

Highlights

- 148.1 million households in the country lived in rural areas and 58.5 million households lived in urban areas. The rural population had 954 females per 1000 males while the urban population had 916. The household head was a female in only 10% of households. Most households – about 70% – had one married couple. Among households of this kind living in urban slums, 44% did not have a separate room for the married couple.
- About half of the principal earners of the households, be it rural or urban, normally travel 2 km or less to reach their place of work.
- 9 out of every 10 households in both rural and urban India get sufficient drinking water throughout the year. About 7 households in rural and 8 in urban (out of 10) get it through tap or tube-well. The increase is substantial, particularly in the rural areas, compared to the situation prevailing some ten years ago when only 19% rural and 70% urban households were enjoying this facility.
- Use of electricity as the main source of energy for lighting has substantially increased over the last ten years. Now, more than half the rural households and 92% of urban households depend on electricity. Use of Kerosene for lighting is high (46%) even now in the rural areas.
- About 41% urban households do not receive any assistance from civic bodies for regular disposal of garbage from their premises. About 20% urban households (26% in the slums) do not have any regular mechanism for disposal of garbages from their premises.
- Possession of radio/tape-recorder among the rural population has increased to 67% from about 29% in 1993. In urban areas, 51% households possess this - lower than the percentage of households possessing a television set.
- Only 1 in 4 rural households possess a TV set. About 10% have cable TV for viewing private channels. In urban areas, 66% households have TV, and 41% have cable facility as well.
- The bicycle is possessed by about half the households in both rural and urban areas. 7% rural and 24% urban households own a moped or scooter.
- Ownership of four-wheelers - car or jeep - is restricted to about 4% urban and less than 1% rural households. However, 1.7% rural households possess a tractor.
- Personal computer with Internet facility is available in only 1.4% urban households. Another 1.7% have it without Internet. In rural India, a PC with Internet facility is practically non-existent as a household possession. 0.6% rural households have a PC without Internet facility.

- Refrigerator (possessed by 28% of urban households), air cooler (15%) and washing machine (11%) are three other popular consumer durables among the urban people. In rural areas, the proportion of households is less than 4% for refrigerators, 2.5% for air coolers and less than 1% for washing machines.
- About 29% urban households live in hired accommodation and another 6% in accommodation provided by the employer. Among rural households, only 4% live in hired accommodation, the percentage being 10 or more only in the top two expenditure classes.
- On an average, an urban household pays Rs. 673 as monthly rent and almost Rs.2200 as non-adjustable deposit. About 50% urban tenant households pay Rs.400 or less as monthly rent. About 79% urban tenants occupied their rented dwelling in or after 1995. Only 39% urban house owners stay with their tenants in the same house.
- Household in-migration is about 1.6% in rural areas and 4.6% in urban areas. In-migration to urban slums was highest for OBC and Others (3.5%) and for urban areas other than the slums, in-migration was more among the ST households (7.7%) and Others (5.3%).
- The incidence of in-migration of at least one household member in rural areas was 3.1 per cent, which was marginally lower than that of out-migration of at least one member (3.5%). In urban areas, in-migration of at least one member occurred in around 4.4% households, whereas out-migration occurred in about 2% households.
- 4 households from ST, 26 from SC, 29 from OBC and 40 from Others make up every 100 households in urban slums and squatter settlements.
- More than half the slum dwellers have been in the slums for more than 15 years. About 20% have moved in during the last five years. About 30% used to stay in a village before coming to the slum.
- About 20% slum households do not possess any document like ration card or voter ID-card.
- Very few (4%) of the slum-dwelling households have tried ever to move out of the slum.