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### Migration pattern of rural youth of Udaipur district, Rajasthan

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#### Abstract

This study explores the migration patterns of rural youth in Udaipur district, Rajasthan. Focusing on the migration pattern of rural youth. Using structured questionnaires, data was collected from family member to understand the scale, nature, and outcomes of youth migration. The findings reveal that most respondents reported the migration of 1 to 2 youth members, predominantly males, with the highest migration occurring between the ages of 20 to 25 years. Migration was largely permanent in nature, with a significant number moving to other states or countries. Despite the physical separation, the majority of families maintained contact with the migrated youth, and most respondents perceived migration as having a positive impact on their happiness, career prospects, and family well-being. Financial remittances, often sent monthly or quarterly, contributed to household income and stability. Family support during the migration decision was evident, and a majority believe migration will remain a continuing trend among rural youth. The study highlights the need for [policy interventions/rural development strategies] to ensure migration is driven by opportunity rather than necessity, and to strengthen rural youth engagement in local economies

**Keywords:** Rural youth, migration pattern, family impact, career prospects, remittances, rural development

#### Introduction

Rural youth are vital to India's future, especially in agriculture, innovation, and sustainable development. However, limited access to quality education, healthcare, jobs, and modern infrastructure in villages pushes many youth's to migrate to urban areas. India, with 65-70 per cent of its population in rural areas and a majority of youth under 35, stands at a demographic crossroads. To curb distress-driven migration, rural development must focus on education, skills, infrastructure, and inclusive opportunities. This rural-to-urban migration is largely driven by the pursuit of better education, employment, and modern lifestyles. Migration offers youth exposure and income opportunities but also leads to depopulation, aging rural communities, and declining agricultural interest. Many migrants face urban challenges like unemployment, exploitation, and poor living conditions. The cycle of migration weakens rural economies and widens the rural-urban divide. Rural youth in India face a range of challenges that drive them toward migration, often out of necessity rather than choice. One of the primary

issues is the limited access to quality education and meaningful employment opportunities in rural areas. Despite educational advancement, rural regions continue to lack sufficient non-agricultural job options, pushing even educated youth to seek work elsewhere. According to the PLFS 2022-23, the unemployment rate among rural youth with secondary education or above is 17.4 per cent, and this figure exceeds 27 per cent among rural female youth in some states. Inadequate infrastructure, poor healthcare, and restricted social mobility further contribute to a sense of hopelessness, making migration the only viable path for many.

#### Methodology

The present study was conducted in Udaipur district. There are 20 panchayat samities in Udaipur district, out of which two panchayat samities, Badgaon and Mavli, were selected randomly. From each selected panchayat samities, 3 villages were selected randomly viz. Vijanwas, Teriya and Holli from Mavli panchayat samiti and Loyra, Badi and ferniyon ka

guda village from Badgaon panchayat samiti. From each village, 20 respondents were selected using snowball sampling technique. Thus, the total sample for the study consisted of 120 migrated youth's family members. The interview schedule was developed after extensive review of

literature and consultation with expert. Frequency and percentage were used for analysis of the data statistically.

## Results and Discussion

**Table 1:** Distribution of respondents according to their migration pattern n=120

S. No	Items	f	%
1.	<b>Number of youth migrated in your family</b>		
i.	1 to 2	113	94.16
ii.	2 to 4	7	5.83
2	<b>Youth migration in the family</b>		
i.	Male	116	96.66
ii.	Female	4	3.33
3	<b>Age at which they migrated</b>		
i.	15 to 20 years	31	25.83
ii.	20 to 25 years	55	45.83
iii.	25 to 29 years	34	28.33
4	<b>Pattern of migration</b>		
i.	Within district	43	35.8
ii.	Other district within the state	25	20.8
iii.	Other state/country	52	43.33
5	<b>Nature of migration</b>		
i.	Temporary	11	9.16
ii.	Permanent	109	90.83
6	Contact with migrated youth	113	94.16
7	Migrated youth feels happy	86	71.66
8	Migration has positive impact on youth career prospects	105	87.5
9	satisfaction with post-migration opportunities	90	75
10	<b>Support by family before migration</b>		
i.	Extensive support	25	20.83
ii.	Adequate support	61	50.83
iii.	Some support	34	28.33
11	Continued migration by youth in the future	75	62.5
12	<b>Lack of financial support/remittances from migrated youth</b>		
i.	Monthly	71	59.16
ii.	Quarterly	19	15.84
iii.	Annually	9	7.5
iv	Rarely	15	12.5
v	Never	6	5

The findings from the survey reveal that the majority of families (94.16%) reported having 1 to 2 youth members who had migrated, indicating a relatively small but significant outflow per household. Among the migrated youth, males dominated the trend, accounting for 96.66 per cent of the cases, while female migration remained minimal. Age-wise, youth migration was most prominent in the 20 to 25-year age group (45.83%), followed by 25 to 29 years (28.33%) and 15 to 20 years (25.83%). This suggests that most migrations occurred during early adulthood, typically post-education or early career stages. In terms of distance, a considerable proportion (43.3%) migrated to other states or countries, while 35.8 per cent relocated within the same district, and 20.8 per cent moved to other districts within the state. This indicates that inter-state and long-distance migration is relatively high among rural youth. Furthermore, the majority of these migrations (90.83%) were permanent, with only a small portion (9.1%) classified as temporary. A strong familial bond was reflected in the responses, with 94.16 per cent of families reporting they stayed in contact with the migrated youth. Among them, 71.6% of the families perceived that the youth were happier in their new

environment compared to their rural life.

A large majority (87.5%) of the respondents agreed that migration had a positive impact on the career prospects of their family youth. Additionally, 75 per cent expressed satisfaction with the opportunities available to the youth in the new location. Support from family during the migration decision process was reported as adequate support by 50.83 per cent of respondents, while 20.83 per cent provided extensive support, and others offered some form of help. Interestingly, 62.5 per cent of families believed that migration would continue to be a common path for youth in their community. In terms of financial support, 59.16 per cent of the respondents reported receiving remittances on a monthly basis from their migrated youth, followed by 15.84 per cent receiving quarterly support, 7.5 per cent annually, 12.5 per cent rarely, and 5 per cent who reported never receiving any financial assistance.

## Conclusion

Migration among rural youth is predominantly permanent, male-driven, and concentrated in the 20-25 age group, indicating a significant shift of productive workforce from

villages to urban and out-of-state areas. While migration is often seen as a necessity, it has shown positive outcomes—including improved career opportunities, better financial support through remittances, and overall family well-being—suggesting its growing role as a livelihood strategy. To ensure migration is a choice and not compulsion, there is an urgent need for rural development policies that enhance local education, employment, and infrastructure, reducing distress-driven migration and preserving rural vitality.

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