

Assess the Knowledge and Attitude on Prevention of Climatic Change Among Adults

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ABSTRACT

Climate change remains one of the most critical global environmental challenges of the 21st century. Reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change emphasize its growing intensity and widespread impact across the globe. The study aimed to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding the prevention of climate change among adults in a selected setting in Chennai. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire to assess knowledge and a rating scale to evaluate attitude. The findings revealed that 46% of participants had adequate knowledge, while 52% demonstrated a favourable attitude and there is a positive significant correlation ($r=0.681$, $p=0.01$) is observed between knowledge and attitude and the study result was supported by Lee K et al. (2020) found a significant positive correlation between knowledge and attitude toward climate change prevention ($r = 0.65$, $p < 0.01$). The findings indicated that individuals with higher levels of knowledge demonstrated more favourable attitudes toward environmental protection, supporting the present study which also shows a positive significant relationship ($r = 0.681$, $p = 0.01$) between knowledge and attitude respectively. The study concludes that there is a need to enhance understanding, awareness, and perceptions among adults to promote positive attitudes and effective behaviors toward climate change prevention.

KEYWORDS: *Climate change, Environment etc.*

INTRODUCTION

Climate change is one of the most pressing global environmental challenges of the 21st century. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Earth's average temperature has increased significantly over the past century and is projected to rise further due to increasing greenhouse gas emissions (IPCC, 2021). Major greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O) are primarily released through human activities including industrialization, transportation, and deforestation (World Health Organization, 2020).

Climate change has far-reaching consequences on natural and human systems, affecting food security, water availability, biodiversity, and human health (United Nations, 2020). It also contributes to extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and ecosystem disruptions (IPCC, 2021). These impacts pose a

significant threat to sustainable development and global well-being.

Addressing climate change requires both mitigation and adaptation strategies. Mitigation focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while adaptation aims to minimize the adverse effects of climate variability (IPCC, 2014). Importantly, individuals' knowledge and perception of climate change influence their willingness to adopt environmentally responsible behaviors (Leiserowitz et al., 2010). Therefore, enhancing awareness, particularly among young people, is crucial for promoting sustainable practices and ensuring a resilient future.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the knowledge and attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults at selected setting, Chennai.

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OBJECTIVES

- To assess the knowledge and attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults at selected setting.
- To find the correlation between knowledge, and attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults at selected setting.
- To associate the knowledge and attitude on prevention of climatic change with selected demographic variables of adults.
- To create awareness on climatic change among adults.

NULL HYPOTHESES

H0 1: There is no significant relationship between knowledge and attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults.

H02: There is no significant association between knowledge and attitude on prevention of climatic change with demographic variables of adults.

Methodology:

The study was conducted in Neelankarai community area. Research design of this study is descriptive

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

SECTION - A Frequency and percentage distribution of the demographic variables of adults

Majority 32% of the sample were in the age group of 30-39 years, 52% of the sample were female, majority 56% of adults living in rural area, 29% of the sample had secondary level education, 36% of the sample of them were unemployed.

SECTION - B Frequency and percentage distribution of the knowledge on prevention of climatic change among adults

The study findings reveals that majority 46 % of the samples had adequate knowledge ,31% of the samples had moderate knowledge and 23% of the samples had poor knowledge regarding prevention of climatic change and the study result was supported by Sharma P et al. (2025) conducted a study on knowledge on prevention of climatic change among adults and the result shows that individuals with **higher knowledge levels were more likely to adopt preventive measures** such as energy conservation, waste reduction, and eco-friendly practices.

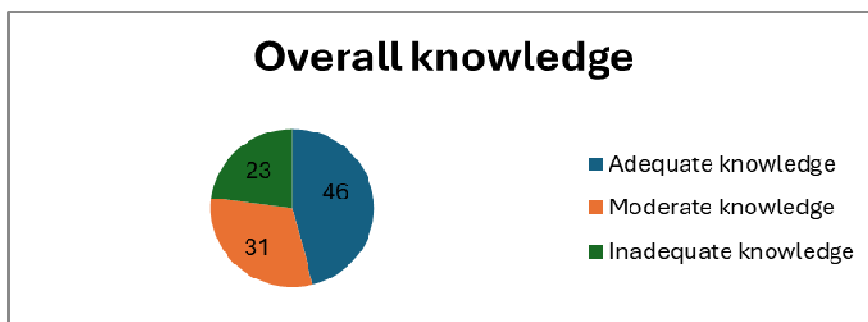


Figure-1 Overall frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding prevention of climatic change among adults.

SECTION - C Frequency and percentage distribution of the attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults

The study findings reveals that majority 52% of the samples had favourable attitude ,34% of the samples had moderate attitude regarding and 14% of the samples had unfavourable attitude. The study result was supported by **John Healer., (2021)** conducted the climate change on knowledge and attitude among adults at Brazil. A quantitative descriptive survey design with a self-administered questionnaire was used to collect data from 1200

design. and non probability convenient sampling technique was used and sample consisted of 100 adults. The tool consisted of demographic variables, interview and structured questionnaire method. Data analysis and interpretation was done using inferential statistics. Informed consent was obtained from the study samples.

Tools of the study.

SECTION - A Frequency and percentage distribution of the demographic variables of adults

SECTION - B Frequency and percentage distribution of the knowledge on prevention of climatic change among adults

SECTION - C Frequency and percentage distribution of the attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults

SECTION - D Correlation between Knowledge and Attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults

SECTION - E Association between the level of Knowledge on prevention of climatic change with selected demographic variables of adults.

adults. The results show 72.6% of adults scored > 75% on the scale of knowledge indicating adequate knowledge regarding attitude 54% adults scored > 60% on the favourable attitudes scale

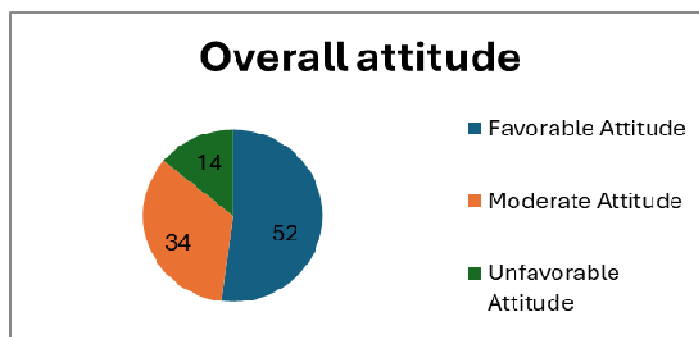


Figure-2 Overall frequency and percentage distribution of level of Attitude regarding prevention of climatic change among adults

SECTION - D Correlation between Knowledge and Attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults

The study findings reveals that, there is a positive significant correlation ($r=0.681$, $p=0.01$) is observed between knowledge and attitude and the study result was supported by Lee K et al. (2020) found a significant positive correlation between knowledge and attitude toward climate change prevention ($r = 0.65$, $p < 0.01$). The findings indicated that individuals with higher levels of knowledge demonstrated more favourable attitudes toward environmental protection, supporting the present study which also shows a positive significant relationship ($r = 0.681$, $p = 0.01$) between knowledge and attitude.

SECTION - E Association between the level of Knowledge on prevention of climatic change with selected demographic variables of adults.

The study result depicts that there was no statistically association found between level of knowledge on climatic change with demographic variables like age, gender, locality, education and occupation.

NURSING IMPLICATION:

NURSING PRACTICE:

- Nurses should be motivated to create awareness on climatic change in community.
- Global events such as world Environmental day could be used as a forum to conduct education campaign on climatic change.

NURSING EDUCATION:

- Nurse educator should insist the student nurses and the staff nurses to develop the knowledge in climatic change and its impact on health.
- Nurses educator should change the attitude of community people in climatic change.

NURSING ADMINISTRATION:

- Nursing administrator should collaborate with nursing students on knowledge and attitude on climatic change
- Nurse administrator can provide adequate information materials at all nursing students that could be used with conducting teaching programme.

NURSING RESEARCH:

- The study will be valuable reference for future research.
- The nurse researcher can develop new strategies to import and attitude on climatic change among adults.

- The nurse researcher can adopt various teaching learning methods and can conduct research on climatic change.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Keeping the findings of the present study in view “A study to assess the knowledge and attitude on prevention of climatic change among adults at selected setting, Chennai”.

The following recommendations were made. The investigator planned to suggest

- The research study can be conducted in a large sample size at different setting.
- The research study can be conducted as an experimental study.
- The research study can be conducted using different research tools.

Conclusion

The study shows that adults have moderate knowledge and a generally positive attitude toward the prevention of climatic change. Therefore, there is a need for continuous awareness programs, educational interventions, and community-based initiatives to enhance both knowledge and positive attitudes. Strengthening these aspects can empower adults to actively participate in climate change mitigation and promote sustainable practices,

ultimately contributing to environmental protection and public well-being.

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