

Breastfeeding Initiation and Duration, Waterloo Region & Ontario, 2009-2010, 2011-2012, 2013-2014

Table 1. Proportion of women aged 15 to 49 years who gave birth in the last five years, by breastfeeding status, Waterloo Region & Ontario, 2009-2010, 2011-2012, 2013-2014

| Place of Residence | Breastfeeding status | 2009-2010 | 2011-2012 | 2013-2014 |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Waterloo Region | Initiated breastfeeding | 96.3 (CI:92.8-99.8) | 93.3 (CI:86.3-100.0) | 95.5 (CI: 90.3-100.0) |
| | Breastfed for at least 6 months | 64.6 (CI:51.9-77.3) | 79.5 (CI:66.6-92.5) | 61.7 (CI: 44.0-79.4) |
| | Exclusively breastfed for at least 6 months | 31.3 (CI: 16.7-45.8) ^E | 32.3 (CI: 15.0-49.5) ^E | F |
| Ontario | Initiated breastfeeding | 88.5 (CI:86.1-90.9) | 88.6 (CI:86.3-90.9) | 90.6 (CI: 88.5-92.6) |
| | Breastfed for at least 6 months | 54.7 (CI:51.0-58.5) | 55.8 (CI:51.3-60.4) | 63.2 (CI: 59.9-66.5) |
| | Exclusively breastfed for at least 6 months | 34.1 (CI: 30.2-37.9) | 33.2 (CI: 28.6-37.8) | F |

Definition:

Breastfeeding initiation: Proportion of mothers aged 15 to 49 years who breastfed their last baby (born within last five years).

Six-month breastfeeding duration: Proportion of mothers aged 15 to 49 years who breastfed their last baby for at least six months.

Six-month exclusive breastfeeding duration: Proportion of mothers aged 15 to 49 years who breastfed their last baby for at least six months and who did not add any other liquids or solid foods until at least six months.

Table 2. Proportion of women aged 15 to 49 years who gave birth in the last five years and initiated breastfeeding, by age, municipality, household income, level of education & immigration status, Waterloo Region, 2009-2014 (combined)

| | Measure | Per cent |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Age group | 15 to 18 years | F |
| | 19 to 34 years | 96.4 (CI: 93.4-99.4) |
| | 35 to 49 years | 93.1 (CI: 87.5-98.7) |
| Municipality | Cambridge | 95.0 (CI: 89.2-100.0) |
| | Kitchener | 93.6 (CI: 89.1-98.1) |
| | Waterloo | 99.0 (CI: 96.6-100.0) |
| | Townships | 98.2 (CI: 93.8-100.0) |
| Household income | Less than \$40,000 | 94.1 (CI: 86.7-100.0) |
| | \$40,000 or more | 95.1 (CI: 91.9-98.4) |
| | Don't know/refused | F |
| Level of education | High school diploma or less | 86.8 (CI: 76.6-97.0) |
| | More than high school | 98.1 (CI: 96.4-99.7) |
| Immigration Status | Immigrant | 93.3 (CI: 87.1-99.5) |
| | Canadian-born | 95.6 (CI: 92.1-99.2) |

Limitations and Notes:

The CCHS is based on self-reported data collected in telephone and in-person interviews. The CCHS excludes individuals living on Indian reserve communities, institutions, full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces, and residents of remote regions of the country.

Self-reported measures are subject to such sources of bias as social desirability bias and recall bias.

'Don't know', refused and not stated responses were removed from analysis when they represented less than five per cent of the sample. In removing these responses from the denominator, the assumption is that the missing values are random, which is not always the case.

The 'Townships' category combines responses from North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich townships.

'CI' refers to 95 per cent confidence limits.

The superscript 'E' denotes high sampling variability, and estimates must be interpreted with caution.

Limitations and Notes (continued):

The 'F' denotes estimates which were suppressed due to unacceptably high sampling variability.

Age of women refers to age at time of interview, not age at time of birth.

Mothers who were still breastfeeding at time of interview were excluded from calculation of breastfeeding duration figures.

The definitions of breastfeeding initiation and duration, and the resulting breastfeeding rates using CCHS may differ from those using other data sources (e.g., local research surveys done by Region of Waterloo Public Health).

Source:

Canadian Community Health Survey, 2009-2010, 2011-2012, 2013-2014, Statistics Canada, Share File, Ontario MOHLTC.

Table 3. Proportion of women aged 15 to 49 years who gave birth in the last five years and breastfed for at least six months, by age, municipality, household income, level of education & immigration status, Waterloo Region, 2009-2014 (combined)

| | Measure | Per cent |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Age group | 15 to 18 years | F |
| | 19 to 34 years | 65.5 (CI: 55.0-76.0) |
| | 35 to 49 years | 72.9 (CI: 58.5-87.3) |
| Municipality | Cambridge | 65.7 (CI: 51.3-80.2) |
| | Kitchener | 69.7 (CI: 59.3-80.1) |
| | Waterloo | F |
| | Townships | 60.9 (CI: 32.8-89.1) ^E |
| Household income | Less than \$40,000 | 80.3 (CI: 59.1-100.0) |
| | \$40,000 or more | 66.8 (CI: 57.7-75.8) |
| | Don't know/refused | F |
| Level of education | High school diploma or less | 61.4 (CI: 42.0-80.8) |
| | More than high school | 71.0 (CI: 61.4-80.6) |
| Immigration Status | Immigrant | 69.1 (CI: 49.6-88.7) |
| | Canadian-born | 68.0 (CI: 59.3-76.7) |

Table 4. Proportion of women aged 15 to 49 years who gave birth in the last five years and exclusively breastfed for at least six months, by age, municipality, household income, level of education & immigration status, Waterloo Region, 2009-2014 (combined)

| | Measure | Per cent |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Age group | 15 to 18 years | F |
| | 19 to 34 years | 25.5 (CI: 16.4-34.7) ^E |
| | 35 to 49 years | 15.9 (CI: 7.0-24.7) ^E |
| Municipality | Cambridge | F |
| | Kitchener | 20.5 (CI: 9.8-31.1) ^E |
| | Waterloo | F |
| | Townships | 22.8 (CI: 8.6-37.0) ^E |
| Household income | Less than \$40,000 | F |
| | \$40,000 or more | 21.0 (CI: 14.0-28.1) ^E |
| | Don't know/refused | F |
| Level of education | High school diploma or less | F |
| | More than high school | 26.1 (CI: 16.9-35.2) ^E |
| Immigration Status | Immigrant | F |
| | Canadian-born | 22.1 (CI: 14.3-30.0) ^E |

Contact Information:

Region of Waterloo Public Health

Epidemiology and Health Analytics Team
99 Regina Street South, Third Floor
Waterloo, Ontario N2J 4V3
Canada

Phone: 519-575-4400

Fax: 519-883-2241

TTY: 519-575-4608

Website: <http://chd.region.waterloo.on.ca/>

Email: eha@regionofwaterloo.ca

Accessible formats of this document are available upon request. Please call the Coordinator, Marketing and Communications at 519-575-4400 ext. 2244, (TTY 519-575-4608) to request an accessible format.

Internal access to document: DOCS #816115