



# Premature Deaths in India

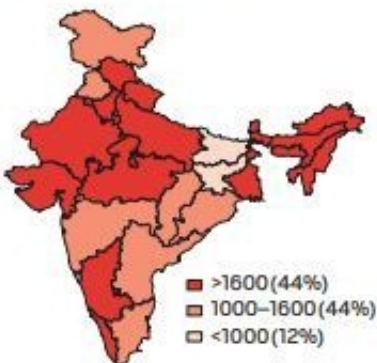
## Why in News

A recently released study by **the Lancet Global Health** shows that **different states in India have different causes for premature deaths** in the country.

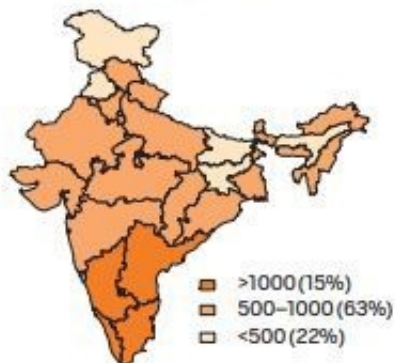
- The study shows that **9.7 million people face premature deaths in India (2017)**.
  - Premature deaths are death that occurs before the average age of death in a certain population.
- Premature deaths due to various causes expressed as **Years of Life Lost (YLL)** are **unevenly distributed** in terms of the **burden on the states**.
  - The **Years of Life Lost (YLL)** is a measure of premature mortality. It estimates the years of potential life lost due to premature deaths.

## Key Findings

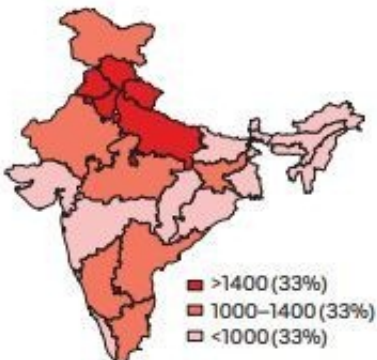
CANCERS (5.44 LAKH DEATHS)



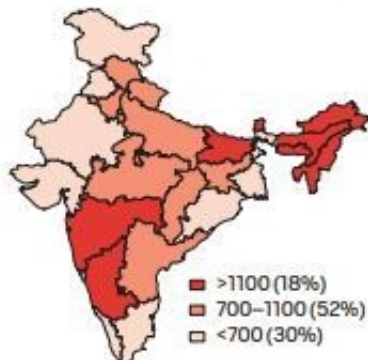
SUICIDE (1.99 LAKH DEATHS)



ROAD TRAFFIC INJURIES (2.75 LAKH DEATHS)



LIVER & ALCOHOL RELATED (2.73 LAKH DEATHS)



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- The different causes of premature deaths in India include:

- **Liver and alcohol related issues:**
  - These are **high** in the **northeastern states, Bihar, Karnataka, and Maharashtra**, accounting for **18% of national YLLs**.
- **Suicides:**
  - These are **highest in the southern states**, accounting for **15% of national YLLs**.
- **Cancer:**
  - The Northeastern states, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Haryana, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh account for **44% of India's cancer burden**.
- **Road traffic injuries:**
  - These are **high** in the northern states of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh, accounting for **33% of national YLLs**.
- **More than three-quarters of premature deaths and Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALY) occurred in rural areas**, and **males** accounted for **54.3%** of all DALYs.
  - Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) is the sum of the number of years of life lost due to premature death and a weighted measure of the years lived with disability due to a disease or injury. India had **486 million DALYs in 2017**.
  - DALY rates in **rural areas** of India are at **least twice** those of **urban areas**.

## DALY and YLL

- DALYs for a disease or health condition are calculated as the sum of the Years of Life Lost (YLL) due to premature mortality in the population and the Years Lost due to Disability (YLD) for people living with the health condition or its consequences
- Simply, it can be written as **DALY = YLL + YLD**.

**Source: IE**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/premature-deaths-in-india>