

## **16. Disparity in Sex Ratio: A Case Study of Jalna District (MS)**

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### **Introduction**

Sex ratio means the number of females per thousand males. Sex ratio is an index of socio-economic conditions prevailing in an area and is useful tool for regional analysis. It has a profound effect on the demographic structure of a region. It is an important feature of any landscape. The mortality rate is closely linked with the socio-economic development, therefore, the developed countries where the nursing facilities and medical care are available in abundance, where the maternity deaths are absent and where the children of both sexes are equally cared for, the male mortality rate is higher than the female mortality rate at all ages and more so among the infants.

Imbalance sex ratio has adverse effect on demographic element like marriage, birth rate etc and non-demographic elements like migration, war business etc. The disequilibrium in the number of men and women effects our social and economic lives. Sex ratio will be equal to one in the society of high birth and death rate and the proportion of male and females are equal on the contrary, if these rates birth death are low, it means there is abundance of adults and old persons and number of males will be lesser in the society. Lack of higher education, social awareness, negativity towards female child, bad conventions in the society are some of the major reasons for disparity for sex ratio. This disparity should be controlled otherwise in upcoming years the society will experience very bad scenario.

### **Study Region**

The district is located in the central part of Maharashtra State in Marathwada region. It is located between 19° 15' to 20° 32' North latitude and 75° 36' to 76° 45' East longitude. The north-south extension of Jalna district is 150 Kilometers and east-west stretch of the district is 110 Kilometers. Jalna district has a significant location on Deccan plateau. Except Ajanta and Satamala ranges and river basins, major part of the district comes under plateau region. The

region has major portion under flat topography, hence it supports high concentration of population.

Jalna district comprises eight tahsils, four sub-divisions, and eight panchayat samities. The geographical area of Jalna district is 7727 Sq. Km. According to Census- 2011; there are 4 cities, 970 villages and 781 grampanchayat's in Jalna district. According to 2011 census, the total population of Jalna district was 19, 59,046. Out of this total population, the male population were 10,11,473 whereas female population were 9,47,573. Sex ratio of the district is found 937.

### Analysis

Table 1 shows the censuswise analysis of sex ratio for the census of 1901 to 2011.

**Table 1: Censuswise sex ratio of Jalna District (1901 to 2011)**

Census	Sex ratio of Maharashtra State	Sex ratio of Jalna District
1901	978	998
1911	966	989
1921	950	988
1931	947	966
1941	949	957
1951	941	976
1961	936	970
1971	930	959
1981	937	970
1991	934	958
2001	922	951
2011	929	937

Source: Jalna district Census Handbook 2011

Jalna district has its highest total sex ratio i.e. 998 in 1901 whereas the lowest has been observed for recent decade 2011, i.e. 937 females per 1000 males. Maharashtra state has recorded 978 sex ratio in 1901 as the highest, and the lowest is observed in 2001 census i.e. 922. sex ratio of the Jalna district is more than the state average. A remarkable negative change has been observed here, i.e. 1901 census has recorded highest sex ratio whereas recent decades have recorded lowest sex ratio

Generally it is expected to increase the sex ratio, but day by day the sex ratio is decreasing which is the danger trend for the well being of the society.

**Tahsilwise Analysis (1981 to 2011)**

Table 2 shows tahsilwise sex ratio of population in Jalna district for the period of 1981 to 2011.

**Table 2: Tahsilwise sex ratio of Jalna District (1981 to 2011)**

Tahsil	Census 1981	Census 1991	Census 2001	Census 2011
Ambad	970	969	951	928
Bhokardan	960	957	948	934
Jalna	966	947	940	935
Partur	968	958	963	948
Jafrabad	976	975	960	932
Badnapur	NA	NA	949	946
Ghansawangi	NA	NA	955	942
Mantha	NA	NA	959	933
Jalna District	967	958	951	937

Source: Computed by author

Table 2 shows that, as per 1981 census, in Jalna district, total sex ratio was 967. Sex ratio in this census, total sex ratio varies from 976 in Jafrabad tahsil to 960. As per 1991 census, the highest sex ratio of total population was 975 which is observed in Jafrabad tahsil whereas the lowest sex ratio of total population was 947 which is observed from Jalna tahsil. The census of 2001 reveals that, highest sex ratio of total population was 963 which is observed in Partur tahsil whereas the lowest sex ratio of total population was 940 which is observed from Jalna tahsil. The census of 2011 reveals that, highest sex ratio of total population was 946 which is observed from Badnapur tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of total population was 928 which is observed from Ambad tahsil.

Overall statistics between 1981 to 2011 reveals that, sex ratio of total population has declined from 967 to 937, it means it has declined with 30.

**Rural - Urban Pattern of Sex Ratio**

Regarding urban sex ratio of population, highest sex ratio was 962 which was observed from Partur tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of population was 937 which is from Jalna tahsil. The census 2001 reveals that, highest sex ratio of total district population was 1005 which was observed from Partur tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of total district population was 946 which is from Badnapur tahsil. In rural area of Jalna district, highest sex ratio of population was 1006 which was observed from Partur tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of population was 951 which is from Badnapur tahsil. Regarding urban sex ratio, highest sex ratio of population was 998 which

was observed from Partur tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of population was 946 which is from Jalna tahsil.

The census 2011 reveals that, highest sex ratio of total district population was 980 which was observed from Ghansawangi tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of total district population was 953 which is from Jafrabad tahsil. In rural area of Jalna district, highest sex ratio of population was 980 which was observed from Ghansawangi tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of population was 936 which is from Jalna tahsil. Regarding urban sex ratio, highest sex ratio of population was 1069 which was observed from Ambad tahsil whereas lowest sex ratio of population was 899 which is from Bhokardan tahsil.

Sex ratio between the decade of 1981 to 2011 has significantly changed. In 1981 total district sex ratio was 977 which has decreased upto 959 in 2011 census. It means it is declined by 18. The same is observed regarding rural sex ratio of the district. It was 981 in 1981 census which has been declined upto 955. It means it has been declined by 26. But the only increase in sex ratio has been observed from urban area. The sex ratio of urban area was 945 in 1981 census which reached to 979 in 2011. It clearly indicates that, sex ratio in urban area has increased with 34. Government's earlier rules and regulation regarding sex detection of foetus and awareness campaign about this as well as the increased educational level are some of the reasons behind the increase.

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