**Georgia 2018**

**Maternal & Newborn Health**

**Key Elements of Maternal & Newborn Health**

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### Place of Delivery

- **Percent distribution of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years by area and place of delivery of the most recent live birth**

### Caesarian Section by Various Characteristics

- **Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years whose most recent live birth was delivered by caesarean section by various characteristics**
  - *Data for ethnicity category “Azerbaijani” is based on 25-49 unweighted cases.*
### Caesarian Section

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years delivered by C-section by timing of decision made for C-section.

- **Total**: 
  - Decided before labour pains: 21% 
  - Decided after labour pains: 23%

- **Rural**
  - Decided before labour pains: 80% 
  - Decided after labour pains: 7%

- **Urban**
  - Decided before labour pains: 20% 
  - Decided after labour pains: 87%

### Skin-to-skin Contact for Newborns

Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years whose most recent live-born child was placed on the mother’s bare chest after birth.

- **Total**: 29%
- **Urban**: 30%
- **Rural**: 29%
- **<20 years**: 17%
- **20-34 years**: 31%
- **35-49 years**: 43%
- **Vaginal birth**: 14%
- **C-Section**: 43%

### Initial Breastfeeding

Percentage of most recent live-born children to women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last two years who were ever breastfed, breastfed within one hour of birth and within one day of birth.

- **Children ever breastfed**: 92%
- **Early initiation of breastfeeding (within one hour of birth)**: 33%
- **Within one day of birth**: 73%

*Includes children who started breastfeeding within one hour of birth.

### Duration of Skin-to-skin Contact with Mother

Percent distribution of duration of skin-to-skin care among women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years whose most recent live-born child was given skin-to-skin contact with mother.

- **Less than 30 minutes**: 13%
- **30 - 59 minutes**: 6%
- **From 1 hour to less than 2 hours**: 5%
- **2 hours and more**: 4%
- **DK/ don’t remember**: 72%
Postnatal Health Check after Discharge from the Health Facility or Delivered at Home

Duration of Post-natal Health Check Time for Mothers and Newborns

- **Mothers**
  - **Total**: 23% During the first week, 35% During 2-4 weeks, 39% After 4 weeks, 3% DK/don’t remember
  - **Urban**: 25% During the first week, 39% During 2-4 weeks, 33% After 4 weeks, 3% DK/don’t remember
  - **Rural**: 19% During the first week, 50% During 2-4 weeks, 13% After 4 weeks, 2% DK/don’t remember

- **Children**
  - **Total**: 16% During the first week, 43% During 2-4 weeks, <1% After 4 weeks, <1% DK/don’t remember
  - **Urban**: 12% During the first week, 44% During 2-4 weeks, <1% After 4 weeks, <1% DK/don’t remember
  - **Rural**: 23% During the first week, 35% During 2-4 weeks, 41% After 4 weeks, 1% DK/don’t remember

Percent distribution of post-natal health check time for mothers and newborns in women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who or whose most recent live-born children received a health check after discharge from the health facility or delivered at home by various characteristics.
The Georgia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2018 by the National Statistics Office of Georgia as part of the global MICS programme. Technical support was provided by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UNICEF, NCDC, USAID, WB, UNFPA, SIDA, AFD, SCD, ISS, UNDP and WHO provided financial support.

The objective of this snapshot is to disseminate selected findings from the Georgia MICS 2018 related to Maternal and Newborn Health. Data from this snapshot can be found in table TM.6.1, TM.6.2CS, TM.8.2CS, TM.8.4, TM.14.1CS and TC.7.1. Further statistical snapshots and the Survey Findings Report for this and other surveys are available on mics.unicef.org/surveys.

### Key Messages

- The vast majority of births were delivered in health care facilities (99%) and only 1% of the births were delivered elsewhere.

- Among the births that took place in a medical facility, 47% were delivered by cesarean section, ranging from a high of 63% in the region of Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti to 34-36% in Mtskheta-Mtianeti and Samtskhe-Javakheti.

- The probability of delivering by caesarean section increases with the maternal age and educational attainment. Georgian women undergo C-sections more frequently than Armenian and Azerbaijani women. There is no evident difference between rural & urban settings.

- Almost 80% of cases were planned (elective) C-sections - decided before onset of labour pains.

- Only 29% of live-born children in the last 2 years were given skin-to-skin contact with mother and out of 29% only 5% of children were given skin-to-skin contact for 2 hours and more (WHO recommendation).

- Only 43% of children born in the last 2 years with vaginal childbirth was given skin-to-skin contact. However, this indicator is significantly low among the children born with C-section (14%).

- Among children born in the last 2 years 92% received health check after discharge from the health facility or delivered at home.

- Utilization of post-natal care services is low, only 47% of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years received health check after discharge from the health facility or delivered at home following delivery of their most recent live birth. However, there is no significant difference between rural and urban dwellers.

### Data

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<th>Region</th>
<th>C Section</th>
<th>Skin to skin care</th>
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For indicator definitions, see earlier charts.