



**Bureau of Family Health  
Breastfeeding Awareness and Support Program**

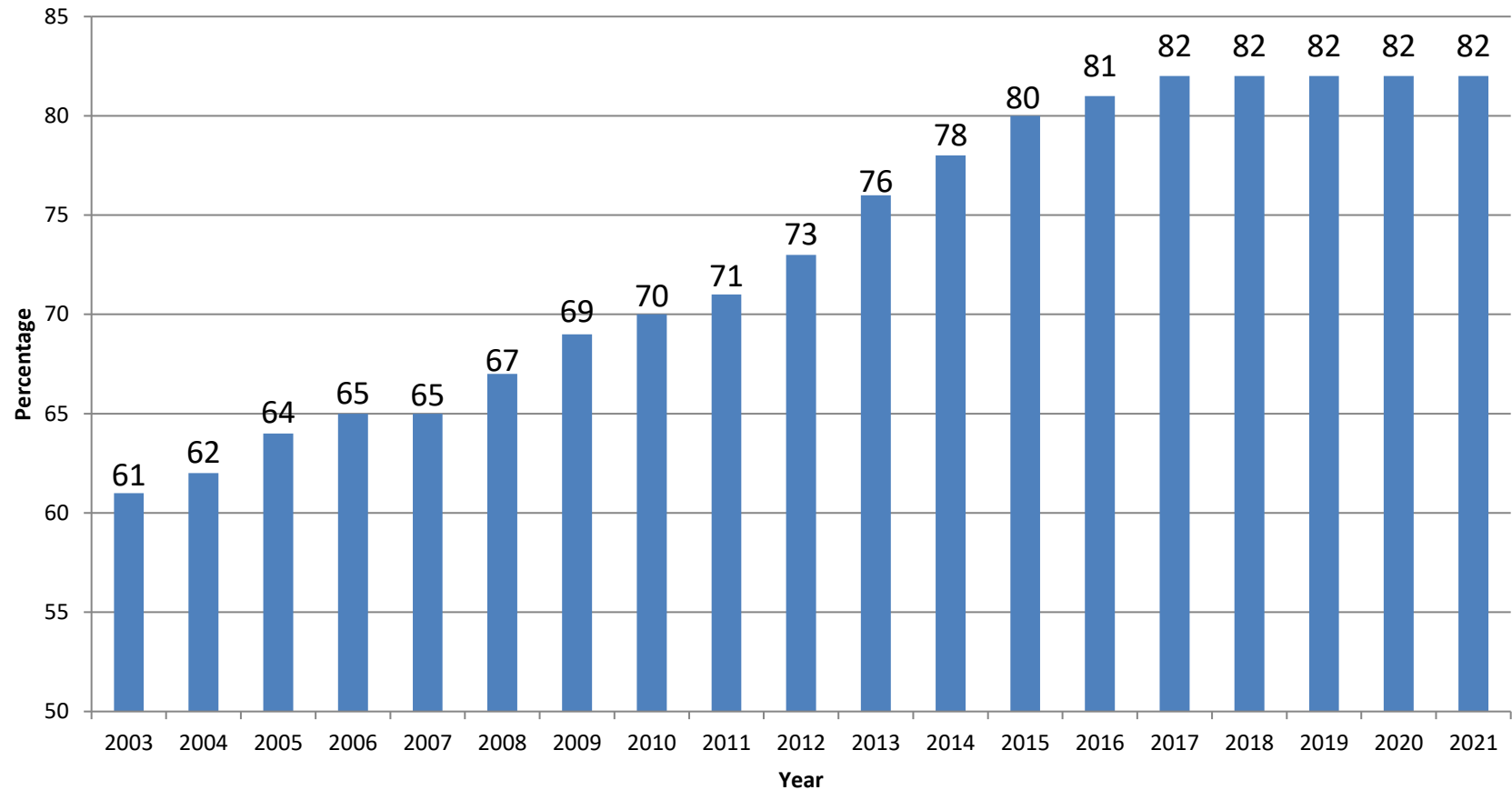
Birth certificate information is collected for both in-hospital and out-of-hospital Pennsylvania births. Each birth certificate is submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Health Informatics where it is analyzed. The question: *Is newborn being breastfed?* was added to the birth certificate in 2003.

**Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Initiation Rates, 2003-2021**

<b>2003</b>	<b>61%</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>64%</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>69%</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>71%</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>73%</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>76%</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>81%</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>81.8%</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>82.4%</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>82.4%</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>82.6%</b>

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Health Informatics, Certificate of Live Birth. Provided by: Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Awareness and Support Program. Starting in 2013, calculating method changed to exclude infants not living at time of birth certificate reporting. Data excludes births from Holy Spirit Geisinger Hospital. The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations, or conclusions.

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