

## RESEARCH ARTICLE



Received: 10.04.2018

Accepted: 26.05.2018

Published: 10.06.2018

**Citation:** Ningegowda MK. (2018). Decadal growth of population: A case study of Karnataka. Geo-Eye. 7(1): 12-14. <https://doi.org/10.53989/bu.ge.v7i1.3>

**Funding:** None**Competing Interests:** None

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Published By Bangalore University,  
Bengaluru, Karnataka

**ISSN**

Print: 2347-4246

Electronic: XXXX-XXXX

# Decadal growth of population: A case study of Karnataka

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## Abstract

*The study of human resources is of vital importance from economic point of view for the regional development. Human aspects influence the economic activity and determine the level of consumption and such offer economic and social endeavors. To know the decadal growth of population in Karnataka from 1951 – 2011. In the present study an attempt is made to know the demographic pattern. The State of Karnataka, confined roughly within 11° 35" North and 18° 30" North latitudes and 74° 5" East and 78° 35" East longitudes, is situated on a tableland where the Western and Eastern Ghat ranges converge into the Nilgiri hill complex. Karnataka is a state in the southern part of India. The present study concentrated on growth of population, relationship between area and population, & decadal growth. Temporal variations are observed at points of time i.e., 1951-2011. The required data for the present analysis is obtained from census of India. The data has been classified, processed and presented in the form of graphs. During the decade 2001-11, the State population witnessed a net addition of 82, 44, 735 persons to its 2001 population of 5, 28, 50, 562.*

**Keywords:** Population; decadal growth; temporal variation

## Introduction

The study of human resources is of vital importance from economic point of view for the regional development. Human aspects influence the economic activity and determine the level of consumption and such offer economic and social endeavors. It is necessary to know the quantitative terms of their number of people living in a region at a particular time, the rate at which their number is growing and the composition and distribution of population. The number resource is a labour force which helps in the process of production. This enables the sizeable population of a region to live

in condition of comfortable and healthy living. As such it becomes necessary to know the demographic characteristics of the region in quantitative and qualitative terms.

During the last million years a new and incredible thin layer has spread over large part of the earth's surface at the contact of air, water and land. This layer is spread of man and his work (Dicken and Ppills, 1970). The study of components of population variation and change is known as demography.

The study of human resource is of vital importance both from the point of view of economic development and social welfare. It is particularly important because

human beings are not only instrument of production but are also ends in themselves. It is necessary to know quantitative terms, the number of people living in a region at a particular time, the rate at which the number is growing and the composition and distribution of population.

The study of growth, distribution and density of population are most important aspect of a region, where one can understand their pattern in regional disparity. Therefore, man becomes a resource of the region and every other resource of the region becomes man's requirement. Hence, it is needless to say that regional study cannot be completed without study of population growth, distribution and density to harness the resource available in the area. The population growth with variation in density reflects on the existing land use and sprawl.

Sustainable development involves conservation of land and water resources. With the increasing pressure of the ever growing human population, increased living standard and the concomitant activities are exerting tremendous pressure on the finite natural resources. The uneven distribution of population needs the proper adjustment of exiting things through the spatial planning only raises the standard of living of the population. So the population planning is the main element with reference to which other resources are planned (Singh 1968). In view of these demographic dimension and human resource to examine the spatial pattern of population in the study area to know the regional disparity.

## Study Area

The State of Karnataka, confined roughly within 11°35" North and 18°30" North latitudes and 74°5" East and 78°35" East longitudes, is situated on a tableland where the Western and Eastern Ghat ranges converge into the Nilgiri hill complex. Karnataka is a state in the southern part of India. It was created on November 1, 1956, with the passing of the States Reorganization Act. Originally known as the State of Mysore, it was renamed Karnataka in 1973. Karnataka is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Goa to the northwest, Maharashtra to the north, Andhra Pradesh to the east, Tamil Nadu to the southeast, and Kerala to the southwest. The state extends to about 750km from North to South and about 400km from East to West and the total geographical area of the Karnataka 1, 91, 976 square kilometers.

## Objectives

To know the decadal growth of population in Karnataka from 1951 – 2011.

## Methodology

In the present study an attempt is made to know the demographic pattern. The present study concentrated on growth

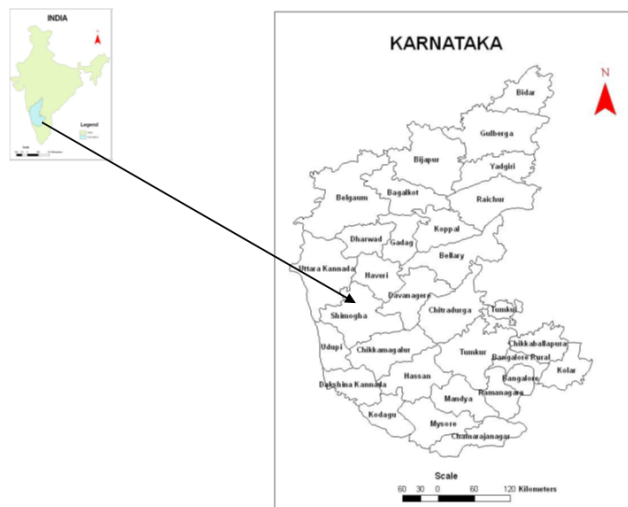


Fig. 1. Study area

of population, relationship between area and population, & decadal growth.

Temporal variations are observed at points of time i.e., 1951-2011. The required data for the present analysis is obtained from census of India. The data has been classified, processed and presented in the form of graphs.

## Decadal growth and composition of population

Table 1. Growth of population in Karnataka

Census of the year	Persons	Decadal Growth Rate
1951	19402000	–
1961	23587000	21.57
1971	29299000	24.22
1981	37136000	26.75
1991	44977000	21.12
2011	52850562	17.51
2011	61130704	15.60

Source: Census of India, computed by researcher

During the decade 2001-11, the State population witnessed a net addition of 82, 44, 735 persons to its 2001 population of 5, 28, 50, 562. The Male population increased by 40, 67, 739 and the Female population increased by 41, 76, 996.

Continuing the population growth trends of previous censuses, the State registered a growth rate of 15.60%, recording a decline of -1.91% in comparison to the growth of 17.51% registered during the 2001 Census.

While the Rural population grew at the rate of 7.40%, substantially less than the growth rate of 12.29% registered during the decade 1991-2001, the urban population registered

a growth rate of 31.54%, slightly higher than the growth rate of 29.15% recorded in 2001 Census.

Among the districts, Bangalore District, has witnessed the highest decennial growth rate of 47.18% followed by Yadgir, the newly created District, with 22.81%. The gap in the growth rate between the first and second ranked district is a whopping 24.37%. Chikmagalur District, a predominantly plantation area in the Malnad region, is the only District in the State which has registered a negative growth rate of -0.26%. Kodagu District another plantation area in the Malnad region with a growth rate of 1.09 % ranks 29, just above Chikmagalur District.

Only 7 districts have registered decennial growth rates higher than the State average of 15.60%. Of the remaining 23 districts as many as 14 districts have registered a growth rate of below 10%.

## Conclusion

Karnataka with a population of 6,10,95,297, retains the ninth rank as in 2001, in population size among all the States and Union Territories and accounts for 5.05% of Country's population of 1,21,05,69,573 in 2011.

Of the 6,10,95,297 persons enumerated in the State, 3,09,66,657 are Males and 3,01,28,640 are Females. Among the districts within the State, Bangalore District is the most populated District with 96,21,551 persons and accounts for 15.75% of the State's total population while Kodagu District with a population share of 0.91% is the least populated District. Except, Bangalore Rural (9,90,923) and Kodagu (5,54,519) Districts, all the remaining 28 districts have population higher than one million. Of the 6,10,95,297 persons enumerated in the State, 3,74,69,335 persons reside in the Rural areas and 2,36,25,962 persons reside in Urban areas. In terms of percentage, 61.33% are Rural residents and 38.67% are Urban residents.

In terms of urbanization, the State has witnessed an increase of 4.68% in the proportion of Urban population in the last decade. Among the districts, Bangalore is the most urbanized District with 90.94 % of its population residing in Urban areas followed by Dharwad District

(56.82%), Dakshina Kannada District (47.67%), Mysore District (41.50 %) and Bellary District (37.52%). The least urbanized District in the State is Kodagu with 14.61 %, preceded by Koppal District (16.81%), Mandya District (17.08%), Chamarajanagar District (17.14%) and Yadgir District (18.79%).

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