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Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's



Chandrabai-Shantappa Shendure College, Hupari,

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On

**"Business Management, Information System, Social Sciences & Language & Literature :
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LEVELS OF URBANIZATION IN MAHARASHTRA : A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

*R. R. Salunkhe

**Dr. S. B. Gaikwad

INTRODUCTION:

The phenomenon of urbanization has its roots in the resource base of a region. Urbanization is an indicator of the level of development. There cannot be a **single definition of the concept of urbanization**. Urbanization is a population shift from rural area to urban area and society adopt to change. Urbanization is a critical process through which nation pass they evolve from agrarian to industrial societies (Trewartha, 1969). Urbanization is concerned with the growth of population which increased due to the centrifugal as well as centripetal forces. The process of urbanization has many dimensions and number of methods has been developed to measure the degree of urbanization. The percentage of urban population is considered as an index of level of urbanization. For the present analysis, the percentage distribution method has been used to measure the degree of urbanization.

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Research Guide, Associate Professor & Head, Deptt. of Geography, Miraj Mahavidyalaya, Miraj, District Sangli (Maharashtra).

According to 2011 census, Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized state of India with 48.45 percent urban population followed by Kerala (47.72 percent) and Maharashtra rank 3rd in Urbanization (45.23 percent).

STUDY AREA:

For the present work the Maharashtra state is select to look into the spatial patterns of urbanization. At present Maharashtra is one of the developed States in India in terms of social-cultural, industrial and economic sector. The state of Maharashtra is one of the 29 states of Indian Union. The state was formed on 1st May, 1960. The state is about 800 km from west to east and 700 km from north to south. It is 3rd largest state in India in respect of area and second in population. The study region lies between 15°44' N to 22°6' N latitude and 72°36' E to 80°54' E longitude. It is surrounded by the Arabian sea on the west, Gujrat in north-west, Madhya Pradesh in the north, Chhatisgarh in east, Telangana in south-east and Karnataka and Goa in the south (Fig.1.1) According to 2011 census Maharashtra consist of 35 districts and is divided into six administrative divisions viz Konkan, pune, Nashik, Aurangabad, Amarawati and Nagpur. The Nagpur and Amarawati divisions are usually referred to as Vidarbha and Aurangabad division is known as Marathawada.

The Geographical area of the state is 3,07,713 sq km which is about one-tenth of the area of the Indian Union. The total population of the state according to 2011 Census is 11,23,72,972. The density of population is 365 persons per sq km. Out of this total population 5,08,27,531 (45.23 percent) of Maharashtra was living in urban area.

OBJECTIVES:

The major objectives of this paper are follows.

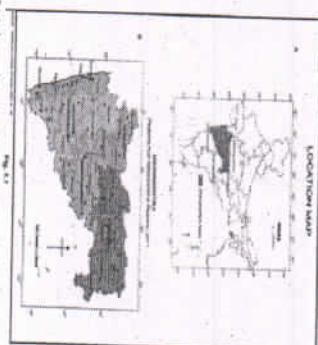
To examine the spatial variation among the levels of urbanization in Maharashtra.

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY:

Present paper is based on the secondary sources data mainly collected from Census of India, 2001 and 2011. Decadal urban population growth rate of Maharashtra is calculated by following formula:

$$r = \frac{P_2 - P_1}{P_1} \times 100$$

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2
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The growth of urban population of Maharashtra is shown by simple bar graph. The percentage of urban population to the total population of Maharashtra and India are shown by multiple bar graph. District wise urban population has collected from Census of India 2011, primary census abstract of Maharashtra. The collected data is processed been to analyze the spatial pattern of urbanization of Maharashtra state. Statistical method is adopted for determining of class category viz. high, moderate, low and very low. The choropleth technique has been used for representing levels of urbanization. The Palghar district has not considered as a separate district because it has newly formed. The district has considered as an areal unit for the study.

Table No. 1.1 Growth of Urban Population in Maharashtra

Year	Urban Population in lakhs	Absolute variation in lakhs	Decadal Growth Rate
1901	32.17	—	—
1911	32.49	0.32	0.99
1921	38.57	6.08	18.72
1931	44.57	6	15.54
1941	56.65	12.08	27.11
1951	92.01	35.36	62.42
1961	111.63	19.62	21.32
1971	157.11	45.48	40.75
1981	219.94	62.83	39.99
1991	305.42	85.48	38.87
2001	410.2	104.78	34.31
2011	508.27	98.07	23.9

Source: Census of India 2011, Primary Census Abstract of Maharashtra

Census of India 2001, Series-28, Maharashtra, Page no. 7

Compiled by researcher

By the above table 1.1 reveals that Maharashtra has a short fall in urbanization. The growth of urban population is slow. It is observed that a sharp rise in urban population is observed in the region. Industrialization has undoubtedly accelerated, the process of urbanization.

Table No. 1.2

Percentage of urban population to total population Maharashtra and India 1901-2011

Census Year	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Maharashtra	16.59	15.12	18.49	18.60	21.11	28.75	28.22	34.31	34.31	34.31	34.31	34.31
India	10.84	10.3	11.2	12.99	13.85	17.29	17.80	20.29	21.29	22.29	23.29	24.29

Source:

Census of India, series - 28, Maharashtra Provisional population totals paper - 2, published by the Census Commissioner, Mumbai.

Census of India, Primary Census Abstract of Maharashtra-2011

Compiled by researcher

According to 1901 census about 19.59 percent population of Maharashtra live in urban area. The percentage of urban population of Maharashtra has increased only 2.87 times. The percentage of urban population of Maharashtra since 1901 to 2011 census Maharashtra is highly urbanized as 45.23 percent population of Maharashtra is higher than nation. Maharashtra has the highest economic development of economy and industrialization are major cause of rapid growth of urbanization.

Table No. 1.3 shows a wide range of variation of levels of urbanization in the districts of Maharashtra.

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Table No. 1.3

Levels of Urbanization in Maharashtra (2011)

Sr. No	Name of the district	Total Population	Urban Pop
1	Mumbai Suburb	93,56,962	93,56,962
2	Mumbai	30,85,411	30,85,411
3	Thane	1,10,60,148	85,14,60,148
4	Raigarh	26,34,200	9,70,11,200
5	Ratnagiri	16,15,069	2,63,77,069
6	Sindhudurg	8,49,651	1,07,00,651
7	Nasik	61,07,187	25,97,3,187
8	Jalgaon	42,29,917	13,42,7,917
9	Ahmadnagar	45,43,159	9,12,61,159
10	Dhule	20,50,862	5,71,03,862
11	Nandurbar	16,48,295	27,54,7,295

12	Pune	94,29,408	5751,182	61.0
13	Kolhapur	38,76,001	12,30,009	31.7
14	Satara	30,03,741	5,70,378	19.0
15	Solapur	43,17,756	13,99,091	32.4
16	Sangli	28,22,143	7,19,357	25.5
17	Aurangabad	37,01,282	16,20,170	43.8
18	Latur	24,54,196	6,24,980	25.5
19	Osmanabad	16,57,576	2,81,057	17.0
20	Bid	25,85,049	5,14,298	19.9
21	Nanded	33,61,292	9,13,898	27.2
22	Parbhani	18,36,086	5,69,806	31.0
23	Hingoli	11,77,345	1,78,733	15.2
24	Jalana	19,59,046	3,77,429	19.3
25	Amravati	28,88,445	10,37,287	35.9
26	Akola	18,13,906	7,19,741	39.7
27	Washim	11,97,160	2,11,413	17.7
28	Yavatmal	27,72,348	5,98,153	21.6

Table cont....

Sr. No	Name of the district	Total Population	Urban Population	Urban Population %
29	Budhiana	25,86,258	5,48,860	21.2
30	Nagpur	46,53,570	31,78,759	68.3
31	Wardha	13,00,774	4,23,300	32.5
32	Bhandara	12,00,334	2,33,831	19.5
33	Gondiya	13,22,507	2,25,930	17.1
34	Chandrapur	22,04,307	7,75,378	35.2
35	Gadchiroli	10,72,942	1,18,033	11.0
	Mean 33.42			
	SD 22.11			

Source: Census of India, Primary Census Abstract 2011 Maharashtra

Compiled by researcher

HIGH LEVEL OF URBANIZATION:

The district which has urban population above 77.42 percent is included in this category during 2011. Very high level of urbanization is recorded in only Mumbai suburb and Mumbai (100 percent) districts (Fig.4). The administrative, education, medical transportation, commercial functions and automobile, textile and chemical industries are more responsible and these regions provided more employment opportunity, however they are highly urbanized.

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MODERATE LEVEL OF URBANIZATION:

The district which has urban population 55.53 to 77.53 percent is included in this category. The districts included in this category are Satara, Solapur, Sangli, and Yavatmal. These districts are responsible for moderate level of urbanization.

LOW LEVEL OF URBANIZATION:

The district which has urban population 11.31 to 55.53 percent is included in this category. The districts included in this category are Jalgaon, Amravati, Wardha, and Nagpur. These districts are responsible for low level of urbanization. The major source of income is agriculture and allied activities.

VERY LOW LEVEL OF URBANIZATION:

The very low level of urbanization (below 11.31 percent) is observed only in Gadchiroli district. The major source of income is agriculture and allied activities.

SPATIAL PATTERNS OF LEVELS OF URBANIZATION IN MAHARASHTRA-2011



Fig. 4.4

CONCLUSIONS:

The study reveals that there are significant variations in urbanization of Maharashtra. The districts included in this category are Mumbai suburb and Mumbai (100 percent) districts. The moderate level of urbanization is recorded in only Mumbai suburb and Mumbai (100 percent) districts. Among 35 districts of Maharashtra 29 districts are included in this category. The major source of income is agriculture and allied activities. The districts included in this category are Satara, Solapur, Sangli, and Yavatmal. These districts are responsible for moderate level of urbanization.

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