

11. Exclusive breastfeeding rate 0-5 months of age

Abbreviated name	Exclusive breastfeeding rate Exclusive breastfeeding 0–5 months of age
Indicator name	Health determinants and risk/risk factors
Domain/subdomain	Children ever breastfed – Continued breastfeeding at 1 year – Continued breastfeeding at 2 years – Duration of breastfeeding – Early initiation of breastfeeding – Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months – Nutrition
Related/Associated terms	Proportion of infants 0–5 months of age (<6 months) who are fed exclusively with breast milk
Definition	Percentage of infants 0–5 months of age who are fed exclusively with breast milk = (Infants 0–5 months of age who received only breast milk during the previous day/Infants 0–5 months of age) x 100. Current status data are used. Vitamins and mineral drops or medicines are not counted.
Numerator	Number of infants 0–5 months of age who are exclusively breastfed
Denominator	Total number of infants 0–5 months of age surveyed
Method of estimation	WHO maintains the WHO Global Data Bank on Infant and Young Child Feeding, which pools information mainly from national and regional surveys, and studies dealing specifically with the prevalence and duration of breastfeeding and complementary feeding. The process includes data checking and validation
Disaggregation	Administrative regions, health regions, location (urban/rural), gender
Primary/preferred data sources	Household surveys, specific population surveys, surveillance systems
Alternative/other possible data sources	National health surveys
Measurement frequency	Every 3–5 years