

Quantifying Health Indicators in Kachin State, Myanmar: Results from a population-based survey during a ceasefire

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INTRODUCTION

- Myanmar is in the midst of the world's longest ongoing civil war ¹
- 105,000 Internally Displaced Persons in Kachin State ²



- 13.5% of the population is undernourished ³
- In 2019, 240,000 people were living with HIV ⁴
- 2018 74% of PWID were tested for HIV, but gaps in ART remain high and the country does not invest public health creating barriers ⁵

OBJECTIVES

- Our project aims to better understand and describe the health status of marginalized populations in Kachin State, where insufficient health data exists.
- We provide a baseline assessment of health status, which can later be compared to post-conflict conditions since the resumption of conflict in 2011

METHODS AND SURVEY POPULATION

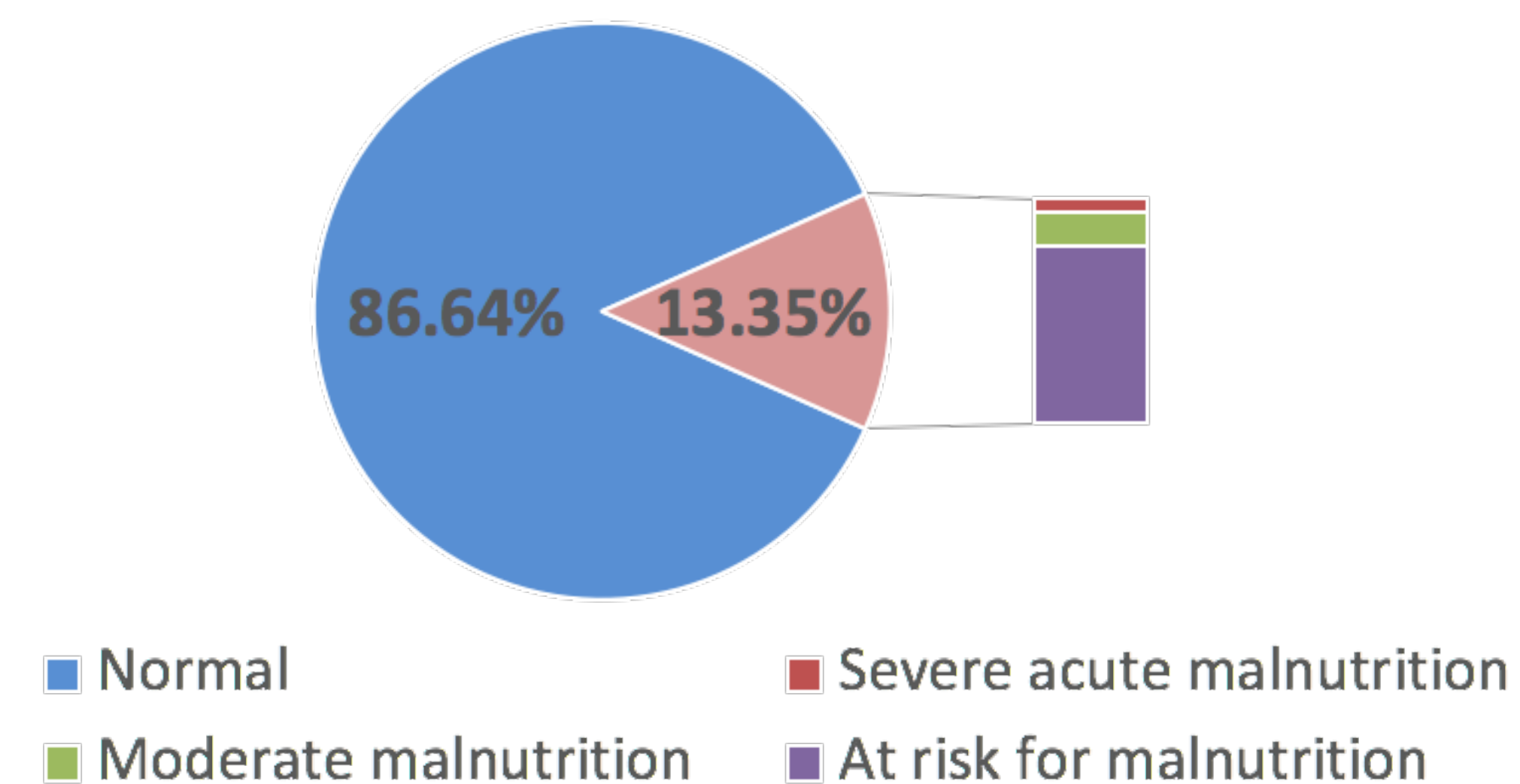
In 2007, ethnic community health workers conducted a multi-stage cluster survey to assess key indicators of women and child health (WCH) and HIV knowledge.

We used multiple logistic regression to assess associations of demographic factors and household exposures with household death and HIV knowledge

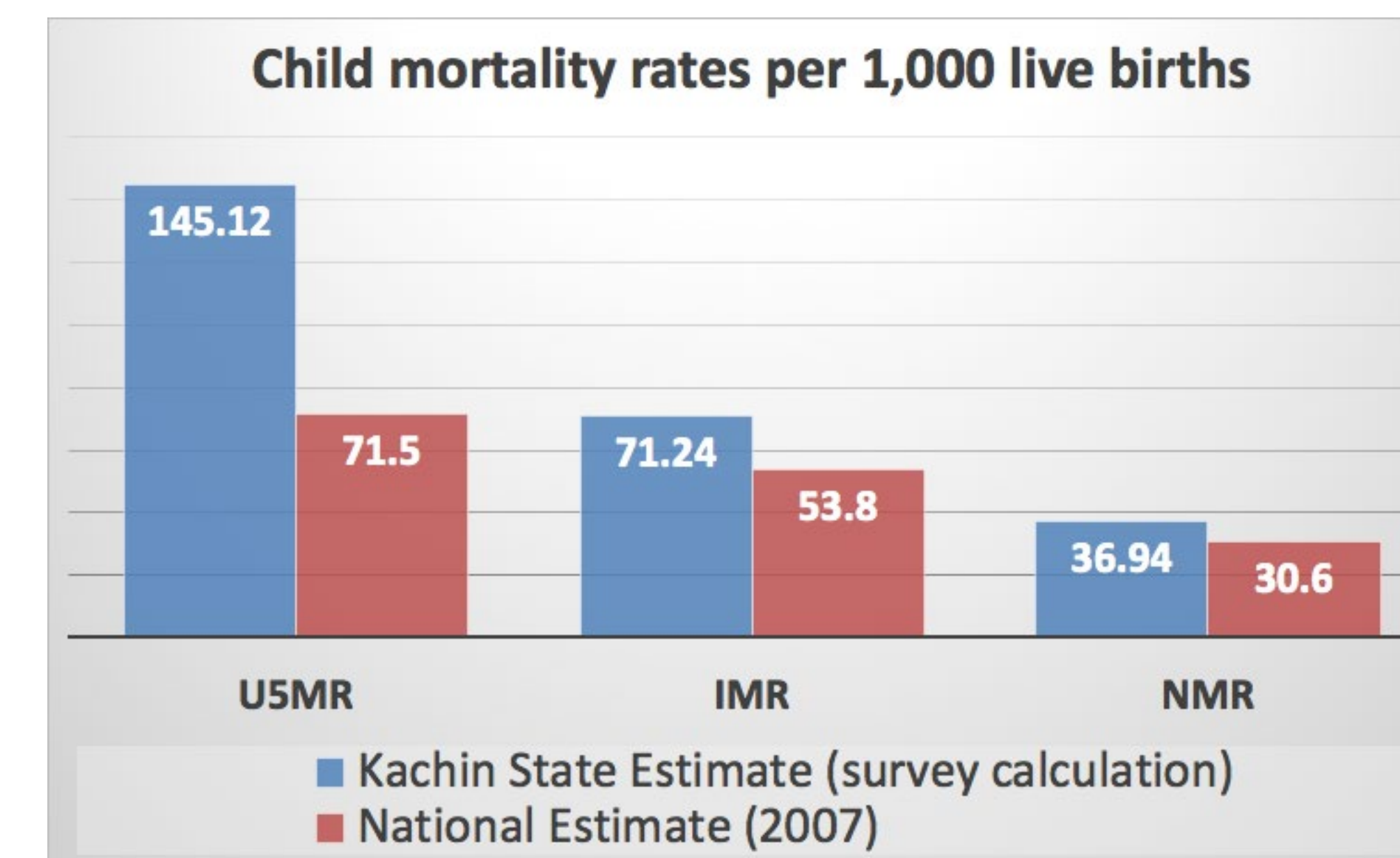


RESULTS

Nutritional status of children 3 months to 5 years (N=1,370)



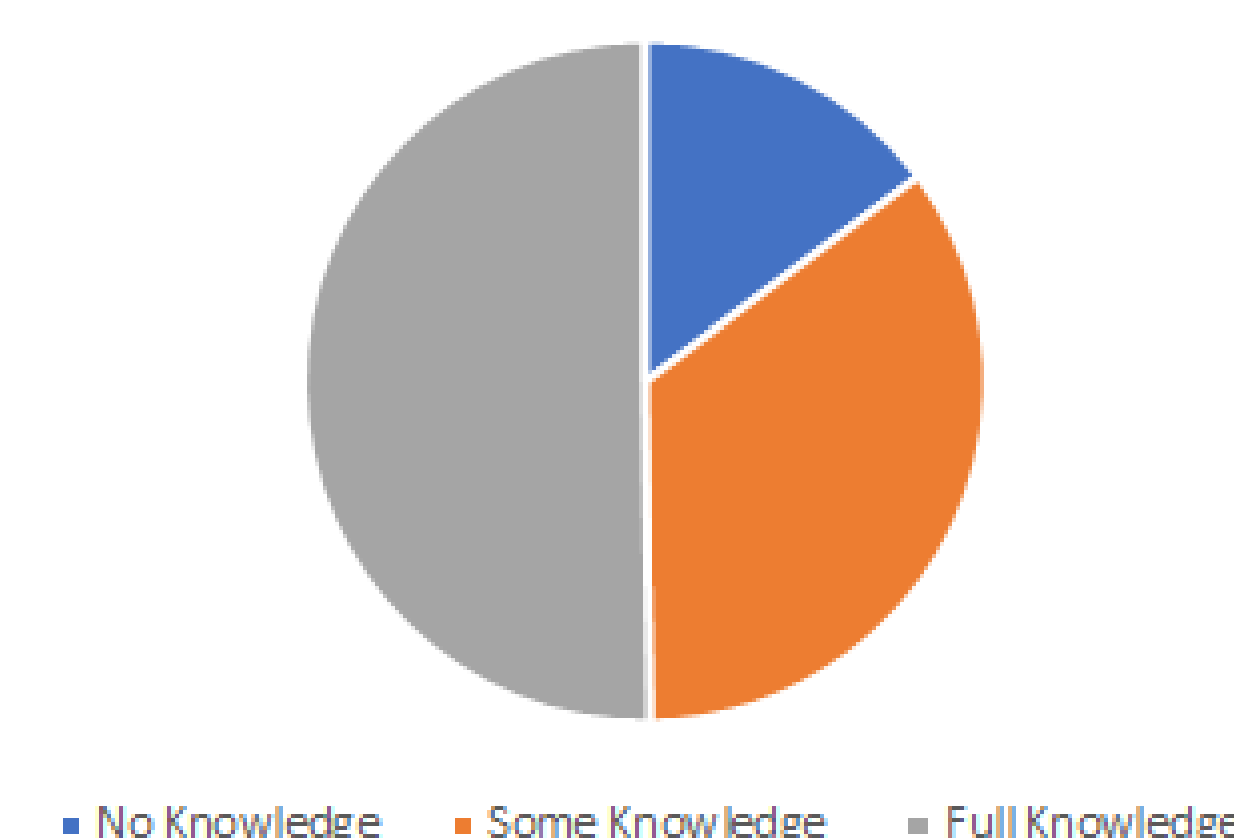
Child mortality rates per 1,000 live births



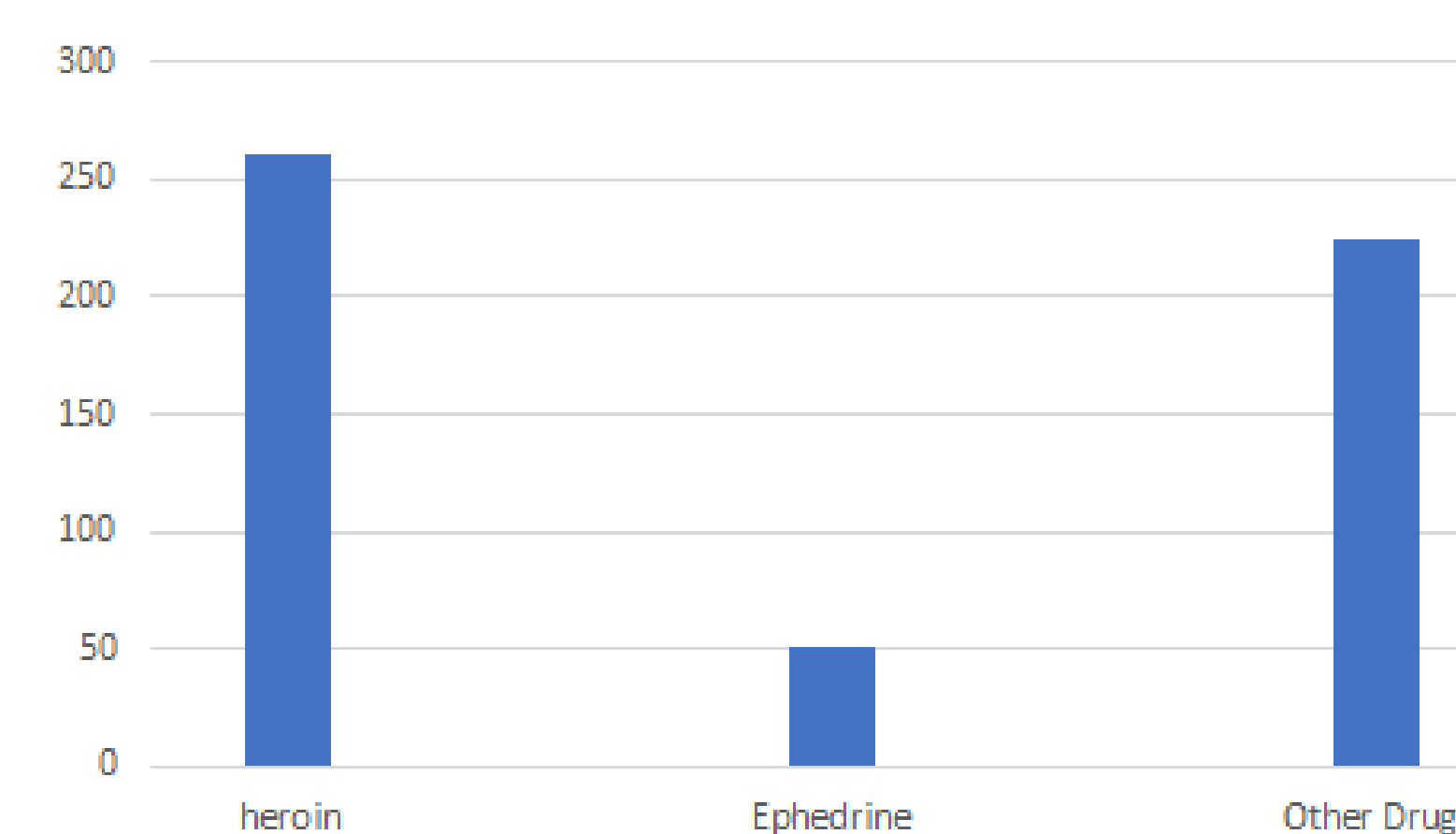
Multivariable associations between key indicators and household mortality (N=1,505)

Indicator	POR	95% CI	p value
Any child malnutrition in household	2.64	1.08-6.45	0.033
Any household ITNs	0.46	0.25-0.84	0.013
Presence of a skilled birth attendant at delivery	0.67	0.46-0.97	0.037
Use of modern contraceptives	0.45	0.20-0.99	0.048

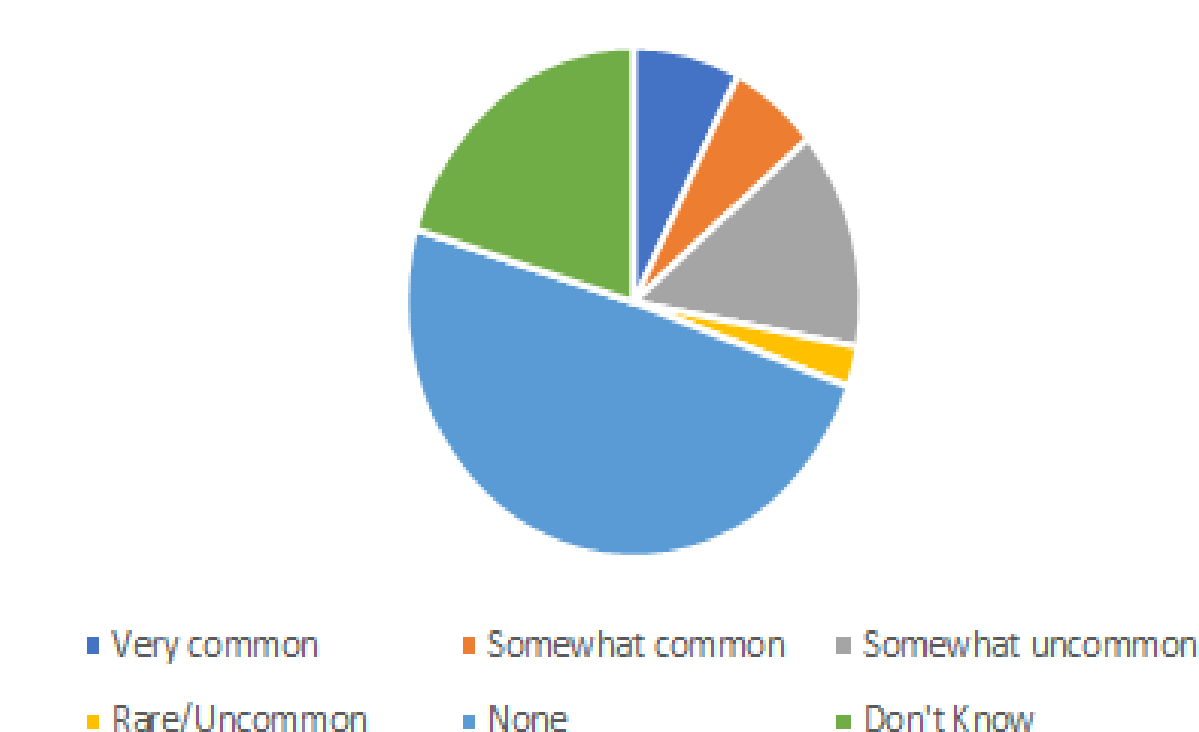
HIV knowledge composite score for all respondents (N=1,720)



Frequency of drugs (N=537)



Overall respondents of how common they think IV drug use is (N=1,712)



CONCLUSIONS

Child mortality in Kachin State during a ceasefire period in 2007 exceeded national estimates and was associated with plausible risk factors including household undernutrition.

The HIV knowledge and perceptions for respondents were substantial in three areas: general awareness, transmission through sharing needles, and transmission through unprotected sex. This percentage crossed gender, age, and household income source demographics. In light of the composite scores, the response values indicate a gap in knowledge and perception.

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