
Azim Premji University COVID-19 Livelihoods Survey



Pune

Azim Premji University along with the Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR) conducted a detailed phone survey of 307 respondents in Maharashtra to gauge the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on employment, livelihoods, and access to government relief schemes.

The respondents were selected through a purposive sampling method to ensure diversity in location and type of work done. The sample is not representative of the state.

Respondents were predominantly from Pune. The data presented here was collected between 13th April, 2020 and 22nd May, 2020. This brief is part of a series of state-level briefs prepared based on the survey findings. A dashboard with detailed information is available at cse.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in



Key Findings

78%

reported that they had **lost their employment**.

94%

cannot pay rent for the next month

39%

households did not have **enough money** to buy even a **week's worth** of essentials.

84%

reported **consuming less food** than before.

6 in 10

of vulnerable households **received ration**.

94%

of vulnerable households did not receive any **cash transfer**.

Relief measures announced

Relief measure information was sent out to survey respondents via SMS.

Central Level

- * Between April to June 2020, **each PHH and AAY family to get free of cost 5 kg food grains per person per month and 1 kg of dal per family per month.** This is in **addition to regular ration** which they will continue to get.
- * Women Jan Dhan account holders to get **Rs 500 per month** between April to June, 2020. * **First instalment of PM-KISAN (Rs 2000)** to be paid during 1st week of April.

State Level

- * For May and June, APL families to receive 3 kg wheat and 2 kg rice per person **@ Rs 8 per kg of wheat and Rs 12 per kg of wheat.**
- * For April, May and June cost of Shiv Bhojan thali **reduced from Rs 10 to Rs 5 per plate.**
- * In adivasi areas **home delivery of cooked food for 4 days** to pregnant, lactating women and children between the ages of 7 months and 6 years under Bharat Ratna Abdul Kalam Amrut Yojna.
- * **Direct cash transfer** equivalent to benefits or required rations will be supplied if hot cooked meal **is not** being supplied.

Source : covid19socialsecurity.wordpress.com/relief-measures



Recommendations

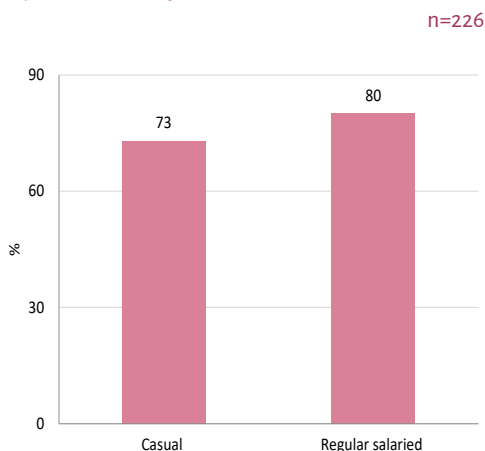
- * **Universalise PDS** to expand its reach and provide the promised expanded rations for **at least the next six months.**
- * Give **cash transfers equal to at least Rs 7000 per month for two months.**
- * Use **information from MGNREGA, PM Ujjwala, PDS and local registrations** to expand the reach of cash transfers.
- * Urgent need to focus on **programmes for the urban poor.**
- * Over the medium term, proactive steps like **expansion of MGNREGA, introduction of urban employment guarantee, and investment in universal basic services** are needed.



Impact on livelihoods

This section deals with the impact that the lockdown has had on work and earnings. We measured levels of employment and income since the lockdown was imposed, and compared them to the situation prevailing in February.

Figure 1: Workers who lost employment by activity status reported in February (%)



78% reported that they had **lost their employment**.

86% of male respondents lost their employment, compared to **72% of female** respondents.

67% of salaried wage workers reported that they had **not been paid their salaries** or they had **received reduced salaries** during the lockdown.

The situation here in the village is very grim. We are not able to buy essentials. Owing to the lockdown, we are not able to travel to the city for work or essential commodities. Our savings are also drying up.

(Male, 37, Self Employed)

Figure 2: Workers who lost employment by sex (%)

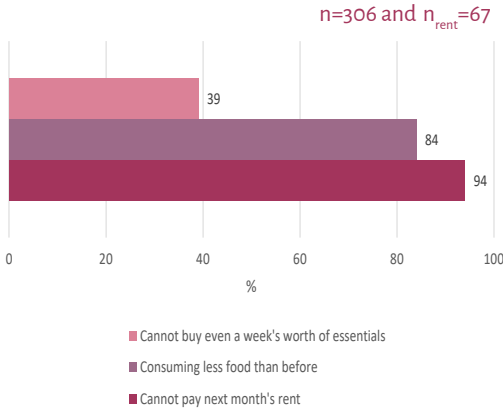




Impact on households

This section looks at how households were faring under the lockdown particularly with respect to food intake and access to savings and credit.

Figure 3: Impacts on households due to the lockdown (%)



84% households reported **consuming less food** than before.

91% of **vulnerable** households were **consuming less food than before**.

Nearly 4 in 10 households **did not have enough money to buy even a week's worth of essentials**.

Nearly one-fourth of households surveyed had to take a **loan** as a result of this lockdown.

More than 9 in 10 said that they **cannot pay** next month's rent.



Access to relief measures

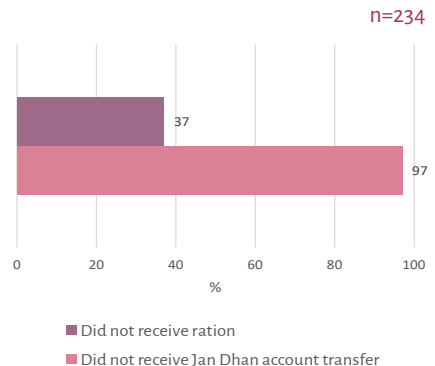
This section studies the reach and impact of relief measures announced by the Government. We focus on availability of food rations, cash transfers to beneficiaries and benefits accruing to vulnerable households.

37% of vulnerable households **were unable to get ration**.

96% of vulnerable households **did not have a Jan Dhan account**.

94% of vulnerable households **did not receive any cash transfer**.

Figure 4: Vulnerable households who did not receive ration or Jan Dhan transfer (%)





Survey Coverage

40% respondents were males and **60%** were females.

Hindus comprised 77% of respondents and **Muslims 13%**.

59% respondents hailed from the **SC/ST** community.

84% of the households were vulnerable i.e. **they earned less than Rs 10,000 in February.**

Figure 5: Share of respondents by activity status in February (%)



Results from other surveys happening in the state

- * A survey conducted by INHAF, Mashal, CLRA and the sociology department at Savitribhai Phule Pune University reached out to 341 respondents in Maharashtra (including Pune).
- * The study reveals that **59% of respondents have not been paid** during the lockdown in Maharashtra.
- * The study also finds that **55% of respondents have not received ration** from the government
- * COVID-19 impact studies conducted by Dalberg, Indus Action and SWAN also feature Maharashtra in their sample drawn from a number of states.

For a compilation of the various Covid-19 surveys and studies conducted across the country please visit : cse.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/covid19-analysis-of-impactand-relief-measures/#other_surveys