

Chapter 30

Health and Family Welfare

30.1 The highest attainable standards of physical and mental health is key to social well being of the country. India's health challenges are diverse. In India it is the endeavour of Department of Health and Family Welfare is to provide equitable, affordable and quality health care services to the people.

30.2 Area of Health Statistics: Health-related data provides insights into following areas:

(a) Demographic data: population by age and sex, rural/urban classification, geographical distribution, occupational classification, literacy, religion, marital status, migration, etc;

(b) Vital statistics: birth and death rates, infant mortality rates, life tables, general fertility rates, etc.;

(c) Diseases: mortality rates by age and cause of death, morbidity data by age, sex, prevalence of communicable diseases, deliveries and statistics of anti-natal and post-natal care.;

(d) Facilities: hospitals, dispensaries, clinics, nursing homes, diagnostic centers, laboratories, equipments-X-ray and other diagnostic equipments, ambulances, beds, etc.;

(e) Manpower: doctors, specialists and practitioners in allopathic, homeopathy and other Indian systems of medicines, nurses, pharmacists, lab technicians other supporting staff (their number, qualification, geographical distribution, availability per unit of population);

(f) Finance: GNP, Government Revenue and Expenditure, allocation for health, budget estimates, sources of health finance, expenditure on health by voluntary agencies and other NGOs, private expenditure on health, etc.

30.3 Sources of Health Statistics in India:

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is the chief agency involved in Health sector schemes & statistics for monitoring them and for situation assessment. It consists of following Departments:

- Department of Health & Family Welfare
 - Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)
 - Central Bureau of Health Investigation (CBHI)
- Department of AYUSH
- Department of Health Research
- Department of AIDS Control

30.4 Since 2005, **Central Bureau of Health Investigation (CBHI)** has been disseminating this information regularly in a form of regular publication “**National Health Profile (NHP)**”, besides bringing out several other occasional publications. National Health Profile provides country overview on demographic, socio economic, health status and health finance status indicators besides that on human resources in health sector and health infrastructure. The Rural Health Division of DGHS compiles and publishes **Rural Health Statistics in India**. This is a six-monthly bulletin, containing information on Government health infrastructure and manpower deployment in the rural areas. This publication also presents data at State and UT level.

30.5 Besides the regular flow of Data from the administrative set up, information is also collected through surveys talked about as below:

- The **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India. Four 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, anemia, utilization and quality of health and family planning services. The funding for different rounds of NFHS has been provided by USAID, DFID, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UNICEF, UNFPA, and MOHFW, GOI. The first survey (**NFHS 1**) was conducted in 1992-93, second (**NFHS 2**) in 1998-88, third (**NFHS 3**) in 2005-06 and the fourth one (**NFHS 4**) has been implemented in 2014-15 and now this report is also available.
- **District Level Household & Facility Survey (DLHS)** was initiated in 1997 with a view to assess the utilization of services provided by government health care facilities and people's perception about quality of services. DLHS₃ (2007-08) is the third in the series of district surveys, preceded by **DLHS 1** in 1998-99 and **DLHS 2** in 2002-04. Like earlier rounds DLHS₃ provides estimates on important indicators on maternal & child health, family planning & other reproductive health services. In addition, it provides information on important interventions of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) . It interviewed ever married women (age 15-49) and never married women (age 15-24) besides currently married women(age 15-44), the only category of women interviewed in earlier rounds. **DLHS 4** (2012-13) was also planned in 26 states where Annual Health Survey (AHS) is not being done. This Report is now also available in public domain.

30.6 Besides Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, several other agencies / Ministries collect and disseminate health related statistics.

- The **National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics & PI** also conducts demographic surveys, which have been providing information on some aspects of mortality and morbidity and **household expenditure on health services** and facilities.
- **Office of Registrar General of India, Ministry of Home Affairs** provides much information on vital statistics through its system of **Civil Registration** (mandatory registration of births & deaths) (**CRS**) & **Sample Registration (SRS)**- dual record household panel survey with sampling units retained for about ten years . These provide information on fertility, mortality (infant & maternal mortality) , sex ratio at birth etc. However, only **state level estimates** are provided by **SRS** which constrained decentralized district based health planning in view of the large inter district variations. Consequently, **Annual Health Survey** was conceived in 2005 with an aim to have "Survey of all districts which could be published/monitored and compared against benchmarks". The objective was to monitor the performance and outcome (at **district level**) of various health interventions of the Government including those under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare at closer intervals through these benchmark indicators. AHS has been designed to yield benchmarks of core vital and health indicators at the district level on fertility and mortality; prevalence of disabilities, injuries, acute and chronic illness and access to health care for these morbidities; and access to maternal, child health and family planning services.

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References:

- Annual Report, Department of Health & Family Welfare 2015-16
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- Health & Family Welfare Statistics in India 2013, M/o Health & Family Welfare
- Health Management information System Portal, M/o Health & Family Welfare.