

Report on State Food Safety Index 2021-22

To encourage States/UTs to improve their performance and work towards establishing a proper food safety ecosystem in their jurisdiction, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) releases the State Food Safety Index (SFSI) annually for each financial year. The Index is a dynamic quantitative and qualitative benchmarking model that provides an objective framework for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs.

The Food Safety Index reflects the overall performance of the States/ UTs on various parameters of food safety. These food safety parameters are broadly classified under following 5 significant factors assigned with separate weightage of marks.

- a) **Human Resources and Institutional Data (with 20% weightage)**:The objective is to check availability of strong culture and ecosystem of enforcement commensurate with the size and population of the State/UT as well as participation of other departments and stakeholders in food safety activity at State and district levels. This parameter measures the availability of human resources like number of Food Safety Officers, Designated Officers, facility of adjudications and appellate tribunals, functioning of State/ District level Steering Committees, pendency of cases and their monitoring and participation in Central Advisory Committee meetings of the Food Authority.
- b) **Compliance (with 30% weightage)**:This is the most important parameter and measures overall coverage of food businesses in licensing & registration commensurate with size and population of the State/UTs, special drives and camps organized, yearly increase, promptness and effectiveness in issue of state licenses/ registrations. Also, this parameter considers the inspections carried out for high risk food businesses through FoSCoRIS and the number of samples drawn for testing. Promptness in attending to the consumer grievances and availability of help desk and web portals are also examined under this parameter.
- c) **Food Testing- Infrastructure and Surveillance (with 20% weightage)**:This parameter measures availability of adequate testing infrastructure with trained manpower in the States/ UTs for testing food samples. The States/ UTs with NABL accredited labs and adequate manpower in the labs score more in this parameter. The availability and effective utilization of Mobile Food Testing Labs and registration and utilization of InFoLNet (Indian Food Laboratories Network) are also examined under this parameter.
- d) **Training and Capacity Building (with 10% weightage)**:This parameter focuses on training and capacity building of regulatory staff (Dos and FSOs), number of trainings held under FoSTaC (Food Safety Training and Certification) and the availability of trained Food Safety Supervisors in food businesses across the State/UT.

- e) **Consumer Empowerment (with 20% weightage)**: This parameter measures the performance of States/ UTs in various consumer empowering initiatives of FSSAI like participation in Food Fortification, Eat Right Campus, BHOG (Blissful Hygienic Offering to God), Hygiene Rating of Restaurants, Clean Street Food Hubs, etc. Further, action taken for coverage of food fortification in open market, government safety net programmes and availability of fortified products in all districts are taken into consideration. State initiated activities for creating consumer awareness are also considered.

Further, based on the fact that similar States should be compared to ensure comparability among similar entities for the generation of ranks of States/UTs under SFSI, the States/UTs are classified into 3 categories namely Large States, Small States and UTs for the evaluation and assessment.

The assessment and evaluation of each category are done by separate teams comprising of outside experts for food testing and food & nutrition professionals in addition to FSSAI officials. The teams examine the details received from States/UTs and also interacts with States/UTs through video-conferencing for verification and confirmation of data.

Following the above, this year, FSSAI is releasing the 4th State Food Safety Index 2021-2022 on 7th June, 2022 on the occasion of World Food Safety (Safer food, better health).

The 4th State Food Safety Index for the year 2021-2022 for States/ UTs under three groups are as follows:

Table 1: Index Rankings for Large States							
Rankings	Large States	Human Resources and Institutional Data	Compliance	Food Testing- Infrastructure and Surveillance	Training and Capacity Building	Consumer Empowerment	TOTAL
1	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	16.5	21	17.5	10	17	82
2	<u>Gujarat</u>	16.5	18	18	8	17	77.5
3	<u>Maharashtra</u>	11	22	10.5	10	16.5	70
4	<u>Himachal Pradesh</u>	10	20	13.5	9	13	65.5
5	<u>West Bengal</u>	15.5	17	15	6	5	58.5

5	Madhya Pradesh	11	13	10.5	8	16	58.5
6	Kerala	9	14	19	8	7	57
7	Uttarakhand	9	21	13	6	6	55
8	Odisha	10.5	11	15	7	11	54.5
8	Uttar Pradesh	16	10	11.5	7	10	54.5
9	Karnataka	10	21	7	8	6.5	52.5
10	Rajasthan	10	17	13.5	5	5	50.5
11	Punjab	12.5	18	8	3	3.5	45
12	Jharkhand	7	13	10	6	5.5	41.5
13	Haryana	4.5	13	11.5	5	4	38
13	Chhattisgarh	5.5	10	14	7	1.5	38
14	Assam	2.5	10	15	5	2.5	35
15	Telangana	5.5	11	11.5	3	3.5	34.5
16	Bihar	2	13	7	5	3	30
17	Andhra Pradesh	7.5	10	0	5	3.5	26

Table 2: Index Rankings for Small States

Rankings	Small States	Human Resources and Institutional Data	Compliance	Food Testing-Infrastructure and Surveillance	Training and Capacity Building	Consumer Empowerment	TOTAL
1	Goa	12	11	14.5	7	11.5	56
2	Manipur	11	9	10.5	6	7.5	44
3	Sikkim	9	13	9	3	6	40
4	Tripura	6	10	13	7	2.5	38.5
5	Meghalaya	4	8	13.5	4	8.5	38
6	Nagaland	3.5	12	12.5	2	6	36
7	Mizoram	3	12	2	3	2.5	22.5
8	Arunachal Pradesh	4	10	3	2	2	21

Table 3: Index Rankings for Union Territories (UTs)

Rankings	Union Territories	Human Resources and Institutional Data	Compliance	Food Testing-Infrastructure and Surveillance	Training and Capacity Building	Consumer Empowerment	TOTAL
1	Jammu and Kashmir	13.0	21.5	13.0	10.0	11.0	68.5
2	NCT of Delhi	11.5	18.0	14.0	9.0	13.5	66.0
3	Chandigarh	13.0	19.0	5.5	7.0	13.5	58.0
4	Andaman and Nicobar Island	11.0	19.0	6.0	7.0	9.0	52.0
5	Ladakh	8.5	20.0	1.0	8.0	9.5	47.0
6	Puducherry	6.5	10.0	10.0	1.0	3.0	30.5
7	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	6.0	16.0	3.5	0.0	2.0	27.5
8	Lakshadweep	3.5	12.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	16.0

The major findings of State Food Safety Index 2021-2022 are:

a) Ranking of States/UTs:

- i. Among the Large States: Tamil Nadu is the top-ranking state, followed by Gujarat and Maharashtra.
- ii. Among the Small States: Goa is the top-ranking state followed by Manipur and Sikkim.
- iii. Among UTs: Jammu & Kashmir is the top-ranking UT, followed by Delhi and Chandigarh.

b) States/UTs with significant improvement in ranking during last year :

- i. Uttarakhand in Large State Category
- ii. Tripura in Small States Category
- iii. Ladakh in the category of UTs.