SPATIAL PATTERN OF SEX COMPOSITION IN WESTERN MAHARASHTRA : A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract:

Sex Composition refers to the balance between males and females in any population. It not affects the demographic process, but also determines the socio economic relationship within a community. The balance between males and females in the total population as well as in various age groups have considerable impact on social and economic situation, both in the present as well as in the future context. Great attention has been placed on the issue in the recent year, due to the increasingly skewed child sex ratio. The present study aims to explain sex composition of various age groups i.e. child (0-6), juvenile (0-14), work force (15-59) and senile (60+). It tries to explain he spatial pattern of sex composition hence, it is important to understand the concept of sex ratio. It indicates the relative proportion of the female and male components of any population. The term sex ratio is number of females per thousand of males.

Keywords: sex ratio, juvenile sex ratio (JSR), senile sex ratio (SSR), work force sex ratio (WFSR), child sex ratio (CSR).

INTRODUCTION

Age and sex composition occupies very important positions in any discussion on characteristics of a population. The present study to explain sex composition of various age group i.e. child (0-6), juvenile (0-14), work force (15-59) and senile (60+). It tries to explain the spatial pattern of sex composition hence, it is important to understand the concept of sex ratio. According to census of India sex composition is one of the most important factors which affect the whole economic, social, cultural and religious structure of society. It indicates the relative proportion of the female and male components of any population. The term sex ratio is umber of females per thousand of males. The imbalance between the two sexes leads to a number of social problems such as prostitution, promiscuity, perversion etc. and affect the health of the community. This excess trends to lower the age of marriage for female, since the number of females fall short of the number of the opposite sex. Hence there is a wide age gap between the husband and the wife. The study of sex ratio is of great interest to geographers because of the important roles play by two sexes in economy and society.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main objective of present research paper is as follow: To analyze the spatial pattern of sex composition (Child, Juvenile, Work Force and Senile Sex Ratio)) of western Maharashtra.

STUDY AREA

Maharashtra state occupies the western and central part of the country and the regional conveniences the state is divided into five divisions namely, Konkan, Western Maharashtra, Khandesh, Marathwada and Vidharbha. The western Maharashtra region lies in the southern part of Maharashtra which is one of the regional divisions of Maharashtra. The western Maharashtra

LOCATION MAP OF STUDY REGION

Fig. 1

region is situated in east part of Sahyadri range of Maharashtra state. This covers 90,718sq.km of the total area. It is situated between 15°45' to 20°35' north latitude and 73°19' to 76°15' east longitude (Fig.1.). The western Maharashtra is divided into 7 district
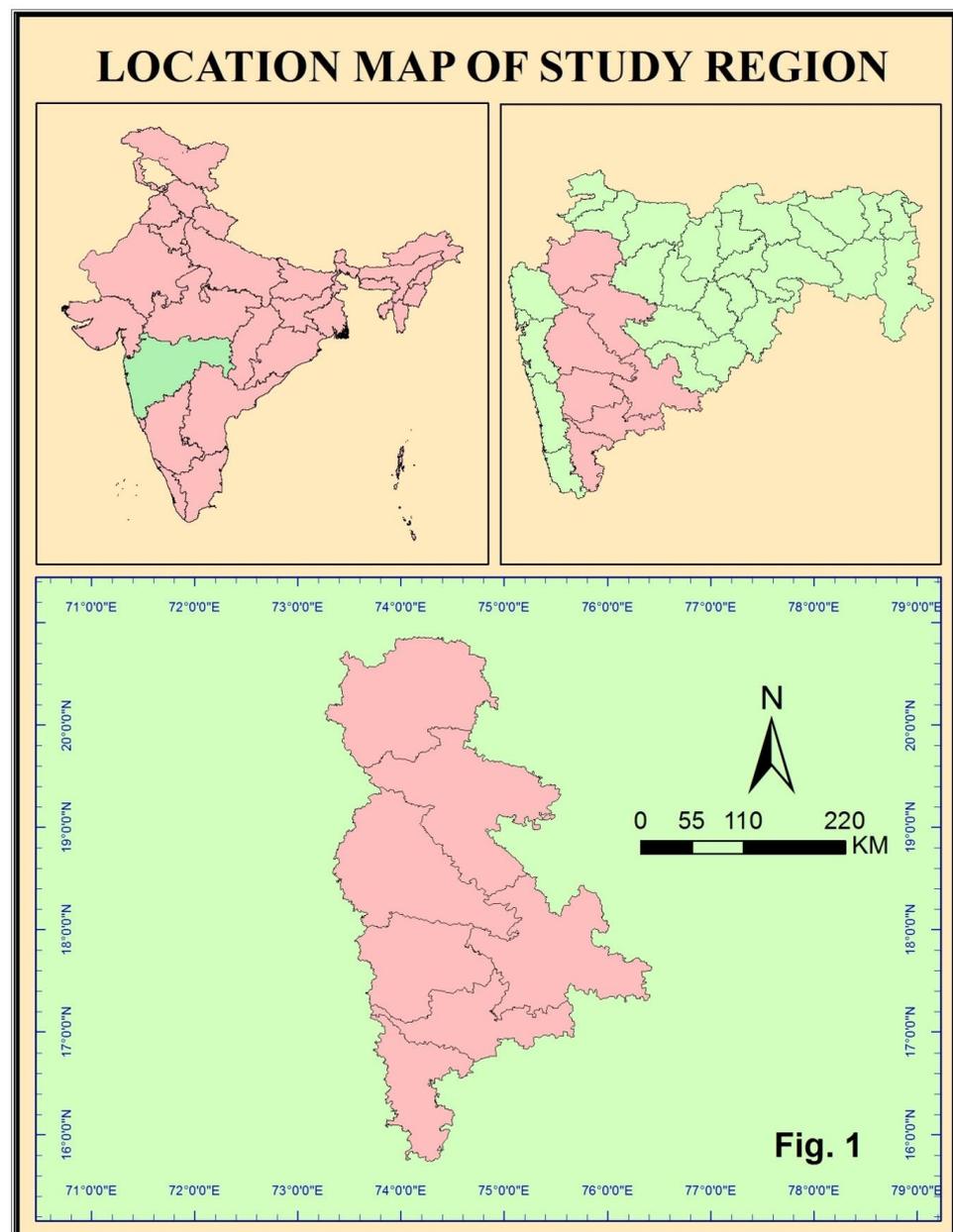
and 87 tahsils. Its population density is 382 persons per Sq. km. which is much higher than Maharashtra population density i.e. 365 the total sex ratio in western Maharashtra is 944 this is higher than the Maharashtra state average 925 of sex ratio. His literacy of western Maharashtra is 82.35% which is more than the State of Maharashtra average i.e. 82.3 percent.

DATA AND METHODOLOGY

The present research work is essentially based on secondary source of data. The data has been taken from primary census abstract and census of India 2011. After the collection, the data was arranged tabulated, calculated and analyzed. The results obtained from the calculation, is further represented on the maps. Further the quartile method is used to from the form the four categories of data.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:
SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF SEX COMPOSITION IN WESTERN MAHARASHTRA

I.   CHILD SEX RATIO (0-6)

CSR is the number of females per thousand ales under (0-6) age group. It is calculated to understand the current and future trends of sex composition. CSR is highest in Satara (895) district. it is followed by Nashik (894), Pune (884), Solapur (883), Sangli (869), Kolhapur (863) whereas, Amhadnagar (852), has lowest sex ratio at the national level (919). The low sex ratio in western Maharashtra is associated with the preference of parents to male child; hence they used modern technology to identify the sex of child and practice of female feticide.

CSR of the urban population is highest in Pune 982 district. It is followed by Solapur 907, Nashik 890, Satara 889, Sangil 889, Amhadnagar 866, whereas Kolhapur 865 district show lowest sex ratio in 0-6 age group. (Fig. 2). CSR of rural population is lowest than urban population. District Satara has 897 and other districts show lowest sex ratio in 0-6 age group.

II.   JUVENILE SEX RATIO (0-14)

JSR is the number of females per thousand males under (0-14) age group. It is calculated to understand future trends of composition of working population, because the concerned age group after availing there education centers in the work force of the concerned areas. The district Nashik (894) attains highest JSR in western Maharashtra. It may be associated with the level of industrialization in this district. It is followed by Satara (885),

Solapur (885), Pune (884), Amhadnagar (860), Sangli (857) whereas, Kolhapur (850) has lowest sex ratio in JSR in western Maharashtra. The south Maharashtra has the lower sex ratio than the northern part of study region.

JSR of the urban population in District Solapur (905) attains highest JSR in western Maharashtra. It is followed by Nashik (887), Pune (887), Sangli (869), Amhadnagar (863), Satara (855). Whereas, Kolhapur (846), have lowest sex ratio in JSR in urban Western Maharashtra.

In rural sex ratio of juvenile age group is lower than urban population. Therefore the spatial pattern of the JSR of rural population is much more similar to total JSR. District Nashik (898) attains highest JSR in rural western Maharashtra. It is followed by Satara (893), Pune (881), Solapur (876), and Amhadnagar (859), Sangli (853). Whereas, Kolhapur (851), has the lowest sex ratio in juvenile age group in rural western Maharashtra.

III.   WORK FORCE SEX RATIO (15-59)

WFSR refers to the number of females per thousand males in the economically productive age group (15-59). It is calculated to understand the nature of the economically productive age group of the concerned areas. District Satara (1005), attains highest work force sex ratio in western Maharashtra. It is followed by Sangli (989), Kolhapur (971), Amhadnagar (945), Solapur (943), Nashik (929), whereas, Pune (910) has the lowest sex ratio in working age group in western Maharashtra. The central western Maharashtra has the low work force sex ratio than the rest part of the western Maharashtra.

In urban population, district Sangli (998) attains highest work force sex ratio in urban western Maharashtra. It is followed by Satara (988), Solapur (982), Kolhapur (965), Amhadnagar (950), Nashik (917).whereas, Pune (898) has lowest sex ratio in working age group in urban western Maharashtra.

In rural population, district Satara (1010) attains highest work force sex ratio in rural western Maharashtra. It is followed by Sangli (985), Kolhapur (974), Amhadnagar (944), Nashik 938), Pune (930). Whereas, Solapur (923) has lowest sex ratio in working age group in western Maharashtra (Table 1).

IV.   SENILE SEX RATIO (60+)

SSR refers to the number of females per thousand males in the economically dependent age group (60+). It is calculated to understand the nature of the economically dependent population, on the work of the concerned areas. The average sex composition of

senile age group in western Maharashtra is 913, which is much lower than 932 in district Nashik (1137) attains highest senile sex ratio in western Maharashtra. It is followed by Kolhapur (1123), Amhadnagar (1116), Satara (1111), Sangli (1084), Solapur (1056). Whereas, Pune (1041) has lowest sex ratio in senile age group in western Maharashtra.

Senile age group shows completely different pattern of sex ratio from juvenile and working age group the .western Maharashtra shows high senile sex ratio, whereas, the JSR and WFSR.

Senile sex ratio in urban population in district Amhadnagar (1140) attains highest senile sex ratio in western Maharashtra. It is followed by Solapur (1103), Nashik (1097), Kolhapur (1087), Sangli (1079), Satara (1048). Whereas, Pune (1011) has lowest sex ratio in senile age group in urban western Maharashtra. In urban population the spatial pattern of senile sex ratio is quite different from the total population (Table 1).

Senile sex ratio of rural population in district Nashik (1160) attains highest position in western Maharashtra. It is followed by, Kolhapur (1135), Satara (1122), Amhadnagar (1112). Sangli (1086), Pune (1077), whereas, Pune has lowest senile sex ratio in rural western Maharashtra. The senile sex ratio is high in JSR and WFSR.

TABLE: 1 - WESTERN MAHARASHTRA: PATTERN OF SEX RATIO (2011)

Sr. No.	District	Age Group Sex Ratio			Juvenile Sex Ratio			Work Force Sex Ratio			Senile Sex Ratio		
		Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1.	Nashik	890	890	890	887	898	894	917	938	929	1097	1160	1137
2.	Pune	982	871	883	887	881	884	898	930	910	1011	1077	1041
3.	A. nagar	866	849	852	863	859	860	950	944	945	1140	1112	1116
4.	Solapur	907	874	883	905	876	885	982	923	943	1103	1039	1056
5.	Satara	889	897	895	855	893	885	988	1010	1005	1048	1122	1111
6.	Kolhapur	865	862	863	846	851	850	965	974	971	1087	1135	1123
7.	Sangli	889	859	867	869	853	857	998	985	989	1079	1086	1084

Source: Census of India 2011.

CONCLUSION

In present study the sex ratio is observed in the age groups based on economically dependent and economically productive. It as observed that there was uneven distribution of sex ratio in all the groups among both rural and urban population. The senile sex ratio (urban, rural and total) is high than the AGSR, JSR and WFSR.

The economic security is also related to son preference mentality. We can say that the son preference mentally exists behind this low sex ratio. The main reason for son preference is that the son supports his parents in their old age, fetches large amount of dowry at the time of marriage, the amount spent on the bringing up and career results in multiplication of their money. As per Hindu belief, he also performs the last rites of his parents.

The main reason of rural – urban difference in sex ratio is sex selective migration from rural to urban in search of job opportunity and predominance of family migration, prejudice against female employments and also the scarcity of jobs suitable for females. Main regions for low sex ratio female infanticide and female mortality rate at the time of birth and the industrial development also attracts male population to get job opportunity.

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