



## The Decline of Child Sex Ratio in Haryana: An Overview

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**ABSTRACT:** *The fact is that most of the states of India have shown the trends of son preferences in family structure of various societies. Moreover, the couples who has only girl child not get social respect in the society. According to census of India 2011 a little bit improvement shown in Haryana child sex ratio over the last census of 2001 but; more strong efforts are necessary for the uplifting of the girls ratio in Haryana . In India many states evidences show that there has no social respect for its girl children. In Haryana various social, economic, demographic indicators provide evidences of gender bias (declining child sex ratio) and inequity against girls children. Many studies in Haryana shows that female ratio in total population had always remained unfavorable. The 2001& 2011 census of India shows imbalance in child sex ratio (CSR). Survival of girl child in many districts of Haryana is a critical issue.*

**Keywords:** Sex Ratio, Demographic Indicators, Social Structure, Inequality.

**INTRODUCTION:** Actually, gender equality is more than a goal in itself It is a precondition for meeting the challenges of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance. In many districts of Haryana, there are many evidences that point out female birth is as burden on family. In Haryana result shows rapidly lowest child sex ratio report by the 2001 & 2011 census. Though there are the many reasons behind decline in the child sex ratio, but the most significant is the

son preferences in Haryana. The present study has given some suggestions for the upgrading of the socio-cultural and socio-economic fundamental and increase the value of daughters to their parents in this modern era. This research paper shows challenges, causes, trends and declining in child sex ratios in Haryana. Latest census data (2011) shows that the child sex ratios have decreased compared to previous census data in the perspective of Haryana.



**Objective of Study:** The present research paper is based on the following research objectives:

- To define the concept of child sex ratio.
- To identify the recent trends in sex ratio in Haryana.
- To suggest for the improvement in sex ratio.

**Research Methodology:** This paper is based on both primary and secondary data. Most of the research data has been taken from the census of 2011, various books, research journals, government publications, newspapers etc. Though the research is descriptive in nature, nevertheless, the concluding facts have been supported by the observational facts.

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE:** There is a plethora of literature on demographic features of Indian societies residing in various states of the country. We have only taken some of the research works to support the present research as under:

- Parkin (1972) in his study has argued that sex could not be regarded as an important dimension of stratification, since the disabilities attaching to female

status did not override those of class. The analysis of class was based almost entirely on studies of men's location within the class structure.

- Acker (1973) in his study has pointed out that the absence of women in stratification studies and explained it in terms of the major assumptions in stratification literature about the social position of women.
- Dyson and Moore(1983) in their study have pointed out how there exists dichotomy in the relationship structure between north and south India, which was found to determine the degree of independence enjoyed by women, which in turn would interpret its effect on fruitfulness and baby civilization. The hypothesis and analysis put forward in this paper is often criticized for lack of economic and district controls and is examined with latest data time and again.
- Basu (1992) in his study from northern India has shown an increased sex differential in mortality, not only with rises in socio-economic status, but also



with better education for women. Although to increase the status of women, patterns of nuptiality and fertility behavior, particularly between the southern and northern states of India. A large proportion of daughter deficit has been shown to occur before birth. State level analyses are shown to hide intra state variation, thus making state level analysis of sex ratio seem a redundant exercise. The paper helps highlight the intra state variations. The son preference is more marked in the northern states and can be observed in a North- South difference in the sex ratio in child mortality, which is much more to the disadvantage of girls in the North.

- Chakrabarthi and Chaudhuri (2011) in their study have stated that women's education has been one of the most significant factors in reducing son preference. Hence, female literacy becomes a credible explanatory factor for child sex ratio.

**The Concept of Sex Ratio:** The sex ratio may be defined as the number of females per thousand males. If we define it in the

perspective of child sex ratio then, it may be known as the number of female child as per thousand male child. Some of the sociologists have defined the concept as under:

- Sex Ratio is a tool to determine gender equity of the population.
- Sex ratio, in India, is defined as the number of females per 1000 males in the population.
- Whereas, Internationally, Sex ratio is defined as number of males per 100 females.

**Trends in Sex Ratio in Haryana:** If we analyse the census data, the recent trends in sex ratio in the state of Haryana are as under:

- In 2011 Census, Sex ratio in India increased to 940 from 934 recorded in the 2001.
- Historically sex ratio in Haryana as remained imbalance to males.
- Sex ratio of total population has seen upward surge in the last censuses.

To conclude, the study shows that there are 953 girls per 1000 boys, anything below this figure would give the actual deficit. To see the regional variations in girl's deficit in Haryana aggregate figures are given for all

districts. Mostly districts in the Haryana region are affecting in deficit of girls. Haryana has a total population of

25353081, with males 1,35,05,130 and 1.18,47,951 females with sex ratio of 877.

**Table 1: Comparative sex Ratio, Child Sex Ratio of Haryana Districts: 2001 & 2011.**

State/ District	Sex Ratio		Percent 0-6 pop.		Sex Ratio 0-6 pop	
	2001	2011	2011	2011	2001	2011
Haryana	861	877	1508	13.8	819	830
Panchkula	823	870	14.1	11.7	829	850
Ambala	868	882	13.2	10.9	782	807
Yamunanagar	862	877	14.4	11.8	806	825
Kurukshetra	866	889	14.2	12.0	771	817
Kaithal	853	880	15.4	12.6	791	821
Panipat	829	861	15.1	12.9	809	820
Sonipat	839	853	15.4	12.7	788	790
Jind	852	870	15.8	12.4	818	835
Fatehabad	884	903	16.1	12.6	828	845
Sirsa	882	896	15.0	11.9	817	852
Hisar	851	871	15.5	12.1	832	849
Bhiwani	879	884	15.7	12.6	841	831
Rohtak	847	868	14.5	11.9	799	807
Jhajjar	847	861	15.0	12.1	801	774
Mahendragarh	918	894	15.2	12.5	811	784
Rewari	899	898	15.2	12.5	811	784
Gurgaon	850	853	15.5	13.1	807	826
Mewat	899	906	25.1	22.3	893	903
Faridabad	826	871	15.8	13.2	847	842
Palwal	862	879	20.0	16.5	854	862

**(Source: Census of India 2001 & 2011)**

On the basis of above table, we can conclude that as per the provisional

results of Census 2011, total population of India is 1,21,01,93,422 which comprises of



62,37,24,248 males and 58,64,69,174 females with the sex ratio of 940 females per 1000 males. Haryana has a total population of 25353081, with males 13505130 and 1,18,47,951 females with sex ratio of 877. As per Census 2011, top five districts which have the highest sex ratio are Mewat (906) followed by Fatehabad (903), Rewari(898), Sirsa (896) and Mahendragarh (894). Five districts which have the lowest sex ratio are Gurgaon (853), Sonipat(853), Panipat (861), Jhajjar (861) and Rohtak (878) district of the state of Haryana.

**Causes of Decreasing Sex Ratio:** Most of the scholars have agreed that there are some factors affecting the sex ratio pattern in the state as well as in whole India as under:

- ✦ Girl child is considered to be draining the economic wealth of the family.
- ✦ Inequality against the girl child.
- ✦ Weak population policies on sex ratio.
- ✦ High illiteracy prevailing especially in the villages.
- ✦ Unsecure environment and social structure for women.

- ✦ The desire to have a son who is thought as the name bearer of the family.
- ✦ Conservative and traditional mindset of the society.

#### **Suggestion for Improvement of Sex Ratio:**

A large number of studies have concluded that there can be done a lot of work in this regard as under:

- Females should be given freedom just like males.
- Incentives by the state government should be provided when a girl child is born and her birth should be celebrated just like a male child's birth.
- Population polices on child sex ratio needs to be made strong and well planned on local as well as national level.
- Parents should realize the value of girl child as she plays the binding role in a family.
- People need to be educated about this evil practice.
- Strong and safe environment for females need to be developed in homes and offices.



- Women should get equal job opportunities.
- Women should be listed as high economic contributors to national income and GDP.
- The difference and bias between male and female needs to be eradicated.
- People need to be made aware of this and state should sponsor programs in this regard.

Female improvement is the first step to get success, because many times its said that behind the every successful person the hand of a woman. So there are needs to improve in the gender bias for the growth of the state as well as the country. People need to understand that girls are the ornaments not the burden on the family. People need to understand that the son and the daughter have equal in the society, stop son preferences and help in to remove gender bias.

**Conclusion:** On the basis of above analysis we can conclude that besides of the various legal laws and women's specific developmental programmed, the child sex ratio still continue to degrade in the state of Haryana. The continuously declining child sex ratio is a example of gender bias

in Haryana districts. The causes of this decline have been identified illiteracy of people. The government of Haryana needs to open the centers that provide education about the need of the girl child and their participation in the national growth. Many seminars and workshops are to be held time to time in Haryana towns and especially in villages. However, the most powerful factor that has affected the sex ratio in the Haryana state is a strong son preference, have a son in reality with the spread of technology become very easy to produce, abortion laws do not have any control over couples, any law like obstetricians, gynecologists and Y sperm injectors are not acceptable in Haryana. Increase the family size getting smaller the government need to apply strongly polices one son one daughter; these kinds of policies helps in avoid the gender bias in Haryana state. A society without women cannot be imagined. However, Haryana is the first state to start the program of "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" which means save the girl child and educate her.

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