



## Women and Men in India 2022

**For Prelims:** Sex Ratio, Gender Description, Fertility Rate.

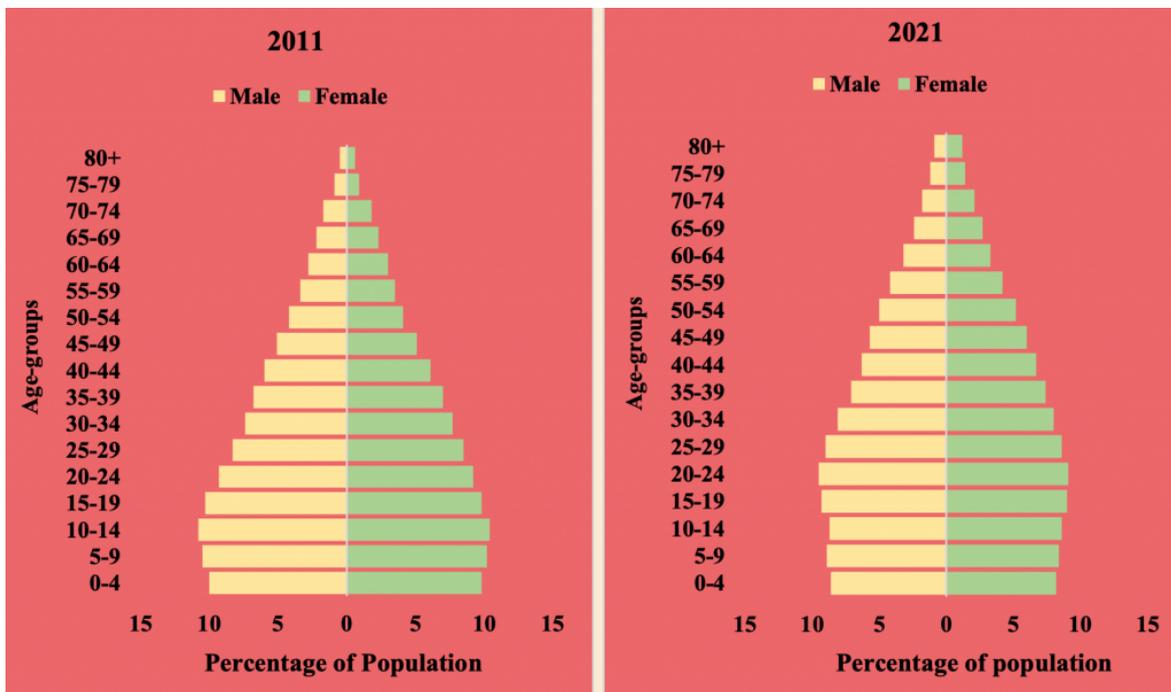
**For Mains:** Women and Men in India 2022 Report.

### Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released **Women and Men in India 2022 report**.

### What are the Findings of the Report?

- **Sex Ratio:**
  - The [sex ratio](#) at birth went up by three points to 907 in 2018-20 from 904 in 2017-19.
  - India's sex ratio (females per 1,000 males) is expected to improve to **952 by 2036**, up significantly from 943 in 2011.
- **Labour Force Participation:**
  - India's Labour Force Participation Rate for those above 15 years of age has been on the rise since 2017-2018. However, **women are severely lagging behind** men.
    - The rate was 77.2 for males and 32.8 for females in 2021-22, with no improvement in this disparity over the years.
  - Less participation is due to social **factors, educational qualifications and [gender discrimination](#)** in terms of wages and opportunities in the workplace.
- **Population Growth:**
  - The population growth, already **on a downward trend from 2.2% in 1971 to 1.1% in 2021**, is projected to fall further to 0.58% in 2036.
  - In absolute figures, this translates into 1.2 billion people with 48.5% female population as per [Census](#) 2011 to an expected 1.5 billion in 2036 with a marginal improvement in the female population share (48.8%).
- **Age of Sex Structure:**
  - India's age and sex structure, as per which the population under 15 years of age is expected to decline and the **population above 60 years is expected to increase by 2036**.
  - Accordingly, **the population pyramid will undergo a shift as the base of the pyramid in 2036 would narrow down**, while the middle would be broadened.
    - The age and sex structure of a country's population can affect gender issues in a variety of ways. Age structure impacting various aspects of societies is determined primarily by trends in fertility and mortality.



▪ **Access to Health Information and Services:**

- Lack of access to resources and decision-making power, restrictions on mobility, etc make access to health **information and services more difficult for women** and girls than men and boys.

▪ **Fertility Rate:**

- The age-specific **fertility rate** for the 20-24 year and 25-29 years age group between 2016 and 2020 reduced from 135.4 and 166.0 to 113.6 and 139.6 respectively.
  - This is likely a function of **economic independence by attaining proper education** and securing a job.
- The same indicator for the 35-39 years age group increased from **32.7 in 2016 to 35.6 in 2020.**
  - The mean age for marriage has improved marginally up from 22.1 years in 2017 to 22.7 years in 2020.

**UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)**

**Q.** Why do some of the most prosperous regions of India have an adverse sex ratio for women? Give your arguments. **(2014)**

**Source:** [DTE](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/women-and-men-in-india-2022>