



## Inferential Survey Statistics and Research Foundation

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Statistical Support to Informed Decision Making  
Since 2019

### Migrant Home Returnees Revisited, Who, Why and Where of Re-Migration Mid Covid-19 Dissected

(A Study based on Phase-2 and Phase-3 Survey on Migrant Workers)

(March 2021)

#### Abstract

The study has been carried out by Inferential Survey Statistics and Research Foundation in collaboration with Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations (ICRIER). Survey on Migrant Workers Phase-2 is follow-up survey of migrant home returnees due to national lockdown Wave-1 Covid-19, earlier surveyed in Phase-1 during July-August 2020 and Phase-3 is further follow-up survey of the migrants still home placed as surveyed in Phase-2. Survey covers six States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal extending over 34 districts as covered earlier in Phase-1. Phase-2 Survey was conducted during November-December 2020 and Phase-3, during second fortnight of February 2021 with reference dates of survey as 30 November 2020 and 28 February 2021. Survey covers 2917 migrants in 6 States and in Phase-2 and Phase-3, non-Response is limited to 6.38% at all India level.

Objectives of the Survey includes extent of re-migration and the profile of re-migrants, availability of livelihood, employment opportunities and income in the Place of Re-Migration vis-a-vis earlier at the Place of Migration Pre Covid-19, overall grading of quality and quantity of food at the Place of Re-Migration as compared to earlier Place of Migration and at Native Place, and the livelihood at the Native Place of those still home placed and whether or, not these migrants are willing to return to Place of Migration and the reasons thereof.

Report is divided into 12 Sections. Sections 1-2 relate to objectives of the survey and sampling strategy and sample design and Section 3, to the extent of re-migration and the same place re-migration in two phases. Section 4 deals with demography of the migrants, earning members, education and training and the movement of re-migrants by period of stay at Place of Migration Pre Covid-19 to Native Place and by duration of Stay at Native Place before re-migration. Section 5 discusses mode of travel and travel expanse of the migrants during reverse migration Pre Covid-19 and re-migration during Mid Covid -19 and the contribution of the Government, employers, and other sources in the travel expanse. Section 6 is the heart of the study and contours the occupation and income profile of migrants at Place of Migration Pre Covid-19 and Re-Migration Mid Covid-19 and their distribution with the type of industries and occupation. Section 7 unfurls the miseries of the employment in unorganised sector and the employment conditions at the Place of Re-migration. Section 8 discusses the access or lack of social security benefits to the re-migrants and the overall quality of food the re-migrants have compared to what they had earlier Pre Covid-19 before reverse migration due to lockdown. Section 9 traverses the livelihood and income of the

migrants at Native Place in two phases just after return from the Place of Migration and after almost 6 months of Stay at Native Place. Section 10 gives an account of the social security benefit, food security and skill training of the migrants at Native Place and an account of implementation hitch of the Government proclaimed schemes for the migrants. Section 11 depicts the extent and livelihood at the preferred destination States, source State re-migrants wise. Section 12 presents the perspective of the migrants for re-migration, extent of their willingness and the reasons thereof, similarly the extent of non-willingness to re-migrate and reasons thereof and what could be the extent of future re-migration once the economy fully recovers.

Section 13, the last Section of the Report is way forward for the Government and policy planners in form of recommendations and policy imperatives, and along with Section 0 on Executive Summary completes the stretch of the Study. It has the schedules of the survey of all the three phases to understand the metadata and the data tables for further analysis by the researchers and the economic brains on the problem of migration and the need of a coherent migration policy.

### About ISS&RF

Inferential Survey Statistics and Research Foundation (ISS&RF) is a not-for-profit institution incorporated in 2019 under Section 8 of the Companies' Act, 2013, engaged in independent statistical survey and high-quality research in the areas of survey methodology, quantitative analysis, training, and related fields of applied statistics.

The ISS&RF is formed by a group of highly spirited, well-informed retired officers of Indian Statistical Service, Indian Economic Service, Subordinate Statistical Service and other services, each having led the statistical systems across the Ministries/ Departments of the Government at senior level for several decades. It has the expertise of statisticians, economists, information technology professionals and subject field experts. It aims to provide survey and research-based support, to Government, Industries, Private Institutions, and the people at large, to make better decisions in the interest of them and the society. In this endeavor, it utilizes the expertise of its members and latest technological development in the field of statistical surveys to optimize the cost and reduce the time in bringing out the survey results.

The ISS&RF ensures the highest level of quality services, accuracy, efficiency, and timeliness in completion of projects, statistical surveys, studies, research, and consultancy services on turnkey basis. The appropriate national/international statistical standards for quality data and methodology for actionable business and strategic decisions shall be followed. The Headquarters of the Foundation is at New Delhi

Report is available at <https://www.issrf.org.in>