

**INTERNAL MIGRATION IN PAKISTAN: SOME
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS AND
SIGNIFICANCES**

Naeem Akram

Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Since early years, humans are migrating to ensure their survival or to improve their socio-economic position in society. In Pakistan, internal migration has not been given proper attention in policy making. Consequently, government is facing problems in managing the challenges and opportunities posed by internal migration. The present study attempted to analyse socio-economic factors that play crucial role in a household's decision to migrate internally by using data of Labour Force Survey 2020-21. In the questionnaire of labour force survey, there is a specific section related to migration. The migration is defined as 'households that has moved from one district to another district or to different country', it excludes the migration within district. The logit regression has been used to estimate the model. It has been found that more educated people particularly having professional and technical education tends to migrate. The internal migration increases with age, but after certain level it tends to start declining. It has also concluded that employment in public sector (due to job security or provision of housing facilities) motivate people to internally migrate. People belonging to middle income families are more likely to migrate in comparison to rich or very poor. Study confirms that search of better job opportunities and family compulsions are major factors in internal voluntary migration. However, law and order situations emerge as a significant factor in forced migration. As the internal migration are much higher than international migration so there is need that role of internal migration may be recognised in reducing poverty, employment and socio-economic development. Unfortunately, there exists lack of policy on internal labour flows. Most the labour force is not even registered at migration destinations. It is very crucial to calculate value of domestic remittances. It will be helpful in devising the policy to improve the status of internal migrants by providing them targeted technical and vocational education training so that they can get better job opportunities in destination places.

JEL Classifications: R23, I23, E24

Keywords: Internal Migration, Education, Employment

Corresponding Author's Email: naeem378@yahoo.com

INTRODUCTION

Since early years of human settlement, they have been migrating in search of food, shelter, to escape impacts of changing climate and due to overpopulation in a particular area. Campbell and Barone (2012), illustrated that

"recent finds in the fossil record make it clear that humans and their immediate ancestors have been migrating in one form or another since the origins of the genus Homo, almost 2 million years ago" (p. 45).

However, nature of human migration has changed over the years. Initially, they migrated to ensure their survival (forced migration) but in modern times they are migrating

to get better opportunities to improve their socio-economic position in society (voluntary migration). Internal migration is migration (permanent or temporary) within a specific country or delimited territory. In comparison to international migration the internal migration is three times larger, 750 million internal migrants as compared to 250 million internal migrants, worldwide (World Bank, 2019).

The migration exhibits positive impacts on economy by increasing household income, remittances, savings and improving human capital development; leading to poverty reduction. The internal migration can play crucial role in reducing the inequalities in income and wages. Furthermore, it can be helpful in heterogeneous growth of cities (Malhotra and Devi, 2016).

However, migrants have to face competition with local residents in getting basic facilities like education, health, housing and food etc. Similarly, migrants are increasing the population of cities. It has been estimated that world urban population would reach to 2.5 billion by 2050 (United Nations, 2019). Hence migration poses some challenges for governments in terms of urbanization, access to basic utilities, roads and transportation (World Economic Forum, 2017).

There are numerous pull and push factors that play a decisive role in migration. Pull factors are the positive features of the destination of migration. The few important pull factors are education & healthcare facilities, economic opportunities, recreational facilities, better security etc. Whereas the push factors are the negative characteristics of the current/existing place of migrants. It includes unequal landholdings, poor or costly educational & healthcare facilities, lack of economic opportunities and insecurity (Fields, 1972; Stark & Bloom, 1985).

Pakistan is fifth most populous country in the world with a population of 241 million¹. Since the creation of Pakistan people always moving within Pakistan. In 1947, when Pakistan came into existence as an outcome of the separation of the Indian subcontinent, thousands of Muslims left India and migrated to Pakistan, similarly, Hindus and Sikhs migrated from Pakistan to India. Hill (2004) argued that it was “forced migration” as people are forced to migrate due to religious conflict coupled with political motivation. The International Labour Organization (ILO), has estimated that up till 1957 India and Pakistan received 8.8 million and 8.4 million refugees respectively (ILO,1959). In 1960 about 78% of population was living in rural areas. In Pakistan, internal migration flows are often linked to the development differential between urban and rural areas and in order to search for better opportunities people migrated from rural areas to urban areas resultantly share of rural population has shrunk to 61% in 2023 (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics). Pakistan is also subject to a vast array of natural hazards, which have caused numerous waves of internal displacement and internal migration (Sadia et al., 2017).

In Pakistan people are free to relocate themselves and we can refer to internal migration as ‘open access and laissez fair policy’. It is worth mentioning here that in some areas like hilly areas and deserts the migration is mainly because of the hazardous environment. In these areas, agriculture and other economic activities are also scarce. Lack of business opportunities and inappropriate climatic conditions forces people to migrate from hilly areas in winter and from deserts in summer seasons. Similarly, in many cases earnings are not enough to fulfil their family needs for the whole year. In such instances, male members tend to internally migrate so that rest of the family may live better life in the place of origin. In Pakistan due to unemployment, wage differentials in rural and urban

areas and positive expectations associated with cities, people migrate from rural to urban areas (Ijaz, 2016).

Unfortunately, in Pakistan internal migration has not been given proper attention in policymaking. Resultantly urban policy-making is based on inadequate research and analysis. As a result of this lacuna, urban policies have given birth to different social issues like market price fluctuation, non-availability of housing and transport facilities and water & sanitation issues (Nasir et al 2012). Furthermore, in Pakistan, there is a lack of legislation regarding the rights of internal migrants. Consequently, the government is facing problems in managing the challenges and opportunities posed by internal migration. Similarly, internal migrants in Pakistan are also facing issues of security, health, education and housing.

Due to rapid migration from rural urban areas in Pakistan, cities are now unable to accommodate migrants. Due to internal migration the slum areas are increasing, in these informal settlements, basic necessities like safe drinking water and sanitation are not properly available (Ghafoor et al., 2014; Shirazi, & Kazmi, 2014). Similarly, farmlands near cities are now turning converting into residential schemes. This situation is posing serious threats to food security in Pakistan (Rana & Bhatti, 2018). So internal migration is posing serious challenges to the sustainability of urban infrastructure in Pakistan (Malik et al., 2020)

The present study is an attempt to analyze socio-economic factors that plays crucial role in a household's decision to migrate internally by using latest available Labour Force Survey 2020-21 data. The paper will help the policymakers in devising evidence-based urban development policies.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Over the years numerous studies have been conducted on the issues of migration in various disciplines. The present review is an attempt to summarize studies focused on the determinants of internal migration.

Economic factors

It has been emerged that economic factors play pivotal role in household's decision to migrate. Many studies have found that economic factors are the primary determinants of internal migration. Deluca and Rakotonarivo (2019) found that in developing countries individuals migrated to areas with better economic opportunities. Turrey, (2016) found that mostly people migrate to urban areas to enhance income, employment and education of their children. Shankar and Madan (2014) comes to conclusion that in India education, employment, and household income are most significant determinants of internal migration. These findings are supported by Gunay and Lenger (2017) in Turkey and Hossain and Rahman (2020) in Bangladesh, Khan and Ahmad (2016), Ali et al. (2019) and Khan and Ali (2021) in Pakistan. Ishtiaque and ullah (2013) found that food insecurity, loss of land, inequality, and search for a new job plays significant role in migration decision among the households in Bangladesh. Studies focused on Pakistan found that poverty in rural areas, better employment opportunities and human development opportunities in mega cities emerged as major determinants of internal migration (Ahmed et al. 2010;

Akbar et al. 2019; Mahmud et al. 2010, Ijaz, 2016). Akhtar and Jariko (2018) concluded that in Tharparker (a district in Pakistan) majority of seasonal migrants belongs to poorest communities and lack of economic opportunities force them to migrate for survival. Nazeer (2017) concluded that professional men and women tend to migrate to cities on permanent basis.

Education

Education is another significant determinant of internal migration. A study by Amelina and Matuszewska-Novak (2017) conducted in Poland individuals with higher education were more likely to migrate. Similarly, Qaiser et al. (2021) found that in Pakistan , education played a significant role in determining internal migration patterns. Amuakwa-Mensah et al. (2016) also found a positive impact of education on decision to migrate. Miguélez & Moreno (2013) and Zucker & Darby (2007) concluded that rate of migration is high among scientists, graduates and inventors. Haapanen & Tervo (2012) comes to conclusion that education has significant impact on migration from rural areas to urban areas but it has an insignificant impact on migration from urban to rural areas. Kamninga (2019) concluded that when a person moves up on education ladder his tendency to migrate increases. Mustikasari and Denny (2015) suggested that employment and education are most significant determinants of internal migration in Indonesia.

Demographic factors

Demographic factors such as age and gender also influence internal migration patterns. Jokela and Vuori (2019) found that in Finland, young adults were more likely to migrate than older adults. Some studies found that there is an inverted u-shape relationship between the age of household and decision to migrate and between middle to early adult years people tendency to migrate is highest (De Haan, 1999; Narman, 1995). Xu and Li (2018) found that in China males are more likely to migrate than females. Kanwal et al. (2015) concluded that in Pakistan, marriages play significant role in internal migration. Ramos and Zapata (2019) suggested that in Mexico marriage is one of the major factor in decision to migrate. Ikramullah & Nasrullah (2020) found that in Baluchistan (province in Pakistan) education and health care facilities push the people to migrate from rural areas of Baluchistan to Quetta (capital city). Omollo and Murigi (2021) concluded that in Kenya access to social services is the key factor that force people to migrate to urban areas. Fareed and Akhtar (2018) comes to similar conclusion that in Pakistan employment and access to social services are most significant determinants of internal migration.

Social networks

Social networks play a crucial role in internal migration patterns. Lu et al. (2019) found that in China individuals were more likely to migrate to areas where they had social connections. Similarly, Amelina and Matuszewska-Novak (2017) concluded that social networks played a significant role in determining migration patterns in Poland. Ghafoor et al (2021) is of the view that in Lahore (a district in Pakistan), better living conditions,

higher wages, job opportunities, and improved social environment at the place of destination are the significant pull factors of internal migration.

Environmental factors

Environmental factors such as climate change and natural disasters also influence internal migration patterns. Shonchoy (2010) comes to conclusion that natural disasters, reduction in agricultural income are the major reasons of internal migration in developing countries. According to Nguyen and Nguyen (2018) environmental factors are significant determinants of internal migration in Vietnam.

Political factors

In recent times political factors such as wars, conflicts, and human rights violations also influence internal migration patterns (UNOCHA, 2013). Acosta and Bird (2019) found that in Colombia conflicts and violence are significant determinants of internal migration. Hasan (2009) and Saeed et al. (2015) found that political instability, environmental changes and conflicts play highly significant role in determining internal migration in Pakistan.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Since the pioneering work of Ravenstein (1885), social scientists (in the fields of economics and demography) came up with numerous theories to explain the intuitions behind the decision to migrate. The gist of some well-known theories that lay the foundation of the paper is summarized as under:

a. Ravenstein's 11 laws of migration

Ravenstein's (1885) theory of migration was the first ever attempt to explain migration. Ravenstein's 11 "laws" can be divided into three groups:

- a) The reason for migration
- b) Distance they typically move
- c) The socio-economic characteristics of migrants

It asserts that migration is mainly driven by economic factors and people tend to migrate to areas that offer more economic opportunities.

b. Lewis two-sector economy (Neoclassical Economics Theory)

Lewis (1954) posed the concept of a two-sector economy i.e. traditional (agricultural) and modern (manufacturing) sectors. Due to limited productivity in agriculture, a surplus labour force is created in agriculture and it becomes main source of migration from rural areas to urban areas. Later on Todaro (1969) and Harris & Todaro (1970) models of migration (an extension of Lewis theory) asserted that instead of labour surplus wage differential creates the rural-urban migration. Lucas (2004) reformulated Lewis's theory by narrating that individuals having higher education and skills migrates to cities and adjust themselves in the manufacturing sector.

c. Gravity Model of Migration

Reilly (1931) proposed the gravity model of migration based on Newton's law of gravitation. The model asserts that the number of migrants between two places depends on the distance and the population size.

d. Stouffer's theory of Mobility

Stouffer (1940), introduced modification in the gravity model and is of the view that there is very weak relationship exists between mobility and distance, because despite more opportunities available the volume of migration decreased at long distance. According to Stouffer's number of migrants from a source, location is proportional to the number of opportunities at the destination place and inversely proportional to the number of intervening opportunities between places of source and destination.

e. Lee's Theory of Migration

Lee (1966) proposed that migration is determined by different push and pull factors. Push factors consist of limited economic opportunities, an unhealthy environment and political or religious discrimination in the source area. Wherein pull factors include better economic opportunities, health environmental conditions and political or religious freedom at destination place. The migrations take place if push factors at the source area are cured by corresponding pull factors at destination place.

f. New Economics of Labor Migration (NELM)

Stark and Bloom (1985) present the New Economics of Labor Migration (NELM) theory, it states that instead of an individual, whole family takes the migration decisions. Households send some of the family members to cities to increase joint family income. Resultantly family income and social status of the household increased.

The present study has used the Lee's theory of migration and New Economics of Labor Migration (NELM) theory. Because it has attempted to investigate the push-pull factors of migration and in line with NELM theory instead of using individual households, study considered household head as main decision maker of migration.

DATA AND METHODOLOGY

The present study has attempted to analyze the determinants of Internal migration in Pakistan. In this regards the data of Pakistan Labour Force Survey 2020-21 (LFS) has been used. It is pertinent to mention here that present study is confined to internal migration of household head. It does not analyze the reasons behind individual household members migration. The Labour Force Survey provides comprehensive information about employment, wages, migration, nature of work environment etc of active and inactive labour force. The Labour Force survey 2020-21 consists of a sample of 96,442 households. In the process the 570,991 individuals were interviewed. The working-age population (10 years of age and above) was 386,619. In the questionnaire there is a specific section related

to migration. The question related to migration were asked from all individuals of age 10 and above. The migration is defined as ‘households that has moved from one district to another district or to different country’, it excludes the migration within district.

The functional form of the model is as under:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Internal Migration} = & \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Edu head} + \beta_2 \text{Edu Spouse} + \beta_3 \text{Edu Parents} + \\ & \beta_4 \text{Age} + \beta_5 (\text{Age})^2 + \beta_6 \text{number of Dependets} + \beta_7 \text{Employment Status} + \\ & \beta_8 \text{Nature of Employmnt} + \beta_9 \text{Earnings} + \epsilon \end{aligned} \quad \mathbf{A}$$

In order to estimate the model A, the Logit regression has been used. In logit models we had binary dependent variable and different independent/explanatory variables. After estimation the odd ratios are reported. The odds ratios are analyzed in the context of baseline or the comparison category.

The logit model is well suited for problems when the predictor variable is binary or has multiple categorical levels, or even when there are multiple independent variables in the problem (Greene, 1993). The logit model is also estimated by using maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) method. Main advantage of this approach is that it does not assume multivariate normality and equal covariance matrixes as, e.g., discriminant analysis does (Press and Wilson, 1978).

A brief overview of the variables used in the present study are summarized as under:

Dependent Variables:

The decision of internal migration is our dependent variable. It is a binary variable and takes the value of 1 if the household is internally migrated and 0 otherwise.

Independent Variables:

i. Level of education

Numerous studies recognized that education plays a pivotal role in determining household decision to migrate. In this study, we used three variables regarding education. i.e. education of household head, education of the parents of household head and education of spouse. The attainment of education is divided into 6 categories i.e. no education, below secondary, secondary, professional, degree or higher education (not professional) and technical education. We expect that more educated household tends to migrate.

ii. Age of household head

The age of household head is another important factor to internally migrate. In order to examine the quadratic relationship between age and migration we had used two age related variables i.e. age and age square.

iii. Employment Status

In the survey, different questions are available to gauge employment of households. Our employment variables have three options i.e. un employed, Paid employment and Entrepreneurship or self-employment.

iv. Kind of Enterprise

The nature of enterprises wherein the household is employed, is another important variable, it provides the information about household's employment in public sector or private sector.

v. Earning of the household

On the basis of information available in survey, a variable has been created to gauge household total earnings during the year. To simplify earning is divided into three ranges. It is pertinent to mention here that it does not include non-monetary earnings e.g. crops, animals etc.

vi. Number of Dependents

The number of dependents in the households were also calculated. Dependent is defined as if a person does not earn or is below the age of 15 is dependent.

vii. Reasons of migration

Based on the questionnaire it has also been examined that significance of different reasons reported by the respondents about internal migration. It includes migrating in search of better job opportunities, better education or health, marriage or family compulsions and migration due to Law and order situation and all other reasons are clubbed as miscellaneous. The reason of migration is a categorical variables wherein miscellaneous reason is used as base line.

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

Table 1 provides the overall descriptive position of the households interviewed in the Labour force survey 2020-21.

TABLE 1 DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

| Description | % age | Description | % age |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--|-------|
| Type of Internal Migration | | Age of Household head | |
| Rural-Urban | 91.66 | Below 15 | 0.03 |
| Urban-Rural | 8.34 | 15-24 | 3.39 |
| Education of Household Head | | 25-44 | 47.69 |
| No education | 31.82 | 45-59 | 32.45 |
| Below Secondary | 27.24 | 60+ | 16.44 |
| Secondary & Intermediate | 17.39 | Employment Status of household head | |
| Professional | 0.46 | Unemployed | 2.44 |
| Degree or higher | 6.28 | Paid Employment | 43.96 |
| Technical Education | 16.81 | Own Bossiness/Self Employed | 53.61 |
| Highest education of Parents | | Kind of Enterprise | |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|---|-------|
| No education | 69.02 | Public sector | 13.01 |
| Below Secondary | 17.09 | Private Sector | 86.99 |
| Secondary & Intermediate | 6.32 | | |
| Professional | 0.06 | Annual Earning of household in PKR | |
| Degree or higher | 1.63 | 0-120,000 | 67.44 |
| Technical Education | 5.89 | 120,001-240,000 | 9.88 |
| Education of Spouse | | More than 240,000 | 22.68 |
| No education | 57.37 | | |
| Below Secondary | 18.79 | Reasons of migration | |
| Secondary & Intermediate | 9.33 | Better job or business | 39.97 |
| Professional | 0.15 | Change of residence or back to home | 25.89 |
| Degree or higher | 4.14 | Family Compulsions | 16.90 |
| Technical Education | 10.22 | Marriage | 6.72 |
| Nature of Migration | | Law and order | 4.62 |
| Not migrated | 89.14 | In search of better agricultural land | 3.33 |
| International Migration | 0.91 | Miscellaneous | 2.57 |
| Internal Migration | 9.95 | Duration of Internal Migration (internal migrants) | |
| Internal Migration | | 1-4 Years | 15.98 |
| No | 90.05 | 5-9 Years | 12.36 |
| Yes | 9.95 | 10+ Years | 71.66 |

The table 1 reveals that 89 % of households had migrated, among them 10% were internally migrated, while 1% were migrated internationally. Among the internally migrated households, most of migration (92%) occurred from rural to urban areas. Similarly, majority of households were migrated permanently (72%) as their duration of migration was more than 10 years, while 16% were migrated for less than five years and 12% of the households have a duration of migration between 5 to 9 years.

Majority of households (40%) are migrated in search of a better job or business opportunities. Change of residence or back to home is the 2nd largest reason for migration (26%). Family compulsions, inclusive of migration due to marriage emerged as the 3rd largest reason for migration (24%). The other major reasons for internal migration were law and order (5%) and search of better agricultural land (3%).

The table has also reported the statistics about the education, education of parents of household head (if alive) and education of Spouse. It revealed that around 60% of household's heads are having education below secondary level. 86% of the parents of household heads are having below secondary level. Similarly, 76% spouse of household head have below secondary level education. However, 17% of household heads are having technical education. The table is also suggestive of the fact that there is dearth of higher education in Pakistan.

As far as age of household head is concerned the table reveals that majority of households are headed by someone having age of 25-44 (48%) followed by 45-59 (33%). The statistics about the job status of the households were also reported in table 1. It suggests that only 2.4% of household heads reported that they are unemployed. The majority of households were involved in independent business (54%) and 44% of households are involved in a paid job or paid agriculture activities. Similarly, majority of households are working in private sector enterprises (87%) followed by public sector (13%).

The average annual earning of household reflects the situation of poverty in Pakistan. The majority of households (67%) are earning less than PKR 120,000 per annum or PKR 10,000 per month (USD 77²) and only 10% of households are earning more than PKR 500,000 per annum or PKR 41,666 per month equivalent to USD 320 per month.

ESTIMATION RESULTS

The model is estimated by using logit regression the results are summarised in table 2. The results indicate that education of household head is having significant impact on decisions to internally migrate. The odd ratios of professional education and technical education are significantly higher in comparison to no education. The household headed by educated (professional or technical education) ones are more likely to migrate. The results are supported by many other studies of the past like Miguélez & Moreno (2013). They come to the similar conclusions that rate of migration is high among scientists, graduates and inventors. However, education of parent of the household head and spouse of household head does not have any significant impact on the decision to migrate.

TABLE 2 ESTIMATION RESULTS OF MODEL ANALYSING THE DETERMINANTS OF INTERNAL MIGRATION

| Name of the Variables | Odd Ratio | P Value |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Education of Household Head | | |
| No education | 1 | |
| Up to Secondary | 1.741 | 0.417 |
| Degree or Higher | 1.843 | 0.576 |
| Professional | 1.063* | 0.016 |
| Technical Education | 1.094* | 0.037 |
| Education of Spouse | | |
| No education | 1 | |
| Up to Secondary | 0.706 | 0.510 |
| Degree or Higher | 0.519 | 0.423 |
| Professional | 0.984 | 0.879 |
| Technical Education | 0.587 | 0.199 |
| Education of Parents | | |
| No education | 1 | |
| Up to Secondary | 0.509 | 0.240 |
| Degree or Higher | 2.199 | 0.480 |
| Professional | 0.531 | 0.328 |
| Technical Education | 0.264 | 0.987 |
| Age | 1.043** | 0.051 |
| Age Square | 0.903** | 0.095 |
| Number of Dependents | 1.014 | 0.821 |
| Employment Status | | |
| Unemployed | 1 | |
| Paid or job employment | 1.049** | 0.084 |
| Own Bossiness/Self Employed | 2.289 | 0.536 |

| | | |
|--|---------|--------|
| Nature of Employment | | |
| Public sector | 1 | |
| Private sector | 0.779* | 0.082 |
| Annual Earning | | |
| 0-120000 | 1 | |
| 1200001-240000 | 3.279** | 0.051 |
| 240000+ | 1.436 | 0.371 |
| Reasons of Internal migration | | |
| Miscellaneous | 1 | |
| Better Job or Business Opportunities | 9.235** | 0.093 |
| Marriage or Family Reasons | 1.191** | 0.064 |
| Better Education or Health Facilities es | 1.890 | 0.145 |
| Law and order Situation | 1.106* | 0.018 |
| Constant | 35.590 | 0.004 |
| Pseudo R Square | | 0.2319 |

*p < 0.05; **p < 0.10

The results indicate that likelihood of migration increases with age. However, significance of age square (with low odd ratio) reflects that increasing effect of age fall with age. Some other studies of past also found that there is an inverted u shaped relationship between age of the household and decision to migrate and it reaches at peak between middle to early adult years (De Haan, 1999; Narman, 1995). This result indicate that migration has been age selective in terms of varying inversely with age so that a longer expected work life in the destination would maximise returns to migration. However, results indicate that number of dependents does not portray significant impact on internal migration.

Employment status emerges another significant factor in decision to internally migrate. Households having paid employment or job are more likely to internally migrate in comparison to unemployed household heads. As odd ratios are significantly higher for households headed by someone having paid employment. Similarly, study also finds that odd ratios of employees of private sector are significantly less than the employees of public sector. As far as annul earning is concerned it has been found that households earning between PKR 120,000 to 240,000 per annum are having significantly higher odds of migration in comparison to other income brackets. It has also been supported by Nazeer (2017) that expected earnings are strong determinants of internal migration. Similarly, professional men and women tends to migrate to cities on permanent basis.

In line with expectations it has been found that better job or business opportunities emerges as the most significant factor for internal migration. It has significantly highest odd ratios in comparison to other variables. It has also been supported by Ikramullah & Nasrullah (2020) that search of better employment opportunities push the people to migrate from rural areas. The marriage and family compulsions are the 2nd largest factor in internal migration. It has also been supported by Kanwal et al. (2015) that majority of women migrate to accompany with husband and many others migrate due to other family compulsions. The law and order situation is the 3rd largest factor in forcing someone to migrate to relatively peaceful areas. It has also been supported by Hasan (2009) and Saeed et al.(2015) that political instability and conflicts plays significant role in determining

internal migration in Pakistan. Contrary to expectations it has been found that health and education is not a significant factor in determining internal migration of households.

CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Humans are migrating to ensure their survival since many years; in modern times they are migrating to get better opportunities for improving their socio-economic position in the society. Internal migration is the migration (permanent or temporary) within a specific country or delimited territory. In comparison to international migration, internal migration is three times larger. Internal migration can play crucial role in reducing the inequalities in income and wages and heterogeneous growth of cities.

In Pakistan, internal migration has not been given proper attention in policy making. Consequently, government is facing problems in managing the challenges and opportunities posed by internal migration, similarly internal migrants in Pakistan is also facing issues of security, health, education and housing. The present study attempted to analyze socio-economic factors that plays crucial role in household's decision to migrate internally by using data of Labour Force Survey 2020-21.

The major finding of the study is that education of household head has significant impacts on internal migration. However, education of spouse and parents of household head does not have significant impact on internal migration. The results suggest that more educated people particularly having professional and technical education tend to migrate in comparison to low level of education. In view of that there is dire need that institutions and industries may be established in rural areas so that people having technical education may be absorbed in these industries. It will not only helpful in creating job opportunities but will also reduce pressure on cities of high migration.

Another important finding of the study is that internal migration increases with age, but after certain level it tends to starts declining. It can be concluded that in middle ages people tends to internally migrate in search of better job opportunities but at latter ages they again try to migrate back to their native regions.

The study also concludes that employment in public sector (due to job security or provision of housing facilities) motivate people to internally migrate. However, people belonging to middle income families are more likely to migrate in comparison to rich or very poor. Study also confirms that search of better job opportunities and family compulsions are major factors in internal voluntary migration. However, law and order situation emerge as significant factor in forced migration. Based on results of the present study following policy implications has emerged.

- i. As the internal migration are much higher than international migration so there is need that role of internal migration may be recognised in reducing poverty, employment and socio-economic development. Unfortunately, there exists lack of policy on internal labour flows. Most the labour force is not even registered at migration destinations. It is very crucial to calculate value of domestic remittances. It will be helpful in devising the policy to improve the status of internal migrants by providing them targeted technical and vocational education training so that they can get better job opportunities in destination places.

- ii. The rapid and unplanned urbanization has created various slum dwellings with inadequate health, sanitation and hygiene creating serious health risks. So, there is a need that intermediate cities or towns may be developed by providing incentives to industries in these areas. It will help in absorbing labour force intended to migrate towards mega-cities.
- iii. Keeping in view the recurrent floods and drought in some areas, there is need for initiating new projects to enhance adaptive capacities of people living in vulnerable areas. The temporary climate change-induced internal migration can be a short-term adoptive measure but these migrants need support in terms of residential settlement and income-generating activities. The long-run strategy should be to provide support to vulnerable communities in disaster preparedness.
- iv. It is also recommended that financial and advisory support may be provided to farmers for promotion of agri-business. Similarly, different programs may be initiated for rural development, enabling the rural population to generate income from non-agricultural activities. So that instead of migrating to cities for better income opportunities people may generate income in the rural areas.
- v. Due to rapid internal migration demand for housing for both local residents and migrants increased. It also requires appropriate policies to provide affordable housing facilities to the urban population.
As mentioned in the data and methodology section present study is limited to the decisions of internal migration of household head. It does not analyses the reasons behind the individual household member's migration. In near future study will be carried out to analyze the determinants of internal migration of all of the households.

ENDNOTES

Views presented in the paper are personal and do not reflect the views of affiliated institution in any respect.

¹ <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2023/Pakistan.pdf>

² Assuming 1USD = PKR 130 in 2020-21

REFERENCES

- Ackah, C. and Medvedev, D, 2010. Internal migration in Ghana: Determinants and welfare impacts. In *The PEGNet Conference 2010: Policies to Foster and Sustain Equitable Development in Times of Crisis* (pp. 1–23). Midland, South Africa: Development Bank of Southern Africa.
- Acosta, P. A., & Bird, K. (2019). Internal migration, remittances, and forest cover change in rural Guatemala. *Population and Environment*, 40(4), 366-387. doi:10.1007/s11111-019-00325-w.
- Ahmed, V, Sugiyarto, G., and Jha, S. (2010) *Remittances and Household Welfare: A Case Study of Pakistan*. ADB Economic Working Paper Series No. 194, Asian Development Bank.

- Ali, T., Qureshi, M. A., Shaikh, A. M., & Naeem, M. A. (2019). Internal migration and its effect on urbanization in Pakistan. *Journal of Urban Management*, 8(1), 50-62.
- Akbar, S., Shahbaz, B., & Abbas, F. (2019). Internal Migration and Urbanization: The Role of Rural Push Factors in Urban Growth. *Journal of the Knowledge Economy*, 10(4), 1545-1558. doi:10.1007/s13132-017-0491-6.
- Akhtar S. & Jariko G.I. (2018). “Socio-economic characteristics of poverty and their impact on seasonal migration in Tharparkar district, Sindh, Pakistan: a Logistic Regression Analysis”, *Grassroots*, 52(1), pp 261-271
- Amelina, A., & Matuszewska-Novak, A. (2017). Transnational migration and the (re)negotiation of identities: Polish women in Germany and the United Kingdom. *Central and Eastern European Migration Review*, 6(1), 49-68.
- Amuakwa-Mensah, F., Boakye-Yiadom, L., & Baah-Boateng, W. (2016). “Effect of education on migration decisions in Ghana: A rural-urban perspective”, *Journal of Economic Studies*, 43(2), pp 336–356.
- Campbell, B. C., & Barone, L. (2012). Evolutionary basis of human migration. In B. C. Crawford & M. H. Campbell (Eds.), *Causes and consequences of human migration* (pp. 45–64). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- De Haan, A. (1999). “Livelihoods and poverty: The role of migration—A critical review of the migration literature”. *Journal of Development Studies*, 36(2), pp 1–47.
- DeLuca, L., & Rakotonarivo, S. (2019). “Internal Migration in Developing Countries”. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. doi:10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.827
- Fareed, M., & Akhtar, S. (2018). Internal migration in Pakistan: Determinants and welfare implications. *The Lahore Journal of Economics*, 23(1), 39-68
- Fields, G. S. (1972). *Rural-urban migration, urban unemployment and underemployment, and job search activity in LDCs*. Washington, D. C: U.S. Agency for International Development
- Faggian, A., & McCann, P. (2009). “Human capital, graduate migration and innovation in British regions”. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 33(2), 317–333
- Ghafoor, G., Qureshi, E. M. A., Ghafoor, N., & Shehzad, L. (2014). “Health and hygiene practices in slums: A case study of Lahore, Pakistan”, *Biologia Pakistan*, 60(2), pp 273–278.
- Ghafoor, N., Mehr-Un-Nisa & Akbar, M.R. (2021) “Socioeconomic Determinants of Migration in the City of Lahore, Pakistan”, *Journal of Knowledge Economy* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13132-021-00844-4>
- Greene, W.H. (1993) *Econometric Analysis*. Macmillan Publishing Company, New York
- Gunay, G., & Lenger, A. (2017). Internal migration in Turkey: Survey results. *Migration Letters*, 14(2), 233-243.
- Haapanen, M., & Tervo, H. (2012). “Migration of the highly educated: Evidence from residence spells of university graduates”, *Journal of Regional Science*, 52(4), pp 587–605
- Hossain, M. M., & Rahman, M. (2020). Internal migration and vulnerability in Bangladesh: An empirical analysis. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 56(2), 352-366.
- Harris R. & Todaro M. P. (1970). “Migration, Unemployment, and Development: Two-Sector Analysis”, *American Economic Review*, 60, pp 126-142.

Hasan, A., & Mansoor R. (2009) Migration and Small Towns in Pakistan. Working Paper Series on Rural-Urban Interactions and Livelihood Strategies, Working Paper 15, International Institute for Environment and Development.

Hill, K., (2004). War, Humanitarian Crises, Population Displacement, and Fertility: A Review of Evidence. National Academies Press.

Ijaz, A. (2016). "Climate Change and Migration in Pakistan". Islamabad Policy Research Institute IPRI, accessed on 15th December 2021, <http://www.ipripak.org/climate-change-and-migration-in-pakistan/>.

Ikramullah M. & Nasrullah, K. (2020). "The causes and effects of rural-urban migration on immigrants' households: A case study of Districts Quetta. Balochistan", *Bilingual/bi-Annual Pakistan Studies Research Journal*, 11(1), 1–17.

ILO(1959). International Labour Organization – International Migration: 1945-1957. Geneva: ILO.

Ishtiaque, A and Ullah, M.S. (2013) "The Influence of Factors of Migration on the Migration status of Rural-Urban Migrants in Dhaka, Bangladesh", *Journal of Studies and Research in Human Geography*, 7(2), pp 45-52.

Jokela, M., & Vuori, J. (2019). The role of social networks in intra-regional migration in Finland. *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography*, 101(1), 1-18. doi:10.1080/04353684.2018.1540139

Kamninga T. M. (2019). "Spillover effects of education on internal migration in Malawi", *Migration and Development*, DOI: 10.1080/21632324.2019.1601831

Kanwal, H., Naveed, T. A., & Khan, M. A. (2015). "Socio-Economic Determinants of Rural-Urban Migration in Pakistan". *Journal of Asian Development Studies*, 4(3), pp 72–85.

Khan, A. H., & Shehnaz, L. (2000). "Determination of Internal Migration: Evidence from LFS 1996-97", *The Pakistan Development Review* 39 (4), pp 695–712.

Khan, I. H., & Ahmad, N. (2016). Internal migration and regional disparities in Pakistan: A district level analysis. *The Pakistan Development Review*, 55(2), 91-111.

Khan, I. H., & Ali, N. (2021). Internal migration and income inequality in Pakistan. *Journal of Population and Social Studies*, 29(2), 151-166.

Lewis, W. A.(1954) "Economic Development with Unlimited Supplies of Labour". *The Manchester School*, 22(2), pp 139-191

Lucas, R. E. (2004). "Life earnings and rural–urban migration". *Journal of Political Economy*, 112(1), pp 29–59

Lu, Y., Hu, X., Li, Q., & Tian, L. (2019). Internal migration and mental health of the left-behind populations: A national cross-sectional study in China. *BMC Public Health*, 19(1), 116. doi:10.1186/s12889-019-6467-6.

Mahmud, M., Musaddiq T. and Said, F. (2010). " Internal Migration Patterns in Pakistan-The Case for Fiscal Decentralization". *The Pakistan Development Review*, 49(4), pp 593-607.

Malhotra, N. & Devi, P. (2016). "Analysis of Factors Affecting Internal Migration in India". *Amity Journal of Economics*, 1(2), pp 34-51

Malik, S., Roosli, R., & Tariq, F. (2020). "Investigation of informal housing challenges and issues: Experiences from slums and squatters of Lahore" . *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, 35, pp 143–170

- Miguélez, E., & Moreno, R. (2013). "Research networks and inventors' mobility as drivers of innovation: Evidence from Europe". *Regional Studies*, 47(10), pp 1668–1685.
- Mustikasari, E. D., & Denny, I. (2015). Gender and education in internal migration decision-making in Indonesia. *Asian Population Studies*, 11(2), 128-144. doi:10.1080/17441730.2015.1011883.
- Narman, A. (1995). The dilemmas facing Kenya school leavers. In J. Beker & T. A. Aina (Eds.), *The migration experience in Africa* (pp. 67–180), Sweden.
- Nasir A., Akram. A., & Hussain, H. (2012). "Determinant of internal migration in Pakistan". *The Journal of Commerce*, 5(3), pp 32-33
- Nazeer, M. (2017). Relative attraction of cities and inter-city migration: An analysis using the gravity setup. *Conference Paper & Proceedings, Pakistan Institute of Development Studies*, pp 111–133.
- Nguyen, H. T. M., & Nguyen, V. K. (2018). Internal migration and health in Vietnam: A scoping review. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 15(8), 1636. doi:10.3390/ijerph15081636.
- Omollo, M. A., & Murigi, M. K. (2021). Determinants of rural-urban migration among youth in Kenya: Evidence from Kisumu County. *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology Research*, 7(1), 13-23. doi:10.11648/j.ijisar.20210701.13.
- Pakistan Economic Survey (2023). Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan.
- Press, S.J. and Wilson, S. (1978) Choosing between Logistic Regression and Discriminant Analysis. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 73, 699-705. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01621459.1978.10480080>
- Kaiser, K., Anwar, T., & Farid, U. (2021). Internal migration and urbanization: evidence from Pakistan. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 47(7), 1481-1497. doi:10.1080/1369183X.2020.1761604.
- Ramos, R., & Zapata, J. (2019). Internal migration in Colombia: Determinants and economic impact. *Journal of Development Studies*, 55(1), 136-151. doi:10.1080/00220388.2017.1417879.
- Rana, I. A., & Bhatti, S. S. (2018). "Lahore, Pakistan- Urbanization challenges and opportunities. *Cities*", 72, pp 348–355 available online at <https://pure.ulster.ac.uk/en/publications/lahore-pakistan-urbanization-challenges-and-opportunities> accessed on 08-09-2022
- Ravenstein, E.G. (1885) "The Laws of Migration". *Journal of The Statistical Society of London*, 48(2), pp. 167-235.
- Reilly WJ (1931) *The law of retail gravitation*. New York: Knickerbocker Press
- Roy, N. & Debnath, A. (2011). *Impact of Migration on Economic Development: A Study of some selected State*, International Conference on Social Science and Humanity IPEDR vol.5 (2011)
- Sadia, I., Vaqar, A., Danish, H., Asif, J. (2017). *Internal migration and labour mobility in Pakistan*. Routledge India
- Saeed, A. A., Mathur, P., & Sabesan, S. (2015). Internal migration and regional inequalities in health and well-being in India: A comparative study. *Journal of Biosocial Science*, 47(1), 32-51. doi:10.1017/S0021932013000736.
- Shankar, S., & Madan, V. (2014). "Internal migration in India: Harnessing benefits, mitigating challenges". *Migration Policy Practice*, 4(4), 4-14.

Shirazi, S. A., & Kazmi, S. J. H. (2014). "Analysis of population growth and urban development in Lahore-Pakistan using geospatial techniques: Suggesting some future options", *A Research Journal of South Asian Studies*, 29(1), pp 269–280

Shonchoy, A. (2010) "Seasonal Migration and the Effectiveness of Micro-credit in the Lean period: Evidence from Bangladesh"., available online at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/239582002_Seasonal_Migration_and_the_Effectiveness_of_Microcredit_in_the_Lean_period_Evidence_from_Bangladesh, accessed on 14-08-2022

Stark, O., & Bloom, D. E. (1985). "The new economics of labour migration". *American Economic Review*, 75(2), 173–178. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/1805591>

Stouffer, S. A. (1940). "Intervening Opportunities: A Theory Relating Mobility and Distance". *American Sociological Review*, 5(6), pp 845–867

Todaro, M. (1969). "A model of labor migration and urban unemployment in less developed countries". *The American Economic Review*, 59(1), pp 138–148.

Turrey, A. A. (2016). "An Analysis of Internal Migration Types in India in Purview of its Social and Economic Impacts", *International Journal of Economic and Business Review*, 4(1) pp 17-27

United Nations. (2019). World urbanization prospects. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, United Nations, New York, 2019.

UNOCHA(2013) World Humanitarian Data and Trends 2013, United Nations, New York

World Bank. (2019). "Migration and the job issues for the 21st century. Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice". Policy Research Working Paper: 8867. Washington, DC: World Bank.

World Economic Forum. (2017). Migration and its impact on cities. Davos-Klosters, Switzerland

Xu, H., & Li, S. (2018). The determinants of internal migration in China: A spatial autoregressive model approach. *Habitat International*, 78, 65-74. doi:10.1016/j.habitatint.2018.06.003.

Zucker, L. G., & Darby, M. R. (2007). "Star scientists, innovation and regional and national immigration (Working Paper No. 13547).Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Available online at <http://nber.org/papers/w13547> accessed on 08-07-2022

Reproduced with permission of copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.