

# DISTRICT WISE VARIATIONS IN LITERACY RATE IN KARNATAKA STATE- 2011

**Prakash A.P.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Rural Degree College, Kanakapura.

## Abstract

Literacy plays an important role in the development of the region. Therefore literacy is considered as unquestionably the largest source of human capital consisting acquired abilities. The State of Karnataka, confined roughly within 11°35' North and 18°30' North latitudes and 74°5' East and 78°35' East longitudes, is situated on a tableland where the Western and Eastern Ghat ranges converge into the Nilgiri hill complex. To know the regional variation of Literacy rate in Karnataka. To know the consequences of the district wise variation. Census of Karnataka (2001) report have been used for the analysis. Arc GIS & Erdas Imagine are used for mapping. Among the districts, Dakshina Kannada District with overall Literacy rate of 88.57 per cent retains its top position, closely followed by Bangalore District (87.67 per cent) and Udupi District (86.24 per cent). The lowest overall Literacy rate of 51.83 per cent is recorded in the newly created Yadgir District, preceded by Raichur District which has recorded 59.56 per cent. Apart from these two districts, all the remaining 28 districts have registered more than 60 per cent Literacy rates.

**Key words:** Literacy, Disparity.

## Introduction

Literacy plays an important role in the development of the region. Therefore literacy is considered as unquestionably the largest source of human capital consisting acquired abilities (Schultz, 1996). Literacy is essential for eradication of poverty and mental isolation, for cultivating peaceful and friendly international relations and for permitting the free play of demographic processes (Chandana and Sidhu, 1980).

A person aged 7 years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language has been taken as literate. It is not necessary for a person to have received any formal education or passed any minimum educational standard for being treated as literate. People who were blind and could read in Braille are treated to be literates. A persons, who can neither read nor write or can only read but cannot write in any language, is treated as illiterate. All children of age 6 years or less, even if going to school and have picked up reading and writing, are treated as illiterate.

Literacy rate of population is defined as the percentage of literates to the total population age 7 years and above.

$$\text{Literacy rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Literates}}{\text{Population aged 7 +}} \times 100$$

## Study Area

The State of Karnataka, confined roughly within 11°35' North and 18°30' North latitudes and 74°5' East and 78°35' East longitudes, is situated on a tableland where the Western and Eastern Ghat ranges converge into the Nilgiri hill complex. Karnataka is a state in the southern part of India. It was created on November 1, 1956, with the passing of the States Reorganization Act. Originally known as the State of Mysore, it was renamed Karnataka in

1973. Karnataka is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Goa to the northwest, Maharashtra to the north, Andhra Pradesh to the east, Tamil Nadu to the southeast, and Kerala to the southwest. The state extends to about 750km from North to South and about 400km from East to West.

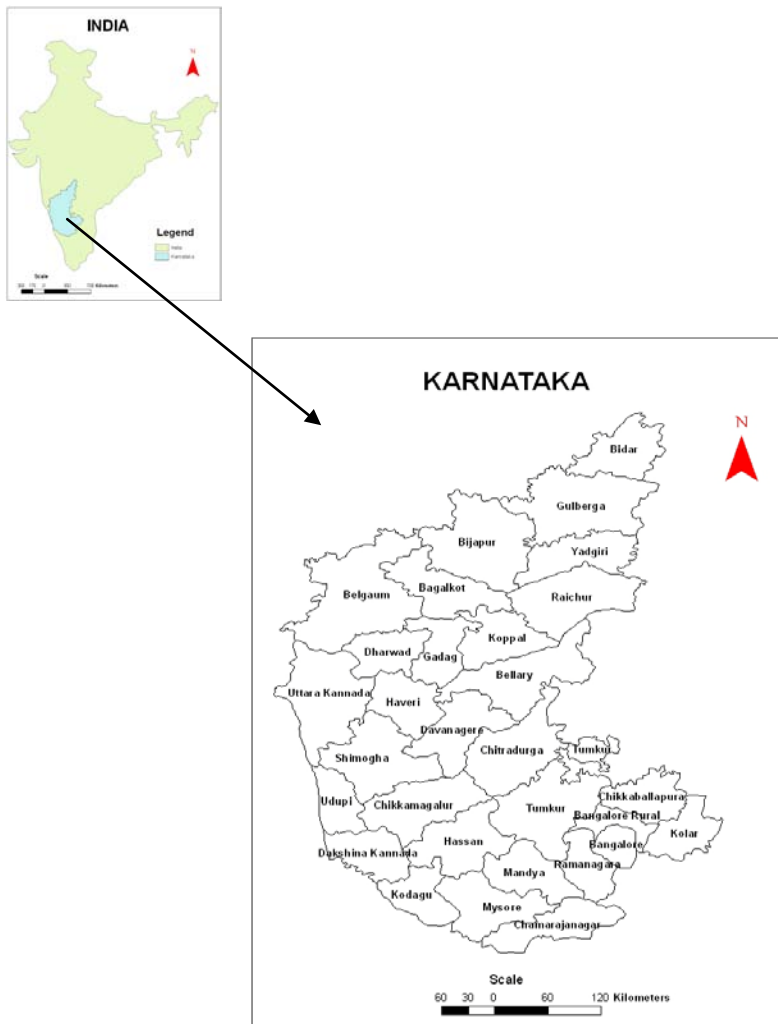


Figure 1. Study Area.

## Objectives

To know the regional variation of Literacy rate in Karnataka. To know the consequences of the district wise variation.

## Methodology

Census of Karnataka (2001) report have been used for the analysis. Arc GIS & Erdas Imagine are used for mapping.

Table 1. District wise Distribution of Literacy rate (%)-2011.

SI No	District Name	Literacy Rate								
		Rural			Urban			Total		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1.	Bangalore	84.7	71.4	78.6	92.5	86.1	89.5	91.8	84.8	88.5
2.	Bangalore Rural	83.8	66.8	75.5	89.8	81.2	85.9	85.4	70.7	78.3
3.	Ramanagara	74.2	56.1	65.2	85.5	77.6	81.6	76.9	61.3	69.2
4.	Chitradurga	79	62.1	70.7	90.9	81.8	86.4	81.4	66.1	73.8
5.	Davanagere	80.4	64.3	72.5	88.5	79.9	84.3	83	69.4	76.3
6.	Kolar	78.5	59.6	69.2	89.5	81.5	85.5	81.9	66.6	74.3
7.	Chikkaballapura	76.1	57.1	66.73	86.5	77.3	81.9	78.4	61.5	70.1
8.	Shimoga	82.9	69.6	76.3	91.7	84.3	88.1	86.1	74.9	80.1
9.	Tumkur	80	61.9	71.1	89.1	82.1	85.7	82.1	66.4	74.3
7	Chikmagalur	84	69.9	76.9	91.8	84.1	87.9	85.6	72.8	79.2
11.	Dakshina Kannada	91.1	79.7	<b>85.3</b>	95.7	88.7	92.2	93.3	84	<b>88.6</b>
12.	Udupi	90.1	78.4	83.9	95.5	89.2	<b>92.3</b>	91.6	81.4	86.3
13.	Hassan	81.5	64.1	72.3	91.1	84	87.5	83.5	68.3	75.9
14.	Kodagu	86	76.1	80.9	94.3	88.7	91.5	87.2	77.9	82.5
15.	Mandya	76.2	58.7	67.5	87.9	78.5	83.2	78.2	62.1	70.1
16.	Mysore	70.9	55.5	63.3	89.2	81.9	85.6	78.4	66.5	72.6
17.	Chamarajanagar	64.6	50.3	57.5	83.7	73.5	78.6	67.88	54.3	61.1
18.	Belgaum	79.8	59.3	69.7	91.8	80.4	86.2	82.9	64.7	73.9
19.	Bijapur	74.3	50.9	62.9	87.8	74.8	81.3	77.4	56.5	67.2
20.	Bagalkot	76.8	52.7	64.8	87.2	70.8	79.1	80.1	58.5	69.4
21.	Dharwad	81.3	62.5	72.2	91	81.6	86.3	86.8	73.6	80.3
22.	Gadag	83.1	60.4	71.9	88.2	73.9	81.1	84.9	65.3	75.2
23.	Haveri	83.4	67.5	75.6	87.3	81.5	84.4	84.2	70.6	77.6
24.	Uttar Kannada	87.7	74.6	81.2	94.7	86.9	90.8	89.7	78.2	84
25.	Bellary	73.3	51.6	62.6	84	69.9	76.9	77.2	58.3	67.8
26.	Bidar	76.8	56.7	67	89.2	76.6	83.1	79.9	61.6	71.1
27.	Gulbarga	69.6	47.5	58.7	86.3	73.1	79.8	75.1	55.8	65.6
28.	Yadgiri	59.1	35.8	<b>47.5</b>	81.5	64.4	<b>72.9</b>	63.3	41.3	52.4
29.	Raichur	67.1	43.3	55.2	83.3	67.7	75.6	71.3	49.6	<b>60.5</b>
30.	Koppal	76.6	52.2	64.9	86.3	70.7	78.5	78.2	56.2	67.2
<b>State</b>		<b>77.9</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>90.5</b>	<b>81.7</b>	<b>86.2</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>75.6</b>

Source: Census of India, Computed by researcher.

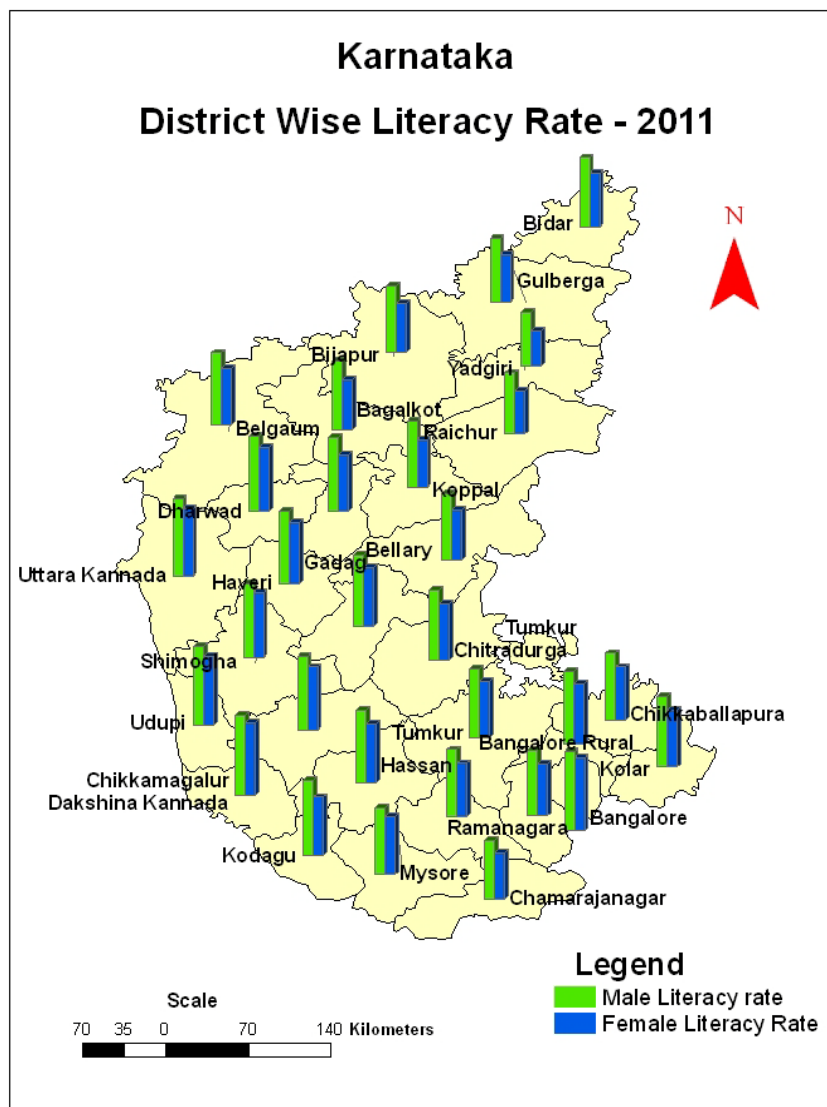


Figure 2. District wise Distribution of Literacy rate (%) - 2011.

## Result & Discussion

Literacy on the other hand takes away from man his dignity, perpetuates ignorance, national relations and free demographic process and hinder social development/ awareness/ civil séances, economic growth and environmental maturity. In view of this importance, the present analysis, an attempt has been made understand district wise literacy ratio of study area during 2011.

The average literacy rate of India was 65.38% and Karnataka state literacy rate was 66.6% (2001). In the same time B angalore rural, Chitradurga, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Gadag, Bellary, Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur,

Kopall districts has a less literacy rate than Karnataka state, but remaining districts has higher than the state literacy rate this indicates the regional disparity.

The State is witnessing constant increase in the Effective Literacy Rate over the past decades. In continuation of the trend witnessed during the previous decades the Literacy Rate of the State has increased from 66.64 per cent in 2001 to 75.36 per cent in 2011.

While the Male Literacy has increased from 76.10 per cent to 82.47 per cent, the Female Literacy rate has increased from 56.87 per cent to 68.08 per cent. The increase in the Female Literacy rate by 11.21 percentage points against the Male Literacy rate increase of 6.37 percentage points has substantially narrowed the gap between Male – Female Literacy rates.

Among the districts, Dakshina Kannada District with overall Literacy rate of 88.57 per cent retains its top position, closely followed by Bangalore District (87.67 per cent) and Udupi District (86.24 per cent). The lowest overall Literacy rate of 51.83 per cent is recorded in the newly created Yadgir District, preceded by Raichur District which has recorded 59.56 per cent. Apart from these two districts, all the remaining 28 districts have registered more than 60 per cent Literacy rates.

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