

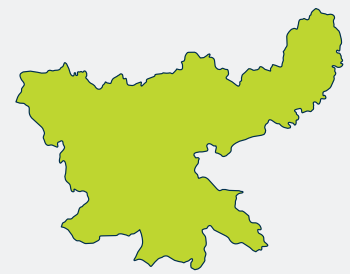
WOMEN'S WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION IN INDIA: **STATEWISE TRENDS**

JHARKHAND



This series of state factsheets highlight important aspects of the status of women's employment in the states. The factsheets use secondary data provided by the National Sample Surveys' Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21. The factsheets also draw on data from the employment – unemployment surveys (EUS) conducted by the same agency in previous years as well as data from other sources to support state specific analysis.

JHARKHAND



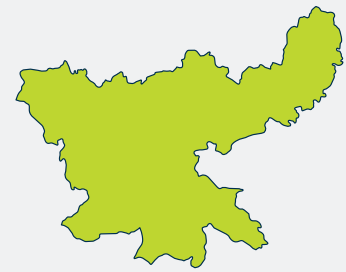
Jharkhand

The eastern state of Jharkhand was formed in 2000 after partition from Bihar and covers an area of nearly 80,000 square kilometres (sq. km). The literal meaning of the word Jharkhand is forest land. Its etymology comes from the large forest cover in the state; 23,605 sq. km out of the total geographical area of Jharkhand is covered by forests. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Jharkhand in 2020-21 was around INR 3.83 lakh crores. The state is rich in mineral resources, which is why it is home to some of the most significant industrial towns of India such as Jamshedpur, Bokaro and Dhanbad. Two major steel plants of India, Bokaro and the Tata Iron and Steel Company, are housed in Jharkhand. However, agriculture is the mainstay of the people while cottage industries are among the other important economic activities. Jharkhand is rich in natural resources and its deposits account for 40 per cent of the total mineral resources of India. It has the highest amount of coal reserves in the country, occupies the second, third and seventh position in terms of iron, copper-ore and bauxite reserves and is the sole producer of coking coal. In 2019-20, the state generated a revenue of INR 5165.82 crores from its mineral reserves. However, employment for women in these sectors remains limited due to restrictions on women's participation in mining-related activities. As per the 2011 census, around 26 per cent of the total population of the state constituted of Scheduled Tribe (ST) population. Jharkhand is the 15th largest state in India and has the sixth largest ST population in the country.

Of the total working population of Jharkhand, 50.4 per cent is engaged in the agricultural sector. However, mining, services, construction and finance also employ a significant proportion of the workforce. The female Work Participation Rate (WPR) in Jharkhand was at 35.2 per cent in 2021-22 and women are primarily engaged in the agricultural sector.¹ The female WPR is high in Jharkhand due to its tribal population.



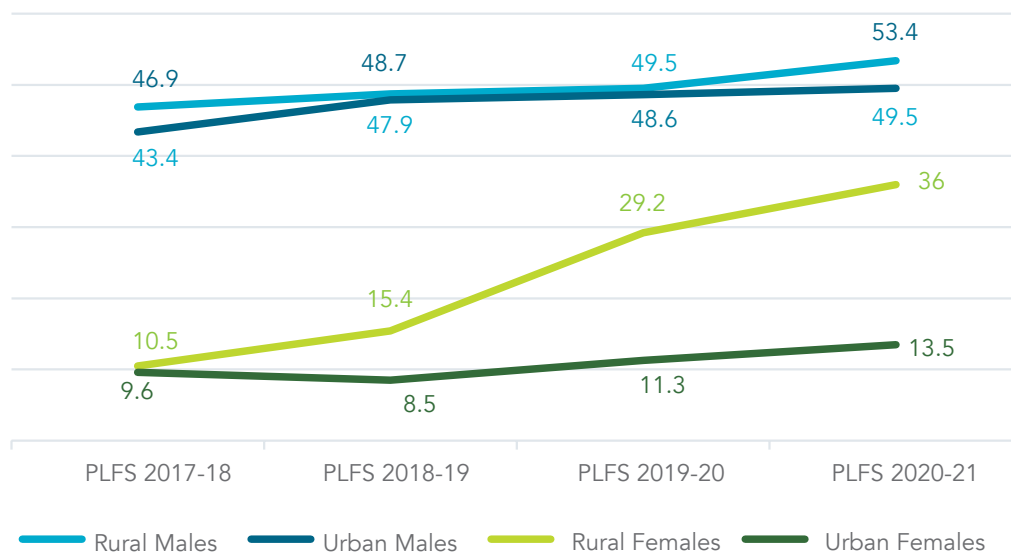
¹ Jharkhand Economic Survey 2021-22.

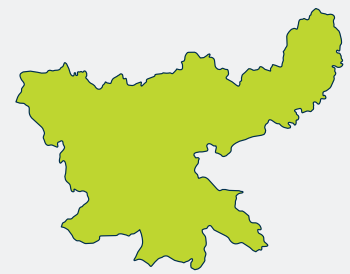


A. Trends in Work Participation Rate in Jharkhand

- The Work Force Participation Rates (WFPRs) in Jharkhand have been consistently the highest for rural males and lowest for urban females from 2017-18 to 2020-21.
- The divergence between WPR of rural and urban females has increased quite significantly over the four-year period.
- The WFPR of urban females in Jharkhand rose from 9.6 per cent in 2017-18 to 13.5 in 2020-21, while that of rural females rose from 10.5 per cent to 36 per cent over the same period.
- WPR rates of rural and urban males have not fluctuated much over this period. In 2020-21, the WPR of rural males was 53.4 per cent and that of urban males was 49.5 per cent.

Figure 1: Trends in Work Participation Rates in Jharkhand

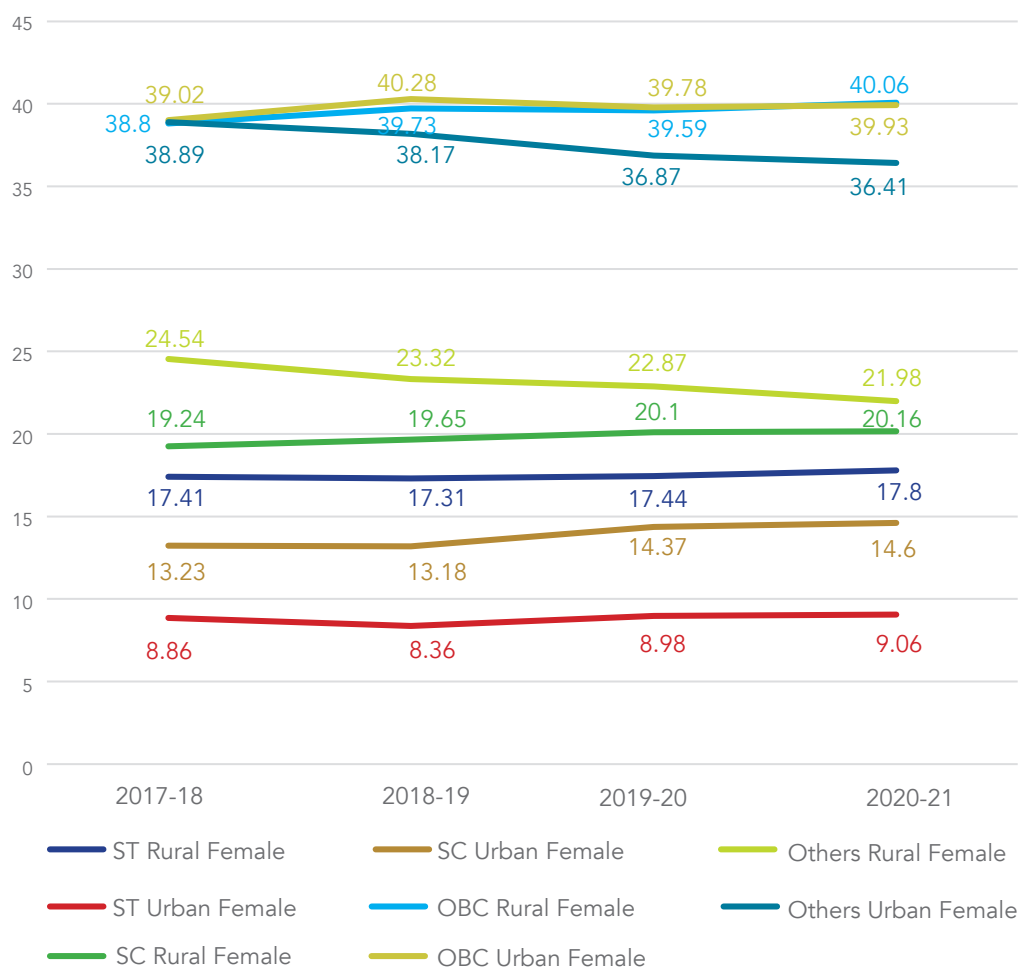




B. Work Participation Rate among Women Workers across Different Social Groups

- Women belonging to the ST community have the lowest WPR among all social groups in Jharkhand and it is the lowest in urban. In 2020-21, it was 17.8 per cent and 9.06 per cent in rural and urban areas, respectively.
- Women belonging to Other Backward Communities (OBCs) have had the highest WPR in both rural as well as urban areas. As of 2020-21, female workers from the OBC social groups in both urban and rural Jharkhand had a WPR of nearly 40 per cent each.
- Women belonging to communities other than Scheduled Caste (SC), ST and OBC groups have the second highest WPR in Jharkhand, followed by women from SC and then ST groups.

Figure 2: Women workers across Various Social Groups in Jharkhand

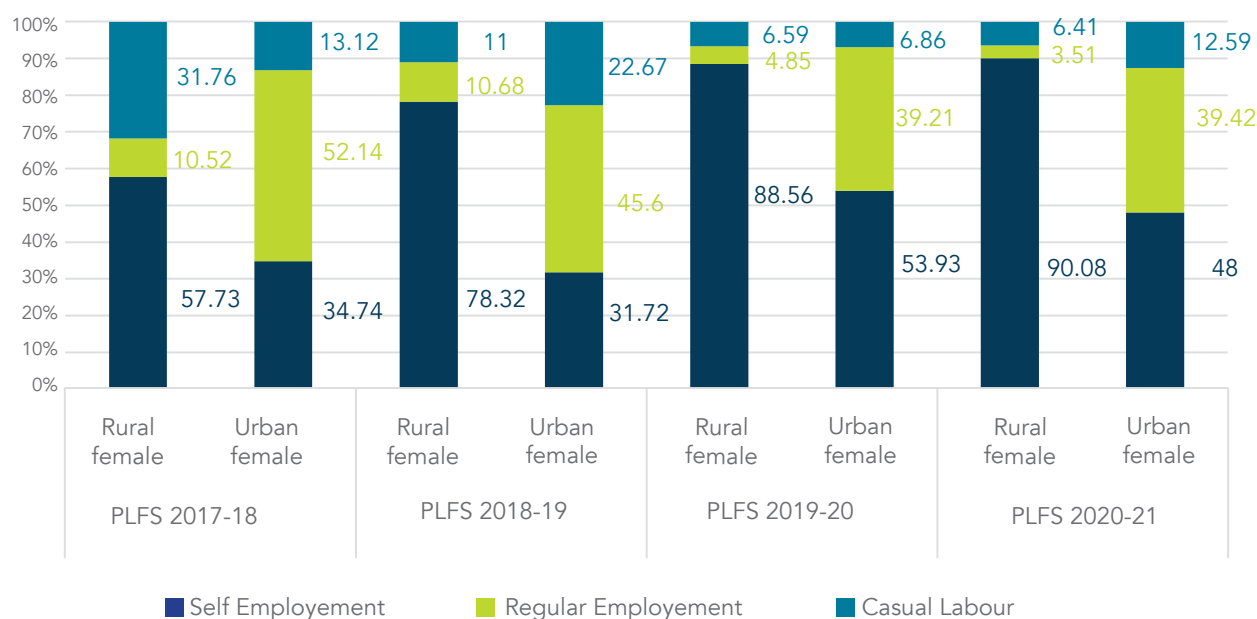


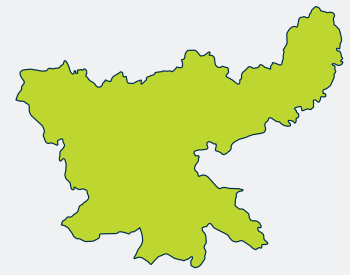


C. Distribution of Women Workers by Status of Employment

- In Jharkhand, rural females are primarily self-employed while urban females are both self-employed and employed on regular wages. In 2018-19, the proportion of urban women with regular employment was greater than that of self-employed women, but this trend changed over the next two years.
- The proportion of women working as casual labour in urban areas declined from 22.67 per cent in 2018-19 to 6.86 per cent in 2019-20 and then rose to 12.59 per cent in 2020-21.
- There has been a drastic decline in the proportion of employed rural women from 31.76 per cent in 2017-18 to 11 per cent in 2018-19. It continued to decline further and reached 6.41 per cent in 2020-21. However, this fall cannot be attributed to COVID-19 as the proportion of rural women employed as per UPSS in Jharkhand had declined to such low levels in the pre-pandemic period.
- In 2020-21, about 90 per cent rural females and 48 per cent urban females, employed according to the usual status, were self-employed.
- The proportion of women with regular employment in rural areas has been consistently low and has declined further over the years, standing at 3.51 per cent in 2020-21.

Figure 3: Women Workers employed as per usual (principal+subsidiary) Status in Jharkhand

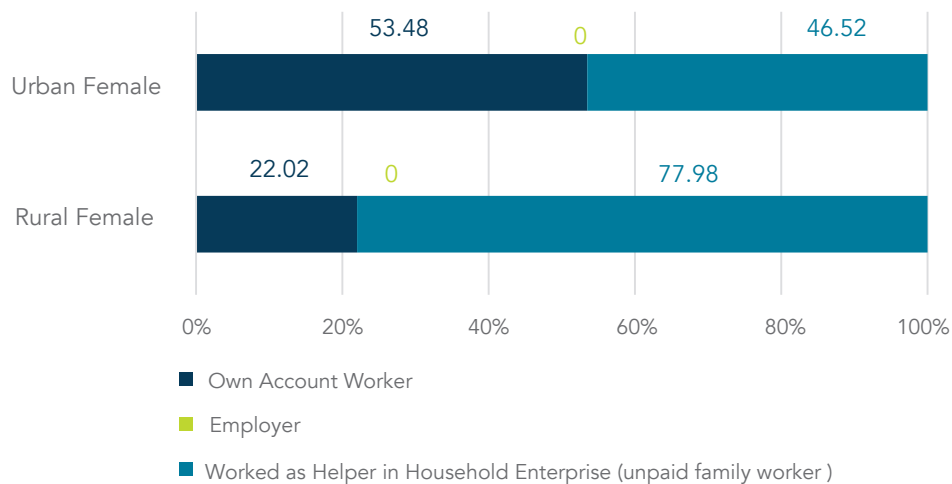




D. Women Workers in Self Employment

- The proportion of women working as employers in Jharkhand in 2020-21 was negligible. Entrepreneurship activities among women in Jharkhand are extremely low and require dedicated policies to be boosted.
- Around 53 per cent urban women and 22 per cent rural women were working as own account workers as per the last round of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), while nearly 47 per cent urban women and 78 per cent rural women were working as unpaid helpers in family enterprises.
- The increase in unpaid work among women has been a result of the job losses following the COVID-19 pandemic, the brunt of which was borne disproportionately by women.

Figure 4: Self-employed Women workers in Jharkhand in 2020-21





E. Distribution of Women Workers by Broad Industry Divisions

- Rural women employed according to the usual status in 2020-21 were primarily concentrated in agricultural and related sectors (86 per cent), while the highest proportion of urban women was engaged in manufacturing (17 per cent).
- Rural women (2.64 per cent) and urban women (16.36 per cent), employed as per UPSS, were working in the education sector in Jharkhand in 2020-21, while 2.36 per cent and 15.63 per cent were engaged in trade-related activities in rural and urban areas, respectively, over the same period.
- Around 7 per cent urban women were engaged in the health sector while 9 per cent were employed as construction workers.
- In rural Jharkhand, the proportion of female construction workers was about 4 per cent, while a similar percentage was also engaged in manufacturing activities.

Figure 5a: NIC distribution of Rural Females Employed as per UPSS in 2020-21 in Jharkhand

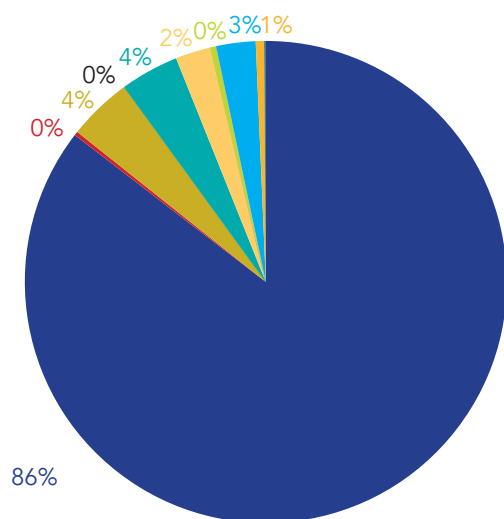
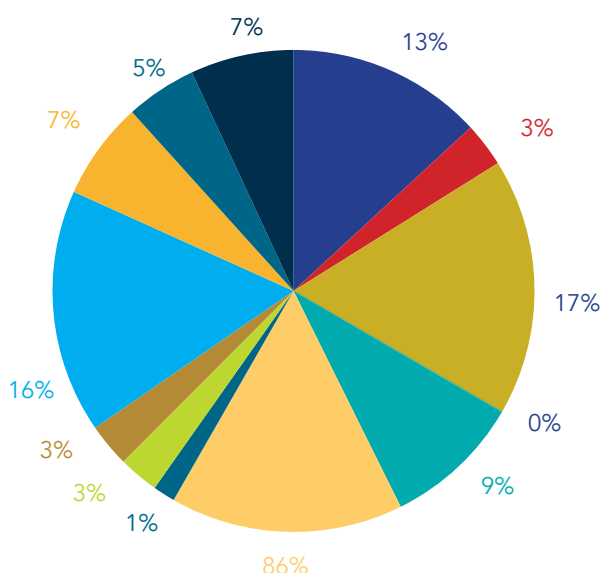
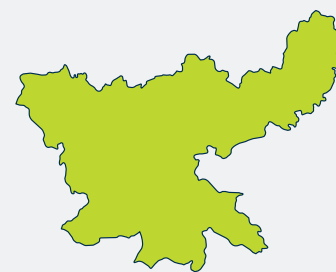


Figure 5b: NIC distribution of Urban Females Employed as per UPSS in 2020-21 in Jharkhand



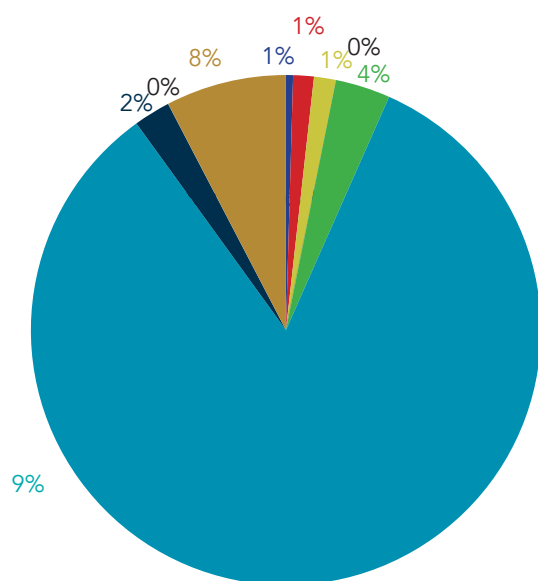
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Mining and quarrying
- Manufacturing
- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Construction
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- Transportation and storage
- Accommodation and food service activities
- Financial and Real Estate Activities
- Education



F. National Industrial Classification Distribution of Women Workers by Occupation Types

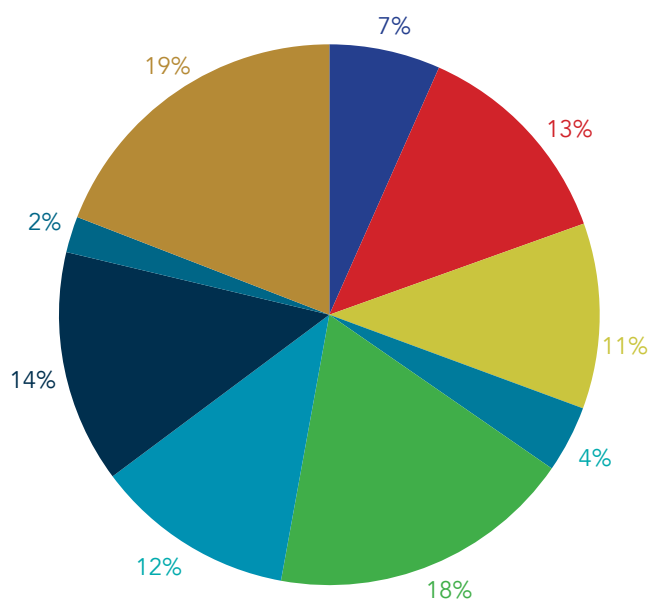
- 83 per cent of employed rural women were working as skilled labour in agriculture and allied sectors, which also employed 12 per cent of urban females.
- Around 8 per cent rural women and 19 per cent urban women were engaged in elementary occupations, while about 4 per cent rural women and 18 per cent urban women were working in the service sector in shops and market sales.
- A significant proportion of urban women were working in the crafts and related sectors (14 per cent), as professionals (13 per cent) and as legislators and public officials (7 per cent).

Figure 6a: NCO distribution of Employed Rural Females in 2020-21 in Jharkhand



- Legislators, Senior Official and Managers
- Technicians and Associate Professionals
- Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers
- Craft and related Trade Workers
- Elementary Occupations

Figure 6b: NCO distribution of Employed Urban Females in 2020-21 in Jharkhand



- Professionals
- Clerks
- Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers
- Plant and Machine Operators and Assembler



G. Distribution of Regular Waged Women Workers by Broad Industry Types

- Among regular waged rural women workers in Jharkhand, 70 per cent were engaged in the education sector while only 2 per cent were engaged in agriculture. This indicates the low availability of regular employment in agriculture in the state, which happens to be the sector that employs the highest proportion of rural women.
- Among regular waged urban women workers, the highest proportion was similarly engaged in the education sector (31 per cent). However, the proportions of women employed in the education sector in rural and urban Jharkhand varied widely.
- A significant proportion of regular salaried urban women was also working in the manufacturing sector (10 per cent), trade-related activities (7 per cent), financial and real estate sectors (7 per cent), health (16 per cent) and also as domestic helpers in households (10 per cent).

Figure 7a: : NIC distribution of Regular Waged Rural Females in 2020-21 in Jharkhand

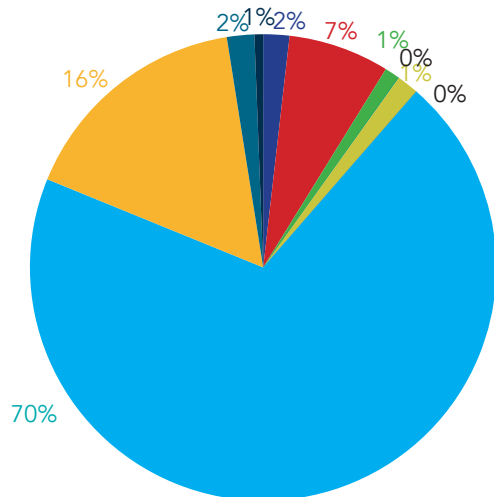
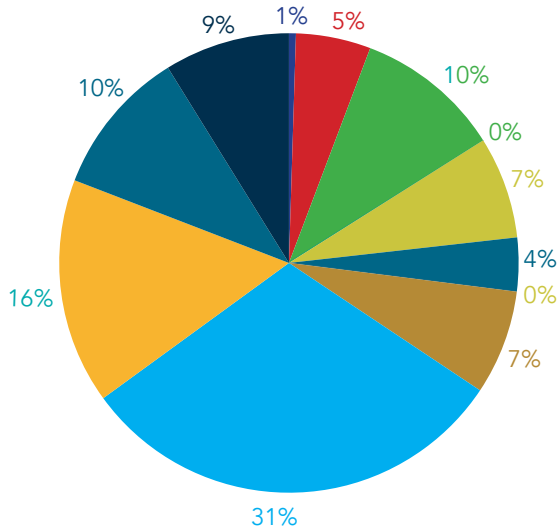
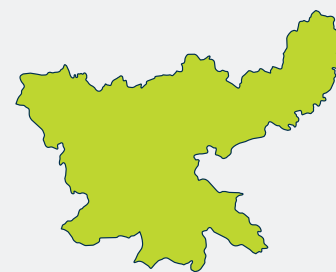


Figure 7b: NIC distribution of Regular Waged Urban Females in 2020-21 in Jharkhand



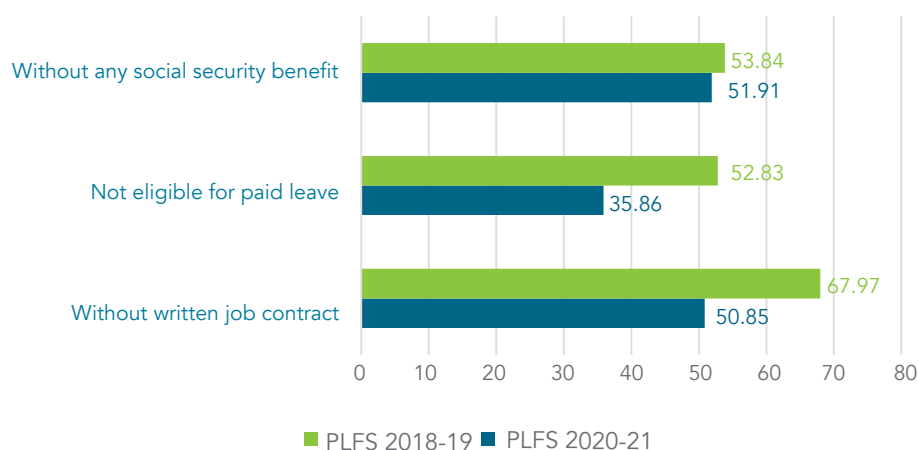
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Mining and quarrying
- Manufacturing
- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Construction
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- Transportation and storage
- Accommodation and food service activities
- Financial and Real Estate Activities
- Education
- Health
- Activities of households as employers
- Others



H. Working Conditions in Regular Employment

- More than half the women working as regular salaried employees in urban Jharkhand in 2020-21 are working without a written job contract or social security benefits while about 36 per cent are ineligible for paid leave.
- While women's engagement (as per usual status) in regular wage work has diminished from 2018-19 to 2020-21, working conditions are not the best even in regular employment.
- There has been some improvement in working conditions over the years. The proportion of urban women working without social security benefits, paid leave and written job contracts has declined from 2018-19 to 2020-21.

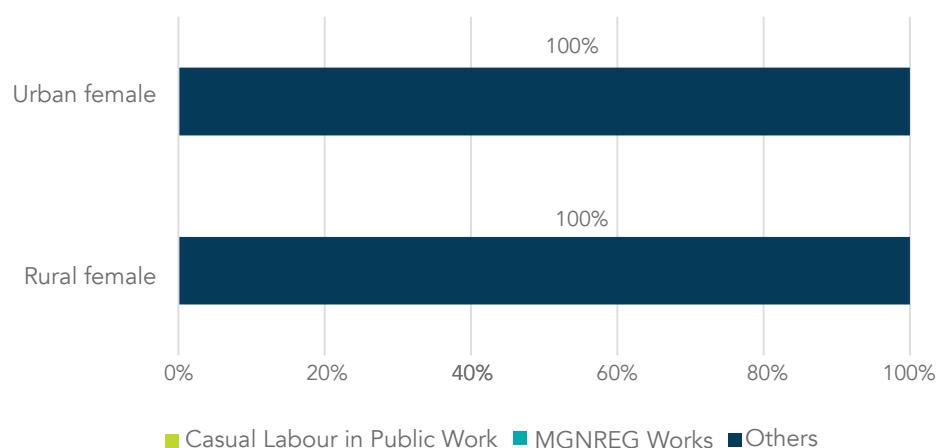
Figure 8: Working conditions under Regular Employment for Urban Females



I. Women Workers in Casual Employment

- All female casual labourers in both urban and rural Jharkhand were working in the non-public sector in 2020-21 due to the unavailability of public work following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 9: Women Workers in Casual Employment in Jharkhand in 2020-21



Note: MGNREGS: Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme



J. Distribution of Self-Employed Women Workers Across Industry Groups

- 93 per cent self-employed women in rural Jharkhand were working as agricultural labour indicating the low availability of regular jobs in agriculture.
- 27 per cent urban women were engaged in agriculture, 26 per cent in manufacturing and 27 per cent in wholesale and retail trade.
- 9 per cent self-employed women in urban areas were engaged in the education sector, while that proportion was negligible in rural Jharkhand.
- The majority of self-employed urban women was working in the services sector in various capacities in 2020-21.

Figure 10a: NIC distribution of Self-employed Rural Women in Jharkhand in 2020-21

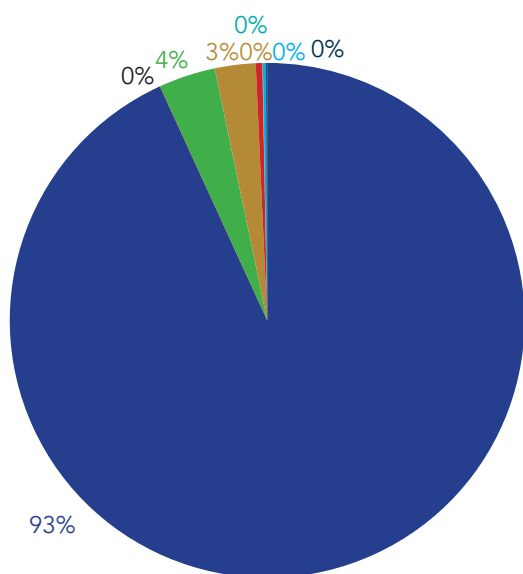
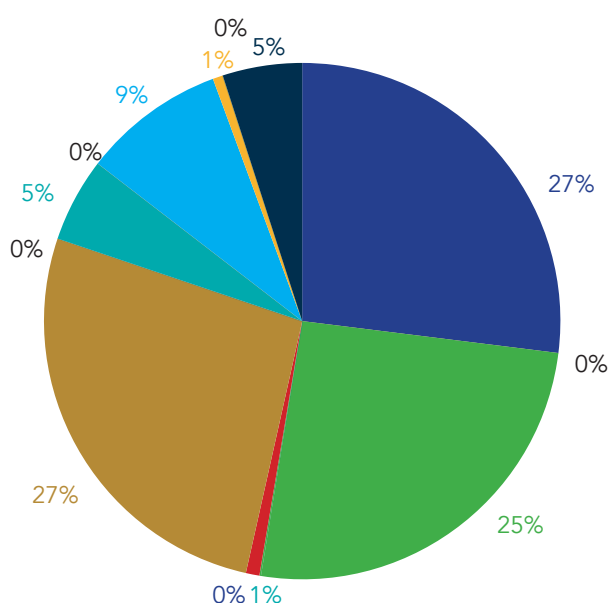


Figure 10b: NIC distribution of Self-employed Urban Women in Jharkhand in 2020-21



- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Mining and quarrying
- Manufacturing
- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Construction
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- Transportation and storage
- Accommodation and food service activities
- Financial and Real Estate Activities
- Education
- Health
- Activities of households as employers
- Others

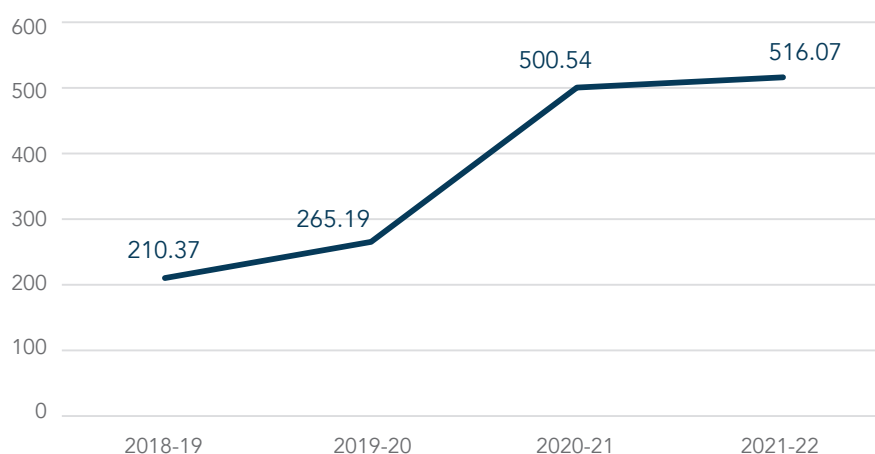
JHARKHAND



K. Women Workers in MGNREGS

- The number of women persondays under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGs) in Jharkhand has increase significantly from 2018-19 to 2021-22: and
- Women persondays under MNREGS stood at 516.07 lakhs in 2021-22, which forms 46 per cent of total number of persondays generated.

Figure 11: Women persondays under MNREGA in Jharkhand (in lakhs)



CONCLUSION

The WPR for rural women has increased significantly over the past few years; however, the WPR of women from ST social groups has stagnated at very low levels. Women belonging to OBC social groups have the highest WPR, while those from ST communities have the lowest WPR in both rural and urban Jharkhand. Self-employment continues to be one of the foremost sources of employment for rural women in Jharkhand. The low proportion of rural women with regular employment in this state is a cause of concern. While rural women are engaged as paid or unpaid workers in the agricultural and allied sectors, urban women with regular employment too are working in vulnerable conditions without paid leave, written job contracts or social security benefits. Although the number of women persondays under MGNREGS has increased over the years, women working as casual labour are mostly engaged in non-public work. Moreover, 0 per cent of the self-employed women are working as employers which implies hardly any women own enterprises in this state.

The factsheet is prepared by Trisha Chandra and reviewed by Sona Mitra and Bidisha Mondal, IWWAGE – Lead at KREA University. Copyright @ 2023

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