

P-ISSN: 2706-7483  
E-ISSN: 2706-7491  
IJGGE 2022; 4(1): 63-65  
Received: 08-03-2022  
Accepted: 10-04-2022

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## Urban sex ratio spatial pattern in Haryana (2011): A district-level analysis

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### Abstract

The sex ratio is a social indicator that reveals a society's perception of the status of women. The male to female ratio is referred to as the sex ratio. The number of females per ten thousand males is referred to as the sex ratio in India. Since 1901, the sex ratio in Haryana has never exceeded 900. It is because of a variety of factors, including female infanticide, gender discrimination, and the disregard of girl children's needs in the areas of nutrition and healthcare. This study examines the sex ratio's spatial distribution in Haryana.

**Keywords:** Gender discrimination, sex ratio

### Introduction

The gender makeup of the population is one demographic variable that is essential for a precise demographic analysis. Changes in sex composition are a major indicator of a society's underlying social, economic, and cultural trend in many ways. It is an important social measure that identifies the precise degree of gender parity at any given time.

The gender ratio of the population, or the proportion of girls to men, is a common approach to convey this. The main demographic factor that influences population change is this one. The sex composition of a population has a direct impact on the number of married persons in that population, the birth rate, and the labour supply.

The sex ratio is one of many elements of population composition that holds a unique significance for population geographers. It is critical to have separate statistics for men and women for various planning objectives as well as to investigate additional demographic indicators including mortality, fertility, marital status, economic features, etc. The gender balance has an effect on the social and economic interactions within a community Chandana 2006<sup>[4]</sup>.

The gender distribution pattern in a region reflects its social and cultural history. Basic elements that affect the sex ratio include:-

In India, an Indian wife's health is negatively impacted by her own fervent self-denial of life's comforts in order to protect her husband and children (Krishan and Chandna, 1973, p.17)<sup>[5]</sup>, Parents view boys as a family's greatest asset while viewing females as an economic and social liability. Thus, these have an impact on women's health and lead to a relatively high female death rate. Migration is another significant determinant of the sex ratio in a given area. The majority of economically driven migration in India from rural to urban areas is heavily male dominated. Discrimination against female employment and mobility is linked to the male preference in relocation to metropolitan areas.

### Objectives of the Study

1. The objective of the present study is as follows
2. To examine the Spatial pattern of Urban Sex Ratio in Haryana.

### Location and Extension

After the reorganisation of the composite state of Punjab on linguistic grounds, Haryana state was established as an autonomous state on 1 November 1966. The region lies in India's northwest. It covers from 27°38'N to 30°55'5" N latitudes and 74°27' 8" E to 77°36'5" E longitudes. Because of changing political circumstances, the administrative borders of the state of Haryana have occasionally changed, although its physical borders have stayed

constant. Geographically, the boundaries of the Haryana state are defined by the rivers Ghaggar in the south-west, Siwalik Hills in the north-east, Yamuna River in the east, Aravali Hills in the south, and the Thar Desert in the south-west.

### Spatial Pattern of Urban sex ratio in Haryana

According to the 2011 Census of India, Haryana has an extremely low sex ratio of 878 females for every 1,000 males, which is lower than the national average of 929 females for every 1,000 males. The propensity to postpone female pregnancies, sex at birth that favours boys, and greater mortality rates for females could be some of the causes for Haryana's low sex ratio. The highest sex ratio is found in Mewat district (907 females per thousand males) and lowest in Gurgaon (844 females per thousand males) (Table 1, Map 1)

The district of Haryana can be split into four categories based on the sex ratio. These are as under

1. Areas of Very High Sex Ratio ( More than 890)
2. Areas of High Sex Ratio (881-890)
3. Areas of Moderate Sex Ratio (871-880)
4. Areas of Low Sex Ratio (Less than 870)

#### 1. Areas of Very High Sex Ratio (More than 890)

Only five districts come under this category. Mewat, Mahendergarh, in south; Karnal in east; Fatehabad and Sirsa in west parts of the state. Mewat having very high sex ratio due to high Muslim population residence. It is observed earlier the gentler sex is stronger sex biologically and hence more males die than the females not only at birth but also at all ages. The excess of females in the urban communities in these districts is the product of influx of females from the surrounding rural areas in response to the employment potential of the urban areas.

#### 2. Areas of High Sex Ratio (881-890)

These six state districts fall into this group, which are Bhiwani in south western; Rewari in south; Rohtak, Jind in central; Kurukshetra in eastern; Palwal in south eastern; Kaithal located in northern parts of the State. These districts have high sex ratio due to these are semi urbanized, socially and economically advance, status granted to women, degree of participation in work by females etc.

#### 3. Areas of Moderate Sex Ratio (871-880)

Out of 21, four districts lies in this part. These include Ambala, Yamunanagar, Panchkula in northern; Faridabad in south eastern parts of state. Sex ratio is moderate in these district due to education facilities and adequate medical facilities. The predominance of the joint family system, which gives male migrants assurance of the safety and stability of their family members left behind, facilitates male selective rural-urban movement.

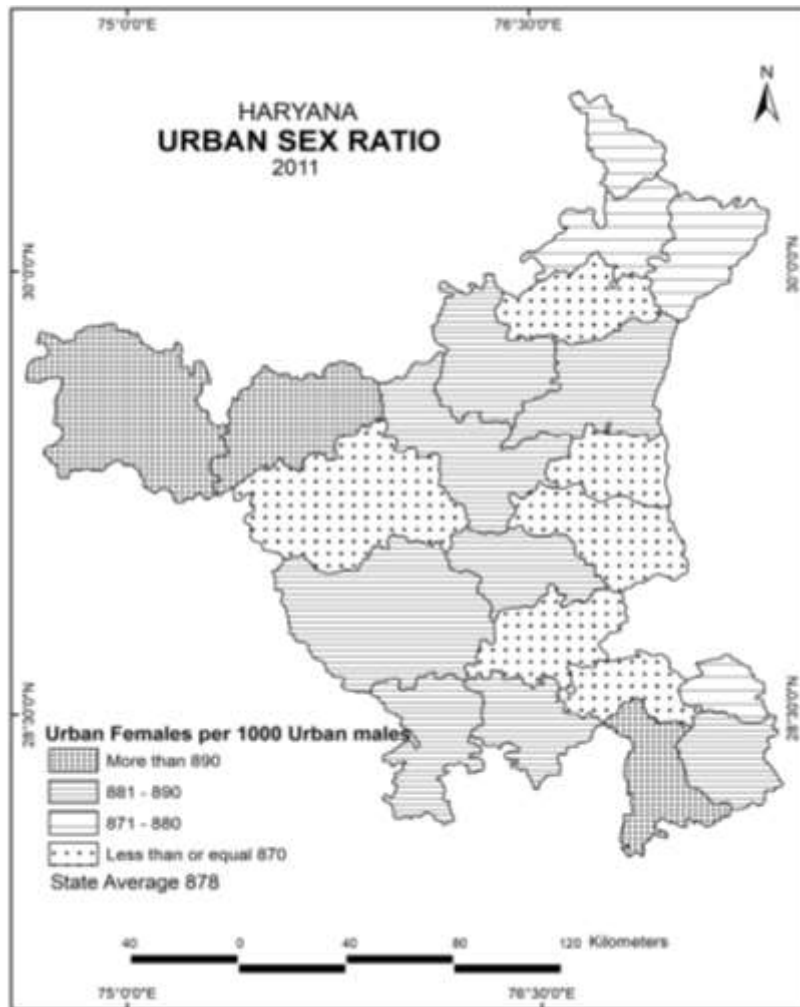
#### 4. Areas of Low Sex Ratio (Below 870)

Out of twenty One, six districts come under this category. These include Sonipat, Panipat, Kurukshetra in east; Jhajjar in central part; Hisar in west; Gurgaon in south eastern parts of the state. These districts have less sex ratio than state sex ratio i.e.878. These areas have more healthcare facilities with ultrasound equipment for determining the gender of future babies. Due to the high levels of urbanisation, industry, and availability of transport and educational services in these regions, the sex ratio here is at its lowest. Male residents from other areas have moved here in quest of employment. Due to the scarcity of jobs that cater to women, the high cost of living in cities, the housing problem, and illogical ideas against female employment and mobility, male migrants are discouraged from taking their families with them, contributing to the low sex ratio in these areas.

**Table 1:** Haryana: Urban Sex Ratio by Districts, 2011

District/State	Sex Ratio (Females/1000 males)
Mewat	907
Fatehabad	899
Sirsa	896
Mahendergarh	890
Karnal	890
Kaithal	887
Rohtak	887
Bhiwani	885
Rewari	883
Palwal	883
Jind	881
Ambala	876
Panchkula	876
Faridabad	873
Yamunanagar	871
Sonipat	869
Panipat	868
Jhajjar	865
Kurukshetra	862
Hisar	861
Gurgaon	844
Haryana	878

**Source:** Census of India (2011) <sup>[1]</sup>, Primary Census Abstract, Haryana, Series-7, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.



**Map 1:** Haryana: Urban Sex Ratio by Districts, 2011

### Conclusion

According to the 2011 Indian Census, Haryana has an extremely low urban sex ratio of 878, which is lower than the national sex ratio of 929. Mewat, with a sex ratio of 907, is the highest rate of any district. Mewat is a district in the state that falls behind in both education and industry. Additionally, Gurgaon has the lowest sex ratio of any district, at 844. Gurgaon is a heavily industrialised and urbanised area. Due to the low status of women in Haryana, young girls who are neglected have a high fatality rate. In addition, negligence during parturition endangers the mother's life. In less developed and more developed regions, respectively, infanticide and female feticide are more prevalent. The fundamental reason for this is social considerations. A strong patriarchal society, increased orthodoxy, and ignorance allow for such heinous killings. Consequently, the sex ratio falls even further. Male children's access to basic medical facilities has improved, but denying a female child these essentials has made the problem worse.

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