# Level of income in different mandals of Nellore district

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**ABSTRACT :** The findings of the study indicated that there were differences in the average incomes of households in different mandals and among various caste groups. But the disparities in average incomes among caste groups were found to be more as compared to that of mandals. However, the differences in both were not statistically significant.

**KEY WORDS :** Level of income, Human development, Spatial variations

## INTRODUCTION

The term "Human development" has come to be accepted in the development economics literature as an expansion of human capabilities, a widening of choices, an enhancement of freedoms and a fulfillment of human-rights. Rising incomes and expanding outputs, in the human development framework are seen as the means and not the ends of development. Indeed, defining peoples well-being as the end of development and treating economic growth as a means have been central messages of the Annual Human Development Reports being published since 1990.

Human development is a comprehensive term encompassing the levels of income, education and health conditions of members of households (Srinivasan, 1994). There may be spatial variations even within a district, say among different mandals or villages depending upon several factors. Apart from this, in a stratified society like India, these indicators may not be found on equal footing for all social groups like Scheduled tribes (STs), Scheduled castes (SCs), Backward classes (BCs), and Other caste groups (OCs). Hence, there is a need to analyse levels of income, education and health conditions and other human development variables in different mandals of Nellore district as well as among different caste-groups.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Data sources :**

The study was based both on secondary and primary sources of data. The major sources of secondary data were the Annual Human Development Reports published by the UNDP since 1990. Besides, data were also collected from various World Development Reports published by the World Bank, Economic Surveys published by the Government of India, Reserve Bank of India Annual Reports, Human Development Report published by the Planning Commission. Government of India and the Human Development Reports published by various state governments in India. Nevertheless, as the available secondary data were not adequate to fulfill the objectives of the study, the present investigation predominantly depended on the primary data collected from the sample households in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh.

**Sample selection :**

Multi-stage random sampling technique was used in the present study to select sample households in various villages of Nellore district.

– There are three revenue divisions *viz.,* Gudur, Kavali and Nellore in Nellore district.
– Twelve mandals at the rate of four mandals from each revenue division were selected using Simple Random Sampling Without Replacement (SRSWOR).
– From each Mandal, two villages were chosen again using SRSWOR.
– Thirteen households were selected from the first village and 12 households were selected from the second village.
– Thus, the total sample size was 25 households X 12