



Volume 2	Issue 3	October (2022)	DOI: 10.47540/ijias.v2i3.662	Page: 212 – 218
----------	---------	----------------	------------------------------	-----------------

The Awareness of Housewives on the Quality of Healthy Food

Salwa Muftah Eljamay¹, Aziza. M. Agwida ALsheek², Noor-Alhlooda Milood Al Awkally³,
Salha Youssef Elmesoury⁴

¹Department of Public Health, Collage of Medical Technology, Libya

²Lab Medicine, Collage of Medical Technology, Libya

³Medical Laboratory Department, Higher Institute of Science and Technology, Libya

⁴Department of Public Health, Collage of Medical Technology, Libya

Corresponding Author: Salwa Muftah Eljamay; Email: salwaeljamay@gmail.com

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Healthy Food, Housewives, Life Style, Marital Status.

Received : 15 September 2022

Revised : 24 September 2022

Accepted : 06 October 2022

ABSTRACT

Housewives' knowledge about healthy food may influence the formation of their eating behaviors, Methods: using collecting sampling, a total of 313 housewives were recruited for the study. A questionnaire consisting of several sections was used for assessing nutrition knowledge where questions were adopted. Demographic data (Education level, age, income, and other Parameters) about nutrition education, the starting date of collection of questionnaire data was for eight months starting from 01/02/2019 to 01/11/2019. Results: the percent of married women was 62.0%, single by 19.0%, widows, by 12.2%, and divorce women by 6.1%, the percent of Economic Situation, the highest percentage for the medium by 91.0%, the graduate level high percentage of 41.2% followed by a high graduated Level of 38.3% then a Medium level with 8.3 % and who have no level of education was 12.1%, the mean and respectively, the Correlations between the awareness of housewives about the educational level and Life Style of housewives, and there was no relationship between Knowledge with Life Style & Education level that the P-Value = 0.000, that is significant at the 0.01 level (p-value). the Education level of housewives about the Life Style of housewives that the table illustrated there was no relationship between the Education level of housewives and Life Style p-value = 0.002, which is significant at the 0.01 level (p-value). The Life Style of housewives and the Marital Status of housewives that the P-Value = 0.005, which is significant at the 0.01 level (p-value). Conclusion: From these results, it was found that there is not a strong correlation between the extent of awareness of healthy nutrition, age, school level, and economic level, and that, there is a strong relationship between healthy food awareness and watching TV, and this indicates the importance of Education programs.

INTRODUCTION

World Health Organization (WHO) has developed the Five Keys to Safer Food program as a guide available to provide basic principles that everyone should know to ensure safer food and prevent foodborne illness, cook well, keep food at a safe temperature, and use safe water and raw materials (Ashkanani et al., 2021). The education level of pregnant women and socioeconomic status were positively associated with nutrition knowledge. The study shows satisfactory

knowledge and attitude toward nutrition and diet during pregnancy but practices toward nutrition are still lacking among the study population. Thus, a significant gap is there in translating knowledge attitude into practice (Sangwan et al., 2022). The good knowledge of minimum dietary diversity for children 6–23 months old and a very low proportion of children 6–23 months old received diversified meals according to Infant and Young Child Feeding indicators. It was identified that different factors

are responsible for this discrepancy (Hindawi, 2017).

Lower levels of education and people in rural areas benefit more from increased knowledge about food. The policy implications of this study are also discussed. (Sun et al., 2021), the development of consumption of organic food products, many factors that are seen among consumption obstacles is actually related to consumer knowledge (Demirtas, 2018). The differences between how single women and single men experience constrained access to country foods may partially account for previous findings that single women in arctic settlements appear to be at particular risk for food insecurity (Collings et al., 2016). A more effective strategy is needed to increase the awareness of the Malaysian Healthy Plate concept among rural adults (Che Abdul Rahim et al., 2022). The majority of the mothers of children in Jordan with ECC had poor knowledge about their children's oral health status. Moreover, seeking dental treatment was delayed by a large number of mothers of children with ECC (BaniHani et al., 2021). The most effective nutritional information system to inform consumers about the nutritional quality of foods in Morocco, where could constitute a useful tool to help consumers in their food choices in situations of purchase (Aguenaou et al., 2021).

Public health strategies should focus on encouraging parental healthy-eating attitudes rather than simply educating parents on what to feed their children, recognizing the important influence of parental behavior on children's practices (Romanos-Nanclares et al., 2018), the mothers have good knowledge of minimum dietary diversity for children 6–23 months old and very low proportion of children 6–23 months old received diversified meal according to Infant and Young Child Feeding indicators. It was identified that different factors are responsible for this discrepancy (Agize et al., 2017). Consumer preference for organic vegetables is still considered quite low. Factors influencing low consumer preference are the price of organic vegetables, which is more expensive than non-organic vegetables, and the unattractive packaging of organic vegetables (Adawiyah et al., 2021). Healthy dietary habits and stress management techniques need to be incorporated from very early life (Kaundal et al., 2022).

Adequate knowledge and attitudes of mothers about diet can be a factor that prevents nutritional problems (stunting and malnutrition) (Marchianti et al., 2022), the food safety knowledge of street food vendors and the sanitary conditions of their street food vending environment in the Zululand District, South Africa (Nkosi & Tabit, 2021). Products are the healthiest and most nutritious food products, which can have a significant impact on quality of life and health (Rahnama, 2017). The food safety awareness did not have a simultaneous effect ($p>0.05$) on the interest in buying frozen food products which indicates the low level of food safety awareness among housewives in D.I (Sari et al., 2022). The food quality of street food showed a stronger influence on utilitarian value among the low-risk perception group than the high-risk perception group depending on the consumers' level of awareness of food safety (Seo & Lee, 2021). Improved food knowledge and preferences require a positive food environment and time to develop healthy eating behaviors (Sirasa et al., 2021). Knowledge about the product made by internal stimuli and interpretation of the products happen through external stimuli. Internal stimuli are more powerful for women especially when they play the role of mother and caretaker of the family (Nevetida et al., 2022).

METHODS

Study design

Using convenience sampling, a total of 313 housewives were recruited for the study. A questionnaire consisting of several sections was used for assessing nutrition knowledge where questions from data were adapted. Demographic data (Education level, age, income, and other data) about nutrition education, the starting date of collection of questionnaire data was between 03/2019 to 01/2020.

Collecting Data

After obtaining informed consent, the participants were asked to fill out the questionnaire for the first time, and this served as the baseline data. Participants who were not at ease with reading and/or had difficulty writing down the answers were assisted; the questions were read and the answers were jotted down.

Statistical Analysis

The data analyzed the usage of the Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) ® model 26.0, Statistical analyses have been done with the usage of different checks and evaluation of variance to evaluate variations in baseline nutrition knowledge.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To measure the Reliability Statistics of the questionnaire, we used Cronbach's Alpha to verify study consistency = 0.586 nearby 1 that's means the questionnaire data are real to accreditation. The following table 1.

Table 1. Frequencies of all parameters and their percent

	Percent %	Frequency
Age Categories		
15 - 25 Years	13.4	42
26 - 35 Years	27.5	86
36 - 45 Years	27.8	87
46 - 55 Years	24.9	78
56 - 65 Years	4.8	15
66 - 75 Years	1.6	5
Education level		
There is no	12.1	38
Graduated level	41.2	129
High graduated Level	38.3	120
Medium Level	8.3	26
Marital status		
Married	62.0	194
Single	19.8	62
Widow	12.1	38
Divorced	6.1	19
Economic situation		
Medium	91.1	285
Weak	0.6	2
High	8.3	26
Satisfied of Healthy food knowledge		
Yes	56.2	176
No	43.8	137
Watching Cooking programs		
Yes	49.8	156
No	16.9	53
Some times	33.2	104
Awareness by the requirement of Healthy Food		
Yes	60.4	189
No	39.6	124
Effect of iron absorption by tea drinking		
Yes	77.6	243
No	1.9	6
I 'Don't Know	20.4	64

Food which contain Ca+		
Dairy, Eggs, Cheese, etc.	99.4	311
I 'Don't know	0.6	2
Food which Contain Portion		
Meat, Poultry, Legumes, etc.	99.4	311
I 'Don't know	0.6	2
Change mind about nutrition behavior to improve health		
Yes	56.2	176
No	43.8	137
Content of healthy food		
Correct answers	60.4	189
I Don` t Know	39.6	124
Total	100.0 %	313

Figure 1 shows that the percentage of married women was 62.0% than single by 19.0%, widows by 12.2 %, and divorce women by 6.1 %

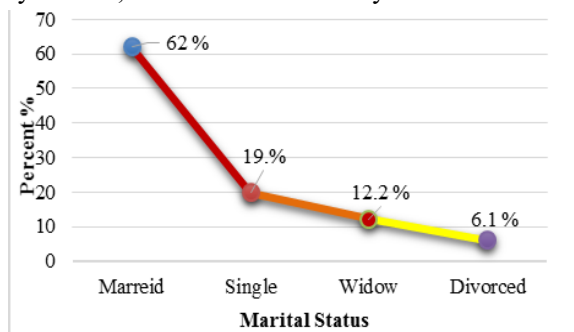


Figure 1. Percent of Marital Status

Figure 2 shows the percentage of Economic Situation, that the highest percentage for the medium by 91.0 %

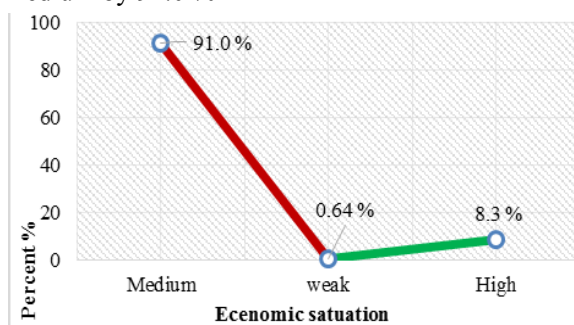


Figure 2. Percent of Economic Situation

Figure 3 shows that the graduated level has a High percent 41.2% followed by a high graduated

Level by 38.3% then a Medium level at 8.3% and who have no level of education were by 12.1%.

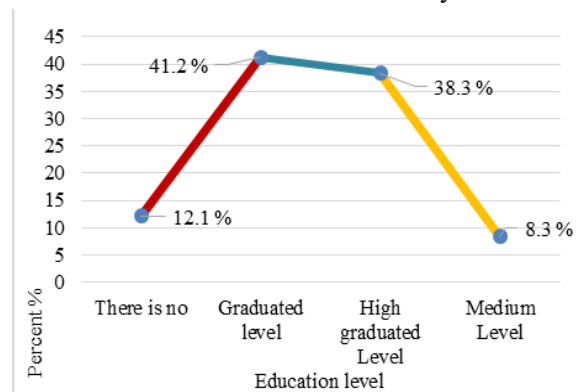


Figure 3. Percent of Education Level

Descriptive Statistics parameters are shown as, the mean and respectively, Education level, Economic Situation, Food which contains Ca+, Food which contains portions, Change mind about nutrition Behavior to improve health, Satisfied of food knowledge, Essential meals, Awareness of the requirement of healthy food, Watching to cooking program, as shown in the table in table 2.

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics parameters, Mean & Std. Deviation

	Mean	Std. D
Education level	2.4281	0.80986
Economic Situation	1.1725	0.55667
Food which contain Ca ⁺	13.0064	0.07981
Food which contains portion	13.0064	0.07981
Change mind about nutrition Behavior to improve health	1.3482	0.47718
Satisfied of food knowledge	1.4377	0.49690
Essential meals	1.3738	0.59718
Awareness by requirement of healthy food	1.3962	0.48988
Content of healthy food	8.3962	0.48988
Watching to cooking program	1.8339	0.89758

Table 3 the Correlations between the attention of housewives concerning the academic level and Life variety of housewives, the table illustrated there was no relationship between information with Life vogue & Education level that the P-Value = 0.000 that the Correlation is important at the 0.01 level (p-value).

Table 3. Correlations between the attention of housewives concerning the academic level and Life variety of housewives

Correlations		Life Style	Education level
Knowledge	(R)	0.440**	-0.299-***
	P-Value	0.000	0.000
	N	313	313

Table 4 shows the Correlation between the Education level of housewives about the Life Style of housewives that the table illustrated there was no relationship between the Education level of housewives and Life Style p-value = 0.002, Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (p-value).

Table 4. Correlation between the Education level of housewives about the Life Style of housewives

Correlations		Life Style
Education level	(R)	-0.171-***
	P-Value	0.002
	N	313

Table 5 the Correlations between the Life Style of housewives about the Marital Status of housewives the P-Value = 0.005, and the Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (p-value).

Table 5. Correlations between the Life Style of housewives about the Marital Status of housewives

Correlations		Marital Status
Life Style	(R)	0.159**
	P-Value	0.005
	N	313

From the data, the responsibility Statistics of the form, we used Cronbach's Alpha to verify study consistency = 0.586 close one which means the questionnaire knowledge is real to enfranchisement. within table 1, for highest % for Graduated level and High graduated Level means the housewives have an honest education, by (41.2%, 38.3%), regarding economic standing the very best percentage for medium (91.1%), the percentage of Awareness by demand of Healthy Food (77.6%). The knowledge of Content for healthy food (60.4 %).

In table 2, Descriptive Statistics parameters are shown as, the mean and severally, Education level, Economic scenario, Food that contain Ca⁺, Food which contain portion, amendment mind regarding nutrition Behavior to boost health, glad of food knowledge, Essential meals, Awareness by demand of healthy food, looking at to as shown as in table 3 the change of state program, the Correlations between the notice of housewives about the tutorial level and Life variety of housewives, the table illustrated there has been no relationship among information with Life vogue & Education stage that the P-Value = 0.000 that the Correlation is very large on the 0.01 stage (p-value). Table 4 suggests the Correlation between the Education level of housewives regarding the Life variety of housewives that the table illustrated there was no

relationship between the Education level of housewives and Life vogue p-value = 0.002, the correlation is huge on the 0.01 level (p-value). In table 5 the Correlation between the Life variety of housewives approximately the legal status of housewives is that P-Value = 0.005, that the Correlation is huge on the 0.01 level (p-value).

CONCLUSION

From these results, it was found that there is not a strong correlation between the extent of awareness of healthy nutrition, age, school level, and economic level, and that, there is a strong relationship between healthy food awareness and watching TV, and this indicates the importance of Education programs.

REFERENCES

1. Adawiyah, R., Najib, M., & ALI, M. M. (2021). Information effect on organic vegetable purchase interest through consumer preferences and awareness. *The Journal of Asian Finance, Economics and Business*, 8(2), 1055–1062.
2. Agize, A., Jara, D., & Dejen, G. (2017). Level of Knowledge and Practice of Mothers on Minimum Dietary Diversity Practices and Associated Factors for 6–23-Month-Old Children in Adea Woreda, Oromia, Ethiopia. *BioMed Research International*, 2017, 1–9.
3. Aguenou, H., El Ammari, L., Bigdeli, M., El Hajjaj, A., Lahmam, H., Labzizi, S., Gamih, H., Talouizte, A., Serbouti, C., & El Kari, K. (2021). Comparison of appropriateness of Nutri-Score and other front-of-pack nutrition labels across a group of Moroccan consumers: Awareness, understanding and food choices. *Archives of Public Health*, 79(1), 1–13.
4. Ashkanani, F., Husain, W., & Al Dwairji, M. (2021). Assessment of Food Safety and Food Handling Practice Knowledge among College of Basic Education Students, Kuwait. *Journal of Food Quality*, 2021.
5. BaniHani, A., Tahmassebi, J., & Zawaideh, F. (2021). Maternal knowledge on early childhood caries and barriers to seek dental treatment in Jordan. *European Archives of Paediatric Dentistry*, 22(3), 433–439.
6. Che Abdul Rahim, N., Ahmad, M. H., Siew Man, C., Zainuddin, A. A., Rodzlan Hasani, W. S., Ganapathy, S. S., & Ahmad, N. A. (2022). Factors Influencing the Levels of Awareness on Malaysian Healthy Plate Concept among Rural Adults in Malaysia. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(10), 6257.
7. Collings, P., Marten, M. G., Pearce, T., & Young, A. G. (2016). Country food sharing networks, household structure, and implications for understanding food insecurity in Arctic Canada. *Ecology of Food and Nutrition*, 55(1), 30–49.
8. Demirtas, B. (2018). Assessment of the impacts of the consumers' awareness of organic food on consumption behavior. *Food Science and Technology*, 39, 881–888.
9. Eljamay S M, Burwag ZO. (2021). Relationship between Thyroids Disease & Heredity by the Libyan knowledge of Nutrition, *Libyan Women Conference for Recent Studies*, 28-29/12/2021, Tripoli, Libya, P 68 – 77.
10. Eljamay SM, Alghazali MAA, Eldalal HHA. Incident of Vitamin D Deficiency in Derna City Libya. *J Endo Metabol Res*. 2022;3(1):1-15
11. Eljamay S M. (2019). Hepatitis B and C Infections in Hemodialysis Patients in Derna City, 2019. *International Journal of Applied Science*. ISSN: 2208-2182
12. Eljamay S M , Elkhailani W Kh, Eljamay F M, Sassi Kh M, Relationship between Obesity (BMI) and Anaemia (Hb %) in Derna City/Libya, 2021, *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Sciences and Advanced Technology Journal* home page: <http://www.ijmsat.com>, P 622 – 627.
13. H. Khalifa, N. M. Al-Awkally, S. M. Eljamay. (2022). Oral Delivery of Biologics: Recent Advances, Challenges, and Future Perspectives. *African Journal of Advanced Pure and Applied Sciences (AJAPAS)*, 1 (2), 1-6.
14. Kaundal, A., Renjhen, P., & Kumari, R. (2022). Awareness of Lifestyle Modifications in the Management of PCOS: A Population-Based Descriptive Cross-Sectional Study. *Preprints Research Square*. <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-1378647/v1>
15. Marchianti, A. C. N., Rachmawati, D. A., Astuti, I. S. W., Raharjo, A. M., & Prasetyo, R. (2022). The impact of knowledge, attitude and practice of eating behavior on stunting and undernutrition in children in the agricultural

- area of Jember District, Indonesia. *Jurnal Berkala Epidemiologi*, 10(2), 140–150.
16. Nevedida, M., Leelavathi, D., & Kulandairaj, A. J. (2022). A study on perception of housewives towards organic food products in the post Covid times. *Journal of Positive School Psychology*, 6(3), 7425–7430.
 17. Nkosi, N. V., & Tabit, F. T. (2021). The food safety knowledge of street food vendors and the sanitary conditions of their street food vending environment in the Zululand District, South Africa. *Heliyon*, 7(7), e07640.
 18. Rahnama, H. (2017). Effect of Consumption Values on Women's Choice Behavior Toward Organic Foods: The Case of Organic Yogurt in Iran. *Journal of Food Products Marketing*, 23(2), 144–166.
 19. Romanos-Nanclares, A., Zazpe, I., Santiago, S., Marín, L., Rico-Campà, A., & Martín-Calvo, N. (2018). Influence of parental healthy-eating attitudes and nutritional knowledge on nutritional adequacy and diet quality among preschoolers: The SENDO project. *Nutrients*, 10(12), 1875.
 20. Saah, F. I., Amu, H., Seidu, A.-A., & Bain, L. E. (2021). Health knowledge and care seeking behaviour in resource-limited settings amidst the COVID-19 pandemic: A qualitative study in Ghana. *PLoS One*, 16(5), e0250940.
 21. S. M. Eljamay, E. S. Mousa Elgebaily, F. Younis, and F. M. Eljamay. (2022). The Rate of Socioeconomic and Demographic Factors Affecting Body Mass Index (BMI) among Teenagers in Derna City, Libya. *African Journal of Advanced Pure and Applied Sciences (AJAPAS)*, 1 (3), 91–97, August 2022.
 22. Sangwan, K., Kshirsagar, V., Parande, M., Salunke, N., Solanki, K., Tambe, M., & Pundkar, D. (2022). Knowledge, attitude and practices regarding nutrition among pregnant females visiting the antenatal care outpatient department of a tertiary care hospital, Pune. *International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health*, 9 (2), 902-907.
 23. Sari, A. R., Revulaningtyas, I. R., Anoraga, S. B., & Wijanarti, S. (2022). The Effect of Housewives' Food Safety Awareness on Processed Frozen Food Buying Interest during Covid19 Pandemic in DI Yogyakarta Region. *2nd International Conference on Smart and Innovative Agriculture (ICoSIA 2021)*, 401–405.
 24. Seo, K. H., & Lee, J. H. (2021). Understanding risk perception toward food safety in street food: The relationships among service quality, values, and repurchase intention. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(13), 6826.
 25. Sirasa, F., Mitchell, L., Azhar, A., Chandrasekara, A., & Harris, N. (2021). A 6-week healthy eating intervention with family engagement improves food knowledge and preferences but not dietary diversity among urban preschool children in Sri Lanka. *Public Health Nutrition*, 24(13), 4328–4338.
 26. Sun, Y., Dong, D., & Ding, Y. (2021). The impact of dietary knowledge on health: Evidence from the China Health and nutrition survey. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(7), 3736.
 27. Teng, C.-C., Chih, C., Yang, W.-J., & Chien, C.-H. (2021). Determinants and Prevention Strategies for Household Food Waste: An Exploratory Study in Taiwan. *Foods*, 10(10), 2331.
 28. Yun, W., Xiangping, Y., Xianju, G. U., Changxiu, M., & Yanling, Z. (2022). Developing a conceptual model for understanding nutritional problems and health-related outcomes among Chinese patients with type 2 diabetes: Implications for digital health interventions.
 29. Younis F H , Eljamay S , Eldali AM. (2020). The Rate of Fast-Food Consumption among Teenagers in Derna City, Libya. *Al-Mukhtar Journal of Sciences*, 35 (1), 13-18.
 30. Younis FH, Eljamay SM. (2019). Fast Food Consumption among Teenagers aged between (13 to 25) years old and Their Effect on Health in Derna - Libya. *J Regen Biol Med*. 1(1):1-8.