

DISTRICT STATISTICAL HAND BOOK

2022

**District Planning Unit,
District Secretariat, Jaffna**

District Statistical Hand Book – 2022

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Summary of Vital Statistics

Details	Unit	
Total Area	sq.km	1025.00
Administrative Divisions		
Divisional Secretariats	Number	15
Electoral Divisions	Number	10
Grama Niladhari Divisions	Number	435
Villages	Number	1,453
Municipal Council	Number	01
Urban Councils	Number	03
Pradeshiya Sabhas	Number	13
MOH Divisions	Number	14
Education Zones	Number	05
Education Divisions	Number	15
Fisheries Inspector Divisions	Number	14
Population as at 31.12.2021		
Families	Number	203,401
Members	Number	623,009
Males	Number	302,852
Females	Number	320,157
Road		
"A" Class Road	km	279.51
"B" Class Road	km	233.08
"C" Class Road	km	542.48
"D" Class Road	km	45.08
Rural Road	km	3441.720

JAFFNA DISTRICT.....

Location

Jaffna District is the northern end of the Northern Province of Sri Lanka, about 410 km away from Colombo. It consists of the peninsula and seven inhabited Island. North, East and West boundaries of the District are Indian Ocean, South is Jaffna lagoon and Kilinochchi District. The total land area including Inland waters is 1,025.00 sq.km. Jaffna District is divided into four sub divisions. They are Islands, Valikamam, Thenmaradchi and Vadamaradchi, Jaffna District falls under dry zone. Peak rainfall is during October to December during North East Monsoon and the scattered during April to May. The inter monsoon rain is uncertain. The District received 1,714.3 mm of rain during the year 2021. The Min temperature is 22.2 and Max 34.4 celsius.

SOIL

The soil and water resource of the Jaffna Peninsula are both related to the lime stone geology of the land. The soils are formed on the marine deposits and sediments under the influence of sea waves and winds on lime stones. Tile lime stone being a porous rock is the source of groundwater for the Peninsula. Well drained and high productive calcic Red Yellow latasol and Red Yellow latasol soil types are found in central areas (60,000 ha). Alkalin saline soil and Regasol are found in coastal areas (26,000 ha) and Alluvial soil is in ValukaiAru area (10,000 ha). In certain areas coral lime stone is available. This different soil types offer scope for cultivation of exotic as well as local crops. Tile depth of soil varies from 90cm- 150cm.

WATER

Jaffna Peninsula has a source of ground water store in the sub terrain layer of limestone. The limestone is the main aquifer. This aquifer has several isolated caves and caverns capable of storing ground water without evaporation losses. It is an excellent aquifer. The entire ground water is generated from percolated rainfall and it forms a freshwater lens beneath the peninsula. It is found that the fresh water lens do not extend below the base of the lime stone. The fresh water lens is sustained by the buoyancy of fresh water in relation to sea water. Difference in density, (1.0,1.025) giving a ratio of 40: 1. That is every meter of fresh water above the sea level requires a depth of fresh water lens of 40m when no mixing between fresh and seawater takes place. There is no sharp interface between fresh and seawater.

ADMINISTRATION

The District Secretary / Government Agent is an executive officer for the entire district. The government administration works at the levels of Central, Provincial, District, Divisions and Village level. Jaffna District is divided into 15 Divisional Administrative divisions, 435 Grama Officers divisions. Seventeen Localbodies (Municipal Council- 1, Urban Councils - 3 and Pradeshiya Sabhas-13) are functioning in Jaffna district. 14 Medical Officer of Health divisions and 5 Educational Zones.

POPULATION

Total population of the Jaffna District is 623,009 consisting of 203, 401 families on 31.12.2021 and female population accounted 51.39 %. Out of the total population of Jaffna District 617,825 persons are Tamils, 336 persons are Sinhalese, 4,840 persons are Muslims and two persons are Burgers, Out of the Total population 84.16 percent are Hindus, 15.01 percent are Christian, 0.78 percent are Islam and 0.05 percent are Buddhist.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture sector is a leading sector in Jaffna District. About 43,776 families in this District are solely depending on agriculture including livestock and large share of the population is also involved in home gardening.

People in Jaffna district is traditionally a farming community. Their culture is mostly agrarian based. These traditional farmers have generations of experience about the soil, climate and agricultural technology which is unique to their system of production. They have their own cultivation techniques developed by their forefathers and the practices have been time tested and proven to be more appropriate than the modern technologies. These traditional farmers never had an opportunity to practice their most unique and effective farming technology during the past three decades due to the prevailed situation Jaffna District is predominantly Jaffna District is an agricultural area and always has enormous potential for agriculture produce such as red onion, chilies, potatoes, tobaccos, vegetables, banana and grapes. Other crops cultivation such as paddy, pulses, and coconut are in substantial level. Palmyrah products are also substantial source of income. Rice is produced during the Maha season under rain fed condition while vegetables are produced nearly the whole year around under rain fed irrigated conditions.

FISHERIES

Jaffna District is surrounded by Sea and Lagoon. The Fisheries Sector is an important sector in Jaffna District and major economic activity and the source of livelihood for about 22,031 families consisting of 93,990 persons and of those 22,624 persons active fishermen. The following fishing resources are available in Jaffna District.

FISHERIES RESOURCES

1.	Fishing Harbours	01
2.	Landing Centers	106
3.	Coastal Length	182 mile
4.	Continental self Area	3360 mile
5.	Fish Banks	02
6.	Lagoons	02
7.	Fisherman Cooperative Societies	119
8.	Fisherman Cooperative Society Union	11
9.	Fisherman Cooperative Societies Union Federation	01
10.	crafts	7604
11.	Ice Plants	06
12.	Processing Plants	02
13.	Boat Yards	04
14.	Jetty	03

EDUCATION

The long tradition of dedication to education and high priority given to Education from colonial period, Jaffna has been one of the districts with high literacy rate in Sri Lanka. Education is one of the major concerns for the people of Jaffna District. There are five Education Zones in Jaffna District. They are Islands, Valikamam, Jaffna, Thenmaradchi and Vadamaradchi. Presently, 504 schools are in Jaffna District. out of those 453 schools are function up now. The student's population is 117,629 and teachers are 9,099. The students, teacher's ratio is 7.73.

HEALTH

Jaffna Teaching Hospital is the main public health and medical institution for the people of Northern Province and for teaching of medical students of the University of Jaffna and Nursing and midwife students. All other curative institutions come under

the administration of Regional Director of Health Services, Jaffna. These institutions are forming a network in three levels, such as:

Teaching Hospital	01
Base Hospital (Type A & B)	04
Divisional Hospitals	23
Primary Medical Care Unit	17

In addition to the above hospitals, Cancer Unit Tellippalai and Chest Clinic Jaffna are functioning under the administration of Regional Director of Health Services.

In the preventive sector under each MOH there are clinic centres, which provide mainly maternal and child health care services.

Under Ayurvedic System there is 01 District Ayurvedic Hospital, 04 Rural Ayurvedic Hospitals and 11 Central Ayurvedic Dispensaries. In addition, there are 37 Free Ayurvedic Dispensaries under Local Government administration.

Regional Director of Health Services is in charge for all Promotive, Preventive, Curative and Rehabilitative health activities in this district under the heads of institutions namely Medical Superintendents, District Medical Officers, Medical Officers in Charge and Medical Officers of Health are functioning.

INDUSTRIES

There are three level industries functioning in Jaffna District. There are Micro, Small and Medium. According to the information collected from Divisional Secretariat wise, about 4,198 industrial units are in Jaffna District. Most of them are wood and wood based industries. Secondly, food and beverage types industries and other industries such as cloth and cloth based, light engineering, palmyrah based, leather based, paper based, cement based, coir based, chemical based, metal aluminium based, etc..

TOURISM

Jaffna has an immense potential for tourism and Hotel industry. Three types of places such as Historical, Natural and Religious places are available in Jaffna district. Historically important Places such as Vedarasan fort at Delft, Hammenhein fort at Kayts, Jaffna fort, Jamuna pond, Manthiri Manai (kings Palace), Entrance Arch of Jaffna. Natural places such as Chatty area at Velanai, Casuarinas' Beach at Karainagar,

and coastal areas at Manatkadu, Famous religious places in Jaffna are Nallur Murugan temple, Naguleswaram Sivan temple, Vallipura Aalvar temple, Thondamanaru Selvasannathi Murugan Temple, Nainativu Nagapooshani Amman Temple, St. James Church, Dutch Church at Chankanai and Nagadeepa Buddhist Temple at Nainativu.

TREE PLANTING

Jaffna district has no forest cover as in other parts of the country. There are naturally grown palmyrah trees in many parts of the district. Small scale coconut plantations, indigenous trees and fruit trees have been grown in homesteads, private lands, and common places. These tree plants components have played an important role in providing a source of income to the substantial number of families, nutritive food and protect the environment. Agro forestry is not an actual forest; it is a phenomenon influencing substantial effects on climate and environment which is favoring for agriculture and human living. Trees are providing many benefits to the communities. They provide food, medicine, shade, green manure, timber and fire wood and also function as natural cooler in different climate.

Trees are very important in maximizing and diversifying the productivity of highly fertile land. Intensive agro forestry systems are most commonly found in this district. Tree planting scheme is being implemented as a homestead method. Homestead have the potential for the promotion of agro forestry and social forestry programme in the district and wide variety of tree crops are planted in homesteads. The homestead is an integral element of the farming systems. The scope of intensively planting of trees in homestead for food, fuel, timber and for security.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Environmental pollution is a major problem in Jaffna district. The following Issues such as Over extraction of ground Water, Application of high amount of Nitrogen fertilizers. Over use of agrochemicals, Oil contamination in drinking water wells through discharge of waste from power plant operated by heavy fuel oil identified in Chunnakam area. E.coli contamination due to lack of sewerage system in Jaffna Municipal Council area, Improper solid waste management in Local Authorities lead to contamination of underground water, Degradation of Bio-Diversity and Health hazards by Parthenium Weed, Stalinization due to non-maintenance of Salt water exclusion bund, Unplanned and illegal Sand mining, Climate Changes and Sea Erosion have been identified.

