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## Statistical analysis of reasons for migration in India

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### Abstract

Migration is a global phenomenon caused not only by economic factors, but also by social, political, cultural, environmental, health, education and transportation factors. It commonly takes place because of the push factors of less opportunity in the socio economic situation and also because of pull factors that exist in more developed areas.

**Keywords:** Migration, Reasons, Causes, Pull and Push factors

### 1. Introduction

As a result of introducing liberal global economy many changes have taken place in India and around the world led to positive growth of the economy. In addition it has many social and demographic implications also. People attached to rural area have started moving to words urban areas as a result of increased economic activities. Growth of Information and technologies have opened varieties of new type of jobs in urban set up and large number of students of younger generation have moved to urban Business and technician schools and institutions to acquire new skill and education. These changes have greatly influenced both internal and international migration in India context. Earlier larger number of internal migrants was of short distance, moving to nearest urban centres for searching jobs or for higher education or family dependents. About 70 to 80 percents of females are moving for the reason of marriage to join their husband family. (Sivamurthy and Kadi, 1984 <sup>[18]</sup>; Kadi and Madagi 1994) <sup>[11]</sup>.

In this chapter, an attempt has been made to study reasons for people moving from one place to another place and changes that have taken over the period as compared to past migration in Indian context. Also the study tries to bring out different reasons for migration with respect to each stream: rural – rural, rural-urban, urban-urban, urban-rural migration streams

### 1.1 Reason for Migration

Since first Indian census of 1881 to 1961, the Census data on migration were obtained only by asking the question on place of birth. In 1971 census, an additional question about the place of last residence of the respondent was introduced in order to get more information on volume of migration. However, in 1981, 1991 and 2001 census periods in addition to above question, the question, reasons for migration from place of last residence and duration of stay at the place of enumeration was included.

**Table:** The reasons for migration in 1981, 1991 and 2001 census period are grouped as follows.

1981 Census	1991 Census	2001 Census
Employment	Employment	Work/Employment
Education	Business	Business
Family moved	Education	Education
Marriage	Family moved	Marriage
others	Marriage	Moved with birth
	Natural Calamities	Moved with household
	Others	Any other reason

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The migrants other than reasons stated in the above table were having been clubbed together in the category of any other causes. It restricts the study of micro level analysis of the actual reason of migration in this category. Further, the data on place of last residence about the reasons of migration, classified on the basis of age, sex and duration of residence less than one year, 1-4 years, 5-9 years, more than nine years, all durations.

The most important reason for female migration in India is the marriage, sharing for more than half of the migrants. This is because of the social custom of women migrating to the husbands place after marriage.

Employment and Business requirement account for little more than one tenth migrants, while education as reasons of migration accounts for about two percent of all the migrants.

A migrant is assigned the reason of employment if he or she has moved in search of a job or he or she has actually got the job. This includes the migration of government, semi-government and some of private organization servants on account of transfer from one place to another.

If a migrant moves on account of joining a business or setting of a business he or she said to have migrated on account of the business. Census of India clarifies that business is different from job or employment for which wages or salary is paid in cash or kind. Business means an economic activity, which involves risk taking either on own or in partnership with other.

Education is included as a reason of migration in census. Any person who has moved to join a school or a college, come under this category. However, census makes a distinction between those who moved voluntarily for education and those who moved along with earning member of the family.

On account of occurrence of natural calamities in India or some parts of the country every year. Many people are ousted due to this reason. This has been recognised as one of the reasons of migration in the census of 1981 and 1991. But this reason dropped from main categories of reason in 2001. Census has also not given due importance to manmade disasters like wars social and political riots as a reason of migration.

In case of a person who has come into India from any other country as result of partition or has been repatriated, the reason for migration will be noted as others.

In India, thousands of people are getting displaced due to construction of highways, large irrigation projects and industrial establishments. Census of India is aware about this issue, but directed its enumerators to include this in other category.

In 2001 Census the reason: moved after birth was included keeping in view of cultural practices of women generally giving her first birth at her parental place rather than her husband's place. Because of this reason, the baby born at his or her maternal house is a migrant in his or her parental house because the place of last residence was different from place of enumeration. This is applicable to birth's occurring in hospitals and nursing homes.

Internal migration is important is an important factor and in many countries is far greater than international migration. In India 307 million people were migrated internally in 2001 Census. In china 120 million people migrated internally in 2001 against a mere 4, 58,000 people migrating international for work.

In Vietnam roughly 4.3 million people migrated internally in the five years before the 1999 Census whereas the number of international migrants was 3 lakhs. In India internal migration

run into millions while international migration is only fraction of this (Srivastava and Sasikumar 2003).

Internal migration place significant role in moulding the social, economic and other structurally characteristics of a population of a country or a region (Khan 2010, White and Woods 1980). Migration occurs when various factors operate together and the importance of factors responsible for migration varies from place to place according localities particular development milieu.

## 1.2 The Causes of Internal Migration

### 1.2.1 Earning and Employment Opportunities

The following were the well known fact for migration.

- It is well known that the greater the gaps in earning between origin and destination the more likely are working age adults to move.
- It is far less clear how the significant gap in earnings is maintained between rural and urban formal employment for observationally equivalent workers. There is some recent evidence consisted with efficiency wage explanation of high urban wages.
- Migrants to town initially earn less than observationally equivalent natives, but the evidence indicates that the gap disappears within a few years and may even reverse.
- Many migrant to urban areas initially enter the informal sector. For some of this is a transitory phase prior to finding more formal employment. However statistical studies of these patterns are plagued by the lack of precision in defining the informal sector and the evidence is mixed as to whether the formal or informal urban sector offers higher pay to observationally equivalent workers.
- Finding on whether differences in unemployment rates between locations promote migration are mixed. Limited evidence suggests that migrants often identify their urban job before migrating. But other migrates do appear to search for work after moving either while in temporary employment or while openly unemployed. However at least one study maintains that off form migration in developing countries will sees only when the earning gap is entirely closed and hence that uncertainty about employment is
- Irrelevant. It has also been argued that unemployed workers may have at least a chance of re-employment in their home setting were information and contacts are more readily available.
- The location of newly created employment opportunities depends in part upon the development strategy adopted within a country. The imported substitution leads to employment concentration in large cities. However many other factors also affect the spatial distribution of industrial employment, including the land intensity of production, availability of appropriate infrastructure, agglomeration externalities, tax incentives tied to location as well as the local cost labour?
- It has been hypothesized that large towns offer a greater diversity of employment and hence a better chance of reemployment in the event of layoff. This might render large towns more attractive to migrating workers. At least one study shows that unemployment rates are lower in larger urban areas, though more systematic evidence on this issue does not seem to exist for the developing economies.

### 1.2.2 Family and Networks

- Possessing networks of family and friends in town may encourage migration into town conversely; a well-developed network at home may discourage departure. However empirical examination of these propositions is hampered by difficulties in eliminating spurious effects in discerning, what advantageous the network offers and in defining the scope of a network.
- Migration at the time of marriage to join or accompany a spouse does seem common. A few studies also suggest that parents may have the welfare of other offspring in mind when making their own migration decision.
- Urban migrants often initial settle in ethnically similar neighbourhoods, which suggest that networks lower the affective cost of moving in some manner. Evidence from some cities even shows that subsequent moves within the city are to new neighbourhoods with the same ethnic composition.

### 1.2.3 Distance

- Migration over short distances is much more common than migration to remote location. Whether this reflects the greater cost of moving further lack of information about more remote alternatives are less alienation in a year by setting remains undetermined.
- However few were out migration opportunities in a remote areas tend to generate longer residence which, in turn raises the sense of alienation in contemplating moves. The result is pockets of poverty in remote places.
- Incomplete or imperfect local capital markets may encourage out migration either directly through restriction on the ability of families to borrow or indirectly through effects on employment creation. However solitary test of this potential interesting proposition proves inconclusive.
- The opportunity cost of financing costly migration is probably lower for wealthier families. This has been to important implication. First, migration may be more common from richer families and this in turn may exacerbate inequality in incomes. Secondly, has region becomes wealthier out migration may actually increase as the financial constraint is reduced.

### 1.2.4 Relative Economic Standing in the Community

- Migrants may not only care about any absolute gain in earning through migration but also about their relative economic standing in the communities of origin and destination. One study of migration from rural area found

that emigration to urban area was more likely among individuals with low income relatives to others in their village. They give importance for:

- Improved amenities in a location may attract industries or permit agricultural expansion to the extent that this results in employment expansion or higher wages. Outmigration may be discouraged and in migration encouraged.
- Improved local amenities may also have direct effect upon migrant decisions. Simply by making life in this setting more attractive.
- On the other hand some forms of improved local amenities could exacerbate net out migration. It is visible that improved rural transport could act in this fashion by affecting local production patterns and hence reducing the local demand for labour and by making departure and return visits easier.
- It is obvious that episode of violence and naturally disasters result in mass migrations either of internally displaced person or of international refugees reason to which a well- documented is the extent to which on-going violence. Political repression and recurrent risk from disasters swell the stream of migrants.

Migration has been intimately related to economic and social development and it is often seen as the result of imbalances in the levels of development.

People leave their places of birth and residence due to many reasons such as push and pull factors.

Some factors are pushing people to leave their places of origin are poverty high population pressure on the land, lack of basic infrastructural facilities like health care education, natural disasters such as flood, drought, cyclonic, storms, earthquake, Tsunami/wars local conflicts also give extra push to migrate. Water logging can also be trigger for migration the uncontrolled use of irrigation facilities, water has resulted in the logging and salivation of land. This has led to falling crop yields. This leads to migration by poor marginal farmers. The most recent push factor appears to be a fall in agricultural returns due to fall in agricultural and due to macroeconomics reforms linked with liberalization and globalization policies creating a strong push from the country side.

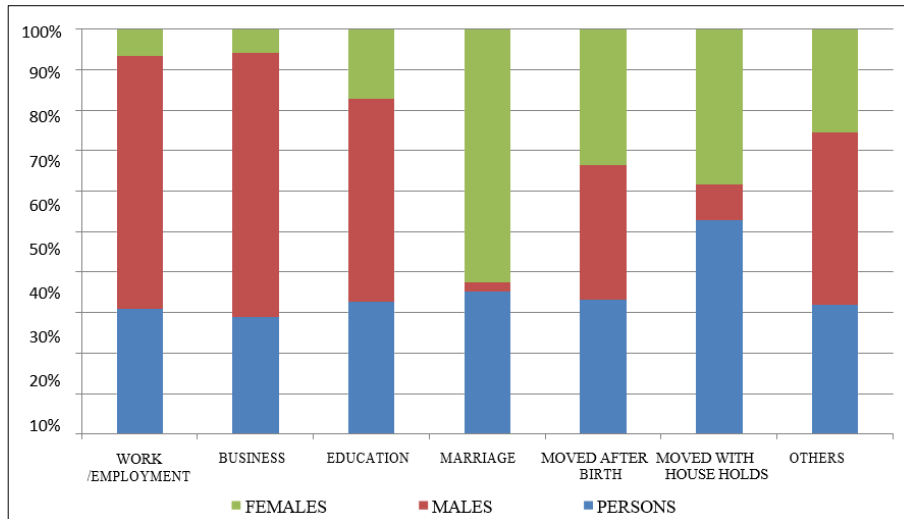
Factors with attract the people from different places (Pull factors) are better job opportunities, availability of regular work and relatively higher wages, better opportunities for education, better health facilities and source of entertainment and desire to acquire skills or gain new experiences etc.,

**Table 1:** Reason for Migration of Migrants India - 1991 (0-9) Years

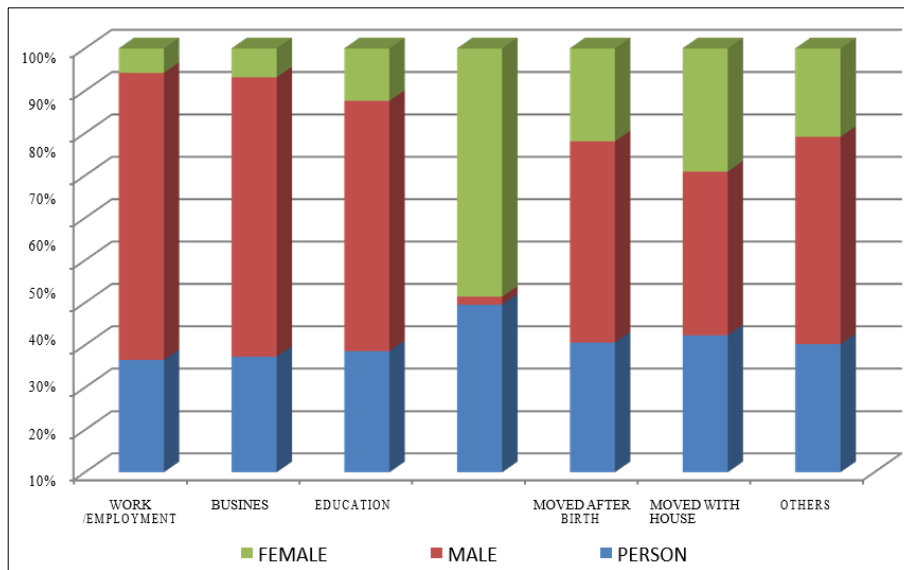
Reason For Migration	Number of Migrants (In Millions)			Percentage		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Total Migrants	69645349	31500819	38144530	100	100	100
Reason For Migration Employment	13548335	11989274	1559061	19	38	4
Business	3192080	2813936	378144	4	9	0.8
Education	2522718	1789084	733634	3.6	5.5	1.9
Marriage	21283699	640986	20642713	30.5	2	54
Family Move	17798118	7912560	9885558	25	25	25.2
Natural Calamities	200320	119098	81222	2.9	0.5	2.1
Others	110079	6235881	486419	15	20	12

**Table 2:** Reason for Migration of Migrants India - 2001 (0-9) Years:

Reason For Migration	Number of Migrants (In Millions)			Percentage		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Total Migrants	98301342	32896986	65404356	100	100	100
Work /Employment	14446224	12373333	2072891	14.7	37.6	3.2
Business	1136372	950245	186127	1.2	2.9	0.3
Education	2915189	2038675	876514	3	6.2	1.3
Marriage	43100911	679852	42421059	43.8	2.1	64.9
Moved After Birth	6577380	3428673	3148707	6.7	10.4	4.8
Moved With House Holds	20608105	8262143	12345962	21	25.1	18.9
Others	9517161	5164065	4353096	9.7	15.7	6.7



**Fig 1:** Reasons for Migration in India 1991



**Fig 2:** Reasons for Migration in India 2001

Table 1 and 2 gives details of reason for migration in the case of migrants by last residence with duration of last residence as 0 to 9 years.

For census 1991 -2001, It has been seen that the reason for migration in case of males and females vary significantly work or employment was the most important reason for migration among males about 38 and 37.3 percent in census 1991 and 2001 respectively, is almost same for both census years. It is observed that it is very less among females is about 4 and

3.2 percent respectively whereas marriage was the most important reason for female migration is accounting for 54 and 64.8 percent in 1991 and 2001 respectively is showing

upward trend, and indicates that after marriage movement of females to her husband’s place is mandatory in Indian society.

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