

Table 2 Distribution of infants exclusively breastfed, by parental sociodemographic variables

| Variable | No. of mothers | Exclusive breastfeeding | | χ^2 (df) | P-value |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|------|---------------|---------|
| | | Yes % | No % | | |
| Maternal variables | | | | | |
| Mother's age (years) | | | | 0.149 (2) | 0.928 |
| ≤ 25 | 155 | 47.7 | 52.3 | | |
| 26–30 | 208 | 46.2 | 53.8 | | |
| ≥ 30 | 175 | 45.7 | 54.3 | | |
| Mother's education level | | | | 5.108 (3) | 0.164 |
| Illiterate/elementary | 41 | 39.0 | 61.0 | | |
| Secondary/high school | 96 | 53.1 | 46.9 | | |
| High school diploma | 260 | 48.5 | 51.5 | | |
| University | 141 | 40.4 | 59.6 | | |
| Mother's employment | | | | 0.924 (1) | 0.336 |
| Employed | 75 | 41.3 | 58.7 | | |
| Unemployed | 463 | 47.3 | 52.7 | | |
| Mother's ethnicity | | | | 0.785 (2) | 0.675 |
| Persian | 297 | 45.5 | 54.5 | | |
| Azari | 144 | 45.8 | 54.2 | | |
| Other | 97 | 50.5 | 49.5 | | |
| Mother's return to work after delivery (months) ^a | | | | 2.723 (1) | 0.256 |
| < 6 | 23 | 47.8 | 52.2 | | |
| ≤ 6 | 52 | 38.4 | 61.6 | | |
| Parity | | | | 1.174 (2) | 0.556 |
| 1 | 299 | 44.5 | 53.5 | | |
| 2 | 190 | 48.3 | 51.7 | | |
| ≥ 3 | 49 | 51.0 | 49.0 | | |
| Paternal variables | | | | | |
| Father's age (years) | | | | 1.004 (2) | 0.605 |
| ≥ 29 | 121 | 43.8 | 56.2 | | |
| 30–35 | 245 | 45.7 | 54.3 | | |
| ≥ 36 | 172 | 49.4 | 50.6 | | |
| Father's education level | | | | 5.858 (3) | 0.119 |
| Illiterate/ elementary | 50 | 48.0 | 52.0 | | |
| Secondary/ high school | 104 | 56.7 | 43.3 | | |
| High school diploma | 237 | 43.9 | 56.1 | | |
| University | 147 | 42.9 | 57.1 | | |
| Father's employment | | | | 0.722 (2) | 0.697 |
| Unemployed | 19 | 42.1 | 57.9 | | |
| Government | 176 | 44.3 | 55.7 | | |
| Non-government | 343 | 47.8 | 52.2 | | |
| Father's ethnicity | | | | 2.745 (2) | 0.253 |
| Persian | 285 | 48.8 | 51.2 | | |
| Azari | 143 | 40.6 | 59.4 | | |
| Other | 110 | 48.2 | 51.8 | | |

Table 2 Distribution of infants exclusively breastfed, by parental sociodemographic variables (concluded)

| Variable | No. of mothers | Exclusive breastfeeding | | χ^2 (df) | P-value |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|------|---------------|---------|
| | | Yes | No | | |
| | | % | % | | |
| Household variables | | | | | |
| Household income | | | | 0.186 (2) | 0.911 |
| Sufficient | 131 | 48.1 | 51.9 | | |
| Relatively sufficient | 353 | 45.9 | 54.1 | | |
| Insufficient | 54 | 46.3 | 53.7 | | |
| Area of residence | | | | 8.691 (4) | 0.069 |
| North | 51 | 43.1 | 56.9 | | |
| South | 162 | 49.1 | 50.9 | | |
| East | 163 | 52.4 | 47.6 | | |
| West | 113 | 42.5 | 57.5 | | |
| City centre | 49 | 30.6 | 69.4 | | |

^an = 75.