

Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) - Vulnerability Analysis of the Proportion of Children Aged 6 to 35 Months With Anaemia in Peruvian Departments

Benjamin Arriaga

Universidad del Pacífico

Facultad de Ingeniería

Jirón Luis Sánchez Cerro 2141 Lima, Perú

bm.arriagaa@alum.up.edu.pe

Abstract. Anaemia is a significant public health concern, particularly among children aged 6 to 35 months, due to its adverse effects on cognitive development and overall well-being. This problem shows significant regional variations throughout various departments in Peru. Therefore, to identify high-risk locations and efficiently prioritize interventions, a thorough vulnerability analysis of the percentage of children with anaemia is required. The AHP is a multi-criteria decision-making technique that enables systematic evaluation and prioritization by structuring complex problems into a hierarchical framework. In this study, the sociodemographic, healthcare, and environmental data are combined with the AHP framework to analyse anaemia vulnerability. The indicators are quantified and their weights within the AHP model are determined using data from national surveys, official publications, and relevant literature. The relative importance of each criterion is then used to calculate vulnerability indices for Peruvian departments and this information will be used to design an anaemia vulnerability map to facilitate decision making and the creation of public policies.

Keywords. Analytic Hierarchy Process, Anaemia, Vulnerability, Perú.

Acknowledgments

Ph.D. Álvaro Talavera, Faculty Advisor
Geraldine García, student of engineering at the Universidad del Pacífico
Desiree Llancari, student of engineering at the Universidad del Pacífico

References

- Chong, Alberto, et al. Iron deficiency and schooling attainment in Peru. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2016, vol. 8, no 4, p. 222-255.
- Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática. (2021). Sistema de Información Regional para la Toma de Decisiones [Regional Information System for Decision Making][Database]. Retrieved from <https://www.inei.gob.pe/sirtod>
- Kolasa, A., Ręka, G., Radziejowska, Z., Bielak, A., Janiszewska, M., & Drabko, K. (2023). Effect of iron deficiency anemia on blood levels of interleukin 6 and infection rates in children: A pilot study. *Acta Haematologica Polonica*. <https://doi.org/10.5603/ahp.a2023.0017>
- Lorena, A. (2012). The economic impact of anaemia in Peru. GRADE.
- Ortiz Romaní, K. J., Ortiz Montalvo, Y. J., Escobedo Encarnación, J. R., Neyra de la Rosa, L., & Jaimes Velásquez, C. A. (2021). Análisis del modelo multicausal sobre el nivel de la anemia en niños de 6 a 35 meses en Perú. *Enfermería Global*, 20(4), 426–455. <https://doi.org/10.6018/eglobal.472871>
- Saaty TL. Decision making with the analytic hierarchy process. *Int J Serv Sci* 2008;1:83-98.
- Whitney, R., Centrone, W. A., Mamani, H. S., Falkenstein, K., Levine, R. S., Harris, J., ... & Lim, C. A. (2021). Impact of a collaborative childhood anaemia intervention programme in Peru. *Tropical Medicine & International Health*, 26(6), 680-686.