The Union Territory (UT) of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is located in the western region of the country. It is bounded by Valsad district of Gujarat and Thane district of Maharashtra. It is uni-district (Dadra & Nagar Haveli) Union Territory. It holds 33rd rank in population size among the states and UTs of India.

2. The total population of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, as per the 2001 Census, is 220,490. Of this, only 4,104 (1.9 per cent) are Scheduled Castes (SCs). The four SCs, Bhangi, Chamar, Mahar and Mahyavanshi contribute this small SC population. These SCs have been notified in the UT under the Constitution (Dadra & Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Castes Order, 1962. None of the SCs have been notified with an area restriction. Mahyavanshi have been notified with a sub-group as ‘Mahyavanshi, Dhed’.

3. The growth rate of SC population in the decade 1991-2001 at 50.3 per cent has been lower if compared to the overall growth rate of 59.2 per cent of the UT population as a whole. The growth rates of SC population in earlier decades have been, 35.2 per cent (1961-71), 53.2 per cent (1971-81) and 33.8 per cent (1981-91).

Population- Size & Distribution

4. Among the four SCs, Chamar are numerically the largest SC with a population of 1,554, constituting 37.9 per cent of the SC population of the UT. They are followed by Mahyavanshi 1,509 (36.8 per cent), Bhangi 433 (10.6 per cent) and Mahar 271(6.6 per cent).

5. As per the 2001 Census, 69 per cent of the SC populations reside in rural areas. At the individual caste level, Mahyavanshi have the highest (84.6 per cent) rural population, followed by Bhangi (77.4 per cent) and Chamar (61.4 per cent). On the other hand, Mahar have recorded 70.9 per cent urban population.

Sex ratio

6. The overall sex ratio of the SC population of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is 901 females per 1000 males, which is higher than 812 for UT population as a whole in 2001. However, it is to be taken into consideration that the UT has a small SC population. The sex ratio of the SC population has registered decline over 925 reported at 1991 Census.

The Statement below shows sex ratio and child sex ratio (0-6) of the SC population at the national, state and the individual SCs at 2001 Census:
7. As may be seen from the Statement, though the overall sex ratio of SC population is higher than the UT population as a whole, the child sex ratio (0-6) is however higher in the UT population.

**Literacy and educational level**

8. Literacy and level of education are two basic indicators of the level of development achieved by a group/society. The literacy results in more awareness besides contributing to the overall improvement of health, hygiene and other social conditions. According to 2001 Census, percentage of literate persons (those who can read and write with understanding) aged 7 years and above among SC population of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is 78.2 per cent, which is higher than 57.6 per cent reported for the UT population as a whole. The literacy rate, which was 77.6 per cent in 1991, has increased only by 0.6 percentage points in 2001.

9. At individual caste level, Mahyavanshi have reported the highest literacy rate of 87.5 per cent, followed by Mahar (75.7 per cent), Chamar (73 per cent) and Bhangi (68.8 per cent).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Literate without educational level</th>
<th>Below Primary</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Matric/Secondary/Higher Secondary/ etc.</th>
<th>Technical &amp; Non-technical diploma</th>
<th>Graduate &amp; above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All SCs</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhangi</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>43.3</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamar</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahar</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahyavanshi</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Out of the total literates, 19.8 per cent are literates without any educational level or have attained education below Primary level. The literates, who have attained education up to Primary and Middle levels, are 24 per cent and 17 per cent respectively. 30.7 per cent are having educational level up to Matric/Higher Secondary levels, implying that about every 3rd SC literate is a Matriculate. Literates with educational level of Graduation and above are 5.6 per cent. Individually, Chamar have the highest percentage (7.2 per cent) of Graduation and above educational level.
11. The educational level table also shows that the drop out is conspicuous after the Primary level and again after Matric/Higher Secondary levels.

12. Population in the age group 5-14 years are the potential students. 77.1 per cent of the SC children in this age group are attending various educational institutions.

**Economic activity**

**Work Participation Rate (WPR)**

13. The work participation rate (WPR) is the percentage of workers to the total population. The WPR of the SC population is 38.1 per cent in 2001, which has marginally declined from 38.9 per cent recorded at 1991 Census. The WPR at 53.1 per cent for males is much higher than 21.4 per cent of their female counterparts, as reported at 2001 Census.

14. At the individual caste level, the WPR varies from the highest 57.2 per cent among Mahar to the lowest 33 per cent among Bhangi. Bhangi have also recorded the lowest female WPR of 12.8 per cent.

**Category of Workers**

15. There has been a decline in the main workers from 92.4 per cent in 1991 to 86.5 per cent in 2001. This, in turn, has resulted in corresponding increase in the marginal workers from 7.6 per cent in 1991 to 13.5 per cent in 2001. Out of total workers, ‘other workers’ constitute 81.9 per cent. ‘Agricultural labourers’ accounts for 8.1 per cent and only 5.8 per cent have been returned as ‘cultivators’ in SC population of the UT. Remaining 4.1 per cent are workers in ‘household industry’.

**Marital Status**

16. Marital status is one of the important determinants of fertility and growth of a population. The 2001 Census data on marital status show that 47.8 per cent persons among the SCs of Dadra & Nagar Haveli are ‘never married’. The ‘currently married’ constitute 48.7 per cent while 3 per cent are ‘widowed’. Only 0.5 per cent are ‘divorced and separated’.

17. Census 2001 data show that majority of girls and boys among SCs in Dadra & Nagar Haveli are getting married after attaining the legal age of marriage. Marriages of SC girls below 18 years are1.3 per cent and SC boys below 21 years are 2 per cent.

18. The mean number of children ever born per ever-married SC woman of all ages is 2.7 and in the age group 45-49 years is 3.7.

**Religion**

19. Census data, 2001 show that out of the SC population of 4,104 of the UT, except 90 Buddhists, the remaining all are Hindus.