

Gender Imbalance in Lower Judiciary

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Female representation in judiciary (2018)

- Female representation in judiciary is abysmal
- Only 6 female judges appointed in Supreme Court since inception in 1950
- Approx. 10 % female judges in High Court
- Approx. 29.42 % females judges in Lower judiciary (2018)

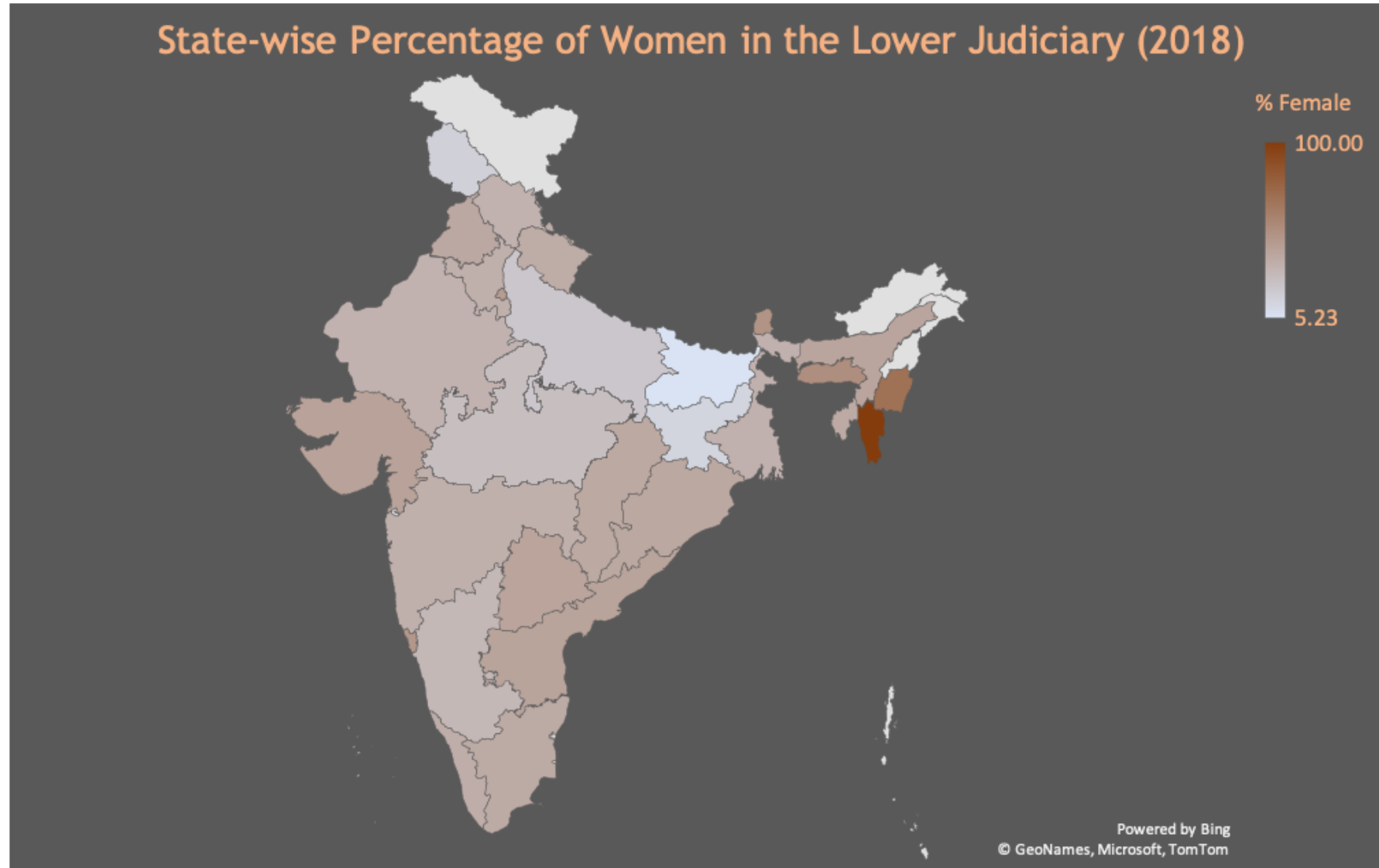
Table 1: Gender composition of men and women across all states in India (2018)

Gender of Judges	Total Number	Percentage
Male	12430	67.75
Female	5398	29.42
Unclear	518	2.82
Total	18346	100

Female representation in judiciary (2018)

- Female representation improved post 2005 across all states , predominantly due to implementation of reservation policies (30-35% in most states)
- But female representation < 40% in almost all states (2018) except Delhi and Telangana
- Bihar and Jharkhand – are lagging in improving female representation, far below national average

State wise % of Women in Lower judiciary



Female representation at different tiers

- Female representation reduces as tier rises in civil courts

State	Tier	Total Number of Judges	Percentage of Women Judges
Andhra Pradesh	District and Session Judge	247	29.87
	Civil Judge (Senior Division)	76	39.47
	Civil Judge (Junior Division)	77	46.96

- Proportional rise of female judiciary is not observed in promotion to higher tier of lower judiciary
- Possibility of Gender bias in promotion affecting female representation at lower judiciary