

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Geographically Solapur is located between 17.10 to 18.32 degrees north latitude and 74.42 to 76.15 degrees east longitude. The district is situated on the south east fringe of Maharashtra State and lies entirely in the Bhima and Seena basins. Whole of the district is drain either by Bhima river or its tributaries.

The district is bounded on the north by Ahmednagar and Osmanabad districts, on the east by Osmanabad and Gulbarga (Karnataka State) districts, on the south by Sangli and Bijapur (Karnataka State) and on the west by Satara and Pune districts.

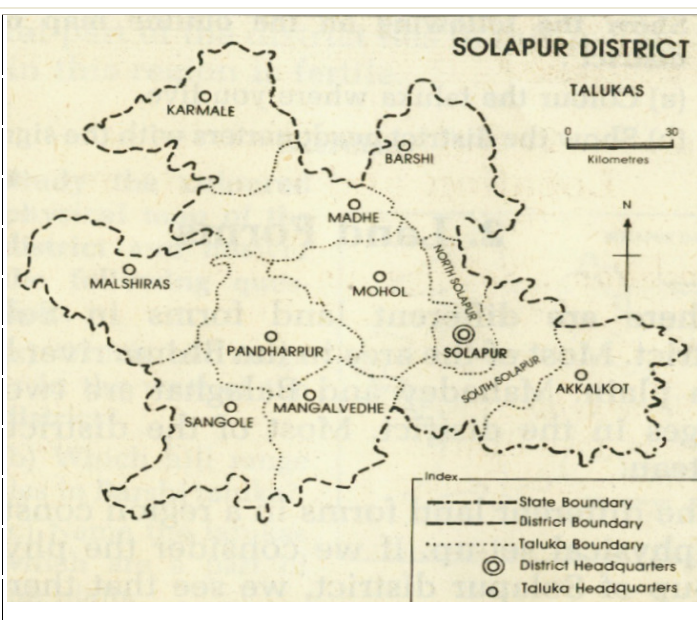
There is no important hill system in the district. Only in the north of Barshi Taluka several spurs of Balaghat range pass south for a few kilometres. There are also a few scattered hills in Karmala, Madha and Malshiras Talukas. The district in general has flat or undulating terrain. The low table land and small separate hills in Karmala and Madha Talukas act as a Watershed between Bhima and Sina rivers

The district covers geographical area of 14844.6 sq.kms. which is 4.82% of the total area of Maharashtra State. Out of the total area of the district 338.8 sq.kms (2.28%) is Urban area whereas remaining 14505.8 sq.kms. (97.72%) is Rural area.

Areawise Karmala taluka is biggest covering an area of 1609.7 sq.kms and North Solapur is smallest covering an area of 736.3 sq.kms.

The talukawise area is as below.

Name of Taluka	No. of Villages	Area in Sq.Kms.
North Solapur	54	736.3
South Solapur	90	1195.3
Akkalkot	135	1390.3
Barshi	138	1483.1
Mangalwedha	81	1140.9
Pandharpur	95	1303.6
Sangola	103	1549.9
Malshiras	112	1522.2
Mohol	104	1408.4
Madha	117	1544.9
Karmala	118	1609.7



The soils of the district can broadly be classified into three types.

- Black
- Coarse Gray
- Reddish

According to topography the district is divided in three natural zones.

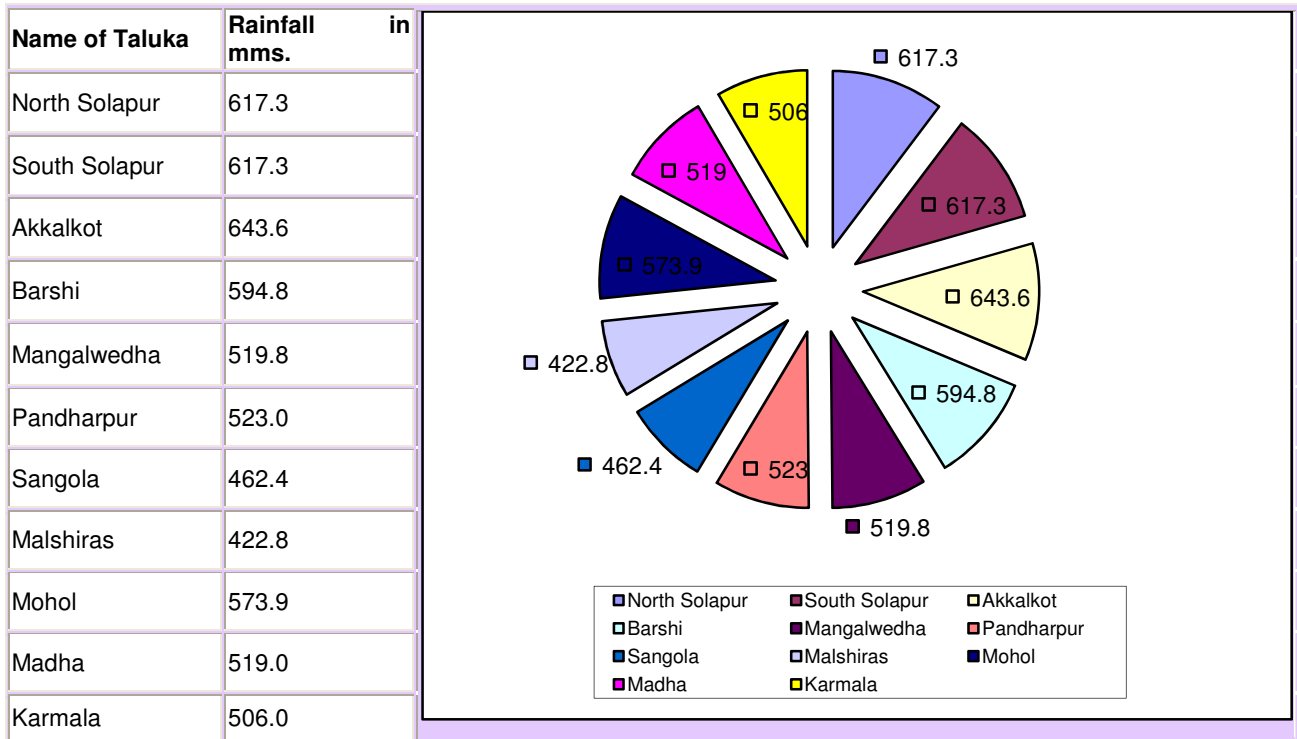
- **Eastern Zone** : This comprises of Barshi, North Solapur, South Solapur and Akkalkot Talukas. The soil is medium to deep black and of rich quality. Jawar, Bajra and Pulses are the main crops of this zone.
- **Central or Transitional Zone** : Mohol, Mangalwedha, eastern part of Pandharpur and Madha Taluka are covered by this zone. Like to moderate soil and uncertain rainfall marks this zone. Both Kharip and Rabbi crops are grown in this part.
- **Western Zone** : Karmala, Sangola and Malshiras Talukas and western parts of Pandharpur comes under this zone. Shallow and poor type of soil, not retentive of moisture marks this part. Scanty and uncertain rainfall. Rabbi crops mainly grown in Karmala, Pandharpur and Madha Talukas while Kharip crops like Bajra and Groundnut are grown in Sangola and parts of Malshiras talukas.

LAND USE PATTERN

- ▶ Agricultural Area - 11480 sq.kms.
- ▶ Cultivable not in use - 380 sq.kms.
- ▶ Non-agricultural - 690 sq.kms.
- ▶ Grass Lands and Herbs - 720 sq.kms.
- ▶ Forest Cover - 350 sq.kms.
- ▶ Wastelands - 1260 sq.kms.
- ▶ Draught prone areas (All eleven talukas) - 14844.6 sq.kms.

Agroclimatically entire district comes under rain shadow area. Rainfall is uncertain and scanty. The monsoon period is from second fortnight of June to end of September bringing rains from south-west monsoon. The average rainfall for the district is 545.4 mms.

The talukawise average rainfall is as below.



Due to scanty and nonuniform rains scarcity conditions prevail in the district. This has adversely affected the socio-economic condition of peoples. In order to face this situation, **the Ujani dam** is built to provide water to the draught prone areas.

The major river in the district is Bhima and Sina, Nira, Mann and Bhogawati are its tributaries. The Bhima and Sina run south-east. The Nira and Mann nearly east. During the dry season all the rivers are nearly dry. The length of Bhima river in Solapur district is 289 kms.

An area of 296107 hectares is under irrigation in the district from various sources.

The distance (in kms) chart of Solapur to other cities is as follows.

CITY	DISTANCE	CITY	DISTANCE	CITY	DISTANCE
AGARTALA	3300	GUNTUR	597	NELLORE	854
AGRA	1330	GURGAON	1526	PANAJI	473
AHMEDABAD	903	GUWAHATI	2547	PARADWIP	1504
AIZAWL	3039	GWALIOR	1212	PATHANKOT	2008
AJMER	1332	HALDIA	1774	PATNA	1603
AKOLA	499	HASAN	624	PONDICHERRY	885
ALIGARH	1413	HISSAR	1715	PORBANDAR	1297
ALLAHABAD	1269	HUBLI	286	PUNE	243
AMBALA	1724	HYDERABAD	305	PURULIA	1690
AMRITSAR	1979	IMPHAL	3031	RAIPUR	942
ASANSOL	1953	INDORE	726	RAJKOT	1119
AURANGABAD	324	JABALPUR	928	RAMESHWARAM	1190
BHAKTIYARPUR	1651	JAIPUR	1373	RANCHI	1571
BANGALORE	589	JAISALMER	1505	RANIPETTAI	808
BARAUNI	1714	JALANDHAR	1896	RAURKELA	1377
BARDDHAMAN	1971	JAMMU	2115	ROHTAK	1594
BAREILLY	1542	JAMNAGAR	1205	SAGAR	1129
BELGAUM	350	JHAMSHEDPUR	1611	SAHARANPUR	1663
BELLARY	410	JHANSI	1201	SALEM	792
BHAGALPUR	1838	JODHPUR	1342	SAMBALPURI	1204
BHAVNAGAR	1090	JORHAT	2850	SHAHJAHANPUR	1616
BHOPAL	912	KAKINADA	828	SILIGURI	2072

BHUBANESHWAR	1380	KANDLA	1268	SHILLONG	2647
BIKANER	1565	KANNIYAKUMARI	1371	SHIMLA	1875
BILASPUR	1053	KANPUR	1466	SHIVPURI	1100
CALCUTTA	1788	KOCHI	1052	SILCHAR	2873
CHANDIGARH	1770	KOHIMA	2886	SRINAGAR	2408
CHENNAI	936	KOHLAPUR	247	SURAT	605
CHITTARDURGA	488	KOTA	1131	THANE	385
COIMBATORE	1000	KOZHIKODE	871	THANJAVUR	980
CUTTACK	1405	KRISHNAGIRI	680	THIRUVANANTHAPURAM	1253
DEHRU DUN	1711	KURNOOL	469	THRISSUR	1015
DELHI	1553	LUCKNOW	1498	TIRUCHCHIRAPPALLI	926
DHANBAD	1776	LUDHIANA	1837	TIRUNELVELI	1189
DHULE	467	MADURAI	1035	TIRUPATI	822
DIBRUGARH	2986	MANGALORE	647	TUTICORIN	1170
DIMAPUR	2821	MEERUT	1541	UDAIPUR	1155
DINDIGUL	1091	MORADABAD	1597	UJJAIN	781
DURGAPUR	1902	MOTIHARI	1769	ULHASNAGAR	379
GANGANAGAR	1530	MUMBAI	406	VADODARA	790
GANGTOK	2186	MUZAFFARNAGAR	1592	VARANASI	1394
GAYA	1618	MUZAFFARPUR	1817	VIJAYAWADA	572
GHAZIABAD	1551	MYSORE	757	VISHAKHAPATNAM	955
GHAZIPUR	1466	NAGPUR	664	WARANGAL	445
GORAKHPUR	1567	NANDED	286		
GULBARGA	158	NASHIK	445		
