

NAGALAND
DATA HIGHLIGHTS : THE SCHEDULED TRIBES
Census of India 2001

The population of Nagaland in 2001 Census has been 1,990,036. Of these, 1,774,026 are Scheduled Tribes (STs) constituting 89.1 per cent of the total population of the state. The State has registered decadal growth of 67.2 per cent in ST population in 1991-2001. Nagaland has five communities notified as STs. These are Garo, Kachari, Kuki, Mikir, and Naga.

2. Naga is a generic name for several groups, each having distinct identity. In 1971 Census, figures of sixteen Naga sub-tribes were given separately for the first time. They were: (i) Angami, (ii) Ao, (iii) Chakhesang, (iv) Chang, (v) Chirr, (vi) Khiemnungan, (vii) Konyak, (viii) Lotha, (ix) Makware, (x) Phom, (xi) Rengma, (xii) Sangtam, (xiii) Sema, (xiv) Tikhir, (xv) Yimchungre, and (xvi) Zeliang. Subsequently, in 1991 Census, Pochury Naga was added and their number shown separately. In 2001 Census, no population of Makware has been returned. Instead, sizeable population has returned either as 'Naga' or as sub-tribes other than the seventeen Naga sub-tribes hitherto published in Census. These have been thus separately grouped under 'Naga' and 'Unclassified Nagas' respectively. Total Naga population in the state thus includes population of all Naga sub-tribes as well as 'Naga' and 'Unclassified Nagas' (Statement-1).

Statement-1: Total Naga Population & Population of different Naga sub-tribes and their Proportion to Total Naga Population, 2001 Census

Name of the tribe/ sub-tribe	Population	Proportion to total Naga population
Total Naga (Naga etc.)	1741692	100%
1 Angami	124696	7.2
2 Ao	231823	13.3
3 Chakhesang	134646	7.7
4 Chang	60885	3.5
5 Chirr	19	N
6 Khiemnungan	38137	2.2
7 Konyak	243758	14.0
8 Lotha	148210	8.5
9 Phom	115389	6.6
10 Pochury	15908	0.9
11 Rengma	50966	2.9
12 Sangtam	83714	4.8
13 Sema	241806	13.9
14 Tikhir	10377	0.6
15 Yimchungre	75983	4.4
16 Zeliang	71871	4.1
17 Naga*	79273	4.6
18 Unclassified Naga	14231	0.8

* Those who wrote their tribe name 'Naga'. N = Negligible

Population: Size and Distribution

3. Of the five communities notified as STs in Nagaland, the Naga constitutes 98.2 per cent. Sema, Konyak, Ao, Lotha, Chakhesang, Angami, Phom, etc. are major Naga sub-tribes, each having more than one lakh population as per 2001 Census. Kuki is the second largest ST having only 1.1 per cent of the state's total ST population. Kachari and Garo account for less than one per cent. Mikir is the smallest among STs in the state; only 106 persons of Mikir have been returned at 2001 Census.

Statement-2: Scheduled Tribe Population, 2001 Census

Name of the Scheduled Tribe	Total population	Proportion to the total ST population
All Scheduled Tribes	1,774,026	100%
Naga etc.	1,741,692	98.2
Kuki	20,195	1.1
Kachari	7,807	0.4
Garo	1,582	0.1
Mikir	106	N

N= Negligible

4. Majority of the ST population (87%) lives in rural areas. Of the seventeen Naga sub-tribes, Lotha, Ao, Angami, and Chang, each have more than 16 per cent urban residents. On the other hand, Tikhir, Phom, Pochury, and Zeliang are having less than 5 per cent urban population. Lotha is the most urbanized tribe with 28.8 per cent urban population, while Tikhir is the least urbanized (0.6%).

Sex Ratio

5. As per 2001 Census, sex ratio of total ST population is 943. Among the Naga sub-tribes, females outnumbered males in Angami (1004). Besides, nine (9) other tribes have sex ratio above 950. Among the sub-groups of Naga having more than one lakh population in 2001, Phom has recorded low sex ratio of 891.

6. Child sex ratio (0-6 age group) of tribal population of the state is 969 and 18 tribes including Naga sub-tribes have recorded 950 or above child sex ratio. Tikhir has recorded very low child sex ratio of 831.

Literacy and Educational level

7. As per 2001 Census, 66 per cent of the total ST population is literate, with male and female literacy at 70.3 and 61.3 per cent respectively. The percentage of literates among Naga is 65.8 per cent. Wide disparity is discerned among the seventeen Naga sub-tribes. For example, Ao is at the top with literacy rate of 85.9 per cent, while Konyak is at the bottom with literacy rate of 40.2 per cent.

8. Among the ST literates, 23.5 per cent are either without educational level or have below primary level education. Primary level of literates account for 28 per cent while 15 per cent have attained Matric/ Secondary level education.

9. 68.3 per cent of the ST population in the age group 5-14 has been attending educational institutes in 2001 Census. Four tribes namely Kachari, Naga etc., Angami, and Lotha have recorded more than 80 per cent children (5-14) attending school/ educational institutions in 2001.

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

10. Among the STs, 42.3 per cent of the population has been recorded as workers. Gender-wise, the female WPR at 40.1 per cent is a little lower than male (44.5%). There is no noticeable disparity among the different STs with regard to WPR.

Statement-3: Distribution of Total, Main & Marginal Workers among the STs

T/M/F	Percentage of Workers		
	Total Workers	Main Workers	Marginal Workers
Total	751,285 (42.3%)	617,884 (82.2%)	133,401 (17.8%)
Male	406,247 (44.5%)	348,400 (85.8%)	57,847 (14.2%)
Female	345,038 (40.1%)	269,484 (78.1%)	75,554 (21.9%)

11. Of the total workers among the STs, 82.2 per cent have been reported as main workers and 17.8 per cent as marginal workers. The percentage of female main workers at 78.1 per cent is slightly lower than male (85.8%). This speaks for almost equitable male-female participation in economic pursuits.

Category of Workers

12. Among main workers, an overwhelming 72.7 per cent of the ST population has been recorded as cultivator. A significant percentage of main workers (15.5%) are engaged in 'manufacturing and repairs' work.

Marital Status and Fertility

13. The distribution of ST population by marital status shows that 65.3 per cent is never married, 32.4 per cent currently married, 1.8 per cent widowed, and 0.5 per cent divorced & separated.

14. Merely 1.5 per cent of the ST female population below 18 years – the legal age for marriage – has been recorded as ever married. The percentage of ever married ST male below 21 years at 1.2 per cent is also low.

15. Among STs, the average number of children ever born per ever married woman in the age group 45-49 years is just over five. There are skewed variations among the seventeen Naga sub-tribes. Among Angami, Ao, and Khiemnungan it is less than five, while among the Rengma and Chang it is exceeding six.

Religion

16. The majority of the ST population of Nagaland is Christians. In 2001 Census, 98.5 per cent of the ST population has returned as Christians.
