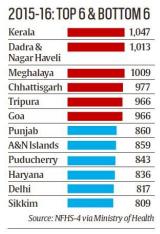


## Improvement in Sex Ratio at Birth

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According to the fourth National Family Health Surveys (NFHS) 2015-16, the sex ratio at birth (SRB) in India has improved from 914 to 919.

• SRB is defined as the number of female births per 1,000 male births.



• Survey held that **the highest improvement in SRB was noted in Punjab at 126** points, but its SRB remained at 860 (one of the lowest SRB in the states).

This success can be attributed to the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme.

• Despite the North-Eastern societies traditionally being matriarchal, the sharpest decline was in Sikkim, where the SRB dropped 175 points to reach 809, the lowest among all states in 2015-16.

Next, to Sikkim, the five states with the highest declines included four more from the Northeast.

State	NFHS-3 (2005-06)	NFHS 4 (2015-16)	Change
Punjab	734	860	+126
Kerala	925	1,047	+122
Meghalaya	907	1,009	+102
Haryana	762	836	+74
Tamil Nadu	897	954	+58
Maharashtra SHARPFSTD	FCI INF	924	+57
SHARPESTD State		924 NFHS4(2015-16)	
SHARPESTD	ECLINE		
SHARPESTD State	ECLINE NFHS-3 (2005-16)	NFHS4(2015-16)	Change
SHARPESTD State Sikkim	PECLINE NFHS-3 (2005-16) 984	NFHS 4 (2015-16) 809	Change -175
SHARPESTD State Sikkim Jharkhand Arunachal	PECLINE NFHS-3 (2005-16) 984 1,091	NFHS4(2015-16) 809 919	Change -175 -172
SHARPESTD State Sikkim Jharkhand	PECLINE NFHS-3 (2005-16) 984 1,091 1,071	NFHS4(2015-16) 809 919 920	Change -175 -172 -151

Source: IE