

**Data Analysis of 100 Days of
Uttarakhand Char Dham Yatra 2024
Mid Term Report
Version 1.0**

May 10, 2024 to August 17, 2024

**Social Development for Communities Foundation
Dehradun, Uttarakhand**

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100 Days of Chardham Yatra 2024 - Weekly Totals														
(14 Weeks + 2 Days)														
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Week #	Dates	Days	Kedarnath	Weekly Total	Badrinath	Weekly Total	Gangotri	Weekly Total	Yamunotri	Weekly Total	Hemkund Sahib	Weekly Total	Total	Grand Total
1	10 May - 16 May	7	183677	183677	57868	57868	75314	75314	81151	81151			398010	398010
2	17 May - 23 May	7	240565	424242	139069	196937	87877	163191	95781	176932			563292	961302
3	24 May - 30 May	7	146223	570465	123836	320773	79433	242624	73894	250826	15718	15718	439104	1400406
4	May 31 - 6 June	7	140233	710698	117224	437997	75350	317974	76667	327493	24803	40521	434277	1834683
5	7 June - 13 June	7	128788	839486	121576	559573	72716	390690	60982	388475	26457	66978	410519	2245202
6	14 June - 20 June	7	100474	939960	125449	685022	54456	445146	42246	430721	27177	94155	349802	2595004
7	21 June - 27 June	7	50380	990340	99238	784260	43766	488912	30436	461157	20772	114927	244592	2839596
8	28 June - 4 July	7	35268	1025608	61043	845303	18327	507239	14822	475979	11587	126514	141047	2980643
9	5 July - 11 July	7	18431	1044039	10062	855365	11831	519070	7123	483102	3593	130107	51040	3031683
10	12 July - 18 July	7	13808	1057847	10171	865536	15698	534768	5455	488557	3370	133477	48502	3080185
11	19 July - 25 July	7	13353	1071200	8111	873647	17806	552574	8140	496697	2915	136392	50325	3130510
12	26 July - 1 August	7	20116	1091316	10715	884362	35701	588275	10156	506853	3494	139886	80182	3210692
13	2 August - 8 August	7	0	1091316	12181	896543	6288	594563	4436	511289	4124	144010	27029	3237721
14	9 August - 15 August	7	622	1091938	6849	903392	3134	597697	2511	513800	4509	148519	17625	3255346
15	16 August - 17 August	2	346	1092284	2562	905954	1026	598723	672	514472	1143	149662	5749	3261095
	Total	100												

Legends:

A = Week #

B = Dates of the week

C = Number of days in the particular week

D/F/H/J/L = Number of pilgrims in that particular week

E/G/I/K/M = Ascending number of total pilgrims based on weekly totals

N = Total number of pilgrims in Char Dhams in a particular week

O = Ascending number of pilgrims in Char Dhams based on weekly totals

Background information:

1. The holy portals of Kedarnath, Gangotri & Yamunotri opened on May 10, 2024
2. The holy portals of Badrinath opened on May 12, 2024
3. The holy portals of Hemkund Sahib opened on May 25, 2024
4. The first 100 days of the Uttarakhand Char Dham Yatra 2024 are from May 10, 2024 to August 17, 2024
5. The enclosed report is based solely on daily pilgrim arrival numbers in the Char Dhams as reported on a daily basis by district authorities & State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC), Uttarakhand State Disaster

Management Authority (USDMA). We at the Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation do not vouch for the accuracy of these numbers. Our report is simply based on compilation & analysis of the data provided by the government agencies.

6. Similarly, if any data inaccuracies are noticed in our report, these may kindly be notified at contactsdcuk@gmail.com. We will make the necessary corrections in our report.

7. There are some differences in the grand totals for Kedarnath and Yamunotri between our totals & as reported in the above government reports. In case any government authorities are keen, we can pin point & highlight where the errors are coming in their totals

8. Govt reports have reported 6,309 pilgrims to Gaumukh. We have not taken this number in our key highlights or grand totals.

Top 10 Data Highlights for 100 days of Uttarakhand Char Dham Yatra 2024 Report:

1. 32,61,095 pilgrims visited the holy shrines of Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri, Yamunotri & Hemkund Sahib in the first 100 days of the Uttarakhand Char Dham Yatra of 2024

2. The highest numbers of pilgrims went to Kedarnath followed by Badrinath, Gangotri, Yamunotri & Hemkund Sahib. The breakup of the pilgrim numbers from the grand total of 32,61,095 to the Char Dhams is as follows:

- a) Kedarnath - 10,92,284
- b) Badrinath - 9,05,954
- c) Gangotri - 5,98,723
- d) Yamunotri - 5,14,472
- e) Hemkund Sahib - 1,49,662

3. The pilgrim percentage breakup to the Char Dhams is as follows:

- a) Kedarnath - 33.5%
- b) Badrinath - 27.8%
- c) Gangotri - 18.4%
- d) Yamunotri - 15.8%
- e) Hemkund Sahib - 4.6%

4. 19,56,269 pilgrims of the total of 32,61,095 i.e 60% pilgrims visited the Char Dhams in the first 30 days i.e from May 10, 2024 till June 8, 2024. The breakup is as follows:

- a) Kedarnath - 7,48,348
- b) Badrinath - 4,72,065

- c) Gangotri - 3,39,892
- d) Yamunotri - 3,46,545
- e) Hemkund Sahib - 49,419

The balance 40% i.e. 13,04,826 pilgrims visited the Char Dhams during the next 70 days

5. The highest numbers of pilgrims in any one week i.e 5,63,292 visited the Char Dhams in the second week (May 17, 2024 to May 23, 2024)

6. There was a consistent decline in the pilgrim numbers after June 13, 2024 i.e after the completion of the first five weeks of the Char Dham yatra

7. The highest numbers of pilgrims in each Dham were reported on the following days/dates:

- a) Kedarnath - 38,682 on May 21, 2024
- b) Badrinath - 28,055 on May 19, 2024
- c) Gangotri - 18,973 on May 12, 2024
- d) Yamunotri - 15,800 on May 17, 2024
- e) Hemkund Sahib - 5,785 on May 25, 2024

8. 183 people died during 100 days of the 2024 Char Dham Yatra. Of this total, 177 deaths are reported due to medical reasons & 6 due to natural disasters.

The breakup of deaths due to medical reasons is as follows:

- a) Kedarnath - 83
- b) Badrinath - 44
- c) Yamunotri - 31
- d) Gangotri - 15
- e) Hemkund Sahib - 4

The 6 natural disaster deaths are all reported from Kedarnath

9. 4,04,259 vehicles reached the Char Dhams during the first 100 days of the yatra. Their break up is as follows:

- a) Kedarnath - 1,67,735
- b) Badrinath - 1,03,165
- c) Gangotri - 63,239
- d) Yamunotri - 48,986
- e) Hemkund Sahib - 21,134

10. Kedarnath yatra was completely disrupted for 11 days with nil pilgrim arrivals reported from August 1 till August 10 & August 14.

Concluding Notes and Recommendations:

We express our deep concerns & disappointment at the flagrant violations of the carrying capacity principles in the conduct of the Char Dham Yatra

& all other festivals in Uttarakhand. We have closely observed with extreme concern the tendency of the Govt. of Uttarakhand to widely promote pilgrim numbers as a record. This is avoidable due to several reasons. First & foremost is the massive ecological & environmental damages created by swarms of unmanageable pilgrim numbers. Ironically, pilgrim safety is also compromised in the pursuit of setting records. Lastly, even think tanks like Niti Aayog are repeatedly asking for sustainable tourism across all states in the Indian Himalayan Region in all its meetings & reports. Thus, the focus of the Govt of Uttarakhand is completely at odds with what is expected from them in the conduct of the Char Dham Yatra.

Apart from following the principles of carrying capacity, we urge the Govt. of Uttarakhand to conduct a 360 degree review of the Char Dham Yatra that is marred by extreme disorder & chaos in the initial weeks. There are many gaps in the online/offline registration process, helicopter services & aero safety, crowd management, solid & plastic waste management, sanitation facilities, health services, landslide mitigation, data analysis, pilgrim & tourist communication & many other areas that demand significant improvements. All of this is only possible with in depth reviews & insightful stakeholder consultations.

Finally, we intend to prepare a detailed report at the conclusion of the Uttarakhand Char Dham Yatra 2024. We shall make a series of detailed observations & recommendations based on the overall outcomes, experiences & expectations of the pilgrims & various other stakeholder groups.

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