



# RURAL MALE OUTMIGRATION FROM MURSHIDABAD DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL: ANALYSIS ON THE BASIS OF CENSUS OF INDIA DATA

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**Abstract:** The movement of people from rural to urban or other non-rural areas is specifically referred to as "rural outmigration". The majority of men migrate from rural areas in order to improve their standard of living and get over socioeconomic challenges. In order to determine the trend, pattern, growth, and cause of the rural male outmigration from West Bengal's Murshidabad district, this research mostly relies on secondary data from the Census of India. We used a variety of statistical techniques, including basic growth rate, outmigration rate and other statistical tools, to accomplish the research aims in this work. This study found that the percentage of outmigration from Murshidabad district to West Bengal, the simple growth rate of outmigration from rural males in inter-district, inter-state, and international patterns, the reason for out-migration in these patterns. This study also discovered that the majority of Murshidabad's rural outmigration left the state for Bangladesh and other Asian nations (international), moving to Nadia, Birbhum, Bardhaman, and other inter-district districts, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan states, and other inter-state districts for a variety of reasons (employment, business, education, etc.). Lastly, we explore different policy options related to job creation, infrastructure development, social protection, and rural development in order to lower the high rate of outmigration from rural areas.

**IndexTerms-** Rural outmigration; Census of India; Inter-district; Inter-state; International; Murshidabad district; Rural development

## 1. Introduction

Migration is defined as the transfer of people from their regular place of residence inside a State or across an international boundary. It covers relocation brought on by natural disasters, development initiatives, armed conflict, and economic opportunity (UNDESA, 2019). The process of an individual or group of people relocating to a new location, frequently requiring a change in domicile or location is known as migration. There are elements known as push and pull factors that impact people's decisions to migrate (Parkins, 2010; Van Hear et al., 2020; Urbański, 2022). Migration necessitates all-encompassing strategies that take into account the dynamics and underlying reasons in the political, social, economic, and environmental spheres in both the nations of origin and destination (Hoffmann et al., 2019; Sarkar, 2019; Das et al., 2020; Abdou, 2021).

The term "outmigration" describes the movement of people or populations from one country, region, or geographic area to another. This usually entails a shift in where people live or work (UNDESA, 2019). This trend was observed more in developing or less developed rural areas compared to highly develop industrial and metropolitan areas. For a considerable amount of time, migration has been a significant factor in determining the socioeconomic landscape, especially in rural India (Parganiha et al., 2009; Keshri & Bhagat, 2012;

Basu, 2019). The term "rural outmigration" particularly describes the movement of people from rural to urban or other non-rural areas. It is a notable demographic movement that has been seen in many nations throughout the world. It is frequently influenced by variables including social dynamics, economic opportunities, and the differences in infrastructural development between rural and urban areas ((Stockdale, 2004; Lucas, 2007; de Brauw, 2019; Barman & Roy, 2023).

India's rural outmigration has important social, economic, and policy ramifications. These include changes in the country's population, the dynamics of the labor market, the pressures of urbanization, and issues with rural development and agrarian distress (Bhagat, 2012; Bhagat et al., 2018; Bhagat & Keshri, 2020). The increasing volume and velocity of internal migration out of rural areas emphasizes how important it is for India's socioeconomic development to recognize and seize the opportunities and challenges (Bhagat, 2016; Mishra, 2016; Irudaya Rajan & Bhagat, 2021).

The state of West Bengal's out-migration rate is rising, according to data from the 2011 Census (Das & Mistry, 2015). Financial difficulties, barriers to agriculture, a lack of industry, aspirations for higher education, political and social concerns, environmental concerns, etc. all have an impact on West Bengal's out-migration process. (Irudaya Rajan & Sarkar, 2020; Debnath & Nayak, 2021; Banerjee & Das, 2021). Most West Bengali migrants moved away from their hometowns to settle in developed states, primarily for better economic opportunities and better living conditions. The states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Maharashtra, and the Gulf countries have seen a large influx of migrants from West Bengali rural residents escaping their low-paying jobs in agriculture and other fields (Rogaly et al., 2003; Reja & Das, 2013; Debnath et al., 2019; Reja & Das, 2019; Chakraborty et al., 2022). This study aims to investigate the growth of trend, patterns of inter-district, inter-state & international out migration and their cause of rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district to other districts of West Bengal, other states in India & also other countries in World (Ali, 2018; Basu, 2019; Reja & das, 2019; Banerjee & Das, 2021).

## 2. Theoretical frameworks & Literature Review

Scholars and policymakers can investigate and comprehend the complex mechanisms that drive rural outmigration through the various perspectives of Ravenstein law of migration, Reilly gravitation law of migration, Intervening Opportunities model, Push-Pull theory of Lee, Todaro model, New Economics of Labor migratory (NELM) etc. They can also gain a thorough understanding of the factors that influence rural outmigration and its trend, pattern and causes.

### International level

Numerous studies show that there have been notable global trends, patterns, causes & consequences in the outmigration of rural people (Bilsborrow et al., 1987; Jensen & Pedersen, 2007; Massey et al., 2010; Gabru & Beyene, 2012; Dustmann & Okatenko, 2014; Chen et al., 2014; Stalker & Phyne, 2014; Liu et al., 2016; Goldbach, 2017; Wondimagegnhu & Zeleke, 2017; de Brauw, 2019; Tumwesigye et al., 2021). Utilizing data from Nepal, Massey et al. (2010) investigate the idea that outmigration is linked to environmental change and determine how it affects both local and long-distance migration from Nepal, with differences by gender and ethnicity. In Gulomekeda district, Tigray, Ethiopia, Gabru & Beyene (2012) investigate the causes and consequences of outmigration in rural households. The majority of migrants are young, according to their findings, and this study offers suggestions for development strategies meant to reduce poverty and backwardness. Using panel data from 1996 to 2012 in Guangdong Province, China, Liu et al. (2016) examine the relationship between rural out-migration and the intensity of arable land usage. They discover that the Household Responsibility System increases productivity while labor scarcity lowers production. The microeconomic research on the impact of migration on the agricultural output and outcomes of rural households is examined by de Brauw (2019). He comes to the conclusion that migration usually has no negative impact on agricultural productivity. Remittances from migrants can lead to investments in agriculture, non-agricultural sectors, and human capital. According to Tumwesigye et al. (2021), the vast majority of Ugandan outmigrants from rural households are from wealthy, well-educated families in linked communities.

### National level

In India, there have been numerous studies that demonstrate significant patterns, trends, causes, effects, and development programs for rural outmigration (Mitra & Murayama, 2008; Kumar & Bhagat, 2012; Mamgain & Reddy, 2015; Tiwari & Joshi, 2015; Joshi, 2018; Das, 2018; Sarkar, 2019; Choubey & Roy, 2020; Das et al., 2020; Kumar, 2020; Das & Sharma, 2022). Mitra and Murayama's (2008) analysis of district-level migration rates in India, male population mobility is highest in developed states like Gujarat and Maharashtra, while rural female migration within states is happening quickly in most areas. Low castes and minority groups also have an impact on migration. The reasons and effects of outmigration from Bihar were studied by Kumar & Bhagat (2012). They discovered that the majority of out-migration from Bihar moved to West Bengal, Jharkhand, Delhi, and other states in search of work, and they used their remittances for household expenses, mainly for food, medical care, and education. The relationship between climate change and rural out-migration in the Himalayas is examined by Tiwari & Joshi (2015). They also discovered that the region's subsistence farming is scarce, which affects adult males' employment prospects and forces them to leave the area. Choubey & Rai (2020) examine 1991–2011 rural-urban migration patterns in Uttar Pradesh with an emphasis on distance and gender viewpoints. They conclude that intra-district movement is more common than inter-district migration that migrants prefer to stay for a long time, and also find that the main reasons for migration were marriage and work.

### State level

Several studies demonstrate that West Bengal's rural outmigration has followed important patterns, trends, causes, effects, and development policies. (Reja & Das, 2013; Siddiqui & Banu, 2014; Debnath et al., 2016; Debnath & Nayak, 2018; Mukherjee et al., 2019; Irudaya Rajan & Sarkar, 2020; Sarkar, 2020; Sarkar & Mishra, 2021; Banerjee & Das, 2021; Debnath & Nayak, 2021; Debnath & Nayak, 2022; Reja et al., 2022; Chakraborty et al., 2022; Barman & Roy, 2023). Reja & Das (2013) examined West Bengal migration to other Indian states between 1991 and 2001 using census data and discovered that males moved to Delhi, Haryana, and Maharashtra. The primary drivers of male outmigration were work and employment, while the primary drivers of female outmigration were marriage and work. The majority of rural workers depend on agriculture, and male outmigration is the main cause of relay in agriculture, according to Debnath & Nayak (2018). Long-distance migration is probably tied to work, but short-distance movement is probably the result of marriage. Mukherjee et al., 2019 examines the migration trends of West Bengal between 1991 and 2011, with a particular emphasis on interstate migration. This study found that female outmigration to neighboring states is mostly driven by marriage, whereas male outmigration is motivated by work and business. Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and Delhi are the main destination states, according to an analysis of West Bengal's migration pattern by Irudaya Rajan & Sarkar (2020). This study additionally investigated the effects of outmigration on West Bengal's origin region and other states' destinations.

### Local level

Several studies demonstrate that the Murshidabad district in West Bengal has experienced significant patterns, trends, causes, effects, and development policies related to rural outmigration (Roy & Samanta, 2023; Sk, 2022; Das, 2020; Basu, 2019; Ali, 2018; Islam, 2018; Reja & Das, 2017; Sriparna, 2016; Kundu, 2013 a, b; Halder, 2012; Kundu, 2012; Rafique, 2003). Rogaly and Rafique (2003) depict the hardships that landless households in the Murshidabad District endure in their attempts to migrate in order to accumulate cash, as well as the difficulties that migrant laborers and their families encounter in rural West Bengal. The labor migration phenomena is examined from a number of angles by Ali (2018), including its scope, duration, patterns of destination, remittance flows, causes of migration, and socioeconomic effects on the sending region's environment as well as the migrants themselves. In order to shed light on the unique features and dynamics of this migration phenomena within the larger context of regional development and socioeconomic conditions, Basu (2019) examines a number of characteristics of outmigration from the Murshidabad district. To preserve sustained economic activity in the area, Kundu (2013 a) offers suggestions for reducing the workforce outmigration that is occurring too quickly from rural regions in the Dumkal block. Kundu (2013 b) examined obstacles and maximized benefits of remittances and migration on

household welfare and regional economic development in Murshidabad's Lalgola block. Sk (2022) noted that labor migration to the Gulf countries was necessary to lessen the harm caused by various villages in the Murshidabad district to various groups, as well as to create sustainable communities and achieve a number of SDGs. According to Roy and Samanta (2023), there are a number of factors contributing to Murshidabad's urbanization and also find out the outmigration of laborers, especially young males, to non-farm industries like construction and petty trading in other states is known to stimulate non-farm activities and accelerate the development of Murshidabad's census towns.

The trend, pattern, growth, and causes of rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district to other districts of West Bengal, other Indian states & other countries are considered in this paper. Several scholars have used a variety of research methods to examine the trend, cause, and impact of rural outmigration. Nevertheless, not enough research has been done to comprehend rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district.

### 3. Study Area

Murshidabad district was chosen as a study area for fulfilling our research article. West Bengal's central region is where Murshidabad is situated, with latitudes ranging from 23°43'N to 24°52'N and longitudes from 87°49'E to 88°44'E. The district's whole eastern border is marked by the Padma River, which also divides it from the northern Bangladeshi districts of Rajshahi and Malda. On the southern side of the district are Burdwan and Nadia, and on the western side are Pakur (Jharkhand) and Birbhum. Berhampore serves as the district's headquarters (District Survey Report of Murshidabad, 2020).

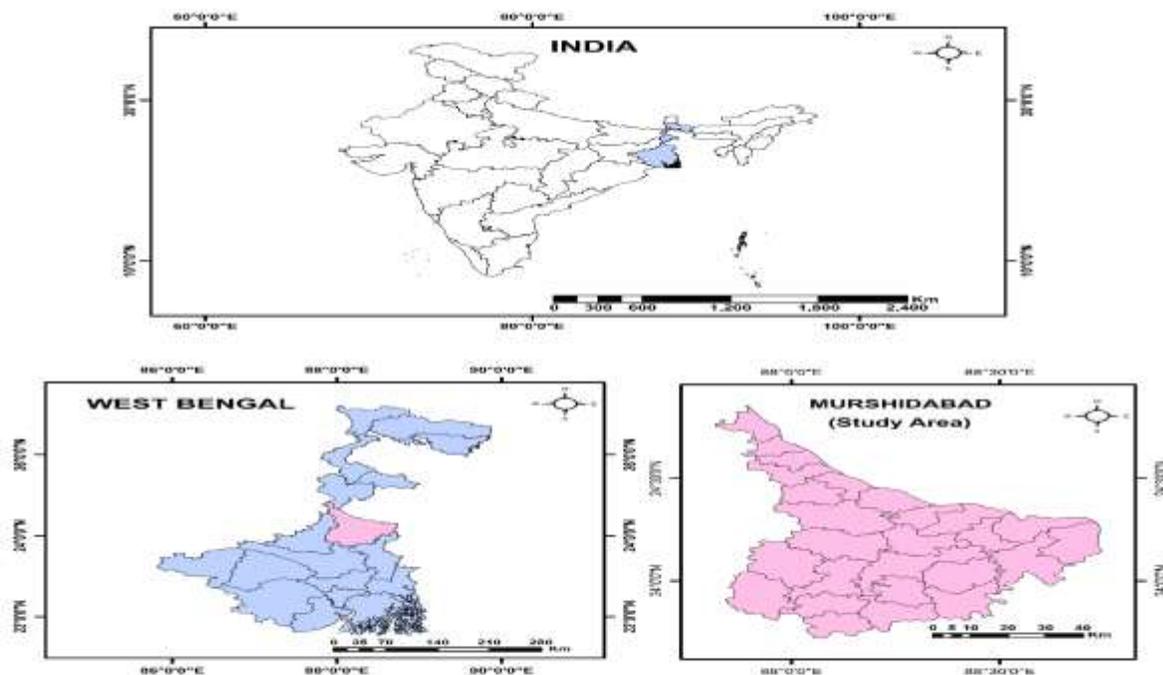


Figure 1: Location map of the study area

#### 3.1. Rationality for choosing the study area

1. The district of Murshidabad is the most backward in West Bengal due to the poorer socioeconomic development in its several blocks which influences outmigration from rural areas (Kundu & Mandal, 2012; Ali, 2018; Basu, 2019).
2. The district of Murshidabad is ranked lower in West Bengal due to the state's lower human development index rating of 0.29, which affected rural people to outmigrate. (West Bengal Human Development Report, 2004; Ashraf et al., 2013).

3. The district's industrial and agricultural sectors were underdeveloped, and it had a number of issues, including low productivity, little land area, erosion, and flooding (Ghosh & Sahoo, 2019 a, b; Saha & Sahoo, 2023) and people who felt their needs for a living were unmet chose to relocate outside to improve their financial situation (Raffique, 2003; Tarafdar & Jana, 2016; Kundu, 2013; Ali, 2018; Banerjee & Das, 2021).

#### 4. Objectives

- To ascertain the volume and pattern of inter-district, inter-state & international rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district.
- To calculate the decadal growth rate of male outmigration from rural areas between 1991-2011.
- To determine the primary causes of male outmigration from rural areas.

#### 5. Data and Methodology

##### 5.1. Sources of data:

This study's basis was provided by the secondary data sources. This study's data came from a different series of Census of India (1991, 2001, and 2011). The amount of inter-district, inter-state & international rural male outmigration is determined by the study using a place of last residence technique with dividend of duration of residence (Census of India, Migration table, D-2 series). The Census of India's Migration Table, D-3: Migrants Classified by Place of Last Residence and Reason of Migration (2011) of the rural male outmigrants.

##### 5.2. Methodology:

To calculate the rate of outmigration from rural areas, apply the following calculations (Clark, 1986; Debnath et al., 2016; Debnath & Nayak, 2018; Banerjee & Das, 2021)

##### 5.2.1. Rural male out migration rate

$$RMOMR = \frac{RMO}{TRMP} \times K \quad (1)$$

Where, RMOMR= Rural Male Outmigration Rate

RMO = No. of Rural Male Outmigrants

TRMP = Total Rural Male Population and

K = 100 or 1000 (a constant).

##### 5.2.2. Simple growth rate

The rate of increase of a quantity or value during a certain time period is measured by the simple growth rate. It is computed by dividing the quantity's change in value over that time by the starting value, and the result is then expressed as a percentage (Bhagat, 2011; Bhagat, 2012; Chowbey & Rai, 2020; Lusome & Bhagat, 2021).

The following formula can be used to get the simple growth rate:

$$\text{Simple Growth Rate} = \frac{\text{Final value} - \text{Initial value}}{\text{Initial value}} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

6. Results

6.1. Percentage share, growth & pattern of rural male outmigration rate

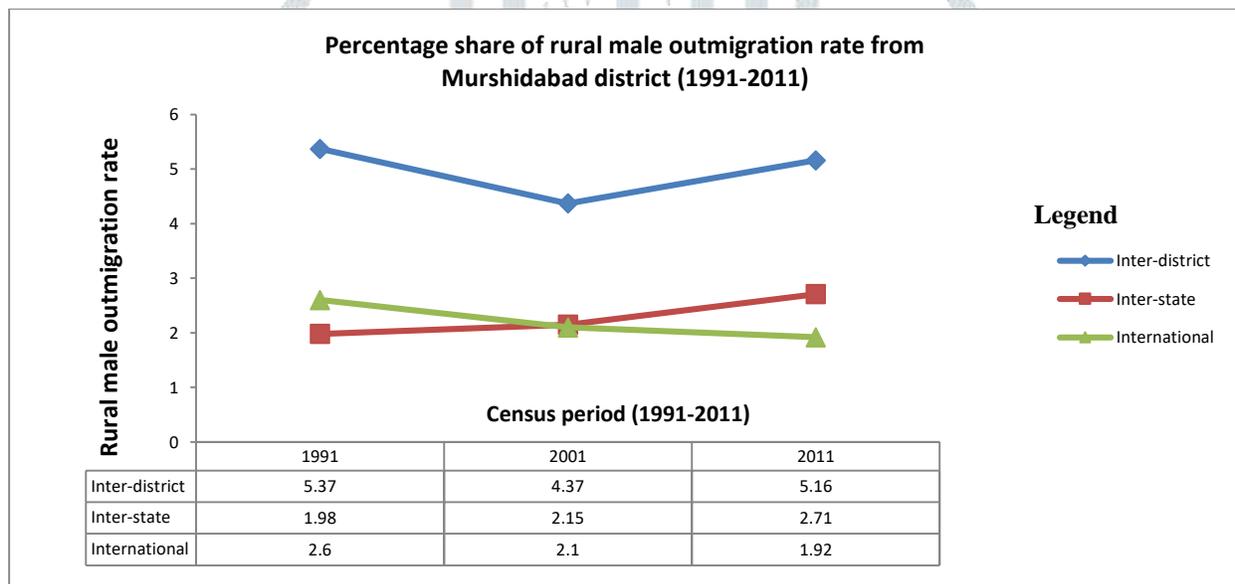
6.1.1. Percentage share & pattern of rural male out migration rate

**Table 1:** Percentage share of rural male outmigration rate by POLR from Murshidabad district

Migration pattern	1991	2001	2011
Inter-district	5.37	4.37	5.16
Inter-state	1.98	2.15	2.71
International	2.6	2.1	1.92

Source: D-2 series of migration table (1991, 2001 & 2011)

From 1991 to 2011, the percentage shares of rural male outmigration rates of West Bengal from Murshidabad district were displayed in three distinct patterns in Table 1 & Figure 2. This study discovered that the rate decreased in the inter-district pattern between 1991 and 2001, but increased during the 2001–2011 census period. The rate increased in the inter-state pattern between 1991 and 2011, and it decreased in the international pattern between 1991 and 2011.



**Figure 2:** Percentage share of rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district

6.1.2. Simple growth rate of rural male out migration rate

**Table 2:** Simple growth rate of rural male out migration rate by POLR from Murshidabad district

Migration pattern	1991-2001	2001-2011	1991-2011
Inter-district	10.53	18.88	47.32
Inter-state	30.8	-16.51	9.2
International	-22.77	-45.14	-57.64

Source: D-2 series of migration table (1991, 2001 & 2011)

Table 2 & Figure 3 demonstrate that, between 1991 and 2011, the simple growth rate of rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district followed three distinct patterns. According to this study, there was a positive growth rate in the inter-district pattern in three census decades, a negative growth rate in the international pattern in three census decades, and a mixed type growth rate in the

inter-state pattern. For example, there was a positive growth rate from 1991 to 2001 (30.8%) and from 1991 to 2011 (9.2%), but a negative growth rate (-16.51%) from 2001 to 2011.

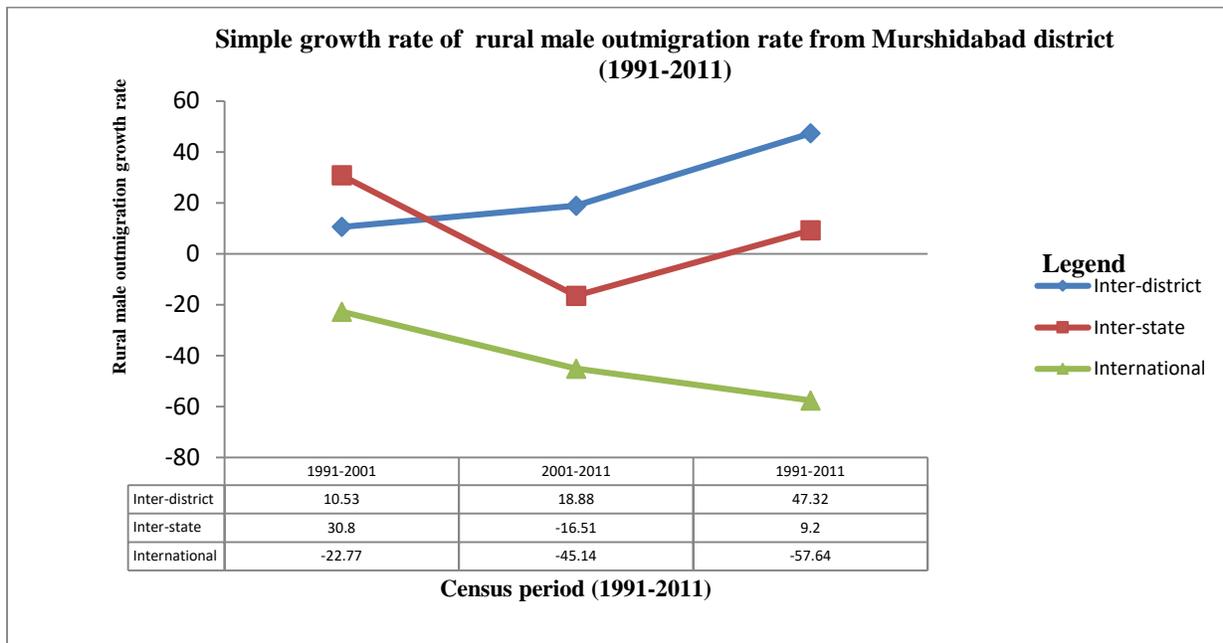


Figure 1: Simple growth rate of rural male outmigration rate

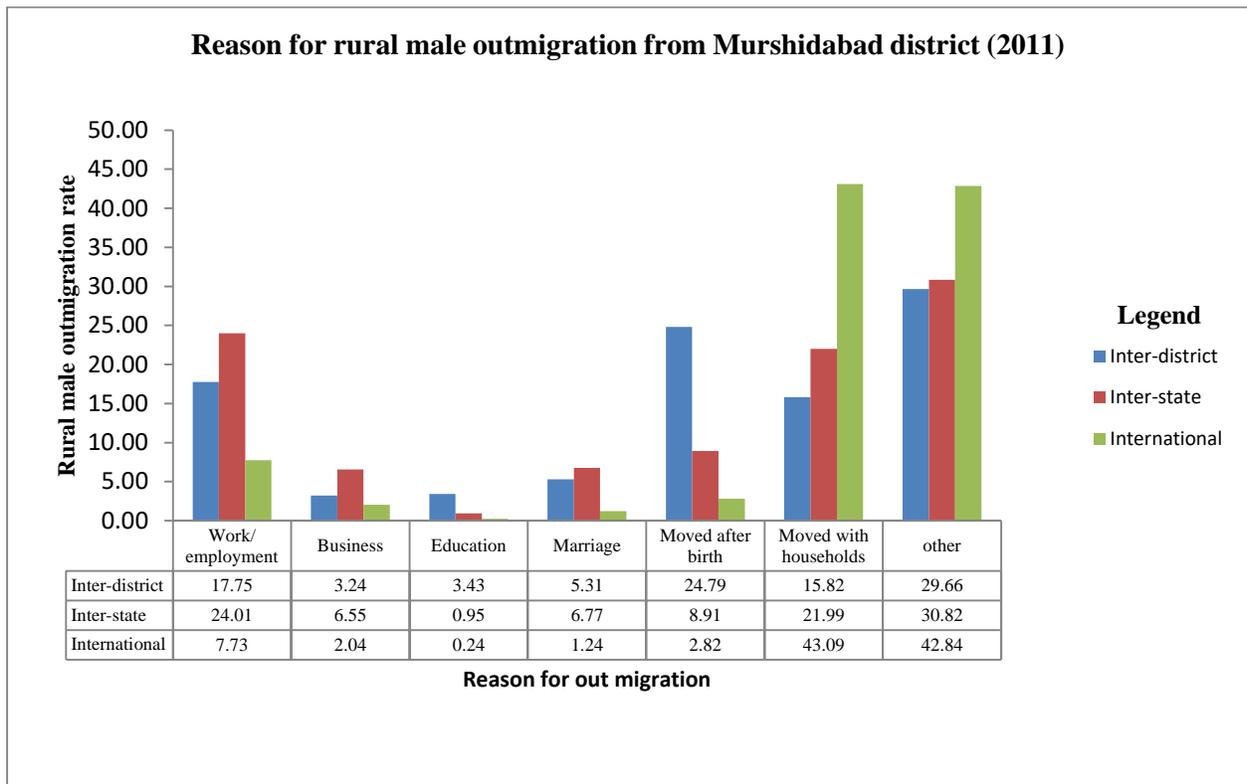
6.2. Reason for rural male out migration rate in three different patterns

Table 3: Reason for rural male out migration rate by POLR from Murshidabad district

Reason for migration	Inter-district	Inter-state	International
Work/ employment	17.75	24.01	7.73
Business	3.24	6.55	2.04
Education	3.43	0.95	0.24
Marriage	5.31	6.77	1.24
Moved after birth	24.79	8.91	2.82
Moved with households	15.82	21.99	43.09
other	29.66	30.82	42.84
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: D-3 series of migration table (2011)

Table 3 & figure 4 demonstrate that reasons for rural male out migration from Murshidabad district followed three distinct patterns in 2011 census period. This study found that work or employment related cause rate were higher in inter-state pattern (24.01%) than the other two type pattern, business related cause rate were higher in inter-state pattern (6.55%) than the other two type pattern, education reason rate were higher in inter-district pattern (3.43%) than the other two type pattern, marriage cause rate were higher in inter-state pattern (6.77%) than the other two type pattern, moved after birth reason rate were higher in inter-district pattern (24.79%) than the other two type pattern, moved with households cause rate were higher in international pattern (43.09%) than the other two type pattern and other type cause rate were higher in international pattern (42.84%) than the other two type pattern of rural male out-migration from Murshidabad district.



**Figure 2:** Reason for rural male outmigration

**Table 4:** Percentage share of rural male outmigration rate by POLR from Murshidabad district to other district of West Bengal, other state in India & other countries in World

District of West Bengal	Inter-district (2001)	Inter-district (2011)	State in India	Inter-state (2001)	Inter-state (2011)	Countries	International (2001)	International (2011)
Darjiling	0.43	0.2	Jammu & Kashmir	0.47	2.23	Bangladesh	99.65	95.39
Jalpaiguri	0.3	0.31	Himachal Pradesh	0.04	0.66	Bhutan	0	0
Koch Bihar	0.33	0.19	Punjab	0.77	0.94	Kuwait	0	0.011
Uttar Dinajpur	0.6	0.62	Chandigarh	0.02	0	Mayanmar	0.007	0
Dakshin Dinajpur	0.89	0.51	Uttarakhand	0.18	0.04	Nepal	0.089	0.18
Maldah	5.9	6.46	Haryana	0.23	0.32	Pakistan	0.233	0.31
Birbhum	20.78	30.69	NCT of Delhi	0.52	0.13	Saudi Arabia	0	0.023
Barddhaman	11.67	16.62	Rajasthan	2.49	1.95	United Arab Emirates	0	0.023
Nadia	27.15	32.71	Uttar Pradesh	4.62	5.73	Elsewhere in Asian countries	0.007	2.24
North Twenty Four Parganas	1.88	1.85	Bihar	37.31	24.98	UK	0	0.011

Hugli	1.18	1.42	Sikkim	0.02	0.06	Elsewhere in European countries	0.007	0.07
Bankura	0.37	0.33	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04	0.02	Countries in Africa	0	0.71
Puruliya	0.23	0.12	Nagaland	0.02	0.11	Canada	0	0
Haora	0.76	0.57	Manipur	0.07	0.06	U.S.A.	0	0
Kolkata	2.64	3.23	Mizoram	0.02	0	Elsewhere in American countries	0.007	0.61
South Twenty Four Parganas	0.79	0.42	Tripura	0.59	0.69	Australia	0	0.011
Medinipur	0.98	0.4	Meghalaya	0.07	0.06	Elsewhere in Oceanian countries	0	0.411
Unclassifiable	23.13	3.34	Assam	3.15	2.47	Total	100	100
Total	100	100	Jharkhand	44.66	44.84			
			Odisha	1.68	4.52			
			Chhattisgarh	0.21	0.3			
			Madhya Pradesh	0.27	0.62			
			Gujarat	0.77	0.66			
			Daman & Diu	0	0			
			Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0.34			
			Maharashtra	0.91	4.8			
			Andhra Pradesh	0.32	0.34			
			Karnataka	0.16	0.9			
			Goa	0	0.09			
			Lakshadweep	0	0.21			
			Kerala	0.14	1.39			
			Tamil Nadu	0.18	0.49			
			Puducherry	0	0			
			Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.07	0			
			Total	100	100			

Source: D-2 series of migration table (2001 &amp; 2011)

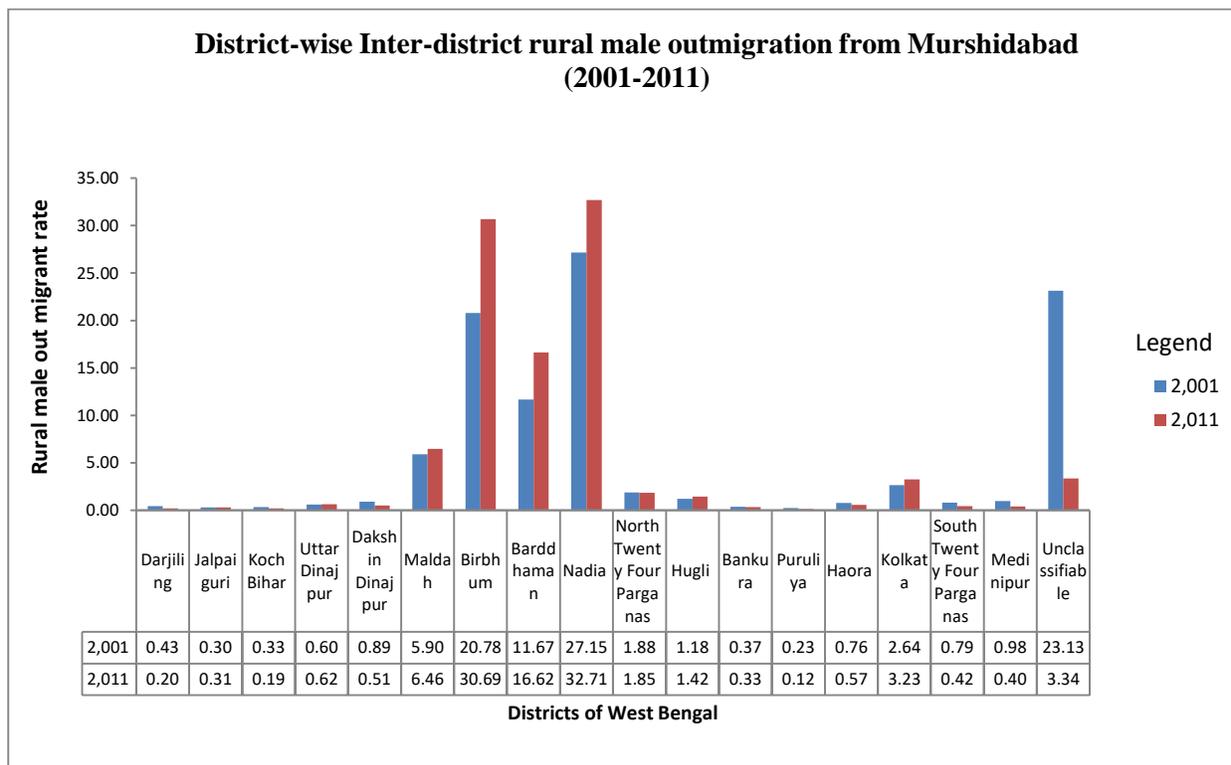


Figure 3: Inter-district rural male outmigration rate (2001-2011)

**6.3. Inter-district rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district**

The inter-district rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district to other districts in West Bengal between 2001 and 2011 is shown in this figure and table (Figure 5 & table 4). Based on statistics from the 2001 Census, Nadia had the highest rate (27.1%), while Puruliya district had the lowest rate (0.23%) of rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district. This rate is higher (> 10.00%) in three districts of Nadia (27.1%), Birbhum (20.7%) & Bardhaman (11.6%). Four districts have a moderate rate (1.00 – 10.00%): Kolkata (2.64), Hugli (1.18), North 24 Parganas (1.88), and Maldah (5.90). Additionally, the following 10 districts had low rates (<1.00%): Darjiling (0.43), Jalpaiguri (0.30), Koch Bihar (0.33), Uttar Dinajpur (0.60), Dakshin Dinajpur (0.89), Bankura (0.37), Puruliya (0.23), Haora (0.76), South 24 Parganas (0.79) and Medinipur (0.98). Additionally, this rate found as unclassified class and this was higher (23.1) in 2001.

The 2011 Census statistics showed that Nadia had the highest rate (32.7%), while Puruliya district had the lowest rate (0.12%) of rural male outmigration from Murshidabad district. The data shows that the inter-district rural male outmigration rates are higher (> 10.00%) in three districts of Birbhum (30.6%), Bardhaman (16.6), and Nadia (32.7). Four districts have a moderate rate (1.00 – 10.00%), including Maldah (6.46%), North 24 Parganas (1.85%), Hugli (1.42%), and Kolkata (3.23%). And low rates (<1.00%) were also present in the remaining 10 districts: Haora (0.57%), South 24 Parganas (0.42%), Uttar Dinajpur (0.62%), Dakshin Dinajpur (0.51%), Bankura (0.33%), Puruliya (0.12%), Darjiling (0.20%), Jalpaiguri (0.31%), Koch Bihar (0.19%), and Medinipur (0.40%). Additionally, this rate found as unclassified class and this was moderate (3.34%) in 2011.

**6.4. Inter-state rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district**

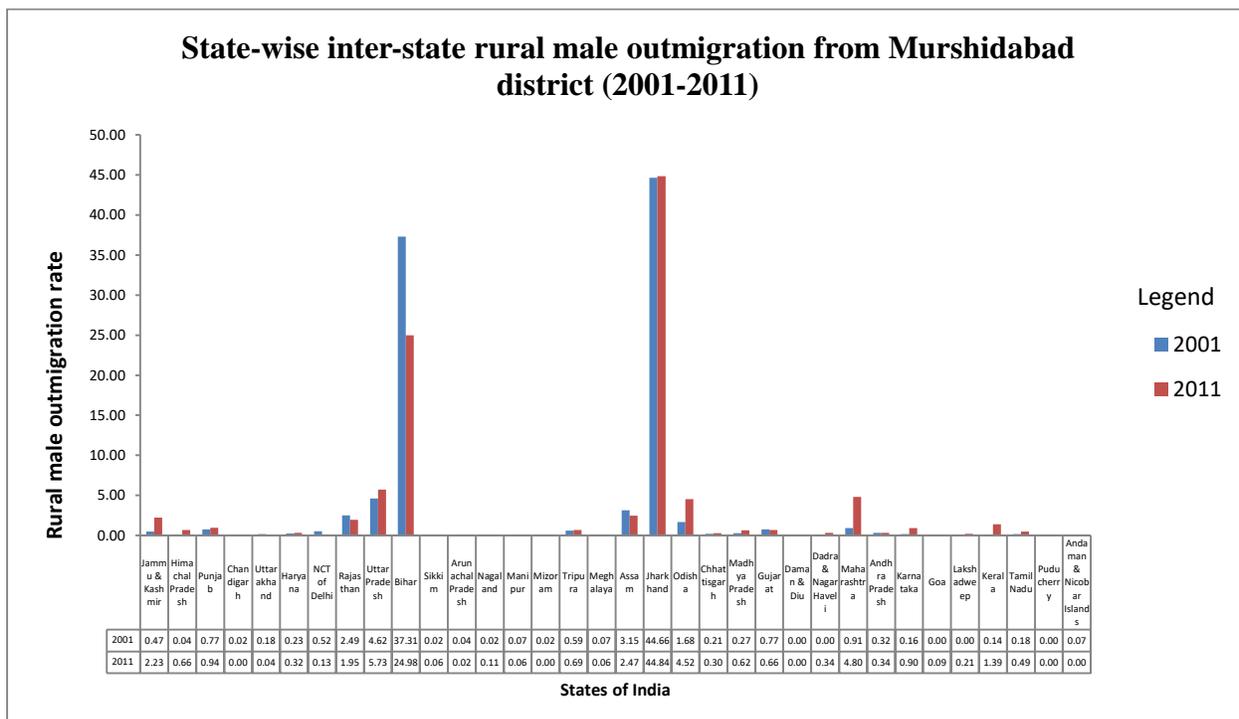
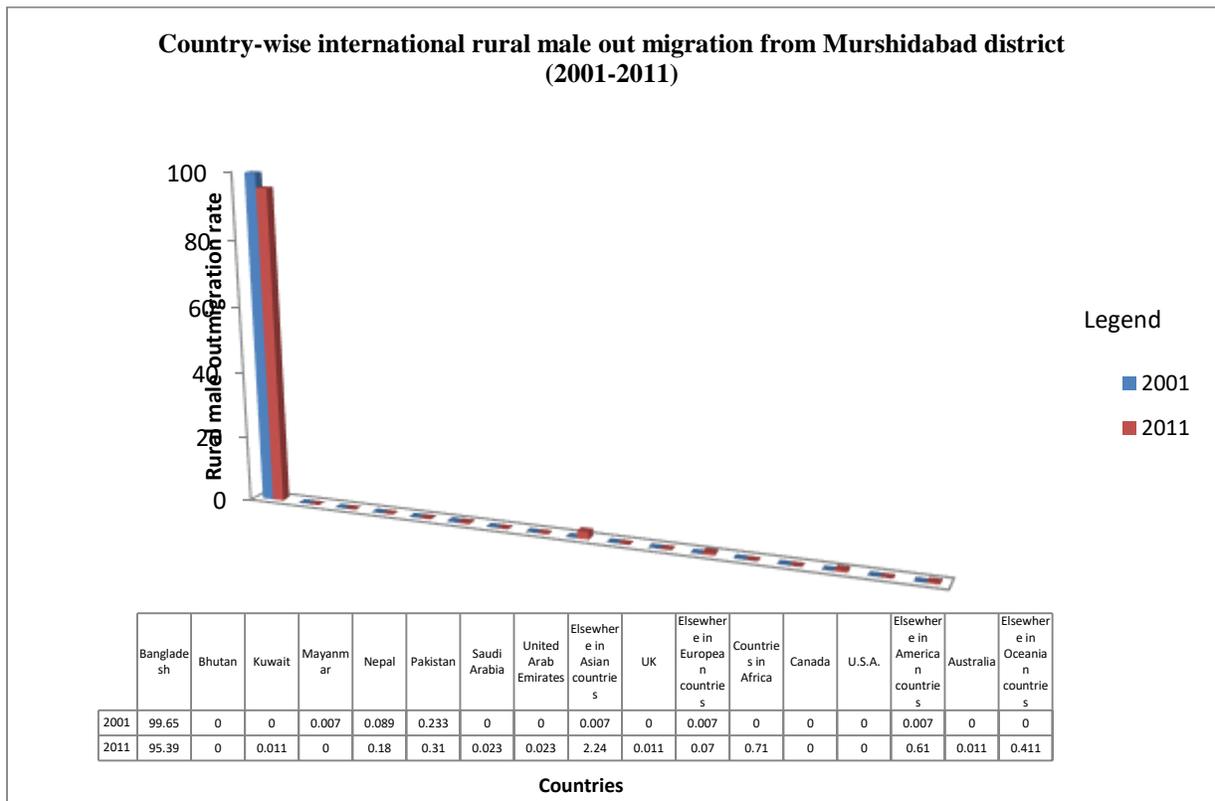


Figure 6: Inter-state rural male outmigration (2001-2011)

The inter-state rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district to other states in India is shown in this figure and table (Figure 6 & table 4) between 2001 and 2011. Two Indian states, Bihar (37.31%) and Jharkhand (44.61%), have high rates (> 10.00%), a moderate rate (1.00 – 10.00%) is seen in four Indian states: Rajasthan (2.49%), Uttar Pradesh (4.62%), Assam (3.15%), and Odisha (1.68%) and the rest of India's states, including Delhi, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana, and others, have low rates (<1.00%) based on data from the 2001 Census.

Based on 2011 Census data, it was found that two Indian states, Bihar (24.98%) and Jharkhand (44.84%), have high rate (> 10.00%), a moderate rate (1.00 – 10.00%) is seen in seven Indian states: Jammu & Kashmir (2.23%), Rajasthan (1.95%), Uttar Pradesh (5.73%), Assam (2.47%), Odisha (4.52%), Maharashtra (4.80%), and Kerala (1.39%) and the rest of India's states, including Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and others, have low rates (<1.00%) of inter-state rural male out-migration from Murshidabad district.

6.5. International rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district



**Figure 7:** Country-wise international rural male out migration (2001-2011)

The international rural male out migration rate from Murshidabad district to other nations in the world is shown in this figure and table (Figure 7 & table 4) between 2001 and 2011. Data from the 2001 and 2011 Census show that more than 90% of rural males from West Bengal's Murshidabad district went to Bangladesh. And the rest of the nation received just 0.35% of all out migrants in the 2001 census and 4.61% of all out migrants in the 2011 census.

### 7. Discussion

The migration of men from rural areas is one of the primary drivers of urbanization and industrialization. The social consequences that male rural migrants face might have an impact on their native families and communities. It usually provides opportunities for learning and skill development of the rural migrants.

Based on census data from 1991-2011, this study results shows that overall percentage share of rural male outmigration rate of West Bengal in inter-district pattern is negative, inter-state pattern is positive and international pattern is also negative from Murshidabad district. This paper discovered that during the study period, there was negative growth in the international pattern but positive growth in the inter-district and inter-state patterns. In this study, it was found that the main reasons for rural male out migration are employment, business, and marriage in the inter-state pattern, education and moving after giving birth were main reason in the inter-district pattern and moving with household & other were the main reasons in the international pattern from Murshidabad district during the 2011 census. Research carried out in India supports this conclusion. (Bhagat, 2011; Srivastava, 2011; Nandan & Bhagat, 2012; Bhagat, 2012; Reja & Das, 2013; Chowbey & Rai, 2020; Lusome & Bhagat, 2021; Irudaya Rajan & Bhagat, 2021).

This study also shows that the inter-district, inter-state & international out migrants percentage share from Murshidabad district during 2001-2011 census period. In this study find out that in inter-district pattern maximum rural male are outmigrated to Nadia, Birbhum, Bardhaman Maldah & Kolkata district, in inter-state pattern maximum migrated in Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh & Rajasthan state and in international pattern maximum (above 95%) out migration seen in Bangladesh & other Asian countries during study period. This

finding is supported by studies conducted in India (Nandan & Bhagat, 2012; Reja & Das, 2013; Das & Mistri, 2015; Sarkar, 2019; Lusome & Bhagat, 2022), West Bengal (Debnath 2019), Murshidabad district (Guha, 2016; Ali, 2018; Basu, 2019; Reja, 2022).

## 8. Conclusion

The majority of rural men in Murshidabad District, have left the area to migrate to developed areas within the state, outside the nation, and due to a variety of other issues, including underdevelopment, unemployment, floods, and other natural disasters. This study set out to ascertain the patterns, trends, growth, and causes of rural male outmigration—whether within the same district or across state lines & also across international borders—from Murshidabad district in West Bengal, India, during the 1991–2011 census period. The primary source of data for this paper is secondary data, which was gathered from various D-series data sets of the Census of India. We have employed software, various statistical techniques, simple growth, rates, percentages, and other methods for data analysis. According to this study, overall percentage share of West Bengal rural male outmigration rate from Murshidabad district are positive in inter-state pattern, but negative in inter-district & international pattern. This paper found that simple growth rate is rising in inter-district & inter-state pattern but international pattern rate are falling during study period and maximum people migrated due to employment & business purpose in inter-state pattern, education & moved after birth purpose in inter-district pattern and moved with household & other purpose in international patterns. Lastly this paper also found that pattern & reason for migration from study area, where we seen in inter-district out migration maximum migration happened in Nadia, Birbhum, Bardhaman, Maldah & Kolkata district, in inter-state outmigration maximum migration seen in Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan etc state and also found international pattern where maximum (95%) outmigration seen in Bangladesh & other Asian countries from Murshidabad district during 2001-2011 census period.

## 9. Policy Considerations

In both rural and urban environments, the social, economic, and demographic dynamics are significantly impacted by the outflow of rural men. Too effectively addresses the potential and challenges presented by rural male outmigration, policies and initiatives must take into account the patterns and drivers of this phenomena. Policies pertaining to the creation of jobs, the improvement of infrastructure, social protection, and rural development might help to minimize the negative consequences of outmigration while maximizing its potential advantages for the expansion of both rural and urban areas. Reducing the negative effects of outmigration and promoting sustainable development in rural regions unquestionably requires policies related to social protection, infrastructure development, employment creation, and rural development. Here, we examine various policy measures that the government should implement to lower the rate of outmigration from rural areas in the Murshidabad district.

1. Programs for rural employment (MGNREGA)
2. Programs for developing rural business ownership
3. Integrated programs for rural development
4. Initiatives to promote cottage industries
5. Development of rural communication system
6. Expenditures in agriculture & different infrastructure
7. Services for migrants, etc.

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