

NITI Aayog Health Index, 2021

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In news- NITI Aayog, recently released the fourth edition of the State Health Index for 2019–20.

About the index-

- The report, **titled “Healthy States, Progressive India”, ranks states and Union Territories on their year-on-year incremental performance in health outcomes as well as their overall status.**
- The index has been **compiled and published since 2017.**
- The **objective of the Index is to track progress on health outcomes and health systems performance**, develop a healthy competition and encourage cross-learning among states and UTs.
- It aims to nudge states/UTs towards building robust health systems and improving service delivery.
- Round IV of the report focuses on measuring and highlighting the overall performance and incremental improvement of states and UTs over the period 2018–19 to 2019–20.
- **It was developed by NITI Aayog, with technical assistance from the World Bank, and in close consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).**
- It is a weighted composite **index based on 24 indicators grouped under the domains of ‘Health Outcomes’, ‘Governance and Information’, and ‘Key Inputs/Processes’.**
- Each domain has been assigned weights based on its importance with higher scores for outcome indicators.
- Among the Larger States, **Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana** emerged among the best three performers in terms of Overall Performance.
- **Uttar Pradesh** ranked at the bottom (Rank 19) in Overall

Performance, however, it ranked at the top in terms of **Incremental Performance** by registering the highest incremental change from the Base Year (2018-19) to Reference Year (2019-20).

TABLE ES.1 Change in Overall Performance Ranks of Larger States, Smaller States and UTs between Base Year (2018-19) and Reference Year (2019-20)

Category	Improved Rank	Retained Rank	Deteriorated Rank
Larger States (18)*	(4→3) Telangana (7→6) Gujarat (9→8) Punjab (15→12) Assam	(1) Kerala (2) Tamil Nadu (5) Maharashtra (10) Chhattisgarh (11) Haryana (13) Jharkhand (16) Rajasthan (17) Madhya Pradesh (18) Bihar (19) Uttar Pradesh	(3→4) Andhra Pradesh (6→7) Himachal Pradesh (8→9) Karnataka (12→14) Odisha (14→15) Uttarakhand
Smaller States (8)	(3→1) Mizoram (4→3) Sikkim (7→5) Meghalaya	(8) Nagaland	(1→2) Tripura (2→4) Goa (5→6) Manipur (6→7) Arunachal Pradesh
UTs (7)*	(2→1) DH & DD (3→3) Lakshadweep (6→5) Delhi (7→6) Jammu & Kashmir	–	(1→2) Chandigarh (3→4) Puducherry (4→7) Andaman & Nicobar

* Among the Larger States, West Bengal did not participate in this round and data for UT of Ladakh was not available.

- On the other hand, **Kerala and Tamil Nadu** were top two performers in terms of Overall Performance with the highest Reference Year (2019-20) Index Scores **but ranked twelfth and eight respectively in terms of Incremental Performance.**
- Telangana performed well both in terms of Overall Performance as well as Incremental Performance and secured the third position in both instances.
- For the fourth consecutive round Kerala emerged as the best performer in terms of Overall Performance.
- **Among the Smaller States, Mizoram emerged as the best performer** in Overall Performance as well as Incremental Performance while among UTs, **Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir ranked among the bottom UTs** in terms of Overall Performance but emerged as the leading performer in terms Incremental Performance.