

URBANIZATION AND MIGRATION IN SOUTH MAHARASHTRA

Dr. Ramjan Fattukhan Mujawar

Assistant Professor and Head,

Department of Economics, Lal Bahadur Shastri College of
Arts, Science and Commerce, Satara Dist –Satara (Maharashtra)

Article Info

Article History:

Received: 15th Dec 2025

Accepted: 18th Dec 2025

Published: 20th Dec 2025

Keywords:

Urbanization, Migration,
Population

ABSTRACT

Urbanization and migration have been closely interrelated processes. The most important source of urban growth has been the migration of rural population to urban centers. Migration is a strong factor which constitutes the very foundation of the process of urbanization. It is recognized as the chief mechanism by which urban centers continue to grow. Generally, urban centers grow partly by natural growth and mostly by migration. Therefore, rural to urban migration is the moving force behind the progress of urbanization. The role of rural-urban migration in urban growth as compared to the role of natural increase in urban population is considered to be very significant. The fact is that rural-urban migration induces not only rapid urban growth but also differential rate of growth in town of various classes. The drift of rural migrants is directed more towards cities and bigger towns than smaller ones because of increasing concentration of economic activities in and around the cities. Migration is an important aspect of urbanization. Rural urban migrant takes place owing to many factors. Most prominent among them are – economic, social, cultural etc. In India, poverty, unemployment as well as socio-cultural factors pull rural people towards urban areas. This rural urban migration finally results into urban growth. Migration is an important phenomenon and plays a vital role in the growth of the city in every district. After independence efforts have been made for socio-economic concentration of industries of the country.

Present research paper has divided into four sections. First section deals the relationship between urbanization and migration. Second section reveals migration in South Maharashtra. Third section indicates the causes of Migration in South Maharashtra and last fourth section implies the consequences of migration in south Maharashtra (i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur District).

Plagiarism Check Report:

Date of Report: Dec 17, 2025

Similarity Index: 3%

Remarks: No significant matching text. All citations and matches are properly referenced. The manuscript is considered original.

Copyright © 2025 The Author(s). This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>) which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

How to Cite: Mujawar, R. F. (2025). *Urbanization and Migration in South Maharashtra*. IIP: World Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences (IIPWJHSS), 1(VI), 2510–2514.

INTRODUCTION:

Urbanization and migration have been closely interrelated processes. The most important source of urban growth has been the migration of rural population to urban centers. Migration is a strong factor which constitutes the very foundation of the process of urbanization. It is recognized as the chief mechanism by which urban centers continue to grow. Generally, urban centers grow partly by natural growth and mostly by migration. Therefore, rural to urban migration is the moving force behind the progress of urbanization.. The fact is that rural-urban migration induces not only rapid urban growth but also differential rate of growth in town of various classes. The drift of rural migrants is directed more towards cities and bigger towns than smaller ones because of increasing concentration of economic activities in and around the cities.

Migration is an important aspect of urbanization. Rural urban migrant takes place owing to many factors. Most prominent among them are – economic, social, cultural etc. In India, poverty, unemployment as well as socio-cultural factors pull rural people towards urban areas. This rural urban migration finally results into urban growth. Migration is an important phenomenon and plays a vital role in the growth of the city in every district. After independence efforts have been made for socio-economic concentration of industries of the country.

Present research paper has divided into four sections. First section deals the relationship between urbanization and migration. Second section reveals migration in South Maharashtra. Third section indicates the causes of Migration in South Maharashtra and last fourth section implies the consequences of migration in south Maharashtra (i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur District).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

Following are the major objectives of the study:

1. To understand the Concept of Migration
2. To study the Relationship between Urbanization and Migration.
3. To study the Migration in South Maharashtra (i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur District)
4. Causes of Migration in South Maharashtra Maharashtra (i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur District)
5. Consequences of Migration in South Maharashtra.

MEANING OF MIGRATION

Migration is a movement of people from one place to another for different reasons. Migration is one of the most dynamic aspects of population studies. It reflects the distribution and movement of population, and the development of natural resources. Thus, migration is an essential component of economic development and social change.

Migrations have occurred throughout the past, beginning with the movements of the first human groups from their origins in East Africa to their current homes throughout the world. Migration occurs in a variety of ways: Migration can occur between continents, within a continent, or within a single country. Migration can even occur when people move out of the city and into the country. The most important thing about migration to remember is that it occurs when *groups of people move for the same reason.*

Migration in Urban Areas of South Maharashtra:

Migration is also one of the criteria of urbanization. The proportion of migration is higher the urbanization would be higher. For the present study of migration of labour in south Maharashtra, by using the convenient random sampling total no. of 300 respondents are selected as 100 respondents from each district, Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur respectively.

Table No – 1**Proportion of Migrants in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur Cities in 2024 (%)**

Sr.No.	District	Migrated	Non-Migrated	Total
1	Kolhapur	85 (85%)	15 (15%)	100 (100%)
2	Sangli	81 (81%)	19 (19%)	100 (100%)
3	Solapur	90 (90%)	10 (15%)	100 (100%)
	Total	256 (85.33%)	44 (14.67%)	300 (100%)

Source: Primary Data

Note: Figures in Brackets shows percentage.

Above Table shows the proportion of migrants in urban areas of Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities in 2024. It is found that in Kolhapur city out of 100 respondents 85 were migrants i.e. 85% of the people were found migrants from rural to urban area, while in Sangli and Solapur cities 81 and 90 respondents were found migrants out of 100 respondents i.e. 81% and 90% respondents were migrants in Sangli and Solapur cities in the year 2023-24. In regards to the migrant population Solapur district ranked 1st (90%), Kolhapur district ranked 2nd (85%), and Sangli district ranked 3rd (81%) in the year 2023-24. Thus migration shows that Solapur ranked 1st, Kolhapur ranked 2nd and Sangli ranked 3rd in respect of urbanization.

Causes of Migrants in South Maharashtra:

Migration of labours and urbanization process are the interrelated to each other but it is one of the causes of urbanization. There are different causes of Migration of labours from Rural to urban area. The extent of rural to urban migration affects on growth of urbanization in study area. In south Maharashtra it is found that there are many causes of migration like as Service or occupation purpose, Education, Marriage, Children's education, Standard of living and other purposes. Following table no. shows the Causes of Migration in South Maharashtra i.e. Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities in the year of 2024-25.

Table No- 2**Causes of Migration in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur Cities in 2024-25**

Sr. No.	Causes	Kolhapur	Sangli	Solapur	Average
1	Service/Occupation	60 (72.28%)	56 (71.79%)	65 (69.89%)	71.32%
2	Education	08 (9.67%)	09 (11.53%)	08 (8.60%)	9.93%
3	Marriage	06 (7.22%)	04 (5.12%)	09 (9.67%)	7.33%
4	Children's Education	06 (7.22%)	05 (6.44%)	06 (6.45%)	6.70%
5	Other	03 (3.61%)	04 (5.12%)	05 (5.39%)	4.70%
	Total	83 (100%)	78 (100%)	93 (100%)	99.98%

Source: Primary Data.

Note: Figures in Brackets shows percentage.

Table No-2 analyses the different causes of migration in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities in the year 2024-25. In the year 2024-25 in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities 72.28%, 71.79% and 69.69% people are respectively migrated for service, or occupation purpose i.e. employment purpose. On an average 71.32% of people are migrated for employment purpose. For education purpose 9.67%, 11.53% and 8.60% of people are respectively migrated in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities. On an average 9.93% of the people are migrated for education purpose in these three cities. Owing to the marriage Kolhapur city shows 7.22%, Sangli city shows 5.12% and Solapur city 9.67% of migration during the year 2024-25. On an average marriage migration in these three cities is remained 7.33% in these three cities in the year 2024-25. Children's education migration in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities reveal 7.22%, 6.44% and 6.45% respectively in the year 2024-25. On an average children's education migration is found 6.70% in these three cities in 2024-25. Other types of migration in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities is respectively remained as 3.61%, 5.12% and 5.39% in the year 2013-14. On an average it is remained 4.70% in these three cities in 2024-25. Total migration in Kolhapur, Sangli and Solapur cities out of 100 respondents in each city found that 83%, 78% and 93% respectively in 2024-25. On an average 99.98% of respondents are found migrants in these three cities in 2024-25.

Consequences of Migration in South Maharashtra -

1. Problem of Housing

This problem has tended to worsen over the study period due to rapid increase in urban population, fast rate of urbanization and proportionately inadequate addition to the housing stock. In some homes, five to six persons live in one room. Over-crowding encourages deviant behavior, spreads diseases and creates conditions for mental illness.

2. Problem of Water Supply, Drainage and Sanitation

Many small towns have no main water supply at all and are dependent on the wells. Drainage situation is equally bad. Because of the non-existence of a drainage system, large pools of stagnant water can be seen in city even in summer months. Removing garbage, cleaning drains and unclogging sewers are the main jobs of municipalities and municipal corporations in cities.

3. Problem of Transportation and Traffic:

Absence of planned and adequate arrangements for traffic and transport is another problem in urban area.. Majority of people use buses and tempos, while a few use rail as transit system. The increasing number of two wheelers and cars make the traffic problem worse. They cause air pollution as well. Moreover, the number of buses plying the metropolitan cities is not adequate and commuters have to spend long hours to travel.

4. Problem of Electricity Shortage:

Power supply has remained insufficient in a majority of the urban area. The use of electrical gadgets has increased in cities due to urban population, and establishment of new industries.

5. Problems of Pollution

Our towns and cities are major polluters of the environment. Several cities discharge 40 to 60 percent of their entire sewage and industrial effluents untreated into the nearby rivers. Urban industry pollutes the atmosphere with smoke and toxic gases from its chimneys. All these, increases the chances of diseases among the people living in the urban centers.

6. Migration of labours and Agricultural Distress:

Now-a-days the share of agriculture sector is 16% in GDP. Agriculture becomes an uneconomic occupation due to various reasons. So, farmers are leaving it and coming to the towns for searching the jobs. So, urban population is increasing as well as agricultural labours searches new job in industry for substances. When they can't get work in agriculture they move to urban areas for the work. Thus, the agricultural distress accelerates the urbanization process. It creates the pressure of rising population on urban amenities.

7. Environmental Problem:

There are many reasons for environmental pollution in Indian cities. Growth of urban population, slums, industrial development and increase in vehicles etc. are the main reasons for air, water, noise pollution and dirtiness in urban areas. The levels of water, air and noise pollutions are very high in many Indian cities, River water pollution causes due to the discharges of untreated sewerages by cities and towns, by industrial effluences etc. High level of air pollution is caused by smoke of domestic fires, factories and vehicles exhausts.

8. Problems of Slums:

Industrialization promotes the urbanization. Due to industrialization the numbers of industries are growing in urban area. The industries are taking place of the slums because of that the peoples could not get the houses to any place for the live. Other hand the slums are making the dirtiness in urban area as well as the pollution due to migration of people and the numbers of diseases are increasing.

CONCLUSION:

Migration is the one of the causes of Urbanization and it is an ongoing phenomenon which is very difficult to capture through any single approach or analysis, especially in South Maharashtra. Globalization process is speeding up, connecting the world unprecedented ways, there is a suggestion that cities throughout the world will come to exhibit organizational forms increasingly similar to one another as technology becomes more accessible throughout the global system. One side migration of people is the favorable thing in the perspective of urbanization and another side it's also harmful for rural area. Due to migration of people for employment and other reasons they migrating from rural to urban area so, rural area are turning into desolate land and the development of rural area is declining. So, there is extreme need to follow Mahatma Gandhi's Message of returning to or going back to village or rural area.

REFERENCES:

1. Bose Ashish "India's Urbanization 1901-2001" (1980) Tata McGraw-Hill Publication Limited, New Delhi.
2. Dasgupta Biplab (1988) "Urbanization, Migration and Rural Change: A Study of West Bengal" A Mukharji and Co. Pvt. Ltd. Calcutta.
3. Khairkar Vijaya (2007) The book on "Migration and Social Economics", Diamond Publications, Pune.
4. Mulik A.D. (1982) A Ph.D. Thesis in Geography titled on "Urbanization trends in South Maharashtra Plateau" submitted to Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
5. Report on Socio-economic Review of Kolhapur and Sangli, Solapur District, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25.
6. Economic Survey of Maharashtra, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25.
7. [http:// www.censusindia.gov.in](http://www.censusindia.gov.in).