

## CHAPTER – 2

### SUICIDES IN INDIA

Each suicide is a personal tragedy that prematurely takes the life of an individual and has a continuing ripple effect, dramatically affecting the lives of families, friends and communities. Every year, more than 1,00,000 people commit suicide in our country. There are various causes of suicides like professional/career problems, sense of isolation, abuse, violence, family problems, mental disorders, addiction to alcohol, financial loss, chronic pain etc. NCRB collects data on suicides from police recorded suicide cases.

Rate of suicides has been calculated using mid-year projected population for the non-census years whereas for the census year 2011, the population of the Population Census 2011 was used.

A total of 1,31,008 suicides were reported in the country during 2016 showing a decrease of 2.0% in comparison to 2015 and the rate of suicides has decreased by 0.3 during 2016 over 2015. [Table-2 (A)] The incidence and rate of suicides during 2006-2016 is presented in Table-2.1.

Table – 2 (A)

#### Number of Suicides, Growth of Population and Rate of Suicides during 2012 - 2016

Sl. No.	Year	Total Number of Suicides	Mid-Year Projected Population* (in Lakh)**	Rate of Suicides*** (Col.3/Col.4)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	2012	1,35,445	12,133.7	11.2
2	2013	1,34,799	12,287.9	11.0
3	2014	1,31,666	12,440.4	10.6
4	2015	1,33,623	12,591.1	10.6
5	2016	1,31,008	12,739.9	10.3

\* – Mid-year Projected Population as on 1<sup>st</sup> July; Source: The Registrar General of India

\*\* – One Lakh = 0.1 Million

\*\*\* – Rate of Suicides = Incidence of suicides per one lakh (1,00,000) of population.

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

## Number and Percentage Share of Suicides in States/UTs

The State/UT and City wise information on the incidents of suicides, its percentage share in total suicides and rate of suicides during the year are presented in **Table-2.2**.

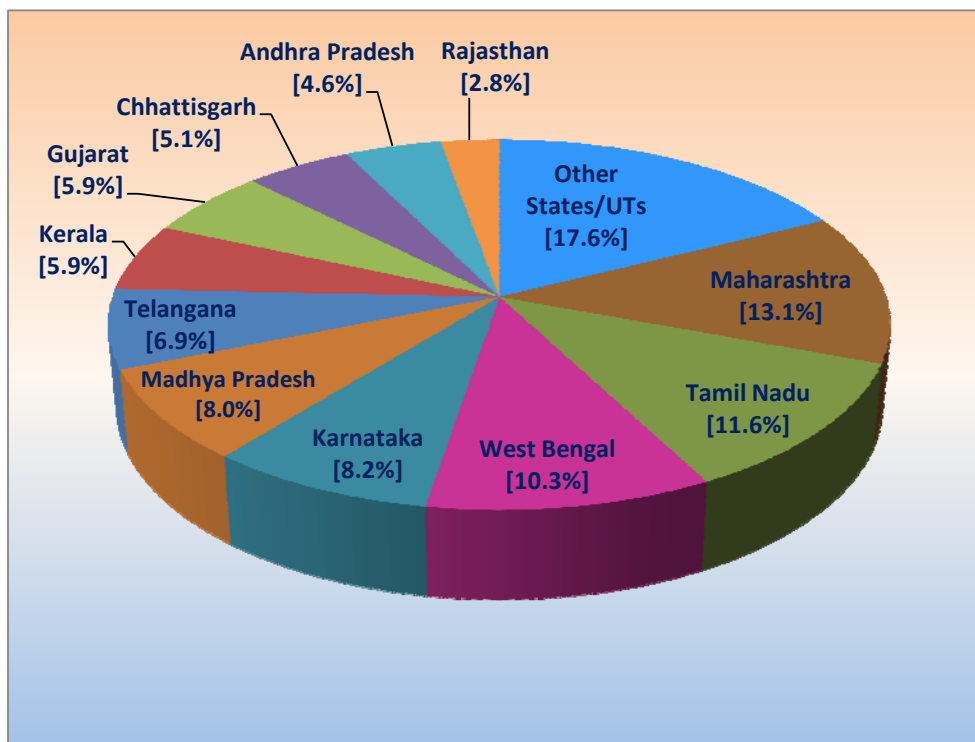
Majority of suicides were reported in Maharashtra (17,195) followed by 15,182 suicides in Tamil Nadu and 13,451 suicides in West Bengal, 10,687 suicides in Karnataka and 10,442 suicides in Madhya Pradesh accounting for 13.1%, 11.6%, 10.3%, 8.2% and 8.0% of total suicides respectively. These 5 States together accounted for 51.1% of the total suicides reported in the country. The remaining 48.9% suicides were reported in

the remaining 24 States and 7 UTs. Uttar Pradesh, the most populous State (17.2% share of country population) has reported comparatively lower percentage share of suicidal deaths, accounting for only 2.7% of the total suicides reported in the country.

The States which have witnessed significantly higher number of suicidal deaths during the year 2014 to 2016 are presented in the **Table-2(B)**. These States have continuously accounted for about 7.0% or more of the total suicides reported in the country from 2014 to 2016.

**Figure – 2.1**

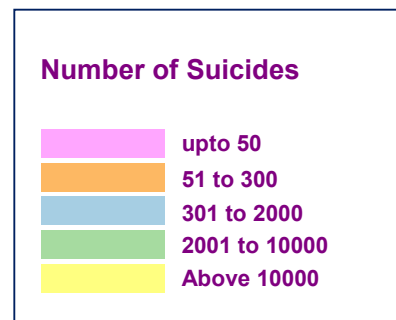
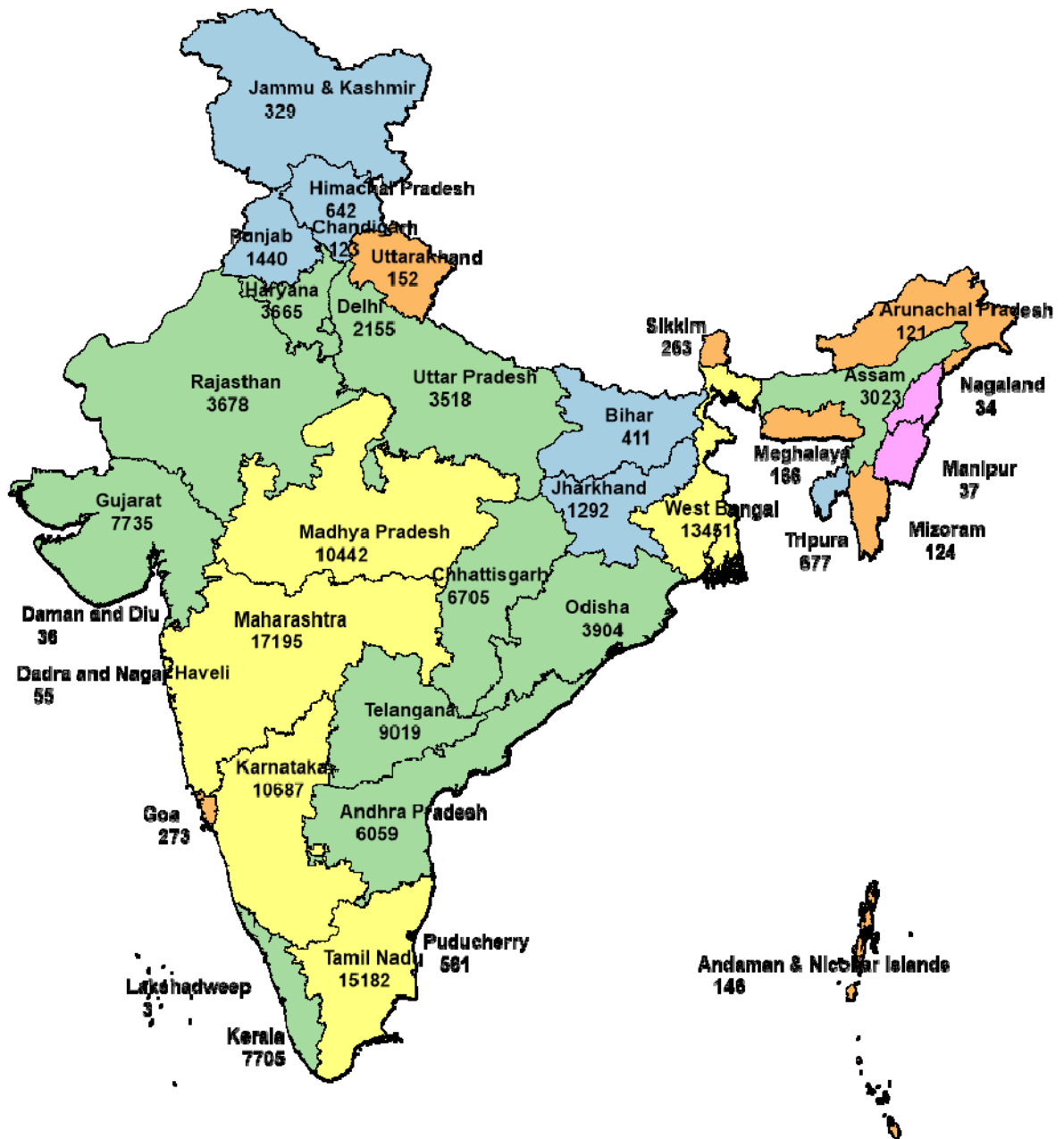
**State/UT wise Major Percentage Share of Suicides in States during 2016**



- As per data provided by States/UTs.

Note: OTHER STATES/UTs include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, A & N Island, Chandigarh, D & N Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry

## STATE/UT – WISE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUICIDES DURING 2016



Map Powered by DevInfo, UNICEF

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Table – 2 (B)**  
**States with Higher Percentage Share of Suicides during 2014 to 2016**

Sl. No.	Year					
	2014		2015		2016	
1	Maharashtra	(12.4%)	Maharashtra	(12.7%)	Maharashtra	(13.1%)
2	Tamil Nadu	(12.2%)	Tamil Nadu	(11.8%)	Tamil Nadu	(11.6%)
3	West Bengal	(10.9%)	West Bengal	(10.9%)	West Bengal	(10.3%)
4	Karnataka	(8.3%)	Karnataka	(8.1%)	Karnataka	(8.2%)
5	Telangana	(7.3%)	Madhya Pradesh	(7.7%)	Madhya Pradesh	(8.0%)

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

Delhi, which is the most-populous UT, has reported the highest number of suicides (2,155) among UTs, followed by Puducherry (561). Seven UTs together accounted for 2.4% of total suicides in the country. A total of 20,879 suicides were reported in the 53 mega cities of the country during the 2016.

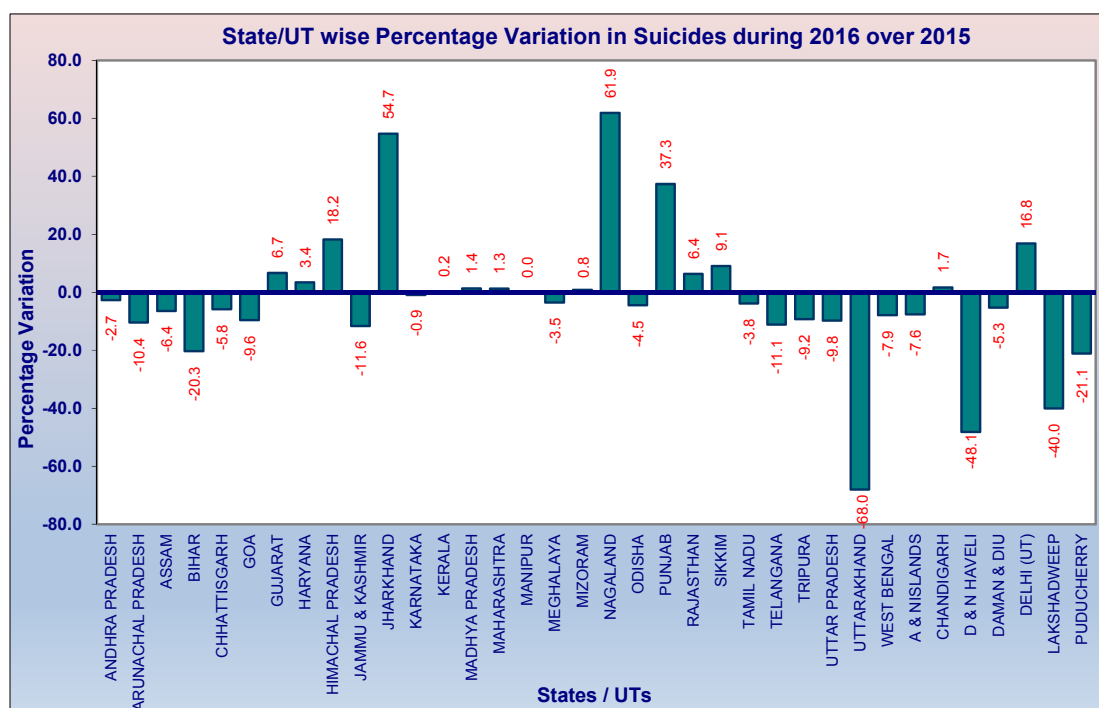
The States and UTs which have reported significant percentage increase in suicides in 2016 over 2015 were Nagaland (61.9%), Jharkhand (54.7%), Punjab (37.3%), Himachal Pradesh (18.2%) and Delhi UT (16.8%) while highest percentage decrease was reported in Uttarakhand (68.0%), D & N Haveli (48.1%),

Lakshadweep (40.0%), Puducherry (21.1%) and Bihar (20.3%) [Table-2.3].

### Rate of Suicides — Trends in States/UTs

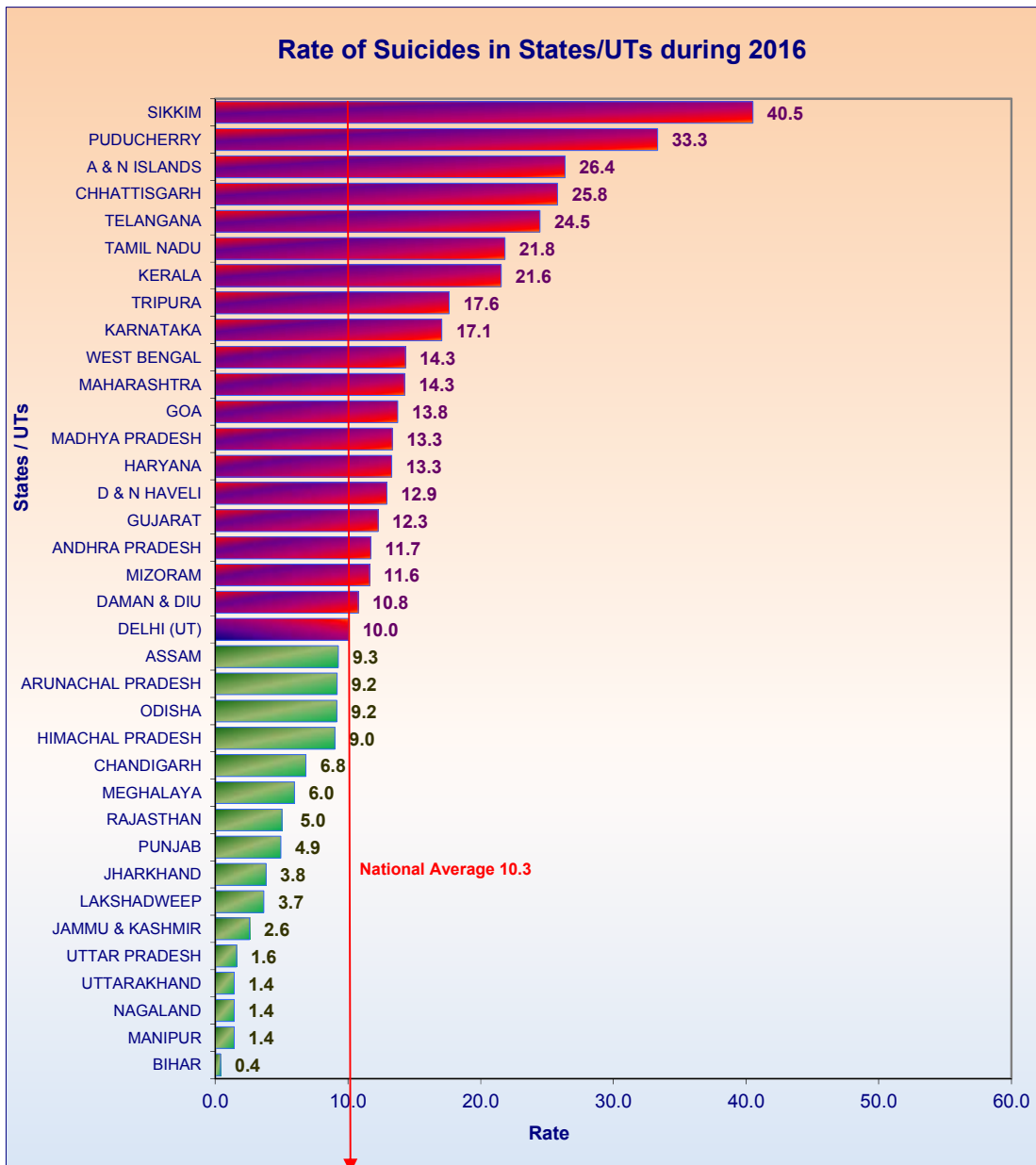
Rate of suicides i.e. the number of suicides per one lakh population, has been widely accepted as a standard yardstick for comparison. All India rate of suicides was 10.3 during the year 2016. Sikkim reported the highest rate of suicide (40.5) followed by Puducherry (33.3), A & N Islands (26.4), Chhattisgarh (25.8) and Telangana (24.5). The details of States/UTs which have recorded higher rate of suicides during 2014 to 2016 are given in Table-2(C).

**Figure – 2.2**



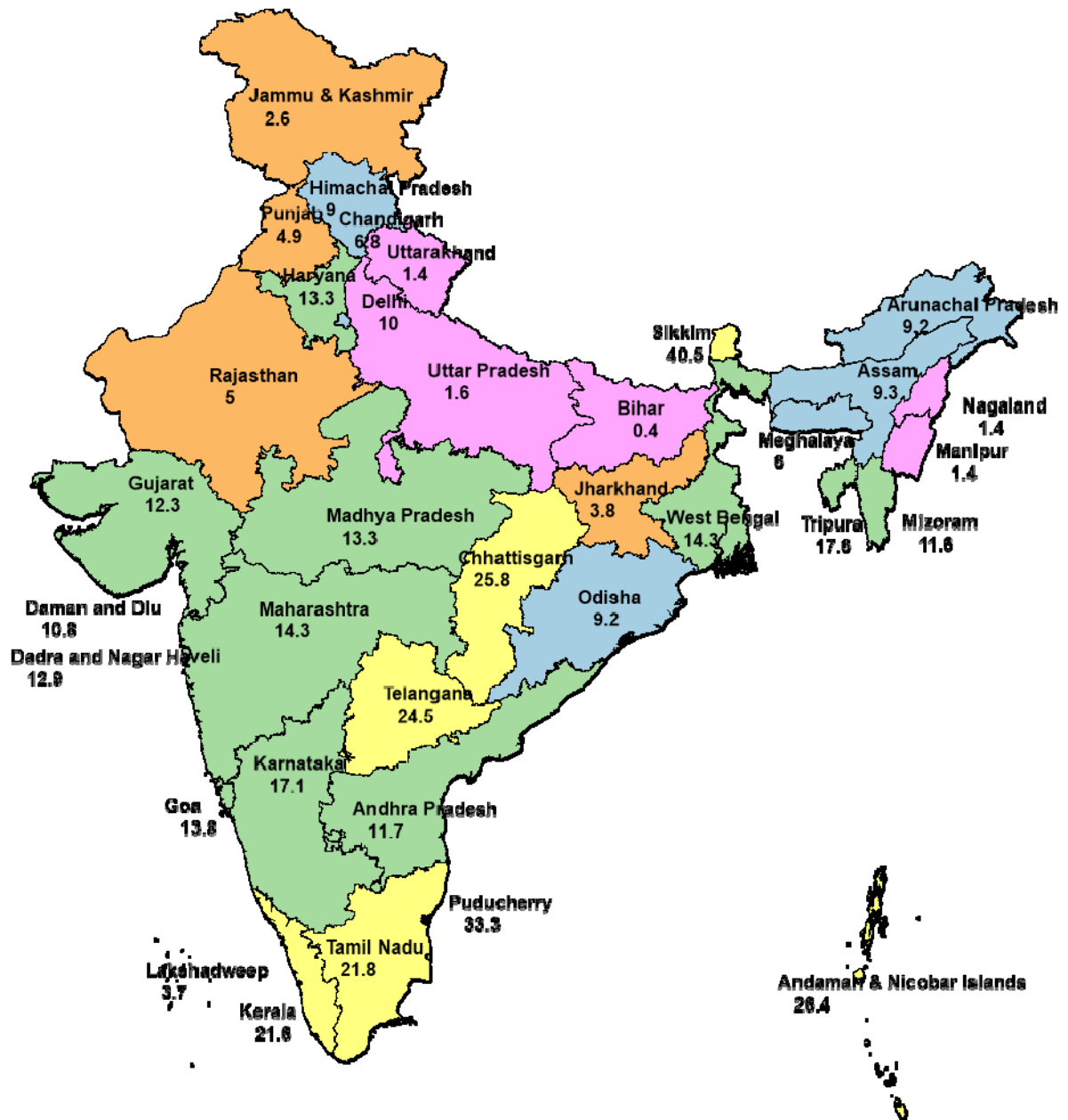
- As per data provided by States/UTs.

Figure – 2.3

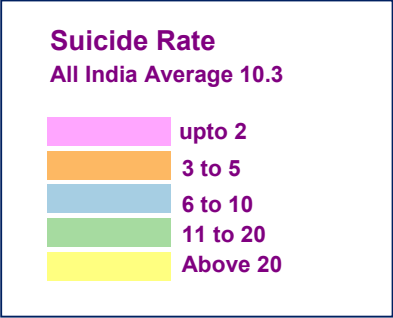


- As per data provided by States/UTs.

## STATE/UT - WISE SUICIDE RATE DURING 2016



Note:  
Suicide Rate means Number of Suicides per One Lakh population.



• As per data provided by States/UTs.

Map Powered by DevInfo, UNICEF

**Table – 2 (C)**  
**States/UTs with Higher Suicide Rate during 2014 to 2016**

		Year			
		2015		2016	
2014		2015		2016	
Puducherry	40.4	Puducherry	43.2	Sikkim	40.5
Sikkim	38.4	Sikkim	37.5	Puducherry	33.3
A & N Islands	28.9	A & N Islands	28.9	A & N Islands	26.4
Telangana	26.5	Chhattisgarh	27.7	Chhattisgarh	25.8
Kerala	23.9	Telangana	27.7	Telangana	24.5
<b>National Rate</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>	<b>National Rate</b>	<b>(10.6)</b>	<b>National Rate</b>	<b>(10.3)</b>

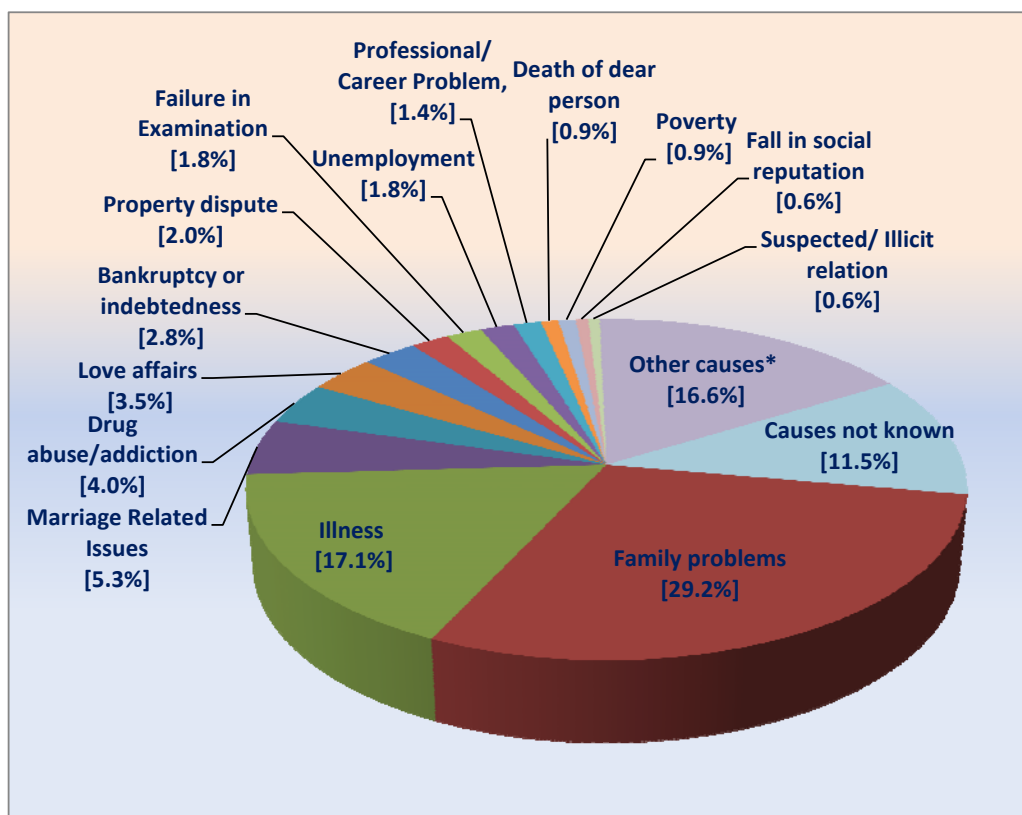
- As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Causes of Suicides**

‘Family Problems’ and ‘Illness’ were the major causes of suicides which accounted for 29.2% and 17.1% of total suicides respectively during 2016. ‘Marriage Related Issues’ (5.3%), ‘Drug Abuse/Addiction’ (4.0%)

‘Love Affairs’ (3.5%), ‘Bankruptcy’ (2.8%), Property Dispute (2.0%), ‘Failure in Examination’ & ‘Unemployment’ (1.8% each), Professional/Career Problem (1.4%) and Poverty (0.9%) were other causes of suicides [Table–2.4].

**Figure – 2.4**  
**Percentage Share of Various Causes of Suicides During 2016**



- As per data provided by States/UTs.

\* Figure of Suicides due to Impotency/Infertility, ideological causes/hero worshipping, physical abuse (rape etc.) and illegitimate pregnancy included along with Other Causes.

State and UT wise and City wise details on various causes of suicides are presented in **Table–2.5**. The States/UTs which reported more than the All-India average share under the two major causes of suicides i.e. 'Illness' and 'Family Problems' are grouped in the **Table–2(D)**.

12 States/UTs have reported higher percentage share than the All India average in suicides due to 'Illness'. Similarly, 8 States/UTs have reported higher share than the All India average in suicides committed due to 'Family Problems' during the year 2016.

**Table – 2 (D)**  
**States & UTs Reporting Higher Share of Suicides due to Illness and Family Problems during 2016**

Illness				Family Problems			
All India % Share							
17.1%				29.2%			
Sl. No.	State/UT	Suicides	% Share	Sl. No.	State/UT	Suicides	% Share
1	Andhra Pradesh	2,002	33.0	1	Chandigarh	77	62.6
2	Tamil Nadu	3,983	26.2	2	Uttar Pradesh	1,601	45.5
3	Goa	67	24.5	3	Tamil Nadu	6,092	40.1
4	Karnataka	2,567	24.0	4	Tripura	263	38.8
5	Sikkim	60	22.8	5	Kerala	2,852	37.0
6	Kerala	1,734	22.5	6	Bihar	149	36.3
7	Puducherry	122	21.7	7	Maharashtra	5,820	33.8
8	Gujarat	1,677	21.7	8	Karnataka	3,606	33.7
9	Madhya Pradesh	2,249	21.5				
10	Mizoram	25	20.2				
11	Punjab	283	19.7				
12	Maharashtra	3,154	18.3				

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

### Suicide Victims by Sex and Age Group

Age group wise distribution of suicides by causes during 2016 is presented in **Table–2(E)**. The overall male: female ratio of suicide victims for the year 2016 was 67.9:32.1, showing a marginal increase of female and marginal decrease of male ratio as compared to year 2015 (68.5:31.5). The proportion of female victims were more in 'Marriage Related Issues' specifically in 'Dowry Related Issues'. The age group (18 and above - below 30 years) and persons above 30 years - below 45 years of age were the most vulnerable groups resorting to suicides. These age groups accounted for 33.0% and 32.8% suicides respectively. 'Family Problems' (2,006), 'Failure in Examination' (1,330), 'Love Affairs' (942) and 'Illness' (932) were the main causes of suicides among children (below 18 years of age).

### Professional Status of Suicide Victims

Details on professional status of suicide victims are presented in **Table–2.6**. Housewives accounted for 51.3% of the total female victims (21,563 out of 41,997) and constitute nearly 16.5% of total victims who committed suicides (21,563 out of 1,31,008) during 2016.

Government servants accounted for 1.3% (1,739 out of 1,31,008) of the total suicide victims as compared to 5.2% (6,761 out of 1,31,008) of total victims from Private Sector Enterprises. Employees from Public Sector Undertakings formed 1.4% (1,843 out of 1,31,008) of the total suicide victims, whereas students and un-employed victims accounted for 7.2% (9,478 victims) and 8.5% (11,173 victims) of total suicides respectively. Self-employed category accounted for 10.3% of total suicide victims (13,507 out of 1,31,008).

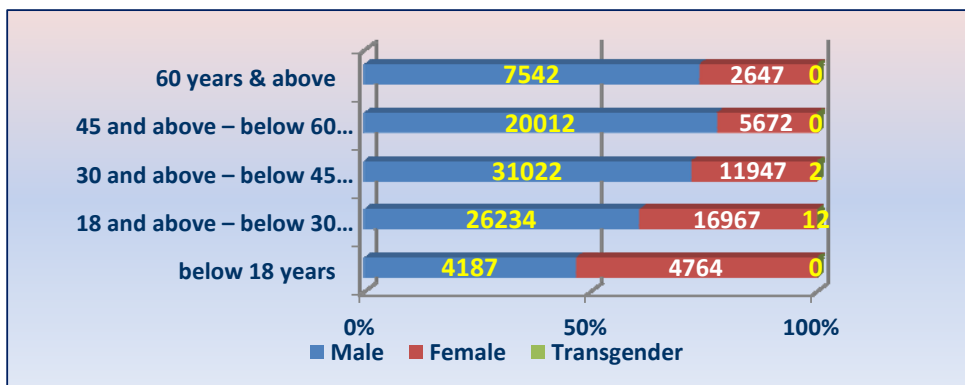


A total of 11,379 persons involved in farming sector (consisting of 6,270 farmers/cultivators and 5,109 agricultural labourers) have committed suicides during 2016, accounting for 8.7% of total suicides victims (1,31,008) in the country. Out of 6,270 farmer/cultivator suicides, a total of 5,995 were male and 275 were female during 2016. Out of 5,109 suicides committed by

agricultural labourers during 2016, 4,476 were male and 633 were female.

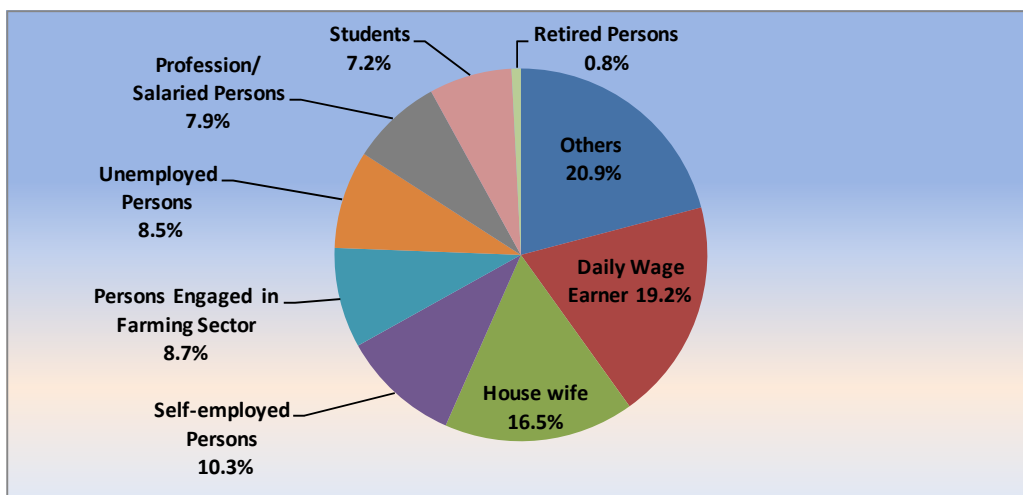
Certain States/UTs namely, West Bengal, Bihar, Nagaland, Chandigarh, D & N Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi UT and Lakshadweep reported zero suicides of Farmers/Cultivators as well as Agricultural Labourers.

**Figure – 2.5**  
**Suicide Victims by Sex and Age Group during 2016**



- As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Figure – 2.6**  
**Percentage Distribution of Suicide Victims by Profession During 2016**



- As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Table 2(E)**  
**Age and Gender - wise Distribution of Suicides during 2016**  
**(Cause-wise)**

Sl. No.	Cause	Below 18 years				18 yrs. – Below 30 years				30 yrs. – Below 45 years			
		M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	14	7	0	21	558	49	0	607	1418	121	0	1539
<b>2</b>	<b>Marriage Related Issues (Total)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>1117</b>	<b>2889</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4006</b>	<b>1025</b>	<b>1146</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2171</b>
	2.1 Non Settlement of Marriage	29	37	0	66	389	477	0	866	284	181	0	465
	2.2 Dowry Related Issues	3	37	0	40	63	1529	0	1592	67	445	0	512
	2.3 Extra Marital Affairs	4	16	0	20	251	235	0	486	222	142	0	364
	2.4 Divorce	2	2	0	4	80	111	0	191	122	93	0	215
	2.5 Others	12	79	0	91	334	537	0	871	330	285	0	615
3	Failure in Examination	668	662	0	1330	572	433	0	1005	41	10	0	51
4	Impotency/Infertility	9	6	0	15	39	75	1	115	71	61	0	132
5	Family Problems	903	1103	0	2006	7440	5538	2	12980	9504	4317	0	13821
<b>6</b>	<b>Illness (Total)</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>3222</b>	<b>2072</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5297</b>	<b>4662</b>	<b>2075</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6737</b>
	6.1 AIDS/STD	1	3	0	4	28	14	0	42	69	28	0	97
	6.2 Cancer	2	3	0	5	74	36	0	110	178	68	0	246
	6.3 Paralysis	8	6	0	14	77	40	0	117	146	63	0	209
	6.4 Insanity/ Mental Illness	186	225	0	411	1549	777	3	2329	1865	868	0	2733
	6.5 Other Prolonged Illness	180	318	0	498	1494	1205	0	2699	2404	1048	0	3452
7	Death of Dear Person	17	22	0	39	203	137	0	340	251	127	0	378
8	Drug Abuse/Alcoholic Addiction	38	5	0	43	1253	19	0	1272	2012	48	0	2060
9	Fall in Social Reputation	8	14	0	22	129	86	0	215	175	142	0	317
10	Ideological Causes/Hero Worshipping	4	13	0	17	36	14	0	50	22	5	0	27
11	Love Affairs	303	639	0	942	1653	1256	0	2909	441	237	0	678
12	Poverty	24	20	0	44	222	93	0	315	297	102	0	399
13	Unemployment	33	6	0	39	947	90	0	1037	767	106	0	873
14	Property Dispute	51	10	0	61	424	84	0	508	906	166	0	1072
15	Suspected/ Illicit Relation (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	11	21	0	32	171	163	0	334	185	113	0	298
16	Illegitimate Pregnancy (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	0	6	0	6	0	26	0	26	0	7	0	7
17	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	2	14	0	16	26	31	0	57	8	18	0	26
18	Professional/Career Problem	47	34	0	81	440	154	0	594	553	121	0	674
19	Causes Not Known	702	710	0	1412	3229	1635	4	4868	3478	1241	0	4719
20	Other Causes	926	746	0	1672	4553	2123	2	6678	5206	1784	2	6992
<b>21</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>4187</b>	<b>4764</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8951</b>	<b>26234</b>	<b>16967</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>43213</b>	<b>31022</b>	<b>11947</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42971</b>

Note: 'M'- refers to Male, 'F'- refers to Female, 'Tr'- refers to Transgender and 'T' – Total  
 • As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Table 2(E)**  
**Age and Gender - wise distribution of Suicides during 2016 (Concluded)**  
**(Cause-wise)**

Sl. No.	Cause	45 yrs. – Below 60 years				60 years & above				Total			
		M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T	M	F	Tr	T
(1)	(2)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	1119	79	0	1198	328	16	0	344	3437	272	0	3709
<b>2</b>	<b>Marriage Related Issues (Total)</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2512</b>	<b>4368</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6880</b>
	2.1 Non Settlement of Marriage	47	9	0	56	1	5	0	6	750	709	0	1459
	2.2 Dowry Related Issues	9	32	0	41	0	1	0	1	142	2044	0	2186
	2.3 Extra Marital Affairs	75	29	0	104	6	3	0	9	558	425	0	983
	2.4 Divorce	34	25	0	59	3	1	0	4	241	232	0	473
	2.5 Others	117	45	0	162	28	12	0	40	821	958	0	1779
3	Failure in Examination	13	4	0	17	3	2	0	5	1297	1111	0	2408
4	Impotency/Infertility	34	9	0	43	9	3	0	12	162	154	1	317
5	Family Problems	5574	1763	0	7337	1573	550	0	2123	24994	13271	2	38267
<b>6</b>	<b>Illness (Total)</b>	<b>4112</b>	<b>1499</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5611</b>	<b>2659</b>	<b>1175</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3834</b>	<b>15032</b>	<b>7376</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22411</b>
	6.1 AIDS/STD	26	9	0	35	14	6	0	20	138	60	0	198
	6.2 Cancer	236	84	0	320	121	73	0	194	611	264	0	875
	6.3 Paralysis	176	69	0	245	120	37	0	157	527	215	0	742
	6.4 Insanity/ Mental Illness	1365	622	0	1987	781	386	0	1167	5746	2878	3	8627
	6.5 Other Prolonged Illness	2309	715	0	3024	1623	673	0	2296	8010	3959	0	11969
7	Death of Dear Person	182	76	0	258	108	53	0	161	761	415	0	1176
8	Drug Abuse/Alcoholic Addiction	1436	26	0	1462	358	4	0	362	5097	102	0	5199
9	Fall in Social Reputation	180	75	0	255	31	4	0	35	523	321	0	844
10	Ideological Causes/ Hero Worshipping	20	4	0	24	2	3	0	5	84	39	0	123
11	Love Affairs	43	7	0	50	0	0	0	0	2440	2139	0	4579
12	Poverty	260	52	0	312	86	16	0	102	889	283	0	1172
13	Unemployment	254	36	0	290	50	9	0	59	2051	247	0	2298
14	Property Dispute	665	111	0	776	140	33	0	173	2186	404	0	2590
15	Suspected/ Illicit Relation (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	67	28	0	95	8	2	0	10	442	327	0	769
16	Illegitimate Pregnancy (Other than Sl. No. 2.3)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	40
17	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	5	6	0	11	0	2	0	2	41	71	0	112
18	Professional/Career Problem	372	73	0	445	69	6	0	75	1481	388	0	1869
19	Causes Not Known	2340	623	0	2963	833	242	0	1075	10582	4451	4	15037
20	Other Causes	3054	1060	0	4114	1247	505	0	1752	14986	6218	4	21208
<b>21</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>20012</b>	<b>5672</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25684</b>	<b>7542</b>	<b>2647</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10189</b>	<b>88997</b>	<b>41997</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>131008</b>

Note: 'M'- refers to Male, 'F'- refers to Female, 'Tr'- refers to Transgender and 'T' – Total  
 • As per data provided by States/UTs.

Out of total 88,997 male suicides, maximum suicides were committed by daily wage earners (21,902) followed by self-employed persons (12,341) and persons engaged in farming sector (10,471). A total of 41,997 females committed suicides during 2016 in the country. 21,563 females who committed suicides were house-wives followed by students (4,635) and daily wage earners (3,257). A total of 14 transgender have committed suicide. Out of 14 transgender, 5 were daily wage earners, 3 were un-employed, 1 was student & 1 was self-employed person while profession of 4 falls under 'Other Professions'.

State/UT-wise and profession wise analysis of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.7**. Out of 3 suicides reported in Lakshadweep, 2 suicides were committed by females. Majority of suicides committed by house-wives were reported in Maharashtra (2,725 out of 21,563 suicides) followed by Madhya Pradesh (2,714 suicides) and Tamil Nadu (2,673 suicides) which accounted for 12.6%, 12.6% and 12.4% of total such suicides during 2016 respectively. Majority of suicides committed by government servants were reported in Tamil Nadu (254 out of 1,739 suicides) followed by Maharashtra (213 suicides), Madhya Pradesh (178 suicides), Odisha (118 suicides) and Karnataka (107 suicides) which accounted for 14.6%, 12.2%, 10.2% 6.8% and 6.2% of total such suicides respectively. Majority of suicides committed by persons engaged in Private Sector Enterprises were reported in Maharashtra (1,500 out of 6,761 suicides), Tamil Nadu (1,439 suicides), Karnataka (712 suicides), Madhya Pradesh (521 suicides) and Gujarat (520 suicides), they accounted for 22.2%, 21.3%, 10.5%, 7.7% and 7.7% of total such suicides respectively. 14.2% of total suicides committed by students were reported in Maharashtra (1,350 suicides) followed by 12.1% in West Bengal (1,147 suicides), 10.4% in Tamil Nadu (981 suicides), 8.9% in Madhya Pradesh (843 suicides) and 6.7% in Chhattisgarh (633 suicides). Majority of suicides committed by un-employed persons, 13.9% were in Kerala (1,557 out of 11,173 suicides), 10.9% in Tamil Nadu (1,213 suicides), 10.8% in Maharashtra (1,212 suicides), 8.7% in West Bengal (975 suicides) and 6.0% in Uttar Pradesh (668 suicides). Majority of suicides committed by persons engaged in business activities were reported by Tamil Nadu (19.6%), Karnataka (14.9%),

Maharashtra (9.6%), Telangana (8.7%) and West Bengal (7.0%). Majority of victims engaged in farming sector were reported in Maharashtra (32.2%), Karnataka (18.3%), Madhya Pradesh (11.6%), Andhra Pradesh (7.1%) and Chhattisgarh (6.0%).

### Social Status of Suicide Victims

Social Status of victims is classified in seven categories namely 'Un-married', 'Married', 'Widowed/Widower', 'Divorcee', 'Separated', 'Others' and 'Status Not Known'.

The information on the social status of suicide victims is presented in **Table- 2.8(I)**. It observed that 67.1% (87,944 out of 1,31,008) of the suicide victims were married while 21.8% were un-married (28,558). Separated and Divorcees have accounted for 1.0% (1,262 victims) and 0.8% (1,014 victims) of total suicide victims respectively. The proportion of widowed/widower victims was around 1.8% of total suicide victims (2,342 out of 1,31,008 victims) during 2016.

The State/UT-wise information on the social status of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.9**.

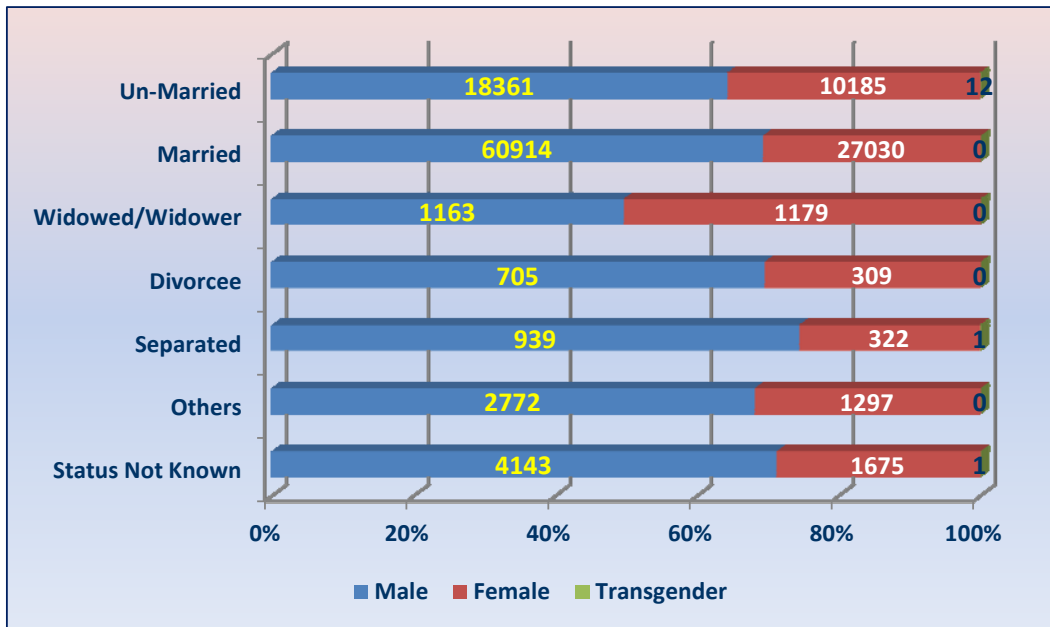
### Economic Status of Suicide Victims

The information on the economic status of suicide victims is presented in **Table- 2.8(II)**. 70.8% of suicide victims in 2016 were having annual income of less than `1 lakh (92,732 out of 1,31,008 victims). 25.4% (33,254 out of 1,31,008 victims) of suicide victims belong to annual income group of `1 lakh & above to less than `5 lakh'. The State/UT wise information on the Economic Status of suicide victims is presented in **Table-2.10**.

### Educational Status of Suicide Victims

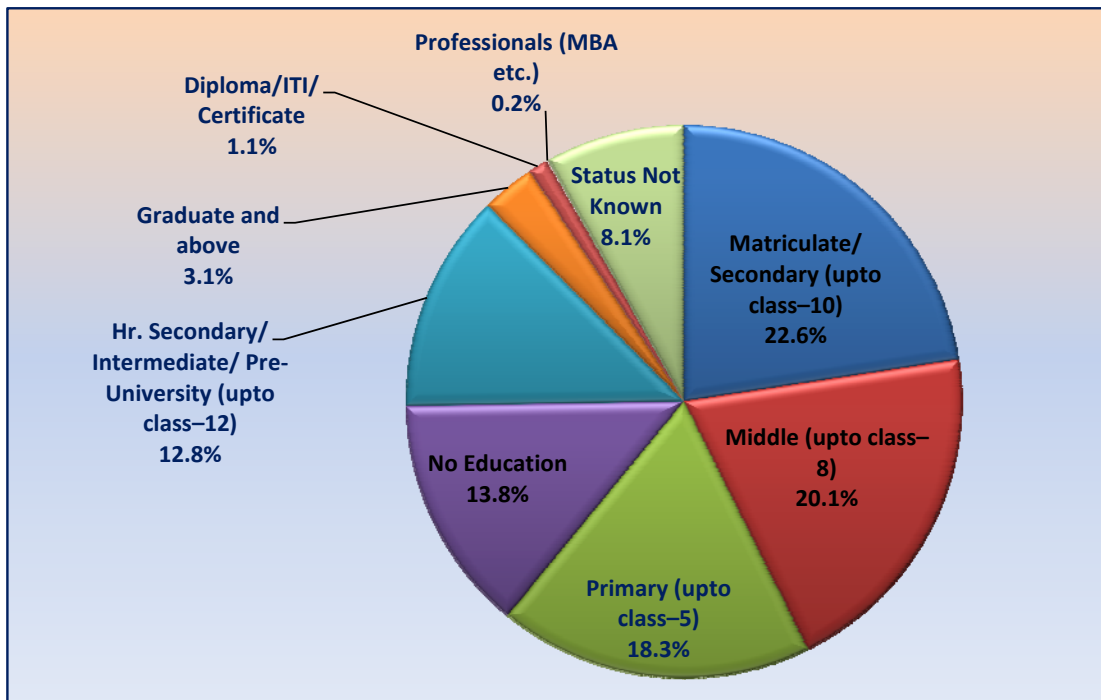
The sex-wise and education-wise break-up of suicide victims is presented in **Table- 2.8(III)**. The maximum numbers of suicide victims (22.6%) (29,582 out of 1,31,008 victims) were educated up to Matriculation/ Secondary level. Middle level educated, Primary educated and Illiterate persons accounted for 20.1% (26,288 out of 1,31,008 victims), 18.3% (24,010 out of 1,31,008 victims) and 13.8% (18,027 out of 1,31,008 victims) respectively of total suicide victims during 2016. Only 3.1% (4,027 out of 1,31,008 victims) of total suicide victims were graduates and above during 2016.

**Figure – 2.7**  
**Distribution of Suicide Victims by Social Status during 2016**



- As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Figure – 2.8**  
**Percentage Share of Suicide Victims by Educational Status during 2016**



- As per data provided by States/UTs.

**Table – 2 (F)**  
**Percentage of Suicide Victims by Educational Level during 2014 – 2016**

Sl. No.	Educational Level	Percentage Share		
		2014	2015	2016
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	No Education	14.3	13.8	13.8
2	Primary Level	19.0	19.7	18.3
3	Middle Level	20.2	21.2	20.1
4	Matriculate/Secondary Level	20.5	21.7	22.6
5	Higher Secondary Level	11.0	11.9	12.8
6	Diploma	1.1	1.2	1.1
7	Graduate & above	2.8	2.8	3.1
8	Professionals (MBA etc.)	0.3	0.4	0.2
9	Status Not Known	10.8	7.4	8.1
<b>10</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

The State/UT wise information on the Education Status of suicide victims is presented in **Table– 2.11**.

Out of 29,582 suicides committed by persons educated up-to matriculate/secondary level, 17.1% were reported in Maharashtra followed by Tamil Nadu (11.8%) and Kerala (9.4%). Out of 26,288 suicides committed by persons educated up-to middle level, 14.7% were reported in Maharashtra followed by Tamil Nadu (11.8%) and West Bengal (10.3%). Out of 18,027 suicides committed by persons with no education 15.1% were reported in Telangana followed by Madhya Pradesh (10.9%) and Tamil Nadu (10.4%) [**Table–2.11**].

Percentage share of suicide victims by educational level during 2014-16 is presented in **Table–2(F)**.

### Means Adopted for Committing Suicides

The means adopted for committing suicide varied from the easily available and effective means such as consumption of poison, jumping etc. to more painful means such as self-inflicted injuries, hanging etc. Like previous year, 'Hanging' (46.2%), consuming 'Poison' (26.6%), 'Self-Immolation' (7.0%) and 'Drowning' (4.8%) were the prominent means/mode of committing suicide. [**Table – 2.12**]

Percentage share of the means adopted in committing suicide during 2015-16 is presented in **Table–2(G)**.

During the year 2016, the share of 'Drowning' (from 5.4% in 2015 to 4.8% in 2016), 'Fire/Self Immolation (from 7.2% in 2015 to 7.0% in 2016), 'By Poison (from 27.9% in 2015 to 26.6% in 2016), 'By Jumping' (from 1.8% in 2015 to 1.7% in 2016), 'By Coming Under Running Vehicle/Train' (from 2.5% in 2015 to 2.2% in 2016) and 'By Touching Electric Wire (from 0.7% in 2015 to 0.5% in 2016) as mode adopted by suicide victims has decreased while share of 'Hanging' (from 45.6% in 2015 to 46.2% in 2016) and 'By Self inflicting injury' (from 0.4% in 2015 to 0.6% in 2016) have increased during 2016 over 2015. [**Table – 2(G)**]

The sex-wise break-up and means adopted for suicide in various States/UTs is presented in **Table–2.13**.

**Table – 2 (G)**  
**Percentage of Means/Mode Adopted by Victims to Commit Suicide during 2015-2016**

SL.	Means/Mode Adopted	Percentage & Number	
		2015	2016
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Consuming Sleeping Pills	0.5% (645)	0.5% (704)
2	Drowning	5.4% (7,267)	4.8% (6,263)
3	Fire/Self Immolation	7.2% (9,558)	7.0% (9,208)
4	Firearms	0.4% (469)	0.4% (492)
5	By Hanging	45.6% (60,952)	46.2% (60,494)
6	By Poison	27.9% (37,232)	26.6% (34,869)
7	By Self inflicting Injury	0.4% (572)	0.6% (769)
8	By Jumping	1.8% (2,382)	1.7% (2,265)
9	By Coming under Running Vehicles/Trains	2.5% (3,338)	2.2% (2,884)
10	By Touching Electric Wire	0.7% (954)	0.5% (647)
11	By Other Means	7.7% (10,254)	9.5% (12,413)
<b>12</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Note: Bracket ( ) refer to Number of victims who have committed suicides*

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

The number of male victims were more than females in all means of suicide except those who committed suicides by 'Fire/Self-immolation' where share of female victims was more (5,454 out of 9,208).

### Suicides in Cities

City refers to mega city i.e. city having population of 10,00,000 or more.

The numbers of suicides in 53 mega cities show mixed trend during 2013 to 2016. It shows a decreasing trend from the year 2013 (21,313) to 2014 (19,597). It slightly increased by 0.3% (from 19,597 in 2014 to 19,665 in 2015) and increased by 6.2% (from 19,665 in 2015 to 20,879 in 2016). Details on year-wise incidents in cities, percentage share to All-India, rate of suicides and percentage change during 2013- 2016 may be seen in **Table-2(H)**.

'Family Problems (other than marriage related issues)' was the major cause of suicide in cities which accounted for 32.9% (6,870 out of 20,879) of total suicides followed by 'Illness' (17.7%) (3,691 victim out of 20,879 victim). However, a total of 1,153 victims have committed suicide in 53 mega cities due to 'Marriage Related Issues' accounting for 5.5% of total suicides in the cities.

### Mass/Family Suicides

This section provides information on the number of cases where family members have committed suicide jointly. Out of 36 States/UTs, Mass/Family Suicides were reported in 11 States during the year 2016. State/UT & City-wise information on mass/family suicides is presented in **Table-2.14**.

**Table – 2 (H)**  
Incidence of Suicides in Mega-Cities, percentage share to All-India, rate of suicides and percentage change over previous year during 2013- 2016

Year	Suicides in Cities	Cities Share to All India	Rate in Cities	% Variation over Previous Year (Incidence)
2013	21,313	15.8	13.3	11.5
2014	19,597	14.9	12.2	- 8.1
2015	19,665	14.7	12.2	0.3
2016	20,879	15.9	13.0	6.2

- As per data provided by States/UTs.

The four Metropolitan Cities — Chennai (2,029), Delhi City (1,899), Bengaluru (1,795) and Mumbai (1,205) have reported higher number of suicides. These four cities together have reported almost 33.2% of the total suicides reported from 53 mega cities. Chennai and Bengaluru Cities have shown a declining trend during 2016 over 2015. Delhi City has shown an increase of 22.3% (from 1,553 suicides in 2015 to 1,899 suicides in 2016) and Mumbai has observed an increase of 7.4% (from 1,122 suicides in 2015 to 1,205 suicides in 2016). [**Table - 2.3**].

The suicide rate in cities (13.0) was higher as compared to All-India suicide rate (10.3). Durg-Bhilainagar followed by Rajkot have reported the highest suicides rate of 36.5 and 34.4 respectively. [**Table-2.2**].

A total of 61 cases of mass/family suicides were registered during the year 2016. In these 61 cases of mass/family suicides, a total of 191 persons, comprising of 110 married persons and 81 unmarried persons, have committed suicides during 2016.

Maximum cases of mass/family suicides were reported Tamil Nadu (11 cases) followed by Madhya Pradesh (9 cases) and Maharashtra & Rajasthan (7 cases each) during 2016. A total of 46 persons in Rajasthan, 32 persons in Tamil Nadu, 20 persons in Madhya Pradesh and 19 persons in Maharashtra have committed mass/family suicides during 2016 [**Table-2.14**].

Out of 53 cities, mass/family suicides were reported in 6 cities. These six cities have registered 9 cases of mass/family suicides in which 24 persons have committed suicides during 2016. Among these 24 persons, 18 were married and 6 were unmarried persons [**Table-2.14**].

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