

Coordinates (Ranchi Patna): 23.35°N 85.33°ECoordinates: 
23.35°N 85.33°E

Country  India

Established 15 November 2000

Capital Ranchi

Largest city Jamshedpur

Government

- **Governor** Syed Ahmed
- **Speaker**
- **Chief Minister** President's rule underPranab Mukherjee
- **Legislature** Unicameral (82 seats)
- **Parliamentary constituency** 14+6

Area

- **Total** 79,714 km²(30,778 sq mi)
- Area rank** 15th

Population (2011)

- **Total** 32,966,238
- **Rank** 13th
- **Density** 414/km² (1,070/sq mi)

Time zone IST (UTC+05:30)

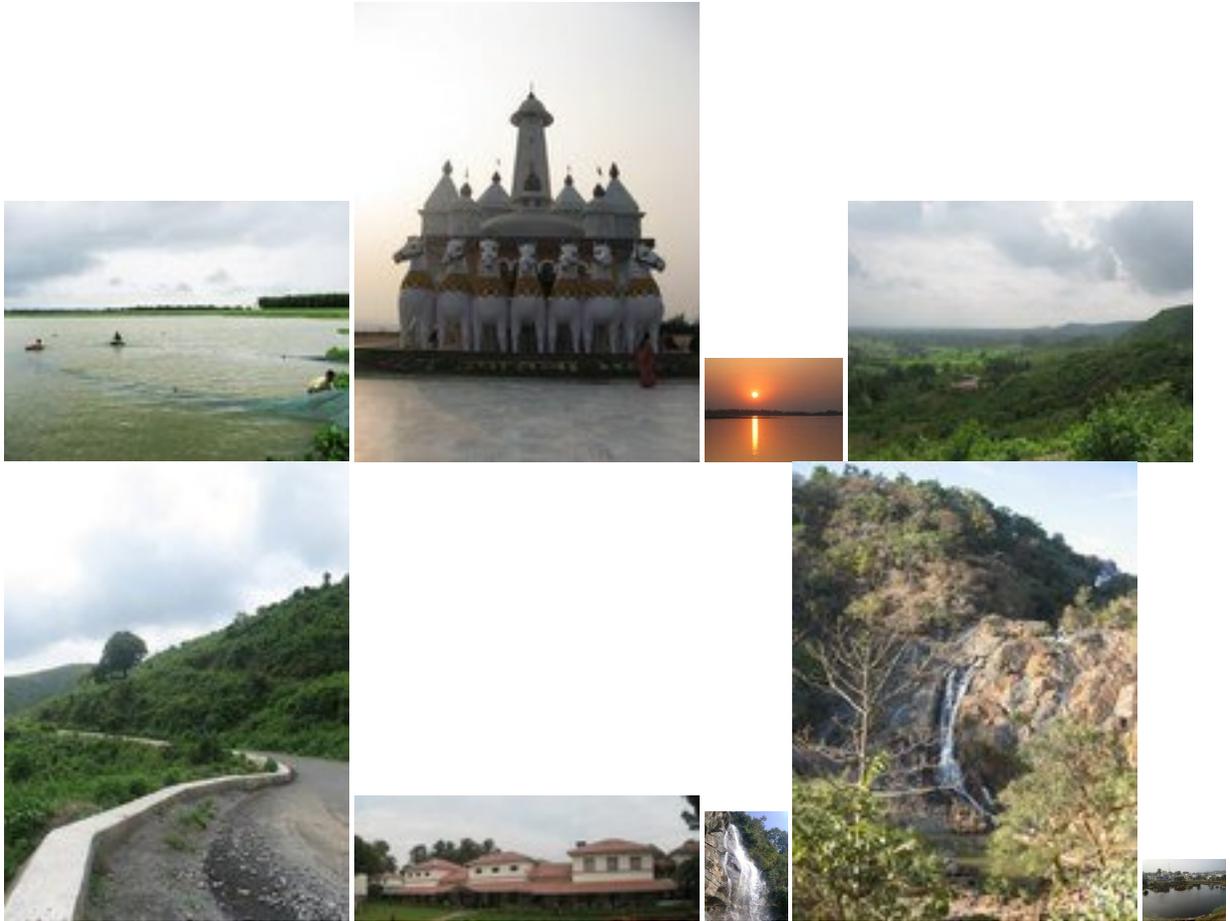
ISO 3166 code IN-JH

HDI  0.513 (medium)

HDI rank 24th (2005)

Literacy 67.6% (25th)

Official languages [Hindi](#), [Santhali](#), [Mundari](#),[Bengali](#), [Urdu](#)



History [\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [History of Jharkhand](#)

According to some writers like Gautam Kumar Bera,^[3] there was already a distinct geo-political, cultural entity called Jharkhand even before the period of [Magadha](#) Empire. Bera's book (page 33) also refers to the Hindu Mythological book [Bhavishya Purana](#). The tribal rulers, some of whom continue to thrive till today were known as the Munda Rajas,^[citation needed] who basically had ownership rights to large farmlands.^[4] During the [Mughal](#) period, the Jharkhand area was known as Kukara.

British rule [\[edit\]](#)

After the year 1765, it came under the control of the [British Empire](#) and became formally known under its present title, "Jharkhand"—(jaher-khond) jaher- worship place of kherwar (munda,santal,ho etc.) and khond- area. Some think the Land of "Jungles" (forests) and "Jharis" (bushes). Located on [Chhota](#)

[Nagpur Plateau](#) and [Santhal Parganas](#), the place has evergreen forests, rolling hills and rocky plateaus with many places of keen beauty like [Lodh Falls](#).

The subjugation and colonisation of Jharkhand region by the [British East India Company](#) resulted in spontaneous resistance from the local people. Almost one hundred years before [Indian Rebellion of 1857](#), [adivasis](#) of Jharkhand were already beginning what would become a series of repeated revolts against the [British colonial rule](#):

The period of revolts of the Adivasis to protect their Jharkhand land took place from 1771 to 1900 AD. The first ever revolt against the landlords and the British government was led by [Tilka Manjhi](#),^[5] a Santhal leader in Santal [tribal belt](#) in 1771. He wanted to liberate his people from the clutches of the unscrupulous landlords and restore the lands of their ancestors. The British government sent its troops and crushed the uprisings of Tilka Manjhi. Soon after in 1779, the Bhumij tribes rose in arms against the British rule in Manbhum, now in West Bengal. This was followed by the Chero tribes unrest in Palamau. They revolted against the British rule in 1800 AD. Hardly seven years later in 1807, the Oraons in Barway murdered their big landlord of Srinagar west of Gumla. Soon the uprisings spread around Gumla. The tribal uprisings spread eastward to neighbouring Tamar areas of the Munda tribes. They too rose in revolt in 1811 and 1813. The Hos in Singhbhum were growing restless and came out in open revolt in 1820 and fought against the landlords and the British troops for two years. This is called the Lakra Kol Risings 1820–1821. Then came the great Kol Risings of 1832. This was the first biggest tribal revolt that greatly upset the British administration in Jharkhand. It was caused by an attempt by the Zamindars to oust the tribal peasants from their hereditary possessions. The [Santhal rebellion](#) broke out in 1855 under the leadership of two brothers Sidhu and Kanhu. They fought bitterly against the British troops but finally they too were crushed down. Other notable Adivasi warriors are Jabra Paharia, Veer Budhu Bhagat, Poto Sardar, Telenga Kharia, Phulo-Jhano, Manki Munda, Gaya Munda.

Then Birsa Munda revolt,^[6] broke out in 1895 and lasted till 1900. The revolt though mainly concentrated in the Munda belt of Khunti, Tamar, Sarwada and Bandgaon, pulled its supporters from Oraon belt of Lohardaga, Sisai and even Barway. It was the longest and the greatest tribal revolt.^[7] It was also the last tribal revolt in Jharkhand. All of these uprisings were quelled by the British through massive deployment of troops across the region.

British Government faced a lot of tribal revolt in [Chhota Nagpur Division](#). Wherever resistance to British rule existed they tried to divide them. The policy of "Divide and rule" was made effective by Lord Curzon, when he was Governor General of India. He carried out Partition of Bengal in 1905, when the [Princely states](#) of [Gangpur](#) and Bonai of [Chota Nagpur States](#) were transferred from the control of Commissioner of Chhota Nagpur Division to [Odisha](#) division and Princely states of [Jashpur](#), [Surguja](#), [Udaipur](#), [Chang Bhakar](#) and [Koriya](#) were transferred from Chhota Nagpur Division to [Chhattisgarh Division](#) of [Central Provinces](#), leading to shrinkage of Chhota Nagpur Division. Due to popular resistance to Partition of Bengal, the two Bengals were united in 1912 by Governor General Harding and the province of Bihar—Odisha was created by taking out of Bengal the Bihar division, Chhota Nagpur Division and Odisha division. During this creation Midnapur, Purulia and Bankura remained with Bengal. Thus, whenever there was reorganisation of Provinces, Chhota Nagpur Division lost some area. Thus during British rule, tribal areas, although geographically continuous, were put under different administrations. As a result of this, when India gained independence in 1947 and after the Princely states acceded to Government of India in 1948, the Princely states of magadha were put under Odisha province, Princely states of Jashpur, Surguja, Udaipur, Chang Bhakar and Koriya were put under Madhya Pradesh and Midnapur, Purulia and

Bankura were put under West Bengal. Princely states of Gangpur and Bonai were combined together to form [Sundergarh District](#). Princely states of Koriya and Chang bhakar were combined together to form [Koriya district](#) and Udaipur was included in [Raigarh District](#).

The 20th century Jharkhand movement may also be seen as moderate movement as compared to the bloody revolts of the 19th century. Having the Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act 1908 to protect their lands, the tribal leaders now turned to socio-economic development of the people. In 1914 Jatra Oraon started what is called the Tana Movement. Later this movement joined the Satyagrah Movement of Mahatma Gandhi in 1920 and stopped giving land tax to the Government. In 1915 the Chhotanagpur Unnati Samaj was started for the socio-economic development of the tribals. This organisation had also political objectives in mind. When the Simon Commission came to Patna in 1928, the Chhotanagpur Unnati Samaj sent its delegation and placed its demand for a separate Jharkhand State for self-rule by the tribals. The Simon Commission however did not accede to the demand for a separate Jharkhand State. Thereafter Theble Oraon organised Kishan Sabha in 1931. In 1935 the Chhotanagpur Unnati Samaj and the Kishan Sabha were merged with a view to acquire political power.

Jharkhand Movement: post-Indian independence [\[edit\]](#)

For almost six decades the movement had been changing colour and strategy to gain a foothold. Gradually, the Jharkhand Party grew politically stronger but the commissions examining the demands for a separate Jharkhand State rejected it one after another. In August 1947 the Thakkar Commission rejected it saying that it would not be beneficial for the Adivasis. In 1948 Dar Commission also examined the demand for a separate Jharkhand state but rejected it on linguistic grounds. Despite these reports of these commissions going negative in nature, Jharkhand Party never lost sight of its ultimate target: a separate state of Jharkhand. Jharkhand Party contested the 1952 elections with a declared aim of strengthening the demand of a tribal homeland and won 32 seats in the Bihar Assembly. In the second General Election in 1957, too, Jharkhand Party won 32 seats and for two terms the party remained the leading opposition party. In 1955 the Report of the State Reorganisation Commission came out. Here, too, the demand for a separate Jharkhand state was rejected. In the third general election in 1962 the party could win only 23 seats in the Bihar Assembly. Personal interests of the Jharkhand leaders started playing upper hands. The following year Jharkhand Party aligned with Congress and Jaipal Singh became a minister in Vinodanand Jha's government in Bihar. With this, the demand for the Tribal Homeland was put into cold storage for nearly a decade.

In the 4th General Election held in 1967 the party had a very poor show. It could win only eight Assembly seats. The party was soon split into several splinter groups each claiming to be the genuine Jharkhand party. These were the All India Jharkhand Party led by Bagun Sumroi, the Jharkhand Party led by N.E. Horo, the Hul Jharkhand Party led by Justin Richard which got further fragmented and came to be called the Bihar Progressive Hul Jharkhand Party and it was led by Shibu Soren. The movement was infused with a new radicalism when Santhal leader Shibu Soren formed the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in league with the Marxist co-ordination Committee in 1972. In its early years, the JMM under Soren's leadership, brought industrial and mining workers mainly non-tribals belonging to Dalit and Backward communities such as Surdis, Doms, Dusadh and Kurmi-Mahtos, into its fold. However Soren's association with the late congress M.P. Gyanranjan brought him close to then prime minister of India, Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi. He won the Dumka Lok Sabha seat in 1972. Irked by Soren's association with the Congress, a few of the younger members of the JMM banded together in Jamshedpur and set up

the All Jharkhand Students' Union (AJSU). This did nothing to stunt the growth of the JMM in the 1991 Lok Sabha election where the JMM won six seats.

That year saw the emergence of another foreign educated scholar, Ram Dayal Munda, who reignited the movement by unifying splinter groups among the tribals. Under his guidance the Jharkhand Coordination Committee was constituted in June 1987, comprising 48 organisations and group including the JMM factions. Due to Munda, Soren, Mandal and AJSU leaders like Surya Singh Besra and Prabhakar Tirkey briefly shared a political platform. But the JMM pulled out of JCC as it felt that 'the collective leadership was a farce'. The JMM/AJSU and JPP successfully orchestrated bandhs, economic blockades in 1988–89. In the interim, BJP came out with its demand for a separate "Vananchal" state comprising 18 districts of Bihar, arguing that demand for a greater Jharkhand is "not practical".

In response, Buta Singh, the then home minister, asked Ram Dayal Munda, the then Ranchi University vice chancellor, to prepare a report on Jharkhand. Munda handed his report in September 1988, advising the Home Ministry to grant 'autonomy' to 'Greater Jharkhand'. In August 1989, the Union Home Ministry formed a committee on Jharkhand Matters (CoJM) to look into the issue. These were followed by further talks between the then Bihar Chief Minister, Satyendra Narayan Sinha, the central government and Jharkhand groups. In September 1989 the COJM submitted its report proposing the alternatives to the formation of a greater Jharkhand, a Union Territory or a Jharkhand general council. In 1995 the Jharkhand Area Autonomous Council (JAAC) was set up after a tripartite agreement was signed by the Union government represented by the then minister of state for home, Rajesh Pilot, the Bihar government represented by the chief minister Lalu Prasad Yadav and Jharkhand leaders like Soren, Munda, Mandal, Besra and Tirkey. Horo did not sign this agreement. He dubbed the JAAC as the 'fraud' and stuck to his demand for Tribal Homeland. So did the AJSU and JPP.

Jharkhand—a separate state [\[edit\]](#)

The state of Jharkhand became a functioning reality on 15 November 2000 after almost half a century of people's movements around Jharkhandi identity, which disadvantaged societal groups articulated to augment political resources and influence the policy process in their favour. Its the 28th state of India. The Jharkhandi identity and the demand for autonomy was not premised solely on the uniqueness of its tribal cultural heritage but was essentially a fallout of the failure of development policy to intervene in socio-economic conditions of the adivasis and non-adivasis in the region.

The dynamics of resources and the politics of development still influence the socio-economic structures in Jharkhand, which was carved out of the relatively 'backward' southern part of Bihar. According to the 1991 census, the state has a population of over 20 million out of which 28% is tribal while 12% of the people belong to [scheduled castes](#). Jharkhand has 24 districts, 260 blocks and 32,620 villages out of which only 45% are electrified while only 8,484 are connected by roads. Jharkhand is the leading producer of mineral wealth in the country after Chattisgarh state, endowed as it is with vast variety of minerals like iron ore, coal, copper ore, mica, bauxite, graphite, limestone, and uranium. Jharkhand is also known for its vast forest resources.

[File:City Roads.jpg](#)

City Roads

Geography and climate [\[edit\]](#)

Geography [\[edit\]](#)

Most of the state lies on the [Chota Nagpur Plateau](#), which is the source of the [Koel](#), [Damodar](#), [Brahmani](#), [Kharkaj](#), and [Subarnarekha](#) rivers, whose upper watersheds lie within Jharkhand. Much of the state is still covered by forest. Forest preserves support populations of [tigers](#) and [Asian Elephants](#).



Jonha Fall.



Hundru Fall.

[Soil](#) content of Jharkhand state mainly consist of soil formed from disintegration of rocks and stones, and soil composition is further divided into:

1. [Red soil](#), found mostly in the [Damodar valley](#), and [Rajmahal](#) area
2. [Micacious soil](#) (containing particles of mica), found in Koderma, [Jhumri Telaiya](#), [Barkagaon](#), and areas around the [Mandar hill](#)
3. [Sandy soil](#), generally found in Hazaribagh and Dhanbad
4. [Black soil](#), found in Rajmahal area
5. [Laterite soil](#), found in western part of Ranchi, Palamu, Dumka and parts of [Santhal Parganas](#) and [Singhbhum](#)

Climate [\[edit\]](#)

There are three well-defined seasons in Jharkhand. The cold-weather season, from November to February, is the most pleasant part of the year. High temperatures in Ranchi in December usually rise from about 50 °F (10 °C) into the low 70s F (low 20s C) daily. The hot-weather season lasts from March to mid-June. May, the hottest month, is characterized by daily high temperatures in the upper 90s F

(about 37 °C) and low temperatures in the mid-70s F (mid-20s C). Maximum rainfall takes place during the months from July to September that accounts for more than 90% of total rainfall in the state.

Flora and fauna [\[edit\]](#)

State symbols of Jharkhand		
Formation day	15 November (Day of separation from Bihar)	
State animal	Elephant ^[8]	
State bird	Koel	
State tree	Sal ^[8]	
State flower	Palash ^[8]	

Jharkhand has a rich variety of [flora](#) and [fauna](#). The National Parks and the Zoological Gardens located in the state of Jharkhand present a panorama of this variety.

[Betla National Park](#) in the [Latehar district](#), located 8 km away from [Barwadih](#), covers an area of about 250 square kilometres (97 sq mi). The national park has a large variety of wildlife, including [tigers](#), [elephants](#), [bisons](#) (which are locally known as [gaurs](#)), [sambhars](#), [wild boar](#), and [pythons](#) (up to 20 feet (6.1 m) long), spotted [deer](#) ([chitals](#)), [rabbits](#) and [foxes](#). The mammalian fauna to be seen at Betla National Park also include [langurs](#), [rhesus monkeys](#), [blue bulls](#) and [wild boars](#). The lesser mammals are the [porcupines](#), [hares](#), [wild cats](#), [honey badgers](#), [Malabar giant squirrels](#), [mongooses](#), [wolves](#), [antelopes](#) etc. In 1974, the park was declared a [Project Tiger](#) Reserve.

Part of the reason for the variety and diversity of flora and fauna found in Jharkhand state may be accredited to the [Palamau Tiger Reserves](#) under the Project Tiger. This reserve is abode to hundreds of

species of flora and fauna,^[9] as indicated within brackets: mammals (39), snakes (8), lizards (4), fish (6), insects (21), birds (170), seed bearing plants and trees (97), shrubs and herbs (46), climbers, parasites and semi-parasites (25), and grasses and bamboos (17).

The [Hazaribag Wildlife Sanctuary](#), with scenic beauties, 135 kilometres (84 mi) away from Ranchi, is set in an ecosystem very similar to Betla National Park of Palamu.

[Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park](#) in [Bokaro Steel City](#) is the largest Zoological Garden in Jharkhand. It has many animal and bird species, spread over 200 acres (0.81 km²), including an artificial waterpark with boating facilities. Another zoo, Birsa Munda Jaiwik Udyan, is also located about 16 km from Ranchi, and a number of mammalian fauna have been collected there for visitors.

Demography [[edit](#)]



Santal women in Jharkhand, India

Main article: [Tribes of Jharkhand](#)

[[show](#)] **Population Growth**

Jharkhand has a population of 32.96 million, consisting of 16.93 million males and 16.03 million females. The [sex ratio](#) is 947 females to 1000 males. The population consists of 28% tribal peoples, 12% [Scheduled Castes](#) and 60% others. The [population density](#) of the state is 414 persons per square kilometre of land; it varies from as low as 148 per square kilometre in Gumla district to as high as 1167 per square kilometre in Dhanbad district.

As per the 2001 census Hinduism is followed by 68.5% of the population of Jharkhand. Islam is followed by 13.8% of the population and Animistic Sarna religion is practised by 13% of the population. Christianity with 4.1% of the population is the fourth largest religious community in Jharkhand. Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism are all practiced making few less than 1%.

Census data since 1881 has shown a gradual decline of tribal population in Jharkhand as against the gradual increase of non-tribal population in the region. The reasons given for this are low birth rate and high death rate among the tribes; immigration of non-tribal peoples in the region; emigration of tribal peoples in the other places; and the adverse effects of industrialisation and urbanisation in the region. Tribal leaders assert, however, that their numbers are not as low as recorded by the census that they are still in the majority and that they remain a demographic force to reckon with.

Few centuries ago, the Jharkhand was extensively covered with the dense sal Jharkhand terrain had always been inaccessible. But with the discovery of its hidden mineral wealth has led to Jharkhand marching towards becoming one of the leading industrialized regions of India. On the one hand, the mine-fields, railways and roadways have gone ahead rapidly, educational and technical institutions have multiplied and the principal towns have become cosmopolitan; while on the other hand, the tribal people of the region have been deprived of their land and the process of indiscriminate exploitation has set in, creating racial, nutritional, cultural and socio-economic problems.

From the first regular Indian census of 1872, tribal denominations of the population have been regularly recorded in some form or the other. The Schedules tribes have been last notified under the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs Notification issued under Article 341 (i) and 342 (ii) of the constitution in 1956.

During the first census of 1872 following 18 tribal communities were listed as the Aboriginal Tribes: (1) Asur, (2) Binjhia, (3) Gond, (4) Ho, (5) Kharia, (6) Kharwar, (7) Khond, (8) Kisan, (9) Korwa, (10) Mal Paharia, (11) Munda, (12) Oraon, (13) Santhal, (14) Sauria Paharia, (15) Savar, (16) Bhumij, (17) Birhor Chero.

Later 4 Tribes were classified as semi-Hinduized aboriginals, viz., (1) Banjara, (2) Bathundi, (3) Chik Baraik and (4) Mahli. As of now the following 30 communities of Jharkhand are listed as the Scheduled Tribes as per details in the state government's website.

Primitives Tribes: Asur, Birhor, Birajia, Korba, Mal Paharia, Sauriya Paharia, Sabar, Hill Kharia and Parahiya.

Other Tribes: Biga, Banjara, Bathudi, Bedia, Bhumij, Binjhia, Chero, Chik Baraik, Gond, Gorait, Ho, Karmali, Khadia, Kharwar, Khond, Kisan, Kora, Lohra, Mahali, Munda, Oraon and Santhal.

Santhal [\[edit\]](#)

The Santhals are the largest of the Schedule Tribes and are mostly found in the district of Santhal Parganas, which has been named after them. They primarily reside in the cities of Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, Ranchi, and Palamau. Santhals are numerically the largest tribal group of India, speaking its own tongue-Santhal, which is allied to the Mundari language. Racially and culturally Santhals are closely related to other Mundari or Austric tribe of Chotanagpur. Besides agriculture and hunting, they are famous for their skillful dances and the music. The Santhal women give sufficient proof of the aesthetic sense by drawing simple and artistic designs and patterns on the walls of their huts. The Santhals have the institution of 'Bithala', which is a form of severe punishment including excommunication.

Oraon [\[edit\]](#)

The Oraons are a Dravidians tribe (Roy 1915) and form a second major tribe next to Santhals in Jharkhand. They live in the districts of the Ranchi, Palamau, Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Santhal Paragans, and also in the neighbouring states. According to the tradition, Konkan is said to be the original home of the Oraon. They migrated from the West coast of India to North India through river valleys, and settled down as agriculturists and landowners in the Shahabad districts of Bihar. When further driven by the successive hordes of newer races, they took shelter on the Rohtas Plateau, which they fortified, but even this fortress they had to leave. It is said that the Cheros probably drove them out. When they left Rohtas the Oraons got divided into two groups. One branch, known as 'Male', proceeded under a chief

northwards along the Ganges valley and eventually occupied the Rajmahal hills. The other branch under the chief's younger brother marched southeastwards up to the north Koel river and settled down in Palamau and northwest of Ranchi districts, then occupied by the Mundas. The Mundas gradually retreated to the southern and eastern part of the plateau. The most important social institution of the Oraon is the 'Dhumkuria', the youth Dormitory.

Munda people [\[edit\]](#)

Numerically the Mundas are one of the strongest [Kolarian](#) tribe (Roy, 1912) inhabiting Chotanagpur. Of all the tribes taken together, they stand next in strength to the Santhals and the Oraons. [Munda people](#) speak [Mundari](#). The main concentration of the Mundas, primarily an agriculturist tribe, is in the district of [Ranchi](#), [Singhbhum](#), [Hazaribagh](#), [Palamau](#), [Dhanbad](#), and [Santhal Parganas](#). Ethnically they are Proto-Austroids and speak the Mundari dialect of the austro-asiatic family (Prasad 1961). Mostly Munda people follow the Sarna religion, believing in a god called Singbonga. However one-fourth of them have adopted [Christianity](#). The Akhra or the dancing ground is characteristic of the Mundas. It is veritable open hall, not only for the dance, but also for the meetings of the village panchayats (the parha). The agriculture makes the base of their economic life and hence all their activities are directed towards it throughout the year. The sub-tribes are probably the result of inter-tribe marriages with the neighbouring tribes. A Munda may not marry a woman of his own sept. Totems have very great value and restrictions are respected.

Ho [\[edit\]](#)

The Hos constitute one of the major constituents of the tribal population but unlike the more numerous tribes, they are almost exclusively confined to the district of Singhbhum. They say that they are of the same family as the Mundas and came from Chotaa Nagpur. They are chiefly concentrated in Kolhan (Singhbhum). Like Mundas, the Hos believe in Sing-Bonga as the Supreme Being and creator of the Universe. The Hos are in the rapid transition process and their predominantly agricultural economy is being replaced by the industrial economy

Kharia [\[edit\]](#)

A primitive Kolarian tribe (Russell and Hira Lal 1916), the Kharias are divided into three sub-tribes, namely the Hill, Dudh and Dhelki Kharias. So far as their manners and customs are concerned, they are three separate and distinct branches of the Kharia tribe. Marriage among them does not take place. The Hill Kharias are a most primitive community, depending upon forest resources such as collection of honey, edible roots, herbs and fruits. The other sections of the Kharias have taken to plough cultivation and are economically better off than the Hill Kharias. They are distributed in the districts of Ranchi, Singhbhum, Santhal Pargans, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, and Palamau. The language spoken by them is known as Kharia, which is a branch of Munda family of languages.

Bhumij [\[edit\]](#)

The Bhumij tribe inhabits a plain on Chotanagpur plateau encircled on three sides by the Singhbhum hills, hill ranges of Lohardaga, Hazaribagh and Manbhum; and a hill range whose highest peak is known as Ajodhya.

They are primarily agriculturists. Riskey (1891) believes that they are nothing more than a branch of the Mundas who have spread eastwards and speak a corrupt mixture of Oriya and Bengalis as well as Hindi.

They dwell in the districts of Singhbhum, Santhal Paragnas, Ranchi, Dhanbad and Hazaribagh. They also live on the banks of the river Swarnrekha.

Factors in population change [\[edit\]](#)

Industrialization and urbanisation were other factors for rapid demographic change in Chhotanagpur (the present Jharkhand state) between 1881 and 1951. Immigration of labourers from Gaya, Munger, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh for the mining of mica in Koderma and Giridih and coal in Dhanbad and Jharia was seen to the extent of 12% and 38.6% respectively in the early decades of 20th century. Similarly as many as 50% of the unskilled labourers and the majority of the skilled labourers came from north Bihar, [Odisha](#), West Bengal, Bombay and Uttarpradesh to work at the iron and steel industries of Jamshedpur. Along with the immigration of majority Indian people to Jharkhand, there also started the emigration of tribal peoples to the tea plantations in Assam and West Bengal.

The demographic changes continued in Jharkhand more rapidly after independence, ironically through the very process of planned development in the country. Central water commission's report in 1994 reveals that 90 major dams were built in Jharkhand since 1951. Apart from these major dams, 400 medium size dams and 11,878 minor dams were built in the region. There are 79 major industries and factories in the region. These development projects benefited mainly those belonging to the formal economy but deprived tribal communities, especially those belonging to informal economy and dependent on the natural resources for a livelihood. About three million people were displaced and affected by development projects like dams, industries, mines, wildlife sanctuaries, defence establishments, airstrips, housing colonies and infrastructural development like roads and railways. About 90% of the displaced were part of tribal communities.

Religion [\[edit\]](#)

Most members of the scheduled tribes of Jharkhand follow the animistic [Sarna](#) religion. Sarna is the [Mundari](#) word for 'Sacred Grove'. Sarna involves belief in a great spirit called the Sing Bonga. Tribal belief holds the world to be inhabited by numerous spiritual beings of different kinds. Tribal communities consider themselves as living and doing everything in close association with these spirits. Rituals are performed under the groves of [Sal trees](#) called Sarna (also called Jaher), where Bonga is believed to appear or express himself.

[Santhal](#), [Munda](#), [Ho](#), [Oraon](#) and many other tribes strongly believe in one God, the Supreme Being, the Great Spirit, the Great One, the Creator, the Mighty Spirit, the one who rules over the entire universe. Oraons call this great spirit " Dharmesh" whereas Santhal, Munda and Ho tribes call him "Singbonga" . Oraons strongly believe in Lord Dharmesh's appearance in Sal trees.

Oraon belief and rituals

According to Oraon's philosophy, the lord Dharmesh is the most powerful and most important deity. He is responsible for the creation of our universe including our ancestors besides acting as our protector. In fact the whole world (Universe) is regulated by a superpower that is Dharmesh in Kurukh which simply means the almighty, he is also called Mahaedeo. The great one Dharmesh's purity demands that he be offered sacrifices only of things that are white. Hence he is given sacrifices of white goats, white fowls, white gulainchi flowers, white cloth, sugar, milk, etc. White is the sacred colour of Oraon tribe, in fact it is true for most adivasis.

Among the many important deities, the Chala-pacho Devi (Sarna Devi) is among the most important and most respected deity. The Gram Devi Chala-Pachho is a caring Old age lady with beautifully flowing white hair. It is believed that the Sal tree is the holy abode of the Sarna Devi, the mother goddess that protects and nurtures the Oraon tribe and others. On the occasion of Sarhul festival, the Pahan conducts special puja of the Devi. According to Sarna Dharam, the Devi lives in the wooden soop of Pahan kept at Chala-Kutti place, the auspicious place at Pahan's home. At Kutti place, one stick made up of Saal wood or Bamboo Wood is fixed on the ground, on this respected wooden soop called Sarna-Soop, the Sarna-Devi resides.

Oraons perform rituals under the Sal trees at a place called 'Sarna Sthal', it is also known as 'Jaher' (sacred grove); it resembles a small forest patch. In Oraons' villages, one can easily find the sacred religious place the 'Sarna Sthal' that has holy Sal trees and other trees planted at the site. Sometimes the Jaher are located inside the nearby forest area and not in the village.

This Sarna Sthal (Jaher) is a common religious place for the whole village and almost all the important socio-religious ceremonies of the village take place at this place only. These ceremonies are performed by the whole village community at a public gathering with the active participation of village priests known as 'Pahan'. The chief assistant of village priest is called 'Pujaar' or 'Panbhara'.

The Sarna people do not have a written code of moral law. Their idea of right and wrong comes from their tradition.

Tradition is their measure of truth. Their way to salvation is the tribe. Oraon tribe is primarily skilled agriculturists, most of the prayers revolved around getting good harvest and well being of their domestic animals. Thus the round of rituals connected with the agricultural cycle, along with life-cycle rituals for birth, marriage and death, it involves offering prayers to the spirits and to the deceased ancestors, with the active assistance of the Pahan.

It is true that the Oraons believe that their lives are greatly influenced by the natural surroundings, gods-goddesses, supernatural forces, spirits and many unknown and mysterious forces, including the souls of their deceased ancestors, who look after their tribe's interests. Surrounded by the natural world, it is instinctive for adivasi to name their benevolent gods and goddesses on the forests, hills, sun, water, rains, fires, light, etc. The gods and goddess are independent of the material world but he has dominion over the entire universe. They are omniscient, omnipresent, eternal, and compassionate; they always try to help out the humanity. The religion of Oraon is based on their belief in nature and its supernatural power. They have Nature Deities and the Spirits, both divided into broad categories of Benevolent and Malevolent. According to the belief of the Oraon community, the world is inhabited by numerous spiritual beings of different kind; and the Oraons consider themselves as living and doing everything in close association with these supernatural beings. The ancestors' spirits called Pitar (Benevolent) and the Iatar (Malevolent), who are also worshipped. According to Oraons' religious belief, their dead – ancestors' souls (atma or aikh or naad) reside in Patal Lok, below the earth's surface. Newly deceased persons' souls do not want to leave their homes and want to stay close to their family members. Therefore, the Oraons pray to their deceased family member's soul to join the family of Pitar (Pach-Balar) at Patal Lok or else it may unite with the family of Iatar and create trouble for not only the immediate family but also the other denizens of the village.

The highly respected Chandi Devi is only worshipped by unmarried male youngsters for achieving success in hunting expeditions. For married male folks, the worshipping of goddess is strictly prohibited.

Among the nature gods, the important one is the Pahaar Raja (Paat-Naad) is considered to be the lord of all the naad belonging to a village; he keeps all these deceased's souls under his control. It is believed that he resides in nearest mountain situated near the village and protects all the villagers from the diseases, natural calamities, etc. Another nature god is the tree named 'Mui-Chitkha', also known as Hazi-Peeper or Baindaa Peeper. It is generally found in almost all the Oraon villages. According to Oraons' believe, this tree is directly linked to the clouds in the sky, responsible for the rainfall. The village women folks forming a group perform the special puja as per traditions, praying for the rainfalls; the wish is generally granted within couple of days.

Social Institutions

Dhankothis (or Grain-golas) was an old Oraon tribe institution that disappeared into thin air. It had deep roots in the Adivasi economy and formed an important aspect of Adivasi culture. The Village Council used to run these. For Dhankothis, each cultivator contributed a small quantity of paddy per acre of land towards their share capital of Dhankothi, where they stored food-items, for rainy days and other exigencies.

One institution that has survived the ravage of time is weekly Bazaar or Haat, in these weekly markets, the people from the neighbouring villages within a radius of 5 to 10 miles, assemble to participate in all kinds buying and selling activities, few items were bartered too. Weekly Haat was more like a modern day club or a shopping mall, where people meet their friends, eat, drink, and make merry.

Every Adivasis living in nearby village eagerly looked forward to these weekly Haat, almost everyone used to turn in their best attire with special preparation like washing, cleaning and dressing them. No doubt, more often than not, even the marriages were negotiated and the cupid used to find its naive victims in these weekly Haat, buzzing with boundless energy, unbridled laughter of innocent Adivasis.

According to our age-old traditions, the marriages have to take place in the season in which people do not have much agricultural work. It takes place between January and April. Besides having leisure from agricultural pursuits, the house are also full of food-grains and it is easy to invite a large number of people on this occasion of marriage feast.

In the 'lota-panni' ceremony that precedes marriage, the boy's guardians have to make substantial presents to the girls and her family, for the respect that they accord to bride who is joining their family post marriage. The bride price has to be given and this is known as 'Dali-Dhiba'.

Marriage is considered an joyous occasion for the exchange of gifts not only between the couples but also between the families in which marriage is taking place and the kin group of which it is part. When one gets an invitation to attend the marriage of his relative or friends it is the usual practice to take two pots containing four seers of rice beer, some rice, pulses and vegetables.

It is customary for married girls in a village to receive gifts from their parents-in-law on the occasions of Karma, Sarhul and other festivals. On festivals, the gifts are exchanged between friends who form pacts of friendship such as Sahiya, etc. Even at the time of funerals, to help the grieving family, the community used to bring whatever they could afford to help the deceased's family to help them in their time of grieving.

The Jharkhand was never an exclusive abode of an Oraon tribe, for many centuries, many different types of Tribes shared their home at Jharkhand without ever indulging in blood-spattered war with each other. Amidst extended period as sovereign units and their peaceful existence during these few thousand years,

almost each tribe residing in Jharkhand developed their unique language, art and culture. But these different Adivasi tribes shared a common thread, like their unwavering worshipping of their nature gods and their forefathers' religion, also known as Sarna religion.

The houses in the villages were built mostly of wood, bamboos and leaves of trees. In fact, the vast majority of houses are built of mud and the roofs are tiled. On the walls of some of these houses, it is common to find drawings of human beings, horses, elephants and men riding horses, a row of men dancing, etc. Most people keep their clothes and other possessions in a bamboo basket called 'harka'. Most of the people live in spacious houses. Almost all the houses have a courtyard and a verandah on all sides. In all Oraon houses, one can find a trident and a religious Sarna flag fixed at the courtyard. Most of the houses had separate sheds for cattle located in one corner of the house. The cattle had separate doors built especially for them. Each room of the house is smeared daily with white soil and cow dung to keep it clean.

In almost every Oraons' villages, one can easily find one or more Akhra (dancing place). Often in each tola of a village, one can find a separate Akhra. We have rich collection of song and related dance traditions; these vary according to the seasons and occasions. In these joyous community festivities, dominated by songs and dance routines, everyone in the village, come together to participate at these akhra, irrespective of their age, gender, and economic status.

One more Oraons' institution called Dhumkuria were kind of bachelors' dormitories that worked as a kind of finishing school for the younger generation of Oraon in a village. It has completely disappeared, as it came under vicious attack led by negative propaganda by the people who wanted to attack our society.

The 'Handia' drink has an important place in the social system of the Oraons. Whenever a feast is to be given on the birth of a child, marriage or in connection with the funeral, large stocks of Handia is very important item. It is a cheap drink and in the past it used to add valuable vitamin to our diet. This traditional drink Handia is prepared by using simple fermentation process and ingredients like rice or mahua, etc.; it is low in alcohol content and only after consuming large quantities can one become intoxicated. This popular drink can be easily prepared in the home by means of a very simple fermentation process.

Languages [\[edit\]](#)

Although Hindi is the state language, the people of Jharkhand speak a number of languages belonging to three major language families: the [Munda languages](#) which include [Santhali](#), [Mundari](#), [Ho](#), [Kharria](#), [Bhumij](#); the [Indo-Aryan languages](#) which includes [Bengali](#), [Oriya](#), [Maithili](#),^[11] [Nagpuri](#), [Sadri](#), [Khortha](#), [Kurmal](#) and [Panchpargania](#); and the [Dravidian languages](#) which include [Oraon \(Kurukh\)](#), [Korwa](#), and [Paharia \(Malto\)](#).

Santali is spoken predominantly in Dumka, Jamtara, Pakur, Godda, Sahibganj and in parts of East Singhbhum and Saraikela-Kharsawan districts. Mundari is spoken mainly in Khunti and parts of Ranchi, West Singhbhum, Gumla, Simdega and Latehar districts. Ho is mainly spoken in West Singhbhum and Saraikela-Kharsawan districts. These three languages can be considered as sister languages as all of them are grammatically similar and 80%–90% of the words used are same.^[12]

Culture [\[edit\]](#)

Being a tribe dominated state, nature has been given utmost importance in every sphere of life and culture. Branches of sacred trees are brought and ceremonially planted in the courtyards. Devotees then worship these tree parts associated with gods/goddesses. Karma puja, Jitia Puja, Sarhul are a few examples. Poush Mela or Tusu Fair is a significant occasion celebrated during the Makar Sankranti wherein brightly coloured excellently decorated symbolic artefacts of folk deity are carried by the People. This is a folk harvesting festival. Tusu is a folk belief, not about any God or Goddess, but about a sweet little girl of the tribal folk. The festival takes place as new crops are harvested. The entire festival is a very colourful one. It takes the shape of the all-around festive mood of the tribal people, where everyone takes part.

Festivals [\[edit\]](#)

In whole Chotanagpur Plateau Region, among the local people the Karam Festival is celebrated with great pomp and show.

Among the Oraon Tribe, the Karam festival is one of the most important festivals and holds a very important place in their social and religious life. It is usually celebrated 15 days after the Kunwaar-Shukl-Paksh. After the fixation of the date for the festival, the local population start their preparation; for instance, they start buying the culinary-items to prepare traditional dishes, new clothes for the occasion, etc. Besides, for the Karam-Puja, they buy oil, Sindoor, Daliya, et al. Being a very important community festival of the region, it is celebrated by the entire Oraon and other local communities of the region; now in its modern day re-embodiment, the festivity has spread far and wide, from the rural to the urban ambience, and from Chotanagpur to other parts of our country.

On the occasion of the festival, the Boys and the Girls are given extraordinary treatment and due importance by their respective families. The families, their mother and father, give them special "Karam-clothes" to their child (or children), these clothes signify the unmarried status of the Boys and the Girls of the family.

One of the most interesting aspects of these special clothes given as gift is that these Karam-clothes are hand-woven by the mother and father for their child, after hours of hard-works. It signifies, the clothes save them from the bad influence and the habits. The Karam and these Karam-Clothes are considered very auspicious. It is also believed that the children are offered to Karam, for the showering of its constant guidance and blessings to the child, in fact the entire family.

Cuisine [\[edit\]](#)

Jharkhandis have a cuisine in which spices are rarely used and rice is the staple. They prepare different dishes of rice like different types of Rotis, Litti Chokha, Pani puri, Pittha, Dhuska, Dudhauri, kera-dudhauri, etc. Dhuska is a famous dish of Jharkhand cooked with mashed rice and pulses and served with either aaloo dum or mutton curry; kera-dudhauri is a famous dish prepared with milk, rice, ghee and gur. In many parts of Jharkhand including Panch Pargana area (Bundu, Rahe, Sonahatu, Silli, Angara, Arki and Tamar Blocks of Ranchi & Khunti districts) a special food item "Charpa" is prepared by frying mashed rice mixed with spicy vegetable preparations; hence the name follows viz. Sembi Charpa, Egg Charpa and many more depending upon the ingredient vegetable source.

Jharkhandis use different types of flowers as vegetables, such as the flowers of drum-stick, August and Jhirool. Use of Sag, i.e. leaves of different shrubs and other small plants, is perhaps another peculiarity of Jharkhandi food. Commonly used sags are Palak, Beng, Kataei, Gendhari, Saranti, Sunsunia, Koinar,

methi, bhathua, Sarso and chana. "Maad Jhor" which a nutritious substitute for Daal is prepared by boiling saag in starch left after cooking rice. The same is made more delicious by adding flavour of Garlic fried in mustard oil (Tadka/Phodan in local language). Many vegetables and leaves are dried and stored for use out of season, and the same are consumed in the form of "Maad Jhor". In many village markets of Jharkhand you can easliy see women selling powdered dried leaves or other dried food items.

One more interesting food item is dried Mushrooms (various types of eatable fungi) which is dried and stored when mushrooms are found abundantly during rainy season in the forests and/or sparsely populated remote villages. Fresh mashrooms (Khukhdi/Chhatu in local language) are given local names depending upon their place of origin/growth viz. Bala Chhatu, Jamun Khukhdi etc. are consumed in dry fried form (without spices) or with spicy curry/gravy.

Local alcoholic drinks include rice beer, originally known as *Handiya*, named after the vessel (earthen pot) used to make it. Handiya is culturally associated with native i.e. Tribals as well as Sadan, as this drink is consumed by both men and women, on social occasions like marriage and other festivals. Another common liquor is called *Mahu*, made from fruit/flowers of the "Mahua" tree (Madhukam Indicum).

There are many foods that are a part of the traditional cuisine that are also known for their medicinal values, like Kurthi ([Horse gram](#)), which is used like a kind of pulses and is considered a cure for kidney stones and is also recommended for fast recovery after childbirth. Fruits such as Jackfruit, Blackberry, Mango and Litchi are found in abundance.

Administrative districts [\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Districts of Jharkhand](#)

The state was formed with 18 districts, which were formerly part of south Bihar. Some of these districts were reorganised to form 6 new districts, namely, Latehar, Saraikela Kharsawan, Jamtara, Sahebganj, Khunti and Ramgarh. Presently, the state has 24 [districts](#):[Ranchi](#), [Lohardaga](#), [Gumla](#), [Simdega](#), [Palamu](#), [Latehar](#), [Garhwa](#), [West Singhbhum](#),[Seraikela Kharsawan](#), [East Singhbhum](#), [Dumka](#), [Jamtara](#), [Sahebganj](#), [Pakur](#), [Godda](#), [Hazaribag](#), [Chatra](#), [Koderma](#), [Giridih](#), [Dhanbad](#), [Bokaro](#), [Deoghar](#), [Khunti](#) and [Ramgarh](#).

Largest		Cities			in	
<small>(2011 Census of India estimate)^[13]</small>						
Rank	City	District	Population	Rank	City	District
01	Jamshedpur	East Singbhum , Seraikela Kharsawan	1,337,131	06	Phusro	Bokaro
02	Dhanbad	Dhanbad	1,195,298(2011)	07	Hazaribagh	Hazariba
03	Ranchi	Ranchi	1,126,741(2011)	08	Giridih	Giridh
04	Bokaro Steel City	Bokaro	563,417	09	Ramgarh	Ramgarh
05	Deoghar	Deoghar	203,116	10	Daltongani	Palamu

Government and politics [\[edit\]](#)

Jharkhand is currently under the presidency rule after, [Arjun Munda](#) of the [Bharatiya Janata Party](#), resigned as the eighth [Chief Minister of Jharkhand](#), on 9 January 2013.



Jagannathpur Temple

Jharkhand is one of the thirteen states in which the [Naxalite](#) rebels have considerable influence. On 5 March 2007, [Sunil Mahato](#), a member of the [national parliament](#), was shot dead by [Naxalite](#) rebels while watching a football match on the Hindu festival of [Holi](#) near Kishanpur, 160 km (99 mi) east of the state capital, [Ranchi](#).^[14] His wife, [Suman Mahato](#), the [Jharkhand Mukti Morcha](#) candidate, won the [Jamshedpur](#) Lok Sabha by-election in September 2007. Mahato defeated her nearest rival, Dinesh Sarangi of the Bharatiya Janata Party, by a margin of 58,816 votes.



Sita Fall.

Naxal insurgency [\[edit\]](#)

Jharkhand has been at the centre of the [Naxalite-Maoist insurgency](#). Since the uprising of the [Naxalites](#) in 1967, 6,000 people have been killed in fighting between the Naxalites and counter-insurgency operations by the [police](#), and its [paramilitary](#) groups such as the [Salwa Judum](#).^[15]

Despite having a presence in almost 7.80% of India's geographical area^[16] (home to 5.50% of India's population), the state of Jharkhand is part of the "Naxal Belt" comprising 92,000 square kilometres,^[16] where the highest concentrations of the groups estimated 20,000 combatants^[17] fight. Part of this is due to the fact that the state harbours a rich abundance of natural resources, while its people live in abject poverty and destitution.^[18] The impoverished state provides ample recruits for the communist insurgents, who argue that they are fighting on behalf of the landless poor that see few benefits from the resource extractions.^[18] As the federal government holds a monopoly on sub-surface resources in the state, the tribal population is prevented from staking any claim on the resources extracted from their

land.^[18] In response, the insurgents have recently begun a campaign of targeting infrastructure related to the extraction of resources vital for Indian energy needs, such as coal.^[16]

In response to the growing influence of the insurgents, the Indian government has recently^[when?] enacted a scheme by which free mobile phones would be handed out in exchange for villagers' cooperation with security forces—although intelligence officials express concern at the possibility of misinformation, and the difficulty in determining villagers from rebels.^[15]

Economy [\[edit\]](#)

Jharkhand's gross state domestic product for 2011 is estimated at \$21.7 billion at current prices. Since it is rich in minerals, the state per capita income is likely to increase in the coming years.

Jharkhand has a concentration of some of the country's highly industrialised cities such as [Jamshedpur](#), [Ranchi](#), [Bokaro Steel City](#), [Dhanbad](#) and [Ramgarh](#). It also has several firsts in India, including:



[Maithon dam](#)

- Largest [fertiliser](#) factory of its time in India (since shut down) at [Sindri, Dhanbad](#)
- First [Iron & steel](#) factory at Jamshedpur
- Largest Steel plant in Asia, Bokaro steel plant, [Bokaro](#).
- Biggest [explosives](#) factory at Gomia, [Bokaro](#).
- Tata Steel has established country's first coal washery at Ghato, [Ramgarh district](#) in the year 1951.
- First [methane gas](#) well at Parbatpur, [Bokaro](#).



[Pantaloons Ranchi](#)

Major industrial units [\[edit\]](#)



Bokaro Steel Plant

- Bokaro Steel Plant, Bokaro.
- Electrosteel Plant, Bokaro.
- Bharat Refractories Limited, Bokaro.
- Chandrapura Thermal Power Station, Chandrapura, Bokaro.
- Tenughat Thermal/Hydro Power Station, Bokaro.
- Bokaro Thermal Power Station, Bokaro Thermal, Bokaro.
- Indian Explosive Limited, Gomia, Bokaro
- Jay Pee Cement, Bokaro.
- Ashok Industries, Bokaro Industrial Area.
- BMW Steel, Bokaro.
- Bokaro Power Supply Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bokaro
- Imperial Chemical Industries, Gomia, Bokaro
- Kargali Coal Washery, CCL, Kargali, Bokaro
- Kathara Coal Washery, CCL, Kathara, Bokaro
- Bokaro Timber Seasoning Plant, BIADA, Bokaro
- Dugda Coal Washery, BCCL, Dugda, Bokaro
- Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, HSCL, Bokaro
- Ratan Industries, Balidih, Bokaro
- Inox Air Products, Bokaro
- ONGC, Talgaria, Bokaro
- Udaya Vijaya Steel Pvt. Ltd., BIADA, Bokaro
- Hanuman Alloy Apex Pvt. Ltd., BIADA, Bokaro
- Sundaram Steels Pvt. Ltd., BIADA, Bokaro
- Indian Oil Bottling Plant, BIADA, Bokaro
- Royal Steel Pvt. Ltd., Chas, Bokaro
- Kalyaneshwari Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd., BIADA, Bokaro
- Tata Steel Plant, Jamshedpur.
- Metalsa, Seraikella, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Power, Jojobera, Jamshedpur.
- Tayo Rolls Limited, Gamharia, Jamshedpur.

- Tata Pigment, Jugsalai, Jamshedpur.
- Timken India Limited, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Robins Fraser, Jamshedpur.
- Auto Cluster, Adityapur, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Yodogawa limited, Adityapur, Jamshedpur.
- Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Private Limited, Gamharia, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Motors, Jamshedpur.
- Usha Martin Industries Limited, Adityapur, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Rayson, Jamshedpur.
- Turamdih Gold Mine, Musabani, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Cummins, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Growth Shops, Gamharia, Jamshedpur.
- JMT Auto Limited, Adityapur, Jamshedpur.
- TRF Limited, Jamshedpur.
- Tata Consulting Engineers, Jamshedpur
- UCIL, Sundernagar, Jamshedpur.
- Lafarge Cement, Jamshedpur.
- Adhunik Alloyes Limited, Kandra, Jamshedpur.
- Jamshedpur Utilities & Services Company Limited, Jamshedpur.
- BOC Gases, Burmamines, Jamshedpur.
- Hindustan Copper Limited, Ghatsila, Jamshedpur.
- Praxair Gas, Sakchi, Jamshedpur.
- Tinplate, Jamshedpur.
- Concast Cement, Hata, Jamshedpur.
- Steel Strip Wheels, Jamshedpur.
- Jindal Steel and Power Limited, Potka, Jamshedpur.
- Adhunik Power and Natural Resources Limited, Kandra, Jamshedpur.
- Heavy Engineering Corporation,(HEC Ltd., Dhurwa), Ranchi.
- Patratu Thermal Power Station, Ramgarh.
- Maithon Hydro Power Station, Maithan, Dhanbad.
- Panchet Hydro Power Station, Panchet, Damodar Valley Corporation, Dhanbad.
- Telaiya Hydro Power Station, Telaiya, Damodar Valley Corporation
- Jindal Steel Plant,Balkudra, Patratu,Ramgarh.
- Kashish News, Ranchi
- Usha Martin, Ranchi.
- Central Coalfields Limited, Ranchi
- Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Ranchi
- Eastern Coalfields Limited.
- Central Mine Planning & Designing Institute Limited (CMPDI), Ranchi
- Metallurgical and Engineering Consultancy (MECON) Limited, Ranchi
- Sun-Tech, NABL accredited Laboratory as per ISO/IEC 17025:2005 at Ranchi by Govt. of India

- Abhijeet Group at Thermal Power Plant and Steel Plant at Chandwa, Saraikela
- Essar power Ltd. at Chandwa
- Jay Solar Systems at Dhanbad
- NetSanchar. Net, Dhanbad, Jharkhand

Upcoming mega projects [\[edit\]](#)

- Supreme Office Systems, Ranchi
- UIDAI Project

Jharkhand has several towns and innumerable villages with civic amenities. Urbanization ratio is 24.1% and the per capita annual income is US\$ 726.8.^[19] Jharkhand also has immense [mineral](#) resources: minerals ranging from (ranking in the country within bracket) from [iron ore](#) (1st), [coal](#)(3rd), [copper](#) ore (1st), [mica](#) (1st), [bauxite](#) (3rd), [Manganese,limestone, china clay, fire clay, graphite](#) (8th), [kainite](#) (1st), [chromite](#) (2nd), [asbestos](#) (1st), [thorium](#) (3rd), [sillimanite, uranium](#) (Jadug uda mines, Narwa Pahar) (1st) and even [gold](#)([Rakha Mines](#)) (6th) and [silver](#) and several other minerals. Large deposits of coal and iron ore support concentration of [industry](#), in centres like [Jamshedpur](#), [Bokaro](#) and Ranchi. Tata Steel, a *S&P CNX 500* conglomerate has its corporate office in Jharkhand. It reported a gross income of ₹. 204,910 million for 2005. NTPC will start coal production from its captive mine in state in 2011–12, for which the company will be investing about Rs 1,800 crore.^[20]



An 1870 watercolour showing worship of the Jyotirlinga in Deoghar

Education [\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Education in Jharkhand](#)

See also: [List of institutions of higher education in Jharkhand](#)

Education Minister of Jharkhand is Devjeet kumar singh. The literacy rate in Jharkhand is **67.63%** (2011). As per the 2011 census conducted by [Government of India](#) the official literacy rate for the state was 67.63% (Male: 78.45%; Female: 56.21%) with 9 districts above the average literacy rate:^{[21][22]}

1. East Singhbhum (Jamshedpur): 77.13% (Male: 85.53%; Female: 68.20%)
2. Ranchi: 76.13% (Male: 84.51%; Female: 67.33%)
3. Dhanbad: 75.71% (Male: 85.68%; Female: 64.70%)
4. Ramgarh: 73.92% (Male: 83.51%; Female: 63.49%)
5. Bokaro: 78.48% (Male: 84.50%; Female: 61.46%)
6. Hazaribagh: 70.48% (Male: 81.15%; Female: 59.25%)
7. Saraikela Khasawan: 68.85% (Male: 81.01%; Female: 56.19%)
8. Kodarma: 68.35% (Male: 81.25%; Female: 54.77%)
9. Lohardaga: 68.29% (Male: 78.62%; Female: 57.86%)
10. Deoghar: 66.34% (Male: 79.13%; Female: 53.39%)



Main building of ISM, Dhanbad

Jharkhand has a network of government and privately run schools, although standards of teaching vary considerably from place to place, as also from school to school.



IIM, Ranchi



National University of Study and Research in Law



[Delhi Public School, Ranchi](#)

After formation of new state, Jharkhand Education Project Council (JEPC) has been implementing four projects for spread of elementary education namely DPEP, SSA, NPEGEL, KGBV. Hence works have been accomplished in the state towards achieving the goal of UEE but due to slow pace, the target of hundred percent enrolment and retention of children in schools is not yet attained.^[23]

Jharkhand has made primary education so accessible that 95% of children of ages 6–11 are enrolled in school, as opposed to 56% in 1993–94, so this will likely to improve literacy a great deal. Some of the better known schools which operate chain of school nationally and regionally are DAV Hehal, St. Thomas School, [Delhi Public School](#), Oxford Public School, De Nobili School, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Chinmaya Public School, Loyola school, Sacred Heart School, St. Xavier's, Shishu Mandir, Surendranath centenary School, etc. Students from Jharkhand have proved themselves on national as well as international level. Students from the state have always ranked well in almost all the national level competitive exams.^[24]

Schools [\[edit\]](#)

The medium of instruction in schools is [Hindi/ English](#) with [English/ Hindi/ Sanskrit/ Bengali/ Oriya](#) as second language. After 10 years of schooling, students can join 2 years of Intermediate course (or +2 courses) in [Arts](#), [Science](#) and [Commerce](#). This is followed by 3 years of degree courses (graduation) or 4 years of [Engineering/Agriculture/Medicine](#) degree. On May 2008, Jharkhand became the first in India to introduce free [haircuts](#) for poor students. 40,000 [barbers](#) will be employed with a monthly salary of 1000 rupees (25 US dollars) which will cost the state government 40 million rupees (1 million US dollars).^[25]

Universities and colleges [\[edit\]](#)



The [Xavier School of Management \(XLRI\)](#), in [Jamshedpur](#), has consistently been ranked among the best private business schools in India.

Jharkhand has a number of engineering and management colleges: St.Columba's College, Hazaribagh is a renowned and the oldest college in the state established in 1859 by the Dublin University Mission. [Indian School of Mines](#), Dhanbad, [National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur](#), [Birla Institute of Technology, Ranchi](#), Jamshedpur Institute of Management Science, [Jamshedpur](#), Netaji Subhas Institute of Business Management, [Jamshedpur](#), D.A.V. Institute of Engineering and Technology, [Daltonganj](#), (A Joint Venture of Government of Jharkhand and DAV Trust and Management Society, New Delhi), R.V.S College of Engineering and Technology, [Jamshedpur](#), [Birla Institute of Technology Sindri](#), [Dhanbad](#), and the [National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology](#) (NIFFT). Among which BIT Mesra, NIT Jamshedpur and ISM Dhanbad are among top 15 technical colleges in the country.

B.I.T Sindri is the best Govt Engg college in Jharkhand (Jharkhand Govt.) with annual intake of about 800 students in B.tech. It has been ranked one all over INDIA in terms of RETURN ON INVESTMENT and overall ranking of 27 all over INDIA.

St Xavier's College, Ranchi, most reputed college in the state of Bihar and Jharkhand was started in the Ranchi Jesuit Society, on 3 July 1944.

[ISM Dhanbad](#), established in 1926, is the most reputed engineering institute of Jharkhand. Admission to it is through [IIT-JEE](#), the toughest engineering entrance examination in India. This institute attracts students from all over the country. It functions under MHRD, Govt of India.

Jamshedpur is home to one of the best business school in India, the [Xavier Labour Relations Institute](#), (XLRI). It has been consistently ranked among the best private business school in India. A recent development, the Government of India has set up an [Indian Institute of Management](#) (IIM) at Ranchi under the mentorship of IIM Calcutta. IIM Ranchi offers programmes in management, human resource management and a research fellowship in management. The State Government has allocated land for the same near Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke. It has been ranked as the best emerging B-School in India by multiple agencies.

Jharkhand has 4 universities : Ranchi University & Birsa Agricultural University at Ranchi, Sidhu Kanhu University at Dumka and Vinova Bhave University in Hazaribagh.

There are three medical colleges in Jharkhand namely [M.G.M Medical College](#) at Jamshedpur, [Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences](#) (RIMS) at Ranchi and [Patliputra Medical College And Hospital](#) (PMCH) at Dhanbad.

[Xavier Institute of Social Service](#) (XISS) at Ranchi is also one of oldest business school well known for its [Personnel management](#) and [Rural Development](#) courses.^[26] XISS ranked 6th in East and 31st in all India—Outlook MDRA B-Schools Ranking 2010 and Business Today in 2010 ranked XISS on 36th position in all India.

[National University of Study and Research in Law](#), Ranchi([NUSRL](#)) was established in year 2010 by Government of Jharkhand as the fourteenth national law university of India. NUSRL is currently functioning out of a temporary campus in BIT, Mesra. It was formally inaugurated by the Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court and Supreme Court Judge designate Gyan Sudha Mishra on 26 April 2010, in the Birla Institute of Technology-Mesra campus. NUSRL is established to develop a holistic perspective of legal education in all its ramifications particularly advocacy, judicial and legal institutional services, legislations, law reforms and all the research in these

Central University of Jharkhand (www.cuj.ac.in) was established in the year 2009 as the first Central University in the state of Jharkhand. It currently offers Integrated Programs in Business Administration, Mass Communication, Languages, Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology Program along with Master and Doctoral Programs. The Central University is currently based in a picturesque temporary campus at Brambe, 25 km from Ranchi town on the Ratu - Lohardaga Road. The permanent campus is coming up at Chri - Manatu. The founder Vice Chancellor of the University is Prof. D T Khathing, an eminent Physicist and a Professor from NEHU, Shillong. Redeemer Institute of Management And Technology (RIMT)^[27] was established in 2011 in Munirka, New Delhi. In February 2012 RIMT have opened there branch in Ramgarh, Jharkhand. RIMT affiliated from [Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management University](#) and [Karnataka State Open University](#). RIMT College is organized by Redeemer Engisoft Private Limited (An ISO 9001:2008 Certified Organization).^[28]

Health [\[edit\]](#)

On account of salubrious climate, Jharkhand, particularly its capital Ranchi, has been like a health resort. As far back as 1918, facilities were set up for treatment of [mentally challenged](#).^[29]

In certain areas of Jharkhand, poverty and consequent malnutrition have given rise to diseases like [tuberculosis](#) (TB). In fact, TB has assumed [epidemic](#) proportions in certain areas of the state. For management and treatment of such TB, Itki TB Sanatorium, Ranchi, established in 1928 has been doing exemplary work as a premier institute for clinical and programmatic management of TB. The Itki TB Sanatorium is well equipped and accredited by Government of India for quality assurance and Culture and Drug Sensitivity Testing for M.TB. It provides free of cost treatment for TB as well as Drug resistant TB. Likewise, in the field of treatment of cancer, Tata Main Hospital, Jamshedpur,^[30] is rendering pioneering work. In the same way Bokaro General Hospital equipped with modern facilities for the treatment Cancer and heart related problems with capacity of 1100 beds one of the largest in eastern India.

Although several public and private health facilities are available in the state, overall infrastructure for dispensing health related services require improvements. An exception is the famous Tata Motors Hospital which is an example of an ISO 14001 and 18001 certified hospital with DNB teaching facilities.

Ranchi, the capital has witnessed a sharp growth in the number of hospitals. Hospitals like [Orchid Medical Centre](#) have introduced world class healthcare services to the people of the state. However in

rural areas facilities are still scarce and reliant on foreign aid projects (such as [Traditional Healthcare](#) in Datom) for the establishment of clinics

[Fluoride](#) in groundwater presents a public health problem in Jharkhand. A recent survey led by the [Birla Institute of Technology](#), Mesra, Ranchi in collaboration with [UNICEF](#) in the northwest districts of [Palamau](#) and [Garhwa](#) found fluoride levels above the drinking [WHO](#) drinking water guidelines.^[31] Excessive amounts of fluoride in drinking water can lead to [dental fluorosis](#), prevalent bone fractures, and [skeletal fluorosis](#), an irreversible disabling condition.^[32] Some work has focused on combating fluorosis through increased calcium intake by consuming local plants.^[33] Researchers at [Princeton University](#) and the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi are currently investigating defluoridation options, while performing an epidemiological survey to assess the extent of fluoride linked health problems and the impact of future interventions.^{[34][35]}

Almost 80% of Jharkhand's people are farmers, although it contains 40% of India's mineral reserves it has some of India's poorest people, in Summer 2009 the state was threatened by drought, with people criticising the government for not providing food aid or assistance.^[36]

Veterinary [\[edit\]](#)

Jharkhand has a diverse [domestic](#) animal population, including local and crossbred cattle, black Bengal goat, chhotanagpuri sheep, murrah and local buffalo, broilers and ducks of many varieties. The state Veterinary department runs Veterinary Dispensaries located throughout Jharkhand and posts Touring Veterinary officers, Block Animal Husbandary Officers, Touring Veterinary officers (mobile), Assistant Poultry Officers and Veterinary Surgeons to support the agricultural industry.

The state has a Veterinary College located at Kanke, Ranchi.

Sports [\[edit\]](#)

[Cricket](#), [Hockey](#) and [football](#) are popular games with the people of Jharkhand. Jharkhand has given some brilliant players like [Jaipal Singh](#), a former Indian hockey captain and [Olympian](#) and [Manohar Topno](#), [Birendra Lakra](#) and his brother [Bimal Lakra](#), currently playing for the [Indian Hockey team](#). Jaipal Singh was the captain of the hockey team that won the first gold medal for India in Olympic games 1928 at Amsterdam. [Mahendra Singh Dhoni](#) who is the captain of [Indian cricket team](#) and the best wicket keeper batsman for India till date^[citation needed] and led the Indian Cricket Team to ICC Cricket World Cup Glory on 2 April 2011 ending a 28-year wait to repeat the feat achieved by former Indian captain Kapil Dev in 1983 at Lords, England. Another rising cricketer from Jharkhand is [Varun Aaron](#), India's fastest bowler and [Saurabh Tiwary](#), left hand hard hitting batsman of India who represented [Mumbai Indians](#) from the 2008 Indian Premier League and currently playing for [Royal Challengers Bangalore](#). He was one of the key batsmen in the Indian team that won the 2008 U/19 Cricket World Cup in Malaysia. Ashunta Lakra, sister of Vimal Lakra is the Indian Hockey Captain currently. And one of the emerging sport personality is Deepika Kumari, a young Indian athlete who competes in the event of Archery. She won gold medal in the 2010 Commonwealth games in the women's individual recurve event. Some of major stadiums in Ranchi are:

- JSCA International Stadium, Ranchi - **Cricket**
- Birsa Munda Athletics Stadium Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Athletics**
- Shiekh Bhikhari Administrative Block, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Fencing, Karate- Do**

- Veer Budhu Bhagat Aquatic Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Aquatics**
- Harivansh Tana Bhagat Indoor Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling**
- Astro turf Hockey Stadium, Morhabadi, Ranchi - **Hockey (Men & Women)**
- Birsa Munda Football Stadium, Morhabadi, Ranchi - **Football (Men), Rugby 7s**
- Thakur Vishwanath Shahdeo Indoor Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Wushu, Badminton, Table Tennis**
- R. K. Anand Lawn Bowl Greens, Namkum, Ranchi - **Lawn Bowls, Judo**
- Ganpat Rai Indoor Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Taekwondo, Gymnastics, Handball**
- Albert Ekka Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Kabaddi, Kho-Kho**
- Sidho Kanhu Velodrome Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Cycling**
- Tikait Umrao Shooting Range, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Shooting**
- Tennis Stadium, Mega Sports Complex, Ranchi - **Tennis**

An [International Cricket stadium with an indoor stadium](#) and a practice ground has been constructed. This international stadium will host an International Match between [India](#) and [England](#) on 19 January 2013.^[37] Apart from that, this stadium will also host two [IPL 6](#) matches for [KKR](#) and Celebrity Cricket League Matches for Bhojpuri Dabanggs. A Tennis Academy, which was inaugurated by [Sania Mirza](#) and [Shoaib Malik](#), also runs besides the Cricket stadium.^{[38][39]} Ranchi is among six cities in [Hockey India League](#) to be played in January 2013. Ranchi franchise was bought by [Patel-Uniexcel](#) Group and the team named [Ranchi Rhinos](#).^[40] Ranchi is also famous for being the hometown of World Cup winning Captain of Indian Cricket team, [Mahendra Singh Dhoni](#). India's ace archer [Deepika Kumari](#), gold medal winner of [Commonwealth Games](#) 2010 and current world no.1 rank holder, also hails from Ranchi.^[41]

Media [edit]

- Electronic media ETV Bihar/Jharkhand broadcasts Jharkhand-related news on a popular program called *Johar Jharkhand* at 7:30 am and 7:30 pm.
- Print media include the Hindi newspapers, namely, *Prabhat Khabar*, *Hindustan* and *Dainik Jagran*, Dainik Bhaskar published from the state capital, Ranchi and available in almost all parts of the state. English newspapers like *The Pioneer*,^[42] the *Times of India* and the *Hindustan Times* are published from Ranchi and are available across Jharkhand. Other important Indian newspapers in Hindi, English and local languages are also available in bigger cities by the afternoon and after a day's delay in smaller towns. Most of the national magazines in Hindi and English are regularly available in bigger cities and at other places where supply may be arranged through newspaper vendors. The internet media like [jharkhandmirror](#)^[43] and [newswings](#)^[44] are also available.
- *Johar Disum Khabar*^[45] is only fortnightly newspaper published in local tribal & regional language from Ranchi. A monthly magazine "Johar Sahiya"^[46] is also published in the state's popular regional language Nagpuri-Sadri."Jharkhandi Bhasha Sahitya Sanskriti Akhra"^[47] also a multilingual quarterly magazine in tribal & Regional languages of Jharkhand.
- There are also many lesser known news website like [BiharAndJharkhand.com](#)^[48] [ranchiexpress.com](#)^[49] and a more recent news website [JHnews.co.in](#).^[50] These websites have been made exclusively keeping in mind the needs of Jharkhand.

- Ranchi and Jamshedpur have around five radio stations and [All India Radio](#) is available throughout the state. In 2007, private FM Channels have also started operation in the state. [Doordarshan](#), the national television broadcaster, is also available in almost all parts of the state. Bigger cities in Jharkhand are served by all television channels available in India and channels are received through cable. In some interior regions, channels are received via satellite dishes.
- Landline telephone connectivity is provided by [BSNL](#), [Tata Indicom](#) and [Reliance Communications](#) and covers almost all parts of the state. Cellular service, covering all major centres of the state, is provided by [Vodafone](#), [Airtel](#) (GSM Service), [Aircel](#), [BSNL](#), [Idea Cellular](#) and [Reliance Communications](#) and also by Tata Indicom and Reliance Infocomm (CDMA Service). [Internet](#) connectivity is available in all the districts.
- Kashish News is one of the round-the-clock electronic media being aired from Ranchi, Jharkhand.^[51]