

Trends in Nutritional Status of Children

Percentage of children under age three years born to ever-married women classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by residence, India, NFHS-3 and NFHS-2

Measure of Nutrition	NFHS-3 (2005-06)			NFHS-2 (1998-99)		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Height-for-age						
Percentage below - 3 SD	16.4	23.8	22.0	19.7	30.2	27.7
Percentage below - 2 SD ¹	37.4	47.2	44.9	41.1	54.0	51.0
Weight-for-height						
Percentage below - 3 SD	6.8	8.3	7.9	5.3	7.1	6.7
Percentage below - 2 SD ¹	19.0	24.1	22.9	16.3	20.7	19.7
Weight-for-age						
Percentage below - 3 SD	10.6	17.4	15.8	11.3	19.6	17.6
Percentage below - 2 SD ¹	30.1	43.7	40.4	34.1	45.3	42.7
Number of children	6,436	20,105	26,541	5,741	18,475	24,215

Note : Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the 2006 WHO International Reference Population. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurements of both height and weight.

1. Includes children who are below - 3 standard deviations (SD) from the International Reference Population median.