

3.22 RAJASTHAN

Rajasthan has a geographic area of 3,42,239 sq.km., which is 10.4 % of the country's geographic area. The total human population of Rajasthan in 2001 is 56.47 million (5.5 % of the country's population). The rural population is 76.6 % and urban population is 23.4 % and the population density of 165 persons per sq.km. The tribal population is 12.4 % of the population of the state. The state has a forest cover of 16,367 sq.km. The estimates of milk, egg and wool production was 8054 thousand tonnes, 6722 lakh nos and 18900 thousand kgs. respectively in 2003-04. The state produces highest wool in the country.

As per the last 17th livestock census, the state of Rajasthan had 5.86% of cattle, 10.63% of buffaloes, 16.36% of sheep, 13.52% of goats and 2.50% of pig population of the country. The poultry population is 1.27% of the country's total poultry population. The state ranks third in buffaloes population, second in sheep population and second in goats population in the country.

Livestock Population (000)	Livestock Population (000)		% increase/decrease
	1997	2003	
Crossbred cattle	211	464	119.91
Indigenous cattle	11931	10390	-12.92
Total cattle	12142	10854	-10.61
Buffaloes	9770	10414	6.59
Total Bovines	21912	21268	-2.94
Sheep	14585	10054	-31.07
Goats	16971	16809	-0.96
Pigs	305	338	10.82
Camels	669	498	-25.56
Others	213	171	-19.72
Total Livestock	54655	49138	-10.10

Livestock

In Rajasthan, the crossbred cattle increased heavily by 119.9% but indigenous cattle decreased by 12.9% during the period between 16th and 17th

census showing a decrease of 10.6% in total cattle population during the inter-censal period. The buffalo population has increased by 6.6%; sheep and goat population has decreased by 31.1% and 1.0% respectively. A heavy decline of 25.6% has been observed in camel population. The total livestock in the state has decreased from 54.655 million to 49.138 million between these two censuses showing a decrease of 10.1%.



