

Social Impact of Garments Industry on Workers: Preliminary Summary Results on Selective Indicators



**ASIAN CENTER FOR
DEVELOPMENT**

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Preliminary Summary Results on Selective Indicators

Table 1: Current Status of Survey (till March 16, 2020)

Location	Number of Factories	Respondent	Number of Responses Collected
Dhaka	1	Manager	65
Savar	5	Worker	462
Gazipur	46	Male	191
Narayanganj	13	Female	271
Total	65	-	527

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Out of 161 factories, survey is completed in 65 factories. A total of 527 complete responses was collected till March 16,2020 that includes 65 responses from managers and 462 responses from workers. Among the workers 59% respondents were female.

Workers Information

Table 2: Average Age of the Garments Workers (in years)

Gender	Average Age (in years)	Standard Deviation (in years)
Male	26.56	5.52
Female	24.32	4.60
Total Workers	25.25	5.12

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

The average age of current pool of garments workers is just over 25 years. Among them, the average age of male and female workers are 26.6 years and 24.3 years respectively.

Table 3: Marital Status of the Garments Workers (in percent)

Marital Status	Workers		
	Male	Female	All
Unmarried	31.94	19.19	24.46
Married	67.54	78.6	74.03
Separated	0.00	0.37	0.22
Divorced	0.52	1.11	0.87
Widow/Widower	0.00	0.74	0.43

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Among the garment's workers, nearly 75% are married and 25% are unmarried.

Table 4: Marital Status of the Garments Workers (in percent)

Household Profile	Person(s)
Household Size	4.17
Earning Members of HH	2.11
Workers Stay with their families?	Percent (%)
Yes	83.55

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

On average, the **household size of a garment workers is 4.2**. Among them, on average there are **two earning members** in each household.

Currently, **five out of each six garments workers live with their family members**.

Table 5: Salary of Garments Workers and its Redistribution to Rural Economy

Particulars	Amount (in taka)
Average salary received (in last month including payments for overtime) (for all 7 grades)	11,670
Per month average transfer of cash back home	4,000
Particulars	Percent
Percent of workers send money to village	66.45
Money transfer using Mobile Banking System	78.83

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

In the last month (from the month of survey) including the payments of overtime, on average a garment's **worker received salary of 11,670 taka**.

Two-third of all garment's worker send money back to their respective home. On average, **they send 4,000 taka per month**. **In more than 75% cases they use mobile banking system to send/transfer their respective amount**.

Table 6: Average Salary Received in last month including overtime (in taka)

Workers Grade	Received Salary including the payment of overtime (in month)	Revised Minimum Wage 2018
Grade 1	30,225	18,257
Grade 2	18,396	15,416
Grade 3	12,542	9,845
Grade 4	12,026	9,347
Grade 5	11,330	8,875
Grade 6	11,044	8,420
Grade 7	9,842	8,000

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

In all grades, on average workers take-home wage is found to be higher than the minimum wage rate. Three possible factors may explain these positive wage gap (i) inclusion of overtime payment, (ii) productivity (skill) of the worker, and (iii) length of service.

Table 7: Monthly Average Household Expenditure (in taka)

Expenditure	Amount (in taka)
Monthly HH Expenditure	14,380
-	Percent (%)
Food Expenses	41.0
Non-Food Expenses	59.0

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Average household expenditure of garments worker is found to be 14,380 taka per month. Of which, the food and non-food expenses are 41% and 59% respectively. Disaggregated monthly average household expenditure is shared in the table 8.

Table 8: Disaggregated Monthly Average Household Expenditure (in taka)

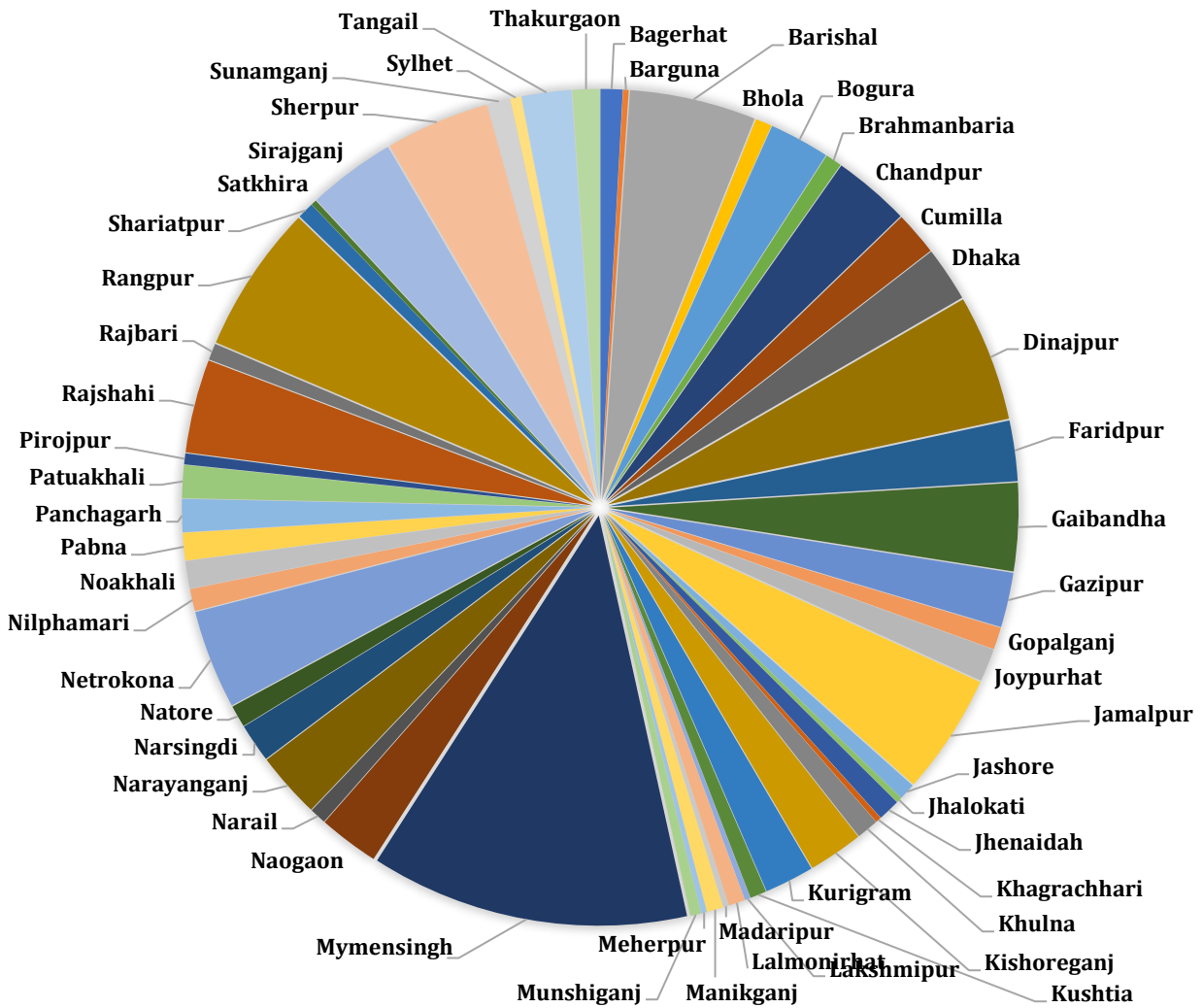
Expense Heads	Number of Responded	Average Monthly Expense (in taka)	Standard Deviation (in taka)
Rent	462	3,675	2,560
*Cooking Fuel	49	574	450
*Lighting Expenses	97	548	861
*Water Bill	25	118	185
Mobile Bill	462	249	251
Educational Expenses	462	1,444	1,981
Cosmetics Expenses	462	554	674
Entertainment Cost	462	405	815
Food Expense	440	6,202	4,851
Health	462	1,893	12,133
Internet	462	73	139

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Note: *In many cases, cooking fuel, lighting and water bill expenses are included within the rent.

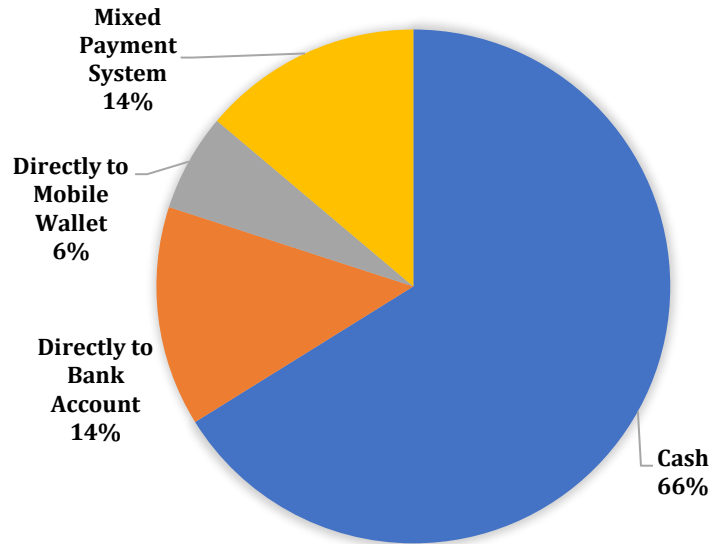
Figure 1: Home District of the Garments Workers (in percent)

Workers from all districts of Bangladesh are involved in our ready-made garments industry. Highest percentage (12.55%) of workers join the garment industry from Mymensingh district followed by Rangpur (5.84%), Barishal (4.98%), Dinajpur (4.98%), Jamalpur (4.76%), Sherpur (4.11%) districts and so on.



Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Figure 2: Mode of Salary Disbursement to Garments Workers



Source: ACD Survey, 2020

About two-third (66%) of garments factory solely rely on cash for disbursing salary to their workers (Figure 2). Nearly, 20% factories disburse salary directly to the workers respective bank accounts; of which 6% through mobile banking system. Rest 14% garments factories use mixed payment systems upon convenience of clearing payments to their workers.

Table 9: Percentage of Bank Account Holders among Garments Workers

Bank Account Holder	Percent
No	48.05
Yes	51.95
<i>General Bank Account</i>	<i>44.58</i>
<i>Mobile Bank Account</i>	<i>55.42</i>

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

About 52% garments workers hold some form of bank account. Of which, 55% workers hold mobile bank account.

Food Habit

Table 10: Daily Intake of Carbohydrate Contained Food Items (day before the survey)

Carbohydrate Food Items	Percentage of cases
Rice	100
Wheat	22
Potato	66
Maize	4
Millet	1

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Rice is the common source of carbohydrate for all families. In addition, two-third of workers have mentioned potato as a major source of carbohydrate they intake. Nearly, one out of every five workers family consumed wheat in their respective yesterday's meal.

Table 11: Daily Intake of Protein and Vitamin Contained Food Items

Protein and Vitamin Food Items	Percentage of cases
Egg	31
Chicken	22
Beef	13
Fish	65
Vegetable	74

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

Fish and vegetable were the major sources of protein and vitamin for majority of workers family members. Besides, egg was a common item in yesterday's food menu to one-third of workers family.

Table 12: Daily Intake of Other Food Items

Other Food Items	Percentage of cases
Milk	28
Fruits	39
Soft Drinks	5
Juice	4
Street food	11
Pita	7

Source: ACD Survey, 2020

About 40% cases workers responded that fruits were included in their yesterday's food intake while in 28% cases they mentioned about milk as well.