

## Andhra Pradesh

### DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED TRIBES Census of India 2001

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The total population of Andhra Pradesh, as per the 2001 Census, is 76,210,007. Of which, 5,024,104 (6.6 per cent) are Scheduled Tribes (STs). The ST population constitutes 6 per cent of the country's ST population. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976 have notified 33 STs in the state. Out of the 33 STs, five namely, Goudu, Malis, Nayaks, Thoti and Valmiki have been notified with an area restriction. Goudu, Nayaks and Valmiki have been notified in the Agency tracts area, which comprises Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari and Khammam districts. Malis have been notified in the state excluding Adilabad, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nizamabad and Warangal districts. Thoti have been notified in the Adilabad, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nizamabad and Warangal districts.

2. Twelve tribes namely, Bodo Gadaba, Gutob Gadaba, Bondo Poraja, Khond Poroja, Parangiperja, Chenchu, Dongaria Khonds, Kuttiya Kondhs, Kolam, Kondareddis, Konda Savaras, and Thoti have been recognized as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs). Except Kondareddis and Thoti, population on other PTGs are not available separately as these are notified as sub-groups/sections of main communities. The population of Kondareddis and Thoti is 83,096 and 2,074 respectively, as per the 2001 Census.

3. The growth rate of ST population in the decade 1991-2001 at 19.6 per cent has been higher if compared to the overall growth rate of 14.6 per cent of the state population as a whole. Among the numerically major STs, highest growth rate of 36 per cent has been recorded in the case of Sugalis, followed by Koya (24.4 per cent), Gond (18.9 per cent), Yenadis (16.8 per cent) and Yerukulas (12.8 per cent).

#### **Population- Size & Distribution**

4. Out of the 33 STs, Sugalis are numerically the largest ST with a population of 2,077,947 constituting 41.4 per cent of the state's ST population. They are followed by Koya 568,019 (11.3 per cent), Yenadis 462,167 (9.2 per cent), Yerukulas 437,459 (8.7 per cent) and Gond 252,038 (5 per cent). These five (5) STs together account for 76 per cent of the ST population of the state.

5. Of the total ST population, 92.5 per cent are residing in rural areas. Among the major STs, Gond have the highest (97.6 per cent) rural population, followed by Koya (95.5 per cent), Sugalis (93.7 per cent), Yenadis (86.4 per cent) and Yerukulas (77.5 per cent). District-wise distribution of ST population shows that they are mainly concentrated in the districts of Khammam, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, Adilabad and Nalgonda. These five districts constitute 48.9 per cent of the total ST population of the state.

## Sex ratio

6. The overall sex ratio of the ST population is 972 females per 1000 males, which is marginally lower than 978 reported for the state population as a whole at 2001 Census. The overall sex ratio of the ST population has registered an increase over 960 reported at the 1991 Census. The sex ratio of above 1000 among ST population in the five contiguous districts namely, Srikakulam (1009), Vizianagaram (1025), Visakhapatnam (1003), East Godavari (1011) and West Godavari (1018) have returned higher sex ratio among STs. In the remaining 18 districts it varies between 994 (Nizamabad) and 921 (Nalgonda).

The Statement below shows the sex ratio and child sex ratio (0-6) at the national, state and numerically the largest five STs at 2001 Census:

Age Groups	All STs (India)	All STs (Andhra Pradesh)	Sugalis	Koya	Gond	Yenadis	Yerukulas
All Ages	978	972	939	1006	1013	957	984
0-6	973	972	944	1000	999	950	971

7. As shown in the statement, the child sex ratio (0-6) of ST population of Andhra Pradesh is equal to the child sex ratio of ST population at the national level. Among the numerically major STs, Sugalis and Yenadis have lower sex ratio both in overall and 0-6 age group populations than the state ST population and the other major STs.

## Literacy and educational level

8. Literacy and level of education are two basic indicators of the level of development achieved by a group/society. The literacy results in a more awareness besides contributing to the overall improvement of health, hygiene and other social conditions. According to 2001 Census, percentage of literate persons (those who can read & write with understanding), aged 7 years and above, among ST population of Andhra Pradesh is 37 per cent, which is lower than 60.5 per cent reported for state population as a whole. The literacy data show that the ST population of the state has made significant improvement in literacy during the decade 1991-2001. The literacy rate, which was 17.1 per cent in 1991, has increased by 19.9 percentage points in 2001. But in comparison to other states/UTs, the position of ST population of Andhra Pradesh is not satisfactory. It is just above Uttar Pradesh (35.1 per cent) and Bihar (28.2 per cent), which are bottom two states in literacy rate for ST population among all states/UTs. At the district level, the highest literacy rate has been recorded in Hyderabad (55.4 per cent) and the lowest in Mahbubnagar (25.8 per cent).

9. Among the major STs, Yerukulas have reported the highest literacy rate (45.4 per cent), followed by Koya (41.8 per cent), Gond (36.4 per cent), Yenadis (35.3 per cent) and Sugalis (34.3 per cent). The female literacy rate of 26.1 per cent among the ST population is matter of concern as almost a fourth of ST females are illiterate in the state.

Name of ST	Educational levels attained by major STs						
	Literate without educational level	Below Primary	Primary	Middle	Matric/Secondary/HigherSecondary/Intermediate etc.	Technical & Non-technical diploma	Graduate & above
All STs	6.3	42.0	28.4	8.5	12.3	0.6	1.8
Sugalis	5.6	43.6	25.7	8.7	13.3	0.8	2.3
Koya	6.5	43.4	29.2	8.5	10.9	0.4	1.2
Gond	7.7	50.0	25.1	7.2	9.1	0.2	0.6
Yenadis	9.7	47.0	29.7	5.3	6.9	0.4	1.1
Yerukulas	4.4	32.2	30.8	10.3	17.7	1.3	3.3

10. Out of total literates, 48.3 per cent are literates without any educational level or have attained below Primary level. The literates, who have attained education up to Primary level and Middle level, constitute 28.4 per cent and 8.5 per cent respectively. 12.3 per cent are having educational level up to Matric/Higher Secondary etc. levels, implying that every 8<sup>th</sup> ST literate is a Matriculate. Literates with educational level of Graduation & above are 1.8 per cent. Individually, Yerukulas (3.3 per cent) have the highest percentage of Graduate & above educational level.

11. The educational level table also shows that the drop out is conspicuous after the Primary level and again after Matric/Secondary levels. This pattern is consistent among all the major SCs.

12. Population in the age group 5-14 years are the potential students. Only 60.7 per cent of the ST population in this age group has been attending various educational institutions.

### **Economic activity**

#### **Work Participation Rate (WPR)**

13. The work participation rate (WPR) is the percentage of workers to the total population. The WPR of the ST population is 53.9 per cent at 2001 Census, which is almost equal to 54.3 per cent recorded in 1991. The WPR among male 55.7 per cent and females 52 per cent more than half of male/female have been returned workers among ST at 2001 Census.

14. At the individual caste level by & large consistent pattern is noted in WPR. The highest WPR of 56.5 per cent is reported for Yenadis and lowest among Yerukulas (50.5 per cent). Yerukulas have also recorded the lowest female WPR of 45.2 per cent.

## **Category of Workers**

15. There has been a decline in the main workers from 93.9 per cent at 1991 Census to 79.3 per cent at 2001 Census. This, in turn, has resulted in corresponding increase in the marginal workers from 6.1 per cent in 1991 to 20.7 per cent in 2001. Out of total workers, 'agricultural labourers' constitute 49.3 per cent, which is significantly higher when compared to 36.9 per cent recorded for ST population at the national level. 'Cultivators' accounts for 34.3 per cent and 13.5 per cent have been returned as 'other workers'. Remaining 3 per cent have been workers in 'household industry'.

16. At the individual caste level, among major STs, Yenadis have the maximum 76.2 per cent 'agricultural labourers'.

## **Marital status**

17. Marital status is one of the important determinants of fertility and growth of a population. The 2001 Census data on marital status show that 48.7 per cent persons among the STs of Andhra Pradesh are 'never married'. The 'currently married' constitute 46.9 per cent while 4 per cent are 'widowed' and only 0.5 per cent are 'divorced and separated'.

18. A majority of girls and boys among STs in Andhra Pradesh are getting married after attaining the legal age of marriage. However, marriages of ST girls below 18 years (3.2 per cent) are higher than that recorded among ST population at national level (2.1 per cent). Similarly, the incidence of marriage among boys below 21 years at 3.6 per cent is also higher than 2.8 per cent aggregated for ST population at the national level.

19. The mean number of children ever born per ever married ST woman of all ages as well as 45-49 years age group are 2.7 and 3.6 respectively, which are lower than corresponding figures of 3.2 and 4.1 for ST population at the national level.

## **Religion**

20. The 2001 Census data show that Hindus constitute 98.9 per cent of ST population of Andhra Pradesh, followed by Christians 35,983 (0.7 per cent) and Muslims 4,643 (0.1 per cent).