

SCHEDULED LANGUAGES IN DESCENDING ORDER OF SPEAKERS' STRENGTH - 2011

S. No.	Language	Persons who returned the language as their mother tongue	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
1	Hindi	52,83,47,193	43.63
2	Bengali	9,72,37,669	8.03
3	Marathi	8,30,26,680	6.86
4	Telugu	8,11,27,740	6.70
5	Tamil	6,90,26,881	5.70
6	Gujarati	5,54,92,554	4.58
7	Urdu	5,07,72,631	4.19
8	Kannada	4,37,06,512	3.61
9	Odia	3,75,21,324	3.10
10	Malayalam	3,48,38,819	2.88
11	Punjabi	3,31,24,726	2.74
12	Assamese	1,53,11,351	1.26
13	Maithili	1,35,83,464	1.12
14	Santali	73,68,192	0.61
15	Kashmiri	67,97,587	0.56
16	Nepali	29,26,168	0.24
17	Sindhi	27,72,264	0.23
18	Dogri	25,96,767	0.21
19	Konkani	22,56,502	0.19
20	Manipuri	17,61,079	0.15
21	Bodo	14,82,929	0.12
22	Sanskrit	24,821	N

N - Stands for negligible.

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COMPARATIVE RANKING OF SCHEDULED LANGUAGES IN DESCENDING ORDER OF SPEAKERS' STRENGTH-1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 AND 2011

Language and its percentage to total population										
1971		1981*		1991***		2001****		2011		
Language	%	Language	%	Language	%	Language	%	Language	%	
1		2		3		4		5		
1 Hindi	36.99	1 Hindi	38.74	1 Hindi ⁺²	39.29	1 Hindi	41.03	1 Hindi	43.63	
2 Bengali	8.17	2 Bengali	7.71	2 Bengali	8.30	2 Bengali	8.11	2 Bengali	8.03	
3 Telugu	8.16	3 Telugu	7.61	3 Telugu	7.87	3 Telugu	7.19	3 Marathi	6.86	
4 Marathi	7.61	4 Marathi	7.43	4 Marathi	7.45	4 Marathi	6.99	4 Telugu	6.70	
5 Tamil	6.88	5 Urdu	5.25	5 Tamil	6.32	5 Tamil	5.91	5 Tamil	5.70	
6 Urdu	5.22	6 Gujarati	4.97	6 Urdu	5.18	6 Urdu	5.01	6 Gujarati	4.58	
7 Gujarati	4.72	7 Kannada	3.86	7 Gujarati	4.85	7 Gujarati	4.48	7 Urdu	4.19	
8 Malayalam	4.00	8 Malayalam	3.86	8 Kannada	3.91	8 Kannada	3.69	8 Kannada	3.61	
9 Kannada	3.96	9 Oriya	3.46	9 Malayalam	3.62	9 Malayalam	3.21	9 Odia	3.10	
10 Oriya	3.62	10 Punjabi	2.95	10 Oriya	3.35	10 Oriya	3.21	10 Malayalam	2.88	
11 Punjabi	2.57	11 Maithili ¹	1.13	11 Punjabi	2.79	11 Punjabi	2.83	11 Punjabi	2.74	
12 Assamese	1.63	12 Santali ¹	0.65	12 Assamese	1.56	12 Assamese	1.28	12 Assamese	1.28	
13 Maithili ¹	1.12	13 Kashmiri	0.48	13 Maithili ¹	0.93	13 Maithili ¹ @	1.18	13 Maithili	1.12	
14 Santali ¹	0.69	14 Sindhi	0.31	14 Santali ¹	0.62	14 Santali ¹	0.63	14 Santali	0.61	
15 Kashmiri	0.46	15 Konkani ²	0.24	15 Nepali ²	0.25	15 Kashmiri (+)	0.54	15 Kashmiri	0.56	
16 Sindhi	0.31	16 Dogri ¹	0.23	16 Sindhi	0.25	16 Nepali ²	0.28	16 Nepali	0.24	
17 Konkani ²	0.28	17 Nepali ²	0.20	17 Konkani ²	0.21	17 Sindhi	0.25	17 Sindhi	0.23	
18 Nepali ²	0.26	18 Manipuri ²	0.14	18 Bodo ¹	0.15	18 Konkani ²	0.24	18 Dogri	0.21	
19 Dogri ¹	0.24	19 Sanskrit	0.00	19 Manipuri ²	0.15	19 Dogri ¹ (+)	0.22	19 Konkani	0.19	
20 Manipuri ²	0.14	20 Assamese**	**	20 Sanskrit	0.01	20 Manipuri ² \$	0.14	20 Manipuri	0.15	
21 Bodo ¹	0.10	21 Bodo ¹	**	21 Kashmiri	***	21 Bodo ¹	0.13	21 Bodo	0.12	
22 Sanskrit	0.00	22 Tamil**	**	22 Dogri (+) ¹	***	22 Sanskrit	0.00	22 Sanskrit	0.00	

- Note:**
- 1 Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Santali have been included as Scheduled languages from 2001 Census following the 100th Amendment of the Constitution of India.
 - 2 Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali are appearing as Scheduled languages since 1991 following the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution of India.
 - 3 The change in Hindi percentage in 1991 from the published percentage in 1991 is due to exclusion of Maithili from Hindi.

* The percentage of speakers of each language for 1981 has been worked out on the total population of India excluding the population of Assam where the 1981 Census was not conducted due to disturbed conditions.

** Full figures for Tamil, Assamese and Bodo for 1981 are not available as the census records for Tamil Nadu were lost due to floods and the 1981 Census could not be conducted in Assam due to the disturbed conditions then prevailing there. Therefore, percentage to total population for Tamil and Assamese are not given.

*** The percentage of speakers of each language for 1991 has been worked out on the total population of India excluding the population for Jammu & Kashmir where the 1991 Census was not conducted due to disturbed conditions.

****The percentage of speakers of each language for 2001 has been worked out on the total population of India excluding the population of Mao-

Maram, Paomata and Purul subdivisions of Senapati district of Manipuri due to cancellation of Census

(*) Full figures for Kashmiri and Dogri language for 1991 are not available as the 1991 Census was not conducted in Jammu & Kashmir due to disturbed conditions.

\$ - Excludes figures of Paomata, Mao-Maram and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur for 2001.

@ Maithili figure has been extracted from Hindi language since 1971 census to 1991 census because it was a mother tongue under Hindi.