

**Infopack**  
**on**  
**Mother Tongue**  
**of People in Madhya Pradesh**  
Extracts from Census-2011

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## Infopack on Mother Tongue of People in Madhya Pradesh

- Language is a key indicator of diversity in Society
- People in Madhya Pradesh speak 104 Languages
- In all, along with sub-languages, 248 Languages are spoken in the State
- Hindi Group includes 47 Languages

Some Key Languages											
Area name	Mother tongue code	Mother tongue name	Total			Rural			Urban		
			P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
MP	006042	Bagheli/Baghel Khandi	2634542	1357027	1277515	2318888	1192588	1126300	315654	164439	151215
MP	006125	Bundeli/Bundel khandi	4300436	2267449	2032987	3503519	1848668	1654851	796917	418781	378136
MP	006142	Chhattisgarhi	107108	52995	54113	93374	46050	47324	13734	6945	6789
MP	006240	Hindi	49353587	25710651	23642936	33235355	17292869	15942486	16118232	8417782	7700450
MP	006391	Malvi	4680239	2383862	2296377	4187395	2131503	2055892	492844	252359	240485
MP	006432	Nimadi	2293841	1170085	1123756	2061725	1051001	1010724	232116	119084	113032
MP	006466	Pawari/Powari	225840	112321	113519	220489	109628	110861	5351	2693	2658
MP	030000	Bhili/Bholodi	3587810	1794814	1792996	3516097	1758229	1757868	71713	36585	35128
MP	044000	Gondi	1164290	576549	587741	1136976	563050	573926	27314	13499	13815
MP	067000	Korku	470386	237748	232638	466695	235905	230790	3691	1843	1848

The Humane Society can be proud of its instincts and skills to develop diversities and survive with them for thousands of years. Language is one its host of diversities that brings pride to it. It is very pertinent to accept the fact that 'Culture of Languages' makes our society inclusive and beautiful. This diversity should be protected for the betterment of humanity at large.

It is high time that we must promote reading and discussion of the Census data and relate ourselves with its findings and analytics. The Census data is one of the best sources to develop an empathetic understanding towards diversity. Census 2011 shows that more of the people identify Hindi as their Mother Tongue. However, it needs to be appreciated that as many as 248 languages have been identified as mother tongue, including the Hindi!

Madhya Pradesh is one of the largest states in India. One may follow the indicator of population, but it should also be kept in mind that Madhya Pradesh is also home to people who speak as many as 104 languages. These are the larger language groups/families and there are 248 Mother Languages and Dialects that are being used in their daily lives.

Language is not merely a channel of communication. It also has deep linkages in and with cultural identities and geo-political existence. For example, there is only 1 person who speaks Shina language, which is spoken by Shina people of Gilgit-Baltistan as well as in Dah Hanu, Dras and Gurez in Kashmir. Likewise, we also have languages like Rengma, Maring, Hmar and Gadba identified as Mother tongues that are spoken only by 1 person in each language group. This is the beauty of inclusiveness and theory of co-existence of human society which merits respect and protection.

It is also observed that there are 38 languages which are identified and indicated as the Mother Tongue, though are spoken by less than 10 persons, as the Census 2011 informs.

In the total population of 7.26 Crore, Hindi (as a group of languages) is spoken by 6.43 Crore persons as their Mother Tongue. It is important to clarify here that within this one language, there exist as many as 47 different languages and dialects, such as Awadhi, Banjari, Garhwali, Kangri, Kulvi, Marwari, Bahgeli, Bundeli, Jaunpuri, Khari Boli, Malvi, Nimari etc. All of them have their own peculiar dictionary, tone and expressions.

In Madhya Pradesh, whilst 4.93 Core persons categorically mention that they speak Hindi. However, within this group, there are 46.8 lakh persons who affirm that Malvi is their Mother Tongue, 43 Lakh identify themselves as Bundeli speaking, 26.35 Lakh as the Bagheli speaking and 22.94 Lakh stating that they are the Nimari speaking people. It is interesting to note that as many as 47 languages are identified as members of the Hindi Family!

Other than Hindi, it is also to be mentioned that Madhya Pradesh is also home to the highest number of indigenous people in the country. They are struggling to survive their identity. The languages spoken by the tribal people have independent existence. As many as 35.88 lakh persons identify Bhili/Bhilodi as their Mother Tongue. Also, 11.64 lakh tribal persons speak Gondi whilst 4.70 lakh persons have Korku as their Mother Tongue.

### **Education in Mother Tongue**

This matter must be seen in the context of human's growth and development plans. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act says "the academic authority, while laying down the curriculum and the evaluation procedure under sub-section (1), shall take into consideration the following .... (f) medium of instructions shall, as far as practicable, be in child's mother tongue."

There are number of studies to prove that education and communication in mother tongue and native language is one of the most powerful components for overall growth of the society. When children speak and express in their mother tongue, they perform much better in education as they can connect themselves with the statements and knowledge. It helps greatly in their cognitive and intellectual development. If children could get educated in their language, it would make it lot easier for them to acquire the learning of a second language. There are findings that if children don't learn their first language, it becomes difficult for them to learn the second language. Further, adoption of mother tongue from the perspective of identity is also very important. Being with the mother tongue helps the children to better connect themselves with their surroundings, culture and values; in a very deep sense.

Population by Mother Tongue – Madhya Pradesh											
No.	Mother tongue name	Included Languages	Total			Rural			Urban		
			P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	ASSAMESE	2	1870	1302	568	116	84	32	1754	1218	536
2.	BENGALI	3	109185	58238	50947	44874	23768	21106	64311	34470	29841
3.	BODO	3	87	56	31	16	7	9	71	49	22
4.	DOGRI	1	835	637	198	63	57	6	772	580	192
5.	GUJARATI	5	187211	94152	93059	77751	38952	38799	109460	55200	54260
6.	HINDI	47	64324963	33425588	30899375	46244040	23986371	22257669	18080923	9439217	8641706
7.	KANNADA	4	4175	2244	1931	1762	863	899	2413	1381	1032
8.	KASHMIRI	3	1050	612	438	379	195	184	671	417	254
9.	KONKANI	5	814	438	376	182	90	92	632	348	284
10.	MAITHILI	4	4129	2243	1886	953	538	415	3176	1705	1471
11.	MALAYALAM	2	37761	18897	18864	3162	1480	1682	34599	17417	17182
12.	MANIPURI	2	1009	646	363	75	47	28	934	599	335
13.	MARATHI	2	1231285	621953	609332	755463	379619	375844	475822	242334	233488
14.	NEPALI	2	8724	5184	3540	752	474	278	7972	4710	3262
15.	ODIA	5	18765	9836	8929	5734	2450	3284	13031	7386	5645
16.	PUNJABI	3	139658	73993	65665	42067	22508	19559	97591	51485	46106
17.	SANSKRIT	1	1871	988	883	851	451	400	1020	537	483
18.	SANTALI	3	404	218	186	224	122	102	180	96	84
19.	SINDHI	4	245161	125936	119225	3330	1719	1611	241831	124217	117614
20.	TAMIL	3	20544	11491	9053	2026	1074	952	18518	10417	8101
21.	TELUGU	3	24411	13575	10836	3927	2310	1617	20484	11265	9219
22.	URDU	3	916608	471380	445228	153735	80009	73726	762873	391371	371502
23.	ADI	3	426	243	183	355	201	154	71	42	29
24.	AFGHANI/KABULI/ PASHTO	1	12	7	5	0	0	0	12	7	5
25.	ANAL	2	13	9	4	0	0	0	13	9	4
26.	ANGAMI	2	27	16	11	4	2	2	23	14	9

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No.	Mother tongue name	Included Languages	Total			Rural			Urban		
			P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
27.	AO	1	16	11	5	0	0	0	16	11	5
28.	ARABIC/ARBI	2	1188	595	593	290	148	142	898	447	451
29.	BALTI	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
30.	BHILI/BHILODI	15	3587810	1794814	1792996	3516097	1758229	1757868	71713	36585	35128
31.	BHOTIA	2	57	37	20	32	21	11	25	16	9
32.	BHUMIJ	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
33.	BISHNUPURIYA	1	13	5	8	0	0	0	13	5	8
34.	CHAKHESANG	1	5	2	3	0	0	0	5	2	3
35.	CHAKRU/CHOKRI	1	5	2	3	5	2	3	0	0	0
36.	COORGI/KODAGU	2	19	13	6	4	2	2	15	11	4
37.	DEORI	1	7	4	3	1	1	0	6	3	3
38.	DIMASA	2	11	9	2	0	0	0	11	9	2
39.	ENGLISH	1	2381	1236	1145	463	281	182	1918	955	963
40.	GADABA	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
41.	GANGTE	1	8	5	3	0	0	0	8	5	3
42.	GARO	2	19	11	8	2	1	1	17	10	7
43.	GONDI	4	1164290	576549	587741	1136976	563050	573926	27314	13499	13815
44.	HALABI	2	1985	983	1002	1848	919	929	137	64	73
45.	HALAM	1	6	4	2	5	3	2	1	1	0
46.	HMAR	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
47.	HO	2	2579	1274	1305	2528	1251	1277	51	23	28
48.	KABUI	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	3	1	2
49.	KARBI/MIKIR	1	4	3	1	0	0	0	4	3	1
50.	KHANDESHI	4	37882	19349	18533	24807	12646	12161	13075	6703	6372
51.	KHARIA	2	142	59	83	86	42	44	56	17	39
52.	KHASI	1	13	10	3	2	1	1	11	9	2
53.	KHEZHA	1	4	2	2	3	1	2	1	1	0
54.	KHOND/KONDH	2	11	6	5	10	5	5	1	1	0
55.	KINNAURI	2	8	6	2	0	0	0	8	6	2

Population by Mother Tongue – Madhya Pradesh											
No.	Mother tongue name	Included Languages	Total			Rural			Urban		
			P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
56.	KISAN	1	6	3	3	3	2	1	3	1	2
57.	KOCH	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
58.	KODA/KORA	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0
59.	KOM	1	5	2	3	0	0	0	5	2	3
60.	KONDA	2	4	4	0	1	1	0	3	3	0
61.	KORKU	2	470386	237748	232638	466695	235905	230790	3691	1843	1848
62.	KORWA	2	2147	1109	1038	2023	1043	980	124	66	58
63.	KUI	1	93	59	34	93	59	34	0	0	0
64.	KUKI	2	72	49	23	2	1	1	70	48	22
65.	KURUKH/ORAN	2	4132	2342	1790	1092	545	547	3040	1797	1243
66.	LADAKHI	1	59	54	5	9	5	4	50	49	1
67.	LAHAULI	2	319	177	142	319	177	142	0	0	0
68.	LAHNDIA	3	7738	3980	3758	6805	3503	3302	933	477	456
69.	LAKHER	2	21	11	10	12	4	8	9	7	2
70.	LEPCHA	1	19	7	12	0	0	0	19	7	12
71.	LIANGMEI	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1
72.	LOTHA	1	14	10	4	1	1	0	13	9	4
73.	LUSHAI/MIZO	1	181	114	67	12	3	9	169	111	58
74.	MALTO	1	196	102	94	196	102	94	0	0	0
75.	MAO	1	7	7	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
76.	MARAM	1	4	2	2	0	0	0	4	2	2
77.	MARING	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
78.	MISHMI	1	3	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	1
79.	MOGH	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1
80.	MONPA	1	7	3	4	1	1	0	6	2	4
81.	MUNDA	3	258	133	125	113	59	54	145	74	71
82.	MUNDARI	2	424	230	194	19	14	5	405	216	189
83.	NISSI/DAFLA	4	65	36	29	53	29	24	12	7	5
84.	PAITE	1	11	5	6	0	0	0	11	5	6

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No.	Mother tongue name	Included Languages	Total			Rural			Urban		
			P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
85.	POCHURY	1	44	26	18	44	26	18	0	0	0
86.	RABHA	1	27	14	13	18	9	9	9	5	4
87.	RAI	1	3	0	3	1	0	1	2	0	2
88.	RENGMA	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
89.	SANGTAM	1	6	4	2	0	0	0	6	4	2
90.	SAVARA	1	5	4	1	1	1	0	4	3	1
91.	SEMA	1	23	14	9	0	0	0	23	14	9
92.	SHINA	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
93.	TANGKHUL	2	7	3	4	2	2	0	5	1	4
94.	TANGSA	1	5	5	0	2	2	0	3	3	0
95.	THADO	1	5	3	2	0	0	0	5	3	2
96.	TIBETAN	2	71	33	38	65	30	35	6	3	3
97.	TRIPURI	4	26	20	6	3	3	0	23	17	6
98.	TULU	2	92	44	48	20	8	12	72	36	36
99.	VAIPHEI	1	8	5	3	0	0	0	8	5	3
100.	WANCHO	1	5	3	2	0	0	0	5	3	2
101.	ZELIANG	1	5	1	4	0	0	0	5	1	4
102.	ZEMI	1	5	2	3	0	0	0	5	2	3
103.	ZOU	1	7	5	2	0	0	0	7	5	2
104.	OTHERS	1	60814	31049	29765	54793	27855	26938	6021	3194	2827