

### 5. DECADAL VARIATION IN POPULATION - 1901 -2011

Year	Male	Female	Persons	Decadal Variation	Percentage decadal Variation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1901	NA	NA	246354	-	-
1911	124961	132218	257179	+10825	+4.39
1921	118,953	125203	244,156	-13023	-5.06
1931	NA	NA	258628	+14472	+5.93
1941	NA	NA	285011	+26383	+10.20
1951	156275	160978	317253	+32242	+11.31
1961	183347	185732	369079	+51826	+16.34
1971	237112	234595	471707	+102628	+27.81
1981	304561	299910	604471	+132764	+28.15
1991	408081	399704	807785	+203314	+33.64
2001	486961	487384	974345	+166560	+20.62
2011*	610485	633979	1244464	+270119	+27.72

Source : Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

\* Provisional

Absolute population of the country is its most important demographic indicator. The population of the Union Territory had been increasing steadily since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. It has almost increased five times during the period from 1901 to 2011. However the increase during 1901 to 1951 was not high. After 1951 the rate of growth became faster mainly due to decrease in the death rate because of various health interventions. The decadal growth rate has increased from 20.62 in 2001 to 27.72 in 2011