

# Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey- Round 3

June 15-23, 2020

*Preliminary Findings*

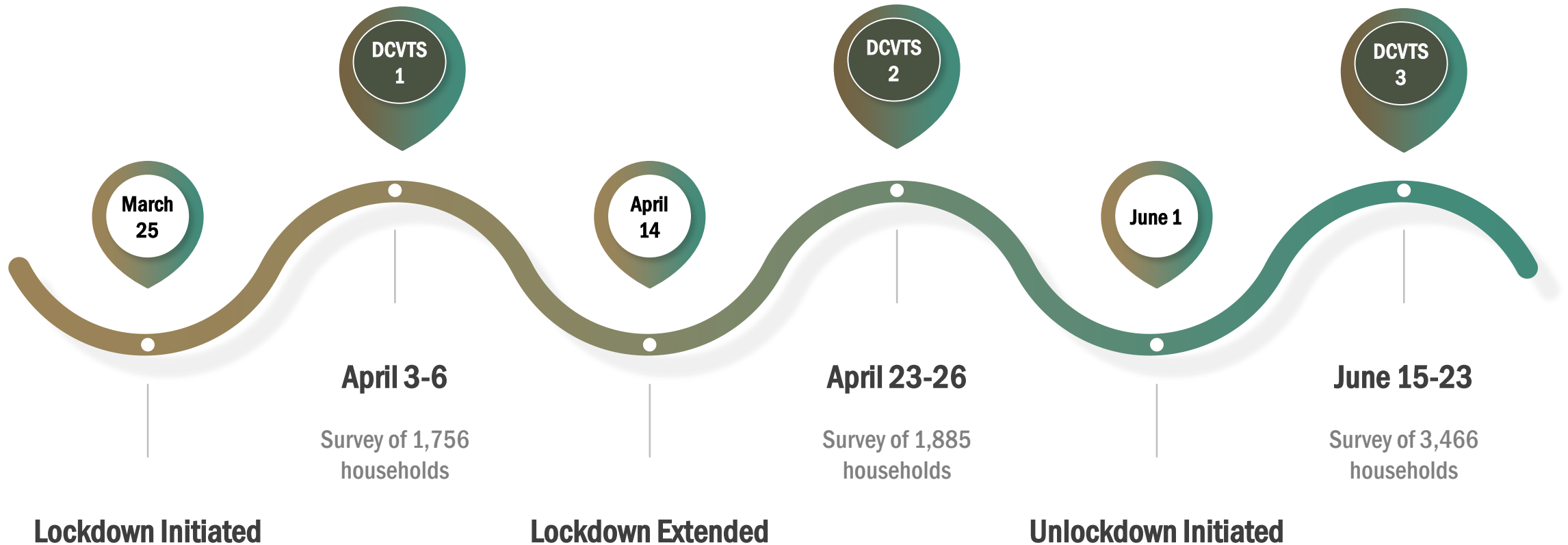
**NCAER National Data Innovation Centre**

**July 4, 2020**

# Emerging from the lockdown – Reactions, Challenges, Solutions



# Delhi NCR Coronavirus Telephone Survey: Timeline



# Context

## DCVTS-1 & 2: Lockdown

Knowledge

- Coronavirus symptoms and preventive measures

Attitude and perception

- Danger of COVID and risk of infection
- Lockdown

Practices

- Preventive measures
- Social distancing

Impact

- Livelihood and income
- Access to essential items and price rise

Relief

- Access to Government welfare measures

## DCVTS-3: after the phased reopening (unlock 1) announced at the end of May by MHA

Remaining safe

- Protect health while getting economies going again

Trends

- Social distancing and risk perceptions
- Impact on livelihood and income

Occupational groups

- Diverse trajectories of occupational groups
- Signs of household distress and hardship

Challenges

- Difficulties in getting back to work

Relief

- Reach, adequacy, and targeting of safety nets
- Government and non-government relief effort

# Methodology

- Delhi NCR is our target population
  - includes the metropolitan areas of Delhi as well as rural areas of far flung districts in Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh
- DCVTS-1 was a panel sample which we have been following for the last one year- since the beginning of the Delhi Metropolitan Area Study (DMAS) in Feb 2019
- DCVTS-2 sample was a new random sample of HHs selected from the same set of villages and urban blocks as in DMAS and DCVTS-1
- DCVTS-3 includes both DCVTS-1 and 2 sample
  - A larger sample size was considered in this round to allow for disaggregated analysis
- The survey was implemented by 35 iwers over 9 days (June 15-23)
- Iwers were trained through Zoom in two groups and in two rounds (main training and refresher training)
  - Clarification of doubts and confusion through non-stop WhatsApp communication
- Median interview length for completed interviews was 13.8 minute (Rural: 14 min and urban: 13.5 min)



# Response rates in DCVTS-3

	DCVTS-1 sample		DCVTS-2 sample		Total sample in DCVTS-3	
Disposition codes	n	%	n	%	n	%
Complete IW	1,717	75.4	1,749	58.9	3,466	66
Refusal	80	3.5	172	5.8	252	4.8
Other incomplete IWs	60	2.6	90	3	150	2.9
Non-Contact*	421	18.5	959	32.3	1380	26.3
<b>Total attempted phone numbers</b>	<b>2,278</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,248</b>	<b>100</b>

*\* Non-contact can happen due to various reasons: wrong number, number out of service, phone switch off, out of coverage area, incoming facility not available in this number, ring no answer. In 142 phone numbers, no incoming facility available.*

- Overall response rate for DCVTS-3 is 66%
- Non-contact rate is 26.3%. Among those whom we contacted, response rate is 89.6%
- At least 6 call attempts were encouraged usually at least 2 hours apart; calls made back-to-back are considered as one attempt
- Response rate is lower among DCVTS-2 sample compared to DCVTS-1 sample, mainly because of higher non-contact rate (32.3% vs. 18.5%) due to dated phone numbers

# Characteristics of DCVTS-3 sample

Household characteristics	n	%
Total	3,466	100
State		
DELHI	775	22.4
HARYANA	1,164	33.6
RAJASTHAN	620	17.9
UTTAR PRADESH	907	26.2
Zone status		
Orange	1,367	39.4
Red	2,099	60.6
Area of residence		
Rural	1,811	52.3
Urban	1,655	47.7
Primary source of income		
Farming	632	18.2
Casual wage work	793	22.9
Business	674	19.4
Salaried work	1220	35.2
Other (rent, pension, remittances)	147	4.2

Respondent characteristics	n	%
Total	3,466	100
Gender		
Female	638	18.4
Male	2,828	81.6
Age		
18-29	856	24.7
30-39	931	26.9
40-49	813	23.5
50-59	535	15.5
60+	327	9.4
Education		
0-4	431	12.4
5-9	1,052	30.4
10	560	16.2
11-12	641	18.5
More than HS	780	22.5
Occupation		
Farming	527	15.2
Casual wage work	664	19.2
Business	536	15.5
Salaried work	890	25.7
Household work	360	10.4
Other (student, looking for work, retired etc.)	489	14.1

# Unlocking policies to protect public health while rebooting economies

- As the lockdowns are eased, in order to remain safe, communication strategies around the world have stressed upon the following messages:
  - Wear masks everywhere you go to cover your nose and mouth
  - Maintain physical distancing as much as you can
  - Wash hands frequently, and definitely after coming back home from outside
  - Avoid large gatherings in enclosed spaces
- Where do we stand in terms of adhering to the above guidelines?



# Who goes out

- In the last one week prior to the survey date, 73% of Delhi NCR residents went outside their house for some reason or the other
  - No significant difference among respondents from different NCR states, rural or urban areas, red or orange districts
- Female respondents are less likely (54%) to go out compared to their male counterparts (77%)- that's probably true in the normal circumstances as well
- Although respondents aged 60 years or above are significantly less likely to go out, still a large percentage (61%) went out in the last one week
  - We are *not fully successful in shielding the elderly*, the population at risk
- More educated respondents and salaried workers are more likely to go out
  - 76% of HS passed or more compared to 66% of respondents having 0-4 years of education
  - 81% of salaried workers compared to 73% of casual wage workers and 54% staying at home

*Q: In the last one week, did you go outside your house for any reason?*

- *This question pertains to respondent only*

# Precautions taken to prevent infection when went out

Precautions taken (%)	Rural	Urban	Total
Wore mask*	94.5	96.3	95.3
Used hand sanitizer	57.1	75.9	66.1
Washed hands with soap*	65.7	65.8	65.7
Maintained a distance of 3 feet or more*	44.9	46.0	45.4
Took bath	36.2	43.8	39.8
Washed clothes	34.3	42.2	38.1
Wore gloves	6.4	15.3	10.6
Did not take any precaution	1.0	0.5	0.8
*Took all three key precautions	31.6	32.8	32.2

% of respondents among those who went out: n = 2,526

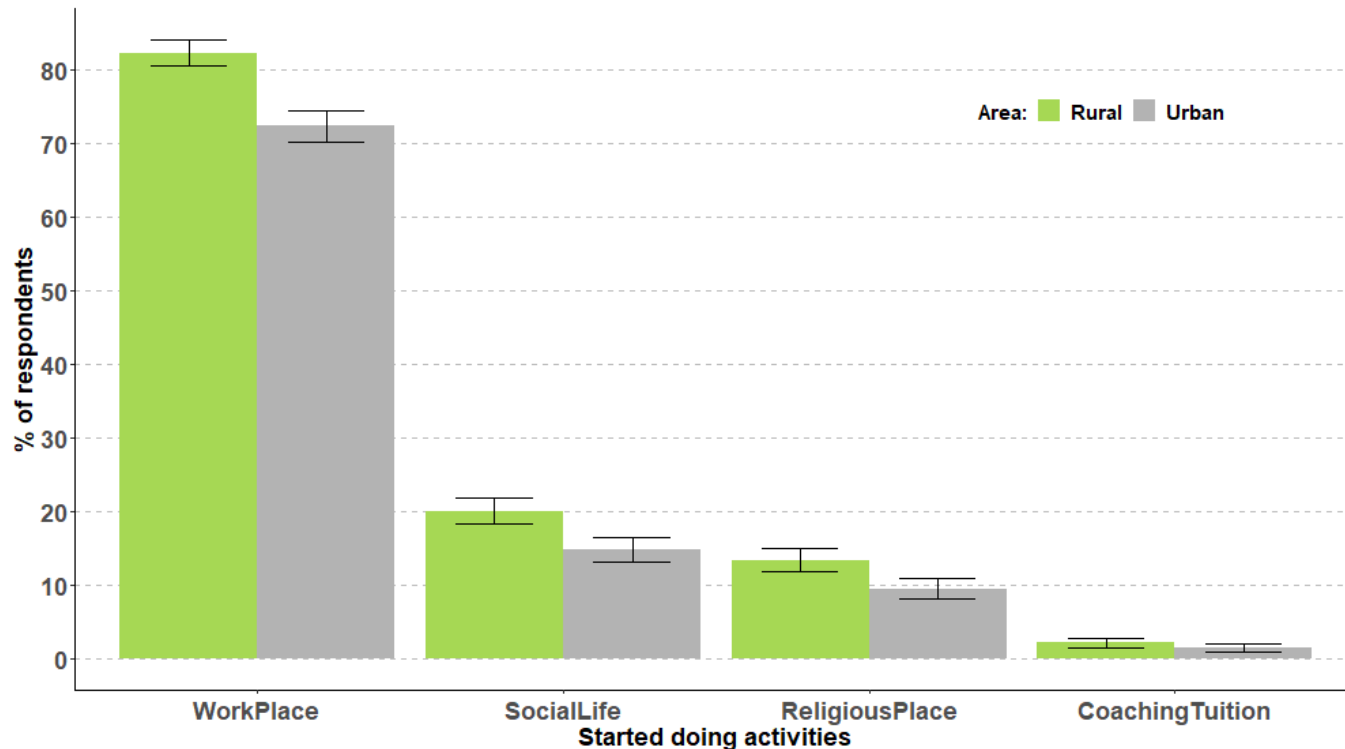
## Contextual and socio-demographic differences in taking three key precautions

- Respondents from NCR part of UP are more likely (37%) to take all 3 precautions
- Percentages are marginally higher for red zone (33%) compared to orange zone (30%)
- No rural-urban difference
- Women (28%) are less likely to take all 3 key precautions compared to men (33%)
- No association with respondent's age groups
- 38% of HS or more educated took all 3 precautions- higher than education categories
- Salaried workers (37%) are more likely to take precautions compared to farmers (27%) and those who stay at home (26%)

*Q: The last time when you went outside your house, what precautions did you take to prevent yourself from getting infected with the Coronavirus during your visit and after returning home?*

- *DO NOT read out the responses; Check all that the respondent mentions*

# What activities people started to do as the lockdowns are eased



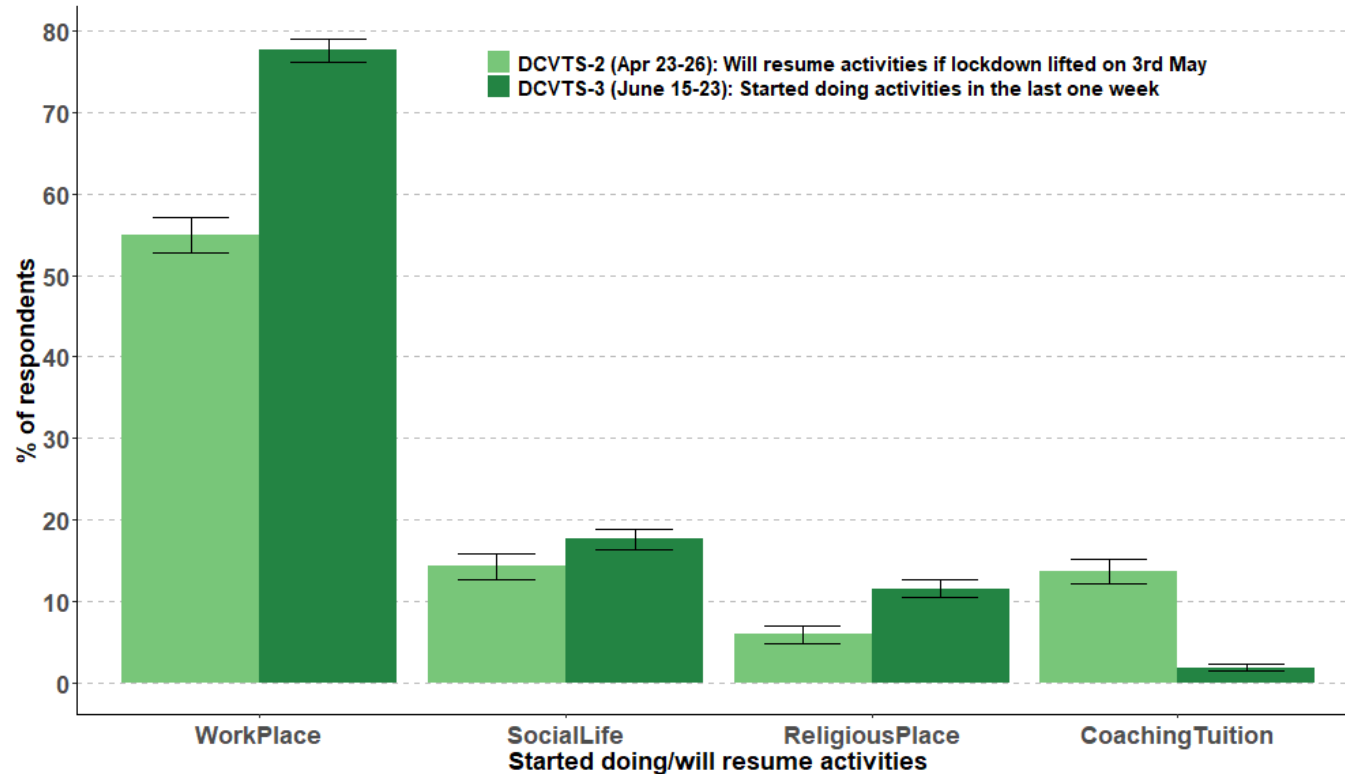
Source: DCVTS-3 (June 15-23)

- In 78% HHs, people started going to work places
- In 18% HHs, people either visited family, friends, relatives or attended social functions
- Going to places of worship has started to resume in 12% HHs
- In rural areas, the prevalence of starting regular activities are higher
- Educational and learning activities are yet to resume

**Q: *In the last one week***, have you or other members of your household started doing the following activities?  
Options: 1. Going to the work place, 2. Going to coaching centers or private tuition, 3. Going to religious places (places of worship), 4. Visiting family, friends, relatives, or attending social functions

- *Read out the responses one by one; Record all that applies*

# What did they plan to resume and what could they actually resume



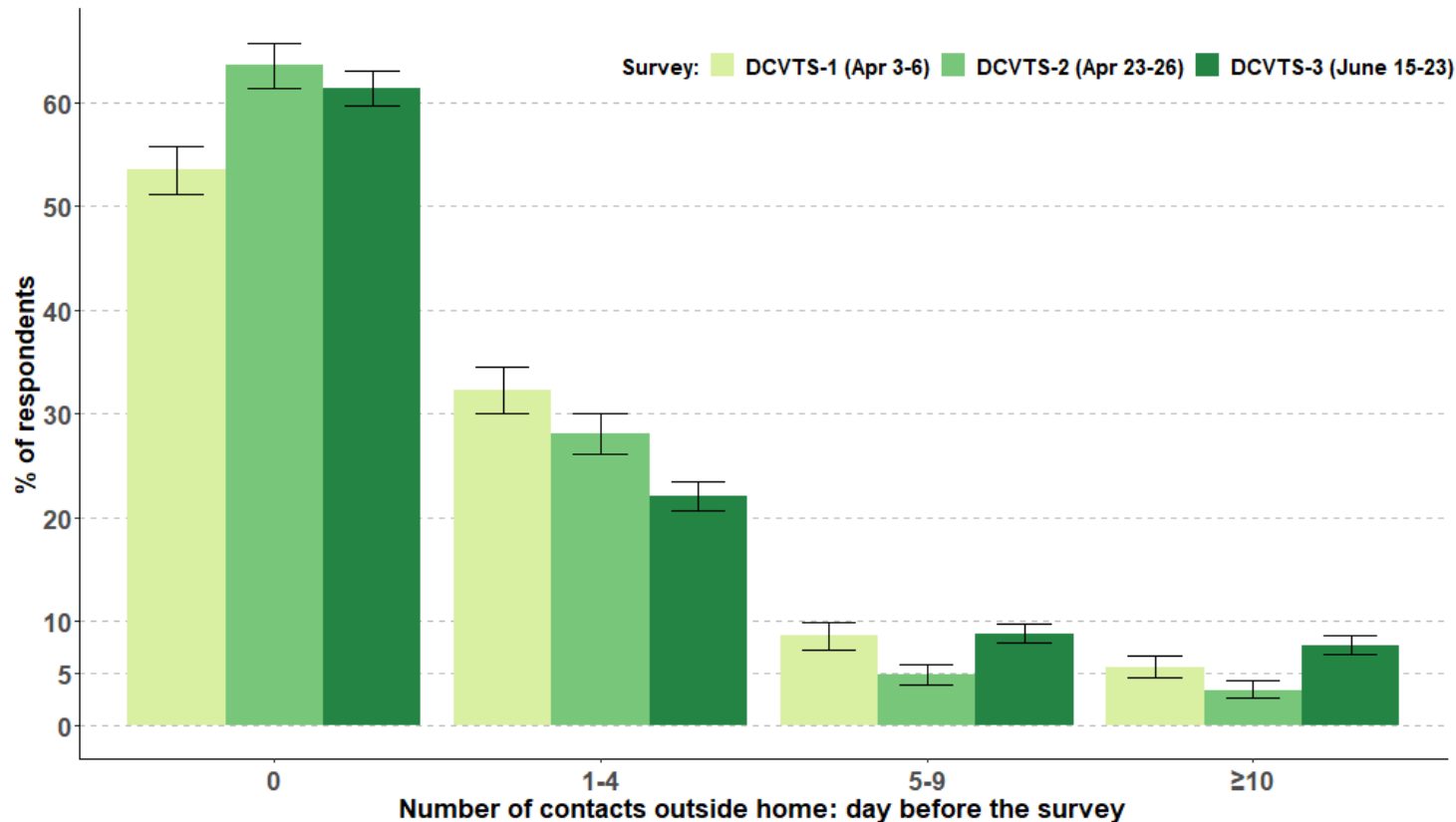
- People actually doing more than what they thought of doing
  - except for resuming educational and learning activities physically
- This is a good sign for getting economies going again
- Gap in learning outcomes may be widened across socio-economic groups

*DCVTS-2: If the lockdown is lifted after 3rd May, what are the activities that you and members of your household would like to resume immediately?*

*Options: 1. Going to work place, 2. Going to schools, collages, coaching centers, 3. Going to religious places, 4. Visiting family, friends, or relatives, 5. Attending marriages, birthdays, and other social functions*

- *Read out the responses one by one; Record all that applies*

# Trends in social distancing as the lockdowns are eased



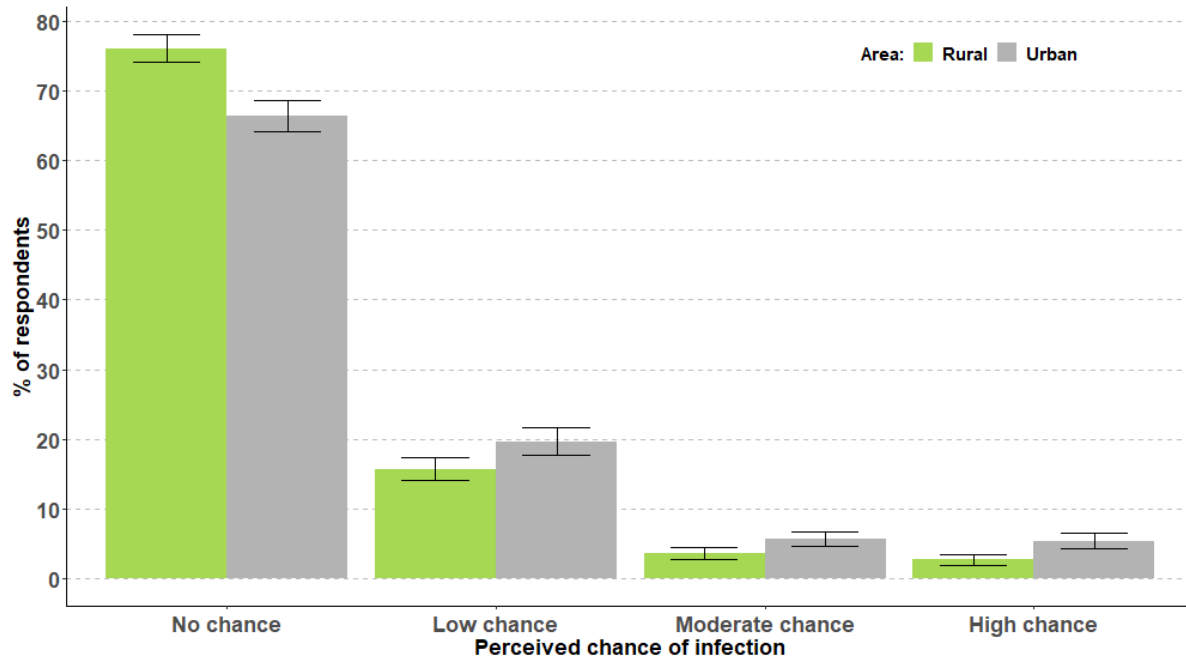
- With the unlocking expected to see more contacts
- Prevalence of zero contact the day before the survey is as high as it was during DCVTS-2
  - Could be subject to social desirability bias
- % of respondents having higher number of contacts have increased

*Q: How many people did you come in direct contact with yesterday outside your house? A direct contact is defined as being in the physical presence of another person within 6 feet (2 meters). Think about the time from when you woke up in the morning till when you slept yesterday night.*

- *Do not include members residing in the house; If did not go out yesterday or no contact made outside the house, record [0].*

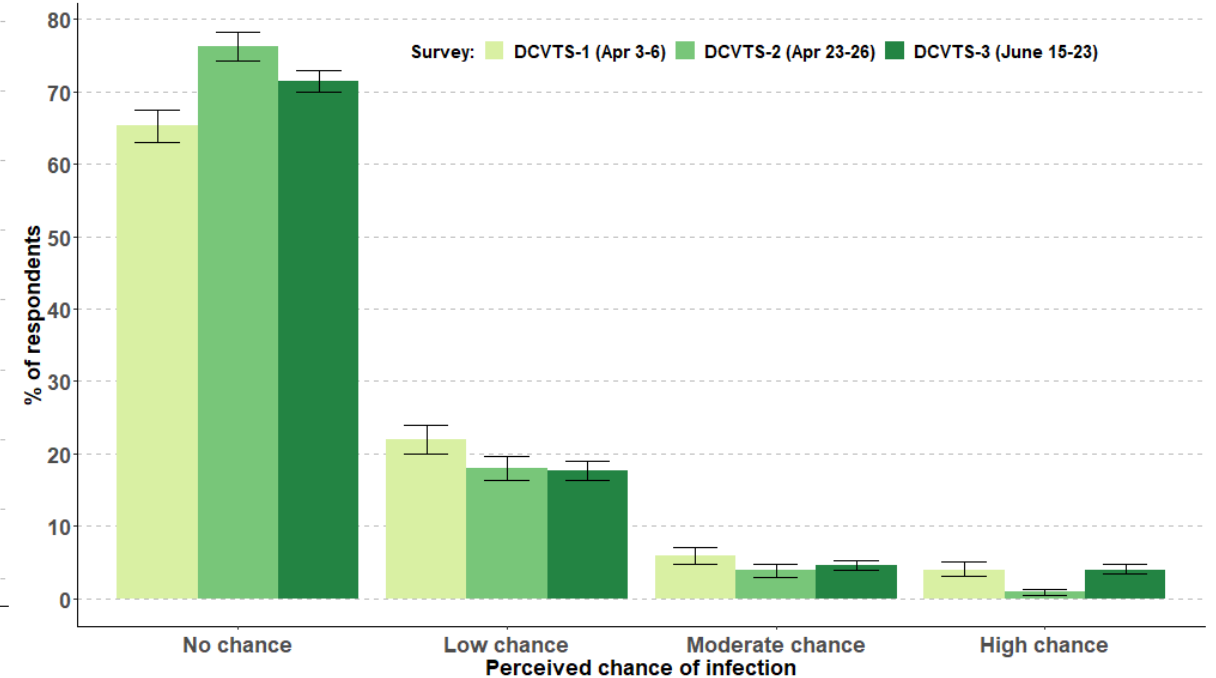
# Trends in risk perception as the lockdowns are eased

## Perception of risk: DCVTS-3 (June 15-23)



Source: DCVTS-3 (June 15-23)

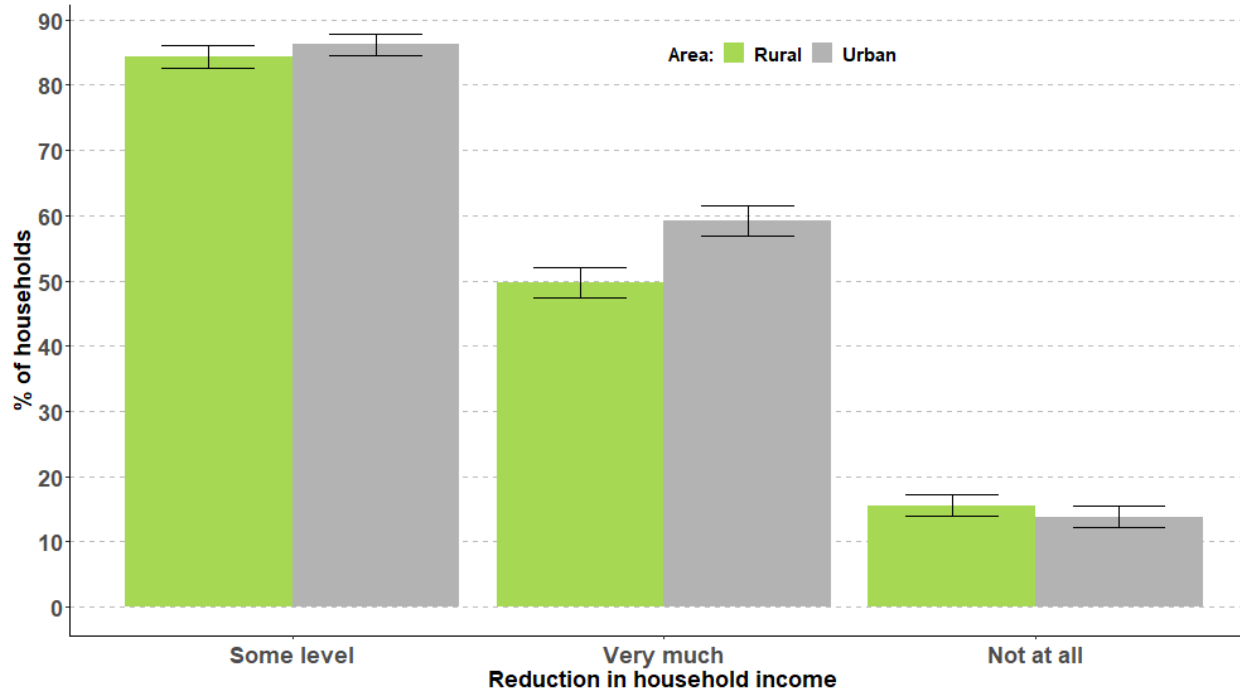
## Perception of risk: across three rounds



*Q: According to you, what is the chance that you or your household members can get infected with the Coronavirus? Options: 1. Someone in the household is already infected, 2. High chance, 3. Moderate chance, 4. Low chance, 5. No chance, DK*



# Reduction in household income



Source: DCVTS-3 (June 15-23)

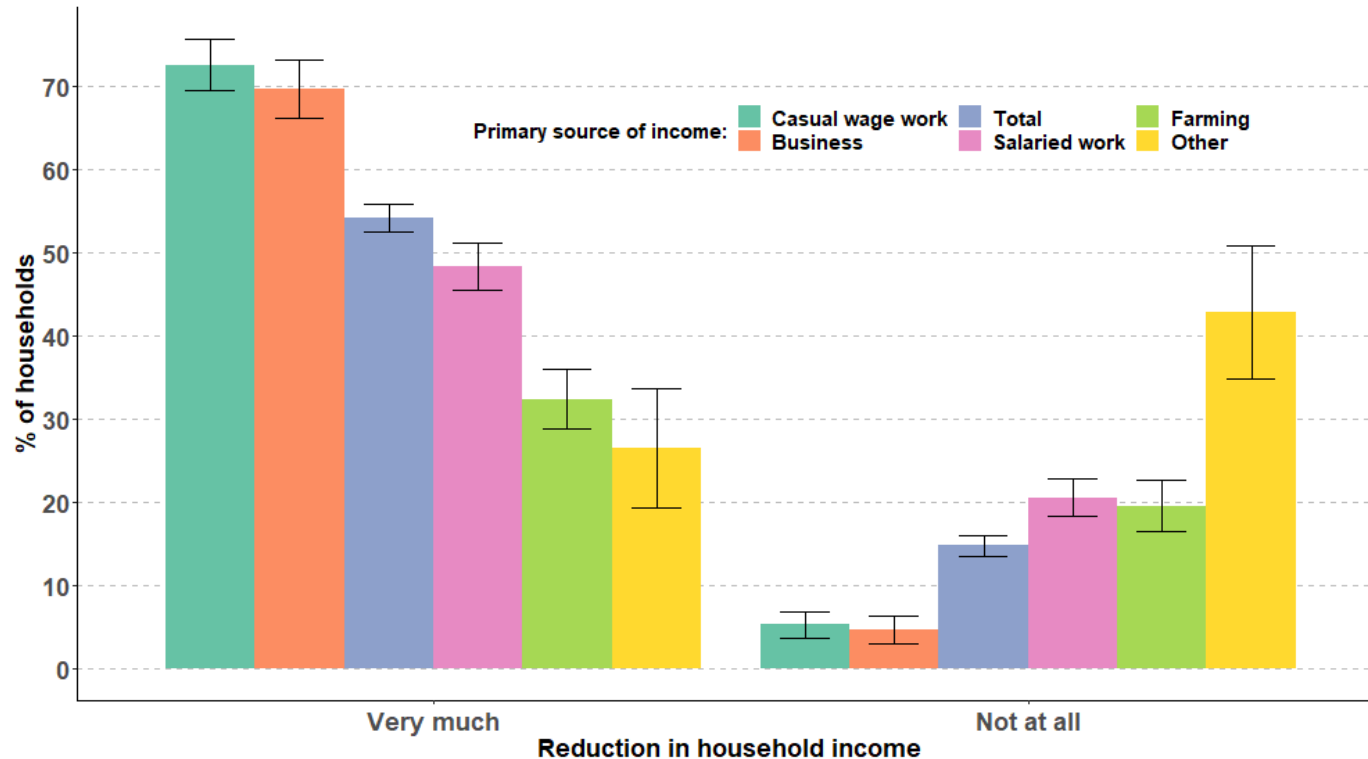
- 85% of Delhi NCR HHs reported some level of reduction in income in May compared to time before the lockdown
  - No significant rural-urban difference in the overall income reduction
- However, significantly higher % of urban HHs reported that their income and wages had suffered “very much”
- The findings are similar to earlier rounds of DCVTS and other surveys in different states across India

*Q: Compared to before the lockdown, did your monthly household income fall **in the month of May**?*

*Options: 1. Very much, 2. Somewhat, 3. Not at all*

- For clarification, tell the respondent to compare with the average monthly income before lockdown.*
- If the household is expected to receive money, but did not actually receive it then consider it as income loss.*

# Reduction in household income by occupational groups



Source: DCVTS-3 (June 15-23)

- Households having primary source of income casual wage work and business had suffered the most
- Farmers are still the least affected along with the other category (rent, pension, remittances)
- About 20% of salaried and farm HHs hardly been affected by the lockdown

Primary source of income	Casual wage work	Business	Salaried work	Farming	Other (Rent, pension, remittances)	Total
n	793	674	1,220	632	147	3,466
%	22.9	19.4	35.2	18.2	4.2	100

# Challenges faced in returning to work or business



Source: DCVTS-3 (June 15-23)

- About 31% respondents said that they did not face any challenge with significant rural (37%) and urban (25%) difference
- Key challenges faced are worry about the infection (25%) and difficulty in finding work (21%)
- Low demand of goods and services has also been reported in urban areas (10%)

*Q: Now that the lockdown has been relaxed, and you and your family members may be able to return to work or your business, what is the main challenge you are facing?*

- *DO NOT read out the responses*



Photo credit:  
Partha Protim Sarkar

## Livelihoods Under Lockdown and Unlockdown

# DCVTS-3 Occupational Distribution

## Household's Primary Source of Income

We focus on primary source of income although some households have multiple sources of income

4% households relied on pensions, rents, remittances as primary income source

### Farmers

Relatively unaffected by lockdown

18%

### Salaried Employees

Some could work from home, others could not work long distance

35%

23%

### Daily Wage Labourers

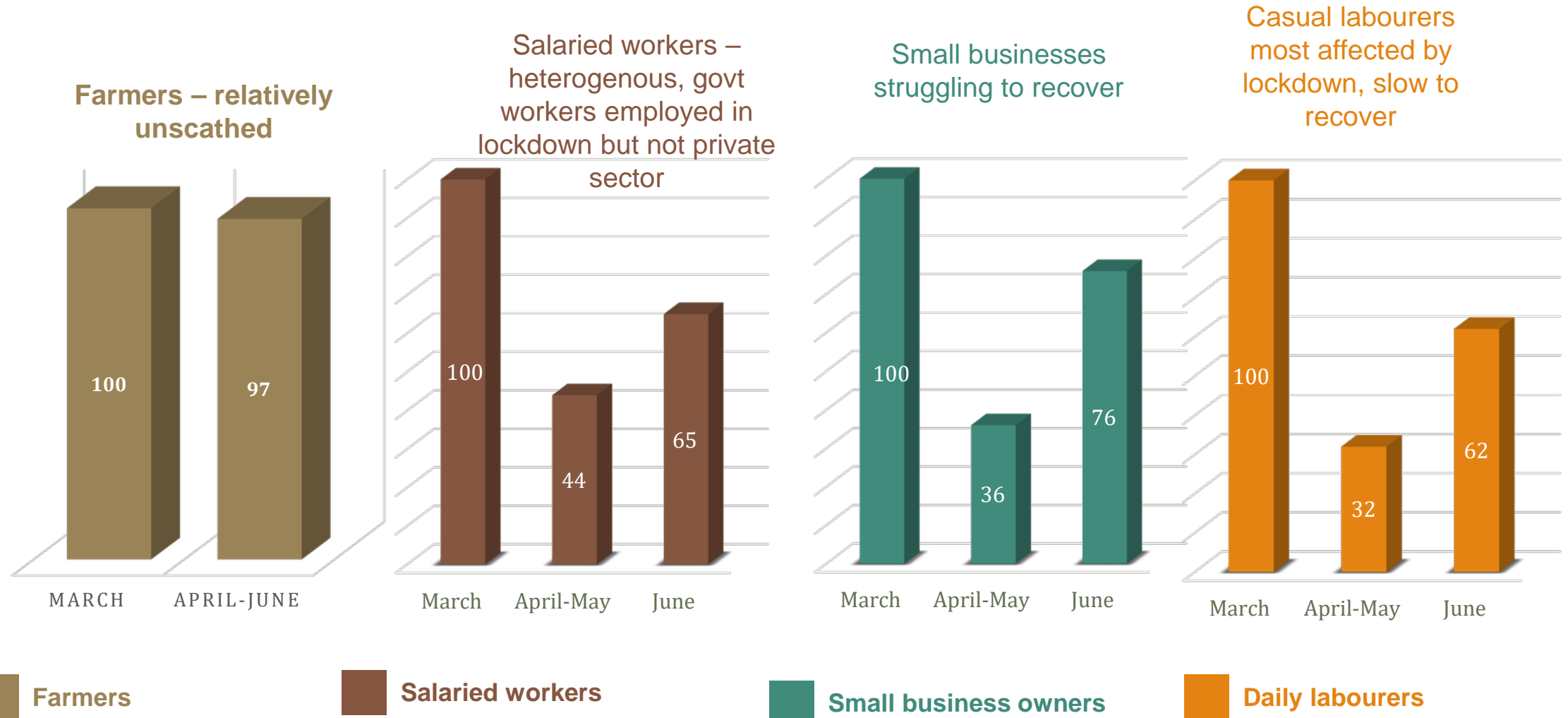
Most affected, hard to find work. But agricultural labourers somewhat protected

20%

### Small Business Owners

Sharply affected, many closed down

# Employment through various phases of lockdown





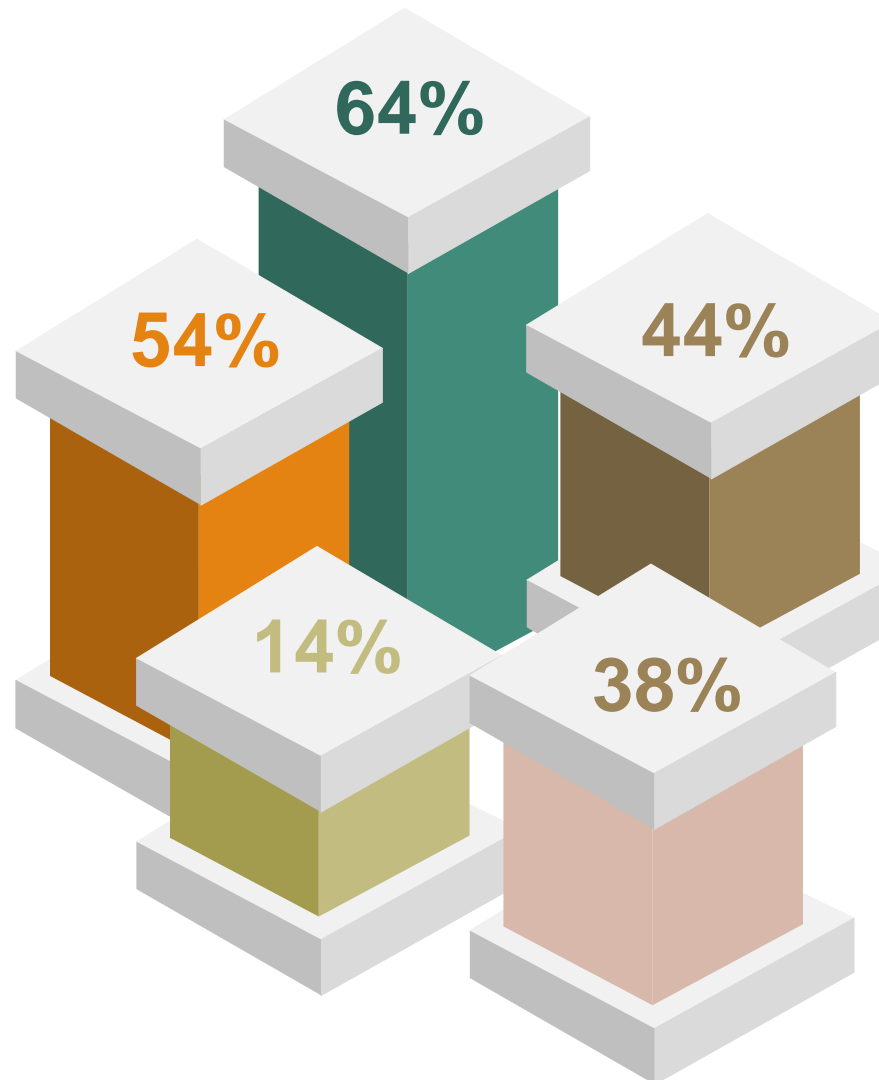
# Signs of distress

## ✓ 54% experienced major income losses

*Q: Compared to before the lockdown, did your monthly household income fall in the month of May?*

## ✓ 14% experienced hunger

*Q: Since the lockdown, has there been any time when you or others in your household did not have enough food to eat because of lack of money or other resources.*



## 64% of the renters could not pay full rent

*Q: For the month of May, did you pay your full rent, were unable to pay rent, or did your landlord reduce rent/defer rent payment?*

## 44% had to borrow money for expenses ✓

*Q: Since the lockdown, did you or any member of your household borrow money to manage day-to-day expenses/consumption?*

## 38% experienced increase in food prices

*Q: In the month of May, did you or any member of your household experience any increase in prices for the following items?*

- Grains - pulses

# Farmers: Treading Water

Rural advantage, relaxed lockdown but transportation challenges

Sample Size: 632

# Farmers able to continue cultivation but with some changes

- With an early pause, 97% of the farmers were able continue with cultivation
- But they curtailed their pattern of hiring labourers
- Among farmers who often hire labourers
  - 25% did not hire at all
  - 22% hired less than they needed
  - 52% continued to hire

*Q: Do you usually hire labourers for agricultural work (e.g., sowing, harvesting) during April and May?*

*Q: What was the main reason for not hiring/ reduced hiring of labour in the months of April and May?*

Reason for not hiring labourers	Percent
Labour shortage	44%
Fear of Coronavirus	24%
Managed with family labour	16%
Financial constraints	15%
There was no need	1%

# April and May were challenging for transportation of goods to market and prices were lower

Difficulties transporting and selling produce	Percent
No difficulty	35%
Some difficulty	23%
A lot of difficulty	12%
Did not try to sell	30%

Selling price of produce compared to pre lockdown price	Percent
Received higher price	7%
Usual price	65%
Lower price	21%
Could not sell	7%

Farmers are particularly beset by logistical difficulties. 15% find it difficult to obtain seeds, fertilizer and labour as they start kharif planting.

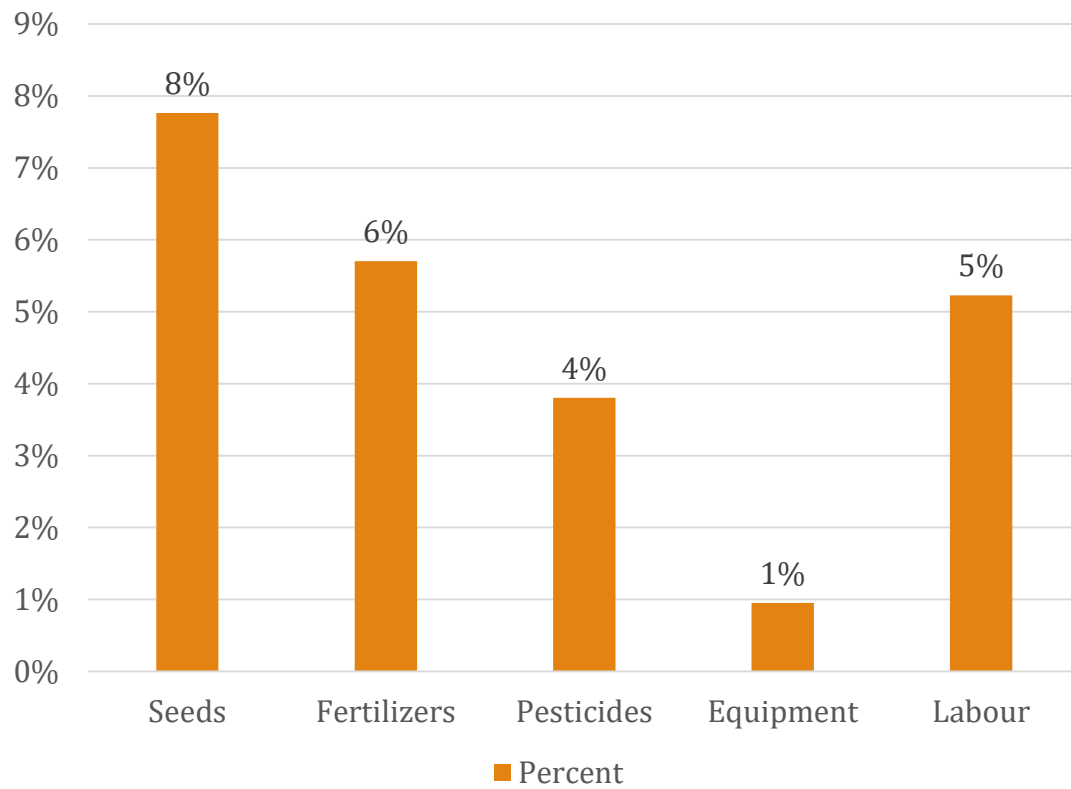
***Q:** In the months of April and May, did you find it difficult to sell your produce in the market/Mandi or to a private buyer?*

***Q:** Was the selling price of your agricultural produce affected in the months of April and May?*

- *Usual refers to the scenario before the lockdown*

# Looking towards kharif

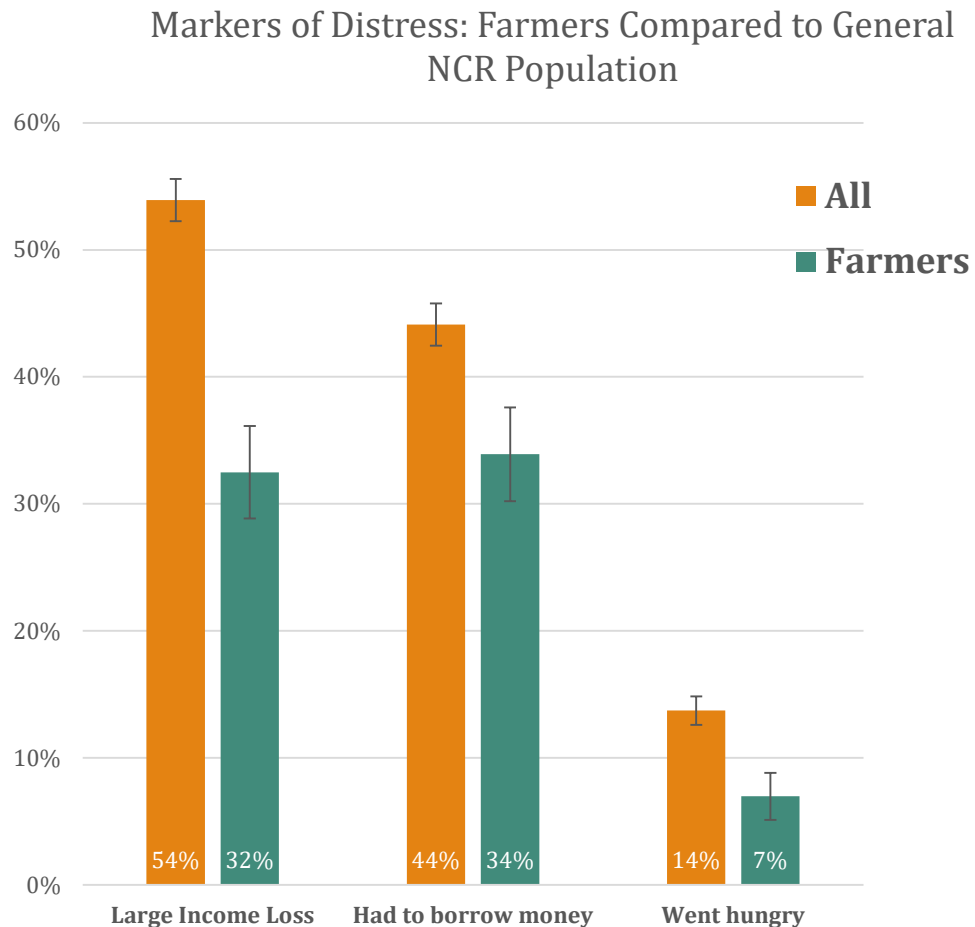
Percent Farmers Facing Difficulties Obtaining Inputs for Kharif Planting



- About 15% of the respondents noted any difficulties in obtaining inputs for kharif planting.
- About 5% noted difficulty getting labour but others focused mainly on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides

*Q: Are you facing any difficulties in obtaining inputs in preparation for Kharif crops such as seeds, fertilizers, equipment or labour now?*

# Relative immunity of farmers to lockdown impact reflected in welfare indicators



- The results show that in spite of logistical challenges, farmers have come through the lockdown with less damage than other groups
- It is important to note that most of the farm sample in DCVTS is drawn from somewhat better off districts like Western UP, Haryana and Bharatpur.



# Heterogeneity of Salaried Workers

Public sector employees, well protected: Private sector workers  
remain vulnerable

Sample Size 1,220

# Salaried workers form a heterogeneous group

Type of employer	Percent
Private firm/ company	65
Government/ Public sector undertaking	20
Private employer running own business	13
Hired by household for domestic work	2

*Q: Who is the employer of the salaried worker in your household?*

*Int. Instruction: Probe whether government or private*

- Salaried workers, individuals who get paid monthly wages are a heterogeneous group
- In spite of the Delhi NCR location, a majority work for private employers
- Many employers experienced economic distress; others took advantage of the situation to relieve workers or reduce salaries

# Only a minority salaried workers continued to work and/or received full salary

Work status of salaried worker during April & May	Percent
Did not work	51
Was relieved/lost job	5
Worked at the physical office/ worksite	19
Worked from home for part of the time	10
Worked from home	15

*Q: Did the salaried worker in your household continue to work during April and May?*

*Int. Instruction: If did not work but got paid, record work from home.*

Payment during April & May	Percent
No salary received	35
No salary received but expects to get paid	4
Partial salary received	35
Full salary received	26

*Q: Did the salaried worker in your household receive salary for the months of April and May?*

*Int. Instruction: If received salary for one month only, record Partial salary.*

# June has begun to see slow return to work

- Of the people who were not fired, 64% have gone back to working at the office or worksite
- Half the salaried workers who were out of work during the lockdown have still not returned to work

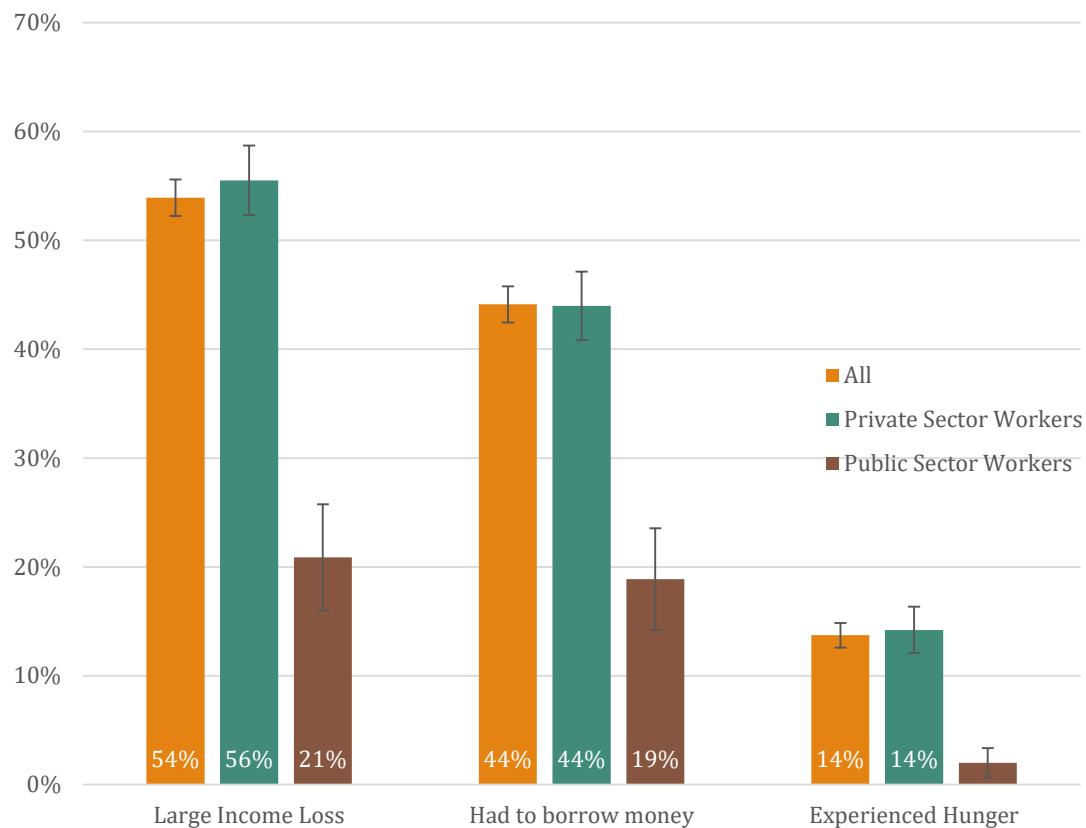
Activities of people who were not able to keep their salaried jobs during lockdown	Percent
Not gone back to work	53
Started new salaried job	2
Started own business	2
Started working in the previous job	43

*Q: Is the salaried worker in your household going to the office/ worksite now?*

*Q: Has he or she found another salaried work or started own business now?*

# Salaried workers were somewhat protected during the lockdown

Markers of Distress: Salaried Workers in Public and Private Sector Compared to General NCR Population



- While in general salaried workers received lower income shock and exhibit lower distress, there is considerable heterogeneity among this group
- Government and public sector workers are far better off than other workers

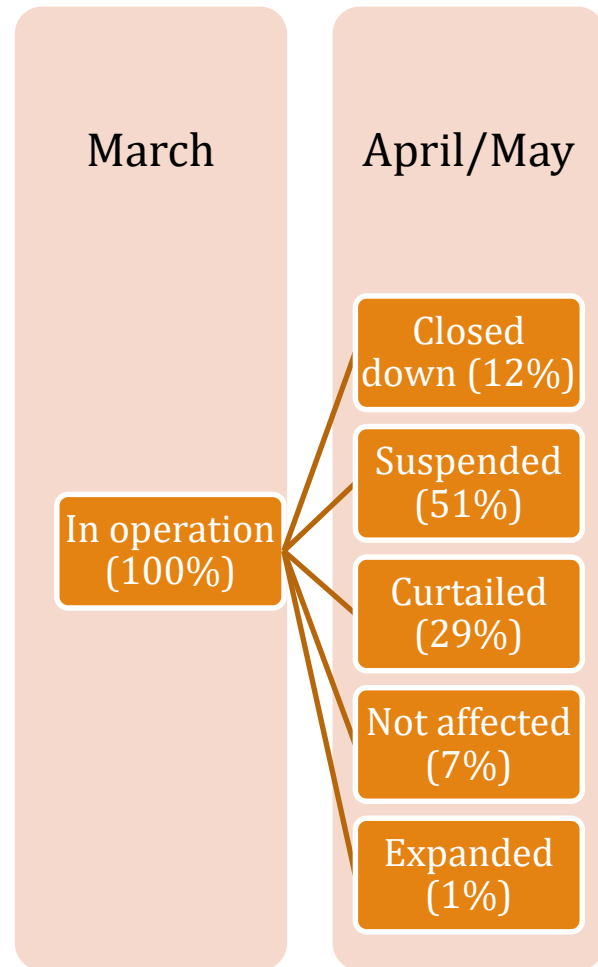
# Small businesses: locking down demand

When will it resurface?

Sample Size: 674



# Small businesses have faced existential challenges

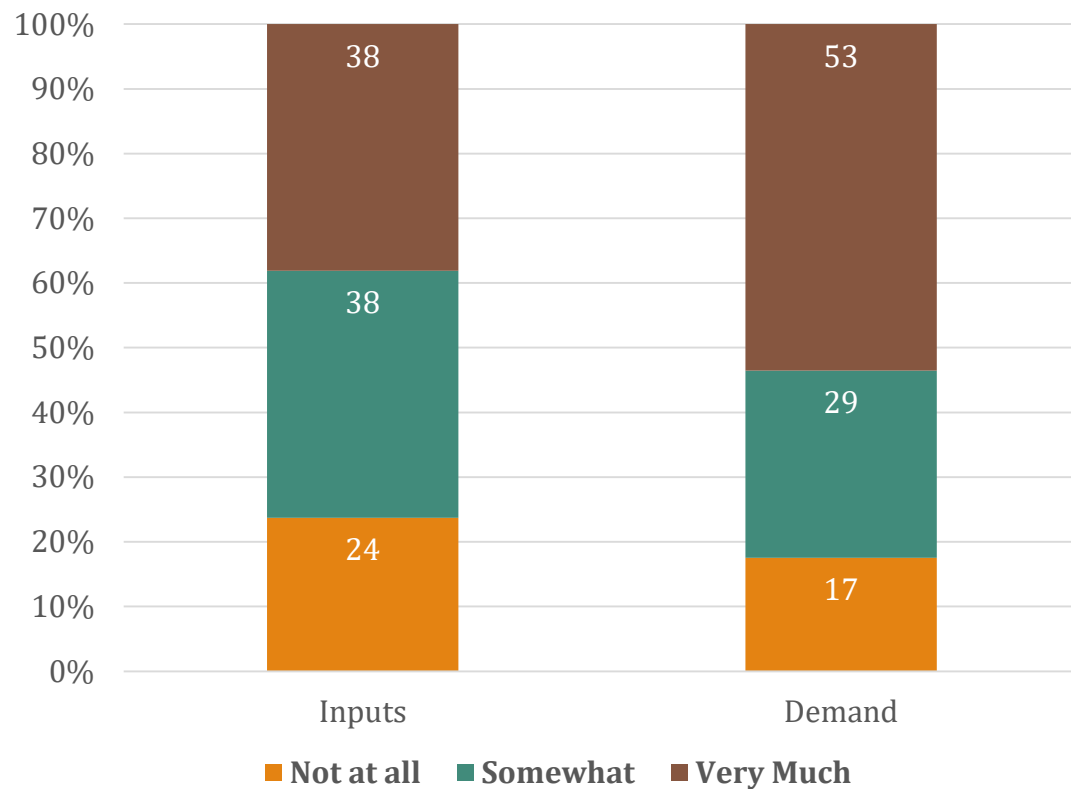


- Of the business that were operating before the lockdown, only 8% could continue normal operations in April and May while a further 29% could continue with curtailed operations
- 63% were either totally closed down or suspended

*Q: To what extent was your business affected during April and May?*

# Businesses that stayed open faced considerable difficulties with both supply and demand

Access to inputs and demand were both affected by lockdown



- Social distancing changed purchasing behaviour of consumers
  - No one wanted to get home repairs done
  - Postponement of weddings reduced need for flower supplies
- Income shocks also affected purchasing habits
  - As food prices increased and incomes dropped, discretionary spending declined

*Q: During the months of April and May, to what extent did you face difficulties in procuring inputs for your business?*

*Q: During the months of April and May, to what extent did you experience lower demand for your product(s)?*

# Declining business led to retrenchment of workers

- About 30% of the small businessmen in our sample hired workers in their business
- Among businesses that hired workers:
  - 22% retained all their workers
  - 18% retained some workers
  - 61% retained none of the workers
- Moreover, businesses found it difficult to pay salaries:
  - 24% paid full salaries
  - 37% paid partial salaries
  - 39% could not pay any salaries

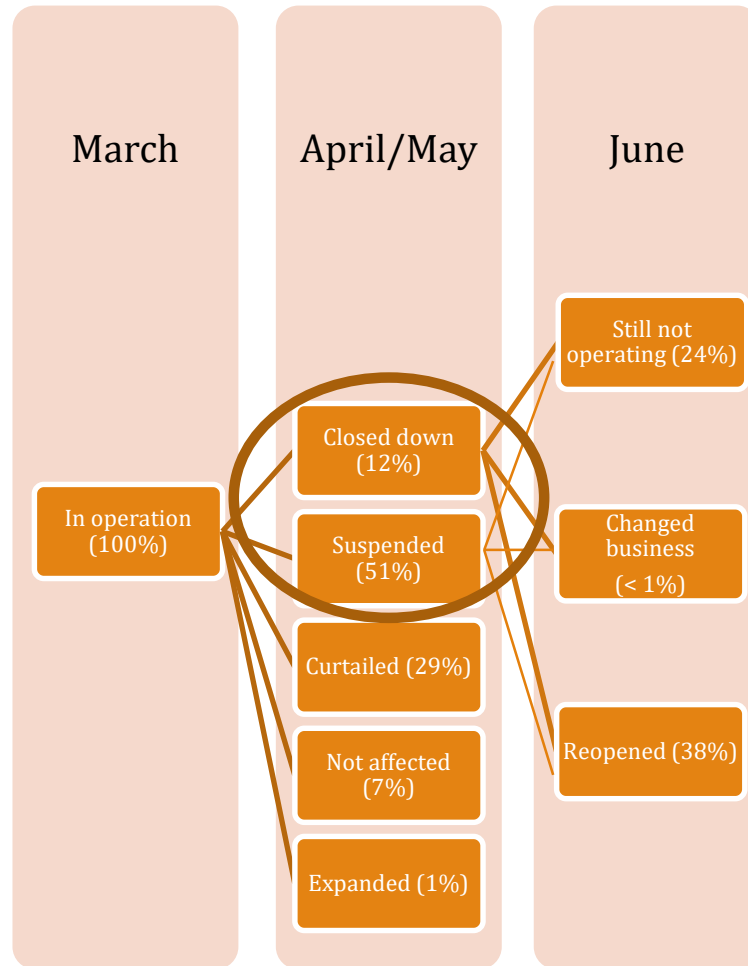
Reason for not retaining all the workers	%
Business was declining/closed	52
Fear of Coronavirus infection	25
Financial constraints	11
Employees did not want to continue	6
Managed the work with the help of household members	4
Other	1

*Q: During the months of April and May, did you retain all your employees for this business?*

*Q: Were you able to pay your employees during April and May?*

*Q: What is the main reason for not retaining your employees?*

# Improvement in June but there seems to be a long way to go



Reason for not restarting	Percent
Fear of Coronavirus infection	41.7
No permission to open yet	23.5
No demand for the product	15.9
Not enough money to restart	9.1
Other	4.6
Workers not available	3.0
Raw materials/ supplies not available	2.3

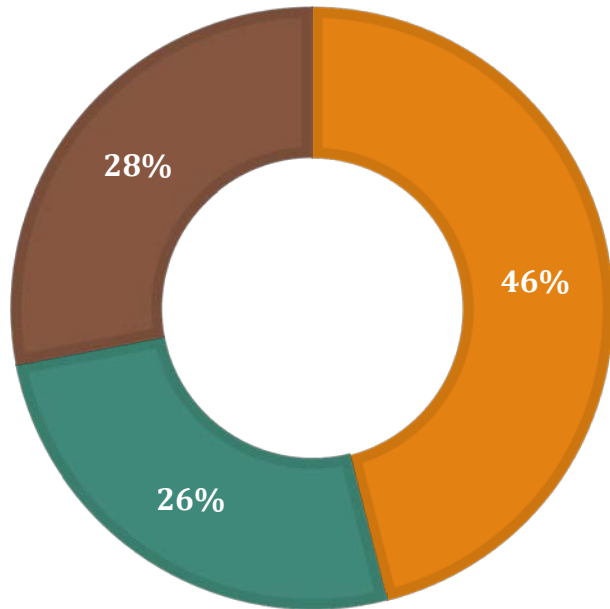
*Q: Have you restarted your closed/ suspended business or opened a new business now?*

*Q: Why have you not restarted your closed or suspended business?*

# Many business owners are nervous and believe that business climate is poor

## BUSINESS CLIMATE IN JUNE COMPARED TO APRIL AND MAY

Worse Better Same

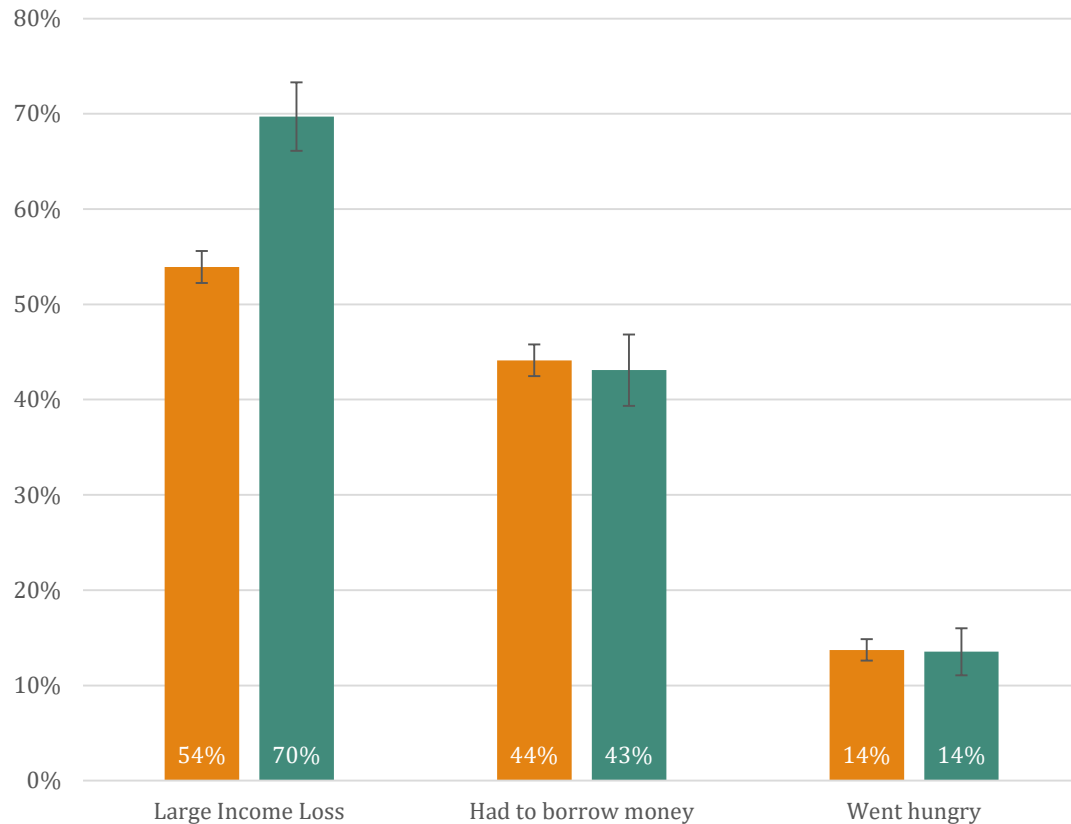


- About 46% of the respondents thought situation was worse while 26% thought it was better

*Q: Compared to the months of April and May, do you think the overall business situation has improved now?*

# Income losses but not absolute poverty

Markers of Distress: Small Business Owners Compared to General NCR Population



- While small business owners have experienced substantial income losses, on other markers of distress (e.g. borrowing or hunger) they are on par with general population
- This may reflect their prior savings – in terms of ownership of consumer assets, 47% of the business owners are in top one-third of the distribution.

# Casual labourers: The Most Vulnerable Group

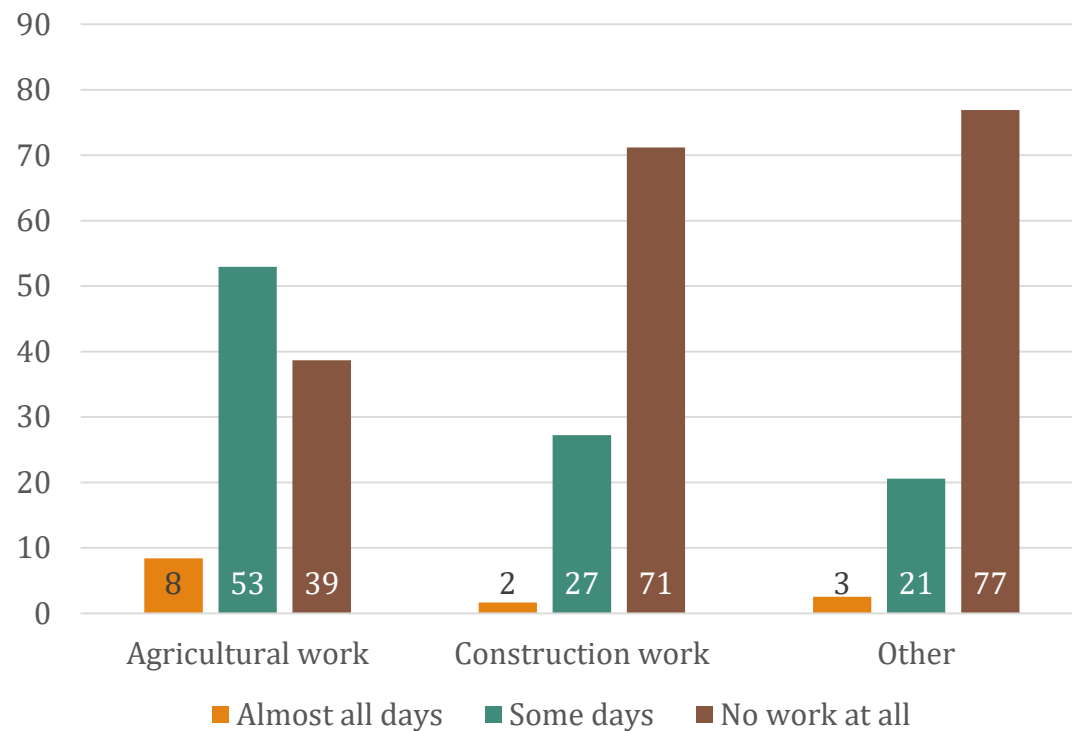
Agricultural workers are somewhat protected

But construction decline has really hit non-agricultural labourers

Sample Size: 793

# Casual labourers experienced the greatest income loss in April and May

Agricultural labourers are somewhat protected but construction workers and other sectors found almost no work



- As with farmers, farm labourers were somewhat protected
- But more than 70% of construction workers and other labourers found almost no work in April and May
- For people who found work, wages often decreased:
  - 3% received higher wages
  - 55% received same wages as before
  - 42% received lower wages

*Q: Did the casual wage labourer in your household find work during the months of April and May?*

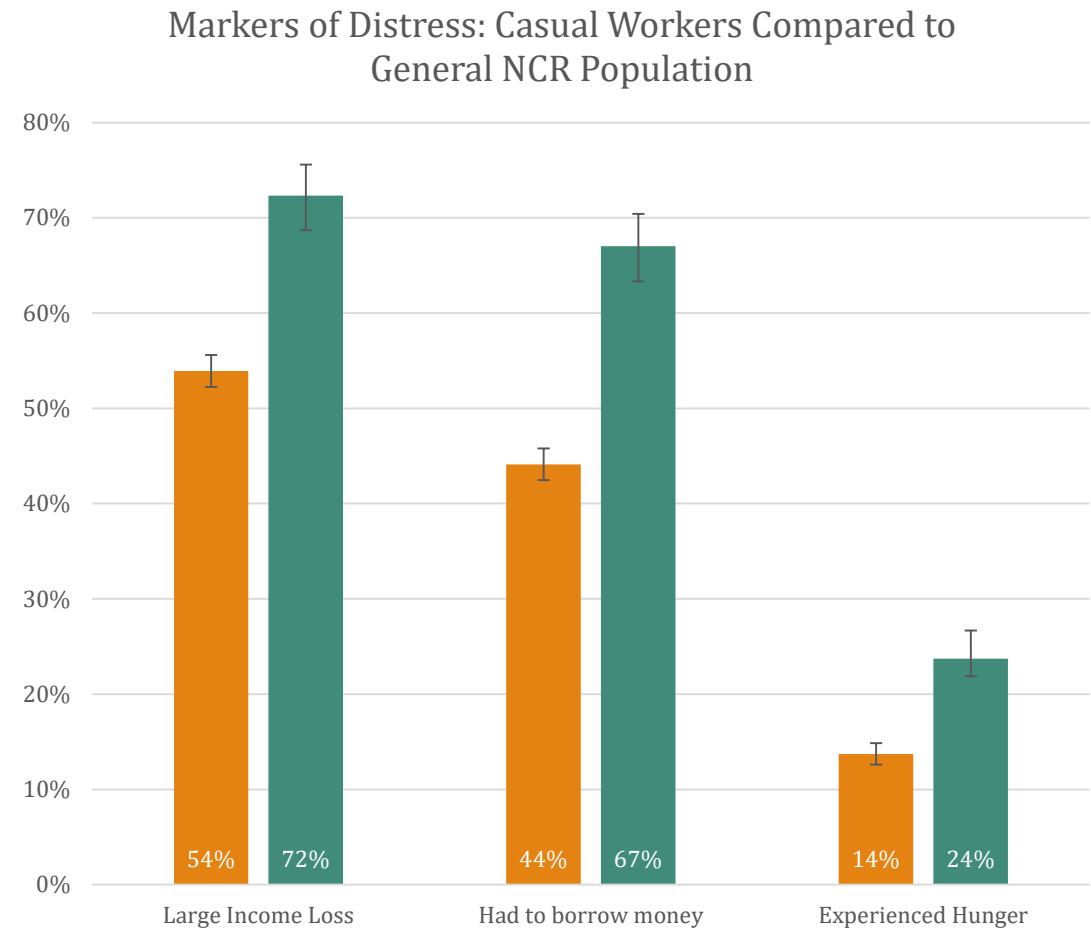
*Q: Did the daily wage rate for this work decrease, increase or remain unaffected during the months of April and May?*



# Work situation for casual labourers has not improved substantially in June

Work situation now	Percent
Able to find work	30%
Finding work but with difficulty	31%
Looking but no work available	23%
Currently not looking for work	15%
Switched work/started a business	< 1%

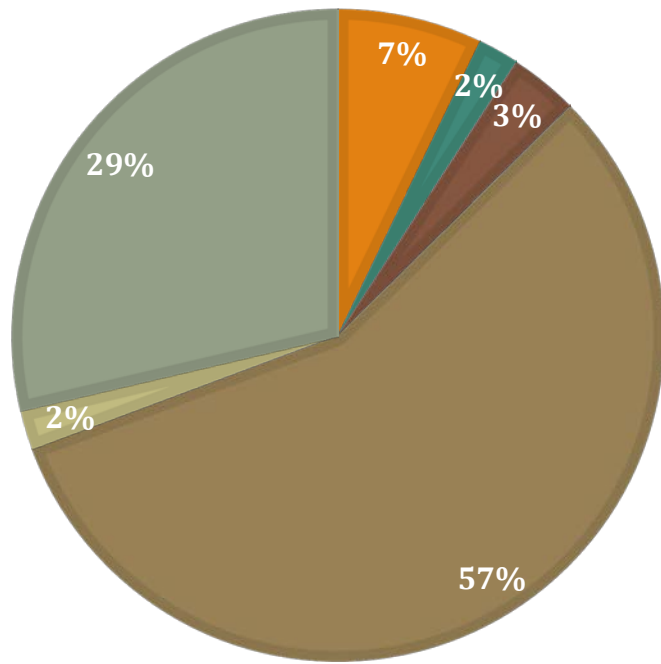
*Q: Is the casual wage labourer in your household getting work now?*



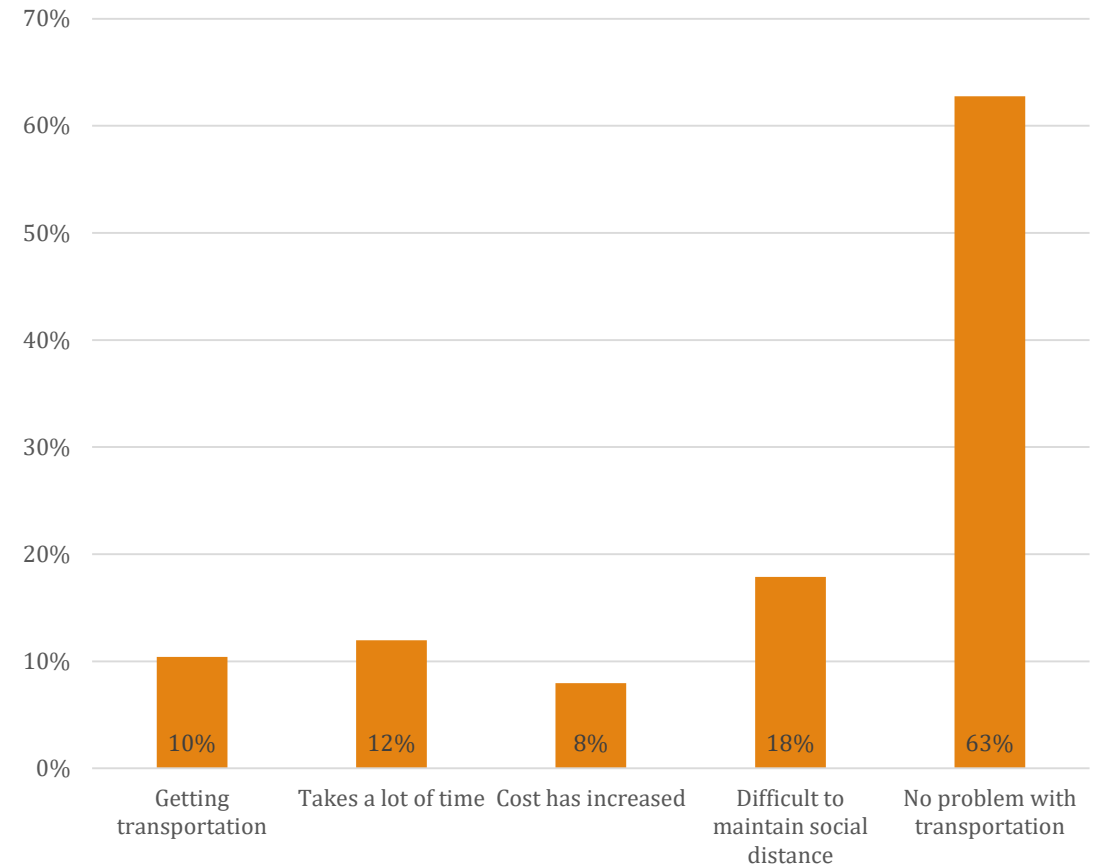
# Transportation a challenge to returning to work for salaried workers and casual labourers

## MODE OF TRANSPORTATION IN JUNE

- hired vehicle
- Stay at worksite
- Bus/metro
- Office vehicle
- Own bike/motorcycle/car
- Walk

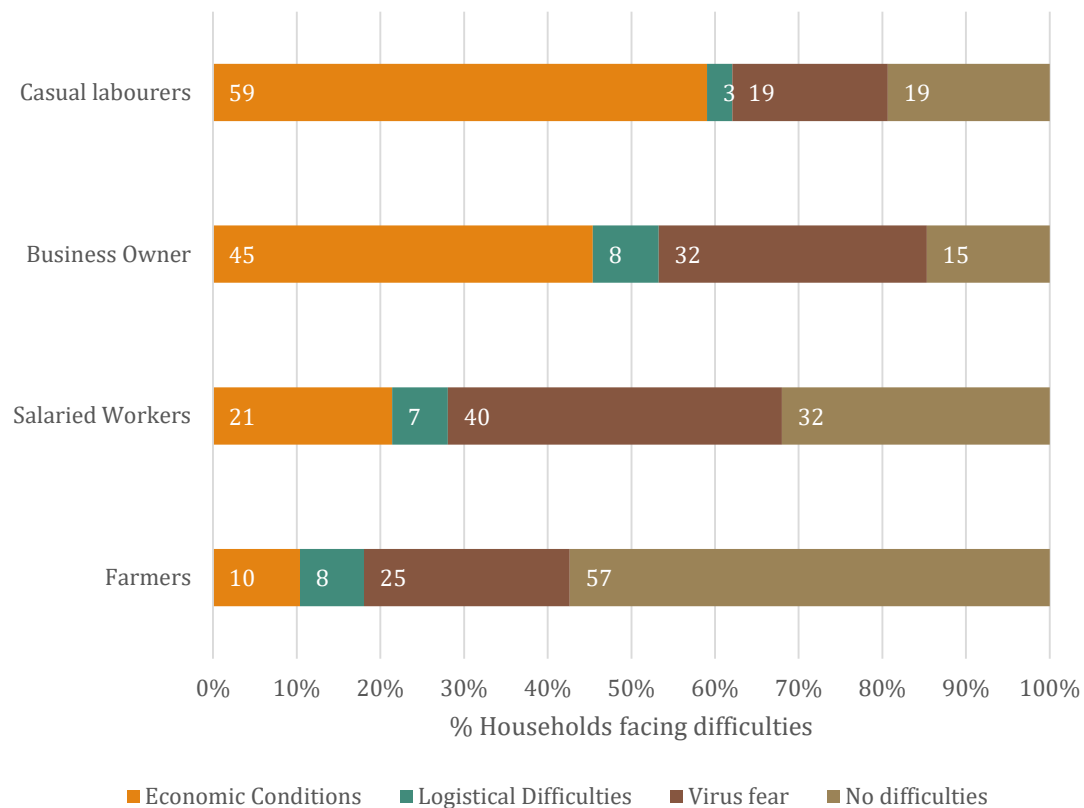


## Difficulties in Transportation to work



# Challenges of returning to work are different for different occupational groups

Types of difficulties faced in returning to work by different occupational groups



- For daily wage labourers, the greatest difficulty lies in getting work
- For business owners the bottle neck is in getting customers and ensuring safety
- For salaried workers both getting work and ensuring safety are important



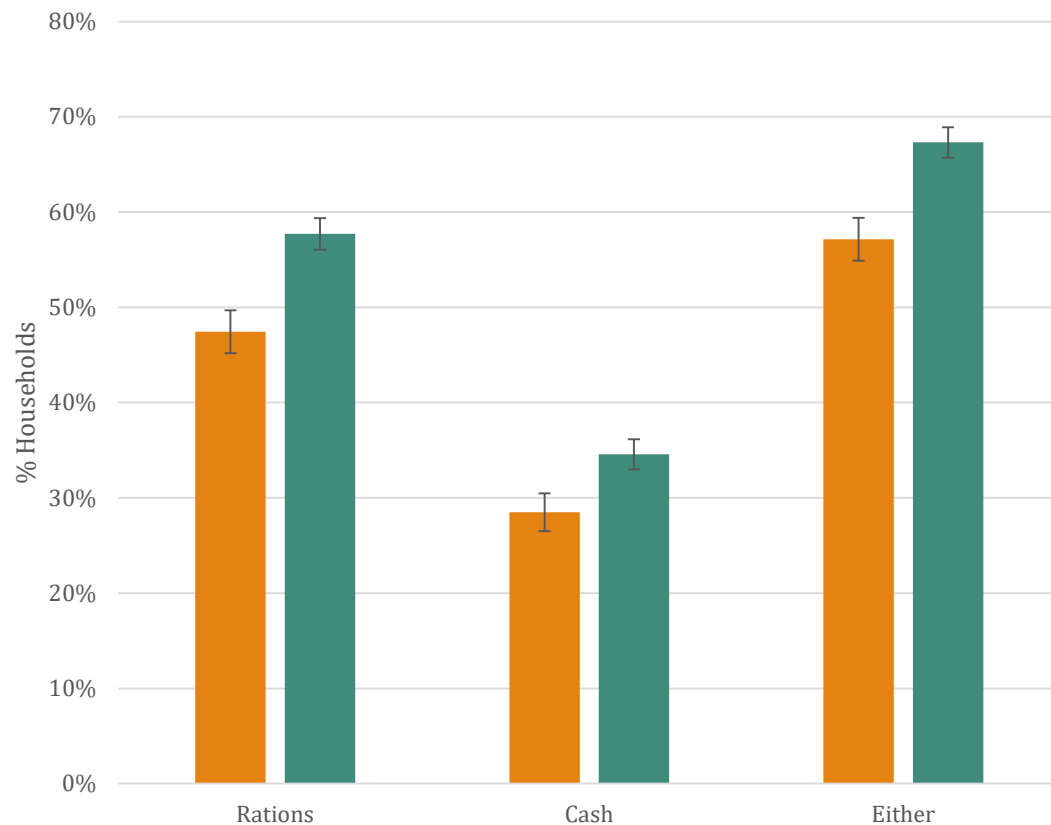
Photo Credit:  
Dinesh Tiwari

## Social Safety Nets

Improving but modest

## Increased access to PDS rations and cash transfers through various schemes was announced and implemented in April & May (Comparing DCVTS-2 and DCVTS-3)

Receipt of rations and cash transfers increased between DCVTS-2 and DCVTS-3



*Q: In the month of May, did you receive any additional or free ration from the PDS due to Coronavirus?*

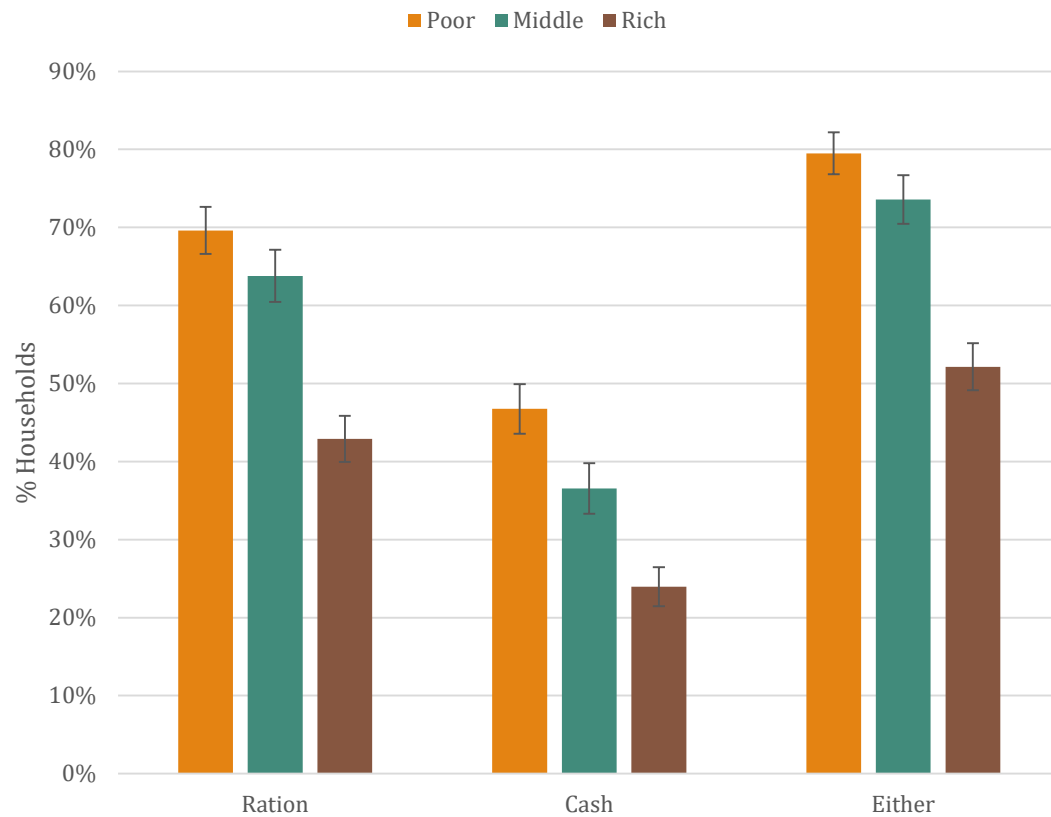
*Q: In the months of April and May, did you or anyone else in your household receive additional cash in the bank account from the Government because of Coronavirus outbreak?*

*Q: How much additional cash did your household receive through various schemes?*

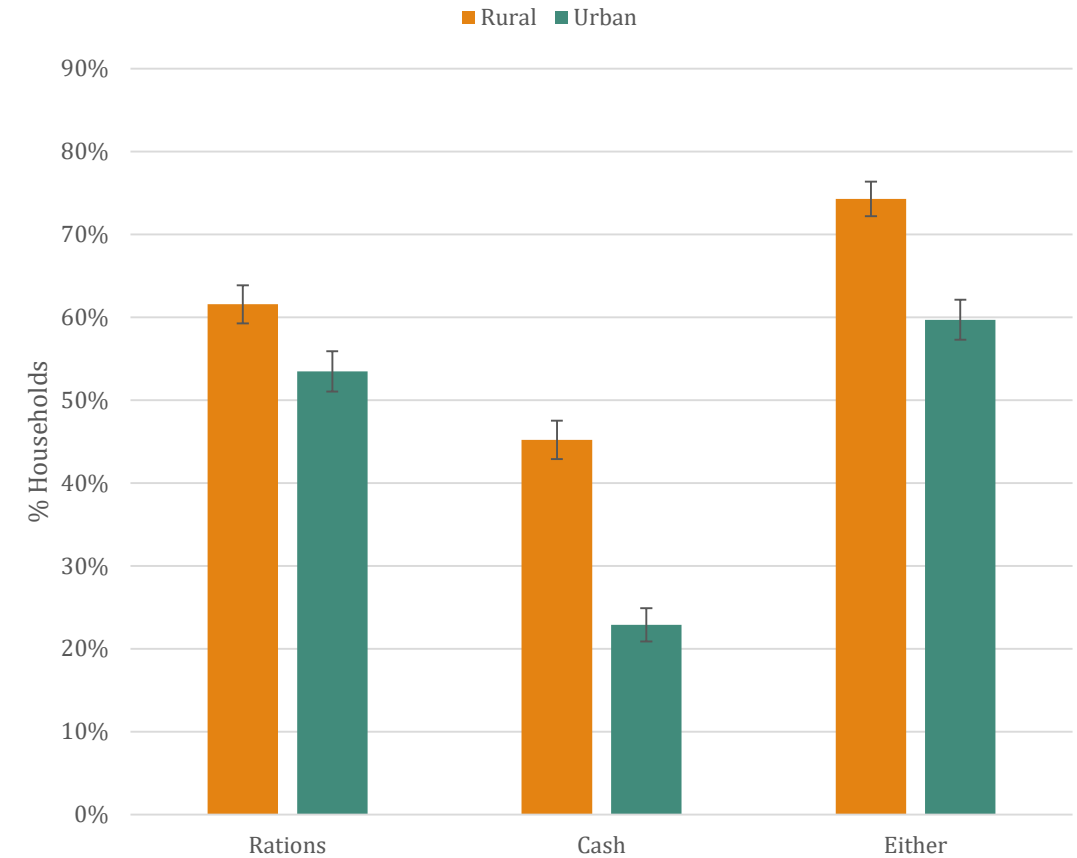
- Read out the schemes one by one
- Record all the schemes that apply
- For each scheme, record amount of additional cash received separately for April and May

# Pro-poor safety net schemes but urban exclusion continues

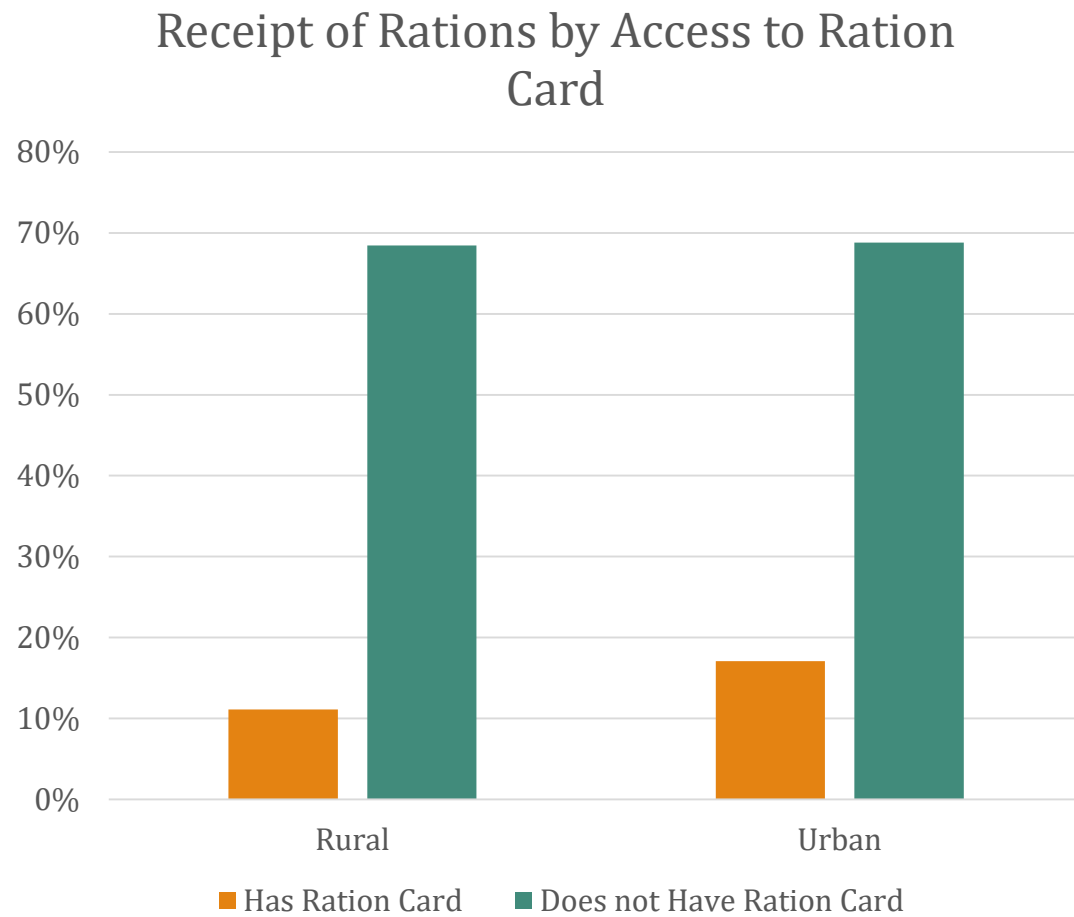
Welfare Benefits seem to be targeted so that the richest get the least benefits



Urban exclusion persists, particularly in cash benefits



# Much of the urban exclusion in receipt of ration comes out of absence of ration card



- While 88% of the rural residents had ration card, only 70% of the urban residents did
- In spite of the efforts at reaching out to people without ration cards and using other documentation, absence of ration card seems to hamper urban residents from getting the rations
- For ration card owners, both urban and rural residents have similar access to additional rations
- Portable ration cards may solve this problem

## About a third of the sample received some cash benefits in April and May but the amount is relatively small

	% Receiving Any Benefit	Mean Amount of Received by Receptient Households
Ujjwala	8%	1049
PM Kisan	6%	2638
Jan dhan account	23%	1083
Pensioner/divyang	4%	3405
MGNREGA/Shramik	1%	2579
Other	2%	2550
Any Cash Benefit	34%	2076

- Mean amount of cash transfer is about Rs. 2076 for the the households that receive the transfer
- For all households, the average transfer amount is Rs. 718

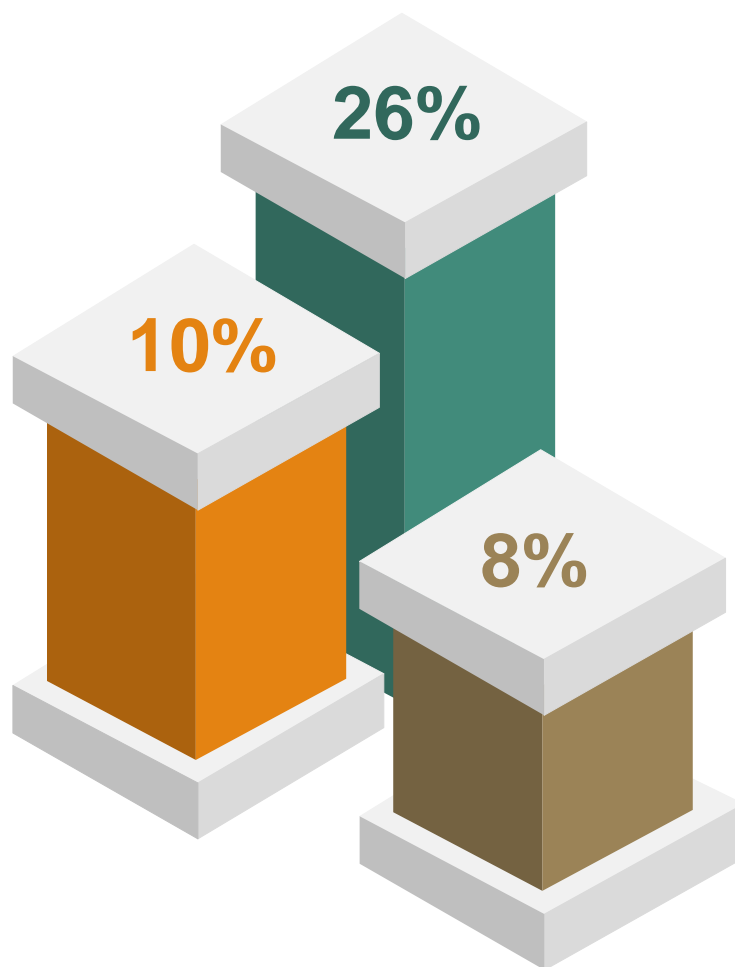


# Other welfare benefits

**10% rural households  
getting MGNREGA work**

**8% households  
receiving support from  
NGOs**

About 4% received rations,  
others received masks,  
sanitizers etc.

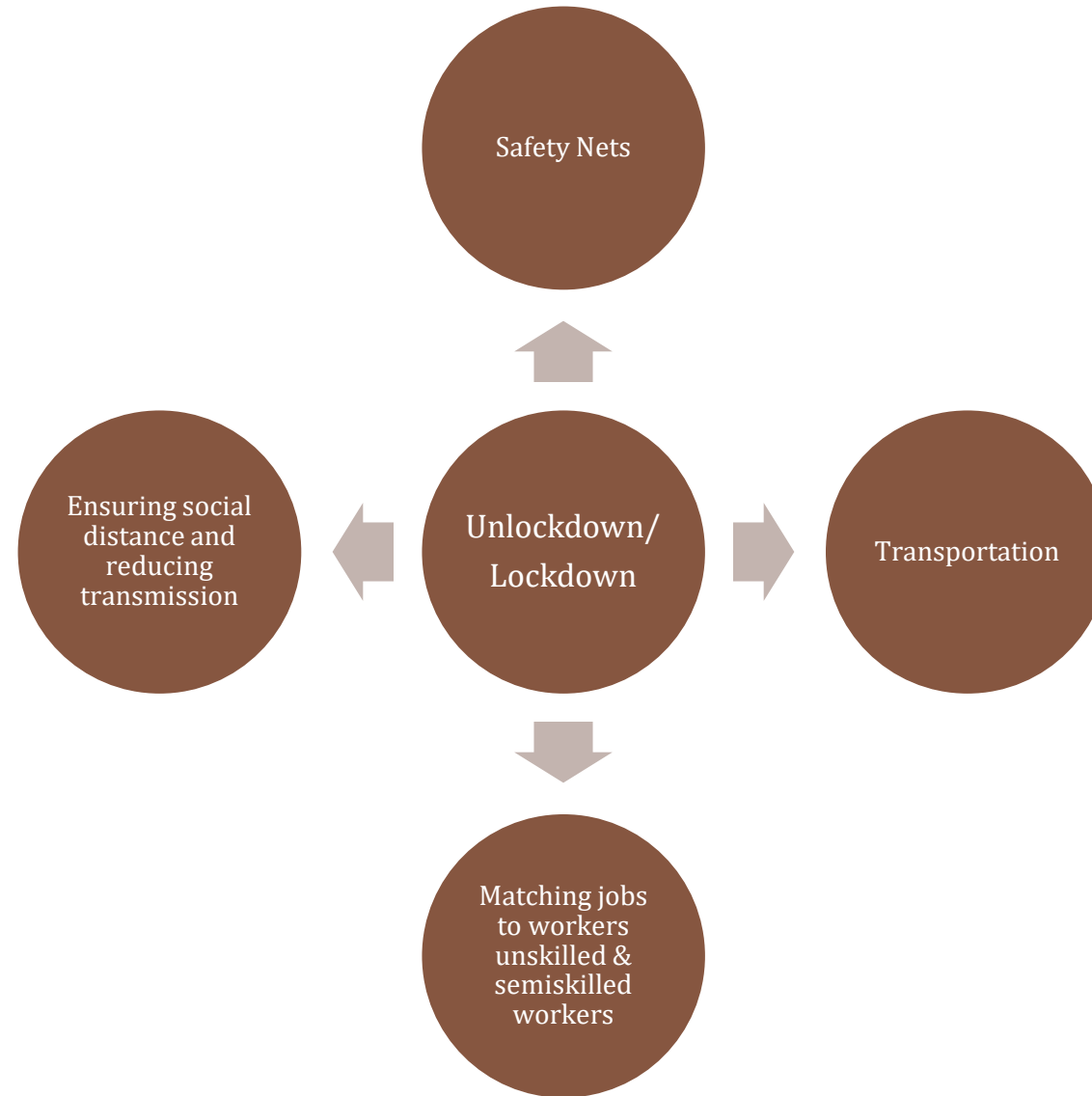


**26% replacement for  
mid-day meal**

Among families with  
children in 8th class and  
below in government  
schools, 26% received  
rations since schools are  
closed

# Grappling with the unlockdown

and preparing for phased lockdown if virus strikes in some areas



# Advisory Panel – DCVTS-3

## External

- Sekhar Bonu
- Ashwini Deshpande
- Jean Dreze
- Renana Jhabvala
- Suneeta Krishnan
- Aasha Mehta
- Manju Rani
- Sanjeev Sridharan

## NCAER Internal

- Bornali Bhandari
- Shashanka Bhide
- G.C. Manna
- Shekhar Shah
- Anil Sharma

# NDIC Team – Thank you for tremendous effort

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- **NDIC field team**

This is a preliminary report being released quickly after completing the DCVTS Round 3 due to the urgency of producing evidence to help map sensible strategies for fighting the Coronavirus Pandemic. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to [sdesai@ncaer.org](mailto:sdesai@ncaer.org) and [spramanik@ncaer.org](mailto:spramanik@ncaer.org). All rights reserved. The material in this publication is copyrighted. NCAER encourages the dissemination of its work and will normally grant permission to reproduce portions of the work promptly. This work is the product of the research staff of NCAER. The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily the views of the Governing Body or Management of NCAER.

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# About NCAER and NCAER NDIC

## NCAER

Established in 1956, NCAER is India's oldest and largest independent, non-profit, economic policy research institute. NCAER's work cuts across many sectors, including growth, macro, trade, infrastructure, logistics, labour, urban, agriculture and rural development, human development, poverty, and consumers. The focus of NCAER's work is on generating and analysing empirical evidence to support and inform policy choices. It is also one of a handful of think tanks globally that combine rigorous analysis and policy outreach with deep data collection capabilities, especially for household surveys.

More on NCAER is available on <http://www.ncaer.org>"  
[www.ncaer.org](http://www.ncaer.org).

## NCAER National Data Innovation Centre

The NCAER National Data Innovation Centre was set up in December 2017 to promote innovation and excellence in data collection and build research capacity to strengthen the data ecosystem in India. The NDIC is envisaged as a hub for providing expertise to policymakers, government statistical agencies and private data collection agencies. NDIC is pursuing three primary goals: [1] To pilot innovative data collection methods and mainstream successful pilots into larger data collection efforts; [2] To impart formal and informal training to a new generation of data scientists; and [3] To serve as a resource for data stakeholders, including Government data agencies and ministries.

NDIC is experimenting with survey instruments and modes of data collection to address shortcomings in existing approaches. The DCVTS is an example of our rapidly building a quick response telephone survey on top of our existing Delhi Metropolitan Area Study, which is a panel study.