

# ALL ODISHA ELEPHANT CENSUS 2024



STATE WILDLIFE ORGANISATION  
Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department  
Government of Odisha

## All Odisha Elephant Census-2024

All Odisha Elephant Census-2024 exercise has been carried out in the entire state in the areas having elephant movement. The three days census exercise was undertaken from 22nd May 2024 to 24th May 2024 in 48 Divisions across 28 Districts of the State.

The objectives of the elephant census was to have the minimum no. of elephants in the state and to establish the trend of the elephant population over the years and to have the structure and composition of the population.

The three days census exercise has followed traditional method of count by direct sighting. A total no. of 1214 machans were constructed in 1905 no. of census units across the state. More than 5700 persons were engaged in the census exercise. Besides, wildlife enthusiasts, NGOs, Research Scholars, Academicians etc. also participated in the census in addition to regular field staff and squad members.

Capacity building training was conducted at State, Circle, Division and Range level prior to the All Odisha Elephant Census-2024 field exercise. Assistant Conservator of Forests at Division and Circle levels were appointed as Nodal officers for the overall supervisor, field executor and data compilation of All Odisha Elephant Census- 2024.

After analysing the census datas and considering all the inter-state, inter-division and inter-circle elephant movements and excluding the overlapping elephant data, the final data for All Odisha Elephant Census- 2024 has been prepared.





## Result

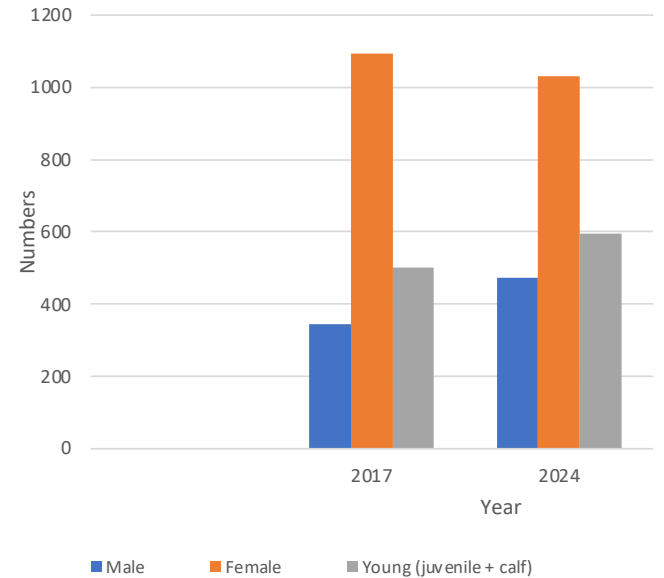
Total 2098 numbers of elephants were counted in 38 Forest Divisions. This include 313 adult tuskers, 13 adult makhna, 748 adult female, 148 sub-adult male, 282 sub-adult female, 209 juvenile and 385 calf. There was presence of no elephants in 13 Divisions.

Last elephant census was carried out in 2017 wherein 1976 elephants were counted which included 212 adult tuskers, 10 adult makhna, 816 adult cow, 122 sub-adult male, 276 sub-adult female, 38 of unknown sex, 203 juvenile and 299 calf.



# Highlights

- There is marginal increase in elephant numbers in the State. But significant increase in the number is noticed in few Divisions, importantly in Angul, Athgarh, Dhenkanal, Baripada, Chandaka, Khordha, Bonai and Keonjhar etc. whereas decrease in number noticed in Similipal North, Similipal South, Balasore WL, Rairangpur, Bolangir, Parlakhemundi and few other Divisions.
- This may be due overall change in movement patterns of the elephants in the State for their foraging habit and change in land use pattern.
- Significant change in movement pattern of elephant is noticed in Angul, Rourkela and Baripada Circle.
- Similarly, significant change in movement pattern of elephants is noticed in north of Mahanadi River in comparison to south of Mahanadi.
- Ratio among male, female and young is 1:2.17:1.25. In 2017, the ratio was 1:3.2:1.5. The change is due to more increase in number of male in comparison to female and young as seen from the table below.



Year	Male	Female	Young (juvenile + calf)	Remarks
2017	344	1092	502	38 unknown sex
2024	474	1030	594	

- There has been a substantial increase in the population of tuskers to the extent of 40 % during last seven years. This has resulted in a healthy ratio of adult male to female and also a significant number of young ones in the entire population.
- Elephants of interstate movement with Jharkhand and West Bengal have been included in the census; only the elephants present during the census in Odisha.
- Total 584 numbers of elephants were counted in three Elephant Reserves which is about 28% of total elephant population of the State.
- Odisha now have a large, well established elephant population with a stable age distribution with a growth rate of around 3%.
- Elephant death during the last five years have been within the range of 3% to 4.5 % of the total population, the least being during the last financial year of 2023-24.
- It is estimated that 2100-2200 elephants use the Odisha Forest during a year, as there is interstate migration from Jharkhand, Chhatisgarh and West Bengal.
- To know the maximum population using Odisha's landscape, an estimation is proposed during 14th-16th November; coinciding with the migration from adjoining States during the kharif harvesting.
- The Division wise census figure along with elephant distribution map is enclosed as Annexure.



## ALL ODISHA ELEPHANT CENSUS-2024

SL. No.	Circle	Name of Division	Adult Bulls (>240cm height at shoulder)		Adult Cows (>210 cm height at shoulder)	Sub-Adult Bulls (151-240 cm height at shoulder)		Sub-Adult Cows (151-210 cm height at shoulder)	Juvenile (121-150 cm height at shoulder)	Calf (< 121 cm height at shoulder)	Grand Total	Circle Total
			Tusker	Makhna		Tusker	Makhna					
1	Angul	Angul	31	1	32	8	0	21	2	24	119	779
2		Athgarh	22	1	62	14	0	30	12	37	178	
3		Athamallik	11	1	23	4	0	0	2	8	49	
4		Cuttack	7	0	5	1	0	6	0	5	24	
5		Dhenkanal	39	1	74	18	0	42	24	41	239	
6		Mahanadi WL	3	0	9	5	0	6	7	2	32	
7		Satkosia WL	14	0	47	12	0	14	31	20	138	
8	Baripada	Balasore WL	9	1	24	1	0	10	15	8	68	431
9		Baripada	18	0	44	7	0	5	1	30	105	
10		Karanja	3	0	4	5	0	2	2	2	18	
11		Keonjhar WL	10	0	11	0	0	2	4	6	33	
12		Rairangpur	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	
13		Similipal North	6	3	48	4	0	12	10	20	103	
14		Similipal South	5	0	54	1	0	13	6	22	101	
15	Berhampur	Balliguda	7	0	18	3	0	10	3	11	52	177
16		Berhampur	2	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	10	
17		Boudh	4	1	7	3	0	6	4	5	30	
18		Ghumsur North	5	0	17	2	0	5	5	5	39	
19		Ghumsur South	1	0	6	0	0	2	0	5	14	
20		Paralakhemundi	1	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	7	
21		Phulbani	3	0	9	3	0	4	0	6	25	

SL. No.	Circle	Name of Division	Adult Bulls (>240cm height at shoulder)		Adult Cows (>210 cm height at shoulder)	Sub-Adult Bulls (151-240 cm height at shoulder)		Sub-Adult Cows (151-210 cm height at shoulder)	Juvenile (121-150 cm height at shoulder)	Calf (< 121 cm height at shoulder)	Grand Total	Circle Total
			Tusker	Makhna		Tusker	Makhna					
22	Bhawanipatna	Bolangir	3	0	5	0	0	2	1	4	15	70
23		Kalahandi North	3	0	18	0	0	5	0	12	38	
24		Kalahandi South	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	3	
25		Khariar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
26		Subarnapur	4	0	6	0	0	0	0	4	14	
27		Sunabeda WL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
28		Bhadrak WL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
29	Chandaka WL	6	2	10	4	2	7	7	7	45		
30	Chilika WL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
31	City Forest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
32	Khordha	13	0	23	0	0	2	5	20	63		
33	Nayagarh	8	0	10	0	0	5	6	3	32		
34	Puri WL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
35	Rajnagar WL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	
36	Koraput	Jeypore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
37		Koraput	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
38		Malkangiri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
39		Nabarangpur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
40		Rayagada	5	0	18	0	0	3	6	1	33	
41	Rourkela	Bonai	17	0	33	8	0	22	18	23	121	311
42		Deogarh	3	0	9	7	0	2	4	3	28	
43		Keonjhar	13	0	43	15	2	15	19	28	135	
44		Rourkela	4	0	8	1	0	0	4	4	21	
45		Sundargarh	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	6	
46	Sambalpur	Bamra WL	13	0	33	8	0	17	7	13	91	157
47		Bargarh	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	
48		Hirakud WL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
49		Jharsuguda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
50		Rairakhol	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	8	
51		Sambalpur	13	1	18	5	0	10	3	4	54	
<b>Total</b>			<b>313</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>2098</b>	<b>2098</b>

