

**Sex Ratio of Population in Gondia Taluka A Micro
Level Analysis**

Dr. Rajani A. Chaturvedi

Associate Professor and
Head Department of Geography
N.M.D. College, Gondia (M.S.)

Abstract :-

Population geographers from the beginning interested in the composition and structure of population. In the population characteristics of any region, sex structure holds a very important place. Sex Composition of a population affects not only the other demographic attributes but also the social, economical and political structure. Sex structure has significant role on demographic processes such as fertility, mortality and migration presents paper deals to study spatio variations of sex ratio at micro level i.e. village level. The study region is the Gondia taluka of Gondia District in Maharashtra State. The economy of the taluka is agricultural economy where rice the main crop having monoculture in the region, Rice occupying 87% to 90% of the total cropped area. The majority of cultivators of the region are growing only single crop in a year. In the remaining period he is unemployed, therefore there is a trend found during interview visit that male members of the house are working in the cities, while females are performing agricultural activities by staying in the villages. Another reason for high sex ratio in the region is the high mortality rate in male than female. As a result sex ratio is high in the taluka. They are out numbers than male as the social system is based on gender equity.

Introduction :

Sex Composition of population refers to the balance between male and female in any population. It can be expressed either in the form of proportion of a particular sex in population or as a ratio between the population of two sexes. If we denote the number of females by pf. Sex ratio can be calculated in the form $(PF/PM) \times 100$. It provides number of females per 1000 males in the population. In any population distribution by sexes is generally unequal. The balance between males and females in any population at a given point of time, in fact, depends on three factors. They are sex ratio at birth, sex differentials at death and sex ratio among migrants. Sex ratio at birth is a biological phenomenon and there is always a predominance of male babies over female at birth. The intergroup variation in sex ratio at birth should be examined in terms of the influence of the social, economic and cultural environment on the incidence of fetal death.

The other determinant of sex ratio in a population is the differentials in the death rate of males and females. There is a higher rate of mortality among males than female because their vocations are typically more dangerous. In societies particularly in the less developed part gender biases result unequal treatment of the two sex. Females are accorded an inferior status to males. A female child is considered as a burden while a male child is regarded as a source of wealth. A general neglect of females result in a higher death rate not only in the childhood but also during childbearing age groups. Sex ratio in a population is therefore sometimes considered as a very good indicator of the status of women in such societies (Hassan 2000).

Migration of population is another important factors affecting sex composition of a population much of the regional variation in sex ratio in India for example is attributed to spatial redistribution of population.

Objectives :

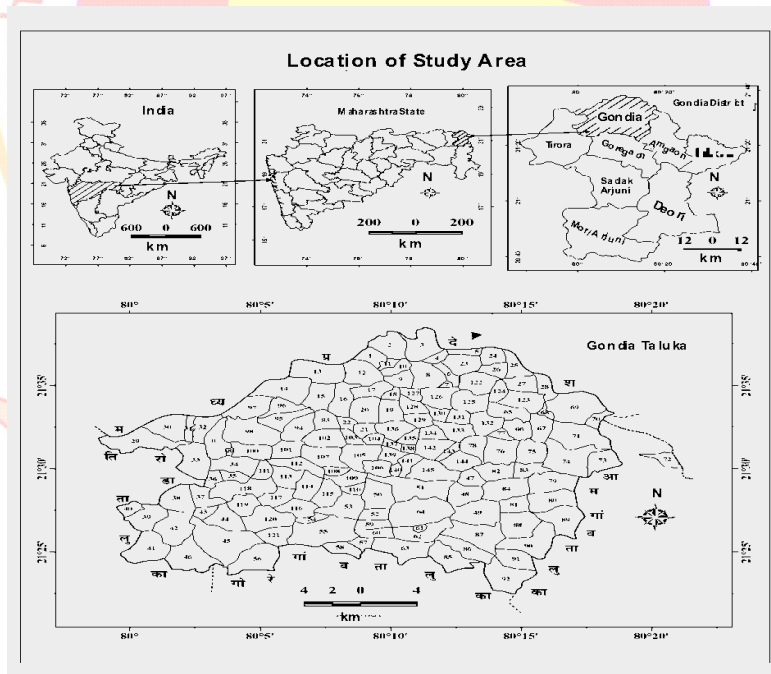
1. Keeping this in view the major objectives of the study is to study temporal variations in sex ratio.
2. To identify the villages having more than and less than average ratio of the taluka.
3. To make comparative analysis of spatio temporal variations in sex ratio on the basis of revenue circles and correlate this with factors working behind for this variations.

Research Methodology :

In the research paper efforts has been made to analyze the population density and growth. For this a micro region i.e. one of the taluka of Gondia District, Gondia Taluka has been selected. Data has been collected from Census office at village level and on the basis of revenue Circles of the Tahsil various techniques has been applied to analyze Sex ratio.

Study Region :

Gondia taluka is situated in the Gondia district of Maharashtra State, which is northeast boundary of state. It is the main taluka in the district; it is located in between 21° 22' 29" N to 21° 37' 12" N latitude and 70° 58' 48" E to 80° 21' 14" E longitude. The taluka having total 686.11 sq.km geographical area with 421650 total populations. Taluka consists total 145 villages according to the census year 2011.



Gondia taluka is located in the eastern part of the Gondia district. The taluka comprises 7 revenue circles. They are Dasgaon, Ratnara, Ravanwadi, Gondia, Kamtha, Khamari and Gangazhari. Gondia Taluks is having total 145 villages ranging from minimum 11 villages in Khamari and 29 villages in Ratnara revenue Circle, being the largest geographical area i.e. 120.205 sq.k.m.

Temporal Analysis of Sex Ratio :

During the span of 1951 to 2001, number of females to per 000 male was less in the taluka, but decadal trend show continuously increasing female ratio.

As a result in the year 2011 females are more i.e. 1002 than male. The reason of this increasing ratio is the migration of male for working as a labour. At the time of field survey it has been observed that number of male population migrated for earning 5000/- to 9000/- monthly.

Table No. 1

Year	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Sex Ratio in Taluka	974	974	969	995	983	999	1002
Sex Ratio in District	1004	1000	989	1004	995	1005	999

Above table reveals that in comparison to district sex ratio, taluka ratio is low except in 2011 only.

Village wise Sex Ratio :

Table No. 2

Percentage of Villages According to Sex Ratio

Classification	Village (1951)		Village (1961)		Village (1971)		Village (1981)		Village (1991)		Village (2001)		Village (2011)	
	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%
Less than Tahsil average	20	17.39	15	13.04	27	23.47	39	28.26	44	30.98	43	29.65	58	40
More than Tahsil average	95	82.60	100	86.95	88	76.52	99	71.73	98	69.01	102	70.34	87	60
Total	115	100	115	100	115	100	138	100	142	100	145	100	145	100

Source % District Census Hand book 1951-2011

To make the analysis firstly the villages were divided in two groups one having more than taluka average and other having less than taluka average. In the year 1951 about 17.37% villages were having less than average which was 974 female. In the year 1991 such villages increased and reached to 30.98% and 40% in 2011. This is the indication of migration of male working population. Though the temporal analysis showing increasing number of below average. But Maximum number of villages in the taluka is those which are having high sex ratio. Agriculture is the mainstay of the population and there is a less development in agriculture that's why for the search of vocation male population is migrating towards cities.

Therefore about 16 villages account very high sex ratio ranging from 1050 at Panjara village to 1099 at Bhanpur village.

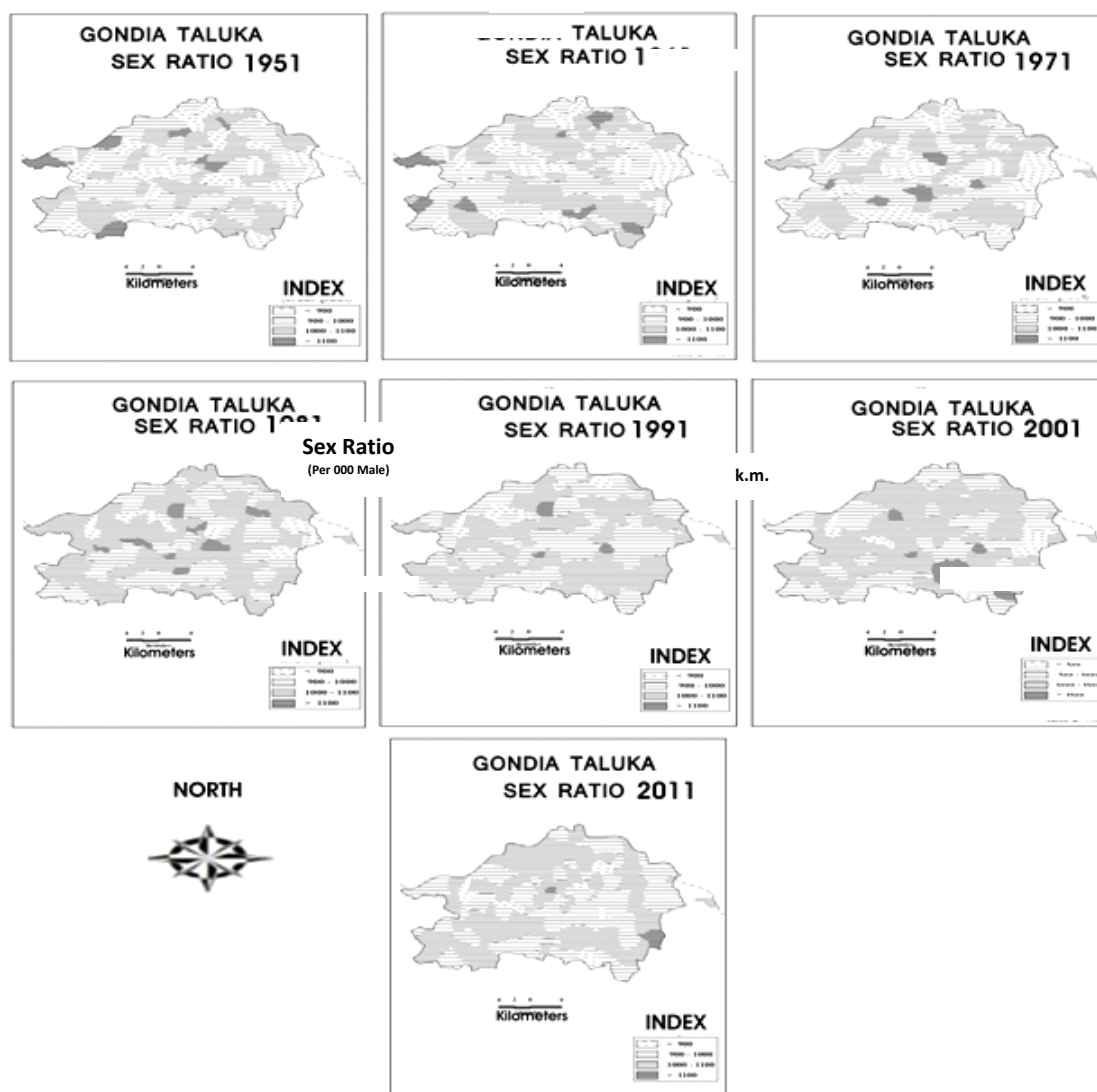
Temporal Analysis less than tahsil average:

Analysis of such villages having less than the taluka average reveals that number of such villages were 20 in the year accounting 17.39% of the total villages, reduced to 15 in the year 1961

and after that there is a continuous increase of such villages reaching to the number 58 out of 145 villages.

Villages having more than the tahsil average :

The overall trends of this category villages are showing decreasing trend as the number of such villages were 95 comprising 82.60% of the total villages in the year 1951. 1961 to 87 comprising 60% of the total villages. The range of such villages was lowest in the year 1971 it was 88 while 102 comprising 70.34% in the census year 2001. The above analysis reveals that migration of spatial mobility of population is most important factor affecting sex composition of population in taluka.



Spatio Temporal Variation revenue circle wise :

Sex ratio is varying in various circles. The reason for this variation may be cited on the basis of physio, socio - economic variations and ultimate effect on migration movement.

Table No. 3
Revenue Circlewise Sex Ratio

Sr.No.	Revenue Circle	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
1	Dasgaon	983	1015	965	991	1011	1024	1021
2	Ratnara	1030	1021	1000	1025	1008	1016	1005
3	Rawanwadi	990	985	972	1007	1005	1019	1009
4	Gondia	902	910	923	959	950	969	990
5	Kamtha	969	1014	1015	1041	1029	1040	1023
6	Khamari	974	992	1003	1014	999	1028	956
7	Gangazhari	1022	990	990	1026	993	1022	1008

Source % District Census Handbook 1951-2011

In the year 2011 only Khamari (956) and Gondia Circle (990) having less than 1000 female, otherwise every circle has counted the ratio very high (1023) in Kamtha and 1005 in Ratnara circle. The temporal analysis of various circles reveals that Gondia circle is having almost static trend ranging from 902 in the year 1951 to highest 990 in the year 2001. In Khamari circle lowest sex ratio counted in the year 956 while maximum was 1028 in the year 2001. In Gangazhari circle lowest sex ratio was 990 in the year 1961 and 1971 too while it was maximum in 1981 i.e. 1026 female. In Kamtha circle there was extreme variation account in the last seven decades as in the year 1951 the ratio was 969 and after that it reached to 1040 and 1041 which is the highest for the whole taluka. The reason for this is the large number of male migration from the circle. Ratnara is a circle in the taluka who have never gone ratio below 1000, ranging from 1000 in the year 1971 to highest in the year 1951 accounting 1030 female per 000 male population.

Conclusion :

Above study reveals that Gondia taluka is having very high sex ratio as compared to district, state and national level too. For this high sex ratio as discussed earlier, out of three parameters one sex ratio at birth, differentials in the death rates of males and females and migration of population. The most important factor is the third one. The reason is the nature of economy in the taluka where agriculture is the main occupation where rice is the main crop, occupying about 87 to 90% of the total crop area and i.e. monoculture in nature. The cultivators of this region is growing only single crop in the year. In the remaining period he is unemployed therefore there is a trend found during interview visit that male members of the house are working in the cities while females are performing agricultural activities by staying in the villages. Another reason which has been discussed is the higher rate of mortality among males than female. As a result females outnumber males in the population as the social system is based on gender equality.

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