

# TREND OF POPULATION GROWTH IN TIRHUT DIVISION (BIHAR)

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Man is the essential resources in the geographic environment. He utilizes the resources and changes the natural environment. He is producer, investor and consumer also. Thus he is not only the beneficiary of the entire process of resource development and utilization<sup>1</sup>, but also is the most potent and dynamic agent of production. Hence population is the pivotal element from which resource features derive their significance<sup>2</sup> and human resources especially in the underdeveloped countries<sup>3</sup> can play a vital role in the economic growth of the country. Therefore, special attention must be focused in any study for development and planning of human resource. Problems of unemployment and low productivity of employment are some of the issues in the quantitative area, while literacy; marital status etc. are some of factors that influence the quality of human resources. Therefore, it is needed precisely for planned development policy that we should tackle and solve these problems so that our human resources would change into active force for growth and development.

Hence, in this chapter an analysis of population characteristics of the study area has been attempted. The study includes the trend of growth of population, its general, physiological and agricultural density, its occupational structure and general characteristics like age-sex composition, literacy, marital status and policy implementation.

## **Trend of Population Growth:**

'To be able to speculate with some confidence on the future, we shall have to look into past.<sup>4</sup> Therefore it becomes significantly important to evaluate the past, existing and future trend of population growth.

These days that has been in some developed countries in the growth of population and this situation is creating manual problem there. Fortunately, India especially Bihar has become a theatre of mushrooming population. Sheohar district a unit of the study area, has only 0.63% of the total population of Bihar only next to Sheikpura (0.61) so far the lowest population is concerned. But the concentration of people per unit area is the highest in Bihar (1882 km<sup>2</sup>) represented by Sheohar district. This state of population is certainly alarming and hence, it needs scientific appraisal.

**Table No.1.1**  
**Population Growth in TIRHUT DIVISION**

S No.	Year	Area in Km <sup>2</sup>	Population		Total Population In (00000)	Recessional Growth rate (%)		
			Male (000)	Female (000)		1980-91	1991-2001	2001-2011
1	1981	17017	4326	6025	10350	-	-	-
2	1991	17017	6559	6301	12860	24.77	-	-
3	2001	17017	8737	7671	166,40	-	30.2	-
4	2011	17017	10999	10369	21360	-	-	28.3

Source: computed from Bihar : Fact and Figures GOB, Patna

**Table No. 1.2**  
**Trend of population growth by Districts, 2011**

S No.	District	Total area Km <sup>2</sup>	Total population	Population		Decisional Growth rate (%) 2001-2011	Density per Km <sup>2</sup>
				Male	Female		
1	W.Champaran	5228	3920000	-	-	28.9	750
2	E. Champaran	3968	5080000	2681200	2418162	29.0	1281
3	Sitamarhi	2294	3420000	-	-	27.5	1401
4	Sheohar	0319	0600000	346073	309573	27.3	1882
5	Muzaffarpur	3172	4780000	2529497	2273565	27.8	1506
6	Vaishali	2036	3500000	1844535	1650486	28.2	1717
7	Grand Total	17017	21300000	10999000	10301000	28.3	1312
	Bihar	94163	103800000	54278157	49821295	25.1	1102
	India	3277300	121000000	-	-	17.6	382

Source: Computed from Bihar . Facts & Figures, GOB, Patna

In Table 1.1 and 1.2 trend of growth of population in Tirhut division and six districts included in the study area has been depicted. Table 1.1 shows that the total population of Tirhut division went up to 2.13 crore in 2011 from 1.03 crore in 1981. Within the span of 30 years population became double. This is an extraordinary growth . During the period population increased on an average by 2.5% per year. Except metropolitan cities such an astonishing growth was not seen in any part of Bihar. The highest decadal growth was witnessed between 1981-91, the decadal growth rate jumped to more than 30%, however the lowest decadal growth rate was experienced between 1971-81 (24%) . Even 24% decadal growth rate is too much for a region where more than 42% people are living below poverty line.

In Table 1.2 spatial trend of growth of population in six districts has been shown. In absolute term Eate Champaran district holds the first position followed by Muzaffarpur . Sheohar district, one of the latest newly carved out district has the least absolute population.

Decadal growth rate of population in Bihar was 25.1% while as in the study area it was more than 28% . During the same period 2001-11 decadal growth rate of population displayed

by India was 17.6% . Thus, the study area houses much more population in comparison with Bihar and India respectively.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION :**

Density of population per km<sup>2</sup> is very unevenly distributed. The average density of population of Bihar and India was 1102 and 382 in 2011 respectively . Bihar recorded almost 2.79 times more than the All India average (383/cm<sup>2</sup>) density. Again it is seen that intra-region and inter-region spatial distribution of density was also uneven. Firstly, there is only one district, namely west Champaran which has recorded the lowest density of population (750 persons/km<sup>2</sup>) . It is only district which has less density of population per unit area. Ironically sheohar, the smallest district of Bihar and of the study area that has recorded the highest density per km<sup>2</sup>. Its density per km<sup>2</sup> was 1982 persons. No district situated in any states of India has such a hefty number of people living on the smallest piece of land. After Sheohar, the highest density of population was recorded by Vaishali district. Its density of population per km<sup>2</sup> is 1717 persons/km<sup>2</sup> only next to sheohar , Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi and East Champaran occupy 3rd, 4th and 5th position from density distribution point of view respectively .

### **Trend of Growth of Male & Female population :**

Male and female are two components of population . Impact of socio-economic conditions has been determining the growth of population of both. In Table 1.3 trend of growth of male and female population has been shown.

**Table No. 1.3**  
**Growth of Male & Female population , 2011**

S.No.	District	Total population (000)	Percentage of Male & Female Population In total population		% of the total population
			Male	Female	
1	W.Champaran	3920.00	53.00	47.00	18.40
2	E.Champaran	5080.00	52.00	48.00	23.80
3	Muzaffarpur	4790.00	51.80	48.20	22.50
4	Vaishali	3500.00	51.90	48.10	16.43
5	Sitamarhi	3420.00	51.85	48.35	16.06
6	Sheohar	0600.00	52.00	48.00	02.81
	G. Total	21310.00	52.00	47.78	100.00
	Bihar	10380.00	51.34	48.66	100.00

Source: Census of Bihar, Primary data, 2011

If Table 1.3 is analyzed, many interesting facts come to fore Firstly, out of the total population of 2.13 crores in Tirhut division, 52% and 47.78% population belong to male and females respectively. The corresponding figure for Bihar is 51.34% and 48.66% respectively . It mens that in Tirhut division relative number of male population is higher but relative number of

female population is lower than the Bihar's average number. Secondly, spatial distribution of male and female population within the constituent districts is uneven. West Champaran district has the highest number of males than the females and Muzaffarpur district has registered the lowest number of male population. East Champaran and Sheohar hold second positions after west champaran from the point of view of higher number of male population . The average percentage of female population in the study area in 47.78% and the corresponding figure for Bihar is 48.66% . Among six districts of the region Muzaffarpur holds the first position so far female population is, concerned and the lowest number recorded by west champran. It is said that incident of Juvenile care of rape is relatively higher in west champaran in Haryana state incidents of rape are more than the adjoining states. Loss number of female causes such types of occurrences. Hence equation between male and female numbers must be maintained to contain societal anxiety.

### **CONCLUSION:**

The environmental degradation has become the hot topic for serious discussion all over the world. The scientists are often foretelling the disastrous consequences stored in the womb of coming time borne out of unmatched population growth V/s development different parts of the world. Behind this sort of disastrous scene, zooming population is the main cause of concern. Now it is considered by majority people as exploded bomb but unnoticed.

The study area is a breeding ground of multiplying population in the sea of unplanned economy. It is evident from the fact that it feeds more than 20% population of Bihar there is a great anachronism between the available land resource and existing population . No wonder, despite the substantial progress made in food production and other spheres of economy, the region has been remaining a grand example of chronically impoverished part of Bihar. It is like running on a treadmill –sweating into but reaching nowhere. To cope with this alarming situation, mismanaged utilization of available natural resources is going on causing enormous strain on the environment of the region after independence . Despite of several-fold increase in power generations, there is not enough power to run our dwindling industries to produce basic goods to support the burgeoning population. Nor are there enough houses for shelter or hospitals to provide adequate health care for them. Not only are these aspects rather almost all facets of development are under tremendous strains. Hence, time has now come to ponder over this issue relating to the interface between population scenario and economic development in the light of environmental depletion.

The population development and Environmental depletion cannot be carried out on ad-hoc and piece-meal basis. Eventually, the different pieces will start coming in each other's way. Therefore, it is necessary to work out an Integral plan, though, it is a complex task. Hence the work should be carried out keeping in view a "total system" approach .

Summing up we can say that almost all problems which are raising their heads in are due to ever-growing humanity without any alternative means of livelihood to absorb them . Its ultimate victim is man himself, If and its physical environment.

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