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## MIGRATION STREAMS IN UTTAR PRADESH: TRENDS AND REASONS

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**Abstract:** *In the present paper an attempt has been made to analyze the trends and reasons of various migration streams in the state of Uttar Pradesh. The study is based on secondary sources of data, collected from Census of India publications (1971 to 2001), New Delhi. The data regarding the place of last residence (duration of residence one to four years) of the total migrants has been taken into accounts. The overall analysis of the study reveals that among all the migration streams, rural to rural migration is the most dominant stream in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Since 1981, only rural to rural migration has shown an increasing trend, whereas, the volumes of other three migration-streams have shown a decreasing trend. Nevertheless, among all the migration streams, the majority of rural to rural and urban to rural migrants has been migrated due to marriage, while, the reason of family moved has constituted the highest volume of urban to urban and rural to urban migrants in the state. The study also depicts that employment among males and marriage among females surpasses than other causes in all the migration streams.*

**Keywords:** *Migration streams, place of last residence, Uttar Pradesh, Marriage, Employment.*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Migration is a dynamic process with various implications of its own and the reasons for which people migrate depends on the developmental attributes of the origin and destination regions (Sarkar, P. & Tigga, N.S., 2014). Because, "Man is the most mobile living being on this earth moving from one area to another either due to fear of loss and lure of gain or to fulfill his basic needs and desires, depending upon his wisdom, knowledge, skill, interest, intellectuality and technical know-how. The only possible alternative for population is migration, when a society has ceased to satisfy an individual or community and shows its inability or unwillingness to execute the set of their expectations and values of life" (Hassan, T. and Khan, J.H., 2014). The history of migration is the history of people's struggle to survive and to prosper, to escape insecurity and poverty, and to move in response to opportunity (Razi, S., 2014). Therefore, Migration can be seen as a process of mobility for achieving the goals of livelihood improvement, and the extent to which households succeed in achieving these goals depends on the destination and selectivity of migration (de Hass, 2010). Moreover, migration choices and decisions are not made by individuals alone are often shaped by the larger environment and more specifically families (Waddington and Wheeler, 2003). According to Kothari (2002), these decisions are based on micro level factors at the individual and household levels, meso level factors at the source and destination areas, and macro level factors such as national and international policies, economic crises (Kothari 2002, cited in Waddington and Wheeler 2003). Migration is only one of a variety of movements and flows which link regions together in complex networks. It is a form of spatial interaction by which regions of varying levels of economic and social development and rates of growth are connected by streams of persons changing their residence and work places (Schwind, Paul J., 1971). Migration is considered to be a contagious phenomenon in the sense that once the stream of migration takes a definite direction, it continues to flow unless any serious obstacle comes in the way (Zachariah, 1968: Kayastha and Prakash, 1971).

On the basis of settlement status of places of origin and destination, internal migration is classified into four types, namely, rural to rural, rural to urban, urban to urban and urban to rural (Bose, 1974). The currents of migration, in general, flow from the areas of limited economic opportunities and retarded social development to the developed and the fast



developing areas, where migrants can expect greater pecuniary gains and consequently, a better level of living (United Nations, 1961; Zachariah, 1964; Mitra, 1967; Sen Gupta, 1968; Kaur, 1971; Weiner, 1973; Gosal and Krishan, 1975; and Premi, 1976). Although, Rao in 2000 pointed out that, the streams of migration originate from the area of subsistence level of agriculture and migrants move from areas of low productivity to areas of high productivity. This is true particularly in case of India, as rural to rural migration is still dominant in the country. But, in recent decades, it has shown a declining trend with the result of an increase in the volume of rural to urban migration. According to Raju (1987), the more an individual is poor, landless and socio-economically deprived, the greater the chance for his out-migration from rural to the urban areas. Besides, urban to urban and urban to rural migration streams have also depicted a proportional increase in their proportional share of internal migration due to improved socio-economic status of migrants, declining regional disparity in the levels of development in both rural and urban parts of India, development of efficient means of transportation and communication, government incentives etc. Hence, in the present study an attempt has been made to find out the reasons and trends of different migration streams in the most populated state of the country i.e. Uttar Pradesh. It is having a total population of 199,581,477 which makes 16.49 percent of total population in India. The data on migration by place of last residence for all duration of residence, as per 2001 census shows that there was 23.01 percent internal migrants in Uttar Pradesh, consisting of 7.34 percent males and 40.45 percent females. Out of the total migrants, the percentage of rural migrants were 18.63 percent and that of urban migrants were 4.37 percent, which means that migration in Uttar Pradesh was dominated by females and it was mainly from rural areas. Thus, it is essential to understand the trends and reasons of internal migration in Uttar Pradesh so that appropriate policies should be framed out in order to avoid the ill effects of migration.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The specific objectives of the present study are:

1. To analyze the trends of internal migration streams in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
2. To examine the sex wise causes of internal migration among different migration streams in Uttar Pradesh.



## STUDY AREA

Uttar Pradesh as a whole has been chosen as study area for the present research work. Uttar Pradesh is located in northern India and is the nation's most populated state with 199.58 million inhabitants according to census of India 2011. Uttar Pradesh extends from 23°52'N to 31°28'N latitudes and 77°4'E to 84°38'E longitudes. It covers 93,933 square miles, equal to 6.88% of the total area of India and is the fourth largest Indian state by area. The state is bordered by Rajasthan to the west, Haryana and Delhi to the northwest, Uttarakhand and the country of Nepal to the north, Bihar to the east and Jharkhand to the south east, Chhattisgarh to the south, and Madhya Pradesh to the south west. The larger Gangetic plain region is in the north, it includes

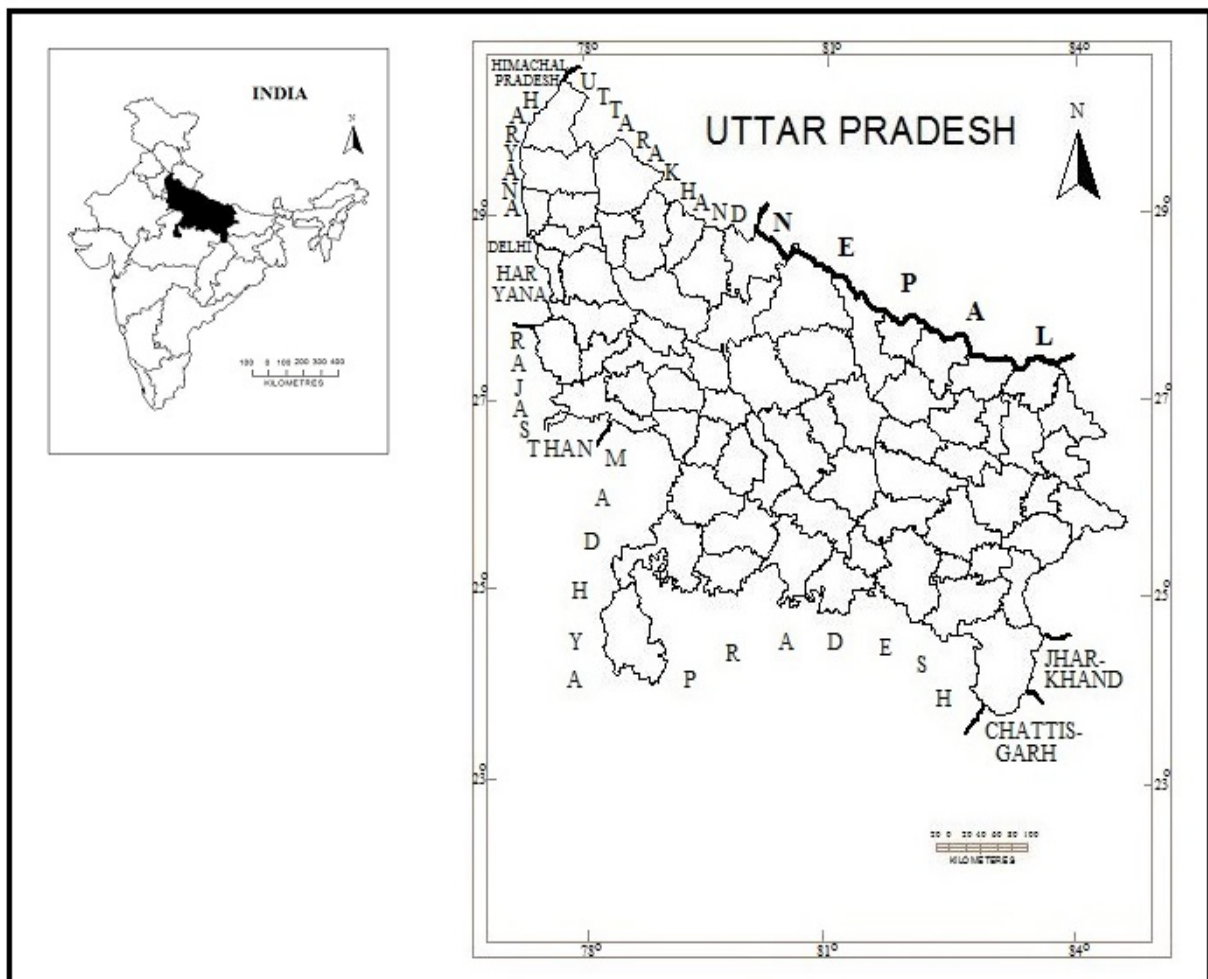


Figure 1

the Ganges-Yamuna Doab, the Ghaghra plains, the Ganges plain and the Tarai. Lucknow is the capital and Kanpur is the commercial capital and largest city of Uttar Pradesh. In total the state has 71 districts. As per the census of India 2011, out of the total population 77.73%



people live in rural areas and 22.27% people lives in urban areas. The population density is 828 people per square Km., making it one of the densest state in the country. The sex ratio as of 2011, at 908 women per 1000 men, is lower than the national figure of 940. The overall literacy rate in Uttar Pradesh is 69.72%. The literacy among male is 79.24% and that of female is 59.26%. Moreover, it is interesting to note that most of the towns are small and medium size towns with inadequate socio-economic opportunities, social amenities and facilities that have been prompting people to migrate in search of better opportunities.

## **DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY**

The census defines a migrant as a person residing in a place other than his/her place of birth or one who has changed his/her usual place of residence to another place. The usual direct questions on internal migration in Indian census cover the following items : place of birth(village or town) , place of last residence, duration of residence(stay) at the place of enumeration, place of residence on a specified date before the census, and reasons for migration. Since, 1981 census, information on reasons for migration from place of last residence and the duration of residence at the place of enumeration were included in the schedule of Indian census. In 1981, all reasons have been grouped into five broad categories, viz, employment, education, family moved, marriage and others. Besides, these reasons, two new reasons i.e. business and natural calamities were added in 1991 census. While in 2001 census, another new reason of moved after birth was introduced and natural calamities as a separate reason has been dropped which has been included in the category of ' others' .

The present research work is entirely based on secondary sources of data collected from census of India. At the time of study census data on migration of the year 2011 was not available, hence, the census data from 1971 to 2001 were analyzed. The data earlier than 1971 would not be included because in earlier Censuses, the data was collected on the basis of place of birth rather than on place of last residence. The data on place of last residence provides information about the reasons of migration categorized on the basis of age, sex and duration of residence .The categories of data on duration of residence of migrants at their destinations are less than one year, one to four year, five to nine year, more than nine years and all durations. However , in the present study the data regarding those migrants have been taken into account whose duration of residence was one to four years,



considering that among the migrants whose duration of residence was less than one year, some of them may only be seasonal /casual migrants and those whose duration of residence was more than four year may have somewhat different causes , problems and patterns of migration , as compared to the migrants of one to four years. Moreover , only four causes viz, employment, education, family moved and marriage, which were common in all the three decades, were used for the present study. so that the data may be compared easily during the last three decades among all the different streams of migration. Finally , the data have been converted into percentage and processed in tabular form, and on the basis of tables and processed data poly line graph and multiple bar diagrams have been prepared to show the trends and reasons of various migration streams in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

### **TRENDS OF INTERNAL MIGRATION IN UTTAR PRADESH**

Table 1 shows the trends of internal migration in Uttar Pradesh (1971-2001). It may be seen from the data given in Table 1 that from 1971 to 1981, the rural to rural and the urban to rural migration stream has witnessed a decreasing trend, while, the rural to urban and urban to urban streams have shown an increasing trend. Since 1981 onwards, the volume of rural to rural migration has been continuously increasing while the other three streams have witnessed a continuous decline in their proportions. In 1971, the percentage of rural to rural migrants were 69.15 percent which reduced to 63.07 percent in 1981. Later on, it has been continuously increased to 67.76 percent in 2001. On the contrary, share of migrants in urban to rural migration stream has fallen down from 5.75 percent in 1971 to 4.43 percent in 2001. Likewise, the rural to urban and urban to urban migration streams have also witnessed the identical trends. They show an increase in its percentage, from 13.45 percent to 17.20 percent and from 11.63 percent to 14.2 percent in 1971 and 1981 respectively. Since 1981, the continuous decline in the volume of the two streams i.e. rural-urban and urban to urban has been observed. The rural to urban stream have experienced a decline from 17.20 percent to 15.61 percent ( 1981-2001), while, the share of urban to urban migrants has been reduced from 14.2 percent to 12.20 percent (1981-2001).



**Table 1: Trends of Internal Migration in Uttar Pradesh (1971-2001).**

**Duration of Residence : 1 to 4 Years**

Years	Migration Streams											
	Rural to Rural			Rural to Urban			Urban to Rural			Urban to Urban		
	M*	F*	T*	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1971	47.51	78.64	69.15	25.39	8.21	13.45	7.66	4.91	5.75	19.41	8.22	11.63
1981	38.51	72.27	63.07	31.06	12.01	17.20	6.94	4.96	5.5	23.48	10.75	14.2
1991	34.21	73.34	64.89	33.66	11.89	16.60	6.40	4.74	5.10	25.70	10.00	13.40
2001	33.38	76.17	67.76	35.20	10.75	15.61	5.39	4.19	4.43	25.53	8.89	12.20

**Source:** Census of India (1971, 1981, 1991 & 2001) Migration Table D 02 S

M\* – Male, F\* – Female, T\*- Total

It would be also seen from the Table 1 that female migrants has the highest percentage in rural to rural migration stream. However, in all the other migration streams, the percentage share of female migrants is less than their counter parts during the span of thirty years. On the basis of places of origin and destination of migrant population by their sex composition given in the Table1 depicts that the share of female migrants has decreased from 78.64 percent to 72.27 percent in 1971-1981. After 1981, it increased and reached up to 76.17 percent in 2001, while the male migrants were showing a continuous decline in its proportion from 47.15 percent in 1971 to 33.38 percent in 2001. Contrary to this, in all the other migration streams, the percentage of female migrants were showing an increasing trend between 1971 and 1981. Afterwards, it shows a decreasing trend from 1981 to 2001. In rural to urban migration stream, the percentage share of female migrants has increased from 8.21 percent to 12.01 percent during 1971- 1981 and then reduced to 10.75 percent in 2001. Nevertheless, the male migrants witnessed a continuous increase in its volume from 25.39 percent in 1971 to 35.20 percent in 2001. Similarly, the volume of female migrants in urban to urban migration stream has increased from 8.22 percent to 10.75 percent in 1981-2001. While, there has been a continuous increase in the proportion of male migrants from 19.41 percent in 1971 to 25.53 percent in 2001. On the other hand, urban to rural migration stream which contributes a least share in the volume of migration and showed a continuous decline of 2.27 percent from 1971 to 2001. On the contrary, the percentage of female migrants was highest in 1981 i.e. 4.96 percent and it remained around this figure in all the other three censuses.

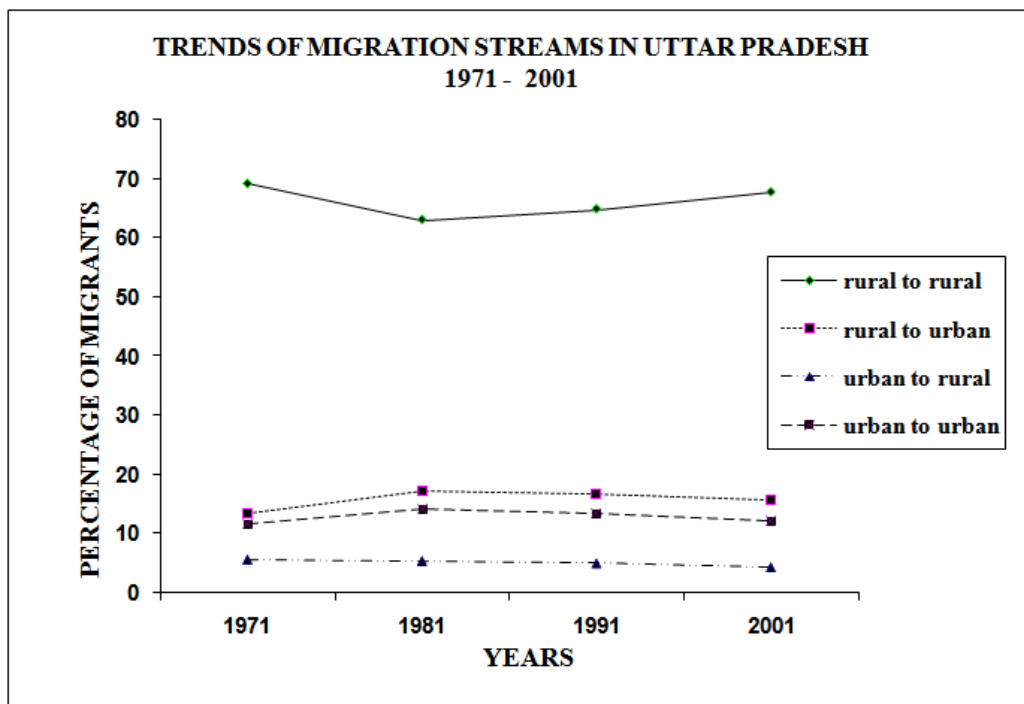


Figure 2

Table 2: Sex-Wise Causes of Rural to Rural Migration in Uttar Pradesh.

Years	Employment			Education			Family Moved			Marriage		
	M*	F*	T*	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1981	25.48	0.89	4.98	8.28	0.56	1.86	34.21	7.61	12.03	3.89	83.96	70.65
1991	24.41	0.69	3.39	8.54	0.49	1.41	32.71	4.38	7.61	5.87	90.16	80.55
2001	29.49	1.26	4.07	5.62	0.20	0.73	25.44	4.55	6.62	9.60	89.69	81.73

Source: Census of India ( 1981,1991&2001) Migration Table D 03 S

M\*- Male, F\*- Female, T\*- Total

Table 2 depicts the gender wise causes of rural to rural migration in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Among all the causes of rural to rural migration, only marriage envisages an increasing trend from 70.65 percent in 1981 to 81.73 percent in 2001, while family moved as a cause of rural to rural migration shows maximum decline from 12.03 percent in 1981 to 6.62 percent in 2001. Likewise, the proportional share of migrants migrated due to employment and education in rural to rural migration-stream of Uttar Pradesh has also recorded a decline of 0.91 percent and 1.13 percent from 1981 to 2001 respectively.

The gender wise break-up of the data given in Table 2 reveals that marriage remains the dominant cause of rural to rural migration among females. It was 83.96 percent in 1981 and 89.69 percent in 2001, while the corresponding figures for the male migrants was 3.89 percent in 1981 and 9.60 percent in 2001. On the other hand, employment is the root





cause of rural to rural migration among males. It was 25.48 percent in 1981 and increased to 29.49 percent in 2001. In case of female, it is not a very significant cause for migration, that accounts for only 0.89 percent in 1981 and 1.26 percent in 2001. Beside, family moved is also an important cause for rural to rural migration among males. It was 34.21 percent in 1981 and 25.44 percent in 2001. Moreover, the volume of female migrants moved with family also show a declining trend from 7.61 percent to 4.55 percent from 1981 to 2001. Education, though qualitatively a very significant social factor, but, it is not equally significant quantitatively in respect of rural to rural migration in Uttar Pradesh. It register a decline among male migrant from 8.28 percent in 1981 to 5.62 percent in 2001. Similar trend may also be seen in case of female migrants where, it, has been fallen down from 0.56 percent in 1981 to 0.20 percent in 2001.

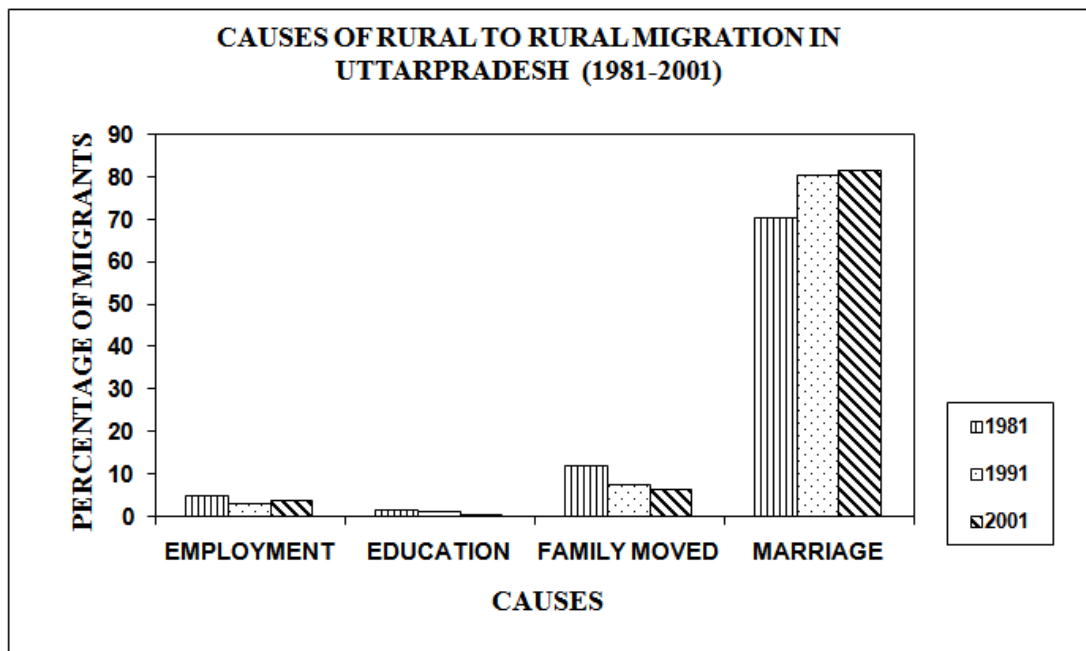


Figure 3

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of Causes of Rural to Urban Migration Based on Sex  
Composition of Migrant Population in Uttar Pradesh.

Years	Employment			Education			Family moved			Marriage		
	M*	F*	T*	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1981	40.00	3.92	21.67	17.28	3.71	10.38	27.43	31.59	29.55	1.09	53.17	27.55
1991	34.28	2.96	16.69	13.51	3.06	7.63	31.96	30.26	31.00	2.91	57.96	33.84
2001	44.57	3.36	21.84	12.09	1.61	6.31	28.87	35.24	32.38	0.95	53.45	29.91

Source: Census of India ( 1981,1991&2001)Migration Table D 03 S

M\*- Male, F\*- Female, T\*- Total



The percentage distribution of causes of rural to urban migration based on sex composition of migrant population in Uttar Pradesh has been presented in Table 3. The data given in the Table 3 reveals that family moved and marriage have been the dominating causes for rural to urban migration in Uttar Pradesh. Marriage, register an increase from 27.55 percent in 1981 to 29.91 percent in 2001.

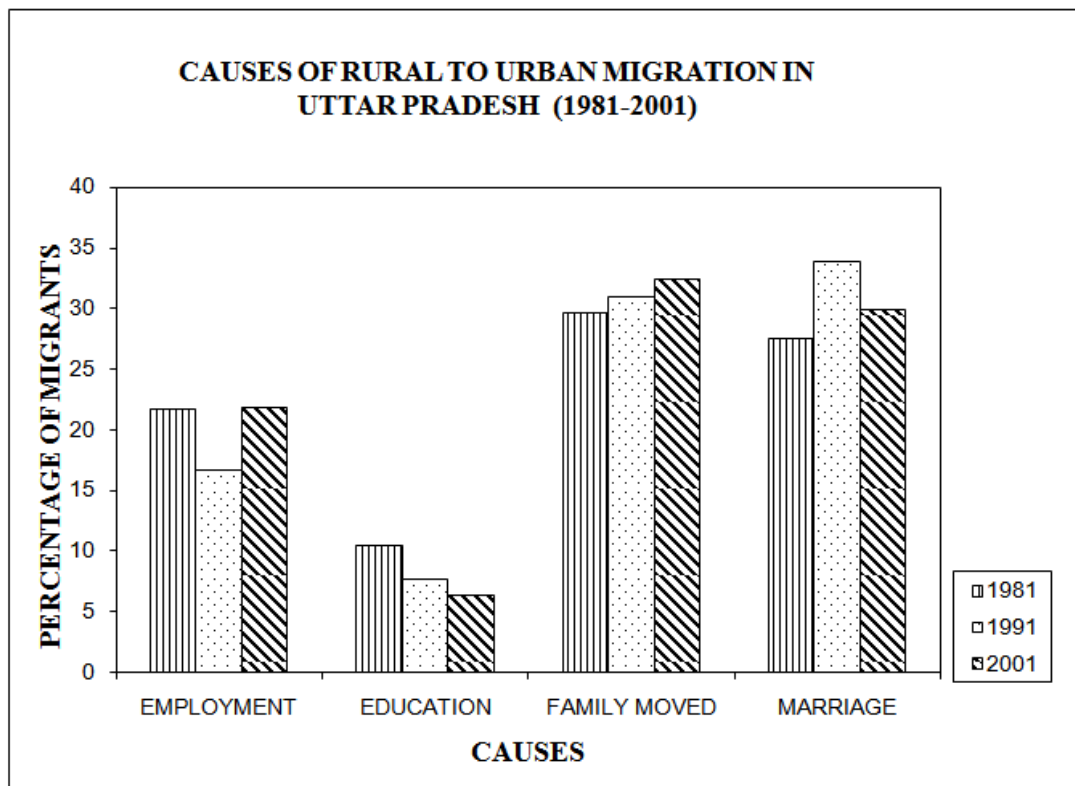


Figure 4

Simultaneously, the percentage share of rural to urban migrants due to family moved has been also increased from 29.55 percent in 1981 to 32.38 percent in 2001. On the other hand, education is not a very significant factor in motivating the rural to urban migration and shows a declining trend from 1981 to 2001. Earlier, it accounts for 10.38 percent of the total migrants of this migration stream and then its share reduced to 6.31 percent in 2001. While, migrants due to employment depicts a slight increase in the proportion from 21.67 percent in 1981 to 21.84 percent in 2001.

If, we see the sex - wise distribution of rural to urban migration in Uttar Pradesh then, it is quite visible from the Table 3 that among female, marriage remains the notable cause for migration. It was 53.17 percent in 1981 and remained around 53.45 percent in 2001. On the other hand, marriage is not a very significant factor for male migration, as it account for only



0.95 percent in 2001. Among males, employment is the most dominant cause for rural to urban migration. It amounted to 40 percent of male migrants in 1981 and increased to 44.57 percent in 2001, whereas, the corresponding figures for the female migrations are 3.92 percent and 3.36 percent in 1981 and 2001 respectively.

However, among females after marriage, family moved appeared to be second dominant cause for rural to urban migration. The proportion of female and male migrant, due to family moved has increased from 31.59 percent to 35.24 percent and 27.43 percent to 28.87 percent in 2001 respectively, during the span of two decades from 1981 to 2001. Another striking feature of the data given in Table 3 is that education is the only cause for rural to urban migration which shows a declining trend in the volume of both male and female migrants. The percent of male migrants in 1981 and 2001 was 17.28 percent and 12.09 percent and that of females 3.71 percent and 1.61 percent respectively.

Table 4 shows the percentage distribution of causes of urban to urban migration based on sex composition of migrant population in Uttar Pradesh. It is evident from the Table 4 that family moved emerged as a main cause of urban to urban migration followed by marriage. On the top, the family moved that accounts for 35.64 percent in 1981 and then slightly decreased to 34.98 percent in 2001.

**Table 4: Percentage Distribution of Causes of Urban to Urban Migration Based on Sex Composition of Migrant Population in Uttar Pradesh**

Years	Employment			Education			Family moved			Marriage		
	M*	F*	T*	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1981	36.60	4.63	19.01	12.39	3.56	7.53	35.50	35.75	35.64	1.00	47.76	26.73
1991	33.35	3.43	15.83	11.61	2.99	6.56	36.48	32.26	34.01	2.03	54.46	32.73
2001	35.26	3.17	16.52	9.64	2.08	5.22	33.37	36.13	34.98	1.06	50.86	30.14

Source: Census of India ( 1981,1991&2001)Migration Table D 03 S

M\*- Male, F\*- Female, T\*- Total

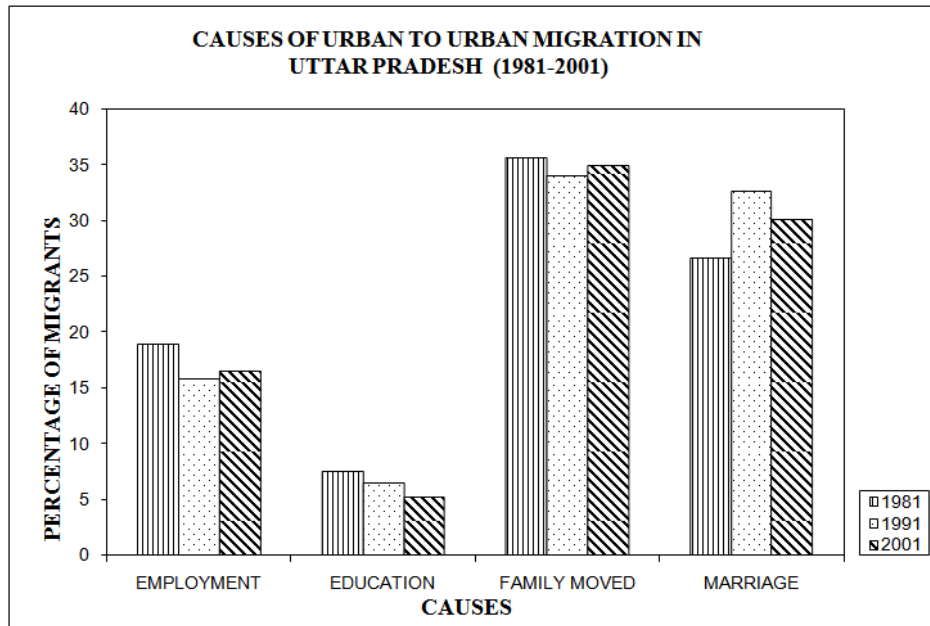


Figure 5

The further analysis of the data given in Table 4 brings the fact into light that marriage among females and employment among males were the outstanding causes for urban to urban migration in Uttar Pradesh. The share of female migrants due to marriage was 47.76 percent in 1981 which was increased to 50.86 percent in 2001, whereas, it remained around 1 percent for male migrants in 1981 and 2001 Censuses. On the contrary, the volume of male and female migrants were showing a decreasing trend for employment reason. In 1981, the percentage of male migrants were 36.60 percent which decline to 35.26 percent in 2001. Simultaneously, the percentage share of female migrant due to this reason has declined from 4.63 percent in 1981 to 3.71 percent in 2001. As far as the family moved migration is concerned, the percentage of female migrants were more than male migrants. Among females, it was 35.75 percent in 1981 and increased to 36.13 percent in 2001, whereas, among males it was 35.50 percent in 1981 and reduced to 33.37 percent in 2001.

Table 5 : Percentage Distribution of Causes of Urban to Rural Migration Based on Sex Composition of Migrant Population in Uttar Pradesh.

Years	Employment			Education			Family moved			Marriage		
	M*	F*	T*	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1981	34.94	2.68	13.48	5.37	1.05	2.50	35.83	20.37	25.54	1.40	68.22	45.86
1991	33.27	1.80	10.34	7.21	1.08	2.74	34.28	14.69	20.01	2.22	77.28	56.91
2001	35.12	2.17	10.16	6.90	0.85	2.31	32.68	14.93	19.23	3.15	75.66	58.09

Source: Census of India (1981,1991&2001)Migration Table D 03 S

M\*- Male, F\*- Female, T\*- Total



Table 5 presented the percentage distribution of causes of urban to rural migration based on sex composition of migrant population in Uttar Pradesh.

An examination of data given in Table 5 shows that marriage is the most dominant and single cause which shows an increase in proportional share from 45.86 in 1981 to 58.09 in 2001. Besides, all the other causes like employment, education and family moved were showing a decreasing trend. However, the maximum decline in the percentage of urban to rural migration is recorded due to family moved and its share decreased from 25.54 percent in 1981 to 19.23 percent in 2001. While, because of employment only 10.16 percent people were migrated from urban to rural areas in 2001. Another important point to be noted here, although, urban to rural migration due to education recorded a decline in volume, but, it is not very significant i.e. from 2.50 percent in 1981 to 2.31 percent in 2001. Sex-wise examination of data given in Table 5 reveals the fact that marriage is the single most dominant cause for urban to rural migration among females. As high as 68.22 percent female were migrated in 1981 and further increased to 75.66 percent in 2001. On the other hand, only 1.4 percent males were migrated due to marriage in 1981 and it became 3.15 percent in 2001. Although, employment is the cause where the percent of male migrants show an increase from 34.94 percent in 1981 to 35.12 percent in 2001. While, the percentage share of female migrants were 2.68 percent in 1981 and reduced to 2.17 percent in 2001. Besides, employment, family moved were another important reason among male migrants to move from urban to rural areas. In 1981, its share was 35.83 percent among male migrants which reduced to 32.68 percent in 2001. In case of female also, a similar trend may be seen and their proportion registered a sharp decline from 20.37 percent in 1981 to 14.93 percent in 2001. As far as the volume of migrants due to education is concerned, it accounted to 5.37 percent of male migrants in 1981 which increased to 6.90 percent in 2001. But, the reverse condition may be observed in case of females where its share reduced from 1.05 percent to 0.85 percent during 1981 to 2001.

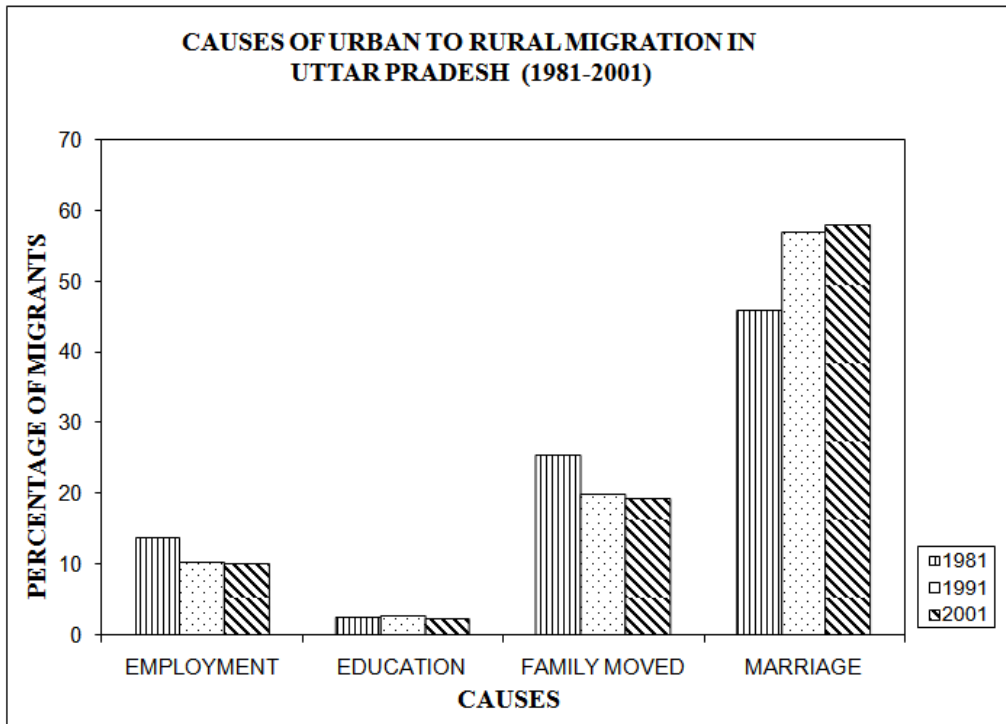


Figure 6

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The overall analysis of the present study reveals that among all the migration streams in the state of Uttar Pradesh, rural to rural migration has the highest proportion. During the decade of 1971-1981, declining trend in rural to rural and urban to rural migration has been observed, while the other two streams have witnessed an increase in its volume. Since 1981, only rural to rural migration has shown an increasing trend, whereas, the volumes of other three migration-streams have shown a decreasing trend. However, urban to rural migration stream have the smallest share among all the migration streams in the state of Uttar Pradesh. In addition, marriage emerged as the most dominant cause in rural to rural and urban to rural migrants while, the reason of family moved have been reported the highest volume of urban to urban and rural to urban migrants in the state. The study also reveals that employment among males and marriage among females surpasses other causes in all the migration streams in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

It is very much clear from the above that the people in Uttar Pradesh mostly migrated from rural areas and mainly because of lack of employment opportunities. So, in order to avoid its harmful effects there is a need to design pragmatic development of all rural areas. The first step is to develop rural economy or agriculture, this can be achieved by making agriculture



more attractive through the provision of incentives such as farm inputs, seeds and free extension services together with the financial aid. Other than this, the government should also introduce various technical courses or vocational training centers for providing technical skills to the rural youth. So, in slack season or when there is no work at the farm they can earn their living by doing some other work at the same place instead of going to some other place in search of work. However, there is a need for a review of poverty alleviating programmes through the allocation of funds to help the youth start some productive ventures at home to prevent them from leaving. Further adequate urban development policy should be framed in order to make provision of water and sanitation, housing, solid waste management, transportation services etc. Hence, efforts should be made at each and every level to get the good results.

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