

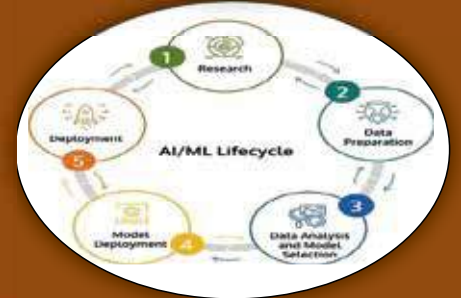
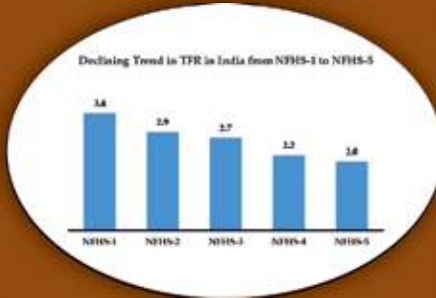
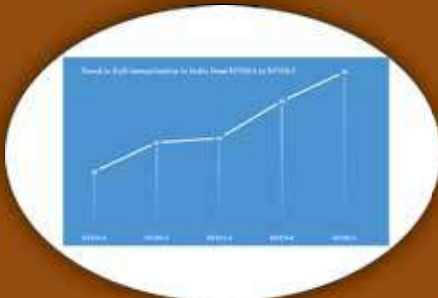


सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

# NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY (NFHS - 5), 2019–21

# INDIA REPORT



(स्थापना/ Established in 1956)  
बेहतर भविष्य के लिए क्षमता निर्माण  
Capacity Building for a Better Future

International Institute for Population Sciences  
Deonar, Mumbai- 400088



**NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY (NFHS-5)**

**2019-21**

**INDIA**

**VOLUME I**

**MARCH 2022**

Suggested citation: International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) and ICF. 2021.  
*National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 2019-21: India: Volume I.* Mumbai: IIPS.

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डॉ. मनसुख मांडविया  
DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA



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स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण  
व रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्री  
भारत सरकार

Minister for Health & Family Welfare  
and Chemicals & Fertilizers  
Government of India



## MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to release the National Report of the Fifth Round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 2019-21. As with previous rounds, the much-awaited NFHS-5 estimates will help to understand the current levels and track the performances of various flagship programmes launched by the Government of India in the recent years and will help to adapt and frame new policies and plans for the future.

The NFHS-5 provides the much needed estimates on fertility, mortality, maternal, child and adult health, women and child nutrition etc. at the National and State levels. A majority of these indicators are also provided for 707 districts of India. These indicators throw light on important aspects of family well-being of the population of different States/UTs. I am also happy to note that NFHS-5 provides information on number of indicators covered in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which India is committed to.

The inclusive efforts of the Government of India in the country through landmark programmes like National Rural Health Mission, Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Mission Indradhanush, Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan, POSHAN Abhiyaan, Beti Bachao- Beti Padhao, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna, promotion of menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls, etc. are also positively reflected in the findings of the NFHS-5.

Since our objective is to transform quality of life through effective delivery services, I hope that these estimates would enable the Government and stakeholders to arrive at a informed decision-making and policy interventions related to areas of health, population resources, and nutritional levels of women and children, and help in taking corrective measures in the right direction for the general population of this large and diverse country

(Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya)





डॉ. भारती प्रविण पवार  
Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar



75  
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NO 335  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण राज्य मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR  
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



### MESSAGE

It gives me great satisfaction and delight to bring out National Report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 2019-21 conducted under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. The NFHS-5, provides crucial information on several new and emerging issues on reproductive and child health, fertility and family planning, menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls, antenatal care, Women's empowerment, domestic violence, etc.

The estimates of key indicators given under NFHS-5 are also aligned with various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially SDG-3, which says 'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages'. It provides a useful demographic and health database, which will facilitate better monitoring of government programmes, and the progress made towards achieving the SDGs by 2030.

The Government of India, under the valuable guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, is committed to meet the health needs of the people of India. Availability of the data generated under NFHS-5, Government would be enabled to take important policy decisions and strategies for intervention at state and district levels. Also, it will provide helpful insights to researchers who are working in the area of health, population resources, and nutritional levels of women children.

I congratulate the officials of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, NFHS-5 team, IIPS, other partners from USAID, ICF and all who have helped in NFHS-5 for making this valuable contribution to the development of the community and country at large and wish them the best for future endeavors'.

May, 2022

  
(Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar)

“दो गज की दूरी, मास्क है जरूरी”







राजेश भूषण, आईएएस  
सचिव

**RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS**  
SECRETARY



सत्यमेव जयते



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Government of India  
Department of Health and Family Welfare  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



### FOREWORD

The National Family Health Surveys (NFHS) conducted under the aegis of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has played a crucial role in providing the Government of India and the stakeholders with reliable inputs to monitor the progress of various flagship programmes as well as the vision of the National Health Policy. The NFHS-5, with a reference period 2019-2021 provides vital information on reproductive and child health, fertility and family planning, health insurance, nutrition, HIV/AIDS, non-communicable diseases and many other related issues. The National report provides information at National and State levels by background characteristics. The report would strengthen the country's demographic and health database, and the information will serve as a benchmark for government's initiatives in its commitment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Over the years, NFHS has expanded its scope and coverage to fill the gap in the data requirements of the Government, entities outside the Government and researchers in the field of population and health. Like in the previous round, NFHS-5 has adopted a modular approach to arrive at estimates of crucial indicators at the National and State /UT levels and a subset of these indicators at the district level. This will act as a useful trigger to prioritize action to address key healthcare challenges facing the districts and states.

I am also happy to note that majority of the programmes of the Ministry are successfully reflected in the findings of the report, which gives us the opportunity to further strengthen the programmes.

The success of such a large-scale survey of national importance like NFHS-5 has been due to the efforts of Statistics Division in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), the Chairman & Members of the Technical and Administrative Committees, USAID and ICF. I appreciate the support and contribution of all who have helped to accomplish this ambitious task.

Date : 03 May, 2022  
Place : New Delhi

(Rajesh Bhushan)







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Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM)



### PROLOGUE

I am happy to note that the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) has been instrumental in providing robust information to the Government of India and policy makers with credible evidence from its various flagship programs launched by the Government in recent years and will facilitate in adopting and formulating new policies and plans for the future. The fifth round of the NFHS, conducted during 2019-21, provides crucial information on reproductive and child health, including social-economic characteristics, fertility, early child mortality, family planning, water and sanitation, nutritional status, child immunization, gender based violence, women's empowerment, certain non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and many other topics. The NFHS-5 National Report, jointly prepared by Statistics Division of MoHFW and International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, would further strengthen the country's demographic and health database.

Despite of all the challenges during the pandemic, the National Family Health Survey has committed to provide crucial database to take important policy decisions and to plan strategies for intervention at State and District level across the country. Another significant contribution of NFHS-5 is to provide recent estimates of over 34 SDG indicators for tracking the progress made and would help the government to plan towards achieving the SDGs by the year 2030.

Similar to the previous round, NFHS-5 also covered 707 districts by adopting a modular approach to arrive at estimates of crucial indicators at National, State/Union Territory (UT) and District levels. After rigorous rounds of mapping and listing of all the households in the selected first units in each State/UT, information was collected from each selected households and from women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 in each selected household, including biomarkers from all eligible persons through the use of Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI).

I want to congratulate the NFHS team at Statistics Division of MoHFW and IIPS, Mumbai for making this valuable contribution to the development of the community and country at large. I acknowledge with appreciations all those who have supported and contributed to the success of the project. I look forward to the comments for further value addition.

(Vikas Sheel)

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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## PREFACE

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS), initiated in the early 1990s, has emerged as a nationally important data source on population, health and nutrition for India and its States and UTs. The 2019-21 National Family Health Survey is the fifth in the series of national health surveys and will provide information on key health and family welfare related indicators and on several new and emerging issues including pre-school attendance, death registration, disability insurance coverage, ownership of physical and economic assets by women, domestic violence during pregnancy, height, weight, hemoglobin levels, blood pressure and blood glucose measured. For the first time in NFHS-5 waist and hip circumference measurements has also been collected. The scope of NFHS-5 has been modified to make the target population ranges aligned with those of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The survey used a uniform sampling design, questionnaires (translated into regional languages), field procedures and biomarker measurements for facilitating comparability across the States/UTs and ensuring the good data quality. NFHS-5 covered all 28 States, 08 Union Territories and 707 districts of India by adopting a modular approach to arrive at estimates of crucial indicators at National, State/Union Territory (UT) and District levels. One National factsheet, 36 States and UTs Factsheets and 707 districts factsheets that provided estimates of 131 key indicators at State/UT level and 104 at district level have already been released.

We are pleased to release NFHS-5 National report. I hope that the information given in this report will provide inputs for policy makers and planners to make informed decisions for managing effectively health and family welfare programmes with an emphasis on issues related to maternal and child health.

May, 2022

*sandhyak*  
(S.Krishnamurthy)

**Healthy Village, Healthy Nation**



एड्स - जानकारी ही बचाव है  
Talking about AIDS is taking care of each other







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स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
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### MESSAGE

I am delighted to note that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India in association with International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai is bringing out the National Report of the fifth round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5). NFHS surveys are well recognised globally for the detailed presentation of information on India's population, health and associated domains. The estimates provided by NFHS are comparable with the Demographic Health Surveys (DHS) being carried out at over 90 countries globally.

The key estimates from NFHS are crucial in monitoring the existing policies and programmes and to formulate new ones for the betterment of the marginalised and underdeveloped communities at the grass-root level. The fieldwork of the fifth round of NFHS was conducted in two phases from June, 2019 to April, 2021 covering information from 6,36,699 households throughout the country making it one of the largest household surveys in the entire globe. Further, detailed information was collected from 7,24,115 women and 1,01,839 men in the eligible age groups. One of the major advantages of NFHS-5 is that it provides key estimates for all the States/UTs and all 707 districts (as on March, 2017), which would further help in making focused interventions at the district levels. NFHS-5 is able to provide information on important indicators, which are helpful in tracking the progress of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at various levels for SDG 1 "No Poverty", SDG 2 "Zero Hunger", SDG 3 "Good Health and Well-being" and SDG 5 "Gender Equality".

I sincerely acknowledge the contribution of the army of field investigators who collected crucial information from the households and managed to complete this massive task despite COVID-19 pandemic. I would also like to convey my gratitude to the officers and officials at the MoHFW, IIPS, the ICF International, various Field Agencies, the Chairman, Co-Chairman and members of various technical committees involved in the conduct of NFHS-5 for the successful completion of this mammoth task.

  
(P. Manoj Kumar)

**Healthy Village, Healthy Nation**



एड्स = जानकारी ही बचाव है  
Talking about AIDS is taking care of each other



अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या  
विज्ञान संस्थान  
(विश्वविद्यालय समतुल्य)\*\*



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(स्थापना / Established in 1956)  
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Capacity Building for a Better Future

An Autonomous Organisation of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India  
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निदेशक एवं वरिष्ठ प्रोफेसर / DIRECTOR & Sr. PROFESSOR



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) was successfully completed in 707 districts (as on March 2017) drawn from all the 29 States and 7 Union Territories. The national report of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) has been completed with joint efforts and involvement of numerous organizations and individuals in two phases, including the phase of a difficult period of COVID-19 pandemics. With the completion of the national report of NFHS-5, the unit-level data will be available for the use of the researchers and policy planners.

At the outset, we are grateful to the officials of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi, for their overall guidance and support. I express our sincere thanks to Shri. Rajesh Bhushan, Secretary of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Vikas Sheel, AS&MD, Ashish Srivastava AS&FA, Smt. Sandhya Krishnamurthy DG(Stats.), Shri P Manoj Kumar CD (Stats.), and Ms. Nidhi Satija JD (Stats.). The involvement of many former officials of the MoHFW helped significantly towards the completion of the survey on time. They include Preeti Sudan former Secretary, Ms. Vandana Gurnani, former AS&MD, Dr. D. S. Gangwar, former AS&FA, Smt Nivedita Gupta, former CD(Stats.), Shir D.K. Ojha, former DDG (Stats.)

I express our sincere gratitude to all the Steering Committee, Administrative & Financial Management Committee, Project Management Committee, and the Technical Advisory Committee, especially the Chairperson, Dr. N.S. Sastry and Co-Chair, Dr. Arvind Pandey for their contribution and for providing valuable guidance at different stages of implementation. The members of these committees provided constant guidance in carrying out the task even during the pandemic.

I deeply appreciate the efforts of all the Principal Investigators (Prof. S. K. Singh, Prof. Hemkothang Lhungdim, Prof. Chander Shekhar, Prof. Laxmi Kant Dwivedi, and Dr. Sarang Pedgaonkar) at IIPS for their dedication, enthusiasm and unstinting efforts in bringing out the national report on time. Prof Balram Paswan (Rtd) was actively involved in the project in the early stages. I appreciate and acknowledge the untiring efforts and initiative taken by Dr. Fred Arnold, Dr. Sunita Kishor, and other staff members/consultants of ICF at every stage of the project. We also acknowledge the contribution of NFHS-5 Senior Project Officers, Project Officers, and other staff members for their constant support. The administrative staff at IIPS provided support at all stages of the project.

I sincerely thank the Heads and staff of Field Agencies (FAs) for successfully carrying out the task of data collection in their respective states. This acknowledgment cannot be completed without expressing our appreciation for the hard work put in by the field teams in data collection and maintaining the quality of data.

(Prof. K S JAMES)

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\*[An University Established under Section 3 of UGC Act 1956, vide Ministry of Education GOI, Notification No.F.9-14/81-U-3 dtd 14 August 1985]





## INTRODUCTION

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The National Family Health Survey 2019-21 (NFHS-5), the fifth in the NFHS series, provides information on population, health, and nutrition for India, each state/union territory (UT), and for 707 districts as on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017. All five NFHS surveys have been conducted under the stewardship of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. MoHFW designated the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, as the nodal agency for all the rounds of NFHS. Funding for NFHS-5 was provided by the MoHFW, Government of India. ICF, USA provided technical assistance through the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program, which is funded by USAID. Assistance for the Dried Blood Sample (DBS) component of the survey was provided by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune. NFHS-5 fieldwork for India was conducted in two phases— Phase-I from 17 June 2019 to 30 January 2020 covering 17 states and 5 UTs and Phase-II from 2 January 2020 to 30 April 2021 covering 11 states and 3 UTs — by 17 Field Agencies and gathered information from 636,699 households, 724,115 women, and 101,839 men.

The first NFHS was conducted in 1992-93 and covered all states except Sikkim. NFHS-2 was conducted in 1998-99 in all states with similar content and methods to those in NFHS-1. In addition, NFHS-2 provided information on reproductive health, women's autonomy, and domestic violence, women's and children's nutrition, anaemia, and salt iodization. NFHS-3 built on the strengths and successes of NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 by maintaining continuity in content and methods with an additional component of community-based HIV testing in the country. It also included a men's interview for the first time. With additional components of CAB (clinical, anthropometric, and biochemical testing), NFHS-4 has contents similar to NFHS-3, maintaining the continuity and comparability in information. However, NFHS-4 provided information at the district level through increasing the sample size by nearly fivefold as compared with NFHS 3. NFHS-4 used a modular approach, where the last four sections of woman's questionnaire, interviews with men, and HIV testing were done only for the households included in the state module, and the information is provided only at the state level for those indicators.

Like NFHS-4, NFHS-5 also provides district-level estimates for many important indicators. The contents of NFHS-5 are similar to NFHS-4 to allow comparisons over time. However, NFHS-5 includes some new topics, such as preschool education, disability, access to a toilet facility, death registration, bathing practices during menstruation, and methods and reasons for abortion. The scope of clinical, anthropometric, and biochemical testing (CAB) has also been expanded to include measurement of waist and hip circumferences, and the age range for the measurement of blood pressure and blood glucose has been expanded. However, HIV testing was not included in NFHS-5. The NFHS-5 sample was designed to provide national, state/union territory (UT), and district level estimates of various indicators covered in the survey. However, estimates of indicators of sexual behaviour; husband's background and woman's work; HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour; and domestic violence are available only at the state/union territory (UT) and national level.

As in the earlier rounds, the MoHFW, Government of India, designated the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, as the nodal agency to conduct NFHS-5. The main objective of each successive round of the NFHS has been to provide high-quality data on health and family welfare and emerging issues in this area. NFHS-5 data will be useful in setting benchmarks and examining the progress the health sector has made over time. Besides providing evidence for the effectiveness of ongoing programmes, the data from NFHS-5 help in identifying the need for new programmes with an area specific focus and identifying groups that are most in need of essential services.

## 1.1 SURVEY OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the 2019-21 round of National Family Health Surveys is to provide essential data on health and family welfare, as well as data on emerging issues in these areas, such as levels of fertility, infant and child mortality, maternal and child health, and other health and family welfare indicators by background characteristics at the national and state levels. Similar to NFHS-4, NFHS-5 also provides information on several emerging issues including perinatal mortality, high-risk sexual behaviour, safe injections, tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases, and the use of emergency contraception.

The information collected through NFHS-5 is intended to assist policymakers and programme managers in setting benchmarks and examining progress over time in India's health sector. Besides providing evidence on the effectiveness of ongoing programmes, NFHS-5 data will help to identify the need for new programmes in specific health areas.

The clinical, anthropometric, and biochemical (CAB) component of NFHS-5 is designed to provide vital estimates of the prevalence of malnutrition, anaemia, hypertension, high blood glucose levels, and waist and hip circumference, Vitamin D3, HbA1c, and malaria parasites through a series of biomarker tests and measurements.

## 1.2 SAMPLE DESIGN

Decisions about the overall sample size required for NFHS-5 were guided by several considerations, paramount among which was the need to produce indicators at the district and/or state/union territory (UT) levels. Thus, NFHS-5 provides information for 707 districts, 28 states, and 8 union territories.

A uniform sample design, which is representative at the national, state/union territory, and district level, was adopted in each round of the survey. Each district is stratified into urban and rural areas. Each rural stratum is sub-stratified into smaller substrata which are created considering the village population and the percentage of the population belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes (SC/ST). Within each explicit rural sampling stratum, a sample of villages was selected as Primary Sampling Units (PSUs); before the PSU selection, PSUs were sorted according to the literacy rate of women age 6+ years. Within each urban sampling stratum, a sample of Census Enumeration Blocks (CEBs) was selected as PSUs. Before the PSU selection, PSUs were sorted according to the percentage of SC/ST population. In the second stage of selection, a fixed number of 22 households per cluster was selected with an equal probability systematic selection from a newly created list of households in the selected PSUs. The list of households was created as a result of the mapping and household listing operation conducted in each selected PSU before the household selection in the second stage. In all, 30,456 Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) were selected across the country in NFHS-5 drawn from 707 districts as on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017, of which fieldwork was completed in 30,198 PSUs.

NFHS-5 was designed to provide information on sexual behaviour; husband's background and women's work; HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour; and domestic violence only at the state level (in the state module), while indicators in the district module are reported at the district level. A subsample of 15 percent of households was selected for the implementation of the state module drawn from the district sample. In 15 percent of households randomly selected for the state module, a long questionnaire was administered that included all the questions needed for district-level estimates plus additional questions for the topics listed above. To achieve a representative sample of 15 percent of households, NFHS-5 conducted interviews in every alternate selected household in 30 percent of the randomly selected clusters.

The NFHS-5 sample is a stratified two-stage sample. The 2011 census served as the sampling frame for the selection of PSUs. PSUs were villages in rural areas and Census Enumeration Blocks (CEBs) in urban areas. PSUs with fewer than 40 households were linked to the nearest PSU. Within each rural stratum, villages were selected from the sampling frame with probability proportional to size (PPS). In each stratum, six approximately equal substrata were created by crossing three substrata, each created based on the estimated number of households in each village, with

two substrata, each created based on the percentage of the population belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes (SCs/STs). Within each explicit sampling stratum, PSUs were sorted according to the prevalence of literacy of women age 6+ years. The final sample PSUs were selected with PPS systematic sampling.

In urban areas, CEB information was obtained from the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, New Delhi. CEBs were sorted according to the percentage of the SC/ST population in each CEB, and sample CEBs were selected with PPS systematic sampling.

In every selected rural and urban PSU, a complete household mapping and listing operation was conducted prior to the main survey. Selected PSUs with an estimated number of at least 300 households were segmented into segments of approximately 100-150 households. Two of the segments were randomly selected for the survey using systematic sampling with probability proportional to segment size. Therefore, an NFHS-5 cluster is either a PSU or a segment of a PSU. In the second stage, in every selected rural and urban cluster, 22 households were randomly selected with systematic sampling. A detailed description of sampling design, weight computation, estimation of standard errors, and strategies to enhance data quality measures is presented in Volume II of the national report.

### 1.3 QUESTIONNAIRES

Four survey schedules/questionnaires—Household, Woman, Man, and Biomarker—were canvassed in 18 local languages using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). In the Household Questionnaire, information was collected on all usual members of the household and visitors who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Basic demographic information was collected on the characteristics of each person listed, such as age, sex, marital status, schooling, ownership of an *Aadhaar* card, tobacco use, alcohol consumption, disabilities, and relationship to the head of the household. At the household level, information was collected on socio-economic characteristics; water, sanitation, and hygiene; water treatment; type of toilet facilities; type of cooking fuel; materials used for the floor, roof, and walls of the dwelling unit; ownership of various durable goods; health insurance coverage; land ownership; number of deaths in the household in the two years preceding the survey; and the ownership and use of mosquito nets. The parents' survival status was determined for children under age 18. For children under age five, information was collected on whether each child has a birth certificate or whether the birth was registered with the civil authority. The information on age and sex of household members obtained in the Household Questionnaire was used to identify women and men who were eligible for individual interviews. The Household Questionnaire also collected information on the ownership and use of mosquito nets, exposure to second-hand smoke, and the reported prevalence of tuberculosis. A sample of cooking salt used in the household was tested for iodine content. The protocol for the NFHS-5 survey, including the content of all the survey questionnaires, was approved by the IIPS Institutional Review Board and the ICF Institutional Review Board. The protocol was also reviewed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Woman's Questionnaire collected information from all eligible women age 15-49, who were asked questions on a large variety of topics, including the following:

- Background characteristics: age, literacy, schooling, religion, caste/tribe, media exposure
- Reproduction: children ever born, birth history, current pregnancy, pregnancy terminations
- Prevalence of hysterectomy
- Menstrual hygiene (for women age 15-24 years)
- Family planning: knowledge and use of contraception, sources of contraceptive methods, information on family planning
- Contacts with community health workers
- Maternal and child health, breastfeeding, and nutrition: antenatal care; delivery care; postnatal care; postpartum amenorrhoea; breastfeeding and child feeding practices; vaccination coverage; prevalence and treatment of diarrhoea; symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI), and fever; use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT); utilization of ICDS services

- Marriage and sexual activity: marital status, age at first marriage, lifetime number of unions, polygyny, consanguinity, age at first sexual intercourse, recent sexual activity, number and type of sexual partners, use of condoms
- Fertility preferences: desire for more children, ideal number of children, gender preferences for children, intention to use family planning
- Husband's background and woman's work: husband's age, schooling, and occupation, and the woman's employment and type of earnings (state module subsample only)
- Women's empowerment: household decision making, mobility, use of a bank account and a mobile phone, ownership of a house or land, barriers to medical treatment (state module subsample only)
- HIV/AIDS: knowledge of HIV and AIDS, knowledge of methods of HIV transmission, sources of HIV information, ways to avoid HIV, previous HIV testing, HIV stigma, other sexually-transmitted infections (state module subsample only)
- Other health issues: tobacco and alcohol use, knowledge of tuberculosis, current morbidity (diabetes, hypertension, asthma, goitre and other thyroid diseases, heart disease, cancer), and household decision making (state module subsample only)
- Domestic violence: only one eligible woman per household was randomly selected to answer the questions in the domestic violence section to comply with ethical requirements. Women who were victims of domestic violence were provided with a list of appropriate local organizations that they could contact if they wanted help (women age 18-49 in the state module subsample only)

The Man's Questionnaire was administered only in the subsample of households selected for the state module. The Man's Schedule covered the man's characteristics, media exposure, marriage, employment, presence at antenatal care visits, number of children, contraceptive knowledge and use, fertility preferences, nutrition, sexual behaviour, attitudes toward gender roles, HIV/AIDS, health issues, attitudes towards gender roles, tobacco and alcohol use, knowledge of tuberculosis, current morbidity (diabetes, asthma, goitre and other thyroid diseases, heart disease, cancer), and household decision making.

The Biomarker Schedule covered measurements of height, weight, and haemoglobin levels for children; measurements of height, weight, waist and hip circumference, and haemoglobin levels for women age 15-49 years and men age 15-54 years; and blood pressure and random blood glucose levels for women and men age 15 years and over. In addition, women and men were requested to provide a few additional drops of blood from a finger prick for laboratory testing for HbA1c, malaria parasites, and Vitamin D3.

In contrast to the data collection procedure for the household and individual interviews, data related to the biomarkers were initially recorded on the Biomarker Questionnaire and subsequently entered into the interviewers' mini-computers. Sample copies of all four questionnaires are presented in Volume – II of the national report.

## 1.4 BIOMARKER MEASUREMENTS AND TESTS

NFHS-5 carried out several biomarker measurements and tests with the help of trained health investigators in each team. The list of biomarkers and tests administered for NFHS-5 along with the type of instrument used are presented in the box below.

Except for HbA1c, malaria parasites, and Vitamin D3 testing, the results of all measurements and tests were immediately given to the respondents (or a parent or other adult responsible for children) in the field, along with information brochures. The results were explained to respondents by the specially trained health investigators who conducted the tests. All women and men who were eligible for HbA1c, malaria parasites, and Vitamin D3 testing were given a referral card.

Details of Biomarker Measurements and Tests		
Eligible age group	Type of Investigation	Instrument Used
Children 0-59 months	Weight Length/Height	Seca 874 Digital Scale (Weight) Seca 213 Stadiometer (Height) Seca 417 Infantometer (Length) (for children less than 2 years old or less than 85 cm)
Children 6-59 months	Haemoglobin	HemoCue Hb 201+ Analyser (Haemoglobin)
Women age 15-49 and Men age 15-54	Height Weight Waist and Hip Circumference Haemoglobin	Seca 874 Digital Scale (Weight) Seca 213 Stadiometer (Height) Gulick tape (Waist and Hip Circumference) HemoCue Hb 201+ Analyser (Haemoglobin)
Women and Men age 15 and over	Blood Glucose Blood Pressure	Accu-Chek Performa Glucometer (Blood Glucose) Omron Blood Pressure Monitor (Blood Pressure)
Women and Men age 15 and over (subsample)	HbA1c Vitamin D3 Malaria parasites	Dried Blood Spot (DBS) on Filter Paper Card

**Anthropometry:** Height and weight were measured for children age 0-59 months, women age 15-49, and (in the state module subsample of households only) men age 15-54. The Seca 874 digital scale was used to measure the weight of children and adults. The height of adults and children age 24-59 months was measured with the Seca 213 stadiometer. The Seca 417 infantometer was used to measure the recumbent length of children under two years or less than 85 cm. As per World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines, waist circumference (WC), waist-hip ratio (WHR) and waist-to-height ratio (WHtR) have been found to be appropriate measurements of abdominal obesity. For the first time, NFHS-5 included waist and hip circumference measurements provided by using Gulick tapes for both eligible women and men for measurements of abdominal obesity.

**Anaemia testing:** Blood specimens for anaemia testing were collected by health investigators from eligible women age 15-49, men age 15-54 (in the state module subsample of households), and children age 6-59 months. Consent for the test was taken from eligible women and men. For children age 6-59 months, consent was obtained from a parent or an adult responsible for the child. Blood samples were drawn from a drop of blood taken from a finger prick (or a heel prick for children age 6-11 months) and collected in a microcuvette. Haemoglobin analysis was conducted on-site with a battery-operated portable HemoCue Hb 201+ analyser. Respondents found to have severe anaemia if the haemoglobin level is below 7 grams/decilitre (g/dl) for women, men, and children and if the haemoglobin level is below 9 g/dl for pregnant women were referred to a health facility for further evaluation and treatment.

**Blood glucose testing:** Random blood glucose was measured using a finger-stick blood specimen for all women and men age 15 and above using the *Accu-Chek Performa* glucometer with glucose test strips for blood glucose testing. A referral form to a health facility for additional medical evaluation was provided for any respondent with a random blood glucose level  $\geq 200$  mg/dl. The results of blood glucose display on an LCD digital screen within five second and were given to respondents on a health card immediately after the test was completed. The health investigator



described to the respondent the meaning of the results and advised the respondent if a referral to a medical centre is necessary.

**Blood pressure measurement:** Blood pressure was measured for all women and men age 15 and above using an *Omron Blood Pressure Monitor* to determine the prevalence of hypertension. Blood pressure measurements for each respondent were taken three times with an interval of five minutes between readings. Respondents whose average systolic blood pressure (SBP) was >130 mm Hg and/or whose average diastolic blood pressure (DBP) was >85 mm Hg were considered to have elevated blood pressure readings and they were encouraged to see a doctor for a full evaluation.

### **Dried Blood Spot (DBS) collection for HbA1c, malaria parasites and drug resistance, and Vitamin D3:**

DBS were collected from a subsample of households on specially designed filter paper cards from eligible respondents for various biomarkers. The various DBS based tests considered under NFHS-5 include:

**Malaria parasites and drug resistance:** Diagnosis of symptomatic and asymptomatic malaria (*Plasmodium* species like *P. falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. malariae*, *P. ovale*, and *P. knowlesi*) is important. Also, there is a need to detect markers of antimalarial drug resistance—specific molecular markers in the plasmodium DNA and *hrp2* deletions in the malaria parasites (if present). Most malaria is being reported from states in the eastern, central and north-eastern parts of the country, such as Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, and Meghalaya. To test for malaria, dried blood spots (DBS) were collected. In a random subsample of households, health investigators collected finger-prick blood specimens from eligible women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who consented to laboratory malaria testing.

**HbA1c Testing:** Glycosylated haemoglobin is a parameter to provide information on the status of diabetes control at the population level among diabetes patients. The testing results also provide useful information on diabetes management strategies and guide policymakers in programme planning. In a random subsample of households, health investigators collected finger-prick blood specimens on a filter paper card from eligible women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who consented to laboratory HbA1c testing.

**Vitamin D3:** The reported prevalence of Vitamin D3 deficiency is about 50-70% in India. Osteopenia and osteoporosis are common among India adults. Patients with chronic kidney diseases (CKD) may also present with bone disorders before or after developing kidney diseases. They may have osteoporosis and Vitamin D deficiency. Hence, determination of Vitamin D3 levels is of major importance. To test for vitamin D3 deficiency, DBS were collected. In a random subsample of households, health investigators collected finger-prick blood specimens on a filter paper card from eligible women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who consented to laboratory Vitamin D3 testing.

The results of these tests will be published in a separate report.

## **1.5 PRETEST**

The pretest was conducted during November-December 2017, and training of investigators for the pretest was held at the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai. The pretest fieldwork was conducted in five enumeration areas (4 rural, 1 urban) in and around Thane Taluka that had not been selected for the main survey. The pretest was conducted in Hindi speaking areas of Thane district followed by a debriefing session for the field teams. In all, 38 interviewers and 11 health investigators participated in the training. The pretest field practice covered 95 household interviews, 107 woman's interviews, and 59 man's interviews. Biomarkers measurements and testing were conducted on 50 children and 126 adults.

## 1.6 TRAINING OF FIELD STAFF

Training was conducted in a tiered fashion. For each of the two fieldwork phases, a Training of Trainers (ToT) course was conducted by IIPS, Mumbai, and ICF. The ToT for the 19 states and union territories (UTs) included in the first phase was conducted in Goa from 22 April to 12 May, 2019. The ToT for the remaining 17 states and UTs was conducted from October 5-24, 2019 in Chandigarh. The trainees in both ToT workshops included project coordinators, health coordinators, statisticians/demographers, and information technology coordinators from the Field Agencies, and Project Officers/Senior Project Officers from IIPS. The coordinators from Field Agencies were responsible for training fieldworkers at the state/UT level.

## 1.7 FIELDWORK

NFHS-5 fieldwork for India was conducted in two phases (phase one from 17 June 2019 to 30 January 2020 and phase two from 2 January 2020 to 30 April 2021) by 17 Field Agencies. NFHS-5 gathered information from 636,699 households, 724,115 women, and 101,839 men. Data collection was conducted by using 1,061 field teams. Each team consisted of one field supervisor, three female interviewers, one male interviewer, two health investigators, and a driver. The number of interviewing teams in each state varied according to the sample size. In each state, interviewers were hired by the selected Field Agencies, taking into consideration their educational background, experience, and other relevant qualifications. Female and male interviewers were assigned to interview respondents of the same sex. The assignment of Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) to the teams and various logistical decisions were made by the survey coordinators from each Field Agency. Each interviewer was required to make a minimum of three callbacks if no suitable informant was available for the household interview or if an eligible woman or man in the household was not present at the time of the interviewer's visit.

The field supervisor was responsible for the overall management of the field teams. In addition, the field supervisor conducted spot-checks to verify the accuracy of key information, particularly with respect to the eligibility of respondents. IIPS also appointed one or more project officers or senior project officers in each state for monitoring and supervision throughout the training and fieldwork period to ensure that correct survey procedures were followed and that data quality was maintained. Project directors and other senior staff from the Field Agencies, the Principal Investigators from IIPS, officials from MoHFW, and technical consultants from The DHS Program at ICF also visited the field sites to monitor data collection operations.

## 1.8 STRATEGY TO ENSURE DATA QUALITY

Due to the size and complexity of the NFHS-5 survey, considerable thought went into devising strategies to minimize the non-sampling errors and ensure data quality. Some of the procedures adopted are summarized below.

- NFHS-5 was conducted in two phases to make the administration of the training and fieldwork more manageable.
- In the states included in each phase, fieldwork was conducted in a group of five adjacent districts at a time to facilitate close monitoring and supervision of the training of field staff and the implementation of the fieldwork.
- To maintain uniform procedures across the states, several comprehensive manuals were prepared, including a Supervisor's Manual, an Interviewer's Manual, a Health Investigator's Manual, a Household Mapping and Listing Manual, Data Processing Guidelines, and Training Guidelines.
- There were multiple levels of monitoring and supervision of the fieldwork, including monitoring by district coordinators from the Field Agencies; monitoring by senior staff from the state offices of the Field Agencies; positioning two IIPS project officers with each Field Agency for the entire duration of the survey, in addition to monitoring and supervision by senior project officers, project coordinators, IIPS faculty coordinators, staff and consultants from ICF, and representatives from the development partners and the Ministry of Health and

Family Welfare, Government of India. Immediate corrective measures were taken in case there were any deviations from the survey protocols.

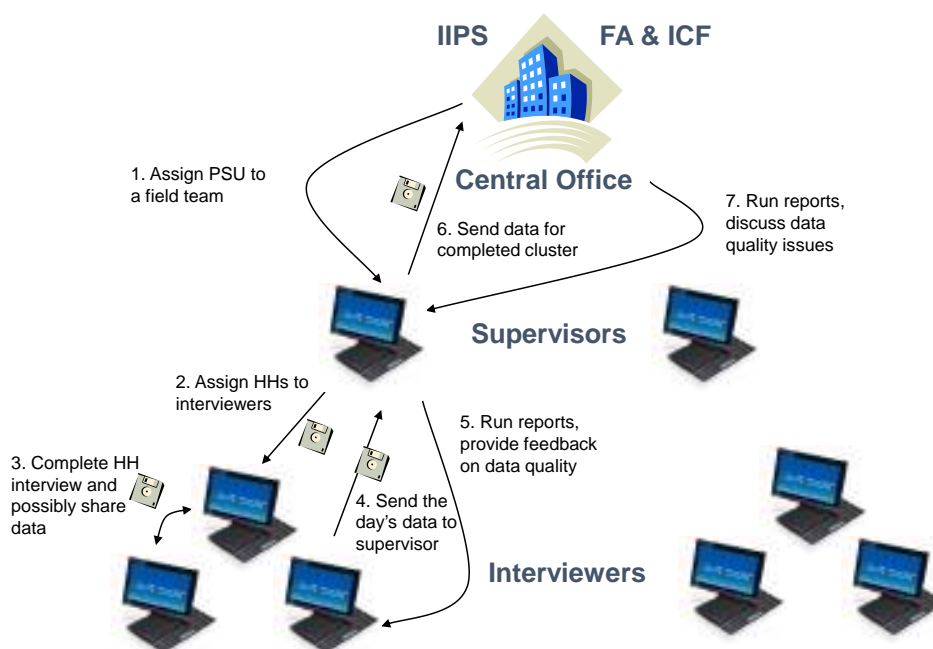
- The field supervisor on each interviewing team was required to observe interviews in a subsample of households and to conduct back-checks with respondents as a further check on the quality of the fieldwork.
- Use of computer assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) and the transfer of field data to IIPS on a daily basis were instrumental in remotely monitoring progress of the field teams. Use of CAPI also enabled IIPS and ICF to run extensive data quality checks on the data from the field and to provide real-time feedback to Field Agencies and teams to help improve data quality. A standard set of 44 field-check tables (FCTs) were produced frequently throughout the fieldwork, covering such topics as response rates, age heaping and age displacement, completeness of reporting, sex ratios for children, patterns of height/length and weight measurements, and the contraceptive prevalence rate. (Please refer to the data collection flow chart below).

**Figure 1.1 Data Collection System**





**Figure 1.2 Communication Scenario: Data Collection**



- The CAPI program used in NFHS has an inbuilt feature to select the appropriate language for the interviews from multiple regional languages. Control and management of fieldwork across the country is arranged from the central office by allotment of work to each of more than 500 teams working and accessing their progress on a real-time basis. An inbuilt algorithm in the CAPI program automatically handles skip patterns, filters, and eligibility for questionnaires and sections. The provision of synchronizing data from the interviewer's CAPI instrument to the supervisor's CAPI instrument provides an opportunity for back-checking information to improve data quality. An inbuilt mechanism partially saves incomplete questionnaires to provide opportunities to complete the interview in multiple sessions and minimize respondent's fatigue. Use of SyncCloud Technology improves the data synchronization from the supervisor's CAPI instrument to the Central Office, which gives access to real-time data from any device or computer. The CAPI programs help in generating field-check tables on key indicators on a daily basis which are reviewed by the Quality Assurance Team in the central office to allow individual level feedback to be communicated back to the teams working across different parts of the country.
- NFHS assigns a unique code to each investigator within a state, which helps in tracking the progress and performance of the investigator after individual level feedback is provided.
- Protocols for fieldwork implementation and monitoring are laid down for the smooth execution of the fieldwork. Also, rigorous procedures to check data quality are conducted throughout the course of the fieldwork. These include back-checks of the questionnaires in the field, and the frequent examination of an extensive set of field-check tables to detect systematic errors at the level of the interviewing teams and individual interviewers. Any problems that are detected by the field-check tables can be immediately relayed back to the Field Agencies to be addressed in a timely fashion.
- To ensure uniformity in the implementation of the fieldwork protocols in every state, a centrally-organized Training of Trainers' Workshop of four weeks duration was conducted in each phase. Four persons from each

Field Agency participated in the workshop (two social scientists, one IT specialist, and one health coordinator). These trained persons were responsible for organizing the state-level training programmes in local and regional languages, for a minimum of four weeks' duration, which were supported and supervised by IIPS and ICF.

- To ensure that biomarker tests were conducted properly in a uniform manner, training videos in English and Hindi were produced to indicate the correct procedures for conducting height/length and weight measurements and to demonstrate in detail how to conduct anaemia and blood glucose testing and how to collect blood samples on filter paper cards.
- The protocols used for collection of CAB data have been developed as per international standards which allow comparability with other DHS surveys.
- NFHS-5 used standard, self-calibrating equipment having the latest technologies to ensure minimum instrument errors. The equipment used in the survey is also standardized periodically to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the measurements.
- For the first time in NFHS-5 (2019-21), there was a provision for generating error messages to ensure internal inconsistency in the data with a condition of immediate corrections. IIPS and ICF have developed and implemented this application to reduce the burden of secondary editing after completion of data collection. This application has been designed so that any inconsistencies in the responses of a completed interview will be highlighted. The team supervisor may ask the interviewer about the inconsistencies and make the necessary corrections. The interviewer may revisit the respondent if required for any clarification of those issues. Hence, the error messages turned out to be a handy tool to ensure data quality in NFHS-5 before the survey team left the completed PSU.
- It is worth mentioning that back-checks are an integral part of the quality control mechanism adopted in all the large-scale surveys. However, there are two questions generally raised on the issue of back-checks. First, how households should be selected to revisit. and second, how to incorporate the changes if required. To address these issues, NFHS-5 developed and used an algorithm called the Project Officer's Query Report (POQR) on the Supervisor's CAPI instrument. Once the data collection is completed in a PSU and data are synchronized on the supervisor's CAPI instrument, the IIPS project officer, using a specific login and password, can run the query tool to view a list of households having some potential gaps and inconsistencies in the information. After running POQR, the IIPS PO revisits the household and backchecks the information, maintaining gender sensitivity. Thus, the application of POQR in NFHS-5 has helped in reviewing a subsample of interviewed households to ensure accuracy and reliability of the information, and if there is any problem, to go back to the interviewer's CAPI instrument to correct that information before resynchronizing the data on the supervisor's CAPI instrument.
- NFHS-5 has developed a protocol of accessing real-time data daily using the SyncCloud data streaming system. Continuous evaluation of data through field-check tables and regular feedback to field teams avoids errors and improves the quality of the data. The CAPI programs help in generating field-check tables on key indicators daily, which are reviewed by the Quality Assurance Team (QAT) in the central office to allow individual-level feedback to be communicated to the teams working in different parts of the country. A total of 51 indicators were developed as part of the FCTs covering various aspects of data quality, including response rates, age displacement, birth displacement, and skips associated with multiple questions. These FCTs were used to provide feedback on data quality. Moreover, online interactions with the core team of the Field Agency (FA) and the IIPS field POs once in every two weeks were arranged by the members of the quality assurance unit in

the NFHS-5 office at IIPS. All these innovative measures have made a significant contribution in tracking and monitoring the daily field operations of NFHS-5, particularly to boost the morale of underperforming teams/interviewers and to motivate them by comparing their performance with the performance of other teams.

Taking the COVID-19 situation into account, with the restart of the survey, several protective measures were taken into consideration for survey teams and respondents to prevent COVID-19 infection. Some of these measures were:

- All core team members and survey teams were mandated to install the Aarogya Setu App on their phones and check their COVID status every day before leaving for the field.
- Team members were advised to eat or drink alone with proper social distancing among them and maintaining all the practices for personal hygiene.
- Physical distancing was instructed to maintain during the interview ensuring privacy and confidentiality.
- Teams were educated to check for the well-being of each team member every morning before leaving for fieldwork with thermal screening, which was provided by IIPS. If any team member had developed symptoms, the fieldwork for that team was stopped. It was restarted only if the member was found to be COVID-19 negative.
- Contacting the Headman of the village/frontline workers to get the COVID-19 status of the selected household members before the interviews were done.
- Thermal screening of community people who were willing to be screened by Health Investigators of the survey team on the first day of the visit was carried out while distributing specially designed leaflets to the community members as a part of COVID-19 awareness.
- NFHS made provisions of providing masks, sanitizers, and COVID-19 brochures to all the selected households.
- Each respondent was instructed to give a new mask during the interview and CAB investigations. Compulsory thermal screening was conducted of all the members of the selected households. If anyone had a fever, that household was not allowed to be interviewed. A revisit was done for the reassessment of their status over the next three or four days.
- The team members were obliged to wear a mask during fieldwork. Additional protective equipment like face shields, aprons, and goggles was encouraged. Updated guidelines from the government were adopted from time to time. The team members were directed to use sanitizer/soap and water to clean their hands frequently during fieldwork, preferably at the beginning and end of each interview.
- The CAB investigations were done with minimum contact with the respondents. The protocol of using a new set of gloves for each respondent and disposal of bio-hazardous waste daily was to be strictly adhered to.
- The CAB equipment was mandated to be cleaned after the end of interviews in each household. If the household had any member practicing isolation (very young or old members, and for whom the respondents demand), equipment was cleaned before use for that member.
- The CAPI instrument was mandated to be cleaned after every interview.

## 1.9 DATA PROCESSING

Electronic data collected in the 2019-21 National Family Health Survey were received on a daily basis via the SyncCloud system at the International Institute for Population Sciences, where the data were stored on a password-protected computer. Secondary editing of the data, which required resolution of computer-identified inconsistencies and coding of open-ended questions, was conducted in the field by the Field Agencies and at the Field Agencies central office, and IIPS checked the secondary edits before the dataset was finalized.

Field-check tables were produced by IIPS and the Field Agencies on a regular basis to identify certain types of errors that might have occurred in eliciting information and recording question responses. Information from the field-check tables on the performance of each fieldwork team and individual investigator was promptly shared with the Field Agencies during the fieldwork so that the performance of the teams could be improved, if required.

## 1.10 RESPONSE RATES

Table 1.1 shows response rates for the 2019-21 National Family Health Survey. A total of 664,972 households were selected for the sample, of which 653,144 were occupied. Among the occupied households, 636,699 were successfully interviewed, for a response rate of 98 percent.

In the interviewed households, 747,176 eligible women age 15-49 were identified for individual women's interviews. Interviews were completed with 724,115 women, for a response rate of 97 percent. In all, there were 111,179 eligible men age 15-54 in households selected for the state module. Interviews were completed with 101,839 men, for a response rate of 92 percent.

Table 1.2 shows response rates for each state and union territory. Overall, response rates are quite high. Household response rates were over 95 percent in every state and union territory except Chandigarh (where the household response rate was 88%) and Madhya Pradesh (where the household response rate was 94%). The response rate for women was also 95 percent or higher in every state and union territory except in Chandigarh (where it was 81%). As expected, the response rate for men was lower than the response rate for women in every state and union territory. The response rate for men was particularly low in Chandigarh (63%).

## LIST OF TABLES

For more information on response rate, see the following tables:

	Tables
1.1	Results of the household and individual interviews
1.2	Number of households, women, and men interviewed by state/union territory

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**Table 1.1 Results of the household and individual interviews**

Number of households, number of interviews with women and men, and response rates, according to residence, India, 2019-21

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Result	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
<b>Household interviews</b>			
Households selected	171,709	493,256	664,972
Households occupied	167,591	485,546	653,144
Households interviewed	160,138	476,561	636,699
Household response rate <sup>1</sup>	95.6	98.1	97.5
<b>Interviews with women age 15-49</b>			
Number of eligible women	186,921	560,255	747,176
Number of eligible women interviewed	179,535	544,580	724,115
Eligible women response rate <sup>2</sup>	96.0	97.2	96.9
<b>Interviews with men age 15-54</b>			
Number of eligible men	29,558	81,621	111,179
Number of eligible men interviewed	26,420	75,419	101,839
Eligible men response rate <sup>2</sup>	89.4	92.4	91.6

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Note: Eligible women and men are women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who stayed in the household the night before the household interview (including both usual residents and visitors). This table is based on the unweighted sample.

<sup>1</sup> Households interviewed/households occupied

<sup>2</sup> Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents

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**Table 1.2 Number of households, women, and men interviewed by state/union territory**

Month and year of fieldwork, number of households, women, and men interviewed, and response rates by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Start month and year of fieldwork		End month and year of fieldwork		Households interviewed		Women interviewed		Men interviewed	
	Month	Year	Month	Year	Number	Response rate	Number	Response rate	Number	Response rate
<b>India</b>	6	2019	4	2021	636,699	97.5	724,115	96.9	101,839	91.6
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	3	2021	4	2021	761	88.0	746	81.2	104	63.4
Delhi	1	2020	1	2021	9,486	95.2	11,159	94.6	1,700	84.2
Haryana	1	2020	4	2021	18,229	96.7	21,909	95.7	3,224	84.8
Himachal Pradesh	7	2019	11	2019	10,698	98.8	10,368	96.5	1,477	91.1
Jammu & Kashmir	7	2019	1	2020	18,086	98.7	23,037	96.6	3,087	88.1
Ladakh	8	2019	9	2019	1,818	99.2	2,355	97.7	307	92.7
Punjab	1	2020	3	2021	18,824	95.6	21,771	94.6	3,296	83.1
Rajasthan	1	2020	3	2021	31,817	98.1	42,990	97.5	6,353	94.1
Uttarakhand	1	2020	3	2021	12,169	97.3	13,280	94.9	1,586	85.2
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	1	2020	3	2021	24,550	98.8	28,468	97.0	4,174	94.1
Madhya Pradesh	1	2020	4	2021	43,552	93.7	48,410	94.9	7,025	88.0
Uttar Pradesh	12	2019	4	2021	70,710	97.3	93,124	96.3	12,043	88.6
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	7	2019	2	2020	35,834	97.0	42,483	96.6	4,897	90.9
Jharkhand	1	2020	4	2021	22,863	97.3	26,495	97.5	3,414	92.1
Odisha	1	2020	3	2021	26,467	98.5	27,971	97.5	3,865	93.3
West Bengal	6	2019	11	2019	18,187	98.7	21,408	98.8	3,021	96.4
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	1	2020	4	2021	18,268	98.6	19,765	98.4	2,881	96.6
Assam	6	2019	12	2019	30,119	99.3	34,979	97.6	4,973	93.9
Manipur	7	2019	1	2020	7,881	98.1	8,042	97.0	1,162	93.0
Meghalaya	7	2019	11	2019	10,148	99.8	13,089	98.8	1,824	97.0
Mizoram	7	2019	11	2019	7,257	99.4	7,279	98.7	1,105	98.0
Nagaland	7	2019	12	2019	10,112	99.9	9,694	99.8	1,456	99.6
Sikkim	8	2019	12	2019	3,516	98.4	3,271	95.4	469	94.4
Tripura	7	2019	11	2019	7,209	98.3	7,314	97.2	990	93.2
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	7	2019	11	2019	2,676	97.6	2,713	97.4	427	91.6
Goa	8	2019	11	2019	1,856	98.3	2,030	98.2	313	96.0
Gujarat	6	2019	11	2019	29,368	98.2	33,343	97.6	5,351	95.0
Maharashtra	6	2019	12	2019	31,643	97.1	33,755	97.3	5,497	94.7

*Continued...*

**Table 1.2 Number of households, women, and men interviewed by state/union territory—Continued**

Month and year of fieldwork, number of households, women, and men interviewed, and response rates by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Start month and year of fieldwork		End month and year of fieldwork		Households interviewed	Women interviewed		Men interviewed		
	Month	Year	Month	Year	Number	Response rate	Number	Response rate	Number	Response rate
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	10	2019	2	2020	2,624	97.3	2,397	97.8	367	94.3
Andhra Pradesh	7	2019	11	2019	11,346	96.9	10,975	97.4	1,558	92.2
Karnataka	7	2019	12	2019	26,574	97.4	30,455	97.6	4,516	93.8
Kerala	7	2019	12	2019	12,330	98.2	10,969	96.6	1,473	89.1
Lakshadweep	12	2019	1	2020	921	99.9	1,234	98.0	135	97.1
Puducherry	1	2020	3	2021	3,520	97.9	3,669	98.1	534	96.4
Tamil Nadu	1	2020	3	2021	27,929	97.3	25,650	98.3	3,372	94.9
Telangana	6	2019	11	2019	27,351	97.1	27,518	96.8	3,863	92.0

Note: This table is based on the unweighted sample; all subsequent tables are based on the weighted sample unless otherwise specified. The number of women and men is based on the *de facto* population. The household response rate is defined as the number of households interviewed divided by the number of occupied households. The response rates for women and men are the percentages of eligible women and men with completed interviews.



## Key Findings

- **Drinking water:** Ninety-six percent of households use an improved source of drinking water.
- **Sanitation:** Sixty-nine percent of households use an improved sanitation facility that is not shared with other households and 8 percent use a facility that would be considered improved if it were not shared. Nineteen percent of households have no facility, which means that the household members practice open defecation.
- **Access to sanitation:** Eighty-three percent of households have access to a toilet facility.
- **Electricity:** Ninety-seven percent of households have electricity (95% of rural households and 99% of urban households).
- **Cooking fuel:** Only fifty-nine percent of households use clean fuel for cooking.
- **Age distribution:** Twenty-seven percent of the population is under age 15, and 12 percent is age 60 years and above.
- **Aadhaar card:** Ninety percent of the household population have an *Aadhaar* card.
- **Bank or post office account:** Ninety-six percent of households have a bank or post office account.
- **Birth registration:** Eighty-nine percent of children under age five had their birth registered.
- **Death registration:** Seventy-one percent of deaths of usual household members were registered with the civil authorities (83% of urban households and 66% of rural households).
- **Orphans:** Among children under age 18, 5 percent are orphans (one or both parents are dead) and 3 percent are not living with a biological parent.
- **Preschool attendance:** Forty percent of boys and girls age 2-4 years attend preschool.
- **School attendance:** The net attendance ratio falls from 83 percent in primary school to 71 percent in middle, secondary, and higher secondary school. The main reason given for not attending school was that the child is not interested in studies (36% for male children and 21% for female children).
- **Disability:** Just 1 percent of the *de jure* household population have any disability. The most prominent type of disability is locomotor (0.4%).
- **Tobacco and alcohol use:** Thirty-eight percent of men and 9 percent of women age 15 and over currently use any tobacco products. Only 1 percent of women and 19 percent of men age 15 and over currently drink alcohol.
- **Household ownership of mosquito net:** More than one-third of households (36%) in India have at least one mosquito net, and 8 percent have at least one Insecticide Treated Mosquito Net (ITN).

Information on the socioeconomic characteristics of the household population in the 2019-21 National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) provides a context for interpreting demographic and health indicators and an approximate indication of the representativeness of the survey. In addition, this information describes the living conditions of the population.

This chapter presents information on the sources of drinking water, sanitation, exposure to smoke inside the home, household wealth, hand washing, composition of the household population, educational attainment, school attendance, birth registration, children’s living arrangements, and parental survivorship, death registration, preschool education, current use of tobacco and alcohol by the adult population, and possession of mosquito nets.

## 2.1 DRINKING WATER SOURCES AND TREATMENT

### Improved sources of drinking water

Include piped water, public taps, standpipes, tube wells, boreholes, protected dug wells and springs, rainwater, tanker truck, cart with small tank, bottled water, and community reverse osmosis (RO) plants.

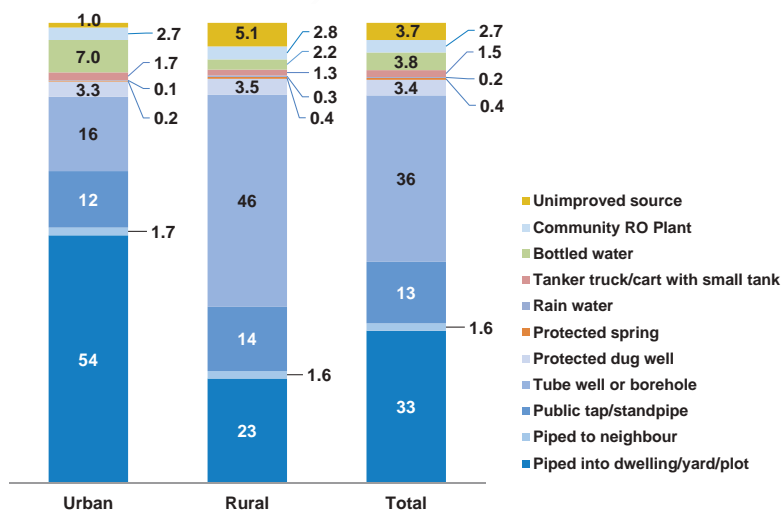
**Sample:** Households

In India, almost all urban households (99%) and rural households (95%) have access to an improved source of drinking water (**Table 2.1**). Improved sources of water protect against outside contamination so that the water is more likely to be safe to drink.

Urban and rural households rely on different sources of drinking water. The main sources of drinking water for urban households are water piped into their dwelling, yard, or plot (54%), tube wells or boreholes (16%), and public taps or standpipes (12%) (**Table 2.1** and **Figure 2.1**). In contrast, rural households rely most on tube wells or boreholes (46%), followed by water piped into their dwelling, yard, or plot (23%). In rural areas, 68 percent of households have water on their premises or delivered to their dwelling, compared with 86 percent in urban areas. In households where water is not delivered or the source of water is not at the premises, women age 15 years and above are most likely to collect drinking water (71%).

**Figure 2.1 Household Drinking Water by Residence**

*Percent distribution of households by source of drinking water*



Clean water is a basic need for human life. However, 58 percent of households do not treat their water prior to drinking. Treatment is less common in rural areas than urban areas; 66 percent of rural households do not treat their water, compared with 44 percent of urban households. Boiling water and straining the water through a cloth before drinking are the most common water treatment procedures used prior to drinking (16% and 15% of households, respectively).

## 2.2 SANITATION

### Improved toilet facilities

Include any non-shared toilet of the following types: flush/pour flush toilets to piped sewer systems, septic tanks, pit latrines, or an unknown destination; ventilated improved pit (VIP)/biogas latrines; pit latrines with slabs; and twin pit/composting toilets

**Sample:** Households

### Access of sanitation facility

Households that any type of toilet facility that household members usually use and households that do not use a toilet facility but report they have access to a toilet facility.

**Sample:** Households

Sixty-nine percent of Indian households use improved toilet facilities, which are non-shared facilities that prevent people from coming into contact with human waste and can reduce the transmission of cholera, typhoid, and other diseases. Shared toilet facilities of an otherwise acceptable type are also common, especially in urban areas; 11 percent of urban households use a shared facility, compared with 7 percent of rural households (Table 2.2 and Figure 2.2). Nineteen percent of households do not use any toilet facility, meaning that they practice open defecation.

Eighty-three percent of households have access to a toilet facility; a much higher accessibility in urban areas (96%) than in rural areas (76%). Access to a toilet facility ranges from 69 percent among scheduled tribe households to 93 percent among households which are not scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, or other backward class households (Table 2.4). Among the states/UTs, access to a toilet facility is lowest in Bihar (62%), followed by Jharkhand (70%) and Odisha (71%) (Table 2.5).

**Trends:** The percentage of households practicing open defecation decreased from 39 percent in 2015-16 to 19 percent in 2019-21.

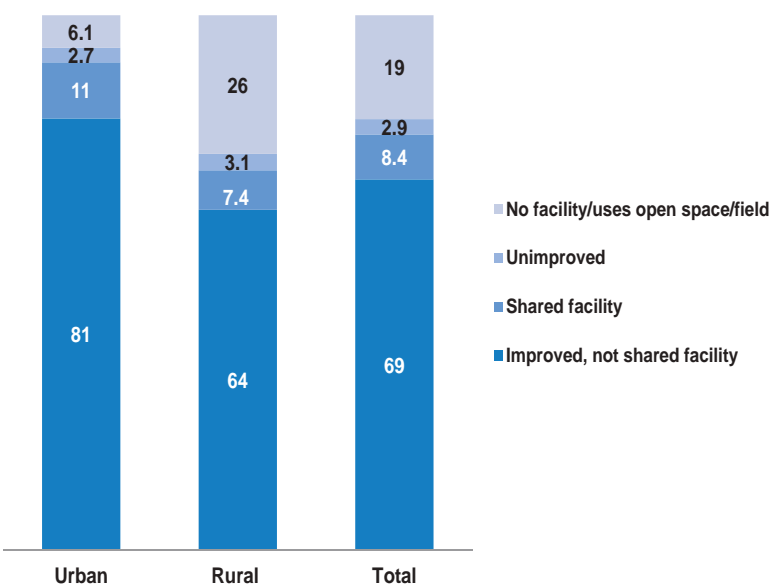
## 2.3 EXPOSURE TO SMOKE INSIDE THE HOME AND OTHER HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

### 2.3.1 Exposure to Smoke inside the Home

Exposure to smoke inside the home, either from cooking with solid fuels or smoking tobacco, has potentially harmful health effects. Forty-one percent of households in India use some type of solid fuel for cooking, with virtually all being wood or dung cakes (Table 2.6). Exposure to cooking smoke is greater when cooking takes place inside the house rather than in a separate building or outdoors. In 25 percent of households, someone smokes inside the house on daily basis.

**Figure 2.2 Household Toilet Facilities by Residence**

Percent distribution of households by type of toilet facilities



### 2.3.2 Other Housing Characteristics

The survey collected data on access to electricity, on flooring materials, and on the number of rooms used for sleeping. Ninety-nine percent of urban households and 95 percent of rural households have electricity. Almost all households in India (97%) have electricity.

Three-fifths of households have *pucca* houses (houses made with high quality materials throughout, including the floor, roof, and exterior walls) and 34 percent have semi-*pucca* houses.

## 2.4 HOUSEHOLD WEALTH

### Wealth index

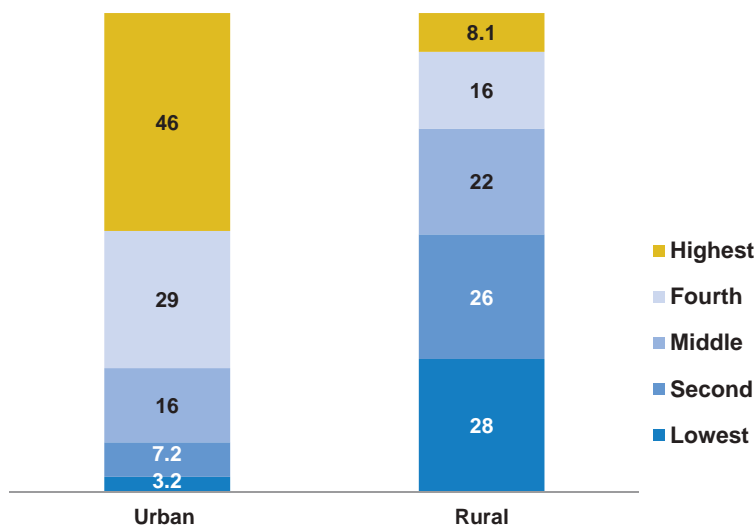
Households are given scores based on the number and kinds of consumer goods they own, ranging from a television to a bicycle or car, and housing characteristics such as source of drinking water, toilet facilities, and flooring materials. These scores are derived using principal component analysis. National wealth quintiles are compiled by assigning the household score to each usual (*de jure*) household member, ranking each person in the household population by their score, and then dividing the distribution into five equal categories, each with 20 percent of the population.

**Sample:** Households

**Table 2.8** presents wealth quintiles according to urban-rural residence and state. In India, the wealthiest households are concentrated in urban areas. Forty-six percent and 29 percent of the urban population is in the highest and fourth wealth quintile, respectively. By contrast, more than half of the rural population (54%) falls in the two lowest wealth quintiles (**Figure 2.3**). Chandigarh (79%), followed by Delhi (68%) and Punjab (61%), have the highest percentage of the population in the highest wealth quintile. The states with the highest percentages of population in the lowest wealth quintile are Jharkhand (46%), Bihar (43%) and Assam (38%) (**Table 2.8**). Seventy-one percent of the population in scheduled tribe households and 49 percent of the population in scheduled caste households are in the two lowest wealth quintiles (**Table 2.9**).

**Figure 2.3 Household Wealth by Residence**

Percent distribution of *de jure* population by wealth quintiles



The survey also collected information on household assets, means of transportation, agricultural land, and farm animals (**Table 2.11 and Table 2.12**). The percentage of households that have a bank account or a post office account is almost the same in urban (95%) and rural areas (96%). Urban households are somewhat more likely than rural households to have a mobile telephone (97% versus 92%). Rural households are more likely than urban households to own agricultural land (52% versus 13%) or farm animals (58% versus 10%).

## 2.5 HAND WASHING

To obtain hand washing information, interviewers were asked to see the place where the *de jure* population most often wash their hands. A place for washing hands was observed for 96 percent of the *de jure* population. Soap was available at the place of hand washing for 75 percent of households and water was available for 92 percent of households, while 16 percent had material such as ash, mud or sand other than the soap and water only (Table 2.13). Twenty-six percent of the population did not have water, soap, or another cleansing agent for hand washing on the premises.

## 2.6 HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AND COMPOSITION

### Household

A person or group of related or unrelated persons who live together in the same dwelling unit(s), who acknowledge one adult male or female as the head of the household, who share the same housekeeping arrangements, and who are considered a single unit.

### De facto population

All persons who stayed in the selected households the night before the interview (whether usual residents or visitors).

### De jure population

All persons who are usual residents of the selected households, whether or not they stayed in the household the night before the interview.

### How data are calculated

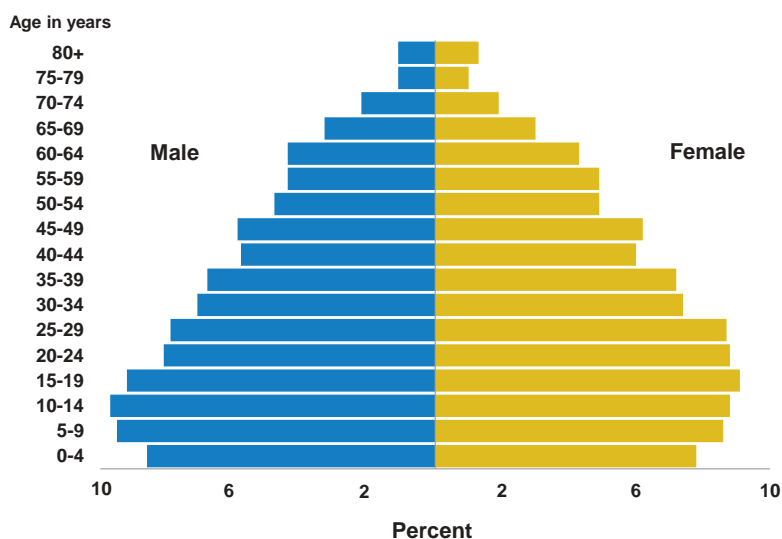
All tables are based on the *de facto* population, unless specified otherwise.

A total of 2,768,371 individuals stayed overnight in the 636,699 sample households in the NFHS-5 survey. The population pyramid in Figure 2.4 illustrates the distribution by five-year age groups and sex. The pyramid shows that India's population is young, which is typical of developing countries with low life expectancy. The pyramid also shows that fertility has decreased considerably in the last 5 years. Children under age 15 represent 27 percent of the household population, while individuals age 60 and older represent only 12 percent of the household population (Table 2.15).

Table 2.14 shows that 18 percent of households have female heads. Urban households are somewhat smaller, on average, than rural households (4.2 and 4.5 persons, respectively). Overall, 13 percent of households have one or more foster or orphan children under age 18.

**Figure 2.4 Population Pyramid**

Percent distribution of the *de facto* household population



**Trends:** The percentage of children under age 15 declined from 29 percent in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 27 percent in NFHS-5 (2019-21). In contrast, the population 60 years and older increased slightly, from 10 percent in NFHS-4 to 12 percent in

NFHS-5. The average household size decreased slightly between 2015-16 and 2019-21 (from 4.6 to 4.4 persons), and the percentage of female-headed households increased slightly, from 15 percent in NFHS-4 to 18 percent in NFHS-5.

## 2.7 BIRTH REGISTRATION

### Registered birth

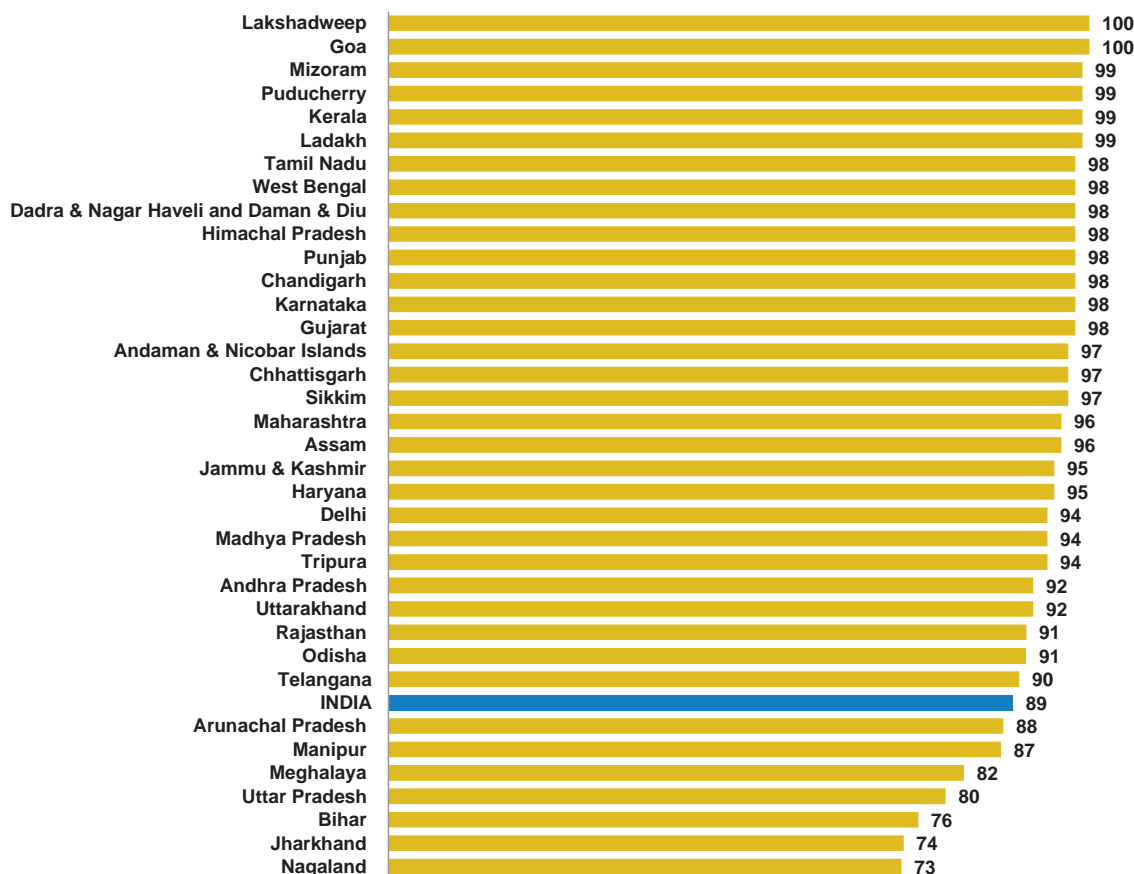
Child has a birth certificate or child does not have a birth certificate, but his/her birth is registered with the civil authorities.

**Sample:** *De jure* children under age five years

**Table 2.16** presents information on birth registration of children under age five years. At the time of the survey, 89 percent of children under age five years had their births registered with the civil authority; this includes 75 percent of children with birth certificates. Female and male children are equally likely to have their birth registered. Children in urban areas (93%) are more likely than children in rural areas (88%) to have their births registered. Birth registration is universal in Lakshadweep and Goa, is 95 percent or more in 21 States/UTs, and is below 80 percent in Bihar (76%), Jharkhand (74%), and Nagaland (73%). (**Table 2.17** and **Figure 2.5**).

### Figure 2.5 Birth Registration by State/UT

Percentage of *de jure* children under age five whose births are registered with the civil authorities



**Trends:** Birth registration among children under age five years increased between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 (from 80% to 89%). The percentage of births that were registered increased by more than 60 percentage points between 2015-16 and 2019-21 in Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Nagaland.



## 2.8 DEATH REGISTRATION

### Registered death

Deaths of usual household members occurred during the 3 years preceding the survey and are registered with the civil authority.

**Sample:** *De jure* household population

**Table 2.18** presents information on death registration of usual household members in the three years preceding the survey with the civil authorities. Seventy-one percent of deaths of usual household members were registered with the civil authorities (51 percent of deaths at age 0-4, 76 percent of deaths at age 25-34, and 75 percent of deaths at age 35 and above). Death registration is higher in urban (83%) than rural areas (66%) and among males (75%) than females (66%). Death registration increases with wealth; the highest registration is in the highest wealth quintile (87%) and the lowest is in lowest wealth quintile (52%). Among the states/UTs, death registration is lowest in Bihar (36%), followed by Arunachal Pradesh (37%) and Nagaland (39%) (**Table 2.19**).

## 2.9 CHILDREN'S LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AND PARENTAL SURVIVAL

### Orphan

A child with one or both parents who are dead.

**Sample:** *De jure* children under age 18 years

Only 3 percent of children under age 18 years are not living with a biological parent (**Table 2.20**). Five percent of children under age 18 years are orphans with one or both parents who have died. The percentage of children who are orphans rises rapidly with age, from less than 1 percent among children under age 2 to 9 percent among children age 15-17 (**Figure 2.6**). The Northeast region has the highest percentage of children who are orphans (6% or more in every state except Tripura) (**Table 2.21**).

**Trends:** The percentage of children under age 18 who do not live with a biological parent has not changed between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 (3%). The percentage of children under age 18 who are orphans (5%) did not change between 2015-16 and 2019-21.

## 2.10 SCHOOLING

### 2.10.1 Educational Attainment

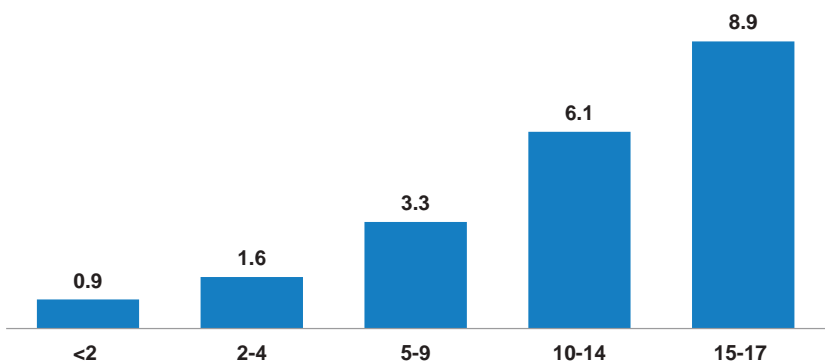
#### Median educational attainment

Half the population has completed less than the median number of years of schooling and half the population has completed more than the median number of years of schooling.

**Sample:** *De facto* household population age six and over

**Figure 2.6 Orphanhood by Child's Age**

Percentage of *de jure* children under age 18 with one or both parents dead



Overall, 72 percent of females and 87 percent of males age six and over have ever attended school. Nearly one-third of females (31%) have 7 or less years of schooling; 14 percent completed 8-9 years of schooling. Among males, 34 percent have less than 7 years of schooling; 16 percent completed 8-9 years of schooling. Only 10 percent of females and 13 percent of males completed 10-11 years of schooling. Twenty-eight percent of females and 14 percent of males have never attended school. Seventeen percent of females and 23 percent of males completed 12 or more years of schooling. The median number of years of schooling completed is higher for males (7.3 years) than for females (4.9 years) (**Table 2.24**).

**Trends:** Educational attainment at the household level increased between 2015-16 and 2019-21. Among females, the median number of years of schooling increased from 4.4 years in NHFS-4 (2015-16) to 4.9 years in NHFS-5 (2019-21). The median number of years of schooling completed by males increased from 6.9 years in NHFS-4 to 7.3 years in NHFS-5. Over the same period, the percentage of females and males with no schooling decreased from 31 percent of females and 15 percent of males to 28 percent of females and 14 percent of males.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Among both females and males, the median number of years of schooling is higher in urban areas than in rural areas (7.5 years versus 4.0 years among females and 8.8 years versus 6.5 years among males).
- Educational attainment increases with household wealth. Females in the lowest wealth quintile have completed a median of 0.4 years of schooling, compared with a median of 9.3 years for females in the highest wealth quintile. The median number of years of schooling was 3.7 years among males in the lowest wealth quintile and 10.0 years among those in the highest quintile.
- The median number of years of schooling is highest among those who do not belong to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward classes (7.0 years for females and 8.5 years for males). The median number of years of schooling is lower among Muslims than for other specific religious groups (4.3 years for females and 5.4 years for males).
- The percentage of the household population with no schooling is higher in rural areas than urban areas (33% versus 17% for females and 16% versus 8% for males).

### 2.10.2 Preschool attendance

#### Preschool attendance

Children age 2 to 4 years attending pre-primary education, such as at an *anganwadi* centre (Integrated Child Development Service), improves school readiness by providing quality learning through interactive play methods with qualified instructors.

**Sample:** *De facto* household population age 2 to 4 years

Attending pre-primary education, such as at an *anganwadi* centre, improves children's school readiness. Also, parents or guardians can go to work at ease if children are enrolled in pre-primary education.

Forty percent of both boys and girls age 2-4 years attend preschool. There is no difference in preschool attendance among children in nuclear households and non-nuclear households (40% each). Preschool attendance is the lowest among children in households with household head belonging to other religions (33%) and Muslim religion (34%). Preschool attendance is lower among children belonging to scheduled caste and other backward classes (38% each), compared with children from any other caste/tribe group. Preschool attendance is higher in households with 3 to 5 members (43%) than in households with 1-2 members (39%) and household with 6 or more members (38%). Overall, rural households (39%) show lower preschool attendance than urban households (44%) (**Table 2.22**). Preschool attendance is highest in Andaman and Nicobar Islands (89%), followed by Andhra Pradesh (75%) and Sikkim (74%) (**Table 2.23**).

### 2.10.3 School Attendance

#### Net attendance ratio (NAR)

Percentage of the school-age population that attends primary or secondary school.

**Sample:** Children age 6-10 for primary school NAR and children age 11-17 for secondary school NAR

#### Gross attendance ratio (GAR)

The total number of children attending primary school divided by the official primary school age population and the total number of children attending secondary school divided by the official secondary school age population.

**Sample:** Children at the official primary school age for primary school GAR and children at the official secondary school age for secondary school GAR

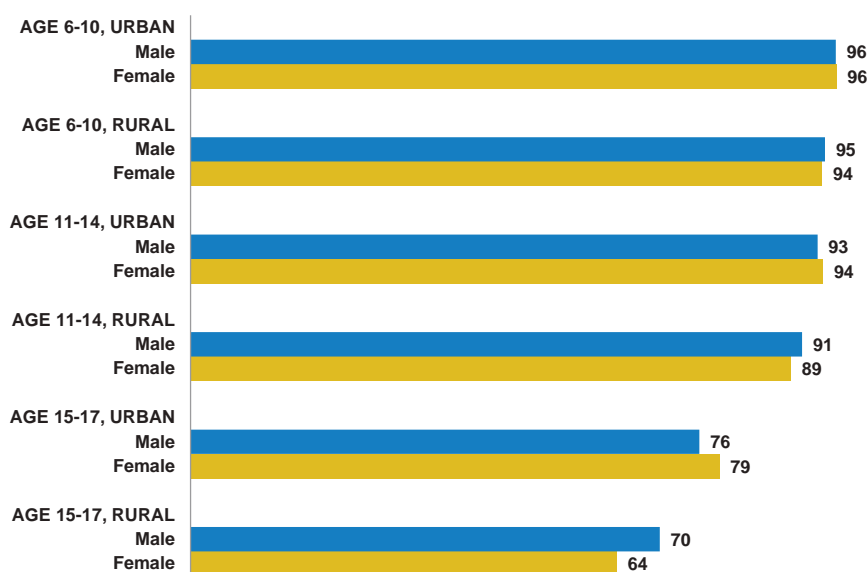
Eighty-seven percent of children age 6-17 attend school (88% of males and 87% of females) (**Table 2.26**). Almost all (95%) males and females age 6-10 attend school. This percentage decreases to 91 percent for children age 11-14 and then drops further to 70 percent for children age 15-17. There is almost no difference in school attendance by males (94%) and females (93%) at age 6-14, but males are more likely than females to attend school at age 15-17 (72% versus 68%). Urban-rural differentials in school attendance are minimal at age 6-10, but widen at older ages (**Figure 2.7**).

Eighty-three percent of girls and 84 percent of boys age 6-10 attend primary school (**Table 2.27**). The net attendance ratio (NAR) drops in secondary school: only 70 percent of girls and 72 percent of boys age 11-17 attend secondary school.

The gross attendance ratio (GAR) is 92 percent at the primary school level and 82 percent at the secondary school level. These figures indicate that a number of children outside the official school age population for that level are attending primary school, and not all those who should be are attending secondary school (**Table 2.27**).

**Figure 2.7 School Attendance by Age, Sex, and Residence**

*Percentage of children age 6-17 years attending school*



### Gender parity index (GPI)

The ratio of female to male children attending primary school and the ratio of female to male children attending secondary school. The index reflects the magnitude of the gender gap.

**Sample:** Children attending primary school and children attending secondary school

A gender parity index (GPI) of 1 indicates parity or equality between the school participation ratios for males and females. A GPI lower than 1 indicates a gender disparity in favour of males, with a higher proportion of males than females attending that level of schooling. A GPI higher than 1 indicates a gender disparity in favour of females.

The GPI for the NAR is 0.99 at the primary school level and 0.97 at the secondary school level. This indicates that there is relatively little difference in overall school attendance by school-age girls and boys at either the primary or secondary school level. The GPI for the GAR is also slightly less than 1, which indicates that male children outside of the official school age population are only slightly more likely to attend school than their female counterparts; the GPIs for the GAR are almost the same at the primary school level (0.98) and at the secondary school level (0.97).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- At the primary school level, there is no difference in the NAR between urban and rural areas (83% each). However, at the secondary school level, the NAR is higher in urban areas than in rural areas (76% versus 70%).
- The NARs increase with household wealth at the secondary school level. Attendance in the lowest wealth quintile is 57 percent for girls and 59 percent for boys, compared with 83 percent for girls and 84 percent for boys in the highest wealth quintile.
- At the primary school level, there is a slight difference in the GAR between urban and rural areas (90% and 92%, respectively). However, at the secondary school level, the GAR is higher in urban areas than in rural areas (87% versus 80%).
- The GARs increase with household wealth at the secondary school level. Attendance in the lowest wealth quintile is 66 percent for girls and 68 percent for boys, compared with 95 percent for girls and 96 percent for boys in the highest wealth quintile.
- There is not much difference by caste/tribe in the NAR and GAR at of the primary school level, but at the secondary school level, children belonging to scheduled tribes have the lowest NARs and GARs.

## 2.11 DISABILITY

### Disability

All usual household members who have any disability in specified domains such as hearing, speech, visual, mental, locomotor, and others.

**Sample:**1) All *de jure* household population.

2) *De jure* household population age 15 years and over having any form of disability.

The respondent to the Household Questionnaire provided information for all usual household members on whether or not they have any disability in specified domains. The domains of disability are hearing, speech, visual, mental, locomotor, and others. Just 1 percent of the *de jure* household population has any disability. The most prominent type of disability is locomotor (0.4%). Men are slightly more likely than women to have any disability (1.2% of men compared with 0.8% of

women). The proportion of household members who have any disability rises with increasing age. For instance, 1.2 percent of the household members age 50 and above were reported to have any disability, compared with 0.3 percent of the youngest age group (**Table 2.29**).

Men are slightly more likely than women to have any disability at age 15 years and above (1.4% of men compared with 0.9% of women). The rural population (1.2%) is slightly more likely to have any type of disability than the urban population (0.9%) (**Table 2.30**). Any type of disability is highest in Lakshadweep (1.9%), followed by Tamil Nadu (1.5%) (**Table 2.31**).

## 2.12 USE OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL

### Tobacco

Household population age 15 years and over who currently use any form of tobacco, such as *cigar*, pipe, *hookah*, *gutkha* / *paan masala* with tobacco, *khaini*, *paan* with tobacco, other chewing tobacco and snuff.

**Sample:** *De facto* household population age 15 years and over.

### Alcohol

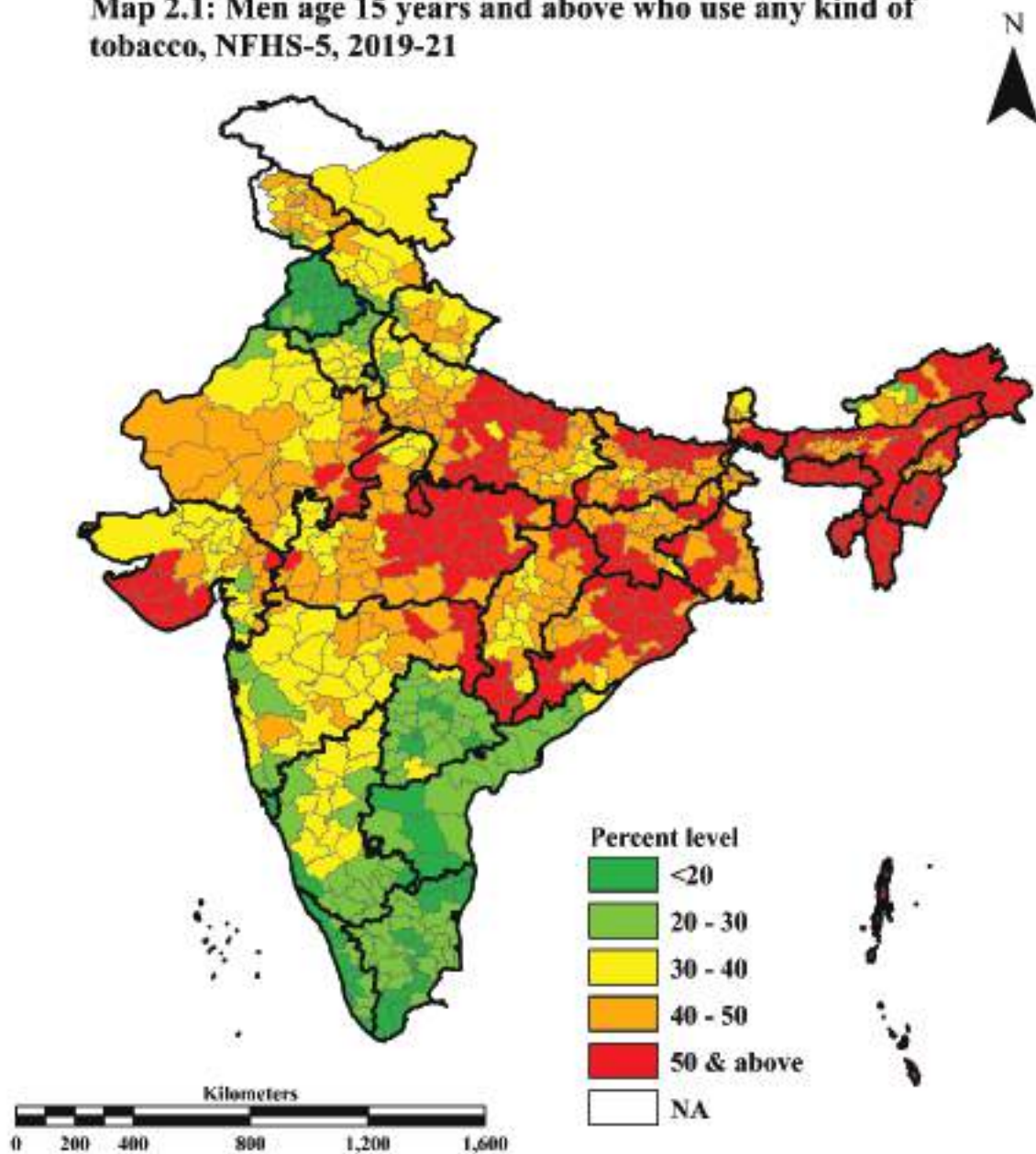
Household population age 15 years and over who currently drink any form of alcohol.

**Sample:** *De facto* household population age 15 years and over.

Thirty-eight percent of men and 9 percent of women age 15 and over currently use any tobacco products. Among men as well as women, the use of tobacco is higher in rural areas (43% for men and 11% for women) than in urban areas (29% for men and 6% for women). Nearly three-fifths of men (58%) and 15 percent of women with no schooling or less than 5 years of schooling use tobacco. Tobacco use shows a steady and substantial decrease with increasing levels of education among both men and women. However, eighteen percent of men with 12 or more years of schooling use tobacco. There is an equally clear and continual decrease in tobacco use with increasing wealth quintiles. Over one-fifth of men (21%) in the highest wealth quintile use tobacco, in comparison with 58 percent of men in the lowest wealth quintile. Seventeen percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile use tobacco. Women (19%) and men (51%) belonging to scheduled tribes are more likely to use tobacco than those from any other caste/tribe groups (**Table 2.35**). Tobacco use among men age 15 and over is highest in Mizoram (73%), followed by Andaman & Nicobar Islands (59%) and Manipur (58%). Tobacco use among women is highest in Mizoram (62%), Tripura (51%), and Manipur (43%) (**Table 2.36**).

Only 1 percent of women drink alcohol, compared with 19 percent of men. Drinking alcohol is more common among women from scheduled tribes (6%) than from any other caste/tribe groups. Among men, alcohol use is higher among those belonging to other religions (47%), those with no schooling (30%), scheduled tribes (33%), and those age 35-49 (27%) (**Table 2.33**). Alcohol use among women age 15 and over is highest in Arunachal Pradesh (24%) and Sikkim (16%). Alcohol use among men is highest in Arunachal Pradesh (53%) and Telangana (43%), and is the lowest in Lakshadweep (0.4%) (**Table 2.34**).

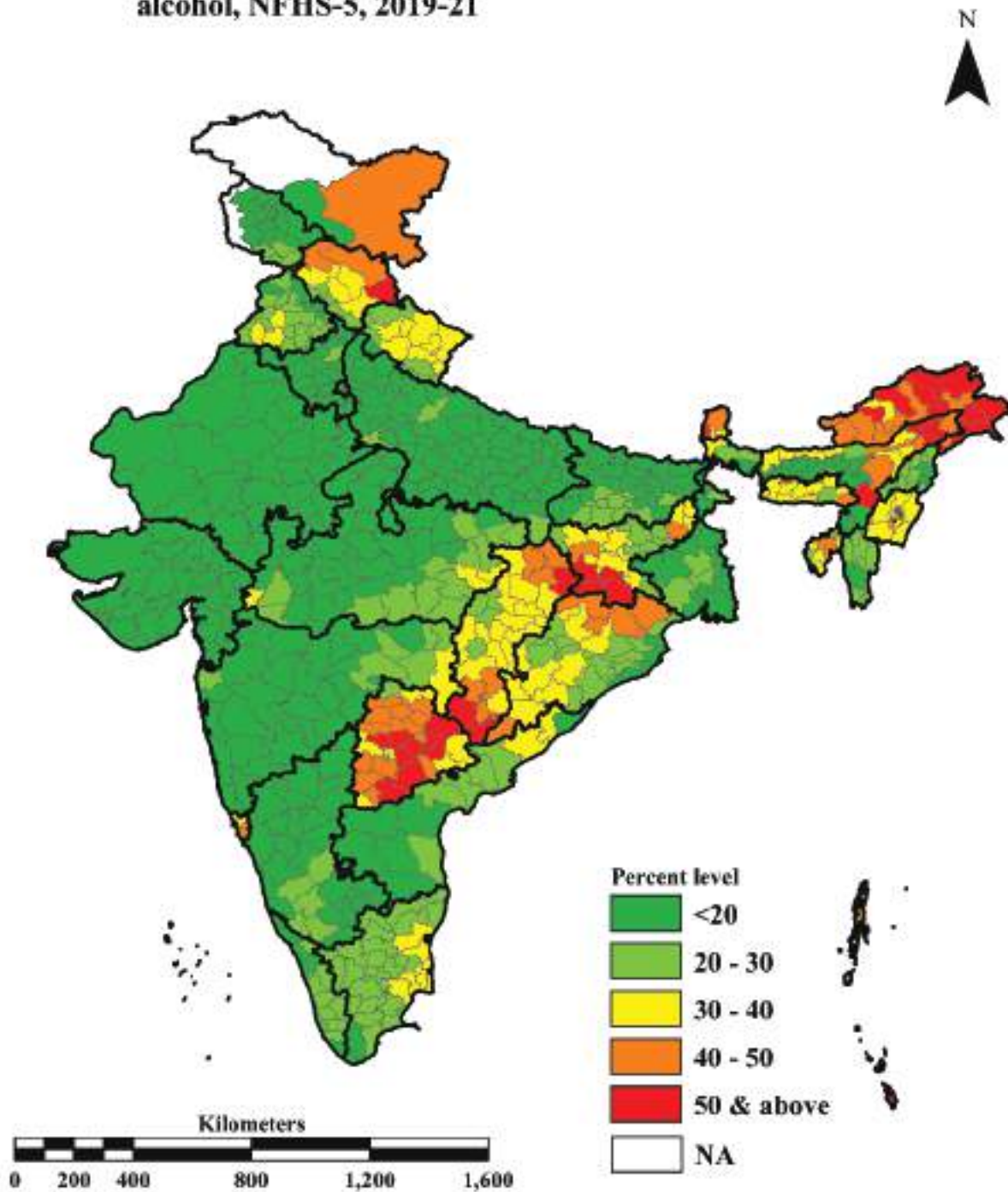
**Map 2.1: Men age 15 years and above who use any kind of tobacco, NFHS-5, 2019-21**



The percentage of men age 15 years and above who use any kind of tobacco exceeds 40 percent in most parts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Northeastern states, northern part of Maharashtra, western Gujarat, and southern Rajasthan. Use of tobacco is also high (30–40%) in Ladakh, Uttarakhand, most parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka, northern parts of Rajasthan, and northwestern Gujarat. Lower prevalence of tobacco use (below 30 percent) is mostly observed in Punjab and southern states, except in central parts of Karnataka (**Map 2.1**).



**Map 2.2: Men age 15 years and above who consume alcohol, NFHS-5, 2019-21**



A higher proportion (40% and above) of alcohol consumption among men age 15 years and over is found in Telangana, Arunachal Pradesh, upper Brahmaputra region of Assam, a few districts in Jharkhand and Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, and the Chhota Nagpur region of Jharkhand and Odisha. A 30-40 percent level of alcohol consumption is found in the districts of Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, and a few districts of Odisha. A lower level (below 30%) of alcohol consumption is observed in the remaining parts of the states in India (**Map 2.2**).

## 2.13 POSSESSION OF MOSQUITO NETS

### Ownership of insecticide-treated nets

Households that have at least one insecticide-treated net (ITN). An ITN is defined as a factory-treated net that does not require any further treatment.

**Sample:** Households

### Full household ITN coverage

Percentage of households with at least one ITN for every two people.

**Sample:** Households

An important strategy in the control of malaria and kala-azar is prevention through use of mosquito nets to protect themselves from mosquito bites.

More than one-third of households (36%) in India have at least one mosquito net, while 8 percent have at least one Insecticide Treated Mosquito Net (ITN). On average, there are 0.2 ITNs per household. Four percent of households have achieved full household ITN coverage, meaning a household has at least one ITN for every two persons who slept in the household the night before the survey. Twenty percent of households had at least one mosquito net of any type for every two persons who slept in the household last night. The proportion of households having at least one ITN for every two persons who slept in the household last night is highest in Nagaland (43%), Arunachal Pradesh (35%), and Mizoram (26%) (Table 2.32).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Seven percent of households in the lowest wealth quintile have full household ITN coverage, compared with two percent of households in the highest wealth quintile.
- Urban households are less likely (2%) than rural households (5%) to have full household ITN coverage.

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**Table 2.1 Household drinking water**

Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population by source of drinking water, time to collect drinking water, and person who usually collects drinking water, percentage of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population by treatment of drinking water, and percentage of households and *de jure* population with basic drinking water service and limited drinking water service, India, 2019-21

Characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
<b>Source of drinking water</b>				
<b>Improved source</b>	98.7	94.5	95.9	95.9
Piped into dwelling/yard/plot	53.6	22.6	32.9	32.3
Piped to neighbour	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5
Public tap/standpipe	12.2	13.9	13.3	12.3
Tube well or borehole	16.1	45.9	36.0	38.6
Protected dug well	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.2
Protected spring	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4
Rain water	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3
Tanker truck/cart with small tank	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.5
Bottled water	7.0	2.2	3.8	3.4
Community RO plant	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.4
<b>Unimproved source</b>	1.0	5.1	3.7	3.7
Unprotected dug well	0.6	3.8	2.7	2.8
Unprotected spring	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3
Surface water	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.7
Other	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Time to collect drinking water (round trip)</b>				
Water on premises/delivered to dwelling	85.6	68.0	73.9	75.1
Thirty minutes or less	13.9	30.4	24.9	23.6
More than 30 minutes	0.4	1.6	1.2	1.2
Don't know	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724

*Continued...*

**Table 2.1 Household drinking water—Continued**

Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population by source of drinking water, time to collect drinking water, and person who usually collects drinking water, percentage of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population by treatment of drinking water, and percentage of households and *de jure* population with basic drinking water service and limited drinking water service, India, 2019-21

Characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
<b>Person who usually collects drinking water<sup>1</sup></b>				
Adult female 15 and over years	56.3	73.6	70.5	71.3
Adult male 15 and over years	39.3	21.2	24.5	23.0
Female child under age 15 years	1.7	3.1	2.8	3.4
Male child under age 15 years	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.2
Other	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	30,383	136,053	166,436	693,246
<b>Water treatment prior to drinking<sup>2</sup></b>				
Boil	21.4	13.3	16.0	14.8
Use alum	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.4
Bleach/chlorine added	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.3
Strain through cloth	14.9	14.8	14.8	15.2
Ceramic, sand, or other filter	11.8	4.6	7.0	6.7
Use electronic purifier	12.8	2.0	5.6	5.4
Solar disinfection	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Let it stand and settle	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8
Other	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.7
No treatment	43.5	65.7	58.3	59.3
Percentage using an appropriate treatment method <sup>3</sup>	43.8	20.5	28.2	26.8
Percentage with basic drinking water service <sup>4</sup>	98.2	93.2	94.9	94.8
Percentage with limited drinking water service <sup>5</sup>	0.4	1.2	0.9	1.0
Number of households/population	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724

<sup>1</sup> Excludes those who have source of water on premises or who have water delivered to the dwelling

<sup>2</sup> Total may add to more than 100.0 because households may use more than one method of treatment

<sup>3</sup> Appropriate water treatment methods are boiling, adding bleach/chlorine tablets, filtering, electronic purifying, and solar disinfection

<sup>4</sup> Defined as drinking water from an improved source, provided either water is on the premises or round-trip collection time is 30 minutes or less. Includes safely managed drinking water, which is not shown separately.

<sup>5</sup> Drinking water from an improved source, provided round-trip collection time is more than 30 minutes or is unknown.



Table 2.2 Household sanitation facilities

Percent distribution of households and *de jure* population by type of toilet facility, percentage of households and *de jure* population with basic sanitation services, and percentage with limited sanitation services, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Type of toilet/latrine facility	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
<b>Improved, not shared facility</b>	80.7	63.6	69.3	70.2
Flush/pour flush to piped sewer system	22.8	2.7	9.3	9.0
Flush/pour flush to septic tank	47.4	36.2	39.9	40.1
Flush/pour flush to pit latrine	6.1	13.2	10.8	11.3
Flush/pour flush, don't know where	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine/ biogas latrine	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.6
Pit latrine with slab	3.0	5.4	4.6	4.6
Twin pit, composting toilet	0.8	5.3	3.8	4.3
<b>Shared facility<sup>1</sup></b>	10.5	7.4	8.4	7.6
Flush/pour flush to piped sewer system	2.8	0.2	1.1	1.0
Flush/pour flush to septic tank	5.8	4.0	4.6	4.2
Flush/pour flush to pit latrine	0.9	1.7	1.4	1.3
Flush/pour flush, don't know where	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine/ biogas latrine	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Pit latrine with slab	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.6
Twin pit, composting toilet	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.4
<b>Unimproved</b>	2.7	3.1	2.9	2.9
Flush/pour flush not to sewer/septic tank/pit latrine	1.4	0.6	0.9	0.8
Pit latrine without slab/open pit	0.5	1.4	1.1	1.1
Dry toilet	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.7
Other	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3
Open defecation (No facility/uses open space or field)	6.1	25.9	19.4	19.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/population	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724
<b>Location of toilet facility</b>				
In own dwelling	68.6	36.8	49.1	49.4
In own yard/plot	28.1	59.1	47.1	47.0
Elsewhere	3.2	4.1	3.8	3.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/population with a toilet/latrine facility	198,355	315,052	513,407	2,243,564
Percentage with basic sanitation service <sup>2</sup>	80.7	63.6	69.3	70.2
Percentage with limited sanitation service <sup>3</sup>	10.5	7.4	8.4	7.6
Number of households/population	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724

<sup>1</sup> Facilities that would be considered improved if they were not shared by two or more households

<sup>2</sup> Defined as use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households

<sup>3</sup> Defined as use of improved facilities shared by 2 or more households.

Table 2.3 Sanitation facility type by wealth quintile and state/union territory

Percent distribution of *de jure* population by type of sanitation, percentage of *de jure* population with basic sanitation service, and percentage with limited sanitation service, by wealth quintile and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

Wealth and state/union territory	Type of sanitation			Total	Percentage with basic sanitation service <sup>4</sup>	Percentage with limited sanitation service <sup>5</sup>
	Improved sanitation facility <sup>1</sup>	Shared facility <sup>2</sup>	Unimproved sanitation facility <sup>3</sup>			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	37.5	10.6	51.9	100.0	37.5	5.8
Second	57.5	13.2	29.3	100.0	57.5	9.3
Middle	73.3	14.0	12.8	100.0	73.3	11.1
Fourth	86.9	10.6	2.5	100.0	86.9	8.6
Highest	95.6	4.2	0.1	100.0	95.6	3.2
<b>State/union territory</b>						
<b>India</b>	70.2	10.5	19.3	100.0	70.2	7.6
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	85.0	12.6	2.4	100.0	85.0	11.4
Delhi	81.1	17.7	1.2	100.0	81.1	13.3
Haryana	85.0	11.8	3.2	100.0	85.0	10.2
Himachal Pradesh	81.7	11.3	6.9	100.0	81.7	10.2
Jammu & Kashmir	75.7	18.7	5.6	100.0	75.7	3.1
Ladakh	42.3	57.2	0.5	100.0	42.3	1.1
Punjab	86.6	10.9	2.5	100.0	86.6	9.5
Rajasthan	71.1	7.1	21.8	100.0	71.1	5.8
Uttarakhand	78.7	15.0	6.3	100.0	78.7	14.0
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	76.8	8.9	14.3	100.0	76.8	6.1
Madhya Pradesh	65.1	10.0	24.9	100.0	65.1	7.5
Uttar Pradesh	68.7	9.1	22.2	100.0	68.7	7.4
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	49.4	12.5	38.1	100.0	49.4	9.9
Jharkhand	56.7	10.4	32.9	100.0	56.7	6.2
Odisha	60.5	6.2	33.3	100.0	60.5	5.2
West Bengal	68.0	20.1	11.9	100.0	68.0	15.6
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	82.9	15.7	1.4	100.0	82.9	9.0
Assam	68.5	27.3	4.1	100.0	68.5	10.0
Manipur	64.9	34.8	0.4	100.0	64.9	29.9
Meghalaya	82.9	13.0	4.1	100.0	82.9	7.0
Mizoram	95.3	4.6	0.1	100.0	95.3	2.5
Nagaland	87.7	11.8	0.5	100.0	87.7	8.1
Sikkim	87.3	12.4	0.3	100.0	87.3	10.7
Tripura	73.6	25.4	1.1	100.0	73.6	15.1

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**Table 2.3 Sanitation facility type by wealth quintile and state/union territory—Continued**

Percent distribution of *de jure* population by type of sanitation, percentage of *de jure* population with basic sanitation service, and percentage with limited sanitation service, by wealth quintile and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

Wealth and state/union territory	Type of sanitation			Total	Percentage with basic sanitation service <sup>4</sup>	Percentage with limited sanitation service <sup>5</sup>
	Improved sanitation facility <sup>1</sup>	Shared facility <sup>2</sup>	Unimproved sanitation facility <sup>3</sup>			
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	65.8	24.0	10.3	100.0	65.8	
Goa	87.9	8.6	3.4	100.0	87.9	7.3
Gujarat	74.0	6.1	19.9	100.0	74.0	3.3
Maharashtra	72.0	10.7	17.3	100.0	72.0	8.1
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	88.0	8.5	3.6	100.0	88.0	8.1
Andhra Pradesh	77.3	6.2	16.5	100.0	77.3	5.2
Karnataka	74.8	6.9	18.3	100.0	74.8	3.3
Kerala	98.7	1.1	0.2	100.0	98.7	0.5
Lakshadweep	99.8	0.2	0.0	100.0	99.8	0.1
Puducherry	84.9	5.2	9.9	100.0	84.9	4.0
Tamil Nadu	72.6	5.7	21.7	100.0	72.6	4.1
Telangana	76.2	12.2	11.5	100.0	76.2	9.4

<sup>1</sup> See Table 2.2 for definition of an improved facility.

<sup>2</sup> Defined as use of improved facilities that are shared with other households

<sup>3</sup> See Table 2.2 for definition of an unimproved facility.

<sup>4</sup> Defined as use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households.

<sup>5</sup> Defined as use of improved facilities shared by 2 or more households

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**Table 2.4 Access to a toilet facility**

Percentage of households having access to a toilet facility by selected background characteristics, according to residence, India, 2019-21

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Background characteristic	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
<b>Religion of household head</b>			
Hindu	95.1	74.0	80.7
Muslim	97.2	85.4	90.3
Christian	97.5	87.2	91.2
Sikh	99.3	96.7	97.5
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	95.3	82.8	87.8
Jain	99.9	88.1	97.6
Other	95.5	66.2	72.5
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>			
Scheduled caste	91.4	71.2	76.9
Scheduled tribe	88.8	65.1	68.5
Other backward class	95.6	75.7	82.3
Other	98.6	87.8	92.5
Don't know	96.4	69.0	80.2
<b>Wealth quintile</b>			
Lowest	52.5	51.7	51.8
Second	79.1	73.1	73.9
Middle	94.1	88.7	90.1
Fourth	99.3	97.8	98.5
Highest	100.0	99.8	99.9
Total	95.6	76.0	82.5

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**Table 2.5 Access to a toilet facility by state/union territory**

Percentage of households having access to a toilet facility by state/union territory, according to residence, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
<b>India</b>	95.6	76.0	82.5
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	98.3	100.0	98.3
Delhi	99.4	97.8	99.4
Haryana	98.8	95.7	96.8
Himachal Pradesh	97.6	93.0	93.6
Jammu & Kashmir	99.4	92.5	94.4
Ladakh	100.0	99.2	99.4
Punjab	98.6	96.4	97.3
Rajasthan	97.3	72.6	78.7
Uttarakhand	98.3	91.7	93.8
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	96.4	82.8	85.9
Madhya Pradesh	93.5	69.8	76.2
Uttar Pradesh	95.2	72.7	78.4
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	88.8	56.7	61.7
Jharkhand	90.6	62.9	69.6
Odisha	82.9	68.9	71.3
West Bengal	97.3	84.9	89.0
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	99.7	98.5	98.7
Assam	99.1	95.3	95.9
Manipur	99.9	99.6	99.7
Meghalaya	99.6	95.2	96.2
Mizoram	100.0	99.8	99.9
Nagaland	99.9	99.5	99.7
Sikkim	99.7	99.7	99.7
Tripura	99.8	98.8	99.1
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	97.4	83.8	91.0
Goa	98.6	94.1	96.7
Gujarat	96.9	70.6	81.9
Maharashtra	97.0	79.0	87.6
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	99.8	94.8	96.5
Andhra Pradesh	96.7	80.3	85.3
Karnataka	93.3	75.9	83.1
Kerala	99.9	99.8	99.8
Lakshadweep	100.0	100.0	100.0
Puducherry	96.6	79.7	91.4
Tamil Nadu	92.3	71.7	81.5
Telangana	97.4	83.1	88.2

**Table 2.6 Housing characteristics**

Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population by housing characteristics, India, 2019-21

Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
<b>Electricity</b>				
Yes	99.0	95.3	96.5	96.8
No	1.0	4.7	3.5	3.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Type of house<sup>1</sup></b>				
<i>Kachha</i>	0.9	6.4	4.6	4.5
<i>Semi-pucca</i>	13.2	44.2	33.9	35.2
<i>Pucca</i>	84.9	48.0	60.3	59.0
Missing	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Persons per room used for sleeping</b>				
<3	64.1	57.7	59.8	51.5
3-4	26.3	29.2	28.3	32.4
5-6	7.5	9.9	9.1	11.8
7 or more	1.9	3.2	2.8	4.2
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Cooking fuel</b>				
Electricity	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6
LPG/natural gas	88.6	42.3	57.7	55.2
Biogas	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Kerosene	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Coal/lignite	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Charcoal	0.3	1.0	0.8	0.8
Wood	7.5	43.7	31.7	33.4
Straw/shrubs/grass	0.2	2.0	1.4	1.4
Agricultural crop waste	0.2	2.9	2.0	2.1
Dung cakes	0.6	5.7	4.0	4.8
Other	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage using clean fuel for cooking <sup>2</sup>	89.7	43.2	58.6	56.2
Percentage using solid fuel for cooking <sup>3</sup>	9.5	56.1	40.6	43.3

*Continued...*



Table 2.6 Housing characteristics — *Continued*

Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population by housing characteristics, India, 2019-21

Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
<b>Place for cooking</b>				
In the house, separate room	72.2	48.8	56.6	56.6
In the house, no separate room	17.8	27.3	24.1	23.8
In a separate building	7.1	13.7	11.5	11.9
Outdoors	2.5	9.9	7.5	7.6
Other	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1
Missing	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724
<b>Type of fire/stove among households using solid fuels</b>				
Stove	1.9	0.6	0.7	0.7
Open fire	5.4	4.4	4.5	4.0
<i>Chullah</i>	92.6	94.9	94.8	95.4
Other	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number using solid fuel	19,968	238,473	258,441	1,202,864
<b>Frequency of smoking in the home<sup>4</sup></b>				
Daily	18.4	27.5	24.5	26.6
Weekly	6.5	8.8	8.1	8.5
Monthly	3.2	4.9	4.4	4.6
Less than monthly	3.1	4.2	3.8	4.0
Never	68.8	54.6	59.3	56.3
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724
<sup>1</sup> Houses made from mud, thatch, or other low-quality materials are called <i>kachha</i> houses, houses that use partly low-quality and partly high-quality materials are called semi- <i>pucca</i> houses, and houses made with high quality materials throughout, including the floor, roof, and exterior walls, are called <i>pucca</i> houses. <sup>2</sup> Electricity, LPG/natural gas, biogas <sup>3</sup> Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crop waste, and dung cakes <sup>4</sup> Frequency of smoking by anyone inside the house				

Table 2.7 Housing characteristics by state/union territory

Selected housing characteristics by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of households:						Mean number of persons per room used for sleeping	
	With electricity	With improved source of drinking water <sup>1</sup>	With toilet facility	With improved toilet facility <sup>2</sup>	Using solid fuel for cooking <sup>3</sup>	In which anyone smokes at home		Living in a pucca house <sup>4</sup>
<b>India</b>	96.5	95.9	80.6	69.3	40.6	40.7	60.3	2.7
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	99.7	99.2	97.3	84.1	3.9	15.5	96.1	2.8
Delhi	99.9	99.5	98.7	79.8	0.8	31.3	93.7	2.8
Haryana	99.5	98.6	96.6	83.1	40.1	54.8	76.5	2.7
Himachal Pradesh	99.4	96.4	93.5	81.1	47.7	50.7	76.1	2.0
Jammu & Kashmir	99.3	92.3	94.3	75.6	30.2	70.3	75.2	2.1
Ladakh	99.4	89.3	99.4	42.3	23.1	68.2	42.7	1.8
Punjab	99.6	98.8	97.2	85.4	22.1	19.6	78.3	2.6
Rajasthan	97.9	96.4	77.5	69.6	58.5	68.3	54.4	2.7
Uttarakhand	99.4	95.5	93.6	77.9	40.5	52.7	75.7	2.5
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	98.5	95.6	84.7	74.5	66.4	52.5	43.2	2.4
Madhya Pradesh	98.1	88.9	73.8	62.8	59.3	51.1	45.2	2.8
Uttar Pradesh	89.8	99.2	77.1	66.9	50.3	55.8	40.5	3.0
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	95.6	99.1	61.1	47.3	62.0	41.0	34.0	3.0
Jharkhand	93.8	86.8	66.4	55.4	67.8	40.0	42.8	2.4
Odisha	96.3	90.8	66.1	59.1	64.9	27.3	59.0	2.5
West Bengal	97.0	97.5	88.0	66.6	59.1	56.8	52.5	2.4
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	94.7	94.2	98.5	82.3	46.6	70.6	24.5	1.7
Assam	92.7	86.4	95.8	67.3	56.4	57.2	31.6	2.1
Manipur	97.8	77.0	99.5	62.1	29.6	67.4	22.6	2.3
Meghalaya	92.0	79.2	95.8	81.7	63.4	75.2	45.0	2.3
Mizoram	98.0	95.7	99.9	95.0	16.0	82.5	50.5	2.6
Nagaland	98.6	91.0	99.6	87.0	56.5	54.8	33.5	1.6
Sikkim	99.3	94.0	99.6	85.3	20.7	45.3	75.7	1.5
Tripura	97.9	88.5	98.9	71.5	53.0	74.7	33.0	2.3
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	99.6	96.4	90.5	62.4	18.0	26.4	74.6	3.0
Goa	100.0	98.2	96.3	87.7	2.8	22.1	90.0	2.2
Gujarat	97.2	97.5	80.7	74.0	32.2	38.9	77.2	3.0
Maharashtra	97.4	93.8	82.6	71.1	18.2	27.6	76.8	2.9
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	97.5	96.4	96.3	87.6	15.5	20.1	69.7	2.1
Andhra Pradesh	99.1	96.7	83.7	76.9	15.6	29.1	84.6	2.7
Karnataka	98.8	95.6	82.3	75.1	19.4	21.5	63.7	2.5
Kerala	99.5	94.9	99.7	98.5	27.4	16.2	83.4	1.8
Lakshadweep	99.7	93.2	100.0	99.8	32.5	15.5	89.1	1.8
Puducherry	99.8	99.9	90.2	84.6	5.6	11.4	88.7	2.3
Tamil Nadu	99.0	98.6	77.5	71.2	15.4	14.6	87.9	2.3
Telangana	99.3	98.7	87.3	74.4	7.7	26.4	79.2	2.6

<sup>1</sup> See Table 2.1 for list of improved sources<sup>2</sup> See Table 2.2 for a list of improved toilet facilities<sup>3</sup> Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crop waste, and dung cakes<sup>4</sup> Refer to Table 2.6 for definition of *pucca*

Table 2.8 Wealth quintiles by state/union territory

Percent distribution of the *de jure* population by wealth quintiles, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

Residence and state/union territory	Wealth quintile					Total	Gini coefficient
	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest		
<b>India</b>	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	100.0	0.20
Urban	3.2	7.2	15.5	28.6	45.5	100.0	0.10
Rural	27.8	26.0	22.1	16.0	8.1	100.0	0.19
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	1.1	2.2	5.8	11.5	79.4	100.0	0.11
Delhi	0.2	2.6	9.2	20.3	67.7	100.0	0.08
Haryana	2.0	8.3	15.8	26.2	47.7	100.0	0.12
Himachal Pradesh	3.8	13.4	24.7	29.2	28.9	100.0	0.14
Jammu & Kashmir	10.2	16.5	20.8	27.2	25.2	100.0	0.19
Ladakh	13.3	30.6	27.0	22.8	6.3	100.0	0.23
Punjab	1.1	5.0	11.4	21.9	60.6	100.0	0.10
Rajasthan	13.3	20.6	22.5	22.0	21.6	100.0	0.18
Uttarakhand	5.9	17.6	20.6	22.3	33.6	100.0	0.17
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	29.9	24.0	18.6	15.8	11.7	100.0	0.20
Madhya Pradesh	31.5	21.4	16.8	15.3	15.1	100.0	0.22
Uttar Pradesh	23.9	23.6	18.3	16.4	17.8	100.0	0.21
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	42.8	26.1	15.4	10.3	5.4	100.0	0.22
Jharkhand	45.9	21.8	14.3	10.6	7.5	100.0	0.27
Odisha	35.1	25.2	18.3	12.6	8.7	100.0	0.23
West Bengal	32.7	26.1	19.3	14.2	7.7	100.0	0.25
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	23.3	31.8	24.8	15.2	4.9	100.0	0.21
Assam	38.1	32.0	16.1	9.6	4.1	100.0	0.25
Manipur	18.3	32.6	24.1	17.2	7.8	100.0	0.17
Meghalaya	31.0	34.9	20.2	9.7	4.2	100.0	0.25
Mizoram	6.6	13.2	25.2	30.2	24.8	100.0	0.13
Nagaland	27.6	28.6	21.0	15.4	7.4	100.0	0.21
Sikkim	2.7	18.9	34.7	31.0	12.8	100.0	0.14
Tripura	31.6	33.1	22.3	10.6	2.5	100.0	0.20
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	12.3	24.4	22.7	23.3	17.3	100.0	0.22
Goa	0.5	2.7	9.8	25.7	61.3	100.0	0.11
Gujarat	12.2	16.4	19.3	24.7	27.4	100.0	0.19
Maharashtra	8.6	15.3	22.1	26.1	27.9	100.0	0.17
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8.0	15.2	25.6	33.3	18.0	100.0	0.13
Andhra Pradesh	5.2	19.2	31.2	28.9	15.6	100.0	0.13
Karnataka	7.3	18.2	28.4	27.2	19.0	100.0	0.16
Kerala	0.8	4.7	17.9	36.5	40.1	100.0	0.10
Lakshadweep	0.1	2.0	15.0	46.7	36.2	100.0	0.11
Puducherry	2.4	7.2	14.7	30.0	45.7	100.0	0.12
Tamil Nadu	4.8	15.2	26.4	29.0	24.6	100.0	0.10
Telangana	5.1	17.2	28.1	27.5	22.2	100.0	0.10

**Table 2.9 Religion and caste/tribe of household head by wealth quintiles**

Percent distribution of the *de jure* population by wealth quintiles, according to religion and caste/tribe of household head, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Wealth quintile					Total	<i>De jure</i> population
	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest		
<b>Religion of household head</b>							
Hindu	20.5	20.5	20.4	19.6	19.1	100.0	2,251,319
Muslim	19.6	19.8	19.3	22.0	19.3	100.0	380,983
Christian	15.8	16.7	19.4	22.5	25.6	100.0	67,300
Sikh	1.6	5.7	11.9	21.6	59.1	100.0	45,088
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	10.3	21.2	24.0	26.7	17.8	100.0	18,356
Jain	1.6	2.8	5.4	10.2	80.1	100.0	7,048
Other	57.9	15.2	10.9	7.0	8.9	100.0	10,630
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>							
Scheduled caste	25.5	23.7	21.2	17.3	12.3	100.0	608,602
Scheduled tribe	46.3	24.4	14.9	8.9	5.4	100.0	264,888
Other backward class	16.3	20.1	21.9	22.5	19.2	100.0	1,168,032
Other	11.3	15.1	17.9	22.4	33.3	100.0	716,552
Don't know	27.9	20.2	18.9	15.8	17.2	100.0	22,650
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,780,724</b>

Table 2.10 Religion and caste/tribe of household head by state/union territory

Percent distribution of households by religion and caste/tribe of the household head, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Religion of household head										Caste/tribe of household head				
	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist/ Neo- Buddhist	Jain	Other <sup>1</sup>	Total	Scheduled caste	Scheduled tribe	Other backward class	Other	Don't know	Total	
<b>India</b>	81.9	12.4	2.8	1.5	0.7	0.3	0.4	100.0	21.7	9.5	41.6	26.4	0.9	100.0	
Urban	78.2	15.4	3.3	1.4	0.8	0.6	0.3	100.0	18.5	4.1	41.7	34.7	1.1	100.0	
Rural	83.7	10.9	2.6	1.6	0.6	0.1	0.5	100.0	23.2	12.2	41.5	22.2	0.8	100.0	
<b>North</b>															
Chandigarh	75.9	7.6	0.5	15.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	23.4	0.6	13.8	59.7	2.6	100.0	
Delhi	84.4	11.9	0.7	2.5	0.0	0.4	0.1	100.0	23.8	1.6	19.5	51.2	4.0	100.0	
Haryana	90.9	5.4	0.1	3.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	29.1	1.1	28.4	40.9	0.5	100.0	
Himachal Pradesh	96.0	1.8	0.2	1.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	23.8	5.3	14.7	55.9	0.3	100.0	
Jammu & Kashmir	31.7	65.7	0.1	2.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	10.9	7.2	9.4	72.3	0.2	100.0	
Ladakh	0.6	51.2	0.1	0.0	47.4	0.0	0.8	100.0	1.3	66.0	0.0	31.5	1.2	100.0	
Punjab	38.3	1.1	1.7	58.5	0.1	0.0	0.3	100.0	44.1	0.6	13.6	39.6	2.1	100.0	
Rajasthan	90.6	7.8	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	100.0	21.8	14.0	44.9	19.0	0.3	100.0	
Uttarakhand	84.7	13.0	0.2	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	18.0	2.9	26.0	51.9	1.2	100.0	
<b>Central</b>															
Chhattisgarh	96.6	1.4	1.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	16.9	30.3	44.6	8.2	0.1	100.0	
Madhya Pradesh	93.9	4.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	100.0	17.5	21.2	42.8	17.5	1.0	100.0	
Uttar Pradesh	82.8	16.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	100.0	26.0	1.7	50.4	21.7	0.3	100.0	
<b>East</b>															
Bihar	85.5	14.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	23.9	3.8	53.3	18.3	0.7	100.0	
Jharkhand	76.6	11.8	4.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	7.2	100.0	17.1	28.2	42.7	11.1	0.9	100.0	
Odisha	94.5	2.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	19.9	24.3	34.5	20.9	0.4	100.0	
West Bengal	72.2	26.6	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	100.0	27.1	5.9	12.2	52.5	2.4	100.0	

Continued...

Table 2.10 Religion and caste/tribe of household head by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of households by religion and caste/tribe of the household head, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Religion of household head							Caste/tribe of household head					Total
	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist/ Neo- Buddhist	Jain	Other <sup>1</sup>	Scheduled caste	Scheduled tribe	Other backward class	Other	Don't know	
<b>Northeast</b>													
Arunachal Pradesh	21.9	1.4	40.3	0.0	16.1	0.0	20.2	6.6	76.8	4.4	11.9	0.4	100.0
Assam	63.1	33.7	3.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	13.4	13.0	25.6	47.7	0.4	100.0
Manipur	42.0	10.2	28.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	18.8	8.0	27.9	18.5	45.1	0.6	100.0
Meghalaya	10.8	3.7	79.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	2.5	89.3	0.7	7.3	0.2	100.0
Mizoram	1.3	0.4	91.4	0.0	6.7	0.0	0.1	2.8	94.6	1.0	1.2	0.5	100.0
Nagaland	7.0	1.3	91.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.9	91.5	1.0	3.4	0.2	100.0
Sikkim	57.1	1.7	13.3	0.0	27.4	0.0	0.4	5.6	35.3	50.2	8.3	0.7	100.0
Tripura	85.7	7.4	4.5	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.1	23.8	27.5	18.3	29.6	0.7	100.0
<b>West</b>													
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	93.7	4.8	1.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	10.3	38.3	27.4	22.7	1.3	100.0
Goa	64.8	7.5	27.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	4.6	8.8	20.7	65.3	0.6	100.0
Gujarat	88.4	10.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	13.6	15.5	44.2	25.7	1.0	100.0
Maharashtra	80.6	10.2	1.1	0.3	6.1	1.3	0.4	17.0	11.0	27.8	42.8	1.4	100.0
<b>South</b>													
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	68.5	8.7	22.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.2	7.9	19.4	70.4	1.1	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	82.7	7.0	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	21.1	4.1	50.3	24.4	0.0	100.0
Karnataka	87.5	10.2	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	20.0	10.8	55.1	13.4	0.7	100.0
Kerala	57.0	24.0	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.9	1.8	50.3	36.4	0.6	100.0
Lakshadweep	1.1	98.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	80.5	7.0	8.8	1.1	100.0
Puducherry	94.2	2.1	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	20.4	0.2	74.5	4.2	0.7	100.0
Tamil Nadu	91.0	3.3	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	26.7	1.9	68.6	2.0	0.7	100.0
Telangana	87.1	9.6	3.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	22.5	8.2	57.3	11.2	0.8	100.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes Jews, Parsis/Zoroastrians, those following other religions and those with no religion



**Table 2.11 Household possessions**

Percentage of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population possessing various household goods and means of transport, and percentage with a bank/post office account, health insurance/financing scheme, or a BPL card, India, 2019-21

Household possessions	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
<b>Household goods</b>				
Mattress	85.8	66.1	72.6	74.2
Pressure cooker	88.8	57.9	68.2	69.8
Chair	90.5	80.1	83.5	84.5
Cot or bed	89.5	89.4	89.4	90.5
Table	74.2	51.3	58.9	60.3
Electric fan	96.4	84.3	88.3	89.1
Radio or transistor	6.7	4.1	4.9	4.9
Television (black and white)	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4
Television (colour)	86.0	57.1	66.7	67.7
Any television	86.8	58.4	67.8	68.9
Sewing machine	34.0	22.7	26.4	30.2
Mobile telephone	96.7	91.5	93.3	95.5
Landline telephone	4.6	1.1	2.3	2.2
Internet	64.6	41.0	48.8	53.0
Computer	19.3	4.4	9.3	9.5
Refrigerator	63.4	25.2	37.9	38.9
Air conditioner/cooler	39.5	15.8	23.7	25.4
Washing machine	36.1	9.0	18.0	18.6
Watch or clock	90.3	70.7	77.2	78.3
Water pump	22.3	17.3	19.0	20.2
Thresher	0.6	1.7	1.4	1.7
Tractor	0.7	3.9	2.9	3.8
None of the above	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.3
<b>Means of transport</b>				
Bicycle	43.0	54.2	50.4	55.0
Motorcycle or scooter	60.6	44.3	49.7	54.1
Animal-drawn cart	0.8	4.1	3.0	3.7
Car	13.8	4.4	7.5	8.0
None of the above	22.4	25.3	24.3	19.8
Percentage having a bank account/post office account <sup>1</sup>	95.3	95.9	95.7	96.3
Percentage covered by a health insurance/financing scheme <sup>2</sup>	38.1	42.4	41.0	40.3
Percentage having a BPL card	31.0	52.1	45.1	45.3
Number	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724

BPL = Below poverty line

<sup>1</sup> Percentage of households in which any usual member of the household has a bank account/post office account

<sup>2</sup> Percentage of households in which any usual member of the household is covered by a health insurance/financing scheme

**Table 2.12 Household ownership of agricultural land, house, and farm animals**

Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and *de jure* population owning agricultural land by type of land and percentage owning a house and farm animals, India, 2019-21

Asset	Urban	Rural	Total	<i>De jure</i> population
No agricultural land	86.9	47.8	60.8	57.7
Irrigated land only	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.3
Non-irrigated land only	3.1	11.9	9.0	9.1
Both irrigated and non-irrigated land	8.8	39.0	29.0	31.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage owning a house	65.3	76.4	72.7	74.5
Percentage owning farm animals <sup>1</sup>	10.3	57.8	42.0	47.4
Number	211,271	425,428	636,699	2,780,724

<sup>1</sup> Cows, bulls, buffaloes, camels, horses, donkeys, mules, goats, sheep, chickens, or ducks

Table 2.13 Handwashing

Percentage of the *de jure* population for whom the place most often used for washing hands was observed, and total percentage of the *de jure* population for whom the place for handwashing was observed; and among the *de jure* population for whom the place for handwashing was observed, percentage with water available, percentage with soap available, and percentage with a cleansing agent other than soap available; percentage of the *de jure* population with a basic handwashing facility and percentage with a limited handwashing facility, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of <i>de jure</i> population for whom place for washing hands was observed:		Place for handwashing observed and:			Number of persons for whom place for handwashing was observed	Percentage of the <i>de jure</i> population with a basic handwashing facility <sup>3</sup>	Percentage of the <i>de jure</i> population with a limited handwashing facility <sup>4</sup>	Number of persons for whom a place for handwashing was observed or with no place for handwashing in the dwelling, yard, or plot
	Place for handwashing was observed	Number of persons	Water available	Soap available <sup>1</sup>	Cleansing agent other than soap available <sup>2</sup>				
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	96.9	884,083	96.7	89.0	5.4	856,509	86.0	11.8	875,597
Rural	95.9	1,896,641	89.8	68.2	21.4	1,819,275	63.8	33.0	1,880,230
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	94.1	556,190	80.0	46.4	33.9	523,304	41.2	54.2	548,807
Second	95.5	556,069	88.8	64.4	23.3	531,090	59.3	37.1	550,796
Middle	96.0	556,119	93.7	77.2	13.7	534,049	72.7	24.1	551,683
Fourth	97.2	556,159	97.6	88.3	7.5	540,790	85.3	12.6	552,564
Highest	98.3	556,187	99.4	96.8	3.8	546,551	95.5	3.6	551,978
Total	96.2	2,780,724	92.0	74.9	16.3	2,675,783	70.8	26.3	2,755,827

<sup>1</sup> Soap includes soap or detergent in bar, liquid, powder or paste form.

<sup>2</sup> Cleansing agents other than soap include locally available materials such as ash, mud or sand.

<sup>3</sup> The availability of a handwashing facility on premises with soap and water.

<sup>4</sup> The availability of a handwashing facility on premises without soap and/or water.

**Table 2.14 Household composition**

Percent distribution of households by sex of head of household, household size, and household structure, and percentage of households with orphans and foster children under age 18, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Household headship</b>			
Male	82.9	82.4	82.5
Female	17.1	17.6	17.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Number of usual members</b>			
0	0.1	0.1	0.1
1	5.0	4.8	4.8
2	14.0	13.4	13.6
3	18.6	15.8	16.7
4	25.5	21.9	23.1
5	16.9	18.0	17.6
6	9.8	12.0	11.3
7	4.4	6.3	5.7
8	2.3	3.3	3.0
9 or more	3.3	4.4	4.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean household size	4.2	4.5	4.4
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>			
Nuclear	61.3	56.7	58.2
Non-nuclear	38.7	43.3	41.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Percentage of households with orphans and foster children under age 18</b>			
Double orphans <sup>2</sup>	0.3	0.4	0.4
Single orphans <sup>2</sup>	3.0	3.9	3.6
Foster children <sup>3</sup>	2.0	3.2	2.8
Orphans and/or foster children	5.0	6.9	6.3
Number of households	211,271	425,428	636,699

Note: Table is based on *de jure* members, i.e., usual residents.

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear household are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals.

<sup>2</sup> Double orphans are children both of whose parents are dead. Single orphans are children with one dead parent and an unknown survival status of the other parent

<sup>3</sup> Foster children are those under age 18 living in households with neither their mother nor their father present, and the mother and/or the father are alive.

Table 2.15 Household population by age, residence, sex, and possession of an *Aadhaar* card

Percent distribution of the *de facto* household population by age and percentage of individuals who have an *Aadhaar* card, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

Characteristic	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>Age</b>									
0-4	7.1	6.7	6.9	9.3	8.4	8.8	8.6	7.8	8.2
5-9	8.3	7.6	7.9	10.1	9.1	9.6	9.5	8.6	9.1
10-14	8.7	7.9	8.3	10.2	9.1	9.7	9.7	8.8	9.2
15-19	9.0	8.2	8.6	9.3	9.5	9.4	9.2	9.1	9.1
20-24	8.6	8.7	8.6	7.9	8.9	8.4	8.1	8.8	8.5
25-29	8.4	9.1	8.7	7.7	8.5	8.1	7.9	8.7	8.3
30-34	8.0	8.1	8.1	6.7	7.1	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.3
35-39	7.5	8.0	7.7	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.0
40-44	6.5	6.7	6.6	5.5	5.7	5.6	5.8	6.0	5.9
45-49	6.5	6.8	6.6	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.1
50-54	5.3	5.4	5.4	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.9
55-59	4.6	5.2	4.9	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.9	4.7
60-64	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4
65-69	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.0	3.1
70-74	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.3	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.9	2.1
75-79	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1
80 and over	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Dependency age groups</b>									
0-14	24.1	22.2	23.1	29.6	26.6	28.1	27.8	25.2	26.5
15-64	68.6	70.5	69.5	62.5	66.2	64.4	64.5	67.5	66.0
65 and over	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.9	7.1	7.5	7.7	7.2	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sex ratio, all ages <sup>1</sup>	na	na	985	na	na	1,037	na	na	1,020
Sex ratio, age 0-6 <sup>1</sup>	na	na	924	na	na	930	na	na	928
<b>Aadhaar card</b>									
Percentage with an <i>Aadhaar</i> card	93.0	93.0	93.0	88.8	89.1	89.0	90.2	90.3	90.2
Number of persons	443,586	437,055	880,694	926,514	961,067	1,887,676	1,370,100	1,398,122	2,768,371

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Females per 1,000 males

Table 2.16 Birth registration of children under age 5

Percentage of *de jure* children under age 5 years whose birth was registered with the civil authorities, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of children whose birth was registered			<i>De jure</i> children
	Registered, has a birth certificate	Registered, does not have a birth certificate	Total registered	
<b>Age</b>				
<2 years	70.6	18.0	88.6	86,003
2-4 years	77.5	11.8	89.4	138,223
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	74.5	14.3	88.8	115,985
Female	75.3	14.1	89.4	108,227
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	82.3	11.0	93.3	60,133
Rural	72.2	15.4	87.5	164,093
<b>Mother's schooling</b>				
No schooling	58.6	19.5	78.1	44,546
<5 years complete	72.3	15.4	87.7	11,755
5-7 years complete	74.7	14.2	89.0	32,321
8-9 years complete	78.3	13.2	91.5	40,670
10-11 years complete	80.8	12.5	93.3	30,099
12 or more years complete	82.4	11.6	94.1	60,944
Don't know/missing	68.6	17.4	86.0	152
Mother not listed in the household	70.5	13.8	84.3	3,738
<b>Father's schooling</b>				
No schooling	62.0	17.8	79.7	22,770
<5 years complete	73.2	15.2	88.4	12,200
5-7 years complete	74.5	14.1	88.6	30,732
8-9 years complete	76.2	14.3	90.6	39,062
10-11 years complete	79.3	13.0	92.3	28,031
12 or more years complete	81.3	12.0	93.4	56,202
Don't know/missing	67.6	17.0	84.6	134
Father not listed in the household	68.9	15.9	84.8	35,095

*Continued...*



Table 2.16 Birth registration of children under age 5—*Continued*

Percentage of *de jure* children under age 5 years whose birth was registered with the civil authorities, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of children whose birth was registered			<i>De jure</i> children
	Registered, has a birth certificate	Registered, does not have a birth certificate	Total registered	
<b>Religion of household head</b>				
Hindu	74.5	14.4	88.9	176,373
Muslim	75.6	13.2	88.8	37,698
Christian	74.0	16.8	90.8	4,748
Sikh	90.1	7.9	98.0	2,883
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	80.9	16.5	97.4	1,184
Jain	88.8	8.8	97.6	390
Other	58.4	19.5	77.9	949
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>				
Scheduled caste	72.9	14.9	87.8	52,392
Scheduled tribe	70.0	18.0	87.9	23,533
Other backward class	73.8	14.3	88.1	94,802
Other	81.3	11.6	92.8	51,251
Don't know	71.5	14.7	86.2	2,247
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	62.4	18.4	80.7	54,362
Second	72.1	15.4	87.5	47,989
Middle	78.4	13.3	91.7	43,584
Fourth	81.4	12.0	93.4	41,412
Highest	85.4	10.0	95.4	36,879
Total	74.9	14.2	89.1	224,226

**Table 2.17 Birth registration of children under age 5 by state/union territory**

Percentage of *de jure* children under age 5 years whose birth was registered with the civil authorities, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	93.3	87.5	89.1
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	98.0	66.7	97.6
Delhi	94.2	99.7	94.4
Haryana	95.7	94.9	95.1
Himachal Pradesh	97.9	97.9	97.9
Jammu & Kashmir	97.8	94.6	95.3
Ladakh	100.0	98.2	98.6
Punjab	97.0	98.1	97.7
Rajasthan	95.3	90.5	91.4
Uttarakhand	92.2	91.8	91.9
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	97.3	96.4	96.6
Madhya Pradesh	95.5	93.7	94.1
Uttar Pradesh	84.4	78.2	79.5
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	75.4	75.7	75.6
Jharkhand	83.8	71.3	73.5
Odisha	95.2	90.0	90.8
West Bengal	98.1	98.3	98.2
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	89.7	87.4	87.7
Assam	97.0	96.2	96.3
Manipur	88.2	87.1	87.4
Meghalaya	87.5	81.2	82.1
Mizoram	99.4	99.4	99.4
Nagaland	79.9	70.8	73.2
Sikkim	95.4	97.1	96.5
Tripura	95.6	93.2	93.8
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	96.6	99.5	98.1
Goa	100.0	100.0	100.0
Gujarat	98.7	96.7	97.5
Maharashtra	96.5	96.1	96.3
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	96.9	97.8	97.4
Andhra Pradesh	93.8	91.6	92.2
Karnataka	98.7	96.8	97.5
Kerala	99.5	98.5	99.0
Lakshadweep	100.0	100.0	100.0
Puducherry	99.0	100.0	99.3
Tamil Nadu	98.3	98.3	98.3
Telangana	92.9	88.0	90.0

**Table 2.18 Death registration**

Among deaths during the 3 years preceding the survey, percentage of deaths registered with civil authority by selected background characteristics, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>Age</b>									
15-24	72.2	69.5	71.1	54.2	46.9	50.9	58.4	51.9	55.6
0-4	67.6	63.3	65.8	48.7	43.0	46.2	53.1	47.3	50.6
5-9	82.1	84.2	83.0	64.7	53.5	59.6	69.2	61.1	65.5
10-14	66.0	71.4	68.6	51.7	47.7	49.8	54.8	52.7	53.8
15-19	75.6	72.1	73.7	57.1	48.7	53.1	60.5	53.7	57.2
20-24	79.1	65.1	73.4	67.3	55.5	62.2	70.2	57.6	64.9
25-34	88.0	86.8	87.6	77.1	63.2	71.9	80.0	68.6	75.9
35 and over	88.1	82.5	85.8	74.6	64.1	70.1	78.7	69.5	74.8
Missing	69.6	74.7	72.6	62.9	55.3	58.8	64.5	60.6	62.3
<b>Religion of household head</b>									
Hindu	85.9	80.9	83.8	70.7	60.5	66.3	74.8	65.8	70.9
Muslim	80.6	73.9	77.8	62.1	50.8	57.1	69.2	59.0	64.8
Christian	92.2	85.2	89.3	73.4	70.9	72.3	81.0	76.6	79.1
Sikh	93.3	94.8	93.9	90.2	86.7	88.7	91.0	89.0	90.2
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	87.2	80.2	84.0	85.9	80.4	83.9	86.3	80.3	83.9
Jain	82.4	96.3	88.1	94.3	87.5	91.8	86.5	93.6	89.3
Other	67.0	78.3	73.2	43.9	35.8	40.6	47.0	45.0	46.2
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>									
Scheduled caste	83.4	76.1	80.5	68.0	58.1	63.7	72.0	62.3	67.9
Scheduled tribe	82.0	77.2	80.1	69.0	60.3	65.4	70.5	62.2	67.1
Other backward class	85.1	79.0	82.6	69.2	57.9	64.3	73.8	63.6	69.4
Other	87.7	84.3	86.2	75.5	66.8	71.7	80.0	73.4	77.1
Don't know	80.3	82.3	81.2	65.3	51.8	59.0	70.5	62.1	66.6
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	70.4	56.6	65.1	56.4	43.7	51.0	57.2	44.3	51.7
Second	76.8	63.8	71.8	68.4	56.8	63.5	69.4	57.6	64.4
Middle	82.5	73.9	79.3	77.7	67.6	73.3	78.9	68.9	74.7
Fourth	86.0	82.0	84.3	82.2	75.7	79.3	83.9	78.4	81.5
Highest	90.0	86.6	88.5	86.8	80.3	83.9	89.0	84.6	87.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>70.8</b>

Table 2.19 Death registration by state/union territory

Among deaths during the 3 years preceding the survey, percentage of deaths registered with civil authority by state/union territory, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>India</b>	85.4	80.3	83.3	70.2	60.1	65.9	74.6	65.7	70.8
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	97.9	92.8	95.7	nc	100.0	100.0	97.9	92.9	95.7
Delhi	89.3	89.3	89.3	87.6	80.0	84.3	89.2	89.1	89.2
Haryana	90.6	85.2	88.6	87.8	83.1	86.0	88.6	83.7	86.8
Himachal Pradesh	100.0	93.4	96.3	94.4	94.6	94.5	94.9	94.4	94.7
Jammu & Kashmir	83.9	82.0	83.0	75.7	70.3	73.4	77.8	73.6	76.0
Ladakh	77.0	87.7	81.0	73.8	70.1	72.3	74.6	74.3	74.5
Punjab	92.4	95.4	93.7	92.2	87.5	90.2	92.3	90.5	91.5
Rajasthan	87.2	83.0	85.4	79.3	66.5	74.2	81.0	70.3	76.7
Uttarakhand	82.9	84.7	83.8	73.3	62.9	68.9	76.1	70.6	73.6
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	79.1	87.3	82.3	79.0	72.5	76.2	79.0	75.7	77.7
Madhya Pradesh	88.6	80.4	85.0	74.9	64.4	70.5	78.3	68.5	74.1
Uttar Pradesh	64.6	57.5	61.6	48.8	37.0	43.7	52.4	41.5	47.7
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	56.5	36.9	47.6	39.9	29.0	34.7	42.1	30.0	36.4
Jharkhand	60.0	50.5	56.2	41.1	29.5	35.8	45.3	33.3	39.9
Odisha	82.8	76.3	80.2	72.7	63.1	68.5	74.4	65.1	70.4
West Bengal	90.8	84.9	88.1	79.3	68.9	74.5	82.8	73.6	78.6
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	47.6	41.5	44.9	37.1	32.4	35.3	38.5	33.7	36.6
Assam	81.7	77.2	79.8	67.7	54.2	62.3	69.8	57.9	65.0
Manipur	46.2	36.9	42.7	47.0	36.8	42.6	46.7	36.9	42.7
Meghalaya	66.5	58.2	62.5	52.8	51.4	52.2	55.1	52.7	54.1
Mizoram	90.1	95.2	91.5	90.3	77.8	84.9	90.1	86.8	89.0
Nagaland	56.5	66.3	59.9	33.2	32.5	32.9	39.1	39.8	39.4
Sikkim	67.7	69.4	68.3	81.3	72.2	77.3	77.3	71.6	74.9
Tripura	88.1	86.3	87.4	83.6	69.3	77.1	84.9	73.6	79.9
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	94.2	85.2	91.5	94.3	92.8	93.8	94.3	89.3	92.7
Goa	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Gujarat	96.9	94.4	95.8	92.8	90.6	91.9	94.2	91.9	93.2
Maharashtra	93.5	91.7	92.7	89.8	85.6	88.0	91.3	88.0	89.9
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	97.1	93.1	95.9	90.9	84.7	89.2	93.0	88.1	91.6
Andhra Pradesh	91.6	85.3	89.2	80.6	72.6	77.3	83.7	75.9	80.5
Karnataka	91.7	85.6	89.5	87.2	81.8	85.0	88.9	83.0	86.6
Kerala	99.0	97.4	98.3	97.8	96.5	97.3	98.4	97.0	97.8
Lakshadweep	98.0	100.0	98.8	100.0	85.0	90.9	98.3	96.2	97.4
Puducherry	96.0	86.8	92.3	93.1	92.2	92.8	95.0	88.5	92.5
Tamil Nadu	95.9	92.8	94.6	94.0	89.3	92.1	94.8	90.9	93.2
Telangana	83.7	71.8	78.8	77.8	62.4	70.9	79.5	64.9	73.2

nc = No cases

**Table 2.20 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood**

Percent distribution of *de jure* children under age 18 years by their living arrangements and survival status of their parents, percentage of children not living with a biological parent, and percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Living with mother but not with father				Living with father but not with mother				Not living with either parent				Percentage not living with a biological parent	Percentage with one or both parents dead <sup>1</sup>	Number of children
	Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only father alive	Both dead	Total			
<b>Age</b>															
<2	83.2	15.3	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	0.5	0.9	86,003
2-4	84.1	12.8	1.0	0.3	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	100.0	1.4	1.6	138,223
5-9	82.9	11.1	1.8	0.6	0.8	2.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	2.8	3.3	251,330
10-14	81.4	9.2	3.7	0.7	1.4	2.6	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	100.0	3.6	6.1	256,888
15-17	78.9	7.6	5.8	0.7	1.8	3.8	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	100.0	5.1	8.9	151,240
<b>Residence</b>															
Urban	86.8	6.3	3.0	0.6	0.8	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	100.0	2.5	4.4	247,887
Rural	80.1	12.3	2.7	0.5	1.1	2.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	100.0	3.2	4.6	635,796
<b>Sex</b>															
Male	82.4	10.5	2.9	0.6	1.0	1.8	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	2.6	4.6	456,515
Female	81.5	10.8	2.7	0.5	1.0	2.6	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	100.0	3.4	4.5	427,120
<b>Wealth quintile</b>															
Lowest	77.4	13.6	3.5	0.6	1.5	2.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	100.0	3.4	6.0	221,172
Second	79.2	12.6	3.1	0.6	1.2	2.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	100.0	3.4	5.1	192,797
Middle	82.8	9.9	2.9	0.6	0.9	2.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	3.0	4.4	172,018
Fourth	85.4	8.2	2.4	0.5	0.8	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	2.7	3.9	158,693
Highest	88.3	6.8	1.7	0.6	0.5	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	2.1	2.6	139,004
Total age <15	82.6	11.2	2.2	0.5	0.9	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	2.5	3.7	732,443
Total age <18	82.0	10.6	2.8	0.6	1.0	2.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	100.0	3.0	4.6	883,683

<sup>1</sup> Includes children with father dead, mother dead, both parents dead, and one parent dead but missing information on survival status of the other parent

Table 2.21 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood by state/union territory

Percent distribution of *de jure* children under age 18 by children's living arrangements and survival status of parents, percentage of children not living with a biological parent, and percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not with father		Living with father but not with mother		Not living with either parent			Total	Percentage not living with a biological parent	Percentage with one or both parents dead <sup>1</sup>	
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only mother alive	Only father alive				Both dead
<b>India</b>	82.0	10.6	2.8	0.6	1.0	2.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	100.0	3.0	4.6
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	90.4	4.6	2.6	0.3	0.6	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	100.0	1.6	3.4
Delhi	91.3	2.0	2.8	0.8	0.9	1.4	0.1	0.2	0.4	100.0	2.1	4.4
Haryana	88.5	4.6	3.0	0.6	1.1	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	100.0	2.3	4.7
Himachal Pradesh	79.1	14.9	2.4	0.7	0.6	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	2.3	3.5
Jammu & Kashmir	95.7	0.8	1.6	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	100.0	0.9	2.7
Ladakh	95.9	1.0	1.6	0.2	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	0.5	2.8
Punjab	85.8	6.7	2.9	0.9	1.0	1.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	100.0	2.7	4.5
Rajasthan	85.3	8.4	2.4	0.5	0.8	2.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	100.0	2.6	3.7
Uttarakhand	81.2	11.2	3.2	0.5	1.3	1.8	0.2	0.2	0.3	100.0	2.6	5.2
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	87.0	3.1	3.5	0.7	1.3	3.5	0.2	0.2	0.4	100.0	4.3	5.6
Madhya Pradesh	87.3	4.7	2.6	0.7	1.3	2.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	100.0	3.5	4.5
Uttar Pradesh	78.9	13.8	2.8	0.5	1.4	1.7	0.1	0.3	0.3	100.0	2.5	5.0
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	68.0	24.7	2.2	0.5	1.1	2.7	0.1	0.5	0.3	100.0	3.6	4.1
Jharkhand	74.5	16.9	3.0	0.8	1.0	2.8	0.2	0.3	0.5	100.0	3.8	5.0
Odisha	82.6	9.3	3.6	0.4	1.3	2.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	100.0	2.8	5.7
West Bengal	83.0	9.7	2.1	0.5	0.8	2.9	0.2	0.3	0.4	100.0	3.9	3.8
<b>Northeast</b>												
Arunachal Pradesh	81.8	5.5	3.2	1.0	1.2	4.7	0.7	0.3	1.7	100.0	7.3	6.3
Assam	88.3	4.2	3.5	0.4	1.3	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	100.0	2.2	5.7
Manipur	82.9	6.3	4.1	0.9	1.3	3.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	100.0	4.6	6.5
Meghalaya	80.2	9.4	5.6	0.2	0.8	1.7	0.3	0.5	1.3	100.0	3.8	7.6
Mizoram	75.5	8.1	4.5	3.5	1.3	4.5	1.0	0.4	1.1	100.0	7.0	8.1
Nagaland	84.0	3.8	2.9	1.3	1.6	4.3	0.6	0.2	1.3	100.0	6.4	6.5
Sikkim	79.0	6.1	2.6	2.5	2.0	3.7	0.8	1.2	2.4	100.0	7.9	8.7
Tripura	85.3	7.3	3.0	0.6	1.1	1.8	0.3	0.2	0.3	100.0	2.6	4.8

Continued...

Table 2.21 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of *de jure* children under age 18 by children's living arrangements and survival status of parents, percentage of children not living with a biological parent, and percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Living with mother but not with father			Living with father but not with mother		Not living with either parent				Total	Percentage not living with a biological parent	Percentage with one or both parents dead <sup>1</sup>
	Living with both parents	Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only mother alive	Only father alive	Both dead			
<b>West</b>												
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	87.7	4.7	2.8	1.1	0.3	2.6	0.3	0.0	0.5	100.0	3.4	3.9
Goa	87.7	7.9	3.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.8	3.7
Gujarat	89.8	3.3	2.3	0.7	1.0	2.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	100.0	3.0	4.1
Maharashtra	90.0	3.1	2.9	0.4	0.7	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	2.8	4.1
<b>South</b>												
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	87.3	3.4	2.9	0.8	1.2	3.6	0.2	0.3	0.4	100.0	4.4	4.8
Andhra Pradesh	85.7	5.5	3.6	0.9	0.9	2.7	0.2	0.2	0.4	100.0	3.5	5.2
Karnataka	86.7	5.0	3.7	0.6	0.5	2.6	0.2	0.2	0.6	100.0	3.6	5.2
Kerala	73.7	20.9	2.5	0.8	0.5	1.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	100.0	1.6	2.5
Lakshadweep	49.5	44.9	1.2	0.5	0.2	3.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	100.0	3.7	1.7
Puducherry	84.6	7.9	4.3	0.1	0.8	1.5	0.0	0.3	0.4	100.0	2.3	5.8
Tamil Nadu	80.3	12.7	3.4	0.6	0.6	1.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	100.0	2.4	4.7
Telangana	86.9	5.6	3.9	0.4	0.8	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.5	100.0	2.4	5.6

<sup>1</sup> Includes children with father dead, mother dead, both parents dead, and one parent dead but missing information on survival status of the other parent



**Table 2.22 Preschool attendance**

Percentage of *de facto* household population age 2-4 years attending preschool by selected background characteristics, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>Mother currently working</b>									
Not working	42.3	42.8	42.6	36.9	37.1	37.0	38.4	38.7	38.6
Working	51.2	50.3	50.8	45.5	45.4	45.4	47.0	46.6	46.8
Not in the household	42.0	42.7	42.4	35.9	36.5	36.2	37.8	38.2	38.0
Don't know, missing or incomplete or no interview	43.6	44.5	44.1	38.7	38.9	38.8	40.1	40.4	40.2
<b>Religion of household head</b>									
Hindu	45.2	46.4	45.8	39.5	39.4	39.5	41.0	41.1	41.1
Muslim	37.3	36.1	36.7	31.2	32.9	32.1	33.5	34.0	33.8
Christian	46.6	50.5	48.7	45.4	48.8	47.1	45.7	49.3	47.5
Sikh	41.7	42.9	42.3	40.3	40.6	40.4	40.6	41.2	40.9
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	54.0	63.0	58.5	55.8	71.9	63.3	55.2	68.8	61.7
Jain	71.2	66.1	68.9	63.4	49.0	56.7	69.1	61.4	65.5
Other	44.0	36.7	40.0	27.1	35.8	31.8	30.0	36.0	33.2
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>									
Scheduled caste	42.3	41.1	41.7	37.2	37.0	37.1	38.4	38.0	38.2
Scheduled tribe	43.4	45.2	44.4	43.7	42.4	43.0	43.7	42.8	43.2
Other backward class	42.1	43.6	42.9	35.8	36.6	36.2	37.6	38.5	38.1
Other	46.1	47.3	46.7	42.6	43.0	42.8	44.0	44.6	44.3
Don't know	53.2	39.4	46.5	46.7	38.3	43.0	49.1	38.7	44.2
<b>Household structure</b>									
Nuclear	42.6	43.8	43.2	39.3	37.9	38.6	40.2	39.6	39.9
Non-nuclear	44.3	44.6	44.5	38.0	39.2	38.7	39.8	40.6	40.2
<b>Household size</b>									
1-2 members	32.6	31.0	31.7	35.2	46.8	40.5	34.9	43.8	39.2
3-5 members	45.1	46.4	45.8	41.9	42.2	42.1	42.9	43.5	43.2
6 or more members	42.0	42.1	42.1	35.9	36.2	36.0	37.4	37.6	37.5
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	35.6	33.5	34.5	33.5	33.2	33.3	33.6	33.2	33.4
Second	38.4	39.0	38.7	37.8	38.4	38.1	37.9	38.5	38.2
Middle	41.6	42.1	41.9	43.0	43.2	43.1	42.6	42.9	42.8
Fourth	44.7	44.4	44.5	44.0	44.4	44.2	44.3	44.4	44.4
Highest	45.6	47.6	46.6	41.1	41.6	41.3	44.2	45.6	44.9
<b>Total</b>	43.6	44.3	43.9	38.6	38.8	38.7	39.9	40.3	40.1

Table 2.23 Preschool attendance by state/union territory

Percentage of *de facto* household population age 2-4 years attending preschool by state/union territory, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>India</b>	43.6	44.3	43.9	38.6	38.8	38.7	39.9	40.3	40.1
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	26.0	28.5	26.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.8	27.9	26.5
Delhi	39.7	42.2	40.8	53.0	58.7	54.7	40.2	42.5	41.2
Haryana	29.2	33.6	31.4	30.1	30.2	30.2	29.9	31.2	30.5
Himachal Pradesh	70.0	74.4	72.0	65.5	61.4	63.6	66.0	63.0	64.7
Jammu & Kashmir	31.0	33.9	32.5	24.9	26.2	25.6	26.4	27.9	27.2
Ladakh	35.7	25.8	31.1	24.8	34.8	30.2	27.4	33.2	30.4
Punjab	37.1	41.2	39.1	40.6	41.3	41.0	39.4	41.3	40.3
Rajasthan	36.5	36.0	36.2	28.4	28.8	28.6	29.9	30.3	30.1
Uttarakhand	41.5	34.2	37.9	42.6	41.3	41.9	42.2	39.1	40.7
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	31.3	37.3	34.3	31.8	33.2	32.5	31.7	34.0	32.9
Madhya Pradesh	44.2	42.3	43.2	37.3	38.2	37.8	38.9	39.2	39.0
Uttar Pradesh	18.0	17.9	17.9	14.2	14.4	14.3	15.0	15.1	15.1
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	41.6	42.0	41.8	36.4	33.8	35.1	37.0	34.9	36.0
Jharkhand	28.4	33.0	30.5	23.8	23.6	23.7	24.7	25.1	24.9
Odisha	45.6	52.5	49.2	58.0	58.1	58.1	56.1	57.3	56.8
West Bengal	50.9	48.2	49.5	57.6	58.0	57.8	55.6	55.5	55.6
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	32.7	31.8	32.3	22.9	23.8	23.4	24.4	24.9	24.6
Assam	40.1	45.8	42.9	37.5	37.6	37.6	37.8	38.4	38.1
Manipur	45.7	41.2	43.6	38.6	46.0	42.3	41.0	44.4	42.7
Meghalaya	40.0	34.9	37.3	26.2	26.0	26.1	28.0	27.4	27.7
Mizoram	36.7	32.8	35.1	38.4	36.9	37.6	37.5	35.1	36.4
Nagaland	22.1	25.8	23.9	13.5	13.8	13.6	15.8	17.0	16.4
Sikkim	81.2	76.9	78.7	70.7	71.5	71.1	74.6	73.9	74.2
Tripura	55.1	60.9	58.3	58.2	51.1	54.5	57.5	53.5	55.4
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	33.8	29.4	31.9	57.2	56.9	57.0	44.9	44.3	44.7
Goa	59.5	59.1	59.3	45.2	64.9	55.8	54.8	61.5	58.1
Gujarat	55.7	55.5	55.6	54.8	54.8	54.8	55.2	55.0	55.1
Maharashtra	62.5	59.3	60.9	70.0	70.8	70.4	66.6	65.8	66.2
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	97.0	100.0	98.6	75.0	87.5	81.3	83.8	92.9	88.5
Andhra Pradesh	75.4	73.5	74.5	77.2	74.6	75.8	76.7	74.3	75.4
Karnataka	42.2	41.8	42.0	46.2	45.7	46.0	44.7	44.2	44.5
Kerala	51.0	56.7	54.2	53.3	55.9	54.7	52.3	56.3	54.4
Lakshadweep	56.5	65.5	61.2	33.0	40.6	38.0	52.5	59.0	56.1
Puducherry	57.6	57.8	57.7	82.5	78.0	80.0	64.3	63.8	64.0
Tamil Nadu	41.8	45.8	43.8	48.8	47.2	48.0	45.7	46.5	46.1
Telangana	64.2	67.1	65.6	68.5	73.9	71.3	66.6	71.3	69.0

**Table 2.24 Educational attainment of household population**

Percent distribution of the *de facto* female and male household populations age six and over by highest number of years of schooling completed and median number of years of schooling completed, according to selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Level of schooling							Total	Median number of years of schooling completed
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete	Don't know/missing		
<b>FEMALE</b>									
<b>Age</b>									
6-9	6.4	92.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.7
10-14	2.7	28.0	51.7	17.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	5.0
15-19	4.3	2.2	9.9	31.6	31.1	20.9	0.0	100.0	9.1
20-24	8.6	3.0	9.6	17.0	14.7	47.1	0.0	100.0	10.0
25-29	14.8	5.3	14.9	16.4	12.8	35.7	0.0	100.0	8.8
30-34	22.6	6.8	16.7	16.5	12.5	24.9	0.0	100.0	7.4
35-39	30.7	8.1	16.7	15.1	11.7	17.6	0.0	100.0	5.9
40-44	38.8	8.4	15.0	12.5	10.4	14.8	0.0	100.0	4.3
45-49	45.8	9.7	14.5	10.4	8.9	10.8	0.0	100.0	2.3
50-54	53.2	9.0	13.3	8.2	7.3	8.9	0.1	100.0	0.0
55-59	59.0	9.8	12.5	6.5	5.8	6.3	0.1	100.0	0.0
60-64	64.5	8.9	11.1	5.2	5.4	4.9	0.1	100.0	0.0
65 and over	69.9	9.4	9.3	3.5	4.2	3.7	0.1	100.0	0.0
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	17.4	13.4	15.4	13.2	13.4	27.1	0.0	100.0	7.5
Rural	33.2	16.5	15.9	13.6	9.0	11.8	0.0	100.0	4.0
<b>Religion of household head</b>									
Hindu	28.5	15.1	15.5	13.5	10.3	17.1	0.0	100.0	4.9
Muslim	29.1	18.5	17.7	13.6	9.7	11.4	0.1	100.0	4.3
Christian	17.9	15.6	15.5	13.0	13.9	23.9	0.1	100.0	7.2
Sikh	23.2	10.1	16.7	12.0	14.5	23.4	0.0	100.0	7.0
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	22.7	17.3	15.2	13.9	12.4	18.5	0.0	100.0	6.2
Jain	4.8	9.9	12.4	9.2	20.0	43.4	0.3	100.0	9.8
Other	34.8	17.3	13.0	14.5	7.3	13.1	0.1	100.0	3.5
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>									
Scheduled caste	32.6	16.4	15.6	13.6	9.0	12.8	0.0	100.0	4.1
Scheduled tribe	38.5	16.8	14.7	13.2	7.3	9.4	0.0	100.0	2.7
Other backward class	28.8	15.2	16.0	13.1	10.5	16.3	0.0	100.0	4.8
Other	19.5	14.7	15.9	14.1	12.6	23.2	0.0	100.0	7.0
Don't know	32.9	20.8	16.9	12.9	7.5	8.8	0.1	100.0	3.4
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	45.7	19.9	15.1	11.7	4.3	3.2	0.0	100.0	0.4
Second	35.5	17.5	16.8	14.6	7.8	7.7	0.0	100.0	3.4
Middle	28.3	15.8	17.2	14.8	10.9	13.0	0.0	100.0	4.8
Fourth	20.0	14.1	16.6	14.5	13.7	20.9	0.0	100.0	6.9
Highest	11.4	10.3	13.1	11.7	15.2	38.2	0.1	100.0	9.3
Total	28.2	15.5	15.8	13.5	10.4	16.6	0.0	100.0	4.9
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	31.0	16.2	16.5	12.8	9.6	13.7	0.2	100.0	4.4

Continued...

Table 2.24 Educational attainment of household population—Continued

Percent distribution of the *de facto* female and male household populations age six and over by highest number of years of schooling completed and median number of years of schooling completed, according to selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Level of schooling							Total	Median number of years of schooling completed
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete	Don't know/missing		
<b>MALE</b>									
<b>Age</b>									
6-9	6.4	93.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.7
10-14	2.3	30.8	50.7	15.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	4.9
15-19	3.4	2.6	10.5	32.7	31.7	19.2	0.0	100.0	9.1
20-24	4.5	3.0	8.6	16.8	14.2	52.8	0.1	100.0	11.2
25-29	6.6	4.6	13.0	17.6	13.8	44.4	0.1	100.0	9.7
30-34	9.2	5.7	14.9	19.3	15.3	35.6	0.1	100.0	9.1
35-39	13.1	7.0	16.2	20.3	15.9	27.4	0.1	100.0	8.4
40-44	15.8	7.8	15.6	18.9	16.2	25.6	0.1	100.0	8.1
45-49	20.2	8.7	15.3	17.0	15.5	23.3	0.1	100.0	7.7
50-54	23.5	10.2	15.3	14.9	14.8	21.2	0.1	100.0	7.1
55-59	28.2	11.4	16.3	13.2	13.1	17.6	0.1	100.0	5.4
60-64	32.7	11.7	16.3	11.7	12.9	14.6	0.2	100.0	4.6
65 and over	35.6	12.6	15.7	9.6	12.3	14.0	0.2	100.0	4.2
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	7.8	13.8	14.7	15.0	15.5	33.0	0.1	100.0	8.8
Rural	16.4	18.7	17.8	17.1	12.4	17.6	0.1	100.0	6.5
<b>Religion of household head</b>									
Hindu	12.9	16.5	16.5	16.7	13.6	23.8	0.1	100.0	7.5
Muslim	17.9	21.5	19.1	15.6	11.2	14.6	0.1	100.0	5.4
Christian	11.2	16.5	16.4	14.9	16.1	24.8	0.1	100.0	7.9
Sikh	14.2	11.8	15.9	14.4	17.8	25.8	0.0	100.0	7.8
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	8.4	18.8	14.5	17.9	14.3	26.0	0.0	100.0	8.2
Jain	2.3	8.9	7.7	9.7	20.1	51.5	0.0	100.0	11.1
Other	19.3	18.7	17.7	16.6	10.1	17.3	0.1	100.0	6.0
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>									
Scheduled caste	16.5	18.1	18.0	17.8	11.8	17.7	0.1	100.0	6.5
Scheduled tribe	21.2	19.8	18.0	17.0	10.1	13.7	0.1	100.0	5.2
Other backward class	13.1	16.8	17.3	16.5	13.9	22.3	0.1	100.0	7.3
Other	9.0	15.5	14.4	15.0	15.1	30.9	0.1	100.0	8.5
Don't know	18.4	22.8	18.9	16.8	9.7	12.8	0.6	100.0	5.1
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	27.5	24.4	20.0	16.0	6.5	5.5	0.1	100.0	3.7
Second	17.6	20.3	19.8	19.1	11.1	12.0	0.1	100.0	5.7
Middle	12.5	17.0	18.3	18.5	14.5	19.2	0.1	100.0	7.2
Fourth	7.9	14.3	15.7	16.9	17.3	27.9	0.1	100.0	8.4
Highest	3.7	10.2	10.6	11.7	16.9	46.7	0.1	100.0	10.0
Total	13.5	17.1	16.8	16.4	13.4	22.7	0.1	100.0	7.3
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	15.2	17.8	17.6	16.1	13.0	20.0	0.3	100.0	6.9

Table 2.25 Educational attainment of household population by state/union territory

Percent distribution of the *de facto* female and male household populations age six and over by highest number of years of schooling completed and median number of years of schooling completed by sex, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Level of schooling							Total	Median number of years of schooling completed
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete	Don't know/missing		
<b>FEMALE</b>									
<b>India</b>	28.2	15.5	15.8	13.5	10.4	16.6	0.0	100.0	4.9
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	13.3	9.4	14.4	12.3	14.7	35.9	0.1	100.0	9.1
Delhi	16.2	12.4	14.2	12.8	12.5	31.9	0.1	100.0	7.8
Haryana	26.2	11.8	16.1	13.3	11.3	21.2	0.0	100.0	6.1
Himachal Pradesh	19.0	10.5	17.4	11.7	14.6	26.7	0.0	100.0	7.4
Jammu & Kashmir	29.9	10.8	10.6	15.2	12.3	21.2	0.0	100.0	6.5
Ladakh	32.1	10.7	9.9	14.2	12.5	20.6	0.0	100.0	6.1
Punjab	22.8	10.5	16.0	11.8	14.8	24.2	0.0	100.0	7.1
Rajasthan	36.5	13.5	16.1	12.5	7.8	13.6	0.0	100.0	4.0
Uttarakhand	24.7	12.4	15.1	14.3	9.3	24.1	0.1	100.0	6.3
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	30.7	14.2	15.7	16.1	8.7	14.7	0.0	100.0	4.6
Madhya Pradesh	32.5	14.2	16.5	17.8	7.2	11.8	0.0	100.0	4.3
Uttar Pradesh	32.5	14.5	14.6	13.1	7.6	17.5	0.0	100.0	4.3
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	38.9	18.2	13.9	11.6	8.1	9.3	0.0	100.0	2.0
Jharkhand	35.4	16.9	14.1	12.8	9.1	11.6	0.1	100.0	3.4
Odisha	28.4	18.3	16.9	15.7	9.9	10.7	0.1	100.0	4.5
West Bengal	23.1	20.9	15.7	16.8	10.4	13.0	0.1	100.0	5.0
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	28.8	16.6	14.0	14.4	11.1	15.1	0.0	100.0	4.8
Assam	21.8	21.1	16.2	20.9	8.5	11.5	0.0	100.0	5.3
Manipur	16.0	18.8	13.1	19.0	11.9	21.2	0.0	100.0	7.3
Meghalaya	14.0	28.4	18.7	15.6	9.8	13.4	0.1	100.0	5.1
Mizoram	6.6	23.7	18.6	18.6	13.3	19.1	0.2	100.0	7.1
Nagaland	14.8	18.8	17.6	19.0	11.7	18.2	0.0	100.0	6.8
Sikkim	16.3	16.2	17.0	15.5	11.9	23.1	0.0	100.0	7.1
Tripura	18.1	19.8	19.3	26.5	7.8	8.4	0.1	100.0	5.7
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	25.4	15.7	16.5	17.4	9.9	14.8	0.2	100.0	5.5
Goa	11.0	13.4	11.9	11.2	19.6	32.8	0.1	100.0	9.1
Gujarat	27.1	15.2	19.6	14.9	9.2	14.0	0.0	100.0	5.4
Maharashtra	20.3	16.4	16.4	13.1	12.8	20.9	0.0	100.0	6.6
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16.4	14.1	16.6	18.5	10.8	23.5	0.1	100.0	7.3
Andhra Pradesh	34.4	13.0	18.8	8.3	12.1	13.4	0.0	100.0	4.3
Karnataka	27.0	14.7	16.4	8.6	15.7	17.5	0.0	100.0	5.9
Kerala	4.4	16.2	14.8	14.6	19.5	30.4	0.1	100.0	9.0
Lakshadweep	7.0	17.7	18.7	13.7	17.6	25.3	0.0	100.0	8.0
Puducherry	15.3	11.7	15.8	14.5	12.0	30.7	0.1	100.0	7.9
Tamil Nadu	19.6	13.8	16.3	13.8	12.1	24.3	0.0	100.0	7.0
Telangana	39.0	11.1	13.6	6.2	12.7	17.4	0.0	100.0	3.9

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Table 2.25 Educational attainment of household population by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of the *de facto* female and male household populations age six and over by highest number of years of schooling completed and median number of years of schooling completed by sex, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Level of schooling							Total	Median number of years of schooling completed
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete	Don't know/missing		
<b>MALE</b>									
<b>India</b>	13.5	17.1	16.8	16.4	13.4	22.7	0.1	100.0	7.3
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	7.3	11.4	12.4	12.5	15.9	40.5	0.0	100.0	9.5
Delhi	6.2	12.3	13.9	15.4	16.0	36.0	0.1	100.0	9.2
Haryana	9.8	13.5	15.9	15.2	16.6	29.0	0.1	100.0	8.3
Himachal Pradesh	6.3	11.9	15.4	13.8	20.2	32.2	0.0	100.0	9.1
Jammu & Kashmir	15.3	11.7	10.1	16.8	16.5	29.6	0.0	100.0	8.6
Ladakh	19.1	12.0	9.5	12.3	17.0	30.2	0.0	100.0	8.5
Punjab	13.8	11.9	16.1	14.1	18.2	25.8	0.0	100.0	7.8
Rajasthan	14.6	15.2	17.4	17.5	12.9	22.4	0.1	100.0	7.3
Uttarakhand	8.9	14.9	15.6	17.8	13.7	29.0	0.2	100.0	8.1
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	13.5	16.6	18.4	20.0	11.4	20.1	0.1	100.0	7.1
Madhya Pradesh	15.3	15.7	18.8	21.2	10.6	18.2	0.1	100.0	7.0
Uttar Pradesh	15.1	16.9	16.1	17.8	11.4	22.6	0.1	100.0	7.2
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	20.8	21.8	16.0	13.5	11.3	16.5	0.1	100.0	5.0
Jharkhand	17.8	19.1	16.5	16.0	12.4	18.2	0.1	100.0	6.3
Odisha	13.2	19.8	19.9	19.3	11.8	15.8	0.2	100.0	6.6
West Bengal	13.5	23.4	17.3	17.0	10.3	18.3	0.1	100.0	6.3
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	18.0	18.2	15.9	14.8	12.3	20.7	0.0	100.0	6.5
Assam	13.7	22.9	18.0	20.3	9.4	15.7	0.0	100.0	6.3
Manipur	5.3	18.6	13.6	19.5	15.1	27.9	0.0	100.0	8.3
Meghalaya	14.3	29.0	17.6	14.3	10.5	14.1	0.1	100.0	5.0
Mizoram	4.1	21.5	18.4	19.6	13.5	22.6	0.2	100.0	7.6
Nagaland	9.8	18.8	17.7	17.4	13.7	22.5	0.0	100.0	7.4
Sikkim	9.1	17.6	18.0	15.9	12.9	26.4	0.1	100.0	7.5
Tripura	9.2	21.8	18.7	26.2	9.5	14.5	0.1	100.0	7.0
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	9.8	16.2	14.7	21.0	15.9	22.0	0.4	100.0	7.9
Goa	4.1	13.4	12.1	13.9	21.3	35.2	0.0	100.0	9.3
Gujarat	10.7	16.1	17.9	20.5	13.9	20.8	0.1	100.0	7.7
Maharashtra	7.7	16.5	14.5	16.1	15.5	29.6	0.1	100.0	8.5
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9.3	13.7	16.4	19.7	15.3	25.2	0.4	100.0	8.1
Andhra Pradesh	20.4	15.1	19.9	9.1	14.6	20.8	0.1	100.0	6.1
Karnataka	14.0	16.2	16.7	11.3	17.2	24.6	0.0	100.0	7.6
Kerala	2.1	15.0	15.6	16.3	21.9	28.9	0.2	100.0	9.0
Lakshadweep	2.0	15.8	17.7	12.5	25.0	26.9	0.1	100.0	9.1
Puducherry	4.7	12.2	14.5	16.6	16.1	35.8	0.1	100.0	9.1
Tamil Nadu	9.0	13.6	18.6	16.4	14.9	27.5	0.0	100.0	8.0
Telangana	21.2	13.4	15.0	7.5	16.5	26.3	0.0	100.0	7.1

Table 2.26 School attendance by state/union territory

Percentage of *de facto* household population age 6-17 years attending school in the 2019-20 by sex and residence, according to age and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

Age and state/union territory	Male			Female			Total		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	89.9	87.5	88.2	91.0	84.7	86.5	90.4	86.1	87.4
<b>Age</b>									
6-10 years (Primary)	96.1	94.5	95.0	96.2	94.1	94.7	96.1	94.3	94.8
6-13 years (Elementary)	95.6	93.9	94.4	95.8	93.2	93.9	95.7	93.5	94.2
11-13 years (Upper primary)	94.8	92.9	93.4	95.3	91.5	92.6	95.0	92.2	93.0
14-15 years (Secondary)	85.6	82.2	83.2	89.0	78.7	81.6	87.2	80.4	82.4
16-17 years (Higher secondary)	72.7	65.4	67.7	74.8	57.8	62.6	73.7	61.5	65.2
11-14 years	93.4	91.1	91.8	94.2	89.4	90.8	93.7	90.3	91.3
15-17 years	75.8	69.9	71.7	78.8	63.5	67.8	77.3	66.6	69.8
6-14 years	94.8	93.0	93.5	95.3	92.1	93.0	95.0	92.6	93.3
6-17 years	89.9	87.5	88.2	91.0	84.7	86.5	90.4	86.1	87.4
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	91.1	*	90.9	91.3	*	91.2	91.2	(81.8)	91.0
Delhi	90.5	89.8	90.4	92.9	91.6	92.9	91.6	90.5	91.6
Haryana	91.2	91.0	91.1	92.4	88.9	90.0	91.7	90.1	90.6
Himachal Pradesh	93.6	95.0	94.9	94.4	95.4	95.3	94.0	95.2	95.1
Jammu & Kashmir	97.2	94.3	95.0	95.7	92.9	93.6	96.5	93.7	94.3
Ladakh	99.5	96.6	97.1	97.9	95.6	96.0	98.7	96.2	96.6
Punjab	88.9	89.7	89.4	90.3	90.8	90.6	89.5	90.2	90.0
Rajasthan	92.8	91.3	91.6	92.3	86.3	87.5	92.6	88.9	89.7
Uttarakhand	88.4	89.2	89.0	92.1	89.5	90.2	90.1	89.3	89.6
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	88.4	84.7	85.4	91.6	86.6	87.7	90.0	85.6	86.5
Madhya Pradesh	88.5	83.6	84.8	89.1	78.5	81.1	88.8	81.1	83.0
Uttar Pradesh	82.2	84.3	83.8	82.2	78.3	79.1	82.2	81.3	81.5
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	86.9	85.9	86.1	89.4	82.7	83.6	88.1	84.3	84.8
Jharkhand	90.7	85.0	86.2	92.2	84.3	85.9	91.4	84.7	86.1
Odisha	88.5	85.9	86.4	89.1	82.6	83.6	88.8	84.3	85.0
West Bengal	90.6	87.5	88.4	94.1	91.1	91.9	92.3	89.3	90.2
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	93.7	91.6	91.9	91.0	90.6	90.7	92.3	91.1	91.3
Assam	89.1	87.4	87.6	94.2	89.3	89.8	91.5	88.3	88.7
Manipur	96.0	94.4	95.0	95.1	93.3	94.0	95.6	93.9	94.5
Meghalaya	95.3	87.1	88.4	98.4	92.2	93.3	97.0	89.5	90.8
Mizoram	94.2	92.0	93.1	95.7	90.5	93.2	94.9	91.3	93.2
Nagaland	94.2	88.2	90.1	94.1	91.0	92.0	94.2	89.6	91.0
Sikkim	96.6	93.9	94.9	96.1	95.4	95.6	96.3	94.6	95.2
Tripura	94.1	89.6	90.8	96.0	88.9	90.4	94.9	89.2	90.6

Continued...



**Table 2.26 School attendance by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of *de facto* household population age 6-17 years attending school in the 2019-20 by sex and residence, according to age and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

Age and state/union territory	Male			Female			Total		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	84.3	80.0	81.9	90.5	81.1	85.1	87.1	80.5	83.4
Goa	97.0	97.2	97.1	94.4	95.4	94.8	95.9	96.4	96.1
Gujarat	88.8	81.9	84.7	84.5	76.0	79.2	86.8	79.1	82.1
Maharashtra	93.0	92.5	92.8	94.0	90.9	92.3	93.5	91.7	92.5
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	93.8	91.6	92.4	95.4	93.5	94.3	94.6	92.5	93.4
Andhra Pradesh	93.8	92.3	92.8	93.5	90.4	91.3	93.7	91.4	92.1
Karnataka	93.2	91.4	92.1	94.0	90.0	91.5	93.6	90.7	91.9
Kerala	97.7	98.0	97.8	99.3	98.5	98.9	98.5	98.2	98.4
Lakshadweep	97.7	92.9	96.6	94.6	86.6	92.8	96.1	89.6	94.6
Puducherry	91.4	94.0	92.1	94.5	98.3	95.8	92.8	96.2	93.8
Tamil Nadu	91.5	93.0	92.3	95.5	92.5	93.9	93.4	92.7	93.0
Telangana	92.7	93.4	93.2	95.2	91.8	93.1	93.9	92.7	93.1

Note: In this table, children's age refers to their age at the start of the 2019-20 school year (assumed here to be April 2019). Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

**Table 2.27 School attendance ratios**

Net attendance ratios (NAR), gross attendance ratios (GAR), and Gender Parity Index (GPI) for the *de facto* household population by level of schooling and sex, according to selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Net attendance ratio <sup>1</sup>			Gender Parity Index <sup>2</sup>	Gross attendance ratio <sup>3</sup>			Gender Parity Index <sup>2</sup>
	Male	Female	Total		Male	Female	Total	
<b>PRIMARY SCHOOL</b>								
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	84.4	83.1	83.8	0.98	91.5	88.8	90.2	0.97
Rural	83.3	82.6	83.0	0.99	93.1	91.1	92.1	0.98
<b>Religion of household head</b>								
Hindu	83.6	82.6	83.2	0.99	91.9	89.8	90.9	0.98
Muslim	83.2	82.6	82.9	0.99	96.5	93.3	94.9	0.97
Christian	85.3	86.1	85.7	1.01	94.5	94.5	94.5	1.00
Sikh	84.3	81.4	83.0	0.97	87.7	84.9	86.4	0.97
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	86.2	88.2	87.2	1.02	96.3	91.4	93.9	0.95
Jain	93.5	88.1	91.0	0.94	94.9	90.4	92.8	0.95
Other	81.9	83.4	82.7	1.02	96.0	95.5	95.8	1.00
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>								
Scheduled caste	82.5	82.1	82.3	1.00	92.0	89.7	90.9	0.98
Scheduled tribe	81.9	82.0	81.9	1.00	90.5	90.1	90.3	1.00
Other backward class	83.5	81.8	82.7	0.98	92.6	89.9	91.3	0.97
Other	85.8	85.3	85.6	0.99	94.3	92.1	93.3	0.98
Don't know	82.8	86.1	84.5	1.04	91.7	92.2	91.9	1.01
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	80.8	80.8	80.8	1.00	94.1	92.4	93.2	0.98
Second	84.4	83.2	83.8	0.99	94.6	92.2	93.5	0.97
Middle	84.3	83.4	83.9	0.99	92.7	89.8	91.3	0.97
Fourth	85.2	83.4	84.3	0.98	91.3	88.5	90.0	0.97
Highest	84.6	84.0	84.4	0.99	89.0	87.3	88.2	0.98
Total	83.6	82.7	83.2	0.99	92.6	90.4	91.6	0.98

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**Table 2.27 School attendance ratios—Continued**

Net attendance ratios (NAR), gross attendance ratios (GAR), and Gender Parity Index (GPI) for the *de facto* household population by level of schooling and sex, according to selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Net attendance ratio <sup>1</sup>			Gender Parity Index <sup>2</sup>	Gross attendance ratio <sup>3</sup>			Gender Parity Index <sup>2</sup>
	Male	Female	Total		Male	Female	Total	
<b>MIDDLE, SECONDARY, AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL</b>								
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	75.2	76.8	76.0	1.02	86.1	87.9	87.0	1.02
Rural	71.2	67.9	69.6	0.95	82.3	78.1	80.2	0.95
<b>Religion of household head</b>								
Hindu	74.0	71.5	72.8	0.97	85.5	82.4	84.0	0.96
Muslim	62.2	62.9	62.5	1.01	71.0	71.0	71.0	1.00
Christian	76.5	78.9	77.7	1.03	87.0	88.6	87.8	1.02
Sikh	80.4	79.8	80.1	0.99	92.4	92.0	92.2	1.00
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	80.7	86.0	83.1	1.07	91.9	97.2	94.3	1.06
Jain	87.8	87.0	87.4	0.99	92.6	94.7	93.6	1.02
Other	64.6	68.2	66.4	1.06	73.3	75.8	74.5	1.03
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>								
Scheduled caste	70.2	68.0	69.2	0.97	81.3	78.3	79.8	0.96
Scheduled tribe	66.1	64.1	65.1	0.97	77.3	73.8	75.6	0.96
Other backward class	73.2	70.4	71.8	0.96	84.5	81.2	82.9	0.96
Other	76.1	75.9	76.0	1.00	86.4	86.0	86.2	1.00
Don't know	60.2	64.6	62.3	1.07	69.8	72.7	71.2	1.04
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	59.0	57.3	58.2	0.97	68.2	65.8	67.0	0.97
Second	70.7	68.2	69.5	0.97	81.6	78.4	80.0	0.96
Middle	74.3	73.6	74.0	0.99	86.1	84.4	85.3	0.98
Fourth	78.6	77.0	77.8	0.98	90.3	88.8	89.6	0.98
Highest	84.1	83.0	83.6	0.99	96.4	94.7	95.6	0.98
<b>Total</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>0.97</b>

Note: In this table, children's age refers to their age at the start of the 2019-20 (assumed here to be April 2019).

<sup>1</sup> The NAR for primary school (standards 1-5) is the percentage of the primary-school age population (6-10 years) that is attending primary school. The NAR for middle, secondary, and higher secondary school (standards 6-12) is the percentage of the population in the appropriate age group for those school levels (11-17 years) that is attending those school levels. By definition, the NAR cannot exceed 100.0 percent.

<sup>2</sup> The GPI for primary school is the ratio of the primary school NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males. The gender parity index for middle, secondary, and higher secondary school is the ratio of the NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males at those levels of school.

<sup>3</sup> The GAR for primary school (standards 1-5) is the total number of primary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official primary-school-age population (6-10 years). The GAR for middle, secondary, and higher secondary school (standards 6-12) is the total number of students in those school levels, expressed as a percentage of the official population that is the appropriate age to be attending those school levels. If there are significant numbers of overage and underage students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100.0.

**Table 2.28 Reasons for children currently not attending school**

Percent distribution of *de facto* children age 6-17 years who dropped out of school before the 2019-20 school year by the main reason for not attending school in that school year, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

Main reason	Urban		Rural		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
School too far away	1.5	2.8	2.6	7.0	2.3	6.2
Transport not available	0.7	1.0	0.8	1.7	0.7	1.5
Further education not considered necessary	3.2	5.4	3.9	3.4	3.7	3.8
Required for household work	9.5	13.9	9.9	13.2	9.8	13.3
Required for work on farm/family business	4.3	2.2	4.4	2.3	4.4	2.3
Required for outside work for payment in cash or kind	8.2	3.0	5.5	2.3	6.2	2.5
Costs too much	14.9	20.0	16.5	20.8	16.1	20.6
No proper school facilities for girls	0.1	1.2	0.2	1.8	0.2	1.7
Due to disaster/ natural calamity	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Not safe to send girls	0.2	2.0	0.1	2.0	0.1	2.0
No female teacher	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Required for care of siblings	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.7
Not interested in studies	34.6	21.5	36.1	21.4	35.7	21.4
Repeated failures	5.5	3.4	5.3	4.0	5.3	3.9
Got married	0.3	5.0	0.3	7.2	0.3	6.8
Did not get admission	5.2	6.0	4.9	4.5	5.0	4.8
Other	10.5	10.9	8.3	7.0	8.9	7.7
Don't know	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of children	5,152	4,065	14,933	17,786	20,084	21,851

Table 2.29 Disability

Percentage of *de jure* household population having disability by type of disability, according to residence, age, and sex, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of disability							Number
	Any	Hearing disability	Speech disability	Visual disability	Mental disability	Locomotor disability	Other	
FEMALE								
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	437,059
Rural	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	960,031
<b>Age</b>								
0-4	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	108,227
5-14	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	243,793
15-24	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	248,154
25-34	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	223,445
35-49	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	272,973
50-69	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	241,909
70 and over	1.6	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.1	58,391
Don't know/missing	1.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	198
Total	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	1,397,090
MALE								
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	446,956
Rural	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	936,525
<b>Age</b>								
0-4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	115,985
5-14	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	264,394
15-24	1.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	239,760
25-34	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.1	209,306
35-49	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.2	258,881
50-69	1.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.2	233,924
70 and over	2.2	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.9	0.3	61,089
Don't know/missing	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	142
Total	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	1,383,481

Continued...

Table 2.29 Disability—Continued

Percentage of *de jure* household population having disability by type of disability, according to residence, age, and sex, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of disability							Number
	Any	Hearing disability	Speech disability	Visual disability	Mental disability	Locomotor disability	Other	
<b>TRANSGENDER</b>								
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	68
Rural	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	85
<b>Age</b>								
0-4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13
5-14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
15-24	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	14
25-34	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14
35-49	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	28
50-69	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16
70 and over	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27
Don't know/missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>								
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	884,083
Rural	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	1,896,641
<b>Age</b>								
0-4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	224,226
5-14	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	508,218
15-24	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	487,927
25-34	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	432,764
35-49	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	531,882
50-69	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	475,849
70 and over	1.9	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.2	119,507
Don't know/missing	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	351
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2,780,724</b>

Note: Table is based on the responses of the respondent to the household questionnaire.

**Table 2.30 Prevalence of any disability**

Percentage of *de jure* household population age 15 and over having any form of disability by selected background characteristics, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Urban				Rural				Total			
	Female	Male	Transgender	Total	Female	Male	Transgender	Total	Female	Male	Transgender	Total
<b>Age</b>												
15-24	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.3	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.9
25-34	0.7	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0
35-49	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.9	1.6	0.0	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.0	1.1
50 and over	0.9	1.4	0.0	1.1	1.1	1.7	0.0	1.4	1.1	1.6	0.0	1.3
<b>Level of schooling</b>												
No schooling	1.5	3.7	0.0	2.2	1.3	2.7	0.4	1.7	1.3	2.9	0.2	1.8
<5 years complete	1.1	1.9	0.0	1.4	1.0	1.9	0.0	1.5	1.1	1.9	0.0	1.5
5-7 years complete	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.2	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.2
8-9 years complete	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.0
10-11 years complete	0.5	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7
12 or more years complete	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.5
Don't know/ missing	4.0	1.5	nc	2.4	1.2	0.3	nc	0.6	2.2	0.7	nc	1.2
<b>Religion of household head</b>												
Hindu	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.9	1.5	0.0	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.0	1.1
Muslim	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.4	4.0	1.2	0.8	1.3	1.0	1.0
Christian	1.0	1.4	0.0	1.2	1.0	1.4	nc	1.2	1.0	1.4	0.0	1.2
Sikh	1.0	1.2	0.0	1.1	1.1	1.8	0.0	1.5	1.1	1.6	0.0	1.4
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.5	0.8	0.0	0.6	1.5	2.3	0.0	1.9	1.1	1.7	0.0	1.4
Jain	0.8	0.7	nc	0.8	1.8	3.2	nc	2.5	1.0	1.1	nc	1.1
Others	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.7	1.5	0.0	1.1	0.8	1.3	0.0	1.0
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>												
Scheduled caste	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.5	0.0	1.2	0.9	1.5	0.0	1.2
Scheduled tribe	0.9	1.0	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.3	0.0	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.0
Other backward class	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.9	1.5	0.0	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.0	1.1
Others	0.7	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.9	1.5	0.7	1.2	0.8	1.3	0.3	1.0
Don't know	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.8	1.4	1.8	0.0	1.6	1.1	1.5	0.0	1.3
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	1.7	2.1	0.0	1.9	1.1	1.8	0.0	1.4	1.2	1.8	0.0	1.5
Second	1.3	1.8	0.0	1.6	0.9	1.6	0.0	1.2	1.0	1.6	0.0	1.3
Middle	1.0	1.4	0.0	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.4	0.0	1.2
Fourth	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.2	0.0	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.0
Highest	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.6	1.0	2.2	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.7
Total	0.8	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.1	1.1

Note: Table is based on the responses of the respondent to the household questionnaire.

nc = No cases



**Table 2.31 Prevalence of any disability by state/union territory**

Percentage of *de jure* household population age 15 and over having any form of disability by state/union territory, according to residence and sex, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Urban				Rural				Total			
	Female	Male	Transgender	Total	Female	Male	Transgender	Total	Female	Male	Transgender	Total
<b>India</b>	0.8	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.1	1.1
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	0.7	0.9	nc	0.8	3.1	2.6	nc	2.9	0.7	0.9	nc	0.8
Delhi	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.4	nc	1.1	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7
Haryana	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.9
Himachal Pradesh	0.3	0.2	nc	0.2	0.7	0.9	nc	0.8	0.6	0.8	nc	0.7
Jammu & Kashmir	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.0	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.0	0.9
Ladakh	1.7	1.3	0.0	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.0	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.0	1.2
Punjab	1.1	1.4	0.0	1.2	1.1	1.9	0.0	1.5	1.1	1.7	0.0	1.4
Rajasthan	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.9
Uttarakhand	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.9	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.0
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	0.5	1.3	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0
Madhya Pradesh	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.2	1.1	1.9	0.0	1.5	1.0	1.8	0.0	1.4
Uttar Pradesh	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.9
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.1	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.1
Jharkhand	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.7
Odisha	0.7	1.3	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.0	1.1
West Bengal	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.8	1.0	1.8	0.0	1.4	0.9	1.5	0.0	1.2
<b>Northeast</b>												
Arunachal Pradesh	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.6
Assam	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.0	4.7	0.9	0.7	1.0	3.3	0.9
Manipur	1.0	1.7	nc	1.4	0.8	1.5	nc	1.1	0.9	1.6	0.0	1.2
Meghalaya	0.9	1.0	nc	1.0	0.7	1.0	nc	0.8	0.8	1.0	nc	0.9
Mizoram	0.5	0.9	nc	0.7	1.1	1.5	nc	1.3	0.8	1.2	nc	1.0
Nagaland	0.3	0.6	nc	0.5	1.0	1.4	nc	1.2	0.8	1.1	nc	0.9
Sikkim	0.5	0.5	nc	0.5	1.4	2.0	nc	1.7	1.1	1.4	nc	1.2
Tripura	0.7	1.2	nc	1.0	1.0	1.4	nc	1.2	0.9	1.4	nc	1.1
<b>West</b>												
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.9	0.8	nc	0.8	0.4	0.9	nc	0.7	0.6	0.8	nc	0.7
Goa	0.2	1.0	nc	0.6	0.9	1.0	nc	1.0	0.5	1.0	nc	0.7
Gujarat	0.7	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.0	0.9
Maharashtra	1.0	1.3	0.0	1.1	1.1	2.0	0.0	1.5	1.0	1.7	0.0	1.4
<b>South</b>												
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.5	1.3	nc	0.9	0.8	1.1	nc	1.0	0.7	1.2	nc	1.0
Andhra Pradesh	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.0	1.0
Karnataka	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.0	1.3	2.0	0.0	1.7	1.1	1.7	0.0	1.4
Kerala	0.7	1.6	0.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	nc	1.4	1.0	1.6	0.0	1.3
Lakshadweep	1.6	1.4	nc	1.5	3.3	3.1	nc	3.2	2.0	1.8	nc	1.9
Puducherry	1.2	1.1	nc	1.2	1.1	1.2	nc	1.1	1.1	1.2	nc	1.2
Tamil Nadu	1.1	1.6	0.0	1.3	1.3	1.9	0.0	1.6	1.2	1.8	0.0	1.5
Telangana	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.2	1.6	0.0	1.4	1.1	1.4	0.0	1.2

Note: Table is based on the responses of the respondent to the household questionnaire.

nc = No cases

Table 2.32 Household possession of mosquito nets

Percentage of households with at least one mosquito net (treated or untreated) and insecticide-treated net (ITN); average number of nets and ITNs per household; and percentage of households with at least one net and ITN per two persons who stayed in the household last night, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of households with at least one mosquito net		Average number of nets per household		Percentage of households with at least one net for every two persons who stayed in the household last night	
	Any mosquito net	Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>	Any mosquito net	Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>	Any mosquito net	Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	23.9	4.4	0.5	0.1	13.2	2.0
Rural	42.4	9.6	0.9	0.2	23.3	4.9
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	53.9	12.7	1.0	0.2	28.7	6.9
Second	44.8	9.3	0.9	0.2	24.8	4.7
Middle	33.8	7.2	0.7	0.1	18.8	3.4
Fourth	27.6	5.9	0.6	0.1	15.4	2.7
Highest	19.8	4.1	0.5	0.1	11.4	2.0
<b>India</b>	36.2	7.9	0.8	0.2	19.9	4.0
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	1.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
Delhi	8.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	2.7	0.3
Haryana	17.5	3.1	0.4	0.1	7.3	1.2
Himachal Pradesh	3.5	1.2	0.1	0.0	1.4	0.4
Jammu & Kashmir	2.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2
Ladakh	1.2	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Punjab	8.1	2.4	0.1	0.0	2.9	0.8
Rajasthan	4.1	1.1	0.1	0.0	1.1	0.3
Uttarakhand	19.0	2.4	0.5	0.1	10.4	1.1
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	49.0	25.5	1.0	0.5	26.1	13.3
Madhya Pradesh	32.0	15.6	0.7	0.3	16.8	8.7
Uttar Pradesh	40.8	5.7	1.0	0.1	20.1	2.4
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	78.2	1.8	1.5	0.0	34.7	0.6
Jharkhand	74.6	32.8	1.6	0.6	39.9	14.8
Odisha	81.3	38.8	1.7	0.8	52.4	25.9
West Bengal	87.8	5.7	1.9	0.1	58.9	3.0

Continued...

Table 2.32 Household possession of mosquito nets—Continued

Percentage of households with at least one mosquito net (treated or untreated) and insecticide-treated net (ITN); average number of nets and ITNs per household; and percentage of households with at least one net and ITN per two persons who stayed in the household last night, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of households with at least one mosquito net		Average number of nets per household		Percentage of households with at least one net for every two persons who stayed in the household last night	
	Any mosquito net	Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>	Any mosquito net	Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>	Any mosquito net	Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	78.6	51.8	2.1	1.2	63.8	35.3
Assam	97.7	24.0	2.6	0.5	78.6	12.4
Manipur	97.1	15.0	3.4	0.2	87.5	4.5
Meghalaya	72.1	27.7	1.7	0.6	40.1	16.0
Mizoram	93.7	40.4	2.3	0.9	70.9	26.4
Nagaland	70.9	64.6	1.5	1.3	49.4	42.9
Sikkim	7.6	2.2	0.1	0.0	4.1	1.5
Tripura	97.9	15.7	2.1	0.3	77.7	8.1
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	34.9	14.3	0.6	0.2	12.1	4.0
Goa	5.3	1.3	0.1	0.0	2.8	0.7
Gujarat	16.4	6.9	0.3	0.1	6.0	2.3
Maharashtra	8.3	2.5	0.1	0.0	2.8	0.8
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	32.5	1.2	0.6	0.0	20.8	0.5
Andhra Pradesh	16.8	6.6	0.3	0.1	8.8	3.4
Karnataka	22.9	7.7	0.4	0.1	8.7	2.8
Kerala	4.7	1.6	0.1	0.0	1.7	0.6
Lakshadweep	2.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3
Puducherry	6.2	2.0	0.1	0.0	2.3	1.3
Tamil Nadu	5.9	2.0	0.1	0.0	1.9	0.6
Telangana	7.5	3.3	0.1	0.0	2.8	1.3

<sup>1</sup> An insecticide-treated net (ITN) is a factory-treated net that does not require any further treatment. In NFHS-4, this was known as a long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN).

Table 2.33 Use of alcohol by the population age 15 and over

Percentage of the *de facto* household population age 15 years and over who currently drink alcohol, as reported by the household respondent, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Number of women	Men			Number of men
	Urban	Rural	Total		Urban	Rural	Total	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	0.2	0.3	0.3	127,052	1.4	2.2	1.9	125,472
20-34	0.4	0.9	0.8	347,967	13.9	16.6	15.6	317,016
35-49	0.6	2.0	1.5	271,230	24.3	29.1	27.4	254,748
50-64	0.9	2.8	2.2	198,163	21.2	26.5	24.7	186,418
65 and over	0.8	2.5	2.0	100,506	13.1	18.1	16.6	105,134
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	1.2	2.9	2.6	346,990	27.7	30.2	29.7	156,277
<5 years complete	0.7	1.5	1.3	71,450	26.8	27.4	27.3	70,952
5-7 years complete	0.4	0.9	0.8	135,385	24.1	25.0	24.7	137,685
8-9 years complete	0.4	0.7	0.6	149,487	18.3	18.5	18.4	180,333
10-11 years complete	0.4	0.5	0.5	130,828	14.5	14.6	14.6	163,926
12 or more years complete	0.4	0.4	0.4	210,325	10.7	9.6	10.1	278,669
Don't know/ missing	0.0	0.3	0.2	452	17.5	23.6	21.4	947
<b>Religion of household head</b>								
Hindu	0.6	1.7	1.3	851,938	18.4	21.2	20.3	808,855
Muslim	0.3	0.3	0.3	134,517	6.2	4.4	5.2	124,544
Christian	1.5	3.6	2.8	27,171	23.0	31.5	28.3	24,339
Sikh	0.6	0.4	0.4	17,247	20.2	24.9	23.5	17,831
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.0	2.3	1.8	7,207	21.6	26.4	24.5	6,817
Jain	1.0	0.2	0.8	2,914	6.4	3.8	5.9	2,846
Others	4.5	15.6	13.3	3,925	31.7	51.0	46.8	3,555
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>								
Scheduled caste	0.7	1.2	1.0	224,930	24.6	25.4	25.2	210,870
Scheduled tribe	2.6	7.0	6.4	96,590	25.4	33.9	32.7	90,530
Other backward class	0.4	0.9	0.8	439,340	15.1	17.1	16.4	412,076
Others	0.5	0.5	0.5	276,010	12.9	12.2	12.5	267,903
Don't know	0.5	2.1	1.4	8,050	18.7	22.2	20.7	7,409
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	2.1	3.5	3.4	194,190	30.3	26.4	26.6	171,153
Second	1.1	1.4	1.3	205,010	25.4	20.6	21.2	188,884
Middle	0.7	0.9	0.9	210,598	22.1	18.3	19.3	201,522
Fourth	0.5	0.6	0.5	214,674	17.0	14.9	15.9	208,540
Highest	0.4	0.5	0.4	220,446	12.4	13.7	12.8	218,690
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1,044,919</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>988,788</b>

Table 2.34 Use of alcohol by the population age 15 and over by state/union territory

Percentage of the *de facto* household population age 15 years and over who currently drink alcohol, as reported by the household respondent, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Men		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	0.6	1.6	1.3	16.5	19.9	18.7
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	0.3	0.0	0.3	18.5	30.6	18.6
Delhi	0.5	0.3	0.5	21.6	22.3	21.6
Haryana	0.3	0.2	0.3	15.7	16.2	16.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.3	0.7	0.6	30.4	32.1	31.9
Jammu & Kashmir	0.1	0.2	0.2	7.6	9.1	8.7
Ladakh	5.3	3.4	3.7	21.2	24.0	23.5
Punjab	0.3	0.3	0.3	19.7	24.9	22.8
Rajasthan	0.3	0.3	0.3	9.2	11.6	11.0
Uttarakhand	0.3	0.4	0.3	21.6	27.6	25.5
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	1.3	6.0	4.9	28.6	36.5	34.7
Madhya Pradesh	0.5	1.2	1.0	13.2	18.6	17.0
Uttar Pradesh	0.3	0.3	0.3	13.2	15.0	14.5
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	0.5	0.4	0.4	13.9	15.8	15.4
Jharkhand	2.0	7.4	6.1	24.6	38.6	34.9
Odisha	1.4	4.9	4.3	22.4	30.1	28.7
West Bengal	0.8	1.3	1.1	18.9	17.6	18.0
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	14.8	25.9	24.2	44.2	54.2	52.6
Assam	2.5	8.2	7.3	21.2	26.0	25.2
Manipur	1.0	0.8	0.9	34.5	39.0	37.2
Meghalaya	1.0	1.6	1.5	28.4	33.5	32.4
Mizoram	1.0	0.8	0.9	22.6	25.2	23.7
Nagaland	1.5	0.7	0.9	26.7	22.5	23.9
Sikkim	12.9	18.4	16.2	37.9	41.1	39.9
Tripura	0.9	8.5	6.3	26.8	36.0	33.2
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.5	1.6	1.1	29.0	26.4	27.7
Goa	5.6	5.3	5.5	38.1	34.8	36.8
Gujarat	0.3	0.7	0.6	4.5	6.8	5.8
Maharashtra	0.3	0.5	0.4	13.1	14.7	13.9
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.7	7.6	5.0	33.0	42.0	38.8
Andhra Pradesh	0.3	0.6	0.5	20.4	24.4	23.1
Karnataka	0.9	1.0	0.9	15.4	17.4	16.6
Kerala	0.2	0.3	0.2	18.7	21.0	19.9
Lakshadweep	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4
Puducherry	0.1	0.5	0.3	26.9	30.0	27.9
Tamil Nadu	0.2	0.4	0.3	21.4	29.0	25.3
Telangana	2.6	9.1	6.7	34.0	49.1	43.4

Table 2.35 Use of tobacco by the population age 15 and over

Percentage of the *de facto* household population age 15 years and over who currently use tobacco, as reported by the household respondent, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Number of women	Men			Number of men
	Urban	Rural	Total		Urban	Rural	Total	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	0.5	1.2	1.0	127,052	4.2	7.5	6.5	125,472
20-34	2.6	5.0	4.2	347,967	22.9	33.5	29.8	317,016
35-49	6.2	12.1	10.0	271,230	38.5	54.6	48.9	254,748
50-64	9.2	18.8	15.6	198,163	39.4	59.7	52.8	186,418
65 and over	11.6	21.8	18.6	100,506	31.0	54.8	47.5	105,134
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	14.2	18.3	17.5	346,990	53.7	64.7	62.6	156,277
<5 years complete	11.8	15.8	14.7	71,450	50.2	60.2	57.8	70,952
5-7 years complete	6.5	8.3	7.7	135,385	43.9	52.0	49.7	137,685
8-9 years complete	3.8	4.6	4.3	149,487	34.5	41.9	39.7	180,333
10-11 years complete	1.8	2.1	2.0	130,828	23.8	29.8	27.5	163,926
12 or more years complete	0.9	1.1	1.0	210,325	16.2	20.3	18.3	278,669
Don't know/ missing	8.2	12.3	10.7	452	35.7	53.2	46.8	947
<b>Religion of household head</b>								
Hindu	5.3	10.5	8.9	851,938	28.9	43.5	38.8	808,855
Muslim	6.4	11.0	9.1	134,517	31.6	43.0	38.0	124,544
Christian	6.0	11.6	9.4	27,171	20.7	36.2	30.2	24,339
Sikh	0.6	0.5	0.5	17,247	9.1	12.7	11.6	17,831
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	12.4	17.0	15.2	7,207	36.7	45.8	42.2	6,817
Jain	0.9	3.0	1.3	2,914	15.0	22.9	16.5	2,846
Others	16.5	21.9	20.8	3,925	34.2	57.2	52.2	3,555
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>								
Scheduled caste	7.8	11.3	10.3	224,930	34.8	45.6	42.3	210,870
Scheduled tribe	13.6	20.1	19.2	96,590	38.1	52.7	50.6	90,530
Other backward class	4.4	8.2	7.0	439,340	26.9	40.3	35.8	412,076
Others	4.5	8.9	7.0	276,010	26.8	38.9	33.5	267,903
Don't know	6.6	14.2	11.2	8,050	32.8	50.4	43.0	7,409
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	18.3	17.4	17.4	194,190	58.1	58.1	58.1	171,153
Second	13.6	11.8	12.0	205,010	46.1	47.3	47.1	188,884
Middle	8.7	8.1	8.3	210,598	39.7	38.2	38.6	201,522
Fourth	5.4	5.0	5.2	214,674	31.1	30.6	30.8	208,540
Highest	2.5	2.9	2.6	220,446	19.9	22.2	20.5	218,690
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>1,044,919</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>988,788</b>

**Table 2.36 Use of tobacco by the population age 15 and over by state/union territory**

Percentage of the *de facto* household population age 15 years and over who currently use tobacco, as reported by the household respondent, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Men		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	5.5	10.5	8.9	28.8	42.7	38.0
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	0.6	0.0	0.6	11.8	19.4	11.9
Delhi	2.2	3.5	2.2	26.1	31.7	26.2
Haryana	1.7	3.0	2.6	23.3	32.2	29.1
Himachal Pradesh	1.3	1.7	1.7	25.5	33.3	32.2
Jammu & Kashmir	1.8	4.2	3.6	32.2	40.8	38.5
Ladakh	3.5	3.1	3.2	39.6	34.6	35.5
Punjab	0.5	0.3	0.4	12.0	13.3	12.8
Rajasthan	6.0	7.2	6.9	33.1	44.9	41.9
Uttarakhand	2.7	5.4	4.6	27.5	36.9	33.7
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	9.4	19.7	17.3	33.4	46.0	43.1
Madhya Pradesh	6.5	11.7	10.3	35.2	50.8	46.4
Uttar Pradesh	6.5	9.1	8.5	34.7	47.6	44.0
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	3.6	5.3	5.0	40.2	50.9	48.9
Jharkhand	4.8	9.6	8.4	37.3	51.0	47.4
Odisha	16.6	28.1	26.1	40.3	54.4	51.7
West Bengal	8.0	12.2	10.8	44.6	49.9	48.1
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	13.9	19.6	18.8	44.6	51.3	50.3
Assam	16.3	23.3	22.2	43.9	53.4	51.9
Manipur	37.9	46.8	43.3	51.2	62.4	58.0
Meghalaya	27.3	28.5	28.3	47.0	60.7	57.8
Mizoram	56.8	68.5	61.7	69.8	77.3	73.1
Nagaland	16.0	12.6	13.7	47.3	48.9	48.4
Sikkim	7.9	14.1	11.6	38.4	43.5	41.5
Tripura	46.0	52.4	50.5	51.5	59.8	57.2
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	2.4	3.3	2.9	39.6	37.5	38.5
Goa	2.4	2.8	2.6	19.3	16.3	18.1
Gujarat	5.4	11.0	8.7	33.7	46.9	41.2
Maharashtra	6.7	14.7	11.0	26.2	40.6	33.8
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14.9	41.0	31.2	44.1	66.4	58.7
Andhra Pradesh	1.9	4.7	3.9	15.7	25.7	22.6
Karnataka	4.6	11.2	8.6	21.7	31.0	27.3
Kerala	1.3	3.0	2.2	13.9	19.6	16.9
Lakshadweep	16.6	21.1	17.5	25.9	37.8	28.5
Puducherry	1.2	5.5	2.6	13.7	17.2	14.8
Tamil Nadu	2.3	7.3	4.9	16.6	23.2	20.0
Telangana	2.7	7.2	5.6	15.2	26.6	22.3



## CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

### Key Findings

- **Literacy:** Seventy-two percent of women and 84 percent of men are literate.
- **Schooling:** Forty-one percent of women and 50 percent of men have 10 or more years of schooling.
- **Exposure to mass media:** Forty-one percent of women and 32 percent of men are not regularly exposed to mass media (newspapers, magazines, television, radio, or cinema).
- **Employment:** Men are more likely to be employed than women; 25 percent of women are currently employed, compared with 75 percent of men. Eighty-three percent of employed women earn cash for their work.
- **Occupation:** Forty-six percent of women and 32 percent of men who were employed in the 12 months preceding the survey are engaged as agricultural workers, whereas only 11 percent of women and 9 percent of men work in the service sector.
- **Internet usage:** One-third of women and slightly over half (51%) of men age 15-49 have ever used the internet.

This chapter presents information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the survey respondents, such as age, schooling, place of residence, marital status, employment, and wealth status. This information is useful for understanding the factors that affect use of reproductive health services, contraceptive use, and other health behaviours.

### 3.1 BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

A total of 724,115 women age 15-49 and 101,839 men age 15-54 were interviewed in the 2019-21 National Family Health Survey. Thirty-three percent each of women and men are in the 15-24 age group, while 30 percent of women and 29 percent of men are in the 25-34 age group (**Table 3.1**).

Among respondents age 15-49, women are more likely than men to be currently married (72% and 60%, respectively).

The distribution of respondents by religion shows that a large majority are Hindus (81% of women and 79% of men), while 14 percent of women and 16 percent of men are Muslims, 2 percent of women and 3 percent of men are Christians, 2 percent of women and 1 percent of men are Sikhs, and 1 percent each are Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists.

Forty-three percent of women and 42 percent of men belong to other backward classes (OBC), while 22 percent of women and 20 percent of men belong to a scheduled caste, 9 percent each of women and men belong to a scheduled tribe, and 25 percent of women and 28 percent of men do not belong to a scheduled caste, a scheduled tribe, or an other backward class.

Nineteen percent of women and 17 percent of men are from households in the lowest wealth quintile, while 20 percent each of women and men are in households in the highest wealth quintile.

### 3.2 SCHOOLING AND LITERACY

#### Literacy

Respondents who have completed standard nine or higher are assumed to be literate. All other respondents were given a sentence to read, and they were considered to be literate if they could read all or part of the sentence.

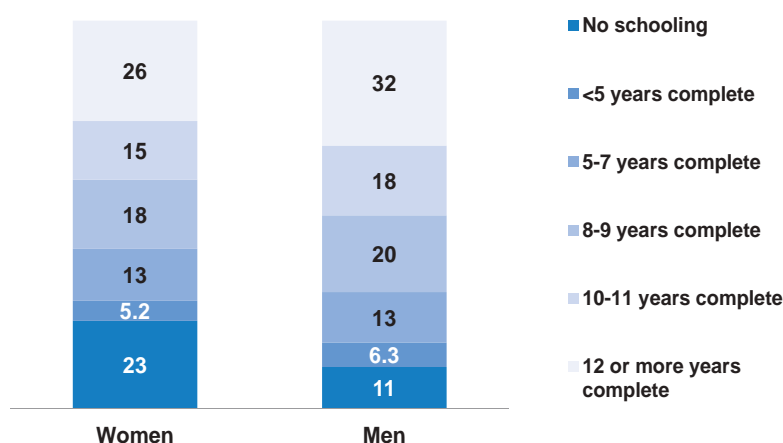
**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

Twenty-three percent of women and 11 percent of men have no schooling, and women (26%) are less likely than men (32%) to have completed 12 or more years of schooling (Table 3.2.1, Table 3.2.2, and Figure 3.1). Eighty-four percent of men and 72 percent of women are literate (Table 3.3.1 and Table 3.3.2).

**Trends:** Since 2015-16, there has been a substantial increase in the percentage of women and men age 15-49 attending school and completing higher levels of education. During the same period, the gap between women and men has narrowed. The percentage of women with no schooling has decreased by 5 percentage points and the percentage of men with no schooling has decreased by 2 percentage points. The percentage of women and men completing 12 or more years of schooling has increased by 4 percentage points and 3 percentage points, respectively.

**Figure 3.1 Education of Survey Respondents**

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49

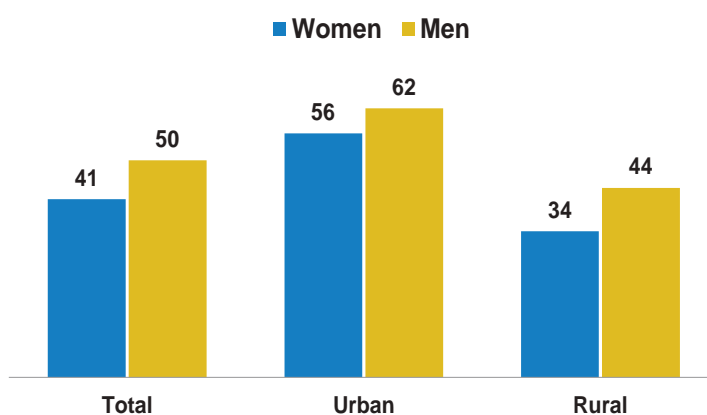


#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Younger respondents are more likely to have attended school and to have reached higher levels of education than older respondents. Only 4 percent of women age 15-19 and 9 percent of women age 20-24 have no schooling, while almost half of women age 45-49 (48%) and 41 percent of women age 40-44 have no schooling (Table 3.2.1).
- Urban women are more educated than their rural counterparts. More than one-fourth (27%) of rural women have never attended school, compared with 13 percent of urban women. Twenty percent of women in rural areas have completed 12 or more years of schooling, compared with 39 percent in urban areas (Table 3.2.1 and Figure 3.2).

**Figure 3.2 Secondary or Higher Education by Residence**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



- The percentage of women and men who have completed secondary school or higher increases by wealth quintile; 6 percent of women and 10 percent of men in the lowest wealth quintile completed 12 or more years of schooling, compared with more than half of women (55%) and men (62%) in the highest wealth quintile.
- Literacy in each group is lowest among men and women in rural areas; those age 40-49; those who are widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted; those in the lowest wealth quintile; and those belonging to a scheduled tribe (Table 3.3.1 and Table 3.3.2).
- Bihar and Kerala represent two contrasting profiles of literacy. Bihar has the lowest literacy of 55 percent among women and 76 percent of men, while literacy is almost universal among women and men in Kerala (Table 3.4.1 and Table 3.4.2).

### 3.3 MASS MEDIA EXPOSURE

#### Exposure to mass media

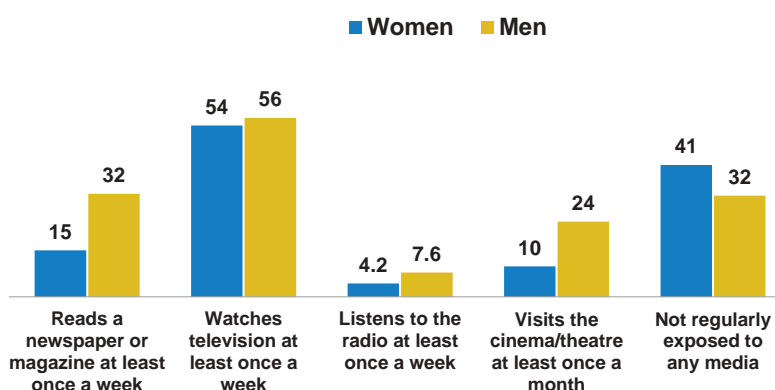
Respondents were asked how often they read a newspaper or magazine, listened to the radio, watched television, or went to the cinema. Those who responded at least once a week (or at least once a month for the cinema) are considered to be regularly exposed to that form of media.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

Information on the exposure of women and men to mass media is especially important for the development of educational programmes, particularly information about family planning, HIV/AIDS, and other important health topics. Men are more likely than women to be exposed to any and all forms of media, including newspapers, television, radio, and the cinema (Figure 3.3). Television is the most common form of media exposure for both women and men across all subgroups, followed by newspapers or magazines. A substantial proportion of women and men do not access any of the four media at least on a weekly basis (41% of women and 32% of men) (Table 3.5.1 and Table 3.5.2).

**Figure 3.3 Exposure to Mass Media**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



**Trends:** Exposure to each of the four types of mass media decreased for both women and men between 2015-16 and 2019-21, except for visits to the cinema/theatre at least once a month which increased slightly. The percentage of women who did not access any of the media types at least once a week increased from 25 percent in 2015-16 to 41 percent in 2019-21. Fourteen percent of men did not access any of the media types at least once a week in 2015-16, compared with 32 percent in 2019-21.

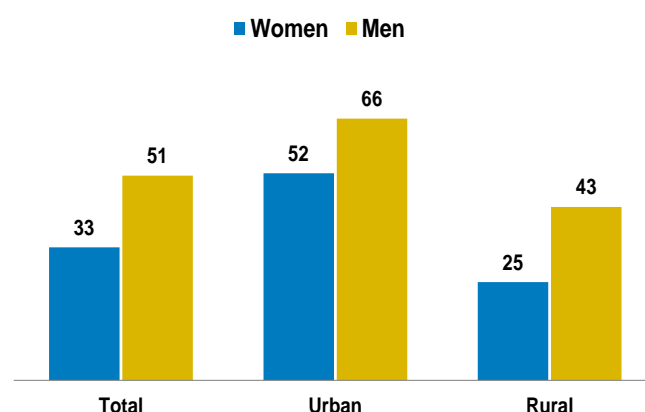
#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Rural women are more likely to have no regular exposure to any form of mass media than their urban counterpart (50% versus 23%). The same pattern holds true for men (39% versus 18%) (Table 3.5.1 and Table 3.5.2).
- Only 21 percent of women and 15 percent of men with 12 or more years of schooling lack regular exposure to any mass media, compared with 67 percent of women and 61 percent of men with no schooling.

- Thirty-three percent of women and over half (51%) of men age 15-49 in India have ever used the internet. More than half (52%) of women and 66 percent of men in urban areas have ever used the internet, compared with only one-fourth of women and 43 percent of men in rural areas (**Figure 3.4**).
- Ever use of the internet increases with education with 72 percent of women and three-quarters of men with 12 or more years of education ever using the internet, compared with 8 percent of women and less than one-quarter (24%) of men with less than five years of schooling.
- Never married women and men are more likely to have ever used the internet (50% and 57%, respectively) than those in other marital status groups. More women and men in the highest wealth quintile have ever used the internet (69% and 78%, respectively) than those in the lowest wealth quintile (9% and 26%, respectively) (**Table 3.6**).

**Figure 3.4 Internet Usage by Residence**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



### 3.4 EMPLOYMENT

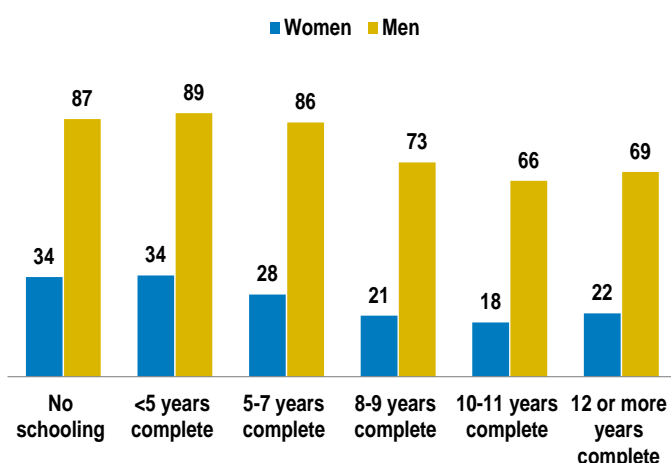
#### Currently employed

Respondents who were employed in the seven days before the survey. Includes respondents who did not work in the past seven days but who are regularly employed and were absent from work for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reasons.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

**Figure 3.5 Employment Status by Schooling**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who are currently employed



Men are three times as likely to be currently employed as women; 25 percent of women age 15-49 are currently employed, compared with 75 percent of men age 15-49 (**Table 3.8** and **Table 3.9**). Seventy percent of women and 19 percent of men reported that they were not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey. A lower percentage of women than men are currently employed in every state (**Table 3.10**). The employment level is much higher among less educated persons, highest among persons with less than 5 years of schooling (89% among men and 34% among women), and those with no schooling at all (87% among men and 34% among women) (**Figure 3.5**).

**Trends:** Since 2015-16, current employment levels have marginally increased for women. Twenty-four percent of women were currently employed in 2015-16, compared with 25 percent in 2019-21. Among men, the proportion who are currently employed has not changed in the same period.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women and men with 10-11 years of schooling, never married women and men, women and men with no children, and women and men belonging to the highest wealth quintile are less likely to be employed than others.
- Bihar (14%), Uttar Pradesh (17%), and Assam (18%) have the lowest percentage of women currently employed. More than one-third of women were currently employed in Karnataka (35%), Andhra Pradesh (37%), Telangana (39%), Manipur (40%), and Meghalaya (42%) (**Table 3.10**).

## 3.5 OCCUPATION

### Occupation

Categorized as professional/technical/administrative/managerial, clerical, sales and services, skilled manual, unskilled manual, agriculture

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49 who were currently employed or had worked in the 12 months before the survey

Women are most commonly employed as agricultural workers (46%), followed by production workers (21%), and men are most commonly employed as agricultural workers and production workers (32% each) (**Tables 3.11**). A higher proportion of employed women (10%) than employed men (7%) are engaged in professional, technical, administrative, or managerial occupations.

A large majority of women who worked in the past year and did agricultural work are employed by family members (84%) and earn cash for their work (73%). Ninety-two percent of women who did non-agricultural work earned cash for their work. Among women who worked in the last one year, 11 percent were self-employed (**Table 3.12**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Urban women are most likely to be employed as production workers (28%) and professional workers (22%), while urban men are most likely to be employed as production workers (38%) and sales workers (18%). In rural areas, however, women are most likely to be agricultural workers (61%) and men are most likely to be service workers (29%).
- A large majority of employed women (83%) and men (94%) earned in cash for their work, but 14 percent of women and 4 percent of men did not receive any payment.

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Table 3.1 Background characteristics of respondents

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 by selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Weighted percent		Number of women		Number of men	
	Women	Men	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	16.9	17.6	122,544	122,480	16,385	16,657
20-24	16.5	15.4	119,440	118,700	14,384	14,413
25-29	16.2	15.2	117,145	118,379	14,195	14,360
30-34	13.9	14.1	100,384	101,049	13,109	13,292
35-39	13.5	14.0	97,552	98,068	13,029	12,874
40-44	11.3	11.6	81,787	81,380	10,846	10,838
45-49	11.8	12.0	85,264	84,059	11,197	10,833
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	32.5	35.3	235,279	179,535	32,852	24,211
Rural	67.5	64.7	488,836	544,580	60,291	69,056
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	22.6	10.7	163,492	168,285	9,982	10,183
<5 years complete	5.2	6.3	37,549	37,040	5,842	4,765
5-7 years complete	13.4	13.0	96,806	97,032	12,082	11,933
8-9 years complete	17.8	19.8	129,094	137,317	18,472	20,795
10-11 years complete	15.2	18.0	109,777	108,133	16,735	16,501
12 or more years complete	25.9	32.2	187,396	176,308	30,032	29,090
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	23.6	39.1	170,877	180,067	36,377	36,611
Currently married	72.0	59.6	521,352	512,408	55,475	55,280
Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	0.2	0.1	1,197	1,218	126	143
Widowed	3.1	0.5	22,597	22,119	443	491
Divorced	0.3	0.3	2,446	2,808	324	331
Separated	0.7	0.4	4,760	4,628	350	336
Deserted	0.1	0.1	885	867	49	75
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	81.4	79.1	589,164	546,007	73,632	70,608
Muslim	13.5	15.7	97,595	90,729	14,633	11,317
Christian	2.3	2.6	16,995	52,146	2,426	6,591
Sikh	1.6	1.0	11,404	16,200	886	2,190
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.6	1.1	4,571	9,076	1,017	1,270
Jain	0.2	0.3	1,632	887	280	125
Zoroastrian/Parsi	0.0	0.0	57	51	0	0
Jewish	0.0	0.0	2	7	1	4
Other religion	0.3	0.2	2,527	8,644	220	1,120
No religion	0.0	0.1	168	368	49	42
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	21.9	20.4	158,483	139,957	18,977	17,767
Scheduled tribe	9.3	9.1	67,263	135,239	8,441	17,729
Other backward class	42.9	41.9	310,783	276,881	38,986	35,991
Other	25.2	28.2	182,474	168,008	26,244	21,420
Don't know	0.7	0.5	5,112	4,030	496	360

Continued...

**Table 3.1 Background characteristics of respondents—Continued**

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 by selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Weighted percent		Number of women		Number of men	
	Women	Men	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted	Unweighted
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	18.5	16.8	133,973	149,844	15,606	18,151
Second	20.0	19.9	144,813	160,340	18,497	20,823
Middle	20.5	21.3	148,616	151,505	19,829	19,928
Fourth	20.8	22.2	150,680	139,607	20,658	18,494
Highest	20.2	19.9	146,032	122,819	18,553	15,871
Total age 15-49	100.0	100.0	724,115	724,115	93,144	93,267
Age 50-54	na	8.5	na	na	8,695	8,572
Total age 15-54	na	100.0	na	na	101,839	101,839

na = Not applicable



Table 3.2.1 Respondent's level of schooling: Women

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by number of years of schooling completed, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Respondent's level of schooling						Total	Number of women
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete		
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	6.6	2.3	9.5	24.6	23.0	34.0	100.0	241,983
15-19	4.4	1.8	9.6	31.8	31.3	21.1	100.0	122,544
20-24	8.8	2.7	9.4	17.3	14.5	47.3	100.0	119,440
25-29	15.5	4.8	14.7	16.6	12.6	35.7	100.0	117,145
30-34	23.8	6.0	16.5	16.4	12.2	25.0	100.0	100,384
35-39	32.2	7.3	16.4	15.1	11.5	17.5	100.0	97,552
40-44	40.6	7.4	14.6	12.4	10.4	14.6	100.0	81,787
45-49	48.0	8.5	14.1	10.2	8.6	10.6	100.0	85,264
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	12.7	3.7	11.5	15.7	17.4	38.9	100.0	235,279
Rural	27.3	5.9	14.2	18.8	14.1	19.6	100.0	488,836
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	3.8	1.6	7.4	23.4	23.8	40.0	100.0	172,075
Currently married	27.6	6.1	15.2	16.3	12.7	22.1	100.0	521,352
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	42.8	9.3	16.3	12.0	8.8	10.9	100.0	30,688
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	22.5	5.0	12.9	17.8	15.1	26.6	100.0	589,164
Muslim	25.8	6.4	16.6	18.5	14.8	17.9	100.0	97,595
Christian	14.7	5.6	11.8	15.1	16.9	35.9	100.0	16,995
Sikh	14.8	2.1	13.4	15.0	19.9	34.8	100.0	11,404
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	12.1	7.2	13.4	20.0	17.2	30.1	100.0	4,571
Jain	1.9	0.7	3.6	10.1	23.0	60.7	100.0	1,632
Other	33.1	6.1	12.4	18.8	10.5	19.1	100.0	2,754
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	27.0	6.0	14.2	18.6	13.8	20.5	100.0	158,483
Scheduled tribe	34.6	6.9	13.6	18.6	11.3	15.1	100.0	67,263
Other backward class	22.8	4.5	13.3	17.2	15.7	26.5	100.0	310,783
Other	13.7	4.8	12.5	17.9	17.1	34.0	100.0	182,474
Don't know	34.7	10.5	19.7	17.2	9.2	8.7	100.0	5,112
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	45.1	8.1	14.9	18.4	7.6	5.9	100.0	133,973
Second	30.1	7.1	16.1	20.8	12.8	13.0	100.0	144,813
Middle	21.3	5.7	15.5	19.7	16.7	21.2	100.0	148,616
Fourth	12.9	3.9	13.0	17.9	19.6	32.6	100.0	150,680
Highest	5.8	1.4	7.4	12.4	18.3	54.7	100.0	146,032
Total	22.6	5.2	13.4	17.8	15.2	25.9	100.0	724,115

Table 3.2.2 Respondent's level of schooling: Men

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by number of years of schooling completed, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Respondent's level of schooling						Total	Number of men
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete		
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	4.6	3.1	8.8	24.6	23.0	35.9	100.0	30,769
15-19	4.1	2.5	9.5	31.5	31.3	21.1	100.0	16,385
20-24	5.1	3.7	8.0	16.7	13.7	52.8	100.0	14,384
25-29	7.7	5.7	14.0	16.6	12.6	43.4	100.0	14,195
30-34	10.7	6.9	14.7	17.8	16.7	33.2	100.0	13,109
35-39	14.2	8.7	16.6	18.5	16.0	25.9	100.0	13,029
40-44	16.8	9.3	15.1	19.1	17.2	22.5	100.0	10,846
45-49	21.4	9.2	14.7	15.7	15.3	23.7	100.0	11,197
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	6.7	4.2	10.4	16.6	19.0	43.1	100.0	32,852
Rural	12.9	7.4	14.4	21.6	17.4	26.3	100.0	60,291
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	4.4	2.6	8.2	21.8	21.2	41.8	100.0	36,503
Currently married	14.6	8.7	15.9	18.5	15.9	26.3	100.0	55,475
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	22.6	8.5	21.9	18.4	15.1	13.6	100.0	1,165
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	10.0	5.6	12.3	19.9	18.3	33.9	100.0	73,632
Muslim	15.2	9.7	17.7	20.0	15.7	21.8	100.0	14,633
Christian	10.2	7.1	11.4	17.3	20.1	33.8	100.0	2,426
Sikh	7.8	2.4	10.7	19.1	20.6	39.5	100.0	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	3.7	6.6	7.6	23.5	22.6	36.1	100.0	1,017
Jain	0.8	0.2	0.1	14.7	11.7	72.5	100.0	280
Other	10.9	5.4	7.0	17.6	11.6	47.6	100.0	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	13.0	7.6	14.8	21.9	16.9	25.8	100.0	18,977
Scheduled tribe	17.6	8.5	15.4	23.0	14.4	21.0	100.0	8,441
Other backward class	10.1	5.4	12.7	19.2	19.4	33.2	100.0	38,986
Other	7.7	5.8	10.9	18.4	17.9	39.3	100.0	26,244
Don't know	14.1	13.8	27.7	17.1	8.6	18.8	100.0	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	25.5	13.7	18.9	22.5	9.8	9.5	100.0	15,606
Second	14.5	8.7	17.5	25.3	15.4	18.6	100.0	18,497
Middle	9.4	5.8	14.8	22.2	20.0	27.8	100.0	19,829
Fourth	5.2	3.3	10.5	18.1	23.6	39.2	100.0	20,658
Highest	2.0	1.3	4.2	11.5	18.8	62.1	100.0	18,553
Total age 15-49	10.7	6.3	13.0	19.8	18.0	32.2	100.0	93,144
Age 50-54	17.7	5.2	11.0	17.3	18.4	30.3	100.0	8,695
Total age 15-54	11.3	6.2	12.8	19.6	18.0	32.1	100.0	101,839

**Table 3.3.1 Literacy: Women**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by literacy, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	No schooling or completed less than standard 9						Total	Number of women	Percentage literate <sup>1</sup>
	Completed standard 9 or higher	Can read a whole sentence	Can read part of a sentence	Cannot read at all	No card with required language	Blind/visually impaired			
<b>Age</b>									
15-24	70.5	8.9	8.9	11.4	0.2	0.1	100.0	241,983	88.2
15-19	70.8	10.5	9.0	9.3	0.2	0.1	100.0	122,544	90.4
20-24	70.1	7.1	8.7	13.6	0.2	0.1	100.0	119,440	86.0
25-29	56.0	9.7	12.4	21.4	0.4	0.2	100.0	117,145	78.1
30-34	44.7	11.2	13.6	29.7	0.4	0.3	100.0	100,384	69.5
35-39	35.8	11.1	14.2	37.9	0.5	0.5	100.0	97,552	61.1
40-44	30.7	10.1	12.7	45.3	0.6	0.6	100.0	81,787	53.5
45-49	23.6	9.6	12.9	52.7	0.6	0.6	100.0	85,264	46.1
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	64.5	8.9	9.6	16.5	0.4	0.2	100.0	235,279	83.0
Rural	42.8	10.3	12.8	33.3	0.4	0.4	100.0	488,836	65.9
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	77.6	7.9	6.8	7.4	0.1	0.1	100.0	172,075	92.4
Currently married	42.2	10.4	13.2	33.4	0.5	0.4	100.0	521,352	65.8
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	25.2	10.9	14.2	48.5	0.5	0.6	100.0	30,688	50.3
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	50.6	9.5	11.4	27.9	0.3	0.3	100.0	589,164	71.5
Muslim	41.6	12.0	14.4	30.5	1.0	0.4	100.0	97,595	68.0
Christian	62.1	9.6	9.8	18.0	0.3	0.1	100.0	16,995	81.5
Sikh	59.5	9.9	10.9	19.1	0.4	0.2	100.0	11,404	80.3
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	61.6	7.1	12.9	18.0	0.2	0.1	100.0	4,571	81.7
Jain	89.5	4.3	3.3	2.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,632	97.0
Other	40.3	10.5	10.4	37.9	0.5	0.5	100.0	2,754	61.2
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	43.3	10.2	12.3	33.4	0.4	0.4	100.0	158,483	65.8
Scheduled tribe	36.4	9.3	12.5	40.8	0.4	0.5	100.0	67,263	58.3
Other backward class	50.3	9.8	11.6	27.6	0.3	0.3	100.0	310,783	71.8
Other	60.4	9.7	11.0	18.0	0.5	0.3	100.0	182,474	81.2
Don't know	25.3	13.3	14.1	45.7	1.2	0.4	100.0	5,112	52.7
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	21.9	10.1	13.8	52.9	0.7	0.6	100.0	133,973	45.8
Second	36.0	11.3	14.4	37.2	0.5	0.5	100.0	144,813	61.8
Middle	47.8	11.1	13.4	26.9	0.4	0.3	100.0	148,616	72.3
Fourth	61.7	10.0	11.0	16.9	0.2	0.2	100.0	150,680	82.6
Highest	79.3	6.8	6.2	7.6	0.1	0.1	100.0	146,032	92.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>724,115</b>	<b>71.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Refers to women who can read a whole sentence or part of a sentence and women who completed standard 9 or higher (who are assumed to be literate).

Table 3.3.2 Literacy: Men

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by literacy, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	No schooling or completed less than standard 9						Total	Number of men	Percentage literate <sup>1</sup>
	Completed standard 9 or higher	Can read a whole sentence	Can read part of a sentence	Cannot read at all	No card with required language	Blind/visually impaired			
<b>Age</b>									
15-24	74.2	8.6	8.6	8.3	0.1	0.1	100.0	30,769	91.4
15-19	72.7	10.5	8.6	8.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	16,385	91.7
20-24	75.9	6.6	8.7	8.6	0.1	0.2	100.0	14,384	91.1
25-29	64.8	9.2	12.8	12.7	0.2	0.2	100.0	14,195	86.8
30-34	59.5	10.5	14.7	14.7	0.1	0.5	100.0	13,109	84.7
35-39	52.5	12.1	15.3	19.6	0.3	0.3	100.0	13,029	79.9
40-44	50.7	11.3	15.0	22.2	0.6	0.2	100.0	10,846	77.0
45-49	48.3	11.1	14.2	25.7	0.3	0.4	100.0	11,197	73.7
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	72.2	7.6	9.7	10.1	0.1	0.2	100.0	32,852	89.6
Rural	56.1	11.4	14.0	17.9	0.3	0.3	100.0	60,291	81.5
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	76.8	7.7	7.7	7.5	0.1	0.1	100.0	36,503	92.2
Currently married	52.4	11.6	15.5	19.9	0.3	0.3	100.0	55,475	79.5
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	39.8	14.1	17.2	27.8	0.9	0.1	100.0	1,165	71.1
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	64.0	9.6	11.6	14.3	0.2	0.3	100.0	73,632	85.2
Muslim	48.0	13.2	17.6	20.6	0.3	0.3	100.0	14,633	78.8
Christian	64.8	9.2	12.0	13.7	0.1	0.2	100.0	2,426	86.0
Sikh	67.5	9.5	10.5	12.3	0.1	0.1	100.0	886	87.5
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	75.9	4.2	11.4	8.3	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,017	91.5
Jain	93.3	1.6	2.2	2.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	280	97.1
Other	68.9	10.7	7.7	12.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	269	87.3
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	55.4	10.5	14.7	19.0	0.2	0.2	100.0	18,977	80.6
Scheduled tribe	48.4	11.7	15.1	23.9	0.6	0.3	100.0	8,441	75.2
Other backward class	63.8	10.0	11.8	13.8	0.2	0.3	100.0	38,986	85.6
Other	68.2	9.2	11.0	11.3	0.2	0.2	100.0	26,244	88.4
Don't know	34.6	22.6	13.6	29.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	496	70.8
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	30.9	14.5	20.1	33.5	0.4	0.6	100.0	15,606	65.4
Second	47.8	13.9	17.0	20.7	0.3	0.4	100.0	18,497	78.7
Middle	60.7	10.8	13.7	14.4	0.3	0.1	100.0	19,829	85.2
Fourth	74.8	8.1	9.1	7.7	0.1	0.2	100.0	20,658	92.0
Highest	88.5	4.1	4.0	3.3	0.1	0.0	100.0	18,553	96.6
Total age 15-49	61.8	10.1	12.5	15.2	0.2	0.2	100.0	93,144	84.4
Age 50-54	41.3	12.9	16.0	29.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	8,695	70.2
Total age 15-54	60.1	10.3	12.8	16.4	0.2	0.3	100.0	101,839	83.2

<sup>1</sup> Refers to men who can read a whole sentence or part of a sentence and men who completed standard 9 or higher (who are assumed to be literate).

Table 3.4.1 Respondent's level of schooling and literacy by state/union territory: Women

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by number of years of schooling completed and percentage literate, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Respondent's level of schooling						Total	Percentage literate <sup>1</sup>
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete		
<b>India</b>	22.6	5.2	13.4	17.8	15.2	25.9	100.0	71.5
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	12.4	1.5	11.5	15.0	19.2	40.4	100.0	78.7
Delhi	13.1	2.7	9.6	14.9	16.3	43.4	100.0	83.7
Haryana	15.9	2.9	14.4	17.2	16.4	33.1	100.0	79.7
Himachal Pradesh	7.4	2.3	11.9	12.6	21.2	44.7	100.0	90.7
Jammu & Kashmir	21.3	1.2	6.6	19.7	18.3	33.0	100.0	74.3
Ladakh	22.1	1.2	7.7	18.9	18.2	31.8	100.0	74.6
Punjab	15.3	2.0	12.3	14.4	19.9	36.1	100.0	79.4
Rajasthan	31.3	3.6	14.7	16.9	11.8	21.7	100.0	64.7
Uttarakhand	16.9	2.5	11.3	18.9	13.7	36.7	100.0	79.8
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	22.2	4.4	13.5	23.0	13.5	23.4	100.0	72.5
Madhya Pradesh	25.5	4.7	14.8	25.7	11.0	18.3	100.0	65.4
Uttar Pradesh	28.6	2.3	11.9	17.9	11.7	27.6	100.0	66.1
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	38.5	5.0	11.2	16.4	13.0	15.8	100.0	55.0
Jharkhand	31.7	5.0	11.7	18.3	14.2	19.0	100.0	61.7
Odisha	21.9	8.1	14.9	22.2	15.8	17.2	100.0	69.5
West Bengal	18.5	11.6	15.4	21.6	14.7	18.3	100.0	72.9
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	23.6	5.2	12.0	19.8	16.4	23.0	100.0	71.3
Assam	18.6	9.3	13.8	28.7	12.4	17.1	100.0	75.1
Manipur	8.1	5.6	10.8	27.4	17.8	30.3	100.0	85.3
Meghalaya	12.6	12.6	17.9	21.8	14.8	20.4	100.0	87.6
Mizoram	5.3	6.7	14.1	24.0	20.0	29.9	100.0	94.0
Nagaland	8.8	6.5	14.9	25.4	16.1	28.3	100.0	83.4
Sikkim	7.1	8.1	16.7	19.1	15.0	34.0	100.0	87.1
Tripura	11.4	10.4	18.1	36.9	11.3	12.0	100.0	78.3
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	21.0	6.9	13.5	22.9	13.6	22.2	100.0	75.6
Goa	5.5	3.3	8.2	11.5	23.6	47.9	100.0	92.2
Gujarat	20.9	7.1	18.9	19.3	12.4	21.3	100.0	73.4
Maharashtra	12.0	6.6	13.6	17.4	18.2	32.2	100.0	82.3

Continued...

**Table 3.4.1 Respondent's level of schooling and literacy by state/union territory: Women—Continued**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by number of years of schooling completed and percentage literate, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Respondent's level of schooling						Total	Percentage literate <sup>1</sup>
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete		
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8.2	4.2	12.5	22.6	15.1	37.4	100.0	80.5
Andhra Pradesh	27.9	5.5	17.8	9.2	18.5	21.2	100.0	66.7
Karnataka	19.5	5.2	14.1	11.0	22.7	27.5	100.0	73.4
Kerala	0.8	1.8	5.7	14.8	25.8	51.2	100.0	97.4
Lakshadweep	1.8	2.5	12.3	15.6	25.6	42.2	100.0	95.2
Puducherry	6.2	3.3	9.9	15.2	16.7	48.7	100.0	89.7
Tamil Nadu	9.5	5.2	12.4	16.4	17.0	39.6	100.0	84.0
Telangana	32.6	3.2	12.4	6.3	19.0	26.5	100.0	64.8

<sup>1</sup> Refers to women who can read a whole sentence or part of a sentence and women who completed standard 9 or higher (who are assumed to be literate).

Table 3.4.2 Respondent's level of schooling and literacy by state/union territory: Men

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by number of years of schooling completed and percentage literate, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Respondent's level of schooling						Total	Percentage literate <sup>1</sup>
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete		
<b>India</b>	10.7	6.3	13.0	19.8	18.0	32.2	100.0	84.4
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	5.6	2.2	6.5	21.2	20.3	44.2	100.0	90.2
Delhi	6.8	2.7	9.4	20.3	19.4	41.5	100.0	90.2
Haryana	5.9	2.6	11.6	17.7	21.6	40.6	100.0	91.5
Himachal Pradesh	3.6	2.6	10.1	12.4	23.4	47.9	100.0	92.8
Jammu & Kashmir	9.1	0.6	4.0	18.1	22.6	45.6	100.0	90.2
Ladakh	8.1	0.6	5.3	13.2	20.7	52.1	100.0	92.7
Punjab	8.0	3.3	11.0	19.1	22.2	36.5	100.0	86.8
Rajasthan	8.9	3.2	13.1	22.8	18.2	33.7	100.0	88.9
Uttarakhand	5.7	3.0	8.1	23.4	17.1	42.7	100.0	89.3
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	10.0	5.3	13.8	29.5	14.1	27.4	100.0	82.6
Madhya Pradesh	11.4	4.8	15.7	28.1	14.5	25.4	100.0	81.3
Uttar Pradesh	12.5	2.8	11.9	24.2	15.0	33.6	100.0	82.0
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	18.2	7.2	12.9	18.9	15.3	27.5	100.0	76.4
Jharkhand	14.3	4.8	12.2	22.2	17.9	28.6	100.0	81.3
Odisha	9.7	7.5	16.3	27.9	16.8	21.7	100.0	84.6
West Bengal	13.0	14.5	18.2	19.6	12.8	21.8	100.0	80.2
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	13.5	6.1	11.6	20.5	17.0	31.2	100.0	85.7
Assam	12.5	10.3	14.7	26.9	12.5	23.0	100.0	81.6
Manipur	4.0	3.0	9.3	24.9	20.7	38.1	100.0	93.3
Meghalaya	19.7	12.2	14.9	18.6	14.5	20.2	100.0	83.2
Mizoram	3.4	4.2	14.4	28.9	17.8	31.3	100.0	97.0
Nagaland	5.7	5.7	12.0	23.6	16.9	36.1	100.0	92.2
Sikkim	7.9	8.4	11.7	17.0	15.3	39.7	100.0	88.6
Tripura	5.6	11.8	15.3	38.0	13.1	16.3	100.0	83.6
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	5.3	6.2	13.5	25.6	13.8	35.6	100.0	92.5
Goa	3.2	0.3	5.0	14.8	22.7	53.9	100.0	94.3
Gujarat	8.6	5.7	14.6	25.6	17.6	27.9	100.0	87.3
Maharashtra	4.5	5.1	9.2	20.2	18.9	42.1	100.0	90.2

Continued...

**Table 3.4.2 Respondent's level of schooling and literacy by state/union territory: Men—Continued**

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by number of years of schooling completed and percentage literate, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Respondent's level of schooling						Total	Percentage literate <sup>1</sup>
	No schooling	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete		
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9.4	3.6	16.8	17.9	13.0	39.3	100.0	88.2
Andhra Pradesh	18.0	5.8	17.3	11.0	19.4	28.5	100.0	76.5
Karnataka	10.8	5.7	12.4	14.7	22.9	33.7	100.0	85.2
Kerala	2.3	2.0	6.1	16.3	30.7	42.5	100.0	97.1
Lakshadweep	0.0	1.5	4.0	13.6	29.5	51.4	100.0	98.6
Puducherry	3.4	3.0	7.5	11.9	14.5	59.7	100.0	93.8
Tamil Nadu	4.0	3.8	14.3	18.8	18.9	40.2	100.0	90.7
Telangana	14.7	2.9	12.3	8.9	23.4	37.7	100.0	82.0

<sup>1</sup> Refers to men who can read a whole sentence or part of a sentence and men who completed standard 9 or higher (who are assumed to be literate).



Table 3.5.1 Exposure to mass media: Women

Percentage of women age 15-49 who usually read a newspaper or magazine, watch television, or listen to the radio at least once a week, who usually visit the cinema or theatre at least once a month, and who are not regularly exposed to any of these media by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Exposure to mass media					Number of women
	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media	
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	15.8	52.6	4.5	9.6	41.1	122,544
20-24	16.0	54.4	4.5	12.3	39.1	119,440
25-29	15.0	54.9	4.1	11.8	39.6	117,145
30-34	14.4	54.7	4.0	9.9	40.6	100,384
35-39	13.7	53.6	4.0	8.2	41.6	97,552
40-44	13.5	52.3	4.1	6.9	43.3	81,787
45-49	11.8	51.1	3.9	6.0	45.0	85,264
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	25.0	69.8	6.1	17.4	23.2	235,279
Rural	9.4	45.6	3.3	5.7	49.9	488,836
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	0.2	30.8	1.5	2.4	67.1	163,492
<5 years complete	1.6	44.5	2.4	3.5	52.9	37,549
5-7 years complete	5.5	50.7	2.9	4.9	45.6	96,806
8-9 years complete	10.7	54.4	3.8	6.2	40.7	129,094
10-11 years complete	20.1	64.1	5.1	11.5	29.3	109,777
12 or more years complete	33.4	69.6	7.3	20.5	21.3	187,396
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	20.8	56.8	5.5	12.6	35.7	172,075
Currently married	12.7	52.6	3.8	8.8	42.8	521,352
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	9.4	50.1	3.3	4.8	45.8	30,688
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	14.6	55.1	4.2	10.0	39.8	589,164
Muslim	11.0	41.6	3.8	5.7	52.7	97,595
Christian	27.2	63.3	5.5	11.9	29.9	16,995
Sikh	12.7	60.6	2.8	8.0	34.3	11,404
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	18.9	57.6	6.5	15.1	33.4	4,571
Jain	40.3	75.7	5.2	36.9	11.4	1,632
Other	11.2	29.1	6.4	5.9	65.0	2,754
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	10.5	52.2	3.6	7.9	43.4	158,483
Scheduled tribe	8.5	39.5	3.1	5.9	56.1	67,263
Other backward class	14.8	54.4	4.2	9.5	40.3	310,783
Other	19.8	58.6	5.0	12.5	35.1	182,474
Don't know	6.5	42.3	3.8	4.8	54.3	5,112

Continued...

**Table 3.5.1 Exposure to mass media: Women—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who usually read a newspaper or magazine, watch television, or listen to the radio at least once a week, who usually visit the cinema or theatre at least once a month, and who are not regularly exposed to any of these media by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Exposure to mass media					Number of women
	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/ theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	2.4	18.2	1.6	2.3	78.5	133,973
Second	5.6	40.5	2.8	4.1	55.2	144,813
Middle	10.5	59.5	3.8	7.2	35.6	148,616
Fourth	18.7	69.2	5.4	11.4	24.9	150,680
Highest	34.0	76.5	7.1	21.8	15.7	146,032
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>724,115</b>

Table 3.5.2 Exposure to mass media: Men

Percentage of men age 15-49 who usually read a newspaper or magazine, watch television, or listen to the radio at least once a week, who usually visit the cinema or theatre at least once a month, and who are not regularly exposed to any of these media by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Exposure to mass media					Number of men
	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media	
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	26.8	55.6	6.7	27.6	31.1	16,385
20-24	34.0	55.7	7.9	36.3	27.5	14,384
25-29	33.9	56.3	7.7	29.6	30.0	14,195
30-34	35.3	57.0	8.6	23.5	31.3	13,109
35-39	32.4	56.0	7.8	18.5	33.0	13,029
40-44	32.4	55.6	7.0	12.0	34.9	10,846
45-49	31.3	54.6	7.6	9.9	35.4	11,197
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	43.4	68.1	9.8	33.9	18.1	32,852
Rural	26.0	49.2	6.4	17.8	39.0	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	2.7	32.5	4.8	11.4	60.9	9,982
<5 years complete	5.6	41.0	4.5	10.8	51.4	5,842
5-7 years complete	13.1	48.7	5.3	14.7	42.3	12,082
8-9 years complete	24.6	52.0	6.6	15.9	36.6	18,472
10-11 years complete	39.2	62.5	8.4	25.0	23.7	16,735
12 or more years complete	55.6	68.0	10.2	37.2	15.2	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	34.4	58.5	8.4	34.3	25.8	36,503
Currently married	30.9	54.3	7.2	16.5	35.2	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	21.2	46.4	4.1	14.6	44.9	1,165
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	33.4	57.6	7.7	24.1	29.9	73,632
Muslim	24.3	45.0	7.4	19.2	42.0	14,633
Christian	35.1	61.9	7.5	28.2	26.2	2,426
Sikh	21.7	56.0	4.4	18.5	35.2	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	41.3	66.1	6.3	31.9	23.0	1,017
Jain	71.6	69.5	4.9	39.3	4.8	280
Other	45.1	51.1	10.5	7.1	37.6	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	27.2	53.9	6.4	20.8	34.6	18,977
Scheduled tribe	20.0	44.0	7.0	15.9	45.7	8,441
Other backward class	34.6	57.2	8.2	26.5	28.9	38,986
Other	36.4	59.3	7.8	23.3	28.8	26,244
Don't know	13.7	40.1	5.8	19.9	48.7	496

Continued...

**Table 3.5.2 Exposure to mass media: Men—Continued**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who usually read a newspaper or magazine, watch television, or listen to the radio at least once a week, who usually visit the cinema or theatre at least once a month, and who are not regularly exposed to any of these media by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Exposure to mass media					Number of men
	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/ theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	10.3	24.2	4.2	8.6	65.0	15,606
Second	18.5	44.1	5.4	14.1	44.3	18,497
Middle	29.9	59.9	8.0	22.9	27.0	19,829
Fourth	41.6	69.6	9.3	29.9	17.5	20,658
Highest	56.0	74.5	10.4	38.6	11.7	18,553
Total age 15-49	32.2	55.9	7.6	23.5	31.6	93,144
Age 50-54	32.3	53.9	8.3	8.5	36.9	8,695
Total age 15-54	32.2	55.7	7.7	22.2	32.1	101,839

**Table 3.6 Internet usage**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have ever used the internet, by selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Ever used internet	Number	Ever used internet	Number
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	40.5	18,240	42.2	16,385
20-24	48.5	17,809	65.4	14,384
25-29	41.0	17,398	66.6	14,195
30-34	33.8	15,295	60.5	13,109
35-39	25.3	14,558	48.2	13,029
40-44	19.2	11,973	38.5	10,846
45-49	13.4	12,741	31.7	11,197
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	51.8	34,839	65.5	32,852
Rural	24.6	73,175	43.4	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	4.7	24,485	17.0	9,982
<5 years complete	7.5	5,715	24.1	5,842
5-7 years complete	14.7	14,547	36.1	12,082
8-9 years complete	27.4	19,237	45.7	18,472
10-11 years complete	43.3	16,278	56.0	16,735
12 or more years complete	72.0	27,751	74.7	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	50.3	25,505	56.5	36,503
Currently married	28.7	77,729	48.1	55,475
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	18.7	4,780	37.0	1,165
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	33.0	87,179	50.9	73,632
Muslim	30.1	15,138	50.6	14,633
Christian	46.0	2,495	51.6	2,426
Sikh	53.3	1,908	75.0	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	34.7	652	52.6	1,017
Jain	70.8	214	75.9	280
Other	29.2	428	54.5	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	27.0	23,427	47.1	18,977
Scheduled tribe	20.6	9,909	38.7	8,441
Other backward class	33.3	47,251	52.6	38,986
Other	44.2	26,733	56.4	26,244
Don't know	18.0	694	44.2	496

*Continued...*

**Table 3.6 Internet usage—Continued**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have ever used the internet, by selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Ever used internet	Number	Ever used internet	Number
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	8.6	19,904	25.7	15,606
Second	17.1	22,049	37.3	18,497
Middle	27.6	22,252	48.0	19,829
Fourth	42.7	22,376	61.9	20,658
Highest	69.2	21,432	78.2	18,553
Total age 15-49	33.3	108,014	51.2	93,144
Age 50-54	na	na	24.6	8,695
Total age 15-54	na	na	49.0	101,839

na = Not applicable

Table 3.7 Exposure to mass media and internet usage by state/union territory

State/union territory	Women						Men					
	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media	Ever used internet	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media	Ever used internet
<b>India</b>	14.5	53.5	4.2	9.5	41.2	33.3	32.2	55.9	7.6	23.5	31.6	51.2
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	23.9	75.5	2.8	9.8	18.6	75.2	29.2	62.9	2.0	7.0	28.9	91.9
Delhi	20.3	78.3	9.9	18.1	16.4	63.8	34.5	71.8	12.8	19.2	17.7	85.2
Haryana	12.9	62.6	2.1	7.3	32.9	48.4	29.4	52.7	6.3	10.1	36.6	72.4
Himachal Pradesh	17.3	65.5	5.9	8.4	29.3	49.7	32.7	58.7	10.4	14.9	30.7	52.7
Jammu & Kashmir	14.5	46.6	18.5	4.5	44.9	43.3	32.2	54.9	27.4	9.2	30.6	62.0
Ladakh	25.3	51.7	32.2	4.3	34.3	56.4	42.7	60.9	32.3	1.1	27.9	47.9
Punjab	11.6	61.1	2.4	7.6	33.9	54.8	16.2	54.8	3.2	16.8	36.1	78.2
Rajasthan	12.8	46.4	2.8	4.2	49.0	36.9	35.1	43.6	4.2	11.6	41.3	65.2
Uttarakhand	13.1	62.4	2.0	6.2	33.7	45.1	25.3	61.2	4.4	6.2	32.5	74.6
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	12.9	59.9	3.6	10.2	36.5	26.7	24.8	55.1	7.7	20.8	34.5	56.3
Madhya Pradesh	11.4	48.8	4.2	7.1	46.6	26.9	23.4	47.7	6.8	10.1	43.6	55.7
Uttar Pradesh	9.1	39.1	3.3	5.1	56.5	30.6	29.6	42.0	6.7	9.3	45.4	59.1
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	8.2	27.7	1.6	4.9	67.0	20.6	29.0	38.2	5.2	10.0	47.7	35.4
Jharkhand	9.3	29.7	2.3	5.6	65.3	31.4	28.4	34.5	5.5	9.7	53.0	57.9
Odisha	9.3	59.3	1.4	4.7	37.8	24.9	22.9	53.2	3.2	12.4	38.2	50.7
West Bengal	9.1	52.2	3.0	8.0	44.6	25.5	17.1	46.1	2.6	10.0	47.1	41.9

Continued...

Table 3.7 Exposure to mass media and internet usage by state/union territory—Continued

State/union territory	Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who usually read a newspaper or magazine, watch television, or listen to the radio at least once a week, who usually visit the cinema or theatre at least once a month, who are not regularly exposed to any of these media and who have ever used the internet, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21										
	Women					Men					
	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media internet	Reads a newspaper or magazine at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Visits the cinema/theatre at least once a month	Not regularly exposed to any media internet	
<b>Northeast</b>											
Arunachal Pradesh	5.5	42.2	2.7	5.8	53.4	52.9	50.6	3.1	9.7	44.2	71.6
Assam	5.4	35.9	2.0	10.2	57.9	28.2	44.7	3.9	21.0	44.1	36.9
Manipur	19.5	44.2	19.7	5.1	41.1	44.8	43.4	24.8	4.5	38.1	68.5
Meghalaya	17.8	46.3	7.5	6.1	46.3	34.7	30.4	6.2	8.4	58.6	36.5
Mizoram	38.6	68.1	2.4	0.8	26.3	67.6	73.0	9.4	0.8	19.2	67.6
Nagaland	19.7	39.7	2.2	4.2	52.8	49.9	41.0	4.9	1.9	49.4	52.8
Sikkim	20.3	55.6	8.0	39.1	27.5	76.7	58.3	7.8	33.3	25.2	64.6
Tripura	5.9	52.3	0.8	4.2	45.6	22.9	48.3	3.2	3.8	46.2	41.7
<b>West</b>											
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	11.4	72.4	1.1	8.6	25.1	36.7	53.1	2.1	24.0	34.0	61.3
Goa	47.4	85.0	6.9	46.3	8.0	73.7	93.5	1.9	58.1	2.3	69.7
Gujarat	17.2	54.6	3.9	10.6	40.2	30.8	55.2	3.2	17.7	33.5	52.6
Maharashtra	21.0	59.5	5.4	14.8	32.3	38.0	64.5	8.6	29.3	22.3	52.9
<b>South</b>											
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9.8	77.9	6.2	23.3	14.9	34.8	86.2	9.4	25.7	9.3	45.6
Andhra Pradesh	15.9	73.6	1.8	15.9	21.2	21.0	72.8	5.4	51.2	12.8	41.9
Karnataka	28.6	73.8	10.0	25.6	19.5	35.0	67.7	19.8	49.0	13.1	56.3
Kerala	58.0	72.2	10.8	11.8	13.3	61.1	75.8	14.7	41.4	7.1	62.5
Lakshadweep	14.2	61.5	7.4	0.9	33.2	56.3	55.2	17.8	0.0	41.1	80.3
Puducherry	16.8	80.9	11.9	19.4	12.3	61.9	72.1	13.6	38.8	13.5	80.7
Tamil Nadu	14.5	83.4	7.2	11.1	12.6	46.9	78.6	12.9	28.8	12.2	70.2
Telangana	17.1	75.1	2.1	15.7	20.1	26.5	75.2	6.1	48.4	11.8	50.0



**Table 3.8 Employment status: Women**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by employment status, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Employed in the 12 months preceding the survey		Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total	Number of women
	Currently employed <sup>1</sup>	Not currently employed			
<b>Age</b>					
15-19	11.1	3.7	85.2	100.0	18,240
20-24	16.6	4.4	78.9	100.0	17,809
25-29	23.0	5.0	71.9	100.0	17,398
30-34	30.6	5.6	63.9	100.0	15,295
35-39	34.6	6.3	59.1	100.0	14,558
40-44	35.6	6.3	58.1	100.0	11,973
45-49	33.5	6.2	60.3	100.0	12,741
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	23.7	3.2	73.2	100.0	34,839
Rural	26.0	6.2	67.8	100.0	73,175
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	33.8	7.5	58.6	100.0	24,485
<5 years complete	34.3	6.5	59.1	100.0	5,715
5-7 years complete	27.9	5.7	66.4	100.0	14,547
8-9 years complete	20.7	4.8	74.5	100.0	19,237
10-11 years complete	18.4	4.2	77.4	100.0	16,278
12 or more years complete	21.5	3.6	74.9	100.0	27,751
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	16.7	4.1	79.2	100.0	25,505
Currently married	26.6	5.4	68.1	100.0	77,729
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	49.1	8.7	42.3	100.0	4,780
<b>Number of living children</b>					
0	17.8	4.4	77.8	100.0	33,396
1-2	27.3	5.0	67.6	100.0	47,310
3-4	30.7	6.5	62.8	100.0	22,743
5 or more	30.4	6.9	62.6	100.0	4,565
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	27.7	7.4	64.9	100.0	19,904
Second	27.2	6.4	66.4	100.0	22,049
Middle	27.6	5.5	66.9	100.0	22,252
Fourth	23.7	4.0	72.3	100.0	22,376
Highest	20.2	3.0	76.9	100.0	21,432
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>108,014</b>

<sup>1</sup> "Currently employed" is defined as having done work in the past seven days. Includes women who did not work in the past seven days but who are regularly employed and were absent from work for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reasons.

**Table 3.9 Employment status: Men**

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by employment status, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Employed in the 12 months preceding the survey		Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total	Number of men
	Currently employed <sup>1</sup>	Not currently employed			
<b>Age</b>					
15-19	27.3	5.3	67.4	100.0	16,385
20-24	62.6	7.4	30.1	100.0	14,384
25-29	84.3	6.7	9.1	100.0	14,195
30-34	91.6	5.2	3.2	100.0	13,109
35-39	93.3	4.6	2.2	100.0	13,029
40-44	91.7	5.2	3.1	100.0	10,846
45-49	90.9	6.2	2.9	100.0	11,197
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	75.3	3.8	20.9	100.0	32,852
Rural	74.6	6.9	18.5	100.0	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	87.3	7.0	5.7	100.0	9,982
<5 years complete	89.3	7.5	3.2	100.0	5,842
5-7 years complete	86.2	6.2	7.6	100.0	12,082
8-9 years complete	72.6	6.5	21.0	100.0	18,472
10-11 years complete	66.4	4.9	28.6	100.0	16,735
12 or more years complete	69.4	5.0	25.6	100.0	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	48.4	6.3	45.4	100.0	36,503
Currently married	92.0	5.5	2.5	100.0	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	87.3	7.1	5.6	100.0	1,165
<b>Number of living children</b>					
0	56.5	6.6	36.9	100.0	46,373
1-2	93.6	4.4	2.0	100.0	31,541
3-4	92.0	6.1	1.9	100.0	12,900
5 or more	90.4	7.7	2.0	100.0	2,329
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	75.6	10.0	14.4	100.0	15,606
Second	75.2	7.1	17.6	100.0	18,497
Middle	75.6	5.5	18.9	100.0	19,829
Fourth	76.1	3.7	20.2	100.0	20,658
Highest	71.7	3.6	24.7	100.0	18,553
Total age 15-49	74.8	5.8	19.3	100.0	93,144
Age 50-54	90.5	5.4	4.1	100.0	8,695
Total age 15-54	76.2	5.8	18.0	100.0	101,839

<sup>1</sup> "Currently employed" is defined as having done work in the past seven days. Includes men who did not work in the past seven days but who are regularly employed and were absent from work for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reasons.

Table 3.10 Employment status of women and men by state/union territory

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 by employment status, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women				Men			
	Currently employed <sup>1</sup>	Not currently employed	Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total	Currently employed <sup>1</sup>	Not currently employed	Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total
<b>India</b>	25.2	5.2	69.5	100.0	74.8	5.8	19.3	100.0
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	20.5	1.6	78.0	100.0	71.0	1.1	28.0	100.0
Delhi	22.5	2.9	74.7	100.0	75.6	3.8	20.6	100.0
Haryana	18.9	3.8	77.2	100.0	69.5	3.5	27.0	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	23.9	3.2	72.9	100.0	66.9	6.3	26.8	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	21.9	7.5	70.6	100.0	68.2	4.7	27.1	100.0
Ladakh	27.2	13.4	59.4	100.0	67.5	3.1	29.4	100.0
Punjab	21.7	3.2	75.1	100.0	76.2	4.2	19.6	100.0
Rajasthan	22.0	6.3	71.7	100.0	68.9	6.2	25.0	100.0
Uttarakhand	22.0	5.0	73.0	100.0	70.2	4.9	25.0	100.0
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	31.3	16.1	52.6	100.0	71.7	12.0	16.3	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	27.8	7.4	64.8	100.0	75.9	6.9	17.2	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	16.7	4.1	79.3	100.0	68.1	8.6	23.2	100.0
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	14.3	3.2	82.5	100.0	64.5	10.4	25.1	100.0
Jharkhand	21.8	3.8	74.4	100.0	71.4	7.4	21.2	100.0
Odisha	23.2	5.5	71.3	100.0	75.8	8.6	15.6	100.0
West Bengal	18.5	3.2	78.3	100.0	80.4	6.2	13.3	100.0
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	29.5	9.1	61.4	100.0	67.5	7.6	24.9	100.0
Assam	17.9	3.1	79.0	100.0	76.5	6.4	17.1	100.0
Manipur	40.1	9.1	50.8	100.0	77.7	4.5	17.8	100.0
Meghalaya	41.7	6.0	52.3	100.0	77.5	4.2	18.3	100.0
Mizoram	25.1	10.1	64.8	100.0	73.7	7.9	18.4	100.0
Nagaland	33.7	4.9	61.4	100.0	66.3	4.8	28.9	100.0
Sikkim	31.4	7.5	61.1	100.0	64.3	7.8	27.9	100.0
Tripura	21.7	9.2	69.1	100.0	76.6	3.9	19.5	100.0
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	29.7	2.6	67.8	100.0	86.9	1.8	11.3	100.0
Goa	30.7	2.4	66.8	100.0	75.5	2.4	22.1	100.0
Gujarat	33.2	5.2	61.5	100.0	80.8	4.6	14.6	100.0
Maharashtra	36.7	4.2	59.1	100.0	78.1	3.4	18.5	100.0

Continued...

**Table 3.10 Employment status of women and men by state/union territory—Continued**

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 by employment status, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women				Men			
	Currently employed <sup>1</sup>	Not currently employed	Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total	Currently employed <sup>1</sup>	Not currently employed	Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.1	0.2	74.7	100.0	75.6	5.6	18.7	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	37.3	10.3	52.3	100.0	78.7	3.3	18.0	100.0
Karnataka	35.1	5.8	59.1	100.0	75.7	5.0	19.3	100.0
Kerala	22.8	3.3	73.9	100.0	70.5	4.3	25.3	100.0
Lakshadweep	9.2	1.7	89.1	100.0	74.9	1.7	23.4	100.0
Puducherry	33.0	6.4	60.7	100.0	79.4	4.2	16.4	100.0
Tamil Nadu	36.8	6.0	57.2	100.0	80.1	3.5	16.5	100.0
Telangana	38.6	9.7	51.8	100.0	74.9	5.0	20.1	100.0

<sup>1</sup> "Currently employed" is defined as having done work in the past seven days. Includes persons who did not work in the past seven days but who are regularly employed and were absent from work for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reasons.

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**Table 3.11 Occupation**

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 employed in the 12 months preceding the survey by occupation, according to residence, India, 2019-21

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Occupation	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Women</b>			
Professional <sup>1</sup>	22.2	5.4	10.2
Clerical	3.2	1.1	1.7
Sales worker	11.0	3.8	5.9
Agricultural worker	9.4	60.8	46.2
Service worker	20.8	7.3	11.1
Production worker <sup>2</sup>	27.9	17.7	20.6
Other	5.1	3.7	4.1
Don't know	0.4	0.3	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,353	23,540	32,893
<b>Men</b>			
Professional <sup>1</sup>	13.2	4.3	7.4
Clerical	4.0	1.5	2.3
Sales worker	18.2	7.5	11.2
Agricultural worker	6.5	46.1	32.4
Service worker	13.3	6.2	8.7
Production worker <sup>2</sup>	37.9	29.3	32.2
Other	6.7	4.9	5.5
Don't know	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	25,993	49,134	75,127

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<sup>1</sup> Includes technical, administrative, and managerial occupations

<sup>2</sup> Includes skilled and unskilled manual occupations

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**Table 3.12 Type of employment**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 employed in the 12 months preceding the survey by type of employer and percent distributions of women and men age 15-49 employed in the 12 months preceding the survey by continuity of employment, and type of earnings, according to the type of occupation (agricultural or non-agricultural), India, 2019-21

Employment characteristic	Women			Men		
	Agricultural work	Non-agricultural work	Total	Agricultural work	Non-agricultural work	Total
<b>Type of employer</b>						
Employed by family member	83.5	69.4	75.9	na	na	na
Employed by non-family member	10.0	14.9	12.7	na	na	na
Self-employed	6.4	15.7	11.4	na	na	na
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	na	na	na
<b>Continuity of employment</b>						
All year	42.4	75.0	59.9	63.5	84.4	77.6
Seasonal	53.8	20.0	35.6	34.9	13.8	20.6
Occasional	3.8	5.0	4.4	1.6	1.8	1.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Type of earnings</b>						
Cash only	62.5	87.4	75.9	66.1	95.5	85.9
Cash and in-kind	10.4	4.8	7.4	20.2	2.7	8.4
In-kind only	3.4	1.2	2.3	3.5	0.4	1.4
Not paid	23.7	6.5	14.4	10.3	1.4	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	15,188	17,705	32,893	24,339	50,788	75,127

## FERTILITY AND FERTILITY PREFERENCES

### Key Findings

- **Total fertility rate:** The total fertility rate is 2.0 children per woman, which declined from 2.2 children in 2015-16 and is currently below the replacement level of fertility of 2.1 children per woman.
- **Birth intervals:** The median birth interval is 33 months since the preceding birth.
- **Age at first birth:** The median age at first birth among women age 25-49 is 21.2 years.
- **Teenage childbearing:** Seven percent of women age 15-19 have begun childbearing, which is just a one percent decline from 2015-16.
- **Desire for another child:** About one-fourth (23%) of currently married women age 15-49 want to have another child.
- **Wanted fertility rate:** The wanted fertility rate is 1.6 children per woman and ranges from 0.9 children in Sikkim to 2.7 children in Meghalaya.

The number of children that a woman bears depends on many factors, including the age she begins childbearing, how long she waits between births, and her fecundity. Postponing first births and extending the interval between births have played a role in reducing fertility levels in many countries. These factors also have positive health consequences. In contrast, short birth intervals (of less than 24 months) can lead to harmful outcomes for both newborns and their mothers, such as preterm birth, low birth weight, and death. Childbearing at a very young age is associated with an increased risk of complications during pregnancy and childbirth and higher rates of neonatal mortality.

This chapter describes the current level of fertility in India and some of its proximate determinants. It presents information on the total fertility rate, birth intervals, insusceptibility to pregnancy (due to postpartum amenorrhoea, postpartum abstinence, or menopause), age at first birth, and teenage childbearing.

### 4.1 CURRENT FERTILITY

#### Total fertility rate (TFR)

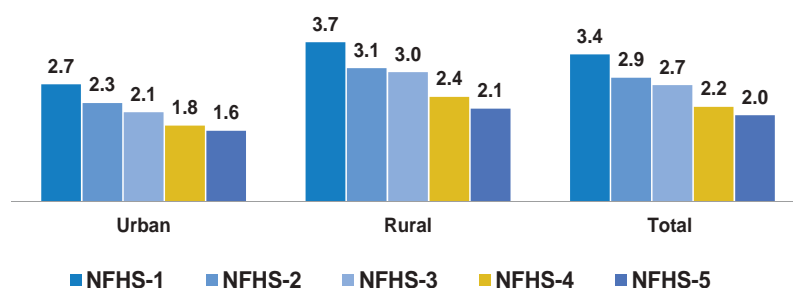
The average number of children a woman would have by the end of her childbearing years if she bore children at the current age-specific fertility rates. Age-specific fertility rates are calculated for the three years before the survey, based on detailed birth histories provided by women.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49

The total fertility rate (TFR) in India is 2.0 children per woman (**Table 4.1**), which is slightly lower than the replacement level of fertility of 2.1 children per woman. Women in rural areas have higher fertility, on average, than women in urban areas (TFR of 2.1 versus 1.6 children).

### Figure 4.1 Trends in Fertility by Residence

Total fertility rate for the three years before the survey



**Trends:** The TFR has declined noticeably in India over time. Between 1992-93 and 2019-21, the TFR declined from 3.4 children to 2.0 children (a decrease of 1.4 children) (**Figure 4.1**). The TFR among women in rural areas has declined from 3.7 children in 1992-93 to 2.1 children in 2019-21. The corresponding decline among women in urban areas was from 2.7 children in 1992-93 to 1.6 children in 2019-21. In all NFHS surveys, irrespective of place of residence, the fertility rate peaks at age 20-24, after which it declines steadily. (**Figure 4.3**)

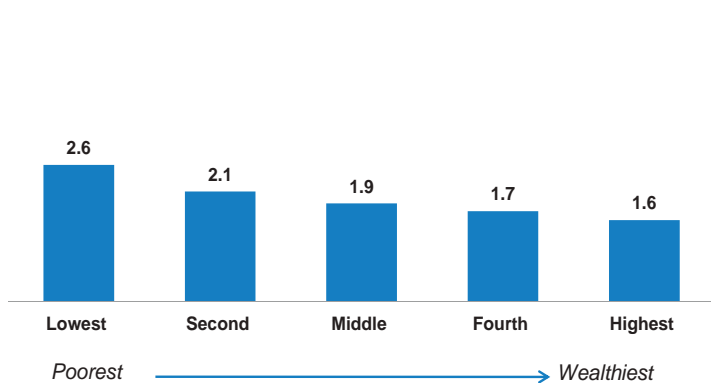
#### Patterns by background characteristics

- The number of children per woman declines with women's level of schooling. Women with no schooling have an average of 2.8 children, compared with 1.8 children for women with 12 or more years of schooling (**Table 4.2**).
- Women in the lowest wealth quintile have an average of 1.0 more children than women in the highest wealth quintile (TFR of 2.6 children versus 1.6 children) (**Figure 4.2**).
- The TFR varies from a low of 1.4 children per woman among Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists to a high of 2.4 children per woman among Muslims.
- The TFR ranges from 1.1 children per woman in Sikkim to 3.0 children per woman in Bihar (**Table 4.3**).
- Thirty-one states and union territories, including all the states in the south region, the west region, and the north region have fertility below the replacement level of 2.1 children per woman.



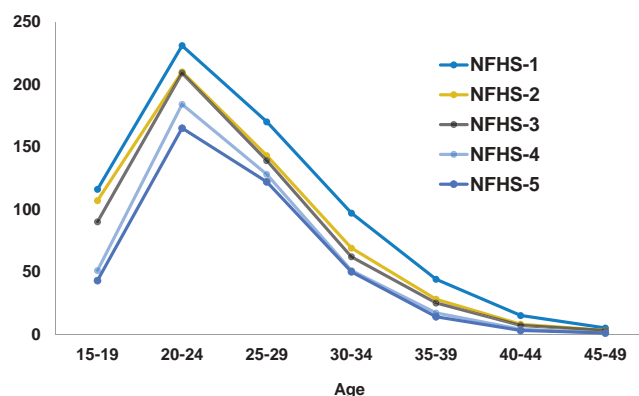
**Figure 4.2 Fertility by Household Wealth**

Total fertility rate for the three years before the survey



**Figure 4.3 Trends in Age-specific Fertility Rates**

Births per 1,000 women



- Age-specific fertility rates in the five-year period before the survey show that fertility has declined in all age cohorts from NFHS-3 to NFHS-5. Among women age 15-19 years, fertility has declined from 90 to 43; for women age 20-24 years, it has declined from 209 to 165, and for women age 25-29 years, it has declined from 139 to 122 (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.3).

## 4.2 CHILDREN EVER BORN AND LIVING

NFHS-5 collected data on the number of children ever born to women age 15-49 and those still living. On average, women age 45-49 have given birth to 3.1 children over their lives. Of these, 2.8 children survived to the time of the survey. Currently married women age 45-49 had an average of 3.2 children, and 2.9 of these were alive at the time of the survey (Table 4.5).

## 4.3 BIRTH ORDER

Among the births in the three years preceding the survey, 40 percent were of birth order one, 34 percent were second-order births, 15 percent were third-order births, and the rest were of birth order four or higher (Table 4.6).

**Trends:** Among births in the three years preceding the survey, 12 percent were of birth order four or higher, compared with 14 percent in 2015-16.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The percentage of births of order four or more declines steadily for higher wealth quintiles (from 22% of the births to women in the lowest wealth quintile to 3% of the births to women in the highest wealth quintile).
- Thirteen percent of births were fourth-order births or higher in rural areas, compared with 8 percent in urban areas.
- Thirty-two percent of births to women with no schooling were of birth order four or higher, compared with 2 percent of births to women with 12 or more years of schooling.

## 4.4 BIRTH INTERVALS

### Median birth interval

Number of months since the preceding birth by which half of the children are born.

**Sample:** Non-first births in the five years before the survey

Short birth intervals (<24 months) are associated with increased health risks for both mothers and newborns. The median birth interval in India is 32.7 months (Table 4.7). Twenty-seven percent of births occurred less than 24 months since the preceding birth (Figure 4.4).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Births to older women occurred after longer intervals than births to younger women. The median birth interval among women age 40-49 is 29 months longer than the median among women age 15-19 (50.1 months versus 21.0 months).
- Births to women in wealthier households occurred after longer birth intervals. The median birth interval in the highest wealth quintile is 11 months longer than in the lowest quintile (41.3 months versus 30.5 months).
- The median birth interval is 10 months longer if the preceding birth is living than if the preceding birth has died.
- Among the religious groups, the median birth interval is the lowest among Hindus (32.3 months) and the highest among Jains (48.2 months).
- Birth intervals are longer for births to women with 12 or more years of schooling than women with no schooling (36.1 months versus 30.9 months)

## 4.5 AGE AT FIRST BIRTH

### Median age at first birth

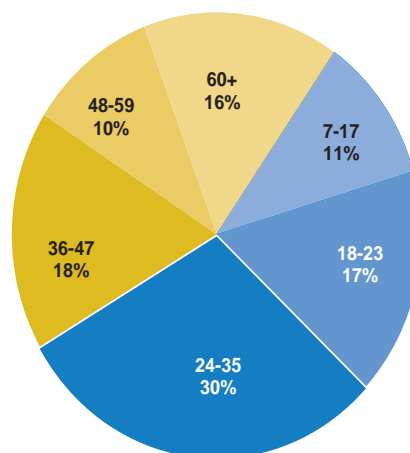
Age by which half of the women have had their first child.

**Sample:** Women age 25-49

The median age at first birth among women age 25-49 in India is 21.2 years (Table 4.8).

**Figure 4.4 Birth Intervals**

Percent distribution of non-first order births by number of months since the preceding birth

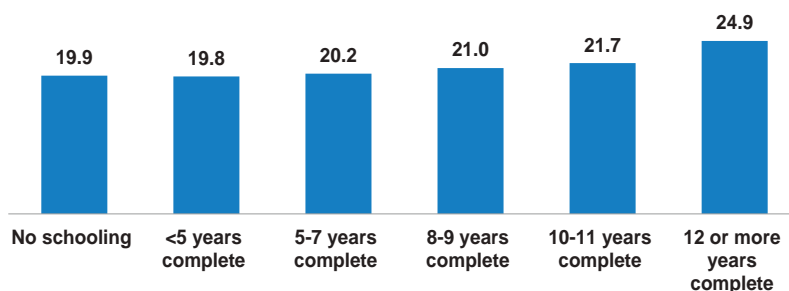


### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women age 25-49 in urban areas have their first birth, on average, more than 1 year later than women in rural areas (22.3 years versus 20.8 years) (Table 4.9).
- The median age at first birth increases from 19.9 years or less among women age 25-49 with no schooling or less than 5 years of schooling to 24.9 years among women with 12 or more years of schooling (Figure 4.5).
- The median age at first birth to women in the highest wealth quintile is 2.9 months longer than for women in the lowest wealth quintile (23.2 months versus 20.3 months).

**Figure 4.5 Median Age at First Birth by Schooling**

Among women age 25-49



## 4.6 MENSTRUAL PROTECTION

### Hygienic methods of protection during the menstrual period

Women who use locally prepared napkins, sanitary napkins, menstrual cups, or tampons during their menstrual period.

**Sample:** Women age 15-24

Using a hygienic method of menstrual protection is important for women’s health and personal hygiene. In NFHS-5, women age 15-24 were asked what method or methods they use for menstrual protection, if anything. In India, 64 percent use sanitary napkins, 50 percent use cloth, and 15 percent use locally prepared napkins. Overall, 78 percent of women in this age group use a hygienic method of menstrual protection (Table 4.13).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women with 12 or more years of schooling are more than twice as likely to be using a hygienic method as women with no schooling (90% versus 44%).
- Women in the highest wealth quintile are almost twice as likely to use a hygienic method as women in the lowest wealth quintile (95% versus 54%).
- Seventy-three percent of rural women use a hygienic method of menstrual protection, compared with 90 percent of urban women.
- The lowest percentage of women use a hygienic method of menstrual protection in Bihar (59%), Madhya Pradesh (61%), and Meghalaya (65%) (Table 4.14).

## 4.7 BATHING PRACTICES DURING MENSTRUAL PERIOD

### Bathing practices during menstrual period

Percentage of women who take a bath during their menstrual period, and take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49 who had a menstrual period in the six months before the survey

In NFHS-5, women age 15-49 who had a menstrual period in the last six months reported that 96 percent take a bath during their menstrual period. Ninety-two percent take a bath during their menstrual period in the same bathroom where other household members take a bath (**Table 4.15**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Overall, 96 percent of women in urban areas and 91 percent of women in rural areas take a bath during their menstrual period in the same bathroom where other household members take a bath.
- Women with 12 or more years of schooling are more likely (97%) to take a bath during their menstrual period than women with no schooling (94%).
- Jain and Hindu women (98-99%) are more likely to take a bath during their menstrual period than Muslim women (88%). Almost all Sikh, Buddhist/Neo Buddhist, and Jain women take a bath in the same bathroom where other household members take a bath.
- Ninety-seven percent of women from the highest wealth quintile take a bath during their menstrual period in the same bathroom where other household members take a bath, compared with 85 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile.
- More than 90 percent of women across the states and union territories take a bath during their menstrual period, except in Ladakh (37%), Jammu and Kashmir (43%), Meghalaya (84%), and Manipur (85%). Ninety percent or more take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members, except in Odisha (72%), West Bengal and Tripura (75% each), Tamil Nadu (85%), Puducherry, Gujarat, and Assam (88% each), and Meghalaya (89%) (**Table 4.16**).

## 4.8 TEENAGE CHILDBEARING

### Teenage childbearing

Women who have given birth or are pregnant with their first child.

**Sample:** Women age 15-19

In India, 7 percent of women age 15-19 have begun childbearing; 5 percent of women have had a live birth and 2 percent of women are pregnant with their first child (**Table 4.10**).

**Trends:** The level of teenage childbearing declined slightly between 2015-16 (8%) and 2019-21 (7%).

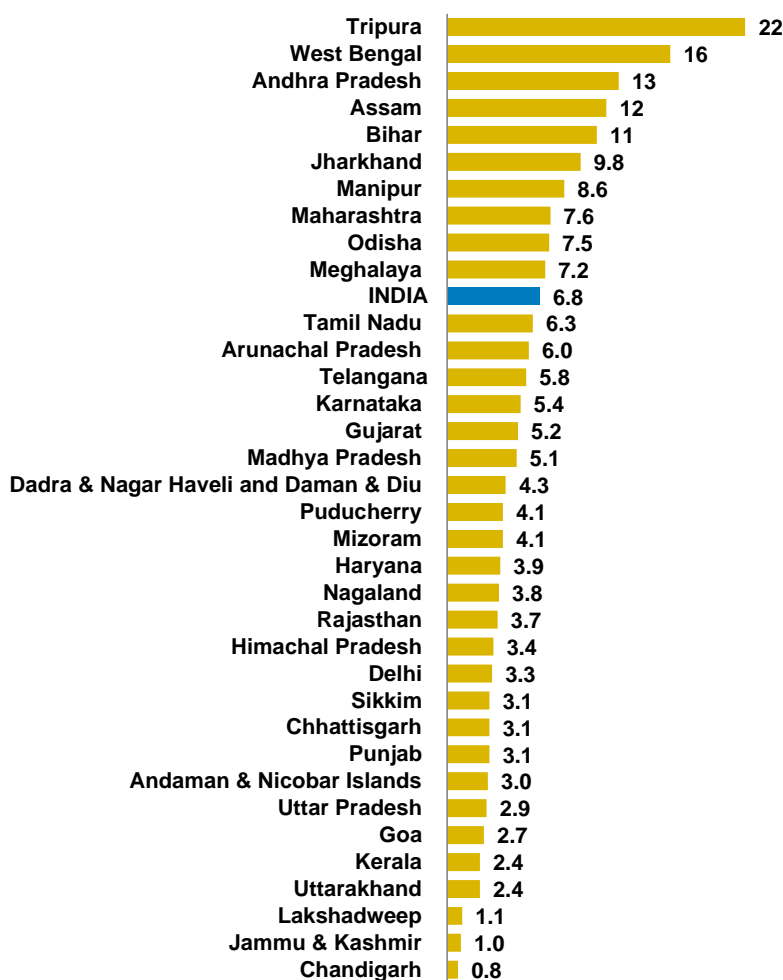
### Patterns by background characteristics

- Teenage pregnancy is relatively high in rural areas. Eight percent of women in rural areas in the age group 15-19 have begun childbearing (**Table 4.10**).

- The level of teenage pregnancy decreases with an increasing level of schooling. Eighteen percent of women age 15-19 with no schooling have already begun childbearing, compared with only 4 percent of women who had 12 or more years of schooling.
- Childbearing among women age 15-19 decreases with the level of wealth. Only 2 percent of teenage women in the highest wealth quintile have begun childbearing, compared with 10 percent of teenage women in the lowest wealth quintile.
- Teenage childbearing is higher among scheduled tribe women age 15-19 years (9%) than the other three caste/tribe groups.
- Teenage childbearing is higher among Muslim women age 15-19 years (8%) than the other religious groups.
- More than half (53%) of currently married women age 15-19 have already begun childbearing.
- Tripura (22%), West Bengal (16%), Andhra Pradesh (13%), Assam (12%), Bihar (11%), and Jharkhand (10%) have higher levels of teenage pregnancy than other states and union territories (**Table 4.11** and **Figure 4.6**).

**Figure 4.6 Teenage Motherhood by State/UT**

*Percentage of women age 15-19 who have begun childbearing*



Information on fertility preferences can help family planning programme planners assess the desire for children, the extent of mistimed and unwanted pregnancies, and the demand for contraception to space or limit births. This information may suggest the direction that fertility patterns will take in the future.

This section presents information on whether and when married women and men want more children, ideal family size, whether the last birth was wanted at that time, and the theoretical fertility rate if all unwanted births were prevented.

## 4.9 DESIRE FOR ANOTHER CHILD

### Desire for another child

Women and men were asked whether they wanted more children and, if so, how long they would prefer to wait before the next child. Women and men who are sterilized are assumed not to want any more children.

**Sample:** Currently married women and men age 15-49

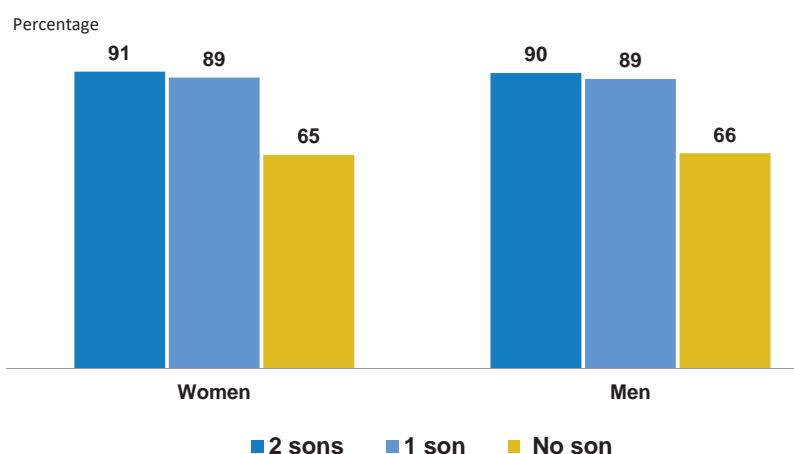
Nearly one in four (23%) currently married women age 15-49 want to have another child. Twelve percent of women want to have a child soon and 10 percent want to wait at least two years before having another child. Most other women want to limit childbearing: 32 percent want no more children and 38 percent are sterilized. Similar to women, a little over one in four (26%) currently married men age 15-49 want to have another child. Thirteen percent of men want to have another child soon, 11 percent want to wait at least two years before having another child, 61 percent want no more children, and 10 percent are sterilized or have wives who are sterilized (**Table 4.12**). Eighty-six percent of women with two living children (including those who are sterilized) do not want any more children (**Table 4.17**).

**Trends:** The percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who want no more children (including women who were sterilized) was slightly lower in 2015-16 (68%) than in 2019-21 (70%).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of currently married women who want no more children increases with age. Only 25 percent of currently married women age 15-24 want no more children, compared with 66 percent age 25-34 years and 89 percent age 35-49.
- Seventy-two percent of Sikh and 71 percent of Hindu currently married women age 15-49 want no more children, compared with 64 percent of Muslim currently married women.
- Sixty-five percent of currently married women age 15-49 with two living daughters and no sons want no more children, compared with 91 percent with two sons and no daughters. The pattern is similar for men, indicating that son preference is still an important factor in overall fertility preferences in India (**Figure 4.7**).
- The desire of women not to have any more children is relatively low in the northeast states except Tripura, Sikkim, and Assam, in Bihar (66%) in the East, Goa (60%) in the West, Ladakh (48%) and Jammu & Kashmir (52%) in the North, and Kerala (64%) in the South. Among the union territories, Lakshadweep has the lowest percentage of women (40%) desiring no more children (**Table 4.18**).

**Figure 4.7** Currently Married Women and Men Age 15-49 with Two Children Who Want No More Children by Number of Living Sons



## 4.10 IDEAL FAMILY SIZE

### Ideal family size

Respondents with no children were asked, “If you could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be?” Respondents who had children were asked: “If you could go back to the time when you did not have any children and could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be?”

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

If both men and women age 15-49 were given a chance to choose their family size, they would both want to have an average of 2.1 children (**Table 4.19.1** and **Table 4.19.2**). The composition of the ideal family among women age 15-49 comprises an average of 1.0 ideal number of sons, 0.9 daughters, and 0.2 children of either of sex, which is almost the same as the current total fertility rate. About four-fifths (81%) of women age 15-49 want at least one son and a similar proportion (79%) want at least one daughter. Only 3 percent of women want to have more daughters than sons, whereas 15 percent want to have more sons than daughters. The mean ideal number of sons and daughters among men is almost the same as among women. About four-fifths (81%) of men want at least one son, and 76 percent want at least one daughter. The mean ideal number of sons and daughters among men is almost the same as among women. The percentage of men who want more sons than daughters (16%) and want more daughters than sons (4%) are almost the same as the sex preferences for women.

**Trends:** The average ideal family size among women age 15-49 has declined only marginally, from 2.2 in 2015-16 to 2.1 in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Older women want somewhat larger families than younger women. The average ideal family size increases from 1.8 children among women age 15-19 to 2.3 children among women age 40-49.
- The ideal family size declines with an increasing level of education among women. Women with no schooling consider 2.5 children to be ideal, compared with 1.8 children for women with 12 or more years of schooling.
- The average ideal size of the family decreases with increasing wealth status. The mean ideal family size is 2.4 children among women in the lowest wealth quintile, compared with 2.0 children among women in the highest quintile. A similar pattern is observed among men 15-49.
- Women in Mizoram (3.6), Meghalaya (3.2), Nagaland (3.0), Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur (2.7 each), Bihar (2.5), and Ladakh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Lakshadweep (2.4 each) have the highest ideal number of children. Bihar (31%), Mizoram (27%), Arunachal Pradesh (25%), Jharkhand (24%), and Manipur and Uttar Pradesh (23% each) have the highest proportion of women who want more sons than daughters in their ideal family size, and the lowest proportion is in Chandigarh (5%) and Goa, Andhra Pradesh, and Puducherry (6% each) (**Table 4.20**).

## 4.11 FERTILITY PLANNING STATUS

### Planning status of birth

Women reported whether their most recent birth was wanted at the time (planned birth), at a later time (mistimed birth), or not at all (unwanted birth).

**Sample:** Current pregnancies and births in the five years before the survey to women age 15-49

Mothers reported that 92 percent of births in the five years preceding the survey (including current pregnancies) were wanted at the time of conception, 4 percent were unwanted at the time of conception, and 4 percent were mistimed or wanted at a later date (**Table 4.21**).

**Trends:** The percentage of births that were wanted at the time increased negligibly from 91 percent in 2015-16 to 92 percent in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The more children a woman has, the more likely it is that her birth was unwanted. Only 0.6 percent of first-order births were unwanted, compared with 7 percent of third-order births and 13 percent of fourth or higher-order births.
- The percentage of unwanted births increases with the mother’s age, ranging from 1 percent of births to women less than 20 years of age to 15 percent of births to women age 45-49.

## 4.12 WANTED FERTILITY RATES

### Unwanted birth

Any birth in excess of the number of children a woman reported as her ideal number.

### Wanted birth

Any birth less than or equal to the number of children a woman reported as her ideal number.

### Wanted fertility rate

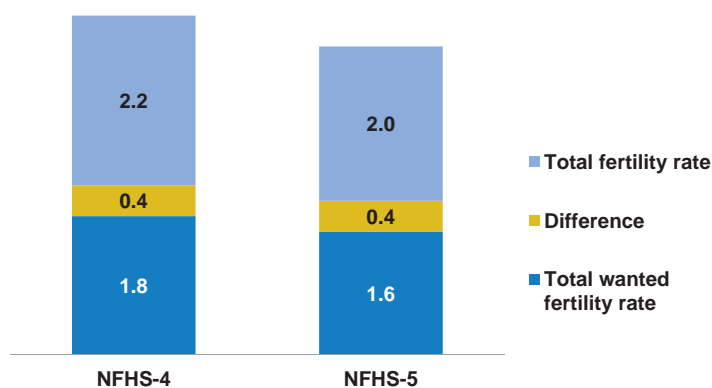
The average number of children a woman would have by the end of her childbearing years if she bore children at the current age-specific fertility rates, excluding unwanted births.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49

The total wanted fertility rate indicates the level of fertility that would result if all unwanted births were prevented. The total wanted fertility rate in India is 1.6 children per woman, compared with the actual total fertility rate of 2.0 children (Table 4.22).

**Trends:** The total wanted fertility rate in India slightly declined from 2015-16 (1.8 children) to 2019-21 (1.6 children). The gap between the actual and wanted fertility rates for both surveys (2015-16 and 2019-21) is the same (0.4 each) (Figure 4.8).

**Figure 4.8 Trends in Wanted and Actual Fertility**



### Patterns by background characteristics

- The gap between the actual and wanted fertility rate is 0.4 children among women age 15-49 in rural areas, compared with 0.2 children among women in urban areas.
- The total wanted fertility rate for women with no schooling is 2.2 children, compared with only 1.6 children for women with 12 or more years of schooling. The gap between the actual and wanted fertility rates is much higher among women with no schooling (0.6) than women with 12 or more years of schooling (0.2).
- Household wealth status not only affects wanted fertility but also affects the gap between the actual and wanted fertility rates. The level of wanted fertility declines with rising levels of wealth, as does the gap between actual and wanted



fertility. The wanted fertility rate is 2.0 children among women in the lowest wealth quintile and 1.4 children among women in the highest quintile. The gap between actual and wanted fertility is 0.6 children for women in the lowest wealth quintile, but only 0.2 children for women in the highest quintile.

- In India, only two states have a wanted fertility rate above the replacement level of fertility—Meghalaya (2.7) and Bihar (2.2), (**Table 4.23**).
- The gap between the actual and wanted fertility rate is 0.5 children or more only in Bihar (0.8) and Uttar Pradesh (0.5).

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**Table 4.1 Current fertility**

Age-specific and total fertility rates and crude birth rates from NFHS-5, NFHS-4, and NFHS-3, by residence, India

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Age	NFHS-5			NFHS-4			NFHS-3		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
15-19	27	49	43	35	59	51	57	105	90
20-24	123	184	165	143	205	184	166	231	209
25-29	110	127	122	114	135	128	123	146	139
30-34	50	49	50	44	55	51	48	69	62
35-39	13	15	14	12	20	17	13	31	25
40-44	3	3	3	2	5	4	4	9	7
45-49	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	4	3
TFR 15-49	1.63	2.14	1.99	1.75	2.41	2.18	2.06	2.98	2.68
CBR	14.0	18.6	17.1	15.8	20.7	19.0	18.8	25.0	23.1

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Note: Rates are for the period 1-36 months preceding the survey (approximately 2003-05 for NFHS-3, 2013-15 for NFHS-4, 2017-19 for NFHS-5). Age-specific fertility rates are expressed per 1,000 women. Rates are for the period 1-36 months preceding the interview.

TFR = Total fertility rate, expressed per woman

CBR = Crude birth rate, expressed per 1,000 population

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**Table 4.2 Fertility by background characteristics**

Total fertility rate for the 3 years preceding the survey, percentage of women age 15-49 currently pregnant, and mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49 by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Total fertility rate	Percentage currently pregnant	Mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49
<b>Residence</b>			
Urban	1.63	3.0	2.57
Rural	2.14	4.1	3.20
<b>Schooling</b>			
No schooling	2.82	2.7	3.57
<5 years complete	2.30	2.8	2.96
5-7 years complete	2.21	3.6	2.84
8-9 years complete	2.12	4.1	2.59
10-11 years complete	1.88	3.8	2.29
12 or more years complete	1.78	4.6	1.97
<b>Religion</b>			
Hindu	1.94	3.6	2.92
Muslim	2.36	4.8	3.64
Christian	1.88	3.6	2.57
Sikh	1.61	2.5	2.54
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.39	2.7	2.62
Jain	1.60	2.0	1.96
Other	2.15	3.7	3.24
<b>Caste/tribe</b>			
Scheduled caste	2.08	3.9	3.24
Scheduled tribe	2.09	4.0	3.22
Other backward class	2.02	3.9	3.01
Other	1.78	3.3	2.66
Don't know	2.54	4.2	3.26
<b>Wealth quintile</b>			
Lowest	2.63	4.7	3.81
Second	2.12	3.9	3.35
Middle	1.89	3.6	2.94
Fourth	1.74	3.6	2.70
Highest	1.57	3.1	2.37
Total	1.99	3.7	2.98

Note: Total fertility rates are for the period 1-36 months preceding the interview.

Table 4.3 Fertility by state/union territory

Age-specific and total fertility rates (TFRs), and crude birth rates for NFHS-5, and TFRs for NFHS-4 and NFHS-3, for the 3-year period preceding the survey, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	NFHS-5 age-specific fertility rates								Total fertility rate 15-49			NFHS-5 crude birth rate
	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	NFHS-5	NFHS-4	NFHS-3	
<b>India</b>	0	43	165	122	50	14	3	1	1.99	2.18	2.68	17.1
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	0	9	106	83	57	26	0	0	1.40	1.57	na	11.7
Delhi	0	19	113	116	59	16	1	0	1.62	1.78	2.13	14.8
Haryana	0	27	165	131	47	9	3	1	1.91	2.05	2.69	16.4
Himachal Pradesh	0	22	126	119	56	9	1	0	1.66	1.88	1.94	12.7
Jammu & Kashmir	0	9	60	106	79	23	3	2	1.41	na	na	13.1
Ladakh	0	2	37	91	85	34	7	5	1.31	na	na	12.6
Punjab	0	21	110	118	60	15	2	1	1.63	1.62	1.99	13.3
Rajasthan	0	31	177	129	48	14	3	1	2.01	2.40	3.21	18.7
Uttarakhand	0	19	143	137	56	12	2	0	1.85	2.07	2.55	16.7
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	0	24	151	127	43	15	3	0	1.82	2.23	2.62	16.4
Madhya Pradesh	0	37	188	119	39	11	3	1	1.99	2.32	3.12	17.2
Uttar Pradesh	0	22	178	162	75	25	6	1	2.35	2.74	3.82	20.5
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	0	77	259	170	63	20	6	1	2.98	3.41	4.00	25.9
Jharkhand	0	64	191	119	53	18	5	2	2.26	2.55	3.31	20.2
Odisha	0	40	138	116	53	13	3	1	1.82	2.05	2.37	15.9
West Bengal	1	81	134	74	29	7	2	0	1.64	1.77	2.27	15.5
<b>Northeast</b>												
Arunachal Pradesh	1	38	107	102	70	30	10	5	1.80	2.10	3.03	16.0
Assam	0	61	135	100	53	21	4	1	1.87	2.21	2.42	16.8
Manipur	0	43	110	121	99	54	6	1	2.17	2.61	2.83	17.4
Meghalaya	0	49	144	142	128	78	33	9	2.91	3.04	3.80	24.2
Mizoram	0	22	95	103	89	52	11	0	1.87	2.27	2.86	15.0
Nagaland	0	19	92	105	81	35	10	1	1.72	2.74	3.74	15.4
Sikkim	0	22	56	68	44	16	3	0	1.05	1.17	2.02	10.2
Tripura	3	91	118	78	41	10	2	0	1.70	1.68	2.22	14.5
<b>West</b>												
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	40	168	114	29	10	6	0	1.84	na	na	16.5
Goa	0	14	55	80	64	39	6	0	1.30	1.66	1.79	10.3
Gujarat	0	34	151	125	47	12	2	1	1.86	2.03	2.42	15.0
Maharashtra	0	47	146	99	39	9	2	0	1.71	1.87	2.11	13.8

Continued...

Table 4.3 Fertility by state/union territory—*Continued*

Age-specific and total fertility rates (TFRs), and crude birth rates for NFHS-5, and TFRs for NFHS-4 and NFHS-3, for the 3-year period preceding the survey, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	NFHS-5 age-specific fertility rates								Total fertility rate 15-49			NFHS-5 crude birth rate
	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	NFHS-5	NFHS-4	NFHS-3	
<b>South</b>												
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	22	87	84	43	15	0	4	1.28	1.44	na	10.6
Andhra Pradesh	0	67	165	73	24	6	0	1	1.68	1.83	na	13.8
Karnataka	0	40	149	100	36	9	1	0	1.67	1.80	2.07	14.2
Kerala	0	18	123	127	67	21	3	0	1.79	1.56	1.93	11.8
Lakshadweep	0	2	66	89	86	28	13	0	1.42	1.82	na	12.5
Puducherry	0	25	95	118	53	7	0	0	1.49	1.70	na	12.2
Tamil Nadu	0	34	141	122	44	9	1	0	1.76	1.70	1.80	13.7
Telangana	0	48	171	97	27	5	1	0	1.75	1.78	na	15.3

Note: Rates are for the period 1-36 months preceding the survey (approximately 2003-05 for NFHS-3, 2013-15 for NFHS-4, and 2017-19 for NFHS-5). Age-specific fertility rates are expressed per 1,000 women.

na = Not available

**Table 4.4 Age-specific fertility rates**

Age-specific fertility rates for 5-year periods preceding the survey by mother's age at the time of the birth, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Age	Number of years preceding survey			
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
URBAN				
10-14	0	1	2	4
15-19	32	52	64	81
20-24	129	157	171	192
25-29	112	121	127	141
30-34	50	51	57	[76]
35-39	14	14	[21]	na
40-44	2	[4]	na	na
45-49	[0]	na	na	na
RURAL				
10-14	0	1	4	6
15-19	54	81	98	119
20-24	188	215	221	239
25-29	128	137	151	171
30-34	50	59	73	[104]
35-39	15	22	[38]	na
40-44	4	[8]	na	na
45-49	[1]	na	na	na
TOTAL				
10-14	0	1	3	5
15-19	48	72	86	106
20-24	169	195	204	223
25-29	122	132	143	160
30-34	50	56	68	[95]
35-39	15	19	[32]	na
40-44	3	[7]	na	na
45-49	[1]	na	na	na

Note: Age-specific fertility rates are expressed per 1,000 women. Estimates in brackets are truncated. Rates exclude the month of interview. For the 0-4 year period, rates for the 10-14 age group are based on retrospective data from women age 15-19.

na = Not available

**Table 4.5 Children ever born and living**

Percent distribution of all women and currently married women by number of children ever born (CEB), and mean number of children ever born and living, according to age, India, 2019-21

Age	Number of children ever born										Total	Mean number of living children				
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			10 or more			
ALL WOMEN																
15-19	95.5	3.9	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	122,544	0.05	0.05
20-24	55.1	25.5	15.3	3.4	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	119,440	0.69	0.66
25-29	19.6	22.9	36.2	15.1	4.7	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	117,145	1.67	1.60
30-34	7.1	15.3	41.6	21.5	9.5	3.4	1.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100,384	2.28	2.17
35-39	4.2	10.8	39.5	24.2	11.9	5.6	2.3	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	97,552	2.63	2.48
40-44	3.8	9.1	35.0	24.9	13.9	7.0	3.6	1.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.0	100.0	81,787	2.87	2.67
45-49	3.3	9.0	29.7	25.4	15.0	8.5	4.7	2.4	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.0	100.0	85,264	3.09	2.84
Total	30.8	14.2	27.0	15.1	7.1	3.2	1.5	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	724,115	1.75	1.65
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN																
15-19	65.0	31.0	3.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	15,407	0.39	0.37
20-24	26.1	41.9	25.3	5.7	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	71,584	1.14	1.09
25-29	9.8	25.4	40.8	17.0	5.4	1.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	102,257	1.88	1.80
30-34	4.1	15.3	42.9	22.4	9.9	3.6	1.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	93,946	2.37	2.26
35-39	2.4	10.5	40.2	24.8	12.3	5.8	2.4	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	90,684	2.70	2.54
40-44	2.2	8.5	35.6	25.5	14.3	7.2	3.7	1.7	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.0	100.0	73,706	2.95	2.75
45-49	2.1	8.4	29.9	25.9	15.4	8.8	4.8	2.5	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	100.0	73,768	3.16	2.91
Total	9.2	18.6	35.6	19.8	9.3	4.2	1.9	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	521,352	2.30	2.16



**Table 4.6 Birth order**

Percent distribution of births to women during the 3 years preceding the survey by birth order, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and percent distribution of births to women, by birth order, NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Birth order				Total	Number of births
	1	2	3	4 or more		
<b>Mother's current age</b>						
15-19	88.9	10.1	1.0	0.0	100.0	5,687
20-29	44.0	36.0	14.1	6.0	100.0	100,124
30-39	16.5	30.9	21.2	31.4	100.0	27,449
40-49	9.6	16.0	14.0	60.5	100.0	1,501
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	43.9	36.0	12.5	7.6	100.0	35,291
Rural	38.5	32.8	15.9	12.8	100.0	99,471
<b>Mother's schooling</b>						
No schooling	20.8	25.5	22.1	31.6	100.0	26,631
<5 years complete	26.4	32.3	22.0	19.2	100.0	6,041
5-7 years complete	30.1	35.0	20.6	14.3	100.0	18,523
8-9 years complete	41.5	36.1	15.1	7.2	100.0	25,380
10-11 years complete	46.2	36.9	12.6	4.3	100.0	18,344
12 or more years complete	55.4	35.4	7.5	1.6	100.0	39,843
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	41.0	34.3	14.5	10.2	100.0	106,920
Muslim	33.8	30.1	17.8	18.3	100.0	22,006
Christian	42.1	33.8	12.1	12.0	100.0	2,805
Sikh	45.6	37.4	11.8	5.2	100.0	1,689
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	43.3	35.9	13.7	7.1	100.0	584
Jain	51.8	39.5	8.3	0.5	100.0	204
Other	39.2	27.0	16.1	17.6	100.0	553
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	38.0	32.9	16.2	12.9	100.0	31,490
Scheduled tribe	38.6	31.2	16.1	14.0	100.0	13,554
Other backward class	39.6	34.2	14.8	11.4	100.0	58,633
Other	43.5	34.3	13.3	8.9	100.0	29,828
Don't know	30.0	34.2	19.7	16.0	100.0	1,257
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	29.8	28.8	19.2	22.2	100.0	32,658
Second	36.7	32.8	17.3	13.2	100.0	29,257
Middle	41.7	35.0	14.8	8.6	100.0	26,411
Fourth	45.9	36.5	12.1	5.6	100.0	25,062
Highest	50.6	37.0	9.2	3.2	100.0	21,372
Total	39.9	33.6	15.0	11.5	100.0	134,761
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	39.0	32.6	15.0	13.5	100.0	147,585

Table 4.7 Birth intervals

Percent distribution of non-first order births during the 5 years preceding the survey by interval since the preceding birth, and median number of months since the preceding birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Months since preceding birth						Total	Number of non-first order births	Median number of months since preceding birth
	7-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60 or more			
<b>Mother's current age</b>									
15-19	33.3	32.0	27.5	5.5	1.6	0.2	100.0	652	21.0
20-29	13.1	19.9	33.3	17.3	8.6	7.8	100.0	86,944	29.2
30-39	6.5	11.0	23.6	18.0	13.1	27.9	100.0	47,307	41.6
40-49	6.1	7.7	19.0	14.9	11.9	40.4	100.0	3,609	50.1
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	9.3	14.2	25.2	17.3	11.9	22.1	100.0	34,417	36.7
Rural	11.2	17.4	31.0	17.5	9.6	13.3	100.0	104,095	31.6
<b>Mother's schooling</b>									
No schooling	11.8	17.6	32.1	17.1	9.1	12.3	100.0	38,936	30.9
<5 years complete	9.3	15.1	31.8	16.9	10.6	16.3	100.0	8,031	33.3
5-7 years complete	10.6	17.2	29.8	17.6	10.2	14.6	100.0	22,790	32.3
8-9 years complete	11.2	17.3	29.5	17.3	9.6	15.1	100.0	24,671	32.1
10-11 years complete	10.7	16.3	28.6	16.5	10.3	17.6	100.0	16,366	32.9
12 or more years complete	9.4	14.7	25.7	18.6	11.9	19.6	100.0	27,719	36.1
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	10.8	16.8	30.2	17.4	9.9	14.9	100.0	108,149	32.3
Muslim	10.9	16.0	27.3	17.8	10.9	17.1	100.0	24,705	33.8
Christian	8.5	16.7	29.3	17.5	9.6	18.5	100.0	2,805	33.7
Sikh	10.6	13.1	24.8	17.9	11.3	22.3	100.0	1,545	36.9
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	7.1	12.0	26.6	20.2	15.5	18.6	100.0	583	37.6
Jain	10.5	10.0	18.8	9.8	7.8	43.0	100.0	141	48.2
Other	8.4	13.9	29.7	20.3	12.6	15.0	100.0	584	35.2
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	11.7	18.0	31.0	17.2	9.1	13.1	100.0	33,236	31.0
Scheduled tribe	9.1	17.0	33.5	17.8	9.9	12.8	100.0	14,358	31.9
Other backward class	11.2	17.1	29.9	17.4	10.0	14.5	100.0	60,568	32.2
Other	9.4	13.7	25.3	17.9	11.8	21.9	100.0	28,899	36.9
Don't know	11.2	18.9	30.7	14.5	12.1	12.5	100.0	1,451	30.2
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	11.4	18.0	33.3	17.3	9.1	10.9	100.0	39,774	30.5
Second	11.4	18.3	31.1	16.8	9.2	13.3	100.0	31,529	30.9
Middle	11.3	17.1	29.6	16.9	9.7	15.2	100.0	26,299	32.0
Fourth	10.0	15.2	26.8	18.2	11.4	18.4	100.0	23,009	34.9
Highest	7.9	11.6	22.0	18.8	13.2	26.4	100.0	17,901	41.3
<b>Birth order</b>									
2-3	10.6	16.5	28.8	17.5	10.3	16.3	100.0	111,385	33.1
4-6	11.1	17.0	32.4	17.3	9.7	12.5	100.0	24,701	31.2
7 or more	13.1	17.1	34.1	16.6	9.0	10.2	100.0	2,426	30.0

Continued...

**Table 4.7 Birth intervals—Continued**

Percent distribution of non-first order births during the 5 years preceding the survey by interval since the preceding birth, and median number of months since the preceding birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Months since preceding birth						Total	Number of non-first order births	Median number of months since preceding birth
	7-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60 or more			
<b>Sex of preceding birth</b>									
Male	10.7	16.5	29.3	17.4	10.1	16.0	100.0	63,871	32.8
Female	10.7	16.7	29.8	17.5	10.2	15.0	100.0	74,641	32.6
<b>Survival of preceding birth</b>									
Living	9.4	16.4	29.8	17.9	10.5	16.0	100.0	130,794	33.3
Dead	32.4	19.3	25.4	10.3	5.0	7.6	100.0	7,718	23.5
Total	10.7	16.6	29.6	17.5	10.2	15.5	100.0	138,512	32.7

Note: The interval for multiple births is the number of months since the preceding pregnancy that ended in a live birth.

**Table 4.8 Age at first birth**

Percentage of women who gave birth by specific exact ages and who have never given birth and median age at first birth by current age, India, 2019-21

Current age	Percentage who gave birth by exact age					Percentage who have never given birth	Number of women	Median age at first birth
	15	18	20	22	25			
15-19	0.1	na	na	na	na	95.5	122,544	a
20-24	0.7	8.3	23.4	na	na	55.1	119,440	a
25-29	1.6	12.9	31.3	51.6	71.7	19.6	117,145	21.8
30-34	2.7	17.0	36.3	56.1	76.6	7.1	100,384	21.4
35-39	3.1	19.8	40.6	59.9	78.9	4.2	97,552	20.9
40-44	3.5	20.7	41.3	61.4	80.4	3.8	81,787	20.8
45-49	3.3	19.8	40.2	60.0	79.6	3.3	85,264	20.9
15-49	2.0	13.5	29.6	45.2	59.4	30.8	724,115	a
20-49	2.4	15.8	34.7	na	na	17.6	601,571	a
25-49	2.8	17.7	37.5	57.4	77.0	8.3	482,132	21.2

na = Not applicable

a = Not calculated because less than 50 percent of women had a birth before reaching the beginning of the age group

**Table 4.9 Median age at first birth**

Median age at first birth among women age 25-49 years by current age according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Current age					25-49
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	23.4	22.6	22.0	21.7	21.7	22.3
Rural	21.3	20.8	20.5	20.4	20.6	20.8
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	19.9	19.8	19.7	19.8	20.2	19.9
<5 years complete	19.7	19.7	19.6	19.9	20.0	19.8
5-7 years complete	20.2	20.1	20.2	20.2	20.5	20.2
8-9 years complete	21.0	21.0	20.9	21.0	21.3	21.0
10-11 years complete	21.4	21.6	21.7	21.9	22.3	21.7
12 or more years complete	a	24.9	24.8	24.5	24.7	24.9
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	21.8	21.3	20.9	20.8	20.9	21.2
Muslim	21.3	20.9	20.5	20.5	20.6	20.8
Christian	24.4	23.5	22.7	22.8	23.0	23.2
Sikh	24.8	23.2	22.5	21.9	22.2	22.8
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	22.1	22.9	21.8	21.5	20.9	21.9
Jain	a	25.6	24.0	24.3	23.4	24.9
Other	21.4	21.4	21.6	22.4	22.1	21.7
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	21.6	21.0	20.4	20.3	20.3	20.8
Scheduled tribe	21.4	21.0	20.6	20.6	20.8	20.9
Other backward class	21.8	21.3	20.9	20.8	20.9	21.2
Other	22.5	22.0	21.6	21.4	21.4	21.8
Don't know	20.3	20.6	20.0	19.6	20.3	20.2
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	20.2	20.0	20.2	20.5	20.9	20.3
Second	20.8	20.4	20.1	20.2	20.5	20.4
Middle	21.5	20.9	20.5	20.3	20.5	20.8
Fourth	22.5	22.0	21.1	20.8	20.8	21.5
Highest	25.0	23.8	22.9	22.3	21.9	23.2
Total	21.8	21.4	20.9	20.8	20.9	21.2

a = Not calculated because less than 50 percent of women had a birth before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 4.10 Teenage pregnancy and motherhood

Percentage of women age 15-19 who have had a live birth or who are pregnant with their first child, and percentage who have begun childbearing, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women age 15-19 who:		Percentage of women age 15-19 who have begun childbearing	Number of women
	Have had a live birth	Are pregnant with first child		
<b>Age</b>				
15-17	0.9	0.7	1.5	72,948
15	0.1	0.1	0.2	24,699
16	0.7	0.4	1.1	24,589
17	1.9	1.5	3.4	23,660
18	5.9	3.8	9.7	26,675
19	14.2	5.9	20.0	22,921
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	2.4	1.4	3.8	34,543
Rural	5.3	2.7	7.9	88,000
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	12.2	5.5	17.6	5,383
<5 years complete	10.9	4.5	15.4	2,258
5-7 years complete	7.2	3.1	10.2	11,798
8-9 years complete	4.9	2.4	7.3	38,966
10-11 years complete	3.2	1.7	4.9	38,324
12 or more years complete	2.3	1.9	4.2	25,814
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	0.0	0.0	0.0	106,960
Currently married	35.0	18.3	53.4	15,407
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	26.9	5.3	32.1	177
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	4.3	2.3	6.5	97,827
Muslim	5.7	2.7	8.4	19,410
Christian	4.1	2.7	6.8	2,475
Sikh	1.7	1.2	2.8	1,559
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.8	0.9	3.7	601
Jain	1.1	0.0	1.1	214
Other	9.2	1.7	10.9	459
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	4.9	2.5	7.3	28,204
Scheduled tribe	6.1	2.7	8.7	11,691
Other backward class	3.6	2.2	5.8	53,755
Other	4.9	2.2	7.0	28,129
Don't know	12.3	4.3	16.6	766

Continued...

**Table 4.10 Teenage pregnancy and motherhood—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-19 who have had a live birth or who are pregnant with their first child, and percentage who have begun childbearing, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women age 15-19 who:		Percentage of women age 15-19 who	Number of women
	Have had a live birth	Are pregnant with first child	have begun childbearing	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	6.8	3.2	10.0	27,513
Second	5.5	2.6	8.0	27,957
Middle	4.5	2.4	6.9	25,635
Fourth	3.0	2.0	5.0	22,789
Highest	1.3	0.9	2.2	18,650
Total	4.5	2.3	6.8	122,544

**Table 4.11 Teenage pregnancy and motherhood by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-19 who have had a live birth or who are pregnant with their first child, and percentage who have begun childbearing, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women age 15-19 who:		Percentage of women age 15-19 who have begun childbearing
	Have had a live birth	Are pregnant with first child	
<b>India</b>	4.5	2.3	6.8
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	0.0	0.8	0.8
Delhi	1.8	1.5	3.3
Haryana	1.8	2.1	3.9
Himachal Pradesh	2.8	0.6	3.4
Jammu & Kashmir	0.7	0.2	1.0
Ladakh	0.0	0.0	0.0
Punjab	1.6	1.6	3.1
Rajasthan	2.3	1.3	3.7
Uttarakhand	1.3	1.1	2.4
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	1.5	1.6	3.1
Madhya Pradesh	2.9	2.2	5.1
Uttar Pradesh	1.7	1.2	2.9
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	6.8	4.2	11.0
Jharkhand	7.1	2.7	9.8
Odisha	4.5	3.1	7.5
West Bengal	12.7	3.7	16.4
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	5.1	1.0	6.0
Assam	7.9	3.8	11.7
Manipur	6.2	2.4	8.6
Meghalaya	5.3	1.9	7.2
Mizoram	2.8	1.3	4.1
Nagaland	2.2	1.6	3.8
Sikkim	1.8	1.3	3.1
Tripura	16.2	5.7	21.9
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	2.3	2.0	4.3
Goa	1.8	1.0	2.7
Gujarat	3.2	2.1	5.2
Maharashtra	5.3	2.3	7.6
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.2	1.8	3.0
Andhra Pradesh	8.4	4.1	12.6
Karnataka	3.6	1.8	5.4
Kerala	1.2	1.2	2.4
Lakshadweep	0.0	1.1	1.1
Puducherry	3.4	0.8	4.1
Tamil Nadu	4.2	2.1	6.3
Telangana	3.3	2.4	5.8



**Table 4.12 Fertility preferences by number of living children**

Percent distribution of currently married women and men age 15-49 by desire for children, according to number of living children, India, 2019-21

Desire for children	Number of living children <sup>1</sup>							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more	
<b>WOMEN<sup>1</sup></b>								
Want another soon <sup>2</sup>	66.9	21.5	4.2	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.2	11.6
Want another later <sup>3</sup>	13.1	35.5	4.2	1.9	1.3	1.0	0.6	10.3
Want another, undecided when	2.5	2.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.8
Undecided	3.7	6.5	2.4	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.9	3.1
Want no more	4.7	22.7	36.7	35.0	39.2	44.4	55.0	32.0
Sterilized <sup>4</sup>	0.7	8.2	49.1	55.3	51.4	45.6	34.9	38.2
Declared infecund	7.6	2.5	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.1
Missing	0.9	1.1	1.6	2.5	3.2	3.9	4.0	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>38,447</b>	<b>106,078</b>	<b>199,974</b>	<b>104,063</b>	<b>44,402</b>	<b>17,552</b>	<b>10,837</b>	<b>521,352</b>
<b>MEN<sup>5</sup></b>								
Want another soon <sup>2</sup>	37.8	23.3	5.0	3.3	2.7	2.4	2.5	13.1
Want another later <sup>3</sup>	13.0	32.1	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.3	1.7	11.3
Want another, undecided when	2.8	3.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.4
Undecided	3.9	6.7	3.2	2.3	2.2	2.7	3.6	3.8
Want no more	36.3	31.6	73.2	78.0	81.7	82.8	84.8	60.8
Sterilized <sup>4</sup>	6.2	2.9	13.2	13.1	11.0	10.6	6.9	9.6
Declared infecund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>7,952</b>	<b>11,961</b>	<b>20,109</b>	<b>9,220</b>	<b>3,848</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>55,475</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes current pregnancy of woman/wife

<sup>2</sup> Want next birth within 2 years

<sup>3</sup> Want to delay next birth for 2 or more years

<sup>4</sup> For women, includes both female and male sterilization.

For men: Includes male sterilization and men who mention in response to the question about desire for children that their wife has been is sterilized

<sup>5</sup> The number of living children includes one additional child if the respondent's wife is pregnant (or if any wife is pregnant for men with more than one current wife).

**Table 4.13 Menstrual protection**

Percent distribution of women age 15-24 who have ever menstruated by type of protection used during their menstrual period, according background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of menstrual protection <sup>1</sup>							Number of women	Percentage using a hygienic method <sup>2</sup>
	Cloth	Locally prepared napkins	Sanitary napkins	Tampons	Menstrual cup	Other	Nothing		
<b>Age</b>									
15-19	49.3	15.2	64.5	1.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	121,803	78.0
20-24	50.0	14.7	64.2	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	119,309	77.2
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	31.5	14.1	77.5	1.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	70,941	89.6
Rural	57.2	15.3	58.9	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.3	170,171	72.6
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	80.0	11.0	32.6	1.1	0.1	0.2	1.2	15,833	43.5
<5 years complete	73.7	11.6	40.3	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	5,501	51.3
5-7 years complete	69.0	13.5	46.8	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	22,820	59.4
8-9 years complete	57.8	14.4	58.7	1.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	59,189	71.9
10-11 years complete	43.3	16.3	70.7	1.7	0.4	0.2	0.1	55,504	84.7
12 or more years complete	35.2	15.9	76.8	1.9	0.4	0.2	0.1	82,265	90.3
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	49.2	15.3	64.2	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	193,622	77.6
Muslim	56.2	13.4	62.0	2.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	36,757	74.7
Christian	36.1	11.0	77.0	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.1	4,955	85.7
Sikh	28.4	25.5	72.8	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	3,174	93.6
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	21.7	11.4	78.9	0.8	0.3	1.8	0.3	1,272	86.6
Jain	21.0	6.1	88.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	422	94.7
Other	59.5	15.0	57.7	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	910	71.5
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	51.0	15.1	63.5	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	55,274	76.7
Scheduled tribe	60.8	13.9	52.9	1.9	0.3	0.2	0.3	23,191	65.6
Other backward class	51.2	15.9	63.6	1.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	104,663	77.7
Other	40.7	13.7	71.6	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	56,452	83.7
Don't know	55.4	6.9	55.2	1.2	0.4	0.6	1.2	1,532	63.3
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	74.4	12.0	41.7	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	48,401	53.6
Second	61.9	15.3	56.8	1.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	52,523	71.1
Middle	47.6	16.3	68.0	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	50,656	82.1
Fourth	36.3	16.3	75.6	1.9	0.3	0.2	0.1	48,328	89.0
Highest	22.8	14.8	83.1	1.7	0.5	0.2	0.0	41,204	95.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>241,112</b>	<b>77.6</b>

Note: Table is based on women age 15-24 who have ever menstruated.

<sup>1</sup> Respondents may report multiple methods so the sum may exceed 100 percent

<sup>2</sup> Locally prepared napkins, sanitary napkins, tampons, and menstrual cups are considered to be hygienic methods of protection

Table 4.14 Menstrual protection by state/union territory

Percentage of women age 15-24 who have ever menstruated by type of protection used during their menstrual period, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Type of menstrual protection <sup>1</sup>							Number of women	Percentage using a hygienic method <sup>2</sup>
	Cloth	Locally prepared napkins	Sanitary napkins	Tampons	Menstrual cup	Other	Nothing		
<b>India</b>	49.6	15.0	64.4	1.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	241,112	77.6
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	10.7	23.7	72.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	176	94.5
Delhi	15.9	6.7	94.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	3,540	97.1
Haryana	22.1	15.2	80.8	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.1	4,484	93.5
Himachal Pradesh	31.1	6.8	86.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	1,037	92.0
Jammu & Kashmir	58.4	23.1	50.5	3.3	1.3	0.0	0.3	2,116	74.5
Ladakh	58.1	19.2	56.4	6.1	1.2	0.0	0.0	35	79.1
Punjab	27.4	26.8	71.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	4,352	93.3
Rajasthan	43.6	10.9	76.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.3	16,617	84.3
Uttarakhand	38.9	6.6	85.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	2,078	91.5
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	68.6	10.8	58.5	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	6,053	69.0
Madhya Pradesh	64.8	11.6	49.8	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	14,819	60.9
Uttar Pradesh	69.4	16.9	56.5	1.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	47,476	72.9
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	67.5	17.3	42.2	1.5	0.1	0.5	0.8	25,647	59.2
Jharkhand	56.5	21.9	52.1	2.8	0.6	0.2	0.1	6,800	75.1
Odisha	42.8	16.4	68.4	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	7,338	81.7
West Bengal	42.8	5.0	77.4	2.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	19,247	83.4
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	31.5	4.6	88.5	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.1	184	92.0
Assam	69.1	14.3	53.5	2.2	0.9	0.8	0.4	6,256	67.0
Manipur	63.9	3.9	81.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.9	362	83.4
Meghalaya	63.2	7.5	60.6	1.3	0.0	2.1	0.0	628	65.3
Mizoram	11.1	2.6	88.5	0.3	0.0	3.0	0.9	155	91.0
Nagaland	56.7	3.5	77.7	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.0	231	80.6
Sikkim	24.1	5.8	81.4	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	94	86.3
Tripura	56.1	13.3	52.7	3.8	1.0	0.2	2.1	620	69.1
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	22.0	26.0	64.3	22.2	0.0	0.6	0.0	88	94.3
Goa	33.6	4.1	92.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	294	96.8
Gujarat	51.5	27.6	44.1	5.1	0.9	0.9	0.5	10,504	66.9
Maharashtra	26.1	12.6	76.1	1.7	0.1	0.6	0.2	19,513	85.3

Continued...

**Table 4.14 Menstrual protection by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-24 who have ever menstruated by type of protection used during their menstrual period, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Type of menstrual protection <sup>1</sup>							Number of women	Percentage using a hygienic method <sup>2</sup>
	Cloth	Locally prepared napkins	Sanitary napkins	Tampons	Menstrual cup	Other	Nothing		
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8.2	0.6	98.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50	98.8
Andhra Pradesh	36.2	16.9	69.2	2.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	7,565	85.2
Karnataka	44.2	21.9	69.1	2.9	0.3	0.0	0.2	10,837	84.6
Kerala	40.2	2.8	90.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	4,769	93.3
Lakshadweep	21.8	5.5	92.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12	98.3
Puducherry	13.2	4.2	98.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	184	99.1
Tamil Nadu	12.7	17.3	87.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	11,761	98.4
Telangana	17.0	13.4	81.2	3.5	1.1	0.1	0.0	5,188	93.4

<sup>1</sup> Respondents may report multiple methods so the sum may exceed 100 percent

<sup>2</sup> Locally prepared napkins, sanitary napkins, tampons, and menstrual cups are considered to be hygienic methods of protection

**Table 4.15 Bathing practices during menstrual period**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a menstrual period in the 6 months preceding the survey who take a bath during their menstrual period, and among women who take a bath during their menstrual period, percentage who take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Take a bath during their menstrual period			Take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	95.8	96.1	96.0	95.6	91.1	92.4
20-24	96.4	96.9	96.8	95.5	90.8	92.3
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	90.6	94.6	94.0	93.4	90.3	90.7
<5 years complete	95.5	95.6	95.6	93.0	84.7	86.5
5-7 years complete	93.6	95.6	95.2	95.0	89.4	90.5
8-9 years complete	96.1	96.4	96.4	95.1	89.4	90.7
10-11 years complete	96.4	96.6	96.6	95.6	91.4	92.7
12 or more years complete	96.7	97.1	96.9	96.0	93.3	94.4
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	98.0	97.9	97.9	95.6	91.2	92.4
Muslim	88.7	87.8	88.2	95.4	88.6	91.3
Christian	97.6	96.0	96.5	93.7	90.8	91.9
Sikh	97.4	96.5	96.8	98.4	98.8	98.7
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	97.6	97.1	97.3	99.5	96.4	97.6
Jain	99.3	97.5	98.9	98.2	94.9	97.6
Other	97.5	94.1	94.6	96.8	90.2	91.3
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	97.2	97.4	97.3	94.7	90.6	91.7
Scheduled tribe	97.3	97.0	97.0	95.5	85.4	86.8
Other backward class	96.1	96.6	96.5	95.0	93.2	93.7
Other	95.3	94.6	94.9	96.9	90.3	93.0
Don't know	96.9	96.4	96.6	96.7	75.2	82.8
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	93.6	96.7	96.5	85.8	85.3	85.3
Second	96.4	96.3	96.3	91.3	90.6	90.7
Middle	95.6	96.6	96.4	95.7	93.6	94.1
Fourth	96.3	96.2	96.2	95.9	95.1	95.4
Highest	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.8	96.0	96.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>96.3</b>	<b>95.6</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>92.4</b>

**Table 4.16 Bathing practices during menstrual period by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a menstrual period in the 6 months preceding the survey who take a bath during their menstrual period, and among women who take a bath during their menstrual period, percentage who take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Take a bath during their menstrual period			Take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	96.1	96.5	96.3	95.6	91.0	92.4
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	95.9	100.0	96.0	98.3	100.0	98.3
Delhi	95.9	100.0	96.0	99.1	100.0	99.1
Haryana	95.5	94.9	95.1	99.4	98.9	99.0
Himachal Pradesh	99.5	97.2	97.5	97.8	94.3	94.7
Jammu & Kashmir	48.6	40.9	42.7	92.4	91.0	91.4
Ladakh	37.8	36.3	36.6	96.5	95.9	96.0
Punjab	97.4	96.0	96.5	98.9	99.5	99.2
Rajasthan	97.9	98.7	98.5	97.1	94.3	94.9
Uttarakhand	93.0	93.3	93.2	98.2	91.3	93.5
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	98.5	98.6	98.6	95.6	92.0	92.8
Madhya Pradesh	97.5	97.5	97.5	96.4	91.8	93.0
Uttar Pradesh	89.1	93.8	92.7	97.9	96.9	97.1
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	95.8	97.7	97.4	97.4	96.0	96.2
Jharkhand	97.3	95.6	96.0	97.5	95.2	95.8
Odisha	97.9	97.7	97.7	86.8	69.3	72.4
West Bengal	97.8	98.9	98.6	90.1	68.2	74.8
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	94.0	93.8	93.8	93.0	94.0	93.8
Assam	98.5	97.9	98.0	97.2	87.1	88.4
Manipur	88.1	82.9	84.7	95.4	87.8	90.6
Meghalaya	83.9	84.0	84.0	91.7	88.1	88.9
Mizoram	99.4	99.1	99.3	97.1	96.0	96.6
Nagaland	95.0	94.6	94.7	99.0	99.0	99.0
Sikkim	90.4	89.9	90.1	99.8	98.1	98.8
Tripura	99.4	99.1	99.2	79.3	73.3	74.9

*Continued...*

**Table 4.16 Bathing practices during menstrual period by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a menstrual period in the 6 months preceding the survey who take a bath during their menstrual period, and among women who take a bath during their menstrual period, percentage who take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Take a bath during their menstrual period			Take a bath in the same bathroom used by other household members		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	98.5	99.5	99.0	96.9	92.3	94.3
Goa	99.8	98.5	99.2	94.2	98.3	95.9
Gujarat	98.9	98.9	98.9	96.2	83.1	88.2
Maharashtra	98.2	98.4	98.3	98.8	96.8	97.8
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	100.0	99.8	99.9	98.6	97.9	98.2
Andhra Pradesh	99.0	98.3	98.5	93.2	91.5	92.1
Karnataka	98.3	98.4	98.4	96.6	95.0	95.6
Kerala	99.7	99.2	99.5	95.2	95.6	95.4
Lakshadweep	99.2	98.1	98.9	97.9	92.4	96.5
Puducherry	99.6	100.0	99.7	89.2	84.2	87.7
Tamil Nadu	98.8	99.5	99.2	86.2	84.4	85.3
Telangana	98.1	98.9	98.6	96.1	95.9	96.0

Table 4.17 Desire to limit childbearing

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 who want no more children by number of living children, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and by number of living children, NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Women: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>						Men: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>					
	0	1	2	3	4 or more	Total	0	1	2	3	4 or more	Total
<b>Age</b>												
15-24	2.7	9.8	64.5	75.1	77.2	25.1	10.4	7.1	55.3	63.7	*	25.1
25-34	3.4	25.3	83.4	86.9	86.2	65.8	26.7	19.3	75.5	80.3	80.9	65.8
35 and over	19.0	73.1	93.2	93.5	91.9	88.5	61.6	60.8	91.4	93.8	94.0	88.5
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	5.0	36.7	88.3	91.6	91.2	70.2	36.0	40.4	85.5	90.7	90.5	70.2
Rural	5.6	27.4	84.5	89.8	90.2	70.1	40.8	29.2	85.4	90.0	92.3	70.1
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	11.4	41.9	84.3	90.4	90.5	81.1	48.9	47.1	84.1	88.9	91.4	81.1
<5 years complete	10.0	43.1	87.6	91.7	90.1	79.5	47.8	36.4	84.6	93.1	88.7	79.5
5-7 years complete	6.4	34.8	87.3	90.4	90.8	75.9	45.0	28.7	86.4	89.5	92.4	75.9
8-9 years complete	4.5	27.9	85.8	90.2	90.2	67.6	33.8	31.0	86.9	91.7	93.8	67.6
10-11 years complete	3.8	29.0	86.5	90.2	89.1	65.7	42.4	34.6	85.3	90.7	92.9	65.7
12 or more years complete	3.4	27.1	85.1	88.3	89.8	55.2	32.9	32.9	84.9	87.8	91.6	55.2
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	5.6	32.3	87.4	91.4	91.3	71.3	40.1	36.1	87.3	92.3	94.1	71.3
Muslim	4.4	18.8	73.0	84.3	87.8	63.6	38.3	20.4	74.5	82.2	86.3	63.6
Christian	3.9	29.4	83.9	86.0	77.7	65.5	23.8	23.8	78.3	82.3	74.6	65.5
Sikh	4.3	43.0	86.3	91.8	93.3	71.6	34.8	51.2	91.0	95.2	96.7	71.6
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	9.2	34.6	88.3	95.4	96.0	70.3	26.0	29.4	88.7	83.5	95.5	70.3
Jain	3.7	49.1	89.8	90.4	*	70.4	*	*	(94.5)	*	*	70.4
Other	9.5	28.3	79.5	84.7	87.2	64.9	24.8	54.6	79.3	79.5	71.2	64.9
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	5.2	27.1	85.1	91.3	91.3	70.4	35.7	34.3	86.7	92.2	94.3	70.4
Scheduled tribe	5.3	23.7	81.9	88.8	89.5	67.0	41.2	26.1	79.6	85.9	87.3	67.0
Other backward class	5.3	28.1	85.8	90.2	90.2	70.6	40.8	32.5	85.5	91.4	93.1	70.6
Other	5.7	39.1	87.5	90.2	90.2	70.3	38.4	36.6	86.4	87.5	89.0	70.3
Don't know	6.4	24.8	82.2	87.6	89.7	68.9	(40.2)	(43.1)	87.5	(94.5)	(89.8)	68.9
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	6.5	23.7	78.9	87.7	89.7	70.2	33.9	28.4	80.6	88.8	90.8	70.2
Second	5.5	27.7	83.7	90.0	89.9	70.6	39.6	32.1	83.7	89.3	93.4	70.6
Middle	5.7	29.6	86.7	91.3	90.7	71.1	41.9	32.0	87.0	91.0	90.0	71.1
Fourth	5.2	31.5	87.5	91.3	92.1	69.9	44.4	33.6	87.5	90.0	93.1	69.9
Highest	4.3	37.3	88.9	91.6	91.4	68.9	32.9	39.0	86.6	93.4	94.4	68.9

Continued...



**Table 4.17 Desire to limit childbearing—Continued**

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 who want no more children by number of living children, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and by number of living children, NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Women: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>					Total	Men: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>					Total
	0	1	2	3	4 or more		0	1	2	3	4 or more	
<b>Number of living sons<sup>2</sup></b>												
0	5.4	21.8	65.3	67.3	66.3	32.8	39.1	25.1	65.8	66.5	69.6	32.8
1	na	39.5	89.0	91.2	91.0	77.5	na	41.8	88.6	91.7	90.8	77.5
2	na	na	90.8	93.6	92.8	92.2	na	na	90.4	93.1	94.7	92.2
3	na	na	na	92.7	91.3	92.2	na	na	na	94.7	94.3	92.2
4 or more	na	na	na	na	90.9	91.1	na	na	na	na	92.4	91.1
Total	5.4	30.9	85.8	90.3	90.4	70.1	39.1	33.7	85.5	90.1	91.9	70.1
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	5.6	29.4	83.6	88.0	88.3	68.2	24.9	31.6	85.4	91.1	92.2	69.8

Note: Women who have been sterilized or whose husband has been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Men who have been sterilized or who mention in response to the question about desire for children that their wife has been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Includes current pregnancy of woman/wife

<sup>2</sup> Excludes pregnant women and men with pregnant wives

Table 4.18 Desire to limit childbearing by state/union territory

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 who want no more children by number of living children, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>						Men: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>					
	0	1	2	3	4 or more	Total	0	1	2	3	4 or more	Total
<b>India</b>	5.4	30.9	85.8	90.3	90.4	70.1	39.1	33.7	85.5	90.1	91.9	70.1
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	(3.1)	36.8	92.4	99.0	95.8	78.2	*	*	*	*	*	78.2
Delhi	4.3	35.2	90.8	93.3	94.5	74.0	8.1	29.9	92.0	92.5	96.5	74.0
Haryana	4.4	37.1	89.6	92.2	90.4	74.9	14.1	36.3	91.0	91.8	90.7	74.9
Himachal Pradesh	6.1	44.7	94.5	95.7	93.4	78.8	45.0	46.2	94.6	90.7	98.8	78.8
Jammu & Kashmir	4.9	10.0	59.7	78.1	79.9	52.4	39.3	5.5	51.7	63.9	69.3	52.4
Ladakh	1.5	18.4	54.5	71.2	66.9	48.2	*	(8.0)	46.4	(69.4)	*	48.2
Punjab	3.7	40.2	86.9	91.3	91.9	71.1	43.8	41.5	91.2	97.6	94.4	71.1
Rajasthan	2.9	19.3	84.7	92.2	92.9	69.9	15.9	19.6	82.1	91.5	94.2	69.9
Uttarakhand	4.9	26.9	86.6	91.3	91.5	72.7	29.3	29.2	84.7	94.4	99.5	72.7
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	5.0	21.4	85.2	93.2	94.3	70.8	34.0	24.4	84.8	92.5	94.1	70.8
Madhya Pradesh	4.2	27.1	88.0	92.3	93.1	74.1	19.5	32.9	90.6	93.3	93.7	74.1
Uttar Pradesh	5.7	21.1	76.7	87.7	91.0	68.3	29.2	22.5	77.8	90.7	94.5	68.3
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	4.2	14.4	69.3	84.5	85.9	65.8	9.7	13.1	77.1	89.7	93.9	65.8
Jharkhand	5.0	21.3	79.3	88.6	91.1	68.3	37.4	27.7	78.2	87.1	92.3	68.3
Odisha	7.1	41.0	89.5	93.4	94.6	71.9	9.3	39.3	88.5	88.6	95.1	71.9
West Bengal	7.0	43.6	90.5	92.6	90.7	69.3	21.3	44.6	88.0	88.6	83.1	69.3
<b>Northeast</b>												
Arunachal Pradesh	6.5	19.7	59.0	73.0	81.0	53.9	46.0	16.0	53.4	76.4	89.3	53.9
Assam	6.6	30.9	86.7	91.1	93.1	66.0	39.4	28.1	83.6	88.7	92.0	66.0
Manipur	2.0	12.8	60.1	73.9	85.1	51.8	29.9	17.9	50.7	71.0	83.7	51.8
Meghalaya	6.8	16.1	33.1	43.8	48.2	35.0	20.1	21.4	38.0	37.8	44.9	35.0
Mizoram	1.3	11.3	29.1	52.9	58.1	35.4	(5.1)	10.8	23.4	45.7	64.4	35.4
Nagaland	0.5	16.9	57.4	71.9	81.7	54.9	50.7	11.8	50.8	61.7	89.6	54.9
Sikkim	9.7	47.7	90.4	90.3	97.8	66.4	49.9	57.1	69.0	*	*	66.4
Tripura	6.2	49.2	91.7	93.2	94.2	70.7	50.8	46.4	90.7	87.7	(81.4)	70.7
<b>West</b>												
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	6.1	21.7	85.4	95.6	97.1	69.7	*	29.0	91.8	(92.9)	(100.0)	69.7
Goa	4.0	34.4	84.9	90.2	(96.6)	60.1	*	(26.2)	83.3	*	*	60.1
Gujarat	7.5	37.0	85.7	89.8	89.9	70.2	34.8	36.0	86.0	91.3	92.2	70.2
Maharashtra	5.8	35.6	89.6	93.3	93.0	73.1	55.9	36.6	90.1	94.4	96.3	73.1

Continued...

Table 4.18 Desire to limit childbearing by state/union territory—Continued

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 who want no more children by number of living children, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>					Total	Men: Number of living children <sup>1</sup>					Total
	0	1	2	3	4 or more		0	1	2	3	4 or more	
<b>South</b>												
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.4	39.7	94.2	93.8	90.7	71.0	*	50.6	92.6	(92.8)	*	71.0
Andhra Pradesh	4.7	36.7	92.3	93.9	96.0	76.7	41.5	39.8	88.8	92.8	(97.4)	76.7
Karnataka	7.5	33.7	85.8	91.1	90.4	68.5	34.4	35.5	81.3	86.8	83.8	68.5
Kerala	2.0	24.6	82.9	84.8	85.3	64.4	46.5	23.1	83.5	90.0	*	64.4
Lakshadweep	1.0	9.9	53.7	74.4	75.6	39.6	*	*	*	*	*	39.6
Puducherry	5.7	38.1	93.1	95.9	99.4	77.1	26.8	(18.3)	88.6	*	*	77.1
Tamil Nadu	4.2	31.1	93.5	97.0	94.8	73.9	24.9	27.0	92.2	93.3	97.6	73.9
Telangana	5.7	28.9	90.1	93.6	96.1	75.3	65.6	37.1	89.4	96.9	92.4	75.3

Note: Women who have been sterilized or whose husband has been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Men who have been sterilized or who mention in response to the question about desire for children that their wife has been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Includes current pregnancy of woman/wife

**Table 4.19.1 Indicators of sex preference: Women**

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex for women age 15-49, percentage who want more sons than daughters, percentage who want more daughters than sons, percentage who want at least one son, and percentage who want at least one daughter by background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and total for NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Mean ideal number of			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons	Percent who want at least one son	Percent who want at least one daughter	Number of women
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex					
<b>Mother's current age</b>								
15-19	0.8	0.8	0.2	9.3	3.1	74.1	72.9	119,640
20-29	0.9	0.8	0.3	12.9	3.1	81.2	79.0	233,968
30-39	1.1	0.9	0.2	17.6	3.7	83.7	80.8	195,988
40-49	1.1	1.0	0.2	20.9	3.6	83.9	81.2	165,179
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.9	0.8	0.3	11.4	3.8	75.8	73.8	232,088
Rural	1.1	0.9	0.2	17.4	3.1	84.0	81.4	482,688
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	1.3	1.0	0.2	27.5	3.2	88.6	85.9	161,620
<5 years complete	1.1	0.9	0.2	18.0	3.5	85.8	83.0	37,048
5-7 years complete	1.1	0.9	0.2	16.6	3.2	85.0	82.1	95,691
8-9 years complete	0.9	0.8	0.2	12.9	3.0	81.7	79.3	127,215
10-11 years complete	0.9	0.8	0.3	10.2	3.5	77.8	75.7	108,279
12 or more years complete	0.8	0.7	0.3	8.5	3.7	73.8	72.1	184,922
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	0.8	0.7	0.3	8.4	3.3	71.2	70.2	167,951
Currently married	1.1	0.9	0.2	17.7	3.3	84.6	81.9	516,500
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	1.0	0.9	0.2	16.3	3.7	80.2	77.3	30,325
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	1.0	0.9	0.2	15.2	3.2	81.5	79.1	582,463
Muslim	1.1	1.0	0.3	18.6	3.7	82.2	80.6	95,664
Christian	1.0	0.9	0.4	11.8	6.5	73.9	73.0	16,523
Sikh	0.8	0.7	0.2	8.9	2.1	77.3	73.0	11,262
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.8	0.8	0.3	9.5	4.3	74.8	73.7	4,536
Jain	0.6	0.6	0.5	7.6	4.8	60.7	59.7	1,626
Other	1.2	1.0	0.2	20.6	3.5	85.8	83.2	2,701
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	1.0	0.9	0.2	16.2	3.1	82.6	80.6	156,588
Scheduled tribe	1.1	1.0	0.2	17.7	3.9	85.3	82.6	66,370
Other backward class	1.0	0.9	0.3	16.3	3.2	81.6	79.4	307,530
Other	0.9	0.8	0.3	12.4	3.7	78.1	75.5	179,312
Don't know	1.0	0.9	0.3	15.0	3.2	81.3	79.2	4,975

*Continued...*

**Table 4.19.1 Indicators of sex preference: Women—Continued**

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex for women age 15-49, percentage who want more sons than daughters, percentage who want more daughters than sons, percentage who want at least one son, and percentage who want at least one daughter by background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and total for NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Mean ideal number of			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons	Percent who want at least one son	Percent who want at least one daughter	Number of women
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex					
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	1.2	1.0	0.2	23.6	3.0	87.8	85.2	131,894
Second	1.1	0.9	0.2	18.0	3.2	84.9	82.4	142,901
Middle	1.0	0.9	0.2	14.5	3.5	82.0	79.7	146,907
Fourth	0.9	0.8	0.3	11.9	3.6	78.6	76.4	148,878
Highest	0.8	0.8	0.4	10.0	3.6	73.9	71.8	144,196
Total	1.0	0.9	0.2	15.4	3.4	81.3	79.0	714,776
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	1.1	0.9	0.2	18.8	3.5	82.3	78.9	694,605

Note: Table excludes women who gave non-numeric responses to the questions on ideal number of children or ideal number of sons or daughters.

Table 4.19.2 Indicators of sex preference: Men

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex for men age 15-49, percentage who want more sons than daughters, percentage who want more daughters than sons, percentage who want at least one son, and percentage who want at least one daughter by background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and total for NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Mean ideal number of			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons	Percent who want at least one son	Percent who want at least one daughter	Number of men
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex					
<b>Mother's current age</b>								
15-19	0.9	0.8	0.2	12.9	2.8	75.8	71.6	15,719
20-29	0.9	0.8	0.3	13.9	3.5	79.5	75.8	28,068
30-39	1.0	0.9	0.3	16.7	4.9	82.4	78.3	25,840
40-49	1.1	0.9	0.3	20.3	5.0	83.8	78.3	21,716
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.9	0.8	0.3	14.0	4.1	77.0	72.0	32,142
Rural	1.0	0.9	0.3	17.1	4.1	82.8	78.8	59,201
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	1.2	1.0	0.2	23.6	4.8	85.6	81.3	9,783
<5 years complete	1.1	0.9	0.3	21.3	5.3	86.1	81.9	5,752
5-7 years complete	1.1	0.9	0.3	18.4	4.1	85.1	80.6	11,905
8-9 years complete	1.0	0.8	0.3	16.3	3.9	81.7	77.1	18,060
10-11 years complete	0.9	0.8	0.3	14.8	3.7	78.7	74.0	16,445
12 or more years complete	0.9	0.8	0.3	12.1	4.0	76.8	72.8	29,398
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	0.9	0.8	0.3	12.8	3.0	75.3	71.0	35,290
Currently married	1.1	0.9	0.3	18.1	4.9	84.2	79.9	54,900
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	1.0	0.8	0.2	17.1	3.2	81.3	74.1	1,153
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	1.0	0.8	0.3	15.5	4.0	80.5	76.0	72,419
Muslim	1.1	0.9	0.3	19.4	4.6	83.2	79.4	14,219
Christian	1.1	0.9	0.3	16.4	4.8	79.0	77.0	2,313
Sikh	0.8	0.7	0.3	9.7	2.1	72.6	67.0	858
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.9	0.8	0.2	13.1	6.7	75.9	74.1	995
Jain	0.7	0.6	0.4	9.5	1.1	66.7	60.5	276
Other	1.0	0.9	0.4	17.4	3.3	75.7	74.0	261
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	1.0	0.9	0.3	17.6	4.0	82.7	77.7	18,688
Scheduled tribe	1.1	0.9	0.3	17.1	4.6	82.3	78.8	8,253
Other backward class	1.0	0.8	0.3	16.0	4.1	80.5	76.6	38,414
Other	0.9	0.8	0.3	14.6	4.0	79.2	74.3	25,508
Don't know	1.0	0.8	0.4	17.1	8.6	75.0	73.1	480

Continued...

**Table 4.19.2 Indicators of sex preference: Men—Continued**

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex for men age 15-49, percentage who want more sons than daughters, percentage who want more daughters than sons, percentage who want at least one son, and percentage who want at least one daughter by background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and total for NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Mean ideal number of			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons	Percent who want at least one son	Percent who want at least one daughter	Number of men
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex					
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	1.2	0.9	0.3	22.0	3.7	85.3	81.3	15,253
Second	1.1	0.9	0.2	18.0	4.3	84.8	80.1	18,178
Middle	1.0	0.9	0.3	15.5	4.0	81.5	77.2	19,521
Fourth	0.9	0.8	0.3	14.2	4.7	79.2	75.1	20,289
Highest	0.8	0.7	0.4	11.7	3.8	73.7	69.1	18,101
Total age 15-49	1.0	0.8	0.3	16.0	4.1	80.7	76.4	91,343
Age 50-54	1.2	0.9	0.3	21.4	5.3	83.5	79.1	8,549
Total age 15-54	1.0	0.9	0.3	16.5	4.2	81.0	76.6	99,892
<b>Age 15-49</b>								
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	1.0	0.9	0.3	18.7	3.5	82.9	78.1	101,574

Note: Table excludes men who gave non-numeric responses to the questions on ideal number of children or ideal number of sons or daughters.

Table 4.20 Indicators of sex preference by state/union territory

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex, percentage who want more sons than daughters, and percentage who want more daughters than sons for women and men age 15-49, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons	Men			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex			Sons	Daughters	Either sex		
<b>India</b>	1.0	0.9	0.2	15.4	3.4	1.0	0.8	0.3	16.0	4.1
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	0.8	0.8	0.3	4.7	1.7	0.6	0.6	0.3	4.4	0.9
Delhi	0.8	0.7	0.4	7.6	2.9	0.8	0.7	0.5	9.9	1.9
Haryana	1.0	0.9	0.2	10.4	2.0	0.9	0.8	0.2	10.5	2.5
Himachal Pradesh	0.8	0.7	0.3	6.5	4.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	7.5	2.3
Jammu & Kashmir	1.2	1.0	0.1	22.8	6.9	1.3	1.1	0.1	24.8	7.0
Ladakh	1.2	1.0	0.2	22.1	8.9	1.4	1.2	0.1	33.1	6.8
Punjab	0.8	0.7	0.2	8.3	1.9	0.8	0.7	0.2	9.9	1.9
Rajasthan	1.0	0.9	0.2	15.6	1.7	1.1	0.9	0.2	15.9	2.1
Uttarakhand	0.8	0.8	0.5	9.4	2.2	0.8	0.7	0.6	8.4	2.5
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	1.1	0.9	0.3	16.2	5.4	1.1	1.0	0.2	16.3	4.7
Madhya Pradesh	1.1	0.9	0.2	15.2	2.0	1.0	0.9	0.2	12.6	3.8
Uttar Pradesh	1.2	1.0	0.2	23.1	1.9	1.1	0.9	0.3	22.4	3.0
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	1.4	1.0	0.1	31.3	1.9	1.2	0.9	0.2	22.0	2.8
Jharkhand	1.2	1.0	0.2	24.3	2.1	1.1	1.0	0.2	16.4	2.0
Odisha	0.9	0.8	0.2	12.5	2.6	0.8	0.7	0.4	13.7	2.0
West Bengal	0.9	0.8	0.2	10.0	4.8	1.0	0.8	0.4	19.2	4.0
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	1.4	1.2	0.1	24.5	7.2	1.3	1.0	0.2	22.8	6.3
Assam	1.0	0.9	0.2	14.3	4.0	1.0	0.9	0.2	15.3	3.0
Manipur	1.4	1.2	0.1	23.3	6.5	1.5	1.1	0.3	32.6	3.1
Meghalaya	1.5	1.5	0.2	15.4	21.2	1.2	1.2	0.1	18.4	11.6
Mizoram	1.8	1.7	0.1	27.3	18.3	2.1	1.6	0.1	37.3	8.6
Nagaland	1.4	1.3	0.3	18.0	12.8	1.5	1.2	0.1	28.2	7.4
Sikkim	0.8	0.8	0.1	9.3	9.0	0.8	0.7	1.3	22.3	10.0
Tripura	0.9	0.8	0.1	11.7	6.7	0.9	0.7	0.3	13.9	2.6
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.8	0.8	0.4	7.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.2	10.9	0.7
Goa	0.7	0.6	0.6	5.5	4.0	0.9	0.8	0.2	3.1	3.1
Gujarat	0.9	0.8	0.3	14.6	4.1	1.0	0.8	0.3	16.7	4.1
Maharashtra	0.8	0.8	0.3	8.8	4.0	0.9	0.8	0.3	11.5	4.8

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Table 4.20 Indicators of sex preference by state/union territory—Continued

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex, percentage who want more sons than daughters, and percentage who want more daughters than sons for women and men age 15-49, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons	Men			Percent who want more sons than daughters	Percent who want more daughters than sons
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex			Sons	Daughters	Either sex		
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.7	0.6	0.4	6.6	4.9	0.7	0.6	0.3	14.3	7.6
Andhra Pradesh	0.9	0.8	0.4	6.4	3.3	1.0	0.9	0.2	11.4	4.1
Karnataka	0.9	0.8	0.2	14.1	6.2	1.0	0.8	0.2	16.0	6.6
Kerala	0.6	0.6	1.0	7.8	5.5	0.8	0.6	0.8	14.0	5.1
Lakshadweep	0.6	0.6	1.2	8.4	4.0	1.2	0.9	0.6	34.0	8.2
Puducherry	0.7	0.7	0.5	6.4	5.2	0.8	0.7	0.4	11.3	9.4
Tamil Nadu	0.8	0.8	0.4	7.4	4.2	0.9	0.8	0.3	11.9	4.2
Telangana	1.0	0.9	0.2	10.6	4.2	1.0	0.9	0.3	13.7	6.1

Note: Table excludes women and men who gave non-numeric responses to the questions on ideal number of children or ideal number of sons or daughters.

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**Table 4.21 Fertility planning status**

Percent distribution of births to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey (including current pregnancies) by planning status of the birth, according to birth order and mother's age at birth, India, 2019-21

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Birth order and mother's age at birth	Planning status of birth			Total	Number of births
	Wanted then	Wanted later	Wanted no more		
<b>Birth order</b>					
1	96.3	3.0	0.6	100.0	101,794
2	92.5	5.7	1.9	100.0	86,508
3	89.0	4.2	6.8	100.0	39,284
4 or more	83.5	3.1	13.4	100.0	30,408
<b>Mother's age at birth<sup>1</sup></b>					
<20	93.2	5.6	1.2	100.0	31,715
20-24	93.1	4.9	2.0	100.0	113,006
25-29	92.4	3.4	4.2	100.0	76,057
30-34	90.6	2.1	7.2	100.0	28,060
35-39	86.7	1.7	11.6	100.0	7,491
40-44	84.4	1.0	14.5	100.0	1,452
45-49	85.2	0.3	14.5	100.0	186
Total	92.4	4.1	3.5	100.0	257,995

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<sup>1</sup> For current pregnancies, the maternal age at birth is estimated as the mother's expected age at the time of the birth. Excludes cases with missing information on the duration of pregnancy.

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**Table 4.22 Wanted fertility rates**

Total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the 3 years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

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Background characteristic	Total wanted fertility rate	Total fertility rate
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	1.4	1.6
Rural	1.7	2.1
<b>Schooling</b>		
No schooling	2.2	2.8
<5 years complete	1.8	2.3
5-7 years complete	1.8	2.2
8-9 years complete	1.8	2.1
10-11 years complete	1.6	1.9
12 or more years complete	1.6	1.8
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	0.0	0.0
Currently married	2.6	3.1
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	1.1	1.3
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	1.6	1.9
Muslim	1.8	2.4
Christian	1.7	1.9
Sikh	1.4	1.6
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.2	1.4
Jain	1.5	1.6
Other	1.7	2.1
<b>Caste/tribe</b>		
Scheduled caste	1.7	2.1
Scheduled tribe	1.7	2.1
Other backward class	1.7	2.0
Other	1.5	1.8
Don't know	2.0	2.6
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	2.0	2.6
Second	1.7	2.1
Middle	1.6	1.9
Fourth	1.5	1.7
Highest	1.4	1.6
Total	1.6	2.0

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Note: Rates are calculated based on births to women age 15-49 in the period 1-36 months preceding the survey. The total fertility rates are the same as those presented in Table 4.2.

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**Table 4.23 Wanted fertility rates by state/union territory**

Total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the 3 years preceding the survey, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Total wanted fertility rate	Total fertility rate
<b>India</b>	1.6	2.0
<b>North</b>		
Chandigarh	1.2	1.4
Delhi	1.3	1.6
Haryana	1.5	1.9
Himachal Pradesh	1.4	1.7
Jammu & Kashmir	1.3	1.4
Ladakh	1.1	1.3
Punjab	1.3	1.6
Rajasthan	1.6	2.0
Uttarakhand	1.5	1.8
<b>Central</b>		
Chhattisgarh	1.6	1.8
Madhya Pradesh	1.6	2.0
Uttar Pradesh	1.8	2.3
<b>East</b>		
Bihar	2.2	3.0
Jharkhand	1.9	2.3
Odisha	1.5	1.8
West Bengal	1.4	1.6
<b>Northeast</b>		
Arunachal Pradesh	1.5	1.8
Assam	1.6	1.9
Manipur	2.0	2.2
Meghalaya	2.7	2.9
Mizoram	1.8	1.9
Nagaland	1.6	1.7
Sikkim	0.9	1.0
Tripura	1.5	1.7
<b>West</b>		
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1.6	1.8
Goa	1.2	1.3
Gujarat	1.5	1.9
Maharashtra	1.4	1.7
<b>South</b>		
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.1	1.3
Andhra Pradesh	1.6	1.7
Karnataka	1.4	1.7
Kerala	1.7	1.8
Lakshadweep	1.2	1.4
Puducherry	1.3	1.5
Tamil Nadu	1.6	1.8
Telangana	1.6	1.7

Note: Rates are calculated based on births to women age 15-49 in the period 1-36 months preceding the survey. The total fertility rates are the same as those presented in Table 4.3.

### Key Findings

- **Modern contraceptive use:** Modern contraceptive use by currently married women has increased from 48 percent to 56 percent between 2015-16 and 2019-21. Female sterilization is still the most popular contraceptive method, used by 38 percent of currently married women.
- **Source of modern contraceptive methods:** Sixty-eight percent of modern contraceptive method users obtained the method from the public health sector.
- **Contraceptive discontinuation:** In the five years preceding the survey, 50 percent of the women who started using a contraceptive method discontinued the method in less than 12 months. The leading reason for discontinuation is a desire to become pregnant (11%).
- **Unmet need for family planning:** Nine percent of currently married women have an unmet need for family planning, down from 13 percent since 2015-16.
- **Hysterectomy:** Three percent of women have had a hysterectomy. More than two-thirds (70%) of hysterectomies were performed in the private health sector.

Couples can use contraceptive methods to limit or space the number of children they have. This chapter presents information on the knowledge and use of contraceptive methods, sources of contraceptive methods, informed choice of methods, and rates and reasons for discontinuing contraceptives. The chapter also provides information on how men perceive contraception and women using contraceptives. It also examines the unmet need for family planning and exposure to family planning messages. Finally, this chapter includes the prevalence of hysterectomy by state/UT and socio-demographic characteristics.

## 5.1 CONTRACEPTIVE KNOWLEDGE AND USE

Knowledge of contraceptive methods is almost universal in India, with more than 99 percent of currently married women and men age 15-49 knowing at least one method of contraception. More than half of currently married women (52%) and men (52%) know about emergency contraception. More than half of currently married women and more than one-quarter of currently married men know about the lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM) (**Table 5.1**).

### Contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR)

Percentage of women who use any contraceptive method

**Sample:** All women, currently married women, and sexually active unmarried women age 15-49

Overall, the contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) is 67 percent of currently married women age 15-49. More than half (56%) of currently married women use a modern method. Only 28 percent of currently married women age 15-19 use a contraceptive method and 19 percent use a modern contraceptive method. Among sexually active, unmarried women age 15-49, more than half (55%) use a contraceptive method and almost all of them (51%) use a modern contraceptive method (**Table 5.5**).

### Modern methods

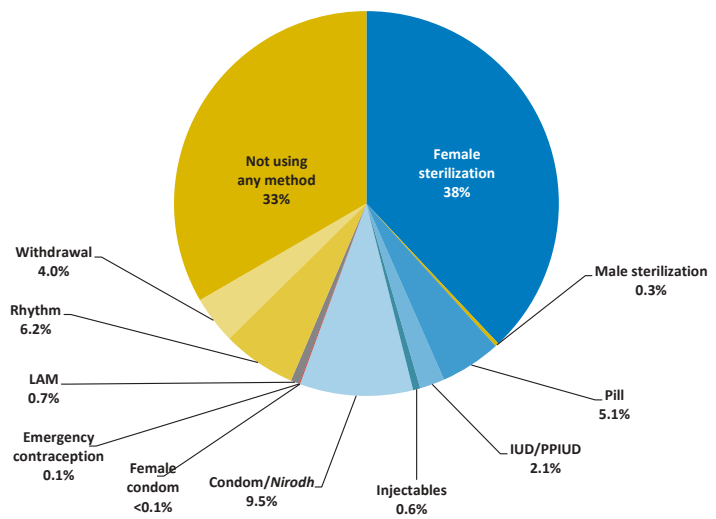
Include male and female sterilization, injectables, intrauterine devices (IUDs/PPIUDs), contraceptive pills, implants, female and male condoms, diaphragm, foam/jelly, the standard days method, the lactational amenorrhoea method, and emergency contraception

Female sterilization remains the most popular modern contraceptive method. Among currently married women age 15-49, 38 percent use female sterilization, followed by male condoms (10%) and pills (5%). Ten percent use a traditional method, mostly the rhythm method (**Figure 5.1**). Among sexually active unmarried women, male condoms are the most commonly used method (27%), followed by female sterilization (21%).

**Trends:** The contraceptive prevalence rate among currently married women age 15-49 increased from 54 percent in 2015-16 to 67 percent in 2019-21 (**Table 5.2**). Among sexually active unmarried women age 15-49, the use of condoms/*Nirodhs* increased from 12 percent in 2015-16 to 27 percent in 2019-21

**Figure 5.1 What Contraceptive Methods do Women Use?**

Currently married women age 15-49

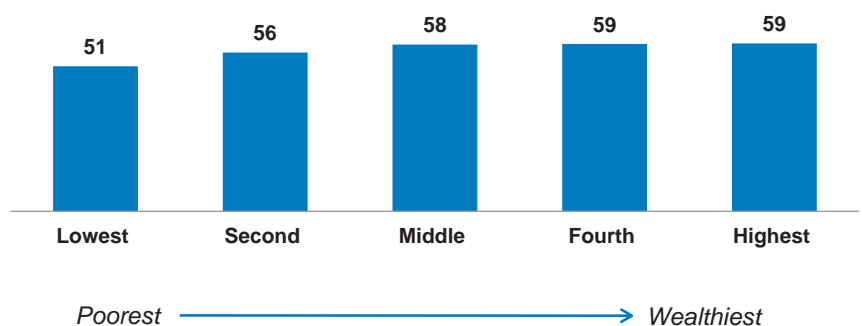


### Patterns by background characteristics

- Contraceptive use among currently married women rises with an increasing number of living children from 17 percent of women with no living children to 52 percent of women with one child and 80 percent of women with three children (**Table 5.3.1**).
- By employment status, 53 percent of women who are not employed use a modern contraceptive method, compared with 66 percent of women who are employed for cash (**Table 5.3.1**).
- Modern contraceptive use increases with wealth, from 51 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile to 59 percent of women in the highest quintile (**Table 5.3.1** and **Figure 5.2**).
- Almost two-thirds of Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist women (64%) use modern contraception, compared with 47 percent of Muslim women (**Table 5.3.1**).
- Half of the women who undergo sterilization have the operation by the age of 25.7 years (**Table 5.6**), the same as in NFHS-4.

**Figure 5.2 Use of Modern Contraceptive Methods by Household Wealth**

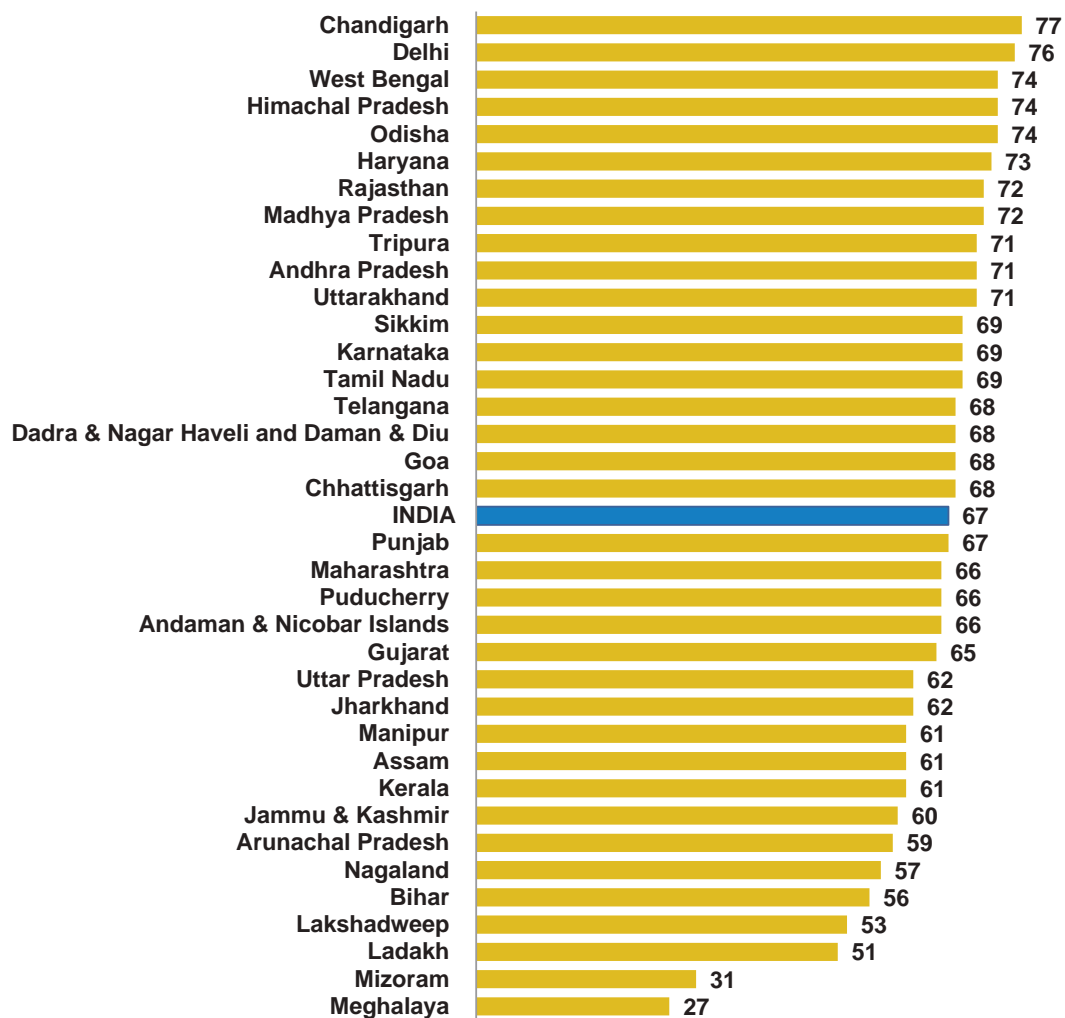
Percentage of currently married women age 15-49



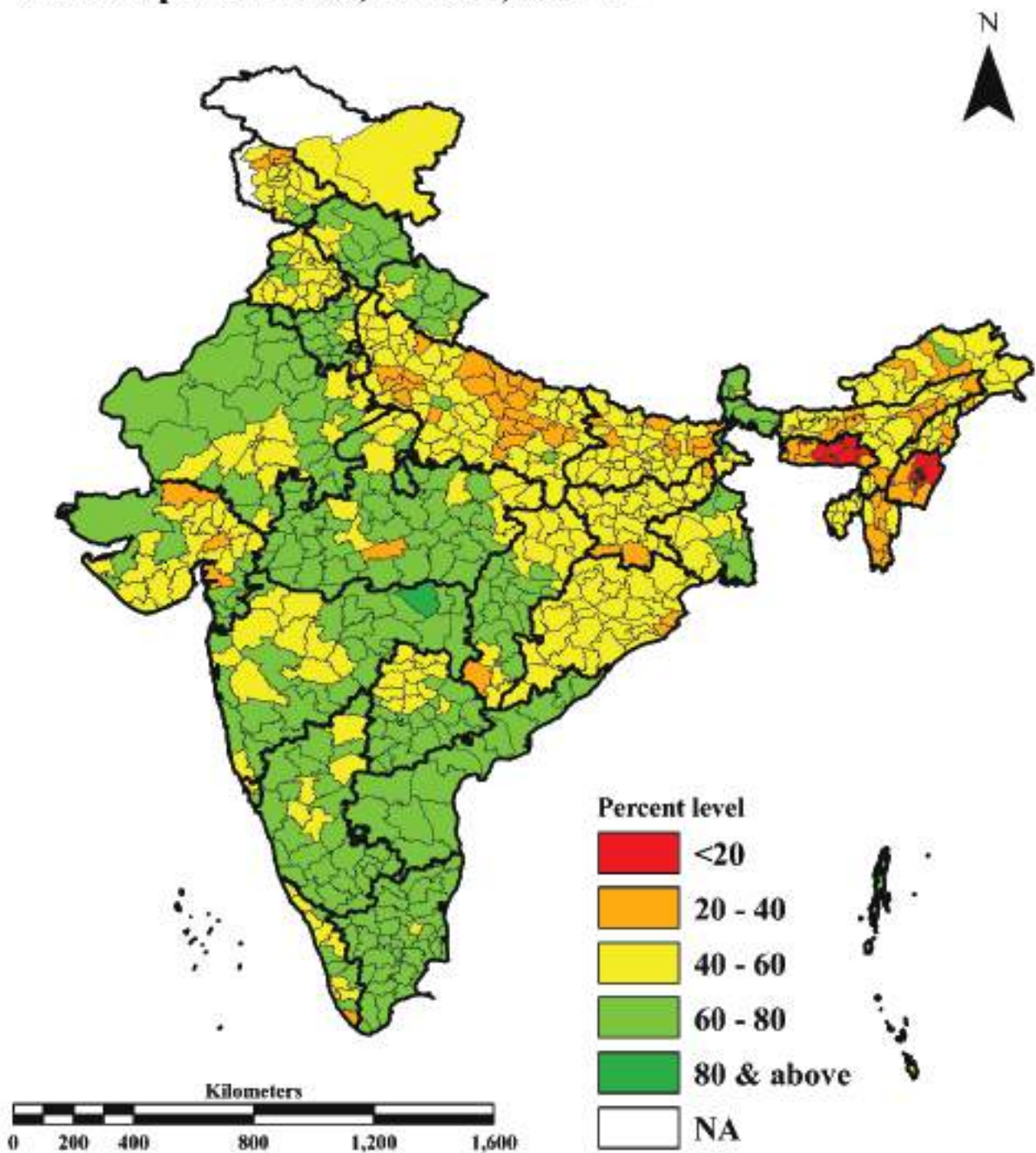
- Among the states, the use of contraceptive methods is the lowest in Meghalaya (27%), Mizoram (31%), and Bihar (56%), and highest in West Bengal, Odisha, and Himachal Pradesh (74% each). Among the states, a relatively low proportion of currently married women use contraceptive methods in all of the smaller states in the northeast region except for Sikkim and Tripura. Among the union territories, the use of contraceptive methods is the lowest in Ladakh (51%) and the highest in Chandigarh (77%) (Table 5.2 and Figure 5.3).
- There is a large variation in the use of modern contraceptive methods across districts in India, ranging from 11 to 81 percent. Districts with the lowest use of modern contraceptive methods are East Khasi Hills (12%), Ukhurul (12%), West Khasi Hills (15%), and South West Khasi Hills and Imphal West (16% each). Districts with the highest use of modern contraceptive methods are Nagpur (81%); Balod, Indore, and Chikmagalur (80% each); and Chamarajanagar (79%) (Map 5.1).

### Figure 5.3 Use of Contraceptive Methods by State/UT

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49



**Map 5.1: Currently married women age 15-49 who use any modern contraceptive method, NFHS-5, 2019-21**





## 5.2 SOURCE OF MODERN CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

### Source of modern contraceptives

The place where the modern method currently being used was obtained the last time it was acquired

**Sample:** Women age 15-49 currently using a modern contraceptive method

Almost seven in 10 (68%) modern method contraceptive users obtained their method from the public health sector. The rest of the users of modern methods obtained their method from the private health sector, including NGOs or trust hospitals/clinics (25%) and other sources (7%), including shops, their husband, friends, and relatives. A lower proportion of urban users (55%) than rural users (74%) obtained their method from the public health sector (**Table 5.9** and **Figure 5.4**).

The public health sector is the major source of female and male sterilization, IUDs/PPIUDs, and injectables, whereas the private health sector is the major source of pills, injectables, and condoms/*Nirodhs* (**Table 5.8**).

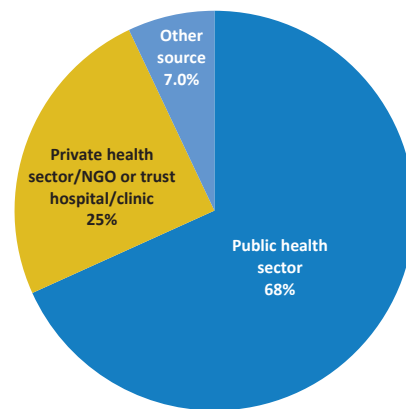
- Female sterilization: More than eight in 10 (81%) women who got sterilized underwent the procedure in a public health sector facility, mostly a government/municipal hospital or a CHC/rural hospital/Block PHC.
- Pill: Nearly half (45%) of pill users received their supply from the private health sector, and 41 percent received their supply from the public health sector.
- Male condoms, injectables, and IUDs/PPIUDs: Two-fifths of users of male condoms, 30 percent of users of injectables, and about one-quarter (24%) of users of IUDs/PPIUDs obtained the method from the private health sector.

The lowest use of the public health sector as a source for modern contraceptives was in Tripura (39%), followed by Delhi (44%), and Manipur and Assam (49% each). In contrast, among the states, 85 percent of modern contraceptive method users in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh obtained their method from the public health sector, followed by 81 percent in Karnataka. Use of the public health sector for modern contraceptive methods is also very high in the union territories of Ladakh (92%) Puducherry (83%), and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (83%). Two-thirds of male condom users in Mizoram (67%), 62 percent in Sikkim, and 53 percent in Kerala obtained their method from the public health sector, compared with only 12 percent in Uttarakhand (**Table 5.10**).

Less than one percent of women have ever used emergency contraceptive pills. The major source of emergency contraceptive pills is the private health sector, primarily pharmacies or drugstores (**Table 5.11**).

**Figure 5.4 Source of Modern Contraceptive Methods**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who are current users of modern methods by most recent source of method



### 5.3 INFORMED CHOICE

#### Informed choice

Informed choice refers to women being informed at the time they started the current episode of method use, about the method's side effects, what to do if they experience side effects, and other methods they could use.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49 who are currently using selected modern contraceptive methods and who started the last episode of use within the five years before the survey

Sixty-two percent of women currently using selected modern contraceptives were informed about the possible side effects or problems associated with the method they used, and 54 percent were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects. A higher proportion of women (69%) were informed about other available methods that they could use (Table 5.12).

The percentage of women who were informed about possible side effects or problems with their method ranged from 29 percent in Andhra Pradesh to 92 percent in Chandigarh. The percentage given information about what to do if they experienced side effects was lower in every state than the percentage who were told about side effects. Nearly eight in 10 women in Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh (78% each) and 87 percent of women in Chandigarh were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects with the method. A large majority of women in Goa (91%), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (91%), Chandigarh (90%), Chhattisgarh (88%), and Tamil Nadu (87%) were informed by a health or family planning worker about other methods they could use (Table 5.13).

### 5.4 DISCONTINUATION OF CONTRACEPTIVES

#### Contraceptive discontinuation rate

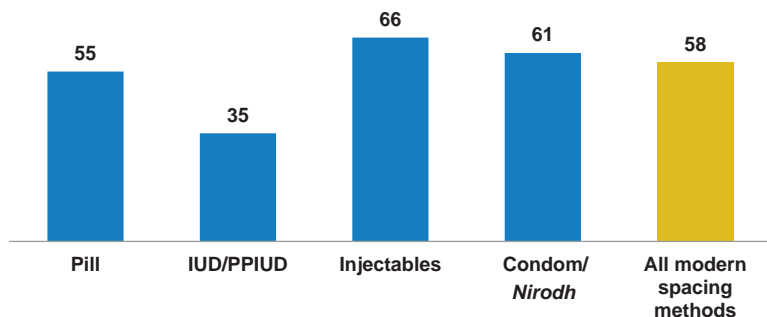
Percentage of contraceptive use episodes discontinued within 12 months.

**Sample:** Episodes of contraceptive use in the five years before the survey for women who are currently age 15-49

One in two episodes of contraceptive use in the five years before the survey were discontinued within 12 months. Contraceptive discontinuation rates for any reason were higher for “other methods” (79%), injectables (66%), condoms/Nirodhs (61%), rhythm (60%), withdrawal (59%), and pills (55%) than for IUDs/PPIUDs (35%) (Table 5.14 and Figure 5.5). The most common reason for discontinuing use of the method was that the woman wanted to become pregnant. Only 7 percent of episodes of contraceptive use were discontinued because the woman switched to another method (Table 5.14).

**Figure 5.5 Contraceptive Discontinuation Rates for Modern Spacing Methods**

Percentage of contraceptive episodes discontinued within 12 months among women age 15-49



Contraceptive discontinuation rates for any method are as low as 9 percent in Karnataka (where almost all contraceptive users were sterilized) and as high as 66 percent in Uttar Pradesh. The discontinuation rate for any spacing method is highest (60-68%) in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Karnataka, Kerala, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh (Table 5.15).

## 5.5 EXPOSURE TO FAMILY PLANNING MESSAGES

Three-fourths (75%) of women heard or saw a family planning message in the past few months (60% on television, 56% on a wall painting or hoarding, and only 15% on radio) (**Table 5.16.1**). Older women, women in rural areas, women with little or no schooling, Muslim women, scheduled tribe women, and women in the two lowest wealth quintiles have less exposure to family planning messages.

Exposure to family planning messages is slightly higher for men (78%) than women (75%). About three-fifths of men age 15-49 heard or saw a family planning message in the past few months on a wall painting or hoarding (62%) or on television (57%). Men in rural areas, men having little or no schooling, Sikh and Christian men, men from scheduled tribes, and men in the two lowest wealth quintiles have less exposure to family planning messages (**Table 5.16.2**).

More than one-third of men believe that contraception is women's business and that men should not have to worry about it. Twenty percent of men believe that a woman who uses contraception may become promiscuous. More than half (55%) of men reported that if a male condom is used correctly, it protects against pregnancy most of the time. An additional one-third of men said that a condom sometime protects against pregnancy if it is used correctly (**Table 5.17**).

## 5.6 DEMAND FOR FAMILY PLANNING

### Unmet need for family planning

Proportion of women who (1) are not pregnant and not postpartum amenorrhoeic, are considered fecund, and want to postpone their next birth for 2 or more years or stop childbearing altogether, but are not using a contraceptive method, or (2) have a mistimed or unwanted current pregnancy, or (3) are postpartum amenorrhoeic and their last birth in the last two years was mistimed or unwanted.

**Sample:** All women, currently married women, and sexually active unmarried women age 15-49

Demand for family planning: Unmet need for family planning + current contraceptive use (any method)

Proportion of demand satisfied:  $\frac{\text{Current contraceptive use (any method)}}{\text{Unmet need + current contraceptive use (any method)}}$

Proportion of demand satisfied by modern methods:  $\frac{\text{Current contraceptive use (any modern method)}}{\text{Unmet need + current contraceptive use (any method)}}$

More than three-fourths of currently married women age 15-49 have a demand for family planning; 14 percent have a demand for spacing births and 63 percent have a demand for limiting births. Sixty-seven percent of currently married women are already using a contraceptive method either to space or to limit births, and therefore have their need met. However, 9 percent of currently married women have an unmet need for family planning, including 4 percent who have an unmet need for spacing births and 5 percent who have an unmet need for limiting births (**Table 5.19** and **Figure 5.6**). If all currently married women who want to space or limit their children were to use a family planning method, the contraceptive prevalence rate would increase from 67 percent to 76 percent.

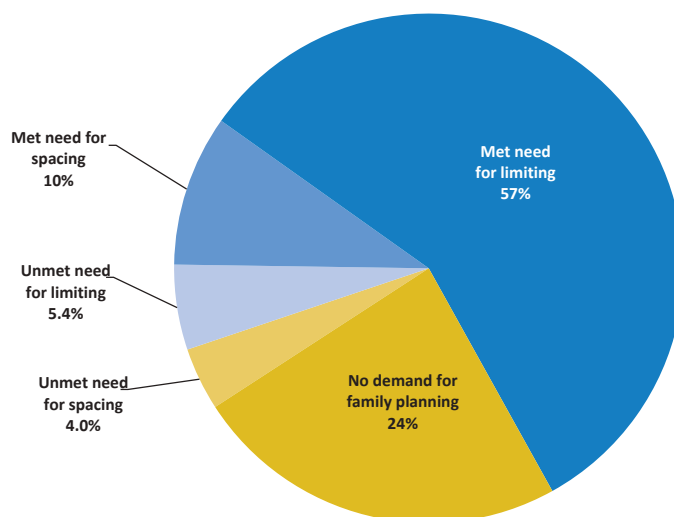
**Trends:** The total demand for family planning among currently married women age 15-49 in India increased from 66 percent in 2015-16 to 76 percent in 2019-21 (**Table 5.20**). The unmet need for family planning methods has decreased from 13 percent in NFHS-4 to 9 percent in NFHS-5.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Unmet need for family planning methods among currently married women ranges from a low of 3 percent among women age 45-49 to a high of 18 percent among women age 15-19 (**Table 5.19**).
- Unmet need for family planning methods generally increases with increasing years of schooling, from 7 percent among currently married women with no schooling to 13 percent among those who have completed 12 or more years of schooling.
- Unmet need for family planning methods is highest in Meghalaya (27%) and Mizoram (19%). Unmet need is less than 10 percent in most of the remaining states except Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Assam, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar where it varies between 10 and 15 percent. Unmet need is lowest in Andhra Pradesh (5%) and in Delhi, Karnataka, and Telangana (6% each) (**Table 5.20** and **Figure 5.7**).

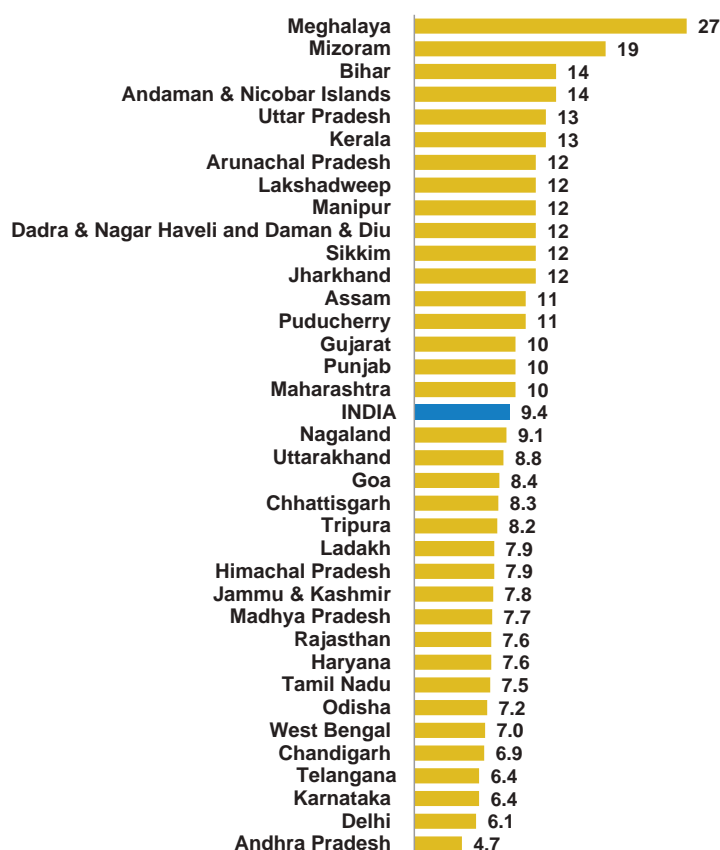
**Figure 5.6 Demand for Family Planning**

*Currently married women age 15-49*



## Figure 5.7 Unmet Need for Family Planning by State/UT

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49



## 5.7 HYSTERECTOMY

### Hysterectomy

Hysterectomy is surgery that involves partial or complete removal of the uterus of a woman.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49 who are currently not menstruating for more than 6 months, not pregnant or unsure.

Three percent of women age 15-49 have had a hysterectomy. The median age for hysterectomy is 34.6 years among women age 15-49. More than two-thirds (70%) of women who have undergone a hysterectomy had the operation in a private health facility. The prevalence of hysterectomy is the highest in Andhra Pradesh (9%), followed by Telangana (8%), and lowest in Sikkim (0.8%) and Meghalaya (0.7%) (Tables 5.21 and 5.22).

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Table 5.1 Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Percentage of all women and men, currently married women and men, sexually active unmarried women and men, and never married women and men who know any contraceptive method by specific method and residence, India, 2019-21

Method	Women				Men			
	All women	Currently married women	Sexually active unmarried women <sup>1</sup>	Never married women	All men	Currently married men	Sexually active unmarried men <sup>1</sup>	Never married men
URBAN								
Any method	99.1	99.9	99.9	96.7	99.4	99.9	100.0	98.7
<b>Any modern method</b>	99.0	99.9	99.7	96.7	99.4	99.9	100.0	98.7
Female sterilization	97.6	99.3	98.4	92.8	92.8	96.5	97.9	87.7
Male sterilization	84.5	89.6	90.1	70.2	87.6	91.9	94.5	81.7
Pill	91.6	95.2	95.0	82.1	86.9	91.7	94.1	80.6
IUD or PPIUD	84.2	91.1	89.4	65.1	51.6	59.7	56.3	41.1
Injectables	81.1	85.9	83.8	68.9	70.0	76.3	79.0	61.9
Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	91.8	94.7	95.4	84.6	97.9	98.5	99.9	97.0
Female condom	31.5	33.3	42.2	27.5	46.8	50.5	51.2	42.0
Emergency contraception	55.4	61.1	58.3	40.9	52.2	58.2	69.1	44.1
Diaphragm	11.8	12.7	14.4	9.6	16.5	18.1	20.3	14.4
Foam or jelly	9.6	10.3	13.4	7.9	13.6	15.0	16.2	12.0
Standard days method	32.5	37.3	37.0	19.4	27.6	33.9	26.6	19.5
Lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM)	47.2	55.2	45.1	25.2	23.9	29.4	23.9	16.7
Other modern method	1.2	1.3	0.7	0.7	5.0	5.9	5.6	3.8
Pill, IUD/PPIUD, and condom/ <i>Nirodh</i> <sup>2</sup>	79.4	87.0	85.2	59.3	49.6	57.8	54.5	39.0
<b>Any traditional method</b>	76.1	86.5	87.0	48.0	76.6	85.7	88.5	65.0
Rhythm	64.2	73.6	65.2	38.9	49.1	59.8	64.0	35.1
Withdrawal	66.1	77.5	82.3	35.2	72.4	80.7	84.2	61.8
Other traditional method	1.5	1.8	0.4	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.6	0.6
Mean number of methods known by respondents age 15-49	8.5	9.2	9.1	6.7	8.0	8.7	8.8	7.0
Number of respondents age 15-49	235,279	163,394	312	61,041	32,852	18,458	1,330	14,010
Mean number of methods known by respondents age 15-54	na	na	na	na	8.0	8.6	8.8	7.0
Number of respondents age 15-54	na	na	na	na	35,837	21,274	1,353	14,093

Continued...

Table 5.1 Knowledge of contraceptive methods—*Continued*

Percentage of all women and men, currently married women and men, sexually active unmarried women and men, and never married women and men who know any contraceptive method by specific method and residence, India, 2019-21

Method	Women				Men			
	All women	Currently married women	Sexually active unmarried women <sup>1</sup>	Never married women	All men	Currently married men	Sexually active unmarried men <sup>1</sup>	Never married men
RURAL								
Any method	98.7	99.7	99.8	95.5	98.7	99.5	99.6	97.3
<b>Any modern method</b>	98.6	99.6	99.8	95.4	98.6	99.4	99.5	97.1
Female sterilization	97.0	98.6	97.7	91.6	91.3	95.1	94.8	85.0
Male sterilization	79.5	84.4	84.5	63.3	82.6	86.5	87.3	76.1
Pill	88.7	92.1	89.6	78.4	82.3	86.1	89.7	76.2
IUD or PPIUD	77.3	83.7	78.8	56.9	45.8	51.4	52.7	36.6
Injectables	78.2	82.6	76.0	64.9	63.5	67.5	69.9	57.0
Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	84.9	88.3	90.0	75.1	95.3	96.0	97.2	94.3
Female condom	21.0	22.3	17.6	17.3	35.7	36.7	42.8	34.3
Emergency contraception	43.9	48.1	42.8	31.1	44.5	48.6	57.6	37.9
Diaphragm	7.4	8.0	5.3	5.8	10.6	11.3	13.6	9.5
Foam or jelly	5.7	6.2	5.9	4.6	8.7	9.3	11.3	7.9
Standard days method	30.5	34.5	29.6	17.5	25.9	30.6	26.9	18.2
Lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM)	44.3	51.1	39.9	22.1	21.5	25.7	21.9	14.5
Other modern method	1.4	1.6	1.8	0.9	4.7	5.2	4.5	3.9
Pill, IUD/PPIUD, and condom/ <i>Nirodh</i> <sup>2</sup>	70.3	77.0	72.6	49.3	43.3	48.9	49.3	34.2
<b>Any traditional method</b>	73.9	83.5	83.5	43.0	73.4	79.8	83.3	62.7
Rhythm	61.9	70.3	64.9	35.1	46.5	54.7	53.7	32.9
Withdrawal	63.0	73.4	75.8	29.6	68.0	73.9	78.3	58.3
Other traditional method	1.7	1.9	2.2	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.8	0.8
Mean number of methods known by respondents age 15-49	7.9	8.5	8.0	6.0	7.3	7.8	8.0	6.4
Number of respondents age 15-49	488,836	357,957	523	111,033	60,291	37,017	2,090	22,493
Mean number of methods known by respondents age 15-54	na	na	na	na	7.3	7.7	8.0	6.4
Number of respondents age 15-54	na	na	na	na	66,002	42,465	2,110	22,555

*Continued...*



Table 5.1 Knowledge of contraceptive methods—Continued

Percentage of all women and men, currently married women and men, sexually active unmarried women and men, and never married women and men who know any contraceptive method by specific method and residence, India, 2019-21

Method	Women				Men			
	All women	Currently married women	Sexually active unmarried women <sup>1</sup>	Never married women	All men	Currently married men	Sexually active unmarried men <sup>1</sup>	Never married men
	TOTAL							
Any method	98.8	99.7	99.9	95.9	98.9	99.6	99.8	97.8
<b>Any modern method</b>	98.8	99.7	99.8	95.9	98.8	99.6	99.7	97.7
Female sterilization	97.2	98.8	98.0	92.0	91.8	95.5	96.0	86.0
Male sterilization	81.1	86.0	86.6	65.7	84.3	88.3	90.1	78.2
Pill	89.7	93.1	91.6	79.7	83.9	87.9	91.4	77.9
IUD or PPIUD	79.5	86.0	82.8	59.8	47.8	54.2	54.1	38.4
Injectables	79.1	83.7	78.9	66.3	65.8	70.5	73.4	58.9
Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	87.1	90.3	92.0	78.4	96.2	96.9	98.3	95.4
Female condom	24.4	25.8	26.8	20.9	39.6	41.3	46.0	37.2
Emergency contraception	47.6	52.2	48.6	34.6	47.2	51.8	62.1	40.3
Diaphragm	8.9	9.5	8.7	7.2	12.7	13.6	16.2	11.4
Foam or jelly	7.0	7.5	8.7	5.8	10.5	11.2	13.2	9.5
Standard days method	31.1	35.4	32.3	18.2	26.5	31.7	26.8	18.7
Lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM)	45.2	52.4	41.9	23.2	22.3	27.0	22.7	15.3
Other modern method	1.3	1.5	1.4	0.8	4.8	5.4	4.9	3.9
Pill, IUD/PPIUD, and condom/ <i>Nirodh</i> <sup>2</sup>	73.2	80.1	77.3	52.8	45.5	51.9	51.4	36.1
<b>Any traditional method</b>	74.6	84.4	84.8	44.8	74.5	81.8	85.3	63.6
Rhythm	62.7	71.4	65.0	36.4	47.4	56.4	57.7	33.8
Withdrawal	64.0	74.6	78.3	31.6	69.6	76.2	80.6	59.6
Other traditional method	1.6	1.9	1.5	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.7	0.7
Mean number of methods known by respondents age 15-49	8.1	8.7	8.4	6.2	7.5	8.1	8.4	6.7
Number of respondents age 15-49	724,115	521,352	835	172,075	93,144	55,475	3,420	36,503
Mean number of methods known by respondents age 15-54	na	na	na	na	7.5	8.0	8.3	6.6
Number of respondents age 15-54	na	na	na	na	101,839	63,739	3,463	36,648

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Had sexual intercourse in the 30 days preceding the survey

<sup>2</sup> All three methods

Table 5.2 Current use of contraception by state/union territory

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and by residence, NFHS-4

State/union territory	Modern method					Traditional method					Total							
	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM		Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other traditional method	Not currently using	
URBAN																		
<b>India</b>	69.3	58.5	36.3	0.2	4.3	2.7	0.4	13.6	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.3	10.7	6.1	4.6	0.0	30.7	100.0
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	57.2	51.2	35.7	0.3	3.6	2.3	0.2	9.0	0.0	na	0.1	0.0	5.9	3.5	2.4	0.0	36.0	100.0
<b>North</b>																		
Chandigarh	77.5	55.8	19.0	0.3	0.4	4.3	0.0	31.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	21.8	15.4	6.4	0.0	22.5	100.0
Delhi	76.5	57.6	18.0	0.2	2.7	6.6	0.3	28.4	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.7	18.9	8.7	10.2	0.0	23.5	100.0
Haryana	73.5	59.0	24.1	0.7	2.9	5.0	0.4	24.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.1	14.5	9.8	4.7	0.0	26.5	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	75.2	59.3	21.7	2.5	1.9	0.9	0.0	31.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	15.9	3.3	12.6	0.0	24.8	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	59.2	53.5	21.6	0.4	7.7	7.2	4.0	11.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	5.8	0.0	5.7	0.0	40.8	100.0
Ladakh	50.6	46.0	16.5	0.3	5.3	8.1	6.2	8.2	0.5	0.0	1.1	0.0	4.6	1.9	2.7	0.0	49.4	100.0
Punjab	68.4	49.4	18.0	0.5	1.1	2.8	0.1	26.6	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	19.0	13.8	5.2	0.0	31.6	100.0
Rajasthan	74.2	63.2	35.5	0.2	3.4	1.9	0.4	21.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	11.0	5.2	5.8	0.0	25.8	100.0
Uttarakhand	73.5	59.5	17.8	0.2	2.6	2.0	0.6	35.4	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.1	14.0	7.8	6.2	0.0	26.5	100.0
<b>Central</b>																		
Chhattisgarh	71.3	64.9	47.3	0.4	2.6	3.7	0.4	7.9	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.3	6.4	3.8	2.6	0.0	28.7	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	71.4	63.8	41.5	0.8	2.6	1.4	0.6	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.4	7.6	4.3	3.3	0.0	28.6	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	67.6	48.6	13.5	0.1	4.0	2.0	0.9	27.1	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.1	19.0	15.3	3.8	0.0	32.4	100.0
<b>East</b>																		
Bihar	62.3	47.0	31.8	0.2	3.6	1.3	1.1	7.3	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.1	15.2	11.0	4.2	0.0	37.7	100.0
Jharkhand	66.0	51.4	37.3	0.4	3.1	2.0	0.5	6.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.2	14.6	10.6	4.1	0.0	34.0	100.0
Odisha	76.9	47.2	24.4	0.2	10.3	2.3	0.4	8.7	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.1	29.7	11.9	17.8	0.0	23.1	100.0
West Bengal	77.5	61.0	26.8	0.1	20.1	2.0	0.8	10.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.8	16.5	5.5	11.0	0.0	22.5	100.0

Continued...

Table 5.2 Current use of contraception by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and by residence, NFHS-4

State/union territory	Modern method										Traditional method					Total			
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using	
<b>Northeast</b>																			
Arunachal Pradesh	57.0	44.8	15.7	0.0	13.3	6.3	0.7	7.5	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.4	12.1	1.6	10.5	0.0	43.0	100.0	
Assam	61.4	42.3	9.3	0.1	21.2	3.3	0.3	7.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	19.1	6.4	12.7	0.0	38.6	100.0	
Manipur	61.5	19.3	4.4	0.0	3.0	5.5	0.1	6.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	42.3	7.7	34.6	0.0	38.5	100.0	
Meghalaya	25.9	21.0	7.1	0.0	6.0	2.9	0.7	3.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.8	4.0	0.0	74.1	100.0	
Mizoram	29.1	28.6	13.6	0.0	10.9	2.4	0.0	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.0	70.9	100.0	
Nagaland	61.0	48.5	13.6	0.0	9.1	20.1	0.2	4.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.7	12.5	2.2	10.3	0.0	39.0	100.0	
Sikkim	55.5	43.6	14.3	0.4	9.7	4.6	3.9	10.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.0	0.1	11.9	0.0	44.5	100.0	
Tripura	76.9	53.4	14.2	0.0	33.0	0.0	0.2	5.0	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.1	23.5	13.0	10.6	0.0	23.1	100.0	
<b>West</b>																			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	63.5	53.6	30.9	0.0	3.5	3.0	0.7	15.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.9	4.5	5.4	0.0	36.5	100.0	
Goa	72.3	65.0	33.2	0.0	3.4	2.5	0.0	24.6	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	7.3	5.2	2.0	0.0	27.7	100.0	
Gujarat	69.5	54.0	29.1	0.1	3.1	4.2	0.1	16.8	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	15.5	12.3	3.2	0.0	30.5	100.0	
Maharashtra	65.8	62.7	44.0	0.1	1.9	2.2	0.2	14.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.1	0.8	2.3	0.0	34.2	100.0	
<b>South</b>																			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	54.4	48.5	31.0	0.0	2.2	2.2	0.5	12.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	5.9	1.4	4.5	0.0	45.6	100.0	
Andhra Pradesh	70.8	70.3	68.3	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.0	29.2	100.0	
Karnataka	69.6	68.8	55.2	0.0	2.1	3.4	0.6	6.0	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.0	30.4	100.0	
Kerala	61.4	50.6	43.6	0.0	0.5	1.6	0.0	4.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.8	10.8	4.6	6.2	0.0	38.6	100.0	
Lakshadweep	51.8	31.0	21.4	0.0	1.4	1.2	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.9	1.4	20.8	5.9	14.9	0.0	48.2	100.0	
Puducherry	65.8	61.2	51.7	0.4	0.5	2.1	0.2	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	4.6	0.4	4.2	0.0	34.2	100.0	
Tamil Nadu	67.6	64.0	55.6	0.1	0.4	4.8	0.1	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	3.5	1.1	2.4	0.0	32.4	100.0	
Telangana	69.0	66.9	61.3	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1	2.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	31.0	100.0	

Continued...

Table 5.2 Current use of contraception by state/union territory — *Continued*

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and by residence, NFHS-4

State/union territory	Modern method										Traditional method					Total			
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using	
<b>India</b>	65.6	55.5	38.6	0.3	5.4	1.8	0.6	7.6	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	10.0	6.3	3.7	0.0	34.4	100.0	
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	51.7	46.0	36.1	0.3	4.3	1.1	0.2	3.9	0.0	na	0.1	0.0	5.7	3.5	2.2	0.0	48.3	100.0	
<b>North</b>																			
Chandigarh	66.7	38.9	16.7	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.8	27.8	0.0	0.0	33.3	100.0	
Delhi	71.3	59.7	18.6	0.5	3.4	11.0	1.8	23.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	11.6	6.7	4.9	0.0	28.7	100.0	
Haryana	72.9	61.3	36.3	1.1	2.8	4.9	0.4	14.9	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.4	11.7	7.9	3.7	0.0	27.1	100.0	
Himachal Pradesh	74.1	64.0	40.1	3.5	1.4	1.2	0.1	17.3	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	10.0	2.4	7.6	0.0	25.9	100.0	
Jammu & Kashmir	60.0	52.1	20.9	0.3	9.4	5.4	3.4	11.7	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.1	7.8	0.1	7.7	0.0	40.0	100.0	
Ladakh	51.5	48.5	16.8	0.4	6.9	7.9	6.1	9.1	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.0	3.0	0.9	2.1	0.0	48.5	100.0	
Punjab	65.4	51.0	25.6	0.4	1.7	3.2	0.1	19.7	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	14.4	10.7	3.7	0.0	34.6	100.0	
Rajasthan	71.7	61.8	44.5	0.3	3.0	1.3	0.7	11.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	10.0	4.8	5.2	0.0	28.3	100.0	
Uttarakhand	69.5	57.1	29.8	0.9	2.7	1.3	0.3	21.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.2	12.4	6.5	5.9	0.0	30.5	100.0	
<b>Central</b>																			
Chhattisgarh	66.8	60.8	47.6	0.9	2.3	2.6	0.4	3.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.3	6.0	3.7	2.3	0.0	33.2	100.0	
Madhya Pradesh	71.9	66.1	55.7	0.7	1.7	0.9	0.3	5.3	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1	5.8	3.7	2.1	0.0	28.1	100.0	
Uttar Pradesh	60.8	43.2	18.0	0.0	4.5	1.3	1.2	16.6	0.1	0.1	1.1	0.2	17.6	15.3	2.3	0.0	39.2	100.0	
<b>East</b>																			
Bihar	54.6	43.9	35.3	0.1	1.8	0.7	1.1	3.4	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1	10.7	8.0	2.8	0.0	45.4	100.0	
Jharkhand	60.4	48.9	37.4	0.2	3.1	1.6	0.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.1	11.5	8.5	3.0	0.0	39.6	100.0	
Odisha	73.5	49.1	28.8	0.3	10.9	2.6	0.2	4.9	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	24.4	9.5	14.9	0.0	26.5	100.0	
West Bengal	73.0	60.6	30.5	0.1	20.4	2.3	0.7	5.6	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.7	12.4	4.8	7.6	0.0	27.0	100.0	

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Table 5.2 Current use of contraception by state/union territory — *Continued*

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and by residence, NFHS-4

State/union territory	Modern method										Traditional method					Total		
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using
<b>Northeast</b>																		
Arunachal Pradesh	59.5	47.6	18.7	0.0	15.9	6.2	1.0	4.2	0.1	0.3	1.0	0.2	11.9	2.3	9.7	0.0	40.5	100.0
Assam	60.7	45.8	8.9	0.1	28.5	2.9	0.6	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	14.9	5.6	9.3	0.0	39.3	100.0
Manipur	61.2	17.5	3.2	0.0	5.2	4.5	0.2	4.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	43.6	8.7	34.9	0.0	38.8	100.0
Meghalaya	27.8	22.9	5.2	0.0	8.9	4.7	1.2	2.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	4.9	1.3	3.6	0.0	72.2	100.0
Mizoram	33.5	33.2	12.3	0.0	15.2	3.2	0.2	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	66.5	100.0
Nagaland	55.7	43.8	14.8	0.0	5.1	19.7	0.4	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	11.8	4.1	7.7	0.0	44.3	100.0
Sikkim	77.3	61.8	14.6	2.5	23.3	7.1	3.2	8.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.2	15.5	4.6	10.8	0.1	22.7	100.0
Tripura	68.9	47.4	9.1	0.0	32.6	0.6	0.3	2.6	0.0	0.2	1.2	0.8	21.4	11.4	10.0	0.0	31.1	100.0
<b>West</b>																		
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	72.4	65.9	52.4	0.3	2.8	1.5	1.1	7.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	3.3	3.1	0.0	27.6	100.0
Goa	61.1	52.4	24.9	0.0	1.7	2.2	0.0	21.1	0.2	0.0	1.2	1.1	8.7	6.5	2.2	0.0	38.9	100.0
Gujarat	62.2	53.3	40.8	0.2	1.8	2.4	0.1	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	9.0	6.7	2.3	0.0	37.8	100.0
Maharashtra	66.5	64.7	53.3	0.6	1.7	1.6	0.2	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.8	0.4	1.4	0.0	33.5	100.0
<b>South</b>																		
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	73.4	63.9	44.6	0.3	4.5	5.0	0.1	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	9.5	1.9	7.5	0.0	26.6	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	71.2	71.1	70.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	28.8	100.0
Karnataka	68.2	67.7	58.9	0.0	2.1	2.5	0.4	2.9	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.0	31.8	100.0
Kerala	60.1	54.8	49.4	0.1	0.3	1.5	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	5.2	2.0	3.3	0.0	39.9	100.0
Lakshadweep	55.4	27.1	18.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	4.5	2.0	28.3	22.6	5.7	0.0	44.6	100.0
Puducherry	66.4	64.3	58.5	0.0	0.4	1.3	0.9	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.1	0.4	1.7	0.0	33.6	100.0
Tamil Nadu	69.4	66.8	59.9	0.1	0.3	4.7	0.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	2.7	0.9	1.8	0.0	30.6	100.0
Telangana	67.6	66.5	62.2	2.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.1	0.4	0.7	0.0	32.4	100.0

*Continued...*

Table 5.2 Current use of contraception by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and by residence, NFHS-4

State/union territory	Modern method										Traditional method					Total		
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm method	Withdrawal method		Other traditional method	Not currently using
<b>India</b>	66.7	56.4	37.9	0.3	5.1	2.1	0.6	9.5	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.2	10.3	6.2	4.0	0.0	33.3	100.0
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	53.5	47.8	36.0	0.3	4.1	1.5	0.2	5.6	0.0	na	0.1	0.0	5.8	3.5	2.3	0.0	46.5	100.0
<b>North</b>																		
Chandigarh	77.4	55.6	19.0	0.3	0.5	4.2	0.0	31.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	21.8	15.5	6.3	0.0	22.6	100.0
Delhi	76.4	57.7	18.0	0.2	2.7	6.7	0.4	28.3	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.7	18.7	8.6	10.1	0.0	23.6	100.0
Haryana	73.1	60.5	32.3	0.9	2.8	4.9	0.4	18.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.6	12.6	8.6	4.1	0.0	26.9	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	74.2	63.4	37.7	3.3	1.5	1.1	0.1	19.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	10.8	2.5	8.3	0.0	25.8	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	59.8	52.5	21.1	0.3	9.0	5.9	3.6	11.7	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	7.3	0.1	7.2	0.0	40.2	100.0
Ladakh	51.3	48.0	16.7	0.4	6.6	7.9	6.2	9.0	0.1	0.1	1.1	0.0	3.3	1.1	2.2	0.0	48.7	100.0
Punjab	66.6	50.5	22.8	0.5	1.5	3.0	0.1	22.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	16.1	11.8	4.3	0.0	33.4	100.0
Rajasthan	72.3	62.1	42.4	0.2	3.1	1.4	0.6	13.7	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.1	10.2	4.9	5.3	0.0	27.7	100.0
Uttarakhand	70.8	57.8	26.0	0.7	2.6	1.5	0.4	25.6	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.2	12.9	6.9	6.0	0.0	29.2	100.0
<b>Central</b>																		
Chhattisgarh	67.8	61.7	47.5	0.8	2.4	2.8	0.4	4.1	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.3	6.1	3.8	2.3	0.0	32.2	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	71.7	65.5	51.9	0.7	1.9	1.0	0.4	8.1	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.2	6.2	3.8	2.4	0.0	28.3	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	62.4	44.5	16.9	0.1	4.4	1.5	1.1	19.1	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.2	18.0	15.3	2.7	0.0	37.6	100.0
<b>East</b>																		
Bihar	55.8	44.4	34.8	0.1	2.0	0.8	1.1	4.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1	11.4	8.4	3.0	0.0	44.2	100.0
Jharkhand	61.7	49.5	37.4	0.3	3.1	1.7	0.5	4.1	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.1	12.2	9.0	3.2	0.0	38.3	100.0
Odisha	74.1	48.8	28.0	0.3	10.8	2.6	0.2	5.5	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.0	25.4	9.9	15.4	0.0	25.9	100.0
West Bengal	74.4	60.7	29.4	0.1	20.3	2.2	0.7	7.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.8	13.6	5.0	8.6	0.0	25.6	100.0

Continued...

Table 5.2 Current use of contraception by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and by residence, NFHS-4

State/union territory	Modern method										Traditional method					Total		
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using
<b>Northeast</b>																		
Arunachal Pradesh	59.1	47.1	18.2	0.0	15.5	6.2	1.0	4.7	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.2	12.0	2.2	9.8	0.0	40.9	100.0
Assam	60.8	45.3	9.0	0.1	27.5	2.9	0.5	4.9	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	15.5	5.7	9.8	0.0	39.2	100.0
Manipur	61.3	18.2	3.7	0.0	4.4	4.9	0.1	4.8	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	43.1	8.3	34.8	0.0	38.7	100.0
Meghalaya	27.4	22.5	5.6	0.0	8.3	4.4	1.1	2.7	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	4.9	1.2	3.7	0.0	72.6	100.0
Mizoram	31.2	30.8	13.0	0.0	12.9	2.8	0.1	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	68.8	100.0
Nagaland	57.4	45.3	14.4	0.0	6.4	19.8	0.3	3.3	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.6	12.0	3.5	8.6	0.0	42.6	100.0
Sikkim	69.1	54.9	14.5	1.7	18.2	6.2	3.5	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.4	14.2	2.9	11.2	0.1	30.9	100.0
Tripura	71.2	49.1	10.5	0.0	32.7	0.4	0.3	3.3	0.0	0.2	1.0	0.6	22.0	11.9	10.2	0.0	28.8	100.0
<b>West</b>																		
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	68.0	59.8	41.6	0.2	3.1	2.2	0.9	11.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	3.9	4.3	0.0	32.0	100.0
Goa	67.9	60.1	29.9	0.0	2.7	2.4	0.0	23.2	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.4	7.8	5.7	2.1	0.0	32.1	100.0
Gujarat	65.3	53.6	35.9	0.2	2.3	3.1	0.1	11.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	11.7	9.0	2.7	0.0	34.7	100.0
Maharashtra	66.2	63.8	49.1	0.4	1.8	1.9	0.2	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6	1.8	0.0	33.8	100.0
<b>South</b>																		
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	65.8	57.7	39.2	0.2	3.6	3.9	0.3	9.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	8.0	1.7	6.3	0.0	34.2	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	71.1	70.8	69.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	28.9	100.0
Karnataka	68.7	68.2	57.4	0.0	2.1	2.9	0.5	4.1	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.0	31.3	100.0
Kerala	60.7	52.8	46.6	0.1	0.4	1.5	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	7.9	3.2	4.6	0.0	39.3	100.0
Lakshadweep	52.6	30.1	20.7	0.0	1.2	1.0	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.5	22.5	9.6	12.9	0.0	47.4	100.0
Puducherry	66.0	62.1	53.8	0.3	0.5	1.9	0.4	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	3.8	0.4	3.4	0.0	34.0	100.0
Tamil Nadu	68.6	65.5	57.8	0.1	0.3	4.8	0.2	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	3.1	1.0	2.1	0.0	31.4	100.0
Telangana	68.1	66.7	61.9	2.0	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.4	0.6	0.8	0.0	31.9	100.0

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this table.  
IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device; LAM = Lactational amenorrhoea method; na = Not available

Table 5.3.1 Current use of contraception by background characteristics

Percent distribution of currently married women by contraceptive method currently used, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Modern method										Traditional method				Number of women				
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using	Total	
<b>Schooling</b>																			
No schooling	70.1	60.2	48.5	0.4	3.7	0.9	0.6	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	10.0	6.9	3.1	0.0	29.9	100.0	143,754
<5 years complete	72.3	63.8	49.0	0.4	7.5	1.4	0.4	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	8.5	4.7	3.8	0.0	27.7	100.0	32,023
5-7 years complete	70.3	60.9	44.4	0.4	5.7	1.7	0.5	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	9.4	5.6	3.8	0.0	29.7	100.0	79,079
8-9 years complete	65.9	54.5	33.7	0.3	6.9	2.4	0.6	9.5	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.2	11.4	6.6	4.8	0.0	34.1	100.0	85,112
10-11 years complete	65.0	55.2	35.3	0.3	5.2	2.7	0.5	10.1	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.2	9.8	5.4	4.4	0.0	35.0	100.0	66,173
12 or more years complete	60.0	48.9	21.7	0.2	4.2	3.5	0.6	17.4	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.3	11.1	6.5	4.6	0.0	40.0	100.0	115,211
<b>Employment (past 12 months)</b>																			
Not employed	64.9	53.4	31.9	0.2	5.8	2.5	0.7	11.1	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.2	11.5	6.9	4.6	0.0	35.1	100.0	52,905
Employed for cash	74.1	66.3	51.6	0.6	4.0	1.9	0.4	7.2	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.2	7.8	4.3	3.5	0.0	25.9	100.0	20,514
Employed not for cash	73.5	64.3	50.4	0.4	3.6	1.8	0.6	6.3	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1	9.2	6.3	3.0	0.0	26.5	100.0	4,310
<b>Religion</b>																			
Hindu	67.9	58.0	40.6	0.3	4.3	2.1	0.5	9.2	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.2	9.9	6.1	3.8	0.0	32.1	100.0	427,114
Muslim	60.2	47.4	21.8	0.1	10.8	2.0	0.8	10.8	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.3	12.8	7.3	5.6	0.0	39.8	100.0	68,631
Christian	61.8	54.4	41.8	0.4	3.7	3.5	0.3	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.2	7.3	3.2	4.2	0.0	38.2	100.0	11,391
Sikh	67.9	53.7	25.9	0.5	2.1	3.2	0.1	21.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	14.3	10.1	4.1	0.0	32.1	100.0	8,080
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	67.2	63.9	46.5	0.9	3.2	2.8	0.4	9.8	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	3.3	1.2	2.1	0.0	32.8	100.0	3,081
Jain	73.9	67.8	41.2	0.3	1.3	3.7	0.3	19.8	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.3	6.0	3.6	2.5	0.0	26.1	100.0	1,173
Other	59.8	45.3	28.1	0.3	5.5	3.2	0.9	5.2	0.0	0.1	1.9	0.2	14.5	8.7	5.8	0.0	40.2	100.0	1,883
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																			
Scheduled caste	67.0	57.0	39.8	0.3	4.7	1.9	0.6	8.7	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.2	10.0	6.4	3.6	0.0	33.0	100.0	112,610
Scheduled tribe	64.4	55.1	40.3	0.7	5.0	2.3	0.5	5.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.1	9.3	5.0	4.3	0.0	35.6	100.0	47,852
Other backward class	66.4	56.6	40.4	0.3	3.3	2.0	0.6	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	9.8	6.5	3.4	0.0	33.6	100.0	224,682
Other	68.0	56.4	31.3	0.2	8.4	2.5	0.6	12.7	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	11.6	6.2	5.4	0.0	32.0	100.0	132,179
Don't know	60.2	49.3	33.7	0.2	5.8	2.0	0.4	6.1	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.4	11.0	6.7	4.2	0.0	39.8	100.0	4,029

Continued...



Table 5.3.1 Current use of contraception by background characteristics—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married women by contraceptive method currently used, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Modern method										Traditional method					Number of women			
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using	Total
<b>Wealth quintile</b>																			
Lowest	62.2	50.7	34.5	0.3	7.2	1.5	0.7	4.9	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.2	11.5	7.5	4.1	0.0	37.8	100.0	97,962
Second	66.1	55.5	38.4	0.3	6.7	1.6	0.7	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.2	10.6	6.6	4.0	0.0	33.9	100.0	104,135
Middle	67.7	58.3	42.3	0.3	4.8	1.9	0.5	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	9.4	5.5	3.9	0.0	32.3	100.0	106,487
Fourth	67.8	58.5	40.5	0.3	3.9	2.4	0.5	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	9.3	5.3	4.0	0.0	32.2	100.0	108,247
Highest	69.4	58.7	33.4	0.3	2.9	3.1	0.4	17.8	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	10.7	6.5	4.2	0.0	30.6	100.0	104,520
<b>Number of living children</b>																			
No children	16.8	11.5	0.5	0.0	1.8	0.2	0.1	8.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	2.8	2.5	0.0	83.2	100.0	50,312
1 child	51.7	37.8	8.3	0.1	8.0	4.1	0.7	14.7	0.0	0.1	1.4	0.3	13.9	7.4	6.5	0.0	48.3	100.0	103,312
1 son	54.5	40.2	10.0	0.1	8.2	4.2	0.8	15.1	0.0	0.1	1.3	0.4	14.4	7.6	6.7	0.0	45.5	100.0	58,871
No sons	48.0	34.7	6.0	0.1	7.8	3.9	0.6	14.2	0.0	0.1	1.6	0.2	13.4	7.1	6.2	0.0	52.0	100.0	44,441
2 children	78.2	68.7	50.0	0.4	5.1	2.3	0.5	9.4	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.2	9.5	5.7	3.9	0.0	21.8	100.0	194,678
2 sons	81.2	73.0	57.6	0.4	4.2	1.8	0.4	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	8.2	4.9	3.3	0.0	18.8	100.0	58,981
1 son	79.4	69.4	49.9	0.4	5.3	2.4	0.5	9.9	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.2	10.0	6.0	4.0	0.0	20.6	100.0	107,276
No sons	67.9	57.4	34.7	0.3	6.6	2.8	0.7	10.9	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.2	10.5	6.0	4.4	0.0	32.1	100.0	28,420
3 children	79.7	70.6	56.2	0.4	4.2	1.4	0.6	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	9.1	6.2	3.0	0.0	20.3	100.0	101,585
3 sons	81.7	73.6	61.1	0.4	3.7	1.2	0.6	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	8.1	5.6	2.5	0.0	18.3	100.0	11,313
2 sons	83.1	75.2	63.2	0.3	3.6	1.1	0.5	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.2	7.9	5.5	2.5	0.0	16.9	100.0	43,029
1 son	78.4	68.0	51.7	0.4	4.5	1.8	0.7	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	10.3	6.9	3.4	0.0	21.6	100.0	39,043
No sons	66.0	54.7	34.3	0.3	6.4	2.1	0.6	9.4	0.0	0.1	1.4	0.2	11.4	7.0	4.3	0.0	34.0	100.0	8,201
4 or more children	73.6	61.6	48.0	0.4	4.3	1.1	0.7	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	12.1	8.7	3.4	0.0	26.4	100.0	71,449
2 or more sons	74.6	62.8	50.2	0.4	4.2	0.9	0.7	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	11.8	8.6	3.2	0.0	25.4	100.0	48,434
1 son	73.8	61.5	46.5	0.4	4.4	1.5	0.8	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	12.3	8.7	3.6	0.0	26.2	100.0	19,503
No sons	58.8	44.0	26.6	0.5	5.6	1.7	0.5	7.1	0.0	0.1	1.6	0.2	14.7	9.7	5.0	0.0	41.2	100.0	3,511
Total	66.7	56.4	37.9	0.3	5.1	2.1	0.6	9.5	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.2	10.3	6.2	4.0	0.0	33.3	100.0	521,352

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this table.  
IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device; LAM = Lactational amenorrhoea method

Table 5.3.2 Contraceptive use by men with last partner

Percent distribution of currently married men and sexually active unmarried men age 15-49 by contraceptive method used the last time they had sex, according to type of sexual partner and background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Modern method										Traditional method				Number of men		
	Any method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Female condom	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Traditional method						
											Withdrawal	Rhythm	Other traditional method				
<b>Type of sexual partner</b>																	
Currently married	31.5	24.3	11.5	0.4	4.9	0.9	0.3	5.7	0.1	0.4	7.2	2.7	4.4	0.1	68.5	100.0	55,475
Wife	34.2	26.5	12.5	0.4	5.2	1.0	0.4	6.4	0.1	0.5	7.7	2.9	4.7	0.0	65.8	100.0	48,634
Live-in partner/ girlfriend	31.6	26.0	4.4	0.0	0.4	1.6	0.0	17.9	1.8	0.0	5.6	2.2	3.4	0.0	68.4	100.0	169
Other	11.9	8.9	4.7	0.5	3.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.0	0.6	2.2	0.1	88.1	100.0	6,672
Not currently married	56.8	49.6	0.5	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	44.9	0.5	0.1	7.2	2.2	4.9	0.0	43.2	100.0	3,420
Live-in partner	49.8	46.7	1.4	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	39.5	2.9	0.1	3.2	1.3	1.8	0.0	50.2	100.0	291
Girlfriend	57.9	50.1	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	45.8	0.3	0.1	7.8	2.5	5.3	0.0	42.1	100.0	2,193
Other	56.3	49.4	1.5	0.0	3.2	0.1	0.0	44.5	0.2	0.0	6.9	1.8	5.0	0.1	43.7	100.0	936
<b>Age</b>																	
15-19	42.2	35.5	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	30.7	0.1	0.0	6.7	2.1	4.6	0.0	57.8	100.0	975
20-24	33.5	24.2	0.4	0.1	4.1	0.6	0.2	18.4	0.1	0.3	9.4	3.7	5.6	0.1	66.5	100.0	4,317
25-29	29.8	20.1	3.7	0.1	4.9	0.8	0.4	9.6	0.2	0.3	9.7	3.4	6.3	0.0	70.2	100.0	8,958
30-34	31.4	24.0	7.6	0.3	5.6	1.2	0.3	8.5	0.1	0.4	7.4	2.9	4.4	0.1	68.6	100.0	11,264
35-39	34.5	27.8	13.4	0.4	5.1	1.0	0.4	6.9	0.1	0.4	6.7	2.5	4.2	0.0	65.5	100.0	12,273
40-44	34.2	28.0	16.0	0.7	4.6	0.7	0.3	5.2	0.1	0.4	6.2	2.2	4.0	0.0	65.8	100.0	10,392
45-49	33.2	27.8	17.7	0.7	4.3	0.7	0.3	3.6	0.1	0.4	5.4	2.1	3.3	0.1	66.8	100.0	10,716
<b>Residence</b>																	
Urban	34.1	26.3	10.2	0.2	3.9	0.9	0.3	10.2	0.2	0.5	7.8	2.6	5.2	0.0	65.9	100.0	19,788
Rural	32.4	25.5	11.2	0.5	5.4	0.8	0.4	6.8	0.1	0.4	6.8	2.7	4.1	0.1	67.6	100.0	39,107

Continued...

Table 5.3.2 Contraceptive use by men with last partner—Continued

Background characteristic	Modern method										Traditional method				Number of men		
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Female condom	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other traditional method		Not currently using	Total
<b>Schooling</b>																	
No schooling	27.6	21.7	13.0	0.6	4.4	0.3	0.2	3.1	0.0	0.2	5.9	2.6	3.2	0.1	72.4	100.0	8,327
<5 years complete	33.0	26.4	12.8	0.6	7.3	0.9	0.1	4.6	0.0	0.2	6.7	1.6	5.1	0.0	67.0	100.0	4,949
5-7 years complete	32.7	25.4	13.0	0.3	6.0	0.7	0.3	4.6	0.2	0.4	7.2	2.7	4.5	0.0	67.3	100.0	9,086
8-9 years complete	33.7	25.6	11.2	0.3	4.7	1.1	0.3	7.5	0.1	0.4	8.0	2.8	5.0	0.1	66.3	100.0	10,927
10-11 years complete	31.4	23.9	10.9	0.5	3.4	0.9	0.3	7.5	0.2	0.3	7.5	3.0	4.5	0.0	68.6	100.0	9,329
12 or more years complete	36.3	29.1	7.9	0.4	4.7	1.1	0.5	13.9	0.1	0.6	7.1	2.6	4.5	0.1	63.7	100.0	16,277
<b>Marital status</b>																	
Never married	58.6	51.5	0.2	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	47.1	0.5	0.1	7.0	2.0	5.0	0.0	41.4	100.0	3,209
Currently married	31.5	24.3	11.5	0.4	4.9	0.9	0.3	5.7	0.1	0.4	7.2	2.7	4.4	0.1	68.5	100.0	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	29.3	20.3	5.8	0.2	2.8	0.2	0.0	11.3	0.0	0.0	8.9	5.0	3.9	0.0	70.7	100.0	211
<b>Religion</b>																	
Hindu	32.7	25.7	11.7	0.4	4.0	0.8	0.3	7.9	0.1	0.4	7.0	2.8	4.1	0.1	67.3	100.0	46,974
Muslim	34.1	26.1	6.8	0.2	9.7	1.0	0.5	7.4	0.1	0.3	8.0	2.1	5.9	0.0	65.9	100.0	8,941
Christian	28.0	21.0	10.0	0.5	3.8	1.3	0.1	5.0	0.0	0.3	7.0	1.3	5.7	0.0	72.0	100.0	1,440
Sikh	35.1	29.1	6.7	0.7	1.8	1.4	0.1	18.5	0.0	0.0	6.0	3.1	2.7	0.1	64.9	100.0	548
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	46.5	38.6	14.7	1.1	4.2	0.6	0.8	16.5	0.5	0.3	7.8	0.6	7.2	0.0	53.5	100.0	660
Jain	35.2	25.7	13.8	0.0	5.4	0.0	0.0	6.2	0.0	0.3	9.5	3.1	6.4	0.0	64.8	100.0	153
Other	37.5	24.0	17.4	0.0	1.5	1.4	0.2	2.9	0.1	0.6	13.5	3.5	10.0	0.0	62.5	100.0	179

Continued...

Table 5.3.2 Contraceptive use by men with last partner—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married men and sexually active unmarried men age 15-49 by contraceptive method used the last time they had sex, according to type of sexual partner and background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Modern method						Traditional method					Number of men					
	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Female condom	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm		Withdrawal	Other traditional method	Not currently using	Total	
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																	
Scheduled caste	33.9	26.5	11.5	0.4	5.3	0.8	0.2	7.7	0.2	0.4	7.4	2.8	4.6	0.0	66.1	100.0	12,404
Scheduled tribe	33.8	24.4	12.7	0.8	4.4	0.8	0.2	5.3	0.1	0.3	9.4	4.0	5.3	0.1	66.2	100.0	5,628
Other backward class	30.8	24.2	11.4	0.4	3.1	0.8	0.3	7.5	0.1	0.5	6.6	2.6	3.9	0.1	69.2	100.0	24,313
Other	35.4	28.3	9.1	0.3	7.3	1.1	0.4	9.7	0.1	0.3	7.1	2.2	4.9	0.0	64.6	100.0	16,242
Don't know	24.4	19.5	5.2	0.0	5.0	0.1	1.3	7.4	0.0	0.4	4.9	0.2	4.8	0.0	75.6	100.0	308
<b>Wealth quintile</b>																	
Lowest	31.3	22.8	10.0	0.5	6.4	0.4	0.3	4.8	0.1	0.4	8.5	3.5	5.0	0.1	68.7	100.0	10,381
Second	33.0	25.8	10.5	0.5	7.3	0.8	0.4	6.0	0.1	0.3	7.2	2.8	4.3	0.1	67.0	100.0	11,721
Middle	30.3	23.7	11.6	0.4	4.1	0.8	0.3	6.1	0.0	0.3	6.6	2.3	4.2	0.1	69.7	100.0	12,433
Fourth	34.2	27.3	12.0	0.4	3.5	1.0	0.2	9.5	0.2	0.5	7.0	2.3	4.7	0.0	65.8	100.0	12,927
Highest	35.8	29.1	10.1	0.3	3.3	1.3	0.5	13.1	0.2	0.4	6.7	2.5	4.2	0.0	64.2	100.0	11,433
Total age 15-49	33.0	25.8	10.9	0.4	4.9	0.9	0.3	8.0	0.1	0.4	7.2	2.6	4.5	0.1	67.0	100.0	58,895
Age 50-54	30.5	25.2	18.2	0.6	3.1	0.4	0.2	2.5	0.1	0.3	5.3	2.1	3.1	0.1	69.5	100.0	8,307
Total age 15-54	32.7	25.7	11.8	0.4	4.6	0.8	0.3	7.3	0.1	0.4	6.9	2.6	4.3	0.1	67.3	100.0	67,202

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

Table 5.4 Knowledge of contraceptive methods among adolescents

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 who know at least one contraceptive method, who know at least one modern method and who know any modern temporary method by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Know any method	Know any modern method <sup>1</sup>	Know any modern temporary method <sup>2</sup>	Number of women	Know any method	Know any modern method <sup>1</sup>	Know any modern temporary method <sup>2</sup>	Number of men
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	95.3	95.2	87.8	122,544	96.3	96.2	94.8	16,385
20-24	98.9	98.9	96.6	119,440	99.1	99.0	98.5	14,384
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	97.4	97.3	93.2	71,098	98.4	98.4	97.8	10,538
Rural	97.0	96.9	91.7	170,885	97.2	97.1	95.8	20,231
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	96.9	96.7	90.2	15,889	96.3	96.3	94.7	1,415
<5 years complete	96.8	96.5	90.2	5,534	97.1	97.0	94.5	946
5-7 years complete	95.3	95.2	88.5	22,998	95.1	95.0	93.9	2,718
8-9 years complete	95.8	95.7	89.2	59,584	96.3	96.2	95.0	7,558
10-11 years complete	96.8	96.7	91.4	55,620	97.6	97.5	96.3	7,086
12 or more years complete	98.8	98.8	96.3	82,357	99.3	99.3	98.8	11,045
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	95.7	95.6	89.0	153,739	97.4	97.3	96.2	27,478
Currently married	99.5	99.4	97.6	86,991	99.5	99.5	99.0	3,226
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	98.1	98.0	95.0	1,253	100.0	100.0	95.0	64
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	97.4	97.3	92.4	194,339	97.7	97.6	96.7	23,910
Muslim	96.0	95.9	91.4	36,882	97.5	97.4	96.2	5,365
Christian	96.8	96.8	91.0	4,968	94.6	94.2	93.3	740
Sikh	93.2	93.1	86.9	3,179	96.3	96.2	95.3	304
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	97.1	97.1	94.1	1,278	98.6	98.6	98.1	294
Jain	98.9	98.9	96.8	422	100.0	100.0	99.8	76
Other	97.2	97.2	90.2	916	98.9	98.6	98.6	81
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	97.1	97.0	91.8	55,474	97.6	97.6	96.6	6,108
Scheduled tribe	96.9	96.8	91.2	23,285	97.0	97.0	96.2	2,861
Other backward class	97.4	97.3	92.1	105,027	98.1	98.0	96.9	13,257
Other	96.7	96.7	93.0	56,655	97.1	97.0	96.2	8,366
Don't know	94.1	94.0	88.4	1,543	92.3	90.8	89.9	176
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	96.0	95.9	89.7	48,714	96.5	96.3	95.1	5,521
Second	96.9	96.8	91.3	52,765	97.8	97.7	96.6	6,687
Middle	97.4	97.3	92.5	50,831	97.3	97.2	96.1	6,580
Fourth	97.5	97.4	93.0	48,409	98.0	98.0	97.1	6,318
Highest	97.8	97.7	94.6	41,264	98.4	98.4	97.7	5,663
<b>Total</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>97.0</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>241,983</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>30,769</b>

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

<sup>1</sup> Female sterilization, male sterilization, pill, IUD/PPIUD, injectables, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods

<sup>2</sup> Pill, IUD/PPIUD, injectables, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods

Table 5.5 Current use of contraception by age

Percent distribution of currently married women and sexually active unmarried women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and age, India, 2019-21

Age	Modern method										Traditional method					Number of women			
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal		Other traditional method	Not currently using	Total
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN - URBAN																			
15-19	29.1	20.1	0.6	0.0	4.3	2.3	0.2	10.5	0.1	0.0	2.0	0.1	9.0	3.4	5.6	0.0	70.9	100.0	2,522
20-24	45.3	33.8	6.6	0.0	5.2	4.0	0.8	15.3	0.1	0.0	1.7	0.0	11.5	5.9	5.5	0.0	54.7	100.0	16,942
25-29	60.3	49.3	20.0	0.1	5.2	3.9	0.7	18.4	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.1	11.0	6.0	5.0	0.0	39.7	100.0	30,878
30-34	73.4	61.6	33.4	0.3	5.4	3.5	0.4	17.7	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.3	11.8	6.6	5.2	0.0	26.6	100.0	31,561
35-39	79.8	68.1	45.6	0.3	4.9	2.4	0.3	13.9	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	11.6	6.7	4.9	0.0	20.2	100.0	31,097
40-44	78.2	67.4	51.9	0.3	3.2	1.7	0.3	9.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	10.8	6.5	4.3	0.0	21.8	100.0	25,669
45-49	73.2	65.5	56.5	0.4	1.9	0.8	0.2	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	7.7	4.9	2.8	0.0	26.8	100.0	24,726
Total	69.3	58.5	36.3	0.2	4.3	2.7	0.4	13.6	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.3	10.7	6.1	4.6	0.0	30.7	100.0	163,394
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN - RURAL																			
15-19	27.9	18.5	0.4	0.0	5.0	2.0	0.4	9.2	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.0	9.5	5.3	4.2	0.0	72.1	100.0	12,885
20-24	41.7	31.2	8.3	0.0	6.4	2.8	0.8	10.6	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	10.5	6.3	4.2	0.0	58.3	100.0	54,642
25-29	61.1	49.4	26.4	0.2	7.1	2.6	0.9	10.6	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1	11.7	7.1	4.6	0.0	38.9	100.0	71,379
30-34	73.7	62.7	42.9	0.3	6.7	2.2	0.8	8.9	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.2	11.0	6.9	4.1	0.0	26.3	100.0	62,386
35-39	78.4	68.1	52.8	0.6	5.6	1.5	0.6	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	10.3	6.6	3.7	0.0	21.6	100.0	59,587
40-44	76.7	67.4	57.6	0.6	3.3	0.9	0.4	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	9.3	6.3	3.1	0.0	23.3	100.0	48,037
45-49	71.5	65.0	59.2	0.5	2.1	0.4	0.2	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	6.5	4.4	2.1	0.0	28.5	100.0	49,042
Total	65.6	55.5	38.6	0.3	5.4	1.8	0.6	7.6	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	10.0	6.3	3.7	0.0	34.4	100.0	357,957
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN - TOTAL																			
15-19	28.1	18.8	0.4	0.0	4.9	2.1	0.4	9.5	0.1	0.0	1.5	0.0	9.4	5.0	4.4	0.0	71.9	100.0	15,407
20-24	42.5	31.8	7.9	0.0	6.1	3.1	0.8	11.7	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	10.7	6.2	4.5	0.0	57.5	100.0	71,584
25-29	60.9	49.4	24.5	0.1	6.5	3.0	0.8	13.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.1	11.5	6.8	4.7	0.0	39.1	100.0	102,257
30-34	73.6	62.3	39.7	0.3	6.3	2.6	0.7	11.8	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.2	11.2	6.8	4.5	0.0	26.4	100.0	93,946
35-39	78.9	68.1	50.3	0.5	5.3	1.8	0.5	9.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	10.8	6.6	4.1	0.0	21.1	100.0	90,684
40-44	77.2	67.4	55.6	0.5	3.3	1.2	0.3	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	9.8	6.3	3.5	0.0	22.8	100.0	73,706
45-49	72.1	65.2	58.3	0.5	2.1	0.5	0.2	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	6.9	4.5	2.3	0.0	27.9	100.0	73,768
Total	66.7	56.4	37.9	0.3	5.1	2.1	0.6	9.5	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.2	10.3	6.2	4.0	0.0	33.3	100.0	521,352

Continued...

Table 5.5 Current use of contraception by age—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married women and sexually active unmarried women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to residence and age, India, 2019-21

Age	Modern method										Traditional method				Number of women			
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ Nirodh	Female condom	Emergency contraception	LAM	Other modern method	Any traditional method	Rhythm		Withdrawal	Other traditional method	Not currently using
SEXUALLY ACTIVE UNMARRIED WOMEN <sup>1</sup> - URBAN																		
15-19	52.5	49.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	47.5	44
20-24	56.8	52.3	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	1.9	0.0	0.0	43.2	69
25-49	65.7	64.4	31.4	0.0	1.4	0.2	0.0	31.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.9	0.4	0.0	34.3	198
Total	61.9	59.6	21.0	0.0	0.9	0.2	0.0	37.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	2.2	1.6	0.7	0.0	38.1	312
SEXUALLY ACTIVE UNMARRIED WOMEN <sup>1</sup> - RURAL																		
15-19	43.1	37.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.1	1.1	33.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.8	4.7	0.0	56.9	169
20-24	39.0	35.6	2.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	28.9	0.2	1.3	0.0	0.0	3.4	1.0	2.4	0.0	61.0	110
25-49	61.7	55.7	45.5	0.0	1.2	0.2	0.5	7.8	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	6.0	3.5	2.6	0.0	38.3	244
Total	50.9	45.6	21.6	0.0	2.0	0.1	0.6	20.4	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.0	5.3	2.1	3.2	0.0	49.1	523
SEXUALLY ACTIVE UNMARRIED WOMEN <sup>1</sup> - TOTAL																		
15-19	45.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.1	0.8	36.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	5.0	1.3	3.7	0.0	55.0	214
20-24	45.9	42.1	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	36.2	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	3.8	1.6	2.2	0.0	54.1	179
25-49	63.5	59.6	39.2	0.0	1.3	0.2	0.3	18.2	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	3.9	2.3	1.6	0.0	36.5	442
Total	55.0	50.8	21.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.4	26.6	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0	4.2	1.9	2.3	0.0	45.0	835

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this table.

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device; LAM = Lactational amenorrhoea method

<sup>1</sup> Unmarried women who had sexual intercourse in the 30 days preceding the survey

**Table 5.6 Timing of sterilization**

Percent distribution of sterilized women, wives of sterilized men, and sterilized men by age at the time of sterilization (for NFHS-5), and median age at the time of sterilization (for NFHS-5 and NFHS-4), according to the number of years since the sterilization, India, 2019-21

Years since sterilization	Age at time of sterilization							Don't know/missing	Total	Number	Median age <sup>1</sup>	
	<20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49				NFHS-5 (2019-21)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)
<b>STERILIZED WOMEN</b>												
<2	1.0	30.2	39.6	19.1	7.3	1.9	0.9	na	100.0	15,775	27.0	26.5
2-3	1.1	32.6	37.5	19.4	6.3	2.4	0.6	na	100.0	17,219	26.7	26.4
4-5	1.5	34.2	34.5	20.1	7.0	2.5	0.1	na	100.0	19,135	26.6	26.6
6-7	1.7	35.7	35.6	18.1	7.0	2.0	0.0	na	100.0	19,761	26.6	26.5
8-9	2.1	34.4	35.7	18.9	8.1	0.9	0.0	na	100.0	19,459	26.7	26.6
10 or more	3.7	45.6	35.9	12.8	2.0	0.0	a	na	100.0	118,982	a	a
Total	2.7	40.4	36.1	15.6	4.2	0.8	0.1	na	100.0	210,331	25.7	25.7
<b>WIVES OF STERILIZED MEN</b>												
<10	0.7	23.8	41.1	22.4	7.8	3.5	0.7	na	100.0	635	27.7	27.3
10 or more	3.9	39.3	39.2	15.1	2.6	0.0	a	na	100.0	996	a	a
Total	2.7	33.2	39.9	17.9	4.6	1.4	0.3	na	100.0	1,630	26.5	26.5
<b>STERILIZED MEN</b>												
<10	0.0	7.8	19.4	26.4	19.6	6.9	1.9	18.1	100.0	135	30.5	31.4
10 or more	0.6	19.7	31.1	29.0	18.9	0.6	a	0.0	100.0	165	a	a
Total	0.3	14.4	25.8	27.8	19.2	3.4	0.8	8.1	100.0	300	30.1	30.9

<sup>1</sup>To avoid censoring, median age is calculated only for sterilizations that took place when the respondent was less than 40 years old.  
na = Not applicable



**Table 5.7 Compensation for sterilization and PPIUD**

Among women age 15-49 who are sterilized, percentage who received compensation for the sterilization and among women with a child below 3 years of age who are using a PPIUD, percentage who received compensation for using a PPIUD, by background characteristics according to residence, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of sterilized women who received compensation				Percentage of women using a PPIUD who received compensation			Number of women using a PPIUD
	Urban	Rural	Total	Number of sterilized women	Urban	Rural	Total	
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	49.7	53.2	52.5	5,744	3.4	16.7	12.0	112
25-34	49.3	63.5	59.7	63,990	8.7	18.2	15.5	1,211
35 and over	44.1	58.5	53.8	140,598	7.9	14.7	12.3	3,423
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	54.7	62.4	61.0	75,689	8.6	17.4	15.4	452
<5 years complete	56.6	64.5	62.6	17,039	16.9	20.1	19.4	186
5-7 years complete	54.0	61.9	59.6	37,423	7.0	16.1	13.4	550
8-9 years complete	50.9	59.8	56.9	30,031	8.6	15.3	13.3	906
10-11 years complete	40.7	52.4	47.3	24,409	7.8	12.1	10.8	780
12 or more years complete	27.9	45.6	35.6	25,740	7.4	16.6	12.7	1,871
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	47.0	61.1	57.0	184,456	8.8	16.4	13.8	3,886
Muslim	40.9	48.6	44.9	15,800	5.2	14.4	10.7	585
Christian	39.6	53.2	48.1	5,206	5.3	13.5	10.9	151
Sikh	29.3	39.3	36.9	2,219	0.0	6.5	5.6	68
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	39.3	54.1	48.4	1,591	0.0	0.6	0.3	17
Jain	13.5	42.0	22.3	495	0.0	0.0	0.0	18
Other	43.1	71.8	66.2	565	28.7	4.2	5.3	21
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	55.0	64.2	61.7	48,254	9.2	18.8	15.9	1,105
Scheduled tribe	50.5	69.0	66.5	20,622	4.6	15.3	14.0	505
Other backward class	46.1	58.2	54.4	96,332	9.0	15.8	13.2	1,938
Other	36.9	52.1	46.1	43,677	5.3	12.9	9.9	1,153
Don't know	47.0	62.3	57.8	1,446	22.1	7.2	13.0	46
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	68.5	69.9	69.8	35,805	17.3	15.6	15.7	794
Second	63.3	63.5	63.4	42,857	6.9	17.2	15.8	879
Middle	54.1	58.0	57.1	48,632	11.1	19.0	16.7	1,017
Fourth	49.5	51.7	50.8	46,677	8.1	13.1	10.9	1,093
Highest	34.3	42.1	36.5	36,360	6.0	9.9	7.2	963
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>210,331</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>4,746</b>

PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

Table 5.8 Compensation for sterilization and PPIUD by state/union territory

Among women age 15-49 who are sterilized, percentage who received compensation for the sterilization and among women with a child below 3 years of age who are using a PPIUD, percentage who received compensation for using a PPIUD, by state/union territory according to residence, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of sterilized women who received compensation			Percentage of women using a PPIUD who received compensation		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	45.6	59.9	55.6	8.0	15.7	13.1
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	34.9	0.0	34.5	0.0	-	0.0
Delhi	41.6	51.1	41.8	4.8	0.0	4.6
Haryana	41.2	47.2	45.8	7.0	6.6	6.7
Himachal Pradesh	53.4	77.7	75.9	0.0	19.8	18.2
Jammu & Kashmir	25.5	29.5	28.4	8.7	7.1	7.7
Ladakh	12.9	28.1	25.2	39.1	4.6	8.5
Punjab	28.8	36.8	34.5	7.7	4.8	5.8
Rajasthan	57.2	65.3	63.7	10.6	16.9	15.1
Uttarakhand	44.8	67.6	62.6	0.0	9.4	5.6
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	57.6	69.5	66.8	14.8	11.8	12.5
Madhya Pradesh	69.4	79.4	77.2	1.9	25.6	18.7
Uttar Pradesh	55.5	65.8	63.8	5.2	11.5	9.6
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	43.1	54.3	52.8	0.0	6.6	5.5
Jharkhand	45.9	55.1	53.0	7.3	15.7	14.2
Odisha	69.8	78.1	76.8	34.8	18.9	20.1
West Bengal	51.4	65.9	61.8	2.9	20.4	16.0
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	18.0	23.3	22.6	11.0	14.2	13.8
Assam	40.0	64.0	60.4	5.5	10.6	10.1
Manipur	20.2	34.9	28.5	20.6	0.9	7.6
Meghalaya	16.5	19.0	18.4	0.0	5.9	5.2
Mizoram	32.8	35.5	33.9	13.6	17.8	15.4
Nagaland	30.3	30.9	30.7	6.9	12.8	11.3
Sikkim	23.1	47.5	38.5	0.0	8.7	8.0
Tripura	58.0	57.3	57.5	nc	0.0	0.0
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	47.9	65.9	59.3	40.2	9.5	22.3
Goa	37.0	31.3	35.2	0.0	nc	0.0
Gujarat	51.7	68.6	62.9	8.6	12.6	10.8
Maharashtra	34.1	48.5	42.6	0.0	5.9	3.8
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	52.0	59.3	57.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Andhra Pradesh	45.2	55.4	52.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	41.7	52.8	48.5	3.7	20.7	12.5
Kerala	29.4	31.1	30.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lakshadweep	6.2	14.2	7.8	nc	nc	nc
Puducherry	49.6	56.1	51.8	40.0	27.8	37.4
Tamil Nadu	51.6	65.2	59.0	14.4	20.9	18.1
Telangana	33.9	45.3	41.3	2.9	5.4	3.6

nc = No cases

Table 5.9 Source of modern contraceptive methods

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who are current users of modern contraceptive methods by most recent source of the method, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Most recent source of method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Emergency contraception	All modern methods <sup>1</sup>
URBAN								
<b>Public health sector</b>	70.7	80.6	29.2	66.4	52.6	17.5	13.6	55.1
Government/municipal hospital	46.9	51.2	8.9	44.4	20.9	5.9	5.6	34.4
<i>Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Government dispensary	2.2	1.6	1.1	3.1	4.6	1.3	3.4	2.0
UHC/UHP/UFWC	2.9	2.3	0.6	3.0	1.0	0.4	0.5	2.1
CHC/rural hospital/Block PHC	11.7	14.5	3.7	8.8	13.0	2.0	2.6	8.8
PHC/Additional PHC	5.1	3.7	1.7	4.0	4.2	1.3	0.0	3.9
Sub-centre/ANM	0.2	0.4	4.8	1.2	5.4	0.9	0.0	0.8
Government mobile clinic	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.2
Camp	1.6	6.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.1
<i>Anganwadi/ICDS centre</i>	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.7	2.0	2.4	1.0	0.8
ASHA	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.8	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.9
Other community-based worker	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other public health sector	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.4
<b>Private health sector</b>	28.3	18.0	55.6	32.6	43.3	48.1	72.0	35.1
Private hospital	26.6	16.4	5.6	27.0	26.0	3.5	2.5	19.7
Private doctor/clinic	1.3	0.7	10.7	4.8	14.5	9.3	18.8	4.1
Private mobile clinic	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.3
<i>Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)</i>	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Traditional healer	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Pharmacy/drug store	0.0	0.0	37.7	0.3	2.1	34.0	50.8	10.6
<i>Dai (TBA)</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other private medical sector	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3
<b>Other source</b>	0.2	0.5	14.9	0.7	4.0	34.1	14.4	9.1
Shop	0.0	0.0	7.3	0.3	1.0	7.3	0.4	2.2
Husband	0.0	0.0	7.1	0.1	2.7	25.6	10.7	6.4
Friend/relative	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.9	3.2	0.2
Other	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2
Don't know	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of users	63,835	408	7,188	4,470	727	22,895	134	99,747

Continued...

Table 5.9 Source of modern contraceptive methods—Continued

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who are current users of modern contraceptive methods by most recent source of the method, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Most recent source of method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Emergency contraception	All modern methods <sup>1</sup>
RURAL								
<b>Public health sector</b>	85.3	94.8	45.3	82.1	69.6	33.5	36.7	74.1
Government/municipal hospital	36.0	41.7	4.9	37.1	16.1	5.3	2.2	28.6
<i>Vaidya/hakim/homeopath</i> (AYUSH)	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0
Government dispensary	1.8	1.9	0.9	2.3	2.0	1.1	0.8	1.7
UHC/UHP/UFWC	1.6	1.2	0.1	1.1	0.4	0.1	0.6	1.2
CHC/rural hospital/Block PHC	30.5	29.1	4.9	25.6	23.5	4.4	9.0	24.2
PHC/Additional PHC	10.9	13.1	2.9	9.8	9.4	2.1	3.2	8.8
Sub-centre/ANM	0.6	0.7	11.2	3.7	8.6	3.1	5.3	2.1
Government mobile clinic	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.2
Camp	3.9	6.8	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	2.9
<i>Anganwadi</i> /ICDS centre	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.7	4.6	6.1	9.0	1.4
ASHA	0.0	0.0	14.4	1.2	4.4	10.3	3.7	2.9
Other community-based worker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other public health sector	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.1
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2
<b>Private health sector</b>	14.1	4.9	41.4	17.4	26.0	32.8	50.7	19.5
Private hospital	13.0	4.2	2.5	13.9	11.9	2.3	5.1	10.5
Private doctor/clinic	0.9	0.6	8.4	2.7	11.8	8.3	11.6	2.8
Private mobile clinic	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.8	1.4	0.2
<i>Vaidya/hakim/homeopath</i> (AYUSH)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Traditional healer	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Pharmacy/drug store	0.0	0.0	29.4	0.5	1.5	20.8	32.7	5.7
<i>Dai</i> (TBA)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other private medical sector	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.3
<b>Other source</b>	0.2	0.2	13.1	0.3	4.3	33.5	12.1	6.0
Shop	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.1	2.3	6.1	2.9	1.4
Husband	0.0	0.0	7.2	0.1	1.1	26.1	5.9	4.3
Friend/relative	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.2	0.2
Other	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.2
Don't know	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of users	146,496	1,222	19,510	6,637	2,241	27,976	165	204,379

Continued...

Table 5.9 Source of modern contraceptive methods—*Continued*

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who are current users of modern contraceptive methods by most recent source of the method, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Most recent source of method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Emergency contraception	All modern methods <sup>1</sup>
TOTAL								
<b>Public health sector</b>	80.9	91.2	41.0	75.8	65.4	26.3	26.4	67.9
Government/municipal hospital	39.3	44.1	5.9	40.0	17.2	5.6	3.7	30.5
<i>Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)</i>	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0
Government dispensary	1.9	1.8	1.0	2.6	2.7	1.2	1.9	1.8
UHC/UHP/UFWC	2.0	1.5	0.2	1.8	0.5	0.3	0.5	1.5
CHC/rural hospital/Block PHC	24.8	25.5	4.6	18.9	20.9	3.3	6.1	19.1
PHC/Additional PHC	9.1	10.7	2.6	7.5	8.1	1.7	1.7	7.2
Sub-centre/ANM	0.4	0.6	9.4	2.7	7.8	2.1	3.0	1.7
Government mobile clinic	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.2
Camp	3.2	6.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	2.3
<i>Anganwadi/ICDS centre</i>	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.7	4.0	4.5	5.4	1.2
ASHA	0.0	0.0	11.8	1.0	3.6	6.7	2.1	2.2
Other community-based worker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other public health sector	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
<b>Private health sector</b>	18.4	8.2	45.2	23.5	30.2	39.7	60.3	24.6
Private hospital	17.1	7.3	3.3	19.1	15.3	2.9	3.9	13.5
Private doctor/clinic	1.0	0.6	9.0	3.5	12.4	8.8	14.8	3.2
Private mobile clinic	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.8	0.8	0.2
<i>Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)</i>	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Traditional healer	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Pharmacy/drug store	0.0	0.0	31.6	0.4	1.7	26.7	40.8	7.3
<i>Dai (TBA)</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other private medical sector	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.3
<b>Other source</b>	0.2	0.3	13.6	0.5	4.2	33.7	13.1	7.0
Shop	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.2	2.0	6.7	1.8	1.7
Husband	0.0	0.0	7.2	0.1	1.5	25.8	8.1	5.0
Friend/relative	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	1.0	3.2	0.2
Other	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.2
Don't know	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of users	210,331	1,630	26,699	11,106	2,967	50,871	299	304,125

Note: All information in this table is based on women's reports. Table includes all users of modern contraceptive methods except the lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM) regardless of marital status.

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

AYUSH = Ayurveda, yoga and naturopathy, unani, siddha, and homeopathy; UHC = Urban health centre; UHP = Urban health post; UFWC = Urban family welfare centre; CHC = Community health centre; PHC = Primary health centre; ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services; ASHA = Accredited Social Health Activist; NGO = Nongovernmental organization; TBA = Traditional birth attendant

<sup>1</sup> Excludes standard days method, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and "other" modern methods

Table 5.10 Public sector as source of modern contraceptives by state/union territory

Percentage of current users of modern contraceptive methods for whom the most recent source of contraceptives was the public sector, by specific method and residence, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Female sterilization		Male sterilization		Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Emergency contraception		All modern methods		
									Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	80.9	91.2	41.0	75.8	65.4	26.3	26.4	55.1	74.1	67.9			
<b>North</b>													
Chandigarh	88.5	*	*	*	*	17.8	*	48.9	*	49.0			
Delhi	80.6	*	29.0	73.5	(56.8)	12.8	*	43.4	50.4	43.6			
Haryana	81.5	99.4	45.4	63.7	58.6	26.4	*	48.2	68.7	62.3			
Himachal Pradesh	95.6	98.1	57.4	89.9	*	32.3	*	46.1	80.2	76.1			
Jammu & Kashmir	89.4	(73.3)	67.7	94.7	82.5	54.6	*	70.2	80.7	77.8			
Ladakh	93.8	*	87.0	98.1	89.3	89.1	*	87.2	92.9	91.9			
Punjab	88.6	91.2	48.2	61.4	*	23.8	*	47.3	63.8	57.8			
Rajasthan	93.4	95.2	57.8	82.4	82.4	25.3	*	60.9	80.8	76.0			
Uttarakhand	90.2	95.0	40.8	84.6	(62.4)	11.6	*	32.9	62.8	53.1			
<b>Central</b>													
Chhattisgarh	89.7	99.7	67.9	89.0	63.2	40.0	*	72.1	89.7	85.3			
Madhya Pradesh	95.3	96.5	57.7	82.4	73.0	27.7	*	69.5	91.0	85.4			
Uttar Pradesh	85.0	(90.7)	49.9	70.5	59.7	26.7	39.5	36.6	60.6	54.2			
<b>East</b>													
Bihar	69.6	(71.3)	35.1	67.3	58.6	32.4	*	49.5	67.0	64.2			
Jharkhand	75.3	76.6	40.8	80.2	50.1	41.0	*	58.7	73.7	70.1			
Odisha	92.8	96.7	49.4	93.4	83.3	24.1	*	61.1	78.3	75.3			
West Bengal	86.2	*	33.8	97.8	71.4	22.8	*	48.4	67.5	61.6			
<b>Northeast</b>													
Arunachal Pradesh	93.9	*	42.2	94.5	73.3	37.0	40.8	67.1	69.7	69.3			
Assam	86.4	(100.0)	34.0	93.8	87.1	31.1	*	41.9	50.3	49.2			
Manipur	72.1	*	26.6	82.4	*	15.2	*	51.2	47.6	49.0			
Meghalaya	73.1	*	76.2	90.9	71.0	43.2	(70.1)	55.0	78.1	73.9			
Mizoram	88.7	*	51.9	83.9	*	66.5	*	64.6	79.7	72.2			
Nagaland	77.9	*	43.3	87.7	*	29.7	*	63.6	78.1	73.1			
Sikkim	93.2	(98.5)	50.4	88.1	68.7	61.6	*	73.0	70.4	71.2			
Tripura	90.4	*	23.6	(88.3)	*	17.6	*	34.7	41.3	39.2			

Continued...

Table 5.10 Public sector as source of modern contraceptives by state/union territory—Continued

State/union territory	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Injectables	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Emergency contraception	All modern methods		Total
								Urban	Rural	
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	84.5	*	54.0	(82.5)	*	40.6	*	58.7	87.5	74.8
Goa	81.2	*	(45.2)	(56.4)	*	22.6	*	53.2	52.4	52.9
Gujarat	82.6	85.8	45.8	57.0	(40.2)	32.3	*	51.1	81.3	68.8
Maharashtra	79.8	96.4	35.6	44.3	52.4	18.9	*	53.2	80.2	68.2
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	96.7	*	73.0	97.1	*	20.4	*	72.4	88.4	83.0
Andhra Pradesh	72.4	(71.7)	*	*	*	(6.1)	*	61.9	76.1	71.9
Karnataka	84.0	*	66.7	75.0	69.0	44.9	*	70.8	87.0	80.5
Kerala	57.4	*	(43.4)	79.4	*	53.4	*	52.0	62.3	57.6
Lakshadweep	66.1	*	*	*	*	(97.0)	*	71.2	(83.1)	73.3
Puducherry	85.5	*	*	(85.1)	*	46.8	*	78.5	91.8	82.8
Tamil Nadu	74.1	*	51.1	83.1	(83.3)	22.6	*	65.7	79.9	73.3
Telangana	67.2	90.7	41.4	36.6	*	47.6	*	57.1	72.8	67.2

Note: All information in this table is based on women's reports. Table includes all users of modern contraception regardless of their marital status. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.  
IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

Table 5.11 Use and source of emergency contraceptive pills

Percentage of women who have ever used emergency contraceptive pills and percentage who have used emergency contraceptive pills in the last 12 months, and among those who used emergency contraceptive pills in the last 12 months, the percent distribution by the number of times the pills were used and the percentage of users by source from which the method was obtained, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Source	Urban	Rural	Total
Percentage who have ever used emergency contraceptive pills	0.9	0.6	0.7
Percentage who have used emergency contraceptive pills in the last 12 months	0.6	0.4	0.4
<b>Among women who have used emergency contraceptive pills in the past 12 months, number of times used</b>			
1	40.2	35.6	37.5
2	26.4	21.7	23.7
3 or more	33.5	42.7	38.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Source of emergency contraceptive pills</b>			
<b>Public health sector</b>			
Government/municipal hospital	4.0	6.8	5.6
Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)	0.1	0.2	0.1
Government dispensary	1.9	0.7	1.2
UHC/UHP/UFWC	0.5	0.4	0.4
CHC/rural hospital/Block PHC	2.4	9.8	6.7
PHC/Additional PHC	0.0	1.5	0.9
Sub-centre/ANM	1.0	3.8	2.6
Government mobile clinic	0.6	0.3	0.4
Anganwadi/ICDS centre	1.2	4.0	2.8
ASHA	0.8	7.5	4.7
Other community-based worker	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other public health sector	0.3	0.1	0.2
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	0.3	0.1	0.2
<b>Private health sector</b>			
Private hospital	6.2	4.2	5.1
Private doctor/clinic	16.3	16.2	16.3
Private mobile clinic	1.2	1.8	1.5
Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)	0.3	0.0	0.1
Traditional healer	0.3	0.3	0.3
Pharmacy/drug store	52.5	38.5	44.4
Dai (TBA)	1.3	0.0	0.6
Other private medical sector	0.0	0.1	0.1
<b>Other source</b>			
Shop	6.6	7.7	7.2
Friend/relative	4.7	3.5	4.0
Other	1.5	2.1	1.8
Number of users of emergency contraceptive pills in the past 12 months	698	967	1,665

Note: All information in this table is based on women's reports. Table includes all users of emergency contraceptive pills regardless of their marital status.

AYUSH = Ayurveda, yoga and naturopathy, unani, siddha, and homeopathy; UHC = Urban Health Centre; UHP = Urban health post; UFWC = Urban family welfare centre; CHC = Community health centre; PHC = Primary health centre; ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services; ASHA = Accredited Social Health Activist; NGO = Nongovernmental organization; TBA = Traditional birth attendant



Table 5.12 Informed choice

Among women who are current users of selected modern contraceptive methods who started the last episode of use within the 5 years preceding the survey, the percentage who were informed about possible side effects or problems of that method, the percentage who were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects, percentage who were ever told by a health or family planning worker about other methods of family planning they could use, and percentage who were informed of all three, by method, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Method	Percentage who were informed about side effects or problems of method used	Percentage who were informed about what to do if experienced side effects	Percentage who were informed by a health or family planning worker about other methods that could be used	Percentage who were informed of all three (Method Information Index)	Number of women
URBAN					
Female sterilization <sup>1</sup>	62.0	54.2	68.0	49.8	11,459
Pill	63.1	55.3	76.0	53.1	3,694
IUD or PPIUD	76.7	68.4	77.4	63.2	3,054
Total	64.7	56.8	71.2	52.7	18,207
RURAL					
Female sterilization <sup>1</sup>	57.5	49.5	63.9	44.7	31,021
Pill	64.8	56.3	77.0	54.4	11,554
IUD or PPIUD	74.5	66.6	79.1	62.4	5,057
Total	61.1	53.0	68.7	48.9	47,632
TOTAL					
Female sterilization <sup>1</sup>	58.7	50.8	65.0	46.1	42,480
Pill	64.4	56.1	76.8	54.1	15,248
IUD or PPIUD	75.3	67.3	78.4	62.7	8,111
Total	62.1	54.0	69.4	50.0	65,839

Note: Table includes only the contraceptive methods separately shown in the table and excludes users who obtained their method from friends/relatives or husband.

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

<sup>1</sup> Among women who were sterilized in the five years preceding the survey

Table 5.13 Informed choice by state/union territory

Among women who are current users of modern contraceptive methods who started the last episode of use within the 5 years preceding the survey, the percentage who were informed about possible side effects or problems of that method, the percentage who were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects, percentage who were ever told by a health or family planning worker about other methods of family planning they could use, and percentage who were informed of all three, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who were informed about side effects or problems of method used	Percentage who were informed about what to do if experienced side effects	Percentage who were informed by a health or family planning worker about other methods that could be used	Percentage who were informed of all three (Method Information Index)
<b>India</b>	62.1	54.0	69.4	50.0
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	91.7	86.5	89.5	86.5
Delhi	71.1	58.2	73.5	51.7
Haryana	69.3	60.1	74.7	55.6
Himachal Pradesh	58.1	45.7	65.8	39.8
Jammu & Kashmir	62.5	51.6	72.1	49.0
Ladakh	60.3	46.2	75.8	45.0
Punjab	78.5	66.3	71.8	60.3
Rajasthan	60.8	49.1	67.8	44.6
Uttarakhand	60.4	52.1	67.2	47.5
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	83.4	77.8	87.5	74.8
Madhya Pradesh	69.6	61.4	74.9	57.5
Uttar Pradesh	69.6	58.0	75.5	54.0
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	48.8	39.7	57.8	35.3
Jharkhand	50.9	43.1	62.8	39.2
Odisha	73.5	67.3	80.0	63.1
West Bengal	53.4	46.2	64.6	42.6
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	73.8	61.8	74.4	58.3
Assam	70.0	63.0	76.8	61.4
Manipur	44.4	23.2	49.4	19.5
Meghalaya	67.3	57.4	71.2	55.1
Mizoram	58.4	49.5	56.1	45.3
Nagaland	61.1	51.1	67.0	47.6
Sikkim	61.5	43.9	71.8	42.0
Tripura	43.6	37.2	53.6	34.2
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	67.7	65.2	69.0	58.3
Goa	85.2	69.2	91.1	68.0
Gujarat	73.9	64.9	74.9	59.9
Maharashtra	51.9	44.9	59.1	38.6
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	83.4	76.4	90.9	74.2
Andhra Pradesh	28.8	22.3	47.8	20.0
Karnataka	72.9	66.5	77.9	64.4
Kerala	62.4	52.9	64.6	46.6
Lakshadweep	85.0	82.5	75.3	75.3
Puducherry	63.0	60.1	75.0	54.6
Tamil Nadu	82.5	77.6	86.5	73.6
Telangana	49.0	44.9	60.8	40.3

Note: Table includes only users of female sterilization, pill, and IUD/PPIUD and excludes users who obtained their method from friends/relatives or husband.

Table 5.14 Twelve-month contraceptive discontinuation rates

Among women age 15-49 who experienced an episode of contraceptive use within the 5 years preceding the survey, the percentage of episodes discontinued within 12 months, by reason for discontinuation and specific method, India, 2019-20

Method	Method failure	Desire to become pregnant	Other fertility related reason <sup>1</sup>	Side effects/health concerns	Wanted more effective method	Other method related reason <sup>2</sup>	Other reason	Any reason <sup>3</sup>	Switched to another method <sup>4</sup>	Number of episodes of use <sup>5</sup>
Pill	2.4	10.4	9.6	9.6	4.3	8.3	10.1	54.7	6.6	40,944
IUD or PPIUD	1.9	7.5	1.8	11.6	2.4	5.2	4.8	35.2	5.7	13,856
Injectables	2.9	10.6	13.3	11.2	7.1	9.5	11.2	65.9	8.7	5,531
Condom/Nirodh	2.8	14.1	11.4	3.7	3.4	11.5	13.6	60.5	5.6	91,327
Rhythm	4.7	12.8	14.4	1.5	4.2	5.8	17.0	60.4	7.6	55,865
Withdrawal	4.5	13.3	13.9	2.3	5.0	4.6	14.9	58.5	9.8	36,678
Other <sup>6</sup>	4.5	10.0	11.2	6.7	22.7	7.4	16.4	78.9	31.3	9,832
All modern spacing methods <sup>7</sup>	2.7	12.2	10.1	6.3	4.7	9.8	12.0	58.0	7.4	161,304
All spacing methods <sup>8</sup>	3.4	12.5	11.6	4.7	4.7	8.2	13.5	58.6	7.8	254,034
All methods	2.9	10.6	9.8	4.0	3.9	6.9	11.5	49.6	6.6	300,420

Note: Table is based on life table calculations using information on episodes of contraceptive use that began 3-62 months preceding the survey. All methods includes female and male sterilizations, which are not shown separately.

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

<sup>1</sup> Includes infrequent sex/husband away, difficult to get pregnant/menopausal, and marital dissolution/separation

<sup>2</sup> Includes lack of access/too far, costs too much, and inconvenient to use

<sup>3</sup> Reasons for discontinuation are mutually exclusive and add to the total given in this column

<sup>4</sup> The episodes of use included in this column are a subset of the discontinued episodes included in the discontinuation rate. A woman is considered to have switched to another method if she used a different method in the month following discontinuation or if she gave "wanted a more effective method" as the reason for discontinuation and started another method within 2 months of discontinuation.

<sup>5</sup> All episodes of use that occurred within the 5 years preceding the survey are included. Number of episodes of use includes both episodes of use that were discontinued during the period of observation and episodes of use that were not discontinued during the period of observation.

<sup>6</sup> Includes female condom, diaphragm, foam/jelly, standard days method, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern and traditional methods that are not shown separately

<sup>7</sup> Includes pill, IUD/PPIUD, injectables, male condom, female condom, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), diaphragm, foam/jelly, and other modern spacing methods that are not shown separately

<sup>8</sup> Includes pill, IUD/PPIUD, injectables, male condom, female condom, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), diaphragm, foam/jelly, rhythm, withdrawal, and other modern spacing and traditional methods that are not shown separately

**Table 5.15 Twelve-month contraceptive discontinuation rates by state/union territory**

Among women age 15-49 who experienced an episode of contraceptive use within the 5 years preceding the survey, the percentage of episodes discontinued within 12 months, by specific method and state/union territory, India, 2019-20

State/union territory	Modern method			Traditional method		All methods	Any modern method	Any spacing method
	Pill	IUD or PPIUD	Condom/ <i>Nirodh</i>	Rhythm	Withdrawal			
<b>India</b>	54.7	35.2	60.5	60.4	58.5	49.6	45.1	58.6
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	*	*	(38.4)	*	*	48.6	(31.0)	52.3
Delhi	(50.2)	18.7	29.2	37.2	36.8	31.3	28.7	32.9
Haryana	46.9	27.2	38.5	44.9	50.6	36.0	31.5	42.0
Himachal Pradesh	(49.5)	(26.8)	46.8	52.8	44.2	40.5	38.0	46.5
Jammu & Kashmir	57.3	22.2	61.1	*	61.4	54.4	52.8	57.5
Ladakh	(47.9)	*	(51.1)	*	*	44.8	42.1	48.0
Punjab	67.7	37.1	61.3	73.6	74.5	64.2	54.7	67.1
Rajasthan	57.5	25.0	54.0	60.7	60.5	48.6	42.9	56.8
Uttarakhand	50.9	(21.1)	42.0	47.4	58.2	43.7	38.9	47.0
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	65.2	26.0	57.0	56.2	68.0	49.8	45.6	61.1
Madhya Pradesh	70.2	41.5	57.9	55.6	64.9	47.6	43.3	61.9
Uttar Pradesh	71.5	37.0	69.8	65.4	71.6	65.5	64.9	68.4
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	62.3	39.1	68.4	63.4	65.4	50.8	39.3	64.5
Jharkhand	54.8	23.0	57.0	51.9	57.2	41.9	33.6	53.1
Odisha	46.7	26.6	53.0	49.4	51.1	45.9	41.6	50.4
West Bengal	37.5	36.2	51.9	41.1	47.7	38.9	36.7	43.9
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	51.8	30.9	76.6	57.3	60.3	56.6	55.3	59.1
Assam	41.9	17.1	65.6	48.2	53.8	46.7	44.4	48.3
Manipur	59.8	38.0	63.8	41.7	53.3	53.0	55.1	53.7
Meghalaya	50.4	17.2	71.7	63.3	53.6	50.2	47.5	52.6
Mizoram	36.9	(38.3)	(66.2)	*	*	38.6	38.4	41.8
Nagaland	47.5	5.9	71.1	56.6	59.7	51.0	46.3	53.0
Sikkim	37.8	*	(38.8)	*	(21.8)	31.3	33.2	32.7
Tripura	28.9	*	61.4	44.5	54.6	44.2	41.1	46.0
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	*	*	34.7	*	(51.7)	30.4	24.9	39.3
Goa	*	*	57.1	*	*	54.8	55.2	58.0
Gujarat	62.4	32.2	47.3	56.9	54.3	42.6	35.8	51.2
Maharashtra	57.8	34.4	48.5	(39.5)	44.5	34.8	34.0	49.3
<b>South</b>								
Andhra Pradesh	*	*	(40.9)	*	*	32.7	31.7	39.6
Karnataka	*	*	*	*	*	9.0	7.7	61.0
Kerala	73.8	52.6	65.3	*	(68.6)	40.9	39.8	66.2
Lakshadweep	*	(26.4)	63.1	43.6	51.0	37.7	32.3	54.2
Puducherry	*	*	*	*	*	33.2	*	38.3
Tamil Nadu	*	*	(59.6)	*	*	35.3	31.2	52.9
Telangana	*	44.3	60.8	(38.9)	49.0	30.0	26.4	51.6

Note: All methods and any modern method include female and male sterilization, which are not shown separately. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

IUD = Intrauterine device; PPIUD = Postpartum intrauterine device

Table 5.16.1 Exposure to family planning messages: Women

Percentage of women age 15-49 who heard or saw a family planning message on radio, television, in a newspaper or magazine, or on a wall painting or hoarding or on the internet in the past few months, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Radio	Television	Newspaper/ magazine	Wall painting or hoarding	Internet	None of these media sources	Number of women
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	13.4	56.3	37.9	55.5	31.4	26.5	122,544
20-24	15.6	62.1	41.7	60.2	39.0	21.7	119,440
25-29	15.9	62.8	39.8	59.7	36.1	22.2	117,145
30-34	15.9	61.6	36.7	58.0	30.4	23.6	100,384
35-39	15.8	59.8	33.4	55.3	24.5	25.7	97,552
40-44	16.0	57.5	30.5	52.3	20.0	28.1	81,787
45-49	15.2	54.8	27.0	49.6	17.0	30.5	85,264
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	17.9	71.6	48.8	65.2	40.6	16.3	235,279
Rural	14.1	53.6	29.7	51.9	24.0	29.4	488,836
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	10.8	39.7	9.4	36.3	9.9	43.2	163,492
<5 years complete	10.8	49.3	14.8	45.4	10.9	34.2	37,549
5-7 years complete	13.0	56.2	25.5	52.7	17.7	27.4	96,806
8-9 years complete	14.6	60.5	35.4	58.2	25.9	23.3	129,094
10-11 years complete	16.5	67.2	47.9	63.9	35.1	18.1	109,777
12 or more years complete	21.2	75.2	62.1	71.7	55.1	11.9	187,396
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	15.6	60.6	36.5	57.0	29.6	24.5	589,164
Muslim	14.8	53.2	31.3	51.5	27.4	29.1	97,595
Christian	12.5	50.5	37.2	56.0	25.2	28.0	16,995
Sikh	10.2	64.4	38.0	49.2	38.5	25.8	11,404
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	23.3	71.3	45.5	64.6	31.1	17.9	4,571
Jain	18.7	86.7	72.9	81.2	60.4	5.3	1,632
Other	13.5	34.2	24.1	52.1	22.2	35.8	2,754
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	14.3	57.7	31.0	53.4	25.5	27.2	158,483
Scheduled tribe	13.2	47.1	26.5	52.2	20.4	32.1	67,263
Other backward class	16.0	59.9	36.8	57.1	29.4	24.4	310,783
Other	16.2	65.3	42.7	59.1	36.5	21.6	182,474
Don't know	7.5	41.1	16.5	37.1	13.1	45.6	5,112
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	10.7	33.1	15.3	40.6	13.1	44.3	133,973
Second	13.8	51.8	25.3	50.0	20.4	30.5	144,813
Middle	15.1	62.8	34.2	56.7	25.9	23.0	148,616
Fourth	16.8	69.3	44.2	62.4	34.2	17.7	150,680
Highest	19.8	77.7	58.8	69.7	51.8	12.2	146,032
Total	15.3	59.5	35.9	56.2	29.4	25.2	724,115

Table 5.16.2 Exposure to family planning messages: Men

Percentage of men age 15-49 who heard or saw a family planning message on radio, television, in a newspaper or magazine, or on a wall painting or hoarding or on the internet in the past few months, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Radio	Television	Newspaper/ magazine	Wall painting or hoarding	Internet	None of these media sources	Number of men
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	10.4	48.9	40.5	57.4	27.9	26.9	16,385
20-24	13.3	56.7	48.7	63.3	40.5	19.9	14,384
25-29	15.3	57.9	49.8	63.2	37.1	20.8	14,195
30-34	17.1	61.4	52.4	64.8	33.2	18.7	13,109
35-39	16.4	59.0	47.6	62.8	25.2	20.9	13,029
40-44	16.3	57.6	47.6	61.6	20.1	22.6	10,846
45-49	17.0	56.4	44.3	58.6	16.8	23.8	11,197
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	14.7	62.6	53.6	64.0	35.9	18.3	32,852
Rural	15.0	53.3	43.6	60.3	25.8	24.1	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	12.0	38.4	14.4	42.8	9.2	39.9	9,982
<5 years complete	10.7	44.0	19.2	48.4	10.8	32.9	5,842
5-7 years complete	12.6	50.1	33.0	55.7	16.1	28.0	12,082
8-9 years complete	14.0	53.7	43.3	60.7	23.0	23.2	18,472
10-11 years complete	14.7	59.3	54.6	64.5	30.4	18.6	16,735
12 or more years complete	18.1	67.9	67.2	71.8	48.4	12.7	30,032
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	15.3	58.4	49.5	63.7	29.9	20.4	73,632
Muslim	14.0	49.2	37.3	54.4	27.4	27.4	14,633
Christian	10.0	43.0	34.8	46.0	23.1	35.5	2,426
Sikh	9.0	49.2	34.0	44.3	28.5	34.2	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	12.4	64.7	53.7	65.8	24.5	22.2	1,017
Jain	21.3	78.8	58.3	78.0	55.0	11.9	280
Other	23.6	51.6	52.0	66.4	41.1	22.4	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	13.9	56.0	43.6	61.1	26.0	22.9	18,977
Scheduled tribe	13.5	46.8	35.8	55.6	19.7	29.6	8,441
Other backward class	15.4	58.2	51.0	64.2	31.3	19.8	38,986
Other	15.3	58.2	48.0	60.7	32.3	21.8	26,244
Don't know	9.9	28.4	22.2	34.6	14.2	53.5	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	12.9	38.3	27.2	53.4	15.4	33.3	15,606
Second	14.5	51.0	38.3	59.1	22.3	25.1	18,497
Middle	15.6	59.0	47.6	60.7	27.2	21.2	19,829
Fourth	14.4	62.9	55.0	64.2	33.4	18.3	20,658
Highest	16.7	67.9	63.4	69.2	46.0	14.6	18,553
Total age 15-49	14.9	56.6	47.1	61.6	29.4	22.0	93,144
Age 50-54	16.6	52.2	41.9	56.0	14.1	26.7	8,695
Total age 15-54	15.0	56.2	46.7	61.2	28.1	22.4	101,839

**Table 5.17 Men's contraception-related perceptions and knowledge**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who agree with two specific statements about women and contraception, and percent distribution of men according to their belief about the efficacy of condoms in preventing pregnancy, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who agree		Percentage of men who say that if a male condom is used correctly, it protects against pregnancy:				Total	Number of men
	Contraception is women's business and a man should not have to worry about it	Women who use contraception may become promiscuous	Most of the time	Sometimes	Not at all	Don't know/		
						unsure <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	29.9	16.7	48.2	27.8	4.1	19.9	100.0	16,385
20-24	34.9	18.6	55.2	32.4	3.4	9.0	100.0	14,384
25-29	35.1	19.0	58.4	32.8	3.1	5.7	100.0	14,195
30-34	37.1	20.2	58.7	33.1	2.9	5.4	100.0	13,109
35-39	37.8	21.5	56.9	32.9	2.8	7.4	100.0	13,029
40-44	36.5	21.0	55.2	33.4	2.7	8.6	100.0	10,846
45-49	36.1	21.2	55.8	30.3	3.4	10.5	100.0	11,197
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	32.3	18.9	58.8	31.3	3.0	6.9	100.0	32,852
Rural	36.6	19.9	53.3	31.9	3.4	11.4	100.0	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	39.2	20.9	45.4	32.9	4.1	17.6	100.0	9,982
<5 years complete	34.1	19.9	50.4	31.9	4.8	13.0	100.0	5,842
5-7 years complete	37.3	19.5	52.9	32.4	3.4	11.3	100.0	12,082
8-9 years complete	33.7	17.9	55.2	30.1	3.3	11.4	100.0	18,472
10-11 years complete	34.3	20.6	55.2	31.7	3.0	10.1	100.0	16,735
12 or more years complete	34.4	19.5	60.4	31.9	2.8	4.9	100.0	30,032
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	35.9	19.1	55.9	31.4	3.1	9.6	100.0	73,632
Muslim	31.9	19.9	52.4	32.6	4.0	11.0	100.0	14,633
Christian	28.6	31.2	50.6	32.3	4.7	12.4	100.0	2,426
Sikh	64.7	36.5	68.0	22.0	1.6	8.5	100.0	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	20.7	10.5	44.1	42.6	3.5	9.9	100.0	1,017
Jain	17.4	6.5	55.5	41.8	0.6	2.1	100.0	280
Other	23.7	13.8	74.7	18.2	0.7	6.3	100.0	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	36.6	18.1	54.6	32.4	3.2	9.8	100.0	18,977
Scheduled tribe	31.7	17.8	54.7	28.7	3.9	12.6	100.0	8,441
Other backward class	37.7	21.2	54.5	32.9	3.4	9.3	100.0	38,986
Other	31.4	18.8	56.9	30.5	2.9	9.6	100.0	26,244
Don't know	29.9	16.3	56.0	21.7	2.6	19.7	100.0	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	38.3	16.6	50.5	30.8	3.7	15.0	100.0	15,606
Second	36.9	18.5	52.7	31.6	3.9	11.8	100.0	18,497
Middle	35.5	20.9	53.5	33.1	3.2	10.2	100.0	19,829
Fourth	33.3	21.6	56.7	32.6	3.1	7.6	100.0	20,658
Highest	32.1	19.5	62.0	30.0	2.6	5.5	100.0	18,553
Total age 15-49	35.1	19.6	55.2	31.7	3.3	9.8	100.0	93,144
Age 50-54	35.8	21.8	52.3	32.0	3.1	12.7	100.0	8,695
Total age 15-54	35.2	19.7	55.0	31.7	3.2	10.1	100.0	101,839

<sup>1</sup> Includes missing values and those who have never heard of male condom

**Table 5.18 Men's contraception-related perceptions and knowledge by state/union territory**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who agree with two specific statements about women and contraception and say that a woman who is breastfeeding cannot become pregnant, and percent distribution of men according to their belief about the efficacy of condoms in preventing pregnancy, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of men who agree		Percentage of men who say that if a male condom is used correctly, it protects against pregnancy most of the time
	Contraception is women's business and a man should not have to worry about it	Women who use contraception may become promiscuous	
<b>India</b>	35.1	19.6	55.2
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	69.1	40.7	82.0
Delhi	21.9	6.2	77.3
Haryana	30.5	14.2	60.2
Himachal Pradesh	28.5	11.7	65.9
Jammu & Kashmir	35.0	33.8	48.3
Ladakh	20.1	21.4	38.9
Punjab	77.3	43.9	72.5
Rajasthan	39.1	17.6	69.0
Uttarakhand	37.9	15.3	78.9
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	38.8	13.2	54.3
Madhya Pradesh	34.9	13.1	56.4
Uttar Pradesh	50.0	14.1	58.2
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	49.6	13.6	55.5
Jharkhand	52.9	16.4	57.2
Odisha	19.4	7.2	67.8
West Bengal	34.0	14.7	53.4
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	26.6	15.9	70.4
Assam	19.6	14.6	57.0
Manipur	7.3	18.1	72.2
Meghalaya	20.2	20.3	43.1
Mizoram	9.0	9.4	82.3
Nagaland	9.6	17.3	60.5
Sikkim	33.5	21.8	61.0
Tripura	58.5	17.8	66.6
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	55.6	21.7	70.8
Goa	1.0	0.3	80.4
Gujarat	40.3	25.3	72.7
Maharashtra	16.0	10.6	49.7
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16.5	11.9	39.6
Andhra Pradesh	35.9	35.7	39.4
Karnataka	45.2	30.7	50.7
Kerala	16.1	44.1	50.1
Lakshadweep	5.7	43.7	79.7
Puducherry	21.4	13.0	58.3
Tamil Nadu	19.3	9.1	48.8
Telangana	50.2	35.3	49.8



Table 5.19 Need and demand for family planning among currently married women

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, total demand for family planning, and percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning (currently using)			Total demand for family planning <sup>1</sup>			Percentage of demand satisfied by modern methods <sup>3</sup>	Number of women	
	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total			
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	15.6	2.2	17.8	24.6	3.5	28.1	40.2	5.7	45.9	61.3	40.8	15,407
20-24	12.4	4.9	17.3	25.0	17.5	42.5	37.4	22.4	59.9	71.1	53.1	71,584
25-29	6.2	7.0	13.2	16.7	44.2	60.9	22.8	51.2	74.1	82.2	66.7	102,257
30-34	2.5	6.6	9.1	8.2	65.4	73.6	10.7	72.0	82.6	89.0	75.4	93,946
35-39	0.9	5.5	6.3	3.1	75.8	78.9	3.9	81.3	85.2	92.6	79.9	90,684
40-44	0.3	4.7	5.0	0.9	76.3	77.2	1.3	81.0	82.2	93.9	81.9	73,706
45-49	0.2	3.3	3.4	0.4	71.7	72.1	0.6	75.0	75.5	95.5	86.4	73,768
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	3.5	4.9	8.4	10.7	58.5	69.3	14.3	63.4	77.7	89.2	75.3	163,394
Rural	4.3	5.6	9.9	9.1	56.4	65.6	13.4	62.0	75.4	86.9	73.6	357,957
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	2.0	5.3	7.3	4.3	65.8	70.1	6.3	71.1	77.4	90.6	77.7	143,754
<5 years complete	2.4	4.9	7.2	5.8	66.5	72.3	8.1	71.4	79.5	90.9	80.2	32,023
5-7 years complete	2.9	5.4	8.3	7.0	63.3	70.3	10.0	68.6	78.6	89.4	77.4	79,079
8-9 years complete	4.7	5.5	10.3	11.3	54.6	65.9	16.0	60.2	76.2	86.5	71.6	85,112
10-11 years complete	4.8	5.1	9.9	11.4	53.6	65.0	16.2	58.7	74.9	86.7	73.7	66,173
12 or more years complete	6.9	5.6	12.5	16.9	43.1	60.0	23.8	48.7	72.5	82.7	67.4	115,211
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	3.9	5.2	9.0	9.1	58.7	67.9	13.0	63.9	76.9	88.3	75.4	427,114
Muslim	5.0	6.8	11.8	12.8	47.4	60.2	17.8	54.2	72.0	83.6	65.8	68,631
Christian	5.5	4.8	10.4	8.1	53.7	61.8	13.6	58.5	72.1	85.6	75.5	11,391
Sikh	3.5	6.0	9.5	10.1	57.8	67.9	13.6	63.8	77.4	87.7	69.3	8,080
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	3.9	4.3	8.2	9.1	58.1	67.2	13.0	62.5	75.5	89.1	84.7	3,081
Jain	4.8	2.7	7.5	13.1	60.7	73.9	17.9	63.4	81.3	90.8	83.4	1,173
Other	4.5	6.1	10.7	11.5	48.3	59.8	16.0	54.4	70.4	84.9	64.3	1,883

Continued...

Table 5.19 Need and demand for family planning among currently married women—Continued

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, total demand for family planning, and percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning (currently using)			Total demand for family planning <sup>1</sup>			Percentage of demand satisfied <sup>2</sup>	Percentage of demand satisfied by modern methods <sup>3</sup>	Number of women
	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	4.0	5.2	9.2	9.5	57.5	67.0	13.5	62.7	76.2	87.9	74.8	112,610
Scheduled tribe	4.5	4.7	9.2	10.0	54.4	64.4	14.5	59.1	73.6	87.4	74.8	47,852
Other backward class	4.2	5.4	9.6	8.7	57.7	66.4	12.9	63.1	76.0	87.4	74.5	224,682
Other	3.7	5.7	9.4	11.2	56.8	68.0	14.9	62.5	77.3	87.9	73.0	132,179
Don't know	5.0	6.9	12.0	8.7	51.5	60.2	13.7	58.5	72.2	83.4	68.3	4,029
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	4.5	6.9	11.4	8.8	53.5	62.2	13.3	60.3	73.6	84.6	68.9	97,962
Second	4.1	5.6	9.7	9.6	56.6	66.1	13.7	62.2	75.8	87.2	73.3	104,135
Middle	3.9	4.8	8.6	8.8	58.9	67.7	12.6	63.7	76.3	88.7	76.4	106,487
Fourth	4.0	5.0	9.0	9.5	58.2	67.8	13.6	63.2	76.8	88.3	76.2	108,247
Highest	3.7	4.8	8.6	11.5	57.9	69.4	15.2	62.8	78.0	89.0	75.3	104,520
Total	4.0	5.4	9.4	9.6	57.1	66.7	13.7	62.5	76.1	87.6	74.1	521,352

Note: Numbers in this table correspond to the revised definition of unmet need described in Bradley et al., 2012, Revising Unmet Need for Family Planning, DHS Analytical Studies No. 25, ICF International, Calverton, Maryland, USA.

<sup>1</sup> Total demand is the sum of unmet need and met need.

<sup>2</sup> Percentage of demand satisfied is met need divided by total demand.

<sup>3</sup> Modern methods include female sterilization, male sterilization, pill, IUD/PPIUD, injectables, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), diaphragm, foam/jelly, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods

Table 5.20 Need and demand for family planning among currently married women by state/union territory and over time

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, total demand for family planning, and percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and NFHS-4

State/union territory	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning (currently using)			Total demand for family planning <sup>1</sup>			Percentage of demand satisfied <sup>2</sup>	Percentage of demand satisfied by modern methods <sup>3</sup>
	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total		
<b>India</b>	4.0	5.4	9.4	9.6	57.1	66.7	13.7	62.5	76.1	87.6	74.1
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	5.6	7.2	12.9	5.4	48.1	53.5	11.1	55.3	66.4	80.6	72.0
<b>North</b>											
Chandigarh	2.5	4.4	6.9	9.9	67.5	77.4	12.4	71.9	84.3	91.8	65.9
Delhi	2.0	4.1	6.1	12.3	64.1	76.4	14.3	68.2	82.5	92.6	69.9
Haryana	3.3	4.2	7.6	8.9	64.3	73.1	12.2	68.5	80.7	90.6	75.0
Himachal Pradesh	2.8	5.1	7.9	9.3	64.9	74.2	12.1	69.9	82.1	90.4	77.3
Jammu & Kashmir	3.9	3.9	7.8	16.7	43.0	59.8	20.6	46.9	67.6	88.5	77.7
Ladakh	4.0	3.9	7.9	16.4	35.0	51.3	20.4	38.8	59.2	86.7	81.1
Punjab	3.7	6.2	9.9	10.0	56.5	66.6	13.7	62.7	76.4	87.1	66.0
Rajasthan	3.7	3.9	7.6	11.8	60.5	72.3	15.6	64.3	79.9	90.5	77.7
Uttarakhand	3.2	5.7	8.8	10.9	59.9	70.8	14.1	65.5	79.6	88.9	72.6
<b>Central</b>											
Chhattisgarh	3.4	4.8	8.3	8.6	59.2	67.8	12.0	64.0	76.1	89.2	81.1
Madhya Pradesh	3.8	3.8	7.7	8.2	63.6	71.7	12.0	67.4	79.4	90.3	82.5
Uttar Pradesh	4.8	8.1	12.8	11.8	50.6	62.4	16.6	58.7	75.3	82.9	59.1
<b>East</b>											
Bihar	6.1	7.5	13.6	8.0	47.8	55.8	14.1	55.3	69.3	80.4	64.0
Jharkhand	4.8	6.7	11.5	8.7	52.9	61.7	13.5	59.7	73.2	84.3	67.6
Odisha	2.5	4.6	7.2	13.4	60.7	74.1	15.9	65.4	81.3	91.2	60.0
West Bengal	3.0	4.1	7.0	16.6	57.8	74.4	19.5	61.9	81.4	91.3	74.6

Continued...

Table 5.20 Need and demand for family planning among currently married women by state/union territory and over time—Continued

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, total demand for family planning, and percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21, and NFHS-4

State/union territory	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning (currently using)			Total demand for family planning <sup>1</sup>			Percentage of demand satisfied <sup>2</sup>	Percentage of demand satisfied by modern methods <sup>3</sup>
	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total		
<b>Northeast</b>											
Arunachal Pradesh	7.0	5.4	12.4	20.0	39.1	59.1	27.0	44.6	71.6	82.6	65.9
Assam	4.1	6.8	11.0	15.6	45.2	60.8	19.8	52.0	71.8	84.7	63.2
Manipur	4.7	7.5	12.2	21.7	39.6	61.3	26.4	47.1	73.5	83.4	24.7
Meghalaya	18.3	8.6	26.9	13.9	13.5	27.4	32.2	22.1	54.3	50.4	41.4
Mizoram	12.8	6.0	18.9	13.2	18.0	31.2	26.0	24.0	50.1	62.3	61.4
Nagaland	4.5	4.7	9.1	14.4	43.0	57.4	18.9	47.6	66.5	86.3	68.2
Sikkim	4.9	7.0	11.9	17.8	51.4	69.1	22.7	58.4	81.1	85.3	67.8
Tripura	2.5	5.7	8.2	16.4	54.8	71.2	18.9	60.5	79.3	89.7	61.9
<b>West</b>											
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	5.3	6.7	11.9	10.1	57.9	68.0	15.4	64.5	79.9	85.1	74.8
Goa	4.0	4.4	8.4	18.7	49.2	67.9	22.7	53.6	76.3	89.0	78.7
Gujarat	4.5	5.9	10.3	10.5	54.7	65.3	15.0	60.6	75.6	86.3	70.9
Maharashtra	3.8	5.7	9.6	7.0	59.2	66.2	10.8	64.9	75.7	87.4	84.2
<b>South</b>											
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6.1	7.4	13.5	10.4	55.3	65.8	16.5	62.7	79.3	83.0	72.8
Andhra Pradesh	2.6	2.0	4.7	0.5	70.6	71.1	3.1	72.7	75.8	93.8	93.5
Karnataka	3.8	2.7	6.4	6.6	62.1	68.7	10.4	64.8	75.2	91.4	90.7
Kerala	7.0	5.5	12.5	7.7	53.0	60.7	14.7	58.5	73.2	83.0	72.2
Lakshadweep	8.0	4.2	12.3	18.1	34.5	52.6	26.1	38.7	64.9	81.1	46.5
Puducherry	3.2	7.4	10.5	4.1	61.8	66.0	7.3	69.2	76.5	86.2	81.3
Tamil Nadu	3.0	4.5	7.5	4.9	63.6	68.6	7.9	68.1	76.0	90.2	86.1
Telangana	2.8	3.6	6.4	2.3	65.8	68.1	5.1	69.4	74.5	91.4	89.4

Note: Numbers in this table correspond to the revised definition of unmet need described in Bradley et al., 2012, Revising Unmet Need for Family Planning, DHS Analytical Studies No. 25, ICF International, Calverton, Maryland, USA.

<sup>1</sup> Total demand is the sum of unmet need and met need.

<sup>2</sup> Percentage of demand satisfied is met need divided by total demand.

<sup>3</sup> Modern methods include female sterilization, male sterilization, pill, IUD/PPIUD, injectables, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), diaphragm, foam/jelly, lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods

Table 5.21 Hysterectomy

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have had a hysterectomy, and among women with a hysterectomy, percent distribution by place the hysterectomy was performed, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who have had a hysterectomy	Number of women	Median age of hysterectomy	Place of hysterectomy			Total	Number of women with a hysterectomy
				Percentage performed in the public health sector	Percentage performed in the private health sector <sup>1</sup>	Percentage performed elsewhere or don't know where it was performed		
<b>Age</b>								
15-29	0.2	359,128	a	34.6	64.6	0.8	100.0	804
30-39	3.3	197,936	a	24.6	75.0	0.4	100.0	6,565
40-49	9.7	167,051	37.6	31.9	67.7	0.3	100.0	16,247
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	2.5	235,279	36.5	30.8	68.7	0.5	100.0	5,988
Rural	3.6	488,836	34.0	29.7	69.9	0.3	100.0	17,628
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	7.1	163,492	34.5	30.3	69.5	0.2	100.0	11,667
<5 years complete	5.4	37,549	34.0	37.1	62.1	0.9	100.0	2,013
5-7 years complete	3.9	96,806	34.3	29.6	70.1	0.2	100.0	3,824
8-9 years complete	2.0	129,094	34.3	32.5	67.1	0.4	100.0	2,524
10-11 years complete	1.7	109,777	35.1	26.2	73.5	0.2	100.0	1,857
12 or more years complete	0.9	187,396	36.9	20.7	78.0	1.3	100.0	1,731
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	3.4	589,164	34.6	29.6	70.1	0.4	100.0	20,234
Muslim	2.3	97,595	35.0	31.9	67.6	0.5	100.0	2,248
Christian	3.3	16,995	33.9	27.3	72.5	0.2	100.0	553
Sikh	3.5	11,404	36.6	40.3	59.6	0.1	100.0	399
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.0	4,571	36.6	54.7	45.3	0.0	100.0	91
Jain	2.9	1,632	39.9	8.1	91.9	0.0	100.0	47
Other	1.6	2,754	31.7	51.7	48.3	0.0	100.0	44
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	3.1	158,483	34.6	35.0	64.7	0.3	100.0	4,912
Scheduled tribe	2.2	67,263	33.9	42.7	57.1	0.1	100.0	1,459
Other backward class	3.6	310,783	34.3	25.5	74.1	0.3	100.0	11,285
Other	3.2	182,474	35.4	31.4	68.1	0.5	100.0	5,771
Don't know	3.7	5,112	35.4	26.6	72.9	0.5	100.0	189
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	2.9	133,973	33.5	34.8	65.0	0.2	100.0	3,820
Second	3.5	144,813	33.7	33.8	65.9	0.3	100.0	5,049
Middle	3.7	148,616	33.9	29.8	69.6	0.5	100.0	5,483
Fourth	3.5	150,680	35.2	28.1	71.6	0.4	100.0	5,206
Highest	2.8	146,032	37.5	23.4	76.2	0.4	100.0	4,057
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>724,115</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>23,616</b>

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of women had a hysterectomy by the beginning of this age group

<sup>1</sup> Includes nongovernmental organization or trust hospital/clinic

**Table 5.22 Hysterectomy by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have had a hysterectomy, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who have had a hysterectomy
<b>India</b>	3.3
<b>North</b>	
Chandigarh	0.9
Delhi	1.7
Haryana	2.4
Himachal Pradesh	2.0
Jammu & Kashmir	2.7
Ladakh	3.6
Punjab	3.2
Rajasthan	2.1
Uttarakhand	2.1
<b>Central</b>	
Chhattisgarh	1.7
Madhya Pradesh	2.8
Uttar Pradesh	2.6
<b>East</b>	
Bihar	6.0
Jharkhand	2.6
Odisha	1.9
West Bengal	2.7
<b>Northeast</b>	
Arunachal Pradesh	1.9
Assam	1.1
Manipur	1.8
Meghalaya	0.7
Mizoram	1.5
Nagaland	1.8
Sikkim	0.8
Tripura	1.7
<b>West</b>	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1.9
Goa	1.9
Gujarat	3.9
Maharashtra	3.0
<b>South</b>	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2.0
Andhra Pradesh	8.7
Karnataka	3.4
Kerala	2.0
Lakshadweep	1.2
Puducherry	1.6
Tamil Nadu	2.4
Telangana	8.2

## OTHER PROXIMATE DETERMINANTS OF FERTILITY

### Key Findings

- **Age at first marriage:** The median age at first marriage is 18.8 years for women and 24.9 years for men age 25-49.
- **Consanguineous marriages:** Eleven percent of marriages are consanguineous marriages, which are more common in all of the southern states except Kerala.
- **Sexual initiation:** The median age at first sexual intercourse is 0.1 years later than the median age at first marriage for women age 20-49.
- **Abortion:** Three percent of pregnancies in the five years preceding the survey resulted in an abortion and 7 percent resulted in a miscarriage.
- **Main reason for abortion:** Almost half of women with an abortion (48%) sought their abortion due to an unplanned pregnancy.
- **Complications from abortions:** Sixteen percent of women with an abortion had complications from the abortion.
- **Widowhood:** One in nine women age 45-49 are widowed.

Marriage and sexual activity help to determine the extent to which women are exposed to the risk of pregnancy. Thus they are important determinants of fertility levels. However, the timing and circumstances of marriage and sexual activity also have profound consequences for women's and men's lives.

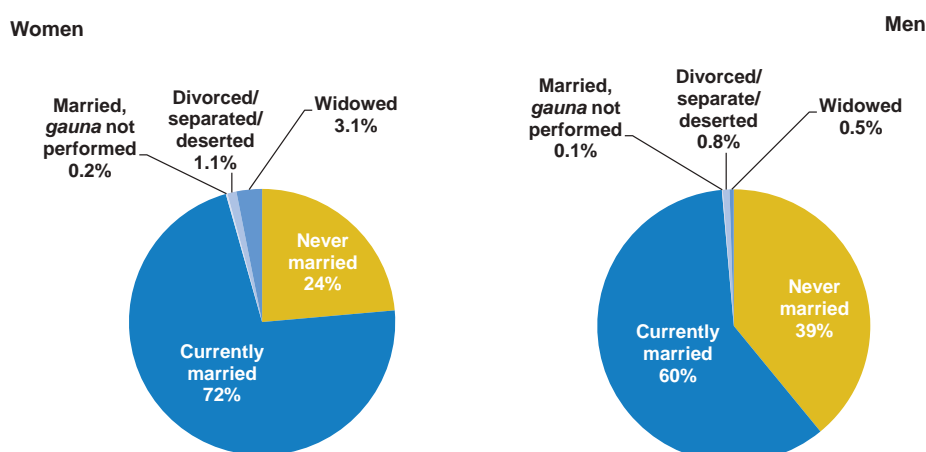
### 6.1 MARITAL STATUS

Marriage is nearly universal in India. By age 45-49, only 1 percent of women and 3 percent of men have never been married (**Table 6.1**). Seventy-two percent of women and 60 percent of men age 15-49 are currently married (**Figure 6.1**). Only a small proportion of women (0.2%) and men (0.1%) are married, but the *gauna* ceremony associated with the consummation of marriage has not been performed. Overall, 0.3 percent each of women and men age 15-49 are divorced. Eleven percent of women age 45-49 are widowed, compared with 1 percent of men.

**Trends:** The percentage of women who are currently married has declined slightly, from 73 percent in 2015-16 to 72 percent in 2019-21. The percentage of men who are currently married is almost the same in 2015-16 and 2019-21 (60% each).

## Figure 6.1 Marital Status

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49



## 6.2 AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

### Median age at first marriage

Age by which half of respondents have been married.

**Sample:** Women and men age 25-49

Men tend to marry considerably later than women in India. The median age at first marriage is 19.2 years among women age 20-49 and 24.9 years among men age 25-49 (Table 6.2). Thirty-eight percent of women age 20-49 marry before the legal minimum age of marriage of 18 years, and 23 percent of men age 25-49 marry before the minimum legal age of marriage of 21 years.

**Trends:** Early marriage has been declining over time. Marriage before the legal age of 18 is 23 percent for women age 20-24, compared with 47 percent for women age 45-49. Similarly, for men, marriage before the legal age of 21 years has dropped from 27 percent for men age 45-49 to 18 percent for men age 25-29. The median age at first marriage for women age 20-49 slightly increased from 19.0 years in 2015-16 to 19.2 years in 2019-21. For men age 25-49, the median age at first marriage slightly increased between 2015-16 and 2019-21 (from 24.5 to 24.9 years).

### Patterns by background characteristics

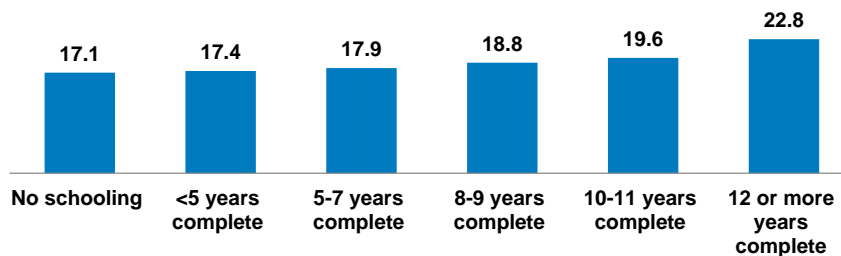
- Urban women marry later than rural women. For women age 25-49, the median age at first marriage is 1.9 years higher among urban women than rural women (20.1 versus 18.2 years) (Table 6.3.1).
- Women having 12 or more years of schooling marry much later than other women. The median age at first marriage for women age 25-49 increases from 17.1 years for women with no schooling to 22.8 years for women with 12 or more years of schooling (Figure 6.2).
- The median age at first marriage for women age 25-49 is higher among Jain women (22.7 years), Christian women (21.7 years), and Sikh women (21.2 years) than women from all other specific religions (18.7-19.7 years).



- Women in the highest wealth quintile marry much later (21.1 years) than women in other wealth quintiles (17.5-19.3 years).

### Figure 6.2 Women's Median Age at First Marriage by Schooling

Among women age 25-49



- Twenty-five percent of women age 18-29 and 15 percent of men age 21-29 marry before reaching the legal minimum age at marriage. About two-fifths of women marry before reaching the legal minimum age at marriage in West Bengal (42%), Bihar (40%), and Tripura (39%), and about one-third of women marry before reaching the legal minimum age at marriage in Jharkhand (35%) and Andhra Pradesh (33%). The percentage marrying before the legal minimum age is 32 percent in Assam, 28 percent in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, 27 percent in Telangana, and 25 percent each in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The percentage of women marrying before reaching the legal minimum age of 18 is lowest in Lakshadweep (4%); Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (6% each); Himachal Pradesh, Goa, and Nagaland (7% each), and Kerala and Puducherry (8% each) (Table 6.4).
- Overall, 20-25 percent of men age 21-29 in Bihar (25%), Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh (24% each), Jharkhand (22%), Arunachal Pradesh (21%), and West Bengal (20%) marry before the legal minimum age of 21 years. The lowest proportions of men marrying below the legal age at marriage are in Lakshadweep and Chandigarh (less than 1%), Kerala (1%), Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Nagaland (4% each), Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (5% each), Himachal Pradesh and Goa (6% each), and Delhi, Punjab, and Maharashtra (9% each).

## 6.3 CONSANGUINEOUS MARRIAGES

### Consanguineous marriage

Women who report that their husband was related to them by blood before their marriage.

**Sample:** Ever-married women age 15-49

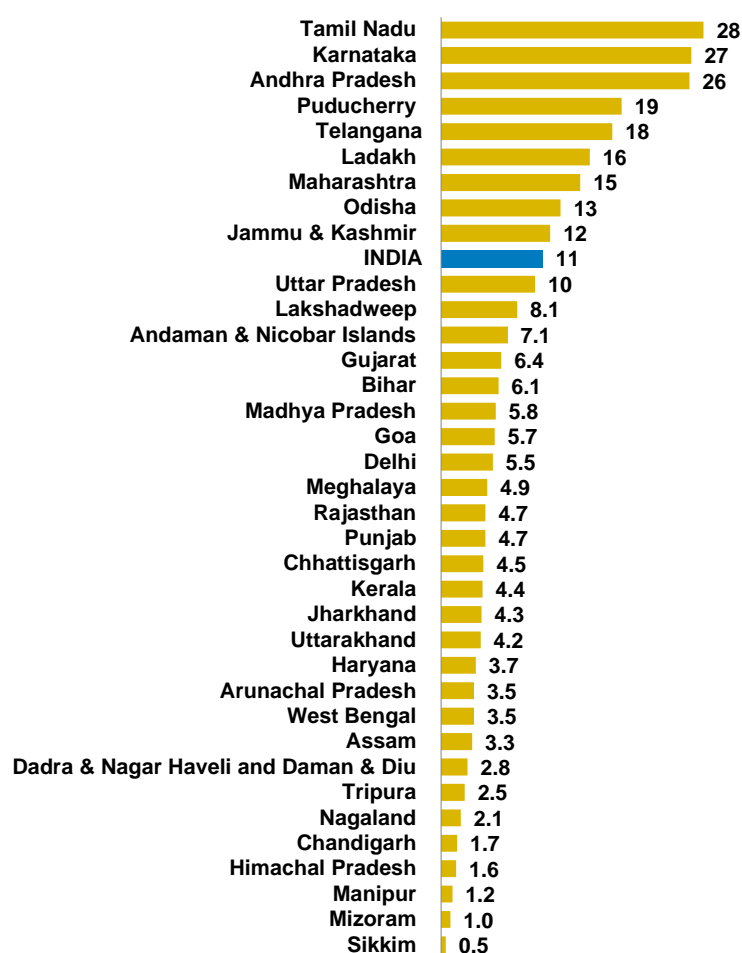
Thirteen percent of ever-married women were related to their husband before their marriage, and 11 percent of marriages were consanguineous marriages (Table 6.5). The most common type of consanguineous marriages were marriages to first cousins (8% of all marriages).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Young women are much more likely than older women to be related to their husbands.
- Women in urban areas are about equally as likely to be in consanguineous marriages as are women in rural areas.
- Muslim and Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist women are the most likely to be in consanguineous marriages.
- Women in all the Southern states except Kerala are much more likely to be in consanguineous marriages than women in other states. More than one-fourth of women in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka, and almost one-fifth of women in Telangana and Puducherry reported being in consanguineous marriages (Table 6.6 and Figure 6.3).

## Figure 6.3 Consanguineous Marriages by State/UT

Percent of ever-married women age 15-49



## 6.4 AGE AT FIRST SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

### Median age at first sexual intercourse

Age by which half of respondents have had sexual intercourse.

**Sample:** Women and men age 25-49

In India, the median age at first sexual intercourse is 18.9 years for women age 25-49 (**Table 6.7**). Ten percent of women age 25-49 had sex before age 15, and 39 percent before age 18. By age 20, 60 percent of women age 25-49 have had sexual intercourse (**Table 6.7**).

The median age at first sexual intercourse for men age 25-49 in India is 24.8, six years older than women. One percent of men age 25-49 first had sexual intercourse before age 15, and 6 percent had sexual intercourse before age 18. By age 25, 52 percent of men age 25-49 have had sexual intercourse.

Age at first marriage is widely considered a proxy indicator for the age at which women begin to be exposed to the risks of sexual activity. A comparison of the median age at first intercourse with the median age at first marriage can be used as a measure of whether respondents engage in sex before marriage. The median age at first marriage for women age 25-49 in India (18.8 years) is about the same as the median age at first sexual intercourse (18.9 years). The same pattern is observed for men age 25-49, with a median age at first intercourse of 24.8 years and a median age at first marriage of 24.9 years.

Age at first marriage is widely considered a proxy indicator for the age at which women begin to be exposed to the risks of sexual activity. A comparison of the median age at first intercourse with the median age at first marriage can be used as a measure of whether respondents engage in sex before marriage. The median age at first marriage for women age 25-49 in India (18.8 years) is about the same as the median age at first sexual intercourse (18.9 years). The same pattern is observed for men age 25-49, with a median age at first intercourse of 24.8 years and a median age at first marriage of 24.9 years.

**Trends:** The median age at first sexual intercourse among women age 25-49 was almost the same in 2015-16 (19.0 years) as in 2019-21 (18.9 years). The median age at first sexual intercourse for men age 25-49 increased from 24.3 years in 2015-16 to 24.8 years in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Urban women age 25-49 begin having sex almost two years later than rural women. The median age at first sex is 20.2 years for women in urban areas, compared with 18.5 years for women in rural areas (**Table 6.8.1**).
- The median age at first intercourse increases with schooling for both women and men. Among women age 25-49, there is a gap of 5.3 years in the median age of first sex between those with no schooling (17.5 years of age) and those with 12 or more years of schooling (22.8 years of age).

## 6.5 RECENT SEXUAL ACTIVITY

NFHS-5 also collected data on recent sexual activity. Thirty-one percent of women and 30 percent of men age 15-49 reported having sexual intercourse within the last week. Twenty-three percent of women and 34 percent of men age 15-49 have never had sexual intercourse. For more information on recent sexual activity, see **Table 6.9.1** and **Table 6.9.2**.

## 6.6 INSUSCEPTIBILITY TO PREGNANCY

### Median duration of postpartum amenorrhoea

Number of months after childbirth by which time half of women have begun menstruating.

**Sample:** Women who gave birth in the three years before the survey

### Median duration of postpartum insusceptibility

Number of months after childbirth by which time half of women are no longer protected against pregnancy either by postpartum amenorrhoea or abstinence from sex.

**Sample:** Women who gave birth in the three years before the survey

Postpartum amenorrhoea refers to the interval between childbirth and the return of menstruation. The length and intensity of breastfeeding influence the duration of amenorrhoea, which offers protection from conception. Postpartum abstinence is the period between childbirth and the time when a woman resumes sexual activity. Eighty-one percent of women are insusceptible to pregnancy two months after a birth. Continued postpartum amenorrhoea and abstinence from sexual intercourse may protect women from pregnancy for longer periods.

During the first six months postpartum, 38 percent of women were amenorrhoeic, 29 percent of women were abstaining from sexual intercourse, and 52 percent were insusceptible to getting pregnant in 2019-21, compared with 42 percent of women who were amenorrhoeic, 25 percent who were practicing abstinence, and 52 percent who were insusceptible in 2015-16.

Among births in the three years before the survey, the median duration of postpartum amenorrhoea is 4.1 months, while the median duration of abstinence from sexual intercourse after giving birth is 3.5 months. Women are insusceptible to pregnancy after childbirth for a median of 6.3 months (**Table 6.10**).

**Trends:** The median duration of postpartum amenorrhoea and insusceptibility has declined since 2015-16. However, the median duration of abstinence has increased marginally. From 2015-16 to 2019-21, the median duration of postpartum amenorrhoea declined from 4.9 months to 4.1 months. The median duration of abstinence increased marginally from 3.4 months in 2015-16 to 3.5 months in 2019-21. During this same period, the median duration of postpartum insusceptibility fell from 6.6 months to 6.3 months.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The median duration of postpartum amenorrhoea is slightly longer among women in rural areas than women in urban areas (4.2 months and 3.8 months, respectively).
- Scheduled tribe women remain amenorrhoeic longer (6.2 months) than scheduled caste women (4.1 months), women from other backward classes (3.9 months), and women who are not from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, or other backward classes (3.5 months).
- The median duration of amenorrhoea declines with increasing wealth quintiles of households, from 5.3 months in the lowest wealth quintile to 3.5 months in the highest wealth quintile (**Table 6.11**).

#### Menopause

Women are considered to have reached menopause if they are neither pregnant nor postpartum amenorrhoeic and have not had a menstrual period in the six months before the survey, or if they report being menopausal or having had a hysterectomy or never having menstruated.

**Sample:** Women age 30-49

Women who have reached menopause are no longer able to become pregnant. Seventeen percent of women age 30-49 are menopausal. The percentage of menopausal women increases with age, rising from 3 percent among women age 30-34 to 55 percent among women age 48-49 (**Table 6.12**).

## 6.7 PREGNANCY OUTCOMES

#### Non-live births

Percentage of women whose pregnancies ended in a non-live birth (abortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth) in the five years preceding the survey

**Sample:** Women age 15-49

Eighty-nine percent of all pregnancies in the five years preceding the survey ended in a live birth, and the remaining 11 percent terminated in an abortion, a miscarriage, or a stillbirth. Miscarriage is the most common type of non-live birth, accounting for 7 percent of all pregnancies, abortions account for 3 percent, and stillbirths account for 1 percent (**Table 6.15**).

**Trends:** In 2019-21, 11 percent of women age 15-49 have experienced a stillbirth, miscarriage, or abortion in their lifetime, compared with 12 percent in 2015-16. The same percentage (4% each) of women age 15-49 had a non-live birth in the five years preceding the NFHS-5 survey and in the NFHS-4 survey.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The percentage of women who ever had a non-live birth increases with age until age 30-34 (peaking at 18%) and then declines with age to 14 percent among women age 45-49 years (**Table 6.13**).
- The percentage of pregnancies in the past five years that ended in a non-live birth varies from 8 percent to 16 percent by age, with the highest percentage (13 to 16%) of non-live births in the older ages (age 35-49), and age 15-19 years and 30-34 years (10% each).
- The percentage of all pregnancies in the past five years that ended in a non-live birth was particularly high in Manipur (15%), Goa and Delhi (14% each), Odisha and Himachal Pradesh (12% each), and Haryana and Puducherry (11% each).

- Three percent of last pregnancies in the past five years resulted in an abortion, with a slightly higher percentage among women in urban areas and women in the highest wealth quintile (**Table 6.15**).

### 6.7.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF ABORTIONS

A majority of the abortions were performed in the private health sector (53%), whereas 20 percent were performed in the public health sector. More than one-fourth (27%) of the abortions were performed by the woman herself at home. Sixteen percent of women reporting an abortion said that they had post-abortion complications, and most of them (90%) sought treatment for these complications (**Table 6.17**).

- Almost half of the women (48%) said that the main reason for seeking an abortion was an unplanned pregnancy, followed by her health didn't permit continuing her pregnancy.
- Ten percent of women reported that the last child was too young to have the next birth as the main reason for the abortion.
- Among the remaining reasons, more than one-fourth of women in Ladakh (40%), Lakshadweep (33%), Tamil Nadu (31%), and Telangana (27%) mentioned health concerns as the major reason for getting the abortion. One-fifth to one-third of women in Lakshadweep (32%), Sikkim (28%), Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir (26% each), Himachal Pradesh (24%), and Andhra Pradesh and Kerala (22% each) reported that pregnancy complications were the prime reason for undergoing the abortion.
- Compared with other states and union territories, a higher proportion of women in Puducherry (38%) and Chhattisgarh (25%) reported that they sought the abortion as their last child was too young to have the next birth (**Table 6.18**).

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**Table 6.1 Current marital status**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 by current marital status, according to age and residence, India, 2019-21

Age	Marital status							Total	Number of respondents
	Never married	Currently married	Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Deserted		
<b>URBAN WOMEN</b>									
15-19	92.5	7.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	34,543
20-24	52.8	46.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	100.0	36,555
25-29	17.4	80.7	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.1	100.0	38,272
30-34	4.3	91.8	0.0	2.1	0.6	1.0	0.1	100.0	34,392
35-39	2.1	91.8	0.0	3.9	0.7	1.2	0.2	100.0	33,869
40-44	1.7	89.6	0.0	6.8	0.5	1.1	0.3	100.0	28,657
45-49	1.2	85.3	0.0	11.5	0.6	1.1	0.3	100.0	28,991
Total	25.9	69.4	0.1	3.3	0.4	0.8	0.1	100.0	235,279
<b>URBAN MEN</b>									
15-19	98.9	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	5,290
20-24	87.6	12.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	100.0	5,248
25-29	51.8	46.7	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.0	100.0	4,975
30-34	21.3	77.7	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	100.0	4,729
35-39	6.2	91.8	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.0	100.0	4,667
40-44	3.7	94.5	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.1	100.0	3,878
45-49	3.7	94.1	0.0	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	100.0	4,065
50-54	2.7	94.4	0.0	2.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	100.0	2,985
Total age 15-49	42.6	56.2	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	100.0	32,852
Total age 15-54	39.3	59.4	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.0	100.0	35,837
<b>RURAL WOMEN</b>									
15-19	84.5	14.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	88,000
20-24	32.8	65.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	100.0	82,885
25-29	7.3	90.5	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.1	100.0	78,873
30-34	1.9	94.5	0.0	2.3	0.3	0.8	0.1	100.0	65,992
35-39	1.0	93.6	0.0	4.1	0.4	0.8	0.2	100.0	63,683
40-44	0.9	90.4	0.0	7.0	0.4	1.0	0.2	100.0	53,130
45-49	0.6	87.2	0.0	10.8	0.3	0.9	0.2	100.0	56,272
Total	22.5	73.2	0.2	3.0	0.3	0.6	0.1	100.0	488,836
<b>RURAL MEN</b>									
15-19	97.7	2.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	11,095
20-24	73.5	25.4	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	9,136
25-29	35.4	63.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.0	100.0	9,220
30-34	11.7	86.8	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.0	100.0	8,379
35-39	3.8	94.2	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.2	100.0	8,361
40-44	1.9	95.6	0.0	1.2	0.5	0.6	0.1	100.0	6,968
45-49	1.8	95.8	0.1	1.4	0.2	0.7	0.1	100.0	7,132
50-54	1.0	95.4	0.1	2.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	100.0	5,711
Total age 15-49	37.1	61.4	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	100.0	60,291
Total age 15-54	34.0	64.3	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.1	100.0	66,002

Continued...

Table 6.1 Current marital status—Continued

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 by current marital status, according to age and residence, India, 2019-21

Age	Marital status							Total	Number of respondents
	Never married	Currently married	Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Deserted		
TOTAL WOMEN									
15-19	86.7	12.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	122,544
20-24	38.9	59.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	100.0	119,440
25-29	10.6	87.3	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.1	100.0	117,145
30-34	2.7	93.6	0.0	2.2	0.4	0.9	0.1	100.0	100,384
35-39	1.4	93.0	0.0	4.0	0.5	1.0	0.2	100.0	97,552
40-44	1.2	90.1	0.0	7.0	0.4	1.0	0.2	100.0	81,787
45-49	0.8	86.5	0.0	11.1	0.4	0.9	0.2	100.0	85,264
Total	23.6	72.0	0.2	3.1	0.3	0.7	0.1	100.0	724,115
TOTAL MEN									
15-19	98.1	1.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	16,385
20-24	78.7	20.5	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	14,384
25-29	41.1	57.5	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.0	100.0	14,195
30-34	15.2	83.5	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	100.0	13,109
35-39	4.6	93.4	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.1	100.0	13,029
40-44	2.5	95.2	0.0	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.1	100.0	10,846
45-49	2.5	95.2	0.0	1.3	0.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	11,197
50-54	1.6	95.0	0.1	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	100.0	8,695
Total age 15-49	39.1	59.6	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	100.0	93,144
Total age 15-54	35.9	62.6	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.1	100.0	101,839



**Table 6.2 Age at first marriage**

Percentage of women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who were first married by specific exact ages, percentage never married, and median age at first marriage and first cohabitation with spouse, according to current age, India, 2019-21

Current age	Percentage first married by exact age:					Percentage never married	Number of respondents	Median age at first marriage	Median age at first cohabitation
	15	18	20	21	25				
<b>WOMEN</b>									
15-19	1.7	na	na	na	na	87.3	122,544	a	a
20-24	4.8	23.3	43.1	na	na	39.2	119,440	a	a
25-29	9.0	32.2	52.8	61.4	83.0	10.6	117,145	19.7	19.8
30-34	13.7	39.6	58.3	66.4	86.6	2.8	100,384	19.1	19.2
35-39	16.1	45.5	64.0	71.1	88.3	1.4	97,552	18.4	18.6
40-44	18.2	47.7	66.4	73.6	89.6	1.2	81,787	18.2	18.4
45-49	17.8	47.0	65.7	72.6	89.0	0.9	85,264	18.3	18.4
20-49	12.6	38.0	57.3	na	na	10.8	601,571	19.2	19.3
25-49	14.5	41.7	60.8	68.5	87.0	3.8	482,132	18.8	18.9
<b>MEN</b>									
15-19	0.1	na	na	na	na	98.3	16,385	a	a
20-24	0.2	2.6	7.8	na	na	79.0	14,384	a	a
25-29	0.7	4.7	12.3	17.7	42.9	41.2	14,195	a	a
30-34	1.3	7.2	15.2	21.0	47.8	15.3	13,109	25.3	25.3
35-39	1.6	9.8	20.3	26.4	54.0	4.7	13,029	24.4	24.4
40-44	1.6	9.0	19.1	26.7	54.5	2.6	10,846	24.3	24.3
45-49	1.7	8.7	19.9	26.6	54.8	2.5	11,197	24.3	24.3
50-54	1.8	8.7	18.3	24.6	53.5	1.7	8,695	24.5	24.5
20-49	1.1	6.8	15.4	na	na	26.6	76,759	a	a
25-49	1.3	7.8	17.1	23.4	50.4	14.5	62,375	24.9	24.9

na = Not applicable due to censoring

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women or men were married or began living with their spouse before reaching the beginning of the age group.

**Table 6.3.1 Median age at first marriage: Women**

Median age at first marriage among women age 20-49, by current age, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Age						Women age 20-49	Women age 25-49
	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49		
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	a	21.3	20.5	19.8	19.5	19.3	a	20.1
Rural	a	19.1	18.4	17.9	17.6	17.8	18.6	18.2
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	18.1	17.5	17.0	16.9	16.9	17.3	17.2	17.1
<5 years complete	18.2	17.6	17.3	17.2	17.4	17.6	17.5	17.4
5-7 years complete	18.5	18.1	17.8	17.8	17.7	18.0	18.0	17.9
8-9 years complete	19.1	18.9	18.9	18.6	18.6	18.8	18.9	18.8
10-11 years complete	19.7	19.4	19.6	19.6	19.7	20.0	19.6	19.6
12 or more years complete	a	23.0	22.8	22.7	22.3	22.5	a	22.8
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	a	19.7	19.0	18.3	18.1	18.2	19.1	18.7
Muslim	a	19.5	18.9	18.4	18.3	18.3	19.1	18.7
Christian	a	22.5	21.9	21.2	21.2	21.5	a	21.7
Sikh	a	22.8	21.5	20.8	20.3	20.4	a	21.2
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	a	20.3	20.8	19.4	19.6	18.6	a	19.7
Jain	a	24.7	23.0	22.3	22.4	22.1	a	22.7
Other	a	19.4	19.3	18.9	19.8	19.5	19.7	19.4
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	a	19.4	18.7	17.9	17.6	17.7	18.8	18.3
Scheduled tribe	a	19.3	18.7	18.2	18.1	18.4	18.9	18.6
Other backward class	a	19.6	18.9	18.3	18.1	18.2	19.1	18.7
Other	a	20.5	19.9	19.3	19.0	18.9	19.9	19.6
Don't know	18.6	18.1	17.8	17.6	17.5	17.3	17.9	17.8
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	18.8	17.9	17.3	17.2	17.3	17.5	17.7	17.5
Second	19.8	18.6	17.9	17.4	17.3	17.6	18.2	17.8
Middle	a	19.4	18.6	18.1	17.7	17.9	18.8	18.4
Fourth	a	20.5	19.9	18.9	18.5	18.4	19.8	19.3
Highest	a	22.8	21.8	20.8	20.2	19.7	a	21.1
Total	a	19.7	19.1	18.4	18.2	18.3	19.2	18.8

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women were married before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 6.3.2 Median age at first marriage: Men

Median age at first marriage among men age 25-54, by current age, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Age						Men age 25-49
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	a	27.0	26.1	25.9	25.8	26.0	a
Rural	a	24.4	23.5	23.5	23.3	23.8	24.1
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	22.6	21.7	21.2	21.6	22.4	23.1	21.9
<5 years complete	22.4	22.3	22.1	22.7	22.5	23.3	22.4
5-7 years complete	23.3	23.2	23.0	23.1	23.5	24.0	23.2
8-9 years complete	24.6	24.5	24.3	23.9	24.1	24.8	24.3
10-11 years complete	a	25.6	25.5	25.3	25.0	25.2	a
12 or more years complete	a	28.0	27.6	27.6	27.0	26.8	a
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	a	25.3	24.3	24.3	24.1	24.5	24.9
Muslim	a	25.1	24.4	23.9	24.4	24.2	24.7
Christian	a	26.6	26.6	25.8	27.5	26.6	a
Sikh	a	26.1	25.4	24.2	24.3	24.1	a
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	a	27.4	26.6	26.9	24.5	25.1	a
Jain	a	28.4	21.8	26.9	27.5	25.6	a
Other	23.8	25.3	a	22.7	27.3	24.5	a
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	a	24.7	23.4	23.8	23.2	23.1	24.1
Scheduled tribe	24.5	23.8	23.1	22.7	23.5	23.9	23.6
Other backward class	a	25.5	24.5	24.1	24.3	24.4	25.0
Other	a	26.2	25.7	25.4	25.2	25.5	a
Don't know	a	22.9	22.8	24.7	23.2	20.9	24.1
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	22.9	22.0	21.7	22.1	22.3	23.3	22.2
Second	24.2	23.7	22.8	22.9	23.3	23.6	23.4
Middle	a	24.8	24.1	23.9	23.7	24.3	24.6
Fourth	a	26.6	25.8	25.5	24.9	24.6	a
Highest	a	27.7	27.0	26.7	26.1	26.3	a
Total	a	25.3	24.4	24.3	24.3	24.5	24.9

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the men were married before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 6.4 Age at first marriage by state/union territory

Percentage of women age 18-29 who were first married by exact age 18 and percentage of men age 21-29 who were first married by exact age 21, by residence and state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Men		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	16.5	28.4	24.7	9.2	18.5	15.2
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	8.6	*	8.5	(0.0)	*	(0.0)
Delhi	13.4	12.1	13.3	9.2	*	9.1
Haryana	12.8	17.0	15.6	14.2	13.3	13.6
Himachal Pradesh	7.6	7.1	7.2	(10.5)	4.8	5.5
Jammu & Kashmir	2.9	6.3	5.5	5.0	7.7	7.1
Ladakh	4.2	6.2	5.8	*	18.8	16.2
Punjab	9.8	10.3	10.1	8.8	8.8	8.8
Rajasthan	16.1	26.9	24.5	13.8	27.9	23.9
Uttarakhand	13.7	14.4	14.2	13.5	13.1	13.3
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	10.9	17.0	15.5	6.1	15.1	13.0
Madhya Pradesh	15.5	28.8	25.3	10.2	28.4	23.6
Uttar Pradesh	12.6	20.8	18.8	13.6	20.2	18.4
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	29.2	42.4	40.3	16.2	27.7	24.9
Jharkhand	22.3	38.5	34.7	10.0	25.7	21.8
Odisha	18.2	23.0	22.2	7.6	13.0	11.9
West Bengal	27.5	48.9	42.3	9.0	24.4	19.7
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	18.2	21.0	20.5	15.7	22.3	21.2
Assam	20.9	33.7	31.9	16.0	19.1	18.6
Manipur	12.1	16.2	14.7	13.9	17.7	16.0
Meghalaya	10.8	21.5	19.2	(9.3)	21.4	19.0
Mizoram	4.6	14.6	8.9	6.6	17.1	10.4
Nagaland	5.1	7.5	6.6	5.6	3.3	4.2
Sikkim	12.8	16.2	14.6	*	13.9	6.8
Tripura	32.2	41.5	39.0	(7.1)	20.9	17.2
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	26.4	29.3	27.9	16.3	(11.0)	13.2
Goa	8.3	5.7	7.2	9.3	(0.0)	5.9
Gujarat	13.8	25.3	20.6	13.0	32.1	24.2
Maharashtra	16.6	29.9	23.6	7.6	10.0	8.8
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	17.0	19.1	18.2	*	5.4	5.4
Andhra Pradesh	25.7	36.5	33.0	9.8	13.7	12.4
Karnataka	18.3	26.2	23.1	3.1	5.4	4.5
Kerala	5.3	9.6	7.6	0.0	1.9	1.1
Lakshadweep	3.9	3.7	3.8	*	*	(0.0)
Puducherry	8.6	7.2	8.1	5.9	*	3.7
Tamil Nadu	10.9	15.6	13.3	4.3	3.9	4.1
Telangana	20.2	31.8	27.3	10.2	14.7	12.9

Note: Figures in parenthesis are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 6.5 Consanguineous marriages

Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 by relationship to current (last) husband before their marriage, and percentage married to a blood relative, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	First cousin		Second cousin	Uncle	Other blood relative	Brother-in-law	Other non-blood relative	Not related	Total	Percentage married to a blood relative	Number of women
	Father's side	Mother's side									
<b>Age</b>											
15-19	4.9	5.6	0.8	0.4	3.0	0.8	3.7	80.8	100.0	14.7	15,584
20-24	4.4	4.3	0.7	0.3	2.5	0.7	2.3	84.8	100.0	12.2	72,660
25-29	4.0	4.1	0.7	0.3	2.1	0.6	1.9	86.5	100.0	11.0	104,679
30-34	3.8	3.7	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.5	1.6	87.7	100.0	10.2	97,617
35-39	4.0	3.9	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.5	1.3	87.5	100.0	10.7	96,200
40-44	3.9	3.7	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.4	1.2	88.2	100.0	10.2	80,766
45-49	3.9	3.7	0.5	0.3	1.4	0.5	1.0	88.6	100.0	9.9	84,534
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	4.1	4.1	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.4	1.8	86.7	100.0	11.0	174,237
Rural	4.0	3.9	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.6	1.5	87.2	100.0	10.7	377,803
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	3.7	3.7	0.6	0.3	1.7	0.6	1.1	88.4	100.0	9.9	156,879
<5 years complete	4.2	4.2	0.6	0.2	2.1	0.4	1.7	86.6	100.0	11.3	34,866
5-7 years complete	4.8	4.5	0.6	0.3	2.1	0.5	1.6	85.5	100.0	12.4	84,089
8-9 years complete	3.7	3.8	0.7	0.3	2.2	0.5	2.1	86.7	100.0	10.7	88,781
10-11 years complete	4.6	4.6	0.6	0.3	2.1	0.6	1.7	85.5	100.0	12.2	68,869
12 or more years complete	3.6	3.6	0.5	0.2	1.9	0.4	1.9	87.8	100.0	9.8	118,556
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	3.7	3.6	0.5	0.3	1.9	0.5	1.6	87.8	100.0	10.1	452,343
Muslim	5.9	6.2	1.2	0.3	2.2	0.8	1.5	81.9	100.0	15.8	72,039
Christian	4.3	4.3	0.6	0.6	2.2	0.5	2.3	85.2	100.0	11.9	12,444
Sikh	1.4	1.5	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.2	1.3	93.7	100.0	4.8	8,521
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	7.1	4.7	0.3	0.1	2.4	0.1	1.8	83.6	100.0	14.5	3,432
Jain	2.6	3.0	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.5	1.1	91.5	100.0	6.9	1,206
Other	1.9	2.3	0.4	0.1	2.4	0.2	2.1	90.6	100.0	7.2	2,055
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	4.1	3.9	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.5	1.6	87.1	100.0	10.8	120,271
Scheduled tribe	3.5	3.7	0.4	0.2	2.1	0.4	2.5	87.2	100.0	9.9	51,283
Other backward class	4.5	4.6	0.6	0.4	2.0	0.6	1.3	86.0	100.0	12.1	237,147
Other	3.4	2.9	0.6	0.2	1.8	0.4	1.8	88.8	100.0	8.9	139,026
Don't know	3.1	2.9	1.1	0.2	2.0	1.0	2.1	87.6	100.0	9.3	4,313
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	2.7	2.4	0.4	0.2	1.8	0.5	1.9	90.1	100.0	7.5	104,454
Second	3.9	3.9	0.6	0.3	2.1	0.5	1.6	87.1	100.0	10.8	110,981
Middle	4.9	5.0	0.6	0.3	2.1	0.6	1.5	84.8	100.0	13.0	113,723
Fourth	4.9	4.8	0.6	0.4	2.0	0.5	1.5	85.3	100.0	12.7	114,422
Highest	3.5	3.5	0.6	0.3	1.7	0.4	1.6	88.4	100.0	9.6	108,460
Total	4.0	4.0	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.5	1.6	87.1	100.0	10.8	552,040

**Table 6.6 Consanguineous marriages by state/union territory**

Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 by relationship to current (last) husband before their marriage, according to state/ union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	First cousin		Second cousin	Uncle	Other blood relative	Brother-in-law	Other non-blood relative	Not related	Total	Percentage married to a blood relative
	Father's side	Mother's side								
<b>India</b>	4.0	4.0	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.5	1.6	87.1	100.0	10.8
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.9	96.5	100.0	1.7
Delhi	1.8	1.5	0.6	0.1	1.5	0.2	2.4	91.9	100.0	5.5
Haryana	1.3	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.9	0.4	1.2	94.7	100.0	3.7
Himachal Pradesh	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.1	2.4	95.9	100.0	1.6
Jammu & Kashmir	3.9	4.6	2.0	0.1	1.1	0.1	0.7	87.6	100.0	11.6
Ladakh	5.4	5.6	2.7	0.1	2.0	0.1	1.6	82.5	100.0	15.8
Punjab	1.4	1.4	0.3	0.4	1.1	0.2	1.3	93.8	100.0	4.7
Rajasthan	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.7	94.3	100.0	4.7
Uttarakhand	1.0	1.8	0.4	0.1	1.0	0.6	1.1	94.1	100.0	4.2
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	1.5	1.8	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.2	1.0	94.3	100.0	4.5
Madhya Pradesh	1.8	1.9	0.4	0.2	1.6	0.2	1.3	92.7	100.0	5.8
Uttar Pradesh	3.7	3.1	0.8	0.2	2.2	1.1	1.1	87.8	100.0	10.0
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	1.6	2.0	0.4	0.3	1.7	0.7	1.1	92.2	100.0	6.1
Jharkhand	1.2	1.4	0.3	0.3	1.3	0.5	0.9	94.2	100.0	4.3
Odisha	3.0	3.2	0.5	0.5	5.6	0.4	6.9	80.0	100.0	12.7
West Bengal	1.1	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.2	3.1	93.2	100.0	3.5
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	0.4	1.4	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.6	6.1	89.8	100.0	3.5
Assam	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.1	1.7	0.2	4.7	91.8	100.0	3.3
Manipur	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	3.2	95.6	100.0	1.2
Meghalaya	1.7	0.1	0.3	0.2	2.7	0.1	3.2	91.7	100.0	4.9
Mizoram	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	98.8	100.0	1.0
Nagaland	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	3.6	94.1	100.0	2.1
Sikkim	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	7.5	91.8	100.0	0.5
Tripura	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.1	1.3	0.1	5.1	92.3	100.0	2.5
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.2	96.8	100.0	2.8
Goa	1.0	2.3	0.6	0.1	1.7	0.1	1.0	93.2	100.0	5.7
Gujarat	2.4	2.1	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.2	1.1	92.4	100.0	6.4
Maharashtra	6.8	4.8	0.5	0.1	2.6	0.1	1.7	83.4	100.0	14.8
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.9	3.5	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.1	1.9	90.9	100.0	7.1
Andhra Pradesh	10.5	11.6	1.3	1.0	2.0	0.7	0.5	72.3	100.0	26.4
Karnataka	9.6	13.9	0.5	0.2	2.5	0.1	0.5	72.8	100.0	26.6
Kerala	1.9	1.3	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.8	94.7	100.0	4.4
Lakshadweep	5.4	1.4	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.0	3.6	88.3	100.0	8.1
Puducherry	7.6	7.6	1.0	1.2	1.8	0.4	3.0	77.5	100.0	19.2
Tamil Nadu	10.0	11.2	1.5	1.2	4.0	0.1	1.3	70.8	100.0	27.9
Telangana	9.9	5.3	0.1	1.0	2.0	4.7	0.7	76.3	100.0	18.2

**Table 6.7 Age at first sexual intercourse**

Percentage of women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 who had first sexual intercourse by specific exact ages, percentage who never had intercourse, and median age at first intercourse, according to current age, India, 2019-21

Current age	Percentage who had first sexual intercourse by exact age:						Percentage who never had sexual intercourse	Number of respondents	Median age at first sexual intercourse
	15	18	20	21	22	25			
<b>WOMEN</b>									
15-19	1.2	na	na	na	na	na	84.9	122,544	a
20-24	3.4	21.0	42.5	na	na	na	37.3	119,440	a
25-29	6.5	29.2	51.8	60.7	67.2	81.6	9.9	117,145	19.8
30-34	9.7	36.3	57.5	65.9	72.2	85.0	2.5	100,384	19.2
35-39	11.3	42.0	63.3	71.0	76.2	87.0	1.3	97,552	18.6
40-44	12.8	43.9	65.2	73.2	78.2	88.0	1.1	81,787	18.5
45-49	12.7	44.5	65.7	73.5	78.4	88.6	0.8	85,264	18.4
20-49	8.9	35.0	56.6	na	na	na	10.2	601,571	19.3
25-49	10.3	38.5	60.0	68.2	73.9	85.7	3.5	482,132	18.9
<b>MEN</b>									
15-19	0.7	na	na	na	na	na	92.3	16,385	a
20-24	0.3	4.6	15.2	na	na	na	64.0	14,384	a
25-29	0.6	4.9	13.6	20.2	26.5	49.3	31.7	14,195	a
30-34	1.0	5.9	14.8	22.2	28.1	49.2	11.2	13,109	25.1
35-39	1.0	7.3	18.3	25.7	32.5	53.0	3.6	13,029	24.5
40-44	1.1	7.0	17.8	26.5	33.6	53.3	2.0	10,846	24.5
45-49	0.6	6.1	17.2	24.9	31.3	53.6	1.8	11,197	24.5
50-54	0.7	5.6	14.6	22.3	29.0	51.8	1.2	8,695	24.8
20-49	0.7	5.9	16.0	na	na	na	20.9	76,759	a
25-49	0.8	6.2	16.2	23.7	30.2	51.5	11.0	62,375	24.8

na = Not applicable due to censoring

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women or men had intercourse before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 6.8.1 Median age at first sexual intercourse: Women

Median age at first sexual intercourse among women age 20-49, by current age, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Current age						Women age 20-49	Women age 25-49
	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49		
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	a	21.4	20.6	19.8	19.6	19.3	a	20.2
Rural	a	19.2	18.6	18.2	18.0	18.1	18.8	18.5
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	18.4	17.8	17.5	17.3	17.4	17.6	17.6	17.5
<5 years complete	18.3	17.8	17.7	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	17.7
5-7 years complete	18.6	18.3	18.2	18.1	18.1	18.2	18.2	18.2
8-9 years complete	19.2	19.0	18.9	18.8	18.8	19.0	19.0	18.9
10-11 years complete	19.8	19.5	19.7	19.6	19.8	20.1	19.7	19.7
12 or more years complete	a	23.0	22.8	22.6	22.3	22.5	a	22.8
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	a	19.8	19.1	18.6	18.4	18.4	19.2	18.9
Muslim	a	19.5	18.9	18.5	18.4	18.2	19.0	18.8
Christian	a	22.5	21.7	20.9	21.0	21.0	a	21.5
Sikh	a	22.8	21.6	20.8	20.4	20.3	a	21.2
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	a	20.2	20.3	19.1	19.3	18.6	20.0	19.5
Jain	a	24.7	23.0	22.0	22.5	21.5	a	22.7
Other	a	19.2	18.9	19.0	19.7	19.3	19.5	19.2
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	a	19.5	18.8	18.2	18.0	17.9	18.9	18.5
Scheduled tribe	a	19.3	18.7	18.4	18.3	18.4	18.9	18.7
Other backward class	a	19.7	19.1	18.6	18.5	18.4	19.2	18.9
Other	a	20.6	19.9	19.4	19.1	18.9	20.0	19.6
Don't know	18.9	18.6	18.2	17.7	17.5	17.7	18.2	18.0
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	18.9	18.2	17.7	17.6	17.8	17.8	18.1	17.8
Second	19.8	18.7	18.2	17.8	17.7	17.9	18.5	18.2
Middle	a	19.5	18.8	18.3	18.0	18.1	18.9	18.6
Fourth	a	20.6	19.9	19.0	18.7	18.5	19.9	19.4
Highest	a	22.9	21.9	20.8	20.2	19.8	a	21.2
Total	a	19.8	19.2	18.6	18.5	18.4	19.3	18.9

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women had intercourse before reaching the beginning of the age group



Table 6.8.2 Median age at first sexual intercourse: Men

Median age at first sexual intercourse among men age 25-54, by current age, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Current age						Men age 25-49
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	a	26.5	25.8	26.0	25.7	26.2	a
Rural	24.5	24.3	23.8	23.6	23.8	24.1	24.0
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	22.5	21.8	21.3	21.9	22.8	23.0	22.1
<5 years complete	22.6	22.4	22.8	22.8	22.7	23.5	22.6
5-7 years complete	22.8	23.2	23.1	23.2	23.5	24.5	23.1
8-9 years complete	24.1	24.5	24.5	24.2	24.7	25.1	24.4
10-11 years complete	24.7	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.1	25.5	a
12 or more years complete	a	27.7	27.6	27.4	26.9	27.3	a
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	a	25.1	24.5	24.4	24.4	24.7	24.7
Muslim	24.9	24.8	24.2	24.2	24.5	24.2	24.6
Christian	a	26.1	25.6	25.7	26.7	26.7	a
Sikh	a	24.9	25.5	24.0	24.0	24.8	a
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	24.4	25.9	25.0	26.6	24.6	26.2	a
Jain	a	28.6	22.5	27.8	25.6	26.1	a
Other	23.6	25.3	a	22.9	27.3	26.8	a
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	24.5	24.6	23.7	23.7	23.8	23.9	24.1
Scheduled tribe	23.5	23.9	22.9	22.7	23.0	23.0	23.2
Other backward class	a	25.3	24.6	24.2	24.4	24.7	24.8
Other	a	25.7	25.6	25.6	25.4	25.6	a
Don't know	a	22.6	24.9	24.8	26.6	26.6	24.8
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	22.4	22.2	22.0	22.2	22.8	23.2	22.3
Second	23.6	23.7	23.2	23.0	23.5	24.0	23.4
Middle	a	24.8	24.2	24.1	24.1	24.5	24.5
Fourth	a	26.3	25.9	25.6	24.8	25.0	a
Highest	a	27.4	26.7	26.5	26.1	26.6	a
Total	a	25.1	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.8	24.8

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the men had intercourse before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 6.9.1 Most recent sexual activity: Women

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Timing of last sexual intercourse					Never had sexual intercourse	Total	Number of women	Median number of days since last sexual intercourse <sup>3</sup>
	Within the last week	Within the last 4 weeks <sup>1</sup>	Within 1 year <sup>2</sup>	One or more years	Missing				
<b>Age</b>									
15-19	6.3	2.1	4.6	0.4	1.7	84.9	100.0	18,240	7.7
20-24	28.3	11.4	16.2	1.4	5.7	37.0	100.0	17,809	7.3
25-29	42.6	19.7	18.1	2.7	7.2	9.6	100.0	17,398	7.1
30-34	46.7	23.8	16.6	4.3	6.1	2.5	100.0	15,295	7.0
35-39	39.9	26.9	18.4	7.5	6.1	1.3	100.0	14,558	7.5
40-44	30.7	28.3	22.9	11.5	5.7	0.9	100.0	11,973	10.8
45-49	21.6	25.0	25.0	18.8	8.4	1.1	100.0	12,741	21.2
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	0.2	0.4	1.8	0.7	0.8	96.2	100.0	25,505	a
Currently married	42.3	25.5	22.0	3.9	6.3	0.0	100.0	77,729	7.5
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	0.9	1.8	9.8	64.7	22.3	0.5	100.0	4,780	a
<b>Marital duration<sup>4</sup></b>									
0-4 years	46.3	18.1	25.7	1.0	8.7	0.1	100.0	13,721	7.7
5-9 years	48.4	22.6	19.6	1.3	8.0	0.0	100.0	13,895	7.6
10-14 years	50.2	25.5	16.5	2.5	5.3	0.0	100.0	12,875	7.6
15-19 years	45.5	28.5	18.4	3.5	4.2	0.0	100.0	11,782	7.6
20-24 years	36.3	29.8	23.1	5.7	5.1	0.0	100.0	11,276	7.9
25 or more years	26.3	29.6	28.3	9.9	5.9	0.0	100.0	12,920	7.8
Married more than once	39.3	26.0	23.7	4.5	6.5	0.0	100.0	1,261	7.6
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	29.5	18.9	14.9	6.8	5.1	24.8	100.0	34,839	7.6
Rural	31.0	18.3	17.5	5.4	6.0	21.8	100.0	73,175	7.7
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	33.4	23.4	21.6	10.0	7.7	3.8	100.0	24,485	10.3
<5 years complete	37.4	22.2	18.4	9.4	6.4	6.2	100.0	5,715	7.6
5-7 years complete	35.3	21.0	18.3	6.6	6.1	12.6	100.0	14,547	7.6
8-9 years complete	30.0	16.2	14.9	4.0	4.5	30.4	100.0	19,237	7.4
10-11 years complete	25.9	15.5	13.0	4.3	4.9	36.5	100.0	16,278	7.5
12 or more years complete	27.2	15.4	14.5	3.2	4.9	34.8	100.0	27,751	7.5
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	30.5	18.9	17.0	5.9	5.5	22.2	100.0	87,179	7.7
Muslim	31.5	16.9	15.3	5.0	6.4	24.9	100.0	15,138	7.5
Christian	25.5	16.0	16.2	7.6	9.6	25.1	100.0	2,495	7.8
Sikh	31.8	18.1	14.5	5.6	4.3	25.7	100.0	1,908	7.4
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	30.3	16.8	13.9	7.7	9.4	21.9	100.0	652	7.8
Jain	29.7	22.5	12.6	7.1	0.0	28.0	100.0	214	7.4
Other	31.8	17.7	15.8	6.6	4.0	24.1	100.0	428	7.6

Continued...

**Table 6.9.1 Most recent sexual activity: Women—Continued**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Timing of last sexual intercourse					Never had sexual intercourse	Total	Number of women	Median number of days since last sexual intercourse <sup>3</sup>
	Within the last week	Within the last 4 weeks <sup>1</sup>	Within 1 year <sup>2</sup>	One or more years	Missing				
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	30.8	17.9	16.8	5.7	5.6	23.1	100.0	23,427	7.7
Scheduled tribe	32.9	18.4	14.7	5.6	6.5	22.0	100.0	9,909	7.4
Other backward class	28.9	18.4	18.0	6.0	5.7	23.0	100.0	47,251	7.9
Other	32.2	19.1	14.9	5.8	5.4	22.5	100.0	26,733	7.5
Don't know	30.9	18.0	18.6	5.0	11.2	16.3	100.0	694	7.5
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	31.3	17.0	18.4	5.4	6.9	20.9	100.0	19,904	7.8
Second	30.5	17.2	17.8	5.7	6.1	22.6	100.0	22,049	7.8
Middle	29.8	18.9	16.7	6.3	5.7	22.6	100.0	22,252	7.7
Fourth	30.2	18.9	15.6	6.1	5.3	23.9	100.0	22,376	7.6
Highest	30.8	20.2	15.0	5.6	4.6	23.7	100.0	21,432	7.5
Total	30.5	18.5	16.7	5.8	5.7	22.8	100.0	108,014	7.7

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of women ever had sexual intercourse

<sup>1</sup> Excludes women who had sexual intercourse within the last 1 week

<sup>2</sup> Excludes women who had sexual intercourse within the last 1 and 4 weeks

<sup>3</sup> Among those who have ever had sexual intercourse

<sup>4</sup> Excludes women who are not currently married

Table 6.9.2 Most recent sexual activity: Men

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Timing of last sexual intercourse						Total	Number of men	Median number of days since last sexual intercourse <sup>3</sup>
	Within the last week	Within the last 4 weeks <sup>1</sup>	Within 1 year <sup>2</sup>	One or more years	Missing	Never had sexual intercourse			
<b>Age</b>									
15-19	1.5	1.0	4.3	0.6	0.3	92.3	100.0	16,385	a
20-24	12.7	5.5	12.5	4.1	1.2	64.0	100.0	14,384	15.5
25-29	33.3	11.3	14.9	5.0	3.7	31.7	100.0	14,195	5.7
30-34	46.4	19.2	13.8	5.2	4.2	11.2	100.0	13,109	5.3
35-39	47.5	24.6	12.4	6.4	5.5	3.6	100.0	13,029	5.7
40-44	42.7	29.0	12.5	7.4	6.3	2.0	100.0	10,846	7.1
45-49	34.3	30.3	17.2	8.4	7.9	1.8	100.0	11,197	7.8
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	1.0	2.0	7.8	3.2	0.6	85.3	100.0	36,503	a
Currently married	48.9	25.4	14.9	5.2	5.6	0.0	100.0	55,475	5.7
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	2.2	2.4	21.8	51.3	21.5	0.8	100.0	1,165	a
<b>Marital duration<sup>4</sup></b>									
0-4 years	53.6	17.7	20.4	3.8	4.4	0.1	100.0	10,571	6.9
5-9 years	52.9	22.8	14.5	4.9	4.8	0.0	100.0	10,670	5.7
10-14 years	54.0	25.7	10.4	4.4	5.5	0.0	100.0	9,990	5.4
15-19 years	47.7	28.9	11.6	6.1	5.7	0.0	100.0	8,988	5.9
20-24 years	38.9	31.6	16.4	6.7	6.5	0.0	100.0	7,056	8.4
25 or more years	30.5	32.7	19.9	7.2	9.7	0.0	100.0	3,940	14.1
Married more than once	51.9	25.9	11.9	5.0	5.4	0.0	100.0	4,259	8.3
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	27.8	15.2	12.2	5.1	3.2	36.4	100.0	32,852	7.4
Rural	30.5	16.3	12.2	5.0	4.2	31.9	100.0	60,291	7.3
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	38.1	20.3	14.1	7.4	6.7	13.4	100.0	9,982	6.9
<5 years complete	42.3	21.3	12.7	5.8	5.5	12.5	100.0	5,842	5.9
5-7 years complete	37.2	18.8	12.3	5.6	4.9	21.1	100.0	12,082	6.1
8-9 years complete	27.5	15.4	11.4	4.4	3.4	37.9	100.0	18,472	7.2
10-11 years complete	25.8	14.2	11.2	4.6	3.1	41.1	100.0	16,735	7.2
12 or more years complete	24.6	13.5	12.4	4.4	2.9	42.2	100.0	30,032	7.4
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	29.8	16.2	12.8	4.9	3.5	32.9	100.0	73,632	7.1
Muslim	29.5	15.1	9.0	5.1	5.2	36.1	100.0	14,633	6.0
Christian	23.7	14.8	11.4	7.5	6.4	36.1	100.0	2,426	7.5
Sikh	33.6	12.0	11.5	5.1	2.7	35.0	100.0	886	4.9
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	29.3	17.8	14.8	5.5	2.6	29.9	100.0	1,017	7.6
Jain	28.7	11.9	6.7	9.1	0.2	43.3	100.0	280	5.3
Other	23.7	9.3	27.4	5.4	5.3	29.0	100.0	269	20.5

Continued...

**Table 6.9.2 Most recent sexual activity: Men—Continued**

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Timing of last sexual intercourse						Total	Number of men	Median number of days since last sexual intercourse <sup>3</sup>
	Within the last week	Within the last 4 weeks <sup>1</sup>	Within 1 year <sup>2</sup>	One or more years	Missing	Never had sexual intercourse			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	30.9	16.6	12.9	5.1	3.8	30.7	100.0	18,977	7.1
Scheduled tribe	31.1	15.7	13.0	5.6	5.1	29.5	100.0	8,441	7.0
Other backward class	28.5	16.3	12.7	4.6	3.3	34.6	100.0	38,986	7.2
Other	29.8	14.9	10.6	5.3	4.3	35.0	100.0	26,244	6.4
Don't know	28.2	12.1	9.9	5.9	7.2	36.7	100.0	496	4.9
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	32.0	15.6	11.8	5.2	5.8	29.6	100.0	15,606	7.2
Second	29.7	16.1	12.3	5.0	3.7	33.1	100.0	18,497	7.4
Middle	28.9	15.8	12.6	5.3	3.7	33.8	100.0	19,829	7.4
Fourth	29.3	16.3	11.7	5.0	3.3	34.4	100.0	20,658	7.3
Highest	28.5	15.5	12.5	4.6	3.1	35.7	100.0	18,553	7.3
Total age 15-49	29.6	15.9	12.2	5.0	3.8	33.5	100.0	93,144	7.1
Age 50-54	23.2	29.2	23.1	13.1	10.2	1.2	100.0	8,695	7.3
Total age 15-54	29.0	17.0	13.1	5.7	4.4	30.7	100.0	101,839	7.3

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of men ever had sexual intercourse

<sup>1</sup> Excludes men who had sexual intercourse within the last 1 week

<sup>2</sup> Excludes men who had sexual intercourse within the last 1 and 4 weeks

<sup>3</sup> Among those who have ever had sexual intercourse

<sup>4</sup> Excludes men who are not currently married

**Table 6.10 Postpartum amenorrhoea, abstinence, and insusceptibility**

Percentage of births in the 3 years preceding the survey for which mothers are postpartum amenorrhoeic, abstaining, and insusceptible, by number of months since birth, and median and mean durations, India, 2019-21

Months since birth	Percentage of births for which the mother is:			Number of births
	Amenorrhoeic	Abstaining	Insusceptible <sup>1</sup>	
0	76.8	95.4	96.5	1,666
1	76.5	86.1	92.4	3,919
2	64.3	66.6	80.6	4,017
3	56.6	51.4	73.2	3,834
4	47.9	41.7	63.6	3,992
5	40.9	32.0	55.4	3,932
6	37.7	29.1	52.1	3,978
7	30.3	22.8	42.3	3,696
8	24.5	19.2	36.8	3,585
9	23.5	16.1	33.6	3,730
10	20.4	15.6	31.0	3,706
11	16.4	15.8	28.2	3,714
12	13.3	12.2	22.3	3,805
13	10.9	11.7	18.9	4,033
14	9.5	10.4	17.0	3,959
15	7.8	9.3	14.9	3,727
16	7.4	9.8	15.3	3,820
17	5.2	8.3	11.9	3,533
18	4.8	8.8	12.1	3,765
19	5.3	9.4	13.2	3,704
20	3.9	8.7	11.4	3,513
21	3.9	7.3	9.8	3,371
22	4.7	8.7	11.2	3,647
23	3.8	7.9	10.0	3,624
24	4.0	7.6	9.7	3,844
25	2.4	7.1	8.4	3,912
26	2.7	5.9	7.3	3,901
27	2.9	6.8	8.5	3,996
28	3.0	6.8	8.4	3,871
29	3.4	6.3	8.3	3,798
30	2.8	7.2	8.8	3,861
31	2.5	7.1	8.6	3,827
32	2.6	5.7	7.2	3,628
33	1.8	5.0	6.2	3,562
34	3.2	6.1	7.8	3,581
35	3.4	7.1	8.6	3,510
Median <sup>2</sup>	4.1	3.5	6.3	na
Mean	6.9	7.3	10.0	na

Note: Estimates are based on status at the time of the survey.

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Includes births for which mothers are either still amenorrhoeic or still abstaining (or both) following birth

<sup>2</sup> Based on a three-month moving average of two month intervals since birth

**Table 6.11 Median duration of postpartum amenorrhoea, postpartum abstinence, and postpartum insusceptibility**

Median number of months of postpartum amenorrhoea, postpartum abstinence, and postpartum insusceptibility following births in the 3 years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Postpartum amenorrhoea	Postpartum abstinence	Postpartum insusceptibility <sup>1</sup>
<b>Mother's age</b>			
15-29	4.0	3.5	6.2
30-49	4.3	3.7	6.6
<b>Residence</b>			
Urban	3.8	3.8	5.7
Rural	4.2	3.4	6.5
<b>Mother's schooling</b>			
No schooling	4.2	3.0	6.5
<5 years complete	4.7	3.5	6.2
5-7 years complete	4.3	3.2	6.6
8-9 years complete	4.0	3.3	6.5
10-11 years complete	4.0	3.8	6.2
12 or more years complete	3.9	4.0	6.0
<b>Religion</b>			
Hindu	4.2	3.7	6.5
Muslim	3.1	2.9	5.0
Christian	5.4	5.5	8.1
Sikh	2.0	3.0	4.0
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	6.3	4.2	6.9
Other	9.3	3.7	10.5
<b>Caste/tribe</b>			
Scheduled caste	4.1	3.3	6.2
Scheduled tribe	6.2	3.8	7.6
Other backward class	3.9	3.6	6.3
Other	3.5	3.5	5.6
Don't know	3.6	3.7	7.4
<b>Wealth quintile</b>			
Lowest	5.3	3.2	7.4
Second	4.2	3.3	6.5
Middle	4.2	3.7	6.1
Fourth	3.6	3.8	5.8
Highest	3.5	3.8	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>

Note: Medians are based on status at the time of the survey.

<sup>1</sup> Includes births for which mothers are still amenorrhoeic or still abstaining (or both) following birth

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**Table 6.12 Menopause**

Percentage of women age 30-49 who are menopausal, by age, India, 2019-21

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Age	Percentage menopausal <sup>1</sup>	Number of women
30-34	3.0	100,384
35-39	6.7	97,552
40-41	14.2	37,535
42-43	19.3	31,226
44-45	30.4	37,555
46-47	39.7	28,129
48-49	55.2	32,606
Total	16.9	364,987

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<sup>1</sup> Percentage of women who 1) are not pregnant, and 2) have had a birth in the past 5 years and are not postpartum amenorrhoeic, and 3) for whom one of the following additional conditions applies: a) whose last menstrual period occurred 6 or more months preceding the survey, or b) declared that they are in menopause or have had a hysterectomy, or c) have never menstruated

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**Table 6.13 Non-live births**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have ever had a non-live birth and have had a non-live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, and percentage of pregnancies (not including current pregnancies) that ended in a non-live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by current age of mother, India, 2019-21

Mother's current age	Women age 15-49		Number of women	Pregnancies in the last 5 years	
	Percentage who have ever had a non-live birth	Percentage who have had a non-live birth in the past 5 years		Percentage that ended in a non-live birth	Number of pregnancies
15-19	1.0	0.9	122,544	9.9	10,387
20-24	7.9	6.8	119,440	8.2	87,168
25-29	14.8	8.6	117,145	8.1	106,374
30-34	17.8	5.6	100,384	9.5	48,616
35-39	17.6	2.5	97,552	12.5	17,265
40-44	16.3	0.9	81,787	15.9	3,778
45-49	14.2	0.2	85,264	15.8	852
Total	12.2	3.9	724,115	8.8	274,440
20-49	14.5	4.5	601,571	8.8	264,053
25-49	16.1	3.9	482,132	9.1	176,885

Note: Non-live births include stillbirths, abortions, and miscarriages.

**Table 6.14 Non-live births by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have ever had a non-live birth and have had a non-live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey and percentage of pregnancies (not including current pregnancies) that ended in a non-live birth in the 5-year period preceding the survey by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women age 15-49		Pregnancies in the last 5 years
	Percentage who have ever had a non-live birth	Percentage who have had a non-live birth in the past 5 years	Percentage that ended in a non-live birth
<b>India</b>	12.2	3.9	8.8
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	13.6	4.2	10.4
Delhi	17.8	5.9	13.6
Haryana	14.5	5.0	11.2
Himachal Pradesh	13.0	3.8	11.5
Jammu & Kashmir	6.0	2.4	7.1
Ladakh	6.0	2.5	8.5
Punjab	10.9	3.5	9.2
Rajasthan	10.5	3.6	8.3
Uttarakhand	14.0	4.4	9.3
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	6.5	2.4	6.4
Madhya Pradesh	9.5	3.0	7.2
Uttar Pradesh	13.8	5.3	10.0
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	14.4	5.0	7.6
Jharkhand	12.4	4.1	8.1
Odisha	16.9	5.1	11.9
West Bengal	13.6	3.7	10.0
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	5.4	2.1	4.7
Assam	10.7	3.8	8.3
Manipur	25.4	10.6	15.4
Meghalaya	7.6	2.9	5.1
Mizoram	6.4	2.5	6.2
Nagaland	7.1	2.1	5.2
Sikkim	6.2	1.7	6.1
Tripura	13.7	4.3	10.0
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	12.6	4.3	10.3
Goa	10.4	3.4	13.7
Gujarat	9.8	2.8	7.3
Maharashtra	11.2	3.6	8.4
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	12.4	3.0	9.2
Andhra Pradesh	11.2	3.1	9.9
Karnataka	7.9	2.3	7.1
Kerala	11.7	2.6	6.5
Lakshadweep	3.8	1.5	5.2
Puducherry	15.4	3.8	10.6
Tamil Nadu	14.7	3.5	9.9
Telangana	10.6	3.0	9.1

Note: Non-live births include stillbirths, abortions, and miscarriages.

**Table 6.15 Pregnancy outcome**

Percent distribution of last pregnancies among women age 15-49 during the 5 years preceding the survey by pregnancy outcome, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Pregnancy outcome				Total	Number of pregnancies
	Live birth	Abortion	Miscarriage	Stillbirth		
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	86.8	4.0	8.5	0.7	100.0	69,549
Rural	89.7	2.5	6.9	0.9	100.0	186,000
<b>Mother's schooling</b>						
No schooling	91.4	1.9	5.7	1.1	100.0	53,422
<5 years complete	89.3	2.8	7.0	0.9	100.0	12,166
5-7 years complete	89.1	2.9	7.1	0.9	100.0	36,924
8-9 years complete	88.3	3.2	7.6	0.9	100.0	47,811
10-11 years complete	87.9	3.5	7.9	0.8	100.0	34,384
12 or more years complete	87.7	3.4	8.3	0.6	100.0	70,842
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	88.5	3.1	7.5	0.8	100.0	203,795
Muslim	90.6	2.1	6.4	0.9	100.0	40,727
Christian	89.9	2.2	7.2	0.8	100.0	5,213
Sikh	88.2	3.3	7.8	0.7	100.0	3,205
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	86.9	3.9	8.8	0.4	100.0	1,240
Jain	96.9	0.6	2.3	0.2	100.0	329
Other	88.7	3.8	6.9	0.6	100.0	1,041
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	88.7	2.9	7.4	1.0	100.0	59,776
Scheduled tribe	91.7	1.8	5.7	0.8	100.0	24,794
Other backward class	89.0	2.9	7.3	0.8	100.0	110,869
Other	87.6	3.6	8.0	0.8	100.0	57,728
Don't know	89.1	3.0	7.1	0.8	100.0	2,381
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	91.6	1.7	5.7	1.0	100.0	60,949
Second	89.7	2.5	6.8	0.9	100.0	55,273
Middle	88.0	3.2	7.9	0.8	100.0	50,343
Fourth	87.5	3.7	8.0	0.8	100.0	47,773
Highest	86.4	4.1	8.9	0.6	100.0	41,210
<b>Total</b>	<b>88.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>255,549</b>

**Table 6.16 Pregnancy outcome by state/union territory**

Percent distribution of last pregnancies during the 5 years preceding the survey among women age 15-49 by pregnancy outcome, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Pregnancy outcome				Total
	Live birth	Abortion	Miscarriage	Stillbirth	
<b>India</b>	88.9	2.9	7.3	0.9	100.0
<b>North</b>					
Chandigarh	85.1	4.2	9.7	1.0	100.0
Delhi	81.6	5.7	11.9	0.8	100.0
Haryana	86.0	2.7	10.3	0.9	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	86.6	2.8	10.0	0.6	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	91.0	2.3	5.9	0.8	100.0
Ladakh	89.8	3.2	5.5	1.5	100.0
Punjab	87.9	3.1	8.4	0.6	100.0
Rajasthan	90.2	1.5	7.5	0.7	100.0
Uttarakhand	87.1	3.4	8.4	1.1	100.0
<b>Central</b>					
Chhattisgarh	92.3	1.7	4.9	1.0	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	91.6	1.3	6.2	0.8	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	87.3	3.1	8.5	1.1	100.0
<b>East</b>					
Bihar	90.6	1.7	6.6	1.1	100.0
Jharkhand	90.0	2.4	6.4	1.2	100.0
Odisha	85.1	4.7	9.0	1.2	100.0
West Bengal	87.3	3.6	8.4	0.8	100.0
<b>Northeast</b>					
Arunachal Pradesh	93.2	2.7	3.8	0.4	100.0
Assam	88.7	4.8	5.5	0.9	100.0
Manipur	76.8	10.4	12.3	0.4	100.0
Meghalaya	94.1	0.2	4.7	1.0	100.0
Mizoram	92.3	0.2	7.4	0.1	100.0
Nagaland	92.7	1.7	5.2	0.4	100.0
Sikkim	90.8	2.0	6.3	0.9	100.0
Tripura	86.3	7.0	5.6	1.1	100.0
<b>West</b>					
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	88.3	2.0	9.4	0.3	100.0
Goa	84.3	4.8	10.9	0.0	100.0
Gujarat	91.1	2.0	6.3	0.6	100.0
Maharashtra	88.4	4.0	7.1	0.5	100.0
<b>South</b>					
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	87.0	4.3	6.9	1.8	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	89.0	4.0	6.4	0.5	100.0
Karnataka	92.0	2.4	5.1	0.5	100.0
Kerala	90.4	3.2	6.2	0.2	100.0
Lakshadweep	93.6	1.9	4.1	0.3	100.0
Puducherry	84.6	5.1	9.9	0.5	100.0
Tamil Nadu	87.5	4.4	7.5	0.6	100.0
Telangana	89.7	4.1	5.7	0.6	100.0

**Table 6.17 Characteristics of abortions**

Among women age 15-49 whose last pregnancy in the 5 years preceding the survey ended in an abortion, percent distribution by main reason for abortion, method of abortion, place of abortion, and person who performed the abortion, percentage who had complications from the abortion; among women who had complications, percentage who sought treatment for the complications; and among women who sought treatment for the complications, percent distribution by the place of treatment, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Characteristics of abortion	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Main reason for the abortion</b>			
Unplanned pregnancy	49.4	46.5	47.6
Contraceptive failure	4.3	3.2	3.6
Complications in pregnancy	7.5	10.2	9.1
Health did not permit	11.9	10.9	11.3
Female foetus	1.7	2.4	2.1
Male foetus	0.3	0.5	0.4
Economic reasons	3.8	3.2	3.4
Last child too young	10.1	9.5	9.7
Foetus had congenital abnormality	3.9	3.0	3.3
Husband/mother-in-law did not want	2.5	5.0	4.1
Other	4.6	5.7	5.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Method of abortion</b>			
Medicine	66.6	68.1	67.5
Manual vacuum aspiration (MVA)	11.5	12.0	11.8
Other surgical	16.6	16.1	16.3
Any other method	1.6	1.0	1.2
Don't know	3.7	2.9	3.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Place of abortion</b>			
Public health sector	18.2	21.6	20.3
Private health sector <sup>1</sup>	59.5	48.9	52.9
At home	22.1	28.7	26.2
Other	0.2	0.8	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Person who performed the abortion</b>			
Doctor	65.7	48.1	54.8
Nurse/ANM/LHV	8.8	16.4	13.5
Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)	0.2	0.3	0.3
Dai (TBA)	0.0	0.5	0.3
Family member/relative/friend	3.2	3.7	3.5
Self	21.6	30.0	26.9
Other	0.5	0.9	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Complications from the abortion</b>			
Percentage of women who had complications from the abortion	14.9	16.1	15.6
Number of women with abortions	2,221	3,661	5,882

*Continued...*

**Table 6.17 Characteristics of abortions—Continued**

Among women age 15-49 whose last pregnancy in the 5 years preceding the survey ended in an abortion, percent distribution by main reason for abortion, method of abortion, place of abortion, and person who performed the abortion, percentage who had complications from the abortion; among women who had complications, percentage who sought treatment for the complications; and among women who sought treatment for the complications, percent distribution by the place of treatment, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Characteristics of abortion	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Treatment for the complications</b>			
Percentage of women with complications from an abortion who sought treatment for the complications	89.3	89.9	89.7
Number of women with complications	331	588	919
<b>Place of treatment</b>			
Public health sector	23.0	29.6	27.3
Private health sector <sup>1</sup>	76.7	67.1	70.6
At home	0.0	2.2	1.4
Other	0.2	1.1	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women who sought treatment	295	528	824

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant

<sup>1</sup> Includes nongovernmental organization or trust hospital/clinic

**Table 6.18 Main reason for abortions by state/union territory**

Among women age 15-49 whose last pregnancy in the 5 years preceding the survey ended in an abortion, percent distribution by main reason for abortion, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Main reason for the abortion											Total
	Unplanned pregnancy	Contraceptive failure	Complications in pregnancy	Health did not permit	Female foetus	Male foetus	Economic reasons	Last child too young	Foetus had congenital abnormality	Husband/ mother-in-law did not want	Other	
<b>India</b>	47.6	3.6	9.1	11.3	2.1	0.4	3.4	9.7	3.3	4.1	5.3	100.0
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	66.4	0.0	17.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Delhi	73.5	6.3	4.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	3.2	6.1	1.2	0.0	2.5	100.0
Haryana	41.4	3.9	14.9	6.9	0.5	0.0	0.8	9.2	4.1	6.8	11.5	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	50.5	4.8	23.7	4.2	1.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	7.4	0.0	3.4	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	16.9	4.5	25.9	18.7	2.6	2.8	6.9	4.6	9.0	2.2	5.9	100.0
Ladakh	16.1	23.8	13.6	40.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Punjab	35.7	4.8	26.2	8.3	4.2	0.0	0.9	1.5	7.6	6.5	4.4	100.0
Rajasthan	49.9	4.0	13.8	7.4	1.0	0.0	2.7	5.5	6.0	3.6	6.1	100.0
Uttarakhand	49.3	4.3	12.0	13.5	2.0	0.0	4.8	10.1	0.1	3.7	0.0	100.0
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	32.1	1.0	1.0	15.2	3.5	0.7	1.9	24.9	0.0	6.1	13.6	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	48.3	10.7	7.8	8.4	0.6	1.4	3.1	5.8	1.7	7.0	5.3	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	61.3	1.9	5.5	6.3	2.7	0.4	1.6	8.5	1.6	4.8	5.4	100.0
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	49.8	1.6	2.9	12.1	5.3	0.7	1.7	9.7	0.3	9.4	6.5	100.0
Jharkhand	43.0	3.2	4.7	19.9	4.9	0.0	3.7	11.7	0.0	7.7	1.2	100.0
Odisha	50.5	6.9	4.4	6.2	1.5	0.0	5.6	16.1	0.7	5.2	2.9	100.0
West Bengal	53.8	7.6	2.0	7.9	0.0	0.0	6.9	13.2	0.9	1.0	6.6	100.0

*Continued...*

Table 6.18 Main reason for abortions by state/union territory—Continued

State/union territory	Main reason for the abortion											Total
	Unplanned pregnancy	Contraceptive failure	Complications in pregnancy	Health did not permit	Female foetus	Male foetus	Economic reasons	Last child too young	Foetus had congenital abnormality	Husband/mother-in-law did not want	Other	
<b>Northeast</b>												
Arunachal Pradesh	62.6	12.8	3.1	6.8	1.0	0.0	2.1	5.9	2.3	1.3	2.2	100.0
Assam	63.0	3.0	4.7	6.4	0.1	0.0	5.2	10.6	0.3	4.2	2.4	100.0
Manipur	48.6	0.8	6.2	11.1	3.5	0.0	5.4	14.1	2.3	3.0	5.0	100.0
Meghalaya	67.1	0.0	0.0	20.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Mizoram	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	82.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Nagaland	56.2	3.5	1.7	11.4	0.0	0.0	2.0	12.4	0.0	9.5	3.5	100.0
Sikkim	68.3	0.0	28.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Tripura	67.9	5.0	1.9	2.5	0.8	0.0	2.0	15.9	0.0	1.4	2.6	100.0
<b>West</b>												
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	16.5	13.1	7.0	18.9	7.6	0.0	0.0	11.9	0.0	10.2	14.7	100.0
Goa	56.3	0.0	12.2	11.1	7.3	0.0	0.0	4.9	8.2	0.0	0.0	100.0
Gujarat	48.5	1.9	17.3	6.1	0.0	1.4	6.9	4.2	8.2	3.9	1.7	100.0
Maharashtra	42.9	3.4	16.9	13.0	2.1	0.0	0.2	10.1	5.3	1.1	4.9	100.0
<b>South</b>												
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	62.1	0.0	8.9	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.2	0.0	9.5	0.0	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	14.7	3.6	22.3	17.6	3.9	0.0	9.4	8.3	9.7	4.4	6.2	100.0
Karnataka	16.5	4.8	18.2	19.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	12.5	6.6	2.6	9.6	100.0
Kerala	17.7	2.1	22.1	17.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.5	16.0	0.0	12.8	100.0
Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	32.4	32.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
Puducherry	18.9	0.5	3.4	11.8	0.0	0.0	8.8	37.5	11.0	8.0	0.0	100.0
Tamil Nadu	29.8	0.4	8.6	30.7	1.6	0.8	8.0	6.9	6.1	3.9	3.3	100.0
Telangana	17.5	3.2	17.7	26.9	3.4	0.5	2.5	8.1	8.5	3.6	8.0	100.0



### Key Findings

- **Mortality levels:** For the five years preceding the survey, the under-five mortality rate was 42 deaths per 1,000 live births, and the infant mortality rate was 35 deaths per 1,000 live births. The neonatal mortality rate was 25 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- **Trends:** The under-five mortality rate declined from 50 deaths per 1,000 live births in the five years before the 2015-16 survey to 42 deaths per 1,000 live births in the five years before the 2019-21 survey. The infant mortality rate declined from 41 deaths per 1,000 live births to 35 deaths per 1,000 live births during the same period.
- **Patterns:** The under-five mortality rate and infant mortality rate are highest in Uttar Pradesh, followed by Bihar, and are lowest in Puducherry, followed by Kerala. The under-five mortality rate and infant mortality rate are considerably higher in rural areas than in urban areas.
- **Perinatal mortality:** The perinatal mortality rate is 32 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies.

Information on infant and child mortality is relevant to a demographic assessment of the population and is an important indicator of the country's socioeconomic development and quality of life. These estimates can also help identify children who may be at higher risk of death and lead to strategies to reduce this risk, such as promoting birth spacing.

This chapter presents information on levels, trends, and differentials in perinatal, neonatal, infant, and under-five mortality rates. It also examines biodemographic factors and fertility behaviours that increase mortality risks for infants and young children. The information is collected as part of a retrospective birth history, in which female respondents list all of the children they have borne, along with each child's date of birth, survivorship status, and current age or age at death.

The quality of mortality estimates calculated from birth histories depends on the mother's ability to recall all of the children she has given birth to, as well as their birth dates and ages at death. Potential data quality problems include:

- The selective omission from the birth histories of those births that did not survive, which can result in underestimation of childhood mortality.
- The displacement of birth dates, which may distort mortality trends. This can occur if an interviewer knowingly records a birth as occurring in a different year than the one in which it occurred. This may happen if an interviewer is trying to cut down on her overall work load, because live births occurring during the five years before the interview are the subject of a lengthy set of additional questions.
- The quality of reporting of age at death. Misreporting the child's age at death may distort the age pattern of mortality, especially if the net effect of the age misreporting is to transfer deaths from one age bracket to another.

- Any method of measuring childhood mortality that relies on the mothers' reports (i.e., birth histories) assumes that female adult mortality is not high, or if it is high, that there is little or no correlation between the mortality risks of the mothers and those of their children.

Selected indicators of the quality of the mortality data on which the estimates of mortality given in this chapter are presented in Appendix E (Tables E.4-E.6).

## 7.1 INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

**Neonatal mortality:** The probability of dying within the first month of life.

**Postneonatal mortality:** The probability of dying between the first month of life and the first birthday (computed as the difference between infant and neonatal mortality).

**Infant mortality:** The probability of dying between birth and the first birthday.

**Child mortality:** The probability of dying between the first and fifth birthday.

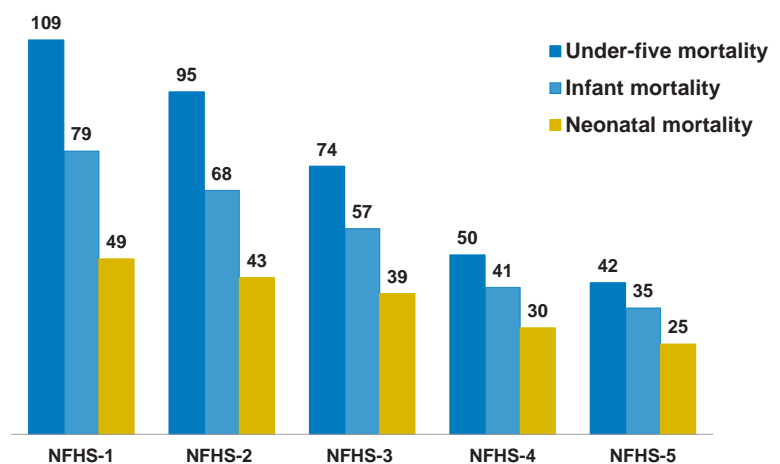
**Under-five mortality:** The probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday.

For the five-year period before the 2019-21 NFHS, the neonatal mortality rate was 25 deaths per 1,000 live births. This means that one in 40 live births died during the neonatal period. The infant mortality rate was 35 deaths per 1,000 live births. The under-five mortality rate was 42 deaths per 1,000 live births (Table 7.1 and Figure 7.1). This indicates that one in 24 children in India die before their fifth birthday. More than four-fifths (83%) of these deaths occur during infancy.

**Trends:** The neonatal mortality rate declined from 49 deaths per 1,000 live births in the five years before the 1992-93 NFHS survey to 25 deaths per 1,000 live births in the five years before the 2019-21 NFHS survey. The neonatal mortality rates in the five years before the 1998-99 survey, 2005-06 survey, and the 2015-16 survey were 43, 39, and 30 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively. The infant mortality rate declined from 79 deaths per 1,000 live births in the five years before the 1992-93 NFHS survey to 35 deaths per 1,000 live births in the five years before the 2019-21 NFHS survey. During the same period, the under-five mortality rate declined from 109 deaths per 1,000 live births to 42 deaths per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate decreased by 56 percent over a period of 28 years. The decline in the under-five mortality rate is slightly higher than the decline in the infant mortality rate during this period (a decrease of 62 percent).

**Figure 7.1 Trends in Early Childhood Mortality Rates**

*Deaths per 1,000 live births in the five-year period before the survey*



### Patterns by background characteristics

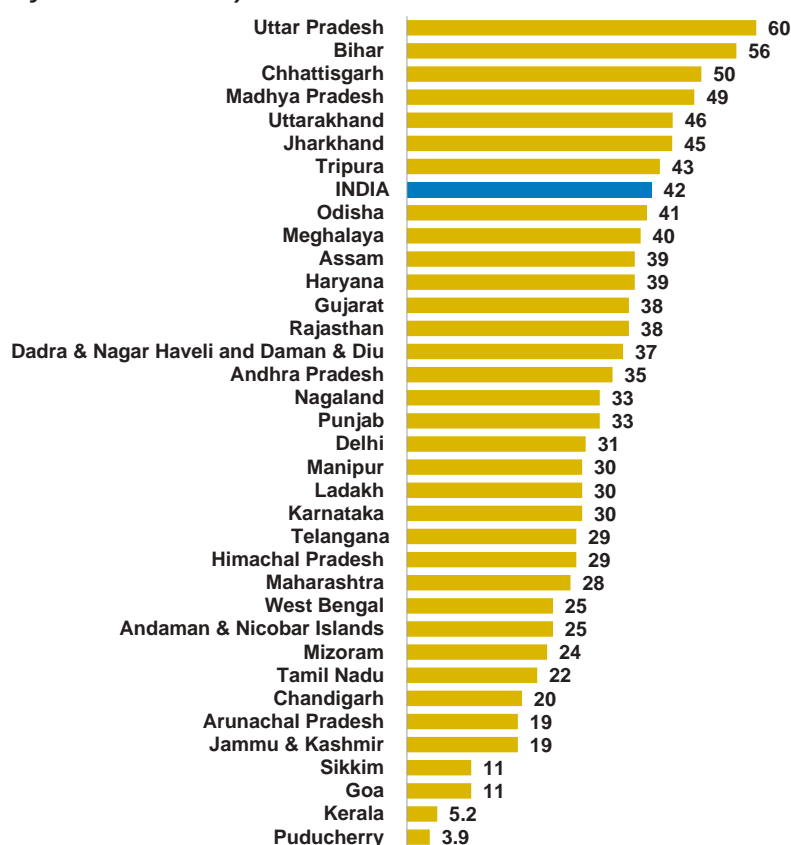
- The under-five mortality rate is higher in rural areas than in urban areas (46 deaths per 1,000 live births versus 32 deaths per 1,000 live births).
- The under-five mortality rate is highest in Uttar Pradesh (60 deaths per 1,000 live births) and lowest in Kerala and Puducherry (5 and 4 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively) (Figure 7.2).
- The under-five mortality rate declines with an increase in mother's schooling (Table 7.2).
- The under-five mortality rate for scheduled tribes (50 deaths per 1,000 live births), scheduled castes (49 deaths per 1,000 live births), and other backward classes (41 deaths per 1,000 live births) are considerably higher than for

those who are not from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, or other backward classes (33 deaths per 1,000 live births).

- The under-five mortality rate also declines with increasing household wealth. The under-five mortality rate declined from 59 deaths per 1,000 live births in the lowest wealth quintile to 20 deaths per 1,000 live births in the highest wealth quintile.

**Figure 7.2 Under-five Mortality Rate by State/UT**

*Deaths per 1,000 live births for the five-year period before the survey*



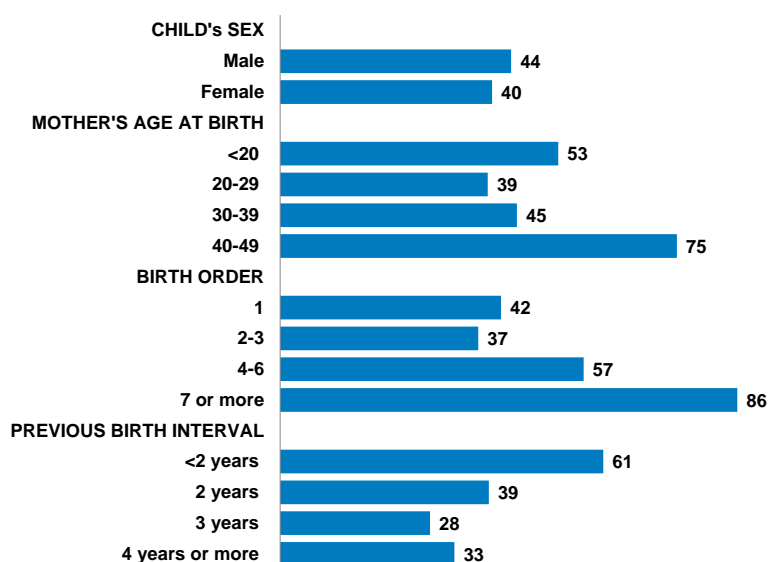
## 7.2 BIODEMOGRAPHIC RISK FACTORS

Researchers have identified multiple risk factors for infant and child mortality based on the characteristics of the mother and child and the circumstances of the birth. **Table 7.3** and **Figure 7.3** illustrate the relationship between these risk factors and neonatal, infant, and under-five mortality.

- Boys are slightly more likely to die before their fifth birthday than girls. The gender gap is most pronounced in the neonatal period (within one month after birth).
- Shorter birth intervals are associated with higher under-five mortality. The under-five mortality rate for children born less than 2 years after the preceding birth is more than twice as high as that for children born 3 years after their preceding sibling.
- Children reported to be very small at the time of birth are more than four times as likely to die during the first month of life as children reported to be average size or larger (96 deaths per 1,000 live births versus 20 deaths per 1,000 live births).
- Children of birth order seven or more are more than twice as likely to die in the first five years of life than children of the first birth order (**Figure 7.3**).

### Figure 7.3 High-risk Births Have Higher Mortality Rates

Deaths in the first five years of life per 1,000 live births



## 7.3 PERINATAL MORTALITY

### Perinatal mortality rate

Perinatal deaths comprise stillbirths (pregnancy loss that occurs after seven months of gestation) and early neonatal deaths (deaths of live births within the first seven days of life). The perinatal mortality rate is calculated as the number of perinatal deaths per 1,000 pregnancies of seven or more months' duration.

**Sample:** Number of pregnancies of seven or more months' duration to women age 15-49 in the five years before the survey.

The causes of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths are closely linked, and it can be difficult to determine whether a death is one or the other. The perinatal mortality rate encompasses both stillbirths and early neonatal deaths, and it offers a better measure of the level of mortality and quality of service around delivery. During the five years before the survey, the perinatal mortality rate was 32 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies (**Table 7.5**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The perinatal mortality rate is higher in rural areas than in urban areas (34 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies versus 25 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies).
- The perinatal mortality rate is highest in Uttar Pradesh (44 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies), followed by Bihar (43 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies), and is lowest in Goa (2 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies).
- The perinatal mortality rate is twice as high among pregnancies to women in which the previous pregnancy interval was less than 15 months (50 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies) than those with an interval of 27 or more months.
- The perinatal mortality rate declines with an increase in the mother's schooling.
- The perinatal mortality rate also declines with higher household wealth. The perinatal mortality rate is 41 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies in the lowest wealth quintiles and 17 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies in the highest wealth quintile.

- **High-Risk Fertility Behaviour**

**High-risk fertility**

A birth is classified as high risk if it has one or more of the following characteristics: (i) mother's age is less than 18 years, (ii) mother's age is more than 34 years, (iii) previous birth interval in less than two years, and (iv) birth order is more than three.

**Sample:** Births in the 5 years preceding the survey.

- Twenty-nine percent of births in the last five years are in an avoidable risk category.
- Births which are in any avoidable high-risk category have almost twice the risk of dying as births that are not in any high-risk category.
- Five percent of the births and 13 percent of currently married women are in a multiple high-risk category.

## LIST OF TABLES

For more information on infant and child mortality, see the following tables:

Tables	
Table 7.1	Early childhood mortality rates
Table 7.2	Early childhood mortality rates by background characteristics
Table 7.3	Early childhood mortality rates by demographic characteristics
Table 7.4	Early childhood mortality rates by state/union territory
Table 7.5	Perinatal mortality
Table 7.6	Perinatal mortality by state/union territory
Table 7.7	High-risk fertility behaviour

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Table 7.1 Early childhood mortality rates

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for 5-year periods preceding the survey by residence, India, 2019-21

Years preceding the survey	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality (1Q0)	Child mortality (4Q1)	Under-five mortality (5Q0)
URBAN					
0-4	18.0	8.6	26.6	5.0	31.5
5-9	19.4	7.8	27.2	4.4	31.5
10-14	21.4	8.2	29.6	6.5	35.8
RURAL					
0-4	27.4	10.9	38.4	7.6	45.7
5-9	28.9	10.7	39.5	7.7	46.9
10-14	32.3	13.0	45.3	11.0	55.8
TOTAL					
0-4	24.9	10.3	35.2	6.9	41.9
5-9	26.2	9.9	36.1	6.8	42.6
10-14	29.2	11.6	40.8	9.7	50.1

<sup>1</sup> Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates.

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Table 7.2 Early childhood mortality rates by background characteristics

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics and residence, India, 2019-21, and for 0-4 years before NFHS-4, NFHS-3, NFHS-2, and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality (1q0)	Child mortality (4q1)	Under-five mortality (5q0)
<b>URBAN</b>					
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	27.8	14.9	42.7	10.0	52.3
<5 years complete	27.6	6.7	34.2	5.3	39.3
5-7 years complete	21.9	11.4	33.3	6.5	39.6
8-9 years complete	19.5	9.4	28.9	6.9	35.5
10-11 years complete	17.9	10.1	28.0	2.8	30.7
12 or more years complete	12.7	5.2	18.0	2.6	20.5
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	18.4	8.5	26.9	4.9	31.7
Muslim	18.7	9.0	27.8	5.2	32.8
Christian	7.0	5.7	12.6	1.1	13.7
Sikh	7.0	12.6	19.6	5.6	25.1
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	(13.7)	(2.5)	(16.2)	(19.9)	(35.8)
Other	(16.2)	8.5)	(24.6)	(2.8)	(27.4)
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	22.0	10.2	32.2	7.1	39.0
Scheduled tribe	21.8	10.3	32.1	3.5	35.5
Other backward class	17.4	8.0	25.5	4.5	29.9
Other	14.5	7.5	21.9	4.4	26.3
Don't know	(42.7)	(24.5)	(67.2)	(11.8)	(78.2)
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	39.2	13.8	53.1	10.9	63.4
Second	25.4	9.4	34.8	9.1	43.6
Middle	22.3	12.1	34.5	5.9	40.2
Fourth	19.4	9.9	29.2	4.6	33.7
Highest	10.9	5.3	16.2	3.3	19.4
Total	18.0	8.6	26.6	5.0	31.5
NFHS-4	20.1	8.4	28.5	6.0	34.4
NFHS-3	28.5	13.0	41.5	10.6	51.7
NFHS-2	31.7	15.4	47.0	16.9	63.1
NFHS-1	34.1	22.0	56.1	19.6	74.6

Continued...



**Table 7.2 Early childhood mortality rates by background characteristics—Continued**

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics and residence, India, 2019-21, and for 0-4 years before NFHS-4, NFHS-3, NFHS-2, and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality (1Q0)	Child mortality (4Q1)	Under-five mortality (5Q0)
<b>RURAL</b>					
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	34.8	15.2	50.1	12.2	61.6
<5 years complete	30.7	12.4	43.1	7.9	50.6
5-7 years complete	28.9	12.3	41.3	6.9	47.9
8-9 years complete	29.1	10.4	39.5	6.0	45.3
10-11 years complete	22.8	7.6	30.4	4.9	35.2
12 or more years complete	18.3	6.6	24.8	3.3	28.1
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	27.9	11.0	38.9	7.9	46.6
Muslim	25.9	10.5	36.5	6.7	42.9
Christian	23.3	10.4	33.7	5.0	38.5
Sikh	23.1	8.8	31.9	4.3	36.1
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	19.0	5.5	24.6	5.9	30.3
Other	30.6	14.6	45.2	7.2	52.1
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	31.4	11.8	43.2	9.1	51.9
Scheduled tribe	29.7	13.2	42.9	9.8	52.2
Other backward class	26.8	10.5	37.3	7.4	44.4
Other	22.4	9.1	31.5	5.2	36.6
Don't know	30.7	12.0	42.6	3.6	46.1
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	33.5	14.2	47.7	11.6	58.8
Second	30.3	11.4	41.7	7.1	48.5
Middle	23.5	9.9	33.4	5.5	38.8
Fourth	20.3	7.6	27.9	4.2	31.9
Highest	14.8	3.9	18.7	2.9	21.5
Total	27.4	10.9	38.4	7.6	45.7
NFHS-4	33.1	12.4	45.5	10.7	55.8
NFHS-3	42.5	19.7	62.2	21.0	82.0
NFHS-2	46.7	26.6	73.3	32.8	103.7
NFHS-1	52.9	32.2	85.0	37.6	119.4

*Continued...*

**Table 7.2 Early childhood mortality rates by background characteristics—Continued**

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics and residence, India, 2019-21, and for 0-4 years before NFHS-4, NFHS-3, NFHS-2, and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality ( <sub>1</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> )	Child mortality ( <sub>4</sub> Q <sub>1</sub> )	Under-five mortality ( <sub>5</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> )
TOTAL					
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	33.8	15.2	49.0	11.8	60.3
<5 years complete	30.1	11.2	41.3	7.4	48.4
5-7 years complete	27.4	12.1	39.5	6.8	46.0
8-9 years complete	26.9	10.1	37.0	6.2	43.0
10-11 years complete	21.4	8.4	29.7	4.2	33.8
12 or more years complete	16.0	6.0	22.0	3.0	24.9
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	25.6	10.4	36.0	7.2	42.8
Muslim	23.3	10.0	33.3	6.1	39.2
Christian	18.6	9.1	27.7	3.9	31.5
Sikh	19.3	9.7	29.0	4.6	33.5
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	17.0	4.3	21.3	11.3	32.4
Other	29.1	14.0	43.0	6.7	49.4
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	29.2	11.4	40.7	8.6	48.9
Scheduled tribe	28.8	12.9	41.6	9.0	50.3
Other backward class	24.3	9.9	34.1	6.6	40.5
Other	19.5	8.5	28.0	4.9	32.8
Don't know	35.1	16.6	51.6	6.4	57.7
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	33.8	14.1	48.0	11.6	59.0
Second	29.8	11.1	40.9	7.3	48.0
Middle	23.2	10.4	33.7	5.6	39.1
Fourth	19.9	8.6	28.5	4.3	32.7
Highest	12.2	4.8	17.0	3.2	20.1
Total	24.9	10.3	35.2	6.9	41.9
NFHS-4	29.5	11.3	40.7	9.4	49.7
NFHS-3	39.0	18.0	57.0	18.4	74.3
NFHS-2	43.4	24.2	67.6	29.3	94.9
NFHS-1	48.6	29.9	78.5	33.4	109.3

Note: All estimates are for the 5 years preceding the survey (approximately 1988-1992 for NFHS-1, 1994-1998 for NFHS-2, 2001-2005 for NFHS-3, 2011-2015 for NFHS-4, and 2015-2019 for NFHS-5). Figures in parentheses are based on 250-499 unweighted person-years of exposure to the risk of death.

<sup>1</sup> Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

**Table 7.3 Early childhood mortality rates by demographic characteristics**

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by demographic characteristics and residence, India, 2019-21

Demographic characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality (1Q0)	Child mortality (4Q1)	Under-five mortality (5Q0)
<b>URBAN</b>					
<b>Child's sex</b>					
Male	19.5	8.9	28.3	5.4	33.5
Female	16.3	8.3	24.6	4.7	29.2
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>					
<20	24.3	11.9	36.2	8.0	43.9
20-29	17.2	9.2	26.3	4.2	30.5
30-39	17.3	4.2	21.5	6.1	27.5
40-49	(35.5)	(8.9)	(44.4)	(12.8)	*
<b>Birth order</b>					
1	19.8	8.1	28.0	4.1	31.9
2-3	14.6	9.0	23.7	4.5	28.0
4-6	26.8	8.3	35.1	10.6	45.3
7 or more	(54.2)	(8.7)	(62.9)	(45.6)	(105.7)
<b>Previous birth interval<sup>2</sup></b>					
<2 years	22.9	14.0	36.9	9.0	45.5
2 years	15.6	11.3	26.9	4.8	31.6
3 years	14.3	5.3	19.6	2.6	22.1
4 years or more	13.9	5.4	19.2	5.8	25.0
<b>Birth size</b>					
Very small	85.2	32.8	118.1	(1.2)	*
Small	30.7	16.0	46.6	4.0	(50.4)
Average or larger	13.8	7.2	21.0	7.0	27.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>31.5</b>

*Continued...*

**Table 7.3 Early childhood mortality rates by demographic characteristics—Continued**

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by demographic characteristics and residence, India, 2019-21

Demographic characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality ( <sub>1</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> )	Child mortality ( <sub>4</sub> Q <sub>1</sub> )	Under-five mortality ( <sub>5</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> )
RURAL					
<b>Child's sex</b>					
Male	29.7	11.1	40.7	6.9	47.3
Female	25.1	10.7	35.8	8.4	43.9
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>					
<20	36.0	11.5	47.5	7.4	54.6
20-29	25.1	10.5	35.6	7.0	42.4
30-39	30.9	12.7	43.5	10.3	53.4
40-49	39.4	13.4	52.8	28.8	80.1
<b>Birth order</b>					
1	31.2	9.3	40.6	5.5	45.8
2-3	22.7	10.6	33.3	7.8	40.8
4-6	32.7	16.0	48.7	11.8	59.9
7 or more	44.6	20.5	65.1	19.0	82.9
<b>Previous birth interval<sup>2</sup></b>					
<2 years	36.3	17.2	53.5	12.4	65.3
2 years	21.8	11.3	33.1	8.7	41.5
3 years	16.5	8.0	24.5	6.0	30.4
4 years or more	22.2	8.6	30.8	6.3	36.9
<b>Birth size</b>					
Very small	98.8	21.8	120.7	15.5	(134.3)
Small	33.5	13.8	47.3	7.9	54.8
Average or larger	22.6	10.1	32.7	8.6	41.0
Total	27.4	10.9	38.4	7.6	45.7

*Continued...*

**Table 7.3 Early childhood mortality rates by demographic characteristics—Continued**

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by demographic characteristics and residence, India, 2019-21

Demographic characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality ( <sub>1</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> )	Child mortality ( <sub>4</sub> Q <sub>1</sub> )	Under-five mortality ( <sub>5</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> )
TOTAL					
<b>Child's sex</b>					
Male	26.9	10.5	37.4	6.5	43.6
Female	22.7	10.1	32.8	7.4	40.0
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>					
<20	33.7	11.6	45.3	7.6	52.5
20-29	23.0	10.1	33.1	6.2	39.2
30-39	26.3	9.8	36.1	8.9	44.7
40-49	38.4	12.4	50.8	25.4	74.9
<b>Birth order</b>					
1	27.9	9.0	36.8	5.0	41.7
2-3	20.6	10.2	30.7	6.9	37.4
4-6	31.6	14.7	46.3	11.5	57.3
7 or more	45.9	18.9	64.8	23.0	86.3
<b>Previous birth interval<sup>2</sup></b>					
<2 years	33.5	16.5	49.9	11.6	61.0
2 years	20.5	11.3	31.8	7.8	39.4
3 years	16.0	7.4	23.3	5.1	28.3
4 years or more	19.4	7.6	27.0	6.1	32.9
<b>Birth size</b>					
Very small	95.7	24.4	120.1	12.0	(130.6)
Small	32.7	14.4	47.1	6.8	53.6
Average or larger	20.3	9.3	29.5	8.2	37.5
Total	24.9	10.3	35.2	6.9	41.9

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 250-499 unweighted person-years of exposure to the risk of death. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 250 unweighted person-years of exposure to the risk of death, and the rate is not shown.

<sup>1</sup> Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

<sup>2</sup> Excludes first-order births

Table 7.4 Early childhood mortality rates by state/union territory

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality <sup>1</sup> (PNN)	Infant mortality (1q0)	Child mortality (4q1)	Under-five mortality (5q0)
<b>India</b>	24.9	10.3	35.2	6.9	41.9
<b>North</b>					
Chandigarh	1.6	14.0	15.5	4.2	19.7
Delhi	17.4	7.0	24.5	6.3	30.6
Haryana	21.6	11.7	33.3	5.6	38.7
Himachal Pradesh	20.5	5.1	25.6	3.4	28.9
Jammu & Kashmir	9.8	6.5	16.3	2.3	18.5
Ladakh	11.4	8.6	20.0	9.7	29.5
Punjab	21.8	6.3	28.0	4.8	32.7
Rajasthan	20.2	10.0	30.2	7.5	37.5
Uttarakhand	32.4	6.7	39.1	6.7	45.5
<b>Central</b>					
Chhattisgarh	32.4	11.9	44.2	6.4	50.4
Madhya Pradesh	29.0	12.3	41.3	8.2	49.2
Uttar Pradesh	35.7	14.7	50.4	10.0	59.8
<b>East</b>					
Bihar	34.5	12.3	46.8	10.2	56.4
Jharkhand	28.2	9.7	37.9	7.9	45.4
Odisha	27.0	9.3	36.3	5.0	41.1
West Bengal	15.5	6.5	22.0	3.4	25.3
<b>Northeast</b>					
Arunachal Pradesh	7.7	5.2	12.9	6.0	18.8
Assam	22.5	9.5	31.9	7.4	39.1
Manipur	17.2	7.8	25.0	5.2	30.0
Meghalaya	19.8	12.5	32.3	8.0	40.0
Mizoram	11.4	9.9	21.3	2.8	24.0
Nagaland	10.2	13.2	23.4	9.8	33.0
Sikkim	5.0	6.2	11.2	0.0	11.2
Tripura	22.9	14.7	37.6	5.9	43.3
<b>West</b>					
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	21.4	10.4	31.8	5.3	37.0
Goa	5.6	0.0	5.6	5.0	10.6
Gujarat	21.8	9.4	31.2	6.6	37.6
Maharashtra	16.5	6.7	23.2	4.9	28.0
<b>South</b>					
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	12.3	8.3	20.6	4.0	24.5
Andhra Pradesh	19.9	10.3	30.2	5.1	35.2
Karnataka	15.8	9.6	25.4	4.2	29.5
Kerala	3.4	1.0	4.4	0.8	5.2
Puducherry	2.3	0.7	2.9	1.0	3.9
Tamil Nadu	12.7	6.0	18.6	3.7	22.3
Telangana	16.8	9.6	26.4	3.0	29.4

<sup>1</sup> Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

**Table 7.5 Perinatal mortality**

Number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths, and perinatal mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Number of stillbirths <sup>1</sup>	Number of early neonatal deaths <sup>2</sup>	Perinatal mortality rate <sup>3</sup>	Number of pregnancies of 7 or more months' duration
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>				
<20	413	816	42.3	29,044
20-29	1,819	3,166	29.4	169,324
30-39	433	657	34.5	31,566
40-49	25	46	48.2	1,470
<b>Previous pregnancy interval in months<sup>4</sup></b>				
First pregnancy	1,138	1,952	36.5	84,551
<15	191	500	50.4	13,737
15-26	527	928	30.4	47,910
27-38	315	529	23.5	35,962
39 or more	520	775	26.3	49,244
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	631	895	24.8	61,575
Rural	2,059	3,789	34.4	169,829
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	699	1,349	41.2	49,739
<5 years complete	143	267	36.8	11,124
5-7 years complete	377	735	33.3	33,377
8-9 years complete	530	957	34.6	42,935
10-11 years complete	333	555	28.8	30,829
12 or more years complete	609	821	22.6	63,401
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	2,169	3,812	32.5	183,772
Muslim	433	722	30.7	37,597
Christian	47	71	24.5	4,794
Sikh	23	44	23.3	2,876
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	12	13	22.8	1,101
Jain	1	1	5.3	328
Other	5	22	29.3	936
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	779	1,285	38.2	54,063
Scheduled tribe	261	526	34.0	23,181
Other backward class	1,079	2,019	30.8	100,539
Other	552	802	26.3	51,466
Don't know	18	53	33.0	2,154
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	770	1,571	41.1	56,979
Second	636	1,226	37.0	50,335
Middle	527	845	30.4	45,189
Fourth	481	702	27.8	42,611
Highest	275	341	17.0	36,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>4,684</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>231,404</b>

<sup>1</sup> Stillbirths are foetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months

<sup>2</sup> Early neonatal deaths are deaths at age 0-6 days among live-born children

<sup>3</sup> The sum of the number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths divided by the number of pregnancies of 7 or more months' duration, expressed per 1,000

<sup>4</sup> Categories correspond to birth intervals of <24 months, 24-35 months, 36-47 months, and 48 or over months

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**Table 7.6 Perinatal mortality by state/union territory**

Perinatal mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

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State/union territory	Perinatal mortality rate
<b>India</b>	31.9
<b>North</b>	
Chandigarh	19.1
Delhi	24.5
Haryana	30.4
Himachal Pradesh	26.8
Jammu & Kashmir	14.9
Ladakh	30.0
Punjab	26.2
Rajasthan	22.8
Uttarakhand	40.6
<b>Central</b>	
Chhattisgarh	38.7
Madhya Pradesh	34.1
Uttar Pradesh	43.9
<b>East</b>	
Bihar	43.0
Jharkhand	39.7
Odisha	35.5
West Bengal	27.5
<b>Northeast</b>	
Arunachal Pradesh	11.0
Assam	29.8
Manipur	20.5
Meghalaya	27.1
Mizoram	13.7
Nagaland	12.5
Sikkim	17.6
Tripura	32.9
<b>West</b>	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	20.0
Goa	2.4
Gujarat	25.2
Maharashtra	21.4
<b>South</b>	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	30.0
Andhra Pradesh	26.7
Karnataka	21.4
Kerala	6.2
Lakshadweep	3.6
Puducherry	3.7
Tamil Nadu	17.8
Telangana	23.1

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Note: The perinatal mortality rate is the sum of the number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths divided by the number of pregnancies of 7 or more months' duration, expressed per 1,000.

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**Table 7.7 High-risk fertility behaviour**

Percent distribution of children born in the 5 years preceding the survey by category of elevated risk of mortality and the risk ratio, and percent distribution of currently married women by category of risk if they were to conceive a child at the time of the survey, India, 2019-21

Risk category	Births in the 5 years preceding the survey		Percentage of currently married women <sup>1</sup>
	Percentage of births	Risk ratio	
Not in any high-risk category	34.2	1.00	55.8 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Unavoidable risk category</b>			
First order births between ages 18 and 34 years	36.6	1.38	7.9
<b>Single high-risk category</b>			
Mother's age <18	2.6	1.84	0.2
Mother's age >34	1.5	1.16	11.3
Birth interval <24 months	12.9	1.78	7.2
Birth order >3	6.9	1.56	4.7
Subtotal	24.0	1.68	23.4
<b>Multiple high-risk category</b>			
Mother's age <18 and birth interval <24 months <sup>2</sup>	0.2	2.14	0.0
Mother's age >34 and birth interval <24 months	0.1	2.69	0.2
Mother's age >34 and birth order >3	1.6	1.90	10.3
Mother's age >34 and birth interval <24 months and birth order >3	0.3	4.41	0.3
Birth interval <24 months and birth order >3	3.0	2.63	2.1
Subtotal	5.2	2.50	12.9
In any avoidable high-risk category	29.2	1.83	36.3
Total	100.0	na	100.0
Number of births	228,898	na	521,352

Note: Risk ratio is the ratio of the proportion dead among births in a specific high-risk category to the proportion dead among births not in any high-risk category.

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Women are assigned to risk categories according to the status they would have at the birth of a child if they were to conceive at the time of the survey: current age less than 17 years and 3 months or greater than 34 years and 2 months, latest birth less than 15 months ago, or latest birth of order 3 or higher.

<sup>2</sup> Includes the category mother's age <18 and birth order >3

<sup>a</sup> Includes sterilized women



### Key Findings

- **Antenatal care (ANC):** The proportion of women age 15-49 in India who received ANC has risen from 84 percent in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 94 percent in NFHS-5 (2019-2021), and 85 percent received ANC from a skilled provider in NFHS-5. Seventy percent of women had their first ANC visit during the first trimester and 59 percent had four or more ANC visits, an increase from 51 percent in 2015-16.
- **Components of antenatal care:** Pregnant women are more likely to have their weight measured (97%), their blood pressure measured (96%), and a blood sample taken (94%), than to take iron and folic acid (IFA) tablets for at least 100 days (44%) or to take an intestinal parasite drug (31%). A urine sample was taken for 94 percent of women and 67 percent of women had their abdomen examined.
- **Protection against neonatal tetanus:** Ninety-two percent of women's last live births were protected against neonatal tetanus.
- **Delivery:** Institutional deliveries have increased markedly from 39 percent in 2005-06 to 79 percent in 2015-16 and 89 percent in 2019-21.
- **C-sections:** The rate of C-section deliveries increased from 17 percent in 2015-16 to 22 percent in 2019-21. C-sections are particularly common in private sector health facilities (48% of deliveries).
- **Postnatal checks:** Eighty-two percent of newborns had a postnatal check within 2 days of birth. Seventy-three percent of newborns had their cord examined, while 76 percent had their temperature measured.

**H**ealth care services during pregnancy and childbirth and after delivery are important for the survival and well-being of both the mother and the infant. Antenatal care (ANC) can reduce the health risks for mothers and their babies by monitoring pregnancies and screening for complications. Delivery at a health facility, with skilled medical attention and hygienic conditions, reduces the risk of complications and infections during labour and delivery.

To improve the access to quality health care, especially for those residing in rural areas, the poor, women, and children, the government launched the National Rural Health Mission for the 2005-2012 period. One of the important goals of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was to provide access to improved health care at the household level through female Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), who act as an interface between the community and the public health system. The National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) was established as a Sub-mission of the over-arching National Health Mission (NHM) in 2013, with NRHM being the other Sub-mission of the National Health Mission.

At the same time, the RMNCH+A (reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health) approach was launched to address the major causes of mortality among women and children as well as the delays in accessing and utilizing health care and services. The RMNCH+A strategic approach was developed to provide an understanding of the ‘continuum of care’ to ensure an equal focus on various life stages.

This chapter presents information on ANC providers, the number and timing of ANC visits, and various components of maternal care. The chapter examines childbirth and postnatal care and presents information on the place of delivery, assistance during delivery, caesarean delivery, cost of delivery, and postnatal health checks for mothers and newborns.

## 8.1 PREGNANCY REGISTRATION

### 8.1.1 Registration of Pregnancies

Ninety-four percent of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years before the survey registered the pregnancy for their most recent birth. Pregnancy registration is 90 percent or more for all groups, except for women age 35-49, women with no schooling, and births of order four or more (**Table 8.1**).

### 8.1.2 Mother and Child Protection Card (MCP Card)

The Mother and Child Protection Card (MCP Card) is a tool for informing and educating mothers and families on different aspects of maternal and child care and linking maternal and childcare into a continuum of care through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The card also captures some of the key services delivered to mothers and babies during antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care for ensuring that the minimum package of services is delivered to the beneficiary. The card also serves as a tool for providing complete immunization to infants and children, early and exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and growth monitoring. Ninety-six percent of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years before the survey and registered their last pregnancy received an MCP Card for that birth (**Table 8.1**). Differentials by background characteristics are generally quite small.

## 8.2 ANTENATAL CARE COVERAGE AND CONTENT

### 8.2.1 Skilled Providers

#### **Antenatal care (ANC) from a skilled provider**

Pregnancy care received from skilled providers, that is, doctors, auxiliary nurse midwives (ANMs), nurses, midwives, and lady health visitors.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years before the survey

Eighty-five percent of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years before the survey received antenatal care from a skilled provider at least once for their last birth (**Table 8.3**). The majority of women received antenatal care from doctors (63%), followed by auxiliary nurse midwives (ANMs), nurses, midwives, and lady health visitors (LHVs) (23%). **Table 8.4** shows that use of a skilled provider for ANC is low in Bihar (68%) and Nagaland (70%), and high in Goa, Kerala, and Lakshadweep (98% or more).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Use of a skilled provider for ANC services is higher in urban areas than rural areas (92% and 83%, respectively).
- Use of a skilled provider for ANC services increases with rising education. Seventy-three percent of women with no schooling obtained ANC services from a skilled provider, compared with 92 percent of women with 12 or more years of schooling.

- Women in the highest wealth quintile are much more likely to receive ANC from a skilled provider (94%) than those in the lowest quintile (72%).
- Women in the younger ages (below 20 years) are more likely to receive ANC from a skilled provider than women in the older age group 35-49 years (84% versus 80%).
- Similarly, women with a first birth are more likely to receive ANC from a skilled provider than women with a birth of order 6 and above (89% versus 67%).

### 8.2.2 Timing and Number of ANC Visits

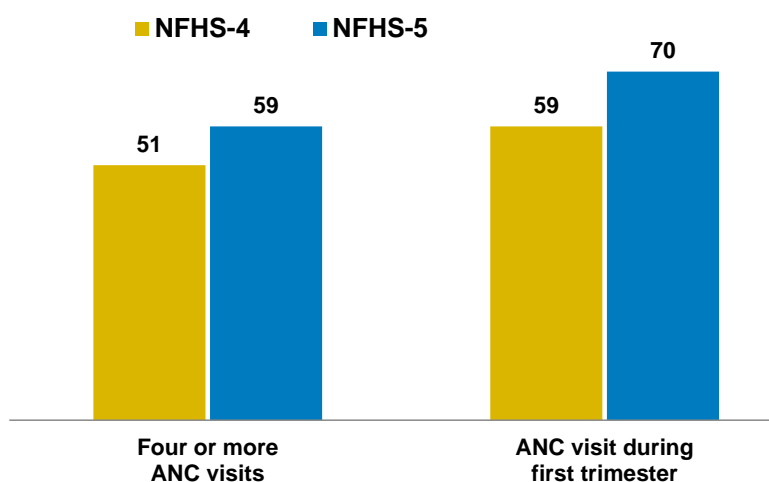
More than half (59%) of women had at least four ANC visits during their last pregnancy, as recommended by WHO (**Table 8.5**). Six percent of women had no ANC visits. Urban women are more likely to have four or more ANC visits than rural women (69% and 55%, respectively).

Seventy percent of women had their first ANC visit during the first trimester 17 percent of women had their first ANC visit during the fourth and fifth month of pregnancy, and 7 percent first received ANC in the sixth month or later. The median number of months pregnant at the time of the first visit for all women with at least one ANC visit is 3.5 months.

The proportion of women who had at least four ANC visits during their last pregnancy is lowest in Nagaland (21%) and Bihar (25%) and highest in Goa (93%), Lakshadweep (92%), and Tamil Nadu (91%) (**Table 8.11**). Further, in 254 among 707 districts in India, over 70 percent of mothers who had their last birth in the five years preceding the survey had at least four ANC visits. On the other hand, there are a few districts, especially in Bihar and some states in the Northeastern region, that have less than 30 percent of mothers who received at least four ANC visits (**Map 8.1**).

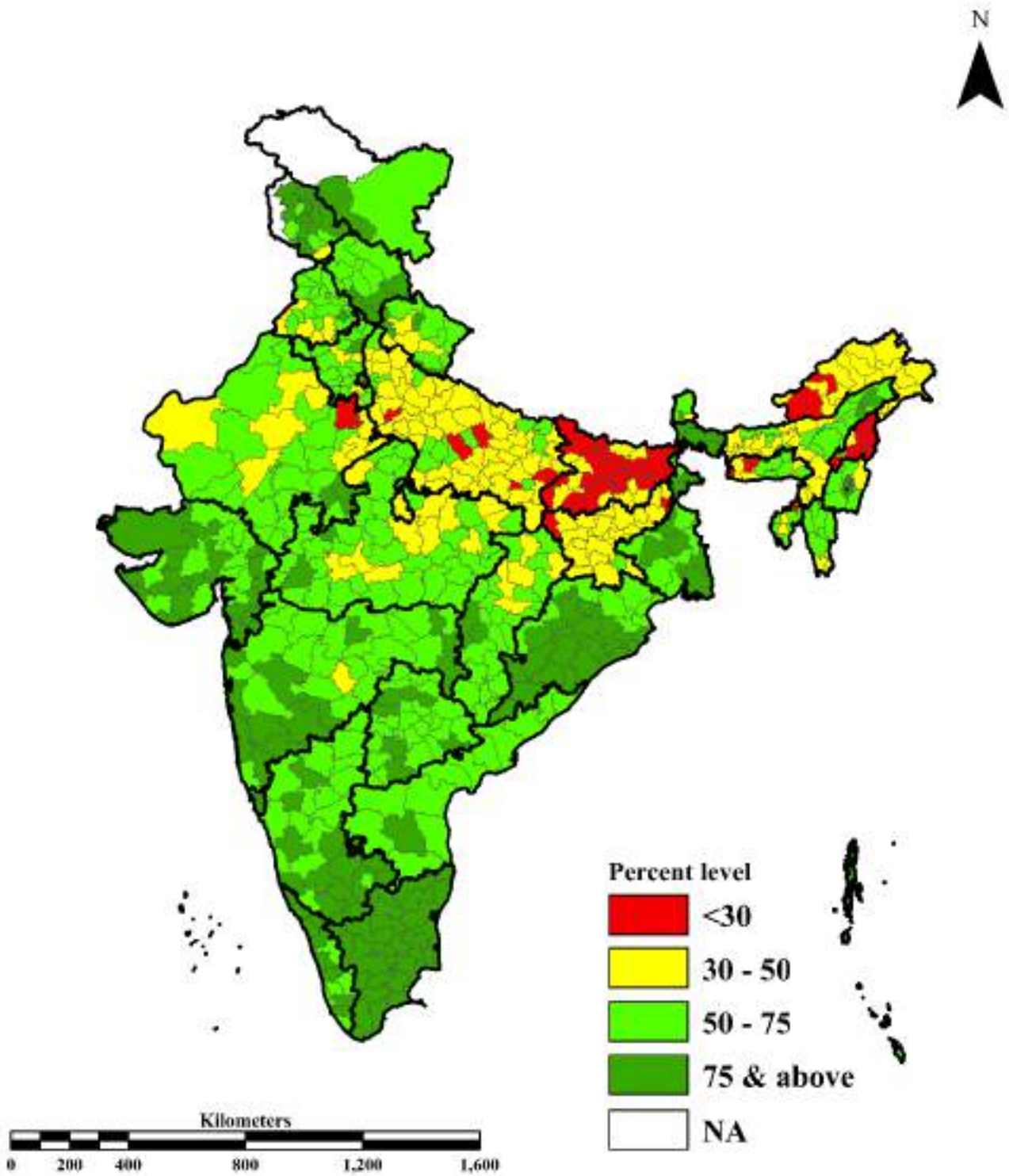
**Figure 8.1 Trends in Antenatal Coverage**

*Percentage of women age 15-49*



**Trends:** The proportion of women that received the recommended four or more ANC visits increased from 51 percent in 2015-16 to 59 percent in 2019-2021 (**Figure 8.1**). Over the same time period, the proportion of women who received ANC in the first trimester increased from 59 percent to 70 percent.

**Map 8.1: Mothers who had at least 4 antenatal care visits, NFHS-5, 2019-21**

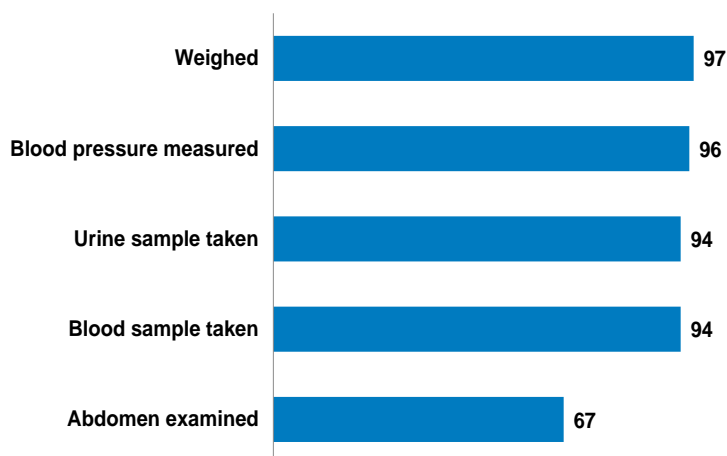


### 8.3 COMPONENTS OF ANC VISITS

In India, 67-97 percent of women who received ANC for their most recent live birth in the past five years had their weight measured, a blood sample taken, a urine sample taken, their abdomen examined, and their blood pressure measured (**Figure 8.2**). More than half of the women received information on specific pregnancy complications, namely convulsions (60%), vaginal bleeding (61%), prolonged labour (66%), high blood pressure (67%), and severe abdominal pain (68%). Four-fifths (80%) were told where they could go if they experienced pregnancy complications. Eighty-eight percent of women with a birth in the past five years were given or purchased iron and folic acid (IFA) tablets during the pregnancy for their most recent birth, but only 44 percent took the tablets for at least 100 days. Only 31 percent took an intestinal parasite drug during the pregnancy (**Table 8.7** and **Table 8.8**).

**Figure 8.2 Components of Antenatal Care**

*Among women who received ANC for their most recent birth, percentage who received selected services*



### 8.4 PROTECTION AGAINST NEONATAL TETANUS

#### Protection against neonatal tetanus

The number of tetanus toxoid injections needed to protect a baby from neonatal tetanus depends on the mother's vaccinations. A birth is protected against neonatal tetanus if the mother has received any of the following:

- Two tetanus toxoid injections during that pregnancy
- Two or more injections, the last one within three years of the birth
- Three or more injections, the last one within five years of the birth
- Four or more injections, the last one within ten years of the birth
- Five or more injections at any time prior to the birth

**Sample:** Last live births in the five years before the survey to women age 15-49

Neonatal tetanus, a major cause of early infant death in many developing countries, is often due to failure to observe hygienic procedures during delivery. **Table 8.7** shows that 92 percent of women's last births were protected against neonatal tetanus.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- More than 9 in 10 women less than age 35 had their last birth protected against neonatal tetanus, compared with 90 percent of older women age 35-49.
- The percentage of women whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus increases with education, from 89 percent among women with no schooling to 93 percent among those with 12 or more years of schooling.
- Similarly, the percentage of women whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus increases with wealth quintiles, from 90 percent among women in households in the lowest wealth quintile to 94 percent among those in the highest wealth quintile.

## 8.5 ULTRASOUND TESTING DURING PREGNANCY

Seventy-eight percent of mothers had an ultrasound test during their pregnancies in last 5 years (**Table 8.12**).

**Trends:** Between 2015-16 and 2019-21, the proportion of pregnancies with an ultrasound test increased from 61 percent to 78 percent.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Ultrasound tests are particularly common in urban areas, among women with 12 or more years of schooling, for Jain and Sikh women, and for women in households in the two highest wealth quintiles.
- Women with no sons are more likely than women with one or more sons to have an ultrasound test.
- Women with no sons who have an ultrasound test are much more likely to have the pregnancy end in the birth of a son than the birth of a daughter. For example, for women with no sons and three daughters who had an ultrasound test, 51 percent of their pregnancies resulted in the birth of a son and 37 percent resulted in the birth of a daughter. The results provide clear evidence of the existence and impact of son preference in India.

## 8.6 DELIVERY SERVICES

### 8.6.1 Institutional Deliveries

#### Institutional deliveries

Deliveries that occur in a health facility.

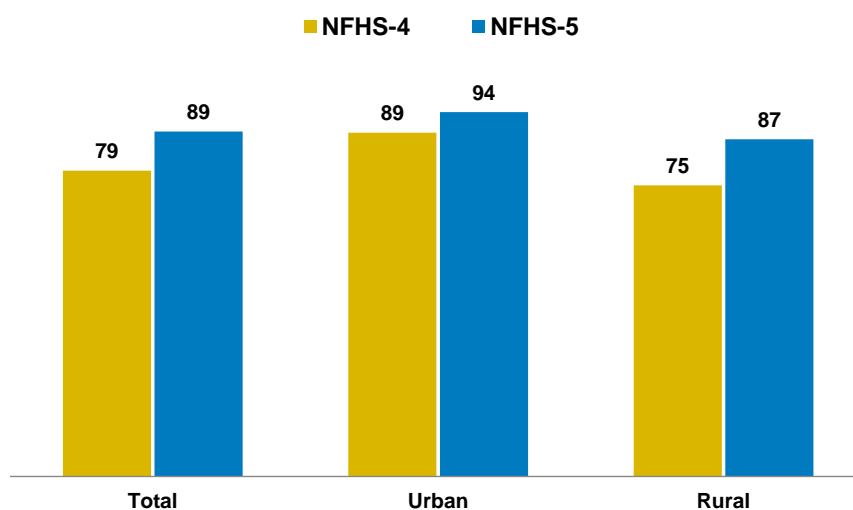
**Sample:** All live births in the five years before the survey

Increasing institutional deliveries is an important factor in reducing maternal and neonatal mortality. Eighty-nine percent of live births in the five years before the survey were delivered in a health facility (**Table 8.13**). The most common reason for not delivering in a health facility was that the woman did not think it was necessary (28%), but 19 percent said that the husband or family did not allow them to have the delivery in a health facility, 17 percent of women said that a health facility was too far or there was no transportation, and 15 percent said it costs too much (**Table 8.14**).

**Trends:** Institutional deliveries increased between 2015-16 and 2019-21, from 79 percent to 89 percent (**Figure 8.3**).

**Figure 8.3 Trends in Health Facility Births**

*Percentage of births in the five years before the survey*





## Patterns by background characteristics

- Higher-order births are much less likely to be institutional deliveries; only 64 percent of sixth or higher order births occurred at a health facility, compared with 94 percent of first births.

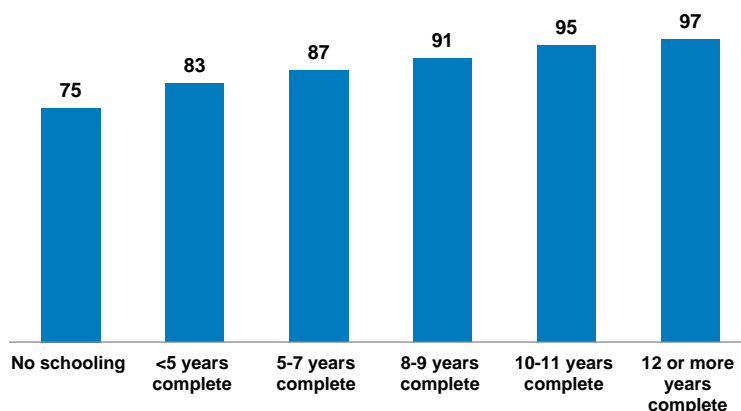
- Antenatal care increases the likelihood of an institutional delivery. Ninety-four percent of births to mothers who had four or more ANC visits were delivered in a health facility, compared with 70 percent of births to mothers who had no ANC visits.

- Ninety-four percent of births to urban women were delivered in a health facility, compared with 87 percent of births to rural women.

- The mother's educational status is highly correlated with the place of delivery. Ninety-seven percent of births to mothers with 12 or more year of schooling were delivered in a health facility, compared with 75 percent of births to mothers with no schooling (**Figure 8.4**).

**Figure 8.4 Health Facility Births by Schooling**

*Percentage of births in the five years before the survey*

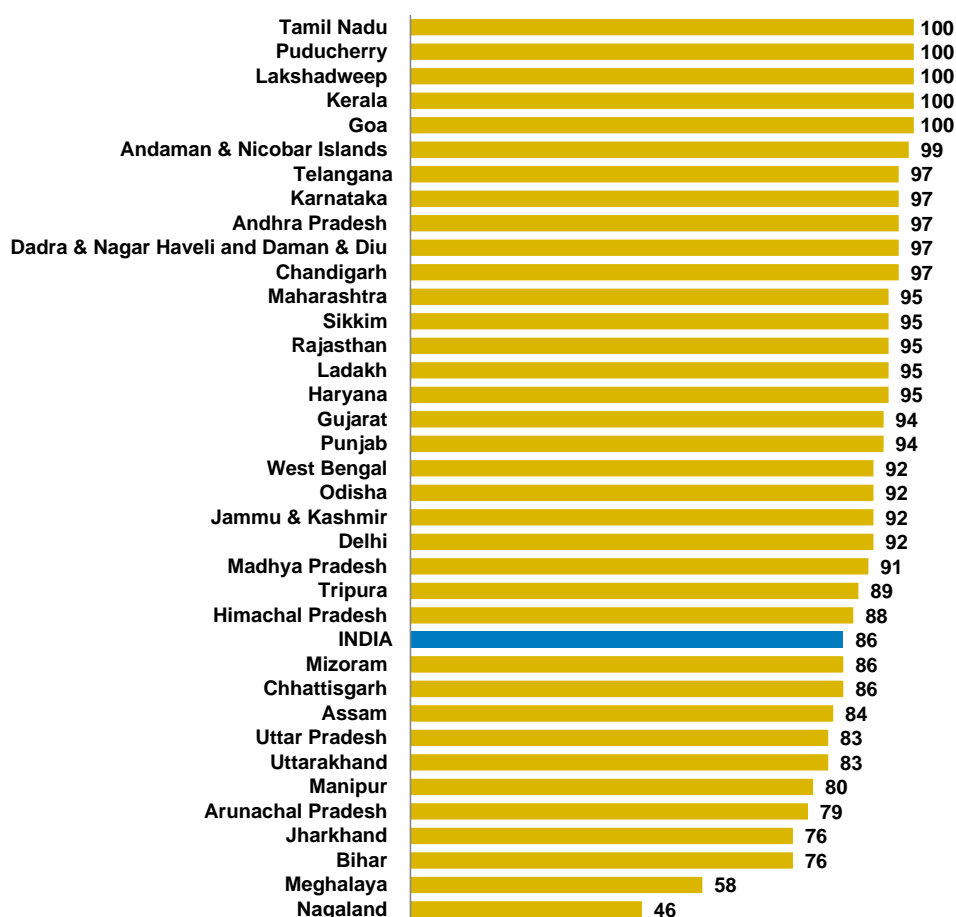


- Similarly, 97 percent of births to mothers in households in the highest wealth quintile were delivered in a health facility, compared with 76 percent of births to mothers in households in the lowest wealth quintile.

- Almost 100 percent of births in Puducherry, Goa, Kerala, Lakshadweep, and Tamil Nadu were delivered in a health facility. Ninety-five percent of births or more were delivered in health facilities in 16 states and union territories. At the other end of the spectrum, less than half (46%) of the births in Nagaland and 58 percent of the births in Meghalaya were delivered in health facilities (**Figure 8.5**).

## Figure 8.5 Health Facility Births by State/UT

Percentage of live births in the five years before the survey



### 8.6.2 Skilled Assistance during Delivery

#### Skilled assistance during delivery

Births delivered with the assistance of doctors, auxiliary nurse midwives, nurses, midwives, and lady health visitors.

**Sample:** All live births in the five years before the survey

Assistance during childbirth can influence the birth outcome and the health of the mother and the newborn. A skilled attendant can manage complications of pregnancy and delivery or refer the mother and/or the baby to the next level of care. In the five years before the survey, almost 9 in 10 live births (89%) were delivered by a skilled provider (**Table 8.19**). The majority of births were attended by doctors (62%), followed by ANMs, nurses, midwives, and LHV's (27%), and *dais* (TBAs) (6%) (**Figure 8.6**).

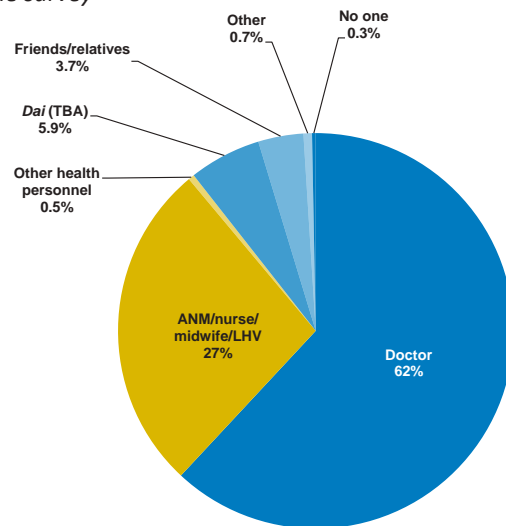
**Trends:** Skilled assistance during deliveries in India has increased substantially; the proportion of births assisted by a skilled provider increased from 81 percent in 2015-16 to 89 percent in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Ninety-five percent of births to mothers who had four or more ANC visits were delivered by a skilled attendant, compared with 72 percent of births to mothers with no ANC visits.
- Only 28 percent of births that took place at the woman’s own home were delivered by a skilled provider.
- Births to women in urban areas (94%) are more likely to be delivered by a skilled provider than births to women in rural areas (88%).
- The mothers’ educational status is highly correlated with skilled delivery. Ninety-six percent of births to mothers with 12 or more years of schooling were delivered by a skilled attendant, compared with 78 percent of births to mothers with no schooling.
- Skilled birth attendance increases from 79 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile to 97 percent of women in the highest wealth quintile (**Figure 8.7**).

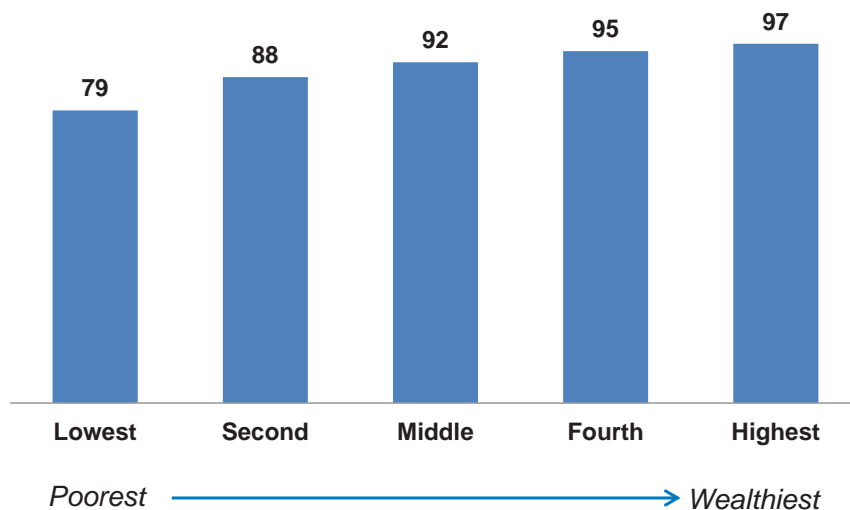
**Figure 8.6 Assistance during Delivery**

Percent distribution of births in the five years before the survey



**Figure 8.7 Skilled Assistance at Delivery by Household Wealth**

Percentage of live births in the five years before the survey



### 8.6.3 Delivery by Caesarean Section

Access to caesarean section (C-section) can reduce maternal and neonatal mortality and complications such as obstetric fistula. However, a caesarean section without a medical need can put a woman at risk of short and long-term health problems. WHO advises that caesarean sections should only be done when medically necessary, and does not recommend a target rate for countries to achieve at the population level.

The 2019-21 NFHS found that 22 percent of live births in the five years before the survey were delivered by caesarean section. Nine percent of the C-sections were decided on after the onset of labour pains, compared with 12 percent that were decided on before the onset of labour pains (**Table 8.19**).

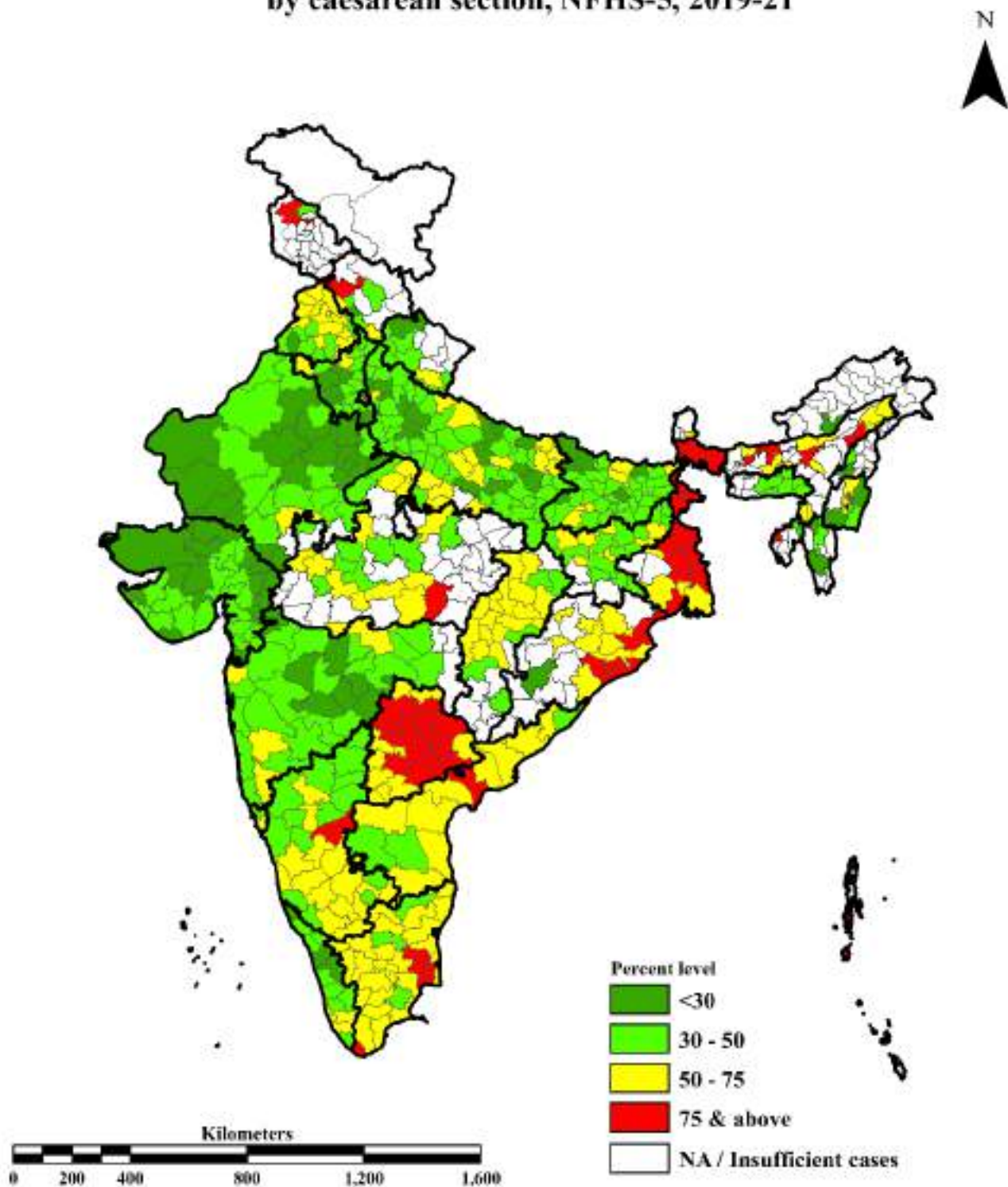
**Trends:** Since 2015-16, the rate of C-sections has increased, from 17 percent to 22 percent in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Caesarean deliveries are more common among first births (28%) than higher-order births (ranging from 4% to 20%).
- C-sections are particularly common in private sector health facilities (48% of deliveries), an increase from 41 percent in 2015-16.
- The caesarean delivery rate is higher in urban than rural areas (32% against 18%).
- More educated women are much more likely to undergo caesarean deliveries. The caesarean rate for deliveries for women with 12 or more years of schooling is 35 percent, compared with 27 percent for women with 10-11 years of schooling, 19 percent for women with 8-9 years of schooling, and 8 percent for women with no schooling.

There is strong positive relationship between wealth quintiles and delivery by C-section. Mothers in households in the highest wealth quintile are much more likely to deliver through C-section (39%) than mothers in households in the lowest wealth quintile (7%) (**Table 8.19**). It is noticeable that a majority of districts in India have over 30 percent of births delivered in private health facilities that were conducted through C-section (**Map 8.2**).

**Map 8.2: Births in a private health facility that were delivered by caesarean section, NFHS-5, 2019-21**



## 8.7 DELIVERY COSTS

The average out-of-pocket cost paid for delivery for the most recent live birth among women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey that was delivered in a health facility was Rs. 10,035 (Table 8.20). The average cost was almost eight times as high in private health facilities (Rs. 24,663) as in public health facilities (Rs. 3,245).

## 8.8 POSTNATAL CARE

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the five years before the survey with their most recent live birth in a health facility, 90 percent of women delivering through C-section in a private health facility stayed for 3 or more days after the delivery. Eighty-eight percent of women delivering through C-section in a health facility stayed for 3 or more days after the delivery (**Table 8.21**).

### 8.8.1 Postnatal Health Check for Mothers

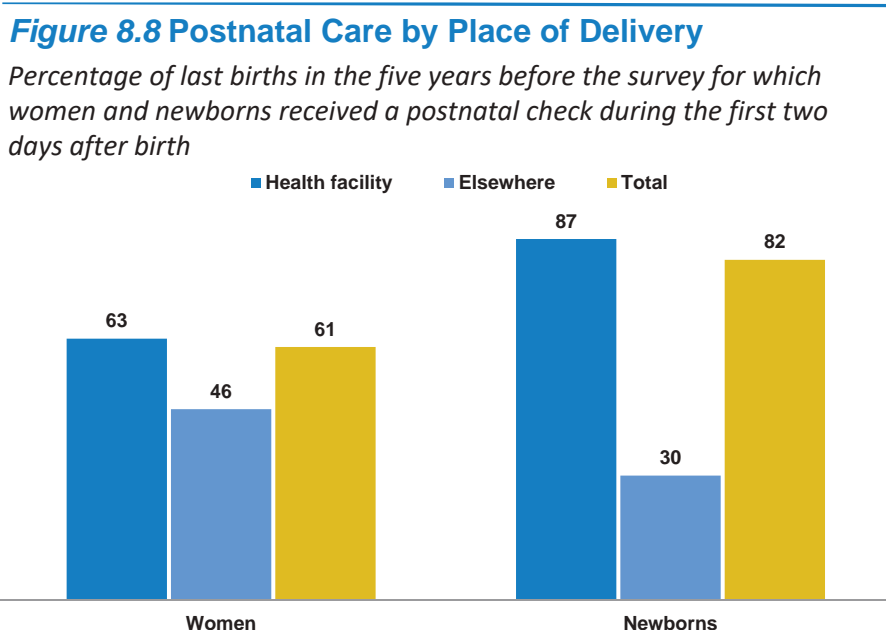
A large proportion of maternal and neonatal deaths occur during the first 24 hours after delivery. For both the mother and the infant, prompt postnatal care is important to treat complications that arise from delivery and to provide the mother with important information on caring for herself and her baby. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) recommends that all women who deliver in a health facility receive a postnatal health check within the first 24 hours after delivery and that women giving birth outside of a health facility should be referred to a health facility for a postnatal check within 12 hours after giving birth.

The 2019-21 NFHS found that among women age 15-49 giving birth in the five years before the survey, 61 percent had a postnatal check during the first two days after birth. Sixteen percent of mothers did not receive any postnatal checks (**Table 8.22**).

**Trends:** The proportion of mothers who received a postnatal check in the first two days after birth decreased from 65 percent to 61 percent between 2015-16 and 2019-21.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women who delivered in a health facility were more likely to receive a postnatal health check within two days of delivery than those who delivered elsewhere (**Figure 8.8**).
- Sixty-two percent of urban women and 61 percent of rural women received a postnatal check within two days.



- Women with 12 or more years of schooling (62%) are more likely than women with no schooling (59%) to have a postnatal check within two days.

- Women from the wealthiest households (63%) are more likely to receive a postnatal check within two days than women from the lowest wealth quintile (58%).
- Mothers were most likely to receive a postnatal check within two days of delivery in Goa (95%), Puducherry, Lakshadweep, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Haryana, and Kerala (93% each), and least likely to receive a postnatal check within two days in Nagaland (48%), Meghalaya (56%), Arunachal Pradesh (59%), and Bihar (64%).

The skills of the provider are an important factor in determining the provider's ability to diagnose problems and recommend appropriate treatment or referral. In India, less than half (43%) of the women received their first postnatal check from a doctor; 26 percent received a postnatal check from an ANM, nurse, midwife, or LHV, and 12 percent from an ASHA. Only 2 percent of women received a check from a *dai* (TBA) (**Table 8.23**).

### 8.8.2 Postnatal Health Checks for Newborns

The first 48 hours of life are a critical phase in the lives of newborn babies and a period in which many neonatal deaths occur. Lack of postnatal health checks during this period can delay the identification of newborn complications and the initiation of appropriate care and treatment.

In India, 82 percent of newborns in the last five years had a first postnatal check within the first 2 days after birth (**Table 8.24**). Fourteen percent of newborns did not receive any postnatal health check.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Newborns delivered in a health facility were substantially more likely to receive a postnatal health check within two days of birth than those delivered elsewhere, particularly at their own home/parent's home.
- There is a substantial variation in the proportion of newborns with a postnatal check in the first 2 days after birth by the mother's level of education. Eighty-eight percent of babies born to mothers with 12 or more years of schooling received a postnatal check within two days, compared with 77 percent of babies born to mothers with less than 5 years of schooling and 69 percent of babies born to mothers with no schooling.

Fifteen percent of newborns received their first postnatal check from a doctor, while 11 percent received their first postnatal check from an ANM, nurse, midwife, or LHV (**Table 8.25**).

Seventy-three percent of newborns had their cord examined, while 76 percent had their temperature measured. Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey, 73 percent were counselled on the danger signs for newborns, 81 percent were counselled on breastfeeding, while 77 percent were observed breastfeeding the baby (**Table 8.26**).

A summary of symptoms of postpartum complications for all pregnancies in the five years before the survey is presented in **Table 8.27**.

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**Table 8.1 Pregnancy registration and Mother and Child Protection Card**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who registered the pregnancy for the most recent live birth; and among registered pregnancies, percent distribution by the timing of the registration and percentage who received a Mother and Child Protection Card (MCP Card), by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of pregnancies that were registered	Number of pregnancies	Timing of pregnancy registration			Total	Percentage of mother's given an MCP card	Number of registered pregnancies
			First trimester	Later	Don't know			
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>								
<20	94.8	17,680	85.2	14.4	0.3	100.0	96.4	16,757
20-34	94.0	150,036	85.4	14.3	0.4	100.0	96.0	140,959
35-49	89.7	7,231	81.4	18.3	0.4	100.0	93.6	6,489
<b>Birth order</b>								
1	95.1	60,681	87.4	12.2	0.4	100.0	96.5	57,679
2-3	94.3	91,908	85.3	14.3	0.4	100.0	96.0	86,689
4 or more	88.7	22,358	78.1	21.5	0.4	100.0	94.1	19,837
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	93.6	49,341	87.2	12.4	0.4	100.0	94.9	46,203
Rural	93.9	125,606	84.4	15.2	0.3	100.0	96.3	118,002
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	89.4	34,350	79.3	20.3	0.4	100.0	94.6	30,704
<5 years complete	94.0	8,191	82.8	16.9	0.3	100.0	96.2	7,703
5-7 years complete	94.7	24,483	84.2	15.5	0.3	100.0	96.7	23,182
8-9 years complete	95.5	32,277	85.8	13.9	0.3	100.0	96.6	30,840
10-11 years complete	95.8	23,982	87.7	12.0	0.3	100.0	96.7	22,969
12 or more years complete	94.5	51,664	88.2	11.3	0.5	100.0	95.5	48,806
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	94.2	139,207	85.0	14.7	0.4	100.0	96.1	131,090
Muslim	92.4	27,843	85.5	14.2	0.3	100.0	95.2	25,739
Christian	93.3	3,689	84.6	14.5	0.9	100.0	94.9	3,443
Sikh	93.2	2,324	92.2	7.0	0.8	100.0	96.9	2,165
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	95.2	887	93.4	6.4	0.2	100.0	97.0	845
Jain	93.7	272	93.0	6.8	0.3	100.0	98.2	255
Other	92.3	724	85.0	14.6	0.4	100.0	93.8	668
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	93.8	39,627	84.6	15.1	0.3	100.0	96.5	37,169
Scheduled tribe	94.3	17,291	85.6	14.0	0.3	100.0	96.2	16,304
Other backward class	93.8	75,232	84.3	15.3	0.4	100.0	95.7	70,557
Other	93.9	41,236	87.3	12.4	0.4	100.0	95.6	38,732
Don't know	92.5	1,560	84.9	14.8	0.3	100.0	94.7	1,444
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	90.6	39,839	79.8	19.8	0.4	100.0	95.1	36,096
Second	94.2	36,811	83.2	16.4	0.4	100.0	96.4	34,679
Middle	95.6	34,249	86.3	13.4	0.3	100.0	96.8	32,742
Fourth	95.6	33,650	88.1	11.5	0.3	100.0	96.5	32,184
Highest	93.8	30,398	89.8	9.7	0.4	100.0	94.7	28,505
<b>Total</b>	<b>93.9</b>	<b>174,947</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>164,205</b>

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**Table 8.2 Health problems during pregnancy**

Among women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percentage who experienced specific health problems during pregnancy for the most recent live birth, by residence, India, 2019-21

Problem during pregnancy	Urban	Rural	Total
Difficulty with vision during daylight	8.1	10.3	9.7
Convulsions not from fever	12.7	16.3	15.3
Swelling of the legs, body, or face	35.1	30.2	31.5
Number of women	49,341	125,606	174,947

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**Table 8.3 Antenatal care**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by antenatal care (ANC) provider during pregnancy for the most recent live birth and percentage receiving ANC from a skilled provider, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Dai/ TBA	Anganwadi/ ICDS worker	Community/ village health worker	ASHA	Other	No ANC	Total	Percentage receiving ANC from a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Number of women
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>											
<20	63.3	20.7	0.3	4.4	0.1	4.5	0.2	6.6	100.0	83.9	17,680
20-34	62.8	22.7	0.3	4.4	0.1	3.7	0.1	5.9	100.0	85.5	150,036
35-49	56.8	23.2	0.7	4.7	0.2	4.2	0.1	10.1	100.0	80.0	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>											
1	69.7	19.3	0.2	3.2	0.1	3.1	0.1	4.2	100.0	89.0	60,681
2-3	62.8	22.5	0.3	4.4	0.2	3.8	0.1	5.9	100.0	85.4	91,908
4-5	44.5	30.3	0.7	7.4	0.2	5.5	0.1	11.2	100.0	74.8	17,962
6 or more	33.7	33.5	1.1	8.1	0.2	5.7	0.2	17.4	100.0	67.2	4,396
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	76.0	15.5	0.2	2.3	0.1	1.4	0.2	4.3	100.0	91.5	49,341
Rural	57.3	25.2	0.4	5.2	0.2	4.7	0.1	6.9	100.0	82.6	125,606
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	43.0	29.7	0.9	7.7	0.2	5.8	0.1	12.7	100.0	72.7	34,350
<5 years complete	56.9	24.1	0.4	5.2	0.2	4.9	0.1	8.2	100.0	81.0	8,191
5-7 years complete	59.3	24.2	0.4	5.1	0.2	4.3	0.1	6.4	100.0	83.4	24,483
8-9 years complete	61.3	24.5	0.3	4.6	0.2	3.9	0.1	5.1	100.0	85.9	32,277
10-11 years complete	71.2	18.7	0.1	3.0	0.1	3.1	0.1	3.7	100.0	89.9	23,982
12 or more years complete	75.0	17.1	0.1	2.3	0.1	2.2	0.1	3.1	100.0	92.1	51,664
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	62.3	23.0	0.3	4.7	0.1	3.6	0.1	5.8	100.0	85.3	139,207
Muslim	63.1	20.4	0.5	3.4	0.1	4.9	0.1	7.5	100.0	83.5	27,843
Christian	76.1	12.8	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.9	0.1	6.6	100.0	88.9	3,689
Sikh	54.4	31.2	0.4	2.8	0.2	5.7	0.3	5.2	100.0	85.6	2,324
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	73.9	14.3	0.3	1.4	0.2	1.9	0.0	8.1	100.0	88.1	887
Jain	88.6	7.2	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.6	0.3	2.6	100.0	95.7	272
Other	43.0	32.4	0.6	9.8	0.2	3.9	0.5	9.6	100.0	75.4	724
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	58.2	24.7	0.4	5.0	0.2	4.6	0.2	6.7	100.0	83.0	39,627
Scheduled tribe	55.2	26.6	0.5	6.9	0.2	3.2	0.1	7.3	100.0	81.8	17,291
Other backward class	62.5	23.0	0.3	4.6	0.1	3.3	0.1	6.1	100.0	85.5	75,232
Other	70.2	17.7	0.3	2.6	0.1	4.0	0.1	5.0	100.0	87.9	41,236
Don't know	62.1	19.1	0.1	3.9	0.1	4.6	0.2	9.9	100.0	81.3	1,560
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	42.0	30.2	0.7	7.9	0.3	6.8	0.1	12.0	100.0	72.2	39,839
Second	55.9	26.8	0.5	5.0	0.1	4.9	0.1	6.7	100.0	82.7	36,811
Middle	67.4	21.3	0.2	3.6	0.2	3.0	0.1	4.2	100.0	88.7	34,249
Fourth	74.2	17.4	0.2	2.7	0.1	1.9	0.1	3.4	100.0	91.6	33,650
Highest	79.6	14.1	0.1	1.8	0.1	1.4	0.1	2.9	100.0	93.7	30,398
Total	62.6	22.5	0.4	4.4	0.1	3.8	0.1	6.1	100.0	85.1	174,947

Note: If more than one source of ANC was mentioned, only the provider with the highest qualification is considered in this table.

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant; ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services; ASHA = Accredited Social Health Activist

<sup>1</sup> Skilled provider includes doctor, auxiliary nurse midwife, nurse, midwife, and lady health visitor

**Table 8.4 Antenatal care by state/union territory**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by antenatal care (ANC) provider during pregnancy for the most recent live birth and percentage receiving ANC from a skilled provider, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Dai/ TBA	Anganwadi/ ICDS worker	Community/ village health worker	ASHA	Other	No ANC	Total	Percentage receiving ANC from a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>
<b>India</b>	62.6	22.5	0.4	4.4	0.1	3.8	0.1	6.1	100.0	85.1
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	63.1	31.8	1.8	0.7	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	94.9
Delhi	74.1	12.6	0.3	3.6	0.2	1.7	0.6	6.9	100.0	86.7
Haryana	62.8	24.4	0.3	6.2	0.1	3.8	0.1	2.3	100.0	87.1
Himachal Pradesh	69.6	15.6	1.6	0.9	0.1	1.4	0.3	10.5	100.0	85.3
Jammu & Kashmir	86.1	8.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.3	0.0	4.1	100.0	94.2
Ladakh	78.3	13.3	0.5	0.5	0.0	1.9	0.0	5.5	100.0	91.6
Punjab	52.2	33.6	0.5	2.0	0.1	5.9	0.3	5.3	100.0	85.9
Rajasthan	61.7	27.4	0.4	3.5	0.0	1.3	0.1	5.7	100.0	89.1
Uttarakhand	66.7	20.5	0.5	2.6	0.0	2.0	0.0	7.6	100.0	87.2
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	40.7	44.8	0.7	7.3	0.1	1.5	0.1	4.8	100.0	85.4
Madhya Pradesh	36.3	44.1	0.4	11.1	0.1	3.2	0.2	4.6	100.0	80.4
Uttar Pradesh	47.8	33.7	0.7	5.3	0.1	7.0	0.1	5.3	100.0	81.5
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	38.7	29.0	0.5	9.2	0.3	4.3	0.1	17.9	100.0	67.7
Jharkhand	42.9	36.4	0.6	10.2	0.2	1.7	0.0	8.1	100.0	79.2
Odisha	82.1	8.1	0.0	5.7	0.0	2.5	0.1	1.3	100.0	90.2
West Bengal	70.7	13.4	0.2	1.1	0.2	8.5	0.2	5.6	100.0	84.1
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	59.4	16.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	2.8	1.0	19.4	100.0	76.1
Assam	59.7	25.4	0.5	0.9	0.2	8.9	0.1	4.3	100.0	85.1
Manipur	91.0	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.2	7.0	100.0	92.2
Meghalaya	61.9	21.8	0.6	0.5	0.3	2.0	0.3	12.6	100.0	83.7
Mizoram	69.4	17.1	0.2	1.4	1.4	2.7	0.4	7.5	100.0	86.5
Nagaland	49.8	20.6	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.4	0.1	27.3	100.0	70.4
Sikkim	67.0	14.4	0.0	3.2	0.3	2.3	0.0	12.8	100.0	81.3
Tripura	82.1	1.5	0.1	0.3	0.0	1.9	0.3	13.8	100.0	83.6
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	75.3	21.6	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.0	100.0	96.9
Goa	97.7	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	100.0	98.7
Gujarat	75.2	11.1	0.2	5.0	0.1	3.9	0.0	4.6	100.0	86.2
Maharashtra	80.9	11.8	0.2	1.4	0.1	0.5	0.0	5.1	100.0	92.8
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	45.7	46.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	6.9	100.0	92.6
Andhra Pradesh	90.2	5.1	0.0	1.7	0.0	2.1	0.2	0.7	100.0	95.3
Karnataka	84.2	12.6	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.9	0.0	1.5	100.0	96.8
Kerala	97.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.7	100.0	98.0
Lakshadweep	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0
Puducherry	86.4	8.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	100.0	95.1
Tamil Nadu	86.8	8.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	3.7	100.0	95.3
Telangana	93.5	3.5	0.0	1.5	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.7	100.0	96.9

Note: If more than one source of ANC was mentioned, only the provider with the highest qualification is considered.

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant; ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services; ASHA = Accredited Social Health Activist

<sup>1</sup> Skilled provider includes doctor, auxiliary nurse midwife, nurse, midwife, and lady health visitor

**Table 8.5 Number of antenatal care visits and timing of first visit**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by number of antenatal care (ANC) visits for the most recent live birth, and by the timing of the first visit, and among women with ANC, median months pregnant at first visit, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Number and timing of ANC visits	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Number of ANC visits</b>			
None	4.3	6.9	6.1
1	4.9	7.2	6.6
2	7.9	13.4	11.8
3	12.9	16.8	15.7
4 or more	68.6	54.5	58.5
Don't know/missing	1.5	1.2	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Number of months pregnant at time of first ANC visit</b>			
No antenatal care	4.3	6.9	6.1
<4	75.5	67.9	70.0
4-5	13.3	18.2	16.8
6-7	2.9	3.5	3.3
8 or more	4.0	3.3	3.5
Don't know/missing	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	49,341	125,606	174,947
Median months pregnant at first visit (for those with ANC)	3.3	3.5	3.5
Number of women with ANC	47,234	117,001	164,235

**Table 8.6 Number of antenatal care visits and timing of first visit by source**

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had antenatal care (ANC) for their most recent live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by number of antenatal care (ANC) visits for the most recent live birth, percent distribution by number of ANC visits and by the timing of the first visit, and median months pregnant at first visit, according to the source of antenatal care, India, 2019-21

Number and timing of ANC visits	Source				Total
	Public sector only	Private/NGO sector only	Both public and private/ NGO sector	ANC received only at home	
<b>Number of ANC visits</b>					
1	7.4	7.6	1.7	9.3	7.0
2	14.4	10.7	6.7	12.8	12.6
3	18.0	15.4	15.0	13.7	16.7
4 or more	59.1	65.0	76.2	59.4	62.3
Don't know/missing	1.1	1.3	0.3	4.7	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Number of months pregnant at time of first ANC visit</b>					
<4	74.0	77.3	82.6	62.3	74.6
4-5	18.9	14.6	14.5	23.0	17.9
6-7	3.4	3.9	1.8	6.4	3.6
8 or more	3.6	4.0	1.1	7.6	3.7
Don't know/missing	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Median months pregnant at first visit (for those with ANC)	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.5
Number of women with ANC	97,495	33,219	18,860	14,661	164,235

NGO = Nongovernmental organization

Table 8.7 Components of antenatal care

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percentages who had four or more antenatal care visits, were given or purchased iron and folic acid (IFA) tablets or syrup, took IFA for 100 days or more and 180 days or more, received two or more tetanus toxoid (TT) injections during the pregnancy, whose birth was protected against neonatal tetanus, and who took a drug for intestinal parasites during the pregnancy for their most recent live birth, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among women with a live birth in the last 5 years, percentage who during the pregnancy of their last birth:							Number of women
	Had four or more ANC visits	Were given or purchased IFA	Took IFA for 100 days or more	Took IFA for 180 days or more	Received two or more TT injections	Had birth protected against neonatal tetanus <sup>1</sup>	Took an intestinal parasite drug	
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>								
<20	58.8	87.9	43.8	24.4	84.9	91.1	27.9	17,680
20-34	58.7	87.8	44.2	26.3	83.0	92.1	31.5	150,036
35-49	54.4	82.9	41.4	24.3	81.9	90.1	30.7	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>								
1	65.5	90.6	50.7	31.1	88.3	92.9	31.9	60,681
2-3	58.3	87.8	43.8	25.6	81.2	92.1	31.6	91,908
4-5	42.4	80.1	28.7	14.6	77.5	89.6	26.9	17,962
6 or more	31.5	74.0	21.1	10.4	74.1	85.8	24.8	4,396
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	68.6	89.4	54.0	34.4	85.1	92.7	31.5	49,341
Rural	54.5	86.9	40.2	22.7	82.4	91.7	30.9	125,606
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	39.9	78.7	27.2	13.3	78.5	89.1	26.7	34,350
<5 years complete	54.9	84.7	40.1	20.7	81.9	90.5	26.0	8,191
5-7 years complete	56.8	86.7	40.8	22.9	82.2	91.8	30.3	24,483
8-9 years complete	59.7	89.1	43.7	24.8	83.5	92.6	31.7	32,277
10-11 years complete	64.8	90.2	50.2	30.7	84.6	93.1	33.3	23,982
12 or more years complete	68.6	92.4	54.9	35.4	85.9	93.3	33.7	51,664
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	58.5	88.0	43.9	26.1	83.0	92.0	32.2	139,207
Muslim	57.0	85.0	41.7	22.8	83.7	92.0	26.2	27,843
Christian	65.1	91.3	58.1	38.1	82.9	89.6	28.9	3,689
Sikh	59.6	89.7	56.1	40.8	83.1	89.5	24.9	2,324
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	65.4	90.3	49.5	34.3	82.3	93.6	27.3	887
Jain	86.9	88.9	51.7	31.1	86.5	91.5	20.5	272
Other	49.6	87.6	43.1	22.8	82.4	90.3	28.9	724
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	55.3	87.2	41.1	23.8	82.6	91.9	31.2	39,627
Scheduled tribe	57.6	88.3	45.1	25.1	82.3	90.7	35.1	17,291
Other backward class	57.2	87.1	42.6	26.1	82.8	92.0	33.2	75,232
Other	64.4	88.8	49.4	28.6	84.9	92.6	25.8	41,236
Don't know	57.9	84.3	38.9	23.7	78.4	88.1	21.8	1,560
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	41.8	82.7	30.8	15.1	79.7	90.0	28.0	39,839
Second	53.5	86.3	38.0	20.7	82.3	91.9	30.4	36,811
Middle	62.6	88.5	45.6	26.9	83.1	92.2	32.9	34,249
Fourth	67.5	90.3	52.0	32.3	84.8	92.7	33.3	33,650
Highest	71.8	91.8	58.4	38.8	86.8	93.5	31.3	30,398
Total	58.5	87.6	44.1	26.0	83.1	92.0	31.1	174,947

<sup>1</sup> Includes mothers with two injections during the pregnancy for her last birth, or two or more injections (the last within 3 years of the last live birth), or three or more injections (the last within 5 years of the last birth), or four or more injections (the last within 10 years of the last live birth), or five or more injections at any time prior to the last birth

Table 8.8 Antenatal care services and information received

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who received antenatal care for the most recent live birth, percentage receiving specific services and information on specific signs of pregnancy complications and where to go if there was a pregnancy complication, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage receiving selected services during antenatal care										Percentage receiving information on specific signs of pregnancy complications			Number of women
	Weighted	Blood pressure measured	Urine sample taken	Blood sample taken	Abdomen examined	Vaginal bleeding	Convulsions	Prolonged labour	Severe abdominal pain	High blood pressure	Where to go if experienced pregnancy complications			
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>														
<20	96.9	96.1	93.8	94.5	63.9	57.6	56.7	63.7	65.5	63.9	78.4	78.4	16,517	
20-34	97.1	96.3	93.7	94.3	67.7	61.1	60.6	66.0	67.8	67.7	80.7	80.7	141,221	
35-49	96.0	94.9	91.3	91.3	67.3	61.3	61.3	64.4	66.1	67.3	79.9	79.9	6,498	
<b>Birth order</b>														
1	98.0	97.6	95.7	96.5	68.9	62.8	61.8	67.6	69.5	68.9	82.1	82.1	58,152	
2-3	97.3	96.5	94.0	94.6	67.4	60.8	60.2	65.8	67.5	67.4	80.6	80.6	86,507	
4-5	93.6	91.8	86.7	86.8	62.4	54.8	56.3	60.6	62.0	62.4	75.4	75.4	15,946	
6 or more	90.3	87.5	80.9	80.7	59.3	53.4	54.0	57.7	59.2	59.3	72.2	72.2	3,630	
<b>Residence</b>														
Urban	98.4	98.3	96.8	97.3	69.4	63.5	62.1	67.8	69.5	69.4	82.2	82.2	47,234	
Rural	96.5	95.4	92.3	93.0	66.4	59.6	59.5	64.9	66.7	66.4	79.7	79.7	117,001	
<b>Schooling</b>														
No schooling	93.4	91.1	86.1	86.5	62.9	55.9	56.5	61.3	63.0	62.9	74.4	74.4	29,987	
<5 years complete	95.7	94.6	91.8	92.1	64.1	57.5	57.3	63.5	65.0	64.1	78.1	78.1	7,517	
5-7 years complete	96.9	96.1	93.5	94.1	66.5	60.0	59.3	65.4	67.5	66.5	79.5	79.5	22,911	
8-9 years complete	97.5	97.1	94.5	95.4	69.0	62.0	61.8	67.9	69.3	69.0	81.3	81.3	30,642	
10-11 years complete	98.3	97.9	96.3	96.8	68.4	62.5	61.6	67.2	68.9	68.4	82.1	82.1	23,094	
12 or more years complete	98.7	98.3	96.7	97.3	69.3	62.9	61.8	66.9	68.8	69.3	83.5	83.5	50,084	

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Table 8.8 Antenatal care services and information received—Continued

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who received antenatal care for the most recent live birth, percentage receiving specific services and information on specific signs of pregnancy complications and where to go if there was a pregnancy complication, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage receiving selected services during antenatal care					Percentage receiving information on specific signs of pregnancy complications					Number of women	
	Weighed	Blood pressure measured	Urine sample taken	Blood sample taken	Abdomen examined	Vaginal bleeding	Convulsions	Prolonged labour	Severe abdominal pain	High blood pressure		Where to go if experienced pregnancy complications
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	97.0	96.1	93.4	94.1	67.5	60.7	60.6	65.9	67.7	67.5	80.5	131,099
Muslim	96.7	96.4	93.7	94.0	65.5	59.5	58.1	63.7	65.6	65.5	79.1	25,750
Christian	99.0	98.5	96.7	96.7	64.0	61.9	56.7	63.8	65.6	64.0	82.1	3,446
Sikh	99.2	99.2	98.2	98.9	83.2	76.8	73.5	81.2	80.9	83.2	88.3	2,204
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	99.2	98.3	98.2	97.9	66.0	59.9	58.4	66.5	69.5	66.0	81.4	816
Jain	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.1	76.0	67.2	77.2	79.1	77.1	76.0	89.6	266
Other	97.2	95.7	88.7	90.3	63.9	57.7	54.4	62.0	64.4	63.9	77.2	655
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	96.3	95.0	92.0	92.6	66.4	59.6	59.9	65.6	67.4	66.4	80.1	36,963
Scheduled tribe	97.9	96.9	94.5	95.1	70.9	64.9	63.4	69.7	71.6	70.9	82.3	16,030
Other backward class	96.7	95.9	93.2	93.8	66.7	59.8	59.8	64.7	66.4	66.7	80.5	70,680
Other	98.1	97.7	95.6	96.2	68.3	62.4	60.8	66.7	68.6	68.3	80.2	39,156
Don't know	96.4	96.3	91.9	93.7	51.0	46.4	43.9	48.8	52.7	51.0	71.1	1,406
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	93.7	91.5	86.7	87.1	63.0	55.8	56.8	62.0	63.8	63.0	76.7	35,053
Second	96.4	95.6	92.6	93.1	65.2	58.7	58.8	64.5	66.4	65.2	78.1	34,351
Middle	97.7	97.3	95.2	95.9	68.0	61.8	60.8	66.3	68.0	68.0	81.6	32,795
Fourth	98.6	98.3	96.8	97.4	68.8	62.7	61.3	67.1	68.8	68.8	82.5	32,521
Highest	99.2	99.2	97.8	98.6	72.3	65.8	64.3	69.6	71.2	72.3	84.0	29,514
Total	97.0	96.2	93.6	94.2	67.3	60.8	60.3	65.7	67.5	67.3	80.4	164,235

Table 8.9 Male involvement in antenatal care

Among men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months, percentage for whom the mother of the child received antenatal care (ANC) and the father was present or not present at the time of any ANC visit, percentage who were told by a health provider or worker at any time during the pregnancy about specific signs of pregnancy complications, and percentage who were told what to do if the child's mother had any pregnancy complication, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage for whom the child's mother received ANC and the father was:		Percentage who were told by a health provider or worker about specific signs of pregnancy complications				Percentage ever told what to do if child's mother had any pregnancy complication		Number of men
	Present for any ANC	Not present for any ANC	Total	Vaginal bleeding	Severe abdominal pain	Prolonged labour	High blood pressure	any pregnancy complication	
<b>Father's age at birth</b>									
<20	79.0	17.0	96.0	48.1	64.6	53.4	44.5	60.0	92
20-34	77.0	18.4	95.4	51.8	64.6	61.2	57.3	63.7	10,053
35-49	78.6	15.7	94.3	49.5	64.1	59.4	57.3	65.2	2,371
<b>Father's number of children ever born</b>									
1	81.7	15.5	97.2	52.4	65.7	63.2	58.0	67.8	4,807
2-3	77.7	18.0	95.7	52.3	65.1	60.6	57.9	63.2	6,193
4 or more	62.1	25.3	87.4	44.3	58.2	53.8	51.8	54.9	1,516
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	81.4	15.5	96.9	53.6	68.4	64.0	59.3	66.1	3,655
Rural	75.7	18.9	94.5	50.4	62.9	59.5	56.3	63.0	8,861
<b>Father's schooling</b>									
No schooling	60.6	26.7	87.3	40.2	55.1	50.5	46.8	49.8	1,529
<5 years complete	69.2	23.5	92.8	44.9	59.4	55.2	46.2	60.2	941
5-7 years complete	72.1	22.7	94.8	51.7	63.8	60.6	55.3	61.9	1,980
8-9 years complete	77.2	18.6	95.9	50.7	64.0	58.6	57.5	64.6	2,364
10-11 years complete	85.3	12.4	97.7	53.4	67.0	61.4	59.4	69.3	1,956
12 or more years complete	84.9	12.8	97.6	56.8	69.0	67.6	63.9	68.5	3,746

Continued...

Table 8.9 Male involvement in antenatal care—Continued

Among men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months, percentage for whom the mother of the child received antenatal care (ANC) and the father was present or not present at the time of any ANC visit, percentage who were told by a health provider or worker at any time during the pregnancy about specific signs of pregnancy complications, and percentage who were told what to do if the child's mother had any pregnancy complication, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage for whom the child's mother received ANC and the father was:		Percentage who were told by a health provider or worker about specific signs of pregnancy complications							Number of men
	Present for any ANC	Not present for any ANC	Total	Vaginal bleeding	Convulsions	Prolonged labour	Severe abdominal pain	High blood pressure	Percentage ever told what to do if child's mother had any pregnancy complication	
<b>Religion</b>										
Hindu	77.9	17.4	95.3	51.7	54.1	60.1	64.2	57.0	63.0	9,597
Muslim	74.7	20.2	94.9	51.0	51.5	61.3	65.4	55.3	65.5	2,345
Christian	76.2	18.7	94.9	49.7	54.4	62.7	56.8	58.0	68.4	296
Sikh	88.3	8.6	96.9	65.6	64.9	72.0	77.9	73.6	74.0	86
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	76.7	22.3	98.9	40.3	42.1	80.1	74.0	81.8	82.8	105
Jain	100.0	0.0	100.0	40.9	81.5	91.1	92.9	91.1	83.0	26
Other	79.9	14.6	94.5	28.6	31.7	75.3	75.7	75.4	68.9	60
<b>Caste/tribe</b>										
Scheduled caste	73.1	20.0	93.1	49.6	53.9	60.2	63.0	56.6	61.2	2,718
Scheduled tribe	74.3	20.2	94.5	51.1	52.4	61.0	65.4	56.2	64.2	1,254
Other backward class	79.4	16.7	96.1	50.3	53.8	59.5	64.0	57.1	63.6	5,170
Other	79.2	16.8	95.9	54.6	53.3	63.9	66.6	58.4	66.7	3,285
Don't know	65.7	28.9	94.7	51.3	46.4	41.5	54.3	46.4	58.1	89
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	62.5	25.6	88.1	43.8	46.2	54.2	58.1	48.9	57.3	2,695
Second	74.3	21.0	95.2	50.1	52.0	59.0	63.5	54.9	60.5	2,609
Middle	80.1	17.5	97.5	54.6	55.4	62.9	65.4	58.8	66.1	2,563
Fourth	85.1	13.4	98.5	55.2	56.5	63.4	67.5	60.7	67.4	2,536
Highest	87.5	10.1	97.6	54.0	58.8	65.8	69.2	64.3	69.9	2,113
Total	77.3	17.9	95.2	51.4	53.5	60.8	64.5	57.2	63.9	12,516

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**Table 8.10 Reasons why child's mother did not receive antenatal care: Men**

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months and the child's mother did not receive antenatal care when pregnant with the child by the main reason for not receiving antenatal care, according to residence, India, 2019-21

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Reason why the child's mother did not receive antenatal care	Urban	Rural	Total
Man did not think it was necessary/did not allow	20.1	14.2	15.3
Family did not think it was necessary/did not allow	15.3	12.1	12.7
Child's mother did not want check-up	3.0	4.1	3.9
Has had children before	7.9	1.7	2.9
Costs too much	19.4	29.6	27.7
Too far/no transportation	0.3	2.7	2.2
No female health worker available	1.1	2.7	2.4
Other	3.4	4.4	4.2
Don't know/missing	29.4	28.5	28.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	112	485	597

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**Table 8.11 Antenatal care indicators by state/union territory**

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percentage who received different types of antenatal care (ANC) during the pregnancy for their most recent live birth by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who had at least one ANC visit	Percentage who had four or more ANC visits	Percentage with an ANC visit in the first trimester of pregnancy	Percentage who received information from a health worker about pregnancy complications <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who received two or more TT injections during the pregnancy	Percentage whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who were given or bought IFA	Percentage who took IFA for at least 100 days	Percentage who took IFA for at least 180 days	Percentage who took an intestinal parasite drug
<b>India</b>	92.6	58.5	70.0	83.2	83.1	92.0	87.6	44.1	26.0	31.1
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	99.4	79.4	82.3	94.7	88.9	93.1	94.4	73.9	64.5	26.9
Delhi	91.4	77.8	76.4	83.6	86.8	93.5	93.7	69.1	49.0	30.0
Haryana	96.8	60.9	85.2	90.1	79.2	90.7	91.8	51.2	31.9	33.0
Himachal Pradesh	88.2	70.6	72.4	81.5	77.6	90.0	97.4	67.2	43.0	23.8
Jammu & Kashmir	94.7	81.1	86.6	88.1	84.5	91.9	72.5	29.8	15.9	8.8
Ladakh	90.6	78.9	85.7	90.7	87.8	94.2	76.2	14.3	7.3	9.5
Punjab	91.3	59.7	68.5	89.3	83.5	89.7	88.7	55.4	40.5	25.3
Rajasthan	94.2	55.4	76.3	80.6	82.1	93.4	82.2	33.9	14.4	17.3
Uttarakhand	91.8	61.8	68.8	81.9	88.3	93.6	89.1	46.5	25.0	19.3
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	93.4	60.4	65.7	92.8	83.7	91.9	93.3	44.9	26.3	48.6
Madhya Pradesh	94.7	57.5	75.4	86.0	86.9	95.0	92.7	51.4	31.8	34.2
Uttar Pradesh	94.4	42.4	62.5	81.5	81.2	92.1	84.3	22.3	9.7	32.0
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	81.6	25.2	52.9	62.0	76.9	89.5	73.9	18.0	9.2	19.1
Jharkhand	91.9	38.7	68.0	80.3	82.5	90.8	83.6	28.2	14.9	30.0
Odisha	98.3	78.1	76.9	93.3	90.8	95.2	97.2	60.8	34.4	60.9
West Bengal	91.1	76.7	72.6	86.5	91.3	94.6	96.1	62.5	30.8	25.3
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	75.3	36.6	53.1	68.3	67.2	76.9	77.5	23.8	8.6	27.6
Assam	94.3	50.7	63.8	87.3	88.9	94.5	92.4	47.5	18.5	14.5
Manipur	92.6	79.4	79.9	46.4	84.7	88.9	92.5	52.3	30.3	9.5
Meghalaya	82.4	52.2	53.9	75.6	63.9	82.1	84.7	43.1	20.6	8.3
Mizoram	79.4	58.1	72.7	77.3	72.6	80.0	88.1	61.9	10.5	14.7
Nagaland	71.2	20.7	49.5	52.9	75.6	81.3	67.8	10.2	4.1	7.3
Sikkim	80.1	58.4	63.7	80.7	86.3	92.0	94.4	54.7	31.5	29.6
Tripura	82.7	55.2	63.2	71.4	92.8	94.9	90.6	26.6	8.9	14.2
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	97.6	86.2	77.7	94.7	76.6	84.6	89.6	59.8	36.2	27.0
Goa	98.8	93.0	70.3	96.2	86.5	96.5	99.1	87.5	65.0	35.0
Gujarat	94.1	77.2	79.3	88.8	81.0	89.1	89.0	60.0	43.2	41.6
Maharashtra	91.6	71.4	70.9	84.6	79.5	90.1	85.7	48.2	30.9	22.4

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**Table 8.11 Antenatal care indicators by state/union territory—Continued**

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percentage who received different types of antenatal care (ANC) during the pregnancy for their most recent live birth by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who had at least one ANC visit	Percentage who had four or more ANC visits	Percentage with an ANC visit in the first trimester of pregnancy	Percentage who received information from a health worker about pregnancy complications <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who received two or more TT injections during the pregnancy	Percentage whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who were given or bought IFA	Percentage who took IFA for at least 100 days	Percentage who took IFA for at least 180 days	Percentage who took an intestinal parasite drug
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	91.9	83.6	77.1	92.0	85.9	90.8	96.0	80.9	52.1	60.5
Andhra Pradesh	99.2	67.5	81.7	91.0	85.8	92.8	94.1	70.3	41.1	27.2
Karnataka	98.3	70.9	71.0	90.7	83.5	93.6	88.7	44.7	26.7	44.6
Kerala	88.9	81.3	93.6	92.1	93.3	95.2	98.0	80.0	67.0	19.6
Lakshadweep	97.0	92.1	99.6	97.4	98.9	99.4	97.4	80.1	61.7	17.5
Puducherry	94.8	87.4	82.4	95.0	84.1	91.9	99.0	84.1	64.9	68.3
Tamil Nadu	95.8	90.6	77.4	95.4	82.4	89.7	98.7	82.5	63.1	76.7
Telangana	99.1	70.5	88.5	85.7	83.9	89.6	90.6	57.9	34.4	22.6

TT = Tetanus toxoid; IFA = Iron and folic acid

<sup>1</sup> Vaginal bleeding, convulsions, prolonged labour, severe abdominal pain, high blood pressure, or where to go if she had pregnancy complications

<sup>2</sup> Includes mothers with two injections during the pregnancy for her last birth, or two or more injections (the last within 3 years of the last live birth), or three or more injections (the last within 5 years of the last birth), or four or more injections (the last within 10 years of the last live birth), or five or more injections at any time prior to the last birth

Table 8.12 Pregnancies for which an ultrasound test was done

Percentage of all pregnancies to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey for which an ultrasound test was done and percent distribution of pregnancies with an ultrasound test by pregnancy outcome, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of pregnancies with an ultrasound test	Number of pregnancies	Pregnancy outcome <sup>1</sup>				Total	Number of pregnancies with an ultrasound test
			Son	Daughter	Termination	Still pregnant		
<b>Mother's age at pregnancy</b>								
<20	77.0	46,942	45.1	41.3	5.1	8.5	100.0	36,167
20-34	78.7	227,889	44.7	40.9	6.6	7.8	100.0	179,448
35-49	71.0	8,537	44.2	41.3	7.7	6.8	100.0	6,064
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	87.1	76,905	43.7	40.2	7.9	8.1	100.0	66,947
Rural	74.9	206,463	45.2	41.3	5.7	7.8	100.0	154,732
<b>Antenatal care visits<sup>2</sup></b>								
None	53.9	12,957	46.5	39.6	5.9	8.0	100.0	6,981
1-3	74.1	73,638	46.8	39.8	5.8	7.6	100.0	54,601
4 or more	85.4	129,106	45.8	39.1	7.1	8.0	100.0	110,192
Don't know/missing	82.3	2,846	43.0	39.8	8.0	9.2	100.0	2,341
<b>Mother's schooling</b>								
No schooling	60.4	57,970	46.7	42.9	4.7	5.7	100.0	35,009
<5 years complete	69.5	13,271	47.5	41.2	5.2	6.1	100.0	9,222
5-7 years complete	76.5	40,398	45.4	42.3	5.9	6.4	100.0	30,899
8-9 years complete	78.6	53,261	45.0	41.3	6.0	7.7	100.0	41,861
10-11 years complete	86.2	38,672	44.2	39.9	6.9	9.0	100.0	33,319
12 or more years complete	89.4	79,795	43.3	39.7	7.5	9.5	100.0	71,367
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	77.9	225,666	44.9	40.8	6.5	7.8	100.0	175,820
Muslim	79.2	45,488	44.4	41.8	5.4	8.4	100.0	36,024
Christian	76.1	5,839	42.6	40.9	7.1	9.4	100.0	4,441
Sikh	91.5	3,495	44.7	40.7	8.1	6.5	100.0	3,197
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	88.0	1,370	44.3	39.4	8.7	7.6	100.0	1,206
Jain	98.2	361	47.3	41.7	2.4	8.6	100.0	354
Other	55.4	1,149	46.4	40.3	6.1	7.2	100.0	637
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	75.4	66,126	45.1	41.0	6.5	7.4	100.0	49,874
Scheduled tribe	67.5	27,583	44.9	42.4	4.9	7.9	100.0	18,629
Other backward class	79.3	123,207	44.8	40.9	6.2	8.1	100.0	97,742
Other	83.7	63,844	44.3	40.6	7.1	8.1	100.0	53,429
Don't know	76.9	2,608	46.1	41.0	6.2	6.8	100.0	2,005
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	57.3	67,350	46.7	42.6	4.0	6.7	100.0	38,584
Second	76.0	60,824	45.7	42.0	5.2	7.1	100.0	46,254
Middle	84.6	55,910	45.0	40.7	6.5	7.8	100.0	47,299
Fourth	88.8	53,359	43.4	40.5	7.2	8.8	100.0	47,367
Highest	91.8	45,924	43.1	39.1	8.8	9.0	100.0	42,175

Continued...

Table 8.12 Pregnancies for which an ultrasound test was done—Continued

Percentage of all pregnancies to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey for which an ultrasound test was done and percent distribution of pregnancies with an ultrasound test by pregnancy outcome, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of pregnancies with an ultrasound test	Number of pregnancies	Pregnancy outcome <sup>1</sup>				Total	Number of pregnancies with an ultrasound test
			Son	Daughter	Termination	Still pregnant		
<b>Mother's number of living children at time of pregnancy</b>								
No children	86.0	115,131	43.9	41.0	6.4	8.7	100.0	99,035
1 child	80.2	96,305	44.8	41.8	5.7	7.7	100.0	77,207
0 sons	81.1	48,199	46.0	40.8	5.6	7.6	100.0	39,094
1 son	79.2	48,106	43.5	42.8	5.8	7.9	100.0	38,114
2 children	67.9	43,217	46.2	39.1	7.7	7.0	100.0	29,351
0 sons	74.9	15,720	49.4	37.4	5.9	7.3	100.0	11,777
1 son	64.6	19,333	44.4	40.2	8.7	6.7	100.0	12,494
2 sons	62.2	8,165	43.3	40.4	9.4	6.9	100.0	5,080
3 children	59.3	17,100	47.6	39.6	6.8	6.0	100.0	10,148
0 sons	68.7	4,802	50.6	37.4	5.7	6.4	100.0	3,298
1 son	58.2	7,258	48.0	39.9	5.9	6.2	100.0	4,222
2-3 sons	52.2	5,039	43.3	41.7	9.9	5.1	100.0	2,628
4 or more children	51.1	11,614	46.4	40.6	7.3	5.7	100.0	5,937
0 sons	63.8	2,311	49.9	38.6	5.4	6.0	100.0	1,474
1 son	51.3	3,756	48.7	39.7	5.9	5.7	100.0	1,926
2 or more sons	45.8	5,547	42.7	42.5	9.4	5.5	100.0	2,538
Total	78.2	283,367	44.8	41.0	6.4	7.9	100.0	221,679

<sup>1</sup> For multiple births, sex of pregnancy outcome is the sex of the first listed birth

<sup>2</sup> For the most recent pregnancy in the 5 years preceding the survey



Table 8.13 Place of delivery

Percent distribution of live births to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey by place of delivery, and percentage delivered in a health facility, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Health facility			Home				Total	Percentage delivered in a health facility	Number of births
	Public sector	NGO/trust	Private sector	Own home	Parent's home	Other home	Other <sup>1</sup>			
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>										
<20	68.3	0.3	20.3	8.8	2.0	0.1	0.3	100.0	88.9	28,981
20-34	61.3	0.5	27.1	9.5	1.4	0.1	0.2	100.0	88.9	193,795
35-49	53.3	0.4	27.5	17.6	0.9	0.1	0.2	100.0	81.2	8,095
<b>Birth order</b>										
1	61.2	0.5	32.4	4.6	1.0	0.1	0.2	100.0	94.1	91,210
2-3	63.1	0.4	24.4	10.1	1.6	0.1	0.2	100.0	88.0	112,337
4-5	61.1	0.2	13.7	22.4	2.3	0.1	0.2	100.0	75.0	21,931
6 or more	53.1	0.2	10.2	34.5	1.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	63.5	5,392
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	52.6	0.7	40.5	5.1	0.8	0.1	0.2	100.0	93.8	61,528
Rural	65.3	0.3	21.1	11.3	1.6	0.1	0.2	100.0	86.7	169,342
<b>Antenatal care visits<sup>2</sup></b>										
None	53.1	0.4	16.8	25.3	3.6	0.3	0.5	100.0	70.3	10,712
1-3	63.6	0.4	22.1	12.1	1.5	0.1	0.2	100.0	86.1	59,656
4 or more	61.8	0.6	32.0	4.6	0.8	0.1	0.2	100.0	94.4	102,334
Don't know/missing	58.3	0.1	32.9	6.3	1.6	0.2	0.6	100.0	91.3	2,245
<b>Mother's schooling</b>										
No schooling	62.6	0.2	12.0	22.2	2.7	0.2	0.2	100.0	74.8	49,597
<5 years complete	68.0	0.2	14.6	14.2	2.6	0.1	0.3	100.0	82.7	11,099
5-7 years complete	68.7	0.4	18.3	10.6	1.6	0.1	0.2	100.0	87.4	33,379
8-9 years complete	70.0	0.3	20.3	7.9	1.2	0.1	0.2	100.0	90.6	42,815
10-11 years complete	63.9	0.6	30.0	4.2	1.1	0.1	0.2	100.0	94.5	30,753
12 or more years complete	50.3	0.7	45.9	2.4	0.5	0.1	0.2	100.0	96.9	63,227
<b>Religion</b>										
Hindu	63.3	0.4	25.8	8.8	1.3	0.1	0.2	100.0	89.5	183,338
Muslim	57.1	0.4	26.7	13.5	1.9	0.1	0.3	100.0	84.3	37,495
Christian	53.3	0.5	29.6	14.8	1.5	0.0	0.3	100.0	83.3	4,784
Sikh	55.3	0.2	40.6	2.6	1.0	0.2	0.1	100.0	96.1	2,890
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	65.4	0.5	27.9	4.3	1.7	0.0	0.2	100.0	93.8	1,098
Jain	27.5	0.0	72.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	99.7	329
Other	63.0	0.2	10.3	23.6	2.4	0.3	0.3	100.0	73.4	937
<b>Caste/tribe</b>										
Scheduled caste	68.1	0.3	18.9	10.8	1.6	0.1	0.2	100.0	87.3	53,756
Scheduled tribe	69.7	0.4	12.1	15.4	1.9	0.1	0.3	100.0	82.3	23,141
Other backward class	59.8	0.4	29.3	8.9	1.3	0.1	0.2	100.0	89.5	100,408
Other	55.9	0.6	34.6	7.2	1.2	0.1	0.3	100.0	91.2	51,406
Don't know	66.8	0.9	18.1	12.3	1.5	0.2	0.3	100.0	85.7	2,159

Continued...

**Table 8.13 Place of delivery—Continued**

Percent distribution of live births to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey by place of delivery, and percentage delivered in a health facility, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Health facility			Home				Total	Percentage delivered in a health facility	Number of births
	Public sector	NGO/trust	Private sector	Own home	Parent's home	Other home	Other <sup>1</sup>			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	67.7	0.1	8.4	20.8	2.7	0.2	0.2	100.0	76.2	56,771
Second	70.7	0.3	16.2	10.7	1.8	0.1	0.2	100.0	87.2	50,170
Middle	66.8	0.5	25.0	6.3	1.2	0.1	0.2	100.0	92.3	45,101
Fourth	57.3	0.6	37.5	3.7	0.6	0.1	0.2	100.0	95.4	42,505
Highest	40.1	0.8	56.5	2.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	100.0	97.4	36,323
<b>Total</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>230,870</b>

NGO = Nongovernmental organization

<sup>1</sup> Includes missing

<sup>2</sup> For the most recent birth in the five years preceding the survey

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**Table 8.14 Reasons for not delivering in a health facility**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by reasons for not delivering the most recent live birth in a health facility, according to residence, India, 2019-21

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Reason for not delivering in a health facility	Urban	Rural	Total
Costs too much	15.2	15.1	15.1
Facility not open	9.1	9.8	9.7
Too far/no transportation	12.4	17.4	16.6
Don't trust facility/poor quality service	6.8	4.7	5.0
No female provider at facility	4.3	3.9	4.0
Husband/family did not allow	18.1	19.5	19.3
Not necessary	30.5	27.6	28.1
Not customary	3.6	3.5	3.6
Other	19.1	16.4	16.8
Number of women	2,508	14,507	17,016

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Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because multiple responses were permitted.

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**Table 8.15 Institutional delivery of youngest child: Men**

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was 0-35 months by whether the child was delivered in a health facility, and percent distribution of men 15-49 whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility by the main reason for not delivering in a health facility, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Place of delivery/reason for not delivering in a health facility	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Youngest child delivered at a health facility</b>			
Yes	95.5	90.0	91.6
No	4.5	10.0	8.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	3,655	8,861	12,516
<b>Main reason for not delivering in health facility</b>			
Cost too much	20.4	20.3	20.3
Facility not open	14.4	6.7	7.9
Too far/no transportation	4.3	16.8	14.9
Don't trust facility/poor quality service	5.7	3.8	4.1
No female provider at facility	1.0	5.9	5.2
Not the first child	16.0	4.3	6.2
Child's mother did not think it was necessary	9.7	11.8	11.5
He did not think it was necessary/did not allow	1.9	3.0	2.8
Family did not think it necessary/did not allow	12.3	12.7	12.6
Other	12.3	10.4	10.7
Don't know	2.1	4.2	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	166	887	1,053

Table 8.16 Delivery and other related information given to men: Men's reports

Among men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months, percentage who were given specific types of pregnancy, delivery, and family planning information by a health provider or health worker during the mother's pregnancy, and among men whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility, percentage who were given specific types of information needed to make home deliveries safer, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of fathers who said that at some time during the pregnancy, a health provider or worker spoke to them about:			Number of men	Percentage of fathers who said that during the pregnancy, someone explained to them the importance of <sup>1</sup> :			Number of men
	The importance of delivering the baby in a health facility	The importance of proper nutrition for the mother during pregnancy	Family planning or delaying his next child		Cord care	Breastfeeding the baby immediately after birth	Keeping the baby warm immediately after birth	
<b>Father's age at birth</b>								
<20	71.5	76.5	51.2	92	*	*	*	9
20-34	72.5	80.4	63.7	10,053	51.1	59.5	56.1	826
35-49	72.8	80.6	68.6	2,371	55.0	63.2	64.4	218
<b>Father's number of children ever born</b>								
1	74.4	82.2	66.6	4,807	55.0	67.0	62.8	191
2-3	73.0	81.0	65.8	6,193	54.3	61.2	57.4	560
4 or more	64.4	72.0	52.9	1,516	45.0	54.7	54.7	301
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	72.0	81.2	67.4	3,655	57.2	64.6	46.4	166
Rural	72.7	80.0	63.3	8,861	50.7	59.7	59.7	887
<b>Father's schooling</b>								
No schooling	58.3	66.4	46.7	1,529	47.2	51.4	53.6	318
<5 years complete	68.9	78.4	59.6	941	49.7	56.6	59.5	131
5-7 years complete	70.0	77.4	59.2	1,980	54.8	62.9	55.8	219
8-9 years complete	72.0	80.9	63.9	2,364	54.9	64.1	58.8	124
10-11 years complete	77.5	84.5	70.4	1,956	52.6	61.3	60.1	78
12 or more years complete	78.3	85.7	73.1	3,746	55.2	73.3	63.8	182
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	72.5	80.8	65.1	9,597	50.5	59.7	55.4	736
Muslim	71.6	78.5	61.7	2,345	57.8	61.9	61.7	264
Christian	75.2	79.5	62.8	296	35.5	61.6	65.3	42
Sikh	74.5	82.9	67.6	86	nc	nc	nc	0
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	94.1	94.9	88.6	105	*	*	*	4
Other	47.4	50.7	30.6	60	(45.2)	(72.1)	(80.1)	7
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	69.0	78.0	62.1	2,718	47.5	59.5	50.2	267
Scheduled tribe	70.2	78.2	62.0	1,254	49.1	67.5	62.5	193
Other backward class	73.1	81.1	65.6	5,170	52.1	53.7	56.2	386
Other	75.7	82.3	65.7	3,285	59.5	68.3	65.9	200
Don't know	(59.2)	(71.5)	(69.5)	89	*	*	*	7

Continued...

**Table 8.16 Delivery and other related information given to men: Men's reports—Continued**

Among men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months, percentage who were given specific types of pregnancy, delivery, and family planning information by a health provider or health worker during the mother's pregnancy, and among men whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility, percentage who were given specific types of information needed to make home deliveries safer, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of fathers who said that at some time during the pregnancy, a health provider or worker spoke to them about:				Percentage of fathers who said that during the pregnancy, someone explained to them the importance of <sup>1</sup> :			
	The importance of delivering the baby in a health facility	The importance of proper nutrition for the mother during pregnancy	Family planning or delaying his next child	Number of men	Cord care	Breastfeeding the baby immediately after birth	Keeping the baby warm immediately after birth	Number of men
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	63.5	70.1	51.4	2,695	45.0	54.3	55.0	543
Second	72.4	81.2	61.7	2,609	62.1	62.2	59.5	206
Middle	74.8	83.8	67.5	2,563	50.0	68.9	70.5	132
Fourth	78.9	84.7	71.4	2,536	61.6	80.4	54.8	122
Highest	73.8	83.1	72.9	2,113	(63.8)	(48.9)	(51.9)	51
Total	72.5	80.4	64.5	12,516	51.8	60.4	57.6	1,053

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. Total includes Jain men, who are not shown separately.

nc = No cases

<sup>1</sup> Men whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility

Table 8.17 Delivery and other related information given to men by state/union territory: Men's reports

Among men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months, percentage who were given specific types of pregnancy, delivery, and family planning information by a health provider or health worker during the mother's pregnancy, and among men whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility, percentage who were given specific types of information needed to make home deliveries safer, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of fathers who said that at some time during the pregnancy, a health provider or worker spoke to them about:			Percentage of fathers who said that during the pregnancy, someone explained to them the importance of <sup>1</sup> :		
	The importance of delivering the baby in a health facility	The importance of proper nutrition for the mother during pregnancy	Family planning or delaying his next child	Cord care	Breastfeeding the baby immediately after birth	Keeping the baby warm immediately after birth
<b>India</b>	72.5	80.4	64.5	51.8	60.4	57.6
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	*	*	*	*	*	*
Delhi	66.3	76.8	58.7	*	*	*
Haryana	66.8	77.3	70.4	(55.7)	(52.9)	(62.1)
Himachal Pradesh	68.2	78.1	70.6	*	*	*
Jammu & Kashmir	86.2	85.9	70.8	*	*	*
Ladakh	(90.8)	(93.7)	(80.0)	*	*	*
Punjab	78.4	84.7	74.8	*	*	*
Rajasthan	77.9	87.2	70.5	(65.9)	(67.7)	(69.1)
Uttarakhand	57.3	75.0	55.9	*	*	*
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	80.3	89.0	73.7	56.5	77.9	79.8
Madhya Pradesh	68.9	78.3	60.8	51.1	55.3	58.1
Uttar Pradesh	64.9	75.6	60.1	52.2	63.7	61.5
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	53.3	65.4	44.5	46.7	54.3	50.5
Jharkhand	58.5	72.5	56.3	51.4	59.4	60.5
Odisha	90.2	94.3	84.2	67.8	79.3	83.5
West Bengal	81.5	87.1	60.0	(66.4)	(81.9)	(73.7)
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	77.1	82.0	73.2	45.5	59.9	49.7
Assam	82.4	86.8	83.5	48.6	63.7	53.1
Manipur	77.0	80.1	50.4	46.9	45.9	57.4
Meghalaya	76.8	78.7	63.7	31.4	69.6	68.7
Mizoram	70.5	74.6	62.4	*	*	*
Nagaland	49.6	48.5	23.4	18.3	38.9	48.4
Sikkim	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tripura	92.8	92.4	74.5	*	*	*

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**Table 8.17 Delivery and other related information given to men by state/union territory: Men's reports—Continued**

Among men age 15-49 whose youngest living child was age 0-35 months, percentage who were given specific types of pregnancy, delivery, and family planning information by a health provider or health worker during the mother's pregnancy, and among men whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility, percentage who were given specific types of information needed to make home deliveries safer, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of fathers who said that at some time during the pregnancy, a health provider or worker spoke to them about:			Percentage of fathers who said that during the pregnancy, someone explained to them the importance of <sup>1</sup> :		
	The importance of delivering the baby in a health facility	The importance of proper nutrition for the mother during pregnancy	Family planning or delaying his next child	Cord care	Breastfeeding the baby immediately after birth	Keeping the baby warm immediately after birth
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	84.8	89.7	82.6	*	*	*
Goa	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gujarat	65.2	83.5	74.3	(44.0)	(56.1)	(53.5)
Maharashtra	79.9	80.6	66.9	*	*	*
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	(44.0)	(78.4)	(48.6)	*	*	*
Andhra Pradesh	70.5	77.0	64.3	*	*	*
Karnataka	84.8	88.8	81.5	*	*	*
Kerala	79.2	83.5	63.7	*	*	*
Lakshadweep	*	*	*	*	*	*
Puducherry	(79.2)	(90.0)	(90.9)	*	*	*
Tamil Nadu	87.9	94.7	87.5	*	*	*
Telangana	71.6	77.9	53.9	*	*	*

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Men whose youngest living child age 0-35 months was not delivered in a health facility



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**Table 8.18 Adherence to delivery protocol for home delivery**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a live birth delivered at home in the 5 years preceding the survey by whether the recommended protocol was followed at the time of delivery for the most recent live birth delivered at home, according to residence, India, 2019-21

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Protocol at delivery	Urban	Rural	Total
Disposable delivery kit (DDK) used	56.0	50.5	51.3
Clean blade used to cut the cord	92.2	92.7	92.6
Either of the above	93.8	93.6	93.6
Baby was immediately wiped dry and then wrapped without being bathed	88.5	88.7	88.6
Number of women	2,508	14,507	17,016

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Table 8.19 Assistance during delivery

Percent distribution of live births to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey by person providing assistance during delivery, percentage delivered by caesarean section (C-section), percentage delivered by C-section that was planned before the onset of labour pains, and percentage delivered by C-section that was decided after the onset of labour pains, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person providing assistance during delivery							Total	Percentage delivered by a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with skin-to-skin contact immediately after birth	Percentage delivered by caesarean section	Timing of decision to conduct a C-section		Number of births
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	Dai	Friends/ relatives	Other	No one					Before onset of labour pains	After onset of labour pains	
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>														
<20	60.7	28.5	0.5	5.5	3.5	0.9	0.4	100.0	89.7	76.1	16.9	8.7	8.1	28,981
20-34	62.1	27.1	0.4	5.8	3.6	0.7	0.3	100.0	89.6	76.0	22.1	12.8	9.2	193,795
35-49	58.7	24.9	0.6	9.0	5.6	0.6	0.7	100.0	84.1	74.0	24.0	15.6	8.4	8,095
<b>Birth order</b>														
1	68.9	24.5	0.4	3.0	2.6	0.5	0.2	100.0	93.7	74.6	28.1	15.0	13.0	91,210
2-3	61.1	27.5	0.4	6.1	3.8	0.7	0.3	100.0	89.0	77.1	20.0	12.4	7.5	112,337
4-5	43.1	35.1	0.8	13.2	6.2	1.0	0.6	100.0	79.0	76.2	5.9	3.3	2.6	21,931
6 or more	33.2	34.2	0.9	19.5	9.3	1.5	1.5	100.0	68.3	74.5	4.0	2.2	1.8	5,392
<b>Residence</b>														
Urban	76.4	17.4	0.2	3.1	2.3	0.4	0.2	100.0	94.0	74.5	32.3	19.2	12.9	61,528
Rural	56.5	30.7	0.5	6.9	4.2	0.8	0.4	100.0	87.8	76.5	17.6	9.9	7.6	169,342
<b>Mother's schooling</b>														
No schooling	43.1	34.6	0.8	13.4	6.2	1.2	0.7	100.0	78.4	76.6	7.8	4.1	3.6	49,597
<5 years complete	55.1	28.8	0.6	8.3	5.5	1.2	0.5	100.0	84.5	75.5	13.0	6.8	6.1	11,099
5-7 years complete	58.6	29.5	0.5	6.6	3.8	0.7	0.3	100.0	88.6	76.2	16.0	9.0	6.9	33,379
8-9 years complete	60.4	30.5	0.5	4.7	3.2	0.6	0.3	100.0	91.3	76.4	19.2	11.0	8.1	42,815
10-11 years complete	71.2	22.7	0.3	2.6	2.6	0.4	0.2	100.0	94.2	76.7	27.3	15.8	11.3	30,753
12 or more years complete	75.7	19.8	0.2	1.5	2.2	0.4	0.1	100.0	95.8	74.8	35.4	20.8	14.5	63,227

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Table 8.19 Assistance during delivery—Continued

Percent distribution of live births to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey by person providing assistance during delivery, percentage delivered by caesarean section (C-section), percentage delivered by C-section that was planned before the onset of labour pains, and percentage delivered by C-section that was decided after the onset of labour pains, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person providing assistance during delivery							Total	Percentage delivered by a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with skin-to-skin contact immediately after birth	Percentage delivered by caesarean section	Timing of decision to conduct a C-section		Number of births
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	Dai (TBA)	Friends/ relatives	Other	No one					Before onset of labour pains	After onset of labour pains	
<b>Religion</b>														
Hindu	61.3	28.2	0.4	5.5	3.6	0.7	0.3	100.0	90.0	76.3	21.4	12.2	9.1	183,338
Muslim	63.0	23.3	0.5	8.2	3.9	0.7	0.4	100.0	86.8	75.2	19.6	11.5	8.0	37,495
Christian	69.0	15.5	0.9	5.2	7.7	1.0	0.6	100.0	85.4	69.5	28.2	17.5	10.6	4,784
Sikh	63.8	32.7	0.3	1.6	1.1	0.2	0.2	100.0	96.9	75.8	36.9	21.3	15.3	2,890
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	80.5	13.7	0.4	2.7	2.3	0.3	0.0	100.0	94.6	71.6	25.3	13.4	11.8	1,098
Jain	89.7	8.7	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.4	0.0	100.0	98.5	66.8	49.1	33.6	15.5	329
Other	40.1	36.9	1.0	12.9	7.0	1.5	0.6	100.0	78.0	76.4	10.9	6.0	4.7	937
<b>Caste/tribe</b>														
Scheduled caste	57.5	30.6	0.5	6.9	3.5	0.7	0.4	100.0	88.5	77.2	18.6	10.4	8.1	53,756
Scheduled tribe	53.4	30.4	0.7	8.0	6.0	1.1	0.5	100.0	84.5	77.2	11.2	6.0	5.1	23,141
Other backward class	61.2	28.3	0.5	5.5	3.6	0.7	0.3	100.0	89.9	76.8	22.1	12.6	9.4	100,408
Other	71.4	20.0	0.3	4.5	3.0	0.4	0.3	100.0	91.8	73.0	28.1	16.6	11.3	51,406
Don't know	61.1	25.3	0.4	6.1	4.5	1.8	0.7	100.0	86.8	67.0	20.0	12.4	7.5	2,159
<b>Wealth quintile</b>														
Lowest	41.3	37.2	0.8	12.1	6.7	1.3	0.6	100.0	79.3	77.3	7.3	3.6	3.7	56,771
Second	54.9	32.7	0.5	7.0	3.8	0.7	0.4	100.0	88.2	75.7	15.0	8.1	6.8	50,170
Middle	67.0	25.0	0.3	3.9	2.9	0.6	0.3	100.0	92.4	77.1	23.9	13.6	10.2	45,101
Fourth	74.5	20.2	0.3	2.2	2.3	0.3	0.2	100.0	95.0	76.0	30.4	17.9	12.3	42,505
Highest	82.0	14.7	0.1	1.3	1.6	0.2	0.1	100.0	96.8	72.9	39.1	23.7	15.2	36,323

Continued...

**Table 8.19 Assistance during delivery—Continued**

Percent distribution of live births to women age 15-49 in the 5 years preceding the survey by person providing assistance during delivery, percentage delivered by caesarean section (C-section), percentage delivered by C-section that was planned before the onset of labour pains, and percentage delivered by C-section that was decided after the onset of labour pains, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person providing assistance during delivery							Total	Percentage delivered by a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with skin-to-skin contact immediately after birth	Percentage delivered by caesarean section	Timing of decision to conduct a C-section		Number of births
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	Dai (TBA)	Friends/ relatives	Other	No one					Before onset of labour pains	After onset of labour pains	
<b>Antenatal care visits<sup>2</sup></b>														
None	43.6	27.3	0.8	13.9	10.7	2.4	1.3	100.0	71.7	69.5	13.2	7.3	5.7	10,712
1-3	51.3	35.3	0.5	7.5	4.1	0.9	0.4	100.0	87.1	75.0	16.8	9.4	7.2	59,656
4 or more	73.7	20.6	0.3	2.8	2.2	0.3	0.1	100.0	94.6	76.9	29.2	17.0	12.1	102,334
Don't know/missing	73.3	18.5	0.6	2.4	3.4	0.8	1.0	100.0	92.4	69.3	29.1	16.0	12.4	2,245
<b>Place of delivery</b>														
Public sector health facility	61.4	35.4	0.3	0.5	1.9	0.4	0.1	100.0	97.1	80.3	14.3	8.2	6.0	142,943
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	81.7	15.6	0.1	0.2	1.8	0.3	0.2	100.0	97.4	70.9	41.1	23.2	17.6	1,002
Private sector health facility	83.0	14.0	0.2	0.2	2.0	0.4	0.2	100.0	97.2	69.1	47.5	27.3	20.0	60,593
Own home	12.4	13.1	1.9	50.0	17.8	2.9	1.9	100.0	27.5	69.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	22,320
Parent's home	21.5	13.6	2.6	43.3	15.0	3.1	1.0	100.0	37.6	66.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3,297
Other home	15.3	21.5	4.9	37.6	15.3	0.6	4.7	100.0	41.8	67.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	231
Other <sup>3</sup>	48.0	17.1	1.5	9.4	13.7	7.7	2.6	100.0	66.7	62.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	484
Total	61.8	27.2	0.5	5.9	3.7	0.7	0.3	100.0	89.4	76.0	21.5	12.3	9.0	230,870

Note: If the respondent mentioned more than one person attending during delivery, only the most qualified person is considered in this tabulation.

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant; NGO = Nongovernmental organization

<sup>1</sup> Skilled provider includes doctor, auxiliary nurse midwife, nurse, midwife, lady health visitor, and other health personnel

<sup>2</sup> Includes only the most recent birth in the 5 years preceding the survey

<sup>3</sup> Includes missing

**Table 8.20 Delivery costs**

The average out-of-pocket cost paid for delivery for the most recent live birth among women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey that was delivered in a health facility, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Average cost (Rs.) <sup>1</sup>			Number of births in a health facility
	Public health facility	Private health facility	Any health facility	
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>				
<20	3,439	21,633	7,828	16,071
20-34	3,219	24,695	10,186	135,488
35-49	3,249	29,501	12,434	5,993
<b>Birth order</b>				
1	3,841	27,338	12,726	58,018
2-3	3,084	23,269	9,148	82,838
4 or more	2,359	17,287	5,191	16,696
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	3,711	26,862	14,211	46,727
Rural	3,099	23,040	8,272	110,826
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	2,429	17,094	4,920	26,291
<5 years complete	2,846	19,256	5,888	6,940
5-7 years complete	2,912	19,473	6,568	21,673
8-9 years complete	3,127	22,004	7,600	29,526
10-11 years complete	3,686	23,545	10,188	22,805
12 or more years complete	4,094	28,366	16,121	50,317
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	3,167	24,719	9,841	126,488
Muslim	3,449	22,862	9,908	24,006
Christian	4,305	30,747	14,343	3,152
Sikh	3,834	28,333	14,970	2,241
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	3,448	22,751	10,151	838
Jain	7,601	32,133	26,955	272
Other	4,443	29,306	8,529	556
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	3,032	21,905	7,417	35,216
Scheduled tribe	2,475	20,202	5,339	14,492
Other backward class	3,183	24,909	10,703	68,456
Other	4,045	26,488	13,134	38,028
Don't know	3,093	22,332	7,788	1,361
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,245</b>	<b>24,663</b>	<b>10,035</b>	<b>157,552</b>

Note: Out-of-pocket cost paid for the delivery includes the cost of transportation, the hospital stay, tests, medicines, and other costs.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes women who don't know the cost

**Table 8.21 Duration of stay in health facility after birth**

Among women with a birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who delivered their most recent live birth in a health facility, percent distribution by type of health facility and duration of stay in the health facility following their most recent live birth, according to type of delivery, India, 2019-21

Type of delivery	<6 hours	6-11 hours	12-23 hours	1-2 days	3 or more days	Don't know/missing	Total	Number of women
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITY</b>								
Vaginal birth	13.8	4.0	2.6	39.6	39.7	0.2	100.0	90,800
Caesarean birth	4.9	1.5	0.4	7.4	85.4	0.4	100.0	17,430
<b>PRIVATE HEALTH FACILITY</b>								
Vaginal birth	11.6	3.2	2.8	45.7	36.6	0.2	100.0	24,803
Caesarean birth	3.3	1.1	0.1	5.5	89.8	0.2	100.0	24,520
<b>ANY HEALTH FACILITY</b>								
Vaginal birth	13.3	3.9	2.6	40.9	39.1	0.2	100.0	115,603
Caesarean birth	4.0	1.3	0.2	6.3	88.0	0.3	100.0	41,950

Table 8.22 Timing of first postnatal health check for the mother

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percent distribution of the mother's first postnatal health check for the most recent live birth by time after delivery, and percentage of women with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal health check during the first 2 days after giving birth, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Time between delivery and mother's first postnatal health check <sup>1</sup>						Don't know/ missing	No postnatal health check <sup>2</sup>	Total	Percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth	Number of women
	Less than 4 hours	4-23 hours	1-2 days	3-6 days	7-41 days						
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>											
<20	46.0	3.8	9.3	7.6	13.3	0.8	19.3	100.0	59.1	17,680	
20-34	48.0	3.7	10.0	8.1	14.0	0.7	15.5	100.0	61.7	150,036	
35-49	45.8	2.9	9.2	6.8	15.0	1.0	19.2	100.0	58.0	7,231	
<b>Birth order</b>											
1	47.5	3.9	9.6	8.4	16.4	0.9	13.2	100.0	61.1	60,681	
2-3	48.3	3.5	10.1	8.1	13.8	0.7	15.5	100.0	61.9	91,908	
4-5	46.3	3.5	10.3	6.9	8.2	0.7	24.0	100.0	60.2	17,962	
6 or more	43.1	2.8	9.4	5.7	7.0	0.7	31.3	100.0	55.3	4,396	
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	50.0	3.6	8.8	7.1	17.8	0.8	11.9	100.0	62.4	49,341	
Rural	46.8	3.7	10.3	8.4	12.5	0.7	17.6	100.0	60.8	125,606	
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	45.9	3.2	9.9	6.8	8.1	0.6	25.4	100.0	59.0	34,350	
<5 years complete	47.1	3.7	10.2	7.1	10.7	1.0	20.2	100.0	61.0	8,191	
5-7 years complete	48.6	3.5	10.2	8.0	12.0	0.7	16.9	100.0	62.4	24,483	
8-9 years complete	48.2	3.7	9.7	8.7	13.5	0.7	15.4	100.0	61.7	32,277	
10-11 years complete	48.7	3.8	9.7	8.2	16.2	0.8	12.6	100.0	62.2	23,982	
12 or more years complete	47.7	3.9	9.9	8.5	18.6	0.8	10.5	100.0	61.6	51,664	

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Table 8.22 Timing of first postnatal health check for the mother—Continued

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percent distribution of the mother's first postnatal health check for the most recent live birth by time after delivery, and percentage of women with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal health check during the first 2 days after giving birth, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Time between delivery and mother's first postnatal health check <sup>1</sup>							Don't know/ missing	No postnatal health check <sup>2</sup>	Total	Percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth	Number of women
	Less than 4 hours	4-23 hours	1-2 days	3-6 days	7-41 days	7-41 days	7-41 days					
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	47.7	3.8	10.2	8.2	14.0	15.4	0.7	15.4	100.0	61.6	139,207	
Muslim	47.4	3.3	8.8	7.1	12.9	19.8	0.7	19.8	100.0	59.5	27,843	
Christian	42.9	2.7	9.3	6.9	19.4	15.9	2.8	15.9	100.0	54.9	3,689	
Sikh	54.6	2.2	9.5	9.2	14.1	9.3	1.0	9.3	100.0	66.3	2,324	
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	57.9	4.5	6.5	5.1	14.7	9.5	1.7	9.5	100.0	68.9	887	
Jain	50.9	2.2	9.0	4.5	28.5	4.4	0.5	4.4	100.0	62.2	272	
Other	50.1	2.5	10.7	5.4	9.3	20.8	1.1	20.8	100.0	63.3	724	
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	48.1	3.5	9.8	8.0	13.0	17.0	0.7	17.0	100.0	61.4	39,627	
Scheduled tribe	47.4	3.4	10.9	9.3	11.5	16.5	1.1	16.5	100.0	61.7	17,291	
Other backward class	47.9	3.5	10.2	7.6	14.8	15.2	0.7	15.2	100.0	61.6	75,232	
Other	47.1	4.2	9.1	8.2	14.5	16.1	0.8	16.1	100.0	60.4	41,236	
Don't know	43.4	4.1	8.7	7.3	12.3	22.0	2.2	22.0	100.0	56.3	1,560	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	44.2	3.5	9.8	6.9	8.5	26.3	0.8	26.3	100.0	57.5	39,839	
Second	47.3	3.8	10.1	8.3	11.3	18.4	0.7	18.4	100.0	61.2	36,811	
Middle	48.4	3.6	10.3	7.9	15.3	13.6	0.7	13.6	100.0	62.4	34,249	
Fourth	49.7	3.8	9.5	8.2	17.1	10.9	0.7	10.9	100.0	63.1	33,650	
Highest	49.6	3.6	9.7	8.9	19.4	7.9	0.8	7.9	100.0	62.9	30,398	

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**Table 8.22. Timing of first postnatal health check for the mother—Continued**

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percent distribution of the mother's first postnatal health check for the most recent live birth by time after delivery, and percentage of women with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal health check during the first 2 days after giving birth, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Time between delivery and mother's first postnatal health check <sup>1</sup>						Don't know/ missing	No postnatal health check <sup>2</sup>	Total	Percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth	Number of women
	Less than 4 hours	4-23 hours	1-2 days	3-6 days	7-41 days	14.2					
<b>Place of delivery</b>											
Public sector health facility	49.4	3.8	10.3	8.6	13.0	0.7	14.2	100.0	63.5	108,230	
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	53.3	5.2	8.1	7.3	13.8	1.2	11.1	100.0	66.5	827	
Private sector health facility	48.8	3.7	9.3	8.5	19.8	0.9	9.1	100.0	61.8	48,495	
Own home	33.7	2.7	9.4	3.3	3.9	0.5	46.3	100.0	45.9	14,711	
Parent's home	32.5	1.5	9.4	2.8	4.1	0.6	49.1	100.0	43.5	2,135	
Other home	32.1	3.2	3.2	6.2	5.3	1.3	48.7	100.0	38.5	170	
Other <sup>3</sup>	43.3	5.3	3.7	1.8	5.1	0.9	39.9	100.0	52.3	379	
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>174,947</b>	

Note: Postnatal health checks are checks on the woman's health within 42 days of the birth.

NGO = Nongovernmental organization

<sup>1</sup> Includes women who received a check from a doctor, midwife, nurse, community health worker, or traditional birth attendant

<sup>2</sup> Includes women who received a check after 41 days

<sup>3</sup> Includes missing

Table 8.23 Type of provider of first postnatal health check for the mother

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percent distribution by type of provider for the mother's first postnatal health check for the last live birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of health provider of mother's first postnatal health check							Total	Number of women
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	Dai (TBA)	ASHA	Other	No postnatal health check		
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>									
<20	40.0	25.6	0.3	1.8	12.9	0.1	19.3	100.0	17,680
20-34	43.8	26.6	0.3	2.1	11.6	0.2	15.5	100.0	150,036
35-49	41.0	24.7	0.3	3.0	11.8	0.1	19.2	100.0	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>									
1	49.3	24.8	0.3	1.2	11.0	0.1	13.2	100.0	60,681
2-3	43.5	26.8	0.3	2.0	11.7	0.2	15.5	100.0	91,908
4-5	27.4	29.2	0.3	4.8	14.0	0.2	24.0	100.0	17,962
6 or more	20.2	27.0	0.3	6.6	14.3	0.1	31.3	100.0	4,396
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	58.0	22.3	0.3	1.5	5.9	0.2	11.9	100.0	49,341
Rural	37.5	28.0	0.3	2.4	14.1	0.1	17.6	100.0	125,606
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	26.8	28.7	0.3	4.6	13.9	0.2	25.4	100.0	34,350
<5 years complete	36.5	26.6	0.2	2.8	13.5	0.1	20.2	100.0	8,191
5-7 years complete	38.7	28.6	0.3	2.3	13.0	0.1	16.9	100.0	24,483
8-9 years complete	39.9	29.1	0.3	2.0	13.2	0.1	15.4	100.0	32,277
10-11 years complete	50.0	24.4	0.3	1.1	11.4	0.1	12.6	100.0	23,982
12 or more years complete	56.5	23.0	0.3	0.9	8.8	0.2	10.5	100.0	51,664
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	42.9	27.3	0.3	2.1	11.9	0.1	15.4	100.0	139,207
Muslim	42.9	22.4	0.3	2.7	11.7	0.1	19.8	100.0	27,843
Christian	51.9	18.5	0.2	1.2	12.1	0.3	15.9	100.0	3,689
Sikh	47.8	34.3	0.3	1.4	6.2	0.7	9.3	100.0	2,324
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	70.0	15.2	0.3	0.6	4.5	0.0	9.5	100.0	887
Jain	77.3	16.0	0.0	0.5	1.7	0.1	4.4	100.0	272
Other	30.3	30.8	0.1	2.9	14.8	0.3	20.8	100.0	724
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	39.3	28.3	0.2	2.5	12.5	0.1	17.0	100.0	39,627
Scheduled tribe	35.8	29.6	0.3	2.5	15.0	0.2	16.5	100.0	17,291
Other backward class	43.3	27.5	0.3	2.2	11.4	0.1	15.2	100.0	75,232
Other	50.4	21.3	0.2	1.5	10.4	0.2	16.1	100.0	41,236
Don't know	40.2	23.7	0.1	2.4	11.3	0.2	22.0	100.0	1,560

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Table 8.23 Type of provider of first postnatal health check for the mother—*Continued*

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percent distribution by type of provider for the mother's first postnatal health check for the last live birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of health provider of mother's first postnatal health check						No postnatal health check	Total	Number of women
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	Dai (TBA)	ASHA	Other			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	24.7	28.3	0.3	4.0	16.2	0.2	26.3	100.0	39,839
Second	34.9	29.2	0.3	2.5	14.5	0.1	18.4	100.0	36,811
Middle	45.5	27.4	0.2	1.5	11.7	0.1	13.6	100.0	34,249
Fourth	53.9	24.6	0.3	1.2	8.9	0.1	10.9	100.0	33,650
Highest	63.5	21.3	0.2	1.0	6.0	0.2	7.9	100.0	30,398
<b>Place of delivery</b>									
Public sector health facility	39.1	32.6	0.2	0.7	12.9	0.1	14.2	100.0	108,230
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	64.2	19.1	0.0	0.4	5.3	0.0	11.1	100.0	827
Private sector health facility	64.1	18.8	0.3	0.6	7.1	0.1	9.1	100.0	48,495
Own home	8.9	8.8	0.6	15.7	19.2	0.5	46.3	100.0	14,711
Parent's home	12.9	9.0	0.6	15.0	12.7	0.7	49.1	100.0	2,135
Other home	6.4	16.1	1.9	15.6	11.3	0.0	48.7	100.0	170
Other <sup>1</sup>	34.3	14.2	0.8	3.9	6.9	0.0	39.9	100.0	379
Total	43.3	26.4	0.3	2.1	11.8	0.2	16.0	100.0	174,947

Note: Postnatal health checks are checks on the woman's health within 42 days of the birth.

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant; ASHA = Accredited Social Health Activist; NGO = Nongovernmental organization

<sup>1</sup> Includes missing

**Table 8.24 Timing of first postnatal health check for the newborn**

Percent distribution of last births in the 5 years preceding the survey by whether or not they received a postnatal health check and the timing of the first postnatal health check, and percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Time between delivery and newborn's first postnatal health check							Total	Percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth	Number of births
	Less than 1 hour	1-3 hours	4-23 hours	1-2 days	3-41 days	Don't know/missing	No postnatal health check			
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>										
<20	21.9	49.2	3.9	4.9	3.8	1.1	15.2	100.0	79.9	17,680
20-34	22.2	51.5	3.5	4.9	3.5	0.9	13.5	100.0	82.1	150,036
35-49	20.3	48.0	3.2	4.5	4.6	1.0	18.5	100.0	75.9	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>										
1	24.3	52.7	4.0	4.7	3.0	1.1	10.2	100.0	85.7	60,681
2-3	22.0	51.8	3.4	4.8	3.6	0.8	13.5	100.0	82.0	91,908
4-5	17.4	44.9	3.0	5.3	4.9	0.5	24.0	100.0	70.5	17,962
6 or more	14.4	38.7	3.0	5.3	6.0	0.5	32.1	100.0	61.4	4,396
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	24.0	54.7	3.6	4.4	2.8	0.9	9.5	100.0	86.7	49,341
Rural	21.4	49.7	3.5	5.0	3.9	0.9	15.6	100.0	79.6	125,606
<b>Mother's schooling</b>										
No schooling	16.9	44.1	2.9	5.3	5.0	0.5	25.2	100.0	69.3	34,350
<5 years complete	20.7	47.8	3.5	5.1	4.3	1.0	17.5	100.0	77.2	8,191
5-7 years complete	21.3	50.5	3.7	5.0	3.7	0.8	15.0	100.0	80.5	24,483
8-9 years complete	23.8	50.8	3.5	4.7	3.5	1.0	12.7	100.0	82.8	32,277
10-11 years complete	22.5	54.7	3.8	4.9	3.3	1.0	9.8	100.0	85.9	23,982
12 or more years complete	25.0	55.1	3.8	4.4	2.7	1.1	7.9	100.0	88.3	51,664

Continued...

Table 8.24 Timing of first postnatal health check for the newborn—Continued

Background characteristic	Time between delivery and newborn's first postnatal health check										Total	Percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth	Number of births
	Less than												
	1 hour	1-3 hours	4-23 hours	1-2 days	3-41 days	Don't know/missing	No postnatal health check						
<b>Religion</b>													
Hindu	22.2	51.7	3.6	4.9	3.5	0.8	13.2	100.0	82.5	139,207			
Muslim	20.1	49.2	3.4	4.7	4.2	0.9	17.5	100.0	77.4	27,843			
Christian	23.7	45.4	3.0	5.2	4.6	3.5	14.5	100.0	77.3	3,689			
Sikh	39.2	43.9	1.8	3.3	1.6	0.8	9.3	100.0	88.3	2,324			
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	19.0	62.3	2.2	3.8	3.8	0.8	8.2	100.0	87.2	887			
Jain	38.2	44.5	1.9	3.9	7.3	0.7	3.4	100.0	88.6	272			
Other	17.7	46.1	1.5	4.8	6.0	1.4	22.4	100.0	70.2	724			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>													
Scheduled caste	22.4	49.9	3.4	4.8	3.6	0.9	14.9	100.0	80.6	39,627			
Scheduled tribe	19.7	50.1	3.5	5.8	4.6	1.1	15.2	100.0	79.0	17,291			
Other backward class	22.2	52.0	3.2	4.9	3.4	0.7	13.6	100.0	82.3	75,232			
Other	22.9	51.1	4.3	4.4	3.5	1.1	12.7	100.0	82.7	41,236			
Don't know	19.4	47.3	3.7	4.3	3.6	2.6	19.1	100.0	74.7	1,560			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>													
Lowest	17.7	42.8	3.3	5.4	5.2	0.9	24.7	100.0	69.2	39,839			
Second	20.5	49.6	3.6	5.2	4.0	0.9	16.3	100.0	78.8	36,811			
Middle	22.1	53.9	3.7	4.9	3.4	0.9	11.1	100.0	84.6	34,249			
Fourth	23.7	55.7	3.8	4.5	2.8	0.9	8.6	100.0	87.7	33,650			
Highest	28.2	55.5	3.3	4.0	2.1	0.9	6.0	100.0	91.1	30,398			

Continued...

Table 8.24 Timing of first postnatal health check for the newborn—Continued

Background characteristic	Time between delivery and newborn's first postnatal health check							Total	Percentage with a postnatal health check in the first 2 days after birth	Number of births
	Less than									
	1 hour	1-3 hours	4-23 hours	1-2 days	3-41 days	Don't know/missing	No postnatal health check			
<b>Place of delivery</b>										
Public sector health facility	22.7	54.9	3.9	4.6	2.5	0.8	10.4	100.0	86.2	108,230
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	27.1	53.2	4.9	4.3	1.7	0.4	8.4	100.0	89.4	827
Private sector health facility	26.7	56.0	3.3	3.8	2.2	1.2	6.8	100.0	89.8	48,495
Own home	5.4	13.3	1.8	9.3	14.8	0.3	55.1	100.0	29.8	14,711
Parent's home	6.1	12.9	2.0	8.1	12.2	0.7	58.0	100.0	29.1	2,135
Other home	5.2	8.8	1.4	6.5	16.7	0.7	60.7	100.0	21.9	170
Other <sup>1</sup>	5.1	19.1	1.3	7.2	11.0	0.4	55.8	100.0	32.7	379
Total	22.1	51.1	3.5	4.8	3.6	0.9	13.9	100.0	81.6	174,947

Note: Postnatal health checks are checks on the newborn's health within 42 days.

<sup>1</sup> Includes missing

Table 8.25 Type of provider of first postnatal health check for the newborn

Percent distribution of last births in the 5 years preceding the survey by type of provider for the newborn's first postnatal health check during the two days after the birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of health provider of newborn's first postnatal health check							No postnatal health check	Total	Number of births
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	Dai (TBA)	ASHA	Other	Don't know/ missing			
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>										
<20	13.0	10.1	0.3	1.4	16.7	0.1	0.4	58.0	100.0	17,680
20-34	15.5	11.2	0.2	1.6	14.3	0.1	0.3	56.9	100.0	150,036
35-49	14.9	10.3	0.1	2.2	13.7	0.1	0.4	58.3	100.0	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>										
1	17.7	10.9	0.2	1.0	14.3	0.1	0.3	55.6	100.0	60,681
2-3	15.2	11.3	0.2	1.5	14.4	0.1	0.3	56.9	100.0	91,908
4-5	9.1	10.3	0.2	3.4	15.4	0.2	0.3	61.2	100.0	17,962
6 or more	6.9	9.4	0.1	4.2	16.1	0.1	0.3	62.9	100.0	4,396
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	21.3	9.8	0.3	1.2	7.6	0.2	0.2	59.4	100.0	49,341
Rural	12.9	11.5	0.2	1.7	17.2	0.1	0.3	56.1	100.0	125,606
<b>Mother's schooling</b>										
No schooling	8.6	10.4	0.2	3.2	15.9	0.2	0.3	61.4	100.0	34,350
<5 years complete	10.2	11.0	0.2	1.9	17.8	0.2	0.4	58.2	100.0	8,191
5-7 years complete	12.0	11.6	0.2	1.7	15.8	0.1	0.3	58.2	100.0	24,483
8-9 years complete	13.6	11.5	0.2	1.7	17.3	0.1	0.2	55.3	100.0	32,277
10-11 years complete	17.2	10.8	0.3	0.8	14.1	0.1	0.3	56.4	100.0	23,982
12 or more years complete	22.1	10.9	0.2	0.7	10.8	0.1	0.3	54.8	100.0	51,664
<b>Religion</b>										
Hindu	15.5	11.5	0.2	1.6	14.6	0.1	0.3	56.2	100.0	139,207
Muslim	13.3	8.9	0.2	2.0	14.8	0.1	0.2	60.4	100.0	27,843
Christian	18.1	8.6	0.4	0.9	12.1	0.2	0.9	58.8	100.0	3,689
Sikh	17.7	11.3	0.1	0.9	9.7	0.3	0.4	59.6	100.0	2,324
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	19.2	7.0	0.2	0.7	6.7	0.1	0.1	66.0	100.0	887
Jain	31.0	6.8	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.1	0.4	56.9	100.0	272
Other	7.7	9.7	0.0	2.0	13.6	0.1	0.7	66.1	100.0	724
<b>Caste/tribe</b>										
Scheduled caste	13.6	11.6	0.2	2.0	15.5	0.1	0.3	56.7	100.0	39,627
Scheduled tribe	11.4	13.2	0.2	1.9	17.7	0.1	0.3	55.2	100.0	17,291
Other backward class	16.1	11.5	0.2	1.6	13.4	0.1	0.2	56.9	100.0	75,232
Other	16.9	8.9	0.2	1.1	14.3	0.1	0.3	58.2	100.0	41,236
Don't know	13.1	7.2	0.2	1.7	11.3	0.3	1.4	65.0	100.0	1,560

Continued...

Table 8.25 Type of provider of first postnatal health check for the newborn—*Continued*

Percent distribution of last births in the 5 years preceding the survey by type of provider for the newborn's first postnatal health check during the two days after the birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of health provider of newborn's first postnatal health check							No postnatal health check	Total	Number of births
	Doctor	ANM/ nurse/ midwife/ LHV	Other health personnel	<i>Dai</i> (TBA)	ASHA	Other	Don't know/ missing			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	7.4	10.9	0.2	2.8	19.1	0.2	0.3	59.1	100.0	39,839
Second	10.9	11.7	0.2	1.9	17.7	0.1	0.3	57.1	100.0	36,811
Middle	15.6	11.9	0.2	1.1	14.5	0.1	0.3	56.3	100.0	34,249
Fourth	20.1	10.9	0.3	0.9	11.2	0.1	0.3	56.2	100.0	33,650
Highest	25.1	9.4	0.2	0.8	8.2	0.1	0.2	55.9	100.0	30,398
<b>Place of delivery</b>										
Public sector health facility	12.8	12.4	0.2	0.7	16.4	0.1	0.3	57.0	100.0	108,230
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	22.0	9.8	0.1	0.4	6.9	0.0	0.0	60.8	100.0	827
Private sector health facility	23.4	8.6	0.2	0.6	9.3	0.1	0.2	57.6	100.0	48,495
Own home	6.3	9.1	0.4	10.1	18.7	0.3	0.3	54.8	100.0	14,711
Parent's home	9.4	8.2	0.6	11.0	12.1	0.6	0.7	57.4	100.0	2,135
Other home	8.7	11.3	0.9	6.2	11.5	0.0	0.7	60.7	100.0	170
Other <sup>1</sup>	22.5	8.5	0.0	2.0	10.7	0.7	0.4	55.2	100.0	379
Total	15.2	11.0	0.2	1.6	14.5	0.1	0.3	57.0	100.0	174,947

Note: Postnatal health checks are checks on the newborn's health within 42 days of the birth.

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant; ASHA = Accredited Social Health Activist; NGO = Nongovernmental organization

<sup>1</sup> Includes missing



Table 8.26 Components of postnatal health check

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, components of postnatal care for the most recent birth from a healthcare provider in the 2 days after birth, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage whose cord was examined	Percentage whose temperature was measured	Percentage who were counselled on danger signs for newborns	Percentage who were counselled on breastfeeding	Percentage who were observed breastfeeding the baby	Number of births
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>						
<20	68.8	73.2	71.2	81.1	76.7	17,680
20-34	73.3	76.2	73.2	81.2	76.8	150,036
35-49	70.0	72.3	68.5	76.4	72.4	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>						
1	74.9	78.8	75.0	83.5	79.3	60,681
2-3	73.3	76.3	73.5	81.5	77.1	91,908
4-5	65.5	66.1	64.8	73.1	68.3	17,962
6 or more	58.6	59.8	59.7	68.0	62.0	4,396
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	76.2	79.9	75.8	83.3	79.6	49,341
Rural	71.3	74.1	71.6	80.1	75.4	125,606
<b>Mother's schooling</b>						
No schooling	64.6	65.7	65.0	73.2	68.0	34,350
<5 years complete	66.5	69.9	67.3	77.2	73.1	8,191
5-7 years complete	71.2	74.1	71.4	79.8	74.9	24,483
8-9 years complete	73.4	76.7	73.6	82.3	77.9	32,277
10-11 years complete	75.6	79.7	76.3	84.2	80.3	23,982
12 or more years complete	78.0	81.6	77.3	85.0	81.0	51,664
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	73.7	76.4	73.7	81.6	77.0	139,207
Muslim	66.9	71.0	68.4	77.5	73.7	27,843
Christian	73.9	77.6	69.4	79.7	75.6	3,689
Sikh	82.1	85.2	76.6	88.9	84.8	2,324
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	69.3	73.4	70.9	80.7	78.8	887
Jain	88.8	90.7	83.5	91.5	90.2	272
Other	67.5	71.7	68.2	78.3	72.0	724
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	71.9	74.6	72.4	80.9	76.2	39,627
Scheduled tribe	72.7	76.4	74.0	81.6	77.1	17,291
Other backward class	74.2	76.3	73.7	81.1	76.6	75,232
Other	71.2	75.9	71.6	81.0	77.0	41,236
Don't know	59.0	63.0	56.0	72.4	66.5	1,560
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	63.6	65.4	65.0	74.4	69.5	39,839
Second	70.3	73.3	71.0	79.6	74.7	36,811
Middle	75.2	78.3	75.2	83.1	78.8	34,249
Fourth	77.2	81.1	77.0	84.5	80.5	33,650
Highest	79.7	83.1	77.8	85.2	81.1	30,398
Total	72.7	75.7	72.8	81.0	76.6	174,947

Note: Healthcare provider includes auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM), lady health visitor (LHV), Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), *anganwadi* worker, and other community health worker.

**Table 8.27 Symptoms of postpartum complications**

Among women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, percentage who had massive vaginal bleeding or very high fever within 2 months after the most recent delivery, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Massive vaginal bleeding	Very high fever	Number of births
<b>Residence</b>			
Urban	22.9	15.6	49,341
Rural	23.1	18.7	125,606
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>			
<20	24.3	17.4	17,680
20-34	23.0	17.9	150,036
35-49	20.4	18.1	7,231
<b>Birth order</b>			
1	24.5	17.4	60,681
2-3	22.6	17.5	91,908
4-5	21.1	20.4	17,962
6 or more	20.1	20.5	4,396
<b>Place of delivery</b>			
Public sector health facility	23.7	18.7	108,230
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	23.5	16.2	827
Private sector health facility	22.3	15.7	48,495
Own home	20.2	18.3	14,711
Parent's home	25.7	17.9	2,135
Other home	28.2	19.9	170
Other <sup>1</sup>	24.3	17.4	379
<b>Assistance during delivery</b>			
Doctor	23.5	16.6	112,331
ANM/nurse/midwife/LHV	22.5	20.7	45,428
Other health personnel	22.1	24.8	728
<i>Dai</i> (TBA)	19.6	17.8	8,844
Other <sup>1</sup>	22.6	18.9	7,096
No one	16.5	10.8	519
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>174,947</b>

NGO = Nongovernmental organization; ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor; TBA = Traditional birth attendant

<sup>1</sup> Includes missing

**Table 8.28 Maternal care indicators by state/union territory**

Maternal care indicators for births to mothers age 15-49 during the 5 years preceding the survey by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who received all recommended types of antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of deliveries with a postnatal health check <sup>2</sup> for the mother	Percentage of deliveries with a postnatal health check for the mother within 2 days of birth <sup>2</sup>
<b>India</b>	31.2	83.2	81.7
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	61.6	97.1	91.3
Delhi	56.5	89.2	88.3
Haryana	35.3	94.1	93.3
Himachal Pradesh	45.3	92.0	90.5
Jammu & Kashmir	23.4	86.7	85.7
Ladakh	10.4	84.6	82.5
Punjab	34.4	89.6	88.5
Rajasthan	21.7	87.4	86.3
Uttarakhand	31.4	85.8	84.6
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	29.7	91.1	89.3
Madhya Pradesh	32.9	88.2	86.8
Uttar Pradesh	11.9	81.8	79.3
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	7.6	65.7	64.4
Jharkhand	14.9	77.5	75.9
Odisha	49.8	93.8	92.5
West Bengal	48.2	73.9	70.1
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	14.4	62.3	59.2
Assam	26.9	72.0	69.6
Manipur	46.1	76.4	75.3
Meghalaya	26.4	69.8	56.4
Mizoram	37.3	73.0	70.2
Nagaland	5.3	48.6	47.7
Sikkim	34.9	76.4	71.2
Tripura	15.4	75.6	73.2
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	53.5	94.9	92.2
Goa	81.3	95.3	95.4
Gujarat	49.0	92.6	91.5
Maharashtra	37.9	87.8	86.3

*Continued...*

**Table 8.28 Maternal care indicators by state/union territory—Continued**

Maternal care indicators for births to mothers age 15-49 during the 5 years preceding the survey by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who received all recommended types of antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of deliveries with a postnatal health check <sup>2</sup> for the mother	Percentage of deliveries with a postnatal health check for the mother within 2 days of birth <sup>2</sup>
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	65.9	90.7	89.1
Andhra Pradesh	46.8	91.8	91.3
Karnataka	34.0	90.1	88.5
Kerala	69.3	85.6	93.2
Lakshadweep	75.4	90.7	92.6
Puducherry	68.9	90.0	93.1
Tamil Nadu	71.3	92.7	93.2
Telangana	38.0	91.3	88.5

<sup>1</sup> For the last live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, mother received four or more antenatal checks, received at least one tetanus toxoid injection, and took iron and folic acid tablets or syrup for 100 days or more

<sup>2</sup> Based on the last live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey. Postnatal health checks are checks on the woman's health within 42 days of the birth

**Table 8.29 Trends in maternal care indicators**

Maternal care indicators for births to women age 15-49 during the 5 years preceding the survey by residence, NFHS-5 and NFHS-4, India

Indicator	NFHS-5 (2019-2021)	NFHS-4 (2015-2016)
<b>URBAN</b>		
Percentage who received antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	95.7	90.7
Percentage who had at least four antenatal care visits <sup>1</sup>	68.5	66.4
Percentage who received antenatal care within the first trimester of pregnancy <sup>1</sup>	75.4	69.1
Percentage of births delivered in a health facility <sup>2</sup>	93.8	88.7
Percentage of deliveries assisted by a skilled provider <sup>2,3</sup>	94.0	90.0
<b>RURAL</b>		
Percentage who received antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	93.1	80.4
Percentage who had at least four antenatal care visits <sup>1</sup>	54.5	44.8
Percentage who received antenatal care within the first trimester of pregnancy <sup>1</sup>	67.9	54.2
Percentage of births delivered in a health facility <sup>2</sup>	86.7	75.1
Percentage of deliveries assisted by a skilled provider <sup>2,3</sup>	87.8	78.0
<b>TOTAL</b>		
Percentage who received antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	93.9	83.5
Percentage who had at least four antenatal care visits <sup>1</sup>	58.5	51.2
Percentage who received antenatal care within the first trimester of pregnancy <sup>1</sup>	70.0	58.6
Percentage of births delivered in a health facility <sup>2</sup>	88.6	78.9
Percentage of deliveries assisted by a skilled provider <sup>2,3</sup>	89.4	81.4

<sup>1</sup> Based on the last birth to women in the 5 years preceding the survey

<sup>2</sup> Based on all births to women in the 5 years preceding the survey

<sup>3</sup> Doctor, auxiliary nurse midwife, nurse, midwife, lady health visitor, or other health personnel

Table 8.30 Advice received during pregnancy

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who met with a community health worker in the last 3 months of pregnancy for their most recent live birth, percentage who received different types of advice, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who received advice on:					Number of women who met with a community health worker in the last 3 months of pregnancy <sup>1</sup>
	Importance of institutional delivery	Cord care	Breastfeeding	Keeping the baby warm	Family planning	
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>						
<20	87.0	82.6	88.7	85.6	80.9	12,648
20-34	88.6	84.6	90.4	86.8	83.3	103,390
35-49	87.2	84.8	89.9	86.2	82.8	4,423
<b>Birth order</b>						
1	88.7	85.0	90.7	87.6	82.7	42,179
2-3	88.7	84.9	90.7	87.2	84.0	64,092
4 or more	86.1	80.3	86.6	81.7	79.4	14,190
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	90.0	86.2	91.5	88.6	85.9	29,138
Rural	87.9	83.8	89.8	86.1	82.1	91,322
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	86.0	80.7	86.9	82.2	79.0	22,077
<5 years complete	86.4	80.9	87.5	84.1	79.9	5,740
5-7 years complete	88.2	84.4	90.3	86.9	82.6	17,627
8-9 years complete	88.9	85.1	90.3	87.1	83.9	23,490
10-11 years complete	89.5	86.1	92.0	88.9	85.0	17,346
12 or more years complete	89.5	85.9	91.9	88.5	84.8	34,180
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	88.6	84.4	90.3	86.7	83.1	97,548
Muslim	87.3	84.3	89.2	86.1	82.6	17,877
Christian	89.1	83.3	92.3	89.1	83.1	2,525
Sikh	91.6	87.2	94.4	89.1	84.2	1,401
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	88.1	86.9	90.3	86.9	86.1	525
Jain	93.2	91.6	98.2	96.9	93.7	119
Other	85.2	74.8	84.0	78.0	76.9	465
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	88.6	84.1	90.3	86.6	82.7	28,368
Scheduled tribe	90.1	87.1	92.3	89.7	86.0	12,799
Other backward class	88.7	84.5	90.2	86.3	82.6	52,397
Other	87.1	83.6	89.4	86.2	83.0	25,898
Don't know	82.5	69.8	83.8	77.8	75.9	999
Total	88.4	84.4	90.2	86.7	83.0	120,461

<sup>1</sup> Community health worker includes auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM), lady health visitor (LHV), Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), *anganwadi* worker, and other community health worker.

Table 8.31 Delivery and postnatal care by state/union territory

Percentage of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey delivered in a health facility by type of facility, percentage delivered with assistance from a skilled provider, percentage delivered by caesarean section (C-section), percentage delivered by a C-section that was planned before the onset of labour pains, and percentage delivered by a C-section that was decided on after the onset of labour pains, and percentage of last-born children in the 5 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal health check in the first 2 days of birth, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of births delivered in a health facility		Percentage of births delivered in a health facility	Percentage of deliveries assisted by a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of births delivered by caesarean section	Timing of decision to conduct a C-section		Percentage of children who received postnatal care from a skilled provider within 2 days of delivery <sup>1</sup>
	in a public health facility	in a private health facility				Before onset of labour pains	After onset of labour pains	
<b>India</b>	61.9	26.7	88.6	89.4	21.5	12.3	9.0	11.5
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	83.2	13.6	96.9	97.0	31.3	17.7	13.0	9.2
Delhi	62.4	29.3	91.8	93.4	23.6	12.7	10.8	12.5
Haryana	57.5	37.4	94.9	94.4	19.4	11.8	7.4	16.3
Himachal Pradesh	71.7	16.5	88.2	87.1	21.0	13.0	7.6	13.4
Jammu & Kashmir	86.8	5.6	92.4	95.1	41.7	26.0	15.4	16.9
Ladakh	94.7	0.4	95.1	97.0	37.6	20.0	17.6	13.0
Punjab	53.9	40.4	94.3	95.6	38.5	23.1	15.0	12.9
Rajasthan	77.0	17.9	94.9	95.6	10.4	5.1	5.2	11.1
Uttarakhand	53.3	29.9	83.2	83.7	20.4	11.7	8.5	12.1
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	70.0	15.7	85.7	88.8	15.2	7.4	7.7	15.1
Madhya Pradesh	80.2	10.5	90.7	89.3	12.1	6.9	5.1	14.5
Uttar Pradesh	57.7	25.7	83.4	84.8	13.7	7.3	6.3	14.1
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	56.9	19.3	76.2	78.9	9.7	4.6	5.0	8.8
Jharkhand	56.8	18.9	75.8	82.5	12.8	6.2	6.5	12.2
Odisha	78.7	13.5	92.2	91.8	21.6	11.1	10.4	9.5
West Bengal	72.4	19.4	91.7	94.1	32.6	19.3	13.2	7.8

Continued...

Table 8.31 Delivery and postnatal care by state/union territory—Continued

Percentage of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey delivered in a health facility by type of facility, percentage delivered with assistance from a skilled provider, percentage delivered by caesarean section (C-section), percentage delivered by a C-section that was planned before the onset of labour pains, and percentage delivered by a C-section that was decided on after the onset of labour pains, and percentage of last-born children in the 5 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal health check in the first 2 days of birth, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of births delivered		Percentage of births delivered in a health facility	Percentage of births delivered in a private health facility	Percentage of deliveries assisted by a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of births delivered by caesarean section	Timing of decision to conduct a C-section		Percentage of children who received postnatal care from a skilled provider within 2 days of delivery <sup>1</sup>
	in a public health facility	in a private health facility					Before onset of labour pains	After onset of labour pains	
<b>Northeast</b>									
Assam	74.8	4.3	79.2	82.1	14.8	7.5	6.8	7.0	
Manipur	74.4	9.7	84.1	86.1	18.1	11.2	6.8	5.6	
Meghalaya	59.4	20.5	79.9	85.6	25.6	19.2	6.2	1.7	
Mizoram	49.1	8.9	58.1	64.0	8.2	4.4	3.3	4.0	
Nagaland	73.8	12.0	85.8	87.7	10.8	7.4	3.3	4.9	
Sikkim	35.8	9.9	45.7	55.3	5.2	1.9	3.2	3.4	
Tripura	78.6	16.1	94.7	96.5	32.8	19.5	11.1	7.2	
	78.7	10.4	89.2	89.2	25.1	17.5	7.4	2.9	
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	71.9	24.6	96.5	97.8	22.9	9.5	12.9	8.3	
Goa	56.2	43.5	99.7	99.1	39.5	20.2	19.2	9.4	
Gujarat	43.3	51.0	94.3	93.2	21.0	12.0	8.9	11.6	
Maharashtra	55.8	38.9	94.7	93.8	25.4	14.8	10.4	9.7	
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	87.3	11.7	98.9	97.3	29.9	21.6	8.2	9.2	
Andhra Pradesh	50.4	46.1	96.5	96.1	42.4	27.7	14.7	11.2	
Karnataka	64.8	32.2	97.0	93.8	31.5	17.7	13.7	13.3	
Kerala	34.1	65.7	99.8	100.0	38.9	28.2	10.7	6.2	
Lakshadweep	65.3	34.3	99.6	100.0	31.3	20.7	10.6	3.5	
Puducherry	76.5	23.0	99.6	99.9	36.3	19.0	17.3	11.0	
Tamil Nadu	66.9	32.7	99.6	99.8	44.9	26.1	18.8	15.9	
Telangana	49.7	47.4	97.0	93.6	60.7	37.6	22.9	11.5	

<sup>1</sup> A skilled provider includes a doctor, auxiliary nurse midwife, nurse, midwife, lady health visitor, and other health personnel. For birth attendance, if the woman mentioned more than one person attending the delivery, only the most qualified person is considered in this table.



**Table 8.32 Birth order and delivery characteristics by state/union territory**

Percentage of births to women age 15-49 during the 3 years preceding the survey of birth order 3 or more, percentage of women who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by antenatal care (ANC) provider during pregnancy for the most recent live birth, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of births of order 3 or more	Percentage of births receiving antenatal care from a doctor	Percentage of births receiving antenatal care from an ANM/nurse/midwife/LHV
<b>India</b>	26.5	62.6	25.8
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	19.0	63.1	43.5
Delhi	21.3	74.1	16.5
Haryana	24.9	62.8	28.0
Himachal Pradesh	13.8	69.6	19.5
Jammu & Kashmir	19.2	86.1	10.6
Ladakh	22.8	78.3	19.2
Punjab	18.9	52.2	39.5
Rajasthan	26.6	61.7	31.6
Uttarakhand	27.2	66.7	24.7
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	26.2	40.7	49.7
Madhya Pradesh	27.0	36.3	47.6
Uttar Pradesh	35.6	47.8	37.2
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	41.6	38.7	31.4
Jharkhand	31.6	42.9	40.5
Odisha	19.5	82.1	10.6
West Bengal	15.0	70.7	16.7
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	29.7	59.4	20.7
Assam	22.0	59.7	30.3
Manipur	29.5	91.0	1.5
Meghalaya	50.7	61.9	24.4
Mizoram	38.6	69.4	20.6
Nagaland	33.9	49.8	23.7
Sikkim	10.4	67.0	23.0
Tripura	12.5	82.1	2.1
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	25.1	75.3	25.1
Goa	9.9	97.7	1.2
Gujarat	23.8	75.2	13.4
Maharashtra	19.1	80.9	15.7

*Continued...*

**Table 8.32 Birth order and delivery characteristics by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of births to women age 15-49 during the 3 years preceding the survey of birth order 3 or more, percentage of women who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey by antenatal care (ANC) provider during pregnancy for the most recent live birth, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of births of order 3 or more	Percentage of births receiving antenatal care from a doctor	Percentage of births receiving antenatal care from an ANM/nurse/midwife/LHV
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	12.9	45.7	55.2
Andhra Pradesh	13.5	90.2	7.3
Karnataka	19.8	84.2	16.5
Kerala	16.4	97.9	0.1
Lakshadweep	20.8	100.0	0.0
Puducherry	7.4	86.4	11.5
Tamil Nadu	9.8	86.8	11.9
Telangana	16.0	93.5	4.7

ANM = Auxiliary nurse midwife; LHV = Lady health visitor

### Key Findings

- **Birth weight:** Ninety-one percent of live births in the five years preceding the survey had a written record of the child's weight at the time of birth or the mother was able to recall the child's weight. Eighteen percent of these births had a low birth weight (less than 2.5 kg), the same as in 2015-16.
- **Vaccination coverage:** Seventy-seven percent of children age 12-23 months received all basic vaccinations, up from 62 percent in 2015-16. Over four-fifths (84%) of children received three doses of hepatitis B vaccine.
- **Symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI):** Three percent of children under five years had symptoms of ARI in the two weeks before the survey; advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider for 56 percent of those children.
- **Diarrhoea:** Seven percent of children under age five years had diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey; advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider for 76 percent of those children. Forty-five percent of children with diarrhoea received continued feeding and oral rehydration therapy (ORT), as recommended.
- **Disposal of children's stools:** Only 38 percent of young children's stools are disposed of safely.
- **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) for children under age six years:** Sixty-eight percent of children received any service from an *anganwadi* centre. Sixty-two percent received food supplements.
- **Services from ICDS during pregnancy and while breastfeeding:** Seventy percent of pregnant women and 66 percent of breastfeeding women received any service from an *anganwadi* centre.

Information on child health and survival can help policymakers and programme managers assess the efficacy of current strategies, formulate appropriate interventions to prevent deaths from childhood illnesses, and improve the health of children in India.

This chapter presents information on birth weight and vaccination status for young children. It also provides estimates of the prevalence of, and treatment practices for, three common childhood illnesses: symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI), fever, and diarrhoea. Since appropriate sanitary practices can help in preventing and reduce the severity of diarrhoeal disease, information is also provided on the disposal of children's stools.

## 9.1 BIRTH WEIGHT

### Low birth weight

Births with a reported birth weight less than 2.5 kg regardless of gestational age

**Sample:** Live births in the five years before the survey that have a reported birth weight, either from a written record or mother's report

Birth weight is an important indicator when assessing a child's health for early exposure to childhood morbidity and mortality. Children who weigh less than 2.5 kilograms (kg) at birth are considered to have a higher-than-average risk of early childhood death. In the 2019-21 National Family Health Survey, birth weight was recorded from either a written record or the mother's report. The mother's estimate of the infant's size at birth was also obtained because the birth weight is unknown for many infants.

For 91 percent of births, a written record of birth weight was available or the mother was able to recall the birth weight (**Table 9.1**). Eighteen percent of these infants had a low birth weight of less than 2.5 kg. Low birth weight decreases with an increase in the mother's schooling and household wealth status. Only 16 percent of births to mothers having 12 or more years of schooling have a low birth weight, compared with 20 percent of births to mothers having no schooling. Similarly, 15 percent of births to mothers in households in the highest wealth quintile have a low birth weight, compared with 21 percent of births to mothers in the lowest wealth quintile households. The pattern of birth weight by background characteristics may be affected by the availability of birth weight records or the mother's recall and should be interpreted with caution.

**Table 9.1** also includes information on the mother's estimate of her infant's size at birth. The mother's estimate of size is subjective but can be a useful proxy for the child's weight. Three percent of births are reported as very small, 8 percent as smaller than average, and 88 percent as average or larger than average.

## 9.2 VACCINATION OF CHILDREN

Immunizing children against vaccine preventable diseases can greatly reduce childhood morbidity and mortality. Information on vaccination coverage was collected from the child's health card and direct reporting from the mother.

### Coverage of all basic vaccinations

Children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report). To have received all basic vaccinations, a child must receive at least:

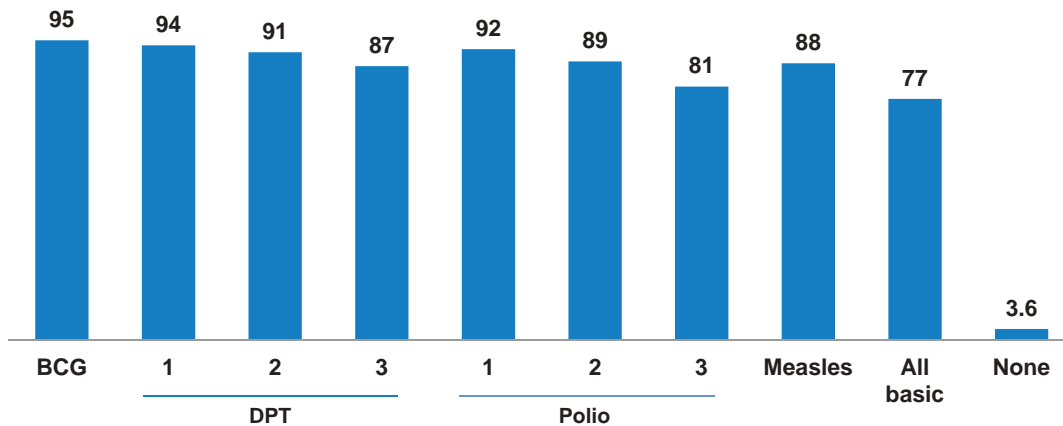
- one dose of BCG vaccine, which protects against tuberculosis
- three doses of DPT vaccine, which protects against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and tetanus
- three doses of polio vaccine
- one dose of measles vaccine

**Sample:** Living children age 12-23 months

In India, 77 percent of children age 12-23 months received all basic vaccinations at any time before the survey, and 67 percent received all basic vaccinations by age 12 months (**Table 9.3**).

## Figure 9.1 Childhood Vaccinations

Percentage of children age 12-23 months

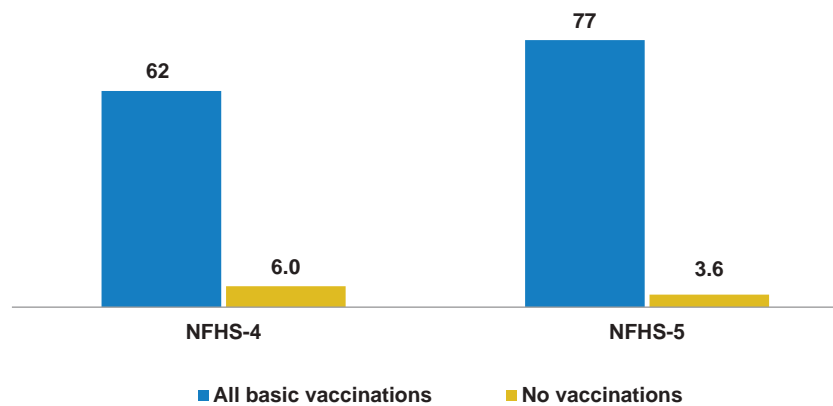


**Figure 9.1** shows the coverage for each of the basic vaccinations among children age 12-23 months. Coverage was highest for the BCG vaccine (95%) and lowest for the third dose of polio vaccine (81%). Although more children received the first doses of the DPT and polio vaccines than the second or third doses, the dropout rates are higher for polio than for DPT (**Table 9.4**). Ninety-four percent of children age 12-23 months received the first DPT dose and 87 percent received the last dose. These percentages were 92 percent and 81 percent for the polio vaccine. Four percent of children age 12-23 months received no vaccinations. Eighty-four percent of children received three doses of hepatitis B vaccine.

**Trends:** The percentage of children age 12-23 months who have received all basic vaccinations increased from 62 percent in 2015-16 to 77 percent in 2019-21 (**Figure 9.2**). Between 2015-16 and 2019-21, this percentage increased more in rural areas (from 61% to 77%) than in urban areas (from 64% to 76%). The proportion of children who received no vaccinations declined from 6 percent in 2015-16 to 4 percent in 2019-21.

## Figure 9.2 Trends in Childhood Vaccinations

Percentage of children age 12-23 months

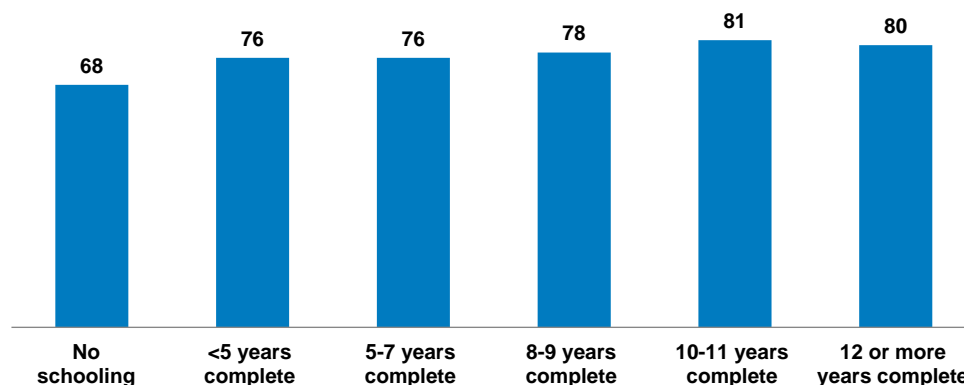


### Patterns by background characteristics

- Children age 12-23 months of first birth order are much more likely to receive all basic vaccinations than children of birth order 6 or more (78% versus 59%) (Table 9.4).
- Vaccination coverage increases with increasing mother's schooling; 80 percent of children age 12-23 months whose mothers have 12 or more years of schooling have received all basic vaccinations, compared with 68 percent of children whose mothers have no schooling (Figure 9.3).

**Figure 9.3 Coverage with All Basic Vaccinations by Mother's Schooling**

*Percentage of children age 12-23 months*



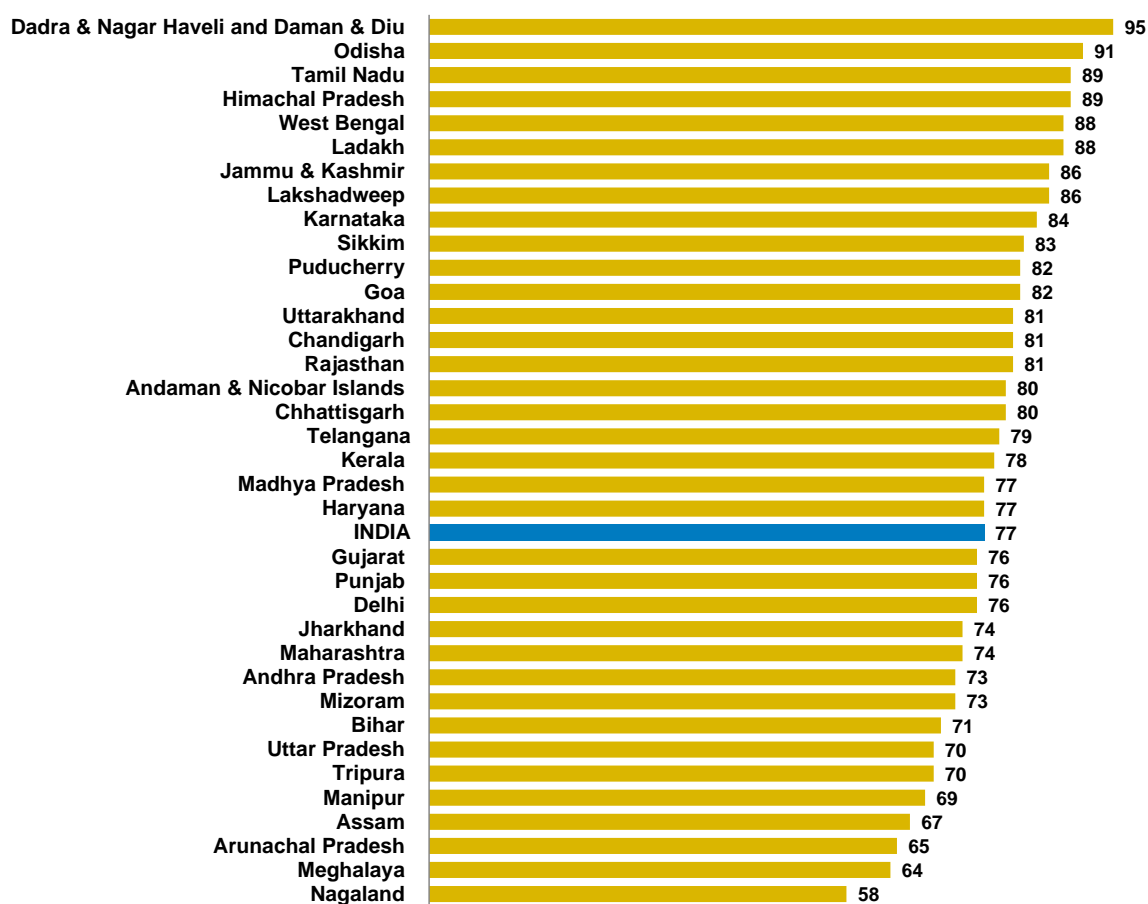
- Muslim children are less likely to receive all basic vaccinations.
- Vaccination coverage increases with increasing wealth status; 79 percent of children age 12-23 months from households in the highest wealth quintile received all basic vaccinations, compared with 71 percent of children from households in the lowest wealth quintile.
- Coverage of all basic vaccinations varies considerably by state and union territory. The coverage is highest in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (95%), Odisha (91%), Tamil Nadu (89%), and Himachal Pradesh (89%) and lowest in Nagaland (58%), Meghalaya (64%) and Arunachal Pradesh (65%) (Table 9.5 and Figure 9.4).

Vaccination cards are a critical tool in ensuring that a child receives all recommended vaccinations on schedule. All mothers were not able to produce a vaccination card for their child at the time of the interview; vaccination cards were available for 86 percent of children age 12-23 months which is a large increase from 63 percent in 2015-16 (Table 9.4).

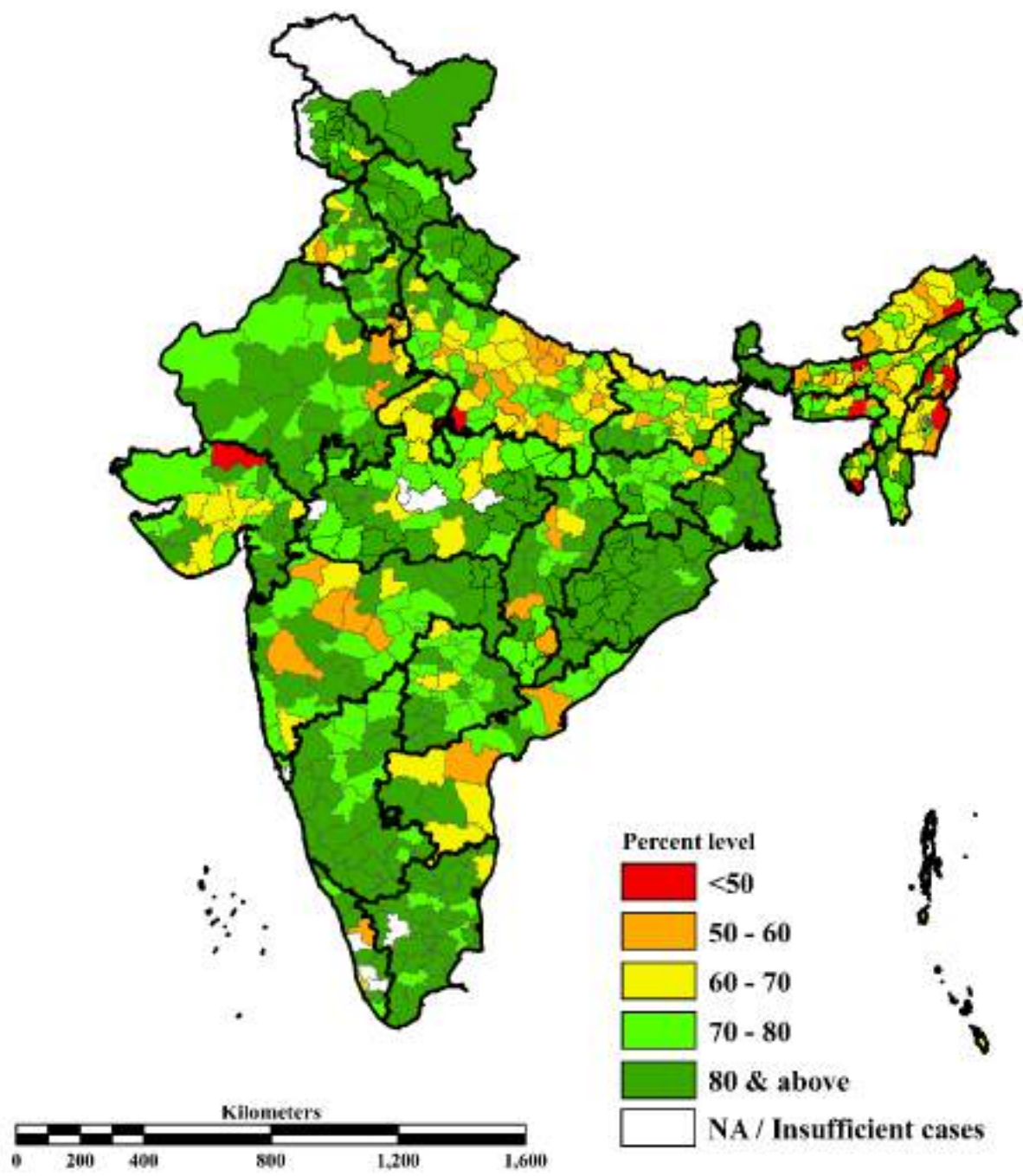
More than 70 percent of children age 12-23 months are fully vaccinated in the majority of districts of the country. In only a few districts is this percentage lower than 50 percent, and most of these districts are in the northeastern states.

## Figure 9.4 Coverage with All Basic Vaccinations by State/UT

Percentage of children age 12-23 months



**Map 9.1: Children age 12-23 months fully vaccinated based on information from either vaccination card or mother's recall, NFHS-5, 2019-21**





### 9.3 SYMPTOMS OF ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION

Mothers reported that 3 percent of children under age five years had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the two weeks before the survey. The prevalence of symptoms of ARI is highest among children whose mother smokes cigarettes/tobacco, whose mothers completed less than 5 years of schooling, children age 6-11 months, and Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists (4% each) (Table 9.7).

#### **Treatment of acute respiratory infection (ARI) symptoms**

Children with ARI symptoms for whom advice or treatment was sought. ARI symptoms consist of cough accompanied by (1) short, rapid breathing that is chest related, and/or (2) difficult breathing that is chest related.

**Sample:** Children under age five years with symptoms of ARI in the two weeks before the survey

Advice or treatment was sought for 56 percent of children under age five years with ARI symptoms in the two weeks before the survey (Table 9.7); advice or treatment was sought the same or the next day for 39 percent of children (Table 9.8). Seeking advice or treatment ranges from 13 percent in Nagaland to 100 percent in Chandigarh and Goa. Seeking advice or treatment the same day or the next day ranges from 11 percent in Nagaland to 100 percent in Chandigarh and Goa.

### 9.4 FEVER

Fever is a symptom of malaria, but it is also associated with other childhood illnesses that may contribute to high levels of malnutrition, morbidity, and mortality in young children.

#### **Treatment of fever**

Children with fever for whom advice or treatment was sought.

**Sample:** Children under age five years with fever in the two weeks before the survey

Among children under age five years, 13 percent had fever in the two weeks before the survey. The prevalence of fever peaks at 20 percent among Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist children, followed by 18 percent among children age 6-11 months (Table 9.9). Eighty percent of children with fever were taken to a health facility or provider for advice or treatment, and advice or treatment was sought the same day or the next day for 59 percent of children. Twenty-five percent of children under age five years with fever were given antibiotic drugs.

### 9.5 DIARRHOEAL DISEASE

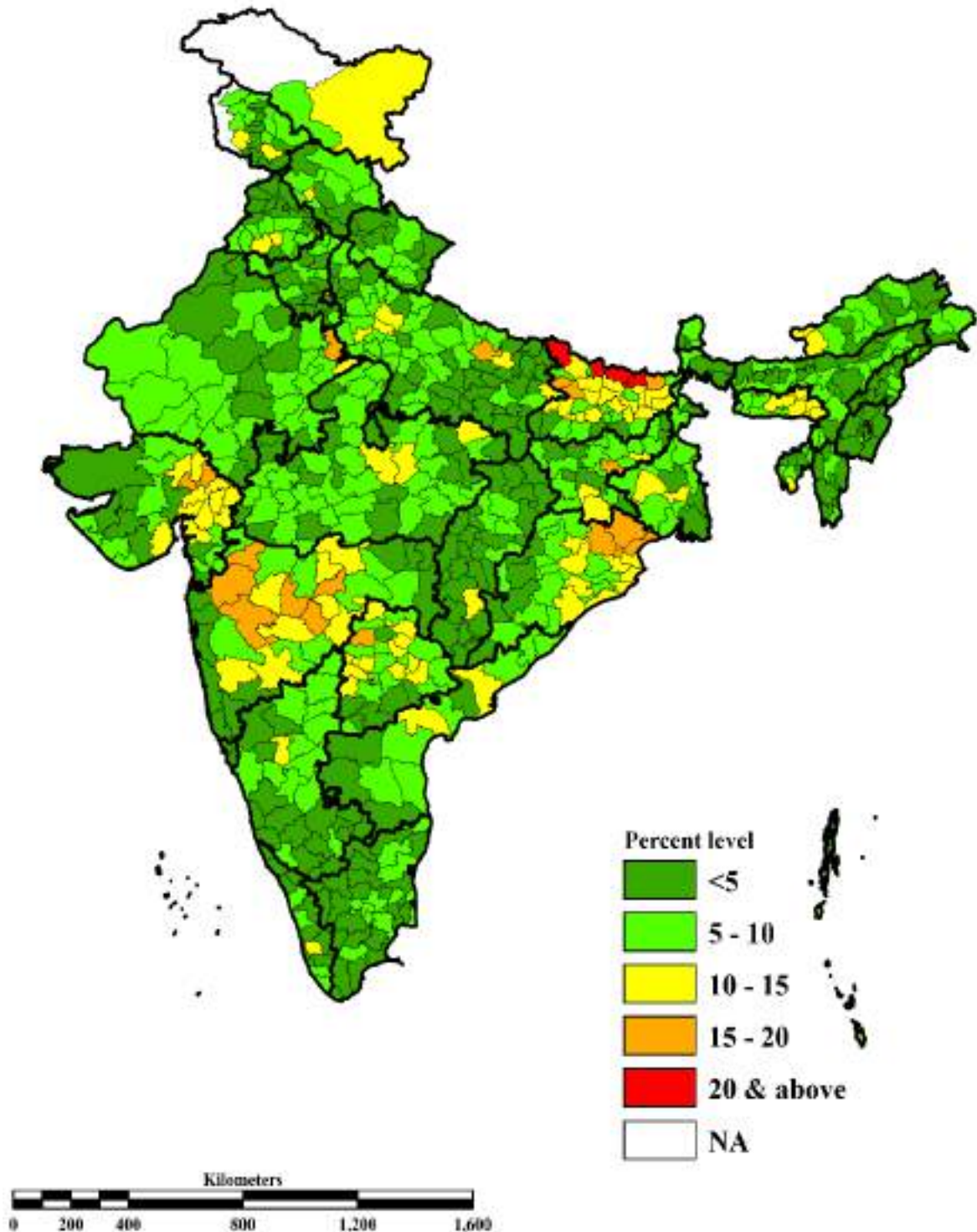
#### 9.5.1 Prevalence of Diarrhoea

Mothers reported that 7 percent of children under age five years had diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey (Table 9.10). Advice or treatment was sought for 76 percent of children under age five years who had diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey (Table 9.11).

The prevalence of diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey among children below age 5 years is less than 10 percent in most of the districts of India. In only 29 districts is prevalence of diarrhoea more than 15 percent, which includes 4 districts in Bihar with more than 20 percent.

Map 9.2

Prevalence of diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey  
among children below age 5 years, NFHS-5, 2019-21

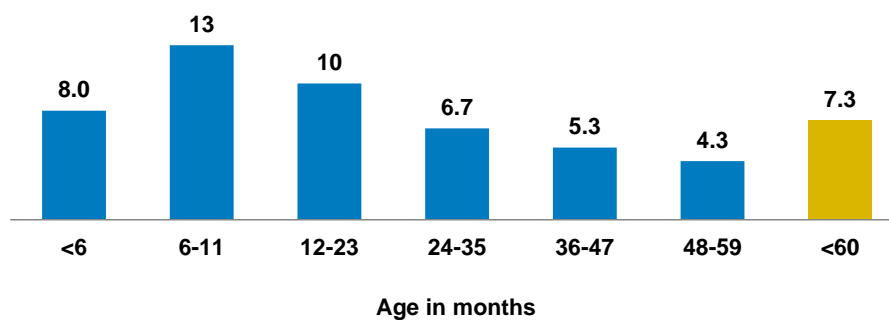


## Patterns by background characteristics

- The prevalence of diarrhoea rises from 8 percent among children under age six months to 13 percent among those age 6-11 months, when complementary foods and other liquids are supposed to be introduced. Prevalence decreases to 10 percent at age 12-23 months, which is the time when children begin to walk and are at increased risk of contamination from the environment (**Figure 9.5**).
- Differences by other characteristics are generally quite small.

**Figure 9.5 Prevalence of Diarrhoea by Age**

*Percentage of children under age five years*



### 9.5.2 Treatment of Diarrhoea

#### **Oral rehydration therapy**

Children with diarrhoea are given increased fluids or a fluid made from a special packet of oral rehydration salt (ORS) or gruel.

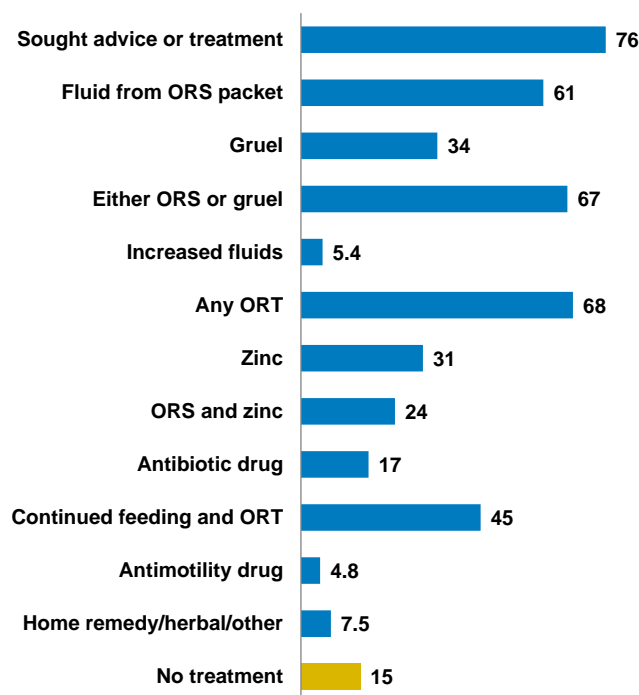
**Sample:** Children under age five years with diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey

Oral rehydration therapy (ORT) is a simple and effective way to reduce dehydration caused by diarrhoea. Sixty-eight percent of children with diarrhoea received some form of ORT—ORS packets (61%) or gruel (34%) or increased fluids (5%) (**Figure 9.6**). While 17 percent of children received antibiotics, 24 percent were given both zinc and ORS, which can reduce the duration and severity of diarrhoea. Forty-five percent received continued feeding and ORT, as recommended. Fifteen percent of children with diarrhoea did not receive any treatment.

**Trends:** The proportion of children with diarrhoea who received fluid from ORS packets increased from 51 percent in 2015-16 to 61 percent in 2019-21. The percentage of children who did not receive any treatment decreased from 18 percent in 2015-16 to 15 percent in 2019-21.

### Figure 9.6 Treatment of Diarrhoea

Percentage of children under age five years with diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey

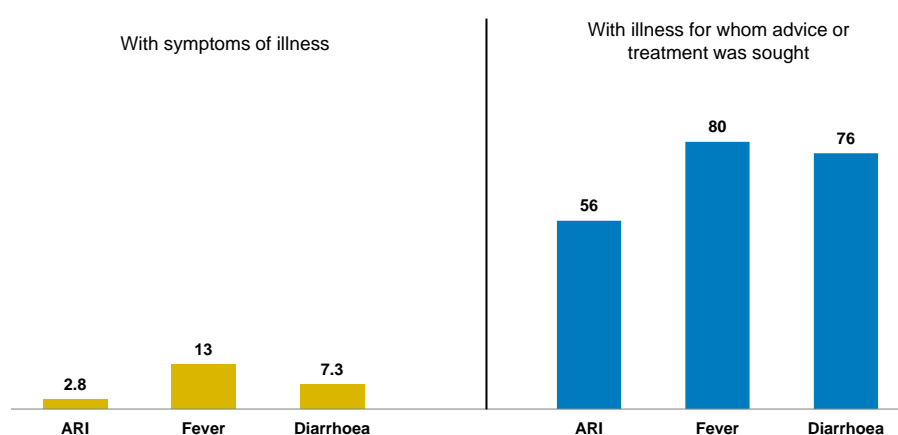


#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Urban children with diarrhoea are more likely than rural children to receive fluid from an ORS packet (63% versus 60%) (Table 9.11).
- The use of ORS packets for the treatment of diarrhoea among the states/UTs ranges from 45 percent in Goa to 88 percent in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.
- Children in households in the lowest wealth quintile (67%) are less likely to be given some form of ORT than children in households in the highest wealth quintile (73%).

### Figure 9.7 Prevalence and Treatment of Childhood Illness

Percentage of children under age five years with symptoms of illness in the two weeks before the survey and percentage with an illness for whom advice or treatment was sought from health facility or provider



### 9.5.3 Feeding Practices

#### Appropriate feeding practices

Children with diarrhoea are given more liquids than usual, and as much food or more food than usual.

**Sample:** Children under age five years with diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey

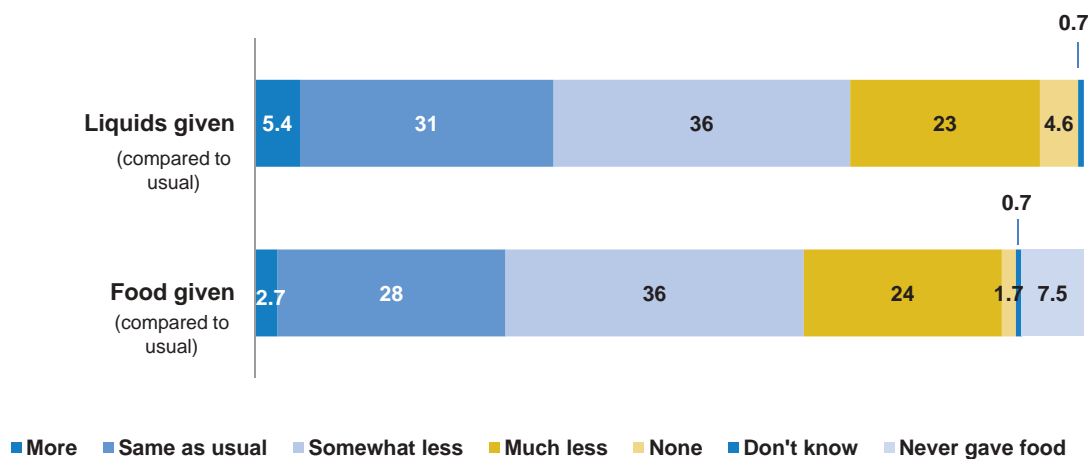
To reduce dehydration and minimise the effects of diarrhoea on nutritional status, mothers are encouraged to continue normal feeding of children with diarrhoea and to increase the amount of fluids.

Only 5 percent of children under five years with diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey were given more liquids than usual, as recommended. Thirty-one percent received the same amount of liquids. Of greater concern, 59 percent of children with diarrhoea were given less to drink and 5 percent were not given anything to drink (**Figure 9.8**). Only 30 percent of children with diarrhoea were fed according to the recommended practice of giving the same amount of food or more food to the sick child. Sixty percent of children were given less food than usual, while 2 percent who had previously been given food received no food during the diarrhoea.

For additional information on feeding practices during diarrhoea, see **Table 9.13** and **Table 9.14**.

**Figure 9.8 Feeding Practices during Diarrhoea**

*Percentage of children under age five years with diarrhoea in the two weeks before the survey*



### 9.5.4 Knowledge of ORS Packets

Ninety-four percent of women in India know about ORS packets for the treatment of diarrhoea (**Table 9.15**). Knowledge of ORS packets is highest among Jain women (98%), followed closely by Christian women, women with 12 or more years of schooling, and women in the wealthiest households (97% each).

## 9.6 DISPOSAL OF CHILDREN'S STOOLS

### Safe disposal of children's stools

The child's last stools were put or rinsed into a toilet or latrine, buried, or the child used a toilet or latrine.

**Sample:** Youngest child under age five years living with the mother

Proper disposal of children's faeces is important to prevent the spread of disease. Only 38 percent of youngest children under age five years living with their mother had their last stools disposed of appropriately (**Table 9.16**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Children's stools are more likely to be disposed of appropriately in households with an improved toilet facility that is not shared (47%) or a shared toilet (42%) than in households with an unimproved facility or no facility (32%).
- Children's stools are much more likely to be disposed of appropriately in urban households (55%) than in rural households (32%).
- Stools are disposed of appropriately for 50 percent of children of mothers with 12 or more years of schooling, compared with only 25 percent of children of mothers with no schooling.
- Stools are appropriately disposed of for 66 percent of children in households belonging to the highest wealth quintile, compared with only 17 percent of children in households in the lowest wealth quintile.
- The proportion of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately varies from 13 percent in Odisha and 20 percent in Jharkhand and Assam to 83 percent in Kerala and 91 percent in Lakshadweep .

## 9.7 UTILIZATION OF INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (ICDS)

Established in 1975 under India's largest ICDS programme, *anganwadi* centres (AWCs) provide health, nutrition, and education services for children from birth to six years of age, as well as nutritional and health services for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers. The programme is implemented through a network of community-level *anganwadi* centres.

Sixty-eight percent of children under age six years receive one or more services from an AWC (**Table 9.18**). The provision of food supplements is the service most likely to be used (62%), but 51-60 percent receive growth monitoring, immunizations, health check-ups, and early childhood care or preschool services.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Rural children are more likely to receive any service from an AWC (72%) than urban children (56%).
- The proportion of children receiving supplementary food from an *anganwadi* centre ranges from 35 percent in Arunachal Pradesh to 87 percent in Odisha.

### 9.7.1 Utilization of ICDS by Pregnant and Lactating Mothers

Pregnant and lactating mothers can receive supplementary food from an *anganwadi* centre. *Anganwadi* centres also monitor the health status of mothers during pregnancy and breastfeeding and provide them with health and nutritional education.

Only 30 percent of mothers did not receive any AWC services during pregnancy for their children under six years, and 34 percent did not receive any service from an AWC while breastfeeding children born in the six years preceding the survey. Pregnant and breastfeeding mothers were more likely to have received supplementary food (66% and 64%, respectively) than health check-ups (63% and 58%, respectively) or health and nutrition education (60% and 56%, respectively).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Services during pregnancy and while breastfeeding are utilized more for births to women in rural areas than urban areas.
- The percentage of women receiving supplementary food during pregnancy and while breastfeeding is higher in almost all states than the percentage receiving health check-ups or health and nutrition education in 28 of the 36 states/UTs.

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For more information on low birth weight, vaccinations, childhood illness, the disposal of children's stools, and the utilization of ICDS services, see the following tables:

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Table 9.2	Child's weight and size at birth by state/union territory
Table 9.3	Vaccinations by source of information
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Table 9.6	Trends over time in vaccinations
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**Table 9.1 Child's weight and size at birth**

Percent distribution of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, percentage of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey that have a reported birth weight, and among live births in the 5 years preceding the survey with a reported birth weight, percentage less than 2.5 kg, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-2021

Background characteristic	Percent distribution of all live births by size of child at birth				Total	Number of births	Percentage of all live births whose birth weight was reported <sup>1</sup>	Among births with a reported birth weight <sup>1</sup>	
	Very small	Smaller than average	Average or larger	Don't know/missing				Percentage less than 2.5 kg	Number of births
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>									
<20	3.3	8.9	86.5	1.2	100.0	28,981	90.6	20.5	26,263
20-34	2.5	7.9	88.5	1.2	100.0	193,795	90.8	17.9	176,012
35-49	2.9	7.8	87.3	2.0	100.0	8,095	85.8	18.8	6,947
<b>Birth order</b>									
1	2.8	8.5	87.9	0.8	100.0	91,210	94.1	19.4	85,868
2-3	2.4	7.7	88.7	1.2	100.0	112,337	90.7	17.2	101,862
4-5	2.7	7.7	87.2	2.4	100.0	21,931	80.5	18.0	17,655
6 or more	3.2	8.0	84.8	3.9	100.0	5,392	71.2	19.5	3,838
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	2.3	8.1	88.8	0.8	100.0	61,528	94.1	17.4	57,872
Rural	2.8	8.0	87.9	1.3	100.0	169,342	89.4	18.6	151,350
<b>Mother's schooling</b>									
No schooling	3.0	8.0	86.3	2.7	100.0	49,597	78.9	20.1	39,140
<5 years complete	3.0	9.3	85.8	1.9	100.0	11,099	86.9	21.1	9,647
5-7 years complete	2.9	8.6	87.3	1.3	100.0	33,379	90.2	19.6	30,113
8-9 years complete	3.0	8.8	87.3	0.9	100.0	42,815	92.5	19.3	39,604
10-11 years complete	2.6	7.7	89.2	0.6	100.0	30,753	95.7	17.7	29,431
12 or more years complete	1.9	7.1	90.6	0.4	100.0	63,227	96.9	15.5	61,288
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	2.7	8.3	88.0	1.1	100.0	183,338	91.1	18.5	167,051
Muslim	2.5	6.9	89.2	1.5	100.0	37,495	87.7	16.8	32,879
Christian	2.0	8.0	87.9	2.2	100.0	4,784	91.1	15.8	4,359
Sikh	3.2	6.5	89.4	0.9	100.0	2,890	95.2	20.8	2,752
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.9	8.5	89.2	0.4	100.0	1,098	97.0	19.0	1,065
Jain	0.2	4.7	94.7	0.3	100.0	329	96.7	14.0	318
Other	2.5	9.3	85.6	2.6	100.0	937	85.4	17.1	800
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	2.9	8.4	87.4	1.4	100.0	53,756	88.8	19.5	47,744
Scheduled tribe	2.5	7.7	88.1	1.7	100.0	23,141	89.7	18.8	20,754
Other backward class	2.5	7.6	88.8	1.1	100.0	100,408	90.5	17.8	90,913
Other	2.7	8.4	88.0	0.9	100.0	51,406	93.3	17.3	47,977
Don't know	3.6	8.6	85.6	2.2	100.0	2,159	84.9	25.1	1,834

*Continued...*

**Table 9.1 Child's weight and size at birth—Continued**

Percent distribution of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, percentage of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey that have a reported birth weight, and among live births in the 5 years preceding the survey with a reported birth weight, percentage less than 2.5 kg, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-2021

Background characteristic	Percent distribution of all live births by size of child at birth				Total	Number of births	Percentage of all live births whose birth weight was reported <sup>1</sup>	Among births with a reported birth weight <sup>1</sup>	
	Very small	Smaller than average	Average or larger	Don't know/missing				Percentage less than 2.5 kg	Number of births
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	3.5	8.4	85.7	2.5	100.0	56,771	81.3	20.9	46,179
Second	3.0	8.5	87.3	1.3	100.0	50,170	89.7	19.6	45,017
Middle	2.4	7.9	88.9	0.7	100.0	45,101	93.6	17.5	42,222
Fourth	2.2	7.6	89.6	0.6	100.0	42,505	95.6	17.0	40,638
Highest	1.6	7.2	90.8	0.4	100.0	36,323	96.8	15.4	35,166
<b>Mother's smoking status</b>									
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	3.2	9.7	84.7	2.4	100.0	7,663	84.5	21.0	6,471
Does not smoke cigarettes/tobacco	2.6	7.9	88.3	1.2	100.0	223,207	90.8	18.2	202,751
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>88.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>230,870</b>	<b>90.6</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>209,222</b>

<sup>1</sup> Based on either a written record or the mother's recall

Table 9.2 Child's weight and size at birth by state/union territory

Percent distribution of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, percentage of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey that have a reported birth weight, and among live births in the 5 years preceding the survey with a reported birth weight, percentage less than 2.5 kg, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-2021

State/union territory	Percent distribution of all live births by size of child at birth				Total	Percentage of all live births whose birth weight was reported <sup>1</sup>	Among births with a reported birth weight <sup>1</sup>
	Very small	Smaller than average	Average or larger	Don't know/ missing			Percentage less than 2.5 kg
<b>India</b>	2.6	8.0	88.2	1.2	100.0	90.6	18.2
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	0.0	8.0	91.3	0.7	100.0	96.8	16.7
Delhi	3.4	9.7	86.2	0.7	100.0	94.0	22.1
Haryana	1.7	7.2	90.3	0.8	100.0	94.7	20.5
Himachal Pradesh	3.7	9.4	85.9	1.0	100.0	95.5	15.8
Jammu & Kashmir	1.4	4.6	92.4	1.7	100.0	90.6	10.7
Ladakh	1.2	4.9	91.6	2.3	100.0	92.4	11.6
Punjab	3.1	6.6	88.7	1.6	100.0	93.7	22.4
Rajasthan	2.0	6.6	90.5	0.9	100.0	94.1	17.7
Uttarakhand	3.4	9.0	86.5	1.1	100.0	86.4	17.7
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	2.2	9.1	88.4	0.3	100.0	95.4	15.9
Madhya Pradesh	3.0	9.1	86.8	1.1	100.0	93.2	20.5
Uttar Pradesh	2.7	8.0	87.7	1.6	100.0	84.7	20.2
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	4.0	8.1	85.3	2.7	100.0	76.0	16.8
Jharkhand	1.2	6.1	91.0	1.7	100.0	85.3	15.6
Odisha	2.7	10.8	85.8	0.6	100.0	97.8	19.2
West Bengal	4.1	8.3	87.1	0.6	100.0	96.5	19.0
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	1.4	4.7	90.2	3.7	100.0	81.5	10.6
Assam	1.3	8.7	88.8	1.3	100.0	92.1	16.1
Manipur	2.3	8.4	86.5	2.9	100.0	84.1	7.2
Meghalaya	1.1	8.7	84.2	6.0	100.0	84.1	11.7
Mizoram	0.5	4.6	93.2	1.7	100.0	92.1	4.0
Nagaland	0.6	6.0	88.5	4.9	100.0	54.1	4.7
Sikkim	1.3	8.8	89.7	0.1	100.0	97.6	9.8
Tripura	4.6	14.4	78.7	2.3	100.0	90.1	19.7
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	2.0	8.7	86.9	2.3	100.0	93.8	20.8
Goa	1.0	7.3	91.6	0.0	100.0	99.3	14.0
Gujarat	3.2	8.4	87.5	0.9	100.0	96.8	18.5
Maharashtra	2.2	10.8	86.2	0.8	100.0	96.3	20.0

Continued...

**Table 9.2 Child's weight and size at birth by state/union territory—Continued**

Percent distribution of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, percentage of live births in the 5 years preceding the survey that have a reported birth weight, and among live births in the 5 years preceding the survey with a reported birth weight, percentage less than 2.5 kg, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-2021

State/union territory	Percent distribution of all live births by size of child at birth				Total	Percentage of all live births whose birth weight was reported <sup>1</sup>	Among births with a reported birth weight <sup>1</sup> Percentage less than 2.5 kg
	Very small	Smaller than average	Average or larger	Don't know/missing			
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.5	9.2	88.5	0.7	100.0	97.9	17.4
Andhra Pradesh	2.0	6.5	91.1	0.4	100.0	98.2	16.2
Karnataka	1.4	4.3	93.8	0.5	100.0	98.0	15.9
Kerala	0.6	6.1	93.2	0.2	100.0	99.1	16.3
Lakshadweep	0.0	2.1	97.9	0.0	100.0	99.6	9.7
Puducherry	0.6	7.7	91.7	0.0	100.0	99.2	13.7
Tamil Nadu	1.8	7.7	90.4	0.1	100.0	99.2	17.0
Telangana	1.1	6.2	92.4	0.3	100.0	98.1	13.9

<sup>1</sup> Based on either a written record or the mother's recall

**Table 9.3 Vaccinations by source of information**

Percentage of children age 12-23 months and children age 24-35 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey, by source of information (vaccination card or mother's report), and percentage who received specific vaccines, by the appropriate age, India, 2019-21

Vaccine	Children age 12-23 months				Children age 24-35 months			
	Vaccination card <sup>1</sup>	Mother's report	Either source	Vaccinated by appropriate age <sup>2,3,4</sup>	Vaccination card <sup>1</sup>	Mother's report	Either source	Vaccinated by appropriate age <sup>2,3,4</sup>
<b>BCG</b>	84.2	11.0	95.2	94.8	80.0	14.4	94.4	93.3
<b>Polio</b>								
0 (birth dose)	76.4	9.1	85.5	85.2	72.3	11.8	84.2	83.3
1	82.6	9.7	92.4	91.8	78.6	12.7	91.4	89.9
2	80.8	7.7	88.5	87.5	77.3	10.5	87.8	85.6
3	77.2	3.3	80.5	78.6	74.6	4.9	79.5	76.1
<b>DPT</b>								
1	83.3	10.4	93.6	92.9	79.2	13.7	93.0	90.9
2	81.5	9.8	91.2	90.0	78.1	13.1	91.2	88.4
3	78.3	8.4	86.7	82.7	75.8	11.6	87.4	79.9
<b>flPV</b>								
1	68.2	8.2	76.4	75.7	58.5	10.8	69.3	67.4
2	55.1	6.1	61.2	59.2	44.4	8.7	53.1	49.5
<b>Hepatitis B</b>								
0 (birth dose)	61.3	6.1	67.4	66.1	57.5	8.2	65.8	64.0
1	81.9	9.7	91.5	90.9	77.3	12.8	90.1	88.4
2	79.9	8.7	88.6	87.6	76.0	11.8	87.7	85.4
3	76.5	7.4	83.9	81.4	73.5	10.3	83.8	79.4
<b>Penta</b>								
1	79.6	9.1	88.7	88.2	74.8	12.1	86.9	85.4
2	77.8	8.2	86.0	85.0	73.7	11.1	84.7	82.7
3	74.6	6.5	81.1	78.7	71.4	9.1	80.5	76.4
<b>Penta or DPT</b>								
1	83.3	10.4	93.6	93.1	79.2	13.7	93.0	91.3
2	81.5	9.8	91.3	90.3	78.1	13.1	91.2	88.9
3	78.5	8.4	86.9	84.5	76.0	11.6	87.5	83.3
<b>Rotavirus</b>								
1	39.5	4.6	44.0	43.5	30.7	6.1	36.9	35.9
2	37.2	3.7	40.8	40.0	28.7	5.1	33.7	32.2
3	33.9	2.5	36.4	35.3	26.2	3.7	29.9	28.3
<b>JE</b>								
1	35.0	3.3	38.3	38.3	35.7	5.1	40.9	40.4
2	15.2	1.7	16.9	16.9	27.1	3.3	30.4	28.3
<b>Measles containing vaccine (MCV)</b>								
1	79.9	8.0	87.9	78.1	77.3	11.2	88.5	75.7
2	na	na	na	na	51.7	6.9	58.6	55.9

*Continued...*

**Table 9.3 Vaccinations by source of information—Continued**

Percentage of children age 12-23 months and children age 24-35 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey, by source of information (vaccination card or mother's report), and percentage who received specific vaccines, by the appropriate age, India, 2019-21

Vaccine	Children age 12-23 months				Children age 24-35 months			
	Vaccination card <sup>1</sup>	Mother's report	Either source	Vaccinated by appropriate age <sup>2,3,4</sup>	Vaccination card <sup>1</sup>	Mother's report	Either source	Vaccinated by appropriate age <sup>2,3,4</sup>
<b>Penta or Hepatitis B</b>								
1	81.9	9.7	91.5	91.0	77.3	12.8	90.1	88.5
2	79.9	8.7	88.7	87.7	76.0	11.8	87.8	85.5
3	76.6	7.4	84.0	81.8	73.6	10.3	83.9	79.8
<b>All basic vaccinations<sup>5</sup></b>	74.2	2.3	76.5	67.4	72.0	3.6	75.5	63.5
<b>No vaccinations</b>	0.6	3.0	3.6	na	0.8	3.7	4.4	na
Number of children	37,085	6,161	43,247	43,247	35,827	8,088	43,916	43,916

Note: Children are considered to have received the vaccine if it was either written on the child's vaccination card or reported by the mother. For children whose vaccination information is based on the mother's report, the date of vaccination is not collected. The proportions of vaccinations given during the first and second years of life are assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Vaccination card or other document where vaccinations are recorded

<sup>2</sup> Received by age 12 months for all vaccines except MCV 2, which should be received by age 18 months and Japanese encephalitis by 24 months

<sup>3</sup> For children whose vaccination information is based on the mother's report, date of vaccination is not collected. The proportions of vaccinations given during the first and second years of life are assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccinations.

<sup>4</sup> For children age 12-23 months, BCG, MCV/measles/MMR/MR, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth). For children age 24-35 months, BCG, two doses of MCV/measles/MMR/MR, four doses of hepatitis B, three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth), three doses of rotavirus vaccine, and two doses of Japanese encephalitis vaccine.

<sup>5</sup> BCG, MCV/Measles/MMR/MR, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

**Table 9.4 Vaccinations by background characteristics**

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card seen, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	BCG				Hepatitis B <sup>1</sup>				Penta or DPT				Polio <sup>2</sup>			MCV/Measles/MMIR/MR vaccinations <sup>3</sup>	Fully vaccinated (all basic vaccinations) <sup>3</sup>	All age appropriate vaccinations <sup>4</sup>	No vaccinations <sup>5</sup>	Percentage with a vaccination card seen	Number of children
	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	1	2	3						
<b>Sex</b>																					
Male	95.5	67.6	91.9	88.9	84.3	83.4	93.2	90.9	91.6	87.3	85.7	92.6	88.8	80.8	88.3	76.9	56.4	3.2	86.0	22,489	
Female	94.9	67.2	91.2	88.3	83.4	83.4	93.2	90.9	86.4	85.3	92.1	88.1	80.0	80.0	87.5	76.0	55.6	3.9	85.4	20,758	
<b>Birth order</b>																					
1	96.1	69.5	92.8	90.1	86.2	83.5	94.6	92.9	91.6	89.3	87.7	93.3	90.2	82.5	90.3	79.2	58.9	3.0	87.5	17,330	
2-3	95.3	67.5	91.3	88.4	83.5	83.5	93.6	91.1	86.3	85.5	92.4	88.3	80.2	80.2	87.7	76.1	55.8	3.5	85.4	21,172	
4-5	92.4	60.6	88.9	85.1	78.9	91.3	87.8	82.0	89.8	84.3	75.6	81.9	69.9	75.6	81.9	69.9	47.8	5.3	82.2	3,850	
6 or more	88.5	54.9	83.7	78.6	70.4	85.6	80.6	73.7	84.1	77.8	67.9	74.5	62.6	67.9	74.5	62.6	40.1	9.4	74.8	895	
<b>Residence</b>																					
Urban	94.7	69.3	90.8	87.6	83.0	84.2	92.5	90.1	86.2	87.4	91.7	87.7	79.2	87.2	87.2	75.5	56.7	4.4	85.1	11,632	
Rural	95.4	66.7	91.8	89.0	84.2	84.2	94.1	91.7	87.1	84.8	92.6	88.7	80.9	80.9	88.2	76.8	55.8	3.3	86.0	31,614	
<b>Mother's schooling</b>																					
No schooling	92.0	61.4	87.6	83.8	77.9	89.9	86.4	80.8	80.8	78.9	88.3	82.6	73.0	81.1	68.2	48.0	48.0	6.1	79.6	8,236	
<5 years complete	94.2	66.8	92.0	89.0	83.3	93.6	90.7	85.0	82.4	92.6	89.4	80.0	80.0	86.9	75.7	54.7	54.7	3.7	85.6	1,886	
5-7 years complete	94.8	65.9	91.0	87.8	82.9	93.1	90.3	85.8	84.6	92.0	87.4	80.0	80.0	86.9	76.2	55.0	55.0	3.9	86.1	6,012	
8-9 years complete	96.0	68.7	92.6	89.9	85.1	94.5	92.6	87.8	86.8	93.2	89.3	81.4	81.4	89.1	77.3	57.4	57.4	2.9	86.8	8,261	
10-11 years complete	96.6	70.0	92.5	90.0	86.5	94.8	93.1	89.7	88.1	94.4	91.9	84.4	84.4	90.7	80.8	59.7	59.7	2.5	88.6	5,907	
12 or more years complete	96.5	70.1	93.1	90.6	86.3	95.2	93.3	89.6	88.5	93.7	90.5	83.0	83.0	90.9	79.5	59.2	59.2	2.8	87.6	12,945	
<b>Religion</b>																					
Hindu	95.6	68.2	92.2	89.4	84.8	94.2	92.1	87.8	86.3	92.9	89.2	81.3	81.3	89.0	77.4	57.0	57.0	3.2	86.3	34,407	
Muslim	93.4	62.8	88.7	84.9	79.5	90.7	87.0	82.1	81.0	89.5	84.5	75.8	75.8	82.5	71.1	49.8	49.8	5.4	82.6	6,974	
Christian	94.2	69.2	89.8	86.0	81.9	92.3	90.5	86.2	83.5	91.5	88.0	81.2	81.2	87.4	78.0	58.0	58.0	4.4	86.9	857	
Sikh	96.3	83.3	93.7	90.5	86.4	95.7	94.3	91.5	91.7	94.3	90.9	82.5	82.5	90.5	79.9	70.8	70.8	2.8	86.6	538	
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	90.7	50.5	89.6	85.3	80.7	92.5	87.3	84.9	85.1	91.7	86.2	81.6	81.6	88.1	75.4	44.4	44.4	7.2	85.1	203	
Jain	92.7	77.2	82.0	79.9	78.6	92.7	92.7	91.4	91.7	92.7	90.5	87.1	87.1	89.7	84.1	58.0	58.0	7.3	89.6	86	
Other	96.2	63.0	93.3	92.1	87.8	94.4	93.7	90.7	81.8	92.2	89.9	87.0	87.0	91.1	84.3	57.6	57.6	3.0	90.3	181	

Continued...

Table 9.4 Vaccinations by background characteristics—Continued

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card seen, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Hepatitis B <sup>1</sup>				Penta or DPT				Polio <sup>2</sup>			MCV/Measles/MMR/MR vaccinations <sup>3</sup>	Fully vaccinated (all basic vaccinations) <sup>3</sup>	All age appropriate vaccinations <sup>4</sup>	No vaccinations <sup>5</sup>	Percentage with a vaccination card seen	Number of children		
	BCG	0	1	2	3	1	2	3	0	1	2							3	
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																			
Scheduled caste	95.3	67.9	91.9	88.9	84.5	93.9	91.7	87.3	85.3	92.7	88.6	80.5	88.5	76.7	56.5	3.4	85.5	9,999	
Scheduled tribe	94.3	67.8	89.7	87.2	82.0	92.9	90.3	85.6	84.5	92.2	87.3	80.4	86.7	76.5	57.7	4.0	87.1	4,326	
Other backward class	95.4	68.3	92.1	89.2	84.5	93.9	91.7	87.4	86.0	92.6	89.0	81.0	88.3	77.0	56.7	3.5	86.0	18,724	
Other	95.2	65.5	91.1	88.0	83.2	93.3	90.7	86.2	85.3	91.6	87.9	79.7	87.3	75.6	53.8	3.8	85.3	9,792	
Don't know	95.5	60.1	88.7	86.9	77.5	90.6	87.8	81.2	81.2	91.3	84.7	73.9	84.6	67.3	44.7	3.0	74.7	406	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>																			
Lowest	93.4	61.5	89.2	85.5	79.9	91.6	88.5	83.1	79.1	90.3	85.2	75.8	84.0	71.0	48.6	4.6	82.3	10,335	
Second	94.7	67.1	91.1	88.1	82.7	93.3	90.9	85.9	84.8	91.5	87.5	79.6	87.1	75.4	55.6	3.9	85.4	9,238	
Middle	96.0	69.1	92.8	90.1	86.5	94.6	92.7	89.2	87.3	93.7	90.3	83.1	89.8	79.7	58.7	3.2	87.6	8,590	
Fourth	96.6	70.1	92.4	90.0	85.6	94.9	92.5	88.2	88.9	93.9	90.2	83.0	89.8	79.3	60.0	2.8	87.2	8,110	
Highest	96.0	71.3	93.1	90.4	86.1	94.5	92.7	89.4	89.7	93.2	90.2	82.3	90.5	78.7	59.4	3.1	87.3	6,974	
Total	95.2	67.4	91.5	88.6	83.9	93.6	91.3	86.9	85.5	92.4	88.5	80.5	87.9	76.5	56.0	3.6	85.8	43,247	

Note: Children are considered to have received the vaccine if it was either written on the child's vaccination card or reported by the mother. For children whose vaccination information is based on the mother's report, the date of vaccination is not collected. The proportions of vaccinations given during the first and second years of life are assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.

<sup>1</sup> Hepatitis B 0 is the hepatitis vaccination given at birth

<sup>2</sup> Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth

<sup>3</sup> BCG, MCV/ Measles/MMR/MR, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

<sup>4</sup> BCG, MCV/ Measles/MMR/MR, four doses of hepatitis B, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

<sup>5</sup> Child has not received any vaccinations listed in the table



**Table 9.5 Vaccinations by state/union territory**

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card seen, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	BCG	Hepatitis B <sup>1</sup>					Penta or DPT					Polio <sup>2</sup>			MCV/ Measles/ MMR/MR nations <sup>3</sup>	Fully vaccinated (all basic vacci- nations) <sup>3</sup>	All age appropriate vacci- nations <sup>4</sup>	No vacci- nations <sup>5</sup>	Percentage with a vaccination card seen
		0	1	2	3	1	2	3	0	1	2	3							
<b>India</b>	95.2	67.4	91.5	88.6	83.9	93.6	91.4	87.0	85.5	92.4	88.5	80.5	87.9	76.6	56.0	3.6	85.8		
<b>North</b>																			
Chhattisgarh	96.8	87.3	90.5	90.5	84.9	93.4	93.4	87.9	93.6	92.7	89.3	80.9	87.9	80.9	74.8	3.2	93.9		
Delhi	96.7	75.1	91.1	87.8	81.9	93.7	90.9	85.0	91.2	92.0	88.0	80.2	90.1	76.0	60.2	3.3	89.3		
Haryana	94.9	66.6	93.7	90.6	87.4	94.0	92.2	88.7	85.3	90.2	86.3	80.6	89.4	76.9	55.6	4.0	87.1		
Himachal Pradesh	98.2	92.4	97.3	97.2	96.3	98.0	97.3	96.1	95.8	97.0	96.0	90.1	95.9	89.2	84.7	1.8	87.8		
Jammu & Kashmir	95.1	88.1	94.2	92.7	91.4	94.6	94.0	92.8	92.8	93.5	92.7	87.6	91.7	86.2	81.3	4.3	85.7		
Ladakh	99.1	89.8	96.3	96.3	94.1	99.1	99.1	95.0	96.9	98.0	96.6	88.2	92.9	88.2	81.2	0.9	88.2		
Punjab	95.3	85.8	92.0	89.3	85.4	93.7	92.1	88.5	92.6	93.4	89.1	79.7	88.1	76.2	70.8	3.7	83.9		
Rajasthan	95.6	75.0	93.9	91.4	88.2	94.6	92.5	89.4	90.8	94.8	91.0	84.6	91.1	80.5	66.0	2.6	86.5		
Uttarakhand	95.2	68.5	92.9	90.6	86.6	94.8	93.9	89.7	86.8	93.2	91.2	84.0	90.9	81.1	60.1	3.6	85.5		
<b>Central</b>																			
Chhattisgarh	96.4	70.6	94.0	90.8	85.9	95.2	93.2	87.5	90.6	94.6	91.0	84.2	90.2	79.7	58.8	2.5	91.0		
Madhya Pradesh	95.4	81.9	92.9	89.8	85.0	94.0	92.4	87.9	91.3	92.4	88.8	81.4	88.1	77.4	68.1	3.6	86.7		
Uttar Pradesh	93.2	50.4	88.6	84.5	78.3	90.9	87.6	81.3	77.3	88.3	83.4	74.3	83.4	69.9	39.3	4.9	83.5		
<b>East</b>																			
Bihar	95.5	68.2	91.8	88.5	82.3	93.6	90.9	85.2	81.1	92.3	87.3	75.5	85.7	71.0	52.0	3.2	76.5		
Jharkhand	95.0	61.3	91.9	88.5	84.4	92.5	89.7	86.0	77.3	88.6	84.4	76.7	86.9	74.1	49.7	3.8	90.5		
Odisha	97.3	88.6	97.0	96.4	94.4	97.3	96.8	95.0	93.8	96.3	95.0	91.7	95.9	90.7	83.2	2.1	96.2		
West Bengal	98.6	70.2	95.6	94.3	92.0	97.7	96.9	95.3	88.8	97.6	95.9	90.8	94.4	88.2	63.7	0.8	93.2		

Continued...

Table 9.5 Vaccinations by state/union territory—Continued

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card seen, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	BCG			Hepatitis B <sup>1</sup>			Penta or DPT			Polio <sup>2</sup>			MCV/ Measles/ MMR/MR	Fully vaccinated (all basic vacci- nations) <sup>3</sup>	All age appropriate vacci- nations <sup>4</sup>	No vacci- nations <sup>5</sup>	Percentage with a vaccination card seen
	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3					
<b>Northeast</b>																	
Arunachal Pradesh	87.9	65.1	83.5	77.2	73.0	86.6	82.2	77.6	76.3	80.6	75.2	69.0	80.7	64.9	48.3	9.4	81.8
Assam	92.5	53.9	85.8	81.5	75.1	90.7	87.4	82.5	70.5	89.1	84.3	73.4	82.8	66.7	37.7	5.2	88.3
Manipur	95.4	48.1	91.8	87.4	80.0	93.4	88.4	81.5	62.6	95.1	89.1	75.6	76.7	68.8	39.2	2.8	85.8
Meghalaya	89.3	46.5	77.6	73.2	65.7	82.2	78.9	73.5	58.8	84.1	77.8	68.5	72.5	64.0	34.3	9.4	77.0
Mizoram	83.4	59.8	80.5	79.1	76.4	85.5	84.4	80.9	65.0	81.9	80.2	76.2	81.0	72.7	55.0	13.6	83.7
Nagaland	85.5	40.8	81.0	73.2	66.4	84.2	79.7	71.7	59.5	85.9	78.4	65.4	74.0	57.9	29.3	7.2	79.8
Sikkim	96.6	87.6	94.2	94.2	89.0	95.1	95.1	93.3	92.2	93.2	93.2	89.0	90.5	82.5	73.1	3.1	90.5
Tripura	94.7	61.2	93.1	88.1	82.5	94.6	91.0	85.9	69.9	88.3	82.4	73.4	86.3	69.5	48.9	2.0	87.0
<b>West</b>																	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	98.1	69.9	95.6	93.6	93.1	97.8	97.2	97.2	92.0	98.0	97.5	96.1	96.2	94.9	67.7	0.7	96.7
Goa	97.9	80.2	96.5	95.7	92.8	97.9	97.1	90.8	92.0	97.9	97.9	88.3	92.9	81.9	69.3	2.1	88.0
Gujarat	94.7	62.8	92.3	88.5	84.9	92.6	89.3	86.2	85.4	93.5	88.4	79.6	86.8	76.4	52.5	4.4	86.6
Maharashtra	93.8	50.5	86.0	81.9	75.6	92.4	89.2	83.6	86.3	92.0	87.0	79.0	85.0	73.6	42.1	5.2	83.8
<b>South</b>																	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	98.2	59.5	92.1	89.3	85.4	97.8	97.5	92.8	92.5	96.1	89.5	80.9	84.0	79.9	44.7	1.8	80.5
Andhra Pradesh	94.6	79.5	91.8	89.9	85.3	93.0	92.4	88.5	91.8	91.1	87.4	75.0	87.1	73.2	61.0	4.7	76.8
Karnataka	97.1	84.5	93.0	91.7	88.8	95.9	94.4	92.3	93.6	95.5	93.0	87.5	91.4	84.3	72.7	2.5	90.8
Kerala	97.6	81.4	93.7	89.9	83.0	95.8	92.2	85.9	92.5	95.2	90.0	84.1	88.9	78.4	65.6	1.8	88.6
Lakshadweep	94.2	94.2	88.9	88.9	88.9	91.0	91.0	91.0	94.2	91.0	88.5	86.1	91.0	86.1	84.0	5.8	94.0
Puducherry	96.4	81.1	96.2	96.0	88.8	99.4	99.3	92.3	99.8	97.9	97.1	87.3	95.6	82.3	69.1	0.1	91.5
Tamil Nadu	97.6	84.9	95.7	95.1	92.3	97.5	96.8	94.9	96.9	96.6	95.6	91.5	95.8	89.4	78.7	1.5	95.1
Telangana	93.5	73.9	90.5	89.0	86.4	92.5	91.5	89.3	88.1	90.5	87.1	81.6	90.6	79.1	62.5	5.4	87.0

Note: Children are considered to have received the vaccine if it was either written on the child's vaccination card or reported by the mother. For children whose vaccination information is based on the mother's report, the date of vaccination is not collected. The proportions of vaccinations given during the first and second years of life are assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.

<sup>1</sup> Hepatitis B 0 is the hepatitis vaccination given at birth

<sup>2</sup> Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth

<sup>3</sup> BCG, MCV/Measles/MMR/IMR, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

<sup>4</sup> BCG, MCV/Measles/MMR/IMR, four doses of hepatitis B, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

<sup>5</sup> Child has not received any vaccinations listed in the table

**Table 9.6 Trends over time in vaccinations**

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card seen, by residence, India

Vaccinations given any time before the survey	Urban		Rural		Total	
	NFHS-5 (2019-21)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)	NFHS-5 (2019-21)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)	NFHS-5 (2019-21)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)
BCG	94.7	93.2	95.4	75.1	95.2	78.1
DPT 1 <sup>1</sup>	92.5	90.3	94.1	73.0	93.6	76.0
DPT 2 <sup>1</sup>	90.2	86.7	91.8	62.6	91.4	66.7
DPT 3 <sup>1</sup>	86.1	80.2	87.4	50.4	87.0	55.3
Polio 0 <sup>2</sup>	87.4	83.8	84.8	41.3	85.5	48.4
Polio 1	91.7	91.9	92.6	92.5	92.4	93.1
Polio 2	87.7	87.1	88.7	88.0	88.5	88.8
Polio 3	79.2	73.4	80.9	76.5	80.5	78.2
Hepatitis B 0 <sup>3</sup>	69.3	70.7	66.7	63.6	67.4	65.6
Hepatitis B 1 <sup>1</sup>	90.8	84.1	91.8	81.8	91.5	82.5
Hepatitis B 2 <sup>1</sup>	87.6	78.5	89.0	76.6	88.6	77.1
Hepatitis B 3 <sup>1</sup>	83.0	63.3	84.2	62.5	83.9	62.8
MCV/Measles/MMR/MR	87.2	83.2	88.2	80.3	87.9	81.1
All basic vaccinations <sup>4</sup>	75.5	63.9	77.0	61.3	76.6	62.0
No vaccinations	4.4	5.1	3.3	6.4	3.6	6.0
Percentage with a vaccination card seen	85.1	65.3	86.0	62.4	85.8	63.2
Number of children	11,632	13,608	31,614	34,229	43,247	47,837

<sup>1</sup> For NFHS-5, Penta is included in this row. Penta was not included in the NFHS-4 questionnaire, so Penta is not included in the NFHS-4 vaccination coverage for DPT/Hepatitis.

<sup>2</sup> Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth

<sup>3</sup> Hepatitis B 0 is the hepatitis vaccination given at birth

<sup>4</sup> BCG, MCV/Measles/MMR/MR, and three doses each of DPT/Penta and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

Table 9.7 Prevalence and treatment of symptoms of ARI

Among children under age 5 years, percentage who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and among children with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among children under age of 5 years		Among children under age 5 years with symptoms of ARI		
	Percentage with symptoms of ARI <sup>1</sup>	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>2</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same day or the next day	Number of children
<b>Age in months</b>					
<6	3.0	22,624	48.3	32.8	682
6-11	3.7	21,869	62.1	44.4	807
12-23	3.3	43,247	59.5	41.2	1,429
24-35	2.7	43,916	55.0	38.7	1,193
36-47	2.5	44,075	53.5	36.6	1,104
48-59	2.1	46,503	55.7	37.6	983
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	3.0	115,196	57.2	39.8	3,480
Female	2.5	107,037	54.5	37.5	2,718
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	2.3	59,780	55.8	42.5	1,378
Rural	3.0	162,452	56.1	37.8	4,820
<b>Mother's schooling</b>					
No schooling	2.9	46,918	56.6	36.1	1,354
<5 years complete	3.8	10,615	64.5	47.1	408
5-7 years complete	2.9	31,983	54.4	36.7	912
8-9 years complete	2.8	41,125	58.3	41.1	1,160
10-11 years complete	2.7	29,804	52.6	36.4	814
12 or more years complete	2.5	61,788	54.6	39.8	1,549
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	2.8	176,335	55.4	38.8	4,927
Muslim	2.8	36,163	60.9	38.8	1,000
Christian	2.6	4,651	49.1	38.8	121
Sikh	3.0	2,801	50.4	44.5	85
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	3.9	1,064	60.3	43.8	42
Jain	2.0	323	9.3	15.6	7
Other	1.7	896	38.5	24.5	15
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	3.0	51,395	56.9	39.9	1,551
Scheduled tribe	2.4	22,135	49.8	35.0	532
Other backward class	2.8	96,762	55.2	38.3	2,676
Other	2.8	49,900	59.5	40.2	1,382
Don't know	2.7	2,042	47.7	35.1	56

Continued...

**Table 9.7 Prevalence and treatment of symptoms of ARI—Continued**

Among children under age 5 years, percentage who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and among children with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among children under age of 5 years		Among children under age 5 years with symptoms of ARI		
	Percentage with symptoms of ARI <sup>1</sup>	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>2</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same day or the next day	Number of children
<b>Mother's smoking status</b>					
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	4.1	7,255	51.0	36.4	297
Does not smoke cigarettes/tobacco	2.7	214,978	56.3	38.9	5,901
<b>Cooking fuel</b>					
Electricity or gas <sup>3</sup>	2.6	111,606	56.0	40.2	2,899
Kerosene	2.9	847	60.8	51.7	25
Coal/lignite	3.5	1,895	45.3	35.2	66
Charcoal	3.4	1,835	64.7	43.3	62
Wood/straw <sup>4</sup>	2.9	92,553	55.3	36.4	2,703
Animal dung	3.3	13,306	61.3	43.3	442
Other	0.5	191	84.8	57.7	1
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	3.2	53,817	57.6	37.2	1,723
Second	3.1	47,984	56.8	38.5	1,472
Middle	2.7	43,519	54.7	39.2	1,167
Fourth	2.4	41,242	57.7	38.8	993
Highest	2.4	35,671	51.7	42.3	844
Total	2.8	222,233	56.1	38.8	6,198

<sup>1</sup> Symptoms of ARI include cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing which is chest related and/or difficult breathing which is chest related

<sup>2</sup> Includes advice or treatment from the public health sector, the private health sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional healer or friend/relative.

<sup>3</sup> Includes LPG, natural gas, and biogas

<sup>4</sup> Includes grass, shrubs, and crop waste

**Table 9.8 Prevalence and treatment of symptoms of ARI by state/union territory**

Among children under age 5 years, the percentage who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and among children with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among children under age of 5 years	Among children under age 5 years with symptoms of ARI	
	Percentage with symptoms of ARI <sup>1</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>2</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same day or the next day
<b>India</b>	2.8	56.1	38.8
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	0.3	100.0	100.0
Delhi	5.6	57.3	51.5
Haryana	2.3	47.9	40.5
Himachal Pradesh	1.5	84.2	46.8
Jammu & Kashmir	3.8	48.3	24.1
Ladakh	5.3	40.0	28.6
Punjab	2.5	45.7	42.3
Rajasthan	2.9	47.0	34.4
Uttarakhand	2.3	70.0	41.2
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	1.5	36.5	25.8
Madhya Pradesh	2.6	47.7	33.1
Uttar Pradesh	3.5	48.6	33.2
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	3.5	70.4	47.9
Jharkhand	2.1	47.7	37.8
Odisha	3.2	44.9	28.9
West Bengal	2.8	68.6	42.6
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	2.1	47.4	20.0
Assam	2.5	56.4	34.2
Manipur	1.7	32.1	14.2
Meghalaya	4.8	72.1	55.5
Mizoram	0.6	21.8	14.2
Nagaland	1.1	13.3	11.0
Sikkim	0.7	19.1	13.4
Tripura	1.3	43.5	34.8
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.3	43.5	38.0
Goa	0.9	100.0	100.0
Gujarat	1.0	61.9	38.3
Maharashtra	3.2	63.8	46.4

*Continued...*

**Table 9.8 Prevalence and treatment of symptoms of ARI by state/union territory—Continued**

Among children under age 5 years, the percentage who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and among children with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among children under age of 5 years	Among children under age 5 years with symptoms of ARI	
	Percentage with symptoms of ARI <sup>1</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>2</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same day or the next day
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.7	36.2	36.2
Andhra Pradesh	2.4	51.0	33.0
Karnataka	1.5	57.1	32.6
Kerala	2.4	69.6	53.5
Lakshadweep	1.4	48.0	48.0
Puducherry	4.9	55.0	42.2
Tamil Nadu	1.1	32.0	22.6
Telangana	2.2	63.6	48.4

<sup>1</sup> Symptoms of ARI include cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing which is chest related and/or difficult breathing which is chest related

<sup>2</sup> Includes advice or treatment from the public health sector, the private health sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional healer or friend/relative.

Table 9.9 Prevalence and treatment of symptoms of fever

Among children under age 5 years, the percentage who had a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and among children with fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage with fever for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider and percentage who took antibiotic drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among children under age of 5 years		Among children under age 5 with fever			
	Percentage with fever	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same day or next day	Percentage who took antibiotic drugs	Number of children
<b>Age in months</b>						
<6	10.8	22,624	76.0	59.1	20.1	2,440
6-11	17.9	21,869	81.7	62.0	23.4	3,907
12-23	16.1	43,247	80.2	59.3	23.3	6,955
24-35	13.7	43,916	79.8	59.5	26.7	6,006
36-47	12.0	44,075	79.6	58.1	26.5	5,278
48-59	10.1	46,503	78.7	58.3	25.2	4,719
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	13.7	115,196	80.2	60.2	24.5	15,768
Female	12.6	107,037	78.9	58.3	24.8	13,537
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	11.9	59,780	81.3	62.9	26.0	7,117
Rural	13.7	162,452	79.1	58.2	24.2	22,188
<b>Mother's schooling</b>						
No schooling	12.7	46,918	77.1	55.9	22.0	5,935
<5 years complete	15.9	10,615	80.5	59.7	27.1	1,683
5-7 years complete	13.3	31,983	78.3	55.5	22.6	4,249
8-9 years complete	14.2	41,125	79.8	59.7	24.6	5,849
10-11 years complete	14.3	29,804	80.4	62.1	24.9	4,270
12 or more years complete	11.8	61,788	81.7	62.2	27.3	7,320
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	12.9	176,335	79.4	59.0	23.8	22,664
Muslim	14.7	36,163	81.9	60.8	26.7	5,319
Christian	15.8	4,651	76.7	60.1	36.3	735
Sikh	9.5	2,801	68.9	59.5	16.4	267
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	19.5	1,064	81.1	60.8	28.0	208
Jain	8.0	323	80.6	52.3	50.6	26
Other	9.6	896	66.5	39.3	26.7	86
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	13.4	51,395	78.9	58.6	22.1	6,881
Scheduled tribe	11.7	22,135	74.7	53.1	24.5	2,584
Other backward class	12.7	96,762	80.4	60.4	26.5	12,281
Other	14.5	49,900	81.0	60.6	24.2	7,220
Don't know	16.6	2,042	74.4	55.9	17.9	339

Continued...



**Table 9.9 Prevalence and treatment of symptoms of fever—Continued**

Among children under age 5 years, the percentage who had a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and among children with fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage with fever for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider and percentage who took antibiotic drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among children under age of 5 years		Among children under age 5 with fever			
	Percentage with fever	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same day or next day	Percentage who took antibiotic drugs	Number of children
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	14.9	53,817	75.9	53.7	23.5	8,025
Second	13.8	47,984	79.6	59.1	22.7	6,620
Middle	13.5	43,519	80.0	60.0	24.4	5,874
Fourth	12.2	41,242	82.3	62.1	26.7	5,018
Highest	10.6	35,671	83.4	66.7	27.9	3,768
Total	13.2	222,233	79.6	59.3	24.6	29,305

<sup>1</sup> Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional healer or friend/relative

**Table 9.10 Prevalence of diarrhoea**

Percentage of children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of children with diarrhoea	Number of children
<b>Age in months</b>		
<6	8.0	22,624
6-11	12.8	21,869
12-23	10.0	43,247
24-35	6.7	43,916
36-47	5.3	44,075
48-59	4.3	46,503
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	7.6	115,196
Female	7.0	107,037
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	6.2	59,780
Rural	7.7	162,452
<b>Mother's schooling</b>		
No schooling	7.8	46,918
<5 years complete	8.9	10,615
5-7 years complete	7.9	31,983
8-9 years complete	7.8	41,125
10-11 years complete	7.3	29,804
12 or more years complete	6.0	61,788
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	7.3	176,335
Muslim	7.5	36,163
Christian	6.3	4,651
Sikh	4.8	2,801
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	10.4	1,064
Jain	4.8	323
Other	4.8	896
<b>Caste/tribe</b>		
Scheduled caste	7.6	51,395
Scheduled tribe	7.6	22,135
Other backward class	7.1	96,762
Other	7.2	49,900
Don't know	7.6	2,042
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	8.9	53,817
Second	8.1	47,984
Middle	7.2	43,519
Fourth	6.4	41,242
Highest	4.9	35,671

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**Table 9.10 Prevalence of diarrhoea—Continued**

Percentage of children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

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Background characteristic	Percentage of children with diarrhoea	Number of children
<b>Source of drinking water<sup>1</sup></b>		
Improved	7.3	213,040
Not improved	7.7	8,370
Other	7.0	823
<b>Toilet facility<sup>2</sup></b>		
Improved	6.6	142,547
Shared <sup>3</sup>	8.6	20,456
Unimproved	8.2	6,678
No facility/open defecation	8.7	52,553
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>222,233</b>

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<sup>1</sup> See Table 2.1 for definition of categories

<sup>2</sup> See Table 2.2 for definition of categories

<sup>3</sup> Facilities that would be considered improved if they were not shared by two or more households

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**Table 9.11 Diarrhoea treatment**

Among children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, percentage who received oral rehydration therapy (ORT), percentage who were given other treatments, and percentage given no treatment, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of children who were given				Percentage who were given other treatments							Number of children with diarrhoea					
	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>1</sup>	A fluid made from an ORS packet	Either ORS or gruel	In-creased fluids	ORT (ORS, gruel, or in-creased fluids)	Zinc	ORS and zinc	ORS or increased fluids	Continued feeding and ORT <sup>2</sup>	Anti-biotic drug	Anti-motility drug		Other drug	Intra-venous solution	Home remedy/herbal/other	No treatment	
<b>Age in months</b>																	
<6	71.8	35.6	10.3	37.1	3.2	38.9	21.9	12.3	37.5	19.9	16.0	4.4	8.3	0.3	9.0	30.8	1,812
6-11	78.9	56.7	28.4	62.6	4.5	64.1	29.4	21.6	58.5	39.6	16.9	4.4	10.9	0.4	7.5	16.3	2,800
12-23	79.1	66.3	37.7	73.2	6.2	74.4	31.0	25.2	67.7	49.6	16.8	4.5	10.6	0.4	8.2	10.6	4,342
24-35	75.6	64.1	38.2	70.7	6.1	72.0	31.8	25.1	65.7	50.2	18.6	4.6	10.6	0.7	7.5	11.3	2,938
36-47	75.5	66.1	40.8	72.3	5.5	73.6	33.3	26.1	67.6	51.7	17.2	6.0	8.6	0.3	7.0	13.0	2,327
48-59	71.5	65.0	41.8	71.8	5.5	73.4	33.9	27.5	66.8	48.7	15.4	5.1	9.7	0.3	5.5	14.5	1,995
<b>Sex</b>																	
Male	76.7	61.8	35.0	67.9	5.6	69.3	30.9	24.1	63.4	45.7	17.0	5.1	9.9	0.4	7.6	14.1	8,698
Female	75.6	59.3	33.0	65.0	5.0	66.4	30.2	22.9	60.9	43.8	16.8	4.4	10.2	0.4	7.4	15.6	7,515
<b>Residence</b>																	
Urban	78.0	62.5	34.0	68.9	4.5	70.1	31.5	24.8	63.8	46.2	16.4	3.8	10.8	0.5	8.0	14.6	3,682
Rural	75.6	60.1	34.1	65.9	5.6	67.4	30.3	23.2	61.8	44.5	17.1	5.1	9.8	0.4	7.4	14.9	12,531
<b>Mother's schooling</b>																	
No schooling	75.4	59.7	35.8	65.5	5.8	66.9	27.4	21.4	61.4	44.6	16.1	6.1	10.4	0.4	7.3	16.5	3,656
<5 years complete	73.9	58.6	31.9	65.3	4.7	67.0	25.3	18.9	60.4	46.2	18.3	4.0	11.4	0.2	7.3	14.3	942
5-7 years complete	75.9	60.5	32.3	66.4	4.5	67.3	30.8	24.2	61.6	45.7	16.4	4.3	10.3	0.5	6.6	15.0	2,521
8-9 years complete	75.4	62.1	33.4	67.1	5.4	68.4	32.4	25.0	63.6	44.3	17.0	4.5	9.9	0.5	7.8	14.4	3,224
10-11 years complete	77.9	61.6	35.2	67.9	5.8	69.6	31.9	23.8	63.6	45.2	16.9	4.8	9.8	0.5	7.5	13.0	2,181
12 or more years complete	77.4	60.3	34.0	67.0	5.4	68.4	32.4	25.0	62.0	44.4	17.6	4.3	9.3	0.3	8.2	14.5	3,690

Continued...

**Table 9.11 Diarrhoea treatment—Continued**

Among children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, percentage who received oral rehydration therapy (ORT), percentage who were given other treatments, and percentage given no treatment, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of children who were given				Percentage who were given other treatments								Number of children with diarrhoea				
	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>1</sup>	A fluid made from an ORS packet	Either ORS or gruel	In- or created fluids)	ORT (ORS, gruel, or in- or created fluids)	Zinc	ORS and zinc	ORS or increased fluids and ORT <sup>2</sup>	Continued feeding	Anti-biotic drug	Anti-motility drug	Other drug		Intra-venous solution	Home remedy/ herbal/ other	No treatment	
<b>Religion</b>																	
Hindu	75.5	60.4	34.2	66.4	5.3	67.7	30.8	23.7	62.0	44.8	16.7	4.9	10.1	0.3	7.7	14.7	12,910
Muslim	79.9	62.4	32.3	67.5	5.8	69.0	29.5	23.1	64.1	44.6	17.6	4.9	9.6	0.8	6.4	15.2	2,705
Christian	68.5	56.1	35.6	67.0	5.1	68.1	29.8	22.5	57.7	52.1	18.3	1.6	12.3	1.2	8.8	15.5	294
Sikh	80.0	55.4	44.5	61.9	6.7	64.5	22.5	17.1	58.0	34.5	13.7	4.6	10.5	1.8	7.0	17.3	134
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	78.4	64.8	38.7	72.6	1.7	73.7	34.5	26.4	65.9	50.2	27.6	2.8	7.6	0.0	9.8	10.4	111
Jain	96.1	54.8	44.9	80.3	0.0	80.3	23.6	23.6	54.8	60.2	13.9	0.0	22.9	0.0	8.7	3.9	16
Other	72.4	42.1	37.5	59.7	6.6	65.5	27.2	10.0	47.8	42.1	19.5	7.0	6.7	0.0	12.9	17.1	43
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																	
Scheduled caste	75.8	58.5	34.2	65.1	5.3	66.7	31.2	24.2	60.4	44.7	16.4	5.3	10.1	0.3	8.0	14.8	3,889
Scheduled tribe	73.8	65.7	39.7	72.1	5.3	73.4	33.3	26.0	67.2	50.7	14.8	5.2	8.0	0.1	6.3	14.1	1,689
Other backward class	76.8	58.0	31.9	63.5	5.5	65.0	29.9	22.4	59.8	42.8	17.4	4.5	10.7	0.4	7.5	16.0	6,873
Other	77.0	65.8	36.0	71.8	5.4	72.8	29.8	24.2	67.0	47.0	17.8	4.8	9.2	0.6	7.7	12.6	3,606
Don't know	67.6	51.4	22.8	57.9	3.6	59.6	27.7	16.3	53.1	28.6	13.1	3.6	15.3	3.6	4.8	17.7	155
<b>Wealth quintile</b>																	
Lowest	75.3	59.3	35.4	65.1	6.1	66.6	28.3	21.6	61.1	45.3	17.3	5.8	9.7	0.4	7.1	15.7	4,791
Second	73.5	59.4	32.2	65.0	5.5	66.7	29.8	22.3	61.2	43.1	15.9	4.6	9.9	0.7	7.6	16.4	3,868
Middle	75.7	60.6	33.1	66.2	4.3	67.3	31.5	24.0	62.0	44.4	16.4	3.5	10.0	0.3	8.1	14.3	3,146
Fourth	79.9	62.5	33.0	68.7	4.7	69.9	31.6	24.5	63.9	46.0	17.4	5.7	10.7	0.1	8.0	12.6	2,648
Highest	79.9	64.1	38.0	71.5	5.7	72.8	35.1	29.2	65.8	46.6	18.6	3.5	10.1	0.4	6.9	12.9	1,759
Total	76.2	60.6	34.1	66.6	5.4	68.0	30.5	23.5	62.2	44.9	16.9	4.8	10.0	0.4	7.5	14.8	16,213

<sup>1</sup> Includes advice or treatment from the public health sector, the private health sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional healer or friend/relative.

<sup>2</sup> Continued feeding includes children who were given more, same as usual, or somewhat less food during the diarrhoea episode

**Table 9.12 Diarrhoea treatment by state/union territory**

Among children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, percentage who received oral rehydration therapy (ORT), percentage who were given other treatments, and percentage given no treatment, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of children who were given					Percentage who were given other treatments									
		A fluid made from an ORS packet	Gruel	Either ORS or gruel	Increased fluids	ORT (ORS, gruel, or increased fluids)	Zinc	ORS and zinc	ORS or increased fluids	Continued feeding and ORT <sup>2</sup>	Antibiotic drug	Anti-motility drug	Other drug	Intra-venous solution	Home remedy/herbal/other	No treatment
<b>India</b>	76.2	60.6	34.1	66.6	5.4	68.0	30.5	23.5	62.2	44.9	16.9	4.8	10.0	0.4	7.5	14.8
<b>North</b>																
Chandigarh	68.7	57.7	57.7	57.7	0.0	57.7	57.7	57.7	57.7	57.7	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.3
Delhi	84.8	64.5	40.0	70.2	8.1	71.8	32.7	25.4	66.5	45.8	18.1	2.7	22.9	0.0	3.3	12.2
Haryana	83.1	46.6	32.6	54.7	5.5	57.6	26.2	20.1	49.9	34.5	14.4	4.1	15.6	0.6	11.4	19.0
Himachal Pradesh	71.9	73.7	47.4	75.5	17.1	81.7	19.5	17.6	81.2	54.5	7.3	0.9	6.3	0.0	9.3	15.6
Jammu & Kashmir	75.0	80.8	44.2	84.3	6.0	84.9	50.5	45.2	81.7	42.7	23.9	6.5	7.1	0.0	2.8	8.7
Ladakh	76.8	78.3	40.2	82.1	8.8	82.1	54.5	51.0	78.3	51.8	33.1	6.6	3.7	0.0	11.4	9.0
Punjab	80.8	60.7	39.2	65.6	6.6	67.4	27.0	21.7	62.5	38.2	13.0	5.9	9.5	0.0	9.0	15.1
Rajasthan	85.6	64.3	19.1	66.6	6.5	68.6	27.2	21.5	66.4	53.5	20.2	7.6	12.9	0.7	7.4	9.9
Uttarakhand	82.4	55.9	39.4	67.0	9.3	72.2	30.1	16.7	61.5	44.3	15.1	4.9	9.9	0.7	11.9	11.9
<b>Central</b>																
Chhattisgarh	77.8	67.3	37.5	74.6	4.7	76.7	40.0	33.0	70.2	53.2	25.7	5.4	8.0	0.0	9.0	10.5
Madhya Pradesh	73.4	65.2	37.9	68.9	6.0	70.3	35.6	29.1	66.8	44.0	18.1	4.5	10.5	0.0	5.1	13.2
Uttar Pradesh	77.9	50.7	26.9	55.6	3.6	57.3	28.5	20.0	52.5	36.4	17.7	5.0	11.8	0.2	7.2	18.1
<b>East</b>																
Bihar	75.1	58.2	39.4	64.7	7.9	66.7	25.6	19.3	60.5	42.6	19.0	6.0	10.7	0.5	7.8	15.5
Jharkhand	72.0	55.6	38.5	63.2	3.2	64.6	28.9	20.6	57.5	39.2	21.6	10.3	7.5	0.4	4.6	18.9
Odisha	65.9	65.7	23.2	68.8	8.7	70.1	36.9	30.4	67.3	55.2	15.5	4.2	12.0	0.3	10.4	18.4
West Bengal	83.0	75.3	28.1	77.8	4.8	77.8	36.0	29.9	75.3	46.5	18.3	2.9	10.4	0.4	8.9	9.9

Continued...

Table 9.12 Diarrhoea treatment by state/union territory—Continued

State/union territory	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of children who were given					Percentage who were given other treatments									
		A fluid made from an ORS packet		Either ORS or gruel		ORT (ORS, gruel, or increased fluids)	Zinc	ORS and zinc	ORS or increased fluids	Continued feeding and ORT <sup>2</sup>	Anti-motility drug	Other drug	Intra-venous solution	Home remedy/ herbal/ other		
		ORS	packet	ORS or gruel	Increased fluids											
<b>Northeast</b>																
Arunachal Pradesh	56.2	62.7	39.0	66.2	6.9	68.9	27.9	22.1	65.3	51.2	17.5	7.0	4.7	0.2	9.6	19.8
Assam	71.1	69.1	31.4	73.5	1.6	73.6	28.0	23.5	69.1	57.2	14.9	2.0	10.4	1.4	6.0	16.7
Manipur	54.0	69.7	8.3	71.6	5.5	72.0	26.1	19.0	70.2	58.1	20.7	1.4	7.9	0.3	15.1	10.6
Meghalaya	80.0	73.2	42.4	79.0	2.9	79.5	40.5	33.8	73.9	61.9	19.1	2.6	14.0	1.3	19.6	8.5
Mizoram	44.2	71.4	26.2	75.1	24.2	80.8	29.8	25.7	77.0	57.8	4.4	0.0	4.0	0.6	5.0	10.7
Nagaland	37.0	54.5	30.3	63.0	8.3	63.0	9.1	6.9	54.5	55.2	17.0	0.0	4.5	0.0	31.7	24.9
Sikkim	57.1	64.2	24.5	64.2	35.4	84.1	50.0	37.5	84.1	33.6	21.9	0.0	3.2	0.0	1.0	10.0
Tripura	67.5	67.2	23.8	76.6	3.9	76.6	16.7	10.6	68.3	56.2	4.5	1.4	6.7	0.0	10.2	15.8
<b>West</b>																
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	79.7	87.9	14.1	87.9	0.0	87.9	20.8	20.8	87.9	70.9	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.0	20.2	0.0
Goa	100.0	45.3	45.8	62.8	11.1	62.8	50.5	24.5	45.3	40.2	19.7	0.0	8.2	0.0	28.7	0.0
Gujarat	74.7	66.5	23.5	69.2	5.3	70.8	35.4	28.0	68.3	49.0	9.2	4.0	6.4	0.0	4.6	14.1
Maharashtra	75.9	59.5	50.0	73.5	1.4	74.0	27.3	21.3	60.1	49.3	15.9	4.6	6.3	0.7	10.1	11.4
<b>South</b>																
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	83.9	65.0	39.2	68.2	15.4	68.2	44.0	33.4	65.0	41.1	24.5	7.4	13.1	0.0	0.0	19.5
Andhra Pradesh	76.2	62.5	19.8	66.7	2.5	67.6	41.8	29.2	63.4	43.6	13.5	2.2	6.5	0.6	7.4	12.0
Karnataka	76.8	71.3	42.1	75.4	4.7	76.1	45.5	38.0	72.0	51.7	10.0	4.1	8.6	0.4	4.7	13.0
Kerala	87.1	61.1	53.9	73.9	15.1	75.3	22.4	20.2	64.5	45.0	15.0	0.0	6.9	0.0	7.6	12.7
Lakshadweep	76.1	50.6	25.7	60.5	0.0	60.5	0.0	0.0	50.6	33.7	0.0	0.0	15.8	0.0	0.0	39.5
Puducherry	66.0	64.2	52.6	83.8	0.0	83.8	33.2	33.2	64.2	72.6	14.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	9.7	12.1
Tamil Nadu	60.8	53.8	30.2	61.4	0.3	61.4	28.9	23.3	53.8	39.6	10.4	1.7	5.3	0.0	8.0	26.7
Telangana	73.4	56.3	23.4	61.6	3.8	62.1	38.5	24.9	57.2	45.8	15.7	2.4	7.2	0.7	3.4	17.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes advice or treatment from the public health sector, the private health sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional healer or friend/relative.

<sup>2</sup> Continued feeding includes children who were given more, same as usual, or somewhat less food during the diarrhoea episode

Table 9.13 Feeding practices during diarrhoea

Percent distribution of children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey by amount of liquids and food given compared with normal practice, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Amount of liquids given					Amount of food given					Number of children with diarrhoea					
	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less	Much less	None	Don't know	Total	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less		Much less	None	Never gave food	Don't know	Total
<b>Age in months</b>																
<6	3.2	35.6	29.4	18.0	12.7	1.1	100.0	1.7	25.3	23.8	15.3	1.6	30.8	1.4	100.0	1,812
6-11	4.5	32.3	34.0	24.3	4.4	0.4	100.0	2.6	27.9	32.2	24.0	1.9	10.3	1.0	100.0	2,800
12-23	6.2	27.9	37.9	24.4	3.1	0.5	100.0	2.8	25.6	39.7	25.2	2.0	4.2	0.5	100.0	4,342
24-35	6.1	31.1	37.9	21.3	2.9	0.6	100.0	3.1	29.7	38.0	24.5	1.3	2.9	0.5	100.0	2,938
36-47	5.5	30.7	36.3	22.3	4.3	0.9	100.0	3.3	28.4	39.8	24.5	1.3	2.2	0.5	100.0	2,327
48-59	5.5	29.0	36.2	25.3	3.3	0.8	100.0	2.6	28.4	36.9	27.4	1.6	2.5	0.6	100.0	1,995
<b>Sex</b>																
Male	5.6	30.6	35.8	22.7	4.7	0.6	100.0	2.7	27.4	35.7	24.2	1.5	7.9	0.6	100.0	8,698
Female	5.0	30.7	35.9	23.2	4.4	0.8	100.0	2.8	27.6	36.3	23.7	1.9	7.0	0.8	100.0	7,515
<b>Residence</b>																
Urban	4.5	32.8	34.9	23.5	4.2	0.2	100.0	2.0	30.4	34.0	24.9	1.5	6.8	0.4	100.0	3,682
Rural	5.6	30.0	36.1	22.8	4.7	0.8	100.0	3.0	26.6	36.6	23.7	1.7	7.7	0.8	100.0	12,531
<b>Mother's schooling</b>																
No schooling	5.8	30.5	35.9	22.7	4.3	0.9	100.0	3.2	26.6	37.3	23.7	1.8	6.6	0.7	100.0	3,656
<5 years complete	4.7	31.0	38.8	20.9	3.8	0.8	100.0	1.1	28.0	40.2	22.2	1.8	5.8	0.8	100.0	942
5-7 years complete	4.5	30.1	37.9	21.8	5.0	0.7	100.0	2.7	27.5	36.6	23.2	1.7	7.7	0.7	100.0	2,521
8-9 years complete	5.4	29.3	35.1	24.9	4.7	0.6	100.0	2.8	26.3	36.3	24.7	1.4	7.9	0.6	100.0	3,224
10-11 years complete	5.8	32.0	36.2	21.0	4.4	0.5	100.0	2.7	28.3	36.7	23.4	1.1	6.8	1.0	100.0	2,181
12 or more years complete	5.4	31.4	34.1	23.9	4.8	0.5	100.0	2.7	28.6	32.4	24.7	2.1	8.8	0.6	100.0	3,690

Continued...



**Table 9.13 Feeding practices during diarrhoea—Continued**

Percent distribution of children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey by amount of liquids and food given compared with normal practice, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Amount of liquids given					Amount of food given					Number of children with diarrhoea					
	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less	Much less	None	Don't know	Total	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less		Much less	None	Never gave food	Don't know	Total
<b>Religion</b>																
Hindu	5.3	31.2	35.4	23.0	4.6	0.6	100.0	2.9	28.0	35.4	23.8	1.7	7.6	0.6	100.0	12,910
Muslim	5.8	28.1	37.9	22.3	4.7	1.2	100.0	2.0	24.3	38.4	24.9	1.7	7.4	1.2	100.0	2,705
Christian	5.1	38.4	34.3	19.6	1.9	0.8	100.0	3.0	33.7	39.3	18.8	1.6	3.3	0.3	100.0	294
Sikh	6.7	16.3	35.8	32.3	8.0	1.0	100.0	5.1	15.1	35.0	29.7	0.0	13.3	1.8	100.0	134
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.7	31.2	36.3	28.9	1.8	0.1	100.0	1.8	35.9	29.0	29.6	0.1	3.4	0.1	100.0	111
Jain	0.0	16.8	56.7	26.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	39.0	40.9	20.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	16
Other	6.6	34.2	43.3	14.6	1.2	0.0	100.0	3.7	26.0	44.6	17.5	0.6	7.6	0.0	100.0	43
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																
Scheduled caste	5.3	31.5	36.1	22.7	3.9	0.5	100.0	2.7	28.6	35.7	22.9	2.2	7.2	0.6	100.0	3,889
Scheduled tribe	5.3	32.1	35.6	21.7	4.7	0.7	100.0	3.8	29.1	37.2	22.0	0.9	6.3	0.7	100.0	1,689
Other backward class	5.5	30.7	35.8	22.5	5.0	0.6	100.0	2.8	27.5	35.8	23.3	1.8	8.2	0.6	100.0	6,873
Other	5.4	29.0	36.0	24.6	4.2	0.8	100.0	2.2	25.5	36.2	27.0	1.4	6.9	0.9	100.0	3,606
Don't know	3.6	28.7	32.6	22.5	8.7	3.9	100.0	3.0	22.3	31.3	25.9	0.2	12.5	4.8	100.0	155
<b>Wealth quintile</b>																
Lowest	6.1	28.6	38.5	22.6	3.3	0.9	100.0	3.3	24.2	40.5	23.5	1.6	6.3	0.8	100.0	4,791
Second	5.5	30.5	35.3	22.7	5.3	0.6	100.0	2.5	28.2	34.8	23.2	1.9	8.5	1.0	100.0	3,868
Middle	4.3	32.6	34.0	23.1	5.4	0.5	100.0	3.0	29.1	34.4	24.2	1.7	7.0	0.6	100.0	3,146
Fourth	4.7	30.3	36.9	22.9	4.7	0.4	100.0	2.3	28.9	34.2	24.2	1.8	8.2	0.5	100.0	2,648
Highest	5.7	33.6	31.4	24.0	4.8	0.6	100.0	2.0	29.9	32.0	25.9	1.5	8.4	0.4	100.0	1,759
Total	5.4	30.6	35.8	22.9	4.6	0.7	100.0	2.7	27.5	36.0	23.9	1.7	7.5	0.7	100.0	16,213

Note: It is recommended that children should be given more liquids to drink during diarrhoea and food should not be reduced.

**Table 9.14 Feeding practices during diarrhoea by state/union territory**

Percent distribution of children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey by amount of liquids and food given compared with normal practice, and percentage of women who know about oral rehydration salts (ORS) packets for the treatment of diarrhoea, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Amount of liquids given					Amount of food given					Percentage of women who know about ORS packets					
	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less	Much less	None	Don't know	Total	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less		Much less	None	Never gave food	Don't know	Total
<b>India</b>	5.4	30.6	35.8	22.9	4.6	0.7	100.0	2.7	27.5	36.0	23.9	1.7	7.5	0.7	100.0	92.4
<b>North</b>																
Chhattisgarh	0.0	19.2	80.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	19.2	80.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	94.1
Delhi	8.1	41.6	25.1	20.7	4.4	0.0	100.0	1.0	36.7	26.6	23.8	2.1	9.4	0.4	100.0	97.8
Haryana	5.5	27.6	35.5	24.7	4.8	1.9	100.0	4.6	24.1	32.4	26.9	0.8	9.0	2.2	100.0	93.2
Himachal Pradesh	17.1	36.7	27.3	11.1	4.9	2.9	100.0	5.8	29.5	35.1	13.0	1.7	12.8	2.2	100.0	97.2
Jammu & Kashmir	6.0	27.8	21.7	38.5	5.5	0.4	100.0	2.1	26.6	22.7	38.1	2.9	7.8	0.0	100.0	90.2
Ladakh	8.8	28.5	35.4	22.5	4.8	0.0	100.0	7.3	18.2	42.4	18.0	4.8	9.3	0.0	100.0	91.1
Punjab	6.6	23.9	34.9	26.3	7.4	0.9	100.0	3.6	20.4	34.9	27.0	0.0	11.1	3.0	100.0	87.2
Rajasthan	6.5	46.8	31.7	10.2	4.4	0.4	100.0	3.8	37.1	34.6	10.9	1.6	11.9	0.1	100.0	96.3
Uttarakhand	9.3	29.8	33.4	23.0	4.5	0.0	100.0	3.4	28.0	32.6	24.3	5.2	6.5	0.0	100.0	96.5
<b>Central</b>																
Chhattisgarh	4.7	24.5	39.4	21.3	9.3	0.9	100.0	4.6	23.7	39.4	19.1	1.4	11.2	0.4	100.0	97.4
Madhya Pradesh	6.0	24.3	37.8	24.6	6.3	1.0	100.0	2.6	22.3	37.7	25.7	1.4	9.5	0.9	100.0	95.3
Uttar Pradesh	3.6	32.5	35.2	23.5	4.7	0.5	100.0	2.8	28.8	32.6	23.6	2.5	9.0	0.8	100.0	87.9
<b>East</b>																
Bihar	7.9	25.9	37.6	23.8	3.8	1.0	100.0	3.7	21.6	38.8	24.7	1.6	8.7	0.9	100.0	90.0
Jharkhand	3.2	23.1	38.3	31.3	3.3	0.7	100.0	2.8	17.3	44.1	29.5	0.8	4.6	0.9	100.0	90.0
Odisha	8.7	37.0	36.9	13.8	3.2	0.5	100.0	3.8	36.4	39.3	16.5	0.3	3.7	0.0	100.0	99.1
West Bengal	4.8	26.0	37.4	29.1	2.0	0.6	100.0	1.7	19.5	38.8	34.1	1.3	3.4	1.1	100.0	95.8

*Continued...*

Table 9.14. Feeding practices during diarrhoea by state/union territory—Continued

Percent distribution of children under age 5 years who had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey by amount of liquids and food given compared with normal practice, and percentage of women who know about oral rehydration salts (ORS) packets for the treatment of diarrhoea, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Amount of liquids given					Amount of food given					Percentage of women who know about ORS packets					
	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less	Much less	None	Don't know	Total	More	Same as usual	Somewhat less		Much less	None	Never gave food	Don't know	Total
<b>Northeast</b>																
Arunachal Pradesh	6.9	38.7	26.3	18.9	7.2	2.0	100.0	2.9	39.8	28.4	16.1	3.2	8.0	1.6	100.0	92.0
Assam	1.6	35.4	42.7	16.6	3.3	0.4	100.0	2.1	35.8	43.3	16.2	0.9	1.1	0.6	100.0	96.3
Manipur	5.5	40.1	42.0	11.0	1.4	0.0	100.0	4.9	30.8	48.3	12.9	1.0	2.1	0.0	100.0	97.0
Meghalaya	2.9	41.9	29.5	22.8	2.5	0.4	100.0	3.3	38.1	36.7	19.2	0.9	1.6	0.3	100.0	95.2
Mizoram	24.2	40.4	21.8	4.4	4.7	4.5	100.0	19.7	33.0	26.2	11.1	1.8	3.6	4.5	100.0	95.8
Nagaland	8.3	49.0	38.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	2.2	49.1	34.0	8.0	0.4	6.3	0.0	100.0	85.5
Sikkim	35.4	10.1	38.0	16.2	0.3	0.0	100.0	10.3	22.4	31.0	35.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	100.0	96.1
Tripura	3.9	24.9	47.7	19.5	4.0	0.0	100.0	1.1	25.9	45.7	20.7	2.6	4.0	0.0	100.0	98.1
<b>West</b>																
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.0	12.6	65.7	21.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	20.7	50.3	26.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	100.0	95.3
Goa	11.1	43.1	40.2	5.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	44.5	32.9	22.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	98.9
Gujarat	5.3	31.6	35.0	22.2	5.6	0.2	100.0	4.7	31.6	34.8	21.8	1.6	5.2	0.2	100.0	89.1
Maharashtra	1.4	31.4	36.6	23.1	6.8	0.7	100.0	0.5	32.7	34.1	23.0	1.1	7.9	0.7	100.0	87.4
<b>South</b>																
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15.4	13.3	38.7	22.9	4.9	4.9	100.0	0.0	18.2	27.7	35.9	0.0	13.4	4.9	100.0	98.1
Andhra Pradesh	2.5	38.7	27.5	28.5	2.8	0.0	100.0	0.6	34.3	27.8	33.2	1.1	3.0	0.0	100.0	94.5
Karnataka	4.7	24.8	41.9	20.9	6.7	0.9	100.0	2.0	28.8	36.2	23.2	1.8	6.6	1.4	100.0	93.0
Kerala	15.1	24.2	31.6	26.4	2.0	0.7	100.0	2.0	21.5	36.1	31.8	0.7	7.9	0.0	100.0	95.1
Lakshadweep	0.0	39.5	33.7	26.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	23.9	33.7	26.8	0.0	15.7	0.0	100.0	97.1
Puducherry	0.0	44.1	43.1	10.5	2.3	0.0	100.0	0.0	41.6	43.1	6.5	8.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	96.7
Tamil Nadu	0.3	42.3	26.6	24.5	6.3	0.0	100.0	1.0	34.5	28.1	25.3	6.0	5.2	0.0	100.0	95.2
Telangana	3.8	31.5	37.2	23.1	4.2	0.1	100.0	1.4	30.1	37.6	21.4	3.0	5.9	0.6	100.0	93.9

Note: It is recommended that children should be given more liquids to drink during diarrhoea and food should not be reduced.

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**Table 9.15 Knowledge of ORS packets**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the 5 years preceding the survey who know about ORS packets for treatment of diarrhoea, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

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Background characteristic	Percentage of women who know about ORS packets	Number of women
<b>Age</b>		
15-19	91.0	5,451
20-24	93.8	51,170
25-34	94.3	102,183
35-49	92.5	16,163
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	95.8	49,346
Rural	93.2	125,621
<b>Schooling</b>		
No schooling	89.0	34,360
<5 years complete	92.9	8,194
5-7 years complete	93.4	24,487
8-9 years complete	94.6	32,278
10-11 years complete	95.4	23,983
12 or more years complete	96.5	51,665
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	93.8	139,221
Muslim	93.9	27,845
Christian	96.9	3,690
Sikh	94.1	2,326
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	94.1	887
Jain	97.5	272
Other	93.5	724
<b>Caste/tribe</b>		
Scheduled caste	93.3	39,633
Scheduled tribe	93.8	17,295
Other backward class	93.7	75,241
Other	95.2	41,236
Don't know	87.3	1,562
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	90.0	39,846
Second	93.2	36,815
Middle	94.7	34,254
Fourth	95.9	33,653
Highest	96.9	30,400
Total	93.9	174,968

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ORS = Oral rehydration salts

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**Table 9.16 Disposal of children's stools**

Percent distribution of youngest children under age 2 living with the mother by the manner of disposal of the child's last stools, and percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Manner of disposal of children's stools								Total	Percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately <sup>1</sup>	Number of children
	Child used toilet or latrine	Put/ rinsed into toilet or latrine	Put/ rinsed into drain or ditch	Thrown in garbage	Buried	Left in the open	Other	Don't know/ missing			
<b>Age in months</b>											
<6	14.3	17.3	8.3	18.1	1.9	35.8	3.7	0.5	100.0	33.5	22,406
6-11	17.2	18.2	6.5	17.0	1.8	37.2	1.8	0.4	100.0	37.1	21,643
12-23	21.8	18.2	5.2	15.2	1.3	36.3	1.4	0.5	100.0	41.4	40,612
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	26.5	27.0	6.9	16.0	1.1	20.0	2.0	0.4	100.0	54.6	22,085
Rural	15.9	14.8	6.2	16.6	1.7	42.2	2.1	0.5	100.0	32.4	62,576
<b>Mother's schooling</b>											
No schooling	12.4	10.4	7.0	15.6	1.8	50.1	2.1	0.8	100.0	24.5	15,770
<5 years complete	12.3	12.1	7.6	19.3	1.9	42.7	3.4	0.5	100.0	26.4	3,575
5-7 years complete	16.1	15.9	6.3	15.8	1.7	41.0	2.6	0.5	100.0	33.8	11,367
8-9 years complete	17.4	16.9	6.3	17.6	1.6	37.5	2.4	0.5	100.0	35.8	16,174
10-11 years complete	20.8	19.0	6.3	16.5	1.4	33.6	2.0	0.4	100.0	41.2	11,737
12 or more years complete	24.3	24.5	5.9	16.0	1.5	25.8	1.7	0.3	100.0	50.3	26,039
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	17.7	17.1	6.3	16.4	1.6	38.4	2.0	0.5	100.0	36.4	67,219
Muslim	22.7	20.1	6.1	16.5	1.5	29.8	2.8	0.5	100.0	44.3	13,755
Christian	13.6	25.6	8.8	23.3	1.6	24.4	2.5	0.1	100.0	40.8	1,776
Sikh	32.6	34.0	6.6	9.9	0.5	15.5	0.6	0.4	100.0	67.1	1,026
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	24.5	19.5	6.5	17.2	1.7	29.8	0.7	0.0	100.0	45.7	393
Jain	21.5	54.5	6.6	3.3	1.1	11.9	1.1	0.0	100.0	77.1	132
Other	16.0	10.5	4.8	10.6	2.0	54.5	0.7	0.9	100.0	28.5	360
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	16.3	15.9	6.7	17.6	1.5	39.6	1.9	0.6	100.0	33.7	19,618
Scheduled tribe	11.5	11.3	6.8	17.1	2.0	48.7	2.0	0.5	100.0	24.8	8,633
Other backward class	18.8	17.8	6.3	15.7	1.5	37.6	1.9	0.4	100.0	38.1	36,871
Other	24.3	23.5	6.0	16.2	1.5	25.2	2.9	0.5	100.0	49.3	18,787
Don't know	16.4	17.2	4.2	22.2	3.4	34.2	1.7	0.7	100.0	37.0	752
<b>Toilet facility<sup>2</sup></b>											
Improved	22.7	22.5	6.1	15.6	1.5	29.3	1.8	0.3	100.0	46.8	54,775
Shared <sup>3</sup>	21.6	18.7	7.6	17.9	1.3	30.1	2.4	0.3	100.0	41.6	7,567
Unimproved	15.6	13.7	6.3	18.5	2.3	39.6	3.2	0.8	100.0	31.6	2,583
No facility/open defecation	6.6	5.6	6.5	17.8	1.8	58.1	2.7	0.9	100.0	14.1	19,737

*Continued...*

**Table 9.16 Disposal of children's stools—Continued**

Percent distribution of youngest children under age 2 living with the mother by the manner of disposal of the child's last stools, and percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Manner of disposal of children's stools									Percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately <sup>1</sup>	Number of children
	Child used toilet or latrine	Put/ rinsed into toilet or latrine	Put/ rinsed into drain or ditch	Thrown in garbage	Buried	Left in the open	Other	Don't know/ missing	Total		
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	9.1	6.4	6.1	16.9	1.9	55.5	3.2	1.0	100.0	17.4	20,203
Second	14.5	12.0	6.5	18.3	1.9	44.0	2.3	0.5	100.0	28.4	18,155
Middle	19.8	17.6	6.8	17.6	1.4	34.8	1.8	0.3	100.0	38.8	16,844
Fourth	24.7	26.0	7.0	14.9	1.3	24.3	1.5	0.3	100.0	52.1	15,824
Highest	30.1	34.1	5.4	13.5	1.2	13.9	1.5	0.2	100.0	65.5	13,635
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>84,661</b>

<sup>1</sup> Children's stools are considered to be disposed of appropriately if the child used a toilet or latrine, if the fecal matter was put/rinsed into a toilet or latrine, or if it was buried

<sup>2</sup> See Table 2.2 for definition of categories

<sup>3</sup> Facilities that would be considered improved if they were not shared by two or more households

Table 9.17 Disposal of children's stools by state/union territory

Percent distribution of mothers with a child under age 2 years living with the mother by the manner of disposing of the youngest child's last stools and percentage with children whose stools were disposed of appropriately, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Manner of disposal of children's stools								Total	Percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately <sup>1</sup>
	Child used toilet or latrine	Put/rinsed into toilet or latrine	Put/rinsed into drain or ditch	Thrown in garbage	Buried	Left in the open	Other	Don't know/missing		
<b>India</b>	18.7	18.0	6.4	16.4	1.6	36.4	2.1	0.5	100.0	38.2
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	17.7	38.7	12.4	8.2	1.8	21.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	58.2
Delhi	15.8	28.7	3.5	49.2	0.0	2.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	44.6
Haryana	30.5	30.9	5.9	13.7	1.1	17.1	0.5	0.3	100.0	62.4
Himachal Pradesh	27.7	44.8	5.0	11.4	0.3	10.2	0.1	0.4	100.0	72.8
Jammu & Kashmir	25.0	23.0	4.6	24.3	1.5	20.8	0.6	0.2	100.0	49.5
Ladakh	16.3	16.5	3.0	34.6	1.6	27.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	34.4
Punjab	33.8	37.0	6.7	7.4	0.4	13.9	0.4	0.4	100.0	71.2
Rajasthan	14.4	27.3	8.6	11.7	1.6	34.0	2.2	0.3	100.0	43.3
Uttarakhand	12.9	42.8	8.1	23.6	1.0	9.4	1.5	0.7	100.0	56.6
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	15.9	12.9	6.6	20.4	2.3	38.8	2.4	0.8	100.0	31.1
Madhya Pradesh	16.7	14.2	6.8	12.9	1.6	45.7	1.6	0.5	100.0	32.5
Uttar Pradesh	19.6	15.3	6.6	16.8	1.8	38.5	1.0	0.6	100.0	36.6
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	12.0	8.1	6.3	8.8	1.9	59.4	2.2	1.3	100.0	22.0
Jharkhand	11.5	6.1	4.3	8.0	2.1	67.3	0.1	0.7	100.0	19.7
Odisha	5.3	6.5	6.3	27.6	1.5	49.8	2.7	0.2	100.0	13.2
West Bengal	24.9	20.1	5.5	28.0	1.5	12.4	7.4	0.2	100.0	46.5
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	19.8	16.7	9.2	29.3	2.9	19.2	1.6	1.4	100.0	39.4
Assam	7.7	8.7	7.0	29.5	3.8	39.7	3.2	0.4	100.0	20.2
Manipur	9.8	44.9	10.8	15.6	2.3	14.0	2.6	0.0	100.0	57.0
Meghalaya	7.0	30.2	24.5	28.6	2.0	3.3	4.5	0.1	100.0	39.1
Mizoram	26.2	30.0	1.1	38.5	0.4	2.8	0.5	0.6	100.0	56.5
Nagaland	14.4	30.3	15.3	28.1	7.7	3.8	0.4	0.1	100.0	52.3
Sikkim	54.5	25.0	1.5	16.3	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.0	100.0	80.0
Tripura	12.7	30.5	5.9	12.2	1.3	29.8	7.2	0.3	100.0	44.5
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	49.6	13.8	2.3	5.0	0.0	28.5	0.8	0.0	100.0	63.4
Goa	13.8	47.9	1.2	21.4	1.5	11.9	1.9	0.5	100.0	63.1
Gujarat	23.9	22.5	8.2	5.1	1.6	34.3	4.0	0.3	100.0	48.0
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	21.0	27.9	10.2	30.6	0.0	8.4	1.6	0.4	100.0	48.9
Andhra Pradesh	19.7	15.2	6.1	14.3	1.1	40.1	3.2	0.3	100.0	35.9
Karnataka	28.5	18.0	5.5	18.0	0.8	27.5	1.5	0.2	100.0	47.3
Kerala	17.6	63.6	1.8	9.1	2.1	5.2	0.7	0.1	100.0	83.2
Lakshadweep	21.2	69.0	0.0	7.1	1.1	1.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	91.3
Puducherry	11.5	23.9	5.1	39.8	0.3	18.1	1.3	0.0	100.0	35.6
Tamil Nadu	15.6	14.2	5.3	31.0	1.5	31.0	1.3	0.0	100.0	31.4
Telangana	24.9	19.5	7.2	10.7	0.6	35.6	1.0	0.4	100.0	45.0

<sup>1</sup> Children's stools are considered to be disposed of safely if the child used a toilet or latrine, if the fecal matter was put/rinsed into a toilet or latrine or if it was buried

Table 9.18 Indicators of utilization of ICDS services

Percentage of living children under age 6 years who received any service from an *anganwadi* centre (AWC) in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who received specific services from an AWC in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among children age 0-59 months who were weighed at an AWC in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage whose mothers received counselling from an AWC after the child was weighed, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of children under age 6 years who:						Number of children under age 6 years	Percentage whose mothers received counselling from an AWC after child was weighed	
	Percentage of children age 0-71 months who received any service	Received food supplements <sup>1</sup>	Received immunizations	Received health check-ups	Went for early childhood care/pre-school <sup>2</sup>	Were weighed <sup>3</sup>		Number of children who were weighed <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	56.1	50.5	43.1	46.6	40.7	49.7	59,780	80.0	29,740
Rural	71.8	66.4	57.0	60.2	54.9	63.3	162,452	82.7	102,844
<b>Mother's schooling</b>									
No schooling	65.2	59.0	52.8	52.5	49.6	54.9	46,918	84.7	25,750
<5 years complete	71.0	65.6	53.4	59.1	57.9	62.8	10,615	78.0	6,671
5-7 years complete	70.5	65.5	55.4	59.9	55.0	62.8	31,983	82.2	20,074
8-9 years complete	71.9	66.6	56.2	60.9	55.3	64.3	41,125	81.2	26,460
10-11 years complete	70.4	65.8	55.7	60.3	53.8	64.0	29,804	82.0	19,067
12 or more years complete	62.8	57.3	49.2	52.7	43.5	55.9	61,788	81.5	34,560
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	68.8	63.3	55.4	58.0	52.1	61.1	176,335	83.6	107,795
Muslim	62.5	57.4	45.6	51.3	47.0	53.9	36,163	76.1	19,488
Christian	66.4	63.9	42.4	53.1	46.6	58.9	4,651	68.5	2,740
Sikh	56.8	52.5	40.8	41.9	38.7	45.1	2,801	78.7	1,264
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	64.6	62.3	50.4	59.9	56.9	62.1	1,064	79.5	660
Jain	45.0	39.3	36.2	38.0	37.3	38.8	323	80.5	125
Other	64.4	59.9	48.1	52.3	43.3	57.1	896	79.1	511
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	70.5	65.3	55.5	58.8	54.3	62.0	51,395	82.0	31,870
Scheduled tribe	75.4	72.3	59.8	65.8	61.0	69.8	22,135	83.4	15,450
Other backward class	67.4	61.2	55.1	56.2	49.6	59.2	96,762	84.8	57,303
Other	61.6	56.5	45.0	51.1	46.2	53.9	49,900	76.1	26,921
Don't know	59.1	52.6	38.2	42.9	41.8	50.9	2,042	68.5	1,040
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	70.0	64.3	55.1	56.9	54.8	59.4	53,817	82.2	31,962
Second	72.0	66.7	56.7	60.4	57.1	63.3	47,984	82.1	30,380
Middle	72.1	67.2	57.7	62.0	55.1	65.5	43,519	82.9	28,504
Fourth	66.9	61.9	52.6	57.1	48.9	60.8	41,242	81.8	25,069
Highest	52.9	46.7	41.2	43.5	33.9	46.7	35,671	81.0	16,668
<b>Total</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>62.1</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>222,233</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>132,583</b>

ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services

<sup>1</sup> Supplementary food includes both food cooked and served at an AWC on a daily basis or given in the form of take home rations

<sup>2</sup> Children age 36-71 months

<sup>3</sup> Children age 0-59 months



**Table 9.19 Indicators of utilization of ICDS services by state/union territory**

Percentage of living children under age 6 years who received any service from an *anganwadi* centre (AWC) in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who received specific services from an AWC in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among children age 0-59 months who were weighed at an AWC in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage whose mothers received counselling from an AWC after the child was weighed, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of children age 0-71 months who received any service	Percentage of children under age 6 years who:					Percentage whose mothers received counselling from an AWC after child was weighed
		Received food supplements <sup>1</sup>	Received immunizations	Received health check-ups	Went for early childhood care/ pre-school <sup>2</sup>	Were weighed <sup>3</sup>	
<b>India</b>	67.5	62.1	53.2	56.5	51.0	59.7	82.1
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	59.7	56.3	39.5	50.5	32.8	51.9	72.1
Delhi	55.5	46.4	40.6	41.5	38.1	46.8	76.9
Haryana	68.7	63.2	53.7	59.4	43.4	64.6	82.7
Himachal Pradesh	73.1	70.7	30.2	60.8	39.3	68.0	43.6
Jammu & Kashmir	49.0	48.4	26.0	39.0	41.7	40.9	59.5
Ladakh	61.7	60.9	44.0	53.9	58.4	57.3	71.4
Punjab	52.5	48.0	37.5	38.0	35.5	40.4	79.2
Rajasthan	59.5	50.4	49.4	46.8	37.7	50.1	86.9
Uttarakhand	69.8	67.0	52.5	58.8	35.5	68.2	78.6
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	80.1	78.1	67.3	74.3	64.6	79.1	86.9
Madhya Pradesh	80.8	75.9	68.5	72.8	63.4	77.8	87.5
Uttar Pradesh	67.5	61.8	57.9	56.6	46.3	57.6	88.3
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	54.0	41.3	45.3	34.0	39.3	35.2	88.5
Jharkhand	65.9	59.5	54.9	52.3	44.0	56.6	87.3
Odisha	89.0	86.5	75.8	82.6	74.0	87.6	88.1
West Bengal	79.2	77.3	44.2	66.5	70.7	72.6	58.8
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	36.4	34.7	17.2	23.6	27.5	24.4	58.4
Assam	67.2	65.3	34.9	56.2	53.9	51.9	59.5
Manipur	42.0	40.9	16.3	10.1	15.5	8.7	58.7
Meghalaya	60.1	58.7	26.0	43.0	35.7	48.9	48.2
Mizoram	65.4	64.2	27.5	48.8	57.1	61.5	42.9
Nagaland	58.6	57.7	14.1	15.1	15.2	23.4	35.6
Sikkim	63.5	61.1	41.7	52.0	45.2	61.7	69.6
Tripura	72.9	70.1	42.6	53.4	62.6	59.0	62.9
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	69.1	63.8	60.3	65.2	59.2	67.9	89.0
Goa	70.3	66.3	39.8	58.4	44.8	65.5	61.3
Gujarat	68.6	65.7	59.6	64.7	57.7	68.8	88.9
Maharashtra	56.5	53.5	43.3	49.8	48.9	53.9	79.4

Continued...

**Table 9.19 Indicators of utilization of ICDS services by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of living children under age 6 years who received any service from an *anganwadi* centre (AWC) in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who received specific services from an AWC in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among children age 0-59 months who were weighed at an AWC in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage whose mothers received counselling from an AWC after the child was weighed, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of children age 0-71 months who received any service	Percentage of children under age 6 years who:				Went for early childhood care/ pre-school <sup>2</sup>	Were weighed <sup>3</sup>	Percentage whose mothers received counselling from an AWC after child was weighed
		Received food supplements <sup>1</sup>	Received immunizations	Received health check-ups	Received health check-ups			
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	50.5	48.8	21.3	42.8	40.4	51.5	45.3	
Andhra Pradesh	78.3	75.6	64.6	72.5	61.9	75.9	84.3	
Karnataka	81.4	77.3	71.7	74.8	69.0	76.5	90.9	
Kerala	56.6	52.7	24.0	42.2	31.9	51.1	44.7	
Lakshadweep	50.9	48.9	13.6	37.9	32.3	43.1	29.1	
Puducherry	63.8	60.9	45.6	57.2	35.1	61.0	76.1	
Tamil Nadu	76.2	73.7	61.4	69.5	58.8	72.8	83.5	
Telangana	71.7	69.0	59.0	64.1	53.2	70.8	84.0	

ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services

<sup>1</sup> Supplementary food includes both food cooked and served at an AWC on a daily basis or given in the form of take home rations

<sup>2</sup> Children age 36-71 months

<sup>3</sup> Children age 0-59 months

Table 9.20 Utilization of ICDS services during pregnancy and while breastfeeding

Among children under age 6 years, percentage whose mothers received specific services from an *anganwadi* centre (AWC) during pregnancy and while breastfeeding, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Mother received from an AWC during pregnancy					Mother received from an AWC while breastfeeding <sup>2</sup>				
	No services	Supplementary food <sup>1</sup>	Health check-ups	Health and nutrition education	Number of children	No services	Supplementary food <sup>1</sup>	Health check-ups	Health and nutrition education	Number of children breastfed
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	44.3	52.3	50.5	48.5	72,799	47.3	50.3	47.3	46.1	72,755
Rural	25.2	71.6	67.7	63.5	196,675	29.6	68.4	62.4	60.0	196,518
<b>Mother's schooling</b>										
No schooling	32.2	63.7	60.6	55.6	59,620	36.6	60.9	55.3	52.3	59,557
<5 years complete	26.5	70.1	64.9	60.9	13,340	31.4	66.5	59.0	57.0	13,337
5-7 years complete	26.3	70.5	67.3	63.4	39,521	30.7	67.5	62.1	60.0	39,491
8-9 years complete	25.6	71.4	67.7	63.9	49,200	29.4	68.7	62.9	60.7	49,160
10-11 years complete	27.7	69.9	66.1	63.8	35,750	31.1	67.3	61.9	60.8	35,716
12 or more years complete	36.4	60.5	57.7	55.0	72,043	40.1	57.7	53.7	52.1	72,012
<b>Religion</b>										
Hindu	28.5	68.1	65.3	61.4	213,799	32.6	65.2	60.4	58.2	213,662
Muslim	37.7	59.1	54.6	51.7	43,800	41.2	56.6	50.7	48.8	43,752
Christian	31.7	67.4	56.6	56.5	5,647	35.3	64.2	52.7	53.5	5,643
Sikh	41.3	56.4	50.0	46.5	3,433	48.2	50.3	43.3	41.9	3,423
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	42.0	57.5	54.6	52.1	1,309	44.1	55.7	51.5	49.2	1,309
Jain	63.9	30.1	36.0	34.5	386	67.2	31.1	31.6	30.2	386
Other	27.3	71.7	64.8	60.4	1,100	28.6	70.7	60.7	58.3	1,098
<b>Caste/tribe</b>										
Scheduled caste	26.3	70.4	66.9	62.6	62,520	31.2	66.7	61.1	58.8	62,490
Scheduled tribe	21.0	77.2	72.6	70.1	26,900	24.2	74.7	68.6	67.0	26,875
Other backward class	29.9	66.4	63.9	59.9	116,999	33.8	63.9	59.1	56.8	116,933
Other	39.1	57.8	53.9	51.3	60,572	42.8	55.1	50.0	48.4	60,494
Don't know	41.1	55.6	48.3	43.5	2,484	44.6	53.5	42.2	39.8	2,481
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	28.1	68.7	63.9	58.9	66,030	32.3	65.7	58.6	55.6	65,970
Second	25.5	71.4	67.4	63.1	58,198	29.9	68.1	61.9	59.4	58,156
Middle	24.8	72.3	68.9	65.7	52,455	28.8	69.4	64.1	62.4	52,412
Fourth	31.0	66.0	63.2	60.9	49,712	34.7	63.4	59.0	57.9	49,681
Highest	46.5	49.4	48.6	46.2	43,080	49.9	47.2	45.2	43.6	43,054
Total	30.4	66.4	63.1	59.5	269,474	34.4	63.5	58.3	56.3	269,273

ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services

<sup>1</sup> Supplementary food includes both food cooked and served at the AWC on a daily basis or given in the form of take home rations

<sup>2</sup> Excludes children who were not breastfed. Services are usually provided to breastfeeding mothers during the first 6 months of breastfeeding

Table 9.21 Women's utilization of ICDS services during pregnancy and while breastfeeding by state/union territory

Among children under age 6 years, percentage whose mothers received specific services from an *anganwadi* centre (AWC) during pregnancy and while breastfeeding, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Mother received from an AWC during pregnancy				Mother received from an AWC while breastfeeding <sup>2</sup>			
	No services	Supplementary food <sup>1</sup>	Health check-ups	Health and nutrition education	No services	Supplementary food <sup>1</sup>	Health check-ups	Health and nutrition education
<b>India</b>	30.4	66.4	63.1	59.5	34.4	63.5	58.3	56.3
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	46.0	50.9	52.0	51.7	47.6	48.7	48.9	48.4
Delhi	53.6	37.8	40.4	39.1	58.8	35.4	35.7	34.9
Haryana	27.8	64.8	68.9	65.0	31.6	63.1	64.4	60.9
Himachal Pradesh	16.4	83.3	67.6	72.6	20.7	79.2	63.6	67.9
Jammu & Kashmir	61.1	38.0	28.2	27.7	65.4	33.8	26.1	24.9
Ladakh	42.1	56.2	46.8	45.3	48.5	51.1	40.5	41.0
Punjab	47.1	51.2	44.5	41.6	53.4	45.7	38.6	37.0
Rajasthan	32.9	60.2	60.4	54.9	43.1	52.9	48.7	47.0
Uttarakhand	13.1	86.0	73.7	69.7	15.7	84.0	70.8	66.8
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	13.4	85.9	83.9	82.5	15.9	83.7	80.8	79.9
Madhya Pradesh	13.5	83.8	83.8	80.3	15.8	82.3	79.4	77.5
Uttar Pradesh	31.4	63.9	62.4	55.9	35.2	61.4	58.3	53.6
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	49.2	43.8	42.0	34.9	54.2	41.8	35.0	31.5
Jharkhand	24.2	74.1	69.3	63.4	26.4	72.4	64.7	60.5
Odisha	4.1	95.6	93.6	91.6	5.3	94.6	91.1	89.9
West Bengal	20.2	79.1	68.0	67.2	24.7	74.9	62.9	63.5
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	73.7	25.5	17.3	18.0	76.3	23.0	16.8	17.2
Assam	32.5	66.1	53.0	50.3	36.2	62.8	49.9	47.6
Manipur	67.3	32.6	3.6	3.1	72.5	27.3	2.6	2.0
Meghalaya	45.6	54.2	32.3	39.0	50.2	49.5	29.7	35.8
Mizoram	30.0	68.8	45.6	49.8	31.3	68.2	44.6	50.2
Nagaland	76.5	23.4	4.4	3.8	74.6	25.3	4.6	3.4
Sikkim	43.8	52.7	52.7	49.1	51.6	46.4	44.0	42.2
Tripura	23.3	76.4	53.4	55.0	29.2	70.5	50.6	51.2
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu								
Goa	35.5	57.1	63.6	62.7	35.6	58.7	62.6	61.3
Gujarat	10.1	89.7	70.9	79.6	10.8	89.0	71.3	78.5
Maharashtra	26.2	71.8	72.6	70.6	29.3	69.3	69.5	68.0
	49.7	49.1	46.3	42.8	53.9	45.4	42.2	39.6
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	49.0	50.9	37.9	41.4	56.8	43.2	31.7	34.2
Andhra Pradesh	14.1	85.0	82.5	83.7	13.1	85.9	81.9	83.5
Karnataka	16.7	82.0	79.9	78.2	19.2	79.9	77.6	75.9
Kerala	37.0	62.5	49.1	44.5	45.1	54.5	40.8	37.6
Lakshadweep	19.4	80.6	45.5	49.4	21.5	78.5	40.9	42.5
Puducherry	19.8	79.8	68.5	70.5	27.4	72.6	62.2	63.4
Tamil Nadu	15.3	83.8	81.0	81.0	18.3	81.2	77.6	78.0
Telangana	19.1	80.5	71.9	78.4	20.3	79.3	70.4	77.1

ICDS = Integrated Child Development Services

<sup>1</sup> Supplementary food includes both food cooked and served at the AWC on a daily basis or given in the form of take home rations

<sup>2</sup> Excludes children who were not breastfed. Services are usually provided to breastfeeding mothers during the first 6 months of breastfeeding

### Key Findings

- **Nutritional status of children:** Thirty-six percent of children under age five years are stunted (short for their age); 19 percent are wasted (thin for their height); 32 percent are underweight (thin for their age); and 3 percent are overweight (heavy for their height). Children born to mothers with no schooling and children in the lowest wealth quintile are most likely to be undernourished.
- **Initial breastfeeding:** About two-fifths (41%) of children born in the last 5 years were breastfed within 1 hour of birth, as recommended. Timely initiation of breastfeeding is particularly low for women with no schooling, for home deliveries, and for births delivered by a *dai*.
- **Exclusive breastfeeding:** Sixty-four percent of children under age six months are exclusively breastfed.
- **Anaemia among children:** Sixty-seven percent of children age 6-59 months have anaemia (haemoglobin levels below 11.0 g/dl), which is higher than the NFHS-4 estimate of 59 percent.
- **Micronutrient intake:** Thirty-seven percent of children age 6-59 months were given vitamin A supplements in the six months preceding the survey. Forty-seven percent of children age 6-23 months consumed foods rich in vitamin A in the day or night before the interview and 21 percent consumed iron-rich foods.
- **Deworming:** Thirty percent of children age 6-59 months received deworming medication in the past six months.
- **Nutritional status of adults:** Nineteen percent of women and 16 percent of men age 15-49 are thin. Almost the same percentage are overweight or obese (24% of women and 23% of men).
- **WHR of adults:** Fifty-seven percent of women and 48 percent of men have waist-to-hip ratio (WHR) that puts them at a substantial increased risk of metabolic complications.
- **Anaemia among adults:** Fifty-seven percent of women and 25 percent of men age 15-49 have anaemia.

This chapter focuses on the nutritional status of children and adults, examining the types of food consumed and the consequences of inadequate nutrition and poor infant and child feeding practices. The chapter also addresses the diversity of food consumed by women and men age 15-49 years, as well as the prevalence of anaemia and malnutrition.

## 10.1 NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN

The anthropometric data on height and weight collected in the 2019-21 NFHS permit the measurement and evaluation of the nutritional status of young children in India. This evaluation allows identification of subgroups of the child population that are at increased risk of faltered growth, disease, impaired mental development, and death.

### 10.1.1 Nutritional Status among Young Children

The 2019-21 NFHS measured the weight and height of children under age five years regardless of whether their mothers were interviewed in the survey. Weight was measured with an electronic SECA 874 flat scale designed for mobile use. For the weighing of very young children, the mother or caretaker was weighed first. The mother or caretaker was weighed again while holding the child. An automatic two-in-one adjustment button allowed the mother's stored weight to be deducted and the baby's weight to be displayed on the scale. Height was measured with a Seca 213 stadiometer. Children younger than age 24 months were measured lying down (recumbent length using a Seca 417 infantometer), while standing height was measured for the older children.

Children's height/length, weight, and age data were used to calculate three indices: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age. Each of these indices provides different information about growth and body composition for assessing nutritional status, as indicated in the box below. Stunting, or low height-for-age, is a sign of chronic undernutrition that reflects failure to receive adequate nutrition over a long period. Stunting can also be affected by recurrent and chronic illness. Wasting, or low weight-for-height, is a measure of acute undernutrition and represents the failure to receive adequate nutrition in the period immediately before the survey. Wasting may result from inadequate food intake or from a recent episode of illness causing weight loss. The opposite of wasting is overweight (high weight-for-height), a measure of overnutrition. Weight-for-age is a composite index that takes into account both acute and chronic undernutrition.

#### **Stunting (assessed via height-for-age)**

Height-for-age is a measure of linear growth retardation and cumulative growth deficits. Children whose height-for-age Z-score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are considered short for their age (stunted), or chronically undernourished. Children who are below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) are considered severely stunted.

**Sample:** Children under age five years

#### **Wasting (assessed via weight-for-height)**

Weight-for-height index measures body mass in relation to body height or length and describes current nutritional status. Children whose Z-score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are considered thin (wasted), or acutely undernourished. Children whose weight-for-height Z-score is below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) from the median of the reference population are considered severely wasted.

**Sample:** Children under age five years

#### **Underweight (assessed via weight-for-age)**

Weight-for-age is a composite index of height-for-age and weight-for-height. It takes into account both acute and chronic undernutrition. Children whose weight-for-age Z-score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are classified as underweight. Children whose weight-for-age Z-score is below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) from the median are considered severely underweight.

**Sample:** Children under age five years

### Overweight children

Children whose weight-for-height Z-score is more than 2 standard deviations (+2 SD) above the median of the reference population are considered overweight.

**Sample:** Children under age five years

The means of the z-scores for height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age are also calculated as summary statistics representing the nutritional status of children in a population. These mean scores describe the nutritional status of the entire population of children without the use of a cut-off point. A mean Z-score of less than zero (i.e., a negative mean value for stunting, wasting, or underweight) suggests a downward shift in the entire sample population's nutritional status relative to the reference population. The farther away the mean z-scores are from zero, the higher is the prevalence of undernutrition.

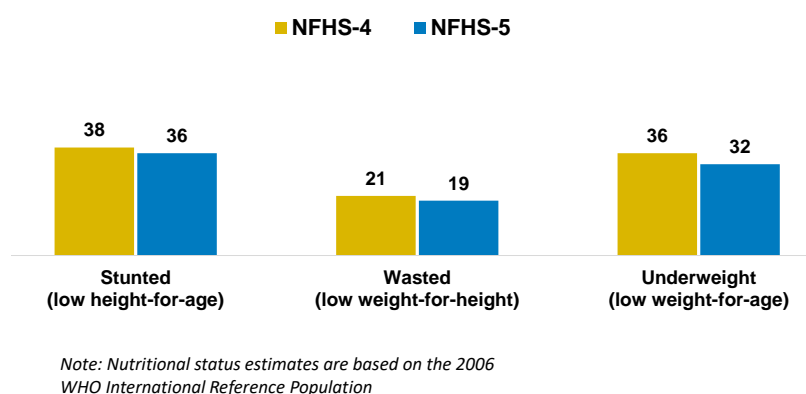
## 10.1.2 Levels of Child Malnutrition

In India, 36 percent of children under age five years are stunted (too short for their age). This is a sign of chronic undernutrition. Nineteen percent of children under age five years are wasted (too thin for their height), which is a sign of acute undernutrition, while 32 percent of children under age five years are underweight. Three percent of children are overweight (**Table 10.1**).

**Trends:** The prevalence of stunting and underweight has decreased since 2015-16. Stunting declined from 38 percent in 2015-16 to 36 percent in 2019-21. Over this same time period, the prevalence of wasting has declined from 21 percent in 2015-16 to 19 percent in 2019-21 (**Figure 10.1**).

**Figure 10.1 Trends in Nutritional Status of Children**

Percentage of children age 0-59 months



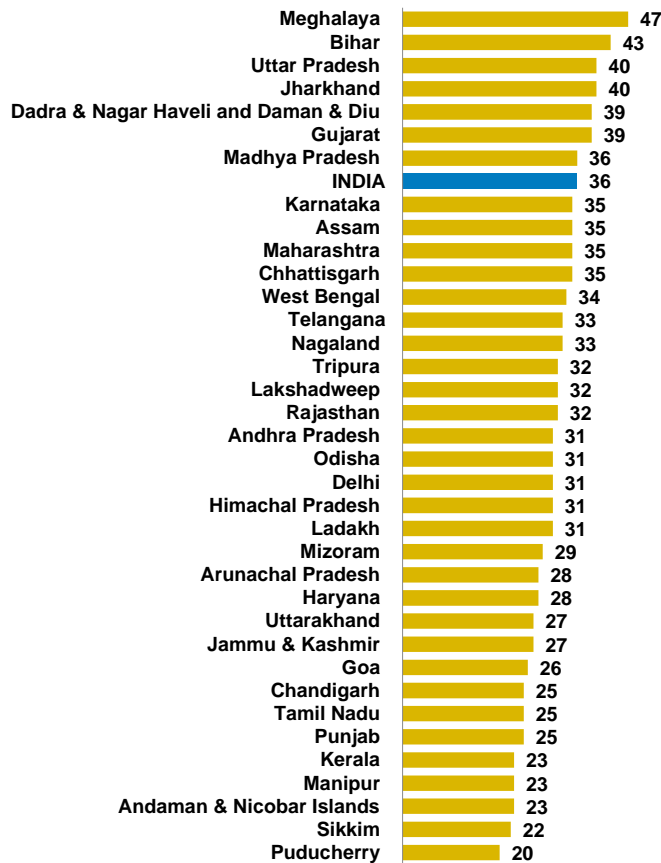
### Patterns by background characteristics

- The prevalence of undernutrition is almost the same among girls and boys, although girls are slightly less well nourished than boys on all three measures (**Table 10.1**).
- The prevalence of stunting increases with a child's age from 6-8 months through 6-23 months, and it decreases slightly thereafter.
- Over two-fifths (44%) of children who were reported to be very small at birth are stunted, compared with 35 percent of children who were of average size or larger.
- Children born to thin mothers (BMI less than 18.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) are more likely to be stunted, wasted, and underweight than children born to mothers with a normal BMI or children whose mothers are overweight/obese.
- Stunting is higher among children in rural areas (37%) than urban areas (30%).
- Forty-six percent of children born to mothers with no schooling are stunted, compared with 26 percent of children born to mothers with 12 or more years of schooling. The corresponding proportions of underweight children are 42 and 23 percent, respectively.
- The prevalence of stunting decreases steadily with an increase in wealth quintiles, from 46 percent of children in households in the lowest wealth quintile to 23 percent of children in households in the highest wealth quintile.

- The prevalence of stunting in children under age five is the highest in Meghalaya (47%), followed by Bihar (43%) and Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand (40% each), and it is lowest in Puducherry (20%) and Sikkim (22%). Bihar has the highest level of underweight children (41%). Maharashtra has the highest level of wasting (26%) (**Figure 10.2**).

**Figure 10.2 Stunting in Children by State/UT**

Percentage of children age 0-59 months



## 10.2 INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING PRACTICES

Appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices include exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months of life, continued breastfeeding through age two years, introduction of solid and semi-solid foods at age six months, and gradual increases in the amount of food given and the frequency of feeding as the child gets older. It is also important for young children to receive a diverse diet, i.e., eating foods from different food groups to take care of the growing micronutrient needs.

### 10.2.1 Initiation of Breastfeeding

Early initiation of breastfeeding is important for both the mother and the child. The first breastmilk contains colostrum, which is highly nutritious and has antibodies that protect the newborn from diseases. Early initiation of breastfeeding also encourages bonding between the mother and her newborn, facilitating the production of regular breastmilk. Thus, it is recommended that children be put to the breast immediately or within one hour after birth and that prelacteal feeding (i.e., feeding newborns anything other than breastmilk before breastmilk is regularly given) be discouraged.

#### Early breastfeeding

Initiation of breastfeeding within one hour of birth

**Sample:** Last-born children who were born in the two years before the survey

**Table 10.4** shows that 96 percent of children born in the two years before the survey were breastfed at some time. There are no major differences by background characteristics. About two-fifths (41%) of last-born children in the two



years before the survey who ever breastfed were breastfed within one hour of birth, and 87 percent of children began breastfeeding within one day of birth. Sixteen percent of children received a prelacteal feed.

### Early breastfeeding practices by background characteristics

- Children whose delivery was assisted by health personnel (42%) or who were born at a place other than a home or health facility (43%) were more likely to start breastfeeding within one hour of birth than other children.
- The percentage of children that are breastfed within one hour of birth is very low in Jharkhand (22%); the only states in which more than two-thirds of children are breastfed within one hour of birth are Odisha, Kerala, Lakshadweep, and Meghalaya (**Table 10.5**).
- Prelacteal feeding ranges from a minimum of 3 percent of children in Lakshadweep to a maximum of 31 percent of children in Chandigarh and Nagaland.

### 10.2.2 Exclusive Breastfeeding

Breastmilk contains all of the nutrients needed by children in the first six months of life and is an uncontaminated nutritional source. It is recommended that children be exclusively breastfed in the first six months of their life; that is, they are given nothing but breastmilk. Complementing breastmilk before age six months is unnecessary and is discouraged because the likelihood of contamination and the resulting risk of diarrhoeal disease are high. Early initiation of complementary feeding also reduces breastmilk output because the production and release of breastmilk is modulated by the frequency and intensity of suckling.

**Table 10.6** and **Figure 10.3** show breastfeeding practices by children's age. Sixty-four percent of infants under age six months are exclusively breastfed. Contrary to the recommendation that children under age six months be exclusively breastfed, many children in that age group consume other liquids, such as plain water (10%), other milk (8%), or complementary foods (11%) in addition to breastmilk.

**Trends:** Exclusive breastfeeding among children under six months increased from 55 percent in 2015-16 to 64 percent in 2019-21.

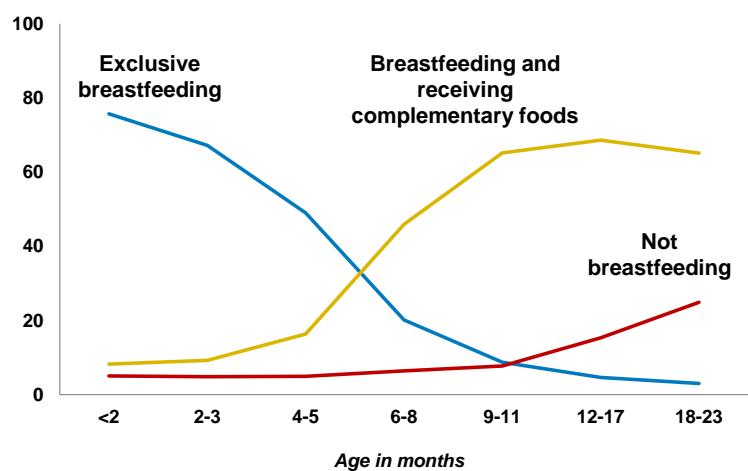
### 10.2.3 Median Duration of Breastfeeding

The median duration of breastfeeding in India is 32.1 months. This means that half of children have stopped breastfeeding by age about 32 months (**Table 10.7**). The median duration of exclusive breastfeeding is 3.9 months, and the median duration of predominant breastfeeding (the period in which an infant receives only water or other non-milk liquids in addition to breastmilk) is 5.8 months.

**Trends:** The median duration of exclusive breastfeeding increased from 2.9 months in 2015-16 to 3.9 months in 2019-21. The median duration of any breastfeeding also increased, from 29.6 months to 32.1 months.

**Figure 10.3 Breastfeeding Practices by Age**

Percentage of children under age two years



## Patterns by background characteristics

- On average, children in rural areas are breastfed longer (median duration of 33.5 months) than their counterparts in urban areas (median duration of 25.8 months).
- On average, children of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe mothers are breastfed longer (median duration of more than 36 months) than the children whose mothers belong to other backward classes (median duration of 29.3 months) and children not from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, or other backward classes (median duration of 31.4 months).
- The median duration of breastfeeding is 36.0 months or longer in ten states (Chandigarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, and Tripura), and is shortest in Andaman and Nicobar Islands (15.4 months) (**Table 10.8**).

### 10.2.4 Complementary Feeding

After the first six months, breastmilk is no longer enough to meet the nutritional needs of the infant; therefore, complementary foods should be added to the diet of the child. Appropriate complementary feeding should include a variety of foods to ensure that requirements for nutrients are met. Fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A should be consumed daily. Eating a range of fruits and vegetables, in addition to those rich in vitamin A, is also important.

**Table 10.9** shows that the type of foods and liquids received by children during the day and night before the survey depends on the child's age and breastfeeding status. Overall, foods made from grains are the most consumed complementary food items irrespective of breastfeeding status, followed by fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A.

## Patterns by background characteristics

- For children age 6-23 months, consumption of liquids other than milk is lower among breastfed children (34%) than among nonbreastfed children (43%).
- Fewer breastfed (41%) children age 6-23 months eat fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A than nonbreastfeeding children (48%).
- Among children age 6-23 months, the least consumed food items are fortified baby foods for breastfed and nonbreastfed children (16% each).

### 10.2.5 Minimum Acceptable Diet

Infants and young children should be fed a minimum acceptable diet (MAD) to ensure appropriate growth and development. Without adequate diversity and meal frequency, infants and young children are vulnerable to undernutrition, especially stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, and to increased morbidity and mortality. The WHO minimum acceptable diet recommendation, which is a combination of dietary diversity and minimum meal frequency, is different for breastfed and nonbreastfed children. The definition of the composite indicator of a minimum acceptable diet for all children 6-23 months is indicated in the box below.

Dietary diversity is a proxy for adequate micronutrient-density of foods. Minimum dietary diversity means feeding the child food from at least four food groups. The cut-off of four food groups is associated with better-quality diets for both breastfed and nonbreastfed children.

The minimum meal frequency is a proxy for a child's energy requirements. For infants and young children, the indicator is based on how much energy the child needs and, if the child is breastfed, the amount of energy needs not met by breastmilk. Breastfed children are considered to be consuming a minimum meal frequency if they receive solid, semi-solid, or soft foods at least twice a day for infants 6-8 months and at least three times a day for children 9-23 months.

Nonbreastfed children ages 6-23 months are considered to be fed with a minimum meal frequency if they receive solid, semi-solid, or soft foods at least four times a day.

### Minimum acceptable diet

Proportion of children age 6-23 months who receive a minimum acceptable diet. This indicator is a composite of the following two groups:

Breastfed children age 6-23 months who had at least the minimum dietary diversity and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day

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Breastfed children age 6-23 months

and

Nonbreastfed children age 6-23 months who received at least two milk feedings, and had at least the minimum dietary diversity (not including milk feeds), and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day

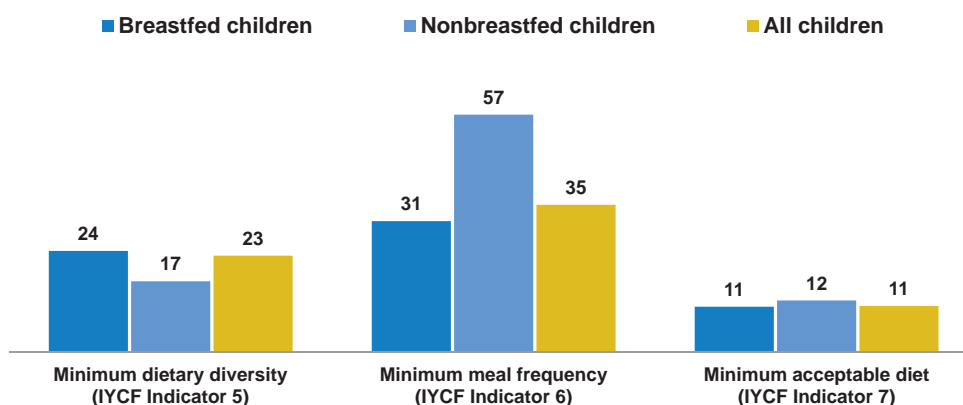
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Nonbreastfed children age 6-23 months

The 2019-21 NFHS indicates that 94 percent of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mothers received breastmilk, milk, or milk products (2+ times) during the day or night before the interview (**Table 10.10**). Twenty-four percent of breastfed children had an adequately diverse diet since they had been given foods from the appropriate number of food groups, while 31 percent had been fed the minimum number of times appropriate for their age. The feeding practices of only 11 percent of breastfed children age 6-23 months meet the minimum standards for all IYCF feeding practices. Eleven percent of all children age 6-23 months were fed the minimum acceptable diet. The IYCF indicators for minimum acceptable diet by breastfeeding status among the youngest children age 6-23 months are summarised in **Figure 10.4**.

### Figure 10.4 IYCF Indicators on Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD)

Percentage of children age 6-23 months



#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Breastfed children age 6-23 months are more likely than non-breastfed children age 6-23 months to receive the minimum number of food groups (24% and 17%, respectively).
- Children in urban areas and rural areas have an almost equal adequately diverse diet (24% and 23%, respectively)
- Breastfed infants and non-breastfed infants are almost equally likely to meet the minimum acceptable diets (11% and 12%, respectively).
- The percentage of children age 6-23 months who receive a minimum acceptable diet generally increases with the mother's schooling. For example, only 9 percent of children whose mothers have no schooling receive a minimum acceptable diet, compared with 12 percent of children whose mothers have 12 or more years of schooling.

- The proportion of children age 6-23 months who receive a minimum acceptable diet is highest in Meghalaya (29%) and the lowest in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat (6% each). The pattern is the same among breastfed children (**Table 10.11**).

### 10.3 ANAEMIA PREVALENCE IN CHILDREN

#### Anaemia in children

Anaemia status	Haemoglobin level in grams/decilitre*
Anaemic	<11.0
Mildly anaemic	10.0-10.9
Moderately anaemic	7.0-9.9
Severely anaemic	<7.0
Not anaemic	11.0 or higher

\*Haemoglobin levels are adjusted for altitude in enumeration areas that are above 1,000 metres

**Sample:** Children 6-59 months

Anaemia is a condition that is marked by low levels of haemoglobin in the blood. Iron is a key component of haemoglobin, and iron deficiency is estimated to be responsible for half of all anaemia globally. Other causes of anaemia include malaria, hookworm and other helminths, other nutritional deficiencies, chronic infections, and genetic conditions. Anaemia is a serious concern for children because it can impair cognitive development, stunt growth, and increase morbidity from infectious diseases.

In the 2019-21 NFHS, haemoglobin testing was performed on children age 6-59 months. The testing was successfully completed for 91 percent of the children eligible for testing. The methodology used to measure haemoglobin is described in Chapter 1.

Overall, 67 percent of children had some degree of anaemia (haemoglobin levels below 11.0 g/dl). Twenty-nine percent of children had mild anaemia, 36 percent had moderate anaemia, and 2 percent had severe anaemia (**Table 10.12**).

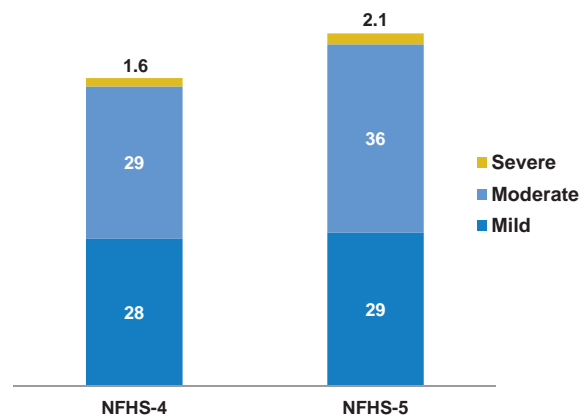
**Trends:** Between 2015-16 and 2019-21, the prevalence of anaemia among children age 6-59 months increased from 59 percent to 67 percent and continued to be higher among rural children (**Table 10.12**).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Anaemia is more prevalent among children under age 35 months than among older children, with a peak prevalence of 80 percent observed among children age 12-17 months (**Table 10.12**).
- Anaemia prevalence increases with increasing birth order of children and is higher among the children of anaemic mothers than non-anaemic mothers.
- The prevalence of anaemia declines as the mother's schooling and household wealth increase.

The prevalence of anaemia among children age 6-59 months is highest among children in Gujarat (80%), followed by Madhya Pradesh (73%), Rajasthan (72%), and Punjab (71%). Several union territories have even higher prevalence of anaemia—Ladakh (94%), Dadar & Nager Haveli and Daman & Diu (76%), and Jammu & Kashmir (73%). The states with the lowest prevalence of anaemia among children are Kerala (39%), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (40%), and Nagaland and Manipur (43% each) (**Table 10.13**).

**Figure 10.5 Trends in Childhood Anaemia**  
Percentage of children age 6-59 months



## 10.4 PRESENCE OF IODIZED SALT IN HOUSEHOLDS

Iodine is an essential micronutrient, and iodized salt prevents goitre or any other thyroid-related health problems among children and adults. It is recommended that household salt should be fortified with iodine to at least 15 parts per million (ppm).

The 2019-21 NFHS tested for the presence or absence of potassium iodate or potassium iodide in household salt. Salt was tested in almost all households (**Table 10.15**). Among the households in which salt was tested, 94 percent had iodized salt. This is similar to NFHS-4, when 93 percent of households were using iodized salt. There is steady increase in the use of iodized salt by household wealth quintiles, from 91 percent in the lowest wealth quintile to 97 percent in the highest wealth quintile. Among the states, the use of iodized salt is lowest in Andhra Pradesh (83%), Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (89%), and Meghalaya (91%) (**Table 10.16**).

## 10.5 MICRONUTRIENT INTAKE AND SUPPLEMENTATION AMONG CHILDREN

Micronutrient deficiency is a major contributor to childhood morbidity and mortality. Micronutrients are available in foods and can also be provided through direct supplementation. Breastfeeding children benefit from supplements given to the mother.

The information collected on food consumption among the youngest children under age two years is useful in assessing the extent to which children are consuming foods rich in two key micronutrients—vitamin A and iron—in their daily diet. Iron deficiency is one of the primary causes of anaemia, which has serious health consequences for both women and children. Vitamin A is an essential micronutrient for the immune system and plays an important role in maintaining the epithelial tissue in the body. Severe vitamin A deficiency (VAD) can cause eye damage and is the leading cause of childhood blindness. VAD also increases the severity of infections such as measles and diarrhoeal disease in children and slows recovery from illness. VAD is common in dry environments where fresh fruits and vegetables are not readily available.

Forty-seven percent of children age 6-23 months consumed foods rich in vitamin A in the day or night before the interview, and 21 percent consumed iron-rich foods (**Table 10.17**). The intake of both vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods increases as children are weaned.

Among children age 6-59 months, 27 percent were given iron supplements in the seven days prior to survey. In the six months before the survey, 37 percent of children age 6-59 months were given vitamin A supplements and 30 percent were given deworming medication. Ninety-four percent of children age 6-59 months are in households using iodized salt.

The percentage of children age 6-59 months given Vitamin A supplements in the last six months ranges from 20 percent in Lakshadweep and Manipur to 47 percent in Goa (**Table 10.18**).

## 10.6 NUTRITIONAL STATUS IN ADULTS

The 2019-21 NFHS collected anthropometric data on the height and weight of women age 15-49 and men age 15-54 years. These data were used to calculate several measures of nutritional status such as women's height and body mass index (BMI).

### Body mass index (BMI)

BMI is calculated by dividing weight in kilograms by height in metres squared (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

Status	BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )
Too thin for their height	<18.5
Normal	18.5-24.9
Overweight	25.0-29.9
Obese	≥30.0

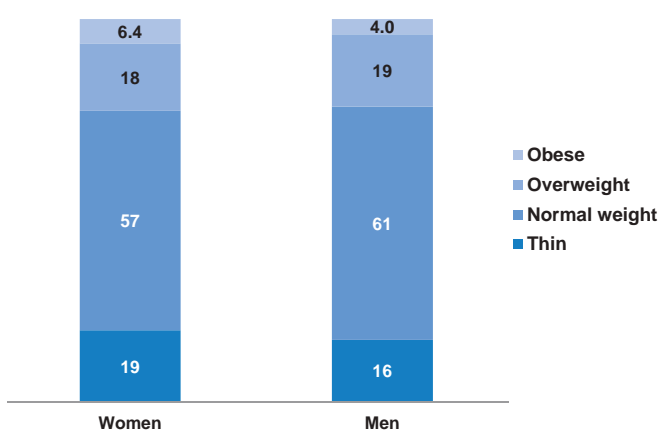
**Sample:** Women age 15-49 who are not pregnant and who have not had a birth in the two months before the survey and men age 15-49

Information on BMI of women is provided in **Table 10.19.1** and **Figure 10.6**. Nineteen percent of women age 15-49 are thin, 24 percent are overweight or obese, and 57 percent have a BMI in the normal range. Twelve percent of women age 15-49 years have a height below 145 cm.

**Trends:** The proportion of thin women age 15-49 declined from 23 percent in 2015-16 to 19 percent in 2019-21; at the same time, the proportion of overweight or obese women increased from 21 percent to 24 percent. Overall, there has been a slight increase in the mean BMI from 21.9 in 2015-16 to 22.4 in 2019-21. The proportion of women whose height was below 145 cm was the almost the same in 2015-16 (11.1) and 2019-21 (11.5) (**Figure 10.7**).

**Figure 10.6 Nutritional Status of Women and Men**

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49

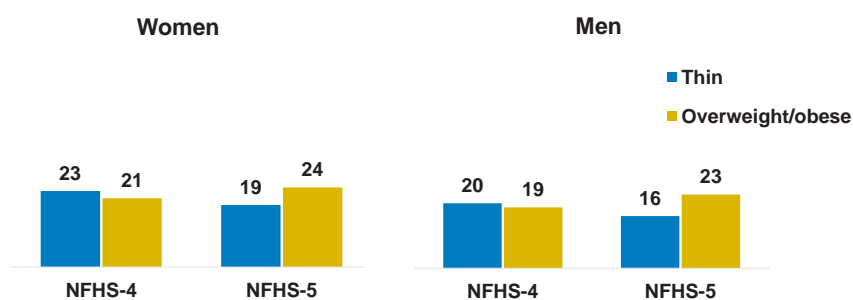


### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of thin women decreases with age, from 40 percent for women age 15-19 to 9 percent for women age 40-49, whereas the proportion of overweight or obese women increases steadily, from 5 percent of women age 15-49 to 37 percent of women age 40-49.
- The proportion of thin women is higher in rural areas (21%) than in urban areas (13%) and the reverse is observed for the prevalence of overweight or obesity (33% in urban areas and 20% in rural areas).
- There is a steady decrease in the proportion of thin women as household wealth increases (from 28% in the lowest wealth quintile to 10% in the highest wealth quintile), which is accompanied by a steady increase in the proportion of overweight or obese women (from 10% in the lowest wealth quintile to 39% in the highest wealth quintile).
- The highest proportion of thin women is observed in Jharkhand and Bihar (26% each), followed by Gujarat and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (25% each). The highest proportion of overweight or obese women is found in Puducherry (46%), Chandigarh (44%), Delhi, Tamil Nadu, and Punjab (41% each), and Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (38% each) (**Table 10.20.1**).

## Figure 10.7 Trends in Nutritional Status

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



Sixteen percent of men age 15-49 are thin, 23 percent are overweight or obese, and 61 percent have a BMI in the normal range. The mean body mass index for men (22.4) is the same as that of women (22.4) (Table 10.19.2).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The patterns of nutritional status by background characteristics among men are similar to those among women.
- The proportion of thin men decreases with age, from 41 percent of men age 15-19 to 8 percent of men age 40-49, whereas the proportion of overweight or obese men increases from 7 percent of men age 15-19 to 32 percent of men age 40-49.
- The proportion of thin men is higher in rural areas (18%) than in urban areas (13%), whereas 30 percent of men are overweight or obese in urban areas, compared with 19 percent in rural areas.
- There is steady decrease in the proportion of thin men with increasing household wealth (from 24% in the lowest wealth quintile to 9% in the highest wealth quintile), and a steady increase in the proportion of overweight or obese men (from 10% in the lowest wealth quintile to 37% in the highest wealth quintile).
- The proportion of thin men is highest in Bihar (22%), followed by Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat (21% each). The highest proportion of overweight or obese men is observed in Andaman & Nicobar Island (45%), followed by Puducherry (43%) and Lakshadweep (41%) (Table 10.20.2).

## 10.7 WAIST-TO-HIP RATIO IN ADULTS

- For the first time, the 2019-21 NFHS measured the waist circumference and hip circumference of women and men age 15-49 years.
- This information was used to calculate the waist-to-hip ratio (WHR). WHR helps to identify the distribution of body fat and predicts abdominal obesity. Abdominal obesity is associated with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes mellitus, myocardial infarction, stroke, and premature death.

### Waist-to-hip ratio (WHR)

WHR is calculated by dividing the waist measurement by the hip measurement. The formula is  $WHR = \text{waist circumference} / \text{hip circumference}$ . According to WHO, a healthy WHR is:

- 0.90 or less in men
- 0.85 or less in women

**Sample:** Women age 15-49 who are not pregnant and who have not had a birth in the two months before the survey and men age 15-49

- More than half (57%) of women and 48 percent of men have a waist-to-hip ratio (WHR) that puts them at a substantially increased risk of metabolic complications.



- The proportion of adults with an increased risk WHR increases with age, from 46 percent for women age 15-19 to 65 percent for women age 40-49, and from 28 percent for men age 15-19 to 60 percent for men age 40-49.
- The proportion of women having a substantially increased risk WHR is higher in urban areas than rural areas for both women (60% in urban area than 55% in rural area) and men (50% in urban area than 46% in rural area).
- The proportion of women having a substantially increased risk WHR is highest in Jammu & Kashmir (88%) and lowest in Madhya Pradesh (40%). For men it is highest in Chandigarh (67%) and lowest in Meghalaya (25%).

## 10.8 ANAEMIA PREVALENCE IN ADULTS

### Haemoglobin levels below which women and men are considered anaemic

Respondents	Haemoglobin level in grams/decilitre*
Non-pregnant women age 15-49	<11.0
Pregnant women age 15-49	<12.0
Men age 15-49	<13.0
*Haemoglobin levels are adjusted for smoking, and for altitude in enumeration areas that are above 1,000 metres	

The same equipment and procedures used to measure anaemia in children were used to measure anaemia in women and men, except that capillary blood was collected exclusively from a finger prick.

Fifty-seven percent of women and 25 percent of men age 15-49 in India are anaemic (**Table 10.23.1** and **Table 10.23.2**). Twenty-six percent of women are mildly anaemic, 29 percent are moderately anaemic, and 3 percent are severely anaemic. Twenty percent of men are classified as mildly anaemic, 5 percent as moderately anaemic, and 0.4 percent as severely anaemic.

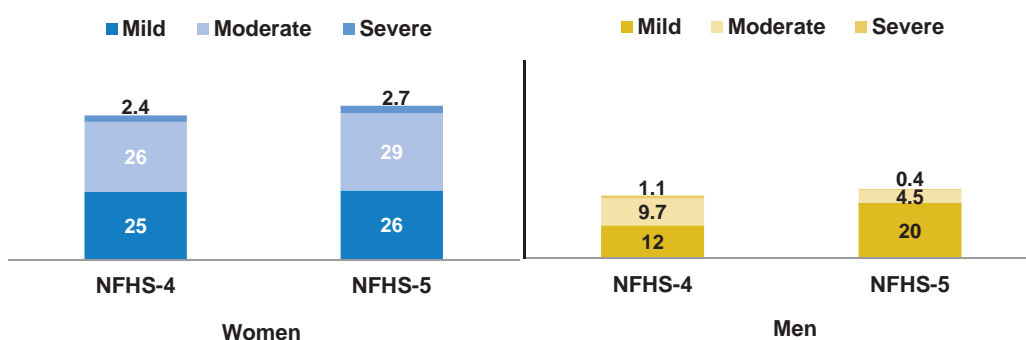
**Trends:** Anaemia prevalence has increased between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5, from 53 percent in 2015-16 to 57 percent in 2019-21 among women and from 23 percent in 2015-16 to 25 percent in 2019-21 among men (**Figure 10.8**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The overall prevalence of anaemia is consistently high, at more than 50 percent, in almost all of the subgroups of women. For men, the prevalence is above 20 percent in almost all of the subgroups.
- Anaemia varies by maternity status—61 percent of women who are breastfeeding are anaemic, compared with 52 percent of women who are pregnant and 57 percent of women who are neither pregnant nor breastfeeding.

**Figure 10.8 Trends in Anaemia Status**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49





- The prevalence of anaemia generally decreases with schooling, from 59 percent among women with no schooling to 52 percent among women with 12 or more years of schooling. Across the same schooling groups, the prevalence of anaemia among men decreases from 32 percent to 19 percent.
- The proportion of anaemic women and men declines steadily as the wealth of the household increases (from 64% in the lowest wealth quintile to 51% in the highest wealth quintile among women and from 36% in the lowest wealth quintile to 18% in the highest wealth quintile among men).
- Women in urban areas are slightly less likely to be anaemic (54%) than those in rural areas (59%). The difference is larger for the prevalence of anaemia in men (27% in rural areas versus 20% in urban areas).

The prevalence of anaemia among women is 60 percent or more in Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Odisha, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Assam, Tripura, West Bengal, and the prevalence is less than one-third in Lakshadweep (26%), and Nagaland and Manipur (29% each). The prevalence of anaemia is also very high in the union territories of Ladakh (93%), Jammu & Kashmir (66%), Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (63%), and Chandigarh (60%).

Anaemia prevalence in men is highest in Ladakh (76%), West Bengal (39%), Jammu & Kashmir (27%), and Assam (36%), and it is lowest in Lakshadweep and Manipur (6% each) and Chandigarh (9%).

## 10.8 FOOD CONSUMPTION OF WOMEN AND MEN

The consumption of a wide variety of nutritious foods is important for women's and men's health. A well-balanced diet is required for adequate amounts of protein, fat, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals. The 2019-21 NFHS asked women and men how often they consume various types of food (daily, weekly, occasionally, or never).

Among these food groups, women consume pulses and beans and dark green, leafy vegetables most often (**Table 10.26.1**). More than half (52%) of women consume dark green, leafy vegetables daily and an additional 39 percent consume them weekly. Almost half (50%) of women consume pulses or beans daily and 43 percent of women consume them weekly. Milk or curd is consumed daily by 49 percent of women daily and weekly by 24 percent of women, but 6 percent never consume milk or curd and 22 percent consume milk or curd only occasionally. Consumption of fruits is less common. Forty-nine percent of women consume fruits occasionally. Very few women consume chicken, meat, fish, or eggs daily, although about one-third of women consume these types of food weekly. Seven percent of women consume fried foods daily and 36 percent weekly. Aerated drinks are consumed daily by 3 percent of women and weekly by 13 percent of women (**Table 10.25**).

Men are less likely than women to completely abstain from eating chicken, meat, and fish. Overall, 29 percent of women and 17 percent of men are vegetarians according to this measure.

**Trends:** The pattern of daily food consumption has remained more or less the same since 2019-21 except there has been a decrease in the daily consumption of fried food and aerated drinks among both women and men.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Deficiencies in the diet of both women and men are observed among those with little or no schooling, those in rural areas, those in poorer households, and those belonging to scheduled tribes. The most prominent deficiency in their diet is in fruits and milk or curd (**Table 10.26.1** and **Table 10.26.2**).
- The regular consumption of pulses and beans, as well as dark green, leafy vegetables, is common in every state (**Table 10.27.1** and **Table 10.27.2**).
- At least four-fifths of women eat dark green, leafy vegetables at least once a week in every state except Kerala (62%). The consumption of dark green, leafy vegetables among women at least once a week is also relatively low in the union territories of Lakshadweep (45%).
- The consumption of other types of food at least once a week among women varies widely across the states, particularly milk or curd (from 30% in Odisha and 36% in Mizoram to 92% in Ladakh, and 94% in Karnataka) and the women's consumption of fruits at least once a week ranges from 25% in Odisha to 93% in Goa.

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**Table 10.1 Nutritional status of children**

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>					Weight-for-height					Weight-for-age				
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children	
<b>Age in months</b>															
<6	13.4	24.4	-0.6	19,291	13.0	27.0	8.2	-0.8	18,053	12.1	28.5	1.7	-1.3	20,723	
6-8	12.0	23.2	-0.6	9,696	9.7	23.1	5.7	-0.8	9,584	9.5	25.1	1.2	-1.2	10,100	
9-11	13.3	26.2	-0.9	10,052	9.1	23.3	4.6	-0.9	9,979	9.7	27.5	1.4	-1.3	10,345	
12-17	16.6	36.3	-1.3	20,135	8.6	20.5	3.8	-0.8	20,119	10.4	29.2	1.6	-1.3	20,835	
18-23	21.2	43.4	-1.6	19,349	7.6	18.8	3.0	-0.8	19,146	11.7	33.1	1.1	-1.5	19,797	
24-35	16.1	38.1	-1.5	40,383	7.6	18.7	2.4	-0.9	39,674	11.0	33.7	1.0	-1.5	40,955	
36-47	14.5	39.2	-1.5	40,581	6.1	16.6	2.4	-0.9	39,809	10.7	34.1	0.7	-1.5	40,877	
48-59	13.2	35.4	-1.5	41,789	5.7	16.7	2.5	-0.9	40,950	9.7	34.2	0.6	-1.6	42,010	
<b>Sex</b>															
Male	15.8	36.2	-1.4	104,258	8.1	20.0	3.5	-0.9	101,975	11.2	32.9	1.0	-1.5	106,597	
Female	14.4	34.6	-1.3	97,018	7.2	18.5	3.3	-0.8	95,339	10.0	31.2	1.0	-1.4	99,044	
<b>Birth interval in months<sup>3</sup></b>															
First birth <sup>4</sup>	12.8	31.5	-1.2	77,990	7.4	18.4	3.9	-0.8	76,548	9.1	28.6	1.1	-1.3	79,843	
<24	19.7	43.2	-1.6	30,761	7.8	19.4	2.6	-0.9	30,200	13.6	37.9	0.6	-1.7	31,318	
24-35	17.4	40.6	-1.5	37,125	7.6	20.0	2.7	-0.9	36,388	12.3	36.8	0.8	-1.6	37,859	
36 or more	14.2	33.4	-1.2	54,024	8.0	19.8	3.7	-0.9	52,842	10.0	30.7	1.2	-1.4	55,209	
Don't know	14.8	35.3	-1.3	629	10.1	26.9	2.7	-1.1	615	16.5	38.6	1.1	-1.7	642	
<b>Birth order<sup>3</sup></b>															
1	12.8	31.5	-1.2	77,990	7.4	18.4	3.9	-0.8	76,548	9.1	28.6	1.1	-1.3	79,843	
2-3	15.3	36.2	-1.4	98,828	7.8	19.7	3.2	-0.9	96,747	10.8	33.0	1.0	-1.5	100,835	
4-5	20.9	44.9	-1.6	19,181	8.3	20.4	2.8	-0.9	18,828	14.4	40.0	0.7	-1.7	19,561	
6 or more	25.3	48.6	-1.8	4,530	8.1	20.6	3.1	-0.9	4,470	16.7	41.8	0.8	-1.8	4,632	

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**Table 10.1 Nutritional status of children—Continued**

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>				Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age				Number of children
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	
<b>Residence</b>													
Urban	12.6	30.1	-1.1	52,017	7.6	18.5	4.2	-0.8	9.1	27.3	1.5	-1.3	53,214
Rural	16.0	37.3	-1.4	149,259	7.7	19.5	3.1	-0.9	11.2	33.8	0.9	-1.5	152,427
<b>Size at birth<sup>3</sup></b>													
Very small	22.3	44.4	-1.7	4,734	10.5	25.2	4.0	-1.1	19.5	46.1	1.0	-1.9	4,868
Small	16.8	40.6	-1.5	15,972	8.1	22.0	2.7	-1.0	13.4	39.1	0.7	-1.7	16,306
Average or larger	14.7	34.7	-1.3	177,868	7.6	18.8	3.5	-0.8	10.1	31.0	1.0	-1.4	181,697
Don't know	20.4	44.7	-1.7	1,956	8.4	21.1	2.3	-1.0	14.0	39.4	0.7	-1.7	1,998
<b>Mother's schooling<sup>5</sup></b>													
No schooling	22.5	46.3	-1.7	42,509	8.8	21.5	2.9	-1.0	15.5	42.1	0.7	-1.8	43,386
<5 years complete	17.6	42.1	-1.6	9,738	8.5	21.3	2.6	-1.0	13.3	38.9	0.6	-1.7	9,907
5-7 years complete	16.7	40.1	-1.5	29,153	7.5	19.7	3.0	-0.9	11.5	35.7	0.8	-1.6	29,690
8-9 years complete	14.4	35.6	-1.4	37,779	7.3	19.3	3.3	-0.9	10.2	32.4	1.0	-1.5	38,616
10-11 years complete	12.2	31.0	-1.2	27,130	7.4	18.9	3.4	-0.9	8.9	28.2	1.1	-1.4	27,713
12 or more years complete	10.0	25.7	-1.0	54,967	7.2	17.0	4.3	-0.7	7.2	23.1	1.5	-1.1	56,329
<b>Religion</b>													
Hindu	15.0	35.5	-1.3	159,545	7.6	19.3	3.3	-0.9	10.7	32.3	1.0	-1.5	162,943
Muslim	16.2	36.8	-1.3	32,788	8.3	20.0	3.7	-0.9	11.2	32.8	1.2	-1.5	33,575
Christian	13.3	31.3	-1.2	4,358	6.6	16.4	3.9	-0.7	7.5	26.2	1.1	-1.3	4,426
Sikh	8.6	23.6	-1.0	2,446	4.2	11.9	4.5	-0.4	4.8	18.3	1.5	-0.9	2,484
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	15.6	35.4	-1.2	1,010	11.9	23.0	4.4	-1.0	10.4	35.5	1.8	-1.5	1,031
Jain	17.5	28.5	-1.1	283	5.5	12.8	3.8	-0.5	5.1	15.5	4.6	-0.9	304
Other	20.4	40.3	-1.5	847	9.0	21.2	3.7	-0.9	17.0	42.3	1.1	-1.7	878

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**Table 10.1 Nutritional status of children—Continued**

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>				Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age					
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children
<b>Caste/tribe</b>														
Scheduled caste	17.1	39.2	-1.5	47,923	7.7	19.7	3.1	-0.9	47,062	11.5	35.1	0.8	-1.6	48,958
Scheduled tribe	18.7	40.9	-1.5	20,915	9.4	23.2	3.3	-1.0	20,411	14.6	39.5	0.9	-1.7	21,397
Other backward class	14.3	34.8	-1.3	85,331	7.4	18.9	3.2	-0.9	83,631	10.2	31.2	0.9	-1.4	87,061
Other	12.8	30.1	-1.1	45,202	7.3	17.5	4.3	-0.7	44,340	8.8	27.0	1.5	-1.3	46,295
Don't know	16.0	40.2	-1.5	1,907	7.7	21.5	2.3	-1.0	1,870	10.5	36.8	0.4	-1.6	1,930
<b>Mother's interview status</b>														
Interviewed	15.1	35.5	-1.3	200,530	7.7	19.3	3.4	-0.9	196,594	10.6	32.1	1.0	-1.5	204,871
Not interviewed but in household	15.4	32.2	-1.2	747	8.0	18.4	4.2	-0.9	720	11.2	29.2	1.6	-1.4	770
<b>Mother's nutritional status<sup>6</sup></b>														
Underweight (BMI <18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	19.2	43.4	-1.6	38,948	8.5	24.3	2.3	-1.1	38,377	14.8	43.2	0.6	-1.8	39,796
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	15.3	35.5	-1.3	122,904	8.2	19.6	3.5	-0.9	120,174	10.7	32.0	1.0	-1.5	125,641
Overweight (BMI ≥25.0 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	10.3	27.3	-1.1	38,194	5.0	12.9	4.3	-0.5	37,577	6.2	21.0	1.5	-1.1	38,902
<b>Child's living arrangements</b>														
Living with both parents	15.0	35.4	-1.3	163,839	7.8	19.3	3.4	-0.9	160,510	10.7	32.2	1.1	-1.5	167,259
Living with mother (not father)	15.5	36.0	-1.3	37,028	7.3	18.9	3.4	-0.8	36,395	10.3	31.6	0.9	-1.4	37,952
Living with father (not mother)	17.2	34.1	-1.2	165	8.3	17.6	2.5	-0.8	161	6.2	29.3	0.0	-1.3	171
Living with neither parent	12.9	28.3	-1.1	244	10.1	19.9	4.4	-0.7	249	9.5	26.7	1.0	-1.4	259

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**Table 10.1 Nutritional status of children—Continued**

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>			Weight-for-height			Weight-for-age			Number of children	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage above +2 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Number of children
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD										
<b>Wealth quintile</b>																			
Lowest	21.8	46.1	-1.7	49,129	8.6	22.5	2.7	-1.0	48,274	15.4	43.1	0.7	-1.8	50,278					
Second	16.9	39.7	-1.5	44,146	7.9	19.9	2.9	-0.9	43,285	11.7	35.6	0.8	-1.6	45,057					
Middle	13.7	34.4	-1.3	39,797	7.3	18.4	3.5	-0.8	39,013	9.6	30.3	0.9	-1.4	40,637					
Fourth	10.7	28.1	-1.1	37,341	7.2	17.7	3.8	-0.8	36,591	7.5	25.4	1.2	-1.2	38,085					
Highest	9.1	22.9	-0.8	30,863	7.0	16.2	4.8	-0.6	30,151	6.7	20.1	1.8	-1.0	31,585					
<b>Total</b>	15.1	35.5	-1.3	201,276	7.7	19.3	3.4	-0.9	197,314	10.6	32.1	1.0	-1.5	205,641					

Note: Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation (SD) units from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurement of both height and weight.

BMI = Body mass index

<sup>1</sup> Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2; standing height is measured for all other children

<sup>2</sup> Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Child Growth Standards population median

<sup>3</sup> Excludes children whose mothers were not interviewed

<sup>4</sup> First-born twins (triplets, etc.) are counted as first births because they do not have a previous birth interval

<sup>5</sup> For women who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the household schedule.

<sup>6</sup> Excludes children whose mothers were not weighed and measured, children whose mothers were not interviewed, and children whose mothers are pregnant or gave birth within the preceding 2 months. Mother's nutritional status in terms of BMI (Body Mass Index) is presented in Table 10.19.1.

Table 10.2 Nutritional status of children by state/union territory

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>				Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age						
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)
<b>India</b>	15.1	35.5	-1.3	7.7	19.3	3.4	-0.9	10.6	32.1	1.0	-1.5				
<b>North</b>															
Chandigarh	7.0	25.3	-1.1	2.3	8.4	1.8	-0.6	5.9	20.6	0.0	-1.1				
Delhi	11.1	30.9	-1.2	4.9	11.2	4.0	-0.5	5.9	21.8	1.3	-1.1				
Haryana	10.6	27.5	-1.2	4.4	11.5	3.3	-0.6	5.9	21.5	1.1	-1.1				
Himachal Pradesh	13.7	30.8	-1.2	6.9	17.4	5.7	-0.7	7.4	25.5	1.2	-1.2				
Jammu & Kashmir	11.7	26.9	-0.6	9.7	19.0	9.6	-0.4	8.4	21.0	5.2	-0.8				
Ladakh	15.2	30.5	-0.8	9.1	17.5	13.4	-0.2	8.1	20.4	4.3	-0.8				
Punjab	9.0	24.5	-1.0	3.6	10.6	4.1	-0.4	4.3	16.9	1.7	-0.9				
Rajasthan	12.8	31.8	-1.2	7.6	16.8	3.3	-0.7	9.4	27.6	0.8	-1.3				
Uttarakhand	10.6	27.0	-1.0	4.7	13.2	4.1	-0.5	6.7	21.0	1.6	-1.0				
<b>Central</b>															
Chhattisgarh	14.3	34.6	-1.3	7.5	18.9	4.0	-0.9	9.9	31.3	1.4	-1.4				
Madhya Pradesh	14.0	35.7	-1.4	6.5	18.9	2.0	-0.9	10.8	33.0	0.7	-1.5				
Uttar Pradesh	17.9	39.7	-1.5	7.3	17.3	3.1	-0.8	11.1	32.1	0.8	-1.5				
<b>East</b>															
Bihar	20.0	42.9	-1.6	8.8	22.9	2.4	-1.1	13.9	41.0	0.6	-1.7				
Jharkhand	17.7	39.6	-1.5	9.1	22.4	2.8	-1.0	14.3	39.4	0.9	-1.7				
Odisha	11.4	31.0	-1.2	6.1	18.1	3.5	-0.8	8.4	29.7	1.3	-1.4				
West Bengal	14.3	33.8	-1.3	7.1	20.3	4.3	-0.9	10.2	32.2	0.9	-1.5				

Continued...

Table 10.2 Nutritional status of children by state/union territory—Continued

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>				Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age						
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)
<b>Northeast</b>															
Arunachal Pradesh	12.4	28.0	-0.9	6.5	13.1	9.6	-0.1	6.0	15.4	4.0	-0.6				
Assam	15.7	35.3	-1.3	9.0	21.7	4.8	-0.9	11.5	32.8	1.5	-1.5				
Manipur	7.3	23.4	-1.0	3.4	9.9	3.3	-0.4	3.3	13.3	0.9	-0.9				
Meghalaya	22.0	46.5	-1.7	4.7	12.1	4.0	-0.4	7.4	26.6	1.2	-1.3				
Mizoram	11.9	28.9	-1.0	4.9	9.8	10.0	-0.0	3.3	12.7	3.3	-0.6				
Nagaland	14.9	32.7	-1.0	7.9	19.1	4.9	-0.7	8.1	26.9	1.6	-1.1				
Sikkim	11.6	22.3	-0.6	6.6	13.6	9.6	-0.2	6.7	13.1	2.2	-0.7				
Tripura	15.7	32.3	-1.2	7.3	18.2	8.2	-0.5	8.7	25.6	1.4	-1.2				
<b>West</b>															
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	14.8	39.4	-1.5	4.3	21.6	1.9	-1.0	13.3	38.7	0.3	-1.7				
Goa	8.1	25.8	-1.0	7.5	19.1	2.8	-1.0	6.6	24.0	0.9	-1.3				
Gujarat	18.3	39.0	-1.4	10.6	25.1	3.9	-1.1	14.5	39.7	0.8	-1.7				
Maharashtra	14.4	35.2	-1.2	10.9	25.6	4.1	-1.1	12.6	36.1	1.3	-1.6				

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**Table 10.2 Nutritional status of children by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>				Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age					
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD
<b>South</b>														
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	10.4	22.5	-1.0	4.8	16.0	5.4	-0.6	7.7	23.6	1.1	-1.0			
Andhra Pradesh	11.3	31.2	-1.3	6.0	16.1	2.7	-0.9	8.8	29.6	1.1	-1.4			
Karnataka	14.9	35.4	-1.2	8.4	19.5	3.2	-0.9	10.6	32.9	1.2	-1.5			
Kerala	7.1	23.4	-0.9	5.8	15.8	4.0	-0.7	4.6	19.7	1.2	-1.1			
Lakshadweep	7.6	32.0	-1.2	8.7	17.4	10.5	-0.3	10.4	25.8	1.7	-1.1			
Puducherry	9.6	20.0	-1.0	3.7	12.4	3.8	-0.5	3.5	15.3	1.5	-0.9			
Tamil Nadu	9.2	25.0	-1.0	5.5	14.6	4.3	-0.7	6.2	22.0	1.3	-1.1			
Telangana	13.5	33.1	-1.2	8.5	21.7	3.4	-1.0	10.3	31.8	1.1	-1.5			

Note: Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation (SD) units from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurements of both height and weight.

<sup>1</sup> Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2; standing height is measured for all other children

<sup>2</sup> Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the International Reference Population median

**Table 10.3 Trends in nutritional status of children**

Percentage of children under age 5 years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by residence, India, NFHS-5 and NFHS-4

Measure of nutrition	NFHS-5 (2019-21)			NFHS-4 (2015-16)		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Height-for-age<sup>1</sup></b>						
Percentage below -3 SD	12.6	16.0	15.1	12.0	17.9	16.3
Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	30.1	37.3	35.5	31.0	41.2	38.4
Number of children	52,017	149,259	201,276	60,124	159,671	219,796
<b>Weight-for-height</b>						
Percentage below -3 SD	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.4
Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	18.5	19.5	19.3	20.0	21.4	21.0
Number of children	50,858	146,456	197,314	60,124	159,671	219,796
<b>Weight-for-age</b>						
Percentage below -3 SD	9.1	11.2	10.6	8.2	12.1	11.0
Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	27.3	33.8	32.1	29.1	38.3	35.7
Number of children	53,214	152,427	205,641	60,124	159,671	219,796

Note: Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation (SD) units from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurements of both height and weight.

<sup>1</sup> Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2; standing height is measured for all other children

<sup>2</sup> Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the International Reference Population median

**Table 10.4 Initial breastfeeding**

Among last-born children who were born in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who were ever breastfed and percentages who started breastfeeding within 1 hour and within 1 day of birth; and among last-born children born in the 2 years preceding the survey who were ever breastfed, percentage who received a prelacteal feed in the first 3 days after birth, according to background characteristics, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among last-born children born in the past 2 years:			Among last-born children born in the past 2 years who were ever breastfed:		
	Percentage ever breastfed	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 day of birth <sup>1</sup>	Number of last-born children	Percentage who received a prelacteal feed <sup>2</sup>	Number of last-born ever breastfed children
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	96.2	44.2	85.4	22,606	17.8	21,740
Rural	95.8	40.4	87.3	64,661	14.7	61,944
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	95.7	41.5	86.2	45,305	16.1	43,377
Female	96.1	41.3	87.5	41,963	14.9	40,307
<b>Mother's schooling</b>						
No schooling	95.2	36.9	87.6	16,481	13.9	15,682
<5 years complete	95.9	44.6	89.2	3,704	13.4	3,553
5-7 years complete	96.1	41.8	87.7	11,755	13.4	11,298
8-9 years complete	96.0	42.0	87.1	16,693	14.7	16,019
10-11 years complete	95.8	45.3	87.3	12,065	14.9	11,561
12 or more years complete	96.2	41.5	85.1	26,568	18.5	25,571
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	96.1	40.4	86.8	69,298	15.7	66,608
Muslim	95.0	43.4	86.8	14,185	14.7	13,476
Christian	96.6	59.0	90.8	1,809	11.9	1,747
Sikh	91.5	49.4	76.7	1,065	25.5	975
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	97.0	53.6	86.9	402	10.9	390
Jain	98.8	50.5	86.9	132	13.5	131
Other	95.5	35.6	91.3	375	9.8	358
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	95.6	41.3	87.2	20,299	14.5	19,408
Scheduled tribe	96.5	46.0	90.9	8,925	10.1	8,616
Other backward class	96.1	38.6	86.4	37,948	16.1	36,478
Other	95.4	44.8	85.2	19,306	17.7	18,415
Don't know	97.1	45.2	85.3	790	21.6	767
<b>Assistance at delivery</b>						
Health personnel <sup>3</sup>	96.0	42.1	87.0	79,313	15.3	76,142
<i>Dai</i> (TBA)	95.4	33.9	84.4	4,138	19.5	3,949
Other/no one	94.2	34.7	85.3	3,816	16.0	3,594
<b>Place of delivery</b>						
Health facility	96.0	42.2	87.0	79,009	15.2	75,880
At home	94.5	33.3	84.5	8,060	18.9	7,619
Other	93.5	43.3	75.8	198	19.3	185

*Continued...*

**Table 10.4 Initial breastfeeding—Continued**

Among last-born children who were born in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who were ever breastfed and percentages who started breastfeeding within 1 hour and within 1 day of birth; and among last-born children born in the 2 years preceding the survey who were ever breastfed, percentage who received a prelacteal feed in the first 3 days after birth, according to background characteristics, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among last-born children born in the past 2 years:			Among last-born children born in the past 2 years who were ever breastfed:		
	Percentage ever breastfed	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 day of birth <sup>1</sup>	Number of last-born children	Percentage who received a prelacteal feed <sup>2</sup>	Number of last-born ever breastfed children
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	95.5	39.3	88.9	21,001	11.9	20,059
Second	95.8	39.1	87.4	18,826	14.0	18,035
Middle	96.1	42.6	87.6	17,319	15.1	16,650
Fourth	96.0	44.2	86.0	16,269	17.1	15,612
Highest	96.2	43.0	82.7	13,852	21.5	13,327
Total	95.9	41.4	86.8	87,267	15.5	83,684

Note: Table is based on last-born children born in the 2 years preceding the survey regardless of whether the children are living or dead at the time of the interview.

TBA = Traditional birth attendant

<sup>1</sup> Includes children who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth

<sup>2</sup> Children given something other than breast milk during the first 3 days of life

<sup>3</sup> Doctor, nurse, midwife, auxiliary nurse midwife, lady health visitor, or other health personnel

**Table 10.5 Initial breastfeeding by state/union territory**

Among last-born children who were born in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who were ever breastfed and percentages who started breastfeeding within 1 hour and within 1 day of birth; and among last-born children born in the 2 years preceding the survey who were ever breastfed, percentage who received a prelacteal feed in the first 3 days after birth, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among last-born children born in the past 2 years:			Among last-born children born in the past 2 years who were ever breastfed:
	Percentage ever breastfed	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 day of birth <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who received a prelacteal feed <sup>2</sup>
<b>India</b>	95.9	41.4	86.8	15.5
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	89.1	64.7	73.4	30.7
Delhi	97.0	51.0	85.1	19.8
Haryana	94.4	41.5	81.1	20.6
Himachal Pradesh	95.8	44.6	83.7	18.0
Jammu & Kashmir	94.1	57.4	91.2	18.0
Ladakh	92.5	57.7	92.5	14.3
Punjab	92.0	50.8	74.9	27.8
Rajasthan	97.7	40.3	90.2	12.3
Uttarakhand	95.5	42.4	76.9	30.1
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	97.6	32.3	92.1	6.9
Madhya Pradesh	96.7	41.2	89.6	11.6
Uttar Pradesh	94.8	23.8	81.0	22.9
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	95.0	31.1	84.5	18.1
Jharkhand	96.6	21.5	88.2	13.8
Odisha	97.2	67.5	93.3	6.0
West Bengal	95.2	59.3	90.9	8.0
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	90.0	53.1	81.7	14.1
Assam	95.9	49.2	93.1	6.2
Manipur	96.4	53.4	89.0	29.4
Meghalaya	96.6	80.1	94.6	17.6
Mizoram	96.8	62.5	94.1	12.3
Nagaland	96.8	57.0	88.4	30.7
Sikkim	94.2	35.9	92.1	17.4
Tripura	97.1	34.3	89.8	6.4
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	97.4	25.9	90.9	11.8
Goa	100.0	62.2	92.6	9.9
Gujarat	97.3	38.0	85.9	17.4
Maharashtra	97.4	52.9	88.0	16.7

*Continued...*

**Table 10.5 Initial breastfeeding by state/union territory—Continued**

Among last-born children who were born in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who were ever breastfed and percentages who started breastfeeding within 1 hour and within 1 day of birth; and among last-born children born in the 2 years preceding the survey who were ever breastfed, percentage who received a prelacteal feed in the first 3 days after birth, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among last-born children born in the past 2 years:			Among last-born children born in the past 2 years who were ever breastfed:
	Percentage ever breastfed	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 day of birth <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who received a prelacteal feed <sup>2</sup>
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	99.4	46.4	93.7	8.0
Andhra Pradesh	96.1	51.6	88.3	14.3
Karnataka	94.6	48.5	88.8	13.0
Kerala	98.6	69.6	95.2	8.2
Lakshadweep	99.1	76.2	99.1	2.9
Puducherry	96.5	55.1	93.9	3.8
Tamil Nadu	95.9	61.3	91.4	7.9
Telangana	97.6	38.3	87.8	13.9

Note: Table is based on last-born children born in the 2 years preceding the survey regardless of whether the children are living or dead at the time of the interview.

<sup>1</sup> Includes children who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth

<sup>2</sup> Children given something other than breast milk during the first 3 days of life

**Table 10.6 Breastfeeding status by age**

Percent distribution of youngest children under age 2 years living with their mother by breastfeeding status and percentage currently breastfeeding, and percentage of all children under age 2 years using a bottle with a nipple, according to age in months, India, 2019-21

Age in months	Breastfeeding and consuming:							Total	Percentage currently breastfeeding	Number of youngest children under age 2 years living with their mother	Percentage using a bottle with a nipple	Number of children under age 2 years
	Not breastfeeding	Exclusively breastfed	Plain water only	Non-milk liquids <sup>1</sup>	Other milk	Complementary foods	Complementary foods					
<2	5.0	75.7	4.2	1.0	6.0	8.2	100.0	95.0	7,260	7.8	7,324	
2-3	4.8	67.1	9.7	1.3	8.0	9.2	100.0	95.2	7,558	11.3	7,642	
4-5	4.9	48.9	16.4	2.3	11.3	16.3	100.0	95.1	7,588	17.2	7,658	
6-8	6.4	20.1	14.4	3.7	9.5	45.9	100.0	93.6	10,708	22.1	10,805	
9-11	7.7	8.7	8.6	2.8	7.0	65.2	100.0	92.3	10,934	24.6	11,063	
12-17	15.3	4.6	5.3	1.9	4.3	68.6	100.0	84.7	21,517	27.0	22,183	
18-23	24.9	3.0	2.6	1.3	3.1	65.1	100.0	75.1	19,094	25.3	21,064	
0-3	4.9	71.3	7.0	1.1	7.0	8.7	100.0	95.1	14,818	9.6	14,966	
0-5	4.9	63.7	10.2	1.5	8.4	11.2	100.0	95.1	22,406	12.2	22,624	
6-9	6.5	17.6	13.3	3.6	9.1	49.8	100.0	93.5	14,398	22.6	14,533	
12-15	13.9	5.0	5.9	1.9	4.6	68.8	100.0	86.1	14,653	26.5	14,982	
12-23	19.8	3.8	4.0	1.6	3.8	66.9	100.0	80.2	40,611	26.1	43,247	
20-23	26.8	2.7	2.3	1.3	2.9	63.9	100.0	73.2	12,453	24.6	13,962	

Note: Note: Breastfeeding status refers to a "24-hour" period (yesterday during the day or at night). Children who are classified as breastfeeding and consuming plain water only consumed no liquid or solid supplements. The categories of not breastfeeding, exclusively breastfed, breastfeeding and consuming plain water, non-milk liquids/juice, other milk, and complementary foods (solids and semi-solids) are hierarchical and mutually exclusive, and their percentages add to 100 percent. Children who receive breast milk and non-milk liquids and who do not receive other milk and who do not receive complementary foods are classified in the non-milk liquid category even though they may also get plain water.

<sup>1</sup>Non-milk liquids include juice, juice drinks, clear broth, or other liquids

**Table 10.7 Median duration of breastfeeding**

Median duration of any breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, and predominant breastfeeding among last-born children born in the 3 years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Median duration (months) of breastfeeding among last-born children born in the past 3 years <sup>1</sup>			Number of children
	Any breastfeeding	Exclusive breastfeeding	Predominant breastfeeding <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	32.9	3.8	5.7	63,837
Female	30.6	4.0	5.9	57,624
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	25.8	3.5	5.4	32,582
Rural	33.5	4.0	6.0	88,878
<b>Mother's schooling</b>				
No schooling	≥36.0	3.8	6.5	23,195
<5 years complete	34.0	3.5	6.1	5,326
5-7 years complete	33.0	3.9	5.8	16,527
8-9 years complete	≥36.0	3.9	6.0	22,679
10-11 years complete	31.1	4.0	5.6	16,747
12 or more years complete	25.8	3.9	5.5	36,985
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	32.7	4.0	5.9	96,507
Muslim	28.3	3.2	5.6	19,617
Christian	26.0	3.2	4.8	2,527
Sikh	25.8	3.0	5.5	1,550
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	33.0	4.9	6.0	554
Jain	24.7	3.2	3.3	197
Other	≥36.0	5.4	7.8	508
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	≥36.0	4.1	6.0	27,991
Scheduled tribe	≥36.0	4.8	6.5	12,197
Other backward class	29.3	3.9	5.8	52,625
Other	31.4	3.4	5.3	27,560
Don't know	30.5	3.6	5.3	1,088
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	≥36.0	4.0	6.3	28,596
Second	≥36.0	4.0	6.1	25,961
Middle	31.5	4.0	5.7	23,782
Fourth	26.0	3.5	5.5	23,027
Highest	24.3	3.8	5.4	20,096
Total	32.1	3.9	5.8	121,461
Mean for all children	13.9	9.3	10.2	na

Note: Median and mean durations are based on breastfeeding status of the child at the time of the survey (current status). Includes living and deceased children.

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> For last-born children under age 24 months who live with the mother and are breastfeeding, information to determine exclusive and predominant breastfeeding comes from a 24-hour dietary recall. Tabulations assume that last-born children age 24 months or older who live with the mother and are breastfeeding are neither exclusively nor predominantly breastfed. It is assumed that last-born children not currently living with the mother and all non-last-born children are not currently breastfeeding.

<sup>2</sup> Either exclusively breastfed or received breast milk and plain water, and/or non-milk liquids only



**Table 10.8 Median duration of breastfeeding by state/union territory**

Median duration of any breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, and predominant breastfeeding among last-born children born in the 3 years preceding the survey, percentage of children under 3 years using a bottle with a nipple, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Median duration (months) of breastfeeding among last-born children born in the past 3 years <sup>1</sup>			Percentage using a bottle with a nipple
	Any breastfeeding	Exclusive breastfeeding	Predominant breastfeeding <sup>2</sup>	
<b>India</b>	32.1	3.9	5.8	21.9
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	≥36.0	0.7	5.3	26.4
Delhi	29.1	3.6	4.8	34.9
Haryana	28.0	4.8	6.3	26.7
Himachal Pradesh	22.4	3.7	4.8	33.2
Jammu & Kashmir	≥36.0	4.6	5.7	30.3
Ladakh	32.9	4.2	4.7	33.7
Punjab	26.3	3.0	5.7	35.2
Rajasthan	28.5	4.8	6.9	16.2
Uttarakhand	27.7	2.4	3.4	37.1
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	≥36.0	6.7	7.2	7.3
Madhya Pradesh	32.7	5.1	6.9	14.2
Uttar Pradesh	33.4	3.6	6.5	29.5
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	34.2	3.2	5.6	19.1
Jharkhand	≥36.0	5.9	7.3	13.2
Odisha	≥36.0	4.4	5.2	12.0
West Bengal	≥36.0	2.7	4.6	22.3
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	≥36.0	3.8	5.2	21.5
Assam	≥36.0	3.9	5.7	15.3
Manipur	≥36.0	3.8	4.4	13.3
Meghalaya	21.5	1.8	4.3	24.6
Mizoram	24.5	4.2	5.9	17.7
Nagaland	16.8	0.7	4.1	40.3
Sikkim	30.8	1.9	4.6	31.3
Tripura	≥36.0	3.4	4.6	28.2
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	30.8	5.4	6.9	16.1
Goa	30.6	3.3	3.7	43.2
Gujarat	24.6	3.7	5.9	17.6
Maharashtra	24.2	4.3	6.0	13.1
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15.4	4.2	4.9	28.2
Andhra Pradesh	22.1	4.1	5.2	28.4
Karnataka	24.5	3.9	5.6	20.9
Kerala	27.1	3.0	4.9	28.0
Lakshadweep	23.8	4.2	7.1	12.3
Puducherry	18.8	3.9	4.9	31.3
Tamil Nadu	19.2	2.9	4.7	33.0
Telangana	26.3	4.8	5.9	21.0

<sup>1</sup> For last-born children under age 24 months who live with the mother and are breastfeeding, information to determine exclusive and predominant breastfeeding comes from a 24-hour dietary recall. Tabulations assume that last-born children age 24 months or older who live with the mother and are breastfeeding are neither exclusively nor predominantly breastfed. It is assumed that last-born children not currently living with the mother and all non-last-born children are not currently breastfeeding.

<sup>2</sup> Either exclusively breastfed or received breast milk and plain water, and/or non-milk liquids only

Table 10.9 Foods and liquids consumed by children in the day or night preceding the interview

Percentage of youngest children under age 2 years living with the mother who consumed specific types of liquids and foods in the day or night preceding the interview, by breastfeeding status and age, India, 2019-21

Age in months	Solid or semi-solid foods										Number of children		
	Liquids					Other fruits and vegetables							
	Infant formula	Other milk <sup>1</sup>	Other liquids <sup>2</sup>	Fortified baby foods	Food made from grains <sup>3</sup>	Fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A <sup>4</sup>	Other fruits and vegetables	Food made from roots	Food made from beans, peas, lentils, nuts	Meat, fish, poultry, and eggs		Cheese, yogurt, other milk product	Any solid or semi-solid food
BREASTFEEDING CHILDREN													
<2	2.2	10.0	5.7	1.5	6.5	5.8	4.1	3.4	2.4	2.8	3.1	8.6	6,896
2-3	2.7	12.2	6.2	2.0	6.3	5.5	3.6	3.7	2.3	3.1	3.4	9.6	7,197
4-5	4.1	18.2	9.2	5.2	10.1	6.7	4.0	3.9	2.9	3.4	4.0	17.1	7,217
6-8	8.5	28.8	21.0	13.9	33.4	17.4	12.4	11.8	8.0	7.9	8.4	49.0	10,024
9-11	12.0	36.4	31.0	16.8	54.8	33.1	22.3	22.1	13.6	15.6	13.5	70.6	10,092
12-17	12.0	41.2	37.2	15.9	65.6	46.1	30.9	30.3	19.2	23.1	19.8	81.0	18,223
18-23	13.1	43.3	42.3	17.2	72.2	55.1	37.7	35.9	25.0	29.7	23.7	86.6	14,343
<3	2.2	10.4	5.7	1.6	6.4	5.6	3.8	3.5	2.3	2.8	3.1	8.6	10,496
3-5	3.7	16.6	8.4	4.2	8.9	6.4	4.0	3.9	2.7	3.3	3.9	15.0	10,814
6-23	11.6	38.5	34.3	16.0	59.2	40.6	27.6	26.7	17.6	20.6	17.5	74.4	52,683
0-23	9.1	31.3	26.5	12.2	44.4	30.6	20.8	20.1	13.3	15.6	13.5	56.4	73,993
NONBREASTFEEDING CHILDREN													
<2	6.6	24.7	12.2	4.3	11.6	11.9	8.0	4.8	3.6	5.4	7.5	16.4	364
2-3	4.6	28.4	9.8	2.3	6.2	5.4	4.3	3.1	4.6	4.6	6.2	14.4	361
4-5	8.6	41.3	14.5	10.6	13.6	6.7	6.1	4.9	3.1	5.8	8.8	23.8	371
6-8	12.7	51.0	23.2	15.6	35.5	19.9	12.9	11.5	11.7	8.4	12.5	54.2	684
9-11	13.2	60.6	36.1	14.0	54.4	34.2	20.7	22.4	11.6	17.3	16.9	70.8	842
12-17	14.3	66.4	43.6	17.1	67.1	46.6	32.8	28.4	18.9	24.2	26.5	84.1	3,294
18-23	15.6	60.8	45.7	16.1	72.2	54.6	40.1	31.8	23.2	29.9	30.3	87.7	4,750
<3	5.8	24.5	11.9	3.3	10.0	10.2	7.2	4.6	4.9	6.3	7.6	16.6	540
3-5	7.4	38.3	12.4	8.2	11.0	5.9	5.2	3.9	2.7	4.3	7.3	19.8	556
6-23	14.7	62.0	42.5	16.2	66.2	47.6	33.9	28.4	19.9	25.3	26.5	82.6	9,570
0-23	13.9	58.9	39.4	15.1	60.5	43.5	31.1	25.9	18.2	23.2	24.6	76.0	10,665

Note: Breastfeeding status and food consumed refer to a "24-hour" period (yesterday during the day or at night).

<sup>1</sup> Other milk includes tinned, powdered, and fresh animal milk

<sup>2</sup> Does not include plain water. Includes juice, juice drinks, clear broth, or other non-milk liquids.

<sup>3</sup> Includes fortified baby food

<sup>4</sup> Includes pumpkin, carrots, squash, sweet potatoes that are yellow or orange inside, dark green leafy vegetables, ripe mangoes, papayas, cantaloupe, and jackfruit

Table 10.10 Minimum acceptable diet

Percentage of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mother who are fed a minimum acceptable diet based on breastfeeding status, number of food groups, and times they were fed during the day or night preceding the interview, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:					Among non-breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:					Among all children 6-23 months, percentage fed:				
	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>2</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>3</sup>	Number of breastfed children	Minimum milk feeding frequency <sup>4</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>	Number of non-breastfed children	Breast milk, milk, or milk products <sup>7</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>8</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>9</sup>	Number of all children	
<b>Age in months</b>															
6-8	9.3	35.1	6.7	10,024	52.1	5.6	3.9	684	96.9	9.1	35.2	6.6	10,708		
9-11	18.2	23.9	7.5	10,092	59.2	8.7	6.7	842	96.9	17.4	25.8	7.5	10,934		
12-17	27.1	30.0	11.6	18,223	67.0	15.2	12.0	3,294	95.0	25.3	34.5	11.7	21,517		
18-23	34.8	35.2	15.0	14,343	60.9	21.2	14.6	4,750	90.3	31.4	41.1	14.9	19,094		
<b>Sex</b>															
Male	24.1	31.1	10.8	27,634	63.6	16.9	12.8	4,744	94.7	23.0	35.0	11.1	32,378		
Female	24.1	31.3	10.8	25,048	60.9	16.9	11.7	4,826	93.7	23.0	35.2	10.9	29,874		
<b>Residence</b>															
Urban	25.8	32.0	11.6	13,322	65.2	18.3	14.0	3,255	93.2	24.3	37.6	12.1	16,577		
Rural	23.5	30.9	10.6	39,361	60.7	16.2	11.4	6,315	94.6	22.5	34.2	10.7	45,676		
<b>Mother's schooling</b>															
No schooling	19.7	30.0	9.0	10,148	53.1	12.5	8.5	1,500	94.0	18.8	32.2	9.0	11,648		
<5 years complete	26.6	32.3	11.9	2,357	49.1	15.7	6.8	318	93.9	25.3	34.6	11.3	2,675		
5-7 years complete	21.6	31.6	10.5	7,216	57.4	16.3	12.0	1,179	94.0	20.8	34.4	10.7	8,396		
8-9 years complete	24.6	31.9	11.1	10,211	59.7	15.6	10.4	1,563	94.6	23.4	35.0	11.0	11,774		
10-11 years complete	26.3	29.7	10.6	7,136	63.2	17.9	14.3	1,490	93.6	24.9	34.3	11.2	8,626		
12 or more years complete	26.4	31.9	11.9	15,614	69.7	19.3	14.4	3,519	94.4	25.1	37.7	12.4	19,133		
<b>Religion</b>															
Hindu	23.1	31.2	10.4	42,062	63.5	16.3	12.1	7,390	94.5	22.1	35.1	10.6	49,452		
Muslim	27.7	30.0	12.4	8,459	57.5	17.0	11.5	1,665	93.0	25.9	33.7	12.2	10,124		
Christian	36.2	40.7	17.1	1,029	58.2	31.8	19.0	250	91.8	35.3	44.2	17.5	1,280		
Sikh	26.1	25.3	10.3	547	70.6	20.2	16.9	180	92.7	24.7	34.4	11.9	727		
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	22.1	30.2	8.1	254	31.0	15.0	11.4	44	89.9	21.1	34.1	8.6	297		
Jain	22.3	54.3	16.9	90	56.9	7.6	7.6	20	92.3	19.7	61.3	15.2	110		
Other	25.9	34.5	10.3	242	39.2	23.6	14.1	21	95.1	25.7	34.5	10.6	263		

Continued...

**Table 10.10 Minimum acceptable diet—Continued**

Percentage of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mother who are fed a minimum acceptable diet based on breastfeeding status, number of food groups, and times they were fed during the day or night preceding the interview, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:					Among non-breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:					Among all children 6-23 months, percentage fed:				
	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>2</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>3</sup>	Number of breastfed children	Minimum milk feeding frequency <sup>4</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>	Number of non-breastfed children	Breast milk, milk, or milk products <sup>7</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>8</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>9</sup>	Number of all children	
<b>Caste/tribe</b>															
Scheduled caste	24.1	31.5	10.5	12,410	60.2	16.8	56.6	12.3	1,898	94.7	23.1	34.8	10.8	14,309	
Scheduled tribe	24.0	32.2	11.0	5,546	48.2	20.5	44.6	13.1	779	93.6	23.6	33.7	11.2	6,324	
Other backward class	22.1	30.3	10.0	22,697	65.8	16.7	59.0	12.6	4,293	94.6	21.2	34.9	10.4	26,991	
Other	28.4	32.2	12.8	11,552	62.1	16.5	56.4	11.6	2,545	93.2	26.3	36.6	12.6	14,097	
Don't know	18.9	29.2	7.8	477	58.5	5.0	39.0	3.5	55	95.7	17.5	30.2	7.4	532	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>															
Lowest	22.7	31.4	10.4	13,241	48.2	14.3	45.0	8.5	1,570	94.5	21.8	32.8	10.2	14,812	
Second	22.9	29.5	9.8	11,519	55.7	15.1	49.9	9.6	1,679	94.4	21.9	32.1	9.8	13,198	
Middle	24.7	31.3	10.8	10,502	63.8	17.1	56.4	13.3	1,936	94.4	23.5	35.2	11.2	12,438	
Fourth	25.5	31.5	11.6	9,483	66.5	18.4	59.7	13.5	2,137	93.8	24.2	36.7	12.0	11,619	
Highest	25.7	32.9	12.1	7,938	71.5	18.5	66.8	14.8	2,247	93.7	24.1	40.4	12.7	10,185	
Total	24.1	31.2	10.8	52,683	62.2	16.9	56.6	12.3	9,570	94.2	23.0	35.1	11.0	62,253	

<sup>1</sup> Children receive foods from 5 or more of the following food groups: a. infant formula, milk other than breast milk, cheese or yogurt or other milk products; b. foods made from grains or roots, including porridge or gruel, fortified baby food; c. vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; d. other fruits and vegetables; e. eggs; f. meat, poultry, fish, shellfish, or organ meats; g. beans, peas, lentils, or nuts

<sup>2</sup> For breastfed children, minimum meal frequency is receiving solid or semi-solid food at least twice a day for infants 6-8 months and at least three times a day for children 9-23 months

<sup>3</sup> Breastfed children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed a minimum acceptable diet if they are fed the minimum dietary diversity as described in footnote 1 and the minimum meal frequency as defined in footnote 2

<sup>4</sup> Includes two or more feedings of commercial infant formula, fresh, tinned and powdered animal milk, and yogurt

<sup>5</sup> For non-breastfed children age 6-23 months, minimum meal frequency is receiving solid or semi-solid food or milk feeds at least four times a day. At least one of the feeds must be a solid or semi-solid food.

<sup>6</sup> Non-breastfed children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed a minimum acceptable diet if they receive other milk or milk products at least twice a day, receive the minimum meal frequency as described in footnote 5, and receive solid or semi-solid foods from at least four food groups not including the milk or milk products food group

<sup>7</sup> Breastfeeding, or not breastfeeding and receiving two or more feedings of commercial infant formula, fresh, tinned, and powdered animal milk, and yogurt

<sup>8</sup> Children are fed the minimum recommended number of times per day according to their age and breastfeeding status as described in footnotes 2 and 5

<sup>9</sup> Children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed a minimum acceptable diet if they receive breastmilk, other milk or milk products as described in footnote 7, are fed the minimum dietary diversity as described in footnote 1, and are fed the minimum meal frequency as described in footnotes 2 and 5

**Table 10.1.1. Minimum acceptable diet by state/union territory**

Percentage of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mother who are fed a minimum acceptable diet based on breastfeeding status, number of food groups, and times they are fed during the day or night preceding the interview, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:				Among non-breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:				Among all children 6-23 months, percentage fed:											
	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>		Minimum meal frequency <sup>2</sup>		Minimum milk feeding frequency <sup>4</sup>		Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>		Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>		Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>		Breast milk, milk, or milk products <sup>7</sup>		Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>		Minimum meal frequency <sup>8</sup>		Minimum acceptable diet <sup>9</sup>	
	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>2</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>3</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>3</sup>	Minimum milk feeding frequency <sup>4</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>8</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>9</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>8</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>9</sup>			
<b>India</b>	24.1	31.2	10.8	10.8	62.2	16.9	56.6	12.3	94.2	23.0	35.1	11.0								
<b>North</b>																				
Chandigarh	34.6	34.7	22.7	22.7	39.2	0.0	39.2	0.0	90.0	28.9	35.5	19.0								
Delhi	30.8	43.4	18.0	18.0	76.0	10.4	70.1	8.6	94.9	26.5	49.0	16.0								
Haryana	21.7	36.0	11.9	11.9	77.5	13.1	69.8	10.7	95.4	19.9	42.8	11.6								
Himachal Pradesh	31.1	45.4	17.7	17.7	80.7	21.0	77.6	20.7	94.8	28.3	54.1	18.5								
Jammu & Kashmir	37.1	21.5	12.0	12.0	54.3	32.7	49.9	18.6	94.2	36.5	25.1	12.8								
Ladakh	38.6	34.4	19.6	19.6	72.6	55.4	63.5	44.5	96.2	41.0	38.5	23.1								
Punjab	26.7	26.3	10.2	10.2	63.9	19.9	55.5	15.4	91.1	25.0	33.5	11.5								
Rajasthan	16.3	31.3	8.4	8.4	68.7	9.3	65.6	7.5	96.0	15.4	35.7	8.3								
Uttarakhand	20.6	40.8	12.7	12.7	82.4	11.3	73.8	10.3	96.2	18.6	48.0	12.2								
<b>Central</b>																				
Chhattisgarh	21.0	30.2	9.5	9.5	24.2	9.4	22.4	2.5	95.9	20.3	29.8	9.1								
Madhya Pradesh	19.4	36.0	9.2	9.2	50.2	13.4	52.7	7.1	93.7	18.6	38.1	9.0								
Uttar Pradesh	15.2	22.4	5.8	5.8	70.3	8.3	57.8	6.7	95.1	14.1	28.2	5.9								
<b>East</b>																				
Bihar	19.6	33.8	10.7	10.7	63.3	14.4	57.9	11.5	95.1	18.9	37.0	10.8								
Jharkhand	21.2	33.4	9.5	9.5	52.2	24.3	56.2	15.9	96.7	21.5	34.9	10.0								
Odisha	39.9	47.4	20.1	20.1	53.6	31.8	58.4	21.3	97.5	39.4	48.0	20.1								
West Bengal	50.7	37.6	23.3	23.3	41.4	28.1	39.2	17.0	95.2	48.8	37.7	22.8								

*Continued...*

Table 10.11 Minimum acceptable diet by state/union territory—Continued

State/union territory	Percentage of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mother who are fed a minimum acceptable diet based on breastfeeding status, number of food groups, and times they are fed during the day or night preceding the interview, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21												
	Among breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:			Among non-breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:			Among all children 6-23 months, percentage fed:						
	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>2</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>3</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>4</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>5</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>	Breast milk, milk, or milk products <sup>7</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>
<b>Northeast</b>													
Arunachal Pradesh	40.0	41.9	22.6	30.6	26.3	26.4	12.7	88.2	37.7	39.3	20.9		
Assam	23.4	27.7	7.5	28.2	13.3	24.7	3.1	96.3	22.9	27.6	7.2		
Manipur	39.0	44.2	17.7	37.6	39.0	49.5	21.9	93.9	39.0	44.7	18.2		
Meghalaya	51.0	46.5	28.7	45.6	65.5	54.7	27.7	88.0	54.2	48.3	28.5		
Mizoram	33.7	30.2	12.2	27.4	33.6	31.9	18.5	88.8	33.7	30.5	13.2		
Nagaland	21.8	41.0	11.3	49.8	26.0	46.4	14.9	82.0	23.3	43.0	12.6		
Sikkim	54.7	36.1	21.9	40.1	50.1	58.7	35.0	91.2	54.0	39.4	23.8		
Tripura	25.6	34.9	12.8	64.8	16.3	59.8	16.3	97.8	25.0	36.5	13.0		
<b>West</b>													
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	23.5	34.6	10.7	76.6	5.5	76.4	4.0	98.3	22.2	37.5	10.2		
Goa	47.3	40.3	20.2	92.9	35.1	72.1	28.5	98.9	45.4	45.4	21.5		
Gujarat	17.8	19.3	5.9	52.1	9.3	43.4	6.0	92.0	16.4	23.3	5.9		
Maharashtra	17.6	30.5	8.2	46.9	18.1	45.6	11.7	90.4	17.7	33.2	8.9		

Continued...

**Table 10.11 Minimum acceptable diet by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mother who are fed a minimum acceptable diet based on breastfeeding status, number of food groups, and times they are fed during the day or night preceding the interview, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:			Among non-breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:			Among all children 6-23 months, percentage fed:			
	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>2</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>3</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>4</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>5</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>6</sup>	Breast milk, milk, or milk products <sup>7</sup>	Minimum dietary diversity <sup>1</sup>	Minimum meal frequency <sup>8</sup>	Minimum acceptable diet <sup>9</sup>
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	33.4	51.3	17.4	44.9	34.3	53.1	91.5	33.6	51.6	18.5
Andhra Pradesh	21.1	25.0	8.1	70.3	15.3	61.5	91.7	19.5	35.3	9.0
Karnataka	31.9	25.3	10.6	58.9	25.0	51.6	91.0	30.4	31.0	12.4
Kerala	47.3	47.2	23.4	67.0	35.4	65.4	97.3	46.3	48.7	23.3
Lakshadweep	45.3	46.7	18.8	52.1	0.0	52.1	96.9	42.4	47.0	17.6
Puducherry	35.4	41.3	22.7	85.2	30.1	80.3	95.6	33.8	52.8	22.9
Tamil Nadu	28.7	39.4	12.6	72.3	29.1	69.7	91.4	28.8	48.8	15.8
Telangana	25.7	26.6	8.2	59.6	17.5	58.1	94.9	24.7	30.6	9.0

<sup>1</sup> Children receive foods from 5 or more of the following food groups: a. breast milk b. infant formula, milk other than breast milk, cheese or yogurt or other milk products; c. foods made from grains or roots, including porridge or gruel, fortified baby food made from grains; d. vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; e. other fruits and vegetables; f. eggs; g. meat, poultry, fish, shellfish, or organ meats; h. beans, peas, lentils, or nuts

<sup>2</sup> For breastfed children, minimum meal frequency is receiving solid or semi-solid food at least twice a day for infants 6-8 months and at least three times a day for children 9-23 months

<sup>3</sup> Breastfed children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed a minimum acceptable diet if they are fed the minimum dietary diversity as described in footnote 1 and the minimum meal frequency as defined in footnote 2

<sup>4</sup> Includes two or more feedings of commercial infant formula, fresh, tinned and powdered animal milk, and yogurt

<sup>5</sup> For nonbreastfed children age 6-23 months, minimum meal frequency is receiving solid or semi-solid food or milk feeds at least four times a day. At least one of the feeds must be a solid or semi-solid food.

<sup>6</sup> Nonbreastfed children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed a minimum acceptable diet if they receive other milk or milk products at least twice a day, receive the minimum meal frequency as defined in footnote 5, and receive solid or semi-solid foods from at least four food groups not including the milk or milk products food group

<sup>7</sup> Breastfeeding, or not breastfeeding and receiving two or more feedings of commercial infant formula, fresh, tinned, and powdered animal milk, and yogurt

<sup>8</sup> Children are fed the minimum recommended number of times per day according to their age and breastfeeding status as described in footnotes 2 and 5

<sup>9</sup> Children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed a minimum acceptable diet if they receive breast milk, other milk or milk products as described in footnote 7, are fed the minimum dietary diversity as described in footnote 1, and are fed the minimum meal frequency as described in footnotes 2 and 5

**Table 10.12 Prevalence of anaemia in children**

Percentage of children age 6-59 months classified as having anaemia, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Anaemia status by haemoglobin level			Any anaemia (<11.0 g/dl)	Number of children
	Mild (10.0-10.9 g/dl)	Moderate (7.0-9.9 g/dl)	Severe (<7.0 g/dl)		
<b>Age in months</b>					
6-8	29.0	44.2	2.0	75.2	7,998
9-11	27.5	48.1	3.1	78.7	8,566
12-17	26.3	50.3	3.5	80.0	17,107
18-23	27.9	46.8	3.5	78.2	16,391
24-35	29.4	38.7	2.4	70.5	34,155
36-47	31.0	28.6	1.4	61.0	33,825
48-59	30.0	22.6	0.8	53.4	34,711
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	29.0	36.0	2.2	67.2	79,515
Female	29.5	35.6	2.0	67.0	73,237
<b>Birth order<sup>1</sup></b>					
1	29.5	34.1	1.9	65.6	61,967
2-3	28.9	36.7	2.2	67.7	75,806
4-5	29.8	38.3	2.3	70.4	12,119
6 or more	30.1	38.5	2.6	71.2	2,324
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	29.0	33.1	2.2	64.2	42,917
Rural	29.3	36.9	2.1	68.3	109,835
<b>Mother's schooling<sup>2</sup></b>					
No schooling	29.7	39.3	2.4	71.4	22,223
<5 years complete	29.4	38.4	2.2	70.0	7,432
5-7 years complete	29.6	38.3	2.4	70.3	23,497
8-9 years complete	29.8	36.6	2.1	68.5	31,030
10-11 years complete	28.7	35.5	1.9	66.1	22,747
12 or more years complete	28.7	32.0	1.8	62.5	45,822
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	29.0	36.3	2.1	67.5	122,437
Muslim	30.8	34.3	1.8	66.8	23,317
Christian	26.6	25.0	1.5	53.1	3,441
Sikh	25.7	39.8	4.8	70.3	1,940
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	30.9	36.7	3.5	71.1	815
Jain	39.7	28.4	4.3	72.3	252
Other	29.2	36.0	1.8	67.0	550
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	29.2	37.8	2.5	69.5	36,135
Scheduled tribe	29.8	40.4	2.2	72.4	14,481
Other backward class	28.7	34.6	1.9	65.2	65,009
Other	30.1	33.7	1.9	65.8	35,749
Don't know	28.7	43.2	1.4	73.3	1,379
<b>Mother's interview status</b>					
Interviewed	29.2	35.8	2.1	67.1	152,216
Not interviewed but in household	29.9	37.1	2.8	69.8	536

*Continued...*



Table 10.12 Prevalence of anaemia in children—*Continued*

Percentage of children age 6-59 months classified as having anaemia, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Anaemia status by haemoglobin level			Any anaemia (<11.0 g/dl)	Number of children
	Mild (10.0-10.9 g/dl)	Moderate (7.0-9.9 g/dl)	Severe (<7.0 g/dl)		
<b>Child's living arrangements</b>					
Living with both parents	29.1	35.8	2.2	67.1	126,952
Living with mother (not father)	29.8	35.6	1.8	67.2	25,521
Living with father (not mother)	30.3	36.5	1.1	67.9	111
Living with neither parent	34.4	40.2	1.1	75.8	168
<b>Mother's anaemia status<sup>3</sup></b>					
Not anaemic	28.6	29.8	1.5	60.0	61,920
Mildly anaemic	30.6	36.1	2.0	68.7	40,152
Moderately anaemic	29.3	42.6	2.7	74.6	46,149
Severely anaemic	23.2	48.0	5.9	77.1	3,281
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	30.1	39.6	1.9	71.5	30,961
Second	30.0	37.2	2.1	69.3	32,889
Middle	29.2	35.7	2.2	67.1	32,072
Fourth	28.1	33.8	2.3	64.2	30,741
Highest	28.6	31.9	2.0	62.6	26,089
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>152,752</b>

Note: Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview and who were tested for anaemia. Prevalence of anaemia, based on haemoglobin levels, is adjusted for altitude using the CDC formulas (Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 1998. Recommendations to prevent and control iron deficiency in the United States. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 47 (RR-3): 1-29). Haemoglobin levels are shown in grams per decilitre (g/dl). Total includes mother who don't know their year of schooling.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes children whose mothers were not interviewed

<sup>2</sup> For mothers who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the household schedule.

<sup>3</sup> Mildly anaemic is 11.0-11.9 g/dl for non-pregnant women and 10.0-10.9 g/dl for pregnant women. Moderately/severely anaemic is <11.0 g/dl for non-pregnant women and <10.0 g/dl for pregnant women. Adjusted for altitude and for smoking status. Excludes children whose mother's anaemia status is not known.

**Table 10.13 Prevalence of anaemia in children by state/union territory**

Percentage of children age 6-59 months classified as having anaemia, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Anaemia status by haemoglobin level			Any anaemia (<11.0 g/dl)
	Mild (10.0-10.9 g/dl)	Moderate (7.0-9.9 g/dl)	Severe (<7.0 g/dl)	
<b>India</b>	29.2	35.8	2.1	67.1
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	27.8	25.2	1.6	54.6
Delhi	26.8	37.8	4.6	69.2
Haryana	26.6	40.0	3.8	70.4
Himachal Pradesh	26.5	26.7	2.2	55.4
Jammu & Kashmir	25.1	43.6	4.0	72.7
Ladakh	9.0	46.1	38.7	93.9
Punjab	25.3	40.8	5.0	71.1
Rajasthan	31.4	38.0	2.0	71.5
Uttarakhand	24.2	31.6	3.0	58.8
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	28.5	37.1	1.6	67.2
Madhya Pradesh	27.4	42.0	3.3	72.6
Uttar Pradesh	28.2	36.1	2.1	66.4
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	30.9	37.0	1.5	69.4
Jharkhand	31.9	34.3	1.2	67.4
Odisha	31.9	31.4	0.9	64.2
West Bengal	35.6	32.5	0.9	69.0
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	29.0	25.3	2.2	56.6
Assam	36.2	31.5	0.8	68.4
Manipur	24.9	17.4	0.5	42.8
Meghalaya	24.5	19.7	0.8	45.1
Mizoram	25.3	20.8	0.3	46.4
Nagaland	26.1	15.9	0.7	42.7
Sikkim	25.4	30.1	1.0	56.4
Tripura	33.9	29.8	0.5	64.2
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	29.9	44.8	1.1	75.8
Goa	26.3	25.4	1.5	53.2
Gujarat	27.5	49.1	3.1	79.7
Maharashtra	28.9	37.5	2.4	68.9
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	27.5	12.6	0.0	40.0
Andhra Pradesh	26.1	35.0	2.1	63.2
Karnataka	27.6	35.1	2.7	65.5
Kerala	24.1	14.6	0.7	39.4
Lakshadweep	31.8	10.9	0.5	43.1
Puducherry	23.2	38.6	2.2	64.0
Tamil Nadu	27.0	28.6	1.8	57.4
Telangana	25.1	41.4	3.5	70.0

Note: Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview and who were tested for anaemia. Prevalence of anaemia, based on haemoglobin levels, is adjusted for altitude using the CDC formulas (Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 1998. Recommendations to prevent and control iron deficiency in the United States. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 47 (RR-3): 1-29). Haemoglobin levels are shown in grams per decilitre (g/dl).

**Table 10.14 Trends in prevalence of anaemia in children**

Percentage of children age 6-59 months classified as having anaemia by residence, NFHS-5 and NFHS-4, India

Anaemia status by haemoglobin level	NFHS-5 (2019-21)			NFHS-4 (2015-16)		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Mild (10.0-10.9 g/dl)	29.0	29.3	29.2	26.8	28.2	27.8
Moderate (7.0-9.9 g/dl)	33.1	36.9	35.8	27.5	29.7	29.1
Severe (<7.0 g/dl)	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.5
Any anaemia (<11.0 g/dl)	64.2	68.3	67.1	55.9	59.4	58.4
Number of children	42,917	109,835	152,752	56,240	148,757	204,997

Note: Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Prevalence of anaemia, based on haemoglobin levels, is adjusted for altitude using formulae in CDC (1998). Haemoglobin in g/dl = grams per decilitre.

Table 10.15 Presence of iodized salt in household

Among all households, percentage with salt tested for iodine content, percentage with salt in the household but the salt was not tested, and percentage with no salt in the household; and among households with salt tested, percentage with iodized salt, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among households, percentage:			Number of households	Among households with tested salt:	
	With salt tested	With salt, but salt not tested <sup>1</sup>	With no salt in the household		Percentage with iodized salt	Number of households
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	99.2	0.3	0.5	211,271	96.9	209,599
Rural	99.5	0.1	0.4	425,428	93.0	423,463
<b>Religion of household head</b>						
Hindu	99.4	0.1	0.4	521,485	94.0	518,607
Muslim	99.4	0.2	0.4	78,928	95.8	78,452
Christian	99.3	0.1	0.5	17,881	94.6	17,764
Sikh	99.3	0.3	0.4	9,742	94.9	9,671
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	99.3	0.0	0.7	4,522	97.1	4,489
Jain	98.3	0.8	0.9	1,621	95.5	1,594
Other	98.6	0.4	0.9	2,520	97.0	2,486
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>						
Scheduled caste	99.5	0.1	0.4	137,846	93.5	137,128
Scheduled tribe	99.6	0.1	0.3	60,543	93.7	60,313
Other backward class	99.5	0.1	0.4	264,886	94.0	263,430
Other	99.3	0.3	0.4	167,906	95.7	166,753
Don't know	98.6	0.6	0.9	5,518	93.0	5,440
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	99.2	0.1	0.7	132,300	91.1	131,284
Second	99.4	0.1	0.6	127,292	92.5	126,485
Middle	99.5	0.1	0.4	127,106	94.3	126,508
Fourth	99.7	0.1	0.2	124,936	96.4	124,506
Highest	99.4	0.4	0.2	125,065	97.4	124,281
Total	99.4	0.1	0.4	636,699	94.3	633,062

<sup>1</sup> Includes households in which salt could not be tested for technical or logistical reasons

**Table 10.16 Presence of iodized salt in household by state/union territory**

Among all households, percentage with salt tested for iodine content, percentage with salt in the household but the salt was not tested, and percentage with no salt in the household; and among households with salt tested, percentage with iodized salt, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among households, percentage:			Percentage with iodized salt
	With salt tested	With salt, but salt not tested <sup>1</sup>	With no salt in the household	
<b>India</b>	99.4	0.1	0.4	94.3
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	96.5	3.2	0.3	96.8
Delhi	99.1	0.5	0.3	96.8
Haryana	99.5	0.2	0.3	96.1
Himachal Pradesh	99.8	0.1	0.2	99.1
Jammu & Kashmir	99.8	0.0	0.2	98.1
Ladakh	99.6	0.0	0.4	98.8
Punjab	99.1	0.3	0.5	94.8
Rajasthan	99.8	0.0	0.2	94.2
Uttarakhand	99.3	0.2	0.5	93.2
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	99.9	0.0	0.1	98.5
Madhya Pradesh	99.4	0.2	0.4	95.3
Uttar Pradesh	99.1	0.3	0.6	92.2
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	99.4	0.0	0.5	93.3
Jharkhand	99.7	0.1	0.2	97.7
Odisha	99.7	0.1	0.3	98.0
West Bengal	99.7	0.0	0.3	94.5
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	99.9	0.0	0.1	99.2
Assam	99.9	0.0	0.1	98.8
Manipur	99.9	0.0	0.1	99.3
Meghalaya	99.6	0.2	0.2	90.6
Mizoram	99.9	0.0	0.0	99.0
Nagaland	99.8	0.0	0.2	98.9
Sikkim	99.9	0.0	0.1	98.2
Tripura	99.9	0.0	0.1	99.5
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	96.6	1.4	1.9	89.1
Goa	99.9	0.0	0.1	97.6
Gujarat	99.5	0.1	0.4	95.6
Maharashtra	99.2	0.3	0.6	96.2
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	99.9	0.0	0.1	99.7
Andhra Pradesh	99.0	0.1	0.9	83.1
Karnataka	99.7	0.1	0.3	92.8
Kerala	99.8	0.0	0.2	99.3
Lakshadweep	100.0	0.0	0.0	96.7
Puducherry	99.4	0.1	0.5	93.3
Tamil Nadu	99.3	0.1	0.6	92.0
Telangana	99.6	0.1	0.3	95.8

<sup>1</sup> Includes households in which salt could not be tested for technical or logistical reasons

Table 10.17 Micronutrient intake among children

Among youngest children age 6-23 months who are living with their mother, percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among all children age 6-23 months, percentage given micronutrient powder in the 7 days preceding the survey; among all children age 6-59 months, percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey, who were given iron supplements in the 7 days preceding the survey, and who were given deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey; and among children age 6-59 months who live in households in which salt was tested for iodine, percentage in households using iodized salt, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother:			Among all children age 6-23 months:			Among all children age 6-59 months:			Among children age 6-59 months living in households tested for iodized salt:		
	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in last 24 hours <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in last 24 hours <sup>2</sup>	Number of children	Percentage given multiple micro-nutrient powder in past 7 days	Number of children	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given iron supplements in past 7 days <sup>4</sup>	Percentage given deworming medication in past 6 months <sup>4,5</sup>	Number of children	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>	Number of children	Percentage living in households tested for iodized salt:
<b>Age in months</b>												
6-8	20.1	7.8	10,708	9.9	10,805	49.8	32.9	28.1	10,805	93.2	10,765	
9-11	37.9	15.2	10,934	13.8	11,063	68.7	37.7	34.3	11,063	94.3	11,044	
12-17	52.2	22.4	21,517	14.0	22,183	74.9	40.6	39.5	22,183	93.8	22,104	
18-23	61.4	29.0	19,094	13.8	21,064	71.3	40.7	44.2	21,064	93.9	21,005	
24-35	na	na	na	na	na	65.7	39.4	45.3	43,916	94.0	43,795	
36-47	na	na	na	na	na	0.0	26.1	30.5	44,075	94.2	43,938	
48-59	na	na	na	na	na	0.0	1.3	1.4	46,503	94.0	46,382	
<b>Sex</b>												
Male	46.9	20.4	32,366	13.4	33,662	36.8	27.3	29.5	103,586	94.0	103,311	
Female	47.0	20.9	29,886	13.0	31,453	36.8	27.5	29.5	96,023	94.0	95,723	
<b>Birth order</b>												
1	45.3	20.6	24,600	14.2	26,289	37.9	27.9	29.8	78,700	94.4	78,487	
2-3	48.5	21.3	30,733	13.1	31,694	36.9	27.6	30.0	97,625	94.0	97,369	
4-5	45.1	17.5	5,618	10.0	5,781	33.8	25.3	27.0	18,733	92.5	18,654	
6 or more	48.5	20.3	1,302	9.5	1,351	30.2	22.9	24.1	4,551	91.1	4,524	
<b>Breastfeeding status<sup>7</sup></b>												
Breastfeeding	45.6	19.9	52,683	13.1	53,137	58.2	36.5	38.0	83,843	94.1	83,590	
Not breastfeeding	54.4	24.7	9,520	13.8	11,927	21.3	20.8	23.3	115,511	93.9	115,189	

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**Table 10.17 Micronutrient intake among children—Continued**

Among youngest children age 6-23 months who are living with their mother, percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among all children age 6-23 months, percentage given micronutrient powder in the 7 days preceding the survey; among all children age 6-59 months, percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey, who were given iron supplements in the 7 days preceding the survey, and who were given deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey; and among children age 6-59 months who live in households in which salt was tested for iodine, percentage in households using iodized salt, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother:			Among all children age 6-23 months:			Among all children age 6-59 months:			Among children age 6-59 months living in households tested for iodized salt:		
	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in last 24 hours <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in last 24 hours <sup>2</sup>	Number of children	Percentage given multiple micro-nutrient powder in past 7 days	Number of children	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given iron supplements in past 7 days <sup>4</sup>	Percentage given deworming medication in past 6 months <sup>4,5</sup>	Number of children	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>	Number of children	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	48.6	23.3	16,577	13.6	17,232	36.8	27.4	29.0	54,222	97.2	54,076	97.2
Rural	46.4	19.7	45,676	13.0	47,883	36.8	27.4	29.7	145,387	92.8	144,958	92.8
<b>Mother's schooling</b>												
No schooling	43.9	17.4	11,648	9.6	12,267	31.3	24.0	24.7	42,769	91.4	42,594	91.4
<5 years complete	50.9	23.9	2,675	10.4	2,823	32.5	22.7	26.3	9,715	93.3	9,682	93.3
5-7 years complete	47.2	20.6	8,396	12.2	8,778	34.5	25.4	27.6	28,984	93.2	28,909	93.2
8-9 years complete	47.8	20.8	11,774	12.6	12,361	37.2	27.4	30.1	36,686	94.1	36,588	94.1
10-11 years complete	47.4	22.6	8,626	15.6	8,987	39.4	29.4	31.3	26,653	94.8	26,591	94.8
12 or more years complete	47.4	21.2	19,133	15.5	19,899	41.6	30.9	33.6	54,803	96.1	54,669	96.1
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	45.8	18.0	49,452	13.2	51,704	37.2	27.9	30.0	158,405	93.6	157,977	93.6
Muslim	50.6	31.9	10,124	12.5	10,624	34.6	25.6	27.4	32,503	95.5	32,385	95.5
Christian	57.9	41.6	1,280	22.2	1,328	36.8	26.3	31.7	4,143	94.1	4,119	94.1
Sikh	47.9	10.1	727	7.4	768	37.5	23.3	24.2	2,490	95.2	2,486	95.2
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	56.1	24.5	297	9.2	304	35.0	26.4	27.6	969	96.8	969	96.8
Jain	36.1	0.8	110	8.0	117	52.2	29.2	32.5	301	98.5	301	98.5
Other	56.9	25.7	263	8.8	270	36.6	22.2	30.3	798	97.3	797	97.3

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**Table 10.17 Micronutrient intake among children—Continued**

Among youngest children age 6-23 months who are living with their mother, percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among all children age 6-23 months, percentage given micronutrient powder in the 7 days preceding the survey; among all children age 6-59 months, percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey, who were given iron supplements in the 7 days preceding the survey, and who were given deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey; and among children age 6-59 months who live in households in which salt was tested for iodine, percentage in households using iodized salt, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Among youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother:			Among all children age 6-23 months:			Among all children age 6-59 months:			Among children age 6-59 months living in households tested for iodized salt:		
	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in last 24 hours <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in last 24 hours <sup>2</sup>	Number of children	Percentage given multiple micro-nutrient powder in past 7 days	Number of children	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given deworming medication in past 6 months <sup>4,5</sup>	Number of children	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>	Number of children	Percentage living in households tested for iodized salt:	Number of children
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	47.4	21.0	14,309	12.4	15,014	36.4	29.1	46,035	93.2	45,880		
Scheduled tribe	49.7	21.9	6,324	13.3	6,552	38.9	33.0	19,805	93.5	19,752		
Other backward class	44.3	18.1	26,991	12.9	28,341	37.1	30.3	86,798	93.6	86,547		
Other	50.1	24.3	14,097	14.6	14,647	36.0	27.4	45,153	95.8	45,037		
Don't know	53.7	28.1	532	8.4	561	28.3	17.2	1,818	93.7	1,818		
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	48.6	21.4	14,812	11.8	15,500	34.1	27.0	48,397	91.4	48,205		
Second	45.8	20.7	13,198	11.5	13,910	36.1	29.2	42,989	92.3	42,845		
Middle	46.7	21.3	12,438	14.3	13,012	37.6	30.3	39,067	94.2	38,960		
Fourth	46.3	21.4	11,619	14.3	12,155	38.5	31.3	36,990	95.9	36,936		
Highest	47.0	17.8	10,185	14.9	10,538	38.9	30.6	32,166	97.6	32,088		
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>62,253</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>65,115</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>199,609</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>199,034</b>		

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Includes meat and organ meats, fish, poultry, eggs, pumpkin, carrots, squash, sweet potatoes that are yellow or orange inside, dark green leafy vegetables, ripe mango, papaya, cantaloupe, and jackfruit

<sup>2</sup> Includes meat and organ meats, fish, poultry, and eggs

<sup>3</sup> Based on mother's recall

<sup>4</sup> Based on mother's recall and the vaccination card (where available)

<sup>5</sup> Deworming for intestinal parasites is commonly done for helminths and schistosomiasis

<sup>6</sup> Excludes children in households in which salt was not tested

<sup>7</sup> Excludes children whose breastfeeding status is unknown



**Table 10.18 Micronutrient intake among children by state/union territory**

Among youngest children age 6-23 months who are living with their mother, percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among all children age 6-23 months, percentage given micronutrient powder in the 7 days preceding the survey; among all children age 6-59 months, percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey, who were given iron supplements in the 7 days preceding the survey, and who were given deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey; and among children age 6-59 months who live in households in which salt was tested for iodine, percentage who live in households using iodized salt, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother:		Among all children age 6-23 months:		Among all children age 6-59 months:				Among children age 6-59 months living in households tested for iodized salt
	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in last 24 hours <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in last 24 hours <sup>2</sup>	Percentage given multiple micro-nutrient powder in past 7 days	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given iron supplements in past 7 days <sup>4</sup>	Percentage deworming medication in past 6 months <sup>4,5</sup>	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>		
<b>India</b>	47.0	20.6	13.2	36.8	27.4	29.5	94.0		
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	56.6	18.9	5.3	31.6	27.9	28.5	98.1		
Delhi	49.6	19.7	19.0	27.0	22.0	22.5	98.2		
Haryana	43.9	7.4	10.1	33.9	32.0	37.2	96.4		
Himachal Pradesh	53.2	4.0	17.5	40.5	26.8	29.0	99.2		
Jammu & Kashmir	54.4	39.5	8.8	39.7	22.0	32.8	97.8		
Ladakh	59.3	48.2	12.6	41.1	24.2	38.4	98.7		
Punjab	48.9	11.7	8.6	36.1	24.9	23.2	95.1		
Rajasthan	35.5	4.1	5.4	31.6	15.4	14.5	94.0		
Uttarakhand	40.9	12.3	4.3	26.2	14.4	22.7	93.0		
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	50.2	16.2	17.6	45.5	39.8	41.0	98.2		
Madhya Pradesh	46.5	11.0	10.0	40.2	34.3	34.2	95.1		
Uttar Pradesh	36.6	8.9	9.1	37.6	31.7	32.0	92.0		

*Continued...*

**Table 10.18 Micronutrient intake among children by state/union territory—Continued**

Among youngest children age 6-23 months who are living with their mother, percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among all children age 6-23 months, percentage given micronutrient powder in the 7 days preceding the survey; among all children age 6-59 months, percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey, who were given iron supplements in the 7 days preceding the survey, and who were given deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey; and among children age 6-59 months who live in households in which salt was tested for iodine, percentage who live in households using iodized salt, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother:			Among all children age 6-23 months:			Among all children age 6-59 months:			Among children age 6-59 months living in households tested for iodized salt
	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in last 24 hours <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in last 24 hours <sup>2</sup>	Percentage given multiple micro-nutrient powder in past 7 days	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given iron supplements in past 7 days <sup>4</sup>	Percentage given deworming medication in past 6 months <sup>4,5</sup>	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>			
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	42.4	15.2	11.6	30.4	18.1	21.8	93.1			
Jharkhand	51.8	19.7	10.1	37.0	24.2	29.7	97.4			
Odisha	74.1	28.0	29.4	45.2	38.6	52.2	98.1			
West Bengal	75.8	58.5	17.0	34.6	25.4	26.6	94.0			
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	60.0	43.9	8.8	34.0	27.9	31.4	99.3			
Assam	43.5	24.2	8.0	30.4	17.5	21.3	98.3			
Manipur	74.7	52.7	1.4	20.3	5.9	18.7	99.4			
Meghalaya	70.2	58.2	14.4	28.7	22.4	29.0	90.9			
Mizoram	58.0	42.2	17.7	31.0	18.8	35.5	99.1			
Nagaland	54.0	39.9	2.8	21.4	8.9	15.8	99.5			
Sikkim	78.4	46.0	13.8	45.0	34.2	46.9	98.1			
Tripura	49.9	24.5	5.1	34.8	11.9	32.2	99.4			
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	49.2	11.5	1.2	43.4	29.8	28.9	87.0			
Goa	55.0	31.5	26.4	46.8	35.7	32.0	97.8			
Gujarat	42.2	6.1	7.5	45.3	33.3	33.2	94.5			
Maharashtra	40.8	17.7	11.8	36.3	23.3	24.8	95.9			

Continued..

**Table 10.18 Micronutrient intake among children by state/union territory—Continued**

Among youngest children age 6-23 months who are living with their mother, percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among all children age 6-23 months, percentage given micronutrient powder in the 7 days preceding the survey; among all children age 6-59 months, percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey, who were given iron supplements in the 7 days preceding the survey, and who were given deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey; and among children age 6-59 months who live in households in which salt was tested for iodine, percentage who live in households using iodized salt, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Among youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother:			Among all children age 6-23 months:			Among all children age 6-59 months:			Among children age 6-59 months living in households tested for iodized salt
	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in last 24 hours <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in last 24 hours <sup>2</sup>	Percentage given multiple micro-nutrient powder in past 7 days	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given iron supplements in past 7 days <sup>4</sup>	Percentage given deworming medication in past 6 months <sup>4,5</sup>	Percentage living in households with iodized salt <sup>6</sup>			
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	55.7	45.9	51.1	45.2	38.1	46.9	100.0			
Andhra Pradesh	39.0	27.4	21.3	41.7	25.9	23.0	82.5			
Karnataka	47.4	27.4	17.4	45.2	43.6	41.4	91.5			
Kerala	64.7	49.6	63.0	42.4	20.5	31.0	99.5			
Lakshadweep	60.5	55.8	48.6	19.6	10.3	20.8	97.0			
Puducherry	69.3	49.2	28.3	43.5	25.1	32.4	94.3			
Tamil Nadu	58.6	42.5	16.6	36.2	35.9	44.2	92.7			
Telangana	41.9	32.2	10.5	39.5	29.3	26.7	96.1			

<sup>1</sup> Includes meat and organ meats, fish, poultry, eggs, pumpkin, carrots, squash, sweet potatoes that are yellow or orange inside, dark green leafy vegetables, ripe mango, papaya, cantaloupe, and jackfruit

<sup>2</sup> Includes meat and organ meats, fish, poultry, and eggs

<sup>3</sup> Based on mother's recall

<sup>4</sup> Based on mother's recall and the vaccination card (where available)

<sup>5</sup> Deworming for intestinal parasites is commonly done for helminths and schistosomiasis

<sup>6</sup> Excludes children in households in which salt was not tested

**Table 10.19.1 Nutritional status of women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 below 145 cm, mean body mass index (BMI), and percentage with specific BMI levels, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage below 145 cm	Number of women	Mean BMI	Body Mass Index <sup>1</sup>						Number of women
				Thin			Overweight/obese			
				<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	>25.0 (overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	13.9	116,241	19.6	39.7	22.0	17.7	5.4	4.2	1.2	112,223
20-29	10.9	226,337	21.7	21.2	12.7	8.4	16.9	13.2	3.7	201,518
30-39	10.6	190,021	23.5	11.4	7.1	4.3	32.0	23.4	8.6	184,949
40-49	11.8	160,596	24.1	9.3	5.6	3.8	36.9	26.1	10.9	160,206
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	12.3	161,541	20.2	34.5	19.1	15.3	8.2	6.3	1.9	161,257
Currently married	11.2	502,122	23.1	13.6	8.4	5.3	29.1	21.3	7.8	468,237
Widowed	12.4	21,787	23.5	12.3	7.4	4.9	30.8	21.8	9.0	21,726
Divorced/separated/deserted	12.3	7,744	23.0	15.2	8.7	6.4	27.3	18.4	8.9	7,676
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	9.7	219,151	23.6	13.3	7.6	5.6	33.3	22.9	10.4	210,653
Rural	12.4	474,043	21.9	21.3	12.6	8.7	19.7	15.2	4.5	448,243
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	14.9	157,880	22.3	17.6	10.5	7.0	21.6	16.6	5.0	151,901
<5 years complete	15.1	36,540	22.7	16.1	9.7	6.4	24.9	18.7	6.3	35,163
5-7 years complete	12.9	93,406	22.8	17.0	10.2	6.9	26.9	19.5	7.5	88,916
8-9 years complete	12.5	124,348	22.0	22.8	13.0	9.7	21.6	15.7	5.9	117,542
10-11 years complete	9.7	105,000	22.3	21.8	12.4	9.4	23.8	16.9	6.9	99,884
12 or more years complete	7.3	176,020	22.8	16.4	9.7	6.6	26.5	19.3	7.2	165,491

Continued...

Table 10.19.1 Nutritional status of women—Continued

Percentage of women age 15-49 below 145 cm, mean body mass index (BMI), and percentage with specific BMI levels, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Body Mass Index <sup>1</sup>										
	Height					Overweight/obese					
	Percentage below 145 cm	Number of women	Mean BMI	18.5-24.9 (normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥25.0 (overweight or obese)	≥30.0 (obese)	Number of women
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	11.8	566,208	22.3	57.4	19.3	11.3	8.0	23.3	17.2	6.1	539,029
Muslim	10.5	92,021	22.7	57.6	16.4	9.8	6.6	26.0	19.0	7.0	86,339
Christian	9.6	16,308	23.4	56.3	12.5	7.6	4.9	31.2	21.9	9.4	15,553
Sikh	3.8	10,416	24.2	48.0	12.6	7.3	5.2	39.4	26.3	13.2	10,059
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	14.8	4,319	22.1	58.9	19.9	11.0	8.9	21.1	16.0	5.2	4,171
Jain	5.6	1,300	23.4	57.2	11.9	5.6	6.4	30.9	20.9	10.0	1,267
Other	16.9	2,621	21.3	63.1	23.3	14.3	9.0	13.6	9.9	3.7	2,479
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	14.4	152,652	22.1	58.2	20.2	11.9	8.3	21.6	16.2	5.4	144,699
Scheduled tribe	12.9	65,250	21.1	61.9	25.5	14.9	10.6	12.6	10.1	2.5	61,726
Other backward class	11.1	297,845	22.5	56.6	18.8	11.0	7.8	24.6	18.0	6.6	282,727
Other	9.2	172,656	23.2	55.9	14.5	8.6	6.0	29.6	21.2	8.4	165,225
Don't know	13.0	4,792	22.2	56.2	20.6	12.1	8.4	23.2	17.3	5.9	4,519
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	17.8	129,931	20.7	61.9	28.0	16.6	11.5	10.0	8.4	1.6	121,816
Second	14.1	140,652	21.5	60.8	22.8	13.3	9.5	16.4	13.2	3.2	133,242
Middle	11.3	143,921	22.4	58.0	18.3	10.8	7.5	23.7	18.1	5.7	137,172
Fourth	8.8	144,353	23.2	54.9	14.7	8.5	6.1	30.5	21.8	8.6	137,675
Highest	5.9	134,337	24.2	51.0	10.4	6.1	4.3	38.6	26.0	12.6	128,991
Total	11.5	693,194	22.4	57.3	18.7	11.0	7.7	24.0	17.6	6.4	658,896

Note: The body mass index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in metres (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

**Table 10.19.2 Nutritional status of men**

Among men age 15-49, mean body mass index (BMI) and percentage with specific BMI levels by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Mean BMI	Body Mass Index						Number of men
		Thin			Overweight/obese			
		<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	>25.0 (overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	19.7	40.8	21.0	19.8	6.6	5.3	1.2	15,009
20-29	22.1	15.3	9.9	5.5	18.1	15.0	3.1	26,122
30-39	23.5	8.8	6.2	2.6	30.4	25.2	5.3	24,250
40-49	23.6	8.1	5.0	3.1	32.1	26.4	5.7	20,513
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	21.1	26.7	14.6	12.1	13.4	11.1	2.3	33,130
Currently married	23.3	9.5	6.4	3.1	29.0	24.0	5.1	51,666
Widowed	21.7	15.3	7.5	7.7	16.3	15.2	1.1	420
Divorced/separated/deserted	22.4	18.7	11.5	7.3	23.3	19.3	4.0	679
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	23.2	13.0	7.5	5.5	29.8	23.8	6.0	29,126
Rural	22.0	17.8	10.7	7.1	19.3	16.4	3.0	56,768
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	21.9	16.4	9.9	6.4	17.7	15.0	2.7	9,331
<5 years complete	22.1	16.7	11.4	5.3	18.0	15.0	2.9	5,465
5-7 years complete	22.2	17.2	10.6	6.6	20.6	16.9	3.7	11,351
8-9 years complete	21.7	21.9	11.5	10.3	18.4	15.0	3.4	17,198
10-11 years complete	22.4	18.4	10.1	8.2	24.4	19.6	4.7	15,454
12 or more years complete	23.2	10.8	7.2	3.6	28.7	23.9	4.8	27,096

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Table 10.19.2 Nutritional status of men—Continued

Among men age 15-49, mean body mass index (BMI) and percentage with specific BMI levels by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Mean BMI	Body Mass Index						Number of men	
		Thin			Overweight/obese				
		<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	≥25.0 (overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)		
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	22.4	60.4	16.7	9.9	6.8	22.8	18.9	4.0	68,263
Muslim	22.4	64.5	14.4	8.4	6.0	21.2	17.6	3.6	13,206
Christian	23.1	58.4	12.8	8.3	4.4	28.9	23.0	5.9	2,269
Sikh	23.2	58.4	12.4	8.0	4.4	29.2	22.1	7.1	740
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	22.6	54.2	18.5	12.7	5.8	27.2	22.4	4.8	936
Jain	22.7	61.5	15.5	10.0	5.5	23.0	20.9	2.2	218
Other	24.8	50.5	8.6	6.1	2.4	40.9	28.8	12.2	262
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	22.1	60.5	18.9	11.2	7.7	20.6	17.2	3.4	17,640
Scheduled tribe	21.6	66.0	19.2	12.1	7.1	14.8	12.5	2.3	7,991
Other backward class	22.5	59.4	16.4	9.7	6.7	24.2	20.0	4.2	35,939
Other	22.9	61.8	12.7	7.4	5.3	25.5	20.7	4.8	23,859
Don't know	21.7	53.9	26.1	12.6	13.5	20.0	14.2	5.7	466
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	20.9	66.4	24.1	14.8	9.3	9.5	8.3	1.2	14,653
Second	21.6	65.4	19.6	11.4	8.3	15.0	12.6	2.3	17,356
Middle	22.3	61.6	16.7	10.0	6.7	21.7	18.7	3.0	18,493
Fourth	23.2	57.7	12.5	7.2	5.3	29.8	24.5	5.3	19,000
Highest	24.0	54.1	9.2	5.4	3.8	36.7	28.8	8.0	16,392
Total age 15-49	22.4	60.9	16.2	9.6	6.6	22.9	18.9	4.0	85,895
Age 50-54	23.5	59.7	8.7	5.7	3.0	31.6	26.2	5.3	8,193
Total age 15-54	22.5	60.8	15.6	9.3	6.3	23.7	19.5	4.1	94,087

Note: The Body Mass Index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in meters (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

**Table 10.20.1 Nutritional status of women by state/union territory**

State/union territory	Body Mass Index <sup>1</sup>									
	Height		Thin				Overweight/obese			
	Percentage below 145 cm	Mean BMI	18.5-24.9 (normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	≥25.0 (overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
<b>India</b>	11.5	22.4	57.3	18.7	11.0	7.7	24.0	17.6	6.4	
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	8.6	24.5	43.0	13.0	6.7	6.3	44.0	27.7	16.3	
Delhi	10.3	24.5	48.6	10.0	6.0	4.1	41.4	27.1	14.2	
Haryana	5.2	23.4	51.8	15.1	8.7	6.4	33.1	23.2	9.9	
Himachal Pradesh	5.3	23.2	55.7	13.9	7.6	6.3	30.4	23.0	7.5	
Jammu & Kashmir	7.3	23.6	65.4	5.2	3.5	1.8	29.4	24.6	4.8	
Ladakh	11.6	23.6	67.4	4.4	2.7	1.7	28.3	25.1	3.2	
Punjab	4.8	24.3	46.5	12.7	7.3	5.4	40.8	26.6	14.2	
Rajasthan	3.9	21.4	67.5	19.6	11.9	7.7	12.9	10.2	2.7	
Uttarakhand	7.2	23.1	56.4	13.9	9.1	4.8	29.8	22.3	7.4	
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	12.4	21.3	62.7	23.1	14.3	8.8	14.1	10.8	3.3	
Madhya Pradesh	8.7	21.5	60.4	23.0	14.0	9.0	16.6	12.8	3.7	
Uttar Pradesh	14.8	22.2	59.6	19.0	11.9	7.2	21.4	16.1	5.2	
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	17.8	21.3	58.4	25.6	15.2	10.4	16.0	12.7	3.3	
Jharkhand	18.1	21.0	61.9	26.2	16.4	9.8	11.9	9.4	2.5	
Odisha	14.5	22.1	56.2	20.8	12.6	8.2	23.0	17.8	5.2	
West Bengal	14.9	22.5	62.4	14.8	8.8	6.0	22.7	18.1	4.6	

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Table 10.20.1 Nutritional status of women by state/union territory—Continued

Percentage of women age 15-49 below 145 cm, mean body mass index (BMI), and percentage with specific BMI levels, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Body Mass Index <sup>1</sup>									
	Height		Thin					Overweight/obese		
	Percentage below 145 cm	Mean BMI	18.5-24.9 (normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	≥25.0 (overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	11.7	23.2	70.4	5.7	4.0	1.6	23.9	20.1	3.8	
Assam	14.4	21.7	67.2	17.7	10.9	6.7	15.2	12.7	2.5	
Manipur	5.9	23.8	58.7	7.2	5.3	2.0	34.1	26.7	7.4	
Meghalaya	18.2	21.7	77.7	10.8	8.1	2.7	11.5	10.1	1.4	
Mizoram	6.1	23.2	70.5	5.3	4.0	1.3	24.2	19.7	4.6	
Nagaland	4.4	22.0	74.5	11.1	6.8	4.2	14.4	12.7	1.8	
Sikkim	9.9	23.9	59.4	5.8	4.1	1.7	34.8	27.9	6.9	
Tripura	18.2	22.3	62.2	16.2	10.2	6.0	21.6	17.6	3.9	
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	15.5	22.2	48.0	25.1	12.8	12.3	26.9	19.9	7.0	
Goa	6.9	23.7	50.1	13.8	7.1	6.7	36.1	26.6	9.5	
Gujarat	8.3	22.0	52.1	25.2	13.1	12.1	22.7	15.8	6.9	
Maharashtra	10.0	22.3	55.7	20.8	11.2	9.6	23.5	17.2	6.3	
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6.3	24.2	52.4	9.4	5.3	4.1	38.1	25.5	12.6	
Andhra Pradesh	9.5	23.8	48.9	14.8	8.2	6.7	36.3	24.3	12.0	
Karnataka	10.1	23.0	52.6	17.2	9.5	7.7	30.2	21.7	8.5	
Kerala	4.5	24.1	51.8	10.1	5.8	4.3	38.2	28.3	9.8	
Lakshadweep	5.4	23.6	58.5	8.0	4.4	3.6	33.5	26.6	6.9	
Puducherry	7.5	25.2	44.7	9.0	5.4	3.6	46.3	28.1	18.2	
Tamil Nadu	9.1	24.3	46.9	12.6	7.0	5.6	40.5	26.4	14.1	
Telangana	12.6	22.9	51.1	18.8	10.1	8.7	30.1	21.2	8.9	

Note: The body mass index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in metres (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

**Table 10.20.2 Nutritional status of men by state/union territory**

Among men age 15-49, mean body mass index (BMI) and percentage with specific BMI levels, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Mean BMI	Body Mass Index						
		Thin			Overweight/obese			
		18.5-24.9 (normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	≥25.0 (overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)
<b>India</b>	22.4	60.9	16.2	9.6	6.6	22.9	18.9	4.0
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	23.6	50.5	15.1	5.0	10.1	34.4	25.9	8.6
Delhi	24.0	52.9	9.1	5.0	4.1	38.0	31.1	6.9
Haryana	23.0	57.1	14.5	9.0	5.6	28.3	22.4	5.9
Himachal Pradesh	23.1	57.6	11.8	7.5	4.4	30.6	26.1	4.5
Jammu & Kashmir	23.8	64.0	4.3	2.8	1.5	31.7	28.7	3.0
Ladakh	24.2	60.1	2.1	1.5	0.6	37.8	34.9	2.9
Punjab	23.4	55.2	12.5	7.7	4.8	32.3	24.0	8.3
Rajasthan	21.9	71.1	14.0	9.2	4.7	15.0	13.8	1.2
Uttarakhand	22.7	56.7	16.2	10.4	5.8	27.1	22.0	5.0
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	21.7	67.6	17.4	11.4	6.1	15.0	12.6	2.3
Madhya Pradesh	21.5	63.6	20.8	12.9	7.9	15.6	13.0	2.6
Uttar Pradesh	21.9	63.5	18.0	11.3	6.7	18.5	15.6	2.9
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	21.4	63.8	21.6	12.8	8.7	14.7	13.0	1.7
Jharkhand	21.8	67.8	17.1	10.9	6.2	15.1	13.7	1.4
Odisha	22.3	62.4	15.3	10.0	5.4	22.2	18.1	4.1
West Bengal	22.0	68.7	15.1	9.5	5.6	16.2	14.3	1.9

Continued...

Table 10.20.2 Nutritional status of men by state/union territory—Continued

Among men age 15-49, mean body mass index (BMI) and percentage with specific BMI levels, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Mean BMI	Body Mass Index						
		Thin			Overweight/obese		≥30.0 (obese)	
		18.5-24.9 (normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17.0 (moderately/severely thin)	≥25.0 (overweight or obese)		25.0-29.9 (overweight)
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	23.4	67.5	4.9	3.6	1.2	27.6	24.0	3.6
Assam	22.1	70.3	13.4	8.2	5.2	16.2	14.3	1.9
Manipur	23.3	61.7	8.0	5.3	2.7	30.3	26.4	3.9
Meghalaya	22.1	77.1	9.0	6.0	2.9	13.9	12.3	1.6
Mizoram	23.6	62.8	5.1	3.5	1.6	32.1	26.5	5.6
Nagaland	22.9	68.6	7.5	5.0	2.5	23.9	21.3	2.6
Sikkim	24.3	58.7	4.9	2.5	2.4	36.3	30.5	5.8
Tripura	22.6	64.1	12.4	9.1	3.4	23.5	20.5	3.0
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	22.1	60.4	18.2	9.2	9.1	21.4	18.3	3.1
Goa	23.2	54.9	12.5	6.2	6.3	32.6	29.8	2.8
Gujarat	21.9	59.1	20.9	11.1	9.8	20.0	15.6	4.4
Maharashtra	22.6	59.1	16.2	9.1	7.1	24.7	20.1	4.7
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.0	50.7	4.0	3.2	0.8	45.3	34.5	10.8
Andhra Pradesh	22.9	52.4	16.5	10.5	6.0	31.1	24.8	6.3
Karnataka	23.2	54.8	14.3	8.4	6.0	30.9	25.0	5.8
Kerala	23.8	53.6	10.0	5.6	4.5	36.4	29.7	6.7
Lakshadweep	24.0	53.3	5.5	3.0	2.5	41.3	36.2	5.0
Puducherry	24.3	45.6	11.1	7.3	3.7	43.3	34.1	9.2
Tamil Nadu	23.8	50.9	12.1	7.1	5.0	37.1	28.3	8.7
Telangana	23.3	51.4	16.3	8.1	8.2	32.4	24.8	7.5

Note: The Body Mass Index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in meters (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

**Table 10.21 Waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio**

Among women and men age 15-49, percentage with specific waist circumferences and waist-to-hip ratios, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women						Men					
	Waist circumference			Waist-to-hip ratio			Waist circumference			Waist-to-hip ratio		
	Normal (>80 cm) <sup>1</sup>	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>88 cm)	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Normal (≥0.85 cm)	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.85 cm)	Number of women	Normal (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)	Normal (≥0.90 cm)	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.90 cm)	Number of men
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	87.1	12.9	4.0	53.7	46.3	112,254	2.8	0.8	71.9	28.1	15,040	
20-29	67.6	32.4	13.4	46.8	53.2	201,603	7.8	2.2	57.5	42.5	26,120	
30-39	50.5	49.5	25.7	40.7	59.3	185,028	16.5	5.2	44.7	55.3	24,277	
40-49	42.9	57.1	32.4	35.2	64.8	160,269	20.4	6.5	40.5	59.5	20,539	
<b>Marital status</b>												
Never married	82.0	18.0	6.2	52.0	48.0	161,299	5.7	1.7	64.6	35.4	33,163	
Currently married	53.1	46.9	24.2	40.6	59.4	468,428	16.7	5.2	44.5	55.5	51,714	
Widowed	50.2	49.8	26.7	39.6	60.4	21,746	8.3	1.1	58.0	42.0	420	
Divorced/separated/deserted	55.3	44.7	23.5	42.6	57.4	7,682	14.8	4.0	49.8	50.2	680	
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	50.1	49.9	27.6	40.2	59.8	210,649	16.3	5.6	49.9	50.1	29,148	
Rural	64.8	35.2	16.3	45.0	55.0	448,505	10.4	2.9	53.6	46.4	56,828	
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	60.3	39.7	18.6	41.0	59.0	152,010	8.7	2.6	50.3	49.7	9,348	
<5 years complete	57.8	42.2	21.3	41.9	58.1	35,178	10.4	3.3	47.4	52.6	5,469	
5-7 years complete	57.8	42.2	21.8	43.3	56.7	88,965	11.4	3.5	50.9	49.1	11,356	
8-9 years complete	64.8	35.2	17.5	44.8	55.2	117,672	9.7	3.2	55.9	44.1	17,237	
10-11 years complete	62.4	37.6	19.3	45.8	54.2	99,878	13.4	4.0	54.1	45.9	15,444	
12 or more years complete	57.0	43.0	21.7	43.6	56.4	165,450	15.7	4.8	51.4	48.6	27,123	

Continued...

**Table 10.21 Waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio—Continued**

Among women and men age 15-49, percentage with specific waist circumferences and waist-to-hip ratios, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women						Men					
	Waist circumference			Waist-to-hip ratio			Waist circumference			Waist-to-hip ratio		
	Normal (>80 cm) <sup>1</sup>	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>88 cm)	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Normal (≥0.85 cm)	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.85 cm)	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)	Normal (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)	Normal (≥0.90 cm)	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.90 cm)	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	61.4	38.6	18.9	45.1	54.9	3.9	87.6	12.4	87.6	52.8	47.2	68,337
Muslim	55.5	44.5	22.9	35.0	65.0	3.1	89.8	10.2	89.8	50.3	49.7	13,209
Christian	51.7	48.3	26.9	39.7	60.3	4.5	82.6	17.4	82.6	52.6	47.4	2,270
Sikh	37.5	62.5	40.4	28.0	72.0	9.0	77.8	22.2	77.8	40.7	59.3	739
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	67.9	32.1	15.8	56.2	43.8	3.7	81.1	18.9	81.1	61.2	38.8	940
Jain	56.7	43.3	22.1	47.4	52.6	2.4	82.2	17.8	82.2	49.4	50.6	218
Other	74.3	25.7	11.4	42.8	57.2	10.2	76.9	23.1	76.9	50.4	49.6	262
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	62.0	38.0	18.4	43.3	56.7	3.4	88.4	11.6	88.4	52.2	47.8	17,673
Scheduled tribe	75.4	24.6	9.4	47.0	53.0	1.5	93.6	6.4	93.6	60.1	39.9	7,998
Other backward class	60.2	39.8	19.7	45.6	54.4	4.0	86.9	13.1	86.9	52.7	47.3	35,962
Other	52.5	47.5	25.3	38.5	61.5	4.6	86.0	14.0	86.0	49.2	50.8	23,878
Don't know	60.5	39.5	20.1	41.5	58.5	7.8	89.4	10.6	89.4	57.5	42.5	466
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	76.2	23.8	8.8	44.6	55.4	1.1	95.8	4.2	95.8	56.3	43.7	14,674
Second	68.0	32.0	13.6	45.3	54.7	1.9	93.0	7.0	93.0	55.5	44.5	17,374
Middle	60.3	39.7	19.2	44.8	55.2	2.9	88.6	11.4	88.6	54.0	46.0	18,524
Fourth	53.0	47.0	24.9s	43.0	57.0	5.2	82.9	17.1	82.9	50.2	49.8	19,011
Highest	44.2	55.8	32.2	39.3	60.7	7.8	78.9	21.1	78.9	46.1	53.9	16,394
Total	60.1	39.9	19.9	43.4	56.6	3.8	87.6	12.4	87.6	52.3	47.7	85,976

Note: Table excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months.

<sup>1</sup> Includes women with a waist circumference >88 cm

<sup>2</sup> Includes men with a waist circumference >102 cm

Table 10.22 Waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio by state/union territory

Among women and men age 15-49, percentage with specific waist circumferences and waist-to-hip ratios, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women						Men					
	Waist circumference			Waist-to-hip ratio			Waist circumference			Waist-to-hip ratio		
	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>80 cm) <sup>1</sup>	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>88 cm)	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.85 cm)	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>0.90 cm)	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.90 cm)	
<b>India</b>	60.1	39.9	19.9	43.4	56.6	87.6	12.4	3.8	52.3	47.7		
<b>North</b>												
Chandigarh	43.9	56.1	35.1	39.5	60.5	74.4	25.6	4.4	33.1	66.9		
Delhi	40.6	59.4	35.9	32.3	67.7	72.6	27.4	9.8	38.2	61.8		
Haryana	45.7	54.3	31.3	37.5	62.5	79.6	20.4	7.8	41.7	58.3		
Himachal Pradesh	53.0	47.0	26.9	38.2	61.8	83.5	16.5	5.6	47.7	52.3		
Jammu & Kashmir	49.5	50.5	25.2	12.2	87.8	87.8	12.2	4.8	39.3	60.7		
Ladakh	58.5	41.5	21.5	13.6	86.4	82.9	17.1	4.8	39.2	60.8		
Punjab	36.7	63.3	42.8	27.3	72.7	75.2	24.8	10.0	36.9	63.1		
Rajasthan	65.3	34.7	12.0	41.0	59.0	93.5	6.5	1.5	57.6	42.4		
Uttarakhand	49.1	50.9	27.1	37.2	62.8	80.8	19.2	5.2	44.0	56.0		
<b>Central</b>												
Chhattisgarh	72.6	27.4	11.6	44.6	55.4	93.7	6.3	1.4	55.7	44.3		
Madhya Pradesh	75.0	25.0	10.5	59.6	40.4	91.6	8.4	2.4	60.9	39.1		
Uttar Pradesh	62.7	37.3	17.6	43.3	56.7	88.7	11.3	4.0	47.9	52.1		
<b>East</b>												
Bihar	69.3	30.7	13.8	39.8	60.2	91.4	8.6	2.6	52.3	47.7		
Jharkhand	75.9	24.1	9.8	41.4	58.6	92.9	7.1	1.9	53.5	46.5		
Odisha	58.6	41.4	20.4	37.2	62.8	87.2	12.8	3.4	44.4	55.6		
West Bengal	54.0	46.0	22.4	25.4	74.6	93.3	6.7	1.3	42.8	57.2		

Continued...

Table 10.22 Waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio by state/union territory

Among women and men age 15-49, percentage with specific waist circumferences and waist-to-hip ratios, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women				Men			
	Waist circumference		Waist-to-hip ratio		Waist circumference		Waist-to-hip ratio	
	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>80 cm) <sup>1</sup>	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>88 cm)	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (≥0.85 cm)	Normal	Increased risk of metabolic complications (>94 cm) <sup>2</sup>	Substantially increased risk of metabolic complications (>102 cm)
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	54.1	45.9	19.1	31.0	69.0	89.5	10.5	2.4
Assam	68.7	31.3	12.2	32.9	67.1	94.7	5.3	1.5
Manipur	50.6	49.4	25.8	34.6	65.4	88.4	11.6	2.2
Meghalaya	72.6	27.4	7.8	39.8	60.2	98.1	1.9	0.5
Mizoram	61.0	39.0	13.6	52.5	47.5	92.4	7.6	1.8
Nagaland	73.6	26.4	8.0	38.0	62.0	96.4	3.6	0.6
Sikkim	46.0	54.0	28.8	24.4	75.6	91.2	8.8	2.3
Tripura	69.3	30.7	13.7	37.5	62.5	93.9	6.1	1.2
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	68.7	31.3	14.5	54.7	45.3	90.2	9.8	2.2
Goa	51.3	48.7	23.1	49.1	50.9	87.0	13.0	4.2
Gujarat	67.3	32.7	15.6	56.3	43.7	88.3	11.7	4.3
Maharashtra	63.1	36.9	18.1	55.6	44.4	86.2	13.8	4.4
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	41.7	58.3	30.7	22.7	77.3	83.7	16.3	6.4
Andhra Pradesh	49.8	50.2	28.4	51.2	48.8	80.3	19.7	5.7
Karnataka	63.6	36.4	17.8	55.0	45.0	87.5	12.5	3.9
Kerala	34.3	65.7	38.6	29.4	70.6	76.5	23.5	6.3
Lakshadweep	42.2	57.8	29.6	31.6	68.4	94.0	6.0	0.0
Puducherry	36.2	63.8	40.6	45.7	54.3	71.3	28.7	11.1
Tamil Nadu	41.7	58.3	34.5	44.3	55.7	75.3	24.7	8.0
Telangana	58.7	41.3	20.6	56.0	44.0	79.7	20.3	6.5

Note: Table excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the 2 months preceding the survey.

<sup>1</sup> Includes women with a waist circumference >88 cm; <sup>2</sup> Includes men with a waist circumference >102 cm

Table 10.23.1 Prevalence of anaemia in women

Percentage of women age 15-49 with anaemia by background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and total for NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Women				Number of women
	Mild (11.0-11.9 g/dl) <sup>1</sup>	Moderate (8.0-10.9 g/dl) <sup>2</sup>	Severe (<8.0 g/dl) <sup>3</sup>	Any anaemia (<12.0 g/dl) <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Age</b>					
15-19	26.4	30.1	2.6	59.1	114,624
20-29	26.0	28.6	2.2	56.8	223,334
30-39	25.5	28.0	2.8	56.3	187,116
40-49	24.7	28.8	3.2	56.7	156,961
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	25.9	28.2	2.6	56.7	159,319
Currently married	25.6	28.8	2.6	57.0	493,831
Widowed	24.7	31.0	4.1	59.8	21,286
Divorced/separated/deserted	24.6	29.4	4.4	58.3	7,599
<b>Maternity status</b>					
Pregnant	24.4	26.3	1.4	52.2	25,802
Breastfeeding	27.1	31.5	2.0	60.6	96,147
Neither	25.4	28.4	2.8	56.6	560,086
<b>Number of children ever born</b>					
0	25.7	27.9	2.6	56.1	207,125
1	26.4	28.2	2.0	56.6	97,226
2-3	25.4	29.2	2.9	57.5	289,052
4-5	25.4	29.9	2.8	58.1	71,040
6 or more	25.6	29.6	3.0	58.2	17,592
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	25.2	26.2	2.4	53.8	214,754
Rural	25.8	29.9	2.8	58.5	467,281
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	25.5	30.8	3.1	59.4	154,874
<5 years complete	26.5	31.5	3.3	61.2	35,989
5-7 years complete	25.5	29.9	3.1	58.4	92,011
8-9 years complete	26.3	30.1	2.6	59.0	122,632
10-11 years complete	25.7	28.2	2.6	56.5	103,465
12 or more years complete	25.1	25.1	2.0	52.1	173,063
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	25.7	29.0	2.7	57.4	558,120
Muslim	26.0	27.5	2.0	55.6	89,591
Christian	23.7	24.6	2.8	51.1	16,039
Sikh	24.9	30.7	3.2	58.8	10,177
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	24.8	29.4	3.0	57.3	4,250
Jain	23.3	21.1	0.8	45.2	1,284
Other	28.4	34.8	2.2	65.5	2,574
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	25.5	30.5	3.2	59.2	150,437
Scheduled tribe	26.4	35.2	3.0	64.6	64,528
Other backward class	25.3	26.8	2.5	54.6	292,922
Other	26.1	27.9	2.3	56.4	169,483
Don't know	26.7	32.0	2.9	61.7	4,666

Continued...



Table 10.23.1 Prevalence of anaemia in women—*Continued*

Percentage of women age 15-49 with anaemia by background characteristics, India, 2019-21, and total for NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Women				Number of women
	Mild (11.0-11.9 g/dl) <sup>1</sup>	Moderate (8.0-10.9 g/dl) <sup>2</sup>	Severe (<8.0 g/dl) <sup>3</sup>	Any anaemia (<12.0 g/dl) <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	27.2	33.7	2.8	63.7	128,028
Second	26.4	30.3	2.9	59.5	138,653
Middle	25.4	28.5	3.0	56.9	141,834
Fourth	24.8	26.9	2.6	54.4	141,999
Highest	24.5	24.5	2.0	51.0	131,522
<b>Smoking status</b>					
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	24.8	34.2	4.5	63.5	27,983
Does not smoke	25.7	28.5	2.6	56.8	654,052
Total	25.6	28.7	2.7	57.0	682,035
NFHS-4 (2015-16)	24.7	26.0	2.4	53.1	679,445

Note: Table is based on women who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Prevalence is adjusted for altitude and for smoking status, if known, using the CDC formulas (Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 1998. Recommendations to prevent and control iron deficiency in the United States. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 47 (RR-3): 1-29). Haemoglobin levels are shown in grams per decilitre (g/dl).

<sup>1</sup> For pregnant women, the value is 10.0-10.9 g/dl

<sup>2</sup> For pregnant women, the value is 7.0-9.9 g/dl

<sup>3</sup> For pregnant women, the value is <7.0 g/dl

<sup>4</sup> For pregnant women, the value is <11.0 g/dl

Table 10.23.2 Prevalence of anaemia in men

Percentage of men age 15-49 with anaemia by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Men				Number of men
	Mild (12.0-12.9 g/dl)	Moderate (9.0-11.9 g/dl)	Severe (<9.0 g/dl)	Any anaemia (<13.0 g/dl)	
<b>Age</b>					
15-19	25.3	5.5	0.3	31.1	14,915
20-29	17.5	3.5	0.3	21.3	25,861
30-39	18.5	4.1	0.3	22.9	23,990
40-49	22.0	5.4	0.7	28.1	20,055
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	20.5	4.3	0.3	25.2	32,867
Currently married	20.0	4.5	0.4	25.0	50,878
Widowed	23.2	7.2	0.3	30.8	403
Divorced/separated/deserted	21.0	3.6	0.9	25.5	673
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	16.8	3.5	0.2	20.4	28,670
Rural	22.0	5.0	0.5	27.4	56,152
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	25.3	6.1	0.6	32.0	9,243
<5 years complete	24.5	5.8	0.6	30.9	5,425
5-7 years complete	22.2	4.8	0.8	27.8	11,230
8-9 years complete	23.2	5.4	0.3	28.9	17,013
10-11 years complete	18.7	4.3	0.3	23.3	15,234
12 or more years complete	15.7	3.0	0.2	18.9	26,677
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	20.0	4.4	0.4	24.8	67,382
Muslim	22.6	4.9	0.2	27.8	13,071
Christian	15.5	2.5	0.3	18.3	2,235
Sikh	18.2	4.2	0.5	22.9	726
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	17.6	7.7	0.5	25.9	931
Jain	19.0	1.2	0.0	20.1	218
Other	22.0	1.5	0.3	23.8	259
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	20.9	4.8	0.4	26.1	17,455
Scheduled tribe	26.3	5.9	0.5	32.7	7,904
Other backward class	18.2	4.0	0.4	22.6	35,442
Other	20.6	4.5	0.4	25.5	23,561
Don't know	24.1	3.1	0.2	27.5	461

Continued...

Table 10.23.2 Prevalence of anaemia in men—*Continued*

Percentage of men age 15-49 with anaemia by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Men			Any anaemia (<13.0 g/dl)	Number of men
	Mild (12.0-12.9 g/dl)	Moderate (9.0-11.9 g/dl)	Severe (<9.0 g/dl)		
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	28.7	6.5	0.7	35.9	14,528
Second	22.7	5.3	0.5	28.6	17,169
Middle	19.3	4.2	0.4	23.9	18,345
Fourth	16.8	3.6	0.2	20.6	18,716
Highest	14.9	3.0	0.1	18.0	16,064
<b>Smoking status</b>					
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	21.8	5.2	0.6	27.6	34,045
Does not smoke	19.2	4.0	0.3	23.4	50,777
Total age 15-49	20.2	4.5	0.4	25.1	84,822
Age 50-54	24.0	7.2	0.9	32.1	7,998
Total age 15-54	20.5	4.7	0.4	25.7	92,820

Note: Table is based on men who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Prevalence is adjusted for altitude and for smoking status, if known, using the CDC formulas (Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 1998. Recommendations to prevent and control iron deficiency in the United States. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 47 (RR-3): 1-29). Haemoglobin levels are shown in grams per decilitre (g/dl).

**Table 10.24 Prevalence of anaemia in women and men by state/union territory**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 with anaemia by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women				Men			
	Mild (11.0-11.9 g/dl) <sup>1</sup>	Moderate (8.0-10.9 g/dl) <sup>2</sup>	Severe (<8.0 g/dl) <sup>3</sup>	Any anaemia (<12.0 g/dl) <sup>4</sup>	Mild (12.0-12.9 g/dl)	Moderate (9.0-11.9 g/dl)	Severe (<9.0 g/dl)	Any anaemia (<13.0 g/dl)
<b>India</b>	25.6	28.7	2.7	57.0	20.2	4.5	0.4	25.1
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	28.2	29.3	2.8	60.3	9.2	0.0	0.0	9.2
Delhi	23.1	24.0	2.9	49.9	10.9	1.7	0.2	12.8
Haryana	25.1	31.5	3.9	60.4	16.4	2.3	0.2	19.0
Himachal Pradesh	27.1	24.1	1.8	53.0	16.1	2.3	0.2	18.6
Jammu & Kashmir	25.3	37.8	2.8	65.9	28.5	8.0	0.2	36.7
Ladakh	13.4	49.7	29.7	92.8	37.9	27.4	10.4	75.6
Punjab	24.6	31.1	3.0	58.6	18.6	3.7	0.3	22.6
Rajasthan	24.1	27.9	2.3	54.4	18.9	3.9	0.4	23.2
Uttarakhand	21.2	19.1	2.3	42.6	12.5	2.0	0.5	15.1
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	27.1	31.2	2.6	60.8	21.4	5.0	0.6	27.0
Madhya Pradesh	25.7	26.6	2.3	54.7	18.6	3.4	0.4	22.5
Uttar Pradesh	24.3	23.9	2.1	50.4	16.9	4.1	0.4	21.4
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	29.7	31.7	2.1	63.5	24.3	4.8	0.4	29.5
Jharkhand	29.4	34.0	1.9	65.3	25.0	4.1	0.4	29.6
Odisha	29.0	32.8	2.5	64.3	23.9	4.3	0.3	28.5
West Bengal	30.1	39.0	2.2	71.4	31.1	7.4	0.5	39.0
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	22.0	17.0	1.3	40.3	16.9	3.9	0.6	21.4
Assam	28.8	34.8	2.3	65.9	28.8	6.7	0.5	36.0
Manipur	18.5	9.9	1.0	29.4	5.2	0.6	0.2	6.0
Meghalaya	23.6	27.8	2.4	53.8	21.7	3.2	0.6	25.5
Mizoram	19.5	14.0	1.3	34.8	13.4	2.1	0.1	15.6
Nagaland	17.9	10.3	0.7	28.9	8.4	1.5	0.0	10.0
Sikkim	20.1	19.3	2.6	42.0	16.1	2.6	0.0	18.7
Tripura	30.9	34.2	2.1	67.2	28.9	7.1	0.8	36.8
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	29.5	30.8	2.2	62.5	21.9	2.5	0.2	24.6
Goa	23.2	14.8	1.0	38.9	10.3	1.7	0.0	12.0
Gujarat	25.9	35.2	3.9	65.0	20.7	5.4	0.5	26.6
Maharashtra	24.1	27.3	2.8	54.2	18.2	3.5	0.2	21.9
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	26.5	28.1	2.9	57.5	12.7	3.3	0.0	16.1
Andhra Pradesh	25.1	29.1	4.6	58.8	12.5	3.0	0.7	16.3
Karnataka	22.1	22.7	2.9	47.8	15.2	4.2	0.3	19.6
Kerala	21.0	14.1	1.2	36.3	15.4	2.1	0.1	17.6
Lakshadweep	14.3	10.8	0.7	25.8	4.3	1.3	0.0	5.6
Puducherry	24.0	27.5	3.7	55.1	16.4	3.1	0.0	19.5
Tamil Nadu	23.9	25.9	3.5	53.4	12.4	2.4	0.4	15.2
Telangana	22.1	30.8	4.8	57.6	12.4	2.7	0.2	15.3

Note: Table is based on women and men who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Prevalence is adjusted for altitude and for smoking status, if known, using the CDC formulas (Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 1998. Recommendations to prevent and control iron deficiency in the United States. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 47 (RR-3): 1-29). Haemoglobin levels are shown in grams per decilitre (g/dl).

<sup>1</sup> For pregnant women, the value is 10.0-10.9 g/dl <sup>2</sup> For pregnant women, the value is 7.0-9.9 g/dl <sup>3</sup> For pregnant women, the value is <7.0 g/dl <sup>4</sup> For pregnant women, the value is <11.0 g/dl

**Table 10.25 Women's and men's food consumption**

Percent distribution of women and men age 15-49 by frequency of consumption of specific foods, India, 2019-21

Type of food	Frequency of consumption				Total	Number
	Daily	Weekly	Occasionally	Never		
WOMEN						
Milk or curd	48.8	23.5	21.9	5.8	100.0	724,115
Pulses or beans	49.6	43.3	6.7	0.4	100.0	724,115
Dark green, leafy vegetables	52.0	38.8	8.9	0.3	100.0	724,115
Fruits	12.5	37.1	48.7	1.6	100.0	724,115
Eggs	5.2	39.9	26.9	28.0	100.0	724,115
Fish	5.1	30.6	29.9	34.4	100.0	724,115
Chicken, meat	1.4	34.5	32.6	31.5	100.0	724,115
Fish, chicken or meat	5.9	39.3	25.4	29.4	100.0	724,115
Fried foods	7.4	35.6	52.6	4.4	100.0	724,115
Aerated drinks	2.7	12.9	68.7	15.7	100.0	724,115
MEN						
Milk or curd	48.8	31.0	16.4	3.7	100.0	93,144
Pulses or beans	48.1	45.0	6.4	0.4	100.0	93,144
Dark green, leafy vegetables	51.5	40.9	7.3	0.4	100.0	93,144
Fruits	12.2	44.0	42.3	1.5	100.0	93,144
Eggs	7.1	50.7	26.9	15.4	100.0	93,144
Fish	6.8	39.0	32.8	21.4	100.0	93,144
Chicken, meat	2.4	44.5	34.8	18.3	100.0	93,144
Fish, chicken or meat	8.0	49.3	26.1	16.6	100.0	93,144
Fried foods	9.2	35.9	47.5	7.3	100.0	93,144
Aerated drinks	4.2	20.9	61.3	13.6	100.0	93,144

**Table 10.26.1 Women's food consumption**

Percentage of women age 15-49 consuming specific foods at least once a week by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of food										Number of women
	Milk or curd	Pulses or beans	Dark green, leafy vegetables	Fruits	Eggs	Fish	Chicken or meat	Fish, chicken or meat	Fried foods	Aerated drinks	
<b>Age</b>											
15-19	69.8	91.9	89.4	47.0	43.1	32.8	33.7	42.1	45.6	16.9	122,544
20-29	72.6	93.1	91.3	51.9	46.0	35.7	36.8	45.4	44.0	16.3	236,584
30-39	72.4	93.3	91.1	49.7	46.0	36.8	36.7	46.2	42.4	15.2	197,936
40-49	73.3	93.0	90.7	48.4	44.2	36.5	35.4	45.7	40.6	14.3	167,051
<b>Marital status</b>											
Never married	71.7	92.1	89.9	50.7	42.8	32.0	33.3	41.4	45.6	18.0	172,075
Currently married	72.7	93.3	91.2	49.8	45.6	37.0	36.7	46.2	42.5	15.0	521,352
Widowed	68.6	91.4	89.7	41.7	47.0	34.4	36.2	46.3	37.1	13.3	22,597
Divorced/separated/ deserted	65.8	91.3	88.2	43.5	52.1	38.7	40.5	51.7	39.1	12.9	8,091
<b>Maternity status</b>											
Pregnant	75.6	92.8	91.7	59.3	44.6	35.7	35.2	44.4	41.9	14.9	27,125
Breastfeeding	69.9	93.6	91.6	46.6	46.4	38.0	37.0	46.5	44.0	14.3	100,596
Neither	72.5	92.8	90.6	49.8	44.9	35.3	35.8	44.9	42.9	15.9	596,394
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	78.8	94.2	91.3	64.5	51.9	38.9	42.4	50.8	45.5	19.2	235,279
Rural	69.1	92.3	90.6	42.5	41.8	34.2	32.8	42.4	41.8	13.9	488,836
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	66.0	92.1	90.1	34.3	41.2	31.9	33.9	42.0	38.9	12.6	163,492
<5 years complete	62.9	91.7	91.3	38.6	51.7	45.7	41.3	55.2	43.0	12.5	37,549
5-7 years complete	69.4	92.8	90.7	44.1	46.1	36.7	37.4	47.0	41.6	14.0	96,806
8-9 years complete	68.4	92.7	91.0	46.7	44.4	37.0	34.5	44.7	44.7	14.8	129,094
10-11 years complete	76.3	93.1	90.5	56.3	47.9	37.5	38.4	48.0	44.3	17.3	109,777
12 or more years complete	81.3	94.0	91.4	66.4	45.4	34.6	35.3	43.5	45.5	19.3	187,396
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	72.9	93.3	91.2	48.9	41.5	32.4	32.0	40.7	42.2	15.2	589,164
Muslim	68.2	91.9	89.5	51.4	65.6	54.4	58.1	70.2	50.1	17.7	97,595
Christian	69.6	86.9	81.8	58.8	70.9	63.2	61.6	78.0	47.5	18.1	16,995
Sikh	83.8	91.0	93.5	60.0	13.4	4.2	7.0	7.9	27.4	14.8	11,404
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	67.5	89.1	91.3	52.2	59.6	42.0	54.8	62.2	33.3	19.8	4,571
Jain	92.2	98.6	95.2	78.7	6.7	2.6	3.3	4.3	36.1	25.7	1,632
Other	38.9	90.6	91.4	36.4	46.8	41.9	39.4	49.4	37.1	11.6	2,754
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	68.7	92.2	90.6	44.4	48.4	37.4	37.7	47.7	42.9	15.0	158,483
Scheduled tribe	54.9	90.3	91.0	37.4	46.4	36.0	37.1	46.0	38.0	12.5	67,263
Other backward class	76.5	93.6	90.2	50.3	42.7	32.4	33.7	42.0	41.9	15.2	310,783
Other	74.9	93.5	91.9	57.9	45.7	39.6	37.5	47.7	47.0	18.1	182,474
Don't know	57.9	91.3	91.1	44.0	50.5	43.9	41.6	53.1	42.4	13.5	5,112
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	52.6	91.3	91.1	26.8	41.4	38.5	31.5	44.0	41.8	10.9	133,973
Second	65.9	92.2	90.7	37.9	45.0	37.2	35.3	45.7	43.0	13.1	144,813
Middle	74.5	92.7	90.1	48.3	48.4	36.7	39.1	48.1	42.4	15.2	148,616
Fourth	80.1	93.6	90.2	59.4	48.0	36.2	39.4	47.7	43.3	17.7	150,680
Highest	86.2	94.7	91.9	73.7	42.2	30.2	33.7	39.9	44.6	20.8	146,032
<b>Total</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>92.9</b>	<b>90.8</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>724,115</b>

**Table 10.26.2 Men's food consumption**

Percentage of men age 15-49 consuming specific foods at least once a week by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of food										Number of men
	Milk or curd	Pulses or beans	Dark green, leafy vegetables	Fruits	Eggs	Fish	Chicken or meat	Fish, chicken or meat	Fried foods	Aerated drinks	
<b>Age</b>											
15-19	80.8	92.6	91.9	53.5	55.4	41.8	44.5	54.2	45.8	27.1	16,385
20-29	79.7	92.5	91.8	57.0	59.0	46.1	48.6	57.7	46.2	27.6	28,579
30-39	80.0	94.0	92.8	57.3	58.2	47.2	47.6	58.2	45.4	24.7	26,137
40-49	79.0	93.6	93.0	55.7	57.3	46.7	45.5	57.8	42.8	20.8	22,043
<b>Marital status</b>											
Never married	81.4	92.6	91.7	58.0	58.2	44.9	47.4	56.9	46.7	29.0	36,503
Currently married	78.9	93.6	92.8	55.1	57.6	46.5	46.6	57.6	44.1	22.5	55,475
Widowed	73.8	93.5	91.5	42.9	52.9	43.5	40.3	49.1	46.5	24.1	443
Divorced/separated/deserted	70.4	91.7	92.9	46.2	50.7	39.3	40.6	51.5	38.3	23.5	723
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	85.6	94.1	93.0	66.5	61.0	46.4	50.8	60.0	47.3	30.4	32,852
Rural	76.6	92.7	92.0	50.5	56.0	45.4	44.7	55.8	43.9	22.2	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	72.3	91.6	90.3	42.9	58.2	46.7	48.2	59.0	44.5	18.8	9,982
<5 years complete	66.3	91.9	92.4	46.2	65.2	58.9	51.5	66.8	45.8	18.9	5,842
5-7 years complete	74.1	92.8	92.2	48.5	59.9	50.5	49.2	61.1	44.4	21.8	12,082
8-9 years complete	76.8	92.6	92.6	50.9	55.7	45.5	44.6	56.0	44.0	21.9	18,472
10-11 years complete	84.1	93.3	92.9	60.1	57.2	43.8	46.3	56.4	44.3	27.6	16,735
12 or more years complete	86.7	94.4	92.8	66.6	56.9	42.3	46.3	54.6	46.6	30.3	30,032
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	81.0	93.7	92.5	55.5	54.5	42.0	42.8	52.5	44.1	24.6	73,632
Muslim	73.7	91.1	92.2	56.3	73.2	63.4	65.0	79.5	50.4	26.5	14,633
Christian	74.9	88.2	90.1	67.5	72.7	65.0	66.2	80.0	53.2	30.1	2,426
Sikh	92.9	94.2	90.8	67.2	29.7	9.6	17.9	19.5	29.9	28.6	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	81.0	94.0	94.9	60.7	73.6	60.7	65.9	74.1	40.4	22.1	1,017
Jain	97.7	96.3	95.5	79.2	11.0	4.0	14.9	14.9	33.9	36.2	280
Other	55.7	86.8	91.4	55.7	67.5	49.3	45.1	57.6	50.4	19.6	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	76.3	93.4	92.1	51.6	60.8	48.3	48.3	60.4	45.0	23.0	18,977
Scheduled tribe	66.7	89.8	91.3	46.5	57.1	45.6	50.3	58.8	40.8	19.0	8,441
Other backward class	84.2	94.0	92.3	56.9	55.6	41.8	45.8	53.7	43.6	26.0	38,986
Other	80.2	93.0	93.0	61.2	58.6	49.7	46.0	59.4	48.7	27.3	26,244
Don't know	68.5	89.1	93.3	62.8	73.6	64.1	60.2	76.4	50.6	17.7	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	61.9	90.8	91.6	37.2	55.6	52.3	42.6	58.9	46.0	16.2	15,606
Second	73.4	92.8	92.5	45.9	57.7	48.8	47.1	58.6	45.7	20.2	18,497
Middle	81.7	93.0	92.2	55.7	60.3	45.8	48.8	58.8	43.8	25.1	19,829
Fourth	86.8	93.9	92.4	64.1	59.9	44.7	50.3	58.8	44.8	28.9	20,658
Highest	91.4	95.0	93.1	73.9	54.5	38.6	44.3	51.3	45.6	33.4	18,553
Total age 15-49	79.8	93.2	92.4	56.1	57.8	45.8	46.9	57.3	45.1	25.1	93,144
Age 50-54	78.8	93.4	92.5	54.7	54.1	45.1	42.8	54.9	40.5	19.3	8,695
Total age 15-54	79.7	93.2	92.4	56.0	57.4	45.7	46.5	57.1	44.7	24.6	101,839

**Table 10.27.1 Women's food consumption by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 consuming specific foods at least once a week by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Type of food									
	Milk or curd	Pulses or beans	Dark green, leafy vegetables	Fruits	Eggs	Fish	Chicken or meat	Fish, chicken or meat	Fried foods	Aerated drinks
<b>India</b>	72.2	92.9	90.8	49.7	45.1	35.7	35.9	45.1	43.0	15.6
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	84.6	96.1	97.1	75.0	24.3	6.3	11.7	12.9	31.0	24.0
Delhi	79.7	97.0	93.6	76.9	48.8	21.2	34.9	37.5	51.6	21.8
Haryana	87.3	94.0	93.1	60.7	10.6	3.4	5.7	6.3	33.5	17.6
Himachal Pradesh	84.7	98.5	89.9	70.5	15.8	3.5	9.5	10.3	35.1	32.6
Jammu & Kashmir	86.5	80.7	90.1	69.7	40.6	16.2	43.9	46.9	37.6	27.4
Ladakh	92.0	81.2	86.5	67.4	49.9	10.5	43.6	46.1	45.3	32.0
Punjab	83.2	91.0	93.4	61.0	13.0	3.6	6.3	7.0	25.5	13.0
Rajasthan	88.8	90.8	90.2	46.1	12.4	4.5	7.3	8.3	39.5	12.7
Uttarakhand	74.8	95.4	93.1	60.6	33.8	13.7	19.1	22.1	35.8	10.5
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	44.6	92.4	97.3	42.9	39.7	31.0	28.8	34.2	30.5	10.7
Madhya Pradesh	63.7	94.5	92.5	43.0	20.3	11.5	12.2	14.9	40.8	9.8
Uttar Pradesh	70.7	93.6	91.5	39.6	25.4	15.3	16.8	19.8	47.4	12.0
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	71.2	96.2	90.9	34.4	35.6	36.8	32.7	42.2	44.4	19.2
Jharkhand	53.3	94.9	96.3	36.9	48.1	40.7	39.5	47.7	36.9	10.2
Odisha	30.0	95.4	98.4	24.9	60.1	66.3	45.3	69.3	54.3	10.0
West Bengal	53.1	92.9	97.5	44.2	83.0	87.8	63.5	90.4	62.5	13.0
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	63.1	80.9	96.3	58.3	65.8	62.9	63.3	74.7	59.1	30.4
Assam	54.8	92.3	86.3	49.9	67.0	81.0	57.5	85.4	73.1	25.8
Manipur	46.1	82.8	97.7	53.3	57.0	67.3	50.5	80.2	64.0	19.8
Meghalaya	52.2	78.1	85.9	62.7	68.0	57.4	54.0	66.8	70.0	23.4
Mizoram	35.7	65.9	93.7	53.0	63.5	26.1	54.9	61.0	92.7	9.9
Nagaland	60.0	57.2	83.7	38.7	39.3	30.7	47.0	57.2	49.6	15.1
Sikkim	85.3	94.0	97.1	71.7	72.0	56.8	74.2	79.0	47.1	33.7
Tripura	40.8	86.2	94.1	52.5	74.9	87.5	70.3	89.9	71.7	24.2
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	68.8	98.6	91.8	52.3	41.3	36.6	37.0	46.9	26.9	18.7
Goa	76.3	98.1	97.6	92.7	73.7	92.4	40.6	93.3	58.5	36.1
Gujarat	80.6	93.5	90.3	54.0	18.5	13.8	16.5	20.2	29.4	21.4
Maharashtra	71.7	90.9	90.1	54.5	45.1	30.7	40.6	45.3	29.7	16.8
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	61.9	96.3	94.0	61.1	86.9	93.5	73.9	95.4	28.9	29.6
Andhra Pradesh	90.6	95.1	84.5	56.4	83.2	56.5	79.4	83.6	40.4	24.5
Karnataka	94.0	97.1	97.5	78.5	63.4	35.5	52.9	57.7	42.7	25.9
Kerala	80.1	90.0	62.4	76.0	64.2	88.3	48.0	90.5	51.9	15.6
Lakshadweep	65.7	88.4	44.6	68.7	78.3	97.1	73.8	98.7	68.7	45.4
Puducherry	87.0	85.8	85.9	66.3	81.8	82.2	63.7	87.4	44.9	10.3
Tamil Nadu	89.4	87.4	84.8	63.4	80.4	61.3	57.8	74.6	38.3	11.2
Telangana	86.2	91.8	80.0	50.8	76.6	18.6	70.0	72.4	26.9	10.8



Table 10.27.2 Men's food consumption by state/union territory

Percent distribution of men age 15-49 consuming specific foods at least once a week by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Type of food									
	Milk or curd	Pulses or beans	Dark green, leafy vegetables	Fruits	Eggs	Fish	Chicken or meat	Fish, chicken or meat	Fried foods	Aerated drinks
<b>India</b>	79.8	93.2	92.4	56.1	57.8	45.8	46.9	57.3	45.1	25.1
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	83.2	95.0	77.0	68.1	30.0	15.5	24.8	27.4	23.2	18.3
Delhi	94.0	98.5	96.8	88.4	67.9	25.8	37.8	41.8	44.4	22.7
Haryana	96.2	95.9	91.7	69.6	26.3	8.7	13.4	14.9	34.5	27.8
Himachal Pradesh	90.9	97.1	89.5	68.7	30.5	11.7	21.1	22.6	34.5	38.1
Jammu & Kashmir	91.5	87.6	86.4	71.6	52.4	21.1	52.8	57.0	32.6	31.8
Ladakh	92.7	86.9	89.1	73.3	51.9	13.1	51.0	55.3	25.9	28.9
Punjab	92.6	93.5	88.9	66.8	28.9	11.2	17.0	18.9	28.8	24.3
Rajasthan	91.2	91.3	89.5	47.3	20.7	7.8	13.4	14.1	35.3	20.1
Uttarakhand	80.8	97.6	96.6	61.0	44.5	18.1	24.3	28.3	42.3	11.8
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	45.8	86.5	93.5	42.1	41.9	36.9	34.0	40.2	37.2	20.3
Madhya Pradesh	73.9	93.6	92.5	46.6	32.2	20.7	21.6	25.3	40.5	16.0
Uttar Pradesh	77.7	93.5	91.7	46.4	39.4	25.0	26.6	30.2	45.0	20.7
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	80.6	95.5	93.4	39.4	43.1	41.0	38.5	46.4	49.0	23.4
Jharkhand	61.0	91.2	92.3	39.4	52.2	41.5	39.7	49.2	42.7	13.9
Odisha	31.9	96.1	98.9	26.4	69.7	71.2	58.6	75.8	59.5	11.2
West Bengal	58.7	94.4	97.6	48.9	85.5	87.4	56.5	89.3	60.7	19.1
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	60.1	79.5	95.3	63.0	76.5	76.0	77.8	81.4	63.7	45.4
Assam	65.4	95.9	90.7	62.8	77.6	83.1	66.6	86.4	80.0	30.9
Manipur	37.8	87.2	96.6	55.4	55.9	65.4	54.7	75.8	55.3	19.2
Meghalaya	56.7	75.3	86.8	59.3	67.4	63.8	62.9	73.0	58.2	28.2
Mizoram	40.8	69.4	90.2	63.2	78.2	54.4	72.6	78.0	92.7	10.6
Nagaland	66.8	72.2	88.6	48.4	59.8	57.2	67.7	72.5	45.3	23.3
Sikkim	90.9	96.2	98.1	79.9	76.3	63.1	69.4	76.8	45.4	30.6
Tripura	54.5	83.0	90.6	44.2	60.3	73.7	64.7	76.1	57.3	17.3
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	78.7	83.4	87.5	52.1	38.6	32.2	36.4	41.4	25.3	35.2
Goa	95.1	99.4	96.8	73.1	81.6	91.9	47.6	93.8	78.5	53.4
Gujarat	85.1	92.2	94.0	39.8	19.8	12.2	17.9	20.6	23.9	22.2
Maharashtra	81.9	89.0	91.9	62.2	57.6	43.3	53.8	59.3	37.6	25.6
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	59.5	94.7	89.0	57.9	88.8	94.2	80.2	96.1	46.4	48.1
Andhra Pradesh	95.1	96.3	91.1	68.1	88.1	53.0	75.2	80.0	54.9	42.7
Karnataka	94.9	97.5	94.5	77.9	66.3	41.6	53.7	60.1	40.0	31.8
Kerala	87.4	89.5	82.6	79.9	68.0	88.0	56.2	90.1	51.4	27.5
Lakshadweep	85.4	65.2	56.6	82.5	75.7	97.6	72.9	98.4	78.4	47.2
Puducherry	83.6	93.6	87.9	80.3	88.5	83.2	69.1	89.9	35.5	14.9
Tamil Nadu	92.4	97.3	92.3	68.5	84.7	62.5	67.0	77.0	40.0	20.3
Telangana	91.3	91.5	84.2	61.0	80.2	32.7	71.1	74.6	35.5	29.9



### Key Findings

- **Prevalence of tuberculosis:** Based on reports from household respondents, 222 persons per 100,000 have medically treated tuberculosis. The prevalence of tuberculosis is higher among men (283 per 100,000) than among women (162 per 100,000).
- **Prevalence of goitre or any other thyroid disorder:** Based on self-reports, 3 percent of women age 15-49 have goitre or any other thyroid disorder.
- **Use of tobacco:** Thirty-nine percent of men and 4 percent of women age 15-49 use any form of tobacco.
- **Use of alcohol:** Twenty-two percent of men and 1 percent of women age 15-49 drink alcohol.
- **Coverage of health insurance or financing scheme:** At least one usual household member is covered under any health insurance or financing scheme in over two-fifths (41%) of households.

The health status of a population is reflected in the levels of morbidity and treatment seeking behaviour of its members. With the ongoing demographic and epidemiological transition in India, non-communicable diseases are now taking more of a toll on the health of the Indian population, while the problem of endemic and re-emerging infectious diseases still persists. This chapter presents data on some common infectious and important non-communicable diseases and their risk factors, health treatment seeking behaviour, tobacco and alcohol use, and coverage of health insurance. Prevalence estimates for tuberculosis (TB), diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, heart disease, and cancer are also provided.

## 11.1 TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis has re-emerged as a major public health problem in many parts of the world, often as a concomitant illness to HIV/AIDS. Tuberculosis, once known as the 'White Plague', is contagious and spreads through droplets that can travel through the air when a person with the infection coughs, talks, or sneezes. In most developing countries, TB will continue to be a serious health threat even in the absence of HIV/AIDS due to the public health challenges posed by poor sanitation, poverty, and high illiteracy.

### 11.1.1 Prevalence of Tuberculosis

Based on reports from household respondents, 222 persons per 100,000 are estimated to have medically treated tuberculosis. The prevalence of tuberculosis is higher among men (283 per 100,000) than among women (162 per 100,000). Ninety-seven percent of reported tuberculosis cases are medically treated (**Table 11.1**).

**Trends:** Between 2015-16 and 2019-21, the overall prevalence of medically treated tuberculosis decreased from 305 persons per 100,000 to 222 persons per 100,000, and the prevalence among men decreased from 389 persons per 100,000 to 283 persons per 100,000. The prevalence among women decreased from 220 persons per 100,000 to 162 persons per 100,000. The overall decrease in prevalence for men and women combined is evident in all age and residence groups.

## Patterns by background characteristics

- Medically treated TB prevalence increases substantially with increasing age. The prevalence is more than twice as high among persons age 60 and above (567 persons per 100,000) as among persons age 15-59 (237 persons per 100,000) and 17 times as high as among children below age 15 (33 persons per 100,000).
- Medically treated TB prevalence is somewhat higher in rural areas (242 persons per 100,000) than in urban areas (179 persons per 100,000). Both sex and age differentials are more pronounced in rural areas than they are in urban areas (**Table 11.1**).
- Medically treated TB prevalence increases with levels of crowding, from 220 persons per 100,000 in households with fewer than three persons sleeping per room to 258 persons per 100,000 in households with seven or more persons sleeping per room (**Table 11.2**).
- There is a great deal of variation in the prevalence of medically treated TB according to the type of cooking fuel the household uses, ranging from a low of 179 persons per 100,000 usual residents in households using electricity, liquid petroleum gas, natural gas, or biogas to a high of 490 persons per 100,000 in households using straw, shrubs, or grass for cooking. High TB prevalence is also seen among households using other fuels not specified in the table (316 persons per 100,000).
- Medically treated TB prevalence is higher in households cooking in the house without having a separate room for cooking (291 persons per 100,000) than in households that cook in a separate room of the house (178 persons per 100,000) or in a separate building (258 persons per 100,000), but it is highest of all in households cooking in other places not specified in the table (357 persons per 100,000).
- Among the states, the number of persons suffering from medically treated TB ranges from a low of 24 persons per 100,000 in Chandigarh to a high of 634 persons per 100,000 in Sikkim, 626 persons per 100,000 in Meghalaya, 624 persons per 100,000 in Mizoram, and 616 persons per 100,000 in Nagaland (**Table 11.3**). In addition to Chandigarh, two states have prevalence below 120 persons per 100,000: Haryana (105 persons per 100,000) and Chhattisgarh (112 persons per 100,000).

### 11.1.2 Knowledge and Attitudes toward Tuberculosis

Despite being a curable disease, TB can still be a stigmatizing illness, due mainly to people's ignorance of its etiology and transmission. Ninety-three percent of women age 15-49 and 91 percent of men age 15-49 have heard of TB (**Table 11.4.1** and **Table 11.4.2**). In India, 70 percent of both women and men who have heard of TB correctly mentioned coughing or sneezing as a mode of transmission for TB. However, more than three-fifths of the population that has heard of TB have some misconceptions regarding its transmission. One in every six (16%) women and more than one in every five (23%) men report they would want the TB positive status of a family member to remain a secret. Ninety percent of women and 92 percent of men who have heard of TB believe that it can be cured.

**Trends:** The proportion of women who have heard of TB has slightly increased from 87 percent in 2015-16 to 93 percent in 2019-21, while that in men has increased from 88 percent to 91 percent. The proportion of women who report that TB is spread through the air by coughing and sneezing has remained almost the same (from 69% in 2015-16 to 70% in 2019-21), whereas the proportion decreased slightly for men from 72% in 2015-16 to 70% in 2019-21). In the same period, the knowledge that TB can be cured increased slightly from 89 percent to 90 percent among women and from 91 percent to 92 percent among men.

## Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of women who have heard of TB generally increases steadily with increases in schooling and the wealth index, from about 9 in 10 women in the lowest schooling and wealth categories to 97 percent in the highest schooling and wealth categories. The same pattern by schooling and the wealth index exists for men (**Table 11.4.1** and **Table 11.4.2**).
- Knowledge of TB transmission and knowledge that TB can be cured increases among women and men with increases in schooling and the wealth index.

- The percentage with misconceptions about the transmission of TB ranges from 43-68 percent of women and 35-66 percent of men in all subgroups of background characteristics.

## 11.2 HEALTH PROBLEMS

All interviewed women and men were asked whether they have diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, any heart disease, or cancer. **Table 11.5.1** and **Table 11.5.2** show the number of women and men age 15-49 per 100,000 who have any of these diseases by background characteristics.

The prevalence of diabetes, as reported by respondents, is 2 percent among both men and women age 15-49 years. The prevalence of asthma is 2 percent among women and 1 percent among men age 15-49 years. Similarly, goitre or any other thyroid disorder is more prevalent among women (3%) than men (0.5%). One percent of both women and men age 15-49 have any heart disease and less than 1 percent have cancer.

**Trends:** The prevalence of diabetes has remained unchanged among both women and men since 2015-16 (2% in 2015-16 and 2019-21). The prevalence of goitre or any other thyroid disorder among women increased slightly from 2 percent in 2015-16 to 3 percent in 2019-21, whereas the prevalence of asthma among both sexes and goitre or any other thyroid disorder among men remained almost unchanged.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Although the above-mentioned diseases affect all age groups and are present across all groups of background characteristics, their prevalence increases with age.
- The prevalence of diabetes among women and men in the highest wealth quintile (3%) is higher than the prevalence among women and men in the lowest wealth quintile (1%). The prevalence of diabetes is also higher in urban areas than rural areas.
- The prevalence of diabetes is highest in the southern states, whereas that of goitre or any other thyroid disorder among women is relatively high in most of the northern and southern states.

## 11.3 USE OF TOBACCO

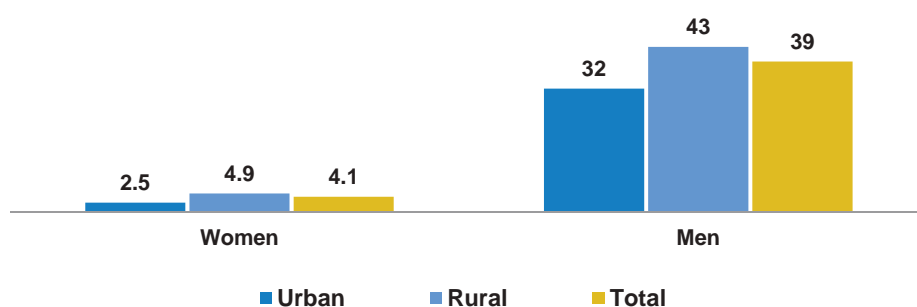
Tobacco use is associated with a wide range of diseases, including several types of cancers and heart and lung diseases, diabetes, eye disease, and rheumatoid arthritis. Studies have shown that in addition to sharing the same health risks as men, women who use tobacco experience difficulty in becoming pregnant and are at an increased risk of infertility, pregnancy complications, premature births, low birth-weight infants, stillbirths, miscarriages, and infant deaths

### 11.3.1 Consumption of Tobacco

Thirty-nine percent of men and 4 percent of women age 15-49 use some form of tobacco. The most common form of tobacco consumption among men is chewing *paan masala* or *gutkha* (15%), followed closely by smoking cigarettes (13%), using *khaini* (12%), and smoking *bidis* (7%). Among men who smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, 46 percent smoke 5 or more cigarettes or *bidis* each day on average. Among women, the most common form of tobacco used is chewing *paan masala* or *gutkha*, chewing *paan* with tobacco, and using *khaini* (1%) (**Table 11.7**).

## Figure 11.1 Tobacco Use by Sex and Residence

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



**Trends:** Use of any kind of tobacco decreased from 45 percent and 7 percent among men and women in 2015-16 to 39 percent and 4 percent among men and women, respectively, in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Among men as well as women, the use of any form of tobacco is higher in rural areas than in urban areas (**Figure 11.1**). Among men, in urban areas cigarettes are more popular than any other form of tobacco (**Table 11.8**).
- More than six in 10 men and about one-tenth of women with no schooling or less than 5 years of schooling use some form of tobacco. Tobacco use shows a substantial decrease with increasing levels of education among both men and women. However, almost one-fourth (24%) of men with 12 or more years of schooling use tobacco.
- There is an equally clear and continual decrease in tobacco use with increasing wealth quintiles. More than two in 10 (22%) men in the highest wealth quintile use tobacco, in comparison with 59 percent of men in the lowest wealth quintile. Nine percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile use tobacco.
- Women (11%) and men (52%) from scheduled tribes are more likely to use tobacco than those from any other caste/tribe group.

### 11.3.2 Quitting Tobacco

The 2019-21 NFHS collected data on attempts to quit smoking or stop tobacco use in the 12 months preceding the survey by women and men age 15-49 who were using any kind of tobacco. Tobacco users who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months were also asked whether they had received any advice to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form during the visits. All women and men age 15-49 were asked whether they were present when someone smoked in their home or elsewhere in the 30 days preceding the survey.

About 3 in 10 men and women who are tobacco users said they tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any form in the 12 months preceding the survey. More than two-fifths (61%) of female and more than half (54%) of male tobacco users who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the 12 months preceding the survey were advised to stop smoking or using tobacco in any form. Nearly half (48%) of women and more than three-fifths (62%) of men were present when someone other than the respondent was smoking in their home or elsewhere in the 30 days preceding the survey (**Table 11.9**).

## 11.4 ALCOHOL USE, HEALTH INSURANCE, AND SOURCES OF HEALTH CARE

Information on alcohol use, health insurance coverage, and sources of health care among women and men are presented in this section. The reasons for not utilizing a government health facility, recent contacts with health personnel, matters discussed during contacts with health personnel, and problems in accessing health care are also discussed.

### 11.4.1 Use of Alcohol

Only 1 percent of women drink alcohol, compared with 22 percent of men. Among women who drink alcohol, 17 percent drink alcohol almost every day and 37 percent drink alcohol about once a week (**Table 11.11.1**). Among men who drink alcohol, 15 percent drink alcohol almost every day, 43 percent drink alcohol about once a week, and 42 percent drink less than once a week (**Table 11.11.2**). The percentage of women age 15-49 who drink alcohol is by far the highest among women in Arunachal Pradesh (18%) and Sikkim (15%). Alcohol use among men is highest in Goa (59%), Arunachal Pradesh (57%), and Telangana (50%) and is the lowest in Lakshadweep (1%) (**Table 11.12**).

**Trends:** The proportion of men who drink alcohol decreased, from 29 percent to 22 percent, between NFHS-4 in 2015-16 and NFHS-5 in 2019-21. During that period, the proportion of women who drink remained unchanged.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Drinking alcohol is more common among women from scheduled tribes (4%) than from any other caste/tribe group. Drinking is most common among Christian men (36%) and men belonging to “other” religions (49%), men with less than 5 years of schooling (33%), men from scheduled tribes (34%), and men age 35-49 (30%).

## 11.5 HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Health insurance coverage in India is far from satisfactory. Over two-fifths (41%) of households have at least one usual member covered under health insurance or financing scheme (**Table 11.13**). Only 30 percent of women age 15-49 and 33 percent of men age 15-49 are covered by health insurance or financing scheme. Almost half (46%) of those with insurance are covered by a state health insurance scheme and about one-sixth (16%) are covered by *Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana* (RSBY). Three to six percent of women and 4-7 percent of men are covered by the Employee State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) or the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS). The highest proportion of households covered under health insurance or financing scheme is found in Rajasthan (88%) and Andhra Pradesh (80%), and the lowest coverage (less than 15%) is in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Jammu & Kashmir (**Figure 11.2**).

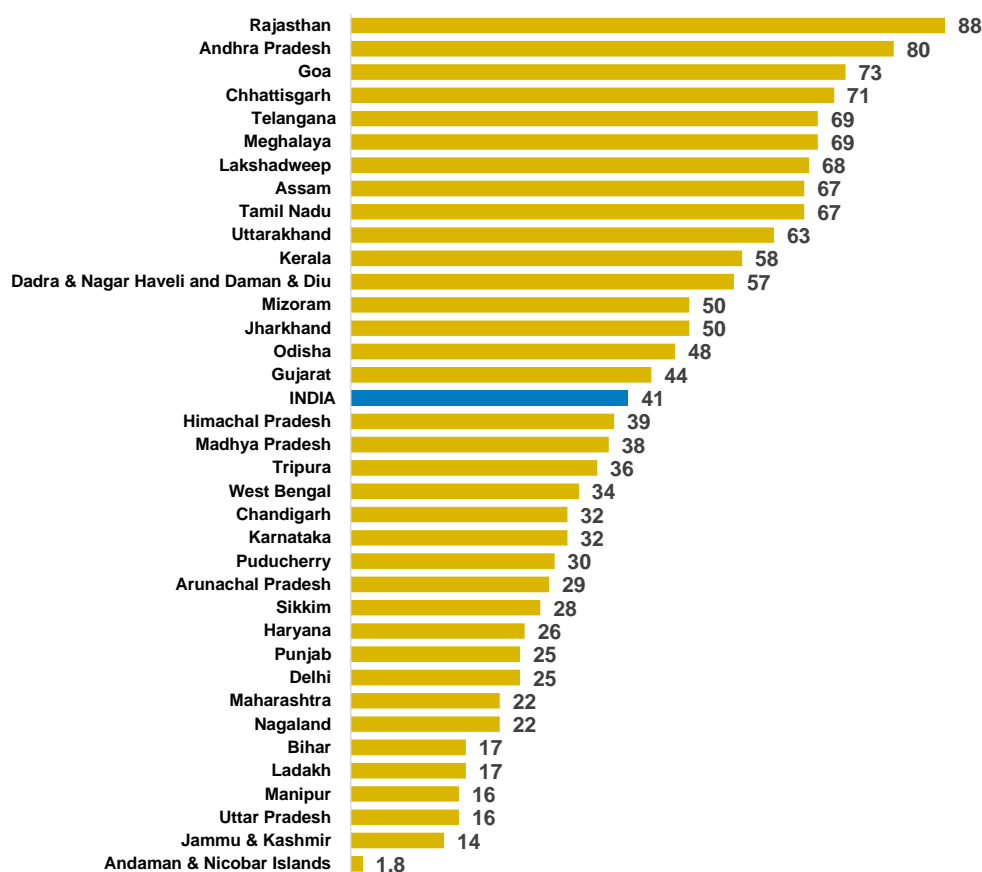
**Trends:** The percentage of households in which at least one usual member is covered by health insurance or financing scheme increased from 29 percent to 41 percent between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- The percentage of households in which at least one usual member is covered by health insurance or financing scheme is highest in households with a Christian head of household (55%). The insurance coverage is slightly higher in rural areas (42%) than in urban areas (38%). Coverage is low among households whose head is a Sikh and households in the lowest wealth quintile.

## Figure 11.2 Health Insurance Coverage of Households by State/UT

Percentage of households with at least one member covered by a health scheme or health insurance



## 11.6 SOURCES OF HEALTH CARE

When household members get sick, they are slightly more likely to seek care in the public sector (50%) than the private sector (48%). Government and municipal hospitals are the most important source of health care in the public sector, providing services to 20 percent of households when household members get sick. In the private sector, private doctors and clinics are most frequently visited.

**Trend:** The percentage of households that use the public sector for health care increased from 45 percent in 2015-16 to 50 percent in 2019-21.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The public health sector is the primary source of health care in rural areas (52%) and urban areas (47%). The private health sector is the main source of health care for 52 percent of households in urban areas and 46 percent of households in rural areas (**Table 11.16**).



## 11.7 REASONS FOR NOT USING GOVERNMENT HEALTH CARE

Half (50%) of households in India do not generally seek health care from the public sector. The percentage of households that do not generally use government health facilities is highest in Bihar (80%) and Uttar Pradesh (75%), and lowest (less than 5%) in Ladakh, Lakshadweep, and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (**Table 11.17**). The most commonly reported reason for not using government health facilities at the national level is the poor quality of care (reported by 48% of households that do not generally use government facilities). The second most commonly reported reason is that the long waiting time at government facilities (46%), followed by the fact that there is no government facility nearby (40% of households).

## 11.8 RECENT CONTACT WITH HEALTH WORKERS

**Table 11.18** shows the percentage of women who had contact with a health worker in the three months preceding the survey by type of health worker. Women are more likely to have contacts with an ASHA (23%), an auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM) or a lady health visitor (LHV) (19%), or an *anganwadi* worker (AWW) (15%) than any other type of health worker. Among women who met with a health worker in the past three months, 73 percent met with a health worker at home, 68 percent met with a health worker at an *anganwadi* centre, and 39 percent met with a health worker at a health facility or camp.

Among ever-married women who had at least one contact with a health worker in the past three months, the majority discussed immunizations. Other common topics were treatment for a sick child, medical treatment for themselves, supplementary food, family planning, antenatal care, delivery care, and growth monitoring of a child. Never married women mostly discussed medical treatment for themselves, treatment for another person, menstrual hygiene, nutrition and health education, and disease prevention.

**Trend:** The percentage of women who contacted an ASHA doubled from 11 percent to 23 percent, an ANM/LHV increased from 14 percent to 19 percent, and an *anganwadi* worker (AWW) increased slightly from 14 percent to 15 percent from NFHS-4 to NFHS-5. Thirty-two percent of women had contact with any health worker in NFHS-5, compared with only 24 percent in NFHS-4.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Recent contact with any health worker is more common for rural women (35%) than urban women (26%). Contact with any health worker is more common for currently married women (37%) than women who are widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted (24%) and never married women (17%).

## 11.9 PROBLEMS IN ACCESSING HEALTH CARE

NFHS-5 asked women age 15-49 about potential problems in obtaining medical treatment for themselves when they are sick. Three-fifths of women report at least one problem for themselves in obtaining medical care (**Table 11.21**). Over one-fifth (21%) of women cite money as a problem. Twenty-three percent of women cite the distance to a health facility and 22 percent cite having to take transport as a problem. Thirty-one percent of women report concerns that no female health provider is available. Thirty-nine percent of women report a concern that no provider is available and 40 percent that no drugs are available.

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**Table 11.1 Prevalence of tuberculosis**

Number of persons per 100,000 usual household residents suffering from any tuberculosis and medically treated tuberculosis by age and sex, according to residence, India, 2019-21

Age and sex	Number of persons per 100,000 suffering from:		Number of usual residents
	Tuberculosis <sup>1</sup>	Medically treated tuberculosis <sup>2</sup>	
<b>URBAN</b>			
<b>Age</b>			
<15	37	35	203,462
15-59	196	191	577,911
60 and over	401	393	102,710
<b>Sex</b>			
Women	146	143	437,059
Men	220	214	446,956
Total	183	179	884,083
<b>RURAL</b>			
<b>Age</b>			
<15	33	32	528,982
15-59	268	260	1,141,500
60 and over	671	646	226,160
<b>Sex</b>			
Women	176	170	960,031
Men	327	316	936,525
Total	250	242	1,896,641
<b>TOTAL</b>			
<b>Age</b>			
<15	34	33	732,443
15-59	244	237	1,719,411
60 and over	586	567	328,870
<b>Sex</b>			
Women	166	162	1,397,090
Men	292	283	1,383,481
Total	229	222	2,780,724

<sup>1</sup> Includes medically treated tuberculosis

<sup>2</sup> Suffering from tuberculosis and received medical treatment

**Table 11.2 Prevalence of tuberculosis by persons per sleeping room and cooking fuel/cooking arrangements**

Number of persons per 100,000 usual household residents suffering from any tuberculosis and medically treated tuberculosis by persons per sleeping room and cooking fuel/cooking arrangements, India, 2019-21

Persons per sleeping room and cooking fuel/cooking arrangements	Number of persons per 100,000 suffering from:		Number of usual residents
	Tuberculosis <sup>1</sup>	Medically treated tuberculosis <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Persons per room used for sleeping</b>			
<3	225	220	1,431,830
3-4	222	215	901,980
5-6	250	240	328,846
7 or more	270	258	118,068
<b>Cooking fuel</b>			
Electricity or gas <sup>3</sup>	184	179	1,562,328
Kerosene	186	178	10,356
Coal/lignite/charcoal	340	317	43,777
Wood	269	261	928,472
Straw/shrubs/grass	517	490	38,586
Agricultural crop residue	403	380	59,192
Dung cakes	283	278	132,837
Other	316	316	5,177
<b>Place for cooking</b>			
In the house, separate room	182	178	1,573,248
In the house, no separate room	304	291	661,564
In a separate building	265	258	330,319
Outdoors	285	277	210,847
Other	357	357	4,746
<b>Type of fire/stove among households using solid fuels<sup>4</sup> or kerosene</b>			
Stove	306	291	11,479
Open fire/ <i>chullah</i>	287	277	1,201,434
Other	90	90	308
<b>Total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>2,780,724</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes medically treated tuberculosis

<sup>2</sup> Suffering from tuberculosis and received medical treatment

<sup>3</sup> Includes LPG, natural gas, and biogas

<sup>4</sup> Includes coal, lignite, charcoal, wood straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crop waste, and dung cakes

**Table 11.3 Prevalence of tuberculosis by state/union territory**

Number of persons per 100,000 usual household residents suffering from any tuberculosis and medically treated tuberculosis, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Number of persons per 100,000 suffering from:	
	Tuberculosis <sup>1</sup>	Medically treated tuberculosis <sup>2</sup>
India	229	222
<b>North</b>		
Chandigarh	24	24
Delhi	150	143
Haryana	109	105
Himachal Pradesh	210	207
Jammu & Kashmir	173	173
Ladakh	306	306
Punjab	134	128
Rajasthan	215	209
Uttarakhand	134	123
<b>Central</b>		
Chhattisgarh	113	112
Madhya Pradesh	121	120
Uttar Pradesh	219	209
<b>East</b>		
Bihar	450	436
Jharkhand	230	216
Odisha	242	235
West Bengal	239	233
<b>Northeast</b>		
Arunachal Pradesh	495	477
Assam	311	298
Manipur	427	425
Meghalaya	630	626
Mizoram	638	624
Nagaland	675	616
Sikkim	634	634
Tripura	352	346
<b>West</b>		
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	123	123
Goa	329	329
Gujarat	215	211
Maharashtra	136	131
<b>South</b>		
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	221	196
Andhra Pradesh	239	239
Karnataka	191	184
Kerala	463	453
Lakshadweep	157	157
Puducherry	292	292
Tamil Nadu	187	183
Telangana	242	234

<sup>1</sup> Includes medically treated tuberculosis

<sup>2</sup> Suffering from tuberculosis and received medical treatment

**Table 11.4.1 Knowledge and attitude toward tuberculosis: Women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have heard of tuberculosis (TB), and among women who have heard of TB, percentage with specific knowledge and beliefs, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who have heard of TB	Number of women	Among women who have heard of TB, percentage who:				Number of women who have heard of TB
			Report that TB is spread through the air by coughing or sneezing	Have misconceptions about transmission of TB <sup>1</sup>	Believe that TB can be cured	Would want a family member's TB kept secret from the neighbours	
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	93.5	122,544	68.9	66.5	88.7	15.0	114,547
20-34	93.8	336,968	70.8	65.3	90.7	15.3	316,160
35-49	92.7	264,603	69.1	62.4	90.3	16.3	245,345
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	95.4	235,279	77.3	63.8	92.0	16.1	224,476
Rural	92.4	488,836	66.1	64.8	89.3	15.3	451,576
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	88.8	163,492	58.5	63.6	87.7	15.9	145,133
<5 years complete	90.7	37,549	59.3	58.6	86.2	15.3	34,041
5-7 years complete	92.1	96,806	65.1	62.2	88.4	16.3	89,166
8-9 years complete	94.3	129,094	68.1	64.3	89.9	13.6	121,687
10-11 years complete	95.0	109,777	74.9	64.4	90.8	17.1	104,305
12 or more years complete	97.0	187,396	81.4	67.5	93.7	15.5	181,720
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	93.6	589,164	70.2	65.1	90.3	15.9	551,175
Muslim	92.5	97,595	65.4	64.3	89.9	13.7	90,251
Christian	93.0	16,995	78.8	48.6	87.3	17.8	15,801
Sikh	93.4	11,404	71.0	66.9	93.5	9.9	10,656
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	90.3	4,571	78.1	45.3	91.7	25.7	4,130
Jain	96.0	1,632	83.8	45.3	95.3	19.9	1,566
Other	89.8	2,754	57.0	56.4	89.4	10.4	2,473
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	93.6	158,483	68.2	66.2	89.9	16.2	148,286
Scheduled tribe	90.5	67,263	65.8	59.7	88.5	15.4	60,865
Other backward class	93.8	310,783	71.3	65.3	90.0	17.2	291,384
Other	93.8	182,474	70.9	63.8	91.8	12.4	171,087
Don't know	86.7	5,112	45.1	42.9	79.7	14.9	4,431
<b>Wealth index</b>							
Lowest	90.6	133,973	54.6	63.3	87.3	11.1	121,330
Second	91.8	144,813	63.6	65.2	88.9	15.2	132,917
Middle	92.8	148,616	70.9	64.1	89.2	18.1	137,954
Fourth	94.7	150,680	76.3	63.6	91.1	18.1	142,624
Highest	96.7	146,032	81.3	66.1	94.1	14.7	141,228
Total	93.4	724,115	69.8	64.5	90.2	15.6	676,052

<sup>1</sup> Misconceptions about the transmission of TB include that it can be spread by sharing utensils, by touching a person with TB, through food, through sexual contact, through mosquito bites, or through any other means except through the air when coughing or sneezing

**Table 11.4.2 Knowledge and attitude toward tuberculosis: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who have heard of tuberculosis (TB), and among men who have heard of TB, percentage with specific knowledge and beliefs, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who have heard of TB	Number of men	Among men who have heard of TB, percentage who:				Number of men who have heard of TB
			Report that TB is spread through the air by coughing or sneezing	Have misconceptions about transmission of TB <sup>1</sup>	Believe that TB can be cured	Would want a family member's TB kept secret from the neighbours	
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	89.5	16,385	69.5	60.2	88.8	23.4	14,662
20-34	91.9	41,688	71.3	62.6	92.6	22.2	38,292
35-49	91.3	35,071	69.8	61.2	92.3	23.4	32,007
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	92.0	32,852	75.4	60.4	93.2	24.6	30,235
Rural	90.8	60,291	67.6	62.4	91.0	21.9	54,727
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	85.0	9,982	59.6	60.0	87.5	24.1	8,483
<5 years complete	88.3	5,842	59.4	58.4	88.2	18.7	5,157
5-7 years complete	88.9	12,082	63.4	61.9	91.0	23.2	10,735
8-9 years complete	91.6	18,472	68.0	60.6	91.2	20.7	16,911
10-11 years complete	91.4	16,735	74.3	60.5	92.3	26.3	15,289
12 or more years complete	94.5	30,032	77.6	64.0	94.2	22.5	28,386
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	91.9	73,632	70.8	62.7	92.1	23.4	67,645
Muslim	87.9	14,633	66.1	60.8	90.9	19.6	12,861
Christian	91.9	2,426	74.6	42.2	88.0	24.5	2,229
Sikh	91.2	886	71.9	65.5	92.2	11.6	808
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	87.9	1,017	81.0	47.5	94.1	36.5	894
Jain	95.8	280	86.5	53.6	94.1	14.0	269
Other	94.9	269	78.6	51.5	93.2	16.9	256
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	92.2	18,977	68.3	63.1	92.0	22.8	17,497
Scheduled tribe	90.1	8,441	67.6	57.2	90.7	21.5	7,606
Other backward class	91.4	38,986	71.8	63.0	91.8	25.1	35,639
Other	90.7	26,244	70.9	60.6	92.2	20.2	23,807
Don't know	83.2	496	60.0	35.4	87.5	11.1	413
<b>Wealth index</b>							
Lowest	89.4	15,606	57.2	64.2	90.3	14.5	13,959
Second	89.8	18,497	67.3	63.6	90.9	20.1	16,607
Middle	90.6	19,829	70.3	60.1	91.5	26.5	17,971
Fourth	92.1	20,658	75.8	59.5	92.1	27.2	19,019
Highest	93.8	18,553	78.1	62.0	94.0	23.6	17,405
Total age 15-49	91.2	93,144	70.4	61.7	91.8	22.8	84,962
Age 50-54	90.6	8,695	71.7	60.0	92.4	23.7	7,878
Total age 15-54	91.2	101,839	70.5	61.5	91.9	22.9	92,839

<sup>1</sup> Misconceptions about the transmission of TB include that it can be spread by sharing utensils, by touching a person with TB, through food, through sexual contact, through mosquito bites, or through any other means except through the air when coughing or sneezing

**Table 11.5.1 Self-reported health problems: Women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who reported that they have diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, any heart disease, or cancer and whether they have sought treatment for each reported health problem, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Diabetes		Asthma		Goitre or any other thyroid disorder		Any heart disease		Cancer		
	Percentage with diabetes sought treatment	Percentage with diabetes who have sought treatment	Percentage with asthma sought treatment	Percentage with asthma who have sought treatment	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorders	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorder who have sought treatment	Percentage with heart disease sought treatment	Percentage with heart disease who have sought treatment	Percentage with cancer sought treatment	Percentage with cancer who have sought treatment	
<b>Age</b>											
15-19	0.4	52.0	0.8	61.6	0.6	79.5	0.3	69.8	0.1	70.9	122,544
20-34	0.8	66.5	1.2	66.5	2.3	88.6	0.5	72.4	0.1	74.6	336,968
35-49	3.9	85.8	2.5	72.9	4.1	90.6	1.2	77.5	0.2	88.0	264,603
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	2.6	85.1	1.6	74.2	4.2	91.7	0.7	76.9	0.1	87.8	235,279
Rural	1.5	77.1	1.6	67.4	2.0	87.1	0.7	74.5	0.1	78.7	488,836
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	2.1	79.8	1.8	67.1	1.7	84.3	1.0	75.4	0.2	82.9	163,492
<5 years complete	2.7	83.0	2.6	67.5	2.6	84.1	1.2	76.9	0.1	74.0	37,549
5-7 years complete	2.3	81.8	1.9	69.4	2.7	88.7	0.9	76.5	0.1	77.4	96,806
8-9 years complete	1.7	79.9	1.5	66.3	2.4	89.1	0.7	72.7	0.1	75.9	129,094
10-11 years complete	1.8	82.8	1.4	73.4	3.1	89.9	0.6	71.4	0.1	86.4	109,777
12 or more years complete	1.4	79.3	1.3	74.2	3.6	92.4	0.4	78.5	0.1	84.7	187,396
<b>Marital status</b>											
Never married	0.4	60.4	0.9	65.8	0.9	84.3	0.3	72.6	0.1	77.2	172,075
Currently married	2.2	81.7	1.8	70.5	3.2	89.9	0.8	75.9	0.1	82.6	521,352
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	3.8	83.3	2.7	67.2	3.3	89.6	1.5	73.0	0.2	79.1	30,688

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**Table 11.5.1 Self-reported health problems: Women—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who reported that they have diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, any heart disease, or cancer and whether they have sought treatment for each reported health problem, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Diabetes		Asthma		Goitre or any other thyroid disorder		Any heart disease		Cancer		
	Percentage with diabetes sought treatment	Percentage with diabetes who have sought treatment	Percentage with asthma	Percentage with asthma who have sought treatment	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorders	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorder who have sought treatment	Percentage with heart disease	Percentage with heart disease who have sought treatment	Percentage with cancer	Percentage with cancer who have sought treatment	Number of women
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	1.8	80.0	1.5	70.0	2.6	89.6	0.7	74.8	0.1	82.1	589,164
Muslim	2.3	81.8	1.9	70.1	3.0	89.0	1.0	78.9	0.1	76.4	97,595
Christian	2.8	89.6	2.5	72.4	4.3	90.7	0.9	76.3	0.1	89.5	16,995
Sikh	2.3	86.1	1.4	61.4	3.3	81.7	1.0	58.2	0.1	84.9	11,404
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.2	81.1	2.6	39.2	2.1	86.0	0.4	69.8	0.1	69.6	4,571
Jain	1.7	89.5	2.6	68.4	4.4	96.0	0.3	100.0	0.0	100.0	1,632
Other	1.0	62.5	1.1	66.9	1.1	95.4	0.6	72.8	0.1	96.4	2,754
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	1.8	79.8	1.6	65.0	2.5	88.4	0.7	75.6	0.1	76.0	158,483
Scheduled tribe	1.0	69.6	1.2	63.0	1.0	85.2	0.5	71.5	0.1	86.6	67,263
Other backward class	1.8	80.5	1.4	71.1	2.5	89.5	0.6	74.5	0.1	84.5	310,783
Other	2.4	83.1	2.0	72.8	3.9	90.6	0.9	76.9	0.1	78.2	182,474
Don't know	2.2	87.4	2.2	61.7	2.1	73.6	0.8	74.6	0.1	76.2	5,112
<b>Wealth index</b>											
Lowest	1.1	68.1	1.6	61.6	1.1	75.7	0.8	69.9	0.1	75.0	133,973
Second	1.3	72.2	1.6	66.2	1.5	84.1	0.9	75.2	0.1	77.2	144,813
Middle	1.8	79.1	1.8	70.7	2.5	89.5	0.7	73.1	0.1	82.6	148,616
Fourth	2.4	84.6	1.7	73.3	3.4	91.0	0.7	77.4	0.1	85.4	150,680
Highest	2.7	87.2	1.4	76.4	4.7	92.8	0.5	82.4	0.1	88.3	146,032
<b>Total</b>	1.9	80.7	1.6	69.7	2.7	89.4	0.7	75.2	0.1	81.4	724,115

**Table 11.5.2 Self-reported health problems: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who reported that they have diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, any heart disease, or cancer and whether they have sought treatment for each reported health problem, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Diabetes		Asthma		Goitre or any other thyroid disorder		Any heart disease		Cancer	
	Percentage with diabetes	Percentage with diabetes who have sought treatment	Percentage with asthma	Percentage with asthma who have sought treatment	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorders	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorder who have sought treatment	Percentage with heart disease	Percentage with heart disease who have sought treatment	Percentage with cancer	Percentage with cancer who have sought treatment
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	0.5	55.9	0.6	79.2	0.3	69.7	0.3	58.0	0.1	94.9
20-34	1.1	63.8	0.9	65.9	0.4	75.4	0.7	66.9	0.2	83.8
35-49	3.9	75.1	1.8	61.5	0.7	79.3	1.4	78.5	0.2	80.1
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	2.5	75.4	1.0	72.9	0.5	78.4	0.7	82.0	0.2	92.0
Rural	1.8	68.6	1.3	60.9	0.5	75.7	1.0	69.7	0.2	77.6
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	2.1	67.7	2.0	64.3	0.7	63.9	1.5	73.0	0.2	82.9
<5 years complete	2.1	68.2	2.4	56.7	1.1	82.7	2.1	55.6	0.1	60.3
5-7 years complete	2.1	69.9	1.4	66.4	0.5	77.0	0.9	77.7	0.2	58.3
8-9 years complete	1.8	60.3	1.2	58.5	0.4	69.4	1.0	64.0	0.3	90.6
10-11 years complete	2.2	78.4	1.0	67.3	0.4	79.7	0.6	77.7	0.1	71.5
12 or more years complete	2.1	75.7	0.7	72.9	0.4	83.8	0.6	89.3	0.2	94.5
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	0.8	49.7	0.8	72.2	0.4	70.1	0.5	69.4	0.1	87.0
Currently married	2.9	75.3	1.4	61.9	0.6	79.7	1.2	73.8	0.2	81.4
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	3.0	72.2	1.4	58.4	0.2	16.4	0.8	97.6	0.0	100.0

Continued...

**Table 11.5.2 Self-reported health problems: Men—Continued**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who reported that they have diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, any heart disease, or cancer and whether they have sought treatment for each reported health problem, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Diabetes		Asthma		Goitre or any other thyroid disorder		Any heart disease		Cancer		
	Percentage with diabetes	Percentage who have sought treatment	Percentage with asthma	Percentage who have sought treatment	Percentage with goitre/thyroid disorders	Percentage who have sought treatment	Percentage with heart disease	Percentage who have sought treatment	Percentage with cancer	Percentage who have sought treatment	Number of men
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	2.2	71.1	1.2	63.3	0.5	74.1	0.8	76.4	0.2	79.1	73,632
Muslim	1.4	70.5	1.0	70.9	0.7	84.8	1.3	63.5	0.3	94.6	14,633
Christian	1.8	62.5	1.7	75.5	0.2	68.1	0.5	74.0	0.0	31.7	2,426
Sikh	4.1	83.8	0.7	41.1	0.3	83.6	0.4	100.0	0.1	100.0	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.1	60.4	0.5	35.2	0.6	98.9	0.3	9.0	0.2	95.9	1,017
Jain	2.7	100.0	0.0	nc	0.0	nc	0.0	nc	0.0	nc	280
Other	9.4	96.3	1.3	78.9	0.4	77.1	1.3	67.0	0.0	0.0	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	1.7	77.1	1.1	62.2	0.5	76.9	0.9	82.3	0.1	80.4	18,977
Scheduled tribe	1.7	64.3	1.5	60.5	0.6	64.0	1.0	60.7	0.2	90.5	8,441
Other backward class	2.0	67.4	1.0	66.8	0.4	75.9	0.7	73.5	0.2	72.1	38,986
Other	2.5	75.7	1.4	63.0	0.7	81.3	1.1	69.9	0.2	92.4	26,244
Don't know	5.4	55.2	3.9	100.0	0.2	0.0	3.4	96.3	0.0	nc	496
<b>Wealth index</b>											
Lowest	1.1	61.4	1.5	55.0	0.5	75.9	1.3	69.9	0.1	74.6	15,606
Second	1.5	60.7	1.5	58.3	0.6	72.3	1.3	60.8	0.2	80.5	18,497
Middle	2.0	69.2	1.3	77.6	0.6	65.4	0.8	74.7	0.2	68.8	19,829
Fourth	2.4	72.5	1.0	58.5	0.5	87.2	0.7	83.6	0.2	93.9	20,658
Highest	3.1	80.3	0.8	77.4	0.3	87.6	0.6	89.4	0.1	98.2	18,553
Total age 15-49	2.1	71.5	1.2	64.6	0.5	76.7	0.9	73.2	0.2	82.8	93,144
Age 50-54	9.5	80.3	3.3	67.4	0.8	83.8	2.6	90.0	0.4	90.1	8,695
Total age 15-54	2.7	74.1	1.4	65.2	0.5	77.6	1.0	76.8	0.2	84.0	101,839

nc = No cases

Table 11.6 Self-reported health problems by state/union territory

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who reported that they have diabetes, asthma, goitre or any other thyroid disorder, any heart disease, or cancer, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who have:					Percentage of men who have:				
	Diabetes	Asthma	Goitre or other thyroid disorder	Any heart disease	Cancer	Diabetes	Asthma	Goitre or other thyroid disorder	Any heart disease	Cancer
<b>India</b>	1.9	1.6	2.7	0.7	0.1	2.1	1.2	0.5	0.9	0.2
<b>North</b>										
Chandigarh	3.6	1.2	6.8	0.6	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Delhi	2.3	1.3	5.9	0.7	0.1	4.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.1
Haryana	1.8	1.2	2.7	0.5	0.2	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
Himachal Pradesh	1.6	1.3	3.8	0.4	0.0	2.1	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.1
Jammu & Kashmir	2.9	0.4	6.8	2.3	0.1	2.1	0.5	0.8	1.4	0.1
Ladakh	3.9	0.9	4.9	3.7	0.3	6.1	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.3
Punjab	2.2	1.3	3.4	0.9	0.1	1.4	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.1
Rajasthan	1.1	1.3	1.3	0.4	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.2
Uttarakhand	1.4	0.9	2.4	0.5	0.1	1.7	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.0
<b>Central</b>										
Chhattisgarh	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.2
Madhya Pradesh	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.1	1.2	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.1
Uttar Pradesh	1.3	0.7	1.3	0.5	0.1	1.5	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.1
<b>East</b>										
Bihar	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.2	0.1	1.2	0.6	0.3	1.0	0.1
Jharkhand	1.0	0.8	1.7	0.5	0.3	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.0
Odisha	2.2	2.0	2.8	0.5	0.1	2.7	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.3
West Bengal	3.0	4.4	5.3	1.5	0.1	2.3	2.3	1.4	2.0	0.3
<b>Northeast</b>										
Arunachal Pradesh	1.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.3	2.2	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1
Assam	2.1	1.6	2.6	1.2	0.1	1.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.1
Manipur	1.1	1.4	3.0	1.2	0.1	1.0	2.2	0.6	1.7	0.2
Meghalaya	1.9	2.6	2.0	1.0	0.1	1.0	2.8	0.6	0.9	0.0
Mizoram	1.4	3.9	0.9	2.1	0.2	1.2	1.9	0.4	1.0	0.2
Nagaland	0.8	0.7	0.5	1.3	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
Sikkim	2.3	1.5	2.2	2.0	0.1	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Tripura	2.3	2.7	3.6	1.8	0.1	2.4	1.6	0.4	1.4	0.0
<b>West</b>										
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1.5	1.3	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.9	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goa	4.1	0.4	2.5	0.4	0.2	1.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gujarat	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.4	0.2	1.4	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.2
Maharashtra	1.7	1.5	2.1	0.4	0.1	2.3	1.5	0.3	0.5	0.1
<b>South</b>										
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.1	2.4	4.2	1.1	0.1	0.5	2.4	0.4	0.3	0.0
Andhra Pradesh	3.4	2.6	4.6	0.9	0.1	3.5	2.6	0.6	1.4	0.2
Karnataka	2.0	1.0	2.0	0.5	0.1	1.7	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.3
Kerala	4.1	4.8	8.7	0.8	0.2	4.0	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3
Lakshadweep	2.7	2.0	3.7	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Puducherry	4.0	3.2	7.6	0.6	0.3	3.9	0.6	0.0	0.9	0.0
Tamil Nadu	2.9	1.5	4.1	0.6	0.1	2.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.1
Telangana	2.4	2.2	5.8	0.9	0.1	3.8	1.1	0.8	1.8	0.1

**Table 11.7 Tobacco use by women and men**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 and men age 15-54 by their use of tobacco, and percent distribution of those who smoke cigarettes or *bidis* by number of cigarettes/*bidis* smoked each day on average, India, 2019-21

Tobacco use	Women			Men			
	Urban	Rural	Total 15-49	Urban	Rural	Total 15-49	Total 15-54
<b>Use of tobacco</b>							
Smokes cigarettes	0.1	0.1	0.1	14.6	12.5	13.2	13.3
Smokes <i>bidis</i>	0.0	0.2	0.1	4.5	8.3	7.0	7.8
Smokes cigars	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
Smokes a pipe	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Smokes a <i>hookah</i>	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.6
Chews <i>paan masala</i> or <i>gutkha</i>	1.0	1.6	1.4	12.0	15.8	14.5	14.2
Uses <i>khaini</i>	0.4	1.1	0.9	6.6	14.5	11.7	12.1
Chews <i>paan</i> with tobacco	0.7	1.3	1.1	3.4	6.0	5.1	5.3
Other chewing tobacco	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.8
Uses snuff	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5
Does not use tobacco	97.5	95.1	95.9	67.9	57.1	60.9	59.7
Number of respondents	235,279	488,836	724,115	32,852	60,291	93,144	101,839
<b>Number of cigarettes smoked each day on average</b>							
<5	83.8	76.7	79.5	67.8	74.4	71.8	70.9
5-9	5.3	6.9	6.3	17.9	10.5	13.4	13.8
10-14	2.1	3.1	2.7	7.1	5.8	6.3	6.6
15-24	5.0	3.4	4.0	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5
25 or more	3.9	9.9	7.6	1.3	0.4	0.7	0.8
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	7.5	6.3	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of cigarette smokers	293	455	748	4,784	7,537	12,321	13,513
<b>Number of <i>bidis</i> smoked each day on average</b>							
<5	52.2	51.3	51.4	19.4	20.8	20.5	19.9
5-9	20.7	25.0	24.6	24.4	25.9	25.6	25.9
10-14	13.2	12.4	12.5	33.9	27.1	28.6	28.1
15-24	9.0	6.4	6.7	14.7	20.7	19.3	19.8
25 or more	4.9	4.8	4.8	3.4	4.2	4.0	4.4
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	1.3	1.9	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of <i>bidi</i> smokers	92	858	950	1,474	5,007	6,482	7,974
<b>Number of cigarettes/<i>bidis</i> smoked each day on average</b>							
<5	74.1	55.8	60.1	55.7	50.2	52.1	49.5
5-9	10.3	20.2	17.8	20.0	19.2	19.4	20.1
10-14	5.1	10.3	9.1	13.7	15.5	14.9	15.6
15-24	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.3	10.3	9.0	9.8
25 or more	3.9	6.7	6.0	2.3	3.0	2.8	3.1
Missing	0.3	1.0	0.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of cigarette/ <i>bidi</i> smokers	369	1,202	1,571	5,633	11,113	16,746	19,066

**Table 1.1.8 Use of tobacco by background characteristics**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who use any kind of tobacco and percentage who smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, and among those who smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, percentage who smoke 5 or more cigarettes or *bidis* each day on average, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women						Men					
	Percentage who use any kind of tobacco	Percentage who smoke cigarettes	Percentage who smoke <i>bidis</i>	Percentage who smoke 5 or more cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i> each day on average	Number of women who smoke cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i>	Percentage who use any kind of tobacco	Percentage who smoke cigarettes	Percentage who smoke <i>bidis</i>	Percentage who smoke 5 or more cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i> each day on average	Number of men who smoke cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i>		
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	0.8	0.1	0.0	19.6	91	14.3	6.2	1.2	15.7	1,112		
20-34	3.0	0.1	0.0	26.1	463	38.6	14.9	4.7	34.2	7,396		
35-49	7.1	0.1	0.3	43.3	1,017	51.2	14.5	12.3	56.9	8,238		
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	2.5	0.1	0.0	23.9	369	32.1	14.6	4.5	41.4	5,633		
Rural	4.9	0.1	0.2	40.8	1,202	42.9	12.5	8.3	45.6	11,113		
<b>Maternity status</b>												
Pregnant	2.6	0.0	0.0	39.7	19	na	na	na	na	na		
Breastfeeding (not pregnant)	3.3	0.1	0.1	34.8	118	na	na	na	na	na		
Neither	4.3	0.1	0.1	37.0	1,434	na	na	na	na	na		
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	9.4	0.2	0.5	44.3	982	61.8	15.4	18.7	62.0	2,951		
<5 years complete	9.4	0.1	0.1	39.9	72	64.1	16.5	18.0	56.1	1,759		
5-7 years complete	5.1	0.0	0.1	34.5	101	53.1	15.5	10.9	49.3	2,785		
8-9 years complete	2.9	0.0	0.0	25.5	83	43.5	14.0	6.4	38.7	3,316		
10-11 years complete	1.1	0.1	0.0	15.3	68	29.6	11.3	3.6	37.2	2,243		
12 or more years complete	0.6	0.1	0.0	18.2	265	23.5	11.6	1.6	29.5	3,693		

Continued...

**Table 11.8 Use of tobacco by background characteristics—Continued**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who use any kind of tobacco and percentage who smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, and among those who smoke cigarettes or *bidis*, percentage who smoke 5 or more cigarettes or *bidis* each day on average, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women						Men						
	Percentage who use any kind of tobacco	Percentage who smoke cigarettes	Percentage who smoke <i>bidis</i>	Percentage who smoke <i>bidis</i>	Number of women	Percentage who smoke 5 or more cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i> each day on average	Number of women who smoke cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i>	Percentage who use any kind of tobacco	Percentage who smoke cigarettes	Percentage who smoke <i>bidis</i>	Number of men	Percentage who smoke 5 or more cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i> each day on average	Number of men who smoke cigarettes/ <i>bidis</i>
<b>Religion</b>													
Hindu	4.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	589,164	37.3	1,283	39.1	12.7	6.7	73,632	43.0	12,723
Muslim	4.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	97,595	36.1	176	40.9	14.4	9.0	14,633	49.2	3,060
Christian	7.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	16,995	26.6	55	36.6	24.0	6.9	2,426	50.0	648
Sikh	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	11,404	13.1	16	12.2	6.6	3.8	886	38.9	75
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	4.7	0.4	0.1	0.1	4,571	28.4	19	39.7	12.8	2.2	1,017	23.0	145
Jain	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,632	nc	0	29.7	8.9	3.9	280	35.1	35
Other	14.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	2,754	63.7	22	45.9	21.3	3.6	269	25.5	61
<b>Caste/tribe</b>													
Scheduled caste	4.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	158,483	44.0	427	43.8	15.0	10.6	18,977	49.9	4,210
Scheduled tribe	11.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	67,263	31.4	229	51.5	15.2	8.5	8,441	45.9	1,741
Other backward class	2.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	310,783	44.2	562	35.3	10.8	4.7	38,986	38.0	5,575
Other	3.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	182,474	19.9	336	36.9	14.8	7.2	26,244	45.4	5,101
Don't know	6.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	5,112	20.0	17	52.0	17.9	9.2	496	49.7	119
<b>Wealth index</b>													
Lowest	9.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	133,973	37.8	533	58.7	14.8	14.3	15,606	48.7	3,947
Second	5.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	144,813	43.5	376	48.8	14.6	9.9	18,497	45.9	3,979
Middle	3.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	148,616	41.9	259	38.4	12.8	6.4	19,829	45.9	3,355
Fourth	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	150,680	41.7	174	31.5	12.8	3.8	20,658	41.3	3,122
Highest	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	146,032	14.3	229	22.0	11.5	2.1	18,553	34.9	2,344
Total age 15-49	4.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	724,115	36.9	1,571	39.1	13.2	7.0	93,144	44.1	16,746
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	53.1	13.7	17.2	8,695	65.1	2,320
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	40.3	13.3	7.8	101,839	46.7	19,066

na = Not applicable

nc = No cases

**Table 11.9 Quitting tobacco and advise by a health care provider**

Among women and men age 15-49 who currently use any kind of tobacco, percentage who have tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among current users of tobacco who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any other form, and among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) smoked in their home or anywhere else in the 30 days preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women					Men					
	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days	Number of men
<b>Age</b>											
15-19	26.3	1,039	64.2	174	50.0	25.5	2,336	36.5	333	58.5	16,385
20-34	31.9	10,242	59.3	1,821	46.5	31.0	16,095	50.8	2,725	63.4	41,688
35-49	32.0	18,713	62.4	3,455	48.3	30.1	17,947	58.1	3,076	62.3	35,071
<b>Residence</b>											
Urban	35.2	5,945	63.8	1,069	46.7	28.5	10,537	57.7	1,578	60.5	32,852
Rural	30.9	24,050	60.8	4,381	48.2	30.9	25,841	52.3	4,556	63.0	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>											
No schooling	28.9	15,330	60.0	2,611	51.4	25.2	6,170	55.7	926	65.4	9,982
<5 years complete	33.5	3,515	66.5	674	51.4	28.0	3,744	55.2	575	68.0	5,842
5-7 years complete	35.1	4,924	64.0	905	49.2	30.6	6,417	50.6	1,153	66.5	12,082
8-9 years complete	35.7	3,779	59.9	761	48.4	33.7	8,038	56.1	1,392	63.7	18,472
10-11 years complete	36.3	1,258	60.0	257	46.0	31.7	4,951	55.2	861	58.6	16,735
12 or more years complete	32.3	1,188	58.1	242	43.6	30.3	7,057	50.6	1,227	59.1	30,032
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	31.9	24,180	60.5	4,187	48.1	30.8	28,790	54.6	4,723	62.1	73,632
Muslim	30.7	3,957	69.1	891	46.8	26.0	5,982	50.8	1,172	62.9	14,633
Christian	33.5	1,216	54.6	280	50.5	30.3	887	46.2	144	61.2	2,426
Sikh	28.2	29	61.3	2	32.3	31.1	108	76.1	12	53.8	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	32.1	216	70.0	39	45.2	40.8	404	53.9	58	53.1	1,017
Jain	12.1	10	30.2	4	36.2	46.3	83	49.2	11	80.3	280
Other	31.0	388	32.4	48	51.1	35.1	124	44.3	12	79.1	269

Continued...



**Table 11.9 Quitting tobacco and advise by a health care provider—Continued**

Among women and men age 15-49 who currently use any kind of tobacco, percentage who have tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among current users of tobacco who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any other form, and among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) smoked in their home or anywhere else in the 30 days preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women					Men				
	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Number of current users of tobacco in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days
<b>Caste/tribe</b>										
Scheduled caste	32.9	7,214	64.8	1,290	51.0	158,483	29.6	8,320	1,418	65.7
Scheduled tribe	26.8	7,442	57.5	1,232	51.7	67,263	27.6	4,350	670	65.4
Other backward class	34.0	9,086	60.4	1,712	47.1	310,783	32.0	13,754	2,243	61.0
Other	33.1	5,902	63.4	1,172	44.5	182,474	29.3	9,696	1,754	60.2
Don't know	33.8	350	57.7	44	48.9	5,112	33.0	258	49	62.3
<b>Wealth index</b>										
Lowest	28.2	12,119	56.5	2,022	49.6	133,973	27.2	9,160	1,540	68.5
Second	31.9	8,093	64.0	1,570	49.4	144,813	29.3	9,019	1,486	64.2
Middle	35.9	5,387	64.0	1,019	48.9	148,616	32.1	7,607	1,339	60.3
Fourth	37.4	2,989	67.7	580	47.3	150,680	32.3	6,511	1,076	60.6
Highest	34.1	1,407	59.3	260	43.6	146,032	31.9	4,081	692	58.2
Total age 15-49	31.8	29,994	61.4	5,450	47.7	724,115	30.2	36,378	6,134	62.1
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	29.2	4,613	949	60.4
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	30.1	40,991	7,083	62.0

na = Not applicable

**Table 11.10 Quitting tobacco and advise by a health care provider by state/union territory**

Among women and men age 15-49 who currently use any kind of tobacco, percentage who have tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among current users of tobacco who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any other form, and among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) smoked in their home or anywhere else in the 30 days preceding the survey, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Men		
	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days
<b>India</b>	31.8	61.4	47.7	30.2	53.7	62.1
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	nc	nc	43.2	37.3	100.0	68.4
Delhi	40.7	44.4	56.6	36.2	65.8	81.4
Haryana	42.3	67.0	59.3	22.3	52.6	73.6
Himachal Pradesh	25.2	10.3	51.1	31.1	66.6	75.3
Jammu & Kashmir	17.1	57.8	59.3	11.9	38.5	65.3
Ladakh	10.7	59.1	50.4	3.5	15.1	59.6
Punjab	22.4	nc	32.5	33.9	82.3	53.8
Rajasthan	31.7	57.5	67.6	23.6	41.6	80.1
Uttarakhand	39.6	39.0	57.3	44.5	30.0	85.8
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	25.2	54.5	29.7	21.9	46.7	68.2
Madhya Pradesh	39.0	65.9	49.5	34.0	57.8	75.1
Uttar Pradesh	41.5	69.0	48.9	32.3	50.0	77.8
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	37.2	57.0	38.9	31.2	50.8	70.3
Jharkhand	21.0	55.8	43.1	25.1	42.3	69.0
Odisha	25.5	33.4	39.0	46.1	35.1	62.1
West Bengal	26.9	69.1	54.2	22.8	55.1	68.1
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	20.7	37.9	48.8	18.8	54.6	58.2
Assam	19.9	64.9	43.4	12.0	36.7	46.1
Manipur	33.5	38.1	75.2	47.6	29.7	76.5
Meghalaya	36.1	59.6	62.7	34.4	57.3	53.8
Mizoram	39.4	56.5	95.0	28.4	40.6	91.5
Nagaland	31.8	29.0	55.1	19.2	16.0	71.7
Sikkim	20.0	21.3	39.1	18.8	42.3	50.3
Tripura	28.3	55.4	71.9	13.9	55.2	76.9
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	22.5	100.0	46.4	38.2	74.8	64.8
Goa	16.6	49.7	35.8	18.1	68.6	51.6
Gujarat	34.5	65.7	57.8	40.6	56.8	69.8
Maharashtra	34.4	78.3	36.5	36.2	62.9	54.3

Continued...

**Table 11.10 Quitting tobacco and advise by a health care provider by state/union territory—Continued**

Among women and men age 15-49 who currently use any kind of tobacco, percentage who have tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among current users of tobacco who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any other form, and among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) smoked in their home or anywhere else in the 30 days preceding the survey, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Men		
	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days	Percentage who tried to stop smoking or using tobacco in any other form in the past 12 months	Percentage who were advised to quit smoking or using tobacco in any form among those who visited a doctor or other health care provider in the past 12 months	Percentage who were present when someone (other than themselves) was smoking in the home or elsewhere in the past 30 days
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	36.4	43.2	41.0	29.1	51.8	62.7
Andhra Pradesh	26.9	72.0	46.6	33.6	68.2	62.7
Karnataka	32.3	79.6	44.1	27.8	56.2	37.6
Kerala	43.0	63.6	40.1	35.6	52.6	55.2
Lakshadweep	24.7	44.0	19.3	8.9	0.0	38.1
Puducherry	83.3	100.0	52.4	30.6	61.9	58.8
Tamil Nadu	32.7	64.0	51.0	36.6	65.9	43.7
Telangana	36.8	77.9	50.0	39.2	65.5	54.5

nc = No cases

**Table 11.11.1 Use of alcohol: Women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who drink alcohol and percent distribution of alcohol drinkers by frequency of drinking, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who drink alcohol	Number of women	Among women who drink alcohol, frequency of drinking			Total	Number of women
			Almost every day	About once a week	Less than once a week		
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	0.2	122,544	6.3	24.6	69.1	100.0	238
20-34	0.6	336,968	12.8	33.8	53.3	100.0	2,040
35-49	1.2	264,603	20.4	39.2	40.4	100.0	3,123
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	0.4	235,279	11.3	25.6	63.1	100.0	991
Rural	0.9	488,836	18.1	39.0	42.8	100.0	4,409
<b>Maternity status</b>							
Pregnant	0.4	27,125	12.6	28.7	58.7	100.0	111
Breastfeeding (not pregnant)	0.6	100,596	17.3	36.0	46.7	100.0	589
Neither	0.8	596,394	16.9	36.8	46.3	100.0	4,700
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	1.8	163,492	23.1	41.6	35.4	100.0	2,974
<5 years complete	1.0	37,549	15.6	38.8	45.6	100.0	380
5-7 years complete	0.5	96,806	13.6	34.5	51.9	100.0	529
8-9 years complete	0.4	129,094	7.9	33.9	58.2	100.0	501
10-11 years complete	0.3	109,777	8.4	26.1	65.5	100.0	305
12 or more years complete	0.4	187,396	4.3	22.2	73.5	100.0	713
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	0.8	589,164	15.8	37.2	46.9	100.0	4,650
Muslim	0.0	97,595	24.7	24.3	51.0	100.0	48
Christian	2.1	16,995	14.1	35.0	50.9	100.0	360
Sikh	0.2	11,404	8.0	9.6	82.4	100.0	18
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.7	4,571	7.4	32.9	59.7	100.0	78
Jain	0.5	1,632	8.2	16.6	75.2	100.0	9
Other	8.6	2,754	44.5	32.0	23.5	100.0	237
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	0.5	158,483	19.1	33.8	47.1	100.0	845
Scheduled tribe	3.9	67,263	18.0	41.9	40.0	100.0	2,590
Other backward class	0.4	310,783	16.2	33.6	50.2	100.0	1,297
Other	0.3	182,474	10.2	24.4	65.4	100.0	625
Don't know	0.9	5,112	22.2	33.5	44.3	100.0	44
<b>Wealth index</b>							
Lowest	1.9	133,973	19.6	42.9	37.4	100.0	2,600
Second	0.7	144,813	18.7	37.1	44.2	100.0	1,054
Middle	0.5	148,616	17.5	33.6	48.9	100.0	710
Fourth	0.3	150,680	11.7	26.2	62.1	100.0	468
Highest	0.4	146,032	4.6	18.5	76.9	100.0	569
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>724,115</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,401</b>

**Table 11.11.2 Use of alcohol: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who drink alcohol and percent distribution of alcohol drinkers by frequency of drinking, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who drink alcohol	Number of men	Among men who drink alcohol, frequency of drinking			Total	Number of men
			Almost every day	About once a week	Less than once a week		
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	5.8	16,385	4.3	32.9	62.9	100.0	943
20-34	22.7	41,688	10.8	43.5	45.7	100.0	9,480
35-49	29.9	35,071	19.2	44.3	36.5	100.0	10,486
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	22.1	32,852	14.2	44.7	41.1	100.0	7,274
Rural	22.6	60,291	15.0	42.7	42.3	100.0	13,636
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	31.6	9,982	24.3	43.1	32.6	100.0	3,157
<5 years complete	32.7	5,842	16.0	40.9	43.1	100.0	1,909
5-7 years complete	28.5	12,082	17.9	43.9	38.3	100.0	3,449
8-9 years complete	21.5	18,472	15.0	42.6	42.4	100.0	3,980
10-11 years complete	19.2	16,735	12.1	47.6	40.3	100.0	3,218
12 or more years complete	17.3	30,032	7.8	42.2	50.0	100.0	5,196
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	25.0	73,632	14.5	43.4	42.1	100.0	18,384
Muslim	6.3	14,633	12.8	38.2	49.1	100.0	917
Christian	35.5	2,426	17.0	48.2	34.7	100.0	861
Sikh	30.4	886	15.2	46.0	38.8	100.0	270
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	28.7	1,017	20.3	40.0	39.6	100.0	292
Jain	19.6	280	1.5	95.9	2.6	100.0	55
Other	48.8	269	39.1	30.4	30.6	100.0	131
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	31.1	18,977	14.6	41.4	44.1	100.0	5,905
Scheduled tribe	33.6	8,441	21.2	44.1	34.7	100.0	2,835
Other backward class	20.4	38,986	13.7	47.4	39.0	100.0	7,951
Other	15.7	26,244	12.6	38.3	49.1	100.0	4,117
Don't know	20.4	496	11.6	37.7	50.7	100.0	101
<b>Wealth index</b>							
Lowest	27.8	15,606	16.8	39.6	43.6	100.0	4,332
Second	23.7	18,497	16.0	41.6	42.4	100.0	4,375
Middle	22.3	19,829	15.3	44.6	40.0	100.0	4,427
Fourth	21.4	20,658	13.1	47.0	39.9	100.0	4,412
Highest	18.1	18,553	11.6	44.4	44.0	100.0	3,364
Total age 15-49	22.4	93,144	14.7	43.4	41.9	100.0	20,910
Age 50-54	27.2	8,695	21.7	44.6	33.7	100.0	2,361
Total age 15-54	22.9	101,839	15.4	43.5	41.0	100.0	23,271

**Table 11.12 Use of alcohol by state/union territory**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who drink alcohol, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who drink alcohol	Percentage of men who drink alcohol
<b>India</b>	0.7	22.4
<b>North</b>		
Chandigarh	0.1	26.4
Delhi	1.4	27.9
Haryana	0.1	17.9
Himachal Pradesh	0.4	31.9
Jammu & Kashmir	0.2	10.5
Ladakh	3.6	23.7
Punjab	0.1	27.5
Rajasthan	0.1	11.5
Uttarakhand	0.1	32.1
<b>Central</b>		
Chhattisgarh	2.8	35.9
Madhya Pradesh	0.4	20.2
Uttar Pradesh	0.1	16.5
<b>East</b>		
Bihar	0.1	17.0
Jharkhand	2.6	40.4
Odisha	2.7	38.4
West Bengal	0.7	25.7
<b>Northeast</b>		
Arunachal Pradesh	17.8	56.6
Assam	5.5	26.5
Manipur	1.6	47.9
Meghalaya	1.0	36.3
Mizoram	1.0	29.9
Nagaland	1.4	31.1
Sikkim	14.8	36.3
Tripura	4.3	35.9
<b>West</b>		
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.5	41.8
Goa	4.8	59.1
Gujarat	0.1	5.9
Maharashtra	0.2	17.2
<b>South</b>		
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2.2	42.1
Andhra Pradesh	0.2	31.2
Karnataka	0.3	23.1
Kerala	0.3	26.0
Lakshadweep	0.1	0.8
Puducherry	0.2	37.1
Tamil Nadu	0.1	32.8
Telangana	4.9	50.0

**Table 11.13 Health insurance/financing scheme coverage: Households**

Percentage of households in which at least one usual member is covered by health insurance or financing scheme, type of health insurance/financing scheme coverage, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of households covered by health insurance or financing scheme <sup>1</sup>	Type of coverage among households in which at least one usual member is covered by health insurance/financing scheme										Number of households		
		Employee state insurance scheme (ESIS)	Central government health scheme (CGHS)	State health insurance scheme	Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)	Community health insurance programme	Other health insurance through employer	Medical reimbursement from employer	Other privately purchased commercial health insurance					
<b>Residence</b>														
Urban	38.1	211,271	7.8	10.8	42.4	12.7	0.5	2.6	2.0	8.0	19.6	80,454		
Rural	42.4	425,428	1.8	6.7	47.8	17.0	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.3	29.3	180,558		
<b>Religion of household head</b>														
Hindu	42.4	521,485	3.7	8.2	47.5	15.1	0.3	1.2	0.8	3.3	25.7	220,919		
Muslim	31.0	78,928	3.0	5.0	35.4	19.8	0.4	0.6	0.3	1.7	37.1	24,450		
Christian	55.3	17,881	4.4	5.8	54.8	22.4	0.2	0.8	1.0	5.1	10.9	9,881		
Sikh	28.3	9,742	5.0	23.4	32.5	11.0	1.3	1.8	1.3	12.0	15.4	2,755		
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	29.8	4,522	4.1	17.7	14.0	12.9	0.3	1.0	0.6	6.4	46.5	1,346		
Jain	42.1	1,621	4.7	5.8	26.0	4.5	0.7	4.6	3.3	32.9	23.6	682		
Other	38.9	2,520	1.2	5.9	15.9	10.8	1.0	0.1	0.6	1.6	64.8	979		
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>														
Scheduled caste	42.7	137,846	2.8	7.9	49.0	14.9	0.3	0.6	0.3	1.4	28.2	58,889		
Scheduled tribe	46.8	60,543	2.1	7.2	40.8	23.9	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.7	28.8	28,326		
Other backward class	43.0	264,886	3.4	7.7	52.0	14.0	0.3	1.1	0.6	2.6	24.2	113,879		
Other	34.8	167,906	5.8	9.0	34.5	15.6	0.6	1.9	1.7	8.4	27.3	58,368		
Don't know	28.1	5,518	4.2	7.5	37.6	21.0	0.7	0.7	1.3	3.5	27.7	1,550		
<b>Wealth index</b>														
Lowest	36.1	132,300	0.7	4.9	32.0	21.6	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.2	43.4	47,765		
Second	42.0	127,292	1.0	6.1	48.2	16.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.5	31.8	53,522		
Middle	44.1	127,106	2.0	7.7	56.4	14.8	0.2	0.4	0.2	1.1	22.5	56,071		
Fourth	42.2	124,936	4.3	8.7	53.7	15.8	0.3	1.1	0.6	2.5	19.1	52,676		
Highest	40.8	125,065	10.6	12.4	37.9	10.2	0.6	3.7	2.9	12.8	16.1	50,978		
Total	41.0	636,699	3.7	8.0	46.1	15.7	0.3	1.1	0.7	3.4	26.3	261,012		

<sup>1</sup> Percentage of households in which any usual member of the household is covered by health insurance/financing scheme

Table 1.1.14.1 Health insurance/financing scheme coverage: Women

Percentage of households in which at least one usual member is covered by health insurance or financing scheme, type of health insurance/financing scheme coverage, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women covered by health insurance/financing scheme	Number of women	Type of coverage among women covered by health insurance/financing scheme										Number of women			
			Employees' state insurance scheme (ESIS)	Central government health Scheme (CGHS)	State health insurance scheme	Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)	Community health insurance programme	Other health insurance through employer	Medical reimbursement from employer	Other privately purchased commercial health insurance						
<b>Age</b>																
15-19	25.5	122,544	1.8	5.0	49.8	16.6	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.4	27.2	31,301				
20-24	24.4	119,440	2.3	5.5	51.1	16.3	0.2	0.5	0.5	1.8	24.5	29,167				
25-34	28.0	217,529	3.1	6.1	47.9	15.7	0.6	1.0	0.7	2.7	25.7	60,925				
35-49	35.6	264,603	2.8	6.4	48.4	16.9	0.4	0.8	0.6	2.7	25.2	94,121				
<b>Residence</b>																
Urban	26.8	235,279	5.9	8.2	45.1	14.3	0.6	1.8	1.6	6.3	20.2	63,012				
Rural	31.2	488,836	1.3	5.1	50.4	17.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.8	27.7	152,502				
<b>Religion</b>																
Hindu	31.0	589,164	2.7	6.1	49.9	16.0	0.4	0.8	0.6	2.4	24.7	182,589				
Muslim	22.1	97,595	1.5	3.9	40.2	19.5	0.6	0.4	0.2	1.0	35.2	21,564				
Christian	44.2	16,995	3.9	4.2	56.9	21.5	0.1	0.6	0.7	4.1	12.4	7,509				
Sikh	14.7	11,404	3.9	21.4	40.1	11.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	7.6	13.0	1,681				
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	21.3	4,571	1.7	15.4	16.7	10.4	0.4	0.2	1.7	6.8	48.3	973				
Jain	24.9	1,632	3.6	3.5	38.4	4.9	2.8	2.6	3.4	21.9	22.0	406				
Other	28.7	2,754	0.8	4.2	18.4	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	67.7	791				
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																
Scheduled caste	30.5	158,483	2.1	5.9	51.7	14.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.0	27.3	48,344				
Scheduled tribe	37.6	67,263	1.6	5.6	44.5	24.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	26.3	25,272				
Other backward class	30.7	310,783	2.5	5.8	52.6	15.9	0.3	0.7	0.5	1.7	23.7	95,418				
Other	24.9	182,474	4.2	6.6	40.5	15.2	0.6	1.5	1.3	6.5	26.9	45,516				
Don't know	18.8	5,112	1.8	5.5	37.0	20.7	2.3	1.1	1.0	1.2	31.6	963				

Continued...



**Table 11.14.1 Health insurance/financing scheme coverage: Women—Continued**

Percentage of households in which at least one usual member is covered by health insurance or financing scheme, type of health insurance/financing scheme coverage, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women covered by health insurance/financing scheme	Number of women	Type of coverage among women covered by a health insurance/financing scheme								Number of women			
			Employees' state insurance scheme (ESIS)	Central government health scheme (CGHS)	State health insurance scheme	Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)	Community health insurance programme	Other health insurance through employer	Medical reimbursement from employer	Other privately purchased commercial health insurance				
<b>Wealth index</b>														
Lowest	26.8	133,973	0.7	3.9	31.7	22.8	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	43.0	35,899
Second	30.8	144,813	0.8	4.7	48.3	17.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	31.2	44,536
Middle	32.3	148,616	1.4	5.6	57.9	15.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6	22.1	47,969
Fourth	30.9	150,680	3.0	6.5	56.9	16.1	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	1.4	18.6	46,500
Highest	27.8	146,032	7.5	9.0	44.6	11.7	0.7	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.4	9.9	15.8	40,609
Total	29.8	724,115	2.6	6.0	48.8	16.4	0.4	0.8	0.6	2.4	0.6	2.4	25.5	215,514

Table 11.14.2 Health insurance/financing scheme coverage: Men

Percentage of men age 15-49 who are covered by any health insurance or financing scheme by the type of health insurance/financing scheme coverage that they have, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men covered by health insurance/financing scheme	Number of men	Type of coverage among women covered by health insurance/financing scheme										Number of men			
			Employees' state insurance scheme (ESIS)	Central government health scheme (CGHS)	State health insurance scheme	Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)	Community health insurance programme	Other health insurance through employer	Medical reimbursement from employer	Other privately purchased commercial health insurance						
<b>Age</b>																
15-19	27.0	16,385	2.5	6.8	53.0	14.2	0.2	0.6	0.8	1.1	23.9	4,421				
20-24	29.7	14,384	3.3	6.4	49.0	13.8	0.3	1.6	2.4	2.5	24.0	4,278				
25-34	33.1	27,304	5.1	6.6	47.9	13.3	0.5	1.9	2.0	4.5	23.5	9,046				
35-49	37.8	35,071	4.1	6.5	46.7	14.3	0.3	1.3	0.8	4.4	26.0	13,267				
<b>Residence</b>																
Urban	30.2	32,852	7.8	8.1	45.6	11.7	0.3	3.5	3.6	7.8	16.9	9,927				
Rural	35.0	60,291	2.3	5.8	49.6	15.0	0.4	0.5	0.3	1.8	28.4	21,086				
<b>Religion</b>																
Hindu	34.7	73,632	4.1	6.7	49.5	13.0	0.3	1.5	1.5	3.7	24.4	25,516				
Muslim	25.0	14,633	3.6	4.8	42.2	18.5	0.4	0.6	0.1	2.0	30.8	3,657				
Christian	49.4	2,426	3.0	3.3	55.5	24.2	0.3	2.2	0.6	5.2	9.4	1,197				
Sikh	22.2	886	4.0	19.4	34.2	9.9	0.2	2.0	0.6	19.6	14.2	196				
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	26.8	1,017	5.8	24.1	15.3	5.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	5.8	46.0	273				
Jain	33.1	280	0.0	2.8	18.7	1.3	4.1	14.8	42.6	5.0	12.0	93				
Other	29.8	269	29.3	3.2	15.6	11.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	41.0	80				
<b>Caste/tribe</b>																
Scheduled caste	34.0	18,977	3.0	6.1	49.8	14.5	0.1	0.7	0.4	2.3	26.5	6,461				
Scheduled tribe	39.0	8,441	3.3	9.9	39.9	19.3	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.1	30.3	3,289				
Other backward class	36.0	38,986	3.8	5.5	53.8	13.1	0.3	1.5	0.9	2.9	22.4	14,017				
Other	27.3	26,244	5.8	7.4	40.1	12.4	0.6	2.5	3.7	7.8	25.0	7,175				
Don't know	14.1	496	7.7	12.4	36.8	26.6	0.0	1.2	0.8	3.0	23.9	70				

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**Table 11.14.2 Health insurance/financing scheme coverage: Men—Continued**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who are covered by any health insurance or financing scheme by the type of health insurance/financing scheme coverage that they have, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men covered by health insurance/financing scheme	Type of coverage among women covered by health insurance/financing scheme										Number of men		
		Employees' state insurance scheme (ESIS)	Central government health scheme (CGHS)	State health insurance scheme	Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)	Community health insurance programme	Other health insurance through employer	Medical reimbursement from employer	Other privately purchased commercial health insurance	Other				
<b>Wealth index</b>														
Lowest	27.0	2.2	5.3	30.5	19.4	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.6	44.7	4.219			
Second	31.4	1.5	5.0	47.0	16.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	33.0	5,808			
Middle	36.9	2.2	6.6	55.9	13.6	0.3	0.5	0.3	1.3	22.8	7,320			
Fourth	36.7	4.1	5.9	56.3	13.7	0.2	1.9	1.3	2.6	18.1	7,587			
Highest	32.8	10.0	9.7	42.6	8.6	0.5	4.1	4.9	13.2	13.4	6,078			
Total age 15-49	33.3	4.1	6.6	48.3	13.9	0.3	1.4	1.4	3.7	24.7	31,012			
Age 50-54	40.4	4.2	8.8	45.8	16.7	0.3	1.9	0.6	3.6	23.0	3,511			
Total age 15-54	33.9	4.1	6.8	48.0	14.2	0.3	1.5	1.3	3.7	24.5	34,523			

**Table 11.15 Health insurance/financing scheme coverage among women and men by state/union territory**

Percentage of households with at least one usual member covered by any health insurance or financing scheme, and percentage of women and men age 15-49 who are covered by any health insurance or financing scheme, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of households with at least one usual member covered by any health insurance/financing scheme	Percentage of women covered by any health insurance/financing scheme	Percentage of men covered by any health insurance/financing scheme
<b>India</b>	41.0	29.8	33.3
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	32.2	13.2	27.2
Delhi	25.0	16.5	13.8
Haryana	25.7	16.5	18.1
Himachal Pradesh	38.9	30.5	30.5
Jammu & Kashmir	13.8	2.3	10.9
Ladakh	17.1	4.8	17.6
Punjab	25.2	11.2	18.4
Rajasthan	87.8	83.5	83.9
Uttarakhand	62.5	43.8	49.1
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	71.4	66.9	70.4
Madhya Pradesh	38.1	26.5	31.9
Uttar Pradesh	15.9	8.4	10.5
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	17.4	10.5	10.6
Jharkhand	50.3	36.3	41.8
Odisha	47.9	33.7	41.6
West Bengal	33.7	26.0	22.1
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	29.3	20.2	22.2
Assam	66.7	52.9	53.7
Manipur	16.4	8.4	6.5
Meghalaya	69.0	61.8	57.4
Mizoram	50.3	39.7	42.0
Nagaland	22.0	9.8	12.4
Sikkim	28.0	20.1	24.1
Tripura	36.4	28.2	28.6
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	56.6	63.4	57.6
Goa	73.1	68.4	72.7
Gujarat	44.4	34.0	39.5
Maharashtra	22.4	13.8	19.3
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.8	0.9	1.5
Andhra Pradesh	80.2	73.6	86.2
Karnataka	31.8	21.6	25.8
Kerala	57.8	49.9	50.8
Lakshadweep	67.7	63.7	44.3
Puducherry	30.1	13.7	35.2
Tamil Nadu	66.5	32.6	48.6
Telangana	69.2	63.1	71.2

**Table 11.16 Source of health care**

Percent distribution of households by the source of health care which household members generally use when they get sick, according to residence and the wealth index, India, 2019-21

Source	Residence		Wealth index					Total
	Urban	Rural	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest	
<b>Public health sector</b>	46.9	51.7	53.7	55.4	55.3	50.2	35.6	50.1
Government/municipal hospital	28.2	16.2	14.5	18.5	22.3	24.5	21.5	20.2
Government dispensary	2.7	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.5	1.9
UHC/UHP/UFWC	2.8	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.6	2.2	1.6	1.5
CHC/rural hospital/Block PHC	7.6	18.0	22.3	19.0	14.8	10.9	5.4	14.6
PHC/additional PHC	4.7	13.0	12.0	13.0	13.1	9.3	3.7	10.3
Sub-centre	0.3	1.7	2.2	1.7	1.2	0.7	0.3	1.2
Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2
Other public health sector	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
NGO or trust hospital/clinic	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.5
<b>Private health sector</b>	51.8	46.4	43.4	43.0	43.4	48.5	63.1	48.2
Private hospital	23.0	14.8	8.3	12.1	16.0	21.0	31.1	17.6
Private doctor/clinic	27.1	28.8	31.3	28.2	25.5	25.7	30.3	28.2
Private paramedic	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Vaidya/hakim/homeopath (AYUSH)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Traditional healer	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Pharmacy/drug store	0.6	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7
Other private health sector	0.6	1.1	1.6	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.0
<b>Other source</b>	0.7	1.5	2.6	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.2
Shop	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Home treatment	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Other	0.5	1.2	2.1	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.5	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of households	211,271	425,428	132,300	127,292	127,106	124,936	125,065	636,699

AYUSH = Ayurveda, yoga and naturopathy, *unani*, *siddha*, and homeopathy; UHC = Urban health centre; UHP = Urban health post; UFWC = Urban family welfare centre; CHC = Community health centre; PHC = Primary health centre; NGO = Nongovernmental organization

**Table 11.17 Reasons for not using a government health facility by state/union territory**

Percentage of households whose members do not generally use a government health facility when they are sick, and among households whose members do not generally use a government health facility when they are sick, percentage giving specific reasons for not utilizing a government health facility, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of households that do not generally use a government health facility	Reasons for not generally using government health facilities among households that do not generally use government health facilities				
		No nearby facility	Facility timing not convenient	Health personnel often absent	Waiting time too long	Poor quality of care
<b>India</b>	49.9	40.2	25.3	15.0	45.7	47.6
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	34.6	20.2	16.9	12.6	65.4	32.6
Delhi	36.1	28.8	27.6	9.0	69.0	40.0
Haryana	61.0	36.7	24.7	14.1	60.9	48.1
Himachal Pradesh	16.6	37.3	25.0	16.7	51.6	36.1
Jammu & Kashmir	8.9	40.8	16.4	13.0	45.5	42.6
Ladakh	0.4	12.2	0.0	0.0	75.2	41.1
Punjab	67.5	41.0	24.0	16.9	52.7	39.5
Rajasthan	26.4	39.2	26.3	15.8	44.1	52.4
Uttarakhand	55.7	47.3	27.9	19.8	56.8	53.4
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	30.2	41.2	23.1	17.8	46.0	35.6
Madhya Pradesh	49.7	41.8	25.5	16.2	41.7	48.2
Uttar Pradesh	75.0	46.5	21.6	14.3	45.5	55.2
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	80.2	37.9	27.0	21.0	45.2	62.3
Jharkhand	61.9	54.8	23.9	20.6	39.5	46.6
Odisha	12.2	43.6	14.8	11.2	34.4	34.9
West Bengal	29.9	43.8	17.9	6.7	53.6	32.5
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	5.4	38.1	20.9	11.8	30.7	37.9
Assam	16.7	40.3	28.8	16.9	52.6	34.1
Manipur	16.5	14.8	31.5	12.8	59.5	40.7
Meghalaya	21.6	28.2	13.9	8.5	37.3	30.6
Mizoram	11.3	45.0	12.9	3.0	34.0	16.7
Nagaland	29.2	37.1	26.2	13.2	27.9	31.3
Sikkim	12.2	47.2	15.7	6.2	36.6	20.9
Tripura	7.2	23.3	30.6	17.8	50.2	41.1
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	25.6	20.0	24.6	9.4	68.0	27.2
Goa	38.4	19.7	9.3	4.3	70.2	24.1
Gujarat	45.9	32.1	26.4	12.6	45.7	28.0
Maharashtra	63.9	41.3	23.9	12.2	40.3	35.6
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4.5	15.5	14.6	9.7	43.2	33.9
Andhra Pradesh	57.9	36.9	30.6	14.9	47.9	57.9
Karnataka	44.8	38.1	33.2	20.3	46.9	45.2
Kerala	23.9	29.4	34.2	6.7	47.0	19.6
Lakshadweep	0.9	25.9	24.7	38.2	12.9	36.5
Puducherry	21.2	10.2	28.2	8.8	53.9	56.2
Tamil Nadu	34.9	26.2	29.7	11.9	45.7	42.9
Telangana	63.8	34.5	29.9	16.2	40.2	57.5

**Table 11.18 Recent contacts with health workers**

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who had any contact with a health worker in the past 3 months										Among women who met a health worker in the past 3 months, percentage who met a worker:			Number of women who met a health worker
	ANM/LHV	AWW	ASHA	MPW	Other community health worker	Any health worker <sup>1</sup>	Number of women	At home	At an <i>anganwadi</i> centre	At a health facility or camp	Elsewhere			
<b>Age</b>														
15-19	11.6	9.3	14.4	0.6	0.3	20.8	122,544	69.8	59.2	36.1	29.6	25,543		
20-29	28.0	22.6	31.1	1.3	0.4	43.6	236,584	70.7	79.0	41.9	27.7	103,182		
30-39	18.7	14.2	22.1	1.1	0.4	31.4	197,936	74.5	63.5	37.2	28.8	62,076		
40-49	13.5	9.5	16.6	1.1	0.5	23.6	167,051	75.7	49.1	34.7	30.6	39,455		
<b>Residence</b>														
Urban	16.2	11.6	14.8	1.2	0.8	25.9	235,279	67.7	61.8	37.2	26.5	60,863		
Rural	20.8	16.7	26.2	1.0	0.2	34.7	488,836	74.2	69.5	39.3	29.5	169,393		
<b>Schooling</b>														
No schooling	17.1	13.2	22.1	0.7	0.2	28.6	163,492	76.2	68.0	38.3	31.0	46,781		
<5 years complete	17.9	14.5	24.4	0.9	0.4	32.9	37,549	73.2	62.5	35.8	27.6	12,361		
5-7 years complete	20.1	16.0	24.1	1.0	0.4	33.4	96,806	73.3	67.5	38.9	29.2	32,339		
8-9 years complete	20.0	16.4	24.1	1.1	0.5	33.6	129,094	72.5	68.5	38.3	28.1	43,370		
10-11 years complete	19.7	15.4	22.3	1.2	0.5	32.3	109,777	71.9	67.1	39.9	29.0	35,464		
12 or more years complete	20.6	15.0	20.6	1.4	0.5	32.0	187,396	69.3	67.5	39.3	27.1	59,942		
<b>Marital status</b>														
Never married	9.2	7.2	11.3	0.7	0.3	16.9	172,075	70.8	50.3	30.5	29.2	29,090		
Currently married	23.0	17.9	26.6	1.2	0.4	37.2	521,352	72.7	70.6	40.2	28.6	193,941		
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	13.6	10.3	16.0	1.1	0.5	23.5	30,688	72.7	51.9	34.2	29.7	7,225		

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Table 11.18 Recent contacts with health workers—Continued

Percentage of women who had any contact with a health worker in the 3 months preceding the survey by type of health worker, and among those who had contact with a health worker in the past 3 months, percentage who met a worker at home, at an anganwadi centre, at a health facility or camp, or elsewhere, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who had any contact with a health worker in the past 3 months						Among women who met a health worker in the past 3 months, percentage who met a worker:				Number of women who met a health worker	
	ANM/LHV	AWW	ASHA	MPW	Other community health worker	Any health worker <sup>1</sup>	Number of women	At home	At an <i>anganwadi</i> centre	At a health facility or camp		Elsewhere
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	19.7	15.5	22.5	1.1	0.4	32.0	589,164	72.2	67.8	38.5	29.0	188,459
Muslim	18.5	13.4	25.5	0.8	0.4	33.3	97,595	77.3	67.7	41.2	28.2	32,513
Christian	20.1	15.1	18.5	1.5	0.4	32.2	16,995	65.4	56.2	32.0	24.6	5,468
Sikh	10.8	6.5	10.3	0.3	0.5	16.6	11,404	54.4	61.8	44.5	21.9	1,896
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	14.9	11.2	11.6	1.1	0.5	22.8	4,571	56.7	65.9	39.3	28.7	1,041
Jain	8.4	7.5	10.6	0.8	0.1	15.1	1,632	73.7	64.0	36.5	20.9	247
Other	14.8	13.0	14.5	0.7	0.1	22.9	2,754	60.8	72.8	33.4	27.8	632
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	20.3	15.4	23.4	1.1	0.4	32.9	158,483	72.6	68.6	39.8	29.2	52,173
Scheduled tribe	22.8	20.2	26.9	1.4	0.3	36.3	67,263	70.4	71.7	38.5	29.9	24,440
Other backward class	20.7	15.8	23.0	1.2	0.3	32.8	310,783	72.2	67.9	38.7	29.0	102,090
Other	15.2	11.6	19.4	0.8	0.7	27.5	182,474	74.0	63.4	37.9	27.2	50,174
Don't know	13.0	12.6	18.6	0.3	0.1	27.0	5,112	69.2	67.6	39.4	24.0	1,379
<b>Wealth Index</b>												
Lowest	20.2	16.5	27.6	0.7	0.2	34.6	133,973	74.7	72.7	38.9	31.2	46,344
Second	20.5	16.2	26.1	1.0	0.2	34.3	144,813	74.7	69.5	39.7	30.4	49,672
Middle	20.9	16.7	23.4	1.2	0.5	33.8	148,616	72.5	67.4	39.4	29.0	50,259
Fourth	19.7	15.3	21.0	1.3	0.6	32.0	150,680	71.4	65.4	38.4	27.5	48,207
Highest	15.4	10.5	14.9	1.2	0.6	24.5	146,032	67.9	60.8	36.8	24.5	35,774
Total	19.3	15.0	22.5	1.1	0.4	31.8	724,115	72.5	67.5	38.8	28.7	230,256

<sup>1</sup> Contact with auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM), lady health visitor (LHV), *anganwadi* worker (AWW), Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), multipurpose worker (MPW), or other community health worker



**Table 11.19 Matters discussed during contacts with a health worker**

Among women who had at least one contact with a health worker in the 3 months preceding the survey, percentage who discussed specific topics with the worker, India, 2019-21

Topic discussed	Never married women	Ever-married, pregnant women	Ever-married, non-pregnant women	
			Current users of contraception	Current non-users of contraception
Family planning	7.6	21.9	23.3	20.5
Immunization	11.8	85.1	54.6	64.7
Antenatal care	2.6	19.2	5.0	8.1
Delivery care	1.6	17.4	5.9	13.2
Birth preparedness	0.7	2.7	1.5	2.5
Complication readiness	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.6
Postnatal care	4.7	9.5	7.1	9.1
Disease prevention	17.8	6.1	13.4	11.2
Medical treatment for self	63.4	23.2	41.6	35.7
Treatment for sick child	6.3	26.7	25.0	24.6
Treatment for other person	29.8	6.9	17.5	13.7
Malaria control	13.1	3.1	9.7	5.2
Supplementary food	9.2	22.5	16.2	15.6
Growth monitoring of child	1.6	14.7	11.0	10.2
Early childhood care	0.6	3.6	2.7	3.0
Preschool education	4.7	5.9	5.6	3.8
Nutrition or health education	18.6	9.8	12.7	10.1
Family life education	9.3	3.8	8.0	5.7
Menstrual hygiene	22.9	2.2	6.2	3.9
Other	15.5	3.2	9.2	7.1
Number of women	29,090	120,627	123,554	57,312

Note: Table includes only women who had contacts with auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM), lady health visitor (LHV), *anganwadi* worker (AWW), Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), multipurpose worker (MPW), or other community health worker.

**Table 11.20 Recent contacts with health workers and visits to a health facility or camp by state/ union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had any contact with a health worker in the past 3 months and percentage of women and men age 15-49 who visited a health facility or camp in the past 3 months, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women with any contact with a health worker <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who visited a health facility or camp in the past 3 months	
		Women	Men
<b>India</b>	31.8	14.9	30.0
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	10.7	7.1	27.4
Delhi	22.5	10.2	23.1
Haryana	30.9	14.8	21.1
Himachal Pradesh	36.3	14.5	21.5
Jammu & Kashmir	20.5	16.6	39.0
Ladakh	26.2	22.5	42.2
Punjab	14.8	8.4	30.2
Rajasthan	23.7	11.8	31.7
Uttarakhand	20.2	7.1	22.5
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	38.6	18.0	22.0
Madhya Pradesh	29.0	11.5	25.0
Uttar Pradesh	33.0	16.4	28.4
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	25.3	8.5	26.3
Jharkhand	22.8	10.2	23.0
Odisha	49.7	11.4	37.5
West Bengal	37.7	17.2	29.3
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	19.6	11.4	15.4
Assam	34.5	23.2	27.1
Manipur	10.5	4.2	21.4
Meghalaya	28.0	16.8	18.3
Mizoram	12.8	6.7	15.0
Nagaland	13.3	8.0	13.0
Sikkim	24.3	12.8	28.1
Tripura	23.7	9.2	36.0
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	46.3	20.3	35.2
Goa	30.4	25.0	40.5
Gujarat	39.8	16.9	18.8
Maharashtra	22.0	10.5	31.1

*Continued...*

**Table 11.20 Recent contacts with health workers and visits to a health facility or camp by state/ union territory—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had any contact with a health worker in the past 3 months and percentage of women and men age 15-49 who visited a health facility or camp in the past 3 months, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women with any contact with a health worker <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who visited a health facility or camp in the past 3 months	
		Women	Men
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14.6	7.4	33.0
Andhra Pradesh	20.4	8.5	40.5
Karnataka	54.2	32.7	31.7
Kerala	51.8	11.7	42.8
Lakshadweep	28.9	8.8	22.6
Puducherry	33.9	22.0	56.0
Tamil Nadu	34.6	22.6	34.7
Telangana	28.7	13.5	41.0

<sup>1</sup> Contact with auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM), lady health visitor (LHV), *anganwadi* worker (AWW), Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), multipurpose worker (MPW), or other community health worker

**Table 1.1.21 Problems in accessing health care**

Percentage of women who reported that specific problems are big problems for them in accessing medical advice or treatment for themselves when they are sick, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Big problem in accessing medical advice or treatment:							At least one problem in accessing health care		
	Getting permission to go for treatment	Getting money for treatment	Distance to health facility	Having to take transport	Finding someone to go with you	Concern that no female provider available	Concern that no drugs available	Concern that no provider available	At least one problem in accessing health care	Number of women
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	16.5	22.4	24.2	22.7	18.0	34.3	42.3	41.4	61.9	122,544
20-29	14.4	20.8	22.9	21.0	16.9	31.4	40.6	39.4	59.6	236,584
30-39	12.4	21.4	23.3	21.6	16.3	30.5	40.1	38.9	59.1	197,936
40-49	11.4	21.4	22.9	21.4	15.9	29.4	39.1	37.6	58.1	167,051
<b>Number of living children</b>										
0	14.5	20.2	22.2	20.7	16.5	31.9	40.2	39.3	59.0	225,702
1-2	12.2	20.4	21.9	20.0	15.5	29.1	38.5	37.3	57.4	315,187
3-4	14.2	23.9	26.3	24.6	18.6	33.5	43.4	41.8	63.1	153,629
5 or more	16.4	28.0	29.3	28.0	21.2	36.7	46.5	44.9	67.0	29,596
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	9.4	14.4	13.2	11.5	10.9	24.6	32.8	31.8	48.5	235,279
Rural	15.5	24.7	28.1	26.4	19.5	34.4	44.1	42.7	64.8	488,836
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	16.8	29.2	31.0	29.3	22.3	37.2	46.8	45.3	68.3	163,492
<5 years complete	14.4	29.9	28.7	26.5	19.7	34.5	46.0	44.6	67.5	37,549
5-7 years complete	14.4	24.7	26.2	24.3	18.5	33.6	43.2	41.9	63.8	96,806
8-9 years complete	14.8	23.0	24.2	22.4	17.5	33.0	43.0	41.8	62.5	129,094
10-11 years complete	12.3	17.6	20.1	18.4	14.8	29.2	37.4	36.4	55.9	109,777
12 or more years complete	9.8	12.1	15.0	13.6	11.0	23.9	32.2	31.3	48.0	187,396
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	14.4	20.0	21.9	20.5	16.2	31.7	40.1	39.1	58.7	172,075
Currently married	13.2	21.4	23.5	21.6	16.7	31.1	40.5	39.2	59.6	521,352
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	12.4	29.1	26.0	25.5	20.0	30.7	40.8	39.3	62.4	30,688

*Continued...*

**Table 11.21 Problems in accessing health care—Continued**

Percentage of women who reported that specific problems are big problems for them in accessing medical advice or treatment for themselves when they are sick, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Big problem in accessing medical advice or treatment:										At least one problem in accessing health care	Number of women	
	Getting permission to go for treatment	Getting money for treatment	Distance to health facility	Having to take transport	Finding someone to go with you	Concern that no female provider available	Concern that no provider available	Concern that no drugs available	At least one problem in accessing health care				
<b>Religion</b>													
Hindu	13.4	21.0	23.4	21.8	16.9	31.5	39.7	40.7	59.9	589,164			
Muslim	15.3	25.3	23.0	20.6	16.9	32.4	39.7	41.5	60.8	97,595			
Christian	8.3	19.7	21.9	20.1	11.6	22.3	29.6	30.5	48.1	16,995			
Sikh	11.7	15.0	19.0	17.5	14.9	19.3	21.2	28.6	45.9	11,404			
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	14.9	15.7	21.4	22.3	17.1	27.8	39.3	39.3	57.5	4,571			
Jain	4.9	3.6	6.4	5.5	4.6	21.2	28.2	28.1	39.1	1,632			
Other	13.7	26.0	30.5	28.8	19.5	37.2	46.0	48.0	67.0	2,754			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>													
Scheduled caste	13.9	24.1	24.3	23.1	17.8	31.7	39.5	40.8	61.5	158,483			
Scheduled tribe	17.0	29.6	33.7	32.5	23.2	39.0	50.4	51.3	70.9	67,263			
Other backward class	13.6	19.5	22.5	20.7	16.4	31.5	38.4	39.3	58.5	310,783			
Other	11.6	18.9	19.4	17.4	13.9	27.3	36.1	37.8	55.0	182,474			
Don't know	17.1	30.0	31.2	29.6	22.9	35.2	43.9	45.0	65.6	5,112			
<b>Employed in last 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>													
Not employed	13.8	20.2	21.8	20.4	16.4	31.4	39.2	40.5	58.8	75,121			
Employed for cash	12.1	22.9	24.6	23.0	16.8	30.7	38.7	39.0	60.1	27,400			
Employed not for cash	14.0	21.6	28.5	25.5	18.9	34.7	43.1	44.0	64.3	5,493			
<b>Wealth index</b>													
Lowest	20.0	37.5	37.7	36.6	26.7	42.2	52.2	54.3	76.3	133,973			
Second	16.3	27.7	29.0	27.3	20.3	35.5	44.3	45.7	67.7	144,813			
Middle	13.3	20.6	23.0	21.3	16.3	31.4	38.9	40.0	60.4	148,616			
Fourth	10.8	14.6	17.2	15.3	12.6	27.3	34.1	34.8	52.7	150,680			
Highest	7.8	8.1	10.7	8.7	8.8	20.7	27.7	28.6	42.0	146,032			
Total	13.5	21.4	23.2	21.5	16.7	31.2	39.2	40.4	59.5	724,115			

<sup>1</sup> Employment information asked of only a sub-sample of women respondents



## Key Findings

- **Prevalence of hypertension:** Twenty-one percent of women and 24 percent of men age 15 and over have hypertension. Thirty-nine percent of women and 49 percent of men age 15 and over are pre-hypertensive.
- **Blood glucose levels:** Twelve percent of women and 14 percent of men age 15 and over have random blood glucose levels greater than 140 mg/dl.
- **Screening tests for cancer:** Among women age 15-49, 0.6 percent have had a screening test for breast cancer, 1.2 percent have had a screening test for cervical cancer, and 0.7 percent have had an oral cavity screening test.
- **Crude death rate:** The crude death rate (CDR) for India is 9 deaths per 1,000 population per year (10 per 1,000 for men and 8 per 1,000 for women). CDRs do not vary much across states, but they are highest in Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry.
- **Age-specific death rates:** Age-specific death rates decrease from 15 deaths per 1,000 population age 0-4 to less than 1 death per 1,000 population age 10-14 and increase thereafter to a high of 79 deaths per 1,000 population at age 70 and over.
- **Cause of death:** The proportion of deaths that are due to non-medical reasons (accidents, violence, poisoning, homicides, or suicides) is higher among men (11%) than women (6%). The proportion of deaths due to non-medical reasons peaks at ages 15-29 for both men and women, reaching a high (47%) of all deaths for men age 20-29.

**N**on-communicable diseases (NCDs) account for 65 percent of all deaths in India. The major metabolic risk factors for NCDs are obesity, raised blood pressure, raised blood glucose, and raised total cholesterol levels in the blood. Household surveys that have a strong biomarker component are very important sources of information on non-communicable diseases and the associated risk factors. In addition to the measurement of waist and hip circumferences, the 2019-21 NFHS expanded the age range for measurement of blood pressure and blood glucose. This chapter provides information on the levels of blood pressure and random blood glucose, as well as health examinations for women and adult mortality.

## 12.1 COVERAGE OF TESTING FOR BLOOD PRESSURE AND RANDOM BLOOD GLUCOSE MEASUREMENTS

**Table 12.1** shows the coverage rates for measuring blood pressure and random blood glucose among eligible women and men by age group, residence, schooling, religion, caste/tribe, and household wealth. More than 89 percent of eligible women and 82 percent or more of eligible men age 15 and over had their blood pressure and random blood glucose measured.

Coverage of testing for blood pressure and random blood glucose is uniformly high in all groups, but coverage is slightly lower in urban areas than in rural areas for both women and men.

### 12.2 Blood Pressure

In the 2019-21 NFHS, for the first time the age range for measurement of blood pressure was expanded. The details of the measurement procedure have already been described in Chapter 1.

**Definition:** An individual is classified as having hypertension if he/she has a systolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 140 mmHg, or a diastolic blood pressure greater than or equal to 90 mmHg, or he/she is currently taking antihypertensive medication to lower his/her blood pressure.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15 and over.

#### 12.2.1 Self-Reports of Blood Pressure Measurement and Medication

**Table 12.2** shows data on self-reports of blood pressure measurement and medication among eligible women and men age 15 and over whose blood pressure was measured in NFHS-5. Sixty-seven percent of women and 54 percent of men say that their blood pressure was ever measured prior to the survey; 12 percent of women and 9 percent of men say that on two or more occasions they were told by a doctor or health professional that they have hypertension or high blood pressure. However, among diagnosed hypertensives only 7% of women and 6% of men are currently taking medicine to lower their blood pressure.

#### 12.2.2 Blood Pressure Levels and Treatment Status

An individual is classified as having hypertension if that individual has a systolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 140 mmHg or a diastolic blood pressure level greater than or equal to 90 mmHg or that individual is currently taking antihypertensive medication to lower his/her blood pressure.

Based on blood pressure measurement during the survey, 21 percent of women age 15 and over have hypertension, including 12 percent with mildly elevated blood pressure, 4 percent with moderately elevated blood pressure, and 2 percent with severely elevated blood pressure. Forty-four percent of women have blood pressure within the normal range. Almost two-fifths (39%) of women are pre-hypertensive. One percent of women are currently taking antihypertensive medicine and have their blood pressure in the normal range (**Table 12.3.1**).

The prevalence of hypertension is higher among men age 15 and over than among women age 15 and over. Twenty-four percent of men age 15 and over have hypertension, including 16 percent with mildly elevated blood pressure, 4 percent with moderately elevated blood pressure, and 2 percent with severely elevated blood pressure. Thirty percent of men have normal blood pressure and 49 percent are pre-hypertensive. About one percent of men are currently taking antihypertensive medicine and have their blood pressure in the normal range (**Table 12.3.2**).

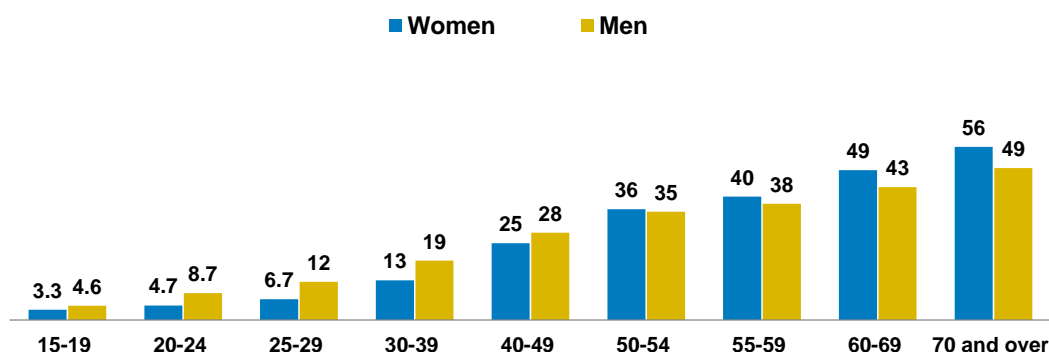


## Patterns by background characteristics

- For both women and men, the prevalence of hypertension increases sharply with age. This increase is for all categories of hypertension, including pre-hypertension, for both women and men. About one-fourth of women and men age 40-49 have hypertension. Even at an earlier age, one in eight women and about one in five men age 30-39 have hypertension. (**Figure 12.1**).

**Figure 12.1 Prevalence of Hypertension by Age and Sex**

Percentage of women and men age 15 and over



- The prevalence of hypertension is higher among Sikhs (37% for men and 31% for women), Jains (30% for men and 25% for women), and Christians (29% for men and 26% for women) than the rest of the religions.
- There is a consistent and steep increase in the prevalence of hypertension with increases in the body mass index (BMI) for both women and men. Forty percent of obese men and 28 percent of obese women are hypertensive.
- The prevalence of hypertension among women is highest (35%) in Sikkim. The prevalence of hypertension among men age 15 and over ranges from 15 percent in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu to 42 percent in Sikkim (**Table 12.4.1** and **Table 12.4.2**).
- For both women and men, the southern states have a higher prevalence of hypertension than the national average.

## 12.3 Random Blood Glucose

**Definition:** An individual is classified as having high blood glucose if he/she has a random blood glucose level of 141-160 mg/dl and very high blood glucose if he/she has a random blood glucose level of more than 160 mg/dl.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15 and over

The age range for measurement of random blood glucose was expanded to age 15 and above in 2019-21 NFHS. The details of the measurement procedure are discussed in Chapter 1. Random blood glucose is the measurement of blood glucose at any time without the necessity of fasting before the test.

Six percent of women age 15 and over have a high blood glucose level (141-160 mg/dl), and an additional 6 percent have a very high blood glucose level (more than 160 mg/dl), for a total of 12 percent of women whose blood glucose level exceeds 140 mg/dl. The prevalence of high blood glucose is slightly higher among men; 7 percent of men age 15 and over have a high blood glucose level, and an additional 7 percent have a very high blood glucose level, for a total of 14 percent. One percent of women, as well as men, age 15 and above have a normal blood glucose level and are taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level (**Table 12.5.1** and **Table 12.5.2**).

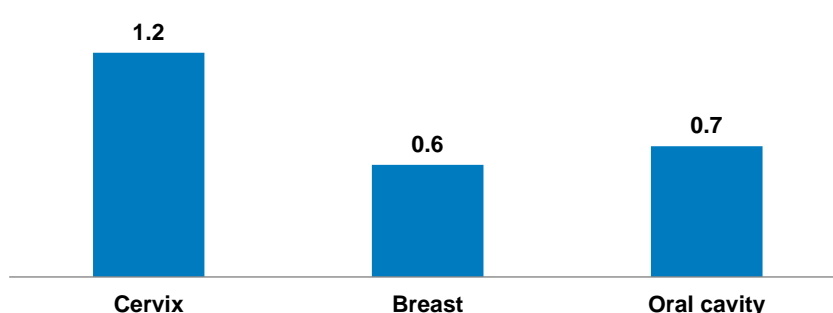
## Patterns by background characteristics

- The patterns of high blood glucose by background characteristics are quite similar to those for hypertension. For both women and men, the prevalence of high and very high blood glucose increases sharply with age.
- The combined prevalence of high and very high blood glucose is particularly pronounced among Christian men (18%) and Christian women (17%).
- There is a slight increase in very high blood glucose prevalence with an increase in household wealth for both women and men.
- Among the states, the prevalence of high and very high blood glucose (combined) among women age 15 and over ranges from 6 percent in Ladakh to 21 percent in Kerala. For men, the prevalence ranges from 7 percent each in Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir to 22 percent in Goa and 24 percent in Kerala.

## 12.4 HEALTH EXAMINATIONS FOR CANCER SCREENING

The percentage of women age 15-49 years who have ever undergone specific screening tests for cancer (cancer of the cervix, breast, and oral cavity) are presented in this section (**Table 12.7** and **Table 12.8**). Overall, only 1.2 percent of women have had a cervical examination, 0.6 percent have had a breast examination, and 0.7 percent have had an examination of the oral cavity (**Figure 12.2**).

**Figure 12.2 Cancer Screening for Women**  
Percentage of women age 15-49



## Patterns by background characteristics

- As age increases, the likelihood of undergoing cancer screening increases, particularly for cervical examinations. The proportion of women undergoing a screening test for cervical cancer increases from just 0.3 percent among women age 15-19 years to 2 percent among women age 35-49 years.
- The percentage of women with an examination for screening breast cancer increases from 0.1 percent among women age 15-19 to 0.9 percent among women age 35-49. Older women are slightly more likely to have undergone an examination of the oral cavity for cancer screening (0.9%) than younger women (0.3%).
- All three types of health examinations are slightly more common in urban areas than in rural areas.
- The level of schooling among women does not make much of a difference for cervix, breast, and oral cavity examinations for cancer screening.
- Muslim women are slightly less likely than other women to undergo an examination of the cervix (0.8%), and Muslim and Sikh women are slightly less likely than other women to undergo a breast examination (0.4% each). Jain women are particularly likely to have undergone screening of the cervix (2.9%) and the oral cavity (3.4%) for cancer.
- The proportion of women receiving all three types of cancer screening increases steadily with the wealth quintile of the household, but the prevalence remains low in all wealth quintiles.
- Cervical examinations are particularly common in Tamil Nadu (7%), Puducherry (5%), and Mizoram (4%). The percentage of oral cavity examinations for cancer screening is highest in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (10%), followed by Andhra Pradesh (5%) and Telangana (2%) (**Table 12.8**).

## 12.5 AGE-SPECIFIC DEATH RATES AND CRUDE DEATH RATES

**Definition:** The crude death rate is the number of persons who were usual household members who died each year during the two years preceding the survey per 1,000 usual household members.

**Sample:** Women and men of all ages

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Age-specific death rates and crude death rates (CDRs) are based on the annual number of deaths reported for the *de jure* population during the two years preceding the survey. Rates are specified on a per thousand basis.
- The CDR for India is 9 deaths per 1,000 population (10 per 1,000 for men and 8 per 1,000 for women). The CDR is higher in rural areas than in urban areas (**Table 12.9**).
- The age-specific death rate (ASDR) is higher in the 0-4 age group (15 deaths per 1,000 population) than at age 5-9 (5 deaths per 1,000 population). The ASDR is lowest at age 10-14 (0.6 deaths per 1,000 population) and it remains low through age 40-44. Thereafter, the ASDR increases steadily to a high of 79 deaths per 1,000 population at age 70 or more. The pattern is similar for women and men in both urban and rural areas.
- The crude death rates (CDR) range from 5 deaths per 1,000 to 11 deaths per 1,000 across states/UTs in India. The CDR is less than the national average in northeastern, western, and northern states. The CDR in Meghalaya, Jammu & Kashmir, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep and Nagaland is 5 per 1,000, whereas in Odisha, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu, the CDR is 11 per 1,000 (Table 12.10).

## 12.6 ADULT MORTALITY

The percentage of women and men who were usual residents of the household and who died in the two years preceding the survey by cause of death is presented in Table 12.11. The proportion of deaths due to non-medical reasons (i.e., deaths due to accidents, violence, poisoning, homicides, or suicides) is higher among men (11%) than women (6%). The proportion of deaths due to non-medical reasons is particularly high for men age 15-19 and 20-29 (42% and 47%, respectively) and women age 15-19 and 20-29 (31% and 21%, respectively).

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For more information on other adult health issues, see the following tables:

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**Table 12.1 Coverage of testing for blood pressure and random blood glucose measurements**

Percentage of eligible women and men age 15 and over whose blood pressure and random blood glucose was measured, according to selected background characteristics (unweighted), India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage measured for blood pressure	Percentage measured for random blood glucose	Number of women	Percentage measured for blood pressure	Percentage measured for random blood glucose	Number of men
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	90.6	89.8	130,051	81.2	80.7	128,514
20-24	89.7	88.9	128,874	79.9	79.3	114,638
25-29	90.7	89.9	125,594	80.1	79.3	111,858
30-39	92.1	90.9	208,049	82.3	81.1	196,594
40-49	92.6	90.7	173,238	84.3	82.2	164,840
50-54	91.8	88.6	70,343	85.5	82.9	67,192
55-59	92.3	88.7	69,818	86.6	83.5	61,500
60-69	92.1	87.3	104,461	88.8	85.2	106,348
70 and over	90.8	84.1	59,458	89.4	84.9	61,404
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	88.3	86.1	346,786	79.3	77.4	342,864
Rural	93.0	91.0	723,099	85.7	84.0	670,022
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	92.3	89.0	353,998	85.6	83.2	159,588
<5 years complete	94.0	91.6	72,773	88.7	86.2	72,552
5-7 years complete	92.8	90.9	138,469	85.1	83.1	141,079
8-9 years complete	92.6	91.3	153,296	83.7	82.2	185,036
10-11 years complete	91.0	89.7	134,084	83.1	81.5	167,617
12 or more years complete	88.0	86.7	216,719	80.5	79.1	286,016
Don't know	72.1	69.2	546	67.5	64.8	999
<b>Religion of household head</b>						
Hindu	92.0	90.0	872,727	84.3	82.6	828,922
Muslim	89.3	86.7	137,606	79.4	77.8	127,536
Christian	92.0	89.4	27,590	86.5	84.1	24,768
Sikh	85.4	82.2	17,614	73.3	70.5	18,160
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	89.8	87.9	7,395	86.1	83.8	7,004
Jain	76.2	74.6	2,960	68.8	66.8	2,874
Other	92.1	90.0	3,992	87.7	85.9	3,622
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>						
Scheduled caste	92.4	90.4	242,645	84.4	82.7	228,570
Scheduled tribe	93.0	91.1	101,980	87.6	85.9	95,938
Other backward class	91.7	89.6	464,202	83.9	82.1	435,558
Other	89.7	87.4	251,352	80.9	79.1	243,716
Don't know	86.8	84.1	9,706	71.4	69.3	9,104
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	92.9	90.8	199,352	85.2	83.6	177,022
Second	93.5	91.4	210,169	86.0	84.4	194,368
Middle	93.1	91.0	215,646	85.9	84.1	206,306
Fourth	91.9	89.8	219,459	84.1	82.2	212,613
Highest	86.4	84.2	225,258	77.4	75.4	222,578
Total age 15 and over	91.5	89.4	1,069,885	83.6	81.8	1,012,886
Total age 15-49	91.3	90.2	765,805	81.8	80.7	716,443

**Table 12.2 Self-reports of blood pressure measurement and medication**

Among eligible women and men age 15 and over whose blood pressure was measured in NFHS-5, percentage who say that their blood pressure was ever measured prior to the survey, percentage who say that on two or more occasions they were told by a doctor or health professional that they have hypertension or high blood pressure, and percentage who are currently taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, India, 2019-21

Prior blood pressure measurement and blood pressure medication consumption	<u>Women</u> Percentage	Number of women	<u>Men</u> Percentage	Number of men	<u>Total</u> Percentage	Number of women and men
Have ever had their blood pressure measured	67.0	978,742	53.7	846,285	60.8	1,825,027
Have on two or more occasions been told by a doctor or health professional that they have hypertension or high blood pressure	11.7	978,742	8.5	846,285	10.2	1,825,027
Are currently taking medicine to lower high blood pressure	7.4	978,742	5.6	846,285	6.6	1,825,027

**Table 12.3.1 Blood pressure levels and treatment status: Women**

Among women age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of women by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Pre-hypertensive			Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure	Number of women
		Normal SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg			
<b>Age</b>									
15-19	3.3	74.7	22.9	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.7	117,766	
20-24	4.7	67.8	28.7	3.0	0.3	0.2	0.8	115,591	
25-29	6.7	60.2	34.5	4.4	0.6	0.3	0.8	113,974	
30-39	12.9	46.4	42.4	8.9	1.6	0.7	0.7	191,650	
40-49	25.0	32.0	46.4	16.0	4.0	1.5	1.1	160,499	
50-54	36.0	23.3	46.9	21.2	6.0	2.6	1.5	64,609	
55-59	40.1	21.2	45.6	23.0	7.0	3.2	1.7	64,472	
60-69	48.7	17.7	42.6	25.7	9.5	4.4	2.1	96,195	
70 and over	56.3	15.8	38.5	27.3	11.9	6.5	2.6	53,987	
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	23.6	41.7	39.5	13.6	3.6	1.6	1.4	306,367	
Rural	20.2	44.9	38.0	11.9	3.5	1.7	1.1	672,375	
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	31.0	30.8	42.5	17.9	5.9	2.9	1.2	326,621	
<5 years complete	28.7	35.7	41.2	16.2	4.8	2.1	1.6	68,425	
5-7 years complete	22.2	42.1	39.9	13.0	3.5	1.5	1.4	128,444	
8-9 years complete	14.2	53.7	34.9	8.5	2.0	0.8	1.1	141,989	
10-11 years complete	14.2	54.8	34.1	8.4	1.9	0.8	1.1	122,055	
12 or more years complete	11.1	56.2	35.1	6.9	1.3	0.5	0.9	190,814	
Don't know	30.8	33.0	42.2	18.9	3.8	2.0	1.2	394	

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Table 12.3.1 Blood pressure levels and treatment status: Women—Continued

Among women age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of women by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Normal				Pre-hypertensive			Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure	Number of women
		SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg							
<b>Religion of household head</b>													
Hindu	21.0	44.2	38.4	12.3	3.5	1.6	1.1	802,810					
Muslim	20.7	43.8	39.3	12.0	3.3	1.5	1.3	122,930					
Christian	26.3	42.9	36.8	13.8	4.3	2.2	1.9	25,376					
Sikh	30.8	33.7	39.9	18.2	5.4	2.9	1.3	15,048					
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	22.9	42.6	38.1	13.4	3.9	1.9	1.3	6,642					
Jain	24.7	37.8	44.3	13.8	2.8	1.4	1.4	2,257					
Other	19.8	40.5	41.9	12.4	3.2	2.0	0.7	3,678					
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>													
Scheduled caste	19.5	46.0	37.3	11.6	3.4	1.6	1.0	224,230					
Scheduled tribe	19.8	41.9	40.5	12.3	3.5	1.7	0.7	94,862					
Other backward class	21.1	44.7	37.9	12.3	3.5	1.6	1.2	425,696					
Other	24.0	41.0	39.9	13.6	3.8	1.7	1.4	225,533					
Don't know	22.5	45.0	36.6	12.2	4.4	1.8	1.5	8,422					
<b>Nutritional status</b>													
Thin (BMI <18.5)	5.9	70.2	25.2	3.7	0.6	0.3	0.9	128,193					
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9)	9.5	55.0	37.1	6.3	1.2	0.5	0.8	404,165					
Overweight (BMI 25.0-29.9)	19.3	39.7	43.5	12.9	2.8	1.1	0.9	121,792					
Obese (BMI ≥30.0)	28.0	31.5	44.9	17.4	4.6	1.6	1.2	43,441					
Respondent not measured	45.1	19.7	43.4	24.3	8.5	4.1	2.0	281,150					

Continued...



**Table 12.3.1 Blood pressure levels and treatment status: Women—Continued**

Among women age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of women by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to background characteristics, India, 2019–21

Background characteristic	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Normal			Pre-hypertensive			Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure	Number of women
		SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120–139 mmHg or DBP 80–89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140–159 mmHg or DBP 90–99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160–179 mmHg or DBP 100–109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg						
<b>Told by a doctor or health professional that she has hypertension or high blood pressure<sup>2</sup></b>												
Yes	69.5	21.8	34.8	25.8	11.5	6.1	7.3	114,245				
No	14.9	46.8	39.0	10.7	2.5	1.0	0.4	864,496				
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	18.5	46.1	37.6	11.1	3.4	1.8	0.9	185,246				
Second	19.1	46.4	37.2	11.4	3.4	1.6	1.0	196,429				
Middle	21.0	44.6	37.8	12.3	3.7	1.7	1.1	200,688				
Fourth	22.6	42.9	38.8	13.2	3.7	1.5	1.3	201,766				
Highest	24.9	39.5	41.1	14.2	3.7	1.6	1.5	194,612				
Total age 15 and over	21.3	43.9	38.5	12.4	3.6	1.6	1.2	978,742				
Total age 15–49	11.7	53.6	36.5	7.7	1.6	0.6	0.8	699,479				

SBP = Systolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is pumping (contracting); DBP = Diastolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is relaxed

BMI = Body mass index in kg/m<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A woman is classified as having hypertension if she has SBP ≥140 mmHg or DBP ≥90 mmHg at the time of the survey, or she is currently taking medicine to lower her blood pressure.

<sup>2</sup> Told two or more times.

**Table 12.3.2 Blood pressure levels and treatment status: Men**

Among men age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of men by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Normal				Pre-hypertensive			Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure	Number of men
		SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg							
<b>Age</b>													
15-19	4.6	58.3	37.8	3.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	104,382					
20-24	8.7	42.0	50.0	6.9	0.7	0.3	0.4	91,554					
25-29	12.4	34.0	54.4	9.8	1.4	0.4	0.3	89,581					
30-39	19.3	26.6	55.2	14.3	2.8	1.1	0.3	161,741					
40-49	28.4	21.1	52.6	19.3	5.0	2.0	0.5	138,952					
50-54	35.2	18.8	49.5	22.9	6.1	2.7	0.8	57,425					
55-59	37.8	18.2	48.6	23.6	6.6	3.0	1.1	53,247					
60-69	43.2	18.2	45.2	25.2	7.9	3.5	1.5	94,479					
70 and over	49.4	18.0	41.5	26.4	9.5	4.5	2.2	54,924					
<b>Residence</b>													
Urban	26.6	26.8	50.1	17.1	4.2	1.7	0.8	271,986					
Rural	22.7	30.8	48.7	15.0	3.8	1.7	0.6	574,300					
<b>Schooling</b>													
No schooling	29.2	25.0	48.4	19.0	5.2	2.4	0.7	136,617					
<5 years complete	29.5	26.4	47.5	18.3	5.4	2.5	0.9	64,361					
5-7 years complete	26.1	28.0	48.7	16.8	4.5	2.0	0.7	120,064					
8-9 years complete	20.4	33.9	47.6	13.7	3.3	1.5	0.6	154,874					
10-11 years complete	22.6	32.2	48.0	14.6	3.6	1.5	0.7	139,334					
12 or more years complete	21.5	29.2	52.1	14.4	3.2	1.2	0.7	230,360					
Don't know	31.8	24.7	49.5	19.1	4.6	2.2	3.7	675					

Continued...

Table 12.3.2 Blood pressure levels and treatment status: Men—Continued

Among men age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of men by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Pre-hypertensive			Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure	Number of men
		Normal SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg			
<b>Religion of household head</b>									
Hindu	24.0	29.5	49.1	15.7	4.0	1.7	0.7	699,058	
Muslim	21.2	31.1	50.3	13.9	3.2	1.4	0.7	101,306	
Christian	29.0	28.1	47.3	17.8	4.7	2.0	1.1	21,430	
Sikh	37.0	17.5	47.8	23.5	7.8	3.4	0.5	13,308	
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	23.7	32.5	46.3	15.3	3.6	2.3	0.7	6,031	
Jain	30.1	25.4	48.4	19.6	4.9	1.7	0.5	1,977	
Other	23.0	24.5	53.8	15.6	4.1	2.0	0.2	3,175	
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>									
Scheduled caste	22.6	30.4	49.1	15.0	3.8	1.7	0.6	192,994	
Scheduled tribe	22.3	29.0	50.1	15.4	3.7	1.7	0.4	84,027	
Other backward class	23.8	30.2	48.6	15.6	4.0	1.6	0.7	365,525	
Other	26.4	27.5	49.8	16.8	4.2	1.8	0.9	197,243	
Don't know	22.1	31.8	48.7	13.9	3.7	2.0	0.5	6,496	
<b>Nutritional status</b>									
Thin (BMI <18.5)	8.1	56.9	35.7	6.0	1.0	0.4	0.2	14,652	
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9)	15.8	32.9	52.4	11.7	2.2	0.8	0.3	58,491	
Overweight (BMI 25.0-29.9)	30.0	16.9	55.0	20.9	5.3	1.8	0.3	18,173	
Obese (BMI ≥30.0)	39.6	14.8	49.4	25.5	7.8	2.5	1.2	3,800	
Respondent not measured	24.7	29.1	49.0	16.0	4.1	1.8	0.7	751,170	

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**Table 12.3.2 Blood pressure levels and treatment status: Men—Continued**

Among men age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of men by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Normal		Pre-hypertensive			Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure	Number of men
		SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg					
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	19.5	34.1	47.9	13.3	3.2	1.5	0.5	150,821			
Second	20.7	32.4	48.7	13.9	3.5	1.6	0.5	167,111			
Middle	23.1	30.2	48.9	15.3	3.9	1.7	0.6	177,183			
Fourth	26.2	27.2	49.8	16.9	4.3	1.8	0.8	178,789			
Highest	29.7	24.3	50.4	18.7	4.7	1.9	1.0	172,381			
Total age 15 and over	24.0	29.5	49.2	15.7	3.9	1.7	0.7	846,285			
Total age 15-49	16.1	34.5	50.5	11.7	2.3	0.9	0.4	586,210			

SBP = Systolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is pumping (contracting); DBP = Diastolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is relaxed

BMI = Body mass index in kg/m<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A man is classified as having hypertension if he has SBP ≥140 mmHg or DBP ≥90 mmHg at time of survey, or he is currently taking medicine to lower his blood pressure.

Table 12.4.1 Blood pressure levels and treatment status by state/union territory: Women

Among women age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of women by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Normal		Pre-hypertensive		Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure
	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg		
<b>India</b>	21.3	43.9	38.5	12.4	3.6	1.6	1.2	
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	25.0	44.4	35.6	14.5	3.7	1.9	1.5	
Delhi	24.1	39.2	40.2	14.7	4.1	1.8	0.9	
Haryana	21.0	39.6	42.7	12.3	3.6	1.9	1.0	
Himachal Pradesh	22.2	43.9	39.1	11.9	3.7	1.4	1.5	
Jammu & Kashmir	20.0	29.4	55.9	11.7	2.1	1.0	0.8	
Ladakh	15.7	27.3	60.7	10.4	1.2	0.4	0.4	
Punjab	31.2	34.0	38.9	18.5	5.6	3.0	1.1	
Rajasthan	15.3	40.6	46.3	9.8	2.2	1.0	0.7	
Uttarakhand	22.9	39.3	40.8	13.7	4.2	2.1	0.6	
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	23.6	38.1	40.3	14.8	4.5	2.3	0.7	
Madhya Pradesh	20.6	42.0	39.6	13.2	3.5	1.7	0.8	
Uttar Pradesh	18.3	43.1	40.4	11.5	3.2	1.7	0.7	
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	15.9	56.2	31.5	8.7	2.5	1.2	1.7	
Jharkhand	17.8	42.3	41.7	11.1	3.2	1.8	0.6	
Odisha	22.4	43.2	38.2	12.9	3.8	1.8	1.1	
West Bengal	20.5	44.6	38.5	11.5	3.8	1.5	1.1	

Continued...

Table 12.4.1 Blood pressure levels and treatment status by state/union territory: Women—Continued

Among women age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of women by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	Normal		Pre-hypertensive		Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure
		SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg			
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	24.9	33.0	43.9	16.4	4.2	2.5	0.7		
Assam	19.1	45.1	39.2	10.9	3.3	1.5	1.1		
Manipur	23.0	41.2	39.4	13.5	4.3	1.6	1.0		
Meghalaya	18.7	47.0	39.2	10.0	2.7	1.2	2.2		
Mizoram	17.7	48.3	37.8	10.7	2.6	0.6	1.4		
Nagaland	22.3	35.4	43.3	13.8	4.4	3.2	0.3		
Sikkim	34.5	30.4	39.3	18.5	6.5	5.3	1.9		
Tripura	20.8	46.8	37.2	11.0	3.3	1.7	1.5		
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	14.9	45.8	42.6	7.7	2.7	1.2	1.1		
Goa	27.5	45.6	38.7	12.1	2.6	1.0	3.3		
Gujarat	20.5	45.2	38.5	11.7	3.2	1.3	1.3		
Maharashtra	23.1	42.0	39.3	13.7	3.5	1.5	1.3		
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.3	42.0	37.8	15.3	3.8	1.1	1.1		
Andhra Pradesh	25.3	47.3	33.2	13.6	4.3	1.7	1.7		
Karnataka	25.0	42.8	36.3	14.8	4.2	1.9	1.1		
Kerala	30.9	41.5	36.4	15.5	4.8	1.8	2.5		
Lakshadweep	24.8	39.6	40.0	13.9	4.2	2.3	0.9		
Puducherry	23.0	50.5	33.4	12.1	3.0	1.0	2.1		
Tamil Nadu	24.8	44.6	34.9	14.3	4.3	1.9	1.2		
Telangana	26.1	46.6	33.5	13.6	4.5	1.8	2.0		

SBP = Systolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is pumping (contracting); DBP = Diastolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is relaxed

<sup>1</sup> A woman is classified as having hypertension if she has SBP ≥140 mmHg or DBP ≥90 mmHg at the time of the survey, or she is currently taking medicine to lower her blood pressure.

**Table 12.4.2 Blood pressure levels and treatment status by state/union territory: Men**

Among men age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of men by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Normal		Pre-hypertensive		Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure
	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg		
<b>India</b>	24.0	29.5	49.2	15.7	3.9	1.7	0.7	
<b>North</b>								
Chhattisgarh	30.6	27.1	45.6	18.6	7.2	1.5	0.5	
Delhi	32.7	19.6	49.9	21.8	6.2	2.5	0.5	
Haryana	25.1	22.3	54.2	16.6	4.7	2.3	0.4	
Himachal Pradesh	24.4	28.9	49.8	16.5	3.4	1.5	0.8	
Jammu & Kashmir	18.9	24.7	60.3	12.3	1.8	1.0	0.5	
Ladakh	17.4	25.2	61.3	11.2	1.6	0.7	0.3	
Punjab	37.7	18.0	46.6	24.5	7.6	3.4	0.5	
Rajasthan	17.9	27.0	56.7	12.7	2.5	1.1	0.3	
Uttarakhand	31.8	21.9	48.5	20.1	5.8	3.7	0.5	
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	27.7	24.6	48.9	19.0	4.9	2.5	0.3	
Madhya Pradesh	22.7	29.7	49.0	16.0	3.6	1.7	0.3	
Uttar Pradesh	21.7	28.2	51.4	15.2	3.6	1.6	0.3	
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	18.4	40.5	44.0	11.1	3.1	1.2	1.0	
Jharkhand	22.6	25.1	53.7	15.1	4.0	2.1	0.4	
Odisha	25.6	28.1	49.0	16.8	4.3	1.8	0.7	
West Bengal	20.1	31.9	50.9	13.0	3.1	1.1	0.7	

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Table 12.4.2 Blood pressure levels and treatment status by state/union territory: Men—Continued

Among men age 15 and over, prevalence of hypertension, percent distribution of men by blood pressure levels, and percentage having normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Normal		Pre-hypertensive		Hypertensive			Percentage with normal blood pressure and taking medicine to lower their blood pressure
	Prevalence of hypertension <sup>1</sup>	SBP <120 mmHg and DBP <80 mmHg	SBP 120-139 mmHg or DBP 80-89 mmHg	Mildly elevated: SBP 140-159 mmHg or DBP 90-99 mmHg	Moderately elevated: SBP 160-179 mmHg or DBP 100-109 mmHg	Severely elevated: SBP ≥180 mmHg or DBP ≥110 mmHg		
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	33.1	19.1	49.1	22.8	6.2	2.8	0.3	
Assam	20.3	33.5	49.3	12.8	3.2	1.2	0.8	
Manipur	33.2	20.5	49.4	20.8	7.1	2.2	0.5	
Meghalaya	21.4	32.6	49.4	14.2	2.8	1.0	0.9	
Mizoram	25.2	26.0	52.4	16.2	3.9	1.4	0.9	
Nagaland	28.7	22.3	49.8	19.1	5.7	3.1	0.2	
Sikkim	41.6	18.7	42.5	25.0	8.0	5.9	0.8	
Tripura	22.7	33.9	47.5	13.4	3.4	1.8	0.9	
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	15.4	29.1	57.4	9.8	2.8	0.9	0.2	
Goa	26.8	27.3	53.2	14.8	3.5	1.2	2.2	
Gujarat	20.3	35.4	47.1	13.0	3.3	1.2	0.8	
Maharashtra	24.4	30.4	48.4	16.0	3.7	1.6	0.8	
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	30.2	26.7	46.3	20.6	4.6	1.9	0.5	
Andhra Pradesh	29.0	30.3	45.1	17.6	4.9	2.2	1.2	
Karnataka	26.9	28.6	47.5	17.2	4.7	2.0	0.8	
Kerala	32.8	27.3	46.9	19.2	4.8	1.9	1.7	
Lakshadweep	24.7	23.5	54.7	16.6	3.5	1.6	0.3	
Puducherry	30.1	28.3	46.2	19.1	4.4	2.0	0.8	
Tamil Nadu	30.2	26.6	46.5	19.5	5.2	2.2	0.8	
Telangana	31.4	30.0	43.4	18.5	5.7	2.4	1.4	

SBP = Systolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is pumping (contracting); DBP = Diastolic blood pressure, the degree of force when the heart is relaxed

<sup>1</sup> A man is classified as having hypertension if he has SBP ≥140 mmHg or DBP ≥90 mmHg at time of survey, or he is currently taking medicine to lower his blood pressure.



Table 12.5.1 Random blood glucose levels: Women

Among women age 15 and over, percent distribution of women by random blood glucose levels, percentage having normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, and percentage having blood glucose levels  $\leq 140$  mg/dl and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Random blood glucose values			Total	Percentage with normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage with $>140$ mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Number of women
	$\leq 140$ mg/dl (normal)	141-160 mg/dl (high)	$>160$ mg/dl (very high)				
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	97.4	1.8	0.7	100.0	0.4	3.0	116,721
20-24	96.7	2.3	1.0	100.0	0.4	3.8	114,581
25-29	95.3	3.1	1.6	100.0	0.6	5.2	112,883
30-39	91.6	4.8	3.5	100.0	0.6	8.9	189,152
40-49	84.9	7.3	7.8	100.0	1.0	16.1	157,178
50-54	77.8	10.0	12.2	100.0	1.9	24.1	62,350
55-59	75.7	10.8	13.5	100.0	2.1	26.4	61,957
60-69	73.4	11.4	15.3	100.0	2.9	29.5	91,246
70 and over	73.2	12.5	14.4	100.0	3.1	30.0	50,003
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	85.4	6.7	8.0	100.0	1.6	16.3	298,410
Rural	88.7	5.9	5.5	100.0	0.9	12.3	657,663
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	83.9	8.0	8.2	100.0	1.3	17.4	314,922
<5 years complete	82.6	8.2	9.2	100.0	1.7	19.1	66,666
5-7 years complete	86.3	6.4	7.3	100.0	1.3	15.1	125,857
8-9 years complete	90.7	4.7	4.6	100.0	1.0	10.3	140,033
10-11 years complete	90.6	4.6	4.8	100.0	1.0	10.4	120,257
12 or more years complete	92.4	4.1	3.5	100.0	0.8	8.4	187,959
Don't know	82.3	5.7	12.0	100.0	0.9	18.6	378
<b>Religion of household head</b>							
Hindu	87.8	6.1	6.1	100.0	1.1	13.3	785,319
Muslim	87.4	6.0	6.5	100.0	1.2	13.8	119,314
Christian	83.0	7.1	9.9	100.0	2.2	19.2	24,665
Sikh	86.4	5.8	7.8	100.0	1.0	14.6	14,471
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	90.8	5.2	4.0	100.0	1.1	10.3	6,499
Jain	83.7	8.6	7.8	100.0	1.1	17.5	2,209
Other	91.3	5.5	3.2	100.0	0.8	9.5	3,595
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>							
Scheduled caste	88.6	5.8	5.6	100.0	1.0	12.3	219,349
Scheduled tribe	90.7	5.3	4.0	100.0	0.7	10.0	92,898
Other backward class	87.4	6.1	6.5	100.0	1.2	13.8	415,905
Other	85.8	6.8	7.4	100.0	1.4	15.7	219,761
Don't know	86.6	7.0	6.4	100.0	1.5	14.9	8,159

Continued...

**Table 12.5.1 Random blood glucose levels: Women—Continued**

Among women age 15 and over, percent distribution of women by random blood glucose levels, percentage having normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, and percentage having blood glucose levels  $\leq 140$  mg/dl and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Random blood glucose values			Total	Percentage with normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage with $>140$ mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Number of women
	$\leq 140$ mg/dl (normal)	141-160 mg/dl (high)	$>160$ mg/dl (very high)				
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	90.0	5.8	4.2	100.0	0.6	10.6	180,967
Second	89.4	5.7	4.9	100.0	0.8	11.5	192,104
Middle	87.9	5.9	6.1	100.0	1.1	13.1	196,280
Fourth	86.2	6.3	7.5	100.0	1.3	15.1	197,152
Highest	84.8	6.8	8.4	100.0	1.8	17.1	189,570
<b>Nutritional status</b>							
Thin (BMI $<18.5$ )	96.0	2.7	1.3	100.0	0.4	4.4	127,023
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9)	94.0	3.7	2.2	100.0	0.5	6.5	399,874
Overweight (BMI 25.0-29.9)	87.8	6.0	6.2	100.0	0.8	13.0	119,410
Obese (BMI $\geq 30.0$ )	81.1	8.0	10.8	100.0	1.3	20.2	42,419
Respondent not measured	75.0	11.1	13.9	100.0	2.5	27.5	267,347
Total age 15 and over	87.6	6.1	6.3	100.0	1.1	13.5	956,073
Total age 15-49	92.5	4.2	3.3	100.0	0.6	8.1	690,515

**Table 12.5.2 Random blood glucose levels: Men**

Among men age 15 and over, percent distribution of men by random blood glucose levels and percentage having normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, and percentage having blood glucose levels  $\leq 140$  mg/dl and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Random blood glucose values			Total	Percentage with normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage with $>140$ mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Number of men
	$\leq 140$ mg/dl (normal)	141-160 mg/dl (high)	$>160$ mg/dl (very high)				
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	97.3	2.0	0.7	100.0	0.5	3.2	103,703
20-24	95.9	3.0	1.1	100.0	0.4	4.5	90,867
25-29	93.9	4.1	2.0	100.0	0.5	6.6	88,759
30-39	89.3	6.2	4.6	100.0	0.6	11.3	159,400
40-49	82.6	8.7	8.8	100.0	1.1	18.5	135,567
50-54	77.0	10.7	12.3	100.0	1.7	24.7	55,685
55-59	74.2	11.9	13.9	100.0	2.1	27.9	51,361
60-69	71.9	12.5	15.6	100.0	2.5	30.6	90,626
70 and over	70.9	13.2	15.9	100.0	3.2	32.2	52,114
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	83.6	7.8	8.5	100.0	1.5	17.8	265,324
Rural	86.5	7.0	6.5	100.0	1.0	14.5	562,758
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	82.4	9.7	7.9	100.0	1.0	18.6	132,731
<5 years complete	81.4	9.1	9.5	100.0	1.4	20.0	62,563
5-7 years complete	84.1	7.8	8.1	100.0	1.2	17.1	117,286
8-9 years complete	87.8	6.2	6.0	100.0	1.0	13.2	152,064
10-11 years complete	86.2	6.5	7.2	100.0	1.3	15.1	136,615
12 or more years complete	87.5	6.2	6.3	100.0	1.1	13.7	226,177
Don't know	79.4	12.5	8.1	100.0	1.7	22.3	647
<b>Religion of household head</b>							
Hindu	85.6	7.2	7.2	100.0	1.1	15.5	684,371
Muslim	85.6	7.7	6.7	100.0	1.1	15.5	99,183
Christian	82.0	8.2	9.8	100.0	2.4	20.4	20,828
Sikh	86.6	6.4	6.9	100.0	0.8	14.2	12,799
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	89.3	5.9	4.8	100.0	0.9	11.6	5,870
Jain	84.7	7.0	8.2	100.0	2.0	17.3	1,920
Other	87.4	7.2	5.5	100.0	0.9	13.5	3,110
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>							
Scheduled caste	86.6	7.0	6.4	100.0	1.0	14.4	189,120
Scheduled tribe	88.5	6.5	5.0	100.0	0.7	12.2	82,395
Other backward class	85.5	7.2	7.3	100.0	1.2	15.7	357,580
Other	83.7	7.9	8.4	100.0	1.5	17.8	192,676
Don't know	82.8	9.3	7.8	100.0	1.1	18.3	6,310

*Continued...*

Table 12.5.2 Random blood glucose levels: Men—*Continued*

Among men age 15 and over, percent distribution of men by random blood glucose levels and percentage having normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, and percentage having blood glucose levels  $\leq 140$  mg/dl and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Random blood glucose values			Total	Percentage with normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage with $>140$ mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Number of men
	$\leq 140$ mg/dl (normal)	141-160 mg/dl (high)	$>160$ mg/dl (very high)				
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	87.8	7.2	5.0	100.0	0.7	12.9	148,018
Second	87.4	7.0	5.6	100.0	0.8	13.4	163,964
Middle	86.1	7.0	6.9	100.0	1.0	14.9	173,566
Fourth	84.5	7.3	8.2	100.0	1.3	16.9	174,719
Highest	82.4	7.9	9.7	100.0	1.9	19.5	167,815
<b>Nutritional status</b>							
Thin (BMI $<18.5$ )	94.5	3.2	2.3	100.0	0.7	6.1	14,524
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9)	90.6	5.5	4.0	100.0	0.7	10.1	57,804
Overweight (BMI 25.0-29.9)	82.7	8.1	9.2	100.0	1.1	18.4	17,753
Obese (BMI $\geq 30.0$ )	76.6	8.9	14.5	100.0	1.4	24.7	3,692
Respondent not measured	85.1	7.5	7.4	100.0	1.2	16.1	734,308
Total age 15 and over	85.6	7.3	7.1	100.0	1.2	15.6	828,082
Total age 15-49	90.9	5.2	3.9	100.0	0.6	9.8	578,295

Table 12.6.1 Random blood glucose levels by state/union territory: Women

Among women age 15 and over, percent distribution of women by random blood glucose levels and percentage having normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, and percentage having blood glucose levels  $\leq 140$  mg/dl and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Random blood glucose values			Total	Percentage with normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage with $>140$ mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level
	$\leq 140$ mg/dl (normal)	141-160 mg/dl (high)	$>160$ mg/dl (very high)			
<b>India</b>	87.6	6.1	6.3	100.0	1.1	13.5
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	82.0	6.0	12.0	100.0	1.0	19.0
Delhi	89.5	4.2	6.3	100.0	1.7	12.2
Haryana	88.9	5.4	5.7	100.0	0.9	11.9
Himachal Pradesh	87.3	6.4	6.4	100.0	1.1	13.9
Jammu & Kashmir	92.7	4.2	3.1	100.0	1.4	8.7
Ladakh	94.3	3.9	1.8	100.0	1.0	6.7
Punjab	86.2	5.8	8.0	100.0	1.0	14.7
Rajasthan	93.4	3.9	2.8	100.0	0.6	7.2
Uttarakhand	90.2	4.2	5.6	100.0	1.0	10.8
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	91.7	4.5	3.8	100.0	0.7	9.0
Madhya Pradesh	90.8	5.3	3.9	100.0	0.7	9.8
Uttar Pradesh	90.7	4.7	4.5	100.0	0.7	10.0
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	88.2	6.4	5.4	100.0	0.9	12.7
Jharkhand	90.4	5.4	4.2	100.0	0.6	10.2
Odisha	86.9	6.5	6.6	100.0	0.8	14.0
West Bengal	83.4	8.9	7.7	100.0	0.9	17.5
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	92.2	4.6	3.1	100.0	0.6	8.4
Assam	88.2	6.9	4.9	100.0	1.0	12.8
Manipur	87.6	6.2	6.3	100.0	1.2	13.6
Meghalaya	92.0	5.0	3.0	100.0	1.5	9.5
Mizoram	87.4	6.9	5.7	100.0	1.2	13.8
Nagaland	91.0	5.2	3.8	100.0	0.2	9.3
Sikkim	89.1	6.2	4.7	100.0	1.3	12.2
Tripura	83.3	8.8	8.0	100.0	0.9	17.7
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	87.5	6.6	5.9	100.0	1.1	13.6
Goa	81.8	8.6	9.6	100.0	2.6	20.8
Gujarat	85.2	8.1	6.7	100.0	1.0	15.8
Maharashtra	89.0	5.7	5.4	100.0	1.3	12.4
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	84.5	7.4	8.1	100.0	2.0	17.5
Andhra Pradesh	82.3	7.3	10.4	100.0	1.8	19.5
Karnataka	87.4	5.7	6.8	100.0	1.4	14.0
Kerala	78.7	8.3	13.1	100.0	3.5	24.8
Lakshadweep	81.7	8.4	9.9	100.0	1.3	19.5
Puducherry	82.7	7.2	10.1	100.0	2.8	20.1
Tamil Nadu	81.4	7.5	11.1	100.0	2.0	20.7
Telangana	87.1	5.8	7.0	100.0	1.9	14.7

Table 12.6.2 Random blood glucose levels by state/union territory: Men

Among men age 15 and over, percent distribution of men by random blood glucose levels and percentage having normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, and percentage having blood glucose levels  $\leq 140$  mg/dl and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Random blood glucose values			Total	Percentage with normal blood glucose levels and taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage with $>140$ mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level
	$\leq 140$ mg/dl (normal)	141-160 mg/dl (high)	$>160$ mg/dl (very high)			
<b>India</b>	85.6	7.3	7.1	100.0	1.2	15.6
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	84.1	7.1	8.8	100.0	0.7	16.6
Delhi	87.4	5.3	7.3	100.0	1.5	14.1
Haryana	87.4	6.4	6.2	100.0	0.9	13.5
Himachal Pradesh	86.5	6.8	6.7	100.0	1.3	14.7
Jammu & Kashmir	93.0	4.3	2.7	100.0	1.0	8.0
Ladakh	93.1	4.4	2.5	100.0	1.4	8.3
Punjab	86.8	6.2	7.0	100.0	0.8	14.1
Rajasthan	91.7	5.0	3.3	100.0	0.6	8.9
Uttarakhand	86.8	5.6	7.6	100.0	1.1	14.2
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	90.2	5.4	4.4	100.0	1.0	10.8
Madhya Pradesh	88.5	6.6	4.9	100.0	0.7	12.2
Uttar Pradesh	89.2	5.8	5.0	100.0	0.7	11.6
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	84.7	8.3	7.0	100.0	1.0	16.2
Jharkhand	86.7	6.9	6.4	100.0	0.8	14.1
Odisha	84.0	7.3	8.7	100.0	1.0	17.0
West Bengal	79.7	10.8	9.5	100.0	1.0	21.3
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	88.9	6.7	4.3	100.0	0.8	11.9
Assam	85.4	8.4	6.2	100.0	1.4	16.0
Manipur	84.7	7.0	8.3	100.0	1.2	16.5
Meghalaya	87.2	8.6	4.2	100.0	1.1	13.9
Mizoram	86.2	7.8	6.0	100.0	1.7	15.4
Nagaland	88.0	6.6	5.5	100.0	0.4	12.4
Sikkim	85.6	7.5	7.0	100.0	1.3	15.7
Tripura	81.8	9.3	8.9	100.0	1.1	19.3
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	84.4	8.0	7.7	100.0	0.7	16.4
Goa	78.1	10.3	11.6	100.0	2.3	24.1
Gujarat	84.0	9.0	7.1	100.0	0.9	16.9
Maharashtra	87.6	6.5	5.9	100.0	1.2	13.6
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	83.5	9.3	7.3	100.0	1.4	17.9
Andhra Pradesh	80.2	8.4	11.4	100.0	2.0	21.8
Karnataka	85.7	6.6	7.6	100.0	1.3	15.6
Kerala	76.4	9.8	13.8	100.0	3.4	27.0
Lakshadweep	81.7	10.2	8.1	100.0	2.4	20.7
Puducherry	80.9	7.0	12.2	100.0	2.6	21.7
Tamil Nadu	80.0	8.1	11.9	100.0	2.0	22.1
Telangana	83.8	6.9	9.3	100.0	1.9	18.1

**Table 12.7 Screening tests for cancer**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have ever undergone specific screening tests for cancer, and percentage of men age 15-49 who have ever undergone an oral cavity screening test for oral cancer, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Type of examination undergone			Number of women	Oral cavity screening test for men	Number of men
	Cervix	Breast	Oral cavity			
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	0.3	0.1	0.3	130,051	0.1	128,514
20-24	0.7	0.3	0.5	128,874	0.1	114,638
25-34	1.2	0.6	0.7	231,294	0.2	212,379
35-49	2.0	0.9	0.9	275,586	0.2	260,912
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	1.5	0.8	0.9	247,667	0.2	245,833
Rural	1.1	0.4	0.6	518,138	0.2	470,610
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	1.2	0.4	0.7	163,891	0.2	68,412
<5 years complete	1.6	0.7	0.7	44,490	0.2	38,137
5-7 years complete	1.5	0.6	0.8	104,137	0.2	94,067
8-9 years complete	1.1	0.5	0.6	136,239	0.2	149,572
10-11 years complete	1.2	0.5	0.6	117,324	0.1	128,736
12 or more years complete	1.2	0.7	0.7	199,392	0.2	237,061
Don't know	2.4	1.2	1.0	332	0.0	458
<b>Religion of household head</b>						
Hindu	1.3	0.6	0.7	619,897	0.2	582,358
Muslim	0.8	0.4	0.6	105,650	0.2	95,531
Christian	2.4	0.9	1.5	18,346	0.4	16,607
Sikh	1.8	0.4	0.5	12,081	0.1	12,576
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.1	1.4	1.4	5,058	0.0	4,897
Jain	2.9	2.2	3.4	1,867	0.0	1,803
Other	0.4	0.2	0.3	2,906	0.1	2,670
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>						
Scheduled caste	1.4	0.6	0.6	179,505	0.2	167,405
Scheduled tribe	0.6	0.3	0.4	75,234	0.1	70,355
Other backward class	1.5	0.7	0.8	331,196	0.2	306,383
Other	1.0	0.4	0.8	172,844	0.2	165,608
Don't know	0.8	0.2	0.3	7,025	0.2	6,692
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	0.7	0.3	0.4	142,184	0.2	124,732
Second	1.0	0.4	0.5	152,969	0.1	139,889
Middle	1.4	0.6	0.8	156,697	0.2	148,969
Fourth	1.5	0.6	0.9	158,695	0.2	152,394
Highest	1.5	0.8	0.9	155,260	0.2	150,459
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>765,805</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>716,443</b>

Note: The questions on screening tests for cancer were asked in the biomarker questionnaire, so they include some respondents who were eligible for the biomarker questionnaire, but who may not have completed the individual women's or men's questionnaire.

**Table 12.8 Screening tests for cancer by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have ever undergone specific screening tests for cancer, and percentage of men age 15-49 who have ever undergone an oral cavity screening test for oral cancer, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Type of examination undergone			Oral cavity screening test for men
	Cervix	Breast	Oral cavity	
<b>India</b>	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.2
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	0.9	0.0	0.2	0.1
Delhi	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.1
Haryana	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2
Himachal Pradesh	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1
Jammu & Kashmir	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.1
Ladakh	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0
Punjab	1.9	0.3	0.4	0.1
Rajasthan	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1
Uttarakhand	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Madhya Pradesh	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.1
Uttar Pradesh	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.2
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2
Jharkhand	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1
Odisha	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1
West Bengal	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2
Assam	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Manipur	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.1
Meghalaya	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1
Mizoram	3.8	1.6	0.7	0.1
Nagaland	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Sikkim	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.3
Tripura	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.0
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Goa	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.3
Gujarat	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Maharashtra	1.7	1.0	1.0	0.1
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.9	1.3	9.5	0.7
Andhra Pradesh	3.2	0.6	5.0	0.8
Karnataka	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.1
Kerala	2.3	1.5	0.5	0.1
Lakshadweep	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
Puducherry	5.3	2.9	1.2	0.2
Tamil Nadu	7.0	3.8	0.9	0.2
Telangana	2.1	0.3	1.8	0.4

Note: The questions on screening tests for cancer were asked in the biomarker questionnaire, so they include some respondents who were eligible for the biomarker questionnaire, but who may not have completed the individual women's or men's questionnaire.



**Table 12.9 Age-specific death rates and crude death rates**

Age-specific death rates and crude death rates (CDR) for the 2 years preceding the survey by sex and residence, India, 2019-21

Age	Male	Female	Total
URBAN			
0-4	14.6	10.2	12.5
5-9	5.0	4.1	4.6
10-14	0.5	0.4	0.5
15-19	0.8	0.9	0.8
20-24	1.4	1.1	1.3
25-29	1.7	1.0	1.3
30-34	2.1	1.0	1.6
35-39	3.4	1.1	2.2
40-44	5.5	2.0	3.7
45-49	5.9	2.8	4.3
50-54	10.2	5.4	7.8
55-59	16.2	5.9	10.7
60-64	15.0	12.6	13.8
65-69	23.6	19.5	21.6
70 and over	71.1	72.6	71.8
CDR	8.6	6.6	7.6
RURAL			
0-4	17.3	13.8	15.6
5-9	5.5	4.8	5.1
10-14	0.7	0.6	0.7
15-19	1.5	1.5	1.5
20-24	2.3	1.8	2.1
25-29	2.8	1.5	2.1
30-34	3.4	1.6	2.4
35-39	4.3	1.8	3.0
40-44	4.9	2.5	3.7
45-49	7.3	3.9	5.5
50-54	9.4	5.7	7.5
55-59	13.1	8.0	10.4
60-64	18.4	11.7	15.0
65-69	27.4	21.5	24.5
70 and over	82.9	81.0	81.9
CDR	10.4	7.9	9.1
TOTAL			
0-4	16.6	12.8	14.8
5-9	5.3	4.6	5.0
10-14	0.6	0.6	0.6
15-19	1.2	1.3	1.3
20-24	2.0	1.6	1.8
25-29	2.4	1.3	1.8
30-34	2.9	1.4	2.1
35-39	4.0	1.5	2.7
40-44	5.1	2.3	3.7
45-49	6.8	3.5	5.1
50-54	9.7	5.6	7.6
55-59	14.1	7.3	10.5
60-64	17.3	12.0	14.7
65-69	26.2	20.8	23.6
70 and over	79.3	78.4	78.8
CDR	9.8	7.5	8.6

Note: Age-specific death rates and crude death rates (CDR) are based on the annual number of deaths reported for the de jure population during the 2 years preceding the survey. Rates are specified on a per thousand basis.

**Table 12.10 Crude death rates by state/union territory**

Crude death rates (CDR) for the 2 years preceding the survey by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
<b>India</b>	7.6	9.1	8.6
<b>North</b>			
Chandigarh	7.0	9.7	7.0
Delhi	6.7	7.7	6.7
Haryana	7.2	8.6	8.2
Himachal Pradesh	8.3	7.8	7.9
Jammu & Kashmir	4.7	4.7	4.7
Ladakh	7.1	5.1	5.5
Punjab	8.6	8.9	8.8
Rajasthan	6.2	6.9	6.7
Uttarakhand	7.2	8.5	8.1
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	10.2	8.8	9.1
Madhya Pradesh	8.3	8.5	8.5
Uttar Pradesh	8.7	10.0	9.7
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	7.2	9.3	9.0
Jharkhand	7.5	9.1	8.7
Odisha	10.4	11.0	10.9
West Bengal	7.4	9.5	8.8
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	5.3	6.0	5.9
Assam	7.5	6.8	6.9
Manipur	8.5	8.3	8.4
Meghalaya	3.8	4.7	4.5
Mizoram	6.2	4.8	5.6
Nagaland	4.0	5.7	5.2
Sikkim	4.6	7.4	6.3
Tripura	7.5	8.3	8.1
<b>West</b>			
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	4.9	4.8	4.9
Goa	5.3	6.6	5.9
Gujarat	5.9	8.9	7.6
Maharashtra	6.6	8.6	7.7
<b>South</b>			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6.6	6.6	6.6
Andhra Pradesh	9.0	10.4	9.9
Karnataka	6.6	8.3	7.6
Kerala	7.0	8.2	7.6
Lakshadweep	5.7	3.4	5.2
Puducherry	10.9	10.2	10.7
Tamil Nadu	9.7	11.6	10.7
Telangana	7.3	10.6	9.3

Note: Crude death rates (CDR) are based on the annual number of deaths reported for the *de jure* population during the 2 years preceding the survey. Rates are specified on a per thousand basis.

**Table 12.11 Adult mortality**

Percentage of women and men who were usual residents and who died in the 2 years preceding the survey by cause of death, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Deaths due to non-medical reasons <sup>1</sup>	Deaths due to other reasons	Number of women	Deaths due to non-medical reasons <sup>1</sup>	Deaths due to other reasons	Number of men
<b>Age at time of death</b>						
<15	7.9	92.1	4,031	11.3	88.7	5,403
15-19	31.2	68.8	331	42.2	57.8	316
20-29	20.5	79.5	705	47.0	53.0	983
30-39	17.5	82.5	595	29.6	70.4	1,335
40-49	9.3	90.7	1,005	19.4	80.6	1,955
50-59	7.4	92.6	1,780	11.2	88.8	3,022
60-69	4.3	95.7	3,219	7.2	92.8	4,464
70 and over	2.6	97.4	9,182	3.8	96.2	9,711
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	5.9	94.1	5,731	10.2	89.8	7,695
Rural	6.2	93.8	15,116	11.4	88.6	19,494
<b>Schooling of household head</b>						
No schooling	6.3	93.7	5,536	12.2	87.8	9,079
<5 years complete	5.5	94.5	2,067	11.7	88.3	2,546
5-7 years complete	6.2	93.8	3,545	12.8	87.2	4,221
8-9 years complete	6.8	93.2	3,379	10.3	89.7	4,129
10-11 years complete	6.3	93.7	2,733	10.0	90.0	3,078
12 or more years complete	5.4	94.6	3,568	7.9	92.1	4,117
Don't know	0.0	100.0	20	19.5	80.5	18
<b>Religion of household head</b>						
Hindu	6.2	93.8	17,406	11.1	88.9	22,675
Muslim	5.7	94.3	2,309	10.1	89.9	3,026
Christian	5.6	94.4	545	13.3	86.7	698
Sikh	3.7	96.3	340	10.2	89.8	458
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	9.3	90.7	128	19.9	80.1	159
Jain	2.5	97.5	32	8.7	91.3	53
Other	3.2	96.8	88	6.5	93.5	119
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>						
Scheduled caste	6.1	93.9	5,053	11.1	88.9	6,657
Scheduled tribe	7.5	92.5	1,767	13.1	86.9	2,607
Other backward class	6.1	93.9	9,108	11.3	88.7	11,726
Other	5.6	94.4	4,711	9.5	90.5	5,970
Don't know	7.6	92.4	208	13.9	86.1	229
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	6.6	93.4	4,469	12.2	87.8	6,021
Second	6.0	94.0	4,494	12.1	87.9	6,072
Middle	6.6	93.4	4,211	11.0	89.0	5,555
Fourth	6.1	93.9	3,995	10.8	89.2	5,049
Highest	5.1	94.9	3,677	8.6	91.4	4,492
Total	6.1	93.9	20,847	11.1	88.9	27,189

<sup>1</sup> Deaths due to accidents, violence, poisoning, homicides, or suicides

**Table 12.12 Adult mortality by state/union territory**

Percent distribution of women and men who were usual residents and who died in the 2 years preceding the survey by cause of death, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women		Men	
	Deaths due to non-medical reasons <sup>1</sup>	Deaths due to other reasons	Deaths due to non-medical reasons <sup>1</sup>	Deaths due to other reasons
<b>India</b>	6.1	93.9	11.1	88.9
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	0.0	100.0	3.1	96.9
Delhi	4.2	95.8	6.4	93.6
Haryana	4.5	95.5	10.6	89.4
Himachal Pradesh	2.3	97.7	13.3	86.7
Jammu & Kashmir	10.5	89.5	13.8	86.2
Ladakh	18.3	81.7	12.4	87.6
Punjab	3.7	96.3	9.1	90.9
Rajasthan	4.3	95.7	8.8	91.2
Uttarakhand	4.7	95.3	11.1	88.9
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	6.8	93.2	11.9	88.1
Madhya Pradesh	5.3	94.7	12.6	87.4
Uttar Pradesh	5.4	94.6	9.7	90.3
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	4.1	95.9	7.7	92.3
Jharkhand	3.3	96.7	7.5	92.5
Odisha	4.7	95.3	8.5	91.5
West Bengal	8.6	91.4	10.7	89.3
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	7.6	92.4	19.6	80.4
Assam	9.3	90.7	15.2	84.8
Manipur	1.4	98.6	9.8	90.2
Meghalaya	7.9	92.1	9.4	90.6
Mizoram	3.6	96.4	8.3	91.7
Nagaland	1.3	98.7	9.6	90.4
Sikkim	7.3	92.7	14.3	85.7
Tripura	6.8	93.2	10.8	89.2
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	14.7	85.3	18.4	81.6
Goa	6.8	93.2	9.4	90.6
Gujarat	7.2	92.8	10.9	89.1
Maharashtra	7.1	92.9	11.3	88.7
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	18.6	81.4	13.3	86.7
Andhra Pradesh	8.8	91.2	16.9	83.1
Karnataka	5.0	95.0	10.5	89.5
Kerala	5.3	94.7	7.9	92.1
Lakshadweep	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Puducherry	10.3	89.7	13.4	86.6
Tamil Nadu	6.9	93.1	14.4	85.6
Telangana	13.1	86.9	24.5	75.5

<sup>1</sup> Death due to accident, violence, poisoning, homicide or suicide

## Key Findings

- **Comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS:** One-fifth (22%) of women and nearly one-third of men (31%) age 15-49 in India have comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS.
- **Knowledge of mother-to-child transmission of HIV:** Seventy-three percent of women and 72 percent of men know that HIV can be transmitted during pregnancy; 70 percent of women and 68 percent of men know that HIV can be transmitted during delivery; and 69 percent of women and 62 percent of men know that HIV can be transmitted by breastfeeding.
- **Coverage of prior HIV testing:** Fifty-seven percent of women and 70 percent of men age 15-49 know where to obtain an HIV test. Twenty-one percent of women and 9 percent of men were tested for HIV prior to the survey.
- **Coverage of HIV testing during antenatal care (ANC) or labour:** Thirty-six percent of women who gave birth in the past 2 years had an HIV test during ANC or labour and received the test results.
- **Prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs):** Twelve percent of women and 9 percent of men age 15-49 who have ever had sex reported having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- **Comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS among youth:** Twenty percent of young women and 29 percent of young men age 15-24 have a comprehensive knowledge of HIV.
- **Premarital sex among youth:** Two percent of never-married women and 7 percent of never-married men age 15-24 have ever had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months
- **Higher-risk sex among youth:** Thirty-nine percent of men age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months had higher-risk intercourse (sex with a non-marital, non-cohabitating partner) in the 12 months preceding the survey, compared with 2 percent of women age 15-24.

**S**tarted in 1992, India's National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) has taken a comprehensive approach to the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS in India. Currently in its fourth round, key priorities of the programme now include the prevention of new infections; the provision of comprehensive care, support, and treatment for persons living with HIV; prevention of parent-to-child transmission; awareness-raising; reduction of stigma and discrimination; and demand generation for HIV services, particularly among women and youth.

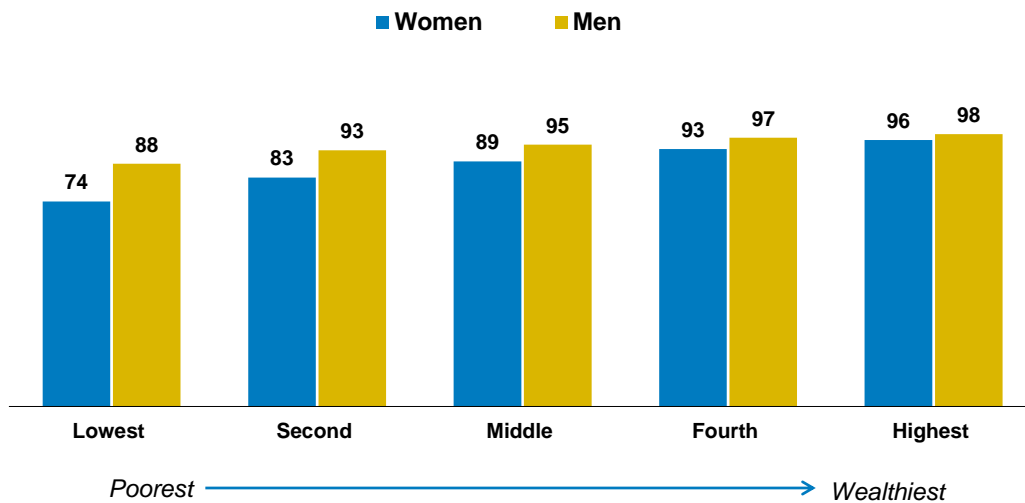
This chapter presents findings from NFHS-5 on the current levels of HIV/AIDS knowledge and attitudes, prior HIV testing, and the prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), as well as sexual behaviour of the adult and youth population. Questions on HIV/AIDS were included only in the subsample of households selected for the state module.

### 13.1 HIV/AIDS KNOWLEDGE, TRANSMISSION, AND PREVENTION METHODS

In India, 87 percent of women and 94 percent of men have heard of HIV or AIDS (Table 13.1). Seventy-four percent of women and 88 percent of men in the lowest wealth quintile have heard of HIV or AIDS, compared with 96 percent of women and 98 percent of men in the highest wealth quintile (Figure 13.1). However, only 68 percent of women and 82 percent of men age 15-49 know that using condoms consistently can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS. Seventy-one percent of women and 78 percent of men age 15-49 know that limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner who has no other partners can reduce the risk of HIV/AIDS. Overall, 60 percent of women and 71 percent of men know that both consistent condom use and only having sex with one uninfected partner can prevent HIV/AIDS (Table 13.2).

**Figure 13.1 Knowledge of HIV or AIDS by Household Wealth**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



Seventy-four percent of women and 78 percent of men say that people can get HIV/AIDS from blood products or blood transfusions. Seventy-four percent of women and 77 percent of men say that people can get HIV/AIDS by injecting drugs.

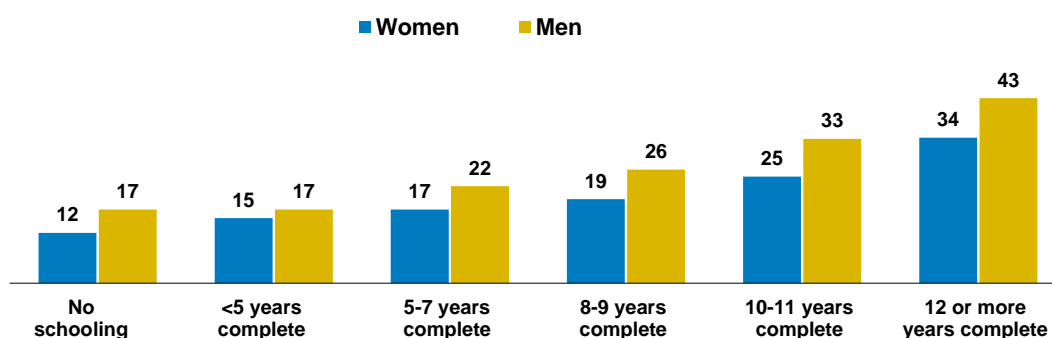
**Trends:** Since NFHS-4, knowledge of HIV/AIDS has increased more among women than men. For women, knowledge increased by 12 percentage points from 76 percent in NFHS-4, and for men, it increased by 5 percentage points from 89 percent in NFHS-4. Similarly, knowledge that condoms, if used consistently and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner who has no other partners can prevent HIV/AIDS has also increased, and the increase is greater for women (from 47% in NFHS-4 to 60%), than for men (from 69% in NFHS-4 to 71%).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Knowledge of HIV or AIDS increases sharply with schooling for both women and men, from 76 percent among women and 86 percent among men with no schooling to 97-99 percent among women and men with 12 or more years of schooling. Similarly, knowledge that condoms if used consistently and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner who has no other partners can prevent HIV/AIDS increases from 47 percent among women and 56 percent among men with no schooling to 75 percent among women and 80 percent among men with 12 or more years of schooling (Table 13.2).
- Knowledge of HIV or AIDS, as well as ways of preventing HIV/AIDS, also increases with wealth. The percentage who have heard of HIV or AIDS increases from 76 percent for women and 86 percent for men who have no schooling to 97 percent women and 99 percent of men with 12 or more year of schooling complete. Forty-six percent of women and 60 percent of men in the lowest wealth quintile know the two methods of prevention, compared with 75 percent of women and 81 percent of men in the highest wealth quintile.

## Figure 13.2 Comprehensive Knowledge of HIV/AIDS by Schooling

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



- Knowledge of HIV or AIDS varies greatly by state. The percentage of women who know about HIV or AIDS ranges from only 74 percent of women in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu to 99 percent in Manipur, Goa and Kerala. For men, knowledge ranges from 84 percent in Meghalaya to 100 percent in Goa and Manipur. Around half (54%) of women in Meghalaya and over three-fifths (63%) of men in Meghalaya and 65 percent of men in Andaman & Nicobar Islands know that HIV/AIDS can be prevented by using condoms (**Table 13.5**).

### 13.2 COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE

#### Comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS

Knowing that consistent use of condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and rejecting two common misconceptions about transmission or prevention of HIV/AIDS.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

Fifty-four percent of women and 64 percent of men know that HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites; 45 percent of women and 59 percent of men know that HIV/AIDS cannot be spread by sharing food with a person who has AIDS; and two-thirds of women (67%) and 71 percent of men know that a healthy looking person can have HIV/AIDS.

About one-fifth of women (22%) and nearly one-third of men (31%) have comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS (**Table 13.3.1** and **Table 13.3.2**).

**Trends:** Comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS has been more or less stagnant for both women and men since NFHS-4.

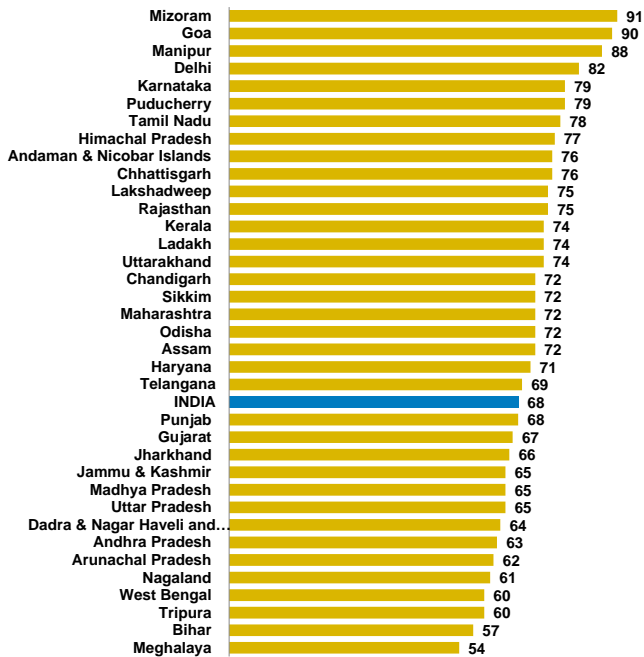
#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Comprehensive knowledge is higher in urban than in rural areas. Twenty-nine percent of women and 37 percent of men in urban areas have comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, compared with 18 percent of women and 27 percent of men in rural areas (**Table 13.3.1** and **Table 13.3.2**).
- Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS increases sharply with schooling (**Figure 13.2**) and wealth; however, there is no subgroup of women, except Jain women, in which more than 34 percent have comprehensive knowledge. Among Jain women, 47 percent have comprehensive knowledge. Among men, there is no subgroup in which more than 45 percent have comprehensive knowledge, with the exception of men belonging to other religions (57%) and Jains (64%).
- The percentage of women and men who have comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS varies greatly by state. For women, comprehensive knowledge is highest in Mizoram (64%) and lowest in Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh (10-13%). For men, comprehensive knowledge is highest in Goa (67%) and lowest in West Bengal and Meghalaya (16% each) (**Table 13.5**).

- The percentage of women and men who know that HIV/AIDS can be prevented by using condoms varies greatly by state (**Figure 13.3.1** and **Figure 13.3.2**).

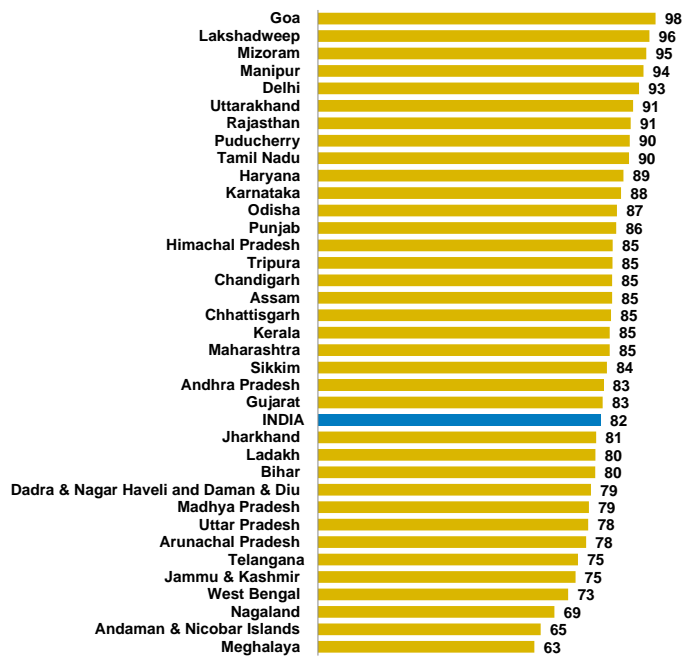
**Figure 13.3.1 Women’s Knowledge of Condom Use for HIV/AIDS Prevention by State/UT**

Percentage of women age 15-49



**Figure 13.3.2 Men’s Knowledge of Condom Use for HIV/AIDS Prevention by State/UT**

Percentage of men age 15-49



### 13.3 KNOWLEDGE ABOUT MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION

Increasing the level of general knowledge about transmission of HIV/AIDS from mother to child and reducing the risk of transmission using antiretroviral drugs are critical to reducing mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV/AIDS. To assess MTCT knowledge, respondents were asked whether HIV can be transmitted from a mother to her child during pregnancy, during delivery, and by breastfeeding. Women were also asked if a mother with HIV can reduce the risk of transmission to her baby by taking certain drugs during pregnancy.

Seventy-three percent of women know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted during pregnancy, 70 percent know that it can be transmitted during delivery, and 69 percent know that it can be transmitted by breastfeeding (**Table 13.4**). Among men, 72 percent know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted during pregnancy, 68 percent know that it can be transmitted during delivery, and 62 percent know that it can be transmitted by breastfeeding. Overall, 62 percent of women and 54 percent of men know all three modes of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS.

More than half of women (51%) and almost half of men (46%) know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby and that the risk of transmission can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Knowledge of the three modes of MTCT varies greatly by schooling, wealth, and religion. Across all women and men, knowledge is lowest for women belonging to the lowest wealth quintile (53%) and is lowest for men without schooling (47%), and is highest among women with 12 or more years of schooling (70%), women belonging to the Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist religion (70%) and Jain men (67%) (**Table 13.4**).
- Knowledge of MTCT varies across states. Women are least likely to know about the three modes of MTCT in Sikkim (42%), and Meghalaya and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (47% each), and most likely to know them in Karnataka (80%), and Goa (81%). Men are least likely to know about the three modes of MTCT in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (21%), Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (34%) and Meghalaya (39%) and most likely to know them in Karnataka (70%) and Nagaland (74%) (**Table 13.5**).



## 13.4 ACCEPTING ATTITUDES TOWARD PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

### Accepting attitudes toward people living with HIV/AIDS

Respondents with accepting attitudes toward people living with HIV/AIDS are those who know about HIV/AIDS and agree with each of the seven following statements: a) they would care for a relative with HIV/AIDS in their own home; b) they would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who has HIV/AIDS; c) a female teacher who has HIV/AIDS but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching in the school; d) they would not want to keep it secret that a family member got infected with HIV/AIDS; e) they would allow an HIV positive student to attend school with students who are HIV negative; f) they think that people living with HIV should be treated in the same public hospital with patients who are HIV negative; and g) they think that people living with HIV should be allowed to work in the same office with people who are HIV negative.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49 who know about HIV/AIDS

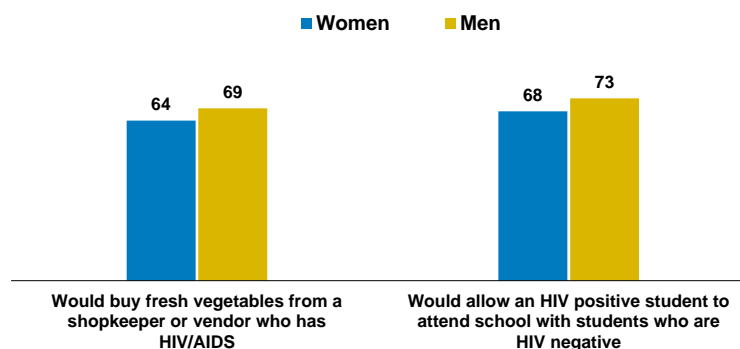
Widespread stigma and discrimination in a population can adversely affect both people's willingness to be tested and their adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) if needed. Thus, the reduction of stigma and discrimination in a population is an important indicator of the success of any programme targeting HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

A majority of both women and men agree with each of the different statements. Agreement varies for women from a low of 61 percent of women who agree that they would not want to keep secret that a family member was infected with HIV/AIDS to 71 percent each agreeing that a female teacher who has HIV/AIDS but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching and they are willing to care for a relative with HIV/AIDS in their own home.

For men, agreement ranges from 59 percent who say that they would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with HIV/AIDS to 76 percent who agree that a female teacher who has HIV/AIDS but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching. Overall, however, only 23 percent of women and 24 percent of men express accepting attitudes toward people living with HIV/AIDS based on agreement with all seven specified statements (Table 13.6).

### Figure 13.4 Discriminatory Attitudes toward People Living with HIV/AIDS

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS



About the same percentage of women (65-69%) and men (65-73%) agree that they would allow an HIV positive student to attend school with students who are HIV negative, that people living with HIV should be treated in the same public hospital with patients who are HIV negative, and that people living with HIV should be allowed to work in the same office with people who are HIV negative. However, 64 percent of women, compared with 69 percent of men, say that they would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who has HIV/AIDS (Figure 13.4).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Accepting attitudes toward persons with HIV/AIDS based on agreement with each of the separate seven statements shows lower acceptance in rural than urban areas, except that a higher proportion of both women and men in rural areas than urban areas say that they would not want to keep secret that a family member was infected with

HIV/AIDS. Agreement with all seven statements, however, does not vary much by residence for women (22-25%) and men (23-26%) (**Table 13.6**).

- Accepting attitudes based on all seven statements vary greatly by state. For women, agreement with all seven statements varies from 7 percent in Meghalaya, 8 percent in Telangana, and 9 percent in Puducherry to 50 percent in Manipur (**Table 13.7.1**). For men, it ranges from 5 percent in Andhra Pradesh, 10 percent in Meghalaya, and 11 percent in Telangana to 60 percent in Manipur (**Table 13.7.2**).

### 13.5 ATTITUDES TOWARD NEGOTIATING SEX WITH HUSBAND

Being able to negotiate safe sex is critical to the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. In NFHS-5, women and men age 15-49 were asked if a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if he has a sexually transmitted disease. Men were also asked if a wife is justified in asking her husband that they use a condom when they have sex if the husband has a sexually transmitted disease.

Eighty-seven percent of women and 83 percent of men age 15-49 agree that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if he has a sexually transmitted disease. In addition, 87 percent of men agree that a wife is justified in asking her husband to use a condom if he has a sexually transmitted disease. Overall, 92 percent of men say that if a husband has a sexually transmitted disease, a wife can refuse to have sex with him or can request that they use a condom (**Table 13.8**).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- There is very little variation by most background characteristics in women's and men's attitudes toward wives negotiating safer sex with their husbands (**Table 13.8**).
- Among women, agreement that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if he has a sexually transmitted disease varies from a low of 70 percent in Arunachal Pradesh to a high of 96 percent in Delhi (**Table 13.9**).
- Sixty percent of men in Meghalaya, compared with 99 percent of men in Goa, agree that if a husband has a sexually transmitted disease, his wife is justified in asking that they use a condom.
- Men's agreement with either of the two statements varies similarly from a low of 63 percent in Meghalaya, 88 percent each in Telangana, and Kerala to a high of 100 percent in Goa.

### 13.6 MULTIPLE SEXUAL PARTNERS

#### Higher-risk sexual intercourse

Sexual intercourse with a partner who was neither a spouse nor who lived with the respondent.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49 who have had sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey

Having multiple sexual partners or having sex with a person who is neither a spouse nor a live-in partner can put women and men at higher risk of HIV/AIDS. In India, among those who had sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, less than 1 percent (0.3%) of women and 1 percent of men reported having more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and less than 1 percent (0.5%) of women and 4 percent of men had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their spouse or lived with them (**Table 13.10.1** and **Table 13.10.2**). Among women and men who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, 57 percent of women and 60 percent of men reported use of a condom at last higher-risk sex. On average, women who have ever had sex have had 1.7 lifetime sexual partners and men who ever had sex have had 2.1 lifetime sexual partners.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Among women and men who had sex in the past 12 months, never married women and men are more likely than those who are currently married or formerly married to have intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them (**Table 13.10.1** and **Table 13.10.2**).

- Women and men who had sex in the past 12 months and were away from home for one month or more at a time in the past 12 months are more likely to have multiple partners than those who have not been away from home for one or more months (0.8% versus 0.3% for women; 2.6% versus 1% for men).
- Among women and men who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the use of a condom the last time they had higher-risk sex is much higher among those with 10 or more years of schooling than those with no schooling, as well as for men between those in the highest wealth quintile than those in the lowest wealth quintile.
- The percentage of men who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them among those who had sex in the past 12 months decreases with age from 6 percent among men age 15-24 to 1 percent among men age 40-49.
- Notably, 0.6 percent of men age 15-19 who had sex in the past 12 months had multiple sex partners and 4 percent had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them. These proportions rises to 2 percent and 9 percent among men age 20-24.
- Two percent of men in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and Delhi reported having more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months. The percentages were much lower in all other states (**Table 13.11**).

### 13.7 PAID SEX

Sexual intercourse undertaken for payment is most often at high risk of getting sexually transmitted diseases and limits the possibility for negotiating safe sex. Two percent of men age 15-49 in India say that they paid for sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey. About half (51%) of men who reported paying for sex in the past 12 months reported using a condom during their last paid sexual intercourse (**Table 13.12**).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Men who are divorced, separated, deserted, or widowed are more likely to have paid for sex (5%) in the 12 months preceding the survey than men who are never married (2%) or currently married (1%) (**Table 13.12**).
- Men who were away from home for one month or more at a time in the past 12 months are more likely than men staying at home to have paid for sex in the past 12 months (3% versus 1%).

### 13.8 COVERAGE OF HIV TESTING SERVICES

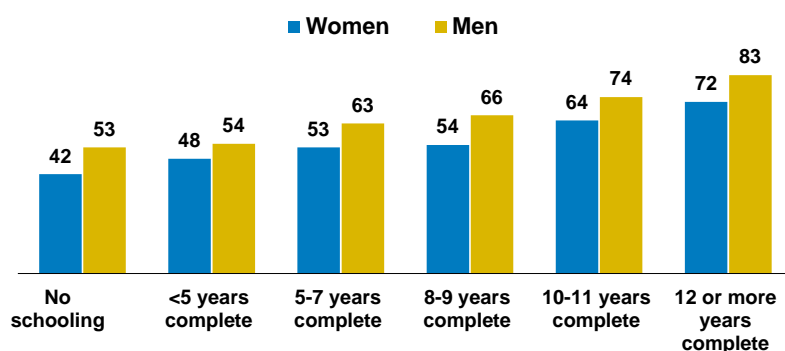
Knowledge of HIV status helps HIV negative individuals make decisions to reduce risk and increase safer sex practices in order to remain disease free. Among those who are living with HIV, knowledge of HIV status allows them to take action to protect their sexual partners, access care, and receive treatment.

#### 13.8.1 Awareness of HIV Testing Services and Experience with HIV Testing

Fifty-seven percent of women and 70 percent of men in India know where to obtain an HIV test. Women are about twice as likely as men to have ever been tested for HIV (21% versus 9%) and to have been tested in the 12 months before the survey and received the results of the last test (6% versus 3%) (**Table 13.13.1** and **Table 13.13.2**).

### Figure 13.5 Knowledge of Where to Get Tested for HIV by Schooling

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



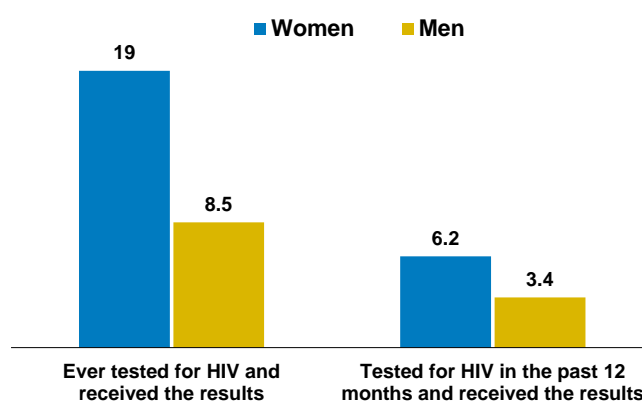
**Trends:** There has been a substantial increase in HIV testing among women age 15-49 since NFHS-4. The proportion who had ever been tested for HIV prior to the survey increased from 16 percent in NFHS-4 to 21 percent in NFHS-5 among women and from 8 percent to 9 percent among men.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of women and men who know where to get an HIV test is lower in rural than urban areas and increases sharply with schooling and wealth (Table 13.13.1, Table 13.13.2, and Figure 13.5).
- Women are about twice as likely as men (19% versus 9%) to have ever been tested for HIV and received the results (Figure 13.6).
- The proportion of respondents who have ever been tested for HIV peaks at 33 percent among women age 25-29 and at 14 percent among men age 30-39.
- Urban women are more likely (29%) to have ever been tested for HIV than rural women (18%). Although urban men are also more likely than rural men to have ever been tested for HIV, the differential is smaller (12% versus 8%).
- Women’s and men’s likelihood of having ever been tested for HIV increases sharply with both schooling and wealth. For example, 12 percent of women and 4 percent of men with no schooling have ever been tested for HIV, compared with 30 percent of women and 14 percent of men with 12 or more years of schooling.
- HIV testing is more common among women and men who have been away from home for one month or more in the past 12 months (23% of women and 11% of men) than among those who have not been away (21% of women and 9% of men).
- The percentage of women and men who have ever been tested varies greatly by state. Among women, this percentage ranges from 7 percent in Uttar Pradesh and 8 percent each in Jharkhand and Bihar to 57 percent in Mizoram. Among men this percentage ranges from 1 percent in Lakshadweep and 2 percent in Assam to 36 percent in Mizoram (Table 13.14.1 and Table 13.14.2).
- The proportions of women and men who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and have received the results have the same pattern of variation by most background characteristics as do the proportions of women and men who have ever been tested for HIV.

### Figure 13.6 Prior HIV Testing

Percentage of women and men age 15-49



### 13.8.2 HIV Testing of Pregnant Women

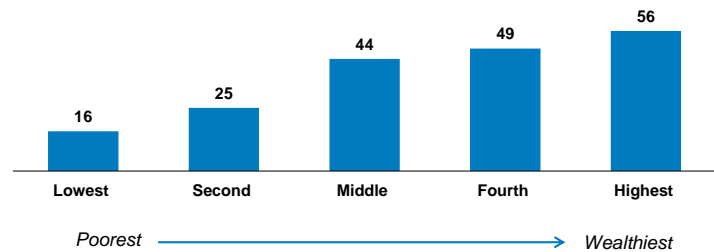
**Table 13.15** presents information on self-reported HIV testing during pregnancy and labour among all women age 15-49 who gave birth in the two years before the survey. Twenty-two percent of women who received ANC for their last birth in the past two years received counselling on HIV and an HIV test during an antenatal care (ANC) visit and received the test results; 36 percent of women who had a birth in the past two years had an HIV test during ANC or labour and received the test results.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women in urban areas are more likely than their rural counterparts to have an HIV test during ANC or labour and receive their test result (51% versus 31%) (**Table 13.15**).
- The percentage of women who had an HIV test during ANC or labour and who received their test results increases sharply with both schooling and wealth. For example, 16 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile had an HIV test during ANC or labour and received the test results, compared with 56 percent of women in the highest wealth quintile (**Figure 13.7**).
- The percentage who had an HIV test during ANC or labour and who received their test results among women who had a birth in the two years preceding the survey and the percentage of women who received ANC for their last birth in the past two years who received counselling on HIV, an HIV test during ANC, and the test results vary greatly by state. For example, the proportion of women who received counselling on HIV, an HIV test during ANC, and their test results was the highest in Mizoram (66%), followed by Tamil Nadu (59%) and was the lowest in Jharkhand (5%) and Bihar (6%) (**Table 13.16**).

**Figure 13.7 HIV Testing during ANC or Labour Wealth by Household**

Percentage of women who had a birth in the past two years who were tested for HIV during ANC or delivery for their most recent birth and received results



### 13.9 SELF-REPORTING OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

#### Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and symptoms

Respondents who have ever had sex are asked whether they had an STI or symptoms of an STI (a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge from the vagina/penis, a genital sore, or a genital ulcer) in the 12 months before the survey.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

Overall, 12 percent of women age 15-49 who have ever had sex and 9 percent of men age 15-49 who have ever had sex reported having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months (**Table 13.17**).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Never married men are more likely than currently married or formerly married men to report having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI (**Table 13.17**).
- Self-reported STIs and/or symptoms of STIs do not vary greatly by residence or schooling for both women and men.
- Women and men who were away from home for one month or more at a time in the past 12 months are more likely to report an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months (18% of women and 14% of men) than women and men who were not away from home (12% of women and 9% of men).

- Self-reported STIs and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months vary greatly across states, from a low among women of 4 percent in Odisha, 5 percent in Andhra Pradesh and 6 percent in Telangana to a high of 30 percent in Meghalaya. Among men range was from 1 percent in Mizoram, Goa, and Lakshadweep and 2 percent in Nagaland to a high of 23 percent in Ladakh, and 20 percent in West Bengal (**Table 13.18**).

### 13.10 HIV/AIDS-RELATED KNOWLEDGE AND BEHAVIOUR AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

This section addresses HIV/AIDS-related knowledge among young people age 15-24 and also assesses the extent to which young people are engaged in behaviours that may place them at risk of contracting HIV.

#### 13.10.1 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS

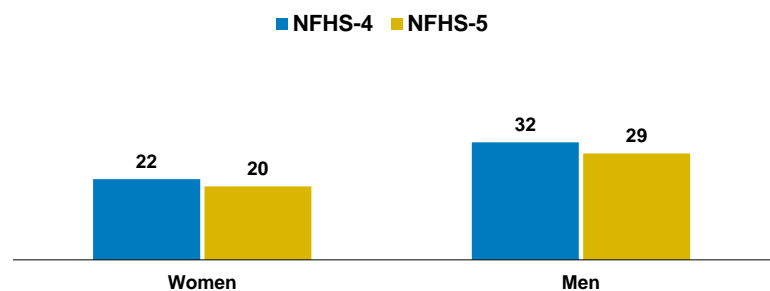
Knowledge of HIV transmission enables people to avoid HIV infection. This is especially true for young people, who are often at greater risk because they may have shorter relationships with more partners or engage in other high-risk behaviours.

In India, 20 percent of young women and 29 percent of young men age 15-24 have comprehensive knowledge of HIV, which includes knowing that consistent use of condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting two common misconceptions about HIV transmission (**Table 13.19**).

**Trends:** The percentage of young women with comprehensive knowledge about HIV has decreased only marginally from 22 percent in NFHS-4 to 20 percent in NFHS-5 and the proportion of young men with comprehensive knowledge has declined in the same period, from 32 percent to 29 percent (**Figure 13.8**).

**Figure 13.8 Trend in Comprehensive Knowledge among Youth**

Percentage of women and men age 15-24



#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Comprehensive knowledge about HIV increases with age: only 17 percent of women and 24 percent of men age 15-17 have comprehensive knowledge, compared with 24 percent of women and 33 percent of men age 23-24 (**Table 13.19**).
- Young women and men in urban areas are more likely (26% of women and 34% of men) than their counterparts in rural areas (18% of women and 26% of men) to have comprehensive knowledge about HIV.
- Comprehensive knowledge among youth increases sharply with schooling and wealth. For example, 9 percent of women and 15 percent of men with no schooling have comprehensive knowledge, compared with 28 percent of women and 38 percent of men with 12 or more years of schooling.
- Comprehensive knowledge among youth varies greatly by state. Only 10 percent of women in Bihar and 12 percent in Uttar Pradesh and Tripura have comprehensive knowledge of HIV, compared with 69 percent in Mizoram. Similarly, only 14 percent of men in West Bengal and Meghalaya and 15 percent of men in Sikkim have comprehensive knowledge, compared with 73 percent in Goa and 60 percent in Mizoram (**Table 13.20**).

#### 13.10.2 First Sex

**Table 13.21** provides information on the percentage of young women and men who have ever had sexual intercourse and who had sexual intercourse before the age of 15. Thirty-nine percent of women age 15-24 have ever had sex, compared with 21 percent of young men age 15-24. Two percent of young women and 0.5 percent of young men reported having sex before the age of 15.



**Trends:** Overall, the percentage of young people age 15-24 who have had sex before age 15 has decreased insignificantly between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 for women (from 3% to 2%) and men (from 0.9% to 0.5%).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Among women age 15-24, the likelihood of ever having had sex and having had sex before age 15 declines sharply with schooling. Seventy-one percent of women with no schooling have ever had sex and 8 percent had sex before age 15, compared with 33 percent of women with 12 or more years of schooling having ever had sex and less than 1 percent having had sex before age 15 (**Table 13.21**).
- The likelihood of ever having had sex and having had sex before age 15 among women age 15-24 also varies greatly by wealth. The percentage who have ever had sex declines from 45 percent among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 28 percent among women in the highest wealth quintile, and the percentage who had sex before age 15 declines from 4 percent among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 0.4 percent among women in the highest wealth quintile.

#### 13.10.3 Premarital Sex

Ninety-seven percent of never married women and 89 percent of never married men age 15-24 have never had sexual intercourse (**Table 13.22**). Only 2 percent of never married women and 7 percent of never married men age 15-24 had sex in the past 12 months. Among never married women and men who had sex in the past 12 months, 63 percent of women and 62 percent of men reported the use of a condom at last sexual intercourse.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- The percentage of never married women and men who have never had sexual intercourse decreases with age from 98 percent of women and 96 percent of men age 15-17 to 95 percent of women and 77 percent of men age 23-24 (**Table 13.22**).
- Never married men age 15-24, who were away from home for one month or more at a time in the past 12 months had more sexual intercourse in the past 12 months than men who were not away from home (11% versus 7%).

#### 13.10.4 Multiple Sexual Partners

Young men age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months are much more likely than their female counterparts to have had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey (39% versus 2%). Among young women and men who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, women were much more likely than men to have reported the use of a condom at last higher-risk intercourse (63% versus 58%) (**Table 13.23**).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Among young men who had sex in the past 12 months, the likelihood of having had higher-risk sex generally increases with schooling: 21-28 percent of men with no schooling or less than 5 years of schooling have had higher-risk sexual intercourse, compared with 57 percent of men with 12 or more years of schooling (**Tables 13.23**).
- Among women and men who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, condom use at last sex with a non-marital, non-cohabitating partner is much higher in urban areas than in rural areas. Seventy-two percent of women and 64 percent of men in urban areas who had higher-risk sex in the past 12 months the use of a condom during their last sexual intercourse with their last non-marital, non-cohabitating partner, compared with 59 percent of women and 54 percent of men in rural areas.

#### 13.10.5 Coverage of HIV Testing Services

Seeking an HIV test may be more difficult for young people than older adults because many young people lack experience in accessing health services for themselves and because there are often barriers to young people in obtaining services. **Table 13.24** provides information on sexually active youth age 15-24 who have been tested for HIV and received the results of the last test.

Among young people age 15-24 who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, the proportion who were tested for HIV and received their results was higher among women than among men; 13 percent of women were tested and received the results, compared with only 3 percent of men.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of young women tested for HIV and receiving the test results in the past 12 months among those who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months increases with age from 6 percent of women age 15-17 to 14 percent of women age 23-24 (**Table 13.24**).
- Young women age 15-24 in urban areas who had sex in the past 12 months are more likely to have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the test results (15%) than their rural counterparts (12%). The percentage of young men who were tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the test results was the same in urban and rural areas (3%).
- The percentage of young women and men who were tested for HIV in the past 12 months and who received their results tends to increase with both schooling and wealth.



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**Table 13.1 Knowledge of HIV or AIDS**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21 and NFHS-4

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Percentage who have heard of HIV or AIDS	Number of women	Percentage who have heard of HIV or AIDS	Number of men
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	85.4	36,049	92.5	30,769
15-19	82.3	18,240	90.6	16,385
20-24	88.6	17,809	94.8	14,384
25-29	89.3	17,398	96.0	14,195
30-39	88.6	29,853	95.6	26,137
40-49	86.0	24,714	94.0	22,043
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	93.0	34,839	96.9	32,852
Rural	84.2	73,175	92.9	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	75.8	24,485	85.9	9,982
<5 years complete	79.8	5,715	89.3	5,842
5-7 years complete	83.9	14,547	91.4	12,082
8-9 years complete	86.6	19,237	93.3	18,472
10-11 years complete	92.7	16,278	96.3	16,735
12 or more years complete	97.2	27,751	98.7	30,032
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>				
Yes	87.5	7,907	93.2	13,289
No	87.0	100,107	94.5	79,855
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	87.4	87,179	94.5	73,632
Muslim	83.7	15,138	92.5	14,633
Christian	94.7	2,495	97.0	2,426
Sikh	86.5	1,908	95.2	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	90.6	652	97.6	1,017
Jain	97.7	214	96.0	280
Other	83.7	428	94.5	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	84.7	23,427	94.1	18,977
Scheduled tribe	83.3	9,909	90.6	8,441
Other backward class	88.1	47,251	94.8	38,986
Other	89.4	26,733	95.0	26,244
Don't know	58.9	694	83.1	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	74.0	19,904	87.6	15,606
Second	82.6	22,049	92.5	18,497
Middle	88.5	22,252	94.5	19,829
Fourth	92.9	22,376	97.0	20,658
Highest	96.2	21,432	98.3	18,553
Total	87.1	108,014	94.3	93,144
NFHS-4 (2015-2016)	75.6	121,118	88.9	103,411

<sup>1</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded.

Table 13.2 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS prevention methods

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse and by having one uninfected sex partner who has no other sex partners, and percentage who say people can get HIV/AIDS from blood products or blood transfusions and by injecting drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who say that people can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS by:				Percentage who say that people can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS by:				Number of men
	Using condoms <sup>1</sup>	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>2</sup>	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>1,2</sup>	Percentage who say that people can get HIV/AIDS from blood products or transfusions	Using condoms <sup>1</sup>	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>2</sup>	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>1,2</sup>	Percentage who say that people can get HIV/AIDS from blood products or transfusions	
<b>Age</b>									
15-24	65.2	67.5	57.2	72.9	79.5	74.8	68.2	74.8	30,769
15-19	59.8	62.6	52.0	70.3	76.1	71.1	64.4	72.6	16,385
20-24	70.6	72.6	62.6	75.4	83.4	79.0	72.4	77.3	14,384
25-29	72.3	74.3	64.4	76.6	84.5	80.4	73.8	79.9	14,195
30-39	71.2	73.2	63.4	75.8	84.4	80.3	74.0	79.2	26,137
40-49	66.9	68.7	58.8	72.8	80.6	77.4	70.2	77.7	22,043
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	76.1	78.0	68.3	81.5	86.3	81.9	75.8	80.3	32,852
Rural	64.7	66.9	56.7	70.8	79.5	75.6	68.6	76.0	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	55.0	57.9	47.3	62.1	67.8	64.1	55.8	66.8	9,982
<5 years complete	59.6	61.8	51.6	65.9	72.5	67.8	59.3	69.4	5,842
5-7 years complete	64.3	66.0	55.8	70.1	77.3	73.7	65.9	73.1	12,082
8-9 years complete	66.9	68.5	58.3	72.1	79.6	75.5	68.4	74.5	18,472
10-11 years complete	73.6	75.3	65.3	80.2	84.8	81.0	74.9	80.2	16,735
12 or more years complete	82.0	84.3	74.9	86.9	90.1	85.7	80.3	84.7	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	65.3	67.8	57.3	75.1	81.2	76.0	69.7	76.7	36,503
Currently married	69.6	71.5	61.7	74.1	82.4	79.0	72.2	78.1	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	64.7	68.0	56.5	72.4	78.0	76.7	68.8	72.7	1,165
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>3</sup></b>									
Yes	71.4	73.1	63.1	76.5	79.7	76.5	69.0	75.1	13,289
No	68.1	70.3	60.2	74.1	82.3	78.1	71.5	77.9	79,855

Continued...

Table 13.2 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS prevention methods—Continued

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse and by having one uninfected sex partner who has no other sex partners, and percentage who say people can get HIV/AIDS from blood products or blood transfusions and by injecting drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who say that people can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS by:			Percentage who say that people can reduce the risk of getting HIV/AIDS by:			Number of women	Percentage who say that people can get HIV/AIDS by injecting drugs	Percentage who say that people can get HIV/AIDS from blood products or blood transfusions	Percentage who say that people can get HIV/AIDS by injecting drugs	Number of men
	Using condoms <sup>1</sup>	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner <sup>2</sup>	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>1,2</sup>	Using condoms	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>2</sup>	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected sex partner <sup>1,2</sup>					
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	68.9	71.3	61.1	74.5	70.4	87,179	82.5	78.6	72.0	78.1	73,632
Muslim	64.5	65.2	55.9	71.2	65.2	15,138	78.2	73.0	65.7	73.3	14,633
Christian	71.2	73.9	62.1	82.9	77.2	2,495	83.2	79.6	72.9	84.9	2,426
Sikh	69.7	70.3	62.0	75.8	73.1	1,908	84.7	83.2	77.5	84.0	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	70.9	69.4	62.0	70.8	73.1	652	85.9	81.0	75.4	75.2	1,017
Jain	89.5	91.5	87.4	89.8	88.3	214	94.2	83.5	83.3	75.6	280
Other	61.0	64.7	51.4	69.1	61.9	428	84.6	82.8	76.9	75.5	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	65.4	67.9	57.6	71.8	68.1	23,427	81.2	78.0	70.9	76.0	18,977
Scheduled tribe	63.8	64.4	55.0	68.0	63.7	9,909	76.7	72.5	65.1	73.0	8,441
Other backward class	69.2	71.7	61.1	75.9	71.2	47,251	82.7	80.0	73.2	78.6	38,986
Other	71.9	73.6	64.4	76.7	72.2	26,733	83.1	76.5	70.6	78.8	26,244
Don't know	38.2	43.7	32.1	42.5	39.4	694	68.7	57.9	53.1	56.4	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	53.9	54.8	45.6	59.4	54.6	19,904	71.7	67.6	60.0	67.3	15,606
Second	61.8	64.7	53.9	68.7	64.8	22,049	77.7	73.6	66.2	74.6	18,497
Middle	68.2	71.7	60.3	75.4	71.2	22,252	82.4	77.7	70.9	77.2	19,829
Fourth	74.9	76.3	66.5	80.6	76.1	22,376	85.5	82.9	75.8	82.7	20,658
Highest	81.9	83.6	74.7	86.0	81.4	21,432	90.2	85.2	80.5	83.5	18,553
Total age 15-49	68.4	70.5	60.4	74.3	69.9	108,014	81.9	77.8	71.2	77.5	93,144
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	77.0	74.5	66.9	74.6	8,695
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	81.5	77.6	70.8	77.3	101,839

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse

<sup>2</sup> Partner who has no other sex partners

<sup>3</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

Table 13.3.1 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: Women

Percentage of women age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission or prevention and who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who say that:			Percentage who reject the two		Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS and who reject the two specified misconceptions		Percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>		Number of women
	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has AIDS	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by the two specified methods	specified misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS and who reject the two specified misconceptions	Percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Number of women		
<b>Age</b>										
15-24	53.5	42.6	33.0	23.6	66.5	26.2	20.1	36,049		
15-19	51.0	40.1	30.7	20.9	63.2	23.9	17.9	18,240		
20-24	56.2	45.2	35.4	26.4	69.8	28.5	22.5	17,809		
25-29	56.4	48.5	37.9	28.8	69.3	29.8	24.1	17,398		
30-39	55.7	47.5	36.7	27.7	68.2	28.8	23.1	29,853		
40-49	50.5	43.3	32.0	23.7	66.4	25.5	20.0	24,714		
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	63.2	54.2	43.5	33.7	73.9	35.1	28.6	34,839		
Rural	49.5	40.7	30.4	21.7	64.3	23.6	18.2	73,175		
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	38.8	30.8	21.4	14.1	55.9	16.0	11.6	24,485		
<5 years complete	42.4	35.9	25.6	18.2	58.8	19.5	15.0	5,715		
5-7 years complete	48.6	40.0	29.3	21.0	62.2	22.2	17.3	14,547		
8-9 years complete	52.0	42.6	32.3	23.4	66.2	25.0	19.4	19,237		
10-11 years complete	60.8	52.2	40.3	29.3	72.6	31.6	24.6	16,278		
12 or more years complete	69.6	59.8	49.2	39.0	79.8	40.7	33.6	27,751		
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	56.2	45.7	35.9	25.5	68.1	28.6	22.1	25,505		
Currently married	53.5	45.0	34.4	25.9	67.4	27.1	21.6	77,729		
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	49.1	43.0	31.1	21.6	63.0	24.3	18.1	4,780		
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>3</sup></b>										
Yes	51.9	41.2	31.1	23.6	68.6	24.8	20.2	7,907		
No	54.1	45.4	34.9	25.8	67.3	27.5	21.7	100,107		

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**Table 13.3.1 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: Women—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission or prevention and who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who say that:			Percentage who reject the two specified misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS and who reject the two specified misconceptions	Percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Number of women
	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has AIDS	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by the two specified methods				
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	54.7	45.5	35.0	26.1	27.6	22.0	87,179
Muslim	47.8	38.7	28.9	20.2	22.6	16.9	15,138
Christian	63.7	61.5	49.9	35.9	39.8	30.0	2,495
Sikh	50.7	45.6	34.2	26.5	28.5	22.9	1,908
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	61.7	62.6	49.4	37.5	39.8	32.1	652
Jain	75.7	73.2	57.7	52.6	49.9	46.8	214
Other	49.0	45.9	33.1	23.8	26.7	21.0	428
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	50.2	42.1	31.6	22.8	24.8	19.1	23,427
Scheduled tribe	51.2	40.8	31.8	23.0	25.6	20.0	9,909
Other backward class	54.6	45.8	34.9	25.6	26.8	21.0	47,251
Other	57.6	48.6	38.1	29.6	31.5	25.7	26,733
Don't know	28.1	22.1	14.9	9.4	10.4	7.5	694
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	38.8	29.1	20.9	13.6	16.0	11.6	19,904
Second	46.3	37.2	26.9	18.6	20.7	15.7	22,049
Middle	54.4	45.8	34.9	24.9	27.0	20.8	22,252
Fourth	60.3	52.0	40.3	30.6	31.7	25.5	22,376
Highest	68.5	60.0	49.1	39.5	40.4	33.7	21,432
Total	53.9	45.1	34.6	25.6	27.3	21.6	108,014

<sup>1</sup> Respondents who know how to prevent HIV/AIDS say that the consistent use of a condom for every act of sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS

<sup>2</sup> Respondents with a comprehensive knowledge say that consistent use of condoms every time they have sex and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS, say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and reject two common misconceptions about transmission or prevention of HIV/AIDS.

<sup>3</sup> Visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

**Table 13.3.2 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission or prevention and who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who say that:				Percentage who reject the two specified misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS and who reject the two specified misconceptions	Percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Number of men
	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has AIDS	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by the two specified methods	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS					
<b>Age</b>									
15-24	63.8	55.9	45.0	35.2	69.3	35.0	28.5	30,769	
15-19	61.3	53.3	42.3	32.2	66.9	32.6	26.1	16,385	
20-24	66.6	58.9	48.1	38.6	72.1	37.8	31.2	14,384	
25-29	65.5	61.4	49.0	39.3	74.2	38.9	32.5	14,195	
30-39	65.2	61.9	48.9	40.0	72.7	38.7	32.9	26,137	
40-49	62.2	58.6	46.1	37.0	70.4	36.2	30.0	22,043	
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	72.2	67.5	56.3	45.5	74.6	44.6	37.4	32,852	
Rural	59.6	54.5	41.9	33.3	69.4	32.7	27.0	60,291	
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	46.7	42.6	30.0	21.4	58.5	22.0	16.9	9,982	
<5 years complete	49.4	44.2	32.4	23.7	58.9	22.0	16.6	5,842	
5-7 years complete	55.4	52.2	38.2	29.2	65.2	27.7	22.4	12,082	
8-9 years complete	60.4	54.2	42.0	32.3	69.2	32.5	26.2	18,472	
10-11 years complete	68.6	62.4	50.4	41.3	72.5	39.3	33.3	16,735	
12 or more years complete	75.9	71.3	60.1	50.3	80.9	49.9	42.7	30,032	
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	65.8	59.3	48.1	37.8	71.1	37.7	30.8	36,503	
Currently married	63.1	59.0	46.4	37.6	71.4	36.6	30.8	55,475	
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	57.1	54.8	39.9	32.0	68.7	30.3	24.3	1,165	
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months</b>									
Yes	60.5	55.2	42.5	33.2	69.1	32.2	26.2	13,289	
No	64.6	59.7	47.7	38.3	71.6	37.7	31.5	79,855	

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**Table 13.3.2 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS: Men —Continued**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission or prevention and who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who say that:				Percentage who reject the two specified misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can reject the two specified misconceptions	Percentage who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Number of men
	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has AIDS	HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by the two specified methods	Percentage who reject the two specified misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>					
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	64.5	59.7	47.3	38.1	71.2	37.0	31.0	73,632	
Muslim	59.4	52.6	41.5	30.9	70.4	32.5	25.4	14,633	
Christian	70.6	70.0	59.1	48.8	73.9	49.4	41.9	2,426	
Sikh	64.4	60.4	48.2	42.4	82.3	44.0	39.5	886	
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	68.9	70.4	57.2	49.8	68.5	43.3	39.2	1,017	
Jain	91.3	84.4	82.4	76.1	80.3	68.3	64.0	280	
Other	72.7	72.5	62.9	57.7	79.5	59.2	56.6	269	
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	59.7	55.8	42.2	33.7	68.8	32.4	27.1	18,977	
Scheduled tribe	58.4	51.3	40.3	30.7	65.9	30.8	24.5	8,441	
Other backward class	66.8	61.8	49.5	40.1	71.5	38.5	32.1	38,986	
Other	65.5	60.2	49.1	39.2	75.0	40.2	33.5	26,244	
Don't know	34.1	38.5	26.9	23.2	46.1	16.9	13.5	496	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	47.2	40.6	28.9	21.6	62.0	21.7	17.3	15,606	
Second	57.0	50.7	38.1	29.3	68.3	29.1	23.5	18,497	
Middle	64.5	60.3	47.2	37.0	69.2	35.3	28.7	19,829	
Fourth	71.0	67.8	55.0	44.4	74.5	43.6	36.0	20,658	
Highest	77.1	71.9	61.7	52.5	80.6	51.8	45.4	18,553	
Total age 15-49	64.1	59.1	47.0	37.6	71.3	36.9	30.7	93,144	
Age 50-54	58.1	54.2	41.6	32.7	67.8	33.1	27.0	8,695	
Total age 15-54	63.5	58.6	46.5	37.2	71.0	36.6	30.4	101,839	

<sup>1</sup> Respondents who know how to prevent HIV/AIDS say that the consistent use of a condom for every act of sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS

<sup>2</sup> Respondents with a comprehensive knowledge say that consistent use of a condom every time they have sex and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS, say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and reject two common misconceptions about transmission or prevention of HIV/AIDS



**Table 13.4 Knowledge of prevention of HIV/AIDS transmission from a mother to her baby**

Percentage of women and men who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby during pregnancy, during delivery, by breastfeeding and by all three means, and that the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission from a mother to her baby can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to baby:			Percentage of men who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to baby:			Percentage who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby and the risk of transmission can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs			Number of men
	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	
<b>Age</b>										
15-24	70.2	66.9	67.1	60.2	49.0	66.4	62.5	58.2	50.3	41.9
15-19	66.0	62.6	63.2	56.1	45.8	63.3	59.3	55.5	47.6	38.5
20-24	74.5	71.4	71.1	64.3	52.3	69.8	66.1	61.3	53.3	45.8
25-29	76.3	73.0	72.0	65.3	53.7	74.7	71.1	63.6	56.0	49.9
30-39	75.5	71.6	70.6	63.7	52.8	74.5	70.6	64.5	56.5	49.3
40-49	72.4	69.4	68.4	61.9	49.6	73.5	69.1	63.2	55.5	45.9
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	78.5	74.7	73.7	66.1	56.8	74.9	70.1	61.9	54.3	50.1
Rural	70.6	67.4	67.0	60.6	48.2	69.8	66.3	62.1	54.0	44.0
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	62.7	60.4	60.2	54.9	41.2	60.7	56.5	54.6	46.6	36.8
<5 years complete	65.3	61.9	63.1	57.1	42.6	62.0	59.5	57.1	49.6	35.1
5-7 years complete	70.0	66.6	67.0	60.4	47.4	67.7	64.6	60.0	52.5	40.9
8-9 years complete	72.0	68.8	68.2	61.3	48.1	68.1	64.5	59.8	52.2	41.6
10-11 years complete	78.0	74.0	73.9	66.3	55.6	73.1	69.9	64.1	55.5	46.5
12 or more years complete	83.6	79.5	77.4	69.5	62.4	80.0	74.9	66.4	58.6	56.1
<b>Marital status</b>										
Never married	70.7	67.0	67.1	59.8	50.4	68.1	64.2	58.9	51.0	44.4
Currently married	74.1	70.9	70.0	63.4	51.2	74.0	70.0	64.1	56.2	47.4
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	70.1	66.7	66.5	59.9	49.1	67.2	64.1	60.5	51.4	41.8

Continued...

Table 13.4 Knowledge of prevention of HIV/AIDS transmission from a mother to her baby—Continued

Percentage of women and men who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby during pregnancy, during delivery, by breastfeeding and by all three means, and that the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission from a mother to her baby can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to baby:			Percentage of men who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to baby:			Percentage who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby and the risk of transmission can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs		Number of men
	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	Percentage who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby and the risk of transmission can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs	Number of men	
<b>Currently pregnant</b>									
Pregnant	72.5	70.2	68.2	62.8	51.7	3,900	na	na	na
Not pregnant or not sure	73.2	69.7	69.2	62.3	50.9	104,114	na	na	na
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>									
Yes	75.7	73.2	73.2	65.5	57.8	7,907	71.5	69.0	47.6
No	72.9	69.5	68.9	62.1	50.4	100,107	71.6	67.4	45.9
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	73.6	70.2	69.7	62.7	51.4	87,179	72.1	68.4	47.2
Muslim	69.5	66.7	66.0	59.9	47.4	15,138	68.3	63.9	40.9
Christian	77.4	70.6	70.9	60.8	53.1	2,495	71.9	64.5	45.0
Sikh	76.3	72.7	69.8	65.6	52.5	1,908	78.0	72.4	43.5
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	76.5	74.9	73.9	70.2	58.2	652	70.8	66.8	46.5
Jain	76.6	71.7	72.5	66.3	53.9	214	84.6	86.2	49.8
Other	68.6	65.9	59.0	53.6	42.1	428	80.3	75.2	60.9
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	71.6	68.5	68.1	61.7	48.5	23,427	69.4	66.6	43.3
Scheduled tribe	67.9	65.3	64.8	58.7	46.6	9,909	67.4	63.2	39.9
Other backward class	74.0	70.8	70.9	63.3	52.7	47,251	73.1	69.5	48.8
Other	75.6	71.6	69.6	63.4	52.4	26,733	72.8	67.6	46.7
Don't know	44.0	39.2	39.2	34.7	23.3	694	46.5	43.1	20.6

Continued...

Table 13.4 Knowledge of prevention of HIV/AIDS transmission from a mother to her baby—Continued

Percentage of women and men who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby during pregnancy, during delivery, by breastfeeding and by all three means, and that the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission from a mother to her baby can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to baby:			Percentage of men who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to baby:			Percentage who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby and the risk of transmission can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs			Number of men		
	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means	During pregnancy	During delivery	By all three means			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	60.1	57.8	57.7	52.5	39.1	19,904	63.0	59.2	57.2	49.6	36.9	15,606
Second	69.0	65.9	65.8	59.7	46.4	22,049	69.1	65.5	61.4	53.8	42.5	18,497
Middle	74.4	71.2	71.2	64.0	52.0	22,252	70.8	67.7	62.6	54.1	46.3	19,829
Fourth	78.3	74.6	74.2	66.7	55.8	22,376	74.5	70.0	64.3	55.6	48.7	20,658
Highest	82.8	78.3	76.0	68.1	60.5	21,432	78.9	74.2	63.5	56.6	54.7	18,553
Total age 15-49	73.1	69.8	69.2	62.4	50.9	108,014	71.6	67.7	62.0	54.1	46.1	93,144
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	71.1	66.7	61.8	54.1	45.1	8,695
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	71.6	67.6	62.0	54.1	46.1	101,839

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

**Table 13.5 HIV/AIDS awareness indicators by state/union territory**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS, who know that HIV/AIDS can be prevented by using condoms, who have a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS, and who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who have heard of HIV or AIDS		Percentage who know that HIV/AIDS can be prevented by using condoms		Percentage who have comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>		Percentage who know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her baby by all three means <sup>2</sup>	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>India</b>	87.1	94.3	68.4	81.9	21.6	30.7	62.4	54.1
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	88.9	90.5	72.3	85.2	20.3	54.1	67.4	64.7
Delhi	96.9	98.8	82.3	93.0	29.5	43.8	59.3	46.2
Haryana	88.4	96.5	70.9	88.5	19.7	36.4	58.4	53.7
Himachal Pradesh	94.5	97.1	76.6	85.4	36.2	40.8	54.0	46.5
Jammu & Kashmir	84.0	89.2	65.2	74.6	15.8	33.6	66.6	50.2
Ladakh	90.5	92.9	73.9	80.4	24.3	29.6	68.4	55.3
Punjab	86.5	94.7	68.1	86.4	20.6	37.5	67.2	58.8
Rajasthan	90.1	97.3	74.9	90.6	26.8	36.0	60.0	61.1
Uttarakhand	89.7	97.5	73.8	91.3	24.5	35.9	56.7	49.4
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	88.7	94.6	75.6	84.9	23.0	30.7	69.0	56.3
Madhya Pradesh	84.6	91.4	65.1	78.5	18.7	26.2	62.5	50.2
Uttar Pradesh	82.6	93.2	64.6	78.3	13.1	22.1	58.0	49.2
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	75.7	91.9	57.4	80.3	10.3	25.1	60.2	62.3
Jharkhand	82.4	93.3	65.9	80.6	13.8	31.1	57.5	55.0
Odisha	97.7	98.4	71.8	86.6	21.4	24.6	65.0	55.9
West Bengal	80.3	90.7	60.4	72.5	18.5	15.5	53.0	46.6
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	89.9	96.9	62.2	77.7	12.3	33.4	49.9	49.6
Assam	94.0	97.9	71.5	85.2	19.2	25.3	68.8	65.9
Manipur	99.4	99.6	87.7	94.3	50.6	55.9	58.5	57.2
Meghalaya	85.7	84.1	54.1	62.7	14.5	15.9	46.9	38.7
Mizoram	97.6	98.8	91.3	95.1	64.1	65.6	64.1	58.6
Nagaland	96.2	97.9	61.4	68.5	25.6	40.1	70.0	74.1
Sikkim	95.9	97.7	72.2	83.7	23.9	18.5	41.5	46.0
Tripura	91.7	95.5	59.5	85.3	15.4	29.9	66.4	50.7
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	73.9	91.0	63.8	79.1	25.3	28.1	46.9	33.6
Goa	99.1	100.0	90.1	97.8	49.0	67.2	81.3	67.1
Gujarat	76.0	89.7	66.7	82.5	28.5	35.7	57.6	54.2
Maharashtra	88.4	95.1	72.1	84.5	34.4	42.6	69.2	49.6
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	97.4	94.0	76.3	64.5	14.9	34.7	61.6	21.3
Andhra Pradesh	91.4	97.0	63.0	82.7	24.6	38.6	61.3	52.4
Karnataka	97.3	98.3	79.4	87.8	24.5	26.6	79.7	69.9
Kerala	99.2	99.3	74.1	84.5	34.8	45.2	50.7	41.2
Lakshadweep	95.7	98.2	74.9	96.0	46.9	65.5	61.5	43.7
Puducherry	98.3	99.2	79.3	90.3	30.2	32.5	68.9	59.8
Tamil Nadu	98.4	98.2	77.9	90.1	23.6	26.6	70.8	54.0
Telangana	92.9	93.8	68.9	75.3	30.7	30.5	67.9	51.7

<sup>1</sup> Respondents with a comprehensive knowledge say that the consistent use of a condom every time they have sex and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS, say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and reject two common misconceptions about transmission or prevention of HIV/AIDS

<sup>2</sup> During pregnancy, during delivery, and by breastfeeding

**Table 13.6 Accepting attitudes toward those living with HIV/AIDS**

Among women and men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes toward people with HIV/AIDS, by residence, India, 2019-21

Accepting attitude	Percentage of women who:			Percentage of men who:		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Are willing to care for a relative with HIV/AIDS in own home	73.4	69.5	70.9	76.3	73.1	74.3
Would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who has HIV/AIDS	68.5	62.1	64.3	74.6	66.1	69.2
Say that a female teacher who has HIV/AIDS but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	75.4	68.5	70.9	82.0	72.5	75.9
Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with HIV/AIDS	58.4	62.8	61.3	54.8	61.2	58.9
Would allow an HIV positive student to attend school with students who are HIV negative	72.7	65.5	68.0	79.7	69.5	73.2
Think that people living with HIV should be treated in the same public hospital with patients who are HIV negative	68.1	63.0	64.8	70.8	62.3	65.4
Think that people living with HIV should be allowed to work in the same office with people who are HIV negative	74.0	66.5	69.1	78.5	68.9	72.3
Percentage of respondents expressing accepting attitudes on all seven indicators	24.7	22.1	23.0	25.9	23.4	24.3
Number of respondents who have heard of HIV or AIDS	32,414	61,613	94,027	31,829	55,984	87,813

Table 13.7.1 Accepting attitudes toward those living with HIV/AIDS by state/union territory: Women

Among women age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes toward people with HIV/AIDS, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who:							Percentage of women expressing accepting attitudes on all seven indicators
	Are willing to care for a relative with HIV/AIDS in own home	Would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who has HIV/AIDS	Say that a female teacher who has HIV/AIDS but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with HIV/AIDS	Would allow an HIV positive student to attend school with students who are HIV negative	Think that people living with HIV should be treated in the same public hospital with patients who are HIV negative	Think that people living with HIV should be allowed to work in the same office with people who are HIV negative	
<b>India</b>	70.9	64.3	70.9	61.3	68.0	64.8	69.1	23.0
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	65.8	48.4	56.8	78.9	50.6	56.6	57.4	18.0
Delhi	80.0	73.2	79.5	63.9	79.1	72.6	78.4	32.6
Haryana	75.2	64.3	70.1	67.9	66.9	64.3	66.5	28.0
Himachal Pradesh	89.7	80.7	88.2	73.1	85.9	79.2	86.4	46.1
Jammu & Kashmir	59.8	65.0	68.4	62.1	68.4	64.5	68.1	20.6
Ladakh	59.4	73.6	75.0	63.7	75.4	69.5	74.2	24.5
Punjab	77.2	66.4	73.2	72.2	71.7	70.3	72.6	33.6
Rajasthan	76.0	72.4	75.8	66.8	72.3	64.8	71.5	30.8
Uttarakhand	70.3	65.8	72.2	68.8	70.1	67.3	70.6	29.8
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	79.4	72.4	78.0	73.7	75.3	71.5	75.9	36.6
Madhya Pradesh	71.5	59.6	65.6	70.6	60.7	59.7	62.9	24.1
Uttar Pradesh	64.1	57.6	59.5	69.3	57.0	55.7	56.6	18.4
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	76.7	68.6	69.8	70.2	67.8	65.3	66.8	26.9
Jharkhand	77.2	67.5	68.1	76.2	65.3	65.2	64.7	31.8
Odisha	71.3	63.4	72.0	80.4	67.8	67.5	69.9	32.3
West Bengal	66.5	64.2	72.9	74.3	69.3	68.9	72.0	28.5
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	56.7	50.3	62.6	66.2	60.4	56.0	60.6	17.5
Assam	76.1	72.4	79.1	69.6	76.1	68.6	75.8	32.6
Manipur	82.0	85.4	87.7	82.7	85.6	76.6	88.5	49.7
Meghalaya	64.5	27.3	48.1	47.6	46.5	34.3	45.6	6.7
Mizoram	86.7	88.4	92.2	37.2	86.0	69.8	93.0	24.2
Nagaland	63.4	56.8	75.8	43.9	74.3	64.6	75.7	21.2
Sikkim	74.4	73.1	87.1	76.6	84.7	80.1	88.8	38.0
Tripura	47.8	53.1	57.6	58.6	55.1	49.2	62.1	11.5
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	82.3	73.5	90.1	51.8	83.4	91.6	89.9	32.8
Goa	80.1	79.8	91.0	77.7	91.4	68.8	86.3	37.0
Gujarat	86.3	70.4	80.1	47.8	75.6	78.3	76.7	21.4
Maharashtra	75.4	71.2	80.1	48.2	79.0	71.3	79.4	22.5
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	66.5	72.9	82.0	82.0	80.1	82.1	81.0	43.7
Andhra Pradesh	64.1	64.3	71.8	34.7	71.7	65.1	74.0	9.6
Karnataka	73.7	69.5	79.7	36.8	76.0	73.3	77.8	12.3
Kerala	71.0	71.7	85.1	60.1	81.8	78.5	85.2	28.9
Lakshadweep	66.7	70.5	79.9	58.0	80.8	77.7	79.9	31.1
Puducherry	67.4	54.2	74.4	39.3	64.2	58.7	69.4	9.2
Tamil Nadu	56.4	41.5	51.7	48.1	47.8	47.6	52.8	9.6
Telangana	61.9	58.9	73.4	34.1	68.9	55.8	73.0	8.3

**Table 13.7.2 Accepting attitudes toward those living with HIV/AIDS by state/union territory: Men**

Among men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV or AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes toward people with HIV/AIDS, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of men who:							Percentage of men expressing accepting attitudes on all seven indicators
	Are willing to care for a relative with HIV/AIDS in own home	Would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who has HIV/AIDS	Say that a female teacher who has HIV/AIDS but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with HIV/AIDS	Would allow an HIV positive student to attend school with students who are HIV negative	Think that people living with HIV should be treated in the same public hospital with patients who are HIV negative	Think that people living with HIV should be allowed to work in the same office with people who are HIV negative	
<b>India</b>	74.3	69.2	75.9	58.9	73.2	65.4	72.3	24.3
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	88.4	76.0	78.0	83.7	74.7	72.1	80.0	49.7
Delhi	85.9	80.3	86.6	66.1	79.1	71.8	75.7	38.5
Haryana	84.5	78.9	81.6	74.1	77.7	77.0	80.0	44.2
Himachal Pradesh	87.1	85.2	90.1	70.3	89.8	83.9	88.0	49.2
Jammu & Kashmir	66.2	74.6	79.4	63.9	79.2	77.5	79.0	34.6
Ladakh	62.4	64.8	74.1	60.8	79.3	66.9	72.0	27.4
Punjab	79.8	67.5	71.8	76.7	68.8	68.0	71.4	35.2
Rajasthan	76.0	78.2	80.3	70.3	75.1	61.0	69.2	31.2
Uttarakhand	80.7	72.4	77.6	74.6	75.2	66.4	74.2	35.7
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	77.7	74.5	79.4	71.6	75.6	63.7	71.8	30.6
Madhya Pradesh	73.9	60.7	67.4	78.0	62.9	56.8	62.4	27.0
Uttar Pradesh	70.0	67.4	70.0	72.6	67.6	61.2	63.3	29.4
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	81.5	65.2	69.5	82.5	64.7	60.2	64.4	35.2
Jharkhand	86.2	75.3	76.9	84.4	75.8	74.6	74.5	50.2
Odisha	77.5	56.9	72.1	82.4	69.4	68.0	68.0	33.9
West Bengal	59.3	56.7	60.9	75.4	58.2	58.3	58.9	19.6
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	67.9	59.3	72.5	57.8	69.5	59.2	68.2	28.1
Assam	75.6	69.1	74.9	68.1	71.9	49.9	69.8	23.7
Manipur	87.0	85.9	89.2	87.3	87.3	78.9	89.9	59.8
Meghalaya	67.2	37.5	49.1	40.5	47.0	46.3	47.3	9.5
Mizoram	95.7	89.4	96.4	49.7	91.9	83.7	96.4	38.3
Nagaland	64.8	63.7	75.5	40.9	73.9	62.3	74.2	21.8
Sikkim	64.1	67.4	89.2	62.7	87.0	82.2	88.7	22.4
Tripura	49.7	59.4	68.0	67.7	66.1	61.4	62.7	22.1
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	55.7	77.4	74.7	56.6	79.8	79.2	76.8	17.4
Goa	79.8	83.0	94.8	37.7	93.2	56.5	86.7	18.7
Gujarat	87.9	72.4	80.7	67.4	78.3	74.2	77.3	33.6
Maharashtra	78.8	74.1	83.0	45.9	79.7	67.5	77.6	21.1
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	59.9	64.4	81.4	80.7	80.6	62.9	81.2	31.1
Andhra Pradesh	66.4	72.1	79.2	18.9	77.5	67.9	80.6	5.3
Karnataka	78.8	74.8	85.9	33.0	84.8	73.4	83.5	14.4
Kerala	65.3	78.9	85.2	52.1	85.5	74.0	85.2	25.4
Lakshadweep	53.7	86.8	90.5	52.0	82.8	61.0	94.4	17.5
Puducherry	76.4	63.4	77.0	41.0	79.8	67.0	78.7	20.7
Tamil Nadu	65.7	52.2	62.6	40.8	59.9	58.8	65.2	12.7
Telangana	65.4	70.4	80.7	29.4	78.3	66.5	78.6	11.4

**Table 13.8 Attitudes toward negotiating sex with husband**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she believes that he has a sexually transmitted disease, and, for men only, percentage who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband or asking that they use a condom if she believes that her husband has a sexually transmitted disease, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women		Men			
	Wife is justified in refusing to have sex	Number of women	Wife is justified in refusing to have sex	Wife is justified in asking that they use a condom	Wife is justified in refusing sex or asking that they use a condom	Number of men
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	84.1	36,049	81.0	85.1	89.5	30,769
15-19	80.4	18,240	78.6	82.0	87.1	16,385
20-24	87.9	17,809	83.7	88.6	92.3	14,384
25-29	89.3	17,398	83.7	89.6	92.8	14,195
30-39	89.1	29,853	85.1	89.0	92.9	26,137
40-49	88.1	24,714	84.3	87.5	92.2	22,043
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	88.8	34,839	84.5	89.5	92.8	32,852
Rural	86.5	73,175	82.7	86.3	90.9	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	86.7	24,485	78.2	80.4	87.1	9,982
<5 years complete	85.0	5,715	80.6	84.8	90.6	5,842
5-7 years complete	86.7	14,547	82.3	86.4	90.8	12,082
8-9 years complete	86.0	19,237	83.0	86.3	90.7	18,472
10-11 years complete	86.4	16,278	83.6	88.4	92.0	16,735
12 or more years complete	89.9	27,751	86.0	90.9	94.0	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	82.1	25,505	81.3	85.7	89.8	36,503
Currently married	89.0	77,729	84.8	88.7	92.8	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	86.8	4,780	76.5	84.1	88.9	1,165
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>						
Yes	87.1	7,907	81.9	86.6	91.3	13,289
No	87.3	100,107	83.6	87.6	91.6	79,855
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	87.9	87,179	83.6	87.9	92.0	73,632
Muslim	83.4	15,138	82.4	85.4	90.2	14,633
Christian	85.4	2,495	80.8	84.0	87.4	2,426
Sikh	88.5	1,908	88.2	90.0	93.9	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	88.3	652	78.3	89.1	92.4	1,017
Jain	94.2	214	91.4	92.5	94.9	280
Other	85.1	428	87.2	89.2	93.3	269

*Continued...*



**Table 13.8 Attitudes toward negotiating sex with husband—Continued**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she believes that he has a sexually transmitted disease, and, for men only, percentage who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband or asking that they use a condom if she believes that her husband has a sexually transmitted disease, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women		Men			
	Wife is justified in refusing to have sex	Number of women	Wife is justified in refusing to have sex	Wife is justified in asking that they use a condom	Wife is justified in refusing sex or asking that they use a condom	Number of men
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	87.3	23,427	83.4	87.6	92.1	18,977
Scheduled tribe	86.1	9,909	82.6	84.0	89.5	8,441
Other backward class	87.9	47,251	83.6	88.7	92.5	38,986
Other	86.8	26,733	83.3	86.8	90.9	26,244
Don't know	76.7	694	72.3	72.8	78.2	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	84.5	19,904	80.0	80.9	87.7	15,606
Second	85.8	22,049	82.5	86.3	90.8	18,497
Middle	86.8	22,252	83.5	88.3	92.2	19,829
Fourth	87.8	22,376	84.7	89.6	93.0	20,658
Highest	91.2	21,432	85.3	90.8	93.4	18,553
Total age 15-49	87.2	108,014	83.3	87.4	91.6	93,144
Age 50-54	na	na	83.1	85.8	91.4	8,695
Total age 15-54	na	na	83.3	87.3	91.6	101,839

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

**Table 13.9 Attitudes toward negotiating sex with husband by state/union territory**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she believes that he has a sexually transmitted disease, and, for men only, percentage who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband or asking that they use a condom if she believes that her husband has a sexually transmitted disease, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women		Men	
	Wife is justified in refusing to have sex	Wife is justified in refusing to have sex	Wife is justified in asking that they use a condom	Wife is justified in refusing sex or asking that they use a condom
<b>India</b>	87.2	83.3	87.4	91.6
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	89.5	89.4	89.2	94.4
Delhi	95.8	93.4	95.6	97.3
Haryana	91.2	90.5	92.3	95.3
Himachal Pradesh	92.7	88.4	89.5	94.2
Jammu & Kashmir	79.1	77.6	80.0	84.7
Ladakh	81.2	81.7	78.5	85.6
Punjab	88.9	87.4	91.2	93.8
Rajasthan	91.6	92.3	95.2	97.8
Uttarakhand	94.4	90.6	93.3	95.8
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	92.7	87.0	92.0	95.4
Madhya Pradesh	89.7	84.4	89.0	93.2
Uttar Pradesh	88.7	84.1	88.2	92.0
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	87.3	85.4	86.5	92.3
Jharkhand	91.3	91.4	90.4	95.6
Odisha	88.5	80.3	86.7	89.2
West Bengal	75.0	80.2	79.9	86.9
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	69.8	78.2	87.0	90.2
Assam	85.8	82.8	86.8	90.6
Manipur	81.0	82.2	92.6	95.0
Meghalaya	77.1	50.5	59.9	63.1
Mizoram	85.0	84.2	89.5	92.1
Nagaland	89.5	78.3	81.5	83.6
Sikkim	82.6	65.0	71.4	74.6
Tripura	84.7	89.1	92.5	94.8
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	83.9	82.8	83.5	88.5
Goa	90.9	98.4	99.0	100.0
Gujarat	86.3	78.9	85.6	90.2
Maharashtra	91.3	87.0	91.1	93.6
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	89.6	83.1	84.6	87.2
Andhra Pradesh	83.2	79.4	87.2	90.2
Karnataka	85.8	82.3	90.8	95.0
Kerala	80.2	84.4	84.8	88.3
Lakshadweep	85.6	97.5	97.4	98.3
Puducherry	81.4	89.5	91.7	93.0
Tamil Nadu	88.3	88.8	94.0	95.7
Telangana	86.5	72.0	83.2	88.2

Table 13.10.1 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months: Women

Among all women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among women who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	All women		Women who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Women who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them		Women who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of women	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of women
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	0.2	0.8	35.8	36,049	62.8	300	1.6	13,547
15-19	0.1	0.9	*	18,240	62.0	172	1.6	2,592
20-24	0.3	0.7	33.7	17,809	63.9	128	1.6	10,955
25-29	0.5	0.5	20.9	17,398	72.7	88	1.8	15,352
30-39	0.5	0.3	39.5	29,853	39.5	101	1.8	28,490
40-49	0.3	0.2	32.3	24,714	(27.4)	38	1.7	23,537
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	0.3	0.6	39.3	34,839	67.3	201	1.5	25,186
Rural	0.4	0.4	30.9	73,175	51.3	325	1.8	55,741
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	0.4	0.3	27.0	24,485	26.1	72	1.8	22,797
<5 years complete	0.5	0.4	(14.8)	5,715	*	22	1.7	5,223
5-7 years complete	0.5	0.4	25.1	14,547	44.5	52	1.8	12,395
8-9 years complete	0.3	0.5	37.1	19,237	45.9	90	1.8	13,041
10-11 years complete	0.2	0.4	36.6	16,278	72.9	71	1.7	9,955
12 or more years complete	0.3	0.8	53.3	27,751	72.1	219	1.6	17,516
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married <sup>2</sup>	0.0	1.4	*	25,505	68.4	368	1.6	817
Currently married	0.4	0.2	32.6	77,729	29.4	118	1.7	75,711
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	0.2	0.9	*	4,780	(39.6)	41	1.6	4,398

Continued...

Table 13.10.1 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months: Women — Continued

Among all women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among women who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	All women		Women who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Women who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them		Women who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of women	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of women
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>3</sup></b>								
Yes	0.8	1.1	50.1	7,907	70.3	91	2.3	6,232
No	0.3	0.4	29.5	100,107	54.7	435	1.7	74,695
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	0.3	0.5	34.2	87,179	57.9	398	1.8	65,874
Muslim	0.4	0.5	31.7	15,138	53.9	74	1.4	10,970
Christian	0.2	0.7	26.8	2,495	28.4	18	1.4	1,740
Sikh	0.1	0.9	*	1,908	*	17	1.7	1,379
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.6	0.7	*	652	*	4	1.0	495
Jain	0.0	0.0	nc	214	nc	0	1.4	150
Other	1.0	3.4	*	428	(83.7)	15	1.3	318
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	0.4	0.5	25.4	23,427	45.1	112	1.8	17,539
Scheduled tribe	0.5	0.8	26.0	9,909	30.3	75	1.9	7,483
Other backward class	0.2	0.3	39.9	47,251	62.2	161	1.8	35,413
Other	0.4	0.7	38.9	26,733	72.2	177	1.5	19,925
Don't know	0.8	0.1	*	694	*	1	1.2	566
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	0.4	0.5	19.2	19,904	40.5	99	1.7	15,323
Second	0.4	0.5	31.3	22,049	50.4	110	1.8	16,614
Middle	0.3	0.5	37.4	22,252	47.1	107	1.9	16,709
Fourth	0.3	0.4	31.7	22,376	74.4	87	1.7	16,464
Highest	0.2	0.6	58.3	21,432	74.3	123	1.6	15,817
Total	0.3	0.5	33.2	108,014	57.4	526	1.7	80,926

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

nc = No cases

<sup>1</sup> Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses; <sup>2</sup> Includes women who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed. If women who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed, report having sex with their husband, the sex is not considered higher risk; <sup>3</sup> Visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

Table 13.10.2 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months: Men

Among all men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among men who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to background characteristics, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	All men		Men who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Men who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them		Men who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of men	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of men
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	1.1	6.4	50.0	334	60.6	1,966	2.0	6,240
15-19	0.6	4.0	49.1	96	56.9	648	2.2	1,240
20-24	1.7	9.2	50.4	237	62.4	1,319	2.0	5,000
25-29	1.5	5.9	48.8	219	62.8	835	2.0	9,251
30-39	1.5	2.2	22.2	379	61.0	568	2.1	22,843
40-49	0.8	0.9	17.3	179	40.2	199	2.2	20,160
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	1.1	4.1	33.4	368	68.4	1,363	1.7	19,602
Rural	1.2	3.7	35.8	744	54.9	2,205	2.3	38,892
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	1.2	2.2	28.1	117	49.6	215	2.5	8,065
<5 years complete	1.4	2.9	23.3	81	35.7	172	1.9	4,866
5-7 years complete	1.2	2.4	24.8	142	50.5	293	2.4	9,047
8-9 years complete	1.3	3.5	33.9	243	58.0	650	2.0	10,895
10-11 years complete	1.0	3.3	28.9	172	59.4	555	2.1	9,253
12 or more years complete	1.2	5.6	47.7	355	66.5	1,683	1.9	16,368
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married <sup>2</sup>	1.0	7.4	62.4	398	63.6	2,946	1.9	8,339
Married once	1.2	1.0	18.7	651	44.4	570	1.9	52,440
Married more than once	2.3	0.7	16.3	106	(34.8)	30	4.4	4,358
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	1.4	6.7	*	18	37.6	85	2.2	1,142
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>3</sup></b>								
Yes	2.6	6.1	40.9	340	56.8	808	2.1	8,612
No	1.0	3.5	32.4	771	61.0	2,759	2.1	49,883

Continued..

**Table 13.10.2 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months: Men—Continued**

Among all men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among men who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	All men			Men who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months			Men who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them			Men who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>		
	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of men	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of men	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of men	
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	1.2	4.0	73,632	37.4	889	60.2	2,951	2.2	46,833			
Muslim	1.0	2.6	14,633	23.1	151	64.1	385	1.7	8,735			
Christian	1.2	3.8	2,426	(6.1)	30	44.7	92	1.9	1,399			
Sikh	1.5	6.0	886	(54.2)	13	50.6	53	1.9	535			
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.7	7.8	1,017	*	28	58.2	79	1.7	682			
Jain	0.0	0.7	280	nc	0	*	2	1.1	133			
Other	0.2	2.1	269	(36.0)	1	34.8	6	1.2	178			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	1.5	4.4	18,977	41.1	279	63.2	828	2.1	12,518			
Scheduled tribe	1.3	4.2	8,441	37.9	112	39.3	356	2.4	5,560			
Other backward class	1.1	3.8	38,986	29.8	422	59.7	1,465	2.2	24,177			
Other	1.1	3.4	26,244	36.3	293	66.1	904	1.9	15,956			
Don't know	1.2	3.1	496	*	6	*	16	1.6	284			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	1.3	3.4	15,606	28.4	208	43.9	534	2.1	10,371			
Second	1.2	3.5	18,497	27.7	226	50.2	650	2.2	11,777			
Middle	1.0	3.2	19,829	41.0	189	55.6	641	2.5	12,440			
Fourth	1.3	4.1	20,658	34.1	271	65.9	856	2.0	12,737			
Highest	1.2	4.8	18,553	44.6	218	74.5	886	1.7	11,170			
Total age 15-49	1.2	3.8	93,144	35.0	1,111	60.0	3,567	2.1	58,495			
Age 50-54	0.7	0.7	8,695	9.9	62	42.0	63	1.9	7,785			
Total age 15-54	1.2	3.6	101,839	33.7	1,173	59.7	3,631	2.1	66,280			

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

nc = No cases

<sup>1</sup> Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses;

<sup>2</sup> Includes men who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed. If men who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed, report having sex with their wife, the sex is not considered higher risk

Table 13.11 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months by state/union territory

Among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among women and men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among women and men who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	All women		Women who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Women who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them		Women who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>		All men		Men who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Men who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them		Men who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>
	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	
<b>India</b>	0.3	0.5	0.5	33.2	57.4	1.7	1.2	3.8	35.0	60.0	2.1				
<b>North</b>															
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0	nc	nc	nc	1.8	0.0	1.8	nc	46.5	1.0				
Delhi	0.1	0.6	100.0	86.5	86.5	1.1	2.0	7.2	48.3	72.8	1.6				
Haryana	0.7	0.2	47.3	35.0	35.0	1.8	1.1	6.7	47.0	70.1	1.5				
Himachal Pradesh	0.0	0.2	0.0	28.8	28.8	1.2	1.9	5.9	73.7	76.2	1.9				
Jammu & Kashmir	1.0	0.0	38.0	nc	nc	1.5	0.2	0.6	31.1	66.1	1.1				
Ladakh	0.4	0.0	0.0	nc	nc	2.2	0.0	1.1	nc	59.8	1.2				
Punjab	0.1	0.3	59.9	30.1	30.1	1.3	1.8	5.9	55.7	56.9	1.8				
Rajasthan	0.2	0.9	47.8	74.6	74.6	3.1	1.6	6.4	40.2	73.8	1.8				
Uttarakhand	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	nc	1.1	1.2	6.3	57.1	61.0	4.7				
<b>Central</b>															
Chhattisgarh	0.2	0.5	17.6	21.2	21.2	2.0	1.2	5.0	29.6	56.0	2.4				
Madhya Pradesh	0.5	0.5	21.0	40.5	40.5	2.5	2.0	5.5	43.0	56.9	1.6				
Uttar Pradesh	0.4	0.7	55.4	70.5	70.5	2.2	1.2	5.3	59.5	58.5	3.0				

Continued...

Table 13.11 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months by state/union territory—Continued

Among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among women and men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among women and men who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	All women		Women who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Women who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them		Women who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>		All men		Men who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Men who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them		Men who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with a partner	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with a partner	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with a partner	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with a partner	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse
<b>East</b>																
Bihar	0.4	0.4	11.8	23.4	23.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	5.0	40.1	50.9	50.9	1.6			
Jharkhand	0.4	0.4	31.7	23.1	23.1	1.7	1.3	1.7	3.6	24.4	38.3	38.3	2.1			
Odisha	0.2	0.2	26.9	2.7	2.7	0.7	1.3	0.7	1.1	24.3	39.3	39.3	2.6			
West Bengal	0.4	1.0	20.5	52.4	52.4	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.7	29.2	63.6	63.6	1.4			
<b>Northeast</b>																
Arunachal Pradesh	1.3	2.0	51.7	58.5	58.5	2.3	1.6	2.3	7.4	61.9	75.8	75.8	3.5			
Assam	0.6	0.3	28.5	40.0	40.0	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.1	10.2	62.6	62.6	1.8			
Manipur	0.0	0.1	nc	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.1	3.0	0.0	24.8	24.8	1.5			
Meghalaya	1.0	1.1	37.7	45.3	45.3	0.3	1.8	0.3	2.6	38.0	40.2	40.2	9.6			
Mizoram	0.0	0.7	nc	7.1	7.1	0.4	1.1	0.4	3.3	0.0	29.0	29.0	2.2			
Nagaland	0.4	2.3	31.0	11.6	11.6	0.2	1.2	0.2	8.8	62.6	59.5	59.5	2.1			
Sikkim	1.5	3.6	35.6	52.3	52.3	1.0	1.1	1.0	12.8	63.2	71.8	71.8	7.1			
Tripura	0.0	0.1	nc	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.4	31.9	7.6	7.6	2.4			

Continued...



Table 13.11 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the past 12 months by state/union territory—Continued

Among all women and men age 15-49, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months, and percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among women and men age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among women and men who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	All women		Women who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Women who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them		Women who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>		All men		Men who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months		Men who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them		Men who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their husband nor lived with them	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who was neither their wife nor lived with them	Percentage who had 2 or more partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse
<b>West</b>																
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.0	0.0	nc	nc	nc	nc	1.3	0.5	7.3	0.0	84.0	1.3	0.0	84.0	1.3	1.3
Goa	0.0	5.2	nc	100.0	100.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	8.8	69.3	96.6	1.1	69.3	96.6	1.1	1.1
Gujarat	0.4	0.7	6.3	51.2	51.2	1.5	0.9	0.9	5.5	18.8	42.9	1.6	18.8	42.9	1.6	1.6
Maharashtra	0.2	0.4	23.4	88.7	88.7	1.3	1.5	1.5	4.4	44.9	86.3	1.8	44.9	86.3	1.8	1.8
<b>South</b>																
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.0	0.1	nc	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.5	1.5	3.8	64.0	84.1	2.8	64.0	84.1	2.8	2.8
Andhra Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.0	2.0	3.8	10.2	31.3	4.7	10.2	31.3	4.7	4.7
Karnataka	0.8	0.4	51.1	74.6	74.6	1.2	0.9	0.9	2.8	33.1	59.2	2.7	33.1	59.2	2.7	2.7
Kerala	0.1	0.0	0.0	nc	nc	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.0	47.9	1.0	0.0	47.9	1.0	1.0
Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	nc	nc	nc	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	nc	nc	1.0	nc	nc	1.0	1.0
Puducherry	0.1	0.1	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.4	1.4	60.5	1.2	1.4	60.5	1.2	1.2
Tamil Nadu	0.1	0.0	53.4	nc	nc	2.4	0.5	0.5	0.8	7.3	49.8	1.8	7.3	49.8	1.8	1.8
Telangana	0.4	0.4	0.0	36.8	36.8	1.7	2.1	2.1	4.4	17.0	47.6	3.0	17.0	47.6	3.0	3.0

nc = No cases

<sup>1</sup> Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

**Table 13.12 Payment for sexual intercourse and condom use at last paid sexual intercourse: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 reporting payment for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and among them, percentage reporting that a condom was used the last time they paid for sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Payment for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months		For last paid sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	
	Percentage who paid for sexual intercourse	Number of men	Percentage reporting condom use	Number of men who paid for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	1.6	30,769	49.1	485
15-19	1.0	16,385	41.4	164
20-24	2.2	14,384	53.0	321
25-29	1.9	14,195	57.6	275
30-39	1.6	26,137	56.1	406
40-49	1.0	22,043	39.3	223
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	1.6	32,852	51.7	530
Rural	1.4	60,291	51.0	859
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	1.4	9,982	50.4	139
<5 years complete	1.8	5,842	41.8	108
5-7 years complete	1.4	12,082	46.9	171
8-9 years complete	1.5	18,472	49.2	282
10-11 years complete	1.3	16,735	48.3	218
12 or more years complete	1.6	30,032	57.9	471
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	2.2	36,503	57.9	792
Currently married	1.0	55,475	39.9	538
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	5.1	1,165	66.0	60
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months</b>				
Yes	3.3	13,289	52.7	440
No	1.2	79,855	50.6	950
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	1.6	73,632	51.7	1,177
Muslim	1.2	14,633	44.3	168
Christian	0.8	2,426	(62.1)	20
Sikh	1.8	886	(78.8)	16
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.7	1,017	*	7
Jain	0.0	280	nc	0
Other	0.2	269	*	1

*Continued...*

Table 13.12 Payment for sexual intercourse and condom use at last paid sexual intercourse: Men—*Continued*

Percentage of men age 15-49 reporting payment for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, and among them, percentage reporting that a condom was used the last time they paid for sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Payment for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months		For last paid sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	
	Percentage who paid for sexual intercourse	Number of men	Percentage reporting condom use	Number of men who paid for sexual intercourse in the past 12 months
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	1.8	18,977	55.0	332
Scheduled tribe	1.6	8,441	47.8	138
Other backward class	1.7	38,986	48.3	658
Other	1.0	26,244	57.5	254
Don't know	1.4	496	*	7
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	1.6	15,606	45.5	252
Second	1.7	18,497	48.6	311
Middle	1.3	19,829	51.1	266
Fourth	1.6	20,658	45.1	336
Highest	1.2	18,553	70.9	225
Total age 15-49	1.5	93,144	51.3	1,389
Age 50-54	1.0	8,695	27.2	85
Total age 15-54	1.4	101,839	49.9	1,475

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

nc = No cases

Table 13.13.1 Coverage of prior HIV testing: Women

Percentage of women age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, percent distribution of women by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of women ever tested, and percentage of women who were tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percent distribution of women by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Total	Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of women
	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	51.8	10.4	1.5	88.1	100.0	11.9	5.4	36,049
15-19	45.8	3.1	0.5	96.4	100.0	3.6	1.7	18,240
20-24	57.8	17.8	2.6	79.6	100.0	20.4	9.1	17,809
25-29	62.0	28.6	3.8	67.5	100.0	32.5	11.3	17,398
30-39	61.1	26.0	2.8	71.2	100.0	28.8	7.1	29,853
40-49	55.1	15.8	1.9	82.3	100.0	17.7	2.8	24,714
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	67.5	26.2	2.6	71.2	100.0	28.8	7.9	34,839
Rural	51.6	15.3	2.2	82.4	100.0	17.6	5.4	73,175
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	41.6	10.0	2.1	88.0	100.0	12.0	3.0	24,485
<5 years complete	48.0	15.2	2.3	82.5	100.0	17.5	3.7	5,715
5-7 years complete	52.8	18.0	2.6	79.5	100.0	20.5	5.6	14,547
8-9 years complete	53.8	17.2	2.4	80.3	100.0	19.7	5.6	19,237
10-11 years complete	64.0	22.0	2.2	75.8	100.0	24.2	7.2	16,278
12 or more years complete	71.8	27.1	2.6	70.3	100.0	29.7	9.7	27,751
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	51.3	2.3	0.4	97.3	100.0	2.7	1.1	25,505
Currently married	58.5	24.3	3.0	72.7	100.0	27.3	8.0	77,729
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	56.7	19.2	2.1	78.7	100.0	21.3	4.2	4,780
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>2</sup></b>								
Yes	60.3	20.2	2.8	77.0	100.0	23.0	9.6	7,907
No	56.5	18.7	2.3	79.0	100.0	21.0	5.9	100,107
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	57.5	19.1	2.4	78.5	100.0	21.5	6.2	87,179
Muslim	48.9	14.4	2.3	83.3	100.0	16.7	5.3	15,138
Christian	70.8	35.4	2.6	62.0	100.0	38.0	10.4	2,495
Sikh	63.7	18.0	1.5	80.5	100.0	19.5	6.6	1,908
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	61.4	26.8	3.3	69.9	100.0	30.1	11.2	652
Jain	86.4	24.5	1.3	74.3	100.0	25.7	7.2	214
Other	47.3	15.8	1.1	83.1	100.0	16.9	9.5	428

Continued...

Table 13.13.1 Coverage of prior HIV testing: Women—Continued

Percentage of women age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, percent distribution of women by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of women ever tested, and percentage of women who were tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percent distribution of women by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Total	Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of women
	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	55.4	18.0	2.2	79.7	100.0	20.3	6.1	23,427
Scheduled tribe	51.1	14.0	2.5	83.5	100.0	16.5	5.2	9,909
Other backward class	57.8	19.4	2.5	78.2	100.0	21.8	6.2	47,251
Other	58.9	20.6	2.2	77.2	100.0	22.8	6.6	26,733
Don't know	31.6	13.7	1.1	85.1	100.0	14.9	6.7	694
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	37.0	7.8	2.0	90.2	100.0	9.8	3.0	19,904
Second	48.1	12.8	2.1	85.1	100.0	14.9	4.8	22,049
Middle	58.9	20.5	2.5	77.0	100.0	23.0	7.0	22,252
Fourth	64.8	23.9	2.4	73.7	100.0	26.3	7.4	22,376
Highest	73.3	28.4	2.7	68.9	100.0	31.1	8.7	21,432
Total	56.7	18.8	2.3	78.8	100.0	21.2	6.2	108,014

<sup>1</sup> Includes don't know/missing

<sup>2</sup> Visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

Table 13.13.2 Coverage of prior HIV testing: Men

Percentage of men age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, percent distribution of men by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of men ever tested, and percentage of men who were tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percent distribution of men by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Total	Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of men
	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	65.8	2.7	0.4	96.9	100.0	3.1	1.7	30,769
15-19	60.9	1.5	0.3	98.2	100.0	1.8	1.1	16,385
20-24	71.4	4.2	0.5	95.3	100.0	4.7	2.5	14,384
25-29	73.6	9.4	1.3	89.3	100.0	10.7	4.7	14,195
30-39	73.9	13.1	1.3	85.6	100.0	14.4	4.6	26,137
40-49	70.5	10.5	1.1	88.5	100.0	11.5	3.3	22,043
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	76.7	11.0	1.2	87.8	100.0	12.2	4.1	32,852
Rural	66.9	7.1	0.8	92.1	100.0	7.9	3.0	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	52.8	3.8	0.6	95.6	100.0	4.4	1.5	9,982
<5 years complete	54.3	5.6	0.5	93.9	100.0	6.1	2.0	5,842
5-7 years complete	62.8	6.3	1.1	92.6	100.0	7.4	2.4	12,082
8-9 years complete	66.2	6.5	0.6	92.9	100.0	7.1	2.4	18,472
10-11 years complete	73.8	8.8	0.8	90.4	100.0	9.6	3.3	16,735
12 or more years complete	83.0	12.5	1.3	86.1	100.0	13.9	5.3	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	69.1	4.1	0.4	95.4	100.0	4.6	2.5	36,503
Currently married	71.4	11.4	1.3	87.3	100.0	12.7	4.0	55,475
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	64.3	6.3	1.3	92.4	100.0	7.6	2.2	1,165
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months</b>								
Yes	69.7	10.3	1.0	88.7	100.0	11.3	4.5	13,289
No	70.5	8.2	0.9	90.9	100.0	9.1	3.2	79,855
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	71.8	8.9	1.0	90.1	100.0	9.9	3.6	73,632
Muslim	61.3	5.3	0.5	94.2	100.0	5.8	2.0	14,633
Christian	73.1	12.9	1.0	86.1	100.0	13.9	4.4	2,426
Sikh	79.3	10.2	0.7	89.1	100.0	10.9	5.9	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	81.6	12.2	2.9	84.9	100.0	15.1	3.8	1,017
Jain	89.3	9.9	0.5	89.7	100.0	10.3	1.6	280
Other	73.8	9.9	0.3	89.8	100.0	10.2	1.0	269

Continued...

Table 13.13.2 Coverage of prior HIV testing: Men—*Continued*

Percentage of men age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, percent distribution of men by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of men ever tested, and percentage of men who were tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percent distribution of men by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Total	Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of men
	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	69.8	8.4	1.1	90.5	100.0	9.5	3.2	18,977
Scheduled tribe	64.8	6.3	0.6	93.1	100.0	6.9	2.8	8,441
Other backward class	73.1	8.7	0.9	90.4	100.0	9.6	3.5	38,986
Other	69.1	9.1	0.9	90.0	100.0	10.0	3.5	26,244
Don't know	47.5	3.0	0.6	96.4	100.0	3.6	1.0	496
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	53.1	3.0	0.4	96.6	100.0	3.4	1.4	15,606
Second	64.2	5.7	0.7	93.6	100.0	6.4	2.6	18,497
Middle	70.5	8.2	0.8	91.0	100.0	9.0	3.3	19,829
Fourth	77.4	11.2	1.4	87.4	100.0	12.6	4.6	20,658
Highest	83.1	13.1	1.4	85.5	100.0	14.5	4.4	18,553
Total age 15-49	70.4	8.5	0.9	90.6	100.0	9.4	3.4	93,144
Age 50-54	69.0	9.4	1.0	89.7	100.0	10.3	3.2	8,695
Total age 15-54	70.3	8.6	0.9	90.5	100.0	9.5	3.3	101,839

<sup>1</sup> Includes don't know/missing

**Table 13.14.1 Coverage of prior HIV testing by state/union territory: Women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, percent distribution of women age 15-49 by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of women age 15-49 ever tested, and percentage of women age 15-49 who were tested in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percent distribution of women by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Total	Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test
	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested <sup>1</sup>			
<b>India</b>	56.7	18.8	2.3	78.8	100.0	21.2	6.2
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	68.4	30.7	3.0	66.3	100.0	33.7	8.7
Delhi	79.1	39.8	2.6	57.5	100.0	42.5	9.4
Haryana	58.8	15.3	2.6	82.1	100.0	17.9	5.6
Himachal Pradesh	77.7	41.8	2.0	56.2	100.0	43.8	10.4
Jammu & Kashmir	48.1	15.1	2.1	82.7	100.0	17.3	6.4
Ladakh	57.0	19.7	3.7	76.6	100.0	23.4	8.8
Punjab	65.8	16.8	2.0	81.2	100.0	18.8	6.4
Rajasthan	56.8	7.1	1.5	91.4	100.0	8.6	2.2
Uttarakhand	58.2	19.6	1.8	78.6	100.0	21.4	4.3
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	49.4	10.3	2.5	87.2	100.0	12.8	5.0
Madhya Pradesh	50.5	11.0	4.7	84.3	100.0	15.7	4.2
Uttar Pradesh	40.8	5.7	1.6	92.7	100.0	7.3	2.9
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	35.0	5.8	1.9	92.3	100.0	7.7	2.6
Jharkhand	42.7	5.8	1.6	92.5	100.0	7.5	2.9
Odisha	68.4	25.1	2.1	72.8	100.0	27.2	8.3
West Bengal	45.5	14.6	2.3	83.1	100.0	16.9	4.4
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	51.3	16.7	1.8	81.4	100.0	18.6	7.2
Assam	54.4	9.8	2.2	88.0	100.0	12.0	4.2
Manipur	84.6	42.5	2.9	54.6	100.0	45.4	13.0
Meghalaya	47.6	22.9	1.2	75.9	100.0	24.1	8.5
Mizoram	84.4	55.1	1.9	43.0	100.0	57.0	17.0
Nagaland	57.9	25.9	1.4	72.7	100.0	27.3	9.5
Sikkim	67.1	23.2	1.5	75.3	100.0	24.7	12.4
Tripura	38.2	14.6	1.0	84.4	100.0	15.6	6.6
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	46.2	18.7	1.3	80.0	100.0	20.0	8.2
Goa	92.3	46.6	2.7	50.7	100.0	49.3	6.2
Gujarat	50.3	9.5	2.5	87.9	100.0	12.1	4.1
Maharashtra	67.4	32.7	2.2	65.1	100.0	34.9	10.7
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	77.1	43.3	1.9	54.8	100.0	45.2	7.8
Andhra Pradesh	67.8	34.4	2.9	62.7	100.0	37.3	11.8
Karnataka	81.8	32.1	4.0	63.9	100.0	36.1	13.6
Kerala	73.3	45.4	1.8	52.7	100.0	47.3	9.1
Lakshadweep	59.4	23.9	0.0	76.1	100.0	23.9	7.5
Puducherry	91.1	51.7	1.7	46.6	100.0	53.4	12.9
Tamil Nadu	89.3	46.2	2.7	51.1	100.0	48.9	9.5
Telangana	74.2	34.7	3.4	61.9	100.0	38.1	12.2

<sup>1</sup> Includes don't know/missing



Table 13.14.2 Coverage of prior HIV testing by state/union territory: Men

Percentage of men age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, percent distribution of men age 15-49 by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of men age 15-49 ever tested, and percentage of men age 15-49 who were tested in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percent distribution of men by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Total	Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test
	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested <sup>1</sup>			
<b>India</b>	70.4	8.5	0.9	90.6	100.0	9.4	3.4
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	83.7	12.8	4.2	83.0	100.0	17.0	4.9
Delhi	88.1	18.0	0.6	81.4	100.0	18.6	3.4
Haryana	78.9	6.6	0.7	92.6	100.0	7.4	2.4
Himachal Pradesh	81.7	22.6	0.8	76.6	100.0	23.4	7.5
Jammu & Kashmir	60.5	17.1	0.4	82.5	100.0	17.5	6.2
Ladakh	75.0	26.9	0.7	72.4	100.0	27.6	10.6
Punjab	80.0	7.9	1.1	91.0	100.0	9.0	3.9
Rajasthan	80.5	1.9	0.6	97.5	100.0	2.5	1.1
Uttarakhand	79.8	5.1	0.2	94.7	100.0	5.3	1.9
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	60.7	5.0	0.9	94.1	100.0	5.9	2.0
Madhya Pradesh	67.6	2.6	0.4	97.1	100.0	2.9	0.9
Uttar Pradesh	65.4	2.6	0.5	96.9	100.0	3.1	1.0
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	64.9	3.9	1.0	95.1	100.0	4.9	1.6
Jharkhand	63.8	3.5	0.6	95.9	100.0	4.1	2.1
Odisha	88.7	11.3	1.1	87.6	100.0	12.4	3.0
West Bengal	45.1	3.7	0.1	96.1	100.0	3.9	1.4
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	69.3	11.5	1.4	87.1	100.0	12.9	3.8
Assam	67.4	1.5	0.3	98.1	100.0	1.9	0.5
Manipur	84.4	19.1	0.4	80.5	100.0	19.5	2.3
Meghalaya	45.7	5.3	0.0	94.7	100.0	5.3	3.1
Mizoram	84.3	33.5	2.5	64.1	100.0	35.9	12.6
Nagaland	73.3	16.6	0.8	82.6	100.0	17.4	3.7
Sikkim	64.0	12.6	0.8	86.6	100.0	13.4	4.0
Tripura	44.6	5.2	0.1	94.7	100.0	5.3	2.3
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	50.9	7.5	0.2	92.3	100.0	7.7	2.6
Goa	85.8	29.2	0.0	70.8	100.0	29.2	3.2
Gujarat	62.8	3.0	1.1	95.9	100.0	4.1	1.3
Maharashtra	80.8	14.0	1.7	84.3	100.0	15.7	5.4
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	71.5	31.8	0.2	68.0	100.0	32.0	5.6
Andhra Pradesh	74.1	13.4	1.6	85.1	100.0	14.9	4.9
Karnataka	89.2	13.1	0.8	86.0	100.0	14.0	8.4
Kerala	72.3	11.1	0.9	88.0	100.0	12.0	4.5
Lakshadweep	85.4	1.4	0.0	98.6	100.0	1.4	0.0
Puducherry	90.5	23.8	2.5	73.7	100.0	26.3	7.8
Tamil Nadu	89.1	26.1	2.1	71.8	100.0	28.2	5.8
Telangana	75.9	11.9	1.2	86.9	100.0	13.1	4.4

<sup>1</sup> Includes don't know/missing

**Table 13.15 Coverage of prior HIV testing during antenatal care (ANC) or labour**

Among women age 15-49 who gave birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who received HIV counselling during ANC, percentage who received an HIV test during ANC for their most recent birth by whether they received their results and post-test counselling, and percentage who received an HIV test during ANC or labour for their most recent birth by whether they received their test results, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who were tested for HIV during antenatal care and who:				Percentage who received counselling on HIV and an HIV test during ANC, and received the results	Percentage who had an HIV test during ANC or delivery and who <sup>2</sup> :		Number of women who gave birth in the past 2 years <sup>3</sup>
	Percentage who received counselling on HIV during antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	Received results and received post-test counselling	Received results and did not receive post-test counselling	Did not receive results		Received results	Did not receive results	
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	36.1	20.9	10.9	58.7	20.6	33.9	4.6	6,027
15-19	30.9	18.8	13.4	56.6	19.4	33.9	2.9	748
20-24	36.9	21.2	10.6	59.0	20.7	33.9	4.9	5,279
25-29	41.7	24.7	9.5	55.5	23.5	37.1	5.4	4,744
30-39	40.8	23.9	10.9	54.4	23.2	37.8	5.4	2,391
40-49	32.2	21.1	5.7	52.5	20.0	30.9	8.9	135
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	47.0	32.5	15.3	43.1	31.4	51.0	5.3	3,310
Rural	36.3	19.6	8.7	61.2	19.0	30.6	5.0	9,987
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	26.8	10.4	3.8	70.7	9.9	15.7	4.6	2,479
<5 years complete	28.9	15.7	5.9	66.8	15.1	22.9	4.2	615
5-7 years complete	31.5	16.2	8.3	65.1	15.5	27.1	5.0	1,818
8-9 years complete	34.6	18.5	9.3	60.4	17.5	30.7	6.4	2,562
10-11 years complete	44.1	28.1	13.9	50.7	27.6	44.6	4.5	1,801
12 or more years complete	51.8	35.0	15.1	43.0	34.1	53.1	4.9	4,021
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	40.0	23.8	10.1	56.1	22.9	36.4	5.3	10,430
Muslim	32.2	16.4	9.3	64.1	16.0	27.9	4.3	2,315
Christian	47.4	43.6	23.2	24.1	39.7	68.6	4.4	244
Sikh	47.2	22.1	16.5	50.6	26.4	45.0	5.7	175
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	65.5	39.0	15.2	37.3	41.9	59.2	6.2	61
Other	21.6	7.7	10.1	60.0	9.8	22.5	3.1	56
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	39.4	22.5	10.4	56.1	23.1	35.2	5.0	3,063
Scheduled tribe	39.9	19.7	7.0	61.3	18.8	29.1	6.5	1,333
Other backward class	39.2	23.4	10.0	56.7	22.3	35.7	5.1	5,816
Other	38.2	24.0	12.4	54.9	22.3	39.5	4.5	2,974
Don't know	18.1	7.3	14.8	65.0	14.6	23.8	3.3	110
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	26.2	9.8	4.3	70.8	9.0	15.7	4.2	3,191
Second	33.2	14.7	7.9	67.4	15.2	25.0	4.8	2,948
Middle	43.1	29.6	12.0	49.7	27.9	44.4	6.4	2,647
Fourth	47.0	31.7	14.2	45.7	30.5	48.5	5.4	2,418
Highest	51.8	35.2	16.5	41.6	34.6	55.5	4.7	2,093
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>13,296</b>

Note: Total includes Jain women, who are not shown separately.

<sup>1</sup> In this context, "pretest counselling" means that someone talked with the respondent about all three of the following topics: 1) babies getting HIV from their mother, 2) preventing the virus, and 3) getting tested for the virus

<sup>2</sup> Women are asked whether they received an HIV test during labour only if they gave birth in a health facility

<sup>3</sup> Denominator for percentages includes women who did not receive antenatal care for their last birth in the past 2 years.

**Table 13.16 Coverage of prior HIV testing during antenatal care (ANC) or labour by state/union territory**

Among women age 15-49 who gave birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who received HIV counselling during ANC, percentage who received an HIV test during ANC for their most recent birth by whether they received their results and post-test counselling, and percentage who received an HIV test during ANC or labour for their most recent birth by whether they received their test results, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who received counselling on HIV during antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who were tested for HIV during antenatal care and who:			Percentage who received counselling on HIV and an HIV test during ANC, and received the results	Percentage who had an HIV test during ANC or delivery and who <sup>2</sup> :	
		Received results and received post-test counselling	Received results and did not receive post-test counselling	Did not receive results		Received results	Did not receive results
<b>India</b>	38.9	22.8	10.4	56.7	22.1	35.7	5.1
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Delhi	45.1	43.9	23.3	24.2	39.0	72.3	3.8
Haryana	33.5	19.9	11.6	61.1	19.7	33.5	7.2
Himachal Pradesh	52.7	48.9	28.4	13.5	47.7	83.4	4.4
Jammu & Kashmir	44.7	26.3	12.2	54.7	30.3	41.6	3.5
Ladakh	(50.5)	(40.0)	(19.1)	(29.1)	(39.4)	(59.1)	(7.0)
Punjab	49.8	20.6	15.7	51.8	25.9	41.5	6.5
Rajasthan	28.4	8.9	6.0	77.2	8.8	16.6	4.7
Uttarakhand	32.7	21.5	19.3	48.5	23.8	47.5	2.0
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	54.3	19.4	5.4	66.4	21.8	26.8	5.7
Madhya Pradesh	37.0	16.5	4.8	62.7	13.1	24.1	13.0
Uttar Pradesh	31.8	9.2	4.6	78.2	9.5	15.6	4.1
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	21.8	6.1	3.3	70.1	6.4	11.2	4.2
Jharkhand	24.1	6.7	3.5	76.4	4.9	11.5	4.4
Odisha	53.1	47.6	11.9	35.3	39.7	62.3	5.6
West Bengal	32.7	18.2	13.6	60.7	21.0	33.8	3.5
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	29.9	14.8	8.6	54.2	16.1	27.6	5.1
Assam	34.9	12.0	10.2	67.9	13.7	23.7	8.0
Manipur	41.4	25.7	54.5	14.3	39.3	81.7	2.1
Meghalaya	37.7	31.5	15.2	40.6	32.3	47.7	1.9
Mizoram	69.6	59.1	24.2	6.2	66.3	87.5	2.3
Nagaland	33.2	25.9	15.6	25.8	23.9	45.9	2.7
Sikkim	(34.0)	(32.9)	(32.3)	(23.8)	(34.0)	(75.2)	(6.5)
Tripura	27.4	23.7	9.5	41.3	21.4	41.0	3.8
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	(33.0)	(14.4)	(11.7)	(72.1)	(16.7)	(26.2)	(1.7)
Goa	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gujarat	48.6	15.2	6.6	66.3	16.6	23.1	7.0
Maharashtra	47.6	38.4	21.7	33.9	37.1	64.1	3.9

*Continued...*

Table 13.16 Coverage of prior HIV testing during antenatal care (ANC) or labour by state/union territory—Continued

Among women age 15-49 who gave birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who received HIV counselling during ANC, percentage who received an HIV test during ANC for their most recent birth by whether they received their results and post-test counselling, and percentage who received an HIV test during ANC or labour for their most recent birth by whether they received their test results, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who received counselling on HIV during antenatal care <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who were tested for HIV during antenatal care and who:			Percentage who received counselling on HIV and an HIV test during ANC, and received the results	Percentage who had an HIV test during ANC or delivery and who <sup>2</sup> :	
		Received results and post-test counselling	Received results and did not receive post-test counselling	Did not receive results		Received results	Did not receive results
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	(42.1)	(36.7)	(25.9)	(22.5)	(24.6)	(79.1)	(11.2)
Andhra Pradesh	54.7	54.6	23.8	14.9	47.1	78.9	6.5
Karnataka	66.3	54.1	13.2	26.1	53.9	71.8	6.3
Kerala	46.1	39.4	46.0	12.6	40.0	86.4	1.7
Lakshadweep	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Puducherry	(67.4)	(57.4)	(40.3)	(2.3)	(67.2)	(97.7)	(0.2)
Tamil Nadu	65.1	67.1	11.5	14.5	59.4	85.5	3.6
Telangana	55.9	53.8	22.9	17.8	48.2	77.9	4.4

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> In this context, "pretest counselling" means that someone talked with the respondent about all three of the following topics: 1) babies getting HIV from their mother, 2) preventing the virus, and 3) getting tested for the virus

<sup>2</sup> Women are asked whether they received an HIV test during labour only if they gave birth in a health facility

**Table 13.17 Self-reported prevalence of sexually transmitted infection (STI) and/or STI symptoms**

Among women and men age 15-49 who have ever had sexual intercourse, percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the 12 months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who report that in the past 12 months they had:				Percentage of men who report that in the past 12 months they had:				Number of men who ever had sexual intercourse
	An STI	A bad smelling, abnormal genital discharge	A genital sore or ulcer	An STI/ genital discharge/ sore or ulcer	An STI	An abnormal discharge from the penis/ sore or ulcer	A genital sore or ulcer	An STI/ abnormal discharge from the penis/ sore or ulcer	
<b>Age</b>									
15-24	5.6	9.3	4.8	13.3	2.0	10.7	6.2	14.5	6,449
15-19	5.3	9.3	5.0	12.8	2.3	9.8	6.6	14.6	1,269
20-24	5.7	9.3	4.7	13.4	1.9	10.9	6.1	14.5	5,180
25-29	5.5	10.0	4.9	13.5	1.8	7.5	4.5	10.2	9,689
30-39	4.9	9.3	4.7	12.6	2.1	6.1	3.8	8.9	24,204
40-49	4.3	7.4	4.0	10.7	2.2	4.8	3.9	8.0	21,625
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	4.9	8.0	4.3	11.4	2.6	5.3	3.6	8.0	20,884
Rural	5.0	9.3	4.7	12.7	1.8	6.9	4.5	10.0	41,083
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	5.1	9.3	4.4	12.4	2.0	6.3	4.8	9.7	8,648
<5 years complete	4.1	8.7	4.7	12.3	1.9	8.0	4.9	11.6	5,113
5-7 years complete	4.8	8.9	4.5	12.3	1.9	7.2	5.0	10.5	9,529
8-9 years complete	5.1	9.0	4.7	12.7	1.9	6.4	4.1	9.3	11,467
10-11 years complete	5.1	9.2	4.9	12.5	2.0	5.5	4.0	8.6	9,852
12 or more years complete	5.1	8.1	4.4	11.7	2.4	5.8	3.4	8.3	17,359
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	10.6	13.6	8.2	19.3	2.4	10.1	5.4	13.7	5,349
Currently married	5.0	8.9	4.5	12.3	2.0	5.9	4.1	8.9	55,462
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	3.8	7.8	4.0	10.4	2.2	7.3	4.4	10.6	1,156
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>									
Yes	9.3	13.2	6.9	18.0	3.6	9.5	6.4	14.1	9,082
No	4.6	8.5	4.3	11.8	1.8	5.8	3.8	8.5	52,885

Continued...

Table 13.17 Self-reported prevalence of sexually transmitted infection (STI) and/or STI symptoms—Continued

Among women and men age 15-49 who have ever had sexual intercourse, percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the 12 months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who report that in the past 12 months they had:				Percentage of men who report that in the past 12 months they had:				Number of men who ever had sexual intercourse
	An STI	A bad smelling, abnormal genital discharge	A genital sore or ulcer	An STI/genital discharge/sore or ulcer	An STI	An abnormal discharge from the penis	A genital sore or ulcer	An STI/abnormal discharge from the penis/sore or ulcer	
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	4.8	8.6	4.4	12.0	2.2	5.9	4.1	8.9	49,435
Muslim	6.5	10.7	5.4	14.4	2.0	9.4	5.1	12.6	9,345
Christian	3.0	8.9	4.5	11.7	0.4	3.0	2.2	4.7	1,549
Sikh	6.9	9.0	3.7	13.2	1.7	4.5	3.0	7.3	576
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	7.0	8.2	6.5	12.5	1.3	5.0	4.7	8.1	713
Jain	1.5	7.5	4.7	10.9	0.0	0.9	0.3	0.9	159
Other	2.9	7.2	4.1	9.5	0.6	2.7	3.8	5.9	191
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	5.2	9.5	5.0	13.0	2.0	7.1	4.4	10.2	13,142
Scheduled tribe	3.5	8.3	3.9	11.1	1.9	5.9	5.1	9.0	5,949
Other backward class	5.3	8.8	4.9	12.5	2.3	5.5	4.4	8.8	25,504
Other	4.9	8.6	3.9	11.7	1.9	7.1	3.3	9.5	17,058
Don't know	2.8	9.4	3.4	12.2	3.6	7.3	4.5	12.3	314
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	4.7	9.2	4.8	12.5	1.8	8.4	5.6	12.3	10,984
Second	5.0	9.3	4.4	12.4	1.7	7.4	4.4	10.3	12,377
Middle	4.9	9.4	4.9	12.9	2.5	6.4	4.6	9.6	13,135
Fourth	4.6	8.0	4.6	11.6	2.0	5.0	3.6	7.9	13,544
Highest	5.7	8.5	4.1	12.1	2.3	4.7	2.8	7.0	11,927
Total age 15-49	5.0	8.9	4.5	12.3	2.1	6.3	4.2	9.3	61,967
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	1.7	4.9	3.5	7.3	8,594
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	2.0	6.2	4.1	9.1	70,561

na = Not applicable

<sup>†</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded.

**Table 13.18 Self-reported prevalence of sexually transmitted infection (STI) and/or STI symptoms by state/union territory**

Among women and men age 15-49 who ever had sexual intercourse, percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the 12 months preceding the survey, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who report that in the past 12 months they had:				Percentage of men who report that in the past 12 months they had:			
	An STI	A bad smelling, abnormal genital discharge	A genital sore or ulcer	An STI/genital discharge/sore or ulcer	An STI	An abnormal discharge from the penis	A genital sore or ulcer	An STI/abnormal discharge from the penis/sore or ulcer
<b>India</b>	5.0	8.9	4.5	12.3	2.1	6.3	4.2	9.3
<b>North</b>								
Chandigarh	0.0	10.1	0.0	10.1	3.4	0.0	0.0	3.4
Delhi	6.7	15.8	3.7	19.9	0.7	4.5	2.0	6.2
Haryana	4.1	9.8	2.6	11.6	1.7	2.3	2.7	5.3
Himachal Pradesh	12.3	19.7	4.2	23.8	2.3	5.5	4.4	9.1
Jammu & Kashmir	6.1	16.3	4.4	20.1	2.0	14.9	2.2	16.2
Ladakh	6.1	21.8	5.2	25.9	1.0	22.0	4.3	23.1
Punjab	6.4	9.0	3.0	13.0	1.9	3.6	2.7	6.5
Rajasthan	5.0	12.3	2.6	15.7	1.8	3.9	3.2	6.6
Uttarakhand	2.8	9.8	1.6	11.3	1.0	5.0	1.6	6.2
<b>Central</b>								
Chhattisgarh	4.0	8.5	4.2	12.0	3.2	6.9	4.3	10.5
Madhya Pradesh	4.7	7.8	3.8	11.0	1.0	4.3	2.1	6.0
Uttar Pradesh	12.0	14.4	6.6	19.1	4.4	7.6	6.2	12.0
<b>East</b>								
Bihar	4.5	6.9	4.4	10.8	2.1	5.4	4.2	7.8
Jharkhand	4.5	9.2	5.9	11.9	2.3	8.0	7.4	12.2
Odisha	1.1	2.8	1.4	4.0	0.7	6.1	3.2	7.9
West Bengal	2.8	10.3	4.5	13.0	2.4	16.3	6.4	20.1
<b>Northeast</b>								
Arunachal Pradesh	3.9	12.2	5.4	15.4	2.2	3.6	2.3	5.8
Assam	6.9	7.4	5.3	13.2	0.8	1.9	2.3	4.0
Manipur	3.4	10.0	4.4	13.7	0.2	3.4	2.7	5.7
Meghalaya	3.7	28.2	7.0	29.8	0.8	3.0	2.5	4.2
Mizoram	0.7	10.3	3.1	11.8	0.2	0.3	0.7	1.0
Nagaland	1.0	8.3	2.2	9.0	0.6	1.4	0.4	2.1
Sikkim	10.2	14.3	7.2	18.0	3.2	7.2	3.4	11.2
Tripura	3.1	11.0	4.7	14.3	0.0	6.1	4.5	8.1
<b>West</b>								
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.9	8.4	7.2	12.5	0.8	3.7	0.0	4.1
Goa	3.1	6.3	6.2	9.4	0.6	0.0	0.6	1.2
Gujarat	2.1	7.5	3.0	9.4	0.8	3.2	3.7	5.7
Maharashtra	3.6	5.1	4.1	8.3	1.3	3.5	3.7	6.7
<b>South</b>								
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.0	7.5	2.1	10.0	2.2	6.8	2.7	7.7
Andhra Pradesh	1.8	3.2	1.8	4.9	1.0	1.6	2.0	3.1
Karnataka	5.8	8.0	6.2	11.9	6.0	6.4	6.6	11.3
Kerala	1.5	4.0	6.2	9.5	0.4	0.8	2.0	3.1
Lakshadweep	1.6	2.9	9.2	10.4	0.0	1.4	0.0	1.4
Puducherry	0.1	4.4	7.0	8.0	0.0	10.3	0.2	10.5
Tamil Nadu	2.3	8.4	7.6	12.3	0.7	11.8	1.2	12.7
Telangana	1.3	4.2	2.5	5.8	2.4	8.6	4.8	12.0

Table 13.19 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and knowledge of a source of condoms among youth

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and percentage with knowledge of a source of condoms, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women age 15-24				Men age 15-24			
	Percentage who reject two common misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who know a condom source	Number of women	Percentage who reject two common misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who know a condom source <sup>3</sup>	Number of men
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	20.9	17.9	46.1	18,240	32.2	26.1	82.9	16,385
15-17	19.9	16.9	41.2	10,810	29.7	23.7	79.0	9,939
18-19	22.5	19.2	53.2	7,430	36.0	29.8	89.0	6,446
20-24	26.4	22.5	62.9	17,809	38.6	31.2	92.3	14,384
20-22	25.7	21.8	61.2	10,839	37.1	30.1	91.1	8,807
23-24	27.5	23.5	65.6	6,970	41.1	33.0	94.1	5,577
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	30.5	26.0	59.3	10,508	42.2	33.5	89.3	10,538
Rural	20.8	17.7	52.4	25,541	31.6	25.9	86.2	20,231
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	11.2	8.7	44.4	2,361	18.2	14.7	79.6	1,415
<5 years complete	12.9	10.8	45.8	805	14.2	9.2	85.1	946
5-7 years complete	15.3	12.6	47.3	3,435	23.7	18.3	81.3	2,718
8-9 years complete	18.7	15.9	49.0	8,986	28.0	22.8	83.5	7,558
10-11 years complete	24.1	20.6	51.5	8,277	37.3	29.7	86.0	7,086
12 or more years complete	32.4	28.0	64.9	12,185	45.6	37.6	93.3	11,045
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	24.3	20.9	49.6	22,788	35.8	28.9	86.6	27,478
Ever had sex	28.0	23.9	67.8	741	38.4	31.3	95.7	3,166
Never had sex	24.2	20.8	49.0	22,047	35.4	28.6	85.4	24,312
Ever married	22.5	18.8	62.7	13,261	30.7	25.1	93.1	3,290
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>4</sup></b>								
Yes	22.2	18.6	60.9	2,935	32.8	24.6	88.2	4,749
No	23.8	20.3	53.8	33,114	35.6	29.2	87.1	26,019
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	24.0	20.5	55.2	28,599	35.4	28.4	87.8	23,910
Muslim	19.6	16.3	51.4	5,788	30.4	25.0	84.9	5,365
Christian	35.9	29.6	53.5	695	47.8	41.5	84.0	740
Sikh	24.3	21.9	45.5	570	36.6	34.7	88.8	304
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	34.8	31.6	51.0	201	52.5	45.4	92.8	294
Jain	(52.9)	(48.3)	(79.2)	63	(80.6)	(67.8)	(97.5)	76
Other	20.5	17.0	49.2	133	58.7	57.5	87.0	81

Continued...



Table 13.19 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and knowledge of a source of condoms among youth—Continued

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and percentage with knowledge of a source of condoms, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women age 15-24				Men age 15-24			
	Percentage who reject two common misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who know a condom source	Number of women	Percentage who reject two common misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who know a condom source <sup>3</sup>	Number of men
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	21.3	18.2	52.6	8,202	32.0	25.7	87.8	6,108
Scheduled tribe	24.6	21.4	54.2	3,403	29.2	23.5	86.2	2,861
Other backward class	23.7	19.8	53.5	15,891	38.2	30.6	88.5	13,257
Other	25.9	22.5	58.4	8,337	35.3	29.3	85.8	8,366
Don't know	8.1	7.6	41.9	215	16.8	10.6	69.0	176
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	14.0	11.6	45.8	7,163	23.6	19.2	82.3	5,521
Second	18.5	16.0	50.5	8,059	29.8	24.0	86.7	6,687
Middle	24.2	20.6	54.7	7,672	34.9	27.2	87.2	6,580
Fourth	30.2	25.2	58.0	7,260	40.5	32.3	89.4	6,318
Highest	33.7	29.2	65.5	5,895	47.4	40.2	90.7	5,663
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>36,049</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>87.3</b>	<b>30,769</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Respondents who, when asked prompted questions, say that HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites and by sharing food with a person who has HIV/AIDS, and who say that use of a condom for every act of sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS

<sup>2</sup> Respondents with a comprehensive knowledge say that use of a condom for every act of sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS, say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and reject two common misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission or prevention

<sup>3</sup> Men who used a condom in the 12 months preceding the survey are assumed to know a condom source

<sup>4</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

**Table 13.20 Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and knowledge of a source of condoms among youth by state/union territory**

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 with a comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS and percentage with knowledge of a source of condoms, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women age 15-24			Men age 15-24		
	Percentage who reject two common misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who know a condom source	Percentage who reject two common misconceptions and know how to prevent HIV/AIDS <sup>1</sup>	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS <sup>2</sup>	Percentage who know a condom source <sup>3</sup>
<b>India</b>	23.6	20.1	54.4	35.2	28.5	87.3
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	(24.4)	(21.0)	(59.2)	(43.2)	(43.2)	(81.6)
Delhi	28.6	25.1	75.0	38.8	36.3	93.0
Haryana	20.5	17.5	57.2	35.6	31.7	86.1
Himachal Pradesh	36.1	34.0	63.4	42.0	37.3	86.8
Jammu & Kashmir	18.3	17.2	36.4	35.5	33.8	70.8
Ladakh	21.9	21.1	41.6	38.7	31.6	70.5
Punjab	19.7	17.5	42.0	35.6	33.3	90.2
Rajasthan	31.9	27.6	74.3	39.2	34.3	92.0
Uttarakhand	24.5	21.5	60.6	31.3	27.1	91.0
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	25.6	22.0	53.6	31.9	29.9	90.2
Madhya Pradesh	20.1	17.3	54.5	27.2	23.7	87.0
Uttar Pradesh	14.4	11.6	47.2	25.7	19.8	88.5
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	12.7	10.1	43.8	28.7	25.3	83.6
Jharkhand	17.2	15.2	53.5	30.9	28.4	82.4
Odisha	21.1	18.1	63.6	29.0	22.1	94.5
West Bengal	18.8	17.4	58.6	18.6	14.3	80.4
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	19.2	15.5	63.2	37.9	35.4	90.6
Assam	20.3	19.0	69.3	28.9	27.4	93.2
Manipur	55.5	48.7	67.7	53.3	48.4	79.9
Meghalaya	17.6	13.4	48.6	19.2	14.3	71.4
Mizoram	70.7	68.9	50.1	60.5	60.0	76.9
Nagaland	30.3	21.1	52.9	38.1	31.9	86.0
Sikkim	30.8	29.3	61.9	25.5	15.1	93.0
Tripura	12.2	11.6	47.3	34.9	31.9	82.9
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	30.7	24.6	59.1	44.9	31.1	79.4
Goa	60.6	52.9	86.8	75.9	72.8	100.0
Gujarat	30.6	27.2	49.3	36.8	33.4	87.2
Maharashtra	39.4	35.2	54.8	44.5	37.2	90.2
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	39.2	14.8	49.3	40.9	37.0	75.9
Andhra Pradesh	35.1	27.2	35.1	50.0	38.1	89.2
Karnataka	34.1	26.8	73.8	42.6	24.4	93.4
Kerala	32.0	30.2	58.6	50.1	40.6	84.2
Lakshadweep	(50.3)	(43.7)	(45.1)	(71.9)	(64.3)	(96.5)
Puducherry	34.7	25.4	61.0	39.2	32.3	90.4
Tamil Nadu	31.9	23.9	54.9	40.5	23.2	89.4
Telangana	37.1	32.9	51.3	42.4	30.3	86.2

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

<sup>1</sup> Respondents who, when asked prompted questions, say that HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites and by sharing food with a person who has HIV/AIDS, and who say that use of a condom for every act of sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS

<sup>2</sup> Respondents with a comprehensive knowledge say that use of a condom for every act of sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful sex partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV/AIDS, say that a healthy-looking person can have HIV/AIDS, and reject two common misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission or prevention

<sup>3</sup> Men who used a condom in the 12 months preceding the survey are assumed to know a condom source

Table 13.21 Age at first sexual intercourse among youth

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 who have ever had sexual intercourse and who had sexual intercourse before age 15, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage who have ever had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of women	Percentage who have ever had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of men
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	15.1	1.2	122,544	7.7	0.7	16,385
15-17	6.1	0.9	72,948	4.3	0.8	9,939
18-19	28.2	1.6	49,596	13.1	0.6	6,446
20-24	62.7	3.4	119,440	36.0	0.3	14,384
20-22	55.2	3.0	73,516	30.1	0.3	8,807
23-24	74.7	4.0	45,923	45.3	0.4	5,577
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	30.3	1.4	71,098	16.9	0.5	10,538
Rural	42.0	2.6	170,885	23.1	0.6	20,231
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	70.7	8.2	15,889	33.6	0.9	1,415
<5 years complete	62.0	7.9	5,534	44.0	2.1	946
5-7 years complete	51.6	5.8	22,998	27.3	0.8	2,718
8-9 years complete	37.1	2.5	59,584	19.9	0.9	7,558
10-11 years complete	31.1	1.0	55,620	15.5	0.4	7,086
12 or more years complete	33.3	0.4	82,357	20.1	0.1	11,045
<b>Age at marriage</b>						
Ever married <sup>1</sup>	98.9	5.9	89,251	97.9	0.7	3,376
<15 years	81.2	31.3	63	*	*	1
15-17 years	98.5	3.0	45	*	*	2
18 or more years	98.9	5.9	89,143	97.9	0.7	3,374
Never married	3.3	0.1	152,733	11.5	0.5	27,393
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>2</sup></b>						
Yes	55.6	3.6	2,935	32.1	0.7	4,749
No	37.3	2.2	33,114	18.9	0.5	26,019
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	38.7	2.2	194,339	21.3	0.6	23,910
Muslim	40.0	3.1	36,882	20.3	0.6	5,365
Christian	31.9	1.9	4,968	16.8	0.2	740
Sikh	26.5	0.5	3,179	19.9	0.2	304
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	31.4	1.0	1,278	22.5	0.0	294
Jain	16.2	0.3	422	(3.1)	(0.0)	76
Other	41.5	3.1	916	22.1	2.9	81

Continued...

**Table 13.21 Age at first sexual intercourse among youth—Continued**

Percentage of women and men age 15-24 who have ever had sexual intercourse and who had sexual intercourse before age 15, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage who have ever had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of women	Percentage who have ever had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of men
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	40.3	2.6	55,474	24.2	0.7	6,108
Scheduled tribe	43.1	2.7	23,285	28.9	0.5	2,861
Other backward class	37.8	1.9	105,027	20.0	0.6	13,257
Other	35.8	2.3	56,655	17.5	0.3	8,366
Don't know	54.7	7.4	1,543	16.7	0.0	176
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	44.7	4.4	48,714	26.9	0.9	5,521
Second	42.4	2.9	52,765	23.9	0.8	6,687
Middle	39.7	2.0	50,831	20.5	0.5	6,580
Fourth	36.4	1.2	48,409	17.6	0.5	6,318
Highest	27.5	0.4	41,264	15.9	0.1	5,663
Total	38.6	2.3	241,983	21.0	0.5	30,769

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Includes women/men who are married, but whose *gaura* has not been performed

<sup>2</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

Table 13.22 Sexual intercourse and condom use among never married youth

Background characteristic	Never married women						Never married men			
	Percentage who never had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of women	Percentage who used a condom at last sexual intercourse	Number who had sex in the past 12 months	Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of men	Percentage who used a condom at last sexual intercourse	Number who had sex in the past 12 months
<b>Age</b>										
15-19	97.3	1.3	15,914	61.2	204	93.8	4.4	16,110	57.0	701
15-17	97.9	0.9	10,345	57.7	96	96.1	2.9	9,905	53.6	291
18-19	96.1	1.9	5,570	64.4	108	90.2	6.6	6,204	59.5	410
20-24	95.5	1.9	6,874	65.3	133	80.9	11.8	11,369	63.9	1,338
20-22	95.6	1.9	5,064	65.3	97	82.9	10.9	7,421	61.0	808
23-24	95.3	2.0	1,810	65.3	36	77.2	13.4	3,948	68.3	530
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	96.5	1.4	7,522	70.4	102	89.0	7.3	9,836	68.5	723
Rural	96.9	1.5	15,266	59.6	235	88.2	7.5	17,642	57.7	1,316
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	94.6	2.3	753	*	17	88.0	7.4	1,067	64.8	79
<5 years complete	96.6	1.4	300	*	4	78.6	11.6	674	38.3	78
5-7 years complete	96.5	1.9	1,700	(58.9)	32	89.4	5.7	2,208	56.2	126
8-9 years complete	97.3	1.4	5,747	48.6	83	90.1	6.5	6,725	53.2	435
10-11 years complete	97.2	1.1	5,891	70.7	67	91.9	4.9	6,518	58.2	320
12 or more years complete	96.3	1.6	8,398	71.9	134	85.8	9.7	10,287	68.5	1,000
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>										
Yes	94.1	3.4	1,382	50.5	47	82.2	10.7	3,921	52.1	419
No	96.9	1.4	21,406	64.8	290	89.5	6.9	23,558	64.0	1,620
<b>Away from home for six months or more in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>										
Yes	93.5	4.4	640	(48.6)	28	83.1	10.3	1,725	60.2	178
No	96.8	1.4	22,149	64.1	309	88.8	7.2	25,754	61.7	1,861

Continued...

Table 13.22 Sexual intercourse and condom use among never married youth—Continued

Among never married women and men age 15-24, percentage who have never had sexual intercourse, percentage who had sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among those who had sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who used a condom at the last sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Never married women				Never married men					
	Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of women	Percentage who used a condom at last sexual intercourse	Number who had sex in the past 12 months	Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse	Percentage who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of men	Percentage who used a condom at last sexual intercourse	Number who had sex in the past 12 months
<b>Religion</b>										
Hindu	96.8	1.5	18,084	61.4	276	88.0	7.9	21,372	61.0	1,695
Muslim	96.7	1.4	3,494	(77.3)	48	90.2	5.4	4,737	71.0	255
Christian	95.6	1.5	516	28.7	8	90.4	5.9	680	30.4	40
Sikh	97.1	0.5	436	*	2	85.1	11.8	286	58.6	34
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	97.9	1.2	115	*	1	88.9	4.0	256	*	10
Jain	(100.0)	(0.0)	54	nc	0	(98.0)	(2.0)	75	*	2
Other	96.0	2.3	90	*	2	88.3	3.8	71	(14.2)	3
<b>Caste/tribe</b>										
Scheduled caste	96.7	1.5	5,049	50.9	76	86.6	8.7	5,340	57.3	464
Scheduled tribe	95.5	2.6	2,023	43.5	53	85.8	9.0	2,373	44.9	214
Other backward class	97.0	1.2	10,224	67.6	127	88.6	7.5	11,958	61.8	901
Other	96.7	1.5	5,391	79.2	80	90.2	5.9	7,653	73.1	453
Don't know	99.4	0.6	101	*	1	95.1	4.1	154	*	6
<b>Wealth quintile</b>										
Lowest	96.7	1.8	4,081	43.5	75	87.8	7.3	4,592	46.5	333
Second	96.7	1.7	4,825	66.3	84	88.3	6.9	5,759	54.1	396
Middle	96.5	1.4	4,752	53.8	67	88.9	6.5	5,878	62.6	384
Fourth	96.7	1.3	4,805	77.4	61	88.8	8.0	5,862	60.9	471
Highest	97.1	1.2	4,324	(80.0)	51	88.5	8.5	5,386	78.8	455
Total	96.7	1.5	22,788	62.8	337	88.5	7.4	27,478	61.5	2,039

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

nc = No cases

<sup>1</sup> For women, visits to parental/'in-laws' home excluded

**Table 13.23 Higher-risk sexual intercourse among youth and condom use at last higher-risk intercourse**

Among women and men age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among those having higher-risk intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months		Women who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>		Men who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months		Men who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom at last higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>	Number of women who had higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom at last higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>	Number of men who had higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	7.3	2,355	62.0	172	68.3	961	52.6	656
15-17	16.9	520	57.0	88	84.3	323	45.6	272
18-19	4.6	1,835	67.2	84	60.2	638	57.4	384
20-24	1.3	10,102	63.9	128	32.6	4,073	59.9	1,326
20-22	1.8	5,390	63.0	96	38.4	2,063	56.1	792
23-24	0.7	4,712	66.5	32	26.6	2,009	65.5	534
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	3.2	2,826	71.6	89	51.9	1,372	63.6	711
Rural	2.2	9,631	59.1	210	34.7	3,662	54.0	1,272
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	1.1	1,474	*	16	21.3	382	56.4	81
<5 years complete	1.2	457	*	6	28.4	337	18.2	96
5-7 years complete	1.9	1,616	(50.1)	31	20.6	612	54.5	126
8-9 years complete	2.2	3,088	51.1	68	33.8	1,198	48.2	405
10-11 years complete	2.2	2,272	74.7	51	38.3	838	57.5	321
12 or more years complete	3.6	3,552	67.9	128	57.2	1,667	65.8	954
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married <sup>2</sup>	81.5	337	65.4	274	92.2	2,039	58.9	1,880
Currently married	0.2	12,064	*	25	3.3	2,967	30.7	99
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	0.6	56	nc	0	*	27	*	4
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>3</sup></b>								
Yes	2.6	1,442	(66.5)	38	37.6	1,189	47.3	447
No	2.4	11,015	62.3	262	39.9	3,844	60.4	1,536

*Continued...*

**Table 13.23 Higher-risk sexual intercourse among youth and condom use at last higher-risk intercourse—Continued**

Among women and men age 15–24 who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who had higher-risk sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, and among those having higher-risk intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage reporting that a condom was used at last higher-risk intercourse, by background characteristics, India, 2019–21

Background characteristic	Women who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months		Women who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>		Men who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months		Men who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months <sup>1</sup>	
	Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom at last higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>	Number of women who had higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who had higher-risk intercourse in the past 12 months	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom at last higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>	Number of men who had higher-risk intercourse <sup>1</sup>
<b>Away from home for six months or more in the past 12 months<sup>3</sup></b>								
Yes	3.4	623	*	21	37.5	510	51.6	191
No	2.4	11,834	61.9	279	39.6	4,523	58.1	1,791
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	2.4	9,933	62.6	238	40.6	4,042	57.0	1,640
Muslim	2.3	2,115	(68.9)	48	31.7	793	66.1	251
Christian	5.0	151	28.6	8	54.8	91	35.8	50
Sikh	1.7	128	*	2	55.1	50	52.2	27
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.6	79	*	2	23.8	43	*	10
Other	4.1	41	*	2	23.0	12	(14.6)	3
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	2.4	3,017	49.5	72	38.7	1,166	51.0	451
Scheduled tribe	3.4	1,292	40.1	44	30.8	666	39.4	205
Other backward class	2.1	5,259	73.2	108	41.9	2,100	56.8	880
Other	2.7	2,795	73.4	75	40.9	1,074	73.6	440
Don't know	0.7	94	*	1	*	27	*	7
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	2.2	2,846	48.3	62	28.9	1,196	43.0	346
Second	2.6	3,053	60.9	81	32.0	1,231	49.1	393
Middle	2.0	2,741	53.7	54	35.7	1,004	56.5	359
Fourth	2.2	2,348	75.4	52	51.6	889	55.4	459
Highest	3.5	1,468	(80.0)	51	59.7	713	79.9	426
Total	2.4	12,457	62.8	300	39.4	5,033	57.5	1,983

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. Total includes Jain women, who are not shown separately.

nc = No cases

<sup>1</sup> Sexual intercourse with a sex partner who was neither a spouse nor who lived with the respondent

<sup>2</sup> Includes women/men who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed. If women/men who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed, report having sex with their spouses, the sex is not considered higher risk.

<sup>3</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded.



Table 13.24 Recent HIV tests among youth

Among women and men age 15-24 who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who have had an HIV test in the 12 months preceding the survey and received the results of the last test, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received results	Number of women	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received results	Number of men
<b>Age</b>				
15-19	9.1	2,355	2.5	961
15-17	6.1	520	5.2	323
18-19	10.0	1,835	1.1	638
20-24	13.6	10,102	3.1	4,073
20-22	13.1	5,390	2.0	2,063
23-24	14.1	4,712	4.2	2,009
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	15.0	2,826	2.8	1,372
Rural	12.1	9,631	3.0	3,662
<b>Schooling</b>				
No schooling	6.4	1,474	0.6	382
<5 years complete	5.1	457	3.0	337
5-7 years complete	10.5	1,616	3.0	612
8-9 years complete	10.3	3,088	2.6	1,198
10-11 years complete	14.6	2,272	2.7	838
12 or more years complete	18.3	3,552	3.9	1,667
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married <sup>1</sup>	3.4	337	3.4	2,039
Currently married	13.0	12,064	2.7	2,967
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	13.1	56	*	27
<b>Away from home for 1 month or more at a time in the past 12 months<sup>2</sup></b>				
Yes	14.0	1,442	3.1	1,189
No	12.6	11,015	2.9	3,844
<b>Away from home for six months or more in the past 12 months<sup>2</sup></b>				
Yes	16.9	623	3.8	510
No	12.5	11,834	2.9	4,523
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	13.2	9,933	3.1	4,042
Muslim	9.7	2,115	2.4	793
Christian	22.5	151	1.9	91
Sikh	12.5	128	4.3	50
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	20.5	79	0.0	43
Other	7.3	41	0.6	12

Continued...

Table 13.24 Recent HIV tests among youth—*Continued*

Among women and men age 15-24 who have had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, percentage who have had an HIV test in the 12 months preceding the survey and received the results of the last test, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received results	Number of women	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received results	Number of men
<b>Caste/tribe</b>				
Scheduled caste	12.2	3,017	2.6	1,166
Scheduled tribe	11.7	1,292	2.9	666
Other backward class	13.7	5,259	3.0	2,100
Other	12.2	2,795	3.3	1,074
Don't know	6.7	94	*	27
<b>Wealth quintile</b>				
Lowest	6.4	2,846	1.1	1,196
Second	9.9	3,053	3.4	1,231
Middle	16.6	2,741	3.0	1,004
Fourth	17.2	2,348	3.4	889
Highest	16.5	1,468	4.7	713
Total	12.7	12,457	3.0	5,033

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. Total includes women and men belonging to Jain religion, who are not shown separately.

<sup>1</sup> Includes women/men who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed. If women/men who are married, but whose *gauna* has not been performed, report having sex with their husband, the sex is not considered higher risk.

<sup>2</sup> For women, visits to parental/in-laws' home excluded

### Key Findings

- **Employment of currently married women and men:** Thirty-two percent of currently married women age 15-49, and 98 percent of currently married men age 15-49 are employed. Among employed women, 83 percent earn cash and 15 percent are not paid at all. More than four-fifths of employed women (85%) participate in decisions about the use of their own earnings.
- **Access to a bank account and mobile phone:** Seventy-nine percent of women have a bank or savings account that they themselves use, and 54 percent of women have a mobile phone that they themselves use. Seventy-one percent of women who have a mobile phone can read text messages.
- **Participation in decision making:** Seventy-one percent of currently married women participate in making decisions about their own health care, major household purchases, and visits to their own family or relatives alone or jointly with their husband, while 11 percent do not participate in any of the three decisions. Women's participation in decision making has increased since NFHS-4.
- **Attitudes toward wife beating:** Forty-five percent of women and 44 percent of men agree with one or more of seven specified reasons for wife beating. Agreement with one or more reasons for wife beating has fallen for women since NFHS-4 but has slightly increased for men.
- **Asset ownership:** Forty-two percent of women and 60 percent of men own a house alone or jointly with someone, and 32 percent of women and 42 percent of men own land alone or jointly with someone.

This chapter explores women's empowerment in terms of employment, earnings, control over earnings, magnitude of women's earnings relative to those of their husbands, decision making, empowering attitudes, house and land ownership, and access and use of a bank account and mobile phone. While the focus of this chapter is women, data for specific indicators are also presented for men. Comparisons of indicators for women and men help to identify gender disparities and provide context for women's empowerment. Questions on women's empowerment were implemented only in the subsample of NFHS-4 households selected for the state module.

## 14.1 CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN'S AND MEN'S EMPLOYMENT

### Employment

Respondents are considered to be employed if they have done any work other than their housework in the 12 months before the survey.

**Sample:** Currently married women and men age 15-49

### Earning cash for employment

Respondents are asked if they are paid for their labour in cash or in kind. Only those who receive payment in cash only or in cash and in kind are considered to earn cash for their employment.

**Sample:** Currently married women and men age 15-49 employed in the 12 months before the survey

In India, only 32 percent of currently married women age 15-49 are employed, compared with 98 percent of currently married men age 15-49. Among employed women, 83 percent earn cash, including 8 percent whose earnings are in both cash and in kind. Fifteen percent of employed women are not paid for the work they do. By comparison, 95 percent of employed men earn cash, and 4 percent do not receive any payment for their work (**Table 14.1**).

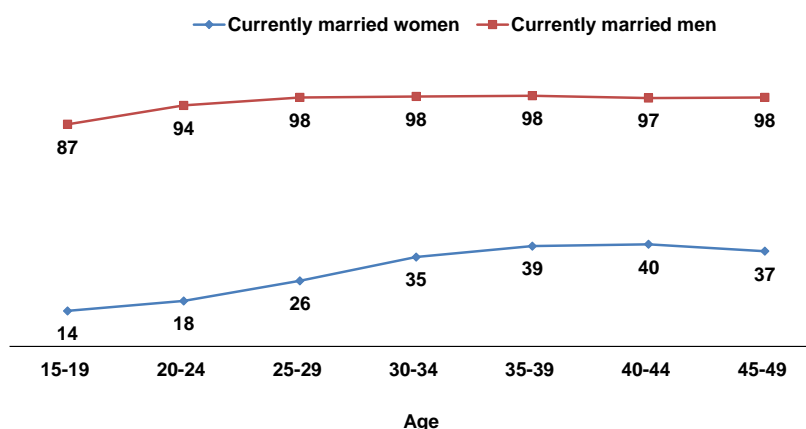
**Trends:** Employment among currently married women age 15-49 has marginally increased from 31 percent in NFHS-4 to the current 32 percent. Among the employed, the percentage of women who earn cash has increased from 80 percent to 83 percent. For men, by contrast there has been no change in the percentage employed and the percentage who earn cash has slightly increased from 91 percent to 95 percent.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Employment among currently married women generally increases with age, from 14 percent among women age 15-19 to 40 percent among women age 40-44, but it falls to 37 percent in the oldest age group (**Figure 14.1**).

**Figure 14.1 Employment by Age**

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49



- Employment among currently married men increases from 87 percent among men age 15-19 to 97-98 percent among men age 25 and older.
- Among employed women, the percentage not paid at all for the work they do is highest (22%) among women age 15-19, but it declines to 13-17 percent among women age 25 and above.

- Employment among currently married women varies greatly by state, ranging from 13 percent among women in Lakshadweep and 19 percent in Bihar, to as high as 55 percent in Meghalaya and 54 percent each in Chhattisgarh and Manipur (Table 14.2).

## 14.2 CONTROL OVER WOMEN’S EARNINGS

### Control over one’s own cash earnings (women)

Respondents are considered to have control over their own earnings if they participate in decisions alone or jointly with their husband about how their earnings will be used.

**Sample:** Currently married women age 15-49 who received cash earnings for employment during the 12 months preceding the survey

Eighty-five percent of currently married women who earn cash say that they make decisions alone or jointly with their husband on how their cash earnings are used. It is most common for women to make these decisions jointly with their husband; only 18 percent mainly make these decisions alone. For 14 percent of women, the husband is the sole decision maker regarding the use of women’s earnings (Table 14.3.1 and Figure 14.2). Men whose wives’ earned cash were also asked about decision making regarding their wife’s earnings. A similar proportion (85%) of men with wives who earn cash, as married women who earn cash, report that decisions about the wife’s earnings are made either by the wife or jointly with them (Table 14.3.2).

Forty percent of currently married women who earn cash and have husbands with cash earnings say that they earn more or about the same as their husbands. A higher proportion (47%) of men who earn cash and whose wives earn cash report that their wife earns about the same or more than them (Table 14.5).

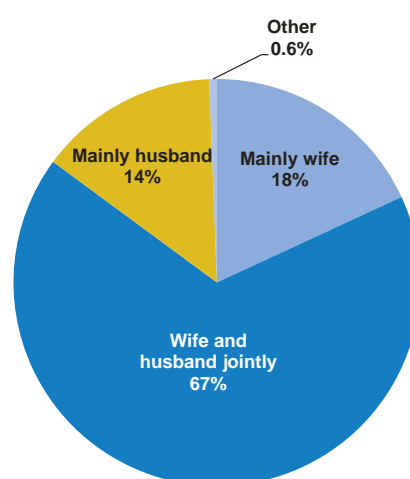
**Trends:** Women’s participation in decisions about their own earnings has slightly increased (from 82% to 85%) in the 4 years since NFHS-4. However, the percentage of employed women who earn cash and who earn about the same or more than their husband has slightly decreased from 42 percent at the time of NFHS-4 to 40 percent in NFHS-5 (Table 14.3.1).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women’s control over their own earnings increases with age from 71 percent of women age 15-19 participating in decisions about the use of their own earnings to 86 percent among women age 40-49 (Table 14.3.1).
- Women’s control over their own earnings increases only a little with schooling and wealth and is higher in urban than rural areas.
- There is little variation by background characteristics in the proportion of women who earn about the same or more than their husbands. Notably, however, less than half (46%) of employed women with 12 or more years of schooling earn about the same or more than their husbands.
- At least 7 out of 10 currently married women with cash earnings have a say in how their earnings are used in every state and union territory.

**Figure 14.2 Control Over Women's Earnings**

Percent distribution of currently married women with cash earnings in the 12 months before the survey by the person who usually makes decisions about their use



- The percentage of women who earn about the same or more than their husband varies greatly by state, from a low of 19 percent in Himachal Pradesh to 53 percent in Gujarat (**Table 14.5**).

### 14.3 CONTROL OVER MEN'S EARNINGS

#### **Control over one's own cash earnings (men)**

Respondents are considered to have control over their own earnings if they participate in decisions alone or jointly with their wives about how their own earnings will be used.

**Sample:** Currently married men age 15-49 who received cash earnings for employment during the 12 months preceding the survey

Currently married women whose husbands had cash earnings and currently married men who had cash earnings were asked who usually makes decisions about the use of the husband's earnings. Women and men give slightly different answers: 6 percent each say that it is the wife who mainly decides, 71 percent women and 66 percent men say that the decision is made jointly, and 21 percent women and 28 percent men say that the husband mainly makes the decision. Decision making about the use of husband's earnings does not vary much by most background characteristics, although it is notable that joint decision making is more common among older couples than couples age 15-19 (**Table 14.4**).

**Trends:** Control over men's earnings, based on women's responses, has increased by 7 percentage points between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5. In NFHS-4, 64 percent of women whose husbands had earnings said that they made decisions jointly with their husband about the use of his earnings, compared with 71 percent in NFHS-5. Based on responses by men with earnings too, joint decision making about husband's earnings has increased by 1 percent from NFHS-4 (65% to 66%), but decision making by the wife alone has decreased to 6 percent in NFHS-5 from 8 percent in NFHS-4 (**Table 14.4**).

### 14.4 PARTICIPATION IN HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING

#### **Participation in common household decisions**

Women are considered to participate in household decisions if they make decisions alone or jointly with their husband in all three of the following areas: (1) woman's own health care, (2) major household purchases, and (3) visits to the woman's family or relatives.

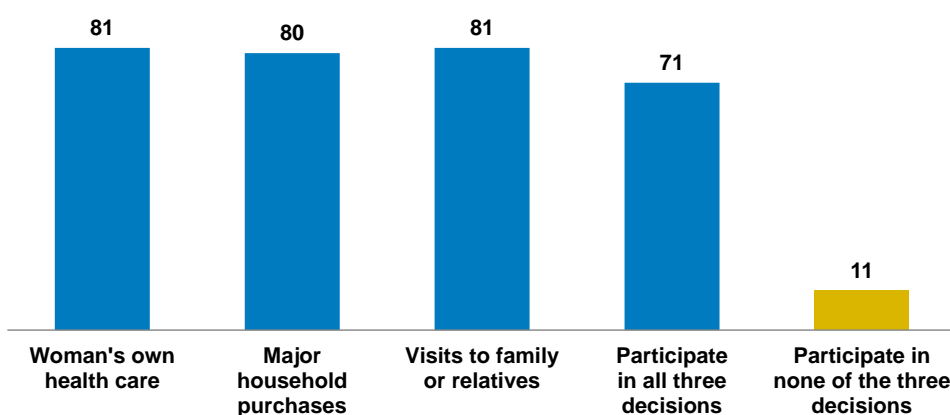
**Sample:** Currently married women age 15-49

Seventy-one percent of women participate in all three specified household decisions alone or jointly with their husband and 11 percent do not participate in any of the three. Overall, 80-81 percent of women participate in each of the three decisions alone or jointly with their husband (**Table 14.7.1**).

Currently married men were also asked about participation in decisions about their own health care and major household purchases. Overall, 84 percent of men participate in both decisions, while 4 percent participate in neither decision (**Table 14.7.2**). Ninety percent of men participate in decisions about their own health care and 91 percent participate in decisions about major household purchases. Notably, one-third of men make decisions about their own health care alone, compared with only 10 percent of women.

### Figure 14.3 Women's Participation in Decision Making

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49



**Trends:** Women's participation in decision making about major household purchases has increased since NFHS-4, from 73 percent in NFHS-4 to 80 percent in NFHS-5. A similar increase by 6 percentage points (from 75% to 81%) is also observed for women's participation in their own health care in the 4 years since NFHS-4, and for their participation in decisions about visits to family or relatives (from 75% to 81%).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women's involvement in all three decisions increases with age from 51 percent among women age 15-19 to 75 percent among women age 40-49 (Table 14.7.1).
- Women employed for cash are more likely to be involved in all three decisions (75%) than women who are not employed (70%) and women who are employed but not for cash (69%).
- Women's participation in decision making increases slightly with wealth (71% of women in the lowest wealth quintile participate in all three decisions, compared with 74% of women in the highest wealth quintile).
- Women's participation in all three decisions varies across states/UTs, ranging from 48 percent in Ladakh to a very high level of 95 percent in Nagaland (Table 14.8).

## 14.5 MEN'S ATTITUDES TOWARD WOMEN'S ROLES IN DECISION MAKING

### Men's egalitarian attitudes toward a wife's role in decision making

Men are asked who in a couple should have the greater say (the husband, the wife, or both) in each of the following decisions: making major household purchases; making purchases for daily household needs; visits to the wife's family or relatives; what to do with money the wife earns; and how many children to have. Men who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say as her husband are considered to have more egalitarian attitudes.

**Sample:** Men age 15-49

Overall, 57 percent of men say that a wife should have an equal or greater say in all of the five specified decisions, and only 5 percent say that she should not have an equal or greater say in any of the five decisions (Table 14.10). For all types of decisions, men are much more likely to say that the wife and husband should have an equal say than either one should have a greater say. For example, for decisions regarding how many children to have, men are most likely to say that both husband and wife should have an equal say (87%), and only 9 percent say that the husband should have more of a say. For decisions about major household purchases, men are more likely to say that the husband should have a greater say than the wife (29% versus 8%), and this is also true regarding decisions about visits to the wife's family or relatives (22% versus

10%). For decisions about purchases for daily household needs, men are somewhat more likely to say that the wife should have the greater say than to say that the husband should have the greater say (25% versus 20%). However, for decisions about what to do with the money the wife earns, an equal proportion (17%) of men say that the husband and the wife should have a greater say and two-thirds of men (66%) say that both should have an equal say.

**Trends:** The percentage of men who agree that a wife should have an equal or greater say in all the five specified decisions has slightly decreased in the 4 years since NFHS-4 from 59 percent to 57 percent in NFHS-5 (**Table 14.10**).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of men who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say in all five specified decisions increases with age from 55 percent among men age 20-24 to 57 percent among men age 30-49 (**Table 14.10**).
- Egalitarian attitudes regarding women's role in household decision making are more prevalent among men in urban areas than in rural areas, men with more years of schooling than less schooling, and men in higher wealth quintiles than in lower wealth quintiles (**Table 14.10**).
- The proportion of men who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say in all five decisions ranges from 30 percent in Karnataka to more than 80 percent in Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand (81-83%) (**Table 14.8**).

## 14.6 WOMEN'S ACCESS TO MONEY AND MICROCREDIT

Several different measures of women's access to and use of financial resources were included in NFHS-5. Over half (51%) of women in India say that they have some money that they alone can decide how to use. Nearly four-fifths (79%) of women have a bank or savings account that they themselves use. Fewer women, however, know about a microcredit programme (51%), and only 11 percent have ever taken a microcredit loan (**Table 14.11**).

**Trends:** The percentage of women who have some money of their own that they alone can use has increased from 42 percent in NFHS-4 to 51 percent in NFHS-5. However, the percentage of women who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use has substantially increased from 53 percent in NFHS-4 to 79 percent in NFHS-5. Knowledge of microcredit programmes has increased from 41 percent in NFHS-4 to 51 percent in NFHS-5, and use of microcredit programmes by women has slightly increased, from 8 percent to 11 percent.

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of women who have some money that they can decide how to use, and who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use are higher in urban areas than rural areas, and the proportion increases with age and wealth. However, the proportion of women having knowledge of microcredit programmes is the same in urban and rural areas (51%), and it is highest among women who are widowed/divorced/separated (58%) (**Table 14.11**).
- Women's use of microcredit programmes also increases with age, from 2 percent among women age 15-19 to 16 percent each among women age 30-39 and age 40-49, and is also higher in rural areas (12%) than urban areas (9%). However, use of microcredit programmes declines with schooling after peaking at 17 percent for women with less than five years of schooling. This proportion varies inconsistently with wealth; women in the second and middle wealth quintiles are more likely than women in other quintiles to have taken a microcredit loan. Widowed, divorced, separated, and deserted women are more likely (18%) than any other group of women to have taken a microcredit loan, followed by women with less than 5 years of schooling (17%).
- The proportion of women who have a bank or savings account that they use ranges from 64 percent in Nagaland to 93 percent in Puducherry (**Table 14.12**).



- The percentage of women who have taken a microcredit loan is highest in the South and the East. In Andhra Pradesh, 30 percent of women have ever taken a microcredit loan, followed by 25 percent in Odisha, 24 percent in Telangana, and 21 percent in Tripura.

## 14.7 FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

### Freedom of movement

Women are considered to have freedom of movement if they are usually allowed to go alone to all three of the following places: to the market, to the health facility, and to places outside the village or community.

**Sample:** Women age 15-49

Fifty-six percent of women are allowed to go alone to the market, 52 percent to the health facility, and 50 percent to places outside the village or community. Overall, only 42 percent of women in India are allowed to go alone to all three places and 5 percent are not allowed to go alone to any of the three places (**Table 14.13**).

**Trends:** Slightly more women age 15-49 have reported that they have freedom of movement in the 4 years since NFHS-4. In NFHS-4, only 41 percent of women they were allowed to go alone to the market, the health facility, and to places outside the village or community. This percentage has increased marginally to 42 percent in NFHS-5.

### Patterns by background characteristics

- The proportion of women who are allowed to go alone to all three places increases steadily with age, from 26 percent among women age 15-19 to 55 percent among women age 40-49 (**Table 14.13**).
- Women's freedom of movement increases with household wealth, but it does not vary consistently with education. The percentage of women who are allowed to go alone to all three places increases from 40 percent among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 50 percent in the highest wealth quintile (**Table 14.13**).
- The proportion of women who report freedom of movement varies greatly by state. In Himachal Pradesh, 82 percent of women are allowed to go alone to all three places, compared with only 2 percent in Lakshadweep, 15 percent in Kerala, and less than one-third in Goa, Odisha, Manipur, Nagaland, and Karnataka (**Table 14.12**).

## 14.8 ATTITUDES TOWARD WIFE BEATING

### Attitudes toward wife beating

Respondents are asked if they agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife under each of the following seven circumstances: she goes out without telling him, she neglects the house or the children, she argues with him, she refuses to have sex with him, she doesn't cook food properly, he suspects her of being unfaithful, and she shows disrespect for her in-laws. Respondents who answer "yes" in at least one circumstance are considered to have attitudes that justify wife beating.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

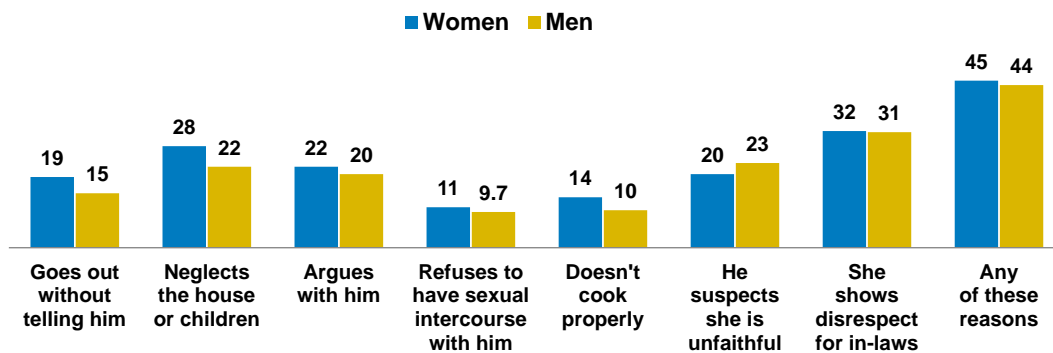
An important indicator of empowerment is the rejection of norms that underlie and reinforce gender inequality. One such gendered norm is husbands' "right" to control their wives in various ways, including through violence. Rejection of such norms signifies greater gender equality. Forty-five percent of women and 44 percent of men believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife in at least one of seven specified circumstances (**Table 14.14.1** and **Table 14.14.2**). Women and men are both most likely to agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she shows disrespect for

her in-laws (32% and 31%, respectively), and are both least likely to agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she refuses to have sex with him (11% and 10%, respectively) (**Figure 14.4**).

**Trends:** Attitudes toward wife beating have changed since NFHS-4. For women, agreement with any of the seven reasons justifying wife beating has declined by 7 percentage points from 52 percent in NFHS-4; but for men, it has increased by 2 percentage points, from 42 percent in NFHS-4.

### Figure 14.4 Attitudes toward Wife Beating

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in beating his wife for specific reasons



#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Agreement with wife beating tends to increase with age for women but it decreases slightly with age for men (**Table 14.14.1** and **Table 14.14.2**).
- For both women and men, agreement with wife beating is lower in urban than rural areas and it tends to decrease with schooling and wealth. For example, agreement declines from 53 percent among women and 51 percent among men with less than 5 years of schooling to 38 percent among women, and 39 percent among men with 12 or more years of schooling.
- Agreement with wife beating is lower among Jains (24%) than among any other subgroup of men.
- There is large variation across states in women's and men's agreement with wife beating. For women agreement with at least one reason for wife beating ranges from a low 9 percent in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, and 14 percent each in Chandigarh and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and 15 percent in Himachal Pradesh to a very high level of 78 percent in Tamil Nadu and 84 percent each in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The corresponding range for men is from 9 percent in Chandigarh to 82 percent in Karnataka (**Table 14.15**).

## 14.9 ATTITUDES TOWARD NEGOTIATING SAFER SEXUAL RELATIONS WITH HUSBAND

### Attitudes toward negotiating safer sexual relations with husband

Respondents are asked if they think a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she knows he has a sexually transmitted disease, she knows he has sex with other women, and she is tired or not in the mood. Respondents who answer "yes" to one or more of these circumstance are considered to have more gender egalitarian attitudes.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

The majority of women (80%) and men (66%) in India believe that a woman is justified in refusing sex to her husband for all of the three specified reasons. Eight percent of women and 10 percent of men do not agree that a wife can refuse sex for any of the three reasons. At least four of 5 women and men agree with each of the reasons (**Table 14.16.1** and **Table 14.16.2**).

**Trends:** Adult women and men who agree that women can refuse sex to their husband for all three specified reasons has increased since NFHS-4 by 12 percentage points for women and men, from its level in NFHS-4 (68% women and 63% men).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- There is a not much variation in women's and men's agreement with women's right to refuse sex to their husbands for all three specified reasons by most background characteristics, except religion (**Table 14.16.1** and **Table 14.16.2**).
- Agreement with all three reasons is highest among Jain, Sikh, and Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist women and men. Ninety-three percent of Jain women and 83 percent of Jain men agree with all three reasons for a wife to refuse sex to her husband.
- Agreement with all three reasons varies greatly across states. Women are most likely to agree with all three reasons in Delhi (94%), Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Goa (90% each) and least likely to agree with all three reasons in Jammu & Kashmir (60%) and Ladakh (59%). Men are most likely to agree with all three reasons in Goa (93%) and Lakshadweep (90%) and least likely to agree with all three reasons in Ladakh (43%) and Meghalaya (39%) (**Table 14.17**).

Men were asked some additional questions to assess gender egalitarian attitudes. In particular, men were asked, if a woman refuses to have sex with her husband when he wants her to, does he have the right to display each of the following four behaviours: get angry and reprimand her; refuse to give her money or other means of financial support; use force and have sex with her even if she doesn't want to; and go and have sex with another woman.

In India, only 6 percent of men age 15-49 agree that men have the right to display all four of these behaviours if a wife refuses him sex, and 72 percent do not agree with any of the four behaviours. However, 19 percent of men do agree that a husband has the right to get angry and reprimand a woman if she refuses to have sex with her husband (**Table 14.18**). In almost all states, the percentage of men who agree with none of the four behaviours is well above 70 percent, and the percentage of men who agree with none of the four behaviours is less than 50 percent only in Punjab (21%), Chandigarh (28%), Karnataka (45%), and Ladakh (46%) (**Table 14.19**). The percentage of men who agree with none of the four behaviours has decreased by 5 percentage points since NFHS-4 when it was 77 percent.

More than four in five women (82%) can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse (**Table 14.20**). Women are most likely to be able to say no in Goa (92%) and least likely to be able to say no in Arunachal Pradesh (63%) and Jammu & Kashmir (65%) (**Table 14.21**).

## 14.10 WOMEN'S AND MEN'S OWNERSHIP OF ASSETS

### Ownership of a house or land

Respondents who own a house or land, whether alone or jointly with someone else.

**Sample:** Women and men age 15-49

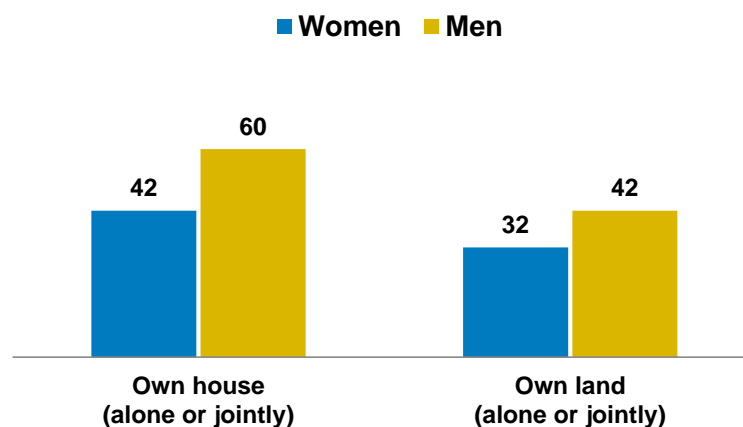
NFHS-5 indicates that in India, more men than women age 15-49 own property. Forty-two percent of women and 60 percent of men own a house, and 32 percent of women and 42 percent of men own land either alone or jointly with someone else (**Table 14.22** and **Figure 14.5**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Ownership of property increases sharply with age for both women and men. However, the increase is much greater for men than for women. For example, for men, ownership of a house doubles from 40 percent among men age 15-19 to 80 percent among men age 40-49; whereas the corresponding increase for women is from 30 percent to 52 percent.
- Ownership of a house and land varies with residence. Rural women and men are more likely than urban women and men to own a house and to own land.
- Property ownership declines with schooling and wealth for both women and men. Ownership of a house declines from 45 percent for women in the lowest wealth quintile to 40 percent for women in the highest wealth quintile; for men the corresponding decline is from 64 percent to 54 percent.
- House ownership among women is higher in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, where more than 2 out of 3 women own a house alone or jointly with some else (72% and 69%, respectively), and land ownership is also most common in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, where more than 3 in 5 women own land alone or jointly (64% and 63%, respectively). In the South, women's ownership of property is most common in Karnataka and Telangana (Table 14.23).

**Figure 14.5 Ownership of Assets**

*Percentage of women and men age 15-49*



### 14.11 OWNERSHIP AND USE OF A MOBILE PHONE

Women age 15-49 were asked if they had a mobile phone that they themselves use. In addition, women who said they had a mobile phone were asked if they can read text messages. More than half (54%) of women have a mobile phone that they themselves use, and among women who have a mobile phone, 71 percent say that they can read text messages (Table 14.22).

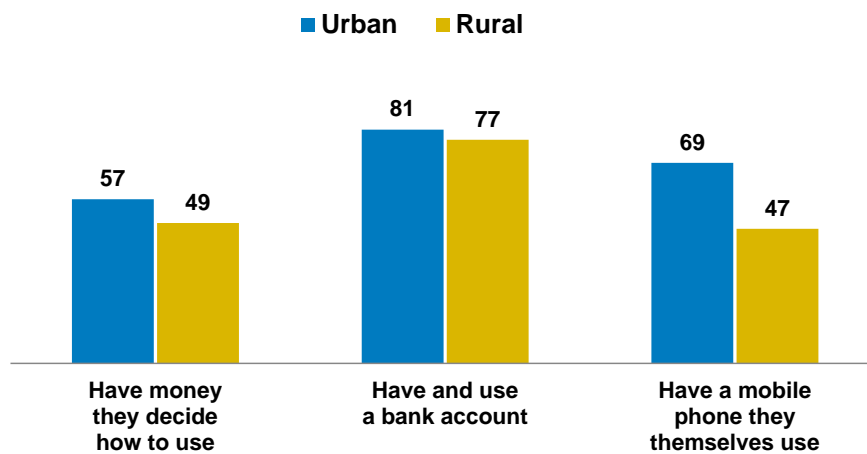
### Patterns by background characteristics

- Ownership of a mobile phone that women themselves use increases with age, from 32 percent among women age 15-19 to 65 percent among women age 25-29 and then decreases among older women. Among women with a mobile phone, the ability to read text messages, however, declines with age from 89 percent among women age 15-19 to 53 percent among women age 40-49.
- Rural women and women with no schooling are less likely than most other women to have a mobile phone that they themselves use and to be able to read text messages if they have a mobile phone. Urban women (69%) are more likely than rural women (47%) to own a mobile phone that they themselves use (Figure 14.6).

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### Figure 14.6 Ownership of Financial Assets and Mobile Phone

Percentage of women age 15-49



- Mobile phone ownership and the ability to read text messages both increase sharply with wealth. Only 33 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile have a mobile phone that they themselves use, compared with 79 percent of women in the highest wealth quintile.
- Ownership of a mobile phone that women themselves use varies from 39 percent in Madhya Pradesh and 41 percent in Chhattisgarh to 91 percent in Goa, followed by 89 percent in Sikkim and 87 percent in Kerala. At least three-fifths of the women who have a mobile phone they themselves use are able to read text messages in every state except Bihar (Table 14.23).

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**Table 14.1 Employment and cash earnings of women and men**

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 who were employed at any time in the 12 months preceding the survey and the percent distribution of currently married women and men employed in the 12 months preceding the survey by type of earnings, according to age, India, 2019-21

Age	Percentage employed in the past 12 months	Number of respondents	Percent distribution of respondents employed in past 12 months by type of earnings				Total	Number of respondents employed in the past 12 months
			Cash only	Cash and in-kind	In-kind only	Not paid		
<b>WOMEN</b>								
15-19	13.9	2,298	69.6	7.5	1.0	21.9	100.0	320
20-24	17.8	10,762	69.6	9.3	2.5	18.7	100.0	1,913
25-29	25.7	15,184	74.4	7.7	2.9	15.0	100.0	3,902
30-34	35.0	14,250	78.5	6.6	1.9	13.0	100.0	4,983
35-39	39.3	13,486	75.8	7.7	2.5	13.9	100.0	5,294
40-44	40.0	10,838	74.8	8.2	2.3	14.8	100.0	4,338
45-49	37.3	10,911	72.3	8.6	2.5	16.7	100.0	4,074
Total age 15-49	31.9	77,729	74.8	7.8	2.4	15.0	100.0	24,824
<b>MEN</b>								
15-19	87.0	273	80.2	15.4	0.8	3.6	100.0	237
20-24	94.4	2,954	87.9	7.6	0.9	3.5	100.0	2,789
25-29	97.5	8,156	87.2	8.4	1.2	3.2	100.0	7,953
30-34	97.9	10,948	88.1	7.8	1.1	3.0	100.0	10,716
35-39	98.2	12,163	86.8	8.6	1.1	3.4	100.0	11,948
40-44	97.3	10,328	84.5	10.0	1.3	4.1	100.0	10,045
45-49	97.5	10,654	83.4	9.9	1.6	5.0	100.0	10,390
Total age 15-49	97.5	55,475	86.1	8.9	1.3	3.8	100.0	54,079
Age 50-54	96.2	8,264	82.4	11.2	2.1	4.3	100.0	7,950
Total age 15-54	97.3	63,739	85.6	9.2	1.4	3.8	100.0	62,029

Table 14.2 Employment and cash earnings by state/union territory

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 who were employed in the 12 months preceding the survey and among those employed in the 12 months preceding the survey, percentage who were earning cash, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Currently married women		Currently married men	
	Percentage employed in the past 12 months	Among those employed in the past 12 months, percentage earning cash	Percentage employed in the past 12 months	Among those employed in the past 12 months, percentage earning cash
<b>India</b>	31.9	82.6	97.5	95.0
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	23.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
Delhi	22.2	98.1	98.5	99.4
Haryana	22.0	81.9	95.5	96.4
Himachal Pradesh	30.1	72.9	93.7	96.7
Jammu & Kashmir	30.3	60.8	97.0	98.3
Ladakh	47.7	69.0	95.8	97.1
Punjab	24.9	89.7	98.9	99.1
Rajasthan	30.4	60.1	96.6	92.1
Uttarakhand	25.7	77.8	96.3	97.7
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	54.3	82.0	97.3	89.7
Madhya Pradesh	37.6	75.6	97.6	92.9
Uttar Pradesh	20.6	75.4	95.7	92.5
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	19.2	70.7	96.1	93.4
Jharkhand	26.2	70.2	96.6	89.9
Odisha	27.3	87.9	98.1	96.8
West Bengal	20.9	92.3	98.5	98.9
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	43.1	62.6	91.3	83.6
Assam	21.8	88.5	98.7	95.6
Manipur	53.6	84.7	99.0	93.9
Meghalaya	54.7	86.0	97.8	96.9
Mizoram	34.0	80.7	96.3	91.8
Nagaland	41.2	50.5	95.1	75.1
Sikkim	35.6	89.1	94.9	93.5
Tripura	32.5	74.5	94.0	98.0
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	32.6	97.0	98.1	97.1
Goa	30.4	93.1	97.8	100.0
Gujarat	38.2	78.6	98.0	92.5
Maharashtra	43.9	83.4	98.7	96.5
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	22.5	96.6	93.5	100.0
Andhra Pradesh	49.8	87.7	98.8	90.5
Karnataka	45.8	89.4	95.3	94.4
Kerala	29.0	98.6	97.4	99.1
Lakshadweep	13.0	100.0	97.5	100.0
Puducherry	40.5	97.5	98.0	99.9
Tamil Nadu	46.0	94.8	99.0	98.3
Telangana	53.3	92.8	97.0	94.2



**Table 14.3.1 Control over women's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's cash earnings: Women's reports**

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 who received cash earnings for employment in the 12 months preceding the survey by person who decides how their cash earnings are used and by whether women earned more or less than their husbands, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person who decides how the women's cash earnings are used:				Women's cash earnings compared with their husband's cash earnings:				Total	Number of women		
	Mainly wife	Wife and husband	Mainly husband	Other	Total	More	Less	About the same			Husband has no earnings	Don't know/missing
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	13.6	57.6	27.3	1.5	100.0	25.4	51.9	12.7	8.5	1.5	100.0	247
20-24	13.0	68.1	17.0	1.9	100.0	22.4	51.6	16.1	7.8	2.1	100.0	1,509
25-29	15.7	68.2	14.8	1.3	100.0	19.4	55.7	17.6	6.2	1.0	100.0	3,202
30-39	19.1	66.8	13.8	0.3	100.0	20.2	54.6	19.4	4.8	1.2	100.0	8,664
40-49	19.2	66.7	13.8	0.2	100.0	21.5	51.6	20.4	5.3	1.2	100.0	6,893
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	23.9	65.2	10.6	0.4	100.0	21.7	51.7	20.5	5.2	0.8	100.0	6,050
Rural	15.7	67.8	15.9	0.7	100.0	20.3	54.3	18.5	5.6	1.4	100.0	14,464
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	16.0	66.9	16.5	0.5	100.0	19.3	53.8	19.7	5.9	1.3	100.0	6,838
<5 years complete	18.7	67.6	13.4	0.2	100.0	17.6	55.8	20.7	4.6	1.4	100.0	1,667
5-7 years complete	16.1	68.2	15.1	0.6	100.0	19.4	56.7	18.2	4.7	1.0	100.0	3,165
8-9 years complete	19.1	65.8	14.3	0.9	100.0	22.5	54.2	16.1	5.9	1.3	100.0	2,796
10-11 years complete	19.0	65.9	14.6	0.5	100.0	23.4	55.0	15.2	5.3	1.1	100.0	2,236
12 or more years complete	21.9	67.4	10.0	0.6	100.0	22.8	48.0	22.7	5.3	1.3	100.0	3,812
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>												
Nuclear	17.9	68.5	13.4	0.2	100.0	20.9	54.3	18.5	5.1	1.1	100.0	11,339
Non-nuclear	18.3	65.2	15.5	1.1	100.0	20.4	52.6	19.9	5.8	1.3	100.0	9,176
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	18.1	67.1	14.2	0.6	100.0	21.0	53.4	19.0	5.4	1.1	100.0	17,771
Muslim	19.4	61.4	18.5	0.7	100.0	19.5	53.2	17.9	7.4	2.1	100.0	1,490
Christian	18.2	69.3	12.0	0.6	100.0	17.0	57.2	20.1	3.3	2.4	100.0	666
Sikh	12.2	78.5	8.4	0.9	100.0	15.4	53.8	26.1	3.6	1.1	100.0	269
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	21.4	67.2	11.4	0.0	100.0	22.8	53.9	21.5	1.5	0.3	100.0	170
Other	9.5	81.8	8.5	0.3	100.0	18.7	48.0	30.0	2.1	1.1	100.0	112

Continued...

Table 14.3.1 Control over women's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's cash earnings: Women's reports—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 who received cash earnings for employment in the 12 months preceding the survey by person who decides how their cash earnings are used and by whether women earned more or less than their husbands, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person who decides how the women's cash earnings are used:				Women's cash earnings compared with their husband's cash earnings:					Total	Number of women	
	Mainly wife	Wife and husband	Mainly husband	Other	Total	More	Less	About the same	Husband has no earnings			Don't know/missing
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	17.6	67.6	14.3	0.5	100.0	21.7	54.2	17.4	5.8	0.9	100.0	5,146
Scheduled tribe	14.3	69.6	15.7	0.4	100.0	20.0	53.2	20.6	5.0	1.2	100.0	2,761
Other backward class	17.3	67.1	14.9	0.7	100.0	21.4	53.2	19.2	5.3	1.0	100.0	8,808
Other	23.5	64.2	11.8	0.5	100.0	18.5	53.2	20.5	5.8	2.1	100.0	3,687
Don't know	15.5	61.9	22.6	0.0	100.0	15.0	62.6	12.5	4.7	5.1	100.0	112
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	15.6	69.5	14.4	0.5	100.0	20.1	52.1	19.9	6.3	1.6	100.0	4,086
Second	16.8	67.2	15.3	0.7	100.0	19.2	54.3	19.7	5.7	1.2	100.0	4,574
Middle	17.7	66.6	15.1	0.6	100.0	21.6	55.9	16.7	5.0	0.9	100.0	4,721
Fourth	18.1	66.8	14.8	0.4	100.0	22.5	53.6	17.4	5.4	1.0	100.0	3,960
Highest	23.7	64.5	11.1	0.7	100.0	20.2	50.6	23.0	4.8	1.4	100.0	3,173
Total	18.1	67.0	14.3	0.6	100.0	20.7	53.5	19.1	5.4	1.2	100.0	20,514

Note: Total includes Jain women, who are not shown separately.

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.3.2 Control over women's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's cash earnings: Men's reports**

Percent distribution of currently married men age 15-49 whose wives are employed and receive cash earnings by the person who decides how the wife's cash earnings are used and by whether the wife earns more or less than them, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person who decides how the women's cash earnings are used:				Wife's cash earnings compared with their husband's cash earnings:					Number of men			
	Mainly wife		Mainly husband		Total	Missing	More	Less	About the same		Total		
	wife	husband	husband	Other					no earnings			missing	
<b>Age</b>													
20-24	25.2	53.4	20.8	0.6	0.0	100.0	34.4	43.3	15.2	5.3	1.8	100.0	172
25-29	22.8	60.3	15.6	1.2	0.0	100.0	23.1	49.5	19.5	7.2	0.7	100.0	817
30-39	21.2	63.5	15.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	25.6	48.8	19.2	5.0	1.5	100.0	3,527
40-49	22.8	62.2	14.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	25.2	48.5	18.4	6.6	1.4	100.0	4,057
<b>Residence</b>													
Urban	26.3	60.6	12.8	0.4	0.0	100.0	22.2	53.9	19.3	3.4	1.3	100.0	3,006
Rural	20.0	63.3	16.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	26.9	45.8	18.5	7.4	1.4	100.0	5,590
<b>Schooling</b>													
No schooling	19.8	62.9	17.1	0.1	0.0	100.0	26.5	49.5	18.3	5.2	0.5	100.0	1,478
<5 years complete	24.8	58.5	16.6	0.1	0.0	100.0	31.9	45.5	15.0	6.5	1.1	100.0	895
5-7 years complete	23.0	60.6	15.7	0.7	0.0	100.0	26.9	46.8	19.2	5.5	1.6	100.0	1,422
8-9 years complete	24.5	60.2	14.9	0.4	0.0	100.0	26.2	43.7	21.2	7.4	1.5	100.0	1,472
10-11 years complete	17.5	66.3	16.1	0.1	0.0	100.0	24.7	50.6	15.5	7.0	2.2	100.0	1,221
12 or more years complete	23.1	64.1	12.7	0.1	0.0	100.0	20.2	52.7	20.5	5.2	1.3	100.0	2,107
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>													
Nuclear	20.2	63.8	16.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	25.1	49.6	18.0	5.5	1.8	100.0	4,689
Non-nuclear	24.5	60.6	14.3	0.5	0.0	100.0	25.5	47.4	19.6	6.6	0.8	100.0	3,906
<b>Religion</b>													
Hindu	21.9	62.4	15.4	0.2	0.0	100.0	25.6	48.0	19.1	6.1	1.3	100.0	7,432
Muslim	20.6	58.7	20.4	0.3	0.0	100.0	23.3	55.7	14.7	5.0	1.3	100.0	501
Christian	22.2	66.1	11.6	0.1	0.0	100.0	22.1	47.9	21.1	7.5	1.4	100.0	338
Sikh	15.9	76.4	7.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	36.7	38.4	20.4	2.5	2.0	100.0	58
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	34.2	57.9	6.7	1.2	0.0	100.0	30.8	46.4	8.1	7.7	7.1	100.0	161
Other	38.3	56.9	4.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	8.2	82.0	7.7	2.1	0.0	100.0	86

Continued...

Table 14.3.2 Control over women's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's cash earnings: Men's reports—Continued

Percent distribution of currently married men age 15-49 whose wives are employed and receive cash earnings by the person who decides how the wife's cash earnings are used and by whether the wife earns more or less than them, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Person who decides how the women's cash earnings are used:					Wife's cash earnings compared with their husband's cash earnings:					Total	Number of men			
	Mainly wife	Wife and husband	Mainly husband	Other	Missing	Total	More	Less	About the same	Husband has no earnings			Don't know/missing		
<b>Caste/tribe</b>															
Scheduled caste	23.9	63.4	12.5	0.3	0.0	100.0	28.6	46.5	19.1	4.4	1.4	100.0	1,923		
Scheduled tribe	21.3	65.0	13.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	25.7	44.6	20.1	8.4	1.1	100.0	1,340		
Other backward class	20.1	61.9	17.6	0.5	0.0	100.0	26.0	49.3	16.9	6.1	1.8	100.0	3,416		
Other	25.0	60.3	14.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	19.7	52.3	21.1	6.0	0.8	100.0	1,878		
Don't know	(12.3)	(68.5)	(19.2)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	(51.5)	(46.7)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.4)	100.0	38		
<b>Wealth quintile</b>															
Lowest	21.2	64.5	14.2	0.1	0.0	100.0	30.9	42.8	18.3	7.0	1.0	100.0	1,522		
Second	22.1	62.1	15.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	25.5	47.2	19.7	5.7	1.8	100.0	1,813		
Middle	20.1	61.3	18.0	0.6	0.0	100.0	25.4	50.3	15.9	7.3	1.1	100.0	1,881		
Fourth	22.0	61.0	16.7	0.3	0.0	100.0	23.8	50.0	19.8	5.4	1.0	100.0	1,755		
Highest	25.6	63.4	11.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	21.1	52.1	20.3	4.6	1.9	100.0	1,623		
Total age 15-49	22.2	62.4	15.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	25.3	48.6	18.8	6.0	1.4	100.0	8,595		
Age 50-54	19.9	66.8	13.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	24.6	46.4	20.6	7.9	0.6	100.0	1,407		
Total age 15-54	21.8	63.0	14.9	0.2	0.0	100.0	25.2	48.3	19.0	6.3	1.3	100.0	10,002		

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. Total includes men age 15-19 and Jain men, who are not shown separately.

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals.

Table 14.4 Control over men's cash earnings

Percent distributions of currently married women age 15-49 whose husbands receive cash earnings and currently married men age 15-49 who receive cash earnings, by person who decides how men's cash earnings are used, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women					Men						
	Mainly wife	Wife and husband	Mainly husband	Other	Total	Number of women	Mainly wife	Wife and husband	Mainly husband	Other	Total	Number of men
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	3.2	58.7	28.9	9.2	100.0	2,196	4.5	58.3	35.5	1.7	100.0	227
20-24	4.6	67.7	24.2	3.5	100.0	10,368	4.8	65.3	28.2	1.8	100.0	2,666
25-29	4.6	70.8	22.4	2.1	100.0	14,810	5.9	66.3	27.1	0.7	100.0	7,607
30-39	6.9	72.1	20.2	0.8	100.0	27,177	6.0	65.3	28.3	0.3	100.0	21,678
40-49	8.0	71.6	20.2	0.3	100.0	21,283	7.1	65.5	27.2	0.2	100.0	19,192
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	7.2	71.6	19.7	1.5	100.0	23,590	6.9	65.7	27.0	0.3	100.0	17,754
Rural	6.0	70.3	22.2	1.5	100.0	52,244	6.0	65.4	28.1	0.5	100.0	33,615
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	7.0	69.3	23.0	0.7	100.0	20,934	7.9	61.6	30.0	0.4	100.0	7,524
<5 years complete	7.1	70.6	21.1	1.2	100.0	4,758	7.0	64.6	27.8	0.5	100.0	4,525
5-7 years complete	6.4	70.3	22.1	1.3	100.0	11,577	6.8	65.7	27.3	0.3	100.0	8,273
8-9 years complete	6.1	69.6	21.9	2.4	100.0	12,339	6.3	65.4	27.8	0.6	100.0	9,540
10-11 years complete	6.2	70.5	21.5	1.8	100.0	9,520	6.0	65.1	28.5	0.5	100.0	8,121
12 or more years complete	5.6	73.7	18.8	2.0	100.0	16,706	5.2	68.2	26.3	0.4	100.0	13,386
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>												
Nuclear	7.1	72.3	20.4	0.2	100.0	36,313	7.0	66.8	26.1	0.0	100.0	24,154
Non-nuclear	5.7	69.2	22.4	2.7	100.0	39,521	5.7	64.3	29.2	0.8	100.0	27,215
<b>Religion</b>												
Hindu	6.5	71.3	20.6	1.6	100.0	61,478	6.5	65.8	27.3	0.4	100.0	40,525
Muslim	5.3	65.6	27.7	1.4	100.0	10,510	5.4	62.6	31.7	0.3	100.0	8,228
Christian	7.2	73.5	18.8	0.5	100.0	1,650	6.6	69.9	23.5	0.1	100.0	1,269
Sikh	4.4	79.3	15.0	1.3	100.0	1,305	3.2	81.2	14.7	0.9	100.0	472
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	6.7	64.8	26.8	1.7	100.0	453	13.5	64.4	21.7	0.3	100.0	568
Jain	3.5	77.8	17.6	1.1	100.0	144	0.3	78.5	21.2	0.0	100.0	151
Other	5.5	79.7	14.4	0.5	100.0	293	6.0	61.3	32.5	0.2	100.0	156

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Table 14.4 Control over men's cash earnings—Continued

Percent distributions of currently married women age 15-49 whose husbands receive cash earnings and currently married men age 15-49 who receive cash earnings, by person who decides how men's cash earnings are used, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women				Men				Total	Number of men		
	Mainly wife	Wife and husband	Mainly husband	Other	Total	Number of women	Mainly wife	Wife and husband			Mainly husband	Other
<b>Caste/tribe</b>												
Scheduled caste	7.1	70.2	21.0	1.6	100.0	16,180	6.8	66.4	26.3	0.4	100.0	11,046
Scheduled tribe	5.8	72.3	20.9	1.1	100.0	6,915	6.8	66.6	26.2	0.4	100.0	4,751
Other backward class	6.3	70.4	21.7	1.6	100.0	33,198	6.3	65.0	28.3	0.4	100.0	20,932
Other	6.0	71.1	21.5	1.4	100.0	19,006	5.8	65.0	28.7	0.4	100.0	14,354
Don't know	5.7	70.2	20.6	3.6	100.0	535	6.2	73.3	20.2	0.4	100.0	286
<b>Wealth quintile</b>												
Lowest	6.2	70.6	22.1	1.1	100.0	14,166	6.6	65.7	27.2	0.5	100.0	9,142
Second	6.2	70.1	22.4	1.3	100.0	15,390	6.0	64.1	29.4	0.4	100.0	10,244
Middle	7.1	69.3	22.0	1.7	100.0	15,582	6.6	64.8	28.3	0.3	100.0	10,838
Fourth	6.4	69.9	22.1	1.7	100.0	15,494	6.7	65.5	27.3	0.4	100.0	11,268
Highest	5.8	73.7	18.6	1.9	100.0	15,202	5.7	67.5	26.4	0.5	100.0	9,878
Total age 15-49	6.3	70.7	21.4	1.5	100.0	75,834	6.3	65.5	27.8	0.4	100.0	51,369
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	8.1	64.6	27.2	0.1	100.0	7,437
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	6.5	65.4	27.7	0.4	100.0	58,806

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.5 Control over women's and men's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's cash earnings by state/union territory**

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 by person who decides how women's and men's cash earnings are used and by the relative magnitude of women's cash earnings, compared with their husband's cash earnings, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of currently married women who report that they:			Percentage of currently married men who report that:		
	Alone or jointly with their husband decide how their own earnings are used <sup>1</sup>	Alone or jointly with their husband decide how their husband's earnings are used <sup>2</sup>	Earn more or about the same as their husband <sup>3</sup>	They alone or jointly with their wife decide how their wife's earnings are used <sup>4</sup>	Their wife alone or jointly with them decides how their own earnings are used <sup>5</sup>	Their wife earns more or about the same as them <sup>6</sup>
<b>India</b>	85.1	75.4	39.9	77.6	71.8	46.8
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	85.1	92.5	52.7	90.4	94.1	67.0
Delhi	95.3	79.8	33.3	72.3	72.2	40.9
Haryana	87.8	76.3	42.5	77.1	83.6	46.8
Himachal Pradesh	93.3	77.0	19.3	57.1	76.9	41.5
Jammu & Kashmir	70.5	67.9	38.6	82.6	66.0	24.7
Ladakh	68.2	68.8	44.9	91.9	75.0	21.1
Punjab	91.1	84.5	39.7	84.0	84.9	50.5
Rajasthan	80.1	70.6	37.8	81.0	69.0	45.5
Uttarakhand	92.7	78.8	31.5	83.2	87.4	50.4
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	88.9	83.3	47.6	84.1	79.8	55.1
Madhya Pradesh	85.0	74.3	43.0	86.5	76.5	56.9
Uttar Pradesh	85.6	75.2	40.9	76.5	76.6	58.5
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	91.3	79.5	45.6	72.1	75.7	54.3
Jharkhand	88.1	82.7	40.0	79.2	85.1	53.0
Odisha	91.6	81.0	33.6	77.8	72.2	48.5
West Bengal	89.1	72.2	39.2	64.3	66.6	17.2
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	83.1	73.4	47.0	67.8	82.7	39.3
Assam	87.5	77.7	39.6	78.5	77.6	46.0
Manipur	84.4	80.6	44.8	93.1	80.6	32.2
Meghalaya	89.3	80.6	32.4	67.2	77.7	26.8
Mizoram	95.4	89.6	25.7	90.2	73.4	37.0
Nagaland	97.4	93.9	42.8	95.5	87.0	36.4
Sikkim	90.5	77.7	26.4	72.8	82.3	31.9
Tripura	91.5	76.4	44.3	85.6	56.6	49.7
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	76.7	82.2	59.9	58.8	83.3	52.8
Goa	99.0	79.8	41.6	41.9	53.8	21.9
Gujarat	90.5	81.2	53.2	83.9	73.1	56.5
Maharashtra	85.1	74.1	40.0	71.0	73.1	50.0

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**Table 14.5 Control over women's and men's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's cash earnings by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of currently married women and men age 15-49 by person who decides how women's and men's cash earnings are used and by the relative magnitude of women's cash earnings, compared with their husband's cash earnings, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of currently married women who report that they:			Percentage of currently married men who report that:		
	Alone or jointly with their husband decide how their own earnings are used <sup>1</sup>	Alone or jointly with their husband decide how their husband's earnings are used <sup>2</sup>	Earn more or about the same as their husband <sup>3</sup>	They alone or jointly with their wife decide how their wife's earnings are used <sup>4</sup>	Their wife alone or jointly with them decides how their own earnings are used <sup>5</sup>	Their wife earns more or about the same as them <sup>6</sup>
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	100.0	82.4	31.5	61.6	63.3	23.5
Andhra Pradesh	78.5	70.9	37.8	90.7	79.1	53.9
Karnataka	73.9	68.2	36.6	84.6	52.8	33.2
Kerala	91.0	68.6	32.9	74.5	68.6	35.9
Lakshadweep	100.0	80.0	33.5	65.9	37.0	31.5
Puducherry	93.9	82.6	40.4	89.9	80.4	38.5
Tamil Nadu	87.1	78.3	35.8	76.6	83.2	56.2
Telangana	75.2	68.7	38.5	86.8	66.5	43.6

<sup>1</sup> Women who are employed for cash

<sup>2</sup> Women whose husbands earn cash

<sup>3</sup> Women who earn cash and whose husbands earn cash

<sup>4</sup> Men whose wives are employed for cash

<sup>5</sup> Men who earn cash

<sup>6</sup> Men who earn cash and whose wives earn cash



**Table 14.6 Participation in decision making**

Percent distribution of currently married women and men age 15-49 by who usually makes decisions about specific issues, by residence, India, 2019-21

Decision	Mainly respondent	Respondent and spouse jointly	Mainly spouse	Someone else	Other	Missing	Total
<b>URBAN WOMEN</b>							
Own health care	11.1	72.1	15.0	1.1	0.6	0.0	100.0
Major household purchases	8.6	73.9	14.0	2.6	0.9	0.0	100.0
Visits to her family or relatives	9.9	73.9	13.8	1.7	0.6	0.0	100.0
<b>RURAL WOMEN</b>							
Own health care	9.7	70.4	17.9	1.3	0.6	0.0	100.0
Major household purchases	6.9	71.3	17.7	3.0	1.1	0.0	100.0
Visits to her family or relatives	7.4	72.4	17.2	2.2	0.8	0.0	100.0
<b>TOTAL WOMEN</b>							
Own health care	10.1	70.9	17.0	1.3	0.6	0.0	100.0
Major household purchases	7.4	72.1	16.6	2.9	1.0	0.0	100.0
Visits to her family or relatives	8.2	72.9	16.1	2.0	0.7	0.0	100.0
<b>URBAN MEN</b>							
Own health care	34.1	55.9	9.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Major household purchases	22.2	67.6	8.8	0.0	0.0	1.4	100.0
<b>RURAL MEN</b>							
Own health care	33.0	56.3	9.6	0.9	0.1	0.0	100.0
Major household purchases	25.3	66.5	6.6	0.0	0.0	1.6	100.0
<b>TOTAL MEN</b>							
Own health care	33.3	56.2	9.4	0.9	0.1	0.0	100.0
Major household purchases	24.2	66.9	7.3	0.0	0.0	1.5	100.0

Table 14.7.1 Women's participation in decision making by background characteristics

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who usually make specific decisions either by themselves or jointly with their husband, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who usually make specific decisions alone or jointly with their husband			Percentage who participate in all three decisions	Percentage who participate in none of the three decisions	Number of women
	Own health care	Making major household purchases	Visits to her family or relatives			
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	67.1	62.4	65.9	51.0	22.4	2,298
20-24	76.0	72.3	73.8	63.3	16.4	10,762
25-29	79.4	76.9	79.2	68.7	13.0	15,184
30-39	83.1	82.0	83.4	73.7	9.4	27,735
40-49	83.7	83.5	84.6	75.2	8.8	21,749
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	83.2	82.5	83.8	73.9	9.0	24,074
Rural	80.1	78.2	79.8	69.7	12.3	53,655
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	80.1	78.6	79.5	70.1	12.5	21,503
<5 years complete	81.7	80.0	82.2	71.9	10.8	4,874
5-7 years complete	80.9	79.2	80.6	71.0	11.7	11,851
8-9 years complete	80.2	78.7	80.3	69.7	11.6	12,671
10-11 years complete	80.0	78.7	80.1	69.4	11.7	9,720
12 or more years complete	83.5	81.8	84.1	73.8	9.1	17,109
<b>Employment (past 12 months)</b>						
Employed	83.8	82.9	83.9	74.1	8.6	20,646
Employed, for cash	84.3	84.0	84.5	75.0	8.0	17,323
Employed, not for cash	81.2	77.1	80.7	69.4	11.6	3,323
Not employed	80.1	78.3	80.0	69.9	12.3	57,083
<b>Number of living children</b>						
0	75.3	71.1	75.3	61.9	15.7	7,337
1-2	81.3	80.0	81.5	71.4	11.0	44,580
3-4	82.1	81.0	81.9	72.7	10.7	21,496
5 or more	83.6	81.6	82.6	74.7	10.3	4,316
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>						
Nuclear	82.9	83.1	83.6	74.2	9.3	37,047
Non-nuclear	79.4	76.2	78.7	68.1	13.1	40,682
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	81.3	79.8	81.4	71.3	11.0	63,121
Muslim	78.4	76.5	77.4	67.6	13.8	10,697
Christian	84.5	84.6	86.5	76.8	8.0	1,678
Sikh	87.7	83.8	85.9	79.1	8.5	1,321
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	78.3	68.5	75.8	59.8	14.2	462
Jain	86.1	85.8	93.6	77.7	4.0	153
Other	86.8	84.2	84.7	79.3	8.9	297

Continued...

**Table 14.7.1 Women's participation in decision making by background characteristics—Continued**

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who usually make specific decisions either by themselves or jointly with their husband, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who usually make specific decisions alone or jointly with their husband			Percentage who participate in all three decisions	Percentage who participate in none of the three decisions	Number of women
	Own health care	Making major household purchases	Visits to her family or relatives			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	81.1	79.6	81.2	71.2	11.3	16,653
Scheduled tribe	82.2	79.8	81.5	71.7	10.8	7,115
Other backward class	80.3	79.2	80.5	70.3	11.7	34,020
Other	82.3	80.2	82.0	72.2	10.7	19,391
Don't know	75.0	68.0	75.5	63.2	18.0	550
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	80.8	79.2	80.0	71.2	12.4	14,573
Second	79.8	77.7	78.8	69.2	13.0	15,829
Middle	80.4	78.9	80.4	70.2	11.8	15,969
Fourth	80.8	79.4	81.7	70.4	10.7	15,867
Highest	83.7	82.4	84.5	74.1	8.6	15,491
<b>Total</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>77,729</b>

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear household comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

Table 14.7.2 Men's participation in decision making by background characteristics

Percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who usually make specific decisions either by themselves or jointly with their wife, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who usually make specific decisions alone or jointly with their wife		Percentage who participate in both decisions	Percentage who participate in neither of the two decisions	Number of men
	Own health care	Making major household purchases			
<b>Age</b>					
15-19	79.3	80.6	69.7	9.9	273
20-24	91.2	90.5	84.9	3.2	2,954
25-29	90.6	90.3	84.3	3.4	8,156
30-39	89.4	91.4	84.3	3.5	23,111
40-49	89.2	91.4	84.2	3.5	20,983
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	90.0	89.8	83.8	4.0	18,458
Rural	89.3	91.8	84.4	3.3	37,017
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	88.7	91.2	83.9	4.0	8,124
<5 years complete	89.0	90.1	83.0	4.0	4,808
5-7 years complete	87.9	90.2	82.3	4.2	8,838
8-9 years complete	89.9	91.7	85.1	3.5	10,286
10-11 years complete	89.9	91.5	84.4	3.0	8,817
12 or more years complete	90.8	91.4	85.2	3.0	14,603
<b>Employment (past 12 months)</b>					
Employed	89.6	91.2	84.2	3.4	51,041
Employed, for cash	89.7	91.2	84.2	3.3	48,545
Employed, not for cash	87.7	90.4	83.4	5.3	2,496
Not employed	89.0	90.9	84.2	4.3	4,434
<b>Number of living children</b>					
0	89.0	89.9	83.2	4.2	9,447
1-2	89.3	90.8	83.5	3.5	31,002
3-4	90.4	92.4	86.1	3.2	12,731
5 or more	90.2	94.3	86.9	2.3	2,295
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>					
Nuclear	89.2	91.7	84.5	3.6	25,827
Non-nuclear	89.8	90.7	83.9	3.4	29,648
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	89.5	91.1	84.0	3.4	44,130
Muslim	90.6	92.0	85.6	3.0	8,583
Christian	85.1	89.5	80.3	5.8	1,359
Sikh	94.8	95.0	91.7	1.9	490
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	85.6	86.8	80.3	7.9	588
Jain	91.3	89.9	87.9	6.7	151
Other	81.2	80.4	77.6	16.0	173

Continued...

**Table 14.7.2 Men's participation in decision making by background characteristics—Continued**

Percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who usually make specific decisions either by themselves or jointly with their wife, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who usually make specific decisions alone or jointly with their wife		Percentage who participate in both decisions	Percentage who participate in neither of the two decisions	Number of men
	Own health care	Making major household purchases			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	89.6	91.1	84.3	3.6	11,595
Scheduled tribe	90.7	91.9	85.9	3.3	5,271
Other backward class	89.1	91.2	83.6	3.3	22,922
Other	89.7	90.9	84.5	3.9	15,390
Don't know	94.4	85.0	81.4	1.9	298
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	90.1	91.7	85.3	3.5	9,879
Second	88.2	90.9	83.2	4.0	11,100
Middle	89.0	91.4	83.9	3.5	11,834
Fourth	89.1	91.3	84.0	3.5	12,110
Highest	91.5	90.4	84.9	3.0	10,552
Total age 15-49	89.6	91.1	84.2	3.5	55,475
Age 50-54	87.9	91.5	83.2	3.8	8,264
Total age 15-54	89.3	91.2	84.1	3.6	63,739

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.8 Women's participation in decision making by state/union territory**

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who usually make three specific kinds of decisions either by themselves or jointly with their husband, and percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband in specific kinds of decisions, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who usually make decisions alone or jointly with their husband					Percentage of men who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say alone or jointly with her husband in:	
	Own health care	Making major household purchases	Visits to her family or relatives	All three decisions	None of the three decisions	All of the five decisions <sup>1</sup>	None of the five decisions <sup>1</sup>
<b>India</b>	81.1	79.5	81.1	71.0	11.3	56.9	4.9
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	94.6	91.5	93.6	91.5	5.4	82.7	1.8
Delhi	87.1	78.0	83.4	72.1	8.0	75.0	2.1
Haryana	81.7	78.6	80.4	71.9	12.5	80.9	2.4
Himachal Pradesh	87.8	81.7	88.7	75.3	6.1	80.9	1.4
Jammu & Kashmir	73.8	69.2	75.6	62.5	18.4	53.3	10.7
Ladakh	67.1	64.4	67.2	48.4	19.6	58.5	9.8
Punjab	87.6	84.0	86.5	79.6	8.6	72.0	3.7
Rajasthan	80.8	73.8	78.4	65.8	12.3	58.7	4.0
Uttarakhand	84.7	82.2	85.1	76.1	9.0	81.2	2.9
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	88.3	85.8	87.8	81.0	7.3	65.6	5.7
Madhya Pradesh	78.6	75.9	77.3	67.5	14.0	60.4	5.0
Uttar Pradesh	81.6	80.8	80.9	73.7	12.5	55.7	8.7
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	80.8	78.4	78.2	71.0	13.5	58.6	6.7
Jharkhand	85.7	86.0	85.9	79.8	9.1	71.9	3.8
Odisha	80.1	82.1	81.6	71.2	9.8	58.6	1.5
West Bengal	81.8	80.8	81.4	72.1	11.1	46.8	5.1
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	82.1	81.7	82.7	76.4	13.0	78.1	2.8
Assam	86.4	84.1	86.1	77.8	7.9	74.8	2.2
Manipur	87.9	84.0	89.6	77.7	5.2	56.7	1.5
Meghalaya	89.1	87.3	89.8	83.8	7.7	73.4	4.4
Mizoram	93.7	94.3	94.4	87.0	1.2	78.1	2.7
Nagaland	96.8	97.7	98.3	95.2	0.8	78.0	2.4
Sikkim	84.5	85.0	86.7	81.1	10.3	73.5	5.4
Tripura	85.3	85.2	87.2	79.5	9.1	54.6	3.5
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	83.8	83.5	81.1	72.2	8.1	46.6	2.1
Goa	87.6	85.5	89.3	80.5	6.9	78.6	0.0
Gujarat	85.6	81.7	86.7	75.0	7.8	67.2	3.3
Maharashtra	82.4	78.2	80.7	69.5	10.2	58.2	5.2

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**Table 14.8 Women's participation in decision making by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who usually make three specific kinds of decisions either by themselves or jointly with their husband, and percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband in specific kinds of decisions, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage of women who usually make decisions alone or jointly with their husband				Percentage of men who say that a wife should have an equal or greater say alone or jointly with her husband in:		
	Own health care	Making major household purchases	Visits to her family or relatives	All three decisions	None of the three decisions	All of the five decisions <sup>1</sup>	None of the five decisions <sup>1</sup>
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	87.6	85.1	91.7	81.9	5.5	60.5	6.0
Andhra Pradesh	70.6	75.5	74.7	61.3	16.0	56.8	5.6
Karnataka	74.4	73.4	74.7	64.5	17.3	29.5	5.1
Kerala	82.8	81.1	84.6	69.3	5.9	71.4	1.3
Lakshadweep	86.7	90.5	91.3	85.8	7.8	46.3	3.1
Puducherry	81.8	87.4	90.9	72.4	2.1	69.3	0.1
Tamil Nadu	81.9	83.4	86.2	72.7	7.2	64.2	1.9
Telangana	68.3	76.4	76.2	57.4	12.8	49.0	4.4

<sup>1</sup> Decisions about major household purchases, purchases for daily household needs, visits to the wife's family or relatives, what to do with the money the wife earns, and how many children to have.

**Table 14.9 Men's attitudes toward a wife's participation in decision making**

Percent distribution of currently married men age 15-49 by person who they think, in a couple, should have a greater say in five specific decisions, India, 2019-21

Decision	Mainly husband	Both equally	Mainly wife	Don't know/depends	Total
URBAN					
Major household purchases	28.1	62.4	9.0	0.5	100.0
Purchases of daily household needs	15.9	54.7	29.0	0.4	100.0
Visits to wife's family or relatives	18.5	69.2	11.7	0.6	100.0
What to do with the money wife earns	14.1	66.0	19.3	0.7	100.0
How many children to have	7.7	87.9	3.9	0.5	100.0
RURAL					
Major household purchases	29.7	62.7	7.1	0.5	100.0
Purchases of daily household needs	22.1	54.0	23.4	0.5	100.0
Visits to wife's family or relatives	23.2	67.0	9.1	0.6	100.0
What to do with the money wife earns	18.1	65.7	15.4	0.8	100.0
How many children to have	10.0	86.5	3.2	0.3	100.0
TOTAL					
Major household purchases	29.1	62.6	7.8	0.5	100.0
Purchases of daily household needs	20.0	54.2	25.3	0.5	100.0
Visits to wife's family or relatives	21.6	67.7	10.0	0.6	100.0
What to do with the money wife earns	16.7	65.8	16.7	0.8	100.0
How many children to have	9.3	87.0	3.4	0.4	100.0



**Table 14.10 Men's attitudes toward a wife's participation in decision making by background characteristics**

Percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who think a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband on five specific kinds of decisions, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who think a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband on specific decisions							Number of men
	Making major household purchases	Making purchases for daily household needs	Visits to her family or relatives	What to do with the money the wife earns	How many children to have	All five decisions	None of the five decisions	
<b>Age</b>								
15-19	73.3	79.8	73.3	83.2	88.0	57.4	4.4	273
20-24	71.9	78.6	73.4	80.5	88.5	54.9	6.1	2,954
25-29	69.6	78.6	76.3	81.3	90.6	56.2	5.1	8,156
30-39	70.3	79.6	78.2	83.0	90.6	57.2	4.8	23,111
40-49	70.5	79.8	78.4	82.6	90.4	57.1	4.8	20,983
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	71.5	83.7	80.9	85.3	91.8	60.1	4.2	18,458
Rural	69.9	77.4	76.2	81.1	89.7	55.3	5.3	37,017
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	66.4	76.3	73.8	78.6	87.1	52.9	6.1	8,124
<5 years complete	68.7	77.7	70.6	78.3	89.0	51.6	5.9	4,808
5-7 years complete	69.7	79.1	75.5	81.1	89.7	53.8	4.5	8,838
8-9 years complete	71.0	78.1	79.0	83.9	89.5	58.3	5.6	10,286
10-11 years complete	71.3	81.1	79.8	83.2	92.0	57.4	4.3	8,817
12 or more years complete	72.7	82.1	81.5	85.5	92.7	61.5	4.0	14,603
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>								
Nuclear	70.8	79.9	78.1	82.5	90.5	57.3	4.6	25,827
Non-nuclear	70.1	79.1	77.4	82.5	90.3	56.6	5.1	29,648
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	70.2	79.9	78.5	83.0	90.8	57.2	4.6	44,130
Muslim	68.9	75.3	71.9	78.1	87.6	52.3	6.8	8,583
Christian	79.4	85.4	84.0	85.2	92.4	66.9	3.0	1,359
Sikh	81.6	86.9	89.7	91.3	96.2	76.5	2.0	490
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	73.9	83.7	76.7	85.7	91.0	56.7	5.0	588
Jain	62.7	89.1	86.9	95.3	98.3	59.7	1.3	151
Other	87.1	92.2	91.4	89.7	92.6	78.3	1.9	173
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	71.2	79.8	76.1	81.9	90.2	56.2	4.9	11,595
Scheduled tribe	72.4	81.1	81.3	84.8	91.1	60.2	3.8	5,271
Other backward class	67.7	78.1	77.7	82.6	90.7	54.8	4.7	22,922
Other	73.0	80.9	77.9	82.0	89.8	59.4	5.5	15,390
Don't know	72.2	75.1	78.1	80.6	88.2	54.4	4.2	298

*Continued...*

**Table 14.10 Men's attitudes toward a wife's participation in decision making by background characteristics—Continued**

Percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who think a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband on five specific kinds of decisions, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who think a wife should have an equal or greater say than her husband on specific decisions							Number of men
	Making major household purchases	Making purchases for daily household needs	Visits to her family or relatives	What to do with the money the wife earns	How many children to have	All five decisions	None of the five decisions	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	68.4	75.8	72.1	77.7	87.5	52.5	6.0	9,879
Second	69.9	77.4	74.9	80.8	88.8	54.1	5.4	11,100
Middle	69.3	78.7	77.4	83.1	91.4	55.7	4.4	11,834
Fourth	70.7	81.0	80.5	84.2	91.3	58.5	4.6	12,110
Highest	73.8	84.2	83.2	86.1	92.5	63.4	4.1	10,552
Total age 15-49	70.4	79.5	77.7	82.5	90.4	56.9	4.9	55,475
Age 50-54	68.7	79.0	79.7	83.5	90.0	57.4	5.3	8,264
Total age 15-54	70.2	79.4	78.0	82.6	90.3	57.0	4.9	63,739

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.11 Women's access to money and credit**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have access to money, who know of a microcredit programme, and who have ever taken a loan from a microcredit program; and among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who use it for financial transactions, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women's access to money		Women's knowledge and use of microcredit programmes				
	Percentage who have money that they can decide how to use	Percentage who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use	Percentage who have knowledge of a microcredit programme	Percentage who have taken a loan from a microcredit programme	Number of women	Percentage who use mobile phone for financial transactions	Number of women who own a mobile phone
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	35.0	68.1	42.5	2.1	18,240	21.6	5,827
20-24	47.4	76.1	48.7	6.0	17,809	27.3	10,844
25-29	52.7	79.9	51.8	10.8	17,398	26.1	11,309
30-39	56.5	82.5	54.9	15.6	29,853	20.5	18,391
40-49	58.5	82.3	54.9	16.2	24,714	18.2	11,898
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	56.8	80.9	51.3	9.4	34,839	30.9	24,163
Rural	48.6	77.4	51.2	11.9	73,175	16.6	34,106
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	50.5	75.1	47.5	13.8	24,485	9.0	8,417
<5 years complete	51.3	74.7	54.6	17.4	5,715	7.2	2,335
5-7 years complete	49.6	73.8	50.2	14.1	14,547	9.4	6,946
8-9 years complete	46.5	74.5	50.0	10.5	19,237	13.1	9,317
10-11 years complete	48.2	79.9	51.9	9.6	16,278	19.9	9,303
12 or more years complete	57.7	87.0	55.0	7.0	27,751	38.6	21,950
<b>Marital status</b>							
Never married	39.8	72.8	45.2	2.7	25,505	35.1	11,024
Currently married	53.6	79.9	52.9	13.4	77,729	19.7	44,198
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	72.8	87.6	57.6	17.7	4,780	17.6	3,047
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>							
Nuclear	50.9	79.4	51.9	12.2	54,024	22.3	28,932
Non-nuclear	51.5	77.7	50.7	10.0	53,990	22.7	29,337
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	51.9	79.3	52.3	11.7	87,179	23.0	46,907
Muslim	46.8	73.4	45.6	7.9	15,138	16.1	7,769
Christian	47.7	81.7	56.4	14.0	2,495	28.0	1,724
Sikh	55.9	82.4	43.4	7.6	1,908	30.2	1,164
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	51.0	76.3	54.5	10.9	652	24.1	361
Jain	65.6	88.4	50.9	3.3	214	60.2	152
Other	51.7	74.8	51.2	9.7	428	25.1	192

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**Table 14.11 Women's access to money and credit—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have access to money, who know of a microcredit programme, and who have ever taken a loan from a microcredit program; and among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who use it for financial transactions, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women's access to money		Women's knowledge and use of microcredit programmes		Number of women	Percentage who use mobile phone for financial transactions	Number of women who own a mobile phone
	Percentage who have money that they can decide how to use	Percentage who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use	Percentage who have knowledge of a microcredit programme	Percentage who have taken a loan from a microcredit programme			
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	51.2	79.4	52.0	13.0	23,427	18.7	11,304
Scheduled tribe	48.4	75.0	47.1	10.8	9,909	19.3	3,958
Other backward class	49.9	79.7	53.2	11.6	47,251	22.2	25,778
Other	54.6	77.5	49.0	8.7	26,733	26.4	16,951
Don't know	48.3	64.7	40.2	7.5	694	11.1	278
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	46.1	71.7	47.7	10.9	19,904	8.9	6,486
Second	47.3	76.6	49.9	12.7	22,049	11.3	9,180
Middle	49.5	79.4	53.2	13.2	22,252	16.3	11,369
Fourth	51.5	80.4	53.4	11.2	22,376	22.5	14,252
Highest	61.5	84.3	51.7	7.3	21,432	37.9	16,981
Total	51.2	78.6	51.3	11.1	108,014	22.5	58,269

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

Table 14.12 Women's access to money and credit and freedom of movement by state/union territory

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have access to money, who know of a microcredit programme, and have taken a loan from a microcredit programme, and who are allowed to go to three specified places alone; among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who use it for financial transactions, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women's access to money		Women's knowledge and use of microcredit programmes			
	Percentage who have money that they can decide how to use	Percentage who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use	Percentage who have knowledge of a microcredit programme	Percentage who have taken a loan from a microcredit programme	Percentage allowed to go to three specified places alone <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who use mobile phone for financial transactions
<b>India</b>	51.2	78.6	51.3	11.1	42.3	22.5
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	54.0	87.1	23.6	0.7	72.1	33.6
Delhi	56.6	72.5	34.2	6.1	48.8	36.5
Haryana	57.2	73.6	33.9	4.8	49.0	30.5
Himachal Pradesh	61.8	83.1	47.7	4.1	82.1	18.8
Jammu & Kashmir	51.7	84.9	20.6	3.5	47.3	28.1
Ladakh	58.0	88.4	18.5	2.9	47.0	27.2
Punjab	57.2	81.6	41.9	7.2	61.2	30.1
Rajasthan	53.1	79.6	42.8	4.1	36.4	20.1
Uttarakhand	48.6	80.2	50.0	7.6	55.7	18.7
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	57.8	80.3	46.7	6.2	45.5	24.3
Madhya Pradesh	49.4	74.7	47.9	7.9	36.2	23.3
Uttar Pradesh	54.5	75.4	38.0	4.5	34.7	18.0
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	48.5	76.7	59.4	14.3	43.2	10.4
Jharkhand	51.9	79.6	61.0	13.5	48.3	20.0
Odisha	45.4	86.5	74.4	25.3	30.1	17.3
West Bengal	60.6	76.5	52.0	12.7	58.3	12.8
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	51.6	78.2	30.3	8.3	49.1	38.4
Assam	28.7	78.5	62.5	13.6	34.3	19.2
Manipur	40.0	74.0	49.8	8.2	31.2	10.7
Meghalaya	49.0	70.4	21.2	6.3	36.1	15.8
Mizoram	32.7	80.7	13.8	2.1	75.4	17.2
Nagaland	40.3	63.7	23.4	2.5	32.6	19.7
Sikkim	67.6	76.4	32.9	9.1	66.2	35.1
Tripura	55.2	76.9	59.2	21.3	53.5	6.9
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	76.6	83.6	35.0	2.4	74.2	22.6
Goa	63.9	88.3	75.2	9.9	23.8	48.0
Gujarat	57.6	70.0	43.2	3.9	56.2	21.7
Maharashtra	54.4	72.8	51.6	8.3	48.8	29.8

Continued...

**Table 14.12 Women's access to money and credit and freedom of movement by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who have access to money, who know of a microcredit programme, and have taken a loan from a microcredit programme, and who are allowed to go to three specified places alone; among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who use it for financial transactions, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women's access to money		Women's knowledge and use of microcredit programmes			
	Percentage who have money that they can decide how to use	Percentage who have a bank or savings account that they themselves use	Percentage who have knowledge of a microcredit programme	Percentage who have taken a loan from a microcredit programme	Percentage allowed to go to three specified places alone <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who use mobile phone for financial transactions
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	74.7	89.2	30.9	3.6	61.6	13.6
Andhra Pradesh	29.4	81.8	61.4	29.7	42.5	21.4
Karnataka	58.6	88.7	56.9	17.3	31.6	43.0
Kerala	53.4	78.5	57.5	9.8	15.0	22.6
Lakshadweep	40.3	66.9	45.2	1.4	2.4	14.9
Puducherry	49.8	92.6	79.5	10.8	35.9	34.2
Tamil Nadu	42.6	92.2	73.8	18.2	39.7	26.9
Telangana	31.8	84.4	62.0	24.1	39.7	21.1

<sup>1</sup> To the market, health facility, and places outside the village/community

Table 14.13 Women's freedom of movement by background characteristics

Percentage of women age 15-49 who are allowed to go alone to specific places, and who are not allowed to go at all (alone or with someone else) to all of the specific places, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage allowed to go alone to:				Percentage not allowed to go to any of the three places at all	Number of women
	The market	The health facility	Places outside the village/ community	All three places		
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	40.4	33.8	35.2	26.1	7.5	18,240
20-24	46.8	42.6	41.2	33.8	5.9	17,809
25-29	53.5	49.4	47.1	39.8	4.6	17,398
30-39	63.4	59.0	56.1	48.4	3.6	29,853
40-49	68.5	63.9	62.1	54.5	3.0	24,714
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	65.3	59.2	54.2	48.6	3.3	34,839
Rural	52.1	48.0	48.0	39.2	5.3	73,175
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	59.1	54.2	54.0	45.6	4.5	24,485
<5 years complete	60.0	55.4	54.8	45.9	5.0	5,715
5-7 years complete	54.5	50.4	48.5	40.7	4.9	14,547
8-9 years complete	49.7	45.5	44.9	36.4	5.4	19,237
10-11 years complete	52.4	46.8	44.7	37.1	5.1	16,278
12 or more years complete	61.1	56.3	53.1	46.3	3.9	27,751
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	48.5	41.4	42.1	33.1	5.8	25,505
Currently married	57.5	53.5	51.1	43.6	4.4	77,729
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	79.9	76.1	74.3	68.8	2.9	4,780
<b>Number of living children</b>						
0	47.7	41.3	41.5	33.3	6.1	33,396
1-2	59.5	55.4	52.7	45.2	4.4	47,310
3-4	61.4	57.5	55.4	47.8	3.5	22,743
5 or more	62.6	58.3	58.3	49.5	3.0	4,565
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>						
Nuclear	59.9	54.6	52.9	44.8	4.1	54,024
Non-nuclear	52.9	48.6	47.1	39.7	5.2	53,990
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	57.6	52.7	51.0	43.3	4.5	87,179
Muslim	46.3	43.1	42.1	33.8	6.2	15,138
Christian	60.6	51.1	49.6	39.0	3.1	2,495
Sikh	67.7	64.3	63.9	59.3	3.3	1,908
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	59.2	56.2	50.6	45.3	8.3	652
Jain	70.0	62.7	58.6	54.1	1.4	214
Other	65.9	59.9	63.5	53.0	2.4	428

Continued...

**Table 14.13 Women's freedom of movement by background characteristics—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who are allowed to go alone to specific places, and who are not allowed to go at all (alone or with someone else) to all of the specific places, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage allowed to go alone to:				Percentage not allowed to go to any of the three places at all	Number of women
	The market	The health facility	Places outside the village/ community	All three places		
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	57.6	53.0	51.9	44.1	4.7	23,427
Scheduled tribe	56.3	50.6	50.5	41.9	4.7	9,909
Other backward class	53.3	48.5	46.4	38.8	4.8	47,251
Other	60.8	56.2	54.8	46.9	4.4	26,733
Don't know	55.9	53.4	46.4	39.9	7.6	694
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	51.3	47.9	49.8	39.6	5.7	19,904
Second	52.5	48.6	48.8	39.8	5.5	22,049
Middle	54.6	49.9	47.4	39.9	4.9	22,252
Fourth	57.4	51.8	49.0	42.0	4.3	22,376
Highest	65.8	59.7	55.4	49.9	3.1	21,432
Total	56.4	51.6	50.0	42.3	4.7	108,014

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.



**Table 14.14.1 Attitudes toward wife beating: Women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if:										Number of women	
	She goes out without telling him	She neglects the house or children	She argues with him	She refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	She doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason				
<b>Age</b>												
15-19	16.9	25.0	19.9	9.7	12.7	17.6	28.9	41.8			18,240	
20-24	17.7	25.1	19.9	9.4	12.2	18.6	29.5	43.0			17,809	
25-29	18.6	26.3	21.1	10.9	13.2	18.8	30.7	43.7			17,398	
30-39	19.9	29.0	23.1	11.5	13.8	20.7	32.8	47.3			29,853	
40-49	21.5	30.5	24.2	12.6	15.8	22.2	34.9	48.8			24,714	
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	15.8	24.9	17.3	8.7	10.3	17.4	28.1	40.6			34,839	
Rural	20.8	28.8	24.2	12.0	15.3	21.0	33.5	47.7			73,175	
<b>Schooling</b>												
No schooling	23.0	30.3	27.0	14.7	17.7	23.0	36.2	50.5			24,485	
<5 years complete	23.1	33.5	30.0	14.8	18.0	25.6	37.0	52.9			5,715	
5-7 years complete	21.5	30.6	25.2	12.2	15.6	22.0	34.4	48.9			14,547	
8-9 years complete	19.1	25.8	21.9	10.4	13.5	19.3	30.1	44.3			19,237	
10-11 years complete	18.7	28.8	20.2	10.2	12.7	19.6	32.3	45.7			16,278	
12 or more years complete	14.1	22.9	15.3	7.1	9.0	15.3	26.2	38.2			27,751	
<b>Marital status</b>												
Never married	15.7	23.4	17.8	8.8	11.5	16.4	27.2	39.7			25,505	
Currently married	20.0	28.5	23.1	11.5	14.3	20.7	32.9	46.9			77,729	
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	24.3	34.3	26.2	14.4	16.1	24.1	37.0	51.9			4,780	
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>												
Nuclear	19.7	29.0	22.3	11.0	13.7	20.3	32.7	46.7			54,024	
Non-nuclear	18.7	26.2	21.6	10.9	13.7	19.5	30.8	44.2			53,990	

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Table 14.14.1 Attitudes toward wife beating: Women — Continued

Percentage of women age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if:										Number of women
	She goes out without telling him	She neglects the house or children	She argues with him	She refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	She doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason			
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	19.1	27.8	21.6	10.8	13.7	19.7	31.9	45.7	87,179		
Muslim	20.2	26.9	25.6	12.9	14.7	21.8	32.4	46.1	15,138		
Christian	21.6	37.6	22.7	10.7	12.5	23.2	37.8	52.6	2,495		
Sikh	12.6	12.5	12.1	6.9	7.3	10.2	12.9	22.7	1,908		
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	18.8	30.5	20.7	13.9	18.4	25.7	38.4	52.0	652		
Jain	14.3	26.6	15.0	4.8	5.1	12.7	19.9	30.8	214		
Other	7.4	12.1	9.6	5.0	6.9	11.8	17.5	27.8	428		
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	21.0	29.9	24.0	12.2	14.9	21.6	34.1	48.6	23,427		
Scheduled tribe	18.0	24.8	21.9	11.7	14.4	19.8	31.5	44.3	9,909		
Other backward class	20.8	30.3	22.7	10.9	14.6	20.5	34.0	48.5	47,251		
Other	15.0	21.6	18.9	9.6	10.8	17.2	25.5	37.6	26,733		
Don't know	20.8	31.7	27.8	14.1	16.5	25.7	38.1	49.7	694		
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	21.7	27.2	27.3	14.2	17.6	22.0	32.8	47.5	19,904		
Second	20.8	28.3	25.2	12.2	15.6	20.7	33.6	47.6	22,049		
Middle	21.5	32.2	23.7	11.8	14.5	22.3	35.7	50.4	22,252		
Fourth	18.8	29.4	20.1	10.1	12.5	19.8	32.5	46.6	22,376		
Highest	13.1	20.5	13.9	6.8	8.6	14.6	23.9	34.9	21,432		
Total	19.2	27.6	22.0	11.0	13.7	19.9	31.7	45.4	108,014		

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.14.2 Attitudes toward wife beating: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if:								Number of men
	She goes out without telling him	She neglects the house or children	She argues with him	She refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	She doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason	
<b>Age</b>									
15-19	16.0	22.4	21.8	10.5	11.4	23.4	33.6	45.9	16,385
20-24	14.2	21.6	20.5	10.0	10.2	23.2	32.0	44.5	14,384
25-29	14.2	21.7	20.0	9.7	9.7	22.6	31.1	43.7	14,195
30-39	14.9	21.7	19.4	9.5	9.8	22.7	30.7	43.8	26,137
40-49	14.7	21.9	19.8	9.2	10.0	23.3	30.4	43.6	22,043
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	13.1	19.0	16.6	8.0	8.3	20.9	29.8	40.5	32,852
Rural	15.7	23.4	22.1	10.6	11.2	24.2	32.3	46.2	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	18.9	26.9	25.4	13.2	12.8	26.8	34.1	49.7	9,982
<5 years complete	18.3	25.0	25.8	12.6	13.0	25.7	34.7	51.4	5,842
5-7 years complete	15.9	23.7	23.5	11.6	11.1	25.4	32.7	46.6	12,082
8-9 years complete	15.2	20.5	20.7	9.2	10.0	22.4	30.8	43.7	18,472
10-11 years complete	15.6	23.4	20.0	9.3	10.6	24.4	34.0	46.4	16,735
12 or more years complete	11.7	18.8	15.8	7.8	8.2	19.9	28.3	39.1	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>									
Never married	14.9	22.2	20.4	10.4	10.5	23.3	33.3	45.3	36,503
Currently married	14.7	21.5	19.9	9.2	9.9	22.7	30.2	43.4	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	19.4	28.9	26.7	13.2	12.4	28.3	31.9	46.7	1,165

*Continued...*

Table 14.14.2 Attitudes toward wife beating: Men — Continued

Percentage of men age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if:										Number of men
	She goes out without telling him	She neglects the house or children	She argues with him	She refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	She doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason			
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>											
Nuclear	14.9	22.7	20.5	9.9	10.2	23.4	32.0	45.1	46,703		
Non-nuclear	14.8	21.0	19.9	9.5	10.1	22.7	30.8	43.4	46,441		
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	14.5	21.7	19.8	9.6	10.3	22.4	31.2	43.6	73,632		
Muslim	17.1	22.8	22.9	11.0	10.0	26.4	33.1	47.7	14,633		
Christian	15.8	31.3	22.5	10.0	9.5	32.3	34.5	52.9	2,426		
Sikh	12.5	11.1	12.6	6.9	7.1	14.3	20.1	29.0	886		
<b>Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist</b>											
Buddhist	10.0	15.0	12.5	5.9	10.7	16.3	30.5	41.7	1,017		
Jain	2.4	13.5	15.9	1.2	1.7	5.7	18.6	24.4	280		
Other	7.3	11.6	9.5	5.0	4.1	12.4	18.6	27.3	269		
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	16.1	22.3	21.1	9.6	10.5	22.7	31.7	44.4	18,977		
Scheduled tribe	13.5	21.9	20.6	10.8	10.1	21.6	29.8	43.4	8,441		
Other backward class	15.5	24.0	20.6	9.8	10.9	24.9	34.4	46.9	38,986		
Other	13.5	18.3	18.8	9.3	8.8	21.0	27.4	40.4	26,244		
Don't know	13.3	22.7	20.4	10.4	10.2	20.9	24.2	43.9	496		

Continued...

Table 14.14.2 Attitudes toward wife beating: Men—Continued

Percentage of men age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if:								Number of men
	She goes out without telling him	She neglects the house or children	She argues with him	She refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	She doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	16.9	21.3	24.8	12.1	11.6	23.9	30.9	46.3	15,606
Second	15.6	22.5	22.9	10.2	11.3	24.6	32.5	46.2	18,497
Middle	16.2	25.4	21.3	10.7	11.3	24.3	34.3	47.4	19,829
Fourth	15.1	23.2	18.8	9.3	10.2	24.2	33.6	45.7	20,658
Highest	10.6	16.5	13.8	6.7	6.5	18.1	25.2	35.3	18,553
Total age 15-49	14.8	21.9	20.2	9.7	10.2	23.0	31.4	44.2	93,144
Age 50-54	14.6	22.5	19.4	10.4	10.1	24.4	31.0	44.3	8,695
Total age 15-54	14.8	21.9	20.1	9.8	10.1	23.1	31.4	44.2	101,839

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

Table 14.15 Attitudes toward wife beating by state/union territory

State/union territory	Women						Men		
	Goes out without telling him	Neglects the house or children	Argues with him	Refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	Doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason
<b>India</b>	19.2	27.6	22.0	11.0	13.7	19.9	31.7	45.4	44.2
<b>North</b>									
Chandigarh	5.4	7.7	4.8	2.2	2.5	7.5	6.6	13.5	8.9
Delhi	5.7	7.6	8.4	3.7	4.8	7.1	11.2	17.5	18.2
Haryana	12.9	15.7	14.7	8.1	10.8	13.6	22.1	29.8	21.1
Himachal Pradesh	5.5	8.2	5.7	3.0	3.9	5.0	8.4	14.8	14.2
Jammu & Kashmir	28.5	30.1	27.9	16.0	12.0	26.0	35.0	49.3	45.3
Ladakh	25.5	29.5	25.4	16.2	9.8	25.6	39.1	57.4	69.7
Punjab	12.1	12.4	13.4	6.3	6.9	10.1	12.6	22.8	30.5
Rajasthan	12.4	14.7	17.6	7.9	10.0	13.1	25.9	34.6	30.5
Uttarakhand	7.6	12.3	11.2	8.1	7.6	9.0	12.7	22.2	12.4
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	9.6	13.4	13.5	6.6	6.7	9.2	18.7	27.3	37.5
Madhya Pradesh	15.3	17.0	17.4	10.2	13.0	16.4	23.2	34.4	28.3
Uttar Pradesh	19.4	21.4	23.1	10.8	15.8	17.6	28.0	43.6	38.2
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	16.9	19.3	21.3	10.3	14.9	16.7	23.3	37.3	33.9
Jharkhand	11.0	10.6	11.8	6.2	8.6	11.5	17.3	27.0	25.4
Odisha	18.1	25.9	24.0	8.6	13.7	16.3	40.7	48.7	32.3
West Bengal	16.6	25.2	26.6	13.2	10.6	21.4	28.7	41.6	47.7

Continued...

Table 14.15 Attitudes toward wife beating by state/union territory—Continued

State/union territory	Women							Men	
	Goes out without telling him	Neglects the house or children	Argues with him	Refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	Doesn't cook properly	He suspects she is unfaithful	She shows disrespect for in-laws	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	8.6	19.9	8.8	6.1	9.2	11.5	22.4	33.4	41.6
Assam	10.0	14.7	14.7	7.1	8.5	13.7	20.5	32.1	36.4
Manipur	24.9	40.5	17.5	7.1	18.8	17.3	52.8	65.9	56.8
Meghalaya	12.4	20.1	11.6	7.0	5.9	16.6	15.1	31.9	31.8
Mizoram	11.0	16.1	9.4	5.1	5.2	20.8	19.2	32.9	43.7
Nagaland	7.7	14.8	7.4	3.2	7.0	7.8	16.8	23.9	34.4
Sikkim	13.0	18.6	11.2	7.3	11.5	10.7	17.9	32.3	33.0
Tripura	10.6	17.1	18.6	10.0	6.5	17.4	17.6	29.5	21.3
<b>West</b>									
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	3.7	3.7	1.8	3.0	5.7	2.3	3.8	9.2	19.3
Goa	8.8	20.1	5.3	2.5	5.7	15.5	29.7	34.5	35.2
Gujarat	10.3	15.6	12.9	7.6	13.0	14.9	19.2	30.4	28.3
Maharashtra	16.2	25.4	19.3	11.9	16.0	21.9	29.7	44.2	35.9
<b>South</b>									
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2.8	9.9	3.8	1.4	2.3	3.7	6.4	14.4	11.3
Andhra Pradesh	33.1	68.8	33.9	16.0	14.0	31.8	62.5	83.6	66.5
Karnataka	34.9	52.0	36.1	22.9	26.5	44.7	58.9	76.9	81.9
Kerala	21.5	32.7	22.0	12.0	12.1	26.8	37.6	52.4	62.7
Lakshadweep	9.5	21.3	11.4	6.9	7.5	26.7	27.2	38.3	55.9
Puducherry	24.8	62.6	21.9	7.4	12.8	19.7	44.1	70.9	51.5
Tamil Nadu	42.0	66.0	33.6	10.7	17.8	29.2	56.3	78.3	56.2
Telangana	31.2	69.0	29.3	16.9	15.0	26.8	67.6	83.8	70.4

**Table 14.16.1 Attitudes toward refusing sexual intercourse with husband: Women**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she:					Number of women
	Knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows her husband has sex with other women	Is tired or not in the mood	Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons	
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	80.4	81.3	79.2	72.9	13.8	18,240
20-24	87.9	88.3	87.3	81.4	7.1	17,809
25-29	89.3	89.6	88.3	83.1	6.3	17,398
30-39	89.1	88.8	87.9	82.0	6.0	29,853
40-49	88.1	87.8	86.3	80.2	6.9	24,714
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	88.8	88.6	87.6	82.3	6.9	34,839
Rural	86.5	86.8	85.3	79.1	8.1	73,175
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	86.7	86.5	84.3	77.9	7.9	24,485
<5 years complete	85.0	84.8	83.8	76.3	9.0	5,715
5-7 years complete	86.7	86.7	85.4	78.9	7.7	14,547
8-9 years complete	86.0	86.7	85.1	79.3	8.9	19,237
10-11 years complete	86.4	86.4	85.2	79.1	8.4	16,278
12 or more years complete	89.9	90.1	89.5	84.7	6.2	27,751
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	82.1	82.9	81.1	75.3	12.6	25,505
Currently married	89.0	88.9	87.7	81.7	6.1	77,729
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	86.8	87.0	85.7	79.5	8.2	4,780
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>						
Nuclear	87.1	87.1	85.5	79.6	7.9	54,024
Non-nuclear	87.4	87.6	86.6	80.6	7.6	53,990
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	87.9	88.0	86.9	81.1	7.3	87,179
Muslim	83.4	83.6	80.9	74.1	10.4	15,138
Christian	85.4	85.4	84.5	77.5	9.0	2,495
Sikh	88.5	90.0	87.3	83.3	7.4	1,908
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	88.3	88.3	88.3	83.3	7.1	652
Jain	94.2	97.2	96.9	92.9	1.7	214
Other	85.1	86.7	85.5	80.7	10.4	428
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	87.3	87.3	86.0	80.1	7.8	23,427
Scheduled tribe	86.1	86.5	84.2	78.4	8.7	9,909
Other backward class	87.9	87.9	86.8	80.9	7.2	47,251
Other	86.8	87.0	85.7	79.8	8.1	26,733
Don't know	76.7	78.3	73.9	67.7	16.4	694

*Continued...*



**Table 14.16.1 Attitudes toward refusing sexual intercourse with husband: Women—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she:			Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons	Number of women
	Knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows her husband has sex with other women	Is tired or not in the mood			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	84.5	84.8	82.5	76.0	9.5	19,904
Second	85.8	85.9	84.5	78.3	8.8	22,049
Middle	86.8	86.9	85.7	79.0	7.7	22,252
Fourth	87.8	88.3	87.2	81.4	7.3	22,376
Highest	91.2	90.9	90.0	85.7	5.5	21,432
Total	87.2	87.4	86.0	80.1	7.8	108,014

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.16.2 Attitudes toward refusing sexual intercourse with husband: Men**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she:			Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons	Number of men
	Knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows her husband has sex with other women	Is tired or not in the mood			
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	78.6	72.8	70.8	61.2	14.6	16,385
20-24	83.7	77.3	76.2	66.8	10.2	14,384
25-29	83.7	77.6	75.9	66.3	9.5	14,195
30-39	85.1	78.6	76.1	66.8	8.8	26,137
40-49	84.3	78.2	75.8	66.1	9.2	22,043
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	84.5	78.4	75.6	67.0	9.5	32,852
Rural	82.7	76.5	74.8	64.8	10.6	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	78.2	72.4	70.1	58.8	13.4	9,982
<5 years complete	80.6	74.2	72.4	60.1	10.4	5,842
5-7 years complete	82.3	76.5	74.4	65.0	11.0	12,082
8-9 years complete	83.0	76.9	75.3	66.0	10.6	18,472
10-11 years complete	83.6	77.0	74.7	64.7	10.0	16,735
12 or more years complete	86.0	79.7	77.7	69.3	8.7	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	81.3	75.2	73.2	64.1	12.3	36,503
Currently married	84.8	78.5	76.4	66.7	8.7	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	76.5	72.1	70.3	60.8	16.4	1,165
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>						
Nuclear	82.9	76.9	74.4	65.0	10.6	46,703
Non-nuclear	83.7	77.4	75.9	66.2	9.9	46,441
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	83.6	77.3	75.0	65.5	10.1	73,632
Muslim	82.4	75.9	74.4	64.8	10.8	14,633
Christian	80.8	76.3	73.9	64.7	12.7	2,426
Sikh	88.2	85.3	85.4	77.1	6.1	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	78.3	73.3	80.7	67.8	11.7	1,017
Jain	91.4	91.0	88.5	82.5	4.7	280
Other	87.2	77.2	83.8	72.3	8.3	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	83.4	77.0	75.0	64.9	10.0	18,977
Scheduled tribe	82.6	77.0	74.8	65.3	11.2	8,441
Other backward class	83.6	76.8	74.4	64.7	9.9	38,986
Other	83.3	78.0	76.5	67.7	10.4	26,244
Don't know	72.3	61.6	66.0	53.0	21.6	496

*Continued...*

**Table 14.16.2 Attitudes toward refusing sexual intercourse with husband: Men—*Continued***

Percentage of men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she:			Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons	Number of men
	Knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows her husband has sex with other women	Is tired or not in the mood			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	80.0	73.7	73.5	61.8	12.0	15,606
Second	82.5	76.0	74.1	64.0	10.7	18,497
Middle	83.5	76.9	74.3	64.5	10.1	19,829
Fourth	84.7	78.3	75.7	67.2	9.5	20,658
Highest	85.3	80.1	77.7	69.6	9.2	18,553
Total age 15-49	83.3	77.1	75.1	65.6	10.2	93,144
Age 50-54	83.1	77.4	74.3	64.5	9.8	8,695
Total age 15-54	83.3	77.1	75.0	65.5	10.2	101,839

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.17 Attitudes toward refusing sexual intercourse with husband by state/union territory**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, and percentage of women and men age 15-49 who agree with all specified reasons and none of the specified reasons, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women				Men		
	Knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows her husband has sex with other women	Is tired or not in the mood	Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons	Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons
<b>India</b>	87.2	87.4	86.0	80.1	7.8	65.6	10.2
<b>North</b>							
Chandigarh	89.5	93.0	90.1	85.8	6.3	82.5	4.2
Delhi	95.8	96.2	95.6	94.1	2.8	85.2	3.4
Haryana	91.2	91.2	89.7	86.4	6.1	77.8	6.4
Himachal Pradesh	92.7	94.1	93.4	90.0	4.2	77.8	7.3
Jammu & Kashmir	79.1	84.6	65.5	60.3	10.7	60.8	16.3
Ladakh	81.2	85.1	64.5	59.3	8.1	42.7	13.4
Punjab	88.9	90.5	88.0	84.4	7.4	74.4	6.2
Rajasthan	91.6	91.4	88.3	84.2	4.9	78.3	3.8
Uttarakhand	94.4	94.5	93.4	89.8	2.9	80.4	5.1
<b>Central</b>							
Chhattisgarh	92.7	91.9	90.5	87.6	5.3	67.4	7.7
Madhya Pradesh	89.7	89.9	88.3	83.5	6.0	69.0	9.7
Uttar Pradesh	88.7	89.4	88.2	83.8	7.3	67.5	10.5
<b>East</b>							
Bihar	87.3	88.1	86.1	79.7	7.2	65.8	8.5
Jharkhand	91.3	92.2	90.2	88.1	6.5	73.7	5.0
Odisha	88.5	88.1	88.3	82.9	6.6	69.8	13.6
West Bengal	75.0	75.4	76.4	64.9	15.0	57.6	11.0
<b>Northeast</b>							
Arunachal Pradesh	69.8	69.7	68.6	62.5	24.5	62.4	12.7
Assam	85.8	86.5	80.8	76.6	10.1	69.7	10.9
Manipur	81.0	87.0	82.3	72.2	8.5	69.7	7.3
Meghalaya	77.1	80.4	75.9	67.6	14.4	38.9	39.0
Mizoram	85.0	88.7	82.7	73.2	6.0	69.5	6.5
Nagaland	89.5	89.8	84.5	79.9	5.9	61.2	15.3
Sikkim	82.6	84.2	85.8	78.4	10.0	46.0	28.6
Tripura	84.7	87.0	84.9	76.3	7.5	73.3	5.0
<b>West</b>							
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	83.9	85.2	81.7	79.6	14.1	70.9	13.7
Goa	90.9	94.1	90.8	89.8	4.6	93.1	1.3
Gujarat	86.3	85.3	88.0	77.9	7.2	68.8	15.3
Maharashtra	91.3	91.0	89.5	85.8	5.9	75.6	8.0

*Continued...*

**Table 14.17 Attitudes toward refusing sexual intercourse with husband by state/union territory—Continued**

Percentage of women age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, and percentage of women and men age 15-49 who agree with all specified reasons and none of the specified reasons, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women				Men		
	Knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows her husband has sex with other women	Is tired or not in the mood	Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons	Percentage who agree with all three reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the three reasons
<b>South</b>							
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	89.6	90.4	90.1	88.5	8.6	80.9	12.5
Andhra Pradesh	83.2	82.3	80.9	73.0	10.1	53.3	13.0
Karnataka	85.8	84.2	83.4	75.4	8.3	48.2	8.9
Kerala	80.2	84.4	81.7	71.6	8.8	74.8	10.7
Lakshadweep	85.6	90.9	88.1	81.2	7.5	89.9	1.7
Puducherry	81.4	80.7	83.3	78.0	14.9	76.8	8.5
Tamil Nadu	88.3	87.4	86.5	81.3	7.9	71.3	6.7
Telangana	86.5	82.7	82.7	73.8	8.3	50.1	17.0

**Table 14.18 Men's attitudes toward a husband's rights when his wife refuses to have sexual intercourse**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who think that a husband has the right to certain behaviours when his wife refuses to have sex with him when he wants her to, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that when a wife refuses to have sex with her husband, he has the right to:				Percentage who agree with all four behaviours	Percentage who agree with none of the four behaviours	Number of men
	Get angry and reprimand her	Refuse to give her financial support	Use force to have sex	Have sex with another woman			
<b>Age</b>							
15-19	17.5	11.8	11.2	11.6	4.9	74.6	16,385
20-24	18.8	13.0	11.6	13.0	5.5	72.6	14,384
25-29	19.2	13.5	13.1	12.8	6.0	71.6	14,195
30-39	19.4	13.5	12.5	12.9	5.6	71.6	26,137
40-49	20.5	13.0	12.4	12.4	5.4	71.2	22,043
<b>Residence</b>							
Urban	18.1	11.9	11.6	12.2	4.8	73.0	32,852
Rural	19.9	13.6	12.6	12.8	5.8	71.7	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>							
No schooling	20.4	14.1	13.6	13.2	5.2	69.4	9,982
<5 years complete	22.5	14.8	15.2	12.9	5.8	67.5	5,842
5-7 years complete	20.7	14.2	12.9	12.5	5.4	70.4	12,082
8-9 years complete	18.4	12.8	11.4	12.3	5.5	73.8	18,472
10-11 years complete	18.8	12.3	12.1	12.5	5.1	72.2	16,735
12 or more years complete	18.4	12.4	11.5	12.5	5.8	73.6	30,032
<b>Marital status</b>							
Never married	18.3	12.7	11.9	12.6	5.3	73.1	36,503
Currently married	19.8	13.3	12.5	12.5	5.6	71.5	55,475
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	18.1	10.4	11.8	13.5	4.3	73.9	1,165
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>							
Nuclear	19.5	12.9	12.2	12.2	5.3	71.9	46,703
Non-nuclear	19.0	13.1	12.2	12.9	5.6	72.4	46,441
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	18.6	12.6	11.6	12.1	5.2	73.0	73,632
Muslim	20.4	13.6	13.8	12.3	5.2	69.9	14,633
Christian	17.7	10.3	10.5	13.6	4.5	72.6	2,426
Sikh	55.8	48.2	54.3	56.9	40.7	34.7	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	19.1	13.7	8.9	11.5	5.3	71.3	1,017
Jain	6.8	4.5	3.5	4.1	1.5	90.9	280
Other	29.6	13.5	4.5	4.6	1.7	68.0	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>							
Scheduled caste	20.6	14.0	12.7	13.3	6.1	70.8	18,977
Scheduled tribe	18.1	12.5	10.7	11.9	4.9	74.4	8,441
Other backward class	18.5	12.1	12.3	12.8	5.0	72.0	38,986
Other	19.8	13.9	12.3	12.0	5.9	72.6	26,244
Don't know	15.9	9.9	11.4	7.9	4.9	77.0	496

*Continued...*

**Table 14.18 Men's attitudes toward a husband's rights when his wife refuses to have sexual intercourse—Continued**

Percentage of men age 15-49 who think that a husband has the right to certain behaviours when his wife refuses to have sex with him when he wants her to, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who agree that when a wife refuses to have sex with her husband, he has the right to:				Percentage who agree with all four behaviours	Percentage who agree with none of the four behaviours	Number of men
	Get angry and reprimand her	Refuse to give her financial support	Use force to have sex	Have sex with another woman			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>							
Lowest	20.0	14.4	12.4	11.4	5.2	71.1	15,606
Second	20.4	13.5	12.3	12.5	5.7	71.8	18,497
Middle	19.4	12.2	12.0	12.9	5.2	71.9	19,829
Fourth	17.8	12.6	11.9	13.0	4.6	72.1	20,658
Highest	18.9	12.6	12.6	12.7	6.7	73.8	18,553
Total age 15-49	19.2	13.0	12.2	12.6	5.5	72.2	93,144
Age 50-54	19.5	13.1	12.2	13.0	5.2	72.4	8,695
Total age 15-54	19.3	13.0	12.2	12.6	5.5	72.2	101,839

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

Table 14.19 Men's attitudes toward a husband's rights when his wife refuses to have sexual intercourse by state/union territory

Percentage of men age 15-49 who think that a husband has the right to certain behaviours when a woman refuses to have sex with him when he wants her to, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who agree that when a wife refuses to have sex with her husband, he has the right to:				Percentage who agree with all four behaviours	Percentage who agree with none of the four behaviours
	Get angry and reprimand her	Refuse to give her financial support	Use force to have sex	Have sex with another woman		
<b>India</b>	19.2	13.0	12.2	12.6	5.5	72.2
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	68.5	54.8	61.1	67.1	50.2	28.1
Delhi	8.6	4.0	3.3	4.6	1.2	87.7
Haryana	14.6	10.9	10.4	11.0	8.1	82.5
Himachal Pradesh	16.2	9.4	8.5	8.5	6.2	80.4
Jammu & Kashmir	25.8	19.0	14.0	12.8	6.6	66.3
Ladakh	29.9	30.2	14.8	11.9	3.8	45.5
Punjab	67.5	59.1	67.2	71.3	50.3	20.5
Rajasthan	15.8	11.9	10.7	11.3	6.0	77.8
Uttarakhand	12.4	7.5	5.8	6.2	4.6	85.4
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	15.0	9.0	8.0	10.3	3.3	77.8
Madhya Pradesh	14.8	8.4	5.5	6.9	2.3	79.9
Uttar Pradesh	13.4	8.8	7.7	8.0	4.0	81.3
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	15.0	9.9	9.3	8.1	4.1	78.4
Jharkhand	18.6	10.0	8.0	9.0	4.9	77.2
Odisha	15.7	3.7	2.5	1.6	0.6	81.7
West Bengal	24.2	15.8	14.9	10.6	3.9	65.2
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	20.6	15.5	13.5	13.4	6.7	71.4
Assam	19.1	16.1	15.1	15.4	10.1	74.0
Manipur	20.2	14.3	12.5	15.1	8.9	73.7
Meghalaya	17.4	12.3	13.4	11.3	6.0	76.8
Mizoram	32.0	24.1	25.6	35.5	16.2	52.6
Nagaland	7.1	3.2	4.4	5.7	1.0	87.7
Sikkim	22.8	18.1	18.9	18.7	11.7	68.5
Tripura	11.7	7.6	6.1	6.4	3.4	84.1
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	9.5	5.1	7.0	7.1	2.0	85.3
Goa	6.3	3.0	3.4	9.2	2.4	88.9
Gujarat	9.7	6.6	4.5	5.1	2.2	86.2
Maharashtra	16.5	11.2	8.0	9.7	4.3	76.9
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14.9	7.5	7.5	7.7	5.7	83.8
Andhra Pradesh	19.5	10.7	11.6	15.4	5.4	70.3
Karnataka	32.3	27.1	30.7	31.1	10.6	44.5
Kerala	22.6	11.4	8.8	13.0	3.9	69.2
Lakshadweep	7.4	4.9	5.3	6.2	1.0	88.2
Puducherry	6.1	3.7	3.8	4.3	2.4	91.2
Tamil Nadu	12.9	5.7	6.1	6.1	2.4	82.4
Telangana	26.6	15.7	17.7	18.6	6.2	58.2



**Table 14.20 Ability to negotiate sexual relations with husband**

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse, according to selected background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse	Number of women
<b>Age</b>		
15-19	81.3	2,298
20-24	82.8	10,762
25-29	82.5	15,184
30-39	82.6	27,735
40-49	82.2	21,749
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	84.8	24,074
Rural	81.4	53,655
<b>Schooling</b>		
No schooling	77.5	21,503
<5 years complete	81.1	4,874
5-7 years complete	81.8	11,851
8-9 years complete	83.7	12,671
10-11 years complete	84.7	9,720
12 or more years complete	87.2	17,109
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	83.0	63,121
Muslim	79.4	10,697
Christian	85.6	1,678
Sikh	75.0	1,321
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	86.6	462
Jain	91.5	153
Other	72.4	297
<b>Caste/tribe</b>		
Scheduled caste	82.0	16,653
Scheduled tribe	80.2	7,115
Other backward class	82.9	34,020
Other	83.0	19,391
Don't know	79.0	550
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	78.0	14,573
Second	80.6	15,829
Middle	82.3	15,969
Fourth	84.2	15,867
Highest	86.8	15,491
Total	82.4	77,729

**Table 14.21 Ability to negotiate sexual relations with husband by state/union territory**

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse, by state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Percentage who can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse
<b>India</b>	82.4
<b>North</b>	
Chandigarh	82.8
Delhi	88.0
Haryana	84.2
Himachal Pradesh	90.9
Jammu & Kashmir	65.0
Ladakh	60.9
Punjab	73.2
Rajasthan	79.9
Uttarakhand	82.2
<b>Central</b>	
Chhattisgarh	76.9
Madhya Pradesh	78.1
Uttar Pradesh	83.0
<b>East</b>	
Bihar	81.7
Jharkhand	83.9
Odisha	83.6
West Bengal	79.5
<b>Northeast</b>	
Arunachal Pradesh	63.3
Assam	77.3
Manipur	81.6
Meghalaya	73.7
Mizoram	93.3
Nagaland	86.2
Sikkim	78.3
Tripura	83.9
<b>West</b>	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	74.4
Goa	91.9
Gujarat	84.3
Maharashtra	87.0
<b>South</b>	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	82.2
Andhra Pradesh	79.3
Karnataka	81.4
Kerala	90.0
Lakshadweep	94.2
Puducherry	93.3
Tamil Nadu	89.6
Telangana	84.9

**Table 14.22 Ownership of assets**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who own a house or land either alone or jointly, percentage of women who own a mobile phone that they themselves use, and among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who can read SMS messages, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Number of women	Among women who have a mobile phone, percentage who can read SMS messages	Number of women	Men		
	Own a house alone or jointly	Own land alone or jointly	Have a mobile phone that they themselves use				Own a house alone or jointly	Own land alone or jointly	Number of men
<b>Age</b>									
15-19	30.1	24.0	31.9	18,240	89.1	5,827	39.8	29.8	16,385
20-24	36.9	29.2	60.9	17,809	84.7	10,844	44.9	33.5	14,384
25-29	40.8	31.4	65.0	17,398	75.8	11,309	54.7	38.7	14,195
30-39	45.7	33.6	61.6	29,853	64.9	18,391	67.5	46.5	26,137
40-49	52.0	37.1	48.1	24,714	52.5	11,898	79.8	54.8	22,043
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	37.4	23.4	69.4	34,839	80.6	24,163	53.5	29.6	32,852
Rural	44.6	35.7	46.6	73,175	63.5	34,106	63.7	49.3	60,291
<b>Schooling</b>									
No schooling	51.2	39.0	34.4	24,485	6.7	8,417	74.5	52.8	9,982
<5 years complete	40.8	30.0	40.8	5,715	18.9	2,335	68.2	46.2	5,842
5-7 years complete	42.4	31.5	47.7	14,547	46.1	6,946	65.2	44.8	12,082
8-9 years complete	37.4	29.2	48.4	19,237	76.9	9,317	58.5	42.8	18,472
10-11 years complete	39.5	29.4	57.2	16,278	90.4	9,303	56.9	40.2	16,735
12 or more years complete	39.6	28.9	79.1	27,751	97.2	21,950	54.5	38.0	30,032
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>									
Nuclear	43.4	31.5	53.6	54,024	66.0	28,932	62.1	42.2	46,703
Non-nuclear	41.1	31.9	54.3	53,990	75.1	29,337	58.1	42.4	46,441
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	42.6	32.5	53.8	87,179	70.9	46,907	60.3	43.6	73,632
Muslim	38.5	28.7	51.3	15,138	63.1	7,769	60.8	39.6	14,633
Christian	40.8	23.7	69.1	2,495	83.2	1,724	56.4	30.6	2,426
Sikh	60.0	31.7	61.0	1,908	81.8	1,164	59.3	34.3	886
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	29.9	22.0	55.4	652	78.6	361	50.1	29.8	1,017
Jain	20.2	13.3	71.2	214	99.3	152	52.0	23.9	280
Other	59.7	40.9	44.9	428	74.7	192	59.1	53.3	269
<b>Caste/tribe</b>									
Scheduled caste	43.3	30.2	48.3	23,427	62.8	11,304	60.0	38.4	18,977
Scheduled tribe	47.0	39.0	39.9	9,909	64.4	3,958	63.3	50.9	8,441
Other backward class	44.9	33.8	54.6	47,251	69.8	25,778	61.9	43.8	38,986
Other	35.3	27.1	63.4	26,733	78.7	16,951	56.6	40.3	26,244
Don't know	27.5	18.4	40.1	694	50.2	278	53.2	37.1	496

*Continued...*

**Table 14.22 Ownership of assets—Continued**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who own a house or land either alone or jointly, percentage of women who own a mobile phone that they themselves use, and among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who can read SMS messages, according to background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Women			Number of women	Among women who have a mobile phone, percentage who can read SMS messages	Number of women	Men		Number of men
	Own a house alone or jointly	Own land alone or jointly	Have a mobile phone that they themselves use				Own a house alone or jointly	Own land alone or jointly	
<b>Wealth quintile</b>									
Lowest	45.2	36.9	32.6	19,904	36.3	6,486	64.4	49.9	15,606
Second	43.6	34.9	41.6	22,049	54.1	9,180	63.4	49.0	18,497
Middle	42.8	32.0	51.1	22,252	65.6	11,369	60.7	43.7	19,829
Fourth	40.3	29.1	63.7	22,376	77.5	14,252	58.8	38.1	20,658
Highest	39.7	26.1	79.2	21,432	90.0	16,981	54.0	32.6	18,553
Total age 15-49	42.3	31.7	53.9	108,014	70.6	58,269	60.1	42.3	93,144
Age 50-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	88.0	60.8	8,695
Total age 15-54	na	na	na	na	na	na	62.5	43.9	101,839

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 14.23 Ownership of assets by state/union territory**

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who own a house or land either alone or jointly, percentage of women who own a mobile phone that they themselves use, and among women who own a mobile phone, percentage who can read SMS messages, according to state/union territory, India, 2019-21

State/union territory	Women			Among women who have a mobile phone, percentage who can read SMS messages	Men	
	Own a house alone or jointly	Own land alone or jointly	Have a mobile phone that they themselves use		Own a house alone or jointly	Own land alone or jointly
<b>India</b>	42.3	31.7	53.9	70.6	60.1	42.3
<b>North</b>						
Chandigarh	30.4	9.0	70.0	85.4	40.2	26.5
Delhi	21.9	12.7	73.8	82.3	37.2	21.1
Haryana	38.6	30.8	50.4	83.7	50.4	36.8
Himachal Pradesh	22.4	20.3	79.5	84.7	52.8	48.2
Jammu & Kashmir	56.6	51.1	75.2	70.1	78.5	69.8
Ladakh	71.9	63.8	81.2	76.3	74.6	70.7
Punjab	63.2	27.1	61.2	81.7	58.2	31.5
Rajasthan	26.0	20.7	50.2	69.4	55.9	43.3
Uttarakhand	23.8	17.5	60.9	82.8	52.3	38.8
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	45.1	38.8	40.7	79.7	71.7	66.3
Madhya Pradesh	38.9	32.3	38.5	74.3	57.3	45.4
Uttar Pradesh	51.2	42.7	46.5	65.7	65.5	55.8
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	54.4	43.8	51.4	49.3	67.8	52.9
Jharkhand	63.6	54.6	49.0	67.6	82.6	73.7
Odisha	42.5	36.6	50.1	68.3	73.1	58.0
West Bengal	22.0	16.7	50.1	64.0	51.6	33.6
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	68.7	62.8	76.4	73.1	76.0	71.5
Assam	42.2	34.8	57.2	70.6	74.2	63.5
Manipur	57.3	24.8	72.2	80.7	76.8	44.0
Meghalaya	64.1	44.6	67.5	84.4	48.0	38.3
Mizoram	19.4	13.9	82.3	95.6	50.4	40.4
Nagaland	25.5	15.8	82.5	79.2	52.1	41.4
Sikkim	52.4	39.7	88.6	85.3	75.6	70.1
Tripura	15.8	10.7	53.1	68.5	53.4	34.8
<b>West</b>						
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	55.8	50.1	60.5	68.1	44.1	39.0
Goa	22.8	9.2	91.2	93.6	21.2	5.2
Gujarat	42.2	35.0	48.8	74.5	63.7	42.4
Maharashtra	21.5	14.7	54.8	82.9	44.0	27.0
<b>South</b>						
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14.5	8.9	80.8	81.9	47.2	29.0
Andhra Pradesh	45.6	24.5	48.9	61.4	67.1	34.8
Karnataka	66.2	53.7	61.8	68.5	67.9	51.1
Kerala	24.5	11.5	86.6	87.5	53.6	25.1
Lakshadweep	29.7	6.1	84.0	80.5	29.3	12.6
Puducherry	33.6	10.0	82.8	84.3	47.9	7.2
Tamil Nadu	47.0	21.9	74.6	73.1	60.4	26.3
Telangana	63.6	42.6	60.0	65.6	74.3	51.1



### Key Findings

- **Experience of violence from anyone:** Twenty-nine percent of women age 18-49 have experienced physical violence since age 15, and 6 percent have ever experienced sexual violence in their lifetime. Three percent of ever-pregnant women age 18-49 have experienced physical violence during any pregnancy.
- **Spousal violence:** Thirty-two percent of ever-married women age 18-49 have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence. The most common type of spousal violence is physical violence (28%), followed by emotional violence (14%). Six percent of ever-married women age 18-49 have experienced spousal sexual violence.
- **Trends in spousal physical or sexual violence:** Ever-married women's ever experience of spousal physical or sexual violence has declined from 31 percent in NFHS-4 to 29 percent in NFHS-5.
- **Injuries due to spousal violence:** One-fourth of ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced spousal physical or sexual violence report having physical injuries, including 7 percent who have had eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns and 6 percent who have had deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury.
- **Help seeking:** Only 14 percent of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence by anyone have sought help to stop the violence.

**G**ender-based violence against women has been acknowledged worldwide as a violation of basic human rights. Increasing research has highlighted the health burdens, intergenerational effects, and demographic consequences of such violence. Gender-based violence is defined by the United Nations as any act of violence that results in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, girls, men, and boys, as well as threats of such acts, coercion, or the arbitrary deprivation of liberty. This chapter highlights key results of domestic violence, one of the most common forms of gender-based violence against women.

Domestic violence has been recognized since 1983 as a criminal offence under Indian Penal Code 498-A. However, it was not until the enactment of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 (PWDVA), which came into effect in 2006, that civil protections were afforded to victims of domestic violence. The PWDVA provides a definition of domestic violence that is comprehensive and includes all forms of physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, and economic violence, and covers both actual acts of such violence and threats of violence. In addition, the PWDVA recognizes marital rape and covers harassment in the form of unlawful dowry demands as a form of abuse. The Act requires the appointment of protection officers to assist victims, and further acknowledges the importance of collaboration between the government and external organizations in protecting women. Primarily meant to provide protection from domestic violence for wives and female live-in partners at the hands of husbands and male live-in partners or their relatives, the PWDVA has been extended to also protect women living in a household, such as sisters, widows, or mothers. However, despite the PWDVA, violence against women and girls continues to be a major

(POCSO) Act, 2012 (Act No. 32 of 2012) came into effect from 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012). This is an Act to protect children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography and provide for establishment of Special Courts for trial of such offences and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. With this Act, now India has a comprehensive law to protect children from such offences and to safeguard their interests at every stage of the judicial process by adopting children-friendly mechanisms.

To help India monitor progress toward reducing domestic violence, NFHS-5 included a module of questions on domestic violence that was administered to women age 18-49 in the subsample of households selected for the state module. A similar module was also included in NFHS-4, although the NFHS-4 module was administered to women age 15-49. Therefore, comparisons over time cannot be made for women age 18-49. In accordance with the World Health Organization's guidelines on the ethical collection of information on domestic violence, only one eligible woman per household was randomly selected for the module, and the module was not administered to eligible woman age 18-49 if privacy could not be obtained after at least three attempts during the survey. In total, 72,056 women completed the domestic violence module. Only 4 percent of women eligible for the domestic violence module could not be successfully interviewed with the module because privacy could not be obtained or for other reasons. Special weights were used to adjust for the selection of only one woman per household and to ensure that the domestic violence subsample was nationally representative.

## 15.1 MEASUREMENT OF VIOLENCE

In NFHS-5, information was obtained from never-married women age 18-49 on their experience of violence committed by anyone and from ever-married women age 18-49 on their experience of violence committed by their current and former husbands and by others. More specifically, violence committed by the current husband for currently married women and by the most recent husband for formerly married women was measured by asking interviewed ever-married women age 18-49 if their husband ever did the following to them:

**Physical spousal violence:** push you, shake you, or throw something at you; slap you; twist your arm or pull your hair; punch you with his fist or with something that could hurt you; kick you, drag you, or beat you up; try to choke you or burn you on purpose; or threaten or attack you with a knife, gun, or any other weapon

**Sexual spousal violence:** physically force you to have sexual intercourse with him even when you did not want to; physically force you to perform any other sexual acts you did not want to; force you with threats or in any other way to perform sexual acts you did not want to

**Emotional spousal violence:** say or do something to humiliate you in front of others; threaten to hurt or harm you or someone close to you; insult you or make you feel bad about yourself

In addition, information was obtained from interviewed women age 18-49 (married and unmarried) about physical violence committed by anyone (other than a current or most recent husband) since they were age 15 by asking if anyone had hit, slapped, kicked, or done something else to hurt them physically. Interviewed women age 18-49 were asked about the experience of sexual violence committed by anyone (other than a current or most recent husband) by asking if at any time in their life, as a child or as an adult, they were forced in any way to have sexual intercourse or to perform any other sexual acts when they did not want to do. Finally, women age 18-49 who had ever been pregnant were asked about their experience of physical violence committed by anyone during any pregnancy.



## 15.2 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

### Physical violence by anyone

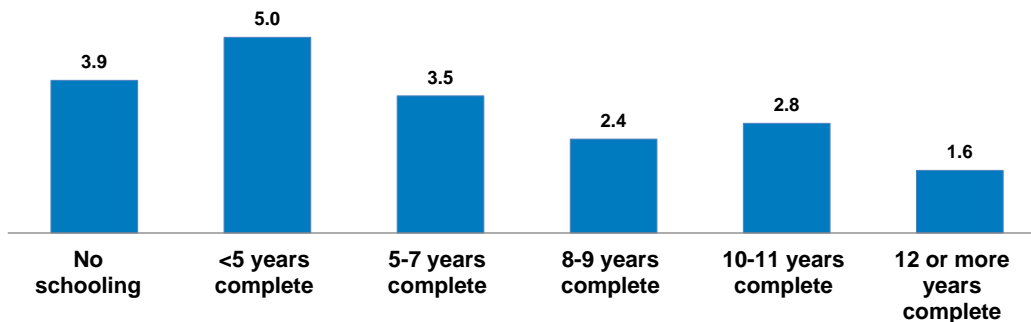
Women age 18-49 who have experienced any physical violence (committed by a husband or anyone else) since age 15 and in the 12 months preceding the survey.

**Sample:** Women age 18-49

Twenty-nine percent of women age 18-49 in India have ever experienced physical violence since age 15, and 22 percent have experienced physical violence in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 15.1**). Among women age 18-49 who have ever been pregnant, 3 percent have experienced physical violence during any pregnancy (**Table 15.2** and **Figure 15.1**).

**Figure 15.1 Violence during Pregnancy by Level of Schooling**

*Percentage of ever-pregnant women age 18-49 who have experienced physical violence during any pregnancy*

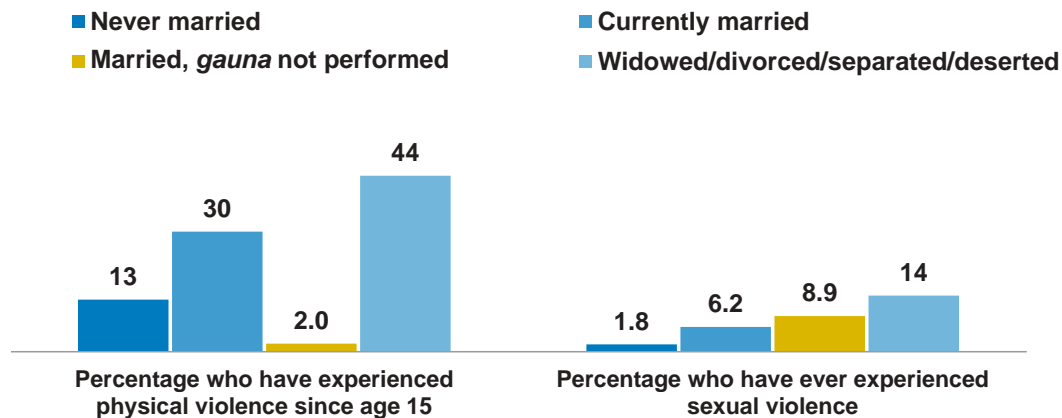


### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women's experience of physical violence increases with age, from 16 percent among women age 18-19 to 32 percent among women age 40-49. The experience of violence is less common among never-married women than among women who have ever been married (**Table 15.1** and **Figure 15.2**).
- The experience of physical violence is more common among women in rural areas (31%) than among women in urban areas (24%).
- Women's experience of violence declines sharply with women's schooling and wealth. By schooling, the percentage of women who report physical violence declines from 39 percent among women with no schooling to 17 percent among women with 12 or more years of schooling. Similarly, the experience of physical violence ranges from 38 percent among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 17 percent among women in the highest wealth quintile.
- Women who are employed are more likely to experience physical violence than women who are not employed. For example, 36% of women who are employed for cash, compared with 25% of women who are not employed, have experienced physical violence since age 15 years.

## Figure 15.2 Women's Experience of Violence by Marital Status

Percentage of women age 18-49



### 15.2.1 Perpetrators of Physical Violence

Among ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced physical violence since age 15, 83 percent report their current husband as the perpetrator of the violence, and 9 percent report their former husband (Table 15.3). For never-married women who have experienced physical violence since age 15, the most common perpetrators are mothers or step-mothers (60%), fathers or step-fathers (36%), sisters or brothers (25%), and teachers (8%).

## 15.3 EXPERIENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

### Sexual violence

Women who have experienced any sexual violence (committed by a husband or anyone else) ever and in the 12 months preceding the survey.

**Sample:** Women age 18-49

### 15.3.1 Prevalence of Sexual Violence

Women age 18-49 were asked if they had ever experienced sexual violence by anyone as a child or as an adult. Overall, 6 percent of women report having ever experienced sexual violence in their lifetime (Table 15.4).

#### Patterns by background characteristics

- Women's experience of sexual violence is somewhat lower among younger women (4% each for women age 18-19 and 20-24, 6% for women age 25-29, and 7% for women age 30 and over).
- Experience of sexual violence decreases sharply with schooling, from 9 percent among women with no schooling to 3 percent among women with 12 or more years of schooling. Women's experience of sexual violence declines similarly with wealth, from 10 percent among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 3 percent among women in the highest wealth quintile.
- Widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women and women from 'other' religions are far more likely than any other women to report having experienced sexual violence.

### 15.3.2 Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

NFHS-5 shows that sexual violence is most often committed by individuals with whom women have an intimate relationship. Among ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced sexual violence, 82 percent report their current husband and 14 percent report a former husband as perpetrators. Among never-married women who

reported sexual violence, the most common perpetrators were ‘other’ relatives (39%), followed by a current or former boyfriend (16%) and a family friend (12%). Some never-married women mention stranger (5%), teacher, father/step-father, and brother/step-brother (4% each) as perpetrators (**Table 15.6**).

## 15.4 EXPERIENCE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF VIOLENCE

Physical violence and sexual violence may not occur in isolation; rather, women may experience a combination of different types of violence. Twenty-five percent of women age 18-49 have experienced physical violence only, 6 percent have experienced both physical and sexual violence, and 1 percent have experienced sexual violence only. About one-third (32%) of women age 18-49 in India have experienced physical or sexual violence (**Table 15.7**). The percentage of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence ranges from 3 percent in Lakshadweep to 42-49 percent in Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and Karnataka.

## 15.5 MARITAL CONTROL BY HUSBAND

### **Marital control**

Women whose current husband (if currently married) or most recent husband (if formerly married) demonstrates at least one of the following controlling behaviours: is jealous or angry if she talks to other men; frequently accuses her of being unfaithful; does not permit her to meet her female friends; tries to limit her contact with her family; insists on knowing where she is at all times; and does not trust her with any money.

**Sample:** Ever-married women age 18-49

Attempts by husbands to closely control and monitor their wives’ behaviour are important early warning signs and correlates of violence in a relationship. Because the concentration of behaviours is more significant than the display of any single behaviour, the proportion of women whose husbands display at least three of the specified behaviours is also discussed in this section.

Twenty-six percent of ever-married women report that their husband is jealous or angry if they talk to other men, 21 percent report that he does not trust them with any money, 20 percent report that he does not permit them to meet their female friends, 19 percent report that he insists on knowing where they are at all times, 16 percent report that he tries to limit their contact with their families, and 11 percent report that he frequently accuses them of being unfaithful. Overall, 18 percent of ever-married women report that their husband displays three or more of the specified behaviours and 54 percent report that he displays none of them (**Table 15.8**).

### **Patterns by background characteristics**

- Women’s reports of controlling behaviours by their husband decline with age. Overall, 20 percent of younger ever-married women age 18-19 report that their husband displays at least three of the specified behaviours, compared with 17 percent among women age 40-49 (**Table 15.8**).
- Women’s experience of at least three controlling behaviours is higher in rural areas (20%) than in urban areas (15%) and declines with women’s schooling and wealth.
- Hindu and Muslim women are more likely (19% each) to have husbands with at least three controlling behaviours than women belonging to any other religious group.
- Women’s reports of husband’s controlling behaviours vary greatly by whether or not the respondent is afraid of her husband. While 10 percent of women who say that they are never afraid of their husband report at least three controlling behaviours by their husband, this percentage is 41 percent among women who are afraid of their husband most of the time.

## 15.6 FORMS OF SPOUSAL VIOLENCE

### Spousal violence

Women who have experienced any of the specified acts of physical, sexual, or emotional violence committed by their current husband (if currently married) or their most recent husband (if formerly married), ever and in the 12 months preceding the survey.

**Sample:** Ever-married women age 18-49

### 15.6.1 Prevalence of Spousal Violence

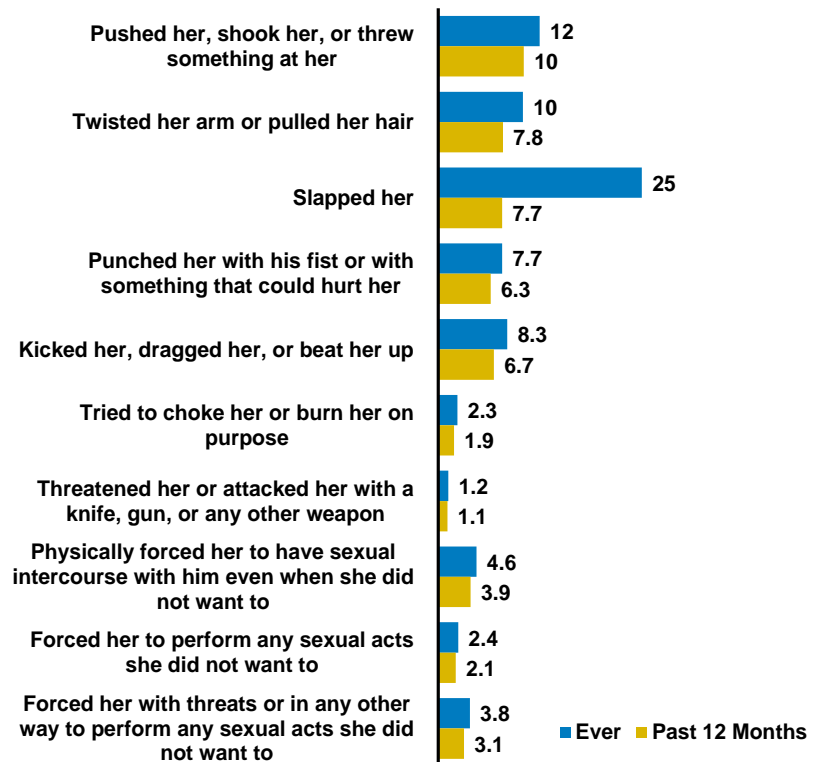
Thirty-two percent of ever-married women have ever experienced spousal physical, sexual, or emotional violence by their current husband (for currently married women) or their most recent husband (for formerly married women), and 27 percent have experienced at least one of these forms of violence in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 15.9**).

Twenty-nine percent of ever-married women have experienced spousal physical violence, with 23 percent experiencing such violence in the past 12 months. Six percent have experienced spousal sexual violence, with 5 percent experiencing it in the past 12 months. Spousal emotional violence was reported by 14 percent of ever-married women, and 12 percent reported such violence in the past 12 months.

Of the acts of physical violence committed by the current or most recent husbands, the most common type is slapping, reported by 25 percent of ever-married women. Twelve percent of women reported being pushed, shaken, or having something thrown at them; 10 percent reported having their arm twisted or hair pulled; and 8 percent reported being punched with his fist or with something that could hurt them or being kicked, dragged, or beaten up. Two percent of women reported that their husband tried to choke or burn them on purpose and 1 percent reported that their husband had threatened or attacked them with a knife, gun, or other weapon. The form of sexual violence most commonly reported by women is that their husband used physical force to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (5%). Four percent reported that their husband forced them with threats or in other ways to perform sexual acts they did not want to, and 2 percent reported that their husband forced them to perform any sexual acts they did not want to (**Figure 15.3**).

**Figure 15.3 Types of Spousal Violence**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced specified acts of spousal physical or sexual violence



Women reporting emotional violence were most likely to report that their husband said or did something to humiliate them in front of others (10%), followed by their husband insulting them or making them feel bad about themselves (9%). Six percent of women said that their husband threatened to hurt or harm them or someone close to them.

Women who were married more than once were also asked about spousal physical or sexual violence by any other husband. Twenty-nine percent of them have ever experienced spousal physical or sexual violence committed by any husband, only slightly higher than the percentage of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence committed by the current or most recent husband (**Table 15.9**). During the 12 months before the survey, 24 percent of ever-married women experienced physical or sexual violence by any husband, either current or previous (**Table 15.9** and **Table 15.10**).

### Patterns by background characteristics

- Ever experience of one or more forms of spousal violence by ever-married women increases sharply with women’s number of living children, from 24 percent among women with no children to 41 percent among women with five or more children (**Table 15.11**).
- Women in rural areas are more likely (34%) than women in urban areas (27%) to experience one or more forms of spousal violence.
- Although all forms of spousal violence decline sharply with schooling and wealth, 1 in 5 women with 12 or more years of schooling and women who are in the highest wealth quintile report ever having experienced physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence.
- Intergenerational effects of spousal violence are evident in India. Women who report that their father beat their mother are much more likely (58%) to have themselves experienced spousal violence than women who report that their fathers did not beat their mother (25%).

### Patterns by husband’s characteristics and empowerment indicators

- Based on the reports of ever-married women age 18-49 of their experience of spousal violence, husbands who have completed 12 or more years of schooling are half as likely (22%) to commit physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence as husbands with no schooling (43%). Notably, the variation in spousal violence by women’s own education is similar to the variation by the education of their husband (**Table 15.12**).
- Women with husbands having the same education level as them are less likely (26%) to have experienced spousal violence than women in couples in which neither attended school (43%) or one or the other has more schooling.

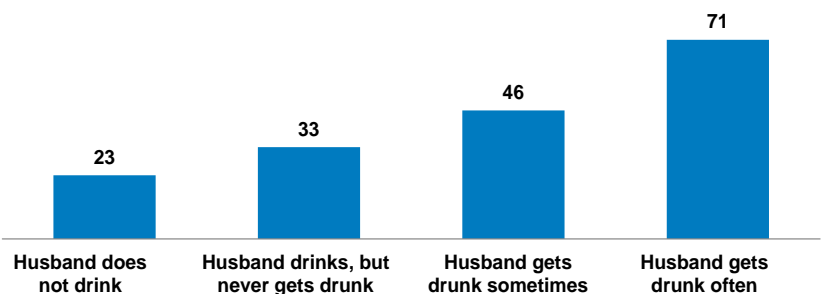
The likelihood of experiencing spousal violence increases sharply with the number of marital control behaviours displayed by husbands; 75 percent of women whose husbands displayed 5-6 of the specified marital control behaviours have ever experienced spousal violence, compared with 17 percent of women whose husbands did not display any specified behaviours.

Experience of spousal physical or sexual violence varies greatly with the level of the husband’s alcohol consumption. Seventy-one percent of women whose husbands often get drunk have experienced spousal physical or sexual violence, compared with 23 percent of women whose husbands do not drink alcohol (**Figure 15.4**).

Women’s experience of spousal violence does not vary linearly with women’s participation in household decision-making, and their acceptance of wife beating. However, more than 40 percent of the women who agree with 3-7 of the specified reasons for wife beating have experienced spousal violence, compared with 23% of women who agree with none of the specified reasons for wife beating.

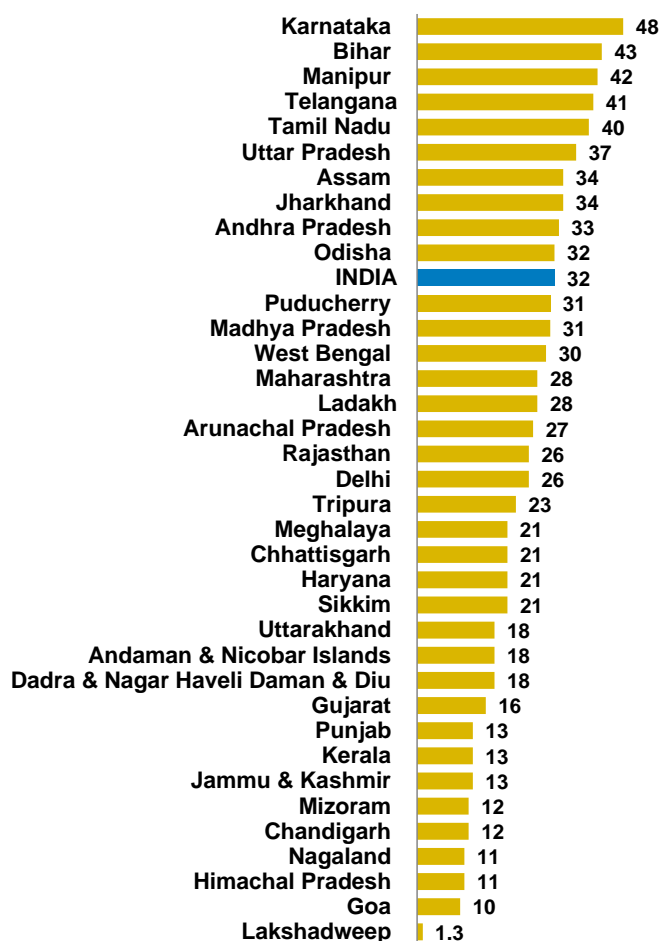
**Figure 15.4 Spousal Violence by Husband's Alcohol Consumption**

*Percentage of ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal physical or sexual violence*



### Figure 15.5 Spousal Violence by State/UT

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced spousal physical, sexual, or emotional violence



- Fear of husband and spousal violence are highly correlated. Women who say that they are afraid of their husband most of the time are most likely to have ever experienced spousal violence (59%), followed by women who are sometimes afraid of their husbands (34%). Among women who say that they are never afraid of their husband, 15 percent have experienced spousal violence.
- Women’s experience of any spousal physical, sexual, or emotional violence varies greatly across states/UTs, from 1 percent in Lakshadweep to 10 percent in Goa and 11 percent each in Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland to 40-43 percent of women in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Manipur and Bihar, and to 48 percent in Karnataka (Table 15.13 and Figure 15.5).

Table 15.14 shows when spousal violence first occurred in relation to the start of marriage for women married only once. Among currently married women age 18-49 who have been married only once, 11 percent reported their first ever experience of spousal violence within the first 2 years of marriage, and 21 percent experienced such violence within 5 years. This suggests that a large proportion of spousal violence begins early in marriage.

## 15.7 INJURIES TO WOMEN DUE TO SPOUSAL VIOLENCE

### **Injuries due to spousal violence**

Women who have the following types of injuries from spousal violence: cuts, bruises, or aches; severe burns; eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns; deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injuries

**Sample:** Ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their current husband (if currently married) or most recent husband (if formerly married)

Among ever-married women who have experienced any spousal physical or sexual violence, one-fourth (25%) have sustained some kind of injury, and the percentage who have been injured is similar for women who have ever experienced spousal violence and have experienced it in the past 12 months (**Table 15.15**).

Cuts, bruises, or aches are the most common types of injuries (22%) reported by women who have experienced spousal physical or sexual violence. However, 7 percent of women who experienced spousal physical or sexual violence report serious injuries like eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns and 6 percent have had deep wounds, broken bones, or broken teeth. Three percent report having experienced severe burns.

## 15.8 VIOLENCE INITIATED BY WOMEN AGAINST HUSBANDS

### **Initiation of physical violence by wives**

Women who have ever hit, slapped, kicked, or done anything else to physically hurt their current (if currently married) or most recent (if formerly married) husband at times when he was not already beating or physically hurting her.

**Sample:** Ever-married women age 18-49

Four percent of ever-married women have ever initiated physical violence against their husband when he was not already beating or physically hurting them. Three percent reported that they initiated such violence in the past 12 months (**Table 15.16**).

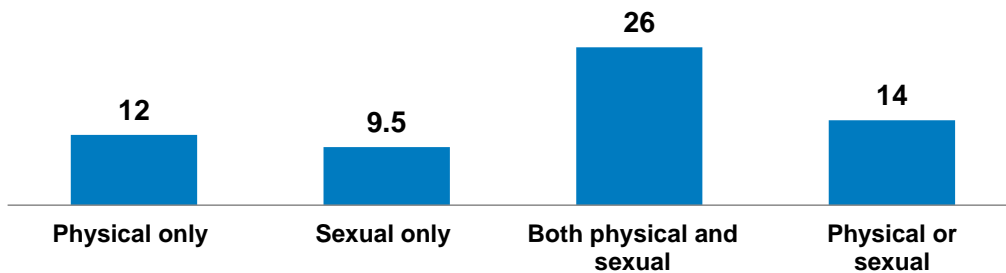
Women who have experienced spousal violence are much more likely than women who have not experienced spousal violence to have ever initiated violence against their husband. Ten percent of women who have ever experienced spousal violence perpetrated such violence, compared with 1 percent who have never experienced such spousal violence. Nonetheless, among women who initiated violence, the percentage who experience violence is much lower than the percentage of women who have ever experienced spousal physical violence.

## 15.9 HELP-SEEKING AMONG WOMEN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE

Of all women in India who have ever experienced any type of physical or sexual violence, only 14 percent have sought help for the violence, and 77 percent have never sought any help nor told anyone about the violence they experienced (Table 15.17 and Figure 15.6).

**Figure 15.6 Help Seeking by Type of Violence Experienced**

*Percentage of women age 18-49 who have experienced physical or sexual violence who sought help*



### Patterns by background characteristics

- Help seeking is much more common among women who have experienced both physical and sexual violence (26%) than among women who have experienced only physical violence or only sexual violence (10-12%).
- Women who have experienced violence by a previous husband only are much more likely to have sought help (24%) than women who have experienced violence only by their current husband (11%).
- Help seeking to stop the violence does not vary much by most other characteristics.

### 15.9.1 Sources of Help

Among the women who have experienced physical or sexual violence and sought help, the most common source for help was the woman's own family (61%). The second most common source for help was the husband's family (29%). Seventeen percent of women sought help from a friend. Among institutional sources of help, the most common is police (6%), followed by a social service organization (3%). Only 2 percent each have ever sought help from a doctor or medical personnel or a lawyer (Table 15.18).



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Table 15.1 Experience of physical violence

Percentage of women age 18-49 who have ever experienced physical violence since age 15 and percentage who have experienced physical violence during the 12 months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who have ever experienced physical violence since age 15 <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who have experienced physical violence in the past 12 months			Number of women
		Often	Sometimes	Often or sometimes	
<b>Age</b>					
18-19	16.4	1.5	10.0	11.5	4,907
20-24	22.8	2.8	15.0	17.8	12,190
25-29	28.1	3.5	19.2	22.8	12,040
30-39	31.9	3.9	20.6	24.5	23,613
40-49	32.1	4.0	20.2	24.2	19,306
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	23.8	2.5	15.2	17.7	23,280
Rural	31.1	4.0	20.2	24.3	48,776
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	39.3	5.5	26.1	31.5	18,294
<5 years complete	32.9	4.4	20.0	24.4	4,807
5-7 years complete	32.8	4.0	21.6	25.6	10,267
8-9 years complete	27.5	3.1	17.1	20.1	10,643
10-11 years complete	25.2	2.8	17.3	20.2	9,818
12 or more years complete	17.3	1.7	10.7	12.4	18,227
<b>Employment (past 12 months)</b>					
Not employed	25.2	2.9	16.8	19.7	47,249
Employed for cash	35.8	5.0	22.2	27.2	21,101
Employed not for cash	33.2	3.0	20.7	23.8	3,706
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	12.9	1.0	6.9	7.8	9,600
Currently married	30.3	3.5	20.3	23.8	58,611
Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	2.1	0.0	1.5	1.5	75
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	44.4	10.5	22.8	33.3	3,771
<b>Household structure<sup>2</sup></b>					
Nuclear	30.6	3.6	19.7	23.3	36,509
Non-nuclear	26.8	3.4	17.5	20.9	35,547
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	29.7	3.7	19.4	23.1	56,423
Muslim	26.1	3.2	16.6	19.8	11,795
Christian	22.6	1.9	14.2	16.1	2,046
Sikh	11.7	1.7	6.6	8.3	646
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	29.5	3.9	17.8	21.7	732
Jain	18.2	0.9	4.4	5.2	186
Other	30.7	1.3	15.7	17.0	227

Continued...

**Table 15.1 Experience of physical violence—Continued**

Percentage of women age 18-49 who have ever experienced physical violence since age 15 and percentage who have experienced physical violence during the 12 months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who have ever experienced physical violence since age 15 <sup>1</sup>	Percentage who have experienced physical violence in the past 12 months			Number of women
		Often	Sometimes	Often or sometimes	
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	33.9	4.5	22.1	26.6	14,959
Scheduled tribe	31.0	4.1	19.5	23.6	6,409
Other backward class	30.0	3.5	20.1	23.6	30,055
Other	22.3	2.7	13.6	16.3	20,153
Don't know	23.5	1.2	14.8	16.0	480
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	37.7	5.7	24.1	29.8	13,270
Second	35.1	4.3	23.3	27.6	14,936
Middle	29.7	3.6	19.3	22.9	15,311
Fourth	24.1	2.5	15.4	17.9	15,263
Highest	16.8	1.5	10.8	12.2	13,276
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>72,056</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes violence in the past 12 months. For women who were married before age 15 and who reported physical violence by their husband, the violence could have occurred before age 15.

<sup>2</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 15.2 Experience of violence during pregnancy**

Among women age 18-49 who have ever been pregnant, percentage who have ever experienced physical violence during pregnancy, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who experienced violence during pregnancy	Number of women who have ever been pregnant
<b>Age</b>		
18-19	5.0	951
20-24	2.4	6,761
25-29	2.9	10,040
30-39	3.2	22,596
40-49	3.2	18,646
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	2.6	18,089
Rural	3.3	40,905
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	0.6	80
Currently married	2.9	55,531
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	7.2	3,383
<b>Number of living children</b>		
0	1.7	2,024
1-2	2.8	35,547
3-4	3.7	17,669
5 or more	4.6	3,753
<b>Schooling</b>		
No schooling	3.9	17,317
<5 years complete	5.0	4,509
5-7 years complete	3.5	9,410
8-9 years complete	2.4	9,012
10-11 years complete	2.8	7,784
12 or more years complete	1.6	10,961
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	3.1	46,651
Muslim	3.3	9,525
Christian	3.3	1,521
Sikh	2.0	451
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	4.2	544
Jain	0.0	124
Other	1.4	178
<b>Caste/tribe</b>		
Scheduled caste	3.7	12,338
Scheduled tribe	3.6	5,194
Other backward class	3.1	24,822
Other	2.5	16,216
Don't know	3.7	422
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	4.2	11,520
Second	3.6	12,552
Middle	3.7	12,589
Fourth	2.3	12,110
Highest	1.6	10,222
Total	3.1	58,993

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**Table 15.3 Persons committing physical violence**

Among women age 18-49 who have experienced physical violence since age 15, percentage who report specific persons who committed the violence, according to the respondent's marital status, India, 2019-21

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Person	Marital status		Total
	Ever married	Never married	
Current husband/partner	82.9	na	78.0
Former husband/partner	8.8	na	8.3
Current boyfriend	0.2	1.0	0.2
Former boyfriend	0.1	0.9	0.1
Father/step-father	7.9	35.7	9.5
Mother/step-mother	12.2	60.3	15.1
Sister/brother	5.2	24.9	6.4
Daughter/son	0.3	1.7	0.3
Other relative	1.3	3.5	1.4
Mother-in-law	0.7	na	0.7
Father-in-law	0.3	na	0.3
Other-in-law	0.6	na	0.6
Teacher	1.2	8.0	1.6
Employer/someone at work	0.0	0.0	0.0
Police/soldier	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.5	1.4	0.6
Number of women who have experienced physical violence since age 15	19,459	1,237	20,696

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Note: Women can report more than one person who committed the violence.  
na = Not applicable

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Table 15.4 Experience of sexual violence

Percentage of women age 18-49 who have ever experienced sexual violence, by background characteristics, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who have ever experienced sexual violence	Number of women
<b>Age</b>		
18-19	3.5	4,907
20-24	4.2	12,190
25-29	6.2	12,040
30-39	7.0	23,613
40-49	6.5	19,306
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	4.7	23,280
Rural	6.7	48,776
<b>Schooling</b>		
No schooling	8.8	18,294
<5 years complete	8.9	4,807
5-7 years complete	6.8	10,267
8-9 years complete	5.3	10,643
10-11 years complete	4.8	9,818
12 or more years complete	3.2	18,227
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	1.8	9,600
Currently married	6.2	58,611
Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	8.9	75
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	13.8	3,771
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>		
Nuclear	6.4	36,509
Non-nuclear	5.7	35,547
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	6.0	56,423
Muslim	6.5	11,795
Christian	4.1	2,046
Sikh	2.5	646
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	7.2	732
Jain	2.0	186
Other	11.1	227
<b>Caste/tribe</b>		
Scheduled caste	7.2	14,959
Scheduled tribe	6.5	6,409
Other backward class	5.6	30,055
Other	5.6	20,153
Don't know	5.5	480
<b>Wealth quintile</b>		
Lowest	10.0	13,270
Second	7.6	14,936
Middle	5.4	15,311
Fourth	4.2	15,263
Highest	3.2	13,276
Total	6.0	72,056

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 15.5 Age at first experience of sexual violence**

Percentage of women age 18-49 who experienced sexual violence by specific exact age, according to current age and marital status, India, 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage who first experienced sexual violence by exact age:					Percentage who have not experienced sexual violence	Number of women
	10	12	15	18	22		
<b>Age</b>							
18-19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	na	96.5	4,907
20-24	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	na	95.8	12,190
25-29	0.0	0.1	0.6	1.8	3.6	93.8	12,040
30-39	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.9	3.9	93.0	23,613
40-49	0.0	0.1	0.7	1.8	3.3	93.5	19,306
<b>Marital status</b>							
Never married	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.2	9,674
Ever married	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.9	3.9	93.3	62,381
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>72,056</b>

na = Not applicable

**Table 15.6 Persons committing sexual violence**

Among women age 18-49 who have experienced sexual violence, percentage who report specific persons committing sexual violence according to current marital status and age at first experience of sexual violence, India, 2019-21

Person	Marital status		Age at first experience of sexual violence			Total
	Ever married	Never married	<18 years	18 years or higher	Don't know <sup>1</sup>	
Current husband	82.0	na	86.1	85.3	57.9	78.7
Former husband	13.7	na	14.6	14.9	8.3	13.2
Current/former boyfriend	1.6	16.1	2.6	0.8	4.5	2.2
Father/step-father	0.9	3.5	0.5	0.3	2.9	1.0
Brother/step-brother	0.5	3.9	0.1	0.0	2.5	0.7
Other relative	2.3	39.3	2.3	0.4	12.0	3.8
In-law	0.3	na	0.2	0.0	0.9	0.3
Own friend/acquaintance	1.0	2.6	1.0	0.5	2.3	1.1
Family friend	0.4	11.7	0.5	0.0	2.8	0.8
Teacher	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2
Employer/someone at work	0.3	1.8	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.3
Police/soldier	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Priest/religious leader	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Stranger	0.2	5.2	0.1	0.0	1.5	0.4
Other	0.6	12.0	0.7	0.2	3.1	1.0
Number of women	4,169	176	1,158	2,100	1,087	4,345

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Includes women who report having ever experienced sexual violence committed only by their current husband if currently married or most recent husband if widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted. For these women, the age at first experience of sexual violence is not known.



**Table 15.7 Experience of different types of violence**

Percentage of women age 18-49 who have experienced different types of violence, by age, residence, marital status, sex of children, and state/union territory, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Physical violence only	Sexual violence only	Physical and sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence
<b>India</b>	25.1	1.0	5.5	31.5
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	21.0	0.9	4.0	25.9
Rural	27.1	1.0	6.2	34.3
<b>Age</b>				
18-19	14.6	1.3	2.4	18.3
20-24	20.4	1.0	3.4	24.7
25-29	24.5	1.1	5.5	31.0
30-39	27.7	0.9	6.7	35.3
40-49	28.2	0.9	6.1	35.2
<b>Marital status</b>				
Ever married	27.2	1.0	6.2	34.4
Never married	12.1	0.9	0.9	13.9
<b>Woman's children</b>				
Women who have only sons	25.6	1.3	5.5	32.4
Women who have only daughters	24.3	0.9	6.1	31.2
Women who have sons and daughters	30.1	0.9	6.7	37.7
Women who have no children	15.1	1.0	2.5	18.6
<b>North</b>				
Chandigarh	6.7	0.0	2.1	8.8
Delhi	20.6	2.8	5.5	28.9
Haryana	15.1	0.9	3.1	19.1
Himachal Pradesh	8.6	0.5	1.7	10.7
Jammu & Kashmir	7.0	0.4	2.5	9.9
Ladakh	9.2	2.4	5.4	17.0
Punjab	12.8	0.6	1.9	15.3
Rajasthan	20.1	1.0	4.4	25.6
Uttarakhand	15.5	0.2	2.9	18.7
<b>Central</b>				
Chhattisgarh	14.7	0.9	4.0	19.6
Madhya Pradesh	23.8	0.6	5.0	29.4
Uttar Pradesh	29.6	0.8	5.3	35.7
<b>East</b>				
Bihar	34.7	1.1	7.3	43.1
Jharkhand	27.1	1.2	5.7	34.0
Odisha	28.5	1.2	4.2	33.9
West Bengal	20.6	1.6	8.1	30.4
<b>Northeast</b>				
Arunachal Pradesh	18.9	1.8	5.0	25.7
Assam	29.2	1.0	6.6	36.7
Manipur	34.3	0.7	3.6	38.7
Meghalaya	10.9	2.0	4.0	16.9
Mizoram	7.4	0.3	1.1	8.9
Nagaland	8.9	1.0	0.6	10.5
Sikkim	12.6	1.1	0.9	14.6
Tripura	22.8	1.2	6.2	30.3

*Continued...*

**Table 15.7 Experience of different types of violence—Continued**

Percentage of women age 18-49 who have experienced different types of violence, by age, residence, marital status, sex of children, and state/union territory, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Physical violence only	Sexual violence only	Physical and sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence
<b>West</b>				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	14.0	0.5	3.8	18.2
Goa	17.5	1.2	2.6	21.3
Gujarat	11.1	0.9	2.4	14.3
Maharashtra	21.0	1.2	5.1	27.3
<b>South</b>				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	18.8	0.6	1.5	20.9
Andhra Pradesh	31.6	0.2	3.4	35.2
Karnataka	37.2	0.9	10.4	48.5
Kerala	8.4	0.4	1.0	9.7
Lakshadweep	2.0	0.6	0.0	2.6
Puducherry	40.7	1.0	0.6	42.3
Tamil Nadu	40.1	0.5	2.3	42.9
Telangana	35.4	0.4	4.3	40.1

**Table 15.8 Degree of marital control exercised by husbands**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 whose husband has ever demonstrated specific types of controlling behaviours, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women whose husband:							Displays 3 or more of the specific behaviours	Displays none of the specific behaviours	Number of women
	Is jealous or angry if she talks to other men	Frequently accuses her of being unfaithful	Does not permit her to meet her female friends	Tries to limit her contact with her family	Insists on knowing where she is at all times	Does not trust her with any money	Displays 3 or more of the specific behaviours			
<b>Age</b>										
18-19	31.6	8.7	22.8	15.6	19.3	22.4	20.2	50.1	1,475	
20-24	30.1	11.7	21.4	16.2	22.1	22.2	21.0	49.8	7,923	
25-29	27.5	10.7	20.5	15.6	20.5	21.8	19.0	53.4	10,757	
30-39	25.9	11.0	19.6	15.5	18.7	20.6	18.3	54.1	23,128	
40-49	24.0	10.1	19.0	15.3	18.4	19.9	16.8	56.1	19,098	
<b>Residence</b>										
Urban	22.3	9.3	17.0	12.9	15.9	16.3	14.7	60.4	19,173	
Rural	28.0	11.4	21.2	16.7	20.9	22.8	20.0	51.0	43,208	
<b>Schooling</b>										
No schooling	31.4	13.4	22.5	18.8	23.2	25.9	22.4	46.2	17,887	
<5 years complete	27.4	13.1	20.6	16.9	22.0	21.7	21.0	53.2	4,660	
5-7 years complete	28.4	11.9	22.5	16.5	20.6	21.9	20.4	51.4	9,801	
8-9 years complete	24.3	9.2	18.8	13.9	18.1	19.3	16.7	56.4	9,533	
10-11 years complete	25.0	10.8	19.1	15.3	16.7	18.8	16.8	56.6	8,324	
12 or more years complete	19.0	6.2	15.2	10.9	14.4	14.8	12.0	63.8	12,175	
<b>Marital status</b>										
Currently married	25.7	10.1	19.7	15.0	19.0	20.5	17.8	54.5	58,611	
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	35.7	21.0	23.0	23.4	24.3	26.9	26.2	45.0	3,771	
<b>Number of living children</b>										
0	27.8	10.5	20.8	15.8	20.4	21.1	18.8	52.0	5,460	
1-2	23.9	10.1	19.2	14.5	17.6	19.1	16.9	56.8	35,518	
3-4	28.9	11.8	20.4	17.1	21.4	22.7	20.3	50.8	17,652	
5 or more	33.7	12.3	23.0	17.8	24.5	27.9	22.6	44.0	3,752	

Continued...

Table 15.8 Degree of marital control exercised by husbands—Continued

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 whose husband has ever demonstrated specific types of controlling behaviours, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women whose husband:										Number of women
	Is jealous or angry if she talks to other men	Frequently accuses her of being unfaithful	Does not permit her to meet her female friends	Tries to limit her contact with her family	Insists on knowing where she is at all times	Does not trust her with any money	Displays 3 or more of the specific behaviours	Displays none of the specific behaviours			
<b>Employment (past 12 months)</b>											
Not employed	25.6	9.5	19.4	14.5	18.4	20.7	17.6	55.0			40,206
Employed for cash	27.5	13.7	20.8	17.8	21.1	21.0	19.9	52.2			18,792
Employed not for cash	27.3	9.4	20.9	15.6	21.2	21.6	18.2	50.4			3,384
<b>Marital duration<sup>1</sup></b>											
Married only once	25.6	10.0	19.6	15.0	18.9	20.4	17.7	54.6			57,762
0-4 years	26.4	8.1	18.9	13.1	18.4	18.9	16.3	55.1			9,208
5-9 years	27.4	11.0	19.1	15.1	19.8	21.1	19.0	54.2			9,772
10+ years	24.9	10.1	19.9	15.4	18.8	20.5	17.8	54.6			38,783
Married more than once	32.9	18.5	24.7	19.3	26.0	26.3	24.1	45.3			848
<b>Household structure<sup>2</sup></b>											
Nuclear	25.6	10.6	19.6	15.6	18.9	20.7	17.9	54.0			30,740
Non-nuclear	26.9	10.9	20.1	15.5	19.9	21.0	18.8	53.9			31,641
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	26.5	10.9	20.1	15.9	19.8	21.4	18.7	53.3			49,365
Muslim	27.0	10.5	20.5	15.6	19.0	20.4	18.7	54.2			9,993
Christian	17.9	9.3	12.9	9.7	15.3	13.4	11.3	64.1			1,610
Sikh	15.1	5.0	9.2	6.2	8.1	9.9	7.7	75.7			489
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	29.9	10.6	19.7	12.4	13.8	16.6	13.9	57.9			615
Jain	10.0	7.0	20.7	3.6	19.5	4.7	8.3	57.3			136
Other	21.8	6.7	29.7	9.6	19.4	24.1	14.5	44.8			172
<b>Caste/tribe</b>											
Scheduled caste	29.6	13.7	22.1	17.8	21.6	22.9	21.1	50.4			13,148
Scheduled tribe	27.1	11.1	17.7	13.3	20.3	20.6	17.2	53.8			5,520
Other backward class	27.4	10.8	20.0	16.5	20.7	21.4	19.1	52.0			26,168
Other	21.8	8.2	18.5	13.1	15.4	18.3	15.4	59.7			17,108
Don't know	20.5	10.4	27.8	12.1	17.3	28.4	21.1	51.4			438

Continued...

**Table 15.8 Degree of marital control exercised by husbands—Continued**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 whose husband has ever demonstrated specific types of controlling behaviours, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Percentage of women whose husband:										Number of women
	Is jealous or angry if she talks to other men	Frequently accuses her of being unfaithful	Does not permit her to meet her female friends	Tries to limit her contact with her family	Insists on knowing where she is at all times	Does not trust her with any money	Displays 3 or more of the specific behaviours	Displays none of the specific behaviours			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>											
Lowest	35.0	14.4	25.7	20.1	26.2	28.6	25.6	42.0			12,113
Second	30.5	12.6	22.3	17.1	22.1	24.9	22.0	48.2			13,231
Middle	24.9	11.4	19.2	15.4	18.8	20.2	17.8	55.2			13,260
Fourth	21.9	9.3	17.8	13.9	16.6	16.7	14.5	59.6			12,886
Highest	18.2	5.4	13.9	10.8	12.4	12.9	10.9	65.8			10,892
<b>Woman afraid of husband</b>											
Most of the time	48.7	27.1	35.2	31.9	38.1	36.7	41.2	28.6			7,321
Sometimes	26.6	10.2	18.7	15.1	19.0	20.0	17.4	54.1			39,638
Never	14.8	4.4	15.6	8.9	11.3	15.6	9.9	65.5			15,422
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>53.9</b>			<b>62,381</b>

<sup>1</sup> Currently married women only

<sup>2</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 15.9 Forms of spousal violence**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced various forms of violence committed by their husband ever or in the 12 months preceding the survey, India 2019-21

Type of violence	Ever <sup>1</sup>	In the past 12 months		
		Often	Sometimes	Often or sometimes
<b>Physical violence</b>				
Any form of physical violence	28.3	3.7	19.3	23.0
Pushed her, shook her, or threw something at her	12.2	1.6	8.4	10.0
Twisted her arm or pulled her hair	10.1	1.5	6.3	7.8
Slapped her	25.3	1.3	6.4	7.7
Punched her with his fist or with something that could hurt her	7.7	1.2	5.2	6.3
Kicked her, dragged her, or beat her up	8.3	1.2	5.5	6.7
Tried to choke her or burn her on purpose	2.3	0.6	1.3	1.9
Threatened her or attacked her with a knife, gun, or any other weapon	1.2	0.4	0.6	1.1
<b>Sexual violence</b>				
Any form of sexual violence	6.3	1.2	4.0	5.2
Physically forced her to have sexual intercourse with him even when she did not want to	4.6	0.8	3.1	3.9
Forced her to perform any sexual acts she did not want to	2.4	0.5	1.6	2.1
Forced her with threats or in any other way to perform any sexual acts she did not want to	3.8	0.7	2.4	3.1
<b>Emotional violence</b>				
Any form of emotional violence	14.0	2.7	9.5	12.2
Said or did something to humiliate her in front of others	9.6	1.8	6.3	8.1
Threatened to hurt or harm her or someone close to her	5.9	1.3	3.9	5.2
Insulted her or made her feel bad about herself	8.6	1.5	5.8	7.4
Any form of physical and/or sexual violence	29.2	4.1	19.8	24.0
Any form of physical and sexual violence	5.4	1.8	3.1	5.0
Any form of physical and/or sexual and/or emotional violence	31.9	5.3	21.4	26.8
Any form of physical and sexual and emotional violence	3.6	1.7	1.6	3.4
<b>Spousal violence committed by any husband</b>				
Physical violence	28.4	na	na	23.0
Sexual violence	6.4	na	na	5.2
Physical and/or sexual violence	29.3	na	na	24.0
Number of ever married women	62,381	62,381	62,381	62,381

Note: Husband refers to the current husband for currently married women and the most recent husband for widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women.

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Includes in the past 12 months

Table 15.10 Violence by any husband in the past 12 months

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence by any husband/partner in the past 12 months, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Emotional violence <sup>1</sup>	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of ever-married women
<b>Age</b>								
18-19	10.0	17.2	6.5	5.0	2.6	18.7	22.1	1,475
20-24	10.9	20.8	4.6	3.1	2.1	22.3	25.0	7,923
25-29	12.2	23.4	5.4	4.5	3.1	24.3	27.0	10,757
30-39	12.4	23.7	5.6	4.6	3.1	24.6	27.3	23,128
40-49	12.5	23.3	4.8	3.9	2.5	24.2	27.2	19,098
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	10.3	18.9	4.1	3.2	2.2	19.9	22.6	19,173
Rural	13.0	24.8	5.7	4.6	3.0	25.8	28.7	43,208
<b>Schooling</b>								
No schooling	15.5	30.7	6.8	5.7	3.6	31.7	34.5	17,887
<5 years complete	13.3	24.3	7.2	5.7	4.0	25.8	28.7	4,660
5-7 years complete	12.9	24.7	5.3	4.5	3.4	25.6	28.4	9,801
8-9 years complete	10.4	20.1	4.8	3.6	2.2	21.3	24.1	9,533
10-11 years complete	11.3	20.3	4.5	3.8	2.4	21.1	24.2	8,324
12 or more years complete	8.2	13.9	2.9	2.0	1.4	14.8	17.3	12,175
<b>Household structure<sup>2</sup></b>								
Nuclear	12.8	25.1	5.7	4.6	3.0	26.2	28.9	30,740
Non-nuclear	11.5	20.9	4.8	3.9	2.6	21.9	24.7	31,641
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	12.4	23.7	5.2	4.3	2.8	24.7	27.5	49,365
Muslim	11.5	21.3	5.4	4.2	2.9	22.5	25.1	9,993
Christian	11.1	16.8	4.1	3.2	1.9	17.7	21.8	1,610
Sikh	5.9	8.1	2.9	2.3	2.0	8.7	10.0	489
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	15.2	22.6	5.6	4.2	3.5	24.0	28.4	615
Jain	2.1	3.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	3.8	3.8	136
Other	6.2	19.7	6.0	5.1	2.3	20.6	21.5	172
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	14.9	27.8	6.2	5.0	3.4	29.0	32.0	13,148
Scheduled tribe	13.1	24.8	5.6	4.5	2.9	25.8	28.8	5,520
Other backward class	12.0	24.1	5.1	4.2	2.8	25.0	27.7	26,168
Other	10.2	17.1	4.6	3.5	2.3	18.2	20.9	17,108
Don't know	6.4	17.2	3.3	2.6	0.9	17.9	19.0	438
<b>Wealth quintile</b>								
Lowest	16.1	30.6	8.6	6.9	4.7	32.2	35.0	12,113
Second	13.8	28.1	6.3	5.3	3.2	29.2	32.0	13,231
Middle	12.8	23.8	4.7	3.9	2.6	24.6	27.8	13,260
Fourth	10.0	18.5	3.6	2.8	1.9	19.3	21.9	12,886
Highest	7.5	12.7	2.7	2.0	1.3	13.4	15.9	10,892
Total	12.2	23.0	5.2	4.2	2.8	24.0	26.8	62,381

<sup>1</sup> Includes only emotional violence by current or most recent husband. Information on emotional violence by other husbands not collected.

<sup>2</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 15.11 Spousal violence by background characteristics**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their husband, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence	Emotional, physical or sexual violence	Number of women
<b>Age</b>						
18-19	10.5	18.8	7.1	20.9	24.6	1,475
20-24	12.2	24.3	5.4	25.4	28.2	7,923
25-29	13.4	27.1	6.2	28.0	30.7	10,757
30-39	14.4	29.4	6.7	30.2	32.8	23,128
40-49	15.0	29.9	6.1	30.8	33.7	19,098
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	12.2	23.8	4.8	24.5	27.3	19,173
Rural	14.9	30.3	6.9	31.2	34.0	43,208
<b>Schooling</b>						
No schooling	17.9	37.1	8.4	38.1	40.6	17,887
<5 years complete	16.2	31.3	8.8	32.7	35.7	4,660
5-7 years complete	14.8	30.6	6.5	31.3	33.9	9,801
8-9 years complete	12.1	25.6	5.5	26.8	29.3	9,533
10-11 years complete	13.1	24.4	5.2	25.1	28.7	8,324
12 or more years complete	9.2	17.0	3.4	17.7	20.3	12,175
<b>Marital status</b>						
Currently married	13.2	27.3	5.8	28.3	31.0	58,611
Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted	26.9	42.9	13.4	43.6	46.4	3,771
<b>Number of living children</b>						
0	12.9	19.4	5.3	20.3	23.6	5,460
1-2	13.3	25.8	5.6	26.7	29.5	35,518
3-4	15.5	34.0	7.0	34.9	37.4	17,652
5 or more	15.7	37.6	10.5	38.9	41.0	3,752
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>						
Nuclear	14.8	31.0	6.9	32.0	34.6	30,740
Non-nuclear	13.3	25.7	5.7	26.5	29.3	31,641
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	14.2	29.1	6.2	29.9	32.7	49,365
Muslim	13.7	26.2	7.3	27.5	30.3	9,993
Christian	13.3	22.0	4.6	22.8	26.3	1,610
Sikh	6.7	10.3	3.0	10.9	12.4	489
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	16.8	28.1	6.8	29.2	31.8	615
Jain	2.1	20.2	0.6	20.2	20.2	136
Other	7.6	24.3	6.5	25.3	26.4	172
<b>Caste/tribe</b>						
Scheduled caste	16.9	33.7	7.4	34.7	37.3	13,148
Scheduled tribe	15.2	30.9	6.7	31.8	34.7	5,520
Other backward class	13.6	29.5	6.0	30.2	32.9	26,168
Other	12.3	21.6	5.7	22.6	25.6	17,108
Don't know	7.7	22.5	6.1	23.4	24.2	438

*Continued...*



**Table 15.11 Spousal violence by background characteristics—Continued**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their husband, according to background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence	Emotional, physical or sexual violence	Number of women
<b>Wealth quintile</b>						
Lowest	18.6	36.9	10.2	38.4	41.2	12,113
Second	16.0	34.3	7.8	35.2	37.9	13,231
Middle	14.6	28.9	5.7	29.7	32.7	13,260
Fourth	11.7	23.4	4.3	24.2	26.7	12,886
Highest	8.8	16.5	3.1	16.9	19.7	10,892
<b>Respondent's father beat her mother</b>						
Yes	26.3	53.2	11.9	54.4	57.7	11,814
No	11.0	21.9	4.7	22.7	25.3	48,656
Don't know	16.5	36.6	10.7	37.9	41.0	1,911
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>62,381</b>

Note: Husband refers to the current husband for currently married women and the most recent husband for widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women.

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

Table 15.12 Spousal violence by husband's characteristics and empowerment indicators

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their husband, according to his characteristics, marital characteristics, and selected empowerment indicators, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence	Emotional, physical or sexual violence	Number of women
<b>Husband's schooling</b>						
No education	19.7	38.8	9.4	39.9	42.8	12,154
<5 years complete	17.0	34.7	8.5	35.6	38.4	5,010
5-7 years complete	15.5	30.3	7.1	31.5	34.3	9,263
8-9 years complete	13.6	28.6	6.8	29.7	32.6	10,183
10-11 years complete	12.0	25.0	4.1	25.6	28.4	10,453
12 or more years complete	9.2	18.5	3.7	19.1	21.6	15,088
Missing	19.3	32.6	7.7	32.6	35.0	231
<b>Husband's alcohol consumption</b>						
Does not drink	10.3	21.7	4.0	22.5	25.3	47,500
Drinks/never gets drunk	13.3	31.8	6.3	33.0	34.9	920
Gets drunk sometimes	21.5	45.2	10.9	46.4	49.3	10,969
Gets drunk very often	47.2	69.9	25.5	70.6	73.3	2,993
<b>Spousal age difference<sup>1</sup></b>						
Wife older	9.6	21.0	6.3	21.9	24.4	1,348
Wife is same age	9.1	21.1	3.7	21.5	23.1	2,193
Wife's 1-4 years younger	12.6	27.3	6.4	28.3	30.6	23,609
Wife's 5-9 years younger	14.2	28.4	5.6	29.2	32.5	22,962
Wife's 10+ years younger	14.1	27.1	5.3	28.2	31.4	8,499
<b>Spousal schooling difference</b>						
Husband has more schooling	12.9	27.7	5.9	28.6	31.1	27,552
Wife has more schooling	14.3	27.1	6.3	28.1	31.0	16,508
Both have equal schooling	11.3	21.4	4.5	22.2	25.6	9,393
Neither attended school	19.9	39.7	9.3	40.5	43.2	8,697
Don't know/missing	19.3	32.6	7.7	32.6	35.0	231
<b>Number of marital control behaviours displayed by husband<sup>2</sup></b>						
0	4.3	15.6	1.6	16.1	17.3	33,634
1-2	15.9	35.4	7.0	36.8	40.4	17,303
3-4	30.8	49.3	14.2	50.7	56.3	7,978
5-6	60.4	67.2	30.2	68.6	75.4	3,466
<b>Number of decisions in which women participate<sup>3</sup></b>						
0	21.4	33.3	9.9	34.5	38.9	6,620
1-2	16.4	31.8	7.9	33.3	36.8	10,659
3	11.1	25.2	4.7	26.0	28.2	41,332
<b>Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified<sup>4</sup></b>						
0	9.5	20.1	4.3	20.9	23.0	31,707
1-2	15.6	32.4	6.2	33.4	36.8	12,793
3-4	20.8	40.5	9.5	41.4	45.0	10,172
5-6	20.8	39.8	10.0	41.1	44.1	4,850
7	22.1	37.2	11.4	38.6	42.4	2,861

Continued...

**Table 15.12 Spousal violence by husband's characteristics and empowerment indicators—Continued**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their husband, according to his characteristics, marital characteristics, and selected empowerment indicators, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence	Emotional, physical or sexual violence	Number of women
<b>Number of reasons given for refusing to have sexual intercourse with husband<sup>5</sup></b>						
0	15.7	26.6	7.8	27.4	30.9	4,190
1-2	19.1	31.5	9.6	33.1	37.6	8,589
3	13.0	27.9	5.6	28.6	31.0	49,602
<b>Woman afraid of husband</b>						
Most of the time	34.8	54.2	18.7	55.6	58.6	7,321
Sometimes	13.4	29.9	5.5	30.8	33.8	39,638
Never	5.9	11.8	2.3	12.5	14.6	15,422
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>62,381</b>

Note: Husband refers to the current husband for currently married women and the most recent husband for widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women.

<sup>1</sup> Currently married women only

<sup>2</sup> See Table 15.8 for list of marital control behaviours included

<sup>3</sup> Currently married women only. See Table 14.7.1 for a list of decisions included.

<sup>4</sup> See Table 14.14.1 for a list of reasons given for which wife beating is justified

<sup>5</sup> See Table 14.16.1 for a list of reasons given for refusing to have sexual intercourse with husband

Table 15.13 Spousal violence by state/union territory

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their husband, by state/union territory, India 2019-21

State/union territory	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence	Emotional, physical or sexual violence
<b>India</b>	14.0	28.3	6.3	29.2	31.9
<b>North</b>					
Chandigarh	4.5	9.7	2.3	9.7	11.8
Delhi	13.1	20.4	7.2	22.5	25.8
Haryana	10.2	16.7	4.2	17.9	20.6
Himachal Pradesh	6.9	8.3	2.0	8.6	10.7
Jammu & Kashmir	7.2	9.3	3.9	9.7	12.8
Ladakh	18.7	16.9	7.7	17.7	27.7
Punjab	7.8	11.0	2.7	11.6	13.4
Rajasthan	9.4	23.1	5.4	24.1	26.3
Uttarakhand	8.0	15.2	3.4	15.3	17.8
<b>Central</b>					
Chhattisgarh	6.1	19.3	4.9	20.1	21.0
Madhya Pradesh	14.8	27.4	5.8	28.0	31.0
Uttar Pradesh	12.9	34.1	6.6	34.9	37.3
<b>East</b>					
Bihar	17.0	39.2	8.1	40.1	42.5
Jharkhand	11.6	30.2	6.6	31.4	32.8
Odisha	9.9	29.3	5.3	30.3	32.4
West Bengal	16.3	25.1	9.0	26.9	29.7
<b>Northeast</b>					
Arunachal Pradesh	12.9	23.8	6.3	24.9	26.6
Assam	11.8	31.3	7.3	32.2	34.3
Manipur	11.0	38.5	5.0	39.6	41.6
Meghalaya	13.7	13.2	6.2	15.0	21.1
Mizoram	5.9	9.9	1.9	10.3	11.9
Nagaland	7.6	6.1	0.9	6.5	11.0
Sikkim	14.6	10.6	3.1	12.4	21.3
Tripura	11.4	19.3	6.2	20.7	23.2
<b>West</b>					
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	7.1	16.8	3.2	16.8	17.7
Goa	6.3	6.7	4.6	8.3	9.7
Gujarat	7.3	13.0	3.4	13.9	16.1
Maharashtra	12.9	24.4	5.7	25.2	28.2
<b>South</b>					
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.4	16.6	1.2	17.2	18.3
Andhra Pradesh	14.9	29.6	3.6	29.9	33.4
Karnataka	24.8	43.4	10.8	44.4	48.4
Kerala	6.8	9.4	1.5	9.8	12.9
Lakshadweep	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.3
Puducherry	7.9	29.3	1.4	30.0	31.0
Tamil Nadu	11.0	37.9	2.4	38.1	39.7
Telangana	18.6	36.7	4.5	37.2	40.4

Note: Husband refers to the current husband for currently married women and the most recent husband for widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women.

**Table 15.14 Experience of spousal violence by duration of marriage**

Among currently married women age 18-49 who have been married only once, the percentage who first experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their current husband by specific exact years since marriage, according to marital duration, India 2019-21

Duration of marriage	Percentage whose first experience of spousal physical or sexual violence by exact marital duration				Percentage who have not experienced sexual or physical violence	Number of currently married women who have been married only once
	Before marriage	2 years	5 years	10 years		
<b>Years since marriage</b>						
<2	0.5	na	na	na	86.5	3,564
2-4	1.0	13.2	na	na	78.2	5,644
5-9	1.3	11.7	23.9	na	72.9	9,772
10 or more	1.4	10.8	21.2	26.0	69.3	38,783
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>57,762</b>

na = Not available

Table 15.15 Injuries to women due to spousal violence

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced specific types of spousal violence by types of injuries resulting from what their husband did to them, by residence according to the type of violence and whether they have experienced the violence ever and in the 12 months preceding the survey, India 2019-21

Type of violence experienced	Percentage of women who have had:					Number of ever-married women
	Cuts, bruises, or aches	Severe burns	Eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or minor burns	Deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury	Any of these injuries	
<b>URBAN</b>						
<b>Experienced physical violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	21.9	3.5	7.3	6.7	24.6	4,563
In the past 12 months	23.8	3.9	7.6	7.4	26.7	3,625
<b>Experienced sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	41.8	13.3	19.6	19.2	47.1	926
In the past 12 months	42.7	13.6	19.8	19.0	48.1	784
<b>Experienced physical or sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	21.3	3.4	7.1	6.5	24.0	4,708
In the past 12 months	23.3	3.8	7.3	7.1	26.2	3,800
<b>Experienced physical and sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	49.0	15.6	23.1	22.5	54.8	781
In the past 12 months	51.4	17.2	25.1	24.0	57.7	609
<b>RURAL</b>						
<b>Experienced physical violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	22.5	3.4	7.5	6.2	25.6	13,080
In the past 12 months	24.2	3.8	8.2	6.8	27.6	10,704
<b>Experienced sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	37.9	8.4	18.1	16.2	43.7	3,009
In the past 12 months	38.1	8.5	19.1	16.8	43.9	2,460
<b>Experienced physical or sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	22.0	3.3	7.4	6.1	25.1	13,501
In the past 12 months	23.6	3.7	8.1	6.7	27.0	11,162
<b>Experienced physical and sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	42.8	9.6	20.5	18.5	49.3	2,588
In the past 12 months	44.3	10.2	22.4	19.8	50.7	2,002
<b>TOTAL</b>						
<b>Experienced physical violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	22.3	3.4	7.4	6.4	25.3	17,643
In the past 12 months	24.1	3.8	8.0	7.0	27.4	14,328
<b>Experienced sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	38.9	9.5	18.5	16.9	44.5	3,935
In the past 12 months	39.2	9.7	19.3	17.3	44.9	3,244
<b>Experienced physical or sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	21.8	3.3	7.3	6.2	24.8	18,208
In the past 12 months	23.5	3.7	7.9	6.8	26.8	14,962
<b>Experienced physical and sexual violence</b>						
Ever <sup>1</sup>	44.2	11.0	21.1	19.5	50.6	3,369
In the past 12 months	45.9	11.8	23.1	20.8	52.3	2,611

Note: Husband refers to the current husband for currently married women and the most recent husband for widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women.

<sup>1</sup> Includes violence in the past 12 months

Table 15.16 Violence by women against their husband

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have committed physical violence against their husband when he was not already beating or physically hurting them ever and in the past 12 months, according to women's own experience of spousal violence and their own and their husband's characteristics, India 2019-21

Characteristics	Percentage who have committed physical violence against their current or most recent husband		Number of women
	Ever	In the past 12 months	
<b>Woman's experience of spousal physical violence</b>			
Ever	10.0	8.8	17,643
In the last 12 months	10.9	10.1	14,328
Not last 12 months	6.1	3.2	3,314
Never	1.0	0.9	44,739
<b>Age</b>			
18-19	0.8	0.7	1,475
20-24	2.9	2.7	7,923
25-29	3.4	2.9	10,757
30-39	3.9	3.5	23,128
40-49	3.7	3.2	19,098
<b>Residence</b>			
Urban	3.3	2.9	19,173
Rural	3.7	3.2	43,208
<b>Schooling</b>			
No schooling	4.5	4.0	17,887
<5 years complete	4.7	4.3	4,660
5-7 years complete	3.5	3.1	9,801
8-9 years complete	3.2	2.8	9,533
10-11 years complete	3.3	2.7	8,324
12 or more years complete	2.2	1.9	12,175
<b>Husband's schooling</b>			
No education	5.6	5.1	12,154
<5 years complete	4.6	4.1	5,010
5-7 years complete	3.6	3.1	9,263
8-9 years complete	3.3	2.8	10,183
10-11 years complete	2.8	2.5	10,453
12 or more years complete	2.3	2.0	15,088
Missing	2.8	2.8	231
<b>Husband's alcohol consumption</b>			
Does not drink	1.9	1.7	47,500
Drinks/never gets drunk	4.2	4.0	920
Gets drunk sometimes	6.5	5.7	10,969
Gets drunk very often	18.4	16.5	2,993
<b>Spousal age difference<sup>1</sup></b>			
Wife older	3.1	2.7	1,348
Wife is same age	2.9	2.5	2,193
Wife 1-4 years younger	3.3	3.0	23,609
Wife 5-9 years younger	3.5	3.2	22,962
Wife 10 or more years younger	3.0	2.7	8,499

Continued...

**Table 15.16 Violence by women against their husband—Continued**

Percentage of ever-married women age 18-49 who have committed physical violence against their husband when he was not already beating or physically hurting them ever and in the past 12 months, according to women's own experience of spousal violence and their own and their husband's characteristics, India 2019-21

Characteristics	Percentage who have committed physical violence against their current or most recent husband		Number of women
	Ever	In the past 12 months	
<b>Spousal schooling difference</b>			
Husband has more schooling	3.1	2.7	27,552
Wife has more schooling	3.7	3.2	16,508
Both have equal schooling	2.8	2.4	9,393
Neither attended school	5.6	5.1	8,697
Don't know/missing	2.8	2.8	231
<b>Household structure<sup>2</sup></b>			
Nuclear	3.9	3.4	30,740
Non-nuclear	3.3	2.9	31,641
<b>Religion</b>			
Hindu	3.6	3.2	49,365
Muslim	3.2	2.7	9,993
Christian	3.3	2.7	1,610
Sikh	2.2	1.9	489
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	5.5	4.9	615
Jain	1.4	1.4	136
Other	4.1	3.3	172
<b>Caste/tribe</b>			
Scheduled caste	4.8	4.3	13,148
Scheduled tribe	3.6	3.0	5,520
Other backward class	3.6	3.2	26,168
Other	2.7	2.2	17,108
Don't know	0.8	0.4	438
<b>Wealth quintile</b>			
Lowest	4.4	3.8	12,113
Second	4.3	3.9	13,231
Middle	3.8	3.5	13,260
Fourth	2.9	2.6	12,886
Highest	2.1	1.7	10,892
<b>Respondent's father beat her mother</b>			
Yes	8.2	7.3	11,814
No	2.4	2.1	48,656
Don't know	4.4	3.2	1,911
<b>Woman afraid of husband</b>			
Most of the time	10.0	8.9	7,321
Sometimes	3.1	2.8	39,638
Never	1.8	1.3	15,422
Total	3.6	3.1	62,381

Note: Husband refers to the current husband for currently married women and the most recent husband for widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted women.

<sup>1</sup> Currently married women

<sup>2</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.



Table 15.17 Help seeking

Percent distribution of women age 18-49 who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence by whether they have told anyone about the violence and whether they have ever sought help from any source, according to type of violence and background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Never sought help		Have sought help from any source	Total	Number of women
	Never told anyone	Told someone			
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	73.2	11.0	17.2	100.0	5,657
Rural	78.6	9.1	13.0	100.0	15,518
<b>Marital status</b>					
Never married	85.5	13.7	15.6	100.0	1,147
Currently married	78.3	8.7	13.0	100.0	18,326
Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	*	*	*	100.0	2
Widowed/divorced/separated/deserted	59.5	15.7	24.8	100.0	1,700
<b>Schooling</b>					
No schooling	78.2	8.5	13.6	100.0	7,321
<5 years complete	75.1	8.7	16.4	100.0	1,636
5-7 years complete	77.8	10.1	12.2	100.0	3,452
8-9 years complete	75.5	10.3	14.5	100.0	3,031
10-11 years complete	74.9	11.5	14.1	100.0	2,541
12 or more years complete	78.4	9.6	15.8	100.0	3,193
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>					
Nuclear	77.4	9.5	14.0	100.0	11,388
Non-nuclear	76.9	9.6	14.2	100.0	9,787
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	77.2	9.5	14.1	100.0	17,130
Muslim	76.8	9.8	13.8	100.0	3,178
Christian	74.6	9.0	16.9	100.0	474
Sikh	71.9	10.6	18.2	100.0	78
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	80.7	6.8	17.7	100.0	212
Jain	106.2	0.0	3.2	100.0	31
Other	86.3	26.2	4.7	100.0	72
<b>Caste/tribe</b>					
Scheduled caste	77.9	8.7	14.4	100.0	5,179
Scheduled tribe	75.6	9.2	16.0	100.0	2,033
Other backward class	76.8	10.2	13.6	100.0	9,189
Other	77.8	9.6	14.0	100.0	4,658
Don't know	78.8	5.5	15.8	100.0	116

Continued...

**Table 15.17 Help seeking—Continued**

Percent distribution of women age 18-49 who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence by whether they have told anyone about the violence and whether they have ever sought help from any source, according to type of violence and background characteristics, India 2019-21

Background characteristic	Never sought help		Have sought help from any source	Total	Number of women
	Never told anyone	Told someone			
<b>Wealth quintile</b>					
Lowest	78.0	8.9	13.6	100.0	5,157
Second	80.1	8.4	12.2	100.0	5,346
Middle	75.2	10.2	15.3	100.0	4,642
Fourth	76.8	10.8	13.7	100.0	3,756
Highest	73.0	10.4	18.3	100.0	2,274
<b>Type of violence</b>					
Physical only	79.4	9.0	11.7	100.0	17,006
Sexual only	99.5	6.5	9.5	100.0	567
Both physical and sexual	63.2	12.9	26.3	100.0	3,602
<b>Persons who committed the violence</b>					
Current husband only	80.1	8.6	11.3	100.0	14,410
Any previous husband only	60.0	16.4	23.6	100.0	1,423
Any husband and others	62.4	11.4	26.2	100.0	2,367
Own family members only	84.1	8.7	10.8	100.0	2,408
Person(s) other than husband or own family	91.4	14.3	19.0	100.0	360
Missing	50.2	14.8	35.6	100.0	207
<b>Total</b>	<b>77.2</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,175</b>

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals. The remaining households are non-nuclear households.

**Table 15.18 Sources from where help was sought**

Percentage of women age 18-49 who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence and have sought help from any source by source from which help was sought, according to the type of violence experienced, India 2019-21

Source <sup>1</sup>	Type of violence			Total
	Physical only	Sexual only	Both physical and sexual	
Own family	62.2	58.4	58.3	60.9
Husband's family	30.4	13.9	28.1	29.3
Current/former husband	1.0	3.6	1.9	1.3
Current/former boyfriend	0.4	1.1	0.3	0.4
Friend	15.4	24.3	18.7	16.6
Neighbour	7.8	3.6	9.7	8.3
Religious leader	2.6	0.5	2.0	2.4
Doctor/medical personnel	2.7	1.2	1.7	2.4
Police	5.4	4.7	8.2	6.3
Lawyer	2.4	0.0	1.6	2.1
Social service organization	3.3	0.0	2.2	2.9
Other	2.1	0.0	0.8	1.7
Number of women	1,983	54	949	2,986

<sup>1</sup> Women can report more than one source from which they sought help.



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Technical assistance and additional funding for NFHS-5 was provided by the USAID- supported Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) program, ICF, USA. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.



The opinions in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the funding agencies.  
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