

Population Composition of Religious Communities in India

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ABSTRACT

This paper focuses on population composition of religious communities in India. Census of India had collected the data in 2011 of religious groups namely Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, other religions and persuasions and religion not stated. The present study is based on secondary data which obtained from Census of India. The objective of the study is to analyse the distribution, sex ratio, child sex ratio, effective literacy rate and work participation rate of these religious communities. Of the total population of India in 2011, 79.80 percent are Hindu while Muslim accounts for 14.23 percent and Christians 2.30 percent respectively of the total population. Sikh accounts for 1.72 percent of the total population followed by Buddhist (0.70 percent), Jains (0.37 percent), other religions and

persuasions (0.66 percent) and religion not stated (0.24 percent) respectively. The highest Sex ratio is seen among Christians while the lowest is among Sikhs. Only Hindus and Sikhs are below the national average while the rest are above the average. The decline in the Child sex ratio is nine points in 2011 Census. Of the eight religious communities in India, Jains have the highest total effective literacy rate followed by Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims. Except Muslims and Other religions, all the rest of the major religions have effective literacy rate higher than the national average. It is need to improve in the literacy rate of Muslim community along with other religions. Other religion and persuasions, Buddhists, Christian and Hindus have work participation rate above the national average.

Key Words: Census, Religious Communities, Sex Ratio, Child Sex Ratio, Effective Literacy Rate, Work Participation Rate.

Introduction:

Religion is a socio-cultural system of designated behaviors and practices, morals, worldviews, texts, sanctified places, prophecies, ethics or organization that relates humanity to supernatural, transcendental, or spiritual elements.¹ The study of religion specially in the subject of Geography is being a prominent part of the thoughts of the Geography. The Geography of religion is principally concerned with the spatial elements of religion and embodiment. In the 1960s and 1970s, Geographers of religion such as Wilbur Zelinsky and David Sopher were mostly associated with the “Berkeley School” of Cultural Geography and focused mostly on the cultural imprints of religion on the landscape.²

The data related to religion has been collected by Census Organisation in India. Religions profile of the populace in an important socio-cultural and demographic feature noticeable from the first Census in 1872 till now. The data of religions or religious communities for which information was collected had same variations in the pre independence period. But after independence, particularly since 1961 there has been some uniformity in the collection and the generation of the religious data. Besides the six major religions, e.g. Hindu, Muslim, Christians,

Jain, Buddhists and Sikhs, Census also collected data on other religions faiths and denominations.³

The present paper described about the religious communities to total population, sex ratio, child sex ratio, effective literacy rate and work participation rate by religious communities in India.

Objective of the Study:

The main objective of this research paper is to analyse the distribution of population, sex ratio, child sex ratio, effective literacy rate and work participation rate of religious communities in India.

Database and Methodology:

The data has been collected from Census of India. The study is based on the secondary data. State has been considered as a unit of study for analysis and mapping purpose. Since the data is available of Census 2011, hence the base of map has been shown of 2011. The newly created States and Union Territories after 2011 have not been considered for this study. For the purpose of the data analysis, percentages were calculated applying simple statistical methods. Later on the data were analysed and converted into the tabular form as per the need of the study. On the basis of these tables, statistical diagram have been drawn. By using the choropleth techniques, all maps are prepared through GIS software.

Discussion and Result:

Distribution of Population by Religious Communities in India:

There are 1210854977 total populations as per Census 2011. Of the total population of India in 2011, 79.80 percent are Hindus while Muslims account for 14.2 percent and Christians 2.3 percent respectively of the total population. Sikhs accounts for 1.7 percent of the total population. The proportion of Buddhists, Jains, Other religions & persuasions and religion not stated are 0.7 percent, 0.4 percent, 0.7 percent and 0.2 percent respectively (**Table & Chart-1**). States/UTs wise distribution of Hindus religious communities in India reveals that Himachal Pradesh has registered the highest percentage of 95.17 percent in the country followed by Dadra & Nagar Haveli (93.93 percent), Odisha (93.63 percent), Chhattisgarh (93.25 percent) and Madhya Pradesh (90.89 percent). On the other hand, the lowest populations of Hindu religious communities are found in Mizoram only 2.75 percent followed by Lakshadweep (2.77 percent), Nagaland (8.75 percent), Meghalaya (11.53 percent) and Jammu & Kashmir (28.44 percent). 14 States (Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Karnataka, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Bihar

and Maharashtra) and 05 Union Territories (Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Puducherry, NCT of Delhi and Chandigarh) have recorded the highest percentage of Hindu religious communities above the national average (78.80 percent).

Muslims are the second largest religious communities in India. The Union Territory of Lakshadweep has recorded the highest Muslim population in the country with 96.58 percent followed by Jammu & Kashmir (68.31 percent), Assam (34.22 percent), West Bengal (27.01 percent) and Kerala (26.56 percent). The lowest population of Muslims has got in Mizoram (1.35 percent) followed by Sikkim (1.62 percent), Punjab (1.93 percent), Arunachal Pradesh (1.95 percent) and Chhattisgarh (2.02 percent). 07 States (Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand) and 01 Union Territory of Lakshadweep have registered the highest percentage above the national average (14.23 percent).

Christians population are the third largest religious community of India. State/UTs wise analysis of the data resulted that Nagaland has got the highest Christians population with 87.93 percent in India followed by Mizoram (87.16 percent), Meghalaya (74.59 percent), Manipur (41.29 percent) and Arunachal Pradesh (30.26

percent). On the other hand, Bihar state has accounted the lowest Christian population of 0.12 percent followed by Rajasthan (0.14 percent), Uttar Pradesh (0.18 percent), Himachal Pradesh (0.18 percent) and Haryana (0.20 percent). 13 states (Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Jharkhand, Assam and Odisha) and 02 Union Territories (Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry) have recorded the highest percentage above the national average of 2.30 percent while the rest of state and UTs recorded its below.

The highest Sikhs population were found in Punjab (57.69 percent) followed by Chandigarh (13.11 percent), Haryana (4.91 percent) NCT of Delhi (3.40 percent) and Uttarakhand (2.34 percent) while the lowest Sikhs population were accounted in Kerala (0.01 percent), Lakshadweep (0.01 percent), Tamil Nadu (0.02 percent) and Bihar (0.02 percent). 04 states namely Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, and Jammu & Kashmir and 02 UTs namely Chandigarh and NCT of Delhi have the higher percentage above the national average of 1.72 percent while the rest of the states/UTs are registered its below.

In case of Buddhists religious population, Sikkim has enumerated the highest percentage of

27.39 percent followed by Arunachal Pradesh (11.77 percent), Mizoram (8.51 percent), Maharashtra (5.81 percent) and Tripura (3.41 percent). On the other hand, Kerala has recorded the lowest Sikhs population of 0.01 percent. Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, Rajasthan and Bihar have recorded the same percentage of 0.02 percent in this category. Jharkhand, Haryana and Odisha have registered the same percentage of 0.03 percent. 07 states have registered the highest Sikhs population above national average of 0.70 percent while the rest have recorded its below.

Regarding Jain religious communities, Maharashtra state has recorded the highest percentage of 1.25 percent followed by NCT of Delhi (0.99 percent), Gujarat (0.96 percent), Rajasthan (0.91 percent) and Madhya Pradesh (0.78 percent). On the other hand, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Kerala have recorded the same lowest percentage of 0.01 percent. Lakshadweep, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Odisha and Tripura have recorded the same percentage of 0.02 percent in this category. After analysis of the data, it is found that 05 states (Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka) and 01 UT of NCT of Delhi have accounted the highest percentage above the national average of 0.37 percent.

It is found in the research study that Arunachal Pradesh state of the North East has accounted the highest percentage of 26.20 percent to the total population in the category of Other Religion and Persuasions. The other higher percentage recorded states are Jharkhand (12.84 percent), Meghalaya (8.71 percent), Manipur (8.19 percent), Sikkim (2.67 percent) and Chhattisgarh (1.94 percent). It is noticed that 12 states and UTs namely Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, NCT of Delhi and Puducherry have recorded the same percentage of 0.01 percent in this category. 09 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Manipur, Sikkim, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh) have recorded the higher percentage above the national average of 0.66 percent.

Census Organisation has categorized the religion into 08 categories. The last category is Religion not Stated. Arunachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have recorded the highest percentage of 0.48 percent equally. NCT of Delhi has recorded the lower percentage of 0.08 percent in this category. 12 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Manipur, Meghalaya, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala,

Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and West Bengal) have registered the highest percentage above the national average of 0.24 percent.

Sex Ratio by Religious Communities:

Sex Ratio which is the number of females per one thousand males is 943 for all the religious communities at the national level. Hindus and Sikhs are below the national average while the rest are above the average. The highest sex ratio is seen among Christians with 1023 females while the lowest is among Sikhs (903). Consisting the largest segment of the population, the Hindus have a sex ratio of 939 while Muslims, the second largest religious community have 951 (**Chart-2**).

State and UTs wise analysis of religious communities have been shown in **Table-2 and Map-2**. In the case of Hindu sex ratio, Kerala has recorded the highest sex ratio of 1077 females followed by Puducherry (1030), Andhra Pradesh (993), Tamil Nadu (992) and Chhattisgarh (990). On the other side, Lakshadweep has registered the lowest sex ratio with 115 females in this category followed by Mizoram (506), Daman & Diu (607), Nagaland (650) and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (774). 12 states (Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Tripura, Assam and West Bengal) and 01 UT of Puducherry have

registered the highest percentage above the national average of 939 females among Hindu religious communities. From the analysis of the prepared maps and table of Hindu sex ratio by religious communities in India, it has been observed that out of 35 states/UTs, 14 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below while 03, 06, 04 and 08 states/UTs fall in the range of 901 – 925, 926 – 950, 951 – 975 and 976 and above respectively.

Regarding Muslim sex ratio, Kerala has accounted the highest sex ratio of 1125 females followed by Puducherry (1073), Tamil Nadu (1015), Lakshadweep (998) and Manipur (992). On the other hand, Sikkim has registered the lowest sex ratio of 510 females followed by Mizoram (553), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (678), Daman & Diu (699) and Nagaland (716) in this category. 09 states (Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tripura, Odisha, Assam and Chhattisgarh) and UTs (Puducherry and Lakshadweep) have recorded the highest sex ratio above the national average of 951. The rest of states and UTs are its below. Out of 35 states and UTs of the country as per Census 2011, 12 states fall in the range of 900 and below while the remaining 04, 07, 06 and 06 states/UTs fall in the

range of 901 – 925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively as per map and table.

In the context of Christian's sex ratio, Goa has recorded the highest sex ratio of 1129 females followed by Puducherry (1114), Andhra Pradesh (1059), Kerala (1051) and Karnataka (1050). The lowest Christian sex ratio found in Lakshadweep (108) followed by Jammu & Kashmir (655), Himachal Pradesh (848), Punjab (913) and Haryana (924). 11 states (Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh) and 02 UTs (Puducherry and NCT of Delhi) have registered the highest Christian sex ratio above the national average of 1023 females. The prepared map and table reveals that 03, 02, 03, 05 and 22 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901 – 925, 926 – 950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively in this category.

It is observed that Chandigarh has the highest Sikhs sex ratio of 940 females followed by NCT of Delhi (938), Himachal Pradesh (925), Uttarakhand (912) and Bihar (909). On the other side, Sikkim accounted the lowest Sikhs sex ratio of 173 females followed by Arunachal Pradesh (174), Nagaland (234), Mizoram (324) and Lakshadweep (333). 05 states (Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand,

Bihar, Punjab and Chhattisgarh) and 03 UTs (Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi and Puducherry) have recorded the higher Sikhs sex ratio above the national average of 903 females per thousand males. Haryana is the only state which has been recorded equal Sikhs sex ratio of national average. Out of 35 states/UTs, 25, 02, 03, 05 and 00 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively in this category.

Regarding Buddhists sex ratio, Chhattisgarh has recorded the highest ratio of 1016 females followed by Arunachal Pradesh (1010), West Bengal (1001), Jammu & Kashmir (995) and Tripura (973). After analysis of the lower Buddhists sex ratio, it is found that Lakshadweep has registered the lowest ratio with 111 females followed by Uttarakhand (675), Jharkhand (717), Karnataka (740) and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (781). 07 states (Chhattisgarh, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Tripura, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh) got the highest Buddhists sex ratio above the national average of 965. The rest of the states/UTs recorded it's below. It is observed that 12, 07, 05, 07 and 04 states/ UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 954-975, 976 and above respectively in the category of Buddhists sex ratio.

In the context of Jain sex ratio, Andaman & Nicobar Islands has recorded the highest ratio of 1214 females per thousand males followed by Arunachal Pradesh (1078), Kerala (1018), Puducherry (994) and Chandigarh (966) while Sikkim has registered the lowest Jain sex ratio of 735 females followed by Mizoram (808), Lakshadweep and Meghalaya both received 833 and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (877). 09 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu) and 03 UTs (Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Puducherry and Chandigarh) have recorded the higher Jain sex ratio of 954 females per thousand males. Map and table reveals that 06, 07, 08, 10 and 04 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively in this category.

Regarding Other Religion and Persuasions sex ratio, Haryana has received the highest ratio with 1293 females per thousand males followed by Dadra & Nagar Haveli (1254), Odisha (1030), Chhattisgarh (1026) and Madhya Pradesh (1021). On the other side of the scale, Lakshadweep accounted the lowest sex ratio of 167 females followed by Chandigarh (618), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (779), Goa (804) and Kerala (852). 08 states (Haryana, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya

Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram) and UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli have recorded the highest ratio above the national average of 1009 females in this category. It is observed that 06, 07, 08, 10 and 04 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively in this category.

At the time of collection of the Census data regarding religious communities, some people have not reported any religion, so it has been categorized as Religion Not Stated. In the context of this category, Tamil Nadu has recorded the highest sex ratio with 1122 followed by Puducherry (1107), Sikkim (1092), Arunachal Pradesh (1085) and Manipur (1074). On the other hand, Lakshadweep has recorded the lowest sex ratio with 561 females followed by Daman & Diu (571), Jammu & Kashmir (689), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (752) and Nagaland (772) in this category. 17 states (Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Punjab, Mizoram, Jharkhand, Odisha, Tripura and Haryana) and 03 UTs (Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Chandigarh) have recorded the highest sex ratio above the national average of 959 females in this category. Out of 35

states/UTs as per Census 2011, 12, 01, 01, 03 and 18 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively in this category.

Child Sex Ratio by Religious Communities:

The child sex ratio is 918 for all the religious communities. It was recorded 927 in 2001 Census. Child sex ratio among Sikhs (828) is the lowest among the major religious communities. Among Jains also the ratio is only 889 which are 29 points below the national average of 918. The child sex ratio among Hindus is 913. Other religious communities with child sex ratio higher than the national average include Muslims (943), Christians (958), Buddhists (933) and Other religious (974). The child sex ratio among religious not stated is 855 (**Chart-3**).

Table-3 has been prepared to show the state and UTs wise ranges while the regional distribution of child sex ratio of all religions has been shown in **Map-3**.

State-wise Hindu child sex ratio has been analysed and found that Mizoram has received the highest CSR with 979 followed by Chhattisgarh (969), Puducherry (968), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (966), Kerala (965) and Arunachal Pradesh (961). On the other side, Lakshadweep has registered the lowest CSR among Hindu religious

communities with 500 female child followed by Haryana (826), Jammu & Kashmir (834), NCT of Delhi (859) and Punjab (862). 19 states (Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, West Bengal, Sikkim, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Jharkhand, Goa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh) and 03 UTs (Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Dadra & Nagar Haveli) have recorded the higher CSR above the national average of 939 female child per thousand male child. Out of 35 states/UTs as per Census 2011, 11, 03, 10, 10 and 01 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively.

Regarding child sex ratio among Muslim religious community, Arunachal Pradesh has recorded the highest child sex ratio with 1013 females per thousand male child followed by Assam (965), Kerala, Bihar, Jharkhand and Puducherry (963) and Meghalaya (962). On the other hand, Jammu & Kashmir has registered the lowest ratio with 871 female child followed by Daman & Diu (874), Haryana (911), Lakshadweep (915) and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (916). 15 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Kerala, Bihar, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Odisha, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Himachal

Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Goa) and 02 UTs (Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands) have registered the higher child sex ratio above national average of 943 female child. In the context of religion distribution of Muslim child sex ratio, 02, 07, 14, 11 and 01 states fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively.

Under the category of Christians child sex ratio, Sikkim has recorded the highest CSR with 984 females child followed by Andaman & Nicobar Islands (977), Goa (975), Puducherry (973) and Mizoram (972). On the other hand, Lakshadweep has registered the lowest CSR with 667 female child followed by Haryana (857), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (877), Chandigarh (885) and Rajasthan (891). 14 states (Sikkim, Goa, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Assam, Kerala, Karnataka, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Tamil Nadu) and 03 UTs (Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Puducherry and NCT of Delhi) have the highest CSR above the national average of 958 females child. It is found in the analysis that out of 35 states/UTs as per 2011 Census, 07, 05, 05, 16 and 02 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively.

The study reveals that Daman & Diu accounted the highest Sikhs child sex ratio with 2000 female child followed by Puducherry (1833), Mizoram (1417), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (1125) and Arunachal Pradesh (1014). The lowest CSR is recorded in Jammu & Kashmir with 737 female child followed by Nagaland (757), Sikkim (758), Tripura (759) and Meghalaya (794). It is to note that 27 states/UTs have recorded the higher child sex ratio above the national average of 828 female child. Out of 35 states/UTs as per Census 2011, 22, 04, 02, 01 and 05 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively.

Regarding Buddhists child sex ratio, Daman & Diu has recorded the highest CSR with 1214 female child followed by Chandigarh (1125), Arunachal Pradesh (991), Meghalaya (981) and Nagaland (973). On the other hand, Puducherry has registered the lowest CSR with 743 child female followed by Tamil Nadu (854), Andhra Pradesh (858), Haryana (862) and Jharkhand (864). 12 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, West Bengal, Tripura, Mizoram, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh) and 03 UTs (Daman & Diu, Chandigarh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands) have recorded the highest CSR above the national

Average of 933 in this category. The study reveals that 09, 07, 06, 08 and 04 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively regarding Buddhists child sex ratio.

In the reference of Jain child sex ratio Andaman & Nicobar Islands has recorded the highest CSR with 3000 female child followed by Chandigarh (1027), Goa (1018), Puducherry (1000) and Bihar (987). On the other hand, Lakshadweep has registered the lowest CSR with 500 female child followed by Tripura (625), Meghalaya (714), Jammu & Kashmir (779) and Sikkim (789). It is noticed that 11 states (Goa, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Nagaland, Manipur, West Bengal, Karnataka and Assam) and 03 UTs (Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh and Puducherry) have recorded the highest CSR above the national average of 889 female child in this category. Out of 35 states/UTs as per 2011 Census, 22, 05, 03, 0 and 05 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975, and 976 and above respectively.

Regarding Other Religion and Persuasions, Uttarakhand has registered the highest CSR with 1683 female child followed by Andaman & Nicobar Islands (1458), Nagaland

(1158), Tripura (1157) and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (1088). While Puducherry accounted the lowest CSR with 409 female child followed by Chandigarh (588), Goa (643), Jammu & Kashmir (847) and Himachal Pradesh (894). It is noticed that 12 states (Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Tripura, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Odisha, West Bengal and Jharkhand) and 02 UTs (Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Dadra & Nagar Haveli) have registered the higher CSR above the national average of 974 female child in this category. Out of 35 states/UTs as per 2011 Census, 06, 02, 05, and 13 states/UTs fall in the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975, and 976 and above respectively in this category.

Under the category of Religion not Stated, Daman & Diu has recorded the highest CSR with 1467 female child followed by Arunachal Pradesh (1022), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (1012), Tripura (1002) and Goa (995) while Lakshadweep has registered the lowest CSR with 500 female child followed by Jammu & Kashmir (688), Haryana (778), Gujarat (790) and Punjab (799). 20 states and Union Territories have registered the higher CSR above the national average of 855 female child under this category. It is found in the study that 23, 01, 01, 02 and 08 states/UTs fall in

the range of 900 and below, 901-925, 926-950, 951-975 and 976 and above respectively.

Effective Literacy Rate by Religious Communities:

The study reveals the rate of literacy of the population computed for 2011 Census after excluding the population less than 7 years of age is found to be 72.98 percent for all the religious communities, male literacy percentage being 80.88 percent while the percentage for female being 64.63 percent. Except Muslims and Other religions, all the rest of the major religions have literacy rates higher than the national average. Jains have the highest total literacy rate of 94.88 percent followed by Christians with 84.53 percent. Buddhists with 81.29 percent occupy the third position. The lowest total literacy rate of 59.90 percent is found among other religions. Hindus have a total literacy rate of 73.27 percent which is slightly above the national average while Muslim has a total literacy rate of 68.54 percent below the national average (**Chart-4**).

The pattern of the total literacy rates emerged among the major religious communities is followed in general among males and females also. Jains have the highest literacy rates for both males (96.78 percent) and females (90.60 percent). In the second place Buddhists have 88.31 percent for

males while for females Christians have recorded 81.47 percent. On the other hand, for males, Christians (87.70 percent) occupy the third position, for females the position has gone to Sikhs (70.31 percent). In the context of Hindus, the male literacy rate (81.70 percent) is above the national average of 80.88 percent whereas the female literacy rate (64.34 percent) is slightly below the national average of 64.63 percent.

It is found in the study that the gap of male-female literacy rates is the lowest among Jains which is only 3.87 percent points against the national gender literacy gap of 16.25 percent points. Among Christians also the gap is as low as 6.23 percent points. The biggest gap is found against other religions (21.82 percent points) followed by Hindus (17.36 percent points), Religion not Stated (14.64 percent points), Buddhists (14.27 percent points) Muslims (12.69 percent points) and Sikhs (9.72 percent points).

States/UTs distribution of effective literacy rates of religious communities have shown in the **Map-4 and Table-4**. From the analysis of these maps, Lakshadweep has recorded the highest percentage of 93.94 percent in case of Hindu religious communities followed by Kerala (93.49 percent), Mizoram (91.78 percent), Goa (88.69 percent) and Tripura (88.16 percent). On the other

hand, Bihar has registered the lowest percentage with 62.85 percent followed by Rajasthan (66.04 percent), Andhra Pradesh (66.11 percent), Jharkhand (67.66 percent) and Madhya Pradesh (68.63 percent) in the same category. It is noticed that 19 states and all UTs (07) have recorded the higher percentage above the national average of 73.27 percent. While only 09 states recorded the lower percentage below the national average. Out of 35 states/UTs as per 2011 Census, 07, 03, 09, 06 and 10 states/UTs fall in the range of 70.00 and below, 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.00 and 85.01 and above respectively.

Regarding Muslims effective literacy rate, Kerala has recorded the highest percentage with 93.29 percent followed by Lakshadweep (91.74 percent), Puducherry (91.65 percent), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (91.51 percent) and Tamil Nadu (88.17 percent). On the other side, Haryana has accounted the lowest effective literacy rate of 53.39 percent followed by Meghalaya (54.00 percent), Bihar (56.34 percent), Nagaland (57.86 percent) and Uttar Pradesh (58.76 percent). It is found in the analysis of effective literacy rate that 14 states and all the 07 UTs have registered the higher literacy rate above national average of 68.54 percent while 14 states recorded below the national average. From the study of maps and table, it

reveals that 15, 03, 09, 06 and 10 states/UTs fall in the range of 70.00 and below, 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.00 and 85.01 and above respectively in this category.

Under the category of Christians effective literacy rate, Lakshadweep has registered the higher percentage with 98.40 percent followed by Kerala (96.49 percent), Mizoram (95.49 percent), NCT of Delhi (94.84 percent) and Daman & Diu (94.29 percent) while Arunachal Pradesh has registered the lowest literacy rate with 62.55 percent followed by Odisha (64.47 percent), Punjab (65.99 percent), Assam (67.00 percent) and Bihar (67.67 percent). 08 states (Kerala, Mizoram, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Uttarakhand and Tripura) and 05 UTs (Lakshadweep, NCT of Delhi, Daman & Diu, Chandigarh and Puducherry) have recorded the higher effective literacy rate above the national average of 84.53 percent. Out of 35 states/UT, 05, 03, 05, 09 and 13 states/UT fall in the range of 70.00 and below, 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.00 and 85.01 and above respectively in the category of effective literacy rate.

Regarding Sikhs effective literacy rate, Lakshadweep has enumerated the 100 percent literacy rate in the country followed by Daman & Diu (96.10 percent), Nagaland (96.08 percent),

Sikkim (95.80 percent) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (95.52 percent) while Rajasthan has registered the lowest literacy rate of 70.07 percent followed by Punjab (73.64 percent), Haryana (75.40 percent), Andhra Pradesh (78.09 percent) and Uttar Pradesh (79.35 percent). It is very interesting to note that only two states namely Punjab and Rajasthan have reported below the national average of 75.39 percent while all states UTs (33) have recorded the higher literacy rate above national average in this category. Out of 35 states/UTs, there is no state/UTs fall in the range of 70.00 and below while 02, 04, 02, and 27 states/UTs fall in the range of 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.00 and 85.01 and above respectively.

In case of Buddhists effective literacy rate, Kerala has recorded the highest percentage of 95.34 percent followed by Daman & Diu (93.01 percent), Chandigarh (92.58 percent), Goa (92.35 percent) and Puducherry (91.79 percent). On the other hand, Mizoram has recorded the lowest literacy rate of 48.11 percent followed by Arunachal Pradesh (57.89 percent), Andhra Pradesh (67.68 percent), Uttar Pradesh (68.59 percent) and Jammu & Kashmir (68.79 percent) in this category. All the Union Territory (Daman & Diu, Chandigarh, Puducherry, Andaman &

Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, NCT of Delhi and Dadra & Nagar Haveli) and 08 states (Kerala, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Haryana) have registered the higher percentage above the national average of 81.29 percent. The pattern of Buddhists effective literacy rate shows that 05, 02, 10, 07 and 11 states/UTs fall in the range of 70.00 and below, 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.01 and 85.01 and above respectively in this category.

Regarding Jains effective literacy rate, Chandigarh has recorded the highest percentage of 98.51 percent followed by NCT of Delhi (97.77 percent), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (97.55 percent), Chhattisgarh (97.24 percent) and Kerala (97.08 percent). The lowest effective literacy rate is found in Arunachal Pradesh with 60.62 percent followed by Mizoram (72.33 percent), Bihar (85.36 percent), Meghalaya (85.82 percent) and Lakshadweep (87.50 percent). 12 states and 06 UTs have registered the higher Jain effective literacy rate above national average of 94.88 percent while 16 states and 01 UT have recorded the lower percentage below the national average. Out of 35 states/UTs, 33 states fall in the range of 85.01 and above while only 01 each state/UT fall in the range of 70.00 and below and 70.01-75.00 respectively.

In the range of 75.01-80.00 and 80.01-85.00, there is no state/UT fall in this category.

Under the category of Other Religion and Persuasions, Lakshadweep has registered 100 percent effective literacy rate. The other higher effective literacy rate is found in Mizoram (97.04 percent) Daman & Diu (96.10 percent), Tripura (91.99 percent), and Goa (91.91 percent). On the other hand, the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has recorded the lowest effective literacy rate of 43.37 percent. The other lower percentage is found in Jammu & Kashmir (45.38 percent), Bihar (47.20 percent), Odisha (54.48 percent) and Jharkhand (56.39 percent). In the study of national average, it is found that 30 states/UT are above the national average while only 05 states/UT are it's below in this category. Out of 35 states/UT as per Census 2011, 13, 03, 04, 05 and 10 states/UT fall in the range of 70.00 and below, 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.01 and 85.01 and above respectively as shown in the respective map and table.

Regarding Religion not Stated, Lakshadweep has registered the effective literacy rate of 96.15 percent followed by Kerala (90.40 percent), Mizoram (89.01 percent), Daman & Diu (88.94 percent) and Goa (87.37 percent) while Andaman & Nicobar Islands has recorded the

lowest rate of 39.60 percent followed by Arunachal Pradesh (62.89 percent), Jharkhand (63.15 percent), Bihar (64.24 percent) and Rajasthan (67.80 percent). 22 states/UT have accounted the higher literacy rate above the national average of 74.69 percent while 13 states/UTs are its below. 06 states/UTs fall in the range of 70.00 and below as shown in the map and table followed by 07, 10, 03 and 09 states/UTs fall in the range of 70.01-75.00, 75.01-80.00, 80.01-85.00 and 85.01 and above respectively in this category.

Work Participation Rate by Religious Communities:

Work participation rate, i.e, the percentage of workers to total population for all the religious community is 39.80 percent in 2011 Census. Religious Communities which have work participation rate above the national average in descending order are other religion and persuasions (48.50 percent), Buddhists (43.15 percent), Christians (41.91 percent) and Hindus (41.04). Religion not stated has the lowest participation rate of 31.32 percent followed by Muslims (32.57 percent), Jains (35.53 percent) and Sikhs (36.32 percent) as shown in **Chart-5**.

Male work participation rate for all the religious communities in 2011 Census is 53.26 percent. The highest work participation rate is

found in Christians with 63.98 percent followed by Jains with 59.31 percent, Sikhs with 54.98 percent, and Hindu with 53.91 percent. Male work participation rate for Christians, Jains, Sikhs and Hindus are above the national average. On the other hand, the lowest work participation rate is found in Religious not stated with 36.84 percent followed by Other religions and persuasions (47.13 percent), Muslims (49.92 percent) and Buddhists (52.91 percent). The above described religions under the category of lowest work participation rate are below the national average of 53.26 percent.

In reference of female work participation rate, Other religion and persuasions have recorded the highest percentage with 43.82 percent followed by Buddhists (32.54 percent), Christians (31.16 percent) and Hindus (27.35 percent). Thus 04 religious communities have higher percentage above national average while 04 religious communities are reported it's below in this category.

The gender gap in the work participation rate is particularly very large among Jains (47.04 percent points), Sikhs (39.82 percent points), Muslims (35.15 percent points), Christians (32.82 percent points), even as the gap at the national level being 27.74 percent points.

Table-5 reveals that the ranges of states/UTs wise distribution of work participation rate of religious communities. State/UT wise pattern of Hindus work participation rate in India, Lakshadweep has recorded the highest percentage with 86.86 percent followed by Mizoram (55.17 percent), Himachal Pradesh (52.11 percent), Sikkim (50.99 percent) and Daman & Diu (50.65 percent) while NCT of Delhi has registered the lowest rate with 33.58 percent followed by Uttar Pradesh (33.59 percent), Bihar (33.95 percent), Punjab (35.62 percent) and Haryana (35.70 percent). 18 states (Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Goa, Assam and Meghalaya) and 03 UTs (Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu, and Dadra & Nagar Haveli) have registered the higher work participation rate above the national average of 41.04 percent. The rest of the states/UTs are below the national average. Out of 35 states/UTs as per Census 2011, 03 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.00 and below while 09 states/UTs each fall in the range of 35.01-40.00, 40.01-45.00 and 45.01-50.00 respectively. Only 05 states/UTs fall in the range of 50.01 and above

under the category of work participation rate by religious communities.

Regarding Muslims work participation rate, Mizoram has registered the highest percentage with 57.34 percent followed by Sikkim (51.56 percent), Himachal Pradesh (48.67 percent), Nagaland (46.91 percent) and Arunachal Pradesh (44.95 percent). On the other side, Kerala has recorded the lowest work participation rate of 24.53 percent followed by Lakshadweep (27.10 percent), Puducherry (27.76 percent), Haryana (28.83 percent) and Uttarakhand (29.58 percent). 19 states and 04 Union Territories have registered the higher work participation rate above the national average of 32.57 percent while 09 states and 03 Union Territories have registered its below. It is found in the study that 18, 09, 04, 02 and 02 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.00 and below, 35.01-40.00, 40.01-45.00, 45.01-50.00 and 50.01 and above respectively.

In the context of Christians work participation rate, Lakshadweep has recorded the highest percentage of 89.91 percent. The other higher percentages are found in Chhattisgarh (50.41 percent), Nagaland (49.27 percent), Himachal Pradesh (48.81 percent) and Sikkim (48.79 percent). The lowest work participation rate is found in Goa with 34.78 percent. The other

lower percentage is found in Punjab (35.77 percent), Uttar Pradesh (36.20 percent), Kerala (36.92 percent) and Puducherry (36.96 percent). 21 states and UTs are above the national average of 41.91 percent while 14 states/UTs are its below in this category. Out of 35 states/UTs as per Census 2011, only 01 state fall in the range of 35.00 and below while 08 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.01-40.00 and 15 states/UTs fall in the range of 40.01-45.00. 09 and 02 states/UTs fall under the range of 45.01-50.00 and 50.01 and above respectively.

Regarding Sikhs work participation rate, Sikkim has registered the highest percentage with 89.24 percent followed by Arunachal Pradesh (81.38 percent), Nagaland (76.88 percent), Mizoram (66.78 percent) and Tripura (65.14 percent). On the other hand, Bihar has recorded the the lowest percentage of work participation rate with 33.47 percent followed by Jharkhand (39.71 percent), Chhattisgarh (34.25 percent), NCT of Delhi (34.41 percent) and Haryana (35.06 percent). 27 states/UTs have recorded the higher percentage above the national average of 36.32 percent while only 08 states/UTs recorded its below in this category. From the analysis of the table it reveals that 04 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.00 and below. 14, 08, 03 and 06 states/UTs fall in the

range of 35.01-40.00, 40.01-45.00, 45.01-50.00 and 50.01 and above respectively under the category of work participation rate by religious communities.

Under the category of Buddhists work participation rate, Lakshadweep has received the highest percentage with 80 percent followed by Himachal Pradesh (50.70 percent), Sikkim (49.47 percent), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (46.85 percent) and Andhra Pradesh (46.72 percent). On the other hand, Andaman & Nicobar Islands has recorded the lowest percentage with 27.81 percent followed by Kerala (28.28 percent), Chandigarh (30.09 percent), Meghalaya (30.67 percent) and Puducherry (32.37 percent). 13 states/UTs recorded the higher work participation rate above the national average of 43.15 percent while the rest of states/UTs are its below. Out of 35 states/UTs, 08 states/UTs each fall in the range of 35.00 and below and 35.01-40.00 respectively. 12 states/UTs fall in the range of 40.01-45.00 and 05 and 02 states/UTs fall in the range of 45.01-50.00 and 50.01 and above respectively.

Regarding Jains work participation, Sikkim has registered the highest percentage with 49.36 percent followed by Arunachal Pradesh (42.93 percent), Himachal Pradesh (40.17 percent), Manipur (40.13 percent) and Goa (40.04 percent)

while Puducherry has recorded the lowest percentage with 30.93 percent followed by Bihar (31.15 percent), Uttar Pradesh (33.45 percent), Rajasthan (33.68 percent) and Chhattisgarh (33.95 percent). Lakshadweep has registered zero percent in this category. 19 states/UTs have recorded the higher work participation rate above the national average of 35.53 percent while the rest of states/UTs recorded its below in this category. 14 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.00 and below while 16, 04, 01 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.01-40.00, 40.01-45.00 and 45.01-50.00 respectively. It is noticed that there is no state/UT fall in the range of 50.01 and above respectively.

Under the category of Other religions and persuasions work participation rate, Nagaland has recorded the highest rate with 59.09 percent. The other higher work participation rate was found in Chhattisgarh (56.46 percent), Madhya Pradesh (55.81 percent), Himachal Pradesh (52.22 percent) and Sikkim (51.55 percent). On the other side, Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has received the lowest work participation rate with 27.66 percent. The other lower work participation rate recorded in Lakshadweep (28.57 percent), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (26.69 percent), Daman & Diu (30.38 percent) and Jammu & Kashmir (31.83 percent). It is found in the study

that, 09 states (Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha and Maharashtra) have recorded the higher work participation rate above the national average with 48.50 percent while the rest of the state/UTs have registered its below. The table and map reveals that 06, 05, 09, 08 and 07 states/UT fall in the range of 35.00 and below, 35.01-40.00, 40.01-45.00, 45.01-50.00 and 50.01 and above respectively in this category.

In respect of Religion not stated category, Daman & Diu has recorded the highest work participation rate with 48.57 percent followed by Andaman & Nicobar Islands (47.09 percent), Sikkim (40.65 percent), Nagaland (40.33 percent) and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (39.84 percent) while Chandigarh has recorded the lowest work participation rate with 22.19 percent followed by Arunachal Pradesh (25.20 percent), Bihar (25.62 percent), Haryana (25.67 percent) and Uttar Pradesh (27.38 percent). It is to note that 18 states/UTs have recorded the higher work participation rate above the national average of 31.32 percent and the rest of the states/UTs were found its below as shown in the table and map. In the analysis of the data and map it is found that 22 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.00 and below while 09 states/UTs fall in the range of 35.01-

40.00. 02 states/UTs each fall in the range of 45.01-50.00. There is no state/UT fall in the range of 50.01 and above.

Conclusion:

It is clear from the above analysis regarding regional distribution of religious communities that Hindus account 79.80 percent of the total population of the country. Hindus are in minority in states/UTs like Mizoram, Lakshadweep, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Jammu & Kashmir. Muslims are the second largest religions communities in India, accounts religious majority community in Lakshadweep, Jammu & Kashmir and Assam. Christians are the third largest community in the country widespread in Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya. Punjab is a Sikh majority state. The other Sikhs community in majority is found in Chandigarh, Haryana and NCT of Delhi. Sikkim has enumerated the majority of Buddhists population. The majority of Jains religious communities are found in Maharashtra. Arunachal Pradesh, the state of North East accounted the major religious communities of Other Religion and Persuasions. In case of Religion not stated, Arunachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have the majority of only 0.48 percent equally. The highest Sex ratio is seen among Christians while the lowest is among Sikhs. Only

Hindus and Sikhs are below the national average while the rest are above the average. Kerala has recorded the highest Sex ratio among Hindus and Muslim religious community. The decline in the Child sex ratio is nine points in 2011 Census is a major cause of worry among the planners, demographers and researchers. Lower sex ratio among children is indicative of more females than males among child population which may lead to demographic imbalance over time if the trend continues in future. Of the eight religious communities in India, Jains have the highest total effective literacy rate followed by Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims. Except Muslims and Other religions, all the rest of the major religions have effective literacy rate higher than the national average. It is need to improve in the literacy rate of Muslim community along with other religions. Other religion and persuasions, Buddhists, Christian and Hindus have work participation rate above the national average. The diversity in religious community regarding work participation rate were more pronounced in case of female work participation rate accounted in Christians followed by Jains, Sikhs and Hindus while the lowest is found in Religions not stated, Other religions and persuasions, Muslims and Buddhists. In case of female work participation

rate, Other religion and persuasions has the highest percentage followed by Buddhists, Christians and Hindus.

It is concluded that people of all religions are spread all over the country. People of Sikhism need special attention about sex ratio. Apart from this, people of Hindu, Sikh and Jain religions have special attention regarding child sex ratio. There is

a need for special awareness on the education of women of Hindu, Muslim and other religions because all the development of the people of all religions can be done through education. In almost all religions, the work participation rate of men is higher than women. Women also need to be empowered and this is the demand of the present time.

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Table-1: Distribution of population by religious communities in India

Religious Communities	Population (in '000)	Proportion to total population
All religious communities	121,08,55	100.0
Hindus	96,62,57	79.8
Muslims	17,22,45	14.2
Christians	2,78,20	2.3
Sikhs	2,08,33	1.7
Buddhists	84,43	0.7
Jains	44,52	0.4
Other Religions & Persuasions	79,38	0.7
Religion not stated	28,67	0.2

Source: Census of India, 2011

Chart-1: Percentage of population by religious communities in India

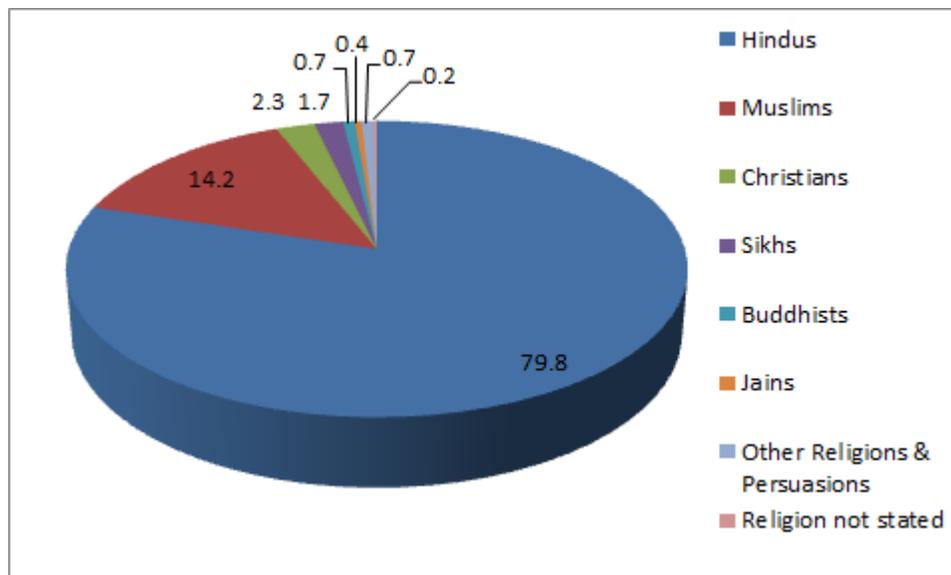


Chart-2: Sex Ratio by religious communities in India

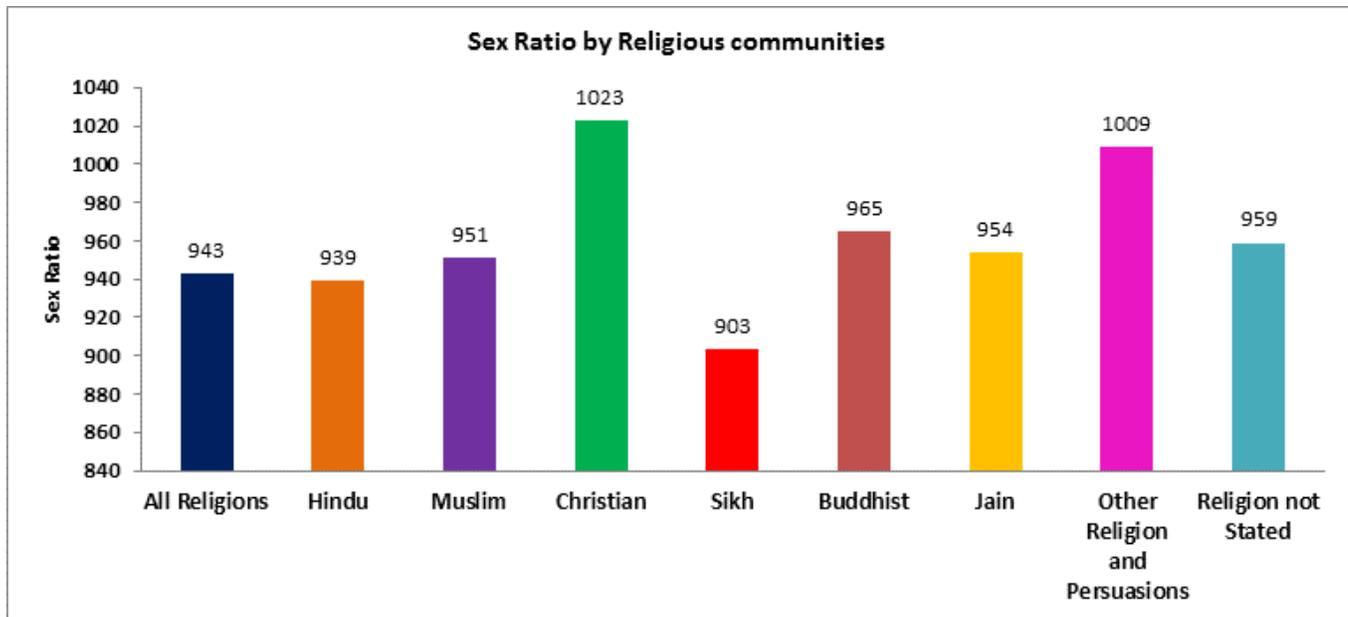


Table-2: Sex Ratio by religious communities in India

Range/Sex Ratio by Religious Community	Number of States/UTs								
	All Religions	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist	Jain	Other Religion and Persuasions	Religion not Stated
900 and Below	19	14	12	03	25	12	06	09	12
901 - 925	03	03	04	02	02	07	07	04	01
926 - 950	08	06	07	03	03	05	08	01	01
951 - 975	06	04	06	05	05	07	10	06	03
976 and Above	09	08	06	22	22	04	04	15	18

Source: Computed by Researcher

Map-2: Sex Ratio by religious communities in India

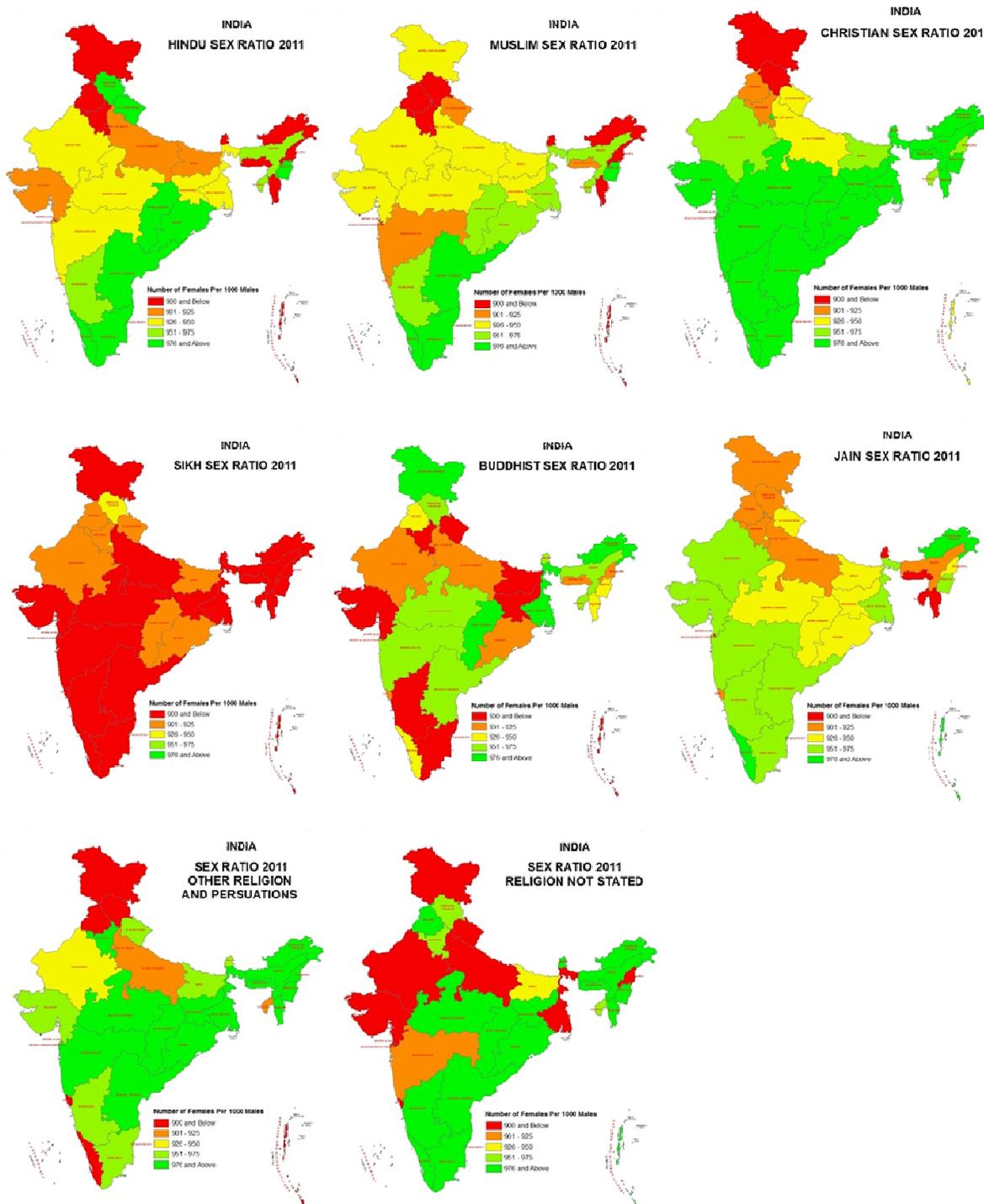


Chart-3: Child Sex Ratio by religious communities in India

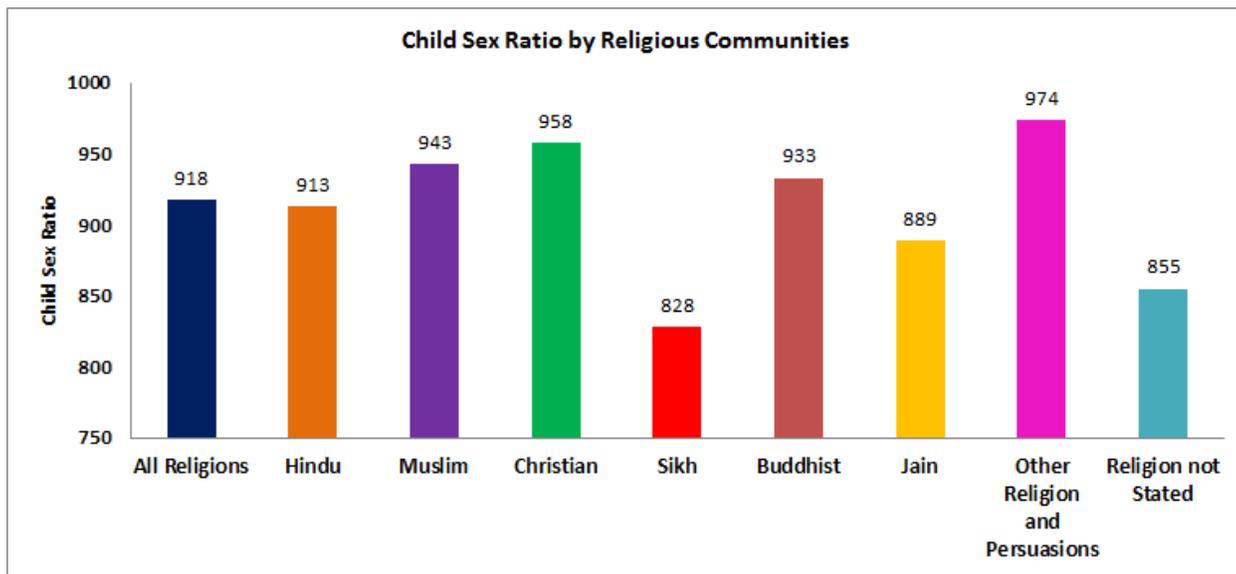


Table-3: Child Sex Ratio by religious communities in India

Range/Child Sex ratio by religious communities	Number of States/UTs								
	All Religions	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist	Jain	Other Religion and Persuasions	Religion not Stated
900 and Below	09	11	02	07	22	09	22	06	23
901 - 925	05	03	07	05	04	07	05	02	01
926 - 950	10	10	14	05	02	06	03	05	01
951 - 975	11	10	11	16	01	08	0	07	02
976 and Above	0	01	01	02	05	04	05	13	08

Source: Computed by Researcher

Map-3: Child Sex Ratio by religious communities in India

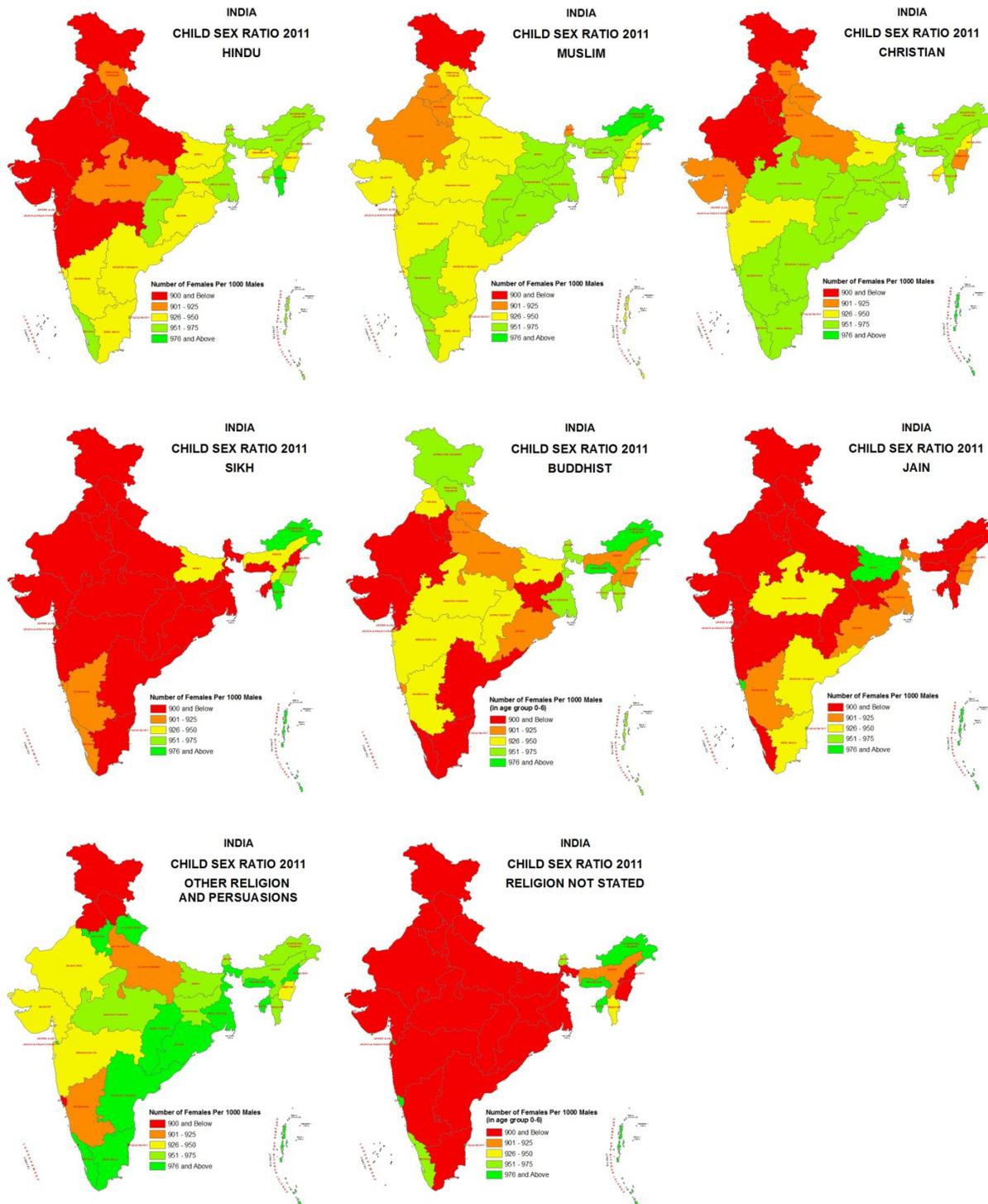
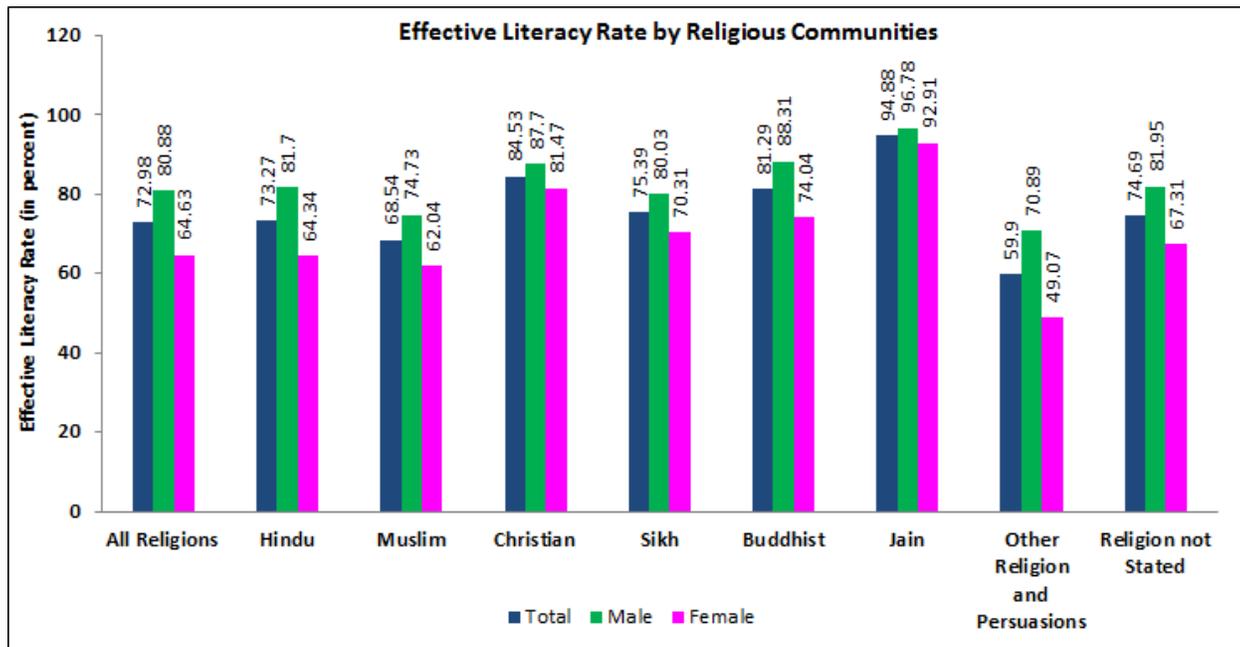


Table-4: Effective literacy rate by religious communities in India

Range/Effective Literacy Rate by Religious Communities	Number of States/UTs								
	All Religions	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist	Jain	Other Religion and Persuasions	Religion not Stated
70.00 and Below	08	07	15	05	0	05	01	13	06
70.01 - 75.00	04	03	03	03	02	02	01	03	07
75.01 - 80.00	09	09	05	05	04	10	0	04	10
80.01 - 85.00	04	06	05	09	02	07	0	05	03
85.01 and Above	10	10	07	13	27	11	33	10	09

Source: Computed by Researcher

Chart-4: Effective literacy rate by religious communities in India



Map-4: Effective literacy rate by religious communities in India

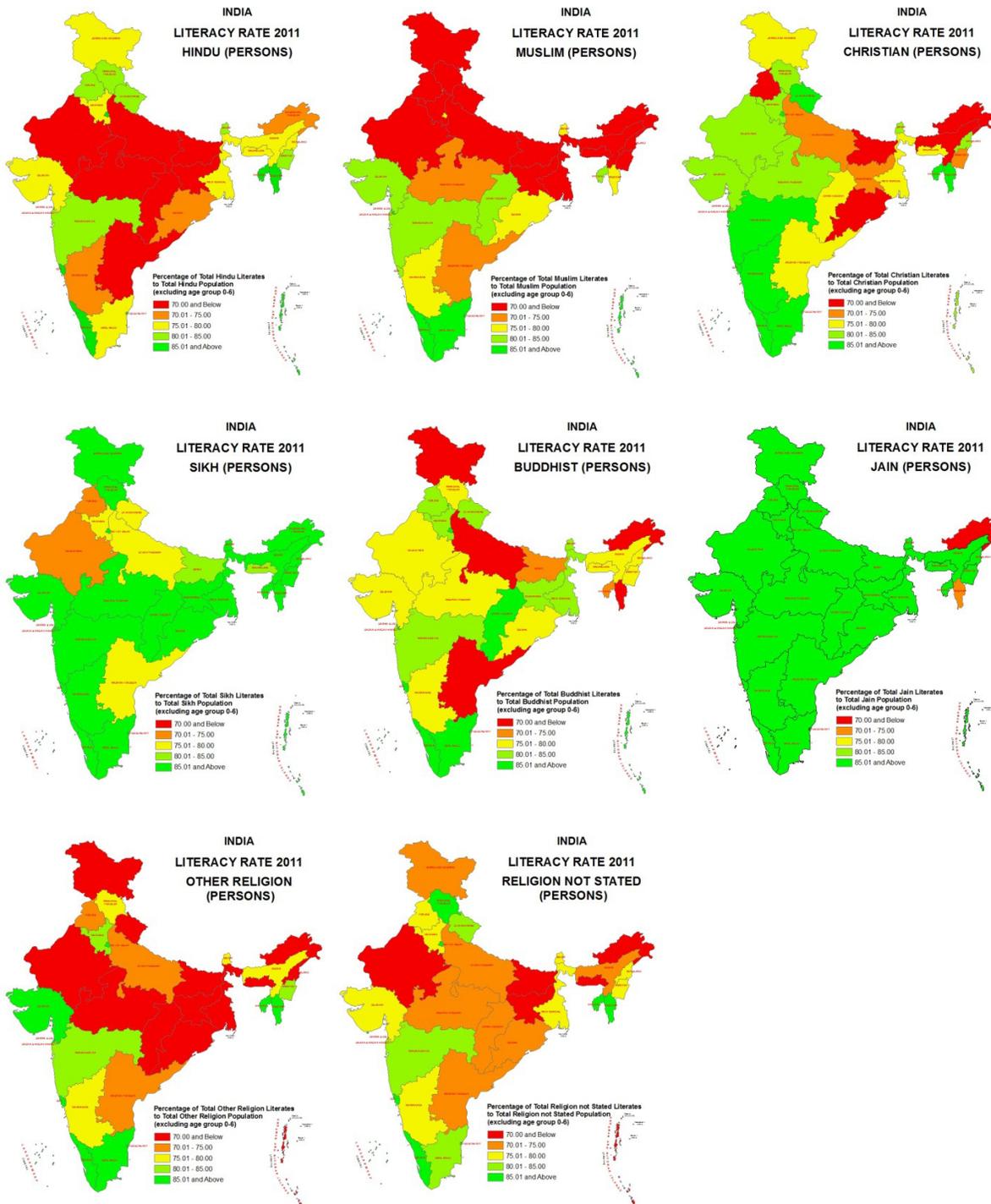


Chart-5: Work Participation Rate by religious communities in India

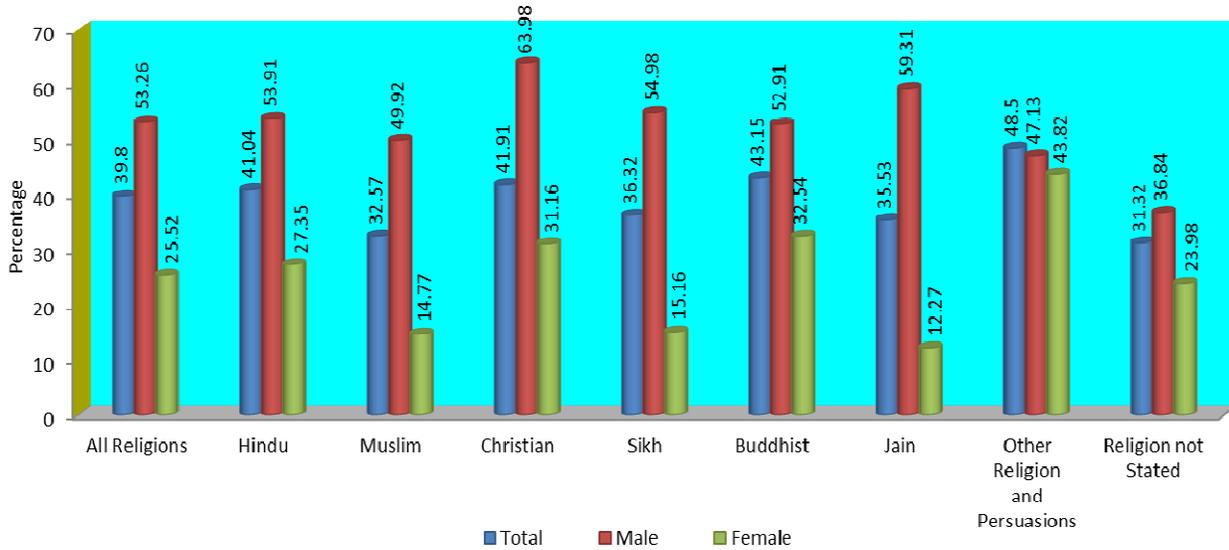


Table-5: Work Participation Rate by religious communities in India

Range (Work Participation Rate by Religious Communities)	Number of States/UTs								
	All Religions	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist	Jain	Other Religion and Persuasions	Religion not Stated
35.00 and Below	06	03	18	01	04	08	14	06	22
35.01 - 40.00	11	09	09	08	14	08	16	05	09
40.01 - 45.00	08	09	04	15	08	12	04	09	02
45.01 - 50.00	08	09	02	09	03	05	01	08	02
50.01 and Above	02	05	02	02	06	02	0	07	0

Source: Computed by Researcher