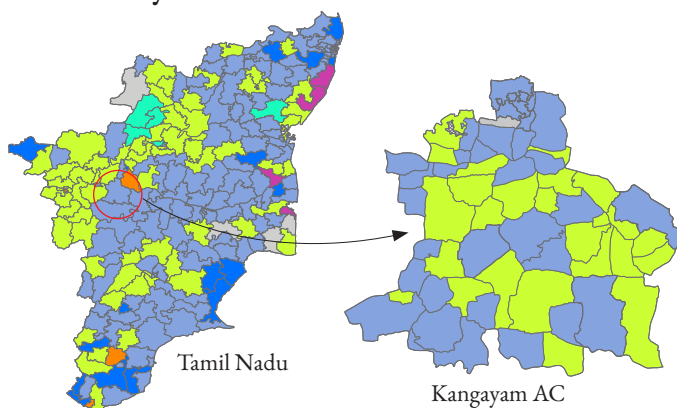


# Electoral and Demographic Profile of Kangayam Assembly Constituency, Tamil Nadu

**K**angayam Assembly Constituency, located in Tiruppur district of Tamil Nadu, forms part of the Erode Parliamentary Constituency and represents an important political segment within the western region of the state. Administratively, the constituency consists of a combination of rural and semi-urban settlements including 50 villages, 6 towns, 4 block panchayats and 37 village panchayats. The demographic and electoral characteristics of Kangayam reflect the socio-economic profile typical of the Kongu region of Tamil Nadu, where agriculture, small industries and commercial activities influence both social structure and political behaviour. According to population estimates based on the 2011 Census, the constituency has a total population of 270,582 of which approximately 54 percent reside in rural areas while 46 percent live in urban settlements. This near balance between rural and urban populations makes Kangayam a constituency where both agrarian issues and urban development concerns influence electoral politics. The spatial location and administrative composition of the constituency are illustrated in Map 1.

**Map 1: Location map of Kangayam Assembly Constituency**

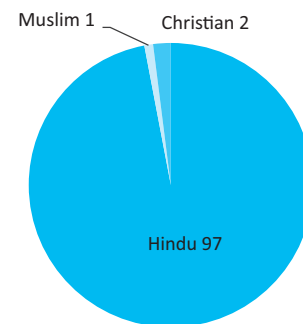


The demographic indicators of the constituency present a relatively balanced social structure. The overall sex ratio is 998 females per thousand males, which is close to gender parity and comparable to the overall demographic pattern of Tamil Nadu. However, the child sex ratio in the 0–6 age group is slightly lower at 921 females per thousand males, suggesting a mild demographic imbalance among younger cohorts. Literacy levels in the constituency are moderately high, reflecting the broader educational progress achieved in Tamil Nadu over the past few decades. The overall literacy rate stands at around 73

percent, with male literacy recorded at 82 percent and female literacy at 65 percent. A noticeable gap exists between rural and urban areas, as literacy in urban settlements reaches about 80 percent while rural literacy remains around 68 percent. These figures indicate that educational attainment continues to be unevenly distributed between rural and urban populations, which may also influence patterns of political awareness and participation.

The religious composition of the constituency reveals a highly homogeneous demographic structure. Hindus constitute approximately 97 percent of the total population, while Christians account for about 2 percent and Muslims roughly 1 percent. The religious composition of the constituency is further illustrated in Figure 1, highlighting the overwhelming dominance of the Hindu population. Such demographic concentration suggests that electoral competition in Kangayam is rarely shaped by religious polarization. Instead, local caste configurations, economic interests and party alliances tend to play a greater role in shaping political outcomes. In terms of social categories, Scheduled Castes represent around 18.07 percent of the population, whereas Scheduled Tribes form a very small segment, accounting for only about 0.05 percent. The SC population is more heavily concentrated in rural areas, where their share reaches approximately 22.59 percent compared with about 12.79 percent in urban areas. This uneven distribution highlights the continuing rural concentration of historically marginalized communities and suggests that rural welfare policies and social justice issues remain important electoral themes in the constituency.

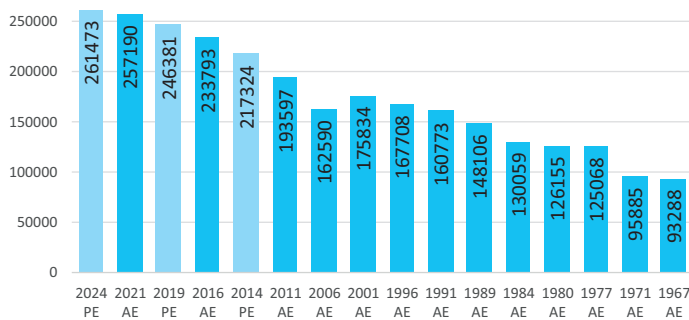
**Figure 1: Percentage of religious population group**



The size and growth of the electorate in Kangayam demonstrate the steady expansion of political participation over time. In the 2001 Assembly election the total number of electors

stood at 175,834, which gradually increased to 193,597 in 2011 and further to 233,793 in 2016. By the 2021 Assembly election the electorate had reached 257,190 and during the 2024 parliamentary election the total number of registered electors rose to 261,473. This consistent growth in the voter base reflects both population increase and improved voter registration efforts undertaken by electoral authorities. Gender distribution among voters also indicates relatively balanced participation, with women voters slightly outnumbering men in recent years. For example, in the 2024 parliamentary election the constituency recorded 134,912 female electors compared to 126,539 male electors, suggesting strong political engagement among women voters. The growth in the electorate over time is depicted in Figure 2, showing a steady increase in registered voters across election cycles.

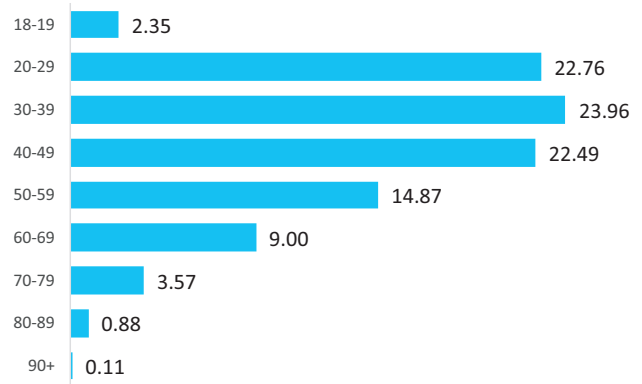
**Figure 2: Number of electors**



Abbr.: PE: Parliamentary Election; AE: Assembly Election.

Age composition of the electorate further reveals important insights into the political dynamics of the constituency. Younger voters form a substantial portion of the electorate, particularly those between 20 and 39 years of age. According to estimated data for January 2025, the largest share of electors belongs to the 30–39 age group, accounting for about 23.96 percent of total voters, followed closely by the 20–29 age group with approximately 22.76 percent. The 40–49 age group represents around 22.49 percent of electors, while voters aged 50–59 constitute roughly 14.87 percent. Senior citizens aged 60 years and above together account for about 13 percent of the electorate. The age-wise distribution of voters is presented in Figure 3, indicating a strong concentration of electors in the younger age cohorts. This distribution demonstrates that Kangayam has a relatively young electorate in which voters below the age of 40 constitute nearly half of the total voting population. Such a demographic profile has significant implications for political campaigns, as issues related to employment, education, entrepreneurship and infrastructure development tend to resonate strongly with younger voters.

**Figure 3: Percentage of electors by age group**

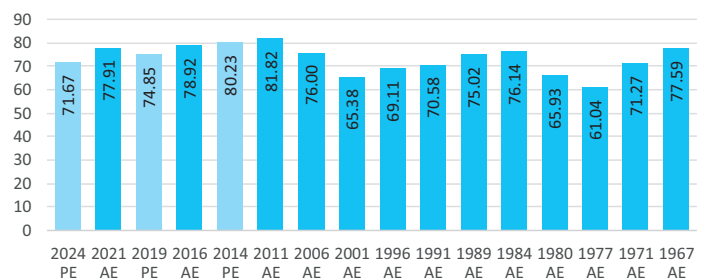


Source: Estimates from Electoral Roll 2024.

Electoral participation in Kangayam has historically remained relatively high compared to many constituencies across India. Voter turnout has generally remained above 75 percent in most Assembly elections over the past two decades. For instance, the turnout was 81.82 percent in the 2011 Assembly election, 78.92 percent in 2016 and 77.91 percent in the 2021 Assembly election. In parliamentary elections the turnout has been slightly lower but still significant, with 74.85 percent recorded in 2019 and about 71.67 percent in 2024. The consistently high voter turnout suggests strong political mobilization and awareness among the electorate, as well as effective election management by authorities. Trends in voter turnout across elections are shown in Figure 4, reflecting consistently high levels of electoral participation.

Another important indicator of electoral development is the expansion of polling infrastructure. The number of polling stations increased from 179 in the 2006 Assembly election to 218 in 2011, then to 270 in 2016 and finally to 372 polling stations in the 2021 election. This expansion reflects efforts by the Election Commission to improve accessibility for voters and reduce congestion at polling booths. Correspondingly, the average number of electors per polling station has decreased over time, thereby making voting more convenient and encouraging participation.

**Figure 4: Poll percentage**



Abbr.: PE: Parliamentary Election; AE: Assembly Election.

Politically, Kangayam has historically witnessed competition between major Dravidian parties, particularly the Dravida

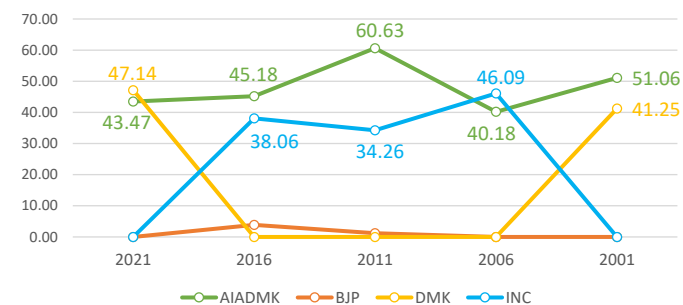
Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). In earlier decades, electoral contests occasionally involved other political forces such as the Indian National Congress or smaller regional parties, but in recent years the political contest has largely evolved into a bipolar competition between the DMK-led alliance and the AIADMK-led alliance. The vote share data from Assembly elections demonstrates this shift clearly. In the 2021 Assembly election, the DMK candidate secured approximately 47.14 percent of the vote, defeating the AIADMK candidate who obtained about 43.47 percent. This relatively narrow margin highlights the competitive nature of the constituency.

Historical election trends reveal fluctuations in party dominance. For example, the AIADMK achieved a significant victory in the 2011 Assembly election with over 60 percent of the vote, whereas the Congress had won the seat in the 2006 election with around 46 percent vote share. Earlier, in 1996, the DMK secured a decisive victory with more than 56 percent of the votes. These variations illustrate the dynamic nature of electoral politics in Kangayam, where voter preferences have shifted in response to broader state-level political trends and alliances.

The parliamentary election results for the assembly segment also reinforce the dominance of the two major Dravidian parties. In the 2024 parliamentary election, the DMK candidate secured about 50.73 percent of the votes in the Kangayam assembly segment, while the AIADMK candidate obtained approximately 32.64 percent. The substantial gap between the first and second candidates indicates a relatively strong performance by the DMK-led alliance in the latest parliamentary election. In the 2019 parliamentary election the DMK had also secured a comfortable victory with over 53 percent vote share, demonstrating the party's strong presence in the region during recent national elections. The changing vote share patterns of major political parties are illustrated in Figure 5, highlighting the evolution of bipolar competition in the constituency.

Winning margins in Kangayam have varied significantly across different elections. In the 2021 Assembly election the margin of victory was about 7,331 votes, representing roughly 3.67 percent of total votes polled. By contrast, the 2011 election witnessed a much larger margin of over 41,000 votes. In parliamentary elections the margins have often been larger, reflecting broader political swings across the state. For instance, in the 2024 parliamentary election the winning margin exceeded 33,000 votes. Such variations suggest that while the constituency remains competitive in Assembly elections, parliamentary elections tend to reflect stronger statewide political trends.

**Figure 5: Vote share of major parties in last five assembly elections**



Another notable feature of Kangayam's electoral pattern is the predominance of bipolar competition. Most elections since the late 1990s have been characterized by contests between two principal parties or alliances, with smaller parties and independent candidates securing relatively minor vote shares. Occasionally, elections have displayed multipolar characteristics when regional parties such as the MDMK, DMDK or Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) entered the fray, but these parties have generally remained secondary players in the constituency's political landscape.

Overall, the electoral behaviour of Kangayam reflects the broader political culture of Tamil Nadu, where party alliances, leadership charisma, welfare policies and local development issues strongly influence voting patterns. The constituency's balanced rural-urban composition, relatively high literacy levels and youthful electorate make it politically dynamic and responsive to changing socio-economic conditions. At the same time, the continuing dominance of the two major Dravidian parties demonstrates the enduring influence of Tamil Nadu's regional political traditions.

In conclusion, Kangayam Assembly Constituency represents a politically active and demographically balanced region within Tamil Nadu's electoral landscape. Its demographic diversity, expanding electorate and consistent voter turnout underscore the vibrancy of democratic participation in the constituency. While electoral competition remains primarily bipolar between the DMK and AIADMK alliances, shifting vote shares and varying victory margins indicate that political outcomes remain contingent on evolving political alliances, local governance performance and broader state-level dynamics. As demographic changes and socio-economic development continue to reshape the constituency, Kangayam is likely to remain an important indicator of electoral trends in western Tamil Nadu.

*Source: Statistical Publications of Election Commission of India (ECI) and Estimates from census 2011.*

— *Indiastat Elections Research Desk*