

Population Growth of Kaithal: A Geographical Analysis



Satish Kumar Dayma

Research Scholar,
Deptt. of Geography,
University of Rajasthan,
Jaipur, Rajasthan



Jyoti Kaushik

Research Scholar,
Deptt. of Geography,
Government College for Girls,
Sector – 14, Gurugram

Abstract

The Kaithal district is bounded Kurukshetra district in the north-east. Kaithal town is located 48 Kilometers west of Kurukshetra. The main town is picturesquely situated on the bank of an extensive artificial lake called the "Bidkiya Lake". It is linked with surrounding important towns by metalled roads viz Karnal (60 Kilometers), Jind (55 kilometers), Kurukshetra (48 kilometers) and Ambala (80 Kilometers). The Kurukshetra-Narwana branch railway-line also passes through this town. The town is well known for the several sites of saltpeter which is of economic importance. The ordinary potters clay which is a common feature in the alluvial plains is used for the manufacture of earthen wares and bricks. The main town is situated on an elevated land, but it is surrounded by several ponds and mounds in the west and north-west including and extensive "Bidkiya Lake" covering the major potential area in the vicinity of the town. During rainy season due to heavy rains these ponds over spill and create acute flood problem in the town. But the Kaithal drain in the north and Amin drain in the south although save the town from flooding. Population of Kaithal district increase by year to year according to census of India, 2011. Urban population of Haryana recorded more than fifteen times increase; from 5.7 lakh in 1901 to 88.2 lakh in 2011. A large part of increase in urban population is attributed to emergence of new towns to take the total number of towns to 154 in 2011 as compared to 54 in 1901. Though, the small towns (having population of less than 20,000 persons) predominate in the hierarchy of towns, but the proportion of urban population residing in these towns is on continuous decrease from 37.34 percent in 1951 to 9.12 percent in 2011. By comparison, about three-fourth (68.02 percent) of the total urban population of the state is living in the cities as per 2001 census.

Keywords: Bidkiya Lake, Metalled Roads, Economic, Population Growth, Manufacture, Flood, Urban Population

Introduction

Kaithal is said to have been named from the Sanskrit word "Kapisthala" which means the "abode of monkeys". There is a pond to the east of the town called "Anjanikaatilla" where Anjani the mother of Hanuman the monkeys God is believed to have given birth to him. The town itself is said to have been founded by Yudhishtira in commemoration of his victory over the Kauravas in the battle of Mahabharata. It occupied an important strategic position during the early Hindu period. Razia Sultan is said to have fought her last battle nearby in which she was killed. Akbar renovated the town and built a fort here. In 1676 the town fell in the hands of Bhai Desu Singh, a Sikh Chieftain whose descendants, the Bhais of Kaithal ruled over the area till the territory was annexed to the British government in 1843.

Statement of the Problem

Kaithal is a city and a municipal council in Kaithal district in the Indian state of Haryana. Kaithal was previously a part of Karnal District and later, Kurukshetra District until 1 November 1989, when it became the headquarters of the Kaithal District of Haryana. At the time of creation of Haryana state, "Kaithal" was a Tehsil – cum – sub-divisional headquarter of Karnal district. In 1973, it was included in Kurukshetra district. In the Census year, 2011 Kaithal district's population increased as compared to previous census year. In the year 2011 the population of Kaithal District is 1,074,304 which was 13.55% growth rate of the compared Census year 2001, which population was 946,134.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study trends in population growth.
2. To study growth and density of the population.
3. To study sex-ratio and literacy rate of the population.

Data Base

The study entails the collection of secondary data from the different census volumes and different govt. publications.

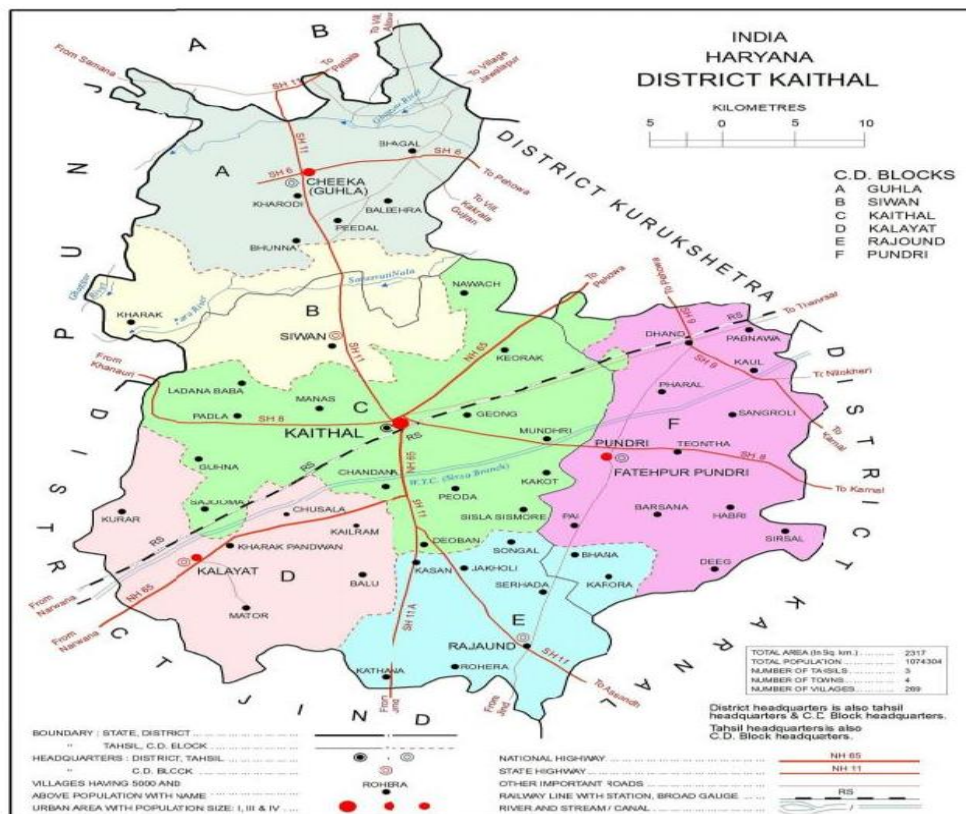
Methodology

Simple mathematical calculations have been used to calculate population growth rate and density.

Secondary data have been used and literature was consulted through internet surfing.

Location of District

Kaithal is located at 29.8015 degree north latitude and 76.3996 degree east longitude. It has an average elevation of 220 metres (721 feet).

Figure: Location of Kaithal District

Kaithal district is bounded by the Punjab in the north and in north west, Jind district in the south west, district Panipat and Karnal in the south-east and the Kurukshetra district in the north east. Kaithal town is located 48 Kilometers west of Kurukshetra.

Divisions

There are 277 villages and 253 Panchayats in Kaithal districts. Kaithal district consists of two sub-divisions two tehsils namely Kaithal and Guhla and five sub-tehsils namely Pundri, Rajaund, Dhand, Kalayat and Siwan.

Population growth of Kaithal**Table 1: Population Growth Trend in Kaithal**

Year	Population	Percentage of Growth Rate
1951	28422
1961	34890	22.76
1971	45199	29.55
1981	50385	29.71
1991	71142	21.85
2001	946131	21.02
2011	1074304	13.55

Source : Census of India, 2011

This table shows that the population of Kaithal town has increased, almost by four times from

1951 to 2001. In 1951 its population was 28,422 persons, which in 1961 reached upto 34,890 persons i.e. increase of 22.76%. During 1961-1971 it increased to 45,199 persons i.e. an increase of 29.55% and during decade 1971-1981 it registered an increase of 29.71%. According to 1981 census it had a population of 50,385 persons. According to 1991 census, it registered an increase of 21.85% and had attained a population of 71,142 persons. According to 2001 census, Kaithal has attained a population of 946131 persons with an increase of 21.02%. According to 2011 census, Kaithal has attained a population of 1074304 persons with an increase of 13.55%.

The primary factors responsible for this tremendous increase in the population are immigration of surrounding villages of the district for better facilities and job opportunities, the influx of immigrant from Punjab during the days of terrorism and various small and medium scale agro-based industries, upgradation of its administrative status at district headquarter with all Government and Semi-Government establishment, acquisition and development of the residential sectors by HUDA, development of new grain market and installation of sugar mill, etc.

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Population Density

Population density is a measurement of population per unit area or unit volume ; it is a quantity of type number density. It is frequently applied to living organisms, and most of the time to humans.

Population density is the number of people per unit of area, usually quoted per square kilometer or square mile. Commonly this may be calculated for a county, city, country, another territory or the entire world.

Table 2 : Population Density in State and District

Name	Area Square Km	Population In Persons	Density Persons / Sq. Km.
Haryana	44212	25351462	573
Kaithal	2317	1074304	464

Source: Census of India, 2011

This table shows that the population of Haryana State is 25351462 persons, Area is 44212 square Km. which results that in Haryana State The population density is 573 persons/Sq.Km. Like this the population of Kaithal district in Haryana is 1074304, Area is 464 persons / sq. km, and area of Kaithal district is 2317 Square Km.

Sex Ratio

Sex Ratio is an important indicator of health and social status of women in society which has direct and indirect bearing on other key indicators like child mortality. Thus, the sex ratio for various age groups in the State and district has been presented in the table and discussed below.

Table 3 : Sex Ratio in State and District

Table 6: Year Wise Male-Female Literacy Rate in Kaithal

Category	Literacy Rate						
	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Male	27.16	40.40	45.96	56.38	64.13	69.20	77.98
Female	8.86	15.35	21.97	29.76	39.29	47.30	59.24
Total	16.38	29.56	37.59	47.56	55.67	59.00	69.15

Source: Census of India, 2011

This table shows Literacy Rate of Kaithal district in the different years. In 1951, literacy rate of Kaithal district was 16.38% which increase year by year in the year 2011 literacy rate was 69.15% which was increased rapidly year by year since 1951.

Conclusions

The present paper concludes that overall population of Kaithal has been increased about 13.55% according to 2011 census as compared to 2001 census. Overall sex ratio of Kaithal has been increased from 853 during 2001 to 881 during the year 2011. The literacy rate of Kaithal was 69.15 during 2011, which is slightly higher than the literacy rate of Haryana (67.91%). The comparison of 2001 census and 2011 census shows an improvement in overall literacy rate by 10.15%. Many policies and programs for qualitative improvement of primary education in Haryana are started, such as operation black board, improvement in Science Education, Regional Institute of English, Audio Visual Education, etc. Recently various policies and programs to improve information and communication technology education are started.

Area	Sex Ratio	
	2001	2011
Haryana	861	879
Kaithal	853	881

According to this table, Sex Ratio of Haryana state in the Census year, 2001 was 861 females per thousand of Males which was increased in the Census year, 2011 by 879. Sex Ratio of Kaithal district in the Census year, 2001 was 853 which was positively increased in the Census year, 2011.

Literacy Rate

Literacy rate is an important indicator of the socio – economic status of the area. The status of overall literacy rate along with male and female literacy in state and district has been shown in the table and discussed below.

Table 5 : Literacy Rate in State and District

Area	Literacy Rate 2001		
	Male	Female	Total
Haryana	78.49	55.73	67.91
Kaithal	69.20	47.30	59.00

Source: Census of India, 2001

The literacy rate of Haryana district according to census of India, 2001 was 67.91% in which Male literacy rate was 78.49% and females literacy rate was 55.73%. According to Census of India, 2001 literacy rate of Kaithal district is 59.00% in which male literacy rate is 69.20% and female literacy rate is 47.30%.

Recommendations

1. Kaithal town faces chronic problem of flooding. To make the plan effective certain measures have been taken in the plan proposals.
2. The proposed bye pass V-1 with 75 metres width from Jind road to Ambala road and from Ambala road to Guhla road (in the north) and V-3 with 45 meters width from Guhla road to Jind road in the west will be raised and act as flood embankment.
3. Kaithal town suffers from poor underground water supply. The public Health Department has already prepared a canal based water supply scheme for Kaithal.
4. The town also faces the acute problems of planned and organized markets for auto repair shop, transport agency, fodder market, vegetable market and additional extension of existing new grain market. For these markets specific provisions have been made in the plan.
5. The development plan has been prepared in such a manner so that composite integrated development of the old town an proposed urbanisation is possible with a suitable road system. 33 sectors of varying sizes have been carved out.

6. Wholesale market and warehouses have been proposed along the Jind road in view of the accessibility to transport facilities.

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