



INDIA HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

January 2017



Happy New Year 2017!

Welcome to the India Human Development Survey *Forum* - a monthly update of socio-economic developments in India by the IHDS research team.

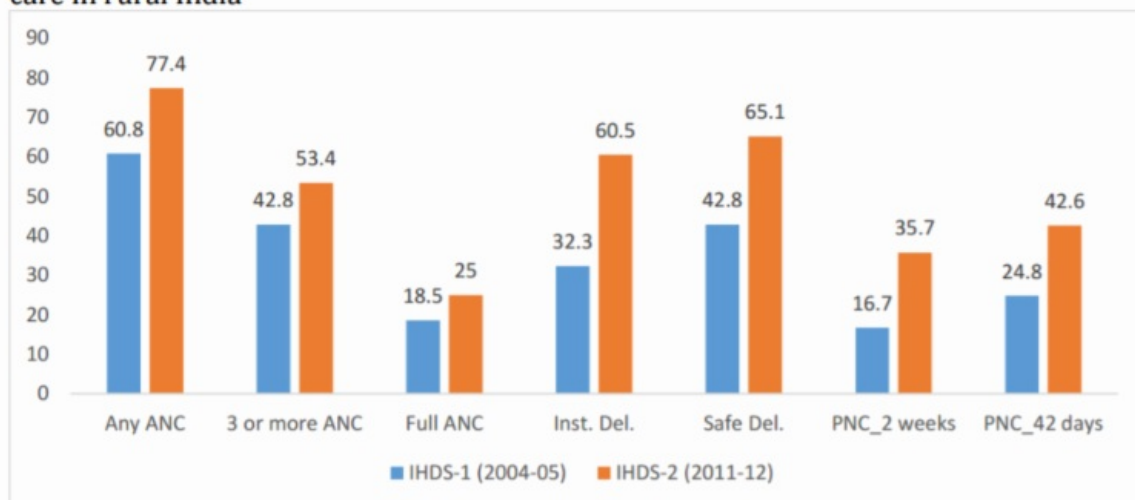
In this issue...

- Jain's working paper on JSY and Maternal Healthcare
- A detailed look at a recent paper by Ashwini Deshpande and Smriti Sharma
- Media mentions

IHDS Finds....

Improvement in socio-economic inequalities in maternal healthcare due to JSY participation

Figure 1: Percentage of women receiving antenatal care, delivery care and postnatal care in rural India



Using data from the India Human Development Survey Wave 1 (2004-05) and Wave 2 (2011-12), Jain, Desai and Vanneman examine the patterns of maternal care usage and socio-economic disparities in care before and after the initiation of the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) programme among women in rural India. There are three major findings.

The proportion of women availing of full antenatal care increased by six percentage points from 19 percent during the pre-JSY period (IHDS-I) to 25 percent during the JSY period (IHDS-II). The number of institutional deliveries almost doubled over the period between the two rounds, going up from 32 percent in IHDS-I to more than 60 percent in IHDS-II. The proportion of deliveries being assisted by trained health personnel showed a significant increase from 43 per cent in IHDS-I to 65 percent in IHDS-II.

The results also indicate an almost twofold increase in the number of postnatal care check-ups over the two periods. For each of these outcomes, the associations with household wealth and mother's education are weaker in IHDS-II, after JSY, than in IHDS-I, before JSY. **Conclusions:** The findings indicate that the programme has led to an enhancement in the utilisation of health services among all groups but especially among the poorer and underserved sections in the rural areas, thereby reducing the prevalent disparities in maternal care.



Dr. Ruchi Jain is an NCAER Research Analyst, who has been a part of the IHDS project for two years. She holds a doctorate degree in

population studies from the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai. Her thesis focused on the risky behaviours of single migrant women in Delhi. She was a recipient of the UGC-NET fellowship for her PhD at IIPS.

Visit our website for full working paper.

A closer look...

Labour Market Discrimination Investigation by Ashwini Deshpande and Smriti Sharma using IHDS data

The prevalence of labour market discrimination against the marginalised caste groups (SCs and STs) in India is well documented with the latter earning significantly lower wages and being assigned less respectable jobs than their upper-caste counterparts. Notably, this discrimination and the consequent disadvantages may not be limited to just wage employment but may also extend to the realm of self-employment. In an attempt to unpack this issue and related outcomes, Ashwini Deshpande and Smriti Sharma use the 2004-05 IHDS data to assess the presence of caste discrimination in household non-farm businesses. They estimate and decompose the earnings of household businesses owned by SCs and STs and non-SCs/STs at the mean, as well as across the earnings distribution in order to determine what part of the earnings gap can be attributed to characteristics, and what part is unexplained, and possibly due to discrimination.

The mean decomposition reveals that as much as 55 per cent of the caste earnings gap is unexplained, and could be interpreted as discriminatory. Quantile regression suggests that gaps are higher at lower deciles, providing some evidence of a "sticky floor". Their quantile decompositions reveal that the unexplained component is greater at the lower and middle deciles than at higher ones, suggesting that SC/ST-

Ashwini Deshpande is Professor of Economics, Delhi School of Economics. She works on the economics of discrimination and affirmative action, with a special focus on caste and gender in India.



Smriti Sharma is a Research Fellow at UNU-WIDER and her areas of interest are in development economics, applied econometrics and experimental economics.

owned businesses at the lower and middle end of the conditional earnings distribution face greater discrimination.

The full paper can be accessed [here](#).



Data Corner

- By Rukmini, S. "INTERACTIVE: Where On The Indian Income Pyramid Do You Stand, And Does Facebook Know This Better Than You?" in *HuffingtonPost*, 22 November 2016. <http://huff.to/2f3NvUG>

Recent Press Articles

- *Business Standard*. "Impact of JSY." Accessed online 29 November 2016. <http://bit.ly/2fMWSXp>
- Dey, Sushmi. "India Witnesses Improvement in Maternal Healthcare Services." *The Times of India*, 29 November 2016. <http://bit.ly/2gkZMDx>
- Singh, Ashok K. "Demonetisation is Dragging India to an Age of Chaos and Disruption." *Daily O*, 1 December 2016. <http://bit.ly/2gJSauF>



Recent Publications by IHDS Community

- Choudhury, A. and P. Roy. (2016). "[Population attributable fraction analysis of leading chronic diseases in India](#)." *Human Biology Review* 5 (3), 255-283.
- Dutta, Tanusree and Nandan Kumar. (2016). "Accessibility to stable source of livelihood in India: Evidence from IHDS data." Working paper online, Accessed 5 December 2016. <http://bit.ly/2g14K9C>
- Rajani, Ishita. (2016). "Are Public Funds Used to Maintain Ruling Coalitions? Evidence from India." Working paper online, Accessed 5 December 2016. <http://bit.ly/2gcBkUb>

About IHDS

The India Human Development Survey (IHDS) is a nationally representative, multi-topic survey of 41,554 households in 1503 villages and 971 urban neighbourhoods across India. The first round of interviews was completed in 2004-05; data are publicly available through ICPSR. A second round of IHDS re-interviewed most of these households in 2011-12 (N=42,152) and data for the same can be found [here](#).

IHDS has been jointly organised by researchers from the University of Maryland and the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi. Funding for the second round of this survey is provided by the National Institutes of Health, grants R01HD041455 and R01HD061048. Additional funding is provided by The Ford Foundation, IDRC and DFID.



IHDS Principal Investigators

Sonalde Desai
Professor, UMD
Senior Fellow, NCAER

Reeve Vanneman
Professor, UMD

Amaresh Dubey
Professor, JNU
Senior Consultant, NCAER

Contact Us:

Website: <http://www.ihds.umd.edu>

Mail: ihdsinfo@gmail.com

STAY CONNECTED

