



## Changing Sex Ratio Of Western Satpura Region In Akkalkuwa And Akrani Tahsils Nandurbar District (Maharashtra)

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### *Abstract*

*Sex ratio is one of the important attributes of population composition. It is expressed as the number of females per thousand male populations. It is one of the indices to study level of development of a region. It also represents of healthy society. It is known fact that our country's population is increasing rapidly. Sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1000 males. It is one of the important social indexes to measure the prevailing disparity between males and females and regional imbalances in the status of women. Akkalkuwa and Akranitahsil in Nandurbar district is the mostly scheduled tribe population lives about 85 percent of the total population. It's living in and around the Satpura forest area depends on the natural resources. It is found that the sex ratio among the sample villages is comparatively higher than the tahsil, district and state average in 1991 to 2011 census. It is because of the fact that the tribals don't find any difference between male and female child. The present paper based on the 1991, 2001 and 2011 census data, intends to examine the changing sex ratio. This sort of investigation can further bring grass-root realities at micro-level and with that solution for improvement of sex ratios in the lagging areas can be explicitly determined.*

**KEYWORDS:** Sex-ratio, Male -female, Akkalkuwa and Akranitahsil, Population composition, tribal.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Sex ratio signifies the number of females per thousand male. An inverse enunciation of the ratio (i.e. the number of males per 1000 females). Sex ratio may vary among different regions. Primary sex ratio is the sex ratio at the time of conception, secondary sex ratio is the ratio at the time of birth and tertiary sex ratio is the ratio found at the time of enumeration.

Sex ratio is an indicator of socio-economic condition, revealing in an area and is useful tool for regional analysis. Sex ratio also influences the volume and nature of social needs and employment and consumption pattern. It is associated with various socio-economic, cultural, biological and circumstantial factors. Sex ratio signifies the number of females per thousand male.

The population exhibits certain inhabitant characteristics in term of sex composition. The change in sex composition largely reflects the underlying socio economic conditions and cultural patterns of the society. The ratio between male and female is called sex ratio. In India, sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1000 males population and it is useful indicator to measure the gender equity in region at a given point of time.

The primary sex ratio is the ratio at the time of conception, secondary sex ratio is the ratio at time of birth and tertiary is the ratio of mature organisms. The changes in gender composition largely depend on social, economic conditions and cultural pattern of the society. Moreover, sex ratio measures the prevailing equality between males and females and has on outcome of interplay of sex differentials in mortality, sex selective migration, sex ratio at time of birth, sex differential in population enumeration (Census of India, 2001). The sex ratio influences the economic conditions, migration, occupation structure, marriage status, fertility, mortality and growth of rate population.

Akkalkuwa and Akranitahsil is the mostly scheduled tribe population lives more than 85 percent of the total population. The tribe like Bhil, Pawra, Tadvi Bhil and Dhanka Tadvi etc. living in and around the Satpura region depends on the natural resources.

### **STUDY AREA:**

Astronomically Akkalkuwa and Akrani Tahsils are located at northern corner of Nandurbar

District. The study area of Akkalkuwa and Akrani lies between 21°02'46" to 22°03'00" North Latitudes and 73°46'56" to 74°31'26" East Longitudes.

Nandurbar district was created with bifurcation of Dhule district on 1st July, 1998. The region is bounded by Dhule district on east and south, while on the west by Surat district of Gujrat state and on the north by Badwani and Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh.

The Nandurbar district with a Geographical area of 5034.23 sq.km. has an amorphous shape. According to 2011 census Nandurbar district accommodates 16, 48,295 people with 69.28 percent of scheduled tribe population, which ranks first in the state with 39 tribal groups being accommodated in various tahasils of the region.

The density of population in the region comes to 277 persons per sq.km. (Census 2011). The sex ratio in the region is 978 females per thousand males. The literacy rate in the region is 64.38 percent according to census 2011 proportion of urban population is very low with 16.71 percent of total population in the district and 83.29 percent of the total is living in rural areas. Decadal population growth rate in the region has been 25.66 percent with annual growth rate of 2.21 percent.



**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To analyze the decadal changes in Sex Ratio of study region.
2. To find out the factors affecting on sex ratio of the study region.

**DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY:**

The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data is collected

through questionnaires, Observations and personal discussions with villagers, which have been conducting the intensive fieldwork in the selected 10 villages in Akkalkuwa and Akranitahsil in Satpura region.

The secondary data is collected through the unpublished record of the government and various publications such as toposheets, district census handbook of Nandurbar and Dhule district 1991, 2001, and 2011 etc., analyze and represent this data and use of various cartographic techniques. Sex ratios measured in terms of number of females per thousand males. That is

$$\text{Sex Ratio} = \frac{\text{Female Population}}{\text{Male Population}} \times 1000$$

To make the comparative analysis the sex ratio of non-tribal population has also been computed. It can give better understanding regarding the issues pertaining to rise or fall in either of the sex ratios.

**Discussion:**

Table no. 1 clearly shows that the sex ratio in the region has been favourable to the females. This is because of migration of males from rural and tribal areas to the urban centers. Akkalkuwa and Akranitahsil is a tribal area. About 90.00 per cent people belong to scheduled tribes. Tribal people gave the same share, female child. Hence as compare to the state sex ratio in the district is high. According to the census 2011, the sex ratio of the Maharashtra state is 929 and study region sex ratio is 999.

According to table no. 1 and fig.no.1 sex ratio of the total sample villages was 1008 in 1991 and rose to 1017 and decline 999 during the decade of 2001 and 2011 and it is also higher than the state's average of 929. The variation in the sex ratio from village to village has been vary due to the availability of health care facilities, mortality pattern and the pace of migration.

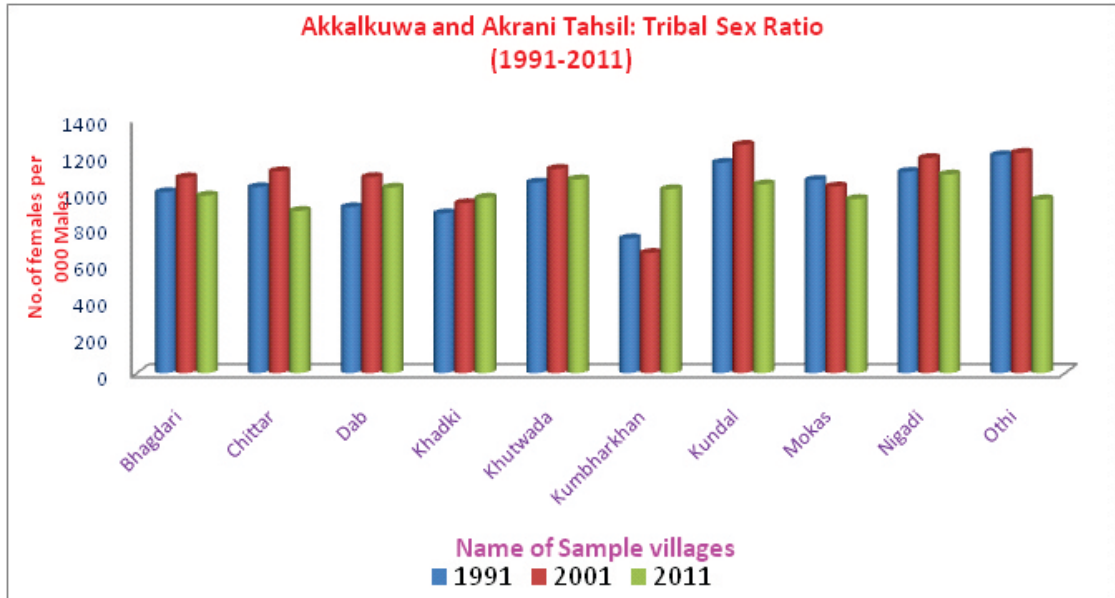
According to census 1991 village-wise sex ratio clearly shows that Othi sample village has recorded the maximum sex ratio with 1200 followed by Kundal, Nigadi, Mocas, Khutwada and Chittar sample villages with 1158, 1108, 1063, 1049 and 1023 females per thousand male respectively. Kumbharkhan sample village has recorded the lowest sex ratio with 741 followed by Khadki and Dab sample villages with 879 and 913 females per thousand male respectively.

Table No. 1  
Akkalkuwa and AkraniTahsil: Tribal Sex Ratio (1991-2011)

S. No.	Sample Villages	Number of Females per, 000 males		
		1991	2001	2011
1.	Bhagdari	996	1077	977
2.	Chittar	1023	1111	893
3.	Dab	913	1079	1021
4.	Khadki	879	935	965
5.	Khutwada	1049	1124	1066
6.	Kumbharkhan	741	661	1012
7.	Kundal	1158	1256	1039
8.	Mocas	1063	1027	958
9.	Nigadi	1108	1184	1093
10.	Othi	1200	1213	956
Total Region		<b>1008</b>	<b>1017</b>	<b>999</b>

Source: District Census Handbook, Nandurbar (M.S.) (1991-2011)

Fig.No.1



According to census 2001 Kundal sample village has recorded highest sex ratio with 1256 followed by Othi, Nigadi, Khutwada, Chittar, Dab, Bhagdari and Mokas sample villages with 1213, 1184, 1124, 1111, 1079, 1077 and 1027 female per thousand males. In the Kumbharkhan and Khadki sample villages the sex ratio is 661 and 935.

In 2011 village-wise sex ratio clearly shows that Nigadi sample village has recorded the highest sex ratio with 1093 followed by Khutwad, Kundal, Dab and Kumbarkhan sample villages with 1066, 1039, 1021 and 1012 females per thousand male respectively. Chittar sample village has recorded the minimum sex ratio with 893 followed by Othi, Mokas, Khadki and Bhagdari sample villages with 956, 958, 965 and 977 females per thousand male respectively.

Proportion of females per thousand males among the selected sample villages is high due to the influence of developmental activities has been comparatively at the lower side migration of male population, female population increase in reference to the distance from the urban centers in various sample villages the proportion of females start declining.

**CONCLUSION:**

Sex ratio is an index of socio-economic conditions prevailing in an area and is a useful tool for regional analysis and development. The overall sex ratio for the area has improvement from 1008 in 1991 to 1017 in 2001, but came down to 999 in 2011. Similarly In case of child population (Age group of 0-6) sex ratio is comparatively higher than the overall sex ration in the study area. The most of the sample villages are found the sex ratio was over the females, per thousand of male population. It is suggested that the tribal society particularly the girls need to be educated so that this backward segment of society can develop further demographically as well as socio-economically. It is intrinsically important that girls should be give opportunity like boys to get educated, economically independent that can give empowerment to her to take decisions on her own and enough capable to help her parents in difficult old age. It can raise the status of women which will be help in bringing demographically healthy and balanced society.

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