

MEN'S STATUS AND CHILD HEALTH IN NORTH WEST NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study was on the men's status and child health in North-West Nigeria. The general purpose was to examine the influence of men's status and child health and to examine the relationship between men's status (place of residence, occupation, wealth index, education) on child health in North-West Nigeria and to know the effect of men status on children in North-West Nigeria. Hypotheses and research questions were formulated. The Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS 2013) men and child dataset were used with a study population of 5,674 of men who have at least one child. Univariate analysis showed that those children that have stunted growth are 53.44% and those without stunted growth are 46.56%. Also, those children that have wasted growth are 29.88% and those without wasted growth are 70.12%. Bivariate analysis showed that there is a relationship between men status and child health using cross tabulation and chi square. Multivariate analysis revealed that those men that are rich are less likely to have children that are stunted compared to those men that are poor (OR 0.56 $P < 0.05$). Men that are currently working were more likely to have children that are wasted (OR 1.29 $P < 0.05$). In conclusion, men have an active role to play in the health of the child not only the women but they should be active and concerned regarding the health of the child. It is recommended that more research should be carried out with regards to the influence of fathers' status on child health.