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A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF SEX COMPOSITION OF SATARA DISTRICT (MAHARASHTRA)

K.S.SURWASE

Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Mudhoji College, Phaltan (Maharashtra)

ABSTRACT

Sex ratio is defined as the number of females per one thousand males. In Satara District, the highest sex ratio was observed in Jawali Tahsil (1068 females per 1000 males in 2011) and the lowest was seen in Mahabaleshwar Tahsil (937 females per 1000 males in 2011). In the year 2001 and 2011, the sex ratio of Satara District was 925 and 922 respectively, which was slightly higher than the sex ratio of Maharashtra. During the period 1901 to 2011, the rural sex ratio was higher than the urban sex ratio. This may be probably due to the migration of rural population to urban areas for better employment opportunities available in the urban areas in the district of Satara.

Keywords: Population, Sex Ratio, Rural and Urban Sex Ratio, Satara District.

INTRODUCTION

“Sex ratio is an index of socio-economic conditions revealing in an area and is a useful tool for regional analysis”. Sex composition also influences the fertility potential of the population, labor participation and the types of jobs. In India, sex ratio is generally expressed in terms of number of females per thousand males. Sex composition varies both in time and space. According to Census 2011, the population of Satara district was 30,03,922 and out of this, 15,12,524 were males (50.35 percent) and 14,91,398 (49.65 percent) were females. The sex ratio in that period was found to be 986 females per thousand males. This imbalance in sex ratio probably is due to relatively high mortality among the females and immigration of males on a large scale from other parts of Satara District, which is mostly, dominated by males. In the year 2011, the sex ratio of Satara District was recorded 986 females per one thousand males, which is relatively higher than the Maharashtra (925 females/1000 males).

OBJECTIVES

The major objectives of this paper are as under:

1. To investigate the Spatial and temporal changes in the sex compositions of Satara District.
2. To study changes in sex ratio between Satara District and Maharashtra.
3. To study the change in sex ratio pattern in Rural and Urban population of Satara District.

THE STUDY AREA

Satara district lies in the southern Maharashtra, particularly at the western limit of Deccan table land. From the view point of physiographic Sahyadri and Mahadeo these are the two important ranges within the Satara district. The district is situated in the river basin of two rivers that are the Bhima and the Krishna River. But most probably, from the view point of peninsular drainage the entire land of Satara district belongs to the larger drainage system of the Krishna River. The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of Satara district is $17^{\circ}05'$ to $18^{\circ}11'$ north latitudes and $73^{\circ}33'$ to $74^{\circ}54'$ east longitudes. The district is bordered by Pune district and Sangli district in the north and the south respectively and by Solapur district and Ratnagiri district in the east and the west respectively. It also shares small boundary of about 24k.m. in the north-west with Raigarh district. (Census 2001) The district administers 10480.00sq.k.m of area. The total population of district is 3003922 including 1512524 male population and 1491398 female population. The total population of district constitutes 2.67 percent of the total Maharashtra's population. The population density of district is 287 people per. Sq. km. whereas the sex ratio of district is 986. (Census2011).



Fig-1

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study is solely based on the data collected from secondary sources which is derived from the census reports of India. Data from the year 1901 to 2011 is considered for comparative study of sex composition in Maharashtra and Satara District, while Spatial-temporal analysis at Tahsil level is done by using census 2011 data. Methodology involves the use of statistical techniques to make the study more scientific and more authentic. Also, simple percentage method is applied in the present investigation.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Spatial Variation in Sex ratio:

It can be seen from Table-1 that the sex ratio of Satara District was 986 (Census 2011). There is a wide variation observed in sex ratio within the district. For example, the highest sex ratio was recorded in Jawali Tahsil (1068) and lowest was seen in Mahabaleshwar Tahsil (937). Apart from Jawali Tahsil, the other Tahsils which maintained sex ratio above 1000 are Patan Tahsil (1065), Khatav Tahsil (1012) and Wai Tahsil (1005).

Table-1: Satara District: Spatial Variation in sex ratio 2011

| Sr.No | Name of the Tahsils | Sex ratio per 1000males |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Mahabaleshwar | 937 |
| 2 | Wai | 1005 |
| 3 | Khandala | 947 |
| 4 | Phaltan | 944 |
| 5 | Man | 976 |
| 6 | Khatav | 1012 |
| 7 | Koregaon | 999 |
| 8 | Satara | 976 |
| 9 | Jawali | 1068 |
| 10 | Patan | 1065 |
| 11 | Karad | 972 |
| | Satara District | 986 |

Source: DistrictCensus handbook, SataraDistrict (2011).

2. Comparative study of Sex ratio between Satara District and Maharashtra

As per Census 1901, the sex ratio of Satara District was 1030, whereas, the sex ratio of Maharashtra was 966. For 10 consecutive decades i.e. 1901-1991, the sex ratio of Satara District was above 1000, but during 1991to 2011, it dropped below 1000. In spite of this drop, the sex ratio of Satara District from 1901 to 2011 has always remained greater than Maharashtra state.

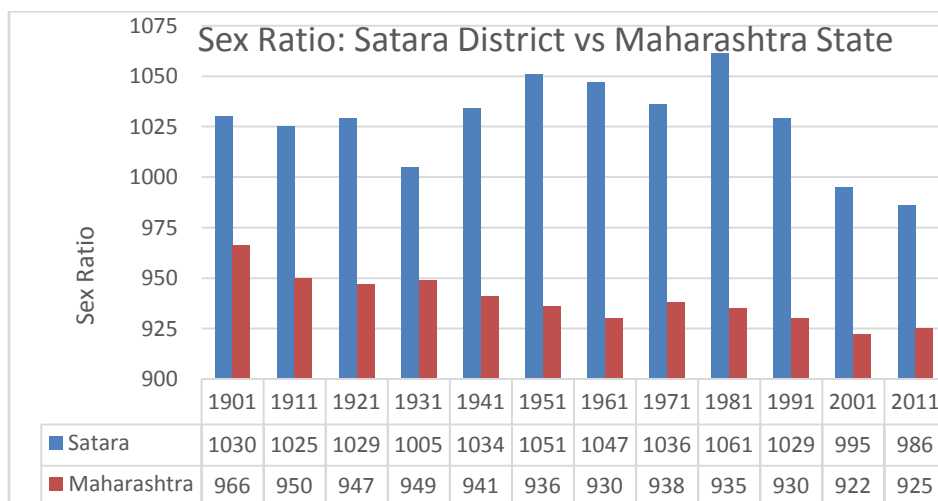


Fig-1: Sex ratio: Satara District Vs Maharashtra State.

Table -2: Sex-Ratio for Satara District and Maharashtra 1901 to 2011.

| Sr. No | Years | Satara District (Female 1000 Males) | Maharashtra (Female 1000 Males) |
|--------|-------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 1901 | 1030 | 966 |
| 2 | 1911 | 1025 | 950 |
| 3 | 1921 | 1029 | 947 |
| 4 | 1931 | 1005 | 949 |
| 5 | 1941 | 1034 | 941 |
| 6 | 1951 | 1051 | 936 |
| 7 | 1961 | 1047 | 930 |
| 8 | 1971 | 1036 | 938 |
| 9 | 1981 | 1061 | 935 |
| 10 | 1991 | 1029 | 930 |
| 11 | 2001 | 995 | 922 |
| 12 | 2011 | 986 | 925 |

Source: DistrictCensus handbook, Satara District (2011).

In short, it may be concluded that there have been wide variation in sex-ratio, during last twelve decade, because in the year 1901, it was not much distributed when it was 1030 per one thousand males for the Satara District of Maharashtra, while in the most recent decade in 2011, sex-ratio declined substantially and became as

low as 925 for the region under study, while for the Maharashtra, the sex- ratio declined from 995 in the year 2001 to 986 in the year 2011.

2. Change in Rural & Urban Sex ratio:-

The sex ratio in rural as well as in urban population has declined over the period of time (1901-2011).

Table-3.Change in the Sex- Ratio (female /1000 males) in Satara District.

| Sr. No | Years | Total Population | Rural Population | Sex- Ratio | Urban Population | Sex- Ratio |
|--------|-------|------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | 1901 | 849672 | 776357 | 1033 | 73315 | 997 |
| 2 | 1911 | 835337 | 778637 | 1086 | 56700 | 972 |
| 3 | 1921 | 786436 | 711169 | 1038 | 75267 | 949 |
| 4 | 1931 | 895014 | 808393 | 1015 | 86621 | 922 |
| 5 | 1941 | 1013212 | 902510 | 1043 | 110702 | 961 |
| 6 | 1951 | 1177016 | 1016677 | 1065 | 160339 | 964 |
| 7 | 1961 | 1430105 | 1271678 | 1065 | 158427 | 912 |
| 8 | 1971 | 1727376 | 1500119 | 1061 | 227257 | 885 |
| 9 | 1981 | 2038677 | 1772885 | 1084 | 265792 | 916 |
| 10 | 1991 | 2451372 | 2135532 | 1044 | 315840 | 926 |
| 11 | 2001 | 2808994 | 2410873 | 1007 | 398121 | 928 |
| 12 | 2011 | 3003922 | 2433653 | 995 | 570269 | 959 |

Source: District Census handbook, SataraDistrict (2011).

Table-3 illustrates the changes in rural and urban population sex ratios in Satara District since 1901. It can be seen that the rural sex ratio has always been higher than the urban sex ratio from 1901 to 2011. This may be due to the migration of rural population to urban areas for seeking better employment opportunities in the urban area, particularly for the working males, who leave their families behind at home in rural areas.

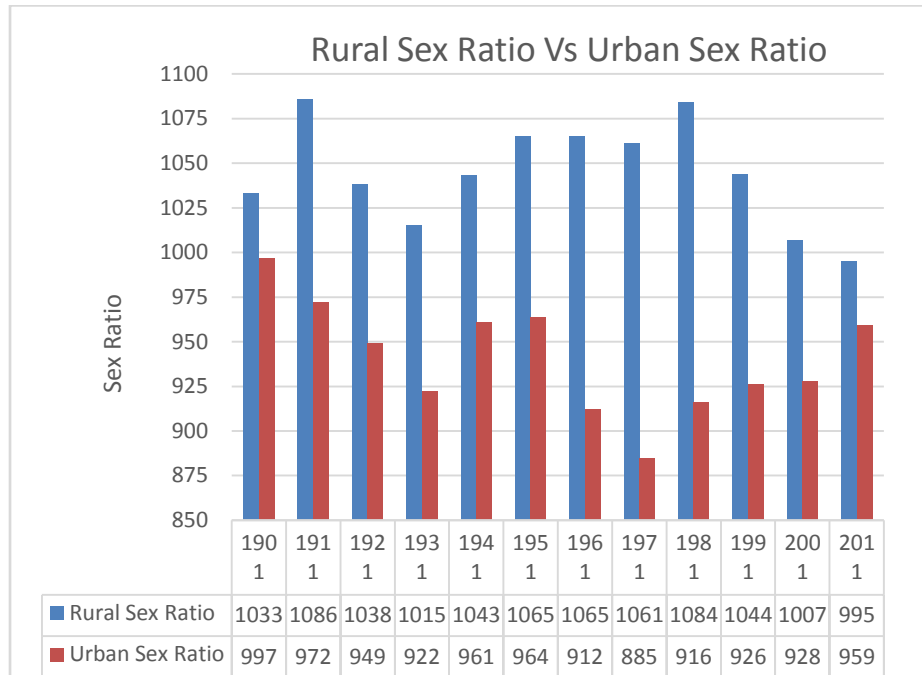


Fig-2: Rural Sex Ratio Vs Urban Sex Ratio (Satara District)

CONCLUSION

As per Census 2011, the sex ratio of Satara District was found to be 986 which is little less than the sex ratio in 2001 i.e. 995. Highest sex ratio was found in Jawali Tahsil (1068) and the lowest was found in Mahabaleshwar Tahsil (937). The sex ratio of Satara District during the entire study period i.e. 1901-2011 has always been higher than Maharashtra state. The rural sex ratio was found to be always higher than the urban sex ratio throughout the entire study period. The highest sex ratio in rural area was seen in the year 1911 (1086) and the lowest in 2011 (995). Whereas, the highest sex ratio in urban area was seen in the year 1901 (997) and the lowest in 1971 (885). Until 1991, the sex ratio of Satara District never came down below 1000, but in 2001 and 2011 it went below 1000. This can be attributed to the fact that not only males but even females are leaving their hometowns in search of better employment opportunities and educational facilities. Moreover the males these days are migrating with their entire families.

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**Address:- Dr. Ashak Hussain Malik House No-221, Gangoo Pulwama - 192301
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Cell: 09086405302, 09906662570,

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