

CBSE CLASS 9 SOCIAL SCIENCE

Geography — Contemporary India – I

CHAPTER 6: POPULATION

ULTIMATE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS BANK WITH MODEL ANSWERS

Strictly Aligned with the Latest NCERT Textbooks & CBSE Secondary School Examination Framework



HIGH-VALUE DELIVERABLES INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- **Comprehensive Content Indices:** Focused 1-Mark, structured 3-Mark, and thematic 5-Mark long-form demographic answers.
- **Demographic Structural Logic:** Clear step-by-step breakdowns of the three components of population change (Birth Rate, Death Rate, Migration).
- **Socio-Economic Variables:** In-depth overviews of Age Composition, Sex Ratio, Literacy Standards, and Occupational Structure.
- **Correction Portals:** Specialized callouts designed to permanently eliminate confusion between Population Density vs Population Distribution.

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SECTION 1: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Q1. Explain the three primary components that determine population growth and change in a country. FREQUENTLY REPEATED

The numbers, distribution, and composition of a population change constantly due to three main processes:

1. **Birth Rate:** The number of live births per thousand persons in a year. It is a major component of population growth because in India, birth rates have historically been higher than death rates.
2. **Death Rate:** The number of deaths per thousand persons in a year. The main cause of the rapid growth rate of India's population has been a fast decline in death rates due to better healthcare, sanitation, and food security.
3. **Migration:** The movement of people across regions and territories. Migration can be **internal** (within the country) or **international** (between countries). Internal migration does not change the total size of the population but alters its distribution across different states and cities.



EXAM BOOSTER: DEMOGRAPHIC DISCRIMINATION

Natural Increase of Population: The natural increase of population is calculated as the difference between the Birth Rate and the Death Rate. Ensure you do not add Migration into the 'Natural' increase formula!

Q2. Discuss the physical and socio-economic factors that explain the highly uneven distribution of population density across India. ANNUAL EXAM CLASSIC

The distribution of population density in India varies significantly from region to region, driven by several key factors:

- **Terrain and Relief Features:** Flat plains with gentle slopes are ideal for human settlement, agriculture, and industrial development. This explains why the **Northern Plains** are densely populated. In contrast, rugged mountains and steep hills, like the Himalayas and northeastern states, limit agriculture and transport, leading to lower population densities.
- **Climatic Conditions:** Regions with moderate, pleasant climates and regular rainfall attract larger populations. Extreme environments, such as the hot Thar Desert in Rajasthan or the cold desert of Ladakh, face low rainfall and harsh temperatures, which limits settlement growth.
- **Soil Fertility:** Areas with deep, fertile alluvial soils support intensive agriculture, which can sustain higher population densities. This is a major reason for the dense population in the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin.
- **Socio-Economic Factors:** Industrialization, job opportunities, well-developed transport networks, and urban amenities attract large numbers of people, leading to high population densities in states like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Delhi.

SECTION 2: PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTION COLLECTION

Q3. Describe the features, trends, and impacts of internal migration patterns in India. CBSE PAST YEAR FOCUS

Internal migration refers to the movement of people within the borders of a single country, showing distinct trends and socio-economic impacts in India:

- **Dominant Stream:** The most significant internal migration stream in India is the **rural-to-urban** migration. This is primarily driven by the 'push' factor from rural areas (due to poverty, agricultural stagnation, and lack of employment) and the 'pull' factor of urban areas (better job opportunities, higher wages, and superior healthcare and education).
- **Impact on Population Size:** Internal migration does not alter the total population size of the country. However, it changes the demographic distribution and composition of populations across states and cities.
- **Impact on Urban Areas:** This movement has led to steady growth in the population of towns and cities, accelerating urbanization. It also changes the age and sex composition of both the sending rural areas and receiving urban centers, as migrants are often young adults seeking work.

SECTION 3: VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (1 MARK)

Q4. What is a 'Census'?

An official enumeration of the population of a country, carried out periodically at regular intervals.

Q5. In which year was the first complete census taken in India?

The first complete census of India was conducted in the year 1881.

Q6. Define 'Population Density'.

The average number of persons living per unit area, typically calculated per square kilometer.

Q7. Which Indian state has the highest population according to the official census data?

Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state in India.

Q8. Which Indian state has the lowest total population?

Sikkim has the lowest population among all Indian states.

Q9. Define the term 'Sex Ratio'.

The number of females per thousand males in a given population.

Q10. Who is considered a 'Literate' person according to the Census of India?

A person aged 7 years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language.

Q11. Define 'Age Composition'.

The distribution of a population across different age groups, typically categorized into children, working age, and the aged.

Q12. What is meant by 'Occupational Structure'?

The distribution of the working population across different economic activities, categorized into primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors.

Q13. State the single primary sector occupation that employs the majority of India's working population.

Agriculture.

SECTION 4: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (2–3 MARKS)

Q14. Differentiate clearly between 'Population Distribution' and 'Population Density'.

These two terms represent different ways of studying population distribution:

- **Population Distribution:** Explains how people are spread across a geographic area. It describes the spatial pattern of settlement (e.g., noting that half of India's population lives in just five states).
- **Population Density:** Provides a mathematical measurement of population concentration. It calculates the average number of persons living per unit of land area (Total Population divided by Total Land Area), expressed as persons per square kilometer.

Q15. Categorize the three major age groups that make up the age composition of India's population, and explain their economic dependency traits.

The population of a nation is generally divided into three broad age cohorts:

1. **Children (Generally below 15 years):** They are economically dependent and require food, clothing, education, and healthcare. They make up a large part of the dependent population.
2. **Working Age (15–59 years):** They are economically active and productive. They form the working population that supports both children and the aged.
3. **Aged (Above 59 years):** They can be economically productive even if they have retired. While some continue to work voluntarily, they are generally considered part of the dependent population for healthcare and pension planning.



ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY MATRIX

- **Dependent Groups:** Children (under 15) and the Aged (over 59).
- **Productive Group:** Working Age (15-59) population, which drives economic growth.

SECTION 5: LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 MARKS)

Q16. Analyze the National Population Policy (NPP) of 2000 in India. What were its primary objectives, and what specific guidelines did it provide for adolescents?

The National Population Policy (NPP) 2000 was introduced to provide a comprehensive policy framework for improving healthcare and managing population growth in India:

1. **Core Policy Framework:** The NPP 2000 provides guidelines for achieving goals like free and compulsory school education up to 14 years of age, reducing the infant mortality rate to below 30 per 1,000 live births, and achieving universal immunization of children against vaccine-preventable diseases.
2. **Promoting Delayed Marriages:** The policy aims to encourage delayed marriages for girls and focuses on making family welfare a family-centered program.
3. **Focus on Adolescents:** The NPP 2000 identified adolescents as a key population segment that required specialized attention. It focused on critical needs beyond family planning, including nutritional requirements and protection from health risks.
4. **Educational Initiatives for Youth:** The policy emphasized the importance of encouraging delayed marriage and childbearing, providing sex education, and making low-cost contraceptives more widely available.
5. **Nutritional and Health Focus:** It designed targeted programs to provide food supplements and nutritional support to combat anemia among adolescent girls, while building skills to protect young adults from health risks.

SECTION 6: MAP-BASED QUESTIONS

Q17. Outline the key identification and location metrics for population distribution on the standard outline map of India.

For map evaluation and location questions, master these key demographic regions:

- **Highest Population Density States:** Identify and highlight Bihar (the state with the highest population density) and West Bengal along the fertile deltaic plains.
- **Lowest Population Density States:** Locate and highlight Arunachal Pradesh (the state with the lowest population density) along the rugged mountainous terrain of the northeast.
- **Most Populous State:** Locate the boundaries of Uttar Pradesh, which holds the largest total population in India.

SECTION 7: CASE-BASED QUESTIONS

SOURCE TEXT: HUMAN BEINGS AS A PRODUCTIVE RESOURCE

"People are the nation's most valuable resource. A well-educated, healthy population provides the engine for economic and social development. Human beings are producers and consumers of resources. Therefore, it is important to know how many people are there in a country, where do they live, how and why their numbers are increasing and what are their characteristics. The Census of India provides us with a comprehensive storehouse of information regarding the demographic profile of our nation."

Q18. Based on the source provided, answer the following questions:

(i) Why are human beings described as both producers and consumers of resources?

Human beings are producers because they apply their labor, skills, and knowledge to transform raw materials into valuable goods and services. They are consumers because they rely on natural and manufactured resources to sustain life and support economic activities.

(ii) Explain the role of the census in help planning a country's economic and social development.

The census serves as a comprehensive database on the population's size, distribution, literacy, and health profiles. This data allows the government to plan infrastructure, build schools and hospitals, allocate financial resources, and design welfare programs tailored to regional demographic needs.

SECTION 8: ASSERTION AND REASON QUESTIONS

STANDARD EVALUATION DIRECTIONS

Evaluate the statements and select the correct option:

- A:** Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
- B:** Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
- C:** Assertion is true, but Reason is false.
- D:** Assertion is false, but Reason is true.

Q19. Assertion (A): The northern plains of India support exceptionally high population densities.
Reason (R): The northern plains feature flat land, deep fertile alluvial soils, a favorable climate for farming, and an abundant water supply from perennial rivers.

Answer: A

Explanation: Both statements are true, and the reason correctly explains that the combination of flat terrain, fertile alluvial soils, plenty of water, and a favorable climate supports intensive agriculture, sustaining high population densities in the northern plains.

SECTION 9: COMPETENCY-BASED QUESTIONS

Q20. How can a country benefit economically from a large working-age population? Explain the concept of the 'demographic dividend'.

A large working-age population can drive significant economic growth through what is known as the demographic dividend:

- **Lower Dependency Ratio:** When the working-age population (15-59 years) is significantly larger than the dependent population (children and the aged), the country's dependency ratio drops, freeing up resources for investment.
- **Economic Output Expansion:** A larger workforce increases production capacity across industries. If the workforce is skilled and healthy, it attracts investment, sparks innovation, and boosts national savings and tax revenues, accelerating development.

SECTION 10: MOST IMPORTANT EXAM QUESTIONS

★ **HIGHEST PROBABILITY QUESTION:** Detail the three categories of economic sectors that form the occupational structure of a country, and describe the historical trend seen as an economy develops.

The workforce of a nation is distributed across three main sectors of economic activity:

1. **Primary Sector:** Includes activities that directly exploit natural resources, such as agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, fishing, and mining. In developing nations like India, a large portion of the workforce is employed in this sector.
2. **Secondary Sector:** Involves manufacturing and processing industries that transform raw materials into finished goods, including factory production, construction, and utilities.
3. **Tertiary Sector:** Consists of services that support the primary and secondary sectors, including transport, communication, commerce, banking, insurance, education, and healthcare.

Development Trend: As a nation develops economically, there is a visible shift in its occupational structure. The proportion of the workforce dependent on agriculture and the primary sector decreases, while employment in the secondary and tertiary sectors increases due to industrial growth and urbanization.

SECTION 11: CHAPTER QUICK REVISION

INSTANT REVISION SUMMARIES

- **Natural Growth Rate:** Calculated as the Birth Rate minus the Death Rate per thousand persons in a year.
- **Adolescents:** Defined by the World Health Organization and the census as individuals aged between 10 and 19 years.
- **Sex Ratio Disparity:** An indicator of gender equality in a region, reflecting social attitudes and female healthcare standards.
- **Urbanisation:** The progressive shift of a population from rural areas to towns and cities, driven by industrial and economic growth.

SECTION 12: COMMON MISTAKES STUDENTS MAKE

COMMON EXAM ERRORS TO AVOID:

1. **Confusing Growth Rate and Total Increase:** Students often confuse a declining population growth rate with a decrease in the total population. A declining growth rate simply means the population is growing more slowly, but the total number of people continues to increase.
2. **Conflating Distribution and Density:** Ensure you do not use population distribution and population density interchangeably. Distribution describes the spatial arrangement of people across the country, while density is the specific mathematical calculation of persons per square kilometer.

SECTION 13: LAST-MINUTE REVISION SHEET

THE ULTIMATE POPULATION CHEAT SHEET

Key Statistic to Know: Bihar has the highest population density among Indian states, while Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest, reflecting the major impact of terrain on human settlement.

Core Concept: Population is not merely a collection of numbers; it represents human capital. When a population receives investments in education, vocational training, and healthcare, it becomes a highly productive resource that drives national development.