



**Magadh Mahila College**  
Patna University, Patna

# India's Population- Growth Pattern and Policies

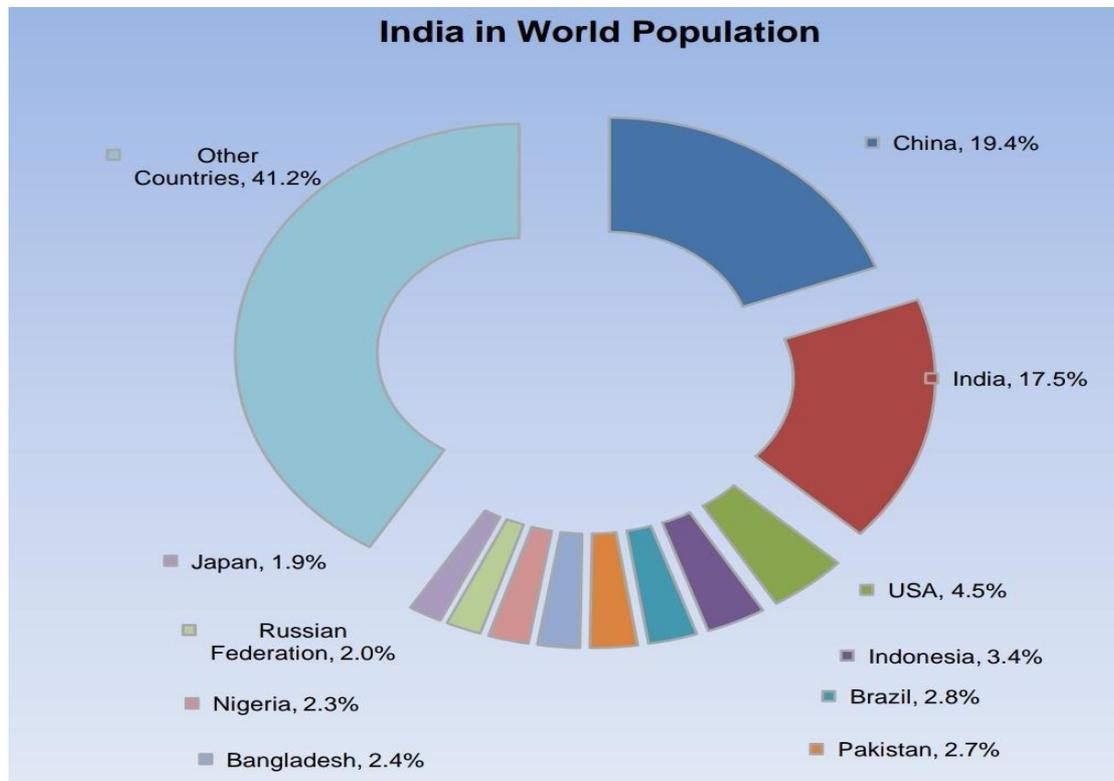
CC-10: Indian Economy- Issues and Policies- 2

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# India's Population

The current population of India is at 132.42 crores (as of 2016) and is the second highest in the world. Also, our population is what contributes to our socio-economic structure and the diverse cultural scenario. The current population of India contributes to 17% of the global population. Also, all these people are unevenly distributed across 3.28 million square kilometers of our geographical area.



# Study of the growth of India's population can be divided into four periods of time:

## 1. Period of stable Population(1891-1921):

- Between 1891 and 1921, rate of growth of population in India, was low. In these 30 years, population increased by 1.26 crore.
- It was so because in these years, calamities and epidemics, like famines, plague, malaria etc took a heavy toll of human lives.

## 2. Period of Growth of Population (1921-51):

Since 1921, population has been increasing at a rapid rate. The trend of growth of population in India, since 1921, has been consistently on the rise. That is why, Census Commissioner has referred the year 1921 as **Year of Great Divide**.

- **1921-1931:** Population increased by 276 lakhs.
- **1931-1941:** Population increased by 3.96 crore during this period and rate of growth become 14%.
- **1941-1951:**Population increased by 4.24 crore. Due to partition of the country, the growth rate decreased a little.

## 3. Period of Population Explosion (1951-1981):

- **1951-1961:**In this decade, population increased rapidly. It is called 'period of population explosion'.Population increased by 7.82 crore.
- **1961-1971:**In this period population recorded increase of 10.82 crore.
- **1971-1981:**During this period, population increased by 13.50 crore.

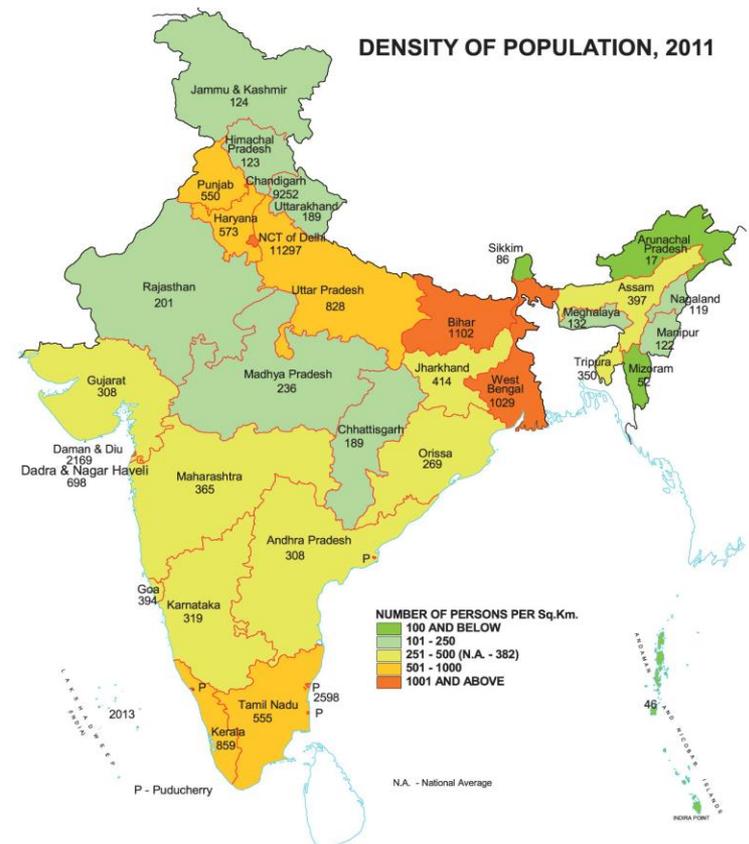
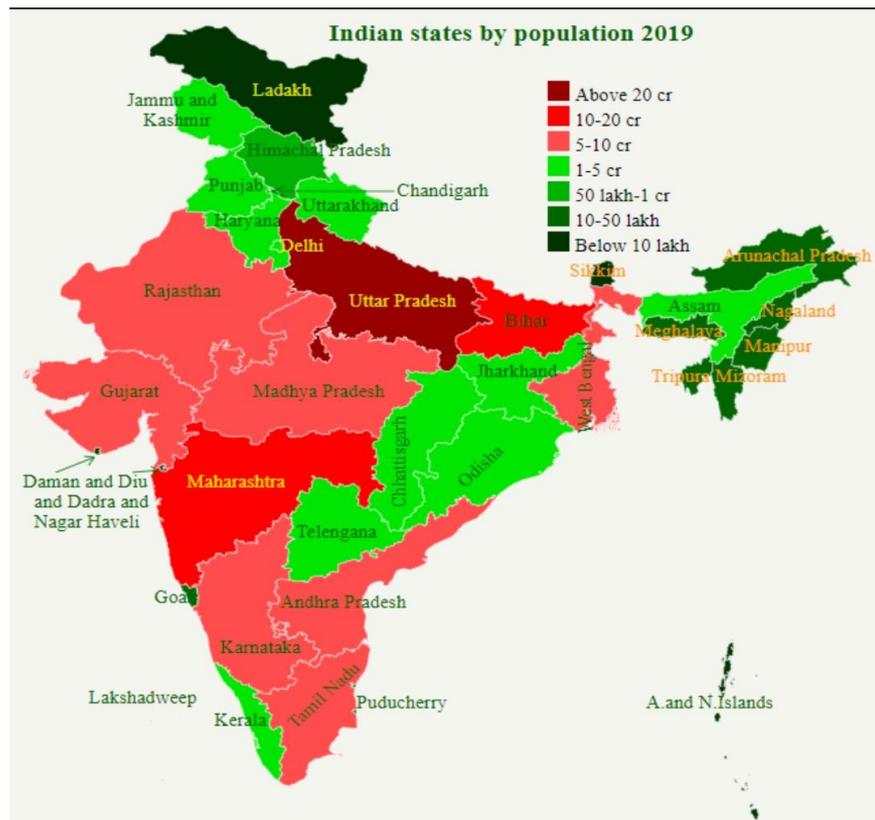
## 4. Period of High Growth with definite Signs of slowing down from 1981 onwards:

- **1981-1991:**In this decade, the population was 84.63 crore.
- **1991-2001:**In 2001, the population went up to 102.90 crore. The population of India increased by 18.07 crore.
- **2001-2011:**In 2011, the population of India, was 121.08 crores. This represents an increase of 18.14 crore in the previous decade.



# Density of Population

The density of population is defined as the number of persons living per sq km. The population density of India in 2011 was 382 per sq km. NCT of Delhi with population density 11, 297 is the most thickly populated UT. Among the states, Bihar is on the top of the list with a population density of 1,102 in 2011. About half of the country's population is concentrated around five major states- Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. This uneven distribution of the population is due to the varying population density of the country.



# Sex Ratio

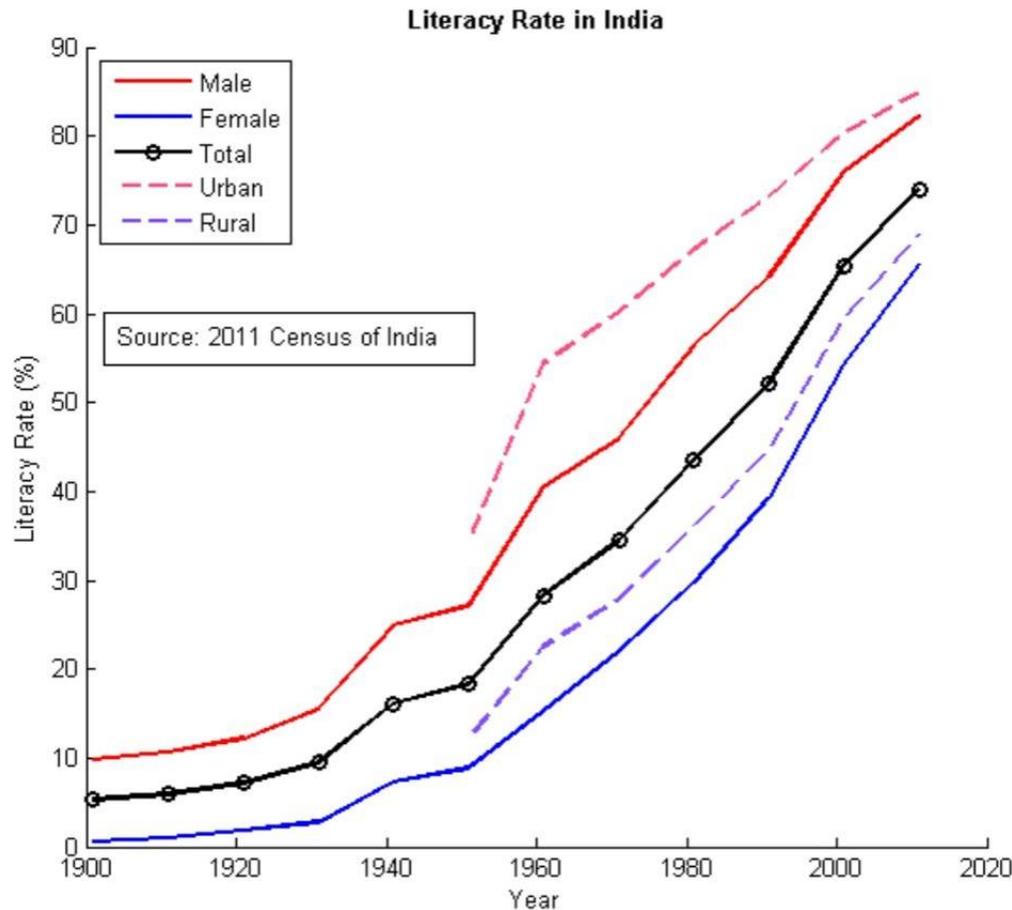
Sex ratio is the number of females per 1000 males in the population. It is an important and useful indicator to measure gender equity in a society at a given point of time. Census India usually brings out the sex ratio information. Changes in gender composition largely reflect the underlying social, economic and cultural patterns of the society in different ways. As per Census 2011, Gender ratio of India is 943 females per 1000 males. In rural area, there are 949 females to 1000 men, while in urban area there are 929 females to 1000 males.

Year	Sex Ratio			Decadal change
	Total	Rural	Urban	
2011	943	949	929	10
2001	933	946	900	6
1991	927	938	893	-7
1981	934	951	879	4
1971	930	949	858	-11
1961	941	963	845	-5
1951	946	965	860	1
1941	945	-	-	-5
1931	950	-	-	-5
1921	955	-	-	-9
1911	964	-	-	-8
1901	972	-	-	-



# Literacy

Any person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. As per 2011 census the literacy rate in the country is 74.04 per cent, 82.14 for males and 65.46 for females. Kerala retained its position by being on top with a 93.91 per cent literacy rate. Bihar with a literacy rate of 63.82 per cent ranks last in the country.



# Age Structure/Composition

Age structure of the population of a country indicates the extent, to which the population of that country is productive from the economic point of view. Population in the age group of 15-60 years is known as working population. Population in the age group of 0-14 years and above 60 years is known as non-working/dependent population. Higher proportion of working population is beneficial for the economic development of the country.

**Demographic Dividend:** It refers to an opportunity before a country with a high share of population between the ages of 15 and 64, to boost economic growth.

<b>Population Group of Year</b>	<b>1961</b>	<b>1971</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2011</b>
0-14	41	41.2	39.5	37.7	34.3	30.2
15-64	56	55.5	57	58.4	61.4	64.8
65 and above	3	3.3	3.5	3.9	4.3	5



# INDIA'S POPULATION POLICIES

**1952**

India became the first country to adopt an official policy to slow population growth and set up family planning clinics. But there were still deep-rooted traditions favoring larger families and lack of access to a largely rural population.

**1956-1961**

The government increased spending on family planning.

**1975**

Population growth persisted so the government declared a national emergency. Many states adopted coercive measures and quota systems that resulted in the infamous sterilization camps.

**1976-1977**

There were 8.3 million sterilizations performed, mostly vasectomies, up from 2.7 million the year before. The abuses and poor publicity generated by the "emergency" caused the government to suspend family planning services for years.

**1994**

At the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, India announced that it was adopting a "target-free" approach in its population policy to focus on overall reproductive health instead of specific demographic goals.



## National population policy

- Population policy refers to all those legal, administrative programmes and other government efforts, which aim at reducing birth rate and improving the quality of life.
- After independence, the Government of India adopted a national policy on population with the objective to check the increase in birth rate and improve the standard of living of people. This policy has been revised from time to time and its scope has been widened. It has been very effective in initiating measures for population control.

## New National Population Policy (2000)

- The Government of India announced its new National Population Policy on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2000. The National Population Policy (NPP) affirms the commitment of government towards voluntary consent of citizens, while availing of reproductive healthcare services.
- The New National Population (NPP) provides a policy framework to meet the reproductive and child health needs of the people of India for the next 10 years.



# Objectives of National Population Policy (NPP) 2000.

**There are three types of objectives of National Population Policy (NPP), 2000:**

## **1. The Immediate Objective:**

The immediate objective is to address the unmet needs for contraception, health care infrastructure and health personnel and to provide integrated service delivery for basic reproductive and child health care.

## **2. The Medium Term Objective:**

The medium term objective is to bring the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to replacement level by 2010 through vigorous implementation in inter-sectorial operational strategies.

## **3. The Long Term Objective:**

The long term objective is to achieve a stable population by 2045 at a level consistent with the requirements of sustainable economic growth, social development, and environment protection.



# Thank You

