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“SPATIO-TEMPORAL CHANGES IN SEX RATIO OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT (1961-2011)”



S.N.Gujar¹ and N.G.Shinde²
¹S.M. Mahavidyalaya, Akluj.
²D.B.F. Dayanand College, Solapur.

ABSTRACT

Sex ratio is one of the basic demographic characteristics, which is extremely vital for any meaningful demographic analysis. In India, the trend in sex ratio of population is used to denote the number of females per thousand males. The sex ratio reflects the socio-economic and demographic characteristics. An attempt is made to study the Spatio-temporal changes in sex ratio of Solapur district in Maharashtra. There have been gradually declined in sex ratios during the last six decades in Solapur district. The study region which showed overall gradually decline trends in the sex ratio. There are too many reasons behind it, mostly the sound medical facilities, men–dominant community, negligence of female children, traditions and customs are the root causes.

KEYWORDS :Sex ratio, decline trend, decade ,population, demographic, Spatio-temporal .

INTRODUCTION

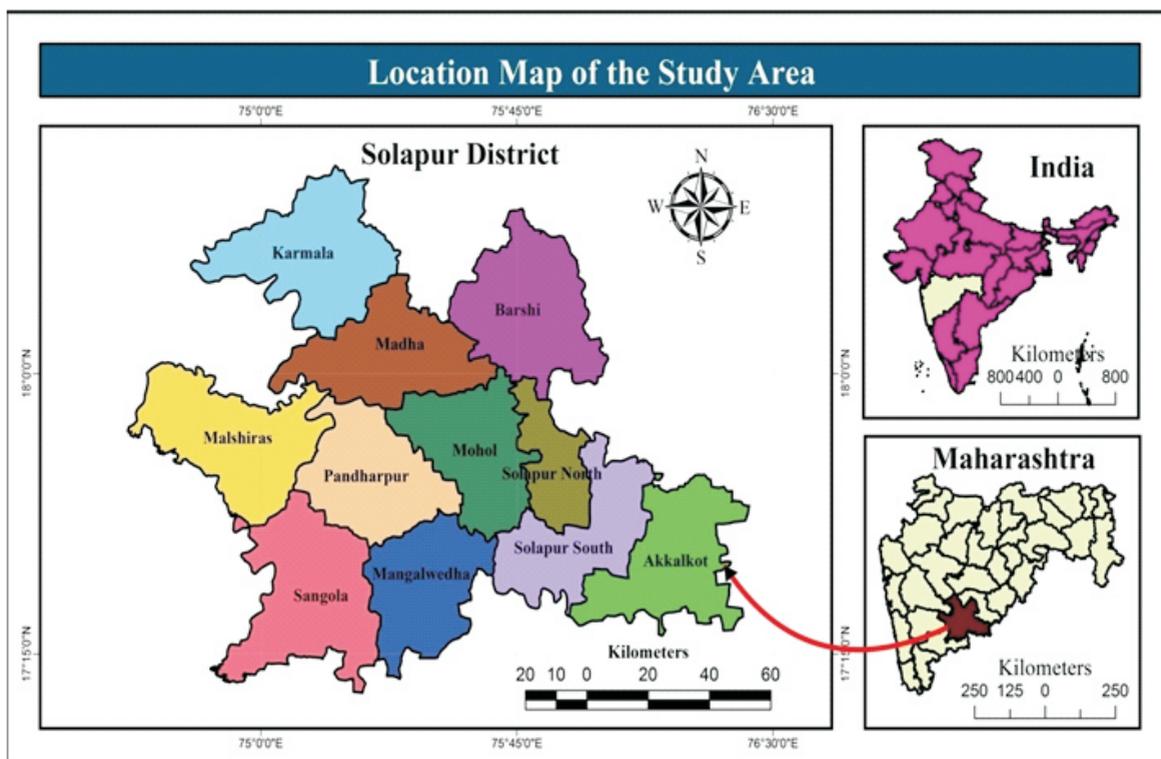
Sex composition of population is one of the key factors in a development of any country. In India, the sex ratio is generally expressed in terms of number of females per thousand (1000) males in the population (Chandana, R.C. 2004). Optimum population structure is very essential to the development of every country. Development is nothing else without population; every nation is built on the power of its population. The economic status of the region depends on its skilled population and their attitude, education, scientific and technical improvement, capacity of their people. People within the region are utilizing the natural resources and improve their life and economic status. Population growth, density, sex ratio, literacy, birth and death rate, age structure, occupational structure and

migration are the important aspect in the study of population regarding the development. Development is close related to the sex-ratio of population.

STUDY REGION

Solapur district is one of the most important districts in Maharashtra. It lies entirely in the Bhima-Sina-Man basins. The shape of the district is like a flying eagle. The district of Solapur is located between 17°10' North and 18°32' North latitudes and 74°42' East and 76°15' East longitudes. The relative location of the district is Sangali district to its South-West, Satara district to its West, Pune district to its North-West, Ahamadnagar district to its North-West and Osmanabad district to its north and north-east and the Bijapur district lies to its south as well as Gulbarga district in Karnataka State to its east.

The East-West length of the district is about 200 km and North-South extension is about 150 km. The total geographical area of the Solapur district is about 14,878 sq. km. and population of 43,15,527 according to 2011 census. The district consists of eleven tahsils.



OBJECTIVE

The general objective of this research paper is to asses and analysis the Spatio-temporal changes in sex ratio in the study region.

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study is entirely based on secondary data. Data will be collected mainly based on the Census of India, District Census handbook, District Gazetteer and Statistical Abstract of the district, Socio-Economic survey from 1961 to 2011. The unit of the study would be tahsil level. Some information will also be collected from books, published reports, journals, Published and unpublished reports. For Spatio-temporal changes in sex ratio that period is selected from 1961 to 2011.

The collected data was processed edited and analysed by applying different quantitative statistical methods, cartographic techniques and computer technique will be used for preparation of maps and diagrams.

DISCUSSION

The sex ratio is generally expressed in terms of number of females per thousand males in the population. Here we can discuss about the tahsils wise Spatio-temporal changes in sex ratio of Solapur district, for the period 1961-2011.

Table : Spatio-Temporal changes in Sex-Ratio of Solapur District (1961-2011)

Sr. No.	Tahsils	Year					
		1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
1.	Karmala	944	939	950	933	925	910
2.	Madha	945	935	942	925	922	908
3.	Barshi	941	936	946	942	929	921
4.	North Solapur	906	914	933	941	958	966
5.	Mohol	935	935	937	927	920	914
6.	Pandharpur	943	927	975	944	917	914
7.	Malshiras	949	930	936	924	923	923
8.	Sangola	962	959	934	927	936	932
9.	Mangalwedha	950	938	941	915	917	899
10.	South Solapur	930	932	917	929	933	941
11.	Akkalkot	949	948	964	948	953	944
	District Total	936	933	942	934	936	932

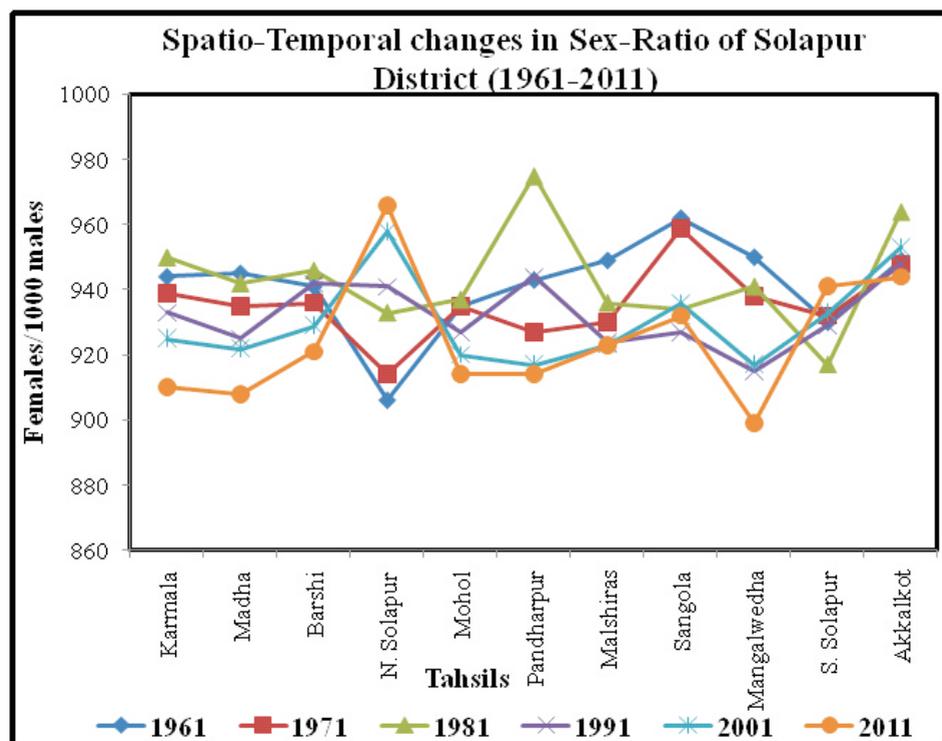
Source: Socio-economic Abstract of Solapur District 1961-2011

Table reveals that tahsil-wise trend in sex ratio of Solapur district. It is clear that the trends in sex ratio were not same in all the tahsils. Temporal as well as spatial changes are observed in the sex ratio of Solapur district.

In 1961 decade, the sex ratio was 936 for the district as a whole. There were three tahsils namely North Solapur, Mohol, and South Solapur, where it was lower sex ratio than the average sex ratio of the region under study, while rest of other eight tahsils namely Karmala, Madha, Barshi, Pandharpur, Malshiras, Sangola, Mangalwedha and Akkalkot has sex ratio much higher than the district as a whole. The Sangola tahsil represented the highest sex ratio (962) in the region under study, while North Solapur tahsil, it was lowest sex ratio (906) during this decade.

In 1971, the sex ratio for the district was 933. There were four tahsils namely North Solapur, Pandharpur, Malshiras and South Solapur where it was lower than the average sex ratio of the region under study, while rest of other seven tahsils namely Karmala, Madha, Barshi, Mohol, Sangola, Mangalwedha and Akkalkot has sex ratio much higher than the district as a whole. The Sangola tahsil represented the highest sex ratio (959) in the region under study, while North Solapur tahsil, it was lowest sex ratio (914) during the decade. It is higher for the tahsils which are having higher percentage

of out migrants particularly of males to the city like Solapur and lower for the region, which have higher percentage of rural population.



In 1981 decade, the sex ratio for the district was 942 as a whole. There are six tahsils namely North Solapur, Mohol, Malshiras, Sangola, Mangalwedha and South Solapur where sex ratio was lower than the average sex ratio of the region under study, while rest of other four tahsils namely Karmala, Barshi, Pandharpur, and Akkalkot has sex ratio much higher than the district as a whole. Pandharpur tahsil represented the recorded higher sex ratio (975), while South Solapur tahsil was lowest sex ratio (917) during the decade. Madha tahsil represented the same sex ratio as compare to district.

In 1991, the sex ratio for the district was 934. There were seven tahsils namely Karmala, Madha, Mohol, Malshiras, Sangola, Mangalwedha and South Solapur where sex ratio was lower than the average sex ratio of the region under study, while rest of four tahsils namely Barshi, North Solapur, Pandharpur, and Akkalkot has sex ratio much higher than the district as a whole. Akkalkot tahsil represented the recorded higher sex ratio (948), while Mangalwedha tahsil was lowest sex ratio (915) during the decade. In that decade the situation was totally different as the sex ratio declined substantially for certain region under study, except North and South Solapur tahsils, it has declined for all the tahsils of the district. It may be probably due to the improvement in decentralization of industries and spread of urban population in different parts of the region. This has also been due to decline in the rural urban migration in various parts of Solapur district.

In 2001, the sex ratio for the district as a whole was 936 female per thousand males which slightly increased by 2 females from the last decade 1991. There were eight tahsils namely Karmala, Madha, Barshi, Mohol, Pandharpur, Malshiras, Mangalwedha and South Solapur where sex ratio was lower than the average sex ratio of the region under study, while rest of two tahsils namely North Solapur and Akkalkot has sex ratio much higher than the district as a whole. Sangola represented the same sex ratio as compare to district as a whole. The North Solapur tahsil represented the higher sex

ratio (958) in the region under study, while lowest sex ratio (917) for Pandharpur and Mangalwedha tahsils.

In 2011 decade, the sex ratio for the district as a whole was 932 females per thousand males, which slightly declined by 4 females from 936 in the last decade 2001. There are seven tahsils namely Karmala, Madha, Barshi, Mohol, Pandharpur, Malshiras and Mangalwedha which represented much lower sex ratio than the district as a whole. While, rest of three tahsils namely North Solapur, South Solapur and Akkalkot recorded higher sex ratio than the region as a whole. Sangola represented the same sex ratio as compare to district as whole. The North Solapur tahsil represented the highest sex ratio (966) in the region under study, while it was recorded lowest sex ratio (899) for Mangalwedha tahsil during the investigation period.

In short, it may be stated that there are wide variations as regard to sex ratio within the region under study depending upon the nature of rural and urban population, occupational structure and migration pattern.

CONCLUSION

It may be concluded that there have been wide variations in sex ratio during last six decades. There have been gradually declined in sex ratio during the last six decades in Solapur district. It means that the study region, which showed overall decline trends in the sex ratio. There are too many reasons behind it, mostly the sound medical facilities, male dominant community, negligence of female children, traditions and customs are the root causes and many other reasons.

This is clearly observed that, situation of the females in the male dominated societies is very poor, and it is becoming worse day by day. This is a very bad situation and has created blockages for further development of our society and nation. Hence, it is necessary to sort out this problem very urgently by implementing various policies and programmes, awareness campaigns, providing necessary medical and other supplementary facilities for women.

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