10.7251/AGSY1203729F UDK 332.62:711.14(55) CONSIDERING SERVICING POTENTIALITY OF STATE FOCAL POINTS: CASE STUDY OF SARDASHT IN SOUTH OF IRAN

Rasoul FARJAM, Hassan AFRAKHTEH

¹Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran (Corresponding author: <u>goudi.up@gmail.com</u>)

Abstract

Sardasht village was upgraded to a city through a political declaration in 2010. The declaration was made to create service centers, enhance development trends and to promote growth in the area. It also created centralization of essential services thereby facilitating the delivery of basic services to the people in the region. In this article, the existing practices in the delivery of services in the region were analyzed to determine: (a) the role Sardasht market and (b) the factors affecting the delivery of services as viewed by the inhabitants of rural hinterlands. The two major questions raised in the surveys to address the objectives are: (a) capability of the Sardasht city to deliver basic services to the people and (b) the facilities needed to be established in the town to regulate the delivery of services from the city to the surrounding areas. Data collection was done by field survey using questionnaire in selected 248 rural households. The households were selected using Cochran formula from 51 sample villages and after pre-evaluation of some documents of the villages. Collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Chi-square and logistic regression. Results showed that Sardasht City is the main destination of rural population to obtain different services, but it faces with serious problems in providing basic services and in making urban - rural relationship.

Keywords: *Market town, Rural hinterland, Urban Service Potentiality, Rural – Urban Relationship, Sardasht, Bashagard*

Introduction

Provision of quality and locally accessible services within rural areas is inherently difficult, increased commuting and in-migration and raised consumer expectations (service and quality) between settlements of a region (Findaly *et al.*, 2001). This, have pressures to reap economies of scale in a settlements hierarchy system and also contributed to the decline in the availability of rural services within small settlements (Shaw & Powe, 2004).

In 2010 apolitical decision has led to the conversion of the Sardasht village to a city center of Bashagard township. The aim of the decision was to establish central areas with efficient and centralized delivery of essential services to the people in the region. But, it is unclear what form this takes and upon which factors the role depends. There is also likely to be a mutual dependence, where the viability of the services themselves are dependent upon trade from hinterland residents and where many of these residents, particularly the less mobile, may also rely on such services within or from their nearest town. The future prospects for market town services will depend on the continuation of such a relationship.

Upgrading Sardashat village from a small settlement to the political centrality of Bashagard region is very controversial. This controversy has coupled with other issues and made bases of the essential questions of this research. The major questions of this study are(1) is Sardasht city capable of providing services essential needs of rural hinterlands at present

time? (2) which services will Sardasht need to continue that role based on urban-rural relations? According to these questions, the current system in providing services in the region was analyzed. This was done by examining the current role of Sardasht market town and the factors affecting perspective services as viewed by inhabitants of rural hinterlands. So, the following topics will be discussed in this paper:

- a) level of bilateral affiliation between current services in Sardasht market-town and the inhabitants in the surrounding rural hinterlands.
- b) current role of Sardasht market- town and the factors which provide that role.
- c) Future of the perspective of Sardasht market- town in delivering basic services to its region.

Although adopting the establishment of Sardasht city as the center of township could provide a solution for rendering desirable services to rural hinterlands, shouldn't be ignored that the current and future function of it for delivering services depend on some special factors. These factors will be explained in this paper.

Materials and methods

Following figure shows the situation of Bashagard district and Sardasht city in Iran. The Bashagard region has 248 villages and 32,424 inhabitants (Iran's Central Statistics Office, 2006; NPSP, 2011: 68). The Sardasht village is located in the region of Bashagard in Hormozgan province, south of Iran (Figure 1).



Figure 1: The distribution of small and average cities in Hormozgan province and Bashagard region.

Quantitative data collection was done in two ways: librarian study and questionnaire research. The data provided essential index for determining the importance of relationships between Sardasht market-town and its rural hinterland residents. In order to determine the essential statistical population sample among all villagers, development levels and different levels of services have been mentioned. Based on these, villages were divided into three categories as having weak, average and high level of services. Cochran formula was used to determine the number of statistical population sample. In this case, the safety of distant is 95% and the quantities of \mathbf{q} and \mathbf{p} are considered 10 and 90 percent in order. The results showed that 248 samples were needed for the study. The collected data were analyzed by following statistical techniques:

a) Chi-square was used to determine the rate of dependency and independency of variables in order to specify the effective factors in the development of Sardasht.

b) Logistic regression model¹was used to specify the effective factors that affect the future services that the market-town of Sardasht can provide.

In order to show future perspective of Sardasht market-town, it is necessary to specify the effective factors in its role fulfillment. Those variables that were used in this part of analysis were consisted of current services in market-town, the distance from villages to Sardasht, their population, age, gender, and respondents' jobs. The variables from the questionnaire were consisted of (1) "the rate of respondent's tendency to refer to market-town of Sardasht for gaining services in future", and (2) the levels which have 2 parts. e.g., 1=yes, 2=No.

Since the results of logistic regression model varied, only three parameters were used. These were 2log (likelihood), B logit, and exp (B) logit, and table of variables in equation.

In order to recognize the effective factors on future role of market-town of Sardasht, the above mentioned model was applied on two groups of explanatory repressors. At first, economic and social variables like place of living, the distance from place of living to Sardasht city, settlements population and their types of occupations were used and then other variables consisting all of services were incorporated.

Theoretical Literature

There exist various opinions of known or experts on regarding the roles of small towns in rural regional development. For example Tisdel (1997) believes that to prevent the centralization of population in some parts, attention should be paid to the growth of small and medium towns. These are solutions stipulated in the policy of settlement system (Rezvani et al., 2009; Amchakei, 2004). Hensen (1960) considers the role of small towns in national development as a factor for growth in developing countries (Rezvani et al., 2009; Bagheri, 1996:85). Rondinelli (1983) states the role of small towns in urban function on rural development (UFRD) theory in rural development. The theory was discussed focusing on the aim of adding spatial dimensions to the regional planning. This approach assumes that if developing countries tend to reach extension, growth, and expansion in region, they should follow the dispersed geographical pattern in investing and presenting fundamental services (Zebardast, 2006). Presence of some of difficulties like absence of easy access to basic services and concentration of under populated areas make the presentation of qualitative and quantitative services in some rural areas difficult (Shaw & Powe, 2004). These difficulties can be resolved by creating and strengthening the role of market-town for some of settlements. Market-town is regarded as a place to live, for job and business for inhabitants of city and rural hinterlands (Rogbourne and Hammond, 1998). These market-town centers provide essential needs for periphery rural settlements. As a result market-towns are places that have general demanded capacity for fulfillments of their roles as central places in rural districts (DETRA, 2000R; DEFRA, 2004; Swain, 1997).

There is a bilateral relationship between current quantitative and qualitative services in market-towns and the trend of population increase in rural hinterlands. It means that the improvement of the quality and quantity of current services in market-town will cause the improvement in the longevity of rural population. On the other hand, the changes in population will strengthen the commercial and role of market-town. As Shaw (2004) stated

¹ - In this model if variable of answering part be shown by 1 & 2, their changes can be written as the conditional probability: **[p]** ^T**1** $|i_12 - i_1m = p$. And if they have been written based on a multi sentences model, it can be expressed in this way: **[p]** ^T**1** $|i_12 - i_1m = ([p]]$ ^T**1** $|i_12 | i_1m)/([p]]$ ^T**1** $|i_12 | i_1m + [[p]]$ ^T**2** $|i_12 | i_1m)$.(Ba yazidi *et al.*, 2009: 147)

lessening the pulling role of regional and national metropolitans in an area is a direct and manifested result of strengthening the role of market-town in spatial planning.

In analyzing the role of small cities in providing services to the hinterlands, essential services of rural hinterlands in market-town as well as three other features should be taken into account. These features are the effective delivery of services to market-town (Moseley, 1979; Shaw & Powe, 2004). These factors consist of accessibility, the quality of services and the resident characteristics. Those studies which are directly related to the roles of market-towns in providing services to rural hinterlands are much more restricted than those studies which are related to the roles of small cities in regional development.

The study done in this field by Chiang Tang's research in Wenzhou, China, showed that development is dependent on government's plan. This is based on restoration of small towns in official hierarchy in strengthening their rural market (Akbarian, 2006:10; Fanni, 2003:18). Regbourne and Hammond (1998) showed in their study that the market of Ludlow strived to recognize the internal relationships between a market-town and regional economy of periphery. Their study showed that through referrals by the residents, big supermarkets played a significant role in the social and economic development of Ludlow.

Cartwright and Swain (1997) did a research for the Center of Eastern Europe Studies on "finding farmers in eastern Europe". Their studies were based on Friedmann's supposition that "*if rural households access to land, labor and market products can be provided by small cities and if these points were reproduced by political and official decision, barter interchanges of cities and villages will be decreased. Instead, their capabilities in production would be increased*". By examining aforesaid studies which were done in the Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Hungary and Slovakia, it was concluded that market-towns have high capacity in providing services to rural hinterlands as well as commercial exchanges with them (Swain and Cartwright, 1997). This conclusion is verified by England rural development documents (DETR, 2000).

In a study on "rural-urban marketing linkages" by White (2005) the role of marketcities and small average city centers in facilitating the relation of town village as an important factor was considered. He believed that the number of population in rural areas depends on current services and facilities in market-town as well as the ways of their access to markets (White, 2005:4). In this study both current models and field assessment of the relation between market-towns and rural hinterlands and the directions followed for these assessments are presented. The current and future role of market towns in providing services to their hinterlands was perfectly shown by the study of the city of Alnwick in the northeast of England (Shaw & Powe, 2004). The main purpose of this study was to provide quantitative and qualitative assessment of essential services of rural hinterlands in market-towns.

Most of Iranian studies are in the form of thesis for universities which generally examine developing small towns by advancement of rural parts. Studies on the advancement of villages to towns and their influence in developing rural areas have already been done (Hasel, 1999; IzadiKharameh, 2001; Rostami, 2001; Sheikhi, 2003; Fanni, 1996; Ghadermazi, 2004). Many researches focus on the role of small cities in spatial planning and national development plans (Fanni, 2003; Nazarian, 1996). Their findings referred to the regional view that small towns play roles in marketing and presentation of services and agricultural products or examined either the roles of small towns in regional development and urban network or the functions of one or some cities in a period of time (before or after becoming a city) in regional rural development. However, in current study is examined a region which did not have any city or regional market-town in the past to manage and to provide services to its rural hinterlands. Hence, this research focused on Sardasht services in order to recognize the effective factors in the development of market-town and determine the criterion to achieve an efficient delivery of services.

Results and discussion

A. The importance of current services in the market-town of Sardasht

The research was distributed among three rural groups with weak-average-high levels of services. The result showed that 88.7% of respondents go to Sardasht to avail of the services. The rest (31.3%) obtain the services from Goharan, Khomeini Shahr and Jackan cities. 38.9% of inhabitants come to the market town daily, 37.4% weakly and 23.7% monthly. Moreover 38.2% of respondents generally go to Sardasht to obtain better services. 48.9% of inhabitants stated that they go to Sardasht because of the proximity of their place of living to Sardasht and 13 percent consider other factors like public transportation going to Sardasht city. The respondents were asked to choose which among the following 19 services do they vail in Sardasht market: doctor, sanitation house, health center, dentistry, drugstore, guidance school, high school, pre-university, library, post office and telecommunication, transportation, selling and buying agricultural products, agricultural tools and instruments store, agricultural tools repairmen, veterinary, bank, building material store, electrical equipment store, foodstuffs store, stationery store and official and disciplinary services. The results are shown in table 1.

Table 1: The goals of inhabitants' referrals to market-city of Sardasht (percent).									
Services	Sanitation & health Services	Educational & Cultural Services	Foodstuffs stores	Non- Food stuffs stores	Agricultural Services	Official and disciplinary services	Commercial services	Post office and elecommunication	Transportation Services
Calculations	-	-						ţ	
Mean	71.74	76.36	72.50	75.56	69.85	95.40	78.60	86.30	55.70
Min	45.80	75.60		74.00	51.90				
Max	88.50	77.90		77.90	80.90				

Except from dentistry and transport services, the majority of the basic services needed by the people were obtained from Sardasht city. Using Chi-square test showed that 68.7% of respondents always go to Sardasht city to obtain other services. Moreover, 97.7% of them prefer to go to this place to get their essential services. The results are shown in tables 2 and 3.

 Table 2: How do you agree this sentence "I would rather refer to Sardasht to supply the essential services for me and my family"?

Responses	s Frequency	y Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent						
Totally agree	26	19.8	20.3	20.3						
Agree	99	75.6	77.3	97.7						
Disagree	3	2.3	2.3							
Totally disagre	зе <u>З</u>	2.3								
Total	128	97.7	100.0	100.0						
]	Table 3: Do you always go to Sardasht city to get services?									
Responses	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percen						

Yes	90	68.7	68.7	68.7
No	41	31.3	31.3	100
Total	131	100	100	

Since the respondents were selected from three rural groups with weak- average- high levels of services, social and economic features, their points of view and their ways of utilizing services were different and these differences generated goals and stimulants to go to

the market-town. Consequently, there was dependency between social and economic variables and current /future roles of Sardasht market – town that was specified.

The dependency was assessed using Chi-square test. The results of Chi-square test indicated significant dependency of services with each other's with a P-value <0.05. Since the achieved P-values were smaller than 0.05, it can be concluded that the rate and kind of services they used in the market – town of Sardasht depend on three rural servicing groups (*i.e.* weak, average, high services). Although access to drugstores & repair shop for agricultural instruments, which was included in this category, have different values from other quantities. These quantities related to veterinary and medical services were totally different. Their P-values equal to 0.622 and 0.365, respectively. This means that there is no dependency between these variables and the variables on the level of services in rural hinterlands. In other words, the current role of market-town of Sardasht in providing services to inhabitants of rural hinterlands is affected by medical and veterinary services.

This point cannot be ignored since some parts of rural population will not come to Sardasht city to avail of the services. The results show 28.26% for medical remedial services, 23.64% for educational services, 27.5% for providing foodstuffs, 24.5% for providing non-foodstuffs, 31.15% for agricultural services, 22.4% for commercial and financial services, 44.3% for transportation are provided by the periphery of Sardasht market-city. In the results, it is indicated that 17% % refer to Jakdan, 3% to Khomeinishahr, 13.7% go to Goharan city.

A. The effective factors on future role of Sardasht market-town

As explained above all services are effective in current role fulfillment of markettown of Sardasht except medical services, veterinary and, to some extent, repairs for agricultural tools. In order to show future perspective of Sardasht market-town, it is necessary to specify the effective factors in its role fulfillment. The results in tables 3&6 showed the effect of economic – social variables on different ways of referring to Sardasht market-town to access future services.

		Coefficients								
Iteration	-2 Log likelihood	Constant	Agricultural jobs	Living in a weak level servicing village	Living in average level servicing village	Living in a village with distance less than 50 km to market-town	Living in a village with distance less than 20 km to market-town	Living in a village with distance between 20 to 50 km to market-town		
1	216.843	-5.898	.740	2.307	1.818	.572	588	-1.101		
2	216.630	-6.783	.845	2.547	2.047	.655	620	-1.153		
3	216.629	-6.827	.848	2.559	2.060	.658	620	-1.153		
4	216.629	-6.828	.848	2.559	2.060	.658	620	-1.153		

Table 3: Interaction history of economic -social variables

a Method: Enter. b Constant is included in the model. c Initial -2 Log Likelihood: 238.070 . d. Estimation terminated at iteration number 4 because parameter estimates changed by less than .001.

TC 11 4	T 7 · 11	•		C	•	•	
Table 4.	Variables	1n ec	mation	tor	SOCIO	_economic	variables
	v arrabics	III CC	Juanon	101	30010	ccononne	variables

	В	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Agricultural jobs	.848	.939	.816	1	.366	2.335
Living in a weak level servicing village	2.559	.799	10.259	1	.001	12.923
Living in an average level servicing village	2.060	.651	10.000	1	.002	7.843
Living in a village with distance less than 50 km to market-town	.658	.454	2.103	1	.147	1.931
Living in a village with distance less than 20 km to market-town	620	.708	.769	1	.381	.538
Living in a village with distance between 20 to 50 km to market-town	-1.153	.481	5.757	1	.016	.316
Constant	-6.828	2.750	6.166	1	.013	.001

a Variable(s) entered on step 1: Agr.Job, Living in W.L.S, Living in A.L.S, Living in less than 50 km, Living in less than 20 km Living between 20 to 50 km

Results indicated that among economic and social factors, "rural inhabitants with weak services" variable with $EXP^Bor(e^{2.559}) = 12.923$ quantity undertake the impression on future perspective of Sardasht market-city (Tables 5 and 6). The second effective factor will be "rural inhabitants with average services" with $EXP^Bor(e^{2.050}) = 7.843$. In this order "agricultural jobs" with 2.335, "living in settlements with 50 kilometers less distant from Sardasht" with 1.931 Exp(B) are the subsequent effective levels.

Among aforesaid factors, two variables have the least effect on rural inhabitants' referrals to market-town of Sardasht. These are "villages with less than 1000 population" and "setting in villages with 100-250 population".

The same approach was done for all effective services (variables) on the role of Sardasht market-town. In order to have desirable analysis of the above variable effects, and because of soft –ware limitation, they were classified into six groups of health & remedial, educational, official and disciplinary, transportation & accessibility to foodstuffs and non-foodstuffs sores. Variables on the probable indexes for future referrals to Sardasht city for accessibility to services of high school, pre-university, library will be 9.809, 1.693 and 120.0, respectively. Among the mentioned variables, referring to library is more than others.

Next results would be exciting, -2log likelihood for transportation variables, official and disciplinary, accessibility to foodstuffs and non-foodstuffs stores equal to 169.070. The 69 units of differences with initial -2 log likelihood with 238.070 indicate the correspondence the model with date. The logit index showed weak, average, high levels of variables in future referring to Sardasht market-town. The variables of referring to "building material store", "referring to bank" and "foodstuffs stores intensely" affect the future referrals. The variables of "referring to light agricultural repairmen store", "official & disciplinary center", "referring to the post office and telecommunication" for adopting services, "referring to dentistry" and "accessibility to selling & buying agricultural stores" have the average effect. Finally, those two variables with weak influence are "referring to transportation services" and "stationery stores". The results were indicated in tables 5 and 6.

							Coefficier	nts					
Iteration	-2 Log likelihood	Constant	post office and telecommunication	transportation services	accessibility to selling & buying agricultural stores	accessibility to agricultural tools store	accessibility to light agricultural repairmen store	referring to veterinarian	referring to bank	referring to building material store	referring to scribal store	referring to glossary shops	referring to official & disciplinary center
1	173.45	-4.701	172	.026	.038	.275	.795	.190	.750	1.219	-1.135	.746	.740
2	168.37	-6.325	.281	111	.194	.494	.910	.207	1.09	1.496	-1.547	1.048	.796
3	167.85	-6.915	.493	201	.314	.594	.944	.186	1.27	1.564	-1.765	1.195	.799
4	167.84	-6.983	.510	215	.336	.601	.952	.186	1.30	1.569	-1.801	1.219	.794
5	167.84	-6.984	.510	216	.336	.601	.953	.186	1.30	1.569	-1.801	1.220	.793

Table 5: Interaction history of transportation, official and disciplinary and accessibility to foodstuffs & non-foodstuffs stores.

a Method: Enter b Constant is included in the model. c Initial -2 Log Likelihood: 238.070 . d Estimation terminated at iteration number 5 because parameter estimates changed by less than .001.

Variables	В	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)				
post office and telecommunication	.510	.660	.598	1	.439	1.666				
transportation services	216	.462	.218	1	.641	.806				
accessibility to selling & buying agricultural stores	.336	.622	.292	1	.589	1.400				
accessibility to agricultural tools store	.601	.843	.508	1	.476	1.824				
accessibility to light agricultural repairment store	.953	.413	5.328	1	.021	2.593				
referring to veterinarian	.186	.653	.081	1	.775	1.205				
referring to bank	1.306	.724	3.252	1	.071	3.690				
referring to building material store	1.569	.502	9.785	1	.002	4.804				
referring to scribal store	-1.801	.793	5.159	1	.023	.165				
referring to glossary shops	1.220	.740	2.718	1	.099	3.386				
referring to official & disciplinary center	.793	1.406	.318	1	.573	2.210				
Constant	-6.984	1.810	14.889	1	.000	.001				

Table 6: Logit indexes for variables of communication, official and disciplinary and accessibility to foodstuffs & non-foodstuffs stores.

In determining the effective factors in role fulfillment and future perspective of Sardasht market-town services, logistic regression was used. The results showed that current services in Sardasht has the rang of effects of, so much, much, mediocre, a little, little in future referrals to market town indicated in table 7.

Table 7: classifying the effective variables on future referrals to Sardasht market-town.

services	В	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)	Effectivenes s
Library	4.787	0.757	39.966	1	0	120	Very high
Referring to drugstore	3.724	1.181	9.943	1	0.002	41.409	High
Referring to high school	2.283	0.709	10.373	1	0.001	9.809	High
Referring to building material store	1.569	0.502	9.785	1	0.002	4.804	High
Referring to bank	1.306	0.724	3.252	1	0.071	3.69	Normal
Referring to glossary shops	1.22	0.74	2.718	1	0.099	3.386	Normal
Accessibility to light agricultural repairment store	0.953	0.413	5.328	1	0.021	2.593	Normal
Visit Doctor	0.793	0.57	1.938	1	0.164	2.21	Normal
Referring to official & disciplinary center	0.793	1.406	0.318	1	0.573	2.21	Normal
Referring to dentistry	0.717	0.407	3.098	1	0.078	2.049	Normal
Accessibility to agricultural tools store	0.601	0.843	0.508	1	0.476	1.824	Low
Post office and telecommunication	0.51	0.66	0.598	1	0.439	1.666	Low
Referring to pre-university school	0.494	0.738	0.448	1	0.503	1.639	Low
Accessibility to selling & buying agricultural stores	0.336	0.622	0.292	1	0.589	1.4	Low
Referring to veterinarian	0.186	0.653	0.081	1	0.775	1.205	Low
Referring to sanitation house	0.055	0.413	0.018	1	0.895	1.056	Low
Transportation services	-0.216	0.462	0.218	1	0.641	0.806	Very low
Referring to sanitation Centers	-1.451	0.659	4.85	1	0.028	0.234	Very low
Referring to scribal store	-1.801	0.793	5.159	1	0.023	0.165	Very low

Conclusion

A rural region which lacks essential services facility, city points as a higher central place for delivering services to rural hinterlands especially in southeast of Iran with non-asphalt roads can be crucial. Establishing a market-city in this region to lessen the lacks of services facility can be the most effective solution.

Based on a novel approach which is supported by England government (Shaw & Powe, 2004) the research was done on Sardasht city as a market-town. This research showed that despite the lack of suitable place in settlement hierarchical system, Sardasht city's inhabitants' aim to get services. It can be concluded that about 78% of respondents have daily, weekly and monthly referrals to Sardasht market-town. Averagely, rural hinterlands inhabitants for getting services to Sardasht market-town equal to 71.1% for remedial health services, 76.36% for educational services, 72.5% for foodstuffs store, 75.56% for non-foodstuffs stores, 64.85% for agricultural services, 95.4% for official and disciplinary services, 78.6% financial & commercial services, 86.3% for post office & telecommunication and 55.7% goes to transportation services.

In other words, those services which are more important in role fulfillment of Sardasht market-town include: sanitation house, health, remedial centers, drugstore, dentistry, high school, pre-university, library, transportation, selling & buying agricultural instrument, referring to the banks, foodstuff & non-foodstuffs stores, post office & telecommunication, referring to official & disciplinary centers, medical services and veterinary. And to some extent farming instruments repairs do not affect role fulfillment so it should be focused by those locals in charge.

The results showed that three settlements, Khomeinishahr, Jakdan and Goharan are going to continue the role fulfillment of Sardasht market-town. In total, 32% of the regional referrals were allocated to those settlements. By considering the level of the delivery of services and the location of settlements these results were predictable. Each settlement has direct influence to attract Sardasht referrals to themselves. Another point that should be regarded is that location of Sardasht at a distance of 19&20 kilometers between Gharanand Jakdan will result in 13.7 and 17% of town referrals attraction. Consequently, any negative changes in qualification and quantification of services in Sardasht will be to its rival profits. This shows that, although the role of Sardasht market-town is so desirable in providing services, it can be threatened severely.

In determining the effective factors in current role fulfillment of Sardsht market-town in the delivery of services to rural hinterlands, some points were used. The variables were those which show economic – social features of respondents and those variables which show current services in Sardasht city. The results indicated that the rate and kind of current services depend on 3 rural groups namely: weak- average and its services. However these results were totally different for medical and veterinary services.

In determining the effective factors in role fulfillment and future perspective of Sardasht market-town services, logistic regression was used. The results showed that current services in Sardasht has the rang of effects of, so much, much, mediocre, a little, little in future referrals to market town.

References

- Akbarian, S. (2006). Small Urban Function in Rural Development; Roniz District.University of Tehran, Tehran.
- Amchaki, H. (2004).. Median Cities and Their Roles on National Development Plan. Center of Research and Study of Iran's Architectural and Urbanity, Tehran.

- Andrew, C., Nigel, S. (1997). Finding Farmers in Eastern Europe: Some Issues. WORKING PAPER No. 60 Rural Transition Series, University of Liverpool, Liverpool.
- Bagheri, A. (1996). Median Urban Function in Regional development. PHD thesis, University of Tehran, Tehran.
- Bayazidi I., Oladi, B., Abasi, N. (2009). Questionnaire Data Analysis with SPSS. Abed, Tehran.
- DEFRA (2004). Review of the Rural White Paper Our countryside: the future, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London.
- DETR (2000). Our Countryside: the future A fair deal for rural England. Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, London.
- Fanni Z. (2003). Small Citie; New approach in Regional Development, Iran's Musicality's Organization, Tehran.
- Fanni Z. (1996). The Role of Small Cities in Regional Development; Khuzestan, southwest of Iran. PHD thesis, University of Tehran, Tehran.
- Findlay A.M., Stockdale A, Findlay A., Short D. (2001). Mobility as driver of change in rural: an analysis of the links between migration, commuting and travel to shop patterns. International Journal of Population Geography, Vol.7, pages (1–15).
- Ghadermazi, H (2004). The Role of Rural-Town in Hinterlands Development; Kurdistan, west of Iran. MA thesis, University of Tarbiyat Modares, Tehran.
- Hossieni, H. (1999). The Role of Small Urban in Rural Development; RazanDistrict, Scrapbook of Researches and Potential of Geography on Up building. University of Tehran, Tehran.
- IzadiKharameh, H. (2001). ChandingRurals to Urban And Their Function in Rural Development; Fars Province. PHD thesis, University of tarbiyat Modares, Tehran.
- Moseley, M.J. (1996). Accessibility and care in a rural area—the case of Tewkesbury Borough. Policy and Planning, Vol.14 (2), pages (19–25).
- Nazariyan, A. (1996). The Role of Small Cities in national Spatial Planning; Zanjan, Iran. The Quarterly of Geographical Researches, vol. 3 (Year 11), pages (13-28).
- Powe N., Shaw T. (2004). Exploring the current and future role of market towns in servicing their hinterlands: a case study of Alnwickin the North East of England. Journal of Rural Studies, Vol. 20, pages (405–418).
- Rezvani, A. (2009). Urban and Rural Rank. Makan, Tehran .
- Ragbourne, S., Hammond, H. (1998). An investigation into consumer and retailer attitudes to retail and service provision in the market town of Ludlow. RICS Research Conference ROOTS, The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, UK.
- Rezvani M., Mansouriyan H., Ahmadi F. (2009). Prefermenting Rural To City and Its Role on Improving the Quality of Local Inhabitant's Life. Journal of Rural Researches, Vol. 1, pages (19 31).
- Rostami, K. (2001). Small Urban Function on Regional Development. MA thesis, University of Tarbiat Modares, Tehran.
- Sheikhi, D. (2003). The Role of Rural-Town in Regional Development; Arak District. MA thesis, University of Tehran, Tehran.
- White T. (2005). Rural Urban marketing linkages; An infrastructure identification and survey guide. FAO Agricultural services building, Rome.
- Zebardast E. (2003). Assessing Methods of Hierarchy and ranking of Settlements with UFRD theory on Rural Planning. Honarhay-e-Ziba Vol.12, pages (52–63).