Population: Distribution, Density, Growth and Composition

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 37 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Write full answers in Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer — 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. India's population in the 2011 Census was about:
   (a) 1,350 million **(b)** 846 million **(c)** 1,028 million **(d)** 1,210 million

2. What was the density of population of Bihar in 2011?
   (a) 1,102 persons per sq km **(b)** 555 persons per sq km
   (c) 17 persons per sq km **(d)** 828 persons per sq km

3. What is the period 1921–1951 called in the history of India's population growth?
   (a) steady decline **(b)** stagnant or stationary growth
   (c) steady growth **(d)** zero growth

4. Suppose a district has 775,000 people and 500 sq km of net cultivated area. What is its physiological density?
   (a) 1,510 persons per sq km **(b)** 15,500 persons per sq km
   (c) 1,550 persons per sq km **(d)** 1,600 persons per sq km

5. Suppose a district's population rose from 370,000 in 2001 to 440,300 in 2011. What was its decadal growth rate?
   (a) 15% **(b)** 19% **(c)** 29% **(d)** 119%

6. In the Census, who is a "household industrial worker"?
   (a) makes goods at home or in the village **(b)** works on others' farms for wages
   (c) does no economic work **(d)** works for at least 183 days in a year

7. In 2011 the density of Bihar was 1,102 and of Tamil Nadu 555 persons per sq km. What is the difference?
   (a) 557 persons per sq km **(b)** 1,657 persons per sq km
   (c) 547 persons per sq km **(d)** 647 persons per sq km

8. Suppose 44% of a district's 510,000 people are workers (India's figure was 39.8% in 2011). How many are non-workers?
   (a) 510,000 people **(b)** 224,400 people
   (c) 285,600 people **(d)** 2,856,000 people

Section B — Short answer — 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. How are population data collected in India?

10. Explain the population pattern of each: (a) Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata (b) the Himalayan region

11. Explain each Census category: (a) cultivator (b) main worker

12. Suppose a district has 3,200 sq km of net cultivable land, 2,688,000 agricultural people and 4,992,000 people in all. Find its agricultural density and its physiological density (taking net cultivated land as the same area).

13. Using the rule that doubling time ≈ 70 ÷ annual growth rate, how long would a population of 720,000 take to double at 5% a year, and what would it then be?

14. What is each period of population growth called, and why? (a) 1951–1981 (b) 1921–1951

15. In 2011, Uttar Pradesh had 828 and Kerala 859 persons per sq km. Which is denser, by how much, and how does it compare with India's 382?

16. Suppose a state has 28,200 villages and 93% are inhabited (India: 93.2% in 2011). How many are inhabited and how many uninhabited?

Section C — Longer answers — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Discuss the spatial pattern of population density in India.

18. Match each with its phase: (a) 1901–1921 (b) 1951–1981 (c) after 1981. Choose from: population explosion; high but slowing growth; stagnant or stationary growth.

19. Suppose a district had 840,000 people in 2001 and 1,016,400 in 2011. (a) What was the growth in numbers? (b) What was the decadal growth rate? (c) Give two reasons why growth has slowed in India since 1981.

20. Suppose a district of 700,000 people has 36% workers, and 55% of the workers are cultivators and agricultural labourers. (a) How many workers? (b) How many in agriculture? (c) Why is the share of farm workers in India slowly falling?

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) 1,210 million**	—
2	**(a) 1,102 persons per sq km**	—
3	**(c) steady growth**	—
4	**(c) 1,550 persons per sq km**	775,000 ÷ 500
5	**(b) 19%**	(440,300 − 370,000) ÷ 370,000 × 100
6	**(a) makes goods at home or in the village**	—
7	**(c) 547 persons per sq km**	1,102 − 555
8	**(c) 285,600 people**	(100 − 44)% of 510,000
9	**Through the Census, held every 10 years.**	—
10	**(a) industry and urbanisation drawing migrants (b) rugged terrain and a harsh climate keep numbers low**	—
11	**(a) works on their own or leased farmland (b) works for at least 183 days in a year**	—
12	**agricultural 840, physiological 1,560 persons per sq km**	2,688,000 ÷ 3,200; 4,992,000 ÷ 3,200
13	**about 14 years; 1,440,000**	70 ÷ 5; 720,000 × 2
14	**(a) population explosion (b) steady growth**	—
15	**Kerala, by 31; Kerala is above the national density**	859 − 828
16	**26,226 inhabited, 1,974 uninhabited**	93% of 28,200
17	**From 17 per sq km in Arunachal Pradesh to 11,297 in Delhi; high in Bihar, West Bengal, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh, moderate in states like Assam and Odisha, low in hill and north-eastern states.**	—
18	**(a) stagnant or stationary growth (b) population explosion (c) high but slowing growth**	—
19	**(a) 176,400 (b) 21% (c) a falling birth rate, a higher age at marriage and better education, especially of women**	1,016,400 − 840,000; ÷ 840,000 × 100

Q	Answer	Working
20	**(a) 252,000 (b) 138,600 (c) jobs in industry and services are growing, a shift from farm to non-farm work**	36% of 700,000; 55% of that