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The Census of India 2001 has been an historic and epoch making census, being the first census of the third millennium. It has produced wealth of data on the state of abundant human resources inhabiting the country, their demographic and economic structure, social and other characteristics.

	population
Persons@	1,028,737,436
Males	532,223,090
Females	496,514,346
Rural	742,617,747
Urban	286,119,689
% Urban population	27.8%
Note :@	
The total population and rural population include estimated population of 127,108 for Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur. India's population without the estimated population of these areas is 1,028,610,328 (532,156,772 males and 496,453,556 females)	

The total geo-graphical area of the country is 3,287,240 sq.km. This includes 120,849 sq. km. of area under the illegal occupation of Pakistan and China. The largest state in India in terms of geographical area is Rajasthan with an area of 342,239 sq.km.

The total population of India at the 00.00 hours of 1st March 2001 stood at 1,028,737,436 comprising 532,223,090 males and 496,514,346 females.

At the International level, India accounts for only 2.4 percent of the world surface area and yet it supports and sustains 16.9 percent of the world population. In 150 China with 22 percent of population led the world followed by India with 14.2 percent. It is estimated that by 2050, India will overtake China to become the most populous country on the earth with about 17.2 percent population living here.

Uttar Pradesh with a population of more than 166 million holds distinction of being the most populous state in the country followed by Maharashtra (97 million) and Bihar (83 million). The other large states, in terms of population size are West Bengal (80 million), Andhra Pradesh (76 million), Tamil Nadu (62 million), Madhya Pradesh (60 million), Rajasthan (57 million) and Gujarat (51 million). These states together account for 76 percent of the total population of the country.

Among the union territories, Delhi (13.8 million) ranks first in terms of population whereas Lakshadweep with a population of 60,650 occupies the lowest rank. The population of the country.

India lives in its villages. Due to diverse geographical terrain the size of the villages is small, in plain areas the villages tend to be bigger. Out of a total of 5.94 lakh inhabited villages in the country, the largest number of villages (1.45 lakh) are in the population size group of 500-999 persons, followed by the groups 100-999 (1.30 lakh) and 200-499 (1.28 lakh). There are 3,961 villages, which have a population of 10,000 persons or more.

**TABLE 1: NUMBER OF VILLAGES AND UAs / TOWNS BY SIZE CLASS AND THEIR POPULATION**

Ranges	No. of villages	Population	Ranges	No. of UAs/Towns	Population
Less than 100	45,276	2,274,375	Less than 5000	192	667,772
100-199	46,276	6,912,023	5,000-9,999	879	6,658,356
200-499	127,511	43,960,187	10,000-19,999	1,346	19,458,295
500-999	145,402	105,274,341	20,000-49,999	1,163	35,154,857
1,000-1,999	129,977	183,294,133	50,000-99,999	404	27,832,412
2,000-9,999	80,413	239,184,866	1,00,000-4,99,999	320	60,554,358
5,000-9,999	14,799	98,112,136	5,00,000-9,99,999	39	27,503,626
10,000 & above	3,961	63,478,578	10,00,000-& above	35	108,290,013
Total	593,615	742,490,639	Total	4,378	286,119,689

Source : Primary Census Abstract, India, Census of India 2001.

As in case of the villages, the UAs / towns also vary considerably in terms of population size. Largest numbers of UAs / towns are in the population size group 10,000 to 19,999 persons with 1,346 UAs / towns falling in this group. The total number of UAs / towns with more than one million populations is 35. Mumbai Urban Agglomeration with 1604 million populations is the largest UA in terms of Population, followed by Kolkata UA (13.2 million) and Delhi UA (12.9 million). List of the million plus UAs / Cities is given below:

S.No	Name of UA/Cities	No. of Households	Population
1.	Greater Mumbai UA	3,522,358	16,434,386
2.	Kolkata UA	2,40,607	13,205,697
3.	Delhi UA	2,548,359	12,877,470
4.	Chennai UA	1,473,780	6,560,242
5.	Hyderabad UA	1,111,116	5,742,036
6.	Bangalore UA	1,278,333	5,701,446
7.	Ahmedabad UA	901,949	4,525,012
8.	Pune UA	828,890	3,760,636
9.	Surat UA	573,756	2,811,614
10.	Kanpur UA	469,562	2,715,555
11.	Jaipur UA	408,888	2,322,575
12.	Lucknow UA	403,457	2,245,509
13.	Nagpur UA	427,704	2,129,500
14.	Patna UA	269,619	1,697,976
15.	Indore UA	284,782	1,516,918
16.	Vadodra UA	320,455	1,491,045
17.	Coinbatore UA	358,856	1,461,135
18.	Bhopal UA	283,176	1,458,416
19.	Ludhiana UA	268,700	1,398,467
20.	Kochi UA	301,079	1,355,972
21.	Visakhapatnam UA	309,123	1,345,938
22.	Agra UA	207,834	1,331,335
23.	Varanasi UA	167,476	1,203,961
24.	Madurai UA	279,656	1,203,095
25.	Meerut UA	187,607	1,161,716
26.	Nashik UA	239,727	1,152,326
27.	Jamshedpur UA	199,864	1,104,712
28.	Jabalpur UA	209,274	1,098,000
29.	Asansol UA	196,486	1,067,365
30.	Dhanbad UA	192,233	1,065,327
31.	Faridabad UA	217,647	1,055,938
32.	Allahabad UA	162,400	1,042,225
33.	Vijaywada UA	231,759	1,039,518
34.	Amritsar UA	185,858	1,003,917
35.	Raikot UA	195,947	1,003,015

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