

Executive Summary

1. **Administrative Units** : During Census 2011, there were 14 districts, 63 taluks, 520 towns and 1018 villages in the State of Kerala. The corresponding figures for Census 2001 were 14 districts, 63 taluks, 159 towns and 1364 villages. There was an increase of 361 towns and a decline of 346 villages in Census 2011 as compared to Census 2001. The administrative units were frozen as on 31.12.2009 for the purpose of Census taking.
2. **Population** : The total population of Kerala as per Census 2011 is 3,34,06,061 with 1,60,27,412 males and 1,73,78,649 females. The most populated district in Kerala is Malappuram (Population: 41,12,920) and the least populated district is Wayanad (Population : 8,17,420). Among the States of India; Kerala stands at 12th position in terms of population.
3. **Growth Rate** : The decadal rate of growth of population in Kerala during 2001-2011 has been worked out as 4.91%. Decadal rate of growth of population during 1991-2001 was 9.43%. Malappuram district is reported to have the highest growth rate of 13.45% and the lowest as well as negative growth rate is reported in Pathanamthitta district (-2.97%). Idukki district also has a negative growth of population (-1.79%). Twelve taluks in the central Travancore area, spanning in four districts, have shown fall in population.
4. **Households and Household Size** : The total number of households in Kerala as per Census 2011 is 78,53,754. The average household size is 4.3 persons per household whereas, in 2001 the same was 4.7. Malappuram district with 5.2 as average household size is at the top while Pathanamthitta district with 3.7 has the lowest household size.
5. **Density of Population (persons per sq. km.)** : Density of population of Kerala is 860 persons per sq.km. as per Census 2011 where as that of India is 368. In 2001 the density of Kerala was 819. The district of Thiruvananthapuram with 1508 persons per sq.km. is reported to have the highest density and the district of Idukki with 255 persons per sq.km. is having the lowest density.
6. **Proportion of Population** : In Kerala 1,74,71,135 persons have been reported living in Rural area (52.30% of total population) and 1,59,34,926 (47.70% of total population) live in Urban area. In 2001, share of urban population was only 25.96%. While 68.07% persons in Ernakulam district live in urban area only 3.86% of the population of Wayanad district live in urban area.
7. **Sex Ratio (Number of Females Per 1000 Males)** : As per results of Census 2011, the sex ratio of the State of Kerala is 1084. When compared to 2001 Census, sex -ratio has improved by 26 points. The highest sex ratio is in Kannur district (1136) whereas the lowest sex ratio is reported in Idukki district (1006). All districts of Kerala show positive sex ratio or in other words more females than males. Among the States, Kerala stands first in terms of Sex ratio.
8. **Child Population (0-6 Years)** : The child population of Kerala according to Census 2011 is 34,72,955. In absolute number, Malappuram district is reported to have the highest child population (5,74,041) and Wayanad district with a child population of 92,324 is having the lowest number of children. The growth rate of child population at the State level is -8.44%. The district having the highest growth rate of child population is Malappuram (4.08%) while Pathanamthitta district with -23.76% is having the lowest growth rate in respect of child population. Except Malappuram in all other districts the child population is declining.

9. **Child Sex Ratio (0-6 Years) (Girls per Thousand Boys) :** As per Census 2011, the State of Kerala has a child sex ratio of 964. In 2001 Census child sex ratio was 960. Among the districts, Pathanamthitta district with 976 and Thrissur district with 950 are witnessing the highest and the lowest child sex ratio respectively.
10. **Literates (Age 7 years and above):** A person aged 7 years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language is treated as literate in Census (Effective Literacy). Total number of literates in Kerala as per Census 2011 is 2,81,35,824.
11. **Effective Literacy Rate**

Effective Literacy Rate is $\frac{\text{Number of Literate Persons aged 7 and above}}{\text{Population aged 7 and above}} \times 100$

- a) **Total Literacy Rate :** Among States/UTs Kerala occupies 1st position in terms of literacy. The effective literacy rate of the State of Kerala in Census 2011 is 94.00% (Rural - 92.98%, Urban - 95.11%). In 2001, literacy rate of Kerala was 90.86%. There has been an increase of 3.14% points in the effective literacy rate (2.94% points in rural areas and 1.92% points in urban areas) during the last decade. Kottayam district has recorded the highest literacy rate (97.21%) and Wayanad district with 89.03% is having the lowest literacy. All India literacy rate is 72.99%.
- b) **Male Literacy :** Male literacy rate has increased by 1.87% points and the male literacy rate works out to be 96.11% (Rural - 95.35%, Urban - 96.95%). The highest male literacy rate in rural areas is returned in Kottayam (97.97%) while the lowest is returned in Palakkad (92.36%). In urban areas, the lowest male literacy rate is returned in Wayanad (94.13%) and the highest in Kottayam (98.24%). All India male literacy rate is 80.89%.
- c) **Female literacy :** The female literacy rate has increased significantly by 4.35% points during the last decade and the same is 92.07% as per Census 2011 (Rural - 90.81%, Urban - 93.44%). In female literacy rate, Kottayam district tops with 96.48% and Wayanad district with 85.70% is at the bottom. The highest female literacy rate in rural areas has returned in Kottayam (96.37%), while the lowest is returned in Palakkad (84.56%). In Urban areas, the lowest female literacy rate is returned in Wayanad (88.40%) and the highest in Kottayam (96.75%). All India female literacy rate is 64.64%.

Gender gap in literacy

It is significant to note that the gap in literacy rate among males and females has reduced from 6.52% in 2001 to 4.04% in 2011. Kottayam district with 1.49% has the lowest gender gap in literacy and the district of Kasaragod has the highest gap in literacy 7.56%. Among States/UTs, Meghalaya is the only State with 3.07% gap in literacy which is less than that of Kerala. All India gap in literacy is 16.25%.

12. **Scheduled Caste Population :** The total Scheduled Caste Population returned in Census 2011 is 30,39,573. Out of this 18,18,281 are in rural areas and 12,21,292 are in urban areas.
 - a) In terms of proportion, the Scheduled Caste population constitutes 9.1% of the total population of the State. The proportion during the last Census was 9.8%. There has been a decrease in proportion of 0.7% during the last decade. The highest proportion of

Scheduled Caste has been recorded in Palakkad (14.37%) and the lowest in Kannur (3.30%).

- b) The Scheduled Caste population in absolute numbers has decreased by 84,368.
- c) The highest number of Scheduled Castes population has been recorded in Palakkad (4,03,833) and the lowest in Wayanad (32,578).
- d) In terms of gender composition, there are 14,77,808 male Scheduled Caste population (Rural - 8,83,819 and Urban - 5,93,989) and 15,61,765 female Scheduled Caste population (Rural - 9,34,462 and Urban - 6,27,303). Sex ratio of SC population in Kerala is 1057.

It is worthwhile mentioning that the list of Scheduled Castes in Kerala had undergone changes during the decade 2001-2011 resulting in change in proportion of Scheduled Castes.

- 13. Scheduled Tribe Population :** The total Scheduled Tribe population returned in Census 2011 is 4,84,839. Out of this 4,33,092 are in rural areas and 51,747 in urban areas.

- a) In terms of proportion, the Scheduled Tribe population constitutes 1.45% of the total population. The proportion during the last Census was 1.14%. Thus there has been an increase of 0.36% in the proportion during the last decade. The highest proportion of Scheduled Tribe has been recorded in Wayanad (18.53%) and the lowest in Thrissur (0.30%).
- b) The Scheduled Tribe Population in absolute numbers has increased by 1,20,650.
- c) The highest number of Scheduled Tribe has been recorded in Wayanad (1,51,443) and the lowest in Alappuzha (6,574).

In terms of gender composition there are 2,38,203 male Scheduled Tribe population (Rural - 2,13,208 and Urban - 24,995) and 2,46,636 female Scheduled Tribe population (Rural - 2,19,884 and Urban - 26,752). Sex ratio of ST population in Kerala is 1035.

It is worthwhile mentioning that the list of Scheduled Tribes in Kerala had undergone changes during the decade 2001-2011 resulting in change in proportion of Scheduled Tribes.

- 14. Workers :** As per Census 2011, the total number of workers (who have worked for at least one day during the reference year) in Kerala is 1,16,19,063. Out of this 84,51,569 workers are males and 31,67,494 are females. There is an increase of 13,35,176 workers during the decade 2001-2011.

- 15. Work Participation Rate :** The percentage of workers to total population (WPR) in Kerala according to Census 2011 is 34.78%. Compared to 2001 Census, an improvement of 2.48% is observed in WPR. The highest WPR is in Idukki (46.56%) and the lowest in Malappuram (25.83%).

Among males, the Work Participation Rate is 52.73%. In 2001 the same was 50.20%. Highest Male Work Participation Rate is observed in Idukki (60.00%) and the lowest in Malappuram (45.82%).

Among females the work participation rate is 18.23%. In 2001, the same was 15.38%. Highest Female Work Participation Rate is observed in Idukki (33.20%) and lowest in Malappuram (7.63%).

16. Main and Marginal Workers

- a) In Census 2011, out of the 1,16,19,063 workers, 93,29,747 are main workers and the remaining 22,89,316 are marginal workers. The percentage of main workers among the total workers in Census 2011 is 80.30% against 80.10% in Census 2001.
- b) The percentage of main workers among the male workers is 84.95% and that among female workers is 67.87%. The percentage of male main workers has increased from 83.20% to 84.95% in Census 2011. On the other hand, the percentage of female main workers has reduced from 70.54% to 67.87% in Census 2011. Ernakulam reported the highest percentage of main workers (84.96%) as per Census 2011 and a minimum of 74.13% recorded in Alappuzha.
- c) For the first time, in Census 2011, the marginal workers, i.e. workers who worked for less than six months during the reference year, have been sub divided in two categories, namely, those worked for less than 3 months and those worked for 3 months or more but less than six months. Amongst the 22,89,316 marginal workers 18,28,203 (79.85%) worked for 3 to 6 months whereas 4,61,113 (20.14%) persons worked for less than 3 months. Percentage share of persons worked for 3 to 6 months is slightly higher in urban areas (81.20%) than in rural areas (79.42%). Whereas for persons worked for less than 3 months, the share is higher in rural areas (20.58 %) than in urban areas (18.80%).

17. Categories of Economic Activities of the Workers:

- a) The broad categories of economic activities, also known as a four-fold classification of the workers are Cultivators (CL), Agricultural Labourers (AL), working in Household Industries (HHI) and Other Workers (OW).
- b) In Census 2011, out of 1,16,19,063 workers, 6,70,253 (5.77%) are cultivators and 13,22,850 (11.39%) are Agricultural Labourers. Thus 17.16% of workers are engaged in agricultural activities compared to 22.80% of Census 2001. Of the remaining workers 2,73,022 (2.35%) are in Household Industries and 93,52,938 (80.50%) are Other Workers.
- c) During the decade 2001-11, the Census results show a fall of 53,902 in cultivators and a decrease of 2,98,001 in Agricultural Labourers. The Household Industries have also shown a decrease of 96,645 however Other Workers have increased by 17,83,724.
- d) In Census 2011, the percentage of male Cultivators decreased to 6.47% from 7.75%. Among the females, the percentage of Cultivators has reduced to 3.89% from 4.85%.
- e) In Kerala Idukki has reported the highest share of Cultivators with 19.54% and Wayanad has reported the highest share of Agricultural Labourers with 29.88%. Kasaragod has the highest workers in Household industry with 5.29% and Kozhikode has the highest share of Other Worker at 89.04%.