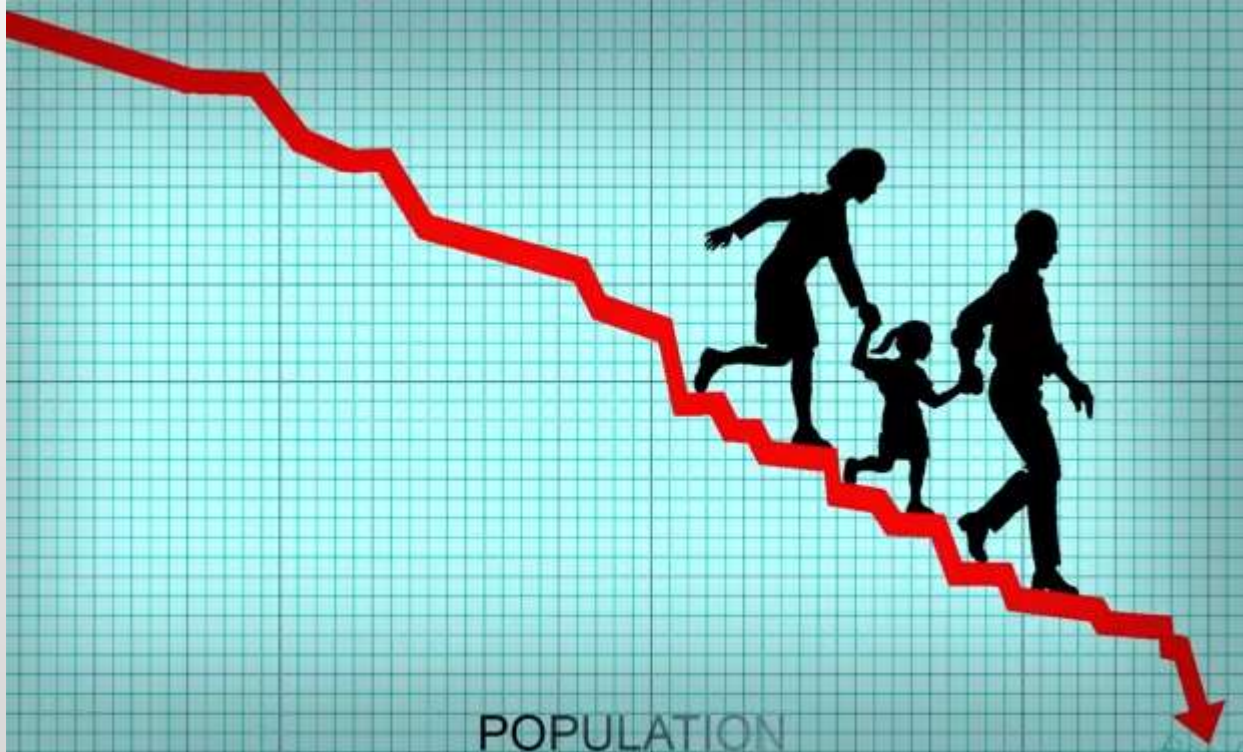


Declining Population of Jains – A myth or reality



Dheeraj Jain

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(The views expressed are personal.)

Population Census

- In India, Census is the only source of reliable and authentic information on population and its demographic characteristics.
- Ever since its inception in 1881, the Census of India has been collecting and publishing information about the data on religion, followed by people of India and as reported by them.
- The religion data, made available by Census, reflects the social composition and dynamics of the society at a particular point of time.
- Data for Census 2011 was collected in the country in February 2011.

Q. 7
Religion

(Write name of the religion in full)

Also give code in box if found in the list below

For other religions, write name of the religion in full but do not give any code number

Hindu	1
Muslim	2
Christian	3
Sikh	4
Buddhist	5
Jain	6

The individual response to the question on religion were recorded in question no. 7 in a numeric form for each member independently.

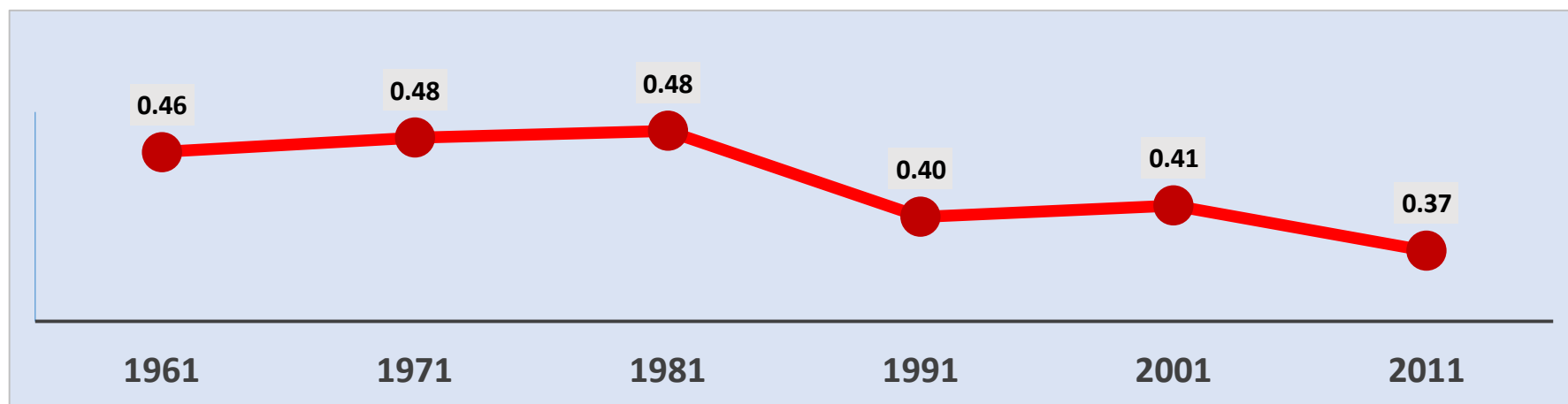
Population composition - 2011

	Total population	%
India	121,08,54,977	100.00
Hindu	96,62,57,353	79.80
Muslim	17,22,45,158	14.23
Christian	2,78,19,588	2.30
Sikh	2,08,33,116	1.72
Buddhists	84,42,972	0.70
Jains	44,51,753	0.37
Others	1,08,05,037	0.89

Jains are smallest religious community in India in terms of population.

Proportion of Jain Population to the total (%): 1961-2011

Year	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist	Jain
1961	83.45	10.69	2.44	1.79	0.74	0.46
1971	82.73	11.21	2.60	1.89	0.70	0.48
1981	82.64	11.35	2.43	1.97	0.71	0.48
1991	82.00	12.12	2.34	1.94	0.76	0.40
2001	80.46	13.43	2.34	1.87	0.77	0.41
2011	79.80	14.23	2.30	1.72	0.70	0.37

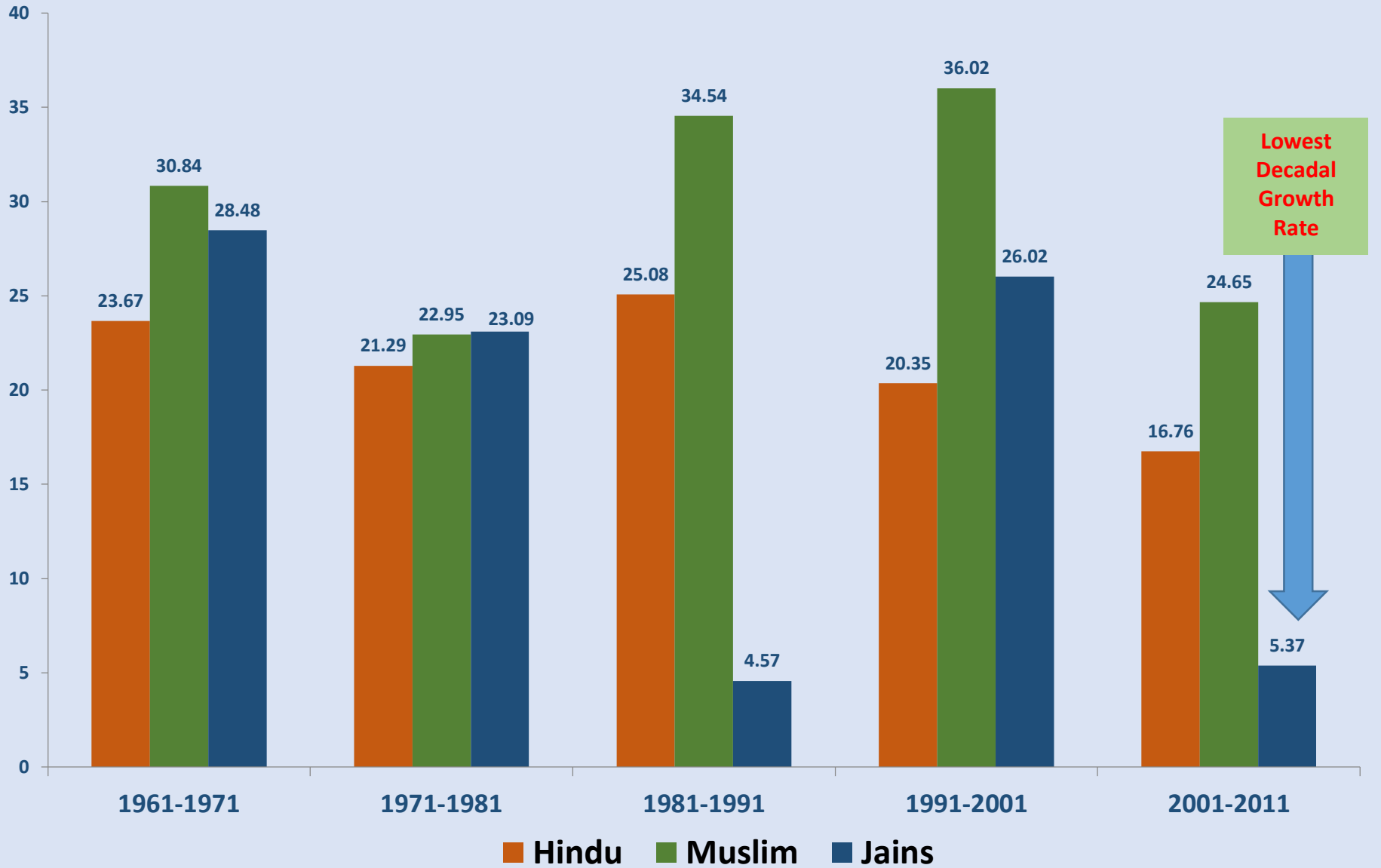


Decadal growth rate (in %): 1961-2011

Decade	India	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhists	Jains
1961-1971	24.75	23.67	30.84	32.58	32.28	17.08	28.48
1971-1981	21.41	21.29	22.95	13.65	26.01	23.80	23.09
1981-1991	26.05	25.08	34.54	21.50	24.33	35.33	4.57
1991-2001	22.66	20.35	36.02	22.61	18.18	24.54	26.02
2001-2011	17.72	16.76	24.65	15.53	8.42	6.13	5.37

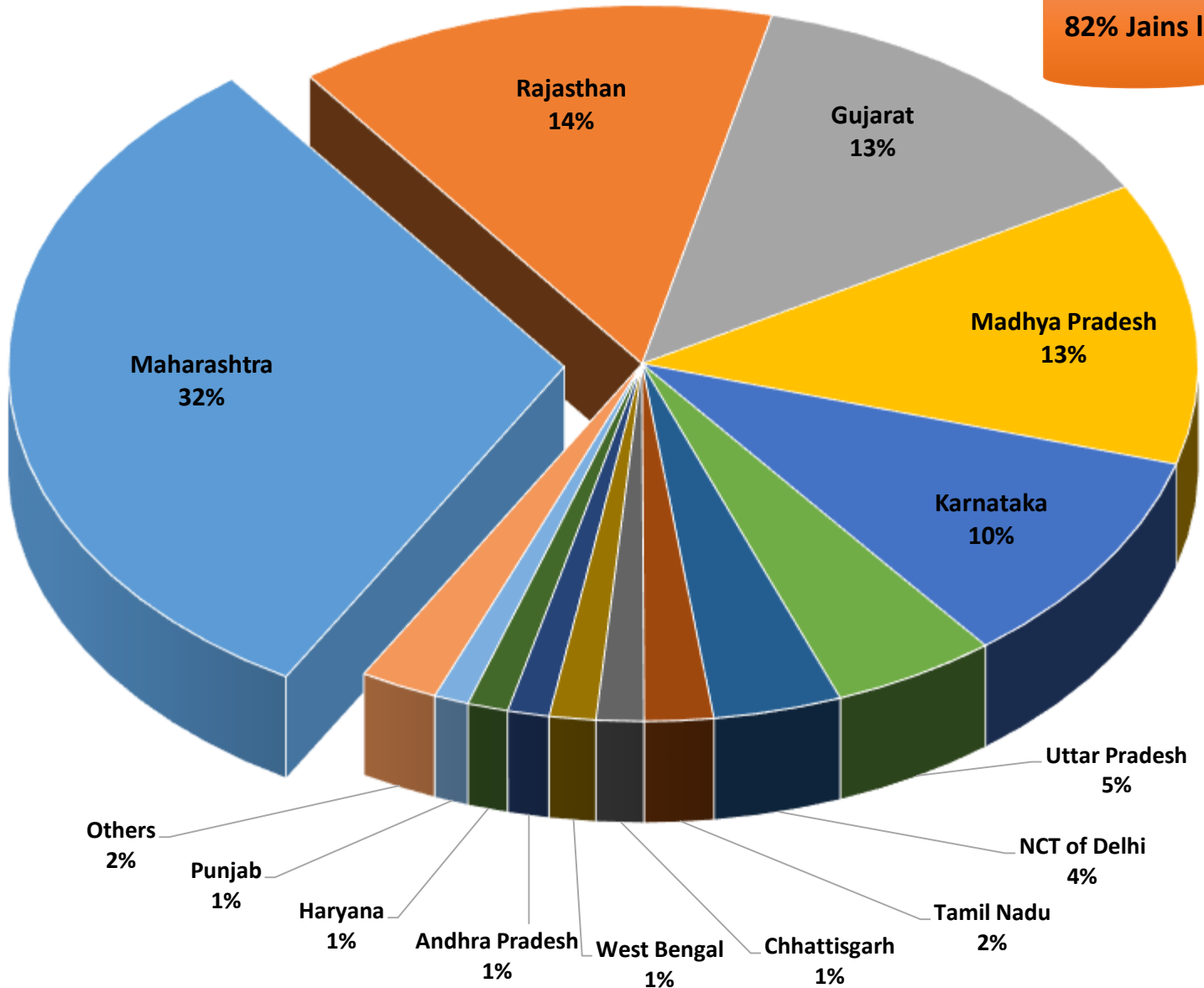
- Jains have the lowest decadal growth rate during last 2001-2011.
- With other indicators taken together, the data indicates a declining trend.

Decadal Growth Rate (in %)



State-wise Distribution of Jain Population (in %)-Census 2011

82% Jains lives in 5 States



Districts with major concentration of Jains

Districts with more than 1 lakh population		
1	Mumbai Suburban	3,43,639 (7.7%)
2	Ahmadabad	2,09,287 (4.7%)
3	Belgaum	1,78,310 (4.0%)
4	Thane	1,72,052 (3.9%)
5	Mumbai	1,66,000 (3.7%)
6	Kolhapur	1,54,882 (3.5%)
7	Pune	1,27,786 (2.9%)
8	Surat	1,12,835 (2.5%)

These 8 districts together have 1/3rd of Jains in India.

>=50,000 and less than 1 lakh (11.6%)		
1	Sangli	87,453
2	Bangalore	83,090
3	Jaipur	81,079
4	Udaipur	78,647
5	Indore	71,667
6	Sagar	62,992
7	Chennai	51,708

>=25,000 and < 50,000 (17.3%)		
1	East Delhi	46,927
2	Ajmer	45,614
3	North West Delhi	43,460
4	Ahmadnagar	38,718
5	Nashik	38,212
6	Jodhpur	36,697
7	Bhilwara	35,149
8	Barmer	34,010
9	Jabalpur	33,728
10	Rajkot	33,591
11	Aurangabad	30,981
12	Bikaner	30,850
13	Ratlam	29,353
14	Dharwad	29,037
15	Solapur	28,134
16	Vadodara	27,650
17	Jalgaon	27,404
18	Bhavnagar	26,974
19	Bhopal	25,950
20	Chittaurgarh	25,843
21	Kota	25,742
22	Kachchh	25,312
23	Bagalkot	25,198
24	Damoh	25,005

Literacy



- Jains have the highest literacy rate amongst all communities.
- This holds good for male as well as female.
- Out of the 36 States/UTs, Jains have literacy rate of more than 95% in 17 States/UTs and between 90-95% in 11 States/UTs.
- It has improved since 2001 wherein it was 94.08%.

	India	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhists	Jains
Total	72.98	73.27	68.54	84.53	75.39	81.29	94.88
Male	80.88	81.70	74.73	87.70	80.03	88.31	96.78
Female	64.63	64.34	62.04	81.47	70.31	74.04	92.91

Education Level: More than 1/4th i.e. 25.7% of literate Jains are Graduate & above.



1. Illiterates in Jains

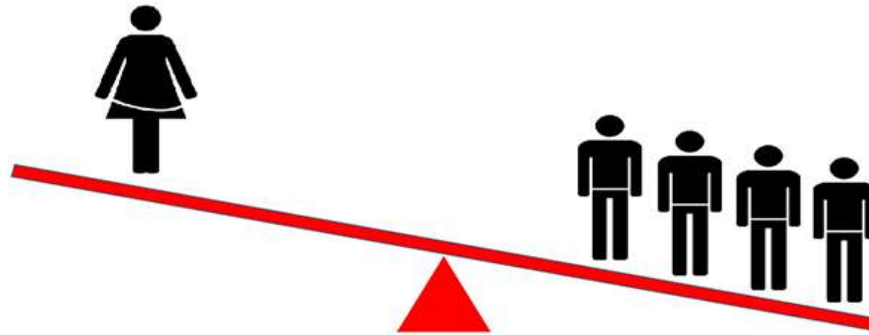


- Despite being highest literate and educated community, Jains have illiterate amongst them.
- As per Census 2011, 2.07 lakh Jains of age 7 years and above are still counted in illiterates.
- Out of these 2.07 lakh, 87% are in 6 States. The details are:
 - Maharashtra - 59,752; Karnataka – 46,229;
 - Rajasthan – 27,510; Madhya Pradesh – 19,459
 - Gujarat – 16,107; Uttar Pradesh – 11,394
- More than 50% of these illiterate Jains are in 20 districts.

District-wise Illiterates in Jains (Age 7+)

District	Total Jains in district	Illiterate Jains (7+)			%		
		Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Belgaum	1,78,310	25,725	7,867	17,858	15.97	9.54	22.70
Kolhapur	1,54,882	11,971	3,621	8,350	8.43	4.97	12.09
Mumbai Suburban	3,43,639	9,342	3,789	5,553	2.93	2.38	3.48
Thane	1,72,052	7,216	3,005	4,211	4.59	3.75	5.47
Sangli	87,453	6,617	1,996	4,621	8.21	4.82	11.80
Mumbai	1,66,000	5,910	2,333	3,577	3.85	3.05	4.64
Bagalkot	25,198	5,445	1,839	3,606	24.37	16.16	32.89
Ahmadabad	2,09,287	4,576	1,945	2,631	2.36	1.99	2.74
Pune	1,27,786	4,564	1,897	2,667	3.95	3.20	4.72
Udaipur	78,647	3,518	646	2,872	4.88	1.76	8.10
Bangalore	83,090	3,312	980	2,332	4.46	2.60	6.40
Dharwad	29,037	3,100	994	2,106	11.94	7.49	16.60
Surat	1,12,835	2,980	1,118	1,862	2.93	2.13	3.80
Barmer	34,010	2,791	392	2,399	9.16	2.52	16.10
Chennai	51,708	2,365	546	1,819	5.11	2.30	8.05
Indore	71,667	1,934	785	1,149	2.93	2.34	3.54
Sagar	62,992	1,833	566	1,267	3.20	1.90	4.61
Jalor	14,640	1,807	206	1,601	13.44	3.13	23.35
Jaipur	81,079	1,758	574	1,184	2.38	1.51	3.28
Bhilwara	35,149	1,753	430	1,323	5.48	2.67	8.33

2. Lesser number of Girls as compared to boys [Low Child (0-6) sex-ratio]

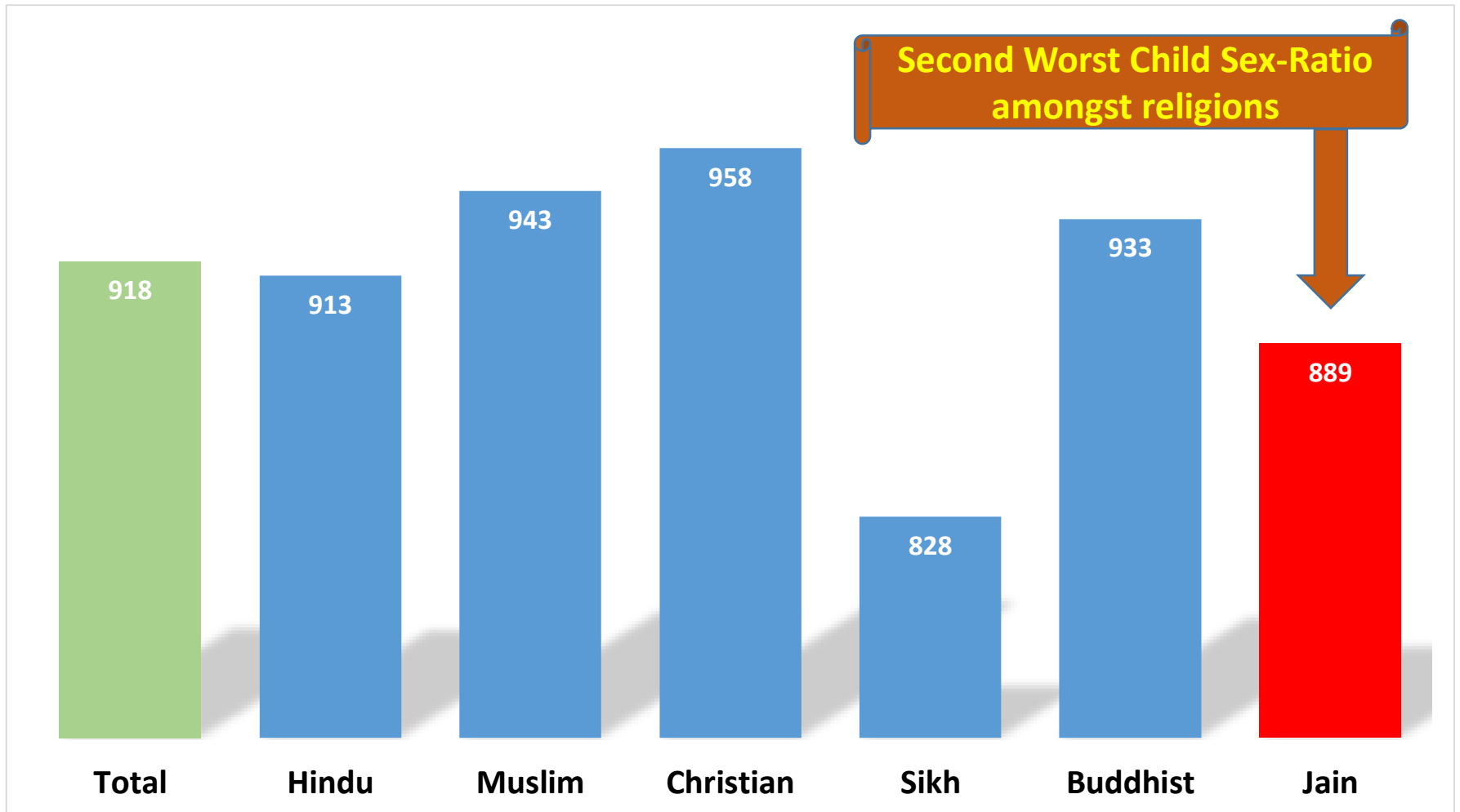


- Child Sex-ratio (0-6 years) means number of females in age-group 0-6 years per 1000 males in the same age-group in the population.

**In Jains, 111 girls are less per 1000 boys
of age group 0-6 years.**



Child Sex-Ratio 2011



Districts with worst child Sex-Ratio of Jains - 2011

Child Sex-Ratio	District (18)
>=600 but <700	Kamrup
	Jalpaiguri
	Mirzapur
	Nalbari
	Mahendragarh
	Chamarajanagar
	Mewat
	Bongaigaon
	Giridih
	Mathura
	Udham Singh Nagar
	Rampur
	Solan
	Ratnagiri
	Jhunjhunun
	Kheda
	Darjiling
	Bhiwani

Child Sex-Ratio	District (14)
>=700 but <750	Ramgarh
	Tapi
	Hoshangabad
	Korba
	Muktsar
	Panchkula
	Dakshin Bastar
	Dantewada
	Mansa
	Kabeerdham
	Thanjavur
	Yamunanagar
	Sundargarh
	Dibrugarh
Balangir	



Child Sex-Ratio	District (27)
>=750 but <800	Mahasamund
	North Delhi
	Hoshiarpur
	Bijnor
	Mandla
	Sindhudurg
	Bid
	Dehradun
	Buldana
	Raichur
	Dungarpur
	South Goa
	Barwani
	Sangli
	Muzaffarnagar
	Janjgir - Champa
	Dausa
	Jhajjar
	Moradabad
	Dewas
	Anantapur
	Jammu
	Wayanad
	Madurai
	Rewari
	Central
	Bangalore Rural

Note: Districts with more than 500 Jain population has been taken

3. Decreasing fertility rate

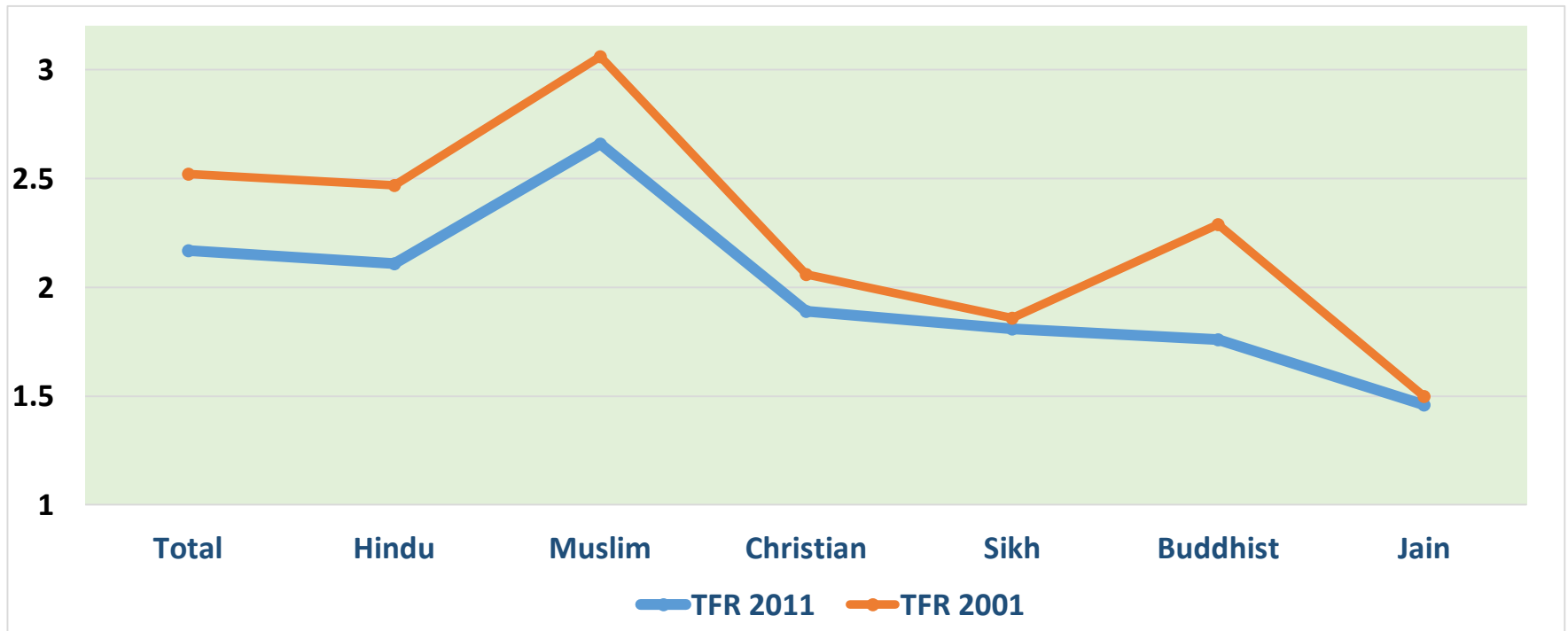
- Total Fertility Rate (TFR), in the simplest term, indicates the number of children which a woman of hypothetical cohort would bear during her life time.



Decreasing fertility rate amongst Jains

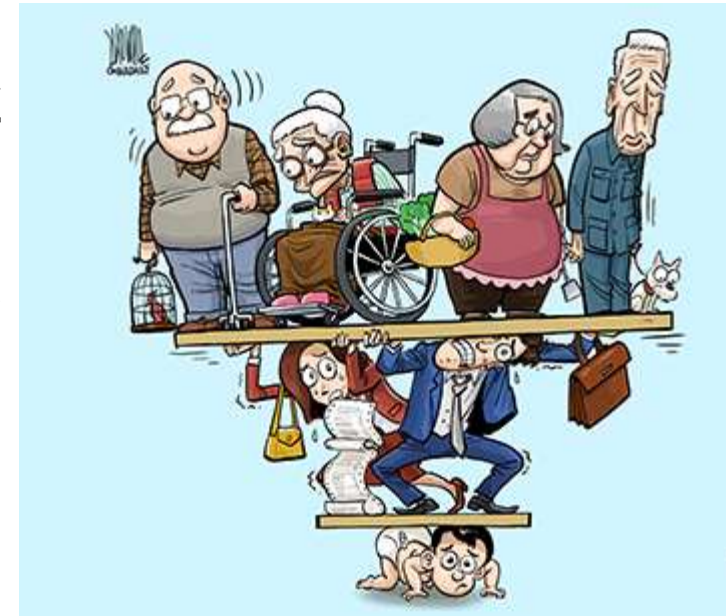
- Jains have the lowest TFR of 1.46, the lowest amongst all communities

	India	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhists	Jains
2011	2.17	2.11	2.66	1.89	1.81	1.76	1.46
2001	2.52	2.47	3.06	2.06	1.86	2.29	1.50



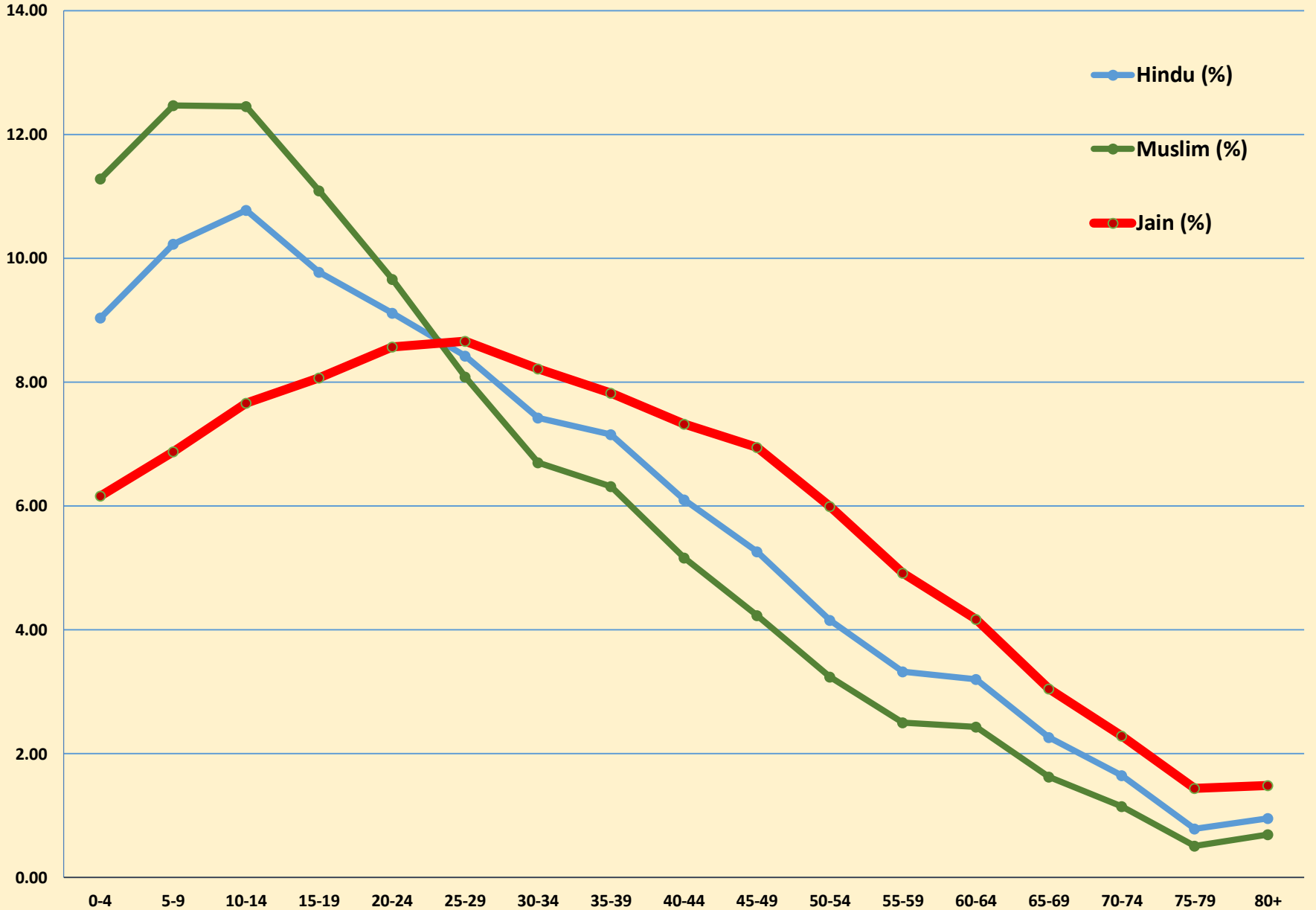
4. Growing Imbalance in Jain Population

- Jains are having least number of children while having highest proportion of population in senior age groups.
- It indicates that we have the highest longevity of life as compared to others.
- But may not be good in the longer run as Japan like scenario is building up.



Age-group	India	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhists	Jains
0-14	30.76	30.04	36.21	27.50	24.50	26.86	20.70
15-59	60.29	60.74	56.99	62.46	63.76	63.42	66.52
60+	8.95	9.22	6.80	10.04	11.73	9.73	12.78

Age-wise distribution amongst all communities (Proportion of population)



5. Age-group wise population of Jains : The big decline (2001-2011)

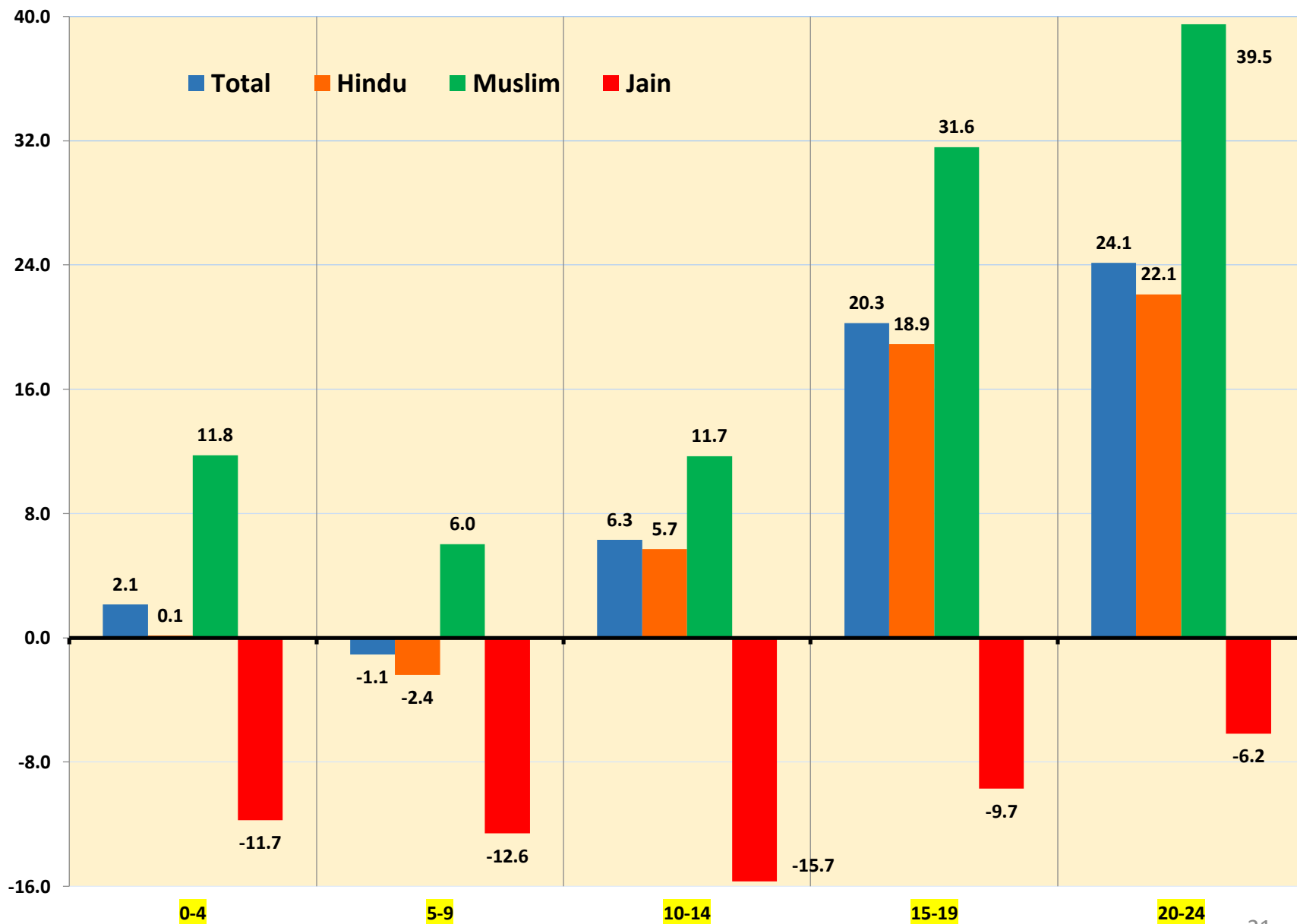
Age-group	2001	2011	Difference
0-4	3,10,821	2,74,333	-36,488
5-9	3,50,171	3,06,113	-44,058
10-14	4,04,345	3,40,952	-63,393
15-19	3,97,766	3,59,137	-38,629
20-24	4,06,654	3,81,590	-25,064

In a span of 10 years, the number of Jains in India in the age group 0-24 has gone down, resulting in a net loss of 2,07,632.

**Decadal Growth Rate
(2001-2011)**

Age-group	Hindu	Muslim	Jain
0-4	0.1	11.8	-11.7
5-9	-2.4	6.0	-12.6
10-14	5.7	11.7	-15.7
15-19	18.9	31.6	-9.7
20-24	22.1	39.5	-6.2

Age-group wise decadal growth rate (2001-2011)

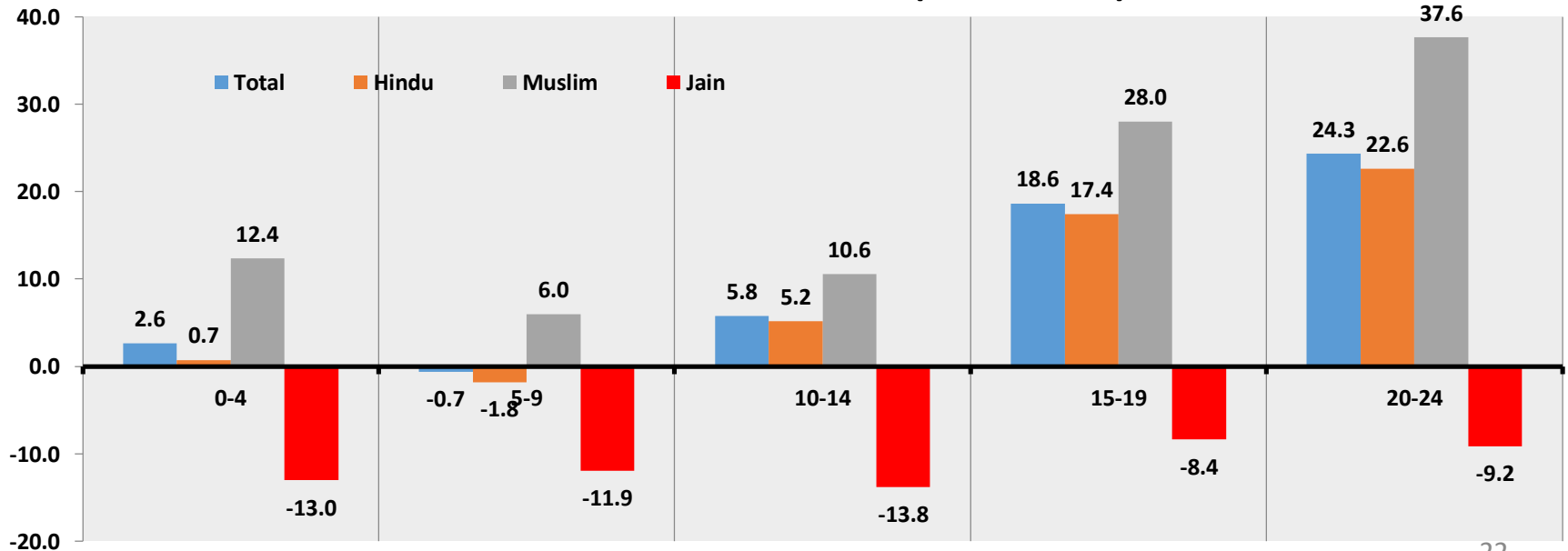


Age-group wise population of MALE Jains : big decline (2001-2011)

Age-group	2001	2011	Difference
0-4	1,66,349	1,44,653	-21,696
5-9	1,85,529	1,63,359	-22,170
10-14	2,11,254	1,82,042	-29,212
15-19	2,08,249	1,90,812	-17,437
20-24	2,15,520	1,95,758	-19,762

In a span of 10 years, the number of male Jains in India in the age group 0-24 has gone down by 1,10,277.

Decadal Growth Rate-MALE (2001-2011)

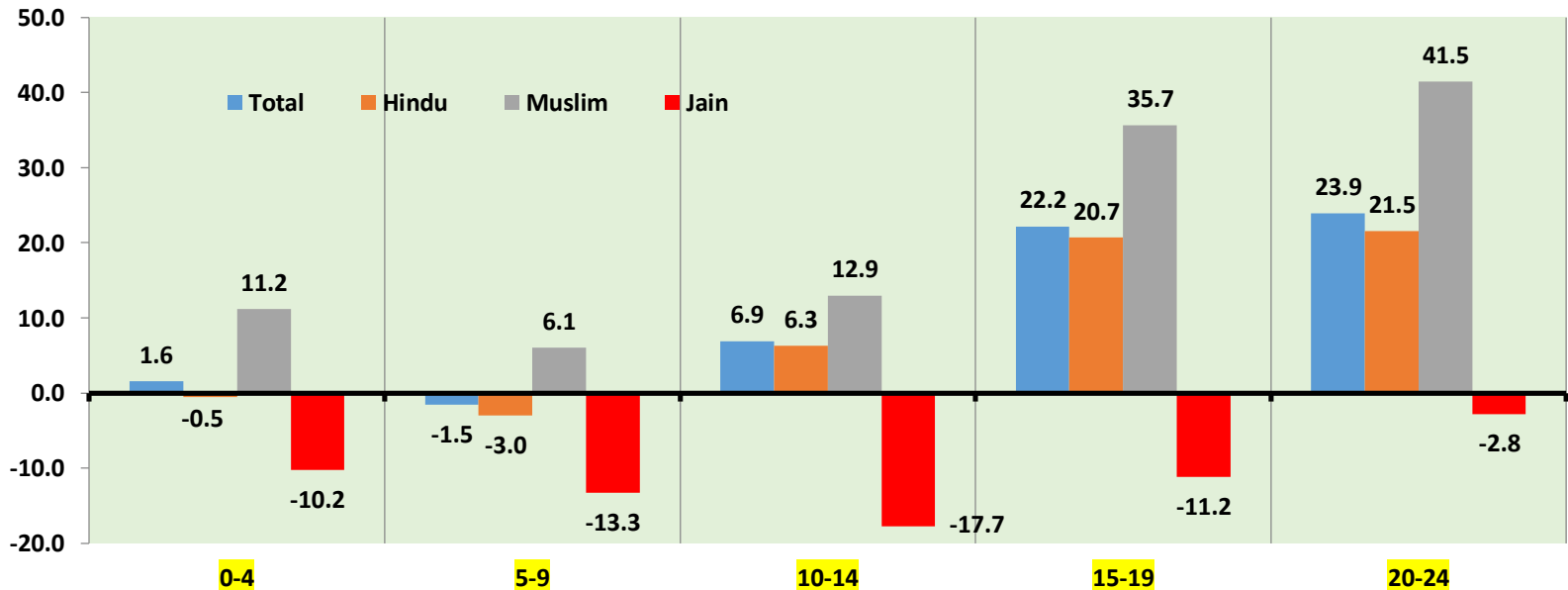


Age-group wise population of FEMALE Jains : big decline (2001-2011)

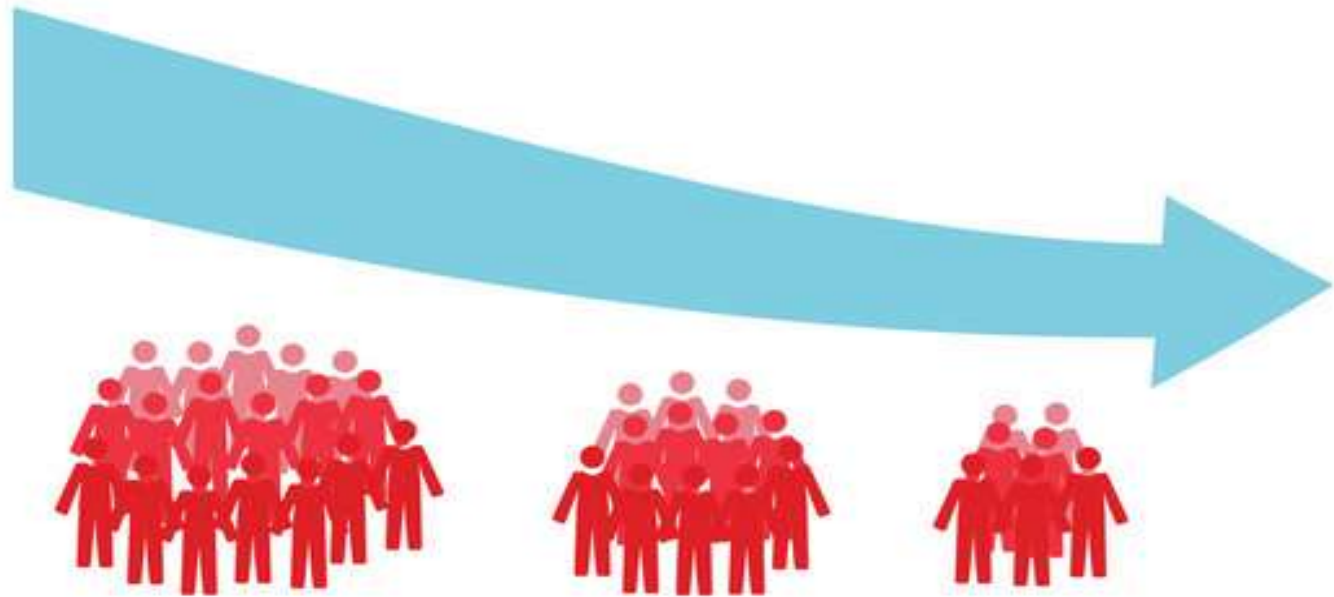
Age-group	2001	2011	Difference
0-4	1,44,472	1,29,680	-14,792
5-9	1,64,642	1,42,754	-21,888
10-14	1,93,091	1,58,910	-34,181
15-19	1,89,517	1,68,325	-21,192
20-24	1,91,134	1,85,832	-5,302

In a span of 10 years, the number of female Jains in India in the age group 0-24 has reduced by 97,355.

Decadal Growth Rate –FEMALE (2001-2011)



What does the Population Projection indicate?



Projected Population of Jains in year 2036

- An attempt has been made to project Jain population on the basis of available Census data

Population trend (2011-2036) with 5 years interval

Age-group	2,011	2,016	2,021	2,026	2,031	2,036
0-4	2,75,272	2,19,456	2,04,911	1,86,506	1,66,347	1,42,598
5-9	3,07,161	2,71,319	2,16,999	2,03,286	1,85,444	1,65,703
10-14	3,42,120	3,05,453	2,70,104	2,16,248	2,02,747	1,85,089
15-19	3,60,366	3,39,857	3,03,799	2,68,951	2,15,538	2,02,257
20-24	3,82,896	3,56,748	3,37,000	3,01,720	2,67,492	2,14,668
25-29	3,86,983	3,78,104	3,53,009	3,34,132	2,99,695	2,66,158
30-34	3,67,071	3,81,533	3,73,679	3,49,678	3,31,661	2,98,059
35-39	3,49,494	3,61,105	3,76,319	3,69,494	3,46,553	3,29,413
40-44	3,27,166	3,42,380	3,54,761	3,70,726	3,64,979	3,43,191
45-49	3,10,263	3,18,094	3,33,991	3,47,161	3,64,016	3,59,529
50-54	2,67,733	2,97,859	3,06,588	3,23,197	3,37,429	3,55,349
55-59	2,19,572	2,51,811	2,81,515	2,91,217	3,08,902	3,24,392
60-64	1,86,463	1,99,837	2,30,653	2,59,499	2,70,679	2,89,514
65-69	1,36,276	1,61,194	1,74,115	2,02,675	2,30,522	2,43,121
70-74	1,02,211	1,08,710	1,29,869	1,41,727	1,67,414	1,93,121
75+	1,30,710	1,33,877	1,41,677	1,61,466	1,82,664	2,14,842
	44,51,757	44,27,337	43,88,989	43,27,683	42,42,082	41,27,004

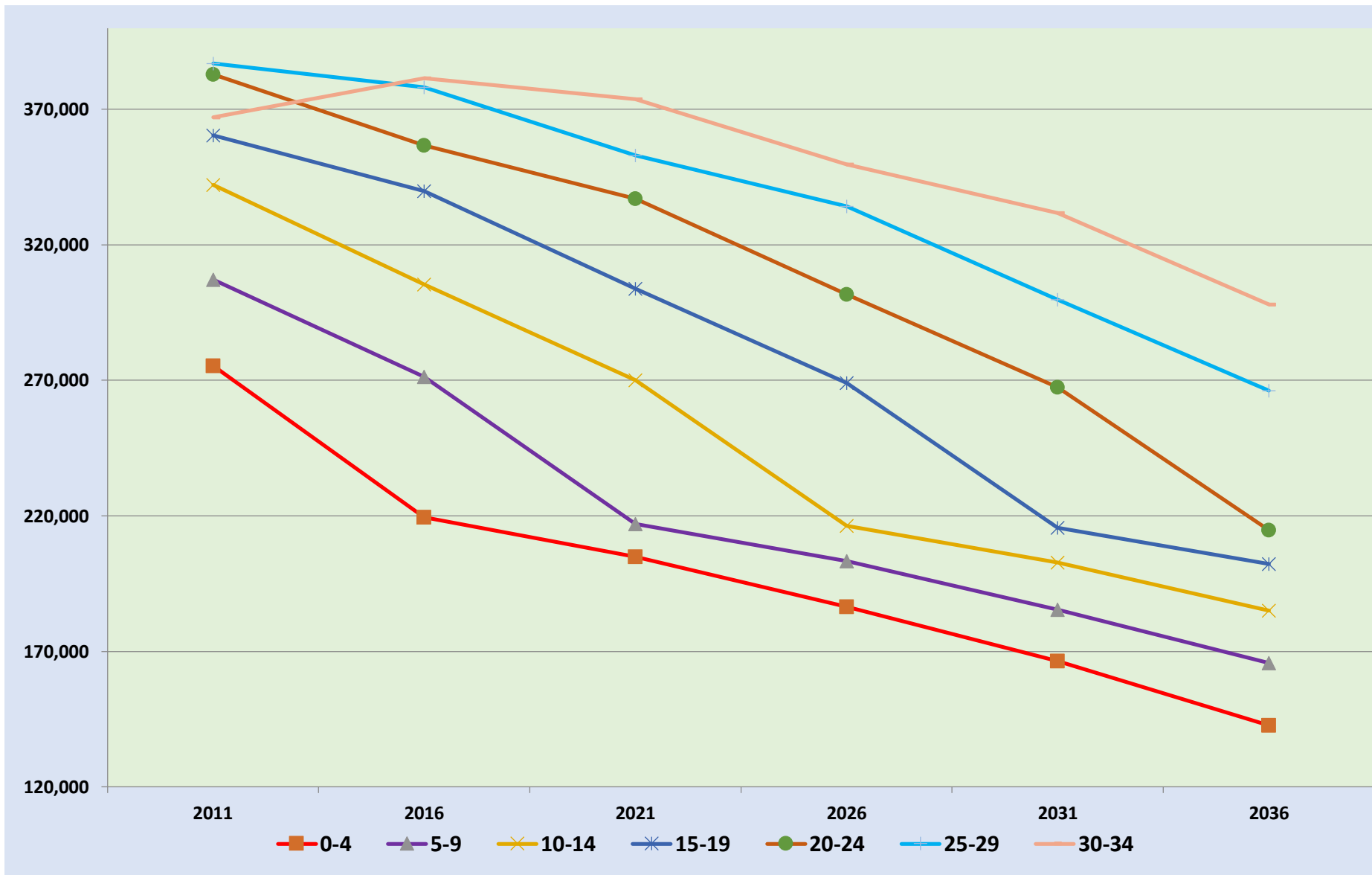
Projected Population in important age groups

- In India, the average life expectancy is 69 years. So if we see the important age groups, future is clearly bleak

Age-group	2,011	2,016	2,021	2,026	2,031	2,036	% reduction (2011 to 2036)
0-4	2,75,272	2,19,456	2,04,911	1,86,506	1,66,347	1,42,598	-48.2
5-9	3,07,161	2,71,319	2,16,999	2,03,286	1,85,444	1,65,703	-46.1
10-14	3,42,120	3,05,453	2,70,104	2,16,248	2,02,747	1,85,089	-45.9
15-19	3,60,366	3,39,857	3,03,799	2,68,951	2,15,538	2,02,257	-43.9
20-24	3,82,896	3,56,748	3,37,000	3,01,720	2,67,492	2,14,668	-43.9
25-29	3,86,983	3,78,104	3,53,009	3,34,132	2,99,695	2,66,158	-31.2
30-34	3,67,071	3,81,533	3,73,679	3,49,678	3,31,661	2,98,059	-18.8
	24,21,869	22,52,470	20,59,501	18,60,521	16,68,924	14,74,532	-39.1

- As of now, the projection has been done on the basis of Census 2011 data
- Once latest Census figures are available, more accurate calculations can be done.

Projected Jain Population in important age groups: 2011-2036



An illustration:

Year 2011:

No. of females in 20-29 age group	=	100
Total Fertility Rate	=	1.46 (As per Census 2011)
Prospective children	=	146

Year 2036:

No. of females in 20-29 age group	=	60 (40% reduction)
Total Fertility Rate	=	1.1 (NFHS survey 2019-21)
Prospective children	=	66 (35 Boys, 31 <u>Girls</u>)

What does Data indicate?

- ❑ A declining population of Jains, especially in crucial age-groups.
- ❑ Young population is decreasing and not replaced by equal/more numbers.
- ❑ This would result in having more aged persons and lesser young people to support them.
- ❑ With lesser number of daughters and lowest fertility, negative population growth is clearly visible.
- ❑ In the time to come, this will result in effectively reducing us like Parsi's.

Impact of lesser number of Jains

- ❖ Jain is not only a surname but carry the teachings of Tirthankaras for achieving the final destination
- ❖ No Tirthankaras in Pancham Kaal
- ❖ Lesser followers of Five central vows (mahavratas): Ahimsa; Aparigraha; Satya; Aasteya; and Brahmacharya
- ❖ Lesser numbers having targets of Three Jewels: Right faith, Right knowledge and Right conduct
- ❖ Shrinking Chaturvidh Sangh (चतुर्विध संघ)
- ❖ In day to day life, scant representation of Jains in all walks of life be it political/ administrative/ business etc.
- ❖ **End of Jaintva (जैनत्व, जैन दर्शन, मोक्ष मार्ग)**

Way forward (suggestions)

- ✓ Need to build awareness in the community to write **Jain** in column of religion in every government/non-government forms
- ✓ In the ensuing Census, ensure participation and filling correct data
- ✓ Other issues...

Thankyou