

Jharkhand

DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED CASTES Census of India 2001

Jharkhand, the 28th State of Indian Union came into existence on 15th November, 2000 by bifurcation of erstwhile composite State of Bihar. After its reorganization, the State consists of 18 districts. According to 2001 census, the Scheduled Caste (SC) population of Jharkhand is 3,189,320, constituting 11.8 per cent of the total population (26,945,829). It holds 14th position among all the States / UTs in terms of the Scheduled Caste population. The decennial growth of SC population has been 23.2 per cent which is almost the same as the growth of the total population (23.3 per cent). The State has a total of twenty two (22) Scheduled Castes and all have been enumerated at 2001 census.

2.The SCs are predominantly rural as 81.1 per cent of them reside in villages. At the district level, the SCs have registered the highest proportion (31.9 per cent) in Chatra district, followed by Palamu (25.7 per cent) and Garhwa (23.9 per cent). Pakaur and Lohardaga have the lowest proportion of SCs (3.3 – 3.5 per cent).

3.Out of twenty two (22) SCs, Chamar is the most populous caste, having a number of 837,333, constituting 26.3 per cent of the total SC population. Bhuiya and Dusadh are the second and third largest SCs having population of 680,030 and 349,284 respectively. The other SCs in descending order are Dhobi, Bhogta, Baurri, Turi and Rajwas. Alongwith Chamar, Bhuiya and Dusadh, eight SCs constitute 85.5 per cent of the total SC population of the State. Four castes, Musahar, Pasi, Ghasi and Dom having population in the range of 42,647-137,465, account for 11.3 per cent; the remaining 10 castes alongwith the generic castes constitute the residual 3.2 per cent of the State's SC population. Bantar, Choupal, Halalkhor and Kanjar are other Scheduled Castes which are small in number each having less than 1000 population.

4.Chamars are in large number in the districts of Palamu, Giridih, Hazaribagh and Garhwa. They have the highest percentage of the total SC population in Giridih district (49.7 per cent). Bhuiya constitute more than half of the total SC population in Chatra (52 per cent) district. Dusadh are concentrated in Palamu district and in respect of other five large groups, namely, Dhobi, Bhogta, Baurri, Turi and Rajwas, their concentration in Dhanbad, Chatra, Dhanbad, Giridih and Bokaro districts respectively.

Sex Ratio

5.The over all sex ratio of the Scheduled Caste population in Jharkhand is 944 females per 1000 males which is higher than the national average of 936 in respect of all SCs.

6.Among the numerically larger groups, Turi, Bhogta, Bhuiya, Baurri and Chamar have recorded over all sex ratio higher than the national average. Other three SCs, Rajwas, Dhobi and Dusadh have over all sex ratio lower than the national average.

7.The sex ratio in the age group 0-6 years (984) is also higher than that of the SCs at the national level. All the major SCs have recorded child sex ratio higher than the national average with Bhuiya and Turi having preponderance of girl children.

Statement -1: Sex Ratio

Age groups	All SCs (India)	All SCs (Jharkhand)	Turi	Bhogta	Bhuiya	Baurri	Chamar	Rajwas	Dhobi	Dusadh
All ages	936	944	969	962	956	946	940	930	927	918
0 - 6	938	984	1004	993	1007	989	977	984	955	965

Literacy & Educational Level

8.Like in the State of Bihar, the literacy scenario among the Scheduled Castes of Jharkhand is low. Though there is an improvement in the over all literacy rate of SCs from 23.7 per cent at 1991 census to 37.6 per cent at 2001 census, it is still lower if compared with that of all SCs at the national level (54.7 per cent). Male and female literacy rates (51.6 per cent and 22.5 per cent respectively) continue to be lower than those at the national level (66.6 per cent & 41.9 per cent). Among the numerically larger castes, Dhobi have the highest over all literacy as well as female literacy followed by Dusadh, Chamar and Baurri. Bhuiya preceded by Bhogta have registered the lowest literacy rate.

Statement - 2 : Literacy Rate

Literacy rate	All SCs (Jharkhand)	Dhobi	Dusadh	Chamar	Baurri	Rajwas	Turi	Bhogta	Bhuiya
Persons	37.6	56.4	52.0	43.5	37.6	34.7	28.7	23.4	20.7
Females	22.5	39.0	33.8	25.9	22.2	18.2	14.6	11.6	10.5

9.Among the literates, 37.3 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 and middle level constitute 28.9 per cent & 15.7 per cent respectively. As many as 14.9 per cent literates are educated up to matric / secondary / higher secondary level. This implies that every 7th SC literate is a matriculate. Graduates & above are 3 per cent.

10.Among the major castes, Dhobi and Dusadh have every 5th literate, a matriculate whereas Chamar have every 6th literate, a matriculate. Bhogta, Bhuiya and Turi have only 7.3 – 8.4 per cent of secondary level literates. Dhobi have registered the highest proportion of graduates followed by Dusadh and Chamar.

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 etc.	Technical & Non-technical diploma etc.	Graduate & above
All Scheduled Castes	3.1	34.1	28.9	15.7	14.9	0.1	3.0
Chamar	2.7	33.2	28.4	15.6	16.2	0.1	3.8
Bhuiya	5.7	42.9	30.8	11.8	8.0	0.0	0.8
Dusadh	2.5	28.5	27.5	17.2	20.0	0.2	4.2
Dhobi	2.0	27.0	26.9	18.1	20.5	0.2	5.2
Bhogta	4.8	45.9	30.0	10.9	7.3	0.0	1.0
Baurri	3.7	37.2	29.9	17.1	10.9	0.1	1.1
Turi	3.9	43.0	30.9	12.9	8.4	0.0	0.9
Rajwas	3.0	33.2	30.2	18.1	13.8	0.1	1.6

11.It may be discerned from the educational levels attained by all SCs that the drop-out rate increases sharply from the higher secondary level onwards. Similar trend has been shown by the major SCs in attaining education.

12.A major proportion (59.5 per cent) SC children in the age group 5 -14 years, have not been attending school. Out of 9.4 lakh children in the corresponding age group, only 3.8 lakh (40.5 per cent) have been going to school. The Statement below shows that among the major SCs, while Dhobi and Dusadh have more than half of the total children in the corresponding age group go to school, Bhogta, Turi and Rajwas and Baurri have 28 – 40 per cent school going children.

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

Age group	All SCs	Bhuiya	Dhobi	Dusadh	Chamar	Baurri	Rajwas	Turi	Bhogta
5-14 yrs.	40.5	23.0	60.3	55.5	47.6	39.7	38.1	31.4	28.0

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

13.The Work Participation Rate (WPR) of the SC population is 37.6 per cent which is marginally lower than that of all SCs at the national level (40.4 per cent). Female WPR has increased from 24.3 per cent to 27.7 per cent whereas male WPR has registered a marginal decline from 48.8 per cent to 47 per cent during 1991-2001. Among the total workers, 58.2 per cent are main workers and this proportion is lower than that of all SCs aggregated at the national level (73 per cent).

14. Among the major groups, Bhogta and Bhuiya have registered overall WPR higher than the national average for all SCs whereas Chamar, Baurri, Dhobi, Dusadh and Rajwas have WPR lower than the national average.

Category of Workers

15. 'Agricultural Labourers' constitute the highest proportion of 47.1 per cent among the total workers. This figure is slightly higher than the national average of 45.6 per cent recorded by all SCs in this category. 'Other Workers' constitute 27.9 per cent which is comparable with the national average of 30.5 per cent in respect of all SCs. 'Cultivators' account for 19.3 per cent and this figure is at par with the national average (20 per cent). Workers engaged in Household Industry (HHI) constitute 5.7 per cent which is 1.8 per cent higher than the national average (3.9 per cent). Among the major castes, Bhuiya have the highest percentage of 'Agricultural Labourers' followed by Rajwas and Chamar. Baurri have the highest proportion of 'Other Workers'. Bhogta have the highest share of 'Cultivators' whereas Turi have the maximum share of HHI workers.

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

Economic category	All Scheduled Castes	Chamar	Bhuiya	Dusadh	Dhobi	Bhogta	Baurri	Turi	Rajwas
Cultivators	19.3	18.3	15.2	24.2	25.4	48.9	8.9	11.3	19.8
Agricultural Labourers	47.1	48.7	62.1	43.3	34.0	37.9	40.7	32.0	51.9
HHI Workers	5.7	4.6	2.4	1.2	4.6	2.7	1.2	31.2	1.5
Other Workers	27.9	28.4	20.2	31.4	36.1	10.5	49.3	25.5	26.7

Marital Status

16. The data show that slightly more than half of the Scheduled Caste population is 'never married' (52 per cent) whereas 'married' persons constitute 43.9 per cent. 'Widowed' persons form 4 per cent while a negligible percent (0.2 per cent) is of 'divorced and separated' persons.

17. The proportions of married girls below 18 years as well as married boys below 21 years (4 per cent each) among the SCs are higher if compared to those at national level (2.8 per cent for female & 3.1 per cent for male).

18. The mean number of children ever born per ever married SC woman (45 – 49 years.) is 4 which is same as that of all SCs at national level (4).

Religion

19. Hinduism is the predominant religion of the SCs of Jharkhand. As many as 99.9 per cent SCs are Hindus. Only a negligible number of SC persons profess Sikhism (1848) and Buddhism (1186) together constituting 0.1 per cent.