



Prevalence of Hysterectomies in India

[Source: TH](#)

[National Family Health Survey \(NFHS\)-4](#) data shows higher **hysterectomy** (surgical removal of uterus) rates in India among **low-income agricultural workers** and **affluent women**, due to differing reasons.

Reasons for High Hysterectomy:

- **Factors for agricultural workers** include poor hygiene, menstrual taboos, delayed gynecological care, and physical labor.
 - **Example:** Maharashtra's Beed district reports an unusually **high number of hysterectomies** among female sugarcane workers.
- **Wealthier women** often opt for the procedure due to **better affordability and access**.
- **Financial incentives** under schemes like [Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana \(RSBY\)](#) sometimes lead to unnecessary surgeries.

Hysterectomy:

- **About:**
 - A hysterectomy is a surgical procedure to **remove the woman's uterus (womb)**.
 - It is performed for gynecological conditions like **fibroids, endometriosis, abnormal bleeding**, and **pelvic inflammatory disease** when other treatments fail.
 - It is also used in **cancer treatment** and for **severe, unresponsive pelvic pain**.
- **Prevalence in India:**
 - [NFHS-5](#) data shows that **3% of women aged 15-49 in India** have undergone a hysterectomy.
 - **Highest Prevalence:** Andhra Pradesh (9%) and Telangana (8%)
 - **Lowest Prevalence:** Sikkim (0.8%) and Meghalaya (0.7%).
 - The Southern region has the **highest prevalence (4.2%)**, followed by the Eastern region (3.8%), while the Northeast has the lowest (1.2%).

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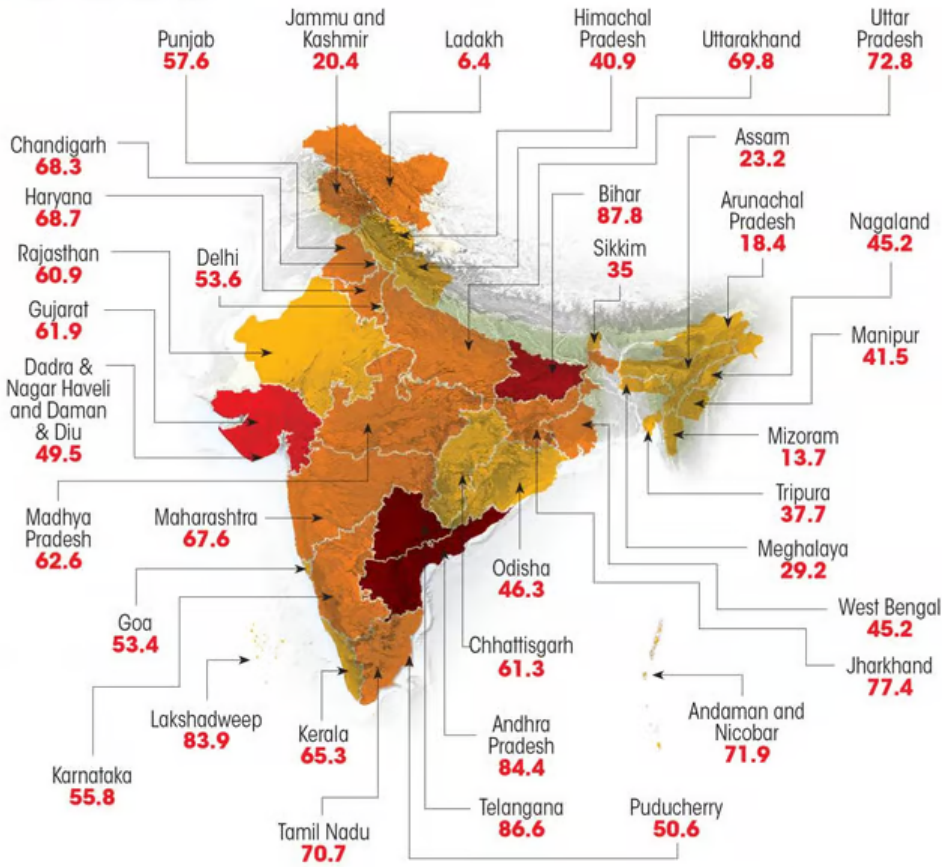
CUT ACROSS COUNTRY

Some 3.3 per cent of women aged 15-49 have undergone hysterectomy, a marginal rise since 2015-16. Most of the country, barring Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and the eight northeastern states, see an increase in surgeries in private facilities

Prevalence of hysterectomy in women aged 15-49 (%)

2.3 3.9 5.5 7.1

Share of hysterectomies conducted in private healthcare facilities (%)



Source: Fifth round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) for 2019-21

Read More: [NFHS-5 National Report, Hysterectomy](#)

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