

Research Article

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Understanding the multifaceted nature of in-migration to Uttarakhand, India 2011

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Abstract

Migration has been an intrinsic part of human history, driven by various factors. In contemporary times, migration is influenced by complex economic, psychological, social, and political processes. Internal migration is a significant and prevalent characteristic of the Indian economy and society, with a considerable number of individuals moving within the country for various reasons. Uttarakhand, located in northwestern India, has a rich migration history, particularly due to its status as a popular tourist destination and pilgrimage center. This study examines the in-migration patterns to Uttarakhand from other states/union territories (UTs) of India and from other countries, based on the 2011 census data. The data is analyzed using Excel, and visual representations such as graphs. The findings reveal that Uttar Pradesh contributes the highest number of in-migrants to Uttarakhand, followed by Bihar, the National Capital Territory of Delhi, Punjab, and Haryana. Marriage emerges as a significant reason for in-migration, leading to a higher proportion of female migrants. Moreover, Uttarakhand receives in-migrants from various other states and UTs of India, highlighting its cultural and economic connections with neighboring regions. Additionally, Uttarakhand has experienced migration from other countries, with Nepal being the primary source of international in-migration. Other significant contributors include Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, and Bhutan. The male-female ratio among international migrants varies, with male migrants outnumbering females in most cases. These findings provide insights into the diverse patterns of in-migration to Uttarakhand and emphasize the multifaceted nature of migration in the region. Understanding migration dynamics is crucial for policymakers and researchers to develop effective strategies and policies to address the needs and challenges associated with migration in Uttarakhand.

Keywords

Uttarakhand,
In-Migration,
Internal migration,
International Migration

Introduction

Man is on move since time immemorial, during the early period they move for food, then for survival, trade and then process goes on. In the present time this movement is due to many complex processes,

including economic, psychological, social, political and other deterrents, resulting in the development of concept of migration. An important and pervasive feature of the Indian economy and society is internal

migration. According to the census 2011, based on place of last residence, there were 450 million internal migrants which make 37 percent of the total population. According to the Economic Survey (2017) an average of about 5 to 6 million Indians migrated annually between 2001 and 2011, which forms about 60 million and as high as about 80 million inter-state and an inter-district migrant population (Rajan & Bhagat, 2021). The most important reason of Migration in India today is search of livelihood. The bad scenario of livelihood led to the emergence of migration as a survival strategy for a large number of poor people the country backward, especially in hilly, tribal, desert, drought-prone, rain-fed, flood-affected, and high-density or conflict-ridden areas has. Most of these informal sector is the main source of work for migrants, where they do not have enough social security and legal protection (Amita Yadav et al., 2018).

There is long history of migration towards the Uttarakhand Himalaya, in the past around 11th and 12th centuries it received tremendous in-migrants. Mainly the pilgrims visited were settled here permanently in the past. However, after 2000, when Uttarakhand got carved out of Uttar Pradesh migration got momentum. According to the census 2011 there are about 1,250,575 migrants from the other states and UTs which constitutes about 29% of total in-migrants of the state. A high rate of economic growth has witnessed in Uttarakhand in the last decade.

Study Area

Uttarakhand is situated between latitudes 28.6139° N and 31.1314° N, and longitudes 77.2183° E and 81.0586° E. It is located in the northwestern part of India. To the north, Uttarakhand shares its border with Tibet (China), while to the east, it is adjacent to Nepal. Himachal Pradesh, another state in India, lies to the west of Uttarakhand, and to the south, it is bordered by

Uttar Pradesh. These neighboring regions contribute to the cultural, historical, and geographical diversity of Uttarakhand. They facilitate cross-cultural exchanges, trade, and tourism.

Objectives

To understand the pattern of in-migration to Uttarakhand from other states/UTs of India and from other countries of the world.

Methodology

The present study is based on secondary source of data. The major source of secondary data is the census of India 2011. From the census, D series of data is used in this study. The migration data of gender, duration of residence and reasons of migration are taken to frame the present study. The data is analyzed in excel and the graphical representation has been done.

Results and discussion

In-migration from other states and UTs of India

Uttarakhand has been the seat of in-migrants since time immemorial being one of the famous tourist destination and pilgrimage center. The plain districts of Uttarakhand and one of the hill districts Nainital is the main destination place for in-migrants from other states and districts. According to the census 2011, the total migrants recorded in the state of Uttarakhand were 4,317,454 out of which about 29% are migrated from the other states and UTs of India. The main reason of in-migration to Uttarakhand is marriage which is a social cause. Hence, female outnumbered male in-migrants among total in-migrants. Table-1 provides the detail of the states and UTs from where the in-migrants are coming to Uttarakhand state of India.

Table-1 Uttarakhand: Number and Percent of In-Migrants from Other States and UTs of India, 2011

State/UTs	Person	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
Uttar Pradesh	890,663	369,386	41.47	521,277	58.53
Bihar	76,116	47,017	61.77	29,099	38.23
NCT of Delhi	52,002	23,250	44.71	28,752	55.29
Punjab	45,667	20,640	45.20	25,027	54.80
Haryana	33,899	13,768	40.61	20,131	59.39
West Bengal	26,298	12,332	46.89	13,966	53.11
Himachal Pradesh	24,089	8,888	36.90	15,201	63.10
Rajasthan	18,410	9,414	51.14	8,996	48.86
Madhya Pradesh	13,268	6,831	51.48	6,437	48.52
Maharashtra	13,114	6,668	50.85	6,446	49.15
Other States and UTs	57,049	31,759	55.67	25,290	44.33
Total	1,250,575	549,953	43.98	700,622	56.02

Source, census of India, 2011

From the table 1, it is observed that the highest number of in-migrants to Uttarakhand are from the state of Uttar Pradesh. The possible reason could be cultural similarity of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh and the state has been carved out of Uttar Pradesh. Thus, the state has the close linkages with state culturally and for economic aspects also. The number of female migrants outnumbers the male migrants coming from Uttar Pradesh. The main reason behind this is migration due to marriages and many moved with household. The largest source of in-migrants to Uttarakhand in 2011 was Uttar Pradesh, with a total of 890,663 individuals. Among these, 369,386 were males, accounting for 41.47% of the total in-migrants, while 521,277 were females, representing 58.53% of the total. Bihar was the second-largest contributor, with 76,116 in-migrants, of which 47,017 were males (61.77%) and 29,099 were females (38.23%). The National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi had 52,002 in-migrants, consisting of 23,250 males (44.71%) and

28,752 females (55.29%). Punjab contributed 45,667 in-migrants, with 20,640 males (45.20%) and 25,027 females (54.80%). Haryana had 33,899 in-migrants, including 13,768 males (40.61%) and 20,131 females (59.39%). West Bengal accounted for 26,298 in-migrants, with 12,332 males (46.89%) and 13,966 females (53.11%). Himachal Pradesh contributed 24,089 in-migrants, with 8,888 males (36.90%) and 15,201 females (63.10%). Rajasthan had 18,410 in-migrants, consisting of 9,414 males (51.14%) and 8,996 females (48.86%). Madhya Pradesh contributed 13,268 in-migrants, with 6,831 males (51.48%) and 6,437 females (48.52%). Maharashtra accounted for 13,114 in-migrants, including 6,668 males (50.85%) and 6,446 females (49.15%). The remaining states and UTs collectively contributed 57,049 in-migrants, with 31,759 males (55.67%) and 25,290 females (44.33%). In total, Uttarakhand received 1,250,575 in-migrants in 2011, out of which 549,953 were males (43.98%) and 700,622 were females (56.02%).

**Uttarakhand
In-migrants from other states and UTs of India, 2011**

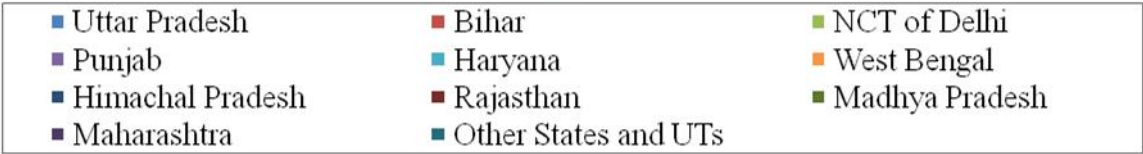
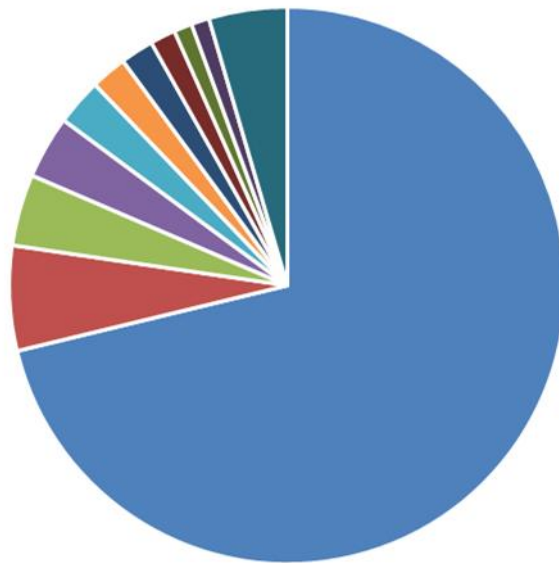


Figure-1

**Uttarakhand
Male and Female In-migrants from other states and UTs of India, 2011**

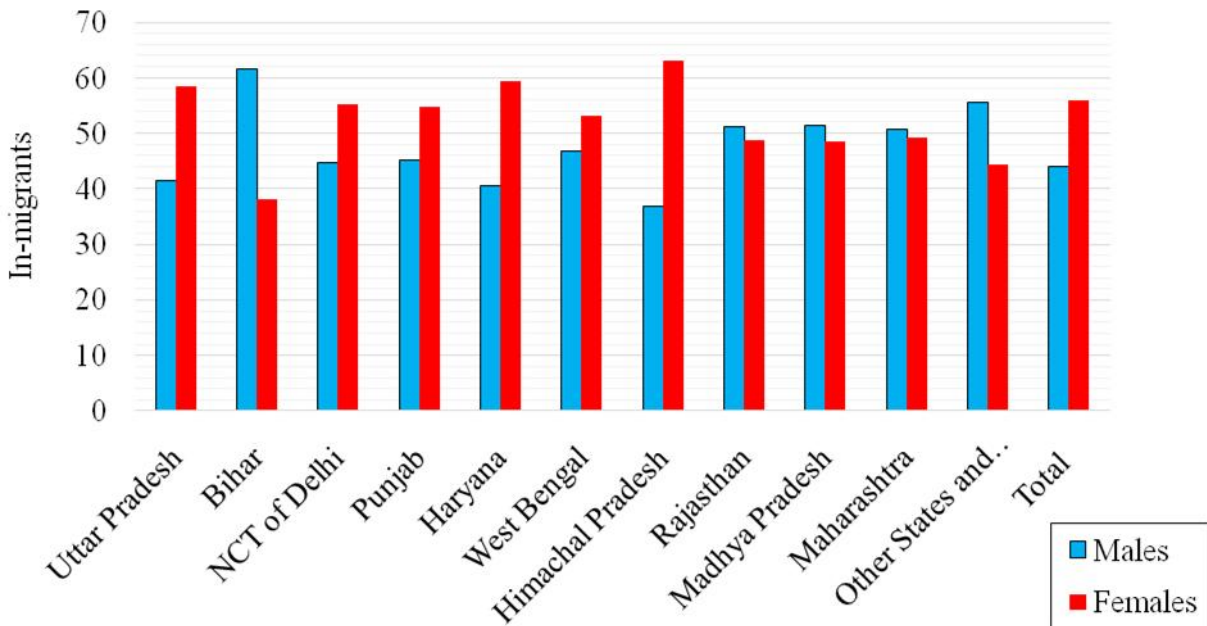


Figure-2

In-migration to Uttarakhand from other Countries

In-migrants from other countries also visited Uttarakhand, there is a long history of migration to Uttarakhand. In earlier times migrants from Tibet came to Uttarakhand and settled there. The

neighboring country Nepal has a long historical connection of migration to Uttarakhand. Many Nepalis migrate to Uttarakhand for livelihood. This has become the practice from generation to generation of Nepali migrant to Uttarakhand.

Table-3 Uttarakhand: Volume of In-Migrants from Other countries of the world, 2011

Country of Origin	Person	Percent
Last residence outside India	82,198	100.00
Nepal	44,084	53.63
Pakistan	12,925	15.72
Bangladesh	12,138	14.77
China	1,730	2.10
Bhutan	333	0.41

Source, census of India 2011

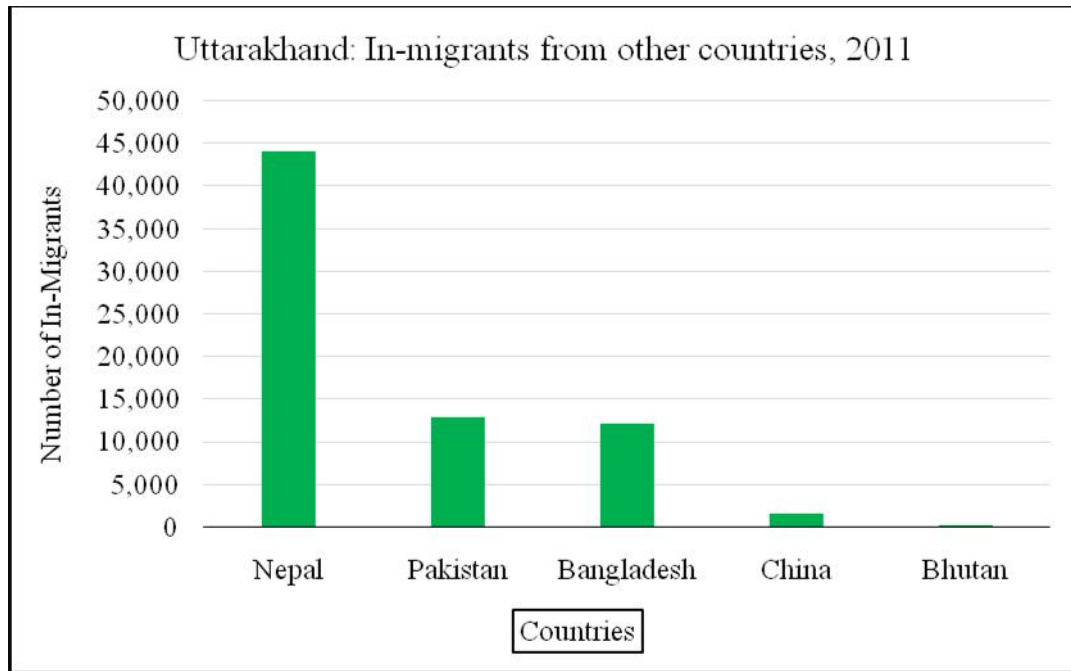


Fig-3

Table-3 provides information about the migrants from other countries of the world to the state of Uttarakhand in 2011. Total 82,198 in-migrants are enumerated in the state of Uttarakhand who had their residence in other countries of the world. It is observed from the table-3 that the highest number of international migrants in Uttarakhand are coming from the Nepal. With 44,084 in-migrants, which forms about 54% of the total international migrants, Nepal emerges as the primary source of international in-migration to Uttarakhand. This can be attributed to the close geographic proximity and cultural ties between

Uttarakhand and Nepal. The porous border between the two nations facilitates movement, and the shared cultural, linguistic, and historical links may contribute to a higher volume of Nepalese in-migrants. From Pakistan and Bangladesh, a significant number of in-migrants enumerated in Uttarakhand in 2011. Total 12,925 migrants from Pakistan and 12,138 migrants from Bangladesh were enumerated in the state during 2011. This could be attributed to various factors, including economic opportunities, family ties, and educational pursuits. It highlights the multicultural fabric of Uttarakhand, which attracts migrants from

diverse backgrounds. The fourth important country from where migrants are enumerated in Uttarakhand is China. Total 1,730 migrants are from China. From

Bhutan total 333 migrants enumerated in Uttarakhand state.

Table-4 Uttarakhand: Male-Female In-Migrants from Other countries of the world, 2011

Country of Origin	Person	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
Last residence outside India	82,198	44,666	54.34	37,532	45.66
Nepal	44,084	26,261	59.57	17,823	40.43
Pakistan	12,925	6,796	52.58	6,129	47.42
Bangladesh	12,138	5,795	47.74	6,343	52.26
China	1,730	1,028	59.42	702	40.58
Bhutan	333	159	47.75	174	52.25

Source, census of India, 2011

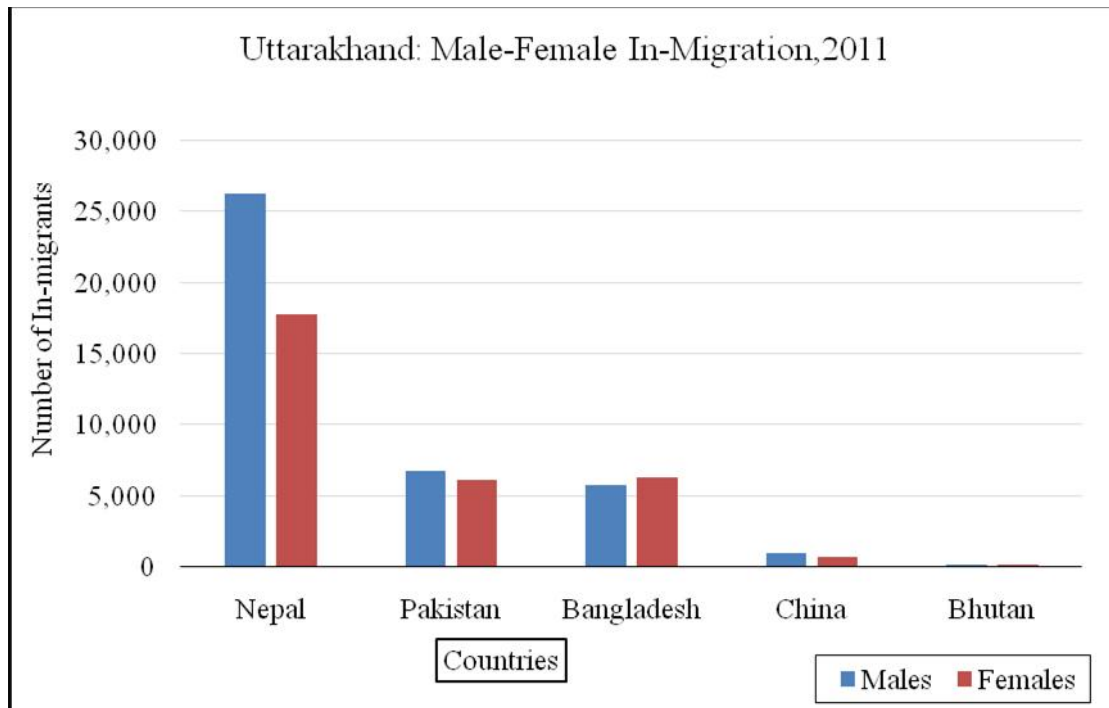


Fig-4

Table-4 shows the male female proportion of the international migrants enumerated in the state of Uttarakhand in 2011. Out of total 82,198 international migrants 44,666 are male and 37,532 are female migrants which constitute 54.34 percent and 45.66 percent proportion respectively. It is observed from the table-4 that male migrants are more in number than female migrants from almost all the countries listed in the table except from Bangladesh. From Nepal out of total 44,084 migrants, 26,261 are male and 17,823 are female in-migrants. In term of their percentage, it is

59.57 percent and 40.43 percent respectively. From Pakistan, there were 12,925 in-migrants, with 6,796 males (52.58%) and 6,129 females (47.42%). Bangladesh accounted for 12,138 in-migrants, including 5,795 males (47.74%) and 6,343 females (52.26%). In terms of in-migrants from China, there were 1,730 individuals, with 1,028 males (59.42%) and 702 females (40.58%). Bhutan contributed 333 in-migrants, consisting of 159 males (47.75%) and 174 females (52.25%).

Conclusion

The present study sheds light on the patterns of in-migration to Uttarakhand, both from other states/union territories within India and from other countries, based on the 2011 census data. The findings reveal that Uttar Pradesh is the primary source of in-migrants to Uttarakhand, followed by Bihar, the National Capital Territory of Delhi, Punjab, and Haryana. Marriage emerges as a significant reason for in-migration, resulting in a higher proportion of female migrants. Uttarakhand also receives in-migrants from various other states and UTs of India, highlighting its cultural and economic connections with neighboring regions. Additionally, the state has experienced migration from other countries, with Nepal being the primary source of international in-migration, followed by Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, and Bhutan. The male-female ratio among international migrants varies, with male migrants outnumbering females in most cases. These findings underscore the diverse and multifaceted nature of migration in Uttarakhand and emphasize the importance of understanding migration dynamics for policymakers and researchers in developing effective strategies and policies to address the needs and challenges associated with migration in the region.

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