

Research Papers



SPATIAL PATTERN OF SEX RATIO IN INDIA : A GEOGRAPHICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract

in India general as well as child sex ratio has been declining remarkably. In India within the states there is wide range of general as well child sex ratio. In the present research paper an attempt has been made to find out and to analyse spatial pattern of general sex ratio and child sex ratio. 2011 Census year is selected for the study purpose. The entire paper is based on secondary source of data which is mainly derived from Census of India, State is considered as basic unit of study investigation.

INTRODUCTION

Female sex ratio commonly known as sex ratio is the number of females per every 1000 males in a given place. It, again, is recalculated based on the age groups like 0 years to 6 years or 6 years and above. The number of females in the age group of 0 years to 6 years is termed as child sex ratio. Sex composition is a subject of great interest to the demographers, regional planners, sociologists, economists and geographers too. Sex ratio is an index of socio economic conditions of an area. It is an important tool of regional analysis. It has a profound effect on demographic structure of a region (B. N. Ghosh). Sex ratio influence the form and tempo of life in any country. The balance between the sexes is an important aspect of population structure. Sex ratio also affect on labour supply. Low sex ratio creates social problems like widowhood as well as sex ratio affect on the fertility and population growth.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the research papers are :

1. to analyse general sex ratio of India .
2. to highlight child sex ratio of India.

STUDY REGION

Study region lies between 804' and 3706' North latitude and 6807' and 97025' East longitude. The subcontinent of India lies in south Asia between Pakistan, china and Nepal. Administratively India has divided into 28 States and 7 Union Territories. Geographically India can be divided in four natural regions Viz. the Northern Mountain Region, the Great Northern Plain, the Coastal Plain & the Deccan Plateau. Study region covers an area of 3287263 Sq .Km.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present research work is entirely based on secondary source of data which is mainly derived from Census of India. Few information and data have been derived from the Govt. publication mainly socio-economic review, India at a glance, gazetteers of India etc. For the spatial analysis of sex ratio 2011 census year is selected. State is selected as a basic unit of study investigation. Sex ratio of the total population is calculated by using the following formula:

Sex Ratio = $\frac{\text{Total Female Population}}{\text{Total Male Population}} \times 1000$

Child sex ratio is calculated by using the following formula:

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Child Sex Ratio= Total No. of girls below 6 years /
Total No. of boys

below 6 Years X 1000

Separate sex ratio for the total population and 0-6 year population are calculated for each state. And all these states are grouped in five categories mainly very high, high, moderate, and low and very low sex ratio.

ANALYSIS

SPATIAL PATTEN OF GENERAL SEX RATIO (2011)

Average sex ratio of India in 2011 is 940 females per 1000 males. The highest sex ratio (1084 females per 1000 males) is found in Kerala state while the lowest (877 females per 1000 males) sex ratio is found in Haryana State. Sixteen states have recorded higher sex ratio than that of Indian average while remaining i.e. twelve states have recorded lower sex ratio than that of Indian average.

It is clearly seen that seven States namely Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamilnadu show very high sex ratio (above 975 females per 1000 males). Four States namely Assam, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh & Uttaranchal shows high sex ratio (ranges between 950-975 females per 1000 males). These eleven States have recorded above the average sex ratio of the country (i.e. 940 females per 1000 males). Unfavorable physiographic and economic conditions, low development, heavy out migration of male population for the sake of job opportunity, low development of industries are general causes of high sex ratio in these eleven states.

In Kerala very high sex ratio is due to the religious & economic situation. In Christians high status gives to female. Besides this male selective out migration is more in Kerala. So that Kerala has recorded very high sex ratio (1084 females per 1000 males). In Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland States also have Christianity population so that these states have high sex ratio as compared to that of Indian average sex ratio. In having Due to high male selective out migration Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgarh States have recorded high sex ratio.

Moderate sex ratio (950 females per 1000 males) is found in 5 States viz. Rajasthan, Nagaland, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh State. Sex ratio in West Bengal and Jharkhand States are above national average sex ratio of India. Five States Viz. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar,

Gujarat, Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh have recorded low sex ratio (900-925 females per 1000 males). Among them Gujarat and Maharashtra States are highly economically developed. These two states also industrially as well as agriculturally developed. So male selective in-migration is high in these two states. Consequently low sex ratio is found Maharashtra and Gujarat states. Sex ratio is very low (below 900 females per 1000 males) in four States namely Jammu Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana and Sikkim. In Haryana the female do not enjoy the high status and due to proximity to the national capital (New Delhi) is able to attract male migrants to adjoining area for employment purpose. Besides such North western states was largely the product of either genetically factor (such as Sikh) or high incidence of Female feticide.

SPATIAL PATTEN OF CHILD SEX RATIO (0-6 YEARS AGE GROUP) (2011)

13.12% of the population in India is between 0-6 year of age. This is also 2.8% lower than last census. Fig.2 shows state wise child sex ratio of India. The highest (971 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio is found in Mizoram State while the lowest (830 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio is found in Haryana state. As per 2011 Census in India average child sex ratio is 914.2. It is noted that eighteen states have recorded higher child sex ratio than that of Indian average. While remaining i.e. 10 states have recorded low child sex than that of Indian average.

How ever child sex ratio varies from state to state. Eight states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Meghalaya, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Mizoram have recorded very high (above 950 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio. Moderate (between 900-925 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio is found in three states namely Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh. Eleven States mainly Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Orissa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala have recorded high (between 925 - 950 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio. Six states namely Uttaranchal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have recorded low (between 875 - 900 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio and five states namely Chandigarh, Delhi, Jammu Kashmir, Punjab and Haryana have recorded very low (below 875 girls per 1000 boys) child sex ratio. In our country child sex ratio has been decreasing due to growing easy access to pre-natal sex determination test and

increasing stress for limiting the family size.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Foregoing analysis clearly revealed that general sex ratios as well as child sex ratio differ from state to state. Present study also revealed that industrialization, urbanization, out migration have greatly determined general sex ratio while economic development, literacy, personal attitude, modern way of life have disturbed child sex ratio in study region.

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