

## RURAL - URBAN DISPARITIES IN UDUMALPET - A CASE STUDY

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### Abstract

*Rural-Urban disparities, especially in developing countries, have for long been a major concern for policy makers. The disparities can be seen in all spheres of human life economic and social. The income inequalities, lack of employment opportunities, lack of infrastructure and civic amenities, inadequate access to education, healthcare and other basic services are some of the major areas where rural areas lag behind urban ones.*

*On this background, the research paper aims to identify the rural-urban disparities in the levels of social, economic and human development indicators.*

**Keywords:** *income inequalities, employment opportunities, disparities, random sampling technique, households, healthcare*

### Methodology

The study was related to Udumalpet Block, Tirupur district. The study adopts random sampling technique. The data was collected from 50 households (Rural=25, Urban=25) using well structured interview schedule.

### Analysis and Discussion

#### Age of Respondents

**Table 1 Age of Respondent**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Age	Rural	Urban	Total
Below 25	1(2)	1(2)	2(4)
25-40	10(20)	14(28)	24(48)
40&above	14(28)	10(20)	24(48)
Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

The study indicates that majority 28 per cent of the rural households in the age group of 40 years & above and 28 per cent urban households in the age group of 26- 40 years.

#### Type of Family

**Table 2 Type of Family**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Type of Family	Rural	Urban	Total
Nuclear	4(8)	23(46)	27(54)
Joint family	21(42)	2(4)	23(46)
Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

It is inferred that majority i.e.42 percent of the rural households have joint family and 46 percent of the urban households have nuclear family.

**Size of the Family****Table 3 Size of the Family**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Members	Rural	Urban	Total
1-3	3(6)	18(36)	21(42)
4-7	12(24)	7(14)	19(38)
Above 7	10(20)	Nil	10(20)
Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

The study indicates that majority of the rural households i.e. 24 percent have the family size of 4-7 members and 36 percent of urban households are with 1-3 members.

**Table 4 Sanitary facility**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Sanitation Facility	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	2(4)	25(50)	27(54)
No	23(46)	Nil	23(46)
Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

**Sanitary Facilities**

The table 4 highlights that majority i.e. 46 percent of the rural households do not have toilet facility and all urban households have the toilet facility. In spite of various efforts taken by the government, rural areas do not have toilet facility.

**Type of Fuel used****Table 5 Type of Fuel Used**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Type of Fuel	Rural	Urban	Total
Fire-wood	22(44)	Nil	22(44)
LPG	3(6)	25(50)	28(56)
Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

All the urban household are using LPG. Majority of the rural households are still using traditional source of energy.

**Asset Position****Table 6 Asset Position**

Amount in lakhs	Rural	Urban	Total
1,00,000	15(30)	2(4)	17(34)
1,00,001 - 2,00,000	2(4)	3(6)	5(10)
2,00,001 - 3,00,000	5(10)	5(10)	10(20)
3,00,001 - 4,00,000	3(6)	4(8)	7(14)
4,00,001 and above	Nil	11(22)	11(22)
Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

It is found from the analysis that the majority of rural households have assets worth of Rs. Less than 1,00,000 and majority of urban households have assets worth of Rs. 4,00,000 and above.

**Education of the Respondent****Table 7 Education of the Respondent**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Educational Level	Rural	Urban	Total
Illiterate	7 (14)	-	7 (14)
Primary	11 (22)	4 (4)	15 (30)
Secondary	5 (10)	15 (30)	20 (40)
Collegiate	2 (4)	6 (12)	8 (16)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

All the urban households are literate and 14 percent of the rural households are illiterate.

**Employment****Table 8 Employment**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Employment	Rural	Urban	Total
Private	15 (30)	11(22)	26 (52)
Government	3 (6)	1 (2)	4 (8)
Self Employed	7 (14)	13(26)	20 (36)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50(100)

Majority 30 per cent of the of rural households are private employees and 26 per cent of the urban households are self employed.

**Monthly Family Income****Table 9 Monthly Family Income**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Income (in Rs)	Rural	Urban	Total
Below 5000	18 (36)	7 (14)	25 (50)
5001 - 10000	7 (14)	15 (30)	22 (44)
Above 10000	-	3 (6)	3 (6)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

It is found that majority of rural respondents are earning income below Rs. 5000 and urban respondents are earning Rs. 5001 - 10000. This may be due to better educational attainment, occupations and economic status.

**Expenditure****Table 10 Expenditure of the Respondents**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Expenditure (in Rs)	Rural	Urban	Total
Below 5000	20 (40)	3 (6)	23 (46)
5001 - 10000	5 (10)	22 (44)	27 (54)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

It is found that majority 40 per cent rural respondents are spend below Rs. 5000 per month and majority of urban respondents spend in the range of Rs. 5001 - 10000 per month.

**Saving Habit****Table 11 Saving Habit of the Respondents**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Saving Habit	Rural	Urban	Total
Savers	7 (14)	22 (44)	29 (58)
Non - Savers	18 (36)	3 (6)	21 (42)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

It is inferred that majority of 36 per cent rural households do not save and majority of 44 urban households save money.

**Usage of Banking Services****Table 12 Utilization of Banking Services**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Banking Facilities	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	3 (6)	20 (40)	23 (46)
No	22 (44)	5 (10)	27 (54)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

The table 12 highlights that majority of rural households are not utilizing banking services and majority of urban households are utilizing banking services.

**Disease - Wise Classification****Table 13 Disease - Wise Classification**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Disease	Rural	Urban	Total
Minor Disease	21 (42)	17 (34)	38 (76)
Major Disease	4 (8)	8 (16)	12 (24)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

The table 13 reveals that majority of rural households 42 per cent are affected by minor disease and only 34 per cent of urban households are affected by minor disease.

**Choice of Hospital****Table 14 Choice of Hospital**

(Figures in bracket represents percentages)

Choice of Hospital	Rural	Urban	Total
Government Hospital	15 (30)	4 (8)	19 (38)
Private Hospital	10 (2)	21 (42)	31 (62)
Total	25 (50)	25 (50)	50 (100)

The table 14 depicts that majority of rural households are taking treatment in Government Hospital and Urban Households are taking treatment in Private Hospital.

**Conclusion**

The lack of access of rural youth to education, skill, healthcare facilities and resources limits their role in the emerging non - agriculture sectors, while their counterparts in the urban areas have better access to education, skills, basic amenities, resources and participate productively in the development activities. Central and state governments have launched a number of schemes targeting the rural people, however emphasis of most of these schemes is more on livelihood protection rather than on income and wealth generation on sustainable basis. More over, delivery mechanism of these schemes is poor and needs to be improved. For instance, due to inefficient delivery mechanism and corruption among the officials, about 50per cent food grains supplied under the PDS system do not reach the intended beneficiaries.

In developed countries, retired employees prefer to live in village because there they have all amenities like electricity, water, road, transport, telephone, bank, post office etc., while, in India even the residents of village do not want to return to village because there they do not have the comforts and facilities which they have in the city. Effective implementation of providing urban amenities in rural areas (PURA) could encourage the reverse migration and reduce the influx of rural people to urban areas.

**References**

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