Uttarakhand General Knowledge

A reference sheet for UKPSC, UKSSSC and other Uttarakhand exams. Every figure is taken from a government website or the Census, and the source for each section is listed at the end.

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The state at a glance

Item	Value
Formation of the state	9 November 2000
Order among Indian states	27th state of India, carved out of northern Uttar Pradesh
Total area	53,483 sq km
Capital	Dehradun (temporary), as the state government page puts it
Summer capital	Gairsain
International border	China and Nepal
Borders with other states	Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh
Divisions	Two: Garhwal (7 districts) and Kumaon (6 districts)
Change of name	The state was called Uttaranchal until the Uttaranchal (Alteration of Name) Act, 2006 (Act 52 of 2006, assented 21 December 2006) renamed it Uttarakhand from 1 January 2007
Lok Sabha seats	5
Rajya Sabha seats	3
Vidhan Sabha seats	70
High Court	At Nainital; the 18th High Court in the country, set up under Part IV of the Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000
First Chief Justice of the High Court	Justice Ashok A. Desai (transferred from the Allahabad High Court)
Sanctioned strength of High Court judges	7 at creation, 11 as the High Court page now states
Population (Census 2011)	1,00,86,292
Male population (2011)	51,37,773
Female population (2011)	49,48,519
Sex ratio (2011)	963 females per 1,000 males
Child sex ratio	890 females per 1,000 males
Population density	189 per sq km
Literacy rate	78.82% (male 87.40%, female 70.01%)
Rural and urban population	Rural 70.37%, urban 30.50% (as printed on the state portal)

Districts

13 districts, with division, headquarters, area and population.

District	Division	Headquarters	Area	Population (2011)
Uttarkashi	Garhwal	Uttarkashi	8,016 sq km	3,30,086
Chamoli	Garhwal	—	8,030 sq km	3,91,605
Rudraprayag	Garhwal	—	1,984 sq km	2,42,285
Tehri Garhwal	Garhwal	New Tehri	3,642 sq km	6,18,931
Dehradun	Garhwal	—	3,088 sq km	16,96,694

Districts (continued)

District	Division	Headquarters	Area	Population (2011)
Pauri Garhwal	Garhwal	Pauri	5,329 sq km	6,97,078
Haridwar	Garhwal	Haridwar (offices at Roshnabad)	2,360 sq km	18,90,422
Pithoragarh	Kumaon	Pithoragarh	7,090 sq km	4,83,439
Bageshwar	Kumaon	—	2,241 sq km	2,59,898
Almora	Kumaon	—	3,139 sq km	6,22,506
Champawat	Kumaon	—	1,765.78 sq km	2,59,648
Nainital	Kumaon	Nainital	4,251 sq km	9,54,605
Udham Singh Nagar	Kumaon	Rudrapur	2,542 sq km	16,48,902

Rivers and confluences

River	Origin or confluence
Ganga	Formed at Devprayag, where the Bhagirathi and Alaknanda meet
Bhagirathi	Gaumukh (Gangotri glacier)
Yamuna	Yamunotri
Mandakini	Chorabari (Charabari) glacier, about 1 km above Kedarnath
Dhauliganga (Chamoli)	Niti Pass, about 5,070 m
Nandakini	Semudra glaciers, western slopes of Trishul
Pindar	Milam and Pindar glaciers (Nanda Devi group)
Ramganga	Doodhatoli ranges, Pauri Garhwal (about 3,100 m)
Kali (Sharda)	Trans-Himalayan zone; forms the border with Nepal from Kalapani to Tanakpur, then called Sharda
Gori Ganga	Glaciers south of the Untadhura ridge and near Milam

Pilgrimages

Place	Circuit	Deity	District
Yamunotri	Char Dham	Goddess Yamuna	Uttarkashi
Gangotri	Char Dham	Goddess Ganga	Uttarkashi
Kedarnath	Char Dham	Lord Shiva (one of the 12 Jyotirlingas)	Rudraprayag
Badrinath	Char Dham	Lord Vishnu	Chamoli
Tungnath	Panch Kedar	Lord Shiva	Rudraprayag
Rudranath	Panch Kedar	Lord Shiva	Chamoli
Madhyamaheshwar (Madmaheshwar)	Panch Kedar	Lord Shiva	Rudraprayag
Kalpeshwar	Panch Kedar	Lord Shiva	—
Yogdhyan Badri (Pandukeshwar)	Panch Badri	Lord Vishnu	Chamoli
Bhavishya Badri	Panch Badri	Lord Vishnu	Chamoli
Adi Badri	Panch Badri	Lord Vishnu (Badrinarayan)	Chamoli
Vriddha Badri	Panch Badri	Lord Vishnu	—

National parks, sanctuaries and conservation reserves

Name	Type	Set up	Area	Districts
Corbett National Park	National Park	1936	520.82 sq km	Nainital
Nanda Devi National Park	National Park	1982	624.60 sq km	Chamoli
Valley of Flowers National Park	National Park	1982	87.50 sq km	Chamoli
Rajaji National Park	National Park	1983	820.42 sq km	Haridwar
Gangotri National Park	National Park	1989	2,390.02 sq km	Uttarkashi
Govind National Park	National Park	1990	472.08 sq km	Uttarkashi
Govind Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	1955	485.89 sq km	Uttarkashi
Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	1972	975.20 sq km	—
Askot Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	1986	599.93 sq km	—
Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	1987	301.18 sq km	—
Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	1988	47.07 sq km	—
Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	1993	10.82 sq km	—
Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife Sanctuary	2012	269.95 sq km	—
Jhilmil Jheel Conservation Reserve	Conservation Reserve	2005	37.84 sq km	—
Aasan Wetland Conservation Reserve	Conservation Reserve	2005	4.44 sq km	—
Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve	Conservation Reserve	2012	5.82 sq km	—
Nainadevi Himalayan Bird Conservation Reserve	Conservation Reserve	2015	111.91 sq km	—

Lakes, glaciers, passes and peaks

Name	Kind	District	Altitude
Bhimtal	Lake	Nainital	1,370 m
Sattal	Lake	Nainital	1,370 m
Naukuchiatal	Lake	Nainital	1,220 m
Tehri Lake	Lake	Tehri Garhwal	—
Dodital	Lake	Uttarkashi	—
Hemkund (Sri Hemkunt Sahib)	Lake	Chamoli	—
Gangotri Glacier (Gaumukh)	Glacier	Uttarkashi	4,023 m
Pindari Glacier	Glacier	Bageshwar	—
Milam Glacier	Glacier	Pithoragarh	4,250 m
Satopanth Glacier	Glacier	Chamoli	—
Bhagirath Kharak Glacier	Glacier	Chamoli	—
Khatling Glacier	Glacier	Tehri Garhwal	—
Niti Pass	Pass	Chamoli	5,070 m
Lipulekh	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,122 m
Belcha Dhura	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,384 m

Lakes, glaciers, passes and peaks (continued)

Name	Kind	District	Altitude
Kungri Bhingri	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,564 m
Keo Dhura	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,439 m
Lwa Dhura	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,564 m
Lampiya Dhura	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,553 m
Nuwe Dhura	Pass	Pithoragarh	5,650 m
Chaukhamba	Peak	Chamoli	7,140 m
Nandakot	Peak	—	6,860 m
Chhanguch	Peak	—	6,322 m
Nandaghunti	Peak	—	6,310 m
Jogin group	Peak	—	6,466 m
Sphetic Pristwar	Peak	—	6,905 m
Barte Kauter	Peak	—	6,579 m
Kirti Stambh	Peak	—	6,902 m

Dams and hydro power projects

Project	River	Capacity	Operator
Tehri Hydro Power Plant	Bhagirathi	1,000 MW	THDC India Ltd
Koteshwar Hydro Electric Project	—	400 MW	THDC India Ltd
Tehri Pumped Storage Plant	—	1,000 MW	THDC India Ltd
Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project	—	444 MW	THDC India Ltd
Maneri Bhali-I	Bhagirathi	90 MW	UJVN Ltd
Maneri Bhali-II	Bhagirathi	304 MW	UJVN Ltd
Chibro	Tons	240 MW	UJVN Ltd
Khodri	Tons	120 MW	UJVN Ltd
Ramganga	Ramganga	198 MW	UJVN Ltd
Chilla	Ganga	144 MW	UJVN Ltd
Galogi	—	3 MW	UJVN Ltd
Dhauliganga Power Station	Dhauliganga	280 MW	NHPC Ltd

Chief Ministers and Governors

Name	Office	Terms
Nityanand Swami	Chief Minister	09/11/2000–29/10/2001
Bhagat Singh Koshyari	Chief Minister	30/10/2001–01/03/2002
Narayan Dutt Tiwari	Chief Minister	02/03/2002–07/03/2007
Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri	Chief Minister	07/03/2007–26/06/2009; 11/09/2011–13/03/2012
Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank	Chief Minister	27/06/2009–10/09/2011
Vijay Bahuguna	Chief Minister	13/03/2012–31/01/2014
Harish Singh Rawat	Chief Minister	01/02/2014–27/03/2016; 21/04/2016–22/04/2016; 11/05/2016–18/03/2017
Trivendra Singh Rawat	Chief Minister	18/03/2017–09/03/2021
Tirath Singh Rawat	Chief Minister	10/03/2021–04/07/2021

Chief Ministers and Governors (continued)

Name	Office	Terms
Pushkar Singh Dhami	Chief Minister	
Surjit Singh Barnala	Governor	09/11/2000–07/01/2003
Sudarshan Agarwal	Governor	08/01/2003–28/10/2007
B. L. Joshi	Governor	29/10/2007–05/08/2009
Margaret Alva	Governor	06/08/2009–14/05/2012
Aziz Qureshi	Governor	15/05/2012–07/01/2015
K. K. Paul	Governor	08/01/2015–25/08/2018
Baby Rani Maurya	Governor	26/08/2018–08/09/2021
Gurmit Singh	Governor	

Fairs and festivals

Fair	District	Venue	When
Uttarayani Mela	Bageshwar	—	January (Makar Sankranti)
Syalde Bikhauti Mela	Almora	—	Vishuwat Sankranti (April)
Nanda Devi Mahotsav	Almora	—	September
Jageshwar Monsoon Festival	Almora	—	15 July to 15 August
Devidhura Mela (Bagwal)	Champawat	—	Raksha Bandhan (August)
Purnagiri Mela	Champawat	—	Chaitra Navratri (March–April)
Jhanda Mela	Dehradun	—	Fifth day after Holi
Bissu Mela	Dehradun	—	—
Mahasu Devta Fair (Jagda)	Dehradun	—	August
Tapkeshwar Mela	Dehradun	—	Shivratri
Laxman Siddha Fair	Dehradun	—	Every Sunday; last Sunday of April
Gindi Mela	Pauri Garhwal	—	Makar Sankranti (January)
Vaikunth Chaturdashi Mela	Pauri Garhwal	—	Kartik (Shukla Chaturdashi)
Binsar Mela	Pauri Garhwal	—	Vaikunth Chaturdashi and Kartik Purnima
Hariyali Devi Mela	Rudraprayag	—	Navratra (September–October)
Madhmaheshwar Mela	Rudraprayag	—	—
Baishakhi Fair	Rudraprayag	—	13–14 April
Hilljatra	Pithoragarh	—	—
Chhipla Jaat	Pithoragarh	—	Bhado Purnmasi, every third year
Kandali Festival	Pithoragarh	—	Between August and October
Jauljibi and Thal Fairs	Pithoragarh	—	—
Kumbh Mela at Haridwar	Haridwar	—	Every twelve years
Kanwar Yatra	Haridwar	—	July
Magh Mela	Uttarkashi	—	—

Fairs and festivals (continued)

Fair	District	Venue	When
Anduri Utsav (butter festival)	Uttarkashi	—	Between August and September
Nanda Devi Raj Jat	Chamoli	—	About once in twelve years

Where every figure comes from

Each section is built from the documents below. Where two official sources disagree, the page on the website prints both rather than choosing one.

- Census of India 2011, District Census Handbooks Part A (Uttarakhand); Garhwal and Kumaon division websites; district websites
  https://censusindia.gov.in/nada/index.php/catalog/1302
- Central Water Commission (Ganga basin pages); district websites of Chamoli, Rudraprayag, Pithoragarh and Uttarkashi
  https://cwc.gov.in/en/ugbo/gangabasin/alaknanda
- District websites of Rudraprayag, Chamoli and Uttarkashi (NIC); Shri Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee
  https://rudraprayag.gov.in/temples/
- Uttarakhand Forest Department: Wildlife Management (protected area network)
  https://forest.uk.gov.in/wildlife-management
- District websites (Nainital, Tehri, Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Bageshwar, Pithoragarh) and Uttarakhand Tourism
  https://chamoli.gov.in/geography/
- UJVN Ltd operational plants; THDC India Ltd; NHPC Ltd project pages
  https://ujvnl.uk.gov.in/operational-plants/
- Chief Minister's Office and Raj Bhawan, Uttarakhand: former and serving office holders
  https://cm.uk.gov.in/former-chief-ministers/
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  https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in/page/voices-and-culture

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