Abstract

Infant feeding patterns in Mexico were recorded using data from the 1988 National Nutrition Survey. The prevalence of breast feeding among infants declined from 86% at birth to approximately 40% after three months of age. The percentage of mothers introducing breast feeding increased by 38% at the national level and by 87% in the northern region with each increment in household living conditions, decreased by 50% in rural municipalities in the south and decreased by 20% in all regions for each month that the introduction of other milks was delayed. The rate of other milk introduction increased by between 16% and 20% at the national level within the central and southern regions with each household living condition increment but decreased by between 20 to 30% within indigenous or rural. Finally, the probability of solid food introduction increased between 8 and 15% with each household living condition increment.

Keywords

breast feeding; weaning; milk substitutes; infant; nutrition surveys; Mexico