

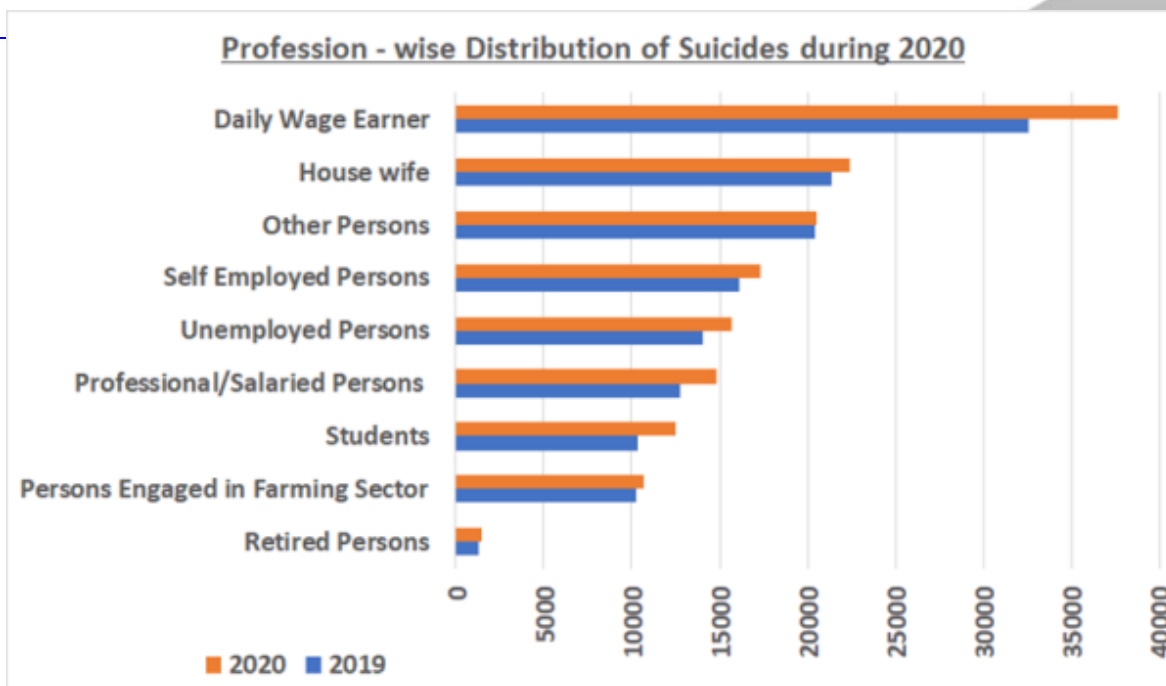


Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India Report 2020 : NCRB

Why in News

Recently, the [National Crime Records Bureau \(NCRB\)](#) released the Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India Report 2020.

// Profession - wise Distribution of Suicides during 2020



Key Points

▪ Suicide Categories:

- The **report divides suicides into nine categories** — apart from daily wagers, housewives and people working in the farm sector, the deaths are listed under 'professionals/salaried persons', 'students', 'self-employed persons', 'retired persons', and 'others'.

- **NCRB started categorizing daily wagers** in its 'Accidental Deaths & Suicides' data only in 2014.

▪ Number of Suicides:

- Suicides in **India rose 10% from 2019** to an all-time high of **1,53,052 in the pandemic year of 2020**.
- The share of **daily wage earners** among those who died by suicide **has doubled between 2014 and 2020**, followed by 'housewives', self-employed persons, farmers/cultivators and retired persons.

- The **professional/salaried persons** group registered an increase in suicides.
- The unemployed persons group saw an increase in suicides and their proportion went up slightly from 2019.
- **Deaths caused by accidents came down from 2019** and the number is the lowest since 2010.
- The share of **students** in the total suicides has been rising steadily over the years and has now reached the **highest level since 1995**.

▪ **State-Wise Analysis:**

- The **worst among States continues to be Maharashtra**, with 4,006 suicides in the farm sector, including a 15% increase in farm worker suicides.
- Other States with a poor record include **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh**.

▪ **Cause-Wise Analysis:**

- Among **causes of suicide** that make up at least a percent of such deaths:
 - **Poverty** and **unemployment** registered the biggest increase.
 - **Drug abuse or alcohol addiction**, illness, and family problems come next.
 - Although **students have registered an increase in deaths** by suicide it was likely related to relatively longer-term prospects (perhaps inability to continue education) than exams.

▪ **Related Initiatives:**

- **Mental Healthcare Act, 2017**: It aims to **provide mental healthcare services** for persons with mental illness.
- **KIRAN**: The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** has launched a 24/7 toll-free helpline to provide support to people facing anxiety, stress, depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health concerns.
- **Manodarpan Initiative**: It is an initiative of the **Ministry of Education** under **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**. It is **aimed to provide psychosocial support** to students, family members and teachers for their mental health and well-being during the times of **Covid-19**.

National Crime Records Bureau

- NCRB, headquartered in New Delhi, was set-up in **1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs** to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.
- It was set up based on the recommendations of the **National Police Commission (1977-1981)** and the **MHA's Task Force (1985)**.
- NCRB brings out the **annual comprehensive statistics** of crime across the country ('Crime in India' report).
 - Having been published since 1953, the report **serves as a crucial tool** in understanding the law and order situation across the country.
- The inaugural function of the **2nd CCTNS Hackathon and Cyber Challenge 2020-21** of NCRB was held in New Delhi.

Source: TH

