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Mean Consumption, Poverty and Inequality in Rural India in the Sixtieth Round of the National Sample Survey

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ABSTRACT

This paper reports on mean consumption, poverty (all three FGT measures) and inequality during January to June 2004 for rural India using National sample Survey (NSS) data for the 60th Round. Mean consumption at the national level is much higher than the poverty line. However, the Gini coefficient is higher than in recent earlier rounds. The headcount ratio using the thirty day recall is 22.9 per cent and with the seven day recall this stands at 17.9 per cent and, with the combined data, this figure is 20.6 per cent. Mean consumption, all three measures of poverty and the Gini coefficient are computed at the level of 20 states and 63 NSS regions in these 20 states. It is surmised that despite impressive growth rates deprivation is pervasive, pockets of severe poverty persist, and inequality is rampant.

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I. Introduction

With the recent release of the National Sample Survey (NSS) data for the 60th round (conducted during January to June 2004) the debate on the impact of the current economic policy stance will, no doubt, be renewed anew. The change in the methodology for collecting NSS data put into effect in the 55th Round (1999–00) created controversy about the comparability of the 55th Round results with the earlier rounds.

The 60th Round data is not entirely comparable with the 55th Round data yet it does provide an inkling of how the movement of poverty has developed during this period. In this paper we provide estimates of mean consumption, poverty and inequality at three levels: the national level, state level and at the level of 63 NSS regions.

II. Poverty During the 1990s

A spate of studies (contained in Deaton and Kozel, 2005 and elsewhere) contain widely varying estimates of reduction in poverty during the 1990s — a period that witnessed wide-ranging economic reforms — both domestic and external liberalisation — and accelerated growth. The reduction in poverty, however, varies depending on whether the estimates are obtained from adjusted or unadjusted 55th round NSS estimates (see, for example, Sundaram and Tendulkar (2003, 2005), Deaton (2005), Datt, Kozel and Ravallion (2005), Deaton and Dreze (2002), Kijima and Lanjouw (2003) and Planning Commission, Government of India as reported in Sen and Himanshu (2004). To give the flavour of the debate, two sets of evidence are reviewed below.

Although "official" estimates of poverty reduction are high (the HCR in rural areas fell from 37.27 per cent to 27.09 per cent, and the number of poor from 244 million to 193.2 million over the period 1993–99), the balance of evidence with careful adjustments of the 1999/2000 NSS data point to markedly lower reductions. An admirably comprehensive and by far the most persuasive is the contribution by Sen and Himanshu (2005). It casts doubts over earlier estimates of poverty reduction — specifically, that it was faster than that in the previous decade. As it turns out, the headcount ratio declined but at most by 3 percentage points and the absolute number of the poor did not decline over 1993–99. The reason is that both inter-state and within-state inequality rose sharply during the 1990s, with the latter being the larger component of total inequality in India. Within-state urban inequality rose sharply in the 1990s, while a declining phase of within-state rural inequality was reversed during this period. So, despite rapid growth, poverty reduction in the 1990s was muted. The characterisation of the 1990s as "a relatively lost decade for poverty reduction" is thus not an exaggeration.

The reasons relate to weak linkages between liberalisation and agricultural growth on the one hand, and between the latter and poverty reduction on the other. First, although the growth rate of agricultural (crop) output was slightly higher during the 1990s (3.08 per cent annually as against 2.94 per cent during the 1980s), it slowed down to 1.6 per cent during 1997–98 and 2000/1.[1] Secondly, whether agricultural growth translates into poverty reduction depends greatly on how unequal is the distribution of land. An implication of highly unequal distribution of land is that the growth of real agricultural wages tends to be sluggish. Independently of agricultural growth, abrupt increases in price of food result in higher

[1] For details, see Nayyar (2003).

poverty.[2] Some additional but more recent evidence further points to slow reduction in poverty. (i) Between 1993–99, the employment elasticity of agricultural growth was barely 0.01 as compared to 0.70 during 1983–93. (ii) There was a sharp drop in the growth rate of real agricultural wages, from 3.99 per cent per annum during 1978–79 to 1989–90 to 2.34 per cent annually during 1990–91 to 1999–2000. (iii) The (wholesale) price index for food rose faster than that for all commodities. With 1980-81 as the base at 100, food prices rose to 433 in 1998–99, while for all commodities it rose to only 353.3.[3] In any case, the disadvantaged groups — especially the STs and female-headed households- continue to be considerably worse-off than all other rural households.[4] Their social exclusion, and limited access to assets — especially land and education —.perpetuate their poverty (Gaiha and Imai, 2004).

Yet another dimension that needs critical scrutiny is spatial concentration of the poor. An analysis based on the NSS regional data over the period 1987–99 shows that the ranking of the poorest 20 regions has not changed much and that they continue to account for a large share of the rural poor.[5] What these findings point to is that not only do persistently poor require greater access to human and physical assets, markets and financial services but also conditions that would enable them to overcome social exclusion. While a definitive comparison of the spatial concentration over the period covered by the earlier NSS rounds with the 60th round must await a comparable regional classification, our analysis draws

[2] For illustrative results on the causal role of these variables based on the ICRISAT data for the semi-arid region, see Gaiha (1995).
[3] For details, see Nayyar (2003).
[4] In India**,** survey data for 1993–1994 show that per capita incomes among SCs were lower than the state averages (24 per cent in Andhra Pradesh, and 41 per cent in Kerala). In the eastern state of Orissa, more than 24 per cent of the population consisted of STs, as compared to 9 per cent in the country as a whole. 92 per cent of the households belonging to a ST in rural southern Orissa were poor — twice the state poverty rate and three and a half times the national poverty rate (CPRC, 2004). Besides, the overall prevalence of stunting among SC/ST children is much higher than the all-India average (over 63 per cent and about 58 per cent, respectively. For details, see Gaiha and Kulkarni (2005). See also Sundaram and Tendulkar (2005) for illustrations of relatively low rates of poverty reduction among subsets of SC/ST households during 1993–99.
[5] This is based on a collaborative study by R. Jha and R. Gaiha, funded by a DFID grant**.** See Jha and Gaiha (2003) and Jha and Sharma (2003).

attention to marked variations within states and across regions as a continuing feature of poverty in India despite spectacular growth rates of income.

III. Methodology

The poverty measures used in this paper are all drawn from the popular Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) class of functions. This is written as:

$$Y_\alpha = \sum_{y_i<z} [(z - y_i)/z]^\alpha / n \qquad (1)$$

where Y is the measure of poverty, y_i is the (per capita) consumption expenditure of the ith household or the ith class of household, z is the poverty line, n is the number of observations, and α is a non-negative parameter. The headcount ratio, PG0, given by the percentage of the population who are poor, is obtained when $\alpha=0$. This measure fails to capture the extent to which individual income (or expenditure) falls below the poverty line. Hence we use our second measure: the poverty gap index (PG1) given by the aggregate income shortfall of the poor as a proportion of the poverty line and normalized by the population size. This is given by setting $\alpha=1$ in (1). PG1 captures the acuteness of poverty since it measures the total shortfall of the poor from the poverty line. In other words, it measures the total amount of income necessary to remove that poverty. This measure has the drawback that it does not consider the importance of the number of people who are below the poverty line. For this reason, it is important to use both measures of poverty jointly to evaluate the extent of poverty. There are certain policy changes that favor one group of poor and adversely affect another group. In such cases PG0 may not register any change but PG1 may get around this problem to some extent. A further improvement is the Foster-Greer-Thorbecke measure which is obtained by setting $\alpha=2$ in (1). We abbreviate this as PG2.[6]

[6] This is also referred to as a distributionally sensitive measure. More generally, if $\alpha > 1$, the FGT index is distributionally sensitive.

Also reported in this paper are data on the Gini coefficient, a standard measure of inequality. Typically this is defined as:

$$G = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left|y_i - y_j\right|}{2n^2\mu} \qquad (2)$$

Thus *G* is calculated as the relative mean difference, i.e., the mean of the difference in consumption levels between every possible pair of households divided by the mean size μ.

IV. Results

Consumption data in the 60th Round of the NSS has been reported in three formats: (i) schedule 1 uses 30 day recall; (ii) schedule 2 uses 7 day recall; and (iii) consumption data combining the two recall periods are reported.

We present the results at three levels: (a) national; (b) state level (20 states) and (c) agro-climatic zone wise (63 NSS regions) for all three data formats. The poverty lines used in the analysis are reported in Table 1. These poverty lines are updates for the official poverty lines used by the Government of India for the year 2004 using CPIAL figures for the nation as a whole (for India) and state level CPIALs.

Table 1: Poverty Lines Used in the Analysis: Rs. per capita per month

India	399.00	Assam	406.65
J&K	407.82	West Bengal	390.24
Himachal Pradesh	380.87	Orissa	375.00
Punjab	416.02	Madhya Pradesh	386.72
Haryana	420.71	Gujarat	410.16
Rajasthan	405.48	Maharashtra	410.15
UP	401.96	Andhra Pradesh	418.37
Bihar	379.69	Karnataka	398.45
Manipur	363.28	Kerala	411.34
Tripura	394.93	Tamilnadu	406.65
Meghalaya	421.88		

Computations on mean consumption, poverty and inequality at the national level are reported in Table 2.

Table 2: Mean Consumption, Poverty and Inequality in Rural India at the National Level

	30-Day recall	*7-day recall*	*Combined*
Mean per capita consumption[7] (Rs. Per month)	786	852	818
PG0 l	22.90292	17.9421	20.62485
PG1	0.045277	0.034262	0.040367
PG2	0.01378	0.010126	0.012199
Gini Coefficient)	0.36	0.37	0.37

Although mean per capita consumption is much higher than the poverty line, the Gini coefficient is higher than in the earlier rounds. The Sen–Himanshu estimate (2005) for the 55th round, for example, is 0.263 for the adjusted 7-day question on food. It may be noted, however, that our Gini estimates do not vary much with the recall period. But the poverty estimates do. These are lower with the 7-day recall. State level results for mean consumption are presented in Table 3.

[7] This and other mean consumption magnitudes are weighted means of expenditures.

Table 3: Mean Consumption in Indian States (Rs. per capita per month)

	30-Day recall	*7-day recall*	*Combined*
J&K	972.8327	977.8441	968.4384
Himachal Pradesh	973.8306	1144.433	1059.719
Punjab	1083.278	1219.027	1152.276
Haryana	982.1269	959.5434	969.3607
Rajasthan	738.4412	772.5644	755.1089
UP	689.8689	735.1858	708.3049
Bihar	521.9517	546.1557	531.1039
Manipur	723.9151	765.2466	739.9257
Tripura	589.8687	658.7604	618.2768
Meghalaya	788.2561	794.7582	789.8932
Assam	640.9064	727.5854	685.3843
West Bengal	800.8758	908.8001	856.5894
Orissa	507.9771	606.8665	553.496
Madhya Pradesh	570.1587	619.3557	595.461
Gujarat	875.3434	941.0047	905.1426
Maharashtra	975.7975	1088.055	1035.484
Andhra Pradesh	788.5478	810.2635	801.5304
Karnataka	717.1448	773.5267	744.5439
Kerala	1220.356	1267.083	1242.271
Tamilnadu	891.4005	990.3706	937.5418

In Table 4 we report on state level poverty levels for all three FGT measures for all three recall measures.

Table 4: State Level FGT Poverty measures

	30-day recall	*7-day recall*	*Combined*		*30-day recall*	*7-day recall*	*Combined*
J&K				Assam			
PG0	7.523135	3.666223	5.731677	PG0	18.53069	9.585625	14.04115
PG1	0.009122	0.001207	0.005445	PG1	0.032728	0.015354	0.024008
PG2	0.001685	4.57E-05	0.000924	PG2	0.009242	0.00353	0.006375
Himachal Pradesh				West Bengal			
PG0	5.612861	4.884036	5.25185	PG0	15.64928	13.54053	14.64926
PG1	0.009318	0.006042	0.007695	PG1	0.02817	0.020304	0.02444
PG2	0.002026	0.001058	0.001547	PG2	0.008108	0.004658	0.006472
Punjab				Orissa			
PG0	4.345747	2.883431	3.627695	PG0	48.976	34.07085	41.76606
PG1	0.006456	0.004189	0.005343	PG1	0.121024	0.075288	0.098901
PG2	0.001769	0.000884	0.001334	PG2	0.042643	0.025608	0.034402
Haryana				Madhya Pradesh			
PG0	4.745976	5.69111	5.207297	PG0	34.72388	28.83626	31.84933
PG1	0.008585	0.00722	0.007919	PG1	0.068514	0.059964	0.064339
PG2	0.002245	0.001726	0.001992	PG2	0.01998	0.017173	0.01861
Rajasthan				Gujarat			
PG0	16.36508	12.84879	14.6321	PG0	16.52033	13.45861	14.99201
PG1	0.023992	0.018122	0.021099	PG1	0.030296	0.017762	0.02404
PG2	0.005427	0.004975	0.005204	PG2	0.007656	0.003812	0.005737
UP				Maharashtra			
PG0	27.45898	22.845	25.25927	PG0	17.03622	14.00895	15.56448
PG1	0.052302	0.041244	0.04703	PG1	0.028537	0.028206	0.028376
PG2	0.014608	0.011449	0.013102	PG2	0.008707	0.008218	0.008469
Bihar				Andhra Pradesh			
PG0	36.56325	31.22599	33.98184	PG0	27.66666	21.66952	24.71371
PG1	0.06722	0.054726	0.061177	PG1	0.060019	0.042106	0.051199
PG2	0.018419	0.013893	0.01623	PG2	0.019152	0.013391	0.016316
Manipur				Karnataka			
PG0	1.435798	0.348609	0.925893	PG0	26.43068	14.09506	20.49877
PG1	0.001101	0.000207	0.000682	PG1	0.056255	0.028239	0.042783
PG2	9.41E-05	1.34E-05	5.62E-05	PG2	0.021097	0.010015	0.015768
Tripura				Kerala			
PG0	25.31683	14.66559	20.24155	PG0	6.465446	3.472056	5.004189
PG1	0.048087	0.021149	0.035251	PG1	0.015452	0.005169	0.010432
PG2	0.012849	0.005601	0.009395	PG2	0.005757	0.001017	0.003443
Meghalaya				Tamilnadu			
PG0	3.925776	3.756516	3.842222	PG0	19.82947	15.11981	17.48075
PG1	0.001828	0.001995	0.00191	PG1	0.037657	0.031844	0.034758
PG2	0.000197	0.000165	0.000181	PG2	0.012383	0.010825	0.011606

Some comments are in order.[8]

I. In all cases, the poverty estimates are lower with the weekly recall- in a few cases (e.g. Assam, Orissa and Karnataka), the differences are large. This holds for all poverty indices.

II. Head count ratios vary considerably from 3.6 per cent for Punjab to 41.76 per cent for Orissa. Further there is considerable variation in the other two FGT measures of poverty. Thus there is great heterogeneity in poverty incidence across Indian states.

III. What is important to note is that some of the poorest states (viz. Bihar, UP, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh) continued to exhibit high incidence and severity of poverty in the 60th round. As these states also accounted for a large majority of the poor, it is safe to conclude that large subsets of the rural population continue to remain in abject poverty.

IV. Among superior performers, Assam and Maharashtra stand out.

Turning now to within-state inequality we report on the Gini coefficients within the 20 Indian states for the three recall periods in Table 5.

Table 5: The Gini Coefficient in Select States: 2004

State	*Gini 30-day recall*	*Gini 7-day recall*	*Gini Combined*	*State*	*Gini 30-day recall*	*Gini 7-day recall*	*Gini Combined*
J&K	0.2857	0.28686	0.2891	Assam	0.26354	0.25315	0.26268
Himachal Pradesh	0.32247	0.34237	0.33768	West Bengal	0.35491	0.38784	0.37422
Punjab	0.30412	0.34442	0.32985	Orissa	0.33115	0.35567	0.34649
Haryana	0.28917	0.27829	0.2858	Madhya Pradesh	0.29297	0.31584	0.30892
Rajasthan	0.29802	0.30682	0.30204	Gujarat	0.32668	0.3406	0.33397
UP	0.34145	0.3431	0.3421	Maharashtra	0.38356	0.40212	0.39866
Bihar	0.27494	0.26962	0.27377	Andhra Pradesh	0.39063	0.36082	0.37898
Manipur	0.19766	0.1895	0.19364	Karnataka	0.3484	0.31728	0.33601
Tripura	0.25951	0.24152	0.2518	Kerala	0.39086	0.34752	0.36902
Meghalaya	0.24404	0.21329	0.22983	Tamilnadu	0.39833	0.40536	0.40275

[8] Note that the comparisons are relative to the estimates given for the 30 day-recall with adjustments in Sen and Himanshu (2005), and essentially ordinal in nature.

I. Apart from the relatively small north eastern states with low Ginis, in most other states the Ginis are high (e.g. Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, West Bengal, and UP0, pointing to considerable inequality in consumption expenditure. Other things being equal, and to the extent that consumption expenditure inequality reflects inequality in physical (e.g. land) and human capital (e.g. education), even high rates of growth of income are unlikely to translate into substantial poverty reduction.[9]

II. Our second observation is that the Gini and recall period are unrelated in so far as in some cases the 7-day recall Ginis are higher (e.g. Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal) while in others (e.g.Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana) the 30-day recall Ginis are higher.

We now report results for the 63 NSS regions in the 20 states studied in the sample. Since there is considerable heterogeneity in the mean income, poverty and inequality across Indian states we rank the NSS regions in respect of these criteria. Table 6 reports mean consumption across the 63 NSS regions.

[9] For poverty reduction, some forms of inequality matter more than others. Important ones include inequality in the distribution of assets, especially land, human capital, financial capital, and access to public assets, such as rural infrastructure. The fast growing economies of East and South East Asia had the advantage of low asset inequality compared to other Asian and Pacific economies — in some countries, following land reforms along with a better spread of education. Simulations for selected Asia countries show that even with low historic growth rates observed over 1980–98 continuing over the period 1998–2015, achievement of the MDG of halving poverty by 2015 will depend largely on reduction in income Gini. A case in point is Bangladesh. For details, see Gaiha et al. (2006).

Table 6: Mean Consumption in 63 NSS regions.

Region	*Mean per capita consumption Rs. per month, using 30 day recall*		*Mean per capita consumption Rs. per month, using 7 day recall*		*Mean per capita consumption Rs. per month, using combined data*
Orissa - Southern	382.3202	Bihar -Northern	521.3547	Orissa - Southern	435.0203
Bihar - Northern	493.9157	Orissa-Southern	531.7943	Bihar - Northern	506.5602
Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	497.7435	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	538.4066	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	534.5801
Madhya Pradesh - South	513.1753	Manipur Hills	561.6731	Manipur Hills	542.8674
Manipur Hills	529.0483	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	562.1582	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	545.6545
Orissa - Coastal	533.5662	Bihar –Central	582.9039	Madhya Pradesh – Southwestern	566.5562
Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	538.9176	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	587.7381	Bihar - Central	567.6301
Orissa - Northern	543.5959	Assam- Hills	588.5093	Assam - Hills	571.2477
Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	545.5946	Madhya Pradesh - South Western	591.7947	Orissa - Coastal	572.8435
Madhya Pradesh - Central	547.9702	Karnataka - Inland Northern	603.7699	Karnataka - Inland Northern	582.4472
Assam - Hills	563.392	Orissa - Coastal	609.3578	Madhya Pradesh - South	584.9811
Bihar - Central	563.7171	UP-Eastern	620.5799	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	587.4471
Karnataka - Inland Northern	564.5278	J&K - Outer Hills	624.486	Orissa - Northern	591.7593
UP– Eastern	574.0773	UP - Southern	632.0912	UP - Eastern	592.1753
Maharashtra - Inland Central	585.1088	Madhya Pradesh - South	632.2123	Madhya Pradesh - Central	593.754
Rajasthan - Southern	588.4957	Rajasthan - Southern	637.171	Rajasthan - Southern	611.4989
Tripura	589.8687	Madhya Pradesh - Central	641.9581	UP - Southern	613.5037
Maharashtra– Eastern	596.8489	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	642.4689	Tripura	618.2768
UP - Southern	599.1825	Orissa - Northern	644.5159	Maharashtra - Eastern	635.4515
Rajasthan - Southeastern	604.5262	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	649.0862	Maharashtra - Inland Central	640.4635
Madhya Pradesh - Northern	613.2689	Tripura	658.7604	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	640.8221
Assam - Western Plains	626.8526	Maharashtra - Eastern	664.6354	Assam - Western Plains	663.589
West Bengal - Eastern Plains	627.3531	Assam - Western Plains	696.3702	West Bengal - Himalayan	663.9409
Maharashtra - Inland Northern	629.2679	Maharashtra - Inland Central	697.2817	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	670.1932
West Bengal - Himalayan	633.6284	West Bengal - Himalayan	711.7695	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	673.7985
Madhya Pradesh — Malwa	640.1963	Madhya Pradesh – Malwa	712.6074	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	677.9223
West Bengal - Western Plains	646.5755	Maharashtra-Inland Northern	734.069	J&K - Outer Hills	678.3652
Gujarat - Eastern Plains	667.4835	Gujarat-Eastern Plains	745.4638	Rajasthan - Southeastern	688.3069
Assam - Eastern Plains	670.2827	Gujarat - Dry Areas	751.0528	West Bengal - Western Plains	701.4953
Gujarat - Dry Areas	677.9898	West Bengal –Western Plains	755.3273	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	707.1367
Karnataka - Inland Eastern	697.7822	Rajasthan-Southeastern	773.8966	Gujarat - Dry Areas	710.1218
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	714.9236	Assam- Eastern Plains	789.0936	Assam - Eastern Plains	730.0946
Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	721.8851	Rajasthan-Western	792.2087	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	762.0683

Tamilnadu - Southern	722.0696	Meghalaya	794.7582	Rajasthan - Western	771.4897
UP - Central	746.6434	Rajasthan-Northeastern	796.9272	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	773.3236
Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	747.1952	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	800.4125	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	778.3886
Rajasthan - Western	749.8216	UP -Western	818.5796	UP - Central	780.0228
J&K - Outer Hills	767.5505	UP -Central	820.8091	Meghalaya	789.8932
Tamilnadu - Coastal	782.2574	Karnataka-Inland Eastern	824.569	UP - Western	799.1729
Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	787.5728	Haryana-Western	841.1849	Rajasthan - Northeastern	804.0644
UP - Western	787.6173	Maharashtra-Inland Eastern	850.0757	Tamilnadu - Southern	808.3885
Meghalaya	788.2561	Gujarat – Northern Plains	863.3985	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	817.7058
Tamilnadu - Inland	788.9409	Karnataka-Coastal and Ghats	864.4428	Tamilnadu - Coastal	821.3376
Rajasthan - Northeastern	812.2178	Tamilnadu-Coastal	866.3769	Haryana - Western	828.0515
Manipur Plains	822.3966	Manipur Plains	867.479	Tamilnadu - Inland	837.6813
Haryana - Western	833.0341	J&K- Jhelum Valley	882.9438	Manipur Plains	839.5699
J&K - Jhelum Valley	850.3121	Tamilnadu-Southern	892.0155	J&K - Jhelum Valley	857.53
Gujarat - Northern Plains	859.2667	Tamilnadu-Inland	902.9814	Gujarat - Northern Plains	862.1294
Karnataka - Inland Southern	877.3021	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	906.0837	Karnataka - Inland Southern	905.1707
Andhra Pradesh – Inland Northern	917.9501	Karnataka - Inland Southern	930.2411	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	918.4969
Kerala - Northern	950.8168	Kerala - Northern	998.5377	Kerala - Northern	967.1696
Gujarat - Saurashtra	964.5867	Gujarat - Saurashtra	999.3153	Gujarat - Saurashtra	973.1618
Punjab - Northern	971.1683	Haryana - Eastern	1028.889	Haryana - Eastern	1052.442
Himachal Pradesh	973.8306	Maharashtra - Inland Western	1103.052	Himachal Pradesh	1059.719
West Bengal - Central Plains	987.8527	Himachal Pradesh	1144.433	West Bengal - Central Plains	1073.671
Maharashtra - Inland Western	1051.11	West Bengal - Central Plains	1156.964	Maharashtra - Inland Western	1075.204
Haryana - Eastern	1069.415	Punjab - Northern	1198.37	Punjab - Northern	1080.139
Gujarat - Southern Plains	1091.632	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	1203.543	Gujarat - Southern Plains	1177.405
Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	1164.955	Punjab - Southern	1251.473	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	1180.791
Punjab - Southern	1258.322	Gujarat - Southern Plains	1268.245	Punjab - Southern	1264.877
J&K - Mountains	1288.599	J&K - Mountains	1364.163	J&K - Mountains	1331.709
Kerala - Southern	1370.839	Kerala - Southern	1417.252	Kerala - Southern	1396.197
Maharashtra - Coastal	1504.582	Maharashtra - Coastal	1677.618	Maharashtra - Coastal	1614.205

Tables 7, 8 and 9 give results on FGT measures of poverty for 30-day recall, 7-day recall and combined data for the 63 NSS regions. All figures have been arranged in ascending order to emphasise regional variations in the incidence and severity of poverty.

Table 7: Poverty Incidence and severity in NSS regions: 30-day recall

30 - day recall					
NSS Region	*PG0*	*NSS Region*	*PG1*	*NSS Region*	*PG2*
Manipur Plains	0	Manipur Plains	0	Manipur Plains	0
Haryana - Eastern	1.995144	Haryana - Eastern	0.00179	Meghalaya	0.000199
J&K - Mountains	2.895294	Meghalaya	0.001845	Haryana - Eastern	0.000247
J&K - Jhelum Valley	2.907934	Punjab - Northern	0.003454	Punjab - Northern	0.000519
Maharashtra - Coastal	3.634305	Manipur Hills	0.003498	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.00066
Meghalaya	3.943499	J&K - Mountains	0.004845	J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.00114
Punjab - Northern	3.9572	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.005388	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.001153
Kerala - Southern	4.067028	J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.005462	J&K - Mountains	0.001246
Punjab - Southern	4.1433	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.007159	Himachal Pradesh	0.001864
Manipur Hills	4.561012	Kerala - Southern	0.007429	J&K - Outer Hills	0.001942
Gujarat - Saurashtra	5.228135	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.008595	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.001972
Himachal Pradesh	5.345676	Himachal Pradesh	0.00864	Kerala - Southern	0.002225
Gujarat - Southern Plains	6.689781	Punjab - Southern	0.010032	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.002374
Haryana - Western	7.451478	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.011498	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.002509
West Bengal - Central Plains	8.956159	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.011928	Manipur Hills	0.003498
Kerala - Northern	10.92927	J&K - Outer Hills	0.012849	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.003785
Maharashtra - Inland Western	13.23083	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.014966	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.003798
Rajasthan - Northeastern	13.38379	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.015081	Punjab - Southern	0.003819
Rajasthan - Western	14.01539	Haryana - Western	0.017723	Rajasthan - Western	0.004683
Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	14.03725	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.018409	Haryana - Western	0.005066
Gujarat — Northern Plains	16.34344	Rajasthan - Western	0.021642	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.005972
Rajasthan - Southeastern	16.4631	UP - Western	0.024194	UP - Western	0.006121
UP - Western	16.57037	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.025918	Rajasthan - Southern	0.006542
J&K - Outer Hills	17.4346	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.026913	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.006549
Tamilnadu - Southern	17.5686	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.029134	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.00734
Assam - Eastern Plains	17.64185	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.029689	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.007541
Tamilnadu - Inland	18.15908	Kerala - Northern	0.03021	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.009512
Assam - Western Plains	18.40118	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.032159	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.010248
Karnataka - Inland Southern	19.6512	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.033541	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.01051
West Bengal - Western Plains	20.13886	Assam - Western Plains	0.035572	Assam - Western Plains	0.011132
Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	20.25069	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.038519	UP - Southern	0.011806
Maharashtra - Inland Northern	20.52224	Rajasthan - Southern	0.03967	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.011842
West Bengal - Eastern Plains	20.71352	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.040416	Kerala - Northern	0.01211

Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	21.1517	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.04364	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.012265
Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	23.32787	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.044417	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.012409
Tamilnadu - Coastal	23.38454	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.044961	Tripura	0.012554
UP - Central	24.17432	UP - Southern	0.045832	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.013439
Maharashtra - Eastern	24.2277	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.04638	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.01359
Tripura	24.34617	Tripura	0.046556	UP - Central	0.013888
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	24.54459	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.046842	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.014368
Karnataka - Inland Eastern	25.49373	Assam - Hills	0.046902	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.014505
Assam - Hills	25.53743	Madhya Pradesh — Malwa	0.047673	Assam - Hills	0.014948
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	25.89149	UP - Central	0.048833	Bihar - Northern	0.015079
UP - Southern	26.07072	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.05029	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.015404
Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	27.08645	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.054795	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.015429
Gujarat - Dry Areas	28.54501	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.05722	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.018159
Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	28.67239	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.058257	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.018276
Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	29.64371	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.060293	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.01844
West Bengal - Himalayan	29.84214	Bihar - Northern	0.0612	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.019964
Karnataka - Inland Northern	33.87849	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.061715	Orissa - Coastal	0.019994
Maharashtra - Inland Central	34.40388	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.062646	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.020289
Gujarat - Eastern Plains	34.68014	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.063384	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.020336
Rajasthan - Southern	35.32853	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.064137	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.021033
Bihar - Central	35.55847	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.065284	Bihar - Central	0.021051
Madhya Pradesh - Northern	35.59961	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.06628	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.023015
Bihar - Northern	35.91731	Orissa - Coastal	0.069735	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.023662
Orissa - Coastal	37.76379	Bihar - Central	0.07055	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.023662
UP - Eastern	39.34115	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.081684	UP - Eastern	0.023787
Madhya Pradesh - Central	41.56143	UP - Eastern	0.081875	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.025383
Madhya Pradesh - South	44.71255	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.107487	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.033419
Orissa - Northern	48.74789	Orissa - Northern	0.126256	Orissa - Northern	0.046679
Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	63.49303	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.197167	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.080099
Orissa - Southern	71.9851	Orissa - Southern	0.227887	Orissa - Southern	0.08701

Table 8: Poverty Incidence and Severity in NSS regions: 7-day recall

7 - day recall	*PG0*		*PG1*		*PG2*
J&K - Mountains	*0*	*J&K - Mountains*	*0*	*J&K - Mountains*	*0*
Manipur Plains	0	Manipur Plains	0	Manipur Plains	0
Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0
Manipur Hills	0.97492	J&K - Jhelum Valley	8.32E - 05	J&K - Jhelum Valley	4.86E - 07
Karnataka - Inland Eastern	1.333028	Manipur Hills	0.000578	Manipur Hills	3.74E - 05
J&K - Jhelum Valley	1.424487	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.000729	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	3.98E - 05
Punjab - Northern	2.065513	Haryana - Eastern	0.001386	Haryana - Eastern	9.87E - 05
Maharashtra - Coastal	2.411363	Punjab - Northern	0.001897	J&K - Outer Hills	0.000167
Haryana - Eastern	2.842309	Meghalaya	0.002024	Punjab - Northern	0.000174
Kerala - Southern	3.254454	Assam - Hills	0.002745	Meghalaya	0.000174
Gujarat - Saurashtra	3.510835	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.003524	Assam - Hills	0.000251
Meghalaya	3.748284	Kerala - Southern	0.004053	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.000736
Punjab - Southern	4.01827	J&K - Outer Hills	0.004284	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.000742
Kerala - Northern	4.387776	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.005404	Kerala - Southern	0.000825
Assam - Hills	4.561741	Himachal Pradesh	0.005858	Himachal Pradesh	0.001026
Himachal Pradesh	4.795449	Punjab - Southern	0.007226	Kerala - Northern	0.001285
Assam - Eastern Plains	6.350944	Kerala - Northern	0.007229	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.001519
West Bengal - Central Plains	6.484249	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.007927	Punjab - Southern	0.001783
Karnataka - Inland Southern	7.923218	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.009405	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.001954
Gujarat - Southern Plains	8.775191	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.012517	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.002118
Tamilnadu - Inland	9.206844	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.012762	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.002674
Rajasthan - Western	9.948625	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.014159	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.002875
Maharashtra - Inland Western	9.981079	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.015367	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.002955
Haryana - Western	10.52494	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.015481	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.003024
Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	10.66594	Haryana - Western	0.016243	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.003718
J&K - Outer Hills	11.01397	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.01641	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.004049
UP - Western	11.84736	Rajasthan - Western	0.016589	Haryana - Western	0.004199
Rajasthan - Northeastern	13.03963	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.017995	UP - Western	0.004266
Assam - Western Plains	13.15418	UP - Western	0.018813	Rajasthan - Western	0.004583
Tamilnadu - Coastal	13.7651	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.021252	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.005001
Maharashtra - Inland Northern	13.94992	Tripura	0.021659	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.005184
West Bengal - Western Plains	14.3031	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.02245	Tripura	0.005615
Tripura	14.81768	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.023258	Assam - Western Plains	0.006164
Rajasthan - Southeastern	15.32071	Assam - Western Plains	0.024826	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.006918
Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	15.68051	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.027101	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.006944
Tamilnadu - Southern	16.3625	Rajasthan - Southern	0.027602	Rajasthan - Southern	0.006958

Gujarat - Dry Areas	16.67275	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.028074	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.007256
Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	17.8731	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.030056	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.008222
Gujarat - Northern Plains	17.9742	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.030489	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.008967
Rajasthan - Southern	19.19664	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.033054	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.009032
Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	19.79076	UP - Southern	0.033531	UP - Southern	0.009632
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	20.83763	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.035372	Orissa - Coastal	0.009961
Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	20.91897	Orissa - Coastal	0.035994	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.009995
West Bengal - Eastern Plains	20.91946	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.03631	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.010605
UP - Southern	22.05139	UP - Central	0.03904	UP - Central	0.011241
Gujarat - Eastern Plains	22.83245	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.039401	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.011955
UP - Central	23.51086	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.041147	Bihar - Central	0.012205
Orissa - Coastal	23.86789	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.043193	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.012713
Maharashtra - Inland Central	25.47781	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.046021	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.013683
Karnataka - Inland Northern	25.85852	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.046657	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.0139
West Bengal - Himalayan	25.9625	Bihar - Central	0.047977	Bihar - Northern	0.014546
Bihar - Central	28.43318	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.056167	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.015972
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	29.36675	Bihar - Northern	0.057812	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.01689
Madhya Pradesh - Central	29.37299	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.059338	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.017835
Bihar - Northern	32.6473	UP - Eastern	0.065587	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.018612
Madhya Pradesh - Northern	32.90439	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.067507	UP - Eastern	0.019237
UP - Eastern	33.20043	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.067988	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.02113
Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	34.75217	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.069988	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.023986
Madhya Pradesh - South	38.1685	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.088487	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.027819
Maharashtra - Eastern	39.01457	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.093848	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.029234
Orissa - Southern	39.51829	Orissa - Southern	0.103585	Orissa - Southern	0.036849
Orissa - Northern	42.80474	Orissa - Northern	0.108525	Orissa - Northern	0.039421
Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	45.428	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.124597	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.045835

Table 9: Poverty Incidence and severity in NSS regions: Combined data

Combined					
NSS Region	*PG0*	*NSS Region*	*PG1*	*NSS Region*	*PG2*
Manipur Plains	0	Manipur Plains	0	Manipur Plains	0
J&K - Mountains	1.445786	Haryana - Eastern	0.001588	Manipur Hills	0.000168
J&K - Jhelum Valley	2.163806	Meghalaya	0.001935	Haryana - Eastern	0.000173
Haryana - Eastern	2.418539	Manipur Hills	0.002035	Meghalaya	0.000187
Manipur Hills	2.764995	J&K - Mountains	0.002419	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.00033
Punjab - Northern	3.008528	Punjab - Northern	0.002673	Punjab - Northern	0.000346
Maharashtra - Coastal	3.024544	J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.002764	J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.000568
Kerala - Southern	3.660594	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.003576	J&K - Mountains	0.000622
Meghalaya	3.845778	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.004459	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.000945
Punjab - Southern	4.080785	Kerala - Southern	0.00574	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.001003
Gujarat - Saurashtra	4.377181	Himachal Pradesh	0.007251	J&K - Outer Hills	0.001064
Himachal Pradesh	5.070846	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.007905	Himachal Pradesh	0.001445
Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	7.011182	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.008264	Kerala - Southern	0.001524
Kerala - Northern	7.654714	J&K - Outer Hills	0.008611	West Bengal – Central Plains	0.002247
West Bengal - Central Plains	7.72978	Punjab - Southern	0.008629	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.002419
Gujarat - Southern Plains	7.732287	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.010676	Punjab - Southern	0.002801
Haryana - Western	8.988088	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.015223	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.003237
Maharashtra - Inland Western	11.60792	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.01547	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.00335
Rajasthan - Western	11.98063	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.015635	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.003752
Assam - Eastern Plains	11.98233	Haryana - Western	0.016983	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.004034
Rajasthan - Northeastern	13.21208	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.017377	Haryana - Western	0.004633
Karnataka - Inland Eastern	13.41338	Kerala - Northern	0.018706	Rajasthan - Western	0.004633
Tamilnadu - Inland	13.66444	Rajasthan - Western	0.019114	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.004726
Karnataka - Inland Southern	13.79427	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.020537	UP - Western	0.005196
UP - Western	14.21644	UP - Western	0.021512	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.006241
J&K - Outer Hills	14.25788	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.0237	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.006244
Assam - Hills	15.09375	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.023818	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.006266
Assam - Western Plains	15.77768	Assam - Hills	0.024916	Kerala - Northern	0.006691
Rajasthan - Southeastern	15.89191	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.028624	Rajasthan - Southern	0.00675
Tamilnadu - Southern	16.96555	Assam - Western Plains	0.030199	Assam - Hills	0.00763
Gujarat - Northern Plains	17.15877	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.033359	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.008515
West Bengal - Western Plains	17.19903	Rajasthan - Southern	0.033635	Assam - Western Plains	0.008648
Maharashtra - Inland Northern	17.2416	Tripura	0.034107	Tripura	0.009084
Tamilnadu - Coastal	18.57746	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.034448	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.009662
Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	19.51589	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.035141	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.010425

Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	19.52682	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.035786	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.01062
Tripura	19.58193	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.036756	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.01062
Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	20.02052	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.037747	UP - Southern	0.010719
Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	20.17593	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.038043	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.011133
West Bengal - Eastern Plains	20.81617	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.038443	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.011676
Gujarat - Dry Areas	22.60888	UP - Southern	0.039682	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.012006
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	23.36284	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.039986	UP - Central	0.012565
UP - Central	23.84277	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.041806	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.012697
Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	24.04948	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.042548	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.013611
UP - Southern	24.06105	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.043176	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.013636
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	26.94954	UP - Central	0.043939	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.013647
Rajasthan - Southern	27.26148	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.04686	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.013807
West Bengal - Himalayan	27.92417	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.051908	Bihar - Northern	0.014814
Gujarat - Eastern Plains	28.7604	Orissa - Coastal	0.052853	Orissa - Coastal	0.014974
Karnataka - Inland Northern	29.87136	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.056475	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.016148
Maharashtra - Inland Central	29.94484	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.058231	Bihar - Central	0.016644
Orissa - Coastal	30.81099	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.058277	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.016813
Maharashtra - Eastern	31.64293	Bihar - Central	0.059304	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.017019
Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	31.71062	Bihar - Northern	0.059516	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.017207
Bihar - Central	32.00861	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.064609	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.019062
Madhya Pradesh - Northern	34.25524	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.06763	UP - Eastern	0.021517
Bihar - Northern	34.29257	UP - Eastern	0.073751	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.022072
Madhya Pradesh - Central	35.46721	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.074836	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.023824
UP - Eastern	36.27837	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.078661	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.024436
Madhya Pradesh - South	41.44052	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.097987	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.031327
Orissa - Northern	45.7791	Orissa - Northern	0.117399	Orissa - Northern	0.043054
Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	54.46258	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.16089	Orissa - Southern	0.061833
Orissa - Southern	55.68906	Orissa - Southern	0.165496	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.062971

In Table 10 we report on the Gini coefficients in these regions again arranged in ascending order.

Table 10: Gini Coefficients in NSS regions

30-day recall		*7-day recall*		*Combined data*	
Manipur Hills	0.11239	Manipur Hills	0.11079	Manipur Hills	0.11188
Manipur Plains	0.18049	J&K - Outer Hills	0.13973	Manipur Plains	0.17562
J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.21909	Assam - Hills	0.16327	Assam - Hills	0.19526
Assam - Hills	0.22145	Manipur Plains	0.16933	J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.21503
J&K - Outer Hills	0.24019	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.18242	Madhya Pradesh - Southwestern	0.21943
Bihar - Northern	0.24126	Meghalaya	0.21329	J&K - Outer Hills	0.22000
Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.24388	J&K - Jhelum Valley	0.21625	Meghalaya	0.22983
Meghalaya	0.24404	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.22444	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.24522
Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.24477	Tripura	0.24152	Bihar - Northern	0.24859
Madhya Pradesh - Southestern	0.24609	Karnataka - Coastal and Ghats	0.24563	Tripura	0.25180
Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.24971	Bihar - Northern	0.24883	UP - Southern	0.25236
UP - Southern	0.2508	Assam - Western Plains	0.24883	Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.25381
Punjab - Northern	0.25649	Rajasthan - Southern	0.24919	Haryana - Western	0.25941
Tripura	0.25951	Haryana - Western	0.25187	Assam - Western Plains	0.26137
Rajasthan - Western	0.26048	UP - Southern	0.25449	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.26400
Assam - Western Plains	0.26312	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.25478	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.26468
Assam - Eastern Plains	0.26317	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.25747	Rajasthan - Southern	0.26665
Karnataka - Inland Eastern	0.26547	Assam - Eastern Plains	0.25809	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.27066
Haryana - Western	0.26674	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.26799	Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.27128
Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.26899	Madhya Pradesh - Vindhya	0.27128	Rajasthan - Western	0.27569
Maharashtra - Eastern	0.27177	Gujarat - Saurashtra	0.27146	Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.27956
Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.27182	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.27642	Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.28368
Orissa - Coastal	0.27493	Haryana - Eastern	0.28495	West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.28490
Rajasthan - Southern	0.2754	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.28576	West Bengal - Western Plains	0.28818
West Bengal - Western Plains	0.27837	Rajasthan - Western	0.28983	Haryana - Eastern	0.29034
Maharashtra - Inland Northern	0.28147	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.29377	Orissa - Coastal	0.29182
West Bengal - Eastern Plains	0.28278	Bihar - Central	0.29509	Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.29385
Karnataka - Inland Northern	0.28706	J&K - Mountains	0.29654	Punjab - Northern	0.29601
Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.28843	Orissa - Coastal	0.29759	J&K - Mountains	0.30041
Haryana - Eastern	0.29132	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.30148	Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.30251
Gujarat - Dry Areas	0.29428	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.3029	Bihar - Central	0.30484
Tamilnadu - Southern	0.29634	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.31056	Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.31143
Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.29698	Kerala - Northern	0.3109	UP - Eastern	0.31147
Madhya Pradesh - Northern	0.29727	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.31293	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.31184
Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.3002	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.31535	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.31319

Gujarat - Eastern Plains	0.30186	UP - Eastern	0.31865	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.31381
Madhya Pradesh - South	0.30562	Punjab - Northern	0.31891	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.31758
UP - Eastern	0.31145	Madhya Pradesh - Central	0.32011	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.32031
J&K - Mountains	0.31474	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.32852	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.32448
Bihar - Central	0.31493	Orissa - Southern	0.33006	Orissa - Southern	0.32587
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Southern	0.32049	UP - Western	0.33035	Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.32817
Rajasthan - Northeastern	0.32232	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.33114	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.32891
Himachal Pradesh	0.32247	Maharashtra - Eastern	0.33337	West Bengal - Himalayan	0.32912
Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.32535	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.34077	Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.33215
Orissa - Southern	0.32565	Himachal Pradesh	0.34237	Kerala - Northern	0.33545
West Bengal - Himalayan	0.33393	Maharashtra - Inland Central	0.34323	Himachal Pradesh	0.33768
Andhra Pradesh - Coastal	0.33528	Maharashtra - Inland Eastern	0.344	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.33839
Maharashtra - Coastal	0.3427	Kerala - Southern	0.34728	Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.34008
Gujarat - Northern Plains	0.34333	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.34882	UP - Western	0.34064
UP - Western	0.34413	Madhya Pradesh - Malwa	0.35481	Tamilnadu - Inland	0.34991
Tamilnadu - Coastal	0.34481	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.36339	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.36045
Punjab - Southern	0.34986	Tamilnadu - Southern	0.36547	Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.36302
Tamilnadu - Inland	0.35354	Madhya Pradesh - South	0.36839	Kerala - Southern	0.36796
Maharashtra - Inland Western	0.36217	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.37559	Punjab - Southern	0.36863
UP - Central	0.36428	Punjab - Southern	0.37882	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.37279
Kerala - Northern	0.36466	Rajasthan - Southeastern	0.38046	Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.37363
Orissa - Northern	0.3655	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.38954	UP - Central	0.37705
Andhra Pradesh - South Western	0.37606	UP - Central	0.39098	Maharashtra - Coastal	0.38067
West Bengal - Central Plains	0.37623	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.39856	Andhra Pradesh - Southwestern	0.38193
Kerala - Southern	0.38705	Gujarat - Southern Plains	0.40994	Orissa - Northern	0.4015
Karnataka - Inland Southern	0.38898	Orissa - Northern	0.42921	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.40729
Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.43951	West Bengal - Central Plains	0.43178	Andhra Pradesh - Inland Northern	0.42283
Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.4628	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.47837	Tamilnadu - Coastal Northern	0.47036

We explore patterns of regional inequality in respect of mean consumption, the three FGT measures of poverty and inequality in table 11 (for variation across states) and table 12 (for variation across the 63 NSS regions).

Table 11: Variation of Mean Consumption, Poverty and Inequality across Indian States

		Average	*Highest*	*Lowest*	*Coefficient of Variation*
Mean Consumption (Rs. per capita per month)	30 day recall	802.64	1220. 35	507.98	0.24
	7 day recall	865.32	1267.08	546.15	0.237
	Combined	832.49	1242.27	531.10	0.238
PG0	30 day recall	18.25	48.97	1.43	0.70
	7 day recall	13.53	34.07	0.348	0.73
	Combined	15.96	41.76	0.92	0.71
PG1	30 day recall	0.035	0.121	0.001	0.84
	7 day recall	0.02	0.075	0.0002	0.89
	Combined	0.029	0.0989	0.000682	0.85
PG2	30 day recall	0.0107	0.042	9.41E-05	0.95
	7 day recall	0.0069	0.025	1.34E-05	0.995
	Combined	0.0088	0.0344	5.26E-05	0.958
Gini Coefficient	30 day recall	0.314	0.398	0.197	0.171
	7 day recall	0.315	0.405	0.189	0.190
	Combined	0.317	0.402	0.193	0.1778

It is interesting to note that the 7-day recall magnitudes are generally more volatile than 30-day magnitudes with the combined results lying in between. Further, the coefficients of variation of the FGT measures are much higher than those for mean consumption and the Gini coefficient. Within the FGT measures PG2 has higher coefficient of variation than PG1 which in turn has a higher coefficient of variation than PG0. Thus poverty, particularly severe poverty, is **more volatile**.

Table 12: Variation of Mean Consumption, Poverty and Inequality across 63 NSS regions

		Average	Highest	Lowest	Coefficient of Variation
Mean Consumption (Rs. per capita per month)	30 day recall	758.91	1504.58	382.32	0.304
	7 day recall	822.57	1677.62	521.35	0.294
	Combined	788.91	1614.20	435.02	0.300
PG0	30 day recall	21.84	71.98	0	0.668
	7 day recall	16.219	45.428	0	0.964
	Combined	19.03	55.689	0	0.675
PG1	30 day recall	0.043	0.2278	0	0.945
	7 day recall	0.03	0.124	0	0.964
	Combined	0.036	0.165	0	0.923
PG2	30 day recall	0.013	0.087	0	1.131
	7 day recall	0.008	0.045	0	0.964
	Combined	0.011	0.062	0	1.117
Gini Coefficient	30 day recall	0.299	0.4628	0.112	0.194
	7 day recall	0.3033	0.478	0.110	0.235
	Combined	0.305	0.470	0.111	0.202

We offer additional comments by concentrating on the upper and lower tails of the distributions for average, consumption, FGT indices and the consumption Ginis. In order to avoid tedious comparisons, we will first pick the lowest 5 regions in terms of per capita consumption and the highest five, using the 30-day recall. How many of these overlap with those with the lowest or highest FGT indices and Gini coefficients would help understand better spatial dimensions of well-being, deprivation and inequality.

I. The regions with the lowest per capita expenditure (in ascending order) are[10]:

Orissa-Southern

Bihar-Northern

Andhra Pradesh-South western

Madhya Pradesh-South

Orissa-Coastal.

Those with the highest per capita expenditure (in ascending order) are:

Tamil Nadu-Coastal Northern

Punjab-Southern

J&K-Mountains

Kerala-Southern

Maharashtra-Coastal

II. It turns out that three out of the five regions with the lowest per capita expenditure are also the ones with the highest incidence of poverty (PG0). These are (in ascending order):

Madhya Pradesh-South

Andhra Pradesh-South Western

Orissa-Southern

[10] Manipur Hills is omitted, as it belongs to a relatively small state.

Let us now examine the overlap with regions with the highest distributionally sensitive poverty (PG2). It turns out that the regions with the highest incidence of poverty are also the ones with the highest PG2.

III. There is some overlap between regions with the highest per capita expenditure and lowest incidence of poverty (PG0). These are :

J&K-Mountains

Maharashtra-Coastal

The overlap with regions with the lowest PG2 is smaller, as it comprises just one region viz. Maharashtra –Coastal.

IV. Let us now turn to the overlap between lowest consumption and lowest Gini. The overlap is small comprising Madhya Pradesh-South.

V. The overlap between regions with the highest consumption and Gini is not so small, as it comprises Kerala-Southern, and Tamil Nadu-Coastal Northern.

VI. Finally, let us examine the overlap between the Ginis and FGT indices. The regions with the highest Ginis (in ascending order) are:

West Bengal-Central Plains

Kerala-Southern

Karnataka-Inland Southern

Andhra Pradesh-Inland Northern

Tamil Nadu-Coastal Northern.

None of these regions overlaps with those with the highest incidence of poverty (PG0). However, there is some overlap with regions with the highest distributionally sensitive poverty, comprising Karnataka –Inland Southern.

IV. Concluding Remarks

Even though we have not gone beyond ordinal comparisons with the estimates of poverty and inequality from the previous 55th round of the NSS, some of the findings are noteworthy. First, more than a few of the states (e.g. UP, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa), with high levels of poverty measured using the FGT class of poverty indices, and high concentrations of the poor in rural areas continue to do so in the 60th round of the NSS. Second, except for the small north eastern states, high levels of inequality in consumption expenditure distribution persisted in many of the states. Third, the overlap between regions with the lowest consumption expenditure and highest poverty, and between those with highest consumption and lowest poverty was far from negligible. Fourth, the overlaps between lowest consumption expenditure and lowest Ginis, and between highest consumption and highest Ginis were negligible or small. Fifth, in general, the 7-day recall magnitudes (average consumption expenditure, poverty and inequality) are more volatile than 30-day magnitudes. Sixth, the CVs of the FGT measures are higher than those for mean consumption and the Gini coefficient. Finally, the CVs of PG2 (or distributionally sensitive poverty) are higher than those of PG1 (intensity of poverty) which in turn are higher than those of PG0 (or the head-count ratio). It is surmised that despite impressive growth rates deprivation is pervasive, pockets of severe poverty persist, and inequality is rampant.

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