

# Public Health Expenditure and Health Status in Gujarat State

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## **Abstract :**

This research study is in the context of the government expenditure on health and its infant and maternal mortality rate in the state of Gujarat. Secondary data has been used for the study. Various statistical methods have been used for data analysis. The study is done with reference to government health expenditure and health status in a particular state. At the end of the study it is found that the public health expenditure of the state government has been continuously increasing and the infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate have been continuously decreasing in the state. Various schemes of the state government are seen to be successful in this direction. But the state government seems to need to do better to achieve the globally set child mortality targets.

**Key words :** Public health expenditure, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate, institutional delivery, health insurance.

## 1. Introduction:

Today, various countries in the world are constantly striving to improve the health status. During the global epidemic like covid-19, the people of the world had to struggle to survive. The countries of the world are seen making concerted efforts to achieve achievable development goals by 2030. At the same time, government spending on health is increasing in order to provide health benefits to the poor and low-income people of the world. At that time, these studies become important in studying the health status at the local level and reaching the benefits of health to everyone.

According to the Global Health Statistics report published by the World Health Organization in 2022, the health standards of the world and various countries are improving. Today the average life expectancy in the world is increasing. Along with the child mortality rate, the death rate is seen decreasing. But there are regional disparities. Health conditions are good in developed regions like Europe and America. Whereas in underdeveloped regions like Africa, health conditions are poor. There is a need to improve the health status of people in all regions of the world if we are to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Health expenditure can be considered an important factor in improving health status. According to the statistics of 2020, the total expenditure on health in the world is seen as 9 trillion US dollars in which government health expenditure is seen as 5.7 trillion US dollars.

## 2. Research Methodology:

Various statistical methods such as mean, ratio, analysis etc. methods have been used for this study.

### 3. Objectives of the Study:

To examine trends in public health expenditure in the state of Gujarat

To check the status of health oriented indicators in the state of Gujarat

### 4. Data Collection :

For the study, information has been obtained through various sources of secondary data like, National Family Health Survey, various budget documents of Gujarat Government, various government reports, various reports of World Health Organization.

### 5. Public Health Expenditure and Health Indicators in Gujarat State

Table: 1 Public Health Expenditure and Health Indicators in Gujarat State

Year	Public Health and Family Welfare Expenditure		Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)	Neonatal Mortality Rate (NNMR)	Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR)	Institutional Delivery	Maternal mortality rate
	Total in crores	per capita (in Rupees)					
2015-16	48437	1109	34.2	26.8	43.5	88.5	91
2019-20	70037	1589	31.2	21.8	37.6	94.3	70

Source: 1. Gujarat State Budget Document 2. National Family Health Survey .

#### 5.1. Public Health Expenditure in Gujarat State

Public Health Expenditure in the State of Gujarat has seen an increase during 2015-16 to 2019-20. Public Health and Family Welfare Expenditure Rs. 48537 crore in 2015-16 which increased to Rs. 70037 crores is 2019-20. The per capita public health expenditure in the state of Gujarat in 2015-16 was Rs. 1109 which

increased to Rs 1589 in 2019-20. Thus an increase in public health and family welfare expenditure can be seen in the state of Gujarat.

## **5.2. Health Status in Gujarat State**

### **5.2.1. Health Insurance in Gujarat State**

According to the National Family Health Survey - 4, a total of 23.1 percent of the families had health insurance in the state, in which according to the National Family Health Survey-5, it has increased to 37.0 percent. Thus, from 2015-16 to 2019-20, the number of families holding health insurance has increased by about 14 percent in the state. In which the proportion of government health insurance holders has also been taken into account.

### **5.2.2. Infant Mortality Rate:**

A decrease in infant mortality rate can be seen in the state. According to National Family Health Survey - 4, this rate was 34.2 which has decreased to 31.2 according to National Family Health Survey - 5. Thus the infant mortality rate in the state has reduced by 4 per 1000 live births. Expenditure on various health related schemes in the state seems to be becoming significant.

### **5.2.3. Neonatal Mortality Rate:**

According to National Family Health Survey-4 the neonatal mortality rate in the state was 26.8 per thousand live births which according to National Family Health Survey-5 was 21. 8, with a decrease of 5 per thousand live births. Various health oriented schemes are being implemented in the state with the objective of reducing the child mortality rate. In which important schemes such as *Bal Sakha Yojana*, *Special Newborn Care Unit*, *Vaccination*, *Khilkhilatetc.* are implemented.

### **5.2.4. Under-5 Mortality rate:**

This rate in Gujarat was 43.5 according to National Family Health Survey-4 which has decreased to 37.6 according to NFHS-5. According to this time period in the state, there is a decrease of 6 per thousand live birth.

Under the Achievable Development Goals, by 2030, the world's infant mortality rate is 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality rate per 1,000 live births are targeted to 25. Various steps are being taken by the Gujarat government in this direction. Infant mortality rate in Gujarat is higher than the set targets.

### **5.2.5. Maternal mortality rate**

Maternal mortality rate expresses the number of maternal deaths during the year per 100,000 live births. The maternal mortality rate in the state of Gujarat was 202 during 1999-01 which decreased to 172 in 2001-03, 122 in 2011-13 and 87 in 2015-17. It has increased to 70 during 2017-19. Thus the state government has achieved the globally set target of reduction in maternal mortality rate. Various schemes have been implemented in the state for maternal protection. Institutional delivery has increased in the state. According to National Family Health Survey 4, the rate of institutional delivery in the state was 88.5 percent which has increased to 94.3 percent according to National Family Health Survey 5. Also the success of *Chiranjeevi Ojana* etc. can be seen in the state. Utilization of public health services has increased in the state of Gujarat. As per 2015-16, about 32 percent of institutional delivery in the state was through public services, which increased to 43.3 percent in 2019-20. Thus, this can also be considered as an important factor for reducing the maternal mortality rate in the state.

### **6. Conclusion :**

In the state of Gujarat, there is a continuous increase in the government health expenditure, along with the benefits of health in the state are available to the citizens of the state. Infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate are

continuously decreasing in the state of Gujarat. Thus government health expenditure can be considered an important factor in improving health status. The state of Gujarat is seen as a leader in achieving global health goals.

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