



## RESEARCH PAPER

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## Socioeconomic inequalities affecting child malnutrition in rural areas of district Faisalabad, Pakistan

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### Abstract

The composite discourse was designed to investigate the socioeconomic inequalities affecting child malnutrition in rural areas of District Faisalabad. The area of investigation was Faisalabad, incorporating Tehsil Faisalabad and Tehsil Tandlianwala. The objectives were confined to find the destinations of socioeconomic inequalities in youth malnutrition in the creating scene, to give confirmation to a relationship between financial imbalance and the normal level of malnutrition, to draw consideration to various examples of socioeconomic inequalities affecting child malnutrition. The conceptual framework constitutes the dependent variable Child Malnutrition and the independent variable Mother Education plays major role. The sample size of 200 mothers having child of the age between 5 to 11 years old were selected. Chi square test was used for determining the association between dependent and independent variables. The chi-square value (52.584) shows a significant ( $P=.003$ ) association between schooling years of mother and weight percentile of child. The major findings were that 16% of children were <3<sup>rd</sup>, 11.5% of children were between 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, 16.5% of children were between 10<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, 19.5% of children were between 50<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup>, 4.5% of children were between 75<sup>th</sup> to 90<sup>th</sup>, 6% of children were between 90<sup>th</sup> to 95<sup>th</sup> and 6% of children were >97<sup>th</sup> weight for age percentile.

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## Introduction

Information for tyke and maternal nourishment have been revealed at the national level for all low-salary and center wage countries however little data about sub national status and inside nation imbalances is accessible. The effect of maternal and early youth nourishment on youngsters' wellbeing and advancement, and on their long term wellbeing and monetary efficiency, is well established. A few reviews have examined urban–rural differentials in youngster and maternal wholesome status or imbalances identified with quintiles of financial status. With a populace of more than 180 million individuals, Pakistan is at present the 6th biggest nation in the world and is anticipated to be the fourth biggest by 2050, as per gauges by the UN. Despite a detailed yearly development of 4.4% in total national output, 13% of the populace lives under the neediness line of US\$1.25 per day. Although high newborn child and youngster mortality (85.5 passing for every 1000 live births in 2013) and meager dietary position in Pakistan have been accounted for.

There is no dependable information about nourishment pointers at area level, in spite of expansive varieties in the financial status of districts. With devolution of wellbeing and preventive administrations to areas what's more, nearby governments at the region level (Di Cesare *et al.*, 2015). An indication of nutritious hardship is disappointment in development and advancement. To assess the dietary status up to the time of development, sex-and age-based appraisal of development and advancement is fundamental. Any dietary issue or insufficiency prompts mental and development disappointment and low activities (Krishnan *et al.*, 2012).

Socioeconomic inequality as "Financial disparity" in malnutrition to the degree to which adolescence ailing health rates vary amongst progressively and less socially and financially advantaged gatherings. Epidemiological confirmation focuses to a little arrangement of essential drivers of youngster mortality that are the principle enemies of youngsters matured under 5 years: pneumonia, the runs, low

birth weight, asphyxia furthermore, in a few sections of the world, HIV and intestinal sickness This is not the same as "unadulterated disparity", which considers all factors impacting adolescence hunger (Van de Poel *et al.*, 2008).

Every year, more than 9 million children expire on before their fifth birthday. These passing are not fairly appropriated over the world almost all happen in low- and center salary nations (LMICs). Additionally inside nations, disparities in adolescence mortality are gigantic: the likelihood of passing on in adolescence is deliberately higher for those conceived in poor family units and to less taught mothers. Policy creators are discovering that enhancing normal populace wellbeing is definitely not enough. Checking and handling disparities in wellbeing between financial bunches inside nations has turned into an undeniably critical objective. Though explore on financial wellbeing imbalances is a well-established convention in high-wage countries, it is just as of late that such disparities are being concentrated all the more deliberately in connection to LMICs too. Expanding information accessibility for these nations has incredibly fortified research in this field. This intends to survey the prove on the greatness and determinants of financial disparities in adolescence mortality in LMICs, and to highlight passage focuses for mediation (Houweling and Kunst, 2010).

Misusing is seen as a principle supporter of less than 5 tyke mortality and dreariness in low and focus compensation countries, with the case setback rates for wasted adolescents around 5–60%, to some degree since wasting goes about as a precursor to customary puberty illnesses, for instance, detachment of the guts and pneumonia. Adversarial effect on whole deal physical and scholarly headway has similarly been proposed (Fotso and Kuate-Defo, 2005).

Money related irregularity has been conjectured to be a determinant of masses prosperity, free of poverty and family wage. We examined the connection between financial unevenness and child hunger in Ecuador. Money related awkwardness was measured by the Gini coefficient of family per capita use,

assessed from the 1990 Census. Youth obstructing, assessed from stature for-age z scores, was gained from the 1998 Living Standards Measurement Survey (Raihan *et al.*, 2017). The new standards are based on children from Research Inequality in malnutrition Bulletin of the World Health Organization April 2008 with the data being collected from Brazil, Ghana, India, Norway, Oman and the United States of America, and adopt a fundamentally prescriptive approach that is designed to describe how all children should grow, rather than merely how they actually grew in a single reference population at a specified time.

Malnutrition has for some time been perceived as a result of neediness. It is broadly acknowledged that higher rates of lack of healthy sustenance will be found in ranges with unending across the board destitution (ADB, 2001). Lack of healthy sustenance is the consequence of negligible dietary admission exacerbated by disease.

Thusly, minimal dietary admission is brought about by family unit nourishment instability, absence of clean water, absence of information on great sanitation, and absence of option wellsprings of wage. It is likewise exacerbated by deficient care, sexual orientation disparity, and weakness administrations. What's more, poor condition? While salary is not the aggregate of individuals' lives, wellbeing position as redirects by level of lack of healthy sustenance (Stanga an Field, 2007).

### Material and methods

As indicated by Nachmias and Nachmias (1992) "the sensible approach is a plan of unequivocal directions and strategies whereupon investigation is based and in contradiction of which the cases for data are surveyed". District Faisalabad constituted the universe of the study. It was selected as a whole, from which two tehsils were selected. Purposively for this study, the data was accumulated from two union councils from each tehsil and subsequently two villages from each union council were selected. A sample size of 200 women having children between the ages 5-11 years were purposively selected depending on the permission of the respondents.

A comprehensive questionnaire comprised of almost every aspect of the study was designed to collect the required data.

### Arithmetical Methods

The facts were examined on laptop by using SPSS package. The following arithmetical implements were applied:

#### Proportion

For the accomplishment of recurrence circulation of the individual qualities of the defendants, basic rates were computed. Rates were computed specifically with the assistance of the accompanying:

$$p = \frac{F}{N} * 100$$

#### Chi – square test

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(o - e)^2}{e}$$

To distinguish the importance of relationship among traits, the computed estimations of chi – square were contrasted and comparing table esteems at 0.05 level of note worthiness at a given level of opportunity. Level of opportunity was ascertained as: a. f. = (r-1) (c-1).

#### Mean

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum X}{N}$$

#### Gamma Fig.s

$$\text{Gamma} = \frac{NS - ND}{NS + ND}$$

#### Analysis

A child was considered wasted if his or her weight for age was two standard deviations or more below the median for the reference population. We used these crude binary indicators of wasting because their average values are much easier to interpret intuitively than continuous weight-for-age z-scores, and they, therefore, facilitate the comparison of wasting rates across socioeconomic groups and between countries.

This paper used the new WHO child growth standards that were released in April 2006.<sup>18</sup> The robustness of the paper's results against this change from the NCHS growth standards was also checked. Negative values infer that mal-nutrition is more pronounced among poorer kids, (ii) in the event that

all youngsters, independent of their financial status, experience the ill effects of ailing health, the focus record would approach zero, and (iii) exchanging ailing health from a wealthier to a poorer individual decreases the focus record “There is a negative relationship between mother’s education and childhood malnutrition”

**Results**

This research paper focuses on the financial disparities utilizing wasting as a parameter for surveying the tyke lack of healthy sustenance and the level of malnutrition. Growth Chart comprises of a x axis which is typically age in years or months and a y axis that progressions as indicated by the reference e.g., it can be height in cm or inches, weight in kg or body mass index in kg/m2. The x axis is generally separated into 12 equal (months) for every year, except a few nations, for example, United Kingdom utilize decimal ages where every year is isolated into 10 sections. WHO, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Indian graphs use 12(monthly) divisions for every year.

Growth chart has 7 percentile lines and incorporate third, tenth, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 97th percentiles. These percentiles are standard for height and weight diagrams. Any person who is underneath third or more 97th percentile is considered out of typical range. For the BMI diagrams, be that as it may, there are 85th and 95th percentile lines which demonstrate overweight. Extent diagrams utilize Z score lines

rather than percentile lines and inconsistency of more than 2Z scores in the upper and lower portion is viewed as unusual. On the growth velocity chart, 25th percentile is the cut disconnected for characterizing low stature speed.

**Table 1.** Scattering of the defendants conferring to their schooling years.

Mother’s education	Frequency	Percent
Primary	37	18.5
Middle	50	25.0
Matric	51	25.5
Above Matric	20	10.0
Uneducated	42	21.0
Total	200	100.0

This table exposes that 18.5 % of the mothers had primary education, about 25.0% of the mothers had middle education, almost 25.5% of the head of household had matriculation, about 10.0% of mothers had above matric education and almost 21.0% of the mothers were illiterate and uneducated. Data spectacles that common of the mothers i.e. 25.5% of mothers had matriculation.

**Table 2.** Scattering of the defendants according to the weight percentile of their youngster.

Weight percentile	Frequency	Percent
< 3 <sup>rd</sup>	32	16.0
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup>	23	11.5
10 <sup>th</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	33	16.5
25 <sup>th</sup> - 50 <sup>th</sup>	39	19.5
50 <sup>th</sup> - 75 <sup>th</sup>	40	20.0
75 <sup>th</sup> - 90 <sup>th</sup>	9	4.5
90 <sup>th</sup> - 95 <sup>th</sup>	12	6.0
> 97 <sup>th</sup>	12	6.0
Total	200	100.0

**Table 3.** there is any association between schooling years of mother and weight percentile of child.

Schooling years of mother	Weight percentile of child							Total	
	<3 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup> - 50 <sup>th</sup>	50 <sup>th</sup> - 75 <sup>th</sup>	75 <sup>th</sup> - 90 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup> - 95 <sup>th</sup>		>97 <sup>th</sup>
Primary	1 2.70%	5 13.51%	5 13.51%	7 18.91%	8 21.62%	3 8.1%	5 13.51%	3 8.1%	37 18.5%
Middle	1 2	8 16	8 16	10 20	9 18	4 8	3 6	7 14	50 25%
Matric	14 27.45%	5 9.80%	9 17.64%	13 25.49%	5 9.80%	1 1.96%	3 5.88%	1 1.96%	51 25.5%
Above matric	3 15%	2 10%	2 10%	3 15%	8 40%	1 5	1 5	0 0	20 10%
Uneducated	13 30.95%	3 7.14%	9 21.42%	6 14.28%	10 23.80%	0 0	0 0	1 2.38%	42 21%
Total	32 16%	23 11.5%	33 16.5%	39 19.5%	40 20%	9 4.5%	12 6%	12 6%	200 100%

This table shows the weight percentile of the child which is used to measure the nutrition level of child. According to this table 16% of children were < 3<sup>rd</sup> percentile, about 11.5% of children were between 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> percentile, about 16.5% of children were between 10<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> percentile, almost 19.5% of children were between 50<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, about 4.5 % of children were between 75<sup>th</sup> to 90<sup>th</sup> percent tile, about 6% of children were between 90<sup>th</sup> to 95<sup>th</sup> percentile and almost 6% of children were >97<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Data shows that 20% of children were between 50<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles which means that rest of the children were malnourished and over nourished. This table reveals the percentage of population in the form of percentiles from the WHO growth charts for height for age of 5 to 11 years old children.

#### *Hypothesis*

Lower the schooling years of mother, higher will be the low weight percentile of child.

#### **Discussion**

18.5 % of the mothers had primary education, about 25.0% of the mothers had middle education, almost 25.5% of the head of household had matriculation, about 10.0% of mothers had above matric education and almost 21.0% of the mothers were illiterate. 16% of children were < 3<sup>rd</sup> percentile, about 11.5% of children were between 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> percentile, about 16.5% of children were between 10<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> percentile, almost 19.5% of children were between 50<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, about 4.5% of children were between 75<sup>th</sup> to 90<sup>th</sup> percentile, about 6% of children were between 90<sup>th</sup> to 95<sup>th</sup> percentile and almost 6% of children were >97<sup>th</sup> percentile.

There are various present boundaries to the viable usage of decent wholesome attention in a few associations and groups. These are absence of administration arrangements for guaranteeing conveyance of decent healthful maintenance; absence of assets; absence of nourishment groups and deprived correspondence amongst essential and optional care. Nonetheless, there are cases of fantastic repetition where these hindrances have been

overwhelmed and great nourishing consideration is being conveyed crosswise over scientific systems.

#### **Conclusion**

Predominance of under-sustenance among kids is generally high and shifted broadly relying upon the appraisal approach embraced, and there are restricted considers on appraisal of over-nourishment. The dispersion of hazard components and its effect on ailing health among youngsters in a surrendered set ought to be broke down in arranging different control measures. The aftereffects of this examination show that not just the level of financial disparity in lack of healthy sustenance yet additionally its example ought to be of worry in setting wellbeing strategies. To diminish ailing health in, for instance, a scope of Latin American nations, strategies ought to be focused at poor people. Conversely, in many sub-Saharan African nations, there is significant extension for advance by concentrating basically on the general populace, notwithstanding focusing on the poor. Reinforcing general wellbeing intercessions for gentle lack of healthy sustenance cases among the defenseless gatherings with an emphasis on financial improvement and research on overweight, stoutness and its etiological factors in the nation are the essentials required to handle lack of healthy sustenance among youngsters in Pakistan.

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