

Infant Feeding in Durham Region at a glance

May 2018

Why is breastfeeding important?



Breastmilk protects babies from many infections and illnesses.



Breastmilk is the best first food for babies. The nutrients change to meet their needs as they grow and develop.



Breastmilk is free, convenient and environmentally friendly.



Breastfeeding promotes bonding between mothers and babies.

The World Health Organization, Health Canada, Dietitians of Canada and the Canadian Paediatric Society recommends:

6 months

12 months

24 months

Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months

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Introducing solid foods with continued breastfeeding for up to two years and beyond



Infant Feeding Surveillance System 2016 Highlights



initiated breastfeeding



8%

fed their baby only breastmilk at six months

continued to breastfeed at six months and beyond



planned to continue breastfeeding until baby was at least 12 months



Why did moms stop breastfeeding?



45%



medical issues

19%



latching difficulties

18%

What liquids and solids did moms offer most in the first 6 months?



Formula 75%



Baby cereal 67%



Fruits and vegetables 56%



Water 28%

What supports are available for breastfeeding moms in Durham Region?

Durham Health Connection Line 1-800-841-2729 905-668-2020



One-to-one breastfeeding support



Breastfeeding groups



Breastfeeding information durham.ca









