



Demographic Changes in India : A Study of Census 2011

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With more than a billion citizens, India is the second most populous nation in the world after China, with over 1210.2 million people. Each year, India adds more people to the world's population than any other country. In fact the population of some states is equal to the total population of many countries. For example, Population of Uttar Pradesh (The most populated state of India) is more than the population of Brazil. As per 2011 Population Census of India, 19, 95, 81,477 people. Even the combine population of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra is more than the population of U.S.A. and if we will separate the Uttar Pradesh from India it will become the 5th populated nation after China, India, U.S.A. and Indonesia. The present paper describes the changing dimension of the population and also discusses the various aspect of Census 2011.

Key word : Census, Demographic Transition.

Introduction

The Indian Census is the most credible source of information on Demography (Population characteristics), Economic Activity, Literacy & Education, Housing & Household Amenities, Urbanization, Fertility and Mortality, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Language, Religion, Migration, Disability and many other socio-cultural and demographic data since 1872. Census 2011 will be the 15th National Census of the country. This is the only source of primary data at village, town and ward level. It provides valuable information for planning and formulation of policies for Central & State Governments and is widely used by National & International agencies, scholars, business people, industrialists, and many more. The delimitation/reservation of Constituencies. Parliamentary/Assembly/Panchayats and Local Bodies demarkation is also done on the basis of the demographic data thrown up by the Census. Census is the basis for reviewing the country's progress in the past decade, monitoring the on-going schemes of the Government and most importantly, plan for the future. That is why the slogan of Census 2011 is "Our Census, Our Future".

National Population Register

The NPR would be a Register of usual residents of the country. The NPR will be a comprehensive identity database that would help in better targeting of the benefits and services under the Government schemes/programmes, improve planning and help strengthen security of the country. This is being done for the first time in the country. The Census is a statutory exercise conducted under the provisions of the Census Act 1948 and Rules made there under. The NPR is being created under the provisions of the Citizenship Act and Rules.

Census Process

The Census process involves visiting each and every household and gathering particulars by asking questions and filling up Census Forms. The information collected about individuals

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is kept absolutely confidential. In fact this information is not accessible even to Courts of law. After the field work is over the forms are transported to data processing centres located at 15 cities across the country. The data processing will be done using sophisticated software called Intelligent Character Recognition Software (ICR). This technology was pioneered by India in Census 2001 has become the benchmark for Censuses all around the globe. This involves the scanning of the Census Forms at high speed and extracting the data automatically using computer software. This revolutionary technology has enabled the processing of the voluminous data in a very short time and saving a huge amount of manual labour and cost.

NPR Process

Details such as Name, Date of Birth, Sex, Present Address, Permanent Address, Names of Father, Mother and Spouse etc will be gathered by visiting each and every household. All usual residents will be eligible to be included irrespective of their Nationality. Each and every household will be given an Acknowledgement Slip at the time of enumeration. The data will then be entered into computers in the local language of the State as well as in English. Once this database has been created, biometrics such as photograph, 10 fingerprints and probably Iris information will be added for all persons aged 15 years and above. This will be done by arranging camps at every village and at the ward level in every town. Each household will be required to bring the Acknowledgement Slip to such camps. Those who miss these camps will be given the opportunity to present themselves at permanent NPR Centres to be set up at the Tehsil/Town level. In the next step, data will be printed out and displayed at prominent places within the village and ward for the public to see. Objections will be sought and registered at this stage. Each of these objections will then be enquired into by the local Revenue Department Officer and a proper disposal given in writing.

Persons aggrieved by such order have a right of appeal to the Tehsildar and then to the District Collector. Once this process is over, the lists will be placed in the Gram Sabha in villages and the Ward Committee in towns. Claims and Objections will be received at this stage also and dealt with in the same manner described above. The Gram Sabha/Ward Committee has to give its clearance or objection within a fixed period of time after which it will be deemed that the lists have been cleared. The lists thus authenticated will then be sent to the Unique Identity Authority of India (UIDAI) for de-duplication and issue of UID Numbers. All duplicates will be eliminated at this stage based on comparison of biometrics. Unique ID numbers will also be generated for every person. The cleaned database along with the UID Number will then be sent back to the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India (ORG&CCI) and would form the National Population Register. As the UID system works on the basis of biometric de-duplication, in the case of persons of age 15 years and above (for whom biometrics is available), the UID Number will be available for each individual. For those below the age of 15 years (for whom biometrics is not available), the UID Number will be linked to the parent or guardian.

Population Size and Growth

The latest census has shown the population of India was enumerated as 1210.2 million as on March 1, 2011. Over the last 100 years, the population has increased about six times and since independence, the numbers have increased by more than three times. Present

study has divided the population of India according to the demographic transition theory It has been observed that in First Stage (1901-21) with stagnant growth, Second Stage (1921-1951) with steady growth, Third Stage (1951-1981) with rapid high growth , Fourth stage (1981-2011) high growth with the sign of decline. (See Table1)

Table : 1
Demographic Indicators for India (1901 - 2011)

Census Year	Population	Growth Rate (%)	Sex Ratio(F/M)*1000	Population Density
1901	238396327	-	972	77
1911	252093390	0.56	964	82
1921	251321213	-0.03	955	81
1931	278977238	1.04	950	90
1941	318660580	1.33	945	103
1951	361088090	1.25	946	117
1961	439234771	1.96	941	142
1971	548159652	2.20	930	178
1981	683329097	2.22	934	216
1991	846302688	2.14	927	267
2001	1027015247	1.93	933	324
2011	1210193422	-	940	382

Source: Various Census reports

When Census 2011 was conducted, India was administratively divided into 35 states and union territories. Among 28 states, Uttar Pradesh accounted for 16.49 per cent of the total population, followed by Maharashtra (9.29 per cent), Bihar (8.58 per cent), West Bengal (7.5 per cent) and Andhra Pradesh (7 per cent). In other words, about 50 per cent of India's population lives in just five major states. Among the seven Union Territories, Delhi enumerated the highest number of persons (about 1,67,53,235 persons) and the lowest number was found in Lakshadweep with just 64,429 in 2011. During 2001-2011 the average decadal growth rate of India was accounted 17.64 per cent.

Sex Ratio

Sex ratio is the number of females per 100 males. It is a powerful social indicator of the equity between males and females in the economic and social sphere of a society at a given point of time. It is affected by the sex differentials in under-enumeration. Most of the developed countries in the world report excess females in their population. The sex ratio of USA is 1029 females per 1000 males whereas the ratio for Japan is 1041 females. However, South Asian countries such as China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh etc. enumerated excess males in their population and this trend is being strengthened from decade to decade.

The sex ratio for India stood as 972 in 1901, declined to 946 at the time of independence and declined further to 940 in 2011. Though fluctuations were reported during several decades, it is clear that India follows the South Asian pattern of excess males in the population. Among 35 States and Union territories in India only Kerala and Pondicherry

have reported a sex ratio favorable as 1084 and 1038 respectively. However, at the beginning of the twentieth century, several major states (Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, and Kerala) have reported a favorable sex ratio. Over the last 100 years, the status of women in India has been deteriorating to such a level that only the Kerala could maintain a higher status of women as reflected in the excess females. Recent studied also shows the fact that large scale male emigration to the Middle East may have contributed to the excess females in Kerala.

Table :2
Demographic And Social Profile Of States And Union Territories In India 2011

Sl. No.	States/ Union Territories	Population	Growth Rate	Area sq. Km.	Density/ Sq. Km.	Sex Ratio	literacy
	India	1210193422	17.64	3287240	382	940	74.04
1	Uttar Pradesh	199581477	20.09	240928	828	908	69.72
2	Maharashtra	112372972	15.99	307713	365	946	82.91
3	Bihar	103804637	25.07	94163	1102	916	63.82
4	West Bengal	91347736	13.93	88752	1029	947	77.08
5	A.P.	84665533	11.1	275045	308	992	67.66
6	M.P.	72597565	20.3	308245	236	930	70.63
7	Tamil Nadu	72138958	15.6	130058	555	995	80.33
8	Rajasthan	68621012	21.44	342239	201	926	67.06
9	Karnataka	61130704	15.67	191791	319	968	75.6
10	Gujarat	60383628	19.17	196024	308	918	79.31
11	Orissa	41947358	13.97	155707	269	978	73.45
12	Kerala	33387677	4.86	38863	859	1084	93.91
13	Jharkhand	32966238	22.34	79714	414	947	67.63
14	Assam	31169272	16.93	78438	397	954	73.18
15	Punjab	27704236	13.73	50362	550	893	76.68
16	Chhattisgarh	25540196	22.59	135191	189	991	71.04
17	Haryana	25353081	19.9	44212	573	877	76.64
18	Delhi	16753235	20.96	1483	11297	866	86.34
19	J. & K.	12548926	23.71	222236	56	883	68.74
20	Uttarakhand	10116752	19.17	53483	189	963	79.63
21	H.P.	6856509	12.81	55673	123	974	83.78
22	Tripura	3671032	14.75	10486	350	961	87.75
23	Meghalaya	2964007	27.82	22429	132	986	75.48
24	Manipur	2721756	18.65	22327	122	987	79.85
25	Nagaland	1980602	-0.47	16579	119	931	80.11
26	Goa	1457723	8.17	3702	394	968	87.4
27	Arunachal P.	1382611	25.92	83743	17	920	66.95
28	Pondicherry	1244464	27.72	479	2598	1038	86.55
29	Mizoram	1091014	22.78	21081	52	975	91.58
30	Chandigarh	1054686	17.1	114	9252	818	86.43
31	Sikkim	607688	12.36	7096	86	889	82.2
32	Andaman	379944	6.68	8249	46	878	86.27
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	342853	55.5	491	698	775	77.65
34	Daman and Diu	242911	53.54	112	2169	618	87.07
35	Lakshadweep	64429	6.23	32	2013	946	92.28

Source: Census Report 2011

The lowest sex ratio (below 900) is reported for the following states and union territories: Jammu and Kashmir (883), Punjab (893), Chandigarh (818), Haryana (877), Delhi (866), Sikkim (889), Daman and Diu (618), Dadra and Nagar Haveli (775) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (878).

Table : 3
Density of Population

State	2011 Census		2001 Census	
	Density/Sq.Km	Area Sq.Km	Density/Sq.Km	Area Sq.Km
India	382	3287240	324	3287240
Delhi	11297	1483	9340	1483
Chandigarh	9252	114	7900	114
Puducherry	2598	479	2034	479
Daman and Diu	2169	112	1413	112
Lakshadweep	2013	32	1895	32
Bihar	1102	94163	881	94163
West Bengal	1029	88752	903	88752
Kerala	859	38863	819	38863
Uttar Pradesh	828	240928	690	240928
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	698	491	449	491
Haryana	573	44212	478	44212
Tamil Nadu	555	130058	480	130058
Punjab	550	50362	484	50362
Jharkhand	414	79714	338	79714
Assam	397	78438	340	78438
Goa	394	3702	364	3702
Maharashtra	365	307713	315	307713
Tripura	350	10486	305	10486
Karnataka	319	191791	276	191791
Andhra Pradesh	308	275045	277	275045
Gujarat	308	196024	258	196024
Orissa	269	155707	236	155707
Madhya Pradesh	236	308245	196	308245
Rajasthan	201	342239	165	342239
Chhattisgarh	189	135191	154	135191
Uttarakhand	189	53483	159	53483
Meghalaya	132	22429	103	22429
Himachal Pradesh	123	55673	109	55673
Manipur	122	22327	103	22327
Nagaland	119	16579	120	16579
Sikkim	86	7096	76	7096
Jammu and Kashmir	56	222236	46	222236
Mizoram	52	21081	42	21081
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	46	8249	43	8249
Arunachal Pradesh	17	83743	13	83743

Source: Census Report 2011

Population Density

Population density is the number of persons living in one square kilometer. It was just 77 in 1901, increased to 117 in 1951 and then 382 in 2011 for the country as whole. The highest number of persons per square kilometer was reported by Delhi (11297), followed by Chandigarh (9252) and Pondicherry (2598). Among the major states, the highest population density was reported in Bihar (1102) followed by West Bengal (1029) and Kerala (859). The lowest population density was reported by Arunachal Pradesh (17) followed by Mizoram (52) and Sikkim (86). Concentration and settlement patterns play a major role in distribution of health and school facilities.

Urbanization

Census 2011 defined an urban area as: (i) all places with a municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area, and (ii) all other places which satisfied the following criteria: (a) minimum population of 5,000, (b) at least 75 percent of the male working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits and (c) density of population of at least 400 per sq. km.

Literacy

Literacy is an important social indicator of development and it is one of the components in the calculation of human development. The difference among genders is indicative of gender equality in knowledge. As education is the pre-requisite for most employment, it is also considered as one of the ways to move up social ladder. At the beginning of the 20th century, the crude literacy rate for India was just 5 per cent, 10 per cent among men and 0.6 per cent among women. The gender gap was nine points. At the time of independence, both male and female literacy rates showed considerable improvement. The current literacy rates for males and females are 82.14 per cent and 65.46 per cent respectively.

Kerala is at the top with the highest literacy rates for both males and females, above 90 per cent. As female literacy is the major determinants of fertility decline, the higher the literacy the lower the fertility rate. Twenty-four states and union territories report their literacy rate above the all-India average. However, demographically backward states report their literacy rate below the national average- Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh etc.

The five states with highest literacy rate are: Kerala, Mizoram, Tripura, Goa and Himanchal Pradesh. The union territories with highest literacy rates are Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry. The states with lowest literacy rates are Bihar (63.82%), Arunachal Pradesh (66.95%), Rajasthan (67.06%), Jharkhand (67.63%) and Andhra Pradesh (67.66%).

While comparing the literacy rate of 2011 and 2001 we find that the overall percentage has been rise from 65.38% to 74.04%. The male literacy rate increased from 75.85% to 82.14%. The female literacy rate also increased to 65.46%. This shows economic development of our country but still there are some states whose literacy rate is very low as compare to average literacy rate of the country. In this way we can say that the condition of our country is much better as compare to 2001 in 2011. Whether we compare on the ground of literacy rate, education, sex ratio *etc.*

Table : 4
Literacy Rate

State	2011 Census			2001 Census			Change (%)
	Literacy (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Literacy (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	
India	74.04	82.14	65.46	65.38	75.85	54.16	8.66
Kerala	93.91	96.02	91.98	90.86	94.24	87.72	3.05
Lakshadweep	92.28	96.11	88.25	86.66	90.72	80.47	5.62
Mizoram	91.58	93.72	89.4	88.8	92.53	86.75	2.78
Tripura	87.75	92.18	83.15	73.19	82.42	64.33	14.56
Goa	87.4	92.81	81.84	82.01	88.62	76.47	5.39
Daman and Diu	87.07	91.48	79.59	78.18	86.14	67.42	8.89
Puducherry	86.55	92.12	81.22	81.24	86.33	73.9	5.31
Chandigarh	86.43	90.54	81.38	81.94	88.42	75.37	4.49
Delhi	86.34	91.03	80.93	81.67	87.33	75.24	4.67
Andaman and Nicobar	86.27	90.11	81.84	81.3	86.76	74.71	4.97
Himachal Pradesh	83.78	90.83	76.6	76.48	85.35	65.61	7.3
Maharashtra	82.91	89.82	75.48	76.88	85.97	67.03	6.03
Sikkim	82.2	87.29	76.43	68.81	77.38	59.63	13.39
Tamil Nadu	80.33	86.81	73.86	73.45	83.28	64.91	6.88
Nagaland	80.11	83.29	76.69	66.59	76.04	56.87	13.52
Manipur	79.85	86.49	73.17	70.53	80.33	61.46	9.32
Uttarakhand	79.63	88.33	70.7	71.62	81.02	63.36	8.01
Gujarat	79.31	87.23	70.73	69.14	78.49	60.4	10.17
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	77.65	86.46	65.93	57.63	68.82	43.53	20.02
West Bengal	77.08	82.67	71.16	68.64	77.02	59.61	8.44
Punjab	76.68	81.48	71.34	69.65	79.66	60.53	7.03
Haryana	76.64	85.38	66.77	67.91	76.1	59.61	8.73
Karnataka	75.6	82.85	68.13	66.64	76.06	57.8	8.96
Meghalaya	75.48	77.17	73.78	62.56	71.18	50.43	12.92
Orissa	73.45	82.4	64.36	63.08	71.28	50.51	10.37
Assam	73.18	78.81	67.27	63.25	75.23	51.85	9.93
Chhattisgarh	71.04	81.45	60.59	64.66	75.7	55.73	6.38
Madhya Pradesh	70.63	80.53	60.02	63.74	75.35	54.61	6.89
Uttar Pradesh	69.72	79.24	59.26	56.27	67.3	43	13.45
Jammu and Kashmir	68.74	78.26	58.01	55.52	66.6	42.22	13.22
Andhra Pradesh	67.66	75.56	59.74	60.47	71.16	50.29	7.19
Jharkhand	67.63	78.45	56.21	53.56	63.83	38.87	14.07
Rajasthan	67.06	80.51	52.66	60.41	70.32	43.85	6.65
Arunachal Pradesh	66.95	73.69	59.57	54.34	65.43	40.23	12.61
Bihar	63.82	73.39	53.33	47	59.68	33.12	16.82

Source: Census Report 2011

References

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