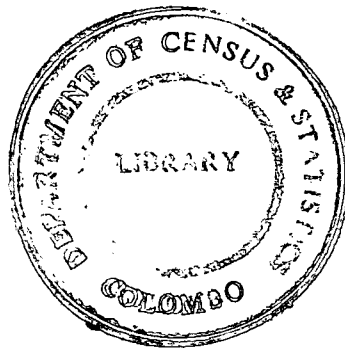


**Sri Lanka**  
**Demographic Survey 1994**  
**Sectoral Distribution of the Population**



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## Foreword

The Demographic Survey 1994 conducted by the Department gives some valuable information on demographic and socio economic characteristics of the population. The first report on the survey based on the enumerator's summaries was released in March 1995, which provide demographic information at District and Divisional Secretary Division level.

Since the survey covers only the population in households, there is an under-estimation in the urban population. As such, it is not possible to release the sectoral distribution of the survey population, unless an adjustment is made to include the urban household population which affects mainly the urban population.

The current data on urban population is in much demand and to fulfill the urgent needs of the users, an attempt has been made by Ms. S.M.Rajapakse, Statistician of the Sample Survey Division to make the necessary adjustments and provide population information by sectors.

I hope the planners, policy makers and researchers would find the information presented in this document invaluable in the absence of recent demographic data. The usefulness of this publication is enhanced as it contains population figures pertaining to districts and sectors with a breakdown of Municipal and Urban Council areas.



A.G.W.Nanayakkara

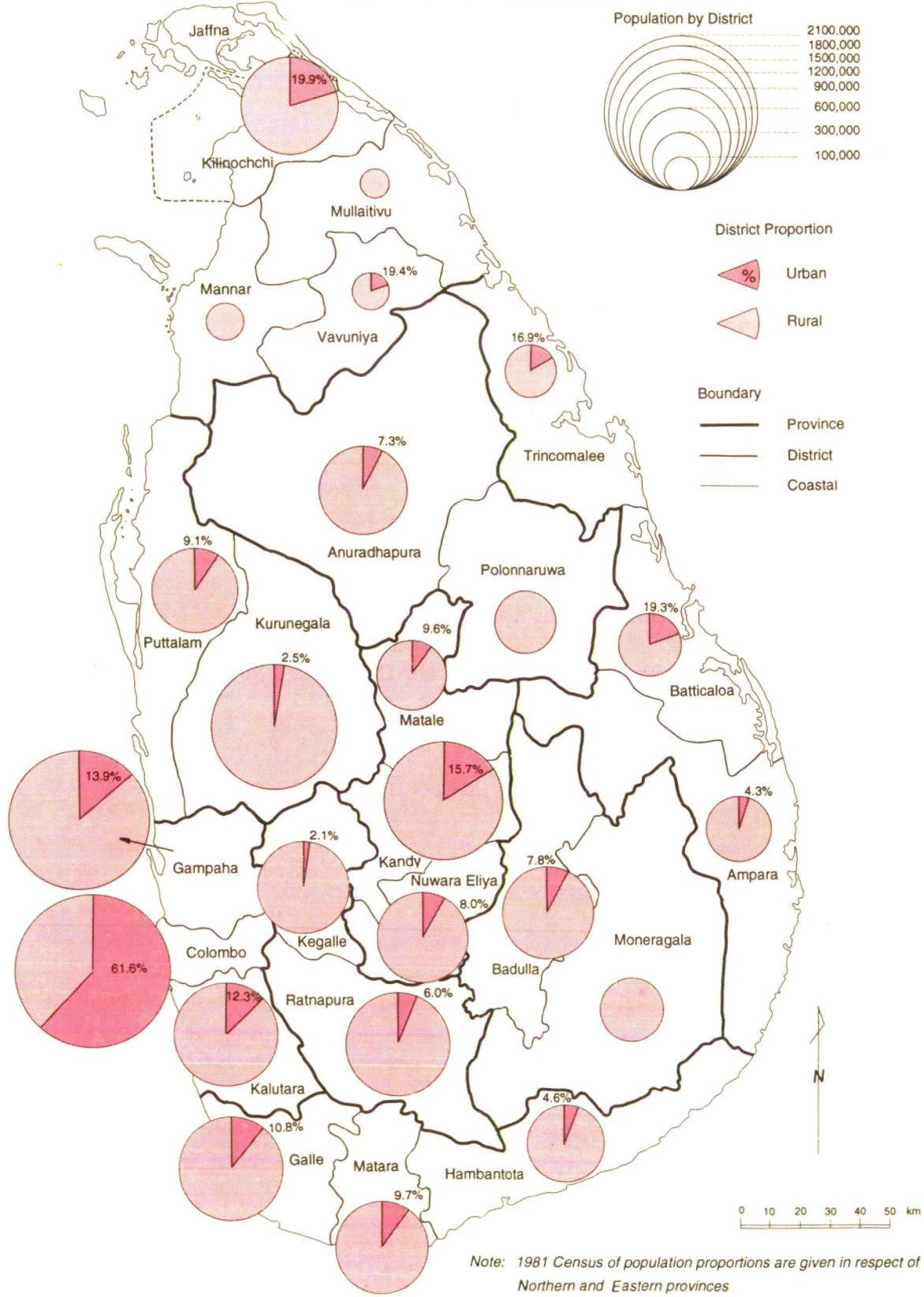
Director General of Census and Statistics

23rd Nov. 1995

# Contents

	Page
Foreword	
1 Introduction	1
2 Related Definitions	2
3 Methodology	3
4 Discussion	4
5 Limitations	4
Tables	
1 Demographic Survey 1994	
- Population by Province, District and Sector	5
2 Census of Population 1981	
- Population by Province, District and Sector	10

# DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY 1994 POPULATION OF SRI LANKA



## **Demographic Survey 1994**

### **Sectoral distribution of the population**

#### **1 Introduction**

The Census of Population and Housing of Sri Lanka scheduled for 1991 was not taken as the prevailing conditions in the Northern and Eastern Provinces are not conducive to carry out a census. As such Department of Census and Statistics conducted a large scale Demographic Survey 1994 (excluding Northern and Eastern Provinces) to meet the urgent demand from planners and other data users. The information collected in this survey is similar to those collected through a Census of Population and Housing.

This survey covered all the households in the island (excluding Northern and Eastern Provinces) irrespective of the number of boarders and lodgers residing in a housing unit. The population in institutions such as hostels, police and military barracks, camps, etc., was excluded from the survey.

Demographic Survey 1994 results reveal only the population living in households (see household definition), and this survey does not include the population living in institutions. If one wants to study the population dispersion in the country both households as well as institutional populations have to be considered. As such a problem arises as to how the Demographic Survey data can be supplemented in order to get a full picture of the country's (excluding Northern and Eastern provinces) population.

Institutions are located mainly in urban areas than in rural areas and thus this population is substantial in major cities and towns. Technological advancements, development in manufacturing, commerce and social welfare are some of the factors that caused the influx of people from rural to urban and growth of urban centers. Those who come to cities leaving families behind, for occupation, studies and in search of welfare facilities usually reside in institutions such as hostels, chummaries, barracks, elders' homes etc.,. The characteristics specific to this population are not reflected in the survey population. Therefore exclusion of 'institutions' in the survey has had much effect on the coverage of urban population and thus the sectoral distribution of the population would be an under estimation.

## **2 Related Definitions**

### **Household/Housing unit**

- (a) Census (1981)- 'Housing unit' is a place of residence which is separate from other places of residence and has an independent access. It may be either a building or a part of a building or a group of buildings. In the case of a room or set of rooms rented out in a building, will form a separate housing unit if the above conditions fulfill. Housing units with more than 5 boarders or lodgers are considered as living quarters other than housing units.
- (b) Demographic Survey (1994) - A household is a single person or a group of persons who normally live together and have common cooking arrangements. It is not necessary that they be related to each other. Domestic servants, boarders and lodgers who live and share their meals are treated as members of the household.(There is no upper limit for the number of boarders and lodgers in a household) Persons who usually live in a house but are temporarily away on holiday, out on business or receiving treatment in a hospital etc., included as members of the household. Temporary visitors are excluded.

### **Living quarters other than housing units**

- (a) Census (1981) - A building or a group of buildings where a number of persons generally not related to each other resides under the supervision of a central authority will be regarded as 'Living quarters other than housing units' such as convents, boarding schools, hospitals, prisons, police barracks and hostel etc., Boarding houses and lodging houses where more than 5 boarders or lodgers reside, rest houses and hotels which provide shelter in return for a fee are also treated as in this group.
- (b) Demographic Survey (1994) - This is a building or a group of buildings where number of persons generally not related to each other resides under the supervision of a central authority. eg convents, hostels, police barracks, chummaries etc.,.

## **Urban**

- (a) Census (1981) - Areas under Municipal Councils, Urban Councils and Town Councils were considered as Urban.
- (b) Demographic Survey (1994) - Only areas under Municipal Councils and Urban Councils are treated as Urban.

## **Differences in definitions**

In the Demographic Survey, 'household' definition is expected to include all the boarders and lodgers in it irrespective of the number where as in the Census 1981 housing units with more than 5 boarders and lodgers, were included under 'living quarters other than housing units'.

The household population in the survey includes those who have gone abroad temporarily, inmates in hospitals and those who are in prisons. Therefore the population in the survey captured more people than the household population counted in the Census.

## **3 Methodology**

Since the 'institutional' population has to be estimated to bridge the gap between the survey population and the total population, data source available on the institutional population in the Census of Population 1981 could be used as the benchmark data. Demographic Survey population could then be adjusted using population in 'institutions' from Census 1981. Table 2 shows the population living in housing units and living quarters (other than housing units) separately at the Census of Population 1981.

An assumption has been made that the growth rate which prevailed in each urban locality in 1981 remained constant all through the years upto 1994.

The population in 'living quarters other than housing units' in 1994 is obtained by multiplying the household population derived from the Demographic Survey-1994 by the proportion of population in living quarters to the total population in 1981. This procedure has been applied to each urban locality in the island (excluding Northern and Eastern provinces) and derived their institutional populations, Rural areas in each district was taken as one whole unit without separating to administrative units and computed the institutional population, due to data limitations. These were aggregated to derive the district total.

#### 4 Discussion

Household population from Census 1981 was 12,520,402. Population in 'living quarters other than housing units' accounted to 312,562 and was 2.4 percent of the total population. Urban population comprised 14.8 percent of the total population. In Demographic survey 1994, household population estimated was 15,021,336, population in the living quarters other than housing units was 384,250 giving a total of 15,405,586 for the island (excluding Northern and Eastern provinces). These estimates reveal 16.0 percent as the urban population in 1994. The mid year estimates compiled by the Registrar General states a population of 15,220,000 for 1994 (excluding Northern and Eastern provinces) which is little lower than the survey estimate.

#### 5 Limitations

Because of the definitional changes in the 'housing unit' as mentioned above, population comprising more than 5 boarders and lodgers in housing units may have been duplicated in the survey estimates. To remedy this situation this population (5 > boarders and lodgers) should be isolated from the institutional population of Census 1981 or from the household population of the survey, In the Census these households were identified under institutions and cannot be separated as housing units, but in the Demographic Survey these households can be separated and it will be available by sectorwise only after processing of data. However, the total figure shows the bias in the estimates due to above reason is within 0.2 percent.



**Demographic Survey - 1994**  
**Population by Province, District & Sector**

**Table 1**

District M.C/U.C.	Population in		Adjusted total population
	Housing units	Living quarters other than housing units	
<b>All Island *</b>	15,021,336	384,250	15,405,586
Rural	12,693,995	246,532	12,940,527
Urban	2,327,341	137,718	2,465,059
<b>Western Province</b>	4,703,440	130,605	4,834,045
Rural	3,096,861	43,041	3,139,902
Urban	1,606,579	87,564	1,694,143
<b>Colombo</b>	2,057,352	83,163	2,140,515
Rural	794,433	10,651	805,084
Urban	1,262,919	72,512	1,335,431
Colombo M.C.	666,797	54,652	721,449
Dehiwela Mt.Lavinia M.C.	217,551	6,361	223,912
Avissawella U.C.	18,645	974	19,619
Kolonnawa U.C.	57,951	1,232	59,183
Kotte U.C.	112,828	4,131	116,959
Moratuwa U.C.	189,147	5,162	194,309
<b>Gampaha</b>	1,707,739	31,421	1,739,160
Rural	1,476,846	21,824	1,498,670
Urban	230,893	9,597	240,490
Negambo M.C.	98,281	2,818	101,099
Gampaha U.C.	14,748	909	15,657
Ja-Ela U.C.	28,600	973	29,573
Minuwangoda U.C.	6,893	629	7,522
Peliyagoda U.C.	25,128	914	26,042
Seeduwa-Katunayaka U.C.	36,558	2,399	38,957
Wattala-Mabole U.C.	20,685	955	21,640

\* Excluding Northern and Eastern Provinces

District M.C/U.C.	Population in		Adjusted total population
	Housing units	Living quarters other than housing units	
<b>Kalutara</b>	938,349	16,021	954,370
Rural	825,582	10,566	836,148
Urban	112,767	5,455	118,222
Beruwela U.C.	32,645	810	33,455
Horana U.C.	9,850	658	10,508
Kalutara U.C.	34,898	2,104	37,002
Panadura U.C.	35,374	1,883	37,257
<b>Central Province</b>	2,315,085	103,118	2,418,203
Rural	2,040,131	77,846	2,117,977
Urban	274,954	25,272	300,226
<b>Kandy</b>	1,221,021	38,925	1,259,946
Rural	1,035,959	23,915	1,059,874
Urban	185,062	15,010	200,072
Kandy M.C.	126,065	11,489	137,554
Udawalpata U.C.	35,167	2,282	37,449
Pathadumbara U.C.	8,336	175	8,511
Yatinuwara U.C.	1,360	238	1,598
Pasbagekorale U.C.	14,134	826	14,960
<b>Matale</b>	422,712	15,051	437,763
Rural	383,593	11,619	395,212
Urban	39,119	3,432	42,551
Matale M.C.	39,119	3,432	42,551
<b>Nuwara Eliya</b>	671,352	49,142	720,494
Rural	620,579	42,312	662,891
Urban	50,773	6,830	57,603
Nuwara Eliya M.C.	27,810	3,356	31,166
Talawakele-Lindula U.C.	10,261	1,715	11,976
Ambagamuwa Korale U.C.	12,702	1,759	14,461

District M.C/U.C.	Population in		Adjusted total population
	Housing units	Living quarters other than housing units	
<b>Southern Province</b>	2,224,552	29,865	2,254,417
Rural	2,028,919	23,014	2,051,933
Urban	195,633	6,851	202,484
<b>Galle</b>	954,976	14,461	969,437
Rural	852,297	12,797	865,094
Urban	102,679	1,664	104,343
Galle M.C.	82,131	896	83,027
Ambalangoda U.C.	20,548	768	21,316
<b>Matara</b>	753,827	8,921	762,748
Rural	683,483	5,369	688,852
Urban	70,344	3,552	73,896
Matara U.C.	44,599	3,148	47,747
Weligama U.C.	25,745	404	26,149
<b>Hambantota</b>	515,749	6,483	522,232
Rural	493,139	4,848	497,987
Urban	22,610	1,635	24,245
Hambantota U.C.	10,501	519	11,020
Tangalla U.C.	12,109	1,116	13,225

District M.C/U.C.	Population in		Adjusted total population
	Housing units	Living quarters other than housing units	
<b>North Western Province</b>	1,979,034	22,908	2,001,942
Rural	1,896,676	18,797	1,915,473
Urban	82,358	4,111	86,469
<b>Kurunegala</b>	1,377,930	13,130	1,391,060
Rural	1,346,291	10,379	1,356,670
Urban	31,639	2,751	34,390
Kurunegala M.C.	27,055	1,987	29,042
Kuliyapitiya U.C.	4,584	764	5,348
<b>Puttalam</b>	601,104	9,778	610,882
Rural	550,385	8,418	558,803
Urban	50,719	1,360	52,079
Chilaw U.C.	25,400	666	26,066
Puttalam U.C.	25,319	694	26,013
<b>North Central Province</b>	1,007,904	30,266	1,038,170
Rural	961,565	25,805	987,370
Urban	46,339	4,461	50,800
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	676,208	19,134	695,342
Rural	629,869	14,673	644,542
Urban	46,339	4,461	50,800
Anuradhapura U.C.	46,339	4,461	50,800
<b>Polonnaruwa</b>	331,696	11,132	342,828
Rural	331,696	11,132	342,828

District M.C./U.C.	Population in		Adjusted total population
	Housing units	Living quarters other than housing units	
<b>Uva Province</b>	1,114,146	30,467	1,144,613
Rural	1,059,487	24,936	1,084,423
Urban	54,659	5,531	60,190
<b>Badulla</b>	749,541	24,620	774,161
Rural	694,882	19,089	713,971
Urban	54,659	5,531	60,190
Badulla M.C.	41,954	3,788	45,742
Haputale U.C.	2,555	342	2,897
Bandarewela U.C.	10,150	1,401	11,551
<b>Monaragala</b>	364,605	5,847	370,452
Rural	364,605	5,847	370,452
<b>Sabaragamuwa Province</b>	1,677,175	37,021	1,714,196
Rural	1,610,356	33,093	1,643,449
Urban	66,819	3,928	70,747
<b>Ratnapura</b>	917,343	28,840	946,183
Rural	865,860	25,839	891,699
Urban	51,483	3,001	54,484
Ratnapura M.C.	40,151	2,239	42,390
Balangoda U.C.	11,332	762	12,094
<b>Kegalle</b>	759,832	8,181	768,013
Rural	744,496	7,254	751,750
Urban	15,336	927	16,263
Kegalle U.C.	15,336	927	16,263

**Census of Population - 1981**  
**Population by Province, District & Sector**

**Table 2**

District M.C./U.C.	Population in		Total Population
	Housing Units	Living Quarters other than Housing Units	
<b>All Island *</b>	12,520,402	312,562	12,832,964
Rural	10,729,020	207,789	10,936,809
Urban	1,791,382	104,773	1,896,155
<b>Western Province</b>	3,840,255	105,105	3,945,360
Rural	2,584,006	35,861	2,619,867
Urban	1,256,249	69,244	1,325,493
<b>Colombo</b>	1,599,872	65,412	1,665,284
Rural	618,653	8,294	626,947
Urban	981,219	57,118	1,038,337
Colombo M.C.	530,708	43,498	574,206
Dehiwela Mt.Lavinia M.C.	168,382	4,923	173,305
Awissawella U.C.	13,346	697	14,043
Kolonnawa U.C.	39,890	848	40,738
Kotte U.C.	97,189	3,558	100,747
Moratuwa U.C.	131,704	3,594	135,298
<b>Gampaha</b>	1,401,831	25,588	1,427,419
Rural	1,219,540	18,022	1,237,562
Urban	182,291	7,566	189,857
Negambo M.C.	74,648	2,140	76,788
Gampaha U.C.	9,878	609	10,487
Ja-Ela U.C.	24,268	826	25,094
Minuwangoda U.C.	7,966	727	8,693
Peliyagoda U.C.	24,912	906	25,818
Seetduwa-Katunayaka U.C.	24,843	1,630	26,473
Wattala-Mabole U.C.	15,776	728	16,504

\* Excluding Northern and Eastern Provinces

District M.C/U.C.	Population in		Total Population
	Housing Units	Living Quarters other than Housing Units	
<b>Kalutara</b>	838,552	14,105	852,657
Rural	745,813	9,545	755,358
Urban	92,739	4,560	97,299
Beruwela U.C.	24,591	610	25,201
Horana U.C.	8,040	537	8,577
Kalutara U.C.	30,203	1,821	32,024
Panadura U.C.	29,905	1,592	31,497
<b>Central Province</b>	1,899,509	83,576	1,983,085
Rural	1,714,960	66,849	1,781,809
Urban	184,549	16,727	201,276
<b>Kandy</b>	966,837	29,625	996,462
Rural	840,897	19,412	860,309
Urban	125,940	10,213	136,153
Kandy M.C.	86,686	7,900	94,586
Udawalpaya U.C.	20,113	1,305	21,418
Pathadumbara U.C.	6,495	136	6,631
Yatinuwara U.C.	1,142	200	1,342
Pasbagekorale U.C.	11,504	672	12,176
<b>Matale</b>	348,548	12,148	360,696
Rural	320,860	9,719	330,579
Urban	27,688	2,429	30,117
Matale M.C.	27,688	2,429	30,117
<b>Nuwara Eliya</b>	584,124	41,803	625,927
Rural	553,203	37,718	590,921
Urban	30,921	4,085	35,006
Nuwara Eliya M.C.	18,058	2,179	20,237
Talawakele-Lindula U.C.	4,349	727	5,076
Ambagamuwa Korale U.C.	8,514	1,179	9,693

District M.C/U.C.	Population in		Total Population
	Housing Units	Living Quarters other than Housing Units	
<b>Southern Province</b>	1,846,974	24,295	1,871,269
Rural	1,688,321	18,926	1,707,247
Urban	158,653	5,369	164,022
<b>Galle</b>	764,303	11,470	775,773
Rural	676,962	10,164	687,126
Urban	87,341	1,306	88,647
Galle M.C.	73,998	807	74,805
Amabalangoda U.C.	13,343	499	13,842
<b>Matara</b>	651,833	7,548	659,381
Rural	597,336	4,692	602,028
Urban	54,497	2,856	57,353
Matara U.C.	36,447	2,573	39,020
Weligama U.C.	18,050	283	18,333
<b>Hambantota</b>	430,838	5,277	436,115
Rural	414,023	4,070	418,093
Urban	16,815	1,207	18,022
Hambantota U.C.	8,014	396	8,410
Tangalla U.C.	8,801	811	9,612



District M.C./U.C.	Population in		Total Population
	Housing Units	Living Quarters other than Housing Units	
<b>North Western Province</b>	<b>1,756,028</b>	<b>19,957</b>	<b>1,775,985</b>
Rural	1,688,562	16,462	1,705,024
Urban	67,466	3,495	70,961
<b>Kurunegala</b>	<b>1,261,395</b>	<b>11,924</b>	<b>1,273,319</b>
Rural	1,234,481	9,517	1,243,998
Urban	26,914	2,407	29,321
Kurunegala M.C.	22,302	1,638	23,940
Kuliyapitiya U.C.	4,612	769	5,381
<b>Puttalam</b>	<b>494,633</b>	<b>8,033</b>	<b>502,666</b>
Rural	454,081	6,945	461,026
Urban	40,552	1,088	41,640
Chilaw U.C.	19,561	513	20,074
Puttalam U.C.	20,991	575	21,566
<b>North Central Province</b>	<b>799,921</b>	<b>23,466</b>	<b>823,387</b>
Rural	768,830	20,473	789,303
Urban	31,091	2,993	34,084
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>550,284</b>	<b>15,088</b>	<b>565,372</b>
Rural	519,193	12,095	531,288
Urban	31,091	2,993	34,084
Nuwaragampalatha C. U.C.	31,091	2,993	34,084
Nuwaragampalatha E. U.C.			
<b>Polonnarawa</b>	<b>249,637</b>	<b>8,378</b>	<b>258,015</b>
Rural	249,637	8,378	258,015

Class	312
Sub-class	14335

2012	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2013	<input type="checkbox"/>
2014	<input type="checkbox"/>
2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
2016	<input type="checkbox"/>

District M.C./U.C.	Population in		Total Population
	Housing Units	Living Quarters other than Housing Units	
<b>Uva Province</b>	880,720	23,911	904,631
Rural	843,497	20,264	863,761
Urban	37,223	3,647	40,870
<b>Badulla</b>	626,424	19,833	646,257
Rural	589,201	16,186	605,387
Urban	37,223	3,647	40,870
Badulla M.C.	31,043	2,803	33,846
Haputale U.C.	2,136	286	2,422
Bandarawela U.C.	4,044	558	4,602
<b>Monaragala</b>	254,296	4,078	258,374
Rural	254,296	4,078	258,374
<b>Sabaragamuwa Province</b>	1,496,995	32,252	1,529,247
Rural	1,440,844	28,954	1,469,798
Urban	56,151	3,298	59,449
<b>Ratnapura</b>	785,592	24,678	810,270
Rural	742,116	22,146	764,262
Urban	43,476	2,532	46,008
Ratnapura M.C.	34,142	1,904	36,046
Balangoda U.C.	9,334	628	9,962
<b>Kegalle</b>	711,403	7,574	718,977
Rural	698,728	6,808	705,536
Urban	12,675	766	13,441
Kegalle U.C.	12,675	766	13,441

