

Table 2.2a: Nutritional Status of Children in Gujarat and India (2005)

Issue	Indicator	Gujarat	India		
		Total	Total	Male	Female
Breast feeding	Children Ever Breastfed (%)	96.8	95.7	95.6	95.9
	Children under 5 years breastfed within one hour (%)	27.8	24.5	24.7	24.3
	Children age 0-5 months exclusively breastfed (%)	47.8	46.3		
	Children under 6-9 months receiving solid or semi-solid food and breastmilk (%)	57.1	55.8		
Anaemia	%age of children age 6-59 months classified having anaemia				
	Mild (10.0-10.9 g/dl)	25	26.3	25.7	27.1
	Moderate (7.0-9.9 g/dl)	41.1	40.2	40.2	40.2
	Severe (<7.0 g/dl)	36	2.9	3.2	2.7
	Any anaemia (<11.0 g/dl)	69.7	69.5	69	69.9
Physical Growth	Children under 5 years who are stunted (%)	51.7	48	48.1	48
	Children under 5 years who are wasted (%)	18.7	19.8	20.5	19.1
	Children under 5 years who are underweight (%)	44.6	42.5	41.9	43.1
Micro nutrient Intake	Youngest children age 6-35 months living with their mother				
	%age who consumed foods rich in Vitamin A in last 24 hours	42.2	47.1	46.8	47.3
	%age who consumed foods rich in Iron in last 24 hours	5.6	14.6	14.2	15
	Children age 12-35 months				
	%age given Vitamin A supplements in last 6 months	20.6	24.8	25.2	24.5
	Children age 6-59 months				
	%age given Vitamin A supplements in last 6 months	14.8	18.1	18.3	17.8
	%age given Iron supplements in last 7 days	10.3	4.7	4.9	4.4
	%age given deworming medication in last 6 months	7.1	11.9	12.4	11.4
%age living in households using adequately iodized salt	53.2	47.5	48.1	46.9	

Source: National Family Health Survey III (2005-06)

Malnourishment is reflected in three anthropometric indices, which are expressed in standard deviation (SD) units from the reference median. The height-for-age index measures linear growth retardation. Children more than two SDs below the median of the reference population are considered short for their age or stunted. The weight-for-height index examines body mass in relation to body length. Children who are two SDs below the median are considered too thin or wasted. Weight-for-age is a composite measure that takes into account both chronic and acute under-nutrition. Children who are more than two SDs below the reference median on this index are considered to be underweight.