

UPSC Preparation

National Family Health Survey

The National Family Health Survey is a survey carried out on a massive scale across the country to collect information on many parameters which would ultimately help the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) to frame policies and programs to help in the upliftment of the vulnerable groups in India. The first round of the National Family Health Survey was conducted in 1992-92. Subsequently, four other rounds have taken place, the latest being NFHS 5 that started in 2018-19, however is stalled currently amid the COVID-19 associated lockdown at various states. Read on to get details of the National Family Health Survey, relevant for the [IAS Exam](#).

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What is NFHS 5?

National Family Health Survey 5 is the recent round of the survey carried on by MoH&FW to bring out reliable data on emerging health and family welfare issues. The coordinating and implementing agencies that are helping the ministry to bring out this NFHS round are:

- International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai
- A group of survey organizations and Population Research Centres

ICF International is providing technical assistance for the NFHS 5 while the United States Agency for International Development is providing financial assistance.

Seven lakh households are being covered to collect the data. 67 indicators are being used to cover the NFHS 5 data. The list of important indicators is mentioned below:

- Population and household profile
- Marriage and fertility
- Family planning
- Contraception
- Maternal and child health
- Delivery care
- Vaccinations
- Treatment of childhood diseases

- Nutrition and feeding practices
- Anemia
- Diabetes
- Hypertension and
- Cancer examination

Note: The data for NFHS was expected to be released by July 2020 but due to current pandemic situation, it has been delayed.

National Family Health Survey Rounds

Totally five rounds of survey have been conducted to date. The below information gives details on the round and the year it was conducted.

1. First Round of NFHS conducted in 1992-93
2. Second Round of NFHS conducted in 1998-99
3. Third Round of NFHS conducted in 2005-06
4. Fourth Round of NFHS conducted in 2015-16
5. Fifth Round of NFHS conducted in 2018-19

National Family Health Survey Objectives

The Objective of conducting the NFHS is to collect information of the following

1. Fertility
2. Maternal and Child Health
3. Reproductive Health
4. Nutrition
5. Anaemia
6. Infant and Child Mortality
7. Family Planning

Quick Facts on National Family Health Survey (NFHS) for UPSC

Who Published NFHS?

MOHFW has appointed International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai as the Nodal agency. IIPS has collaborated with the following international agencies for the successful conduct of the survey.

1. ORC, Macro, Maryland, USA
2. East-West Centre, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Note: in NFHS 4 and NFHS 5, along with USAID and ICF; DFID, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UNICEF, UNFPA, and the MacArthur Foundation, as well as the Indian Government also supported the surveys in a major way.

Which Agencies Provided the Funding for NFHS?

Many international agencies and the Central Government Ministry have provided the necessary funds to carry out the survey.

1. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
2. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
3. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
4. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
5. MOHFW, Government of India

Also, the data that is published by the Ministry is also used by the WHO, World Bank & UNICEF.

What is NFHS-4?

It is the Fourth Round of National Family Health Survey conducted under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW). The following are some of the major highlights of the program.

1. District level estimates on many indicators were provided for the first time.
2. 14 Field agencies were involved in the collection of data
3. Gathered information from approximately 6 lakh households.
4. Survey took information from approximately 7 lakh women and 1 lakh men.

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