Spatial Disparities of Indian Transgender Population: A Censual Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Indian Transgender, or Hijra, is a broad term that refers to people whose gender identity and expression differ from the sex given to them at birth. However, when collecting census data in India for years, they have never been identified. But, for the first time in the 2011 Census, data on Transgender people were collected under the category of "Others" under Gender, along with information on their employment, literacy, and caste. In terms of their socio-demographic conditions, the study depicts the overall spatial disparities of Indian Transgender people. The data on other-gender published by the Census of India in 2011 was used in this study. The entire transgender population in India is estimated to be around 4.88 lahks. The highest proportion of them, about 28%, was residing in Uttar Pradesh followed by other states. Over 66% of the Transgenders lived in rural areas. This community has a low literacy rate of 56.07 %, compared to national literacy. The occupation of 41% of all employed Transgenders is "Other," which denotes the informal occupations of their income, and unemployment rates for Transgenders are greater than the national average in 28 of 35 Indian states and union territories. Their socio-economic viewpoints were also greatly diversified as a result of their geographic variety.

Keywords: Transgender Population, Hijra, Gender Identity, Other Gender, Census of India.

Introduction

Transgender is an umbrella term for all individuals whose gender identity and expression does not conform to rigid, binary gender constructions, and who express or present a departure from social and culturally prevalent stereotypical gender roles. It refers to a broad range of people who transiently or permanently identify with a gender other than the one assigned to them at birth (Nanda 1986, 1999; Hall 1995, 1997; Mal 2015, 2018, 2021). Recently, Transgender has been categorized under the LGBTQ+ group (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer). Transgender persons face daily challenges since there is no acceptance anywhere in our society. They are ridiculed and ostracized from the society. They are stigmatized in our society and are discriminated in every aspect of life. Many of them experience abuse in various forms since childhood. These groups experience harassment, prejudice, stigmatization, discrimination, and at times, violence. This weakens their sense of self-worth and forces many among them to conceal or suppress their identity and live in fear, invisibility, and exclusion. As a result, they are one of the most discriminated high risk groups in India (Chakrapani 2010, 2012; Mal 2015, 2018).

Transgender individuals, also known as Hijras, have lived in Indian society, culture, and class since the beginning of recorded history (Nanda 1990, 1994; Mal 2015, 2018, 2021; Mal & Mundu 2018). However, while collecting census data for years, the Indian census has never recognized transgender people. However, in the 2011 Census, data on transgender people were recorded in the category of "Others" under Gender, with information on their job, literacy, and caste. Previously, the Census of India did not distinguish the other-gender; they were normally classified as men, but on request, they might be counted as women as well. As a result, estimating the number of other-gender people in India was impossible, albeit the Census supplied an approximation (Bhagat 2015).

Unfortunately, there is no comprehensive picture of the Transgender population in the world. No single governmental or commercial entity tries to collect complete data on this stigmatized segment of the population. Data collecting forms frequently do not allow Transgender or other gender variant people to disclose their gender identity in a discreet manner. Despite the fact that a number of studies have attempted to count the number of transgender people in various nations throughout the world (Spizzirri et al. 2021; Meerwijk and Sevelius 2017; Reisner 2015; Hoffman 2016; Miller 2015; Deutsch 2016; Doan 2016), but there is a lack of satisfactory accuracy. However, the general consensus appears to be that all figures are grossly underestimated - no effective and accurate procedure for census counting of Transgender population has yet been discovered. Therefore, as an outcome, there is always a large gap when it comes to quantifying the Transgender population. Perhaps, this difference could be reduced to gain more complete data, by increasing socio-cultural acceptability caused those persons to feel more comfortable identifying themselves as Transgender.

Objectives

This study portrays the overall spatial diversification of Indian Transgender within various aspects in terms of their socio-demographic parameters and seeks to justify whether there is any reason behind the disparities or whether it happened naturally.

Methodology

This study makes use of data from the 2011 census on the other-gender population, for which a distinct Primary Census Abstract (PCA) was issued for the first time (RGI 2011). The PCA on other-gender gives minimal information on socioeconomic aspects such as literacy rate, worker and non-worker population, and kid population (0-6 years). With the use of Census 2011 data, quantitative and qualitative maps were created using ArcGIS software to represent diverse distribution patterns. Additionally, to analyze the distributional variation percentage distribution and some statistical techniques were applied.

Results

State wise Distribution of Transgender population:

The 2011 Census was the first major census accounting of Transgender persons assigned as other-gender in India. As shown in table 1, the Census revealed the total Transgender population to be around 4.87803 lakh, which is only 0.04% of total Indian population. There are around 3,23,120 and 1,64,683 Transgender people living in rural and urban areas, respectively. Transgender activists, on the other hand, believe the figure is six to seven times higher (Mal 2018, 2021). From Table 2, it is observed that the highest proportion of them is found to be residing in Uttar Pradesh (28.2%), followed by Andhra Pradesh (9.0%), Maharashtra (8.4%), and Bihar (8.4%). More than half (54%) of India's Transgender population live in these four states only, while over 6% in both Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, and over 4% in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Odisha (Figure 1). Transgender people make up 0.1% of the population of Puducherry, Goa, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Meghalaya, and Mizoram. The Census also revealed 55,000 children who were classified as transgender by their parents. In comparison to the total number of Transgender children in India, the states of Uttar Pradesh (34.15%), Bihar (10.89%), Maharashtra (7.48%), Andhra Pradesh (7.44%), and Madhya Pradesh (6.21%) have a high percentage of Transgender children aged 0-6 years.
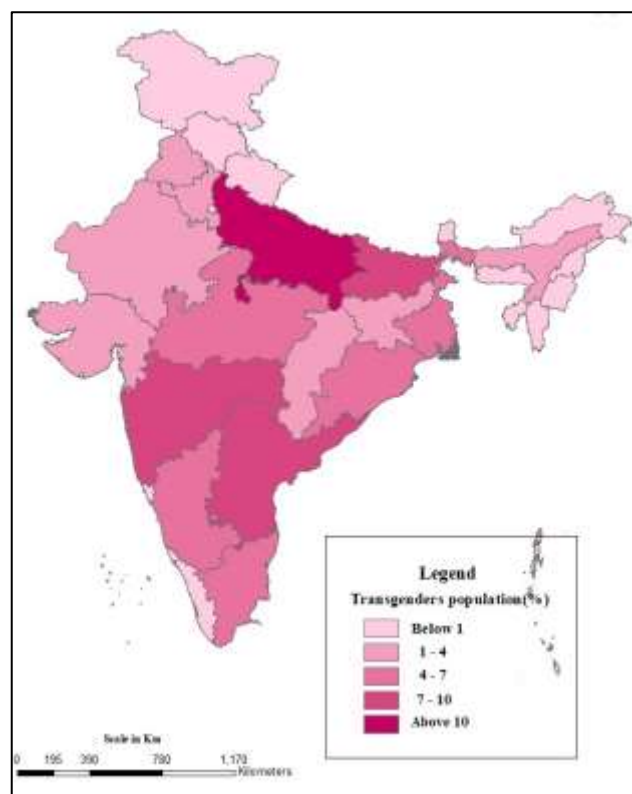

Figure 1: Distribution of Transgender population

Table 1: Spatial Distribution and Literacy Rate of Transgender Population, 2011

State	Transgender Population	Transgender Children (0-6)	SC	ST	Literacy (%)
Uttar Pradesh	137,465	18,734	26,404	639	55.80
Andhra Pradesh	43,769	4,082	6,226	3,225	53.33
Maharashtra	40,891	4,101	4,691	3,529	67.57
Bihar	40,827	5,971	6,295	506	44.35
West Bengal	30,349	2,376	6,474	1,474	58.83
Madhya Pradesh	29,597	3,409	4,361	5,260	53.01
Tamil Nadu	22,364	1,289	4,203	180	57.78
Orissa	20,332	2,125	3,236	4,553	54.35
Karnataka	20,266	1,771	3,275	1,324	58.82
Rajasthan	16,517	2,012	2,961	1,805	48.34
Jharkhand	13,463	1,593	1,499	3,735	47.58
Gujarat	11,544	1,028	664	1,238	62.82
Assam	11,374	1,348	774	1,223	53.69
Punjab	10,243	813	3,055	0	59.75

Haryana	8,422	1,107	1,456	0	62.11
Chhattisgarh	6,591	706	742	1,963	51.35
Uttarakhand	4,555	512	731	95	62.65
Delhi	4,213	311	490	0	62.99
Jammu and Kashmir	4,137	487	207	385	49.29
Kerala	3,902	295	337	51	84.61
Himachal Pradesh	2,051	154	433	118	62.10
Manipur	1,343	177	40	378	67.50
Tripura	833	66	172	181	71.19
Meghalaya	627	134	3	540	57.40
Arunachal Pradesh	495	64	0	311	52.20
Goa	398	34	9	33	73.90
Nagaland	398	63	0	335	70.75
Puducherry	252	16	40	0	60.59
Mizoram	166	26	1	146	87.14
Chandigarh	142	16	22	0	72.22
Sikkim	126	14	9	37	65.18
Daman and Diu	59	10	1	2	75.51
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	47	5	0	3	73.81
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	43	5	0	22	73.68
Lakshadweep	2	0	0	2	50.00
India	**487,803**	**54,854**	**78,811**	**33,293**	**56.07**

Source: Registrar General of India, Census of India, 2011

Transgender Caste composition:

The Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) population in India are somehow deprived of all the levels, which needs to be addressed separately. The number of SC and ST people in India has been counted for the 'other' gender as well. Apart from SC and ST, OBC (Other Backward Classes) is also categorized in the census of Indian people, but there was no such category in the censual quantification of transgender people. This can be identified as one of the drawback of the Indian census 2011. It can be observed in table 1 that all the states have ST and SC population in the other-gender too. The Transgender SC and ST population comprise about 16.2% and 6.8%, respectively, of India's total Transgender population. The highest SC population is observed in Uttar Pradesh (33.50%), followed by West Bengal (8.21%), Bihar (7.99%), and Andhra Pradesh (7.90%). On the other hand, Madhya Pradesh (15.80%), Orissa (13.68%), Jharkhand (11.22%), Maharashtra (10.60%), and Andhra Pradesh (9.69%) are leading in Scheduled Tribe Transgender population. In case of the share of total SC and ST population in a total population of the other-gender community in each state and union territory, the highest share of SC population is observed in Punjab (29.8%), followed by Himachal Pradesh (21.1%), Tripura (20.6%), and Uttar Pradesh (19.2%), whereas, Lakshadweep (100.0%), Mizoram (88.0%), Meghalaya (86.1%), and Nagaland (84.2%) are sharing leading ST population. This means that the transgender community's case is more sensitive in these states than in others.
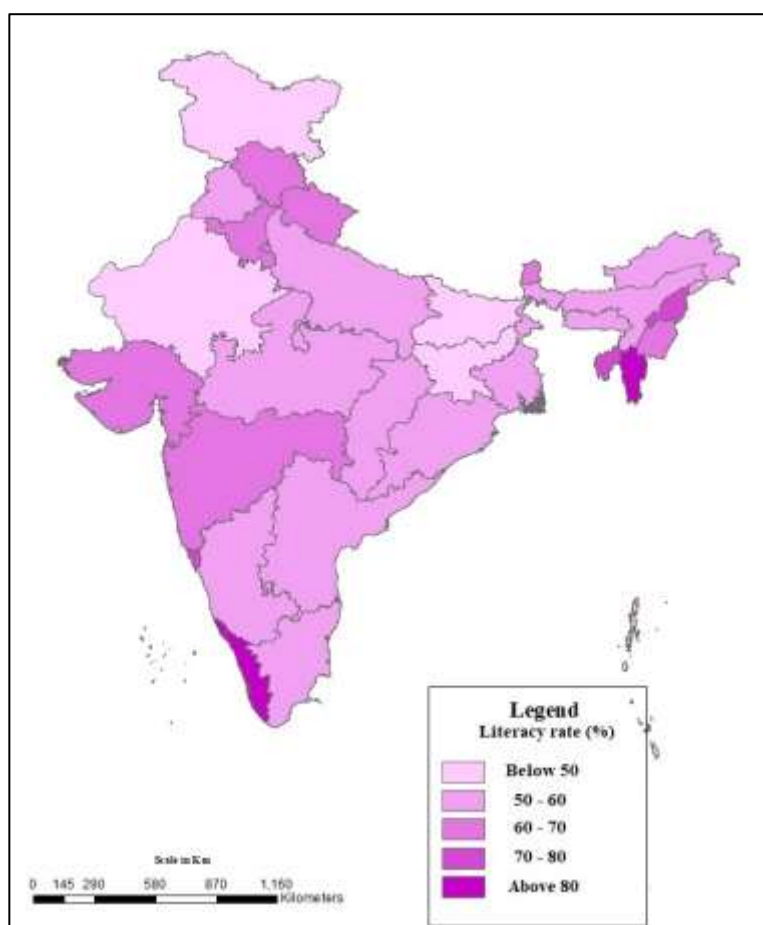

Figure 2: Literacy rate of Transgender population

Transgender literacy:

Literacy is defined as everybody aged seven and up who can read and write, according to the 2011 Census. Similarly, the percentage of literate Transgenders (aged 7 years and above) was calculated from the total Transgender population aged 7 years and above. Table 1 also presents that in India, only half (56.1%) of the Transgender population are literate, which is considerably lower than the literacy rates for the total population (73.0%). Figure 2 shows that the literacy rates of transgender people are lowest in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Jharkhand, Sikkim, and Meghalaya, and on the other hand, greatest in Mizoram, Kerala, Daman and Diu, and Goa.

Table 2: Percentage distribution and density of transgender population, 2011

State	Transgender Population (%)	Rural (%)	Urban (%)	Transgender Density (per Km²)
Uttar Pradesh	28.180	31.4	21.8	0.571
Andhra Pradesh	8.973	7.7	11.5	0.159
Maharashtra	8.383	6.5	12.1	0.133
Bihar	8.369	11.1	3.0	0.434
West Bengal	6.222	5.6	7.5	0.342
Madhya Pradesh	6.067	6.1	5.9	0.096
Tamil Nadu	4.585	3.4	7.0	0.172
Orissa	4.168	5.1	2.4	0.131
Karnataka	4.154	3.6	5.3	0.106
Rajasthan	3.386	3.4	3.4	0.048
Jharkhand	2.760	3.1	2.2	0.169
Gujarat	2.366	1.6	3.8	0.059
Assam	2.332	3.0	1.0	0.145
Punjab	2.100	1.9	2.4	0.203
Haryana	1.726	1.2	2.7	0.190
Chhattisgarh	1.351	1.4	1.3	0.049
Uttarakhand	0.933	0.9	1.0	0.085
Delhi	0.864	0.0	2.5	2.841
Jammu and Kashmir	0.848	0.8	0.9	0.019
Kerala	0.800	0.6	1.1	0.100
Himachal Pradesh	0.420	0.6	0.1	0.037
Manipur	0.275	0.3	0.2	0.060
Tripura	0.171	0.2	0.2	0.079
Meghalaya	0.128	0.2	0.0	0.028
Arunachal Pradesh	0.101	0.1	0.1	0.006
Goa	0.082	0.0	2.8	0.107
Nagaland	0.082	0.1	0.1	0.024
Puducherry	0.052	0.0	0.1	0.514
Mizoram	0.034	0.0	0.1	0.008
Chandigarh	0.029	0.0	0.1	1.246
Sikkim	0.026	0.0	0.0	0.018
Daman and Diu	0.012	0.0	0.0	0.531
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.010	0.0	0.0	0.006
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.009	0.0	0.0	0.087
Lakshadweep	0.000	0.0	0.0	0.067
India	**0.040**	**66.2**	**33.8**	**0.148**

Source: Registrar General of India, Census of India, 2011

Rural-urban Transgender composition:

As shown in table 2, the Census revealed that Transgender to be around 66.2% and 33.8% live in rural and urban areas respectively. 42.5 percent of transgender people living in rural India live in only two states: Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. On the other hand, Transgenders live in Delhi, Goa, Puducherry, Mizoram, and Chandigarh are entirely urban residing. Among the Transgenders residing in urban areas of India, more than half (52.9%) of them live in just four states (Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal) of India.

Transgender population density:

Judging by the density of Transgender population, very interesting results can be seen from table 2. The highest Transgender population density is seen in Delhi of 2.84 Transgender per square kilometer, followed by Chandigarh (1.25), Uttar Pradesh (0.57) and Daman and Diu (0.53). Although Uttar

Pradesh has the highest Transgender population, but it ranks third in terms of Transgender population density. Overall, India has a very low Transgender population density of 0.15 Transgender people per square kilometer.

Work participation of Transgender population:

Table 3 provides the employment characteristics of Indian Transgenders. The overall workforce participation rate of Transgender population in India is 34.0%. It is noticed that the Transgenders in the Union Territories face the highest unemployment rates compared to other states, whereas, in the north-eastern states, like Nagaland, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, and Mizoram, it shows the highest employment rates among the Transgender. On the other hand, states like Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa, West Bengal, and Punjab show the lowest work participation rates among Transgender population (Figure 3). Table 3 also depicts the engagement of Transgender population in different working categories in India. In addition, among them, 20% are cultivators, 32.9% are agricultural labourers, 5.8% are household worker, and the highest percentage of 41.3% has reported working as the other workers according to the census of India. Although it is unclear what other sectors they are currently active in, this broad collection of employment should be investigated in order to learn about the other professions that are open to Transgenders for their livelihood. The state-wise distribution of the proportion of cultivators among the transgender population is highest in Himachal Pradesh (64.7%) followed by Nagaland (60.7%) and Sikkim (47.7%). The proportion is lowest in Delhi (0.2%), followed by Puducherry (1.3%) and Kerala (4.4%). Bihar has the highest proportion of transgender agricultural laborers (52.8%), followed by Chhattisgarh (48.3%) and Andhra Pradesh (45.5%). The proportion is lowest in Delhi (0.5%) followed by Himachal Pradesh (4.7%) and Dadra and Nagar Haveli (7.1%). Andaman & Nicobar Islands has the biggest proportion of transgender household workers (9.1%), followed by Uttar Pradesh (8.8%) and West Bengal (8.7%). The proportion is lowest in Nagaland (1.5%) and Sikkim (1.5%)

Figure 3: Work participation rate of Transgender population

followed by Gujarat (1.8%) and Chhattisgarh (2%). The proportion of transgender people working in other occupations is highest in Delhi (96.7%), followed by Andaman and Nicobar Islands (90.9%) and Daman & Diu (90.5%). The proportion is lowest in Bihar (23.9%) followed by Chhattisgarh (24%) and Meghalaya (25%).
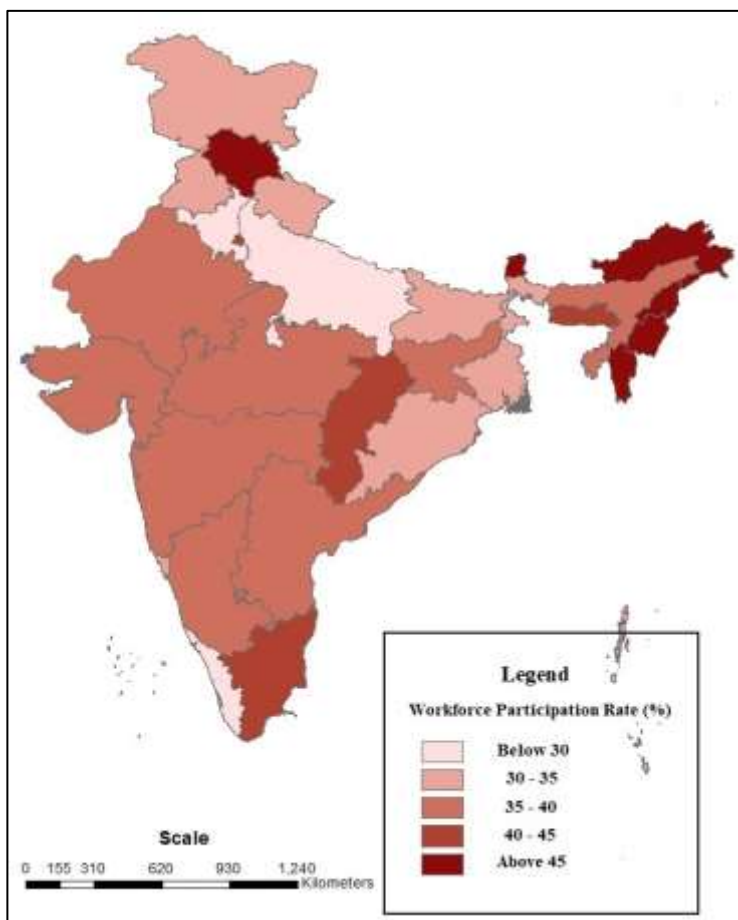
Table 3: Employment characteristics of Transgender population, 2011

State	Workforce Participation Rate (%)	Working Categories (%)			
		Cultivators	Agricultural Labourers	Household Workers	Other Workers
Uttar Pradesh	27.7	23.4	30.0	8.8	37.8
Andhra Pradesh	39.7	12.3	45.5	5.5	36.7
Maharashtra	37.9	22.1	30.6	3.5	43.7
Bihar	32.5	17.2	52.8	6.1	23.9
West Bengal	32.5	9.9	24.1	8.7	57.3
Madhya Pradesh	37.6	24.2	41.1	4.1	30.6
Tamil Nadu	43.7	9.6	35.4	5.0	50.0
Orissa	31.8	15.2	44.8	5.9	34.1
Karnataka	39.8	17.2	29.8	4.0	49.0

Rajasthan	37.1	40.8	20.0	3.1	36.1
Jharkhand	36.3	26.9	39.1	4.9	29.2
Gujarat	36.0	15.0	26.1	1.8	57.1
Assam	35.8	27.4	17.9	7.0	47.7
Punjab	32.1	12.3	13.7	5.1	68.9
Haryana	29.9	16.7	13.8	4.0	65.5
Chhattisgarh	40.1	25.6	48.3	2.0	24.0
Uttarakhand	34.9	38.6	10.4	4.4	46.6
Delhi	40.1	0.2	0.4	2.7	96.7
Jammu and Kashmir	33.3	22.5	12.8	5.6	59.1
Kerala	22.7	4.4	14.7	2.7	78.2
Himachal Pradesh	49.3	64.7	4.7	2.2	28.4
Manipur	48.7	45.3	8.6	5.2	41.0
Tripura	36.9	15.6	24.4	4.6	55.4
Meghalaya	42.7	53.7	18.7	2.6	25.0
Arunachal Pradesh	48.5	36.3	11.7	2.1	50.0
Goa	34.2	8.8	9.6	2.2	79.4
Nagaland	51.8	60.7	7.3	1.5	30.6
Puducherry	30.2	1.3	21.1	2.6	75.0
Mizoram	47.0	38.5	12.8	2.6	46.2
Chandigarh	37.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Sikkim	51.6	47.7	13.8	1.5	36.9
Daman and Diu	35.6	9.5	0.0	0.0	90.5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23.4	0.0	0.0	9.1	90.9
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	32.6	35.7	7.1	0.0	57.1
Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
India	**34.0**	**20.0**	**32.9**	**5.8**	**41.3**

*Source: Registrar General of India, Census of India, 2011*

Discussion and Major Findings

The Census of 2011 was the first in India to account for the transgender population. Instead of merging the usual Census sex categories of Male and Female, a separate table for an "Other" gender has been constructed in the Census data, indicating that this group has not yet been fully integrated into the Census. Many demographic difficulties would be resolved if the other-gender group was included in the total census population. But, of course, saying that is simpler than doing it, and no country has yet figured out how to reliably count its other-gender people (Venkat 2016). This is a start, and it's encouraging that the Census was able to uncover some of the truth and show that the Transgender community exists and has a diversified spatial characteristic.

During the 2011 Census Enumeration, the Registrar General of India (RGI) offered three codes for enumeration for the first time: Male-1, Female-2, and other-3. This was at the respondent's decision. The enumerator was told to record sex as 'other' and give code '3' if the responder did not want to report either '1' or '2'. It is vital to note that the Indian Census does not gather any data specifically on 'Transgender.' As a result, the category of 'other' would cover not only 'Transgender,' but also anyone who wishes to record their sex under that category. It's also feasible that some transgender people might have returned as male or female, according on their preference (PIB 2019). Thus, the census of India somewhat addressed the data gap regarding Transgender population.

Demographic disparities:

Transgender population to total population ratios are greater in Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, and Manipur, according to the 2011 Census. The lowest ratios appear to be in Mizoram, Gujarat and Kerala (Figure 4). This could simply be a population cohesion, as states like Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are already more highly populated than others, making the number of Transgender individuals appear bigger. Alternatively, these states may have people that allow coexistence of Transgender people and better livelihoods for them through employment opportunities or less stigma.
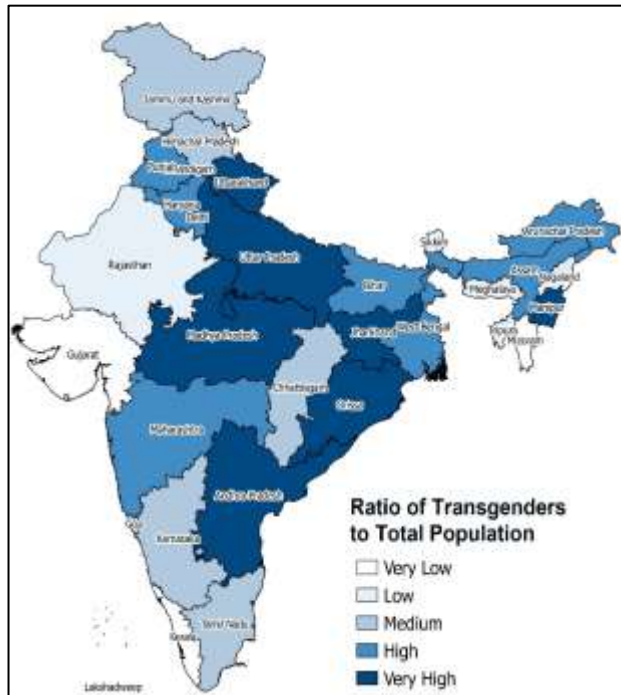
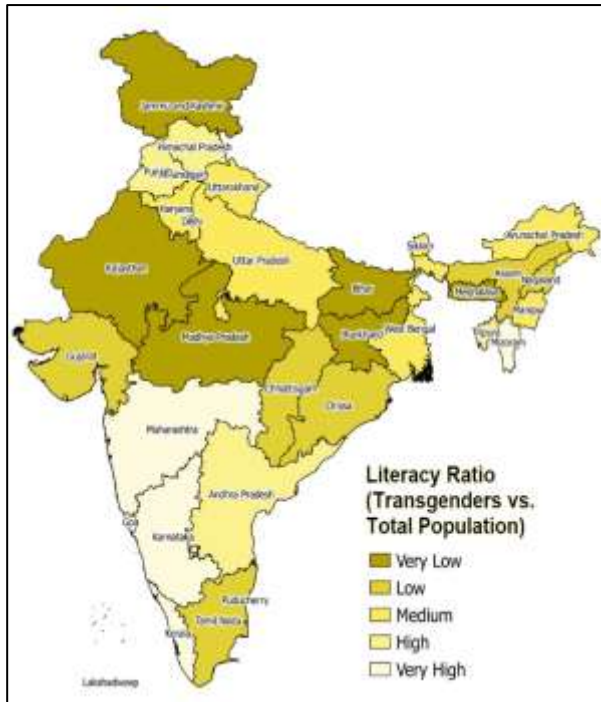**Figure 4: Ratio of Transgender population to Total population**
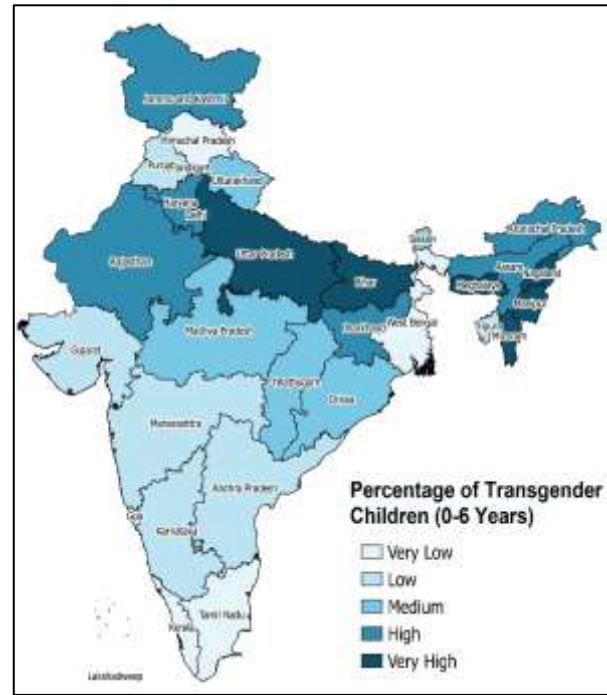
**Figure 5: Percentage of Transgender children**

The 2011 Other-gender table is also demographically shortened, with only age-specific numbers for Transgender children aged 0-6 included. According to census statistics, 55,000 respondents were parents of Transgender children who identified their children as "others," which was a positive sign of acceptance of Transgenders. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, and Nagaland have the highest percentage of Transgender children in terms of state wise total Transgender population (Figure 5). Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala, on the other side, have the lowest percentage of Transgender children. This data isn't simply important for counting; it might also be used to rethink healthcare, food availability, and early childhood education for Transgenders, making them more inclusive in our society.

Educational disparities:

It can be seen that the literacy rate of Transgender people, in contrast to the general population is considerably different from the overall literacy rate of Transgender population. Transgender people in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Meghalaya are much less literate than the rest of the states, as seen in Figure 6. In Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, and Mizoram, transgender people have literacy rates that are on par with or higher than the state average. It would be interesting to investigate which local and state initiatives in Western coastal states correlate to greater literacy rates for transgender people. Transgender people face a greater rural-urban divide than the general population. There is a variety of inequality in literacy across rural and urban sections of each state, as seen in Figure 7 of the rural-urban literacy gap. Other gender individuals are at least as literate as the rest of the population in Kerala, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Manipur. In Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam, and Nagaland, however, there is a significant disparity between rural and urban literacy. In these states, urban areas are 23-25 % more literate than rural areas, indicating a significant disconnect between people and educational institutions.

Figure 6: Literacy Ratio of Transgender vs. Total Population
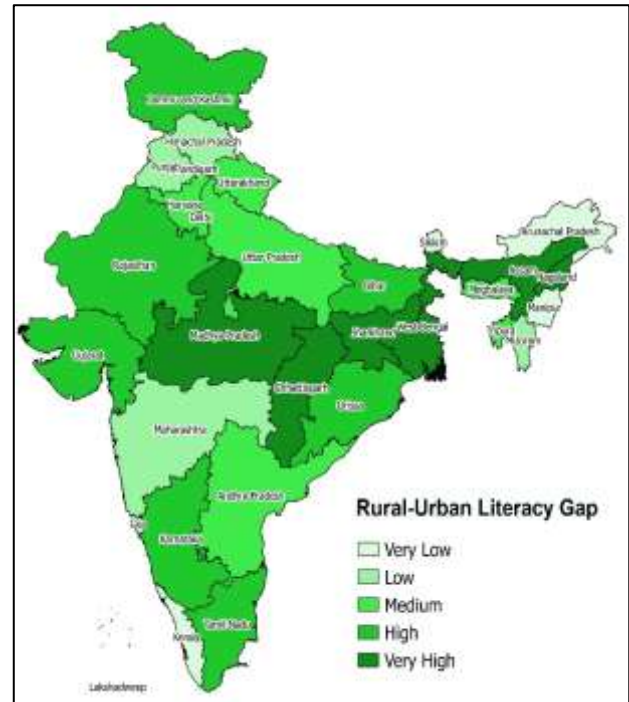

Figure 7: Rural-Urban Literacy Gap of

Occupational disparities:

The 2011 "Other-gender" table only looks at Cultivators, Agricultural Laborers, Household Industry, and "Other" employment. This makes it harder to study jobs for transgender people of working age, which is important for making sure they can work in productive ways. While cultivators and agricultural labourers dominate in almost all states, 41% of all employed Transgender people in India report their occupation as "Other" in the 2011 Census (Figure 8), which contributes directly and significantly to Indian Transgender's informal occupations such as begging, child dancing, money collection via journey, prostitution, and so on. As a result, a wider range of occupations must be investigated in order to better understand the types of livelihoods available to Transgender people.
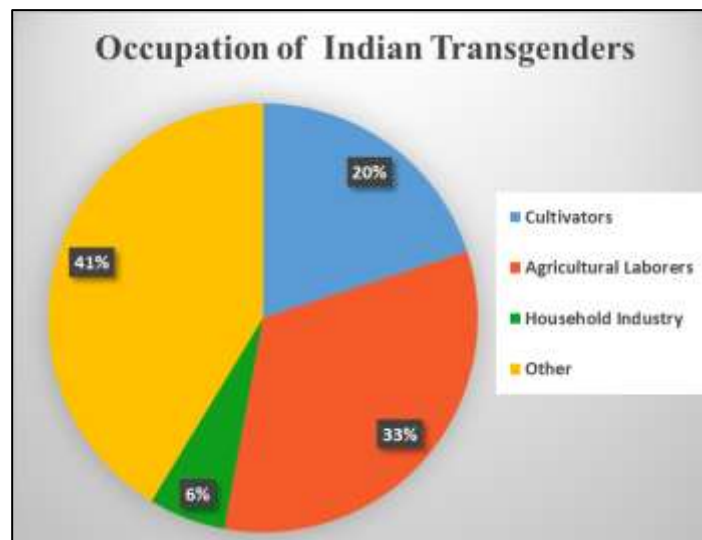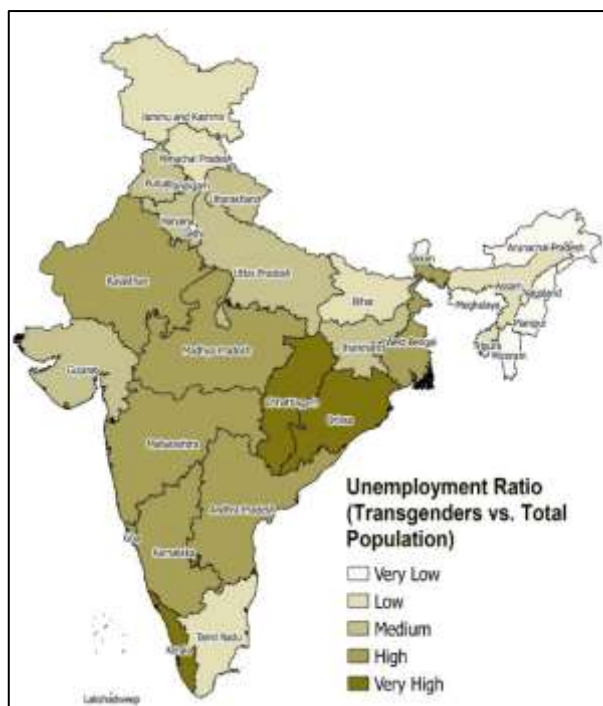

Figure 8: Occupation of Transgender Population
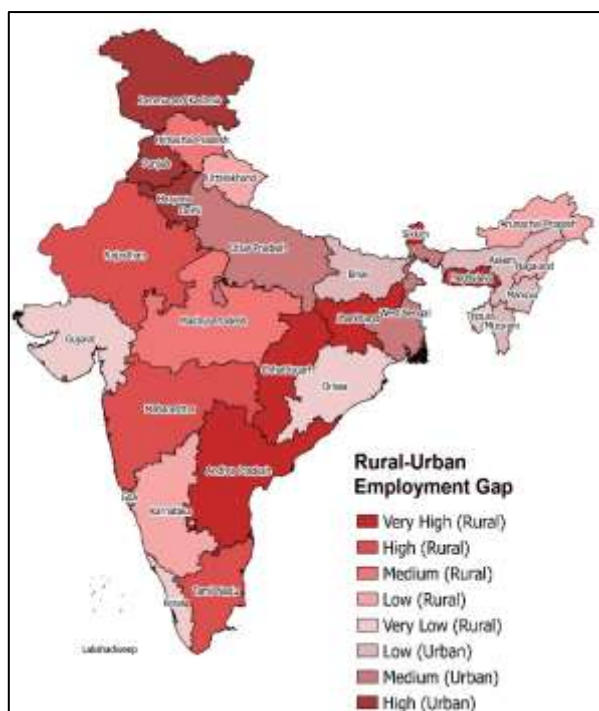
Figure 9: Rural-Urban Employment Gap of

Figure 10: Unemployment Ratio between

A significant discrepancy is also visible when comparing employment between urban and rural areas (Figure 9). Most states claim that the employment rates of transgender people are greater in rural than in metropolitan areas. Rural areas outnumber urban areas by over 16 % in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, and Sikkim. The contrary has happed in northern states like Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, and Haryana. Because these states have densely populated urban areas, it is simpler to obtain work in the city, with a 3–7% wage disparity. In the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh, the rural/urban divide widens to 26% and 38%, respectively, with urban areas clearly outnumbering rural areas. Despite this concentration, the majority of India's Transgender population works in rural areas, as evidenced by figure 9. It is also shown that substantial disparities in literacy and employment between rural and urban areas in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. The employment statistics for Transgender people are also fascinating. Figure 10 shows that Transgender people have higher unemployment rates than the general population in 28 of the 35 states and territories. Kerala, Orissa, and Chhattisgarh have the highest rates of Transgender unemployment among these states. Many northeastern states have extremely low unemployment ratios between rural and urban areas, which is partly due to high unemployment rates in these states as a whole. Transgender people in states like Orissa and Chhattisgarh are anticipated to experience additional hurdles as a result of low education and high unemployment.

Locational disparities:

For analyzing state wise regional disparities of distribution of Transgender population Location Quotient was performed. Figure 11 represents the spatial diversification of Indian Transgender. Only Uttar Pradesh has very high spatial concentration (L.Q. = 1.7) of Transgender population compare to total population followed by Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha and Uttarakhand (L.Q. = 1.00 - <1.50). Equal spatial concentration or balanced distribution of Transgender population (L.Q. = 1.00) is found in only 3 states- Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Bihar. Remaining all states have less spatial concentration (L.Q. = 0.50 - <1.00) except Gujarat, Kerala, Mizoram, and Nagaland which have extremely dispersed distribution of Transgender population (L.Q. = <0.50).
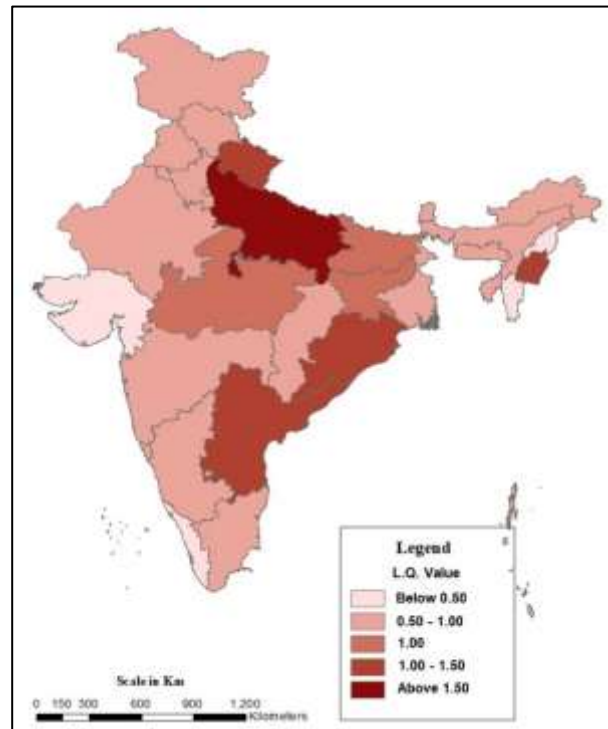
Figure 11: Locational Disparities of Indian Transgender

The explanation for this diversity of Transgender population has not yet been determined properly. With any socioeconomic influencer, no proportional or disproportional relationship of their distribution can be proven. As a result, this distribution can be considered as a geographical coincidence. However, according to some research, the distribution of Transgender people is based on the opportunity to earn money (Nanda 1990; Mal 2018, 2021). As a result, they migrate to locations where there is a better chance of making money. Furthermore, there is a high concentration of transgender people in regions where medical services and societal acceptance are expected.

Major findings:

1. Uttar Pradesh has the biggest percentage of residents, followed by Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Bihar. Only these four states are home to more than half (54%) of India's transgender population. The percentage of Transgender residing in Puducherry, Goa, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Meghalaya, and Mizoram is lowest at 0.1% each.

2. The Census also reported 55,000 children as Transgender identified by their parents. The states with the greatest proportions of transgender children include Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, and Nagaland.

3. States like Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh are highly populated by Scheduled Caste Transgender, whereas Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh are leading in Scheduled Tribe Transgender population.

4. In India, more than half (56.1%) of the Transgender are literate, which is considerably lower than the literacy rates of Indian population. Mizoram, Kerala, and Goa have the highest literacy rates.

5. The working population of Transgender is much lower (34.0%) in India. Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa, West Bengal, and Punjab show the lowest work participation rates among Transgender population.

6. In comparison to the 69% of Indians who live in villages generally, more than 66% of the transgender community resided in rural areas. Among the Transgender residing in rural areas of India, 42.5% of them reside in just two states – Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

7. Rural-urban literacy is very disparate in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam, and Nagaland. Urban areas in these states are 23-25% more literate than rural areas.

8. While cultivators and agricultural laborers predominate in almost all states, 41% of all employed transgender people in India report their occupation as "Other," which significantly and directly supports unlawful occupations like prostitution, child dancing, begging, and money collection through travel. Transgender consistently report higher employment rates in rural areas than in urban areas in most states. Unemployment rates for Transgender people are awfully greater than the overall population.

9. In comparison to the total population, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha, and Uttarakhand have high spatial concentrations of Transgender population, whereas Gujarat, Kerala, Mizoram, and Nagaland have extremely dispersed Transgender distribution. The reason for the spatial disparity of the Transgender community has not yet been analyzed with accurate cause-effect linkages.

Conclusion

Transgender people in India already experience humiliation, harassment, and assault because of their ambiguous gender identification. Despite these challenges, the 2011 Other-gender table shows that we are able to collect this vital data on the distribution of the transgender community. We know that state-level data is a good start, but for planning, resource allocation, and decision-making, more geographic and demographic resolution is required. Given the growing interest in gender equality, the upcoming Census of India should provide us the detailed pictures of Transgender population. The Supreme Court declared Transgender people to be the 'Other gender' or 'Third gender' in 2014, and aimed to improve their deplorable living situations. The acceptance of Transgender individuals in our society, as well as their geographical distribution, is highly reliant on the socio-demographic perspective of Indian people. We need to identify and understand this marginalized subset of the population that is still experiencing social discomfort.

Ethical Considerations:

Since this paper is based on secondary data provided by Census of India, no ethical consideration is required. Furthermore, this paper has no purpose of blaming Transgender community on any ground; thus, this study will be extremely beneficial to policymakers and researchers.

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Conflict of Interests:

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