



## Migration Dynamics: An Analysis of J&K

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### ABSTRACT

*The primary mandate of current study has been to analyze the migration and its different aspects in case of Jammu and Kashmir based on census 2001. So we have analysed migration from the aspects of pattern, stream, composition and reason. It was found that intra-district migration is the main pattern of migration in state followed mainly through the stream of rural-rural migration. The marriage has been a vibrant reason for both intra-district and inter-district migration while as the employment has been the main reason in case of inter-state migration. Punjab, UP, HP and Bihar were found to be the major sources of in-migration for the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Substantial inter-division and inter-district variations have been documented in case of in-migration between the three divisions of state with Jammu division receiving the highest over-all in-migrants. Employment was found to be the main reason for the in-migration followed by the reason of marriage. It was found that as the age group of in-migrated persons increase so does their educational standards. The proportion of Marginal workers was found to be higher followed by non-workers. The major destinations for out-migrants have been Punjab, Bihar, Delhi, Himachal and UP. Employment, Business and education scored comparatively better as reasons for out-migration for all states except Bihar in which case Marriage was found to be significant. The proportion of out-migration was found to be of longer durations as compared to the seasonal movement.*

**Key words:** In-migration, out-migration, marriage, employment, business.

### INTRODUCTION

Migration has become a global challenge especially on the advent of 21<sup>st</sup> century. The story of human civilization, in other words, is a story of migration too, though with different magnitudes and motives. Migration is a form of mobility in which people change their usual place of residential location across defined administrative boundaries for a variety of reasons, which may be voluntary or involuntary, or a combination of both. The decision on whether to migrate, how to migrate and where to migrate is a complex process and could involve a variety of factors in different ways” (Srivastava, 2012). In the contemporary context, migration can be categorized as: a) internal migration [movement of people from one area to another area of the same country]



and b) international migration [movement from one country to another country]. Based on the particular location, migration can be categorized as in-migration and out-migration.

Migration is influenced by various factors. Those favorable factors/conditions (better opportunities of employment, education, health care services etc) in an external location “pull” people in and those unfavorable factors/conditions (poverty, social insecurity, ethnic conflict and political instability) in a place “push” people out. Migration decision is thus a complex process. Migration is defined broadly as a permanent or semi permanent change of residence. It has a place of origin and place of destination. The decision to migrate is the result of the comparison between the attractive & repulsive factors of both the areas - Lee, 1966.

The case of Jammu and Kashmir has been a balanced mixture of all these forces over the time governing its migration process. The Jammu and Kashmir under its native rulers have seen consistent progress and prosperity and hence huge in-migration. But things saw a dramatic reversal following the partition of India into a Muslim majority Pakistan and a Secular India, with its strong repercussions on the state of J&K. All these developments along with the insurgency that erupted during 1990's took a very heavy toll on the migration scenario of the state.

The present study has been executed to highlight the dynamics of migration for the state of Jammu and Kashmir according to the census 2001. The main focus will be to highlight the different aspects of migration which includes migrants from different states of the country as a well as out-migrants from the region to the rest of the country. Though a comparative analysis could have better served the purposes, but unfortunately the data regarding 2011 is yet to be updated and those of 1991 and 1981 are not available. The study will add up to the already existing literature of migration in J&K, though quite insignificant.

### **PATTERN & STREAMS OF MIGRATION IN THE STATE:**

The general pattern of migration in J& K is mainly dominated by intra-district migration followed by inter-district migration and inter-state migration. The intra-district migrants in the state according to Census 2001 were 91% while inter-district migrants were 17% & inter-state migrants were only 9% [see table 1]. It is quite evident from the Census data that short-distance migration is prominent in the state as a whole. As can be documented from the table 1, the inter-state migration is quite low as compared to other two ingredients. There is a multitude of reasons for such a state of affairs. The consistent political instability, hostile terrain, rising security concerns, separate citizenship laws and above all the insurgency of 1990's are some of the active players for such a scenario.

There are generally four major stream of migration in India and they are: Rural-rural, Rural-Urban, Urban-rural & Urban-urban migration. Each pattern of migration (intra-district, inter-district & inter-state) can be acknowledged under the different streams of migration. We have tried to analyze the same in case of Jammu and Kashmir. The highest inter-state in-migration has been in case of urban to urban followed by rural to urban. On an average the female populace constitutes a major portion of the total in-migrating workers.



In case of intra-district migration, the relative importance of rural-rural migration is quite dominant. This is followed by urban-urban migration, urban-rural and finally by rural-urban migration. In case of inter-district, the prominence has been acquired by urban-urban followed by rural-rural, rural-urban and finally by urban-rural. The similar case has been experienced in case of inter-state migration<sup>1</sup>. The urban-urban movement is on the top of list followed by rural urban, rural-rural and urban-rural. A welcome development that can be taken notice from table 1 is the proportion of female migrants in all the three patterns of migration. Though in case of intra and inter-district migration these trends may be on part of marriages and all but in case of inter-state they may exhibit a better scenario of work for the female populace.

Table 1: showing pattern of migration in J&K

Intra-district			
	Total	Male	Female
Rural-rural	84%	16%	84%
Rural-urban	16%	39%	61%
Urban-rural	33%	31%	69%
Urban-urban	67%	44%	56%
Inter-district			
	Total	Male	Female
Rural-rural	55%	35%	65%
Rural-urban	45%	53%	47%
Urban-rural	21%	42%	58%
Urban-urban	79%	49%	51%
Inter-state			
	Total	Male	Female
Rural-rural	35%	42%	58%
Rural-urban	65%	54%	46%
Urban-rural	24%	45%	55%
Urban-urban	76%	45%	55%

Source D2 table of migration, Census 200, compact disk

### MAJOR STATES OF IN-MIGRANTS IN J&K

As in case of other states of Indian union, the state of Jammu and Kashmir has not been able to attract significant amount of migrants from other states. The most in-migrating states in J&K are Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh. The first place as occupied by Punjab may be explained in terms of

<sup>1</sup> The inter-state migration that is referred here constitutes only the in-migration from others states in Jammu and Kashmir. The out-migration will be discussed ahead.



least distance between Punjab and Jammu region of the state. Yet another reason may be in terms of much common cultural and linguistic specificity of people of Jammu division with those of northern Punjab.

	In-migrants in J&K	Male	Female
Punjab	27%	37%	63%
Uttar Pradesh	13%	62%	38%
Chhattisgarh	9%	57%	43%
Himachal Pradesh	6%	44%	56%
Bihar	8%	66%	34%

Table 2: showing the source of in-migration in J&K

Source: D1 table of migration, Census 2001, compact disk

Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Bihar may be explained owing to the seasonal migration of a huge amount of laborers especially barbers from Uttar Pradesh, manual laborers from Bihar and Chhattisgarh along with other states.

In terms of the reception of these migrants from different states in different districts, the scenario is found to be skewed in favor of better developed districts. From the state of HP, Anantanag and Leh have received highest number of in-migrants. From the state of Punjab, Jammu division in particular and districts like Kathua, Poonch and Jammu have received a huge proportion. From the state of Uttar Pradesh, it is Kashmir division that has experienced a more dependence especially the districts of Badgam, Srinagar and Pulwama. Similarly migrants from Bihar mostly prefer Kupwara as their favored place of destination. In case of Chhattisgarh the move has been mainly towards Jammu division and its constituent districts. As can be seen from the table 3, UP and Bihar have strongly contributed to the migration pool of Kashmir division. While as, on an average, Punjab, Bihar and Chhattisgarh have made heavy contribution to the Jammu division. However, in case of Ladakh the state of UP and Bihar have a substantial presence.

Table 3: District wise in-migration from various states

District wise in-migrants	Himachal Pradesh	Punjab	Uttar Pradesh	Bihar	Chattisgarh
Jammu	5%	27%	11%	8%	13%
Srinagar	3%	9%	20%	12%	0%
Leh	14%	10%	16%	8%	0%
Pulwama	3%	6%	17%	9%	0%
Badgam	2%	6%	28%	13%	0%
Anantanag	16%	8%	16%	6%	0%
Kargil	4%	7%	17%	9%	0%



Doda	16%	19%	23%	12%	1%
Udampur	6%	18%	17%	10%	3%
Kupwara	0%	2%	8%	23%	6%
Baramulla	5%	21%	15%	5%	0%
Punch	5%	31%	12%	6%	8%
Rajouri	7%	15%	21%	6%	8%
Kathua	9%	54%	7%	8%	8%

Source: D1 table of migration, Census 2001, Compact disk

## REASONS OF MIGRATION

The decision to migrate is always guided by the reason under-lying the same, so is the case in our present study. However, the reasons of migration are not time, type and region invariant as they undergo changes with the change in circumstances. Accordingly different reasons have been documented in present case differing along the patterns and streams of migration. In case of Intra-district migration, 'marriage', 'moved after birth' and 'Other' reason were found to be the major incentives of migration. Employment or work related reason which is considered to be one of the most important incentives of migration is found to be just 3%. This only shows that people do not move intra-district for work related reason. This may also explain the scenario of dominant intra-district female migration as contextualized in the table 1 above.

In the case of inter-district migration, marriages were found to be the major driving forces of migration. Education and business does not find any appreciable mention as they are almost non-existent in this case. Moving to the inter-state migration, employment with 23 percent has been on the top as a galvanizing factor for migration. The marriage with a score of 15 percent is indexed at second place as an incentive to carry on an inter-state migration decision [see table 4].

Table 4: showing distribution of migrants according to purposes

Reason of migration	Intra-district	Inter-district	Inter-state
Work/employment	3%	11%	23%
Business	0%	1%	1%
Education	1%	2%	1%
Marriage	44%	22%	15%
Moved after birth	44%	2%	1%
Moved with household	1%	2%	1%
Other	44%	41%	24%

Source: D3 table on migration, Census 2001, compact disk

So what we could establish from the above table is that female population has mostly dominated the case of marriage related reason while as male population has dominated the case of employment related reason under the three different pattern of migration. However the finding of surprise during the study was the role of



education as an incentivizing factor which was found to be just 1 percent in case of inter-state movement. One reason for such a scenario may be that the trend as is prevalent right now in Jammu and Kashmir, especially related to education induced inter-state migration might have been quite weak and insignificant in relation to other factors in 2001.

As it has been discussed earlier the major in-migrating states in J&K are Punjab followed by Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Himachal Pradesh. In case of Himachal Pradesh the dominant reasons have been marriage (30%), followed by employment (14%) besides movement with household and others.

Table 5: relative distribution of reasons of in-migration

Reason of migration	Himachal Pradesh	Punjab	Uttar Pradesh	Bihar	Chhattisgarh
Work/employment	14%	17%	23%	37%	49%
Business	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%
Education	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Marriage	30%	37%	4%	5%	3%
Moved after Birth	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Moved with HH	26%	27%	42%	33%	33%
Others	26%	16%	18%	28%	14%

Source: D3 table of migration, Census, 2001, compact disk

People from Punjab have mainly migrated to the state for marriage related reason followed by 'moved along with household' and 'employment' related reason. In case of Uttar Pradesh 42% of the migrants move along with the household followed by 'employment' related reason. It may be worth noting that 'moved along with household' mean migrants who move along with the earning member of the household. This may include children, siblings, housewife and parents etc. In the case of Bihar, 23% of the migrants have work or employment related reason followed by 'moved along with household'. In case of Chhattisgarh 49% of the migrants have migrated for work or employment related reason.

### MIGRANT PROFILE OF IN-MIGRANTS IN J& K

As can be seen from the table 6 a vast majority of in-migrants in the state of Jammu and Kashmir are either illiterate or they are below the matriculation. However as the age group increases so does the level of education increases as can be seen from the age group of 35-39 and 40-59 where in we have more post-graduates.



Table 6: distribution of literacy profile of in-migrants in J& K

Migrants age group	Illiterate	Literate	below matric/sec <sup>2</sup>	Above matric & below graduation	diploma/certificate not equal <sup>3</sup> to degree	Graduation above other than technical degree <sup>4</sup>	Tech degree or diploma/post-graduate degree
0-14 year	16%	15%	29%	0%	0%	0%	0%
15-19 year	3%	10%	10%	15%	3%	0%	0%
20-24 year	6%	12%	9%	17%	18%	13%	12%
25-29 year	9%	13%	11%	16%	18%	18%	17%
30-34 year	9%	11%	9%	13%	11%	16%	15%
35-39 year	11%	11%	9%	11%	15%	15%	14%
40-59 years	29%	21%	17%	22%	29%	32%	36%
60 + yrs	16%	6%	6%	4%	6%	5%	6%

Source: D4 table of migration, Census 2001, compact disk

In case of reasons of migration and the corresponding age groups, the employment /work along with business and education seem to be quite neutral.

Table 7: distribution of age profile of the in-migrants and their reason of migration

Ages of the in-migrants	Reason of migration for the in-migrants from the rest of the country to J&k						
	Work/empl	Business	Education	Marriage	Moved after birth	Moved with HH	Others
0-14	0%	0%	1%	0%	5%	26%	67%
15-19	4%	0%	4%	8%	2%	19%	62%
20-24	8%	0%	2%	37%	1%	12%	40%
25-29	8%	1%	1%	50%	0%	10%	31%

<sup>2</sup> Below and secondary level of education

<sup>3</sup> Diploma/certificate which is not equal to degree course

<sup>4</sup> Graduation and above other than the technical degree





30-34	8%	1%	0%	52%	0%	9%	30%
35-39	8%	1%	0%	51%	0%	9%	31%
40-59	8%	1%	0%	47%	0%	8%	35%
60-79	4%	1%	0%	45%	0%	10%	39%
80+	4%	1%	0%	44%	0%	13%	39%

Source: D5 table of migration, Census 2001, compact disk

However in case of marriage, as the age groups increase so does the in-migration induced by marriages increase. In case of movement induced by movement of household is concerned, it decreases with the increase in the age group and hence supports the hypothesis of increasing age means lesser dependence.

As for as age profile and economic activity of in-migrants is concerned, both the main workers and marginal workers have experienced an increase with the increasing age group up-to 59 year. However the non-workers have shown a negative correlation with the growing age profile as can be better seen from the table 8 below.

Table 8: distribution of age profile and economic activity of the in-migrants in J&K

Ages of the migrants	Main workers	Marginal workers	Non workers
0-14	1%	3%	26%
15-19	4%	5%	8%
20-24	9%	11%	8%
25-29	12%	14%	8%
30-34	13%	14%	9%
35-39	15%	14%	8%
40-59	37%	30%	19%
60+	9%	8%	13%

Source: D6 table of migration, Census 2001, compact disk

### Out-Migration from Jammu & Kashmir

According to Census 2001, the total number of in-migrants from the rest of the country was 224,891 while as the total number of out-migrants from the entire J&K was 249,450 which is slightly higher than the in-migration. People of the state mostly prefer to migrate in states like Punjab, Bihar, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana in sequential order of importance. From the table 9 we can see that the number of female out-migrants in case of Punjab and Bihar are quite substantial. On the other hand, for the states like Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh male out-migration has been substantial.





Table 9: Percentage distribution of out-migrants of J& K in major place of destination

Place of destination	Total out-migrants	Total male -migrants	Total female migrants
Punjab	20%	33%	67%
Bihar	18%	12%	88%
Delhi	16%	52%	48%
Himachal Pradesh	6%	63%	37%
Maharashtra	6%	59%	41%
Uttar Pradesh	5%	53%	47%

Source: D2 table of migration, census 2001, compact disk

Given such a scenario it is further necessary to investigate about the reason of out-migration that is taking place from the state in particular. Census 2001 has observed seven major reason of migration that includes: Work/employment, business, education, marriage, moved after Birth, moved along with household and reasons that falls under 'others' category. 'Moved after birth' has been newly inserted as a reason of migration in 2001 census by omitting 'natural calamities' as a reason of migration in 1991 census.

Table 10: showing out-migration along various reasons to different state

Place of destination	Work/em p	Busines s	Edu	Marriage	Moved after birth	Moved with HH	Other
Punjab	14%	1%	1%	43%	2%	23%	17%
Bihar	1%	0%	0%	85%	0%	4%	10%
Delhi	21%	21%	2%	11%	2%	42%	20%
Maharashtra	26%	1%	11%	8%	3%	35%	15%
Uttar Pradesh	17%	1%	10%	10%	1%	42%	20%
Himachal Pradesh	38%	2%	4%	18%	2%	19%	17%

Source: D3 table of migration, census 2001, compact disk

As can be seen that out-migration with the employment purposes has been highest to HP followed by Maharashtra, Delhi and UP. Similarly for the purposes of business, the state of Delhi has received a major chunk of out-migration from the state according to census 1991. For the purposes of education Maharashtra and UP have been prominent followed by other states. In case of marriage Bihar and Punjab have been the fore-runners followed by Delhi and other states. Movement along with family has been highest to Delhi followed by Maharashtra and UP.

In case of Punjab one can see as the age group increases so does the duration of stay implying positive association. Similar case has been experienced in all other states except the state of Himachal Pradesh. The case here is almost an inverse i.e. as the age group increased the duration of stay has seen a decline.



Table 12: Duration of stay of the out-migrants

Place of destination	Duration of residence at the place of destination				
	>1 year	1-4 year	5-9 year	10-19 year	20+ year
Punjab	6%	24%	14%	20%	24%
Bihar	1%	15%	14%	26%	36%
Delhi	5%	22%	16%	30%	21%
Maharashtra	9%	41%	12%	16%	15%
Uttar Pradesh	7%	43%	15%	14%	9%
Himachal Pradesh	18%	27%	14%	17%	17%

Source: D2 table of migration, 2001 census, compact disk

From the table we can also infer that the kind of out-migration that is being taking place from the state is rather permanent in nature. On an average the out-migrants from the state stays for 1-4 years at the various place of destination for various reasons. Given the socio-economic and political scenario of the state of J&K, Out-migrants from the state prefer less to return back.

## CONCLUSION:

The study has been executed with the prime focus to analyze various dynamics of migration in Jammu and Kashmir according to the census of 2001. The main thrust of the study has been on the areas of pattern, stream, and composition, along with age and literacy profiles of both in-migrants and out-migrants. In the present study we were able to document that Jammu and Kashmir exhibits a weak scenario of both in-migration and out-migration when compared to other states of Indian union.

So far as the migration within the state is concerned, it is heavily dominated by the intra-district migration followed by inter-district migration. It was further found that a vast proportion of intra-district migration takes place for the purposes of marriage. This was the reason for a very heavy proportion of female population comprising the intra-district migration. Though similar trends were observed in case of inter-district migration but the intensity of female component was not so severe. So far as the case of inter-state migration is concerned, it was dominated by male migration with a primary purpose of employment or work. In over-all scenario, it was the rural-rural migration that was more prevalent in the state of Jammu and Kashmir according to census 2001.

The major in-migrating states were: Punjab, UP, Chhattisgarh, HP followed by Bihar ranked in line of their proportion. The in-migration from these states was found to have mainly influenced by distance, ethnicity, culture and religion. Except for UP, a major proportion of in-migrants from other states have mainly migrated to Jammu division. The work or employment has been the major incentivizing factor for in-migration in Jammu and Kashmir from all the cited states. The majority of in-migratory persons were found to be with low educational standards especially in the age-profile of 0-19. However the age groups there-after from 20-59 were



found to have better literacy ratios as compared to the lower strata. The proportion of Marginal workers was found to be higher followed by non workers thus authenticating the fact that a vast amount of in-migration has been in the form of movement of house-hold.

The number of out-migrants from the state of Jammu and Kashmir was found to be slightly higher than number of in-migrants. The major destinations for out-migrants have been Punjab, Bihar, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh ranked in order of preference. Employment, Business and education scored comparatively better as reasons of out-migration to the above cited states except Bihar in which case Marriage was found to be significant. Moreover the out-migration from the state was found to be of a permanent type and not a seasonal movement as the case might have been anticipated.

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