

Table 2 Descriptive statistics of zinc present in maternal blood (n = 416), cord blood (n = 309) and meconium (n = 309) of different Karachi areas

Location	Maternal blood (n = 416) Mean ± SD	Cord blood (n = 309) Mean ± SD	Meconium (n = 309) Mean ± SD	P
Baldia Town	3.6 ± 4.6	6 ± 12	80.7 ± 148.2	0.7132
Gadap Town	4.7 ± 11.7	6.4 ± 10.7	78.4 ± 117.4	0.9698
Gulbarg Town	4.3 ± 10.4	9.1 ± 26.5	75.7 ± 119.7	0.025 [^]
Gulshan-e-Iqbal Town	9.6 ± 15.5	1.7 ± 1.8	25.3 ± 21.5	0.2391
Hyderabad	268.1 ± 369	49.5 ± 41.1	43.1 ± 18.7	0.5583
Jamshed Town	1.4 ± 2.4	1.5 ± 1.7	21.8 ± 33.4	0.388
Khairpur Town	0 ± 0	0 ± 0	0 ± 0	-
Korangi Town	17.4 ± 12	18.2 ± 18.6	35.3 ± 40.8	0.3864
Landhi Town	10.5 ± 12.3	10.6 ± 8.0	18.2 ± 18.1	0.4316
Liaquatabad Town	12.3 ± 26.9	8.0 ± 12.8	38.6 ± 57.7	0.0018 [^]
Lyari Town	17 ± 14.9	24.7 ± 20.8	18.8 ± 28.4	0.7256
Malir town	6.6 ± 6.1	33.6 ± 58.6	75.7 ± 150.8	0.2105
New Karachi Town	7.8 ± 12.7	15.3 ± 14.9	160.3 ± 218.4	0.1421
North Nazimabad	11.3 ± 17.3	23.3 ± 51.8	35.1 ± 95.5	0.2323
Not Mentioned	17.3 ± 4.7	7.4 ± 6.1	49.5 ± 40.3	0.0776
Orangi Town	23.2 ± 37.4	24 ± 35	30.5 ± 57.8	0.8115
Saddar Town	3.9 ± 0	0 ± 0	30.8 ± 0	<0.0001 [^]
Shah Faisal Town	15.8 ± 23.1	9.2 ± 11	58.7 ± 152.2	0.2801
Site Town	24.7 ± 9.4	23.8 ± 12	9.5 ± 7.8	0.3592

Levels higher than the normal are indicated by: maternal blood ppm, Zn = 0.883 ± 0.070 and cord blood ppm, Zn = 4.738 (20,21) while in meconium >100µ/g dry wt was toxic (13).

[^]P-value shows that in Gulbarg town, Liaquatabad town, Saddar and Steel Town are significantly different by location. P-value indicates that the observed result would be highly unlikely under the null hypothesis. No detectable zinc was present in samples from Khairpur.