

POPULATION GROWTH IN INDIA : TRENDS & PATTERNS - III (REGIONAL TRENDS – SHORT TERM)



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Objective

- The trends and patterns of population growth in India depict regional variations which may be studied under two heads, viz. long term variations and short term variations
- The present lecture will focus on the short term trends and patterns of population growth in India

Short Term Growth

- This is the growth of the last decade (2001-2011)
- Tremendous regional variations are observed in the short term growth of population in India
- There are only 4 states and 1 U.T. where the decennial growth rate of population has increased in 2011 as compared to the last decade (1991-2001)
- These include Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry

Regional Variations in Short Term Growth

- Based on the decennial growth rate of (2001-2011) Indian States & U.T.'s can be classified under four groups:
 - (i) Areas of Very High Growth (45-60%)
 - (ii) Areas of High Growth (30-45%)
 - (iii) Areas of Moderate Growth (15-30%)
 - (iv) Areas of Low Growth (less than 15%)
- The national average of decennial growth during this period was 17.7%

Areas of Very High Growth

- Only 2 Union Territories of Dadar & Nagar Haveli (55.9%) and Daman & Diu (53.8%) are included in this group
- The main cause of very high growth is population migration to these areas

Areas of High Growth

- No region of India falls in this category

Areas of Moderate Growth

(2001-2011)

| State / U.T | Decennial Growth (%) | State / U.T | Decennial Growth (%) |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Puducherry (U.T.) | 28.1 | Madhya Pradesh | 20.30 |
| Delhi (NCR) | 21.2 | Uttar Pradesh | 20.2 |
| Chandigarh (U.T.) | 17.20 | Haryana | 19.90 |
| Meghalaya | 27.9 | Gujarat | 19.3 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 26.0 | Uttarakhand | 18.8 |
| Bihar | 25.4 | Manipur | 24.5 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 23.6 | Assom | 17.1 |
| Mizoram | 23.5 | Maharashtra | 16.0 |
| Chhattisgarh | 22.6 | Tamil Nadu | 15.67 |
| Jharkhand | 22.4 | Karnataka | 15.60 |
| Rajasthan | 21.3 | | |

Source : Census of India, 2011, Provisional Population Totals

- Most of the states of India & the U.T's of Chandigarh & Puducherry are included in this group
- The mortality rate has been controlled in these areas to a large extent but the birth rate is still high
- In spite of being in the category of moderate growth in several states trends of population explosion are visible
- Meghalaya has recorded the highest decennial growth rate in the census of 2011

Areas of Low Growth

(2001-2011)

| State/U.T | Decennial Growth (%) | State / U.T | Decennial Growth (%) |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Tripura | 14.8 | Andhra Pradesh | 11.0 |
| Odisha | 14.0 | Goa | 8.2 |
| Punjab | 13.9 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 6.9 |
| West Bengal | 13.8 | Lakshadweep | 6.3 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 12.9 | Kerala | 4.9 |
| Sikkim | 12.9 | Nagaland | -0.6 |

Source : Census of India, 2011, Provisional Population Totals

The areas having low growth can be sub-divided into 3 categories:

- First category includes states like Kerala, Goa & Punjab where population control programmes have been successful due to economic & social development
- The second category includes states like Tripura, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh & Nagaland where apart from developmental works, political & administrative efforts & participation of the people have made population control programmes a success
- Odisha lies in the third category and has a different situation. It is a backward state & has a high death rate

Conclusion

The National Population Policy, 2000, adopted by the Government of India presented the long term objective of achieving a stable population by 2045. But the crucial question is can this objective be achieved? It was envisaged that if the NPP is fully implemented, the population of India should be 1013 million by 2002 & 1107 million by 2010. However, in 2001 itself India exceeded the estimated population for the year

2002 by 14 million and the population in 2011 census is higher by about 110 million compared to the target set for the year 2010. It will no doubt be an uphill task for the Government & the people to achieve the much cherished goal of stable population.

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**THANK
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