



**NHS England
Statistical Release
Breastfeeding Initiation &
Breastfeeding Prevalence
6-8 weeks**

Quarter 1 2015/16

24th September 2015

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Statistical release
Breastfeeding initiation and prevalence at 6 to 8 weeks
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Context

There is a clear case for investing in services to support breastfeeding as part of a local child health strategy. This is particularly important for mothers from low income groups, as it is known that they are less likely to breastfeed. Breastfeeding protects the health of babies and mothers, and reduces the risk of illness (NICE, 2008).

Breast milk is the best form of nutrition for infants, and exclusive breastfeeding is recommended for the first six months (26 weeks) of an infant's life. Thereafter, breastfeeding should continue for as long as the mother and baby wish, while gradually introducing the baby to a more varied diet.

In recent years, research has shown that infants who are not breastfed are more likely to have infections in the short-term such as gastroenteritis, respiratory and ear infections, and particularly infections requiring hospitalisation. In the longer term, evidence suggests that infants who are not breastfed are more likely to become obese in later childhood, which means they are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes, and tend to have slightly higher levels of blood pressure and blood cholesterol in adulthood. For mothers, breastfeeding is associated with a reduction in the risk of breast and ovarian cancers. A recent study also suggests a positive association between breastfeeding and parenting capability, particularly among single and low-income mothers.

Results from the UK Infant Feeding Survey 2010 showed that 83% of women in England breastfed their babies after birth, 78% after two days and 57% at six weeks. The differences between the two sets of results is likely to be due to the fact that the Infant Feeding Survey is based on self-reported information from women who agreed to take part in the survey; and the fact that breastfeeding status is not captured for all infants in the statistics covered in this report

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Summary of results

The Q1 2013/14 onward collection of 12 week risk assessment, breastfeeding initiation and 6-8 week breastfeeding data was collected directly from maternity service providers and child health information system providers.

135 maternity providers should have submitted data for Q1 2015/16, with 128 maternity providers submitting data. The level of maternity provider submissions at Q1 2015/16 was 95%.

As data submissions are above the validation limits we have sufficient data coverage to publish an England figure for Q1 2015/16.

108 Child Health Information System (CHIS) Providers were identified for 6-8 week breastfeeding prevalence submissions for Q1 2015/16. We received data returns covering 105 of these providers with an uptake rate of 97%.

As data submissions are above the validation limits* we have sufficient data coverage to publish an England figure for Q1 2015/16.

Initiation of breastfeeding

In England the Q1 2015/16 rate of breastfeeding initiation was 73.8%. The annual percentage was 74.3% in 2014/15, 74.0% in 2013/14, 73.9% in 2012/13 and 2011/12 (74.0%) and was slightly higher than 2010/11 (73.7%), 2009/10 (72.7%) and 2008/09 (71.7%) (Table 1).

In England amongst the 162 CCGs that passed validation in Q1, breastfeeding initiation ranged from 46.3% in NHS Knowsley CCG to 92.8% in NHS Richmond CCG (Table 5).

In England amongst the 114 Trusts that passed validation**, breastfeeding initiation ranged from 48.9% Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust to 91.8% Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (Table 4).

Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks

The 6-8 week breastfeeding prevalence figures are based on the number of infants recorded by CCGs as totally or partially breastfeeding, as a percentage of all infants due a 6-8 week check.

When making comparisons over time, it is best to limit this to those quarters with high and consistent levels of coverage. There is evidence that the significant improvements in data coverage that were achieved in the early quarters of data collection affected the comparability of the prevalence estimates over time. This is because improvements in coverage have resulted in the inclusion in the statistics of a disproportionately higher number of women who are not breastfeeding.

In England the breastfeeding prevalence rate at 6-8 weeks for Q1 2015/16 was 45.2%, in 2014/15 prevalence at 6-8 weeks was 43.8%, in 2013/14 prevalence at 6-8 weeks was 45.8%, in 2012/13 prevalence at 6-8 weeks was 47.2% and in 2011/12 47.2% of infants due a 6-8 week check were being breastfed at 6-8 weeks (Table 2).

In Q1 2015/16 107 CCGs failed to pass validation checks***. 39 failed as the number of eligible children submitted failed to meet the -10% + 20% number of expected children.

An additional 85 CCGs failed due to more than 5% of their eligible children having no breastfeeding status recorded.

Four CCGs failed due to the breastfeeding prevalence rate at 6-8 weeks being higher than that of the breastfeeding initiation rate (02P NHS Barnsley CCG, 04F NHS Milton Keynes CCG, 03G NHS Leeds South and East CCG and NHS Hounslow CCG).

Amongst the 102 CCGs that passed validation**, breastfeeding prevalence as a percentage of infants due a 6-8 week check ranged from 20.7% NHS Knowsley CCG to 82.5% NHS City & Hackney CCG (Table 6).

** The coverage target for 2013/14 onwards has been reduced to 85% for England level figures only. Feedback was sought from the user perspective on lowering the threshold for the England figure. The change in quality standard for the validation check does not apply at the lower levels of geography.*

*** Note that the maternities validation flag for RN3 Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, RD1 Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust, RAL Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, R1K London North West Healthcare NHS Trust and RDU Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust were removed owing to the merging or transferring of maternity services therefore there was no valid historic comparison data to validate against.*

**** Note that one CCG did not have data submitted against and was excluded from the passed validation counts (08V NHS Tower Hamlets CCG). The values submitted for one CCG were suppressed owing to incorrect data being submitted by the Provider (03H NHS NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE CCG).*

Please see Data Quality notes for trust specific explanations.

Table 1: Initiation of breastfeeding, England Trend - Commissioner based



Source: Department of Health, Integrated Performance Measure Return
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Year / Quarter	Maternities	Breastfeeding			Not breastfeeding		Not known	
	No.	No.	% of maternities	95% confidence interval	No.	% of maternities	No.	% of maternities
2003/04 OT	566,355	316,751			171,453		78,151	13.8%
2004/05 OT	576,935	363,549			181,655		31,731	5.5%
2005/06 OT	583,011	385,909	66.2%	66.1% - 66.3%	172,801	29.6%	24,301	4.2%
2006/07 OT	601,262	409,317	68.1%	68.0% - 68.2%	178,288	29.7%	13,657	2.3%
2007/08 OT	634,035	443,227	69.9%	69.8% - 70.0%	180,119	28.4%	10,690	1.7%
2008/09 OT	640,681	459,430	71.7%	71.6% - 71.8%	171,403	26.8%	9,848	1.5%
2009/10 OT	652,957	474,865	72.7%	72.6% - 72.8%	168,928	25.9%	9,164	1.4%
2010/11 OT	659,238	485,780	73.7%	73.6% - 73.8%	166,024	25.2%	7,434	1.1%
2011/12 OT	664,683	491,837	74.0%	73.9% - 74.1%	166,030	25.0%	6,816	1.0%
2012/13 OT	658,112	486,057	73.9%	73.7% - 74.0%	165,047	25.1%	7,008	1.1%
2013/14 OT	614,346	454,317	74.0%	73.8% - 74.1%	147,266	24.0%	12,763	2.1%
2014/15 OT	634,378	471,561	74.3%	74.2% - 74.4%	150,329	23.7%	12,488	2.0%
2013/14 Q1	149,091	110,440	74.1%	73.9% - 74.3%	35,950	24.1%	2,702	1.8%
2013/14 Q2	158,213	117,376	74.2%	74.0% - 74.4%	37,781	23.9%	3,056	1.9%
2013/14 Q3	153,514	113,161	73.7%	73.5% - 73.9%	37,494	24.4%	2,859	1.9%
2013/14 Q4	153,528	113,340	73.8%	73.6% - 74.0%	36,042	23.5%	4,146	2.7%
2014/15 Q1	158,329	117,667	74.3%	74.1% - 74.5%	36,825	23.3%	3,837	2.4%
2014/15 Q2	165,983	123,802	74.6%	74.4% - 74.8%	39,452	23.8%	2,729	1.6%
2014/15 Q3	158,087	117,235	74.2%	73.9% - 74.4%	37,780	23.9%	3,072	1.9%
2014/15 Q4	151,979	112,857	74.3%	74.0% - 74.5%	36,272	23.9%	2,850	1.9%
2015/16 Q1	150,590	111,088	73.8%	73.5% - 74.0%	36,455	24.2%	3,047	2.0%
2015/16 Q2								
2015/16 Q3								
2015/16 Q4								

Notes:

1. Shaded and blank cells indicates reported data that do not pass the data quality checks. For further details of the checks, see definitions sheet.

1. Red cells mean that no. of maternities does not meet validation criteria (see definitions sheet for details).

Table 2: Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks, England Trend - Commissioner based



Source: Department of Health, Integrated Performance Measure Return
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Quarter	Infants due a 6-8 week check No.	Infants being breastfed (Totally + Partially)			Totally		Partially		Not at all		Not known		
		No.	% of all infants	95% confidence interval	No.	% of all infants	No.	% of all infants	No.	% of all infants	No.	% of all infants	
2008/09 OT	654,063	241,534			167,509		74,025		251,842		160,687	24.6%	Coverage Target 85%
2009/10 OT	655,486	292,942	44.7%	44.6% - 44.8%	204,773	31.2%	88,169	13.5%	302,838	46.2%	59,706	9.1%	Coverage Target 85%
2010/11 OT	670,391	309,303	46.1%	46.0% - 46.3%	213,354	31.8%	95,949	14.3%	325,133	48.5%	35,955	5.4%	Coverage Target 90%
2011/12 OT	672,013	317,240	47.2%	47.1% - 47.3%	217,993	32.4%	99,247	14.8%	324,433	48.3%	30,340	4.5%	Coverage Target 95%
2012/13 OT	670,535	316,634	47.2%	47.1% - 47.3%	216,466	32.3%	100,168	14.9%	327,048	48.8%	26,853	4.0%	Coverage Target 95%
2013/14 OT	629,012	288,219	45.8%	45.7% - 45.9%	196,790	31.3%	91,429	14.5%	275,503	43.8%	65,290	10.4%	Coverage Target 85%*
2014/15 OT	631,353	276,688	43.8%	43.7% - 43.9%	189,897	30.1%	86,791	13.7%	274,011	43.4%	80,654	12.8%	Coverage Target 85%*
2013/14 Q1	152,355	69,692	45.7%	45.5% - 46.0%	47,589	31.2%	22,103	14.5%	68,578	45.0%	14,085	9.2%	
2013/14 Q2	158,807	72,621	45.7%	45.5% - 46.0%	49,671	31.3%	22,950	14.5%	70,923	44.7%	15,263	9.6%	
2013/14 Q3	162,599	74,254	45.7%	45.4% - 45.9%	51,079	31.4%	23,175	14.3%	71,043	43.7%	17,302	10.6%	
2013/14 Q4	155,251	71,652	46.2%	45.9% - 46.4%	48,451	31.2%	23,201	14.9%	64,959	41.8%	18,640	12.0%	
2014/15 Q1	154,062	68,710	44.6%	44.4% - 44.8%	47,072	30.6%	21,638	14.0%	67,036	43.5%	18,316	11.9%	
2014/15 Q2	160,136	70,606	44.1%	43.8% - 44.3%	48,427	30.2%	22,179	13.9%	68,967	43.1%	20,563	12.8%	
2014/15 Q3	163,046	71,183	43.7%	43.4% - 43.9%	49,190	30.2%	21,993	13.5%	71,268	43.7%	20,595	12.6%	
2014/15 Q4	154,109	66,189	42.9%	42.7% - 43.2%	45,208	29.3%	20,981	13.6%	66,740	43.3%	21,180	13.7%	
2015/16 Q1	149,120	67,380	45.2%	44.9% - 45.4%	46,201	31.0%	21,179	14.2%	63,845	42.8%	17,895	12.0%	
2015/16 Q2													
2015/16 Q3													
2015/16 Q4													

- Notes:
1. Shaded and blank cells indicates reported data that do not pass the data quality checks. For further details of the checks, see definitions sheet.
 2. Comparisons with quarters before 2010/11 Q4 need to be made with caution due to the high level of not knowns.
- * Coverage target for 2013/14 onwards has been reduced to 85% for England level figures only.
Feedback was sought from the user perspective on lowering the threshold for the England figure.
The change in quality standard for the validation check does not apply at the lower levels of geography.

**Table 3: Drop Off rate between breastfeeding initiation and Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks
England Trend - Commissioner based**



Source: Department of Health, Integrated Performance Measure Return
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Quarter	Maternities No.	Breastfeeding		Quarter	Infants due a 6–8 week check No.	Infants being breastfed (Totally + Partially)		Difference between percentage of mothers initiating breastfeeding and prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks (% of those initiating) %
		No.	% of maternities			No.	% of all infants	
2008/09 OT	640,681	459,430	71.7%		654,063	241,534		
2009/10 OT	652,957	474,865	72.7%		655,486	292,942	44.7%	38.5%
2010/11 OT	659,238	485,780	73.7%		670,391	309,303	46.1%	37.4%
2011/12 OT	664,683	491,837	74.0%		672,013	317,240	47.2%	36.2%
2012/13 OT	658,112	486,057	73.9%		670,535	316,634	47.2%	36.1%
2013/14 OT	614,346	454,317	74.0%		630,719	287,237	45.5%	38.4%
2014/15 OT	634,378	471,561	74.3%		626,411	275,358	44.0%	40.9%
2013/14 Q1*	149,091	110,440	74.1%	2013/14 Q2	158,807	72,621	45.7%	38.3%
2013/14 Q2*	158,213	117,376	74.2%	2013/14 Q3	162,599	74,254	45.7%	38.4%
2013/14 Q3*	153,514	113,161	73.7%	2013/14 Q4	155,251	71,652	46.2%	37.4%
2013/14 Q4*	153,528	113,340	73.8%	2014/15 Q1	154,062	68,710	44.6%	39.6%
2014/15 Q1	158,329	117,667	74.3%	2014/15 Q2	160,136	70,606	44.1%	40.7%
2014/15 Q2	165,983	123,802	74.6%	2014/15 Q3	163,046	71,183	43.7%	41.5%
2014/15 Q3	158,087	117,235	74.2%	2014/15 Q4	154,109	66,189	42.9%	42.1%
2014/15 Q4	151,979	112,857	74.3%	2015/16 Q1	149,120	67,380	45.2%	39.2%
2015/16 Q1	150,590	111,088	73.8%	2015/16 Q2				
2015/16 Q2				2015/16 Q3				
2015/16 Q3				2015/16 Q4				
2015/16 Q4				2016/17 Q1				

Notes:

1. Shaded and blank cells indicates reported data that do not pass the data quality checks. For further details of the checks, see definitions sheet.
2. Comparisons with quarters before 2010/11 Q4 need to be made with caution due to the high level of not knowns.
3. * Comparisons with OT before 2013/14 cannot be made as there was a definition change between 2012/13 and 2013/14, from 2013/14 comparison of 6-8 week prevalence against the previous quarter's BFI

Table 4 : Initiation of breastfeeding, by NHS Trust - Quarterly 2015/16

Source: NHS England
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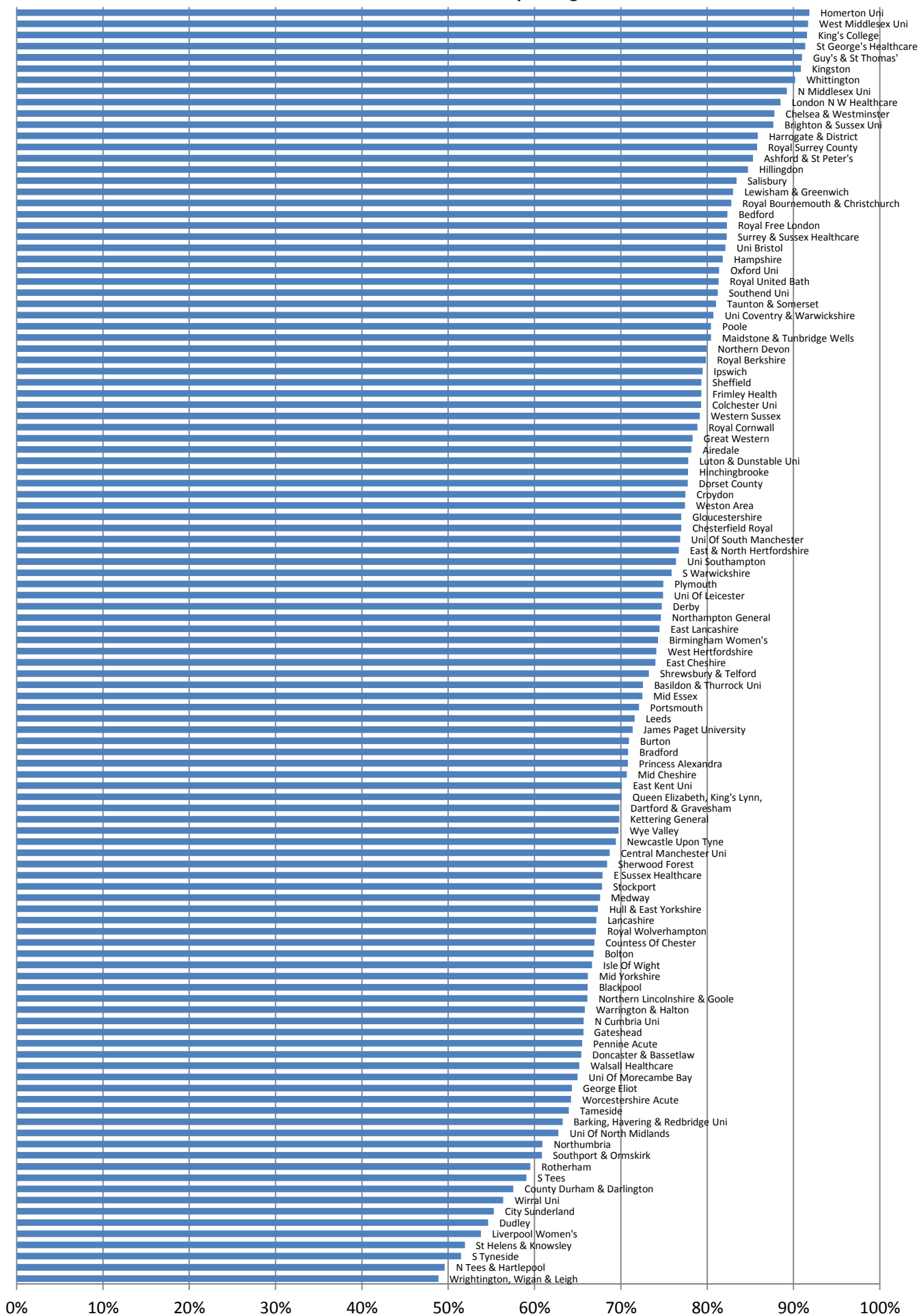
Code	Name	Number of maternities (1)				Maternities where breastfeeding was known (2)												Maternities whose breastfeeding status not known (3)										
		2015/16 Q1		2015/16 Q2		2015/16 Q3		2015/16 Q4		2015/16 Q1		2015/16 Q2		2015/16 Q3		2015/16 Q4		2015/16 Q1		2015/16 Q2		2015/16 Q3		2015/16 Q4				
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No. not initiated	No. initiated	%	95% confidence interval	No. not initiated	No. initiated	%	95% confidence interval	No. not initiated	No. initiated	%	95% confidence interval	No. not initiated	No. initiated	%	95% confidence interval	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
RXW	Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust	1,095				273	802	73.2%	70.5% - 75.8%									20	1.8%									
RA9	South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust																											
RYQ	South London Healthcare NHS Trust																											
RTR	South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1,175				481	694	59.1%	56.2% - 61.8%									0	0.0%									
RES	South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	305				148	157	51.5%	45.9% - 57.0%									0	0.0%									
RJC	South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust	659				159	500	75.9%	72.5% - 79.0%									0	0.0%									
RAJ	Southern University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	932				165	757	81.2%	78.6% - 83.6%									10	1.1%									
RYV	Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	654				248	398	60.9%	57.1% - 64.5%									8	1.2%									
RJ7	St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1,262				78	1,153	91.4%	89.7% - 92.8%									31	2.5%									
RBN	St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust	957				456	497	51.9%	48.8% - 55.1%									4	0.4%									
RWJ	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	814				262	552	67.8%	64.5% - 70.9%									0	0.0%									
RTP	Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	1,139				202	937	82.3%	79.9% - 84.4%									0	0.0%									
RMP	Tameside Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	583				210	373	64.0%	60.0% - 67.8%									0	0.0%									
RBA	Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	801				151	649	81.0%	78.2% - 83.6%									1	0.1%									
RNA	The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust	1,091				450	596	54.5%	51.7% - 57.6%									45	4.1%									
RAS	The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1,067				155	904	84.7%	82.4% - 86.8%									8	0.7%									
RTD	The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1,848				475	1,283	69.4%	67.3% - 71.5%									90	4.9%									
RQW	The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust	1,090				318	772	70.8%	68.1% - 73.4%									0	0.0%									
RCX	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn, NHS Foundation Trust	575				171	403	70.1%	66.2% - 73.7%									1	0.2%									
RFR	The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust	657				266	391	59.5%	55.7% - 63.2%									0	0.0%									
RDZ	The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	93				16	77	82.8%	73.9% - 89.1%									0	0.0%									
RL4	The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust	1,128				371	757	67.1%	64.0% - 69.8%									0	0.0%									
RKE	The Whittington Hospital NHS Trust	887				87	800	90.2%	88.1% - 92.0%									0	0.0%									
RWD	United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust	1,315				361	721											233	17.7%									
RRV	University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1,645				95	1,464											86	5.2%									
RJE	University Hospitals Of North Midlands NHS Trust	1,555				579	976	62.8%	60.3% - 65.1%									0	0.0%									
RM2	University Hospital Of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust	1,098				252	844	76.9%	74.3% - 79.3%									2	0.2%									
RHM	University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust	1,508				322	1,152	76.4%	74.2% - 78.5%									54	2.3%									
RA7	University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust	1,297				219	1,065	82.1%	79.9% - 84.1%									13	1.0%									
RKB	University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust	1,520				293	1,227	80.7%	78.7% - 82.6%									0	0.0%									
RWE	University Hospitals Of Leicester NHS Trust	2,588				650	1,938	74.9%	73.2% - 76.5%									0	0.0%									
RTX	University Hospitals Of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust	817				266	531	65.0%	61.7% - 68.2%									20	2.4%									
RBK	Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust	1,201				418	783	65.2%	62.5% - 67.8%									0	0.0%									
RWW	Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	711				240	468	65.8%	62.3% - 69.2%									3	0.4%									
RWG	West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust	1,340				347	993	74.1%	71.7% - 76.4%									0	0.0%									
RFW	West Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust	1,227				99	1,125	91.7%	90.0% - 93.1%									3	0.2%									
RGR	West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust																											
RYR	Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1,329				220	1,052	79.2%	76.9% - 81.3%									57	4.3%									
RA3	Weston Area Health NHS Trust	62				12	48	77.4%	65.6% - 86.0%									2	3.2%									
RBL	Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	816				356	460	56.4%	52.9% - 59.7%									0	0.0%									
RWP	Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust	1,490				533	957	64.2%	61.8% - 66.6%									0	0.0%									
RFI	Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust	704				360	344	48.9%	45.2% - 52.6%									0	0.0%									
RLQ	Wye Valley NHS Trust	403				122	281	69.7%	65.1% - 74.0%									0	0.0%									
RA4	Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	491				96	384											11										
RCB	York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	1,230				307	804											119	9.7%									

Notes:
 1. Red cells mean that no. of maternities does not meet validation criteria (see definitions sheet for details).
 2. Blank cells mean that data do not meet validation criteria (see definitions sheet for details).
 3. Shaded cells mean that percentage of mothers' whose breastfeeding status was recorded falls short of data quality standard of 95%.
 * See Data Quality note for explanation

Mothers initiating breastfeeding as a percentage of maternities by NHS Trusts in England

2015/16 Q1

NHS Trusts with < 5% not Knowns & passing maternities checks

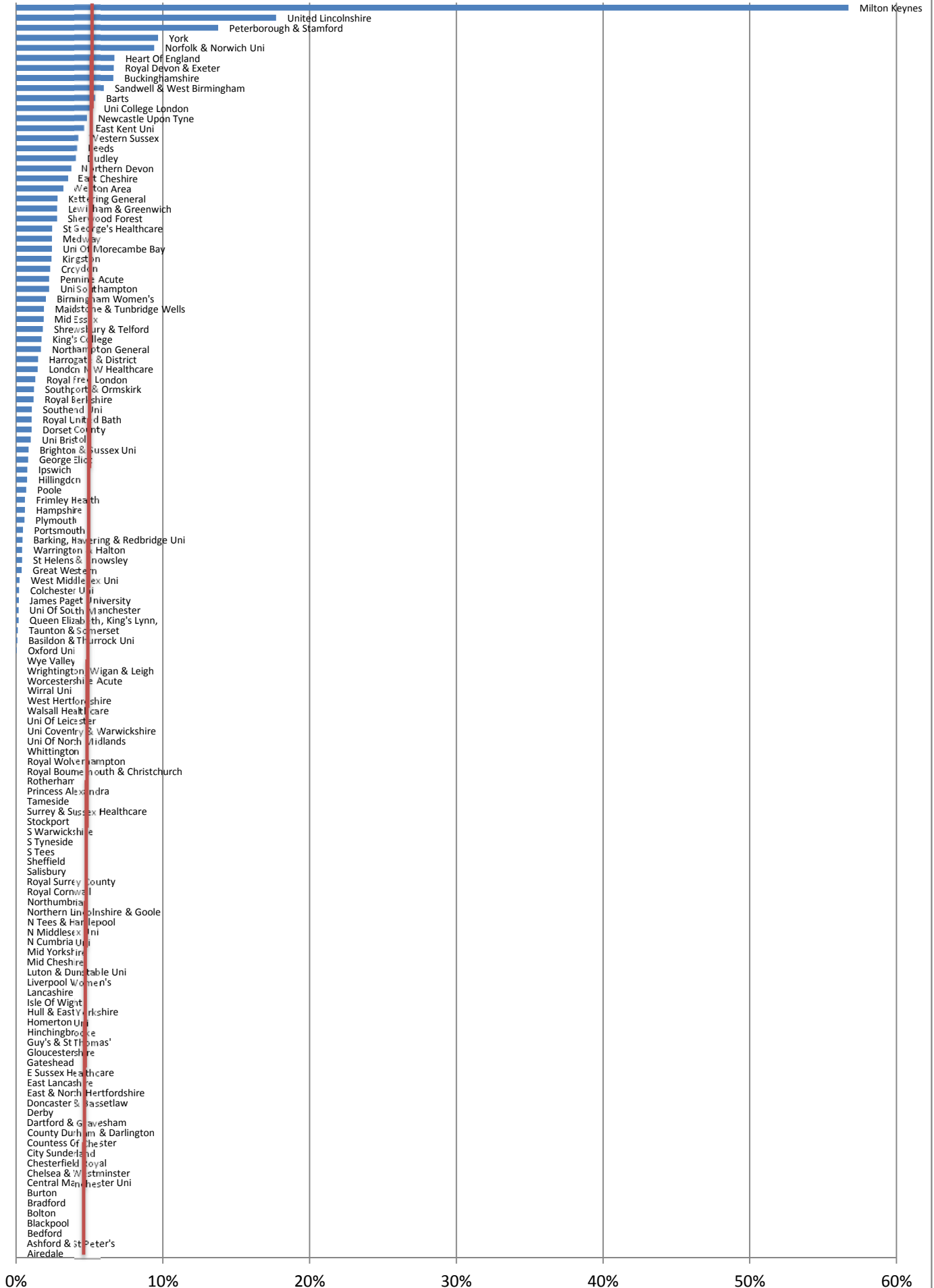


Mothers not known initiating breastfeeding as a percentage of maternities by NHS

Trusts in England 2015/16 Q1

Q1 2015/16 Quarter Actual v Not known target 5%

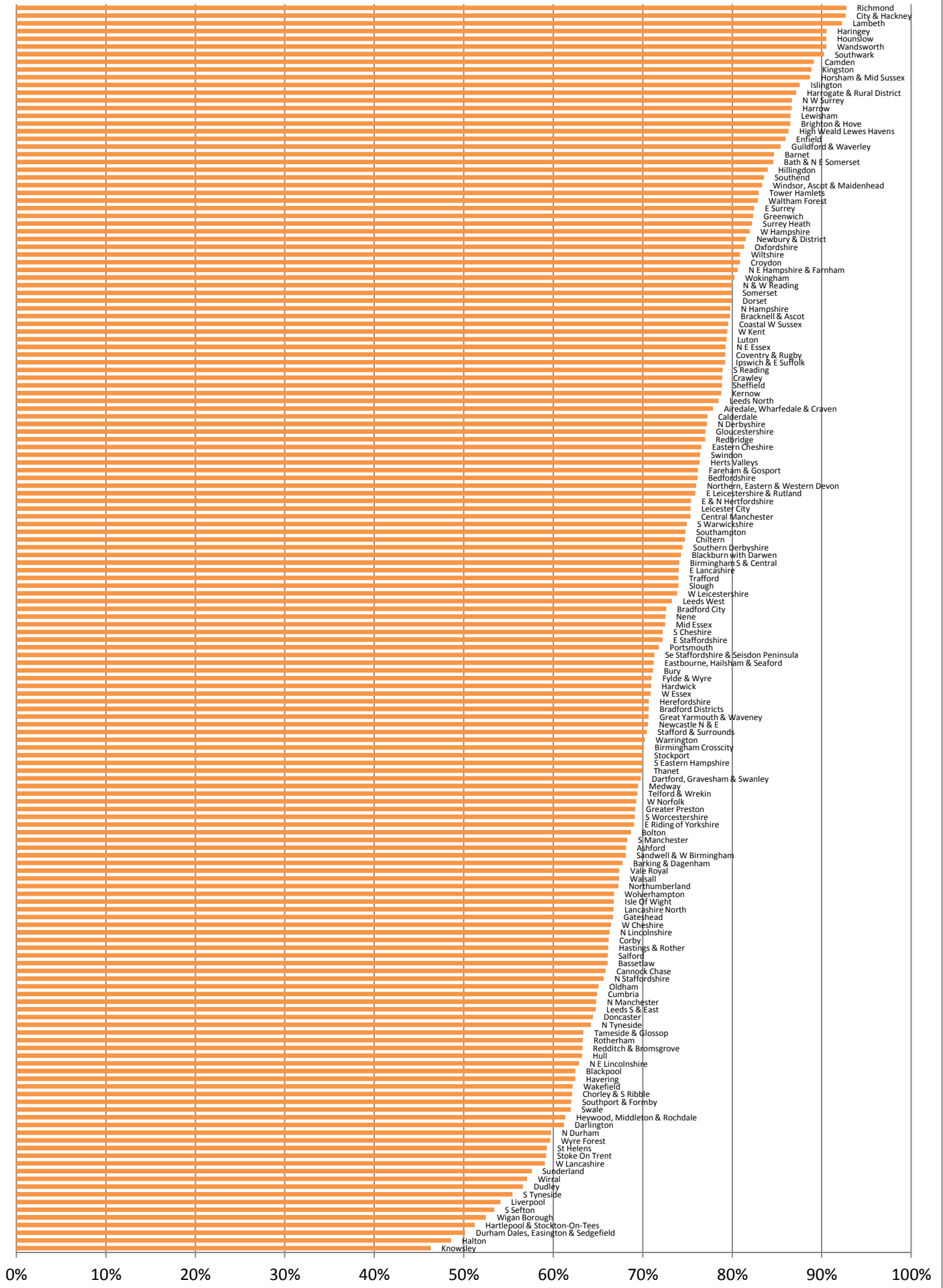
Milton Keynes



Mothers initiating breastfeeding as a percentage of maternities by CCGs in England

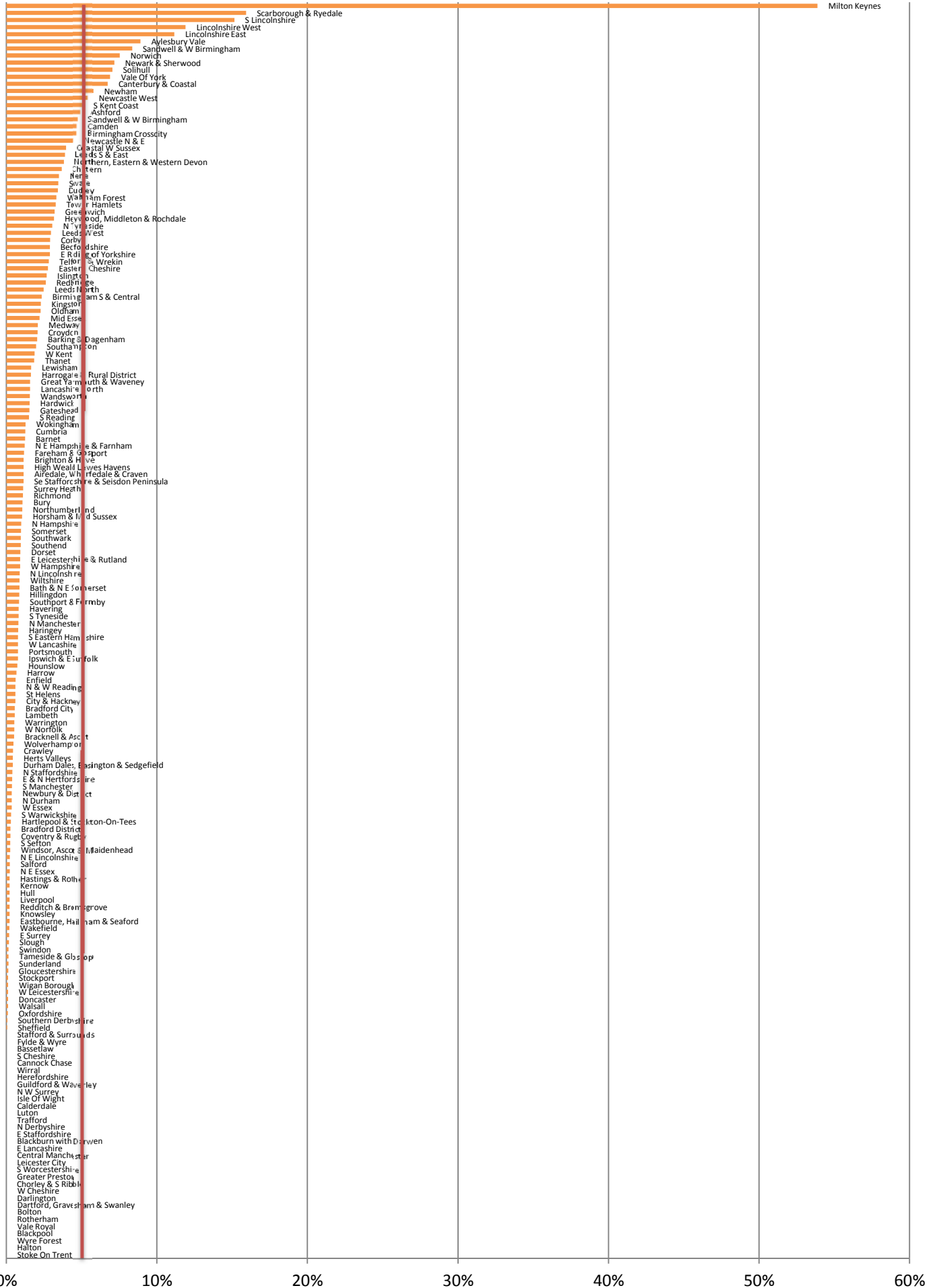
2015/16 Q1

CCGs with < 5% not Knowns & passing maternities checks

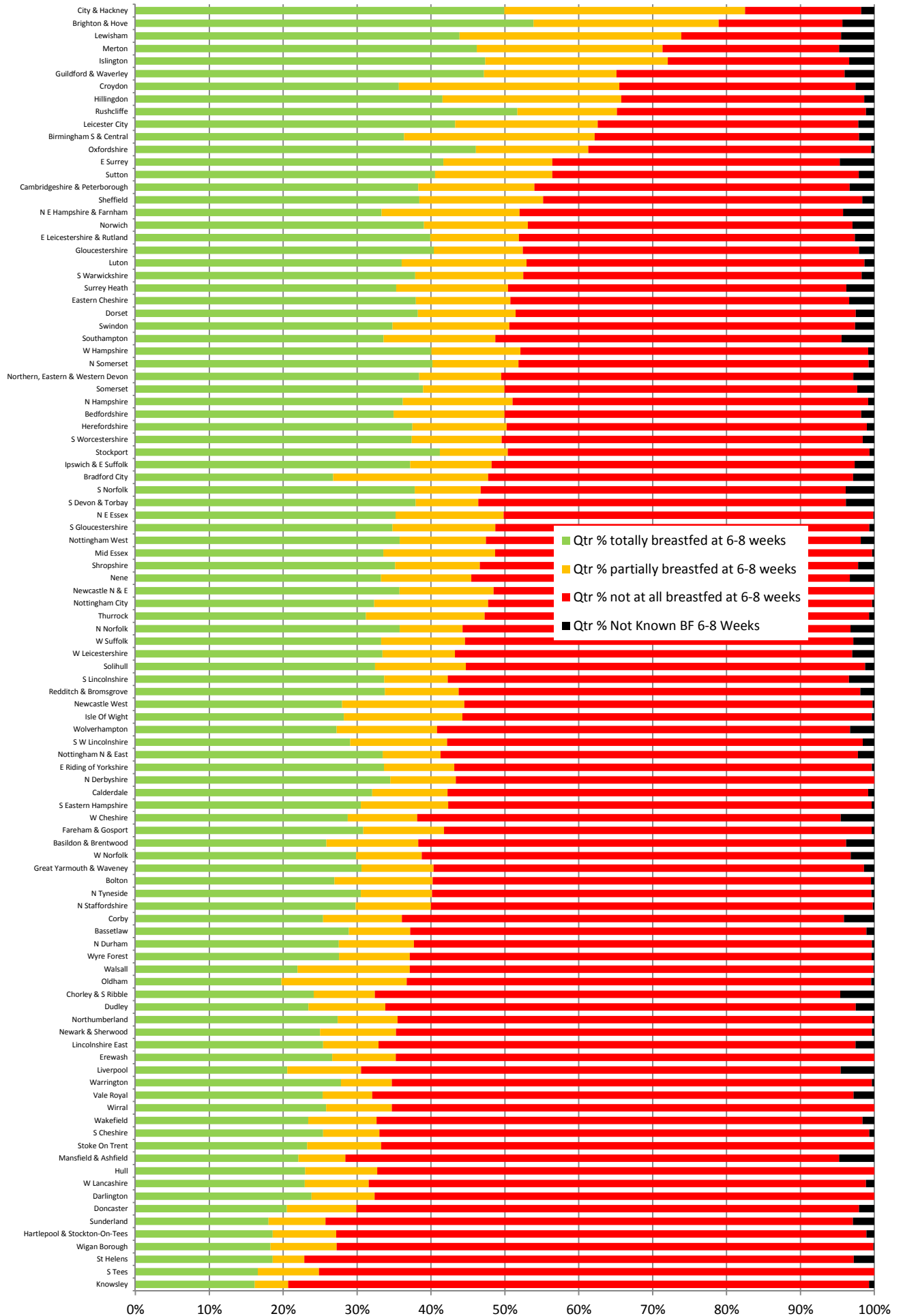


Mothers not known initiating breastfeeding as a percentage of maternities by CCGs in England 2015/16 Q1

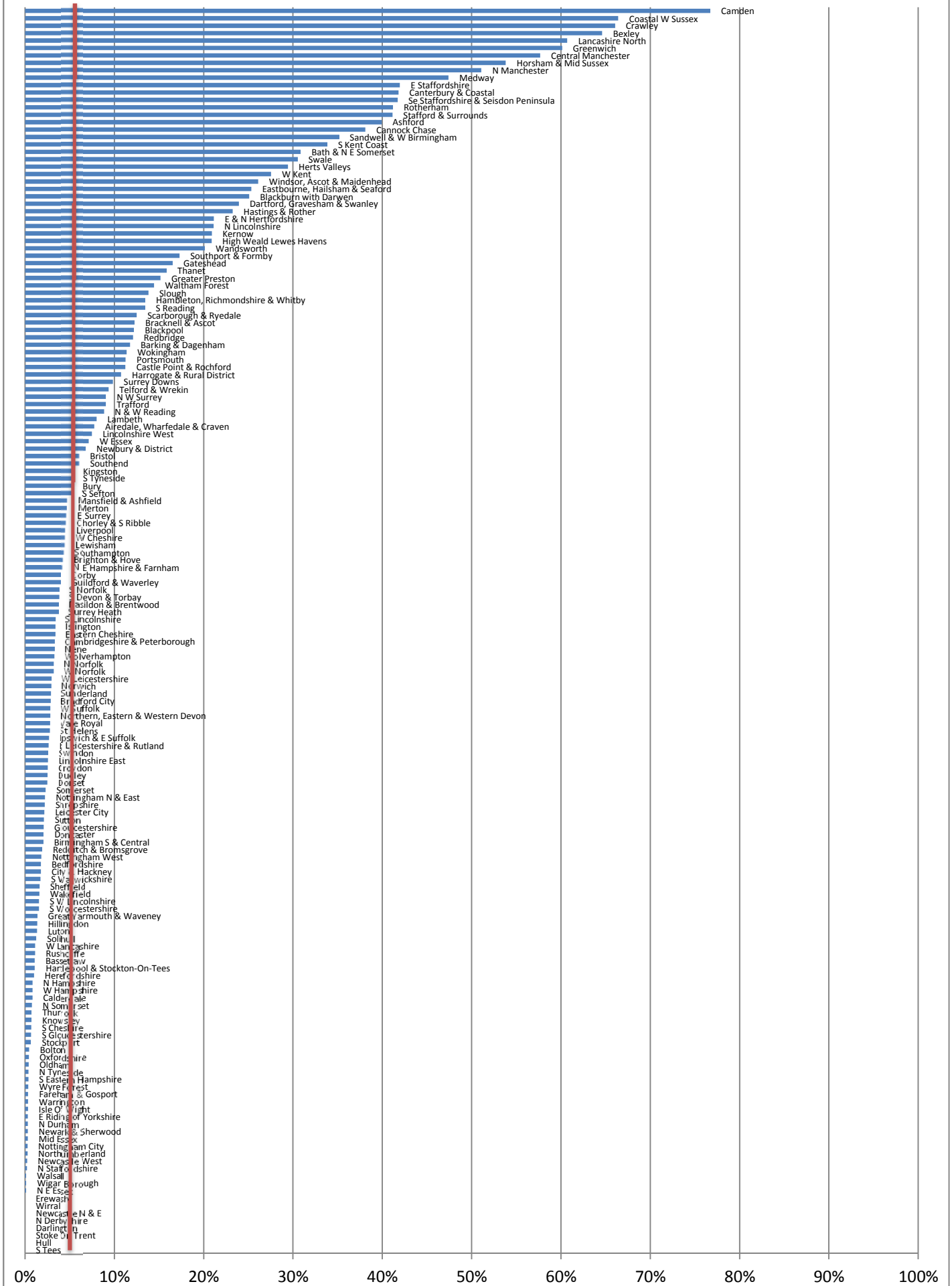
2015/16 Q1 Quarter Actual v Not known target 5%



Infants 6-8 week breastfeeding status as a percentage of infants due 6-8 week reviews by CCGs in England 2015/16 Q1



**Percentage Infants not known breastfeeding as a percentage of infants due 6-8 week reviews by CCGs in England 2015/16 Q1
actual V Not knows target 5%**



Non Data Submissions

Maternity Providers:

Q1 2015/16 Non submissions from:

RGT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

RVR EPSOM AND ST HELIER UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

RYJ IMPERIAL COLLEGE HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST

RVJ NORTH BRISTOL NHS TRUST

RX1 NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

RA9 SOUTH DEVON HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

RGR WEST SUFFOLK NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

6-8 week Breastfeeding Providers:

Q1 2015/16 Non submissions from:

RWK EAST LONDON NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

RFS CHESTERFIELD ROYAL HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST and RBN ST HELENS AND KNOWSLEY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST as CHIS do not hold 6-8 week breastfeeding prevalence data

RY9 HOUNSLOW AND RICHMOND COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST and R1H BARTS HEALTH NHS TRUST submitted null data i.e. submission was all zeros

Data Submission Issues

Q1 2015/16 Maternity Providers:

RNQ KETTERING GENERAL HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST only has paper based systems for 12 week risk assessment so they do not have the GP level of data. This will be submitted under V81999 and under CCG code 04G (as they do not have this level of data either). This is their main commissioners but only covers 50/60% of their activity.

As of the 01/07/2014 RVL BARNET AND FARM CHASE HOSPITALS merged with RAL ROYAL FREE LONDON NHS FOUNDATION TRUST to form a larger trust, hence the data validation flag for Q1 2015/16 maternities was removed.

As of the 01/10/2014 RD7 HEATHERWOOD & WEXHAM PARK HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST merged into RDU FRIMLEY HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST, hence the data validation flag for Q1 2015/16 maternities was removed.

As of the 01/10/2014 RV8 NORTH WEST LONDON HOSPITALS NHS TRUST and RC3 EALING HOSPITALS NHS TRUST merged to become R1K LONDON NORTH WEST HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST, hence the data validation flag for Q1 2015/16 maternities was removed.

RN3 GREAT WESTERN HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST as of 01/06/2014 some of the Maternity services were transferred to RD1 ROYAL UNITED HOSPITALS BATH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST, hence the data validation flag for Q1 2015/16 maternities was removed to account for this.

RD1 ROYAL UNITED HOSPITALS BATH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST as of the 01/06/2014 some of the Maternity services transferred from RN3 GREAT WESTERN HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST to RD1 ROYAL UNITED HOSPITALS BATH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST. Data for this Trust has not been subject to validation as validation is compared against historic data and there will not be any data for this yet. Therefore, validation flag for Q1 2015/16 maternities was removed.

Q1 2015/16 6-8 week Breastfeeding Providers:

02P NHS Barnsley CCG, 04F NHS Milton Keynes CCG, 03G NHS Leeds South and East CCG and 07Y NHS Hounslow CCG data for Q1 2015/16 reported a higher breastfeeding percentage rate at 6-8 weeks than that of the breastfeeding initiation percentage rate and as such failed validation.

R1H BARTS HEALTH submitting data for Q1 2015/16 onwards on behalf of 711 TOWER HAMLETS.

216 NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE UA informed that incorrect data had been submitted for Q1 2015/16. Their main submission contribution was for 03H NHS NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE CCG. Therefore, the values for this CCG have been suppressed.

Organisation name changes:

NL8 LOCALA COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS to LOCALA COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS CIC

Q65 BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET, SOMERSET AND SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE AREA TEAM is a former organisation code, data for Q1 2015/16 submitted under organisation code Q80 NHS ENGLAND SOUTH (SOUTH WEST)

Q47 LANCASHIRE AREA TEAM is a former organisation code, data for Q1 2015/16 submitted under organisation code Q73 NHS ENGLAND NORTH (LANCASHIRE AND GREATER MANCHESTER)

0AE NHS CENTRAL SOUTHERN COMMISSIONING SUPPORT UNIT is a former organisation code, data for Q1 2015/16 submitted under organisation code 0DF NHS SOUTH, CENTRAL AND WEST COMMISSIONING SUPPORT UNIT

Data Failing Validation

Maternity Providers:

Q1 2015/16 data quality:

- 125 Trusts that submitted data passed the -10% / +20% validation standards when compared against HES maternities figure
- 117 out of the 128 Trusts that submitted data met the required 95% recording coverage standard, this is where there are less than 5% of the eligible maternities for whom a breastfeeding status is not known
- 114 out of the 128 Trusts that submitted data passed both validation checks
- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 177 out of the 211 CCGs passed the -10% / +20% validation standards when compared against recorded ONS births figures
- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 190 out of the 211 CCGs met the required 95% recording coverage standard, this is where there are less than 5% of the eligible maternities for whom a breastfeeding status is not known
- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 162 out of the 211 CCGs passed both validation checks

6-8 week Breastfeeding Providers:

Q1 2015/16 data quality:

- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 171 out of the 211 CCGs met the -10% / +20% validation standards when compared against recorded ONS births figures
- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 125 out of the 211 CCGs met the required 95% recording coverage standard, this is where less than 5% of eligible children's 6-8 week breastfeeding status is not being recorded on the CHIS
- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 4 out of the 211 CCGs reported a higher breastfeeding initiation percentage rate than that of the breastfeeding percentage rate at 6-8 weeks
- Data aggregated to the CCG level; 102 of the 211 CCGs passed all validation checks*

** Note that one CCG (08V NHS Tower Hamlets CCG) did not have data submitted against and was excluded from the passed validation counts. The values submitted for one CCG were suppressed owing to incorrect data being submitted by the Provider (03H NHS NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE CCG).*

The coverage target for 2013/14 onwards has been reduced to 85% for England level figures only. Feedback was sought from the user perspective on lowering the threshold for the England figure. The change in quality standard for the validation check does not apply at the lower levels of geography.

Data collection and definition



Breastfeeding initiation

Since April 2003, data on the local breastfeeding initiation has been requested on a quarterly basis, historically from all PCTs. This information provides more timely, frequent and local information on breastfeeding initiation than the Infant Feeding Survey.

Since April 2013 this data is now being collected directly from providers via the data collection tool that is part of Unify2, a web based system set up to collect performance and other central returns directly from the NHS. The figures are obtained from maternity providers from midwives in acute trusts and information recorded at deliveries.

For breastfeeding initiation, each provider is required to submit actual figures for the quarter and year end out turn figures for the following three items:

- the number of maternities.
- the number of mothers initiating breastfeeding.
- the number of mothers not initiating breastfeeding.

Data validation

The following validation rules are applied to the data

All numbers must be submitted as integers.

Number initiating Breastfeeding	+	Number not initiating Breastfeeding	<=	Number of Maternities
Number of Maternities	<	Maximum Office of National Statistics (ONS) reported number of maternities for last year PLUS 20%		
Number of Maternities	>	Minimum Office of National Statistics (ONS) reported number of maternities for last year MINUS 10%		
Number initiating Breastfeeding	+	Number not initiating Breastfeeding	>	95% of Number of Maternities

All validation checks must be passed by Providers in order for the data to meet departmental statistical requirements. Where information has not passed these validation checks, this is identified in the tables in this report by conditional formatting.

Data collection and definition



Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks

Since April 2008, data on the local prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks has been requested on a quarterly basis, historically from all PCTs. This is in addition to data collected on initiation of breastfeeding. This information provides more timely, frequent and local information on breastfeeding prevalence after the mother and baby have been discharged from hospital than the Infant Feeding Survey.

Since April 2013 this data is now being collected directly from child health information system providers via the data collection tool that is part of Unify2, a web based system set up to collect performance and other central returns directly from the NHS. The figures are typically derived by child health records from information recorded at infants' 6-8 week check.

For breastfeeding prevalence, each child health information system is required to submit actual figures for the quarter and the year end out turn figures for the following four items:

- The number of infants due a 6–8 week check in each quarter.
- The number of infants being “totally” breastfed (defined as infants who are exclusively receiving breast milk at 6-8 weeks of age - that is, they are NOT receiving formula milk, any other liquids or food).
- The number of infants being “partially” breastfed (defined as infants who are currently receiving breast milk at 6-8 weeks of age and who are also receiving formula milk or any other liquids or food).
- The number of infants being “not at all” breastfed (defined as infants who are not currently receiving any breast milk at 6-8 weeks of age).

Data validation

The following validation rules are applied to the data:

All four numbers must be submitted as integers.

Number of infants due a 6–8 week check	>=	Number of infants “totally” breastfed + Number of infants “partially” breastfed + Number of infants “not at all” breastfed
Number of infants due a 6–8 week check	<	Maximum National Statistics (ONS) reported number of live births for the last year PLUS 20.0%
Number of infants due a 6–8 week check	>	Minimum National Statistics (ONS) reported number of live births for the last year MINUS 10.0%
Percentage of infants being breastfed at 6-8 week	<	Percentage of mothers initiating breastfeeding

All validation checks must be passed in order for the data to meet departmental statistical requirements. Where information has not passed these validation checks, this is identified in the tables in this report by conditional formatting.

Contacts

For media enquiries only please contact the Department of Health press office on 020 7210 5221.

For other enquiries relating to the statistics and to offer feedback on the report, please contact:

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