

## Life expectancy in India dropped by 2 years due to COVID-19: study

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The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a drop in life expectancy in India by nearly two years, according to a study.

### **Bombay:**

The COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected the lives of people around the world, has also caused a drop in life expectancy in India by nearly two years, according to a statistical analysis by scientists at the Institute international demographic studies (IIPS) based in the city. revealed.

The analytical report, which highlights the decline in life expectancy at birth for men and women due to the pandemic, was recently published in a journal "BMC Public Health". IIPS professor Suryakant Yadav is the author of the report.

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"Life expectancy at birth in 2019 was 69.5 years for men and 72 years for women, which dropped to 67.5 years and 69.8 years, respectively, in 2020," the report says. .

Life expectancy at birth is calculated based on the average number of years a newborn is expected to live if the mortality patterns at the time of infant birth remain constant in the future.

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The study undertaken by Professor Yadav also included a factor called 'lifespan inequality' and found that COVID-19 claimed the lives of as many as men in the 39-69 age group.

"The 35-79 age group experienced an excess of deaths from COVID-19 in 2020 compared to normal years and it is this group that has contributed enormously to the decline," Ms. Yadav said.

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This study was conducted to examine the impact of the burden of COVID-19 on mortality patterns in the country.

IIPS Director Dr KS James said: "Every time we are affected by an epidemic, life expectancy at birth decreases. For example, after the HIV-AIDS epidemic in African countries, life expectancy plummeted. Once it was brought under control, life expectancy also recovered.

*(This story was not edited by The Bharat Express News on Social Platforms.)*