



Size of Households in Rohtak District: An Inter-Village Analysis

Author: **Archana**

Open Scholar (Geography)

Email ID: archi.rohilla@gmail.com

Abstract

Understanding the dynamics of household size within a specific geographic region is crucial for policy formulation and resource allocation. This study delves into the variations in household sizes across different villages within Rohtak District, India. By employing an inter-village analysis approach, this research aims to uncover the underlying factors influencing household size disparities. Through a combination of quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews, data was collected from multiple villages within the district. The analysis reveals significant variations in household sizes among villages, influenced by factors such as socioeconomic status, cultural norms, and access to resources. Findings suggest that while urbanization and modernization may lead to smaller household sizes in certain areas, traditional practices and economic constraints maintain larger households in others. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of household dynamics within Rohtak District, offering insights for policymakers and development practitioners aiming to address village-specific needs and promote sustainable development. The village like Baland Has the highest share of 2 & below persons per households and the lowest share has been noticed in the MarodiRangran. The Rohtak village has 72.4 per cent share with 3-5 persons per households and Nandal & Sarai Ahmed villages have been noticed the lowest with less than 40. per cent. Although, Nandal villages has very high persons per households with 55.7 per cent households having per cent in Rohtak district.

Keywords: Household size, Rohtak District, Inter-village analysis

Introduction

Traditionally, Indian society values close family ties and often encourages multigenerational living arrangements. This cultural emphasis on familial relationships can result in larger household sizes. Household size can be influenced by economic factors such as income, employment opportunities, and cost of living. Lower-income families may have larger household sizes due to economic necessity, while wealthier families may choose to maintain smaller households (Nayak& Behera, 2014).



Urbanization and migration trends impact household size by altering living patterns. In urban areas, smaller nuclear families are more common due to factors such as limited housing space, changing lifestyles, and increased education and employment opportunities for women. Education and awareness campaigns, particularly focused on family planning and reproductive health, can influence household size by empowering individuals to make informed decisions about family size and contraception use (Niranjan et al., 2005).

Household size affects resource allocation within families, including food, water, shelter, and healthcare. Larger households may face challenges in meeting the needs of all members, particularly in low-income settings. Extended families provide social support networks, particularly for childcare, eldercare, and emotional support. In larger households, responsibilities and caregiving duties are often shared among family members (Ray, 2000). Understanding household size is essential for policymakers to design and implement effective social welfare programs, healthcare services, and urban planning initiatives. Policies related to housing, education, healthcare, and social security should consider the diverse household compositions across India (Mukherjee, 1969).

In recent years, there has been a gradual shift towards smaller household sizes in India, particularly in urban areas, due to factors such as increasing education levels, women's empowerment, delayed marriages, and changing cultural norms. However, extended families continue to be prevalent in many rural and semi-urban areas, reflecting the enduring influence of traditional family structures (Singh, 1984). Explore how household size varies across different states, regions, and urban-rural divides within India. Analyze the factors contributing to these variations, such as cultural practices, economic conditions, and infrastructure development. To look into how preferences for home size and living arrangements differ between generations. Examine how younger generations view and value household size in relation to older generations, taking into account things like exposure to global influences, education, and job goals (Breton, 2019).

Explore the role of gender in shaping household size decisions and intra-household dynamics. Investigate how gender norms and expectations influence women's autonomy in family planning decisions, as well as their access to resources and opportunities within larger



households. To study the impact of internal and international migration on household size and composition. Analyze how migration patterns contribute to changes in household structures, including the formation of transnational households and the challenges faced by migrant families in maintaining social ties across geographical distances (Tilak, 2002).

Objectives

- To examine the variation in household sizes across different villages within Rohtak District.
- To identify the factors influencing household size disparities, including socio-economic status, cultural norms, and access to resources.
- To understand the impact of urbanization and modernization on household sizes in different areas of the district.
- To explore the role of traditional practices and economic constraints in maintaining larger household sizes.

Database & Methodology

For this study, district-level 2011 census data on the size of households has been used. There are three indicators that have been used in this study to determine the size of households in rural Rohtak with regard to households' size, like below and 2 persons per household, 3–5 persons per household and 6 and above persons per household in Rohtak district. The thematic maps have been prepared using ArcGIS software, and the collected data has been tabulated in Excel format. On the basis of the natural break method, all the thematic maps have been categorized for Rohtak District.

Result & Discussion

Spatial Pattern of Below & 2 Size of Households

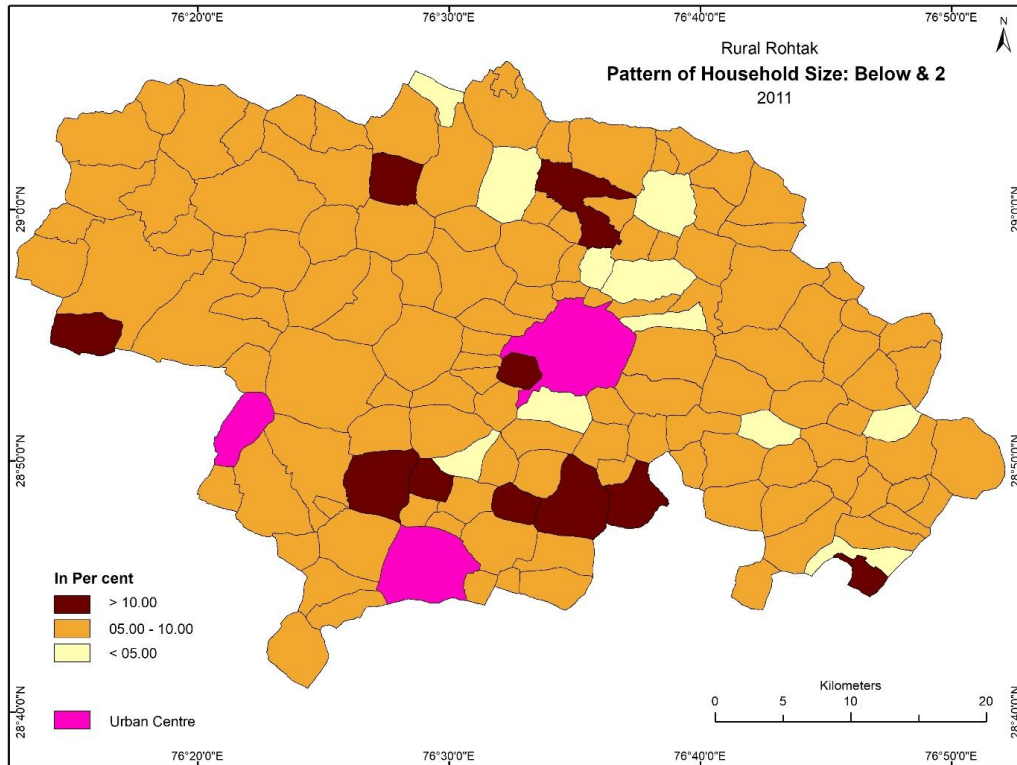
The provided data presents the percentage of households within various villages in Rohtak District that have two or fewer individuals residing in them. Across the surveyed villages, there is a range of percentages, with Baland and GarhiSampla having relatively higher proportions at 11.5% and 11.4% respectively, while Khidwali has the lowest percentage at 10.1%. This data suggests that a notable portion of households in these villages consists of a smaller number of individuals, potentially indicating trends in household composition and size within each village. Factors such as socioeconomic status, cultural norms, and access to resources may influence these variations, leading to differing proportions of smaller



households across the villages. Further analysis of these factors could provide valuable insights into the dynamics of household structures and demographics within Rohtak District (Map 1).

The data provides the moderate distribution of households with two or fewer individuals across various villages in Rohtak district. Villages like Assan, Kheri Sampla, and Rithal Narwal exhibit relatively higher percentages, indicating that a significant portion of households in these areas consists of smaller numbers of individuals. Conversely, villages such as Ghilor Kalan, Shimli, and Bhali Anandpur have lower percentages, suggesting fewer households with two or fewer persons.

Villages such as Makroli Kalan and Sunari Kalan exhibit percentages close to 5%, indicating a modest proportion of households with two or fewer persons. Similarly, villages like Bhaiyanpur and Gharauthi show slightly lower percentages, around 4.8% and 4.7% respectively, suggesting a comparable prevalence of smaller households. Chamaria, Nonand, and Jassia follow suit with percentages ranging from 4.5% to 4.1%, implying a similar trend in household composition across these areas. However, villages such as Mor Kheri and Nandal depict lower percentages at 3.5% and 3.4% respectively, indicating fewer households with two or fewer persons. Notably, the urban center of Rohtak itself exhibits a percentage of 3.4%, implying a relatively small proportion of smaller households within the city. Villages like MarodiRangran show a lower percentage at 2.8%, while Sampla indicates no households with two or fewer individuals, suggesting a different demographic profile compared to other villages. These variations in household composition underscore the diverse demographic landscape within Rohtak District, influenced by factors such as urbanization, socioeconomic dynamics, and cultural norms. Understanding these variations is essential for crafting targeted policies and interventions aimed at addressing the unique needs of each village and fostering inclusive development across the district (Map 1).



Source: Census of India, 2011

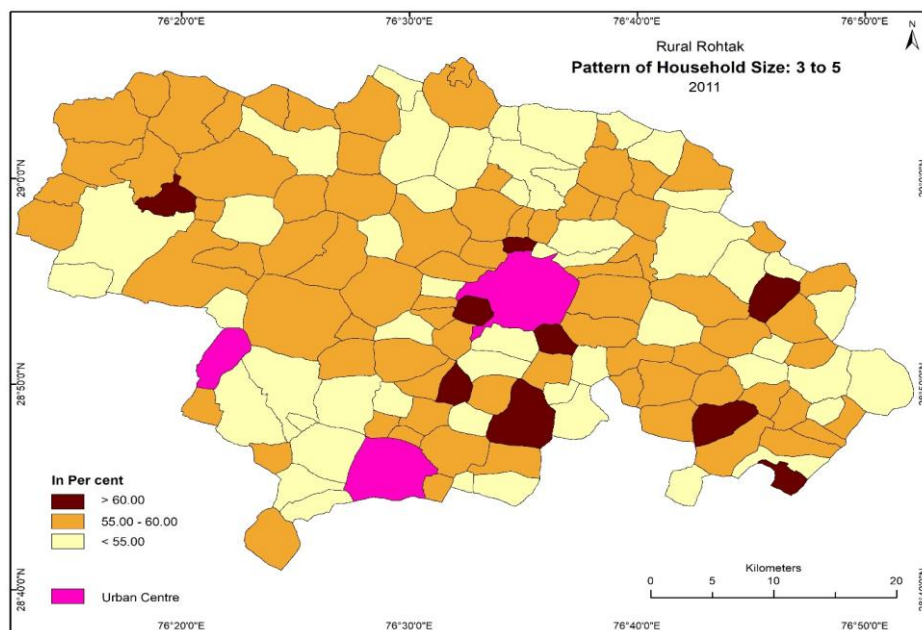
Map 1

Spatial Pattern of 3-5 Size of Households

Rohtak stands out with a significant percentage of 72.4%, indicating a large proportion of households with three to five persons, which is likely influenced by its urban nature and population density. Kheri Meham follows with a percentage of 63.8%, suggesting a considerable prevalence of medium-sized households within this village. Kanheli and Garhi Sampla also show notable percentages at 62.3% and 61.8% respectively, indicating a similar trend of medium-sized households. Nasarpur, Baland, Marodi Jatan, and Ismila-9 Biswa exhibit percentages ranging from 60.1% to 61%, suggesting a substantial presence of households with three to five individuals in these areas. Kutana and Assan complete the list with percentages slightly above 60%, indicating a prevalent pattern of medium-sized households within these villages as well (Map 2). The villages of Ladot, Basantpur, and Nayabans have comparatively greater percentages of the moderate share, suggesting a significant number of medium-sized homes in these localities. Notable percentages are also shown by Karor, Bakheta, and Lakhan Majra, indicating a tendency of medium-sized homes being prevalent (Map 2).

Polangi, Kahni 7, 1/2 Biswa, and Bhaiyanpur exhibit numbers that are about 58%, suggesting that a sizable portion of households consist of three to five people. Comparably, the percentages for Dobh, Seman, and Sunderpur hover around 58.3%, indicating a similar prevalence of medium-sized households in these regions. Chiri, Garhi Balab, and Jassia exhibit a comparable pattern of medium-sized homes, with respective percentages of approximately 58.2%. Conversely, villages with percentages near 57.8% include Chamaria, Bhasru Kalan, and Bohar, indicating a moderate proportion of medium-sized households in these villages. The data shows differences in the makeup of households in various villages, which can be attributed to a variety of factors including socioeconomic level, cultural norms, and the availability of locally specific resources. Comprehending these disparities is essential for formulating focused interventions and services to fulfill the heterogeneous requirements of Rohtak District inhabitants (Map 2).

The percentages in villages such as Gharauthi, Bharan, and Makroli Kalan are around 49 percent, suggesting a high proportion of medium-sized homes in these localities. Comparably, Patwapur's percentage of 48.9% indicates a similar frequency of three to five-person households. The percentage of medium-sized households in Makroli Khurd is slightly lower, at 47%, suggesting a moderate prevalence of these households in this villages.



Source: Census of India, 2011

Map 2



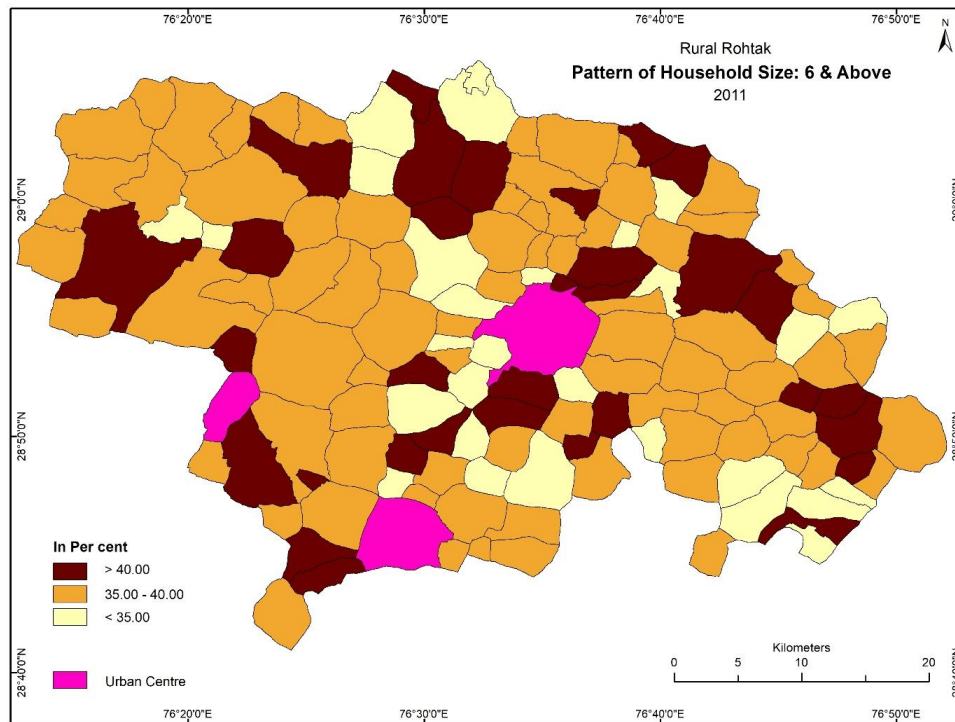
Compared to other villages in the sample, Sarai Ahmed shows a lower percentage (44.5%), indicating fewer households with three to five people. With a rate of 40.9%, Nandal has the lowest percentage of medium-sized homes when compared to other villages. These variances in household composition, which may be impacted by things like socioeconomic status, cultural norms, and access to resources specific to each group, show the district's diversified demographic environment inside Rohtak. Comprehending these variances is imperative in devising focused actions and services to cater to the heterogeneous requirements of the district's inhabitants (Map 2).

Spatial Pattern of 6 & Above Size of Households

Nandal has the highest percentage at 55.7%, indicating a significant presence of large households with six or more individuals. Sarai Ahmed follows with a percentage of 49.4%, suggesting a substantial proportion of households with six or more members within this village. Sampla exhibits a percentage of 47.4%, indicating a considerable prevalence of large households in this area. Makroli Khurd, Makroli Kalan, and Gharauthi demonstrate percentages ranging from 46% to 47%, suggesting a significant presence of households with six or more individuals within these villages. Bhali Anandpur, Bharan, and Kasranti show percentages around 44% to 45%, indicating a moderate prevalence of large households within these villages. Other villages such as Samchana, Kilo, and Meham exhibit percentages ranging from 40% to 43%, suggesting a notable presence of households with six or more members in these areas. The data reflects variations in household size across different villages, influenced by factors such as family structure, cultural norms, and socioeconomic status unique to each village. Understanding these variations is crucial for implementing targeted interventions and services to address the diverse needs of residents across Rohtak district (Map 3).

With a moderate percentage of 39.8%, Kalanaur Kalan is a village with a notable concentration of households consisting of three to five persons. Jindran Kalan comes in second with a percentage of 39.6%, indicating that a significant majority of the households in this neighborhood consist of three to five people. With a ratio of 39.5%, Nigana shows that households with three to five persons are quite common in this area. The percentages in other

villages, like Sanghi, Rithal Narwal, and Kabulpur, range from 38.7% to 38.8%, indicating a noteworthy number of households consisting of three to five people in these places.



Source: Census of India, 2011

Map 3

Garhi Balab, Baniyani, Kalanaur, Kakrana, and Lakhan Majra have the highest percentage at 34.9%, indicating a significant presence of households with three to five members in these villages (Map 3). Closely behind with percentages of 34.8% and 34.5%, respectively, are Singhpura and ShekhpurTitri, indicating a sizable number of homes in these localities consisting of three to five people. In comparison to other places, GarhiSampla and Rohtak have the lowest percentages, with 26.8% and 24.2%, respectively, suggesting a lower incidence of households consisting of three to five persons (Map 3).

Conclusion

These households typically represent smaller families or individuals living alone. The percentages range from 4.9% to 0% across different villages. Villages like Makroli Kalan, Sunari Kalan, and Bhaiyanpur have relatively higher percentages, indicating a significant presence of smaller households in these areas. Households with 3 to 5 persons: This category includes medium-sized families. The percentages range from 72.4% to 40.9%. Villages such as Rohtak, Kheri Mehan, and Kanheli have the highest proportions of households in this



range, suggesting a prevalence of medium-sized families in these villages. Households with 6 & above persons: These households typically represent larger families or extended family setups. The percentages range from 55.7% to 35.1%.

Nandal and Sarai Ahmed have the highest percentages in this category, indicating a significant presence of larger families in these villages. The data showcases the diversity in household compositions across different villages. Some villages have a higher prevalence of smaller households, indicating possibly urban or economically developed areas. Conversely, villages with higher percentages of medium to large-sized households might reflect rural or agrarian villages where extended families are more common. Understanding household compositions is crucial for various developmental initiatives, including resource allocation, infrastructure planning, and social welfare programs. Villages with a higher prevalence of larger families may require different types of support compared to those with smaller households. Additionally, demographic trends highlighted in these tables can inform policies related to housing, education, healthcare, and social services tailored to the specific needs of each village.

References

- Breton, E. (2019). Modernization and household composition in India, 1983–2009. *Population and Development Review*, 45(4), 739-766.
- Dev, S. M. (1988). Poverty of agricultural labour households in India: A state level analysis. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 43(1), 14-25.
- Dommaraju, P. (2015). One-person households in India. *Demographic Research*, 32, 1239-1266.
- Krishnaji, N. (1984). Family size, levels of living and differential mortality in rural India: some paradoxes. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 248-258.
- Li, Y., & Rama, M. (2015). *Households or Locations?* Cities, Catchment Areas and Prosperity in India.
- Mukherjee, M. (1969). Size and areal distributions of the level of living in India. *Sankhyā: The Indian Journal of Statistics, Series B*, 459-478.
- Nayak, D. K., & Behera, R. N. (2014). Changing household size in India: an inter-state comparison. *Transactions*, 36(1), 1-18.



-
- Niranjan, S., Nair, S., & Roy, T. K. (2005). A socio-demographic analysis of the size and structure of the family in India. *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, 36(4), 623-652.
 - Ray, R. (2000). Poverty, household size and child welfare in India. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 3511-3520.
 - Richmond, J., Agrawal, S., &Urpelainen, J. (2020). Drivers of household appliance usage: Evidence from rural India. *Energy for Sustainable Development*, 57, 69-80.
 - Singh, J. P. (1984). The changing household size in India. *Journal of Asian and African studies*, 19(1), 86 -106.
 - Tilak, J. B. (2002). *Determinants of household expenditure on education in rural India* (No. 88). New Delhi: National Council of Applied Economic Research.