

Table 3 Weaning and nutritional development in wild great apes.

Species or subspecies	Population	Last suckling (yrs)	First solid food (mos)	Feeding transition (yrs)*	Method (feeding transition)	References
Orangutans						
<i>Pongo abelli</i>	Suaq/Ketambe	~6-8				van Noordwijk et al. 2009, van Noordwijk & van Schaik 2005
<i>P. pygmaeus wurmbii</i>	Tuanan	6.5 (5.8-7.5) N = 6	~6	~1-1.5	Increased infant feeding time	van Noordwijk, Willems et al. 2013
<i>P. spp.</i>	Various	~8+		~1-1.5	Dental barium	Smith et al. 2017
Gorillas						
<i>Gorilla gorilla gorilla</i>	Mbeli Bai	4.8 (3.1-6.1) N = 24	<6	~2-2.5	Decreased suckling rate	Breuer et al. 2009; Nowell & Fletcher 2007, 2008
<i>G. beringei beringei</i>	Virungas	3.3 (1.8-4.8) N = 27	~8	~1.5-2	Decreased suckling rate	Eckhardt et al. 2016; Stewart 1988; Watts 1985
	Bwindi	4.8 (2.7-6.1) N = 15				Robbins & Robbins 2021
Chimpanzees						
<i>Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii</i>	Gombe	4.7 (2.8-8.0) N = 37	~4-5			Clark 1977; van den Ritj-Plooij and Plooij 1987; Lonsdorf et al. 2020
	Kanyawara	4.8 (4.1-6.0) N = 8	7.9 (5.1-11.1) N = 9	~2	Maternal C-peptide of insulin	Bray et al. in press; Emery Thompson et al. 2012
	Mahale	~4-5		1.5	Increased infant feeding time	Matsumoto 2017
	Ngogo	~5.5-6	<6	~1	Fecal nitrogen/carbon isotopes	Bădescu et al. 2016
<i>P. t. verus</i>	Taï			~2	Dental nitrogen isotopes	Fahy et al. 2014
Bonobos						
<i>Pan paniscus</i>	Wamba	~4				Hashimoto 1997

* Feeding transition defined as a period of rapid transition from nursing to independent feeding. Infants may continue to suckle but derive most of their staple nutrition from foraging.