


States of India by Urdu speakers

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As per Government of India census data of 2001, the total number of Urdu speakers in India were 81,536,111 (of which 81,533,954 spoke Urdu and 2,157 other dialects^{[1][2]} When, however, combined with its mutually intelligible sister language Hindi, the percentage of native Hindustani (Hindi-Urdu) speakers becomes 50% of India's total population. But, including people who use Hindi-Urdu as their second language (e.g. Urdu for Jammu & Kashmir, Hindi for Punjab, etc.) and those who understand Hindi-Urdu (almost all of North, West and East Indias, and parts of North-East and South Indias) the percentage rises significantly to much over three quarters of India's net population.

Urdu is officially recognized in India and has official status in the National Capital Territory of Delhi to which the language has remained deeply attached through its medieval history of Muslim sultanates and empires, and the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar,^[3] Telangana, Jammu and Kashmir.


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Regional distribution

Following is a **list of States and Union Territories of India by speakers of Urdu** census data with estimated 2014 speakers.^{[4][5]}

Rank	State	Urdu speakers		
		Persons	Males	Females
	India	91061078	46837143	45698968
1	Uttar Pradesh	40,272,080	20,947,596	19,324,484
2	Bihar	16,757,548	8,891,011	8,566,537
3	Maharashtra	8,895,501	4,647,547	4,247,954
4	Andhra Pradesh (Combined with Urdu speakers of Telangana)	8,575,033	4,351,545	4,223,488
5	Karnataka	6,539,910	3,430,719	3,109,191
6	Jharkhand	4,324,411	2,206,458	2,117,953
7	Madhya Pradesh	4,186,364	2,180,019	2,006,345
8	Delhi	2,674,333	1,373,117	1,301,216
9	West Bengal	1,653,739	914,087	739,652
10	Rajasthan	1,462,983	781,000	681,002
11	Gujarat	1,350,630	687,723	663,907
12	Tamil Nadu	1,342,299	473,914	468,385
13	Orissa	611,509	311,692	299,817
14	Uttarakhand	497,081	265,152	231,929
15	Haryana	260,687	140,038	120,649
16	Chhattisgarh	88,008	46,670	41,338
17	Goa	54,163	28,306	25,857
18	Punjab	27,660	16,971	10,689
19	Kerala	13,492	6,703	6,789
20	Jammu & Kashmir	13,251	8,293	4,958
21	Chandigarh	7,254	4,428	2,826
22	Puducherry	7,092	3,450	3,642
23	Himachal Pradesh	4,787	3,146	1,641
24	Assam	4,715	2,821	1,894
25	Sikkim	2,930	2,118	812
26	Meghalaya	2,531	1,509	1,022
27	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,615	885	730
28	Arunachal Pradesh	1,258	883	375
29	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	994	590	404
30	Nagaland	759	562	197
31	Daman & Diu	574	388	186
32	Manipur	483	470	13
33	Tripura	313	253	60
34	Mizoram	98	84	14
35	Lakshadweep	26	14	12

census data of 1991:.[6]

Speaker strength

Following is speaker's strength data of Urdu language for decades of 1971, 1981, 1991 & 2001:[7][8]

Language	Persons who returned the language as their mother tongue				Percentage to total population				
	1971	1981	1991	2001	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Urdu	58,620,895	64,941,435	73,406,932	81,536,111	91,061,078	7.22	7.25	7.18	7.01

Ranking

Following is ranking data of Urdu language for decades of 1971, 1981, 1991 & 2001:[9]

Urdu: its rank and percentage to total population							
1971		1981		1991		2001	
Rank	%	Rank	%	Rank	%	Rank	%
4	7.22	3	7.25	3	7.18	3	7.01

Percentage change

Following is percentage change data of Urdu language for decades of 1971, 1981, 1991 & 2001:[10]

Language	Persons who returned the language as their mother tongue				Decadal percentage increase		
	1971	1981	1991	2001	1971-81	1981-91	1991-2001
Urdu	58,620,895	64,941,435	73,406,932	81,536,111	22.08	24.23	18.73

See also

- States of India by urban population
- States of India by size of economy
- Muslims of Uttar Pradesh

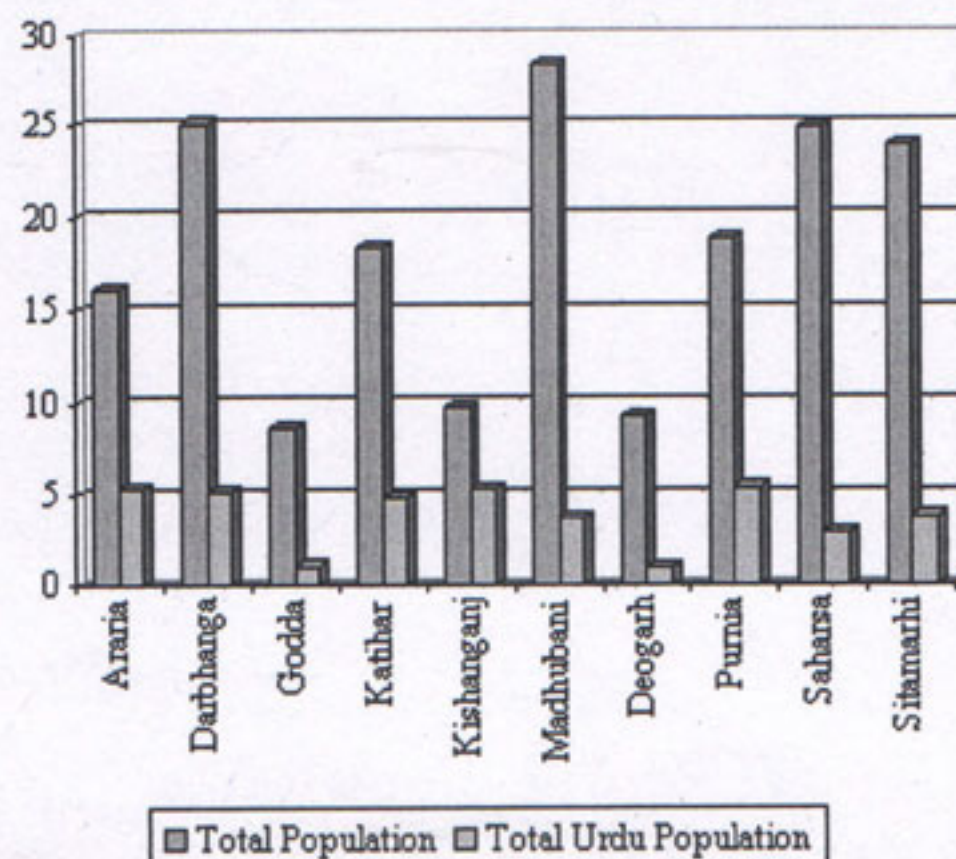
References

- ↑ http://censusindia.gov.in/
- ↑ SCHEDULED LANGUAGES IN DESCENDING ORDER OF SPEAKERS' STRENGTH - 2001 (http://censusindia.gov.in/Census_Data_2001/Census_Data_Online/Language/Statement4.htm)
- ↑ "Urdu in Bihar" (http://www.languageinindia.com/feb2003/urduinbihar.html). Language in India. Retrieved 2008-05-17.

- Araria (33%), Purnia (28.5%), and Katihar (26.3%) occupy numerically the second, third, and fourth positions respectively.

These ten districts are also represented below through a frequency chart (Chart 3) that shows a clear difference between the total population and the Urdu speaking population.

Chart 3: Total Population and Total Urdu Population in Urdu Populated Areas



4. Urdu as an icon of Muslim identification

Urdu is normally associated with Muslims and taken as an icon of Muslim identification. In the present study, an attempt was made to evaluate the validity of this statement. The district-wise break up of the Muslim population and the Urdu speakers are given below in Table 6.

Table 6: District wise break up of Urdu/Muslim Population in Bihar

S. No.	Districts	Muslim Population (Lacs)	Urdu Population (Lacs)	%age
1.	Araria	6.52	5.29	81.14
2.	Aurangabad	1.46	1.03	70.72
3.	Begusarai	2.23	1.86	83.43
4.	Bhagalpur	4.44	3.36	75.68
5.	Bhojpur	1.88	0.68	36.42
6.	Darbhanga	5.55	5.05	90.96
7.	Gaya	3.05	2.37	77.58
8.	Gopalganj	2.82	0.75	26.67
9.	Jehanabad	0.95	0.77	80.97
10.	Katihar	7.28	4.82	66.21
11.	Khagaria	0.96	0.79	82.80
12.	Kishanganj	6.49	5.28	81.34
13.	Madhepura	1.22	0.90	74.35
14.	Madhubani	4.73	3.71	78.41
15.	Munger	2.49	2.04	81.83
16.	Muzaffarpur	4.37	3.21	73.35
17.	Nalanda	1.70	1.35	79.18
18.	Nawada	1.55	1.10	71.31
19.	Pashchim Champaran	4.80	1.87	39.00
20.	Patna	2.71	2.11	77.96
21.	Purbi Champaran	5.60	3.02	53.92
22.	Purnia	6.49	5.36	82.59
23.	Rohtas	2.71	1.16	42.79
24.	Saharsa	3.59	2.86	79.81
25.	Samastipur	2.73	2.30	84.04
26.	Saran	2.52	0.76	30.15
27.	Sitamarhi	4.72	3.79	80.42
28.	Siwan	3.74	1.63	43.63
29.	Vaishali	2.03	1.44	70.87
	Total	101.33	70.66	69.73