



2011

Our CENSUS, Our FUTURE.

About Census 2011



Counting on you

so every person gets counted.

Seholid Name Date

History of the Indian Census

The Indian Census has a rich tradition and enjoys the reputation of being one of the best in the world. Census 2011 is the fifteenth in an unbroken series since 1872 and the seventh after independence. It is remarkable that the great historical tradition of conducting a Census has been maintained in spite of several adversities like wars, epidemics, natural calamities, political unrest, etc. Very few countries in the world can boast of such a distinction. Participation in the Census by the people of India is indeed a true reflection of the national spirit of unity in diversity.

What does the Census do?

Contrary to the general perception that the Census is merely a headcount of the people, it is a veritable treasure house of information on Demography, Economic Activity, Literacy & Education, Housing & Household amenities, Urbanisation, Fertility and Mortality, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Language, Religion, Migration and a host of such aspects. It is the only source of primary data at village, town and ward level and provides valuable information for planning and formulation of policies, effective public administration and is widely used by national and international agencies, scholars, business people, industrialists and many more.

Given this background, participating in the Census is tantamount to participating in the nation building process. Little wonder therefore, that our Census is our future.

Census 2011 and its two phases

Census 2011 is being conducted in two phases, namely i) House listing and Housing Census, and ii) Population Enumeration. During the first phase of the Census - Houselisting and Housing Census which took place, from April to September 2010, the buildings, Census Houses and Households were identified and systematically listed in different States/Union territories. Apart from the listing of houses, useful data on the amenities available to the Households as well as the assets owned was collected.

The field work of the second phase, i.e., Population Enumeration, will be carried out from 9th February to 28th February, 2011. A revision round will be carried out from 1st March to 5th March, 2011.

Features of Population Enumeration

One of the essential features of Population Enumeration is that each person is enumerated and his/her individual particulars are collected at a well-defined point of time. This point of time is referred to as the Census Moment, and the reference date for the Census of India 2011 will be 00:00 hours of 1st March, 2011.

The work of enumeration will commence on 9th February, 2011 and will be completed by 28th February, 2011. During this period, around 240 million Households will be visited and every person living in these Households will be enumerated. On the night of 28th February, 2011, the Houseless population will be enumerated. Thereafter, in order to update the population with

reference to the Census Moment, a re-visit will be conducted from 1st to 5th March, 2011, during which period updating of births and deaths will be done.

Scale of Census 2011

The Indian Census is often billed as the largest peacetime mobilisation in the world. Apart from the fact that India has the second largest population in the world, two facts stand out. Firstly, the Indian sub-continent has a large land mass spanning 35 States/Union Territories, 640 Districts, 5961 Sub-districts, 8001 Towns and 640,852 Villages. In all, more than 240 million Households will be individually visited. Secondly, almost 2.7 million functionaries will be involved in conducting it. It is indeed remarkable that many countries in the world do not have a population of this size! Add to this, the complexities of canvassing the instructional manuals in 18 languages and the preparation of the Census Schedule in 16 languages! Truly a mind boggling exercise.

Challenges

The logistics involved are, to say the least, complex. The first challenge was the designing of the questionnaire. The questionnaire being used in Census 2011 has been specially designed with unique features, like special quality paper (unique specifications had to be evolved for this purpose), bar coding, unique form numbering, special drop-out colours and pre-

printing of certain data fields. These Schedules (about 34 crore in number), have been printed in high-end presses with state-of-the-art equipment to carry out digital variable printing with consistent quality (a pre-requisite for accurate image recognition). Other material, like instruction manuals, training materials (54 lakhs), etc., were printed in government and private presses all over the country.

The second challenge was the dispatch of material from the presses to about 17,000 distinct locations across the country. An accurate database of the exact quantity of forms in different languages, precise packing, labelling of the boxes, correct addressing, loading and transportation to the exact location have all been accomplished with precision.

The third challenge was the imparting of a uniform standard of training to the 2.7 million functionaries. For this purpose, an elaborate training cascade consisting of 90 trainers at the national level, 725 trainers at the state level, 54,000 trainers at the district level has been designed. Each of these levels have been equipped with specially designed training aids like instruction manuals, training guides, Power Point presentations, e-Learning modules, role plays and practice sheets. A unique collaboration between the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India, UN Organisations and Non-Government Organisations has seen this challenge being overcome successfully.



Realising that accurate Maps at all levels are a pre-requisite for an accurate Census, 16 workstations have been set up across India with skilled manpower and the latest hardware and software for creating a digital geographic database upto the level of the village boundary. Detailed mapping of 33 Capital Cities using Satellite Imageries has also been taken up and completed. At present, the Census organisation has the largest repository of maps showing to the latest administrative jurisdiction. This gives it the distinction of being the largest thematic map producer in the country.

Publicity Efforts

With the objective of enlisting the cooperation of all sections of the society, a strategy has been planned with mass media, outreach, public relations and the use of digital media as the main pillars. The focus of the campaign is 'inclusion'. Special focus has been trained on the inclusion of the elderly, infants, disabled population and females. Besides this, attention is also focused on accurately capturing female work participation. Celebrity endorsements by Sachin Tendulkar, the world renowned cricketer, and Priyanka Chopra, a well known film personality, are also a significant part of the publicity campaign. The effort is to reach out to every section of society.

The challenges have been arduous and the efforts unsparing. However, it is the people of India that will ultimately make Census 2011 a success. We are confident that the people will rise up to make this national task, the Census 2011, a resounding success.

For any further information, please contact:

Dr. C. Chandramouli, Registrar General & Census
Commissioner, India: 011 – 2307 0629

Mr. R.C. Sethi, Additional Registrar General, India:
011 – 2338 4852

Ms. Geetanjali Master, Communication Specialist, UNICEF:
98181 05861

Ms. Carishma Gill, Consultant, UNICEF: 98186 03639





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Know the
Census Enumerator

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What do they have to say?

A billion plus persons to be counted by visiting 240 million Households in just three weeks! Is this feasible? Can this be done? What would be the quality of such an exercise? Questions that naturally arise in everyone's mind. I too had the same doubts when I was told that I was selected to be a part of this exercise. Today, on the last day of training, I am confident that the task would be accomplished as efficiently and with the same degree of quality that it is known the world over for the last century and more. You must be wondering who I am and what I am talking about? Well, I am one among a million, nay two and a half million persons who has been selected as an Enumerator for Census 2011.

I deem it a privilege to have been given this unique opportunity to contribute my bit to a great national cause, and let me share with you why. Firstly, the task is a historical one – I am part of a tradition that started in India in 1872 and has been a continuous feature every decade without a break. When I learnt that very few countries in the world have such a legacy, my heart swelled with pride! Secondly, I am part of a task that is billed as the largest peacetime operation in the world. I understand that no other country in the world has conducted such a comprehensive exercise. It feels great to be part of this team.

That apart, it is the relevance of the work that really makes me happy to take part. Considering that the data that I will collect will be the basis of development plans, I will actually be contributing to the task of nation building. That makes my small effort really worthwhile.

Today, after three days of thorough training that I have been given, my confidence is high. The questions that plagued me have been resolved. The gigantic task that looked so unrealistic now seems quite achievable, why even simple. I only have to visit around 125 Households and count a population of approximately 750-800 people in the three weeks from 9th to 28th February, 2011. That means I only have to visit 5-6 Households a day! As small drops of water make a mighty ocean, the 2.5 million enumerators would achieve the task of counting the 240 million Households without any difficulty.

Regarding quality, I have been trained comprehensively on all aspects of the Census. The instruction manuals are exhaustive with illustrations and filled-in examples. Moreover, they are in my own language - I am given to understand that the manuals are available in 18 Indian languages. Really a remarkable thing! Even more interesting is the way the training was imparted by my master trainer with role-plays, discussions etc. The e-learning module has been particularly impressive as these illustrate the difficulties an enumerator faces while canvassing the schedule, and how one can overcome them. I am a teacher, but even I learnt a trick or two from the trainers. Also, it is a relief that I can call on the Toll Free Helpline 1800 345 0111 for any clarification. Thank God for modern technology!

The schedules are quite impressive too. The high quality of printing, the numbering of each schedule, the bar-code and the pleasant colours are things that stand out. I am told these forms have been specially designed and match the best in the world. Quite natural, the best Census should have the best inputs.

Confident as I am, I still have butterflies in my stomach when I think about entering the homes of total strangers and asking them personal questions. I draw comfort from the fact that the Census has bestowed upon me certain statutory powers that make my task simpler. At the same time, I am sobered by the realisation that the same also has cast certain duties upon me. No wonder they say, with great power comes great responsibility! On the other hand, I am excited too. Some of my colleagues who took part in the previous Census narrated how they met interesting people and had unforgettable experiences. Maybe, even I will write an article, or even a book on my experiences. I am eager to start!

Aarti

Enumerator from Delhi





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Disability



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Sehold Name Date of

History of Data Collection on Disability

The history of collecting data relating to disability/infirmity dates back to the inception of the modern Indian Census in 1872. Collection of information on infirmities/disabilities continued in each of the Censuses from 1881 to 1931. However, due to the doubts expressed by the then Census Commissioners about the authenticity and quality of data, the enumeration of physically disabled persons was discontinued in the 1941 Census. After a gap of 50 years, the question on disabilities was canvassed again during the Houselisting phase of 1981 Census. When the results became available, it was felt that there was considerable under-enumeration of disabled persons. Therefore, this question was not canvassed in the 1991 Census. However, in Census 2001, a question on disability was included in Census Schedule to collect information on five types of disabilities namely, disability in seeing, in speech, in hearing, in movement and mental disability.

Types of disabilities being covered in Census 2011

The disability categories being covered in Census 2011 are:

1. In Seeing
2. In Hearing
3. In Speech

4. In Movement

5. Mental Retardation

6. Mental Illness

7. Any Other

8. Multiple Disabilities

There is considerable expansion in the scope of questions over Census 2001, wherein 5 categories of disability were canvassed. Care has been taken to cover all categories listed in the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 and the National Trust Act, 1999.

Some FAQs

Will people with low vision be covered?

Persons with low vision as defined under the PWD Act, as well as the blind, will be covered under the category 'in seeing'.

Under which category will "leprosy cured" be covered?

Persons whose faculties have been affected due to leprosy will be covered under the category 'in movement'.

Where will autism, cerebral palsy, etc., be categorised?

These can be categorised under 'Any other'.

What about Multiple disability?

A respondent can report upto three types of disabilities. This allows better classification of disabilities and will yield richer data.

Why are 'in speech' and 'in hearing' two separate categories?

This is to cater to those individuals who have acquired the above two disabilities due to an accident or a disease. People suffering from both (deaf-mutes) can categorise themselves as multiple disabled.

Number of Disabled persons

The Census 2001 estimated the disabled population of India as 22 million - 2.1 % of the total population of India in 2001. The break-up of the figures is as below:

Total Pop. INDIA	Total disabled pop.	% To total pop.	Percentage distribution of disabled population by type of disability				
			Seeing	Speech	Hearing	Movement	Mental
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1,028 Million	22 Million	2.1	48.5	7.5	5.8	27.9	10.3

The effort in Census 2011 is to net the disabled without any omission or duplication. Correct information would help in

scientific planning and allocation of resources based on empirical data.

Steps taken to improve the netting of disabled persons

The improved questions have been formulated after extensive consultation with the concerned ministry, experts and non-government organisations active in the disability sector. A unique collaboration between the NGOs and the Census Commission has been initiated for sensitising officials concerned and the general public. A special training module has been developed and representatives of the NGOs are actively engaged in training at National, State, District and even Tehsil levels. A special audio-visual clip has been produced on the theme of inclusion of the disabled and will be aired throughout the duration of the Census. Public Relations campaigns like holding of rallies at National, State and District levels have also been undertaken. All said, considerable effort has been taken to net the disabled during the Census 2011.

However, netting numbers is definitely not sufficient. The complete profile of each and every individual is required. Therefore, all questions are equally important.



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The Importance of Data Dissemination

Population and Housing Censuses serve many needs by providing statistical information on demography, human settlements, social and economic issues at local, national, regional and international levels. Being a costly exercise undertaken once a decade, the results of the Census need to be disseminated within a reasonable period of time in order to be relevant to data users.

The Indian Census has a unique record. The first set of results, called the Provisional Population Totals, are compiled and released within 3 weeks of completion of the Census. Keeping in mind the scale of the operation, this in itself is a remarkable feat.

The entire data processing used to take more than 5 years in Censuses upto 1991. The time taken was significantly reduced to around 3 years in the Census 2001 and the effort is to reduce it further to around 1.5 years in Census 2011. Moreover, the results since 2001 are based on the processing of 100% forms instead of sampling resorted to in the previous years.

Cutting Edge Technology

Efforts to upgrade the data processing facilities have been made in each decade, so that the time is reduced and the quality is enhanced. A look at technology adoption from the 1960's clearly reveals this. In the 1961 Census, 'Unit Record Machines' were

used; in the 1971 Census, 'Key-punching (electrical cum mechanical) machines' – an IBM 1401 computer with IBM Card Reader was used; in the 1981 Census, Data Entry using Key to Disk Machines and Data Processing using HP 1000 CD-Cyber 730 & NEC - 1000 Computer Systems was done. The 1991 Census saw the use of Medha 930 Main Frame Computer System for data processing and Unix based dumb terminals for data entry. In the 2001 Census, India became the first large country to use image based Automatic Form Processing Technology for data processing. The Census 2011 will see the use of the latest version of ICR Technology with advanced features.

Dissemination of Data

After data processing is complete, the next step is to disseminate the data to the intended users.

The objective is not only to disseminate Census data in user friendly formats to the traditional users of the Census data, but also to the new and evolving group of data users. The Census organisation offers access to a wide range of information about the people of the country, while completely protecting the confidentiality of individual responses.

The Census data is published in the form of pre-formatted tables covering a large number of subjects as listed below:

1. Primary Census Abstracts
2. Population Tables
3. Economic Tables
4. Social and Cultural Tables (Age & Marital Status, Education, Religion, Language, etc.)
5. Tables on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
6. Migration Tables
7. Fertility Tables
8. Village Directory
9. Town Directory
10. District Census Handbook
11. Maps & Cartographic Presentations
12. Analytical Studies

Modes of Dissemination:

Census Data is made available to the users in the form of printed reports and tables, tables in spreadsheet format on CD, Power Point presentations, printed atlases – administrative as well as thematic, special interactive data products, special interactive map products using GIS technology and through the Census of India website.

The results of the 1991 Census were published in about 100 pre-

formatted tables at the national and state levels separately. The number rose to about 300 in 2001 Census. For 2011 Census, approximately 300 tables will be released in a span of about three years. Special facilities will also be extended for generating customised tables on user request. Data Dissemination Workshops will continue to be organised to sensitise data users about availability and use of Census Data in all States/UTs. Data users comprising representatives from government departments, NGOs, international organisations, research scholars, etc., are invited to participate. The organisation also responds to a large number of queries received from the data users. For the purpose of dissemination, information hubs have been set up in all 33 Census Directorates in States and Union Territories, where users may visit to consult or obtain Census data. The printed reports and Data CDs are also made available for sale through the outlets of Controller of Government Publications and Sale Agents appointed by the Census Organisation.

Ultimately, the success of the Census lies in the extensive use of data generated.



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09/09/2

Gender Sensitisation



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The criticality of Gender related information

Gender disaggregated data is the basis for gender sensitive policy formulation and programme planning. The need for gender statistics in formulating policies and programmes can hardly be over-emphasised. The Census of India is a veritable mine of information on the demographic, social and economic aspects of population. It is the only source of population characteristics at the lowest administrative levels - village in rural areas and ward in urban areas.

Conceptually, information collected in the Census is gender neutral and compiled and tabulated for both men and women separately. The questionnaire and instruction manual for collection of information in the field have been carefully designed to avoid any bias on the basis of gender. The training of Census functionaries also focuses on this aspect of neutrality.

Information captured by the Census in the past

The last three decades have seen special efforts. In Census 1991, emphasis was laid on netting of women's contribution in the economic activities. The main emphasis was on unpaid work done by women. The question on 'Work' was amplified to include unpaid work in family farms and family enterprises. This was followed by publicity campaigns on television, radio and print media, to generate awareness. Fortunately, a significant impact was reflected in the female work participation rate, which improved from 19.7 percent in the 1981 Census to 22.3 percent in 1991. However, the data continued to show regional disparities in gender statistics on work participation rate and adult sex ratio.

During Census 2001, special efforts were made to address gender concerns. Gender sensitisation activities were initiated right from the stage of planning, which included modifications in the instruction manuals, special modules on gender, media campaigns and other modes of mass mobilisation. There was emphasis on ensuring that each question was canvassed for each individual member of the Household, and a woman's individuality was not compromised or conditioned by any bias. The possibility of a gender bias creeping into the data collection and dissemination were evaluated. Focused training was introduced to reduce gaps in understanding and to ensure accurate information and coverage to the maximum extent possible.

Key action taken for Census 2011

With a view to review the past experiences and fine-tune the strategies, it is pertinent to understand gender gaps in data. The National Workshop on Gender mainstreaming was organised by the Census Commissioner Office on 30th July, 2010, to look at data sets on key gender indicators and deliberate on sensitive issues. The workshops evaluated issues, which could affect accurate netting in the field, and also shared local concerns of States/UTs to propose a strategy to improve gender statistics in Census 2011. This was followed by a number of group workshops, which had participation of different DCOs and UN agencies supporting this initiative. Gender mainstreaming activities of Census 2011, encompassing gender responsive training and publicity, is an outcome of detailed data analysis and

subsequent deliberations and consultative processes involving different stakeholders.

Gender data findings in Census 2001

Some of the key parameters concerning Gender disaggregated data in the Census are highlighted below:

The overall growth rate during the 1991-2001 has been 23.1 per cent for female population, which is slightly higher than that of male population (22.2%) at the national level. The trend is similar in case of rural and urban areas. In majority of the states also, this trend was noted which in fact has been reversal of trends seen during 1981-1991 when female population growth was lower as compared to male population growth.

The Census 2001 also registered a higher sex ratio (i.e. females per thousand males) of population (933) over the Census 1991 (927), an increase of 6 points at national level. In 23 States/Union Territories, increase in the sex ratio of total population was observed as compared to 1991. Similar trends were seen in rural and urban areas of 23 and 25 States/UTs respectively. The increase was more pronounced in 7 + age group not only at national level but also in 29 states.

Notwithstanding increase in the overall value of sex ratio of total population, the child sex ratio in the age group 0-6 has plummeted from 945 in Census 1991 to 927 in 2001 at the national level. The trends were alarming in some of the major States like Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the union territories of Chandigarh and Delhi. 477 districts comprising of 70% of total districts (593) had shown

a decline in the value of child sex ratio (0-6) and in 118 districts child sex ratio had fallen below 900. This shortfall of girl child population in early childhood may reflect in higher age groups in the years to come.

The female work participation (i.e. percentage of female workers to total female population) at the national level increased from 22.3 percent in 1991 to 25.8 percent on 2001, however increase was distinct in the category of marginal workers. Similar trends were seen in many states while male work participation rate remained almost unchanged during 1991-2001. In the 15-59 age group, 80.7 % male population was economically active against 40% females during 2001 Census. Despite increasing trends, the gaps in female workers are noted in certain districts at the 2001 Census. As many as 36 districts reported less than 10 % female work participation rate. A point to be noted in the context of work and non-work is that the Census does not define these concepts. It is the National System of Accounts that does so. The Census merely enumerates as per the definition laid down. Controversies regarding the netting of work especially of females in the Census are therefore misdirected.

Census 2011 – Effort for Gender Responsive Enumeration

The Post Enumeration Survey of Census 2001 has shown that while there was no gender bias in coverage, the overall omission



rate was 23.3 per thousand persons, which is higher than that in the Census 1991 (17.6 per thousand). The first and foremost aim of Census 2011 would be to ensure complete coverage without omission or duplication. An analysis of the net omission rate per thousand population in selected age groups has shown a relatively higher female omission rate up to age of 24 years in rural areas. It is also noticed that the male/female gap in omission rates show a sizable differential of eight and six percentage points in the 60+ age group in rural and urban areas respectively. There is a need to focus on these age groups and ensure that the gap is narrowed if not eliminated.

The juvenile sex ratio and sex ratio at birth are vital parameters and it would be the endeavor of the Census organisation to net these accurately.

In addition to the basic count, special efforts will also be taken to accurately net the socio-cultural, demographic and economic characteristics, which inter-alia would include correct netting of head of the Household, age, age at marriage, marital status, literacy, and economic activities in unorganised and unpaid work. A number of activities involving female workers and real pictures of women at work have been added in the instruction manual to help probing about the female economic pursuits. The gender component will be an integral part of all training programmes.

Special focus will be directed towards areas that returned abnormal gender parameters such as sex ratio, literacy and female work participation in Census 2001, by developing special gender modules and training strategies for sensitisation of Census functionaries. These efforts would be more focused in 262 districts, which have returned very low gender parameters as per 2001 Census. These districts will have Gender Master

Trainer Facilitators (GMTFs) who will support Master Trainers and impart special training to Enumerators with the aid of special modules and kits specially devised for training at different levels. This module will focus to reduce stereotypes and apathy with the help of handouts on Gender and Data Sheets to make 2011 Census a gender responsive Census.

Publicity

It is equally important to create awareness among the general masses about gender issues to facilitate correct reporting of information about each member, specially women. Steps will also be taken to reach out to respondents through gender sensitive publicity campaigns and outreach programmes. The ultimate aim will be to create an environment that will sensitise both enumerators as well as respondents.

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2011

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The Key Issue of Migration



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Household Name Date of

Criticality of information on Migration

Patterns of migration have always fascinated demographers. Elaborate theories have been formulated on the subject and policy interventions designed to reduce or take care of the effects of migration. The results of Census 2011 will reveal the contours of migration in the last decade and establish the push and pull factors that affect migration.

Information on Migration

Migration in the Census of India is of two types – migration by birth place and migration by place of last residence.

Historically, information on migration has been collected since 1872. It was confined to seeking information only on place of birth till 1961. The scope of collecting information on migration was enlarged by including the rural or urban status of the place of birth and duration of stay at the place of residence in 1961. Since the 1971 Census, data is being collected on the basis of place of last residence in addition to the question on birth place. Question on 'Reason for migration' was introduced in 1981. Also, the category of 'Natural Calamities' as one of the reasons for migration was excluded and a new reason 'Moved at birth' was added.

Findings in Census 2001

The data on migration by last residence in India as per Census 2001 shows that the total number of migrants was 31.4 crore. In the decade 1991-2001, about 9.8 crore persons migrated to a new place from their place of last residence. Out of these migrants by last residence, 8.1 crore were intra-state migrants, 1.7 crore inter-state migrants and 7 lakh international migrants. The largest volume is confined to migration from one part of the state to another. Migration on account of change of residence by women after marriage constitutes a significant proportion of these migrants.

Streams of Migration

There are different streams of migration generally relating to the degree of economic and social development in the area of origin as well as area of destination. The most important component among the streams is the **rural to rural migration**. As per the 2001 Census, in 1991-2001, about 5.3 crore persons migrated from one village to another. The number of migrants from **villages to towns** was about 2.1 crore. Similarly, number of migrants from **towns to villages** was about 62 lakh and from **one town to another** about 1.4 crore.

The number of net migrants by last residence during the past decade, i.e., the difference between in-migrants and out-migrants for each state, showed Maharashtra at the top of the list with 23.8 lakh net migrants, followed by Delhi (17.6 lakh), Gujarat (6.8 lakh) and Haryana (6.7 lakh), as per Census 2001. Uttar Pradesh (-26.9 lakh) and Bihar (-17.2 lakh) were the two states with largest number of persons migrating out of the two states.

Migration into large metropolises was significant in 1991-2001 with Greater Mumbai UA drawing about 24.9 lakh migrants, Delhi UA about 21.1 lakh migrants, Chennai UA about 4.3 lakh migrants, to name the largest three urban destinations in the country. As the trend in migration to large Urban Agglomerations continued, the Census 2011 is likely to show a spurt in population in these places.

Another aspect of interest is the volume of international migration into India. Due to partition of the country in 1947, a large number of persons had migrated from both West Pakistan and East Pakistan. Later at the time of the 1971 War, a large influx of population was recorded from Bangladesh. The data on migration shows that in the 2001 Census, among the total population, about 51 lakh persons in the country were migrants from across the international border. About 97% of them were from the eight neighbouring countries (including Afghanistan). Of

these migrants, 30 lakh were from Bangladesh, 9 lakh from Pakistan, 5 lakh from Nepal and 1 lakh from Sri Lanka. The volume of total migration had declined considerably over the decades since 1971. The number of migrants from other countries reduced to only 7.4 lakh during the last ten years at the 2001 Census. In comparison to 1991, there is 31.6% decline in international migration to India (excluding J&K) in 2001. This is due to a substantial decline in the number of recent migration and death of earlier migrants due to old age.

The trends indicated in Census 2011 would be valuable to tweak existing schemes, and also to formulate new programmes to prevent rural-urban migration by creating economic opportunities close to their place of residence. It would also provide an empirical basis for better urban planning.



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Data Highlights


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During the Census of India 2001, the population of India stood at 1028,737,436*, comprising 532,223,090 males and 496,514,346 females. This vast wealth of human resources is distributed in 193,579,954 Households, dispersed in thirty five States and Union Territories, consisting of 593 Districts and 5,463 Sub-districts, 5161 Towns and 638,588 Villages. During the decade, the population of the country has registered a growth of 21.54 per cent.

Age structure for the country revealed that 35.3% population is in the age group of 0-14. The age group of 15-59 years constitutes 56.9% and the higher age group of 60 years and above accounts for 7.4% of the country's population.

The sex ratio for total population of the country is 933, while for children in the age group of 0-6, it stands at 927. As many as 17 States/UTs have recorded a sex ratio above the national average.

In Census 2001, literacy rate of 64.8% was recorded for the country. Male literacy rate was 75.3% and the female literacy rate was 53.7%.

Information on work status of the population reveals that 39.1% were workers. There was wide disparity between the male work participation rate of 51.7% and female work participation rate of 25.6%. Of the total workers, a maximum of 37.6% workers have been recorded as other workers, followed by cultivators (31.7%) and agricultural laborers (26.5%).

Hindus form the largest religious community, constituting 80.5% of the total population, followed by Muslims and Christians, who account for 13.4% and 2.3% of the population, respectively.

Important Statistics	
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION	
Area (in square kilometer)	3,287,263\$
Number of Districts	593
Number of sub-districts	5,463
Number of towns	5,161
Number of inhabited villages	593,732

POPULATION		
Persons		1,028,610,328#
Males		532,156,772
Females		496,453,556
Sex ratio		933
Percentage of urban population		27.8
Population density (per sq km)		325
Number of household		193,579,954
Household size		5.3
POPULATION (0-6 YEARS)		
Persons		163,819,614
Males		84,999,203
Females		78,820,411
Percentage of total population		15.9
Sex ratio		927
LITERATE	NUMBER	LITERACY RATE (7+YRS)
Persons	560,687,797	64.8
Males	336,533,716	75.3
Females	224,154,081	53.7
WORKERS	NUMBER	PER CENT
Persons	402,234,724	39.1
Males	275,014,476	51.7
Females	127,220,248	25.6
CATEGORY OF WORKERS	NUMBER	PER CENT
Cultivators	127,312,851	31.7
Agricultural laborers	106,775,330	26.5
Household industry workers	16,956,942	4.2
Other workers	151,189,601	37.6
MAIN RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES	NUMBER	PER CENT
Hindus	827,578,868	80.5
Muslims	138,188,240	13.4
Christians	24,080,016	2.3
Sikhs	19,215,730	1.9
Buddhists	7,955,207	0.8
Jains	4,225,053	0.4
Others	6,639,626	0.6
Religion not stated	727,588	0.1
DISABILITY	NUMBER	PER CENT
Total Disabled	21,906,769	2.1
In seeing	10,634,881	48.5
In hearing	1,261,722	5.8
In speech	1,640,868	7.5
In movement	6,105,477	27.9
Mental disability	2,263,821	10.3

*Includes the estimated population of Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur States. \$The area figure includes the area under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China. # Excludes the population of Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur States.

What should we expect from Census 2011?

Demography is a fairly evolved and scientific discipline. Based on scientific calculations, projections have been made by the body of experts. According to these projections, some of the demographic indicators are likely to be as follows:

PROJECTED POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS (IN INDIA) AS ON 1st MARCH: 2001-2026

INDICATOR	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026
Population (000')						
Total	1,028,610	1,112,187	1,192,507	1,268,961	1,339,741	1,399,838
Male	532,157	575,529	617,317	657,168	694,080	725,176
Female	496,454	536,657	575,190	611,793	645,660	674,662
Sex ratio	933	932	932	931	930	930
Population density (Sq. km.)	313	338	363	386	408	426
Population by broad age-groups (000')						
18 years and above	599,909	682,439	772,414	858,361	935,759	1,005,425
0-14	364,582	356,998	346,942	340,291	336,906	327,004
15-59	593,342	671,608	747,094	810,571	859,590	899,651
60+	70,686	83,580	98,470	118,099	143,244	173,182
Proportion (percent)						
0-14	35.4	32.1	29.1	26.8	25.1	23.4
15-59	57.7	60.4	62.6	63.9	64.2	64.3
15-49 (Female population)	51.1	53.1	54.5	54.8	54.1	53.3
60+	6.9	7.5	8.3	9.3	10.7	12.4
Median age (years)	22.51	23.88	25.47	27.37	29.33	31.39
Dependency Ratio						
Young (0-14)	614	532	464	420	392	363
Old (60+)	119	124	132	146	167	192
Total (Young and old)	734	656	596	566	559	556



Mother tongue Relationship to

DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS (INDIA): 2001-2025

INDICATOR	2001-05	2006-10	2011-15	2016-20	2021-25
Population growth rate	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.9
Crude Birth Rate (CBR)	23.2	21.3	19.6	18.0	16.0
Crude Death Rate (CDR)	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.2
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)	61.3	54.3	49.2	44.0	40.2
Under-5 mortality rate (q5)	82.0	72.8	65.9	59.0	54.0
Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.0
Life expectancy of males	63.8	65.8	67.3	68.8	69.8
Life expectancy of females	66.1	68.1	69.6	71.1	72.3

For any further information, please contact:

Dr. C. Chandramouli, Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India: 011 – 2307 0629

Mr. R.C. Sethi, Additional Registrar General, India: 011 – 2338 4852

Ms. Geetanjali Master, Communication Specialist, UNICEF: 98181 05861

Ms. Carishma Gill, Consultant, UNICEF: 98186 03639

