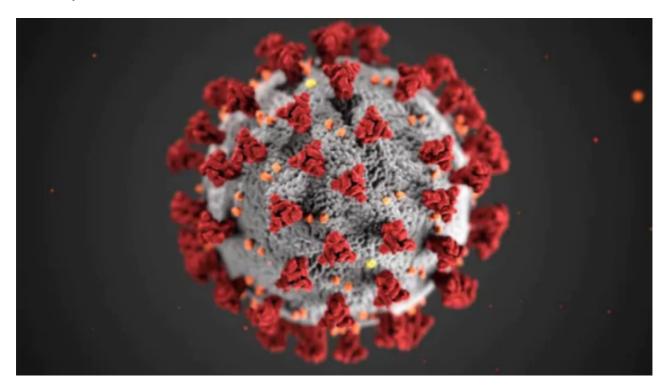# Life expectancy in India drops by 2 years due to Covid pandemic: Report

indiatoday.in/coronavirus-outbreak/story/life-expectancy-in-india-drops-by-2-years-due-to-covid-pandemic-1868387-2021-10-23

India Today Web Desk

October 23, 2021

A statistical analysis conducted by Mumbai's International Institute for Population Studies shows that life expectancy in India has dropped by roughly two years due to Covid-19 pandemic.

According to IIPS assistant professor Surayakant Yadav, the life expectancy at birth for men and women has declined from 69.5 years and 72 years in 2019 to 67.5 years and 69.8 respectively in 2020, reports Times of India.

'Life expectancy at birth' is defined as the average number of years that a newborn is expected to live if the mortality pattern during their birth remains constant in the future.

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The study was conducted to analyse the effect of the Covid pandemic on the mortality patterns across the country, as thousands of lives were lost due to the deadly pandemic waves.

The study also found out that the Covid toll was reported to be the highest for men in the age group of 35-69. The excess deaths in this age bracket due to Covid led to a sharp drop in life expectancy.

The IIPS based its study on the data collected by the 145-nation Global Burden of Disease study and the Covid-India Application Programme Interface (API) portal.

Yadav further added, "The Covid impact has wiped out the progress we made in the last decade to increase the life expectancy figure. India's life expectancy at birth now is the same as it was in 2010. It will take us years to catch up."

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However, IIPS director Dr K S James added that epidemics in the past in countries, including Africa, massively impacted life expectancy, but it recouped in a few years.