

Spatial Pattern of Literacy Rate in Rajasthan

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ABSTRACT

Making sense of the world depends on literacy. We continually attempt to make sense of the world surrounding us, from the time we get up until the moment we fall asleep. The capacity to read, write, talk, and listen in a way that enables us to successfully communicate and make sense of the outside world is known as literacy. Low-literacy individuals might not be able to read a book or a newspaper, understand price tags or directions, comprehend a train or bus schedule, fill up a form, read medication instructions, or use the internet. According to the data from India's 2011 census, the population of Rajasthan is 68 million, however the literacy rate is 66.1%. Finding the Rajasthan's variance is the research's main objective. To determine priority spots, an accurate method combining cartographic, statistical, & spatial technologies has been used. The socioeconomic features of the area were taken into consideration while mapping and analyzing spatial differences in literacy levels. Additionally, there are notable differences between male and female rates as well as the number of colleges per lakh of the population in the state.

Keywords: Literacy, Population, Rajasthan, Spatial technologies

INTRODUCTION

The geographical pattern of literacy rate in Rajasthan, India, sheds light on how literacy levels are distributed throughout the various areas of the state. The level of literate in a community is a key determinant of its advancement in society, system of education, and general standard of living. Finding inequalities, trends, and variables affecting educational achievement can be simplified by comprehending the geographic variation of literacy rates. The vast and varied state of Rajasthan is known for its importance in history, desert landscapes, & heritage of culture. There are differences in literacy rates between its districts and areas as a result of a variety of geographical, economic, and social factors. According to Mahatma Gandhi, education is an instrument by which a peaceful, non-exploitative social & economic order might be established.

Earning quality has always been a key concern for the government in India, despite India's significant focus on education since its independence. The Indian Census defines literacy in India as having the capacity to read and write a short message that is understood in any language. While India's literacy rates remain low, they are

rising as the nation continues its transformation to a more literate society.

Many things affect how an economy develops. The most significant aspect that affects how a country develops is the human factor. An important source of development and growth has been an investment in people. Therefore, improving the "human factor" value is crucial.

STUDY AREA

Administratively, Rajasthan is the biggest state in India, with 33 districts and 244 tehsils. According to Census 2011, the State has a total population of 6.86 crores, or around 5.6 percent of the entire population of the nation. As over 61 percent of the state's overall territory is desert in the west, the majority of its people reside in the eastern section of the state. In the eastern part of the State, there is a relatively greater number of urban residents. Despite having a sizable population, Rajasthan's overall literacy rate is only 66.11 percent. Rajasthan has significant gender & rural-urban literacy rate differences, with urban literacy standing at 79.7% and rural literacy at 61.4 percent.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

For measuring the differentials or inequality in the literacy rate of the relevant population groups different scholars have employed different techniques.

Gosal (1964) calculator the differential by getting the ratio between the two groups. Chitnis (1974), Banerjee (1975), Nain (1988) used the simple techniques for calculating differentials. Yadav, Jetwal, and Khan (2018) computed the composite index of development in the Hadouti area of Rajasthan using literacy disparities for SC, ST, urban, and rural populations.

Objectives

The present study has the following main objectives.

- To assess the spatial pattern of literacy at districts level in Rajasthan.
- To find out the possible causes for spatial inequality in literacy rate across districts.

METHODOLOGY AND DATABASE

The present paper studies the inter-district disparities in literacy rate in the state of Rajasthan. In the present

study the analysis of literacy rate is based on secondary data sources. Data is taken from Census of India (Rajasthan) 2011, District Census Handbook. ARC GIS 9.3 software has been used to display the data on map. For the most part, Microsoft Word has been utilized to present the study. In an effort to tabulate, analyze, and interpret the data, appropriate statistical and cartographic approaches have been used. District-level literacy rates spatial variation has been shown on maps by using choropleth method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Spatial Pattern of Literacy Levels

According to the 2011 Census, only 55.84 % population of Rajasthan is recorded as literates. Trends in rural- urban literacy are also noticeable. Over 76.2 % of the urban population was literates in 2001 which has increased 79.7 % in 2011. Rural literacy is remarkably poor with only 61.4 % in 2011, showing an increase of 6.1% points over the last census.

Table: -1 Percent Literacy, Rajasthan, 2011

	Persons	Male	Female
Total	66.1	79.2	52.1
Rural	61.4	76.2	45.8
Urban	79.7	87.9	70.7

Source: Census of India, 2011

Male literacy is higher than females' literacy in both rural-urban areas and urban males and females always show a higher level of literacy than their rural counterparts. Urban male literacy was 87.9 % as compared to urban female literacy of 70.7 %. Rural male literacy was 76.2 % as compared to rural female literacy of about 45.8 %.

Table: -2 Percent Literacy, Rajasthan 2011

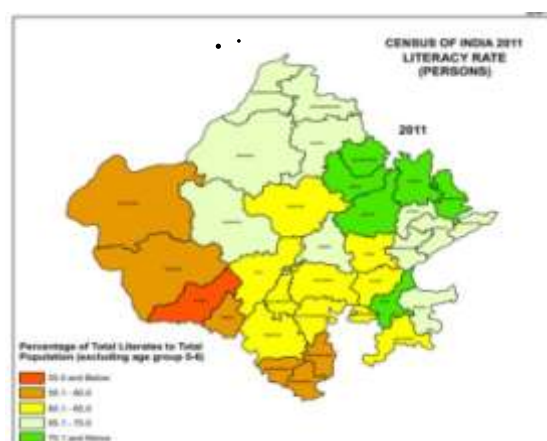
Sr. No.	Districts	Total
1	Ganganagar	69.6
2	Hanumangarh	67.1
3	Bikaner	65.1
4	Churu	66.8
5	Jhunjhunun	74.1
6	Alwar	70.7
7	Bharatpur	70.1
8	Dhaulpur	69.1
9	Karauli	66.2
10	Sawai Madhopur	65.4
11	Dausa	68.2
12	Jaipur	75.5
13	Sikar	71.9
14	Nagaur	62.8
15	Jodhpur	65.9
16	Jaisalmer	57.2
17	Barmer	56.5

18	Jalor	54.9
19	Sirohi	55.3
20	Pali	62.4
21	Ajmer	69.3
22	Tonk	61.6
23	Bundi	61.5
24	Bhilwara	61.4
25	Rajsamand	63.1
26	Dungarpur	59.5
27	Banswara	56.3
28	Chittaurgarh	61.7
29	Kota	76.6
30	Baran	66.7
31	Jhalawar	61.5
32	Udaipur	61.8
33	Pratapgarh	56
	Rajasthan	66.1

Source: Primary Census Abstract (Chapter -3 Literates and Literacy Rate)

Table- 3 Rajasthan: Spatial Pattern of Literacy Rate

Categories (in percent)	No. of Districts	Name of Districts
> 70.1	6	Jhunjhunun, Alwar, Bharatpur, Jaipur, Sikar, Kota
65.1-70	11	Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bikaner, Churu, Dhalpur, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Dausa, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Baran
60.1- 65	9	Nagaur, Pali, Tonk, Bundi, Bhilwara, Rajsamand, Chittaurgarh, Jhalawar, Udaipur
55.1-60.0	6	Jaisalmer, Barmer, Sirohi, Dungarpur, Banswara, Partapgarh
< 55	1	Jalor



Source: Primary Census Abstract (Chapter -3 Literates and Literacy Rate)

A District Wise Study

In terms of levels of literacy attainment, Rajasthan presents a high degree of regional variation. On the

basis of literacy rate as shown in the table 2, districts of Rajasthan can be classified into five categories.

Regions Having Very High Level of literacy (More than 70.1 %)

The very high level of literacy (above 70.1 %) was observed in Kota district with a rate of 76.6 % followed by Jaipur (75.5 %), Jhunjhunun (74.1 %), Sikar (71.9 %), Alwar (70.7 %), Bharatpur (71.1 %). Here more literacy is found because these districts are industrially developed and economically sound and having specialised educational institutions like Agriculture University, Medical College and Management Institutes in addition to the colleges and schools run by State government.

Regions Having High Level of literacy (65.1-70 %)

High level of literacy is found in (65.1-70 %) i.e., Ganganagar (69.6 %), Ajmer (69.3 %), Dhaulpur (69.1 %), Dausa (68.2 %), Hanumangarh (67.1 %), Churu (66.8 %), Baran (66.7 %), Karauli (66.2 %), Jodhpur (65.9 %), Sawai Madhopur (65.4%), Bikaner (65.1%). In Ajmer, Dhaulpur, Jodhpur & Bikaner districts, high educational facilities are found. These districts lie in high level of literacy category due to awareness of people and impact of many educational policies can be seen here. Several factors are responsible like strong urban influences, diversification of rural economy and above all, the intense pressure on farming land in the densely populated part of the state impelled the parents to go in for education of their children so as to enable them to seek employment in jobs outside agriculture and awareness of education.

Regions Having Moderate level of literacy (60.1-65 %)

The moderate level of literacy is found in Rajsamand (63.1 %), Nagaur (62.8 %), Pali (62.4 %), Udaipur (61.8%), Chittaurgarh (61.7 %), Tonk (61.6%), Bundi (61.5 %), Jhalawar (61.5 %) and Bhilwara (61.4%). These districts lie in this category due to low educational facilities provided by government. Lack of awareness about educational facilities is found in people at this area.

Regions Having Low level of literacy (55.1-60 %)

Low level of literacy is found in Dungarpur (59.5 %), Jaisalmer (57.2%), Barmer (56.5%), Banswara (56.3),

Partapgarh (56 %) and Sirohi (55.3 %) shows the low level of literacy. Almost all parts of this category are backward in agriculture as well as in industry. The large and medium scale industry of both public and private sectors are found. Due to lack of industrialisation in these districts, most of the people are engaged in agriculture.

Regions Having Very Low level of literacy (55 % & Below)

The lowest literacy rates is found in Jalor district (54.9 %) due to lack of awareness about the importance of education and backward thinking.

CONCLUSION

In 2011, Rajasthan had a literacy rate of 66.1%, which is somewhat better than the national average (74.04%). The above discussion reveals that overall, there is significant increase in literacy rates in the state, which has increased from 60.4 % to 66.1 % between the years 2001 to 2011. There is a significant difference in literacy rates between males and females in the both rural and urban area of the district. Disparity in literacy generates a number of social, economic and political problems which may threaten the foundation of development. Hence, spatial disparity found in the study area is a cause of concern and should prime priority in the development planning.

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