

**NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS OF POPULATION IN
MALDA DISTRICT OF WEST BENGAL, INDIA: A GEOGRAPHICAL
PERSPECTIVE**

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ABSTRACT

Nutritional status is one of the most important indicators of the overall well being of population and human resource development. Unbalanced or inadequate diets and chronic illness are responsible for poor nutrition among people. In the present study an attempt has been made to examine the nutritional status of different age groups of population. The entire study is based on primary data which have been collected through field survey. To assess the nutritional status of population among different age groups, measurements of weight and height/length are obtained for them. Data on weight and height/length are used to calculate the following three summary indices of nutritional status. Weight-for-age, Height-for-age and Weight-for-height. More than 64 per cent adults are normal, having body mass index in between 18.5 and 24.99, while only 42 per cent of the children are normal in the study area.

KEYWORDS: Age-Group, Health Care, Household, Nutritional Status, Overweight, Socio-Economic Status, Under Weight