



Food Safety Index: FSSAI

Why in News?

On the occasion of [World Food Safety Day](#), the Union Health Minister released [Food Safety and Standards Authority of India \(FSSAI\)](#)'s 4th [State Food Safety Index \(SFSI\)](#) to measure the performance of States across five parameters of food safety.

What is State Food Safety Index (SFSI)?

▪ About:

- SFSI was started from **2018-19 with the aim of creating a competitive and positive change** in the food safety ecosystem in the country.
- The index is developed by **FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)** to measure the performance of states on five significant parameters of Food Safety.
 - The **parameters include Human Resources and Institutional Data, Compliance, Food Testing - Infrastructure and Surveillance, Training & Capacity Building and Consumer Empowerment.**
- The **Index is a dynamic quantitative and qualitative benchmarking model** that provides an objective framework for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs.
- The **first State Food Safety Index for the year 2018-19** was announced on the first-ever **World Food Safety Day** on 7th June 2019.

▪ Significance:

- The index will **help in providing safe and nutritious food to our citizens.**

How did the States Perform?

▪ Overall:

- **Tamil Nadu topped** the State Food Safety Index followed by **Gujarat and Maharashtra.**

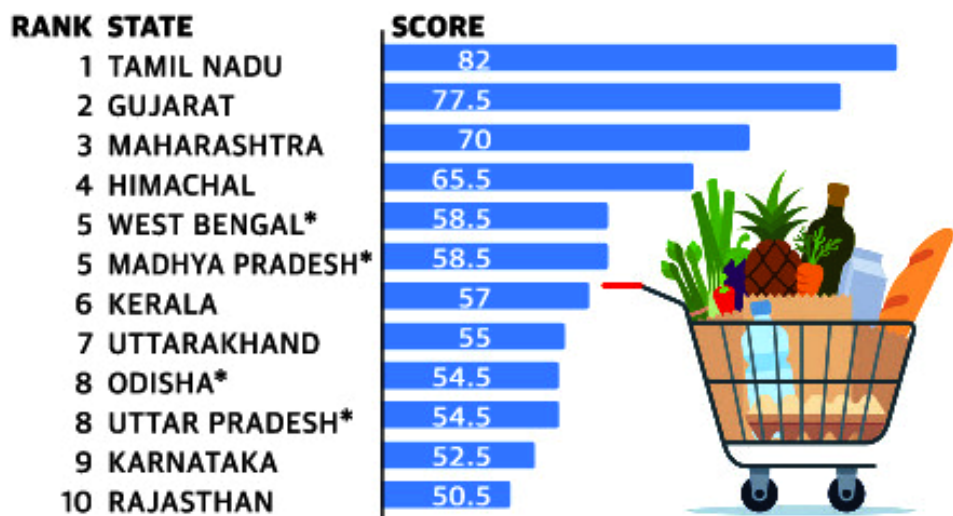
▪ Among Smaller States:

- Goa stood first, followed by Manipur and Sikkim.

▪ Among UTs:

- Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi and Chandigarh secured first, second and third ranks.

Safety check | Tamil Nadu topped 20 large States in terms of food safety, according to the 4th State Food Safety Index. A look at the top 10 States



*Ranks 5 and 8 were shared by two States each

What is Food Safety Day?

▪ About:

- The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) and the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\)](#) jointly facilitate the observance of World Food Safety Day, in collaboration with Member States and other relevant organizations.
- It was **first celebrated in 2019, to strengthen the commitment to scale up food safety** made by the Addis Ababa Conference and the Geneva Forum in 2019 under the umbrella of **“The Future of Food Safety”**.
- The theme for 2022 was Safer Food, Better Health.

▪ Other Initiatives launched on the Occasion:

- Various innovative initiatives by the FSSAI, launched includes the [Eat Right Research Awards and Grants](#) - Phase II, [Eat Right Creativity Challenge](#) - Phase III, a school-level competition, and the logo for [AyurvedaAahar](#).
 - This logo contains the initials of Ayurveda and Aahar with five leaves symbolising the five elements of nature, would be beneficial in creating a unique identity for food products and in their easy identification.
- A **guidance document on Food Borne Disease Outbreak Investigation and Microbiological Process Control**, and Sampling and Testing of Fish and Fishery Products was released.

[Source: TH](#)