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Meta-analysis of the studies conducted in the field of rural-urban migrations

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Abstract
Iranian formal censuses indicate that the share of rural population in total population of Iran have been decreasing over the time and many villages are uninhabited. Migration statistics in Iran have also indicated intense migration from villages to the cities during the past half- century. Many researches have been conducted due to the importance of rural-urban migrations, during the past few years. Therefore, the main goals of this study are to criticize and evaluate the written articles using meta-analysis method in rural-urban migrations field and to identify the most important factors affecting rural-urban migrations, widely used theoretical approaches in this area and etc. The findings of this research show that attraction and repulsion viewpoint and Michael Todaro's theory are appropriate theoretical approaches to state the problem of rural-urban migrations in Iran. Also, urban attraction variables with impact size of 0.75 and occupation with impact size of 0.62 have the most effect on rural-urban migration. Other findings indicate that the most solutions proposed in the reviewed researches are general, vague and non-executive; and there is no proportionality between the proposed solutions and the study objectives in most cases.

Key words: *Meta-analysis, rural-urban migrations.*

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Introduction

Rural migration was introduced as a population, social and economic phenomenon after world war II, all over the world. Although, these migrations seemed natural and reasonable at the beginning; but, were considered unreasonable and problematic after a few decades and following their undesirable consequences in developing countries. The weakness of social and economic structures in rural areas caused that villagers migrated to urban areas to obtain better life opportunities (Taherkhani, 2001 or 1380:68). Iran has not also been far from demographic and technological developments of the world; and many social and economic issues such as rural migrations in Iran indicate common features with the most developing countries. The remarkable cases in rural-urban migrations process are the reasons, causes and motivations of villagers' migration to urban centers. Because, villagers migrate to cities due to higher goals of life in terms of income-welfare; and depending on natural characteristics, socio-economic conditions and also historical, ethnic and cultural differences of the origin villages. In other words, the existance of important factors such as environmental hazards (drought, flood, earthquack) , meeting life-biologic needs, access to livelihood and welfare facilities, along with access to new jobs and more income, elimination of poverty and unemployment and meeting social - cultural needs such as education, raising the level of culture and desire to live in certain areas are concidered as the most important motivations for villagers' migration to other settlement centers of the country. (Shamsoddini and Gorjian, 2010 or 1389:77).

In fact, in the past few decades, the problem of rural-urban migrations has become one of the important issues in scientific and academic fields; so that, numerous seminars and conferences have been held for investigation of villagers' migration to the cities and also presenting solutions for this problem. Actually, many authorities and scholars' minds have focused on this problem in the last three decades and the experts tried to see villagers' migration to the cities of Iran with scientific view. Thus, the main objective of this study is meta-analysis, critique and evaluation of the written articles in the field of rural-urban migration. By achieving this goal, we hope to take a step , however small, in clearing the dimensions of migrations and conducting better and more effective researches in this area. In addition, we hope that the results of this article will be used in socio-economic planning especially in rural planning and will be somewhat a solution for information restrictions in this field. So, this study is conducted for responding to the following questions:

1)What are the main causes for villagers' migration to the cities?

2)Which viewpoint was used more in the conducted studeis and which one can be the base for explaining rural-urban migrations in Iran?

3)What procedures were applied more with regard to rural-urban migrations in the conducted studies?

4)What solutions were offered by the conducted studies to explain rural-urban migrations, and in what extent is their applicability and operational capabilities?

Theoretical approaches

There are different perspectives and approaches about rural-urban migration, each of them has investigated this phenomenon from different dimensions. Different viewpoints such as attraction and repulsion, functionalist, dependency, systematic perspectives are introduced in this field.

The most important of them can be mentioned as follows:

Attraction and repulsion perspective

According to this perspective: if the result of stimulating or inhibiting factors to be positive, tendency to migration is created in person, if personal factors cannot destroy this tendency and migration barriers do not have an inhibiting effect; thus, migration from origin to destination will be occured. According to Lee,

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accurate set of factors to force the individual for migration or prevent from it can never be counted; but, the most important or quantitatively measurable of them can be identified and especially considered, because migration is a selective measure (Lee, 1966).

This viewpoint considers that migration is influenced by four factors:

a)Existing factors in the origin (stimulating or inhibiting factors)

b)Existing factors in the destination (stimulating or inhibiting factors)

c)Existing factors in migration from origin to destination

d)Personal factors related to personal and psychological characteristics of individual.

Based on this perspective assumptions factors related to rural-urban migration are:

1-Attraction or stimulating factors include economic factors: economic development, demand for labor force, capital security; Political factors: social democracy, decentralization, easier bureaucracy, help and cooperation policy; Social and cultural factors: law and dicipline, academic and research interests, more welfare (higher level of life quality) and Demographic factors: low fertility, low active population, the unbalanced sex ratio.

2-Repulsion factors include economic factors: poverty, inflation, financial corruption and economic tensions, surplus labor force, low salaries for hard and specialized jobs,high tax rate; Political factors: political prejudice, type of ideology, dictatorship and political instability (lack of freedom); Social and cultural factors: family ties, marriage, educational demands, dissatisfaction with life ,crime rate and etc.; Unexpected factors such as war, harassment and torture (Moghaddas and Sharghi, 2009 or 1388: 173-174)

Functionalist perspective

This theory is based on the explanation of causes and consequences of migration, and in regard with migration emphasizes on this assumption that all social needs are taught in a framework of social system. In a system, actors have needs which cannot be met in that system; because, the characteristics of social systems and actors have never been fixed over time. This perspective explains villagers' migrations toward urban areas due to a type of imbalance between rural and urban societies; because, individuals' social needs are not met in rural areas and there are proper responses for these needs in a number of cities. So, villagers migrate to meet their needs. According to this perspective, rural-urban migration is resulted from socio-economic imbalances existing between different areas (Haas, 2007:3).

According to this viewpoint, migration is also a necessary factor to rebalance the society. Because, existing of population in each system is necessary for system balance. From one hand, migration becomes adaption mechanism of person with the created changes; and on the other hand, it returns the lost balance to the society. After explaining the causes of migration and belief on its positive performance, they investigate the impacts of migration on structures of origin, destination and the status of person involved in immigration. They believe, structure of destination society initially attracts migrant and then makes it identical with itself; migrant unifies with it after to be identical.

According to functionalists' theory, destination system finally accepts immigrants and their generations as its permanent members with socio-economic characteristics similar to other members. In general, they consider migration as a secure factor to prevent from social damages caused by imbalances in the society. They also believe that migration brings equality, autonomy and improves life condition; and believe that although migration initially creates unemployment but this is temporary, and shortly after employment brings economic welfare.

Dependency perspective

Experts of dependency school consider "migration from towns in developing countries" as a serious phenomenon, they suggested pop-

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ulation repulsion factors and regard "inequality between towns and cities" as the reason of migration; among these reasons they consider reinforcement of underdevelopment among original immigrant areas (Todaro , 2010:48).

Scholars of this school believe that the reasons of migration cannot be separated from its impacts. Because, migration caused by unequal development on one side; and on the other side, is the cause of development and unequal development (Nasiri, 2011 or 1390: 126). Therefore, in determining the migration process; initially it is necessary to consider the issue of underdevelopment because; unequal relationships between different parts of society are taken into account. Theorists of this viewpoint distinguish two sets of factors related to the origin of migration, these two sets are:

a)Recession factors: These factors occur when the growth of rural population is more than agricultural products, due to relative improvement of health status; and therefore, additional labor force migrates to the cities, due to the lack of employment in rural areas.

b)Changing factors: changing factors are effective when modern capitalist modes of production infiltrate in rural areas and alter the modes and techniques of production. Here, the objective is to increase productivity through capital base industries; therefore, reduces the number of employees and makes additional existing manpower in the village to migrate.

Shortly, in dependency theory , migration is a mandatory and exploitation phenomenon that is created based on underdevelopment of an area (village) than other area (city) , dependency of non-capitalism sector to capitalism sector; and its continuation causes more underdevelopment (Haj Hosseini, 2006 or 1385: 45).

Network perspective

This model was obviously introduced around the early 1980s and developed by other experts; in this viewpoint, the cost and benefit of migration is explained in the framework of migration networks. According to the theorists of this perspective, migration networks include the ties between the earlier immigrants and non-immigrants in origin and destination areas through kinship and friendship relationships or common social origins. Immigration mobilities are increasing within the mentioned networks: because, they reduce the costs and risks of migration and increase migration places. In fact, the communications and contacts of these networks are considered as a form of social capital that people can find better job opportunities through it. In this viewpoint, two factors are considered as migration mobility:

a)Costs reduction, there is usually no supporting social ties for the first immigrants, who leave their country and live in new locations, to reduce their costs. But, after migration of the first migrants, potential costs of migration are reduced for their friends and families. Because of the nature of kinship and friendship structures, each new migrant creates social ties in destination area and makes a set of individuals. Thus, a communication network is created between immigrants and non-immigrants; and migration will be along with costs reduction (material and spiritual) over time, by tacit supporting obligations within these networks.

b)Risks reduction, migration networks easily provide job for new immigrants; thus, migration often becomes a reliable source to earn money. In this process, each immigrant in turn develops migration network and reduces the risks for all his/her relatives wishing to migrate (Haj Hosseini, 2006 or 1385: 42-43).

System perspective

A valid migration viewpoint is system approach that is created based on the criticism of the classical (especially the functionalism) and conflict approaches. The advocates of this new approach who more emphasize on global systems borrow some factors from both functional and conflict approaches and in their analysis deal great value to the characteristics of postindustrial societies (Lahsaeizadeh, 1989

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or 1368: 179). At first, in order to understanding the system theory, a definition should be provided for the system of rural-urban migration: A system can be defined as a set of components interact with each other, their characteristics and relationships. So, one of the main works is conceptualization of phenomenon as a system, identification of major components in the interaction, their characteristics and relationships, when it is done, it will becomes clear that a system not only works in a vacuum, but also in a specific area (Lahsaeizadeh, 1989 or 1368: 115).

One of the main advantages of this approach is considering of rural-urban migration as a circular ,progressive, complex and self-regulative system in which when changes occurs in each part can affect the entire system rather than a one directional, attraction-repulsion and cause-effect mobility. (Taherkhani, 2001 or 1380: 91). In other words, rural-urban migration is emphasized as a continuous process that occurs in most countries and all times with different levels of complexity. However, system theory provides the most important insights about some related issues. Moreover, it emphasizes on the significant role of rural-urban migration as one of the most important spatial processes in shaping human occupation model.

Relative deprivation perspective

Stark (1984) is a scholar who has introduced relative deprivation perspective. According to this theory; household welfare and happiness result not only from raising economic status, but also through comparing it with other households in origin society. This means that these households work not only to improve their income, but also want to raise it compared to others in society. Although, if income is low, households incite to migration; but if income to be low everywhere, the level of mobility will be reduced. If some households have more income, poor household feels deprivation both relatively and absolutely; and stimulation to migration will be raised correspondingly. The mentioned approach explains a migration movement due to deprivation in an area towards another area, the actual and potential possibility, having other advantages and relative removal of deprivation (Stark, 1984, according to Bandari, 2004:479).

Research method

This study is conducted by meta-analysis method. Meta-analysis is called the art of combining researches and analysis of analysis. In fact, quantitative method is for combining the results of independent and similar researches to assess the effectiveness of experimental practice. This method has a clear, unambiguous and systematic approach and tries to provide the outcomes consistent with the objectives of the study (Ghorbani and Hassan Nangir, 2014 or 1393). In another definition, meta-analysis is a quantitative/ numerical approach that is conducted for systematic combination of previous researches and whatever has been done by earlier scholars to achieve a conclusion on the body of research and discover new knowledge. This quantitative method can result in the effectiveness of findings, discovering scientific shortcoming and planning for new researches in the field of the considered practical issue (Li, 2010).

In meta-analysis, the literature of issue is systematically reviewed by the written sources to clarify that, based on previous studies, how much the impact of one variable is on another. This method is similar to cross-sectional studies in which the subject of study is the results of past researches instead of individuals.

Meta-analysis is a type of literature review in which quantitative methods are applied to summarize different studies on a same topics. Here, it is emphasized that meta-analysis used only when the reviewed studies are quantitative (Hooman, 2013 or 1392). In meta-analysis, the topic of study is selected. Then, the problem formulated and the studies related to the issue are collected; all examine the same hypothesis. The characteristics of coding and derived studies, statistics and average and other

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statistical data are converted to the effect size. Finally, the effect sizes are combined together and the combined effect sizes are interpreted.
In this article, first primary review of papers is investigated. In primary review, the issues such as rates of researchers' cooperation, research methodology of articles, dependent variables, statistical population and independent variables are reviewed. After primary reviewing, the effect size of each variable is examined. The effect size is a quantitative index that statistical results and findings of the studies are summarized and unified in its format. The effect size is a key factor in meta-analysis; in fact, it makes meta-analysis possible. The aim of using the effect size is to unify different statistical findings of the studies in a numerical index and a common metric and to provide the possibility of comparison and combining statistical results (Mohammadi et al. 2012 or 1391). Statistical population of this study is all articles on the issue of rural-urban migrations that have been published in the prestigious journals of Ministry of Science, Research and Technology from 2001 or 1380 to the end of year 2014 or 1393. The condition of selecting articles is to choose the articles that completely focus on the subject of these types of immigrations. Finally, 23 articles related to the research subject were selected from the prestigious scientific/ research journals and analyzed. To analyze the data collected from the considered researches, comprehensive meta-analysis program was used, after coding, for statistical meta-analysis calculations. So that, after converting the statistical tests, that were used in hypotheses, to the effect size through the formulas provided by Wolf; they analyzed by combining the effect sizes in Hauntes and Schmite method. Also, Cohen table (1977) was used to interpret the effect size (table 1).

Research findings

Table 2 indicates frequency and the percentage rate of scholars' cooperation in the reviewed researches on rural-urban migrations. The results of this table show that 51.5 percent (12 cases) of the researches conducted by two researchers, and this value has the highest rate. Researches conducted by one or three researches each with 22 percent (5 cases) has the second highest rate. Also, the studies have four authors with 4.5 percent (one case) are placed in the next ranking. Cooperation rate and teamwork of researchers in the reviewed studies on rural-urban migration is good. The researchers work appropriately on this subject, this causes that they consider and analyze the issue of rural-urban migration from different

Interpretation of the effect size	r	d
Small effect size	Less than 0.3	Less than 0.5
Medium effect size	From 0.3 to 0.5	From 0.5 to 0.8
Large effect size	and more 0.5	and more 0.8

Table 1. Distribution table of classes of the effect size based on statistics estimation

Percent	Number	Scholars
22	5	One researcher
51.5	12	Two researchers
22	5	Three researchers
4.5	1	Four researchers
100	23	Total

Table 2. Frequency and percentage distribution rate of scholars' cooperation

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Research method	Number	Percent
Descriptive	5	22
Descriptive-analytical	14	60
Documentary	2	9
Qualitative	2	9
Total	23	100

Table 3. Frequency and percentage distribution in terms of research method

Percent	Number	Statistical population
29	7	Heads of rural households
22	5	Rural youths
22	5	Rural women and men
13.5	3	Rural immigrants living in the city
4.5	1	village
9	2	Other
100	23	Total

Table 4. Frequency and percentage distribution in terms of the reviewed population

Percent	Number	Hypothesis status
55	13	Having hypothesis
45	10	Lack of hypothesis
100	23	Total

Table 5. Frequency and percentage distribution in terms of hypothesis status

dimensions.

Table 3 indicates frequency and percentage of the reviewed research method in the field of rural-urban migrations. Analytical-descriptive method with 60% (14 cases) is considered as the most common research method in the reviewed researches. In the next orders, there are descriptive method with 22% (5 cases) and documentary and qualitative methods each with 9% (2 cases). The most researches were conducted with descriptive and descriptive-analytical methods and only a few reviewed researches in the field of rural-urban immigration done with qualitative methods. Therefore, the need to conducting more field and qualitative researches in the field of rural-urban migrations is felt.

Table 4 indicates frequency and percentage distribution of the surveyed statistical population in the reviewed researches on rural-urban migrations. According to this table, 29% (7 cases) of the reviewed researches focused on the heads of rural households; this case has the highest rate. After that, there are statistical population of rural youths , rural women and men each with 22% (5 cases) and statistical population of immigrants living in the city with 13.5% (3 cases) from statistical population of the reviewed researches. Moreover, only one of these studies investigated the village as statistical population.

Table 5 indicates frequency and percentage distribution of the surveyed researches in terms of hypothesis status in the field of rural-urban immigrations. The results of this table show that 55% (13 cases) of the reviewed researches have hypothesis and about 45% (10 cases) have no hypothesis in this field. Due to the importance of hypothesis in research, it is necessary that the conducted researches have hypothesis; of course, it is usually true in cause and analytical researches that lack of hypoth-

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Percentage	Frequency	Bases or theoretical framework
71	16	Theoretical basic
29	7	Theoretical framework
100	23	Total

Table 6. Frequency and percentage distribution in terms of theoretical basic or framework

Number	Variable	Row	Number	Variable	Row
1	Family disputes	18	5	City attraction	1
1	Family structure	19	4	Education	2
1	Development of communication roads	20	4	Employment	3
1	Commuting to the city	21	4	Social factors	4
1	Distance from city	22	4	Age	5
1	Use of television	23	3	Gender	6
1	Use of radio	24	3	Economic factors	7
1	Use of audio tapes	25	2	Land ownership	8
1	Study of book	26	1	Shortage of sanitary facilities	9
1	Study of press	27	1	Marital status	10
1	Use of computer games	28	1	Cultural factors	11
1	Number family members	29	1	Drought	12
1	Number of educated people in the family	30	1	Village repulsion	13
1	Number of employed people in the family	31	1	Shortage of educational facilities	14
1	Having technical skills	32	1	Sense of deprivation	15
1	Agriculture problems	33	1	Suburban development	16
1	Rate of agriculture production	34	1	Satisfaction of village	17

Table 7. distribution of variables in terms of present in the hypothesis

eses can be considered as a serious weakness, but in descriptive researches it is less considered as a weakness.

According to the findings of table 6, 71% (16 cases) of the reviewed researches in the field of rural-urban migration have theoretical basis; while, approximately 29% (7 cases) of the conducted studies have a theoretical framework. One of the criticisms on the reviewed studies in the field of rural-urban migration is that: since, analytical-descriptive researches should have hypothesis and the hypothesis of all of them should be derived from theoretical framework; 7 cases of all reviewed researches in the field of rural-urban migration have theoretical framework, this is counted a major weakness because this work is a descriptive-analytical work. The appropriate hypothesis is a hypothesis that derived from theoretical framework and other hypotheses do not have a strong theoretical basis.

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Table 7 indicates distribution of variables related to rural-urban immigrations. Derivation and categorization of variables (independent variables) effective on rural-urban immigrations were taken into account, according to the designed hypotheses in the reviewed researches. These variables include 34 variables in the hypotheses of the reviewed researches. In table 7, each of independent variables in the hypotheses of the selected researches is based on the number and frequency of presence in hypotheses. The information of this table indicate that the variable of city attraction with 5 cases allocated the maximum rate to itself, that is due to the number of variables presence in the hypotheses of the selected and reviewed researches. After this variable, the variables such education, employment, social factors and age each with 4 cases and gender and economic factors each with 3 cases in the hypotheses of the reviewed researches, respectively have the maximum rate.

Table 8 indicates distribution of variables based on viewpoints of the reviewed researches on rural-urban immigrations. this table shows, the maximum used viewpoints are related to attraction-repulsion perspective; so that, 36% (8 cases) of the reviewed researches in the field of rural-urban immigrations used this viewpoint. After this perspective, Todaro's viewpoint with 29% (7 cases) and modernization viewpoint, functionalist approach and dependency theory each with 22% (5 cases) are placed in the next stage. Also, the theory of delinquent subculture , general theory of crime by two times using; and cultural transmission theories, Simmel's theory of the leisure, rational choice theory, labeling theory, Parsons' analytical realism and Alderfer's theory of needs have been used only once in the reviewed studies. Use of systematic approach, Louis's theory and the theory of relative deprivation with 18% (4 cases) are placed in the next order of maximum used theories in the field of rural-urban migration.

Table 9 indicates distribution of solutions provided in the reviewed researches on rural-urban migrations. Approximately, 70% of the reviewed articles provided solution and suggestion to control and solve the considered problem; and about 30% of them have no solution or suggestion. In general, it can be said; most solutions are not the presentation of research findings, the number of suggestions is high and there is not a clear and logical relationship between them. Many solutions do not have a logical relationship with the research

Total percentage (23 articles)	Number	Theoretical approach
36	8	Attraction and repulsion theory
29	7	Todaro's theory
22	5	Modernization theory
22	5	Functionalist approach
22	5	Dependency theory
18	4	Systematic approach
18	4	Louis's theory
18	4	Theory of relative deprivation
13.5	3	Lee's theory
13.5	3	Ravenstein's theory
9	2	Economic approach
9	2	Shasta's theory
9	2	Hunt's theory

Table 8. distribution of used theoretical approaches in reviewed researches

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Solutions level	Frequency	Percent	Sample
National & country level	5	8	-Equitable annual distribution of budget between city and village - Planning of migration flows in the correct direction - Supporting of specialists and native educated
Intermediate, regional and institutional level	56	88.9	- Creation, development and prediction of appropriate recreational and athletic facilities in the village - Creating rural industrial areas and establishment of industry in rural areas - Supplying and providing necessary socio-economic infrastructures to make and develop sustainable employment opportunities and elimination of hidden unemployment in agricultural sector of the village
Micro-individual	2	3.1	- Strengthen ties of immigrants with their origins through local stimulus - Raising the education of rural people to adopt the innovation and new technologies in agriculture
Total	63	100	

Table 9. distribution of suggested solution

goals. Generally, the solutions are vague, general and inapplicable.Most solutions have offered no specific institution or organization for solving the problem of rural-urban migration. In total, 63 suggestions were provided by articles authors; 8% of them presented at the national, macro and country level, 88.9% at an intermediate, regional, provincial and institutional level and 3.1% at the individual level.

Effect size of each of the variables present in the research hypotheses

Table 10 indicates 7 cases of maximum effect sizes of variables related to rural-urban migrations. homogeneous test results in the case of city attraction indicate significant effect and show that the studies are largely inhomogeneous; combining them with the fixed effects model is not confirmed and random effects model should be used to combine the results. In fact, this test tells us in terms of features and characteristics of the studies; 5 hypotheses on the relationship between urban attractions and immigration are strictly different. The results of random effects show that the relationship between urban attractions and immigration in 5 reviewed hypotheses is positive, significant and equal to 0.75. According to Cohen's table (table 1), this size of combining effect between urban attraction and immigration is high. In employment variable, significance and homogeneity test shows that the results of combining effect should be studied randomly. Due to the results of this table, the relationship between employment and immigration is positive, significant and equal to 0.62. According to Cohen's table, it can be concluded that the relationship between these two variables in four studies is high. Also, due to homogeneity test and random combining effects; the relationship between economic factors and immigration in three hypotheses is positive, significant and equal to 0.49. Regarding Cohen's effect size interpretation table, the relationship between economic factors and immigration is moderate. Other results of random combining effect show that the relationship between social factors and immigration in four studies is positive, significant and approximately 0.39. The interpretation of this combining effect size is evaluated moderate, according to Cohen's table. In the variable of education, significance homogeneity test shows that the

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Statistics Independent variable	Number of study	Fixed combination effects	Random combining effects	Confidence interval in fixed effects	Confidence interval in random effects	Homogeneity test	Degrees of freedom
City attraction	5	*0.70	*0.75	-0.67 0.72	-0.90 0.24	*355.1	4
Employment	4	*0.59	*0.62	-0.54 0.16	-0.90 0.20	*267.1	3
Economic factors	3	*0.53	*0.49	-0.58 0.47	-0.65 0.30	*14.1	2
Social factors	4	*0.40	*0.39	-0.45 0.36	-0.58 0.16	*56.9	3
Education	4	*0.27	*0.29	-0.22 0.32	-0.40 0.16	*17.1	3
Age	4	*-0.23	*-0.17	-0.28 -0.18	-0.48 -0.15	*104.1	3
Gender	3	*0.15	*0.15	-0.20 -0.10	-0.20 0.10	0.24	2

Table 10. Meta-analysis research findings by the method of combining effect size (random combining effects) and Hauntes and Schmite's method

results of combining effects should be studied randomly; the relationship between education and immigration in these four hypotheses is positive, significant and equal to 0.29. It can be concluded that according to Cohen's table the relationship between these two variables in four studies is low. Also, due to homogeneity test and random combining effects, the relationship between age and immigration in four hypotheses was negative, significant and equal to 0.17. The relationship between age and immigration is low, due to Cohen's effect size interpretation table. The results of insignificance homogeneity test for gender and immigration show that combining effects of these variables should be studied in the fixed combination effects. Due to the results of this table, combination effects for the relationship between gender and immigration is equal to 0.15. It can be concluded that the relationship between these two variables in three studies is low.

Discussion and conclusion

The result of systematic review indicated that 51.5% (12 cases) of the studies conducted by two scholars and this value is the highest. Analytical-descriptive method with 60% (14 cases) as the most common method of study was examined in the researches. 29% (7 cases) of the reviewed researches has focused on the heads of rural households; this case has the highest rate. 55% (13 cases) of the reviewed researches on rural-urban migration has hypothesis and about 45% (10 cases) has no hypothesis in this field. 71% (16 cases) of the reviewed researches on rural-urban migration has theoretical bases; while, about 29% (7 cases) of the conducted studies has theoretical framework. The maximum rate of used theory is related to attraction-repulsion theory; so that, 36% (8 cases) of the reviewed researches on rural-urban migration used this theory. After this theory, Todaro's theory with 29% (7 cases) and modernization theories, functionalist approach and dependency theory each with 22% (5 cases) are respectively placed in the next stage of maximum used theory in the reviewed studies. In fact, it is suggested to scholars that observe the problem of rural-urban

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immigrations from this perspective; given that the research results indicate attraction-repulsion and Todaro's theories are the appropriate theoretical approaches to explain this problem in Iran. Also, in terms of the solutions provided in the reviewed studies, 63 proposals have been offered by articles authors. 8% of them have been provided at the national, macro and country level; 88.9% at the intermediate, regional, provincial and institutional levels; and 3.1% at the individual level. The results of meta-analysis indicated that the variable of urban attraction with the effect size of 0.75 has the maximum impact on rural-urban migration. After urban attraction, employment variable with the effect size of 0.62 has a high impact on migration. The relationship between social factors and immigration with the effect size of 0.49 is medium. The relationship between social factors and immigration in four studies was positive, significant, medium and about 0.39.The relationship between education and immigration in these four hypotheses is positive, significant, medium and about 0.29. The relationship between age and immigration in four hypotheses is negative, significant, low and about 0.17. The relationship between the variables of gender and immigration is low and equal to 0.15.'

According to the research findings, some of the shortcomings in the reviewed researches on rural-urban immigration are as follows: A few reviewed researches on rural-urban immigration were conducted by field and qualitative methods. So, it is suggested that future researches on rural-urban immigrations to be conducted by use of qualitative method. Most of the reviewed studies in the field of rural-urban immigration are at micro level; and it is necessary to conduct more research by analysis unit beyond the individual, due to macro-structural roots of each social problem. One of the criticisms on the reviewed studies is that; since, analytical-descriptive researches should have hypothesis and the hypothesis of all of them should be derived from theoretical framework; from total reviewed studies on rural-urban immigration only 7 cases have theoretical framework and this is considered as a major weakness, because the work is an analytical-descriptive work. Field study of 88.9% of researches is intermediate-regional and institutional and only 3.1% of it are at the micro and individual level. Most presented solutions are general, vague and inapplicable; and there is no proportionality between the proposed solutions and research goals.

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