

# India Pregnancy Statistics 2026

Verified maternal mortality, fertility, antenatal care, C-section, anaemia, breastfeeding and NFHS insights.

## Prepared by ParentVibes Research

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Medical context: not individual medical advice.

Last updated: July 7, 2026. Next review due: October 7, 2026.

## Quick facts

- Maternal mortality: 80 per 100,000 live births. Modelled MMEIG estimate; World Bank indicator SH.STA.MMRT.
- Fertility rate: 1.98 births per woman. World Bank indicator SP.DYN.TFRT.IN.
- ANC at least one visit: 85.1% of pregnant women. World Bank indicator SH.STA.ANVC.ZS.
- Skilled birth attendance: 89.4% of births. World Bank indicator SH.STA.BRTC.ZS.
- Anaemia in pregnancy: 46.6% of pregnant women. WHO GHO estimates via World Bank indicator SH.PRG.ANEM.
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 58% of children under 6 months. World Bank indicator SH.STA.BFED.ZS.
- Adolescent fertility: 14.1 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19. World Bank indicator SP.ADO.TFRT.

## **Main findings**

- Maternal mortality has fallen sharply: 129 in 2015, a COVID-affected 155 in 2021, and 80 in 2023.
- India is now below replacement fertility at 1.98 births per woman in 2023.
- Antenatal contact is near-universal, but visit completion remains the key gap. The NFHS-5 4+ visit figure is widely reported around 58% and is labelled NFHS primary source pending.
- Nine in ten births now have skilled attendance: 89.4% in 2021, up from 81.4% in 2016.
- C-section deliveries are widely reported around 21.5% in NFHS-5 and are labelled NFHS primary source pending until the primary document is re-checked.
- Anaemia is the stubborn exception: 46.6% in 2023, only modestly lower than 48.5% in 2015.

## **What this means for parents**

The national trend is reassuring: pregnancy in India is measurably safer than a decade ago, skilled care at birth is now the norm, and almost every expecting mother makes contact with antenatal care.

Individual care still matters. Complete the recommended antenatal visit schedule, ask about haemoglobin and anaemia screening, and use personal reminders for appointments, medicines and records.

## Methodology and verification

- Core figures were retrieved live from the World Bank Open Data API on July 7, 2026.
- Indicator codes were recorded for every verified dataset.
- Modelled estimates are labelled clearly, including MMEIG maternal mortality and WHO GHO anaemia estimates.
- NFHS and SRS figures are separated until primary-document verification is complete.
- Source retrieval dates and source notes are stored with citations on the live report page.

## Data limitations

International modelled estimates can differ from India's own survey and registration figures. NFHS-5 fieldwork covers 2019-21, so NFHS-derived figures lag current conditions. National averages mask large state, rural/urban and income differences. This report is population-level information, not individual medical advice. Always consult your doctor for decisions about your own pregnancy or health.

## Sources

- World Bank Open Data: SH.STA.MMRT, SH.STA.BRTC.ZS, SH.STA.ANVC.ZS, SP.DYN.TFRT.IN, SP.ADO.TFRT, SH.PRG.ANEM, SH.STA.BFED.ZS. Retrieved July 7, 2026.
- WHO maternal mortality fact sheet, updated April 7, 2025, for global context.
- National Family Health Survey NFHS-5, 2019-21, MoHFW/IIPS. Figures are labelled NFHS primary source pending until primary-document verification.
- Sample Registration System Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2018-20, Office of the Registrar General of India. Figure is labelled SRS primary source pending.

## Suggested citation

ParentVibes Research, based on World Bank Open Data, retrieved July 7, 2026. Live report: <https://parentvibes.in/research/pregnancy-statistics-india>

Generated PDF file: india-pregnancy-statistics-2026.pdf