



OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF URBAN CENTRES IN SOLAPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Therefore, the occupational pattern has the important aspects, not only in economic context but in geographic perspective also. In this context, present paper tried to endeavor main aspects occupation structure of town. A former aspect comprises firstly the study of work participation rate and then both classwise and town wise occupational structure of towns of the census years 1981 and 2001 and changes therein. Solapur district is located in the western part of the Maharashtra state. It lies between 17°10' north to 18°32' north latitude and 74°42' east to 75°15' east longitude. For the present study data has been collected from Census Handbooks, Socio-Economic Abstract of Solapur District. The occupational structure has useful to identify the economic importance of any settlement. The work participation rate of small towns is high in the study area, which changes slowly and of large towns it is low which changes firstly. Large towns are more dynamic in case of work participation rate and occupational structure.

INTRODUCTION

Therefore, the occupational pattern has the important aspects, not only in economic context but in geographic perspective also. Occupation is the name of the function which a person performs by engaging himself in some gainful activity (Census of India, 1971). Mukherjee and Singh (1954) define occupation as “the name of the function which a person performs by engaging himself in that particular branch of gainful economic activity which is his industry”. Various activities observed in town and cities which are related to social and economic activities and peoples have engaged in it. These activities are showing the spatial and important characteristic in urban centre. The occupational activities depends upon the history of urban centre, location of urban centre, their growth, its basic function and the available of resources in the surrounding of the urban centre.

Urban centres, though different activities take place within the town it is a point of specialized activities carrying out tasks which are best performed either at central accessible place or where a high degree of population concentration is economically necessary (Harris, 1945). According to the need of surrounding area and it's own population urban centre has specialised function. It is an important role of national and regional development. In this context, present paper tried to endeavor two main aspects occupation structure of town. Former aspects comprises firstly the study of work participation rate and then both classwise and town wise occupational structure of towns of the census years 1981 and 2001 and changes therein.

OBJECTIVES

1. To identify work participation rate of the urban centres
2. To investigate the occupational structure of the Solapur District.

STUDY REGION

Solapur District situated in the western part of the Maharashtra state which has been selected for the present study. It lies between 17° 10' north to 18° 32' north latitudes and 74° 42' east to 76° 15' east longitudes. It is administratively sub-divided into 11 tahsils (Fig. 1). It is bounded by Ahmednagar on the north, Osmaanabad on north-east, Gulbarga district from Karnataka state on east-south, Sangli district on the south-west and Pune and Satara on the west side. It covers an area of 14895 sq km. and supports population of 3849543 (258 persons in per.sq.km). Solapur District is situated entirely in Bhima, Nira, Sina, and Man river basins in south-west Maharashtra. The area comprising 1150 inhabited villages and 10 urban centres and 31.83 percent population live in the urban areas while remaining 68.17 percent live in the rural sector (2001).

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

The data of census years 1981 and 2001 is available as working population classifying in four industrial categories. For census years 1971 and 1991 the data of the same is in nine categorical classification of working population. Keeping in view this fact, for comparative purpose data of census years 1981 and 2001 has been used. For the census years 1981 and 2001, this data recommended by planning commission and central statistical organization and is available only in four industrial categories viz. cultivators, agricultural laborers, household industries and other workers. The analysis in the present paper is based on data collected from secondary source mainly from District Census Handbooks, 1981 and 2001, Solapur District and socio-economic abstract Solapur District 2012. For the calculation of work participation rate the proportion of working population to the total population has been considered. The percentile of worker in each category and also the percentile of agricultural and non agricultural worker have been calculated.

WORK PARTICIPATION RATE

The work participation rate of the total population has been calculated of the census year 1981 and 2001. In 1981, the study area has 30.12 per cent work participation rate which found maximum in Maindargi (37.67) and minimum in Kurduvadi (24.21) town. The work participation rate of study area increased and become 33.86 per cent in 2001. This was maximum in Maindirgi (37.92) and minimum in Pandharpur (28.52). The high change has been observed in Sangola and low change observed in Maindargi (Table.1 and Fig. 2). Though small towns have high work participation rate the most of working population observed in agricultural sector. Hence, the study of occupation structure is become significant.

Table 1
Solapur District: Urban Work Participation Rate and Changes There in, 1981 and 2001

Sr. No.	Urban Centre	1981	2001	Change
1.	Karmala	27.89	31.75	3.86
2.	Kurduvadi	24.21	30.16	5.95
3.	Barshi	27.94	30.88	2.94
4.	Solapur	31.10	34.80	3.70
5.	Pandharpur	26.66	28.52	1.86
6.	Sangole	30.10	36.65	6.55
7.	Akkalkot	27.88	31.45	3.57
8.	Maindargi	37.67	37.92	0.25

9.	Dudhani	32.70	37.50	4.80
10.	Mangalvedhe	29.54	35.41	5.87
Solapur District		30.12	33.86	3.74

Source: Based on District Census Handbooks, Solapur District, 1981 and 2001.

Solapur District : Urban Work Participation Rate, 1981-2001

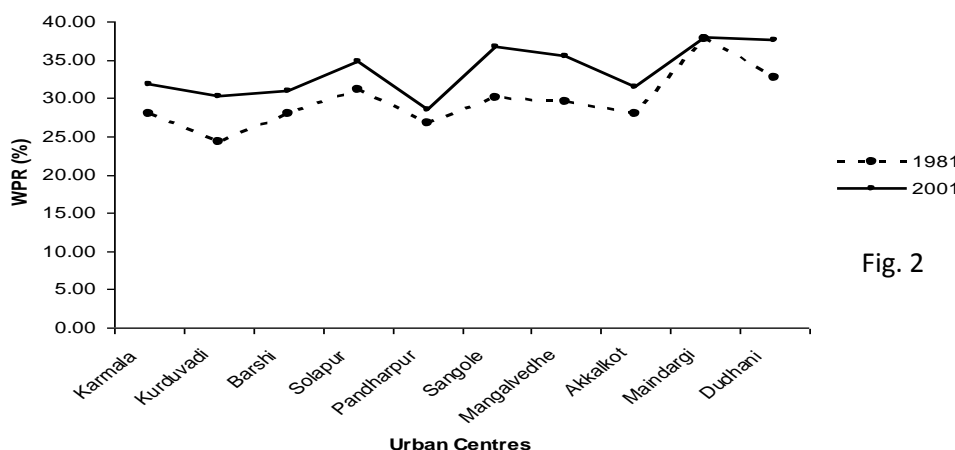


Fig. 2

OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF URBAN CENTRES

Town wise occupational structure

Here the focus is given on the occupational structure of the study area in census years 1981 and 2001. Analyses of change in the occupational structure of the working population divided in cultivators, agricultural labourer, household industries and other services of urban centre. In 1981 and 2001 the large towns have a higher percentage of population in other activities; where as small towns show a dominance of cultivators and agricultural labourers.

In the study area, the cultivators were 3.99 and 2.44 per cent respectively in 1981 and 2001. In the Mangalvedha and Sangola towns have high percentage of population engaged in this activity both in 1981 and 2001. Solapur has low percentage of population engaged in this activity in 1981 and 2001. In the year 1981 and 2001, population engaged in the agricultural labourer was 4.37 and 4.57 per cent respectively working population has engaged in the study area. In the Dudhani town high percentage of population engaged in this activity respectively in 1981 and 2001. In the Solapur and Pandharpur towns low percentage of population has engaged in this activity in 1981 and 2001.

In the study area, 6.49 per cent working population engaged in household industries in the year 1981. Maindargi and Solapur towns have high and other towns have low percentage than the average. In 2001, this average becomes 13.73 per cent where Solapur town has high percentage and other towns have low than average percentage of population engaged in this activity. In the year 1981 and 2001, population engaged in the other activities was 85.15 and 79.25 per cent respectively. In the Solapur and Pandharpur high percentage of population engaged in this activity in 1981 and 2001. Maindargi town has low percentage of population engaged in this activity respectively in 1981 and 2001 (Table 2 and Fig 3).

Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Population

The population engaged in agricultural and non-agricultural workers in all towns in 1981 and 2001 is interesting to note. Study area has 8.36 per cent working population in agricultural sector and remaining 91.64 per cent in non-agricultural sector in the year 1981. In

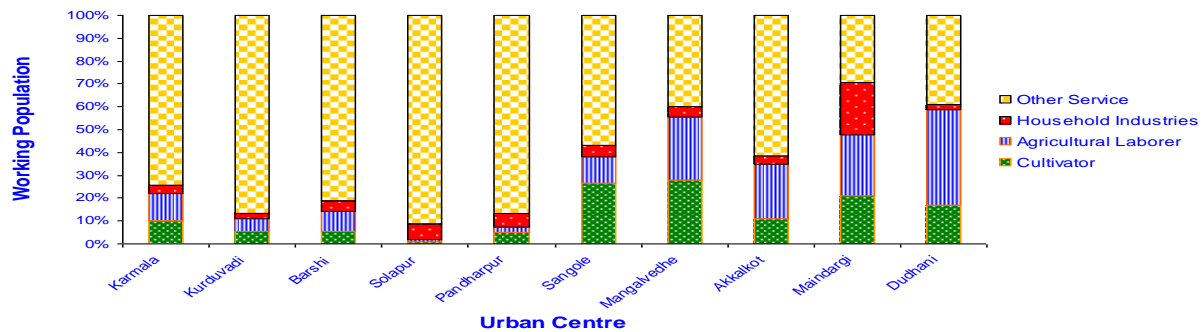
the year 2001 the population engaged in agricultural sector has been decreased and become 7.02 per cent and increased in non-agricultural sector and become 92.98 per cent. This has considerable townwise variation. Though the proportion of agricultural population was below 10 per cent in study area, Dudhani town in 1981 and Maindargi town in 2001, experiences highest proportion of agricultural population and on the other side, Solapur town in both years experiences lowest proportion of agricultural population and necessary highest proportion of non-agricultural population.

Table 2
Solapur District: Occupational Structure in Urban Centres, 1981 and 2001
 (Figures in %)

Sr. No.	Urban Centre	Cultivator		Agricultural Laborer		Agricultural Sector		Household Industries		Other Service		Non-Agricultural Sector	
		1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001
1.	Karmala	10.14	3.62	11.94	4.75	22.07	8.37	3.54	5.40	74.39	86.23	77.93	91.63
2.	Kurduvadi	5.32	3.49	5.53	7.73	10.86	11.22	2.56	3.10	86.59	85.67	89.14	88.78
3.	Barshi	5.69	1.63	8.47	4.09	14.16	5.72	4.50	4.58	81.34	89.69	85.84	94.28
4.	Solapur	1.05	0.87	0.74	2.40	1.78	3.26	6.91	17.32	91.30	79.42	98.22	96.74
5.	Pandharpur	5.02	2.57	2.28	1.89	7.30	4.46	5.84	4.16	86.85	91.37	92.70	95.54
6.	Sangole	26.79	20.06	11.25	14.64	38.05	34.70	4.85	3.21	57.10	62.09	61.95	65.30
7.	Mangalvedhe	27.83	19.57	27.81	28.43	55.63	48.00	4.31	2.62	40.06	49.39	44.37	52.00
8.	Akkalkot	11.16	6.34	23.78	17.93	34.94	24.27	3.53	2.26	61.53	73.47	65.06	75.73
9.	Maindargi	21.23	19.97	26.36	32.93	47.59	52.90	23.08	6.84	29.33	40.26	52.41	47.10
10.	Dudhani	17.06	12.73	41.45	37.89	58.51	50.61	2.47	2.16	39.02	47.23	41.49	49.39
	Solapur District	3.99	2.44	4.37	4.58	8.36	7.02	6.49	13.73	85.15	79.25	91.64	92.98

Source: Based on District Census Handbooks, Solapur District, 1981 and 2001.

Solapur District : Town Wise Occupational Structure
A. 1981



B. 2001

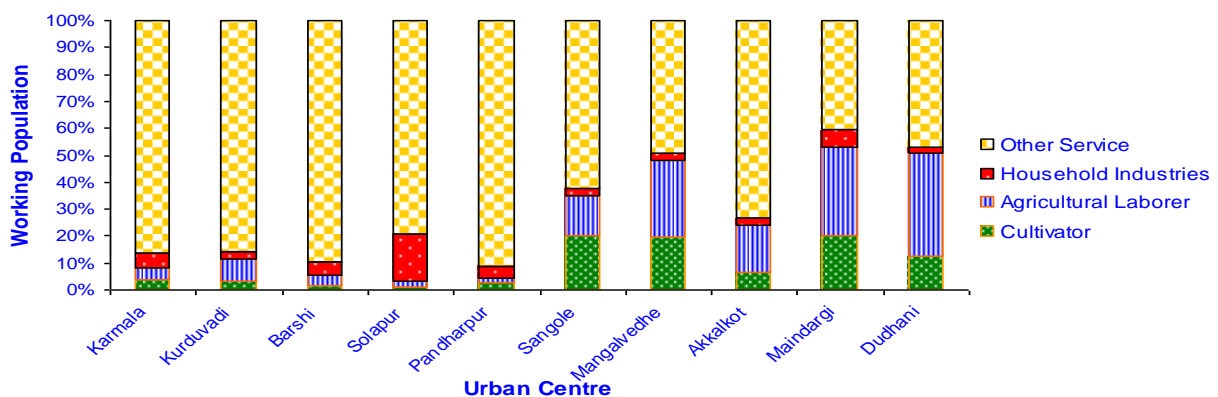


Fig. 3

In the year 1981 and 2001, beside Dudhni and Maindrgi towns, Akkalkot, Mangalvedha, Sangola, Karmala and Kurduvadi towns also have more proportion of agricultural population than the regional average. On the other hand, in the same period, besides Solapur town only Pandharpur and Barshi towns have more proportion than the regional average (Table 2).

Classwise Occupational Structure

Class wise occupational structure in the study area is also worth to note. In the year 1981 and 2001, cultivators in class I towns are found lowest and class IV towns are found highest population (Table 3). The agricultural sector has lowest percentage in class I towns (0.74 %) and highest in class V towns (41.45 %) in 1981. In the year 2001, it has lowest percentage in class II towns (1.89 %) and highest percentage in class IV towns (35.31 %).

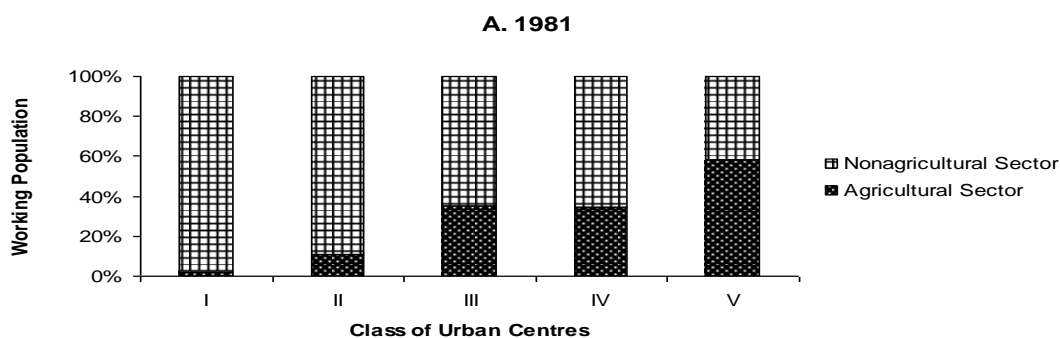
The proportion of workers in household industries observed hardly 7 per cent in class I and IV towns, 5.12 per cent in class II towns and below 3 per cent in class III and V towns in 1981. Class I towns have high increase in household of workers during 1981 to 2001. The small changes have been observed in class II, III and IV towns (Table 3). As per as the proportion of workers engaged in other services is concern, the year 1981 shows decreasing proportion from class I to class VI towns; but in 2001, class II towns have high proportion than class I and this proportion decreasing from class II to class V towns (class VI town not exists in 2001).

Agricultural and Non Agricultural Population

Small towns have comparatively high proportion of workers pursuing their job in agriculture sector which incorporates cultivates and agricultural laborers. In 1981 the percentage of workers in class V towns of the study area was a high i.e. 58.51 per cent where, 35 per cent in class III and IV towns, 11 per cent in class II towns and only 1.78 per cent in class I towns. On other hand, the proportion of worker in non-agriculture sector was high i.e. 98.22 per cent in class I towns and 88.99 per cent class II town and hardly 65 per cent in class III and IV towns of the study area. In class V towns only 41.49 per cent working population observed in this sector.

As in 1981 class V towns were converted in the upper class in 2001 (Table 3). The proportion of workers in agricultural sector of class IV towns has slashed form 34.94 per cent to 51.78 per cent. It incused by 17.04 percentage points from 1981 to 2001, but in the class II and III towns it decreases. In class I towns it increased because elative more agriculturally dominate town Barshi added as class I town in 2001. In non agriculture sector, the proportion of workers in class IV towns has decreases from 65.26 to 48.22 per cent.

Solapur District : Class Wise Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Population



B. 2001

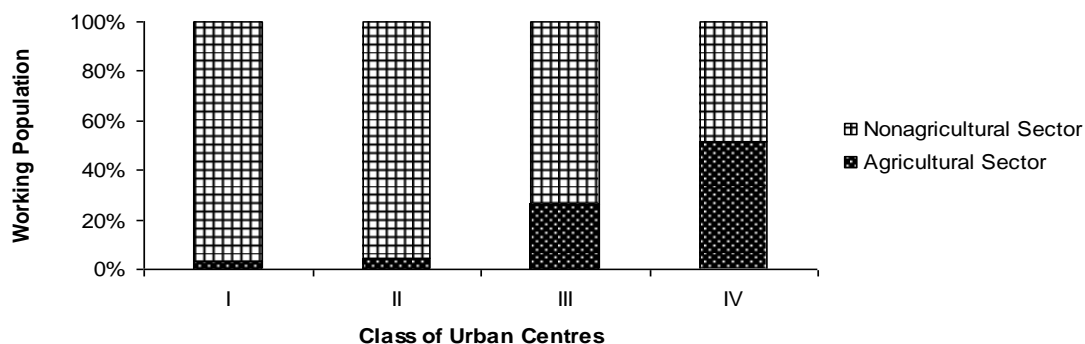


Fig. 4

Table 3
Solapur District: Class Wise Occupational Structure, 1981 and 2001
(Figures in %)

Class	Cultivators		Agricultural Laborer		Agricultural Sector		Household Industries		Other Service		Nonagricultural Sector	
	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001	1981	2001
I	1.05	0.94	0.74	2.56	1.78	3.50	6.91	16.09	91.30	80.41	98.22	96.50
II	5.38	2.57	5.63	1.89	11.01	4.46	5.12	4.16	83.87	91.37	88.99	95.54
III	11.16	11.01	23.78	15.31	34.94	26.31	.53	3.18	61.53	70.51	65.06	73.69
IV	18.21	16.43	16.53	35.35	34.74	51.78	7.30	4.55	57.96	43.67	65.26	48.22
V	17.06	0.00	41.45	0.00	58.51	0.00	2.47	0.00	39.02	0.00	41.49	0.00
Total	10.57	7.74	17.63	13.78	28.20	21.51	5.07	7.00	66.74	71.49	71.80	78.49
SD	7.39	7.28	16.09	15.65	22.36	22.76	2.09	6.09	21.03	20.41	22.36	22.76

Source: Based on District Census Handbooks, Solapur District, 1981 and 2001.

CONCLUSION

The occupational structure has useful to identify the economic importance of any settlement. The work participation rate of small towns is high in the study area, which changes slowly and of large towns it is low which changes firstly. Large towns are more dynamic in case of work participation rate and occupational structure.

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