

Demographic Profile of Kashmir Valley: 2011 - A Geographical Analysis

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Abstract: *The population of a nation is its most prominent asset. It is they who utilize the nation's assets and choose its strategies. Eventually a nation is known by its population. The present investigation depends on cultural setting being knowledgeable about Kashmir valley, which is one of the regions of Jammu and Kashmir. The study is based upon the secondary source of data. The present examination uncovered that unique pattern of population arrangement of Kashmir valley.*

Keywords: population, rural, urban, Kashmir valley

1. Introduction

Demography can be characterized as the investigation of human population including its composition, distribution, density, growth and other attributes as well as the reasons and consequences of change in these variables. The changes in these variables have direct effect on many other areas of development, especially human resource development. The people who establish the population act as producers as well as the consumers of goods and services. The importance of examining population lies mainly in evaluating the total man power available for production and total amount of goods and services required for their utilization. In the study of Kashmir the population distribution is exceptionally uneven. The distribution and density of population of Kashmir valley contrast from district to district and from micro to meso-regions. The physical and social factors to a great extent impact the population distribution.

2. Methodology

For the present study secondary source of data has been used which is collected from statistical hand books of Kashmir valley. In order to examine the cultural setting/ demographic profile of Kashmir valley, simple and sophisticated statistical and cartographic techniques has been used. For preparing an inventory on demographic profile of Kashmir valley, method of percentage has been used.

3. Objectives

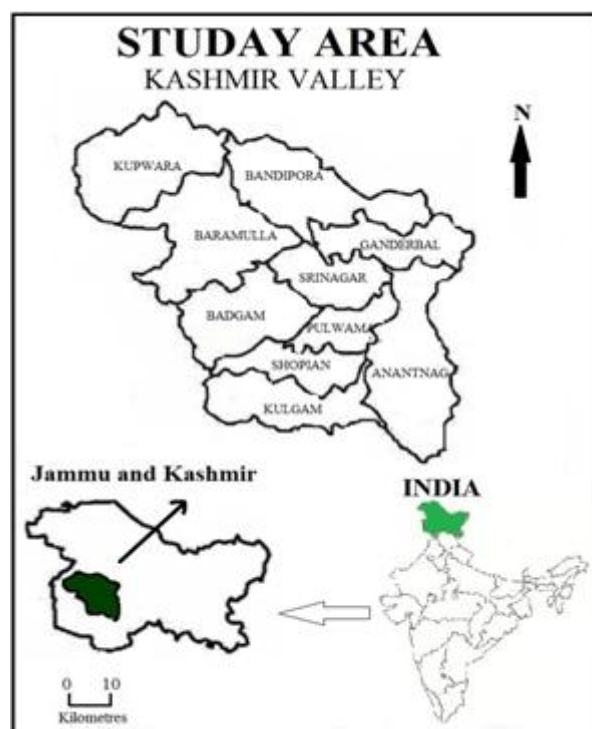
Following are the objectives of the study:-

- To analysis the demography of Kashmir Valley.
- To analysis the change in these variables.

4. Study Area

Kashmir usually called as the Kashmir valley, is a vital yet geographically more youthful piece of the principle Himalayan range. Politically it is significant territory of the Jammu and Kashmir state, accommodating quite a bit of its populace and financial activity. Kashmir lies between 33° 20' to 34° 54' N latitude and 73° 55' to 75° 35' E longitude

covering a region of 15 948 sq. km. Geologically, it is profound elliptical bowl – shaped valley limited by lofty mountains of the Pir Panjal rang in the south and in the south-western and the great Himalayan range in the north and east, with 64% of the absolute territory being mountainous. The valley is an asymmetrical fertile bowl, extending from southeast to north-westerly direction. Its diagonal length (from southeast to northwest corner) is 187 km. while the breath varies subsequently being 115.6 km along the latitudes of Srinagar. The elevation of the floor of the valley at Srinager is 1600m over the sea level and the most astounding top among its encompassing mountains is that of the Kolahoi or Gwashibror (height 5420m). Kashmir valley has ten districts namely; Anantnag, Bandipora, Baramulla, Budgam, Ganderbal, Kulgam, Kupwara, Pulwama, Shopian and Srinagar.



Source: Prepared by the Researcher

Figure 1: Map of Study Area

Volume 9 Issue 4, April 2020

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Population Distribution

Population distribution is the arrangement of the population on a certain area as per conditions and necessities of the general public. Population distribution is a social phenomenon exists by the combined affection of series of factors. Likewise, the factor chooses how the population distribute is the degree of the work power, the property of the economy then to the reason for common conditions, history of the exploitation of that region, the migration (Manoj Kumar., 2015).

The population distribution of Kashmir division is exceptionally uneven. The distribution and density of population of Kashmir valley contrast from district to district and from micro to meso- regions. The physical and social factors to a great extent impact the population distribution. All in all about 95% of all out population of the region is possessing the Kashmir valley the rest are living in Kandi (lower slope inclines) zone and side valleys within 2,000 m over the ocean level (Majid, Hussain. 2008).

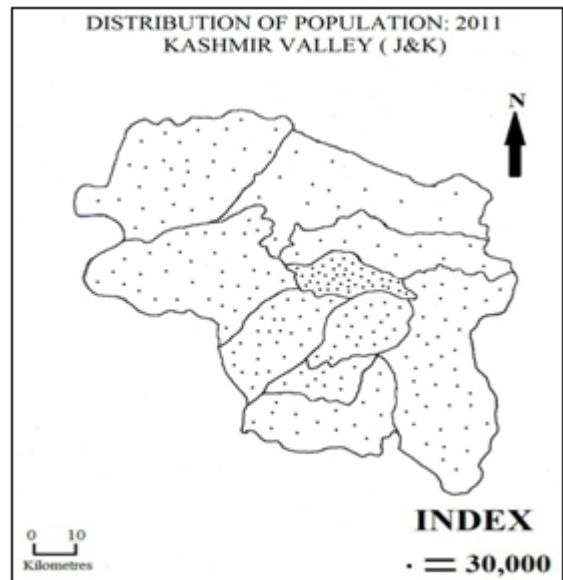
According to the 2011 census the total population of Kashmir is 68.88 million. About 59% of population lay in four districts of Kashmir to be specific Anantnag, Srinagar, Baramulla and Kupwara. The remainder of six districts made the 41% of population of Kashmir.

Table No.1 and Figure No.2 underneath demonstrate that there is wide variety of population distribution from district to district. The reason of high population in Anantnag, Srinagar, Baramulla and Kupwara is a direct result of large area in these areas and furthermore on account of past delineated district of Kashmir. The low population in Kulgam, Pulwama, Shopian, Ganderbal and Bandipora is on the grounds that these are recently demarcated district (2009) and in light of having low territory.

Table 1: Distribution of population in Kashmir: 2011

S. No.	Districts	Area (sq. km)	Population
1	Anantnag	3574	1078692
2	Kulgam	410	424483
3	Pulwama	1086	560440
4	Shopian	312	266215
5	Srinagar	1979	1236829
6	Ganderbal	259	297446
7	Budgam	1361	753745
8	Baramulla	4243	1008039
9	Bandipora	345	392232
10	Kupwara	2379	870354
	Kashmir valley	15948	6888475

Source:- District Census Handbook (J & K): 2011



Source: Prepared by the Researcher.

Figure No. 2: Distribution of Population

Population Density

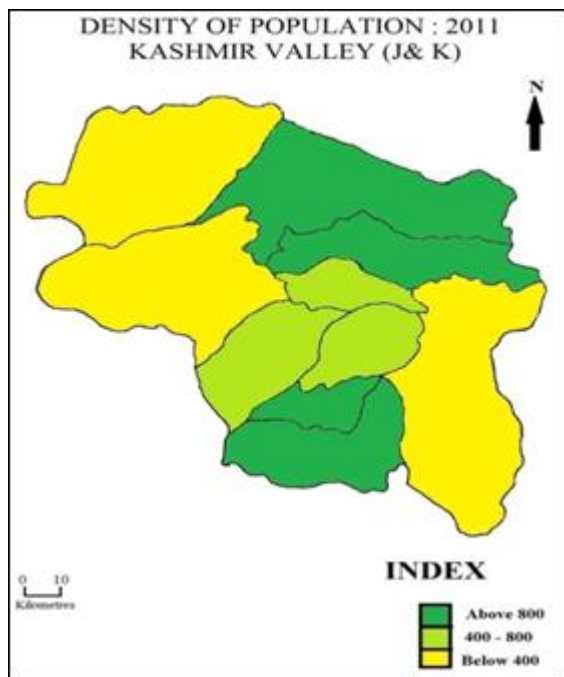
One of the significant records of population concentration is the density of population. It is defined as the number of person per square kilometre (census,2001). The average population density of Kashmir is 43 individuals for every sq. km against the state, which has 124 people for each sq. km .The density of population in the Kashmir, might be said as spare.

According to the table No. 2 and figure No. 3 demonstrates that the three districts specifically Anantnag, Baramulla and Kupwara have low density of population between 0 to 400 people for each sq. km. The reason of low population density in these districts is, on the grounds that these areas have enormous area when contrasted with others regions. The districts which have average or medium density of population are Pulwama, Budgam and Srinagar having population density going from 400 to 800 people for every sq. km. What's more, the rest of the districts Kulgam, Bandipora, Shopian and Ganderbal have high density population above 800 persons per sq. km. The reason for high density of population in these districts is a direct result of small area in addition to these are instructively in reverse regions, having less data about population controlling measures and individuals are most engaged in primary activities

Table 2: Population Density of Kashmir: 2011

S. No.	Districts	Density
1	Anantnag	303
2	Kulgam	1035
3	Pulwama	516
4	Shopian	853
5	Srinagar	625
6	Ganderbal	1148
7	Budgam	554
8	Baramulla	338
9	Bandipora	1137
10	Kupwara	366
	Kashmir valley	43

Source:- District Census Handbook (J & K): 2011



Source: Prepared by the Researcher

Figure 3: Density of Population

Growth of Population

Growth is a perpetual movement as the number of inhabitants in a nation keeps an eye on peripatetic starting with one spot then onto the next either inside the country or outside it. "Growth of population refers to alter in the number of inhabitants of a territory during a specific period of time" (Chandana, 1988). The net change in the growth of population involves a change in the middle of two given purposes of time is portrayed as the growth rate of population (Ahir et. al 2008).

In other word, growth of population is the expansion or decline in number of people in a specific area in a given timeframe. It very well may be communicated either in supreme numbers or in rate. Growth of population could be positive or negative. The *number of births* (fertility), *deaths* (mortality) and *migration* are the three segments which assume an imperative role in expanding or diminishing a nation's populace development rate. In this manner, growth rate of a nation is a consequence of the number of births and deaths recorded during a timeframe and just as the number of individuals migrating to and from a specific nation (James and Subramanian, 2003). Be that as it may, the total growth of population has two parts: a) natural growth, and b) net migration (Prasad, 1985). Normal growth of population is the upsurge in population by the distinction among births and deaths in a specific area between two points of time and net migration determined the distinction in total number of arrivals and departures.

The growth of population in Kashmir indicates wide variation from district to district. The table underneath demonstrates that the general growth of population from last decades (2001-2011) in Kashmir is 16.91 million. The population in 2001 was 51.96 million which increments by 32.56% and reaches up to 68.88 million out of 2011. The analysis of table shows Anantnag district has most astounding growth of population of 38.58% and district

Kulgam has least growth of 7.73%. Different districts with high growth rate are Ganderbal (36.50%), Kupwara (33.82%) these are three districts with growth rate above 30%, the remainder of districts having population growth between 20% to 30% are Bandipora (28.65%), Pulwama (27.00%), Shopian (25.97%), Budgam (24.14%) and Srinagar (20.34%). Baramulla and Kulgam are two districts with growth rate underneath 20% i.e. 19.45% and 7.73% respectively. The reason of having high growth of population in Kashmir is economically weak, religious impact and less learning about family planning. Medications used to control population are likewise not accessible up to tasteful level. Following is the table No. 3 and figure No. 4 which shows district wise decadal change in population growth.

Table 3: Population Growth in Kashmir:2011

S. No.	Districts	2001	2011	Decadal variation.	% of variation.
1	Anantnag	778408	1078692	+300284	+38.58
2	Kulgam	394026	424483	+30457	+7.73
3	Pulwama	441275	560440	+119165	+27.00
4	Shopian	21332	266215	+54883	+25.97
5	Srinagar	1027670	1236829	+209159	+20.35
6	Ganderbal	127907	297446	+79539	+36.50
7	Budgam	607181	753745	+146564	+24.14
8	Baramulla	843892	1008039	+164147	+19.45
9	Bandipora	304886	392232	+87346	+28.65
10	Kupwara	650393	870354	+219961	+33.82
	Kashmir valley	5196970	6888475	+1691505	+32.55

Source:- District Census Handbook (J & K): 2011

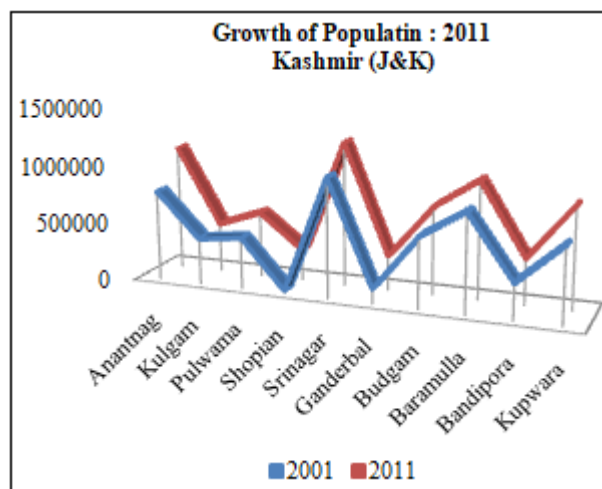


Figure 4: Growth of Population

Sex Ratio

Sex Ratio is one of the essential traits of population having a solid bearing on its demographic, social and monetary qualities. It influences straight forwardly the frequency of Birth, death, and migration; it shows up as a differential in-migrant status, occupational distribution and in for all intents and purposes all other population qualities. It is additionally utilized as a premise for differentiation in pretty much every part of social structure (Gaurav, Kalotra. 2014). Sex ratio is utilized to depict the number of females per 1000 of males.

As indicated by 2011 census the sex ratio of Kashmir is declined from 914 to 902 f per thousand males. Overall sex ratio of the state has likewise declined from 892 to 883 per

thousand males during 2001 to 2011 (Naik, A.A and Selvarajan, E .2015).

Table 4: Sex Ratio of Kashmir:2011

S. No.	Districts	2001	2011
1	Anantnag	911	927
2	Kulgam	945	951
3	Pulwama	942	912
4	Shopian	950	951
5	Srinagar	841	900
6	Ganderbal	917	874
7	Budgam	931	894
8	Baramulla	905	885
9	Bandipora	894	889
10	Kupwara	906	835
	Kashmir valley	914	902

Source:- District Census Handbook (J & K): 2011

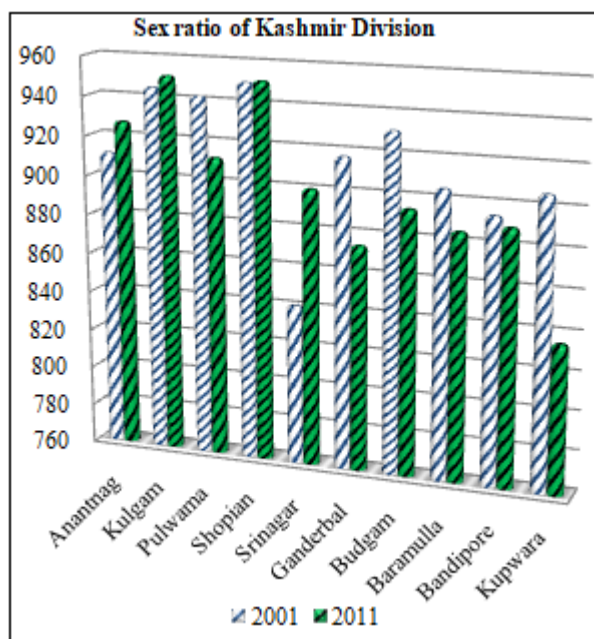


Figure 5: Sex Ratio

The above table no. 4 and figure no. 5 depicts that sex ratio increases in four districts and decreases in rest of districts. The district which shows increase in sex ratio is Anantnag, Kulgam, Srinagar and Shopian. The decrease of sex ratio in Kashmir is because of lack of medical attention during the time of pregnancy, less medical institutions, improper transport facility leading sometimes death on the way to hospital and religion orthodoxy.

Literacy Rate

Literacy is a procedure which changes an unpolished crude human into a shimmering socialized character. Education is a fundamental instrument to exceed expectations throughout everyday life. 'Literacy must be seen as a methods for enabling ladies in the more extensive struggle against disparity and injustice in society (Patel and Dighe, 1997)'. The meaning of literacy differs from nation to nation. The Census of India considers, 'the ability to both read and write a simple message with understanding in any language, a sufficient basis for classifying a person as literate'.

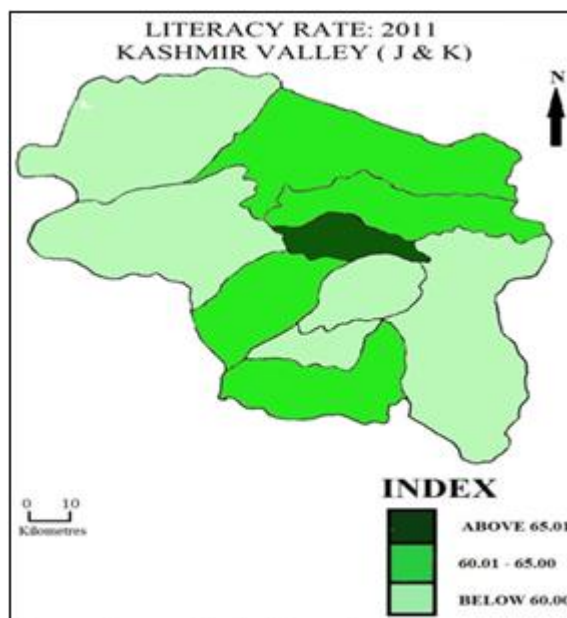
Literacy is one of the significant markers of social improvement. Information is connected with literacy and formal education. Monetary development is identified with level of literacy. In this way education is one of the significant needs of life just as future improvement of individual of the specific region (Patel and Nayak, 2013)'. Education additionally gets a decrease imbalances and capacities as a method for improving their status inside the family (Pathak and Gupta, 2013).

The distributional pattern of literacy in the Kashmir has been plotted in a figure beneath. The average literacy rate of Kashmir in 2011 is 61.56 percent, which is beneath the states average of 67.16%. The reason of having low literacy in Kashmir is a direct result of terrorisms and militarization from 22 years and furthermore in view of huge portion of rural population in the region. Another reason which we can say is monetary backwardness and less facility of schools in distant areas. The district wise literacy has been given in table beneath.

Table 5: Literacy Rate in Kashmir:2011

S. No.	Districts	Literate persons	Literacy rate
1	Anantnag	545532	62.69
2	Kulgam	209085	59.23
3	Pulwama	293985	63.48
4	Shopian	136500	60.76
5	Srinagar	748584	69.41
6	Ganderbal	143276	58.04
7	Budgam	335649	56.08
8	Baramulla	545149	64.63
9	Bandipora	185979	56.82
10	Kupwara	436954	64.51

Source:- District Census Handbook (J & K): 2011



Source: Prepared by the Researcher.

Figure 6: Literacy Rate

Examination of the table no.5 and figure no. 6 demonstrates that Srinagar the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir has most elevated literacy rate in Kashmir which is 69.41% above state average, the reason of having such level of literacy is a direct result of urbanized city and greater facilities of schools. The remainder of districts have literacy

rate underneath state average. Yet, all the districts of Kashmir has literacy rate over 50 percent. The literacy rate of Srinagar (69.41%), Baramulla (64.63%), Kupwara (64.51%), Pulwama (63.48%), Anantnag (62.69%) and Shopian (60.76%) is above 60% and the remainder of districts has literacy rate underneath 60%. The little increment in education from most recent multi decade is a result of a several endeavours of government toward improving education standard in Kashmir like SarvShiksha Abhiyan (SSA) giving free education up to primary level, improving framework in elementary schools and so on.

Since the monetary improvement can't be accomplished without literacy, education and technological skill, it is basic to quicken the procedure of education in Kashmir. Genuine consideration is to be paid to educate the more youthful.

Rural-Urban Population

All places with a municipality corporation, cantonment board or informed town area committee, etc. and all places which possess following features:

- (1) A minimum population of 5,000;
- (2) At least 75 per cent of the male workers employed in non-agricultural pursuits; and
- (3) A density of population of at least 400 per sq. km. are known as urban area and All areas which are not categorized as Urban area are considered as Rural Area.

In Kashmir about 68.40% of population lives in rural area and 31.60% in urbanised areas as per 2011 census.

Table 6: District wise rural-urban population:2011

S. No.	Districts	Rural	%	Urban	%
1	Anantnag	795805	16.89	282887	12.99
2	Kulgam	343870	7.29	80613	3.70
3	Pulwama	479978	10.18	80462	3.69
4	Shopian	249855	5.30	16360	7.23
5	Srinagar	17313	0.36	1219516	56.00
6	Ganderbal	250407	5.31	47039	2.16
7	Budgam	655833	13.92	97912	4.49
8	Baramulla	825539	17.52	182500	8.38
9	Bandipora	326871	6.93	65361	3.00
10	Kupwara	765625	16.25	104729	4.8
	Kashmir Valley	4711096	68.40	2177379	31.60

Source:-District Census Handbook (J & K): 2011

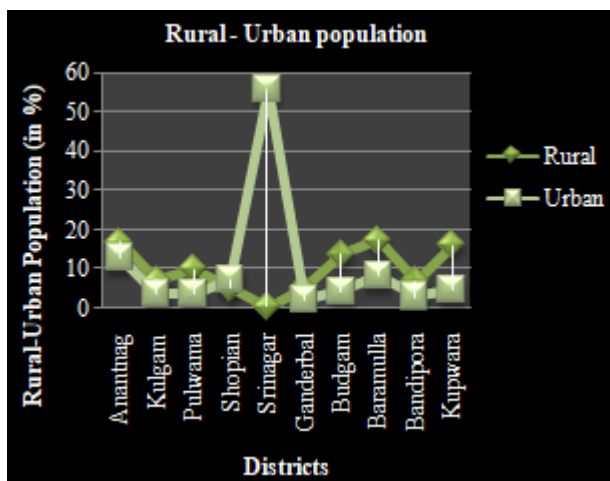


Figure 7: Rural-Urban Population

Based on the above table no. 6 and figure no. 7 the most astounding urban population is living in Srinagar which is about 56%, pursued by Anantnag which has 13% of urban populace. The remainder of districts have beneath 10% of population in urbanized territories. The reason of being most elevated urban populace in Srinagar is authoritative city with immense improvement. The Anantnag region has 13 % of urban population in light of the fact that Anantnag is second created district after Srinagar which is celebrated for its places of interest and religious hallowed places. The areas with progressively rustic population are Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara and Budgam, the reason is the vast majority are occupied with rural exercises reason is these districts has increasingly hilly region and marshy land. Another reason which hinders the development of these districts is militancy and militarisation.

5. Conclusion

Thus it has been concluded that population is a dynamic assert to any political state. Demography aspects are uneven in Kashmir valley. It has been observed that approximate 60% of Kashmir valley's population is confined only in four districts, namely Anantnag, Srinagar, Baramulla and Kupwara and the rest of 40% is distributed in rest of the six districts of Kashmir valley. Kashmir valley has very low population density of 43 persons per sq. km against 123 persons per sq.km of state. Kashmir valley added 68.88 million people during the decade of 2001- 2011. In case of sex ratio, it is sad to unveil that sex ratio has declined from 914 in 2001 to 902 in 2011. Level of literacy is also less in Kashmir valley (61.56 percent) in comparison to literacy rate of state (67.16 percent). In Kashmir valley about 68.40% of populace lives in rural areas and 31.6 percent in urbanized zones according to 2011 census. So it clearly evident from the above discussed demography aspects that valley is behind in many demographic aspects in comparison to state's demographic aspect. So region of Kashmir valley needs adire attention for its up gradation and come into lead with other areas of the state as well as country.

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