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NARUTAP JAISUTTI : KNOWLEDGES AND OPINIONS TOWARDS POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT OF MATHAYOM SUKSA 2 IN MAHA SARAKHAM PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. AURAPIN BUNNAG. 162 PP. ISBN 974-582-719-3

The purpose of the study is to investigate the knowledges and opinions of Mathayom Suksa 2 students in Maha Sarakham province. The 816 students who have enrolled in the course named "Population and Environment" are compared with the 824 students who have not enrolled in that particular subject. Moreover, for the enrolled students, 356 were in the schools located in urban areas whereas 460 were in rural ones. And as for the students who haven't enrolled in the subject, there were 424 in the urban areas while 400 in the rural places. Therefore, the total samplings were altogether 1,640 cases.

In this study, the questionnaire has been constructed by the researcher and approved by the assigned group of experts. The data obtained were analyzed, mean were calculated and t-test were computed to determine statistically significant differences (at lower than .05 level)

As for the knowledges and opinions of Mathayom Suksa 2 in Maha Sarakham Province, between the ones who have and haven't enrolled in the course subject named "Population and Environment", it was found that the enrolled in students have higher level of knowledges and experts opinions showing greater concern with issues related to population and environment than the ones who haven't enrolled. The same pattern existed in both urban and rural areas. Moreover, when control variables namely sex, member of brothers and sister, program of subjects, and parent's occupation were introduced into analysis, their differences persisted. However, there were few control variables such as course score, mass media exposure and educational level of the parents the had no influences with the opinions of the Mathayom Suksa 2 in Maha Sarakham Province.