

Madhya Pradesh

DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED CASTES Census of India 2001

Madhya Pradesh is the seventh most populous State of Indian Union according to the census 2001. The State was bifurcated, with the formation of the State of Chhattisgarh in November, 2000. After its reorganization, Madhya Pradesh consists of 45 districts. The Scheduled Caste (SC) population of the State as per 2001 census, is 9,155,177, constituting 15.2 per cent of the total population (60,348,023). The State holds 8th rank in terms of the SC population among all the States and UTs. The growth of the SC population during 1991-2001 has been 22.4 per cent, which is 1.9 per cent lower than the growth of the total population (24.3 per cent). The state has a total of forty seven (47) SCs and all of them have been enumerated at 2001 census.

2. Majority (75.5 per cent) of the SC population resides in the rural areas. Among the districts, Dataia has the highest proportion of SCs (24.9 per cent), followed by Ujjain (24.7 per cent) and Tikamgarh (24.3 per cent). Jhabua district has the lowest proportion of SC population (2.8 per cent), preceded by Mandla (4.6 per cent) and Dindori (5.8 per cent) districts.

Population - Size & Distribution

3. Out of forty seven (47) SCs, Chamar is the most populous caste, with a population of 4,498,165 constituting 49.1 per cent of the total SC population. Balahi is the second largest caste, having a population of 1,105,558 forms 12.1 per cent of all SC population. Three other SCs in the descending order are Mahar, Koli and Bhangi. Along with Chamar and Balahi, the five SCs constitute 77.9 per cent of the total SC population. Khatik, Katia, Khangar, Kumhar, Bagri and Basor have population ranging from 118,763 to 262,257; together they form 12.3 per cent of the total SC population in the State. Four SCs, namely, Nat, Dhanuk, Barahar and Chadar having population in the range of 71,820 to 94,870 constitute another 3.6 per cent of total SC population. Remaining thirty two (32) SCs along with generic castes constitute the residual 6.2 per cent of total SC population. Among the forty seven SCs, twelve have below 5,000 population. Of them, six castes namely Muskhan, Bahna, Dhed, Dewar, Audhelia and Chitar are very small groups, each having less than 500 population.

4. Though Chamar are primarily concentrated in Sagar, Morena, Rewa, Bhind and Chhatarpur districts, they have their highest proportion (75.7 per cent) in Morena district. Balahi have major concentration in Ujjain, West Nimar and Dewas districts. Mahar have their highest concentration in Betul district whereas Koli and Bhangi each have their maximum concentration in Gwalior district.

Sex Ratio

5. The over all sex ratio of the SC population in Madhya Pradesh is 905 females per 1000 males which is lower than the national average of 936 for the total SC population.

6. At the individual level, except Mahar, other four castes have registered overall sex ratio lower than the national average.

7. The sex ratio in the age group 0-6 years (927) is lower than that of the SCs at the national level. Except Bhangi and Balahi, the three major castes have shown the child sex ratio lower than the national average.

Statement - 1 : Sex Ratio

Age Groups	All SCs (India)	All SCs (State)	Mahar	Balahi	Bhangi	Koli	Chamar
All ages	936	905	947	929	924	890	889
0 – 6 yrs.	938	927	935	938	940	913	920

Literacy & Educational Level

8. The literacy rate among the SCs has increased from 34 per cent registered at 1991 census to 58.6 per cent at 2001 census. This is higher than the national average of 54.7 per cent aggregated for all SCs. Male and female literacy (72.3 per cent and 43.3 per cent respectively) are higher in comparison to those at the national level (66.6 per cent & 41.9 per cent).

9. All the major SCs except Chamar have registered a female literacy rate higher than that of the national average with Mahar having more than 60 per cent female literates.

Statement -2 : Literacy Rate

Literacy rate	All SCs	Mahar	Bhangi	Koli	Balahi	Chamar
Persons	58.6	73.8	63.3	63.0	60.4	55.6
Females	43.3	62.0	50.5	48.0	43.5	39.5

10. Among the literates, 44.2 per cent are either without any educational level or have attained education below primary level. The proportion of literates who have attained education up to primary and middle levels constitute 28.5 per cent and 13.9 per cent respectively. Literates educated up to matric / higher secondary level constitute 10.8 per cent only. Graduates & above are 2.5 per cent.

Statement – 3 : Levels of Education among the major Scheduled Castes

Names of SCs	Literate without educational level	Below primary	Educational levels attained				
			Primary	Middle	Matric/Secondary Higher Secondary/ Intermediate	Technical & Non-technical diploma	Graduate and above
All SCs	5.8	38.3	28.5	13.9	10.8	0.1	2.5
Chamar	6.1	39.9	28.5	13.6	9.8	0.1	2.0
Balahi	7.9	42.1	27.4	11.8	8.7	0.1	2.0
Mahar	3.1	30.6	28.2	16.2	16.7	0.3	5.1
Koli	3.6	31.2	29.0	17.2	14.8	0.2	3.9
Bhangi	3.7	35.4	32.4	15.9	10.5	0.1	2.1

11. It may be discerned from the educational levels attained by all SCs, the drop-out rate is high after middle level as the percentage of middle level is almost half of the primary level and declines sharply from secondary level onwards.

12. Out of the total 25.3 lakh SC children in the age group 5 -14 years, only 16.4 lakh have been attending school, constituting 64.7 per cent. As many as 8.9 lakh children in the corresponding age group have not been going to school. Among the major SCs, Mahar have the highest share of school going children followed by Koli, Chamar, Bhangi and Balahi.

Statement - 4 : Percentage of school going children in the age group 5 -14 yrs.

Age group	All SCs	Chamar	Balahi	Mahar	Koli	Bhangi
5-14 yrs.	64.7	65.1	63.9	77.7	67.0	64.3

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

13. The Work Participation Rate (WPR) of the SC population has increased from 42.4 per cent at 1991 to 43.1 per cent at 2001. This figure is higher than that of total SCs at the national level (40.4 per cent). Male WPR (49.8 per cent) is marginally lower than the national average whereas female WPR (35.8 per cent) is higher by 6.4 per cent from that of the national average. Among the total workers, 71 per cent are main workers, which is below the national average recorded for all SCs (73 per cent).

14. At the level of individual caste, Chamar, Balahi and Mahar have shown overall WPR higher than that of the national average. Balahi have the highest female WPR (42.4 per cent) followed by Chamar, Mahar, Koli and Bhangi.

Category of Workers

15. 'Agricultural Labourers' constitute the highest proportion (42.5 per cent) among all workers. This is lower than the national average of 45.6 per cent recorded for all SCs in this category. 'Cultivators' account for 27 per cent, which is higher if compared with that of all SCs at the national level (20 per cent). 'Other Workers' constitute 22.7 per cent against the national average of 30.5 per cent. Workers engaged in Household Industry (HHI) constitute 7.8 per cent which is twice that of the national average (3.9 per cent).

16. Among the major castes, Balahi have more than half of the total workers are 'Agricultural Labourers' whereas Bhangi have more than 60 per cent workers are 'Other Workers'. Koli have the highest proportion of 'HHI Workers' in comparison to other major castes.

Statement- 5 : Percentage distribution of Workers in four Economic Categories

Economic category	All SCs	Chamar	Balahi	Mahar	Koli	Bhangi
Cultivators	27.0	29.4	28.0	22.1	21.6	8.0
Agricultural Labourers	42.5	44.8	54.3	39.7	29.8	28.1
HHI Workers	7.8	6.6	0.6	7.8	12.7	2.5
Other Workers	22.7	19.2	17.1	30.4	35.8	61.4

Marital Status

17. The data show that slightly more than half of the SC population is 'never married' (50.5 per cent) whereas 'married' persons constitute 44.9 per cent. 'Widowed' persons form 4.3 per cent while a negligible percent (0.3 per cent) are 'divorced and separated'.

18. In Madhya Pradesh, proportions of married girls below 18 years (4.1 per cent) and married boys below 21 years (5 per cent) are considerably higher than those recorded at national level (2.8 per cent & 3.1 per cent respectively). Chamar and Balahi have registered the proportion of such marriages higher than the State average.

Statement-6 : Percentage of married girls and married boys below the stipulated age

Age group	All SCs	Chamar	Balahi	Mahar	Koli	Bhangi
Married girls (less than 18 years)	4.1	4.6	5.1	1.3	2.5	2.2
Married boys (less than 21 years)	5.0	5.6	5.5	1.3	3.4	3.1

19. The mean number of children ever born per ever married SC woman (45 – 49 years) is 5 which is higher than that of the SCs at national level (4).

Religion

20. Hinduism is the predominant religion of the State (91.1 per cent). As many as 97.9 per cent SCs are Hindus. The SCs professing Buddhism and Sikhism constitute (2.1 per cent) and (0.04 per cent) respectively.
