

Unlanded: Distribution of Land in Bihar

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Abstract

1 Introduction

Figure 1. Example of Bihar land record. Screenshot of originating source on <http://land.bihar.gov.in>.

2 Bihar land records

The foundational data we use for this study is the Bihar land records. In total, we have around 41.87 million land records and 12.12 million individuals/accounts. Each record is for a plot of land enumerating details such as the land owner's registered account number, name of the owner (ryot or raiyat), name of the owner's father, residence (is this village?), caste, amongst others. See [Figure 2](#) for an example copy of a land record and [Table 1](#) for the fields included in each record.

To compare land area for each land plot, we use the fields 6–8 ([Table 1](#)) for acre, decimal, and hectare as land area in acres = $Acre + \frac{Decimal}{100} + Hectare \times 2.4711$. Three account holders across fourteen land records have negative land plot areas and we drop these for analyses relating to land plot areas.

The original names are in Hindi. We use the Indicate package (Chintalapati and Sood 2022a) to transliterate the Hindi scripts to English.

The land records also come with caste of the owner, we work only on the top 200...

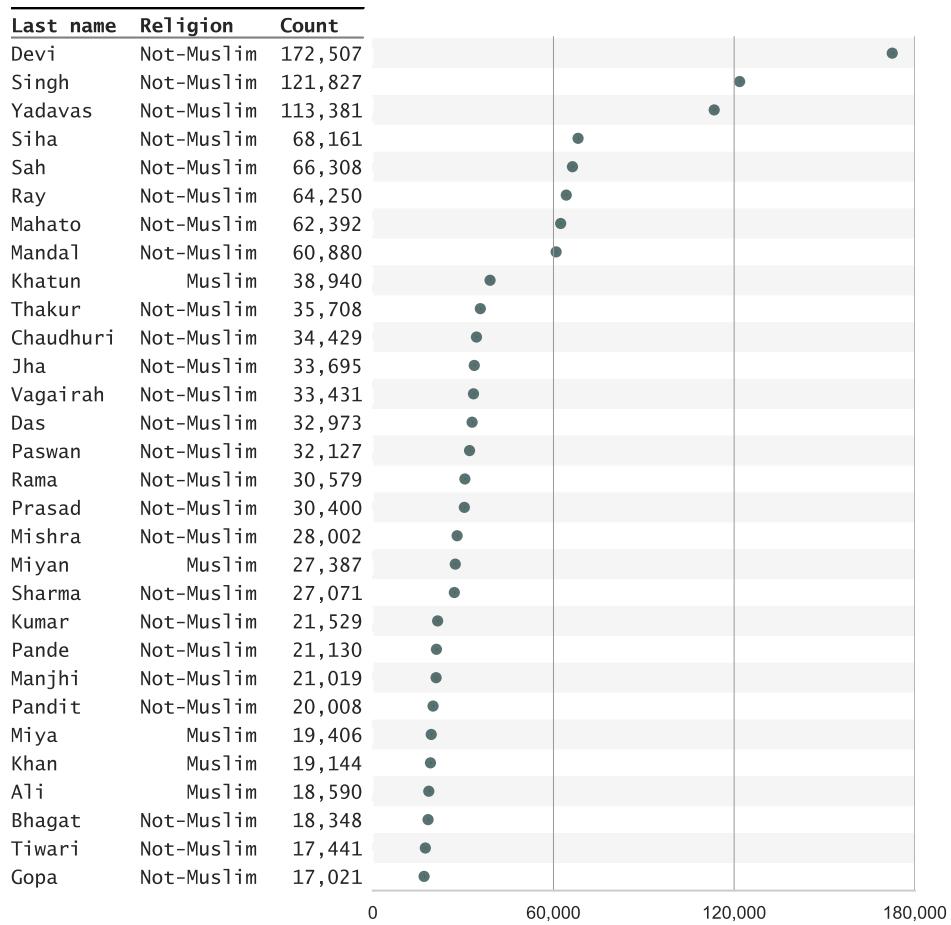


Figure 2. 30 most common last names. Figure reports the 30 most common (transliterated) last names in the Bihar land records. Religion comes from the Hindi names and the Pranaam package (Chintalapati and Sood 2022b).

Table 1. Bihar land record fields

Field	Description
name of ryot	Name of land plot owner (ryot or raiyat)
name of father	Name of owner's father
residence	
caste	
revenue unit	
district	
divison	
mouza	
account no	Owner's unique account number
link	Original link of land record
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	Land plot area in acre
7	Land plot area in decimal
8	Land plot area in hectare
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	

3 Distribution of Land in Bihar

3.1 Descriptive Facts on Land Distribution

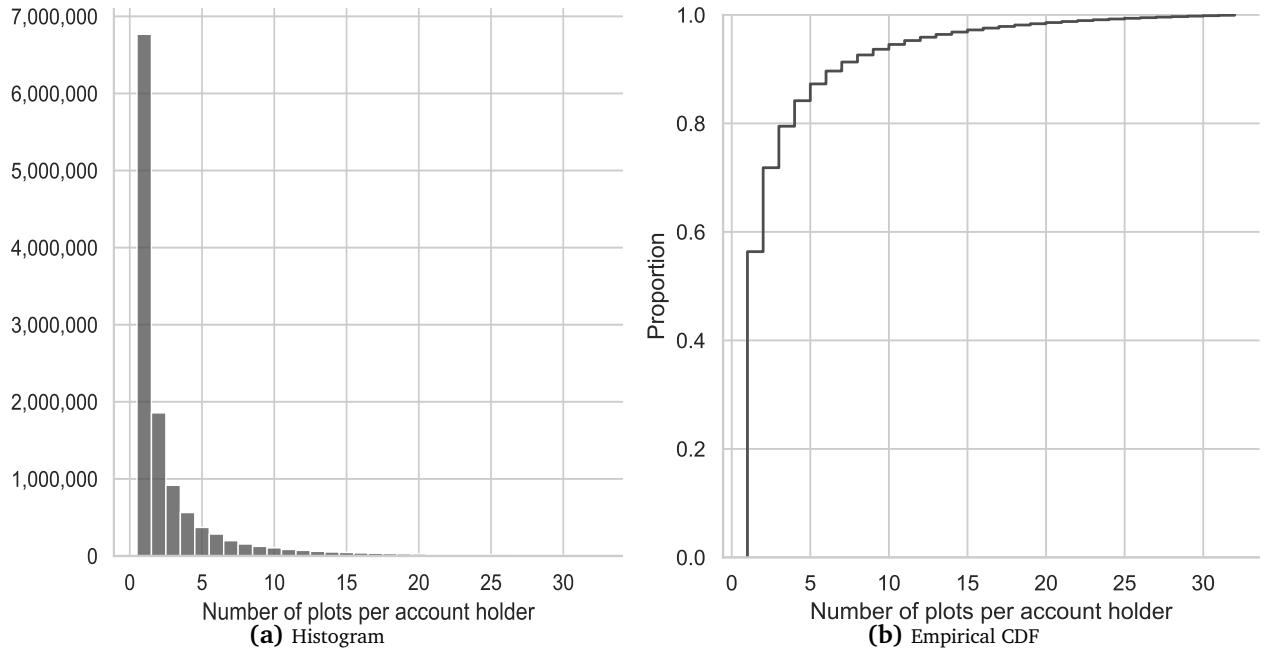


Figure 3. Land plots per account holder. Number of land plots per account holder in the Bihar land registry. Both subfigures have the 99th percentile is trimmed for visual articulation. See [Table 2](#) for the percentile values, including the 99th percentile.

Percentiles	Plots
0.00	1
0.10	1
0.20	1
0.30	1
0.40	1
0.50	1
0.60	2
0.70	2
0.80	4
0.90	7
0.95	13
0.96	15
0.97	18
0.98	23
0.99	32
1.00	3132

Table 2. Number of plots owned per account holder, by percentiles. See [Figure 3](#) for the distributions up to the 99th percentile (32 land plots per account holder).

References

Chintalapati, R. and G. Sood (2022a, 8). Indicate: Transliterate Indic Languages to English.

Chintalapati, R. and G. Sood (2022b, 5). pranaam: predict religion based on name.