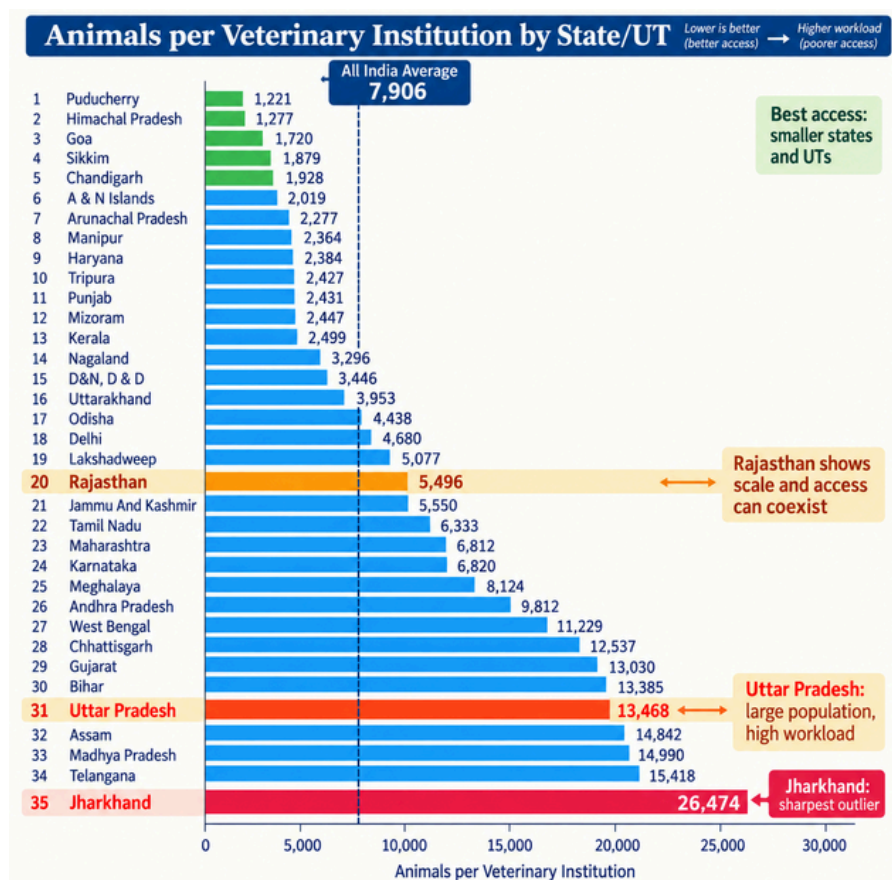
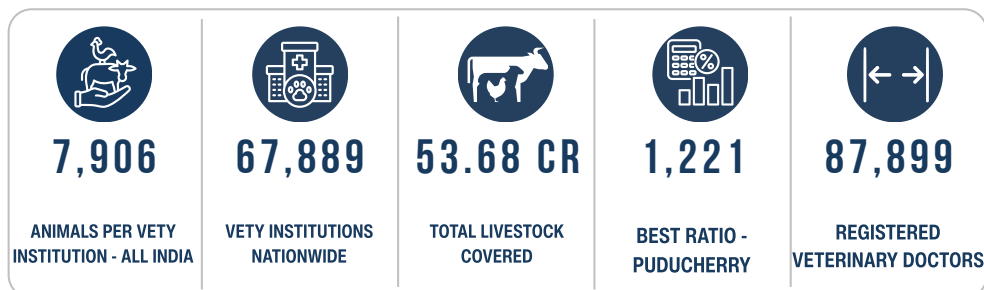


How Far Is Nearest Vet?

Across India, one Veterinary Institution serves anywhere from 1,221 animals in Puducherry to over 26,000 in Jharkhand - a 22-fold gap in Veterinary workload between States, with the same national infrastructure spread very unevenly on the ground.



WHY THIS STORY MATTERS FOR THE ATLAS

Every livestock number in this Atlas — output, income, exports — depends on animals staying healthy. This story locates where that healthcare backbone is thinnest: not always where livestock populations are largest, but where institutional density has not kept pace with them. States like Rajasthan show that building out Veterinary infrastructure alongside herd growth, rather than after it, is what keeps the ratio manageable.

"A herd is only as healthy as the Vet who can actually reach it"

VETERINARY INFRASTRUCTURE — THE QUIET BACKBONE OF INDIA'S LIVESTOCK ECONOMY

Source: Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 206 (19.03.2025), Annexure I, DAHD; 20th Livestock Census 2019, Annual Report 2025-26, DAHD, GoI on Regd Vety Practitioners | GFST Analysis & Visualisation.



One Vety Institution, Wildly Different Workloads

India's 67,889 veterinary institutions serve 53.68 crore livestock nationwide — but the workload each one carries ranges from just over a thousand animals in Puducherry to more than 26,000 in Jharkhand, with direct implications for disease response, animal health and the rural livelihoods that depend on both.

Smaller states and UTs lead on Veterinary access — Puducherry (1,221), Himachal Pradesh (1,277), Goa (1,720), Sikkim (1,879) and Chandigarh (1,928) all keep animals-per-institution well under a quarter of the national average — likely reflecting smaller geographic size and denser institutional networks relative to their livestock population.

Jharkhand is a clear outlier at the other end — At 26,474 animals per institution, Jharkhand's veterinary workload is more than 3.3× the national average and 22× Puducherry's — the widest single-state departure from the national norm in this dataset.

Rajasthan shows scale and access aren't opposites — Rajasthan operates 10,335 veterinary institutions — by far the most of any state — for 5.68 crore livestock, giving it a ratio of 5,496, better than the national average despite carrying India's largest state livestock population.

Infrastructure density matters more than livestock size alone — Uttar Pradesh has India's largest livestock population (6.80 crore) and one of the worst ratios (13,468); Rajasthan's population is nearly as large (5.68 crore) but its ratio is under half of UP's — the gap is driven by institutional density, not herd size.

Ladakh is a data gap, not a zero-workload state — Ladakh reports 140 veterinary institutions in this dataset but no separate livestock count — likely a reporting artifact of the Jammu & Kashmir/Ladakh bifurcation — and has been excluded from every ranking and average on this page rather than shown as a misleading zero.

Data Table

S.No	States/UTs	Total Livestock (Lakhs)	Vety Institutions	Animals per Vety Insti.	Regd Vet Practitioners (31.03.2024)	S.No	States/UTs	Total Livestock (Lakhs)	Vety Institutions	Animals per Vety Insti.	Regd Vet Practitioners (31.03.2024)
1	Puducherry	1.51	124	1221	592	19	Lakshadweep	0.46	9	5077	35
2	Himachal Pradesh	44.13	3456	1277	1450	20	Rajasthan	568.01	10335	5496	5669
3	Goa	1.32	77	1720	261	21	Jammu And Kashmir	83.25	1500	5550	1242
4	Sikkim	2.74	146	1879	191	22	Tamil Nadu	245.01	3869	6333	6610
5	Chandigarh	0.27	14	1928	13	23	Maharashtra	330.8	4856	6812	11242
6	A & N Islands	1.45	72	2019	66	24	Karnataka	290.13	4254	6820	5082
7	Arunachal Pradesh	11.61	510	2277	245	25	Meghalaya	20.39	251	8124	449
8	Manipur	5.51	233	2364	582	26	Andhra Pradesh	340.68	3472	9812	5643
9	Haryana	70.46	2956	2384	2571	27	West Bengal	374.83	3338	11229	2724
10	Tripura	13.18	543	2427	558	28	Chhattisgarh	158.72	1266	12537	1298
11	Punjab	70.5	2900	2431	4947	29	Gujarat	268.93	2064	13030	4743
12	Mizoram	3.6	147	2447	379	30	Bihar	365.41	2730	13385	3586
13	Kerala	29.09	1164	2499	5395	31	Uttar Pradesh	680.13	5050	13468	7421
14	Nagaland	5.54	168	3296	368	32	Assam	180.92	1219	14842	3208
15	D&N, D & D	0.52	15	3446	05	33	Madhya Pradesh	406.37	2711	14990	3266
16	Uttarakhand	44.27	1120	3953	1236	34	Telangana	326.41	2117	15418	2306
17	Odisha	181.7	4094	4438	2882	35	Jharkhand	236.15	892	26474	972
18	Delhi	3.6	77	4680	585	36	Ladakh	NA	140	NA	77
All India		5367.61	67889	7906	87899						

Source: Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 206 (19.03.2025), Annexure I, DAHD; 20th Livestock Census 2019, Annual Report 2025-26, DAHD, GoI on Regd Vety Practitioners | GFST Analysis & Visualisation.

