

RAJASTHAN
DATA HIGHLIGHTS : THE SCHEDULED TRIBES
Census of India 2001

As per the 2001 census, the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of Rajasthan State is 7,097,706 constituting 8.4 percent of the total ST population of India. The Scheduled Tribes of the State constitute 12.6 percent of the total population (56,507,188) of the State. It holds 12th position among all States and UTs in respect of the percentage share of ST population to total population. The ST population has registered a growth rate of 29.6 per cent during 1991-2001 which is 1.2 per cent higher than the growth of the total population.

2. The Scheduled Tribes are overwhelmingly rural as 94.6 per cent of them inhabit in rural areas whereas 76.6 per cent of the total population of the state live in villages.

3. District wise distribution of tribal population shows that they have their highest concentration in Banswara district (72.3 per cent), followed by 65.1 percent and 47.9 per cent in Dungarpur and Udaipur districts respectively. Nagaur (0.2 per cent) preceded by Bikaner (0.4 per cent) has the lowest share of tribal population in the total population.

Population - Size & Distribution

4. Out of twelve (12) tribes scheduled for the State, Mina is the most populous tribe, having a population of 3,799,971 constituting 53.5 per cent of the total ST population followed by Bhil (2,805,948). Mina and Bhil together constitute 93 per cent whereas Garasia, Damor, Dhanka & Saharia combine to form 6.6 per cent of the total ST population. Six tribes, Bhil Mina, Naikda, Kathodi, Patelia, Kokna and Koli Dhor along with the generic tribes constitute the residual 0.3 per cent of the total tribal population. Among the twelve STs, Koli Dhor is the smallest tribe with a population below 100 preceded by Kokna (405), Patelia(1,045), Kathodi (2,922) etc.

5. Mina account for 99 - 99.8 per cent of all ST population in the five districts namely Dhaulpur, Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, & Dausa. The tribe share more than 90 per cent of the total tribal population in Alwar, Jhunjhunun, Sikar, Tonk & Churu districts. The second major tribe, Bhil have a share of 99 per cent of all ST population in Barmer district followed by Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Rajsamand (95 per cent) districts.

Sex Ratio

6. The Scheduled Tribes of the State have registered considerably lower sex ratio both in total as well as in the 0-6 yrs. population in comparison to those recorded by all STs at the national level. The over all sex ratio of the ST population is 944 females per 1000 males which is lower than the national average of 978 in respect of all ST population.

7. Among the major tribes, Mina and Dhanka have overall sex ratio lower than the national as well as state averages whereas Bhil, Garasia, Seharria tribes have returned overall sex ratio higher than that of the State average. Damor have registered the overall sex ratio significantly higher than the national average.

8. The sex ratio among ST children in the age group 0-6 yrs. is 950. Among the individual tribes, Damor have female children outnumber the male children whereas among Garasia both male and female children are in equal number in the corresponding age group. The child sex ratio among Bhil is higher than the state as well as national level. The lowest child sex ratio has been reported by Mina.

Statement-1 : The Sex Ratio

Age group	All STs (India)	All STs (State)	Damor	Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)	Bhil	Seharia	Mina	Dhanka
All ages	978	944	997	971	970	961	924	923
0-6 yrs.	973	950	1011	1000	975	960	925	907

Literacy & Educational Level

9. The Scheduled Tribes of the state have a literacy rate of 44.7 per cent which is lower than the national average (47.1 per cent) in respect of all STs. There has been a significant improvement in the rate of literacy during the decade 1991-2001. The over all literacy rates which was merely 19.4 per cent at 1991 census has increased to 44.7 per cent at 2001, higher by 25.3 percentage points. Male literacy has gone up from 33.3 per cent in 1991 to 62.1 per cent which is higher than that of national average of 59.2 per cent. On the other hand, though the female literacy has increased six times from meagre 4.4 per cent at 1991 to 26.2 per cent at 2001, it is still lower than the national average of 34.8 per cent recorded by all tribal females.

10. Among the larger groups, Dhanka and Mina have registered literacy rate higher than that recorded by all STs at the national level whereas Damor, Bhil, Seharia and Garasia have lower literacy rate than those of national as well as State averages. The Statement – 2 given below brings out variations in total and female literacy rates among the major tribes.

Statement- 2 : Literacy Rate

Literacy Rate	All Scheduled Tribes (India)	All Scheduled Tribes(State)	Dhanka	Mina	Damor	Bhil	Seharia	Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)
Persons	47.1	44.7	61.8	52.2	41.2	35.2	34.2	30.7
Females	34.8	26.2	45.9	31.8	23.2	19.1	18.7	15.4

11. So far as the levels of education are concerned, slightly more than half (50.8 per cent) of the literate persons are either without any educational level or have attained below primary level of education. The primary level literates constitute 24.2 per cent followed by literates upto middle level (13.2 per cent). The persons educated up to matric/ secondary/higher secondary constitute 9.1 per cent whereas 2.5 per cent only are graduates & above. Non-technical & technical diploma holders form negligible percentage (0.1).

12. There has been increase in the drop out rate after the primary level of education. The percentage of matriculate persons is almost one fourth of the persons educated up to primary level. Graduate persons constitute approximately one third of the matriculates. The major tribes have shown the similar trend in respect of the level of education (Statement-3).

Statement - 3: Educational level 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.	Non-technical & Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	Graduate & above
All STs	9.5	41.3	24.2	13.2	9.1	0.1	2.5
Mina	7.9	37.7	24.6	15	11.2	0.1	3.5
Bhil	12.6	48	23.4	9.8	5.3	0.1	0.9
Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)	16.2	52.8	19.4	7.3	3.6	0.1	0.6
Damor	10.1	40.8	25.5	13.6	8.1	0.2	1.7
Dhanka	4.5	33.6	29.7	18.8	10.9	0.1	2.4
Seharia	7.9	59	26.2	4.8	2	0.1	0.1

13. Little more than half of the total 20 lakh tribal children in the age group 5 -14 go to school. It is noted that around 9.2 lakh (46 per cent) children of this age group are not attending school. Mina, the numerically largest tribe have 62 per cent children in the corresponding age group go to school. Dhanka have the highest percentage of school going children in the same age group. Bhil, Seharia, Garasia lag behind as they have less than half of the total children in the corresponding age-group attend school (Statement - 4).

Statement- 4 : percentage of school going population in the age group 5-14 yrs.

All Scheduled Tribes	Dhanka	Mina	Damor	Seharia	Bhil	Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)
54.2	67.6	62.9	53.2	44.7	43.5	38.7

Work Participation Rate (WPR)

14. The work participation rate of the ST population in Rajasthan is 47.6 per cent which is lower than that of the national average (49.1 per cent). The male work participation rate has declined slightly from 51.8 per cent to 50.1 per cent whereas female WPR has increased from 40.6 per cent to 44.9 per cent during 1991-2001. Among the total workers, 66.8 per cent are main workers, which is nearly equal to that recorded for all STs at the national level (68.9 per cent).

15. Individually, Bhil (48.4 per cent) and Mina (47 per cent) have WPR lower than the national average whereas Damor (55.2 per cent) and Garasia (49.4 per cent) have WPR higher than the national average. Damor tribe also have the highest female WPR (54.5 per cent) followed by Garasia (47.1 per cent) and other tribes.

Category of the Workers

16. Agriculture is the main economic activity of the tribes of Rajasthan. While 69 per cent of total workers are 'Cultivators' which is significantly higher than the national average of 44.7 per cent, 'Agricultural Labourers' constitute only 14 per cent which is less than half of that recorded by of total STs at the national level (36.9 per cent). 'Other Workers' constitute 16.3 per cent and workers in 'Household Industry' account for only 0.7 per cent.

17. Expectedly, majority of the workers are 'Cultivators' among Mina, Damor, Bhil and Garasia tribes whereas Seharia have maximum proportion of 'Agricultural Labourers' followed by 'Cultivators'. Dhanka have the highest proportion of 'Other Workers'.

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

Economic Category	All Scheduled Tribes	Mina	Damor	Bhil	Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)	Seharia	Dhanka
Cultivators	69.0	74.8	73.1	64.3	60.3	24	15.1
Agricultural Labourers	14.1	9.8	14.8	17.7	18.4	66.4	15.1
HHI Workers	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	2.3
Other Workers	16.3	14.7	11.2	17.2	20.8	9.1	67.5

Marital Status

18. The data on marital status show that the 'never married' persons (51.7 per cent) constitute more than half of the total population. 'Married' persons account for 44.5 per cent while 3.5 per cent are 'widowed'. A negligible proportion (0.2 per cent) of STs are 'divorced & separated'.

19. Like other communities of the State, practice of the marriage of girls and boys below the legal age is prevalent among the tribes also. It may be discerned from the Statement - 6 that the proportions of married tribal girls below 18 years (4.3 per cent) and tribal boys below 21 years (5.7 per cent) are considerably higher than those at national level (2.1 per cent and 2.8 per cent respectively). The STs namely, Mina, Seharia have registered the higher percentage of married boys and girls below the legal age in comparison to those of the state average.

Statement - 6 : Percentage of married girls and married boys below the stipulated age

Age group	All Scheduled Tribes(state)	Seharia	Mina	Bhil	Dhanka	Damor	Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)
Married girls (less than 18 yrs.)	4.3	5.9	5.0	3.6	3.5	3.0	1.2
Married boys (less than 21yrs.)	5.7	8.6	6.0	5.5	4.1	4.5	3.2

20. The mean number of children ever born per ever married tribal woman (age-group 45-49yrs.) is 5 which is higher than that of all STs at the national level (4).

Religion

21. The Scheduled Tribes professing Hinduism form 99.5 per cent, whereas those professing Islam and Christianity constitute a meagre 0.1 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively. Tribal following Sikhism, Budhism, Jainism, Other religion and persuasions together constitute a very small (7,174) population.
