

Table 1 Characteristics of the study participants (mothers in Egypt) (n = 3773) according to early feeding indicators

Characteristic	Initiation of breastfeeding		Prelacteal feed	
	Early (n = 976, 25.1%) ^a	Delayed (n = 2797, 74.9%) ^a	No (n = 1381, 36.5%) ^a	Yes (n = 2392, 63.5%) ^a
	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)
Mother's age at birth (years)				
15–24	77 (24.8)	208 (75.2)	111 (36.1)	174 (63.9)
25–34	820 (25.7)	2349 (74.3)	1137 (36.1)	2032 (63.9)
35–49	79 (19.8)	240 (80.2)	133 (41.8)	186 (58.2)
P-value	0.1429		0.2648	
Mother's education				
No education	122 (26.9)	293 (73.1)	167 (39.8)	248 (60.2)
Primary	71 (26.7)	185 (73.3)	104 (39.4)	152 (60.6)
Secondary or higher	783 (24.7)	2319 (75.3)	1110 (35.8)	1992 (64.2)
P-value	0.6429		0.2700	
Mother's occupation				
No	837 (24.4)	2452 (75.6)	1197 (36.4)	2092 (63.6)
Yes	139 (29.6)	345 (70.4)	184 (37.5)	300 (62.5)
P-value	0.0359		0.6965	
Residence				
Urban	397 (21.8)	1280 (78.2)	622 (37.5)	1055 (62.5)
Rural	579 (26.8)	1517 (73.2)	759 (36.1)	1337 (63.9)
P-value	0.0066		0.5490	
No. of household member				
1–4	450 (24.0)	1455 (76.0)	657 (35.0)	1248 (65.0)
5–6	332 (25.3)	939 (74.7)	488 (39.3)	783 (60.7)
≥ 7	194 (28.9)	403 (71.1)	236 (35.6)	316 (64.4)
P-value	0.1601		0.1132	
Wealth index				
Poor	306 (25.9)	768 (74.1)	351 (31.4)	723 (68.6)
Middle	237 (29.6)	560 (70.4)	310 (38.5)	487 (61.5)
Rich	433 (22.1)	1469 (77.9)	720 (38.8)	1182 (61.2)
P-value	0.0045		0.0042	
Parity				
Primiparous	272 (21.6)	938 (78.4)	376 (32.1)	834 (67.9)
Multiparous	704 (26.8)	1859 (73.2)	1005 (38.6)	1558 (61.4)
P-value	0.0016		0.0014	
Sex of child				
Male	509 (25.7)	1485 (74.3)	741 (37.3)	1253 (62.7)
Female	467 (24.4)	1312 (75.6)	640 (35.7)	1139 (64.3)
P-value	0.3998		0.3825	
Birth weight				
Low	120 (23.4)	395 (76.6)	159 (31.1)	356 (68.9)
Normal	839 (25.3)	2347 (74.7)	1197 (37.5)	1989 (62.5)
Macrosomia	17 (30.1)	55 (69.9)	25 (34.5)	47 (65.5)
P-value	0.5395		0.0450	
Birth status				
Single birth	965 (25.2)	2747 (74.8)	1370 (36.8)	2342 (63.2)
Multiple birth	11 (20.0)	50 (80.0)	11 (19.7)	50 (80.3)
P-value	0.4485		0.0140	

Table 1 Characteristics of the study participants (mothers in Egypt) (n = 3773) according to early feeding indicators (concluded)

Characteristic	Initiation of breastfeeding		Prelacteal feed	
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	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)
Antenatal care visits				
None	86 (44.5)	107 (55.5)	100 (53.1)	93 (46.9)
1–3	62 (27.5)	155 (72.5)	79 (35.7)	138 (64.3)
≥ 4	828 (23.8)	2535 (76.2)	1202 (35.6)	2161 (64.4)
P-value	< 0.0001		0.0002	
Mode of delivery				
Vaginal	557 (38.3)	807 (61.7)	608 (44.5)	756 (55.5)
Caesarean section	419 (17.8)	1990 (82.2)	773(32.1)	1636 (67.9)
P-value	< 0001		< 0.0001	
Place of delivery				
Public health facility	275 (26.4)	689 (73.6)	397 (39.8)	567 (60.2)
Private health facility	596 (22.4)	1992 (77.6)	894 (35.1)	1694 (64.9)
Home	105 (49.0)	116 (51.0)	90 (40.3)	131 (59.7)
P-value	< 0.0001		0.0643	
Exposure to skilled provider at delivery^b				
No	66 (50.6)	62 (49.4)	53 (40.0)	75 (60.0)
Yes	910 (24.1)	2735 (75.9)	1328 (36.4)	2317 (63.6)
P-value	< 0.0001		0.4313	
Prelacteal feed				
No	530 (40.2)	851 (59.8)	–	–
Yes	446 (16.4)	1946 (83.6)	–	–
P-value	< 0.0001			
Initiation of breastfeeding				
Early (within 1 hour of birth)	–	–	530 (58.6)	446 (41.4)
Delayed	–	–	851 (29.2)	1946 (70.8)
P-value			< 0.0001	

^aWeighted percentage.^bSkilled provider includes doctor and trained nurse/midwife.