

Effects of demographic characteristics on Infant and Child Mortality: A Case Study of Rajshahi District, Bangladesh

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Abstrak

The study attempted to identify important effects of demographic characteristics on infant and child mortality. The data for the study was collected in 2004 under the project of the UNFPA entitled "Strengthening the Department of Population Science and Human Resource Development" of Rajshahi University, Bangladesh. Application of logistic regression model suggests that demographic factors are associated with the chance of child survival. Breastfeeding and immunization practice of children has highly significant effects on infant and child mortality among all the included demographic variables. The results show that the risk of infant and child mortality was higher for children whose mother never breastfed than for children who were breastfed. The analysis results also show that the children who got full immunizations had lower risks of infant and child mortality than those who were not immunized at all. Similarly, risk of infant and child mortality gradually declined as both mother's age at marriage and mother's age at birth increased.