

A Geographical Study of the Problems and Prospects of Urbanization in Samastipur District

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Abstract

Before acquiring the status of a district on 14th November, 1972, Samastipur happened to be a subdivision of Darbhanga district since the formation of Tirhut Division in 1908. The district is bounded on the north by the Bagmati river, which separates it from Darbhanga district, on the west by Vaishali district, on the south by the Ganges, and Patna district and on the east by Begusarai and Khagariadistricts. Samastipur district consists of four subdivisions, viz., Samastipur Sadar Subdivision, Rosera Subdivision, Dalsinghsarai Subdivision and Patori Subdivision comprising Sadar Subdivision 8 Community Development Blocks, Rosara Subdivision 6 Community Development Blocks and rest two Subdivisions comprising 3 each Community Development Blocks. The history of Samastipur district has close association with that of old Darbhanga, its parents district. The district comprises the greater parts of the ancient territory of Mithila. Its legendary history goes back to the Ramayana and Mahabharat periods. According to the accounts in the Vedic literature, the Videhas of the Aryan stock first migrated to the area from the Banks of the Saraswati in the Punjab. Legendary association of the old Darbhanga district with the Pandavas is evidenced by the belief that they stayed in Pandaul village (now part of Madhubani district) during a part of their period of exile. In course of time the Videhan monarchy is believed to have been replaced by the Sangha or federation in the form of a republic. The establishment of the vrijian republic (of which Videha was a part) marks the beginning of the historic period. The centre of power had, however, shifted to Vaishali and Lichchhavis were the most prominent among the different clans that constituted the confederation. The ascendancy of vrijian republic was checked by Ajatshatru, emperor of Magadh, who subdued and extended his control over the north Bihar.

KeyWords: Urbanization, India, Census Towns, Planning, Service Delivery, Governance

Introduction

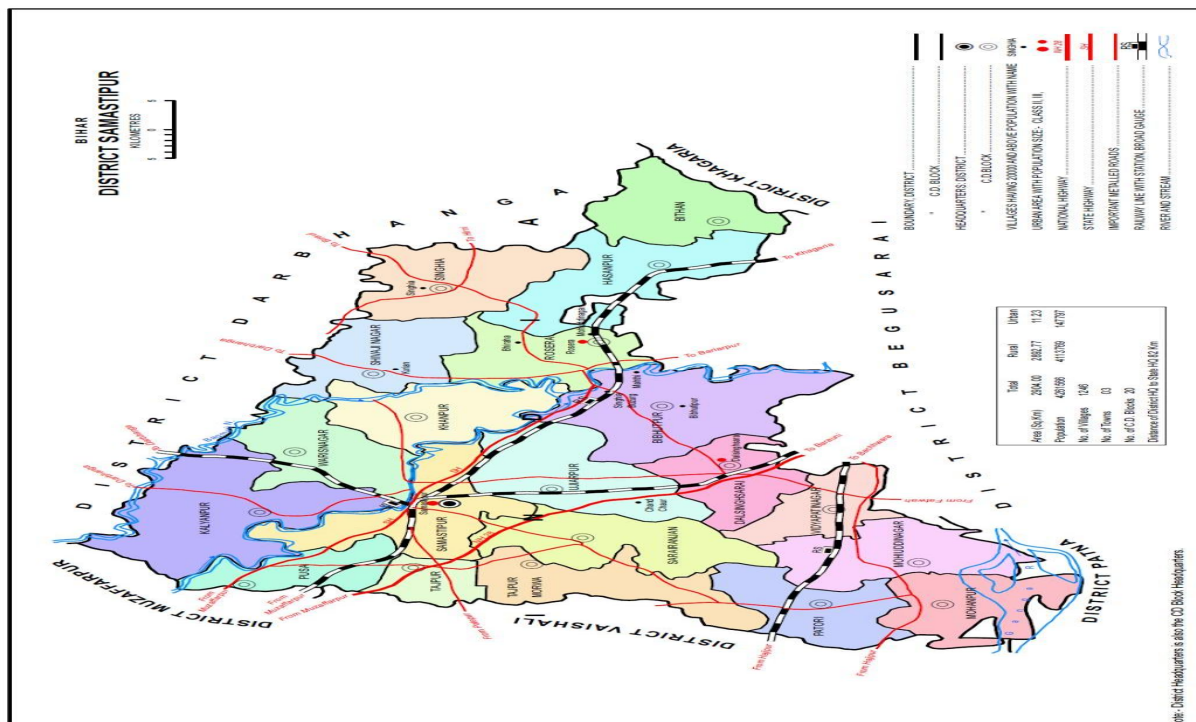
The development of the means of communication has had a great impact on the trade and commerce of the district. The district may now be said to be fairly well- connected by rail, road and waterways. The district occupies a place of pride in the trade of Saraisa Tobacco. Virginia tobacco is also grown and traded in this district. Spices such as Garlic, Chilli, Ginger, etc., are

exported from this district. Fruits such as mango, litchi, and banana are also important items of trade and commerce of the district. Masina and Mangalgarh are two private farms besides the Agriculture University at Pusa which produce high yielding maize seeds and export the same to other parts of the State and the country in abundance. The district comprises of 4 sub-divisions, and 14 Community Development Blocks. It has 5 towns and 1237 villages. Infrastructure wise Samastipur is very strong. It is the Divisional Headquarters of the North Eastern railway. The district has direct train link with Patna, Kolkata, Delhi, Dhanbad, Jamshedpur and other places of importance. National Highway No. 28 passes through the district.

Location & Geographical Area

Samastipur is located on global map between 25°51' North latitude and 85°46' East longitudes. The district occupies an area of 2,904 square kilometers. The rank of the district in comparison to other districts of Bihar in terms of area is 14th. The district is surrounded by Bagmati and Darbhanga district in the north, Ganga River and Patna District in the south, Darbhanga and some part of Khagaria and Begusarai district in the east, Vaishali and some part of Muzaffarpur district in the west.

Topography



Natural divisions

In Samastipur district entire tract forms a rich alluvial countryside noted for the fertility of its soil and for the excellence of its rabi crops. With the exception of the part of the doab between Bagmati and Burhi Gandak rivers, the district consists of large block of upland interspersed with a few chaurs or marshes. The land is very fertile and yields most of the valuable rabi and bhadaï crops and it has been the centre of the indigo industry. The soil of the district is highly calcareous. It is a mixture of clay and sand and as one proceeds to south the sand content of the soil increases. The river banks are made of new alluvium formed by continuous deposit of soil and clay.

Land use Pattern

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of the district and also the main source of livelihood of the people. Rainfall still controls the agricultural economy of Samastipur district. Conditions have, however, improved to some extent to meet the situation caused by the failure of monsoon. The district is marked by the intensive cultivation of its rich uplands. The land of the district is very fertile and multiple cropping is practiced. Cash crop such as chilies, sugarcane, tobacco and turmeric are grown here. The district falls in the belt of Saraisa Pargana where tobacco is famous for its quality. The staple food of the district is rice, wheat, Pulse and vegetables. Agriculture is the principal economic activity of the district and nearly 83 percent of the total working population depends on it. Wheat, pulses and edible oil seeds are also grown here. Tobacco is processed and exported to distant places of the country. The district has also a rich endowment of fruits like mango, lichi and banana. These fruits in sizeable number are exported in sizeable quantity outside the state also. The importance of agriculture in this district is highlighted by the existence of the Rajendra Agriculture University, the Central Tobacco Research Institute and the Sugarcane Research Institute at pusa. Kisan Vidyapith and other extension agencies are functioning there to disseminate healthy and up-to-date knowledge of agriculture operations among the farmers. High yielding varieties of seeds, improved agricultural implement and chemical fertilizers are utilized by the cultivators of this district.

Land Use/Land cover

LULC types	Land Use/Land cover area suitability area in km ²				
	suitability				
	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Grand Total in km ² (%)
Trees	0.12	0.64	3.19	92.82	96.78(3.33)
Tree mix	0.09	0.57	3.05	84.84	88.56(3.05)
Water	26.45	25.97	18.08	27.88	98.38(3.39)
Settlement	0.38	1.70	1.55	1.06	4.70(0.16)
Open area	135.61	626.97	561.95	572.61	1897.13 (65.33)
Agriculture	0.94	21.40	75.08	621.02	718.45 (24.74)
Grand Total	1400.17	662.88	677.31	163.64	2904
in km² (%)	(48.22)	(22.83)	(23.32)	(5.63)	(100)

temperature in future which will impact adversely the crop production. Present research has its own importance because such agroforestry suitability mapping has been done first time in the state of Bihar using Remote Sensing and GIS. This research showed the ability of Remote Sensing, GIS as well as integrating the themes using the concept of modeling by pooling the various layers of land, soil and topographical datasets.

Trade and Commerce

Agriculture is the main economic occupation of the district and about 83 per cent of the total working population depends on it. Samastipur is noted for its fertile alluvial soil and its rabi crops. It has been the center of the indigo industry. Wheat, pulses and edible oil seeds are also grown here. Samastipur is lucky to be traversed by rivers like BurhiGandak, Baya, Kosi, Kamla, Kareh and Jhamwari and Balan, which are both the offshoots of BurhiGandak. The Ganges also skirts the district on the south.

Description	Units	Units	Description	Units	Units
Headquarters:	SAMASTIPUR	-	Total Area:	2904.0	sq. Kms.
Forest Area :	0.0	sq. Kms.	Net Sown Area:	1848.65	sq. Kms.
Occupied House:	369.2	'000	Net Irrigation Area :	605.14	sq. Kms.
Total Population	2716.93	'000	Total Literates	780.34	'000
Total Male	1410.49	'000	Total Female	1306.44	'000
Urban Population	134.88	'000	Rural Population	2582.05	'000
Rural Population - Male	304.63	'000	Rural Population - Female	298.93	'000
Urban Population - Male	108.91	'000	Urban Population - Female	96.55	'000
Total SC Population	0.0	'000	Total ST Population	0.0	'000
SC Population - Rural	0.0	'000	ST Population - Rural	0.0	'000
SC Population - Urban	0.0	'000	ST Population - Urban	0.0	'000
Total Male Literacy	229.36	'000	Total Female Literacy	120.94	'000
Rural Literates	0.0	'000	Urban Literates	0.0	'000
Rural Literates - Male	0.0	'000	Rural Literates - Female	0.0	'000
Urban Literates - Male	0.0	'000	Urban Literates - Female	0.0	'000
Rural Male Literacy %	0.0 %	-	Rural Female Literacy %	0.0 %	-
Urban Male Literacy %	0.0 %	-	Urban Female Literacy %	0.0 %	-
Total Workers ('000)	-	-	Male Workers ('000)	-	-

Samastipur Religion-wise Data 2018

Description	Total	Percentage
Hindu	3,800,598	89.18 %
Muslims	452,370	10.62 %
Christian	2,126	0.05 %
Sikh	554	0.01 %
Buddhist	292	0.01 %
Jain	231	0.01 %
Others	112	0.00 %
Not Stated	5,283	0.12 %

Samastipur District Urban/Rural 2018

Out of the total Samastipur population for 2018 census, 3.47 percent lives in urban regions of district. In total 147,797 people lives in urban areas of which males are 77,730 and females are 70,067. Sex Ratio in urban region of Samastipur district is 901 as per 2011 census data. Similarly child sex ratio in Samastipur district was 908 in 2011 census. Child population (0-6) in urban region was 21,039 of which males and females were 11,027 and 10,012. This child population figure of Samastipur district is 14.19 % of total urban population. Average literacy rate in Samastipur district as per census 2011 is 80.70 % of which males and females are 85.93 % and 74.89 % literates respectively. In actual number 102,298 people are literate in urban region of which males and females are 57,320 and 44,978 respectively.

As per 2011 census, 96.53 % population of Samastipur districts lives in rural areas of villages. The total Samastipur district population living in rural areas is 4,113,769 of which males and females are 2,152,273 and 1,961,496 respectively. In rural areas of Samastipur district, sex ratio is 911 females per 1000 males. If child sex ratio data of Samastipur district is considered, figure is 924 girls per 1000 boys. Child population in the age 0-6 is 776,342 in rural areas of which males were 403,559 and females were 372,783. The child population comprises 18.75 % of total rural population of Samastipur district. Literacy rate in rural areas of Samastipur district is 61.14 % as per census data 2011. Gender wise, male and female literacy stood at 70.70 and 50.63 percent respectively. In total, 2,040,582 people were literate of which males and females were 1,236,255 and 804,327 respectively. All details regarding Samastipur District have been processed by us after receiving from Govt. of India. We are not responsible for errors to population census details of Samastipur District.

Description	Rural	Urban
Population (%)	96.53 %	3.47 %
Total Population	4,113,769	147,797
Male Population	2,152,273	77,730
Female Population	1,961,496	70,067
Sex Ratio	911	901
Child Sex Ratio (0-6)	924	908
Child Population (0-6)	776,342	21,039
Male Child(0-6)	403,559	11,027
Female Child(0-6)	372,783	10,012
Child Percentage (0-6)	18.87 %	14.24 %
Male Child Percentage	18.75 %	14.19 %
Female Child Percentage	19.01 %	14.29 %
Literates	2,040,582	102,298
Male Literates	1,236,255	57,320
Female Literates	804,327	44,978
Average Literacy	61.14 %	80.70 %
Male Literacy	70.70 %	85.93 %
Female Literacy	50.63 %	74.89 %

Most populated Sub Districts, Villages and Cities in Samastipur

Sub Districts		Villages		Cities	
Name	Population	Name	Population	Name	Population
<u>Samastipur</u>	346109	<u>Bibhutipur</u>	34764	<u>Samastipur</u>	67925
<u>Bibhutpur</u>	338149	<u>Chand Chaur</u>	33457	<u>Samastipur</u>	62935
<u>Kalyanpur</u>	310439	<u>Singhia</u>	31952	<u>Rosera</u>	31155
<u>Ujiarpur</u>	297811	<u>Karian</u>	25225	<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	23862
<u>Sarairanjan</u>	254835	<u>Mahtti</u>	23845	<u>Mathurapur</u>	7627
<u>Hasanpur</u>	227421	<u>SinghiaBuzurg</u>	21597	<u>Bhuindhara</u>	6614
<u>Warisnagar</u>	216123	<u>Mohiuddi Nagar</u>	21157	<u>Bhagirathpur</u>	5323
<u>Singhia</u>	210035	<u>Bhiraha</u>	20000	<u>Dharampur</u>	5291
<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	208818	<u>Jahangirpur</u>	19898		

Sub Districts		Villages		Cities	
Name	Population	Name	Population	Name	Population
<u>Rosera</u>	200624	<u>KalyanpurBasti</u>	19773		

Religion wise Distribution of Population

Hindus contribute 89% of the total population and are the largest religious community in the district followed by Muslims which contribute 11% of the total population.. Female Sex ratio per 1000 male in Hindus are 909 in Muslims are 929.

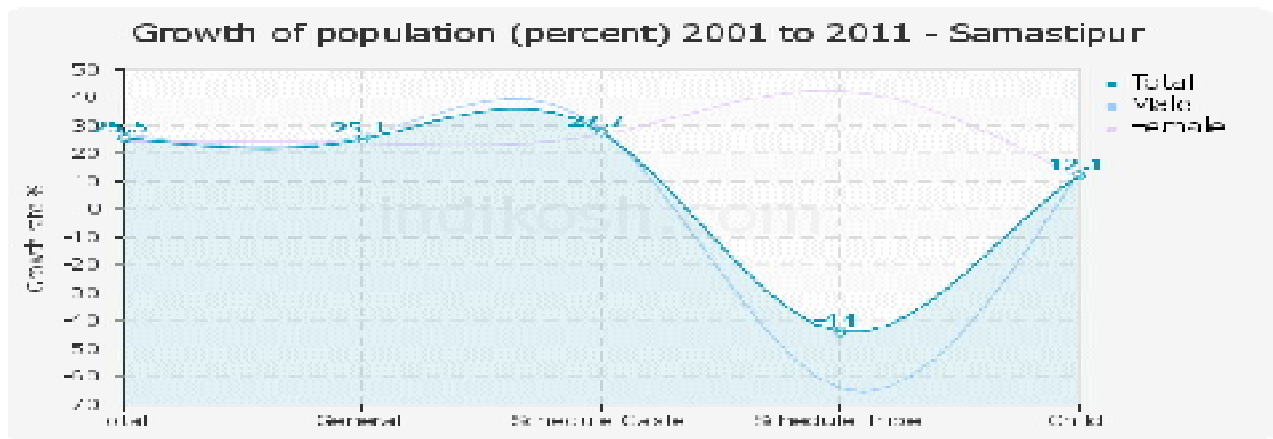


Religion wise population 2011 - Samastipur

	Total	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist	Jain	Others	Not Stated
Total	4,261,566	3,800,598	452,370	2,126	554	292	231	112	5,283
Male	2,230,003	1,990,906	234,507	1,111	286	150	119	60	2,864
Female	2,031,563	1,809,692	217,863	1,015	268	142	112	52	2,419

Growth of Population

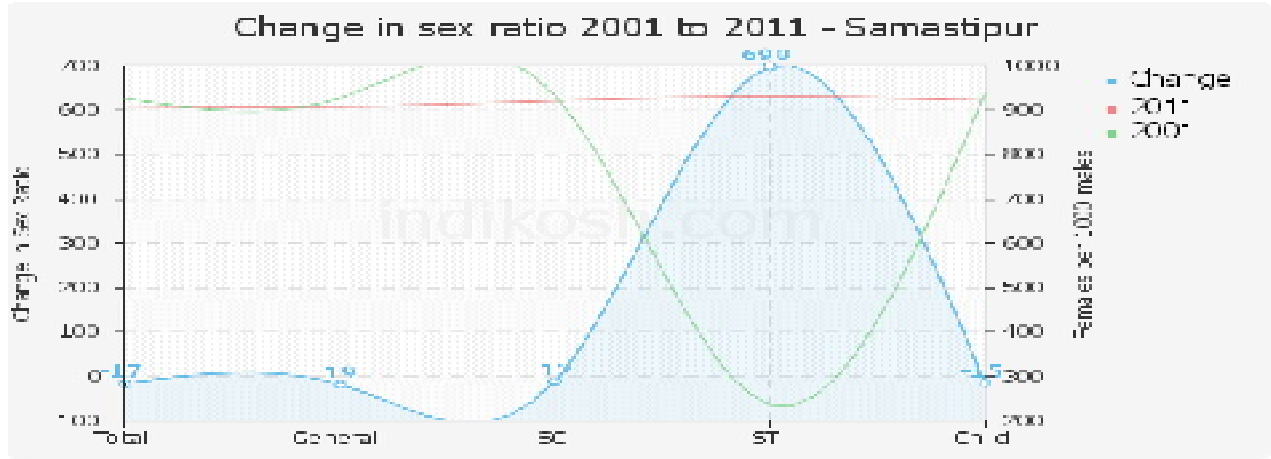
Population of the district has increased by 25.5% in last 10 years. In 2001 census total population here were about 33.9 lakh. Female population growth rate of the district is 24.3% which is -2.4% lower than male population growth rate of 26.7%. General caste population has increased by 25.1%; Schedule caste population has increased by 27.7%; Schedule Tribe population has decreased by -44% and child population has increased by 12.1% in the district since last census.



Growth of population (percent) 2001 to 2011 - Samastipur

Sex Ratio - Females per 1000 Male

As of 2011 census there are 911 females per 1000 male in the district. Sex ratio in general caste is 909, in schedule caste is 922 and in schedule tribe is 932. There are 923 girls under 6 years of age per 1000 boys of the same age in the district. Overall sex ratio in the district has decreased by 17 females per 1000 male during the years from 2001 to 2011. Child sex ratio here has decreased by 15 girls per 1000 boys during the same time.



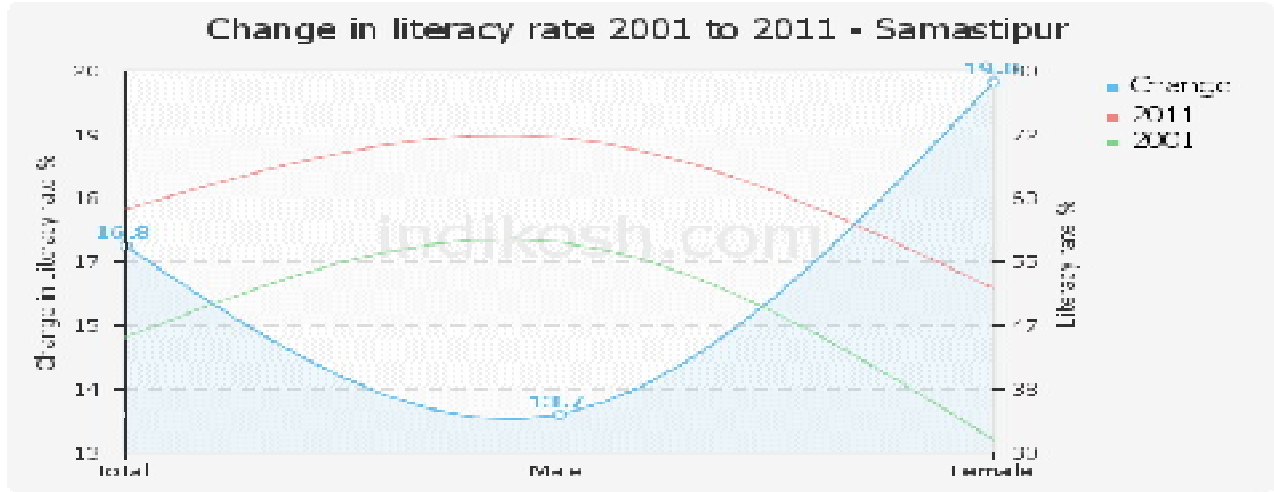
Change in sex ratio 2001 to 2011 - Samastipur

Sub Districts, Villages and Cities with highest sex ratio in Samastipur

Sub Districts		Villages		Cities	
Name	Sex Ratio	Name	Sex Ratio	Name	Sex Ratio
<u>Bithan</u>	936	<u>Chak Ahmad</u>	2333	<u>Dharampur</u>	914
<u>Kalyanpur</u>	935	<u>Gobindpur</u>	1800	<u>Samastipur</u>	906
<u>Sarairanjan</u>	931	<u>BishunpurFakirana</u>	1750	<u>Bhuindhara</u>	904
<u>Singhia</u>	922	<u>Chitaura</u>	1353	<u>Samastipur</u>	902
<u>Bibhutpur</u>	919	<u>Murjari</u>	1339	<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	901
<u>Khanpur</u>	918	<u>Nankar</u>	1333	<u>Rosera</u>	900
<u>Morwa</u>	918	<u>BhualChak</u>	1250	<u>Mathurapur</u>	899
<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	911	<u>SubhanChak</u>	1250	<u>Bhagirathpur</u>	894
<u>Rosera</u>	909	<u>DeodhaTolaRampatti</u>	1218		
<u>Pusa</u>	908	<u>Dumrawan</u>	1215		

Literacy

Total about 21.4 lakh people in the district are literate, among them about 12.9 lakh are male and about 8.5 lakh are female. Literacy rate (children under 6 are excluded) of Samastipur is 62%. 71% of male and 52% of female population are literate here. Overall literacy rate in the district has increased by 17%. Male literacy has gone up by 13% and female literacy rate has gone up by 20%.



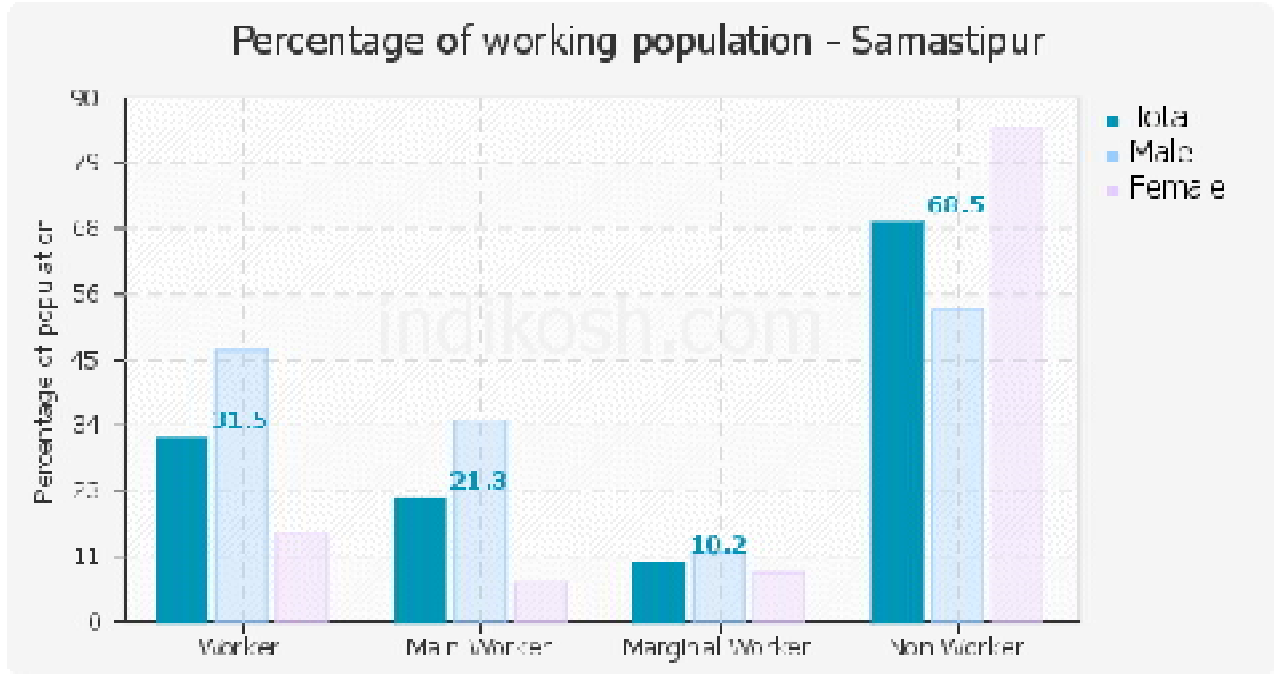
Change in literacy rate 2001 to 2011 -Samastipur

Sub Districts, Villages and Cities with highest literacy rate in Samastipur

Sub Districts		Villages		Cities	
Name	Literacy Rate %	Name	Literacy Rate %	Name	Literacy Rate %
<u>Pusa</u>	72	<u>Khajuri</u>	100	<u>Samastipur</u>	86
<u>Samastipur</u>	72	<u>MadhupakarTajMohamad</u>	100	<u>Samastipur</u>	85
<u>Tajpur</u>	70	<u>Bhatgawan</u>	100	<u>Bhuindhara</u>	82
<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	65	<u>HarpurJairam</u>	98	<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	78
<u>Ujiarpur</u>	64	<u>PusaM ahamadpurDeopar</u>	96	<u>Mathurapur</u>	77
<u>Sarairanjan</u>	63	<u>BishunpurDimangra</u>	95	<u>Rosera</u>	76
<u>Bibhutpur</u>	63	<u>ChakSahid</u>	93	<u>Dharampur</u>	74
<u>Patori</u>	62	<u>Ganga Paran</u>	92	<u>Bhagirathpur</u>	62
<u>Vidyapati Nagar</u>	62	<u>Bhoraha</u>	92		
<u>Mohiuddinagar</u>	62	<u>ChakTaj</u>	90		

Workers profile

Samastipur has 32% (about 13.4 lakh) population engaged in either main or marginal works. 47% male and 15% female population are working population. 35% of total male population are main (full time) workers and 12% are marginal (part time) workers. For women 7% of total female population are main and 8% are marginal workers.



Percentage of working population - Samastipur

Biggest Villages and Cities in Samastipur

Villages		Cities	
Name	Area (Km ²)	Name	Area (Km ²)
<u>RaspurPatasia</u>	34.8	<u>Samastipur</u>	3.5
<u>Bibhutipur</u>	18.2	<u>Samastipur</u>	3.5
<u>Mohiuddi Nagar</u>	18.1	<u>Dalsinghsarai</u>	2.9
<u>Singhia</u>	18	<u>Bhagirathpur</u>	1.2
<u>Chaita</u>	17.6	<u>Bhuindhara</u>	1.2
<u>Karian</u>	17.4	<u>Rosera</u>	1
<u>SiripurGohar</u>	17	<u>Mathurapur</u>	0.7
<u>Darwa</u>	16.9	<u>Dharampur</u>	0.7
<u>Murthua</u>	15.4		
<u>Saranpur</u>	15		

Conclusion

The rate of urbanization of Samastipur was 11.3 percent in 2011 and 10.5 percent in 2001, implying an increase of barely 0.8 percentage points over the decade. For India as a whole, this difference was 3.4 percentage points, indicating a much faster growth of urbanisation in the country. Three demographic features with respect to which Samastipur is substantially different from India are decadal growth rate of population, density of population and rate of urbanization. The decadal growth rate of population for Bihar (25.1 percent) is much higher than for India (17.6 percent) indicating the absence of demographic transition, that many parts of India have already experienced. By virtue of being a part of fertile gangetic plain, the number of persons living per [sq.km.](#) in Samastipur (1102) is nearly three times the all-India average (382). This population pressure is a major challenge in Samastipur. This high degree of population pressure demands higher resources for the state's development. Bihar is a highly ruralised state, with only 11.3 percent of its population living in its urban areas, compared to of 31.2 percent for the entire country.

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