

## Jharkhand

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

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The Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of Jharkhand State is as per 2001 census 7,087,068 constituting 26.3 per cent of the total population (26,945,829) of the State. Among all States and UTs, Jharkhand holds 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> ranks terms of the ST population and the percentage share of the ST population to the total population of the State respectively. The growth of the ST population has been 17.3 per cent which is lower by 6 per cent if compared with the growth of the State's total population (23.3 per cent) during 1991-2001. The state has a total of thirty (30) Scheduled Tribes and all of them have been enumerated at 2001 census

2.The Scheduled Tribes are primarily rural as 91.7per cent of them reside in villages. District wise distribution of ST population shows that Gumla district has the highest proportion of STs (68.4per cent). The STs constitute more than half of the total population in Lohardaga and Pashchimi Singhbhum districts whereas Ranchi and Pakaur districts have 41.8 – 44.6 per cent tribal population. Kodarma district (0.8 per cent) preceded by Chatra (3.8 per cent) has the lowest proportion of the STs Population.

#### Population- Size & Distribution

3.Out of thirty (30) Scheduled Tribes notified for the State, Santhal is the most populous tribe having a population of 2,410,509, constituting 34 per cent of the total ST population of the State. Oraon, Munda and Ho, the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> largest tribes constitute 19.6, 14.8 and 10.5 per cent respectively of the total ST population of the State. Four other major tribes, Kharia, Bhumij, Lohra and Kharwar having population ranging from 164,022 -192,024 along with Santhal, Oraon, Munda and Ho, constitute 89.1 per cent of the total tribal population. The tribes namely, Chero, Bedia, Mal Pahariya and Mahli in the population range from 75,540 to 121,174 account for another 5.6 per cent; the remaining 18 tribes, along with the generic tribes constitute the balance 5.3 per cent of the total ST population.

4.District wise distribution of the individual ST shows that Santhal have the highest population in Dumka district followed by Purbi Singhbhum, Pakaur and Sahibganj districts but they constitute the highest proportion of the total ST population in Giridih (90.8 per cent), followed by Dumka (89.7 per cent) and Pakaur (85 per cent) districts. Oraon have returned the highest population in Ranchi district followed by Gumla. They have the highest percentage share in the total tribal population (81per cent) in Lohardaga district. Other six major tribes, namely Munda, Ho, Kharwar, Lohra, Bhumij and Kharia are concentrated in Ranchi, Pashchimi Singhbhum, Palamu, Ranchi, Purbi Singhbhum and Gumla districts respectively.

#### Sex Ratio

5.The over all sex ratio of the ST population in Jharkhand is 987 females per 1000 males which is higher than the national average (978) for the total ST population.

6. Among the major tribes, Kharia and Ho have females who outnumber the males in their total population. While Munda, Oraon, Santhal, Bhumij have their overall sex ratio above national average, Lohra and Kharwar have their over all sex ratio below the national average.

7.The sex ratio among tribes in the age group 0-6 years (979) is marginally higher than that of all STs at the national level (973). At the individual level, except Oraon, other seven major tribes have registered the child sex ratio higher than the national average.

**Statement - 1: Sex Ratio**

Age groups	All STs (India)	All STs (Jharkhand)	Kharia	Ho	Munda	Oraon	Santhal	Bhumij	Lohra	Kharwar
All ages	978	987	1026	1010	994	992	985	983	970	944
0 – 6	973	979	977	986	983	966	980	984	982	991

### Literacy & Educational Level

8.The overall literacy rate among the STs has increased from 27.5 per cent at 1991 census to 40.7 per cent at 2001 census. Despite this improvement, the literacy rate among the tribes is much below in comparison to that of all STs at the national level (47.1per cent). Like the over all literacy rate among the STs, male and female literacy rates (54 per cent and 27.2 per cent) are also considerably lower than those at the national level (59.2 per cent & 34.8 per cent).

9.Among the numerically larger tribes, Oraon and Kharia have more than half of the population in the age of seven (7) years and above are literates while Munda have the literacy rate almost equal to that of all STs at the national level. Remaining five larger tribal groups have shown the over all literacy rates lower than that of the national average.

**Statement - 2 : Literacy Rate**

Literacy rate	All STs (state)	Oraon	Kharia	Munda	Bhumij	Ho	Lohra	Santhal	Kharwar
Persons	40.7	52.5	51.0	47.9	41.5	39.2	38.9	33.4	29.6
Females	27.2	40.8	42.2	34.9	24.0	23.9	25.0	19.5	13.9

10.Among the total tribal literates, 33.6 per cent are either without any educational level or have attained education below primary level. The proportions of literates who have attained education up to primary level and middle level are 28.6 per cent & 17.7 per cent respectively. Persons educated up to matric / secondary / higher secondary constitute 16.5 percent. This implies that every 6<sup>th</sup> tribal literate is a matriculate. Graduates and above are 3.5 per cent while non-technical & technical diploma holders constitute a negligible 0.1 per cent only.

**Statement - 3: Levels of Education among the major Scheduled Tribes**

Names of STs	Literate without educational level	Below Primary	Educational levels attained				
			Primary	Middle	Matric/ Secondary Higher Secondary/Intermediate etc.	Technical & Non-technical diploma etc.	Graduate & above
All Scheduled Tribes	3.0	30.6	28.6	17.7	16.5	0.1	3.5
Santhal	3.5	34.3	30.0	17.0	13.2	0.1	2.0
Oraon	2.4	26.9	25.3	18.5	20.8	0.2	5.9
Munda	2.8	27.9	29.6	18.9	17.1	0.1	3.7
Ho	2.4	26.4	28.4	19.9	19.7	0.1	3.1
Kharwar	5.5	38.2	32.3	11.3	10.8	0.1	1.8
Lohra	3.5	35.5	30.5	16.1	12.5	0.1	1.9
Bhumij	2.9	36.1	32.8	15.7	11.1	0.0	1.4
Kharia	2.0	26.0	26.5	18.3	21.4	0.1	5.6

11. While Kharia, Oraon and Ho have the highest proportion of matriculates i.e. every 5<sup>th</sup> literates of these tribes are matriculates closely followed by Munda who have every 6<sup>th</sup> literate a matriculate. Kharwar have the lowest percentage of matriculates, preceded by Bhumij, Lohra and Santhal. While Oraon and Kharia have the highest percentage of graduates, Bhumij have the lowest proportion of degree holders, preceded by Kharwar, Lohra and Santhal.

12. The data show that the proportion of tribal literates decline sharply in higher level of education as the percentage of students after matriculation drops down to almost one third in higher secondary level.

13. Out of the total 19.8 lakh tribal children in the age group 5 -14 years, only 8.5 lakh children have been attending school constituting 43.1 per cent. Alarming, as many as 11.3 lakh (56.9 per cent) children in the corresponding age group have not been going to school. The Statement below shows that among the major STs, Oraon, Kharia and Munda have more than 50 per cent school going children whereas Santhal, Ho, Lohra have 36 – 47 per cent children attending school.

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

Age group	All STs	Oraon	Kharia	Munda	Bhumij	Lohra	Ho	Santhal	Kharwar
5-14 yrs.	43.1	55.0	53.3	50.1	46.6	44.1	37.6	36.3	28.6

**Work Participation Rate (WPR)**

14. The Work Participation Rate (WPR) of the ST population is 46.3 per cent which is lower than that of all STs at the national level (49.1 per cent). While there has been a slight decline in male WPR from 53.4 to 51.9 per cent, female WPR has

increased from 38.3 per cent up to 40.6 per cent during 1991-2001. Among the total workers, 59.4 per cent are main workers and this proportion is quite below the national average for all STs (68.9 per cent).

15. Among the major tribal groups, only Kharia have over all WPR (51.6 per cent) higher than the national average whereas other seven major tribal groups have recorded WPR lower than the national average.

### Category of Workers

16. 'Cultivators' constitute more than half of the total workers and this figure is significantly higher than the national average of 44.7 per cent recorded by all STs in this category. 'Agricultural Labourers' account for 31 per cent which is less than that recorded for all STs at the national level (36.9 per cent). 'Other Workers' form 13.5 per cent which is comparable with the national average of 16.3 per cent whereas workers engaged in Household Industry (HHI) constitute 3 per cent which is marginally higher than that of the national average (2.1 per cent).

17. Among the major tribes, Oraon, Munda and Kharia have 62-71 per cent workers engaged as 'Cultivators' followed by Kharwar and Santhal. Bhumij and Lohra have recorded the highest proportion of 'Agricultural Labourers' in their total working population. Lohra have also registered the higher percentage of 'Other Workers' as well as 'HHI' workers in comparison to other major tribes.

**Statement- 5 : Percentage Distribution of Workers in four Economic Categories**

<b>Economic category</b>	<b>All STs</b>	<b>Santhal</b>	<b>Oraon</b>	<b>Munda</b>	<b>Ho</b>	<b>Kharwar</b>	<b>Lohra</b>	<b>Bhumij</b>	<b>Kharia</b>
Cultivators	52.6	48.6	62.1	64.6	49.4	52.5	28.3	35.5	70.5
Agricultural Labourers	31.0	38.4	21.0	21.2	34.1	39.7	33.5	47.3	20.5
HHI Workers	3.0	1.4	1.1	1.3	3.0	1.0	14.7	1.7	1.1
Other Workers	13.5	11.6	15.8	12.8	13.4	6.9	23.5	15.4	7.9

### Marital Status

18. The data on marital status show that 'never married' persons with a proportion of 53.2 per cent exceed the 'married' persons (41.1 per cent) in total ST population. 'Widowed' persons form 5.3 per cent while a negligible 0.4 per cent is of 'divorced and separated' persons.

19. Marriages of girls and boys below the legal age for each, are not in common practice among the tribal of Jharkhand. Married girls below 18 years and married boys below 21 years constitute 2.1 per cent and 2.5 per cent respectively. These proportions are almost same as those recorded for the total STs at the national level (2.1 per cent & 2.8 per cent respectively). Among the larger groups, Kharwar and Santhal have

registered higher proportions of married girls and boys below the legal age if compared to those of all STs at the national level.

20. The mean number of children ever born per ever married ST woman (age-group 45 – 49 years) is 4 which is same as that of all STs at the national level (4).

### **Religion**

21. Although, Hinduism is the predominant religion of the State (68.6 per cent), the Hindu tribes constitute 39.8 per cent only. As many as 45.1 per cent of the tribal population follow 'other religions and persuasions'. Christian tribes are 14.5 per cent and less than half per cent (0.4 per cent) are Muslims. Among the major tribes, Santhal have more than half of the total population (56.6 per cent) professes Hinduism. Oraon and Munda have more than 50 per cent of population follow 'other religions and persuasions' followed by Christianity. Ho tribe has the highest proportion (91 per cent) of persons professing 'other religions and persuasions'.

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