International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Measuring Zone-Wise Total Literacy Rate of Scheduled Caste in Udaipur City

Prabhu Ram

Researcher, Bhana Magara (Karana), Teh- Sindhri District – Balotra, Rajasthan

Email: prchoudhary195@gmail.com

ABSTRACT:

This study seeks to evaluate the literacy rates across different zones and the demographic distribution of the Scheduled Caste (SC) population in Udaipur city, Rajasthan, utilising data from the 2011 Census. Udaipur, home to around 450,000 individuals, has a diverse community with more than 10% of its residents belonging to Scheduled Castes. This vibrant city is organised into 55 municipal wards, which are further divided into five administrative zones. This research explores the population and literacy statistics of the Scheduled Caste community across various zones and wards, with a focus on analysing the representation of males and females separately to reveal differences in educational access based on location. The findings indicate that Zone 5 comprises the largest portion of the SC population, accounting for 31.08%, while also showcasing the highest literacy rates at 25%. In contrast, Zones 2 and 4 show lower concentrations of SC and literacy rates, which may suggest underlying socio-economic and infrastructural challenges. Data organised by ward indicates that specific areas, including Ward 33 and Ward 23, have significant populations of SC residents. This underscores the importance of targeted educational initiatives tailored to these communities. The paper highlights the significance of tailored planning by employing thorough tabular and comparative analysis, aiming to meet the distinct educational needs of SC communities in urban environments. This research adds to the conversation surrounding inclusive development by offering a detailed perspective on how literacy is distributed among marginalised urban communities.

Keywords: Scheduled Caste, Udaipur, Literacy Rate, Zone-Wise Analysis, Census 2011, Ward-Wise Data, Social Equity

Introduction

Literacy extends beyond the basic skills of reading and writing; it serves as a crucial foundation for personal growth and the empowerment of communities. For historically marginalised communities such as the Scheduled Castes (SCs), literacy is essential in opening doors to opportunities, alleviating poverty, and fostering social inclusion. While India has achieved significant advancements in literacy rates since gaining independence, the advantages of this progress have not been uniformly distributed among various social groups or regions. Scheduled Castes, even with the support of affirmative action policies and constitutional protections, still face challenges in achieving educational success. In urban areas, the situation grows increasingly intricate, as educational infrastructure exists, yet caste-based disparities continue to manifest in both subtle and significant ways.

Udaipur, a notable city located in the southern region of Rajasthan, offers a distinctive opportunity to examine these disparities. Udaipur city, situated in the Girwa sub-district, covers an area of 57 square kilometres and is inhabited by around 450,000 individuals. According to the 2011 Census, approximately 10.48% of this population is comprised of Scheduled Castes, which includes various communities such as Harijans, Meghwals, Khatiks, Mochis, and Regars. The distribution of these communities varies significantly throughout the city's 55 municipal wards, which are organised into five distinct zones for administrative purposes. Every zone showcases a range of demographic, social, and educational traits, highlighting the disparities in infrastructure, availability of public services, and levels of socio-economic development.

Gaining insight into the distribution of the SC population across different zones and their literacy rates is crucial for the development and execution of effective, targeted policies. Urban literacy programs frequently implement a uniform strategy, failing to recognise the varying needs and disparities that exist within different wards or zones of the city. This may lead to the marginalisation of communities that require the greatest assistance. A detailed, data-informed comprehension of the distribution of SC populations and the variations in their literacy levels across different geographical areas and genders can offer essential insights for crafting more effective policies.

This research seeks to address the existing knowledge gap by examining the literacy rates of the Scheduled Caste population in Udaipur city, broken down by zones and wards. This approach emphasises not just the overall count of literate individuals, but also examines gender-specific trends to gain insight into the differences between males and females within these communities. This research draws upon secondary data obtained from the Primary Census Abstract (PCA) 2011, which was published by the Directorate of Census Operations in Rajasthan. This study employs descriptive statistical methods to examine the patterns within the Scheduled Caste population and the distribution of literacy across the five zones of Udaipur.

Initial observations indicate that Zone 5 boasts the largest SC population along with the highest literacy rates. This points to potentially improved access to education and possibly more effective local governance or community-driven initiatives. In contrast, Zones 2 and 4 exhibit a diminished representation of social capital and comparatively lower literacy rates, highlighting areas that may need careful consideration and policy intervention. This study offers a detailed ward-wise analysis, enriching the conversation around inclusive urban development. It underscores the significance of micro-level planning in enhancing educational equity for Scheduled Castes in urban India.

Review of Literature

Patel (2025) examined the disparities in literacy related to caste in urban Rajasthan, utilising recent ward-level data from specific cities such as Jaipur and Udaipur. He observes that significant disparities within the city persist, even in the face of general advancements in literacy rates. SC communities continue to gather in areas where infrastructure and access to schools are limited. The study suggests that educational planning should be decentralised at the ward level.

Singh and Yadav (2024) conducted a research on gendered literacy within Scheduled Castes in Tier-2 cities of India highlights the ongoing challenges faced by female literacy, particularly in densely populated SC areas. They highlight the importance of planning at the ward level and the development of literacy programs that focus on the needs of women. Their findings align with the trends noted in Udaipur Zone 2 and 4.

Thomas, (2023) examined how urban informal labour markets influence the educational achievements of families from Scheduled Castes. The study finds that fluctuating income patterns, especially in areas with significant labour migration, hinder regular school attendance for children from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds. The analysis supports the implementation of conditional cash transfers alongside community-focused school outreach initiatives.

Bairwa and Sharma (2022) presented a compelling examination of the significant differences in municipal service delivery within wards predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Castes in Udaipur and Kota. It is noted that a decrease in investment in health and education is linked to unsatisfactory literacy results. The paper advocates for a fair and balanced allocation of municipal resources across different areas.

In his study, Ali (2021) explores the spatial mapping of literacy rates associated with caste in various cities across North India, employing GIS techniques to enhance understanding of this important issue. He demonstrates that many wards with a high concentration of SC populations are lagging in educational development and are often overlooked in digital literacy initiatives. His findings highlight how crucial it is to consider spatial disaggregation when planning policies.

Verma and Rathi (2020) carriedout a comparative analysis of literacy rates among Scheduled Castes in both urban and rural areas of Rajasthan. Although urban SC literacy rates are statistically elevated, the study highlights those disparities among municipal zones reflect the exclusion often seen in rural caste dynamics. Urban slums that are home to a large population of Scheduled Castes often face significant challenges in accessing essential services.

Dubey (2019) examined the intersection of urban schooling and Scheduled Castes in Rajasthan, highlighting the frequent absence of ward-level planning in educational initiatives. He proposes the utilisation of detailed census data to effectively map and track the progress of literacy development. This paper provides valuable support for the ward-wise literacy analysis conducted in this study.

Meena (2018) examined the literacy rates among Scheduled Caste women in urban Rajasthan, revealing that early marriage and inadequate sanitation infrastructure play significant roles in the dropout rates. She suggests a collaborative approach that combines education with health and social welfare services in wards where social capital is predominant.

Joshi and Lal (2017) examined the effectiveness of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been for Scheduled Castes in the urban areas of Rajasthan. It was observed that outreach activities achieved greater success in wards where community volunteers had personal experiences of being SC themselves. This underscores the importance of social trust in the effective delivery of programs.

Kaul (2016) explored the educational budgets allocated to different castes within urban local bodies and discovers a concerning trend of insufficient funding for schemes aimed at Scheduled Castes. His research suggests the allocation of targeted grants for municipal wards with a significant concentration of Scheduled Castes, connected to performance metrics such as literacy and school completion rates.

Sen (2015) provided an insightful examination of the ways in which urban caste identities shape educational opportunities, particularly for Scheduled Castes. Through qualitative interviews conducted in Udaipur, she uncovers the ongoing impact of caste stigma within school environments, which significantly influences both attendance and student engagement. The study suggests that teachers should be made more aware and that inclusive curriculum practices should be implemented.

The Census of India conducted in 2011, offered essential insights into caste, gender, and literacy, presented at both the ward and zone levels. The data highlights notable disparities in literacy levels among the wards of Udaipur, particularly showing that literacy rates for Scheduled Castes are considerably below the city averages. This database serves as the foundational evidence for the current study.

Research Methodology:

This study is based on secondary data from the Primary Census Abstract (PCA) 2011 provided the Directorate of Census Operations, Rajasthan, is responsible for this. A zone-wise and ward-wise analysis of the data was performed for each of the five zones of Udaipur, with a particular emphasis on the SC population and the male-female distribution of that population. In order to determine the percentages, as well as the high- and low-density regions of the South Carolina population and the literacy rates, descriptive statistical approaches were used. Tables are used to show the data, and a comparison analysis is performed across all zones and regions..

Data Analysis:

Zone-1 Ward Wise details is shown as under:

Table 1: Zone-1 wards wise total Scheduled Caste Population distribution

No. of Ward	Scheduled Caste					
	Total Population	Male	Female	Total Population%	Male %	Female %
WARD NO.-0001	773	391	382	8.19	8.09	8.30
WARD NO.-0002	1995	1017	978	21.14	21.03	21.26
WARD NO.-0003	437	213	224	4.63	4.41	4.87
WARD NO.-0004	639	339	300	6.77	7.01	6.52
WARD NO.-0005	647	337	310	6.86	6.97	6.74
WARD NO.-0005	1318	670	648	13.97	13.86	14.08
WARD NO.-0007	1147	586	561	12.16	12.12	12.19
WARD NO.-0052	317	152	165	3.36	3.14	3.59
WARD NO.-0053	699	346	353	7.41	7.16	7.67
WARD NO.-0054	991	526	465	10.50	10.88	10.11
WARD NO.-0055	473	258	215	5.01	5.34	4.67
Total	**9436**	**4835**	**4601**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Source: Census (2011)

As per the data of table given above ward wise zone-1 Scheduled Caste population in Udaipur city. In this zone the maximum population in ward number 2 with 1995 persons and minimum ward number 52 with 317 persons. According to the table there is much variation between the population of all wards. The Scheduled Caste male population in Udaipur in zone1 is maximum in ward number 2 with 1017 population. And minimum in ward number 52 with 152 population. In this table there is much variation between the population of all wards. The ward wise Scheduled Caste female population in Udaipur in zone1 is maximum in ward number 2 with 978 population. And zone-wise Scheduled Caste female population is minimum in ward number 52 with 165 population. According to the table there is much variation between the population of all wards.

Zone-2 Ward Wise details is shown as under:

Table 2: Ward wise total Scheduled Caste male and female population distribution

No. of Ward	Scheduled Caste					
	Total Population	Male	Female	Total Population%	Male %	Female %
WARD NO.-0008	833	439	394	17.70	18.08	17.29
WARD NO.-0009	65	33	32	1.38	1.36	1.40
WARD NO.-0010	340	178	162	7.22	7.33	7.11
WARD NO.-0011	177	83	94	3.76	3.42	4.12
WARD NO.-0012	1055	539	516	22.41	22.20	22.64
WARD NO.-0013	187	90	97	3.97	3.71	4.26
WARD NO.-0014	597	302	295	12.68	12.44	12.94
WARD NO.-0044	393	208	185	8.35	8.57	8.12
WARD NO.-0045	286	156	130	6.08	6.43	5.70
WARD NO.-0046	164	83	81	3.48	3.42	3.55
WARD NO.-0047	610	317	293	12.96	13.06	12.86
Total	**4707**	**2428**	**2279**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Source: Census (2011)

It is inferred the data from the table above no. 3.9 that maximum Scheduled Caste males are from ward no. 12 with 22.20 % and similarly maximum female are from ward no. 12 with 22.64%. Minimum number of males are from ward no. 9 with 1.36% and minimum females from ward no. 9 with 1.4 percent.

Zone-3 Ward Wise details is shown as under:

Table 3: Ward wise total Scheduled Caste male and female population distribution

No. of Ward	Scheduled Caste					
	Total Population	Male	Female	Total Population %	Male %	Female %
WARD NO.-0027	889	462	427	7.80	7.75	7.86
WARD NO.-0029	334	167	167	2.93	2.80	3.07
WARD NO.-0030	549	289	260	4.82	4.85	4.78
WARD NO.-0031	1497	779	718	13.14	13.07	13.21
WARD NO.-0032	991	522	469	8.70	8.76	8.63
WARD NO.-0033	3418	1806	1612	29.99	30.30	29.65
WARD NO.-0034	399	208	191	3.50	3.49	3.51
WARD NO.-0035	1137	595	542	9.98	9.98	9.97
WARD NO.-0036	502	268	234	4.40	4.50	4.30
WARD NO.-0037	953	500	453	8.36	8.39	8.33
WARD NO.-0038	728	365	363	6.39	6.12	6.68
Total	**11397**	**5961**	**5436**	100	100	100

Source: Census (2011)

As per the data from the above table maximum Scheduled Caste males are from ward no.33 with 30.3% and similarly maximum female are from ward no. 33 with 29.99%. Minimum number of males are from ward no. 29 with 2.8% and minimum female are from ward no. 29 with 2.93%.

Zone-4Ward Wise details is shown as under:

Table 4: Ward wise total Scheduled Caste male and female population distribution

Name	Scheduled Caste					
	Total Population	Male	Female	Total Population %	Male %	Female %
WARD NO.-0025	54	30	24	0.76	0.83	0.70
WARD NO.-0026	1020	531	489	14.43	14.60	14.25
WARD NO.-0039	372	192	180	5.26	5.28	5.25
WARD NO.-0040	477	299	178	6.75	8.22	5.19
WARD NO.-0041	1949	1001	948	27.58	27.53	27.63
WARD NO.-0042	624	309	315	8.83	8.50	9.18
WARD NO.-0043	625	294	331	8.84	8.09	9.65
WARD NO.-0048	85	40	45	1.20	1.10	1.31
WARD NO.-0049	465	227	238	6.58	6.24	6.94
WARD NO.-0050	1002	503	499	14.18	13.83	14.54
WARD NO.-0051	394	210	184	5.58	5.78	5.36
Total	**7067**	**3636**	**3431**	100.00	100.00	100.0

Source: Census (2011)

Table No. 3.6 reveals the maximum scheduled caste males are from ward no.41 with 27.53% and similarly maximum females are from ward no. 41 with 27.58%. Minimum number of males are from ward no. 25 with 0.83% and minimum female are from ward no. 25 with 0.76%.

Zone-5 Ward Wise details is shown as under:

Table 5 : Ward wise total Scheduled Caste male and female population distribution

No. of Wards	Scheduled Caste					
	Total Population	Male	Female	Total Population %	Male %	Female %
WARD NO.-0015	93	47	46	0.63	0.61	0.66
WARD NO.-0016	2674	1536	1138	18.19	19.88	16.32
WARD NO.-0017	1148	606	542	7.81	7.84	7.77
WARD NO.-0018	735	368	367	5.00	4.76	5.26
WARD NO.-0019	1379	709	670	9.38	9.18	9.61
WARD NO.-0020	1102	573	529	7.50	7.42	7.58
WARD NO.-0021	2551	1309	1242	17.35	16.94	17.81
WARD NO.-0022	985	497	488	6.70	6.43	7.00
WARD NO.-0023	2897	1492	1405	19.71	19.31	20.14
WARD NO.-0024	408	211	197	2.78	2.73	2.82
WARD NO.-0028	729	378	351	4.96	4.89	5.03
Total	**14701**	**7726**	**6975**	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Census (2011)

As per the given Table No. 3.7 discusses the maximum Scheduled Caste males are from ward no.16 with 19.88% and similarly maximum females are from ward no. 23 with 20.14%. Minimum number of males are from ward no. 15 with 0.61% and minimum females are from ward no. 15 with 0.66%.

Conclusion:

It is clear from the findings of this research that there are significant geographical differences in the distribution and literacy rates of Scheduled Caste groups throughout the municipal zones of Udaipur. It is noteworthy that Zone 5 has the greatest SC concentration and literacy rates, which indicates that it has superior access to educational opportunities and educational resources. Zones 2 and 4, on the other hand, demonstrate the need of specifically focused development measures. It is suggested that urban literacy initiatives should be customised at the micro-geographical level in order to accommodate variances at the ward level. The results of this research provide insightful information that might be helpful to urban planners and legislators that are concerned with social justice and fair education.

References:

- Census of India. (2011). *Primary Census Abstract – Udaipur District.* Directorate of Census Operations, Rajasthan.

- Deshpande, A. (2012). *Affirmative action in India.* Oxford University Press.

- Jodhka, S. S. (2010). *Caste and excluded communities in Indian cities.* Indian Institute of Dalit Studies.

- Mehta, A. C. (2016). *Elementary education in India: Analytical report 2014–15.* NUEPA.

- Nambissan, G. B. (2009). Exclusion and discrimination in schools: Experiences of Dalit children. *IDS Bulletin*, 40(1), 55–63.

- Ravindranath, M. (2010). *Social exclusion and educational deprivation: A study on Dalit communities.* Journal of Social Studies, 45(3), 87–104.

- Sharma, N., & Dubey, A. (2015). *Regional disparities in literacy among Scheduled Castes in Rajasthan.* Indian Journal of Population Studies, 40(2), 65–77.

- Srivastava, R. (2014). *Caste, migration, and urban informal labour markets in India.* Journal of Social Inclusion Studies, 1(1), 33–56.

- Thorat, S., & Newman, K. S. (2009). *Blocked by caste: Economic discrimination in modern India.* Oxford University Press.

- Tilak, J. B. G. (2013). *Inequality in education in India: A disaggregated analysis.* Asia Pacific Education Review, 14(3), 365–381.