

Urbanization Level and Tempo (Speed) in Tigray Regional State, Ethiopia

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Abstract : Background and objective: The study attempts to determine the level and tempo or speed of urbanization in the Tigray regional state based on census data from 1994 to 2013 in Ethiopia. Methods: The study examined the level and tempo of urbanization based on the 1994 and 2007 censuses as well as the 2013 CSA projection data. Findings: The level of urbanization at the regional level was found in 1994, 2007, and 2020 at 14.9%, 21.7%, and 27.7 % respectively. Whereas the level of urbanization varies among the zones of the region, the higher level of urbanization was recorded in the Eastern zone, followed by the Western, Southern Zone and Central zone of Tigray. The tempo or speed of urbanization was determined to be 0.49 percent per year at the regional level, with the Eastern area of Tigray showing the greatest tempo or speed of urbanization. Conclusions: Unbalanced urbanization among the zones results in socio-economic challenges. The study recommended several policy interventions aimed at judicious urbanization suitable for sustainable development.

Keywords : urbanization, census, tempo or speed, urbanization level, Tigray

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