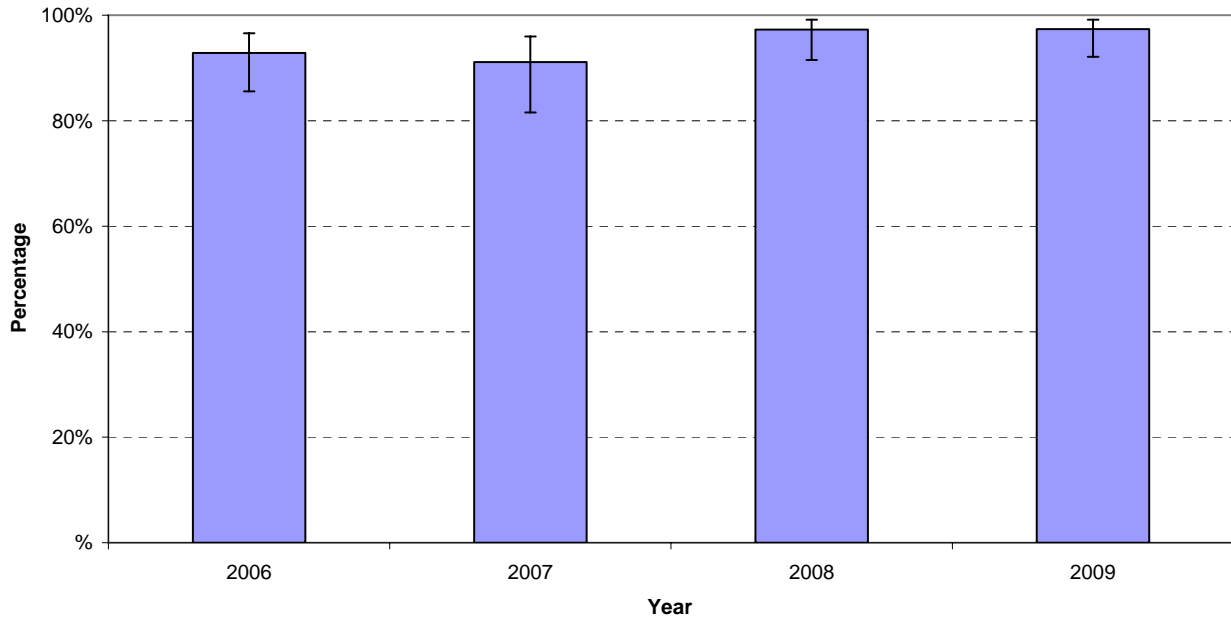


# Breastfeeding

This summary focuses on the percentage of women (aged 18-49) who gave birth in the last 5 years and breastfed their child.

Ontario Public Health Standards, Family Health Program Standard, Assessment and Surveillance – Req 1.

## Women Who Initiated Breastfeeding in York Region, 2006-2009

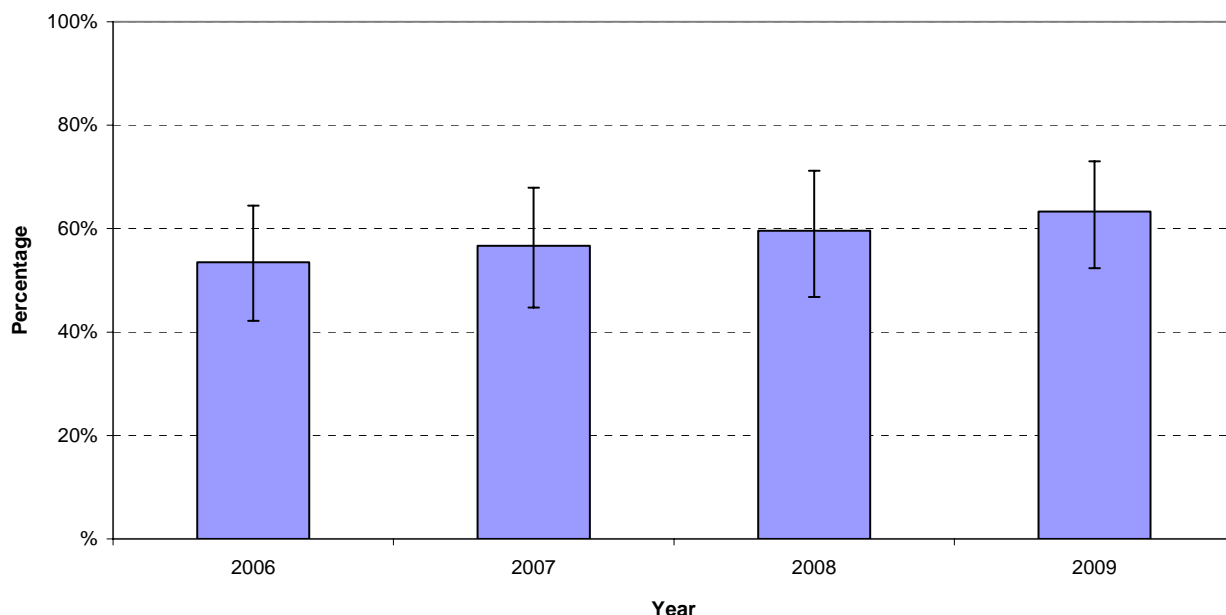


Data Source: Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System, January 2006 – December 2009.

### Interpretation:

- In 2009, 97% ( $\pm 3$ ) of women surveyed who gave birth in the past 5 years initiated breastfeeding. Statistically, this percentage has remained the same over the four years of data collection starting in 2006.
- Age group breakdown is not shown due to over representation of certain age groups in survey sampling.
- No differences in the percentage of women who initiated breastfeeding were observed across the highest level of education attained (data not shown).

## Women Who Breastfed For At Least Six Months in York Region, 2006-2009



Data Source: Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System, January 2006 – December 2009.

### Interpretation:

- In 2009, 63% ( $\pm 11$ ) of women surveyed who had a baby in the past 5 years breastfed for at least six months. Statistically, this percentage has remained the same over four years of data collection starting in 2006.
- No differences in the percentage of women who breastfed for at least six months were observed across age or highest level of education attained (data not shown).
- Over the four-year period, the most common reasons that women stopped breastfeeding were “baby did not want to breastfeed”, “returned to work/school”, and “not enough milk (child weaned him/herself)”.

**Data Source:** Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System (RRFSS), [January 2006 – December 2009 (variables RH2, rh8, rh9, rh10). For more information on RRFSS, visit <http://www.rfss.ca/>

Adults represent individuals aged 18 years or older. This telephone survey was only administered in English, using a random digit dialling methodology and data are weighted for probability of selection in households of different size. Survey indicators based on self-reported information and may be subject to biases, such as recall bias or social desirability bias, or result in high non-response.

$\bar{\pm}$  and  $\pm$  represents the 95% confidence interval, meaning 19 times out of 20 the results will fall within this range. Confidence intervals are reported as equal, though this is not always the case as the estimate approaches zero or 100%.

‘Don’t know’ and ‘refused’ responses are excluded if less than five (5) percent.