



# Azim Premji University

# COVID-19 Livelihoods Survey

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Voices from Delhi, Bhubaneswar, Gujarat, Pune,  
and Rajasthan



# How did we do the survey ?

Purposive sampling (using our collaborators networks)

Phone Survey |

Broad sections of the questionnaire:

- Impact on livelihoods
- Impact on households
- Reach and effectiveness of schemes

Follow ups planned





# Delhi (Urban)

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Findings from phone surveys

Collaborating CSO: Centre for Advocacy and Research 





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## Survey Coverage

- 240 respondents
- 47% respondents were males, 45% were females and 8% were transgender
- Hindus comprised 81% of the respondents, **Muslims 9%**
- **63% were from the SC/ST community**
- **82% of the households were vulnerable** i.e. earned less than Rs 10,000 in February
- **Migrants constituted 53% of the sample.**





## Key Findings

73%

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

63%

**fall in average earnings** of casual workers and self-employed non agricultural workers.

3 in 4

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

9 in 10

reported **consuming less food** than before.

32%

of vulnerable households **received ration**.

73%

vulnerable households received no **cash transfer**.





## Impact on livelihoods

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



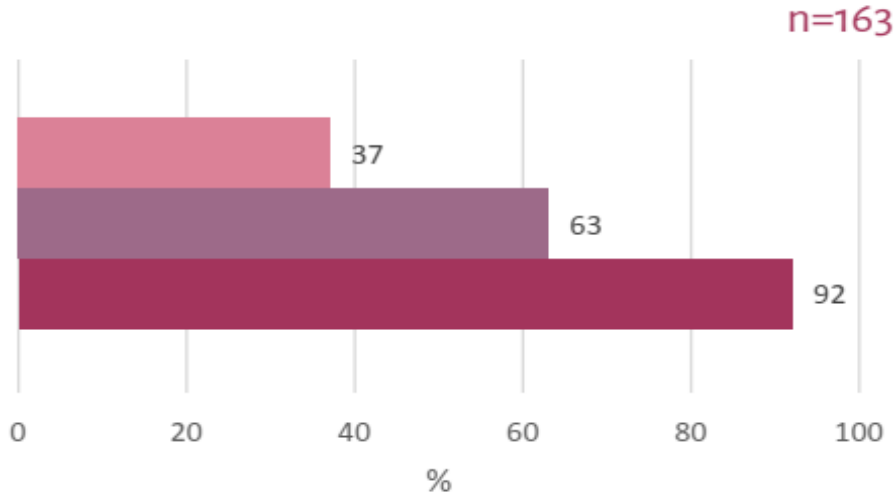
- The **self employed** were the worst hit with **86%** losing their jobs
- Salaried workers (**82%**) were not far behind
- A larger share of **females (77%)** reported a loss in employment





## Impact on households

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



- Took a loan
- Cannot buy more than a week's worth of essentials
- Consuming less food than before

- **96%** households said that they **cannot pay next month's rent**
- **92%** of migrant workers were **consuming less food** than before

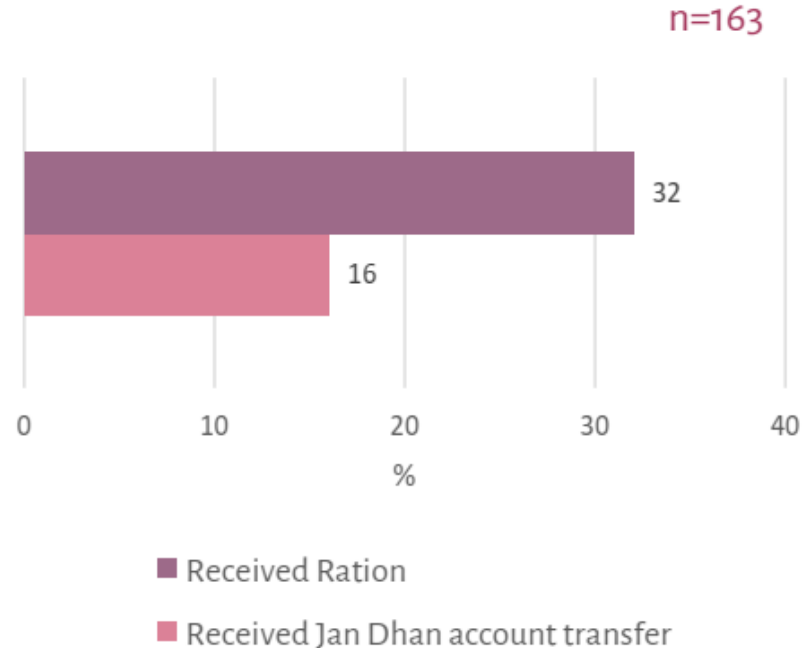




## Access to relief measures

- **More than half of the vulnerable households did not get ration**
- **70% of migrant households did not get ration.**
- **78% of vulnerable households did not have a Jan Dhan account**

Figure 4: Vulnerable households who received ration or Jan Dhan transfer (%)







# Gujarat

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Findings from phone surveys  
Collaborating CSO: SEWA





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## Survey Coverage

- 315 respondents
- 54% of the respondents worked in urban areas
- 93% of respondents were females and 7% were males
- Hindus comprised 88% of the respondents, **Muslims 11%**
- **49%** were from the **SC/ST community**
- **87% of the households were vulnerable** i.e. earned less than Rs 10,000 in February





## Key Findings

**71%**

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

**68%**

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

**82%**

reported **consuming less food** than before.

**85%**

vulnerable households **received ration**.

**59%**

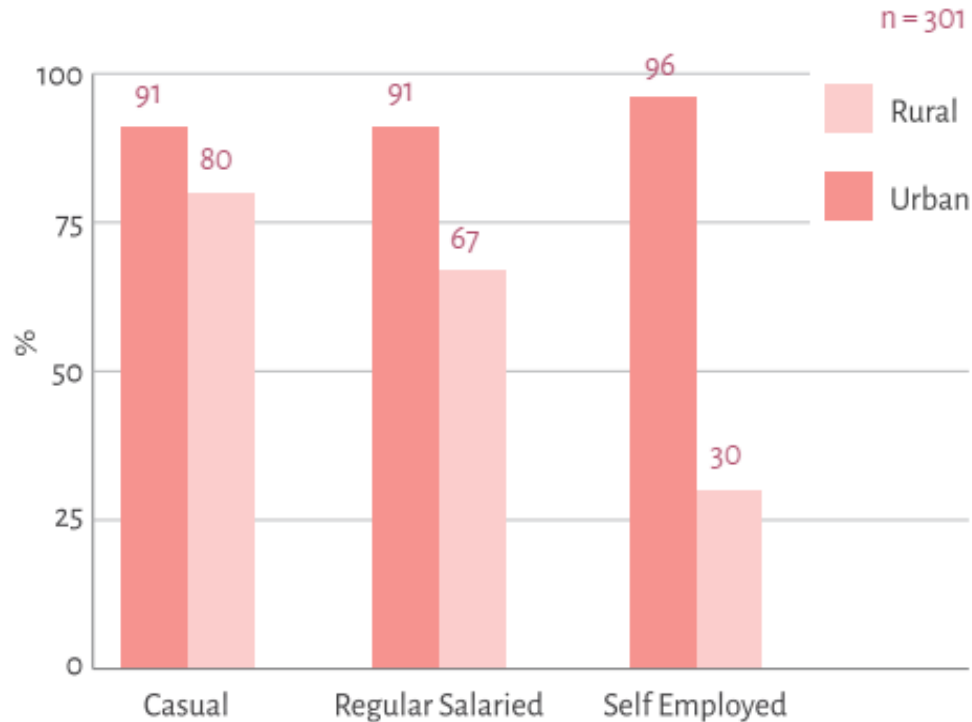
of vulnerable households **did not receive any cash transfer**.





## Impact on livelihoods

Figure 2: Workers who lost their employment by activity status in February (%)



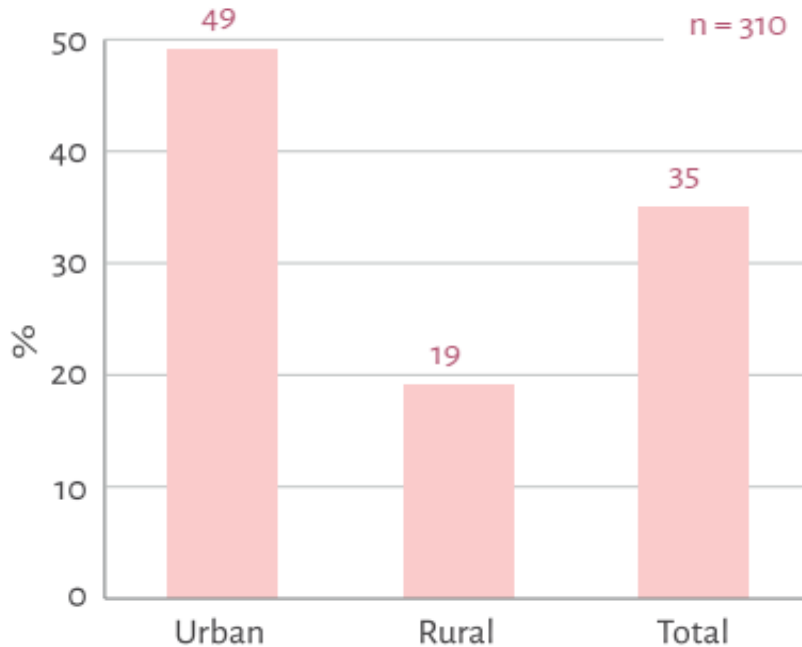
- Urban Gujarat: 92% having lost their employment
- Regular salaried workers in urban areas worst hit with 96% losing their jobs
- Nearly 9 in 10 farmers unable to sell their produce at full prices





## Impact on households

Figure 4: Households who had to take a loan for covid related expenses (%)



- **Urban households: 95% consuming less food than before**
- **In urban areas, 98% households said that they cannot pay next month's rent**

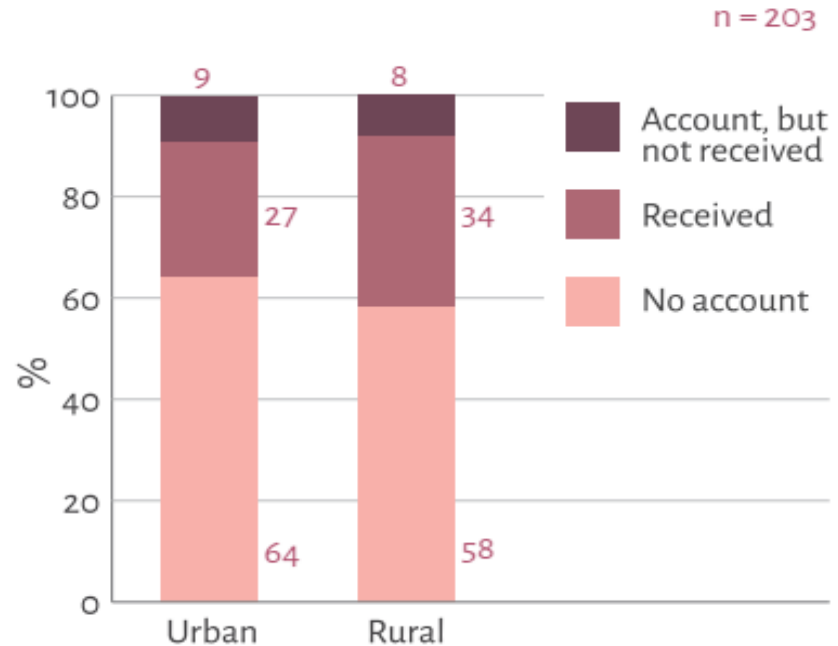




## Access to relief measures

- 18% of vulnerable households in urban areas were unable to get ration
- Only 22% of farmers received a PM-KISAN transfer
- More than 6 in 10 vulnerable households did not have a Jan Dhan account

Figure 5: Share of vulnerable households who received ration during the lockdown (%)





# Pune

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Findings from phone surveys

Collaborating CSO: Centre for Advocacy and Research





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## Survey Coverage

- 307 respondents
- 60% of respondents were females and 40% were males
- Hindus comprised 77% of the respondents, **Muslims 13%**
- **59%** were from the **SC/ST community**
- **84% of the households were vulnerable** i.e. earned less than Rs 10,000 in February







## 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%**

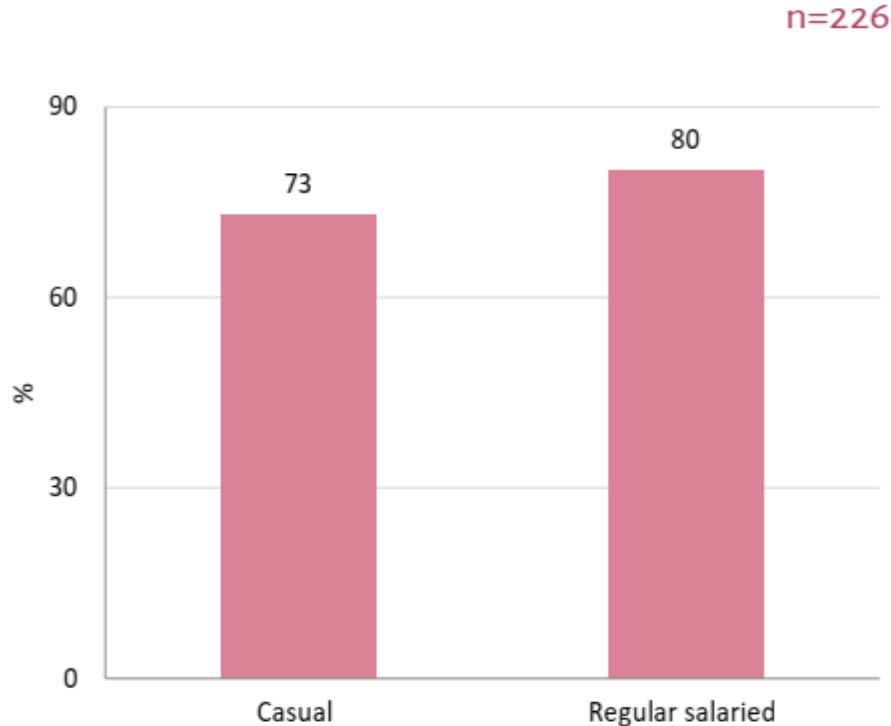
of vulnerable households did not receive any **cash transfer**.





## Impact on livelihoods

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



- **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

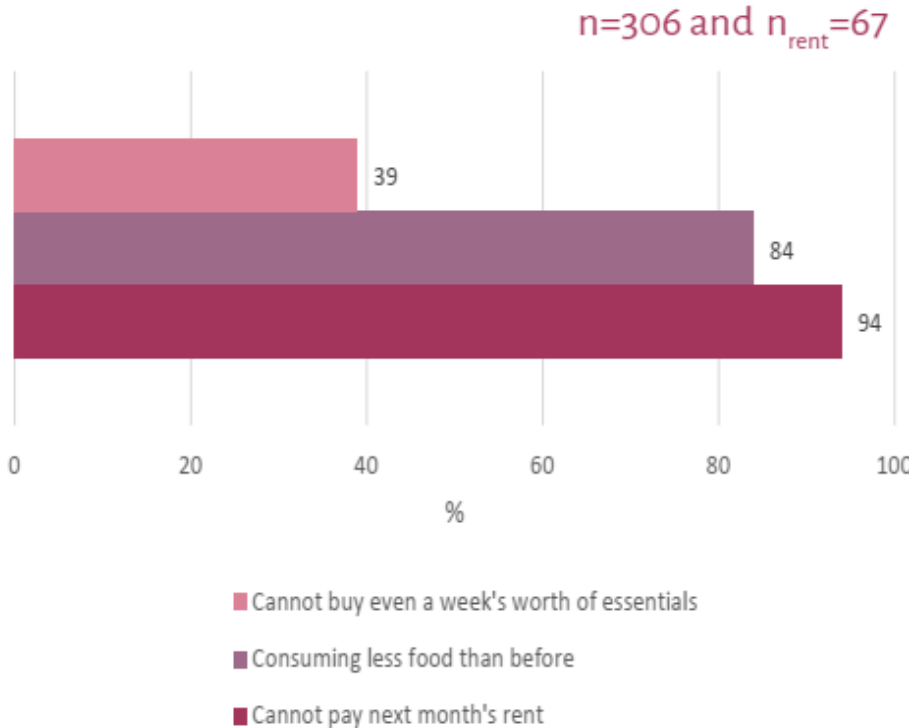
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## Impact on households

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



- **91% of vulnerable households were consuming less food than before**
- **Nearly one-fourth of households surveyed had to take a loan as a result of this lockdown**

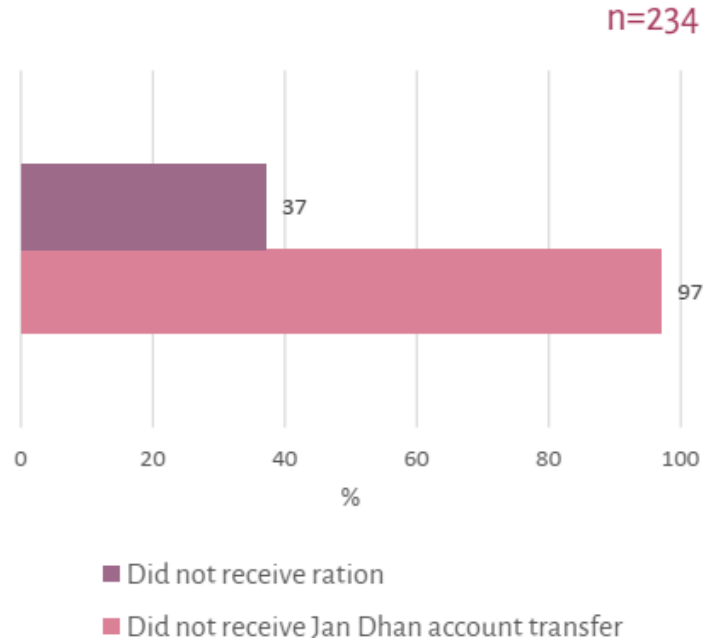




## Access to relief measures

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

- **37% of vulnerable households were unable to get ration**
- **96% of vulnerable households did not have a Jan Dhan account**





# Rajasthan

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Findings from phone surveys

Collaborating CSO: Centre for Advocacy and Research  
and Vaagdhara





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## Survey Coverage

- 484 respondents
- 79% of the respondents worked in urban areas
- 52% of the respondents were females, 45% were males and 3% were transgender
- Hindus comprised 82% of the respondents, **Muslims 17%**
- **Migrants** constituted **15%** of the sample, mostly in urban areas
- **84% of the households were vulnerable** i.e. earned less than Rs 10,000 in February





## Key Findings

88%

reported that they had **lost their employment** during the lockdown.

68%

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

77%

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

63%

vulnerable households **received ration**.

4 in 10

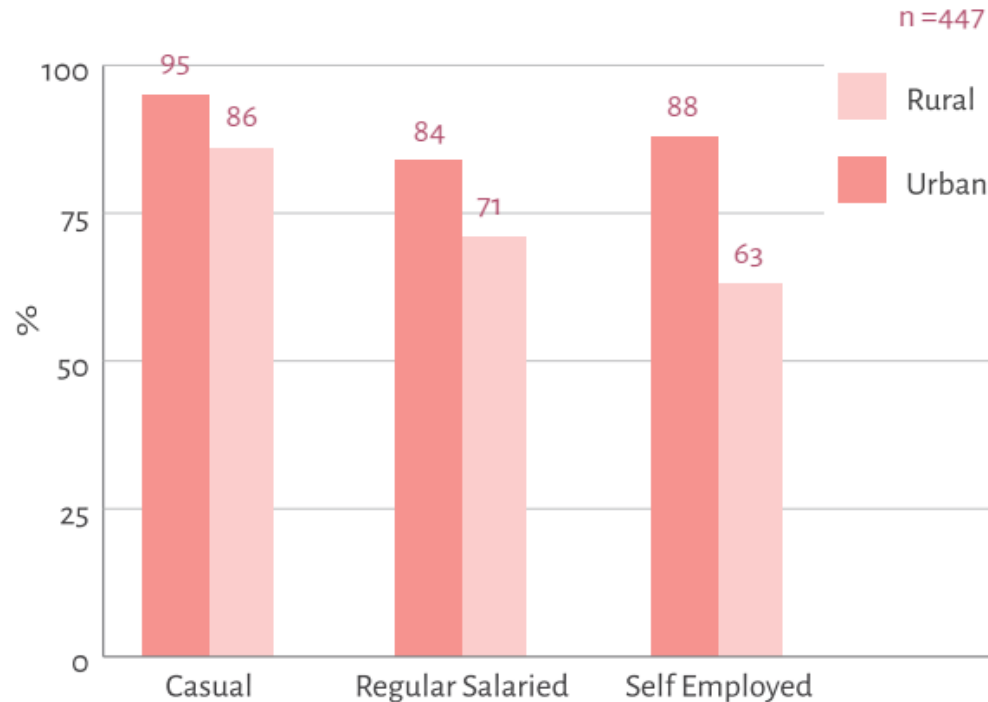
of vulnerable households **received no cash transfer**.





## Impact on livelihoods

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



- **Casual workers in urban areas worst hit with 95% losing their jobs**
- **68% of salaried wage workers had not been paid their salaries or they had received reduced salaries**
- **A larger share of females (93%) reported a loss in employment**

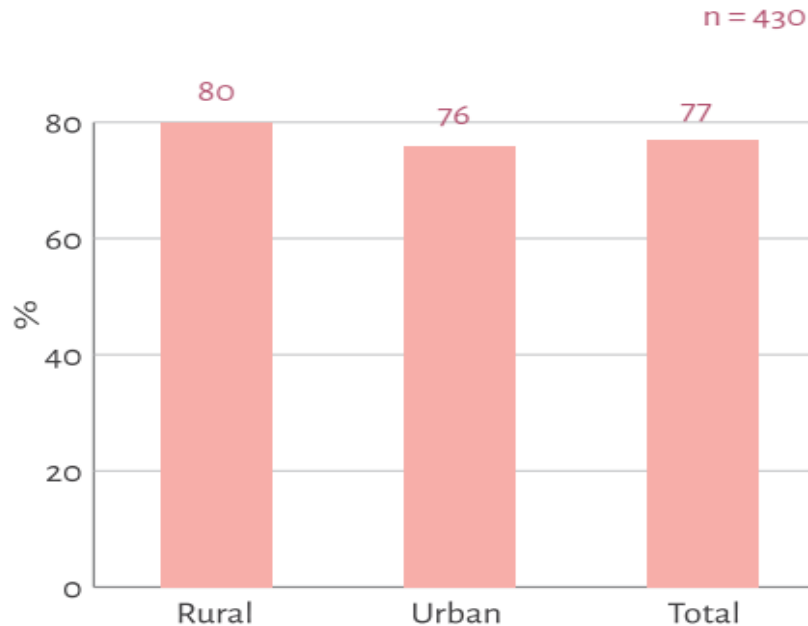






## Impact on households

Figure 3: Share of households consuming less food than before (%)



- **44% of all households had to take a loan as a result of this lockdown.**
- **In urban areas, 3 in 4 households said that they cannot pay next month's rent.**

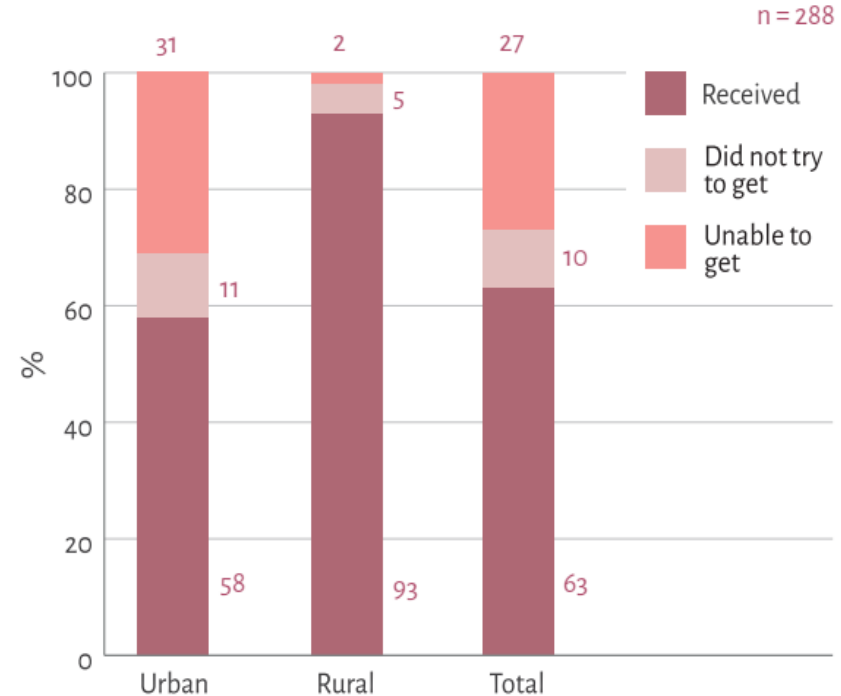




## Access to relief measures

Figure 6: Share of vulnerable households who received ration (%)

- **30%** of migrant workers working in urban areas **did not** have a ration card on them.
- **3 in 10** vulnerable households in urban areas **did not** receive ration
- **37%** of vulnerable households **did not** have a Jan Dhan account





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## 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.

