

National Family Health Survey (NFHS) & District Level Household and Facility Survey - Note

The **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India. Three rounds of the survey have been conducted since the first survey in 1992-93. **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:

- a) 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, and
- b) to provide information on important emerging health and family welfare issues.

The third National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3), coordinated by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) under the aegis of the Government of India, was conducted in 2005-06. As did NFHS-1 (1992-93) and NFHS-2 (1998-99), **NFHS-3 provides information on fertility, mortality, family planning, HIV related knowledge, and important aspects of nutrition, health, and health care.**

Unlike the earlier surveys, however, NFHS-3 interviewed men age 15-54 and never married women age 15-49, as well as ever-married women, and included questions on several emerging issues such as perinatal mortality, male involvement in maternal health care, adolescent reproductive health, higher-risk sexual behaviour, family life education, safe injections, and knowledge about tuberculosis.

In addition, NFHS-3 carried out blood testing for HIV to provide, for the first time in India, population-based data on HIV prevalence. NFHS-3 collected information from a nationally representative sample of 109,041 households, 124,385 women age 15-49, and 74,369 men age 15-54. The NFHS-3 sample covers 99 percent of India's population living in all 29 states. From among all the women and men interviewed nationwide, 102,946 were tested for HIV. Fieldwork for NFHS-3 was conducted in two phases from November 2005 to August 2006.

District Level Household and Facility Survey **Results of District Level Household Survey III 2007 08 (DLHS III)**

1. The District Level Household and Facility Survey is one of the largest ever demographic and health surveys carried out in India, with a sample size of about seven lakh households covering all the districts of the country.
2. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of India, initiated District Level Household Surveys (DLHS) in 1997 to provide district level estimates on health indicators to assist policy makers and program administrators in decentralized planning, monitoring and evaluation.
3. The present District Level Household Survey (DLHS-3) is the third in the series preceded by DLHS -1 in 1998-99 and DLHS-2 in 2002-04. **DLHS 3**, like two

earlier rounds, **is designed to provide estimates on maternal and child health, family planning and other reproductive health services.** In addition,

4. DLHS-3 provides information related to the programmes of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

5. Unlike other two rounds in which currently married women age 15-44 years were interviewed, DLHS-3 interviewed ever-married women (age 15-49). In DLHS-3, along with ever-married women age 15-49, never married women (age 15-24) are also included as respondents.

6. DLHS 3 adopts a multi stage stratified probability proportion to size sampling design. Bilingual questionnaires in the local language and English pertaining to Household, Ever Married Women (age 15-49), Unmarried Women (age 15-24), Village and Health Facility were used in DLHS-3.

8. In the household questionnaire, information on all members of the household and socio-economic characteristics of the household, assets possessed, number of marriages and deaths in the household since January 2004, etc. were collected.

9. The ever-married women's questionnaire contained information on women's characteristics, maternal care, immunization and childcare, contraception and fertility preferences, reproductive health including knowledge about HIV/AIDS.

10. The unmarried women's questionnaire contained information on women's characteristics, family life education, awareness about reproductive health and contraception and HIV/AIDS, etc. The village questionnaire contained information on availability of health, education and other facilities in the village, and whether the facilities are accessible throughout the year.

11. The health facility questionnaires contained information on human resources, infrastructure, and services.

12. For the first time, a population-linked facility survey has been conducted in DLHS-3. At the district level, all Community Health Centres and the District Hospital were covered. Further, all Sub-Centres and Primary Health Centres which were expected to serve the population of the selected PSU were also covered.

14. Fieldwork in Uttar Pradesh was conducted during November 2007 to April 2008, gathering information from 90,363 households. At district level, separate fact sheets are available for all (70) districts of the state.

Note : As it may be noted the period of coverage of NFHS 3 is different from coverage of DLHS survey. Moreover, focus is also different between the two surveys, so these are not comparable
