



NFHS-5 National Report

For Prelims: NFHS-5 National Report.

For Mains: Findings of NFHS-5, Health, Issues related to women, Population and associated issues.

Why in News?

Recently, the National Report of the 2nd phase of fifth round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) was released.

- The [National Family Health Survey \(NFHS\)](#) is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India.

What is the NFHS-5 Report?

▪ About:

- It comprises **detailed information on key domains of population, health and family welfare and associated domains** like characteristics of the population; fertility; family planning; infant and child mortality; maternal and child health; nutrition and [anaemia](#); morbidity and healthcare; women's empowerment etc.
- The **scope of NFHS-5 is expanded in respect of the earlier round of the survey (NFHS-4)** by adding new dimensions such as:
 - Death registration, pre-school education, expanded domains of child immunization, components of micro-nutrients to children, menstrual hygiene, frequency of alcohol and tobacco use, additional components of [Non-Communicable Diseases \(NCDs\)](#), expanded age range for measuring hypertension and diabetes among all aged 15 years and above.
- Thus, NFHS-5 provides information on important indicators which are helpful in tracking the progress of [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) in the country.
- The national report also **provides data by socio-economic and other background characteristics**; useful for policy formulation and effective programme implementation.
- The NFHS-5 National Report **lists progress from NFHS-4 (2015-16) to NFHS-5 (2019-21)**.

▪ Objective:

- The main objective of successive rounds of the NFHS has been **to provide reliable and comparable data relating to health and family welfare** and other emerging areas in India.

What are the Key Highlights of the NFHS-5 National Report?

▪ Total Fertility Rate (TFR):

◦ Overall:

- The [Total Fertility Rate \(TFR\)](#), has further **declined from 2.2 to 2.0** at the national level between NNFHS 4 and 5.

- There are **only five states in India** which are **above replacement level of fertility of 2.1**. These states are **Bihar, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Manipur**.
 - Replacement level fertility is the **total fertility rate**—the average number of children born per woman—at which a **population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next, without migration**.

▪ **Highest and Lowest Fertility Rate:**

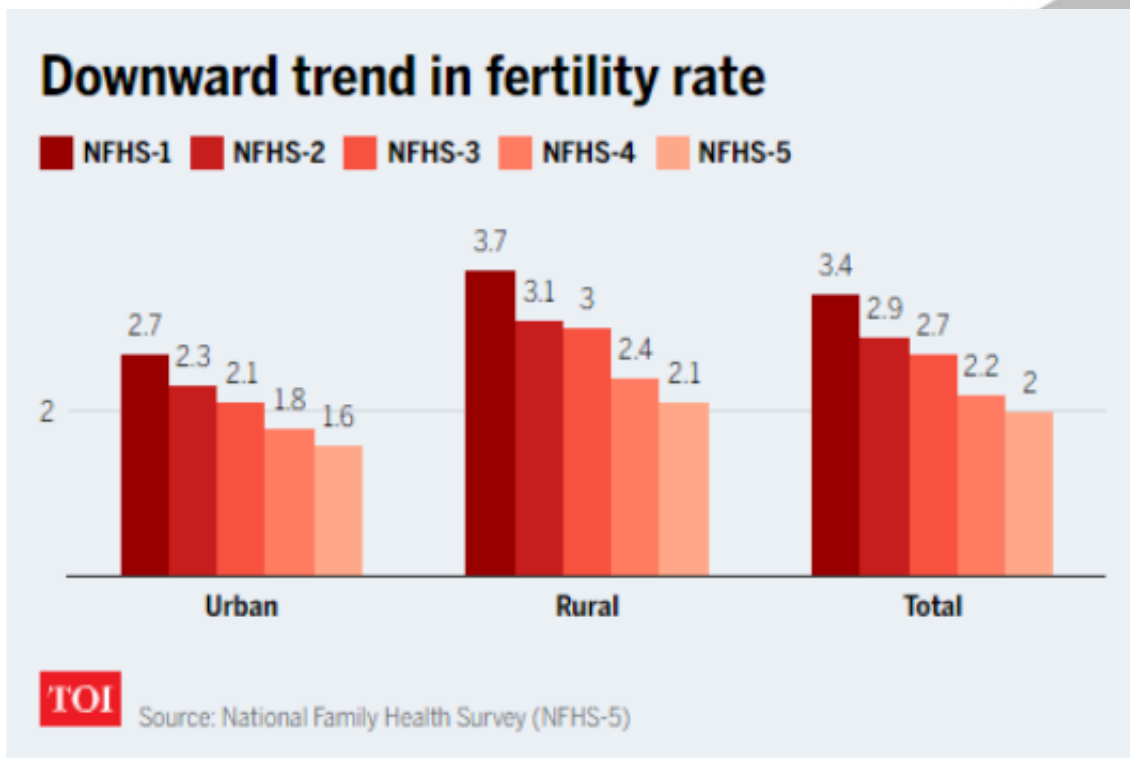
- Bihar and Meghalaya have the highest fertility rates in the country, while Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have the lowest.

▪ **Area wise:**

- In **rural areas, TFR has declined** from 3.7 children per woman in 1992-93 to 2.1 children in 2019-21.
- The **corresponding decline among women in urban areas** was from 2.7 children in 1992-93 to 1.6 children in 2019-21.

▪ **Community Wise:**

- **Muslims' fertility rate has seen the sharpest decline** among all religious communities over the past two decades.



▪ **Underage Marriages:**

◦ **Overall:**

- National average of underage marriages has come down.
- According to NFHS-5, **23.3% women surveyed got married** before attaining the legal age of 18 years, down from 26.8% reported in NFHS-4.
- The figure for underage marriage among men is 17.7% (NFHS-5) and 20.3% (NFHS-4).

▪ **Highest Surge:**

- **The rate has increased** in Punjab, West Bengal, Manipur, Tripura and Assam.
- **Tripura** has seen the **largest jump in marriages** for women from 33.1% (NFHS-4) to 40.1%, and from 16.2% to 20.4% among men.

▪ **Highest Rate of Underage Marriages:**

- West Bengal, along with Bihar, remains one of the states with highest rate of underage marriages.

▪ **Lowest Rate of Underage Marriages:**

- J&K, Lakshadweep, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Nagaland, Kerala, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu.

- **Teenage Pregnancies:**
 - Teenage pregnancies are **down from 7.9% to 6.8%**.
- **Use of Contraceptive Method:**
 - **Employment Factor: 66.3% women who are employed** use a modern contraceptive method, compared with 53.4% women who are not employed.
 - Contraceptive use increases in communities and regions that have seen more socioeconomic progress.
 - **Income Factor:** The “**unmet need for family planning methods**” is highest among the lowest wealth quintile (11.4%) and lowest among the highest wealth quintile (8.6%).
 - Use of **modern contraceptives also increases with income** from 50.7% women in the lowest wealth quintile to 58.7% women in the highest quintile.
- **Domestic Violence Against Women:**
 - **Overall:** Domestic violence has **come down marginally from 31.2% in 2015-16 to 29.3% in 2019-21**.
 - **Highest and Lowest (States):**
 - Domestic violence against women is **highest in Karnataka at 48%**, followed by Bihar, Telangana, Manipur and Tamil Nadu.
 - **Lakshadweep has the least** domestic violence at 2.1%.
- **Institutional Births:**
 - **Overall:** It increased from **79% to 89% in India**.
 - **Area Wise:** In **rural areas** around **87%** births being delivered in institutions and the same is **94% in urban areas**.
- **Immunisation Level:**
 - **More than three-fourths (77%) children age 12-23 months** were fully immunised, compared with 62% in NFHS-4.
- **Stunting:**
 - The level of stunting among children under five years has **marginally declined from 38% to 36% in the country** since the last four years.
 - Stunting is higher among **children in rural areas (37%)** than urban areas (30%) in 2019-21.
- **Obesity:**
 - Compared with NFHS-4, the **prevalence of overweight or obesity has increased in most States/UTs in NFHS-5**.
 - At the national level, it **increased from 21% to 24% among women** and 19% to 23% among men.
- **SDG Goal:**
 - **NFHS-5 shows an overall improvement in Sustainable Development Goals** indicators in all States/Union Territories (UTs).
 - The **extent to which married women usually participate in three household decisions** indicates that their participation in decision-making is high.
 - **Household decisions include** health care for herself, making major household purchases, visiting her family or relatives.
 - Participation in decision making rises **ranging from 80% in Ladakh to 99% in Nagaland and Mizoram**.
 - Rural (77%) and urban (81%) differences are found to be marginal.
 - The **prevalence of women having a bank or savings account** that they use has increased from 53% to 79% in the last four years.

[Source: TH](#)

