



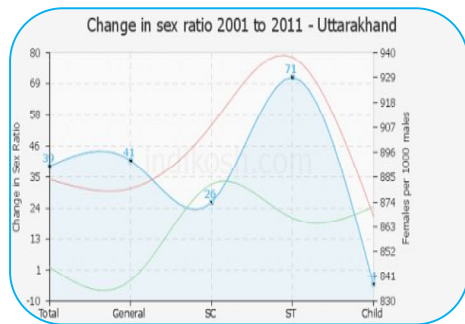
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AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF SEX-RATIO IN UTTARAKHAND (1901 TO 2011)

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ABSTRACT:

It is well known and universally accepted that the women have always been the root of life as these are the sources of life and civilization. Despite their important role in the world they have been ignored since time immemorial. They have always been considered inferior to males in all spheres of life because man has always been the regulator of the society. Though certain improvements have been recognized yet having a girl child is not considered a gift even in today's society. People always want to have a boy child who can carry forward their legacy and that's why the population of women

is constantly declining in the country. In this paper we will analyze the disparities in sex-ratio in Uttarakhand state from 1901 to 2011.

KEYWORDS: Sex-Ratio, Census.

INTRODUCTION :

Uttarakhand is the 11th Himalayan state which was carved out of Uttar Pradesh in 2000 as the 27th state of the nation. It has an area of 53,483 Sq Km. The state consists of 02 divisions, Kumaon in the west and Garhwal in the east. These two regions are further divided into 13 districts namely, Almora, Bageshwar, Chamoli, Champawat, Dehradun, Garhwal, Hardwar, Nainital, Pauri, Rudraprayag, Tehri Garhwal, US Nagar and Uttarkashi. Out of these, 09 districts (Almora, Bageshwar, Champawat, Chamoli, Garhwal, Pauri, Rudraprayag, Tehri Garhwal and Uttarkashi) are in hilly region while rest 04

districts (Dehradun, Hardwar, Nainital and US Nagar) are in the plains. The present study is an analysis of population of all these districts of Uttarakhand from 1901 to 2011.

NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study highlights the change of total population as well as the male and the female population in the state from 1901 to 2011. This change has been highlighted about Uttarakhand with respect to the other states of the nation and among the districts within the state.

METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

To prepare this paper the data was collected from the Department of Census,

Government of India. Further the changes of population and decadal growths have been shown with the help of graphs/tables wherever needed. Further the Coefficient of Variation has also been calculated by using following formulae-

$$\text{Sample Mean } (\mu) = \frac{\sum x}{n}$$

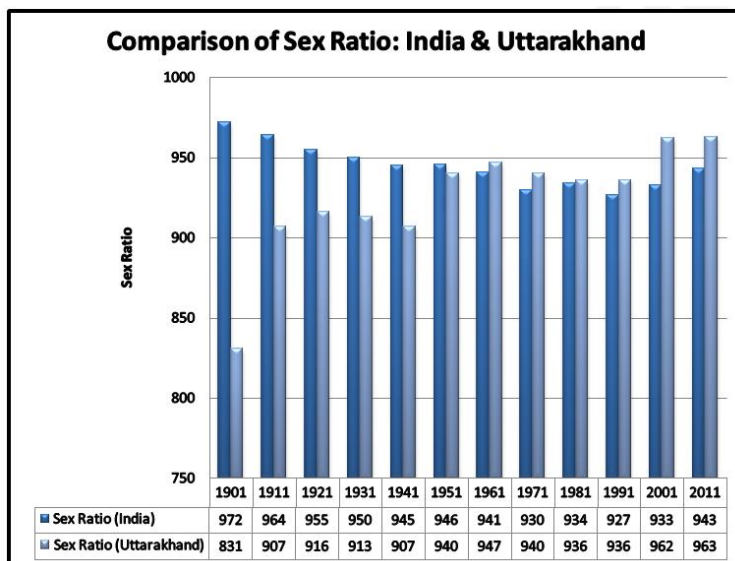
$$\text{Standard Deviation/S.D. } (\sigma) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \mu)^2}{n - 1}}$$

$$\text{Coefficient of Variation (CV)} = \frac{\sigma}{\mu}$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

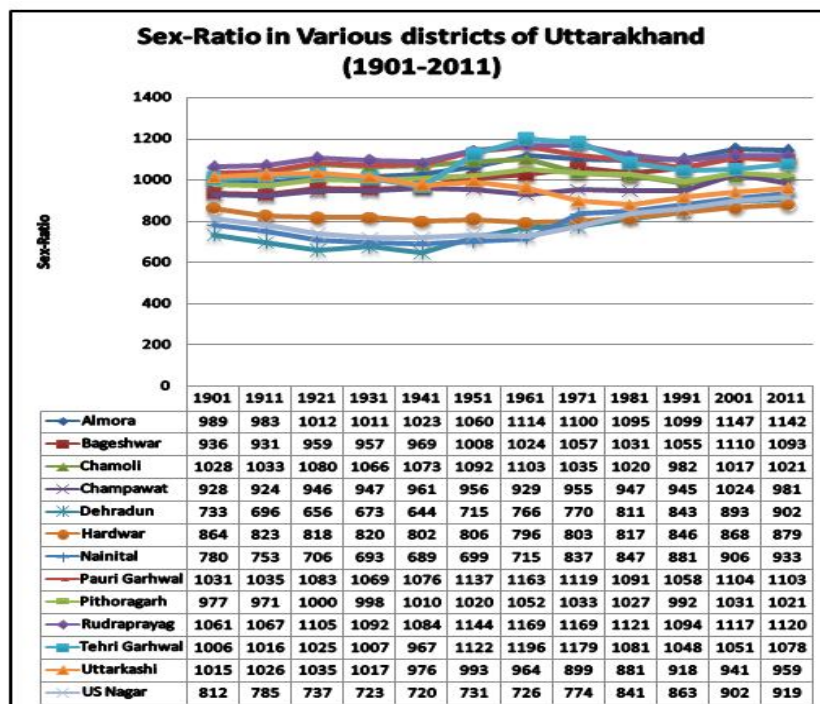
The following graph shows the trends of sex-ratio in Uttarakhand. It is clearly visible that until 1951, the sex-ratio in the state was lower than the

national sex-ratio but thereafter improvement is observed. In 1901, when the national sex ratio was 972, the sex-ratio in the state was 872 which was at its lowest since 1901 to 2011. The year of 1961 can be considered as the turning point for the state because during this census the sex-ratio of the state (947) was higher than the national sex-ratio (941). The national sex-ratio kept declining from 1901 to 1941 and after a little rise in 1951 it again showed the declining trend until 1991. Thereafter the sex-ratio of India increased 6 points and reached to 933. In 2011, the national sex-ratio was marked at 943 with an increase of 10 points. While in case of Uttarakhand the sex-ratio in 2001 was 26 points higher (962) than the previous one (936) in 1991. In 2011, the sex-ratio of the state was 963 i.e. 01 point more than that in 2001.



Variations in Sex-Ratio within the state of Uttarakhand:

Table No. 02 shows the sex-ratio of various districts of Uttarakhand from 1901 to 2011. If we have a close look on these districts, we find that the sex-ratios in the districts like Dehradun, Hardwar, Nainital and US Nagar were always low but the sex-ratios in hilly districts such as Almora, Bageshwar, Chamoli, Champawat, Pauri Garhwal, Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag, Tehri Garhwal and Uttarkashi were either higher than 1000 or just close to it. Almora had the highest and lowest sex-ratios in 2001 (1147) and 1911 (983) respectively. The highest sex-ratios in case of Bageshwar, Chamoli, Champwat, Dehradun, Hardwar, Nainital, Pauri Garhwal, Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag, Tehri Garhwal and Uttarkashi were recorded in 2001 (1110), 1961 (1103), 2001 (1024), 2011 (902), 2011 (879), 2011 (933), 1961 (1163), 1961 (1052), 1961 & 1971 (1169), 1961 (1196) and 1921 (1035). Above mentioned districts marked the lowest sex-ratios in 1911 (931), 1991 (982), 1911 (924), 1941 (644), 1961 (796), 1941 (689), 1901 (1031), 1911 (971), 1901 (1061), 1941 (967), 1981 (881) respectively.



During the entire period from 1901 to 2011, highest ever sex-ratio was recorded in respect of Pauri Garhwal in 1961 (1163) while the lowest ever was recorded in respect of Dehradun in 1941 (644). In last three decades i.e. from 1991 to 2011, the highest and lowest sex-ratios were recorded in respect of Almora (1147) in 2001 and Dehradun (843) in 1991 respectively. During Present Census (2011), the highest and lowest sex-ratios were recorded in respect of Almora (1142) and Hardwar (879) respectively. It is also important to note that during the first decade (1901-11), the highest increase and decrease in sex-ratio were marked in respect of Uttarkashi (+11) and Dehradun (-37) respectively. During second decade (1911-21), the same was recorded for Pauri (+48) and US Nagar (-48). Dehradun has highest increase (+17) while Tehri and Uttarkashi both had the highest decrease (-18) in 1921-31. In the next decade i.e. 1931-41, Champawat (+14) and Uttarkashi (-41) had the highest and lowest decrease in sex-ratio. From 1941 to 1951, Tehri Garhwal had highest increase in sex-ratio i.e. an increase of 155 units while Champawat marked the highest decline of 05 units. The decade of 1951-61 witnessed the highest increase and decrease in sex-ratio for Almora (+54) and Uttarkashi (-29) respectively. In 1961-71, the highest increase and decrease was observed in Nainital (+122) and Chamoli (-68) respectively. In 1971-81, 1981-1991 and 2001-11, the highest increases in sex-ratios were seen in US Nagar (+67), Uttarkashi (+37) and Tehri Garhwal (+27) respectively while the highest decreases for the same decades were seen in Tehri Garhwal (-98), Chamoli (-38) and Champawat (-43). It is also interesting to note that during 1991-2001, Bageshwar witnessed highest increase in sex-ratio i.e. +55 but there was no decrease in this decade.

Sex-Ratio Disparities in Uttarakhand

Year	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Mean	935.36	926.38	935.54	928.69	922.62	960.23	978.23	979.23	970.00	971.08	1008.54	1011.62
S.D.	106.03	122.45	153.82	149.13	154.42	165.87	176.37	148.96	116.82	94.81	96.81	89.61
C.V.	11.34	13.22	16.44	16.06	16.74	17.27	18.03	15.21	12.04	9.76	9.60	8.86

It is clear from the above table that the disparity in sex-ratio in the state kept on increasing from 1901 to 1961 i.e. from 11.34 to 18.03 but thereafter it showed a trend of decline till 2011 i.e. from 15.21 to 8.86.

CONCLUSION:

It is observed that the differences in the sex-ratio across the state are due to the neglect of the girlchild, migration, mortality, low literacy and lack of nutrition in women etc. The sex-ratio of the hilly districts in the state is quite high but as we move towards the plains, the sex-ratio shows the trends of decline. The reason behind the high sex-ratio in hilly areas is due to the migration of men towards the cities in search of livelihood due to which women are left at the homes resulting into the high sex-ratio. Further this rural to urban migration has caused the accumulation of male population in these urban areas which has resulted in the declining sex ratio in the well developed districts such as Hardwar and Dehradun etc. Apart from the above facts the determination of the sex of the child has also caused the termination of pregnancies if it is a girl child and that's why the male population has become more than the female population.

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