



ANALYSIS OF DECLINING SEX- RATIO IN GUJARAT

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ABSTRACT

Population census (2011) reflexes a skewed sex ratio in Gujarat. One of the top economically and industrially progressive state in the country is facing scarcity of girls. Brides are to import from other parts of the country like Kerala is really an alerting sign for Gujarat. Gujarat ranks 22nd among the states of India in sex-ratio showing a declining trend. An attempt is made here to analyze the sex-ratio with respect to some demographic and socio economic parameters. In this paper the study of correlation of sex-ratio with decadal growth rate, literacy rate and with SC and ST population has been done.

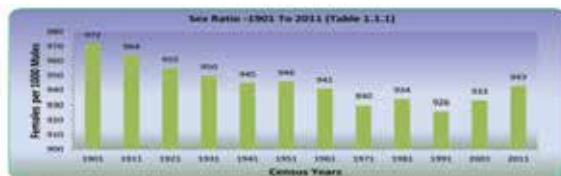
KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION

Sex Ratio is an index of male - female (im) balance in population. Sex ratio, in India, is defined as the number of females per 1000 males in the population. At the Census 2011, sex ratio of population stood at 940 females per 1000 males a marginal increase from 933 recorded at the 2001 Census

Sex Ratio is a powerful indicator to examine the SOCIAL RESPONSE and ATTITUDE towards the GIRL CHILD in recent past. The presentation of data on sex ratio has shown a grim picture of the status of female population in states of the country as per the Census of India 2011.

'It is clear that the sex ratio has decreased at a much faster pace than the overall sex ratio of the country after 1981. The decreasing sex ratio perhaps has a cascading effect on the population over a period of time leading to diminishing sex ratio in the country.



Source: Registrar General of India

If it is accepted that the impact of differential sex selective undercount, age reporting and migration is negligible then, the sex ratio will be principally influenced by: literacy rate, socio-economic background, caste and religion and declining Child Sex Ratio are may be some factors that effects Sex Ratio or the combined effect of all these factors can also be seen in declining trend.

Analysis and discussion on Present Scenario

For the analysis of the sex-ratio, Correlation between decadal growth rates of District of Gujarat and Sex-ratio, Correlation between literacy rate and sex-ratio and Correlation between SC & ST population and Sex-ratio has been calculated to find out the effect of various factors affecting the sex-ratio of Gujarat.

6 States/Ut's registered decline in Sex Ratio during 2011 including Gujarat. Alarming trend seen since 1981 in Gujarat State as Sex ratio turned from bad to worse. On other hand Kerala and Pondicherry have shown increasing trends between 2001-2011. This can be seen from Table-1

According to the final results of Population Census 2011, the population of Gujarat State is reported at 6.04 crore. Though the growth rate of the decade 2001-2011 has decreased to 19.17 percent from 22.66 percent of the decade 1991-2001, decadal growth rate of Gujarat is more than overall growth rate of 17.64 percent of India. This can be seen from TABLE 2 given below.

Table - 1
Sex Ratio of Total Population and child population in the age group 0-6 and 7+ years 2001 & 2011

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Sex Ratio of Total Population and child population in the age group 0-6 and 7+ years 2001 & 2011							
Sr. No.	India/ States (Uts)	Sex Ratio (Females per 1,000 Males)					
		Total Population		Child Population in the agegroup 0 - 6		Population aged 7 and above(P)	
		2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
	INDIA	933	943	927	915	934	944
1	Jammu & Kashmir	884	889	941	862	884	887
2	Himachal Pradesh	960	972	995	909	900	903
3	Punjab	876	905	790	846	808	809
4	Chhatisgarh	777	818	845	800	767	812
5	Uttarakhand	962	963	908	800	913	875
6	Haryana	881	879	819	834	889	888
7	NCT of Delhi	821	856	850	871	813	856
8	Rajasthan	821	828	809	885	825	835
9	Uttar Pradesh	880	912	916	902	894	910
10	Bihar	919	919	942	905	914	912
11	Sikkim	875	890	963	957	861	883
12	Assam/ Arunachal Pradesh	883	938	964	912	878	913
13	Nagaland	900	931	964	943	890	929
14	Manipur	874	962	987	906	871	905
15	Mizoram	935	976	964	970	930	976
16	Tripura	848	860	866	887	848	862
17	Meghalaya	874	888	873	870	871	889
18	Assam	925	958	965	962	929	957
19	West Bengal	934	950	960	906	929	940
20	Jharkhand	941	949	965	948	935	948
21	Orissa	912	979	953	941	916	955
22	Chhattisgarh	809	891	975	869	892	895
23	Madhya Pradesh	919	931	932	918	916	933
24	Goa	809	919	883	890	807	823
25	Daman & Diu	710	818	826	804	682	685
26	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	812	774	879	828	779	782
27	Maharashtra	923	929	913	894	924	931
28	Andhra Pradesh	978	983	961	939	981	987
29	Karnataka	965	972	946	940	966	971
30	Goa	961	973	938	942	964	973

31	Lakshadweep	940	947	959	911	946	951
32	Kerala	1058	1064	963	964	1072	1099
33	Tamil Nadu	987	996	942	943	983	1000
34	Pondicherry	1001	1037	967	967	1006	1047
35	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	848	876	867	968	831	888

Source: Census of India, 2011.

- Out of all the districts of Gujarat, Surat and Kacch has

ulation aged five years and above. The rates for the years 1981 to 2011 related to the population aged seven years and above.

SC & ST population for year 1951,1961 & 2011 are estimated figures

Source: Census of India 2011

If it is accepted that the impact of differential sex selective undercount, age reporting and migration is negligible then, the sex ratio will be principally influenced by: literacy rate, socio-economic background, caste and religion and declining Child Sex Ratio are may be some factors that effects Sex Ratio or the combined effect of all these factors can also be seen in declining trend. Effect of some of the factors are calculated in the following TABLE.

Table - 5
Correlation between Sex Ratio and Affecting Factors

	r	t _{tab}	t _{tab} (1%)	t _{tab} (5%)
Correlation between sex ratio and decadal growth	0.15	0.34	4.03	2.571
Correlation between sex ratio and literacy rate	-0.91	4.917	4.03	2.571
Correlation between sex ratio & SC Popul	-0.89	4.372	4.03	2.571
Correlation between sex ratio & ST Popul	-0.9	4.625	4.03	2.571
Correlation between sex ratio & SC, ST Popul	-0.9	4.625	4.03	2.571

CONCLUSION

From the above table we can see that the correlation between sex-ratio and literacy rate is -0.91, which shows significant correlation between the two variables at 5% and 1% LOS. We can say that as literacy rate increases the sex-ratio decreases. The reason behind it may be the trend of putting a full stop on another child after the birth of a boy and only going for a second child only if the first born is a girl child. Also we can notice the number of families having a single child is increasing in this class of people.

The correlation between Sex-ratio and SC&ST population is also -0.90. It means that population of this class increases then the Sex-ratio decreases. This can be because of they have adopted the same practice of going for a second child only if the first born is a girl, otherwise they are happy with a small family if the first child is a boy. Also, it can be the result of female feticide in the said population.

Can we wait for the next census in 2011 to tell whether the sex ratio at birth have improved or further deteriorated? DEFINITELY NOT. The answer lies in monitoring sex ratio at birth from the CIVIL REGISTRATION DATA, which gives monthly report for any administrative level. Instructions have been already issued in this regard by the Registrar General India, to all the CHIEF REGISTRARS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS in the state for monitoring the monthly sex ratio at birth and disseminate this data back to the public and governments for timely intervention.