


## Understanding the Status of Crimes against Women in India for the Period 2011-2020

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### Abstract

### Original Research Article

Gender-based violence is a widespread and concerning problem that cuts across national boundaries and demographics. It has drawn international attention, especially in India, a country known for its rich cultural diversity. This study examines the intricate web of crimes against women in India in great detail, breaking down each state individually based on ten years' worth of data from 2011 to 2020 collected from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The analysis of the study suggests that in 2016, Sikkim had the highest Crime Rate against Women of any state, at 1.887, showing a significant rise in crimes against women there. After that we have Manipur (crime rate: 1.508 in 2017) and Andhra Pradesh Goa (crime rate: 1.200 in 2013). In 2014, the Crime Rates against Women in Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur were both much lower than the national average at -0.569. When it came to violence against women in 2014, Telangana had the country's lowest rate at -0.569.

**Keywords:** Crime against women, Year-Over-Year Growth Rate, Compound Annual Growth Rate, Coefficient of Variation.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Crime against women is a widespread, gravely alarming phenomenon that cuts across national, ethnic, and socioeconomic divides. The incidence of crimes against women in India, a country known for its vast diversity, has caused great concern, and drawn attention from around the world. This study article does a thorough state-by-state analysis to explore the complex web of gender-based violence in India. Growing awareness of gender-based violence has been observed in India in recent years, mostly due to increased reporting and advocacy initiatives. Still, the issue is complex, differing from state to state in terms of occurrence, trends, and effects. Numerous factors, such as cultural standards, economic inequality, and the efficiency of the legal and law enforcement systems, all have an impact on this variability. The severe effects that gender-based violence has on women's life have far-reaching social and economic ramifications in addition to being a worry for individuals and families. Such violence impedes the advancement of gender equality and restricts women's independence, social and economic engagement. Furthermore, survivors may experience long-term

consequences to their general health because of the emotional and psychological trauma they have experienced. In addition to considering the intersections of gender-based violence with other social characteristics like caste, class, and religion, this research also considers other types of violence, including human trafficking, sexual assault, domestic abuse, and harassment. It is imperative that politicians, law enforcement, and civil society organizations comprehend the unique obstacles that women encounter in various places to devise focused interventions and tactics. Rather than utilizing a universal strategy, these discoveries will open the door for customized, efficient solutions that are suited to the requirements and conditions of any state. Understanding the underlying socio-cultural variables that contribute to the continuation of these crimes, in addition to their occurrence, is crucial as we negotiate the intricacies of this issue. This study aims to play a crucial role in creating a safer and more equal atmosphere for women in India. It acknowledges that creating well-informed, situation-specific remedies is just as important as identifying the problems to move towards a more equitable society. The disturbing and enduring social

problem of crime against women cuts across national boundaries and cultural divides, casting doubt on the values of equality and human rights. These kinds of incidents not only violate women's fundamental rights, but they also serve to perpetuate the pervasive gender inequality that still exists in many societies today. The present study aims to conduct a thorough investigation of the complex field of crimes against women. The history of humanity is intricately linked to the origins of violence and discrimination against women. Cultural norms, patriarchal structures, and socioeconomic disparities have all contributed to the various forms of subjugation and mistreatment that women have experienced throughout history. These historical injustices offer a context for comprehending how crimes against women are manifested today.

A wide range of offenses are classified as crimes against women. There are emotional and physical scars left behind by physical violence, which is frequently committed by family members or intimate partners. Numerous women's sense of personal security and dignity are destroyed by sexual assault, harassment, and rape. Invisible scars are left by psychological abuse and emotional manipulation, while women are ensnared in a web of exploitation and abuse by human trafficking, a modern-day form of slavery. To effectively address all forms of violence, one must be aware of their subtle differences. There are many interrelated factors that contribute to the continuation of crimes against women. Lack of education, economic inequality, and social norms and stereotypes that support male dominance all play a part. Cultural norms that normalize discrimination and violence are another factor in this problem. For creating tactics to stop these crimes, it is essential to comprehend these elements.

These are some of the key factors influencing the growth of crime against women in India like Strong patriarchal traditions can encourage a culture of gender-based violence and contribute to the oppression of women. Overcrowding, lack of security, and shifting social dynamics are some of the problems brought about by rapid urbanization that can lead to an increase in crime against women. The issue may be made worse by inadequate support networks and legislative frameworks for women's safety and empowerment. In the digital age, the abuse of technology for harassment and cyberbullying is becoming a bigger problem. Drug misuse affects judgment and self-control, which might result in more incidents of aggression against women. Violence can be encouraged by the way the media presents and sensationalizes crimes, which can affect public opinion. Women may be discouraged from filing reports of crimes or pursuing justice due to inefficiencies and prejudices in the legal system and law enforcement. To combat crimes against women, numerous nations have put in place legislative frameworks and policy initiatives. These include measures to support and protect

survivors as well as laws prohibiting sexual harassment, domestic abuse, and human trafficking. To make sure that these laws and initiatives adequately protect women and advance their rights, it is crucial to assess their efficacy.

Gender-based crimes do not respect national borders. The importance of this issue has been acknowledged by international organizations like the United Nations, which have passed resolutions and conventions meant to address it globally. Collaborating across borders and exchanging optimal methodologies can provide significant perspectives for addressing this issue. Our goal is to lessen the occurrence of crime against women in India and create a safer atmosphere for all women by contributing to a more knowledgeable and compassionate conversation about the subject through this analysis. We hope that the conclusions and suggestions made in this paper will act as a springboard for further investigation as well as a constructive force, bringing us one step closer to a society in which women are free to live without fear of abuse or violence.

## 2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Crime rates are a significant indicator of the social, economic, and political stability of any region. This review aims to provide an overview of existing literature on crime rates, highlighting key trends, factors, and policy implications. Historically, South India has been known for its relatively lower crime rates compared to the northern states. A study by Mohan and Devi (2017) revealed that this trend can be attributed to higher literacy rates, better socio-economic indicators, and strong social bonds prevalent in the region. Studies have consistently shown that socio-economic factors play a crucial role in influencing crime rates. Economic disparities, unemployment, and poverty have been identified as significant contributors to crime (Ganesan, 2019). The states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have witnessed rapid urbanization and industrialization, which has led to shifts in crime patterns, including an increase in white-collar crimes (Rajendra, 2018). The process of urbanization, while contributing to economic growth, has also brought about challenges related to crime. A study by Kumar and Reddy (2020) highlighted that the urban areas in South India experience higher crime rates compared to rural areas. Factors such as population density, lack of adequate law enforcement, and increased opportunities for criminal activities in urban centres contribute to this trend. Gender-based crimes, including sexual harassment, assault, and domestic violence, continue to be a pressing concern in South India. Studies by Joseph (2019) and Nair (2020) have pointed out the need for comprehensive gender-sensitive policies, improved law enforcement, and community engagement to address these issues effectively. With the advancement of technology, South India has seen a surge in cybercrimes. States like Karnataka, known as the Silicon Valley of India, have

become hotspots for cybercriminal activities. Research by Sharma (2018) emphasized the importance of strengthening cybercrime units, creating awareness, and implementing robust cybersecurity measures to combat this growing threat. The effectiveness of law enforcement agencies is a critical factor in controlling crime rates. Studies have highlighted the need for modernization, training, and community-oriented policing strategies (Ramanujam, 2019). Additionally, research suggests that strengthening the coordination between different law enforcement agencies is crucial for addressing cross-border crimes (Narayanan, 2020). Policy interventions have played a significant role in shaping crime rates in South India. The introduction of community policing initiatives, like the Janamaithri Suraksha Project in Kerala, has shown promising results in reducing crime and improving community trust in law enforcement agencies (Vinod, 2018). In the same way in North East India, Historically, North East India has grappled with insurgency movements and ethnic conflicts, which have significantly influenced crime rates (Hazarika, 2016). These conflicts have led to the proliferation of illegal arms and the emergence of organized crime networks. Studies have highlighted the connection between insurgency movements and various forms of criminal activities, including extortion, drug trafficking, and arms smuggling (Gogoi, 2017). The prevalence of insurgent groups in the region has created complex challenges for law enforcement agencies. Ethnic diversity, while a strength, has also been a source of tension leading to communal clashes and crimes (Rajkumar, 2018). Understanding the underlying causes of these conflicts is essential for devising strategies to mitigate them. North East India shares international borders with several countries, making it susceptible to human trafficking and cross-border crimes (Borah, 2019). Research has emphasized the need for stronger border control measures and international cooperation to combat these issues. The region's topographical complexities and cultural diversity pose unique challenges for governance and law enforcement (Dutta, 2020). Issues like corruption, weak institutions, and inadequate infrastructure have been identified as contributing factors to crime rates. This review aims to provide an overview of existing literature on crime rates in Central India. Studies have consistently shown a strong correlation between socio-economic indicators and crime rates in Central India. Poverty, unemployment, and lack of education have been identified as key factors contributing to various forms of criminal activities (Sharma, 2019). Additionally, disparities in economic development within the region play a significant role in shaping crime patterns (Gupta, 2018). The process of urbanization has brought about significant changes in the crime landscape of Central India. Urban areas, characterized by high population density and economic disparities, often witness higher rates of property crimes and offenses related to substance abuse (Garg, 2020). Proper urban planning and allocation of resources are

critical in mitigating these challenges. Central India is home to a significant tribal population, which adds a unique dimension to the socio-political landscape. Tribal communities often face challenges related to displacement, land rights and limited access to basic amenities, which can lead to socio-economic disparities and conflicts (Patnaik, 2019). These factors have been associated with certain forms of crime, including tribal-related disputes and protests. The presence of Naxalite groups in parts of Central India, particularly in Chhattisgarh, has a profound impact on crime rates. Research indicates a complex relationship between insurgency movements and various forms of criminal activities, including extortion, illegal mining, and arms trafficking (Mishra, 2017). Addressing the root causes of Naxalism is crucial in tackling associated crimes. Studies highlight the prevalence of gender-based crimes in Central India, including dowry-related offenses, domestic violence, and sexual harassment (Sethi, 2020). Socio-cultural norms and economic disparities contribute to the persistence of such crimes. Strengthening legal frameworks and increasing awareness are critical steps towards reducing gender-based violence. Research has highlighted the prevalence of gender-based crimes in West India, including dowry-related offenses, domestic violence, and sexual harassment (Ghosh, 2020). Socio-cultural norms and economic disparities contribute to the persistence of such crimes. Strengthening legal frameworks, raising awareness, and providing support services are crucial steps towards reducing gender-based violence. Certain parts of West India have witnessed the emergence of organized crime syndicates involved in activities such as smuggling, extortion, and illegal trade (Shukla, 2019). The presence of such criminal networks poses a significant challenge for law enforcement agencies and calls for specialized interventions. Studies consistently highlight the influence of socio-economic factors on crime rates in West India. Poverty, unemployment, and educational disparities have been identified as significant contributors to various forms of criminal activities (Patil, 2017, Maiti *et al.*, 2022, Maiti *et al.*, 2023).

### 3. OBJECTIVES

Firstly, this study attempts to measure the growth rate of crime against women in various states and regions of India from time period 2011-2020. Along with the first objective this paper tried to understand and compare the variation in crime rates against women in various states and regions of India.

## 4. METHODOLOGY AND DATA SOURCE

### 4.1 Methodology

To understand the growth of the variable, following methods have been used which are as under:

1. Year over Year (YOY) growth rate
2. Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)

Year over year growth rate (YOY) are rates of change of the current period with respect to its previous period.

To calculate the Year over Year growth rate, the following steps were used:

- Subtract last year’s number from this year’s number. This gives the total difference for the year.
- Then divide the difference by last year’s number.
- That gives the Year-to-Year growth rate.

$$YOY = (Y_t - Y_{t-1}) / Y_{t-1}$$

Where,

$Y_t$ , is the magnitude of the variable in period t

$Y_{t-1}$  is the magnitude of the variable in the period t-1

$(Y_t - Y_{t-1})$  is the difference in the magnitude of the variable in period t and t-1.

Compound annual growth rate of a variable is defined as  $(Y_n / Y_o)^{(1/n)} - 1$

Where  $Y_n$  is the magnitude of the variable in period n and  $Y_o$  is the magnitude of the variables in base period 0. n denotes number of periods (Maiti and Gupta, 2023).

#### 4.2 Data Source

The study is based on time-series data from the period 2011 to 2020 for all the states in India (excluding the Union Territories) collected from the database of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

### 5. ANALYSIS OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

This section presents the analysis of results and discussion.

**Table 1: Year over Year growth rate of crime in different states of India**

STATES/YEAR	ANDHRA PRADESH	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	ASSAM	BIHAR	CHHATTISGARH	GOA	GUJARAT	HARYANA	HIMACHAL PRADESH	JAMMU & KASHMIR
2011	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2012	-0.003	0.175	0.177	0.097	0.002	0.574	0.084	0.093	-0.085	0.058
2013	0.164	0.432	0.288	0.211	0.658	1.2	0.284	0.514	0.621	0.054
2014	-0.497	0.218	0.096	0.13	-0.108	0.109	-0.117	-0.013	0.026	-0.054
2015	-0.035	0.094	0.215	-0.097	-0.086	-0.252	-0.283	0.053	-0.15	0.013
2016	0.027	-0.044	-0.102	-0.035	0.039	0.016	0.099	0.042	-0.052	-0.153
2017	0.094	-0.081	0.106	0.097	0.344	-0.005	-0.046	0.156	0.02	0.098
2018	-0.082	0.091	0.199	0.15	0.073	-0.019	0.024	0.26	0.311	0.098
2019	0.079	-0.138	0.084	0.098	-0.105	-0.091	0.056	0.025	0.002	-0.107
2020	-0.037	-0.113	-0.122	-0.173	-0.04	-0.334	-0.087	-0.115	-0.013	0.022
STATES/YEAR	MANIPUR	MEGHALAYA	MIZORAM	NAGALAND	ODISHA	PUNJAB	RAJASTHAN	SIKKIM	TAMIL NADU	TELANGANA
2011	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2012	0.231	-0.052	0.192	0.342	0.271	0.226	0.061	0.236	0.036	-0.003
2013	-0.063	0.345	-0.111	0.314	0.182	0.542	0.323	0.368	0.039	0.165
2014	0.182	0.131	0.458	0	0.031	0.086	0.115	0.183	-0.154	-0.569
2015	-0.211	-0.139	-0.388	0.343	0.174	-0.025	-0.096	-0.518	-0.076	0.071
2016	-0.049	0.114	-0.241	0.167	0.04	-0.035	-0.026	1.887	-0.237	0.016
2017	-0.067	0.524	1.508	-0.248	0.127	-0.095	-0.052	0.065	0.209	0.14
2018	0.148	0.007	-0.173	-0.051	0.009	0.148	0.072	0.055	0.079	-0.085
2019	-0.018	-0.023	-0.317	-0.427	0.143	0.11	0.491	-0.273	0.019	0.148
2020	-0.071	0.018	0.012	-0.093	0.099	-0.178	-0.169	0.12	0.117	-0.033

STATES/YEAR	JHARKHAND	KARNATAKA	KERALA	MADHYAPRADESH	MAHARASHTRA	TRIPURA	UTTARPRADESH	UTTARAKHAND	WEST BENGAL	
2011	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
2012	0.448	0.08	-0.032	0.014	0.04	0.148	0.041	0.071	0.062	
2013	0.434	0.16	0.026	0.311	0.522	0.044	0.381	0.611	-0.036	
2014	-0.082	0.157	0.015	0.3	0.072	-0.008	0.182	-0.188	0.284	
2015	0.091	-0.087	-0.147	-0.158	0.166	-0.215	-0.076	0.042	-0.133	
2016	-0.163	0.112	0.034	0.102	0.008	-0.2	0.387	0.093	-0.021	
2017	0.084	-0.004	0.102	0.12	0.019	-0.04	0.137	0.224	-0.047	
2018	0.198	-0.04	-0.054	-0.028	0.11	-0.067	0.061	0.449	-0.019	
2019	0.237	0.023	0.096	-0.048	0.046	0.18	0.007	-0.098	0	
2020	-0.129	-0.083	-0.115	-0.07	-0.14	-0.183	-0.175	0.12	0.199	

Source: Authors Calculation

Table 2: CAGR of different states and regions in India from 2011-2020

STATE/REGION	CAGR
ANDHRA PRADESH	-0.045
TELANGANA	-0.045
TAMIL NADU	-0.004
KARNATAKA	0.028
KERALA	-0.010
SOUTH REGION	-0.026
GOA	0.056
MAHARASHTRA	0.073
GUJARAT	-0.009
WEST REGION	0.050
ASSAM	0.086
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0.050
TRIPURA	-0.043
NAGALAND	0.002
MEGHALAYA	0.077
MANIPUR	0.000
MIZORAM	0.002
SIKKIM	0.002
NORTH EAST REGION	0.050
PUNJAB	0.062
HARYANA	0.090
HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.049
UTTARAKHAND	0.110
RAJASTHAN	0.056
JAMMU & KASHMIR	0.056
NORTHERN REGION	0.061
CHHATTISGARH	0.057
MADHYA PRADESH	0.044
UTTAR PRADESH	0.081
CENTRAL REGION	0.066
JHARKHAND	0.093
BIHAR	0.041
ODISHA	0.104
WEST BENGAL	0.022
EASTERN REGION	0.050

Source: Authors Calculation



We found various trends and patterns when we examined the Year-over-Year (YOY) growth rates of Crime Rates against Women for every Indian state. With a Crime Rate against Women of 1.887 in 2016, Sikkim is the state with the highest rate, indicating a marked increase in crimes committed against women in this state. Manipur is next, with a 2017 crime rate of 1.508, closely followed by Andhra Pradesh Goa in 2013 with a crime rate of 1.200. Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur have the lowest Crime Rates against Women in 2014, at -0.569, indicating comparatively lower levels of criminal activity in these states. In 2014, Telangana had the lowest crime rate against women, with a -0.569 rate.

Table 2 depicts that Jharkhand is in second place with a CAGR of 0.093, while Haryana is in third place with a CAGR of 0.090. Uttarakhand has the highest CAGR of 0.110. In comparison to the other states in

India, these ones have the greatest positive CAGR value, which indicates a substantially greater increase rate of crimes committed against women. Andhra Pradesh & Telangana have the lowest CAGR value of -0.045, followed by Tripura with a CAGR value of -0.043; this indicates that both of these states are seeing a decline in their respective rates of population growth. This suggests that there has been a drop in the crime rate that is committed against women in these states. When we compare the CAGR values of the various areas in India, we find that the Central Region has the highest CAGR at 0.066 among the regions. This figure indicates a reasonably strong positive growth tendency, which suggests that there has been a large increase in the number of crimes committed against women in the Central Region. While the Southern Region has the lowest CAGR, at -0.026, suggesting a negative growth tendency, this region is actually seeing a decrease in the crime rates against women. This is because the Southern Region has the lowest CAGR.

**Table 3: Descriptive Statistics of Crime Rate on Women in different regions of India (2011-2020)**

Region	Mean	Coefficient of Variation	Minimum No. of Crimes recorded/Year	Maximum No. of Crimes recorded/Year
Southern Region	70735.400	18.220	60364 (2016)	96336 (2013)
Western Region	37710.600	18.600	24670 (2011)	46272 (2019)
North-Eastern Region	23779.800	25.084	13808 (2011)	32574 (2019)
Northern Region	46707.900	21.165	33159 (2011)	69365 (2019)
Central Region	73858.100	26.776	43457 (2011)	96974 (2018)
Eastern Region	69469	15.106	51929 (2011)	84917 (2020)

Source: Authors Calculation

The above table indicates that the Central Region has the highest Average number of crimes reported which is 73858.100, while the North-East Region has the lowest number of average crimes reported which is 23779.800.

The summary of the coefficient of variation shows that the Eastern Region has the least variability in crime rates at 15.106, while the Central and North-Eastern Regions have the most variability of 26.776 and 25.084. Greater fluctuations in crime rates are observed in regions with higher coefficients of variation, whereas more stable crime rates are found in regions with lower coefficients over time.

It is also observed that the maximum number of crimes are recorded in the Central Region that is 96974 in 2018 followed by Southern Region that is 96336 in 2013. The maximum number of crimes are recorded in the North-East Region of 32574 in 2019.

## 6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to the Year-over-Year (YOY) growth rates of Crime Rates against Women, the data analysis reveals several significant trends and patterns related to crime rates in various Indian states and regions. In 2016, Sikkim had the highest crime rate against

women, suggesting a notable rise in such crimes in that state. In the years that followed, Manipur and Andhra Pradesh Goa likewise had high crime rates. The lowest crime rates in 2014 were found in Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, indicating relatively lower levels of criminal activity. A gradual decrease in the variable under study was indicated by the slightly negative Compound Annual Growth Rates (CAGRs) of certain states and regions, including Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. Gujarat had a slightly negative CAGR that was very close to zero, whereas Karnataka showed a low positive CAGR. A number of regions displayed CAGRs that were somewhat positive, indicating different rates of growth; Uttarakhand and Haryana in particular had very high CAGRs. With CAGRs of 0.050, the North East, Central, and Eastern regions showed steady growth. While some regions showed modest growth, others performed mixedly, with both positive and negative CAGRs. One such region was West Bengal. According to the coefficient of variation (CV) analysis, the North-Eastern Region and the Central Region had the most variation in their respective crime rates. The least fluctuation was seen in the Eastern Region, indicating longer-term trends in crime rates. With the highest total number of crimes recorded in 2018, the Central Region had the highest average number of reported crimes. The region with the lowest average number of reported

crimes was the North-East. Region-specific interventions should be taken into consideration to address fluctuations in crime in areas where there is a high degree of variability in crime rates, such as the Central and North-Eastern regions. To lower crime, areas with high rates of crime should concentrate on community involvement, public awareness campaigns, and preventive measures. In order to guarantee prompt and efficient justice for victims of crime, all states and regions should concentrate on strengthening the legal framework.

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