



Growth of Population in Buldhana District: A Geographical Review

Dr. Shinde V.G.

Dept. of Geography,
Moreswar College, Jalna (MS)

Introduction:

The concept of growth of population is often used to find out the change in the number of inhabitants of a territory during a specific period of time, irrespective of the fact whether change is negative or positive. Population geographers have often calculated the growth of population for a period of ten years. This period normally synchronises with the inter census periods. Such a growth rate calculated with the help of actual population have counts is known as actual rate of population growth. In case of actual growth rate the factor of migration is also taken into consideration with natural growth (births and deaths).

Study Region:

Buldhana is a district in the Amravati division of Maharashtra state in western India at the westernmost border of Vidarbha region and is 500 km from the state capital, Mumbai. Buldhana district is located in the central part of the state of Maharashtra. Akola, Jalgaon, Jalna, and Parbhani districts are the adjoining districts to the East, West, and South respectively. The Narmada district of Madhya Pradesh is in the North. The Buldhana district lies between 19°51' to 21°17' North Latitude and 75°57' to 76°49' East Longitude. The district consists of five subdivisions and thirteen blocks. The district Head Quarters is at Buldhana. Buldhana district has an area of around 9,680 square kilometers. The distances of the other major towns from Buldhana is Aurangabad (180 KM), Pune (425 KM), Amravati (200 KM), Nagpur (350 KM).

Growth of Population:

Table 1 shows the growth of population in Buldhana district from the year 1991 to 2011.

Table 1

Growth of Population in Buldhana District (Year 1901 to 2011)

Year	Population	Decadal Variation	% variation
1901	617990	--	--
1911	673698	55708	9.01
1921	703643	29945	4.44
1931	766584	62941	8.95
1941	820862	54278	7.08
1951	870168	49306	6.01
1961	1059696	189528	21.78
1971	1262978	203282	19.18
1981	1508777	245799	19.46
1991	1886299	377522	25.02
2001	2232480	346181	18.35
2011	2586258	353778	15.85

Source : District Census Handbook 1991 & Census CD 2001, 2011

In 1901 the population of Buldhana district was 617990 and according to the 2011 census the district has a population of 2586258. It clearly indicates that the population has increased by 4.18 times. The lowest growth in the population of Buldhana district has been observed in the census of 1921, i.e. 4.44% only whereas the highest growth has been observed in 1991 census, i.e. 25.02%. Except the census 1921, there has been a remarkable change in the trend of population growth. The main cause of rapid growth of population is the decline in death rate and increase in birth rate due to availability of modern hygienic facilities. After 1991 the growth trend of population has shown decrease rate. In 1991, the population growth rate was 25.02 which decreased in 2001 and reached to 18.35%. It further decreased in 2011, i.e. 15.85%.

Population & Density:

Geographers have been making more frequent use of the concept of density of population. It is a simple concept of relating population size to the land area with a



view to assessing crudely the pressure of population upon the resources of the area. Thus, it is a measure of the incidence of population concentration and is generally expressed in terms of persons per square kilometer or per square mile of land area rather than of gross area. The numerator in this calculation is population and the denominator is area. Table 2 shows the population and density in Buldhana district for the census 2011.

Table 2

Tahsilwise Population & Density in Buldhana District (Census 2011)

Tahsil	Population	Area in Sq. Km.	Density per Sq.Km
Jalgaon (Jamod)	156623	580	270
Sangrapur	137092	641	214
Shegaon	156116	828	189
Nandura	176018	451	390
Malkapur	178534	462	386
Motala	166598	748	223
Khamgaon	320644	1088	295
Mehkar	268316	950	282
Chikhli	285321	901	317
Buldhana	286992	708	405
Deulgaonraja	125350	840	149
Sindkhedraja	176303	797	221
Lonar	152351	676	225
Buldhana District	2586258	9670	267

Source: Census CD, 2011

The district of Buldhana has an area of 9,670 sq. km with the density of 267 persons per km. It is below than the state average. (365 persons per km). Tahsilwise pattern of population and density is shown in table 3.2 and map 3.1. Tahsilwise population pattern shows that the Khamgaon tahsil has the highest population (320644) whereas the lowest population has been observed in Deolgaonraja tahsil (125350).



Tahsilwise density pattern indicate that the tahsils like Deulgaonraja, Shegaon, Sangrampur, Sindkhedraja, Motala and Lonar has low population density (below 250). Moderate density (250-300) is observed in the tahsil of Jalgaon Jamod, Mehkar and Khamgaon tahsils whereas high density (above 300) is observed in the tahsil of Chikhli, Malkapur, Nandura and Buldhana tahsils. The highest density of district is observed in Buldhana tahsil (405).

The Buldhana city is a headquarter of the district. The facilities like educational, health, industrial and other are concentrated in this tahsil. The agricultural sector is also improved in this tahsil. On the contrary, the lowest density is observed in Deulgaonraja tahsil. Some part of the Deulgaonraja tahsil is hilly. Agriculture sector is not in good position. It has affected on the habitants. So the low density is found here. As regard with the tahsilwise area, Khamgaon tahsil has the highest area, i.e. 1088 sq.km whereas Nandura tahsil has only 451 sq.km. area.

Sex-Ratio:

The numerical measurement of sex composition of a population is often expressed in terms of sex ratio. This ratio is calculated differently in different countries. Generally it is calculated in terms of number of females per thousand males in the society. Differences in the mortality rates of the males and females give rise to differences in sex ratio. Generally, at world-wide pattern, it is observed that, more males die than the females not only at birth but also at all ages. In contrast to the developed countries, the conditions in the less developed countries are such that more females die in comparison to the males.

Comparison to natural sex ratio, the sex ratio at death is much more variable from country to country. Such differences in the sex ratio at death in these countries are to be associated with their differences in the stage of socio-economic development, standard of living, status granted to women, type of economy, degree of participation in work by females, etc. Table 3 shows the abstract of sex ratio in Buldhana district.

Table 3

Sex Ratio in Buldhana District (Census 2011)

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Sex Ratio
1	Jalgaon (Jamod)	958
2	Sangrampur	948
3	Shegaon	935
4	Nandura	942
5	Malkapur	941
6	Motala	938
7	Khamgaon	933
8	Mehkar	932
9	Chikhli	934
10	Buldhana	927
11	Deulgaonraja	917
12	Sindkhedraja	916
13	Lonar	922
	Buldhana District	934

Source: Census CD, 2011

Table 3 shows that, the sex-ratio of the state as a whole was 929 in 2011. As against this, sex-ratio of the district is greater than the state (934). This is well indicative factor for female position in the population composition of the Buldhana district.

Tahsils like Sindkhedraja, Deulgaonraja, Lonar and Buldhana shows the sex ratio below 933. Sex ratio between 930 to 940 has been observed in Mehkar, Khamgaon, Chikhli, Shegaon and Motala tahsils whereas above 940 sex ratio has been observed in Malkapur, Nandura, Sangrampur and Jalgaon Jamod tahsil.

Urban - Rural Population Ratio:

One of the basic characteristics of population obtained through the census is its rural and urban distribution. A distinction between rural and urban populations becomes essential as the two differ greatly in terms of their economy, social life, etc.



The urban and rural populations often have contrastingly different occupations, socio-economic value systems, degree of socio-economic awakening and level of social and economic interaction.

In case of Buldhana district, table 3.4 shows that, urban population comprises 21.22 percent to the total population which is less than the state average (45.22%). It is important to note that tahsils like Sangrampur and Motala has no urban population. Tahsils like Sindkhedraja (9.32%), Lonar (15.37%), Mehkar (16.86%) and Jalgaon Jamod (18.05) showed urban population less than 20% whereas 20% to 30% urban population has been observed in Chikhli (20.29%), Deulgaonraja (24.59%), Nandura (25.24%), Buldhana (28.14%) and Khamgaon (29.38%). Above 30% urban population has been observed in Malkapur and Shegaon tahsil. (Map 3.2)

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