

Data Pack: Kanchipuram District

(District Collectorate, Kanchipuram, n.d., accessed at <http://www.kanchi.nic.in/>)

Location

- Northern East Coast of the state of Tamil Nadu, adjacent to the Bay of Bengal and Chennai city
- Between 11° 00' to 12° 00' North latitudes and 77° 28' to 78° 50' East longitudes
- Total geographical area of 4,43,210 hectares and coastline of 57 km

Society

- **Population:** 30.38 lakh (2001 census); 24.15 lakh, including 2,415,010 males and 1,184,360 females, of which 1,429,610 lived in rural and 985,400 in urban regions (1991 census)

Population Growth per Annum	2.48%
Population Density (Persons/Sq.Km)	592.00

- **Scheduled caste and scheduled tribe populations:**

Category	Rural	Urban	Total
Scheduled Caste	563.37	295.71	859.08
Scheduled Tribe	20.70	10.68	31.38

- **Workers:**

Total workers	892,700 (38.06% of total district population)
Male	665,386
Female	273,518
Rural	586,533
Urban	352,371
Cultivators	162,140
Agricultural labourers	296,212
Household industry	39,571
Other	394,777

- **Birth and death rates:**

Type	Rural	Urban	Total
Birth Rate(Per 1000 Population)	20.6	16.6	19.6
Death Rate(Per 1000 Population)	6.0	4.3	5.6
Infant Mortality Rate (Per 1000 Live Births)	30.0	19.0	27.0

- **Literacy:**

	Male	Female	Total
Literacy	77.07 %	55.22 %	66.38 %
Urban Literacy	87.45 %	70.83 %	79.41 %
Rural Literacy	87.45 %	42.51 %	55.55 %

- **Health Status:** The district has large incidences of Acute Diarrhoeal Dysentery, including 12% of cases in the State in 2001-2002. The district also has poor sanitation and hygiene.

- **Children (in India):**

Destitute children	44 million
Orphans	12.44 million
Official adoptions	5000
Children in age group 0-14 years	347.54 million (33.84 %)
Female children in age group 0-14 years	169.03 million (48.64 %)
Street children	18 million
Child labourers	12.9 million (government estimate)
Children living as bonded labour	> 15 million
Out of school children	> 9.5 million
Children in prostitution	500,000
Children born each year	27 million
Infants who do not survive to first birthday	2 million

(Data for India at large)

Most street children in the metropolitan cities of India are not without family support.

Up to 89.8 % live with their parents or other family members.

(Indian NGOs, 2007, accessed at <http://www.indianngos.com/issue/child/adoption/statistics/index.html>)

- **Status and programs for children (in Kanchipuram):**

Vocational training in carpentry and wood work is being provided to 50 rural poor children in the age group of 14-18 years.

Schools are implementing a project for “improving the quality of elementary education to prevent children from becoming child labourers” in the working area.

Initially they are planning to work in five villages with five government primary (classes 1-5) and elementary (classes 1-8) schools. In total they will be working with 644 school going children.

(Indian NGOs, 2007, accessed at <http://www.indianngos.com/districts/kanchipuram/children.htm>)

Land

- **Area distribution:**

Total Area	7857.00 Sq.Kms
Net Sown Area	3107.44 Sq.Kms
Net Irrigation Area	2435.27 Sq.Kms
Forest Area	426.57 Sq.Kms

- **Climate:**

Season	Maximum	Minimum
Summer	36.6° C	21.1° C
Winter	28.7° C	19.8° C

- **Rainfall:** The district is mainly dependent on seasonal rains, with the Northeast and Southwest monsoons contributing 54% and 36% respectively to the total annual rainfall.

Normal	1213.3 mm
Actual	1133.0 mm

- **Agriculture:** Agriculture is the occupation of 47% of the population.

Classification	Area (Hectares)
Total Cropped Area	198543
Nett Area Sown	160090
Area Sown More Than Once	38453
Area Under Principal Crops:	
Rice	145966
Millets and Cereals	1217
Pulses	2966
Sugarcane	7586
Groundnut	28766
Gingelly	912
Cotton(BL)	53

- **Forest:**

Total forest area	23,586 hectares
Reserved land	366.675 hectares
Fuelwood	76.50 metric tonnes
Cashew	8.039 tonnes

- **Rivers:** The Palar river is one of the most important river running through the district. Tanks and wells are the main sources of irrigation in this district.
- **Hills:** There are only a few hills of considerable elevation in the district. The southern part of Maduranthakam taluk contains small hills.
- **River water resources:** The Palar and Cheyyur Rivers are rainfed with rare surface flows. Rivers are polluted by the leather, dyeing and other industries as well as municipal sewage. Riverine aquifer is heavily tapped for urban and industrial use.
- **Ground water resources:** The ground water table is depleted and pollution owing to the dyeing and leather industries is a major threat. The encroachment and pollution of water bodies in urban & semi-urban areas affects water in rural areas.

Places of Interest

- **Temples:**

Kanchipuram is known as the City of a Thousand Temples, reflecting the Glorious Traditions of South India.

- **Bird Sanctuary:**

This is one of the major Water Bird Sanctuaries in India. Located 48 km from Kanchipuram, birds nest on the branches of submerged trees. Storks, egrets, cormorants, darter, flamingos, pelicans, moor hens, herons, kingfishers, sandpipers, white ibis, spoonbills, swans and grey wagtails are some of the birds that arrive here during season (between October and March).

- **Muttukkadu:**

This is a large lake formed out of the backwaters, with boating and wind surfing facilities. It is located 80 km from Kanchipuram. The Backwaters of Muttukkadu have been developed by the Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation to serve as a picnic spot and a centre for water sports. Training and demonstration programmes are organised for beginners.

- **Mammalapuram:**

This was a flourishing port town during the time of Pallavas. This is one of the main tourist attractions in Kanchipuram. The monuments of Mamallapuram are excellent specimens of Dravidian temple architecture and Pallava art.

- **Covelong Beach:**

This is a small fishing village 40 kms from Chennai on the Mahabalipuram road. There are the remains of a fort which now functions as a luxury beach resort. Facilities for windsurfing and swimming are available here as well as a dargah and an ancient church.

- **Dakshina Chitra:**

Dakshina Chitra has relocated 18th, 19th and early 20th century houses and re-created village streets and work places to provide authentic insights into the domestic architecture, spatial organisation, life-styles and character of the essential Tamilian or Keralite or Andhrite or Kannadiga.

- **Kanchi Kamakodi Peetham:**

The kamakodi peetham and kammakshiamman temple are closely associated with the life of Sankaracharya. The Kamakoti Peetham is enshrined in the Sri Chakra just in front of Sri Devi and all pujas and sacrifices are offered to the Sri Chakra.

Industry

- **Kanchipuram USP:**

One of the largest industrial areas of Tamil Nadu, Kanchipuram is home to vital production bases of international industrial groups like: Ford, Hyundai, Sant Gobain as well as many export houses in and around the Madras Export Processing Zone. Reasons for this include:

- Proximity to the Chennai urban area
- Proximity to an international airport and two seaports at Chennai and Ennore
- Excellent connectivity through the world-class East Coast Road and upcoming upgraded NH4 & 45
- Moderate cost of land
- Good industrial parks at Maraimalainagar, Alathur, Irungattukottai, Sriperumbudur, Siruseri, Oragadam and Paranur
- Reasonably good power quality with the North Madras Power Station and Kalpakkam Atomic Power Station located in and around the district
- Availability of skilled and highly qualified manpower at Chennai and suburbs with IIT, Chennai and the Anna University at a stones throw.

- **Product Range:**

The product range from factories in Kanchipuram extends to the following range:

- Cars (Hyundai of S. Korea and Ford Motors of the USA)
- Auto parts (Sona Steering, Rane-TRW restraint systems, DAEWHA, Brakes India, AUDCO, etc.)
- Float Glass (Sant Gobain of France)
- Airconditioners (National of Japan)
- Leather Industries in Pallavaram
- Information Technology Industries on the IT Highway (TCS, Cognizant, Infosys, American Megatrends, Wipro Infotech, etc.)
- Sugar Industry (Madurantakam Coop Sugar Mills at Padalam & SV Sugars at Palayaseevaram)
- Fashion Garments (at MEPZ and surrounding areas)
- Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals and Dyes (ORCHID Chemicals, Maruti Marine, White House Dyes, Kanchi Karpooram, etc.)
- Dies & Forgings (FOMAS)
- Optic Fibers (Fujikura-TTL at MM Nagar)
- Blood bags

- **Institutional arrangements:**

The District Industries Centre and the Single Window Committee headed by the Collector help industrialists in getting the needed clearances from various Government organisations. The committee coopts all district level officers necessary to handle the requests of entrepreneurs and minor and medium industries. Other institutions like SIPCOT, TIDCO, TIIC, GUIDANCE and Directorate of Industries and Commerce provide valuable support for major industries.

- **Development Projects:**

- Textile City Infrastructure Development Scheme: Project proposal to provide comprehensive support to the silk industry within the Kanchipuram town (view proposal at www.kanchi.tn.nic.in/tcids.doc).
- Kanchipuram Local Area Planning: Proposal for land use, including current land use and economic base (view proposal at www.kanchi.tn.nic.in/kpm.doc).

- **Tamil Nadu Industry:**

(Web India 123, 2007, <http://www.webindia123.com/tamilnadu/economy/industry.htm#i>)

Industrially, the state has made rapid strides and there has been a great deal of diversification.

Exports include:

- Hides and skins
- Leather products
- Tea
- Coffee
- Spices
- Textiles
- Yarn engineering goods
- Black granites

The state has a flourishing centre of cottage industries. Handloom is very important as a cottage industry. Silk sarees of Kanchipuram are famous all over India. Cottage units produce cotton sarees, dhoties, towels and lungies. Mats made of coir, screw pine, palm and coconut leaves in high demand.

Some industries manufacture musical instruments such as the veena, tamburu, violin, mridangam and kanjara from jack wood. A number of engineering units produce chemicals such as fertilizers and insecticides. In the field of oil refining, petrol, diesel, kerosene, cooking products, and a number of other by-products are manufactured.

Agriculture (Tamil Nadu)

(Web India 123, 2007, www.webindia123.com/tamilnadu/economy/agriculture.htm#a)

The major food crops produced in Tamil Nadu are rice, jowar, ragi, bajra, maize and pulses. Cotton, sugarcane, coconut, tea and coffee as well as a number of horticultural products such as bananas and mangoes are cash crops while ground nuts, sesame and sun flower are important oil seeds crops.

Paddy, flooded fields where rice is grown, is the main crop. It is raised in three crops. The first crop is known as 'Kuruvali' (the short term crop) with a duration of three and a half to four months, from June-July to Oct-Nov. The second crop is called the 'Thaladi' has a duration of 5 to 6 months, from Oct-Nov to Feb-March. Third is 'Samba' (the long term) crop, which has a duration of almost 6 months, from Aug to Jan. Chief source of irrigation are the rivers tanks and wells.