

The Study of Sex Ratio among the Scheduled Castes Population in Haryana (2001-2011)

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ABSTRACT

Sex ratio is one of the important aspect of demographic studies and indicates the status of girl-child or a women in the society. It is also important to understand the social structure especially in the poor and backward group of population in a country like India. The country takes 17 percent population of the world, which belongs to different social groups (religions and castes). Among these social groups, the scheduled castes are consider as the backward group of society in India and governments, both central and state, launches and run many programmes and schemes for the upliftment of these groups. In the present paper an attempt has been made to understand the pattern of sex ratio of the scheduled castes population of Haryana, which is one of the economically developed state in India.

Key words- Sex Ratio, Scheduled Castes (SCs), Haryana

Introduction

It is natural for a common man to believe that males and females in the population exactly balance each other. Little do they know how imbalanced the sexes are in different population across the world? Sex ratio is an important social indicator to measure the extent of prevailing equity between males and females in a society at a given point of time (Majumdar, 2013). The separate data of males and females are important for various types of planning and for the analysis of other demographic characteristics such as natality, mortality, migration, marital status, economic characteristics etc. The balance between two sexes affects the social and economic relationship within a community (Chandana, 2014). In various countries, sex ratio is defined as the number of males in per 100 females, but in India this is defined as the number of females per 1000 males. Here, the overall sex ratio is unfavorable to females as there is a negative growth of female population, though some improvement has been observed during last two censuses (Figure-1). According to Census of India the sex ratio has declined from 972 females per 1000 males in 1901 to 927 females per 1000 males in 1991. It has slightly increased to 933 in 2001 and again in 2011, some improvement is noticed in the national sex ratio which is 940 females per 1000 males. Since last two decades, the census data indicates some positive growth in the national sex ratio, but still there is a wide gap between male female population in India. Here, some states/UTs like Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh and Delhi have always shown a sex ratio below the national average (Yadav, 2004).

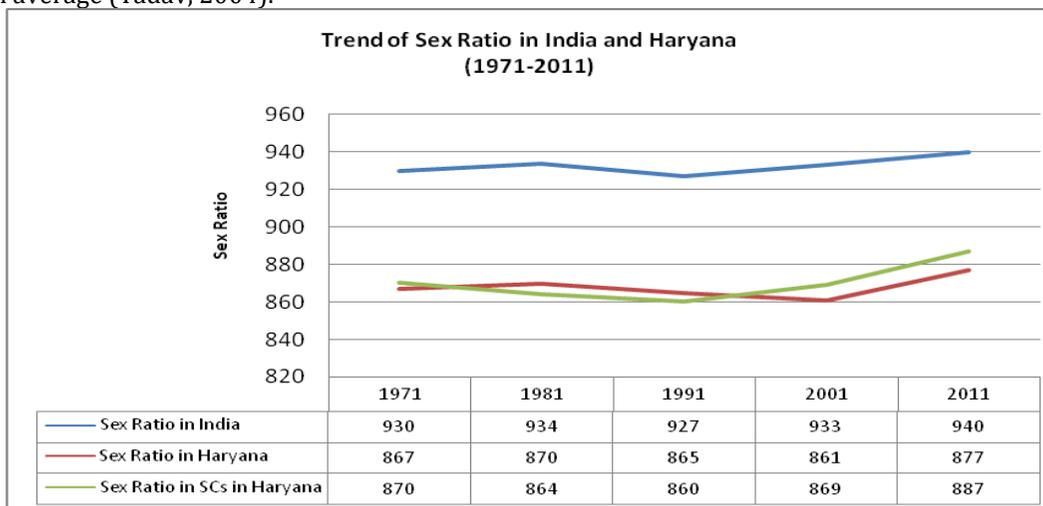


Figure-1

Haryana is one of the 'geographically small' but 'economically develop' state of India which came into existence on November 1st, 1966 after the Punjab Reorganization Act-1966. The state occupies just 1.4

Data Source

The present study is entirely based on the census data of the period 2001 and 2011. The various directories of districts, other related census volumes, various reports of Government organizations and NGOs have been studied for present research work. The districts of 2001 have been considered as the base districts. Hence, the new districts of 2011 have been merged with their parent districts. The processed data is represented with maps, tables and diagrams.

Result and discussion

There is some growth of the sex ratio of scheduled castes population in Haryana (Figure-1). During 2001, the average sex ratio of state's scheduled castes population was 869, which was higher than the average sex ratio of state during same period, but there were variations in the district wise sex ratio in the scheduled castes population during 2001.

The lowest sex ratio of scheduled castes population was recorded in Kaithal district (847) and highest in Mahendergarh district (916) followed by Rewari, Sirsa, and Fatehabad, where the sex ratio was more than 890 females per thousand. The districts Panchkula, Kurukshetra, Gurgaon and Ambala had more than 870 females per thousand males. (Figure-2 and Table-1).

During 2011, a positive growth in the sex ratio of scheduled castes population was recorded. The average sex ratio of scheduled castes population was recorded 869 in 2001, which reached up to 887 in 2011. So, this was high to state average sex ratio of 2001. The three districts Sirsa, Rewari and Fatehabad had more than 900 females/thousand males, whereas in 2001 just one district was categorized in this group. In 2011, the lowest sex ratio of scheduled castes population was recorded in Sonipat district (868) and the highest were in Sirsa district (914) followed by Fatehabad and Rewari. Five districts Panchkula, Kurukshetra, Karnal, Mahendergarh, and Gurgaon have more than 890 females/ thousand males and six districts Bhiwani, Hisar, Panipat, Kaithal, Yamunanagar, and Ambala had more than 880 females/thousand males. The sex ratio of Faridabad, Jind, Jhajjar, and Rohtak had categorized between 870 to 880 (Figure-2 and Table-1).

Table-1
Sex Ratio among Scheduled Castes Population in Haryana
(2001-2011)

Sr. No.	District	2001			2011			Growth in Sex ratio	Rank (Growth wise)
		Sex ratio	Rank	Category	Sex ratio	Rank	Category		
1	Panchkula	873	8 th	Low	890	6 th	High	20	4 th
2	Ambala	880	5 th	Medium	888	7 th	Medium	8	11 th
3	Yamunanagar	869	9 th	Very Low	880	10 th	Medium	11	10 th
4	Kurukshetra	878	7 th	Low	899	4 th	High	21	3 rd
5	Kaithal	847	17 th	Very Low	882	8 th	Medium	35	1 st
6	Karnal	864	11 th	Very Low	890	6 th	High	26	2 nd
7	Panipat	854	14 th	Very Low	880	10 th	Medium	26	2 nd
8	Sonipat	856	13 th	Very Low	868	15 th	Very Low	12	9 th
9	Jind	854	14 th	Very Low	871	14 th	Low	17	6 th
10	Fatehabad	895	4 th	High	907	3 rd	Very High	12	8 th
11	Sirsa	896	3 rd	High	914	1 st	Very High	18	5 th
12	Hisar	865	10 th	Very Low	881	9 th	Medium	16	7 th
13	Bhiwani	862	12 th	Very Low	880	10 th	Medium	18	5 th
14	Rohtak	856	13 th	Very Low	877	11 th	Low	21	3 rd
15	Jhajjar	850	16 th	Very Low	876	12 th	Low	16	7 th
16	Mahendargarh	916	1 st	Very High	897	5 th	High	-19	12 th
17	Rewari	897	2 nd	High	911	2 nd	Very High	14	8 th
18	Gurgaon	879	6 th	Low	897	5 th	High	18	5 th
19	Mewat	-	-		893	-	High	-	
20	Faridabad	852	15 th	Very Low	873	13 th	Low	21	3 rd
21	Palwal	-	-		885	-	Medium	-	

Source- Compiled by the authors from different census reports

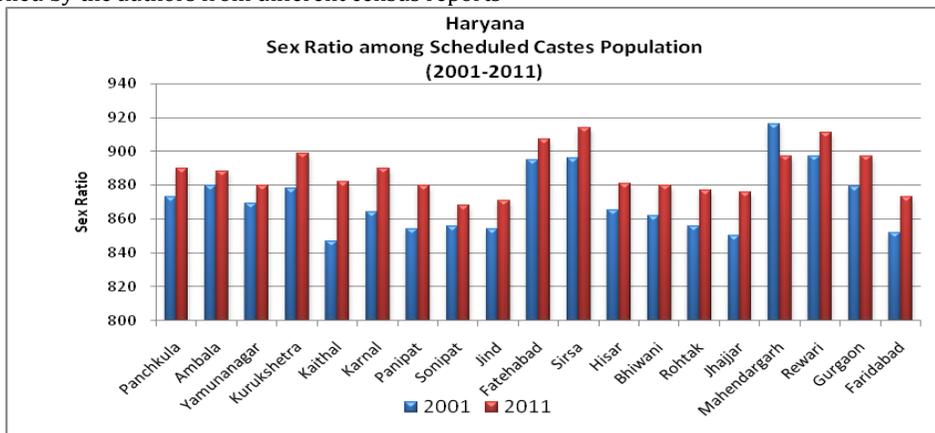


Figure-2

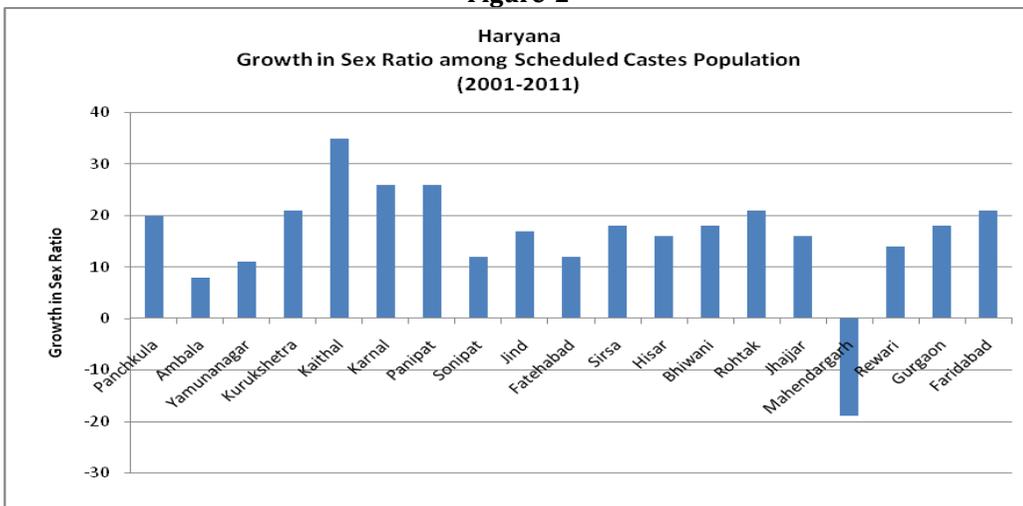
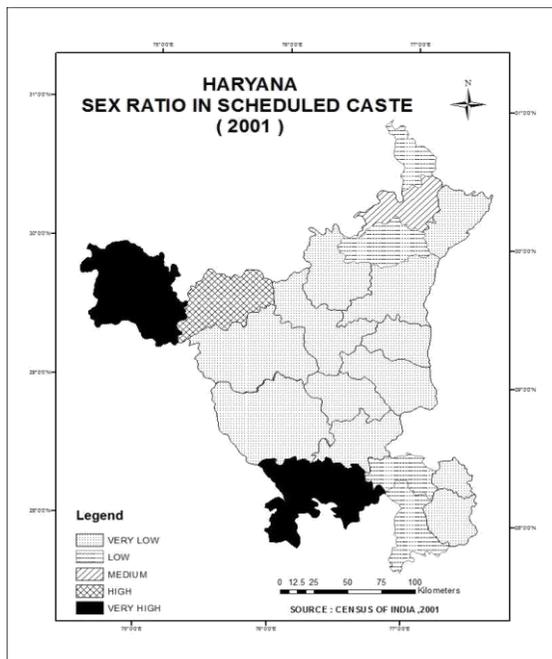
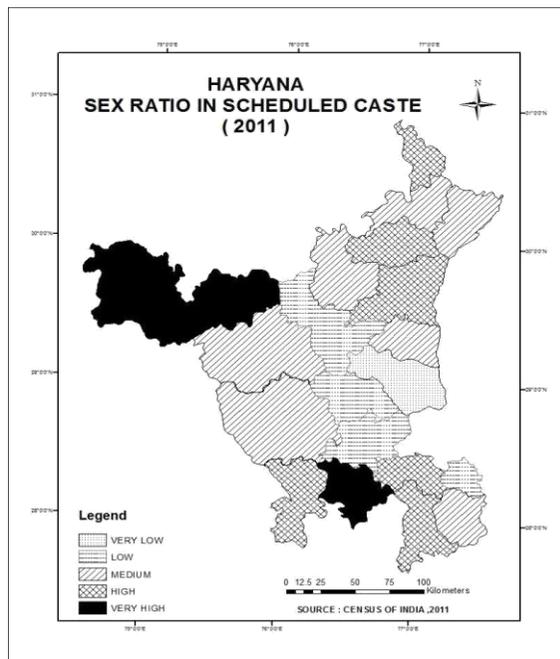


Figure-3



Map-2



Map-3

The highest growth of the sex ratio was recorded in Kaithal district where it was 847 in 2001 and reached 882 during 2011, on other side negative growth was recorded in Mahendergarh district, where the sex ratio was 916 in 2001 and 897 in 2011, so this was the only district shown the negative change in sex ratio of scheduled castes population.

Conclusion

Haryana has shown very low sex ratio as comparing to national sex ratio since 1971, though there is slightly positive change from 2001 to 2011. There is no more gap between average sex ratio and scheduled castes sex ratio, but situation is better among scheduled castes mainly after 2001. In 2001, just one district has more than 900 females/thousand males, whereas, in 2011 three districts are recorded, where sex ratio reached more than 900. Eleven districts have recorded less than 870 females/per thousand males during 2001, and in 2011 just one district stood in this category and twelve districts have more than 880 females /thousand males during same period. Despite a positive growth of sex ratio of scheduled castes population, the state has always shown a sex ratio below the national average. Neglect of girl child, sex selective female abortions, female infanticide, and high maternal mortality are some reasons of low sex ratio in Haryana. So, more efforts should be taken to improve the psychology of society towards females. The person like Religious leaders, women achievers, and impressive personalities should involve in the campaign against low sex ratio and discrimination of the girl child to improve the sex ratio in Haryana.

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It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that things are difficult.

~ Seneca