



## Contents

- Table No. 1. : Population by Zones + States with areas, sex ratios + decennial growth
- Table No. 2. : Population by Natural Region + Subregion with details of Table No. 1.
- Table No 3 : Livelihood Categories + Classes by Zones + States
- Table No 4 : General, Rural + Urban Population by Districts.
- Table No 5 : Population of Cities.  
(Towns with a Population of 100,000 and Over.)

## INTRODUCTION

1. The 1951 Census enumeration was completed on the 3rd March, 1951. Provisional figures of population based on reports received from districts immediately after the enumeration was completed, were published for general information in April, 1951.

2. Soon after the enumeration was over, the enumeration records were assembled and checked at 52 Tabulation Offices opened temporarily for this purpose at various centres in the country. The final population totals were struck for every village and every ward of a town in the country. Thereafter the information relating to the characteristics of the population as ascertained in reply to census questions, was abstracted and compiled. Various statistical tables are under preparation for every district with details regarding different rural and urban tracts in each district. These tables are being compiled for each State separately and for the country as a whole. It is expected that all these tables will be published by the end of this year. Simultaneously, the significance of the information collected at this census is being studied in relation to comparable data of previous censuses and detailed reports setting out and explaining the significance of census data will follow.

3. Now that the final population totals are available the figures are published for general information in this booklet. As information regarding the primary classification of this population with reference to means of livelihood is also available, this is included among the tables now published.

4. *Area covered by the Census.*— The 1951 Census was taken in all Part A, B and C States and Part D territories of India according to the Constitution with the exception of the following:—

(a) Owing to the special conditions prevailing there, the census was not taken in the Part B State of Jammu and Kashmir ; and

(b) In all previous censuses the enumeration of what are now known as the Part B Tribal Areas of Assam was limited mainly to the portions thereof which fell within the plains area. At this census the count was extended somewhat further — into the Naga Tribal Area. The greater part of the remaining Part B

(ii)

Tribal Areas of Assam was left out of the count at this census also.

Sikkim was always included in former censuses and has been included in the present census also.

5. *Specification of persons counted.*—All persons who were alive at sunrise on the 1st March, 1951 and were present within the territories specified above (including territorial waters) were included in the count with the exception of:—

(a) Non-Indian nationals who are members of the staff of Diplomatic and Consular Missions in India of Foreign and Commonwealth Countries, and stationed in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras ; and members of their families ; and

(b) Non-Indian nationals on non-Indian war ships lying in Indian Ports.

As a general rule, every person has been enumerated at his normal place of residence. The following exceptions were made:—

(a) Persons who were away from their normal place of residence throughout the period from sunrise on the 9th February, 1951, to sunrise on the 1st March, 1951, have been enumerated at the place where they were first found by an enumerator during the enumeration period or within three days thereafter ; and

(b) Persons without any place of residence have been enumerated at the place where they were found by an enumerator on the night preceding 1st March, 1951.

6. *Population of areas in which the 1951 Census was not taken.*

— (i) The population of Jammu & Kashmir was enumerated as 4,021,616 at the 1941 Census. It was estimated at 4·37 millions as on 1-3-1950 under the Constitution (Determination of Population) Order, 1950. With reference to these figures, it is estimated that the population of this State, as on 1-3-1951 was 4·41 millions.

(ii) A local estimate (which, at that time, was unverified) indicated that the population of Part B Tribal Areas of Assam was about 0·56 millions. The figure was mentioned when the provisional

(iii)

census totals were published. Enquiries since made have failed to indicate any acceptable basis for this local estimate.

7. *Final Population Totals (exclusive of areas in which the census is not taken).*—The total population enumerated in the 1951 Census is as follows:—

Persons	. . . . .	356,829,485
Males	. . . . .	183,305,654
Females	. . . . .	173,523,831

8. *Difference between Provisional Census Totals and Final Population Totals.*—The provisional census totals published last year on the basis of figures reported by the district authorities immediately after the enumeration, differ from the final figures ascertained after checking the enumeration records, to a very small extent, as shown below:—

Persons	+62,139
Males	+79,153
Females	—17,014

9. *Table I.—Column 1.* It has been thought convenient to arrange the States and Territories of India in geographical order, in six Zones named North India, East India, South India, West India, Central India and North—West India. Zonal totals have been furnished in addition to all-India totals and totals for each State.

*Column 2* gives the latest area figures available with the Surveyor General.

*Columns 3—8* give population and sex ratio according to the 1951 Census, the 1941 Census population and the mean decennial growth rate between 1941—1951.

[*Note.*—The “mean decennial growth rate” indicates the rate at which population has grown between two censuses. It is calculated in a slightly different manner from the “percentage variation” for which figures used to be furnished in former censuses. While the “percentage variation” is based on the population of the earlier of the two censuses concerned, the “mean decennial growth rate” is based on the mean population of the two censuses.]

10. *Table II*—contains a recast of the figures in Table I. For purposes of studying the significance of population changes in relation to economic changes, it is convenient to use territorial divisions which reflect significant differences in physical features, soil and rainfall conditions and cropping patterns. Accordingly, India is divided into five Natural Regions namely the Himalayan Region, the Northern Plains Region, the Penninsular Hills and Plateau Region, the Western Ghats and Coastal Region, and the Eastern Ghats and Coastal Region. These regions are again divided into 15 sub-regions, and further sub-divided into 52 divisions formed in such a manner that every division is either a State or a defined part of a State.

11. *Table III*.—This table gives for all-India and for each Zone and State the primary economic classification of the people, by livelihood categories and classes. The entire population of the country is divided into two broad livelihood categories, *viz.*, Agricultural and Non-Agricultural. Each category is divided into four classes as below:—

*Agricultural Classes:*

- I. Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly owned ; and their dependents.
- II. Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly unowned ; and their dependents.
- III. Cultivating labourers ; and their dependents.
- IV. Non-Cultivating owners of land ; agricultural rent receivers ; and their dependents.

*Non-Agricultural Classes:*

Persons (including dependents) who derive their principal means of livelihood from—

- V. Production other than cultivation
- VI. Commerce
- VII. Transport
- VIII. Other services and miscellaneous sources.

[*Note. (i)*—(a) Land is deemed to be “ owned ” if it is held on any tenure (by whatever name it is known locally) which carries with it the right of permanent occupancy for purposes of cultivation. Such right should be heritable. It may be (but need not necessarily be) also transferable.

(v)

(b) A "cultivator" (Livelihood Class I or II) is distinguished from a "cultivating labourer" (Livelihood Class III) as the person who takes the responsible decisions which constitute the direction of the process of cultivation. All cultivating labourers are employees of cultivators.

(c) The classification of a person employed in any non-agricultural enterprise or establishment is based on the nature of his own work—not on the nature of the enterprise or establishment concerned. Thus, for instance, not all railway employees are classifiable under Livelihood Class VII (Transport). Those employed in Railway Workshops are classifiable under Livelihood Class V and those employed on Constructional Services under Livelihood Class VIII.

*Note.* (ii)—The population of every village and every ward of a town in India has been separately classified under each of the two Livelihood Categories and eight Livelihood Classes. The classified totals for villages/wards will be published for every district separately in a series of publications called District Census Handbooks which are under preparation.]

12. *Table IV.*—This table gives the break-up of information contained in Table I, by districts (separated within each district by rural and urban tracts).

13. *Table V.*—In this table every town with a population of a hundred thousand or over is classified as a city. Within each State, the cities are arranged according to the strength of the 1951 Census Population. The table gives the 1951 Census Population, sex ratio, 1941 Census Population and mean decennial growth rate for each city.

NEW DELHI  
26 May 1952

R. A. GOPALASWAMI  
*Registrar General, India*