

## A STUDY OF THE INCOME OF STREET VENDORS IN WARD G IN MUMBAI CITY

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### Abstract

*The purpose of this study is to find out the level of income per day earned by street vendors in Ward G in Mumbai City. Income per day of street vendors is the dependent variable. The age, number of hours of work and number of years since migration to Mumbai City are independent variables. The researcher used structured questionnaire to find out age, number of hours of work, number of years since migration to Mumbai City and income per day. The researcher found out that there exists no significant difference in income between the street vendors of different age groups. But there exists a significant difference in income between the street vendors working for different number of hours in a day and street vendors who have migrated to Mumbai for different number of years.*

**Keywords:** Street Vendors, Income, Unorganised Sector, Mumbai City.



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### Introduction

**Chen, M. A. (2012)** In the contemporary world people find it difficult to get jobs in the formal economy and hence the informal economy is expanding at a fast pace. As the population in developing countries expand more and more people are expected to join the unorganised sector in the long run. Even today the unorganised sector is a means of sustenance and income for major sections of the population in the third world countries. The unorganised sector labourers are vulnerable because they have no legal rights and bargaining power and therefore work at a lower wage and poor working conditions. The unorganised labourers should be given recognition because they contribute immensely to the growth and development of the economy.

The unorganised workers and the unorganised economy should be given due recognition and should be amalgamated into formal socio – economic legal and planning structure.

**Sarma, A. M. (2008)** The informal working class might be in village or in cities who do not come under the purview of any law and are not protected by any legislation. The informal working class is comprised of “heterogenous group” that are different in type of employment, urban or rural and gender. In villages, the informal working class consists of artisans, marginal farmers, labour working on farms and other workers who lack skills. In cities, informal workers are found in trade, small manufacturing industries, personal services and transport. The “self-employed” labourers are found in cities and villages. The self-employed category also forms the largest section of the labour force in informal category. Most researches point out that in India the unorganised sector is more prevalent in villages rather than in cities. Most of the urban informal sector workers have migrated from rural areas. The worker – owner relation is not formal in the unorganised sector. The unorganised sector is fast permeating in various cities across India.

### **Literature Review**

In India, the terms ‘unorganized sector’ and ‘informal sector’ are being used interchangeably (NCEUS 2007: p.2). According to “**NCEUS report (2007)**”, the unorganized sector in Indian context is defined as a sector which “consists of all unincorporated private enterprises owned by individuals or households engaged in the sale and production of goods and services operated on a proprietary or partnership basis with less than ten workers which is characterized by a high incidence of casual labour mostly doing intermittent jobs at low wage rate at low investment rate” (NCEUS 2007: p.3). In current Indian labour market scenario, a huge magnitude of labour force comprising around 92 percent derive their livelihood from the “informal sector”.

**Chatterjee, S. (2016)** The informal labourers in India are engulfed with a multitude of problems like low wages, lack of shelter near place of work, lack of information about works related health issues and safety measures, lack of unionisation and bargaining power, no paid leaves, insecurity of jobs, gender inequality, child labour, low hygienic living conditions, vulnerability to diseases and losing work due to petty reasons. As a result of low wages, the workers in unorganised sector have to live in appalling conditions amid sewage, drains and floods. Especially the women workers suffer various ailments due to unhygienic sanitation facilities both at the place of shelter and at workplace. Payment for overtime work, leaves during sickness and leaves due to childbirth are common features of organised sector but are

seldom found in the unorganised sectors of the Indian economy. Generally, the labour in India is bonded to its employer due to the heavy burden of debt and this has led to exploitation of vulnerable workers at the hands of the employers.

**Sharma, R. N., & Sita, K. (2008)** Street vendors constitute an important part of the unorganised sector who sell various goods such as purses, shoes, toys, *vada pav*, *idlis*, fruits, vegetables, tea and even electronic items. In the past hawking implied selling commodities from house to house. But it has steadily underwent many changes and now street vendors are seen along pavements and empty spaces to carry on their vending activity. Income generation and generation of employment are important functions of vending activity along with providing important services to local people. Street vendors are spread across many areas in the city and sell their products at a comparatively lesser price. Hence, the street vendors are endorsed by the local people of the city. Hawkers are also favoured because they are easily accessible to the people. Even though street vendors provide important services the opinion amongst city dwellers about them is generally antagonistic and pessimistic. India's financial capital, Mumbai, comprises large number of street vendors. Mumbai has attracted many people from remote areas of Maharashtra and from other states of India like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Gujarat. Because these people who have migrated to Mumbai city are unskilled and illiterate, they do not get any job opportunities in organised sector. So, they enter the unorganised sector in search of livelihood. Street vendors in Mumbai City face number of problems due to population growth, congestion, traffic jams and lack of vending space.

**Jha, R. (2018).** In fast developing Mumbai City large number of street vendors face these obstacles which has aggravated in past years. In spite of the fact that hawking is earliest form of selling activity in Mumbai City there are no laws to protect the vending activity and the vendors. Vending activity is not legal and existence of hawkers are considered an obstacle to city beautification and civic use. The most common problem faced by street vendors of Mumbai City is eviction by municipality and fines. Despite this fact, the hawkers still try to assert space for conducting vending. The administrators consider hawkers as an encroachment on pedestrian space and disruption of traffic. Instead of resolving these problems the administrators have always raised the question of "spatial dimension" while evicting the vendors from pavements and confiscating their goods. An important reason for the emergence of this fast-growing activity is flexible hours of work for the vendor. Also, if this activity is formalised by the government, then it will go a long way in elimination of poverty in urban areas like Mumbai and Delhi.

**Objective:**

To analyse the income earned by street vendors in Ward G in Mumbai City.

**Hypothesis:**

Hypothesis I

H0: There is no significant difference in income between street vendors belonging to different age groups.

H1: There is significant difference in income between street vendors belonging to different age groups.

Hypothesis II

H0: There is no significant difference in income between number of hours of work of street vendors.

H1: There is significant difference in income between number of hours of work of street vendors.

Hypothesis III

H0: There is no significant difference in income between the number of years since the street vendors migrated to Mumbai City.

H1: There is significant difference in income between the number of years since the street vendors migrated to Mumbai City.

**Research methodology**

The research design is the structure or frame work of a research work. The research design helps a researcher to have a proper command and control over the research work. The research design has three categories viz, Exploratory, descriptive, and experimental.

The information related to all the three types of research design is as under.

- i. **Exploratory research Design:** under exploratory research design the researcher does not have any information about situation i.e., the researcher is unaware of the situation and needs to use the qualitative data for research purpose.
- ii. **Descriptive research design:** It is used in case when researcher is aware about the problem and need to use the numerical data in order to find the conclusions
- iii. **Experimental research Design:** Under experimental Research Design the research needs to bifurcate the sample Centre to group one being the control and other being the experimental. Under experimental research the experimental group is group which receives treatment and controlled group is given a placebo, and after the experimental tests are completed both the groups are observed i.e., how far the results of experimental

group vary as compared to controlled group. **The current study adopts descriptive research design.**

### **Data collection methods and techniques**

The data collected can be of two types first being the Primary data, and second being the secondary data.

- i. **Primary data:** The primary data means the data collected directly from the sample respondents. The data will be used for analysis and interpretation.

The data can be collected from respondents by structured questionnaire.

- ii. **Secondary data:** Secondary data means the data collected from the readily available sources like books, articles, journals, magazines, etc.

In the current research work, **both the data are used for analysis purpose.** The questionnaire forms were used to collect the primary data. The questionnaire has been provided with sufficient changes in order to make it easier to be understood to the respondents.

### **Sampling design**

The sample is a small size of the population selected, which represents the whole population in the research work. The sampling design shall include the sampling technique, sample size of research.

**Sampling element:** Street Vendors of Ward G of Mumbai City

**Sample size:** 30

**Sampling method:** The current research work uses the non-probability purposive sampling.

**Statistical Tool:** This research study uses the IBM SPSS- 25, Microsoft Office Excel 2016,

**Statistical Techniques:** Kruskal Wallis Test – Non-Parametric Test.

**Data Analysis:**

**Table:1**

Income of Street Vendors		
income		
N	Valid	30
	Missing	0
Mean		600.00
Median		500.00
Mode		500
Minimum		200
Maximum		1200

The above table one shows the mean income per day of the street vendors of Ward G of Mumbai City is 600. The median of the income is 500 and the mode is also 500. The minimum income earned is Rs. 200 and Maximum income earned is Rs. 1200.

**Hypothesis I**

H0: There is no significant difference in income between street vendors belonging to different age groups.

H1: There is significant difference in income between street vendors belonging to different age groups.

**Table: 2**

<b>Ranks</b>			
	age	N	Mean Rank
income	18 to 30 years	11	13.64
	30 to 40 years	12	16.75
	40 to 50 years	7	16.29
	Total	30	

**Table: 3**

<b>Test Statistics<sup>a</sup></b>	
	income
Chi-Square	.803
df	2
Asymp. Sig.	.669
a. Kruskal Wallis Test	
b. Grouping Variable: age	

Since the P value is 0.669 which is more than 0.05 level of significance the null hypothesis that there is no significant difference in income between street vendors belonging to different age groups is accepted.

**Hypothesis II**

H0: There is no significant difference in income between number of hours of work of street vendors.

H1: There is significant difference in income between number of hours of work of street vendors.

**Table: 4**

<b>Ranks</b>			
	hours of work in a day	N	Mean Rank
income	less than 5 hours	3	7.33
	5 - 10 hours	19	14.11
	more than 10 hours	8	21.88
Total		30	

**Table: 5**

<b>Test Statistics<sup>a, b</sup></b>	
	income
Chi-Square	7.365
df	2
Asymp. Sig.	.025
a. Kruskal Wallis Test	
b. Grouping Variable: hours of work in a day	

Since the P value is 0.025 which is less than 0.05 level of significance, the alternate hypothesis that there is a significant difference in income between number of hours of work of street vendors. It can be seen from table 4 that street vendors working for more than ten hours had highest mean rank whereas street vendors working for less than five hours in a day had lowest mean rank.

**Hypothesis III**

H0: There is no significant difference in income between the number of years since the street vendors migrated to Mumbai City.

H1: There is significant difference in income between the number of years since the street vendors migrated to Mumbai City.

**Table: 6**

<b>Ranks</b>			
	Years since migrated to Mumbai	N	Mean Rank
income	1 - 5 years	4	10.25
	5 - 10 years	17	12.06
	10 - 20 years	8	23.75
	more than 20 years	1	29.00
Total		30	

**Table: 7**

<b>Test Statistics<sup>a, b</sup></b>	
	income
Chi-Square	13.603
df	3
Asymp. Sig.	.003
a. Kruskal Wallis Test	
b. Grouping Variable: Years since migrated to Mumbai	

The P value is 0.003 which is less than 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the alternate hypothesis that there is significant difference in income between the number of years since the street vendors migrated to Mumbai City is accepted. It can be seen from table 6 that street vendor migrated for more than 20 years had highest mean rank whereas street vendors migrated for a period between one to five years had lowest mean rank.

### **Conclusion**

The above analysis shows that the age of street vendors in Mumbai City does not affect the level of income. But the number of hours of work and number of years since they migrated to Mumbai City does affect the level of income earned by street vendors in Ward G of Mumbai City.

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