

## Changing Pattern and Trend of Head of Household in India: Evidence from Various Rounds of National Family Health Survey

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**Abstract :** Background: Household headship is the crucial decision-maker as well as the economic provider of the household. In Indian society, household heads occupied by men from the pre-colonial period. This study attempt to examine the changes in household headship in India. Methods: The study used univariate and multivariate analysis to examine the trends and patterns of different characteristics of the household head using the various rounds of national family health survey data. Results: The female household head is gradually increasing; on the other hand, the male-dominant is decreasing over the four national family and health surveys. The mean age of the household head is higher in rural areas than urban India. Only ten percentage of Households are higher educated, and 83 percent of the male household head has a low standard of living. The mean family size of the household has a decreasing trend in both the urban and rural areas during the study period. Conclusions: The result indicates that women's autonomy is increasing and leading to inclusive growth, which introduced in the eleven five year plan, especially focuses on the woman and young people in the country.

**Keywords :** household head, national family health survey, mean age, mean family size

**Conference Title :** ICPD 2020 : International Conference on Population and Development

**Conference Location :** London, United Kingdom

**Conference Dates :** May 21-22, 2020