

Patterns and trends of internal migration among females in South Africa: Analyses from 2001 and 2011 Censuses.

Maatla Dave Temane¹, Langutani Nesco Miyambu² & Tshediso Vodka Barwe¹

¹Centre for Health Policy & DST/NRF SARChI, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

²Health Science, School of Clinical Medicine, Department of Paediatrics. Sexual Reproductive Health and rights Research Focus Area, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

M. D. Temane

(davetemane.dt@gmail.com)

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-2888-6056

LN. Miyambu

(Langunesco@gmail.com)

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-8897-4330

T. V. Barwe

(barwetshidiso@gmail.com)

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-8115-5527

Abstract

Background: Migration is a demographic determinant which contribute to general population change in South Africa although it has been viewed through a man`s lens (Palamuleni, 2019:225). A contemporary study conducted by Crush and Peberdy (2018) articulated that there has been a shift in the migration patterns in South Africa as the majority of females were becoming more migratory than before. Therefore, it can be generally sustained that migration pattern is influenced by multiple causations as the Lee theory of push and pull factor has emphasised that people migrate for innumerable motives (searching for decent jobs and a better standard of living). Nonetheless, the primary aim of this study is to study the patterns and trends of internal migration among females in South Africa from 2001 to 2011 (Kanayo *et al*, 2019).

Methods: The study utilized data obtained from the 2001 and 2011 Census 10% sample. Three methods of analysis were utilized including univariate, bivariate, and binary logistic regression. Univariate analysis was utilized to examine population characteristics whereas bivariate analysis was utilized to check the relationship between dependent and independent variables. Lastly, binary logistic regression was employed to determine the association between dependent and independent variables while controlling other variables.

Results: The study shows that females were more migratory in 2011 than in 2001. In terms of region/provinces, the majority of females were residing in Gauteng province in both 2001 and 2011. In 2001 and 2011, the majority of females migrated to Gauteng and out migrated from Eastern Cape. The majority of females were aged (35-59) for both 2001 and 2011. The majority of females were located in urban areas in both 2001 and 2011. The majority of females were Black African Migrants. The study found that whites were less likely to migrate than Black African females for both years. In both 2001 and 2011, the majority of women had secondary education and those with higher educational attainment were more likely to migrate than those with no education, more women were employed, and they were more likely to migrate than unemployed women. Females aged (25-34) in 2011 were 1.38 times more likely to migrate compared to females aged (15-24). Females of the age group 25 – 34 are in pursuit of employment opportunities, higher education, or other social and economic factors that encourage migration. Females in Mpumalanga were 1.82 times more likely to migrate compared to women in Western Cape in 2001. However, in 2011, the scenario changed. Females in Mpumalanga were 1.37 times more likely to migrate compared to women in

Western Cape. This indicates a decrease in the relative migration rate of females in Mpumalanga compared to women in Western Cape. While the migration rate for females in Mpumalanga remained higher, the gap between the two provinces reduced. Females who were working in 2001 were 1.18 times more likely to migrate compared to females who were not working. In addition, females who were working in 2011 were 1.15 times more likely compared to those who were not working. This suggests that having employment increased the likelihood of migration for females during that time. The reasons for this could include factors such as job opportunities in other regions, seeking better economic prospects, or pursuing career advancements.

Conclusions: The study shows that there was an increase in women's internal migration from 2001 to 2011. In-migration increased, and out-migration decreased from 2001 to 2011. Only region, ethnicity, and employment are statistically significant and impacted or had an influence on women internal migration in South Africa by 2001. However, in year 2011, all variables influence women internal migration in South Africa. The findings can help policymakers design targeted interventions and policies to address the specific needs and challenges faced by female migrants. It is essential to adopt gender-responsive policies and interventions that specifically consider the unique challenges faced by female migrants.

Reference

- Crush, J. and Peberdy, S., 2018. Criminal tendencies: immigrants and illegality in South Africa.
- Palamuleni, M.E., 2019. Estimates of inter-provincial migration in South Africa, 1996-2011. *e-BANGI*, 16: 1-13.
- Kanayo, O., Anjofui, P. and Stiegler, N., 2019. Push and pull factors of international migration: evidence from migrants in South Africa. *Journal of African Union Studies*, 8(2).