


# Ozfits

What are Aussie  
kids really eating?

First results from  
the OzFITS study





Breastmilk is  
the ideal food  
for infants

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# OzFITS TEAM

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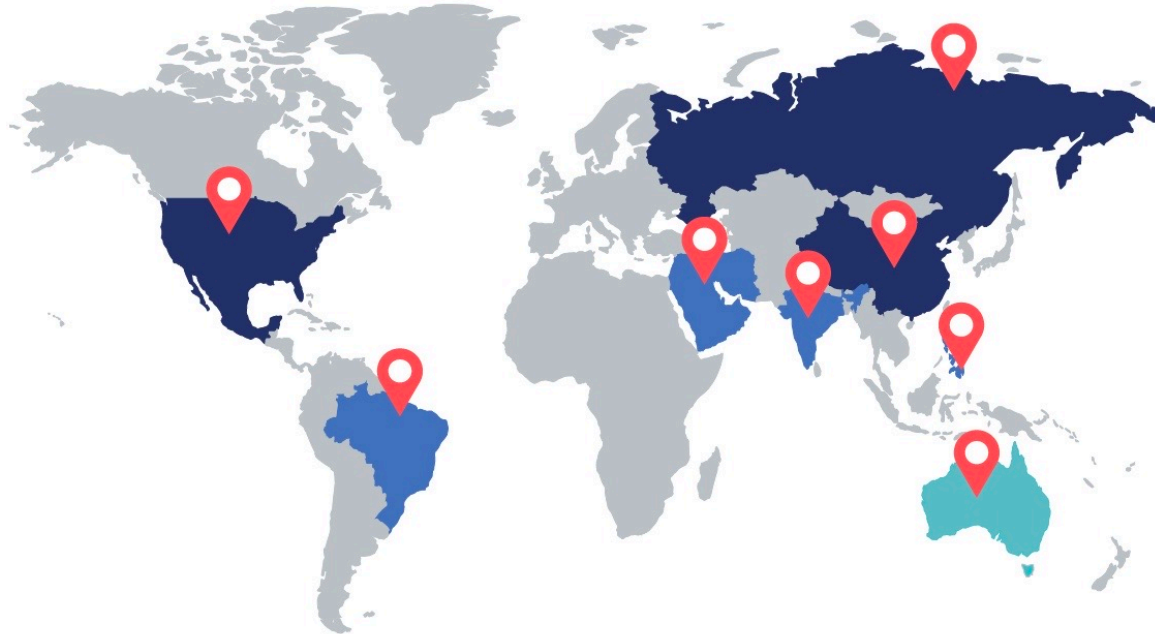
Dr Emma Knight

- Funded by SAHMRI with an unrestricted grant from NNI
- Support from NHMRC and Adel University (salaries)
- The design of this study, its execution, analyses, interpretation, or decision to submit results was independent of NNI



# fits

around the world



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## What are Aussie kids really eating? – first results from the OzFITS study

- why this group has been missed in previous dietary surveys
- methodology of OzFITS 2021
- key findings - breastfeeding, timing of solid foods, allergens

## A deep dive into the OzFITS study: implications for health professionals

- principles behind determining adequate intakes
- comparison of dietary intakes with recommendations
- areas for future research

# What are Aussie kids really eating? – first results from the OzFITS study

- why this group has been missed in previous dietary surveys
- methodology of OzFITS 2021
- key findings - breastfeeding, timing of solid foods, allergens

## The Australian Feeding Infants and Toddlers Study (OzFITS) 2021: Study Design, Methods and Sample Description

by  Najma A. Moumin,  Rebecca K. Golley,  Chelsea E. Mauch,  Maria Makrides,  Tim J. Green and  Merryn J. Netting

*Nutrients* 2021, 13(12), 4524; <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu13124524> - 17 Dec 2021

## The Australian Feeding Infants and Toddler Study (OzFITS 2021): Breastfeeding and Early Feeding Practices

by  Merryn J. Netting,  Najma A. Moumin,  Emma J. Knight,  Rebecca K. Golley,  Maria Makrides and  Tim J. Green

*Nutrients* 2022, 14(1), 206; <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu14010206> - 03 Jan 2022



## A time of growth and change

- Establishing early feeding
- Transition from breastmilk based diet to other sources of nutrition
- Many development milestones
- Periods of rapid growth
- Vulnerable to developing nutritional deficiencies
- Food related behavioral patterns are being established

# Breastfeeding

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- NHMRC recommends:
  - early initiation of breastfeeding within 1 hour or so of birth
  - exclusive breastfeeding for around the first 6 months of life
  - continued breastfeeding to 12 months and beyond







# Complementary Foods

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Foods can be introduced in any order, provided iron-rich nutritious foods are included and the texture is suitable for the infant's stage of development

Iron rich foods include iron-fortified cereals, pureed meats and poultry dishes. Cooked plain tofu and legumes/beans are also sources of iron

# Active introduction of food allergens

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## NHMRC Infant Feeding Guidelines

... Delaying the introduction of solid foods, including allergenic foods may increase the risk of allergies

...foods can be introduced in any order and at a rate that suits the infant, as long as iron rich foods are offered first

## Australasian Society Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI A)

When your infant is ready, at around 6 months, but not before 4 months, start to introduce a variety of solid foods, starting with iron rich foods, while continuing breastfeeding.

All infants should be given allergenic solid foods including peanut butter, cooked egg, dairy and wheat products in the first year of life. This includes infants at high risk of allergy.

**EDITORIAL**

WILEY

## The Effects of Early Nutritional Interventions on the Development of Atopic Disease in Infants and Children: The Role of Maternal Dietary Restriction, Breastfeeding, Hydrolyzed Formulas, and Timing of Introduction of Allergenic Complementary Foods

Frank R. Greer, MD, FAAP<sup>1</sup>; Scott H. Sicherer, MD, FAAP<sup>2</sup>; A. Wesley Burks, MD, FAAP<sup>3</sup>; COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION, SECTION ON ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY



### Assessing the health benefits and risks of the introduction of peanut and hen's egg into the infant diet before six months of age in the UK

A Joint Statement from the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition and the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in food, Consumer products and the Environment

# Implementing primary prevention of food allergy in infants: New BSACI guidance published

Guideline summary

## The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy infant feeding for allergy prevention guidelines

Preeti A Joshi<sup>1,2</sup>, Jill Smith<sup>1</sup>, Sandra Vale<sup>1</sup>, Dianne E Campbell<sup>3</sup>

**Consensus Document**

### A Consensus Approach to the Primary Prevention of Food Allergy Through Nutrition: Guidance from the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology; American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology; and the Canadian Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology

David M. Fleischer, MD<sup>1</sup>, Edmond S. Chan, MD<sup>2</sup>, Carina Venter, PhD, RD<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan M. Spergel, MD, PhD<sup>4</sup>, Elissa M. Abrams, MD, MPH<sup>5</sup>, David Stukus, MD<sup>6</sup>, Marion Groetch, RD<sup>1</sup>, Marcus Shaker, MD, MS<sup>7</sup>, and Matthew Greenhawt, MD, MBA, MSc<sup>8</sup> *Aurora, Colo; Vancouver, BC, Canada; Philadelphia, Pa; Winnipeg, MN, Canada; Columbus, Ohio; New York, NY; and Lebanon, NH*

Received: 16 March 2017 | Revised: 3 October 2017 | Accepted: 15 October 2017  
DOI: 10.1111/pai.12820

**REVIEW ARTICLE**

WILEY

### Early introduction of allergenic foods for the prevention of food allergy from an Asian perspective—An Asia Pacific Association of Pediatric Allergy, Respiriology & Immunology (APAPARI) consensus statement

Elizabeth Huiwen Tham<sup>1,2</sup> | Lynette Pei-Chi Shek<sup>1,2</sup> | Hugo PS Van Bever<sup>1,2</sup> | Pakit Vichyanond<sup>3</sup> | Motohiro Ebisawa<sup>4</sup> | Gary WK Wong<sup>5</sup> | Bee Wah Lee<sup>1</sup> | On behalf of the Asia Pacific Association of Pediatric Allergy, Respiriology & Immunology (APAPARI)

Received: 24 February 2021 | Accepted: 27 February 2021  
DOI: 10.1111/pai.13496

**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

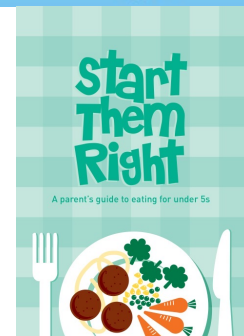
WILEY

### EAACI guideline: Preventing the development of food allergy in infants and young children (2020 update)

Susanne Halcken<sup>1</sup> | Antonella Muraro<sup>2</sup> | Debra de Silva<sup>3</sup> | Ekaterina Khaleva<sup>4</sup> | Elizabeth Angier<sup>5</sup> | Stefania Arasi<sup>6</sup> | Hasan Arshad<sup>7,8,9</sup> | Henry T. Bahnsen<sup>10</sup> | Kirsten Beyer<sup>11</sup> | Robert Boyle<sup>12,13</sup> | George du Toit<sup>14</sup> | Motohiro Ebisawa<sup>15</sup> | Philippe Eigenmann<sup>16</sup> | Kate Grimshaw<sup>8,17</sup> | Arne Hoest<sup>1</sup> | Carla Jones<sup>18</sup> | Gideon Lack<sup>19,20,21,22</sup> | Kari Nadeau<sup>23</sup> | Liam O'Mahony<sup>24</sup> | Hania Szajewska<sup>25</sup> | Carina Venter<sup>26</sup> | Valérie Verhasselt<sup>27</sup> | Gary W. K. Wong<sup>28</sup> | Graham Roberts<sup>4,7,9</sup> | European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Guidelines Group

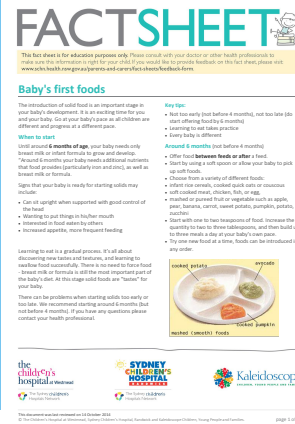
# Guidelines are incorporated into general feeding advice

Northern Territory  
Infant Feeding  
Guidelines



## Introducing solids: Food allergies

Remember...  
Reactions to foods can range from mild to severe.  
Reactions can happen immediately after eating, or hours or days later.  
All factors should be looked at to find out what has caused the reaction.  
Seek advice before you change your child's diet.  
A family history of a certain allergy increases the child's chances of developing it



Guide to foods  
Baby's first year



n > 25 ...plus  
information  
on websites

Netting & Allen  
J Ped Child Health 2017



## Generation of Scrollers

- International Guidelines
- Other Countries
- Social Media
- Influencers

etcetera...





# Dietary Surveys

	Breastfeeding initiation	Breastmilk substitutes	Exclusive Breastfeeding	Timing of solid foods	Food Groups	Nutritional intake
<b>ABS</b>	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-
<b>ANIFS 2010</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-
<b>Australian National Health Survey 2011</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*Australian Bureau of Statistics National Health Survey (2017-18 Breastfeeding Module; no diet data for < 2 years)

\*\* Australian National Infant Feeding Survey 2010

\*\*\* Australian National Health Survey 2011. No data for <2 years

# OzFITS Study Design and Sample

- **First** Australian dietary survey of children 0-2 years
- n = 1140
- Data Collection
  - Questionnaire
    - Family characteristics
    - Breastfeeding history and use of breastmilk substitutes
    - Timing of solid foods including common allergens
  - 24-hour food record (with repeats in 30%)





# Recruitment

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- Targeted online advertising
- Participants self-select and are pre-screened by recruitment company
- Potential participants were referred to OzFITS team and eligibility is confirmed
- Participants complete telephone based questionnaire and are enrolled to the study
- Posted OzFITS study pack



# Study Steps



STEP 1: CHILD-FEEDING  
QUESTIONNAIRE



STEP 2: FOOD RECORD



STEP 3: 24-HOUR  
RECALL INTERVIEW

# Ozfits

The Australian Feeding  
Infants and Toddlers Study

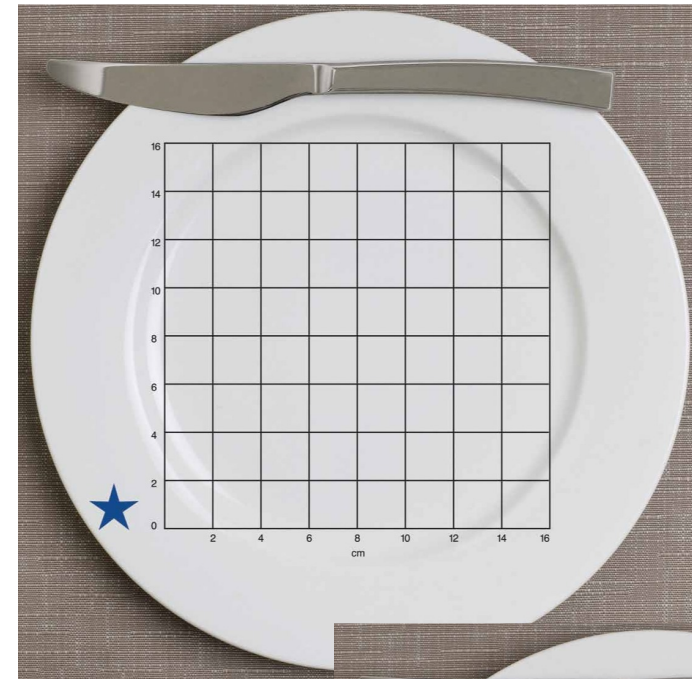
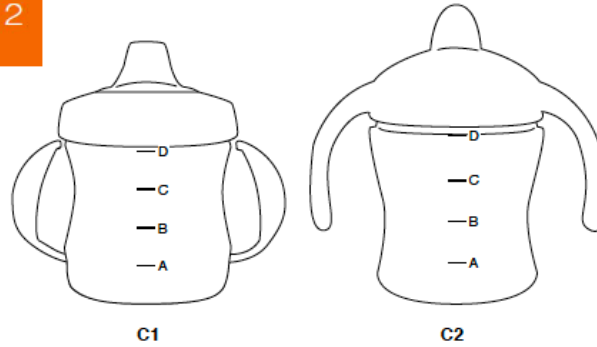
The ozFITS Study



## Food Measurement Book

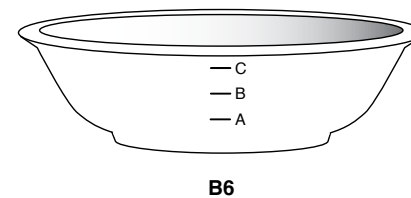
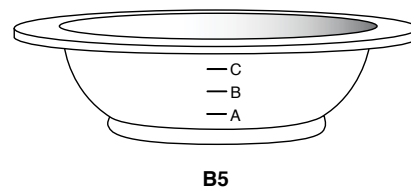
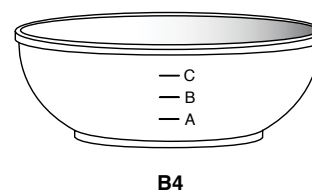
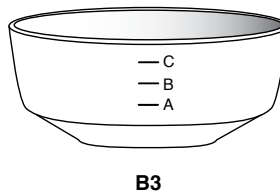


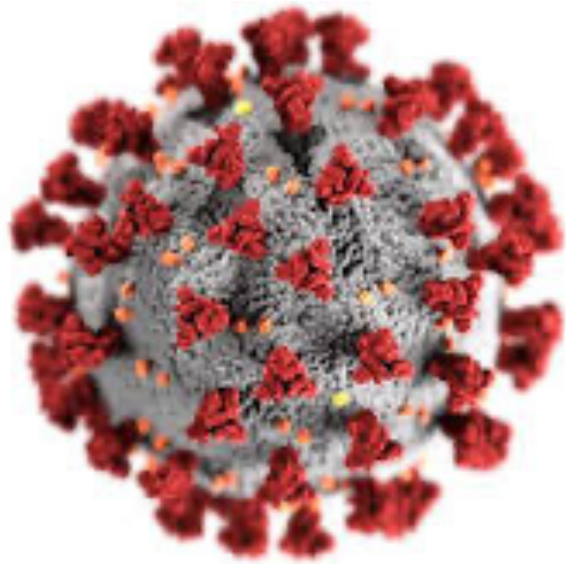
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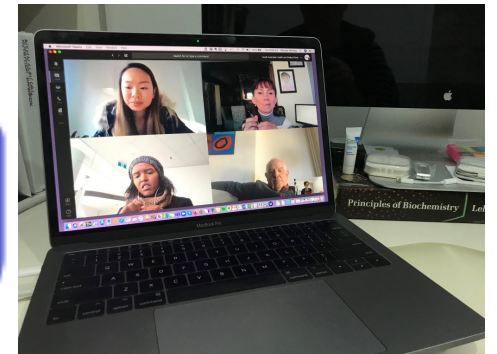
Food Measurement Book

Page 6





WFH essentials for study start up





Ozfits

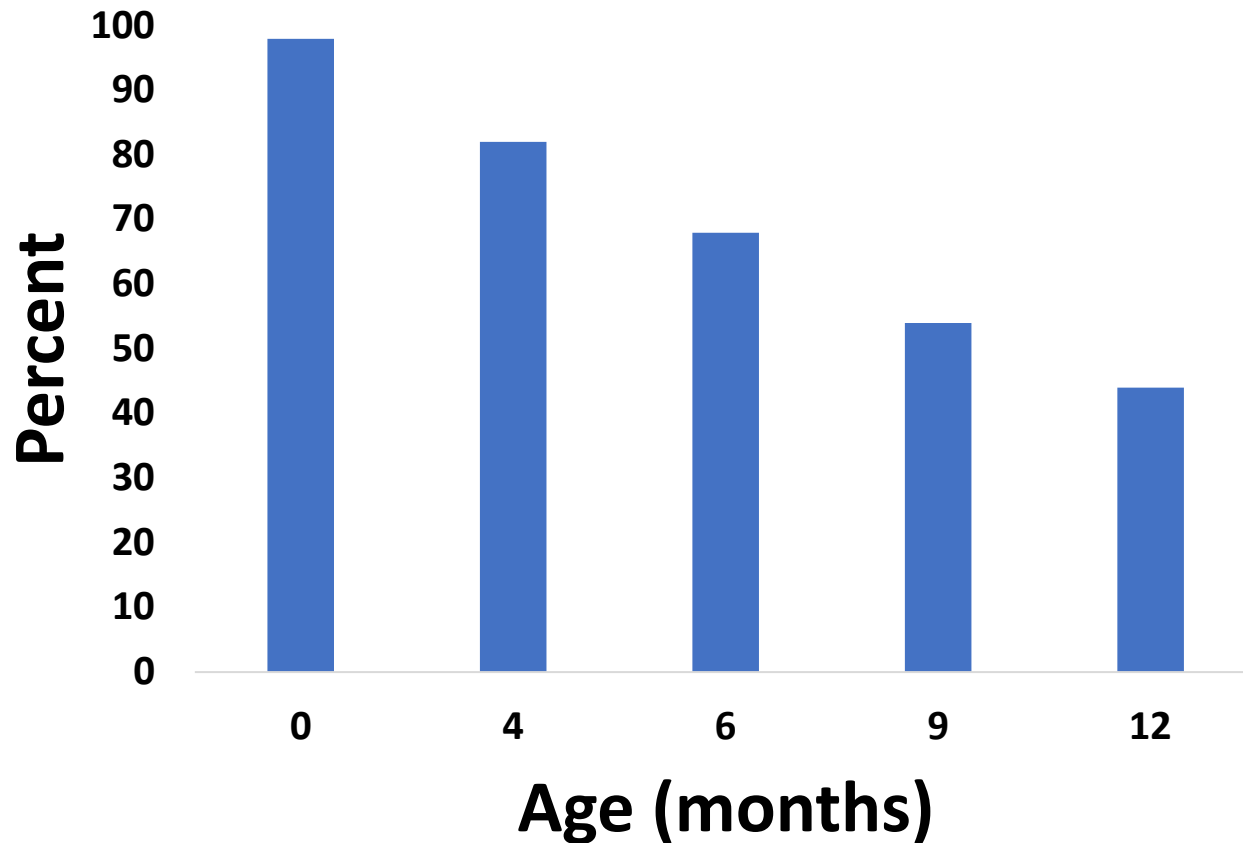
Results – Early Feeding

# Breastfeeding Definitions

Feeding Practice	Requires that the Infant Receive	Allows the Infant to Receive	Does Not Allow the Infant to Receive
Exclusive breastfeeding	Breastmilk (including expressed milk)	Oral rehydration solutions, drops, syrups (vitamins, minerals, medicines)	Anything else
Predominant or 'full' breastfeeding	Breastmilk (including expressed milk) as the predominant source of nourishment	Certain liquids (water and water-based drinks, fruit juice), and oral rehydration salts, drops, or syrups (vitamins, minerals, medicines)	Anything else
Solid feeding or 'partial' breastfeeding	Breastmilk (including expressed milk)	Anything else	
Any breastfeeding	Any of the above definitions	Anything else	
Ever breastfed	Breastfed or received expressed breastmilk at least once		

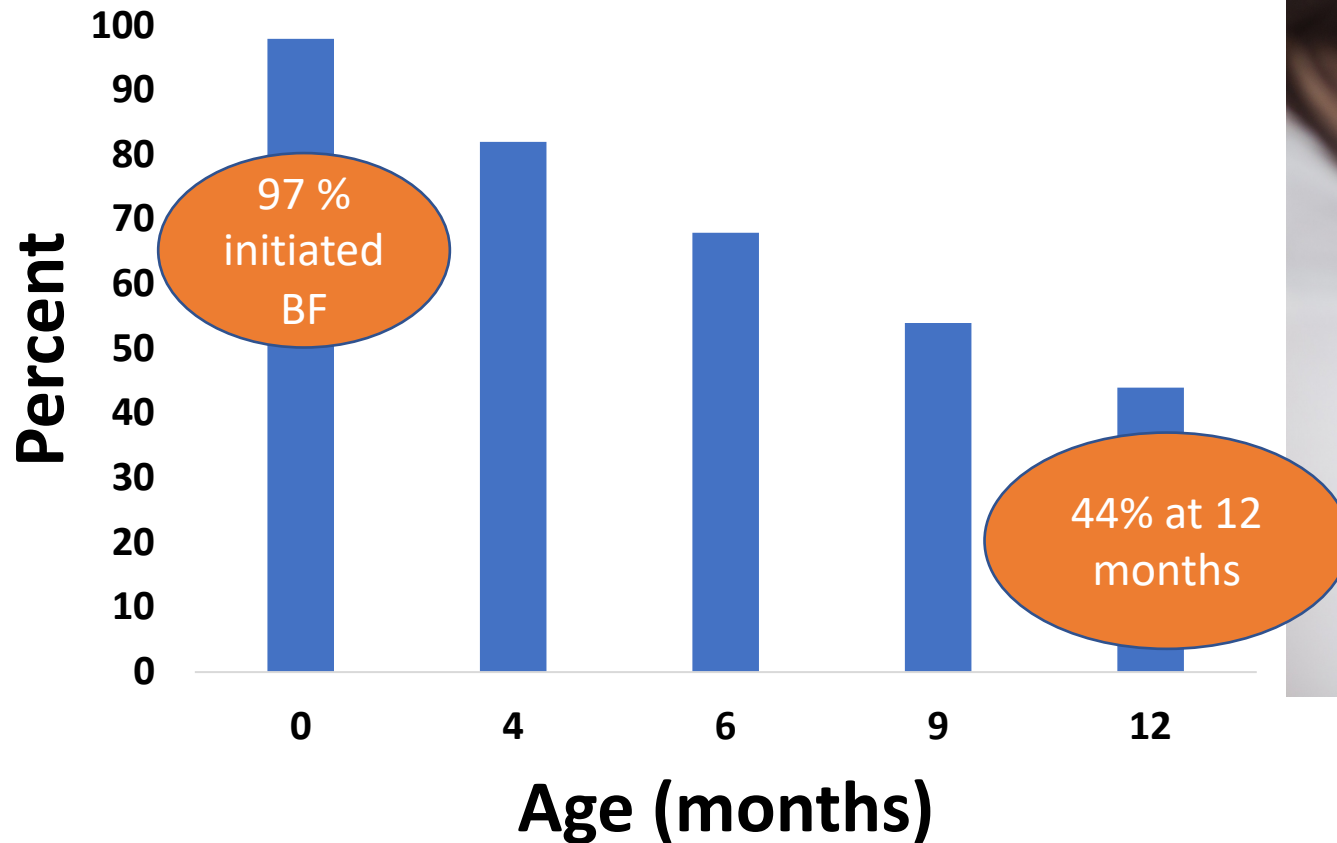
# Any Breastfeeding

Infants breastfeeding (%)



# Any Breastfeeding

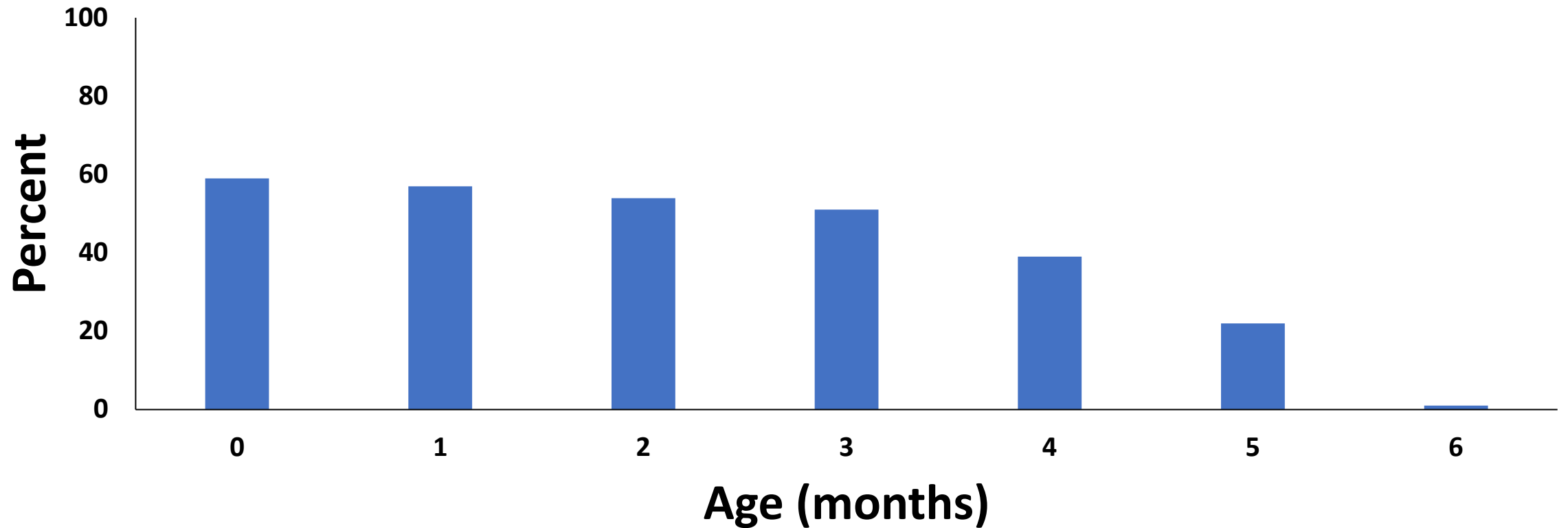
## Infants breastfeeding (%)





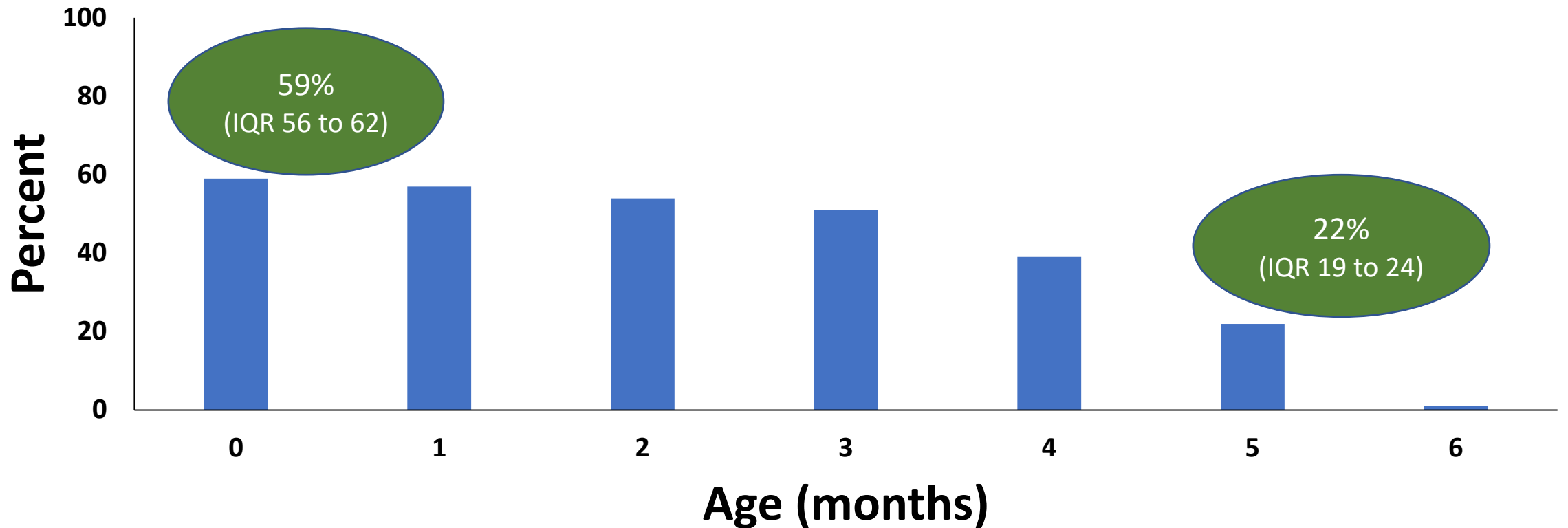
# Exclusive Breastfeeding

Infants exclusively breastfed to each month (%)



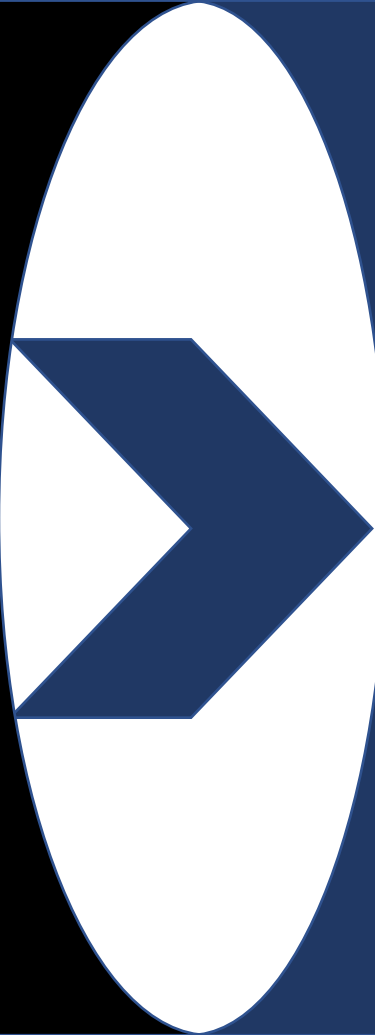
# Exclusive Breastfeeding

Infants exclusively breastfed to each month (%)



## Early feeding

- 1/3 of infants were only ever breastfed
- Of the infants consuming breastmilk substitutes, 86% also breastfed



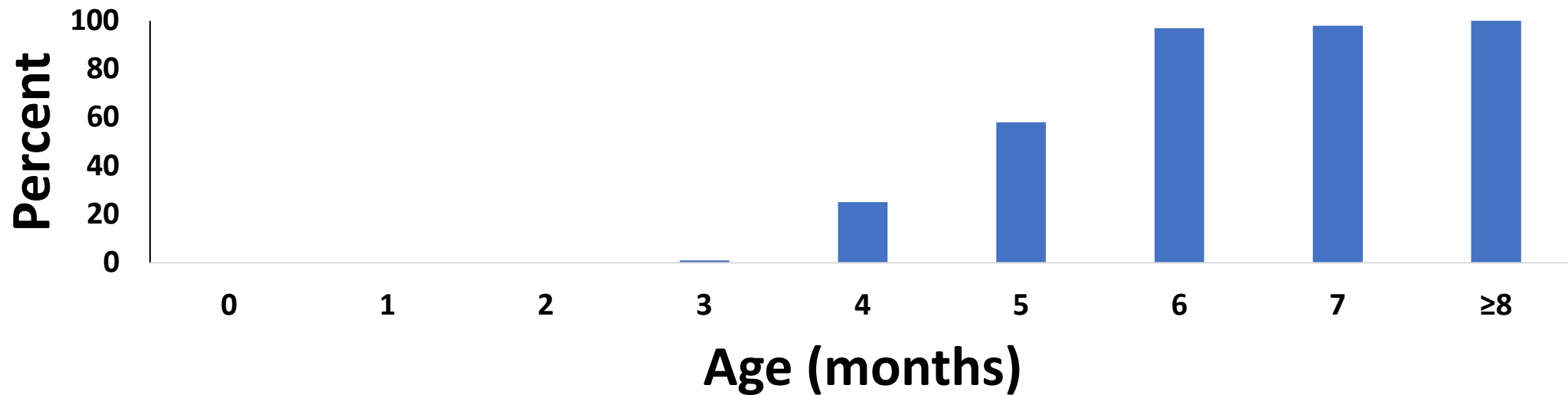
- Breastmilk is the ideal source of nutrition for infants
- Any breastfeeding is beneficial to both mother and baby



# Solid Foods

# Timing of solid foods

Infants consuming solid foods by month  
(cumulative %)



# Most children were exposed to common allergens by 1 year

94%  
Peanuts



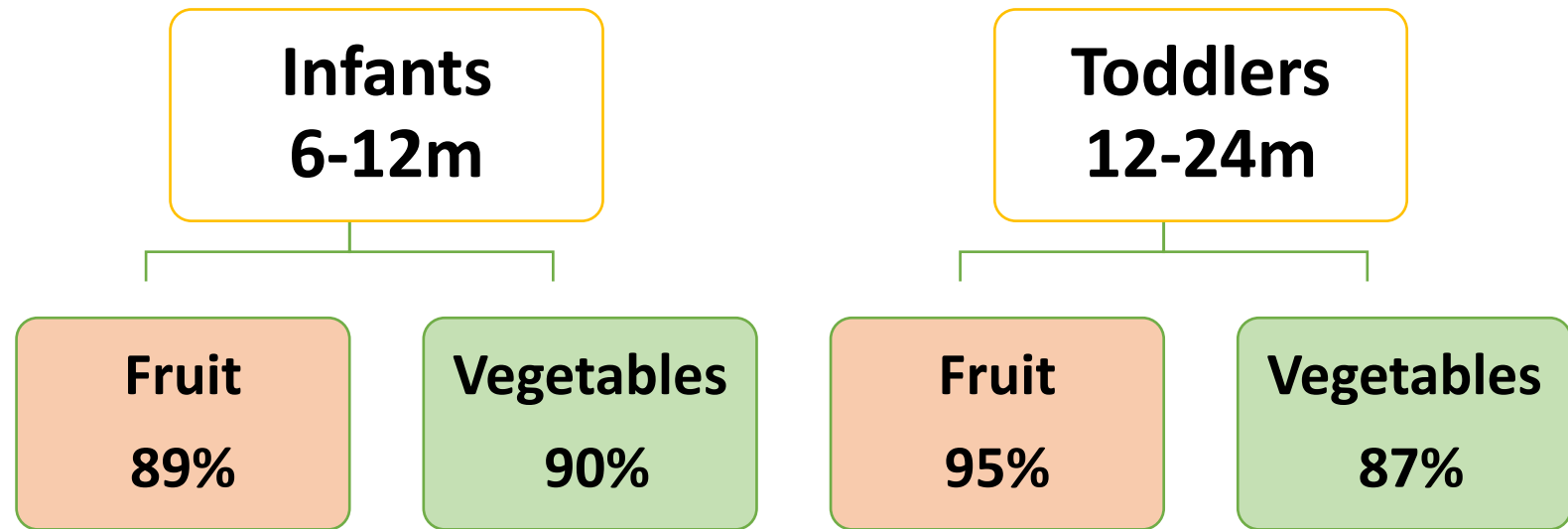
97%  
Egg

76%  
Tree nuts



82%  
Sesame

**Most infants  
and toddlers  
were  
consuming  
fruit and  
vegetables**



# Top five fruits consumed by infants 6-12m



**41%**

**Banana**



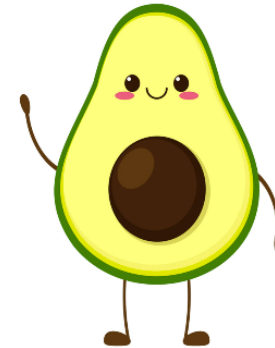
**33%**

**Pear &  
Apple**



**29%**

**Strawberries &  
Raspberries**



**23%**

**Avocado**



**19%**

**Blueberries**



# Top five vegetables consumed by infants 6-12m



**30%**

**Broccoli &  
Cauliflower**



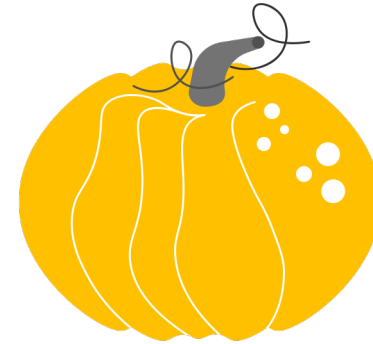
**24%**

**Carrots**



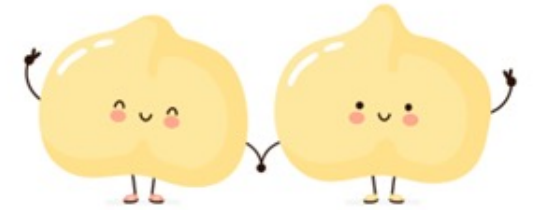
**22%**

**Mixed vegetables  
(soup)**



**20%**

**Pumpkin**



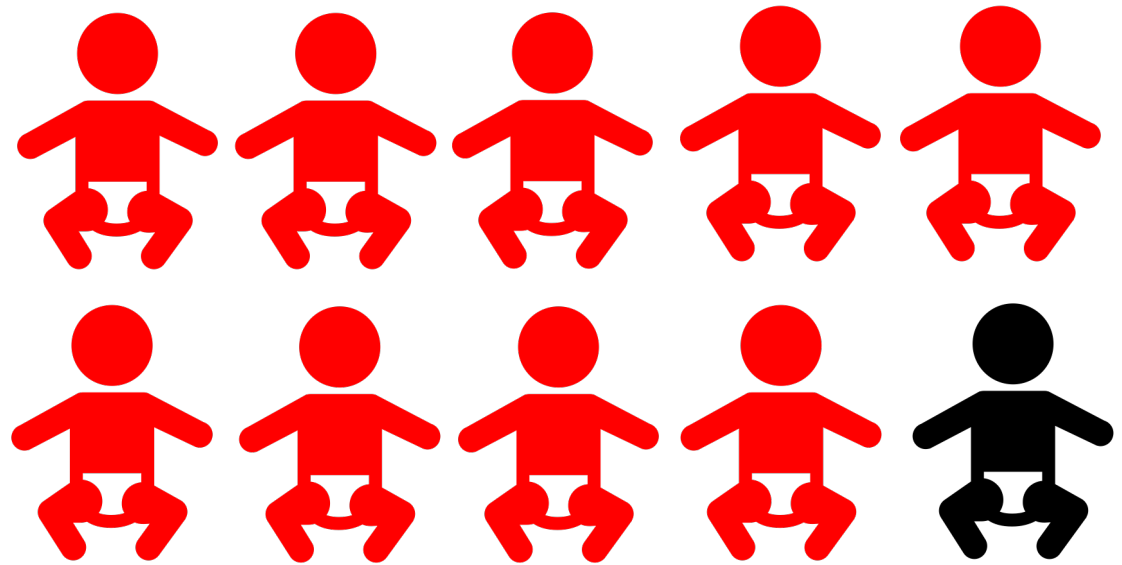
**18%**

**Legumes**

# Most toddlers consumed foods from all core food groups

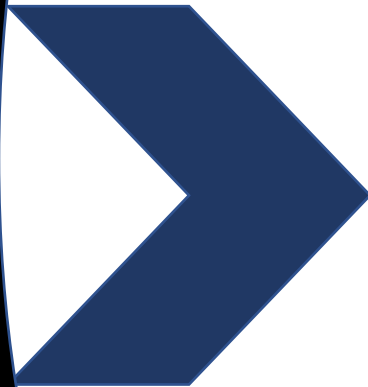
Food group	Consumers, n (%)	% Total energy intake, median (IQR)—consumers
Fruit	457 (96)	9 (5-14)
Vegetables	458 (96)	4 (1-10)
Cereals and grains	466 (98)	20 (12-31)
Meats only	334 (70)	8 (3-15)
Meat alternatives only	339 (71)	5 (0-10)
Dairy Foods	450 (95)	18 (10-28)
Unsaturated fats and oils	298 (63)	3 (2-7)

**9/10 toddlers  
consumed  
discretionary  
foods**



**Discretionary foods  
contributed  
13% of total energy intake**

- Solids at around 6 months
- Foods from each food groups
- Consuming common allergens
- Discretionary foods



- Start solid foods at around 6 months
- Focus on iron rich foods
- Avoid discretionary foods

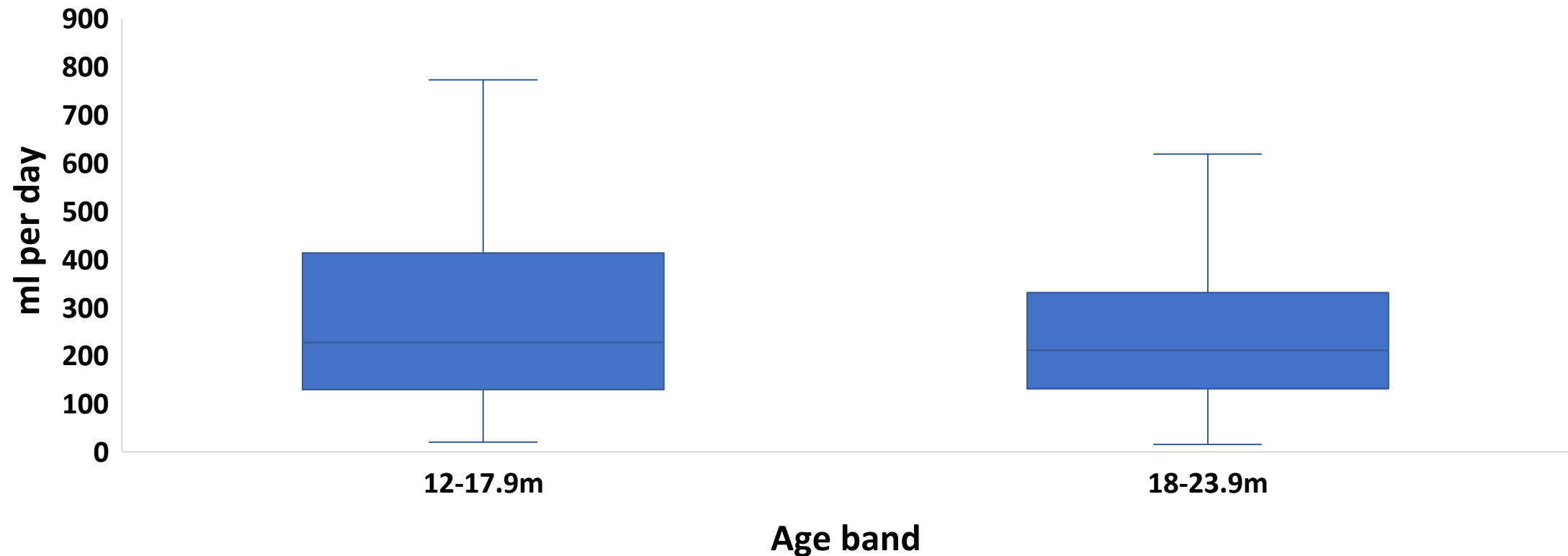
# Drinks

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# Toddlers consumed ~1 cup milk per day

Daily consumption of cow's milk among toddlers, median (IQR)



# Main drinks for toddlers 12-24m

	<b>Consumers, n (%)</b>	<b>Intake g/d, median (IQR)</b>	<b>% Total energy intake, median (IQR)—consumers</b>
Breastmilk	209 (44)	340 (200-540)	24 (13-38)
Formula/toddler milk	89 (19)	385 (220-551)	20 (12-32)
Cow's milk	184 (39)	211 (130-371)	15 (8-23)
Water	458 (96)	270 (159-420)	NA
Sweetened beverages	16 (3)	260 (156-272)	5 (4-8)

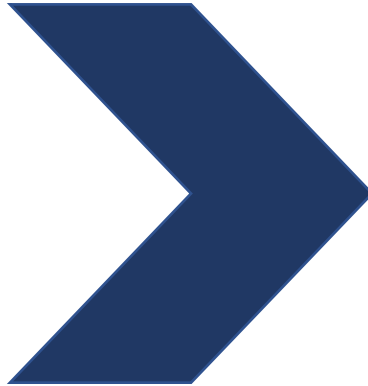
# Main drinks for toddlers 12-24m

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## Drinks

- 20% of toddlers consumed formula / toddler milks
- 3% consumed sweetened drinks
- Water was the main drink for most children



- Formula/toddler milks are not necessary for healthy children
- Fruit juice and sweetened beverages should be limited



# Webinar 1: Summary

## Encouraging findings

Breastfeeding  
Timing of solid foods  
Range of foods  
Allergens

## Findings of concern

Early BMS exposure  
30% no meat / meat substitutes  
Energy from drinks  
Discretionary foods

# A deep dive into the OzFITS study: implications for health professionals

- principles behind determining adequate intakes
- comparison of dietary intakes with recommendations
- areas for future research

## Usual Nutrient Intake Distribution and Prevalence of Inadequacy among Australian Children 0–24 Months: Findings from the Australian Feeding Infants and Toddlers Study (OzFITS) 2021

by  Najma A. Moumin,  Merryn J. Netting,  Rebecca K. Golley,  Chelsea E. Mauch,  Maria Makrides and  Tim J. Green

*Nutrients* 2022, 14(7), 1381; <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu14071381> - 25 Mar 2022

# Acknowledgements

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Prof Tim Green

Dr Merryn Netting

Najma Moumin

Prof Maria Makrides

Prof Rebecca Golley

Dr Chelsea Mauch

Dr Emma Knight

