



## DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT

### India Human Development Survey Forum | January 2024

A monthly update of socio-economic developments in India by the IHDS research community.

As the New Year unfolds, we at the IHDS, extend our sincerest wishes for a prosperous and successful 2024 ahead. May the upcoming months be filled with groundbreaking discoveries, innovative collaborations, and achievements. We remain committed to delivering cutting-edge research and unparalleled insights to elevate your endeavours. We hope to embark on a journey of excellence and continued learnings.

# Shifting the Balance: Examining the Impact of Local Labour Market Opportunities on Female Household Bargaining Power in India

-Savannah Adkins



There has been considerable interest in studying the effect of female labour market outcomes on intrahousehold bargaining. This paper examines the effects of local labour market opportunities in India on a variety of female bargaining characteristics, including domestic violence and intrahousehold discussion of important issues. Specifically, the author utilises district-level data from the National Sample Survey (NSS) on employment in various occupations to calculate an employment shift-share index that proxies gender specific labor demand.

Combining this index with individual information on perceptions towards domestic violence and household bargaining information from the India Human Development Survey (IHDS), the author finds that improvements in labour market conditions for women lead to a decrease in perceptions of domestic violence. However, improvements in predicted demand for male employment have little or negative effects on women's household bargaining power. When disaggregated by indicators of initial bargaining power, women who have lower levels of initial bargaining power either see no effect on bargaining or experience a backlash effect.

**Table: Effect Gender- Specific Employment Index on IPV and Household Bargaining**

	1. DVI	2. No Permission to leave	3. No Dowry	4. House left in Neglect	5. Bad Cook	6. Cheats on Husband
<i>Panel A: Domestic Violence</i>						
<b>Female Employment</b>	-0.284** (0.140)	-0.152 (0.190)	-0.563** (0.195)	-0.209 (0.195)	-0.242 (0.180)	-0.236 (0.159)
<b>Male Employment</b>	0.214** (0.078)	0.256** (0.113)	0.352** (0.096)	0.160 (0.114)	0.175** (0.105)	0.124 (0.090)
Observations	56,254	56,254	56,254	56,254	56,254	56,254
R- squared	0.55	0.54	0.55	0.54	0.54	0.54
Fixed Effects	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
District Controls	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	7. Permission	8. Discuss Work	9. Discuss Purchases	10. Discuss Politics	11. Decides Children	
<i>Panel B: Bargaining</i>						
<b>Female Employment</b>	0.064 (0.097)	0.287** (0.143)	0.174* (0.096)	0.080 (0.180)	0.046 (0.073)	
<b>Male Employment</b>	-0.048 (0.056)	-0.086 (0.080)	-0.074 (0.059)	-0.001 (0.112)	-0.010 (0.038)	
Observations	56,254	56,254	56,254	56,254	56,254	
R- squared	0.57	0.53	0.52	0.51	0.51	
Fixed Effects	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
District Controls	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	

[Read More](#)

## About the Author



### Savannah Adkins

Savannah Adkins is a Lecturer of Economics at Bentley University. Her research mainly focuses on gender, and in particular, issues related to maternal health, female employment, and women's well-being. She holds an MSc in Development Economics from the University of Sussex and a PhD in Economics from Clark University.



## Effect of Vaccination on Children's Learning Achievements: Findings from the India Human Development Survey

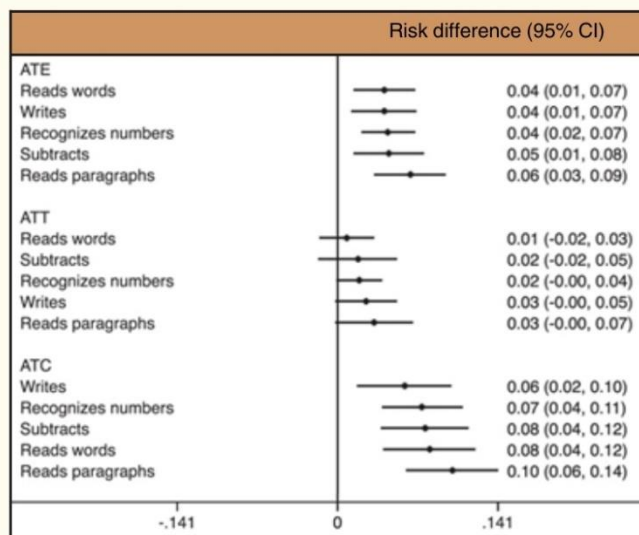
-Catherine Arsenault, Sam Harper, Arijit Nandi



Beyond the prevention of illness and death, vaccination may provide additional benefits such as improved educational outcomes. In this paper, the authors have cohort data from the India Human Development Survey (IHDS) to estimate the effect of childhood vaccination on learning achievements among primary school children. Vaccination status and confounders were measured among children who were at least 12 months old at baseline in 2004-2005. In 2011-2012, the same children completed basic reading, writing and math tests.

The authors estimated the effect of full vaccination during childhood on learning achievements, using inverse probability of treatment-weighted logistic regression models and results reported on the risk difference scale. The propensity score included 33 potential community, household, mother and child-level confounders as well as state fixed effects. Among the 4877 children included in the analysis, 54% were fully vaccinated at baseline, and 54% could read by the age of 8-11 years. The estimated effect of full vaccination on learning achievements ranged from 4 to 6 percentage points, representing relative increases ranging from 6% to 12%. These results support the hypothesis that vaccination has lasting effects on children's learning achievements. Further work is needed to confirm findings and elucidate the potential mechanisms linking vaccines to educational outcomes.

**Risk differences for the effect of full vaccination on learning achievements among primary school-aged children. ATC, average treatment effect on the controls; ATE, average treatment effect; ATT, average treatment effect on the treated.**



[Read More](#)

## About the Authors



### Catherine Arsenault

Catherine Arsenault is Assistant Professor in the Department of Global Health at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health. She holds a PhD in Epidemiology from McGill University and completed a postdoctoral Fellowship at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.



### Sam Harper

Sam Harper is an Associate Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University. He is also a member of the McGill University Centre on Population Dynamics and the Montreal Health Equity Research Consortium. His research focuses on understanding population health and its social distribution.



### Arijit Nandi

Arijit Nandi is an Associate Professor jointly appointed at the Institute for Health and Social Policy and the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health at McGill University. As Canada Research Chair in the Political Economy of Global Health, he has established a programme of research that attempts to rigorously examine macro-level determinants of population health and health inequality.

## Field Perspectives

Insights and Observations corner

### Challenges of Translating the Survey Questionnaire

-Ranjima K.V. and Bipasa Banerjee

One of the distinctive features of IHDS-3 is that it is being conducted in 11 Indian languages, thereby leading to many challenges. We joined the IHDS team as summer interns working to translate the questionnaire into Malayalam and Bengali. We stayed on as Research Associates, helping in training and quality control. Only then did we realise how different translating questionnaires is from general translation. Interesting examples:

- Using Google translate, we would get literal translations, such as 'head' would get translated as '*matha*' in Bengali or '*sar*' in Hindi, making the intervention of someone with a knowledge of the subject and language mandatory.
- The cultural and political variations across India made it difficult to find analogous terms in various languages. For instance, the word '*gauna*' (cohabitation ceremony) seemed to have no analogue in South India, where marriage and cohabitation occur at the same time. Similarly, MGNREGA is commonly known as 'Job Card' in West Bengal and '*Thozhilurappu*' in Kerala.
- During the interviewer training, however, we were able to refine the wording using local knowledge from the interviewers.

## The Authors



**Ranjima K.V.**  
Research Associate  
NCAER



**Bipasa Banerjee**  
Research Associate  
NCAER



## CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite researchers and users from the ever-expanding IHDS community spread across the world to contribute papers using IHDS data to a forthcoming issue of *Margin: The Journal of Applied Economic Research (JAER)*, a quarterly, peer-reviewed international journal published by NCAER in conjunction with Sage International. JAER publishes papers that pay special attention to the economics of emerging economies, but is open to high-quality papers from all fields of applied economics. More details about the journal can be found [here](#)

**Deadline for submission of papers: May 1, 2024**

**Please submit your papers to Dr. Ruchi Jain at [rjain@ncaer.org](mailto:rjain@ncaer.org)**



## Publications List

### IHDS in the News:

Mhaskar, S. "Decoding the Maratha Claim for Reservations", *Hindustan Times*. 12 December 2023. [Link](#)

Dreze, J., and C. Oldiges "India's Great Grain Mystery", *The Indian Express*. 1 January 2024. [Link](#)

### Recent Publications using IHDS Data:

Hossain, B., and K. James. (2023). "Economics of Widowhood Mortality in Adult Women in India", *Social Science & Medicine*, 116450. [Link](#)

Hussain, M.A., M. Tyagi, and D. Kumar. (2023). "STEMming the Dowry Tradition: Empowering Girls in India", *Research Square*. [Link](#)

Balcazar, C.F. and A. Kennard. (2022). "Climate Change and Political (In) Stability", *Available at SSRN* 4206967. [Link](#)

Kumar, S., K. Sengupta, and B.J. Gogoi. (2023). "Development Policies and Subjective Economic Wellbeing: Evidence from India", *The Indian Economic Journal*, 00194662231209455. [Link](#)

Baylor, S. (2023). "Women's Autonomy and Inheritance Law in India", *The Developing Economist*, 86. [Link](#)

Roy, S. (2023). "Gender Gap in Poverty Biased by Caste in India: An Empirical Analysis. *Journal of*

*Social and Economic Development*, 1-39. [Link](#)

Hassan, M. (2021). "Inequality Adjusted Per Capita Income of Indian States in 2004-05 and 2011-12", *The Journal of Development Practice*, 7. [Link](#)

Chandna, A., and Bhagowalia, P. (2023). "Birth Order, Child Health and Education", *Child Health and Education* (October 8). [Link](#)

Singh, K. (2023). *Universal Basic Income for Developing Economies* Washington University. [Link](#)

Pednekar, S., S. Desouza, S., and P. Mukhopadhyay. (2024). "Monitoring WASH and School Dropouts in India: Is There Adequate Data? An Assessment of Four National Databases", *Journal of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Development*, washdev2024195. [Link](#)

Jain, C., and R. Jain. (2023). "Chronic Absenteeism and Its Impact on the Learning Outcomes of Primary Grade Students in India", *Margin: The Journal of Applied Economic Research*, 17(1-2), 124-162. [Link](#)

## 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 neighborhoods across India. The first round of interviews were completed in 2004-05; Data is publicly available through ICPSR. A second round of re-interviewed most of these households in 2011-12 (N=42,152) and data for the same can be found via ICPSR. IHDS 3 is currently in progress with field work and data compilation.

IHDS 3 has been jointly organised by researchers from the University of Maryland, the National Council of Applied Economic Research, Indiana University and University of Michigan. Funding for the second round of 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  
Professor, NCAER  
Director, NDIC

**Feinian Chen**  
Professor, JHU

**Amaresh Dubey**  
Professor, JNU  
Senior Consultant,  
NCAER

**Keera Allendorf**  
Associate Professor,  
IU

**Sharan Sharma**  
Assistant Research  
Professor, UMD

## Contact Us



[Facebook](#)



[Email](#)



[Website](#)



[X](#)

Copyright © 2020, India Human Development Survey. All rights reserved.

**Our mailing address is:**

3104 Parren J. Mitchell Art Sociology Bldg. University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD 20738  
[ihdsinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ihdsinfo@gmail.com)

Thank you for your support.

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).