



NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN & ASSOCIATED FACTORS

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INTRODUCTION :

- The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a unique program for early childhood care & development. It aims at reducing malnutrition, infant mortality, morbidity & school dropout.
- Beneficiaries under the Scheme are children under 6, pregnant women & lactating mothers.
- Services provided under the Scheme are supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-ups and referral services that can be availed through anganwadi centres.
- The goal of Khushi project is to strengthen the efficacy of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme to improve health and

RATIONALE :

ICDS is one of the largest promotional nutrition program in India even after which 43% of children under the age of 5 are underweight. It is the need of the hour to assess the loopholes of the project & find the solutions to it.

OBJECTIVES :

- Assessing the nutritional status of the child.
- To study about the factors affecting nutrition status of the child and

STUDY DESIGN - Cross-sectional study

STUDY AREA –Railmangra block of Rajsamand district Rajasthan.

SAMPLE SIZE –100

STUDY TOOL –Self-structured questionnaire

RESPONDENTS—Mother’s of children ages 0-6 years whose names are registered at Anganwadi centers.

Research area decided – NUTRITION

AWCs visited to know their working & the shortcomings

Brainstorming done & objectives decided

Research tool prepared (questionnaire)

Pretesting of the tool done

Revised questionnaire prepared for the survey

Sampling done & children from AWCs selected for the survey

Final implementation of the tool done

Data compiled in SPSS & analysis done

Caste * Number of children Crosstabulation

Count		Number of children						Total
		1	2	3	4	5	more than 5	
Caste	general	2	0	2	0	0	0	4
	obc	11	8	1	6	2	1	29
	sc	2	7	13	7	1	0	30
	st	7	8	11	4	4	3	37
Total		22	23	27	17	7	4	100

By applying the chi-squared test the p value was 0.036 i.e less 0.005 which shows that there is association between caste and number and children.

Caste * Literacy rate Crosstabulation

Count		Literacy rate					Total
		illiterate	1 - 5 class	6 - 7 class	8 - 10 class	graduate & above	
Caste	general	0	0	1	0	3	4
	obc	15	8	1	5	0	29
	sc	21	9	0	0	0	30
	st	33	2	0	0	2	37
Total		69	19	2	5	5	100

By applying the chi-square test the p value was 0.00 i.e less 0.005 which shows **that there is association between caste and literacy rate .**

		grp income					Total
		< or = 40000	>40000 to 60000	>60000 to 80000	>80000 to 100000	>100000	
Caste	general	0	0	0	1	3	4
	obc	1	14	12	0	2	29
	sc	5	17	3	1	4	30
	st	3	31	0	2	1	37
Total		9	62	15	4	10	100

INTERPRETATION : By applying the chi-squared test the p value was 0.000 i.e is less than 0.005 which shows there is a **relation between caste of the family and their income.**

CONCLUSIONS :

The above research shows nutrition grade of children is affected by income of the family and number of children . It also makes evident that interval between births also affects the nutrition status of child .

RECOMMENDATIONS :

AS nutritional grade is affected by number of children , family planning should be focused upon by using contraceptives . Also there should be a gap of 3 years between two subsequent births

