



CONCENTRATION OF NON-WORKERS IN WEST BENGAL: LOCATION QUOTIENT ANALYSIS

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Abstract: A high percentage of non-workers is a major issue in West Bengal which seriously hampering the economic development and human development in the state. This work attempts to study the concentration of non-workers in West Bengal, based on secondary data which has been obtained from the Census of India 2011 and statistical abstract of West Bengal (2011). The location quotient method has been applied to determine the concentration of non-workers in West Bengal. This work finds high concentration of non-workers in Nadia, North 24 Parganas, Uttar Dinajpur, South 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, Darjeeling, Purba Medinipur, Howrah, Bardhaman, Birbhum districts in West Bengal.

Keywords: Non-workers, concentration, West Bengal, Location quotient.

I. INTRODUCTION

In countries like India a distinction is made between working and non-working population. Instead of dividing the population into two categories of economically active and economically non-active population, the Indian census divides the entire population into two categories of workers and non-workers. According to the Census of India (2011), a person who has not worked at all in any economically productive activity during the reference period (i.e. last one year preceding the date of enumeration) is termed as 'non-worker'. The total population of West Bengal as per 2011 census is 91276115 of which 62183113 are rural population and 29093002 are urban population. As per 2011 census, the total non-worker of West Bengal is 56519760 of which 38100632 are rural non-workers and 18419128 are urban non-workers. According to the Census of India (2011), the non-worker of West Bengal is 63.31 percent, while the lowest non-worker of the country is found in Himachal Pradesh (48.1 percent). In this research work, an attempt has been made to analyze the concentration of non-workers in West Bengal and identify the regions of high concentration of non-workers in the state.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. Find out the concentration of Non-workers in West Bengal.
2. Find out the concentration of Rural Non-workers in West Bengal.
3. Find out the concentration of Urban Non-workers in West Bengal.

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present work focuses on the concentration pattern of non-workers in West Bengal. The study is entirely based on secondary data which has been collected from the Census of India 2011 and the statistical abstract of West Bengal (2011). The location quotient method has been used to determine the concentration pattern of non-workers in West Bengal. The formula is:

$$L.Q. = \frac{Xr \div Pr}{Xn \div Pn}$$

Where, Xr = Number of non-workers in the district

Pr = Total population of the district

Xn = Number of non-workers in the state

Pn = Total population of the state

IV.RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Concentration of Non-workers: This section describes the concentration pattern of non-workers in West Bengal in 2011.

Table 4.1: Concentration of Non-workers in West Bengal (2011)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total Population	Non-workers		LQ
			Number	Percentage	
1	Bankura	3596674	2130454	59.23	0.957
2	Bardhaman	7717563	4806312	62.28	1.006
3	Birbhum	3502404	2170801	61.98	1.001
4	Dakshin Dinajpur	1676276	973289	58.06	0.938
5	Darjeeling	1846823	1163097	62.98	1.017
6	Howrah	4850029	3030184	62.48	1.009
7	Hooghly	5519145	3366275	60.99	0.985
8	Jalpaiguri	3872846	2359936	60.94	0.984
9	Koch Bihar	2819086	1691109	59.99	0.969
10	Kolkata	4496694	2700954	60.07	0.970
11	Malda	3988845	2450998	61.45	0.992
12	Murshidabad	7103807	4513900	63.54	1.026
13	Nadia	5167600	3324993	64.34	1.039
14	North 24 Parganas	10009781	6438157	64.32	1.039
15	Paschim Medinipur	5913457	3404298	57.57	0.930
16	Purba Medinipur	5095875	3185555	62.51	1.010
17	Purulia	2930115	1680473	57.35	0.926
18	South 24 Parganas	8161961	5197467	63.68	1.028
19	Uttar Dinajpur	3007134	1931508	64.23	1.037
West Bengal		91276115	56519760	61.92	-

Source: Calculated by author based on Census of India (2011).

It has been observed from table 4.1 that the LQ values of Nadia (1.039), North 24 Parganas (1.039), Uttar Dinajpur (1.037), South 24 Parganas (1.028), Murshidabad (1.026), Darjeeling (1.017), Purba Medinipur (1.010), Howrah (1.009), Bardhaman (1.006), Birbhum (1.001) districts are greater than 1.0 which indicates high concentration of non-workers. Moderate concentration of non-workers is found in Malda (0.992), Hooghly (0.985), Jalpaiguri (0.984), Kolkata (0.970), Koch Bihar (0.969), Bankura (0.957), Dakshin Dinajpur (0.938), Paschim Medinipur (0.930), Purulia (0.926) districts where LQ values are 0.9 to 1.0. The LQ values of less than 0.9 which denotes low concentration of non-workers, no districts were found in this category.

4.2 Concentration of Rural Non-workers: This section shows the concentration pattern of rural non-workers in West Bengal in 2011.

Table 4.2: Concentration of Rural Non-workers in West Bengal (2011)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Rural Population	Rural Non-workers		LQ
			Number	Percentage	
1	Bankura	3296901	1939987	58.84	0.960
2	Bardhaman	4639264	2770069	59.71	0.974
3	Birbhum	3052956	1884465	61.73	1.007
4	Dakshin Dinajpur	1439981	826403	57.39	0.937
5	Darjeeling	1118860	690282	61.70	1.007
6	Howrah	1775885	1105395	62.24	1.016
7	Hooghly	3390646	2017615	59.51	0.971
8	Jalpaiguri	2812495	1689718	60.08	0.981
9	Koch Bihar	2529652	1504935	59.49	0.971

10	Kolkata	-	-	-	-
11	Malda	3447185	2113423	61.31	1.001
12	Murshidabad	5703115	3695310	64.79	1.057
13	Nadia	3728727	2438125	65.39	1.067
14	North 24 Parganas	4277619	2719493	63.57	1.038
15	Paschim Medinipue	5190771	2932972	56.50	0.922
16	Purba Medinipur	4503161	2787352	61.90	1.010
17	Purulia	2556801	1426422	55.79	0.911
18	South 24 Parganas	6074188	3869583	63.71	1.040
19	Uttar Dinajpur	2644906	1689083	63.86	1.042
West Bengal		62183113	38100632	61.27	-

Source: Calculated by author based on Census of India (2011).

It has been observed from table 4.2 that the LQ values of Nadia (0.167), Murshidabad (1.057), Uttar Dinajpur (1.042), South 24 Parganas (1.040), North 24 Parganas (1.038), Howrah (1.016), Purba Medinipur (1.010), Birbhum (1.007), Darjeeling (1.007), Malda (1.001) districts are greater than 1.0 which indicates high concentration of rural non-workers. Moderate concentration of rural non-workers is found in Jalpaiguri (0.981), Bardhaman (0.974), Hooghly (0.971), Koch Bihar (0.971), Bankura (0.960), Dakshin Dinajpur (0.937), Paschim Medinipur (0.922), Purulia (0.911) districts where LQ values are 0.9 to 1.0. The LQ values of less than 0.9 which denotes low concentration of rural non-workers, no districts were found in this category.

4.3 Concentration of Urban Non-workers: This section expresses the concentration pattern of urban non-workers in West Bengal in 2011.

Table 4.3: Concentration of Urban Non-workers in West Bengal (2011)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Urban Population	Urban Non-workers		LQ
			Number	Percentage	
1	Bankura	299773	190467	63.54	1.004
2	Bardhaman	3078299	2036243	66.15	1.045
3	Birbhum	449448	286336	63.71	1.007
4	Dakshin Dinajpur	236295	146886	62.16	0.982
5	Darjeeling	727963	472815	64.95	1.026
6	Howrah	3074144	1924789	62.61	0.989
7	Hooghly	2128499	1348660	63.36	1.001
8	Jalpaiguri	1060351	670218	63.21	0.998
9	Koch Bihar	289434	186174	64.32	1.016
10	Kolkata	4496694	2700954	60.07	0.949
11	Malda	541660	337575	62.32	0.984
12	Murshidabad	1400692	818590	58.44	0.923
13	Nadia	1438873	886868	61.64	0.974
14	North 24 Parganas	5732162	3718664	64.87	1.025
15	Paschim Medinipur	722686	471326	65.22	1.030
16	Purba Medinipur	592714	398203	67.18	1.061
17	Purulia	373314	254051	68.05	1.075
18	South 24 Parganas	2087773	1327884	63.60	1.005
19	Uttar Dinajpur	362228	242425	66.93	1.057
West Bengal		29093002	18419128	63.31	-

Source: Calculated by author based on Census of India (2011).

It has been shown from table 4.3 that the LQ values of Purulia (1.075), Purba Medinipur (1.061), Uttar Dinajpur (1.057), Bardhaman (1.045), Paschim Medinipur (1.030), Darjeeling (1.026), North 24 Parganas (1.025), Koch Bihar (1.016), Birbhum (1.007), South 24 Parganas (1.005), Bankura (1.004), Hooghly (1.001) districts are greater than 1.0 which indicates high concentration of urban non-workers. Moderate concentration of urban non-workers is found in Jalpaiguri (0.998), Howrah (0.989), Malda (0.984), Dakshin Dinajpur (0.982), Nadia (0.974), Kolkata (0.949), Murshidabad (0.923) districts where LQ values are 0.9 to 1.0. The LQ values of less than 0.9 which denotes low concentration of urban non-workers, no districts were found in this category.

CONCLUSION

The overall analysis of this study reveals that the high concentration of non-workers is found in Nadia, North 24 Parganas, Uttar Dinajpur, South 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, Darjeeling, Purba Medinipur, Howrah, Bardhaman, Birbhum districts. The main reasons behind this are rapidly growing population, high dependency ratio, lack of technical and vocational skills, unrecognized domestic and care works, lack of industries and lack of employment opportunities. Finally it can be said that control population growth, expansion of education, enhancement of technical and vocational skills, establishment of new industries, creations of new employments and implementation of effective employment policies by the Government of India can reduce the high concentration of non-workers in West Bengal.

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