

# Trends and Patterns of Migration in India

**Dr. Nagendraiah**

Associate Professor of Economics, Govt. First Grade College Chickballapura, Karnataka.

## Abstract

This paper deals with “Migration and its trends in India which clearly explain how year by year migration has been increasing between different states In India, the issue of human migration by origin and by destination is varying over time period and human migration rising out of several social, economic as well as political causes. The human migration in India across various parts of the nation reveals the dynamism of the demographic features, and the process of development of country. Many states in India are witnessing faster economic development in recent years, attributed by various parts, such as industrial sectors, service sectors like information and communication technology, the migration data plays prominent role to link the economic development and human migration. India is country which is made up of more number of villages, even today there are more than 7 lakhs villages in India. In the year 1950-51 around 78% population were in rural areas, remaining 22% population which was in urban areas but according to 2011 censuses around 62% population is in rural areas and 38% is in urban areas, this data clearly says that today more number of people are migrating from rural areas to urban and semi urban places in search of higher education, employment opportunities, better life and for many reasons

**Keywords:** Migration Streams, Stock, Migrants, Human development

## INTRODUCTION

In India, according to census of India in case of place of birth of a person's other than the place of enumeration such person is called as migrant. This migration may be due to various socio-economic reasons. To capture this dynamic movement of human population, the census of India, gathers the information on migration India is country which is made up of more number of villages, even today there are more than 7 lakhs villages in India. In the year 1950-51 around 78% population were in rural areas, remaining 22% population which was in urban areas but according to 2001 censuses around 62% population is in rural areas and 38% is in urban areas, This speeded the urbanization process very faster extent in India. Rural to urban migration is a response to diverse economic opportunities across space. Historically it has played a significant role in the urbanization process of several countries and continues to be significant in scale; Migration is one of the basic determinants of population change and population redistribution over the space. Migration has much positive as well as negative implication. The rate of net rural to urban migration has increased from 21.2 percent in 1991-01 to 24.1 percent in 2001-11 in the context of urban poverty, urban slums and informal sector employment a great deal has been talked in reference to rural-urban population mobility. In other words, much of the urban ills are attributed to the rural spills.

**1. Objectives of the study**

1. To study the concept of migration in india
2. To study the recent trends in migration in India
3. To analyse the impact of migration on human progress.

**2. Methodology of the study**

The study is based on secondary data. The data were collected from the official of Labour department of India and Economic Survey of India and Department of Economics and Social Affairs, 2019 and also from Migration Profiles of India.

**3. Status of Migration at National Level**

One important facet of study on population is the study of migration arising out of various social, economic or political processes. Sutherland (2013)<sup>10</sup> states that migration is necessary for people to cope with poverty. According to the World Bank (2011)<sup>13</sup>, more than 215 million people live outside their countries of birth due to

Various reasons and over 700 million migrate within their countries. According to the National Sample Survey Organization report (June 2010: 64th round)<sup>8</sup> nearly a third of Indians are migrants. India is expected to be the most populous country by 2050 with a largely young population. According to MPI (2011)<sup>6</sup>, the scale of internal mobility in India is likely to grow due to India's expanding middle class and continuing poverty. Most of the studies on rural to urban labour migration (Bhattacharya, 2002<sup>1</sup>, Parida and Madheswaran, 2010<sup>9</sup>) generally analyses the mixed effect of the interplay of both push and pull factors simultaneously and separate effect of only push factors is not known. This study fills this research gap by analysing the push factors of rural urban labour migration keeping the pull factors (i. e., destination characteristics) same for all the states and union territories.

**Table 3.1: Migrants by Place of Birth**

Sl. No	Category	2011 <sup>#</sup>	2001 <sup>#</sup>	1991 <sup>#</sup>
1	Total Population	1210.8	1028.6	838.5
2	Total Migrations	314.5	307.1	229.8
4	Migrants from within the districts (Intra-district)	264.1	181.7	136.2
5	Migrations from other districts of the state (Inter-district)	121.2	76.8	59.1
6	Migrations from other states in India (Inter-state)	56.3	42.3	27.2

Source: Census of India, 2011. # in million and Population of J & K is not included in 2001 and 1991 Census

According to 1991, 2001 and 2011 census report, the total migration by place of birth is reported approximately as 307 229.8, 307.1 and 315.5 million respectively. The percentage of increase in total migration by birth from 1991 to 2001 is 33.63. The percentage of increase in total migration by birth from 2001 to 2011 is 2.41%. Due to change in the methodology and inclusion of Jammu and Kashmir population in 2011 Census, the rate of change in 2011 is slightly low as compared to the rate change in 2001. In all three Censuses, intra-district movement is significantly high. The both inter-district and inter-state migration in India is also shown positive trend over the past three Censuses. Thus, the human migration in India is very common phenomenon, and it shows growth in all three types of migration, i.e. intra-district, inter-district also inter-state migration.

**Table 3.2: Migration Streams: Distribution of Migrants in India 2011**

Streams	Male Population				Female Population			
	NSSO	NSSO	Census	Census	NSSO	NSSO	Census	Census
	1999-2000	2007-08	2001	2011	1999-2000	2007-08	2001	2011
Urban to Rural Migration	10.7	8.9	6.2	26.9	5.2	4.9	4.1	73.1
Urban to Urban Migration	22.6	24.8	23.0	40.1	10.0	10.3	9.9	59.9
Rural to Rural Migration	32.3	27.1	36.3	10.6	70.3	70.0	72.4	89.4
Rural to Urban Migration	34.3	39.0	34.2	44.6	14.4	14.8	13.5	55.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Survey of India 2001; NSSO, Census -2011. Note: Classification of Rural-Urban is excluded and values are in percentage

Table 3.2 of distribution of migrants by gender wise studied by both NSSO and Census at different point in time. As per the NSSO estimates of percentage of male migrants from rural to urban is relatively greater than the female migrants. As per the NSSO study, the estimate of male migrants from rural to urban is 34.3% and 39.0 % during 1999-2000 and 2007-08 respectively. During the same period the estimate of female migrants from rural to urban is 14.4% and 14.8% respectively. The percentage of female migrants is relatively higher for rural to rural than the male. It is hold true even with the Census estimates. As per the NSSO estimates, the percentage of female migrants from rural to rural is 70.3 and 70.0 during 1999-2000 and 2007-08 respectively. The same time period the percentage of male migrants from rural to rural is only 32.3 and 27.1% respectively. Thus, female migration in our country is significantly prone to rural to rural; whereas male migration in our country is significantly induce to rural to urban. Both NSSO and Census estimates reveals that the urban to urban migration is comparatively lower, and urban to urban migration is relatively greater than the urban to rural migration. These estimates reveals that the male migration in India is urban centric, and female migration is rural centric. As per the 2011 census the estimate of male migrants from rural to urban 44.6% and 39.0 % during 1999-2000 and 2007-08 respectively.

**Table 3.3: Migration Streams: Internal Distribution of Migrants in India**

Migration Stream	Intra-District	Inter-District	Inter-State	Aggregate
<b>NSSO: 1999 - 2000</b>				
Urban to rural Migration	36.6	43.5	19.9	100.0
Urban to Urban Migration	46.5	33.5	20.0	100.0
Rural to Rural Migration	75.3	20.1	4.6	100.0
Rural to Urban Migration	43.8	36.5	19.6	100.0
<b>Total</b>				100.0
<b>NSSO: 2007 - 2008</b>				

Urban to Rural Migration	27.9	49.2	22.9	100.0
Urban to Urban Migration	48.8	33.8	17.5	100.0
Rural to Rural Migration	72.4	23.2	4.4	100.0
Rural to Urban Migration	41.2	33.6	25.2	100.0
<b>Total</b>				100.0
<b>Census: 2001</b>				
<b>Total</b>	62.5	24.1	13.2	<b>100.0</b>

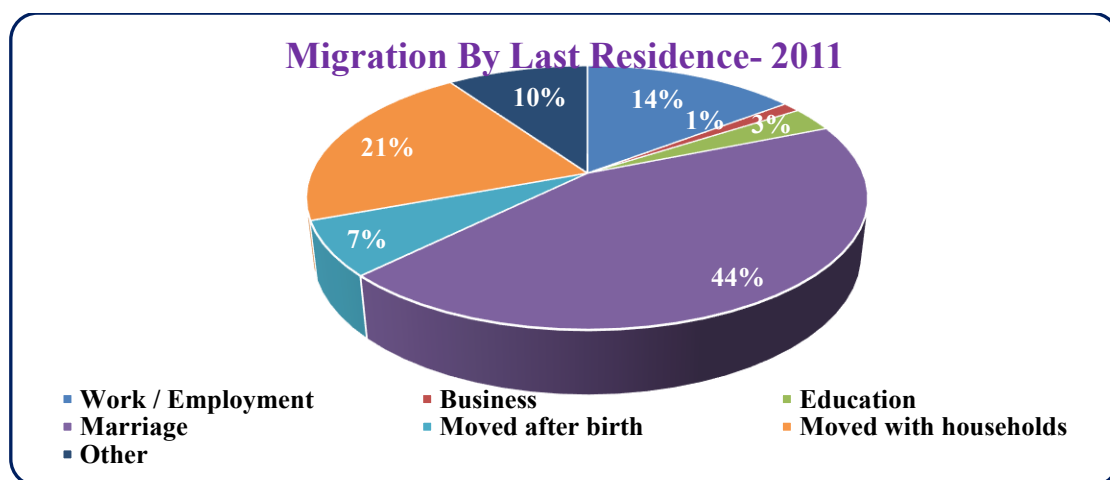
Source: Census of India 2001; NSSO, 2010. Note: UN Classification of Rural -Urban is excepted and values are in percentage

Table 3.3 of distribution of migrants by stream wise studied by both NSSO and Census at different point in time. The study of NSSO in 1999 – 2000 and 2007 – 2008 shows that Intra-district movement is relatively greater in India than the inter-district and inter-state migration. As per the NSSO estimates, the intra-district migration was 75.3% and 72.4% in 1999 – 2000 and 2007 – 2008 respectively. The Census study of 2001 also witness that intra-district migration is 62.5% and this is relatively greater than the inter-district and intra-state migration of India. In support to this statistical data, the Table 1.3 of distribution of migrants by gender-wise is higher for rural to rural by female, thus, intra-district migration is higher due to female migration dominates over the male migration.

**Table 3.4: Reasons for Migration – Migration by Last Residence: 2011**

Reasons	Total	Percentage
Total migrants	455,787,621	100.0
Work / Employment	41,422,917	14.7
Business	3,590,487	1.2
Education	5,457,556	3.0
Marriage	211,186,431	43.8
Moved after birth	33,855,865	6.7
Moved with households	65,959,915	21.0
Other	94,314,450	9.7

Source: Survey of India 2011



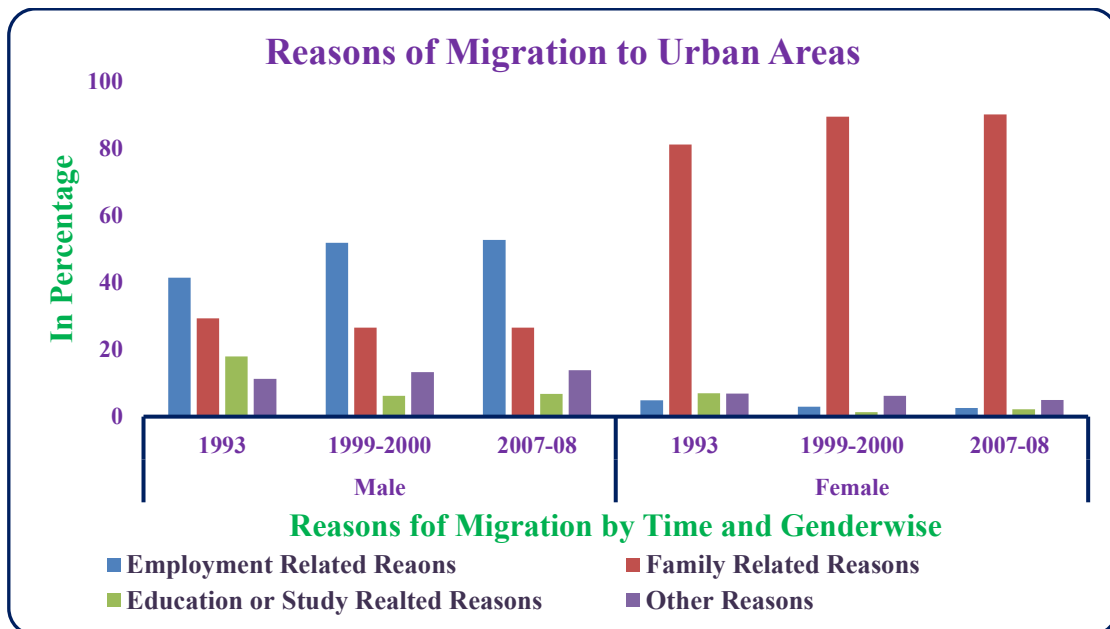
**Figure 1.5: Migration by Last Residence: 2011**

Table 3.4 and Figure 3.4 of migration of 2011 by last residence denote that the migration due to family related because especially marriage dominates than other factors. It accounts for 43.8%. The reason of moving with family and job related reasons for migration stands in the second and third major cause with 21.0 % and 14.7% respectively.

**Table 3.5: Reasons of Migration to Urban Areas**

Reasons	Male			Female		
	1993	1999-2000	2007-08	1993	1999-2000	2007-08
Search of jobs	8.6	17	15.1	1.3	0.7	0.6
Search of better occupations	12.8	15.6	16.5	1.4	0.8	0.6
Transfer of services	18.3	18.3	20.1	1.8	1.4	1.2
Proximity for job	1.7	1	1	0.4	0.1	0.2
<b>Total of job associated</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Marriage	1	1.6	1.4	31.7	58.5	60.8
Mobility with parents	28.3	27	25.2	49.5	31	29.4
<b>Total of family associated</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>90.2</b>
Education or study	18	6.2	6.8	7	1.3	2.2
Other	11.3	13.3	13.9	6.9	6.2	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: NSSO of 2001 and 2012. Note: Other includes business; acquisition of own residential dwelling; housing problems; health care; retirement; natural disaster



**Figure 3.5: Reasons of Migration to Urban Areas**

Table 3.5 and Figure 3.5 reveal that the major causes for migration to urban areas. Among the eight causes for migration, the family related reasons for migration is highest for female migration, and job related reasons are highest for male migration. Education and other reasons stand in the next major reasons for migration to urban area for both male and female migrants

### Findings Related to Indian Population and Migration in India

1. According to 1991, 2001 and 2011 census report, the total migration by place of birth is reported approximately as 307 229.8, 307.1 and 315.5 million respectively. The percentage of increase in total migration by birth from 1991 to 2001 is 33.63. The percentage of increase in total migration by birth from 2001 to 2011 is 2.41%.
2. The comparative study of Census data of migration of 2001 and 1991 reflects that the total migrants during the consecutive census period increase to 32.9%. This growth rate is relatively higher than the normal growth rate of the inhabitants throughout the said time period. The total number of migrants by place of birth, born outside the nation, fallen by approximately 11.6%.
3. As per the NSSO estimates of percentage of male migrants from countryside to urban is relatively greater than the female migrants. As per the NSSO study, the estimate of male migrants from rural to urban is 34.3% and 39.0 % during 1999-2000 and 2007-08 respectively. During the same period the estimate of female migrants from rural to urban is 14.4% and 14.8% respectively. The percentage of female migrants is relatively higher for rural to rural than the male. It is hold true even with the Census estimates. As per the NSSO estimates, the percentage of female migrants from rural to rural is 70.3 and 70.0 during 1999-2000 and 2007-08 respectively. The same time period the percentage of male migrants from rural to rural is only 32.3 and 27.1% respectively. Thus, female migration in India is significantly prone to rural to rural; whereas male migration in the country like India is significantly induce to rural to urban.
4. The study of NSSO in 1999 – 2000 and 2007 – 2008 shows that Intra-district migration is relatively greater in India than the inter-district and inter-state migration. The Census study of 2001 also witness that intra-district migration is 62.5% and it is relatively higher than the inter-district and intra-state migration of India. As per the NSSO estimates, the intra-district migration was 75.3% and 72.4% in 1999 – 2000 and 2007 – 2008 respectively.
5. The female migration in our country is due to family related because especially marriage dominates than other factors. It accounts for 43.8%. The reason of moving with family and job related reasons for migration stands in the second and third major cause with 21.0 % and 14.7% respectively.
6. The migration by social group and gender during 1999 – 2000 and 2007 – 2008 is studied by NSSO. As per NSSO 64th estimations report human migration in our country of 2008 displays that the migration of others is dominates over the other social categories during 1999 – 2000 and 2007 – 2008. The migration of ST category is higher than the ST and OBC. Irrespective of the social categories, the human migration is higher among the female than the male. The total percentage of migration is increase from 24.4 in 1999 – 2000 to 26.1 in 2007 – 2008.

### Conclusion

Among all four streams of migration, the rural-urban stream of migration is the most important as well as governing factor of spatial patterns and demographic changes. The rural urban migration is numerically most important especially in the developing countries; in fact rural-urban migration is the main factor of urbanization in developing countries which can be considered as an opportunity from urban growth point of view. Rural to urban migration can be viewed as a challenge also as it results into the development of the slums and many others associated problems. Rural to urban migration can be a response to diverse economic opportunities across space.

## References

1. Aiyar, S. and Mody, A. (2011), the Demographic Dividend: Evidence from the Indian States. WP/11/38, International Monetary Fund.
2. Census of India, 1961; 1971; 1991 & 2001. Migration Tables (CD ROM). Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Chandrasekhar, C. P., and Ghosh, J., (2012 (May 14), Growing Differences in State Per Capita Income. The Hindu.
4. Kumar, U., (2013), India's Demographic Transition: Boon or Bane? Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies, 1(1), pp. 186–203.
5. Kumar, U., and Subramanian, A., (2011), Indian's Growth in the 2000s: Four Facts. WP 11-17, Peterson Institute for International Economics.
6. Kundu, A., (2007), Migration and Urbanization in India in the Context of Poverty Alleviation. Paper presented at International Conference and Workshop on Policy Perspectives on Growth, Economic Structures and Poverty Reduction. Beijing, China, 7- 9 June.
7. Kundu, A., (2011). Politics and Economics of Urban Growth. Economic and Political Weekly 46(20), pp. 10-12
8. Kundu, A., (2013), Making India slum-free: vision and operational. Economic and Political Weekly, 58 (17), pp. 15-18
9. Kundu, A., and Saraswati, L. R., (2012), Migration and Exclusionary Urbanization in India. Economic and Political Weekly, 47(26 & 27), pp. 219-227.
10. Planning Commission, (2012), Press Note on Poverty Estimates, 2009-10. Press information bureau, Government of India,
11. Sample Registration System (SRS), 2001-05; 2006-10. SRS Based Abridged Life Tables 2003-07 to 2006-10. Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, Government of India.
12. Srivastava, R., (2011), Labour Migration in India: Recent Trends, Patterns and Policy Issues. The Indian Journal of Labour Economics, 54 (3), pp. 411-440.