



## GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION IN RAIGAD DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA: A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

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### Abstract

*Growth refers to change in number of people in habiting in a territory during a specific period of time. It may be in positive or negative form. According to census bureau urban area is an area in which 2500 or more people live. Population growth of an area depends upon various aspects such as economic development, social awakening cultural background, historical events and political setup of an area. Population and the natural resources are the most important aspects of regional development. In this context growth of urban population is an important aspect. The present paper is based on secondary data, which is collected from district socio-economic abstract of Raigad district. The present paper examines the wide disparities in the Growth of urban population of Raigad district at tahsil level. It is observed that the average growth of Urban population from 1991-2001 was 44.30 percent which decreased to 43.78 in 2011. It is found that Roha tahsil had highest urban population growth rate (131.64 percent) during 1991-2001 and Shrivardhan tahsil had the lowest urban growth (2.79 per cent). It is also observed that in 1991-2001 decade Alibag tahsil had negative urban growth rate. i.e. -19.57 per cent. In the study area Panvel tahsil has highest urban growth (143.60 per cent) during 2001-2011, followed by Uran (122.86 per cent) and Alibag (113.82 per cent) respectively.*

**Key-Words:** *Growth, Urban Population, spatial disparity.*

### Introduction

The growth of population is expressed as percentage of increase or decrease in population over previous census and hence this is generally called as decadal growth rate of population or in other words the decadal growth rate of population indicates the percentage addition of population to the previous census (Census, 2011). The population of a region is never stagnant it changes through time. The concept of growth of population is often used to denote the change in the number of inhabitants of a territory during a specific period of time, irrespective of the fact whether the change is positive or negative (Chandana and Sidhu, 1980). Any change in population number is called growth. If this changes is in the negative direction. i.e. if it is decreases, the growth is negative and when the change is in positive direction. i.e. if the population increases the growth is positive. The growth of population is depends on various factors such as birth rate, death rate and migration.

This paper reveals the tehsilwise growth rate of urban population in Raigad district during 1991-2011. In Raigad district the growth of urban population increased from 328694 to 534835 during 1991 to 2001. i.e. total increased urban population in that decade was observed 206141. The total urban population of the district was observed 36.83 per cent in 2011. The results have been discussed with the help of population growth rate which refers to the change in population growth rate over a period of time.

**Study Area:**

Raigad district is situated in the western part of Maharashtra. This is a coastal district situated on the west coast. It is spread between 17<sup>0</sup>51' to 19<sup>0</sup>10' north latitudes and 72<sup>0</sup> 47' to 73<sup>0</sup> 40' in east longitude. It is surrounded by Thane district to the North and Ratnagiri district to the South. Pune district lies to its east and Satara district to its south-east. On the west the district is bounded by the Arabian Sea. The headquarter of the district is located at Alibag, a coastal town with urban population of 41686 as per the 2011 census. This headquarter is well connected by road to Mumbai, the main commercial centre of the country and other parts of the state. Konkan Railway passes through the district.

The district has an area of 7152.00 sq.km. While the area of the district accounts for 2.3 percent of the total area of the state, the density of population is 309 people per sq.km. Among the 36 districts of the state, Raigad district ranks 25<sup>th</sup> in terms of area, 18<sup>th</sup> in terms of population and 9<sup>th</sup> in terms of density.

**Objectives:**

The main objective of this paper is to find out the tehsilwise growth of urban population in Raigad district during 1991-2011.

**Database and Methodology**

The present study is based on secondary data which is collected from socio-economic review of Raigad district, statistical abstract of Raigad district and Maharashtra state and census of India 2011. Other sources of secondary data have been utilized such as Internet, Books, Published research articles etc. This research is based on the tehsilwise census data from 1991 to 2011 of district reports. The data has been analysed for total growth of urban population change in percentage. The positive growth rate indicates that the population is increasing, while a negative growth ratio indicates the population decreasing.

The secondary data has been collected and computed by recent research techniques and the results have been brought through tables and with the help of Arc GIS software prepared maps. Urban growth rate (UGR) has been calculated during a period of time. The changes in urban population growth rate are measured with the following formula.

$$UGR = \frac{P_2 - P_1}{P_1} \times 100$$

Where, UGR = Urban Growth Rate

P2 = The urban population of x tahsil in the later decade.

P1 = The urban population of same tahsil in initial decade.

**ANALYSIS AND RESULTS****GROWTH RATE:**

Population growth rate is the average change in population as a result of the surplus of birth over the death in addition to the net migration in the country in a specified period of time. (Thorat S.D.2012). The growth rate of population has a great significance for the researcher to understand the various social and economic problems. The growth of urban population has been taken into consideration for the last two decades i.e.1991-2011.

The table No.1 reveals that the trend of urban population growth rates vary from tahsil to tahsil in Raigad district during the span of 10 years (1991-2001). It is found that in the urban population growth rates there are incredible ups and down during the span of ten years (1991-2001). Highest growth of urban population during 1991-2001 was Roha tahsil (131.64 percent) followed by Mangaon tahsil(114.92 per cent) and 89.55 percent in Karjat tahsil. In

this decade growth rate declined in Alibag tahsil i.e.( -19.57 per cent). It is also found that Tala tahsil has no urban population during 1991-2001.

**Table-1**  
**Raigad District**  
**Growth of Urban Population (1991-2001)**

| Sr. No.               | Name of Tahsil | Urban Population |               | Growth rate in % |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
|                       |                | 1991             | 2001          |                  |
| 1                     | Uran           | 24178            | 31174         | 28.94            |
| 2                     | Panvel         | 109180           | 204336        | 87.16            |
| 3                     | Karjat         | 23956            | 45409         | 89.55            |
| 4                     | Khalapur       | 45093            | 74197         | 64.54            |
| 5                     | Pen            | 21588            | 30201         | 39.90            |
| 6                     | Alibag         | 24241            | 19496         | -19.57           |
| 7                     | Murud          | 12111            | 12552         | 3.64             |
| 8                     | Roha           | 14827            | 34345         | 131.64           |
| 9                     | Sudhagad       | 6178             | 8172          | 32.28            |
| 10                    | Mangaon        | 6588             | 14159         | 114.92           |
| 11                    | Tala           | 0                | 0             | 0.00             |
| 12                    | Shrivardhan    | 14774            | 15186         | 2.79             |
| 13                    | Mhasla         | 7318             | 8763          | 19.75            |
| 14                    | Mahad          | 18662            | 31548         | 69.05            |
| 15                    | Poladpur       | 0                | 5297          | 0.00             |
| <b>Total District</b> |                | <b>328694</b>    | <b>534835</b> |                  |

Source : District Census Handbook, Raigad. 2001-2011

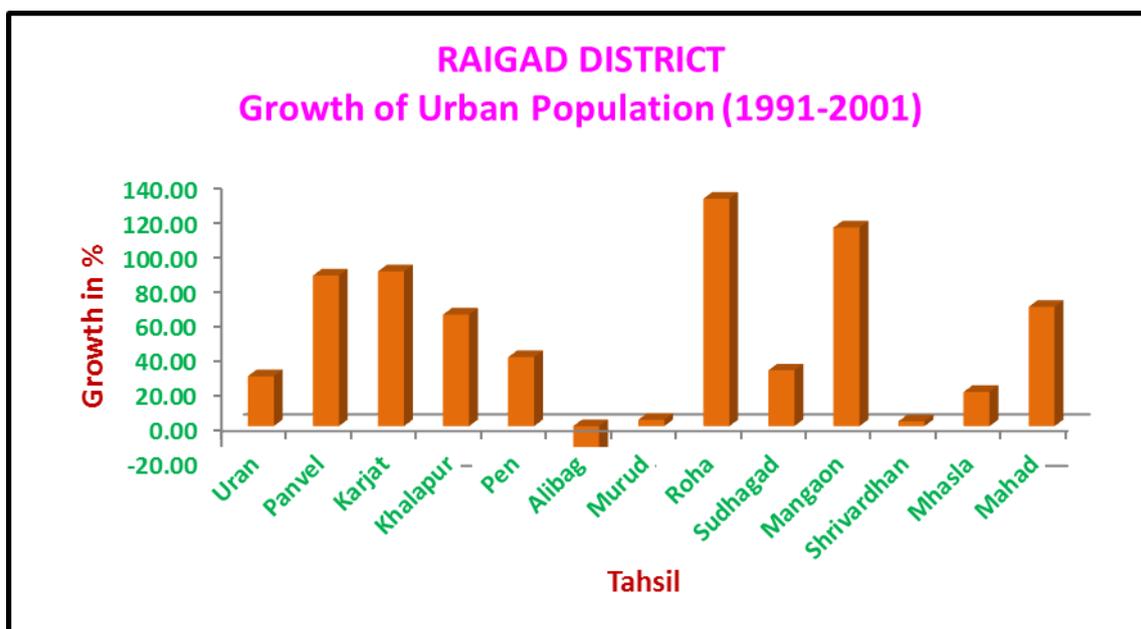


Fig.1 Growth of Urban Population, Raigad. 1991-2001

**Table-2**  
**Raigad District**  
**Growth of Urban Population (2001-2011)**

| Sr. No.        | Name of Tahsil | Urban Population |        | Growth rate in % |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|--------|------------------|
|                |                | 2001             | 2011   |                  |
| 1              | Uran           | 31174            | 69475  | 122.86           |
| 2              | Panvel         | 204336           | 497759 | 143.60           |
| 3              | Karjat         | 45409            | 52485  | 15.58            |
| 4              | Khalapur       | 74197            | 95964  | 29.34            |
| 5              | Pen            | 30201            | 46630  | 54.40            |
| 6              | Alibag         | 19496            | 41686  | 113.82           |
| 7              | Murud          | 12552            | 12216  | -2.68            |
| 8              | Roha           | 34345            | 47335  | 37.82            |
| 9              | Sudhagad       | 8172             | 9176   | 12.29            |
| 10             | Mangaon        | 14159            | 18537  | 30.92            |
| 11             | Tala           | 0                | 0      | 0.00             |
| 12             | Shrivardhan    | 15186            | 22075  | 45.36            |
| 13             | Mhasla         | 8763             | 9679   | 10.45            |
| 14             | Mahad          | 31548            | 41236  | 30.71            |
| 15             | Poladpur       | 5297             | 5944   | 12.21            |
| Total District |                | 534835           | 970197 |                  |

Source : District Census Handbook, Raigad. 2001-2011

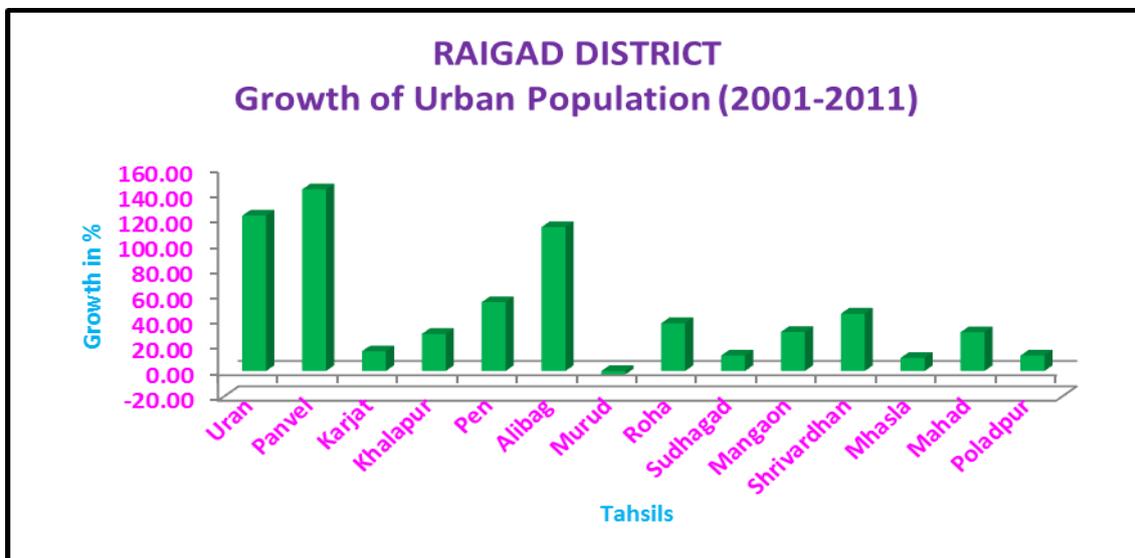


Fig.1 Growth of Urban Population, Raigad. 2001-2011

The table No.2 shows the growth of urban population during 2001-2011 decade. It also reveals that the highest urban growth is found in Panvel tahsil (143.60 per cent), followed by Uran (122.86 per cent) and Alibag (113.82 per cent) during this decade. In Murud tahsil the urban growth rate declined up to -2.68 %.

**1. High Urban Growth Rate (Above 100 Percent):**

During 1991-2001, the highest growth rate was found in Roha tahsil (131.64 per cent), followed by Mangaon (114.92 per cent), Karjat (89.55 per cent) and also Panvel (87.16 per cent). It was also found that in 2001-2011, there was highest urban growth rate in Panvel tahsil (143.60 percent) followed by Uran and Alibag tahsil i.e.

122.86 and 113.82 per cent. Panvel, Uran and Alibag tahsils have High urban growth rate due to development of transportation, Industrialization and also development in economy particularly in agriculture, Infrastructural development during 2001-2011.

## 2. Medium Urban Growth Rate (50 to 100 Percent):

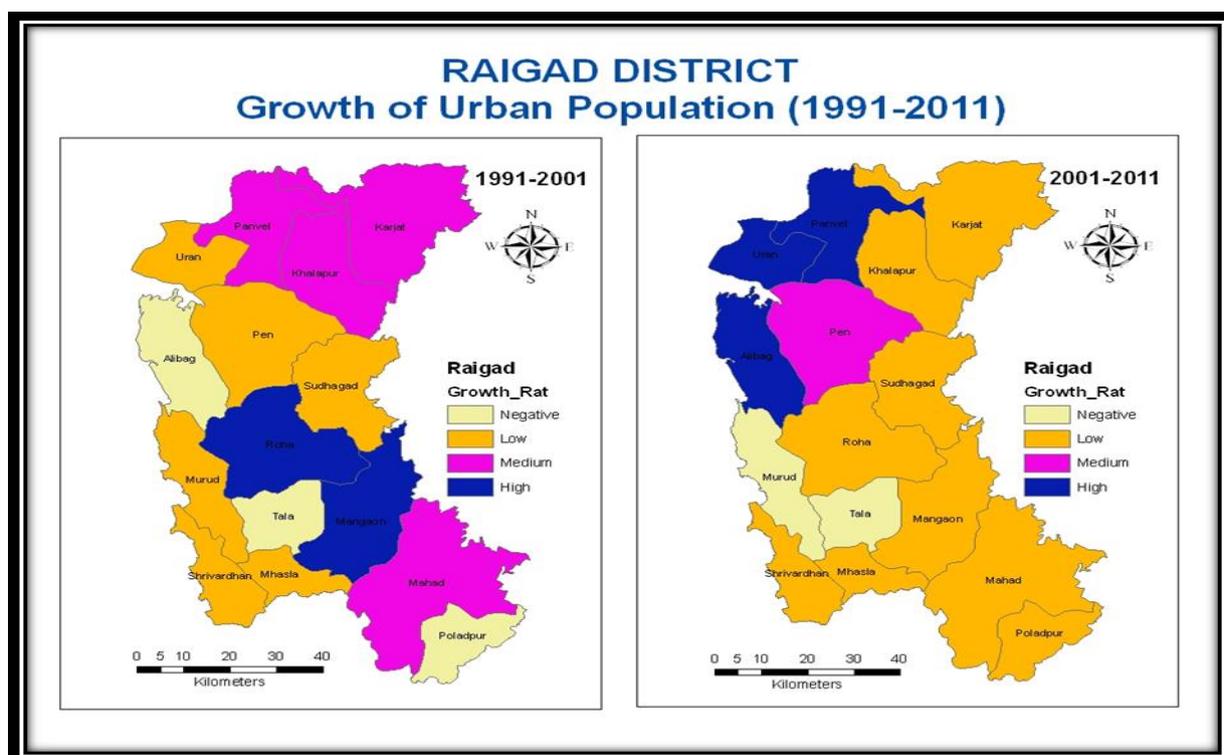
In this category there are four tahsils included. Karjat, Panvel, Mahad and Khalapur tahsils. These tahsils have found urban growth rates like 89.55, 87.16, 69.05 and 64.54 per cent during the period of 1991-2001 respectively. In these tahsils urban population has increased from 1991 to 2001 and also 2001 to 2011. The only Pen tahsil has observed medium growth rate during 2001-2011. Pen had 54.40 percent growth of urban population during 2001-2011.

## 3. Low Urban Growth Rate (1 to 50 Per cent):

Uran, Pen, Sudhagad, Murud, Shrivardhan, Mhasla tahsils belong to this category. Pen tahsil represents 39.90 per cent urban growth rate while Sudhagad represents 32.28 per cent, Uran shows 28.94 percent, Mhasla represents 19.7 per cent, Murud depicts 3.64 per cent and Shrivardhan shows 2.79 percent of urban growth rate respectively during 1991-2001. In 2001-2011 urban growth rate represented by Shrivardhan was 45.36 per cent, Roha 37.82 per cent, Mangaon 30.92 per cent, Mahad 30.71 per cent, Khalapur 29.34 percent, Karjat 15.58 percent, Sudhagad 12.29 percent, Poladpur 12.21 percent and Mhasla 10.45 per cent urban growth respectively.

## 4. Negative Urban Growth Rate (Below 1Percent):

Alibag tahsil belongs to this category. Alibag tahsil represents -19.57 percent urban growth rate during 1991-2001 and Murud tahsil represents -2.68 per cent during 2001-2011. These tahsil have several problems like unemployment, educational status and most important cause is migration towards Mumbai and Ratnagiri for Employment.



### Summary and Conclusion:

Raigad District is a coastal district situated on the west-coast. The headquarter of the district is located at Alibag which is a coastal town. It is well connected by roads to Mumbai. Total coastal area of Maharashtra is 720 km out of which 240 km coastal area is only Raigad district. Geographically the district is divided into three belts i.e. Western coastal belt, Central belt of fertile & plain land and Eastern part of district has mostly hilly ranges of Sahyadri. Total population of Raigad district is 26,34,200 peoples found in 2011 census, out of that 9,70,197 population lives in urban area, while 5,34,835 population lives in urban areas during 2001. It means that total urban population increased during 2001-2011 i.e. 4,35,362 (81.40 per cent). The growth of urban population in Raigad district has declined two decades i.e. 7.88 per cent respectively. It is found that there is high urban growth rate during 1991-2001 period in Roha & Mangaon tahsil i.e. 131.64 per cent and 114.92 per cent, due to highly fertile soil and most of the plain area. But in 2001-2011 is found the high urban population in Panvel, Uran and Alibag tahsils i.e. 143.60, 122.86 and 113.82 percent respectively. Panvel, Uran and Alibag tahsils have observed high urban growth rate due to increased no. of Industries, Tourism centres, socio economic development and also educational development in these tahsils.

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