

Urban Health in Uttar Pradesh: Challenges and Opportunities

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Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Scenario in the Slums of Meerut, Uttar
Pradesh: Implications for Programme and Policy
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Outline

- Growing Urbanization and Urban Poverty in Uttar Pradesh
- Health related Problems among Urban Poor
- Barriers limiting access to MCH care
- Upcoming opportunities in Uttar Pradesh

Growing urbanization and urban poverty in Uttar Pradesh

Growing Urban Poverty in Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state of India, is also urbanizing rapidly.
- Urban population of Uttar Pradesh will increase from 4.1 crore¹ in 2008 to 6.7 crore in 2026².
- An estimated 1.17 crore comprising 30.6 percent of the state's urban population is poor³.
- Uttar Pradesh houses the largest number of urban poor in a single state⁴.
- Public Health efforts in UP need to take care of an estimated:
 - 340,000⁵ annual pregnancies among urban poor
 - 3.3 lakh⁶ annual births among urban poor
 - 11.7 lakh⁷ children under-5 among urban poor

1-Projections for 2008 by Technical Group on Population Projections

2-Census, 2001 population, Projections, 2001-26

3-Poverty Estimates 2004-2005 and 1999-2000

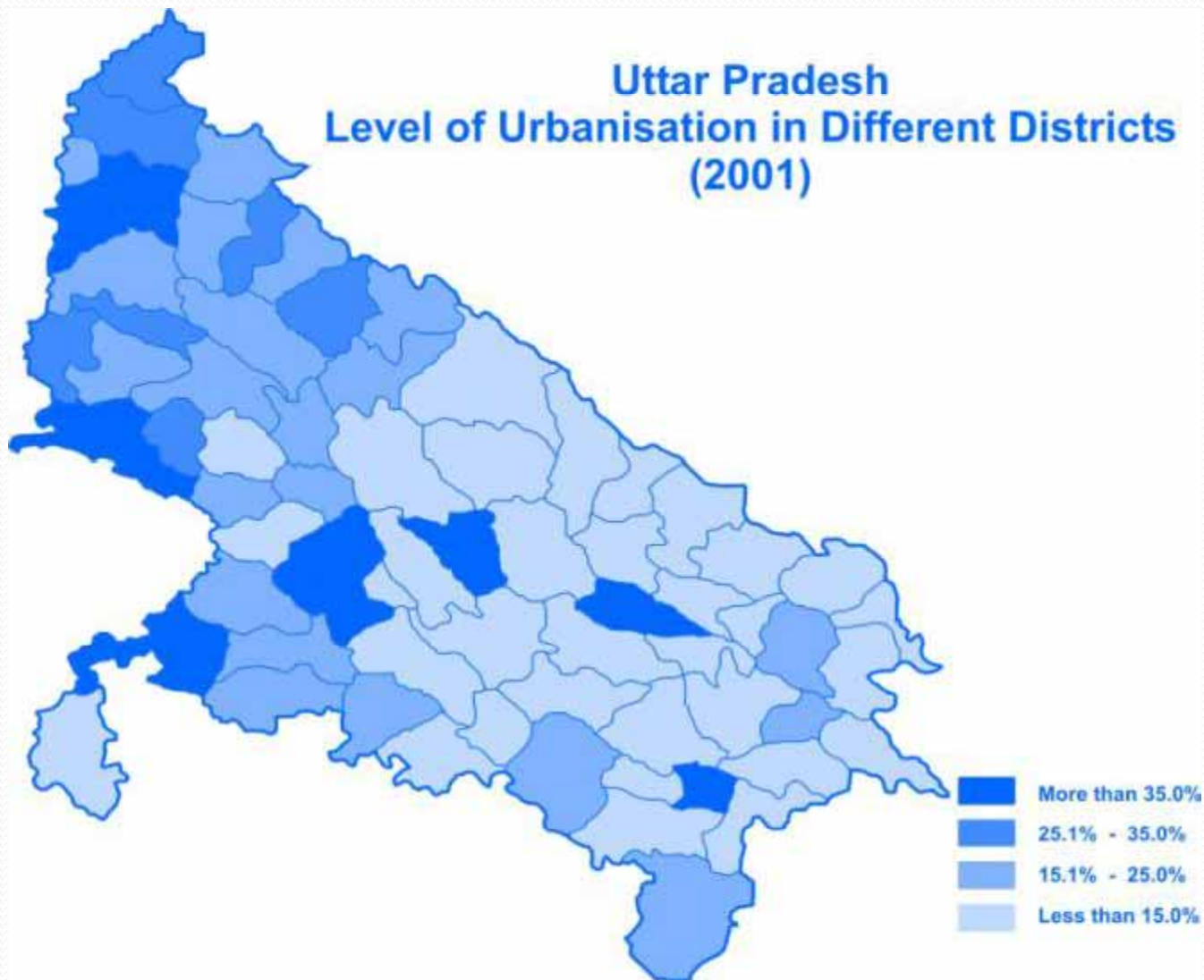
4-Report on State of Urban Health in Uttar Pradesh, UHRC: 2006

5- Based on NFHS-3 reanalysis by wealth quintiles; UHRC 2008

6-Based on CBR 28.2 for urban poor population in UP and 1.17 crore urban poor population

7 - Based on NFHS-3 reanalysis by wealth quintiles; UHRC 2008

Level of Urbanization Across Districts in Uttar Pradesh



6 largest Cities in Uttar Pradesh

City/town	Total Population in Lakhs (2001)	Decadal Growth Rate (%)	Total Slum Population in Lakhs (2001)	Slum Population to City total (%)
Kanpur	25.32	34.7	3.67	14.50
Lucknow	22.07	36.3	1.80	8.20
Agra	12.60	41.3	1.21	9.67
Varanasi	11.00	18.1	1.38	12.54
Meerut	10.74	42.5	4.71	43.87
Allahabad	9.90	22.8	1.26	12.72

Health related problems among urban poor



Health Related Problems among Urban Poor

Urban poor suffer much poorer health status and access to healthcare.

- Lower access to institutional deliveries
- Lower coverage of immunization
- Higher infant mortality
- Higher prevalence of child undernutrition
- Higher prevalence of infectious diseases on account of poor living environment
- Lower access to housing, safe water supply & sanitation

Barriers limiting access of urban poor to health care



Barriers Limiting Access of Urban Poor to Health Care

- **Illegal status of Urban Poor**
 - Large proportion of urban poor live in unlisted slums
 - Constant threat of eviction
 - This compromises their access to basic services (water, sanitation) and to entitlements e.g JSY
- **Multi-dimensional vulnerability**
 - Irregular employment, struggle for livelihood
 - Denial of entry / access in healthcare institutions

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- Sub-optimal primary health care services
 - Uneven distribution of urban primary healthcare centres
 - Vacant Staff positions and low motivation of workers
 - Timings inconvenient to urban poor
 - Weak referral linkages and emphasis on curative care than preventive
 - Lack of convergence and programme experience
 - Weak coordination among stakeholders
 - Weak urban health capacity of functionaries
 - Few examples of planned and well-managed urban health programmes to guide and inform ongoing and new programmes
 - High cost of private healthcare for the poor

- Weak community demand for health care
 - Poor literacy and lack of awareness about services, schemes and entitlements
 - Poor knowledge about health and hygiene behaviours
 - Poor status of women leading to neglect of women's health and lack of family support to mother / caregiver
 - Wide prevalence of culturally influenced practices that may be harmful to health



Upcoming opportunities in Uttar Pradesh



Upcoming Opportunities in UP

- Government initiatives under RCH-II:
- Spatial Mapping of all Health Facilities and slums of 14 cities initiated
- Review of UH Services in 14 high focus cities
- Baseline study for identification of health indicators in slums of 14 cities
- Uttar Pradesh UH Policy being evolved by State Government
- Initiation of Public Private Partnership as a Pilot in large cities of State
- City Specific Urban Health Planning has been initiated
- Growing interest among international agencies in urban health in UP

