

Association of Consanguineous Marriage with Domestic Violence among Women in India: Evidence from the National Family Health Survey 2015-16

Sumana Acharya*, Basant Kumar Panda[#] & Harihar Sahoo^α

Abstract

This study investigates the correlation between domestic violence and marriage types in India using data from the fourth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4). It reveals that the prevalence of any domestic violence is notably higher among women who had consanguineous marriage compared with those in non-consanguineous union. This pattern persists across various forms of violence. Physical violence emerges as the most prevalent, overshadowing emotional and sexual violence. The findings underscore that marrying one's cousin does not offer protection against abuse for married women, highlighting a concerning aspect often obscured by the perception of familial ties. This heightened risk of domestic violence requires targeted interventions that emphasises cultural sensitivity and the promotion of women's safety.

Keywords: Consanguineous marriage, domestic violence, women, NFHS, India.

I. Introduction

Marriage is widely perceived as a religious obligation, a significant component of life, essential for integration into societal structures. Across various cultures, the practice of marrying relative, such as cousin, persists as a means of strengthening familial bonds and preserving property within the family. While not ubiquitous throughout India, this custom is concentrated in specific states and cultural or religious groups (Bittles & Black, 2010). According to the most recent data from NFHS-4 (2015-16), approximately 12 per cent of marriage in India are consanguineous (between blood relatives), while around 2 per cent involve non-blood relatives (International Institute of Population Sciences & ICF International, 2017). The prevalence of consanguineous union varies widely across India, with lower rates observed in northern states and higher rates in southern regions. Consanguineous marriage often serves as a mechanism for families to ensure the safety and security of their daughters by marrying them to familiar individual. However, some studies suggest that this practice carries social, biological and demographic drawbacks for individuals and families, aspects that remain largely undocumented in the Indian context (Bhopal et al., 2014).

Violence against women has emerged as a pervasive global concern transcending regional, social and cultural boundaries worldwide (Coll et al., 2020; Garcia-Moreno et al., 2006; WHO, 2013). Women endure various forms of subordination within their families and societies, encompassing physical, sexual and psychological dimensions. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), one in every three women has encountered some form of violence, with variations observed across nations and population subgroups (Daley et al., 2020; Garcia-Moreno et al., 2006; Grose et al., 2020). Globally, the lifetime risk of experiencing physical or sexual violence from an intimate partner is estimated at 30 per cent (WHO, 2013). Domestic violence poses a significant challenge to the health and overall development of women in any society, with implications extending to physical, emotional, sexual and reproductive health (Bhopal et al., 2014; Colombini et al., 2008; Grose et al., 2020). Women who have experienced such violence face

* Sumana Acharya, Manager, Impact and Research, Akanksha Foundation, Pune. Email: sumana.acharya2619@gmail.com

[#] Basant Kumar Panda, Technical Specialist, Population Council Consulting Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.: Email: basantpanda99@gmail.com

^α Harihar Sahoo, Department of Family and Generations, International Institute for Population Sciences, Govandi Station Road, Mumbai 400088. Email: hariharsahoo@gmail.com

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elevated risks of death, disability, mental illness, depression and anxiety (Tiwari et al., 2018). Research indicates that children born to women experiencing domestic violence are at a heightened risk of undernutrition, low birth weight, decreased breastfeeding rate and under-five mortality. They are 16 per cent more likely to have a low-birth-weight, twice as likely to undergo abortion and almost twice as likely to experience depression compared with women not exposed to violence (Metheny & Stephenson, 2019; Nasrullah et al., 2014; Leyton, 2020; Neamah et al., 2018). Furthermore, violence between parents also detrimentally affects the physical, mental and psychological health of children. Violence against women also hampers productivity and impedes contribution to development (Bamiwuye & Odimegwu, 2014; Sardinha & Najera Catalan, 2018; Waters et al., 2004).

There is an utmost need across the various communities to prevent violence among women through prevention programmes and understanding the co-factors. Among the various reasons, the power relation among spouses, age gap, superiority, cultural and societal role, dowry, etc., are the main reasons behind violence among women in India and other countries (Vyas & Jansen, 2018; Abramsky et al., 2011; Ackerson, 2008; Ahmad et al., 2019; Izugbara et al., 2020). Apart from these, various socioeconomic factors including education, household economic status, employment and women empowerment affect domestic violence among women. Those who have no child or living child without a son, have experienced more violence as compared with others, which shows son preference in the society (Koenig et al., 2006; Nasrullah et al., 2014; Ocean et al., 2020; Pallitto et al., 2013; Tiwari et al., 2018; Waters et al., 2004). Moreover, substance use, poverty, depression and other related problems among the husbands increase the risk of violence among women in India (Hind et al., 2018; Izugbara et al., 2020; Nasrullah et al., 2014; Sahoo & Raju, 2007).

The rationale for this study is grounded in existing research findings. Previous studies conducted in India have examined the trends, patterns, correlates and consequences of domestic violence using both community-level and large-scale datasets (Tiwari et al., 2018; Koenig et al., 2006; Dalal and Lindqvist, 2012; Ahmad et al., 2019; Ahmad et al., 2016; Ackerson, 2008). Similarly, other studies have investigated the prevalence of consanguineous marriages and their variations across different states (Kumari et al., 2019; Fareed et al., 2017). Both of these practices are intertwined with power dynamics and the maintenance of superiority within families and society. Given that partners in consanguineous marriages have known each other for extended periods, it is hypothesised that levels of violence would be lower or minimised compared with couples who are unfamiliar with each other prior to marriage. Based on this assumption, the present study aims to explore the potential relationship between consanguineous marriage practices and domestic violence against women in India.

II. Data and methods

The data utilised in this study is sourced from the NFHS-4 conducted across all states and union territories. This survey serves as the Indian counterpart to the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), offering insights into maternal and child health, fertility, nutrition, contraceptive practices, HIV/AIDS, and other pertinent issues concerning women, men and children within households. The IIPS spearheaded the survey under the auspices of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India, with technical assistance from ICF International. As a large-scale, multi-round survey, it encompasses a representative sample of households nationwide. Data were collected from 601,509 households, comprising 699,627 women aged 15-49 years and 112,122 men aged 15-54 years. Further details regarding the survey's sample design, weighting and questionnaire can be accessed in the national report of NFHS-4 (International Institute for Population Sciences & ICF International, 2017).

The data analysis in this study is conducted at the individual women level, utilising information extracted from the individual women's data file. The domestic violence schedule of NFHS-4 is specifically tailored at the state level with data collected from 79,729 married and unmarried women across India. Given the study's emphasis on domestic violence within

consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages, the analysis is confined to 61,906 ever-married women, while 17,823 never-married women are excluded.

Outcome variable

The primary outcome variable in this study is violence against women in India, encompassing emotional, sexual and physical violence. Table 1 provides a breakdown of the components of these types of violence. Perpetrators of these forms of violence are categorised separately, reported either by the husband or other family members, occurring when women are 15 years of age or older, or within the 12 months preceding the survey. Additional outcome variables are derived from combinations of these types of violence including experiencing any form of violence (physical, sexual, or emotional), physical or sexual violence individually, both physical and sexual violence, and all three types of violence (physical, sexual and emotional). The analysis is conducted separately for incidence of violence occurring either at any point or within the 12 months preceding the survey.

Independent variable

The analysis incorporates a series of independent variables guided by existing literature. The primary independent variable is the type of marriage, categorised as either consanguineous or non-consanguineous, based on the relationship with the husband. Consanguinity encompasses relationships such as first cousins on the father's side, first cousins on the mother's side, second cousins, uncles, other blood relatives, brothers-in-law and other non-blood relatives. Other independent variables include individual characteristics such as age, number of living children, marital duration, spouse's age gap, and women's education and employment status. Additionally, an autonomy index was constructed to gauge the impact of women's empowerment on domestic violence, incorporating variables related to decision-making autonomy, freedom of movement and ownership of property categorised as low, medium or high. Household variables such as caste, religion, place of residence and economic status were also considered. Furthermore, behavioural variables including husband's controlling behaviour and alcohol consumption were assessed. The survey collected information on six controlling behaviours such as jealousy or anger towards interactions with other men, accusations of infidelity, restrictions on social interactions, limitations on contact with family, insistence on knowing whereabouts, and control over finances categorised as none, 1-2, or more than 2. Additionally, instances of father's beating their spouses were also taken into account.

Methods

Descriptive statistics and binary logistic regression analysis were used to examine the level of domestic violence and its associated co-variates in India. The output is estimated as odds ratio and represented in the study. The basic form of the logistic regression was represented in the study.

$$\text{Log} (P/1-P) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 \dots \dots \dots \beta_n X_n$$

Where Xi's are covariates and βi's are coefficients. P is predicted probability and log odds of P and (1-P) provides the odds ratios with respect to the reference category.

The study employed two models. We started by examining the impact of all covariates on domestic violence individually for both consanguineous and non-consanguineous married women. Subsequently, in the second model, we assessed the adjusted effect of consanguineous marriages on domestic violence while controlling other variables. The analysis was performed using the domestic violence weight (d005) in the analysis. STATA-16 was used to perform the analysis and the maps were prepared using QGIS-2.3.

III. Results

Prevalence of domestic violence in consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages in India

Table 1 illustrates the percentage of ever-married women aged 15-49 years who have encountered various forms of violence either ever or within the 12 months preceding the survey, categorised by types of marriages in India. The findings indicate a higher prevalence of any form of violence among women in consanguineous marriages compared with those in non-consanguineous unions. Particularly, physical violence emerges as the most prevalent form across both types of marriages. Approximately one-third (33.6%) of ever-married women in India have experienced physical violence at some point in their lives, with 24.3 per cent experiencing it within the 12 months preceding the survey.

Table 1: Percentage of ever-married women facing different forms of violence and by the type of marriage in India, 2015-16

| Type of violence | Ever | | | In past 12 months | | |
|---|-------|------|-------|-------------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| <i>Physical violence</i> | | | | | | |
| Any form of physical violence | 32.6 | 39.2 | 33.6 | 23.5 | 28.9 | 24.3 |
| Any form of physical violence by husband | 29.0 | 34.1 | 29.8 | 21.9 | 26.3 | 22.5 |
| Pushed her, shook her, or threw something at her | 13.0 | 15.8 | 13.4 | 9.5 | 11.9 | 9.8 |
| Slapped her | 26.2 | 29.8 | 26.7 | 18.9 | 22.0 | 19.4 |
| Punched her with his fist or with something that could hurt her | 8.0 | 10.0 | 8.3 | 6.1 | 7.7 | 6.3 |
| Kicked her, dragged her, or beat her up | 8.1 | 12.0 | 8.7 | 5.9 | 8.8 | 6.4 |
| Tried to choke her or burn her on purpose | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.3 |
| Threatened her or attacked her with a knife, gun, or any other weapon | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| Twisted her arm or pulled her hair | 10.8 | 13.8 | 11.3 | 8.1 | 10.5 | 8.4 |
| <i>Sexual violence</i> | | | | | | |
| Any form of sexual violence | 7.2 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 5.6 | 7.7 | 5.9 |
| Any form of sexual violence by husband | 6.6 | 8.9 | 7.0 | 5.4 | 7.5 | 5.7 |
| Physically forced her to have sexual intercourse with husband even when she did not want to | 5.4 | 7.1 | 5.6 | 4.3 | 5.9 | 4.5 |
| Forced her to perform any sexual acts she did not want to | 2.6 | 3.7 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 2.3 |
| Forced her with threats or in any other way to perform any sexual acts she did not want to | 3.6 | 4.6 | 3.7 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 3.1 |
| <i>Emotional violence</i> | | | | | | |
| Any form of emotional violence | 13.0 | 18.5 | 13.8 | 10.8 | 15.3 | 11.4 |
| Said or did something to humiliate her in front of others | 9.0 | 12.9 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 7.9 |
| Threatened to hurt or harm her or someone close to her | 5.2 | 7.8 | 5.6 | 4.2 | 6.6 | 4.5 |
| Insulted her or made her feel bad about herself | 7.7 | 10.6 | 8.1 | 6.2 | 8.7 | 6.5 |
| Any form of physical and sexual violence | 6.0 | 8.4 | 6.4 | 4.3 | 6.1 | 4.6 |
| Any form of emotional, physical and sexual violence | 3.7 | 5.8 | 4.0 | 2.7 | 4.3 | 2.9 |
| Any form of physical and/or sexual violence | 33.7 | 40.7 | 34.8 | 24.8 | 30.5 | 25.6 |
| Any form of emotional/ physical or sexual violence | 35.7 | 43.3 | 36.8 | 27.1 | 33.7 | 28.1 |
| Number of ever-married women (weighted) | 61906 | | | 61906 | | |

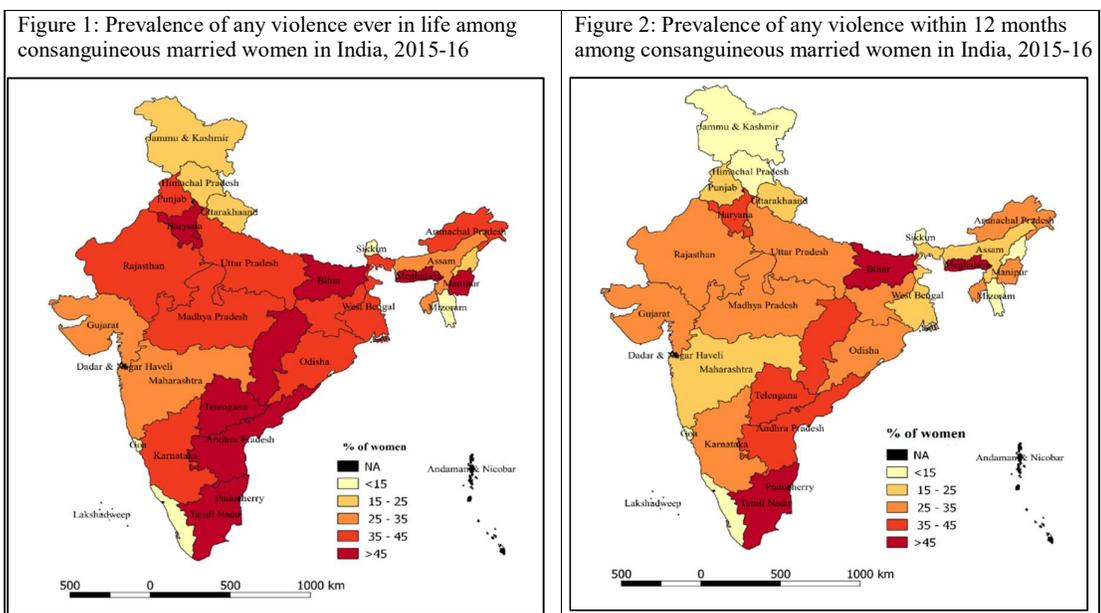
Note: C refers to consanguineous marriages while NC refers to non-consanguineous marriages.

Among physical violence incidents, slapping is the most commonly reported form with the highest prevalence in both consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages. Sexual violence is less prevalent, potentially due to underreporting, as women may feel hesitant to disclose such experiences. The prevalence of sexual violence among ever-married women in India is 7.6 per cent, with rates slightly higher among those in consanguineous marriages (9.9%) compared with non-consanguineous marriages (7.2%). Emotional violence is more common among women married to blood relatives with a prevalence of 16.7 per cent, compared with 12.1 per cent among those in non-consanguineous marriages, indicating a significant disparity. Instances of humiliation and disrespect, particularly in consanguineous marriages where familial ties are closely intertwined, contribute to this trend. The data also highlights a high prevalence of experiencing any one of the three types of violence, with 4.5 per cent of women having encountered all the three forms. Additionally, 5.4 per

cent of women in consanguineous marriages have experienced either physical or sexual violence, a rate significantly higher than that observed in non-consanguineous marriages. Overall, the Table provides compelling evidence that women married to close blood relatives are disproportionately more likely to experience various forms of violence compared with those not married to relatives.

Variation in domestic violence across the states

Figures 1 and 2 depict the state-wise prevalence of domestic violence ever in life and within 12 months among consanguineous married women in India. Across the states, violence ever in life among consanguineous married women ranges from less than 15 per cent in some states to between 15 per cent and 25 per cent in four states, between 25 per cent and 35 per cent in 13 states, and more than 45 per cent in seven states. States with higher levels of violence among consanguineous marriages include Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Delhi, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. Variations in other types of violence across Indian states are presented in Appendix: Tables 3 and 4. The prevalence of domestic violence ever in life among women in consanguineous marriages is higher in 25 states/UTs out of 31 states compared with those in non-consanguineous marriages. A similar pattern is observed for violence within the 12 months preceding the survey.



Differentials in domestic violence in consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriage in India

To provide a comprehensive understanding of the issue, the prevalence of various forms of domestic violence has been analysed based on background characteristics and types of marriage. Table 2 presents the extent of domestic violence ever experienced, while Table 3 illustrates the prevalence within 12 months preceding the survey. A consistent pattern observed in both Tables is the higher prevalence of domestic violence among women in consanguineous marriages compared with those in non-consanguineous unions. For instance, approximately 43.3 per cent of ever-married women in consanguineous marriages have experienced some form of violence, significantly higher than the 35.7 per cent among their non-consanguineous counterparts. Background characteristics such as marital duration, women's autonomy, education level and household economic status exhibit distinct differences in the prevalence of domestic violence. In India, domestic violence tends to increase with longer durations of marriage. Additionally, lower levels of education are associated with higher prevalence rates of domestic violence among women. Similarly, women from lower economic backgrounds and rural areas experience higher levels of violence. Moreover, husband's alcohol consumption and father's attitudes toward mother's beatings are positively correlated with violence against women in India.

Table 2: Percentage of women suffering from different types of violence in last 12 months by type of marriage and background characteristics in India, 2015-16

| Background characteristics | Physical violence | | | Sexual violence | | | Emotional violence | | | Any violence | | |
|---|-------------------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| Age group (years) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 22.6 | 25.2 | 23.1 | 5.7 | 6.9 | 5.9 | 10.4 | 13.4 | 10.9 | 26.4 | 29.7 | 27.0 |
| 25-34 | 24.6 | 28.5 | 25.2 | 6.1 | 7.3 | 6.2 | 10.8 | 14.5 | 11.4 | 28.2 | 32.9 | 28.9 |
| 35+ | 22.9 | 31.1 | 24.1 | 5.1 | 8.6 | 5.6 | 10.8 | 17.0 | 11.7 | 26.5 | 36.3 | 27.9 |
| Marital status | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Currently married | 23.5 | 28.6 | 24.2 | 5.5 | 7.7 | 5.8 | 10.5 | 15.0 | 11.2 | 27.1 | 33.1 | 28.1 |
| Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted | 23.9 | 34.3 | 25.5 | 7.4 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 14.6 | 21.1 | 15.6 | 27.2 | 38.1 | 28.8 |
| Age gap of spouses (years) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Not currently married | 23.9 | 34.3 | 25.5 | 7.4 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 14.6 | 21.1 | 15.6 | 27.2 | 38.1 | 28.8 |
| Wife elder | 23.7 | 30.9 | 24.6 | 6.9 | 11.9 | 7.5 | 13.6 | 14.7 | 13.8 | 27.9 | 35.0 | 28.9 |
| Husband older (0-2) | 23.3 | 25.6 | 23.6 | 5.6 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 9.8 | 11.9 | 10.0 | 26.5 | 29.1 | 26.8 |
| 3-5 years | 25.1 | 27.0 | 25.4 | 5.8 | 6.6 | 5.9 | 11.3 | 14.2 | 11.7 | 28.7 | 31.7 | 29.2 |
| 5 and above | 21.8 | 31.2 | 23.4 | 5.0 | 9.1 | 5.7 | 10.0 | 17.1 | 11.3 | 25.7 | 36.8 | 27.6 |
| Marital duration | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0-4 years | 18.5 | 23.2 | 19.3 | 4.6 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 8.6 | 11.3 | 9.0 | 21.8 | 27.8 | 22.8 |
| 4-9 years | 24.3 | 27.5 | 24.8 | 6.0 | 8.1 | 6.4 | 11.2 | 13.9 | 11.6 | 27.9 | 31.8 | 28.5 |
| 10+ years | 24.7 | 31.3 | 25.6 | 5.7 | 8.4 | 6.1 | 11.2 | 17.2 | 12.1 | 28.4 | 36.3 | 29.5 |
| Number of living children | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 17.5 | 22.1 | 18.3 | 5.0 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 9.4 | 12.5 | 9.9 | 21.6 | 26.8 | 22.4 |
| 1-2 | 21.9 | 28.5 | 22.9 | 4.8 | 7.0 | 5.2 | 10.0 | 14.9 | 10.8 | 25.2 | 32.5 | 26.3 |
| 3-4 | 27.5 | 32.3 | 28.1 | 6.8 | 9.4 | 7.1 | 12.2 | 17.1 | 12.9 | 31.4 | 38.5 | 32.3 |
| 5+ | 28.5 | 30.7 | 28.7 | 7.3 | 9.8 | 7.6 | 12.7 | 17.4 | 13.2 | 32.6 | 37.0 | 33.1 |
| Educational level | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No education | 30.9 | 37.1 | 31.7 | 7.5 | 10.1 | 7.9 | 14.4 | 18.9 | 15.0 | 34.8 | 43.4 | 35.9 |
| Primary | 27.5 | 32.1 | 28.2 | 6.6 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 11.6 | 18.2 | 12.6 | 30.8 | 38.6 | 32.0 |
| Secondary | 19.6 | 24.7 | 20.4 | 4.6 | 6.6 | 4.9 | 9.1 | 13.3 | 9.8 | 23.5 | 28.2 | 24.2 |
| Higher | 10.8 | 18.1 | 11.7 | 2.4 | 6.5 | 2.9 | 5.0 | 9.2 | 5.5 | 13.1 | 21.2 | 14.1 |
| Women autonomy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Low | 26.0 | 30.3 | 26.7 | 8.0 | 8.1 | 8.0 | 14.3 | 17.4 | 14.8 | 30.3 | 36.0 | 31.1 |
| Medium | 24.0 | 27.6 | 24.5 | 5.5 | 8.0 | 5.9 | 10.6 | 14.1 | 11.1 | 27.7 | 32.2 | 28.3 |
| High | 21.3 | 29.1 | 22.5 | 4.1 | 7.2 | 4.6 | 8.6 | 15.1 | 9.6 | 24.6 | 33.5 | 25.9 |
| Currently working | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 21.9 | 27.3 | 22.7 | 5.1 | 7.1 | 5.4 | 9.6 | 14.6 | 10.3 | 25.3 | 31.9 | 26.2 |
| Yes | 28.5 | 32.8 | 29.2 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 7.3 | 14.4 | 17.2 | 14.9 | 32.8 | 38.5 | 33.7 |
| Sex of the head of the household | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 23.4 | 28.4 | 24.2 | 5.4 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 10.5 | 14.6 | 11.1 | 27.0 | 33.3 | 28.0 |
| Female | 23.9 | 31.5 | 25.0 | 6.4 | 9.2 | 6.8 | 12.4 | 19.3 | 13.5 | 27.7 | 35.6 | 28.9 |
| Caste | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scheduled caste | 29.3 | 35.1 | 30.2 | 7.4 | 8.5 | 7.6 | 14.1 | 17.8 | 14.6 | 33.3 | 40.4 | 34.4 |
| Scheduled tribe | 27.1 | 30.8 | 27.6 | 8.0 | 7.6 | 7.9 | 12.7 | 14.8 | 13.0 | 31.1 | 34.0 | 31.5 |
| OBC | 25.0 | 29.8 | 25.7 | 5.3 | 8.0 | 5.7 | 10.9 | 15.9 | 11.7 | 28.6 | 35.5 | 29.7 |
| Others | 16.0 | 21.3 | 16.6 | 3.5 | 6.1 | 3.9 | 7.4 | 12.0 | 8.0 | 19.0 | 24.3 | 19.7 |
| Religion | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hindu | 24.1 | 30.8 | 25.0 | 5.5 | 8.2 | 5.9 | 10.9 | 16.0 | 11.6 | 27.6 | 35.9 | 28.8 |
| Muslim | 20.9 | 22.4 | 21.3 | 6.0 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 11.0 | 12.8 | 11.4 | 25.1 | 26.0 | 25.3 |
| Christian | 24.0 | 35.1 | 25.5 | 5.4 | 9.7 | 5.9 | 9.9 | 23.5 | 11.6 | 28.5 | 39.7 | 30.0 |
| Others | 19.1 | 14.2 | 18.6 | 5.0 | 6.0 | 5.1 | 6.9 | 5.3 | 6.7 | 20.8 | 17.1 | 20.4 |
| Wealth index | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poorest | 33.6 | 41.1 | 34.4 | 9.7 | 13.1 | 10.0 | 15.7 | 19.5 | 16.0 | 38.0 | 45.8 | 38.8 |
| Poorer | 29.4 | 33.1 | 29.9 | 6.7 | 8.3 | 7.0 | 12.8 | 18.7 | 13.7 | 33.0 | 39.4 | 33.9 |
| Middle | 24.5 | 29.4 | 25.3 | 5.5 | 7.9 | 5.9 | 11.5 | 14.9 | 12.1 | 28.5 | 35.3 | 29.6 |
| Richer | 19.9 | 27.3 | 21.2 | 4.1 | 6.0 | 4.5 | 9.0 | 14.2 | 9.9 | 23.3 | 30.8 | 24.6 |
| Richest | 12.5 | 19.7 | 13.5 | 2.6 | 6.1 | 3.1 | 5.9 | 11.8 | 6.7 | 15.3 | 23.4 | 16.4 |
| Place of residence | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Urban | 19.3 | 26.2 | 20.4 | 4.0 | 7.6 | 4.6 | 9.4 | 13.7 | 10.1 | 22.6 | 29.9 | 23.8 |
| Rural | 25.7 | 30.5 | 26.4 | 6.4 | 7.8 | 6.6 | 11.4 | 16.3 | 12.1 | 29.5 | 36.0 | 30.3 |

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Table 2 continued.....

| Background characteristics | Physical violence | | | Sexual violence | | | Emotional violence | | | Any violence | | |
|---|-------------------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| Region | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| East | 27.0 | 28.0 | 27.1 | 8.3 | 10.6 | 8.5 | 12.1 | 14.3 | 12.3 | 31.3 | 33.4 | 31.5 |
| West | 14.5 | 18.5 | 15.1 | 2.6 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 8.7 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 17.7 | 20.8 | 18.1 |
| North | 17.5 | 18.0 | 17.5 | 3.9 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 7.3 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 20.1 | 22.4 | 20.3 |
| South | 27.8 | 34.9 | 29.8 | 5.3 | 8.9 | 6.3 | 13.7 | 19.4 | 15.3 | 32.0 | 40.3 | 34.4 |
| Central | 27.0 | 27.0 | 27.0 | 6.2 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 10.7 | 13.4 | 11.0 | 30.4 | 32.0 | 30.6 |
| North East | 18.7 | 20.2 | 18.8 | 4.8 | 7.7 | 5.0 | 9.0 | 11.7 | 9.2 | 22.0 | 25.1 | 22.2 |
| Respondent's father used to beat her mother | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 18.1 | 19.5 | 18.3 | 4.1 | 5.0 | 4.3 | 8.3 | 10.9 | 8.6 | 21.3 | 23.8 | 21.6 |
| Yes | 44.5 | 49.6 | 45.6 | 11.3 | 13.8 | 11.8 | 20.6 | 25.1 | 21.6 | 49.7 | 55.2 | 50.9 |
| Displays controlling behaviour | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| None | 12.6 | 16.6 | 13.2 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 14.6 | 18.3 | 15.1 |
| 1-2 | 27.7 | 31.6 | 28.3 | 6.0 | 8.0 | 6.3 | 11.2 | 18.0 | 12.2 | 31.9 | 39.0 | 33.0 |
| 3+ | 45.5 | 54.8 | 46.9 | 15.8 | 22.0 | 16.7 | 28.7 | 39.2 | 30.2 | 52.6 | 62.7 | 54.1 |
| Husband drunk | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 16.8 | 20.3 | 17.3 | 3.4 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 7.1 | 10.6 | 7.6 | 20.0 | 24.5 | 20.6 |
| Yes | 40.5 | 47.5 | 41.6 | 11.1 | 14.7 | 11.7 | 19.9 | 25.5 | 20.8 | 45.1 | 53.4 | 46.4 |
| Total | 23.5 | 28.9 | 24.3 | 5.6 | 7.7 | 5.9 | 10.8 | 15.3 | 11.4 | 27.1 | 33.7 | 28.1 |

Note: C refers to consanguineous marriages while NC refers to non-consanguineous marriages.

Table 3: Percentage of women suffering from different types of violence ever in life by types of marriage and background characteristics in India, 2015-16

| Background characteristics | Physical violence | | | Sexual violence | | | Emotional violence | | | Any violence | | |
|---|-------------------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| Age group (years) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 28.4 | 30.4 | 28.7 | 6.8 | 9.5 | 7.2 | 11.5 | 14.5 | 12.0 | 31.8 | 34.9 | 32.3 |
| 25-34 | 33.0 | 39.9 | 34.0 | 7.5 | 9.2 | 7.7 | 12.9 | 17.4 | 13.6 | 35.9 | 43.1 | 36.9 |
| 35+ | 33.9 | 43.0 | 35.2 | 7.1 | 10.7 | 7.6 | 13.8 | 21.5 | 14.8 | 37.0 | 47.8 | 38.5 |
| Marital status | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Currently married | 32.1 | 38.2 | 33.0 | 6.9 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 12.4 | 17.5 | 13.2 | 35.2 | 42.4 | 36.3 |
| Widowed/divorced/ separated/deserted | 40.6 | 56.6 | 43.0 | 12.3 | 17.8 | 13.1 | 23.7 | 35.4 | 25.4 | 43.7 | 60.2 | 46.1 |
| Age gap of spouses (years) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Not currently married | 40.6 | 56.6 | 43.0 | 12.3 | 18.0 | 13.1 | 23.7 | 35.4 | 25.4 | 43.7 | 60.2 | 46.1 |
| Wife elder | 30.7 | 38.9 | 31.8 | 7.8 | 11.9 | 8.4 | 15.7 | 18.3 | 16.1 | 33.9 | 43.4 | 35.1 |
| Husband older (0-2) | 30.7 | 35.6 | 31.3 | 6.6 | 7.3 | 6.7 | 11.2 | 13.3 | 11.4 | 33.4 | 38.6 | 34.1 |
| 3-5 years | 33.8 | 37.0 | 34.3 | 7.5 | 8.7 | 7.6 | 13.3 | 17.4 | 13.9 | 37.1 | 41.3 | 37.7 |
| 5 and above | 31.3 | 40.4 | 32.9 | 6.3 | 10.9 | 7.1 | 12.1 | 19.6 | 13.4 | 34.4 | 45.0 | 36.2 |
| Marital duration | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0-4 years | 24.8 | 27.9 | 25.3 | 5.6 | 7.4 | 5.9 | 9.9 | 12.9 | 10.4 | 27.8 | 32.9 | 28.6 |
| 4-9 years | 31.8 | 36.4 | 32.5 | 7.2 | 10.5 | 7.8 | 12.7 | 15.8 | 13.2 | 34.7 | 39.7 | 35.5 |
| 10+ years | 35.0 | 43.9 | 36.3 | 7.6 | 10.4 | 8.0 | 14.0 | 21.4 | 15.1 | 38.2 | 48.1 | 39.6 |
| Number of living children | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 24.7 | 28.1 | 25.3 | 6.3 | 8.7 | 6.7 | 11.5 | 14.5 | 12.0 | 28.2 | 32.7 | 29.0 |
| 1-2 | 30.1 | 37.9 | 31.3 | 6.3 | 9.0 | 6.7 | 11.8 | 17.7 | 12.7 | 33.0 | 41.4 | 34.3 |
| 3-4 | 38.0 | 45.4 | 39.0 | 8.5 | 12.0 | 9.0 | 15.1 | 21.0 | 15.9 | 41.1 | 50.2 | 42.3 |
| 5+ | 41.1 | 47.5 | 41.8 | 9.7 | 11.9 | 9.9 | 16.2 | 23.8 | 17.0 | 44.7 | 53.8 | 45.6 |
| Educational level | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No education | 41.7 | 48.9 | 42.6 | 9.5 | 13.0 | 10.0 | 17.6 | 23.7 | 18.4 | 44.8 | 54.6 | 46.2 |
| Primary | 38.9 | 44.7 | 39.8 | 8.7 | 10.8 | 9.0 | 14.6 | 22.3 | 15.8 | 41.7 | 48.9 | 42.8 |
| Secondary | 27.5 | 34.2 | 28.6 | 5.8 | 8.0 | 6.2 | 10.7 | 15.7 | 11.5 | 30.9 | 37.7 | 32.0 |
| Higher | 16.2 | 23.7 | 17.1 | 3.2 | 7.6 | 3.7 | 5.9 | 9.8 | 6.3 | 18.3 | 25.9 | 19.3 |
| Women's autonomy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Low | 36.3 | 40.9 | 37.0 | 10.2 | 11.5 | 10.4 | 18.1 | 22.0 | 18.7 | 40.2 | 46.0 | 41.1 |
| Medium | 32.4 | 37.0 | 33.1 | 7.1 | 9.9 | 7.5 | 12.7 | 17.0 | 13.3 | 35.4 | 41.0 | 36.2 |
| High | 30.4 | 40.2 | 31.8 | 5.3 | 8.8 | 5.9 | 10.1 | 17.7 | 11.3 | 33.0 | 43.9 | 34.6 |

.....contd

Table 3 continued....

| Background characteristics | Physical violence | | | Sexual violence | | | Emotional violence | | | Any violence | | |
|---|-------------------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| Currently working | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 30.1 | 35.7 | 30.9 | 6.4 | 8.7 | 6.7 | 11.4 | 16.6 | 12.1 | 33.0 | 39.6 | 33.9 |
| Yes | 40.4 | 47.8 | 41.7 | 9.5 | 12.7 | 10.1 | 18.2 | 23.0 | 19.0 | 43.9 | 52.6 | 45.4 |
| Sex of the head of the household | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 32.2 | 38.7 | 33.1 | 6.9 | 9.2 | 7.2 | 12.4 | 17.4 | 13.2 | 35.2 | 42.8 | 36.3 |
| Female | 35.0 | 42.2 | 36.1 | 8.9 | 13.4 | 9.6 | 16.4 | 24.7 | 17.6 | 38.1 | 46.5 | 39.4 |
| Caste | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scheduled caste | 39.4 | 48.2 | 40.8 | 9.4 | 10.8 | 9.6 | 16.5 | 22.0 | 17.4 | 42.7 | 51.6 | 44.1 |
| Scheduled tribe | 36.3 | 38.2 | 36.6 | 10.0 | 9.4 | 9.9 | 15.3 | 17.7 | 15.6 | 39.6 | 42.0 | 39.9 |
| OBCs | 33.8 | 40.5 | 34.8 | 6.8 | 10.3 | 7.4 | 13.1 | 19.1 | 14.1 | 36.9 | 45.7 | 38.3 |
| Others | 24.8 | 29.9 | 25.4 | 4.8 | 8.1 | 5.2 | 9.3 | 14.3 | 9.9 | 27.5 | 32.7 | 28.2 |
| Religion | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hindu | 33.3 | 41.4 | 34.5 | 7.2 | 10.5 | 7.7 | 13.1 | 19.4 | 14.0 | 36.3 | 45.9 | 37.6 |
| Muslim | 29.5 | 31.2 | 29.9 | 7.1 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 13.7 | 15.3 | 14.1 | 33.4 | 34.7 | 33.7 |
| Christian | 32.0 | 50.0 | 34.3 | 7.5 | 11.5 | 8.0 | 12.2 | 26.8 | 14.0 | 36.7 | 52.3 | 38.7 |
| Others | 25.3 | 23.5 | 25.1 | 6.8 | 7.0 | 6.9 | 8.1 | 6.7 | 7.9 | 26.6 | 24.4 | 26.3 |
| Wealth index | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poorest | 44.1 | 51.1 | 44.8 | 11.9 | 16.2 | 12.3 | 18.8 | 22.8 | 19.2 | 47.6 | 55.6 | 48.4 |
| Poorer | 39.5 | 46.3 | 40.5 | 8.6 | 10.4 | 8.8 | 15.5 | 22.7 | 16.5 | 42.8 | 50.5 | 43.9 |
| Middle | 34.2 | 40.4 | 35.2 | 7.3 | 10.6 | 7.8 | 14.2 | 18.7 | 15.0 | 37.4 | 45.1 | 38.7 |
| Richer | 28.6 | 37.5 | 30.2 | 5.5 | 7.8 | 5.9 | 11.0 | 16.9 | 12.0 | 31.7 | 40.8 | 33.3 |
| Richest | 19.2 | 27.0 | 20.3 | 3.6 | 7.6 | 4.2 | 7.0 | 14.2 | 8.0 | 21.7 | 31.1 | 23.0 |
| Place of residence | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Urban | 27.3 | 35.5 | 28.7 | 5.3 | 9.5 | 6.0 | 11.0 | 16.8 | 12.0 | 30.1 | 39.1 | 31.6 |
| Rural | 35.3 | 41.5 | 36.2 | 8.1 | 10.1 | 8.4 | 14.1 | 19.6 | 14.8 | 38.5 | 46.0 | 39.6 |
| Region | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| East | 38.2 | 40.2 | 38.4 | 10.5 | 13.5 | 10.7 | 15.2 | 17.8 | 15.4 | 41.7 | 45.0 | 42.0 |
| West | 21.6 | 28.0 | 22.5 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 10.4 | 11.3 | 10.6 | 24.5 | 29.7 | 25.2 |
| North | 23.8 | 27.7 | 24.1 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 5.1 | 8.8 | 11.5 | 9.0 | 26.3 | 31.7 | 26.7 |
| South | 36.4 | 44.6 | 38.8 | 6.9 | 11.2 | 8.1 | 15.5 | 22.7 | 17.6 | 39.7 | 49.4 | 42.5 |
| Central | 37.5 | 39.0 | 37.6 | 7.9 | 10.5 | 8.2 | 13.3 | 16.9 | 13.7 | 40.4 | 42.9 | 40.7 |
| North East | 27.7 | 28.5 | 27.7 | 6.4 | 8.7 | 6.5 | 11.6 | 13.6 | 11.7 | 30.7 | 31.6 | 30.7 |
| Respondent's father used to beat her mother | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 25.5 | 28.0 | 25.8 | 5.3 | 6.5 | 5.5 | 10.2 | 13.6 | 10.6 | 28.3 | 32.0 | 28.8 |
| Yes | 60.1 | 63.9 | 60.9 | 14.5 | 17.5 | 15.1 | 24.2 | 29.6 | 25.4 | 63.6 | 68.0 | 64.1 |
| Displays controlling behaviour | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| None | 20.2 | 26.2 | 21.1 | 2.2 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 4.9 | 6.0 | 5.1 | 22.0 | 28.1 | 22.8 |
| 1-2 | 38.1 | 43.1 | 38.9 | 7.9 | 10.9 | 8.4 | 13.7 | 21.5 | 14.9 | 41.9 | 49.2 | 43.0 |
| 3+ | 56.3 | 65.0 | 57.6 | 19.0 | 26.2 | 20.1 | 33.4 | 44.6 | 35.1 | 61.7 | 71.3 | 63.1 |
| Husband drunk | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 24.2 | 29.1 | 24.9 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 4.5 | 8.6 | 12.7 | 9.2 | 27.2 | 32.8 | 28.0 |
| Yes | 53.8 | 61.1 | 55.0 | 14.3 | 18.9 | 15.0 | 24.1 | 31.0 | 25.2 | 57.0 | 66.0 | 58.0 |
| Total | 32.6 | 39.2 | 33.6 | 7.2 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 13.0 | 18.5 | 13.8 | 35.7 | 43.3 | 36.8 |

Note: C refers to consanguineous marriages while NC refers to non-consanguineous marriages.

Impact of consanguineous marriage and other covariates on various types of domestic violence

Table 4 displays the adjusted odds ratios with 95 per cent confidence intervals for the associated covariates of experiencing any violence ever or within the past 12 months (of the date of survey), categorized by consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages in India. Covariates such as marital duration, education level, economic status, women's autonomy, husband's drinking behaviour, father's attitude toward mother beating and husband's controlling behaviour exhibit statistically significant effects on experiencing violence ever in life among women in consanguineous marriages. Educated and wealthier women are at a lower risk of experiencing violence compared with their counterparts with lower levels of education and economic status. Additionally, women with higher autonomy are 15 per cent less likely to experience domestic violence compared with

those with lower autonomy levels. The likelihood of facing domestic violence is higher among women whose fathers used to beat their mothers, a trend observed in both consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages. Similarly, husband's controlling behaviour and drinking habits are positively associated with domestic violence among women in India and are highly significant statistically. A similar pattern is observed within the past 12 months.

Table 4: Odds Ratio (OR) and confidence interval (CI) of correlates of any violence in past 12 months and ever among women in India by type of marriage

| Background characteristics | Any violence in last 12 months | | Any violence ever | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Non-consanguineous | | Consanguineous | |
| | OR (95% CI) | OR (95% CI) | OR (95% CI) | OR (95% CI) |
| Age group (years) | | | | |
| 15-24 [®] | | | | |
| 25-34 | 0.93** (0.86, 1.00) | 0.84* (0.69, 1.01) | 1.01 (0.94, 1.09) | 0.92 (0.77, 1.11) |
| 35+ | 0.83*** (0.76, 0.91) | 0.87 (0.70, 1.09) | 1.01 (0.93, 1.10) | 0.97 (0.78, 1.20) |
| Marital status | | | | |
| Currently married [®] | | | | |
| Widowed/divorced/separated/ Deserted | 0.7*** (0.62, 0.79) | 0.54*** (0.4, 0.73) | 1.04 (0.93, 1.17) | 1.1 (0.82, 1.48) |
| Age gap of spouses (years) | | | | |
| Not currently married [®] | | | | |
| Wife elder | 1.26*** (1.10, 1.45) | 0.76 (0.51, 1.13) | 1.14* (1.00, 1.30) | 0.85 (0.59, 1.22) |
| Husband older (0-2) | 1.1*** (1.03, 1.17) | 0.94 (0.80, 1.10) | 1.04 (0.98, 1.11) | 0.99 (0.85, 1.16) |
| 3-5 years | 1.08*** (1.02, 1.14) | 0.93 (0.81, 1.07) | 1.02 (0.97, 1.07) | 0.97 (0.85, 1.11) |
| 5 years and above | | | | |
| Marital duration | | | | |
| 0-4 years [®] | | | | |
| 4-9 years | 1.27*** (1.17, 1.38) | 1.18* (0.97, 1.44) | 1.29*** (1.2, 1.4) | 1.37*** (1.13, 1.65) |
| 10+ years | 1.25*** (1.15, 1.36) | 1.23** (1.01, 1.51) | 1.3*** (1.2, 1.4) | 1.48*** (1.22, 1.80) |
| Number of living children | | | | |
| 0 [®] | | | | |
| 1-2 | 1.23*** (1.13, 1.35) | 1.17 (0.94, 1.45) | 1.21*** (1.11, 1.32) | 1.14 (0.93, 1.40) |
| 3-4 | 1.32*** (1.19, 1.45) | 1.33** (1.04, 1.70) | 1.32*** (1.21, 1.45) | 1.3** (1.03, 1.65) |
| 5+ | 1.3*** (1.14, 1.47) | 1.50** (1.08, 2.09) | 1.36*** (1.21, 1.53) | 1.74*** (1.26, 2.40) |
| Educational level | | | | |
| No education [®] | | | | |
| Primary | 0.92** (0.86, 0.99) | 0.97 (0.81, 1.15) | 0.98 (0.92, 1.04) | 0.96 (0.81, 1.14) |
| Secondary | 0.81*** (0.76, 0.86) | 0.74*** (0.64, 0.86) | 0.83*** (0.79, 0.88) | 0.79*** (0.68, 0.91) |
| Higher | 0.59*** (0.53, 0.66) | 0.51*** (0.39, 0.68) | 0.63*** (0.57, 0.7) | 0.52*** (0.40, 0.68) |
| Women autonomy | | | | |
| Low [®] | | | | |
| Medium | 0.84*** (0.79, 0.89) | 0.86** (0.74, 0.99) | 0.82*** (0.77, 0.86) | 0.89 (0.77, 1.02) |
| High | 0.70*** (0.66, 0.74) | 0.84** (0.72, 0.98) | 0.70*** (0.66, 0.74) | 0.85** (0.73, 0.99) |
| Currently working | | | | |
| No [®] | | | | |
| Yes | 1.27*** (1.2, 1.33) | 1.11 (0.98, 1.27) | 1.34*** (1.28, 1.41) | 1.26*** (1.11, 1.43) |
| Sex of the head of the household | | | | |
| Male [®] | | | | |
| Female | 0.89*** (0.83, 0.95) | 1.05 (0.88, 1.25) | 0.92*** (0.86, 0.98) | 1.01 (0.86, 1.20) |
| Caste | | | | |
| Scheduled caste [®] | | | | |
| Scheduled tribe | 0.75*** (0.7, 0.81) | 0.71*** (0.58, 0.88) | 0.74*** (0.69, 0.79) | 0.68*** (0.56, 0.83) |
| OBCs | 0.93** (0.87, 0.98) | 0.9 (0.77, 1.05) | 0.93** (0.88, 0.99) | 0.93 (0.80, 1.08) |
| Others | 0.78*** (0.72, 0.84) | 0.86 (0.70, 1.04) | 0.82*** (0.76, 0.88) | 0.85* (0.70, 1.03) |
| Religion | | | | |
| Hindu [®] | | | | |
| Muslim | 1.08* (0.99, 1.17) | 0.95 (0.80, 1.13) | 1.10** (1.02, 1.19) | 0.97 (0.82, 1.14) |
| Christian | 1.03 (0.92, 1.15) | 0.90 (0.66, 1.22) | 0.97 (0.87, 1.07) | 1.09 (0.82, 1.46) |
| Others | 0.94 (0.84, 1.05) | 0.69* (0.47, 1.02) | 0.88** (0.79, 0.97) | 0.76 (0.53, 1.07) |

.....table contd.

Table 4 continued.....

| Background characteristics | Any violence in last 12 months | | Any violence ever | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Non-consanguineous | Consanguineous | Non-consanguineous | Consanguineous |
| | OR (95% CI) | OR (95% CI) | OR (95% CI) | OR (95% CI) |
| Wealth index | | | | |
| Poorest® | | | | |
| Poorer | 0.91*** (0.85, 0.97) | 0.72*** (0.60, 0.87) | 0.95 (0.89, 1.02) | 0.79** (0.66, 0.95) |
| Middle | 0.80*** (0.74, 0.86) | 0.61*** (0.50, 0.74) | 0.86*** (0.80, 0.92) | 0.68*** (0.56, 0.82) |
| Richer | 0.69*** (0.64, 0.75) | 0.60*** (0.48, 0.74) | 0.75*** (0.69, 0.81) | 0.65*** (0.52, 0.80) |
| Richest | 0.57*** (0.52, 0.63) | 0.55*** (0.42, 0.71) | 0.63*** (0.57, 0.69) | 0.60*** (0.47, 0.77) |
| Place of residence | | | | |
| Urban® | | | | |
| Rural | 0.84*** (0.79, 0.89) | 0.93 (0.80, 1.07) | 0.88*** (0.83, 0.93) | 0.9 (0.78, 1.03) |
| Region | | | | |
| East® | | | | |
| West | 0.97 (0.89, 1.07) | 1.16 (0.90, 1.49) | 0.82*** (0.75, 0.89) | 1.14 (0.90, 1.44) |
| North | 0.84*** (0.78, 0.91) | 0.89 (0.69, 1.15) | 0.71*** (0.66, 0.76) | 0.89 (0.70, 1.13) |
| South | 1.45*** (1.33, 1.57) | 1.82*** (1.49, 2.22) | 1.16*** (1.07, 1.25) | 1.43*** (1.18, 1.74) |
| Central | 1.01 (0.95, 1.08) | 1.20* (0.98, 1.46) | 1.00 (0.94, 1.07) | 1.22** (1.01, 1.48) |
| North east | 1.11** (1.01, 1.23) | 1.25 (0.93, 1.69) | 1.04 (0.95, 1.14) | 0.98 (0.74, 1.30) |
| Respondent's father used to beat her mother | | | | |
| No® | | | | |
| Yes | 2.91*** (2.76, 3.06) | 2.94*** (2.60, 3.32) | 3.87*** (3.67, 4.07) | 3.65*** (3.23, 4.12) |
| Displays controlling behaviour | | | | |
| None® | | | | |
| 1-2 | 2.35*** (2.24, 2.48) | 2.71*** (2.38, 3.08) | 2.21*** (2.11, 2.32) | 2.39*** (2.12, 2.70) |
| 3+ | 5.27*** (4.97, 5.58) | 5.86*** (5.02, 6.83) | 4.69*** (4.43, 4.97) | 5.10*** (4.37, 5.95) |
| Husband drunk | | | | |
| No® | | | | |
| Yes | 2.37*** (2.26, 2.48) | 2.23*** (1.98, 2.52) | 2.55*** (2.44, 2.67) | 2.39*** (2.13, 2.70) |
| Constant | 0.16*** (0.14, 0.18) | 0.19*** (0.13, 0.27) | 0.21*** (0.18, 0.24) | 0.23*** (0.16, 0.32) |

® Reference category * P<0.10 ** P<0.05 ***P<0.01.

Table 5 presents the adjusted effect of consanguineous marriage on each type of domestic violence within the past 12 months and ever in life in India. The odds ratios and significance levels indicate a significant impact of the type of marriage on domestic violence. Specifically, women in consanguineous marriage were 16 per cent more likely to experience violence ever in life compared with those in non-consanguineous marriage with an odds ratio of 1.16 (95% CI 1.09, 1.23). For physical violence, the odds ratio was 1.16 (95% CI 1.09, 1.23), for sexual violence 1.25 (95% CI 1.13, 1.37) and for emotional violence 1.18 (95% CI 1.09, 1.28) among women in consanguineous marriage. The impact of type of marriage on experiencing multiple types of violence ever in life was also evident with odds ratios of 1.24 (95% CI 1.11, 1.37) for facing both physical and sexual violence and 1.20 (95% CI 1.06, 1.37) for facing all three types of violence among women in consanguineous marriage. Similar patterns were observed for women facing violence within the past 12 months.

IV. Discussion

Domestic violence, particularly spousal violence, has become entrenched in Indian patriarchal society. Numerous studies have delved into the causes of violence and its repercussions on women and children (Koenig et al., 2006; Dalal & Lindqvist, 2012; Ahmad et al., 2019; Ackerson, 2008). In India, the primary perpetrator of violence is typically the husband, exerting power over his wife. Consanguineous marriages are often done to ensure the safety and security of women and to maintain ancestral property within the family. It is anticipated that the bond between spouses strengthens due to the blood relation between husband and wife (Vyas & Jansen, 2018; Pallitto et al., 2013; Fareed et al., 2017). However, this study sheds light on the impact of the type of marriage on domestic violence in India. The key findings and their explanations are outlined below.

Firstly, the study underscores that all forms of violence are more prevalent among consanguineous married women compared with their non-consanguineous counterpart. Marriage

dynamics, particularly interspousal communication, plays a pivotal role in determining individual satisfaction with marriage and, consequently, quality of life. Sexual violence emerges as the most severe form of violence, often underreported due to societal taboos and constraints (Dickson et al., 2020; Alam et al., 2018). This trend holds true for both recent incidents and lifetime experiences of violence.

Table 5: Adjusted Odds Ratio (OR) and confidence interval (CI) of type of marriage on different forms of domestic violence in past 12 months and ever? among women in India

| Types of violence | In last 12 month | | Ever in life | |
|---|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | AOR (95% CI) | | AOR (95% CI) | |
| Physical | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.06 | (0.99, 1.12) | 1.13*** | (1.06, 1.20) |
| Sexual | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.25*** | (1.11, 1.39) | 1.25*** | (1.13, 1.37) |
| Emotional | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.15*** | (1.06, 1.25) | 1.18*** | (1.09, 1.28) |
| Any form of physical and sexual violence | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.20** | (1.06, 1.35) | 1.24** | (1.11, 1.37) |
| Any form of emotional, physical and sexual violence | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.17* | (1.01, 1.36) | 1.20** | (1.06, 1.37) |
| Any form of physical or sexual violence | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.09** | (1.02, 1.16) | 1.15** | (1.08, 1.22) |
| Any form of emotional, physical or sexual violence | | | | |
| NC® | | | | |
| C | 1.11** | (1.04, 1.18) | 1.16*** | (1.09, 1.23) |

® Reference category; * P<0.10 ** P<0. 05 ***P<0.01; C refers to consanguineous marriages while NC refers to non-consanguineous marriages; AOR: Adjusted odds ratio which is calculated to all other covariates included in Table 4.

Secondly, spousal violence constitutes the most common form of violence with approximately 80 per cent of incidents attributed to husbands, albeit varying by the type of violence. This prevalence may stem from entrenched patriarchal norms, power differentials and the persistence of dowry practices within the society (Ellsberg et al., 2008; Chernet & Cherie, 2020; Ahmad et al., 2019; Ackerson, 2008; Abramsky et al., 2011). Physical violence is most prevalent, followed by emotional violence and sexual violence. Slapping is the most common form of physical violence in India. The physical violence towards a woman is so commonplace that we defend the man that perpetrates it, and talk down to women who speak out against it (Dickson et al., 2020; Alam et al., 2018). Additionally, the study reveals distressing instances where women are coerced into unwanted sexual acts by their husbands, with higher prevalence rates observed in consanguineous marriages. At times women are threatened to perform sexual acts in the way they didn't want to, with the higher prevalence among women who had consanguineous marriage. Comparatively, sexual violence remains lower than physical violence, which may be probably due to under-reporting as women are usually shy in opening up such matters (Bhattacharya & Kundu, 2018). The worst type of violence among women in India is emotional violence by the husband. Mostly the women are humiliated and not respected in front of others, which can be even worse in case of consanguineous marriage where the family and relatives are closely knitted (Abramsky et al., 2011).

Thirdly, there exists a significant disparity in the prevalence of violence across different states of India. Upon examining the state-wise data on overall violence, it becomes evident that certain states in northeast India such as Manipur and Meghalaya exhibit notably high prevalence rates. Additionally, the southern states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh demonstrate remarkably elevated prevalence across all three forms of violence. In terms of physical

violence, both consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages display high prevalence rates in Manipur, followed closely by Telangana.

Fourthly, various factors influence domestic violence among women in India including age, marital status, duration of marriage, education and wealth status (Koenig et al., 2006; Dalal and Lindqvist, 2012; Boyle et al., 2009; Bhopal et al., 2014; Ahmad et al., 2019; Ackerson, 2008). The experience of domestic violence tends to increase with the duration of marriage, while education and economic conditions inversely correlate with violence which is consistent with other studies (Jejeebhoy, 1998; Mahajan & Madhurima, 1995; Gerstein, 2000). Additionally, a significant proportion of women in India face sexual and emotional violence in the workplace, while women's autonomy is also inversely associated with violence. Therefore, empowering women through education, employment, decision-making abilities and property rights is essential for reducing domestic violence (Daley et al., 2020; Boyle et al., 2009; Alam et al., 2018; Ahmad et al., 2019; Abramsky et al., 2011).

Fifthly, the study identified certain behavioural factors within households that influence domestic violence against women in India. These factors encompass whether the father previously abused the mother, the exhibition of specific marital control behaviour and the husband's alcohol consumption. It is evident that women whose fathers abused their mothers faced notably higher levels of violence across all categories: physical, emotional, and sexual. Moreover, the prevalence of controlling behaviour escalates significantly from none to at least two, and then to more than three such behaviour. Additionally, there is a notable correlation between husbands who consume alcohol and their tendency to perpetrate domestic violence against their wives.

There is a pressing need for government policies aimed at eradicating domestic violence and promoting gender equality in Indian society. Recognized as a grave offense, domestic violence is addressed through national laws protecting women's rights. Additionally, Sustainable Development Goal 5 underscores the importance of gender equality across education, health and other domains (United Nations, 2015). Despite advancements, with Indian women demonstrating increased participation in education, employment, politics and various sectors, recent estimates indicate that one in three women in India experience some form of violence. It is imperative to tailor interventions to address women's specific needs, challenges, strengths and perspectives to address this issue effectively.

This study has several limitations. To begin with, the estimates rely on self-reported data from women, which may introduce bias or underreporting due to the sensitive nature of domestic violence or the presence of other household members. Additionally, given the cross-sectional nature of the study, establishing causal relationships with outcome variables is challenging. Despite these limitations, the study offers valuable insights into previously researched areas of domestic violence and consanguinity in India.

V. Conclusion

The study dispels the notion that women are safer in consanguineous marriages. In India, domestic violence remains prevalent among women in consanguineous marriages, characterized by a high level of marital control exerted by their spouses. Consequently, consanguinity does not offer protection against domestic violence. Despite familiarity with their husbands (e.g., one's cousin) prior to marriage, women experience abuse and violence. Blood relationship and involvement in spouse selection do not guarantee immunity from domestic violence and abuse. Marital control behaviour and instances of emotional and physical violence perpetrated by husbands are more common among women with blood relationships compared with those without such ties. Thus, the notion of a blood relationship with the husband providing refuge from domestic violence proves unfounded. Local governments and legal frameworks should prioritize addressing overlooked women's issues. It is imperative to elevate the status of women through initiatives focused on education and employment.

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Appendix 1: Variables included in construction of women empowerment

| Variable | Response | Codes |
|---|--------------------------------|-------|
| Person who usually decides on respondent's health care | Respondent alone | 1 |
| | Respondent and Husband/partner | 1 |
| | Husband/partner alone | 0 |
| | Someone else | 0 |
| | Others | 0 |
| Person who usually decides on large household purchases | Respondent alone | 1 |
| | Respondent and husband/partner | 1 |
| | Husband/partner alone | 0 |
| | Someone else | 0 |
| | Others | 0 |
| Person who usually decides on visits to family or relatives | Respondent alone | 1 |
| | Respondent and Husband/partner | 1 |
| | Husband/partner alone | 0 |
| | Someone else | 0 |
| | Others | 0 |
| Person who usually decides to do with money husband earns | Respondent alone | 1 |
| | Respondent and husband/partner | 1 |
| | Husband/partner alone | 0 |
| | Someone else | 0 |
| | Others | 0 |
| Person who usually decides to do with money husband earns | Respondent alone | 1 |
| | Respondent and husband/partner | 1 |
| | Husband/partner alone | 0 |
| | Someone else | 0 |
| | Others | 0 |
| Owns a house alone or jointly | Does not own | 0 |
| | Alone only | 1 |
| | Jointly only | 1 |
| | Both alone and jointly | 1 |
| Owns land alone or jointly | Does not own | 0 |
| | Alone only | 1 |
| | Jointly only | 1 |
| | Both alone and jointly | 1 |
| Usually allowed to go to the market | Not at all | 0 |
| | Alone | 1 |
| | With someone else only | 0 |
| Usually allowed to go to the health facility | Not at all | 0 |
| | Alone | 1 |
| | With someone else only | 0 |
| Usually allowed to go to the places outside the village | Not at all | 0 |
| | Alone | 1 |
| | With someone else only | 0 |

Appendix 2: Variables included in the controlling behaviour of the husband

He (is/was) jealous or angry if you (talk/talked) to other men.
 He frequently (accuses/accused) you of being unfaithful.
 He (does/did) not permit you to meet your female friends.
 He (tries/tried) to limit your contact with your family.
 He (insists/insisted) on knowing where you (are/were) at all times.
 He (does/did) not trust you with any money.

Appendix 3: Percentage of ever married women suffered from different types of violence ever in life by states of India 2015-16

| State | Physical violence | | | Sexual violence | | | Emotional violence | | | Any violence | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| Andhra Pradesh | 49.7 | 47.5 | 49.0 | 5.6 | 9.2 | 6.8 | 18.3 | 22.5 | 19.7 | 50.8 | 51.4 | 51.0 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 30.1 | 35.8 | 30.5 | 8.9 | 12.4 | 9.2 | 16.7 | 12.0 | 16.4 | 35.9 | 38.1 | 36.1 |
| Assam | 26.3 | 30.4 | 26.6 | 5.6 | 8.6 | 5.8 | 11.3 | 13.7 | 11.4 | 29.0 | 33.2 | 29.3 |
| Bihar | 43.2 | 42.4 | 43.1 | 13.6 | 19.6 | 14.0 | 20.2 | 24.4 | 20.5 | 47.1 | 51.7 | 47.5 |
| Chhattisgarh | 39.0 | 44.8 | 39.5 | 7.0 | 9.6 | 7.2 | 15.5 | 12.1 | 15.2 | 41.3 | 45.1 | 41.6 |
| Goa | 14.6 | 4.0 | 13.5 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 4.6 | 5.9 | 4.7 | 17.4 | 6.9 | 16.3 |
| Gujarat | 20.6 | 28.9 | 21.4 | 5.0 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 11.6 | 14.2 | 11.9 | 23.6 | 33.7 | 24.5 |
| Haryana | 34.2 | 42.2 | 34.7 | 9.3 | 12.0 | 9.5 | 12.6 | 14.0 | 12.7 | 37.4 | 45.4 | 37.9 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 7.0 | 18.3 | 7.6 | 2.3 | 10.2 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 6.6 | 4.5 | 8.9 | 22.0 | 9.6 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 11.9 | 10.7 | 11.6 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 9.2 | 10.6 | 9.5 | 16.4 | 17.2 | 16.5 |
| Jharkhand | 34.5 | 40.3 | 34.9 | 8.7 | 11.3 | 8.8 | 10.1 | 10.8 | 10.1 | 36.4 | 41.5 | 36.7 |
| Karnataka | 21.1 | 32.2 | 24.2 | 7.5 | 17.4 | 10.3 | 9.7 | 22.2 | 13.2 | 24.0 | 38.3 | 28.1 |
| Kerala | 14.7 | 13.0 | 14.6 | 5.2 | 2.3 | 5.0 | 9.1 | 3.9 | 8.7 | 18.4 | 13.0 | 18.0 |
| Lakshadweep | 4.1 | 11.0 | 7.0 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 1.1 | 5.7 | 3.1 | 5.1 | 14.0 | 8.9 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 33.9 | 36.0 | 34.1 | 8.5 | 10.7 | 8.7 | 12.1 | 15.6 | 12.4 | 37.3 | 39.4 | 37.5 |
| Maharashtra | 22.7 | 28.1 | 23.7 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 9.7 | 10.2 | 9.8 | 25.5 | 28.4 | 26.1 |
| Manipur | 53.0 | 51.7 | 52.9 | 13.8 | 19.0 | 14.0 | 13.5 | 14.4 | 13.5 | 57.8 | 52.4 | 57.6 |
| Meghalaya | 33.4 | 35.8 | 33.5 | 4.2 | 16.3 | 4.6 | 10.7 | 20.2 | 11.0 | 36.9 | 47.2 | 37.3 |
| Mizoram | 16.5 | 3.3 | 16.2 | 3.8 | 2.6 | 3.8 | 10.3 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 19.7 | 5.9 | 19.3 |
| Nagaland | 12.8 | 16.4 | 13.1 | 7.2 | 8.8 | 7.4 | 10.2 | 9.6 | 10.1 | 20.1 | 16.4 | 19.8 |
| Delhi | 33.2 | 52.6 | 34.8 | 5.6 | 15.0 | 6.4 | 12.5 | 19.1 | 13.1 | 36.6 | 52.6 | 37.9 |
| Odisha | 37.1 | 42.6 | 37.9 | 8.5 | 10.3 | 8.7 | 11.9 | 14.7 | 12.3 | 40.4 | 44.9 | 41.0 |
| Puducherry | 37.1 | 35.4 | 36.7 | 8.8 | 13.0 | 9.7 | 24.6 | 19.5 | 23.5 | 46.7 | 41.7 | 45.6 |
| Punjab | 21.6 | 37.2 | 22.1 | 5.7 | 2.1 | 5.6 | 7.7 | 14.0 | 7.9 | 22.8 | 40.9 | 23.4 |
| Rajasthan | 26.0 | 35.6 | 26.5 | 3.9 | 8.1 | 4.1 | 8.3 | 11.0 | 8.4 | 28.2 | 38.3 | 28.7 |
| Sikkim | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 0.7 | 4.4 | 1.4 | 2.3 | 4.7 | 2.7 | 5.8 | 4.7 | 5.6 |
| Tamil Nadu | 45.7 | 49.6 | 47.0 | 7.8 | 11.2 | 9.0 | 19.4 | 24.7 | 21.2 | 50.2 | 54.5 | 51.6 |
| Tripura | 30.5 | 24.7 | 29.6 | 10.5 | 7.7 | 10.0 | 14.1 | 14.5 | 14.1 | 33.4 | 28.6 | 32.7 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 38.8 | 39.4 | 38.9 | 7.8 | 10.5 | 8.2 | 13.4 | 17.8 | 14.0 | 41.6 | 43.8 | 41.9 |
| Uttarakhand | 14.7 | 21.6 | 15.2 | 3.0 | 5.8 | 3.2 | 5.1 | 4.3 | 5.1 | 16.9 | 24.6 | 17.5 |
| West Bengal | 34.6 | 36.9 | 34.8 | 8.5 | 10.8 | 8.7 | 12.8 | 15.6 | 13.1 | 38.1 | 40.1 | 38.3 |
| Telangana | 48.8 | 49.0 | 48.9 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 7.4 | 18.8 | 22.3 | 19.9 | 51.2 | 55.0 | 52.4 |
| India | 32.6 | 39.2 | 33.6 | 7.2 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 13.0 | 18.5 | 13.8 | 35.7 | 43.3 | 36.8 |

Appendix 4: Percentage of ever married women suffered from different types of violence in last 12 months by states of India, 2015-16

| State | Physical violence | | | Sexual violence | | | Emotional violence | | | Any violence | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|--------------|------|-------|
| | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total | NC | C | Total |
| Andhra Pradesh | 37.2 | 35.7 | 36.7 | 3.9 | 6.2 | 4.6 | 16.4 | 18.1 | 17.0 | 39.2 | 39.9 | 39.4 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 21.1 | 25.1 | 21.4 | 7.2 | 11.4 | 7.6 | 13.8 | 9.9 | 13.5 | 27.8 | 27.1 | 27.8 |
| Assam | 17.7 | 20.7 | 17.9 | 4.2 | 7.3 | 4.4 | 8.6 | 11.2 | 8.8 | 20.6 | 25.0 | 20.9 |
| Bihar | 36.3 | 37.1 | 36.3 | 11.9 | 17.0 | 12.2 | 17.7 | 23.2 | 18.1 | 40.7 | 46.7 | 41.2 |
| Chhattisgarh | 27.0 | 33.9 | 27.5 | 5.0 | 7.8 | 5.2 | 12.1 | 8.4 | 11.8 | 30.3 | 35.1 | 30.7 |
| Haryana | 26.0 | 35.7 | 26.6 | 7.9 | 10.1 | 8.1 | 11.3 | 12.3 | 11.4 | 29.4 | 39.9 | 30.1 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 2.9 | 12.9 | 3.4 | 1.6 | 6.5 | 1.8 | 3.1 | 5.5 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 12.9 | 5.2 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 7.2 | 4.4 | 6.7 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 7.3 | 8.3 | 7.5 | 11.7 | 11.7 | 11.7 |
| Jharkhand | 22.0 | 29.2 | 22.4 | 5.7 | 9.9 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 24.7 | 30.4 | 25.1 |
| Karnataka | 16.7 | 26.9 | 19.6 | 6.2 | 14.1 | 8.4 | 9.0 | 20.5 | 12.3 | 20.7 | 33.1 | 24.2 |
| Kerala | 8.4 | 7.9 | 8.4 | 3.4 | 1.1 | 3.2 | 6.4 | 2.7 | 6.2 | 12.4 | 7.9 | 12.1 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 26.7 | 30.4 | 27.1 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 7.2 | 10.5 | 14.4 | 10.9 | 30.4 | 34.9 | 30.8 |
| Maharashtra | 14.8 | 18.0 | 15.3 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 8.1 | 7.5 | 8.0 | 17.6 | 18.8 | 17.8 |
| Manipur | 32.0 | 30.5 | 31.9 | 9.4 | 17.7 | 9.7 | 10.3 | 9.5 | 10.3 | 37.1 | 32.9 | 37.0 |
| Meghalaya | 25.3 | 28.8 | 25.5 | 3.2 | 16.3 | 3.7 | 9.0 | 20.2 | 9.4 | 28.5 | 45.7 | 29.1 |
| Mizoram | 12.7 | 3.3 | 12.4 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 2.4 | 9.0 | 0.0 | 8.8 | 16.5 | 3.3 | 16.1 |
| Nagaland | 7.6 | 6.1 | 7.5 | 4.6 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 7.9 | 5.5 | 7.7 | 13.7 | 6.1 | 13.1 |
| Delhi | 22.8 | 28.3 | 23.3 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 10.6 | 12.7 | 10.8 | 25.7 | 31.7 | 26.2 |
| Odisha | 24.9 | 30.0 | 25.5 | 6.5 | 7.3 | 6.6 | 8.8 | 11.6 | 9.2 | 29.0 | 32.7 | 29.5 |
| Punjab | 16.9 | 21.7 | 17.0 | 4.5 | 2.1 | 4.4 | 6.9 | 4.1 | 6.8 | 18.6 | 22.7 | 18.8 |
| Rajasthan | 19.6 | 23.1 | 19.7 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 2.8 | 6.4 | 8.8 | 6.5 | 21.8 | 25.9 | 22.0 |
| Sikkim | 2.8 | 4.4 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 4.4 | 1.2 | 2.3 | 4.7 | 2.7 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 4.3 |
| Tamil Nadu | 35.9 | 39.5 | 37.1 | 6.3 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 17.8 | 21.6 | 19.1 | 41.7 | 45.4 | 43.0 |
| Tripura | 21.2 | 20.5 | 21.1 | 8.8 | 7.7 | 8.6 | 11.0 | 14.5 | 11.6 | 24.8 | 27.3 | 25.2 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 27.1 | 25.2 | 26.8 | 6.1 | 8.4 | 6.4 | 10.5 | 13.6 | 10.9 | 30.4 | 30.7 | 30.5 |
| Uttarakhand | 9.5 | 14.6 | 9.9 | 2.6 | 5.4 | 2.9 | 4.2 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 11.9 | 17.6 | 12.4 |
| West Bengal | 19.8 | 18.9 | 19.7 | 6.2 | 7.4 | 6.3 | 9.2 | 9.8 | 9.2 | 24.3 | 23.2 | 24.2 |
| Telangana | 38.2 | 36.8 | 37.7 | 5.2 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 15.9 | 17.0 | 16.2 | 41.0 | 42.4 | 41.5 |
| India | 23.5 | 28.9 | 24.3 | 5.6 | 7.7 | 5.9 | 10.8 | 15.3 | 11.4 | 27.1 | 33.7 | 28.1 |