



Urban Sex Ratio: A Study on Regional Wise Towns in Erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, India

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ABSTRACT

Sex composition is an important aspect of the demographic structure. It is the result of a number of factors working together over a period. Imbalance is caused either by differential birth rate or differential death rate, which may be due to war or due to the custom of female infanticide or feticide. In addition to these, migration also causes significant difference in sex composition in a particular age group, which normally appears in the subsequent age group in due course of time. Imbalance in sex composition influences social, economic and community activities in a number of ways. Majority of one sex in the marriageable age group affects the marital life and later affects the natural growth rate. Males outnumbered in work force of the region in occupations such as mining and heavy industries where women cannot be absorbed. Variation in sex composition is a characteristic feature of towns. Sex composition differs greatly from suburbs and the rural areas due to the rural-urban migration and because of better medical facilities in the urban areas which has reduced mortality rates. Otherwise the sex variation at birth is same in rural and urban areas. Sex ratio is one such demographic factor which utters the development and intervenes of the technology directly or indirectly on men to women ratio. Insecurity among the women rose along with the developmental process and processes of urbanization. Hence the changing pattern of urban sex ration in the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh is studied with the help of the census data from 1961 to 2011.

KEYWORDS : Urban sex ratio, district wise, regional wise, statewide

Introduction

Birth rate and death rate will have an impact on sex ratio. Literacy and life expectancy have increased with time and development. With development in terms of medical facilities and technology, people are aware of health concerns. When the urban sex ratio is observed from 1961 to 2011, it is noticed that during all the decades the urban sex ratio is low in the districts where the larger urban centers are located. The megacities like Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, and Tirupathi are located in Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Krishna and Chittoor districts respectively. These districts irrespective of their regions have continuously recorded low urban sex ratio from 1961 to 2011. These urban centers having city and metropolitan character could gravitate migration from rural to urban and from towns to cities. Most of the migration that takes place from rural has a character of men coming to cities living families behind. Perhaps this kind of movement makes the cities having low sex ratio. Besides these bigger urban centers with more improved medical facilities, experience low urban sex ratio. It indicates that technology has been misused among the educated and literates and hence the female birth rate in the metropolitan cities is declined which is the reason for low urban sex ratio in these districts. The discriminatory attitude towards girl child is causing them to resort to such technology. However laws have been made to curb such process. The low urban sex ratio is also recorded in Medak, Ranga Reddy and Mahabubnagar in 2011. This indicates that the urban sprawl of Hyderabad and improved medical technology in the bigger urban centers have impacted on surrounding areas where by the female birth rate has gradually declined.

Study Area

Erstwhile Andhra Pradesh had an urban population of 21 million living in 210 urban centers in 2001 but by 2011 the urban population has increased to 28 million and the numbers of urban centers are 353. Urbanization got momentum since independence in Andhra Pradesh. The metropolis of Hyderabad has developed in to a large administrative, business, industrial and educational center. The different urban regions in Andhra Pradesh have different characteristics of development, which is based on local circumstances

Objectives

1. To study and examine the urban sex ratio district wise, regional wise and state wide from 1961 to 2011
2. To identify and examine level of sex ratio from 1961-2011 in various districts.
3. To study the factors responsible for variation in sex ratio with the variation of places.

Hypothesis

1. It is assumed that the social and cultural practices have impact on sex ratio.
2. It is assumed that the high level of urbanization may leads for the adoption of new culture which curtails the increase of female population by using sophisticated technology.
3. It is also assumed that the globalization, urbanization and industrialization have impact on sex ratio.

Methodology

1. For the purpose of the study urban sex ratio of all the towns of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh from 1961-2011 is collected.
2. The data collected is processed to find out the percentage of urban sex ratio district wise.
3. Coropleath maps are been drawn with the help of GIS technology to indicate the variation in the percentage of urban sex ratio district wise.

Review of literature

R.B.Vance and Demcrath (1950) has stressed that the characteristics of urbanization differ in advanced regions from those in the developing regions, the factors responsible for this difference are

1. Difference in forces making for Urbanization
2. Difference in the ratio of population to resources and level of living.
3. Difference in basic outlook and value systems.
4. Difference in the technological advancement.

Net migration is the major component of urbanization and is the chief mechanism by which all the great urbanization trends in the world have been accomplished.

Sex Ratio

The urban sex ratio in Telangana region is minimum at 930 in 1961 and maximum at 970 in 2011. Table 1 indicates that urban sex ratio decreased from 1961 to 1971 and increased from 1981 to 2011. The urban sex ratio in Coastal Andhra region is minimum at 970 in 1981 and maximum at 1007 in 2011. The urban sex ratio in Rayalaseema region is minimum at 941 in 1981 and maximum at 995 in 2011. Table 1 indicates that urban sex ratio decreased from 1961 to 1981 and increased from 1991 to 2011 in both of these regions.

Table 1 Andhra Pradesh
Urban Sex Ratio - District Wise 1961 – 2011

District	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Adilabad	949	923	935	952	965	978
Nizamabad	934	932	945	976	974	1016
Karimnagar	942	942	947	959	964	986
Medak	954	963	930	946	947	966
Hyderabad	929	917	920	933	933	954
RnagaReddy	943	920	917	925	930	957
Mahabubnagar	978	944	921	946	954	973
Nalgonda	849	913	903	931	944	995
Warangal	929	934	934	955	970	990
Khammam	911	928	945	969	978	1023
Telangana	930	925	927	942	945	970
Srikakulam	1,019	1,001	997	1003	1011	1033
Vizianagaram	997	1,003	989	1007	1015	1037
Visakapatnam	955	922	949	949	962	985
East Godavari	994	993	987	999	1005	1030
West Godavari	994	994	985	1001	1017	1033
Krishna	951	951	959	973	981	996
Guntur	977	975	971	977	992	1018
Prakasam	982	968	955	976	982	1001
Nellore	951	966	959	980	986	985
Coastal Andhra	976	972	970	979	989	1007

District	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Cuddapah	955	944	950	960	980	990
Kurnool	958	953	946	949	967	1000
Ananthapur	926	938	932	952	966	991
Chittoor	937	934	939	953	970	999
Rayalaseema	943	943	941	953	970	995
Andhra Pradesh	952	948	948	959	965	987

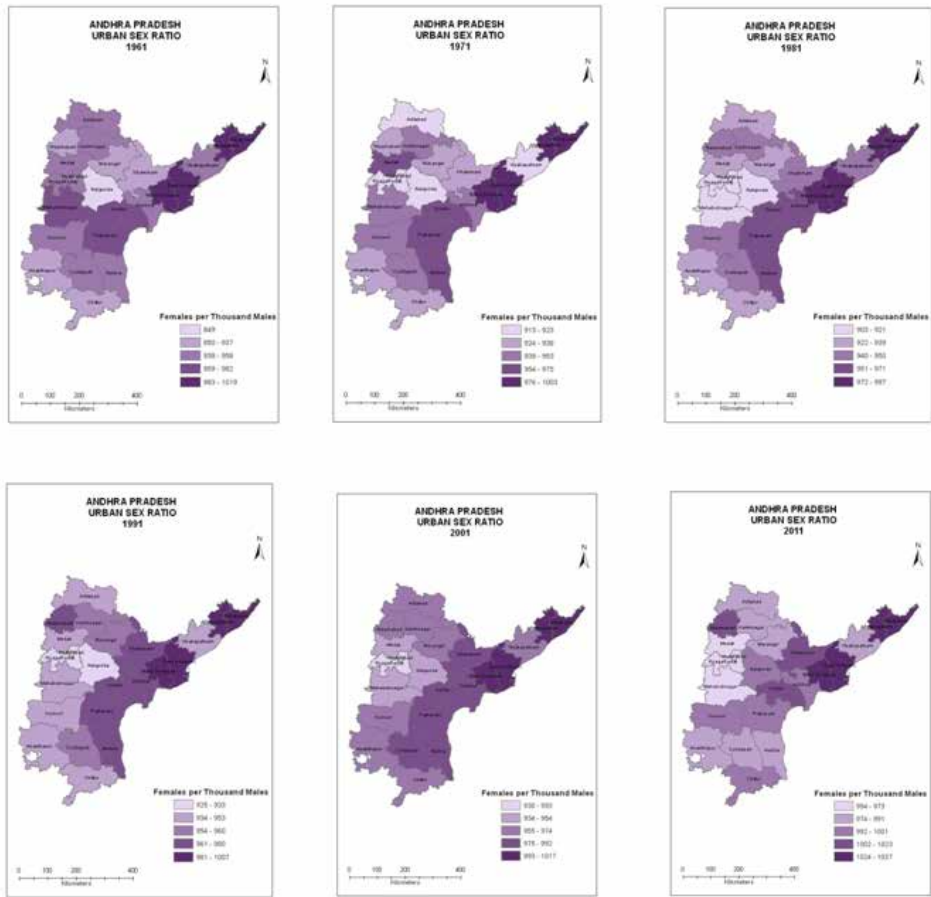
Source: General Population Tables Andhra Pradesh A – 1 to A – 4 Census of India 2001, Provisional Population Totals Census of India, Andhra Pradesh 2011

Commonality found among all the three regions is that urban sex ratio decreased during the first three decades (1961, 1971, and 1981) and increased during the last three decades (1991, 2001, and 2011).

Telangana recorded low urban sex ratio during the entire study period (1961 to 2011) followed by Rayalaseema region. The Coastal Andhra region recorded high urban sex ratio.

Improved medical facilities, developed infrastructure, better education, employment opportunity and fertile agricultural land availability, good water resource have contributed for increase of the urban sex ratio in Coastal Andhra region. Concentration of more tertiary activities in Rayalaseema region helped the town to grow and acquire the better facilities like coastal Andhra region. Social beliefs, selling of girl children in some communities, lack of better facilities and opportunities push back the Telangana region to last position in terms of urban sex ratio.

Urban Sex Ratio 1961-2011



Above figures indicates urban sex ratio from 1961 to 2011.

In the above maps the percentage of urban sex ratio which is divided into five classes.

1. Low
2. Below average
3. Average
4. Above average
5. High

Results and discussions

The urban sex ratio is minimum of 849 and maximum of 1037 females per thousand males during the study period (1961 to 2011). The minimum urban sex ratio recorded is 849 in 1961 and maximum urban sex ratio recorded is 1017 in 2011. The figures indicate that higher end of the urban sex ratio increased from 1961 to 1971. The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio from 1971 to 1981 decreased. During 1981 to 2011 the minimum and maximum urban sex ratio has increased in Andhra Pradesh.

The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio in 1961 is 849 and 1019 respectively. During this decade the variation in urban sex ratio in Telangana region is found as average and below average except Mahabubnagar, Hyderabad and Nalgonda districts, above average in Mahabubnagar and low in Hyderabad and Nalgonda. In Coastal Andhra districts the variation in urban sex ratio is observed to be above average and high. During this decade the urban sex ratio is very high in East Godavari, West Godavari, Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts, high in Guntur and Prakasam. Other districts recorded above average. In Rayalaseema region urban sex ratio is high in Kurnool and Cuddapah districts. Ananthapur, Chittoor districts recorded low urban sex ratio. The overall picture shows that the urban sex ratio is high and very high in Coastal Andhra, average and below average in Telangana except Mahabubnagar, average and above average in Rayalaseema region in 1961.

The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio in 1971 is 913 and 1003 respectively. During 1971 the variation in urban sex ratio in Telangana region shows a mixed pattern. Urban sex ratio is high in Medak, below average in Karimnagar, Warangal, Khammam, and Nizamabad, low in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Adilabad and Nalgonda. Except Visakhapatnam the other districts of Coastal Andhra region recorded high urban sex ratio. The urban sex ratio in East Godavari, West Godavari, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam is very high in 1971. In Rayalaseema region the pattern of 1961 is again repeated in 1971 where the urban sex ratio is found high in Kurnool. Cuddapah, Ananthapur and Chittoor districts recorded low urban sex ratio. The overall picture indicates that urban sex ratio is high and very high in Coastal Andhra except Visakhapatnam which recorded low urban sex ratio. Average and below average is found in Telangana region. Average and above average is found in Rayalaseema region.

The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio in 1981 is 903 and 997 respectively. In 1981 the variation in urban sex ratio in Telangana region is found to be average in Nizamabad and Karimnagar, below average in other districts except Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda. In these districts the urban sex ratio is very low. Coastal Andhra districts recorded high urban sex ratio up to 1971. The same pattern repeated in 1981 where East Godavari, West Godavari, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts continue to record very high urban sex ratio. Rayalaseema districts noticed no change in the urban sex ratio during 1981. High urban sex ratio is found in Kurnool and Cuddapah, low is recorded in Ananthapur and Chittoor districts. The overall picture indicates that variation in urban sex ratio is high and very high in Coastal Andhra, average in northern Telangana, and low in south and west of Telangana region. The urban sex ratio in Rayalaseema region in 1981 is the same as that of the earlier two decades.

The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio in 1991 is 925 and 1007 respectively. In 1991 the urban sex ratio in Telangana region is found to be high in Nizamabad and Khammam, average in Karimnagar and Warangal, below average in other districts except Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Nalgonda which recorded very low urban sex ratio. All the districts of Coastal Andhra recorded high urban sex ratio. The observation of 1961, 1971, and 1981 is also repeated in 1991. East Godavari, West Godavari, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts continue to record very high urban sex ratio. In Rayalaseema, high urban sex ratio was observed in Cuddapah. Remaining districts experienced above average urban sex ratio. The overall picture for urban sex ratio indicates that urban sex ratio is high in Coastal Andhra, high is also recorded in Nizamabad and low in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Nalgonda in Telangana region. The urban sex ratio in Rayalaseema region is as that of earlier two decades with minor changes such as Cuddapah district recording a high urban sex ratio in 1991.

The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio in 2001 is 930 and 1017 respectively. During 2001, the variation in urban sex ratio in Telangana region is always found to be high in Khammam district, below average in Medak, Nalgonda and Mahabubnagar and average in all the other districts except Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy where the urban sex ratio is very low. Coastal Andhra districts have high urban sex ratio. The same observation is also noticed in 1961 to 1991 decades where East Godavari, West Godavari, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts have high urban sex ratio. In Rayalaseema districts the high urban sex ratio is found in Cuddapah. Remaining districts of Rayalaseema region experienced above average urban sex ratio. The overall figure indicates that variation in urban sex ratio is high and in the Coastal Andhra, average in northern Telangana and low in south and west Telangana region. The urban sex ratio in Rayalaseema region is once again same with earlier decades in 2001.

The minimum and maximum urban sex ratio in 2011 is 954 and 1037 respectively. During 2011 the variation in urban sex ratio in Telangana region is found to be high in Khammam and Nizamabad districts, below average is noticed in other districts. Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Medak and Mahabubnagar recorded low urban sex ratio. Coastal Andhra districts have recorded high urban sex ratio. A similar condition is noticed for East Godavari, West Godavari, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts as they continue to record high urban sex ratio from 1961 to 2001. Visakhapatnam always recorded average during the entire study period. In Rayalaseema districts above average variation in urban sex ratio is observed in Kurnool and Chittoor while the remaining two districts observed below average sex ratio. The overall picture in 2011 indicates that variation in urban sex ratio is high in the districts of Coastal Andhra, high is found in Nizamabad and Khammam, below average is noticed in northern Telangana and low urban sex ratio is noticed in southern and western part of Telangana region. The urban sex ratio in Rayalaseema region represents the pattern similar to earlier decades.

Conclusion

The urban sex ratio in Andhra Pradesh seems to be high in Coastal Andhra through the study period. Except Visakhapatnam other districts of Coastal Andhra experienced high urban sex ratio. Most of the northern districts of Telangana experienced average and below average urban sex ratio where as the south and western districts of Telangana experienced low urban sex ratio throughout the study period. Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Nalgonda have continuously noticed low urban sex ratio where as the Mahabubnagar and Medak districts during later decades also experienced a similar pattern, Khammam at large and Nizamabad in few decades observed high urban sex ratio. The four districts of Rayalaseema have noticed almost unique pattern of urban sex ratio throughout the study period. Cuddapah continuously recorded high and the other three districts experienced above average urban sex ratio.

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