

3.12 KARNATAKA

The geographic area of Karnataka, a state in the Southern region, is 1,91,791 sq.km., which is 5.8 % of the country's geographic area. The total population of Karnataka in 2001 is 52.73 million (5.1 % of the country's population). The rural population is 66 % and urban population is 34 % and the population density of 275 persons per sq.km. The tribal population is 4.3 % of the population of the state. The state has a forest cover of 36,991 sq.km. Around 3857 thousand tones of milk, 17277 lakh nos. of egg and 5355 thousand kgs. of wool was produced in the state during 2003-04.

As per the last 17th livestock census, conducted in 2003, the state had 5.15% of Cattle, 4.08% of buffaloes, 11.8% of sheep, 3.61% of goats and 2.31% of pig population of the country. The state has the third highest sheep population in the country. The poultry population is 5.23% (fourth in rank) of the country's total poultry population.

Livestock Population (000)	%		
	1997	2003	increase/ decrease
Crossbred cattle	1293	1602	23.90
Indigenous cattle	9539	7936	-16.80
Total cattle	10832	9538	-11.95
Buffaloes	4367	3991	-8.61
Total Bovines	15199	13530	-10.98
Sheep	8003	7256	-9.33
Goats	4875	4484	-8.02
Pigs	405	312	-22.96
Others	44	39	-11.36
Total Livestock	28526	25621	-10.18

Livestock

In Karnataka, the crossbred cattle increased by 23.9% but indigenous cattle decreased by 16.8% during the period between 16th and 17th census. There is a decline of 12% in total cattle population during the inter-censal period. The buffalo population has also decreased by 8.6%.

The population of goats, sheep and pigs have decreased by 9.3%, 8.0% and 23% respectively during the period. The total livestock in the state has decreased from 28.526 million to 25.621 million between these two censuses showing a decrease of 10.2%.



