

SITUATION SNAPSHOT- BANGLADESH

Mobility Tracking Observations: District Level Internal Returnees

30 March-15 April 2020, Bangladesh



BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

In Bangladesh many individuals migrate from their home villages for work. When the public holiday and mobility restrictions went into effect on 26 March 2020, due to the outbreak of COVID-19, many of these individuals returned to their districts of origin.

Under the European Union funded Regional Evidence for Migration Analysis and Policy (REMAP) project, IOM activated mobility tracking in Bangladesh in 2019 to increase understanding of mobile population categories and types of mobility at the union level and mobility patterns at the village level. Following the outbreak of COVID-19, based on the IOM global mobility tracking methodology, IOM launched a mobility tracking observation exercise with key informants (MTO-KI) in 29 districts across the country. The exercise is usually done in the communities but considering the current operating climate, a phone-based data collection method was adopted instead.



Representatives from
Local Administrations



Representatives from
Civil Society Organizations



Representatives from
Local Government

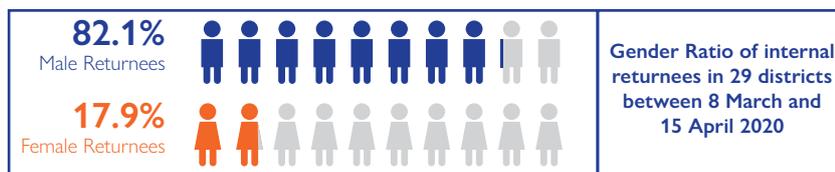


Representatives
from Media

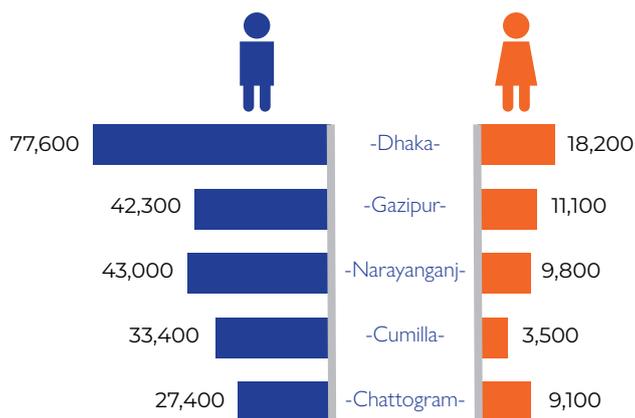
The MTO-KI exercise focused on understanding the flow of internal return migration in 29 districts across all eight divisions in Bangladesh from 30 March to 15 April 2020. IOM enumerators conducted phone interviews with 510 key informants over the course of 13-18 April 2020. These key informants were representatives from local administration, civil society organizations, media and local government.

INTERNAL RETURNEES

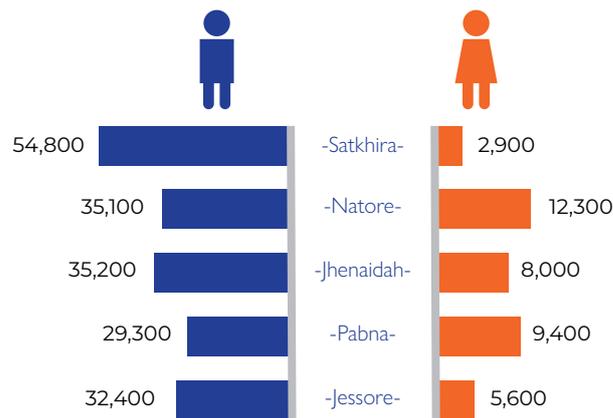
According to the key informant findings, across the districts assessed, a total of 620,220 internal migrants returned to their districts of origin between 30 March and 15 April 2020. Of the 29 districts, Satkhira recorded the highest number of internal return migrants with nine per cent of the total returns. The top three districts of origin for female, internal return migrants were Cumilla (15%), Natore (11%) and Pabna (8%).



According to the findings, during the reporting period internal migrants returned from 33 districts, and Dhaka was the most reported district of departure.



Top 5 districts from which migrants are returning



Top 5 districts to which migrants are returning

Cumilla was the only district assessed that was in the top ten districts of origin and districts of departure; it was the seventh most cited district of origin and the fourth most cited district of departure. Of the total internal return migrants reported, 15 per cent returned from "other" districts, which were left unnamed by the key informants.

For more information, please contact: REMAPBD@iom.int, and see Annexes 1-6 for more findings.

Disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

¹Bagerhat, Chuadanga, Cumilla, Dinajpur, Gaibandha, Gazipur, Gopalganj, Jaipurhat, Jamalpur, Jessore, Jhenaidah, Khulna, Kurigram, Kushtia, Lalmonirhat, Magura, Meherpur, Naogaon, Narail, Natore, Nilphamari, Pabna, Panchagarh, Pirajpur, Rangpur, Satkhira, Sirajganj, Sylhet and Thakurgaon.

SITUATION SNAPSHOT- BANGLADESH

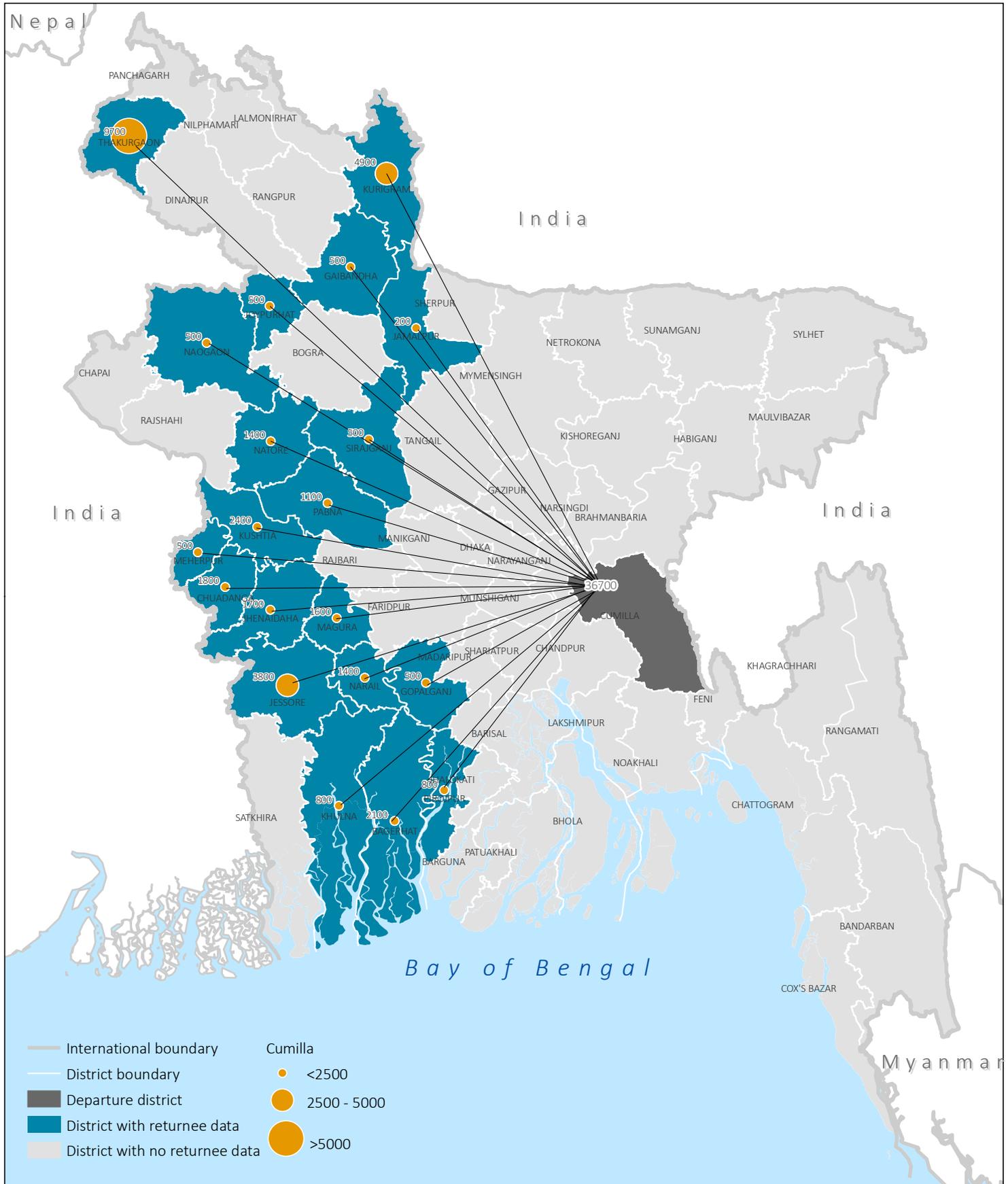
Mobility Tracking Observations: District Level Internal Returnees



Funded by
the European Union



Annex 5: Internal Returnees from Cumilla between 30th March and 15th April, 2020



Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

