



## **Population Distribution in Jalna District: A Geographical Study**

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Settlements may be temporary or permanent, rural or urban. Temporary settlements are those of migratory hunters, collectors and nomadic tribes. They are also associated with shifting agriculture. They are occupied seasonally and then left unoccupied or these may be so transient that these are a particular site only for a short time and are then either abandoned or shifted elsewhere.

There is no fixed population size to indicate the differences between a village and a town. In densely populated countries, rural settlements may support populations of upto 5000 without possessing the attributes. In most towns even in small ones, at least two-thirds of the employed people follow non-agricultural occupations. The feature of urbanization, which has attracted the attention of geographers and others, concerns the implication for societal changes involved in the growth of cities.

The inhabitants of the rural settlements depend for their livelihood upon the exploitation of the soil, fishing, quarrying, mining, forestry, etc. A typical village has secondary workers supplying services to the primary groups of farmers and farm labours e.g. shopkeepers, teachers, postmaster, iron and gold smiths and garage proprietors. The proportion of population in each of these classes bears to the total village population. These villages vary with the kind of farming characteristic of the locality, the quality of the soil, the attractiveness and accessibility of the site and its place within the general settlement pattern.

The village in turn is less built up than a town and with only some of the town facilities. The shape and arrangement of the rural settlements are dependent upon the type of agriculture and technique adopted. The rural settlement development is subject to response to physiographic conditions.

**Jalna District - Study Region:**

For the present investigation Jalna district of Maharashtra is selected as the study region. Jalna district is heterogeneous in nature. The region is socio-economically developing in which agriculture is the backbone of the economy. The district is located in the central part of Maharashtra State in Marathwada region. It is located between 19°15' to 20°32' North latitude and 75°36' to 76°45' East longitude.

The north-south extension of Jalna district is 150 Kilometers and east-west stretch of the district is 110 Kilometers. Jalna district has a significant location on Deccan plateau. Except Ajanta and Satamala ranges and river basins, major part of the district comes under plateau region. The region has major portion under flat topography, hence it supports high concentration of population. Jalna district comprises eight tahsils, four sub-divisions, and eight panchayat samities.

The geographical area of Jalna district is 7727 Sq. Km. According to Census- 2011; there are 4 cities, 970 villages and 781 grampanchayat's in Jalna district. According to 2011 census, total population of Jalna district was 19,59,046. Out of this total population, the male population were 10,11,473 whereas female population were 9,47,573. Sex ratio of the district is 937. The population density of the district was 254 per sq. km. As per 2011 census, district ranks 23rd and 5th in the state and Marathwada respectively in terms of area; similarly the district ranks 26th in the State in terms of population. Literacy percentage of Jalna district is 71.52%.

**Distribution of Population (Rural / Urban) and Households in Jalna district:**

The distribution of population and households as per rural and urban area of Jalna district has been calculated and furnished in table 1. Table 1 shows the tahsilwise distribution of rural / urban population and households in Jalna district as per 2011 census. Overall the district has 80.73% rural population on the contrary it has only 19.27% urban population in 2011. Tahsilwise rural population shows that, it is highest in Bhokardan tahsil with 92.15% share to total population where lowest share is observed in Jalna tahsil with 44.98%.



Table No. 1  
**Distribution of Population and Households in Jalna district**  
 (Census 2011)

Tahsil	No. of Households			Population		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
Bhokardan	58496	4544	63040	286887	24416	311303
	(92.79)	(7.21)	(100)	(92.16)	(7.84)	(100)
Jafrabad	34404	0	34404	163120	0	163120
	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)
Jalna	46664	53730	100394	233441	285577	519018
	(46.48)	(53.52)	(100)	(44.98)	(55.02)	(100)
Badnapur	30445	0	30445	153772	0	153772
	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)
Ambad	45009	6174	51183	224156	31553	255709
	(87.94)	(12.06)	(100)	(87.66)	(12.34)	(100)
Ghansawangi	42903	0	42903	211108	0	211108
	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)
Partur	28615	6345	34960	141706	35883	177589
	(81.85)	(18.15)	(100)	(79.79)	(20.21)	(100)
Mantha	34372	0	34372	167427	0	167427
	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)	(100.00)	(0.00)	(100)
Total	320908	70793	391701	1581617	377429	1959046
	(81.93)	(18.07)	(100)	(80.73)	(19.27)	(100)

Source: Computed by researcher

Since Jalna is the headquarters of the district and now leading city in Marathwada in regard with industrial development, the urbanization process in this tahsil is boosting. The tahsils like Bhokardan, Mantha, Badnapur and Mantha has 100% rural population and remaining 4 tahsils has urban population. In case of



urban population highest urban population is observed in Jalna tahsil (55.02%) and least is found for Bhokardan (7.04%).

In regard with number of households, the same pattern is observed. There were 3,91,701 households in the district as per 2011 census out of which 3,20,908 were rural area and 70,793 were from urban area. It means that, there are 81.93% rural households and 18.07% households in urban area. Highest households in rural area are observed in Bhokardan tahsil (92.79%) whereas lowest households are observed in Jalna tahsils (46.48%).

General urbanization trend of the Jalna district is comparatively low, since only 18.07% households in the district are from urban area. Obviously highest households are observed from Jalna tahsils and lowest from Bhokardan tahsil.

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