

CHAPTER – 2

SUICIDES IN INDIA

Incidence and Rate of Suicides during the Decade (2004–2014)

On an average, more than one lakh persons commit suicides every year in the country during the decadal period from 2004 to 2014 [Table–2.1]

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.

The number of suicides in the country during the decade (2004–2014) has recorded an increase of 15.8% (1,31,666 in 2014 from 1,13,697 in 2004). The increase in incidence of suicides was reported each year till 2011 thereafter a declining trend was noticed. The population has increased by 14.6% during the decade while the rate of suicides has slightly increased by 1.0% (from 10.5 in 2004 to 10.6 in 2014). The rate of suicides is showing a mixed trend during the decade (2004-2014), however, rate of suicides is showing declining trend since 2010. [Table–2.1]

Table – 2 (A)

Incidence of Suicides, Growth of Population and Rate of Suicides During 2010 to 2014

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	2010	1,34,599	11,857.6	11.4
2	2011	1,35,585	12,101.9#	11.2
3	2012	1,35,445	12,133.7	11.2
4	2013	1,34,799	12,287.9	11.0
5	2014	1,31,666	12,440.4	10.6

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

--Population of the Population Census, 2011; Source: The Registrar General of India

** – One Lakh = 0.1 Million

*** – Rate of Suicides = Incidence of suicides per one lakh of population.

Incidence 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**.

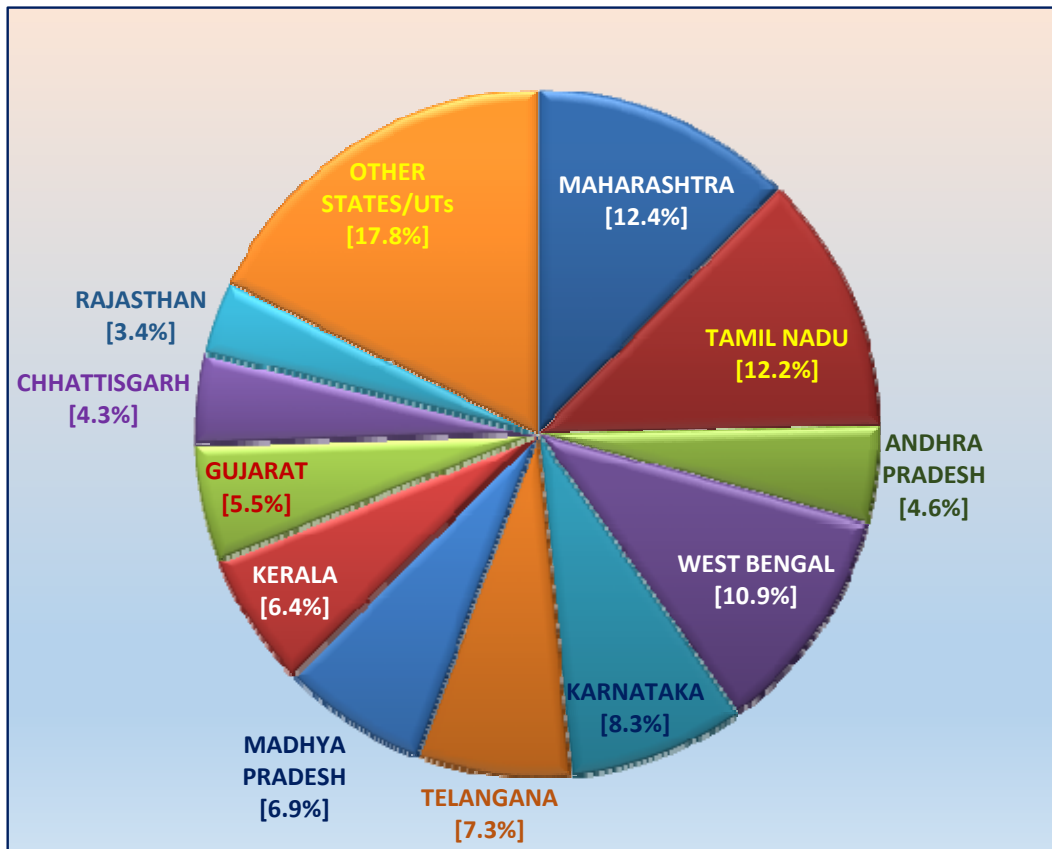
The highest incidents of 16,307 suicides were reported in Maharashtra followed by 16,122 suicides in Tamil Nadu and 14,310 suicides in West Bengal accounting for 12.4%, 12.2% and 10.9% respectively of total suicides. Karnataka (10,945 suicides) and Telangana (9,623 suicides) accounted for 8.3% and 7.3% respectively of the total suicides reported in the country. 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 (17.0% 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 cases of suicidal deaths during the year 2012 to 2014 are presented in the **Table–2(B)**. These States have continuously accounted for about 7% or more of the total suicides reported in the country from 2012 to 2014. Out of these States, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have registered consistently higher number of suicidal deaths during the last few years.

Figure – 2.1

State/UT wise Percentage Share of Suicides during 2014



INCIDENCE OF SUICIDES IN THE COUNTRY DURING 2014

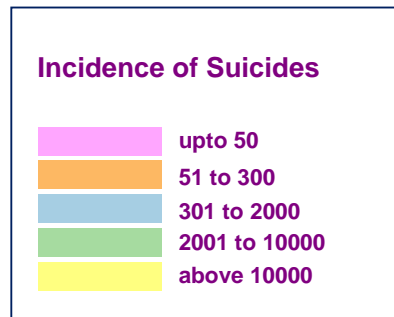
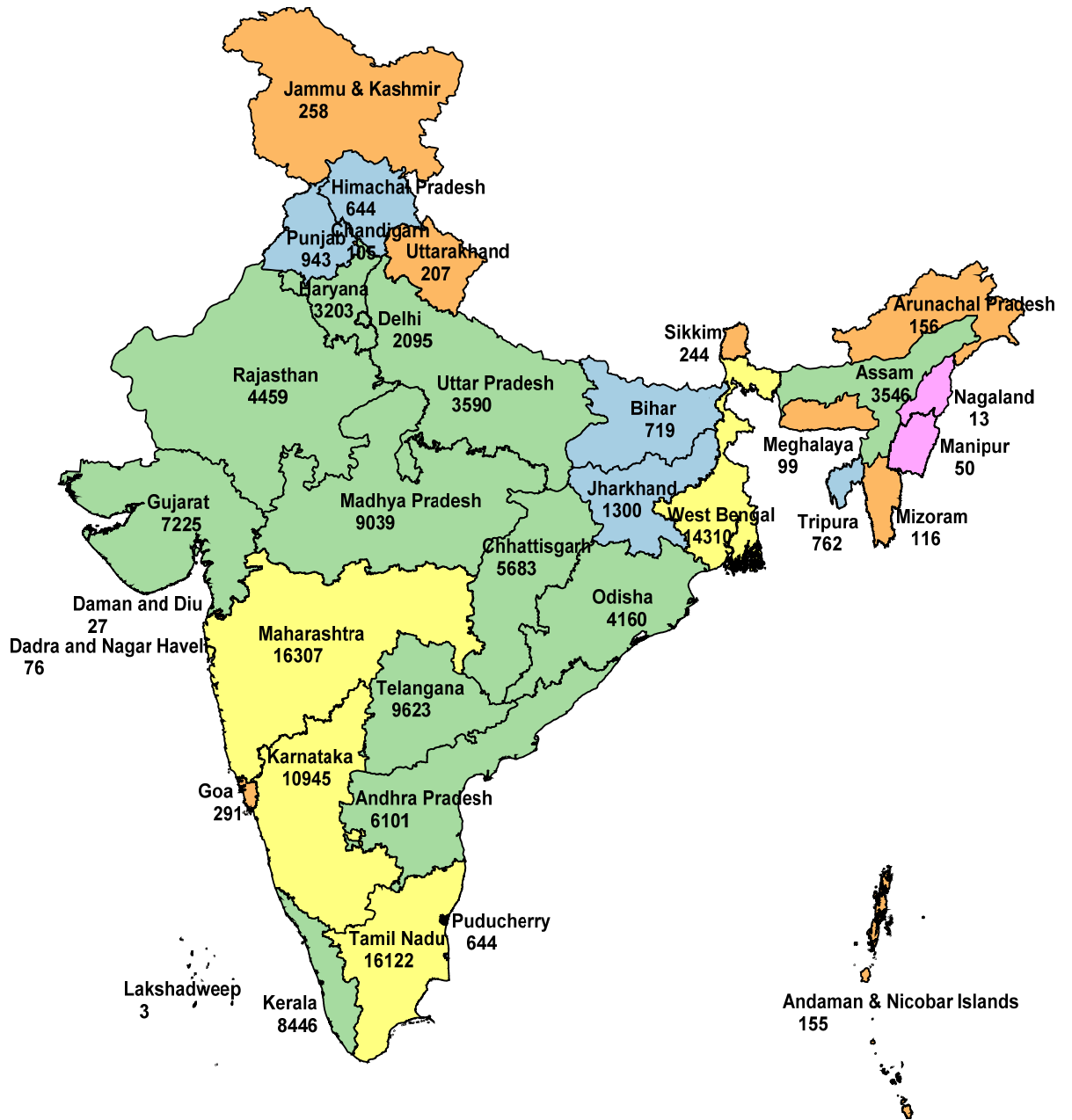


Table – 2 (B)
States with Higher Percentage Share of Suicides during 2012 to 2014

Sl. No.	Year					
	2012		2013		2014	
1	Tamil Nadu	(14.0%)	Maharashtra	(12.3%)	Maharashtra	(12.4%)
2	Maharashtra	(13.4%)	Tamil Nadu	(12.3%)	Tamil Nadu	(12.2%)
3	Andhra Pradesh	(11.8%)	Andhra Pradesh	(10.8%)	West Bengal	(10.9%)
4	Karnataka	(10.6%)	West Bengal	(9.7%)	Karnataka	(8.3%)
5	Madhya Pradesh	(8.1%)	Karnataka	(8.4%)	Telangana	(7.3%)

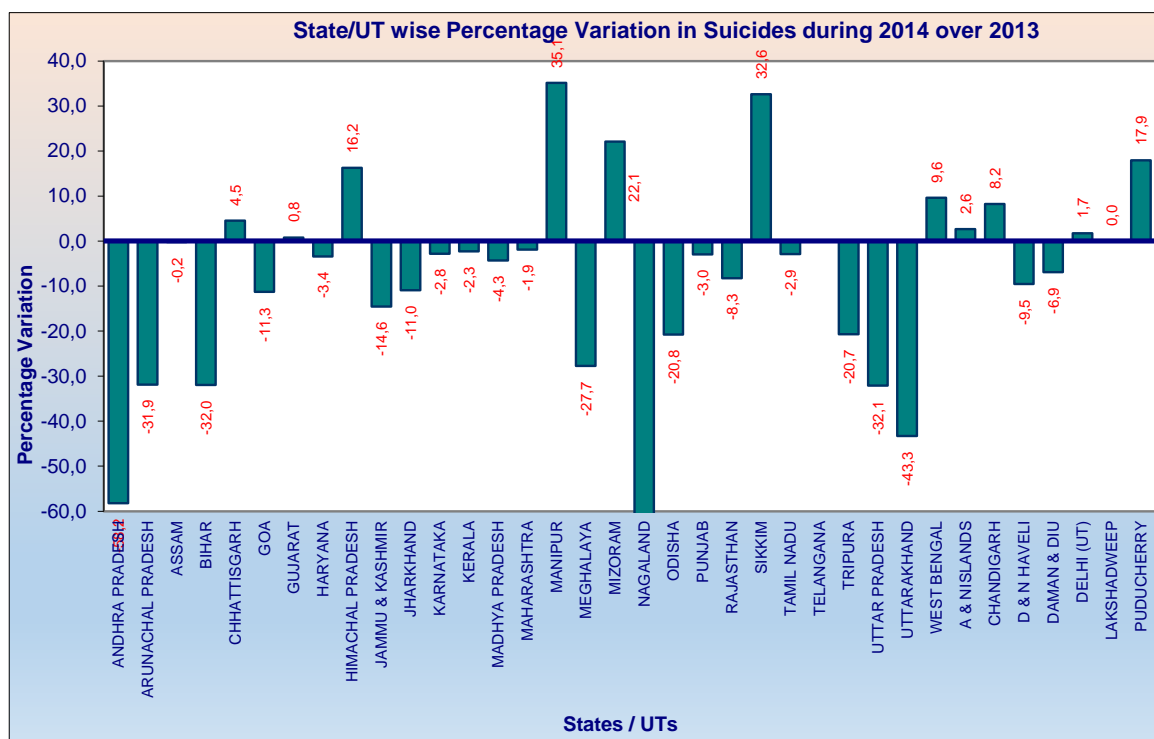
Tamil Nadu reported the highest number of suicidal deaths in 2012 and second highest in 2013 and 2014 accounting for 12.3% and 12.2% respectively of total such deaths in the country.

Delhi has reported the highest number of suicides (2,095) among UTs, followed by Puducherry (644). Seven UTs together accounted for 2.4% of total suicides in the country. Total of 20,621 suicides were

committed in the 53 mega cities of the country during the 2014.

The States and UTs which have reported significant percentage increase in suicides in 2014 over 2013 were Manipur (35.1%), Sikkim (32.6%), Mizoram (22.1%), Puducherry (17.9%) and Himachal Pradesh (16.2%) while highest percentage decrease was reported in Nagaland(64.9%) [Table-2.3].

Figure – 2.2

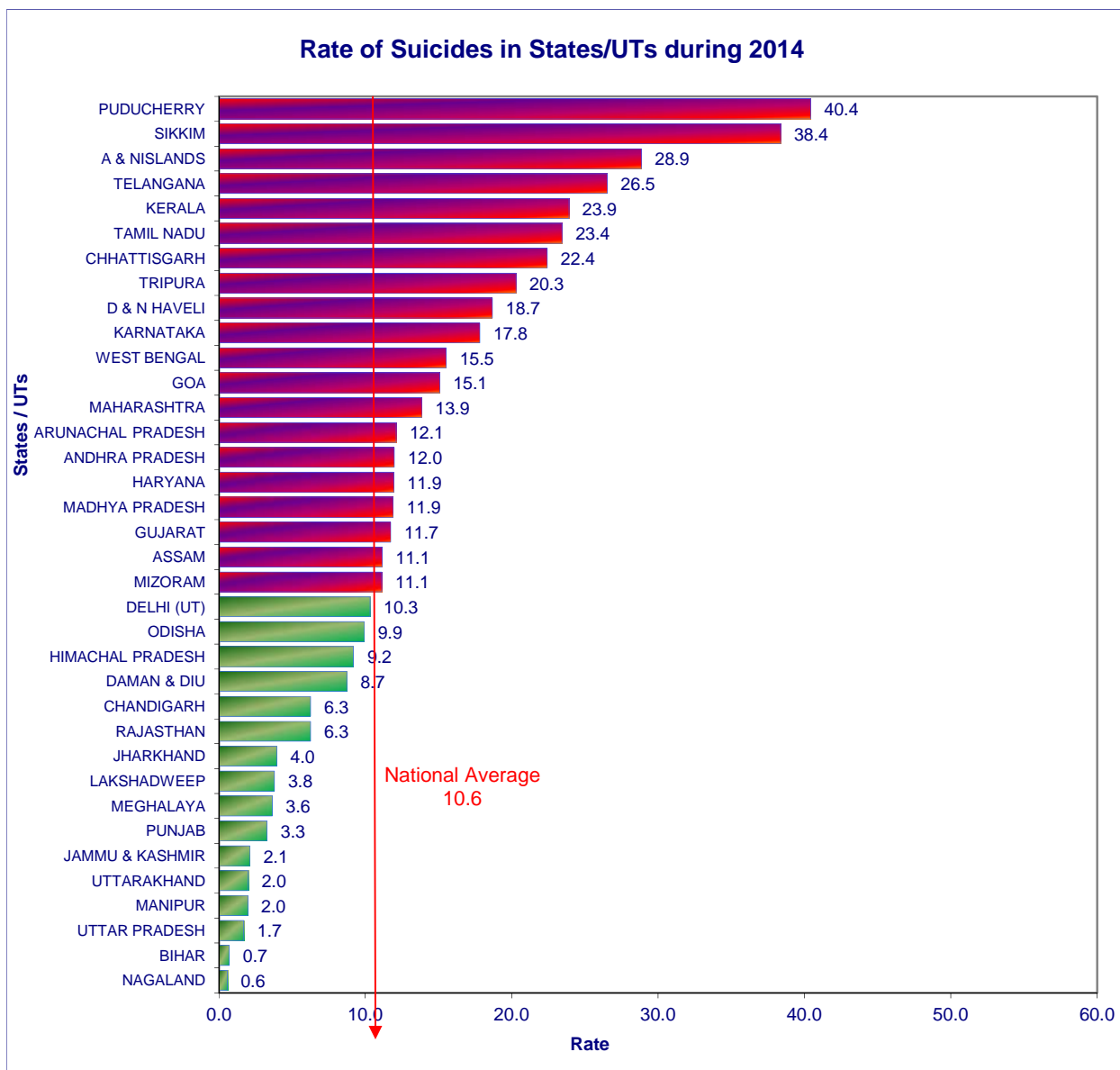


Rate of Suicides — Trends in States/UTs

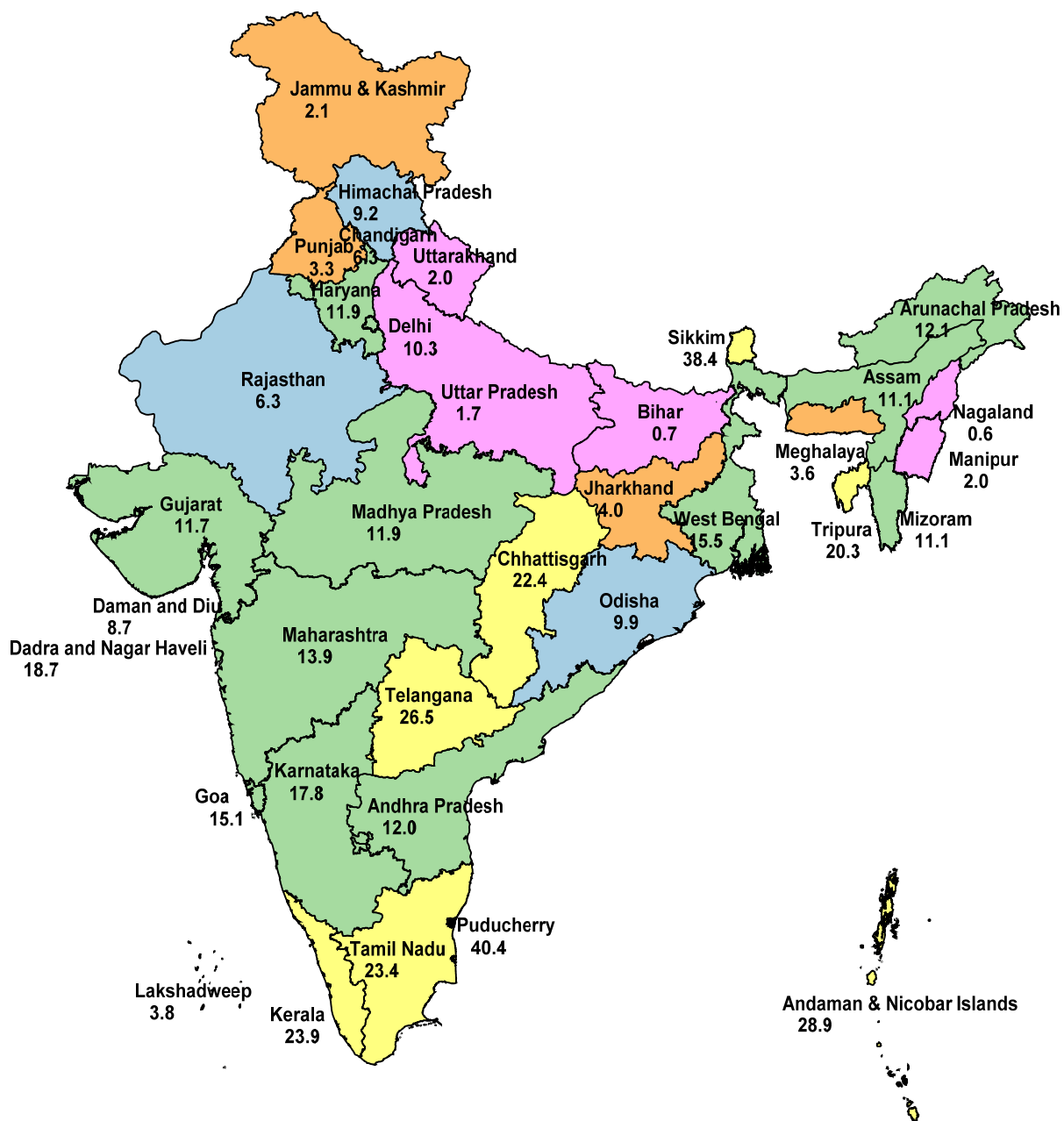
Rate of suicides i.e. the number of suicides per one lakh population, has been widely accepted as a standard yardstick for comparison. The All India rate of suicides was 10.6 during the year 2014. Puducherry reported the highest rate of

suicide (40.4) followed by Sikkim (38.4), A & N Islands (28.9), Telangana (26.5), Kerala (23.9) and Tamil Nadu (23.4). The details of States/UTs which have recorded higher rate of suicides during 2012 to 2014 are given in **Table–2(C)**.

Figure – 2.3



STATE/UT WISE SUICIDE RATE IN 2014



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

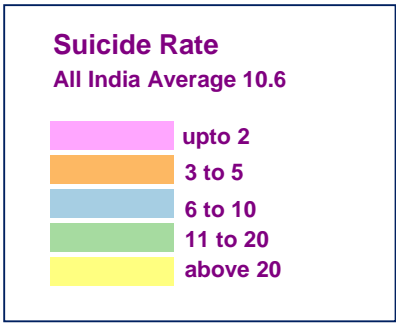


Table – 2 (C)

States/UTs with Higher Suicide Rate during 2012 to 2014					
		Year			
		2012	2013	2014	
Puducherry	36.8	Puducherry	35.6	Puducherry	40.4
Sikkim	29.1	Sikkim	29.3	Sikkim	38.4
Tamil Nadu	24.9	A & N Islands	28.8	A & N Islands	28.9
Kerala	24.3	Tripura	25.9	Telangana	26.5
A & N Islands	23.6	Kerala	24.6	Kerala	23.9
National Rate	(11.2)	National Rate	(11.0)	National Rate	(10.6)

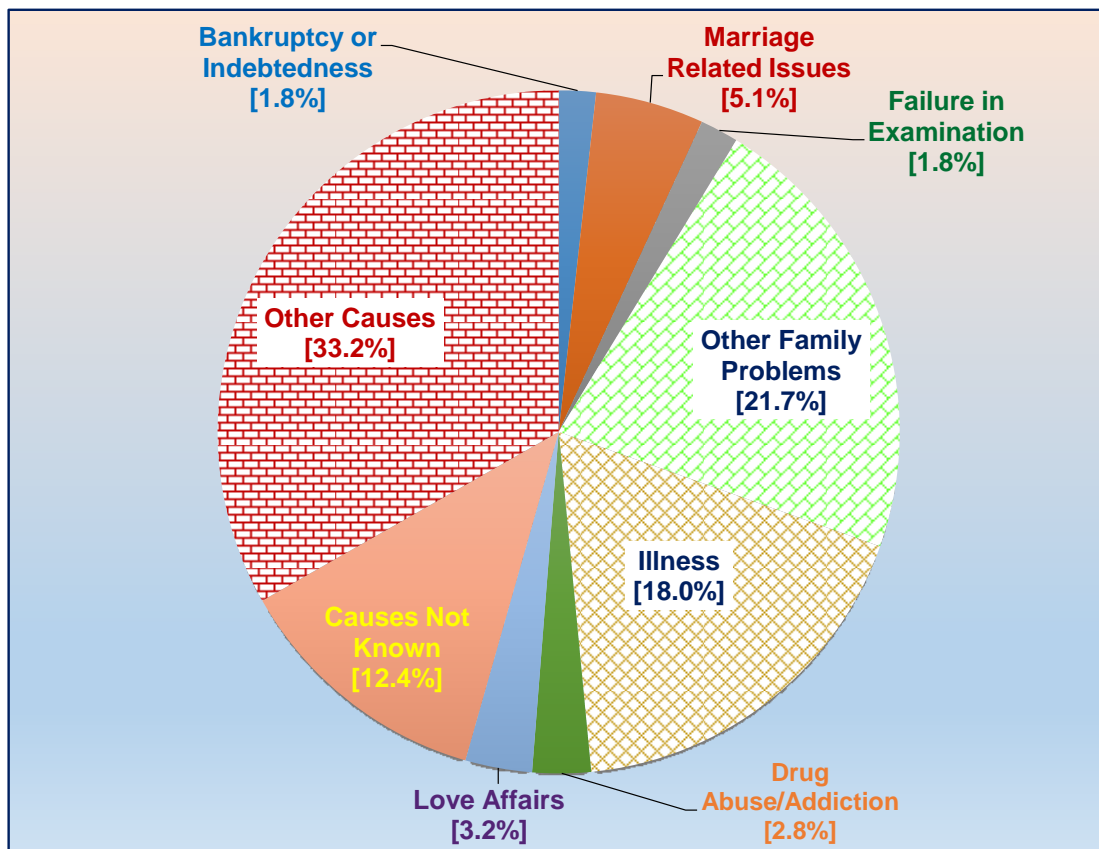
Puducherry continued to report high suicide rates since last 3 years. Puducherry has recorded suicide rates more than 3 times of the national average during the last three years.

Causes of Suicides

‘Other Family Problems’ and ‘Illness’ were the major causes of suicides among the specified

causes, accounting for 21.7% and 18.0% respectively of total suicides. ‘Marriage Related Issues’ (5.1%), ‘Love Affairs’ (3.2%), ‘Drug Abuse/Addiction’ (2.8%), ‘Bankruptcy or Indebtedness’ and ‘Failure in Examination’ both accounted for 1.8% each, ‘Unemployment’ (1.7%), ‘Poverty’ (1.3%), ‘Property Dispute’ (0.8%), ‘Death of Dear Person’ (0.7%) were other causes of suicides[Table–2.4].

Figure – 2.4
Percentage share of various causes of Suicides during 2014



State, UT 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)**. Ten States/UTs have reported higher percentage share than the All India average in suicides

to year 2013 (67.2:32.8). The proportion of Boys: Girls suicide victims (below 14 years of age) were 52.3:47.7 in 2014 as compared to 53.5:46.5 in 2013. The proportion of female victims were more in 'Marriage Related Issues' like 'Non-Settlement of Marriage', 'Dowry Related Issues', 'Extra-Marital Issues', 'Divorce'. Apart from this, 'Failure in

Table – 2 (D)
States & UTs reporting higher share of suicides due to illness and family problems during 2014

Illness				Other Family Problems			
All India % Share							
18.0%				21.7%			
Sl. No.	State/UT	Suicides	% age Share	Sl. No.	State/UT	Suicides	% age Share
1	Punjab	348	36.9	1	Mizoram	54	46.6
2	A & N Islands	54	34.8	2	Kerala	3149	37.3
3	Tamil Nadu	4514	28.0	3	Puducherry	228	35.4
4	Andhra Pradesh	1596	26.2	4	Tamil Nadu	5572	34.6
5	Goa	76	26.1	5	Maharashtra	5336	32.7
6	Kerala	2125	25.2	6	Manipur	12	24.0
7	Maharashtra	3512	21.5	7	Uttar Pradesh	803	22.4
8	Karnataka	2298	21.0				
9	Telangana	1980	20.6				
10	Gujarat	1312	18.2				

with cause of suicides such as 'Illness'. Similarly, seven States/UTs have reported higher share than the All India average in suicides committed due to 'Other Family Problems' during the year.

Suicide Victims by Sex and Age Group

Age group wise distribution of suicides by causes during 2014 is presented in **Table-2(E)**. The overall male: female ratio of suicide victims for the year 2014 was 67.7:32.3, showing a marginal increase of male and marginal decrease of female ratio as compared

Examination', 'Impotency/Infertility' and 'Physical Abuse (Rape)' were also major causes of suicides among females than among males. Youth (18 and above- below 30 years) and middle aged people (30 and above- below 45 years) were the prime groups taking recourse to the path of suicides. These age groups accounted for 34.1% and 32.2% suicides respectively. 'Other Family Problems' (245), 'Illness' (181) 'Failure in Examination' (163) were the main causes of suicides among children (below 14 years of age).

Figure – 2.5

Suicide Victims by Sex and Age group during 2014

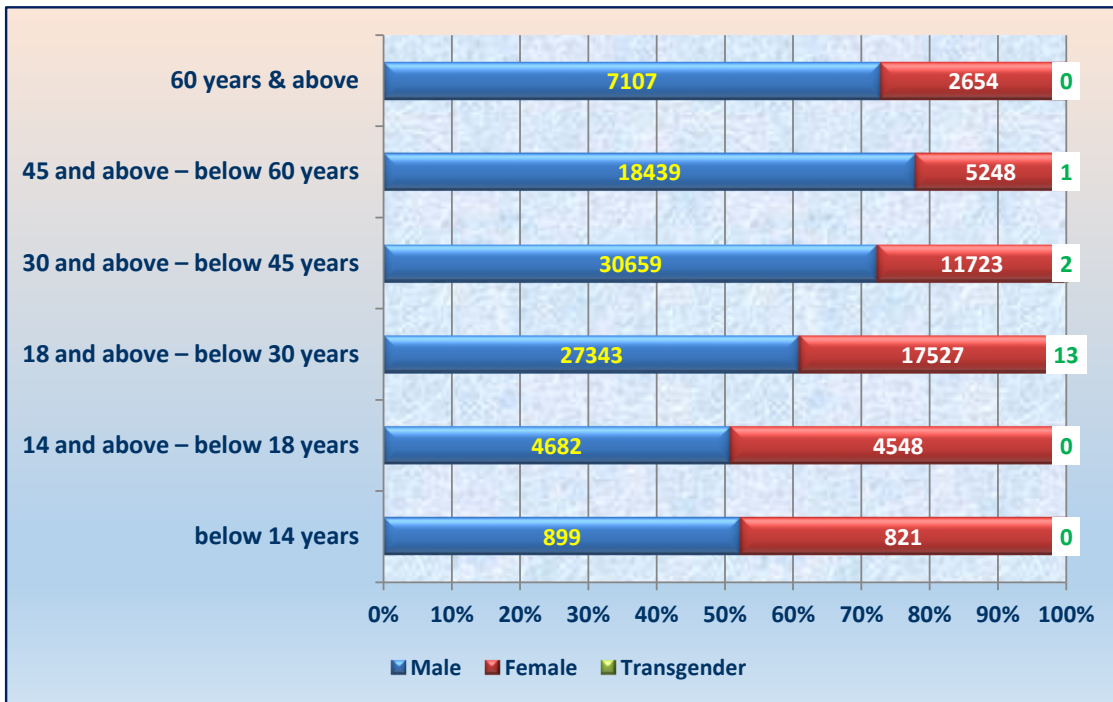


Figure – 2.6

Percentage distribution of Suicide victims by Profession during 2014

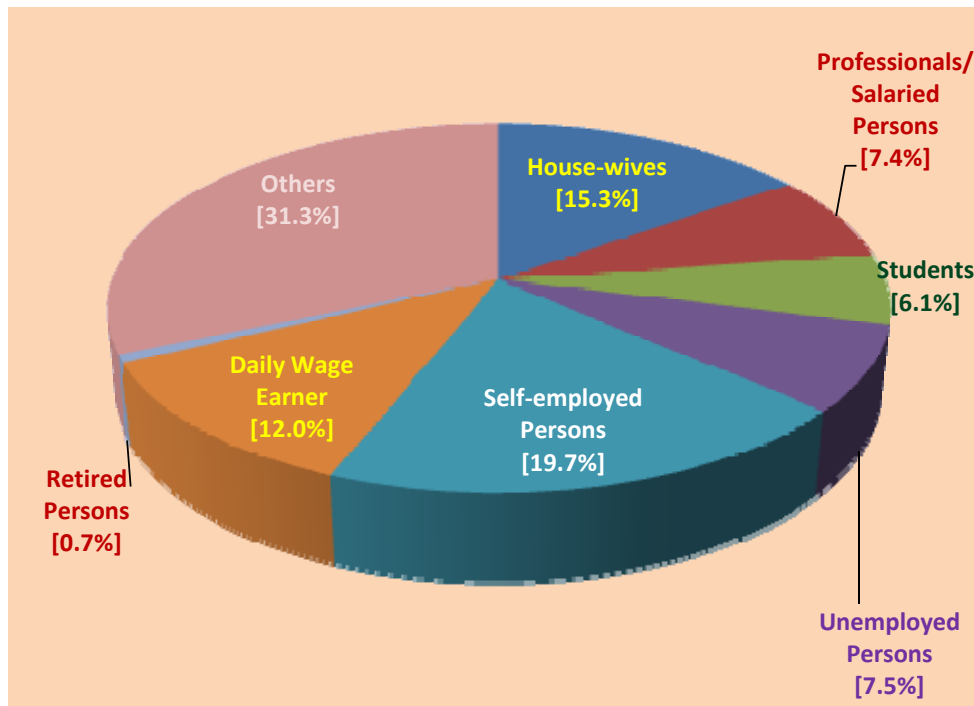


Table 2(E)
Age and Gender wise distribution of Suicides during 2014 (Cause wise)

Sl. No.	Cause	below 14 years				14 and above – below 18 years				18 and above – below 30 years			
		Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total	Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total	Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	1	2	0	3	14	3	0	17	432	41	0	473
2	Marriage Related Issues	10	10	0	20	109	178	0	287	1075	2934	0	4009
3	Non Settlement of Marriage	2	1	0	3	30	51	0	81	284	373	0	657
4	Dowry Related Issues	1	0	0	1	0	32	0	32	19	1707	0	1726
5	Extra Marital Affairs	0	1	0	1	6	8	0	14	114	134	0	248
6	Divorce	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	55	88	0	143
7	Others	7	8	0	15	73	77	0	150	603	632	0	1235
8	Failure in Examination	91	72	0	163	582	539	0	1121	655	407	0	1062
9	Impotency/Infertility	0	1	0	1	5	11	0	16	54	100	0	154
10	Other Family Problems	129	116	0	245	625	716	0	1341	5541	4221	2	9764
11	Illness	96	85	0	181	428	496	0	924	3756	2299	3	6058
12	AIDS/STD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	8	0	43
13	Cancer	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	51	38	0	89
14	Paralysis	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	3	23	9	0	32
15	Insanity/Mental Illness	56	23	0	79	169	174	0	343	1400	729	1	2130
16	Other Prolonged Illness	39	62	0	101	249	321	0	570	2247	1515	2	3764
17	Death of dear person	1	3	0	4	13	26	0	39	169	126	0	295
18	Drug Abuse/Addiction	5	6	0	11	51	5	0	56	967	24	1	992
19	Fall in Social Reputation	2	7	0	9	7	15	0	22	85	55	0	140
20	Ideological Causes/Hero worshipping	1	2	0	3	2	0	0	2	21	8	0	29
21	Love Affairs	12	30	0	42	346	511	0	857	1581	985	0	2566
22	Poverty	1	4	0	5	9	8	0	17	358	91	0	449
23	Unemployment	0	2	0	2	48	9	0	57	838	125	0	963
24	Property dispute	0	0	0	0	15	5	0	20	201	63	0	264
25	Suspected/Illicit Relation	0	4	0	4	4	23	0	27	100	83	0	183
26	Illegitimate Pregnancy	0	1	0	1	0	10	0	10	0	34	0	34
27	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	0	4	0	4	0	20	0	20	3	29	0	32
28	Professional/Career Problem	0	0	0	0	33	8	0	41	244	61	0	305
29	Causes Not Known	179	138	0	317	748	750	0	1498	3657	1909	1	5567
30	Other Causes	371	334	0	705	1643	1215	0	2858	7606	3932	6	11544
31	Total	899	821	0	1720	4682	4548	0	9230	27343	17527	13	44883

Table 2(E)
Age and Gender wise distribution of Suicides during 2014 (Cause wise)
(Contd...)

Sl. No.	Cause	30 and above – below 45 years				45 and above – below 60 years				60 years & above			
		Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total	Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total	Male	Female	Trans-gender	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	918	101	0	1019	579	51	0	630	154	12	0	166
2	Marriage Related Issues	824	1095	0	1919	286	162	0	448	58	32	0	90
3	Non Settlement of Marriage	151	173	0	324	21	8	0	29	2	0	0	2
4	Dowry Related Issues	12	427	0	439	5	44	0	49	2	12	0	14
5	Extra Marital Affairs	89	86	0	175	17	16	0	33	1	4	0	5
6	Divorce	59	77	0	136	28	5	0	33	8	3	0	11
7	Others	513	332	0	845	215	89	0	304	45	13	0	58
8	Failure in Examination	28	25	0	53	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	0
9	Impotency/Infertility	50	77	0	127	15	13	0	28	3	3	0	6
10	Other Family Problems	7041	3238	0	10279	3990	1228	0	5218	1297	458	0	1755
11	Illness	5027	2083	2	7112	4147	1496	0	5643	2624	1204	0	3828
12	AIDS/STD	92	28	1	121	47	7	0	54	10	5	0	15
13	Cancer	111	45	0	156	150	47	0	197	87	45	0	132
14	Paralysis	95	27	0	122	111	38	0	149	69	32	0	101
15	Insanity/Mental Illness	1548	706	1	2255	1120	441	0	1561	468	268	0	736
16	Other Prolonged Illness	3181	1277	0	4458	2719	963	0	3682	1990	854	0	2844
17	Death of dear person	218	75	0	293	174	47	0	221	83	46	0	129
18	Drug Abuse/Addiction	1419	35	0	1454	893	15	0	908	220	6	0	226
19	Fall in Social Reputation	136	34	0	170	98	12	0	110	33	6	0	39
20	Ideological Causes/Hero worshipping	10	3	0	13	7	0	0	7	2	0	0	2
21	Love Affairs	429	193	0	622	63	8	0	71	10	0	0	10
22	Poverty	589	117	0	706	370	48	0	418	92	12	0	104
23	Unemployment	724	84	0	808	276	21	0	297	79	1	0	80
24	Property dispute	343	87	0	430	263	26	0	289	52	12	0	64
25	Suspected/Illicit Relation	119	79	0	198	26	15	0	41	4	1	0	5
26	Illegitimate Pregnancy	0	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	0	12	0	12	3	2	0	5	0	1	0	1
28	Professional/Career Problem	307	33	0	340	171	9	0	180	37	0	0	37
29	Causes Not Known	3787	1308	0	5095	2145	624	0	2769	792	226	0	1018
30	Other Causes	8690	3033	0	11723	4931	1469	1	6401	1567	634	0	2201
31	Total	30659	11723	2	42384	18439	5248	1	23688	7107	2654	0	9761

Table 2(E)
Age and Gender wise distribution of Suicides during 2014 (Cause wise)
(Concluded)

Sl. No.	Cause	Total			Total
		Male	Female	Trans-gender	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	2098	210	0	2308
2	Marriage Related Issues	2362	4411	0	6773
3	Non Settlement of Marriage	490	606	0	1096
4	Dowry Related Issues	39	2222	0	2261
5	Extra Marital Affairs	227	249	0	476
6	Divorce	150	183	0	333
7	Others	1456	1151	0	2607
8	Failure in Examination	1358	1045	0	2403
9	Impotency/Infertility	127	205	0	332
10	Other Family Problems	18623	9977	2	28602
11	Illness	16078	7663	5	23746
12	AIDS/STD	184	48	1	233
13	Cancer	407	175	0	582
14	Paralysis	301	107	0	408
15	Insanity/Mental Illness	4761	2341	2	7104
16	Other Prolonged Illness	10425	4992	2	15419
17	Death of dear person	658	323	0	981
18	Drug Abuse/Addiction	3555	91	1	3647
19	Fall in Social Reputation	361	129	0	490
20	Ideological Causes/Hero worshipping	43	13	0	56
21	Love Affairs	2441	1727	0	4168
22	Poverty	1419	280	0	1699
23	Unemployment	1965	242	0	2207
24	Property dispute	874	193	0	1067
25	Suspected/Illicit Relation	253	205	0	458
26	Illegitimate Pregnancy	0	56	0	56
27	Physical Abuse (Rape, etc.)	6	68	0	74
28	Professional/Career Problem	792	111	0	903
29	Causes Not Known	11308	4955	1	16264
30	Other Causes	24808	10617	7	35432
31	Total	89129	42521	16	131666

Professional Status of Suicide Victims

Details on professional status of suicide victims are presented in **Table–2.6**. Housewives accounted for 47.4% of the total female victims (20,148 out of 42,521) and nearly 15.3% of total victims who committed suicides (20,148 out of 1,31,666).

Government servants accounted for 1.7% of the total suicide victims as compared to 4.7% victims from Private Sector Enterprises. Victims from Public Sector Undertakings have accounted for 1.1% of the total victims, whereas students and un-employed victims accounted for 6.1% and 7.5% of suicides respectively. Self-employed category accounted for 19.7% of victims out of which 9.4% of victims were engaged in the field of Agriculture and 7.5% were engaged in Business.

Out of total 89,129 males suicides, maximum suicides were committed by self employed (22,974), followed by daily wagers (13,944). A total of 42,521 females committed suicides during 2014 in the country. 20,148 females who committed suicides were housewives followed by students (3,807) and self employed person (2,928). A total of 16 Transgender have committed suicide. Out of 16 Transgender, 4 were un-employed, 2 were self employed while profession of 10 falls under 'Other Professions'.

State/UT wise and profession wise analysis of suicide victims is presented in **Table–2.7**. Out of 3 females' suicides in Lakshadweep, 1 suicide was committed by housewife. 24.5% suicides in Gujarat and 24.1% suicides in Madhya Pradesh were committed by housewives. Government servants accounted for 22.2%, 16.0%, 15.4% 12.2% & 6.9% of suicides victims in Daman & Diu, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram respectively. 52.9% in A & N Islands, 27.6% in Chandigarh, 22.4% in Dadar & Nagar Haveli, 13.1% in Goa and 11.1% in Uttarakhand of victims of suicides were engaged in Private Sector Enterprises. 26.0% in Manipur, 25.7% in Chandigarh, 22.2% in Meghalaya, 16.0% in Arunachal Pradesh, 15.9% in Uttarakhand and 15.4% in Nagaland were student as compared to national average 6.1%. 30.8% suicide victims in Nagaland, 27.5% in Sikkim,

20.7% in Mizoram, 20.3% in Goa, 18.1% in Chandigarh, 17.7% in Himachal Pradesh, 16.7% in Jammu & Kashmir, 15.7% in Kerala, 14.8% each in Tripura & Daman & Diu, 14.0% in Uttarakhand, 13.5% in Arunachal Pradesh and 12.4% in Uttar Pradesh were unemployed. 21.0% suicide victims in Assam, 19.1% in Punjab, 11.2% in Mizoram, 11.1% each in Meghalaya & Daman & Diu, 10.6% in Telangana, 10.4% in Tripura, 10.3% in Bihar and 10.2% in Rajasthan were engaged in business activities. 24.6% in Maharashtra, 14.3% each in Jammu & Kashmir & Sikkim, 14.0% in Telangana, 13.3% each in Chhattisgarh & Madhya Pradesh and 10.4% in Andhra Pradesh were self-employed in agriculture activities. However, a total of 4,004 such persons have committed suicides in Maharashtra followed by 1,347 in Telangana, and 1,198 in Madhya Pradesh during 2014.

Social Status of Suicide Victims

Social Status of victims is classified in seven categories namely 'Married', 'Un-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**. It was observed that 65.9% of the suicide victims were married while 21.1% were un-married. Divorcees and separated have accounted for about 1.4% of the total suicide victims. the proportion of widowed & widower victims was around 2.1%. 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**. 69.7% of victims having income less than ₹1 lakh have committed suicides during 2014. 26.9% of suicides victims belong to 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– 2.9**.

Figure – 2.7

Distribution of Suicide Victims by Social Status during 2014

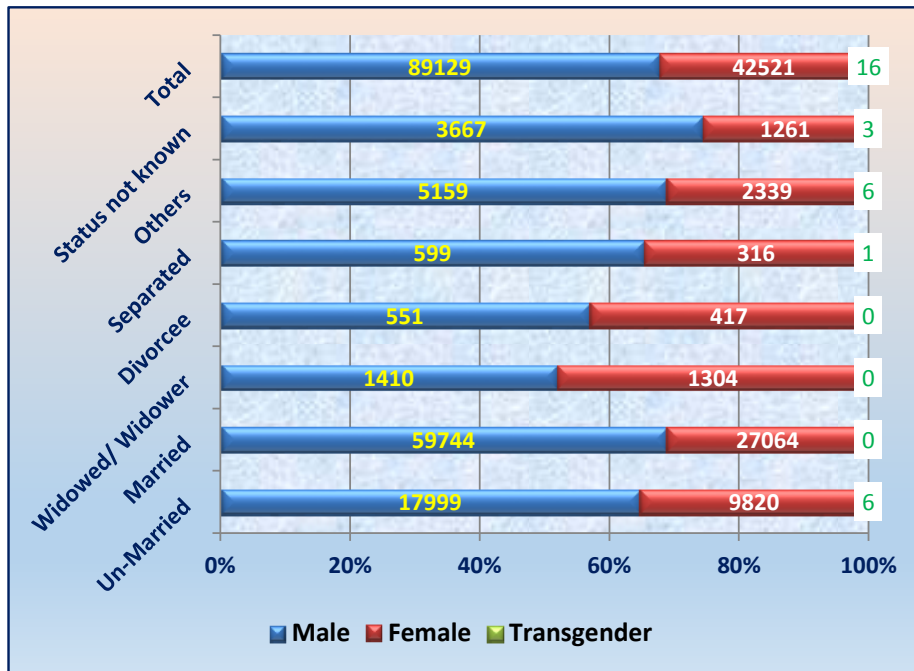


Figure – 2.8

Percentage Share of Suicide Victims by Educational Standard during 2014

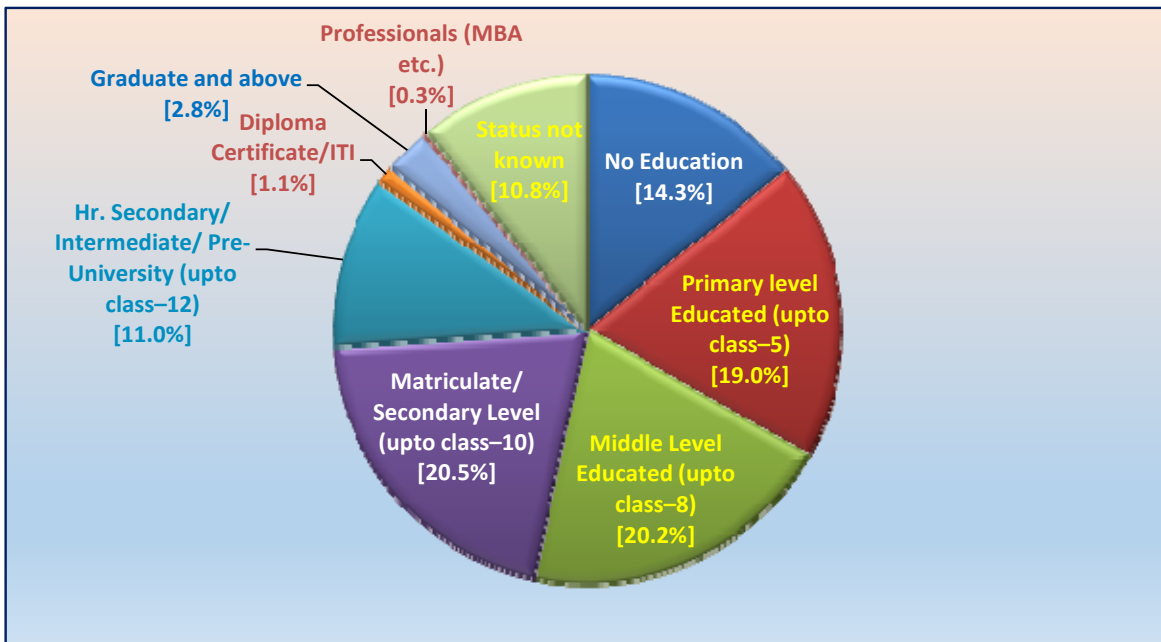


Table – 2 (H)

Percentage of Suicide Victims by Educational Level during 2012 – 2014

Sl. No.	Educational Level	Percentage Share		
		2012	2013	2014
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	No Education	19.7	18.5	14.3
2	Primary	23.0	22.1	19.0
3	Middle	23.0	23.6	20.2
4	Matriculate/Secondary	19.2	20.5	20.5
5	Higher Secondary	9.7	10.3	11.0
6	Diploma	1.5	1.2	1.1
7	Graduate	3.4	3.2	2.8
8	Post-Graduate & above	0.6	0.5	
9	Professionals (MBA etc.)	@	@	0.3
10	Status Not Known	@	@	10.8
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: '@' Not Collected

Educational Status of Suicide Victims

The sex-wise and education-wise break-up of suicide victims is presented in **Table–2.8**. The maximum numbers of suicide victims were educated up to Matriculation/ Secondary level (20.5%). Primary educated, Middle level educated and Illiterate persons accounted for 19.0%, 20.2% and 14.3% respectively of total suicides victims. Only 2.8% suicide victims

were graduates and above.

More than one fourth of suicide victims in Jharkhand(31.2%), Tripura (35.0%), D & N Haveli (31.6%), Sikkim (27.9%), A & N Island(25.8%) and Gujarat (25.4%) were educated up to primary level. whereas 28.6% victims in Rajasthan and 25.0% victims in D & N Haveli were illiterate. 21.9% victims in Chandigarh were graduate & above. 68.4% suicide victims in A & N Island were educated

Table – 2 (G)

Percentage Share of the Means adopted in Committing Suicides during 2012-2014

Sl. No.	Means Adopted	% Share		
		2012	2013	2014
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Alcoholism	1.1	1.2	NE
2	Drowning	5.8	5.7	5.6
3	Fire/Self Immolation	8.4	7.4	6.9
4	Fire Arms	0.3	0.4	0.4
5	Hanging	37.0	39.8	41.8
6	Poisoning	29.1	27.9	26.0
	i) Consumption of Insecticides	14.7	14.4	10.9
	ii) Other Poisons	14.4	13.5	15.1
7	Self Infliction of Injury	0.4	0.4	0.4
8	Jumping from	1.0	1.0	1.1
	i) Buildings	0.4	0.5	0.3
	ii) Other Sites	0.6	0.5	0.3
	iii) Jumping off from Moving Vehicles/Trains	@	@	0.4
9	Jumping off from Moving Vehicles/Trains	0.5	0.5	0.4
10	Machine	0.1	0.1	@
11	Over dose of Sleeping Pills	0.5	0.4	0.5
12	Self Electrocutation	0.7	0.7	0.6
13	Coming under Running Vehicles/Train	3.1	3.5	2.6
14	Other Means	12.0	11.1	14.0
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0

Note: '@' Not Collected

up to Middle level (up to class 8th). The status of 59.3% victims in Daman & Diu was not known [Table-2.11]. Percentage share of suicides victims by educational level during 2012-14 is presented in Table-2(F).

Means Adopted for Committing Suicides

The means adopted for committing suicide varied from the easily available means such as consumption of poison, jumping into the well etc. to more painful means such as self inflicted injuries, hanging, shooting, etc. Like previous year, 'Hanging' (41.8%), Consuming 'Poison' (26.0%), 'Self-Immolation' (6.9%) and 'Drowning' (5.6%) were the prominent means of committing suicides [Table-2.12].

During the year 2014, the share of 'Poisoning', 'Drowning' and 'Fire/Self Immolation' as means, adopted by suicide victims, has decreased to 26.0% (from 29.1% in 2012), 5.6% (from 5.8% in 2012) and 6.9% (from 8.4% in 2012) respectively while share of 'Hanging' and 'Jumping from Building or Other Sites or from Moving Trains/Vehicles' has increased to 41.8% (from 37.0% in 2012) and 1.1% (from 1.0% in 2012) respectively. Percentage share of the means adopted in committing suicides during 2012-14 is presented in Table-2(G).

The sex-wise break-up and means adopted for suicides in various States/UTs & Cities is presented in Table-2.13. The number of male victims was more than females in all means of suicides except those who committed by 'Fire/Self-immolation' where share of female victims was more (5,576 out of 9,122).

Suicides in Cities

The numbers of suicides in 53 mega cities show an increasing trend from the year 2011 (18,280) to 2013 (21,313). However, a decline of 8.1% is seen in 2014 over 2013 (from 21,313 suicides in 2013 to 19,597 suicides in 2014). A steep variation of 11.5% increase was observed in 2013 over 2012. Details on year

wise incidents, percentage share to All-India, rate of suicides and percentage change during 2010- 2014 may be seen in Table 2(H).

The four Metropolitan Cities — Chennai (2,214), Bengaluru (1,906), Delhi (1,847) and Mumbai (1,196) have reported higher number of suicides. These four cities together have reported almost 36.6% of the total suicides reported from 53 mega cities. These four Metropolitan Cities have shown a declining trend during 2014 over 2013, except Delhi city, wherein an increase of 5.4% was observed (from 1,753 suicides in 2013 to 1,847 suicides in 2014) [Table - 2.3]

The suicide rate in cities (12.2) was higher as compared to All-India suicide rate (10.6). Kollam has reported the highest suicides rate (40.3) whereas Srinagar had the lowest suicides rate at 0.7 among 53 cities [Table-2.2].

The highest increase (81.5%) was observed in Ludhiana (from 54 in 2013 to 98 in 2014) followed by Kota (61.3%) (from 62 in 2013 to 100 in 2014). On the contrary, maximum decrease of 89.6% was observed in Bhopal (40 in 2014 from 384 in 2013) [Table 2.3]

Profession wise analysis of suicides victims in 53 mega cities revealed that a large number of house-wives have committed suicides in Bengaluru (360 out of 3,501) followed by Chennai (352) and Mumbai (306) during 2014, accounting for 10.3%, 10.1% and 8.7% respectively of total house wives victims. In Delhi city, 205 and 257 persons who committed suicides were students and unemployed persons respectively. A total of 113 agricultural labourers have committed suicides in Kollam during 2014 [Table 2.7].

As per cause wise analysis, 5.7% of suicides in cities were due to 'Mental Illness' as against 5.4% of such suicides at national level. Similarly, the share of suicides due to 'Unemployment', 'Love Affairs', 'Drug Abuse /

Table – 2 (H)

Year	Suicides in Cities	Cities Share to All India	Rate in Cities	% Variation over Previous Year (Incidence)
2011	18,280	13.5	11.3	@
2012	19,120	14.1	11.9	4.6
2013	21,313	15.8	13.3	11.5
2014	19,597	14.9	12.2	- 8.1

@ Number of mega cities has been increased to 53 in 2011 (from 35 in 2010) as per Population Census 2011.

Addiction', 'Failure in Examination', 'Marriage Related Issues', 'Professional/Career Problem, 'Unemployment' and 'Family Problem' was comparatively higher than their respective national averages.

'Family Problems (other than marriage related issues)' was the major cause of suicide in cities which accounted for 24.9% (4,888 out of 19,597) of total suicides followed by 'Illness'

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 committed in 12 States and 1 UT only during the year 2014. A total of 160 cases registered under this head during the year 2014.

Table – 2 (I) Comparative Percentage Distribution of Suicides by Causes in Cities and All-India (Major Causes)

Sl. No.	Cause of Suicide	No. of Cases (in 2014)		Share in total suicides reported in	
		Cities	All-India	Cities	All-India
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Family Problems(other than Marriage Related Problem)	4,888	28,602	24.9	21.7
2	Total Illness	3,748	23,746	19.1	18.0
3	Insanity/Mental Illness *	1,118	7,104	5.7	5.4
4	Drug Abuse/Addiction	788	3,647	4.0	2.8
5	Love Affairs	681	4,168	3.5	3.2
6	Failure in Examination	528	2,403	2.7	1.8
7	Unemployment	512	2,207	2.6	1.7
8	Dowry Dispute/Dowry Related Issues	308	2,261	1.6	1.7
9	Bankruptcy or Indebtedness	354	2,308	1.8	1.8
10	Poverty	159	1,866	0.8	1.3
Total (Major Causes)		11,966	71,208	61.1	54.1

* included in total illness

(19.1%) (3,748 victim out of 19,597 victim). However, a total of 979 victims have committed suicide due to 'Marriage Related Issues' accounting for 5.0% of suicides. Majority of victims of suicides were 'Married' persons, forming 64.7% of total suicides in cities. A total of 5,112 un-married persons have also committed suicides, accounting for 26.1% of total suicides in the cities

The suicides patterns to some extent depend on prosperity of persons as 63.1% of victims belonged to low income group (earning below ₹1 lakh) followed by 34.2% victims (earning ₹1 lakh to below ₹5 lakh), 2.4% victims (earning ₹5 lakh to below ₹10 lakh) and 0.3% victims (earning ₹10 lakh & above). Similar patterns can be seen in State/UT as well. Out of total 19,597 suicides in cities, 23.5% were educated up to Matriculate/Secondary level followed by Hr. Sec./Intermediate Pre-University level which accounted for 14.5% of total suicides[Table-2.11].

The available information is presented in **Table–2.14**. A total of 275 mass/family suicides were reported wherein 178 married persons and 97 unmarried persons have committed suicides during 2014.

Maximum cases of mass/family suicides were reported in Karnataka (46 cases) followed by Andhra Pradesh (40 cases), Uttar Pradesh (20 cases) and Telangana (10 cases). Maximum victims under mass/family suicides were reported in Uttar Pradesh (66 deaths) followed by Karnataka (52 deaths), Maharashtra (23 deaths) and Kerala & Telangana (22 deaths each) during 2014.

Out of 53 cities, mass/family suicides were committed in 8 cities only. 8 out of 53 mega cities have registered 11 cases of mass/family suicides wherein 18 married and 13 unmarried persons have committed suicides.

Note: Data of Mass/Family suicides in Madhya Pradesh have been rectified as 9 cases & 17 deaths against earlier data of 167 cases & 421 deaths, based on subsequent clarification sent by the State of Madhya Pradesh.