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| **Table S1. Covariate descriptions** | | | |
| **Variable\*** | **IFPS II Survey questions and responses (CDC, 2014)** | **Time of collection** | **Specification for this study** |
| *Demographic characteristics* | | | |
| Household income | 27 categories ranging from less than $5000 to $300,000 and over | Prenatally† | Continuous |
| Education | Response categories:  1: 1-7 years grade school  2: 8 years grade school  3: 1-3 years high school  4: high school graduate  5: 1-3 years college  6: College graduate  7: Post graduate | Prenatally† | Dichotomized to: less than a college degree and college degree or higher |
| Race-ethnicity | Response categories:  1: White  2: Black  3: Hispanic  4: Asian/Pacific Islander  5: Other | Prenatally† | Dichotomized to: white, non-Hispanic and other due to small numbers in other categories |
| Previous breastfeeding experience | “Did you breastfeed, for any time at all, any of your other babies?” Answer choices: yes or no. | Prenatally† | Same as IFPS II; primigravida=no. |
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| *Prenatal factors* | | | |
| Prenatal intention to breastfeed | “How old do you think your baby will be when you completely stop breastfeeding?” Answer in month range (exclusive) and months (any). | Prenatal questionnaire‡ | Same as IFPS II; continuous |
| Planning to return to work | “Do you plan to work for pay during your baby’s first year” (yes/no). For those who reply “yes”: “How many weeks after the baby is born do you plan to return to work?” Response categories:  1: Fewer than 4 weeks  2: 4 to 6 weeks  3: 7 to 9 weeks  4: 10 to 12 weeks  5: 13 to 16 weeks  6: 17 to 20 weeks  7: 21 to 30 weeks  8: More than 30 weeks | Prenatal questionnaire‡ | Dichotomized to match exposure timeframe (as closely as possible): within the first 9 weeks, or later. |
| Child care plans | “What will you do with your baby when you are working?” Response categories:  1: My baby will be cared for by a family member  2: My baby will be cared for by someone not in my family  3: I will keep my baby with me while I work outside my home  4: I will keep my baby with me while I work at home  5: I have not decided yet | Prenatal questionnaire‡ | Three categories, continuous:   * mother and infant are not separated; * mother is unsure about her child care plans or mother reports a combination of separated and non-separated choices; * mother and infant are separated |
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| *Labor and delivery (hospital or birth center) factors* | | | |
| Breastfeeding initiation and early practices | 1. Newborn pacifier use: “Was your baby given a pacifier by you, the medical staff, or anyone else while in the hospital or birth center?” Answer choices are yes, no, or don’t know. 2. Time to first breastfeed: “About how long after your delivery did you breastfeed or try to breastfeed your baby for the very first time?” Response categories: 3. less than 30 minutes 4. 30 to 60 minutes 5. 1 to 2 hours 6. 3 to 6 hours 7. 7 to 12 hours 8. 13 to 24 hours 9. 1 day 10. 2 days 11. more than 2 days 12. Feeding infant other substances: “While you were in the hospital or birth center, was your baby fed water, formula, or sugar water at any time?” Answer choices included yes, no, and don’t know. 13. Rooming in: “While you were in the hospital or birth center, did your baby stay in your room day and night, except for doctor visits, bathing, or other treatments?” Answer choices were yes, all the time; yes, some nights but not all; or no. 14. Support for breastfeeding: “While you were in the hospital for delivery of this baby, did anyone help you with breastfeeding by showing you how or talking to you about breastfeeding?” (yes/no) 15. Post-partum referral for support: “Were you given information about any breastfeeding support groups or services before you went home from the hospital or birth center?” (yes/no) 16. Infant formula gift bag: “Did you receive a gift pack or diaper bag from the hospital or birth center? Include a gift pack from a child birth class if you took the class at the hospital or birth center.” (yes/no). For those responding “yes”: “Were any of the following included in the gift pack? If you received more than one gift pack from the hospital or birth center, answer for all that you received.” Response categories:   1: Infant formula  2: Coupon for infant formula  3: Breastfeeding supplies (nursing pads, nipple cream, etc.) | Neonatal questionnaire§ | This variable combines responses to six questions about breastfeeding initiation and early practices that occurred in the hospital or birth center. Thus, this continuous variable (range: 0 – 6) equally weights the following issues that can lead to suboptimal feeding practices. Each undesirable response garners one point.   * 1. Newborn pacifier use: this can prevent optimal breastfeeding if infants expend too much energy sucking on the pacifier rather than the breast and if pacifier sucking contents them to the extent that mothers cannot recognize hunger signals and too much time elapses between feedings. Answers “yes” and “don’t know” get one point.   2. Time to first breastfeeding: Breastfeeding should be initiated within the first hour of life. Any response greater than one hour garners one point.   3. Feeding infant other substances: Feeding infants anything other than a mother’s early milk (colostrum) could affect breast milk feeding practices. Answers “yes” and “don’t know” get one point.   4. Rooming in: Infants are more likely to breastfeed when they stay in their mothers’ rooms. Answers “yes, some nights but not all” and “no” get one point.   5. Support for breastfeeding: “No” responses get one point.   6. Post-partum referral for support: “No” responses get one point.   7. Infant formula gift bag: Gift bags that promote formula use discourage breastfeeding. Responses indicating receipt of infant formula or a coupon for infant formula will get one point. |
| Late pre-term status | Gestational age calculation (in weeks): 40+(b\_date-p2)/7. (b\_date=infant’s birth date; p2=due date). | Neonatal questionnaire§ | Dichotomous variable: yes (late preterm: 35 – 37 weeks gestation), or no |
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| *Postpartum factors* | | | |
| Professional breastfeeding support (if needed) | 1. “Did you have any of the following problems breastfeeding your baby during your first 2 weeks of breastfeeding?” 18 categories, one of which is: “I had no problems.” 2. “Did you get any help with these problems from a health professional, a lactation consultant, or a breastfeeding support group?” (yes/no) | Neonatal questionnaire§ | Dichotomous variable to indicate professional breastfeeding support: “I had no problems” or “yes, mother got help with problems” is one category, and a response indicating a problem for which mother did not get help is the other category. |
| Work | “Did you work for pay any time during the past 4 weeks?” (yes/no) | 2-month questionnaire¶ | Same as IFPS II. |
| Child care arrangement | “Which of the following circumstances describe your situation during the past 4 weeks? (If you have stopped breastfeeding or stopped working for pay, please answer for the time you were breastfeeding and working. If you have worked for less than 4 weeks, please answer for the time you have been working.)” Response categories:  1: I keep my baby with me while I work and breastfeed during my work day  2: I go to my baby and breastfeed him or her during my work day  3: My baby is brought to me to breastfeed during my work day  4: I pump milk during my work day and save it for my baby to drink later  5: I pump milk during my work day, but I do not save it for my baby to drink later  6: I neither pump milk nor breastfeed during my work day | 2-month questionnaire¶ | Dichotomous variable: mother and infant were not separated (including mothers who did not work); or, mother and infant were separated. |
| Infant age when returned to work | “How old was your baby when you began working after your delivery? (If you are not sure, give your best estimate.)” Answer in months and weeks. | 3-month questionnaire\*\* | Continuous to 9 weeks (corresponding to exposure); 9 or more weeks is a separate, single category. |
| Work environment | “Have you had any of the following experiences during the past 4 weeks?” Responses:   * A coworker made negative comments or complained to me about breastfeeding * My employer or my supervisor made negative comments or complained to me about breastfeeding * It was hard for me to arrange break time for breastfeeding or pumping milk * It was hard for me to find a place to breastfeed or pump milk * It was hard for me to arrange a place to store pumped breast milk * It was hard for me to carry the equipment I needed to pump milk at work * I felt worried about keeping my job because of breastfeeding * I felt worried about continuing to breastfeed because of my job   I felt embarrassed among coworkers, my supervisor, or my employer because of breastfeeding | 3-month questionnaire\*\* | Assigned one point to each response and created a variable that is the sum of those points. This is a continuous variable (range: 0 – 8) that equally weights these issues. Mothers who did not report working at two months were assigned 0. Dichotomized for effect measure modification testing; categories: 0 and greater than 0. |
| Workplace support | “In your opinion, how supportive of breastfeeding is your place of employment?” (3-month questionnaire); four categories:  1: Not at all supportive  2: Not too supportive  3: Somewhat supportive  4: Very supportive | 3-month questionnaire\*\* | Dichotomous variable: supportive (categories 3 and 4) and unsupportive (categories 1 and 2) workplaces. Mothers who did not report working at two months were put in the supportive group. |

\*NICU stay (extended infant stay in NICU) was identified to be part of the minimally sufficient adjustment set but is not included in this table. NICU stay is controlled for by the parent study exclusion of infants who spent more than three days in the NICU.

†Demographic information was collected routinely from questionnaires sent to panel members; a separate demographic questionnaire was sent to mothers living in the home of a panel member.

‡Completed during third trimester

§Median infant age when questionnaire was completed=4.3 weeks; range: 0.2 – 21.9; less than 10% completed it when infant was 8 weeks or older

¶Median infant age when questionnaire was completed=9.0 weeks; range: 4.0 – 29.7; less than 10% completed it when infant was 13 weeks or older

\*\*These variables were measured after the exposure; however, we restrict “infant age when returned to work” to those returning in less than 9 weeks, and we applied workplace environment and support conditions only to those working at Month 2 and assumed that those conditions were true at that time. For the Month 3 questionnaire, the median infant age when questionnaire was completed=12.9 weeks; range: 10.9 – 29.6; less than 10% completed it when infant was 16 weeks or older