

MIGRATION & UTTARAKHAND

2017 ELECTORAL DATA



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Migration is one of the biggest societal challenges in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand. For as long as one can remember, the issue of migration has been the bane of our state. The COVID-19 pandemic brought home the specter of migration, as lakhs returned back to their roots, to their homes and to their villages in the masses.

To better grasp the phenomenon of migration and why it evokes such strong reactions in the mountain state, one needs to go back to the long drawn agitation in the 90s that defined the struggle for a brighter dawn and a better tomorrow. 42 lives were lost during this period as women and men, young and old; all came out in solidarity demanding the creation of a separate state. It was felt that an independent state, far away from the *babudom* of Lucknow would provide greater opportunities, improve healthcare and ensure higher standards of education and living for the inhabitants of the region.

Today, it's a well acknowledged fact across the social, political and business spectrum that the state has failed to live up to its vast potential and has witnessed unabated migration. A myriad of reasons are responsible for the current state of affairs. Lack of employment, inadequate education and limited health-care facilities have exacerbated the prolonged exodus. One of the many consequences of this phenomenon is the low voter turnout in 34 of the total 70 constituencies in the nine hill districts; viz. Pauri, Tehri, Chamoli, Uttarkashi, Rudraprayag, Almora, Pithoragarh, Champawat and Bageshwar in Uttarakhand.

The enclosed electoral data summary is an attempt to look at the past 2017 Uttarakhand assembly elections from the point of view of voter turnout. The data and its analysis examine voter turnout percentages both from a district and from a constituency perspective. In the days to come, we will also look at data from the 2012 elections and look for key highlights from a migration perspective.

The electoral numbers can only provide food for thought and not necessarily offer any solutions. Yet, they are a mirror to the issue of migration that dominates the policy discourse of the state. In summation, the electoral data reaffirms the demand for adequate, long term solutions that facilitate reverse migration in the state of Uttarakhand.

Migration & Uttarakhand 2017 Electoral Data Top 10 Highlights

1. The average voting turnout in Uttarakhand in the 2017 Vidhan Sabha election was 65.60%. Elections were held on February 15, 2017 in 70 seats of which 36 are in the four plain districts of Haridwar, Dehradun, Udham Singh Nagar and Nainital. The remaining 34 seats are in the nine hill districts of Uttarakhand.
2. The highest polling percentage was in the districts of Udham Singh Nagar (76.01%), Haridwar (75.68%) and Uttarkashi (69.38%).
3. The lowest polling percentage was in the hill districts of Almora (53.07%), Pauri (54.86%) and Tehri (55.68%).
4. Laksar (81.95%), Haridwar Rural (81.76%) and Piran Kaliyar (81.6%) in the plain district of Haridwar were three constituencies with the highest voting turnout in Uttarakhand. Thus, voter turnout was in 81-82% range in the three constituencies.
5. Salt (46.01%) in Almora district and Chaubatakhal (46.91%) and Lansdowne (47.87%) in Pauri district had the lowest voter turnout. Thus, voter turnout was in the 46-48% range in the three constituencies.
6. With 49.19% voting turnout, Ghansali in Tehri district also had a voting percentage below 50%. Thus, there were four hill constituencies in the state with voter turnout below 50%.
7. 82% hill constituencies (28 out of 34) in the nine hill districts had a vote share that was lower than that of the state average of 65.60%.
8. All five constituencies in the city of Dehradun, viz Raipur (59.77%), Mussoorie (58.06%), Rajpur Road (58.01%), Dharampur (57.56%) and Dehradun Cantt (57.14%) had voting below 60%.
9. In most hill constituencies, the total average number of voters is in the 45000 to 60000 range. The total electors are quite low in the hill constituencies and on top of that, the vote share is very low. While this needs further examination and ground research; it can be safely assumed that one of the biggest reasons for the low voter turnout in the hill districts is migration.
10. With Covid curbs and limitations of technology; Election Commission needs to make special efforts to increase the voting percentage in the hill constituencies in Uttarakhand.

Uttarakhand 2017 Election & District Wide Polling Percentage Overview

S.No	District	Voting Percentage
1	Udham Singh Nagar	76.01%
2	Haridwar	75.68%
3	Uttarkashi	69.38%
4	Nainital	66.88%
5	Dehradun	63.53%
6	Rudraprayag	62.31%
7	Champawat	61.43%
8	Bageshwar	61.11%
9	Pithoragarh	60.18%
10	Chamoli	59.12%
11	Tehri	55.68%
12	Pauri	54.86%
13	Almora	53.07%
	Uttarakhand (Total)	65.60%

Top Three Constituencies with Highest Polling Percentage

S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Polling Percentage
1.	Laksar	81.95%
2.	Haridwar Rural	81.76%
3.	Piran Kaliyar	81.6%

Bottom Three Constituencies with Lowest Polling Percentage

S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Polling Percentage
1.	Lansdowne	47.87%
2.	Chaubattakhal	46.91%
3.	Salt	46.01%

Section A

District Wide Polling Percentage

District : Udham Singh Nagar					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
1	Sitarganj	Gen	107570	87520	81.36
2	Gadarpur	Gen	121329	98147	80.89
3	Jaspur	Gen	115764	91869	79.36
4	Bajpur	SC	136192	104237	76.54
5	Khatima	Gen	106200	81223	76.48
6	Nanakmatta	ST	108512	82839	76.34
7	Rudrapur	Gen	159301	116899	73.38
8	Kiccha	Gen	120274	88260	73.38
9	Kashipur	Gen	151069	105012	69.51
	Total		1126211	856006	76.01
District : Haridwar					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
10	Laksar	Gen	95274	78075	81.95
11	Haridwar Rural	Gen	120195	98273	81.76
12	Piran Kaliyar	Gen	111058	90619	81.6
13	Bhagwanpur	SC	116407	93158	80.03
14	Jwalapur	SC	108875	86975	79.89
15	Khanpur	Gen	135612	107136	79
16	Manglore	Gen	103802	81271	78.29
17	Jhabrera	SC	110668	84462	76.32
18	B.H.E.L Ranipur	Gen	146932	103974	70.76
19	Haridwar	Gen	143519	93681	65.27
20	Roorkee	Gen	113205	72512	64.05
	Total		1308247	990136	75.68
District : Uttarkashi					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
21	Purola	SC	67496	49532	73.39
22	Gangotri	Gen	82415	56028	67.98
23	Yamunotri	Gen	70393	47276	67.16
	Total		220304	152836	69.38

Section A : Continued
District Wide Polling Percentage

District : Nainital					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
24	Lalkuan	Gen	111965	81029	72.37
25	Ramnagar	Gen	108910	77563	71.22
26	Kaladhungi	Gen	148431	102104	68.79
27	Haldwani	Gen	140407	94312	67.17
28	Bhimtal	Gen	96683	61373	63.48
29	Nainital	SC	108069	61484	56.89
	Total		714465	477865	66.88
District : Dehradun					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
30	Sahaspur	Gen	149413	109006	72.96
31	Chakrata	ST	99563	72386	72.7
32	Vikasnagar	Gen	109208	77211	70.7
33	Doiwala	Gen	142660	96779	67.84
34	Rishikesh	Gen	151997	98486	64.79
35	Raipur	Gen	164986	98620	59.77
36	Mussoorie	Gen	130488	75756	58.06
37	Rajpur Road	SC	119801	69495	58.01
38	Dharampur	Gen	184569	106239	57.56
39	Dehradun Cantt	Gen	127622	72928	57.14
	Total		1380307	876906	63.53
District : Rudraprayag					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
40	Kedarnath	Gen	86135	56653	65.77
41	Rudraprayag	Gen	98657	58488	59.28
	Total		184792	115141	62.31
District : Champawat					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
42	Champawat	Gen	88781	58979	66.43
43	Lohaghat	Gen	102389	58450	57.09
	Total		191170	117429	61.43

Section A : Continued
District Wide Polling Percentage

District : Bageshwar					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
44	Kapkot	Gen	96741	60252	62.28
45	Bageshwar	SC	112712	67751	60.11
	Total		209453	128003	61.11
District : Pithoragarh					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
46	Dharchula	Gen	86441	54124	62.61
47	Pithoragarh	Gen	107371	67007	62.41
48	Didihat	Gen	84662	51738	61.11
49	Gangolihat	SC	100315	55092	54.92
	Total		378789	227961	60.18
District : Chamoli					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
50	Badrinath	Gen	101740	63933	62.84
51	Tharali	SC	103033	59748	57.99
52	Karnprayag	Gen	96579	54475	56.4
	Total		301352	178156	59.12
District : Tehri					
S.No	Vidhansabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
53	Dhanolti	Gen	76858	49524	64.44
54	Narendra Nagar	Gen	84441	52562	62.25
55	Tehri	Gen	81167	44386	54.68
56	Devprayag	Gen	82105	43756	53.29
57	Pratapnagar	Gen	80678	41341	51.24
58	Ghansali	SC	91369	44945	49.19
	Total		496618	276514	55.68

Section A : Continued
District Wide Polling Percentage

District : Pauri Garhwal					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
59	Kotdwar	Gen	103545	71106	68.67
60	Srinagar	Gen	105290	60656	57.61
61	Yamkeshwar	Gen	86774	46155	53.19
62	Pauri	SC	93874	49062	52.26
63	Lansdowne	Gen	84832	40613	47.87
64	Chaubattakhal	Gen	92610	43442	46.91
	Total		566925	311034	54.86
District : Almora					
S.No	Vidhan Sabha	Gen/SC/ST	Total Electors	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
65	Almora	Gen	88878	52316	58.86
66	Jageshwar	Gen	90388	51066	56.5
67	Someshwar	SC	85597	46118	53.88
68	Dwarahat	Gen	90620	46963	51.82
69	Ranikhet	Gen	79537	41173	51.77
70	Salt	Gen	95735	44044	46.01
	Total		530755	281680	53.07

Section B

Constituency Wide Polling Percentage

S.No	Consituency	District	Total Elector	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
1	Laksar	Haridwar	95274	78075	81.95
2	Haridwar Rural	Haridwar	120195	98273	81.76
3	Piran Kaliyar	Haridwar	111058	90619	81.6
4	Sitarganj	U.S.Nagar	107570	87520	81.36
5	Gadarpur	U.S.Nagar	121329	98147	80.89
6	Bhagwanpur	Haridwar	116407	93158	80.03
7	Jwalapur	Haridwar	108875	86975	79.89
8	Jaspur	U.S.Nagar	115764	91869	79.36
9	Khanpur	Haridwar	135612	107136	79
10	Manglore	Haridwar	103802	81271	78.29
11	Bajpur	U.S.Nagar	136192	104237	76.54
12	Khatima	U.S.Nagar	106200	81223	76.48
13	Nanakmatta	U.S.Nagar	108512	82839	76.34
14	Jhabrera	Haridwar	110668	84462	76.32
15	Purola	Uttarkashi	67496	49532	73.39
16	Rudrapur	U.S.Nagar	159301	116899	73.38
17	Kiccha	U.S.Nagar	120274	88260	73.38
18	Sahaspur	Dehradun	149413	109006	72.96
19	Chakrata	Dehradun	99563	72386	72.7
20	Lalkuan	Nainital	111965	81029	72.37
21	Ramnagar	Nainital	108910	77563	71.22
22	B.H.E.L Ranipur	Haridwar	146932	103974	70.76
23	Vikasnagar	Dehradun	109208	77211	70.7
24	Kashipur	U.S.Nagar	151069	105012	69.51
25	Kaladhungi	Nainital	148431	102104	68.79
26	Kotdwar	Pauri	103545	71106	68.67
27	Gangotri	Uttarkashi	82415	56028	67.98
28	Doiwala	Dehradun	142660	96779	67.84
29	Haldwani	Nainital	140407	94312	67.17
30	Yamunotri	Uttarkashi	70393	47276	67.16
31	Champawat	Champawat	88781	58979	66.43
32	Kedarnath	Rudraprayag	86135	56653	65.77
33	Haridwar	Haridwar	143519	93681	65.27
34	Rishikesh	Dehradun	151997	98486	64.79
35	Dhanolti	Tehri	76858	49524	64.44
36	Roorkee	Hardwar	113205	72512	64.05
37	Bhimtal	Nainital	96683	61373	63.48
38	Badrinath	Chamoli	101740	63933	62.84
39	Dharchula	Pithoragarh	86441	54124	62.61
40	Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh	107371	67007	62.41

Section B : Continued

Constituency Wide Polling Percentage

S.No	Constituency	District	Total Elector	Total Voters	Polling Percentage %
41	Kapkot	Bageshwar	96741	60252	62.28
42	Narendra Nagar	Tehri	84441	52562	62.25
43	Didihat	Pithoragarh	84662	51738	61.11
44	Bageshwar	Bageshwar	112712	67751	60.11
45	Raipur	Dehradun	164986	98620	59.77
46	Rudraprayag	Rudraprayag	98657	58488	59.28
47	Almora	Almora	88878	52316	58.86
48	Mussoorie	Dehradun	130488	75756	58.06
49	Rajpur Road	Dehradun	119801	69495	58.01
50	Tharali	Chamoli	103033	59748	57.99
51	Srinagar	Pauri	105290	60656	57.61
52	Dharampur	Dehradun	184569	106239	57.56
53	Dehradun Cantt	Dehradun	127622	72928	57.14
54	Lohaghat	Champawat	102389	58450	57.09
55	Nainital	Nainital	108069	61484	56.89
56	Jageshwar	Almora	90388	51066	56.5
57	Karnprayag	Chamoli	96579	54475	56.4
58	Gangolihat	Pithoragarh	100315	55092	54.92
59	Tehri	Tehri	81167	44386	54.68
60	Someshwar	Almora	85597	46118	53.88
61	Devprayag	Tehri	82105	43756	53.29
62	Yamkeshwar	Pauri	86774	46155	53.19
63	Pauri	Pauri	93874	49062	52.26
64	Dwarahat	Almora	90620	46963	51.82
65	Ranikhet	Almora	79537	41173	51.77
66	Pratapnagar	Tehri	80678	41341	51.24
67	Ghansali	Tehri	91369	44945	49.19
68	Lansdowne	Pauri	84832	40613	47.87
69	Chaubattakhal	Pauri	92610	43442	46.91
70	Salt	Almora	95735	44044	46.01
	Total		7609388	4989667	65.56

Category of Polling Percentage

1. 80% + Voting Percentage = 6 Constituencies
2. 70% to 80% Voting Percentage = 17 Constituencies
3. 60% to 70% Voting Percentage = 21 Constituencies
4. 50% to 60% Voting Percentage = 22 Constituencies
5. Below 50% Voting Percentage = 4 Constituencies

Total 70 Constituencies