

Confidence and breast milk provision

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Contents

Confidence providing breast milk in public places	1
Confidence that infant was getting enough milk.....	3
Definitions and data sources	5

Confidence providing breast milk in public places

In 2015, one of every two mothers who provided breast milk to their infants were confident (3) or very confident (4) with breastfeeding in public (Figure 1 & Table 1). About a quarter of mothers were moderately confident with breastfeeding in public (2).

More than half (59%) of mothers who were providing breast milk at six months of infant age were very confident with breastfeeding in public.

Confidence with breastfeeding in public places has not changed at two weeks or six months of infant age between 2009 and 2015, or between 2014 & 2015.

Figure 1. Percentage of Mothers by Confidence Level with Breastfeeding in Public at Two Weeks of Infant Age, 2009-2015

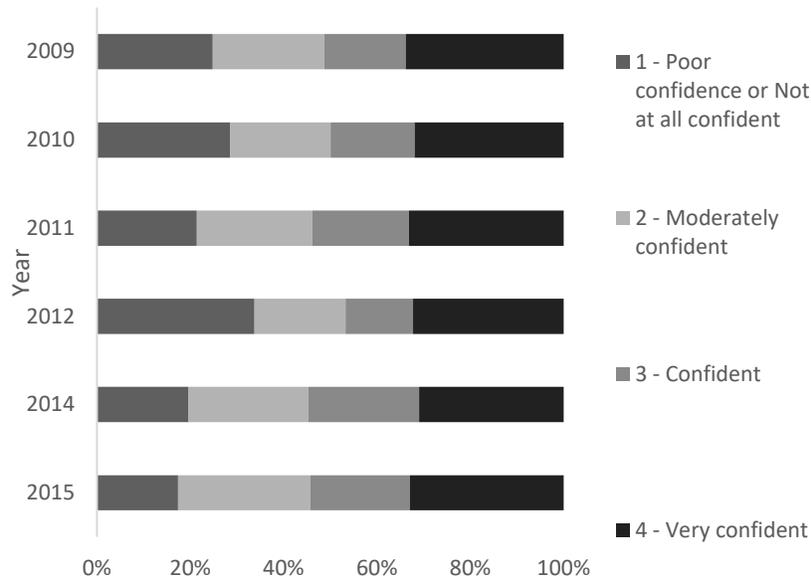


Table 1. Percentage (95% CI) of Mothers by Confidence Level with Breastfeeding in Public Places at Two Weeks of Infant Age, 2009 - 2015

Level of Confidence	2009	2010	2011	2012	2014	2015
1 – Poor/Not at all Confident	21.7 (17.5, 26.6)	26.2 (22.7, 30.1)	18.6 (15.5, 22.3)	31.0 (25.8, 36.7)	18.5 (14.9, 22.6)	17.3 (14.1, 21.2)
2	20.9 (16.8, 25.7)	19.7 (16.6, 23.2)	21.6 (18.2, 25.4)	17.9 (13.8, 22.8)	24.1 (20.2, 28.5)	28.3 (24.2, 32.7)
3	15.3 (11.8, 19.6)	16.5 (13.6, 19.8)	18.0 (14.9, 21.6)	13.2 (9.7, 17.7)	22.3 (18.5, 26.7)	21.3 (17.7, 25.4)
4 – Very confident	29.6 (24.8, 34.8)	29.2 (25.6, 33.1)	28.9 (25.2, 33.0)	29.6 (24.6, 35.2)	29.2 (24.9, 33.8)	32.9 (28.6, 37.4)
Missing a response	12.6 (9.4, 16.7)	8.5 (6.4, 11.1)	12.9 (10.2, 16.0)	8.3 ^E (5.6, 12.2)	5.9 ^E (4.0, 8.7)	F

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Figure 2. Percentage of Mothers by Confidence Level with Breastfeeding in Public Places & Year at Six Months of Infant Age, 2014 – 2015

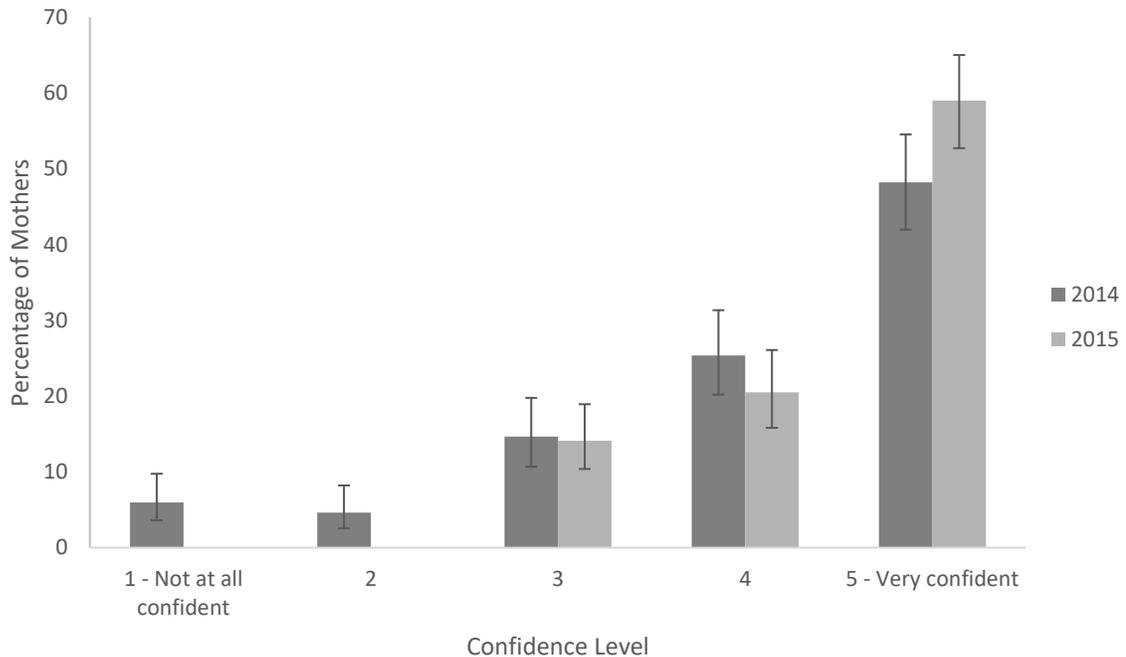


Table 2. Percentage (95% CI) of Mothers by Confidence Level with Breastfeeding in Public Places & Year at Six Months of Infant Age, 2014 - 2015

Level of Confidence	2014	2015
1 – Not at all confident	6.0 ^E (3.6, 9.8)	F
2	4.6 ^E (2.6, 8.2)	F
3	14.7 (10.7, 19.8)	14.1 (10.4, 18.9)
4	25.4 (20.2, 31.3)	20.5 (15.8, 26.1)
5 – Very confident	48.2 (42.0, 54.5)	59.0 (52.7, 65)

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Confidence that infant was getting enough milk

Three of every four mothers who were not providing breast milk to their infants at two weeks of infant age were ‘very confident’ that their infant was getting enough milk, significantly higher compared to mothers of infants fed breast milk (50.2%; Figure 4 & Table 4). Overall, one of every two mothers were very confident that their baby was getting enough milk at two weeks of infant age in 2015 (Figure 5 & Table 5). Confidence has not changed significantly between 2014 & 2015.

Figure 3. Percentage of Mothers by Confidence Level in Determining that Their Infant is Getting Enough Milk & Year of Infant’s Birth, at Two Weeks of Infant Age, 2014-2015

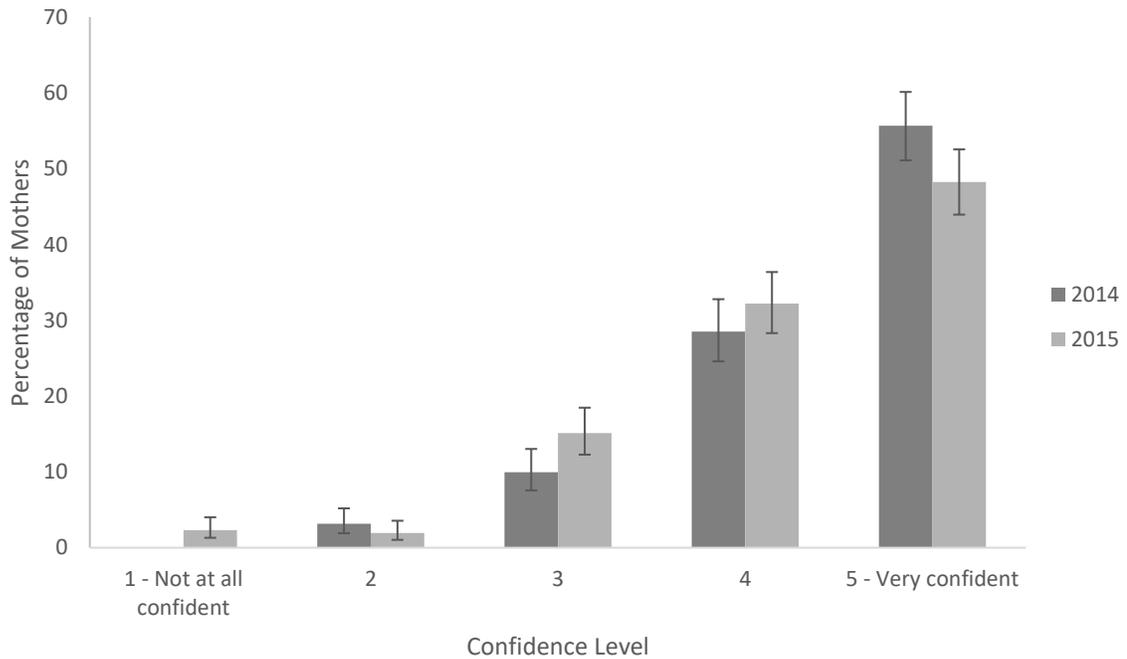


Table 3. Percentage (95% CI) of Mothers by Confidence Level in Determining that Their Infant is Getting Enough Milk & Year of Infant’s Birth, at Two Weeks of Infant Age, 2014-2015

Level of Confidence	2014	2015
1 – Not at all confident	F	2.3 ^E (1.3, 4.0)
2	3.2 ^E (1.9, 5.2)	1.9 ^E (1.0, 3.6)
3	10.0 (7.6, 13.0)	15.1 (12.3, 18.5)
4	28.5 (24.6, 32.8)	32.2 (28.3, 36.4)
5 – Very confident	55.7 (51.1, 60.1)	48.2 (43.9, 52.6)

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Figure 4. Percentage of Mothers by Confidence Level in Determining that Their Infant is Getting Enough Milk & Whether Their Infant was Provided Breast Milk at Two Weeks of Infant Age, at Two Weeks of Infant Age, 2014-2015

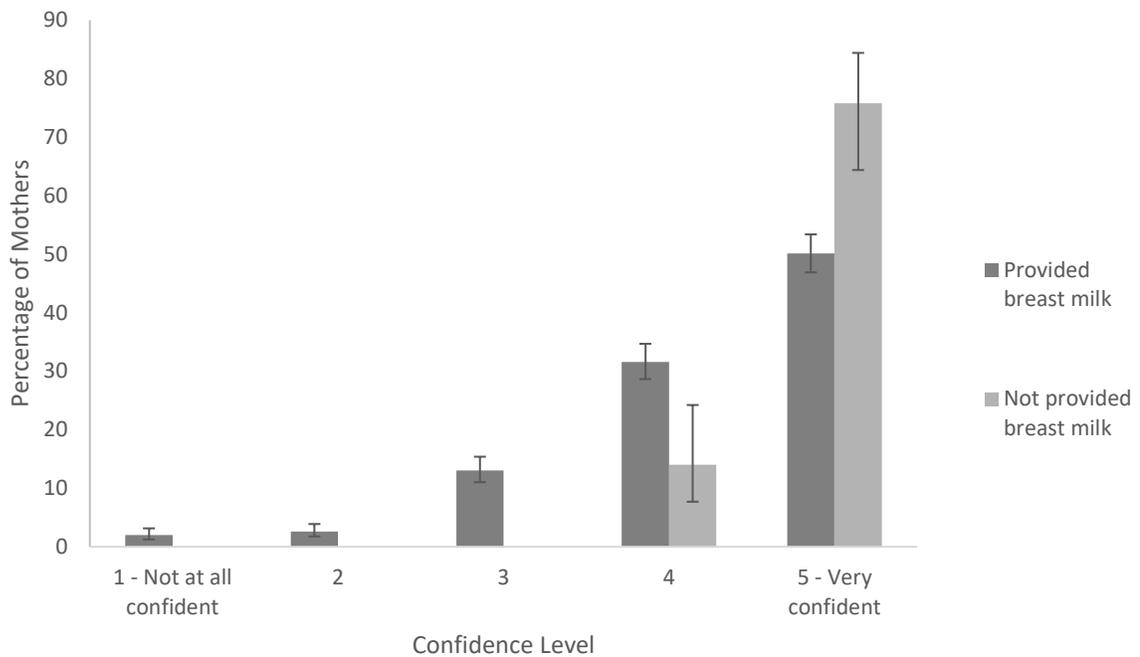


Table 4. Percentage (95% CI) of Mothers by Confidence Level in Determining that Their Infant is Getting Enough Milk & Whether Their Infant was Provided Breast Milk at Two Weeks of Infant Age, 2014 – 2015 Combined

Level of Confidence	Provided Breast Milk	Not Provided Breast Milk
1 – Not at all confident	2.0 ^E (1.3, 3.2)	F
2	2.6 ^E (1.8, 3.9)	F
3	13.1 (11.0, 15.4)	F
4	31.6 (28.7, 34.7)	14.0 ^E (7.7, 24.2)
5 - Very confident	50.2 (46.9, 53.4)	75.8 (64.4, 84.4)

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Definitions and data sources

Confidence providing breast milk in public places:

Level of confidence providing breast milk in public places, as measured on a scale of 1 (poor confidence or not at all confident to 4 (very confident).

Confidence determining that baby is getting enough milk:

Level of confidence in determining whether infants provided breast milk are getting enough milk, as measured on a scale of 1 (poor confidence or not at all confident) to 5 (very confident).

Data sources:

North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Infant Feeding Surveillance System [Jul 2009-Jun 2010, Jan 2014- Dec 2015, 2017, & Jan – Dec 2017].

Analysis:

All measures have been weighted to account for differences in the age range of all mothers who gave birth, and those who participated in the survey. Sampling and non-response weights were calculated by maternal age group (under 20 years, 20 to 29 years, and 30 years or older), year, and contact point (i.e., 2 weeks, 6 months, 12 months, 24 months). Where possible, percentages are presented annually.

Confidence intervals:

Confidence intervals (CI) and variances were estimated using the poisson distribution in STATA IC/14.2 (2014) for all regions.

Interpretation of a significant difference:

A statistic interpreted as 'significantly different' from another is an estimate found to be statistically meaningful; the difference is unlikely due to chance. Error ranges noted in tables within this report illustrate 95% confidence intervals. If there is no overlap in range between confidence intervals, the difference can be described as statistically significant.