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Persistent Diaper Need Identified During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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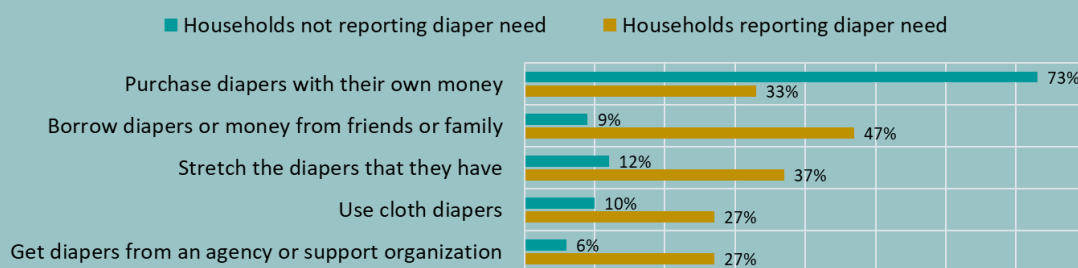
PERSISTENT DIAPER NEED IDENTIFIED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Results of a statewide representative survey conducted from Oct 2020 - Jan 2021
with 353 Massachusetts adults with a child aged 0-4 wearing diapers

More than 1 in 3 households (36%) experienced diaper need in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic

Diaper need refers to the lack of a sufficient supply of diapers to keep an infant or child clean, dry, and healthy

Households used diverse strategies to diaper their children



Who experiences higher rates of diaper need?

Individuals that were:

- Younger than 25 years old (56%)
- Latinx (56%)
- Not high school graduates (56%)
- Not employed prior to pandemic (52%)
- Experiencing symptoms of depression (50%)

Households that had:

- Income less than \$50,000/year (62%)
- Experienced a job loss during pandemic (51%)
- Someone with chronic illness (48%)
- Food insecurity (56%)



Diaper need is not limited to low-income households

Almost 1 in 5 households (19%) earning \$100,000+ in 2019 (pre-pandemic) experienced diaper need in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic

High rates of diaper need reported among households using food assistance programs

SNAP

55%

WIC

60%

Food Pantry

60%

Read the full report in *Health Equity* at <https://doi.org/10.1089/heq.2021.0093>

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This research was conducted as part of the National Food Access and COVID Research Team (NFACT). To learn more visit: www.nfactresearch.org.

