

Table 1 Characteristics of 3413 women according to their knowledge and practices of breastfeeding (BF)

Variable	No.	%	Variable	No.	%
<i>Education (n = 3406)</i>			<i>BF duration^a (months) (n = 1286)</i>		
Illiterate and informal	1243	36.5	0–3	138	65.3
Primary	1432	42.0	3.1–6	636	49.5
Intermediate	301	8.8	6.1–9	123	9.6
Secondary and higher	430	12.6	> 9.1	371	28.8
<i>When to start BF (n = 3384)</i>			Don't know	18	1.4
Immediately	2473	73.1	<i>Signs of good positioning/latch on</i>		
Within 24 h	483	14.3	Close to the mother	1990	42.6
After 24 h	188	5.6	Baby's head in line with the		
Other	240	7.1	body; no arching		
<i>Giving colostrum is (n = 3390)</i>			or sideways turning	1172	25.1
Good	3149	92.9	Breast touches the chin	225	4.8
Not good	120	3.5	Baby's lower lip inverted	113	2.4
Don't know	121	3.6	Other	391	8.4
<i>Give water and sugar to jaundiced child (n = 3396)</i>			Don't know	779	16.7
Yes	2043	60.2	Total ^b	4670	100.0
No	1221	36.0	<i>Breast milk is insufficient for baby (n = 3378)</i>		
Don't know	132	3.9	True	1176	34.8
<i>Wash hands before BF (n = 3413)</i>			Not true	2069	61.2
Yes	407	11.9	Don't know	133	3.9
No	3006	88.1	<i>Causes of insufficient milk</i>		
<i>Frequency of BF (n = 3391)</i>			Ill mother	305	17.8
Scheduled	705	20.8	Delay in starting BF	26	1.5
On demand	2189	64.6	Short duration of BF	43	2.5
Other	396	11.6	Wrong positioning	15	0.9
Don't know	101	3.0	Malnourished mother	690	40.3
<i>Know the definition of full exclusive BF (n = 3413)</i>			Other	252	14.7
Yes	1286	37.7	Don't know	381	22.3
-correct definition	537	(41.8)	Total ^b	1712	100.0
-incorrect definition	749	(58.2)	<i>When to start supplements (months) (n = 3413)</i>		
No	2127	62.3	0–3	448	13.1
			3.1–6	2681	78.6
			> 6.1	252	7.4
			Don't know	32	0.9

^aFull exclusive BF

^bMultiple answers accepted.

Mean (standard deviation) age of the women = 35.3 (9.8) years.

Urban:rural ratio = 1.8:1.

Data were missing for some women for some variables.