

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION PATTERN AND FACTORS AFFECTING IMMUNIZATION IN GOMBE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF GOMBE STATE, NIGERIA

Sani Dayyabu, Muhammad Isma'il and Bilkisu Yayaji Ahmed

Department of Geography, Federal University Kashere
Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
Gombe State University

Corresponding Author's email: sdayyabu29@gmail.com



Abstract

The research provides empirical information on the spatial pattern and factors affecting immunization in Gombe Local Government Area of Gombe state, Nigeria. It was a cross-sectional study of children aged 0-23 months of eleven political wards of Gombe L.G.A. Thus Spatial Distribution of Immunization Centers, Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics affecting Immunization services, as well as Government role on immunization were observed. Four hundred mothers/caregivers were randomly interviewed and systematic sampling technique was used to obtain streets and housing samples. Inferential statistics, descriptive statistics, and qualitative (content analysis) were used in the data analysis. The result shows that on the basis of spatial analysis, Bajoga, Pantami, Nasarawo, Jekadafari and Herwagana experiences more immunization uptake as against Ajiya, Dawaki, Kumbiya-Kumbiya and the rest. Hence, there is hierarchy in terms of immunization compliance due to the differences of patronage at the immunization centers. demographic and socio-economic characteristics shows that most of the respondents are educated (77%) and fall between the ages of 15-30 Hausa/Fulanis (67%) with high and middle income earning (85%) and almost all of them believe in Islamic religion (96%) trader as occupation (96%), also fund and equipments for immunization services are majorly been contributed by partners like World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and so on, but Government plays a vital role in dealing with provision of man-power, staff trainings etc. The study recommends that: additional health care facilities should be constructed around some areas of the political wards for effective immunizations service delivery to avoid congestion and waste of time to the mothers/caregivers. Government should also encourage formal education to higher levels as it is one of the factors that influences immunization uptake, Government should employ additional manpower for efficient and easy immunization services, easy networking systems should be provided for easy report of monthly, quarterly or annual immunization status to the Federal Capital Territory Abuja.

Keywords: Distribution, Factors, Immunization, Pattern Spatial, Gombe.