

# **Population Census Results in Gender Perspective**

# Preface

It is indeed a great honour and pleasure for the Central Bureau of Statistics to bring out the separate publication on the 2001 Population Census result in gender perspective. Population censuses are conducted every ten years in Nepal and the 2001 census is the tenth of its kind. Prepared in three volumes, each volume of the report consists of two chapters with selected gender tables and their analysis at the National level. In order to give some idea on the census procedures; a note on the sampling procedure adopted in the census, listing form, short form census questionnaire-form 1 and long form sample questionnaire- form2 have been also attached in the annex of the report. However, for detailed note on the census procedure one could always refer to the introductory note given in the National Report of the Population Census 2001.

The 2001 population and housing census of Nepal has extended its activities beyond the traditional approach of census canvassing with an aim to produce adequate gender statistics by following the improved concepts, definitions, classification and methods to reflect the existing gender issues in society. A series of auxiliary activities to mainstream gender into 2001 census had been undertaken. These activities had sensitized not only the census personnel but also the respondents, so that the responses become more gender sensitive and reflect the same in the census results. In other words, the whole essence of the gender integration in the census process should have reflection in the census results. With the technical and financial assistance of the UNIFEM, the CBS has undertaken the activity to produce this unique publication on gender specific results of 2001 census by focusing mainly on the tabulation of gender sensitive questions included in census schedules and the simple or cross tabulation of general questions addressing gender issues directly or indirectly. By and large, this report encompasses demographic and socio-economic characteristics by gender at the national level and other geographical areas of the country.

I hope that this published report on the gender tabulations of the 2001 population census will be very useful and fill the existing data gap. In order to make improvement of such report in the future I always welcome the valuable comments & suggestions from the users. On this occasion, I like to thank the special tabulation and analysis group members Deputy Directors Mr. Badri Prasad Niraula, Mr. Krishna Prasad Shrestha, Mr. Rabi Prasad Kayastha and Mr. Nabin Lal Shrestha. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the Gender Expert Committee members for their valuable comments during various interactions.

In a similar manner, the data processing team of the Population Census Section comprising of the Statistical Officers Mr. Dhruva Raj Ghimire, Mr. Shiva Nandan Shah, and Computer Assistant Mr. Suresh Prasad Kayastha headed by the Data Processing Consultant Mr. H. N. Regmi deserve special thanks. My thanks also go to all other staffs of the Population and other Section of the Bureau for their support and co-operation in bringing out this report.

I would also like to thank Ms. Shavitri Singh, UNIFEM statistical consultant on gender for her technical support and overall guidance in planning, designing, processing and publishing this specific report.

I specially would like to thank technical and financial assistance of the UNIFEM for the project on Special Tabulations on Gender and Engendering the Census 2001. This has really created a milestone in the history of census, and hence should serve the purpose of not only the general users but also the gender sensitive planners, policy makers and researchers. I specially would like to thank the UNIFEM Regional Programme Director Ms. Chandni Joshi and Senior National Programme Officer/Officer In-Charge Ms. Sangeeta Thapa for their all round co-operation and support in this project.

Moreover, I would like to thank the chief of the Population Census Section Mr. Radha Krishna G.C. for working with the team and completing the project assignment by bringing out this report in time.

Finally, I would like to thank all, whose support and cooperation has contributed in completing this job successfully.

December 2002  
Kathmandu

**Dr. S.M.N. Subhani**  
Director General  
Central Bureau of Statistics

# Foreword

The present volume pertaining to the Gender Tables of the Population Census 2001 on Socio-economic aspects at the National, Regional and District level is valuable for planning. This book is an outcome of the combined effort done by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). I hope these information could be very useful for planning and implementation of the 10<sup>th</sup> development plan of the country in gender perspective.

The Central Bureau of Statistics deserves special appreciation for completing this assignment in due time. The report produced by the CBS will be useful for planners, users and researchers.

On this occasion I would like to thank all the staff of the Bureau and all others who participated equally in this endeavor. In particular, I would like to thank the UN agencies for their support.

Any valuable comments from the users of the report will help improve the task of carrying out such a census in the future.

Thank you.

December 2002  
Kathmandu

**Dr. Shankar P. Sharma**  
Vice Chairman  
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# Chapter I

## **Gender and Socio-Economic Well Being**

*- Radha Krishna G. C.*

### **1.1 Introduction**

Gender is a well-publicized phenomenon in most of the developing countries, with attention focused on a range of socio-economic issues. However, in situation like ours still grappling with socio-economic problems, gender has not yet emerged as a major concern.

This chapter tries to address various issues of gender and socio-economic well being prevailing in the society. Here, an attempt have been made to evaluate the gender imbalance in the type and ownership of house, households having some female ownership of fixed assets and of livestock by sex of the household head. Moreover, some analysis have been also done to explore the economic aspect of the household by looking into their household economic activities and the gender relations into employment and paid employment by broad occupational and industrial category. This has been further analyzed by looking into the literacy status and educational attainment of the employees. In this manner, this chapter tries to address some of the key gender issues on the socio-economic and demographic dimensions by focusing mainly on

- Prevalence of female headed and male headed households in poverty wealth spectrum.
  - Extent of female ownership and access to assets.
  - Gender gap in access to household economic activities.
  - Gender biased occupational and industrial segregation.
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### **1.2 Concepts & Definition**

#### ***Household:***

A household is a single or group of persons related or not related living together, sharing income & expenditure and taking meals from the same kitchen. So the concept of sharing of income, expenditure and taking meals from the same kitchen is main, while defining a household.

#### ***Head of the Household:***

The head of the household is the main responsible person in the household. [ See also its definition in Chapter 2.]

#### ***Geographical areas:***

This refers to the existing geographic divisions and sub-divisions of the country, like the ecological belts, development regions, eco-development regions, urban/rural and the districts.

**Type of house:**

A house is a living quarter with four walls and a roof of any material with one or more rooms and stories or flats. Depending upon the type of materials used for constructing the walls and roofs of the house, a house is divided into the following categories.

- i. Pakki (Permanent) Both the walls and roof of the house is built with permanent materials; like cement, concrete, bricks.
- ii. Ardha Pakki (Semi-permanent) One of the either wall or roof is built with permanent materials and the other is built with temporary materials.
- iii. Kachhi (Temporary) Both the walls and roof of the house is built with temporary materials like mud, straw, bamboo, plastics etc.
- iv. Others This includes house like structures built with very temporary and endurable materials like straw, plastics, tent etc.

**Ownership of house:**

The ownership of house means the legal ownership to which the house belongs. Especially in rural areas, the ownership of the land itself refers to the ownership of house. The ownership of house is categorized into the following types.

- i. Owned
- ii. Rented
- iii. Others

**Households with Some Female Ownership of Fixed Assets:** If one or more female members of a household possesses a legal ownership of house and or land, irrespective of its use and location, then the household is termed as household with some female ownership of house or land.

The ownership and possession of fixed assets house and land of female is the property inherited either from maternal home or from other source of own income like rents, pension, loans or from any type of income. Moreover, the female ownership of assets both the house and land could be anywhere in any part of the country.

**Households with Some Female ownership of Livestock:** If one or more female member of a household possesses or owns livestock irrespective of its raring, management and location, then the household is termed as household with some female ownership of livestock.

The ownership and possession of livestock of female is the property inherited either from maternal home or from other source of own income like rents, pension and loans or from any type of income. Furthermore, the female ownership of livestock could be within the house/household or outside given for raring the livestock.

**Household Amenities and Possession:** The Households having household Amenities and Possession have been graded by taking into the following variables into account and are as follows:

- i. Households having piped water as main source of drinking water
- ii. Households having Electricity as main source of lighting
- iii. Households having Modern/Flush Toilet System
- iv. Households having all the four consumer durable: Radio, TV, Fridge and Car.

These are considered as the superior quality amenities and possession index and the classification have been designed to suit in the Nepalese context.

Based on the above characteristic variables, the household amenities and possession (also called API index) have been graded and categorized as follows:

**High:** Having all four variables mentioned above.

**Medium High:** Having Any Three of the above facilities.

**Medium:** Having any two of the above.

**Low:** Having any one of the above.

**Medium Low:** None of the above and one of the inferior quality amenities

**Very Low:** Having none of the above.

**Household Economic Activities Other than Agriculture:** It is the non-registered household economic activity conducive to household economic benefit mainly from sale. The activity might have operated by the head of the household or by any other member of the household without any hired labour. The different types of household economic activities categorized here are as follows:

1. Manufacturing
2. Business
3. Transport
4. Service
5. Others

**Usually Economically Active Population:** As specified in the concept and definition section of Chapter 4.

**Usually Employed Population:** As specified in the concept and definition section of Chapter 4.

### **Occupation**

Occupation of an individual refers to the kind of work done during a selected reference time period (past 12 months) irrespective of industry in which the individuals works on her/his status in employment, occupation of a person, who works more than one job refers to the job at which the individual spends more time. If the time spent in two jobs are equal, then the occupation refers to the job that gives higher income.

- i. White Collared Occupation – This includes Legislators, Senior Officials, and Managers, Professionals, Technicians & Associate Professionals, Clerks or Office Assistants
- ii. Agriculture and Related – This refers to Skilled and Semi skilled workers in agriculture
- iii. Other Occupation – This includes Service workers, and Sales workers, Crafts and related trade workers, Plant and Machine Operators and Elementary Occupations

### ***Industry***

The term industry refers to the activity of the establishment where an active person worked during the reference period. In other words, the kind of goods produced or services supplied during the reference period, by the unit in which the person works is specified as industry.

- i. Agriculture – This broadly encompasses Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
- ii. Industry – This includes Mining and Quarrying, Manufacturing, Electricity, Gas and Water, and Construction
- iii. Services – Here Wholesale/retail trade, Hotels and Restaurants, Communication and Transport, Financial Intermediation, Real State, Renting & Business, Public administration and Defense, Community, Social and Personal Services are included.

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## **1.3 Employment Status**

Employment status refers to status of an individual with respect to her/his category of employment. A usually employed person may work in any one of the following category.

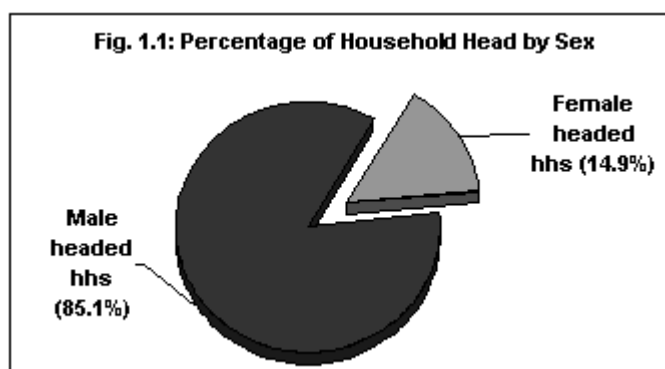
- i. Employer - An employer is a person who operates her/his own economic enterprise or engages in dependently in a profession or a trade and hires one or more employees.
  - ii. Paid employee - An employee is a persons who works for public or private employer and receives remuneration in terms of ways, salary, commission, piece rates or pay in kind.
  - iii. Own account worker - An own account worker is a person who operates her/his economic enterprise or engages in dependently in a profession or trade and hires no employees.
  - iv. Unpaid family worker - An unpaid family worker is a person who works without pay in economic enterprises operated by a person living in the same household.
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## 1.4 Main Findings at National Level

### 1.4.1 Household by Type of Ownership of House

This table gives the household distribution by sex of the household head and the type and ownership of the house or housing unit. In addition to the differentials by the sex of the household head, this table also shows the type of the house occupied by the household as well as the ownership of the house. In this manner this cross tabulation establishes a relationship between the sex of the household head with the type and ownership of the house or housing unit occupied by the household.

The table shows that out of the total 4.17 million households 14.9 per cent are female headed and 85.1 percent are male-headed household. (See Fig 1.1). Out of the total female headed households 41.9, 29.6 and 28.3 per cent live in owned, rented and others houses respectively. Similarly, 35.6, 29.1 and 35.2 percent of the male-headed households live in owned, rented and others ownership type houses correspondingly. However, if we look at the proportion of owned pakki households, it is clearly evident that the female-headed households are less well off than the male-headed households.

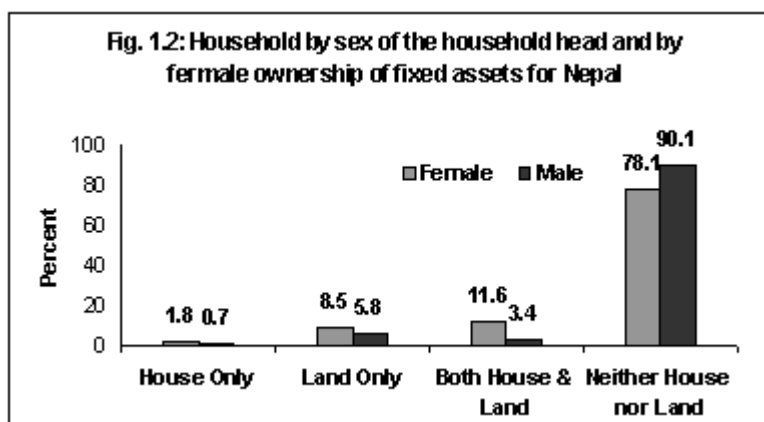


This proxy measure of household living standard indicates that 14.6 per cent of female-headed households are staying in permanent (pakki) houses, whereas 85.3 per cent male-headed households are staying in such houses. Which is one of the major characteristics of gender discrepancy prevailing in the society.

### 1.4.2 Household with some Female Ownership of Fixed Assets

This table presents the distribution of households with some female ownership of the fixed assets by the sex of the household head. The female ownership of the fixed assets by the differentials in the sex of the household head is a new kind of information sought in the census for the first time. The cross-table establishes the relationship between the sex of the household head and the female ownership of the fixed assets in the household.

As the household headship implies greater autonomy and decision making control, the women heads or women living in women headed households should have better access to female owned assets as compared to those living in male headed households. In this context, it is worthwhile to note that the proportion of households



with some female ownership of house is only 5.5 per cent (1.99 % female headed and 3.53 % male headed) to the total households and the proportion of households with some female ownership of land 10.8 per cent (2.99 % female headed and 7.85 % male headed) to the total households.

Out of the total female-headed households, the households with some female ownership in house only, land only; both house and land are 1.8, 8.5 and 11.6 per cent respectively. In a similar manner, the household having some female ownership in the male headed households shows that those having house only, land only and both house and land corresponds to 0.7, 5.8 and 3.4 per cent. This clearly depicts that the females having neither house nor land are lower (78.1 %) in the female-headed households as compared to the male-headed households (90.1 %). In this way, the data shows the pattern of disparity in female ownership prevailing in Nepal.

#### **1.4.3 Households with some Female Ownership of Livestock**

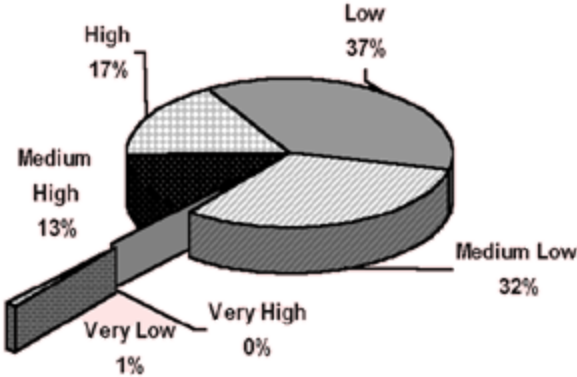
This table gives the household distribution by the sex of the household head and the female ownership of the livestock. The table clearly reveals the female ownership of livestock in the household by the sex of the household head. In this manner, the sex of the household head tabulated by the female ownership in livestock gives a new kind of information sought in the census for the first time. This establishes a linkage between the sex of the household head and the female ownership of livestock in the household and is useful information for further investigation.

As exhibited in the table, more than 90 per cent of the household does not have any female ownership in livestock's. However, the proportion of households with some female ownership in livestock is slightly higher among the female-headed households than that among the male-headed households. Out of all, 8.9 per cent of the female-headed households and 7 per cent of the male-headed households have some female ownership in livestock. Again, looking at the livestock owned by females, the percentage of small heads is higher than the big heads.

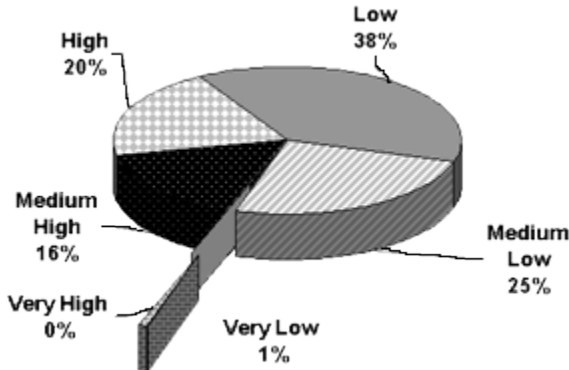
**1.4.4 Household Amenities and Possessions**

This table gives the distribution of households by the sex of the household head and the household amenities and possessions. The sex differentials of the household head by the household amenities and possession is a new kind of information sought in the census this time.

Fig. 1.3 Proportion of Households among female and male headed Households by Household amenities and possessions.



Female Headed Household



Male Headed Household

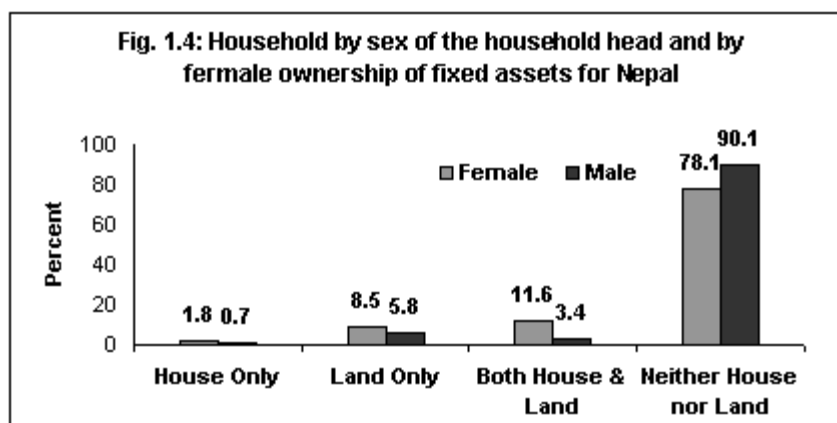
The households with different combination of the household amenities and possession available in the household have been graded from high to very low. Thus the cross tabulation gives a relationship between the sex of the household head and the households with the available amenities and possession in the household. This information is further disaggregated for different geographical breakdown of the country and a brief analysis at the National level has been presented here.

Analysis of the data shows that the number of households having low index of household amenities and possession is both highest 38 per cent and 36 per cent in the female headed and male headed households respectively. And this index is lowest in the very high category for both the female and male-headed households and comparatively it is still lower in the female-headed household. The distribution of the household API by differentials in the sex of the household head is clearly exhibited in the figure 1.3.

### 1.4.5 Small Scale Household Economic Activities

This table shows the households involved in small-scale household economic activities other than agriculture and their involvement in the various types of household activity by the sex of the household head.

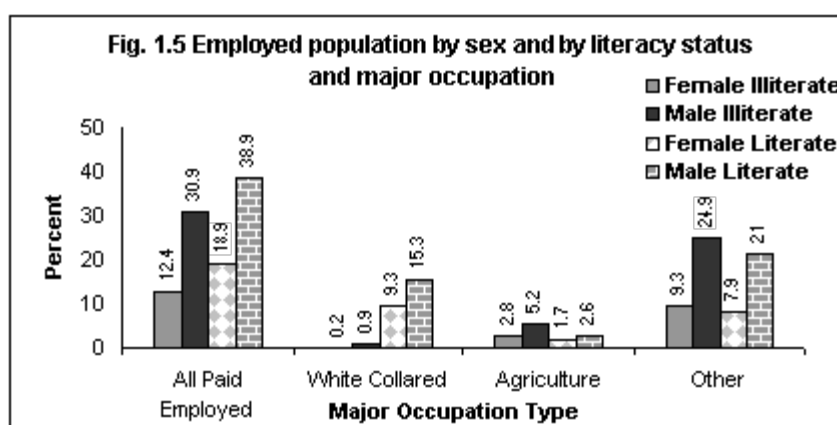
Looking at the type of activities of the household with small-scale household economic activities other than the agriculture, it is observed that the differential is minimal by sex of the household head. However, there is a more focus on the service sector by the household headed by females (37.5 %) than by males (34.6 %). Whereas, all other types of household economic activities are slightly higher in male headed households than in female headed households and the difference is almost insignificant.



### 1.4.6 Paid Employee's Literacy and Broad Occupation Group

This table shows the distribution of employed population and among them the paid employee by broad occupational group for aged 10 years and above by their literacy/educational attainment. The main theme of this table is to look into the gender difference in different occupations of the paid employment along with their educational background. Generally in Nepalese society females are low paid in various occupational groups compared to men. A proxy to this disparity is also well represented and reflected by the occupation and literacy status of the person.

The figures in the table reveals that due to the lower level of literacy for females compared to males, in the case of employed females the proportion of literates (27.3 %) are much lower than illiterates (71.3 %). Whereas, in the case of males higher proportion of literates (56.9 %) are employed than illiterates (42.2 %). The same is true in the case of all paid



employed as well. Whereas, if we look by the broad occupational categories the proportion of literate females is lowest in the agriculture and is highest in the white collared jobs. The same trend is observed in the case of males, however the percentages are higher for them. The proportion of all paid employee in other occupations is much higher than that in white collared jobs or agriculture jobs. And this is true both for the females as well as the males.

However, the extent of employees in other occupations are still higher for males than for the females. Here other occupations encompass occupations other than agriculture and industry. (See Fig. 1.5)

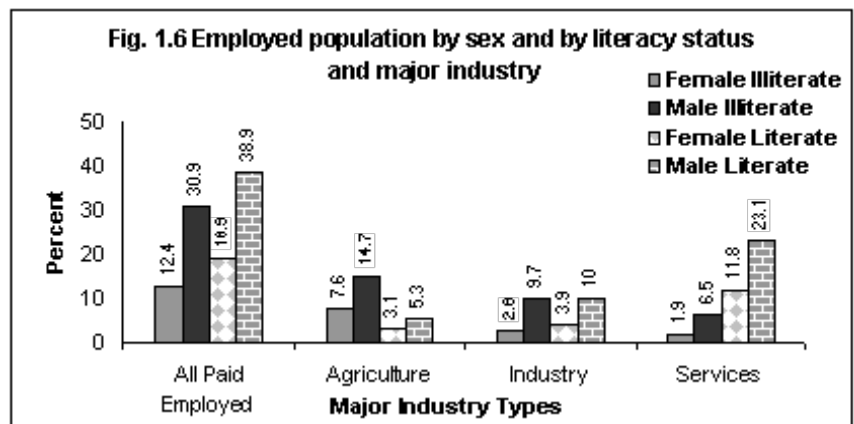
If we look into the educational attainment of the paid employees, it is observed that in white collared and other occupation groups the paid employees rises as the level of education goes up and this is true for both the sexes. While, in the case of agriculture the situation is reversed.

### 1.4.7 Paid Employee's Literacy and Broad Industry Division

This table presents the cross-classification of employed population and the paid employee's broad industrial classification by literacy/educational attainment. The purpose of this table is to get some insights into the gender discrimination prevailing for paid employed in different industry divisions by sex and literacy/educational attainment.

In almost all the industry divisions there is a noticeable sex differentials revealing males prominence. However, among the three industries presented the female male difference is lowest in agriculture and highest is service industries; whereas, the industry division represents the intermediary position. If we look into the differentials by literacy status it is observed that there is a substantial variations between the illiterates and literates in all the broad industrial divisions by sex. Again the proportion of illiterates is higher than the literates in agriculture for both the sexes. Whereas, in services the proportion of literates are higher than the illiterates both for men as well as women.

If we look into the distribution of paid employed by literacy and industry; the literate females are highest (11.8 %) in services as compared to lowest (3.1 %) in agriculture. Whereas, for males the corresponding figures are 23.1 per cent and 5.3 per cent respectively. Similarly, among the illiterates 7.6 per cent females are working in agriculture as compared to only 1.9 per cent working in the service sector.



This shows that agriculture is the most accessible and easily adopted by those who are either illiterate or those with low level of qualification for both the women and the men. As literacy and the level of education increases more people in either of the sex tend to adopt in other industries.

### 1.4.8 Paid Employee's Broad Occupation Distribution

The workplace of women and men are very often segregated by sex. Most women are still working in agriculture. Fewer women are employed in industry and service sector has been found to be expanding for women's economic participation. Women tend to be in clerical,

sales and domestic services and men as production workers in manufacturing and transport. Within an occupational group, women are always in less prestigious job. As the level, prestige and pay go up so do this number of men. Wage and salaried employment is more stable and secure than self employment but it is not always available to women. Even if they are fortunate enough to get salaried job, they are not that equally fortunate to involve in the white collared job.

In order to look into the gender disparity in economic terms, an attempt have been made here to analyze the broad occupation distribution of the paid employed by broad age group and sex. Out of all employed population the female and male paid employees are 14.2 per cent and 35.5 per cent respectively. If we look into the paid employee by broad occupational category the sex distribution shows that male (25.6 %) exceeds female (19.1 %) in White Collared occupation, whereas, in Agriculture and related occupation female (17.7 %) exceeds male (10.4 %). However, there is not much sex differences in other occupations indicating 62.9 per cent female in contrast to 63.8 per cent male paid employees.

#### **1.4.9 Paid Employee's Broad Industry Division**

This table gives the distribution of employed population by broad age group and sex and among them the distribution of all paid employee in various Broad Industrial Divisions.

As in the occupation distribution, this table exhibits a similar pattern of paid employees by sex and broad Industry Divisions. The paid employees in different industries shows that the proportion of female employees are 26.3, 27.7 and 45.6 per cent respectively in agriculture, industry and service. While, the corresponding figures for male employees are 44.9, 22.2, and 32.6 per cent respectively.

## Chapter II

# Gender and Household Headship

- *Nebin Lal Shrestha*

### 2.1 Introduction

The households in Nepal constitute a point of convergence across all ethnic groups and a crucial institution for both individual survival and social continuity. Household heads take a prominent identity in households and take the responsibility of socio-economic wellbeing of household members. Religious beliefs and social traditions stress the norms of superiority of males over females. Only males can ensure the continuity of patrilineality and serve and provide for their parents in their old age. Thus the men relative to women are advantaged in accessing the household resources and opportunities and usually achieve the position of household head.

By virtue of the position itself, the head of the household becomes more autonomous and has more control not only over the household resources but also on other household members. In this connection, the investigation of households according to the sex of household head has become a hot topic to all gender sensitive planners, policy makers, potential users, and above all the feminists. One step further ahead of the investigation of household heads by sex, is to know about their respective socio-economic status and sustainability of households. Within the periphery of this existing situation, this chapter of the report has attempted to do some situational assessment covering the following issues:

- # Prevalence of women household heads
- # Characteristics of women household heads as compared to their male counterpart
- # Composition of households headed by either sex
- # Gender composition of population living with gender specific household heads
- # Extent of households that can afford domestic workers and proportionate share of domestic workers to the total population.

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### 2.2 Concepts & Definition

**Household:** A household is a unit formed by a person or persons related or unrelated, living together and sharing the food from the same kitchen with a sole management of income and expenditure to run the household.

**Usual Place of Residence:** Usual place of residence of an individual is the place where s/he lives and sleeps most of time. In other words, it is one's intention of stay to consider her/his usual place of residence. For example, the usual place of residence of infants, newly married bride, recently migrated person are their present residences where they are living. If a person lives in more than one place and intention is not clear, then her/his usual place of residence is the place where s/he has lived for at least six months of the past 12 months.

**Household Head:** A household head is defined as a main person in the household who generally stays in the house and shoulders the responsibility of income and expenditure in running the household and take the decision in all family related matters. The household head can be either male or female, but the person whose age is below 10 years can not be the household head as per census definition.

**Age:** Age of the person is her/his completed years as of the last birthday. Age of children less than one year of age is recorded as zero year.

**Child Dependency Ratio:** It is the ratio of the children under 15 years of age to the total able-bodied population aged 15-59 years.

**Old Age Dependency Ratio:** It is the ratio of the elderly people aged 60 years and above to the total able-bodied population aged 15-59 years.

**Total Dependency Ratio:** It is the ratio of the children under 15 years of age together with elderly people aged 60 years and over to the total able-bodied population aged 15-59 years.

**Structure of Household:** The structure of a household is viewed into different categories depending upon the number of household members and relationship of the household head to the respective members. They are as follows:

- **Head Alone:** Households consisted of only one member i.e. head her/himself.
- **Head & Spouse:** Households consisted of only husband and wife and no other members.
- **Head, Spouse & Children:** Households consisted of head, spouse and children less than 16 years of age & no other members.
- **Head, Spouse, & Adult:** Households consisted of head, spouse, and other person/s aged 16 years and above & no other members.
- **Head, Spouse, Adult & Children:** Households consisted of head, spouse, and other person/s aged 16 years and above together with children less than 16 years of age.
- **Head & Children:** Households consisted of only head (without spouse) and children less than 16 years of age.
- **Head and Adult:** Households consisted of only head (without spouse) and other person/s aged 16 years and above.

**Head, Adult & Children:** Households consisted of head (without spouse), other person/s aged 16 years and above and children less than 16 years of age.

**Note:** In above classifications, there may or may not have domestic workers in the households i.e. classifications are done irrespective of the presence or absence of domestic workers in the households.

**Literacy:** A person who is able to read and write in any language with simple arithmetic computations is considered as literate. A person can be literate either from formal education or from informal education. Questions on literacy are asked to people ages 6 years and above. Depending upon the ability of a person, s/he is classified into one of the following three groups as:

- Can't Read and Write (Illiterate)
- Read Only (Illiterate)
- Read & Write (Literate) and

**Educational Attainment:** Educational attainment refers to the highest level of formal education to that a person had completed during his/her student time. For example, if a person is currently studying in grade 9 then her/his educational attainment is 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Similarly, if a person has passed grade 8 and s/he is not currently going to the school, then also her/his educational attainment is 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Persons are classified into different groups according to their educational attainment as:

- None (No formal education or informal education)
- Under Primary (Less than 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Primary including lower secondary (5-9 grade)
- Secondary (10<sup>th</sup> grade)
- SLC & Above (SLC or higher level)

**Marital Status:** Marital status of an individual refers to her/his status in relation to marriage. Marital statuses are classified into seven groups as follow:

- **Single:** Persons who have not lived as husband and wife even once up to the time of census enumeration.
- **Currently Married & Living with One Spouse:** Persons who are married for the first time and living with one spouse.

- **Currently Married & Living with More than One Spouse:** Persons who are married and living with more than one spouse.
- **Remarried:** Persons who have married more than once but living with one spouse.
- **Widowed/Widower:** Women whose husbands are lost by death and have not remarried up to the time of census enumeration are called Widowed. Similarly, Men whose wives are lost by death and have not remarried up to the time of census enumeration is called Widower.
- **Divorced:** Persons who are married but could not live together because of ones conflict and so living separately by legal or social process.
- **Separated:** Persons who are married but could not live together because of ones conflict and living separately without legal or social process.

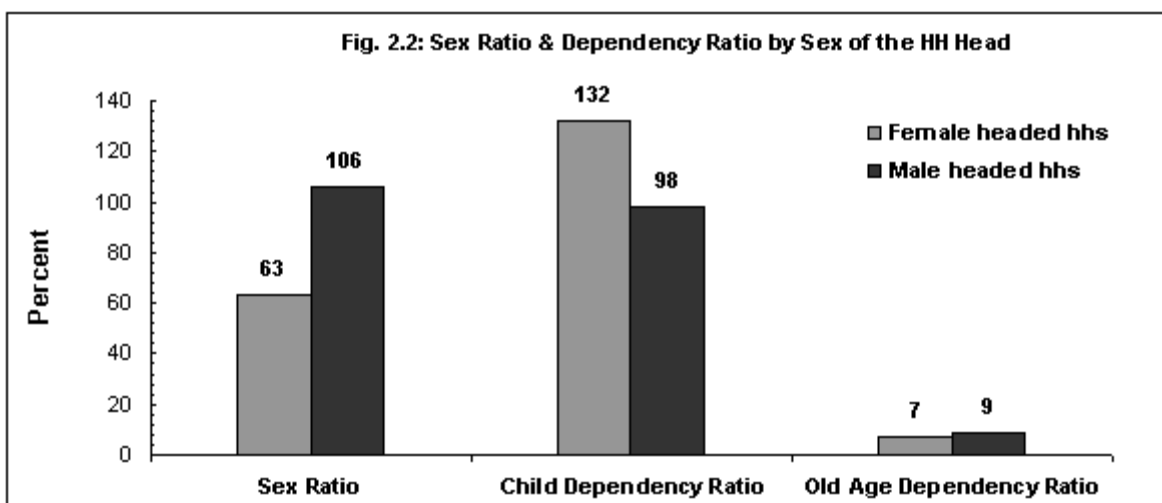
## 2.3 Present Situation as Mirrored in the 2001 Population Census

### 2.3.1 Prevalence of Female-Headed Households

This table presents number of households by sex of the household heads for different geographical areas of Nepal, and the population living in female-headed and male-headed households. Data in this table indicates that a mere 14.9% of the households in Nepal is headed by females. This indicator suggests that very few women are free to form households on their own and have autonomy in access and control over household resources. The data has further indicates that the average size of households headed by females are smaller than that of households headed by males.



Wide variation in sex ratio is observed between female-headed and male-headed households. Among the female-headed households, there are 63 males per 100 females, whereas among male-headed households, there are 106 males per 100 females. This implies that the female-headed households are in double jeopardy because the household members especially the women living in female-headed households may suffer from some disadvantage, as female heads are suffering in terms of access to sociate resources relative to male heads.



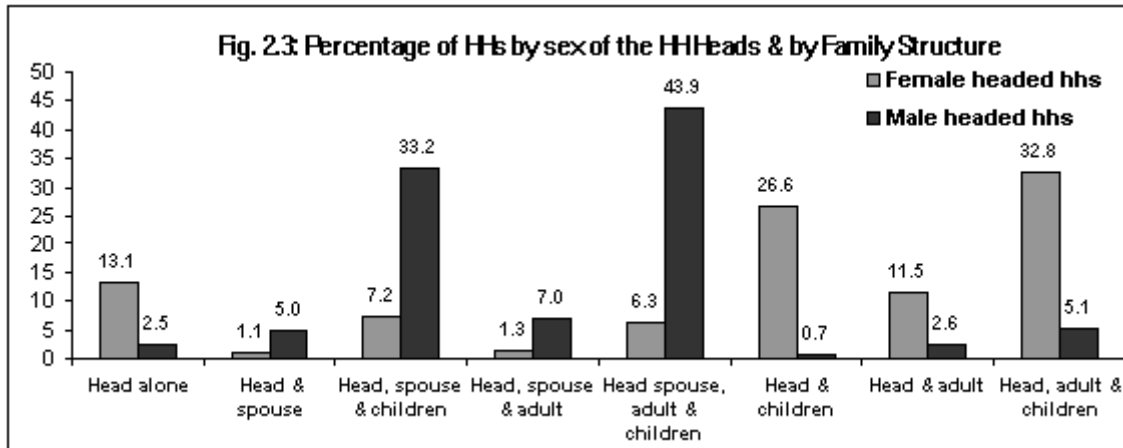
In female-headed households, there are 132 dependent children (<15 years) per 100 population of economically active age group 15-59 years (excluding household heads). While this figure drops to 98 in male-headed households. Similarly, in female-headed households, there are 7 dependent elders (<sup>3</sup> 60 years) per 100 population of economically active age group (excluding household heads) and this figure rises to 9 in male-headed households. This results a total dependency ratio of 139 in female-headed households and 107 in male-headed households. Since the female household heads have to bear a burden of large number of dependents, they are more likely to be vulnerable than male household heads.

Moreover, the data again exaggerates that the proportion of working age group population (excluding household heads) in female-headed households is smaller as compared to that in male-headed households (41.8 vs 48.4).

This gives some indication of females achieving the position of household head particularly in the absence of men in the household.

### **2.3.2 Structure of Households**

This table presents structure of households by sex of the household heads. This table has also supported the evidence of higher child dependency ratio in female-headed households as indicated in previous table.

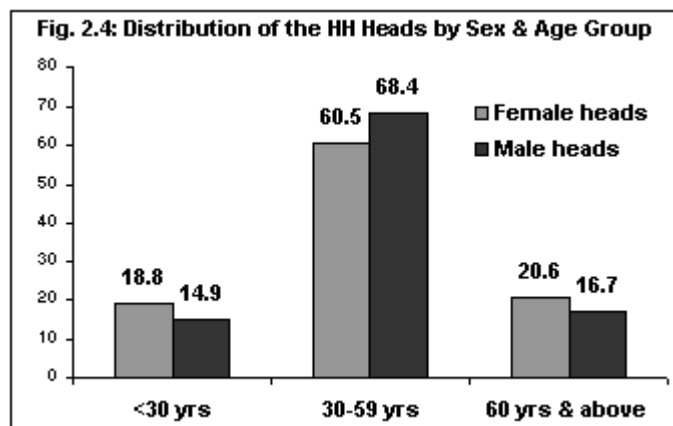


In all of the female-headed households, at least one fourth of them are uniquely deprived type of household i.e. children living with the head herself. The proportion of male-headed households in this category is negligible. As much as, another 33% of the female heads have solely been found to be burdened with extended families consisting of other adult and children. By reviewing the family structure of all female-headed households, it is very disappointing to note that a huge majority (84%) has achieved the position of heads only in the absence of husband in the households.

### 2.3.3 Household Heads by Broad Age Group

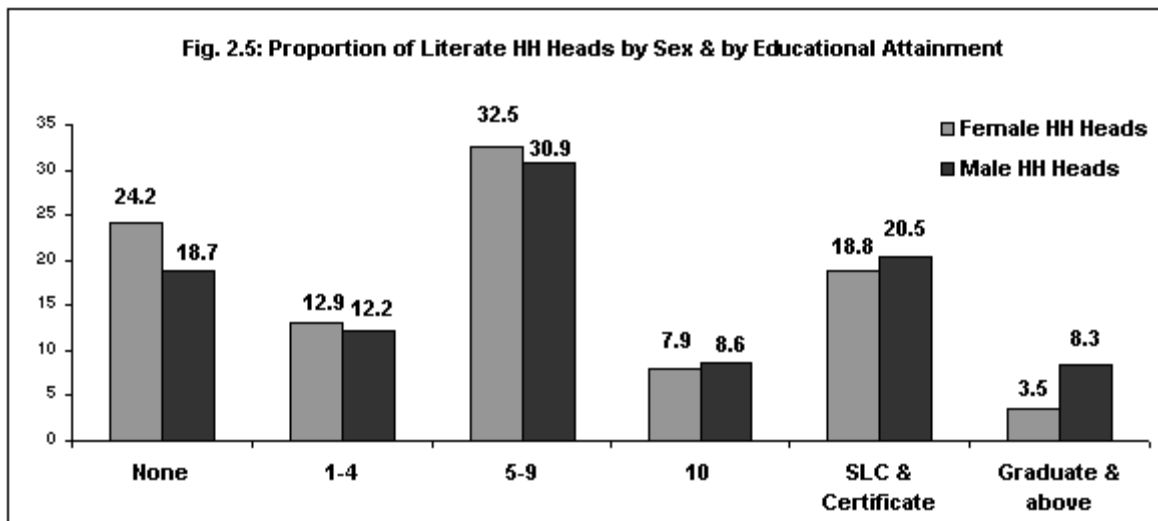
This table presents distribution of the household heads by sex and broad age group. Data shows that majority of the household heads (more than 60%) are concentrated in the age group 30-59 years. However, comparison of the age distribution of female heads with male heads shows that up to the age 29 years, and age greater than 59 years, there is higher proportion of female heads than male heads.

Data shows that around 19% of the female household heads are below 30 years of age whereas the corresponding figure for male heads is only 15%. Similarly in female-headed households, around 21% of the household heads are above 59 years of age and the corresponding figure for male household heads is 17%. This indicates that the female household heads are either too young or too old whereas the situation is opposite in case of male heads.



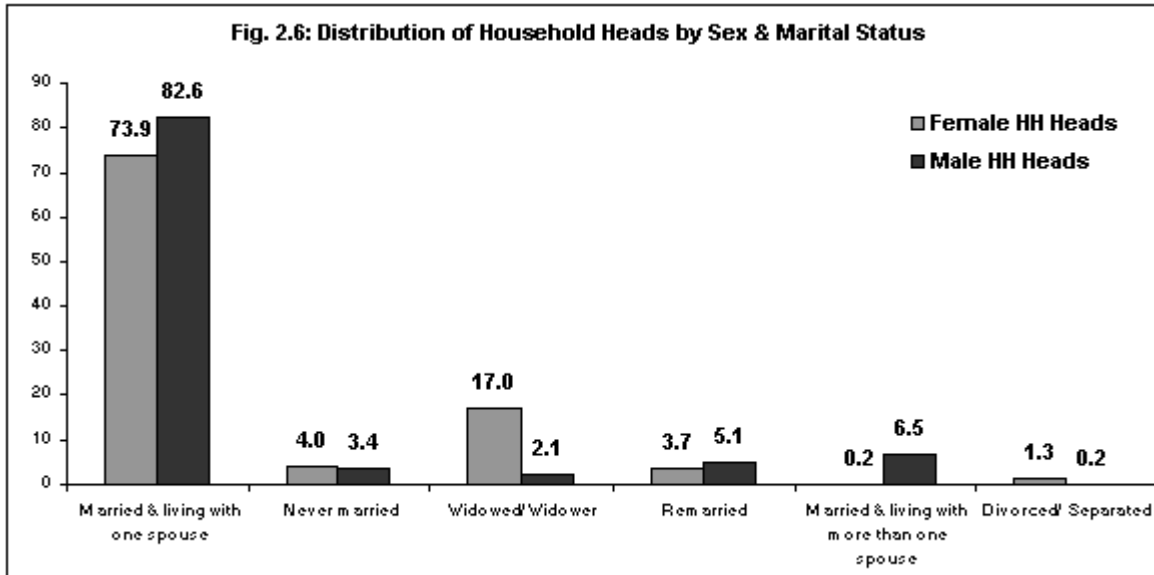
### 2.3.4 Household Heads by Literacy/Educational Attainment

Analysis of the household heads by sex and by literacy/educational attainment shows that nearly one fourth (25.9%) of the female household heads are literate whereas the corresponding figure for male household heads is more than half (51.7%).



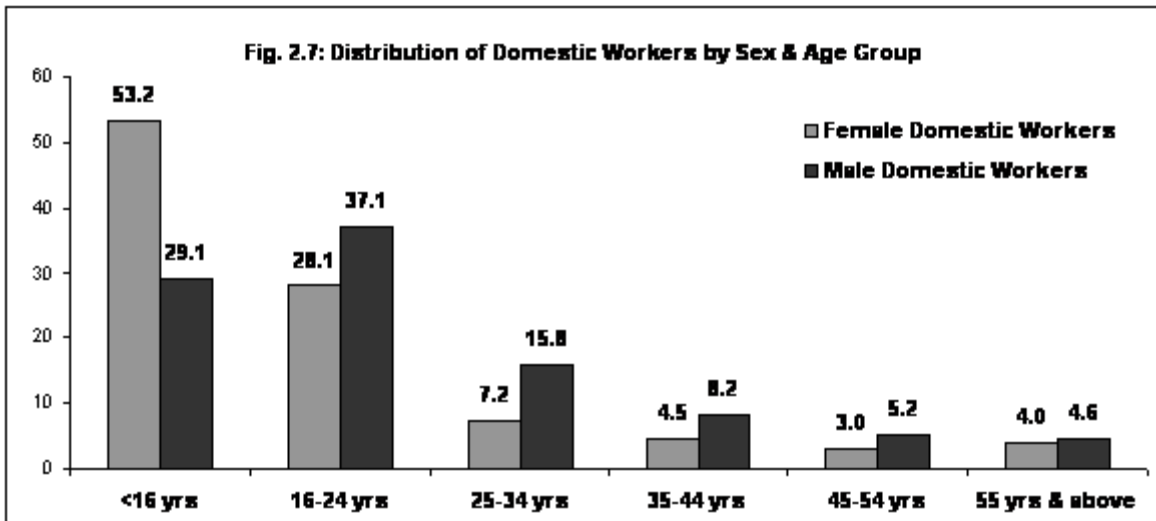
The differences in level of educational attainment by sex of the household heads are also significant. Up to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, the educational attainments of female household heads are more than that of male household heads. However, for educational level 10<sup>th</sup> grade and above, the educational attainment of male household heads is more than that of female household heads. This shows that female household heads have less opportunity to attain higher educational level than that of male household heads. This characteristic of female heads coincides exactly with the women who are not household heads.

### 2.3.5 Household Heads by Marital Status



This table shows the distribution of household heads by marital status, sex, and age group. Data shows that 4% of the female household heads and 3.4% of the male household heads are never married. Significantly, a large proportion of the household heads both women and men, are married and living with one spouse. However, a difference of 8.7 percentage points is observed between female and male household heads that are living with one spouse (73.9% & 82.6% respectively). Only 2.1% of the male household heads are widower whereas 17% of the female household heads are widowed. Similarly, the proportion of remarried male heads is higher (5.1%) than that of female heads (3.7%). It is remarkable to note that a significant proportion of male heads are married and living with more than one spouse (6.5%) in contrast to female heads (0.2%) in that category. The proportion of the household heads who are divorced or separated is high among female heads (1.3%) than in male heads (0.2%). This converges to the fact that women are very less likely to remarry or live with multiple spouses than men. Even though if they get remarriage or live with multiple spouses, the possibility of being a household head is still very low.

### 2.3.6 Age and Sex Distribution of Domestic Workers



This table presents distribution of the households by households having domestic workers and number of domestic workers by sex and age group. This table gives insight picture of the households having child labor. Data shows that one percent of the households (39,955 households) in Nepal has domestic workers and these domestic workers consist of 57,295 persons. 62.8% (35,997) of the domestic workers are male and 37.2% (21,298) are female. It is found that 38.1% (21,802) of the domestic workers are children below 16 years of age and out of these children, 11,327 are girls and 10,479 are boys.

It is disappointing to note that among the female domestic workers, more than half (53.2%) are children below 16 years of age, and among male domestic workers, 29.1% are below 16 years of age.

While analyzing the data separately by sex of the household heads, it is found that virtually there is no significant difference in number of households having domestic workers by sex of the household heads. However, it is interesting to note that there is significant association between sex of the household heads and sex of the domestic workers. In female-headed households, 51% of the domestic workers are female, whereas in male-headed households, only 34.8% of the domestic workers are female.

## Chapter III

# **Gender Specific Indicators on Education, Awareness & Media Exposure**

*- Nebin Lal Shrestha*

### **3.1 Introduction**

Differences in opportunities and resources available to women and men are a wide spread phenomenon they are more prevalent in poor developing countries and Nepal is not an exception. This discrimination between the girls and boys begins at an early receiving age. Boys are more privileged and receive a large share of education expenditure than girls.

This part of the gender tabulation volume focuses on gender differences in educational attainment of the children. Attempt is made here to disaggregate the gender differences in educational attainment of the children by sex of the household head and by status of living arrangement of the children. It also focuses on access to media facilities within the household, which has been disaggregated by sex of the household heads. In brief, this chapter has been focused to address the following gender issues:

- Extent of female disadvantage in amount of education received and continuation of education.
- Comparative media exposure of female and male population.
- Feminization of poverty and educational deprivation of children.
- Gender discrimination in access to education due to their living arrangements.

### **3.2 Concepts & definitions**

**Educational attainment:** Educational attainment of a person refers to the highest level of her/his education completed. For example, if a person is currently studying in grade 9 then his/her educational attainment will be grade 8. Similarly, if a person has passed grade 8 and he/she is not currently enrolling in the school then also his/her educational attainment will be grade 8. Questions on educational attainment were asked to the literate person ages 6 years and above.

**Media exposures:** Informations were also collected on household facilities regarding Media/Entertainment, Communication and Transportation. In the media section, question was asked whether the household has Radio/TV.

If a household is using any type of radio/transistor operated either by electricity or battery then it is considered as having Radio in the households. Similarly, if a household is using any type of TV (Black & White or Colour) operated either by electricity or battery then it is considered as having TV in the households.

**Schooling facilities:** Questions on school attendance were asked to all people between ages 6-25 years who have not completed 10<sup>th</sup> grade. School attendance is classified into two groups as: Currently School Going & Currently Not School Going. A person is said to be currently attending school if s/he has been enrolled in school and attending school for the study. Similarly, those student who are in leave according school rules or those student who are not attending school at the time of enumeration because of sickness or casual leave is also considered as currently attending school. If a person has never enrolled in school or dropout from school due to any reason, then s/he is categorized as currently not school going person.

**Living arrangement:** Depending upon the children with whom they are living, they were classified into eight groups as follow:

**Living with both father & mother:** If a child is living with both biological father and biological mother, then the child falls in this category. In addition to this, if step father or step mother is present in the households, then also the child falls in this category.

**Living with mother only:** If a child is living with biological mother but not living with biological father or step father, then the child falls in this category.

**Living with father only:** If a child is living with biological father but not living with biological mother or step mother, then the child falls in this category.

**Living with father & step mother:** If a child is living with biological father and step mother, then the child falls in this category. In addition to this, if step father is presence in the household, then also the child falls in this category.

**Living with mother & step father:** If a child is living with biological mother and step father, then the child falls in this category. In addition to this, if step mother is presence in the household, then also the child falls in this category.

**Living with other relatives:** If a child is not living with biological/step mother/father but living with other relatives to whom the child has blood relation, then the child falls in this category. e.g. living with brothers, sisters, grand parents, uncles, aunts' etc.

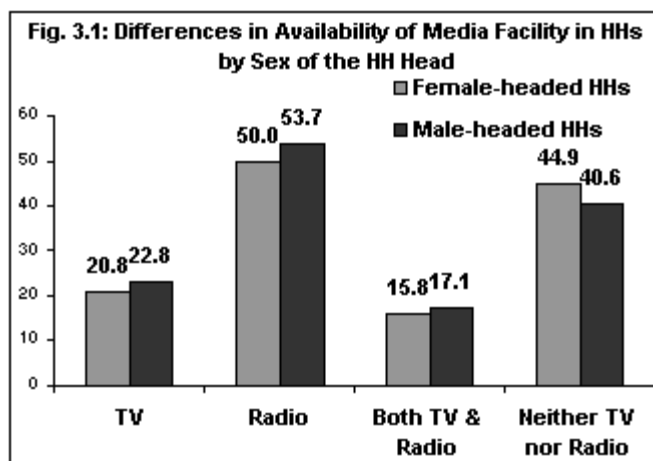
**Living with employer:** If a child is living as a domestic worker or living with the person who treats him/her as domestic worker, then the child falls in this category.

**Others:** If none of the above criteria meets for a child, then the child falls in this category. For example, a child who is neither domestic worker nor blood relatives falls in this category.

### 3.3 Main findings at national level

#### 3.3.1 Exposure to media facility

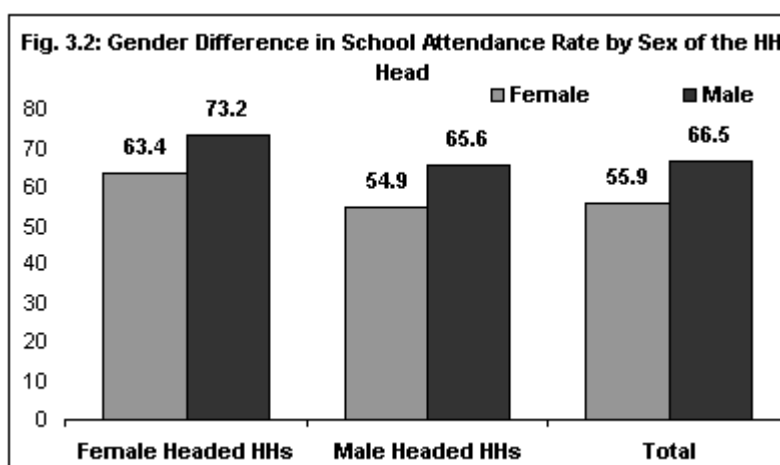
This table presents data on availability of media facility in the households. Existence of TV and Radio is considered as media exposure of the population living in that household. Hence the number of households, household population disaggregated by sex is also presented in this tabulation, so that we can estimate number of people who have access to TV or Radio or both of them, for example. Further, these estimates can be differentiated by sex of the household heads for different areas of Nepal. This will give crude picture of the socio-economic status of the female headed and male headed households.



Data shows that 41.3 percent of the households (44.9% in female-headed households & 40.6% in male-headed households) have no access to either TV or Radio. Access to TV/Radio is moderately gender bias. The degree of linear gender bias is 3.7 percent in Radio and 2.8 percent in TV. For example, 20.8 percent of the female-headed households have access to TV whereas this figure for male-headed households is 22.8 percent. Similarly, 50 percent for female-headed households have access to Radio and this figure for male-headed households is 53.7 percent. Data also shows that less than one fifth of the households in Nepal have access to both TV & Radio (15.8 percent in female-headed households and 17.1 percent in male-headed households).

#### 3.3.2 School going population

The relevant table presents data on school going by population aged 6-25 years who have not completed 10th grade. School going status is classified into two groups as currently school going and currently not schools going population. These information are further classified by sex of the individual, so that we can compare the disparity in female and male school going status. Similarly, we can link these information to the sex of the decision-maker of the households' i.e. household head.

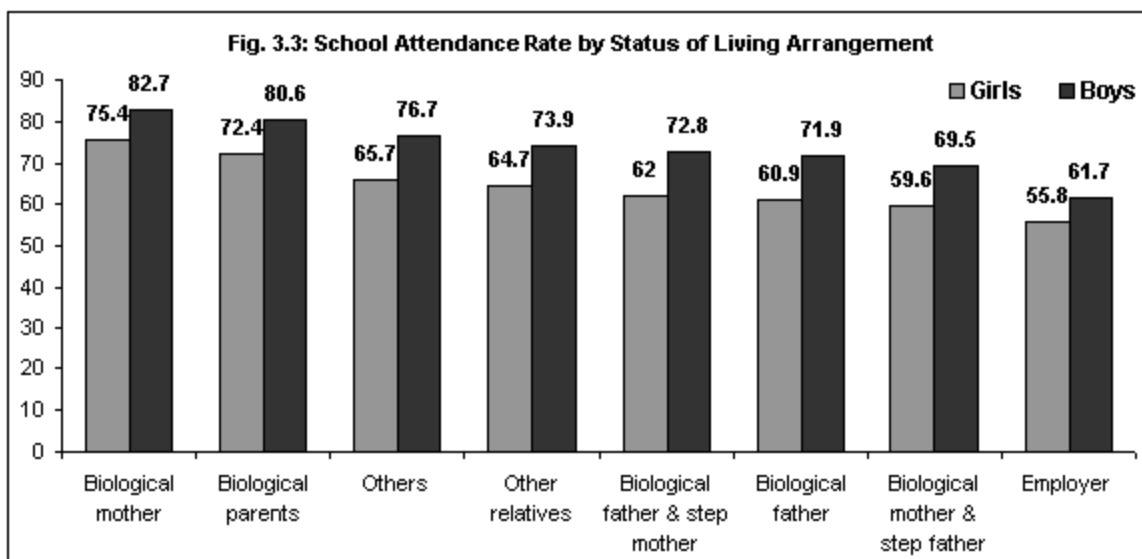


Data shows that the proportion of school going population is lower in female than in male irrespective of the sex of household head. Overall, 55.9 percent of the female populations in the reference group are currently attending school, whereas the corresponding figure for male population is 66.5 percent. This shows around 11 percentage points difference in school going population in female compared to male. It is interesting to note that individual from female-headed households are more likely to attend school than individual from male-headed households. For example, 63.4 percent of the females and 73.2 percent of the males from female-headed households are currently attending school whereas the corresponding figures in male-headed households are 54.9 percent for females and 65.6 percent for males.

### 3.3.3 School going children and their living arrangements

Data from corresponding tables present number of school going children aged 6-15 years by status of living arrangement. Here living arrangement of the children is considered as one of the explanatory variable in school attendance rate. So, attempt has been made to analyze school attendance rate by status of living arrangement of the children, which has also been disaggregated by sex of the child.

As in the previous table shows that females are less likely to attend school than males, this table further supports this fact. Data shows that whatever be the living arrangement of the children, girls are less likely to attend school than boys. Overall, 76 percent of the children are currently attending school of which 71.7 percent are girls and 80.1 percent boys.



Wide variation in school attendance rate in girls and boys is found by status of living arrangement. Children who are living only with their biological mothers stand in top position in school attendance rate than those children who are living with other members. For example, 75.4 percent of the girls and 82.7 percent of the boys living with their biological mothers are currently attending school. This is followed by school attendance rate of the children living with biological parents (72.4 percent for girls & 80.6 percent for boys). It is also interesting to note that children living with step mother & biological father have favorable condition for school attendance than children living with step father & biological

mother. The cause specific analysis for this has yet to be done in order to find out the reason behind it.

## Chapter IV

# Work and Work Burden

*- Krishna Prashad Shrestha*

### 4.1 Introduction

The concepts, definitions and classifications used by different data collecting agencies within the country as well as by different censuses and surveys within the Central Bureau of Statistics are not uniform. So the statistical information available from one source may not be strictly comparable with that from the other source. In case, if one has to do the comparative analysis, s/he must do with due precautions by putting an eye in limitations in terms of concepts, definitions and classifications. In this context, it is very important for any analyst or user to know about the concepts, definition of technical terms that are used in the statistical tables and classification scheme followed there. Hence, it is attempted to define the technical terms that are relevant to this chapter of the report in the following paragraphs. The relevant topics are:

- # Economic work (activity)
- # Extended economic work (activity)
- # Non economic work (activity)
- # Usually economically active population
- # Usually employed and unemployed population
- # Usually economically not active and inactive population

### 4.2 Concepts and definitions

**Usual Major Activity in the Last 12 Months:** The usual major activity of the population is defined as the activity performed, most of the time during the reference period. It could be both economic and non-economic activity. The various categories of usual major activity are as follows:

- Agriculture/ Own Farm- All types of agricultural activities done either in own farm or rented farm.
- Salary/ Wage- Any type of work done for salary and wages falls under this category.

- Own Business- This refers to any economic activity other than agriculture, undertaken by shouldering its profit and loss.
- Job Seeking- Looking for work and is available for work.
- Household Chores- Household cooking, cleaning, shopping, rearing and caring of infants and aged are considered as household activities.
- Student- Anybody who is attending educational institutions for learning.
- No work- Anybody performing none of the above activities at the time of enumeration.

**Economic Work (activity):** The work or economic activity of an individual is her/his participation in production of goods and services either for pay in cash or kind or without pay. Any salaried job, own business, agriculture activity, milling or other food processing, making handicrafts, construction, repair and maintenance etc are specific selected examples of economic activity.

**Extended Economic Activity:** The 1993 SNA concept has introduced in the 2001 census and the activities like the production of goods consumed within the household, collecting fuelwood and fetching water, has dragged in inside the production boundary of economic activities. These additional activities included in the traditional type of economic activities are termed as "extended" economic activity.

**Duration of work activities:** It is the sum total of time spent (in months) by an individual in all economic activities not just in main one. A day refers to the working day if a person does at least one hour of work on that day.

**Non economic work (activity):** The activities viz. cooking, cleaning, shopping, washing clothes, rearing and caring of children, sick and old persons, other minor household works which do not produce economic goods are considered as non economic work or activity.

**Usually economically active population:** A person is classified as usually active or inactive on the basis of his or her work performed over the whole year. A person is considered to be usually active if the period of time that s/he has either been working or

available for work i.e. seeking job taken together during the last 12 months is greater than or equal to six months. In other words, if the sum of the 'employed' months and the 'unemployed' months is greater than or equal to 6 months, then the person is considered as usually economically active. In 1991 census, an individual had been considered as active who did some economic work for any length of time.

**Usually employed and unemployed:** The usually economically active population can be divided into the usually employed and the usually unemployed categories, depending upon their length of the employed and the unemployed periods.

A person is considered to be usually employed if the employed period is more than unemployed period whereas a person is considered to be usually unemployed if the employed period is less than unemployed period.

#### **Labor force participation rate**

It is the rate, that measures the proportion of able bodied population aged 10 years and above which is usually economically active.

#### **Usually economically not active population.**

A person is usually not active if the period of time that s/he has either been working or been available for work ( duration of seeking job ) taken together amounted to less than 6 months in the last 12 months.

**Literacy and educational attainment:** As defined in Chapter 2

### **4.3 Major issues sought to address**

Women almost everywhere in the world, retain the primary responsibility of household maintenance work even when they have economic responsibility inside and outside the home. Situation of women in Nepal is similar as elsewhere. Men do fewer household chores

but the situation is just reverse in case of economic work activities. Considering all work paid and unpaid economic activity and unpaid non-economic activity, it is perceived that women are more burdened in terms of volume of work and time spent on work activities as compared to men. Not only the adult women, young girls are equally loaded with bulk of work as against that of boys. The situation may be more worse in case of girls who are compelled to live with people other than biological parents.

Along with the socio-economic developmental growth, the country has provided new opportunities for women and men in economic participation, production and income. Even in this new era, women still has to bear the main responsibility for home and family care. The widened production boundary as of 1993 SNA, has brought more women in productive labor force and the planners /policy makers are at ease to note the progress in participation rate of women with men. But the status of women, in real sense, have not improved even if the participation rate had increased. They are still sharing the greater burden with fewest benefits which has remained unnoticed by most concerned people.

In these very perspective, this chapter has attempted to present an overview of the 2001 census snap shots by covering the following:

- v Gender biased pattern of labor force participation rates.
- v Extent of work and work burden of women and men.
- v Deprived children and their workload.

## **4.4 Present situation highlighted in 2001 census**

### **4.4.1 Labour force participation rates**

The population of Nepal aged 10 years or above have been counted as 16.8 million of whom 9.8 million are usually economically active. In addition, 4.1 million females out of 8.4 million and 5.6 million males out of 8.3 million are economically active. The overall rate of activity is 58.2 percent. Females have a lower rate of activity (48.9 percent) than males (67.6 percent). As expected difference between the female and male activity rates is more

marked when the rates are computed by excluding the extended economic activities (39.8 percent females, 62.7 percent males), as more females enter into active category when these extended economic activity is included inside the production boundary of economic activities.

**Box 4.1 Comparative labour force participation rates (based on traditional concept)**

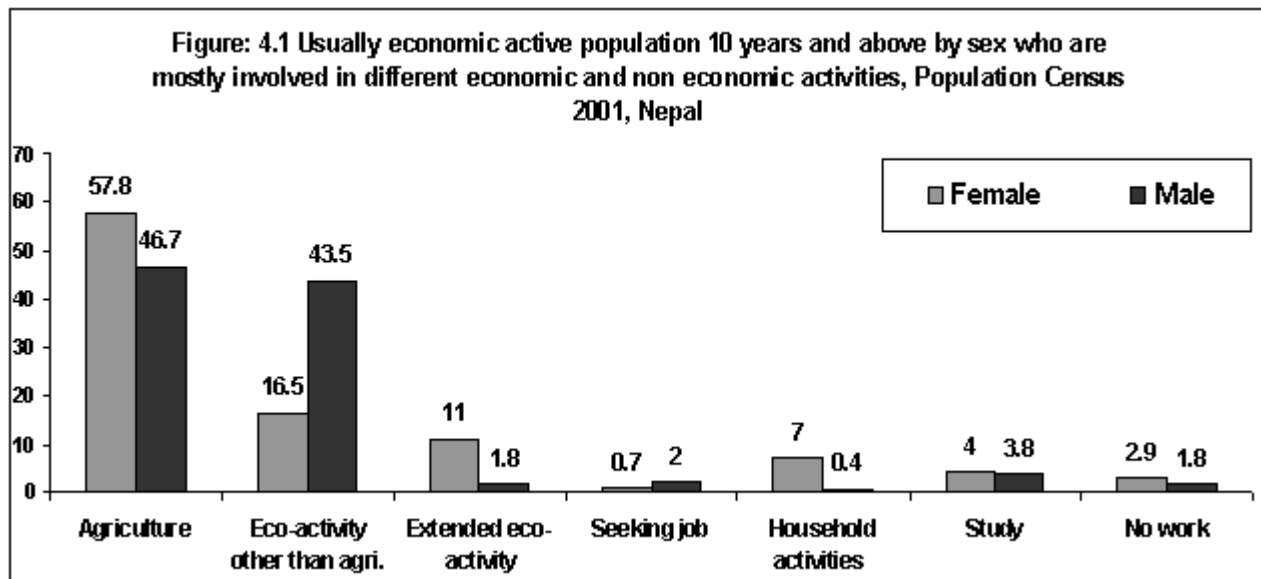
Since the 1993 SNA and ILO concept of labour force have been introduced in 2001 census, the activity rates presented in this chapter are not directly comparable with those computed from 1991 census. Nor the tables are comparable with general tables produced in national report of the census, because the general tables have been prepared by following a concept which is mixture of modern and traditional concept. However, with proper treatment in data processing the activity rates comparable with the 1991 census have been computed and are as follows:

**Labour force participation rates by sex, Nepal**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Both sexes</u>
1991	45.2	68.1	56.9
2001	43.8	63.6	53.6

Although the rates for both females and males have been found to be declined in 2001 the absolute number of usually active persons- both female and male have noticed to be more in 2001. This indicates that the rate of growth in labour market could not keep in pace with the population growth.

#### 4.4.2 Work and work burden of women and men



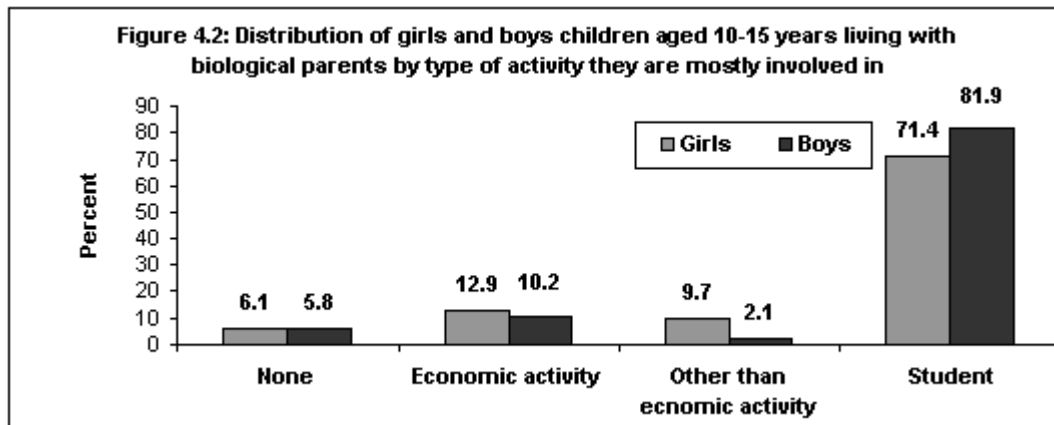
In order to be an active person, s/he must perform some economic activities. An active persons if carries out non-economic activities as well, then s/he must be over burdened. Here the tables has depicted such active persons by sex and their work burden. In reality, a huge majority of Nepalese population live below poverty line and the income or the return from one source is not enough to survive. Therefore a significant proportion of women and men perform both economic and non-economic activities. On examining carefully the usually active population aged 10 years and above, it is noticed that a sizable proportion of them has been mostly involved in non-economic activities like household maintenance work, or study work. This proportion is quite high 11.0 percent among females as against only 4.2 percent among males for household activities and study.

Instead of judging the proportions independently among females and males, if we analyze the absolute number of usually active women and men involved mostly in household activities, the situation seems to be very gloomy. It is very disgusting to note that the number of usually active women who are mostly involved in household activities is almost 14 times the number of men counterparts. Not only the adult women even the number of young girls aged 10-14 years, who are mostly involved in household activities, are almost 4 times the number of boys counterparts.

Of the total usually active women and men, who are mostly involved in economic activities, it is not surprising to note that women are concentrated more in agriculture and extended economic activity as compared to men. However, a huge majority of active men are found to be mostly involved in economic activity other than agriculture. The number of such active men is almost 4 times the number of such women.

Reviewing the proxy work burden of women and men by educational status, it is noticed that a huge majority of usually active women who are mostly involved in household activities are illiterate (71.8 percent). It indicates indirectly the fact that the illiterate but active women carrying mostly the household activities may also be carrying out the economic activities like agriculture or extended economic activity.

#### 4.4.3 Exploited girls and boys by their status of living arrangement

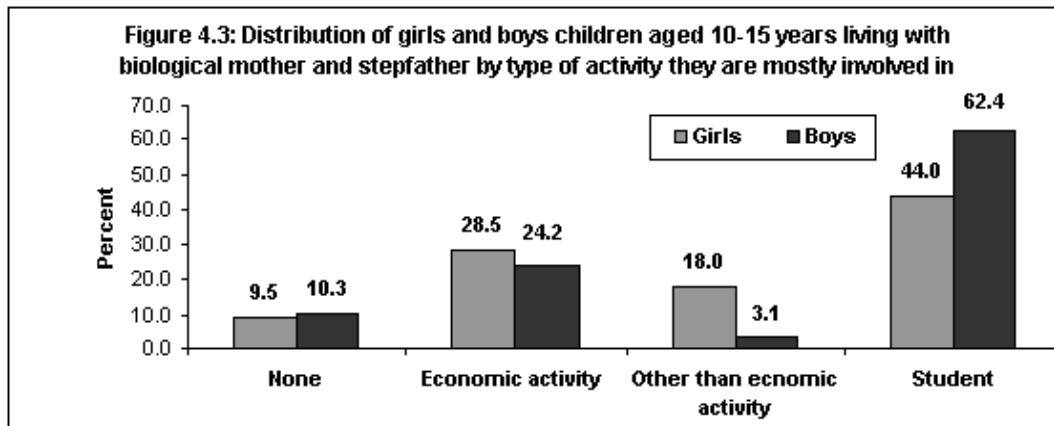


Here the table presents the number of children aged 10-15 years by type of activity they are mostly involved in and by status of living arrangements. Of the total girls in this age group, 25.3% have been found to be involved either in economic or in activity other than economic activity while the corresponding proportion for boys is only 13.9%. On contrary to this 80.0% of boys have been found in study work as against only 68.4% girls. The situation is slightly better if we look into the data of children living with biological parents.

It is generalized that the children living with their biological parents get better opportunity than those living with people other than biological parents. Data from the table 32 has depicted that 11.5% (10.2% for boys and 12.9% for girls) of children living with biological parents have been involved in economic activity and 5.7% (2.1% for boys and 7.9% for girls) in activity other than economic activity.

Quite a large proportion of children in this category 76.8% (81.9% for boys and 71.4% for girls) have been found to be involved in study work. (Fig 4.2) Above data further exaggerates that more girls are involved in economic and in non-economic activities as compared to that of boys, even though they are living with their biological parents. The situation of girls and boys living with biological mother and stepfather is more worsen (Fig. 4.3).

#### 4.4.4 Gender biased deprivation in children's work load



As it is evident from the table, young women and men aged 10 to 25 years, who are currently going to school are also burdened with economic as well as non economic activities. On examining the data, it is noticed that 79.7% (84.1% for male and 74.8% for female) of such school going population are mostly involved in study while 12.8% (12.1% for male and 13.5% for female) in different economic work activities and 4.8% (0.8% for male and 9.3% for female) in household activities. Besides, there are some females and males who are seeking job or not doing any job during the reference period. This means a sizable number of school going population aged 10-25 years, more females than males are over burdened with activities besides the study work.

It is also observed among such school going population that are involved in any activity, the highest proportion of them are involved in agriculture followed by household work, wages/ salaries and extended economic activity. Further it is found that the proportion of females in each of agriculture, household work and extended economic activities is higher as compared to their male counterparts. While the proportion of women involved in wages/salary jobs and own business are comparatively less than that of males.

## Chapter V

# **Marriage and Gender Concerns on Reproductive Status of Women**

*- Rabi Prasad Kayastha*

### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with marital and women's reproductive status. Information on marital status gives clear indication of gender difference in status of a person in the society. There are different sets of obligations, responsibilities and rights for women and men separately having with different marital status. In currently married groups, polygamous situation is comparatively found more in the case of men whereas it is not often practiced for women. Similarly, there are gender differences in the practice of remarriage. It is not easy for women in many ethnic societies in Nepal and it is often found in the case of men.

The pattern and level of fertility is a good indicator of the status of women in society. Reproductive status of women might be the cause of disruption in marital status. Very often women are suffered from marital dissolution due to failure to give birth of children of desired sex as well as infecundity situation. Cultural and religious belief prevailing in society leads to get married at earlier ages for women as compare to men. In this way, there is gender difference in the age at first marriage. Again reproductive status of women differs according to literacy status and ethnicity. Therefore, attempts are made to bring out gender differences in marital status, age at first marriage, living arrangement with spouse, remarriage and reproductive status. To address there are nine tables especially designed and these are related to this chapter. On the basis of data presented in these tables along with the prevailing socio-economic, cultural and religious practices, this chapter mainly focuses on the following gender specific issues:

- a. Extent of Polygamous situation.
- b. Gender difference in remarriage practice.
- c. Gender difference in age at first marriage.

- d. Prevalence of child marriage.
- e. Cause of marital disruption.
- f. Reproductive status of adolescent women.

## **5.2 Concepts and Definition**

The definition and classification of marital status vary from country to country in accordance with existing system of law, costumes and ritual practices. Therefore, the concepts and definitions of related terminologies should be clearly explained to understand the data interpretation of concerning topics. In order to be able to address the gender issues more specifically, the traditional categories of married population is reclassified in Population Census 2001. In this census, currently married population is further separated into three sub-categories like living with one spouse, living with more than one spouse and remarried. It is expected that these reclassification will help to trace out the true picture of gender disparity and the status of women in society. As explained in the population census 2001, definitions of some terminologies related to this chapter are the followings:

**Lower limit of age at married population:** In the country, the minimum legal age of marriage is 21 years for males and 18 years for females without consent of guardian. The age limit is low with consent of guardian such as 18 years for males and 16 years for females. However, it is expected that there is a prevalence of child marriage in the society and there is practice of marriage below those legal age limit. So, the Population Census 2001 has collected information on marital status for the population of ten years and above age.

**Age at first marriage:** It is the age at which a person starts to live in marital union i.e., as a husband or wife for the first time in his/her lifetime.

**Currently married:** It refers to those persons living as husband and wife in the community at the time of census enumeration and they have continued to do so even though living in separate places. Marriage occurs in accordance with existing social, cultural or legal practices. This includes polygamy and remarriage cases. The definition and explanation of sub-classification of currently married population in the 2001 census are:

**Living with one spouse:** Persons those are living with only single spouse at the time of census enumeration are kept in this category. Even though wife and husband are living separately with consensus and have only single spouse, they are categorized as 'living with one spouse'. Even if a person is used to have more than single spouses in the past days, but she/he is currently living with only single spouse due to divorce or separation or death of other spouses, then person is included in

this category of marital status. However, a person married again after divorce or separation or death of previous spouse/s is not included in this category though s/he is currently living with single spouse at the time of enumeration. Such person is to be included in remarriage category. For example, a widowed person marries with a never married person and living with single spouse at the time of enumeration, they will not be kept in the same category. The married widowed person is categorized in 'remarriage' and the other in 'living with one spouse' categories.

**Living with more than one spouse:** Any person living with more than one spouse at the time of census enumeration is categorized in this group of marital status. Those spouses may live in different places with consensus and all spouses are not bound to live in the same place and eating in the same kitchen. In this way, this category includes all polyandry (a woman has currently more than one husband) and polygyny (a man has currently several wives) cases at the time of census enumeration.

**Remarried:** It refers to currently married person who is married more than once and currently living with only single spouse. If divorced or separated or widowed person marries again with other person of any marital status, then the person is included in this 'remarried' category.

**Divorced/Separated:** It refers to person who has broken the marital union legally or by other means and living without a spouse at the time of census enumeration. Similarly, separated refers to a married person who has not broke the marital union but living separately with his/her husband or wife without any relation to each other.

**Ever-married person:** It refers to a person who has married once in her/his life and whatever might be her/his current marital status. So it includes all person living with single and multiple spouses, widowed, divorced and separated and remarried.

**Reproductive age of woman:** It refers to a woman's age at which she is biologically capable of becoming a mother. It is also called as childbearing age or fertile age of woman. Generally, this age ranges 15 to 49 years for the demographic analysis though women are able to bear children outside this age limit. This age range is often limited to 15 to 44 in the case of having low fertility country. However, Nepal experiences high level of fertility. So, fertility related questions were asked only to all ever-married women of reproductive age i.e. 15 to 49 years in the Population Census 2001.

**Children ever born:** It is defined as the total number of children ever born alive by an ever married woman. It includes all children those are living with mother or parents, living any other places but alive and dead children after live birth.

**Live Birth:** It is the birth taken place with sign of live.

**Literacy & educational attainment:** As described in Chapter III.

**Head of Household:** As described in Chapter I.

**Ethnicity** As described in Chapter IV.

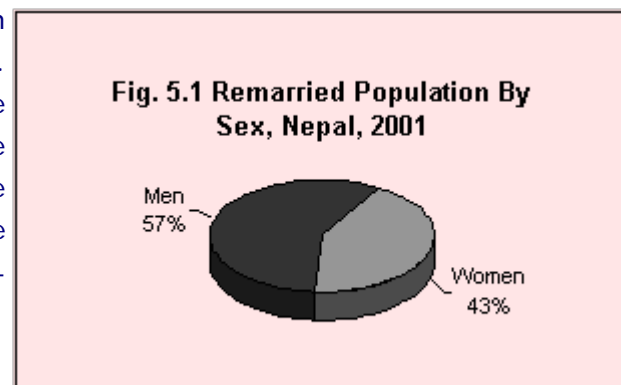
## **5.3 Issues and situation as reflected in The Census 2001**

### **5.3.1 Marital living arrangement & remarriage**

In our society, polygamy is often practiced that leads to gender disparity. The status of women is very low in polygamy and it is, obvious, that they are living in very deprived situation with hardship. Generally, polyandry (woman having more than one husband) is comparatively very less practiced and it is found in some ethnic groups that lived in northern high Himalayas. On the other hand, polygyny (man having more than one wife) is found in all ethnic groups residing in the country. Similarly, remarriage of women is not easily accepted in some ethnic groups whereas it is not taken as important event in other ethnic groups. However, remarriage of a woman is more difficult as compared to that of a man. Again, most women marry at earlier age. Though there is lower age limit for marriage fixed by law, people are still getting married at younger age, i.e., below that legal age limit. Here the table is designed to portrait these gender disparities concerning marital status prevailing in Nepalese society. This table synthesizes as to what extent of currently married population are living with single spouse or more than one spouse.

Of the total currently married men in the country, 277,478 (5.7 %) have been found to be living with more than one spouse. As consequence, the currently married women whose number should be at least 554,954, twice the number of currently married men living with more than one spouse, should be living a less dignified life as compared to other married women whose husband is living with sole spouse. The proportion of such disgusted women accounted for not less than 10 percent of the total currently married women.

The data also shows that very few women are living with more than one spouse. Polyandry is not found outside reproductive age. On the other hand, there are more polygyny cases in all age groups. There are 289 persons in polygyny even in the age group 10 -14 years. In the case of this 10 -

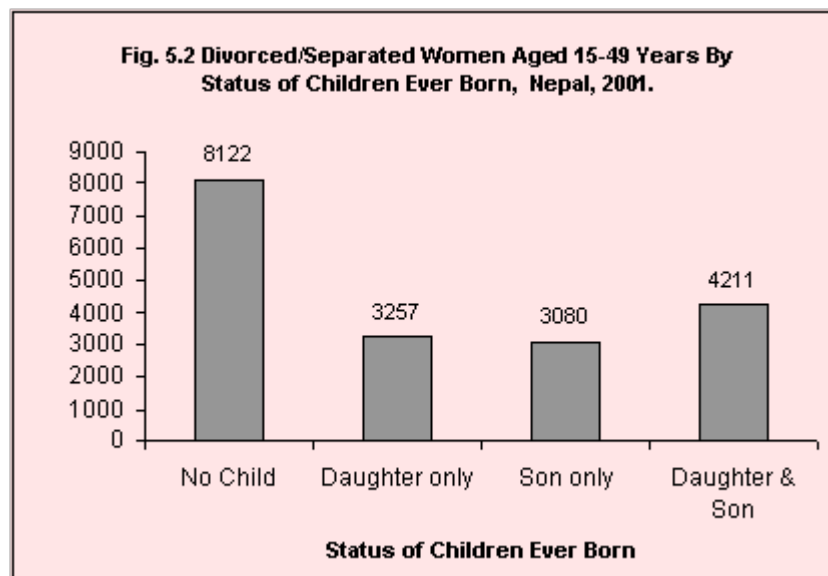


14 years age group, more female are living with single spouse compared to male and remarriage cases are also seen in the age group. It is noted that more males aged 50 and above years are living with more than one spouse in the case of Western Development Region. The number of remarried women is lower than that of man in all age groups and development regions. In the age group of 15 -49 years, the number of remarried women is found more as compared to that of man in three development regions namely Western, Mid-western and Far-western Development Regions. Again, the data presented in the table shows that more remarried men aged 50 and above years are seen in two development regions like Eastern and Western Development Regions.

### 5.3.2 Divorced/Separated women of reproductive age

In Nepalese society, woman has to perform her role as a mother and she must have at least one living son in order to get full social status. Childlessness is often regarded as curse. Religious and cultural beliefs and practices give an immense pressure on woman to give birth a son. Many women have been forced to divorce or live in separation due to inability to born a child especially son. On the other hand, many men have married another woman and living with multiple spouses only due to the infecundity of earlier wife/ wives. In other words, polygyny occurs in the case of childlessness of wife/wives. Again, similar type of situation is found in the case of women who have failed to have at least one living son. It is due to son preferred social, religious and cultural norms. This table is designed to assess the extent of such deprived of women in Nepalese society.

Among ever-married women at national level, 0.42 percent is divorced/separated. There is no any significant difference in the distribution of women of this category in different age groups. As expected, such women are found to be concentrated more in lower age group i.e., 10-14 years as well as in the higher age groups of reproductive age i.e. 45-49 years. More divorced/separated women



are concentrated in 25-44 years age group. The data presented in the table shows that 43.5 percent women who are in divorced/separated category have no child. In all age groups,

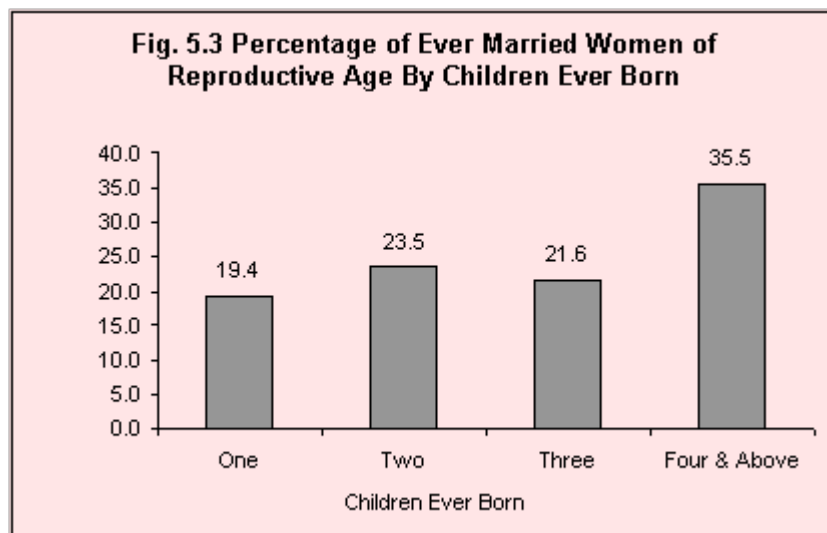
higher percent of women of this category have no child. So, it is noted that childlessness or infecundity of women might be one of the major cause of divorce and separate cases.

Again the data presented in table 14 displays that the ratio of divorced/ separated woman with all male births to that with all female births is less than one, which is the indication of reason of divorce /separation leading towards the absence of male child.

### 5.3.3 Ever married women and children ever born by sex

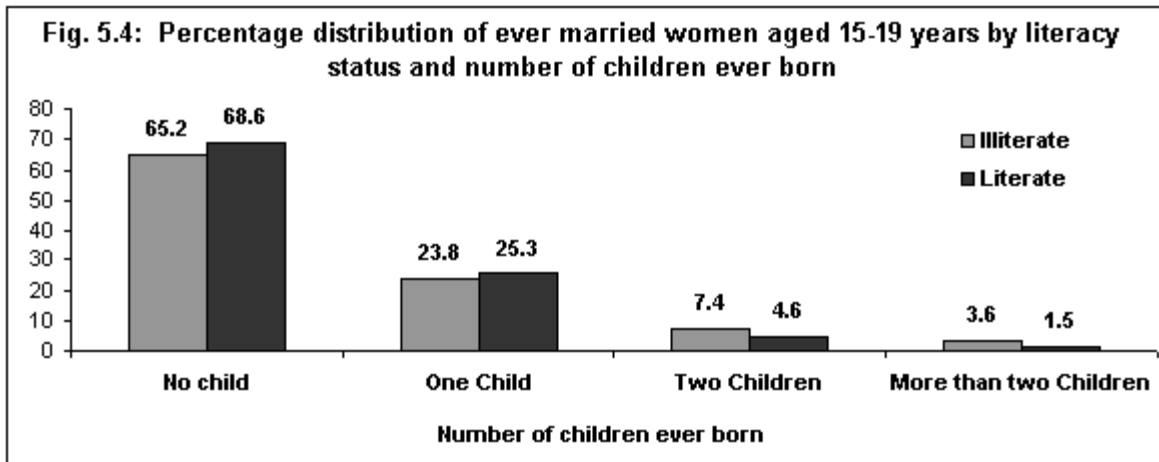
It is noted that number of children ever born is directly related with age of ever-married women. So, it is, obvious, that women in higher age group will have more number of children ever born and women in lower ages will have comparatively fewer. Again, the number of children ever born is also influenced by the sex of living child. Being son-preferred society, woman will try to get at least one living son though she has already some living daughters. More number of children ever born increases the burden to women in their daily life. So, it causes difficulties in the path of improvement of status of women in society. Women in such difficult circumstances are shown by the data presented in the table.

The data shows clearly that the proportion of ever-married women of reproductive age with four and above children is higher followed by those with two children. However, the situation is, slightly, different in the case of Far Western Development Region. In this region, the proportion of ever-married women of reproductive age increases as the number of children ever



born increases. It is noted that the sex ratio of children in those women with four and more children category is less than hundred whereas the reverse picture is seen in other categories of children ever born. This situation might support the fact that there is some sex preference of child i.e. parent prefers son. So, one can conclude that women are in more pressure to give more children births in order to have a male child.

### 5.3.4 Literacy and level of fertility of ever married adolescents



Illiterate women are married at younger age and are deprived from any better opportunity. They might born more number of children in their life span. Again, they are over burdened from the existing socio-cultural and religious practices such as activities related to sex discrimination or sex preference of children ever born and pressure to give birth at younger ages. On contrary to this, literate women of the same age group do not marry at younger age and give birth to fewer children. So education is the main factor that can reduce gender disparity.

The table shows the differences in the number of children ever born of ever-married young women aged 15 - 19 years by literacy and educational attainment. Similarly, it also shows the influence of education at the occurrence of child marriage. Teenage marriage is taken place among illiterate women. In the same way, illiterate women have higher fertility. As expected, the proportion of illiterate ever-married women aged 10 -14 years is higher than that of literate in the same age group. The fertility of ever-married women age 15 -19 years is high among illiterate. However, there is no large number of differences between literate and illiterate ever-married women of this age group in the case of two children ever born. The data shows that number of children ever born among literate women is low compare to illiterate women of the same age group. Among the ever-married literate women, it is observed that higher number of children ever born is found in the women who have passed primary level education. In the Western Development Region, the picture differs from other development regions as well as national level data. In the region, literate ever-married women of aged 15 -19 years have more number of children ever born as compare to illiterate women of the same age group.

### **5.3.5 Sex of household head and fertility of younger women**

Sex of household head may affect fertility behaviors of ever-married women as well as age at marriage of female. Generally, female related issues might be discussed more liberally in female household head compared to male headship household. In such female household headship, more attention is paid to reproductive health of ever-married women members of the family. So, it can be argued that there will be difference in number of children ever born of ever married women according to sex of household head. Such difference will be clearly visible in the case of level of fertility of teenage women. To observe such type of gender related issues, this table is designed. In the table, the data is presented on number of children ever born of young ever-married women of age 15 - 19 years by sex of household head.

About 10 percent of the total households of the country has teenager ever married woman. Among those, about 90 percent households are headed by male and only 10 percent household had female head. The data shows that there is no significant difference in teenage fertility level between sexes of household head. In other words, the percentage distribution of women by number of children ever born is almost similar in both female and male household head.

### **5.3.6 Ethnicity and fertility of teenage women**

Family and cultural norms as well as religious beliefs vary from one ethnicity to the others. So, the degree of gender disparities will also differ among various ethnic groups. Some ethnic groups of Nepal do not practice child marriage or they do not marry at younger ages whereas it is often practice in other ethnic population. Similarly, activities concerning to take care of reproductive health of female household members is, obviously, differed among various ethnic population. It is noted that women are in more pressure to have more children in the case of some ethnic groups. Ethnic difference can, also, be observed in sex preference of children ever born. In some ethnic population ever-married female will get full social status only after having a son. These ethnic variations of gender disparity can be seen in the table. This table contains the number of children ever born of ever-married young women age 15 - 19 years for different ethnic population.

Population census 2001 recorded 101 ethnic/ caste groups in the country. Among them, 28 ethnic/castes have no ever-married population of 10 - 14 years age group. So, it can be assumed that these ethnic groups do not practice child marriage. In the same way some ethnic/caste population do not have high level of teenage fertility. In 35 ethnic/caste population, ever married women of age 15 -19 years do not have more than two children ever born. However, these ethnic/castes are minor groups in the context of size of their population. Other major ethnic/caste groups of population such as Chhetri, Brahman-hill, Magar, Tharu, Tamang, Muslim, Newar, etc. have teenage fertility and it needs to analyze

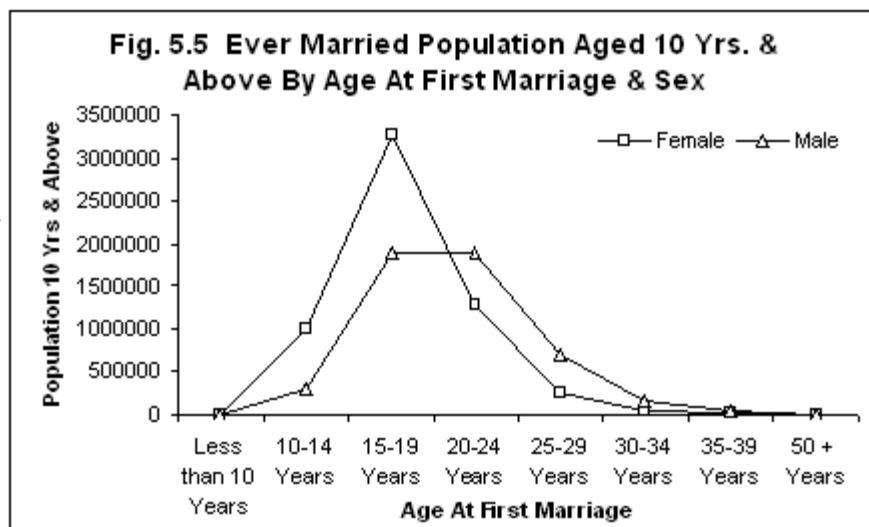
further to determine their level and ethnic differences. The data shows that teenage fertility is not seen in four ethnic/caste groups like Punjabi/Shikh, Walung, Raute and Yehlmo.

### 5.3.7 Age at first marriage of ever-married women and men

Marriage is almost universal in Nepalese society. But there is gender discrepancy in the case of marital issues. There is lower legal age limit for marriage. But most of people get married before reaching that age. Marriage occurs at younger ages for both female and male. However, most females marry at earlier ages as compared to males. Due to religious, cultural and social practices, parents want to get married their daughters at lower age and they feel relaxed after marrying of their daughters. On the other hand, parents do not worry so much about marriage of their sons. But, slight changes can be observed in the case of age at first marriage in the population. As a result, the median age at marriage for both female and male are increasing. This type of issues can be observed in the table and it is designed to address the gender disparity on age at first marriage in Nepalese society.

Table 40 shows the distribution of ever-married population by sex, age and age at first marriage. The data shows that most people get married before 25 years of age. About 47 percent of population has reported that their age at first marriage lies on the age group 15-19 years. There is clear difference between female and male about age at first marriage. Female is getting married at earlier age as compared to male. In the age group 15-19 years, 55.5 percent female get married and about 99 percent women married at the age of 29 years. Beyond the age of 30 years, very few women have married and it is less than one percent of ever-married female population. But most of male get married at the age of 35 years.

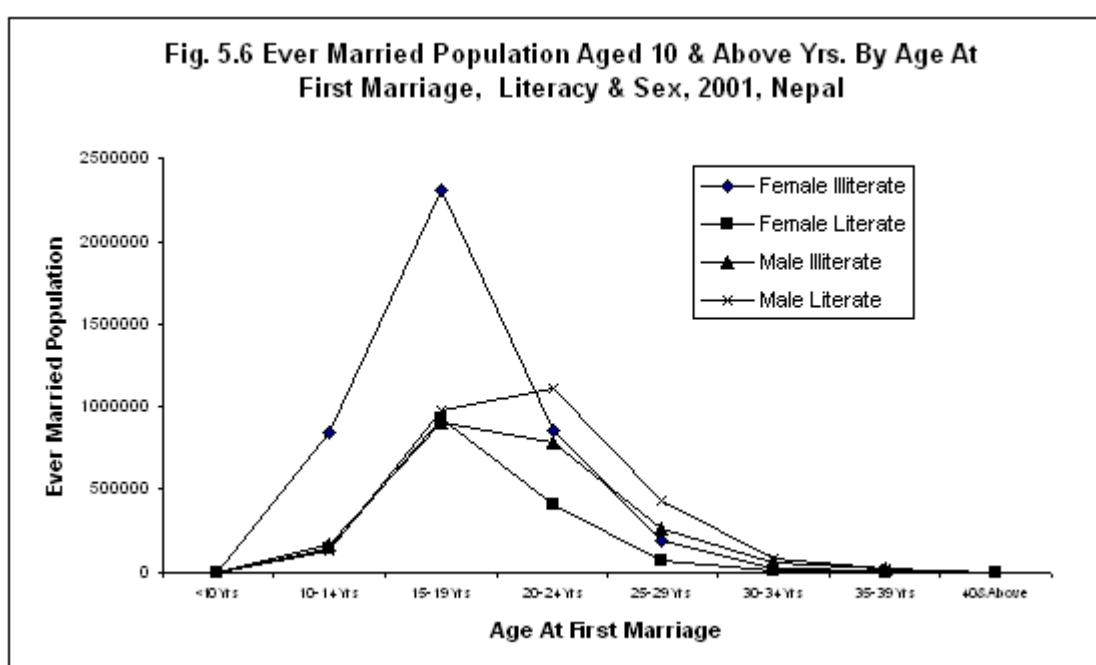
The data has clearly depicted that 1.8 percent of young girls aged 10 -14 years had already been married as against only 0.8 percent of boys of same category. The proportional gap of such girls and boys in the age group 15 - 19 years is even wider exceeding 21.1% points. The other serious issue as noticed



from the table is that quite a significant proportion 8.9 percent of ever married adolescents aged 15 - 19 years have given birth to two children or more.

### 5.3.8 Education and age at first marriage of ever-married women

In the context of Nepalese society, ever-married women get lesser opportunity to obtain further education. They also have to undertake more social and economic burden instead of getting any type of further better opportunities. On the other hand, illiterate women are married earlier compared to male in both literate and illiterate cases. Age at first marriage differs by the literacy status of individual. It is also influenced by the educational attainment. Ever married women having higher educational attainment marries at higher age and vice versa. This table is designed to focus on these types of gender issues prevailing in the country. The table provides the information on ever-married population by sex, age at first marriage, literacy status and educational attainment.



The data shows that almost women and men got married at their teenage and literate male are married at slightly higher ages compared to female counterparts. It is noted that age at first marriage of about 74 percent of ever-married illiterate women is below 20 years whereas it is about 68 percent in the case of literate women. Similarly, about 48 percent of illiterate male are married at the age of below 20 years.

### 5.3.9 Fertility and age at first marriage of ever-married women

The level of fertility is one of the important indicators of the status of women. There is inverse relation between age at first marriage of women and number of their children ever born. Marriage of woman is an exposure to become pregnant in Nepalese society. So, women who got married at earlier age have higher probability of having more children.

Higher number of children means hardship life to the respective mothers. The fertility pattern of the country indicates that women have higher fertility in the early part of childbearing age. But adolescent fertility is a major concern of maternal and child health. Teenage pregnancy causes more complications that relates to the health and survival of both mother and child. To address these issues, women's childbearing period is divided into two categories in the designing of this table. So, the table shows the number of children ever born of teenage ever-married women.

A larger number of children ever born are observed in women married for the first time at their teenage. As the age at first marriage is increased, the reported number of children ever born is found fewer. About 79 percent women who have five and more children ever born were found to be married at ages below 20 years. About 30 percent of women who married at age 15-19 years have currently ever born 3 to 4 children and about 35 percent of such women have currently ever born 1 to 2 children.

## Chapter VI

# **Gender Concern on Migration Statistics**

*- Badri Prasad Niroula*

### 6.1 Introduction

Population mobility has been one of the major factors of population change. The subject has been concern of population studies and drawn attention of demographers and population analysts over time to understand the process and consequences of population migration. In the development context, one school of thought is that there is no development without population movement. The argument behind is that people do move for opportunity and in the process they migrate from labour surplus to labour demanding areas and participate in the production of goods and services to generate income.

In this chapter attempt is made to analyze data provided by special tables designed for gender disaggregated analysis and generated from population census 2001 database. In particular, the issues as addressed in gender specific tables are examined carefully by concentrating more on:

- Mobility of women – dependent or independent
- Impact on economic activity status of adult members of household left behind by absentee living abroad
- Impact on the schooling status of children in households whose member(s) are absent and living abroad.

Although the data are available for all geographical areas of the country, analysis is confined to statistics at the national level concerning mobility of lifetime migrants and reason of their residence at the place (district) of enumeration. In order to assess the impact on the status of household members, as mentioned above, data are analyzed concerning with usual activity, performed in the last 12 months preceding the census, by population 10 years and above and schooling status of population 6 to 25 years of age, of households whose one or more member is living abroad for work and non-work. Focus of analysis is more to show any gender disparity in the mobility of population, usual activity status of adult population and status of schooling of population of specified age.

## **6.2 Concept and Definition**

### **Place of Birth:**

The unit of place of birth of a person is the district of birth for native born and the country of birth for foreign born person. Census definition of place of birth of a person is the place where his/her mother was usually residing at the time of birth. Depending on situation and facility available, birth can take place at home, health care center, and maternity hospital or at other place. For the purpose of measuring migration, place of birth of a person - is the usual place of residence of mother at the time of his/her birth.

### **Place of enumeration:**

It is the district of enumeration where a person was usually residing at the time of census enumeration. Districts can be combined to make a region and the nation.

### **Migrant:**

A migrant can be defined in many ways. For the purpose of analyzing census 2001 data, a migrant, at the district of enumeration, is a person whose place (district or country) of birth differ from place (district) of enumeration. Currently, there are 75 districts in the country. Each district could be place of birth as well as place of enumeration.

In the census, each individual is enumerated at the place of usual residence, and identified by place of birth. A person whose place (district/country) of birth differed from district of enumeration s/he is termed as **Lifetime migrant** at the district of enumeration.

### **Absent person:**

In population censuses of Nepal, an absent person is defined as - a person who is usually absent from household, at the time of census enumeration, for at least six months. The expected duration of six months is also included in the definition. That is if a person is away (absent) from the household for expected duration of more than six months but, even if, the duration of absence at the time of enumeration is less than six months, s/he is enumerated as absent person.

In previous censuses a married woman was not considered member of parents household unless she was usually living there. Therefore, reporting of married woman as an absent person from her parental household was conceptually limited. Breaking the census practice, only in the case of reporting for absent person, census 2001 insisted to ask and record if any (whether married or unmarried) daughter/sister is absent and living abroad for any reason.

### **Marriage:**

Marriage is a ceremony of any type recognized by legal, or social or cultural practices which establishes the relation of wife and husband between a woman and man and the couple lives together as wife and husband. If this is the case a couple is considered married.

In almost all culture (Hindu, Baudhdha, Islam, Jain, Kirat) practiced in Nepal, when marriage takes place or marital relation is established between a girl and a boy, woman and man, the girl leaves her parent's house and goes to her husband's house. This means, she moves from her parent's house (most likely the place of birth) to the new place, the place of groom where she is most likely to be enumerated in census. By census definition, if the new place is within the same district (the district of birth), she is not considered as migrant; but if the new place is across the district (other than the district of birth), she is considered as migrant. No doubt, the same definition is applied to the male partner, due to marriage, he need not move to a new place.

In the gender perspective, marriage is such an event, which is more likely to push a woman from her birth place (parent's house) to the place of groom, where by census definition; she could be regarded as lifetime migrant.

**Economic Activity:** As defined in chapter IV.

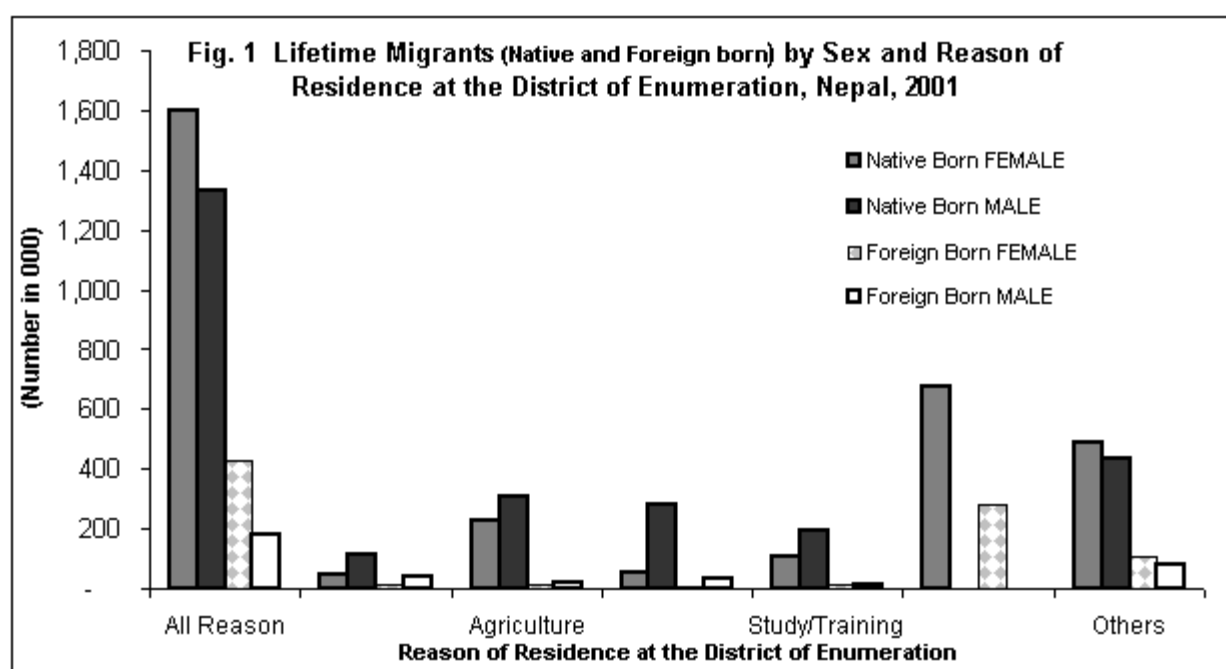
**Status of School Attendance:** As defined in chapter IV.

### **6.3 Lifetime Migration and Reported Reason of Residence**

In population census 2001 of Nepal, in total, 3.5 million people are enumerated in districts other than district/country of their birth. Among them, 2.9 million are native born (born in this country) and 0.6 million are foreign born (born in other countries). Among native, 1.6 million are females and 1.3 million are males. Resulting sex ratio of native born lifetime migrants being 83 males for each 100 female migrants. Among immigrants (foreign-born lifetime migrants), however, the sex ratio is much lower, 43 males for each 100 female immigrants (Table 1.1). It is also evident that among total lifetime migrants, more than four-fifths (82.8 %) are native born and remaining, 17.2 per cent, are foreign born. (See Annex Table 1.1)

In the census 2001, each individual in the sample household, whose place of birth was different from district of enumeration, was asked - what is the main reason of residence at the present place? Five response categories of reasons specifically mentioned are - Trade, Agriculture, Employment, Study/Training, Marriage and Other (other than stated). In the following paragraphs we would examine data on lifetime migrants classified by reported reason of residence, and attempt to see sex differentials in the composition and rural urban streams

An over view of data tabulated for gender analysis and presented in the Annex 1 and by computing simple proportion from those tables, we find among total migrants, that more than a quarter (26.9 %) which is the second largest in the distribution, reported **marriage** the reason of residence at the district of enumeration. And interestingly they all happen to be only females. There is not a single man reporting marriage as reason of residence at the district of enumeration. Among native born migrants, in the sub-group, little less than a quarter (23 %) reported **marriage** as reason of residence. Among foreign born, share reporting the same reason is double (46 %) of native born (table 1.1 and Figure 1). Among total lifetime migrants, the largest proportion or little less than one-third (31.6 % among native and 30.2 % among foreign born) have reported reason of residence in **other** (other than stated) category. Such a large share in unknown category is, however, not a desired reporting. In the composition, among rest of migrants reporting agriculture the reason of residence is about 16 per cent, 10.6 per cent reported employment.



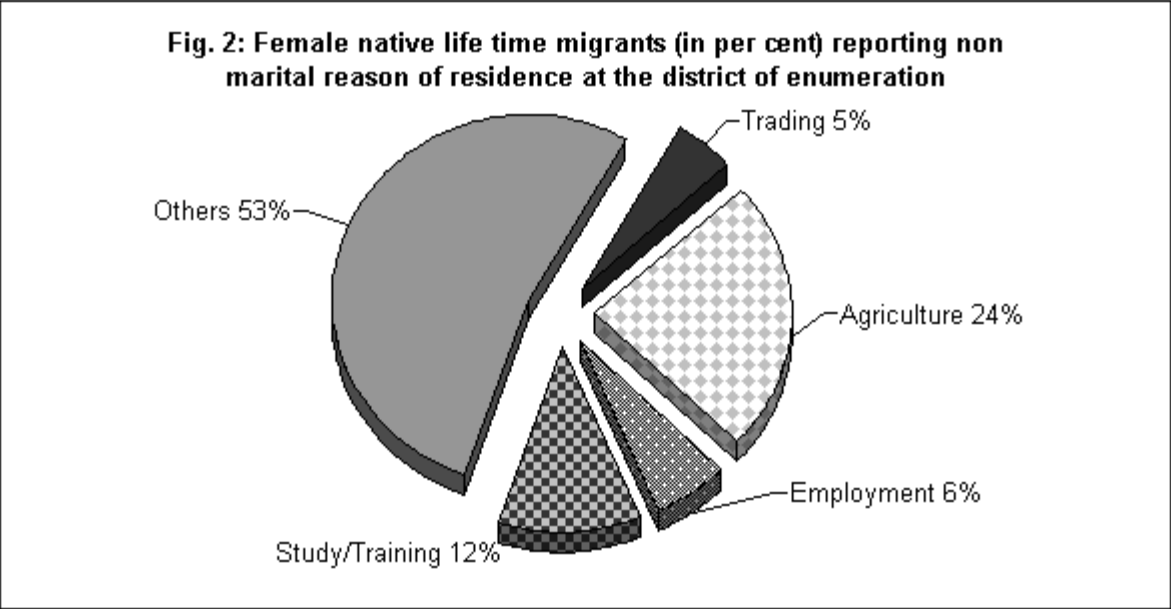
If we examine composition of each sex by reported reason of residence we find, among native born female migrants, more than two-fifths (42.1 %) reported marriage as reason of residence, the proportion in the same reason is about two-thirds (65.8 %) among foreign-born females (Table 1.2). Data indicate that large proportion of females knowingly or unknowingly reported **marriage** as reason of residence (or reason of migration) at the district of enumeration. This fact is clear at least for women born in other countries, largely from India (among foreign born population 96 % are from India, among them 71 % are females; Population census 2001) which indicate reason for coming to this country. Social, cultural similarity of people living along border areas, freedom of movement across the

international border, less competitive labour market in Nepal may have facilitated and encouraged Indian girls to marry with Nepali boys. (See Annex table 1.2)

### **6.4 Reason of Residence Other than Marriage**

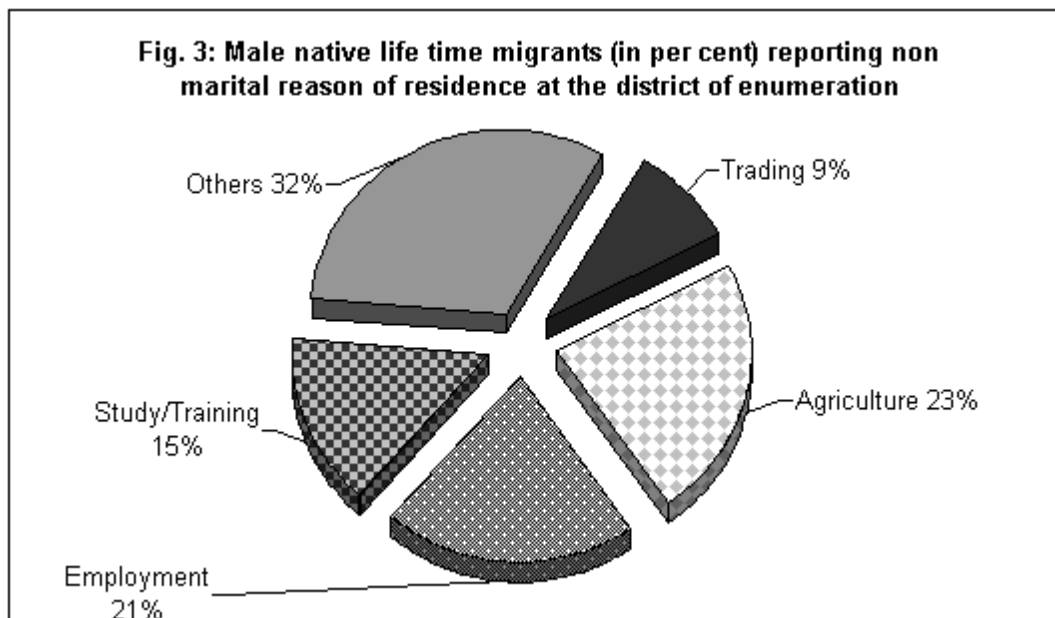
Now, because men did not appear to be reporting marriage as a reason of residence, it would be reasonable, also in gender perspective, to look at the distribution by excluding women whose reason of residence is marriage and then compare distribution of each sex for non-marital reasons only.

Considering migrants reporting non-marital reasons only, migration scenario changes from domination of women among total migrants to domination of men among migrants reporting non-marital reasons. Excess of men appear in all rural-urban streams of migration (table 1.3). The size of total lifetime migrants reduces from 3.5 to 2.6 million (1.5 million males and 1.1 million females) reporting non-marital reasons. Among them share of internal migrants is much high compared to share of international (internal 88.4 %, international 11.5 %). (See Annex table 1.3)



Among migrants reporting non-marital reason of residence, apart from other category, largest proportion (21.6 %) has reported agriculture followed by proportion in employment (14.5 %), study/training (12.8 %) and trading business (8.2 %). If we look at the distribution of reason for each sex, we find, little more females (22.1 %) than males (21.3%) reported agriculture, 13.9 per cent males and 11.2 per cent females reported study/training, 20.6 per cent males and 5.8 per cent females reported employment, and

10.3 per cent males and 5.4 per cent females reported trading, the reason of residence at the district of enumeration (Figure 2 and 3). The observed differences in proportion of population by sex and reason of residence seems reasonable in the context of traditional gender selectivity/allocation of type of job/activity. Females have mainly to perform primary activity and males prefer secondary and tertiary activities. Marginal difference in proportion of males and females reporting study/training as reason of residence indicate that females are increasingly given access to education. The pattern changes marginally if we look at the composition by migration type (internal and international).



We can also examine the distribution by sub-groups. Compared to the total, percentage among internal migrants, increases marginally in agriculture, employment and study/training and decreases in trading. While among international migrants percentage reasonably changes from internal migrant's agriculture, employment etc. to trading (15.6 %), employment (11.4 %) and then agriculture (8.8%) (table 1.3). As noted, most of international migrants are from India, the next door neighbor, they come to Nepal and largely inter into non-agricultural activities. Partly they are skilled in trading, construction work, manufacturing and services sector. It is said that they are more skilled in these areas compared to Nepalese labour, and occasionally, they also work in lower wages compared to Nepalese labour of the similar skill.

## **6.5 Reason of Residence marriage by Age**

As noted, migrants reporting marriage as reason of residence at the district of enumeration are only females. They are further classified in broad age groups, where stated age is the current age of woman. Reason of residence, marriage, is stated for 0.95 million women; among them 70.7 per cent are native and 29.3 per cent are foreign born. Age of women in this category is divided into four groups - under 10, 10 to 14, 15 to 49 and 50 years and above age. Reason of residence being marriage, it is natural that proportion under 14 years of age is negligible (0.2 %) and they should be recent migrants... Because of covering wide range of age, over four-fifths (at least 80%) are between age 15 to 49 years in all streams of migration. (See Annex table 1.4)

It is important to remember here is that these reported reasons are neither push nor the pull factors. Because, these reasons neither represent reason of move from the origin nor they represent reason of attraction at the destination. These reasons are more likely, the representation of current situation what they, lifetime migrants, are doing. Because, these reported reasons are reasons of residence at the place of enumeration, do not appear in the process of migration.

## **6.6 Direction of Flow (Rural-urban)**

In the developing world where population growth is usually high in rural than in urban areas, there is high pressure of population growth and increasing unemployment in rural areas. People do move in search of job/employment and other opportunities from rural to urban areas.

To examine direction of movement of lifetime migrants, census output tables are generated to reveal movement in four directions, namely - Rural to Rural, Rural to Urban, Urban to Rural and Urban to Urban areas. In this setting, it is worthwhile to look at sex differentials by reported reasons across various streams of migration.

Among internal migrants, major movement is seen across rural to urban and rural to rural areas. Census result reveals that among 2.9 million native lifetime migrants, more than half (55.2 %) moved from rural to urban and little less than two-fifths (38.5%) moved from rural to rural areas but across district of the country. All village development committee are designated rural and all nagarpalikas are urban.

Among female lifetime internal migrants about half migrated from rural to urban areas, more than two-fifths (43 %) migrated from rural to rural areas. Similarly, among men, about three-fifths (61.1 %) migrated from rural to urban and one third from rural to rural

areas. As the data reveals, urban - urban and urban-rural migration in Nepal is relatively at minimum scale (table 1.5). Whether they are males or females, mostly reporting reason of residence as employment, study/training or trading business moved from rural to urban areas and they constitute larger proportion in each stream of move. Where as most of females and males reporting reason of residence agriculture, migrated from rural to rural areas. (See Annex table 1.5)

Sex differentials of lifetime migrants are shown in Table 1.6 by excluding those who moved due to marriage. We can see that more than half among females and more than one-third among males, (except in R-R) have reported in other category. Apart from this reporting, among native, more than two-fifths of males (44.7 %) and females (41.9 %) in the rural-rural stream reported agriculture the reason of residence. In rural-urban stream, larger proportion of females reported agriculture (14.3 %) and study/training (13.6 %); similarly, 26.2 and 17.8 per cent males reported employment and study/training respectively in the same stream (table 1.6).

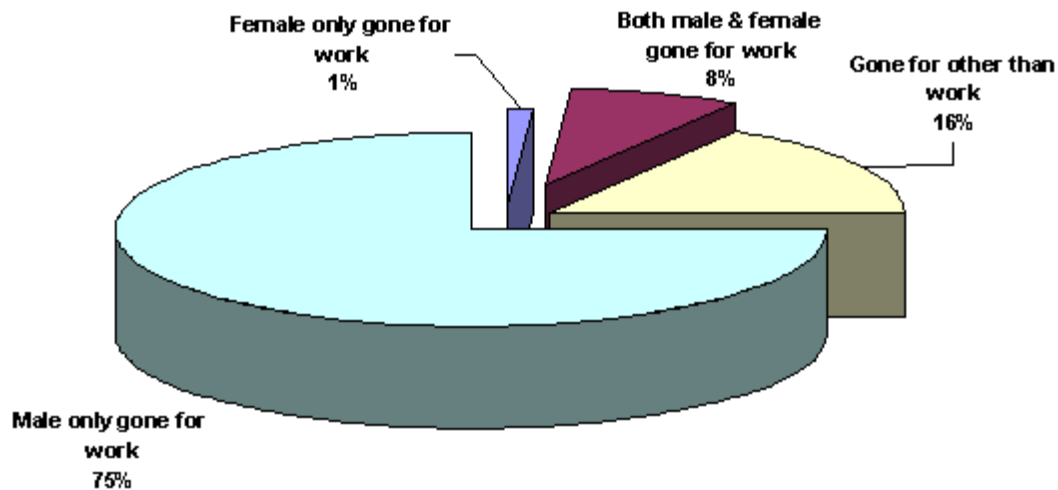
Among international lifetime migrants (foreign population), reporting non-marital reason at the district of enumeration, about three-fifths are enumerated in urban and two-fifths are in rural areas of Nepal (Table 1.5). Among them, over 70 per cent females and 40 per cent males reported reason of residence in **other** category (table 1.6). Among males living in urban areas mostly reported trading (27%) and employment (20%) as reason of residence; while those living in rural areas mostly reported agriculture. Among females, living in rural areas 15 per cent reported agriculture, who reported other reasons are less than 10 per cent.

Now, we will examine some characteristics of Population of Households with one or more member gone abroad by work Status of absent person.

Examination of size of migrants by sex and differentials of characteristics could be of prime interest in migration study to understand demographic, social and economic impact both at the origin and destination. In this analysis, attempt has been made to look at any difference in given characteristics of population of households by work status of absent person. It is expected that those gone for work would bring ideas/new vision, remittance to households and relatives at the origin and they will have a better living compared to population of households gone for non-work. In this context, two types of information available from the census are considered of interest in gender perspective. One, being the economic activity of person 10 years of age and over and the second, current status of schooling of persons 6 to 25 years of age of households from which one or more member is living abroad by sex and work status of absent person.

Analysis in the following paragraphs is concerned with the population at the origin of the households with one or more member gone abroad categorized by some characteristics of absent person.

**Fig 4. Percent of households by type, status of work and sex of absent person**



Households of absentee are grouped in the following four categories -

1. only male gone abroad for work
2. only female gone abroad for work
3. both females and males gone abroad for work
4. anyone gone abroad for other than work

We would examine whether the census data reveals any differentials in characteristics of population of these classified households.

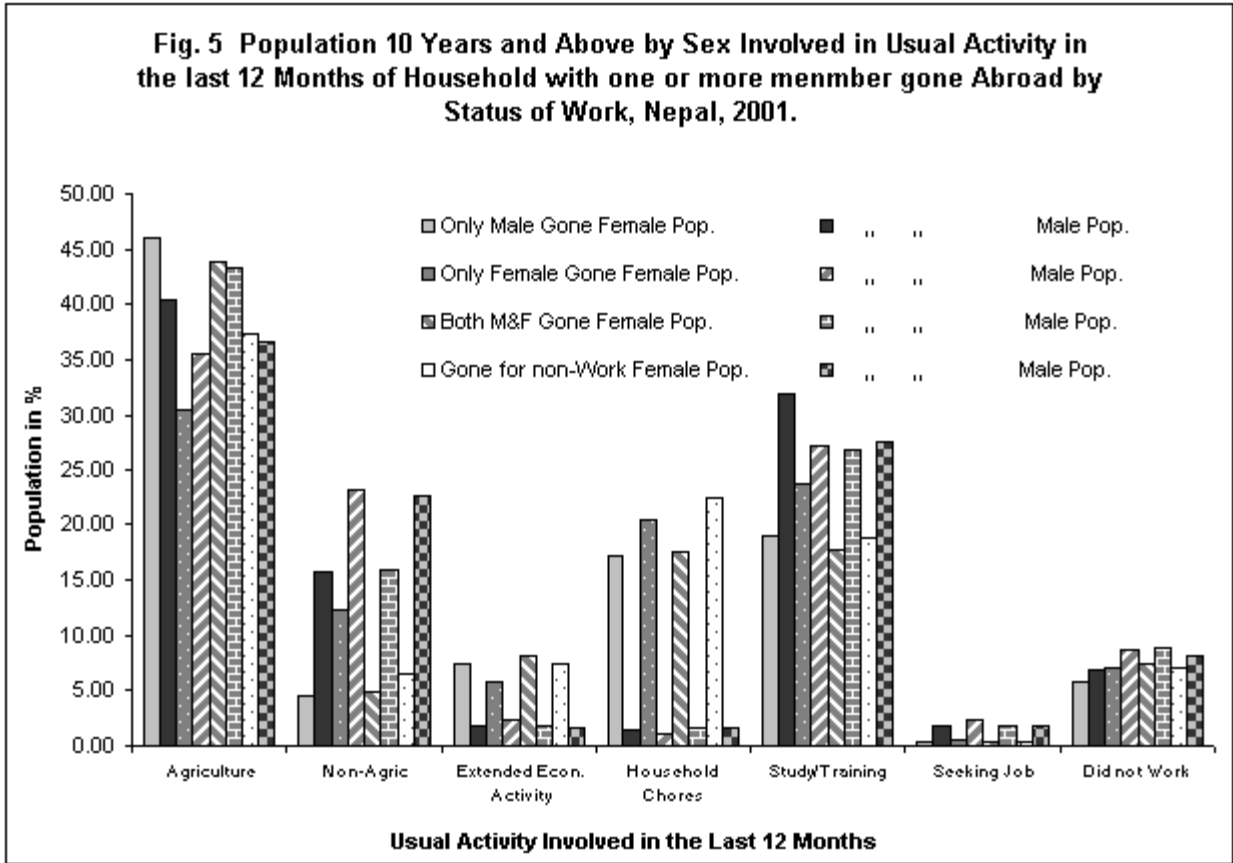
Among 4.17 million households enumerated in the census 2001, at least one member absent and destination abroad was listed from 0.57 million (13.7% of total enumerated households) households of the country. Total person absent being 0.76 million (89 % males and 11 % females) comes out to be 3.4 per cent of the resident population.

As stated, 0.57 million households of Nepal send one or more member abroad. Out of these, 478.5 thousand households (84 % of total) send one or more member abroad for work.

Further, in this work status composition of absentee, census data reveal that about three-fourths (75 %) of households send only male person for work. Eight per cent send both female and male, less than one per cent sends only females for work abroad. In this dichotomy, we can see that 16 per cent household send one or more member abroad but reason other than work (Annex 2 and Figure 4)

We would further examine sex composition in each category of absent person and each sex engaged in type of usual activity in the reference period of last 12 months. It is observed that among population 10 years and above doing any activity, females are more than half in each work status of absent person. However, sex composition (percentage of each sex) changes marginally from one category of absentee to another. For example - in households where only male are absent females involved in any activity constitute 57.8 per cent but in households where only females are absent, they (female) constitute 51.9 percent in the same activity. In households from which absentee are gone for other than work, females constitute 54 per cent (table 1.7).

It seems natural that where women themselves are absent proportion of women in the resident population is likely to be lower, except otherwise, compared to proportion of women in households where only men are absent (table 1.7). If we look at the sex composition of population of households by category of absentee for a particular activity, in table 1.7, say in non-agricultural economic activity, percentage of female's ranges from 25.5, 27.8, 28.3 to 36.5 and corresponding percentages of males are 74.5, 72.2, 71.7 to 63.5. Involvement of males and females in some of reported usual activity is very distinct. For example – in table 1.7 we can see marked difference in sex composition in Extended Economic Activity and Household activity/chores. In household chores females are above 92 per cent and in extended economic activity they are above 73 per cent, irrespective of households of work status and sex of absent person.



But if we look at the population composition of each sex by type of usual activity performed in the last 12 months, of households by category of absentee, we can see marked difference in composition for each sex and less variation by work status of absent person. And variation in sex composition is found in expected direction (table 1.8). For example - whether women or men of households of any category of absentee, majority were involved in agricultural activity, this may be true because occupation of larger proportion of population of Nepal is Agriculture. The next usual activity where majority of women and men were involved is study/training for any type of household. Most probably, they are children and adults of age 10 years and above. The third majority of males are mostly in non-agricultural economic activity but females majority is mostly in household chores where participation of males is relatively low (Figure 1.5).

However, the percentage composition changes, for any sex, from one type of usual activity to another, the pattern of change is almost similar for all type of activity and sex of population of absentees households (table 1.8). For example - majority (46 %) of female's, of the households with **only male gone abroad**, usual activity was agricultural work, followed by study/training of 18.9 per cent and household chores of 17.1 per cent. Similarly, of those households from which **only females were abroad**, majority (30.5 %) of female's

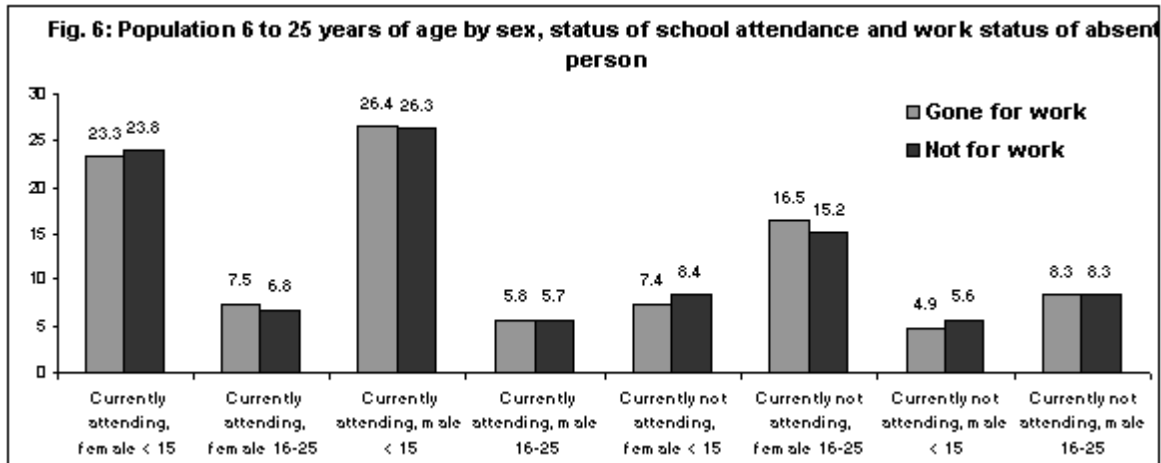
usual activity was again agricultural work, followed by study/training of 23.6 per cent and household chores of 20.3 per cent.

If there is no gender preference/selectivity in doing work, one would expect similar participation in any activity by population of each sex of the households of absentee. That means, sex composition of about fifty-fifty or proportional share of each sex closer to each other should prevail. Unfortunately, data do not exhibit the situation. The marginal difference observed in sex composition in a particular activity may be due to beginning of social change or due to sampling fluctuation of responses.

Further, if there is some influence of absentee in activities of population at the origin, there should be visual distinction in sex composition and usual activity. As stated, data does not reveal any clear distinction. General pattern of sex composition in all given activity is similar for all category of households of absent person. More female's usual activity is primary type of work, apart from study/training, such as agricultural work, extended economic activity and household duties; where as male's usual activity are agricultural work, study/training and non-agricultural economic activity. However, some differences are worth noting. For instance – population of households from where only male are gone abroad, proportion of females is relatively higher in agricultural work and extended economic activity; where only females are absent proportion of females in those activity is relatively low. However, there is not much difference between work and other than work category.

### **6.7 Status of school attendance**

In the following paragraphs, attempt has been made to analyze population 6 to 25 years of age by sex who has not completed 10 th grade of schooling, from household with one or more member gone abroad by status of work. Expectation is that absentees, who are gone for work, may have induced changes in schooling behavior of population at the origin and thereby data may reveal some differences in the status of school attendance. (See Annex table 1.9)



We can see, in the table 1.9, excess of females in population of the age group. In the household, females of the age group, constitute more than half (55 %) and males are 45 per cent irrespective of households by work status of absent person. In total of 55 per cent of females, 31 per cent were attending and 24 per cent were not attending school. In case of males, 32 per cent were attending and 13 per cent were not attending school. To look at the school attending condition, among females under 16 years of age, data clearly exhibit that about three out of four (75 %) girls are currently attending school. Similarly among boys of the same age, more than 80 per cent are currently attending school irrespective of status of work of absent person. Relatively less number of persons attends school as the age advances or beyond school age. For instance - among females 16 to 25 years of age only 31 per cent currently attending corresponding to 69 per cent not currently attending. The same rule applied to male population as well, but the per cent attending is more than that of females. This is also true whether absentee is gone for work or not.

However, proportion of school attendance of younger age is relatively high (over three - fourths attending school), status of school attendance of girls and boys does not seem determined by work status of absentee. Narrow difference (about 75 % girls, 84 % boys under age 16 attending school) among boys and girls may be due to changing traditional attitude of society towards value of girls and boys to provide equal opportunity for education or social attitude viewing status of girl and boy, in general, may be changing. Parents and brothers allow / insist their daughters/sisters to go to school and hence, reduce gender bias.

## Annex

**Table 1.1: Population Whose Birthplace is Different from District of Enumeration by Sex and Reason of Residence at the District of Enumeration, Nepal, 2001.**

SEX	Reason of Residence	Total Moved Population	Population in %	
			District within the Country	Other Countries
Female	All Reason	57.2	54.6	69.9
	Trading	1.6	1.6	1.7
	Agriculture	6.7	7.7	1.9
	Employment	1.7	1.9	1.0
	Study/Training	3.4	3.7	2.0
	Marriage	26.9	23.0	46.0
	Others	16.8	16.7	17.3
Male	All Reason	42.8	45.4	30.1
	Trading	4.4	3.9	6.7
	Agriculture	9.1	10.4	2.9
	Employment	8.8	9.6	5.2
	Study/Training	5.9	6.7	2.4
	Others	14.5	14.9	12.9
Both Sexes	All Reason	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Trading	6.0	5.5	8.4
	Agriculture	15.8	18.1	4.8
	Employment	10.6	11.5	6.1
	Study/Training	9.3	10.3	4.5
	Marriage	26.9	23.0	46.0
	Others	31.3	31.6	30.2

**Table 1.2: Population Whose Birthplace is Different from District of Enumeration by Sex and Reason of Residence at the District of Enumeration, Nepal, 2001.**

SEX	Reason of Residence	Total Population	Population in %	
			District within the Country	Other Countries
Female	All Reason	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Trading	2.87	2.97	2.49
	Agriculture	11.71	14.12	2.66
	Employment	3.05	3.49	1.40
	Study/Training	5.92	6.72	2.92
	Marriage	47.10	42.13	65.79
	Others	29.35	30.58	24.74
Male	All Reason	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Trading	10.26	8.61	22.24

	Agriculture	21.25	22.84	9.66
	Employment	20.65	21.13	17.12
	Study/Training	13.89	14.69	8.06
	Others	33.96	32.72	42.91
Both Sexes	All Reason	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Trading	6.03	5.53	8.43
	Agriculture	15.79	18.08	4.77
	Employment	10.58	11.50	6.13
	Study/Training	9.33	10.34	4.47
	Marriage	26.95	22.99	45.99
	Others	31.32	31.55	30.21
Both Sexes	All Reason (N)	3,537,155	2,929,064	608,092

Table 1.3: Population Whose Birthplace is Different from District of Enumeration by Sex and Reason (Other than Marriage) of Residence at the District of Enumeration, Nepal, 2001.

(Population in %)

SEX	Reason of Residence	All Moved Population	Moved from Other Districts					Moved from Other Countries		
			Total	Rural to rural	Rural to Urban	Urban to Rural	Urban to Urban	Total	To Rural	To Urban
Female	All Reason	41.43	41.02	44.46	39.01	43.86	39.88	44.27	48.51	42.21
	Trading	2.24	2.10	1.77	2.27	2.80	2.36	3.22	2.45	3.59
	Agriculture	9.17	10.01	18.62	5.59	9.46	1.32	3.45	7.29	1.57
	Employment	2.39	2.47	1.30	3.05	2.52	3.92	1.82	1.22	2.11
	Study/Training	4.64	4.76	3.34	5.32	6.16	7.98	3.78	3.57	3.88
	Others	22.99	21.68	19.43	22.78	22.91	24.30	32.02	33.98	31.06
Male	All Reason	58.57	58.98	55.54	60.98	56.14	60.12	55.73	51.49	57.79
	Trading	6.01	5.08	3.06	6.05	5.43	7.89	12.39	5.87	15.57
	Agriculture	12.44	13.47	24.84	7.64	12.45	2.00	5.39	11.59	2.36
	Employment	12.09	12.46	5.84	16.01	11.31	17.67	9.54	4.93	11.79
	Study/Training	8.14	8.67	4.59	10.83	6.37	12.43	4.49	3.95	4.76
	Others	19.89	19.30	17.22	20.45	20.57	20.13	23.91	25.15	23.31
Both Sexes	All Reason	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Trading	8.25	7.18	4.83	8.31	8.23	10.24	15.61	8.33	19.16
	Agriculture	21.62	23.48	43.46	13.24	21.92	3.32	8.83	18.88	3.94
	Employment	14.48	14.94	7.14	19.07	13.83	21.59	11.36	6.15	13.90
	Study/Training	12.77	13.43	7.93	16.16	12.53	20.41	8.27	7.52	8.64
	Others	42.88	40.98	36.65	43.23	43.49	44.43	55.93	59.13	54.37
Both	All Reason (N)	2584057	2255600	792011	1332060	25037	106492	328459	107611	220848

Sexes									
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Table 1.4 : Female Population Whose Birth Place (rural-urban in District) is Different from Place of Enumeration (rural-urban in District) by Age Groups, Marital Reason of Residence at the District of Enumeration, Nepal, 2001

population in %

AGE GROUP	All Moved Population	Moved from Other Districts				Moved from Other Countries	
		Rural to Rural	Rural to Urban	Urban to Rural	Urban to Urban	To Rural	To Urban
ALL AGES	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
UNDER 10	0.08	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.03	0.05
10-14	0.19	0.23	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.30	0.21
15-49	81.66	80.46	84.48	86.18	82.44	77.35	82.47
50 +	18.07	19.23	15.30	13.60	17.32	22.31	17.27

Table 1.5 : Population Whose Birth Place (rural-urban in District) is Different from Place of Enumeration (rural-urban in District) by Sex, Reason of Residence at the District (rural-urban) of Enumeration, Nepal, 2001

(Population in %)

SEX	Reason of Residence	Moved from Other Districts					Moved from Other Countries		
		Total	Rural to Rural	Rural to Urban	Urban to Rural	Urban to Urban	Total	To Rural	To Urban
Female	All Reason	100.0	43.0	50.3	1.5	5.2	100.0	45.2	54.8
	Trading	100.0	29.6	63.7	1.5	5.3	100.0	25.0	75.0
	Agriculture	100.0	65.3	33.0	1.0	0.6	100.0	69.3	30.7
	Employment	100.0	18.4	73.0	1.1	7.5	100.0	22.0	78.0
	Study/Training	100.0	24.6	66.0	1.4	7.9	100.0	30.9	69.1
	Marriage	100.0	49.8	42.3	1.8	6.1	100.0	50.1	49.9
	Others	100.0	31.5	62.1	1.2	5.3	100.0	34.8	65.2
Male	All Reason	100.0	33.1	61.1	1.1	4.8	100.0	30.3	69.7
	Trading	100.0	21.2	70.3	1.2	7.3	100.0	15.5	84.5
	Agriculture	100.0	64.8	33.5	1.0	0.7	100.0	70.5	29.5
	Employment	100.0	16.4	75.9	1.0	6.7	100.0	16.9	83.1
	Study/Training	100.0	18.6	73.8	0.8	6.8	100.0	28.8	71.2
	Others	100.0	31.3	62.6	1.2	4.9	100.0	34.5	65.5
Both Sexes	All Reason	100.0	38.5	55.2	1.3	5.0	100.0	40.7	59.3
	Trading	100.0	23.6	68.4	1.3	6.7	100.0	17.5	82.5
	Agriculture	100.0	65.0	33.3	1.0	0.7	100.0	70.0	30.0
	Employment	100.0	16.8	75.4	1.0	6.8	100.0	17.7	82.3
	Study/Training	100.0	20.7	71.1	1.0	7.2	100.0	29.8	70.2
	Marriage	100.0	49.8	42.3	1.8	6.1	100.0	50.1	49.9
	Others	100.0	31.4	62.3	1.1	5.12	100.0	34.64	65.36

Table 1.6 : Population Whose Birth Place (rural-urban in District) is Different from Place of Enumeration (rural-urban in District) by Sex, Reason of Residence (other than Marriage) at the District of Enumeration, Nepal, 2001

(Population in %)

SEX	Reason of residence	All Moved Population	Moved from Other Districts					Moved from Other Countries		
			Total	Rural to Rural	Rural to Urban	Urban to Rural	Urban to Urban	Total	To Rural	To Urban
Female	All Reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Trading	5.4	5.1	4.0	5.8	6.4	5.9	7.3	5.1	8.5
	Agriculture	22.1	24.4	41.9	14.3	21.6	3.3	7.8	15.0	3.7
	Employment	5.8	6.0	2.9	7.8	5.7	9.8	4.1	2.5	5.0
	Study/Training	11.2	11.6	7.5	13.6	14.1	20.0	8.5	7.4	9.2
	Others	55.5	52.8	43.7	58.4	52.2	60.9	72.3	70.1	73.6
Male	All Reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Trading	10.3	8.6	5.5	9.9	9.7	13.1	22.2	11.4	26.9
	Agriculture	21.2	22.8	44.7	12.5	22.2	3.3	9.7	22.5	4.1
	Employment	20.6	21.1	10.5	26.3	20.1	29.4	17.1	9.6	20.4
	Study/Training	13.9	14.7	8.3	17.8	11.4	20.7	8.1	7.7	8.2
	Others	34.0	32.7	31.0	33.5	36.6	33.5	42.9	48.8	40.3
Both Sexes	All Reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Trading	8.3	7.2	4.8	8.3	8.2	10.2	15.6	8.3	19.2
	Agriculture	21.6	23.5	43.5	13.2	21.9	3.3	8.8	18.9	3.9
	Employment	14.5	14.9	7.1	19.1	13.8	21.6	11.4	6.1	13.9
	Study/Training	12.8	13.4	7.9	16.2	12.5	20.4	8.3	7.5	8.6
	Others	42.9	41.0	36.6	43.2	43.5	44.4	55.9	59.1	54.4

Table 1.7 : Population Age 10 Years and Above, from Households with one or more Members gone Abroad by Status of Work of Absent Person, by Sex and Type of Usual Activity, Nepal, 2001

(Population %)

	Sex	Population Involved in							
		Any Activity	Agriculture	Non-Agricultural Economic Activity	Extended Economic Activity	Household Activity	Study/Training	Seeking Job	Did not Work
<b>Gone for Work</b>	Female	57.82	60.99	28.31	84.72	94.27	44.75	18.79	53.63
Male Only	Male	42.18	39.01	71.69	15.28	5.73	55.25	81.21	46.37
	Both Sexes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Female Only	Female	51.89	48.08	36.50	73.12	94.97	48.40	21.01	46.90
	Male	48.11	51.92	63.50	26.88	4.98	51.60	78.99	53.10
	Both Sexes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Male and Female	Female	55.26	55.56	27.79	84.14	92.87	45.07	21.11	51.22

Both	Male	44.74	44.44	72.21	15.87	7.13	54.93	78.89	48.78
	Both Sexes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<u>Other than Work</u>	Female	54.11	54.56	25.54	83.87	94.42	44.69	19.02	50.21
	Male	45.89	45.44	74.46	16.13	5.58	55.31	80.98	49.79
	Both Sexes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 1.8 : Population Age 10 Years and Above, from Households with one or more Members gone Abroad by Status of Work of Absent Person, by Sex and Type of Usual Activity, Nepal, 2001

(Number and Per cent)

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS	SEX	Population Involved in							
		Any Activity, %	Agriculture	Non-Agricultural Economic Activity	Extended Economic Activity	Household Activity	Study/Training	Seeking Job	Did not Work
Gone for Work Male Only	Female	100.00	46.04	4.54	7.32	17.09	18.87	0.30	5.83
	Male	100.00	40.36	15.77	1.81	1.42	31.92	1.80	6.91
	Both Sexes	100.00	43.65	9.28	5.00	10.48	24.38	0.94	6.29
Female Only	Female	100.00	30.52	12.27	5.74	20.31	23.57	0.57	7.03
	Male	100.00	35.55	23.02	2.28	1.15	27.11	2.31	8.58
	Both Sexes	100.00	32.94	17.44	4.07	11.10	25.27	1.41	7.77
Male and Female Both	Female	100.00	43.80	4.94	8.09	17.57	17.76	0.40	7.45
	Male	100.00	43.26	15.84	1.88	1.67	26.73	1.86	8.76
	Both Sexes	100.00	43.56	9.81	5.31	10.46	21.77	1.05	8.04
Other than Work	Female	100.00	37.33	6.55	7.46	22.46	18.84	0.37	6.99
	Male	100.00	36.66	22.53	1.69	1.57	27.50	1.87	8.18
	Both Sexes	100.00	37.02	13.89	4.81	12.87	22.81	1.06	7.54

Table 1.9: Population 6 to 25 years of Age who have not Completed 10th grade from Households with One or More Member gone Abroad by Sex, Age and Status of School Attendance, Nepal 2001.

(Population in %)

Status of Work	Population			Per cent	Attending School				Not Attending School			
	Total Number	Female	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male	
					<15	16to25	<15	16to25	<15	16to25	<15	16to25
For Work	1030262	54.7	45.3	100	23.3	7.5	26.4	5.8	7.4	16.5	4.9	8.3
Other than Work	177644	54.2	45.8	100	23.8	6.8	26.3	5.7	8.4	15.2	5.6	8.3