datacard

ata from the National Family Health Survey 2015-16 (NFHS-4) on a wide range of topics such as school attendance, reproductive and child health, water and sanitation, nutrition, lifestyle and employment, published recently by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. provide a snapshot of the state of the country's health and the state of social progress.

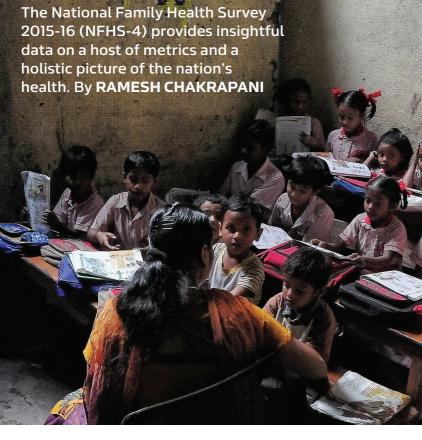
Statistics pertaining to demographic distribution according to prosperity show that the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes continue to be largely impoverished, with 26.6 per cent of the former and a whopping 45.9 per cent of the latter in the lowest wealth quintile, and only 10.9 per cent of the former and 5.5 per cent of the latter in the highest quintile. Other Backward Classes are evenly distributed among the quintiles, while some 57 per cent of all members of Other Classes are in the top two quintiles.

A survey of household possessions showed that 96.1 per cent of urban and 87.3 per cent of rural households had at least one mobile phone, testimony to the near-universal penetration of the cell phone. However, barely 20 per cent of urban and less than 6 per cent of rural households had Internet access. Also, less than 30 per cent of all households had at least one member covered by some kind of health insurance.

The report also contains insightful data on school attendance ratios and the reasons why children are dropping out in urban and rural areas.

More than 60 per cent of the urban and rural male dropouts were due to either high cost or a lack of interest in studies; among urban and rural girls, lack of interest was much lower but reasons such as being needed for domestic work or getting o married were significant.

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TAKING STOCK

Exposure to mass media				
Percentage of women and	men, age 15-49			
Reads a newspaper or nagazine at least once a week	27 55			
Watches television at least once a week	71 78			
Listens to the radio at least once a week	21			
Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	8.5			
Not regularly exposed to any media	25 Women 14 Men			
Community distribution by	/ wealth			
Percentage in wealth quint	tile			
SC 26.6 24.2	21.8 16.6 10.9			
ST 45.9	24.8 14.6 <u>9.2</u> 5.5			
Other BC 18.3 19.3	21.2 22.4 18.8			
Other 9.7 15.1 18.0	22.9 34.2			
Lowest Second	Middle 📕 Fourth 📕 Highest			
126				

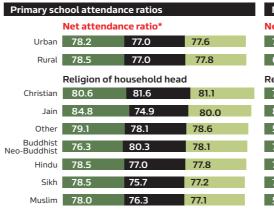
ure to mass media

Household composition				
Percentage of population				
Headship	Urban	Rural	All-India	
Male	85.9	85.1	85.4	
Female	14.1	14.9	14.6	
Number of usual members	Urban	Rural	All-India	
1	4.4	3.9	4.1	
2	12.1	11.2	11.5	
3	18.0	14.6	15.8	
4	26.1	21.9	23.3	
5	17.4	18.7	18.3	
6	10.4	13.0	12.1	
7	4.9	7.3	6.4	
8	2.7	3.9	3.5	
9+	4.0	5.4	4.9	
Mean household size	4.3	4.7	4.6	
Household structure	Urban	Rural	All-India	
Nuclear	61.0	56.2	57.9	
Non-nuclear	39.0	43.8	42.1	

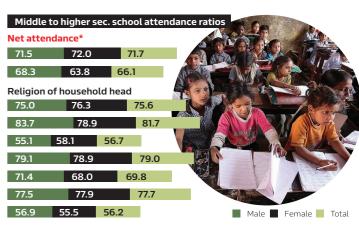
13.1

Production

28.2



*Percentage of children aged 6-10 that is attending primary school



Employment distribution Household possessions (% of population surveyed) (top occupations) Pressure cooker 83.6 42.2 56.6 Percentage of women aged 15-49 Electric fan 95.1 69.1 78.2 Sales 8.9 53.5 65.2 Television 87.0 Agricultural Production 11.7 Mobile phone 96.1 87.3 90.4 30.1 Internet 20.4 5.7 10.9 Computer 19.2 3.6 9.0 Professional 19.7 Refrigerator 54.2 16.4 29.6 Air conditioner/cooler 32.9 9.9 17.9 Urban Bicycle 45.0 55.9 52.1 Rural Motorcycle or scooter 51.5 30.3 37.7 Sales 3. Professional All India 5.3 occupa Car 11.4 3.2 6.0 Bank/post office account* 92.0 89.4 Health scheme/insurance* **28.2 28.7** 28.7 Service 7.3 Held by any member of family Production 16.8 Top reasons for rural children Top reasons for urban children currently not attending school currently not attending school Agricultural Male (in percentage) Male (in percentage) Not interested 43.3 44.8 Percentage of men aged 15-49 in studies Professional Agricultural 6.6 18.1 Costs too much 18.3 Required for 11.0 9.9 household work Production Required for work on 4.3 3.5 farm/family business Required for 4.0 4.7 outside paid work Repeated failures 3.8 3.5 Did not get admission Female (in percentage) Female (in percentage) Not interested 24.0 27.5 Service 6.3 Professional Sales Costs too much 19.1 20.0 Required for 15.1 12.4 household work School too far away 9.2 4.7 Got married 8.1 7.4 Further education not 3.5 4.0 Agricultural 47.2 considered necessary 127 FRONTLINE · MARCH 16, 2018

INFOGRAPHICS: T.S. VIJAYANANDAN

*Percentage of children aged 11-17 that is attending middle to higher sec. school