

# Population Explosion in Urban Kolkata and It's Surroundings

## Abstract

Kolkata formerly culcutta is the capital of the Indian state of West Bengal. As of 2011, the city had 4.5 million residents; the urban agglomeration, which comprises the city and its suburbs, was home to approximately 14.1 million, making it the third-most populous metropolitan area in India. According to provisional results of the 2011 national census, Kolkata district, which occupies an area of 185 km<sup>2</sup> (71 sq mi), had a population of 4,486,679; its population density was 24,252/km<sup>2</sup>. Kolkata's metropolitan area is ranked 3rd in India after Mumbai and Delhi. Literacy rate in Kolkata at 87.14% .77.68% of the total population in Kolkata are Hindus, thus making it a dominant religion in Kolkata followed by Muslims (20.27%) and Christians (0.88%). Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and other religions forms the remainder of the population in Kolkata. As of 2003, about one-third of the population, or 1.5 million people, lived in 3,500 unregistered squatter-occupied and 2,011 registered slums. According to the 2005 National Family Health Survey, around 14% of the households in Kolkata were poor.

**Keywords:** Kolkata Metropolitan, Riverine Port, Militarization, East India Company, Urban Population, Cencus, Literacy.

## Introduction

The Kolkata metropolitan area also includes portions of North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Nadia, and Hooghly districts. See: Urban structure.

Kolkata (Bengali) formerly Calcutta (Bengali) is the capital of the Indian state of West Bengal. Located on the east bank of the Hooghly river, it is the principal commercial, cultural, and educational centre of East India, while the Port of Kolkata is India's oldest operating port and its sole major riverine port. As of 2011, the city had 4.5 million residents; the urban agglomeration, which comprises the city and its suburbs, was home to approximately 14.1 million, making it the third-most populous metropolitan area in India.

In the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, the three villages that predated Kolkata were ruled by the Nawab of Bengal under Mughal suzerainty. After the Nawab granted the East India Company a trading licence in 1690, [13] the area was developed by the Company into an increasingly fortified trading post. Nawab Siraj ud-Daulah retook Kolkata in 1756 after the Company started evading taxes and due to increasing militarization of the fort. The East India Company retook it in the following year, and defeated the Nawab of Bengal (Mir Qasim) in 1764 when he tried to squeeze them out of the region. Per the treaty signed between the company and the Mughal emperor after the battle, the East India company gained the right to collect revenue from the province, thus becoming the imperial tax collector. In 1793 the East India company was strong enough and to abolish Nizamat (local rule), and assumed full sovereignty of the region. Under the Company rule and later under the British Raj, Kolkata served as the capital of British-held territories in India until 1911, when its perceived geographical disadvantages, combined with growing nationalism in Bengal, led to a shift of the capital to New Delhi. The city was a centre of the Indian independence movement; it remains a hotbed of contemporary state politics. Following Indian independence in 1947, Kolkata—which was once the centre of modern Indian education, science, culture, and politics—witnessed several decades of economic stagnation.

## Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this research is that to aware the students of social sciences about the history, culture, education and demographic condition .The city has a long historical period with a different rule and culture.

In the research we got the knowledge of past and present with the future prospectous about the social and economic development. The



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demographic ,sex ratio,literacy and the economic differences make it a huge market for MNCs.By the different census we got the idea of future that how the city will develop and how the people will live. The population, Hindus has the maximum number and the main language is Bangali then marwaris, biharis, Muslims,Jain's,Tamil etc.but the they live with integrity and make a whole India.

As a nucleus of the 19th- and early 20th-century Bengal Renaissance and a religiously and ethnically diverse centre of culture in Bengal and India, Kolkata has local traditions in drama, art, film, theatre, and literature. Many people from Kolkata—among them several Nobel laureates—have contributed to the arts, the sciences, and other areas. Kolkata culture features idiosyncrasies that include distinctively close-knit neighbourhoods (paras) and freestyle intellectual exchanges (adda). West Bengal's share of the Bengali film industry is based in the city, which also hosts venerable cultural institutions of national importance, such as the Academy of Fine A

A resident of Kolkata is referred to via the demonym Calcuttan or Kolkatan. According to provisional results of the 2011 national census, Kolkata district, which occupies an area of 185 km<sup>2</sup> (71 sq mi), had a population of 4,486,679; its population density was 24,252/km<sup>2</sup> (62,810/sq mi).This represents a decline of 1.88% during the decade 2001–11. The sex ratio is 899 females per 1000 males—lower than the national average.The ratio is depressed by the influx of working males from surrounding rural areas, from the rest of West Bengal, and from neighbouring states, mainly Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Orissa; these men commonly leave their families behind.Kolkata's literacy rate of 87.14% exceeds the all-India average of 74%.

The urban agglomeration had a population of 14,112,536 in 2011. Bengali Hindus form the majority of Kolkata's population; Marwaris,Biharis and Muslims compose large minorities.Among Kolkata's smaller communities are Chinese, Tamils, Nepalis, Odias, Telugus,Assamese, Gujaratis, Anglo-Indians, Greeks, Armenians, Tibetans, Maharashtrians, Konkarnis, Malayalees, Punjabis, and Parsis.The number of Armenians, Greeks, Jews, and other foreign-origin groups declined during the 20th century.The Jewish population of Kolkata was 5,000 during World War II, but declined after Indian independence and the establishment of Israel; by 2013, there were 25 Jews in the city. India's sole Chinatown is in eastern Kolkata; once home to 20,000 ethnic Chinese, its population dropped to around 2,000 as of 2009 as a result of multiple factors including repatriation and denial of Indian citizenship following the 1962 Sino-Indian War, and immigration to foreign countries for better economic opportunities. The Chinese community traditionally worked in the local tanning industry and ran Chinese restaurants.

According to recent estimates, Kolkata city is currently home to over 5 million people in India. Its Metropolitan Area population is estimated to be 14,592,415 in 2016.

With a metropolitan population of over 14.59 million, Kolkata is one of the densely populated cities in India. Know more on current population, sex ratio, literacy rate and religion in Kolkata.

**India Guide Population of India Population of Kolkata 2016**

Population of Kolkata	
Current Population of Kolkata in 2016	5,017,208 (5 million)
Population in 2015	4.8 million
Population of Kolkata in 2014	4.7 million
Literacy Rate in Kolkata	87.14%
Rank	7th

**Population of Kolkata City**

The metropolitan city of Kolkata presents a perfect picture of modern India along with traditional art and culture. The city which has witnessed many ups and downs in the past, still presents a true spirit of Bengali culture. Kolkata or cultural capital of India, as it is better known is currently home to over 5 million people. The Population of Kolkata metropolitan area is estimated to be 14.59 million in 2016. Kolkata is the main business hub of East India, thus it attracts a lot of migrants from other states who are permanently settled here due to work and other reasons. In terms of Literacy rate, Kolkata is one of the top cities of India with an overall literacy rate of 87.14%. Sex ratio in Kolkata which currently stands at 899 females for every 1000 males is quiet low as compared with national figure of 940.

**Population of Kolkata Metropolitan Area**

With a increase of over 906,839 people between 2001 to 2011, Kolkata's metropolitan area is ranked 3rd in India after Mumbai and Delhi respectively. Each year, the area adds around 90,000 human in its existing population making it one of the most densely populated urban agglomerations areas in East India. Its population was estimated to be 9 million in year 1981. From there on it has shown steady increase in population in the next 20 years till 2001. Between years 2001 to 2011, the growth of population in Kolkata Metropolitan Area or KMA has declined.

**Population of Kolkata Urban agglomeration**

(Metropolitan Area)		
Census	Total	Growth in %
1981	9,194,000	-
1991	11,021,900	19.9%
2001	13,114,700	19.0%
2011	14,112,536	7.6%
2014	14,384,585	-
2015	14,485,277	-
2016	14,592,415	-

Metropolitan rank 3rd

**Literacy Rate in Kolkata**

Literacy rate in Kolkata at 87.14% is far better than national average of 74%. The city offers a range of educational institutions and universities for students at various levels. Overall education system in Kolkata is at par as compared with other metros of India. Over the years, Kolkata has produced various leading writers, leaders and politicians who have excelled in their field. Various steps taken by the Government has helped in upward movement of literacy rate in Kolkata. According to Census of India, Literacy Rate in Kolkata is 87.14%.

**Population by Religion in Kolkata**

77.68% of the total population in Kolkata are Hindus, thus making it a dominant religion in Kolkata

followed by Muslims (20.27%) and Christians (0.88%). Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and other religions forms the remainder of the population in Kolkata. The city welcomes every fair and festival with religious celebrations. Durga Puja is the biggest of all festivals celebrated in Kolkata. Jagaddhatri Puja, Diwali, Saraswati Puja, Eid, Holi, Christmas, and Rath Yatra are also celebrated with huge fan following in Kolkata.

**Name of Most Populous Urban Area by Census (CF) 2011-03-01**

1	Kolkata	14,057,991
2	Āsansol	1,243,414
3	Shiliguri	705,579
4	Durgāpur	580,990
5	Bardhamān	346,639
6	Ingrāj Bāzār	313,681
7	Baharampur	304,487
8	Hābra	299,782
9	Kharagpur	299,683
10	Sāntipur	290,345

**Kolkata Urban Agglomeration Population Growth**

Census	Total	%±
1981	9,194,000	—
1991	11,021,900	19.9%
2001	13,114,700	19.0%
2011	14,112,536	7.6%

Source: Census of India

Others include Sikh, Buddhist & Other religions (0.03%)

**Religion in Kolkata**

Religion	Percent
Hindu	76.51%
Muslim	20.60%
Christian	0.88%
Jain	0.47%
Others	1.54%

As of 2003, about one-third of the population, or 1.5 million people, lived in 3,500 unregistered squatter-occupied and 2,011 registered slums. The authorised slums (with access to basic services like water, latrines, trash removal by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation) can be broadly divided into two groups—bustees, in which slum dwellers have some long term tenancy agreement with the landowners; and udbastu colonies, settlements which had been leased to refugees from present-day Bangladesh by the Government. The unauthorised slums (devoid of basic services provided by the municipality) are occupied by squatters who started living on encroached lands—mainly along canals, railway lines and roads. According to the 2005 National Family Health Survey, around 14% of the households in Kolkata were poor.

**Conclusion**

The main aim of this research is that to know more about Kolkata, history and present. In the past Kolkata had a great value on company period. The culture, social education and economic values are decent on that period. Kolkata ranks 3rd in census, mostly are Hindus and the main language is Bengala. The village has a very vital role for its development because mostly population belongs to village. Their main occupation is farming, but they play an important role for its economy. Hindi and Urdu are spoken by a sizeable minority. According to the 2011 census,

76.51% of the population is Hindu, 20.60% Muslim, 0.88% Christian, and 0.47% Jain. The remainder of the population includes Sikhs, Buddhists, and other religions which accounts for 0.45% of the population; 1.09% did not state a religion in the census. Kolkata reported 67.6% of Special and Local Laws crimes registered in 35 large Indian cities during 2004. The Kolkata police district registered 15,510 Indian Penal Code cases in 2010, the 8th-highest total in the country. In 2010, the crime rate was 117.3 per 100,000, below the national rate of 187.6; it was the lowest rate among India's largest cities. The city shows Integrity in diversity in India, tribes and other cast live here with enthusiasm and make it great.

Kolkata, and its huge population with different culture shows an example of integrity but due to huge rural populations and lack of proper educational facilities the social development is not up to the mark. With a metropolitan population of over 14.59 million, Kolkata is one of the densely populated cities in India. Know more on current population, sex ratio, literacy rate and religion in Kolkata.

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