



Growth Rate of Rural Population in Punjab-Haryana Plain: A Tehsil Level Study

Ashu Rani

(Assistant Professor; Extension Basis
Govt. College, Baund Kalan, Ch. Dadri)

Abstract

For the present research work, the village level census data of 2001 and 2011 has been used to find out the growth rate of rural population at tehsil level in Punjab-Haryana Plain. The number of tehsils in 2001 was 139 which increased to 151 in 2011. Initially, the tehsil boundary of 2001 has been rearranged according to the tehsil boundary of 2011. During the time period 2001 to 2011, the average rural population growth rate in Punjab-Haryana Plain is 8.76 per cent. The maximum rural growth rate is found in Ferozpur Jhirka tehsil that is 35.88 per cent. On the other hand, the highest decline in rural growth rate is recorded in Gurgaon (-0.73) tehsil. Manesar and Farrukh Nagar tehsils are newly created from Gurgaon tehsil, so 79 villages out of 147 shifted from Gurgaon to Manesar (29 villages) and Farrukh Nagar (50 villages). Further, 36 villages of Gurgaon tehsil also merge into Gurgaon Municipal Corporation during the period 2001 to 2011.

Introduction

"Population growth is pivotal to the region's demographic dynamism. It has a vital index of a region's economic development, social awakening, historical and cultural background and political ideology. The growth of population in terms of percentage is generally calculated by dividing the absolute change by the population at an earlier date and multiplying it by hundred." (Chandana, 2018)

Objective of the study

The main objective of the present study is to analyze the growth rate of rural population at tehsil level in Punjab-Haryana Plain during the period of 2001 and 2011.

Study Area

The Punjab-Haryana Plain is one of the agriculturally advanced regions of India. Geographically, it is situated in the north-western part of India. It stretches from 27° 39' N to 32° 30' North latitudes and from 73° 51' E to 77° 36' East longitudes. The study area consists of 41 districts, 151 tehsils and 19423 included 612 uninhabited villages as per census 2011. The tehsils have the census code numbers from 200 to 276 of Punjab state and 356 to 429 of Haryana state (Fig.1).

Source of Data and Research Methodology:

The tehsil-wise census data of 2001 and 2011 has been used. The number of tehsils in 2001 was 139 which increased to 151 tehsils in 2011. Thus, the direct comparison of 2001 and 2011 census data was difficult by the numerous and extensive boundary change that took place during the period under consideration. As a result, of such changes many of the villages as well as tehsils of 2011 were different in size and shape from those bearing the same name in 2001. The number of villages has been decreased from 19628 to 19423 during the period 2001 to 2011. So the tehsils boundaries of 2001 have been rearranged according to the tehsils boundaries of 2011. Further all the villages have also been rearranged on the basis of tehsils boundaries of 2011. The tehsil wise rural population has been calculated in percentage in proportion to total population.

Result and Discussion

Pattern of Growth Rate of Rural Population

The growth rate of rural population rise throughout the area owing to difference in natural increase of population, level of economic development and immigration. During the time period 2001 to 2011, the average rural population growth rate in Punjab-Haryana Plain is 8.76 per cent. The maximum rural growth rate is found in Ferozepur Jhirka tehsil that is 35.88 per cent. On the other hand, the highest decline in rural growth rate is recorded in Gurgaon (-0.73) tehsil. Manesar and Farrukh Nagar tehsils are newly created from Gurgaon tehsil, so 79 villages out of 147 shifted from Gurgaon to Manesar (29 villages) and Farrukh Nagar (50 villages). Further, 36 villages of Gurgaon tehsil also merge into Gurgaon Municipal Corporation during the period 2001 to 2011. The map (Fig. 2) shows the pattern of growth rate of rural population at tehsil level. The study area can be categorised into five groups on the basis of growth rate of rural population and described in table-1.

- (I) Very High Growth Rate of Rural Population (More than 18.00 per cent)
- (II) High Growth Rate of Rural Population (12.01 to 18.00 per cent)
- (III) Moderate Growth Rate of Rural Population (6.01 to 12.00 per cent)
- (IV) Low Growth Rate of Rural Population (Less than 6.01 per cent)
- (V) Negative Growth Rate of Rural Population

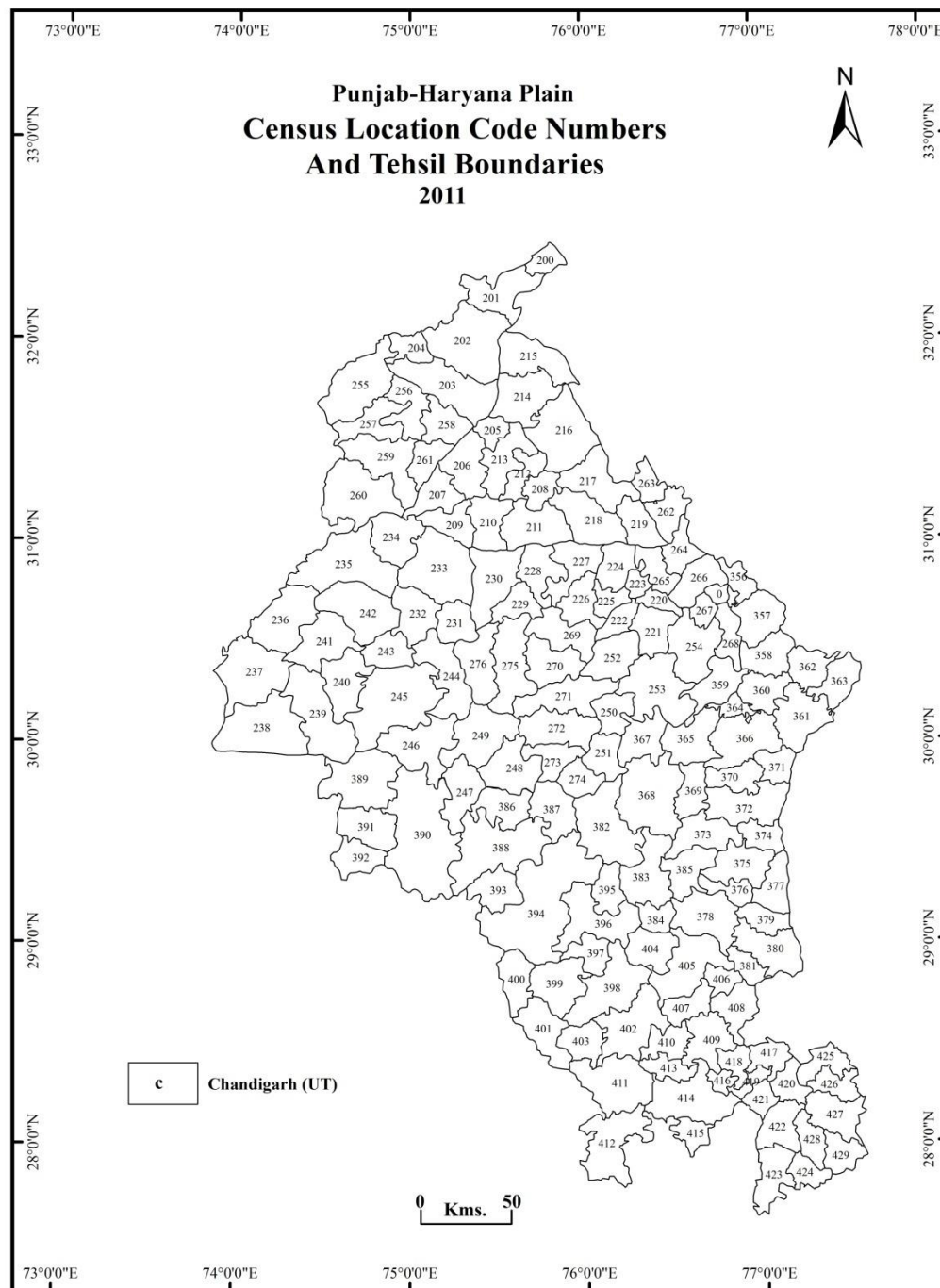


Fig.1

(I) Areas of Very High Growth Rate (More than 18.00 per cent)

The very high positive growth rate is observed in 18 tehsils in which four of Punjab and 14 of Haryana in the study area. Average growth rate in this category is 24.18 per cent. These tehsils are found in the form of tiny patches in Punjab-Haryana Plain. The highest growth rate is recorded in Ferozpur Jhirka tehsil that is 35.88 per cent. It is followed by the tehsils such as Taoru (31.99 %), Hathin (31.95 %) and Punahana (31.47 %) which lies in national capital region. The other important tehsils are Kalka (27.08 %), Ludhiana (East) (20.59 %), Dabwali

(19.68 %), Sirsa (19.26 %), Ellenabad (18.95 %), Patti (18.08 %), Tarn Taran (20.23 %) and Abohar (18.05 %) etc due to nearness major urban centre like Delhi, Ludhiana and Chandigarh.

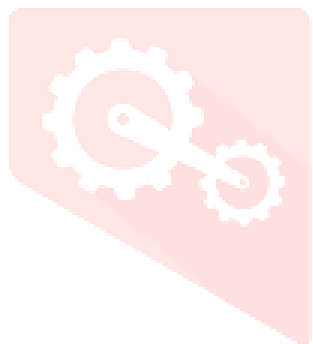
(II) Areas of High Growth Rate (12.01 to 18.00 per cent)

The areas with high growth rate contain 39 tehsils including 14 of Punjab and 25 of Haryana, which covers about 26 per cent of total tehsils. Most of tehsils are stretched around the western parts with some patches in central and eastern parts of the Punjab-Haryana Plain. The main tehsils of this category are Gharaunda (17.95 %), Fatehabad (17.72 %), Siwani (17.32 %), Patiala (17.27 %), Bhiwani (17.13 %), Jalalabad (16.85 %), Ballabgarh (16.81 %), Ganaur (16.69 %), Tosham (16.33 %) and Pataudi (16.07 %) etc.

Table-1
Punjab- Haryana Plain
Growth Rate of Rural Population, 2001-2011.

Growth Rate (Per cent)	No. of Tehsils	Per cent	Average Growth Rate	Remark (Growth Rate)
More than 18.00	18	11.92	24.18	Very High
12.01 to 18.00	39	25.83	14.78	High
6.01 to 12.00	43	28.48	09.39	Moderate
Less than 6.01	33	21.85	03.44	Low
- 00.01 and Below	18	11.92	-09.35	Negative Growth Rate
Punjab - Haryana Plain	151	100.00	8.76	

Source: Census of India, 2001 and 2011. Compiled by Author.



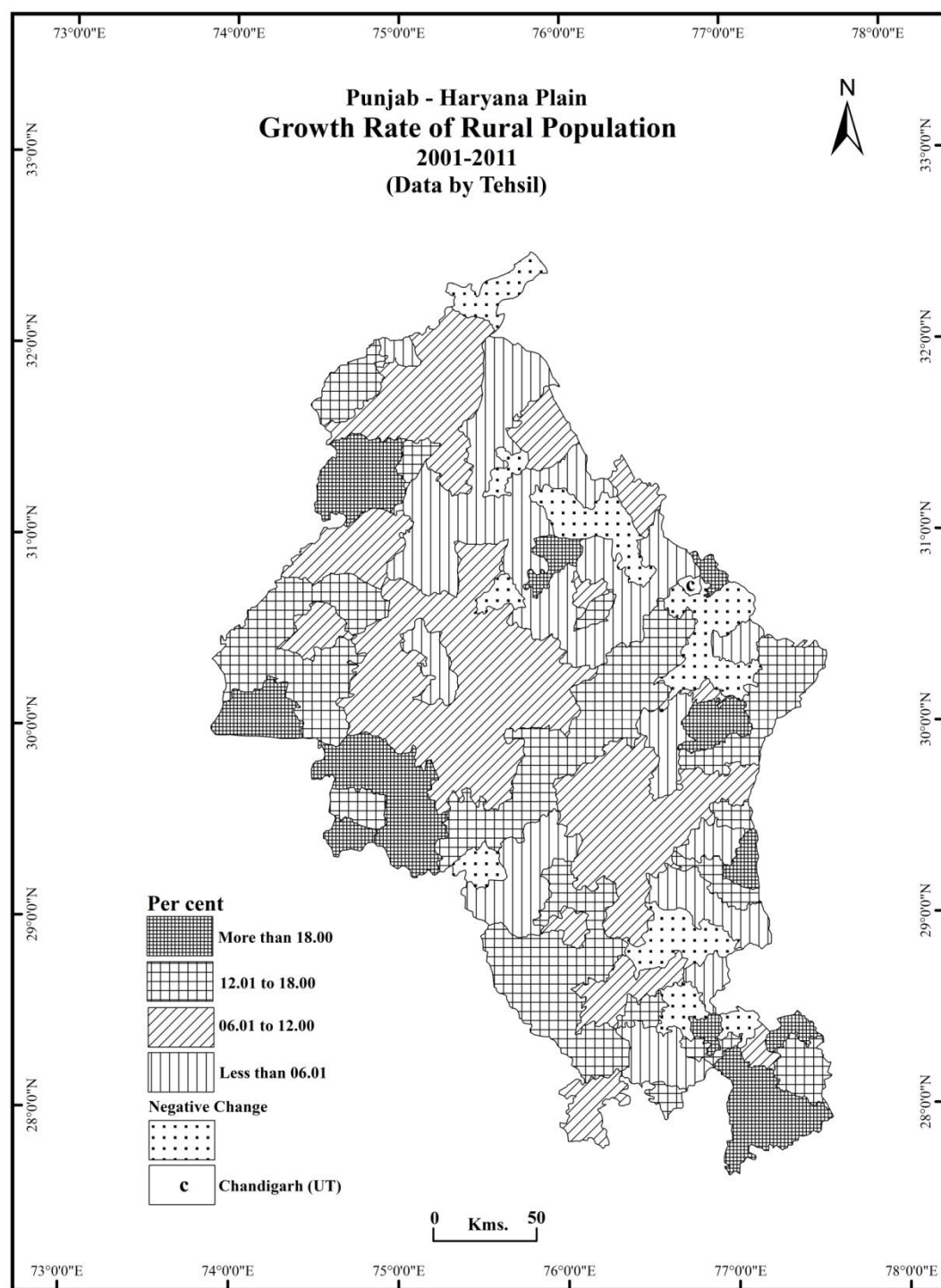


Fig. 2

(III) Areas of Moderate Growth Rate (6.01 to 12.00 per cent)

The study reveals that 43 tehsils (27 of Punjab and 16 of Haryana) have recorded moderate positive growth rate, which constituting 28.48 per cent of the total tehsils. These tehsils are spread in the western parts of the Punjab-Haryana Plain in the form of large patches. The tehsils such as Maham, Sardulgarh, Kaithal, Tapa, Firozpur, Jaitu, Karnal, Narnaul, Anandpur sahib, Sangrur, Batala, Narnaund, Budhlada, Mansa, Sunam, Shahbad,

Assandh and Bawani Khara have recorded more 10 per cent rural population growth rate during the period in the study area.

(IV) Areas of Low Growth Rate (Less than 6.01 per cent)

The low growth rate is occupied by 33 tehsils in which 23 of Punjab and 10 of Haryana, which covers about 22 per cent of the total tehsils. Mostly tehsils are situated in north-eastern and some small scattered patches are found in Punjab-Haryana Plain. In this category, highest growth rate is recorded in Kosli (5.84 %), followed by Mukerian (5.81 %), Sultanpur Lodhi (5.74 %), Moga (5.66 %), Fatehgarh Sahib (5.40 %), Dera Baba Nanak (5.30 %), Panipat (5.28 %), Gohana (5.13 %), Rampura Phul (5.12 %) and Khamanon (5.07 %) etc. On the hand, the tehsil like Kharar (0.93 %), Jalandhar-II (0.75 %), Bhulath (0.60%) and Phillaur (0.57%) of Punjab state have recorded less than one per cent growth rate of rural population during the period 2001 to 2011 in Punjab-Haryana Plain.

(V) Areas of Negative Rural Population Growth Rate

The negative growth rate has been identified in the 18 tehsils. The highest decline in rural population is observed in Gurgaon tehsil (-68.24 %) followed by Panchkula (-17.22 %), Ambala (-13.74 %), Sampla (-11.65 %), Pathankot (-8.19 %), Adampur (-7.42 %), Jalandhar-I (-6.71 %), Dhar Kalan (-6.47 %), Dera Bassi (-6.08 %), Nawanshahr (-5.54%), Chamkaur Sahib (-5.00 %), Kharkhoda (-4.22 %), Raikot (-3.47 %), Barara (-2.23 %) and SAS Nagar (Mohali) (-1.11 %) etc. Another important tehsils namely Balachaur (-0.20 %), Rohtak (-0.38 %) and Jhajjar (-0.46 %) which have recorded minor negative change in growth rate during the period 2001 to 2011. Most of the tehsils in this category confined to the north-eastern and southern parts of the Punjab-Haryana Plain.

Conclusions

It is concluded that the average rural population growth rate in Punjab-Haryana Plain is 8.76 per cent during the period 2001 to 2011. The maximum rural growth rate is found in Ferozepur Jhirka tehsil that is 35.88 per cent. On the other hand, the highest decline in rural growth rate is recorded in Gurgaon (-0.73) tehsil. Manesar and Farrukh Nagar tehsils are newly created from Gurgaon tehsil, so 79 villages out of 147 shifted from Gurgaon to Manesar (29 villages) and Farrukh Nagar (50 villages). Further, 36 villages of Gurgaon tehsil also merge into Gurgaon Municipal Corporation during the period 2001 to 2011. Besides variation in the topographical conditions, increase in urban area, demoralization of joint families in rural areas, fairly educational and transportation facilities and better employment opportunities in the urban areas are the responsible factors to decrease the rural female working force during the period 2001 to 2011 in Punjab-Haryana Plain.

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