

MAP 25

DISTRIBUTION OF ODIA SPEAKERS 2011

Odia is one of the Scheduled languages spoken mainly in the state of Odisha and in the adjoining areas of the neighbouring states. It is an Indo-Aryan language. It has been declared as Official Language of the state of Odisha and has been specified in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India. In Census 2011, eight mother tongues which returned 10,000 or more speakers at all India level are grouped under Odia as variants. They are Bhatri, Bhuiya/Bhuyan (Ori), Bhumijali, Desia, Odia, Proja (Ori), Relli and Sambalpuri. Rest of the mother tongues returned below 10,000 speakers as variants of Odia are grouped under ‘Others’. A specific script is used in writing Odia which owes its origin to Kalinga Alphabet (a descendant of Brahmi scripts of ancient India).

As per Census 2011, there are 3,75,21,324 Odia speakers which cover 3.10 per cent of the country’s total population. However, the share of Odia speakers in Odisha is 82.70 per cent of the state’s total population. In India, Odia speakers are mainly concentrated in the state of Odisha (92.51%), Chhattisgarh (2.43%), Jharkhand (1.42%), Andhra Pradesh (0.96%), Assam (0.58%), Gujarat (0.49%) and West Bengal (0.43%) which together constitute 98.83 per cent of the Odia speakers. Other States/Union Territories having Odia speakers are Maharashtra (0.37%), Karnataka (0.17%), NCT of Delhi (0.10%), Tripura and Uttar Pradesh (0.07% each), Tamil Nadu (0.06%), Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan (0.05% each), Haryana (0.04%), Kerala, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir (0.03% each), Arunachal Pradesh (0.02%) and Goa, Nagaland, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh and Puducherry (0.01% each). In the remaining States/Union Territories their proportion is negligible.

The map displays the geographical distribution of Odia speakers at the district level in India. Here percentages are calculated on the basis of the number of Odia speakers in respect to total population of that particular district. Different shades of colour are used in this map to show the percentage distribution of Odia speaking population throughout the country. The data presented in this map is grouped in the percentage ranges of 0.01 to 0.20, 0.21 to 2.00, 2.01 to 20.00, 20.01 to 80.00 and 80.01 and above.

The district-wise distribution reveals that out of 640 districts, 636 districts have Odia speaking population. Among these, 365 districts have registered 0.01 to 0.20 per cent of Odia speakers. However, 76 districts range in 0.21 to 2.00 per cent, 15 districts range in 2.01 to 20.00 per cent, 11 districts have been found in the range of 20.01 to 80.00 per cent and 19 districts have recorded 80.01 per cent and above Odia speakers. Remaining 150 districts with negligible or below 0.01 per cent Odia speakers have been left blank on the map along with 4 other districts where no Odia speakers is recorded in 2011.

Among the districts in Odisha, the highest proportion of Odia speakers is noticed in Baudh (99.31%) district followed by Nayagarh (99.09%), Subarnapur (99.00%), Balangir (98.28%), Dhenkanal (96.20%), Anugul (95.50%), Kalahandi (95.22%), Puri (95.09%), Bargarh (93.60%), Jagatsinghapur (92.32%), Khordha (92.13%), Kendrapara (91.47%), Cuttack (91.36%), Ganjam (91.29%), Bhadrak (90.56%) and Jajapur (90.27%) districts reporting above 90 per cent Odia speakers. The districts of Debagarh (89.94%), Baleswar (88.30%) and Nuapada (81.75%) have the concentration of Odia speakers between 80 to 90 per cent. Nabarangapur (79.09%), Kendujhar (78.88%), Sambalpur (78.80%), Koraput (78.19%) and Jharsuguda (70.04%) show Odia speakers between 70 to 80 per cent. Mayurbhanj (54.33%), Kandhamal (53.15%), Sundargarh (45.96%), Rayagada (42.80%), Malkangiri (41.99%) with the lowest in Gajapati (41.51%) district reported less than 70 per cent Odia speakers.

Outside Odisha, significant proportion of Odia speakers are also recorded in Pashchimi Singhbhum (18.74%), Saraikela-Kharsawan (9.48%) and Purbi Singhbhum (5.27%) districts in Jharkhand; Mahasamund (18.38%), Bastar (16.58%), Raigarh (9.52%), Raipur (5.17%) and Jashpur (5.11%) districts in Chhattisgarh; Srikakulam (5.34%) and Visakhapatnam (2.96%) in Andhra Pradesh; Sonitpur (3.88%), Udalguri (2.64%) and Tinsukia (2.11%) districts in Assam; Surat (2.59%) district in Gujarat and Daman (2.30%) district in Daman & Diu UT.

The distribution of Odia speakers and percentage to the total Odia speakers along with the cumulative percentage in the States/ Union Territories is given in the following Table 25.

TABLE 25

DISTRIBUTION OF ODIA SPEAKERS 2011

Sl. No.	India/States/Union Territories	Odia Speakers		
		Number	% Share*	Cum. %
1	2	3	4	5
	INDIA	3,75,21,324	100.00	
1	ODISHA	3,47,12,170	92.51	92.51
2	CHHATTISGARH	9,13,581	2.43	94.95
3	JHARKHAND	5,31,077	1.42	96.36
4	ANDHRA PRADESH	3,61,471	0.96	97.33
5	ASSAM	2,18,552	0.58	97.91
6	GUJARAT	1,83,549	0.49	98.40
7	WEST BENGAL	1,62,142	0.43	98.83
8	MAHARASHTRA	1,39,241	0.37	99.20
9	KARNATAKA	64,119	0.17	99.37
10	NCT OF DELHI	37,645	0.10	99.47
11	TRIPURA	25,967	0.07	99.54
12	UTTAR PRADESH	24,729	0.07	99.61
13	TAMIL NADU	21,381	0.06	99.66
14	MADHYA PRADESH	18,765	0.05	99.72
15	RAJASTHAN	17,047	0.05	99.76
16	HARYANA	14,835	0.04	99.80
17	KERALA	10,958	0.03	99.83

Sl. No.	India/States/Union Territories	Odia Speakers		
		Number	% Share*	Cum. %
1	2	3	4	5
18	PUNJAB	9,969	0.03	99.86
19	JAMMU & KASHMIR	9,553	0.03	99.88
20	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	6,820	0.02	99.90
21	GOA	5,558	0.01	99.91
22	NAGALAND	4,565	0.01	99.93
23	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	4,463	0.01	99.94
24	DAMAN & DIU	4,421	0.01	99.95
25	UTTARAKHAND	3,630	0.01	99.96
26	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3,219	0.01	99.97
27	BIHAR	3,188	0.01	99.98
28	CHANDIGARH	1,942	0.01	99.98
29	PUDUCHERRY	1,910	0.01	99.99
30	MEGHALAYA	1,518	0.00	99.99
31	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR IS.	1,106	0.00	99.99
32	SIKKIM	985	0.00	100.00
33	MANIPUR	931	0.00	100.00
34	MIZORAM	277	0.00	100.00
35	LAKSHADWEEP	40	0.00	100.00

*The sum of State/UT percentage values may not add up to 100 due to round off and may also not match with cumulative percentage values.

