CHAPTER IV

DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS
According to 1981 census the population of Ahmadnagar district is 27,11,216 persons (13,83,598 males, 13,27,618 females) is spread over the district area of 17,035 sq.kms. showing the density of 159.16 person to a square kilometer. The rural area of the district 1622.4 sq.kms is populated by 23,59,283 persons which indicates that 87.02 percent of the total population lives in the rural area and the remaining 12.98 percent of the total population (351933) is spread over the 112.6 sq.kms. urban area. With this the tahsilwise male female population, urban rural population, area etc. also shown in the table. (Ref. table No.4.1)

A) VARIATION OF POPULATION

The review of the population variation of the district shows general trend of increase in the population since the beginning of the twentieth century. (Ref. table No.4.2 and fig. No 4.1). In year 1900 a severe famine was reported. The population of the district, 1901 was 820345 persons it increased by 12.86 percent according to the census of 1911, shows however the most contrasting figure of decrease in population by 22.33 percent which was on account of the most severe influenza, epidemic, etc. and out migration. Excepting this, however census record shows a constant increase in population of the district continuously by an average of more than 24 percent through out the last sixty years.
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT

DECADAL VARIATION OF POPULATION

Year 1901-81

VARIATION(%)
Apparently this indicates that the epidemics and diseases were controlled, to a considerable extent.

The tahsilwise variation in population (Ref. table No. 4.3, and fig. No. 4.2 to 4.4.) indicates substantial growth in population in certain tahsils such as Rahuri, Shrirampur, Nevasa, Sangamner, and Kopergaon. In 1951-61 the percentage of variation of population of the district was 25.88 percent. There are significant differences in the rates of variation of various tahsils. Kopergaon tahsil has recorded the highest increase (38.26%) while Patherdi tahsil has lowest increase (13.66%) Kopergaon, Rahuri, Shrirampur, Kopergaon, Nevasa tahsils are above the district average and remaining tahsils are below the district average. The highest percentage variation of population in 1961-71 was in Shrirampur tahsil (38.94%) and Kopergaon tahsil (38.26%) while Patherdi tahsil (18.20%) and Jamkhed tahsil (18.37%) has lowest increase. Rahuri Shrirampur, Kopergaon, Sangamner, tahsils are above the district average and Nevasa tahsil equal to district average (27.77%) and remaining tahsils are below the district average. One can clearly notice from these maps that these northern tahsils have registered continuous growth of population at relatively higher rate, owing to continuous developmental activities in that region. In 1971-81, the percentage of variation of the district population was
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT
VARIATION IN GROWTH OF
POPULATION (%) (YEAR - 1951-61)

LEGEND

Fig No 4.2
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT
VARIATION IN GROWTH OF
POPULATION(\%) (YEAR-1961-71)
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT
VARIATION IN GROWTH OF POPULATION (%)
(YEAR-1971-81)

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Fig. No. 44
19.48 percent. Highest increase in Nervas tahsil (49.76%) Sangamner tahsil (28.12%) and Rahuri tahsil (29.50%) while Pathardi tahsil (7.06%) Sheogaon tahsil (7.12%) lowest increase. Thus the irrigated tract in the north has registered higher values as expected. This is due to the irrigation facilities and cultivation of sugarcane which resultanty increased the number of sugar factories in this area and attracted large number of seasonal labourers from far off places within and outside the district. Secondly it also reduced out migration of people to a large extent. Generally speaking development of agriculture and industrial growth are mainly responsible for this increase variation in population of the tahsilwise structure.

B) DENSITY OF POPULATION:

The increase in the density of population of the district from 82.82 persons per sq.kms. (in 1951) to 104.25 persons (in 1961), 133.20 persons (in 1971) and 159.16 persons (in 1981) (Ref.table No 4.4. and fig. No 4.5 to 4.11). Within the district the density varies. In 1951, 167.75 persons per sq.kms. in Shrirampur tahsil to 51.46 persons per sq.kms. in Karjat tahsil. In 1961, 220.98 persons per sq.kms. in Shrirampur tahsil to 68.44 persons per sq.kms. in Karjat tahsil. In 1971, 307.02 persons per sq.kms. in Shrirampur tahsils to 85.21 persons per sq.kms. in Karjat tahsil.
Ahmadnagar District Density of Population (Year 1961)

Persons per sq. kms.

Legend:
- 50-74
- 75-99
- 100-124
- 125-149
- 150-174
- 175-199
- 200-224

Fig. No. 4.6
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT

DENSITY OF POPULATION
(Year - 1971)

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Fig. No. 17
In 1981, 362.37 persons per sq.kms. in Shrirampur tahsil to 99.57 persons per sq.kms. in Parner tahsil. In 1981 density of population is high viz. in the Shrirampur tahsil (362.37 persons per sq.kms) Kopergaon tahsil (281.48 persons per sq. kms.) Ahmadnagar tahsil (239.55 persons per sq.kms.) and low in Parner tahsil (99.57 persons per sq.kms), Karjat tahsil (101.21 persons per sq.kms) Jamkhed tahsil (108.72 persons per sq.kms.) Generally the density of population from 1951 to 1981 is high in northern tahsil and low in southern tahsil. The northern tahsil i.e. Shrirampur, Kopergaon, Rahuri, Nevasa etc. are relatively more developed than southern tahsils, i.e. Parner, Karjat, Jamkhed, etc. due to that the people migrate to these developed tahsil for the purpose of employment and this is one of the reason for high density of population in the Northern part of the district.

C) PHYSIOLOGICAL DENSITY

The physiological density estimated using following equation:

\[
\text{Physiological density} = \frac{\text{total population of the unit}}{\text{Net area sown}}
\]

The table (Ref. table No. 45 and fig. No. 4.12.) provides interesting study of the physiological density on tahsilwise pattern of the entire Ahmadnagar district. It is noteworthy that agricultural development in northern tahsils mentioned earlier is relatively higher values of physiological density.
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT
PHYSIOLOGICAL DENSITY
OF POPULATION
(Year: 1981)

LEGEND

- 100-199
- 200-299
- 300-399
- 400-499
- 700-799
Physiological density in the district is 231 persons. The physiological density is highest in Kopergaon tahsil (717 persons) Shrirampur tahsil (452 persons), Ahmadnagar tahsil (347 persons) Sangamner tahsil (308 persons) and Rahuri tahsil, (294 persons) and remaining all tahsils values of physiological density are between 100 to 200 persons.

D) SEX RATIO :

According to 1981 census the male population of Ahmadnagar district is 13,83,588 and female population is 13,27,618, table No 4.6 and 4.7 and fig. No.4.13 to 4.17 shows the variation in sex ratios since 1901 for the entire district as well as rural and urban area separately and also tahsilwise pattern. The sex ratio of the district as a whole is decreasing from the year 1901 (1005) 1971 (1956) and 1981 (960) As well as the rural and urban sex ratio also decreasing in the district from the year 1901 to 1981. The sex ratio of the district was 971 in the year 1951,962 in 1961, 956 in 1971 and 960 in 1981.

In 1951 the sex ratio was highest in Parner tahsil (1016.96) Akola tahsil (1007.144) and lowest in Ahmadnagar tahsil (947). In 1961 the sex ratio was highest in Akola tahsil (1020.01) and Parner tahsil (1007.80) and lowest in tahsils of Shrirampur (928.77) Ahmadnagar (934.62) Koppergaon 942.
SEX RATIO
(Year-1901-81)

- Line of Equality
- Rural Total
- Urban

Female per 1000 Male

Year

Fig.No-4.13
Ahmadnagar District
Sex Ratio
(Year - 1961)

No of Females per 1000 Males

Legend

925 - 949
950 - 974
975 - 999
1000 - 1024
In 1971, the sex ratio was highest in Pamer tahsil (1025.63) and Akola tahsil (999) and lowest in Ahmadnagar tahsil (901.16) Shrirampur tahsil (929.02) and Kopergeon tahsil (943.76). In 1981, the sex ratio was highest in Sangamner tahsil (1041.69) and sheogaon tahsil (1006.89) and lowest in Ahmadnagar tahsil (897.43).

The significantly low value for Ahmadnagar tahsil could be explained on the ground that it is an administrative district headquarter, the hub of industrial activity the leading place of higher education as well as an important Military Cantonment. Therefore, it contains several young male workers, hostelling students and other male population belonging to various government cadres that ultimately affect the sex ratio adversely. The general fall in the sex-ratio is steady even though comparatively female population seems to be well balanced. The seasonal migration of the workers to the sugar factories is generally with the family. Or it occurs due to failure of rain from southern drier areas to irrigated in the north.

The male population migrates to various places for the purpose of employment from backward tahsils i.e., Pamer, Akola, Sheogaon, Sangamner, etc. Due to this reason the female population is more than male population in these tahsils.
E) LITERACY

In 1901 the percentage of literacy in the district was 4.67 which has reached to 42.94 percent in 1981. (Ref. table No 4.8, 4.9 and fig. No. 4.18). The rapid progress in education and increase of more than six times of the literacy percentage during the last eighty years is significant. In 1961 the highest percentage of literacy was in Ahmadnagar tahsil (38.97%) and Shrirampur tahsil (28.74%) and the lowest in Akola tahsil (11.47%) Karjat tahsil (21.23%) Patherdi tahsil (21.80%) since Ahmadnagar city is the oldest centre of education in the district and it contains several educational institutes imparting education in several facilities of learning. It has given leadership in this field to the population of the district. This leadership in the field of education continue to this day as would be clear from the following interpretation.

In 1971, the highest percentage of literacy was in tahsil of Ahmadnagar (49.71%) and Shrirampur (39.23%) and lowest in Akola tahsil (27.61%) and Jamkhed tahsil (27.94%)

In 1981 the highest percentage of literacy was in Ahmadnagar tahsil (57.27%) Shrirampur tahsil (48.21%) Kopargaon tahsil (46.66%) and Rahuri tahsil (44.94%) and lowest in Akola tahsil (27.17%). From the year 1961-81 the percentage of literacy in each tahsil of the district has registered increased.
Overall cultural awareness and nearness to Bombay

Pune area has also responsible for such a development in literacy. The scheme of compulsory primary education was introduced by the state Government in 1947 is one of the contributing factors leading to the remarkable improvement in education in the district. Educational facilities provided by the Government and development in transportation facilities also responsible for increase in literacy percentage of the rural areas in particular and on tahsilwaise scale in general in the district.

F) MIGRATION

The statistical data of inmigration and outmigration collected from the Government census of 1971 is given at (table No 4.10 and 4.11 and fig. No 4.19 and 4.20).

The inmigration in Ahmadnagar district is mostly from the adjoining four district on the border viz. Pune (15.75%), Nasik (19.31%), Aurangabad (21.19%) and Beed (16.03%). The considerable number of people migrated to Ahmadnagar district from the rural area of the adjoining districts of the Nasik (15,55%) Pune (12.53%) Kolhapur (16.00%) Aurangabad (18.81%) and Beed (14.65%). The people migrated to Ahmadnagar district from the urban area of the district Nasik (3.75%) and Pune (3.22%). The immigration is mostly of agricultural workers from adjoining districts only
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT
INMIGRATION(%) (YEAR-1971)

2% MIGRATED PERSONS = 0.1 CMS (WIDTH)

Fig No: 419
during recent times people have migrated in Ahmadnagar city from far and white as workers expects in the growing industries at Ahmadnagar. Regarding outmigration Bombay (18.89%), Pune (27.29%), Nasik (15.79%) district are the important focal points. The considerable number of people migrated from rural area of the Ahmadnagar district to the district of Pune (10.55%), Nasik (10.03%), Beed (8.14%), Aurangabad (7.34%) and Solapur (3.45%) as well as people migrated from urban area of the Ahmadnagar district to the district of Bombay (18.89%), Pune (16.73%) and Nasik (5.75%).

It is very well known that since job opportunities are very less in this drought prone region. Skilled as well as unskilled people migrate outside the district to work in factories and offices to Bombay, Pune, Nasik and other leading urban centres even to this day. Migration is a continuous process and rehabilitation mainly for earning livelihood is a common important factor.

G) URBANISATION

The growth of urban centres play an important role in the regional planning. The analysis of the process of growth of urbanisation is therefore essential. From this viewpoint, the Ahmadnagar district so far as the growth of urbanisation is concerned, appears to be poor in value in comparison with most other district in Maharashtra state.
The important reasons for the lack of the growth of urbanisation in Ahmadnagar district are (i) Lack of mineral resources in district, (ii) the district being away from the main communication lines of railway and national highways (iii) Geographically the district comes under rain shadow region.

The concentration of relatively more urbanised areas or tahsils in the district is found where transport facilities by railway and roads are available so also on account of agricultural development due to dams, canals and irrigation have been made available. These tahsils are Ahmadnagar, Shrirampur, Kopergaon, Rahuri and Sangamner. The irrigation has facilitated growth of Sugarcane and as such number of sugar factories are found in this tahsils. The growth of industrialisation also running parallel to the agricultural development activities are thus responsible for the growth of urbanisation in this particular region as is apparent from the table No. 4.12 and 4.13 and fig.No 4.21.

The total urban area of the district is 112.6 sq. kms. as compared to the rural area of 1622.4 sq. kms. having the population of 12.98% and 87.02% urban and rural respectively. The scope for the growth of urbanisation in the district is very wide provided agricultural development programme is intensified in the rural area and communication and transportation facilities are augmented.
AHMADNAGAR DISTRICT

URBANISATION
(Year-1971)

URBANISATION
(Year-1981)

VARIATION
IN
URBANISATION
(Year-1971-81)

Fig.No:-4-21
The percentage of urban population of the district to total population was 9.54 in 1901, then little declined is noticed in 1911 (8.87) after that increased in 1921 (11.48) and again decreased in 1931 (9.81) in 1941 (10.57) and in 1951 (15.23) it has increased. After that in 1961 (10.55) decreased and then in 1971 (11.07) and 1981 (12.98) it has increased. This position of i.e. declining and increasing of urban population is mainly due to varying fortune of agriculture that depends upon the behaviour of monsoon, to a considerable extent on the one hand and the lack of industrialisation compare to Bombay, Pune and Nasik area.

The percentage of urbanisation in 1971 was high in Ahmadnagar tahsil (48.88) and Shrirampur (15.95) as well as in 1981 the urbanisation was high in Ahmadnagar tahsil (49.92) and Shrirampur tahsil (18.99). Variation in urbanisation from the year 1971-1981 was high in the Shrirampur tahsil (13.29) The causes explaining this pattern of distribution of urban population are the same as mentioned earlier.

A perusal of table No 4.12 showing percentage rate of variation shows that, the figures reveal an erratic pattern. The significant growth recorded during the decade 1941-51 (80.95) can be attributed to the development of agriculture in the northern sectors of the district and the related growth
of secondary and tertiary activities. The significant growth during the decade 1971–81 (66.40) could be explained on the ground that new industries started growing in an area around Ahmednagar as a result of spread effect of Pune. New M.I.D.C. area and private industrial units have attracted industrial workers and experts from far and wide in the country.

H) OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE

Table No 4.12 to 4.16 and fig. No 4.22 show the tahsilwise distribution of workers in the district. In 1961, the percentage of total workers to total population in the district (50.27%) was relatively high than in 1971 (35.43%) and 1981 (42.00%) as well as, the percentage of total workers to total population of each tahsil was also high in 1961, than in 1971 and 1981. It is observed that in 1971 the percentage of total workers declined in each tahsil of the district and again increased in 1981.

In 1961, the percentage of total workers to total population was high in Akola tahsil (56.81%) Parner tahsil (54.67%) Sheogaon tahsil (54.28%) and low in Ahmednagar tahsil (42.38%). In 1971, the percentage of total workers to total population was high in Sheogaon tahsil (39.35%) Parner tahsil (38.22%). According to 1981 census, the
PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS TO TOTAL POPULATION (Year-1961-71-81)
percentage of total workers to total population was high in Akola tahsil (49.29%). The plausible cause for this is the Akola tahsil is agriculturally backward and the size of farm is also small.

In 1961, the high percentage of cultivators to total workers occurs in the tahsil of Akola (80.74%), Parner (79.53%) Shrigonda (70.02%) and less in Shrirampur (31.86%) Kopergaon (40.94%) and Ahmadnagar (45.47%). In 1971 the percentage of cultivators was high in Parner tahsil (74.83%), followed by Akola tahsil (69.91%) and less in Shrirampur tahsil (22.10%) Kopergaon tahsil (28.33%) and Ahmadnagar tahsil (33.37%). In 1981, the percentage of cultivators was high in Akola tahsil (73.74%) and Parner tahsil (71.29%) and less in Shrirampur tahsil (24.25%) Kopergaon tahsil (32.82%) and Ahmadnagar tahsil (38.27%). Generally the cultivators were more in backward tahsil (i.e. Akola, Parner, Jamkhed, Karjat, Patherdi, Sheogaon Shrigonda) and less in relatively developed tahsil (i.e. Kopergaon, Shrirampur, Ahmadnagar etc.)

In 1961, the agricultural labourers were more in Shrirampur tahsil (42.55) and Kopergaon tahsil (37.18%) and less in Akola tahsil (8.38%) and Parner tahsil (9.33%). In 1971, the percentage of agricultural labourers to total workers was high in Kopergaon tahsil (48.23%) Shrirampur tahsil (48.05%) and Nevasa tahsil (40.96%) and less in
Akola tahsil (13.91%) Parnar tahsil (14.25%) and Ahmadnagar tahsil (14.27%). In 1981, the percentage of agricultural labours to total workers was high in Rahuri tahsil (45.45%) Nevasa tahsil (43.94%) Shrirampur tahsil (41.92%) and Kopergaon tahsil (41.48%) and less in Akola tahsil (11.20%) Parnar tahsil (13.53%) and Ahmadnagar tahsil (12.95%).

It indicates clearly that the tahsils of Shrirampur, Kopergaon, Rahuri, and Nevasa are agriculturally more developed so the percentage of agricultural labourers is high in these tahsils, as there are many jobs in the sugarcane fields and related agricultural activities.

During the period 1961 to 1981, the workers in manufacturing, household industries and other than household industries to total workers was high in Ahmadnagar, Shrirampur, Kopergaon tahsil. The other categories i.e. forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying construction etc. in occupational structure are not significant in the district. The percentage of workers in these categories to total workers are less in the district. A further insight would be developed by analysing the rural and urban settlements with a quantitative and qualitative perspectives. An attempt in this direction is made in the following chapter.