

Health Intelligence briefing

Breastfeeding in Northern Ireland, February 2020



Breastfeeding attempted
61.2%
(2018)



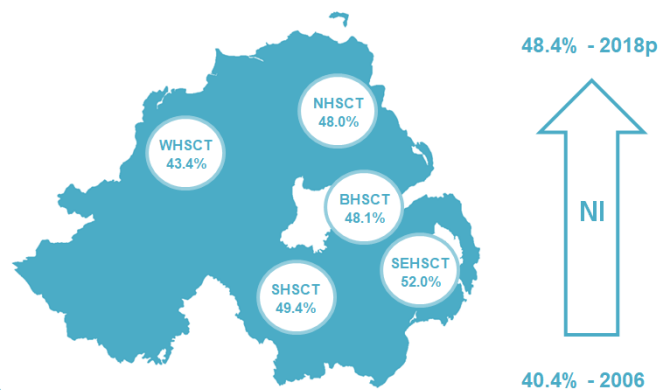
Skin-to-skin, 2018

(of those breastfed at birth n=12,389)

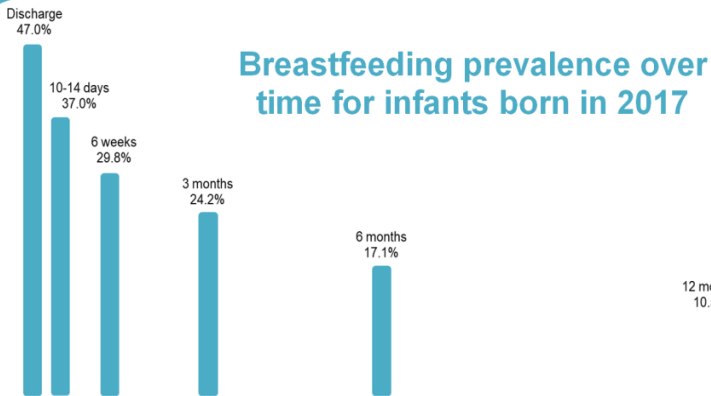
Any skin-to-skin: 92.6%

For at least 1 hour: 81.2%
Until after first feed: 78.9%

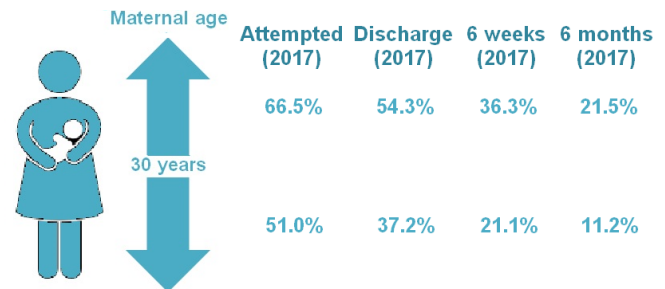
Breastfeeding at discharge from hospital (2018p)



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Breastfeeding prevalence over time for infants born in 2017



Breastfeeding at discharge (2018p)

Non-Sure Start
53.9%

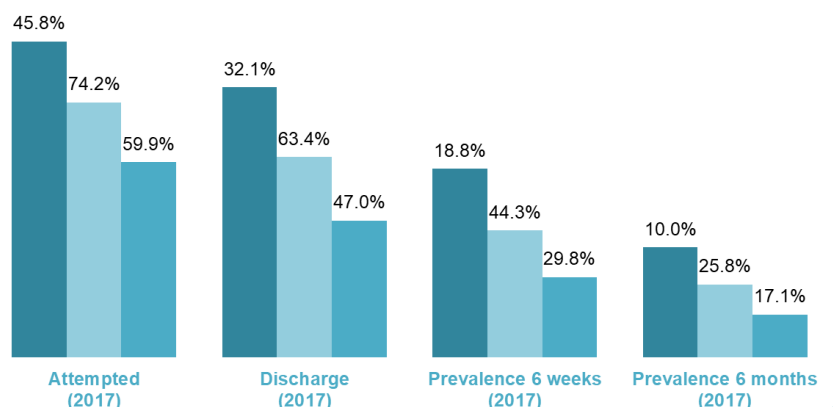
Northern Ireland
48.3%

Sure Start
39.5%

NI CHS: Live births to NI resident mothers

Breastfeeding health inequalities

■ Least deprived 20% (SOA) ■ Northern Ireland ■ Most deprived 20% (SOA)



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Northern Ireland context and policy on breastfeeding

'Breastfeeding – A Great Start. A strategy for Northern Ireland 2013-2023' aims to improve the health and well-being of mothers and babies through breastfeeding and outlines the strategic direction to protect, promote, support and normalise breastfeeding in Northern Ireland.¹

The Northern Ireland Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016–21 aims to improve wellbeing for all – by tackling disadvantage, and driving economic growth. The framework includes 14 outcomes and those particularly relevant to breastfeeding are 'Outcome 4: We enjoy long, healthy, active lives' and 'Outcome 14: We give our children and young people the best start in life'.²

The *Making Life Better* strategy aims to "Achieve better health and wellbeing for everyone and reduce inequalities in health."³ The strategic framework is structured around six key themes and the following three themes relate to breastfeeding:

- Theme 1: Giving every child the best start recognises that what happens to children in their earliest years is key to outcomes in adult life. Under Outcome 2, Healthy and confident children and young people, the strategy commits to implementation of the breastfeeding strategy including support programmes for those least likely to breastfeed.
- Theme 3: Empowering Healthy Living, Outcome 7 Improved health and reduction in harm highlights the need to develop and implement strategies, action plans and targeted programmes to increase breastfeeding rates.
- Theme 6: Developing Collaboration focuses on the need for integration of public health principles across all parts of society and under Outcome 17, A Strategic Approach to Public Health identifies the requirement to consider and implement legislative change to support public health including promotion and support of breastfeeding.

Other strategies in Northern Ireland that relate to breastfeeding include:

- Health and Wellbeing 2026 – Delivering Together⁴
- A Fitter Future for All-Framework for Preventing and Addressing Overweight and Obesity in Northern Ireland 2012-2022⁵
- A Strategy for Maternity Care in Northern Ireland 2012-2018⁶
- A Healthier Future: A Twenty Year Vision for Health and Wellbeing in Northern Ireland 2005-2025⁷
- The Executive's Child Poverty Strategy⁸
- Children and Young People's Strategy 2017-2027 Consultation Document⁹
- 'Supporting the best start in life' Infant Mental Health Framework and Action Plan 2015-2018¹⁰
- Improving and Safeguarding Social Wellbeing A Strategy for Social Work in Northern Ireland 2012-2022¹¹

In line with Department of Health (DoH) priorities, including the Making Life Better public health framework, the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016–21, and local government-led community planning, the Public Health Agency Corporate plan sets out the strategic direction and priorities for 2017-21.¹² Under the outcome "All children and young people have the best start in life" it includes the *"Proportion of mothers breastfeeding on discharge and differential between the average and most deprived breastfeeding"* as a key indicator to monitor breastfeeding.¹³

UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF recommend that every infant should be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life, with continued breastfeeding for up to two years or longer.^{14,15}

The WHO Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding have recently been revised and the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Standards reflect the global standards (Figures 1 and 2).^{16,17}

UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative (BFI) awards are based on a set of interlinking evidence-based standards for maternity, health visiting, neonatal and children's centres services. These are designed to provide parents with the best possible care to build close and loving relationships with their baby and to feed their baby in ways which will support optimum health and development. UNICEF UK BFI works with the health service to support breastfeeding.

UNICEF UK also runs a Baby Friendly programme for universities to ensure that their courses equip newly qualified midwives and health visitors to implement the Baby Friendly standards. Universities implement the standards in stages and the course is accredited as Baby Friendly.

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance recommends that healthcare providers, including hospitals and community use the Baby Friendly Initiative as a minimum standard.¹⁸ At December 2019, across the UK, 62% of maternity services, 72% of health visiting services, 47% of Midwifery courses; 15% Health visiting courses, 21 children's centres and 12 neonatal units have achieved full, independent Baby Friendly accreditation.¹⁹

In 2016 UK BFI launched the Achieving Sustainability standards which are designed to support longer-term implementation of best practice standards.²⁰ A service is considered to be achieving sustainability when they have implemented and maintained the core Baby Friendly standards for at least two years as confirmed by a full re-assessment. In addition, they have adequate leadership structures in place to support continued maintenance of the standards. Gold award services must also demonstrate that they cultivate a positive and enabling culture for Baby Friendly, with consideration given to the specific cultural and societal challenges in the UK.

Baby Friendly Initiative in Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland breastfeeding strategy outlines the need to ensure that 'Health and Social Care has the necessary knowledge, skills and leadership to protect, promote, support and normalise breastfeeding'. One of the strategic actions included is that all maternity and community health care services should achieve and maintain UNICEF UK BFI accreditation and that Universities in Northern Ireland should be supported to achieve UNICEF UK BFI University Standards accreditation for midwifery and health visiting training courses.

Introduced in Northern Ireland in 1994, the Baby Friendly Initiative is currently supported by the Public Health Agency (PHA) and implemented across all five HSC Trust areas.

All maternity units in Northern Ireland have achieved full BFI. This compares to 100% in Scotland, 78% in Wales and 58% in England.²¹ Health Visiting Services across NHSCT, WHSCT, SHSCT and SEHSCT have achieved full BFI accreditation for the health visiting service. BHSCT health visiting service has now met Stage 2 requirements and is progressing towards Stage 3 assessment in 2020.

Some Sure Start services in Northern Ireland have previously been involved in BFI accreditation jointly with health visiting services. Sure Starts are now being encouraged to implement the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly standards for Children's Centres and where possible to work towards accreditation jointly with a group of other Sure Start projects. Recent progress has meant that all five HSC Trust

areas have now become actively involved in achieving and maintaining BFI accreditation. A full list of NI Sure Start awards can be accessed at <https://unicefbfi.secure.force.com/Events/Awards>.

The BFI Neonatal Standards were developed in response to the need to improve breastfeeding outcomes for the most vulnerable babies and mothers. The standards focus on specific ways to transform care for families within the neonatal unit as follows;

1. Enabling staff to support parents to have a close and loving relationship with their baby.
2. Enabling babies to receive breastmilk and to be breastfed when possible
3. Valuing parents as partners in care.

There are 12 fully accredited BFI Neonatal Units in UK and NHSCT received the first NI Neonatal award with their Stage 1 accreditation in 2019.

In 2017 Queens University Belfast achieved Full University Standards accreditation for their BSc (Hons) Midwifery Sciences (3 years) and BSc (Hons) Midwifery Studies (18 months) courses.

In 2018 NHSCT maternity services and health visiting service achieved the first joint UK Baby Friendly Initiative Gold Standard Award in recognition of their long standing commitment to best practice and implementation of the Achieving Sustainability Standards. They are the first joint hospital and community award in the UK which demonstrates a high level of effective partnership working across the Trust and were successfully revalidated in 2019

Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) and Northern Ireland Child Health System (CHS)

This briefing includes analysis of data sourced from the Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) and Northern Ireland Child Health System (CHS).

The Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) contains a range of demographic and clinical information on mothers and infants. It captures data relating to the current maternity process, but also contains details about the mother's past medical and obstetric history. It is a key source for data on birth numbers, interventions, maternal risk factors, birth weights, maternal smoking, BMI and breastfeeding at discharge. In June 2016 a number of changes were implemented on NIMATS to expand the data collected in relation to infant feeding and inform practice (for further information see Appendix: Data Sources). On the basis that this has involved changes to the NIMATS system and recording practice, information relating to these fields has been included as **experimental data**.

The Northern Ireland Child Health System (CHS) acts as a call and recall system for a variety of immunisations, vaccinations and screening tests. In addition, a wide range of health data is recorded at birth, throughout infancy and while the child is at school. Each of the four legacy health board areas has its own identical CHS and data is currently extracted separately from each system. This tends to mean that data reported from CHS is less current than NIMATS.

The Child Health System currently collates information on the feeding status of infants at discharge from hospital, first visit (10-14 days), 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months and 12 months in line with Healthy Child, Healthy Future. This data provides an indication of the prevalence of breastfeeding at these time points.

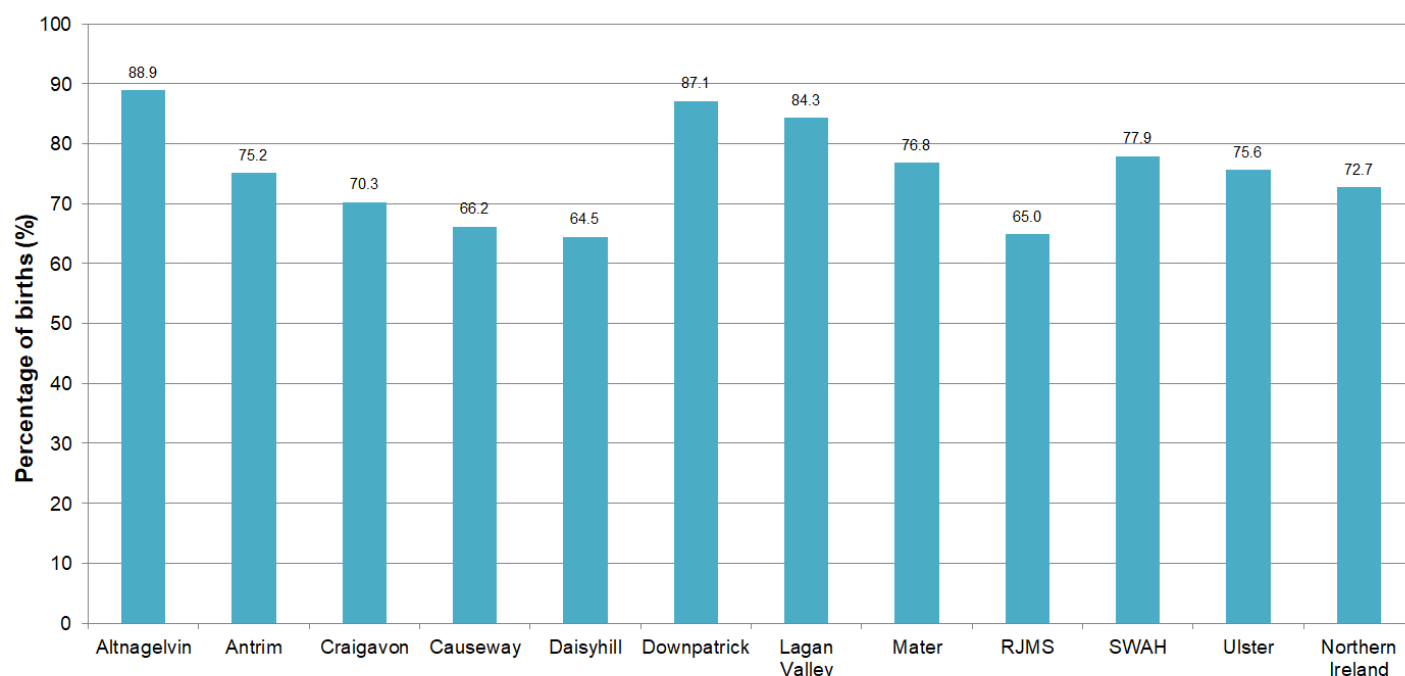
Data limitations: There is a time lag in reporting data on breastfeeding prevalence for example, 12 month data for an infant born in December 2016 will not be due for collection until December 2017. As such it is important to note that feeding status was not fully recorded for all time points at the time of the data download from CHS, as illustrated by the high proportions of unknowns at 6 and 12 months. Figures are subject to change as data is updated on CHS and as such should be considered provisional. It is intended that the 2016p cohort of birth data will be updated in the next brief.

Both NIMATS and CHS capture information on breastfeeding at discharge. This brief includes data from both sources as NIMATS data is directly available from the Northern Ireland data warehouse, providing more recent data. However, it is important to note that there will be some variation in the total births included as the systems collect information differently for example, NIMATS will record births in Northern Ireland hospitals while CHS will include infants not born in NI hospitals. This may result in minor variation in the breastfeeding rates calculated from each system for the same time period.

Feeding at birth

All mothers should be offered the opportunity to give a first breast feed at birth; data for 2018 indicates that overall, 72.7% of mothers were offered the opportunity to give a first breastfeed (Figure 1, Appendix Table A). Figure 1 also illustrates variation by hospital.

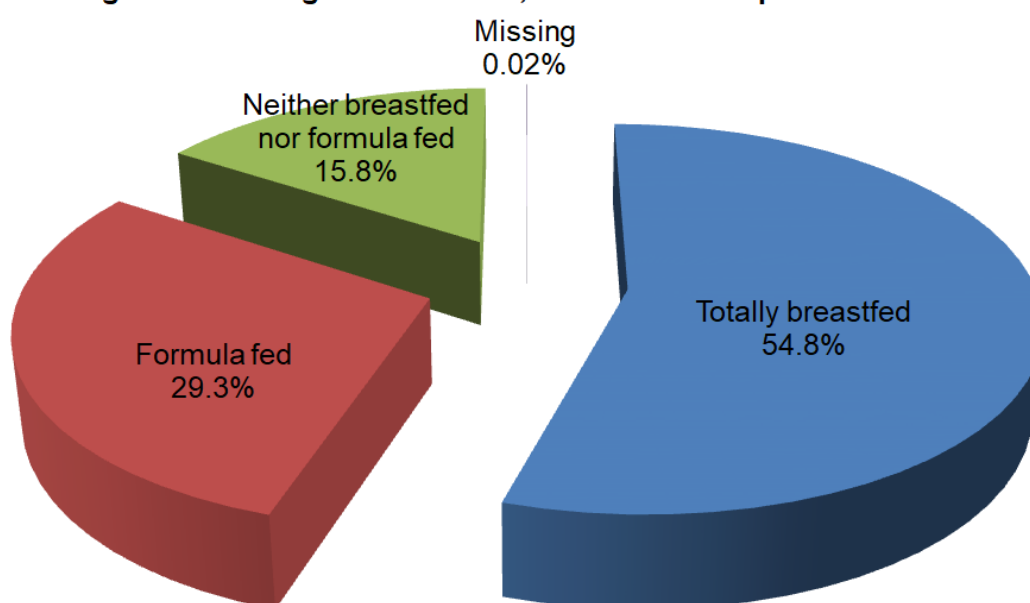
Figure 1: Breast feeding offered (%) at birth by hospital, 2018 NIMATS data



Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Data also shows that at birth 54.8% of infants were breastfed, 29.3% were formula fed while a further 15.8% did not receive a feed at this time (Figure 2, Appendix Table B).

Figure 2: Feeding status at birth, 2018 NIMATS experimental data

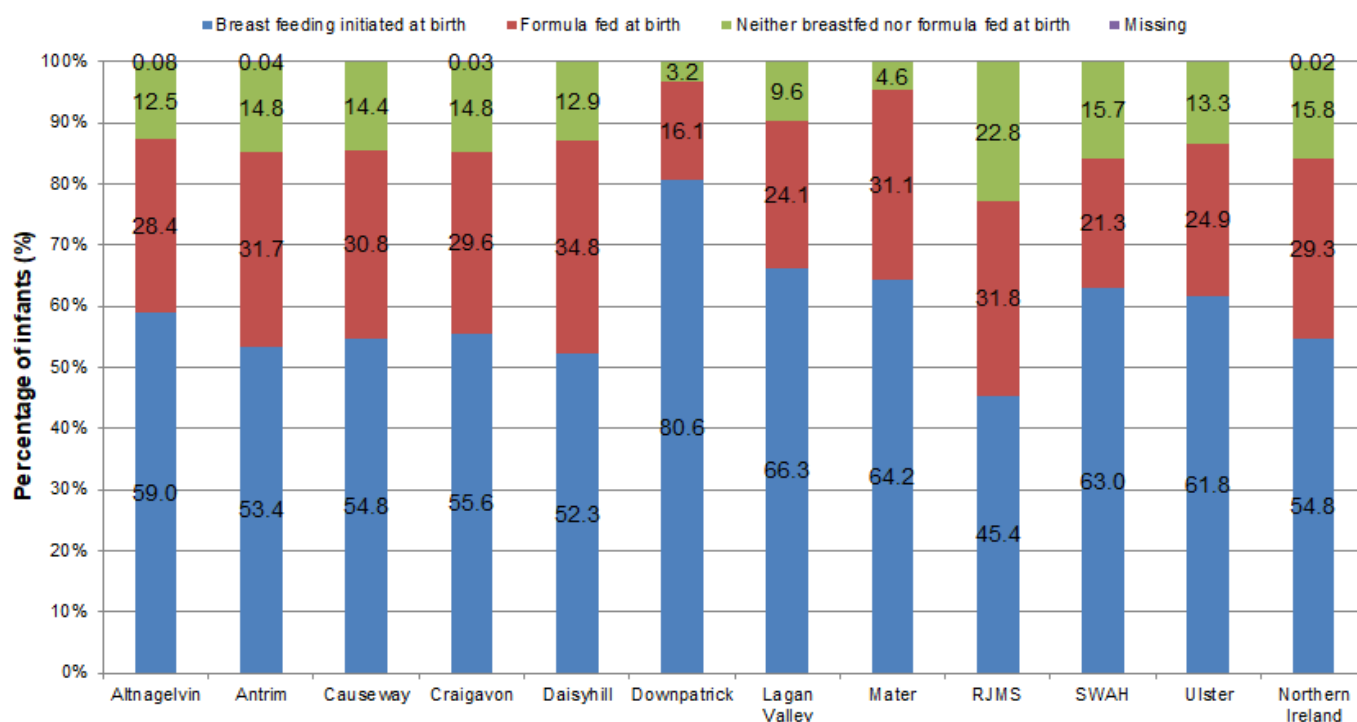


Base N=22,592: Breastfeeding initiated (n=12,389, Formula fed at birth (n=6,626), neither (n=3,573), missing (n=4).

Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Figure 3 illustrates the variation in infant feeding at birth by hospital. The highest rates of breastfeeding initiation at birth were recorded for Downpatrick (80.6%) with the lowest rates recorded for Royal Jubilee (45.4%) (Appendix Table B).

Figure 3: Infant feeding at birth by hospital, 2018 NIMATS
Experimental data



Source: NIMATS; Live births, NI resident mothers Excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and infants born before arrival at hospital.

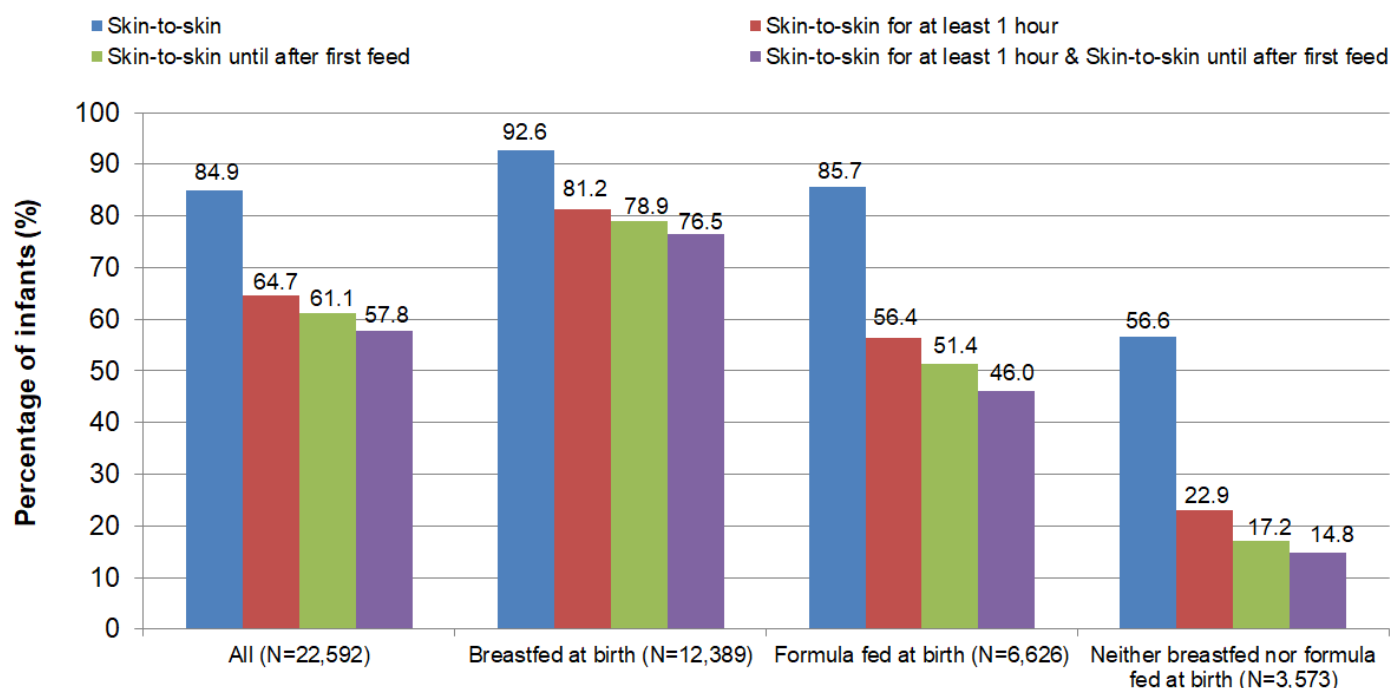
Step 8 of the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative (BFI) outlines that mothers should be supported to recognise and respond to their infants' cues for feeding, regardless of feeding type.²² Overall, NIMATS data shows that responsiveness was discussed with 94.1% of mothers at birth (ranging from 91.2% to 100% by hospital).

Skin-to-skin contact at birth

Skin-to-skin contact has a number of benefits for mothers and babies. There is evidence that skin-to-skin contact at birth can support mothers to establish and maintain breastfeeding.^{23,24}

NIMATS data for 2018 shows that 84.9% of infants (19,176/22,592) received skin-to-skin contact at birth (Figure 4, Appendix Table C); 64.7% (14,621) received skin-to-skin contact for at least one hour with 61.1% (13,801) having skin-to-skin contact until after the first feed. Skin-to-skin contact at birth was more common among infants who were breastfed at birth (92.6%; 11,474/12,389) compared to those who were formula fed at birth (85.7%; 5,680/6,626).

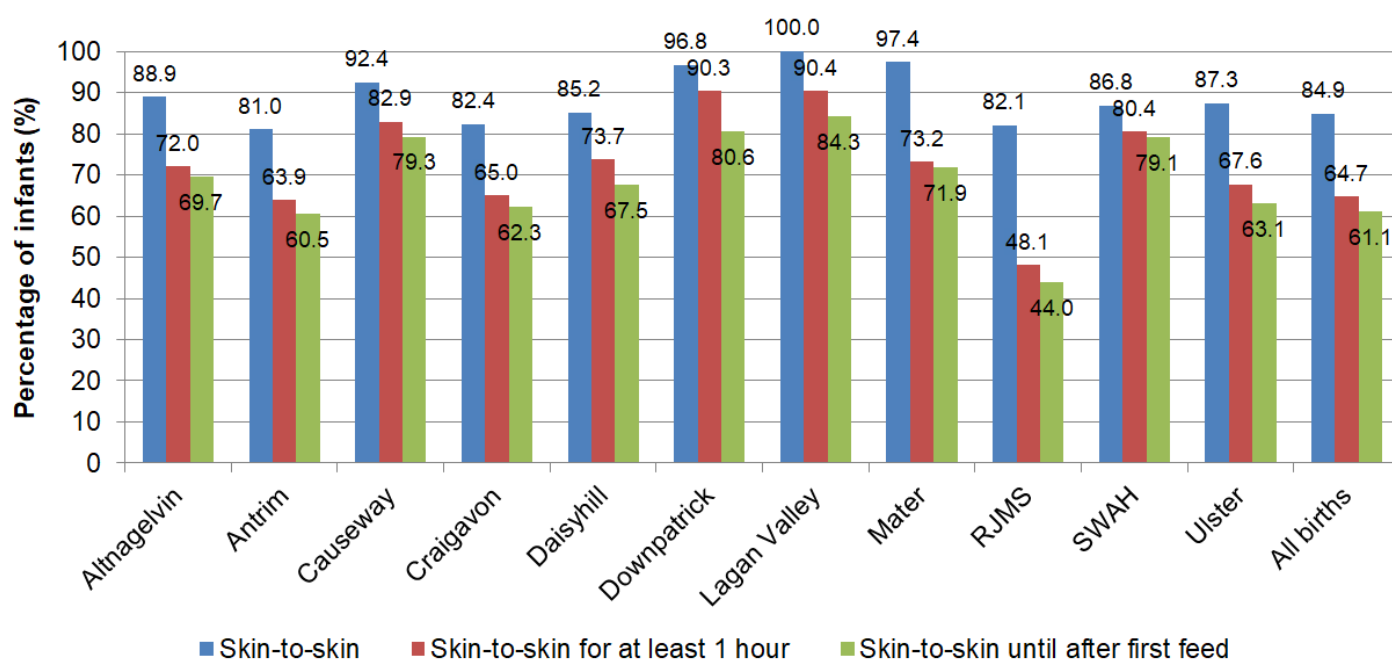
Figure 4 : Skin-to-skin contact at birth by feeding type at birth, 2018
NIMATS Experimental data



Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

It is recommended that skin-to-skin contact begins immediately, regardless of method of delivery and should be uninterrupted for at least one hour. Figure 5 shows overall rates of skin-to-skin contact which range from 81% to 100% depending on hospital (Appendix Table D). There is generally a noticeable drop in the rates of infants who receive skin-to-skin contact for at least one hour.

Figure 5: Skin-to-skin contact at birth by hospital, 2018
NIMATS experimental data (all feeding types)



Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

As previously shown, rates of skin to skin contact are higher among infants breastfed at birth and Table 1 provides the breakdown of rates by hospital.

Table 1: Skin-to-skin contact at birth for infants breastfed at birth by hospital, 2018

	Births	Skin-to-skin		Skin-to-skin for at least 1 hour		Skin-to-skin until after first feed	
	N	N	%	N	%	N	%
Altnagelvin	1,450	1,358	93.7	1,206	83.2	1,198	82.6
Antrim	1,506	1,369	90.9	1,239	82.3	1,179	78.3
Causeway	489	477	97.5	462	94.5	458	93.7
Craigavon	2,186	1,969	90.1	1,748	80.0	1,715	78.5
Daisyhill	852	792	93.0	755	88.6	744	87.3
Downpatrick	25	27	100.0	23	92.0	22	88.0
Lagan Valley	55	73	100.0	54	98.2	53	96.4
Mater	194	153	97.9	162	83.5	158	81.4
RJMS	2,310	1,964	91.6	1,583	68.5	1,495	64.7
SWAH	776	794	95.1	722	93.0	719	92.7
Ulster	2,546	2,220	93.7	2,109	82.8	2,037	80.0
Infants breastfed at birth	12,389	11,474	92.6	10,063	81.2	9,778	78.9

Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Breastfeeding attempted

Breastfeeding is considered to have been attempted if the baby has been put to the breast or received mother's breast milk while in hospital. In 2018, data shows that breastfeeding was attempted¹ for around 6 out of ten births (61.2%) in Northern Ireland, a 7.1% increase from 54.1% in 2012 (Table 2; Appendix Table E).²

Table 2: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by year, 2012-2018

Year	Yes		No		Missing data		Total	
	Breastfeeding attempted		Breastfeeding not attempted					
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
2018	13,881	61.2	8,701	38.3	117	0.5	22,699	100.0
2017	13,877	59.9	9,174	39.6	98	0.4	23,149	100.0
2016	13,906	57.9	10,108	42.1	-	-	24,014	100.0
2015	13,751	56.8	10,449	43.2	-	-	24,200	100.0
2014	13,797	56.7	10,535	43.3	-	-	24,332	100.0
2013	13,461	56.1	10,538	43.9	-	-	23,999	100.0
2012	13,637	54.1	11,560	45.9	-	-	25,197	100.0

Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS); live births to NI resident mothers (excludes unknown residence); excludes home births and infants who died in the delivery suite.

Note: New fields relating to infant feeding were introduced on the NIMATS system in July 2016 allow the identification of missing data.

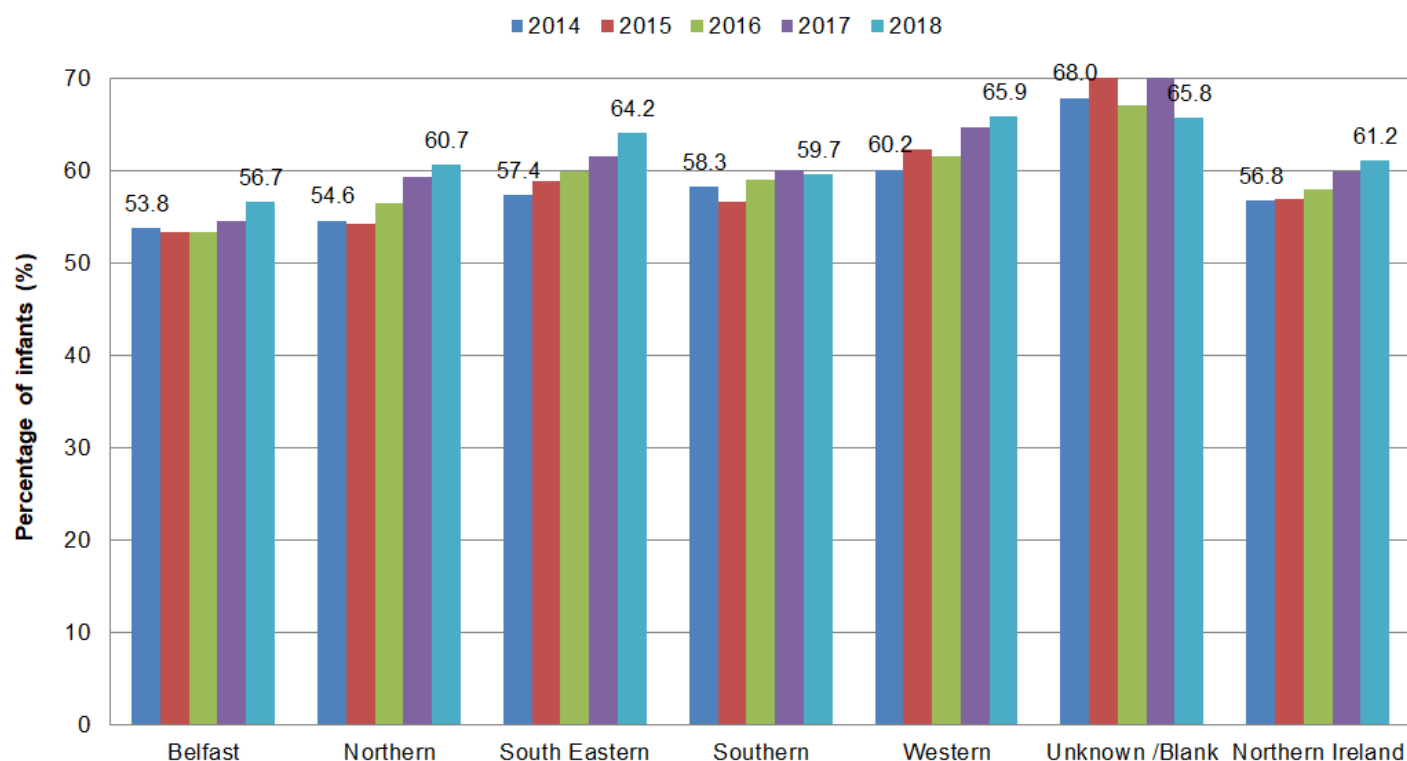
¹ Note: In 2016 changes to NIMATS involved the creation of a new screen to record all the feeding and relationship questions.

² This figure is lower than the incidence of breastfeeding in Northern Ireland reported in the 2010 Infant feeding survey (64%). It is suggested that the difference between the two sets of results is likely to be due to the methodological differences between data collection methods for example, IFS is based on self-reported information from women who agree to take part in the survey.

Health and Social Care Trust

In 2018, breastfeeding was attempted during the postnatal stay for 65.9% of infants from the Western HSCT* area compared to 64.2% from the South Eastern HSCT, 60.7% in the Northern HSCT, 59.7% of those in the Southern HSCT and 56.7% in Belfast HSCT (Figure 6, Appendix Table E).

Figure 6: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by HSCT*, 2014-2018

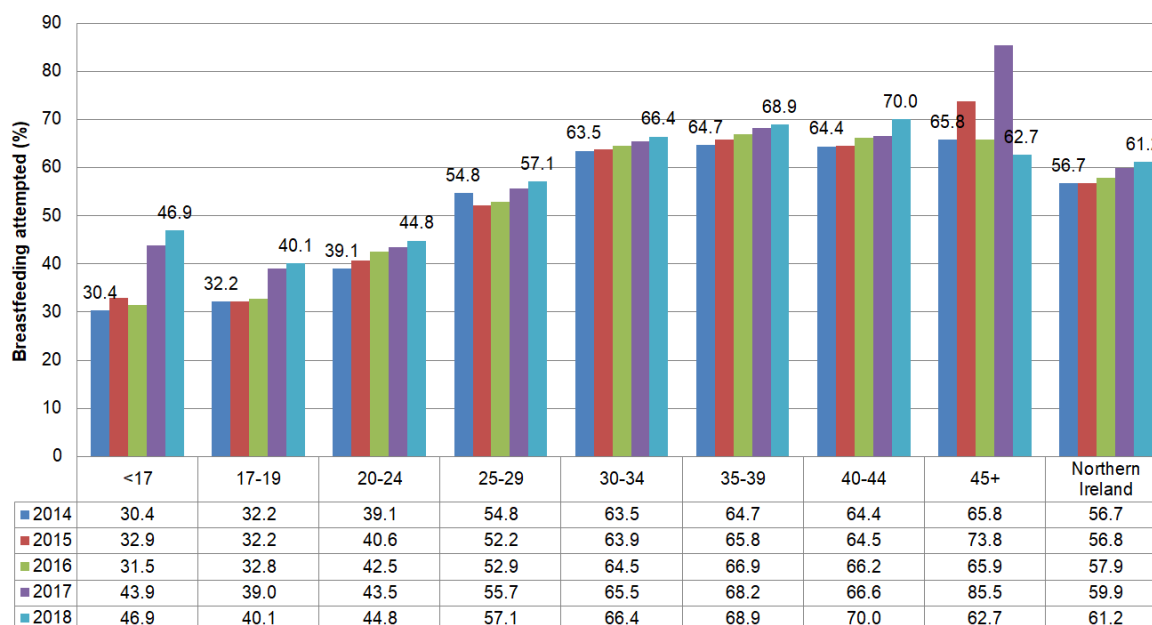


Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data includes live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite.
 * Based on maternal residence.

Maternal age

In line with previous findings from the UK Infant Feeding Survey (IFS), NIMATS data shows that the rate of breastfeeding varies according to mother's age, with older mothers more likely to attempt breastfeeding (Figure 7, Appendix Table F). In 2018, 44.8% of mothers aged 20-24 years attempted to breastfeed compared to 66.4% of mothers aged 30-34 years. A similar trend is observed for previous years.

Figure 7: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by maternal age, 2014-2018

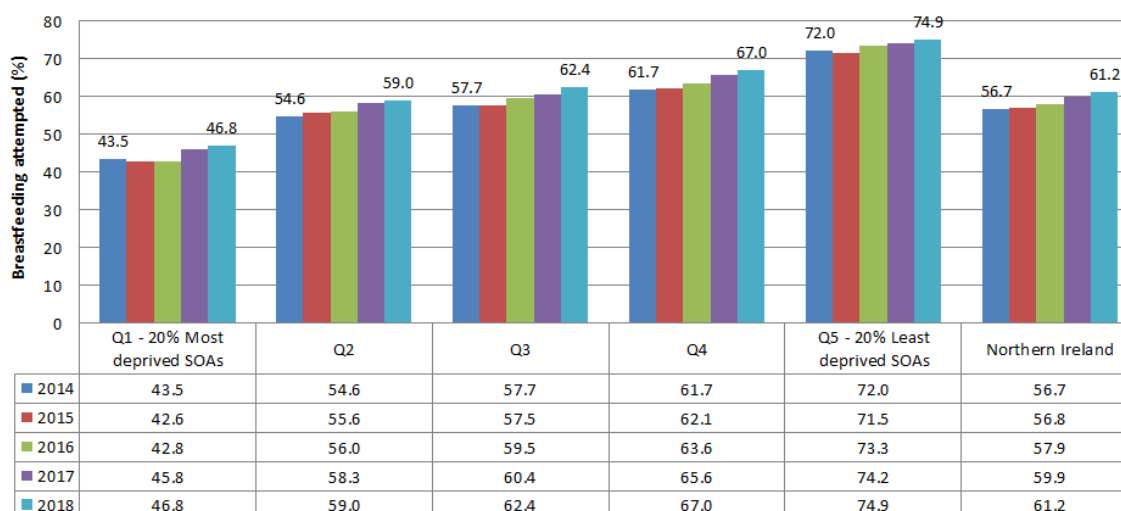


Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data for <17 and 45+ should be treated with caution due to relatively low numbers. Data includes live births to NI resident mothers, excludes home births and infants who died in the delivery suite.

Deprivation

There is an association between attempted breastfeeding and deprivation. In 2018, 46.8% of mothers living in the 20% most deprived Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Northern Ireland were reported as having attempted to breastfeed during the postnatal stay compared to 74.9% of those from the 20% least deprived SOAs (Figure 8, Appendix Table G).

Figure 8: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by deprivation quintile (SOA), 2014-2018

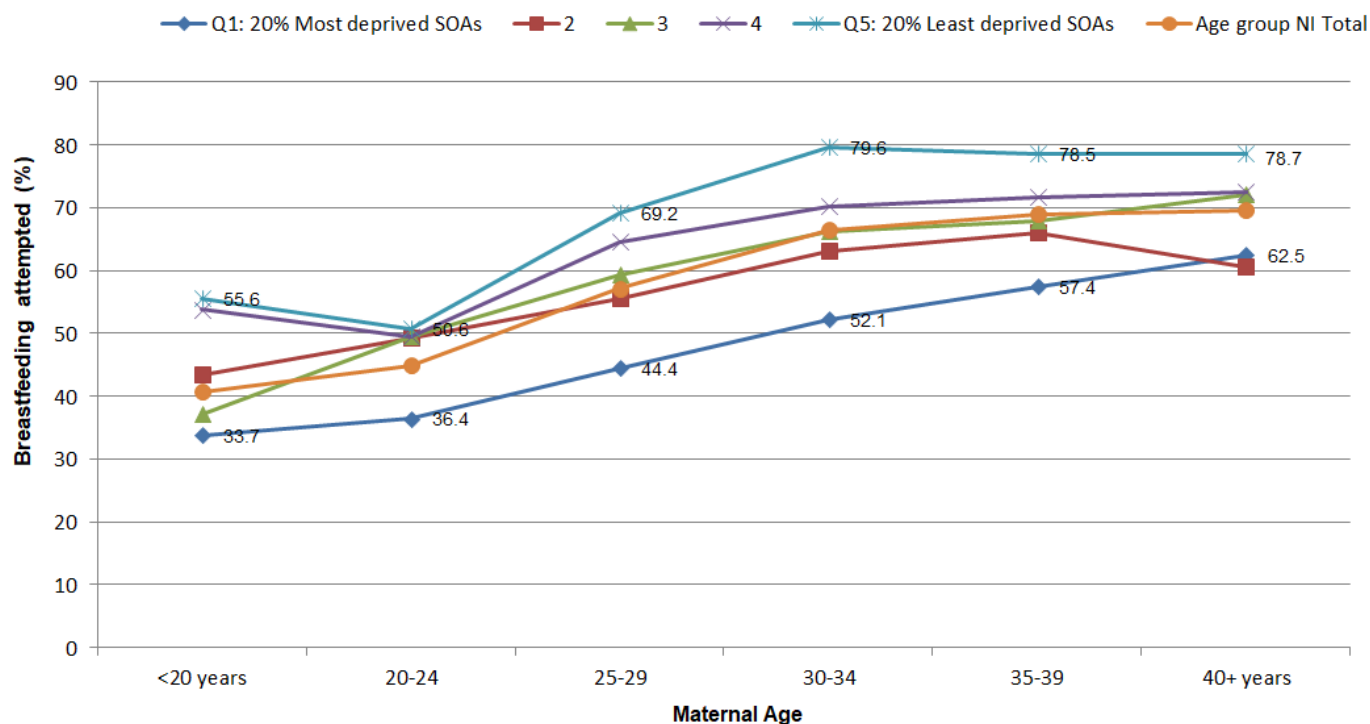


Source: NIMATS: Live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite. Note: Deprivation status as per Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for Super Output Area (SOA).

Maternal age and deprivation

Figure 9 shows the combined picture of maternal age and deprivation status on breastfeeding initiation rates (Appendix Table H). The increasing rate of attempted breastfeeding with age is consistent across all levels of deprivation. The relatively low numbers of births to those under 20 years of age in deprivation quintiles 4 and 5 may account for the variation observed in the rates of breastfeeding attempted within these groups.

Figure 9: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by maternal age and deprivation quintile (SOA), 2018



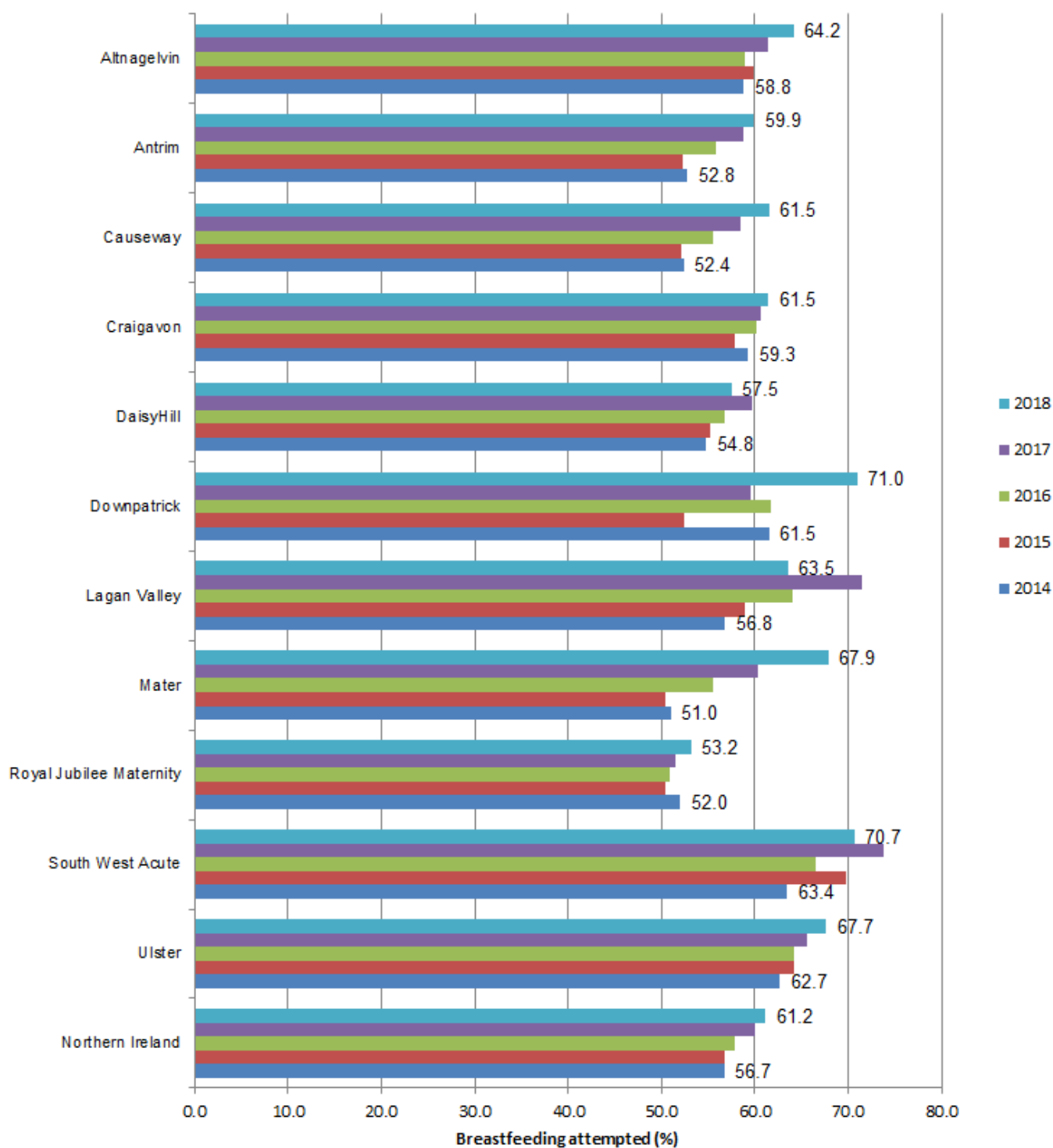
Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data includes live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite. Deprivation status as per Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for Super Output Area (SOA).

Place of birth

The rates of attempted breastfeeding are seen to vary by hospital (Figure 10, Appendix Table I). Data for 2018 show that the highest rates of attempted breastfeeding were recorded for Downpatrick (71.0%), South West Acute (70.7%), Mater (67.9%) and Ulster (67.7%).

Between 2012 and 2018 the proportion of births where breastfeeding was attempted increased from 54.1% to 61.2%.

Figure 10: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by hospital, 2012-2018



Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data includes live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite.

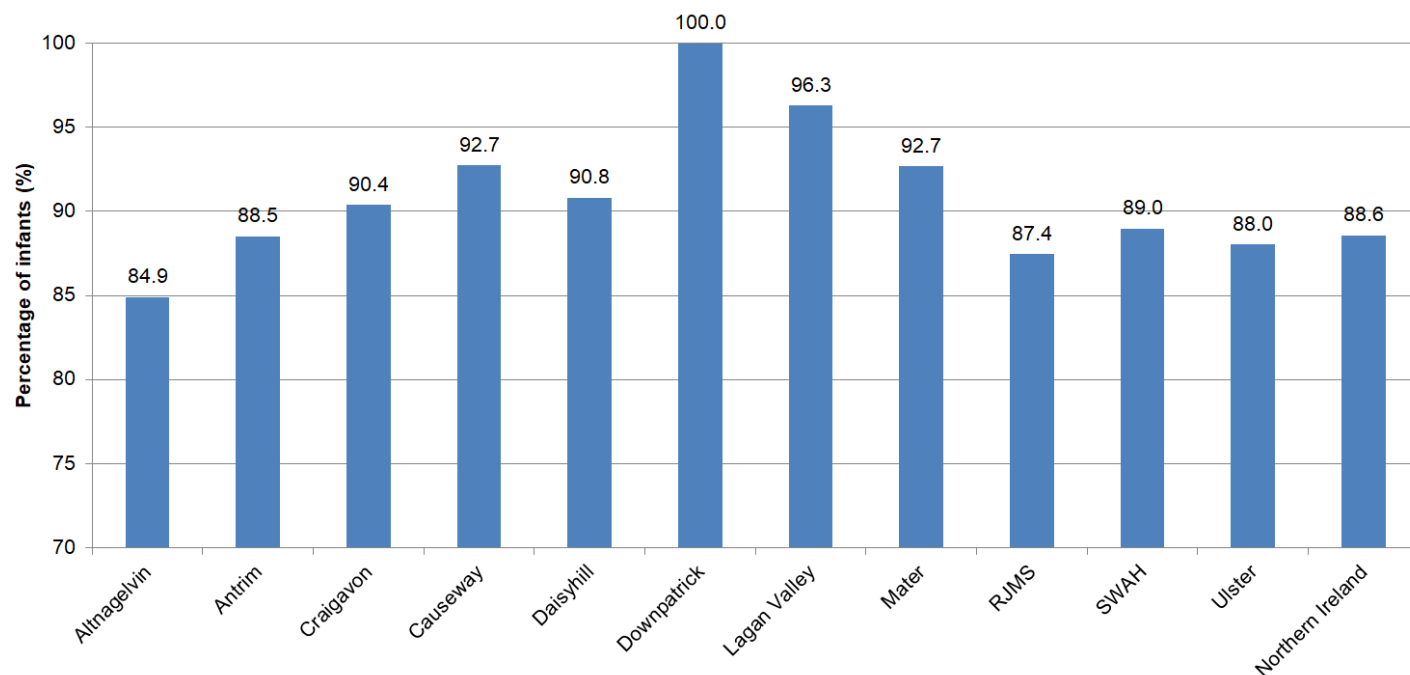
Note: On 30 April 2013 the Mater became a Midwifery Led Unit (MLU) and all consultant services moved to Royal Jubilee Maternity.

Feeding during the postnatal stay

In addition to information on breastfeeding having been attempted, NIMATS captures data on whether the infant has had at least one effective breastfeed during the postnatal stay.

Overall, where breastfeeding was attempted, 88.6% (12,248/13,826) of infants had at least one effective breastfeed during the postnatal stay. Figure 11 shows that there was some variation by hospital (Appendix Table J).

Figure 11: At least one effective breastfeed during postnatal stay by hospital, 2018
NIMATS experimental data
(of those where breastfeeding was attempted, n=13,826)

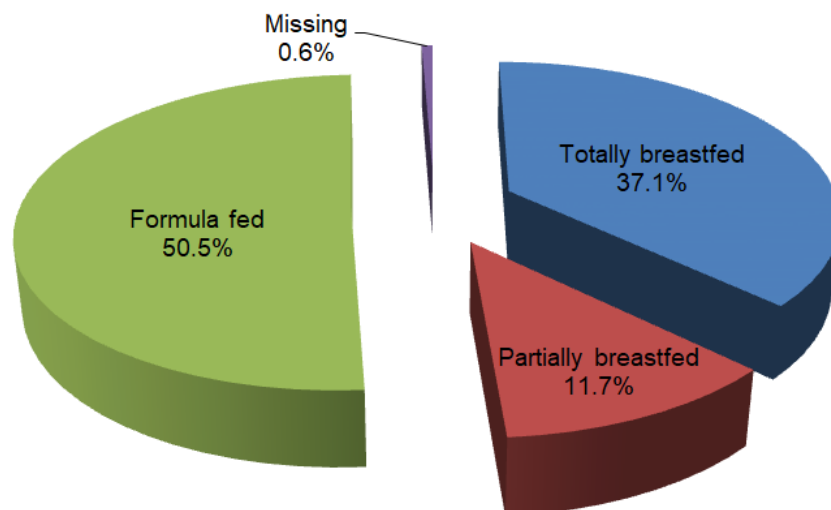


Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data includes live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births, infants died in delivery suite and babies born before arrival at hospital. Note: Non-Zero axis.

Feeding at discharge - NIMATS

NIMATS figures for 2018 indicate that 48.8% of infants were receiving breastmilk at discharge (37.1% totally breastfed and 11.7% partially breastfed) with 50.5% formula fed at discharge (Figure 12). [As previously stated, there will be some variation between total births recorded on the NIMATS and CHS as the systems collate information differently for example, NIMATS will record births in Northern Ireland hospitals while CHS will include infants not born in NI hospitals.]

Figure 12: Feeding status at discharge, 2018
NIMATS experimental data

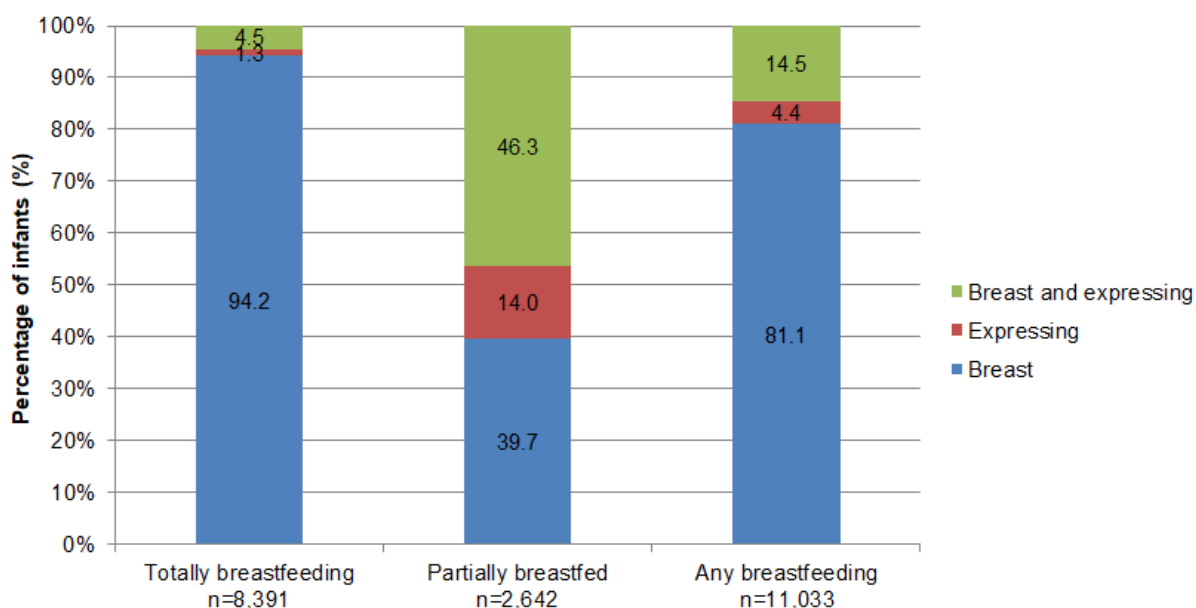


Base N=22,592: Totally breastfed (n=8,391), Partially breastfed (n=2,642), Formula fed (n=11,418), missing 141.

Source: NIMATS experimental data; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

For those who were totally or partially breastfed at discharge, the method of feeding was recorded as either breast, expressed or both. Figure 13 (Appendix Table K) shows that the majority (94.2%) of those recorded as totally breastfeeding at discharge were feeding by breast compared to 39.7% of those discharged partially breastfeeding.

Figure 13: Breastfeeding at discharge by feeding method, 2018
NIMATS experimental data



Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

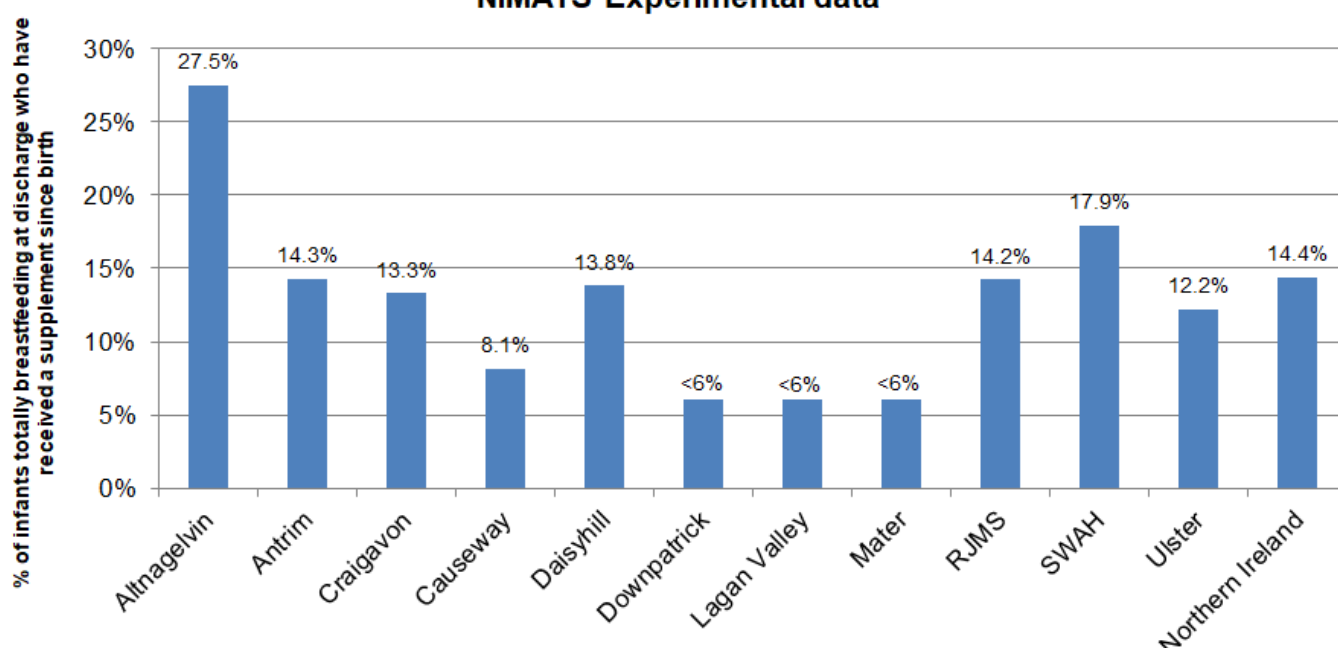
Supplementation

Evidence suggests that providing new born babies with foods or fluids other than breast milk in the first few days after birth has a negative impact on the successful establishment and maintenance of breastfeeding.^{25,26} Supplementation with artificial milk has also been found to significantly alter the intestinal microflora.²⁷

Current WHO guidance recommends that 'Mothers should be discouraged from giving any food or fluids other than breast milk, unless medically indicated'.²⁸ One of the key findings from a 2016 review of the Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative stated that 'Avoiding in-hospital supplementation appears to be a key step for breastfeeding success, perhaps reflecting adequate implementation of the rest of Ten Steps'.²⁹

For infants who are recorded as being totally breastfed at discharge, NIMATS also records if the infant has received any formula supplements. The system does not record the reason for supplementation i.e. clinical indication, fully informed choice or other. Overall, 14.4% (n=1,206) of infants who were totally breastfed at discharge had also received a formula supplement since birth (Figure 14, Appendix Table L). The rates of supplementation vary between hospitals and range from <5% to 27.4%.

Figure 14: Supplementation by hospital, 2018
NIMATS Experimental data



Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital. Northern Ireland base n=8,391 infants totally breastfed at discharge.

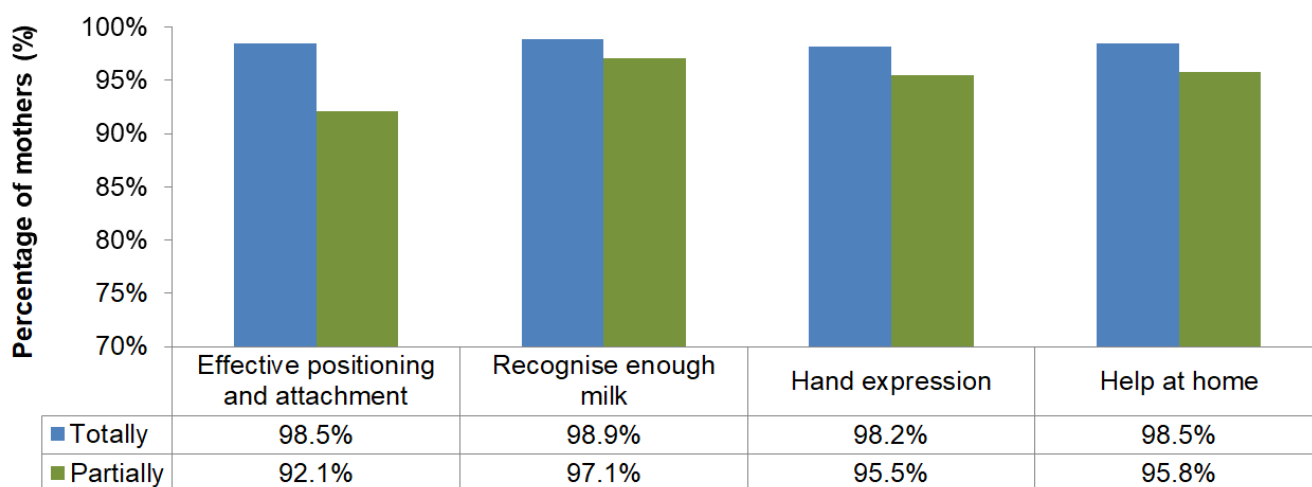
As previously highlighted skin-to-skin contact at birth can support mothers to establish and maintain breastfeeding. As such, it is of interest to note that of those infants who were totally breastfed at discharge, 13.5% (1,034/7,635) of those who had skin-to-skin contact at birth had received a supplement compared to 22.8% (172/756) of those who did not have skin-to-skin contact at birth.

Support with feeding

The UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative standards for maternity services require staff to enable mothers to get breastfeeding off to a good start and to support mothers to make informed decisions regarding the introduction of food or fluids other than breastmilk. This means that mothers should be supported to initiate and maintain breastfeeding and manage common difficulties. This includes coaching mothers on how to express breastmilk including hand expression, understanding good positioning and attachment and milk supply.

NIMATS data for 2018 shows that over nine out of ten mothers who were totally or partially breastfeeding at discharge had received information on effective positioning and attachment, recognising enough milk, hand expression and accessing help at home at discharge (Figure 15). Some variation is observed by hospital (Appendix Table M).

Figure 15: Breastfeeding support at discharge with hospital range, 2018
NIMATS experimental data

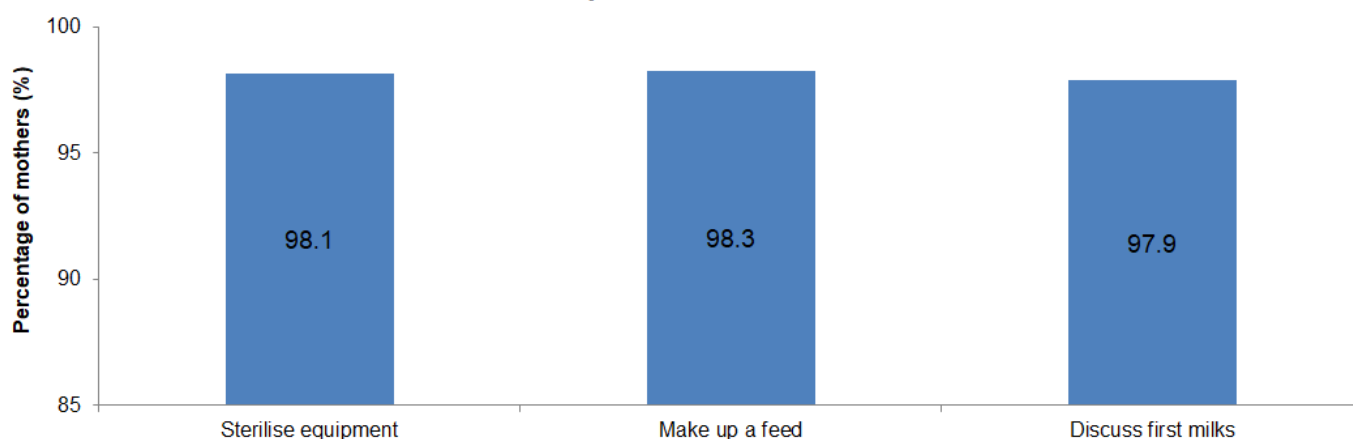


Note: Non-Zero axis

Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

BFI standards relating to support with bottle-feeding highlight that mothers who are mixed feeding or have chosen to formula feed should be taught about safe preparation and storage of formula. NIMATS records that a high proportions of mothers formula feeding at discharge are offered information/support to sterilise equipment (98.1%), make up feeds (98.3%) and discuss first milks (97.9%) (Figure 16, Appendix Table N).

Figure 16: Formula feeding support at discharge, 2018 NIMATS
experimental data



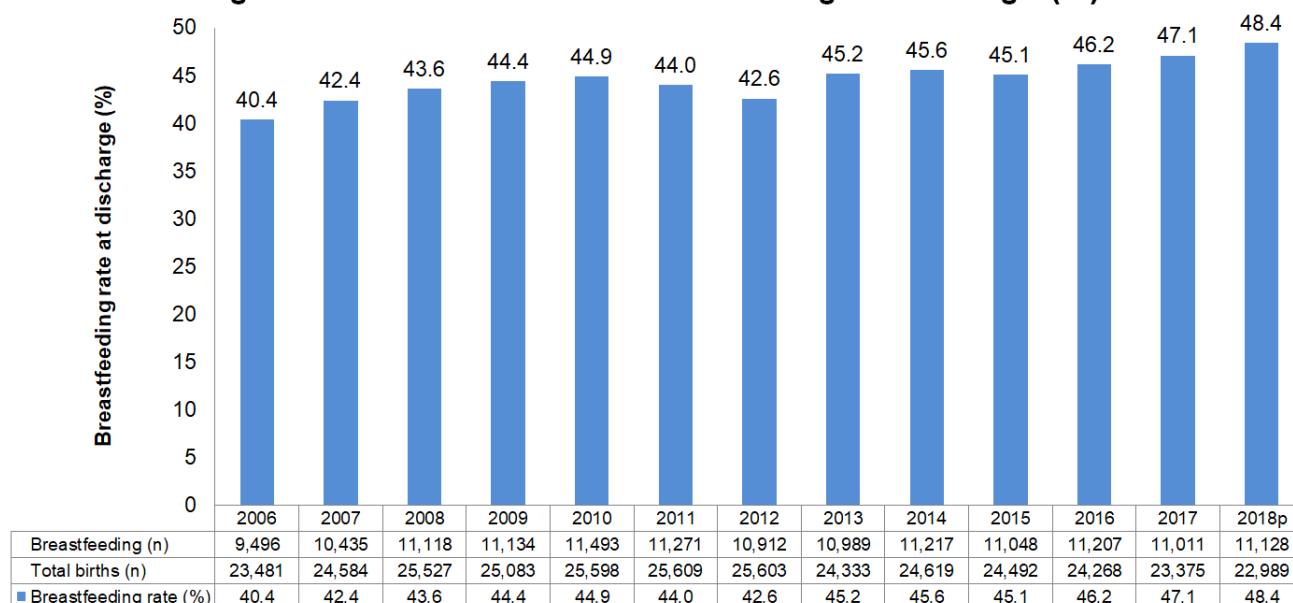
Note: Non-Zero axis

Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Feeding at discharge - CHS

Figure 17 shows the number of infants receiving **any**³ breast milk at discharge from hospitals* in Northern Ireland from 2009-2018p. Between 2009 and 2010, the rate of breastfeeding at discharge increased from 44.4% to 44.9%. While the rates for 2011 and 2012 decreased to 44.0% and 42.6% respectively, figures for 2013 showed an increase in the rate to 45.2% which remained relatively stable until 2015. There was an increase in the rate of breastfeeding from 2016 to 2018p from 46.2% to 48.4% (Figure 17).

Figure 17: Northern Ireland breastfeeding at discharge (%)

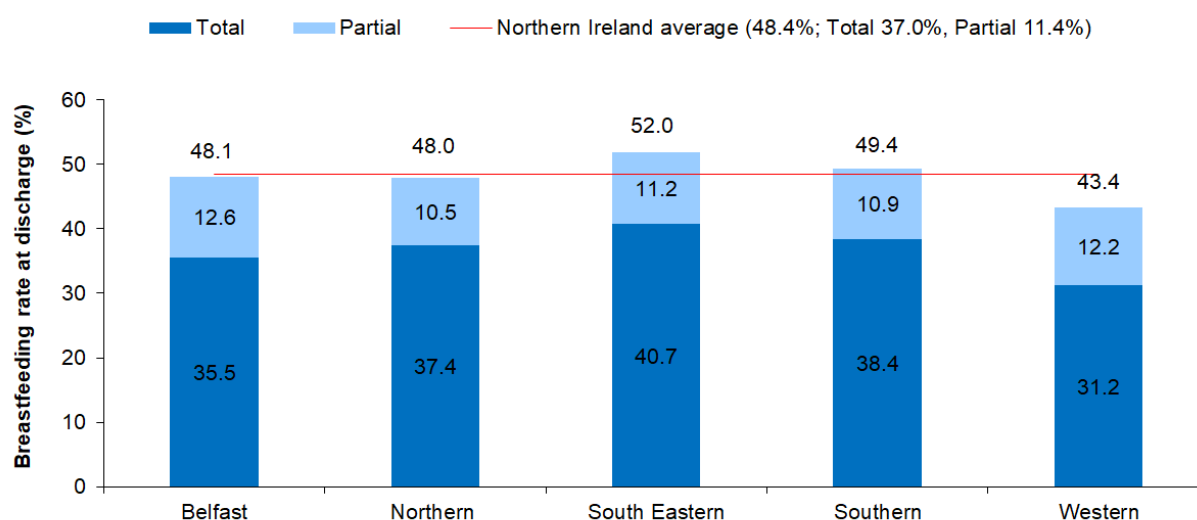


Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births

Health and Social Care Trust

CHS data for 2018p shows that the South Eastern HSCT/LCG[^] has the highest breastfeeding rates at discharge (52.0%) followed by the Southern HSCT (49.4%), Belfast HSCT (48.1%), Northern (48.0%) and Western (43.4%) (Figure 18, Appendix Table O). For definitions of 'Total' and 'Partial' breastfeeding refer to Page 47.

Figure 18: Breastfeeding rate at discharge (%) by HSCT / LCG[^], 2018p



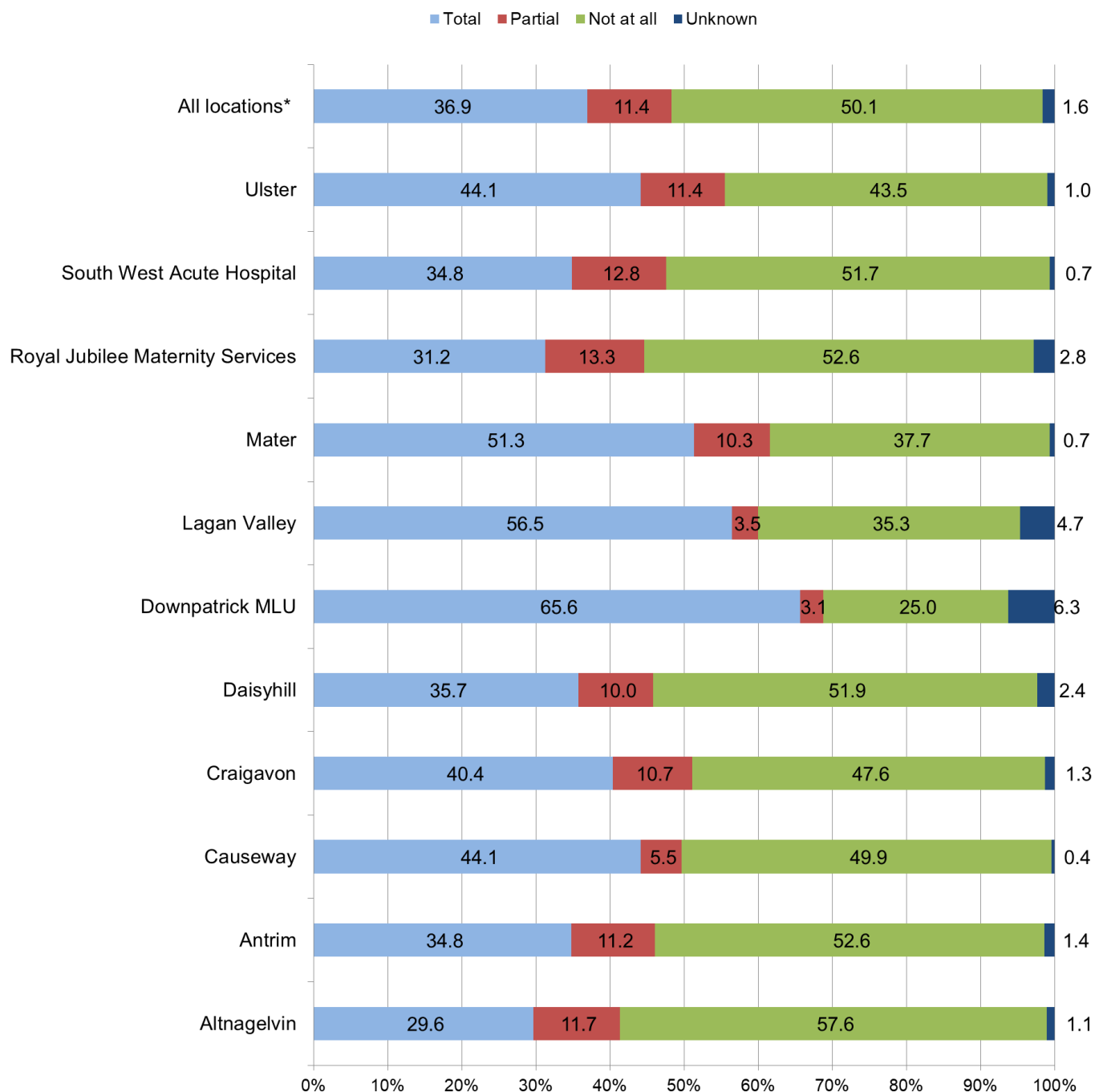
Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births. Note: [^] LCG based on maternal residence.

³ Data includes infants receiving only breast milk and those receiving both breast milk and formula.

Place of birth

In 2018p the highest rates of any breastfeeding at discharge from hospital were Downpatrick MLU (68.8%, n=32), Mater (61.6%), Lagan Valley (60.0%), Ulster (55.5%), and Craigavon (51.1%) (Figure 19, Appendix Table P).

Figure 19: Breastfeeding rate at discharge (%) by hospital, 2018p



Source: CHS; Live births to NI resident mothers. All locations* - Excludes 22 births – At home (n=11), ROI hospital (n=7), Other UK hospital (n=6)

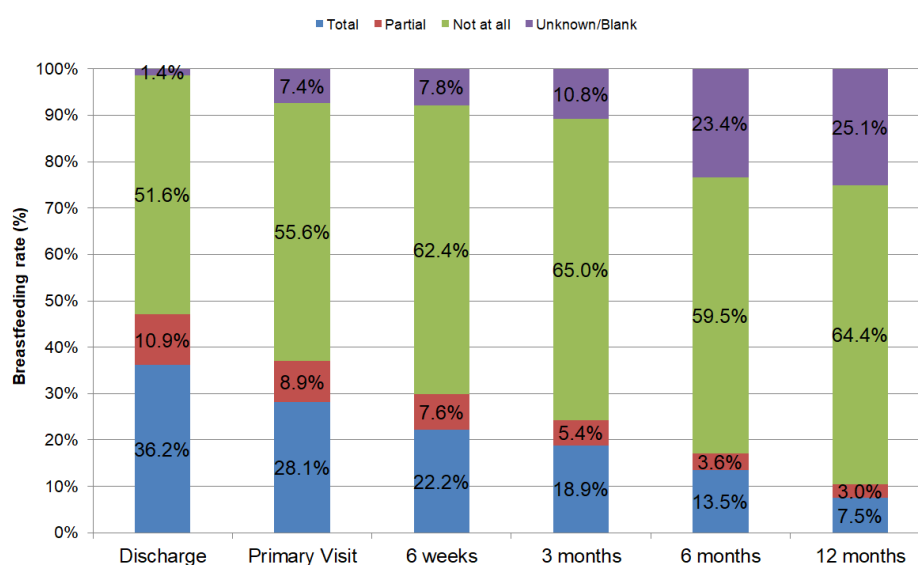
Prevalence of breastfeeding

The Child Health System currently collates information on the feeding status of infants at discharge from hospital, first visit (10-14 days), 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months and 12 months in line with Healthy Child, Healthy Future. This data provides an indication of the prevalence of breastfeeding.

There is a time lag in reporting data on breastfeeding prevalence for example, 12 month data for an infant born in December 2017 will not be due for collection until December 2018.

Figure 20 (Appendix Table Q) shows the prevalence of breastfeeding for births in 2017. Data shows a drop in the number of infants receiving any breast milk from 47.0% at discharge to 37.0% at the primary visit, 29.8% at 6 weeks, 24.2% at 3 months, 17.1% at 6 months and 10.5% at 12 months.

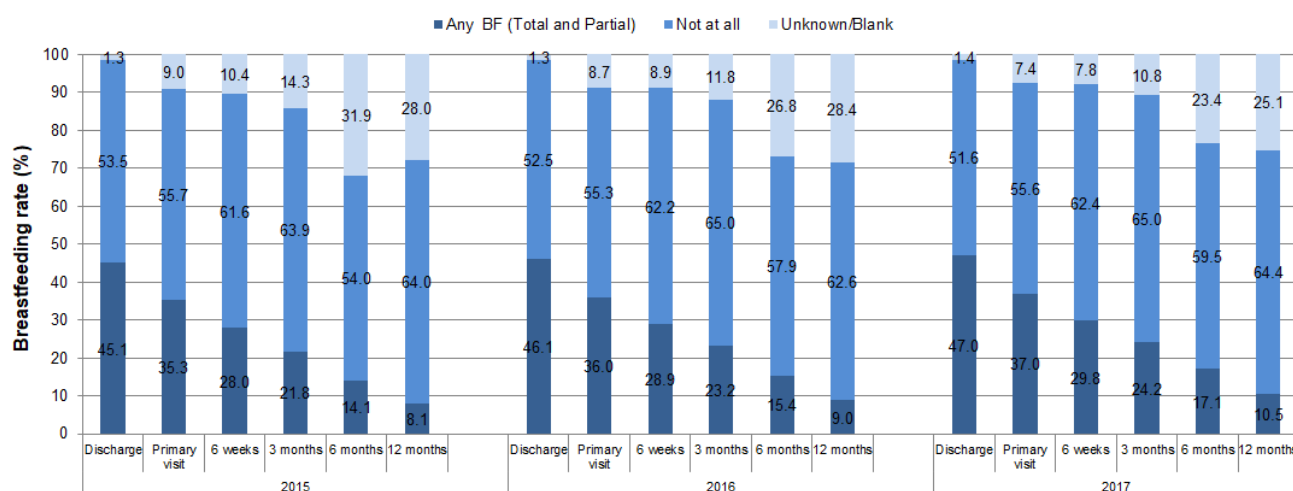
Figure 20: Prevalence of breastfeeding (%) up to 12 months for infants born in 2017



Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.

Figure 21 (Appendix Table R) provides a comparison of data on breastfeeding prevalence up to 12 months for births in the years 2015, 2016 and 2017. Data for 2017 continues to show some improvement in the level of recording from 2015 with fewer unknowns / blanks, however, this remains an area for improvement. Variation is observed in the proportion of unknowns / blanks by HSCT and data collection time point (Appendix Table S).

Figure 21: Prevalence of breastfeeding (%) up to 12 months for births in 2015, 2016 and 2017

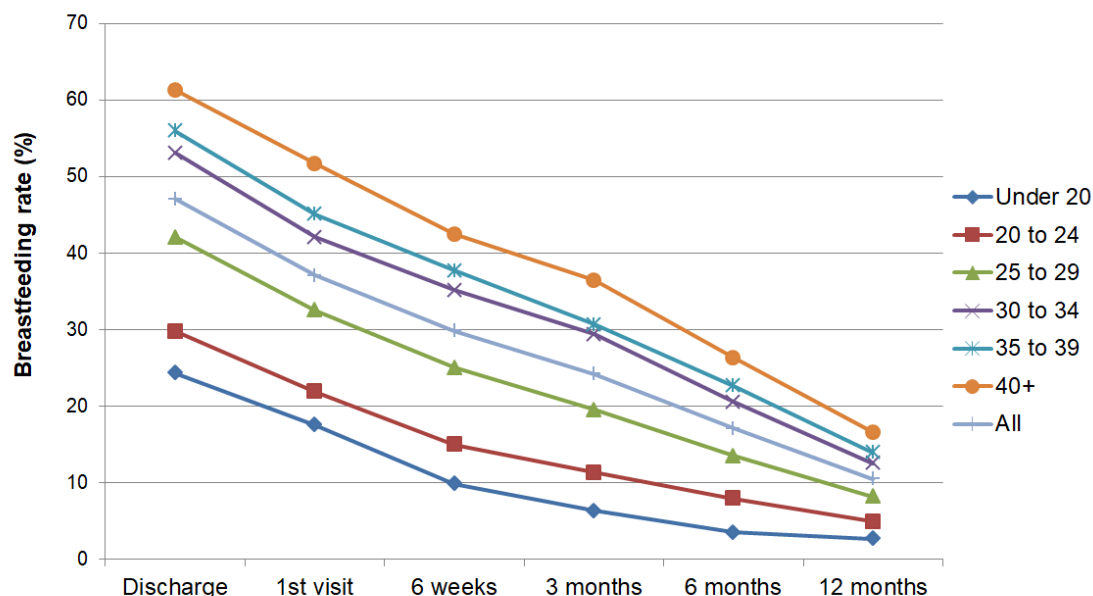


Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Maternal age

Figure 22 (Appendix Table T) shows the prevalence of breastfeeding by maternal age for infants born in 2017. Mothers aged over 30 years are twice as likely as those under 30 years of age to be feeding beyond 6 weeks.

Figure 22: Prevalence of breastfeeding* by maternal age, 2017

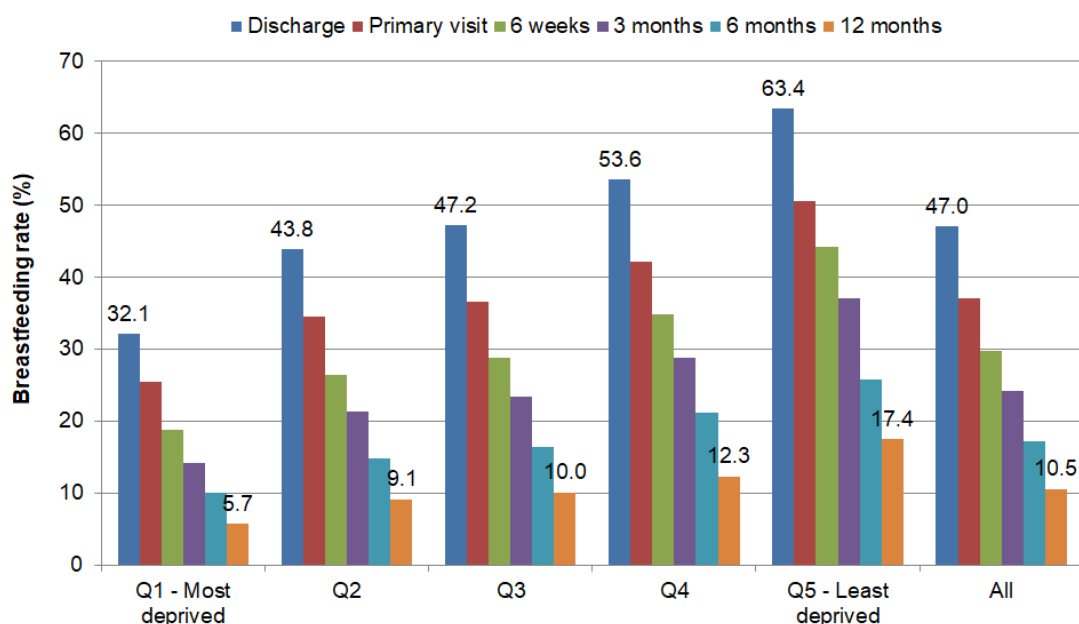


Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers. * Combined total and partial breastfeeding

Deprivation

Figure 23 (Appendix Table U) shows that the rate of breastfeeding is higher in the least deprived areas and this pattern is consistent at each recording time point.

Figure 23: Prevalence of breastfeeding* by deprivation (SOA quintile) and stage for births in 2017



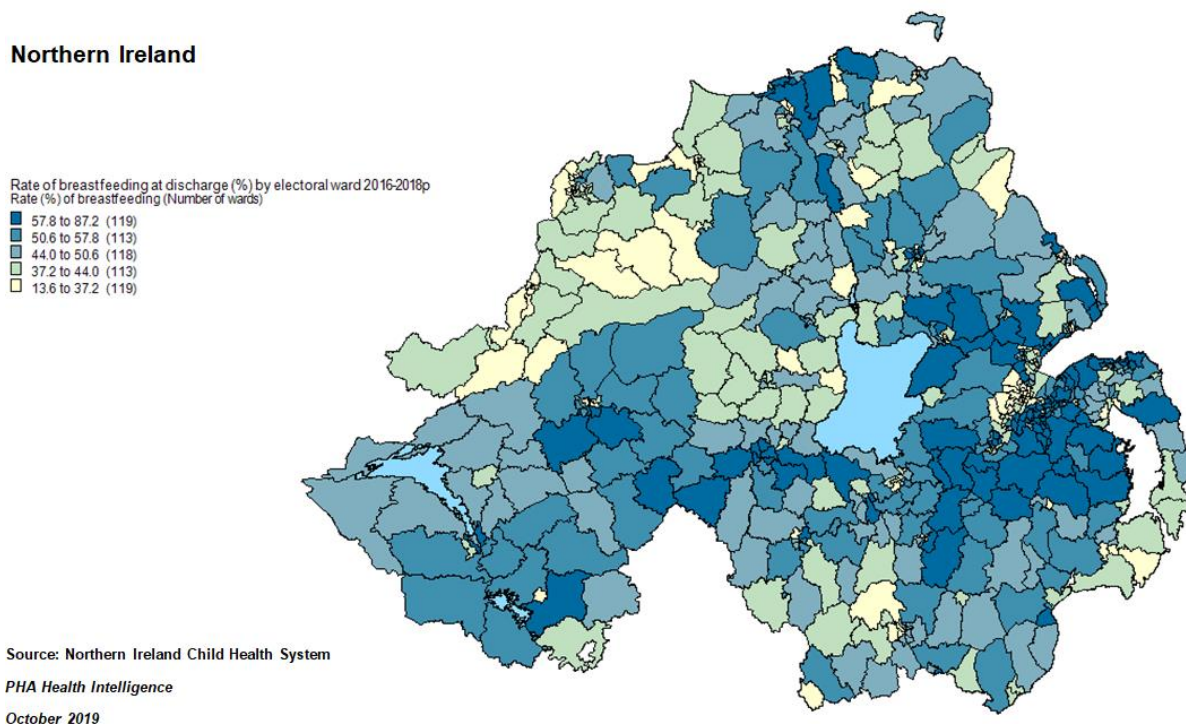
Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers; * Combined Total and Partial breastfeeding
Deprivation status as per Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for Super Output Area (SOA)

Breastfeeding and inequality

Using data from the Child Health System it is possible to map the variation in average breastfeeding rates for 2016-2018p at local ward level (1992) across Northern Ireland (Figure 24). Due to small numbers a three year period is used to provide some stability in rates.

At a Northern Ireland level the lowest breastfeeding rates are found in Bushmills (13.6%, n=22), Colin Glen (15.9%), Ballykeel (16%), Ardoyne (16.4%) and Upper Springfield (16.6%) wards with the highest breastfeeding rates observed in Malone (87.2%), Craigavad (86.3%), Stranmillis (83.5%), Drumbo (82.1%) and Crawfordsburn (81.5%).

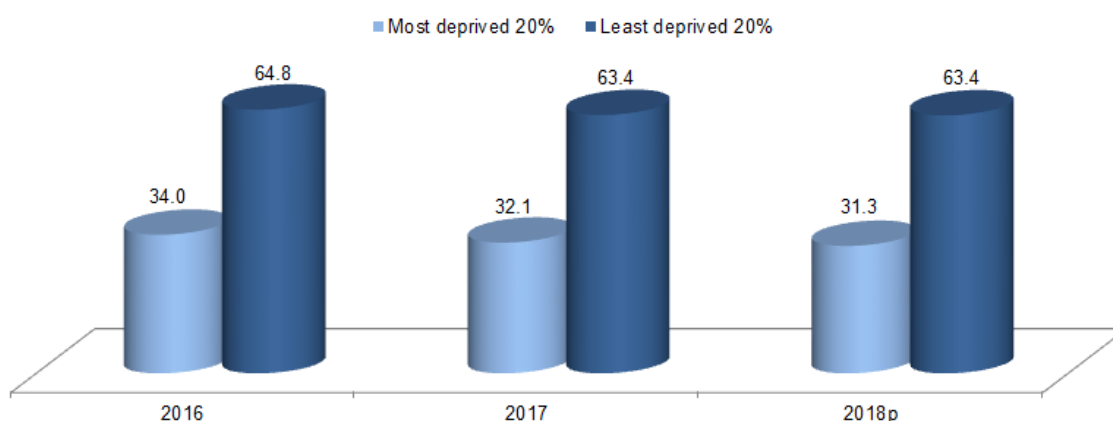
Figure 24: Breastfeeding at discharge (%) by electoral ward (1992), 2016-2018p



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The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) provides a relative measure of deprivation for Super Output Areas (SOAs) across Northern Ireland. Mothers living in the 20% least deprived SOAs are twice as likely to breastfeed at discharge compared to those living in the 20% most deprived SOAs (Figure 25).

Figure 25: Breastfeeding rates at discharge (%) by deprivation, Super Output Area (SOA) Quintile Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017), 2016-2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers; Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2017

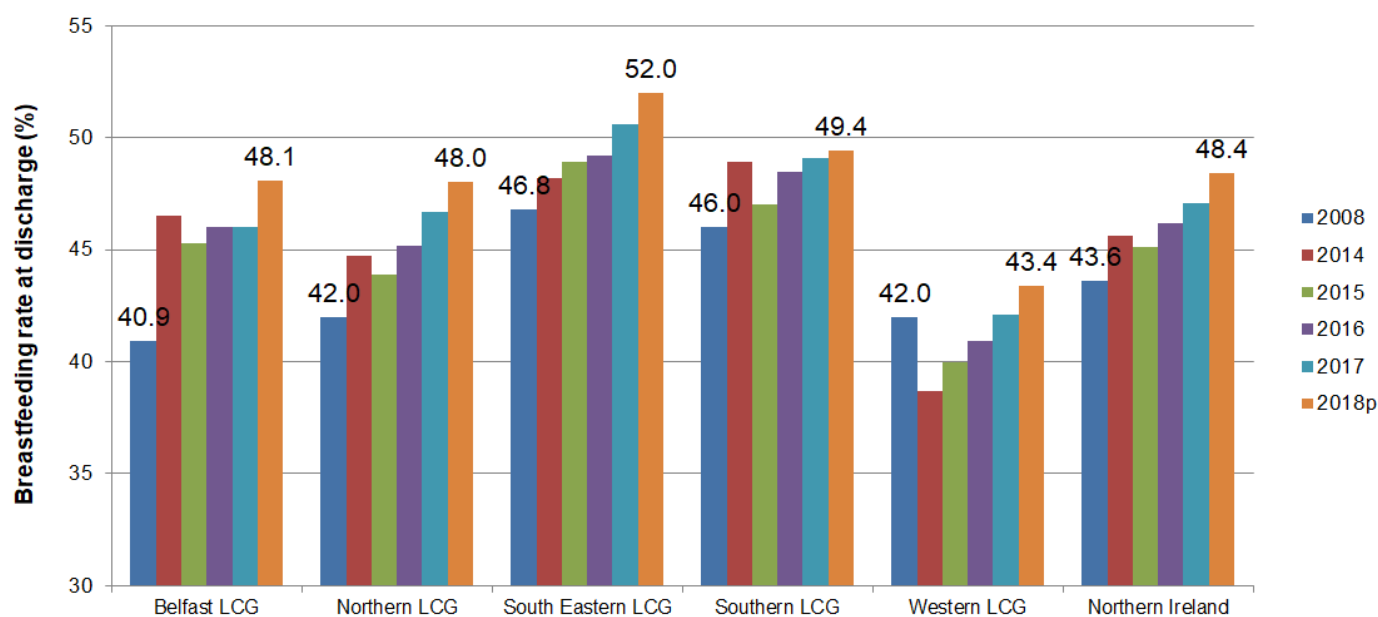
Breastfeeding rates at discharge by Health and Social Care Trust (HSCT) / Local Commissioning Group (LCG)

Figure 26 shows the variation in rates of breastfeeding at hospital discharge from the Child Health System by LCG based on maternal residence (Appendix Table W).

At a Northern Ireland regional level the rate of breastfeeding at discharge has increased from 43.6% in 2008 to 48.4% in 2018p (an average yearly increase of 0.48%).

At HSCT/ LCG level, between 2008 and 2018p, Belfast HSCT showed the largest increase in breastfeeding rates at discharge, with an increase of 7.2 percentage points, compared to 6.0 for the Northern HSCT, 5.2 for South Eastern HSCT, 3.4 for the Southern HSCT and 1.4 for the Western HSCT (CHS).

Figure 26: Breastfeeding rate at discharge by Health and Social Care Trust / Local Commissioning Group, 2008 & 2014-2018p

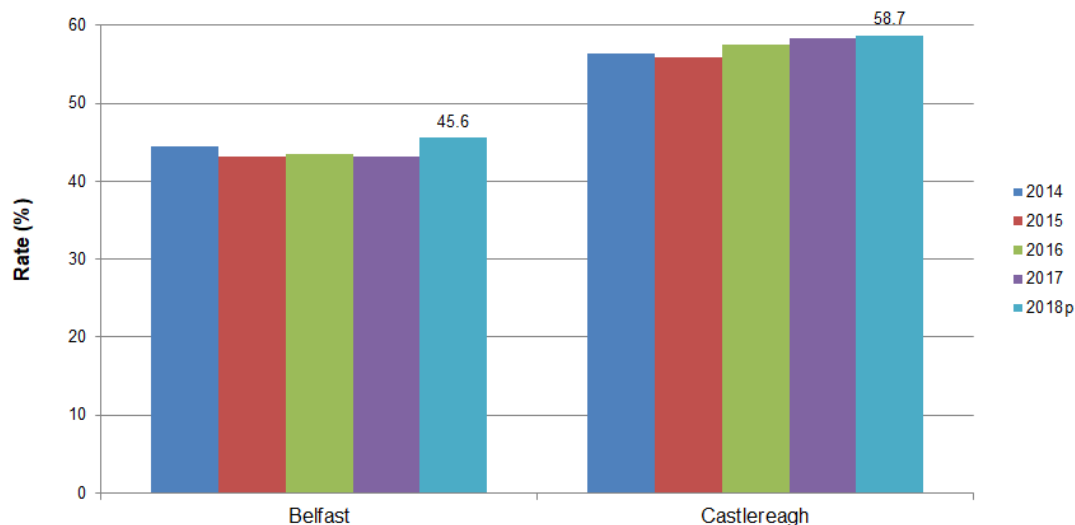


Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI residents
Note: Non-zero axis

The following pages provide breakdowns by HSCT and Local Government District (LGD1992) areas for comparative purposes.

Belfast HSCT / LCG (Appendix Table X)

Figure 27: Belfast LCG breastfeeding at discharge, 2014-2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Figure 28

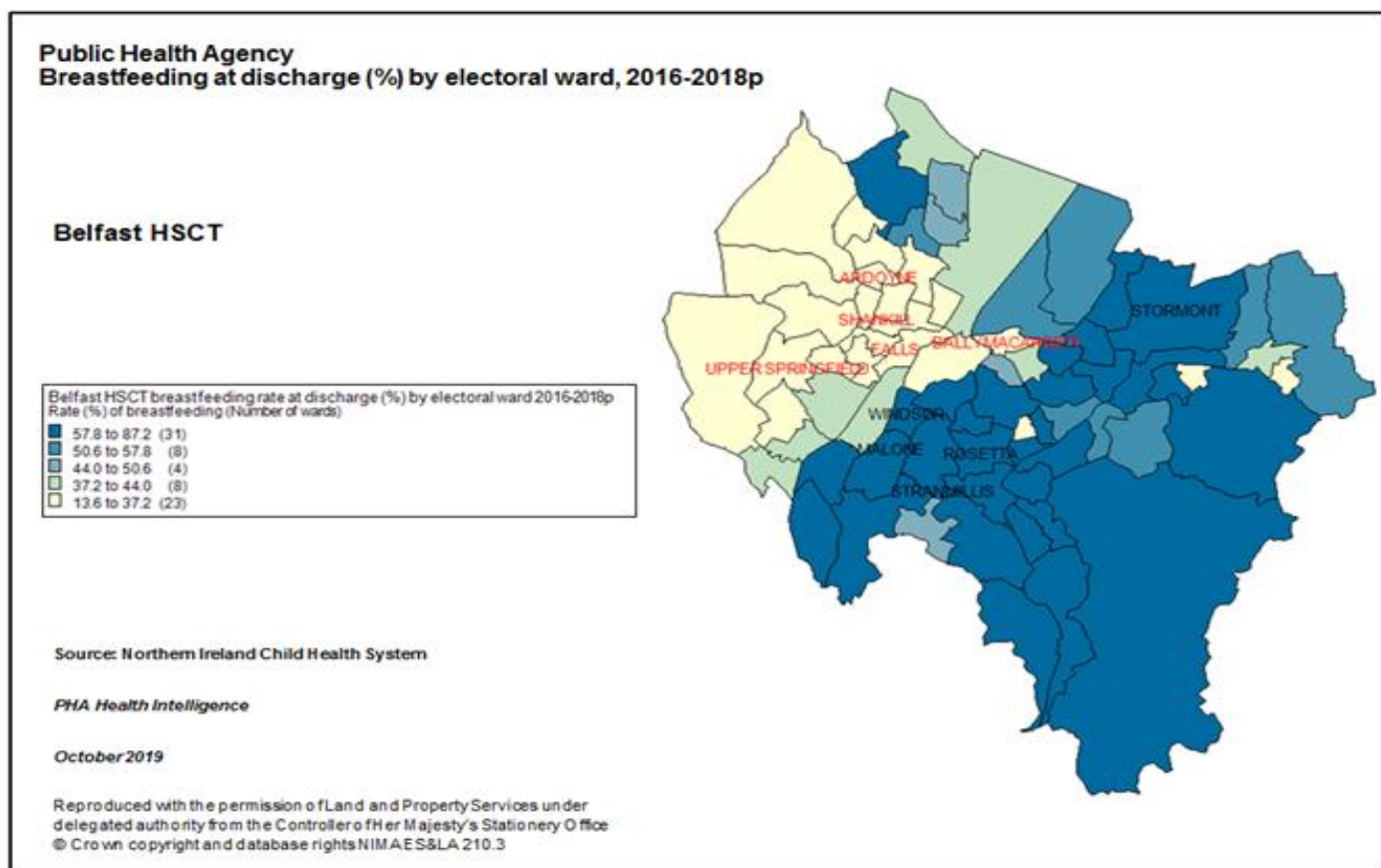
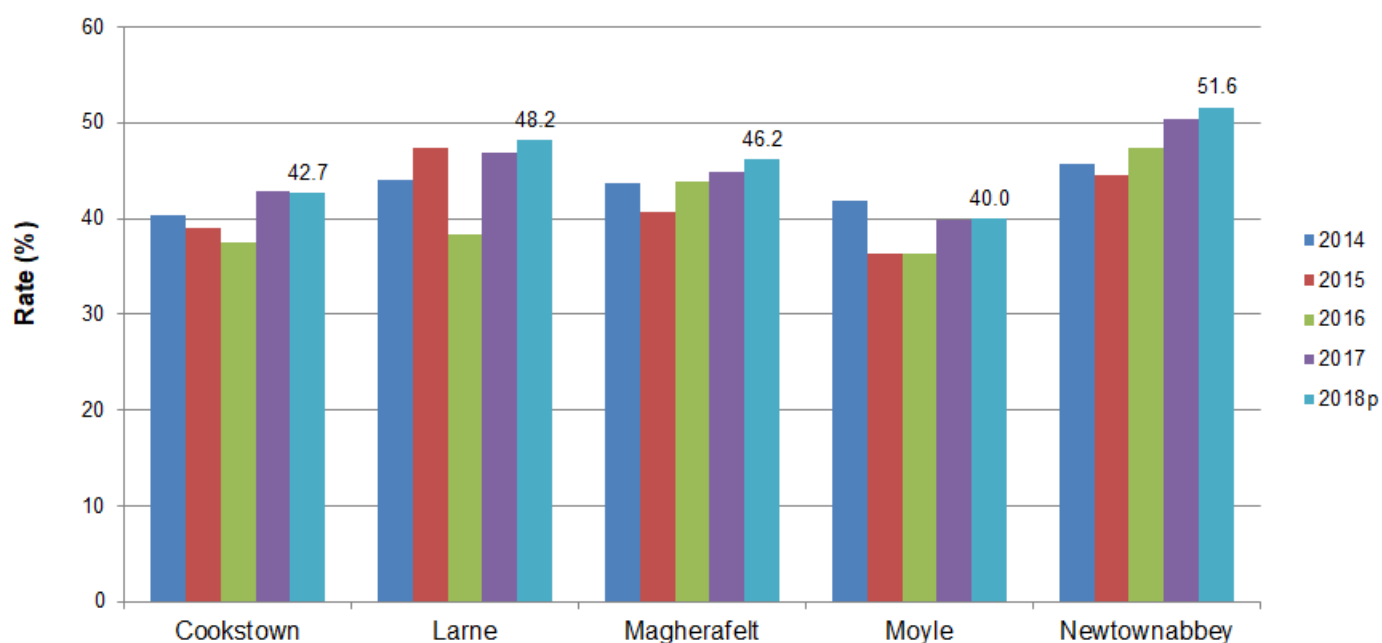


Table 3: Belfast HSCT / LCG

Wards with highest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Malone	87.2
2	Stranmillis	83.5
3	Rosetta	81.3
4	Windsor	81.1
5	Stormont	79.9

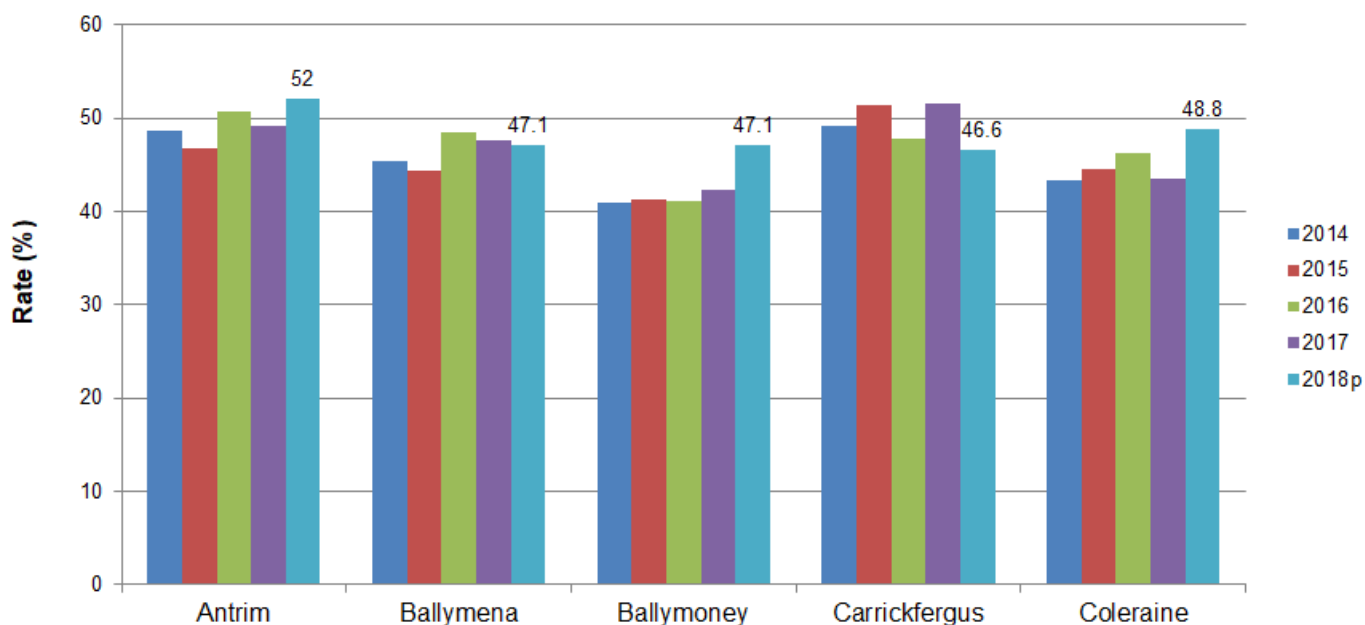
Wards with lowest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Ardoyne	16.4
2	Upper Springfield	16.6
3	Falls	18.8
4	Shankill	19.3
5	Ballymacarrett	20.0

Figure 29: Northern LCG breastfeeding at discharge 2014-2018p



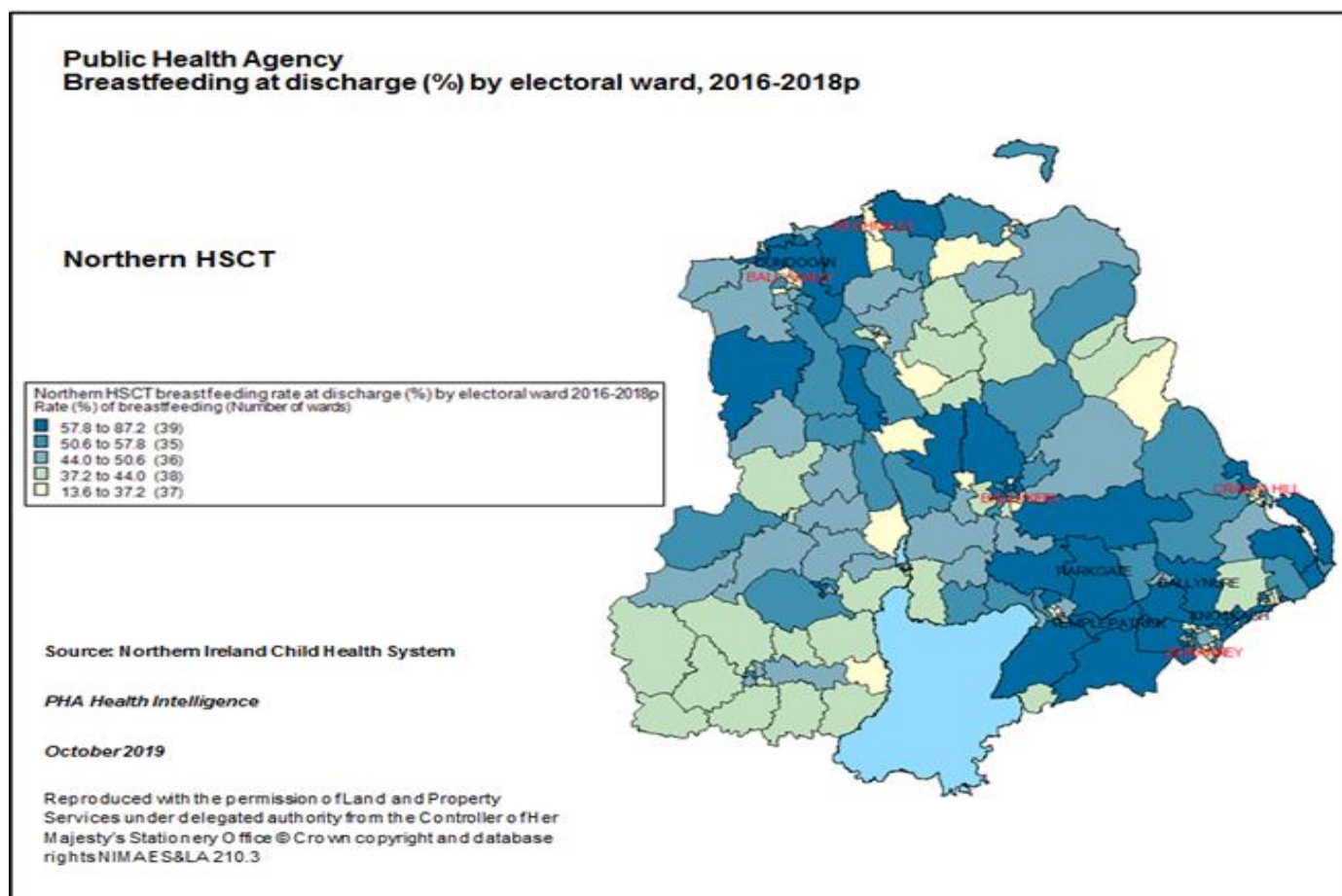
Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Figure 30: Northern LCG breastfeeding at discharge, 2014-2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Figure 31

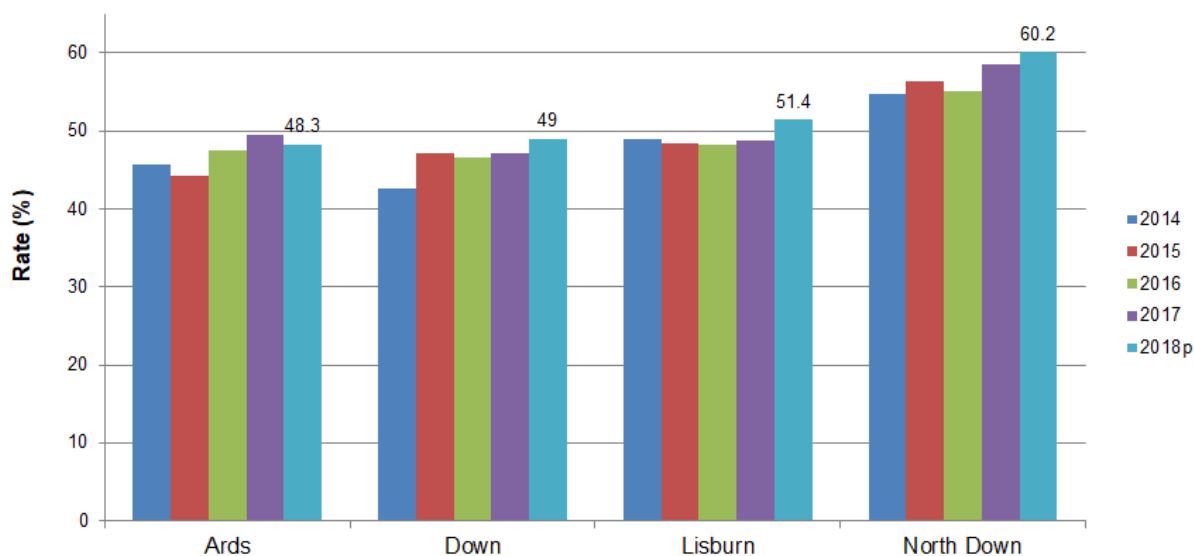
**Table 4: Northern HSCT / LCG**

Wards with highest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Templepatrick	74.1
2	Ballynure	73.8
3	Parkgate	71.9
4	Dundooan	68.8
5	Knockagh	68.6

Wards with lowest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Bushmills	13.6 (n=3)
2	Ballykeel	16.0 (n=12)
3	Ballysally	18.8
4	Dunanney	20.7 (n=18)
5	Craigy Hill	23.7 (n=9)

South Eastern HSCT / LCG (Appendix Table Z)

Figure 32: South Eastern LCG breastfeeding at discharge, 2014-2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Figure 33

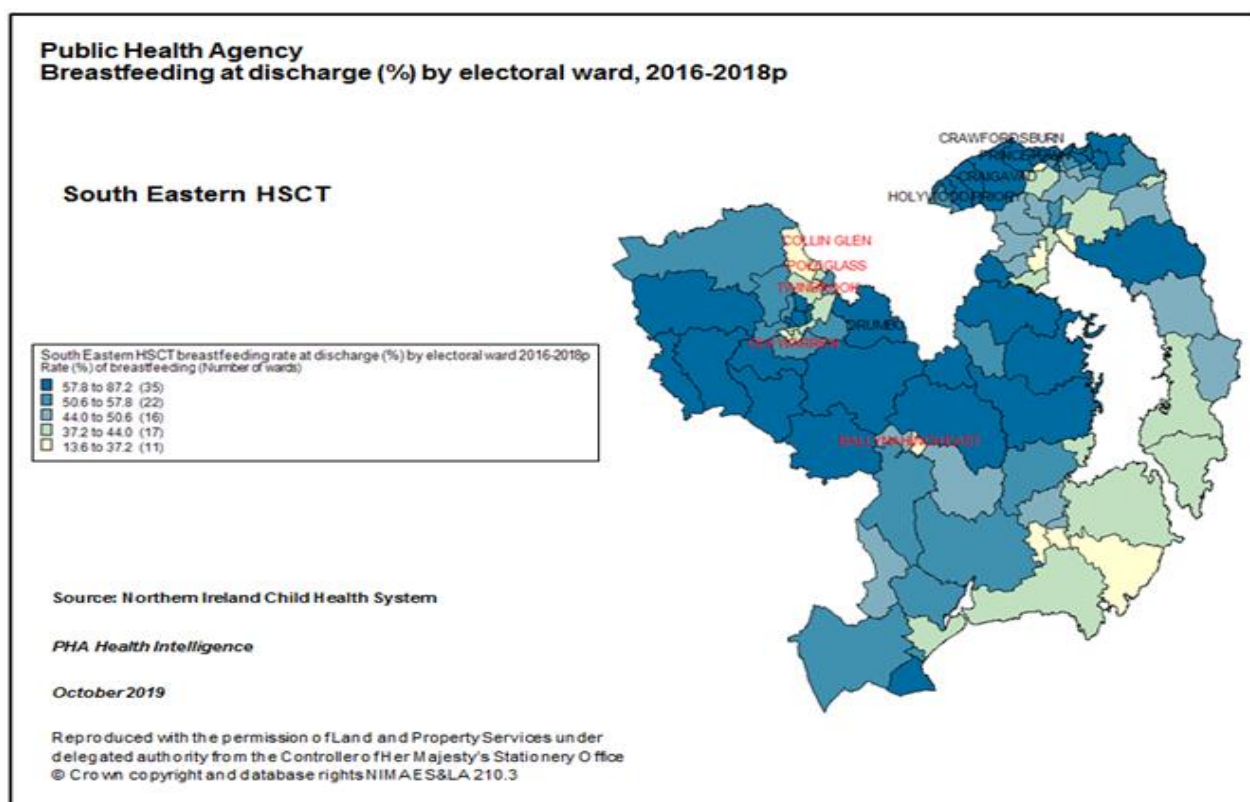


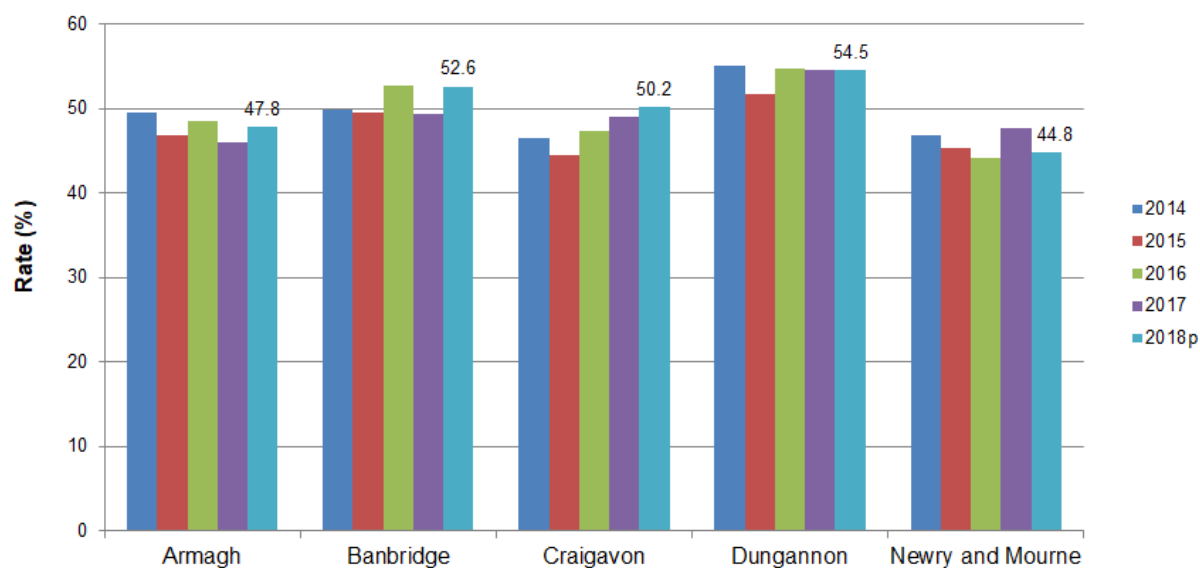
Table 5: South Eastern HSCT / LCG

Wards with highest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Craigavad	86.3
2	Drumbo	82.1
3	Crawfordsburn	81.5
4	Holywood Priory	80.6
5	Princetown	80.4

Wards with lowest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Collin Glen	15.9
2	Poleglass	19.3
3	Twinbrook	21.4
4	Ballynahinch East	29.1
5	Old Warren	31.5

Southern HSCT / LCG (Appendix Table AA)

Figure 34: Southern LCG breastfeeding at discharge, 2014-2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Figure 35

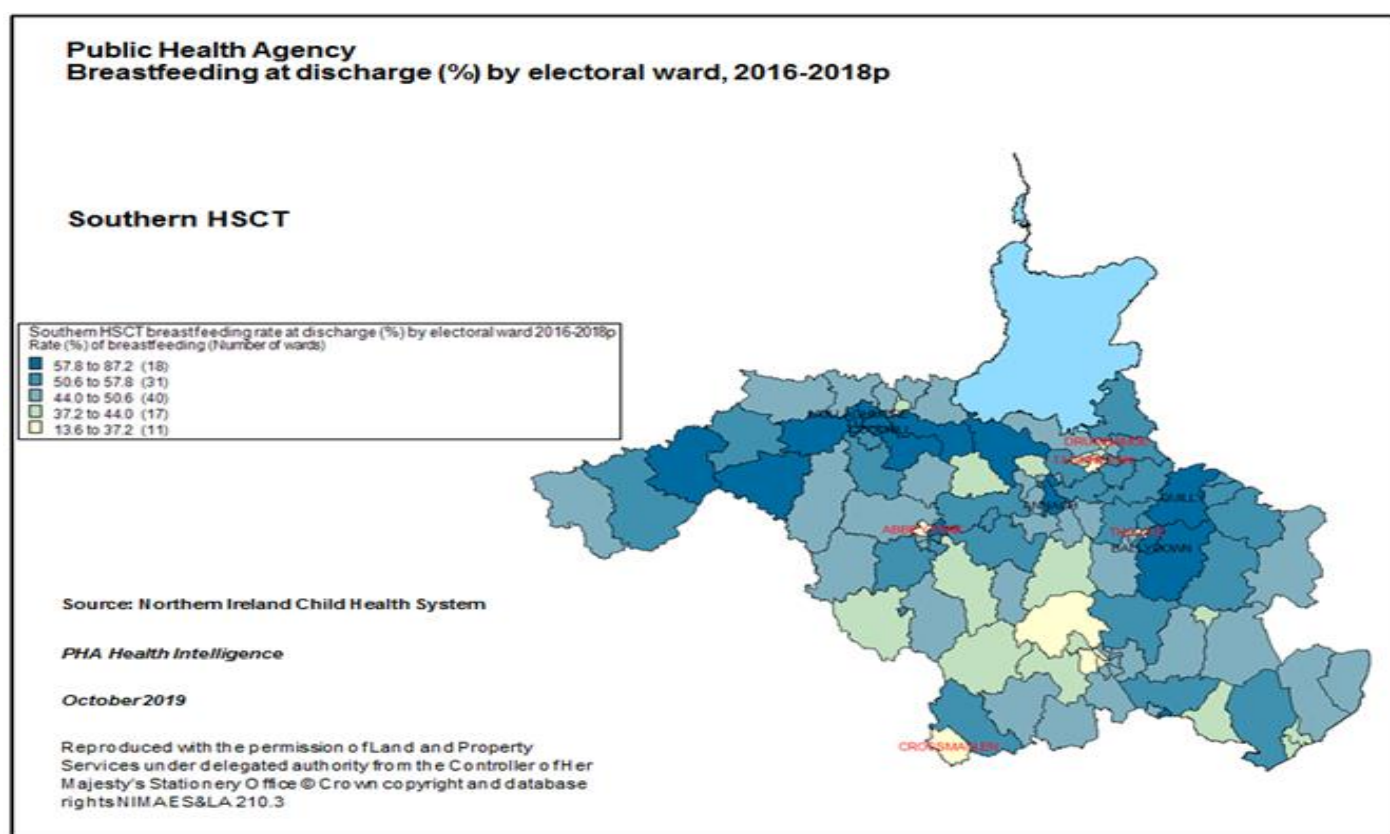
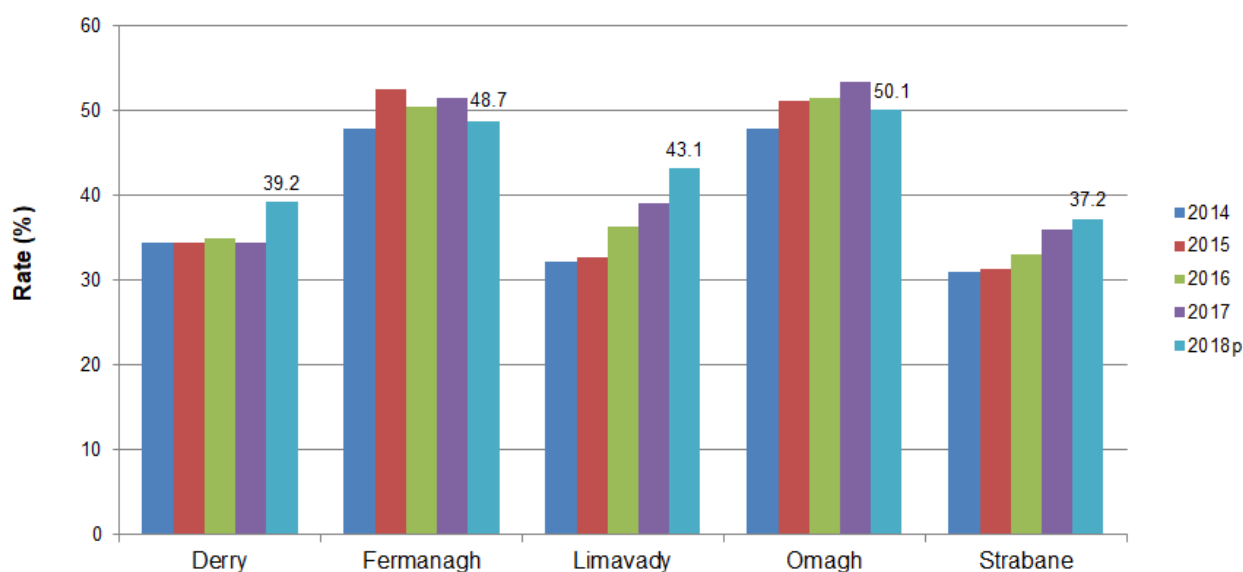


Table 6: Southern HSCT / LCG

Wards with highest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Coolhill	74.6
2	Mullaghmore	70.9
3	Quilly	68.9
4	Annagh	67.7
5	Ballydown	67.0

Wards with lowest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Taghnevan	27.0
2	Drumnamoe	27.2
3	Crossmaglen	31.7
4	The Cut	32.8
5	Abbey Park	33.3

Figure 36: Western LCG breastfeeding at discharge, 2014-2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Figure 37

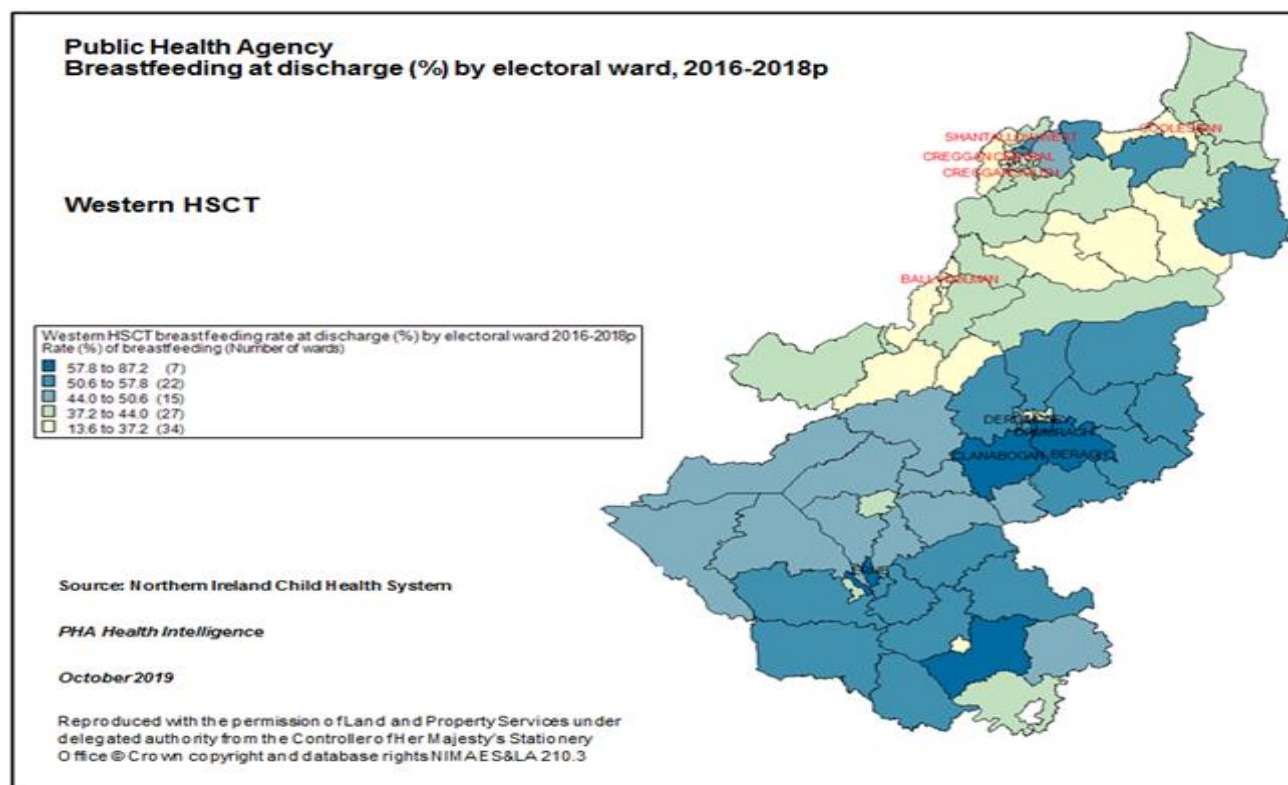


Table 7: Western HSCT / LCG

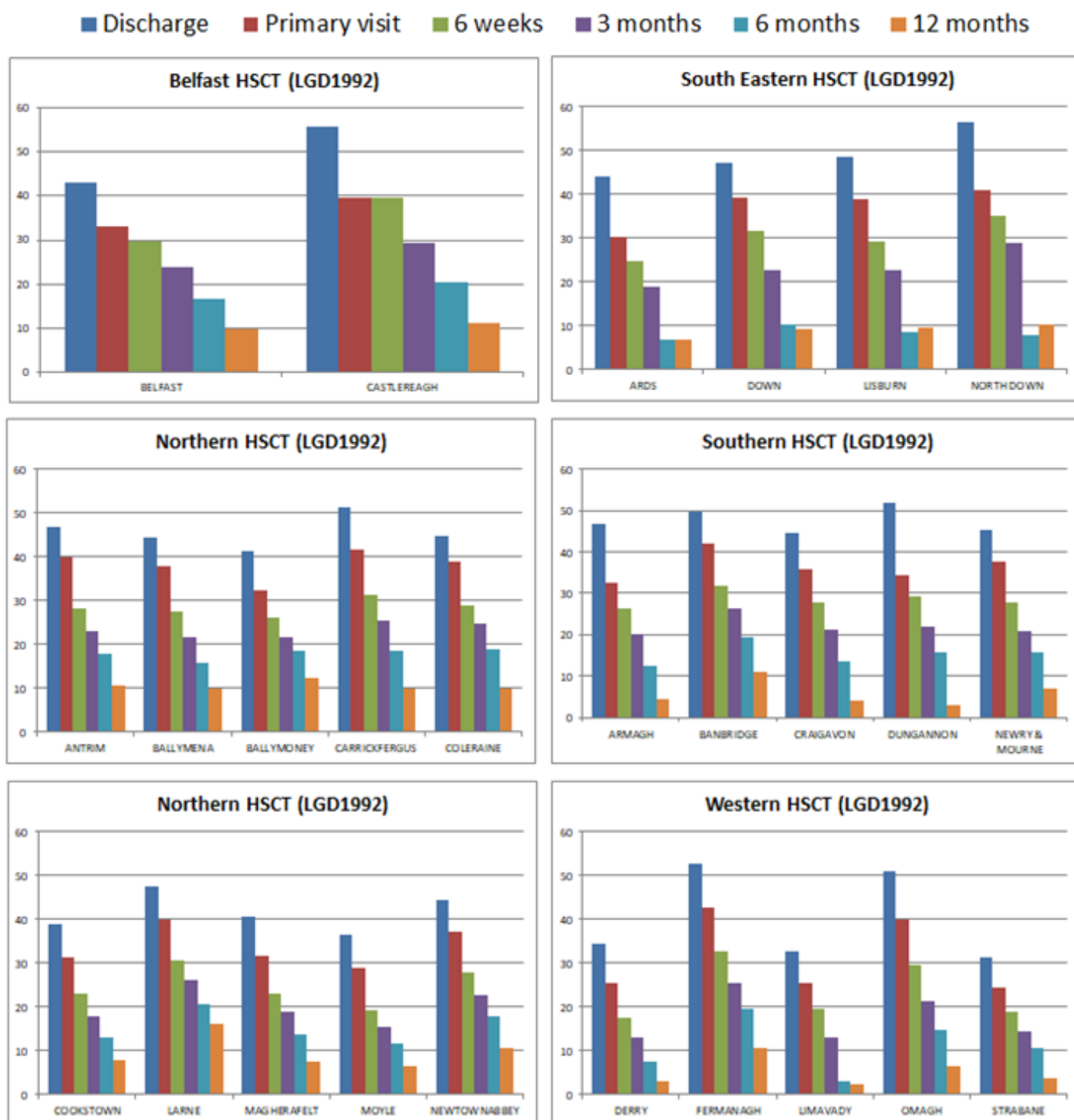
Wards with highest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Dergmoney	68.6
2	Erne	63.0
3	Clanabogan	62.4
4	Drumragh	60.6
5	Beragh	58.3

Wards with lowest breastfeeding rates 2016 - 2018p		
	Ward	Breastfeeding rate (%)
1	Ballycolman	17.3 (n=14)
2	Coolessan	18.9 (n=10)
3	Creggan South	20.5
4	Creggan Central	21.9
5	Shantallow West	23.6

Breastfeeding prevalence by HSCT / LCG and Local Government District (LGD1992), 2017

Figure 38 (Appendix Table AC) shows the prevalence of breastfeeding (%) by HSCT / LCG and Local Government District (LGD1992) for 2017.

Figure 38: Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Local Government District (LGD1992), 2017



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Council Areas

Data for 2018p shows the highest rates of breastfeeding at discharge in Lisburn and Castlereagh (58.3%) and Ards and North Down (54.2%) with the lowest rates in Derry City and Strabane (38.7%) and Belfast (45.1%) based on maternal residence (Table 8; Appendix Table AD).

Figure 39

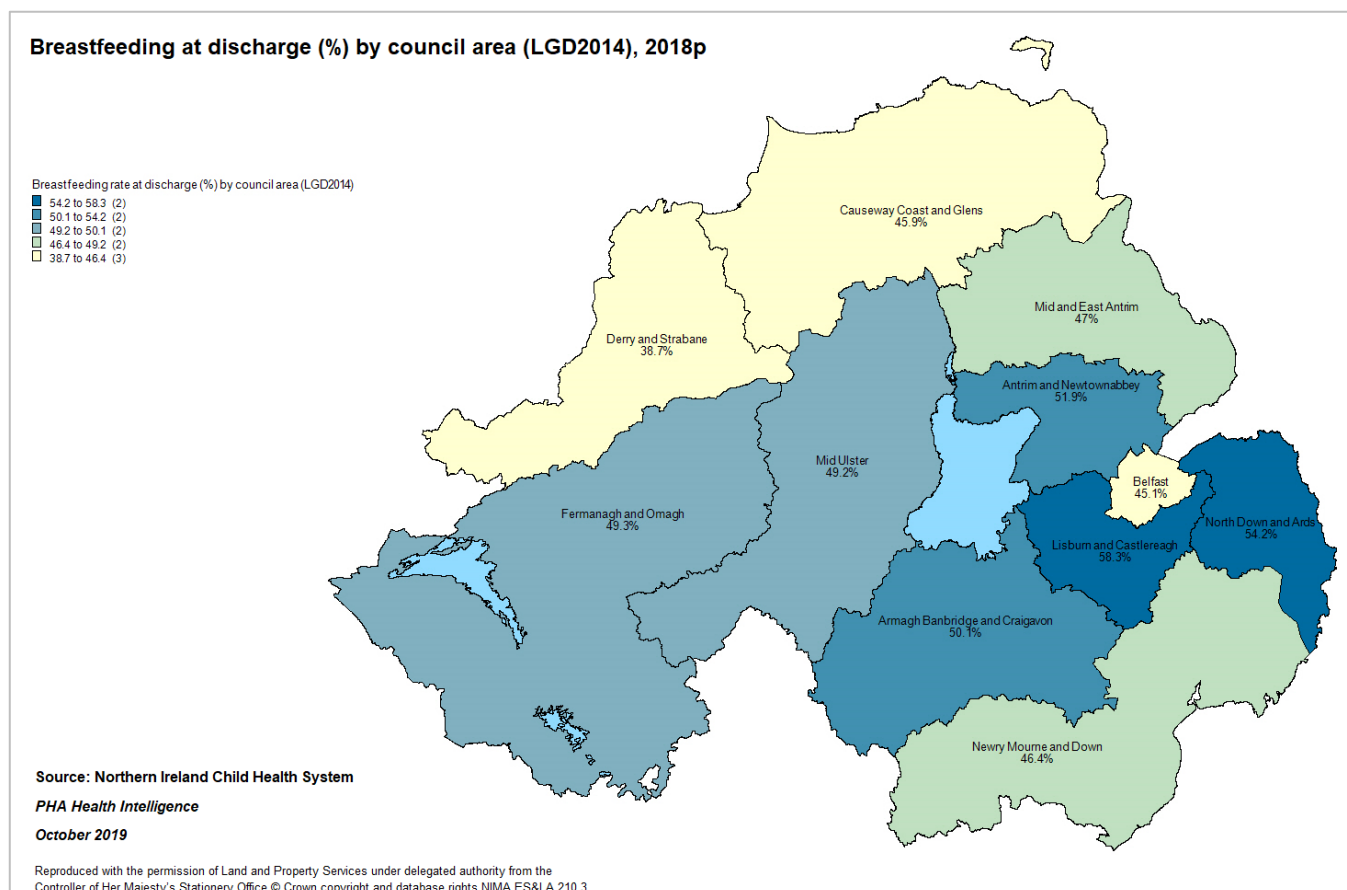


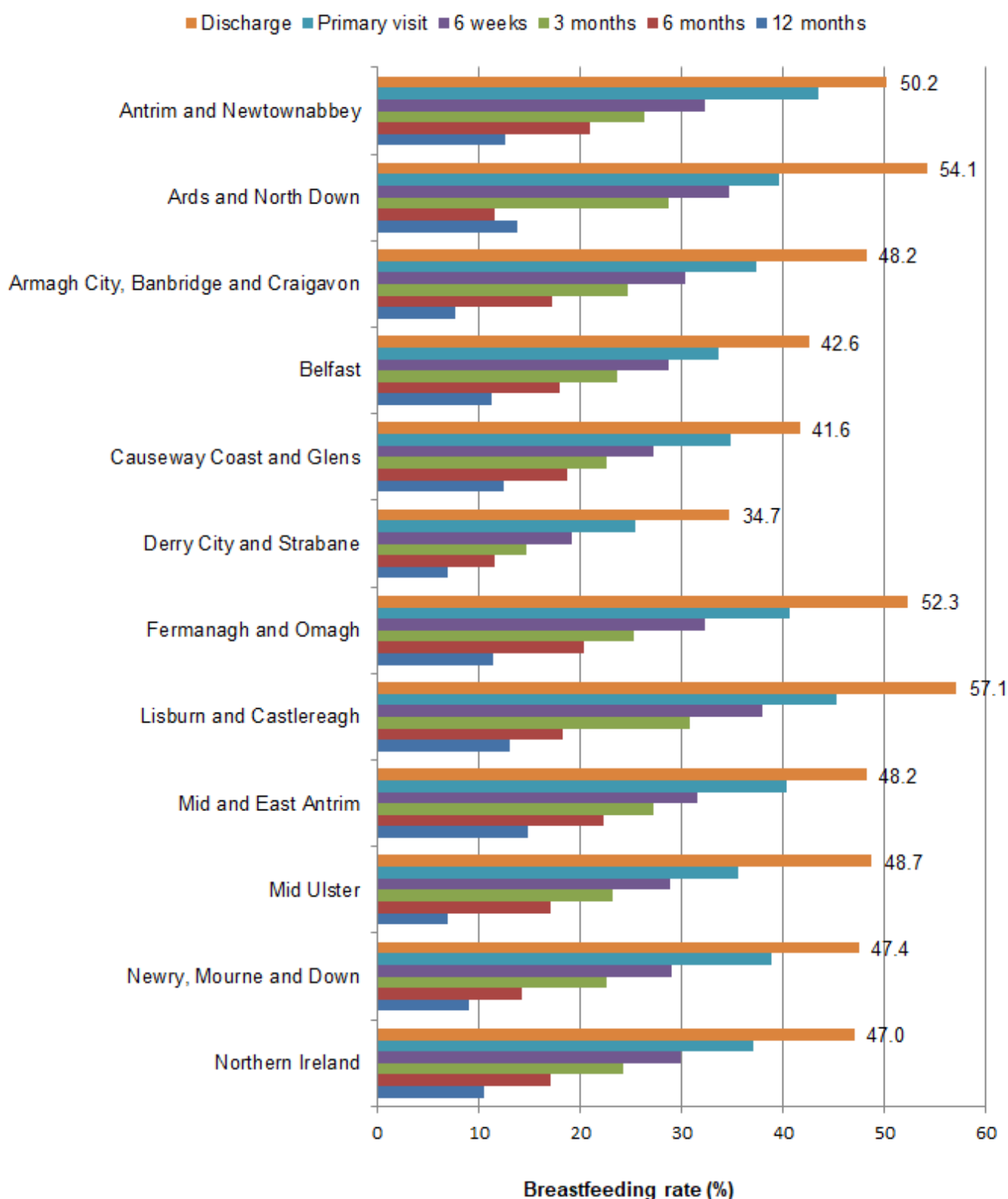
Table 8: Breastfeeding rate at discharge (%) by Council area (LGD2014), 2016, 2017 and 2018p

Council area	2016			2017			2018p		
	Births	Breastfeeding at discharge		Births	Breastfeeding at discharge		Births	Breastfeeding at discharge	
		N	%		N	%		N	%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,748	853	48.8	1,694	850	50.2	1,626	844	51.9
Ards and North Down	1,661	855	51.5	1,546	837	54.1	1,510	818	54.2
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,932	1,431	48.8	2,901	1,398	48.2	2,851	1,428	50.1
Belfast	4,616	1,983	43.0	4,218	1,795	42.6	4,292	1,937	45.1
Causeway Coast and Glens	1,631	672	41.2	1,622	675	41.6	1,500	688	45.9
Derry City and Strabane	1,978	679	34.3	1,921	667	34.7	1,837	711	38.7
Fermanagh and Omagh	1,517	771	50.8	1,485	777	52.3	1,461	720	49.3
Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,755	986	56.2	1,722	983	57.1	1,809	1,054	58.3
Mid and East Antrim	1,585	730	46.1	1,520	733	48.2	1,474	693	47.0
Mid Ulster	2,148	1,012	47.1	2,126	1,036	48.7	2,055	1,011	49.2
Newry, Mourne and Down	2,522	1,139	45.2	2,421	1,148	47.4	2,376	1,102	46.4
Total	24,093	11,111	46.1	23,176	10,899	47.0	22,791	11,006	48.3

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers. * Any breastfeeding (Total/Partial)

Figure 40 (Appendix Table AE) shows the variation in breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Council area (LGD2014) for 2017.

Figure 40: Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Council area (LGD2014), 2017



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.

Further breakdowns by District Electoral Wards (DEA2014) are available in Appendix Table AF.

Sure Start Services

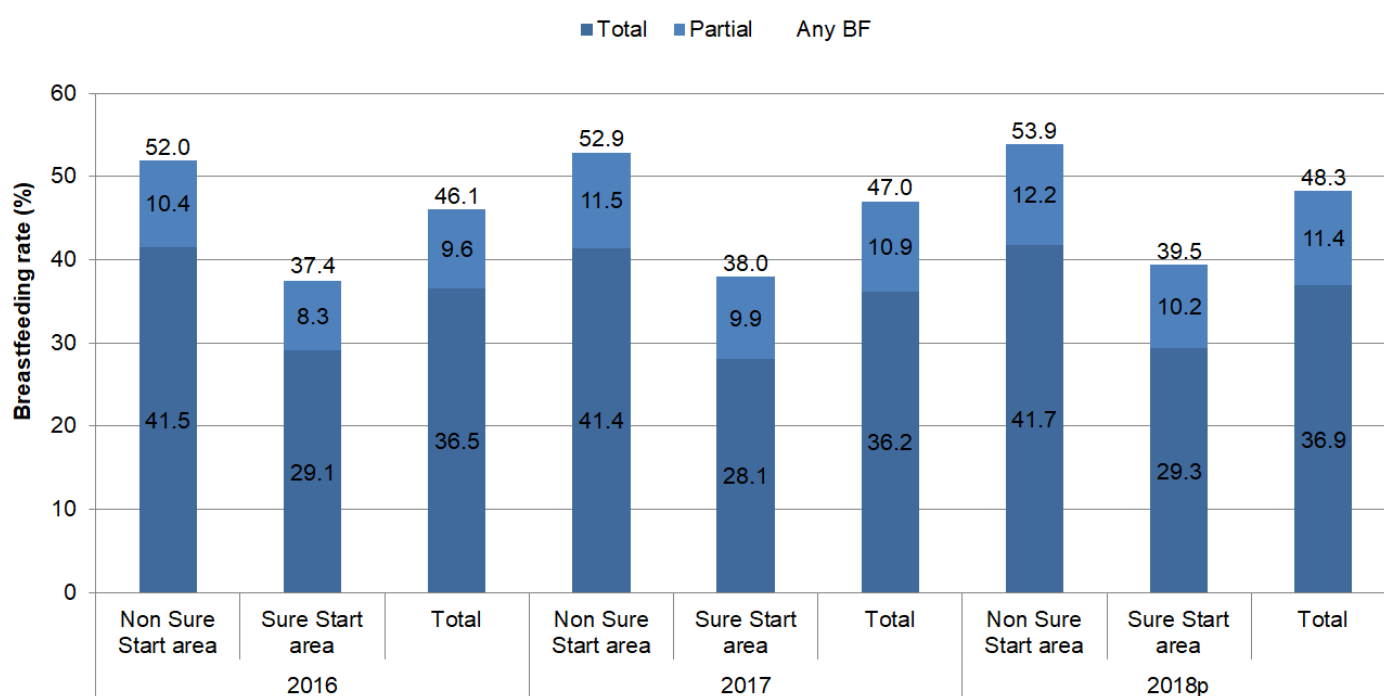
Sure Start is a government programme which provides a range of support services for parents and children under the age of four, who live in disadvantaged areas across Northern Ireland. It aims to support parents from pregnancy and to give children the best start in life. Each Sure Start project works with parents as well as statutory agencies and community-based organisations from the area, to design and deliver a range of services that best meet local need.

The NI Breastfeeding Strategy asks Sure Starts to support best practice by implementing UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Children's Centre Standards.

In addition to core services, Sure Starts may also offer additional antenatal and postnatal support and advice on breastfeeding.

Figure 41 (Appendix Table AG) shows the rates of breastfeeding at discharge (%) categorised by Sure Start and Non Sure Start area for the years 2016 to 2018p. Data for 2018p shows that 53.9% of mothers resident in Non Sure Start areas were breastfeeding on discharge from hospital compared to 39.5% of mothers resident in Sure Start Areas.

Figure 41: Breastfeeding at discharge (%) by Sure Start and Non Sure Start Area, 2016, 2017 and 2018p



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System. Note: Live births to NI resident mothers

Breakdowns on the prevalence of breastfeeding (%) by Sure Start areas within each Child Care Partnership are provided in pages 35-39.

Belfast Child Care Partnership Area

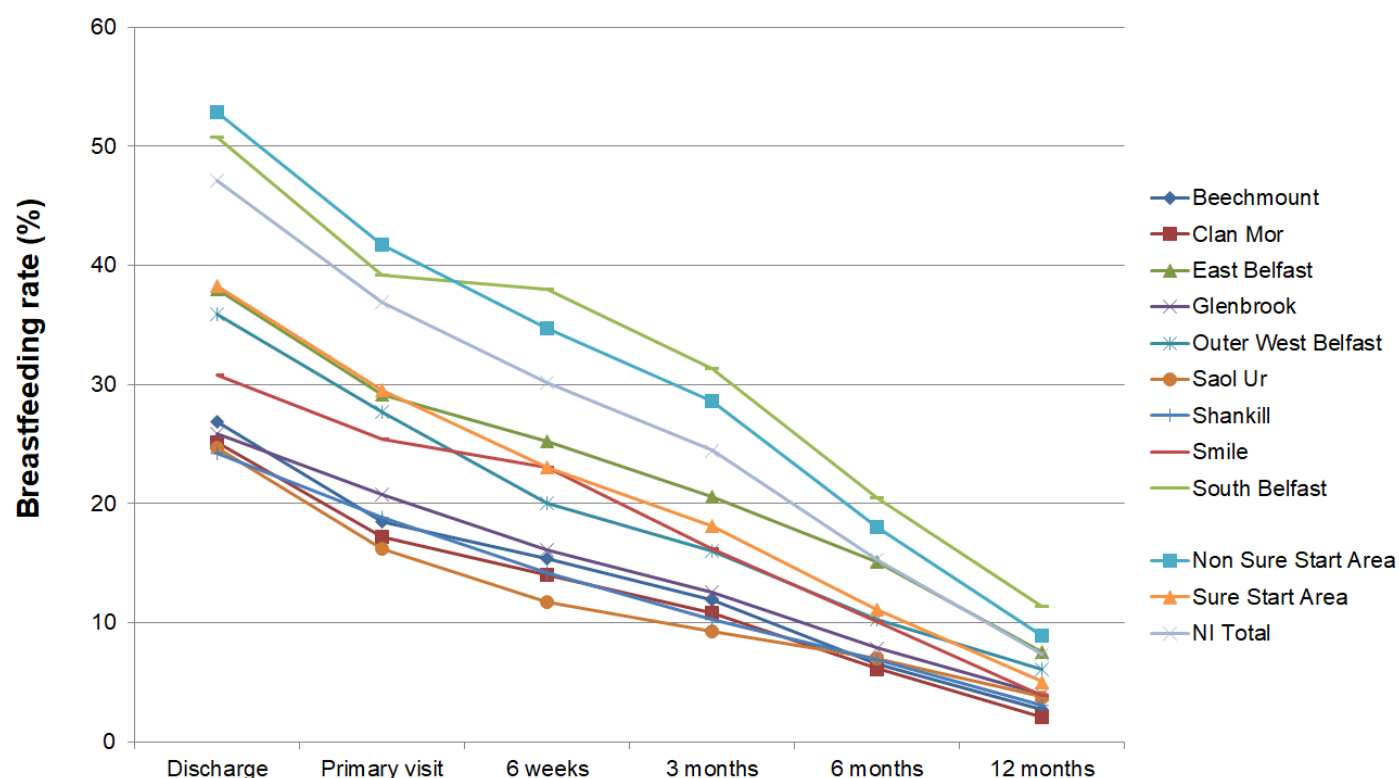
Within the Belfast Child Care Partnership area the highest rate of breastfeeding at discharge was recorded for South Belfast Sure Start (50.8%) compared with the lowest for Shankill Sure Start (24.3%) (Table 9, Figure 42).

Table 9: Breastfeeding prevalence by Sure Start, combined data 2016-2018p

Belfast CCP	Total live births	Discharge	Primary visit	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Beechmount	260	26.9	18.5	15.4	11.9	6.5	2.7
Clan Mor	342	25.1	17.3	14.0	10.8	6.1	2.0
East Belfast	1,437	38.0	29.2	25.3	20.6	15.1	7.6
Glenbrook	851	25.9	20.8	16.1	12.6	7.9	4.0
Outer West Belfast	917	35.9	27.7	20.1	16.0	10.3	6.1
Saol Ur	689	24.7	16.3	11.8	9.3	7.0	3.8
Shankill	1,178	24.3	18.8	14.2	10.3	6.9	3.1
Smile	772	30.8	25.4	23.1	16.2	10.1	3.9
South Belfast	1,146	50.8	39.2	38.0	31.3	20.5	11.3
NI Sure Start	27,682	38.3	29.5	23.1	18.1	11.1	5.0
NI Non Sure Start	42,378	52.9	41.8	34.8	28.6	18.1	8.9
NI Total	70,060	47.1	36.9	30.1	24.5	15.3	7.4

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers
Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 not fully recorded; p provisional

Figure 42: Belfast CCP breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Sure Start, 2016-2018p (combined)



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; live births to NI resident mothers. Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 may not be fully recorded

Northern Child Care Partnership Area

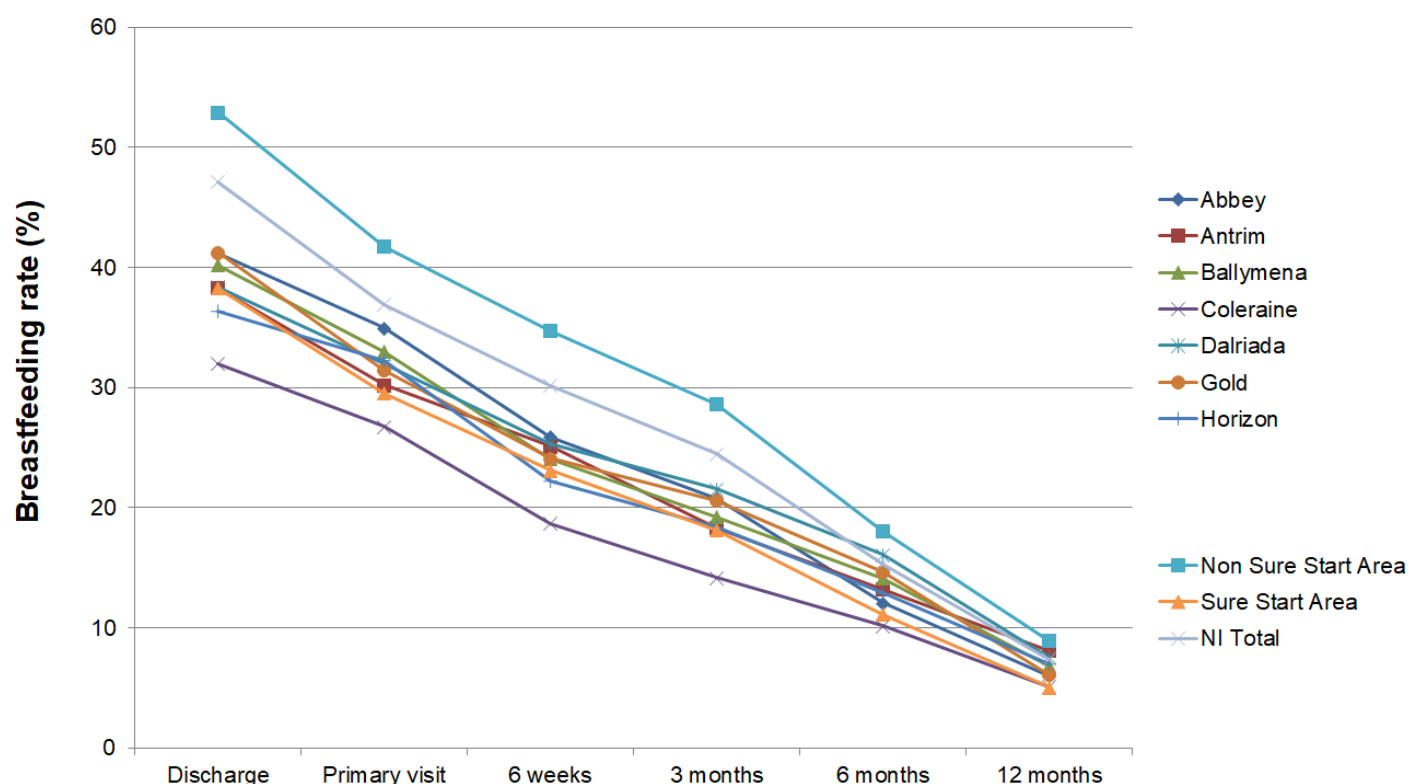
Within the Northern Child Care Partnership area the highest rate of breastfeeding at discharge was recorded for Gold Sure Start (41.3%) compared to the lowest for Coleraine Sure Start (32.0%) (Table 12, Figure 47).

Table 10: Breastfeeding prevalence by Sure Start, combined data 2016-2018p

Northern CCP	Total live births	Discharge	Primary visit	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Abbey	804	41.2	35.0	25.9	20.8	12.1	6.0
Antrim	235	38.3	30.2	25.1	18.3	13.2	8.1
Ballymena	707	40.2	33.0	24.0	19.2	14.1	6.8
Coleraine	572	32.0	26.7	18.7	14.2	10.1	5.1
Dalriada	529	38.4	31.9	25.3	21.6	16.1	7.6
Gold	805	41.2	31.4	24.1	20.6	14.7	6.1
Horizon	512	36.3	32.2	22.3	18.4	12.9	7.0
NI Sure Start	27,682	38.3	29.5	23.1	18.1	11.1	5.0
NI Non Sure Start	42,378	52.9	41.8	34.8	28.6	18.1	8.9
NI Total	70,060	47.1	36.9	30.1	24.5	15.3	7.4

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers
Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 not fully recorded; p provisional

Figure 43: Northern CCP breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Sure Start, 2016-2018p (combined)



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; live births to NI resident mothers. Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 may not be fully recorded

South Eastern Child Care Partnership Area

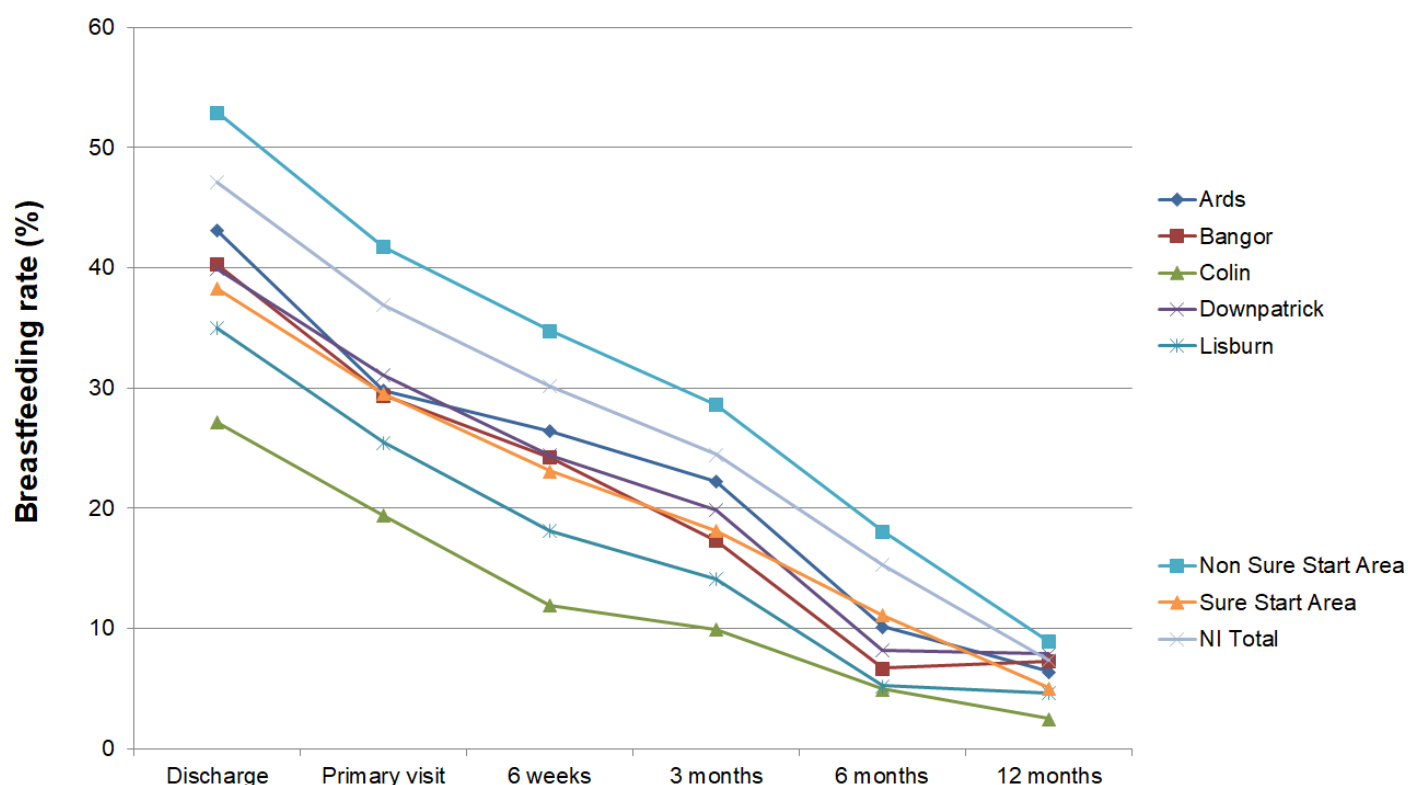
Within the South Eastern Child Care Partnership area the highest rate of breastfeeding at discharge was recorded for Ards Sure Start (43.1%) compared to the lowest for Colin Sure Start (27.1%) (Table 13, Figure 48).

Table 11: Breastfeeding prevalence by Sure Start, combined data 2016-2018p

South Eastern CCP	Total live births	Discharge	Primary visit	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Ards	719	43.1	29.8	26.4	22.3	10.2	6.4
Bangor	330	40.3	29.4	24.2	17.3	6.7	7.3
Colin	1,051	27.1	19.4	11.9	9.9	4.9	2.5
Downpatrick	892	39.9	31.1	24.4	19.8	8.2	7.8
Lisburn	326	35.0	25.5	18.1	14.1	5.2	4.6
NI Sure Start	27,682	38.3	29.5	23.1	18.1	11.1	5.0
NI Non Sure Start	42,378	52.9	41.8	34.8	28.6	18.1	8.9
NI Total	70,060	47.1	36.9	30.1	24.5	15.3	7.4

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers
 Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 not fully recorded; p provisional

Figure 44: South Eastern CCP breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Sure Start, 2016-2018p (combined)



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; live births to NI resident mothers. Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 may not be fully recorded

Southern Child Care Partnership Area

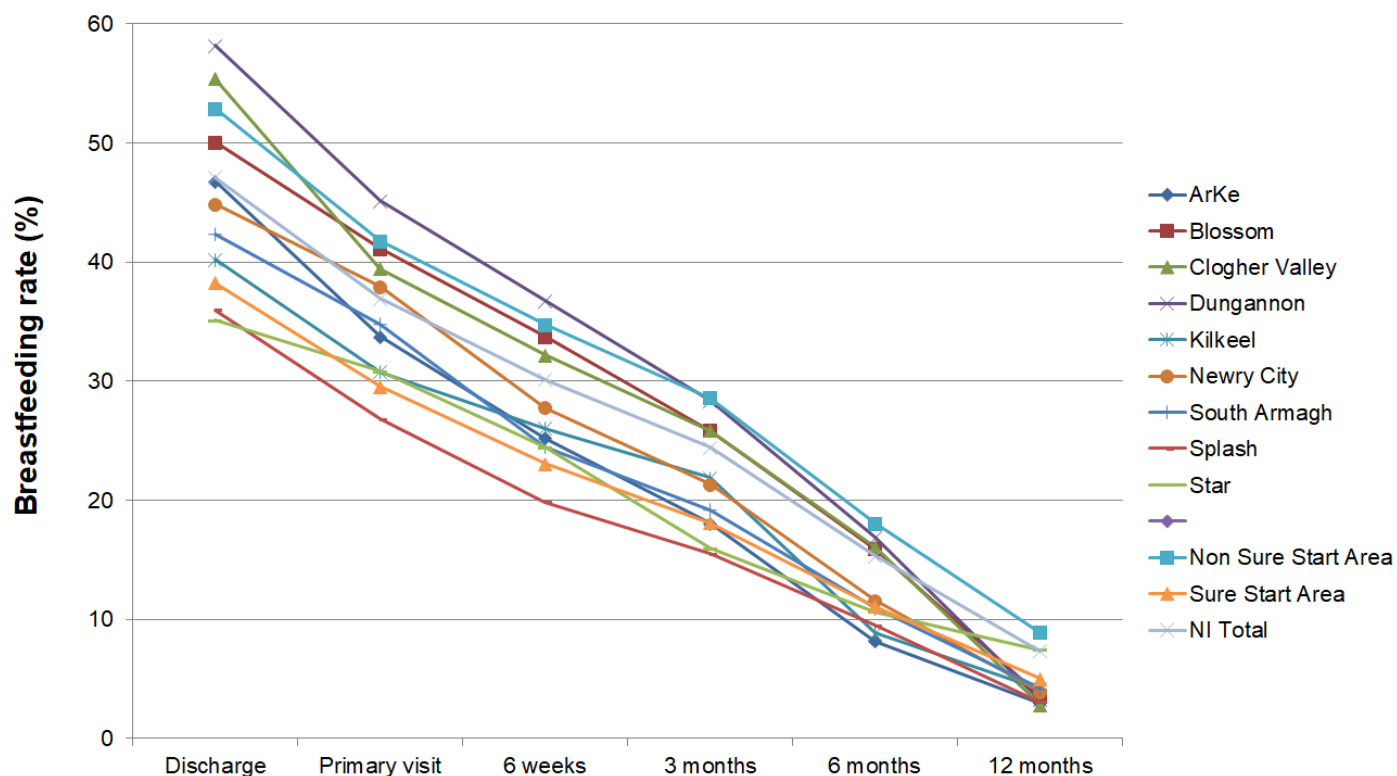
Within the Southern Child Care Partnership area the highest rate of breastfeeding at discharge was recorded for Dungannon Sure Start (58.2%) compared to the lowest for Star Sure Start (35.1%) (Table 14, Figure 49).

Table 12: Breastfeeding prevalence by Sure Start, combined data 2016-2018p

Southern CCP	Total live births	Discharge	Primary visit	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
ArKe	575	46.8	33.7	25.2	18.1	8.2	3.0
Blossom	785	50.1	41.1	33.8	25.9	15.9	3.6
Clogher Valley	565	55.4	39.5	32.2	25.8	16.1	2.8
Dungannon	1,012	58.2	45.2	36.8	28.4	16.9	3.3
Kilkeel	169	40.2	30.8	26.0	21.9	8.9	4.1
Newry City	838	44.9	37.9	27.8	21.4	11.6	3.9
South Armagh	1,230	42.4	34.8	24.5	19.2	11.0	4.2
Splash	947	36.0	26.8	19.9	15.5	9.5	3.1
Star	188	35.1	30.9	24.5	16.0	10.6	7.4
NI Sure Start	27,682	38.3	29.5	23.1	18.1	11.1	5.0
NI Non Sure Start	42,378	52.9	41.8	34.8	28.6	18.1	8.9
NI Total	70,060	47.1	36.9	30.1	24.5	15.3	7.4

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers
 Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 not fully recorded; p provisional

Figure 45: Southern CCP breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Sure Start, 2016-2018p (combined)



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; live births to NI resident mothers. Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 may not be fully recorded

Western Child Care Partnership Area

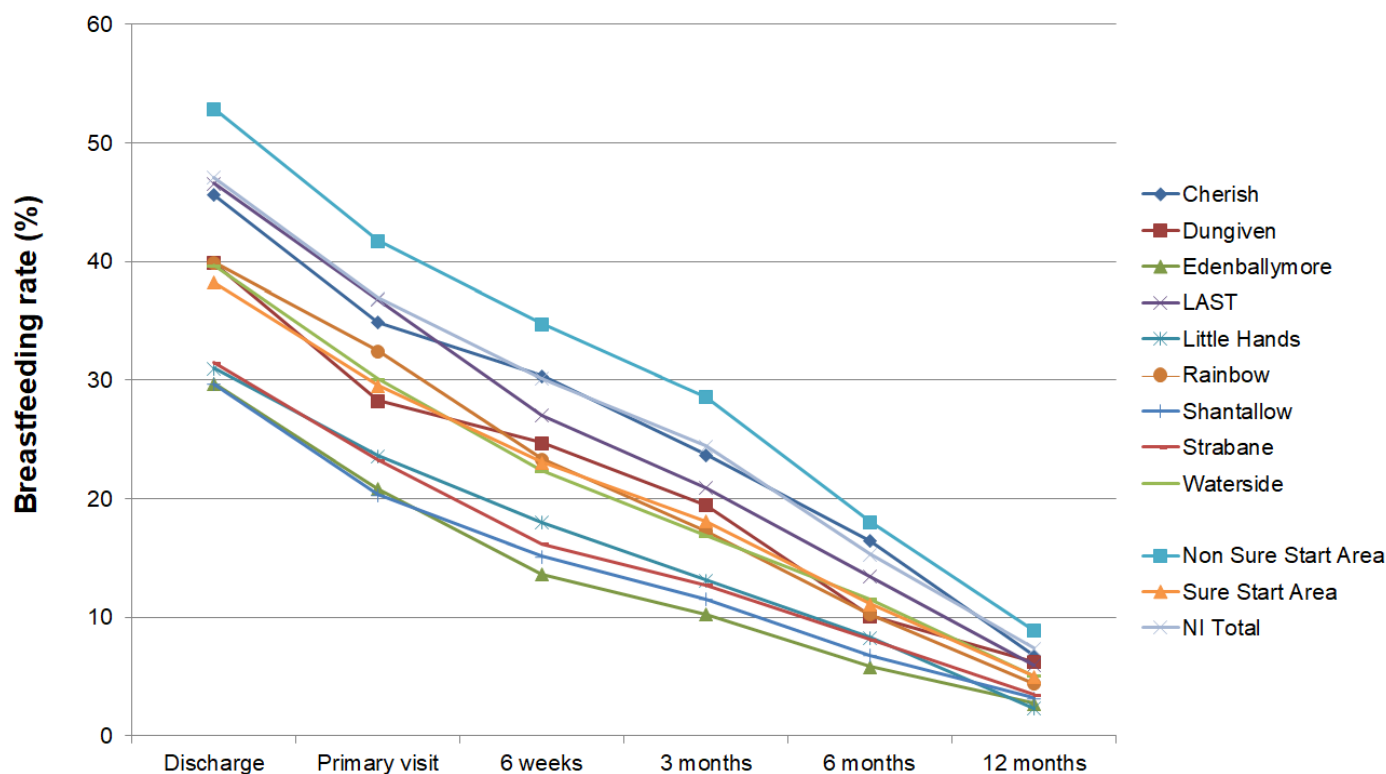
Within the Western Child Care Partnership area the highest rate of breastfeeding at discharge was recorded for LAST Sure Start (46.6%) compared to the lowest for Shantallow Sure Start (29.7%) (Table 15, Figure 50).

Table 13: Breastfeeding prevalence by Sure Start, combined data 2016-2018p

Western CCP	Total live births	Discharge	Primary visit	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Cherish	771	45.7	34.9	30.4	23.7	16.5	6.7
Dungiven	672	39.9	28.3	24.7	19.5	10.1	6.3
Edenballymore	652	29.8	20.9	13.7	10.3	5.8	2.8
LAST	736	46.6	36.8	27.0	20.9	13.5	6.0
Little Hands	555	31.0	23.6	18.0	13.2	8.3	2.3
Rainbow	428	40.0	32.5	23.4	17.3	10.3	4.4
Shantallow	910	29.7	20.3	15.2	11.5	6.8	3.2
Strabane	864	31.5	23.3	16.2	12.7	8.1	3.5
Waterside	711	39.7	30.1	22.4	16.9	11.5	5.1
NI Sure Start	27,682	38.3	29.5	23.1	18.1	11.1	5.0
NI Non Sure Start	42,378	52.9	41.8	34.8	28.6	18.1	8.9
NI Total	70,060	47.1	36.9	30.1	24.5	15.3	7.4

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers
 Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 not fully recorded; p provisional

Figure 46: Western CCP breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Sure Start, 2016-2018p (combined)



Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; live births to NI resident mothers. Advise caution: feeding data for infants born in 2018 may not be fully recorded

Breastfeeding in neonatal units

There is evidence that feeding breast milk to infants in neonatal units has both short-term and long-term benefits to health.^{30,31,32} Breast milk has been shown to reduce infection and necrotising enterocolitis (NEC) as well as evidence of longer term neurodevelopmental advantages.³³

In Northern Ireland, the BadgerNet™ neonatal system (BNNS) records information relating to all infants admitted to neonatal care in Northern Ireland.

National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP)

The National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) is a national clinical audit of NHS-funded care for babies admitted to neonatal services in England, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man. The audit reports on key measures of the process and outcomes of neonatal care. The 2019 report relates to the care provided to 104,577 babies discharged from neonatal care during the calendar year 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018 in 181 participating neonatal units.³⁴ Note that from 2019 there will be changes to the NNAP benchmarking question.

Table 14: Proportion of babies of <33 weeks gestation at birth receiving any of their own mother's milk at discharge home: comparison of Northern Ireland and NNAP performance, 2013-2018

Benchmarking Key Audit Question 6	What proportion of babies of <33 weeks gestation at birth were receiving any of their own mother's milk at discharge to home from a neonatal unit?	
Year	Northern Ireland NNAP comparison	National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) Performance*
2018	53.1% (85/160)	59.6%
2017	48.8% (78/160)	60.5%
2016	41.5% (68/164)	59.7%
2015	27.1% (54/199)	58.9%
2014	30.9% (51/165)	60.9%
2013	40.1% (82/203)	59.5%
<p>*No NNAP standard has been set</p> <p>Source: Northern Ireland NNAP data from BadgerNet Standardised Report</p> <p>Notes: Babies will be classified as meeting the NNAP standard if they are noted to have received any of the following types of enteral feed on their final day of care: Suckling at breast, Mother's fresh expressed breast milk and/or Mother's frozen expressed breast milk.</p> <p>Includes babies who received all of their neonatal care in one neonatal unit, and were discharged home at the end of their neonatal care.</p> <p>Year: Babies who experienced their final neonatal discharge in the calendar year of analysis</p>		

Table 15 provides information on the proportion of babies discharged on mother's milk and those discharged breastfeeding. It shows that while 46.9% of babies are discharged on mother's milk, under half of these (19.5%) are discharged breastfeeding.

Table 15: Babies <33 weeks gestation receiving any mother's milk at discharge by year of discharge, 2013-2018

Year	Babies discharged	Babies discharged on mother's milk		Babies discharged breastfeeding	
	N	N	%	N	%
2018	259	128	49.4	58	22.4
2017	262	123	46.9	51	19.5
2016	289	128	44.3	48	16.6
2015	315	122	38.7	44	14.0
2014	294	117	39.8	56	19.0
2013	336	145	43.2	52	15.5
Source: BadgerNet Standardised Feeding Reports: Note: Discharge to home / ward / foster care; babies admitted any time					

For the 2019 data year, NNAP will report on a new measure of breastmilk feeding at 14 days of life, which is designed to assess the success of initiating breastmilk expression, and to be used alongside rates of breastmilk feeding at discharge and parent feedback to inform local quality improvement activities. This new measure is now part of the NNNI Quality Dashboard 2019 onwards.

The 2019 annual report recommends that neonatal units identify barriers to breastfeeding across the patient pathways using:

- parent feedback
- a review of breastmilk feeding rate at discharge
- the early breastmilk feeding measure in the NNAP quarterly reports.

It highlights the need to use tools such as the *UNICEF Neonatal Unit Baby Friendly Initiative* and *Bliss Baby Charter* to overcome barriers identified and to drive improvement.

A Northern Ireland report on Parents' Experiences of Neonatal Care for babies discharged from a neonatal unit in 2018 found high levels of agreement among mothers who wanted to express breastmilk (95.2%) or breastfeed (94.2%) that they had received the support they needed from neonatal staff to do this (Table 16).³⁵ However, it is interesting to note that 24% and 28.8% of those asked (n=628) stated that they did not want to express or breastfeed.

Table 16: Experience of neonatal care – breastfeeding and expressing breast milk

	Yes, definitely	Yes, to some extent	No	I did not want to express	I could not express	No Response (M)
If you wanted to express breast milk for your baby, were you given the support you needed from neonatal staff?	396	18	2	151	25	36 M
	95.2%	4.3%	0.5%			
If you wanted to breast feed your baby, were you given enough support from the neonatal unit staff to do this?	Yes, definitely	Yes, to some extent	No	I did not want to breast feed	Baby unable to breastfeed – medical reasons	No Response (M)
	360	19	3	181	24	41 M
	94.3%	5.0%	0.8%			
Source: Parent Engagement Survey 2018; Table 16c: About Baby's Care: Feeding & involvement in care.						

However, the report also highlighted that of those who expressed concern/worries at the time of discharge (47.6%; 140/294), 32 (23%; 32/140) reported feeding issues (breast or bottle) as their main worry/concern.

Comparing Northern Ireland breastfeeding rates to other regions

Currently there is variation between UK countries in the time points at which breastfeeding data is recorded / reported and the definitions used and as such direct comparisons between Northern Ireland breastfeeding rates and other UK countries are not possible.

The following sections highlight the current sources of breastfeeding data for England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland.

Breastfeeding in England

The Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) for England sets out a vision for public health in England. The framework sets out high-level outcomes supported by a broad set of indicators to measure how well public health is being improved and protected at national and local level. Two breastfeeding indicators are included within the Health Improvement domain as follows:

- 2.02i Breastfeeding initiation
(% of all mothers who breastfeed their babies in the first 48hrs after delivery)
- 2.02ii Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth
(% of all infants due a 6-8 week check that are totally or partially breastfed)

A data tool presents data for the indicators in the framework for the most recent period available

<http://www.phoutcomes.info/>

The data included in the PHOF for 2016/17 indicates that breastfeeding initiation for England was 74.5% with data for 2017/2018 indicating that breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth was 42.7%[§].

Breastfeeding initiation (Experimental statistics)

Data relating to breastfeeding status immediately after birth is captured and reported by NHS Digital via the Maternity Services Data Set (MSDS). The MSDS records whether a baby's first feed was maternal breast milk, donor breast milk or not breast milk.

In September 2019, 60% of babies received maternal or donor breast milk, 22% were recorded as not breast milk and 19% were categorised as missing/outside reporting parameters.³⁶ [Annual figures published for England report that 75% of babies with a recorded feeding type received breast milk for their first milk, however this excludes missing values.]³⁷

Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks after birth (Experimental statistics)³⁸

- The aggregate breastfeeding rate for England for 2018/19 is 46.2% (with confidence intervals of 46.1 – 46.3%). This is based on 145 out of 150 reporting local authorities who provided sufficient quarterly data for annual figures to be calculated. This compares to 43.1% in 2017/18 (updated November 2019), 44.4% in 2016/17, 43.2% in 2015/16, and to 43.8% for 2014/15 based on data collected by NHS England.
- Breastfeeding prevalence at a PHE centre level can be published for the North East, North West, and East Midlands. All other areas fail to meet validation at stage 3 (known breastfeeding status for infants age 6-8 weeks is lower than the 95% quality standard).
- Breastfeeding prevalence can be published for 72 local authorities (passing all 3 stages of validation) and percentages range from 21.3% to 80.1%.

[§] Annual figure includes constituent area(s) with annual figure scaled up data from there quarters' data

Breastfeeding in Wales

Information on breastfeeding at birth for Wales and its Health Boards is published annually using data from the National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD). The percentage of babies exclusively breastfed at 10 days of age is one of a set of maternity indicators developed following the publication of the 'Strategic Vision for Maternity Services in Wales' in 2011. The indicators are available from Public Health Wales '[Pregnancy and childhood surveillance tool](#)'.

Since September 2012 Health Boards have recorded infant feeding data according to revised definitions which include the following categories: Artificial Milk Feeding; Combined Milk Feeding - Partially Breast; Combined Milk Feeding - Predominantly Breast; and Exclusive Milk.

Breastfeeding at birth

At least 18,433 babies were breastfed at birth in 2018, 61.6% of all births with **known** breastfeeding status (Table 17) [58.8% of all births].^{39,40}

Table 17: Live births by breastfeeding status at birth, Wales 2006-2018

Breastfeeding*	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Breastfeeding	15,445	15,959	17,810	18,032	17,983	18,062	16,918	15,677	15,171	16,246	18,254	18,276	18,433
Not breastfeeding	12,580	12,551	13,777	13,793	14,524	14,469	13,406	12,367	11,041	10,956	11,722	11,931	11,471
Not stated	5,665	5,959	4,168	3,177	3,526	3,151	5,026	5,778	7,436	6,159	3,028	2,029	1,425
Total	33,690	34,469	35,755	35,002	36,033	35,682	35,350	33,822	33,648	33,361	33,004	32,236	31,329

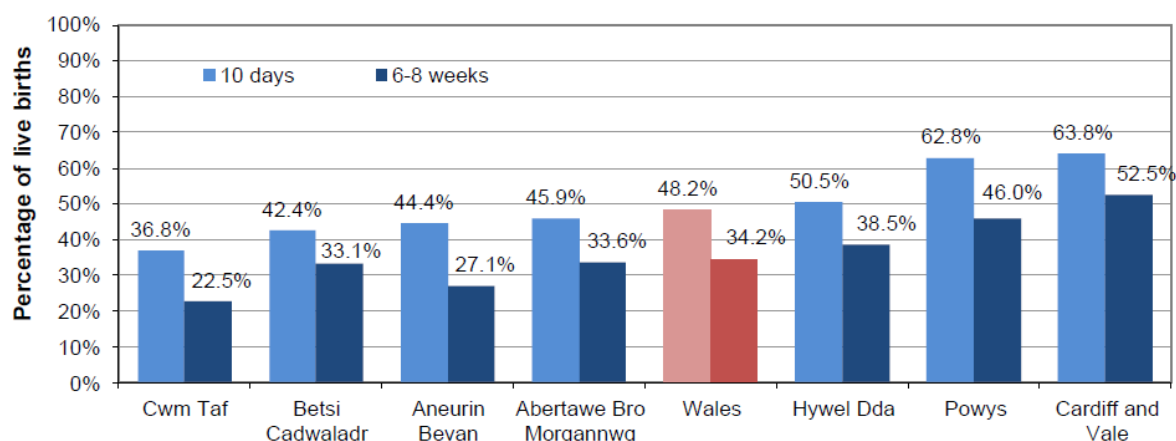
Source: National Community Child Health Database (NCCHD) 2017

*Breastfeeding data based on new breastfeeding definitions introduced in September 2012

Breastfeeding after birth

Following a new mandate in August 2012, data on infant feeding at 10 days, 6 weeks and 6 months has been recorded on the Child Health System. Note that the data relates to the 31,329 live births occurring in 2018 where there was any mention of breastfeeding. Data for 6 months is insufficiently complete as yet to present. Figure 47 shows the proportion of babies receiving **any** breast milk at 10 days and 6-8 weeks where the status of breastfeeding is known [Note: The relative proportions of all births (31,329) would be 44% at 10 days and 27% at 6-8 weeks].

Figure 47: Percentage of babies receiving any breast milk at 10 days and 6-8 weeks by local health board, 2018



Source: National Community Child Health Database

The percentages are of the total live births minus births with no stated breastfeeding status: 8% had no stated breastfeeding status at 10 days and 21% had no stated breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks in 2018.

Breastfeeding in Scotland

NHS Scotland provides a universal health promotion programme to all children and their families known as the Child Health Programme.⁴¹ Breastfeeding rates in Scotland are monitored and published annually. The information is collected at Health Visitor reviews of children at around 10-14 days (First Visit), 6-8 weeks, and 13-15 months of age.⁴²

At each review the mother is asked about current feeding; *'How the baby is currently feeding (i.e. over the 24 hours leading up to the review)'*. Current feeding method is recorded as breast only, formula only, mixed (i.e. both breast and formula milk), or other (i.e. the very small number of children on specialist non milk feeding for medical reasons). This question has been included in the child health reviews for many years, hence results relating to this question are provided for babies born in 2001/02 to 2016/17.

In February 2016 two new questions were added to the child health reviews; *'Whether the baby has ever been breastfed'* and *'Whether the baby has always been exclusively breastfed'*.^{**}

Key findings for babies born in Scotland during 2018/2019 are as follows:

- Almost two thirds (65%) of babies born in Scotland in 2018/19 were breastfed for at least some time after their birth.
- At the health visitor first visit at around 10-14 days of age:
 - 53% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 were receiving any breastfeeding.
 - 37% were being exclusively breastfed (receiving breast milk only) and a further 15% were receiving mixed feeding (receiving both breast and formula milk).
- At the time of the 6-8 week review:
 - 43% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 were receiving any breastfeeding.
 - 32% were being exclusively breastfed and a further 11% were receiving mixed breast and formula feeding.
 - 29% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 were reported as always exclusively breastfed from birth to the time of the 6-8 week review.
- At the time of the 13-15 month review:
 - 18% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 were receiving any breastfeeding. Eight percent (8%) were being exclusively breastfed and a further 9% were receiving mixed breast and formula/cow's milk feeding.
- Among babies who were ever breastfed, by the time of their:
 - Health Visitor first visit 81% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 who were ever breastfed were still being breastfed (57% exclusive and 23% mixed breastfeeding) and the remaining 19% of babies were no longer being breastfed.
 - 6-8 week review, 67% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 who were ever breastfed were still being breastfed (50% exclusive and 17% mixed breastfeeding) and the remaining 33% of babies were no longer being breastfed.
 - 13-15 month review, only 28% of babies eligible for review in 2018/19 who were ever breastfed were still being breastfed (13% exclusive and 15% mixed breastfeeding) and the remaining 72% of babies were no longer being breastfed.

^{**} 'Breastfeeding' includes being fed at the breast and being fed expressed breast milk. Being 'always exclusively' breastfed means that the baby has only ever been breastfed from birth up to the time of their review, and has never received fluids or food (except medicines) apart from breast milk.

Breastfeeding in the Republic of Ireland

The Perinatal Statistics Report presents national statistics on perinatal events in Ireland. The most recent available published data provides information on mothers giving birth and babies born in 2016.⁴³ This data

Breastfeeding at discharge

Breastfeeding statistics are based on live births only and exclude early neonatal deaths. Type of feeding is recorded at the time of discharge from hospital (Table 18).

Table 18: Trends in feeding at discharge, 2007- 2016

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change	
											2007 - 2016	2015 - 2016
Any breastfeeding 1,2,5,6	50.6	51.1	52.8	54.1	55.3	55.4	55.9	57.0	58.0	59.9	18.4	3.3
Exclusive breastfeeding* 1,2,5	45.2	44.6	45.5	46.2	47.0	46.9	46.6	46.6	48.0	49.8	10.2	3.7

Notes: Percentages are subject to rounding. 1 Based on live births. 2 Based on maternities. 5 Excludes early neonatal deaths. 6 Any breastfeeding includes type of feeding recorded as either breast or combined.

Key findings in relation to breastfeeding at discharge from hospital are as follows^{††}:

- 59.9% of babies recorded any breastfeeding in 2016, compared to 55.4% in 2012 and 50.6% in 2007;
- 49.8% of babies were exclusively breastfed in 2016 compared to 46.9% in 2012 and 45.2% in 2007.
- Breastfeeding rates increased with mother's age; 39% of mothers in the 20-24 year age group reported **any** breastfeeding compared to 63.9% of those in the 30-34 year age group.
- **Exclusive** breastfeeding was more common:
 - for singleton births (50.1% compared to 34.7%);
 - among mothers in 'higher professional' (65.9%) and 'lower professional' (62.6%) socio-economic groups. Breastfeeding was least common among 'unemployed' mothers (31.9%).

Breastfeeding at First and 3 month Public Health Nurse (PHN) visits

The Health Service Executive's National Service Plan 2017 includes Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for breastfeeding at the first PHN Visit (PC135) and at the 3 month PHN Visit (PC136).⁴⁴

- % of babies breastfed (exclusively and not exclusively) at first PHN Visit (PC135, Target 58%); and
- % of babies breastfed (exclusively and not exclusively) at 3 month PHN Visit (PC136, Target 40%).^{††}

Quarterly performance reports are available.⁴⁵ Data at September 2019 indicates that 58.1% of babies were breastfed at first PHN visit with 41.9% breastfed at 3 month PHN visit.⁴⁶

**** Data should be considered provisional until publication of the Perinatal Statistics Report 2016**

†† The denominator for KPI calculations is the total number of babies seen by PHN. * Refers to exclusive breastfeeding only

Appendix 1: Data sources

Information on infant feeding in Northern Ireland is currently available from the following sources:

1. Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS)

The Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) is a hospital based system which collects data on a range of maternal and infant characteristics.

The Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) contains a range of demographic and clinical information on mothers and infants. It captures data relating to the current maternity process, but also contains details about the mother's past medical and obstetric history. It is a key source for data on birth numbers, interventions, maternal risk factors, birth weights, maternal smoking, BMI and breastfeeding at discharge. NIMATS is available in all five Trust areas and is now available through the data warehouse. As a result of ongoing work, recording of data on NIMATS has improved in recent years.

New NIMATS fields

In June 2016 a number of changes were implemented on NIMATS to expand the data collected in relation to infant feeding and inform practice. A new screen was added to the Infant exam and birth details section to capture information on skin-to-skin contact and feeding at birth.

HSC Business Services Organisation
Information Technology Services

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Casenote No [] DoB [] Gender [] HCN []

Previous Patient Address [] Email and Phone [] Allergies []

Infant Feeding

Skin to skin:
Did Mother have Skin to Skin Contact at Birth ☒

How Long did Skin to Skin Contact Last:
Until After First Feed ☒
At Least One Hour ☒

At Birth:
Was First Breastfeed Offered at Birth ☒
Breastfeeding Initiated at Birth ☒
Formula Fed at Birth by Mum ☒
Responsiveness for Mother/Baby Wellbeing and Feeding Discussed ☒

Previous

Skin to skin contact should be offered to all mothers regardless of feeding type.
Record: 1/1 <OSC>

A new postnatal screen added to NIMATS records information on infant feeding during the postnatal stay and the feeding status at discharge. It also provides the opportunity to complete outstanding information from the infant exam and birth details fields.

HSC Business Services Organisation
Information Technology Services

Main Menu> Postnatal Inpatients Menu> Record Postnatal For Infant> 4 of 4

Back Save

Infants

Casenote No [] DoB [] Gender Male [] HCN []

Address [] Email and Phone [] Allergies []

Skin to skin:
Did Mother have Skin to Skin Contact at Birth ☒

How Long did Skin to Skin Contact Last:
Until After First Feed ☐
At Least One Hour ☐

At Birth:
Was First Breastfeed Offered at Birth ☐
Breastfeeding Initiated at Birth ☐
Formula Fed at Birth by Mum ☐
Responsiveness for Mother/Baby Wellbeing and Feeding Discussed ☐

During the Postnatal Stay:
Has Breastfeeding Been Attempted ☐
Has the Baby had at Least One Effective Breastfeed ☐

Feeding at Discharge:
Breast milk (Total) ☐ How []
Breast milk and formula (Partial) ☐ How []
Formula (Not at all) ☐

Previous Next

Skin to skin contact should be offered to all mothers regardless of feeding type.
Record: 1/1 <OSC>

2. Northern Ireland Child Health System

The Child Health System (CHS) is a patient centred community based operational system comprising seven modules: Module 1 – Child Register; Module 2 – Preschool Vaccination and Immunisation; Module 3 – Preschool Developmental Surveillance; Module 4 – School Health; Module 5 – Special Needs; Module 6 – New-born Hearing; and Module 7 - Influenza.

Historically, the Northern Ireland Child Health System recorded information on the status of infant feeding at discharge from hospital. However, in 2010 a new system was implemented to improve the reporting systems and provide a better picture of infant feeding. Information on infant feeding status is now collected at the following time points after birth; discharge from hospital, first visit by health visitor (10-14 days), 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months and 12 months.

Northern Ireland Child Health System infant feeding definitions (1 November 2016):

Up to 6 months

- **Total:** Totally breastfed is defined as infants who have received breast milk only within the previous 24 hours (this may be expressed breast milk) - that is, they have NOT received formula milk, any other liquids or food.
- **Partial:** Partially breastfed is defined as infants who have received any breast milk (this may be expressed breast milk) as well as formula milk or any other liquids or food within the previous 24 hours.
- **Not at all:** Not at all breastfed is defined as infants who have not received any breast milk within the previous 24 hours.

From 6 months

- **Total:** Totally breastfed is defined as infants who have received breast milk only (this may be expressed breast milk) as the milk element of a weaning diet within the previous 24 hours - that is, they have NOT received formula milk.
- **Partial:** Partially breastfed is defined as infants who have received any breast milk (this may be expressed breast milk) as well as formula milk as the milk element of a weaning diet within the previous 24 hours.
- **Not at all:** Not at all breastfed is defined as infants who have not received any breast milk within the previous 24 hours.

Any BF or B/BC: babies who are receiving only breast milk and those who are receiving both breast milk and formula.

3. Neonatal Intensive Care Outcomes Research and Evaluation (NICORE)

NICORE has been routinely collecting data on neonatal units in Northern Ireland since 1994. The data is used to monitor a number of key quality markers and to ensure consistently high standards of care so that all babies admitted to a neonatal unit in Northern Ireland will benefit. Each neonatal unit (NNU) routinely provides a range of socio-demographic, obstetric, neonatal process and outcome data relating to individual episodes of care.

4. BadgerNet™ neonatal system (BNNS)

In the BadgerNet™ neonatal system (BNNS), discharge feeding data are available from two sources i.e. summary discharge data items 'DischargeMilk' and 'DischargeFeeding' and the more detailed daily data items which can be analysed for the day of discharge 'EnteralFeeds' and 'FeedingMethod'.

Appendix 2: Data tables

Table A: Breastfeeding offered at birth by hospital, 2017 and 2018 NIMATS Experimental Data

Year	Hospital	Yes – breastfeeding offered at birth		No, breastfeeding not offered at birth		Missing		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
2018	Altnagelvin	2,184	88.9	272	11.1	2	0.1	2,458	100
	Antrim	2,119	75.2	699	24.8	1	0.0	2,819	100
	Craigavon	2,764	70.3	1,168	29.7	1	0.0	3,933	100
	Causeway	591	66.2	302	33.8	-	0.0	893	100
	Daisyhill	1,051	64.5	579	35.5	-	0.0	1,630	100
	Downpatrick	27	87.1	4	12.9	-	0.0	31	100
	Lagan Valley	70	84.3	13	15.7	-	0.0	83	100
	Mater	232	76.8	70	23.2	-	0.0	302	100
	RJMS	3,306	65.0	1,784	35.0	-	0.0	5,090	100
	SWAH	960	77.9	272	22.1	-	0.0	1,232	100
	Ulster	3,115	75.6	1,006	24.4	-	0.0	4,121	100
	Northern Ireland	16,419	72.7	6,169	27.3	4	0.0	22,592	100
2017	Altnagelvin	2,227	86.8	340	13.2	-	0.0	2,567	100
	Antrim	2,308	79.0	613	21.0	-	0.0	2,921	100
	Craigavon	2,730	67.9	1,292	32.1	-	0.0	4,022	100
	Causeway	632	66.1	324	33.9	-	0.0	956	100
	Daisyhill	1,111	63.1	649	36.9	-	0.0	1,760	100
	Downpatrick	33	78.6	9	21.4	-	0.0	42	100
	Lagan Valley	84	80.8	19	18.3	1	1.0	104	100
	Mater	189	71.3	76	28.7	-	0.0	265	100
	RJMS	3,130	61.2	1,988	38.8	-	0.0	5,118	100
	SWAH	1,007	80.9	237	19.1	-	0.0	1,244	100
	Ulster	2,957	73.1	1,087	26.9	1	0.0	4,045	100
	Northern Ireland	16,408	71.2	6,634	28.8	2	0.0	23,044	100

Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Table B: Infant feeding at birth by hospital, 2018 NIMATS Experimental data

Hospital	Breast feeding initiated at birth	Formula fed at birth by mother							
		Yes		No		Missing		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Altnagelvin	Y	0	0	1,450	59.0	0	0	1,450	100
	N	698	28.4	308	12.5	0	0	1,006	100
	Missing	0	0	0	0	2	0.08	2	100
	Total	698	28.4	1,758	71.5	2	0.08	2,458	100
Antrim	Y	0	0	1,506	53.4	0	0	1,506	100
	N	895	31.7	417	14.8	0	0	1,312	100
	Missing	0	0	0	0	1	0.04	1	100
	Total	895	31.7	1,923	68.2	1	0.04	2,819	100
Causeway	Y	0	0	489	54.8	0	0	489	100
	N	275	30.8	129	14.4	0	0	404	100
	Total	275	30.8	618	69.2	0	0	893	100
Craigavon	Y	0	0	2,186	55.6	0	0	2,186	100
	N	1,165	29.6	581	14.8	0	0	1,746	100
	Missing	0	0	0	0	1	0.03	1	100
	Total	1,165	29.6	2,767	70.4	1	0.03	3,933	100
Daisyhill	Y	0	0	852	52.3	0	0	852	100
	N	568	34.8	210	12.9	0	0	778	100
	Total	568	34.8	1,062	65.2	0	0	1,630	100
Downpatrick	Y	0	0	25	80.6	0	0	25	100
	N	5	16.1	1	3.2	0	0	6	100
	Total	5	16.1	26	83.9	0	0	31	100
Lagan Valley	Y	0	0	55	66.3	0	0	55	100
	N	20	24.1	8	9.6	0	0	28	100
	Total	20	24.1	63	75.9	0	0	83	100
Mater	Y	0	0	194	64.2	0	0	194	100
	N	94	31.1	14	4.6	0	0	108	100
	Total	94	31.1	208	68.9	0	0	302	100
RJMS	Y	0	0	2,310	45.4	0	0	2,310	100
	N	1,617	31.8	1,163	22.8	0	0	2,780	100
	Total	1,617	31.8	3,473	68.2	0	0	5,090	100
SWAH	Y	0	0	776	63.0	0	0	776	100
	N	262	21.3	194	15.7	0	0	456	100
	Total	262	21.3	970	78.7	0	0	1,232	100
Ulster	Y	0	0	2,546	61.8	0	0	2,546	100
	N	1,027	24.9	548	13.3	0	0	1,575	100
	Total	1,027	24.9	3,094	75.1	0	0	4,121	100
Northern Ireland	Y	0	0	12,389	54.8	0	0	12,389	100
	N	6,626	29.3	3,573	15.8	0	0	10,199	100
	Missing	0	0	0	0	4	0.02	4	100
	Total	6,626	29.3	15,962	70.7	4	0.02	22,592	100

Source: NIMATS; Live births, NI resident mothers Excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and infants born before arrival.

Table C: Skin-to-skin contact at birth by feeding type at birth, 2018 NIMATS Experimental data

Feeding at birth	Skin-to-skin contact	Yes		No		Missing		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
All births	Skin-to-skin	19,176	84.9	3,411	15.1	5	0	22,592	100
	Skin-to-skin at least 1 hour	14,621	64.7	4,555	20.2	3,416	15.1	23,592	100
	Skin-to-skin after first feed	13,801	61.1	5,371	23.8	3,420	15.1	23,592	100
Breastfed	Skin-to-skin	11,474	92.6	914	7.4	1	0	12,389	100
	Skin-to-skin at least 1 hour	10,063	81.2	1,411	11.4	914	7.4	12,389	100
	Skin-to-skin after first feed	9,778	78.9	1,692	13.7	914	7.4	12,389	100
Formula fed	Skin-to-skin	5,680	85.7	946	14.3	-	-	6,626	100
	Skin-to-skin at least 1 hour	3,738	56.4	1,942	29.3	946	14.3	6,626	100
	Skin-to-skin after first feed	3,409	51.4	2,271	34.3	946	14.3	6,626	100
Neither breastfed nor formula fed	Skin-to-skin	2,022	56.6	1,551	43.4	-	-	3,573	100
	Skin-to-skin at least 1 hour	820	22.9	1,202	33.6	1,551	43.3	3,573	100
	Skin-to-skin after first feed	614	17.2	1408	39.4	1,551	43.4	3,573	100

Source: NIMATS; Live births, NI resident mothers Excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and infants born before arrival

Table D: Skin-to-skin contact at birth by hospital, 2018

	Births	Skin-to-skin		Skin-to-skin for at least 1 hour		Skin-to-skin until after first feed	
	N	N	%	N	%	N	%
Altnagelvin	2,458	2,185	88.9	1,770	72.0	1,712	69.7
Antrim	2,819	2,284	81.0	1,802	63.9	1,705	60.5
Causeway	893	825	92.4	740	82.9	708	62.3
Craigavon	3,933	3,239	82.4	2,558	65.0	2,450	79.3
Daisyhill	1,630	1,389	85.2	1,201	70.0	1,100	67.5
Downpatrick	31	30	96.8	28	90.3	25	80.6
Lagan Valley	83	83	100.0	75	90.4	70	84.3
Mater	302	294	97.4	221	73.2	217	71.9
RJMS	5,090	4,179	82.1	2,449	48.1	2,238	44.0
SWAH	1,232	1,069	86.8	991	80.4	974	79.1
Ulster	4,121	3,599	87.3	2,786	67.6	2,602	63.1
All births	22,592	19,176	84.9	14,621	64.7	13,801	61.1

Source: NIMATS; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Table E: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by Health and Social Care Trust*, 2012-2018

HSCT	Year	Y		N		Missing		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Belfast	2018	2,511	56.7	1,903	43.0	15	0.3	4,429	100.0
	2017	2,383	54.6	1,970	45.2	9	0.2	4,362	100.0
	2016	2,496	53.4	2,175	46.6	-	-	4,671	100.0
	2015	2,485	53.4	2,171	46.6	-	-	4,656	100.0
	2014	2,532	53.8	2,177	46.2	-	-	4,709	100.0
	2013	2,454	52.2	2,249	47.8	-	-	4,703	100.0
	2012	2,464	49.6	2,506	50.4	-	-	4,970	100.0
Northern	2018	3,181	60.7	2,040	38.9	21	0.4	5,242	100.0
	2017	3,295	59.4	2,233	40.2	23	0.4	5,551	100.0
	2016	3,207	56.5	2,472	43.5	-	-	5,679	100.0
	2015	3,118	54.3	2,621	45.7	-	-	5,739	100.0
	2014	3,192	54.6	2,649	45.4	-	-	5,841	100.0
	2013	3,161	54.9	2,599	45.1	-	-	5,760	100.0
	2012	3,071	51.6	2,878	48.4	-	-	5,949	100.0
South Eastern	2018	2,577	64.2	1,414	35.2	25	0.6	4,016	100.0
	2017	2,442	61.6	1,495	37.7	28	0.7	3,965	100.0
	2016	2,532	59.9	1,694	40.1	-	-	4,226	100.0
	2015	2,536	58.9	1,766	41.1	-	-	4,302	100.0
	2014	2,471	57.4	1,833	42.6	-	-	4,304	100.0
	2013	2,469	57.2	1,846	42.8	-	-	4,315	100.0
	2012	2,539	56.9	1,926	43.1	-	-	4,465	100.0
Southern	2018	3,135	59.7	2,078	39.6	39	0.7	5,252	100.0
	2017	3,234	60.2	2,121	39.5	18	0.3	5,373	100.0
	2016	3,246	59.0	2,252	41.0	-	-	5,498	100.0
	2015	3,125	56.7	2,390	43.3	-	-	5,515	100.0
	2014	3,197	58.3	2,285	41.7	-	-	5,482	100.0
	2013	3,057	57.3	2,279	42.7	-	-	5,336	100.0
	2012	3,168	55.5	2,537	44.5	-	-	5,705	100.0
Western	2018	2,477	65.9	1,266	33.7	17	0.5	3,760	100.0
	2017	2,523	64.7	1,355	34.8	20	0.5	3,898	100.0
	2016	2,425	61.5	1,515	38.5	-	-	3,940	100.0
	2015	2,487	62.4	1,501	37.6	-	-	3,988	100.0
	2014	2,405	60.2	1,591	39.8	-	-	3,996	100.0
	2013	2,320	59.7	1,565	40.3	-	-	3,885	100.0
	2012	2,395	58.3	1,713	41.7	-	-	4,108	100.0
Northern Ireland	2018	13,881	61.2	8,701	38.3	117	0.5	22,699	100.0
	2017	13,877	59.9	9,174	39.6	98	0.4	23,149	100.0
	2016	13,906	57.9	10,108	42.1	-	-	24,014	100.0
	2015	13,751	56.8	10,449	43.2	-	-	24,200	100.0
	2014	13,797	56.7	10,535	43.3	-	-	24,332	100.0
	2013	13,461	56.1	10,538	43.9	-	-	23,999	100.0
	2012	13,637	54.1	11,560	45.9	-	-	25,197	100.0

Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data includes live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite. * Based on maternal residence.

Table F: Breastfeeding attempted by maternal age, 2014-2018

Year	Age group	Y		N		Missing		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
2018	<17	23	46.9	26	53.1		0	49	100.0
	17-19	235	40.1	349	59.6	2	0.3	586	100.0
	20-24	1,256	44.8	1,533	54.7	13	0.5	2,802	100.0
	25-29	3,445	57.1	2,559	42.4	31	0.5	6,035	100.0
	30-34	5,261	66.4	2,609	32.9	50	0.6	7,920	100.0
	35-39	3,050	68.9	1,362	30.8	16	0.4	4,428	100.0
	40-44	574	70.0	242	29.5	4	0.5	820	100.0
	45+	37	62.7	21	35.6	1	1.7	59	100.0
	Total	13,881	61.2	8,701	38.3	117	0.5	22,699	100.0
2017	<17	25	43.9	30	52.6	2	3.5	57	100.0
	17-19	242	39.0	371	59.8	7	1.1	620	100.0
	20-24	1,253	43.5	1,613	56.0	12	0.4	2,878	100.0
	25-29	3,494	55.7	2,753	43.9	29	0.5	6,276	100.0
	30-34	5,212	65.5	2,720	34.2	28	0.4	7,960	100.0
	35-39	3,057	68.2	1,407	31.4	18	0.4	4,482	100.0
	40-44	547	66.6	272	33.1	2	0.2	821	100.0
	45+	47	85.5	8	14.5		0.0	55	100.0
	Total	13,877	59.9	9,174	39.6	98	0.4	23,149	100.0
2016	<17	23	31.5	50	68.5	-	-	73	100.0
	17-19	234	32.8	479	67.2	-	-	713	100.0
	20-24	1,318	42.5	1,783	57.5	-	-	3,101	100.0
	25-29	3,497	52.9	3,118	47.1	-	-	6,615	100.0
	30-34	5,284	64.5	2,914	35.5	-	-	8,198	100.0
	35-39	2,954	66.9	1,459	33.1	-	-	4,413	100.0
	40-44	569	66.2	291	33.8	-	-	860	100.0
	45+	27	65.9	14	34.1	-	-	41	100.0
	Total	13,906	57.9	10,108	42.1	-	-	24,014	100.0
2015	<17	23	32.9	47	67.1	-	-	70	100.0
	17-19	225	32.2	473	67.8	-	-	698	100.0
	20-24	1,383	40.6	2,020	59.4	-	-	3,403	100.0
	25-29	3,451	52.2	3,159	47.8	-	-	6,610	100.0
	30-34	5,133	63.9	2,903	36.1	-	-	8,036	100.0
	35-39	2,925	65.8	1,519	34.2	-	-	4,444	100.0
	40-44	566	64.5	312	35.5	-	-	878	100.0
	45+	45	73.8	16	26.2	-	-	61	100.0
	Total	13,751	56.8	10,449	43.2	-	-	24,200	100.0
2014	<17	24	30.4	55	69.6	-	-	79	100.0
	17-19	235	32.2	495	67.8	-	-	730	100.0
	20-24	1,386	39.1	2,163	60.9	-	-	3,549	100.0
	25-29	3,689	54.8	3,047	45.2	-	-	6,736	100.0
	30-34	5,147	63.5	2,960	36.5	-	-	8,107	100.0
	35-39	2,717	64.7	1,485	35.3	-	-	4,202	100.0
	40-44	574	64.4	317	35.6	-	-	891	100.0
	45+	25	65.8	13	34.2	-	-	38	100.0
	Total	13,797	56.7	10,535	43.3	-	-	24,332	100.0

Source: Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS). Data includes live births to NI resident mothers, excludes home births and infants who died in the delivery suite.

Table G: Breastfeeding attempted by deprivation quintile (SOA), 2012-2018

Year	Deprivation quintile	Yes		No		Missing		Total	
	1 – Most deprived 20% 5 – Least deprived 20%	Breastfeeding attempted	Breastfeeding not attempted	Breastfeeding not attempted					
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
2018	1	2,365	46.8	2,664	52.8	21	0.4	5,050	100.0
	2	2,873	59.0	1,967	40.4	29	0.6	4,869	100.0
	3	2,904	62.4	1,727	37.1	23	0.5	4,654	100.0
	4	2,963	67.0	1,437	32.5	22	0.5	4,422	100.0
	5	2,776	74.9	906	24.5	22	0.6	3,704	100.0
	Total	13,881	61.2	8,701	38.3	117	0.5	22,699	100.0
2017	1	2,332	45.8	2,737	53.8	19	0.4	5,088	100.0
	2	2,974	58.3	2,099	41.1	28	0.5	5,101	100.0
	3	2,863	60.4	1,855	39.1	22	0.5	4,740	100.0
	4	2,962	65.6	1,535	34.0	20	0.4	4,517	100.0
	5	2,746	74.2	948	25.6	9	0.2	3,703	100.0
	Total	13,877	59.9	9,174	39.6	98	0.4	23,149	100.0
2016	1	2,337	42.8	3,124	57.2	-	-	5,461	100.0
	2	2,878	56.0	2,262	44.0	-	-	5,140	100.0
	3	2,962	59.5	2,016	40.5	-	-	4,978	100.0
	4	2,972	63.6	1,704	36.4	-	-	4,676	100.0
	5	2,757	73.3	1,002	26.7	-	-	3,759	100.0
	Total	13,906	57.9	10,108	42.1	-	-	24,014	100.0
2015	1	2,341	42.6	3,148	57.4	-	-	5,489	100.0
	2	2,861	55.6	2,287	44.4	-	-	5,148	100.0
	3	2,888	57.5	2,138	42.5	-	-	5,026	100.0
	4	2,934	62.1	1,790	37.9	-	-	4,724	100.0
	5	2,727	71.5	1,086	28.5	-	-	3,813	100.0
	Total	13,751	56.8	10,449	43.2	-	-	24,200	100.0
2014	1	2,436	43.5	3,161	56.5	-	-	5,597	100.0
	2	2,926	54.6	2,437	45.4	-	-	5,363	100.0
	3	2,854	57.7	2,095	42.3	-	-	4,949	100.0
	4	2,912	61.7	1,806	38.3	-	-	4,718	100.0
	5	2,669	72.0	1,036	28.0	-	-	3,705	100.0
	Total	13,797	56.7	10,535	43.3	-	-	24,332	100.0
2013	1	2,341	42.4	3,186	57.6	-	-	5,527	100.0
	2	2,777	53.8	2,380	46.2	-	-	5,157	100.0
	3	2,859	57.0	2,158	43.0	-	-	5,017	100.0
	4	2,908	62.2	1,764	37.8	-	-	4,672	100.0
	5	2,576	71.0	1,050	29.0	-	-	3,626	100.0
	Total	13,461	56.1	10,538	43.9	-	-	23,999	100.0
2012	1	2,310	39.9	3,486	60.1	-	-	5,796	100.0
	2	2,940	53.1	2,595	46.9	-	-	5,535	100.0
	3	2,900	55.6	2,313	44.4	-	-	5,213	100.0
	4	2,846	59.5	1,939	40.5	-	-	4,785	100.0
	5	2,641	68.3	1,227	31.7	-	-	3,868	100.0
	Total	13,637	54.1	11,560	45.9	-	-	25,197	100.0

Source: NIMATS: Live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite.

Note: Deprivation status as per Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for Super Output Area (SOA).

Table H: Breastfeeding attempted (%) by maternal age and deprivation quintile (SOA), 2018

Maternal age group at birth	Deprivation quintile (SOA)	Yes		No		Missing		Total	
	1 – Most deprived 20%								
	5 – Least deprived 20%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<20 yrs	1	85	33.7	167	66.3	0	0.0	252	100
	2	63	43.4	81	55.9	1	0.7	145	100
	3	42	37.2	71	62.8	0	0.0	113	100
	4	43	53.8	36	45.0	1	1.3	80	100
	5	25	55.6	20	44.4	0	0.0	45	100
	Total	258	40.6	375	59.1	2	0.3	635	100
20-24 yrs	1	367	36.4	638	63.2	4	0.4	1009	100
	2	330	49.3	336	50.2	3	0.4	669	100
	3	243	49.5	245	49.9	3	0.6	491	100
	4	199	49.5	201	50.0	2	0.5	402	100
	5	117	50.6	113	48.9	1	0.4	231	100
	Total	1,256	44.8	1,533	54.7	13	0.5	2,802	100
25-29 yrs	1	665	44.4	826	55.1	8	0.5	1,499	100
	2	738	55.6	578	43.6	11	0.8	1,327	100
	3	758	59.3	516	40.4	4	0.3	1,278	100
	4	727	64.6	394	35.0	5	0.4	1,126	100
	5	557	69.2	245	30.4	3	0.4	805	100
	Total	3,445	57.1	2,559	42.4	31	0.5	6,035	100
30-34 yrs	1	740	52.1	672	47.4	7	0.5	1,419	100
	2	1,045	63.1	602	36.4	9	0.5	1,656	100
	3	1,123	66.2	563	33.2	10	0.6	1,696	100
	4	1,140	70.1	475	29.2	11	0.7	1,626	100
	5	1,213	79.6	297	19.5	13	0.9	1,523	100
	Total	5,261	66.4	2,609	32.9	50	0.6	7,920	100
35-39 yrs	1	413	57.4	305	42.4	1	0.1	719	100
	2	588	65.9	301	33.7	3	0.3	892	100
	3	614	67.9	285	31.5	5	0.6	904	100
	4	711	71.7	278	28.1	2	0.2	991	100
	5	724	78.5	193	20.9	5	0.5	922	100
	Total	3,050	68.9	1,362	30.8	16	0.4	4,428	100
40+ yrs	1	95	62.5	56	36.8	1	0.7	152	100
	2	109	60.6	69	38.3	2	1.1	180	100
	3	124	72.1	47	27.3	1	0.6	172	100
	4	143	72.6	53	26.9	1	0.5	197	100
	5	140	78.7	38	21.3	0	0.0	178	100
	Total	611	69.5	263	29.9	5	0.6	879	100
Northern Ireland		13,881	61.2	8,701	38.3	117	0.5	22,699	100

Source: NIMATS: Live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite.

Note: Deprivation status as per Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for Super Output Area (SOA).

Table I: Breastfeeding attempted by place of birth, 2012-2018

Place of birth	Year	Breastfeeding attempted				Missing		Total	
		Yes		No					
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Altnagelvin	2018	1,583	64.2	871	35.3	13	0.5	2,467	100
	2017	1,592	61.5	985	38.0	12	0.5	2,589	100
	2016	1,522	58.9	1,061	41.1	-	-	2,583	100
	2015	1,618	59.9	1,084	40.1	-	-	2,702	100
	2014	1,576	58.8	1,105	41.2	-	-	2,681	100
	2013	1,505	58.7	1,061	41.3	-	-	2,566	100
	2012	1,539	56.3	1,195	43.7	-	-	2,734	100
Antrim	2018	1,696	59.9	1122	39.6	14	0.5	2,832	100
	2017	1,723	58.8	1190	40.6	17	0.6	2,930	100
	2016	1,672	55.9	1,320	44.1	-	-	2,992	100
	2015	1,541	52.3	1,406	47.7	-	-	2,947	100
	2014	1,491	52.8	1,335	47.2	-	-	2,826	100
	2013	1,404	54.2	1,187	45.8	-	-	2,591	100
	2012	1,313	49.5	1,339	50.5	-	-	2,652	100
Craigavon	2018	2,430	61.5	1499	37.9	24	0.6	3953	100
	2017	2,450	60.7	1574	39.0	13	0.3	4037	100
	2016	2,501	60.2	1,651	39.8	-	-	4,152	100
	2015	2,356	57.9	1,715	42.1	-	-	4,071	100
	2014	2,377	59.3	1,631	40.7	-	-	4,008	100
	2013	2,313	58.4	1,648	41.6	-	-	3,961	100
	2012	2,449	58.3	1,750	41.7	-	-	4,199	100
Causeway	2018	552	61.5	342	38.1	3	0.3	897	100
	2017	559	58.4	395	41.3	3	0.3	957	100
	2016	562	55.5	451	44.5	-	-	1,013	100
	2015	569	52.2	520	47.8	-	-	1,089	100
	2014	626	52.4	569	47.6	-	-	1,195	100
	2013	708	52.2	648	47.8	-	-	1,356	100
	2012	661	46.6	757	53.4	-	-	1,418	100
Daisyhill	2018	939	57.5	685	41.9	9	0.6	1633	100
	2017	1,053	59.7	705	40.0	6	0.3	1764	100
	2016	1,007	56.8	765	43.2	-	-	1,772	100
	2015	988	55.2	802	44.8	-	-	1,790	100
	2014	997	54.8	822	45.2	-	-	1,819	100
	2013	929	54.0	791	46.0	-	-	1,720	100
	2012	941	51.3	895	48.7	-	-	1,836	100
Downpatrick	2018	22	71.0	5	16.1	4	12.9	31	100
	2017	25	59.5	10	23.8	7	16.7	42	100
	2016	29	61.7	18	38.3	-	-	47	100
	2015	43	52.4	39	47.6	-	-	82	100
	2014	32	61.5	20	38.5	-	-	52	100
	2013	40	47.6	44	52.4	-	-	84	100
	2012	60	61.2	38	38.8	-	-	98	100

Source: NIMATS: Live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite.

Continued Table I: Breastfeeding attempted by place of birth, 2012-2018

Place of birth	Year	Breastfeeding attempted				Missing		Total	
		Yes		No					
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Lagan Valley	2018	54	63.5	22	25.9	9	10.6	85	100
	2017	75	71.4	24	22.9	6	5.7	105	100
	2016	112	64.0	63	36.0	-	-	175	100
	2015	116	58.9	81	41.1	-	-	197	100
	2014	100	56.8	76	43.2	-	-	176	100
	2013	116	56.6	89	43.4	-	-	205	100
	2012	119	56.1	93	43.9	-	-	212	100
Mater	2018	205	67.9	95	31.5	2	0.7	302	100
	2017	160	60.4	105	39.6		0	265	100
	2016	135	55.6	108	44.4	-	-	243	100
	2015	95	50.5	93	49.5	-	-	188	100
	2014	101	51	97	49	-	-	198	100
	2013	145	37.7	240	62.3	-	-	385	100
	2012	422	35.5	768	64.5	-	-	1,190	100
RJMS	2018	2,719	53.2	2384	46.6	10	0.2	5113	100
	2017	2,653	51.6	2493	48.4		0	5146	100
	2016	2,871	50.9	2,770	49.1	-	-	5,641	100
	2015	2,884	50.4	2,839	49.6	-	-	5,723	100
	2014	3,129	52.0	2,887	48	-	-	6,016	100
	2013	3,077	52.0	2,842	48	-	-	5,919	100
	2012	2,893	52.0	2,670	48	-	-	5,563	100
SWAH	2018	874	70.7	357	28.9	6	0.5	1237	100
	2017	921	73.7	322	25.8	6	0.5	1249	100
	2016	844	66.6	423	33.4	-	-	1,267	100
	2015	851	69.8	369	30.2	-	-	1,220	100
	2014	780	63.4	450	36.6	-	-	1,230	100
	2013	764	64.0	430	36	-	-	1,194	100
	2012	757	63.7	432	36.3	-	-	1,189	100
Ulster	2018	2,807	67.7	1319	31.8	23	0.6	4149	100
	2017	2,666	65.6	1371	33.7	28	0.7	4,065	100
	2016	2,651	64.2	1,478	35.8	-	-	4,129	100
	2015	2,690	64.2	1,501	35.8	-	-	4,191	100
	2014	2,588	62.7	1,540	37.3	-	-	4,128	100
	2013	2,457	61.3	1,551	38.7	-	-	4,008	100
	2012	2,479	60.5	1,621	39.5	-	-	4,100	100
Northern Ireland	2018	13,881	61.2	8,701	38.3	117	0.5	22,699	100
	2017	13,877	59.9	9,174	39.6	98	0.4	23,149	100
	2016	13,906	57.9	10,108	42.1	-	-	24,014	100
	2015	13,751	56.8	10,449	43.2	-	-	24,200	100
	2014	13,797	56.7	10,532	43.3	-	-	24,329	100
	2013	13,458	56.1	10,531	43.9	-	-	23,989	100
	2012	13,633	54.1	11,558	45.9	-	-	25,191	100

Source: NIMATS: Live births to NI resident mothers; excludes home births and infants died in delivery suite.

Table J: At least one effective breastfeed during postnatal stay by hospital, 2018 NIMATS experimental data

Site	Effective breastfeed during postnatal stay				Total	
	Yes		No		Base n = 13,826 infants attempted breastfeeding	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Altnagelvin	1,340	84.9	238	15.1	1,578	100
Antrim	1,495	88.5	194	11.5	1,689	100
Causeway	511	92.7	40	7.3	551	100
Craigavon	2,188	90.4	233	9.6	2,421	100
Daisyhill	851	90.8	86	9.2	937	100
Downpatrick	22	100.0	0	0.0	22	100
Lagan Valley	52	96.3	2	3.7	54	100
Mater	190	92.7	15	7.3	205	100
RJMS	2,369	87.4	340	12.6	2,709	100
SWAH	775	89.0	96	11.0	871	100
Ulster	2,455	88.0	334	12.0	2,789	100
Total attempted breastfeeding	12,248	88.6	1,578	11.4	13,826	100

Source: NIMATS experimental data; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Table K: Breastfeeding at discharge by feeding method, 2018 NIMATS experimental data

Milk type at discharge	Method of feeding at discharge							
	Breast		Expressed		Both breast and expressed		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Totally breastfeeding	7,903	94.2	112	1.3	376	4.5	8,391	100.0
Breast and formula feeding	1,048	39.7	370	14.0	1,224	46.3	2,642	100.0
Any breastmilk	8,951	81.1	482	4.4	1,600	14.5	11,033	100.0

Source: NIMATS experimental data; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Table L: Supplementation by hospital, 2018 NIMATS Experimental data

Hospital	Supplementation of breastfed infants during post-natal stay	Total
	%	N
Altnagelvin	27.5	742
Antrim	14.3	985
Causeway	8.1	393
Craigavon	13.3	1,595
Daisyhill	13.8	594
Downpatrick	5.3	19
Lagan Valley	0.0	43
Mater	3.8	157
RJMS	14.2	1,617
SWAH	17.9	430
Ulster	12.2	1,816
Total	14.4	8,391

Source: NIMATS experimental data; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.

Table M: Breastfeeding support at discharge with hospital range, 2018 NIMATS experimental data

Feeding type at discharge	Site	Effective Positioning		Recognise Enough		Hand Expression		Help At Home		Total	
		N	% mothers	N	% mothers	N	% mothers	N	% mothers	N	% mothers
Totally breastfed	Altnagelvin	737	99.3	739	99.6	733	98.8	736	99.2	742	100.0
	Antrim	969	98.4	971	98.6	967	98.2	971	98.6	985	100.0
	Craigavon	1,574	98.7	1,578	98.9	1,575	98.7	1,576	98.8	1,595	100.0
	Causeway	388	98.7	387	98.5	383	97.5	387	98.5	393	100.0
	Daisyhill	583	98.1	584	98.3	582	98.0	583	98.1	594	100.0
	Downpatrick	19	100.0	19	100.0	19	100.0	19	100.0	19	100.0
	Lagan Valley	43	100.0	43	100.0	43	100.0	43	100.0	43	100.0
	Mater	156	99.4	157	100.0	154	98.1	157	100.0	157	100.0
	RJMS	1,588	98.2	1,604	99.2	1,582	97.8	1,585	98.0	1,617	100.0
	SWAH	426	99.1	427	99.3	421	97.9	426	99.1	430	100.0
	Ulster	1,778	97.9	1,788	98.5	1,779	98.0	1,786	98.3	1,816	100.0
	Total	8,261	98.5	8,297	98.9	8,238	98.2	8,269	98.5	8,391	100.0
Partially breastfed	Altnagelvin	258	90.5	274	96.1	266	93.3	260	91.2	285	100.0
	Antrim	309	96.0	318	98.8	319	99.1	318	98.8	322	100.0
	Craigavon	397	92.5	419	97.7	413	96.3	414	96.5	429	100.0
	Causeway	47	94.0	49	98.0	48	96.0	49	98.0	50	100.0
	Daisyhill	155	92.3	166	98.8	160	95.2	163	97.0	168	100.0
	Downpatrick	1	100.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
	Lagan Valley	3	100.0	3	100.0	3	100.0	3	100.0	3	100.0
	Mater	29	93.5	30	96.8	29	93.5	30	96.8	31	100.0
	RJMS	642	89.0	690	95.7	678	94.0	679	94.2	721	100.0
	SWAH	140	90.9	152	98.7	148	96.1	151	98.1	154	100.0
	Ulster	452	94.6	465	97.3	459	96.0	464	97.1	478	100.0
	Total	2,433	92.1	2,566	97.1	2,523	95.5	2,532	95.8	2,642	100.0
Any breastfeeding	Altnagelvin	995	96.9	1,013	98.6	999	97.3	996	97.0	1,027	100.0
	Antrim	1,278	97.8	1,289	98.6	1,286	98.4	1,289	98.6	1,307	100.0
	Craigavon	1,971	97.4	1,997	98.7	1,988	98.2	1,990	98.3	2,024	100.0
	Causeway	435	98.2	436	98.4	431	97.3	436	98.4	443	100.0
	Daisyhill	738	96.9	750	98.4	742	97.4	746	97.9	762	100.0
	Downpatrick	20	100.0	19	95.0	19	95.0	20	100.0	20	100.0
	Lagan Valley	46	100.0	46	100.0	46	100.0	46	100.0	46	100.0
	Mater	185	98.4	187	99.5	183	97.3	187	99.5	188	100.0
	RJMS	2,230	95.4	2,294	98.1	2,260	96.7	2,264	96.8	2,338	100.0
	SWAH	566	96.9	579	99.1	569	97.4	577	98.8	584	100.0
	Ulster	2,230	97.2	2,253	98.2	2,238	97.6	2,250	98.1	2,294	100.0
	Total	10,694	96.9	10,863	98.5	10,761	97.5	10,801	97.9	11,033	100.0
Source: NIMATS experimental data; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.											

Table N: Formula feeding support at discharge with hospital range, 2018 NIMATS experimental data

Feeding type at discharge	Site	Sterilise		Make Up Feed		Discuss Milk		Total	
		N	% mothers	N	% mothers	N	% mothers	N	% mothers
Formula fed	Altnagelvin	1,365	98.0	1,367	98.1	1,367	98.1	1,393	100.0
	Antrim	1,433	98.2	1,433	98.2	1,425	97.7	1,459	100.0
	Craigavon	1,829	99.3	1,830	99.3	1,818	98.7	1,842	100.0
	Causeway	434	97.3	434	97.3	434	97.3	446	100.0
	Daisyhill	822	98.2	823	98.3	821	98.1	837	100.0
	Downpatrick	6	85.7	6	85.7	6	85.7	7	100.0
	Lagan Valley	29	100.0	29	100.0	29	100.0	29	100.0
	Mater	111	99.1	111	99.1	111	99.1	112	100.0
	RJMS	2,590	97.1	2,592	97.2	2,596	97.3	2,667	100.0
	SWAH	623	98.1	624	98.3	625	98.4	635	100.0
	Ulster	1,753	98.7	1,758	99.0	1,738	97.9	1,776	100.0
	Total	10,995	98.1	11,007	98.3	10,970	97.9	11,203	100.0
Source: NIMATS experimental data; Live births to NI residents; excludes infants who died in delivery suite, home births and babies born before arrival at hospital.									

Table O: Breastfeeding at discharge by Health and Social Care Trust, 2018p

HSCT / LCG	Number of births						Rate (%)					
	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
Belfast	1,578	559	2,137	2,223	82	4,442	35.5	12.6	48.1	50.0	1.8	100.0
Northern	1,984	559	2,543	2,670	87	5,300	37.4	10.5	48.0	50.4	1.6	100.0
South Eastern	1,650	454	2,104	1,872	74	4,050	40.7	11.2	52.0	46.2	1.8	100.0
Southern	2,037	580	2,617	2,582	100	5,299	38.4	10.9	49.4	48.7	1.9	100.0
Western	1,154	451	1,605	2,059	36	3,700	31.2	12.2	43.4	55.6	1	100.0
Unknown	95	27	122	71	5	198	48	13.6	61.6	35.9	2.5	100.0
Total	8,498	2,630	11,128	11,477	384	22,989	37	11.4	48.4	49.9	1.7	100.0
Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.												

Table P: Breastfeeding at discharge by hospital, 2018p

Birthplace	Number of births						Rate (%)					
	Total BF	Partial BF	<i>Any BF</i>	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	<i>Any BF</i>	Not at all	Unknown/ blank	All
Altnagelvin	720	285	<i>1,005</i>	1,401	26	2,432	29.6	11.7	<i>41.3</i>	57.6	1.1	100.0
Antrim	993	321	<i>1,314</i>	1,501	40	2,855	34.8	11.2	<i>46.0</i>	52.6	1.4	100.0
Causeway	396	49	<i>445</i>	448	4	897	44.1	5.5	<i>49.6</i>	49.9	0.4	100.0
Craigavon	1,603	425	<i>2,028</i>	1,889	52	3,969	40.4	10.7	<i>51.1</i>	47.6	1.3	100.0
Daisyhill	588	165	<i>753</i>	853	39	1,645	35.7	10.0	<i>45.8</i>	51.9	2.4	100.0
Downpatrick	21	1	<i>22</i>	8	2	32	65.6	3.1	<i>68.8</i>	25.0	6.3	100.0
Lagan Valley	48	3	<i>51</i>	30	4	85	56.5	3.5	<i>60.0</i>	35.3	4.7	100.0
Mater	155	31	<i>186</i>	114	2	302	51.3	10.3	<i>61.6</i>	37.7	0.7	100.0
RJMS	1,607	686	<i>2,293</i>	2,706	146	5,145	31.2	13.3	<i>44.6</i>	52.6	2.8	100.0
SWAH	428	157	<i>585</i>	636	8	1,229	34.8	12.8	<i>47.6</i>	51.7	0.7	100.0
Ulster	1,842	477	<i>2,319</i>	1,819	40	4,178	44.1	11.4	<i>55.5</i>	43.5	1.0	100.0
All locations*	8,401	2,600	<i>11,001</i>	11,405	363	22,769	36.9	11.4	<i>48.3</i>	50.1	1.6	100.0

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers;

* Excludes 22 births – At home (n=6), ROI hospitals (n=16)

Table Q: Prevalence of breastfeeding (%) up to 12 months for infants born in 2017

Stage	Number of births						Rate (%)					
	Total BF	Partial BF	<i>Any BF</i>	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	<i>Any BF</i>	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
Discharge	8,381	2,518	<i>10,899</i>	11,964	313	23,176	36.2	10.9	<i>47.0</i>	51.6	1.4	100.0
Primary Visit	6,518	2,068	<i>8,586</i>	12,878	1,712	23,176	28.1	8.9	<i>37.0</i>	55.6	7.4	100.0
6 weeks	5,145	1,763	<i>6,908</i>	14,459	1,809	23,176	22.2	7.6	<i>29.8</i>	62.4	7.8	100.0
3 months	4,370	1,240	<i>5,610</i>	15,072	2,494	23,176	18.9	5.4	<i>24.2</i>	65.0	10.8	100.0
6 months	3,132	836	<i>3,968</i>	13,779	5,429	23,176	13.5	3.6	<i>17.1</i>	59.5	23.4	100.0
12 months	1,734	701	<i>2,435</i>	14,925	5,816	23,176	7.5	3.0	<i>10.5</i>	64.4	25.1	100.0

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.

Table R: Prevalence of breastfeeding (%) up to 12 months for infants born 2013 to 2017

Year	Stage	Number of births						Rate (%)					
		Total BF	Partial BF	<i>Any BF</i>	Not at all	Unknown/Blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	<i>Any BF</i>	Not at all	Unknown/Blank	All
2017	Discharge	8,381	2,518	<i>10,899</i>	11,964	313	23,176	36.2	10.9	<i>47.0</i>	51.6	1.4	100
	Primary	6,518	2,068	<i>8,586</i>	12,878	1,712	23,176	28.1	8.9	<i>37.0</i>	55.6	7.4	100
	6 weeks	5,145	1,763	<i>6,908</i>	14,459	1,809	23,176	22.2	7.6	<i>29.8</i>	62.4	7.8	100
	3 months	4,370	1,240	<i>5,610</i>	15,072	2,494	23,176	18.9	5.4	<i>24.2</i>	65	10.8	100
	6 months	3,132	836	<i>3,968</i>	13,779	5,429	23,176	13.5	3.6	<i>17.1</i>	59.5	23.4	100
	12 months	1,734	701	<i>2,435</i>	14,925	5,816	23,176	7.5	3	<i>10.5</i>	64.4	25.1	100
2016	Discharge	8,801	2,310	<i>11,111</i>	12,659	323	24,093	36.5	9.6	<i>46.1</i>	52.5	1.3	100
	Primary	6,586	2,078	<i>8,664</i>	13,323	2,106	24,093	27.3	8.6	<i>36.0</i>	55.3	8.7	100
	6 weeks	5,216	1,755	<i>6,971</i>	14,981	2,141	24,093	21.6	7.3	<i>28.9</i>	62.2	8.9	100
	3 months	4,345	1,245	<i>5,590</i>	15,668	2,835	24,093	18	5.2	<i>23.2</i>	65	11.8	100
	6 months	2,827	882	<i>3,709</i>	13,939	6,445	24,093	11.7	3.7	<i>15.4</i>	57.9	26.8	100
	12 months	1,440	725	<i>2,165</i>	15,083	6,845	24,093	6	3	<i>9.0</i>	62.6	28.4	100
2015	Discharge	9,160	1,811	<i>10,971</i>	13,014	328	24,313	37.7	7.4	<i>45.1</i>	53.5	1.3	100
	Primary	6,543	2,044	<i>8,587</i>	13,541	2,185	24,313	26.9	8.4	<i>35.3</i>	55.7	9	100
	6 weeks	5,048	1,759	<i>6,807</i>	14,975	2,531	24,313	20.8	7.2	<i>28</i>	61.6	10.4	100
	3 months	4,097	1,215	<i>5,312</i>	15,524	3,477	24,313	16.9	5	<i>21.8</i>	63.9	14.3	100
	6 months	2,455	962	<i>3,417</i>	13,136	7,760	24,313	10.1	4	<i>14.1</i>	54	31.9	100
	12 months	1,180	778	<i>1,958</i>	15,558	6,797	24,313	4.9	3.2	<i>8.1</i>	64	28	100
2014	Discharge	9,338	1,820	<i>11,158</i>	12,931	363	24,452	38.2	7.4	<i>45.6</i>	52.9	1.5	100
	Primary	6,691	1,881	<i>8,572</i>	13,522	2,358	24,452	27.4	7.7	<i>35.1</i>	55.3	9.6	100
	6 weeks	5,010	1,728	<i>6,738</i>	15,164	2,550	24,452	20.5	7.1	<i>27.6</i>	62	10.4	100
	3 months	3,907	1,308	<i>5,215</i>	15,316	3,921	24,452	16	5.3	<i>21.3</i>	62.6	16	100
	6 months	2,060	999	<i>3,059</i>	12,672	8,721	24,452	8.4	4.1	<i>12.5</i>	51.8	35.7	100
	12 months	798	801	<i>1,599</i>	14,875	7,978	24,452	3.3	3.3	<i>6.5</i>	60.8	32.6	100
2013	Discharge	9,056	1,820	<i>10,876</i>	12,922	335	24,133	37.5	7.5	<i>45.1</i>	53.5	1.4	100
	Primary	6,279	1,794	<i>8,073</i>	12,908	3,152	24,133	26	7.4	<i>33.5</i>	53.5	13.1	100
	6 weeks	4,611	1,767	<i>6,378</i>	14,462	3,293	24,133	19.1	7.3	<i>26.4</i>	59.9	13.6	100
	3 months	3,503	1,305	<i>4,808</i>	15,275	4,050	24,133	14.5	5.4	<i>19.9</i>	63.3	16.8	100
	6 months	1,676	936	<i>2,612</i>	11,410	10,111	24,133	6.9	3.9	<i>10.8</i>	47.3	41.9	100
	12 months	532	730	<i>1,262</i>	13,434	9,437	24,133	2.2	3	<i>5.2</i>	55.7	39.1	100

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.

Table S: Prevalence of breastfeeding (%) by Health and Social Care Trust / Local Commissioning Group, 2017

HSCT / LCG	Stage	Number of births (N)						Rate (%)					
		Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Blank	All
BHSCT	Discharge	1,476	530	2,006	2,293	62	4,361	33.8	12.2	46.0	52.6	1.4	100.0
	Primary visit	1,176	386	1,562	2,229	570	4,361	27.0	8.9	35.8	51.1	13.1	100.0
	6 weeks	1,026	355	1,381	2,244	736	4,361	23.5	8.1	31.7	51.5	16.9	100.0
	3 months	861	265	1,126	2,266	969	4,361	19.7	6.1	25.8	52.0	22.2	100.0
	6 months	677	180	857	2,396	1,108	4,361	15.5	4.1	19.7	54.9	25.4	100.0
	12 months	357	170	527	2,511	1,323	4,361	8.2	3.9	12.1	57.6	30.3	100.0
NHSCT	Discharge	2,072	536	2,608	2,913	64	5,585	37.1	9.6	46.7	52.2	1.1	100.0
	Primary visit	1,690	484	2,174	3,307	104	5,585	30.3	8.7	38.9	59.2	1.9	100.0
	6 weeks	1,279	388	1,667	3,774	144	5,585	22.9	6.9	29.8	67.6	2.6	100.0
	3 months	1,112	271	1,383	4,032	170	5,585	19.9	4.9	24.8	72.2	3.0	100.0
	6 months	937	188	1,125	4,169	291	5,585	16.8	3.4	20.1	74.6	5.2	100.0
	12 months	536	178	714	4,311	560	5,585	9.6	3.2	12.8	77.2	10.0	100.0
SEHSCT	Discharge	1,582	438	2,020	1,926	49	3,995	39.6	11.0	50.6	48.2	1.2	100.0
	Primary visit	1,154	406	1,560	2,072	363	3,995	28.9	10.2	39.0	51.9	9.1	100.0
	6 weeks	926	334	1,260	2,514	221	3,995	23.2	8.4	31.5	62.9	5.5	100.0
	3 months	799	249	1,048	2,769	178	3,995	20.0	6.2	26.2	69.3	4.5	100.0
	6 months	401	113	514	1,884	1,597	3,995	10.0	2.8	12.9	47.2	40.0	100.0
	12 months	348	135	483	3,090	422	3,995	8.7	3.4	12.1	77.3	10.6	100.0
SHSCT	Discharge	2,007	643	2,650	2,654	88	5,392	37.2	11.9	49.1	49.2	1.6	100.0
	Primary visit	1,556	516	2,072	2,987	333	5,392	28.9	9.6	38.4	55.4	6.2	100.0
	6 weeks	1,201	448	1,649	3,193	550	5,392	22.3	8.3	30.6	59.2	10.2	100.0
	3 months	1,014	295	1,309	3,129	954	5,392	18.8	5.5	24.3	58.0	17.7	100.0
	6 months	677	216	893	2,667	1,832	5,392	12.6	4.0	16.6	49.5	34.0	100.0
	12 months	249	121	370	2,146	2,876	5,392	4.6	2.2	6.9	39.8	53.3	100.0
WHSCT	Discharge	1,244	371	1,615	2,178	50	3,843	32.4	9.7	42.0	56.7	1.3	100.0
	Primary visit	942	276	1,218	2,283	342	3,843	24.5	7.2	31.7	59.4	8.9	100.0
	6 weeks	713	238	951	2,734	158	3,843	18.6	6.2	24.7	71.1	4.1	100.0
	3 months	584	160	744	2,876	223	3,843	15.2	4.2	19.4	74.8	5.8	100.0
	6 months	440	139	579	2,663	601	3,843	11.4	3.6	15.1	69.3	15.6	100.0
	12 months	244	97	341	2,867	635	3,843	6.3	2.5	8.9	74.6	16.5	100.0
TOTAL	Discharge	8,381	2,518	10,899	11,964	313	23,176	36.2	10.9	47.0	51.6	1.4	100.0
	Primary visit	6,518	2,068	8,586	12,878	1,712	23,176	28.1	8.9	37.0	55.6	7.4	100.0
	6 weeks	5,145	1,763	6,908	14,459	1,809	23,176	22.2	7.6	29.8	62.4	7.8	100.0
	3 months	4,370	1,240	5,610	15,072	2,494	23,176	18.9	5.4	24.2	65.0	10.8	100.0
	6 months	3,132	836	3,968	13,779	5,429	23,176	13.5	3.6	17.1	59.5	23.4	100.0
	12 months	1,734	701	2,435	14,925	5,816	23,176	7.5	3.0	10.5	64.4	25.1	100.0

Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers. Advise caution: feeding status not fully recorded

Table T: Prevalence of breastfeeding by maternal age, 2017

Mothers age group	Total births	Discharge		Primary visit		6 weeks		3 months		6 months		12 months	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Under 20	678	165	24.3	119	17.6	67	9.9	43	6.3	24	3.5	18	2.7
20 to 24	2,882	857	29.7	631	21.9	432	15.0	327	11.3	228	7.9	142	4.9
25 to 29	6,306	2,651	42.0	2,049	32.5	1,579	25.0	1,233	19.6	852	13.5	515	8.2
30 to 34	7,977	4,231	53.0	3,357	42.1	2,801	35.1	2,343	29.4	1,638	20.5	1,002	12.6
35 to 39	4,463	2,497	55.9	2,010	45.0	1,684	37.7	1,368	30.7	1,012	22.7	623	14.0
40+	867	498	61.3	420	51.7	345	42.4	296	36.4	214	26.3	135	16.6
Not known	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	23,176	10,899	47.0	8,586	37.0	6,908	29.8	5,610	24.2	3,968	17.1	2,435	10.5

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Table U: Prevalence of breastfeeding by deprivation quintile (SOA), 2017

Deprivation quintile	Total births	Discharge		Primary visit		6 weeks		3 months		6 months		12 months	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
1 – Most deprived	5,072	1,629	32.1	1,289	25.4	956	18.8	719	14.2	508	10.0	290	5.7
2	5,087	2,230	43.8	1,758	34.6	1,345	26.4	1,088	21.4	755	14.8	462	9.1
3	4,742	2,238	47.2	1,732	36.5	1,369	28.9	1,107	23.3	779	16.4	475	10.0
4	4,544	2,435	53.6	1,919	42.2	1,586	34.9	1,311	28.9	964	21.2	557	12.3
5 – Least deprived	3,731	2,367	63.4	1,888	50.6	1,652	44.3	1,385	37.1	962	25.8	651	17.4
Total	23,176	10,899	47.0	8,586	37.0	6,908	29.8	5,610	24.2	3,968	17.1	2,435	10.5

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers; Deprivation status as per Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for Super Output Area (SOA)

Table W: Breastfeeding at discharge by Health and Social Care Trust (HSCT) / Local Commissioning Group (LCG), 2006-2018p.

Year		HSCT / LCG						Total
		Belfast	Northern	South Eastern	Southern	Western	Unknown / blank	
2018p	Total births (n)	4,442	5,300	4,050	5,299	3,700	198	22,989
	B/BC (n)	2,137	2,543	2,104	2,617	1,605	122	11,128
	Rate (%)	48.1	48.0	52.0	49.4	43.4	61.6	48.4
2017	Total births (n)	4,361	5,585	3,995	5,392	3,843	199	23,375
	B/BC (n)	2,006	2,608	2,020	2,646	1,616	112	11,008
	Rate (%)	46.0	46.7	50.6	49.1	42.1	56.3	47.1
2016	Total births (n)	4,665	5,710	4,269	5,519	3,930	175	24,268
	B/BC (n)	2,145	2,580	2,099	2,679	1,608	96	11,207
	Rate (%)	46.0	45.2	49.2	48.5	40.9	54.9	46.2
2015	Total births (n)	4,660	5,773	4,334	5,535	4,011	179	24,492
	B/BC (n)	2,112	2,536	2,120	2,600	1,603	77	11,048
	Rate (%)	45.3	43.9	48.9	47.0	40.0	43.0	45.1
2014	Total births (n)	4,711	5,875	4,336	5,502	4,028	167	24,619
	B/BC (n)	2,190	2,627	2,089	2,692	1,560	59	11,217
	Rate (%)	46.5	44.7	48.2	48.9	38.7	35.3	45.6
2013	Total births (n)	4,719	5,800	4,336	5,362	3,916	200	24,333
	B/BC (n)	2,086	2,613	2,113	2,518	1,546	113	10,989
	Rate (%)	44.2	45.1	48.7	47.0	39.5	56.5	45.2
2012	Total births (n)	5,047	5,855	4,981	5,288	4,152	280	25,603
	B/BC (n)	2,014	2,499	2,233	2,359	1,674	133	10,912
	Rate (%)	39.9	42.7	44.8	44.6	40.3	47.5	42.6
2011	Total births (n)	4,840	5,887	4,551	5,546	4,310	475	25,609
	B/BC (n)	2,139	2,461	2,174	2,554	1,698	245	11,271
	Rate (%)	44.2	41.8	47.8	46.1	39.4	51.6	44.0
2010	Total births (n)	4,834	6,066	4,452	5,765	4,253	228	25,598
	B/BC (n)	2,225	2,587	2,262	2,674	1,646	99	11,493
	Rate (%)	46.0	42.6	50.8	46.4	38.7	43.4	44.9
2009	Total births (n)	4,699	5,877	4,502	5,625	4,235	145	25,083
	B/BC (n)	2,037	2,489	2,162	2,647	1,731	68	11,134
	Rate (%)	43.3	42.4	48.0	47.1	40.9	46.9	44.4
2008	Total births (n)	4,746	6,225	4,641	5,583	4,255	75	25,525
	B/BC (n)	1,943	2,617	2,172	2,570	1,787	27	11,116
	Rate (%)	40.9	42	46.8	46	42	36	43.6
2007	Total births (n)	4,435	6,031	4,445	5,422	4,126	123	24,582
	B/BC (n)	1,788	2,516	2,035	2,366	1,679	50	10,434
	Rate (%)	40.3	41.7	45.8	43.6	40.7	40.7	42.4
2006	Total births (n)	4,212	5,771	4,252	5,077	4,079	89	23,480
	B/BC (n)	1,655	2,237	1,931	2,057	1,573	43	9,496
	Rate (%)	39.3	38.8	45.4	40.5	38.6	48.3	40.4

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births

Table X: Belfast HSCT breastfeeding at discharge by Local Government District (LGD), 2006-2018p.

Year		Belfast	Castlereagh	BHSCT
2018p	Total births (n)	3,594	848	4,442
	B/BC (n)	1,639	498	2,137
	Rate (%)	45.6	58.7	48.1
2017	Total births (n)	3,525	836	4,361
	B/BC (n)	1,518	488	2,006
	Rate (%)	43.1	58.4	46.0
2016	Total births (n)	3,843	822	4,665
	B/BC (n)	1,672	473	2,144
	Rate (%)	43.5	57.5	46
2015	Total births (n)	3,862	798	4,660
	B/BC (n)	1,666	446	2,112
	Rate (%)	43.1	55.9	45.3
2014	Total births (n)	3,897	814	4,711
	B/BC (n)	1,732	458	2,190
	Rate (%)	44.4	56.3	46.5
2013	Total births (n)	3,911	808	4,719
	B/BC (n)	1,635	451	2,086
	Rate (%)	41.8	55.8	44.2
2012	Total births (n)	4,343	704	5,047
	B/BC (n)	1,626	388	2,014
	Rate (%)	37.4	55.1	39.9
2011	Total births (n)	4,032	808	4,840
	B/BC (n)	1,687	452	2,139
	Rate (%)	41.8	55.9	44.2
2010	Total births (n)	3,991	843	4,834
	B/BC (n)	1,754	471	2,225
	Rate (%)	43.9	55.9	46
2009	Total births (n)	3,869	830	4,699
	B/BC (n)	1,581	456	2,037
	Rate (%)	40.9	54.9	43.3
2008	Total births (n)	3,894	852	4,746
	B/BC (n)	1,509	434	1,943
	Rate (%)	38.8	50.9	40.9
2007	Total births (n)	3,647	788	4,435
	B/BC (n)	1,383	405	1,788
	Rate (%)	37.9	51.4	40.3
2006	Total births (n)	3,461	751	4,212
	B/BC (n)	1,274	381	1,655
	Rate (%)	36.8	50.7	39.3
Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers				

Table Y: Northern HSCT breastfeeding at discharge by Local Government District (LGD), 2006-2018p.

Year		Antrim	Ballymena	Ballymoney	Carrickfergus	Coleraine	NHSCT
2018p	Total births (n)	635	784	342	358	582	5,300
	B/BC (n)	330	369	161	167	284	2,543
	Rate (%)	52	47.1	47.1	46.6	48.8	48
2017	Total births (n)	669	782	400	433	609	5,585
	B/BC (n)	329	372	169	223	265	2,608
	Rate (%)	49.2	47.6	42.3	51.5	43.5	46.7
2016	Total births (n)	678	877	375	392	628	5,710
	B/BC (n)	344	425	154	187	290	2,580
	Rate (%)	50.7	48.5	41.1	47.7	46.2	45.2
2015	Total births (n)	711	786	407	395	664	5,773
	B/BC (n)	332	348	168	203	296	2,536
	Rate (%)	46.7	44.3	41.3	51.4	44.6	43.9
2014	Total births (n)	705	798	400	440	685	5,875
	B/BC (n)	343	362	164	216	297	2,627
	Rate (%)	48.7	45.4	41	49.1	43.4	44.7
2013	Total births (n)	695	753	418	389	726	5,800
	B/BC (n)	336	359	166	177	326	2,613
	Rate (%)	48.3	47.7	39.7	45.5	44.9	45.1
2012	Total births (n)	803	884	434	327	689	5,855
	B/BC (n)	358	378	177	153	292	2,499
	Rate (%)	44.6	42.8	40.8	46.8	42.4	42.7
2011	Total births (n)	753	818	378	438	642	5,887
	B/BC (n)	343	328	121	182	270	2,461
	Rate (%)	45.6	40.1	32	41.6	42.1	41.8
2010	Total births (n)	754	776	410	469	673	6,066
	B/BC (n)	351	332	166	200	278	2,587
	Rate (%)	46.6	42.8	40.5	42.6	41.3	42.6
2009	Total births (n)	792	790	400	437	615	5,877
	B/BC (n)	367	324	152	199	276	2,489
	Rate (%)	46.3	41	38	45.5	44.9	42.4
2008	Total births (n)	854	824	407	500	717	6,225
	B/BC (n)	390	349	148	230	312	2,617
	Rate (%)	45.7	42.4	36.4	46	43.5	42.0
2007	Total births (n)	822	822	382	443	645	6,031
	B/BC (n)	388	319	128	198	271	2,516
	Rate (%)	47.2	38.8	33.5	44.7	42.0	41.7
2006	Total births (n)	737	781	393	490	634	5,771
	B/BC (n)	305	298	146	183	259	2,237
	Rate (%)	41.4	38.2	37.2	37.3	40.9	38.8

Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Table Y (continued): Northern HSCT breastfeeding at discharge by Local Government District (LGD), 2006-2018p.

Year		Cookstown	Larne	Magherafelt	Moyle	Newtownabbey	NHSCT
2018p	Total births (n)	510	342	591	175	981	5,300
	B/BC (n)	218	165	273	70	506	2,543
	Rate (%)	42.7	48.2	46.2	40.0	51.6	48.0
2017	Total births (n)	550	318	636	176	1,012	5,585
	B/BC (n)	236	149	285	70	510	2,608
	Rate (%)	42.9	46.9	44.8	39.8	50.4	46.7
2016	Total births (n)	557	323	622	195	1,063	5,710
	B/BC (n)	209	124	273	71	503	2,579
	Rate (%)	37.5	38.4	43.9	36.4	47.3	45.2
2015	Total births (n)	564	331	663	173	1,079	5,773
	B/BC (n)	220	157	269	63	480	2,536
	Rate (%)	39	47.4	40.6	36.4	44.5	43.9
2014	Total births (n)	565	370	661	186	1,065	5,875
	B/BC (n)	228	163	289	78	487	2,627
	Rate (%)	40.4	44.1	43.7	41.9	45.7	44.7
2013	Total births (n)	566	371	663	206	1,013	5,800
	B/BC (n)	224	154	291	81	499	2,613
	Rate (%)	39.6	41.5	43.9	39.3	49.3	45.1
2012	Total births (n)	525	364	701	196	932	5,855
	B/BC (n)	223	151	290	67	410	2,499
	Rate (%)	42.5	41.5	41.4	34.2	44.0	42.7
2011	Total births (n)	537	341	645	201	1,134	5,887
	B/BC (n)	210	137	270	82	518	2,461
	Rate (%)	39.1	40.2	41.9	40.8	45.7	41.8
2010	Total births (n)	607	342	699	203	1,133	6,066
	B/BC (n)	239	133	299	69	520	2,587
	Rate (%)	39.4	38.9	42.8	34.0	45.9	42.6
2009	Total births (n)	537	332	680	206	1,088	5,877
	B/BC (n)	222	130	267	77	475	2,489
	Rate (%)	41.3	39.2	39.3	37.4	43.7	42.4
2008	Total births (n)	515	326	693	203	1,186	6,225
	B/BC (n)	217	116	274	81	500	2,617
	Rate (%)	42.1	35.6	39.5	39.9	42.2	42.0
2007	Total births (n)	543	362	652	224	1,136	6,031
	B/BC (n)	185	133	280	92	522	2,516
	Rate (%)	34.1	36.7	42.9	41.1	46.0	41.7
2006	Total births (n)	506	357	625	181	1,067	5,771
	B/BC (n)	164	122	245	69	446	2,237
	Rate (%)	32.4	34.2	39.2	38.1	41.8	38.8

Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Table Z: South Eastern HSCT breastfeeding at discharge by Local Government District (LGD), 2006-2018p.

Year		Ards	Down	Lisburn	North Down	SEHSCT
2018p	Total births (n)	755	881	1,656	758	4,050
	B/BC (n)	365	432	851	456	2,104
	Rate (%)	48.3	49	51.4	60.2	52
2017	Total births (n)	750	870	1,575	800	3,995
	B/BC (n)	371	411	769	469	2,020
	Rate (%)	49.5	47.2	48.8	58.6	50.6
2016	Total births (n)	798	903	1,701	867	4,269
	B/BC (n)	379	421	821	478	2,099
	Rate (%)	47.5	46.6	48.3	55.1	49.2
2015	Total births (n)	877	911	1,667	879	4,334
	B/BC (n)	388	429	808	495	2,120
	Rate (%)	44.2	47.1	48.5	56.3	48.9
2014	Total births (n)	862	910	1,678	886	4,336
	B/BC (n)	394	389	821	485	2,089
	Rate (%)	45.7	42.7	48.9	54.7	48.2
2013	Total births (n)	849	932	1,665	890	4,336
	B/BC (n)	397	426	783	507	2,113
	Rate (%)	45.1	46.8	45.7	47.0	57
2012	Total births (n)	1,053	1,204	1,657	1,067	4,981
	B/BC (n)	446	502	757	528	2,233
	Rate (%)	42.4	41.7	45.7	49.5	44.8
2011	Total births (n)	904	930	1,756	961	4,551
	B/BC (n)	405	443	800	526	2,174
	Rate (%)	44.8	47.6	45.6	54.7	47.8
2010	Total births (n)	861	926	1,704	961	4,452
	B/BC (n)	417	447	839	559	2,262
	Rate (%)	48.4	48.3	49.2	58.2	50.8
2009	Total births (n)	871	975	1,741	915	4,502
	B/BC (n)	380	427	850	505	2,162
	Rate (%)	43.6	43.8	48.8	55.2	48.0
2008	Total births (n)	958	998	1,736	949	4,641
	B/BC (n)	448	433	782	509	2,172
	Rate (%)	46.8	43.4	45	53.6	46.8
2007	Total births (n)	964	919	1,643	919	4,445
	B/BC (n)	428	393	741	473	2,035
	Rate (%)	44.4	42.8	45.1	51.5	45.8
2006	Total births (n)	850	948	1,554	900	4,252
	B/BC (n)	369	381	708	473	1,931
	Rate (%)	43.4	40.2	45.6	52.6	45.4

Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Table AA: Southern HSCT breastfeeding at discharge by Local Government District (LGD), 2006-2018p.

Year		Armagh	Banbridge	Craigavon	Dungannon	Newry and Mourne	SHSCT
2018p	Total births (n)	876	606	1,378	970	1,469	5,299
	B/BC (n)	419	319	692	529	658	2,617
	Rate (%)	47.8	52.6	50.2	54.5	44.8	49.4
2017	Total births (n)	901	619	1,391	963	1,518	5,392
	B/BC (n)	414	306	681	525	724	2,650
	Rate (%)	45.9	49.4	49	54.5	47.7	49.1
2016	Total births (n)	885	638	1,419	988	1,589	5,519
	B/BC (n)	430	337	672	540	700	2,679
	Rate (%)	48.6	52.8	47.4	54.7	44.1	48.5
2015	Total births (n)	971	645	1,396	974	1,549	5,535
	B/BC (n)	454	320	621	504	701	2,600
	Rate (%)	46.8	49.6	44.5	51.7	45.3	47
2014	Total births (n)	865	660	1,438	924	1,615	5,502
	B/BC (n)	428	329	668	509	758	2,692
	Rate (%)	49.5	49.8	46.5	55.1	46.9	48.9
2013	Total births (n)	838	648	1,397	948	1,531	5,362
	B/BC (n)	397	305	636	510	670	2,518
	Rate (%)	47.4	47.1	45.5	53.8	43.8	47.0
2012	Total births (n)	925	619	1,519	999	1,226	5,288
	B/BC (n)	427	293	638	488	513	2,359
	Rate (%)	46.2	47.3	42	48.8	41.8	44.6
2011	Total births (n)	942	667	1,468	906	1,563	5,546
	B/BC (n)	435	321	677	466	655	2,554
	Rate (%)	46.2	48.1	46.1	51.4	41.9	46.1
2010	Total births (n)	915	754	1,551	918	1,627	5,765
	B/BC (n)	419	357	708	462	728	2,674
	Rate (%)	45.8	47.3	45.6	50.3	44.7	46.4
2009	Total births (n)	920	688	1,477	934	1,606	5,625
	B/BC (n)	444	352	659	465	727	2,647
	Rate (%)	48.3	51.2	44.6	49.8	45.3	47.1
2008	Total births (n)	878	738	1,470	892	1,605	5,583
	B/BC (n)	378	361	677	450	704	2,570
	Rate (%)	43.1	48.9	46.1	50.4	43.9	46.0
2007	Total births (n)	873	712	1,411	879	1,547	5,422
	B/BC (n)	360	357	578	429	642	2,366
	Rate (%)	41.2	50.1	41	48.8	41.5	43.6
2006	Total births (n)	855	638	1,361	800	1,423	5,077
	B/BC (n)	358	284	519	351	545	2,057
	Rate (%)	41.9	44.5	38.1	43.9	38.3	40.5
Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers							

Table AB: Western HSCT breastfeeding at discharge by Local Government District (LGD), 2006-2018p.

Year		Derry	Fermanagh	Limavady	Omagh	Strabane	WHST
2018p	Total births (n)	1,369	795	401	667	468	3,700
	B/BC (n)	537	387	173	334	174	1,605
	Rate (%)	39.2	48.7	43.1	50.1	37.2	43.4
2017	Total births (n)	1,408	791	437	694	513	3,843
	B/BC (n)	483	407	171	370	184	1,615
	Rate (%)	34.3	51.5	39.1	53.3	35.9	42
2016	Total births (n)	1,408	791	437	694	513	3,843
	B/BC (n)	509	418	157	354	170	1,608
	Rate (%)	34.8	50.4	36.3	51.4	32.9	40.9
2015	Total births (n)	1,562	788	477	640	544	4,011
	B/BC (n)	536	414	156	327	170	1,603
	Rate (%)	34.3	52.5	32.7	51.1	31.3	40.0
2014	Total births (n)	1,575	800	428	711	514	4,028
	B/BC (n)	541	382	138	340	159	1,560
	Rate (%)	34.3	47.8	32.2	47.8	30.9	38.7
2013	Total births (n)	1,572	822	407	615	500	3,916
	B/BC (n)	541	402	139	293	171	1,546
	Rate (%)	34.4	48.9	34.2	47.6	34.2	39.5
2012	Total births (n)	1,832	656	504	579	581	4,152
	B/BC (n)	685	301	198	270	220	1,674
	Rate (%)	37.4	45.9	39.3	46.6	37.9	40.3
2011	Total births (n)	1,684	814	494	747	571	4,310
	B/BC (n)	574	393	177	368	186	1,698
	Rate (%)	34.1	48.3	35.8	49.3	32.6	39.4
2010	Total births (n)	1,621	897	450	746	539	4,253
	B/BC (n)	610	377	173	313	173	1,646
	Rate (%)	37.6	42	38.4	42	32.1	38.7
2009	Total births (n)	1,665	427	601	720	822	4,235
	B/BC (n)	665	165	213	337	351	1,731
	Rate (%)	39.9	38.6	35.4	46.8	42.7	40.9
2008	Total births (n)	1644	467	570	699	875	4255
	B/BC (n)	630	178	215	358	406	1787
	Rate (%)	38.3	38.1	37.7	51.2	46.4	42.0
2007	Total births (n)	1603	489	523	688	823	4126
	B/BC (n)	626	186	184	312	371	1679
	Rate (%)	39.1	38	35.2	45.3	45.1	40.7
2006	Total births (n)	1,548	472	549	686	824	4,079
	B/BC (n)	582	182	166	287	356	1,573
	Rate (%)	37.6	38.6	30.2	41.8	43.2	38.6

Source: Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers

Table AC: Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Local Government District (LGD1992), 2017

LCG/ HSCT	LGD (1992)	Stage	Total	Partial	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
BHSCT	BELFAST	Discharge	33.1	10.0	43.1	55.6	1.3	100.0
		Primary visit	24.3	8.9	33.2	48.1	18.7	100.0
		6 weeks	21.6	8.0	29.6	43.0	27.4	100.0
		3 months	17.9	6.0	23.9	40.0	36.2	100.0
		6 months	11.7	5.0	16.7	31.9	51.5	100.0
		12 months	5.4	4.3	9.7	44.5	45.8	100.0
	CASTLEREAGH	Discharge	46.7	9.1	55.9	42.7	1.4	100.0
		Primary visit	31.1	8.5	39.6	35.8	24.6	100.0
		6 weeks	28.3	11.5	39.8	46.5	13.7	100.0
		3 months	22.7	6.6	29.3	52.6	18.0	100.0
		6 months	12.7	7.6	20.3	42.5	37.2	100.0
		12 months	6.9	4.3	11.2	59.8	29.1	100.0
	BHSCT TOTAL	Discharge	35.5	9.9	45.3	53.4	1.3	100.0
		Primary visit	25.5	8.8	34.3	46.0	19.7	100.0
		6 weeks	22.7	8.6	31.4	43.6	25.0	100.0
		3 months	18.7	6.1	24.8	42.1	33.1	100.0
		6 months	11.8	5.5	17.3	33.7	49.0	100.0
		12 months	5.6	4.3	10.0	47.1	43.0	100.0
NHSCT	ANTRIM	Discharge	37.6	9.1	46.7	52.9	0.4	100.0
		Primary visit	29.7	10.3	39.9	58.9	1.1	100.0
		6 weeks	21.8	6.3	28.1	70.5	1.4	100.0
		3 months	18.6	4.6	23.2	74.5	2.3	100.0
		6 months	14.6	3.4	18.0	77.2	4.8	100.0
		12 months	7.2	3.4	10.5	80.7	8.7	100.0
	BALLYMENA	Discharge	36.0	8.3	44.3	54.6	1.1	100.0
		Primary visit	28.6	9.4	38.0	60.4	1.5	100.0
		6 weeks	19.3	8.3	27.6	71.4	1.0	100.0
		3 months	16.5	5.2	21.8	75.7	2.5	100.0
		6 months	10.9	5.0	15.9	78.5	5.6	100.0
		12 months	6.6	3.2	9.8	82.1	8.1	100.0
	BALLYMONEY	Discharge	37.6	3.7	41.3	57.2	1.5	100.0
		Primary visit	27.8	4.7	32.4	65.4	2.2	100.0
		6 weeks	20.6	5.4	26.0	72.0	2.0	100.0
		3 months	18.2	3.4	21.6	76.2	2.2	100.0
		6 months	14.0	4.7	18.7	78.4	2.9	100.0
		12 months	9.6	2.7	12.3	82.8	4.9	100.0
	CARRICKFERGUS	Discharge	43.3	8.1	51.4	47.6	1.0	100.0
		Primary visit	31.9	9.6	41.5	57.7	0.8	100.0
		6 weeks	22.8	8.6	31.4	67.1	1.5	100.0
		3 months	19.7	5.8	25.6	72.7	1.8	100.0
		6 months	14.9	3.8	18.7	73.4	7.8	100.0
		12 months	7.6	2.5	10.1	78.5	11.4	100.0
	COLERAINE	Discharge	39.6	5.0	44.6	54.5	0.9	100.0
		Primary visit	32.1	6.8	38.9	60.2	0.9	100.0
		6 weeks	23.0	5.7	28.8	69.3	2.0	100.0
		3 months	18.4	6.3	24.7	73.2	2.1	100.0
		6 months	14.3	4.5	18.8	77.9	3.3	100.0
		12 months	6.6	3.2	9.8	84.0	6.2	100.0

Table AC (continued): Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Local Government District (LGD1992), 2017

LCG/ HSCT	LGD (1992)	Stage	Total	Partial	Any	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
NHSCT	COOKSTOWN	Discharge	33.3	5.7	39.0	59.2	1.8	100.0
		Primary visit	24.8	6.6	31.4	66.0	2.7	100.0
		6 weeks	17.7	5.3	23.0	73.0	3.9	100.0
		3 months	13.7	4.3	17.9	77.8	4.3	100.0
		6 months	8.7	4.3	12.9	83.0	4.1	100.0
		12 months	5.0	3.0	8.0	82.8	9.2	100.0
	LARNE	Discharge	38.7	8.8	47.4	51.7	0.9	100.0
		Primary visit	29.9	10.0	39.9	59.5	0.6	100.0
		6 weeks	24.2	6.3	30.5	68.6	0.9	100.0
		3 months	21.5	4.8	26.3	72.2	1.5	100.0
		6 months	17.2	3.3	20.5	74.6	4.8	100.0
		12 months	10.9	5.4	16.3	77.3	6.3	100.0
	MAGHERAFELT	Discharge	34.5	6.0	40.6	58.7	0.8	100.0
		Primary visit	26.8	4.8	31.7	66.8	1.5	100.0
		6 weeks	18.7	4.2	22.9	75.4	1.7	100.0
		3 months	16.0	2.9	18.9	79.9	1.2	100.0
		6 months	11.3	2.6	13.9	84.3	1.8	100.0
		12 months	5.7	1.7	7.4	88.2	4.4	100.0
	MOYLE	Discharge	31.2	5.2	36.4	63.0	0.6	100.0
		Primary visit	21.4	7.5	28.9	71.1	0.0	100.0
		6 weeks	12.1	6.9	19.1	80.9	0.0	100.0
		3 months	9.8	5.8	15.6	83.8	0.6	100.0
		6 months	8.1	3.5	11.6	86.7	1.7	100.0
		12 months	3.5	2.9	6.4	89.6	4.0	100.0
	NEWTOWNABBEY	Discharge	35.0	9.5	44.5	54.7	0.8	100.0
		Primary visit	27.2	9.8	37.1	61.6	1.3	100.0
		6 weeks	21.2	6.8	28.0	70.5	1.5	100.0
		3 months	18.7	4.1	22.8	75.1	2.1	100.0
		6 months	13.9	4.1	18.0	78.5	3.5	100.0
		12 months	7.3	3.4	10.8	78.8	10.5	100.0
	NHSCT TOTAL	Discharge	36.6	7.3	43.9	55.1	1.0	100.0
		Primary visit	28.3	8.1	36.5	62.2	1.4	100.0
		6 weeks	20.6	6.4	27.0	71.4	1.7	100.0
		3 months	17.5	4.6	22.1	75.7	2.2	100.0
		6 months	12.9	4.0	16.9	79.0	4.1	100.0
		12 months	7.0	3.1	10.1	82.1	7.9	100.0
SEHSCT	ARDS	Discharge	37.4	6.8	44.2	54.6	1.1	100.0
		Primary visit	21.2	9.1	30.3	49.1	20.5	100.0
		6 weeks	17.9	6.8	24.7	70.1	5.1	100.0
		3 months	14.3	4.6	18.8	76.5	4.7	100.0
		6 months	4.8	2.2	7.0	41.2	51.9	100.0
		12 months	4.3	2.6	7.0	75.9	17.1	100.0
	DOWN	Discharge	40.4	6.7	47.1	51.5	1.4	100.0
		Primary visit	30.4	9.0	39.4	56.2	4.4	100.0
		6 weeks	23.2	8.6	31.7	63.8	4.5	100.0
		3 months	17.8	5.0	22.8	72.7	4.5	100.0
		6 months	7.5	3.0	10.4	43.7	45.9	100.0
		12 months	6.1	3.2	9.3	82.2	8.5	100.0

Table AC (continued): Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Local Government District (LGD1992), 2017

LCG/ HSCT	LGD (1992)	Stage	Total	Partial	Any	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
SEHSCT	LISBURN	Discharge	39.8	8.6	48.5	50.4	1.1	100.0
		Primary visit	30.3	8.6	38.9	57.6	3.5	100.0
		6 weeks	22.0	7.3	29.3	67.7	3.0	100.0
		3 months	18.2	4.4	22.7	72.5	4.9	100.0
		6 months	4.3	4.3	8.6	31.6	59.8	100.0
		12 months	4.7	4.7	9.5	78.3	12.2	100.0
	NORTH DOWN	Discharge	46.2	10.1	56.3	42.7	1.0	100.0
		Primary visit	29.4	11.6	41.0	41.8	17.3	100.0
		6 weeks	25.3	9.9	35.2	59.4	5.5	100.0
		3 months	21.2	7.7	28.9	67.0	4.1	100.0
		6 months	5.6	2.3	7.8	33.4	58.7	100.0
		12 months	5.0	5.2	10.2	75.3	14.4	100.0
	SEHSCT TOTAL	Discharge	40.7	8.2	48.9	49.9	1.2	100.0
		Primary visit	28.3	9.4	37.7	52.4	9.9	100.0
		6 weeks	22.1	8.0	30.1	65.7	4.2	100.0
		3 months	17.9	5.3	23.2	72.2	4.6	100.0
		6 months	5.3	3.2	8.5	36.5	55.1	100.0
		12 months	5.0	4.1	9.1	78.0	12.9	100.0
SHSCT	ARMAGH	Discharge	38.3	8.4	46.8	51.4	1.9	100.0
		Primary visit	25.6	6.9	32.5	53.9	13.6	100.0
		6 weeks	19.7	6.6	26.3	47.9	25.8	100.0
		3 months	15.2	4.7	20.0	44.7	35.3	100.0
		6 months	8.3	4.0	12.4	41.9	45.7	100.0
		12 months	2.9	1.6	4.5	40.0	55.5	100.0
	BANBRIDGE	Discharge	42.9	6.7	49.6	49.1	1.2	100.0
		Primary visit	32.7	9.1	41.9	55.8	2.3	100.0
		6 weeks	24.2	7.8	31.9	50.7	17.4	100.0
		3 months	21.2	5.3	26.5	55.5	18.0	100.0
		6 months	11.9	7.6	19.5	65.7	14.7	100.0
		12 months	4.5	6.5	11.0	74.1	14.9	100.0
	CRAIGAVON	Discharge	37.2	7.3	44.5	53.4	2.1	100.0
		Primary visit	25.5	10.2	35.7	56.1	8.2	100.0
		6 weeks	20.1	7.7	27.9	53.6	18.6	100.0
		3 months	15.8	5.4	21.1	59.5	19.3	100.0
		6 months	10.0	3.5	13.5	60.8	25.7	100.0
		12 months	2.5	1.7	4.2	49.9	45.8	100.0
	DUNGANNON	Discharge	43.5	8.2	51.7	46.8	1.4	100.0
		Primary visit	27.0	7.4	34.4	47.8	17.8	100.0
		6 weeks	22.8	6.5	29.3	49.1	21.7	100.0
		3 months	17.1	4.6	21.8	42.3	35.9	100.0
		6 months	12.1	3.6	15.7	45.9	38.4	100.0
		12 months	1.7	1.1	2.9	21.8	75.4	100.0
	NEWRY & MOURNE	Discharge	37.8	7.4	45.3	52.6	2.2	100.0
		Primary visit	29.5	8.2	37.7	58.8	3.5	100.0
		6 weeks	20.3	7.5	27.8	68.1	4.1	100.0
		3 months	16.1	4.6	20.7	71.7	7.6	100.0
		6 months	11.7	3.9	15.6	72.8	11.7	100.0
		12 months	3.9	3.2	7.1	73.6	19.3	100.0

Table AC (continued): Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Local Government District (LGD1992), 2017

LCG/ HSCT	LGD (1992)	Stage	Total	Partial	Any	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
	SHSCT TOTAL	Discharge	39.3	7.6	47.0	51.2	1.9	100.0
		Primary visit	27.8	8.4	36.2	55.0	8.8	100.0
		6 weeks	21.0	7.2	28.3	55.5	16.2	100.0
		3 months	16.6	4.9	21.5	56.8	21.6	100.0
		6 months	10.8	4.2	15.0	58.8	26.3	100.0
		12 months	3.1	2.6	5.6	52.7	41.7	100.0
WHSCT	DERRY	Discharge	31.7	2.6	34.3	64.3	1.3	100.0
		Primary visit	19.7	6.0	25.6	66.3	8.1	100.0
		6 weeks	12.5	5.1	17.7	76.5	5.8	100.0
		3 months	9.9	3.2	13.1	75.5	11.4	100.0
		6 months	6.2	1.3	7.5	52.6	39.9	100.0
		12 months	1.9	1.3	3.2	51.8	45.0	100.0
	FERMANAGH	Discharge	46.6	6.0	52.5	45.3	2.2	100.0
		Primary visit	33.4	9.1	42.5	54.3	3.2	100.0
		6 weeks	25.9	6.9	32.7	63.3	3.9	100.0
		3 months	19.9	5.7	25.6	66.9	7.5	100.0
		6 months	14.3	5.2	19.5	65.7	14.7	100.0
		12 months	6.5	4.1	10.5	74.7	14.7	100.0
	LIMAVADY	Discharge	30.4	2.3	32.7	65.8	1.5	100.0
		Primary visit	19.9	5.5	25.4	66.2	8.4	100.0
		6 weeks	14.3	5.5	19.7	75.3	5.0	100.0
		3 months	10.9	2.3	13.2	73.6	13.2	100.0
		6 months	2.3	0.8	3.1	26.6	70.2	100.0
		12 months	1.7	0.8	2.5	45.1	52.4	100.0
	OMAGH	Discharge	44.5	6.6	51.1	47.8	1.1	100.0
		Primary visit	30.2	9.8	40.0	52.0	8.0	100.0
		6 weeks	22.2	7.5	29.7	67.7	2.7	100.0
		3 months	15.3	5.9	21.3	65.8	13.0	100.0
		6 months	9.7	5.2	14.8	54.4	30.8	100.0
		12 months	3.8	2.7	6.4	72.7	20.9	100.0
	STRABANE	Discharge	29.0	2.2	31.3	67.6	1.1	100.0
		Primary visit	18.2	6.3	24.4	70.8	4.8	100.0
		6 weeks	12.5	6.3	18.8	76.8	4.4	100.0
		3 months	10.7	3.9	14.5	80.0	5.5	100.0
		6 months	8.6	2.2	10.8	65.1	24.1	100.0
		12 months	2.8	0.9	3.7	46.3	50.0	100.0
	WHSCT TOTAL	Discharge	36.2	3.8	40.0	58.6	1.4	100.0
		Primary visit	23.9	7.2	31.0	62.3	6.7	100.0
		6 weeks	16.9	6.0	22.9	72.4	4.7	100.0
		3 months	12.9	4.1	17.1	72.7	10.3	100.0
		6 months	8.2	2.7	11.0	54.1	35.0	100.0
		12 months	3.2	2.0	5.1	58.1	36.8	100.0
NORTHERN IRELAND	TOTAL	Discharge	37.7	7.4	45.1	53.5	1.3	100.0
		Primary visit	26.9	8.4	35.3	55.7	9.0	100.0
		6 weeks	20.8	7.2	28.0	61.6	10.4	100.0
		3 months	16.9	5.0	21.8	63.9	14.3	100.0
		6 months	10.1	4.0	14.1	54.0	31.9	100.0
		12 months	4.9	3.2	8.1	64.0	28.0	100.0

Source: Child Health System ; Live births to NI resident mothers; Advise caution: feeding status not fully recorded

Table AD: Breastfeeding at discharge by Council Area (LGD2014), 2013-2018p

Council Area (LGD2014)		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018p
Antrim and Newtownabbey	Total births (n)	1,888	1,878	1,714	1,772	1,799	1,748	1,694	1,626
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	863	818	838	831	819	853	850	844
	Rate (%)	45.7	43.6	48.9	46.9	45.5	48.8	50.2	51.9
Ards and North Down	Total births (n)	1,861	1,772	1,736	1,742	1,755	1,661	1,546	1,510
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	926	875	902	874	883	855	837	818
	Rate (%)	49.8	49.4	52.0	50.2	50.3	51.5	54.1	54.2
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	Total births (n)	3,050	3,137	2,865	2,931	2,995	2,932	2,901	2,851
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	1,415	1,423	1,330	1,405	1,386	1,431	1,398	1,428
	Rate (%)	46.4	45.4	46.4	47.9	46.3	48.8	48.2	50.1
Belfast	Total births (n)	4,833	4,932	4,687	4,649	4,591	4,616	4,218	4,292
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	1,995	1,900	1,912	2,019	1,949	1,983	1,795	1,937
	Rate (%)	41.3	38.5	40.8	43.4	42.5	43.0	42.6	45.1
Causeway Coast and Glens	Total births (n)	1,713	1,766	1,759	1,699	1,721	1,631	1,622	1,500
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	645	696	712	677	683	672	675	688
	Rate (%)	37.7	39.4	40.5	39.8	39.7	41.2	41.6	45.9
Derry City and Strabane	Total births (n)	2,252	2,159	2,072	2,089	2,106	1,978	1,921	1,837
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	760	682	712	700	706	679	667	711
	Rate (%)	33.7	31.6	34.4	33.5	33.5	34.3	34.7	38.7
Fermanagh and Omagh	Total births (n)	1,554	1,551	1,436	1,508	1,428	1,517	1,485	1,461
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	759	704	695	720	741	771	777	720
	Rate (%)	48.8	45.4	48.4	47.7	51.9	50.8	52.3	49.3
Lisburn and Castlereagh	Total births (n)	1,791	1,767	1,701	1,747	1,737	1,755	1,722	1,809
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	964	930	959	997	971	986	983	1,054
	Rate (%)	53.8	52.6	56.4	57.1	55.9	56.2	57.1	58.3
Mid and East Antrim	Total births (n)	1,601	1,574	1,506	1,605	1,503	1,585	1,520	1,474
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	650	688	687	740	701	730	733	693
	Rate (%)	40.6	43.7	45.6	46.1	46.6	46.1	48.2	47.0
Mid Ulster	Total births (n)	2,081	2,187	2,159	2,139	2,186	2,148	2,126	2,055
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	950	996	1,020	1,022	987	1,012	1,036	1,011
	Rate (%)	45.7	45.5	47.2	47.8	45.2	47.1	48.7	49.2
Newry, Mourne and Down	Total births (n)	2,544	2,591	2,497	2,569	2,492	2,522	2,421	2,376
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	1,125	1,119	1,109	1,172	1,145	1,139	1,148	1,102
	Rate (%)	44.2	43.2	44.4	45.6	45.9	45.2	47.4	46.4
Northern Ireland	Total births (n)	25,172	25,318	24,133	24,452	24,313	24,093	23,176	22,791
	Any Breastfeeding (n)	11,055	10,833	10,876	11,158	10,971	11,111	10,899	11,006
	Rate (%)	43.9	42.8	45.1	45.6	45.1	46.1	47.0	48.3

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; live births to NI resident mothers; p indicates provisional data

Table AE: Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Council area (LGD2014), 2017

Council area	Number of births (N)							Rate (%)					
	Stage	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
Antrim and Newtownabbey	Discharge	656	194	850	820	24	1,694	38.7	11.5	50.2	48.4	1.4	100
	Primary visit	532	205	737	930	27	1,694	31.4	12.1	43.5	54.9	1.6	100
	6 weeks	383	163	546	1,073	75	1,694	22.6	9.6	32.2	63.3	4.4	100
	3 months	345	101	446	1,167	81	1,694	20.4	6.0	26.3	68.9	4.8	100
	6 months	310	44	354	1,203	137	1,694	18.3	2.6	20.9	71.0	8.1	100
	12 months	158	56	214	1,245	235	1,694	9.3	3.3	12.6	73.5	13.9	100
Ards and North Down	Discharge	666	171	837	691	18	1,546	43.1	11.1	54.1	44.7	1.2	100
	Primary visit	455	156	611	720	215	1,546	29.4	10.1	39.5	46.6	13.9	100
	6 weeks	403	133	536	934	76	1,546	26.1	8.6	34.7	60.4	4.9	100
	3 months	347	97	444	1,030	72	1,546	22.4	6.3	28.7	66.6	4.7	100
	6 months	136	43	179	587	780	1,546	8.8	2.8	11.6	38.0	50.5	100
	12 months	164	48	212	1,160	174	1,546	10.6	3.1	13.7	75.0	11.3	100
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	Discharge	1,084	314	1,398	1,459	44	2,901	37.4	10.8	48.2	50.3	1.5	100
	Primary visit	789	293	1,082	1,618	201	2,901	27.2	10.1	37.3	55.8	6.9	100
	6 weeks	629	251	880	1,772	249	2,901	21.7	8.7	30.3	61.1	8.6	100
	3 months	546	169	715	1,761	425	2,901	18.8	5.8	24.6	60.7	14.7	100
	6 months	373	126	499	1,605	797	2,901	12.9	4.3	17.2	55.3	27.5	100
	12 months	145	78	223	1,101	1,577	2,901	5.0	2.7	7.7	38.0	54.4	100
Belfast	Discharge	1,316	479	1,795	2,364	59	4,218	31.2	11.4	42.6	56.0	1.4	100
	Primary visit	1,051	365	1,416	2,310	492	4,218	24.9	8.7	33.6	54.8	11.7	100
	6 weeks	892	317	1,209	2,297	712	4,218	21.1	7.5	28.7	54.5	16.9	100
	3 months	762	231	993	2,326	899	4,218	18.1	5.5	23.5	55.1	21.3	100
	6 months	599	156	755	2,363	1,100	4,218	14.2	3.7	17.9	56.0	26.1	100
	12 months	315	158	473	2,469	1,276	4,218	7.5	3.7	11.2	58.5	30.3	100
Causeway Coast and Glens	Discharge	556	119	675	928	19	1,622	34.3	7.3	41.6	57.2	1.2	100
	Primary visit	454	110	564	1,006	52	1,622	28.0	6.8	34.8	62.0	3.2	100
	6 weeks	354	87	441	1,160	21	1,622	21.8	5.4	27.2	71.5	1.3	100
	3 months	316	51	367	1,227	28	1,622	19.5	3.1	22.6	75.6	1.7	100
	6 months	254	49	303	1,231	88	1,622	15.7	3.0	18.7	75.9	5.4	100
	12 months	144	57	201	1,292	129	1,622	8.9	3.5	12.4	79.7	8.0	100
Derry City and Strabane	Discharge	519	148	667	1,224	30	1,921	27.0	7.7	34.7	63.7	1.6	100
	Primary visit	375	113	488	1,243	190	1,921	19.5	5.9	25.4	64.7	9.9	100
	6 weeks	263	106	369	1,442	110	1,921	13.7	5.5	19.2	75.1	5.7	100
	3 months	211	72	283	1,526	112	1,921	11.0	3.7	14.7	79.4	5.8	100
	6 months	156	64	220	1,364	337	1,921	8.1	3.3	11.5	71.0	17.5	100
	12 months	93	39	132	1,399	390	1,921	4.8	2.0	6.9	72.8	20.3	100

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers. Data updated October 2018 and September 2019.

Table AE: (continued) Breastfeeding prevalence (%) by Council area (LGD2014), 2017

Council area	Number of births (N)							Rate (%)					
	Stage	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	All
Fermanagh and Omagh	Discharge	591	186	777	694	14	1,485	39.8	12.5	52.3	46.7	0.9	100
	Primary visit	470	133	603	773	109	1,485	31.6	9.0	40.6	52.1	7.3	100
	6 weeks	375	105	480	968	37	1,485	25.3	7.1	32.3	65.2	2.5	100
	3 months	300	76	376	1,015	94	1,485	20.2	5.1	25.3	68.4	6.3	100
	6 months	229	72	301	987	197	1,485	15.4	4.8	20.3	66.5	13.3	100
	12 months	124	45	169	1,128	188	1,485	8.4	3.0	11.4	76.0	12.7	100
Lisburn and Castlereagh	Discharge	751	232	983	720	19	1,722	43.6	13.5	57.1	41.8	1.1	100
	Primary visit	585	194	779	776	167	1,722	34.0	11.3	45.2	45.1	9.7	100
	6 weeks	466	187	653	950	119	1,722	27.1	10.9	37.9	55.2	6.9	100
	3 months	393	137	530	1,049	143	1,722	22.8	8.0	30.8	60.9	8.3	100
	6 months	248	65	313	813	596	1,722	14.4	3.8	18.2	47.2	34.6	100
	12 months	155	70	225	1,266	231	1,722	9.0	4.1	13.1	73.5	13.4	100
Mid and East Antrim	Discharge	576	157	733	772	15	1,520	37.9	10.3	48.2	50.8	1.0	100
	Primary visit	488	124	612	889	19	1,520	32.1	8.2	40.3	58.5	1.3	100
	6 weeks	392	87	479	1,018	23	1,520	25.8	5.7	31.5	67.0	1.5	100
	3 months	337	77	414	1,081	25	1,520	22.2	5.1	27.2	71.1	1.6	100
	6 months	275	64	339	1,107	74	1,520	18.1	4.2	22.3	72.8	4.9	100
	12 months	172	52	224	1,157	139	1,520	11.3	3.4	14.7	76.1	9.1	100
Mid Ulster	Discharge	807	229	1,036	1,065	25	2,126	38.0	10.8	48.7	50.1	1.2	100
	Primary visit	605	150	755	1,218	153	2,126	28.5	7.1	35.5	57.3	7.2	100
	6 weeks	454	158	612	1,246	268	2,126	21.4	7.4	28.8	58.6	12.6	100
	3 months	386	108	494	1,179	453	2,126	18.2	5.1	23.2	55.5	21.3	100
	6 months	293	68	361	1,194	571	2,126	13.8	3.2	17.0	56.2	26.9	100
	12 months	112	34	146	1,084	896	2,126	5.3	1.6	6.9	51.0	42.1	100
Newry, Mourne and Down	Discharge	859	289	1,148	1,227	46	2,421	35.5	11.9	47.4	50.7	1.9	100
	Primary visit	714	225	939	1,395	87	2,421	29.5	9.3	38.8	57.6	3.6	100
	6 weeks	534	169	703	1,599	119	2,421	22.1	7.0	29.0	66.0	4.9	100
	3 months	427	121	548	1,711	162	2,421	17.6	5.0	22.6	70.7	6.7	100
	6 months	259	85	344	1,325	752	2,421	10.7	3.5	14.2	54.7	31.1	100
	12 months	152	64	216	1,624	581	2,421	6.3	2.6	8.9	67.1	24.0	100
Northern Ireland	Discharge	8,381	2,518	10,899	11,964	313	23,176	36.2	10.9	47.0	51.6	1.4	100
	Primary visit	6,518	2,068	8,586	12,878	1,712	23,176	28.1	8.9	37.0	55.6	7.4	100
	6 weeks	5,145	1,763	6,908	14,459	1,809	23,176	22.2	7.6	29.8	62.4	7.8	100
	3 months	4,370	1,240	5,610	15,072	2,494	23,176	18.9	5.4	24.2	65.0	10.8	100
	6 months	3,132	836	3,968	13,779	5,429	23,176	13.5	3.6	17.1	59.5	23.4	100
	12 months	1,734	701	2,435	14,925	5,816	23,176	7.5	3.0	10.5	64.4	25.1	100

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers. Data updated October 2018 and September 2019.

Table AF: Breastfeeding at discharge (%) by Council area (LGD2014) and District Electoral Area (DEA2014), 2016-2018p

Council area LGD2014	District Electoral Area DEA 2014	2016			2017			2018p		
		Total births	Total births		Total births	Any BF		Total births	Total births	
		N	N	%	N	N	%	N	N	N
Antrim and Newtownabbey	Airport	310	168	54.2	294	164	55.8	252	155	61.5
	Antrim	292	130	44.5	302	136	45.0	283	140	49.5
	Ballyclare	244	135	55.3	207	109	52.7	213	117	54.9
	Dunsilly	219	120	54.8	192	102	53.1	215	102	47.4
	Glengormley Urban	240	109	45.4	251	139	55.4	244	126	51.6
	Macedon	230	90	39.1	233	88	37.8	215	97	45.1
	Three Mile Water	223	101	45.3	223	112	50.2	208	107	51.4
Ards and North Down	Ards Peninsula	261	114	43.7	215	100	46.5	241	124	51.5
	Bangor Central	332	170	51.2	294	171	58.2	310	173	55.8
	Bangor East and Donaghadee	200	105	52.5	190	122	64.2	179	92	51.4
	Bangor West	210	106	50.5	203	95	46.8	182	98	53.8
	Comber	176	93	52.8	179	99	55.3	167	95	56.9
	Holywood and Clandeboye	186	125	67.2	180	120	66.7	163	120	73.6
	Newtownards	303	142	46.9	295	130	44.1	272	116	42.6
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	Armagh	472	232	49.2	484	225	46.5	471	232	49.3
	Banbridge	456	233	51.1	441	213	48.3	430	217	50.5
	Craigavon	400	186	46.5	384	176	45.8	401	199	49.6
	Cusher	338	158	46.7	345	162	47	338	157	46.4
	Lagan River	305	179	58.7	284	157	55.3	298	169	56.7
	Lurgan	518	212	40.9	502	230	45.8	491	225	45.8
	Portadown	450	231	51.3	471	235	49.9	430	229	53.3
Belfast	Balmoral	281	191	68.0	250	169	67.6	256	169	66
	Black Mountain	580	161	27.8	505	145	28.7	496	150	30.2
	Botanic	466	271	58.2	438	268	61.2	453	262	57.8
	Castle	427	198	46.4	375	159	42.4	375	181	48.3
	Collin	581	189	32.5	475	143	30.1	504	175	34.7
	Court	485	90	18.6	470	104	22.1	461	131	28.4
	Lisnasharragh	350	235	67.1	347	230	66.3	346	222	64.2
	Oldpark	537	135	25.1	499	122	24.4	525	148	28.2
	Ormiston	371	239	64.4	377	239	63.4	360	238	66.1
	Titanic	558	274	49.1	507	216	42.6	524	261	49.8

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.

Table AF (continued): Breastfeeding at discharge (%) by Council area (LGD2014) and District Electoral Area (DEA2014), 2016-2018p

Council area LGD2014	District Electoral Area DEA 2014	2016			2017			2018p		
		Total births	Any BF		Total births	Any BF		Total births	Any BF	
		N	N	%	N	N	%	N	N	%
Causeway Coast and Glens	Ballymoney	292	116	39.7	310	132	42.6	268	127	47.4
	Bann	187	100	53.5	205	85	41.5	177	99	55.9
	Benbradagh	248	88	35.5	262	112	42.7	242	108	44.6
	Causeway	229	113	49.3	219	123	56.2	201	116	57.7
	Coleraine	292	110	37.7	258	84	32.6	274	100	36.5
	Limavady	187	69	36.9	176	59	33.5	162	65	40.1
	The Glens	206	76	36.9	202	80	39.6	184	73	39.7
Derry City and Strabane	Ballyarnett	379	127	33.5	336	101	30.1	381	123	32.3
	Derg	234	80	34.2	218	85	39	200	75	37.5
	Faughan	226	101	44.7	223	84	37.7	204	94	46.1
	Foyleside	230	78	33.9	202	69	34.2	193	80	41.5
	Sperrin	318	103	32.4	329	110	33.4	300	111	37
	The Moor	242	61	25.2	241	68	28.2	223	70	31.4
	Waterside	360	129	35.8	381	150	39.4	347	158	45.5
Fermanagh and Omagh	Enniskillen	214	117	54.7	205	118	57.6	190	93	48.9
	Erne East	236	118	50	203	97	47.8	238	110	46.2
	Erne North	193	87	45.1	197	96	48.7	172	75	43.6
	Erne West	189	95	50.3	191	96	50.3	197	108	54.8
	Mid Tyrone	228	131	57.5	254	140	55.1	220	113	51.4
	Omagh	226	112	49.6	225	107	47.6	215	99	46
	West Tyrone	236	111	47	219	123	56.2	235	122	51.9
Lisburn and Castlereagh	Castlereagh East	235	119	50.6	249	130	52.2	279	140	50.2
	Castlereagh South	301	200	66.4	309	206	66.7	293	208	71
	Downshire East	178	113	63.5	169	102	60.4	178	115	64.6
	Downshire West	160	104	65	160	101	63.1	199	136	68.3
	Killultagh	312	168	53.8	284	157	55.3	305	176	57.7
	Lisburn North	269	135	50.2	257	154	59.9	268	139	51.9
	Lisburn South	310	147	47.4	300	133	44.3	294	140	47.6
Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.										

Table AF (continued): Breastfeeding at discharge (%) by Council area (LGD2014) and District Electoral Area (DEA2014), 2016-2018p

Council area LGD2014	District Electoral Area DEA 2014	2016			2017			2018p		
		Total births	Any BF		Total births	Any BF		Total births	Any BF	
		N	N	%	N	N	%	N	N	%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	Castlereagh East	235	119	50.6	249	130	52.2	279	140	50.2
	Castlereagh South	301	200	66.4	309	206	66.7	293	208	71
	Downshire East	178	113	63.5	169	102	60.4	178	115	64.6
	Downshire West	160	104	65	160	101	63.1	199	136	68.3
	Killultagh	312	168	53.8	284	157	55.3	305	176	57.7
	Lisburn North	269	135	50.2	257	154	59.9	268	139	51.9
	Lisburn South	310	147	47.4	300	133	44.3	294	140	47.6
Mid and East Antrim	Ballymena	341	165	48.4	311	149	47.9	275	130	47.3
	Bannside	224	110	49.1	204	95	46.6	231	101	43.7
	Braid	323	154	47.7	272	129	47.4	283	139	49.1
	Carrick Castle	165	83	50.3	211	99	46.9	153	70	45.8
	Coast Road	156	44	28.2	173	65	37.6	171	74	43.3
	Knockagh	194	86	44.3	187	93	49.7	164	73	44.5
	Larne Lough	189	88	46.6	170	103	60.6	200	106	53
Mid Ulster	Carntogher	253	113	44.7	254	115	45.3	234	100	42.7
	Clogher Valley	353	184	52.1	317	166	52.4	334	186	55.7
	Cookstown	346	140	40.5	337	149	44.2	321	140	43.6
	Dungannon	368	234	63.6	394	242	61.4	376	229	60.9
	Magherafelt	262	111	42.4	261	117	44.8	252	125	49.6
	Moyola	244	95	38.9	237	98	41.4	221	99	44.8
	Torrent	331	135	40.8	332	149	44.9	328	132	40.2
Newry, Mourne and Down	Crotlieve	386	183	47.4	391	205	52.4	359	181	50.4
	Downpatrick	251	107	42.6	267	103	38.6	295	124	42
	Newry	417	173	41.5	403	177	43.9	361	160	44.3
	Rowallane	262	122	46.6	234	119	50.9	232	122	52.6
	Slieve Croob	284	141	49.6	280	142	50.7	252	126	50
	Slieve Gullion	518	215	41.5	484	216	44.6	488	202	41.4
	The Mournes	408	198	48.5	370	186	50.3	399	187	46.9
Total		24,268	11,204	46.2	23,176	10,899	47.0	22,871	11,006	48.1

Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.

Table AG: Breastfeeding at discharge by Sure Start and Non Sure Start areas, 2016-2018p

Year		Number of births (N)						Rate (%)					
		Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	Total	Total BF	Partial BF	Any BF	Not at all	Unknown / blank	Total
2018p	Non Sure Start area	5,807	1,702	7,509	6,204	216	13,929	41.7	12.2	53.9	44.5	1.6	100
	Sure Start area	2,596	901	3,497	5,202	163	8,862	29.3	10.2	39.5	58.7	1.8	100
	All	8,403	2,603	11,006	11,406	379	22,791	36.9	11.4	48.3	50.0	1.7	100
2017	Non Sure Start area	5,817	1,610	7,427	6,445	175	14,047	41.4	11.5	52.9	45.9	1.2	100
	Sure Start area	2,564	908	3,472	5,519	138	9,129	28.1	9.9	38.0	60.5	1.5	100
	All	8,381	2,518	10,899	11,964	313	23,176	36.2	10.9	47.0	51.6	1.4	100
2016	Non Sure Start area	5,983	1,503	7,486	6,719	197	14,402	41.5	10.4	52.0	46.7	1.4	100
	Sure Start area	2,818	807	3,625	5,940	126	9,691	29.1	8.3	37.4	61.3	1.3	100
	All	8,801	2,310	11,111	12,659	323	24,093	36.5	9.6	46.1	52.5	1.3	100
Source: Northern Ireland Child Health System; Live births to NI resident mothers.													

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