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Differential in the Rural-Urban Size of Household in India

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Abstract

This paper utilizes district level data on rural size of household and urban size of household in India. There are two main objectives of this present paper to study the size of rural household, size of urban household and different between them. This work is based on secondary data and collected from census of India 2011. There were two variables i.e. rural household size and urban household size has been taken into consideration for the study. The data is computed and calculated differential between rural size of household and urban size of household. As per census 2011, India has 4.94 person per household and 4.66 person per household per.

Key words: Urban, Rural, Size of household, Differential

Introduction

Studies of developing countries have emphasis on several socio cultural and socioeconomic aspects associated with fertility and household size: modernization (Levy, 1985); contraceptive use and family planning programs for households (Koenig et al., 1987); and cultural attitudes and values for old-age security value of children (Rani, 1986) or the view of children as risk insurance (Robinson, 1986). Researchers have analyzed the extent of fertility and household size depends on individual's family backgrounds, social, psychological characteristics and economic status.

Blake (1986) assessed an inverse relationship between social class and household size. More education, late marriage, longer gap between marriage and the birth of the first child and employment condition were found associated with smaller families (Wagner et al., 1985).

Based on Census of India information, this study explains the trend and spatial pattern in the changes of household size in India using district level data of 2011. Changes in household size are clearly influence on the changes in living space as well as in household composition.

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Problem acquires nuances of meanings in a country like India where indications shows tendency to move into a low fertility regime in the years to come.

However, average demographic statistics generally provide substantial changes in the size and number of households. Most indicators of demographic, socio-economic changes, household changes are neither uniform in their social and spatial content. It may be worthwhile to examine district level variation in this feature of change that is unfolding in India in recent years.

Objectives

- To determine the size of household in urban and rural area in India.
- To examine the differential in the size of house of rural and urban in India.

Database and Methodology

The present work is based on secondary sources of data. All secondary data are collected from census of India, 2011. The data like district wise sized of household and other variable such as landholding size, % cent of female in work, level of educational attainment have been taken for the study. The correlation calculated among % of female participation, size of landholding, per cent of never married person and others by using spearman's Rank co-relation method. Such formula has been used:

Where $d_i^2 = R_1 - R_2$ is the difference between ranks of two variables, and n is the total number of observations.

$$\rho = 1 - \frac{6 \sum d_i^2}{n(n^2 - 1)}.$$

GIS arc is also used as a tool to draw the maps of the variation in size of household in India.

The Average Size Total, Rural and Urban of Household

According to the census 2011, the average household size in India represents 4.85 persons per household. The rural size of household is about 4.94 persons per household and 4.66 persons per household in urban areas. A comparison of average household in 2011 census with previous

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decades reveals that the average size of household is gradually increasing over time and start to decrease after 1991. From independence the household size was increase gradually from 4.88 persons per household in 1951 to 5.57 in 1991. It was stared decreasing from 1991 to 2011 i.e. 4.85 persons in 2011 census (Table 1.1). The maximum increase was witnessed for the period of 1951 to 1971. The resent decades shows some indication of stability.

Table 1.1: Persons per Household in India since 1951-2011.

Census Year	Rural	Urban	Total
1951	4.91	4.71	4.88
1961	5.19	5.07	5.16
1971	5.52	5.23	5.46
1981	5.59	5.45	5.55
1991	5.63	5.38	5.57
2001	5.4	5.1	5.3
2011	4.95	4.66	4.85

Source: Census of India

Seen as a rural urban breakup, the average size of household is continuously increasing since 1951. The maximum increase in rural areas could be witnessed during 1951 to 1991, when the average size of household registered an increase of 4.91 to 5.63 persons per household. This was the similar the increase in the total size of household in the same period. The trend was negative from the census year 1991 to 2011, where it was decrease from 5.63 to 4.95 persons per household.

On the other hand the increase of urban household size was witnessed during 1951 to 1981 i.e. 4.71 to 5.45 persons per household. It was negatively grown from the 1981 to 2011, where it was registered 5.38 to 4.66 persons per household.

The Rural -Urban differences in Size of Households

The salient revelation of Indian census data was not much to distinguish between the average sizes of household i.e. 4.95 in rural and 4.66 in urban areas. The overall picture shows that average size of household revealing the sign of stability around 4.85 persons per household in

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2011. It has been observed that in the past decades the joint family in the urban areas was almost as high as in the rural areas. The observations was supported by several sample studies which revealed that small, joint family was most typical form of family life amongst the middle and upper middle urban classes in India (Ross, 1973).

The rural urban differential has not been consistent, but it varying from decade to decade (Table 1.1). The increased deferential is because of the size of household in rural constantly increase than the size of urban household. The growth rates of household size in rural areas were positive from 1951 to1991 i.e. 0.28 to 0.04 respectively. On the other hand negative trend of growth registered since 1991- 2011, i.e. 0.23 to 0.45. The urban counterpart also shows an unstable increase and decrease during this tenure. The overall difference in rural urban household size revealed that increase and decrease of household difference rely on the trend of household in rural and urban household growth.

Table 1.2: Trend of rural-urban differences in size of household

Decades	Rural	Urban	Difference
1951-61	+0.28	+0.36	-0.08
1961-71	+0.33	+0.16	+0.17
1971-81	+0.07	+0.22	-0.15
1981-91	+0.04	-0.07	+0.11
1991-01	-0.23	-0.28	-0.05
2001-11	-0.45	-0.54	-0.09

Source: author's calculation from census data

Spatial Pattern of Rural -Urban Differentials in the Size of Household

In India, the average household size of urban area has been 4.85 and rural area has been 4.94 in 2011. The maximum size of households in urban areas is in Uttar Pradesh (6) while minimum is observed in Tamil Nadu (3). In rural areas the maximum average size of households is in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh i.e. 5.73 and minimum average size of households is in Goa (3.36) followed by Tamil Nadu (3.88). Among Union Territories, the maximum average size of urban households is in Lakshadweep (5.21) and minimum is in Andaman and Nicobar (4.05) and Chandigarh

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(4.06). Similarly, in rural household size is maximum in Lakshadweep (5.67) and minimum is in Daman, Diu, Dadra, and Nagar Haveli (4). The average of total size of household has minimum in Tamil Nadu (3.89) and maximum is in Uttar Pradesh (6).

Table 1.3: Rural-Urban differentials in the size of household

State/Union Territories	Average Size of Household In 2011			Rural Urban Differentials
State	Total areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	2011
Jammu & Kashmir	5.92	5.86	6.06	-0.2
Punjab	5.03	5.16	4.82	+0.34
Himachal Pradesh	4.62	4.70	4.03	+0.67
Uttarakhand	4.90	4.94	4.82	+0.12
Haryana	5.23	5.42	4.87	+0.55
Rajasthan	5.40	5.42	5.30	+0.12
Uttar Pradesh	6.00	6.04	5.73	+0.31
Bihar	5.50	5.47	5.73	-0.26
Sikkim	4.73	4.89	4.30	+0.59
Arunachal Pradesh	5.11	5.33	4.51	+0.82
Nagaland	5.10	5.07	4.82	+0.25
Manipur	5.03	5.13	4.84	+0.29
Mizoram	4.92	5.00	4.88	+0.12
Tripura	4.34	4.51	5.41	-0.9
Meghalaya	5.41	5.50	5.07	+0.43
Assam	4.87	4.94	4.46	+0.48
West Bengal	4.48	4.50	4.43	+0.07
Jharkhand	5.27	5.30	5.30	0.0
Orissa	4.35	4.32	4.50	-0.18
Chhattisgarh	4.52	4.50	4.62	-0.12
Madhya Pradesh	4.81	4.74	5.00	-0.26
Maharashtra	4.60	4.65	4.53	+0.11
Andhra Pradesh	4.02	3.95	4.15	-0.19
Karnataka	4.57	4.71	4.37	+0.34
Goa	4.24	3.36	4.20	-0.84

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Kerala	4.25	4.21	4.30	-0.09
Tamil Nadu	3.89	3.90	3.88	+0.02
Gujarat	4.93	5.12	4.70	+0.42
Delhi- NCT	4.88	5.27	4.88	+0.39
Union territories				
Chandigarh	4.36	4.06	4.38	-0.32
Dam &Diu	4.00	4.74	4.00	+0.74
Dad.&NagarHaveli	4.50	5.07	4.00	+1.07
Lakshawdeep	5.57	5.21	5.67	-0.46
Pondicherry	4.12	4.15	4.11	+0.04
Andaman&Nicobar	4.02	4.05	3.98	+0.07
India	**4.85**	**4.94**	**4.66**	**+0.28**

Source: Author's calculation from census data.

There has been a significant change in average size of households in rural and urban areas of Indian states. States like Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Tripura, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Kerala has witnessed increase in size of households in urban areas in 2011 while some states like Tripura, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh observed increase in households size rural areas (See table 1.3). Significant increase in household size in rural areas can be observed in 2011 census data. The reason can be attributed to lack of education and family planning while there has been decrease in urban household size. The reason can be attributed to increase in access of quality education, aspire for better quality of life, inflation and family planning. The increase in 2011 was observed in states like Manipur (+0.29) and Tamil Nadu (+0.02).Among Union territories, the increase in urban households size can be observed in Chandigarh (-0.32) and Lakshadweep (-0.46) in 2011. Over all there is increase in rural household size in 2011.

From the Fig: 1.2, it can be observed that the rural household size is high in plain areas excluding Jammu and Kashmir. The plain areas are devoted to agriculture sector. The requirement of labor can be attributed as a reason for high family size in rural areas in Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal and Orissa. In Fig 1.1, the urban household size is high in parts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal and Orissa. These areas accounts for high population density. Fig: 1.1 shows the total household size of Indian districts and it can

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be observed that the northern India has bigger household size than southern India. Some of the states lacking behind in development constitutes the northern India while the development and advancement in technology in southern India has been the major reason in stark difference in household size. Thus, it can be stated that the development plays a crucial role in population check.

Conclusion

The urban places of India, therefore have not only retained a high degree of rural lifestyle, but also maintained their cultural heritage. The rural urban difference and size of the household did not show any continuous relationship. The regional difference in urban household size is more common in comparison to the rural household size.

The difference in the rural urban household size is correlated negatively with the level of urbanization in India. The economic activity in urban areas is a major impact factor to urban household size. On the other hand the rural household size depends on the literacy rate which also impact on the growth of population in rural areas.

Spatial distribution of rural urban household size has difference maximum in rural areas than urban areas. In the north and north western India the high difference is encountered due to joint family system in rural areas. Urban household are exceptionally small in the Hilly states of India, like Himachal Pradesh, North Eastern states of India.

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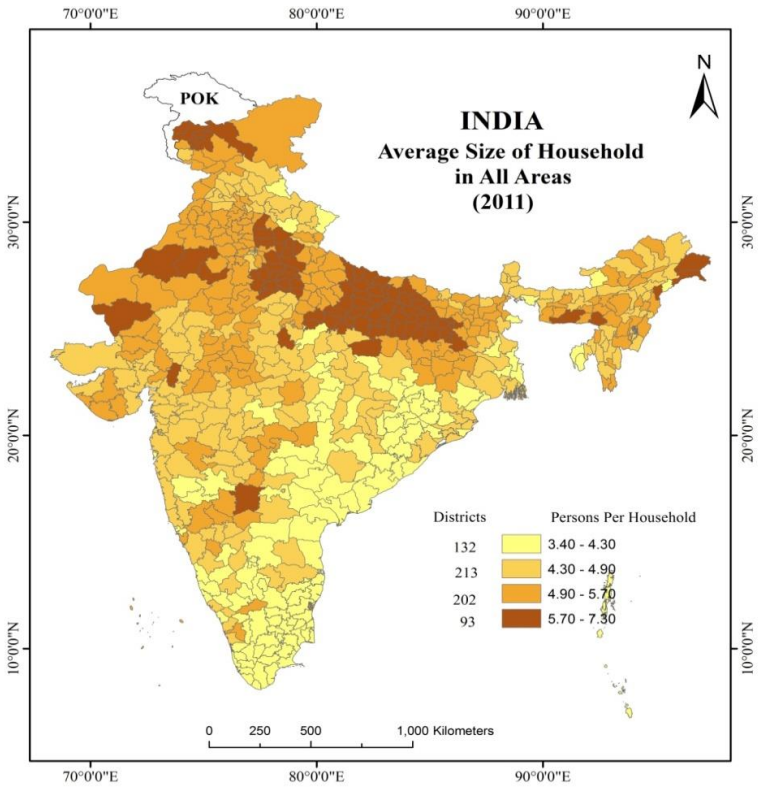
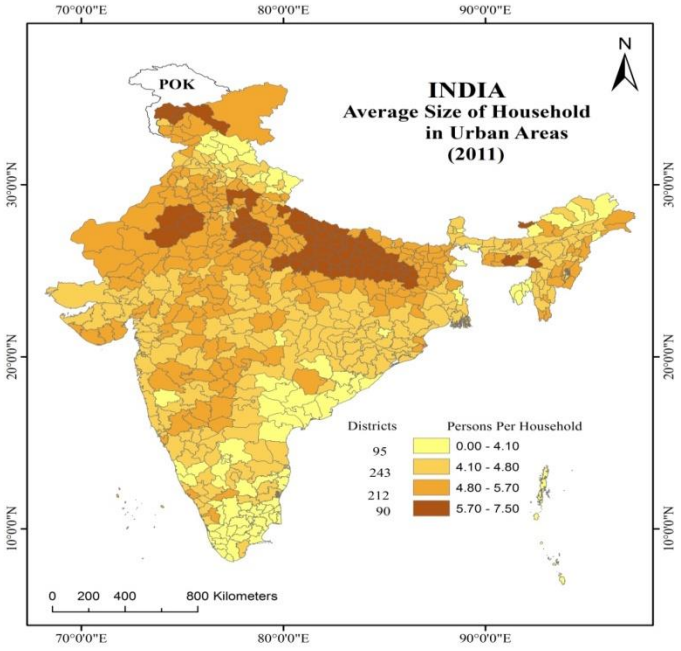


Fig. 1.1



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Fig. 1.2

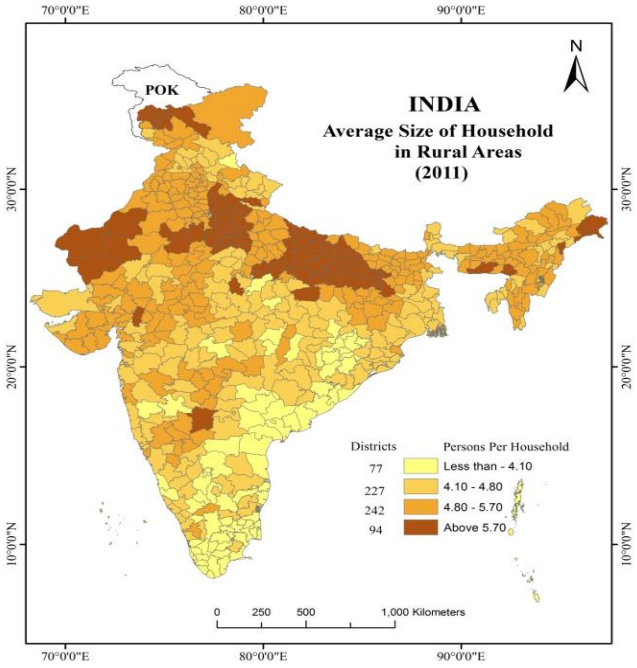


Fig. 1.3

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