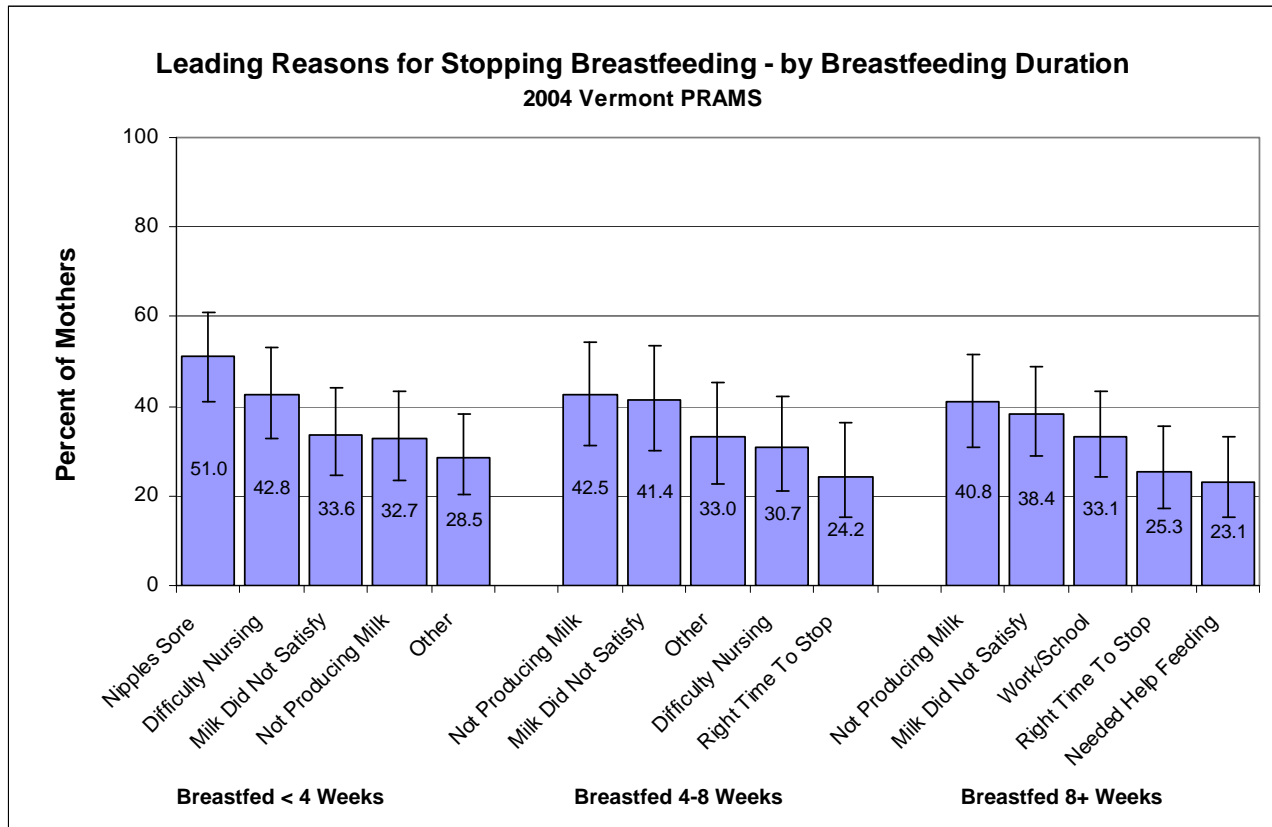
## Vermont PRAMS Data Brief

The following were the most cited reasons for not initiating breastfeeding:

	Percent Reporting
Did Not Like Breastfeeding	60.5%
Other Children	34.8%
Did Not Want To Be Tied Down	26.3%

### Reasons for Stopping Breastfeeding

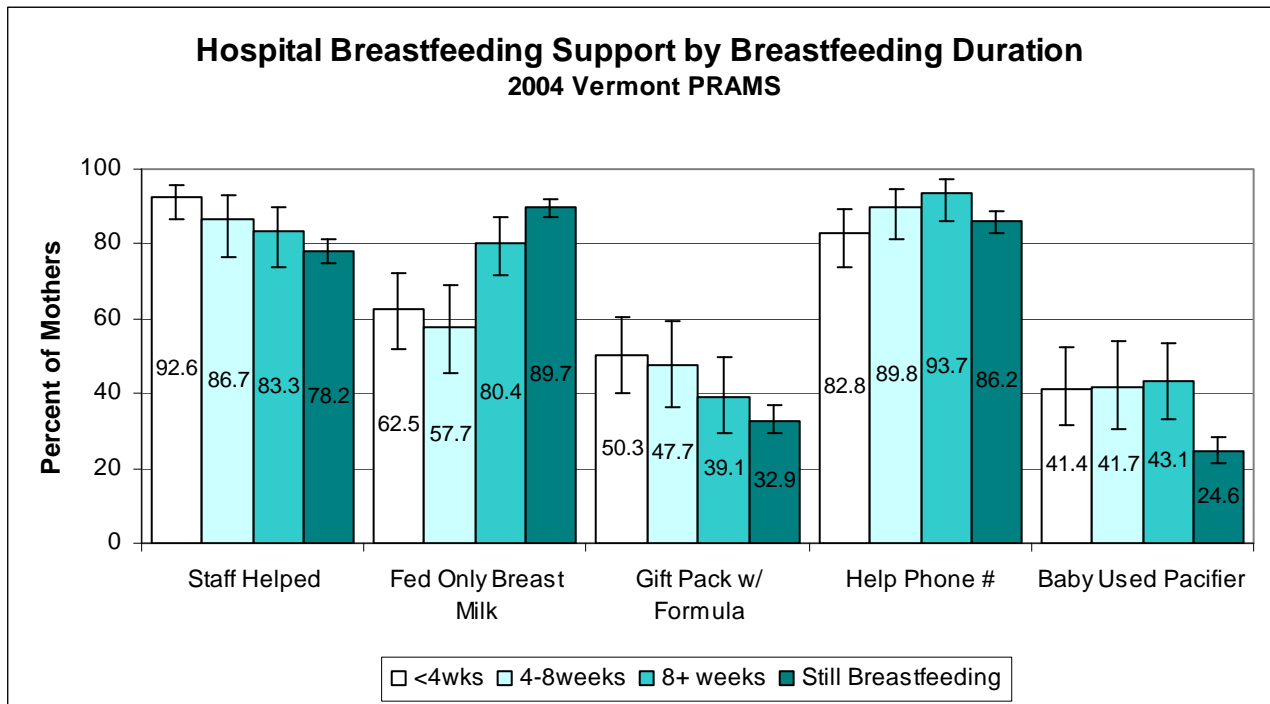
Among mothers who did breastfeed, those who stopped breastfeeding before 4 weeks were most likely to cite sore nipples or difficulty nursing as a reason for stopping, while mothers stopping after 4 weeks were more likely to cite concerns about producing enough milk as a reason for stopping.



# Vermont PRAMS Data Brief

## Breastfeeding Support in the Hospital

Mothers who breastfed less than eight weeks were more likely to report receiving breastfeeding assistance in the hospital. However, these mothers were also less likely to have fed their babies only breast milk in the hospital and were more likely to have received a gift pack with formula. Mothers breastfeeding less than four weeks were also less likely to report being given a telephone number to call for help with breastfeeding. Mothers who were still breastfeeding at the time of the survey were less likely to report that their baby used a pacifier while in the hospital.



Questions or comments about this report may be addressed to John Gauthier, Vermont PRAMS Coordinator, [jgauthi@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:jgauthi@vdh.state.vt.us), (802)863-7661 or to Mike Nyland-Funke, [mnyland@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:mnyland@vdh.state.vt.us), (802)863-7261.