

Breastfeeding Descriptions

- I. Use the definitions in the following table to describe the amount of breastfeeding that is occurring:

Breastfeeding Descriptions Based on WIC Formula Issuance	
Fully or Exclusive Breastfeeding	
Exclusively Breastfeeding	Receiving no WIC formula.
Primarily Exclusive/ No WIC Formula Package	Has been fed something other than human milk, vitamins, minerals and/or medications on <u>rare occasion in the past</u> or one time feeding of infant formula, human milk fortifier, cow’s milk, juice, sugar water, rehydration solution, water, baby food, or anything else. This identifies an infant whose exclusively breastfeeding is <u>interrupted</u> because of special circumstances (e.g., acute illness, hospitalization, caregiver misinformation). Receiving no WIC formula.
Primarily Exclusive/ Complementary Foods	Has been fed complementary foods (e.g., cereal, baby foods, table foods) and receiving no WIC formula.
Partially Breastfeeding	
Partially (Mostly**) Breastfeeding	Breastfeeding and receiving formula from WIC. May also be fed complementary foods.
Not Breastfeeding	
No Longer Breastfeeding	Was breastfeeding at some point in time but has now discontinued.
Never Breastfed	Was never breastfed.
Child	
Breastfeeding Child	Greater than or equal to 12 months of age and continuing to breastfeed.

*Human milk fortifier is considered a formula and infants routinely receiving it are defined as Partially Breastfeeding. Once human milk fortifier is discontinued, then the infant may be classified as Primarily Exclusive, if the definition of Primarily Breastfeeding is met.

** The descriptor “Mostly” is added to the designation; Partially (Mostly) Breastfeeding meaning “in range”. Food Package VII is issued to Partially (Mostly - in range) Breastfeeding mothers who are breastfeeding (in range) multiples from the same pregnancy and to pregnant women who are Partially (Mostly – in range) Breastfeeding.

- II. Describing the Amount of Breastfeeding. (This policy has been moved to the “Food Packages” document of the P&P.)