

Research Paper

***Relationship between the distribution of basic services and demographic indicators with an emphasis on the theory of spatial justice in the county of Khorasan Razavi province***

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**Abstract**

Today, one of the important issues in regional planning, The issue of balanced and proportionate development of basic services is proportional to the distribution of the population of that region. Because non-distribution of services will lead to demographic, social and complex spatial problems, in the direction of equitable distribution and balanced development of the regions. The purpose of this research is to measure the level of urban-rural infrastructure services and its relationship with demographic distribution in Khorasan Razavi province. This is a descriptive-analytic study. For collecting data, documentary and field studies were used to analyze the raw data and classify the cities of Khorasan Razavi province using multi-criteria decision making models and GIS software. The findings of the Vikor and AHPF model in the province's cities indicate non-distribution balanced of services. The city of Mashhad has the highest level, and the cities of Sabzevar and Neyshabur are moderate, and Khalil Abad and Jovein are in the unfavorable level. Considering that the city of Mashhad is the first Iranian pilgrimage city, it is the largest attraction zone of the province, it seems that these services are not balanced in comparison with other population centers. And so the research seeks out what strategies can be made to reach the equilibrium point, given local and regional conditions that are practical and feasible. Pearson test was used to investigate the relationship between demographic indicators and the status of cities in terms of urban services. The results showed that there is a direct relationship between population density and population growth rate with the focus of services. The distance from the center of the province is not significantly related to the level of facilities.

**Key words:** Population Distribution, Distribution of Services, Space Justice, Regional Inequality, Khorasan Razavi Province.

**Extended Abstract**

**Introduction**

Spatial inequality in the deployment of area residents and activities is not a new phenomenon in any part of the world. But in developing countries, the spatial divergence between regions is exacerbated by the socioeconomic disparities and inequality in the distribution of essential services. Proper and optimal distribution of basic facilities in the social, economic, cultural and health sectors across regions and regions is one of the most important factors in preventing inequality and gaps in development and proper spatial distribution of population across the land. One of these areas is the

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metropolis of Mashhad in Khorasan Razavi province, which comprises a significant part of the population and is then hierarchically located in the cities of Neyshabur and Sabzevar. In this regard, we are dealing with cities that have not been able to compete with such large metropolitan areas, but this does not mean that the metropolitan areas of Khorasan Razavi have all the potential but rather that they should be compared to the population in which they are located. The city of Mashhad itself has many deprived areas that cannot compete with the central parts of the city and its populations lack basic and basic services on a large scale. Therefore, this research seeks to find out what is feasible and feasible for local and regional conditions, so that the province can be brought to regional equilibrium. The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between population component distribution and basic services with the spatial justice approach in Khorasan Razavi cities. The obtained results were obtained through combination models and rank-sum method and correlation method.

#### **Methodology:**

In this study, the integration model (a combination of multi-criteria decision making models) is used to analyze and weight the research indicators of the model (TOPSIS), and to integrate the eight indicators, the VIKOR model and the model A fuzzy hierarchy (AHPF) is used. At the end of the research, Pearson correlation test was used to investigate the relationship between population indices (population density and population growth rate) with the degree of basic services of provincial cities.

#### **Results and discussion:**

Findings of Vikor model and AHPF model in Khorasan Razavi province provinces show unbalanced distribution. Mashhad is in the highest level and the cities of Sabzevar and Neyshabur are in the average level and Khalilabad and Javin are in the lower level. Pearson test was used to examine the relationship between population density, distance of cities from provincial centers and population growth rate with the status of provinces. The results of this test show that there is a direct relationship between population density and natural growth rate with the distribution of urban services such that Mashhad, Neyshabour, Sabzevar and Quchan have the highest density and natural growth rate among provincial cities. They have a relatively favorable spatial distribution. The results showed that the relationship between the cities distance from the center of the province and the rate of enjoyment of the urban services index is very weak, so that Neyshabur and Sabzevar cities have relatively high distance with the capital city in the high ranks. They are indexed by municipal services, while Binaloud is 68 kilometers from the provincial capital. Also by comparing the distance of Torbat-e-Heydariyeh and Torbat-Jam cities, both of which are approximately the same distance from the provincial capital but do not have the same status in terms of Utilities Index. In other words, the distance from the provincial capital does not guarantee superior municipal services at the regional level.

#### **Conclusion:**

Given that many cities of Khorasan Razavi province are in undesirable level, paying attention to the potentials and capabilities of these areas, especially in the cultural and health index, can lead to significant spatial inequalities in the distribution of services and facilities. Reduce the need for balanced and balanced development at the regional level.