PART II

Distribution of Population

Th 4153
Introduction:

Maharashtra has, according to the 1951 Census, a total population of 16,456,550. (Refer App.II table no.1) This is about 4.7 per cent of the population of India, and some 45.7 per cent of that of the Bombay State*. Male population of this region is 8,270,142 and the female population is 8,186,408. This gives 989 females per 1,000 males in the population (Refer App.II table no.2 and Diagram no.3) and is better balanced when compared with 947 for India and 932 for Bombay State. Of the total population of Maharashtra 12,400,929 (i.e. 75.3 per cent) live in rural areas and the remaining 4,056,321 (i.e. 24.7 per cent) in urban areas. (Refer App.II table no.2 and Map no.16). The percentage of rural population here is less than that of India (33 per cent) but greater than that of Bombay State (69 per cent). Conversely, the percentage of urban population of this region is greater than that of India (17 per cent) and less than that of Bombay (31 per cent).

The total area occupied by Maharashtra is 55,460.9 square miles. This is 4.3 per cent of the total Indian territory, and 49.7 per cent of the total Indian Bombay State territory. (Refer App.II table no.1). The average density of population for Maharashtra works out to 296 people per square mile. This is rather below the average of 312 people for India and 323 people for Bombay.

There are, in all, 16,112 habited settlements. Of them 15,820 (98.1 per cent) are small settlements having an

* As existed before November 1956.
average population of less than 5,000 inhabitants, and the remaining 292 (1.9 per cent) settlements have more than 5,000 inhabitants each. In the first category 7,555 settlements are very small with an average population of less than 500, and 1,910,448 people (11.6 per cent of the total population) live in such settlements. Remaining 3,265 settlements have an average between 500 and 5,000 inhabitants and their population is 9,974,063 (60.6 per cent of the total population). In the second category 278 settlements have 5 to 50 thousand inhabitants each, with a total of 2,731,776 people (17.5 per cent of the total population); 10 are having an average between 50,000 and 100,000 people each, with 645,947 people (3.9 per cent of the total population); and the remaining four settlements have more than 1 lakh population each, with 1,059,190 people (6.4 per cent of the total population). (Refer App. I Table 3).

More than 14 languages are spoken as mothertongues in Maharashtra. But only six of them are important. In order of their importance they are: Marathi, Urdu, Kannada, Bili, Gujarati and Telugu. About 96.72 per cent of the population speak these 6 languages, and only 3.28 per cent people speak the remaining more than 8 languages. Marathi speaking population overshadows others with its 13,70,639 people, constituting 84.2 per cent of the total population. (Refer map no. 18). Urdu comes in as a very poor second with 833,262 people or 5.06 per cent. Then follow Kannada with 438,053 people or 2.6 per cent, Bili with 336,029 people or 2.04 per cent, Gujarati with 301,198 people or 1.8 per cent and Telugu with 168,654 people or 1.02 per cent. Bombay State
percentages for these languages are Marathi 44.08 per cent, Gujarati 31.74 per cent, Kannada 12.1 per cent, Urdu 5.33 per cent, Bihili 1.0 per cent, and Telugu 0.8 per cent. (Refer App. II Table 7, Map no. 18)

Seven main religious beliefs are followed in Maharashtra. The largest group is that of Hindus with 15,045,908 people or 91.4 per cent of the total population. This figure is greater than that for India (84.99 per cent). Muslims are second with 983,511 people or 5.9 per cent. Then follow Christians, Jains, Sikhs, Zoroastrians, Jews etc. Christians and Jains form 1.1 per cent each, and the remaining combined constitute 0.5 per cent. (Refer App. II Table 5, Map no. 20)

Considering the population in different age groups, it is observed that the group under 15 years forms 40.3 per cent, second group of 15 to 44 years is 43.5 per cent, third group of 45 to 64 years is 13.02 per cent, and the fourth group of 65 and over years is 2.7 per cent. It is clear that the percentage of the middle aged persons is the highest, next come the juveniles. People living beyond their middle ages are very few. Figures for India agree with this statement. They are: first group 38.3 per cent, second group 44.8 per cent, third group 13.5 per cent and the fourth group 3.2 per cent. (Refer App. II Table no 8)

Birth rate per thousand people of Maharashtra is 33.63, and the death rate is 19.46. These rates keep a positive balance of 14.17 lives. It can be seen that this figure is slightly less than that for Bombay State (Birth rate 32.79,
Death rate 18.31, Balance +14.38), and much higher than that of India (Birth rate 24.8, Death rate 16.0, Balance +8.8). Infant mortality in Maharashtra is 144.11 deaths per 1000 births. This is much higher than that of India - (127.1 deaths per 1000 births) and that of Bombay (126.82 deaths per 1000 births). (Refer App.II Table no. 6)

There are 162,502 displaced persons in Maharashtra. Most of them have come from West Pakistan. They form here 1.02 per cent of the total population compared with their - 2.09 per cent in India and 0.9 per cent in Bombay State.* (Refer App.II Table no. 4 Diagram no.4)

The scheduled tribes in Maharashtra number 1,335,742 or 8.1 per cent of the total population. This percentage is much greater than both of India (2.09 per cent) and for Bombay (0.9 per cent). (Refer App.II Table 4, Map no. 17)

* Following the partition of India, refugees from West Pakistan, particularly from Sind, rushed towards the urban centres of Poona and Bombay. As Bombay was already crowded, a separate township, Ulhasnagar, was created for rehabilitating them. This new town is near Thana and has a population of over 80,000 people. Another small town, exclusively for refugees is Valivde near Kolhapur. Its population is about 5,000. This township was originally planned for the temporary Polish refugees during the Second World War. They evacuated it by the end of 1945. After 3 years, Sind refugees came in.
Maharashtra has 3,110,941 literates forming 18.9 per cent of the total population. This is higher than that for India - (16.6 per cent) and lower than that for Bombay State (24.56 per cent). (Refer App II Table no.4, Diagram no.5 and Map no.19).
Distribution of Population in Physical Regions

In the first part of this study Maharashtra has been divided into three main physical regions: Viz.

a) The Basins of the Tapi and Narmada
b) The Konkan Lowland and
c) The Interior Upland.

This division is based on topographical differences.

Maharashtra can also be considered into three longitudinal belts depending upon the average annual rainfall: viz.

1) The High Rainfall Tract.
2) The Moderate Rainfall Tract and
3) The Low Rainfall Tract.

(Refer chapter on climate Part I of this study).

Here the distribution of population is considered in both of these divisions.

a) The Basins of Tapi and Narmada:

Out of these the Narmada basin, within Maharashtra, has a very small area which is mostly mountainous. The Tapi basin is broad, especially in the east.

This region has an area of about 12,430 square miles and a population of 3,237,400 inhabitants. (i.e. about 22 per cent area and about 19 per cent population -
of whole of Maharashtra.). Thus the average density of population here is about 260 people per square mile, which is quite less than that of Maharashtra. However, if details are looked into, it is observed that the eastern part of this region is more thickly peopled with 329 people per square mile whereas the western part has only 212 people per square mile. (Refer maps no. 4, 13, 14 and 15). In the Tapi basin there are nine towns with a population of 20,000 inhabitants each; whereas there is no settlement of this category in the Narmada basin. (Refer App. IV).

b) The Konkan Lowlands:

They occupy an area of about 11,452 square miles (or 20.8 per cent of that of Maharashtra) and have a population of 4,139,097 (or 25.1 per cent of that of Maharashtra.). Hence the average density of population for the Konkan is 361 people per square mile of its area. (Refer maps no. 14 and 15). This is much higher than the Maharashtra’s figure of 296 people.

Here the population is concentrated more in the north than in the south. (Refer map no. 13). Again, a greater percentage of it is found near the coasts. In Maharashtra there are 33 towns with a population of more than 20,000
inhabitants each. Of them nine are situated in the Konkan, seven in the northern Konkan and only two in the South Konkan. (Refer App. IV)

c) The Interior Upland:— This region consists of the three main basins viz., the Godavari in the north, the Bhima in the centre, and the Krishna in the south. This natural region occupies an area of about 31,532 square miles and has a population of about 9,080,000 inhabitants. (i.e. about 57 per cent of the area and about 54 per cent of the population of whole of Maharashtra.) It thus has 287 people per square mile. (Refer maps no. 4, 13, 14 and 15). This is a bit lower than that of Maharashtra as a whole.

In this natural region, population is more dense in a belt about 40 miles wide, situated 20-25 miles to the east of, and more or less parallel to the edge of the Plateau. This fact is more pronounced in the central and southern parts wherein lie two of the four largest settlements with a population of over 1,000,000 people each. There are 15 towns with a population of more than 20,000 people each. Of them 3 are in the Godavari valley, 6 in the Bhima valley and 6 in the Krishna valley. (Refer App. IV).

The Bhima valley has the largest population. Next comes the Krishna valley. The Godavari valley has practically half as much population of the Krishna valley. The density of population is however the highest in the Krishna valley. Three of the four largest settlements are situated in the Bhima valley and the remaining one is in the Krishna valley. The largest of them is in Upper Bhima valley.
Regions Based on Annual Rainfall:— In Maharashtra, a very great percentage of population lives in areas receiving an average rainfall of more than 25 inches per annum. The largest concentration however is to be found in areas with an annual average between 50 and 100 inches. Tracts receiving less than 25 inches rainfall have scanty population. Of the 33 towns, already mentioned, eight are situated in areas with less than 25 inches average, 16 are in areas with 25 to 50 inches average, seven in areas with 50 to 100 inches average, and two in areas with more than 100 inches average. (Refer Maps no 10, 11, and 13).

Of the four largest settlements (they are included in the 33 settlements mentioned above), three are situated in the 25 to 50 inches average tract, and one in the area with less than 25 inches average. (Refer App. IV)

* In India temperature conditions alone do not have any significant influence on the distribution of population. On the other hand, the annual amount of rainfall is a very important factor especially in view of the fact that agriculture forms the major occupation of the people.
Distribution of Population in Administrative Units

As has been already indicated, Maharashtra is divided for administrative convenience, into 12 districts which are further sub-divided into talukas. Total number of talukas is 144. Ratnagiri has the largest number of talukas i.e. 15, and South Satara has the least i.e. 6. (Refer App.II Table no.1)

Ahmednagar district occupies the largest area of 6,471.9 square miles or 11.6 per cent of the total area. The smallest district is Kolaba, with 2,712.3 square miles or 4.8 per cent area. Next to Nagar is Poona with 10.3 per cent; then follow Nasik (10.8 per cent), Sholapur (10.4 per cent), West Khandesh (9.7 per cent) and so on. (Refer App.II Table 1, Map no. 12).

Poona with 10.8 per cent area has 14 talukas and Kolaba with only 4.8 per cent area has also the same number of them. Nagar which occupies 11.6 per cent area has 13 talukas and Thana with 6.7 per cent area has the same number of them. However, South Satara with 5.9 per cent area has only 6 talukas. (Refer App.II Table no.1, map no.13)

The district of Poona has the largest population of 1,950,976 inhabitants, or 11.8 per cent of the total population of Maharashtra. The smallest population of 909,083 people or 5.5 per cent people is in Kolaba. Next to Poona is Ratnagiri with 10.4 per cent of the population. Then follow Thana with 9.2 per cent, Sholapur with 9.1 per cent, East Khandesh 8.9 per cent, Nasik 8.6 per cent, Nagar 8.5 per cent and so on. (Refer App.II Table 1, Map no. 13)
Kolhapur with its 441 people per square mile has the highest density of population. This is considerably higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people). West Khandesh has the lowest density of 212 people per square mile. The districts with population densities higher than the average for Maharashtra are Thana (404 people), Ratnagiri (344 people), Kolaba (335 people), East Khandesh (329 people), Poona (324 people), and South Satara (301 people); and those with below the average are North Satara (292 people), Sholapur (259 people), Nasik (238 people) and Nagar (218 people). (Refer App.II Table 1, Map no. 15).

Sakri, in West Khandesh, is the largest taluka in Maharashtra, with an area of 926.8 square miles; and Poona City is the smallest taluka with 67.8 square miles. Some of the other very large talukas are Jath (873.7 square miles) in South Satara, Khandapur (846.5 square miles) in South Satara, Shirpur (756.0 square miles) in West Khandesh and Dhulia (751.6 square miles) in West Khandesh. Some of the other smaller talukas are Uran (75.2 square miles) in Kolaba, Thana (84.2 square miles) and Borivali (84.2 square miles) in Thana, and Mahabaleshwar (87.3 square miles) in North Satara.

The taluka of Poona City, in Poona, has the largest population of 594,083 people. Mahabaleshwar, in North Satara, was the smallest population of 20,443 people. Next largest in population are North Sholapur (325,632 people) in Sholapur, Miraj (285,616 people) in South Satara, Kalyan (273,261 people) in Thana, and Karvir (266,299 people)
in Kolhapur. Amongst the smallest populated talukas are Akrani (22,517 people) in West Khandesh, Velhe (27,391 people) in Poona, Sudhagad (33,066 people) in Ratnagiri, and Mhasla (37,247 people) in Ratnagiri. (Refer App.II Table no. 10, Map no 13.)

The highest density of population is in the taluka of Poona City (8,762 people per square mile) in Poona. The lowest density of 87 people per square mile is in Akkalkuwa of West Khandesh. Next highest in population density are Borivali (1,725 people) and Thana (1,530 people) in Thana, North Sholapur (1,145 people) in Sholapur, and Karvir (1,015 people) in Kolhapur. (Refer App.II Table 10, Map no 14)

If the talukas, where big towns are situated, are excluded, then Hatkanagle (721 people) stands first in population density. Then come Uran (629 people) in Kolaba, Vengurla (626 people) in Ratnagiri, and Shirol (595 people) and Gadhinglaj (581 people) in Kolhapur.

Some of the other low density talukas are Akrani (97 people) in West Khandesh, Jath (124 people) in South Satara, Karjet (133 people) in Nagar, Shirpur (133 people) in West Khandesh, and Surgana (139 people) in Nasik.

Of the total 144 talukas, 63 have higher density than the average for Maharashtra, and 81 have below it.
Rural and Urban Population :- (Refer App.II Table 2, Map no.16)

Ratnagiri has the largest rural population of 1,553,858 people or 12.5 per cent of the total rural population of Maharashtra. Next come Nagar with 9.6 per cent and Poona with 9.1 per cent. The smallest rural population, of 713,211 people or 5.8 per cent, is in South Satara.

Poona has the largest urban population of 834,723 people or 20.5 per cent of the total urban population of Maharashtra. Next come Thana with 12.9 per cent, Sholapur with 11.6 per cent, and East Khandesh with 11.5 per cent. The smallest urban population, of 96,028 people, or 2.3 per cent, is in Kolaba.

Considering the distribution of rural and urban population in individual districts, it is seen that in Ratnagiri the rural population is 90.7 per cent of the district population, in Kolaba it forms 89.3 per cent, in North Satara 86.3 per cent, in Nagar 84.7 per cent, and in West Khandesh 82.9 per cent.

Poona has 42.8 per cent urban population. Next Thana has 34.6 per cent, East Khandesh has 31.8 per cent, Sholapur 31.3 per cent and South Satara 29.7 per cent.

Males and Females :- (Refer App.II Table 2, Diagram no.3)

The number of females per 1000 males in the respective district population is the highest in Ratnagiri (1,224 females) and the lowest in Thana (907 females). North Satara and Kolaba are two other districts where the female population exceeds that of males (1,051 and 1,040 females per 1000 males respectively.) The remaining districts have less number of females, per 1000 males, than the average for Maharashtra (989 females).
Settlements:- (Refer App. II, Table 3)

Out of 7,555 settlements with an average population of less than 500 inhabitants each, the largest number of 1,247 is in Kolaba. Then follow Thana (997), West Khandesh (850), Poona (764) and East Khandesh (742). Thana has the largest population (256,938 people) living in such settlements. Next come Kolaba, Nasik, West Khandesh and so on. The smallest number of such settlements (82), and the smallest population living in such settlements (25,356), both are to be found in South Satara.

Of the 8,265 settlements with an average population of 500 to 5,000 inhabitants, Ratnagiri has the largest number - (1,058). Next come Nagar (803), Nasik (737), Poona (707) and Sholapur (704). Again, Ratnagiri has the largest population (1,348,496 people) living in such settlements. Next are - the districts of Nagar, Kolhapur, North Satara, and Sholapur. The smallest number of such settlements is 412 in South Satara, and the smallest population in such settlements is 509,473 in Kolaba.

Poona has the largest number (38) of settlements with an average population of 5,000 to 50,000 inhabitants. Next are South Satara (34), East Khandesh (28), Thana (28), Nagar and Ratnagiri (25 each). Poona has the largest population (364,714 people) living in such settlements. Then follow East Khandesh, Thana, and South Satara. The smallest number of such settlements (11), and the smallest population in them (99,730), both are to be found in Kolaba.

Out of the 10 settlements having an average population of
50,000 to 100,000 each, three are in Nasik, three in Thana, two in East Khandesh, one in West Khandesh, and one in South Satara. Nasik has the largest population (206,024 people) living in these settlements. The smallest population (50,287 people) of this type is in South Satara.

Cities with more than 1 lakh people each are in Poona (1), Nagar (1), Sholapur (1), and Kolhapur (1).

**Literacy:** (Refer App.II Table 4, Diagram no. 5, Map no.19).

Poona district has the largest number of literates - (503,305) forming about 16.1 per cent of the total literates in Maharashtra. Next East Khandesh has 12.4 per cent, Thana 11.1 per cent, Nasik 8.8 per cent, Nagar 3.2 per cent, and Ratnagiri 8.2 per cent. The smallest number of literates - (143,597 or 4.6 per cent) is in Kolhapur. Kolaba has 149,203 literates or 4.7 per cent.

East Khandesh has the largest percentage of literates (26.2 per cent) in its population, and Kolhapur has the least (11.7 per cent). Next to East Khandesh are Poona (25.7 per cent), Thana (22.9 per cent), and Nasik (19.2 per cent). Remaining districts have below the average percentage of Maharashtra (18.9 per cent).

**Scheduled Tribes:** (Refer App.II Table 4, Map no.17)

West Khandesh has the largest population of Scheduled Tribes viz. 451,751 people, or 33.8 per cent of their total population in Maharashtra. Next Thana has 24.3 per cent, Nasik 18 per cent, Kolaba 6.9 per cent, and Nagar 6 per cent.
Their smallest population (214) is in Kolhapur.

In West Khandesh the scheduled tribes form 39.4 per cent of the district population. They are 21.9 per cent in Thana, 16.6 per cent in Nasik, 10.1 per cent in Kolaba and 5.7 per cent in Nagar.

**Displaced Persons**: (Refer App.II Table 4, Diagram no.4)

Thana has their largest population, 103,147 people or 61.2 per cent of the total displaced persons in Maharashtra. Next Poona has 15 per cent, Nasik 5.8 per cent, and East Khandesh 4.6 per cent. Their population is very small in South Satara (235 people), Kolaba (473 people), and North Satara (600 people).

**Distribution of Faiths**: (Refer App.II Table 5, Map no.20)

Poona has 1,787,074 Hindus forming about 11.8 per cent of their total number in Maharashtra. Then Ratnagiri has 10.5 per cent, Thana 9.1 per cent, and Sholapur 8.9 per cent. Kolaba has their smallest population of 846,723 or 5.6 per cent.

In West Khandesh the Hindus form 93.7 per cent of the district population. They are 93.6 per cent in North Satara, 93.1 per cent in Kolaba, and 92.9 per cent in Ratnagiri. East Khandesh has the lowest percentage of 88.4

East Khandesh has 15.3 per cent of the total Muslim population in Maharashtra. Then Sholapur has 14.1 per cent, Ratnagiri 10.6 per cent, and Poona 9.2 per cent. Their smallest population is in North Satara (3.7 per cent).
In East Khandesh Muslims form 10.2 per cent of the district population. They form 9.2 per cent in Sholapur, and form the lowest percentage of 3.1 in North Satara.

Thana has 29.9 per cent of the total Christian population of Maharashtra. Then Nagar has 22.1 per cent, Poona 19.4 per cent, and Ratnagiri 7.6 per cent. North Satara has the smallest percentage of 0.8.

Christians form 3.7 per cent in the population of Thana, and 3 per cent in that of Nagar. They are only 0.1 per cent each in the populations of East Khandesh and North Satara.

Kolhapur has 30.4 per cent of the total Jain population of Maharashtra. South Satara has 20.1 per cent, Poona 11.6 per cent, and Nagar 8.9 per cent. In Thana there is no Jain population. Jains form 4.6 per cent in the population of Kolhapur, and 3.8 per cent in that of South Satara.

Sikhs are only in Poona, Nasik, Thana, North Satara, and South Satara, in the order of their population.

Zoroastrians are only in Poona and Thana districts.

**Linguistic Distribution** :- (Refer App.II Table 7, Map no.18)

**Marathi** :- This language is spoken in every district by an absolute majority. The district of Poona has a marathi speaking population of 1,685,166 forming about 12.2 per cent of the total marathi speaking people in Maharashtra. Next Ratnagiri has 11.7 per cent of the total marathi speaking population.
Marathi speaking people form 95.7 per cent in the population of North Satara, 95.5 per cent in that of Ratnagiri, 93.1 per cent in that of Kolaba and 90.0 per cent in Ahmednagar. They are only 58.6 per cent in the population of West Khandesh, 72.4 per cent in that of Sholapur and 74.9 per cent in that of Thana.

Urdu :- It is spoken in all districts. East Khandesh has 130,745 Urdu speaking people forming 15.6 per cent of the total Urdu speaking population of Maharashtra. Next Sholapur has 14.7 per cent, Nasik 9.9 per cent and Poona 9.2 per cent.

Urdu speaking population is 8.3 per cent in the population of East Khandesh, 8.1 per cent in that of Sholapur and 5.7 per cent in that of Nasik.

Gujarati :- It is spoken in all districts. Thana has 153,506 people speaking Gujarati, forming 50.9 per cent of the total such people in Maharashtra. Then West Khandesh has 17.8 per cent, and Poona 9.4 per cent. Gujarati speaking population is 10.1 per cent in the population of Thana, 4.6 per cent in that of West Khandesh, and 1.4 per cent in that of Poona.

Hindi :- It is spoken in all districts except Ratnagiri. Hindi speaking population is 29,994 in Poona and forms 19.8 per cent of total such population in Maharashtra. East Khandesh has 19.5 per cent, Thana 18.5 per cent and Nasik 12.4 per cent.

Hindi speaking people form 1.9 per cent in the population
of East Khandesh, 1.8 per cent in that of Thana and 1.5 per cent in that of Poona.

Kannada :- This language is spoken only in 8 districts. Out of a total of 438,053 people speaking Kannada, 188,658 are in Sholapur forming 12.5 per cent of the district population; in Kolhapur they form 9.3 per cent, and in South Satara they are 10.1 per cent of the district populations. Other districts where Kannada is spoken by a small minority are Poona, Thana, Kolaba, North Satara, and Ratnagiri.

Telugu :- Telugu speaking people are found in every district, but Sholapur has the largest number 65,240 people forming 4.3 per cent of the district population. They are 1.6 per cent in the population of Poona and 1.4 per cent in Ahmednagar.

Bhili :- Bhili is spoken only in the districts of East and West Khandesh, by 9,802 people and 326,221 people respectively. They are 0.6 per cent in the population of East Khandesh and 28.4 per cent in that of West Khandesh.

Ahirani :- This language is spoken only in West Khandesh by 6,160 people who form 0.5 per cent of the district population.

Sindi :- Sindhi is spoken in six districts only. Thana has the largest number of 97,085 people speaking Sindhi and they form 6.3 per cent of the district population. Poona has 0.9 per cent in its population. Other districts where this language is spoken are Nasik, East Khandesh, West Khandesh and Kolhapur.
Rajasthani :- This language is spoken in eight districts, but in each of them they form an insignificant percentage. Thus they are only 1.0 per cent in the respective populations of East Khandesh and Ahmednagar. Then Nasik and West Khandesh have 0.9 per cent each, Poona 0.7 per cent and Sholapur 0.5 per cent. Remaining districts where this language is spoken are Thana and Kolaba.

Birth and Death Rates :- (Refer App.II Table 6)

The highest birth rate in Maharashtra is in West Khandesh, with 41.03 births per 1,000 people; and the lowest birth rate is in Thana, with 24.44 births per 1,000 people. Districts with birth rates higher than the average for Maharashtra (33.63 births per 1,000 people) are Sholapur (38.65 births), Kolhapur (38.65 births), North Satara (37.80 births), Nasik (36.35 births) and East Khandesh (36.22 births); those having it below the average are South Satara (31.8 births), Ahmednagar (30.78 births), Poona (29.50 births), Ratnagiri (29.14 births) and Kolaba (28.78 births).

The highest death rate is in Sholapur, with 24.02 deaths per 1,000 people, and the lowest death rate is in Thana with 11.07 deaths per 1,000 people. Districts with death rates higher than the average for Maharashtra (19.46 deaths per 1,000 people) are West Khandesh (22.13 deaths), East Khandesh (21.03 deaths), Nasik (20.91 deaths), North Satara (20.66 deaths), and Kolhapur (20.03 deaths); those having below the average are South Satara (18.05 deaths), Ratnagiri (17.87 deaths) and Poona (17.23 deaths).
Infant Mortality :-  (Refer App.II Table 6)

Ahmednagar has the highest rate of infant mortality of 180.54 deaths per 1,000 births and Ratnagiri has the lowest rate of 82.64 deaths per 1,000 births. Districts with higher rates than the average for Maharashtra (144.11 deaths) are Nasik (171.47 deaths), Poona (160.47 deaths), West Khandesh (148.51 deaths) and East Khandesh (145.02 deaths); those with below the average are Sholapur (143.28 deaths), Kolaba (140.52 deaths), North Satara (120.01 deaths), South Satara (104.44 deaths), Thana (103.29 deaths) and Kolhapur (102.17 deaths).

Age Groups :-  (Refer App.II Table 8)

Poona has the largest percentage (11.1 per cent) of the group having ages between 0 and 14 years in Maharashtra. Ratnagiri has 10.4 per cent, Sholapur 9.3 per cent, East Khandesh and Nasik 8.8 per cent each. The smallest percentage of 5.5 of this group is in Kolaba.

Second group between 15 and 44 years has the largest percentage (12.4) in Poona. Ratnagiri has 9.7 per cent, Thana 9.6 per cent, and East Khandesh 9.3 per cent. The smallest percentage of 5.5 of this group is in Kolaba.

The district of Ratnagiri has the largest percentage (of 12.5) of the third age group between 45 and 64 years. Poona has 11.4 per cent, Sholapur 9.0 per cent, Nagar 8.5 per cent, Nasik and Thana 8.1 per cent each. The smallest percentage of 5.7 of this group is in West Khandesh.
Ratnagiri has the largest percentage of the fourth age group of 65 and over years. Poona has 10.4 per cent, East Khandesh 9.0 per cent and North Satara 8.8 per cent. The smallest percentage 5.1 of this group is in Kolaba.

Among these four age groups the second one, of 15 to 44 years, is the largest in each district. It forms 47.3 per cent of the population of Thana, 45.7 per cent of that of Poona, 45.2 per cent of East Khandesh, 44.4 per cent each of Nasik and West Khandesh.

Next largest is the first group of 0 to 14 years. Its percentage in respective district populations are West Khandesh 42.7, North Satara 42.1, and South Satara 41.2

Next largest is the group of 45 to 64 years. It forms 15.4 per cent in the population of Ratnagiri, 14.7 per cent in South Satara, 14.03 per cent in Kolaba and 13.5 per cent in Kolhapur.

The last age group is of 65 and over years. Ratnagiri has 3.9 per cent of this age group in its population, North Satara has 3.3 per cent, South Satara 3.2 per cent and Kolhapur 2.8 per cent.

**Occupation Groups** :-  (Refer App.II Table 9, Map no. 26)

In the Census of 1951, population was enumerated on the basis of five main occupations. They are :- 1) Agricultural Class. 2) Production other than cultivation. 3) Commerce. 4) Transport. 5) Other Services and Miscellaneous sources.
In Maharashtra 11,189,546 people forming 67.9 per cent of the total population depend on Agriculture. Next group of 2,266,193 people forming 14.0 per cent of the total population depends on the other services and Miscellaneous sources. Next largest group of 1,811,927 people forming 11.0 per cent of the total population maintains itself on Production other than cultivation. Then, 878,264 or 5.3 per cent of the people are engaged in Commerce, and 310,620 or 1.8 per cent of the people are engaged in Transport. (Refer map no. 26)

Agricultural Class: Ratnagiri has 10.6 per cent of the total population of Agricultural class in Maharashtra. Then follow East Khandesh and Ahmednagar with 9.2 per cent each, Poona 9.1 per cent, Nasik 8.5 per cent and Sholapur 8.4 per cent. (Refer Map no. 26).

Agricultural class forms 73.3 per cent in the population of South Satara. It is 77.2 per cent in that of West Khandesh, 77.1 per cent in North Satara, 75.6 per cent in Kolhapur and 74.0 per cent in Kolaba. The least percentage of 52.3 is in Poona. Thana has 54.3 per cent and Sholapur has 62.5 per cent.

Other Services and Miscellaneous Sources: Poona has 20.3 per cent of the total population of this category in Maharashtra. It is followed by Thana with 12.9 per cent, Ratnagiri 10.5 per cent, Nasik 8.5 per cent and Sholapur 7.8 per cent. (Refer map no 26).

This category forms 24.2 per cent in the population of Poona. It is 19.5 per cent in Thana, 16.2 per cent in Nasik,
and 14.0 per cent in Ratnagiri. It is only 9.7 per cent in the population of South Satara.

Production other than cultivation: - Poona has 14.7 per cent of the total population of this category in Maharashtra. It is followed by Sholapur with 14.1 per cent, Thana with 12.2 per cent, Ratnagiri with 9.5 per cent and Nasik 9.0 per cent. The least percentage of 3.9 is in South Satara. (Refer map no. 26).

This category forms 16.9 per cent in the population of Sholapur. It is 14.6 per cent in Thana, 13.6 per cent in Poona, 11.4 per cent in Nasik and 10.3 per cent in East Khandesh. It is only 7.0 per cent in the population of South Satara.

Commerce: - Poona has 16.8 per cent of the total population of this category in Maharashtra. Then, Thana has 14.3 per cent, Sholapur 11.5 per cent, East Khandesh 9.1 per cent and Nasik 9.0 per cent. The least percentage of 3.8 is in Kolaba. (Refer map no. 26).

This category forms 8.2 per cent in the population of Thana. It is 7.3 per cent in Poona, 6.7 per cent in Sholapur, and 5.5 per cent in Nasik. The least percentage of 3.5 is in the population of Ratnagiri.

Transport: - Poona has 17.0 per cent of the total population of the people who are engaged in Transport in Maharashtra. It is followed by Thana with 16.3 per cent, Ratnagiri with 15.2 per cent and East Khandesh with 10.9 per cent. The least percentage of 2.2 is in West Khandesh. (Refer map no. 26)
This category forms 3.4 per cent in the population of Thana. It is 2.7 per cent in Ratnagiri, 2.6 per cent in Poona and 2.2 per cent in East Khandesh and Kolaba each. It forms only 0.6 per cent in the population of West Khandesh.

People living in rural areas and engaged in agriculture form 97.0 per cent each of the total such population in Kolaba and Ratnagiri. Then they form 95.8 per cent in that of Ahmednagar, 95.2 per cent in that of West Khandesh and 94.9 per cent in that of South Satara. Agricultural class living in rural areas forms 19.9 per cent in that of South Satara, 15.4 per cent in East Khandesh and 11.8 per cent in Poona.

The category of production other than cultivation in Ratnagiri, has 79.4 per cent living in rural areas. In Kolaba it is 70.9 per cent, in North Satara 70.7 per cent and in Ahmednagar 68.1 per cent. This category in Sholapur has 73.3 per cent people living in urban areas. It is 71.5 per cent in Poona, 65.6 per cent in East Khandesh and 64.2 per cent in Nasik.

65.3 per cent of the people engaged in commerce in Ratnagiri lives in rural areas. Such people form 58.9 per cent in Kolaba, 42.1 per cent in North Satara and 38.9 per cent in Ahmednagar. This category in Poona has 82.9 per cent people living in urban areas. In Thana it is 81.0 per cent, in Sholapur 80.8 per cent, and in East Khandesh 78.8 per cent.

Of the people engaged in Transport in Ratnagiri, 75.5 per cent live in rural areas. In Kolaba it is 69.2 per cent, in South Satara 44.4 per cent and in Ahmednagar 44.3 per cent.
This category in Poona has 87.7 per cent people residing in urban areas. It forms 84.3 per cent in Kolhapur, 72.7 per cent in West Khandesh and 72.3 per cent in Sholapur.

Of the people engaged in Other Services and Miscellaneous Sources in Ratnagiri, 76.8 per cent live in rural areas. It is 67.7 per cent in Kolaba, 52.0 in North Satara and 50.8 per cent in Ahmednagar. This category in Poona has 76.6 per cent people living in urban areas. It is 71.8 per cent in East Khandesh, 67.0 per cent in Sholapur and 67.8 per cent in Thana.
**Talukawise Distribution of Population**

(Refer App.II Table 10, Maps no. 13, 14).

1) **East Khandesh** :- This district is divided into 13 talukas. (See Reference map). Jamner, with 521.1 square miles, is the largest taluka of all, and Bhadgaon, with 196.5 square miles, is the smallest one. However Jalgaon taluka has the largest population of 164,532, whereas Edlabad has the smallest population of 45,766.

The highest density of population is in Jalgaon (515 people), and the lowest in Edlabad (183 people).

Talukas with densities higher than the average of the district (329 people), are Bhusaval (454 people), Amalner (446 people), Erandol (345 people) and Paorchor (341 people).

Those with below the average are Raver (326 people), Chalisgaon (318 people), Yawal (313 people), Chopda (294 people), Bhadgaon (286 people), Jamner (236 people) and Parola (234 people).

Eight talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people) and five talukas have less than that.

2) **West Khandesh** :- It is divided into 10 talukas. The largest one is that of Sakri with 926.8 square miles, and the smallest is that of Taloda with 197.9 square miles. However Dhulia has the largest population of 230,609 people, and Akrani has the smallest population of 22,517 people.

* Reference maps showing talukas in each district separately are provided.*
Scale

1" = 18 miles
The highest density of population is in Taloda (403 people), and the lowest Akkalkuwa (87 people). Talukas with densities higher than the average for the district (212 people), are Dhulia (307 people), Shahada (301 people), Nandurbar (289 people), Sindkheda (288 people) and Nawapur (236 people). Those with below the average are Sakri (142 people), Shirpur (133 people) and Akrani (97 people).

Only three talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and seven talukas have less than that.

3) Nasik: It is divided into 13 talukas. Malegaon, with 754.2 square miles, is the largest taluka and Surgana, with 316.4 square miles, is the smallest one. However Nasik has the largest population of 254,076 people, and Surgana has the smallest population of 43,823 people.

Nasik has the highest density of population (484 people), and Surgana has the lowest density (139 people). Talukas with densities higher than the average for this district (238 people), are Niphad (299 people), Malegaon (279 people), and Igatpuri (255 people). Those with below the average are Nandgaon (221 people), Yeola (216 people), Sinnar (208 people), Chandor (205 people), Baglan (191 people), Dindori (176 people), Kalwan (174 people) and Peint (152 people).

Only two talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people) and eleven talukas have below the average.
4) **Ahmednagar** :- This district is divided into 13 talukas. Parnar, with 690.2 square miles, is the largest taluka, and Shrirampur, with 319.1 square miles, is the smallest one. However Ahmednagar has the largest population of 206,153 people and Jamkhed has the smallest one of 59,397 people.

Shrirampur has the highest density of 424 people per square mile, and Karjat has the lowest one of 133 people. Talukas with densities higher than the average for this district (218 people), are Kopargaon (354 people), Ahmednagar (352 people) and Pathardi (229 people). Those with below the average are Rahuri (211 people), Sangamner (207 people), Sheogaon (202 people), Nevasa (192 people), Jamkhed (176 people), Akola (168 people), and Shrigonda and Parnar (154 people each).

Only three talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people) and ten talukas have below this average.

5) **Sholapur** :- It is divided into 11 talukas. Barsi, with 627.8 square miles, has the largest area, and North Sholapur, with 284.3 square miles, has the smallest area. However North Sholapur has the largest population of 325,632 people, and Mangalvedha has the smallest population of 70,008 people.

North Sholapur has the highest density of population (1,145 people), and Mangalvedha has the lowest density (159 people). Talukas with densities higher than the average for
this district (259 people), are Barshi (298 people) and Akalkot (279 people). Those with below the average are Pandharapur (258 people), Malshiras (209 people), Madha (205 people), South Sholapur (203 people), Mohol (186 people), Sangoda (171 people), and Karmala (161 people).

Only two talukas record densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and nine record below the average.

6) Kolhapur: This district is divided into 11 talukas. Shahuwadi, with 407.5 square miles, has the largest area, and Gadchinglaj, with 191.6 square miles, has the smallest area. However Karvir has the largest population of 266,299 people, and Bavda has the smallest population of 52,922 people.

Karvir has the highest density of population (1,015 people), and Bavda has the lowest density (203 people). Talukas recording densities higher than the average for this district (441 people), are Hatkonagale (721 people), Shiroli (595 people), Gadchinglaj (581 people), Kagal (522 people) and Panhala (441 people). Those recording below the average are Ajra (288 people), Bhudargad (260 people), Radhanagari (253 people) and Shahuwadi (213 people).

Six talukas have densities more than the average for Maharashtra (296 people) and five talukas have below the average.

7) South Satara: This is divided into 6 talukas. Jath, with 873.7 square miles, has the largest area and Shirala, with 246.0 square miles, has the smallest area. However, Miraj has the largest population of 285,166 people and -
Shirala has the smallest population of 79,416 people.

Walva has the highest density of population (579 people), and Jath has the lowest density (124 people).

Talukas with densities higher than the average for this district (301 people), are Miraj (467 people), Tasgaon (379 people), and Shirala (323 people). That with below the average is Khanapur (217 people).

Four talukas record densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and only two record below that average.

8) North Satara: There are 11 talukas in this district. Man, with 556.0 square miles, has the largest area, Mahabaleshwar, with 87.3 square miles, has the smallest area. However Karad has the largest population of 207,913 people and Khandala has the smallest population of 48,095 people.

Karad has the highest density of population (512 people) and Man has the lowest density (150 people).

Talukas with densities higher than the average for this district (292 people), are Satara (460 people), Wai (385 people) and Koregaon (317 people). Those with below the average are Patan (286 people), Shatav (258 people), Khandala (237 people), Mahabaleshwar (234 people), Phaltan (219 people) and Jaoli (206 people).

Only four talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people) and seven talukas have below the average.
9) Poona :- It is divided into 14 talukas. Sirur, with 610.5 square miles, has the largest area, and Poona City, with 67.3 square miles, has the smallest area. However Poona City taluka has the largest population of 594,083 people, and Velhe has the smallest population of 27,391 people.

Poona City taluka has the highest density of population (8,762 people), and Velhe has the lowest density (140 people). Haveli (351 people) is the only other taluka having density higher than the average for the district (324 people). Those with below this average are Junnar (263 people), Baramati (249 people), Ambegaon (246 people), Purandhar (242 people), Mawal (238 people), Khed (234 people), Bhor (227 people), Mulsi (195 people), Indapur (192 people), Dhond (173 people) and Sirur (169 people).

Only two talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and twelve talukas have below the average.

10) Thana :- It is divided into 13 talukas. Shahapur, with 635.3 square miles, has the largest area; and there are two talukas - Thana and Borivali - with the smallest area of 84.2 square miles each. However Kalyan has the largest population of 273,261 people and Mokhada has the smallest population of 39,140 people.

Borivali has the highest density of population (1,725 people), and Shahapur has the lowest density (156 people). Talukas with densities higher than the average for this
district (404 people), are Thana (1,530 people), Kalyan (980 people), Bassein (657 people), Umbargaon (496 people) and Bhivandi (431 people). Those with below the average are Dahanu (353 people), Palghar (352 people), Jawhar (217 people), Murbad (201 people), Wada (194 people) and Mokhada (162 people).

Eight talukas have densities more than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and only five have below the average.

11) Kolaba: This district is divided into 14 talukas. Mangaon, with 362.7 square miles, has the largest area, and Uran, with 75.2 square miles, has the smallest area. Mangaon, again, has the largest population of 107,633 people, and Sudhagad has the smallest population of 33,066 people.

Uran has the highest density of 629 people per square mile, and Sudhagad has the lowest density of 204 people per square mile. Talukas with densities higher than the average for this district (335 people), are Alibag (538 people), Shrivardhan (486 people), Panvel (424 people), Panvel (349 people) and Mahad (341 people). Those with below the average are Murud (300 people), Mangaon (297 people), Karjat (291 people), Mhasla (277 people), Poladpur (275 people), Khalapur (265 people) and Roha (259 people).

Eight talukas record densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and six talukas record below the average.
12) **Ratnagiri** :- This district has the largest number (15) of talukas in Maharashtra. Savantvadi has the largest area of 515.9 square miles, and Vengurla has the smallest area of 126.6 square miles. However Ratnagiri has the largest population of 159,377 people, and Guhagar has the smallest population of 87,886 people.

Vengurla has the highest density of population of 626 people per square mile, and Savantvadi has the lowest density of 241 people per square mile. Talukas with densities higher than the average for this district (344 people), are Malvan (507 people), Ratnagiri (446 people), Dapoli (395 people), Guhagar (363 people), Chiplun (352 people), Deogad and Kankavali (345 people each). Those with densities below the average are Khed (324 people), Mandangad (305 people), Sangmeshwar (297 people), Rajapur (296 people) and Lanja (275 people).

Thirteen talukas have densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (296 people), and only two have below the average.
Changes in Population (1921 to 1951).

Percentage Increase :- (Refer Table 11 of App.II, Map no.21).

Considering the percentage increase in the district populations in the decade 1921 to 1931, it is observed that Ahmednagar has the highest increase of 34.8 per cent. Then, West Khandesh has 20.3 per cent, Nasik 19.4 per cent, and South Sataara 18.7 per cent. The least increase of 10.4 per cent is in Thana. No district records a decline in population.

In the next decade of 1931 to 1941, the highest increase of 18.1 per cent has been registered by West Khandesh. Ahmednagar records 15.9 per cent, Poona 15.4 per cent and South Sataara 14.9 per cent. The least increase of 6.0 per cent is in Ratnagiri. Again no district records a decline in population.

In the last decade of 1941 to 1951, the highest increase of 45.4 per cent is in Thana. Poona registers 32.5 per cent, Nasik 26.8 per cent and Ahmednagar 25.6 per cent. The least increase of 5.2 per cent is in Ratnagiri. Still again, no district records a decline in population.

Population Density :- (Refer Table no.12 of App.II).

Considering the district population densities at the three Censuses of 1921, 1931 and 1941, it is observed that in 1921 Kolhapur recorded the highest density of 279 people per square mile and Ahmednagar recorded the lowest density of 109 people. Districts having densities higher
than the average for Maharashtra (194 people) were Ratnagiri (271 people), Kolaba (250 people), East Khandesh (236 people), Thana (217 people), and North Satara (195 people). Those with densities below the average were Poona (183 people), South Satara (174 people), Sholapur (160 people), Nasik (140 people), and West Khandesh (119 people).

In 1931, the highest density of 319 people per square mile was again in Kolhapur and the lowest density of 143 people per square mile was in West Khandesh. Districts with densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (224 people) were - Ratnagiri (306 people), Kolaba (279 people), East Khandesh - (264 people) and Thana (239 people). Those with densities below the average were North Satara (222 people), Poona (212 people), South Satara (206 people), Sholapur (188 people), Nasik (167 people) and Ahmednagar (147 people).

In 1941, the highest density of 366 people per square mile was again in Kolhapur and the lowest density of 170 people was in West Khandesh and Ahmednagar. Districts with densities higher than the average for Maharashtra (252 people) were Ratnagiri - (324 people), Kolaba (297 people), East Khandesh (291 people) and Thana (268 people). Those with densities below the average were North Satara (251 people), Poona (244 people), South Satara (237 people), Sholapur (216 people) and Nasik (187 people).

Hence it is clear that the district of Kolhapur has, since 1921, maintained the highest density of population. West Khandesh has, equally consistently, recorded the lowest density of population except in 1931 when Ahmednagar recorded the lowest population density.

...0000....