

MIGRATION BETWEEN THE STATES OF INDIA: CHANGES DURING 2001 TO 2011

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Abstract

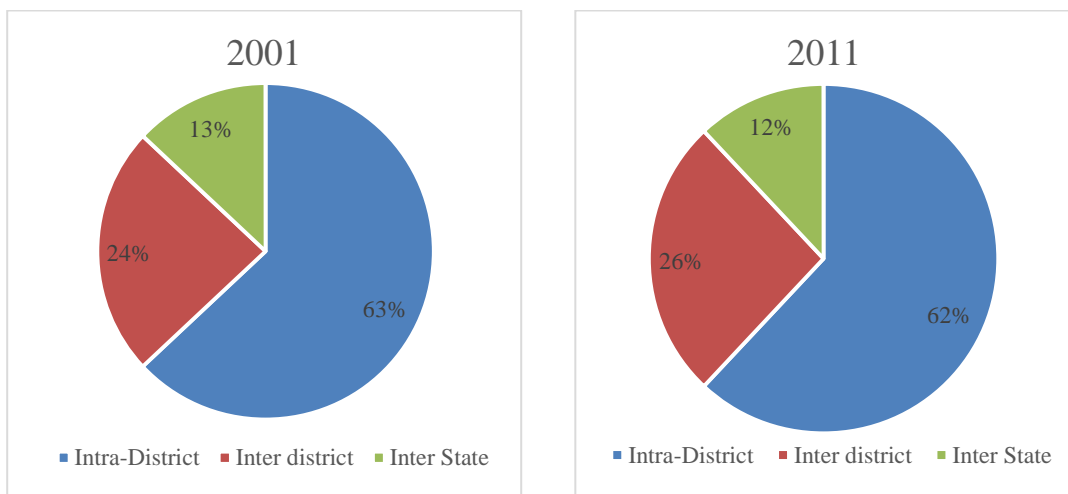
The crisis of return migration of interstate migrants in India during lockdown caused by the Covid-19 pandemic attracts attention to interstate migration and its various aspects. Interstate migration is the key income generation strategy for the people in less progressive states of India. They move to advanced states in search of better economic and social opportunities. All Indian states are not standing at the same level of economic development. The disparities in industrial and agricultural development further widen the regional differences, promoting interstate migration. The backward states, such as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and West Bengal, are involved as migrant senders, and progressive states like Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, etc. are the migrant receiver. Interstate migration is one way by which redistribution of income among Indian states from high-income states to low-income states. Interstate migration increased from 42.3 million in 2001 to 54.3 million in 2011. The increment in interstate migration is 28.4 percent during the same decade. Therefore, it would be indispensable to explore various aspects of interstate migration, such as trends, patterns, nature, and reasons for migration. This study used secondary data on migration from the Census 2001 and 2011.

Keywords: *interstate migration, regional disparity, progressive and backward states.*

INTRODUCTION: INTERNAL MIGRATION INDIA

The volume of internal migration in India is continuously increasing; for all duration, it rose from 314.54 million in 2001 to 455.79 million in 2011. The migratory population in India is increased by nearly 45 percent. In contrast, inter-state migration increased by 28.4 percent in 2011. Interstate migration for all duration has risen from 42.3 million in 2001 to almost 54.3 million in 2011. Interstate migrants represented only 4 percent of the Indian population in 2011, and this rate has been nearly unchanged since 2001 (De, 2019).

Figure 1: Distribution of internal Migrants in India by types of Migration



Source: Census 2001 and 2011

Figure 1 explores the movements of the migrants in India between 2001 and 2011. Intra-state migration (including intra-district and inter-district) is acquiring a larger share of internal migration than interstate migration in both decades (De, 2019). Intrastate migration increased from 87 percent in 2001 to 88 percent in 2011. Even in intra-state migration, inter-district movement is increased from 24 percent to 26 percent. Contrary, the share of interstate migration in total internal migration was reduced from 13 percent in 2001 to 12 percent in 2011.

Therefore, it would be essential to explore various aspects of interstate migration, such as trends, patterns, nature, and reasons for migration. This study used secondary data

on migration in Census 2001 and 2011. Migrants are moving from the low-developed Indian states to more developed states in search of better livelihood opportunities. All Indian states are not standing at the same level of economic development. The disparities in industrial and agricultural development further widen the regional differences that promote interstate migration. In India, significant migration flows are identified from backward states such as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and West Bengal to progressive states like Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, etc. Interstate migration is one way by which redistribution of income among Indian states from high-income states to low-income states.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of Das and Shah (2017) stated that people moved to those states where the rate of urbanization and level of economic development are high compared to states with fewer employment opportunities. Regional disparities based on economic development among Indian states are the primary cause of interstate migration.

According to Rele (1969), the movement of people is also determined by the process of change occurring within the social system. James (2011) says in his study that interstate migration is one of the measures to bridge the gap between labour deficit state and surplus state. In India, there is a large inflow of migration from northern states to southern states where fertility is low. Battacharya (1998) highlights that the rural to urban and urban to urban streams are most important in interstate migration. The main reason for these streams of migration between states is employment. Kundu (1986) argued that economically prosperous states had a high percentage of interstate immigrants. Moreover, the poorer states are characterized by a high out-migration rate. The share of males as compared to females in interstate migration is low.

Further, Kundu and Gupta's (1996) study on male migration shows that inter-state migration declined during the 1960s and 1970s because most labourers were absorbed in their states for employment. That reduced the cross-state mobility of the population. Another reason was the deceleration of growth in the large cities in some forward states. However, the lifetime interstate migration rate is recorded higher in developed states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, etc., than in short-term migration.

Sundari (2005) stated that migration plays a livelihood strategy for women in south India. Tamil Nadu receives female immigrants from neighbouring states like Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and even Rajasthan. The push factors such as lack of employment and drought in the place of origin, contrary pull factors like favourable employment situations at destination areas are significant causes of migration. Interstate migrants play a crucial role in the development of the destination state. However, they are also suffering from many economic and social problems. Omidyar Network India (2021) study highlights the issues of interstate migrants at destination places where these migrants are living in unsafe conditions and face many problems. Migrants often have hazardous, unsanitary, dirty, and untidy working and living conditions and limited access to health and social services. The migrants are unfamiliar with the local culture and language, which adds to their vulnerability. This type of migration is increasing the casualization of the workforce in India.

Trend of Interstate migrants during 1991 to 2011

Figure 2: Trend of Interstate Migration by last residence with duration (0-9 years) (in Millions)

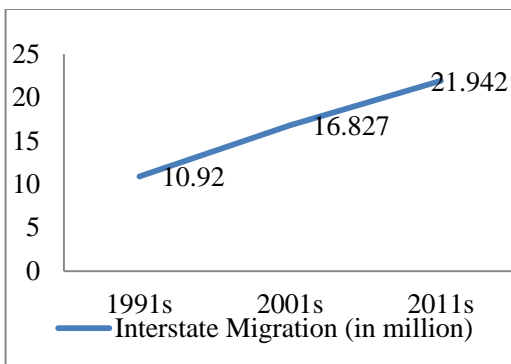
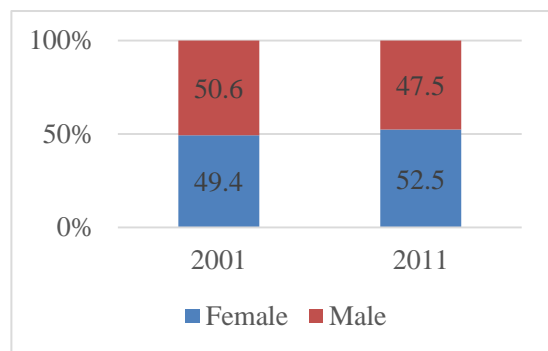


Figure 3: Gender Composition of Interstate Migrants (in percentage)



Source: Census of India 1991, 2001 and 2011.

Figure 2 shows that interstate migration from 1991 to 2001 increased by 54.1 percent. Furthermore, it grew from 2001 to 2011 by 30.4 percent. It shows that outstate migration declined by nearly 25 percent in 2011 compared to 2001. State governments launched many developmental programs, which created many education, employment,

and better livelihood opportunities, reducing migration from backward states. Now they can find the means of livelihood in their states (Kundu and Gupta, 1996). Furthermore, interstate migration is affected by the unfriendly migrant policies of the destination states and the low rate of urbanization in India (Aggarwal Priyansha Singh and Rohini Mitra, 2019). Policy hurdles such as i) low interstate portability of PDS cards, ii) preferential norms in educational institutions, and iii) domicile requirement in state government jobs were playing as indirect hurdles in interstate migration (De, 2019).

Causes of Migration between Indian States

Migration between the states of India is caused by various economic, social, and political factors. Census addresses these factors in the data as migration for employment, business, education, marriage, etc.

Table 1: Reasons for interstate migration (0-9 years) (in percentage)

Reasons for migration	2001			2011		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Work/employment	31.85	56.74	6.42	27.37	50.90	6.10
Business	1.85	3.25	0.40	1.34	2.23	0.53
Education	2.63	3.82	1.41	2.48	3.51	1.54
Marriage	22.31	0.70	44.56	23.70	1.31	44.00
Moved after Birth	3.80	3.93	3.66	4.30	4.74	3.90
Moved with Households	23.12	21.76	36.65	29.54	23.71	34.82
Other	8.44	9.82	7.01	11.28	13.60	9.20

Source: Census of India 2011.

Employment was one of the dominant reasons for crossing the state's borders for laborers; male migrants had a larger share of 50.9 percent than females in 2011. Marriage is the dominant reason for female migration between states, with 44 percent in 2011. Migration for employment/work reasons was recorded at 31.85 percent during 2001, which declined to 27.37 percent in 2011. Male migration (nearly 6

percent) is reduced more than female migration (0.34 percent). Many people who thought of migrating for work in other states now got jobs in their states. Interstate migration for business purposes also declined from 1.84 percent in 2001 to 1.34 percent in 2011. The share of male migrants declined from 3.25 percent to 2.23 percent. Contrary female migrants increased from 0.40 percent to 0.53 percent of the related total migration.

Changing Streams: New origins of Interstate Migrants

The main characteristic of Interstate migration before 2001 was the high involvement of rural migrants, who selected the urban destinations in other states. However, in 2011 the pattern of interstate migration getting changed. Rural to urban migration declined, but urban to urban migration between states increased. The Urban originated migrants rose during 2001 to 2011. It shows in the changes of origin place in 2011 compared to 2001.

Table 2: Streams of Migration under Interstate migrants (0-9 years) (in millions)

Streams of migration	2001			2011		
	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
Rural to Rural	4.474 (26.6)	1.759 (20.7)	2.715 (32.7)	4.490 (20.5)	1.546 (14.8)	2.944 (25.6)
Rural to Urban	6.373 (37.9)	3.804 (44.7)	2.569 (30.9)	8.077 (36.8)	4.507 (43.2)	3.571 (31.0)
Urban to Urban	4.490 (26.7)	2.202 (25.9)	2.289 (27.5)	7.154 (32.6)	3.366 (32.3)	3.787 (32.9)
Urban to Rural	1.053 (6.3)	0.523 (6.1)	0.530 (6.4)	1.393 (6.3)	0.622 (6.0)	0.771 (6.7)
Unclassified	0.436	0.224	0.212	0.828	0.384	0.444
Total	16.827	8.512	8.315	21.942	10.425	11.517

Source: Census of India 2001, 2011.

Male migration is high in rural to urban and urban to urban because of the progress of industrial development in urban centers, which attracts more male migrants. The service sector also contributed significantly to pulling migrants from rural

backgrounds. Female migration from rural to rural and rural to urban because of the development of the construction sector (Ray and Dutta, 2019). Streams of rural-to-rural and rural-to-urban migration went down to 20.5 percent and 36.8 percent in 2011 from 26.6 percent and 37.9 percent in 2001, respectively. On the other hand, urban to urban migration between states increased by nearly 6 percent in 2011 compared to 2001. The skilful labourers may be crossing the states' borders for employment reasons, which was not experienced during or before 2001.

Migration for duration of residence

The nature of migration helps to understand whether migrants changed their residence for the short term¹/temporary or lifetime period. Census has defined the term temporary migration in which migrants stay in the destination for less than one year. Temporary migration is mainly associated with agriculture seasons in rural areas. During the off-season of agriculture, labourers migrate, searching for employment in the urban informal sector (Keshari and Bhagat, 2010). Temporary migration is seven times larger than permanent labour migration. Moreover, it is primarily a rural phenomenon dominated by rural to urban migration. The central and north Indian states' low economic, educational and social status significantly induces temporary labour migration (Keshri and Bhagat, 2013).

Table 3: Duration of residence of interstate migrants (in millions)

Residence period years	2001			2011		
	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
Less than 1	2.015 (12.0)	1.142 (13.4)	0.872 (10.5)	3.532 (16.1)	1.975 (18.9)	1.557 (13.5)
1 to 4	8.277 (49.2)	4.253 (50.0)	4.023 (48.4)	9.990 (45.5)	4.705 (45.1)	5.284 (45.9)
5 to 9	6.535 (38.8)	3.116 (36.6)	3.419 (41.1)	8.420 (38.4)	3.745 (35.9)	4.675 (40.6)
All Duration	16.827	8.511	8.314	21.942	10.425	11.516

Source: Census of India 2001, 2011.

¹ As per NSSO report on Migration in India 2007-08 that in short term migration person is changing its residence period for one month to 6 months in one year.

A large number of inter-state migrants are preferred to migrate for a lifetime period. It is from table 3 that during 2001 nearly 12 percent (2.015 million) migrated for less than one year. This percentage increased during 2011 by 16.1 percent (3.532 million). Migration for less than one year is increased by more than 75 percent, in which the share of female migrants (78.5 percent) is comparatively higher than the male migrants (73 percent). Migration for 1 to 4 years and 5 to 9 years declined. Migration for these durations reduced from 49.2 percent and 38.8 percent in 2001 to 45.5 percent and 38.4 percent in 2011, respectively. It shows that the percentage share of interstate migration for more than one year declined in 2001-11. Interstate migrants prefer to work for a short period in other states and live in their states. They want to improve their lives compared to those in their native places. Improving economic status gives them a sense of pride, respect, and upliftment of social status.

Interstate Migration in Indian States

Table 4: Interstate Migrants in major Indian States (0-9 years) (in millions)

Ra nk	States	2001	2001 share in %	2011	2011 Share in %	Change (in %)
1	Maharashtra	3.231	19.2	3.821	17.4	18.0
2	Delhi	2.172	12.9	2.290	10.4	5.3
3	Haryana	1.231	7.3	1.575	7.2	28.0
4	Gujarat	1.125	6.7	2.027	9.2	80.1
5	Uttar Pradesh	1.080	6.4	1.482	6.8	37.4
6	Karnataka	0.880	5.2	1.541	7.0	75.3
7	Madhya Pradesh	0.814	4.8	0.942	4.3	15.7
8	Punjab	0.811	4.8	1.020	4.6	25.7
9	West Bengal	0.724	4.3	0.730	3.3	0.7
10	Rajasthan	0.723	4.3	0.506	2.3	-30.0
11	Jharkhand	0.502	3.0	0.684	3.1	36.2
12	Bihar	0.460	2.7	0.338	1.5	-26.5
13	Andhra Pradesh	0.421	2.5	0.635	2.9	50.4

14	Uttarakhand	0.352	2.1	0.549	2.5	55.8
15	Chhattisgarh	0.338	2.0	0.485	2.2	43.2
16	Tamil Nadu	0.270	1.6	0.698	3.2	158.4
17	Kerala	0.235	1.4	0.328	1.5	39.8
18	Odisha	0.229	1.4	0.319	1.5	39.2
19	Rest	1.221	7.3	1.975	9.0	61.8
20	Total	16.827	100	21.942	100	30.4

Source: Census of India 2001, 2011.

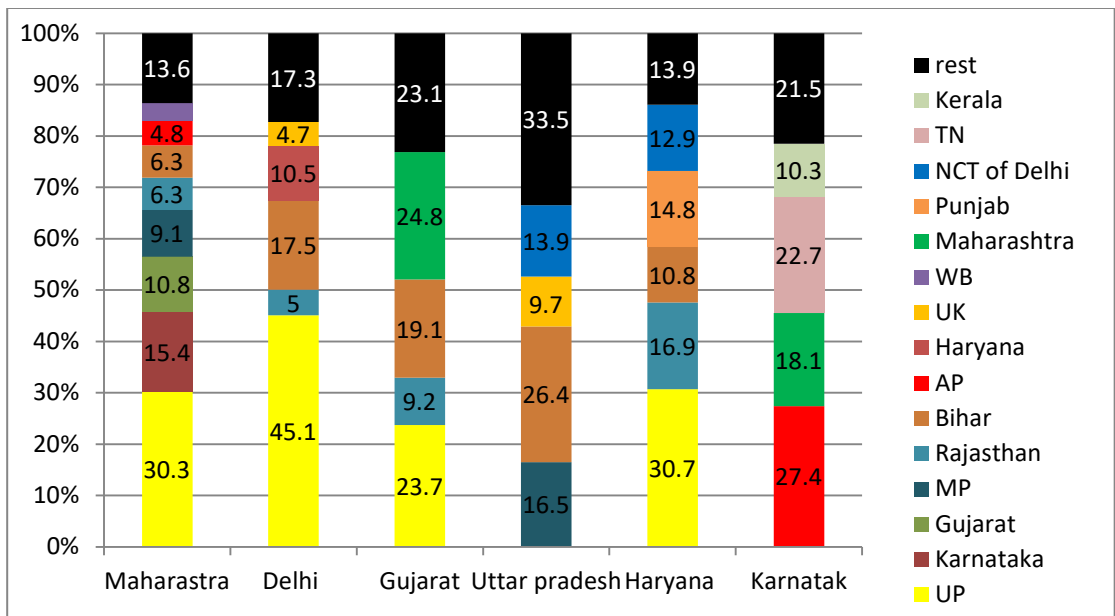
The above table 4 expresses the movement of India's people between states is risen nearly by 30.4 percent during 2001-11. Six states such as Maharashtra (17.0 percent), Delhi (10.0 percent), Gujarat (9.0 percent), Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Karnataka (each 7.0 percent), contributed 58 percent share of total interstate immigration in 2011. There is a minor increase in their share compared to 57.7 percent in 2001. The percentage share of Maharashtra, Delhi, Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Bihar in total interstate migration declined in 2011. In the case of Maharashtra, industrial development is not widespread in the entire state. It is restricted only to a few districts and cities like Mumbai, Pune, Nashik, Nagpur, Kolhapur, and Aurangabad. Some political parties spread hatred against Bihari and Uttar Pradesh migrants, which led to attacks and atrocities on these migrants. Delhi every day becoming congested with migrant flows. Delhi is struggling to provide basic facilities to its citizens.

On the other hand, the share of Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh is increased. This indicates the emergence of new destination states for interstate migrants. Comparing the figures in 2011 and 2001 uncovered the striking trend of interstate migration. Tamil Nadu received more than 158 percent, followed by Gujarat at 80 percent, Karnataka at 75 percent, Uttarakhand at nearly 56 percent, and Andhra Pradesh at more than 50 percent as compared to 2001. Karnataka state has a higher per capita income than the national level (Suryanarayana, 2009). Gujarat was the fastest-growing state during the 1990s and afterward (Unni, et al. 2001). It is

centre for extensive industrial sector investment, generating employment opportunities, and attracting interstate migrants to Gujarat (Dholakiya and Sapre, 2011; Sugandhe, 2017). Interstate migrants in Andhra Pradesh majorly are from neighbouring states. During 2001-11, the productivity of the industrial sector was high, and the economic growth was satisfactory (Manonmani, 2014).

Table 4 highlights that the flow of in-migration in Rajasthan and Bihar decreased by -30.0 percent and -26.5 percent from 2001 to 2011. The flow of in-migration in Rajasthan and Bihar is recorded negatively. It is probably because of widespread poverty, low industrial development, lack of job opportunities, and political instability in the state.

Figure 4: Top Six Interstate Migrants Receiver States



Source: Census of India 2011.

Figure 4 highlights the top inter-state migrant's receiver states and interstate migration corridors. Maharashtra (45.2 percent), Delhi (97.5 percent), Gujarat (42.5 percent), and Karnataka (38.5 percent) are highly urbanized, and industrialized states, the percentage of the urban population of these states is much higher than the Indian urban population, 31.1 percent. On the other hand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh,

Rajasthan etc., are densely populated, and less urbanized states are major migrant senders (Rajan and Bhagat, 2021). In the case of Maharashtra, more than 65 percent of interstate migrants originated from Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh. Except for Uttar Pradesh, the remaining three states share boundaries with Maharashtra, which causes more interstate migrants. The same situation is also seen in the case of Delhi, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and Karnataka, as they received more migrants from neighbouring states. An increase in seasonal employment in the agriculture sector of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana attracted many Bihari landless wage workers to these states (Fazal, 2016) (Rajni, 2007). Karnataka increased its income during the 1990s and 2000s (Dadibhavi and Bagalkoti, 2006), which attracted migrants majorly from Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.

CONCLUSION

The number of interstate migrants increased from 2001 to 2011. The Interstate migration rate declined after the economic reforms of 1991 in India. Migrants from the low-income states can now find the means of livelihood in their native states, and increasing discriminatory behaviour of the people and the state government at destination places are major factors in reducing the pace of outstate migration. The participation of rural originated migrant labourers declined. Interstate migration in India is characterized by the balancing supply and demand of the workforce generated by regional inequality. The growth of industrial development in urban centres during 2011 required skilful labour, which was impossible for rural society. That is the primary reason for the shift in the origin areas of interstate migrants from rural to urban. The interstate migration in 2011 witnessed the high participation of migrants from the urban areas. The uneven development of Indian states and unequal urban growth attracts migrants.

Out-migration is recorded high from low-income states, and immigration is recorded high in high-income states. The low-income states are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, and West Bengal, contributing a larger share in out-migration in India. Contrary to the state of Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, and even Uttar Pradesh are receiving large migrants from the other Indian states.

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