

# DISSIMILAR ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN STUNTING & LOW PONDEROSITY DEFINED THROUGH WEIGHT FOR HEIGHT (WASTING) OR BODY MASS INDEX FOR AGE (THINNESS) IN UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN

**AIM: To test the null hypothesis that wasting-stunting (WaSt) and thinness-stunting (ThSt) associations are similar.**

## POPULATION DATASETS

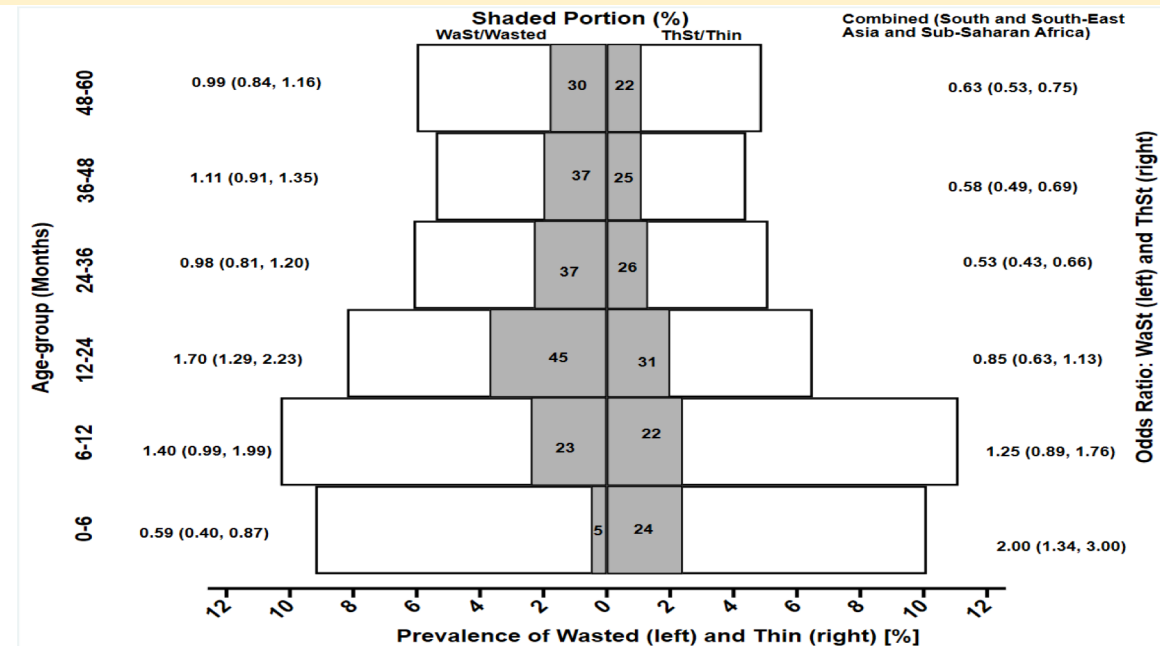
Demographic Health Survey datasets (2010-2020) from South and South-East Asia (7 countries) and Sub-Saharan Africa (13 countries) were evaluated

## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Associations between stunting and low ponderosity (WaSt or ThSt) were estimated as odds ratio (OR) for individual datasets, which was pooled (random-effects meta analysis). Stratified analyses done for sex, age & region

## RESULTS

Young infants (0-6 months) comprised 8-14% of under-five children with equal representation of boys and girls.



**Conclusion: Wasting-Stunting and Thinness-Stunting associations are dissimilar, mostly in opposing directions. This suggests a primary statistical explanation for the reported wasting-stunting association, originating from ignoring physiological changes with age.**

Rajeev, et al. 2022

**Indian Pediatrics**

Official publication of  
Indian Academy of Pediatrics

