



“A Comparative Analysis Of Demographic Trends In India And The State Of Karnataka”

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Abstract

Currently, India is the most populous country of the world accounting for 18 per cent of the total world's population. In India, the State of Karnataka accounts for 5.83 per cent of the total land area and shares 4.7 per cent of the total population of India. The State of Karnataka ranks 6th in respect of India's total geographical area and 8th in respect of the total population of India. In this paper, demographic trends of the State of Karnataka are analysed against the background of India's Demographic structure. With the help of thirteen tables, important demographic indicators like sex ratio, density of population, occupational structure, literacy rate, life expectancy rate, workparticipation rate etc. are examined for the state of Karnataka, in the light of India.

Key-words: India, Karnataka, Rural- Urban population, Birth rate, Death rate.

Introduction:

Currently, India is the most populous country of the world accounting for 18 per cent of the total world's population. In India, the State of Karnataka accounts for 5.83 per cent of the total land area and shares 4.7 per cent of the total population of India. The State of Karnataka ranks 6th in respect of India's total geographical area and 8th in respect of the total population of India. In this paper, demographic trends of the State of Karnataka are analysed against the background of India's Demographic structure.

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1.1 Size of population in India and Karnataka in various census (In millions)

Census year	Population of India	Population of India males	Population of India females	Population of Karnataka	Population of Karnataka males	Population of Karnataka females
1951	361	186	175	19.4	9.8	9.2
1961	439	226	213	23.5	12	11.5
1971	548	284	264	29.2	14.9	14.3
1981	683	353	330	37.0	18.8	18.2
1991	846	439	407	44.9	22.9	22
2001	1028	532	496	52.7	26.8	25.9
2011	1210	623	587	61.1	31.0	30.1

Source: Register General of India, various census years

Table 1.1 reveals that, between 1951 to 2011, the population of Karnataka increased by 3.1 times and that of India by 3.35 times. In 1951 Karnataka contributed 5.37 per cent of population to the total population of India and that in 2011; it decreased to 5.04 per cent.

It is interesting to know that in a period of about 60 years of census, both male and female population of India and Karnataka increased by little more than 3 times. Practices of universal marriage, hot climate, poverty, desired to have a male child, joint family system etc. are the main causes for the increase in the population of India and Karnataka. According to Hindu religion, people believe that they want a son to perform their last rites after their death they believe that if son does not perform the last rituals, they will not get moksha. Hence, they continue to expand the size of their families till they get a male child.

1.2 Comparison of Decadal Growth Rate of population of India and Karnataka in various censuses (In percentage)

Census Year	Decadal Growth rate of India	Decadal Growth Rate of India males	Decadal Growth rate of India females	Decadal Growth Rate of Karnataka	Decadal Growth Rate of Karnataka males	Decadal Growth Rate of Karnataka females
1951	13.31	13.34	13.49	19.36	19.48	19.24
1961	21.64	21.97	21.29	21.57	21.8	21.34
1971	24.80	25.52	24.03	24.22	24.76	23.68
1981	24.66	24.40	24.93	26.75	27.1	26.4
1991	23.87	24.33	23.37	21.12	21.6	20.64
2001	21.54	21.14	21.97	17.51	17.8	17.22
2011	17.68	17.08	18.31	15.67	15.12	16.10

Source: Register General Of India, (2011).

From table 1.2 we notice that, Decadal Growth Rate of population in India which was 13.31 per cent in 1951 increased to 17.68 per cent in 2011. But, in Karnataka the Decadal Growth Rate of population decreased from 19.36 per cent to 15.67 per cent during the same period. Between 1951 to 2011, the Decadal Growth Rate of both males and females has shown an increasing trend; where as in Karnataka it has shown a declining trend. In India the Decadal Growth Rate of population in 1951 (13.31) was lower than that of Karnataka (19.36) and in 2011 India's figures were more than that of Karnataka. Hence, Karnataka's figures show a downward trend and that of India an increasing trend.

1.3 Rural and Urban Population in India and Karnataka in different census

Census Year	Percentage of Rural Population in India	Percentage of Urban Population in India	Percentage of Rural Population in Karnataka	Percentage of Urban Population in Karnataka
1951	82.7	17.3	84.2	15.8
1961	82.0	18.0	83.1	16.9
1971	80.1	19.0	81.3	18.7
1981	76.7	23.3	78.6	21.4
1991	74.3	25.7	75.7	24.3
2001	72.2	31.51	72.9	27.1
2011	68.8	31.2	69	31

Source: Census of India (2011).

It is seen from table 1.3 that both Indian economy and Karnataka economy still continue to be rural in nature, despite the fact that the proportion of rural population

has gone on declining over the years. At the same time it is good to notice that the proportion of urban population has shown an increasing trend. From this feature, we can conclude that the rate of urbanisation is making an upward march. It is said that if the rate of urbanisation increases, the level of development also rises.

1.4 Religion wise distribution of Population in India and Karnataka in various censuses

Census Year	% of Hindus in India	% of Muslims in India	% of Christians in India	% of Others in India	% of Hindus in Karnataka	% of Muslims in Karnataka	% of Christians in Karnataka	% of Others in Karnataka
1951	84.10	9.80	2.30	3.8	85.12	9.94	2.8	2.14
1961	83.45	10.6	2.4	3.55	83.89	10.8	2.7	2.6
1971	82.7	11.2	2.6	3.5	83.1	11.6	2.2	3.1
1981	82.6	11.3	2.4	3.7	82.9	11.8	2.7	2.6
1991	81.53	12.61	2.32	3.54	81.88	12.93	3	2.19
2001	80.5	13.4	2.3	3.8	83.86	12.23	1.91	2
2011	79.8	14.2	2.3	3.7	84	12.92	1.87	1.21

Note: People belonging to all those religions except Hinduism, Islam and Christianity are grouped under the category of 'Others'.

Source: Register General of India.

Table 1.4 shows that Hinduism is the dominant religion of India and Karnataka as a larger section of population belongs to this community. Between 1951 to 2011, Hindu population in India declined by about 4 per cent and in Karnataka it declined in negligible proportions. If in India the Muslim population increased by 4 per cent, the increase was 3 per cent in Karnataka. For the increase in the proportion of Muslim population, lesser importance attached to family planning programs by Muslim women and the unwillingness of Hindu women to bear more than 3 children are the contributing factors. In case of India, the share of Christians and "others" has almost remained the same. But, in Karnataka it has declined by about 1 per cent.

1.5 Literacy rate in India and Karnataka in various censuses

Census Year	Overall Literacy rates in India	Males Literacy Rates in India	Females Literacy rates in India	Overall Literacy Rates in Karnataka	Males Literacy Rates in Karnataka	Female Literacy Rates in Karnataka
1951	16.7	24.9	7.3	21.5	25	18
1961	24.0	34.4	13.0	29.80	42.29	16.70
1971	29.5	39.5	18.7	36.83	48.51	24.56
1981	36.2	46.9	24.8	46.21	58.73	33.17
1991	52.1	63.9	39.2	56.04	67.26	44.34
2001	65.38	76.0	54.0	67.04	76.29	57.45
2011	74.04	82.14	65.46	75.60	82.5	68.1

Source: Census of India, (2011)

It is observed from table 1.5 that in both India and Karnataka the literacy rate is showing an upward march. In both the years of 1951 and 2011 the literacy rate of Karnataka is higher than that of India. In both India and Karnataka male literacy rate is higher than that of females. This depicts the fact that equal opportunities in respect of education are not given to females with that of their counter parts.

1.6 Birth Rate in India and Karnataka in various censuses

Census Year	Birth Rate in India	Birth Rate in Karnataka
1951	39.9	40.2
1961	41.7	35.4
1971	41.1	31.7
1981	37.2	28.3
1991	29.5	26.9
2001	25.8	19
2011	22.5	17.2

Source: Calculated from the Census of India data and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India.

Birth Rate refers to the number of people who are born in one year per 1000 people. It is found from table 1.6 that in both India and Karnataka the Birth Rate has shown a declining trend (except for the decades of 1961 and 1971 for India). In Karnataka, Birth Rate has fallen by 2.3 times and that in India by 1.7 times. Increase in the age of marriage for females to 18 years and for males to 21 years from 1978, increase in the

rate of literacy of males and females, increasing awareness on the part of couples with regard to birth control devices be mainly responsible for the decline in the Birth Rate of India and Karnataka

1.7 Death Rates in India and Karnataka in various censuses

Census Year	Death Rate in India	Death Rate in Karnataka
1951	27.4	22.84
1961	22.8	15.48
1971	19	11.48
1981	15	11.22
1991	9.8	7.8
2001	8.5	6.9
2011	7.7	6.1

Source: Calculated from the Census of India data and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India.

Number of people who die in a year per thousand people is called as death rate. Table 1.7 shows that the death rate in both India and Karnataka has been declining at a faster rate between 1951 and 2011. It is interesting to note that the death rate in Karnataka has been lower than that of India from 1951 to 2011. From this, we can conclude that the standard of living in Karnataka is higher than that of India and as such we come across lower death rates in Karnataka than that of India.

1.8 Life Expectancy Rate in India and Karnataka in various censuses.

Census Year	Life Expectancy Rate in India	Male Life Expectancy rate in India	Female Life expectancy rate In India	Life Expectancy Rate in Karnataka	Male Life Expectancy rate in Karnataka	Female Life Expectancy rate in Karnataka
1951	35.80	32.45	31.66	41.2	42	42
1961	42.03	41.89	40.55	45.46	51.9	39.02
1971	48.40	46.4	44.7	51.9	59.7	54.8
1981	54.27	54.63	55.03	60.7	63.2	60.2
1991	58.35	59.7	59.7	62.7	64.5	64.3
2001	62.91	63.5	63.5	66.1	68.0	69.6
2011	67.13	65.77	67.95	69.09	70.0	72.3

Source: Census of India, (2011).

The average age of a person up to which he can live in a country, state or a region is known as Life Expectancy Rate. From table 1.8 we see that the Life Expectancy Rate in both India and Karnataka have increased over the years. Life Expectancy Rate in Karnataka is higher than that of India for all the census years. In case of India Life Expectancy Rate was same for both males and females in 1991 and 2001 and in 2011 female Life Expectancy Rate was more than that of male Life Expectancy Rate.

In Karnataka Life Expectancy Rate for males and females were almost the same in 1991 and thereafter female Life Expectancy Rate improve to a smaller extent than that of male Life Expectancy Rate. For this kind of an improvement in female Life Expectancy Rate, factors like lesser degree of exploitation of females, better position enjoyed by women in the society, special health facilities made available to the females by the government are mainly responsible. Between 1951 to 2011, the overall Life Expectancy Rate of India increased by 1.87 times and that of Karnataka by 1.67 times.

1.9 Sex Ration in India and Karnataka in different census.

Census Year	Overall Sex Ratio in India	Rural Sex Ratio in India	Urban Sex Ratio in India	Overall Sex Ratio in Karnataka	Rural Sex Ratio in Karnataka	Urban Sex Ratio in Karnataka
1951	946	965	860	966	974	958
1961	941	963	845	959	969	949
1971	930	949	858	957	963	950
1981	934	950	880	963	970	956
1991	927	938	894	960	969	951
2001	933	946	900	965	977	942
2011	940	947	936	973	979	963

Source: Census of India, (2011)

We can make out from table 1.9 that the Sex Ratio. Sex Ratio for India has fallen from 1951 to 2011 and that of Karnataka Sex Ratio has improved during the same period. In India, Sex Ratio has worsened in rural areas and has improved remarkably in urban areas. But in Karnataka, an improvement in Sex Ratio is seen both in rural and urban areas. That is because of the fact that, in Karnataka we come across better implementation of women empowerment programs in Karnataka when compare to that of India.

1.10 Density of Population in India and Karnataka in various censuses.

Census Year	Density of Population in India	Density of Population in Karnataka
1951	117	101
1961	142	123
1971	177	153
1981	216	194
1991	274	235
2001	325	276
2011	382	319

Source: Provisional Population Totals- India.

Table 1.10 indicates that Density of Population in both India and Karnataka have shown an increasing trend. Between 1951 to 2011, Density of Population in India has increased by 3.26 times and that of Karnataka by 3.15 times. This means that the trend of Density of Population in India and Karnataka is almost same

1.11 Fertility Rate in India and Karnataka in various censuses.

Census Year	Fertility Rate in India	Fertility Rate in Karnataka
1951	5.9	5.1
1961	5.8	4.5
1971	5.5	4.1
1981	4.7	3.7
1991	4.0	3.1
2001	3.2	2.4
2011	2.7	2.0

Source: United Nations-world population prospects.

The Total Fertility Rate of a population is the average number of children that are born to a woman in her reproductive period. Table 1.11 shows that Fertility Rate in both India and Karnataka has shown a declining tendency. The decline in Karnataka is much more than that of India. Over the years, Fertility Rate in Karnataka declined by 2.55 times and that in India by 2.18 times. According to 2011 census Fertility Rate in Karnataka is 2 per cent and in India it is 2.7 per cent. Higher literacy rate in Karnataka than that of India is the main contributing factor for experiencing this kind of a tendency.

1.12 Work Participation Rate in India and Karnataka in various censuses.

Work Participation Rate of India and Karnataka In Various censuses.	Work Participation Rate in India	Male Work Participation Rate in India	Female Work Participation Rate in India	Work Participation Rate in Karnataka	Male Work Participation Rate in Karnataka	Female Work Participation Rate in Karnataka
1951	38.67	54.05	23.30	35.6	38.2	33
1961	42.54	57.12	27.96	41.2	48.6	33.8
1971	34.2	37.2	31.2	35.3	36.2	34.4
1981	36.7	40.6	32.8	38.5	36.8	30.2
1991	37.5	43.9	31.1	41.28	48.2	34.36
2001	39.1	51.7	25.6	44.53	56.64	31.08
2011	39.38	53.26	25.51	45.62	51.24	40

Source: Census of India, (2011).

Work Participation Rate refers to working population divided by total population multiplied by hundred. This means that the proportion of total population who are actually working. In India Work Participation rate which was 38.67 in 1951 increased to 39.38 in 2011 and in Karnataka from 35.6 to 45.62. Hence, the figures show that in India work Participation Rate increased marginally and that in Karnataka by 1.28 times. This means that better work opportunities are available to the people in Karnataka than in different states of India

1.13 Occupational distribution of Population in India and Karnataka in different census.

Year	Percentage of people engaged in Primary Sector in India	Percentage of people engaged in secondary Sector in India	Percentage of people engaged in ThirsarySector in India	Percentage of people engaged in Primary Sector in Karnataka	Percentage of people engaged in Secondary Sector in Karnataka	Percentage of people engaged in Thirsary Sector in Karnataka
1951	72.1	10.6	17.3	72.5	10.9	16.6
1961	71.8	12.2	16.0	70.1	13.4	16.5
1971	72.1	11.2	16.7	68.7	13.7	17.6
1981	68.8	13.5	17.7	64.1	15.2	20.7
1991	66.8	12.7	20.5	59.3	18.6	22.1
2001	56.7	17.5	25.8	54.5	19.9	25.6
2011	54.6	24.3	21.1	51.8	22.1	26.1

Source: Register General of India.

Occupation Distribution of Population refers to the proportion of population engaged in different sectors namely Primary Sector, Secondary Sector and Tertiary Sector. Primary Sector includes occupations like Agriculture, Horticulture Forestry, Animal – Husbandry and Mining. Secondary Sector includes mainly the occupations of Manufacturing and Construction. Occupations of Transport Communication, Banking, Trade and all services are included in the Tertiary Sector.

From table 1.13 we notice the fact that the proportion of population dependent on Primary Sector is declining in both India and Karnataka and almost at the same rate. Between 1951 to 2011, the percentage of population engaged in Secondary Sector has increased by 2.29 times in India and by 2.02 times in Karnataka. The percentage of population engaged in Tertiary Sector in India between 1951 to 2011 has gone up by 1.21 times and that in Karnataka by 1.57 times. This kind of change in occupational structure of population is a good development because the decline in the population engaged in Primary Sector shows that we are moving towards higher degree of urbanisation which represents higher level of economic progress.

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