

Maternity Leave Among NH Women Who Gave Birth in 2016-2017



78% Worked at a job for pay during their pregnancy



62% Returned to work or planned to return to work after their baby was born

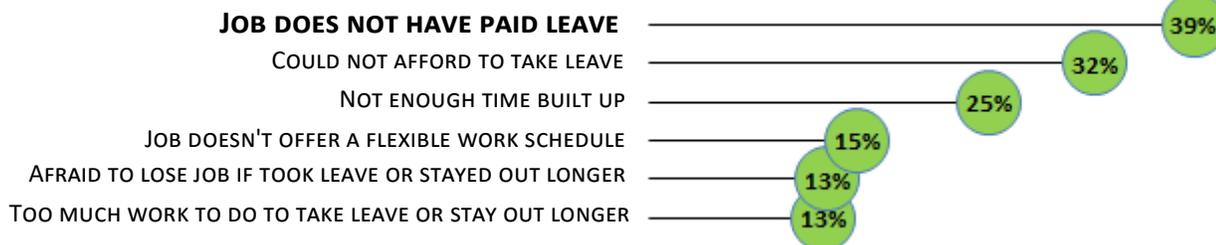
1/2 OF WOMEN RETURNING TO WORK HAD UNPAID LEAVE OR NO LEAVE



Factors Affecting Leave Time Decisions Among Women Who Returned to Work After Having a Baby



39% "JOB DOES NOT HAVE PAID LEAVE" was the most frequently reported factor affecting a woman's decision about taking leave from work after her baby was born.



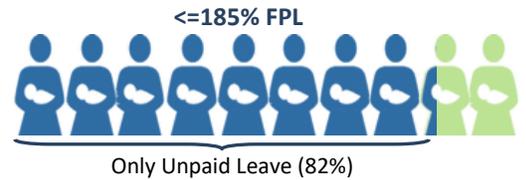
Among NH women who worked at a job for pay before giving birth and returned to work after the birth of their baby:

- 1/2 had unpaid maternity leave (48%) or no leave (2%).
- Working in a job that does not provide paid leave is the most frequently reported factor affecting maternity leave time decisions.
- Significantly more low income women (<=185%FPL) have only unpaid maternity leave (82%) than those in the higher household income (>185%FPL) group (36%).
- There is a significantly lower percentage of breastfeeding beyond 8 weeks among those who take 8 weeks or less of maternity leave compared to those who take more than 8 weeks leave (60% vs. 72%).

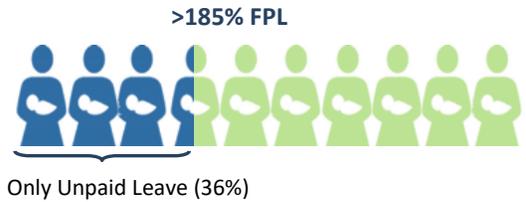
Key Findings
in the
NH PRAMS Data
2016-2017

Household Income and Paid/Unpaid Leave

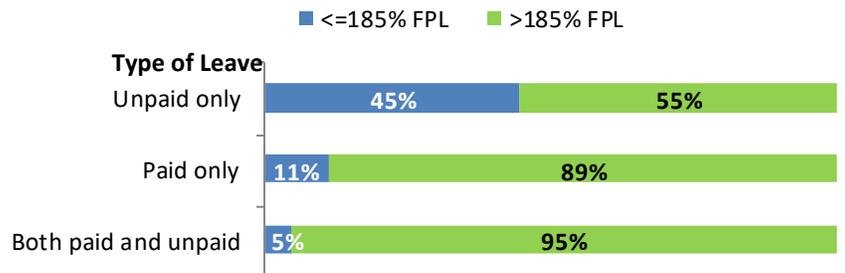
Among NH women in the **LOWER HOUSEHOLD INCOME GROUP** (<=185% Federal Poverty Level/FPL), more than **8 of 10 had Unpaid Leave** after their baby was born. Fewer than 2 out of 10 had paid or a combination of paid and unpaid maternity leave.



Among NH women in the **HIGHER HOUSEHOLD INCOME GROUP** (>185% Federal Poverty Level/FPL), **less than 4 of 10 had Unpaid Leave** after their baby was born. More than 6 out of 10 took paid or a combination of paid and unpaid maternity leave.



Among NH women who worked for pay in the year before delivery, nearly all who took only paid leave (89%) or a combination of paid and unpaid leave (95%) were in the higher income group (>185% Federal Poverty Level).



Length of Maternity Leave and Breastfeeding Duration

Among NH Women Who Returned to Work After Having a Baby

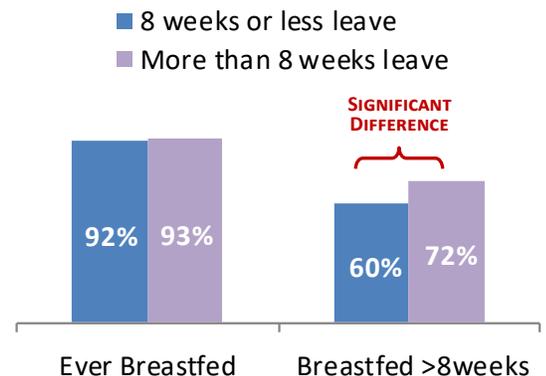
Almost **1/3** of women (31%) took 8 weeks or less of leave time.
 Slightly less than **1/2** of women (45%) took 9-12 weeks of leave time.
 Approximately **1/4** of women (24%) took more than 12 weeks of leave time.

Nearly all women initiated breastfeeding regardless of length of leave time (92-93%).



Duration of breastfeeding was significantly shorter among those with less leave time.

- 72% of those with more than 8 weeks of leave time breastfed for more than 8 weeks.
- 60% of those with 8 weeks or less of leave time breastfed for more than 8 weeks.



New Hampshire PRAMS
 Maternal and Child Health Section/ Division of Public Health Services
 Department of Health and Human Services
 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6504
<http://dhhs.nh.gov/> PRAMS@dhhs.nh.gov 1-800-852-3345 x2081

This publication was supported by the Grant or Cooperative Agreement Number, 5U01DP006208, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.