

## **MIGRATION TRENDS IN INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KARNATAKA AND BENGALURU: USING SECONDARY DATA**

**Dr. Shweta Sharma\***

Assistant Professor, Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru, Karnataka

**Dr Suma Singh\***

Associate Professor, Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru, Karnataka

**Dr. Shwetha MK\***

Jyoti Nivas Pre-University College/ Economics, Bengaluru, India

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### **Abstract**

*According to the NSSO 78th round of 2020-21, 29.1% of people are migrants in India, out of which 34.6% are urban migrants and 26.8% are rural migrants. The migration rate in urban areas is 8.4% higher than that in rural areas. The rate of internal migration varies from state to state and city to city. Variation in migration is accelerated by differences in agricultural growth, socioeconomic changes, and industrial growth. This is reflected in states /cities such as Maharashtra, Gurgaon, Pune, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, which attract large migrant populations. The booming economy of Bengaluru has become a magnet for migrants, who have transformed the city's demographic and economic profile. The analysis was conducted using secondary data from the Census of India Reports (1991, 2001, and 2011) and NSSO Reports (2001 and 2021), to understand the trends, extent and reasons of migration in Bengaluru and Karnataka. It was found from the analysis that around 87.7% of migration in Karnataka is intra-state, with only 12.3% inter-state migration. Bengaluru (19.4%) had the highest migration rate, followed by Belgaum (8.68%), and Kodagu (1.02%). This indicates that in Karnataka there is a need to develop other districts to decrease the pressure of migration in a few districts of Karnataka, specifically Bengaluru. The main reason for migration to Bengaluru is employment, followed by family movement. The findings highlight that Bengaluru attracts migrants primarily for economic reasons, and the surge in migration is largely due to its thriving IT industry.*

*Key words: Migration, Immigration, Bengaluru, Karnataka., Census of India.*

### **Introduction**

Migration, a shift in an individual's place of residence, is a vital phenomenon in the human life cycle. The nature of movement can be transitory or perennial. Although many theoretical models unravel the various reasons for migration, 'the 'push-pull' factors prevail as the most practical answer for migration. The rate of migration differs from place to place and time to time. Both the push and pull factors can cause migration. Pull factors may include better educational facilities and employment opportunities and better health and leisure facilities, whereas push factors include the non-availability of jobs and accommodation. (H. Shashidhar, A History of Migration to Bangalore, 2003), Migration in India is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that is deeply intertwined with the country's socioeconomic, political, and cultural fabric. This is a crucial aspect of human survival and development,

enabling people to escape poverty, pursue better livelihoods, and enhance their socioeconomic status. The colonial era and partition of 1947 shaped India's largest international migration. India's vast diaspora has spread across many countries. After industrialisation, large internal migration occurred in cities such as Kolkata, Mumbai, and Chennai. In India, migration is primarily characterised by the rural-urban movement, driven by the search for employment, education, improved living conditions, and marriage.

### **Theoretical background of migration**

Migration theory offers a theoretical direction for understanding human mobility from a broader perspective. In the field of migration studies, Massey et al. (1993) wrote an article that delves into concepts and theories related to migration. Migration theories advance the scientific understanding of this phenomenon and highlight the systematic patterns in migration and the connections between them. As a result, it is thought to be helpful to quickly review the common ideas of migration that can be used to explain theories. Numerous authors in the literature have endeavoured to categorise theories into classifications such as levels of analysis, initiation, and perpetuation of migration; various disciplines such as Economics, Sociology, Geography, and Demography, and different factors.

Hagen-Zanker (2008) and Faist (2000) discussed theories based on analysis at the micro, meso, and macro levels. At the micro level, researchers focus on understanding the decisions to migrate at the individual level. On the other hand, macro-level theories examine migration trends and provide explanations at a larger scale. The meso-level falls between the factors considered at both the household and community levels. It offers insights into the reasons for migration and its ongoing occurrence.

Massey et al. (1993) introduced theories of migration based on the differentiation between theories that explain the initiation of migration and those that focus on the continuation of population movement. This approach could be helpful when examining migration driven by sudden system shocks (such as political or economic factors) versus the ongoing patterns of migration.

The current study focuses on the internal migration and movement of people within the borders of the country. According to Korgelli (1994), it is suggested that in today's world, prospective migrants would then decide whether to migrate internally or externally based on a cost-benefit analysis.

This perspective aligns with LEE's (1966) Push and Pull theory of migration, which offers a comprehensive framework for understanding the factors that motivate people to migrate. Lee

divided factors associated with the migration process into four categories.

1. Factors associated with the area of origin.
2. Factors associated with destination area
3. Intervening obstacles
4. Personal factors

Lee elaborated on all four factors, as many lead people to migrate from their area of origin or to be attracted to the destination. Each location has both positive and negative factors. Positive factors attract migration, while negative factors repel migration. There could be good climates to attract and repel bad climates from their origins. There is always an element of ignorance or uncertainty in the case of destination place, although the individual knows their place of origin very well. Therefore, migration involves risk associated with the destination.

Intervention obstacles prevent migration. These factors may be relatively unimportant to one person. These obstacles might vary depending on the distance between the place of origin and destination, language constraints, cultural differences, etc. Distance might not be an obstacle for a single young person but will be an obstacle for married people with young children

Personal factors, such as age, marital status, gender, and education, also play significant roles in an individual's migration decisions. Personal factors have a greater impact on migration decisions than place of destination or origin.

The final decision to migrate depends not only on positive and negative factors but also on personal factors.

1. Factors associated with the area of origin

Push factors: Lack of job opportunities, lower wages, or limited educational facilities in other regions of India.

Pull factors: Strong family or community ties that might discourage migration.

2. Factors associated with the area of destination (Bengaluru)

Pull factors: Abundant job opportunities in the IT sector, higher wages, better educational institutions, and a cosmopolitan lifestyle.

Push factors: High cost of living, traffic congestion, and potential cultural differences.

3. Intervening obstacles

Distance from the place of origin

Language barriers (for non-Kannada speakers)

Cultural differences

Initial setup costs and accommodations

#### 4. Personal factors:

**Age:** Younger individuals might be more willing to migrate to Bengaluru for career opportunities.

**Education:** Those with IT skills or higher education may be more attracted to Bengaluru's job market.

**Marital status:** Single individuals might find it easier to relocate than those with families.

**Career aspirations:** People seeking advancement in the technology sector may be more inclined to move to Bengaluru.

The decision to migrate to Bengaluru ultimately depends on how individuals weigh these factors based on their circumstances and perceptions of the opportunities and challenges presented by the city.

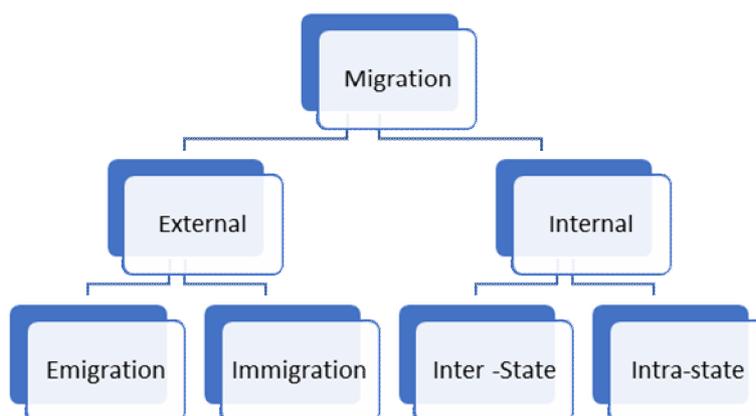
### Methodology

This article provides an overview of migration trends in India, with special reference to Karnataka and Bengaluru. The analysis was conducted using secondary data from the Census of India Reports (1991, 2001, and 2011) and NSSO Reports (2001 and 2021). The analysis highlights the complex nature of migration in India, its impact, and the unique position of Bengaluru as a major destination for migrants due to its development in the IT Industry and urbanisation.

### Classification of migration in India

**Migration in India can be classified into internal and external migration.**

Fig 1: Pattern of Migration in India



Similar to other economies, we find internal and external migration even in India.

**1. External migration** refers to migration in and out of the country, that is, immigration and emigration.

a. **Emigration:** The departure of any person from India for employment (whether or not under an agreement, with or without the assistance of a registered Recruiting Agent or employer) in any country or place outside India.

b. **Immigration:** The departure of any person from any other country to India

## **2. Emigration from India**

The most populous country in the world, India, has the highest emigration of around 17.9 million to other countries, followed by Mexico at 11.2 million, in 2020. Western countries and the Middle East are the more recent favourite destinations for emigration, with around 3.4 million emigrants in the UAE. From 2000 to 2020, there was an increase of 10 million emigrants from India. Approximately 64% of the emigrants were male. Approximately 20% of Indian emigrants moved to the United Arab Emirates, and 15.2% to the United States of America. (Migration Data Portal, n.d.)

Most Indians have moved to other countries for employment, which varies from high-to low-skilled. It is estimated that approximately one in seven people worldwide are involved with remittances, substantially impacting payment behaviour in Asia and Latin America. For India, the top five recipient countries for remittances in 2021 were Bangladesh, Nepal, China, Sri Lanka, and the United States. India's main sources of remittances were the United Arab Emirates, United States, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait, (United Nations DESA, 2020)

According to the World Bank, official remittances to India in 2021 were estimated at \$87 billion, the highest such flow in the world, and about 15% of all transfers to middle and low-income countries worldwide (Migration Data Portal, n.d.). India received the largest amount of remittances since 2008. In 2023, among all low-income countries, India received the highest remittances in current USD of around 120 billion, Mexico (66 billion), and China (50 billion) (World Bank, n.d.).

## **3. Immigration to India**

According to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Report 2020, India is the 14<sup>th</sup> favourite nation for attracting foreigners (immigrants) to the country. It has 4 million around 0.4% of the total population. Most foreigners in India are from neighbouring countries. In 2020, 50% of immigrants to India were from Bangladesh (2,488,500), followed by Pakistan (8, 33,000), and Nepal (7, 33,700). In the case of immigration, females accounted for 53.4% of the total population, which was higher than that of males.

#### **4. Internal Migration in India**

Internal Migration pertains to migration in and out of the domestic territory of the country, that is, inter-state and intra-state migration.

As per the Census 2011, there are 28 states and seven Union Territories in India. The 29<sup>th</sup> State, Telangana, was added in 2013. These states and UT are very different from economic, cultural, and political perspectives. India has 1.4 billion people, making it the most populous country and the seventh-largest region of the world. India's population grew to 18.2 million between 2001 and 2011.

According to the literature, a migrant is one who stays in a place other than the place of birth. According to the Census, "a migrant is one whose last usual place of residence is different from the present place of enumeration."

According to the Census 2011, 455 million people are migrants in India, which has increased by approximately 45% compared to the 2001 Census, accounting for 38% of the total population. 88% of migration is within the state, which is around 39.6 crore and 5.4 crore between the state. The rate of internal migration varies from state to state and city to city. Different states of India have varying rates of economic development because of different kinds of resource availability. This is reflected in industrial hubs such as Maharashtra, and IT hubs such as Gurgaon, Pune, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, which attract large migrant populations.

Karnataka is a state of diverse traditions, cultures, and languages. On November 1, 1956, the integration of all the Kannada-speaking areas led to the formation of Karnataka. Located in Southern Peninsular India, it is spread across 1 91,791 sq. km. The ninth largest state has a population of 6, 10, 95,297, making up 5.05% of the country's population. In Karnataka, 61.33% were rural residents and 38.67% were urban residents.

Karnataka's GSDP was a highly developed and progressive state at Rs 22, 69,995 crore Rs. (2022-23) and with a growth rate of 10.2%. The state's per capita income was Rs.3,04,474 in 2022-23, which is 79% higher than the national average PCI (Rs.1,85,854). In terms of key economic indicators, the sex ratio (973) was higher than that of India (943). The literacy rates were 75.4%, 85.8%, and 68.7% in the urban, rural, and rural areas, respectively. Literacy was much higher among urban males (90%) and, females (81.4%) than among rural males (77.6%) and female counterparts (59.7%) The total number of migrants in Karnataka in 2001 was 1,65,60,377, which increased to 2,64,63,170.00, in 2011, which is around a 59% increase in migration. According to 2011, the infant mortality rate in Karnataka was 35 persons per

1000 live births, whereas in India, it was 44 per 1000 live births. The HDI, developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), measures human development across three key areas: health, income, and standard of living. In 2022, Karnataka's HDI (0.657) will be higher than that of India (0.645).

The Silicon Valley of India, Bengaluru, has a vibrant and dynamic history that can be traced back to the year 1537. The city was established by Kempe Gowda I, a vassal of the Vijayanagar Empire. Its favourable geographic situation and pleasant weather appealed to many rulers over the years, turning it into a place for administrative and cultural centers. English also acknowledged the importance of Bengaluru and built a military base for troops in 1809, making the city a civil and military station. After independence, Bengaluru emerged as a science and technology hub with the establishment of public sector undertakings such as Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Indian Telephone Industries (ITI), and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL). The existence of such industries and research institutes created conditions for the transformation of Bengaluru into an industrial and technological center.

Shashidhar's History of Migration to Bangalore (2003) provides a comprehensive historical overview of migration patterns to Bangalore, tracing the influx of migrants from various parts of India. Shashidhar identified several key periods in Bangalore's history when migration surged, often tied to economic opportunities such as the establishment of the IT industry in the late 20th century. The author argues that Bangalore's growth into a major economic hub was both a cause and effect of increased migration. The early phases of migration were largely driven by the British colonial administration, which brought workers from other regions for public work and administration. After independence, the city's burgeoning industries attracted skilled and unskilled labour. This historical perspective is crucial for understanding the underlying causes of present-day migration patterns. The boom in economic opportunities in the post 1991 era led to a large-scale influx of skilled labour, particularly in the IT sector.

Karnataka's economic growth was fuelled by the capital city of Bengaluru. In 2023-24, the city contributed 37.8% to the GSDP and had the highest per capita income of 7.6 lakh. (Karnataka Economic Survey, 2023-24). Bengaluru's economy may be closely associated with the IT/ITES Industry, which employs approximately two million people. The city attracts around \$5-6 billion FDI annually, thanks to its reputation as the "Silicon Valley of India" and also as a start-up hub (Federal Foreign Office (2024)). IT Giants: Wipro and Infosys began their journey headquartered in the city, kicking off an IT revolution bolstered

by a conducive educational and economic environment. Bengaluru ranks fifth as a preferred destination for global companies and house offices of Uber, Apple, Visa, IBM, and Google, as well as emerging Indian firms, such as Flipkart, Mu Sigma, Ola, and Swiggy. Further boosting the city’s economy are its thriving sectors of heavy and light manufacturing, electronics, biotechnology, finance and banking, aerospace, etc. Economic growth in Karnataka is concentrated around Bengaluru (PTI, 2024), leading to unequal regional growth. The booming economy of Bengaluru has become a magnet for migrants, who have transformed the city's demographic and economic profile.

### 5. Reasons for Migration in India

Since 1981, the Census of India has been collecting migration data based on reasons for migration. There have been seven reasons for this migration since 2001: Such as employment, business, marriage, moving with family, education, moving after birth (post-birth relocation), and others ( like retirement, displacement, etc.) Reasons for migration vary between males and females. According to the Census of India 2011, the main reason for internal migration for males is employment, and for females is marriage. Almost the same reasons were reported in a recently published 78th report by NSSO.

The main reason for internal migration for males is employment, and for females, marriage. Almost the same reasons were reported in a recently published 78th report by NSSO.

**Table 1: Percentage Of Distribution Of Migrants Based on the Reasons for Migration ,2020-2021**

Migration Reason	Males			Females		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Employment	38.7	56.1	48.8	0.4	2.4	1.0
Studies	8.9	7.3	8	0.6	1.8	0.9
Marriage	10.5	2.4	5.8	93.4	71.5	87
Social/political problems	1.4	0.7	1	0.2	0.4	0.3
Migration with family	12.4	20.5	17.1	3.3	19.7	8
Other	28	13	19.3	2.1	4.2	2.7
All	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: NSSO Report No. 78th: Multiple Indicator Survey in India

According to the NSSO 78<sup>th</sup> Report, the main reason for male migration in both rural and urban areas is employment search (56.1%), followed by studies (7.3%). In the case of females, the main reason for both rural (93.4%) and urban (71.5%) migration is marriage, and

the second highest reason is to move to another place because of moving with parents or moving with earning members of the family.

According to the 78<sup>th</sup> NSSO report, 67.7% of urban migrants and 46.5% of rural migrants have increased their income due to migration. The trend of further migration is reflected in the findings that 8.7% are willing to migrate in the future and 62.7% want to migrate for employment reasons.

## **6. State-wise migration in India**

According to the Census of India, approximately 455 million people were migrants in 2011. The proportion of the migrant population varies across 28 states and seven UT in India. Census 2011 states that Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal have the highest migration, while Daman–Diu and Lakshadweep have the lowest migration.

Maharashtra (5,73,76,776.00), the nation's most industrialised state, attracts the highest migrant inflow because of pull factors that primarily include high employment opportunities. Uttar Pradesh (5,64,52,083.00), Andhra Pradesh (3,83,60,644.00), and West Bengal (3,34,48,472.00) had the highest rates of migration, leading to high push and pull factors (D-03, Table of Census of India, 2011).

Migration depends on push or pulls factors. If pull factors are high, there will be high in-migration; if push factors are high, there will be more out-migration. According to the 2011 Census of India, most eastern states are sending states for inter-state migration. Maharashtra, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, and Haryana have the highest rates of inter-state migration (Peter et al., 2020). Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka recorded the highest net migration rates (Nayyar and Kim, 2018).

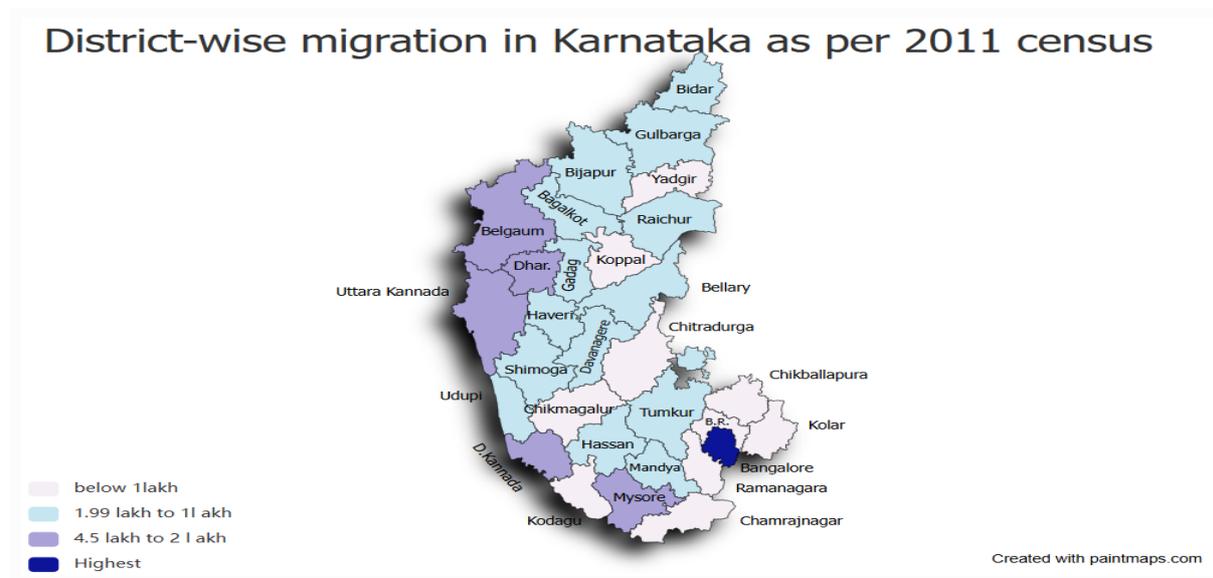
## **7. Migration in Karnataka**

### **7.1. District-wise Migration in Karnataka.**

There are 31 districts in Karnataka, and according to the 2021 UNDP report on HDI, each district has a different HDI index. The top three districts in the HDI are Bengaluru (0.73), Dakshin Kannada (0.68), and Chikkamagaluru (0.66), and the lowest is Yadgir (0.53). Karnataka is expected to generate employment of 60 to 75 lakhs by 2025, due to the service sector of the Government of Karnataka (2022). The gender equality index, based on 14 indicators, varied among the districts. Bengaluru has the highest Gender equality index of 0.73, followed by Udupi at 0.668 (Planning Department, CODR 2021). According to the Census of India 2001 and 2011, the number of migrants in Karnataka has increased from 1,65,60,377 to 26,44,63, which is a 59.79% increase in migration. According to the Census

2011, 87.7% of migration in Karnataka is intra-state, with only 12.3% inter-state migration. Fig 2 shows that Bengaluru (19.4%) had the highest migration rate, followed by Belgaum (8.68%) and Kodagu (1.02%).

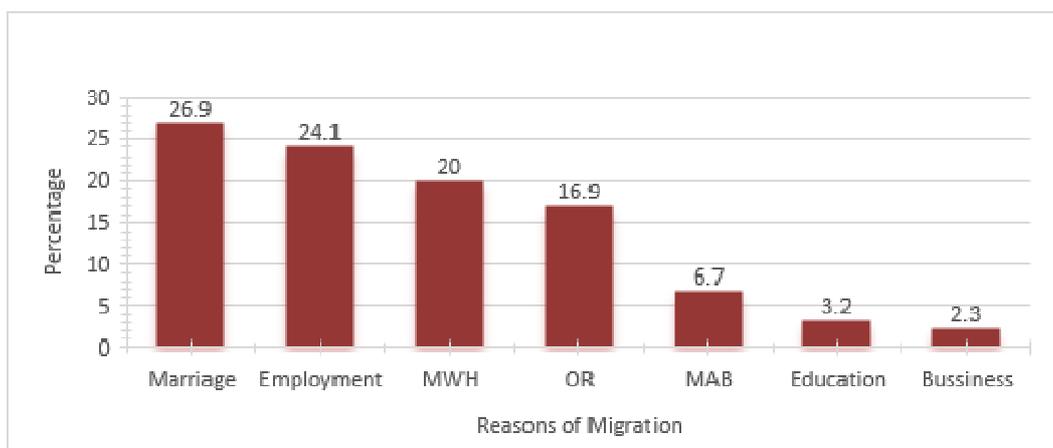
**Fig 2: District -wise -Migration in Karnataka as per 2011**



### 7.2. Reasons for Migration in Karnataka

According to the Census 2011, 26.9% of migration is marriage migration, the second highest is employment migration, and the third highest is moved with households in Karnataka. Census 2011 states the following seven fundamental reasons for migration.

**Fig.3. Reasons for migration in Karnataka**



Source: Census 2011, (Note: MWH = moved with the household; OR: Other reasons; MA: moved after birth ).

### 7.3. District-Wise Migration in Karnataka

Census 2011 highlights that Karnataka, the capital city of Bengaluru or Bengaluru Urban District, has the maximum migration (19.4%) and Kodagu the least (0.40%). In the case of Bengaluru Urban, the reasons for migration in terms of importance, as per the data, are as follows:

Employment Moved with household, Marriage, Moved after Birth, Education ,Business and others.

In keeping with its status as the political capital of the State and IT capital of India, Bengaluru attracts many migrants for employment. The district of Belgaum, which has the second-highest migration rate, attracts migrants for the following reasons: marriage, moving with family, and other reasons.

**Table 2: District-wise Migration in Karnataka**

Districts in Karnataka	Proportion of migrants to Karnataka	Employment	Education	Marriage	Moved	Moved with household	Business	Other
Bengaluru	19.43	27.91	2.67	14.83	4.10	21.21	1.72	27.5
Belgaum	8.68	5.31	1.04	38.50	21.03	9.59	0.34	24.2
Mysore	4.89	<b>8.79</b>	2.61	34.14	4.37	12.91	1.08	36.1
Tumkur	4.40	5.74	2.84	47.62	6.03	11.55	0.88	25.3
Dakshina Kannada	4.02	7.54	3.07	29.67	19.8	21.04	0.56	18.2
Gulbarga	3.44	6.56	1.40	42.92	2.98	8.23	0.63	37.2
Dharwad	3.27	8.92	1.58	30.53	19.68	12.12	0.69	26.4
Bellary	3.25	8.96	1.80	41.04	8.15	13.47	1.08	25.5
Bijapur	3.20	5.19	1.74	40.14	11.8	8.93	0.48	31.6
Bagalkot	3.15	5.43	1.19	36.44	16.3	10.68	0.47	29.4
Davanagere	3.06	5.37	1.91	38.24	7.28	10.35	0.83	36.0
Shimoga	2.92	8.95	2.98	39.75	12.7	14.82	0.84	19.8
Hassan	2.89	6.80	1.49	49.23	3.56	11.65	1.12	26.1
Uttara Kannada	2.73	7.74	1.86	33.57	23.5	13.82	0.39	19.0
Mandya	2.71	4.26	1.91	51.08	4.33	8.13	0.75	29.5
Haveri	2.61	4.57	1.61	41.67	20.1	8.08	0.40	23.4
Raichur	2.50	7.99	1.76	40.63	5.40	10.03	0.77	33.4
Chitradurga	2.30	5.85	1.81	46.12	5.49	9.19	0.97	30.5
Bidar	2.12	5.04	1.55	54.94	2.01	7.76	0.47	28.2
Udupi	2.11	6.56	1.86	28.61	<b>25.6</b>	18.56	0.46	18.2
Koppal	2.02	8.15	1.43	42.08	9.34	10.96	0.80	27.24

Chikmagalur	1.99	9.24	2.89	40.36	6.00	12.88	0.88	27.7
Kolar	1.96	5.86	2.51	51.86	2.12	9.75	1.00	26.9
Gadag	1.87	4.74	1.39	36.90	19.9	7.92	0.43	28.6
Chikkaballapura	1.69	5.81	<b>3.40</b>	<b>56.11</b>	3.00	9.13	1.09	21.4
Bengaluru Rural	1.68	12.33	1.54	40.56	3.18	14.81	0.92	26.6
Ramanagara	1.57	7.60	1.81	47.71	4.38	10.04	0.62	27.8
Yadgir	1.28	5.20	1.01	54.97	5.11	8.54	0.69	24.4
Chamarajanagar	1.26	3.91	1.46	49.93	5.91	7.54	0.57	30.6
Kodagu	1.02	15.38	2.26	31.71	12.4	21.35	0.89	15.9

Source: Census of India, 2011, and the author's calculations.

Table 2, shows district-wise migration among the districts of Karnataka.

According to the Government of Karnataka (2022), 88.3% of employment opportunities are provided by the private sector and only 11.7% by the government sector. Among the districts, Bengaluru Urban has service sector value of 83.4%, followed by Dharwad and Hassan. This clearly shows that the urbanisation and service sectors create high-paying jobs. Karnataka has created 21 lakh jobs in Bengaluru from the information technology services sector, which will create an additional 2.5 to 3.5 lakh high-skilled jobs in the next five years with the industry's complementary environment.

The formula used to calculate values is given in Table 2

**The proportion of migrants to Karnataka for each District** = (total migrants to a district/total inter-state migrants in Karnataka)  $\times$ 100

**Percentage of employment(reason) migrants** = (total migrants due to employment in a district  $\div$  total migrants in a district)  $\times$ 100.

**Percentage of education (reason) migrants** = (total migrants due to education in a district  $\div$  total migrants in a district)  $\times$ 100.

**Percentage of marriage (reason) migrants** = (total migrants due to marriage in a district  $\div$  total migrants in a district)  $\times$ 100.

#### 7.4 Intra-State and Inter-state Migration in Karnataka

Like other States in India, Karnataka registers intra- and inter-state migrations. According to the Census of India 2011, 88% of migration in Karnataka is in the intra-state, and only 12% in the inter-state.

**Table 3: Inter-State and Intra-State Migrants in Karnataka**

District	Inter-State Migration (%)	Intra –State Migration (%)
Bagalkot	3.0	97.0
Bengaluru	<b>33.4</b>	<b>66.6</b>
Bengaluru Rural	8.2	91.8
Belgaum	12.7	87.3
Bellary	<b>17.7</b>	<b>82.3</b>
Bidar	<b>15.4</b>	<b>84.6</b>
Bijapur	8.5	91.5
Chamarajanagar	5.8	94.2
Chikkaballapura	10.4	89.6
Chikmagalur	3.1	96.9
Chitradurga	5.0	95.0
Dakshina Kannada	12.5	87.5
Davanagere	<b>1.9</b>	<b>98.1</b>
Dharwad	4.6	95.4
Gadag	<b>1.4</b>	<b>98.6</b>
Gulbarga	8.2	91.8
Hassan	<b>1.7</b>	<b>98.3</b>
Haveri	<b>0.8</b>	<b>99.2</b>
Kodagu	9.3	90.7
Kolar	<b>14.8</b>	85.2
Koppal	4.5	95.5
Mandya	<b>1.9</b>	<b>98.1</b>
Mysore	5.3	94.7
Raichur	9.3	90.7
Ramanagara	3.3	96.7
Shimoga	3.6	96.4
Tumkur	6.1	93.9
Udupi	5.6	94.4
Uttara Kannada	4.6	95.4
Yadgir	6.5	93.5

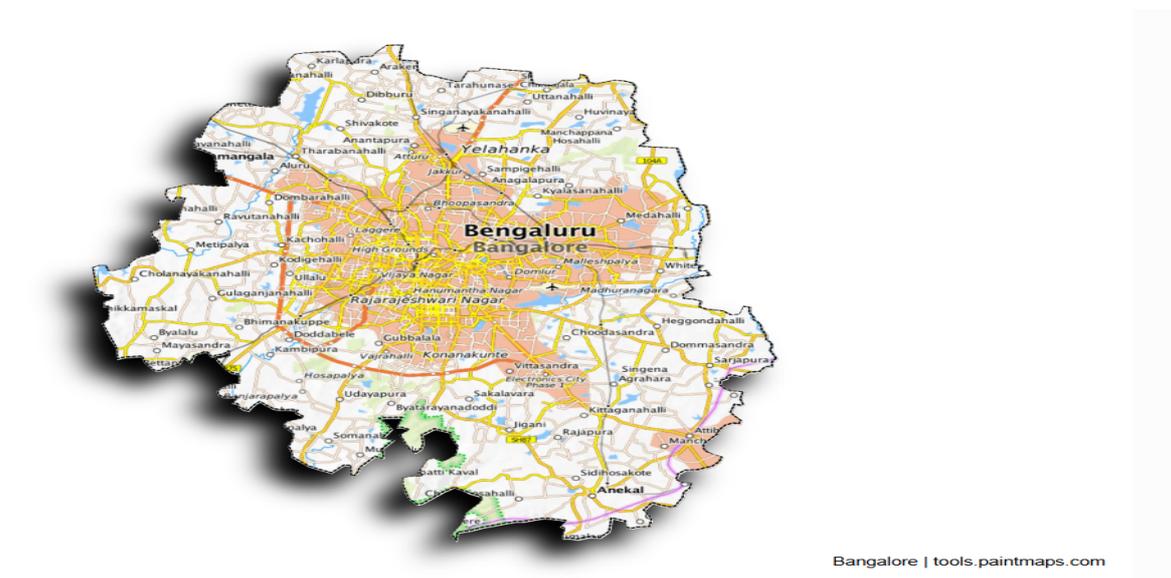
Source: Census of India , 2011

From the above table, we can infer the following.

- Haveri, Mysore, Hassan, Davengere, and Gadag show the highest intra-state migration.
- Bengaluru, Bellary, Bidar, and Kolar exhibit the highest inter-state migration. The job potential of Bengaluru, the Silicon Valley of India, has attracted people all over India. Bidar, Kolar, and Bellary are border districts, which might be the reason for high inter-state migration.

## 8. Bengaluru

Fig 4: Map of Bengaluru



### 8.1. Migration to Bengaluru.

Bengaluru, the fastest-growing city in India, is the third most populous city, after Mumbai and Delhi. With a population of 13.6 million, Bengaluru has a gross domestic product of Rs. 859154 crores, the highest among the 30 districts of Karnataka. This accounts for more than 80% of the state's GDP.

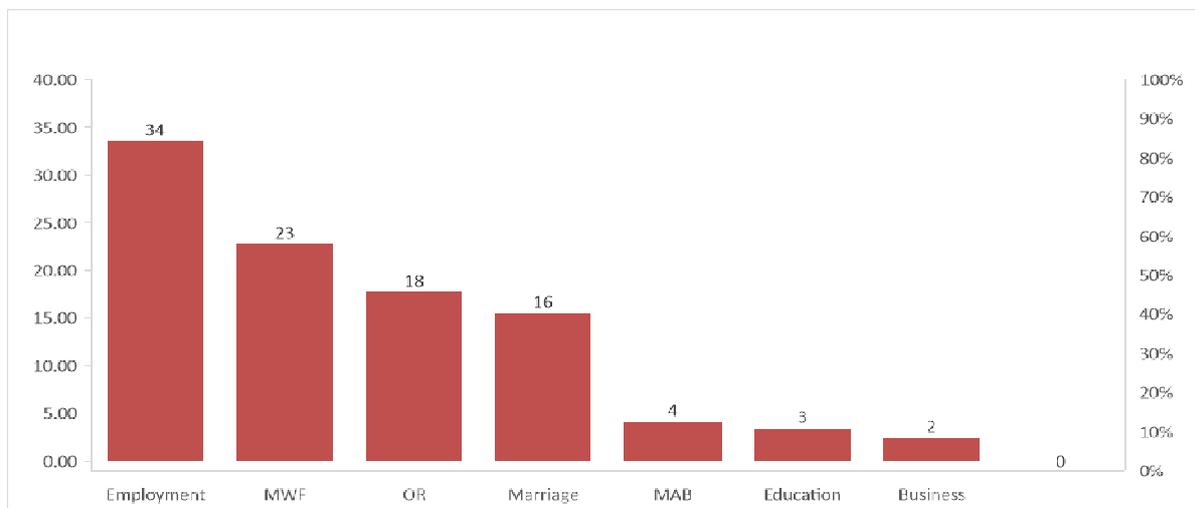
Given its geographical location, Bengaluru has attracted migrants. The pace of migration saw a surge with the emergence of the "Silicon Valley in India.". The booming information technology (IT) industry and overall economic prosperity saw an inflow of more diverse and skilled migrant populations. While rural-to-urban migration is still prevalent, the city also sees significant in-migration from other urban areas and even international migration, largely due to opportunities in the IT sector.

According to the 2011 Census of India, approximately 49% of the city's population comprises migrants and only 46% of the Kannada-speaking population. The wide prevalence of people from other cultures and languages, such as Tamil (13.99%), Telugu (13.89%), Urdu (12%), Hindi (5.4%), and Malayalam (2.8%), is a testimony to the city's cosmopolitan nature.

### 8.2. Reasons for Migration to Bengaluru

Bengaluru is the favoured destination for migrants, particularly in the post-1991 period, and this has led to nearly 50.6% of the city's population becoming a migrant population (2024). According to the 2011 Census of India, the main reason for migration to Bengaluru was employment, followed by movement with families.

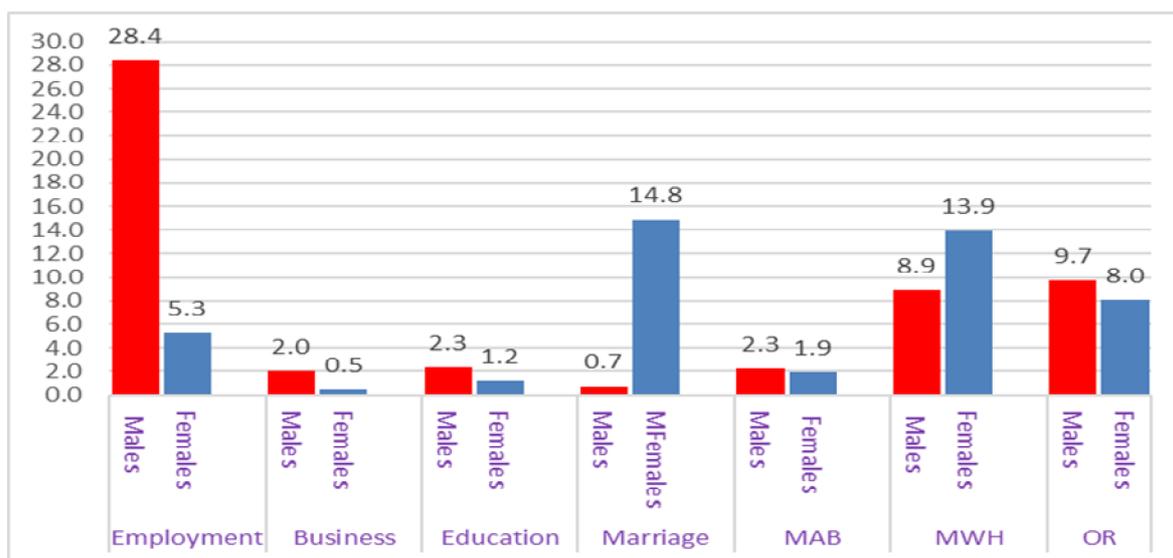
**Fig 5: Reason For Migration to Bengaluru as Per The 2011 Census.**



Source: Census of India, 2011

(Note: OR: Other reasons, MAB: moved after birth, MWF: moved with family)

**Fig 6: Gender-Wise Proportion of Migrants in Bengaluru**



Source: Author's calculation based on Census of India, 2011

(Note: MAB: Moved after birth; MWH: Moved with household; OR: Other reasons)

Fig 6 shows that 54% were male and 45.7% were female migrants in Bengaluru as per census 2011. The primary reason for migration towards Bengaluru is job opportunities, of which 33.6% are male migrants and 28.4% are female migrants. In the case of national migration, the highest proportion was due to marriage and employment. The second most common reason for males to migrate to Bengaluru was to move with family (8.9%), but for females, it was married (14.8%).

### 8.3. Inter-state Migration to Bengaluru

In Karnataka, Bengaluru had the highest inter-state migration rate (33.4%). The maximum inter-state migration to Bengaluru was from Tamil Nadu (33.65%), followed by Andhra Pradesh (23.15%) and Kerala (10.94%). This is because of the geographical proximity of the city to the three states mentioned above. The emergence of Bengaluru as an IT hub and startup capital, along with strong pull factors, such as high employment opportunities, pleasant weather, and good infrastructure facilities, make it a preferred destination for migrants. The migration trends to Bengaluru are based on spatial theory and the push-pull determinants of migration.

**Table 5: Inter-State Migration to Bengaluru, 2011 Census Of India**

State/UT from which migrated to Bengaluru	Total migrant	Migrant percentage	Urban Total	Rural Total	Rank
Tamil Nadu	5,23,648	33.65	<b>3,25,703</b>	1,56,190	1
Andhra Pradesh	3,60,309	23.15	2,11,065	1,23,703	2
Kerala	1,70,321	10.94	1,16,143	40,925	3
Rajasthan	82,468	5.3	48,544	27,634	4
Maharashtra	73,962	4.75	64,563	5,305	5
Uttar Pradesh	60,894	3.91	41,441	15,160	6
Bihar	53,798	3.46	32,283	17,813	7
West Bengal	48,180	3.1	38,655	6,641	8
Odisha	39,663	2.55	23,023	14,165	9
NCT of Delhi	28,460	1.83	25,851	1,213	10
Gujarat	23,049	1.481	17,604	4,016	11

Sources: Census of India, 2011, and authors' calculations.

Bengaluru migration has proven the spatial theory that it attracts migration because of its geographical benefits, high push, low pull factors, and better opportunities. Rank is given based on the extent of inter-state migration to Bengaluru.

**Fig 7: Proportion of Inter- state Migration in Bengaluru.**

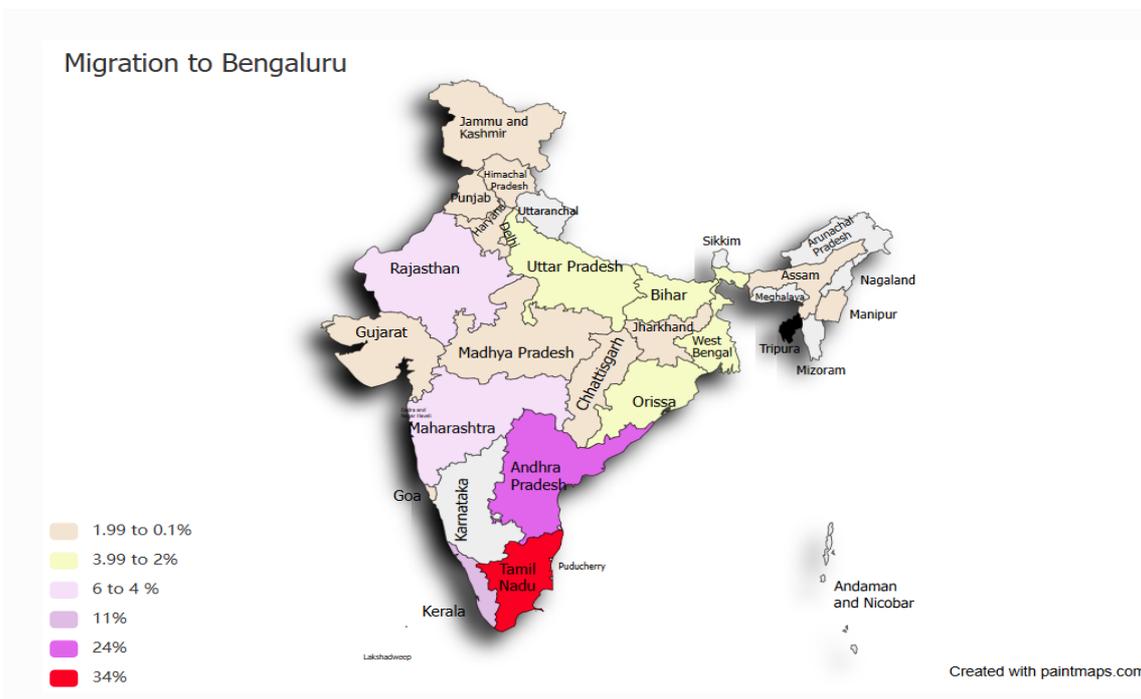


Fig 7, clearly shows that there is higher urban male migration to Bengaluru than any other stream of migration. As Bengaluru is an IT hub, it provides the maximum opportunities to attract many males.

**Conclusion**

In India, 1.27% of people stay outside the country, and 30% are far from their place of birth. Internal migration is more common than external migration in India. As of 2011, 455 million people (38% of the total population) had migrated to India. 88% of migration occurs within states, whereas 12% occurs between states. The main reasons for migration were employment for males and marriage for females. This implies widespread migration across the nation. With over 29.1% of the population displaced from their last place, it is important to understand migration and its impact on the economy, migrants, and the natives. The analysis shows that the main reasons for migration, whether internal or external, are better life for males and marriage for females. Karnataka has 31 districts, and according to the 2021 UNDP report on HDI, each district has a different HDI index. The top three districts in the HDI are Bengaluru (0.73), Dakshin Kannada (0.68), and Chikkamagaluru (0.66), and the lowest is Yadgir (0.53). Karnataka is expected to generate employment of 60 to 75 lakhs by 2025, due to the service sector of the Government of Karnataka (2022). The gender equality index,

based on 14 indicators, varied among the districts. Bengaluru has the highest Gender equality index of 0.73, followed by Udupi at 0.668 (Planning Department, CODR 2021). According to the Census of India 2001 and 2011, the number of migrants in Karnataka has increased from 1,65,60,377 to 26,44,63, which is a 59.79% increase in migration. According to the Census 2011, 87.7% of migration in Karnataka is intra-state, with only 12.3% inter-state migration. Bengaluru (19.4%) had the highest migration rate, followed by Belgaum (8.68%), and Kodagu (1.02%). This indicates that in Karnataka there is a need to develop other districts to decrease the pressure of migration in a few districts of Karnataka, specifically Bengaluru.

Bengaluru, the capital city is the most developed district in Karnataka with the highest HDI, GDI, and Literacy rates among all the districts of the State. In 2023-24, the city contributed 37.8% to the GSDP and had the highest per capita income of 7.6 lakh. (Karnataka Economic Survey, 2023-24).

As of 2011, 50.1% of Bengaluru's population consisted of migrants, 54% male migrants and 45.7% female migrants. The main reason for migration is employment, followed by family movement. The highest inter-state migration rate was observed in Karnataka (33.4%). Most migrants to Bengaluru are from other districts of Karnataka and the neighbouring states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Maharashtra. Northeastern India has the least number of migrants to Bengaluru. Another notable feature is that more people from urban areas relocated to Bengaluru than those from rural areas did. This could be attributed to the changing nature of the labour market in the city. On average, Bengaluru has more opportunities to offer a skilled workforce, especially in the secondary and tertiary sectors, as opposed to the primary sector. As the city grew to host the IT sector, a decline in the migrant population from rural areas was witnessed, drastically decreasing in the decade following the 1991 economic reform (LPG).

Bengaluru contributed 37.8% of Karnataka's GSDP. The city attracts \$5-6 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) annually. The IT/ITES industry employs approximately 2 million people. The city attracts approximately \$5-6 billion of Foreign Direct Investment annually. Bengaluru's growth as an IT hub and start-up capital are the major pull factors for migrants. Only 46% of Bengaluru's population are Kannada-speaking. Significant populations of Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Hindi, and Malayalam speakers.

Bengaluru's economy is closely associated with the IT/ITES Industry, which employs approximately two million people. Bengaluru, the Silicon Valley of India, offers conducive investment opportunities, infrastructural facilities, and good weather, all of which attract the

highest migration in the country. Bengaluru has the third-highest per capita share in India. The findings highlight that Bengaluru attracts migrants primarily for economic reasons, and the surge in migration is largely due to its thriving IT industry.

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