

National Household Travel Survey (NHTS)

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Government policies and Interventions

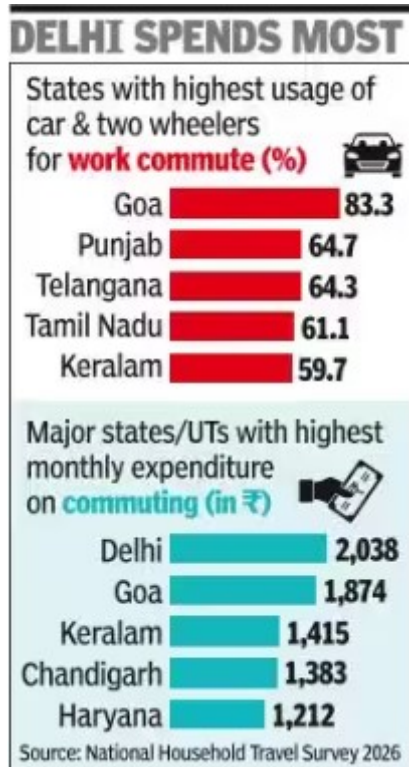
Why in News?

The India's first ever National Household Travel Survey (NHTS), conducted during July 2025-June 2026, covering commuting patterns of workers and students is recently been released.

- **Released by** - National Statistics Office (NSO).

Key Findings

- **Public Transport** - Only 15% of workers use buses, trains, trams or auto-rickshaws.
- **Private Vehicles** - 46% use two-wheelers or cars:
 - Two-wheelers - 43%
 - Cars - 3%
- **Urban areas** - Two-wheelers account for 53% and cars 5.7% of worker commutes.
- **Walking** - 28.3% of workers walk to work; 10.7% use bicycles.
- **Rural-Urban gap** - 36% of rural workers walk to work compared to 14% in urban areas.
- **Travel time** - Average work commute is 25 minutes — 27 minutes in urban and 23 minutes in rural areas.
- **Expenditure** - Average monthly commuting expenditure is ₹785.
- **Students** - Walking is the major mode (37%), followed by buses (29.5%) and bicycles (15.8%). Around 88% reach educational institutions within 30 minutes.



Significance of the survey

- It highlights challenges of urban traffic congestion and dependence on private vehicles.
- It indicates gaps in public transport accessibility, frequency and last-mile connectivity.
- It supports sustainable and inclusive mobility through walking, cycling and public transport.
- It provides evidence for route optimisation, transport planning and service scheduling.

Reference

[Times of India| National Household Travel Survey \(NHTS\)](#)