

The Relationship between Infant Mortality and Maternal Education in Pakistan

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Pakistan is one of the countries with the highest infant mortality rate, which shows the poor health status of Pakistan. This paper talks about one of the factors that can help reduce infant mortality: maternal education. The research aims to analyze the relationship between infant mortality and maternal education in two time periods (2007-08 & 2012-13). Using the Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey, I conduct Logit and Probit regressions with infant mortality as the dependent variable and use the margins of the regressions to analyze the association of maternal education with infant mortality in both time periods. The sample includes first born of mothers born in the past five years of the interview. Results show that in 2007-08, primary and secondary education showed a negative association with the probability of infant mortality. While in 2012-13, higher education showed a significant negative relation with the probability of infant mortality. The model is limited and does not include some important factors, such as, the governmental policies that have aimed to reduce infant mortality in these years.