



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE REASONS FOR LOW ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN AT AWCs IN JUNAGARH DISTRICT

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INTRODUCTION

- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) represents one of the world's largest program for early childhood development. The main objective of this program is to cater to the needs of the development of children in the age group of 0-6 years.
- There are six dimensions or services of ICDS scheme which are provided by AWCs:
 1. Supplementary Nutrition
 2. Immunization
 3. Health check-up
 4. Referral services
 5. Non-formal Preschool education
 6. Nutrition and health education



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What are the factors responsible for low attendance
of children at the
Anganwadi center?



OBJECTIVE

- To assess the factors responsible for low attendance of children in the AWC
- To assess the profile of drop-outs children and their families
- To assess the awareness level among the community about ICDS

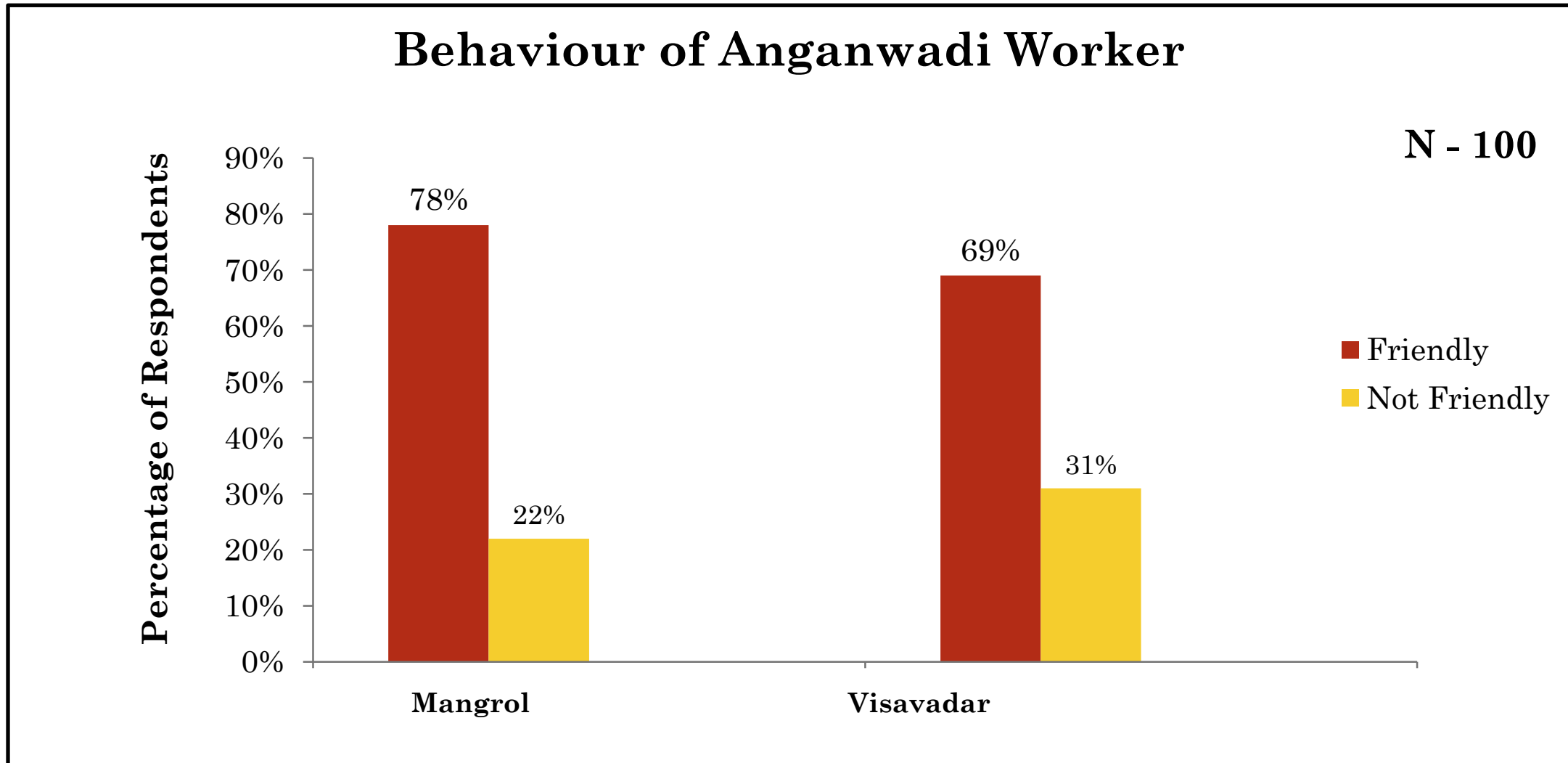


METHODOLOGY

- **Area of Study:** The study was conducted in Two blocks of Junagadh district where attendance rate of children is low
- **Type of Study:** Descriptive cross sectional
- **Sampling Procedure:** Purposive Sampling of Children in the two blocks of the Junagadh District
- **Sampling:** 50 children has selected as per convenience from each block
- **Study Tool and Technique :** Semi Structured Questionnaire and Face to Face Interview
- **Data Analysis:** Data was collected then analyzed in MS Excel.

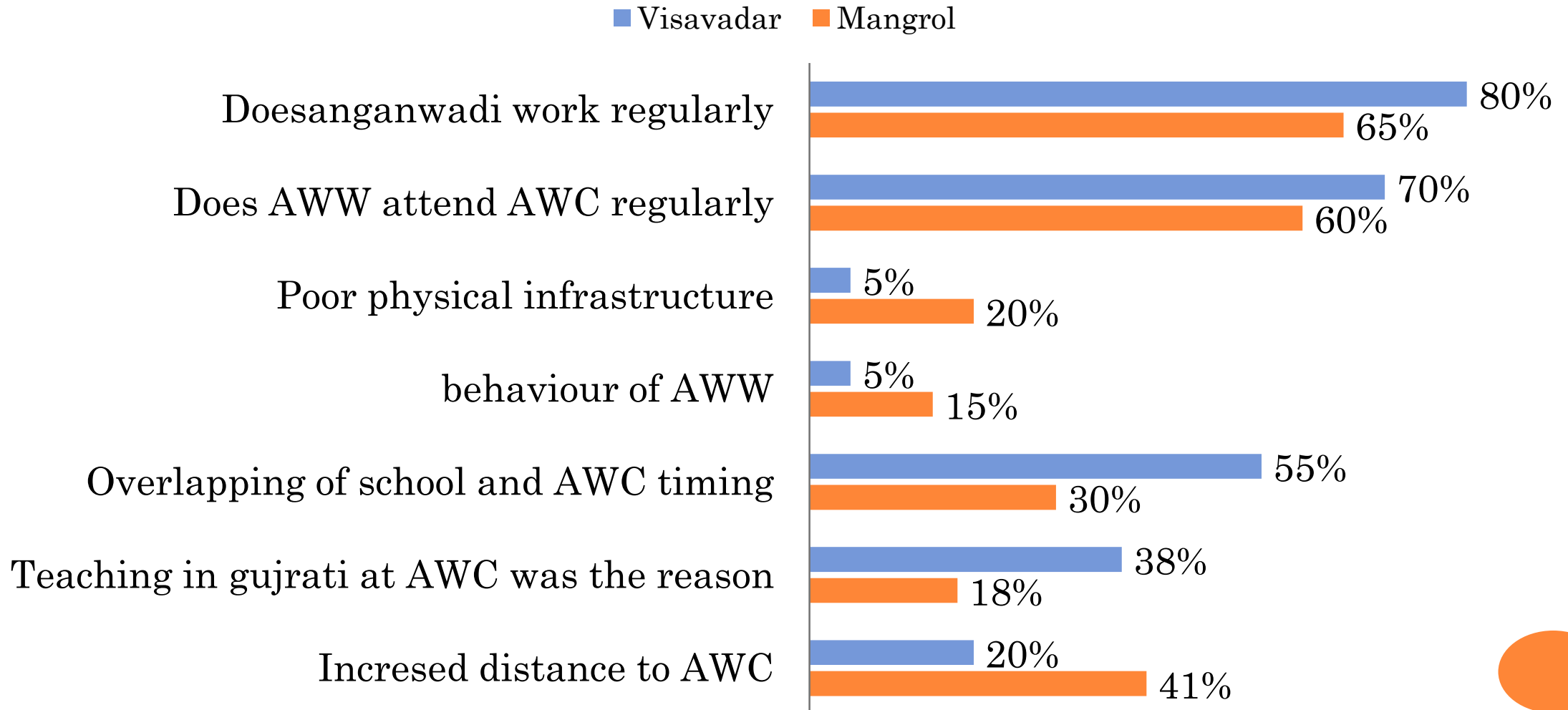


RESULTS



According to Respondent Factors Influencing the low Attendance of Children at AWCs

N - 100



Services Available at ICDS

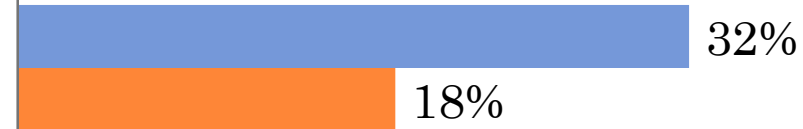
■ Visavadar ■ Mangrol

N - 100

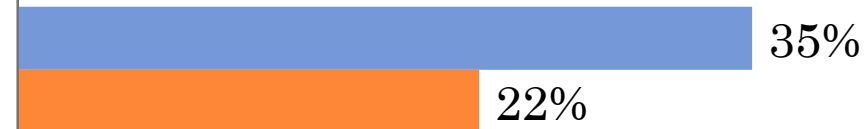
Purpose of AWC to provide supplementary nutrition to young child



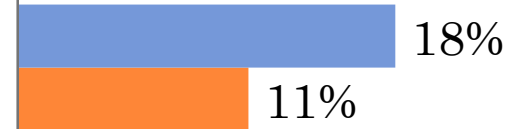
Mothers advised about child feeding and growth chart



Mothers knowledge about preschool education at AWC



Awereness about ECE

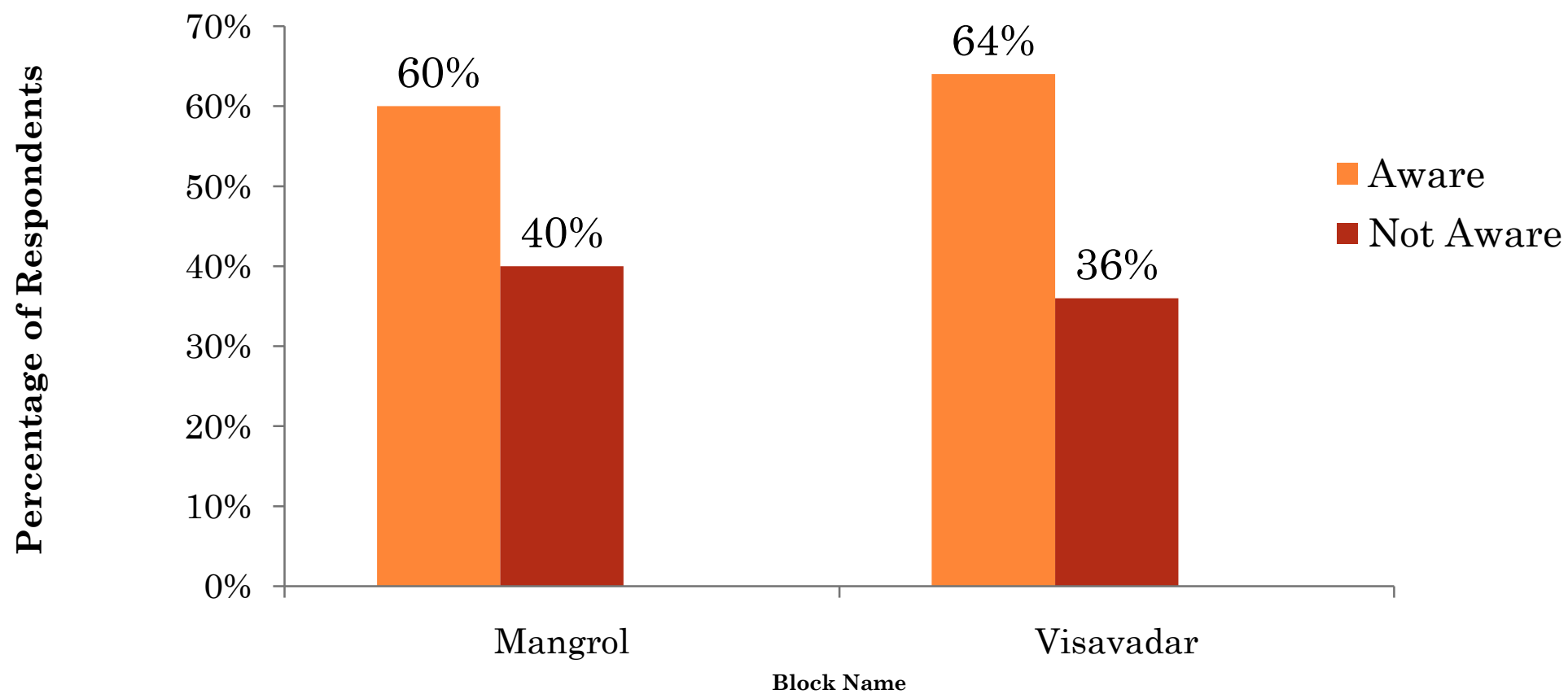


Mothers knowledge about immunization awereness given at AWC



Awareness about ICDS Service

N - 100



CONCLUSION

- Among 100 respondents, 65% and 80% in Mangrol and Visavadar told that the Anganwadi work regularly in respective blocks.
- 60% and 70% respondents said that the Anganwadi worker attend Anganwadi centre regularly in respective block.
- Poor physical infrastructure was 20% and 5% in Mangrol and Visavadar .
- Respondents in Mangrol 15% and Visavadar 5% said that the behavior of Anganwadi worker was the reason for Low strength at Anganwadicentre.



- 30% and 55% respondents in Mangrol and Visavadar said that the overlapping of school & Anganwadi timing was responsible for that.
- Teaching in Gujarati was the reason for children low strength in Mangrol Visavadar block with 18% and 38% respectively.
- Increased distance to Anganwadi centre was responsible for low strength of children at AWC with 41% and 20% in Mangrol and Visavadar block.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Information, Education & Communication (I.E.C) activities needs to be strengthened keeping in mind regarding the socio-cultural context in order to bring behavioral change among the rural communities towards ICDS services provided by the Government.
- This should be supported with the availability of the services like: improved quality of the supplementary food, rhyme-books for children below 6 years and health educations materials for the beneficiaries.
- To create awareness in the community regarding the services available at the AWC and utilization of services by the beneficiaries.



- There is a need to involve both parents by devising special IEC program for them to draw attention of their vital role in parenting. As there is a need for creating awareness regarding the importance of husband wife communication which plays a significant role in utilization of ICDS services for the beneficiaries.
- Health staff and AWW should motivate the beneficiaries to come in the AWC.



THANK YOU

