

National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) released

By IAS Toppers | 2021-11-25 17:25:00



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Recently, the fifth round of the National Family and Health Survey (NFHS) was released by the Union Health Ministry.



[Ref: Naagrik]

Key Highlights of the Survey:

Gender Equality:

- India now has **1,020 women for every 1000 men.**

Birth:

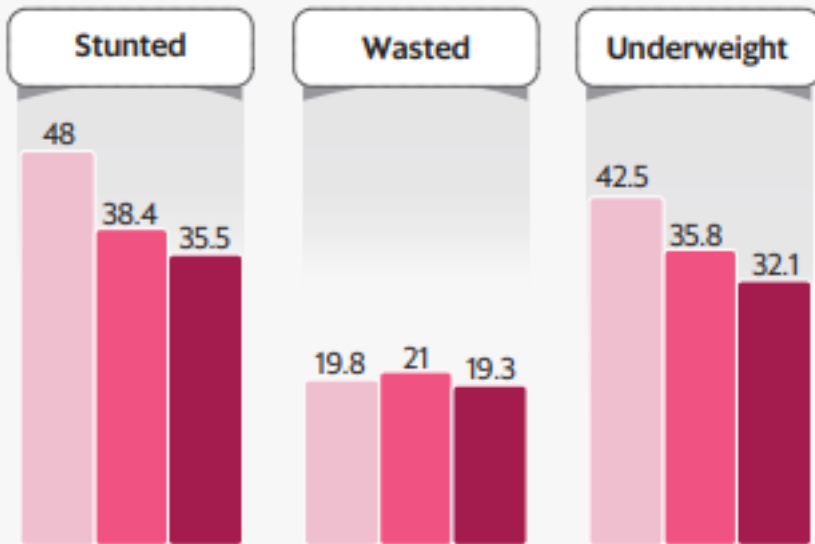
- **Births in institutional facilities**, such as a hospital, **improved** by nearly **eight percentage points.**

Malnutrition:

Undernourishment high; every third child is still stunted or underweight

Children under 5 years who are stunted, wasted and underweight (in %)

NFHS-3 (2005-06) NFHS-4 (2015-16) NFHS-5 (2019-21)



Source: NFHS

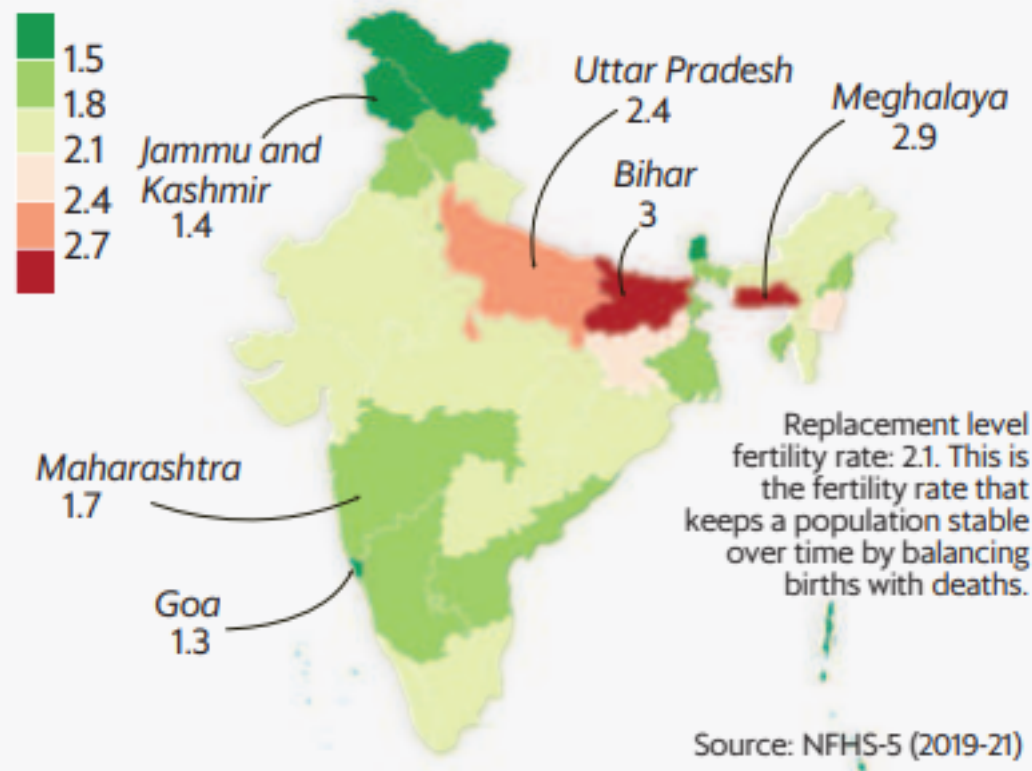
[Ref: Livemint]

- Stunting and wasting in children only **dropped** by a maximum of **three percentage points**.

Fertility:

Just five states still have fertility rate above the replacement level

Total fertility rate (average number of children born to a woman)



[Ref: Livemint]

- India hit a **total fertility rate (TFR)** of **2.0**, a decrease from the **2.2** in the **NFHS-4**.
 - The **urban TFR** is **1.6** and the **rural TFR** is **2.1**.
 - According to the United Nations Population Division**, a TFR of about **2.1** children per woman is called **replacement-level fertility**.

Financial Inclusion of women:

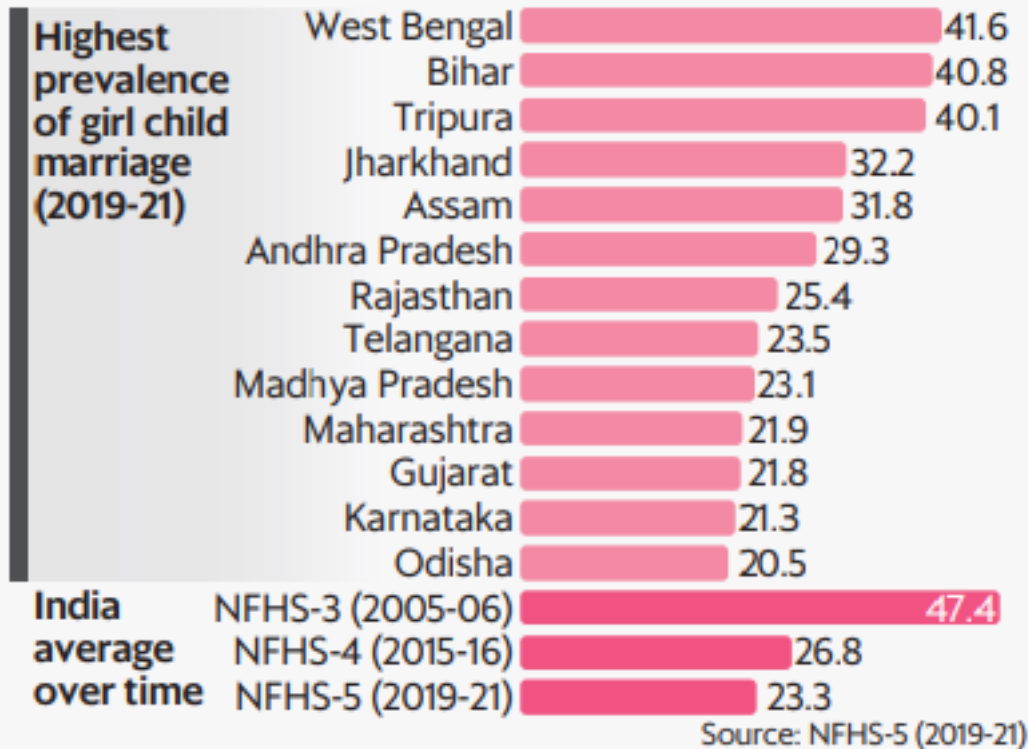
- The share of women who had a bank account they themselves use went up from 53% in NFHS-4 to 78.6% in NFHS-5.
 - Similarly, health insurance coverage has increased from 28.7% to 41%.

Marriage:

- The share of women aged 20-24 who married before turning 18 has declined from 27% to 23% in the last five years.

Every fifth underage girl is likely to get married but the numbers have improved

% of women aged 20-24 who got married before turning 18

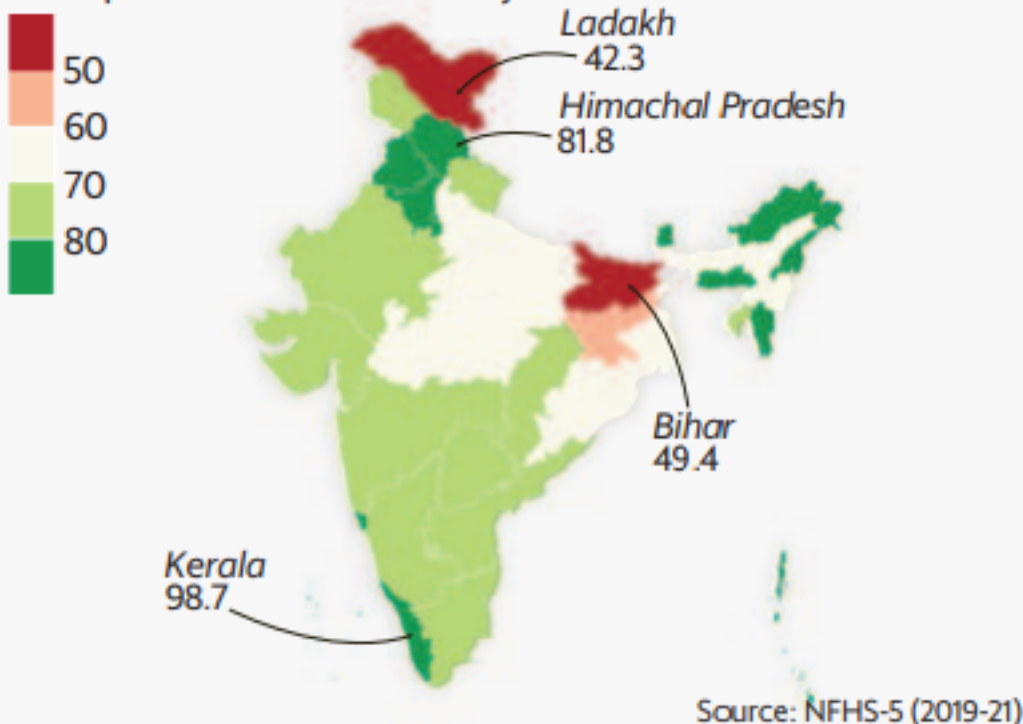


[Ref: Livemint]

Basic Necessities:

Just 70% of Indians live in households with improved sanitation facilities

% population living in households that use an improved sanitation facility



[Ref: Livemint]

- All states, except Manipur, Meghalaya, Assam and Jharkhand, had over 90% population with access to improved drinking water sources.
- Only Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Assam, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh had less than 95% population living in households with access to electricity.

NFHS-5:

NFHS-5 includes some new focal areas, such as

- Death registration
- Pre-school education
- Expanded domains of child immunisation
- Components of micro-nutrients to children
- Menstrual hygiene
- Frequency of alcohol and tobacco use, which will give requisite input for strengthening existing programmes and evolving new strategies for policy intervention.

National Family Health Survey:

- The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a

representative sample of households throughout India.

- First survey was conducted in **1992-93**.
- The survey is **conducted** by **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, Government of India.
 - **International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) Mumbai**, is the **nodal agency**, responsible for providing coordination and technical guidance for the survey.
- The survey provides state and national information for India on fertility, infant and child mortality, the practice of family planning, maternal and child health, reproductive health, nutrition, anaemia, utilization and quality of health and family planning services.
- Each successive round of the NFHS has had **two specific goals**:
 - To provide **essential data on health and family welfare** needed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and other agencies **for policy and programme purposes**.
 - To **provide information** on important emerging **health and family welfare issues**.

Hunger watch

The nutritional status of children in India barely improved in 2019-20 from the levels in 2015-16, the National Family Health Survey-5 data show

(IN %)



Indicator	2019-20	2015-16	2005-06
Children aged six to 59 months who are anaemic	67.1	58.6	69.4
Children under five who are stunted	35.5	38.4	48
Children under five who are wasted	19.3	21	19.8
Children under five who are severely wasted	7.7	7.5	6.4
Children under five who are underweight	32.1	35.8	42.5
Children aged six to 23 months receiving an adequate diet	11.3	9.6	-
Institutional births	88.6	78.9	38.7

[Ref: The Hindu]

National Family Health Survey figures (NFHS-5 2019-20)



- Infant Mortality Rate **4.4** (5.6)
- Neonatal Mortality Rate **3.4** (4.4)
- Under-5 mortality rate **5.2** (7.1)
(per 1,000 live births)



- Fully vaccinated children (12-23 months) **85.2%** (88.3%)

- Children under 5 who are stunted (height for age) **23.4%** (19.7%)



- Children under 5 who are underweight **19.7%** (16.1%)



- Children under 5 who are overweight **4%** (3.4%)



- Anaemia in pregnant women **31.4%** (22.6%)

- High-very high blood sugar levels (>140mg/dl)
• Men **27%** • Women **24.8%**



- Proportion of people who are overweight or obese (BMI>25)
• Women **38.1%** (32.4%) • Men **36.4%** (28.5%)



- Hypertension (140/90)
Men **32.8%**
Women **30.9%**

Figures in bracket refer to NFHS-4 2015-16

[Ref: The Hindu]